News in Brief

Redress gets 2 more endorsements
WASHINGTON—Joseph Zaidan, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, filed a suit in U.S. District Court, Washington, District of Columbia, against the city of Baltimore, Maryland, seeking redress for alleged discrimination suffered by his father in the 1940s. Zaidan is a member of the J.W.V.A. of Baltimore, Maryland, and has been active in the organization for many years. The suit seeks compensatory and punitive damages, as well as attorney fees.

Jackson begins information service
WASHINGTON—Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) announced that he will begin a weekly information service for his constituents. The service will provide up-to-date information on legislation and other matters of interest to the district. Matsui said that he hopes the service will be a valuable resource for his constituents.

Utah to help minority businesses
SALT LAKE CITY—Gov. Scott Matheson announced that the state of Utah will soon have an affirmative action policy to ensure that minority businesses are able to compete for some of the state's trade. The governor told the Asian American Small Business Conference last month that "traditionally, Asian American people have, for a number of significant reasons, been reluctant to go into business for themselves.

Nakano named mayor pro tempore
TORRANCE, Calif.—George Nakano, newly elected mayor of Torrance, has been named mayor pro tempore of the city. Nakano is a member of the Asian American community and has been active in community affairs.

S.E. Asian children malnourished
BOSTON—Southeast Asian children are two to three times more likely to be undernourished than other children, according to a new study conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Health. The survey found that 15% of the Southeast Asian children examined were underweight, compared to 5% of the white children.

Asian spirit cited in Congress
WASHINGTON—Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives that recognizes the contributions of the Asian American community. The resolution was passed unanimously and was praised by members of Congress for its strong language.

Tribute paid to Asian Pacific Olympians
LOS ANGELES—Fourteen of the best athletes in the world were honored last Friday evening by more than 500 persons who attended the mayor's annual heritage dinner. A "Salute to Asian/Pacific Olympics" was given to immigrants and American-born athletes living in California who have competed in the Olympic games.

Although most of the Asian Pacific Olympians have not competed for several years, most are actively involved with the upcoming Los Angeles Summer games. Sammy Lee, for example, is a member of the Olympic Advisory Committee.

Minorities to hold conference on national defense policies
WASHINGTON—Coretta Scott King, Marian Wright Edelman and Eleanor Holmes Norton are among the featured speakers at a major convocation on the role minorities can play in helping to reduce the threat of nuclear war. The conference is scheduled for May 23 at the auditorium of the National Education Association.

World champions—Tiffany Chin (above) autographs a program at the Salute to Asian/Pacific Olympians. Sammy Lee (above) expresses appreciation for honor.

Monty Manabog is envoy to the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa and Fiji and Solomon Islands. Bok Shim will guide and interpret for the South Korean team, and Sang Nam will assist that country's swimmers. Among his other Olympic duties, David Phuathathanan is envoy to the Thailand and Singapore teams.

Norton Holmes, former director of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, serves as panel moderator.

Other participants in the event are Terry Herndon, former director of the National Education Assn., and Dr. Arthur Flemming, former chair, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and former member, Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

Sponsor of the event is the Citizens Against Nuclear War, a coalition of more than 60 national membership groups, including churches, unions, professional and civic organizations, representing some 30 million Americans.

At its 1982 convention, JACL adopted a resolution that directed the national organization to work towards a freeze of nuclear weapons.

Senate hearing postponed
SAN FRANCISCO—JACL headquarters has been informed that the Senate Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Civil Service, Post Office and General Services has rescheduled its hearing on S 2116, the Senate redress bill. Originally slated for June 1 in Los Angeles, the hearing has been postponed because of scheduling conflicts, according to John Tateishi, JACL redress director.
It's confirmed: Asian American students more likely to study hard & go to college

WASHINGTON - A higher percentage of Asian American students attend college than any other ethnic group in the U.S., according to a recent study by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

Data from a follow-up of the "High School and Beyond" survey of 1980 high school students shows that 74% of Asian American graduates attended two or four-year colleges. Other attendance rates were 54% for whites, 44% for Blacks, 36% for Hispanics, and 34% for Native Americans.

NCES also presented a study of 400 students at the center. Asian American studies educators groups elected officials

SANTA CLARA, Calif. - The Asian American Studies Association (AAS), a professional organization dedicated to the promotion of teaching and research in Asian American studies, recently announced its officers.

UCLA professor Don Nakanishi was elected president. Prof. Gary Okimoto of Univ. of Santa Clara was elected secretary-treasurer. New regional board members are Franklin Odo, Univ. of Hawaii; Ray Lou, San Jose State, Sowha Maundur, UCLA; Shirley Hase, Medgar Evers College; and Roger Daniels, Univ. of Cincinnati.

Open to all individuals interested in Asian American studies, AAS has a monthly newsletter, conducts a variety of research committees and is organizing a national convention in October at UCLA. For information, contact the Okimoto, Dept. of Asian American Studies, Univ. of Santa Clara, Santa Clara, CA 9508.

It was World Trade Week, too - Gov. George Deukmejian of California meets Kosho Tori of the Japan Chamber of Commerce of Southern California on May 4 prior to a Bi-national Chambers of Commerce lunch. The governor officially kicked off "World Trade Week" by delivering an address calling for the state to expand its trade with foreign nations.

"Assembly center" now official

Stockton, Calif. - Japanese Americans and their friends will gather Saturday, June 2, at the San Joaquin County Fairground, site of the wartime Stockton Assembly Center, to dedicate a one-ton feather rock monument as a state historical site.

Area residents, almost half of whom were children, were shipped to the concentration camp at Rohwer, Ark., for the duration of the war.

All 12 Centers Declared 'Landmarks'

In May 1981, a bill for approval was obtained from the Calif. State Historical Resources Commission to declare the 12 temporary detention centers historical sites. Individual applications were required, however, to put up the bronze landmark plaques. The Stockton plaque was approved last Feb. 3.

Six local Nikkei organizations are sponsoring the dedication: French Camp JACL, Lod M JACL, Stockton JACL, Calvary Presbyterian Church, Lodi Buddhist Church and the Stockton Buddhist Church.

For details, call Tetsuya Kato, (209) 467-9196, or George Baba, 478-8017.

How to Get Up to $100,000 in Cash, Whenever You Need It

If you're a residential homeowner, you may never need to apply for a conventional loan again.

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California First's Asset Line is a great way to consolidate your debts. To buy that new car you've been thinking about. Or to simply take that well-deserved vacation. For more information about terms and how to apply, simply stop by any of our 113 state-wide offices.
Athletes’ dreams dribble away in new play about basketball

Baltimore—James Yoshimura’s “Yellow Fever,” a play about the underside of national basketball, might not seem to be a “natural” topic for a sports playwright. Yet, Yoshimura says, “the only Japanese American play I would ever write is my family play.” And the middle child of 11 children jokes that with a cast that large, it could never play New York.

Talking with Baltimore Sun reporter J. Wynn Rosswuck, Yoshimura revealed that after interview, when his parents were confronted to Catholicism, his family moved to Chicago.

“We were the only Asian family in the parish,” he said. “You write from the world you come from. It doesn’t matter whether you’re black or white. If you write a good play, it’s a good play.

“I’ve never been able to write living room dramas. I have no interest in writing about WASPs or the upper class,” he added.

The characters in “Yellow Fever” are definitely not upper class. They are the Ohio Shakers, a fictitious team in the Continental Basketball Assn., unofficial football system to the NBA. Players earn about $4,000 per season.

In “Yellow Fever,” an NBA scout comes to a Shakers game—but the other team doesn’t.

Of lost opportunities, Yoshimura commented, “Nobody has prepared these guys to face facts—that’s the American dream.”

String of Successes

Some would say Yoshimura’s own career embodies the American dream. He sent his first play 10 years ago to Yale. Three years later, “Stunts” won the CBS Foundation Prize for best thesis play.

Since then Yoshimura has been working in residence for the Illinois Arts Council and final year he was a member of New Dramatists. His previously produced play, “Mercuries,” was nominated for an Obie.

“Yellow Fever” is one of five in an initial reading at New Dramatists in New York at the Eugene O’Neill Theater last summer, to a world premiere May 4 at Baltimore’s Center Stage. Performances there run through June 16.

The Chance of a Lifetime

1984 Post-Convention SENNIKAI TOUR

(1000 Club Tour to Japan)

All JACLers Welcome—Not Just 1000ers

Spots Available!

$779.00

Sponsor: National 100 Club

Organizers: Pacific Northwest JACL District Columbia Basin JACL

Aug. 18-28

Depart from Honolulu

Via JAL to Tokyo • 10 days, 9 nights in Western-style, a/c hotels; 7-day rail pass, Bullet train, English-speaking local guides, private motor coach on tour, piece of baggage handling, appropriate tax & tips included; $799 b/d occ, $298 s/b sup • Special arrangements for senior citizens and wheelchairs • Open to bonafide JACL members and their family only. New members may join with tour application the organizing chapter of this tour: Columbia Basin JACL, $35 sp, $65 family • All JACL PC, flight packages valid for 10 days.

Sennikai Tour (Aug. 28-30): Nara, Osaka, Kyoto (3 nights); Nara, Okayama, Kurashiki, Washinton Hills, Hiroshima (1 night); Miyajima, Takamatsu, Kagawa Asan, Kumamoto (3 nights); Amakusa Islands, Utsunomiya, Nagasaki (1 night), Fukushima, Okayama (1 night).

Sample r. f. rates from point-of-origin/Honolulu/Tokyo/point-of-origin: Washington, DC $1568; Boston $1560; Dallas $1490; Houston $1520; Chicago $1430; Denver $1300; Salt Lake City $1360; Spokane $1140; Seattle $1050; Los Angeles $990; San Francisco $950; Honolulu $730.

FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS

Paci fic Creative Service, Inc.

LOGAN Bldg, Suite 803, Union St.,
SEATTLE, WA 98101

(206) 682-8350

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Application for JACL 1000 Club Tour to Japan:

No • of seats on HON-TYO-HON-$730.

10-Day Tour Package ($799 b/d occ, $298 s/b sup)

Amt enclosed:

1000 Club Whing-Ding in Tokyo (date & cost to be announced)

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Payment Plan—All deposits must be received by June 10 and final payment by June 30, 1984. International and general information will be sent upon receipt of application and deposit. All tickets and any other pertinent information will be sent after confirmation and final payment. Make your checks payable to: Pacifico Creative Service, Inc.

For new JACL memberships, checks are payable to Co-

n Федерации Basin JACL and remit together with tour application/deposits.

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Henry K. Matsui, Nat’l JACL Vice President

Bosco A. Tanaka, Nat’l JACL President-elect

Regional Directors:

Calif. • Margaret Nakashima, Los Angeles (L.A.)

WA • Harold Kim, Seattle

Olive Branches, Los Angeles, CA 90032

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EAST WIND: by Bill Marutani

It's A Small World, After All

by John Tateishi, Redress Director

I just received the first two finished copies of AND JUSTICE FOR ALL; from the publisher this week (May 10); the culmination of an enterprise which I began in January, 1982.

When I first undertook this project, I had a sense of what it would be involved. But what I didn't count on was the enormous amount of time and energy that would take on. Throughout my tenure with the JACL's national Redress campaign since 1978, there have been many highs and lows. There have been some tremendous successes and also difficult times, but in retrospect, none have been personally more difficult than the interviews for the book.

I began by taped interviews of Japanese Americans—mostly Nisei but some Issei—around the country. In total, I talked to over 100 Nisei, all of whom were gracious and kind in giving their time. But more than this, they each shared with me a tremendous personal pain they experienced during the Evacuation, frequently exposing their hearts and their souls. The patience and understanding that each showed would not be easy for any person in this day and age. This I know and appreciated. But what I hadn't anticipated was the raw honesty and freely frequent emotions that emerged. I found it difficult going through those hundreds of hours of interviews, having to grill my nerves against the pain and tears because of the need to delve so deeply into the personal thoughts and emotions of the people I interviewed. Frequently, they would go on in their own words, describing the hardships of their experiences, many recalling experiences that had long been forgotten. And always, there was heartbreak in their stories.

And yet, what impressed me more than anything, what I will always remember, is the strength and dignity with which each person took each step into his or her past. The tremendous dignity I witnessed was remarkable.

The stories will always remain with me as a part of my personal journey through the book. I'll never forget the likes of Mary Tsukamoto, with her unaccented sense of loyalty and patriotism, or Haruo Niwa, an Issei who chose to stay in this country and recalled her first morning at Manzanar; Don Nakahata who, as a young boy, walked his father to the streetcar right after Pearl Harbor and never saw him alive again; the orphaned 16-year-old Helen Murao who brought her two younger brothers through Minidoka and resettlement in the Midwest, Tom Watanabe, who lost his wife and twin daughters at birth in Manzanar and tried for 46 years to find out where his daughters were buried, the principled defiance of the no-n's like Morgan Yamamaka and Jack Tomo; the nightmare existence of Violet de Cristofo; the so-called riot leader Harry Ueno, who exposed corruption by the administration at Manzanar; and the tremendous sense of loyalty of the vets, like John Kanda, William Makabe and others.

These are only a few of the many stories that will remain etched in my mind.

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL is a collective memory of a terrible time in the lives of Japanese Americans. I am but little more than a provocateur of that memory, for while my name appears as the editor, it is the stories that are within the covers and to those who were kind enough to be interviewed but whose stories do not appear.

This is really their story. Not mine.

Coming Up: Comedy Skit about JACL and Women

by Irene Hirano, Women's Concerns Committee Chair

LOS ANGELES—As part of the on-going work of the JACL women's concerns committee, a special program will be presented by the Pacific Southwest District at its upcoming district council meeting, Sunday, May 20.

The program will be held at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. Plaza Street, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. with a reception following.

The afternoon will open with a skit featuring "JACL Actors and actresses from the district council committee have taken on the names of the stars' under wraps. FC readers get a sneak preview. Some of those who will play starring roles in the skit are..."

This is the first of several programs the PSW District will sponsor in conjunction with the women's concerns committee. The second program is an "assertiveness training" workshop for committee members which will be held at the Pacific Southwest District headquarters from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on August 20.

Involvement of the committee members and interested friends to attend the Saturday night dinner dance at the Proud Bird. Sayenbraunch, coordinated by Lucy Yoshitani with the able assistance of Jerry Yamasato and Yoshi Okuma, has been set an hour earlier than previously planned and will start at 6 p.m. to accommodate many out-of-towners driving home. In turn, members will be able to enjoy more Southern California sunshine.

Tomi Watanabe will address the formation of a steering committee with representatives from different localities to assess the possibilities of a second singles convention, and invite resolutions to present at the national convention. Workshops are also on the agenda, and the singles hope to end on a positive note with many expectations met, especially that of the convention theme, "Getting to Know You."

Deadline for all reservations is May 16. Registration form can be found in the April 27 Pacific Citizen. For further information call (213) 484-6853 or (213) 477-6967.
Emile Masatomi

Kay Tateshi sent me a clipping of the other day from the Mainichi Daily News in Tokyo reporting the death of Emile Masatomi. He was 67 years old. At one time he had been an editor in chief of the English Mainichi, which was renamed the Mainichi Daily News. It is a publication with a long history in journalism, as a member of the distinguished Mainichi group of Tokyo and Osaka.

The clipping said Masatomi, a native of Okayama prefecture, had come to the United States as a youth and had graduated from the University of Washington in 1921. He returned to Japan and joined the Mainichi newspapers in 1925. The obituary continued that the Mainichi was commissioned to publish newspapers in three languages in the Philippines during the Japanese occupation and Masatomi was placed in charge of the English papers in Manila and Cebu.

Masatomi spoke perfect English and that was one of many reasons he was valuable to the Mainichi. It was about 1936, as I recall, that Masatomi and one of his big bosses visited Seattle. I am not sure about the big boss’s name, but Shingo Takai, a stickler in my mind. They paid a call on the journalism department at the University of Washington, as foreign press bigwigs often did, and I was one of the students who interviewed Takai. He, of course spoke fluent English, but Masatomi spoke a little more in a way, pleasant and facile as an interpreter. He was an impressive little fellow and made a lot of friends.

Not so his boss. Takai could have made a big impression on newspaper journalists—after all, he was a big man at one of the world’s biggest newspapers—if he had spoken frankly about the problems of publishing in a military dictatorship. But that wasn’t his mission. It soon became obvious that he had been sent to the States as an apologist for the militarists. The expression at the time was “to explain the China incident,” so the American press would understand Japan’s “true intentions.”

This was you, Mr. Takai, and you must remember, he wasn’t the only one.

No sooner had the prospects of getting a job on an American paper were not bright, particularly for a Nisei kid who was dumb enough to aspire to a career in journalism. The thought of going to Japan in search of employment had entered my mind, and somehow I must have gotten around to mentioning it to Masatomi.

But even before he could reply I knew I didn’t want to go to work for the Mainichi, or any other English-language paper in Japan. If I had to do what Masatomi was doing, I wanted to be a newspaperman, not an escort and flunky for an apologist. As I remember, he wasn’t too optimistic about chances in Tokyo for a Nisei college kid who understood little Japanese, and that was about what I had expected to hear.

Times changed. After the war the Japanese press became outspoken champions of freedom, unafraid of challenging the government.

From time to time I’d run into Emile Masatomi. But somehow the occasion never seemed right to tell him I was glad he had not invited me to come work for him because I would have had to say no. And now it’s too late.

Chapter Officers

GILROY JACL
Box 1238, Gilroy, CA 95020


LATIN AMERICA JACL
Luis Higa, pres.; Norma Num or, vp.; Keiko Masumura, treas.; Dora Naketa De Silva, sec.; Violeta Beppu, cor. sec.; Rosa Miyahara, memb.; Betty Matsumura, memb.; Terence Motonish, prog.; Los; Yamakawa, del.; Marta Ta; ma; news; fr.

OREGON COUNTY JACL
Jill Okada, pres.; Ray; gai, vp; Ken Shumian, treas.; Ar; ine Kubo, sec.; Betty Oka, afl.; Ben Nagase, del.; Luu Kobayashi, parti.; John Kam; aki, pas.; Ken; Hayah; shi redesi; Elaine Nagase, hist.; Warren Nagasawa, ch.; and Joe Obata, mem.

DIABLO VALLEY JACL
Aiko Toriyama, pres.; George Fujishima, vp/program.; Ray Takai, ins.; and Tsukasa Hiraoka, del. Mai Nakamura, memb.; Akira Harada, redesi.; Masuo, Deyasho, Tacho Haru; maki; Wiish; Hayah; shi, ins.; Nan; Myo; nish; Shih; Kan; asa, ch.; Edward Kubokawa, Carl Mune; Masay; naka, ch.; Sumi Nakahama, Sakuji Ok, Ray; Joe; Hor, Tom; Oshiro, hou.; Yuko Wada, Gil; bert Matsumura, memb.

About Our Readers (1):
Personal Profile

A 40-point questionnaire to survey the market of our 20,000 PC readers was randomly sent to some 8,000 readers in 1983. Tabulation of 728 10%-response forms has been completed. Again the Pacific Citizen thanks them for making our first market survey possible. The first set of figures deal with Personal Profile of PC’s readership. The actual 1983 JACL Membership percentages by district is being shown at the top to compare with distribution and responses of the questionnaires.

JACL Membership Percentage by District:

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Survey Distribution: Returns

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Are You Covered?

by John T. Yasumoto, chair, NC-WN-P DC/CBS health plan
SAN FRANCISCO—On most popular TV police shows, this question is often posed. Today, I would like to pose this same question to all JACLers, relating to health insurance. With spiraling costs in general health care, a person cannot afford to be without some type of insurance coverage. Our JACL California Blue Shield Plan is now on a renewed membership drive to ensure that all JACLers and their friends are covered.

We recently developed a new brochure which summarizes our plan and each present subscriber will be receiving a copy along with their next mailing. You, the Pacific Citizens readership, can help us by providing us leads, especially those in the younger age category. I encourage YOUNGER since presently more than 61% of our subscribers are over 65 years old. As you are well aware, more medical problems arise as one gets older and our claims during the past couple of years show this result. To help in this new subscriber campaign, we are also interested in enrolling young small businesses operated by JACLers.

If any of you can assist us in this project, please contact our office at the national headquarters in San Francisco for more details and mailing information.

Emsy Nishio

We've taken a new, bold approach to health insurance. The multiplier effect can be enormous. In speaking to 250 teachers, who have classes of 20-24 students, the message could reach 5,000 students. All students have parents or guardians, and another 10,000 could be thus indirectly reached.

We could be influencing 15,250 people—and that's pretty substantial. Today, we're in competition for public attention. World conflicts and crises grab headlines—and tomorrow's news will

Continued on Page 6

Las Vegas Multi-cultural Conference

Wayne Tanaka, an up-and-coming Hawaiian Sansei principal of Sunset High School in Las Vegas, Nevada, prodded the Clark County school district to include topics relating to Japanese Americans in their annual multi-cultural conference. February 1984. All teachers of the district were required to attend the conference. Substantial dissemination of information was achieved, including distribution of JACL’s summary of Personal Justice Denied.

The “education of” all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast during World War II, the oram nobl cases involving constitutional issues affecting everyone, and the present drive for redress by the JACL, was discussed with some 250 teachers in the school system. For some, this information was new—and some were unbelieveing that such a thing could have happened to U.S. citizens in the United States. Others vaguely knew something about these events and were eager to learn more.

We found the relating of personal experiences were best attention-grabbers. If one can talk about “what happened to me,” and what one saw, and felt, and did, interest can be held.

If one can talk about the sick baby that cried all night in the stall next door, or about eating messhall-style at rough-hewn wooden plank tables, or the blistering heat of summers or the bone-chilling cold of winters on the high deserts—these are the images that make camp life real to listeners.

There are almost unlimited opportunities to talk about evacuation and redress—in formal settings, or informally with acquaintances. Hopefully AJAs all over the country will be speaking out to garner support for the redress bills, HR 4110 and S 2116.

The multiplier effect can be enormous. In speaking to 250 teachers, who have classes of 20-24 students, the message could reach 5,000 students. All students have parents or guardians, and another 10,000 could be thus indirectly reached.

We could be influencing 15,250 people—and that's pretty substantial. Today, we're in competition for public attention. World conflicts and crises grab headlines—and tomorrow's news will
YASUI
Continued from Page 5

be mostly about elections. We must build public awareness, because Congress will not enact redress until senators and representatives are persuaded that the people do want redress for Japanese Americans—indeed in their self-interest in protecting their future rights as Americans.

In such efforts, the marvelous display of the cultural heritage of Japanese Americans staged by members of the Las Vegas JACL was most impressive. We know that Nevada’s Morino and many other Las Vegas JACLs were most generous in giving of their time and work to mount such an exhibit. George Goto as the new 1984 president of the Las Vegas JACL rallied the project, and even provided the food and transportation for the trip to Nevada by the help of Fred Fukuimoto, another good JACLer.

Incidentally, although the big hotels in Las Vegas have Chin-
Pornographic Introduction to Asian Civilization... 

Following are excerpts from a letter submitted by Noriko Okamoto, a Vassar College senior who has been struggling to convince others she believes is a case of racism and sexism in the teaching methods of a professor in the East Asian studies department.

I am writing this letter to enlist your advice and support. I am a student at Vassar College, and three years ago I was enrolled in the class taught by Donald Gillin. Prof. Gillin did several things in class to给我 an impression that his methods were questionable.

For example, he showed graphic slides of Asian women and explained that the purpose of the slides was to present the sexual stereotypes of Asian women. He believed that by presenting these slides his students could better understand the stereotypes and thereby realize that they are inaccurate. For example, he would show a picture of a naked Asian woman with a vibrator and tell them that they "always portray Asian women with sexual instruments." 

Racist and Sexist Lectures

When I questioned Gillin in class about the slide show, he accused me of "being an Asian girl who has been overprotected by her parents" and ignored my protests as ravings of an overly sensitive Asian who was just upset because a white man had to teach her about native culture.

When I approached the administration, they made me feel that my complaints were silly, petty, and stupid. They believed that I was overreacting and that I lacked knowledge of Asian history and culture for Asian women. I was also assured that the issue was "academic freedom" of the professor. However, I was assured that the Dean would talk to the professor. Feeling that was all I could hope for, I dropped the issue.

Then this December, I was informed by a friend that Gillin had shown his slide show again and that he had added bondage pictures to it. Upon meeting and getting together with other concerned students, I once again approached the administration on the same issue. Prof. Gillin's slide show was offensive and that some action must be taken against him. The other students also questioned Gillin's use of Charlie Chan movies and of Hollywood movies with non-Asian portrayals of Asian women. When I complained for years about this, then he adds "Honorable Number One son" and "Confucius says" without realizing their racist undertones.

The administration at Vassar argues academic freedom prevents them from acting. I believe the rights of academic freedom need to be protected, but... I believed the rights of women and Asians not to be humiliated and sexually harassed. His teaching methods lack validity and purpose. Should he be protected to continue such practice? How much emphasis should be placed on erotics in Asian Civilization?

Racism and sexism permeate Gillin's lectures. I doubt if European pornography in English literature would be tolerated under the same circumstances by white people. Due to the lack of sensitivity and awareness towards Asians at Vassar, Gillin has been allowed to do as he pleases. He also has been able to use ignorance as his ally. Students consider the course "funny.

Request for Letters

To impress upon the administration and the Vassar community the seriousness of the issue, I would like to ask Asian individuals and organizations outside Vassar to write a letter of inquiry about the academic practices of Professor Gillin. Can I receive any help from you in at least bringing an awareness that such practices may be objectionable to Asians?
**STEREOTYPING**

Continued from Page 7

and stereotyping of Asians and Asia with the reality of Asian life and history. In this case, I wanted to show how important sexual imagery has been in this process of mythologizing and stereotyping. For example, this involved examining, on the American side, the perennial fascination with what one Asian woman has called the "erotic erotic." However, I also looked back to show how over the years the Chinese and Japanese have also sexually stereotyped Americans.

At this point it should be noted that I am widely regarded as an authority on cross-cultural perceptions, having created for the China Council of the Asia Society a slide presentation entitled "Looking for China: Looking for America," which concerns various perceptions of the U.S. based on cross-cultural images of one another over the past century. It is being used in schools and colleges all over the country.

The idea of creating a separate presentation concerned with sexual stereotypes of Asian women was to make my original presentation remarked on the amount of sexual stereotyping already in it. Later, I solicited an invitation to show it to the group in New York City calling itself "Women Against Pornography." The first showing took place at the Univ. of Wyoming in the summer of 1978 as part of a conference on "Sex, Violence, and Censorship in the Mass Media."

[59x296]record of any student to graduate in East Asian Studies at One is Jennifer Choi, a Chinese woman educated in both Taiwan and Japan.

**Superhuman Powers**

In her letter Ms. Okamoto says that she 'would picture a nude Asian woman with a vibrator and tell the class that 'they always portray Asian women with sexual instruments,' which is a gross oversimplification of what she actually said. As I remarked to my audience more than once, what emerged from the presentation was the notion that Chinese and Japanese women are constructed differently from other women. I understand that Professor Gillen was impressed with Asian women's abilities to make others sexual and 'sexify' as a common and, certainly, most effective means of communicating sexual imagery. Excluding it from my slide presentation would have left that presentation sexually incomplete.

And I categorically deny that I ever referred to her protest as, in her words, "ravings of an overly sensitive Asian who was just upset because a white man had to teach her about her "superhuman" nature." I have never used such language and I believe that this is a ridiculous notion that Chinese and Japanese women were constructed differently from other women.

I noted that this belief in the superhuman powers of Chinese and Japanese women was rooted in a common misconception concerning Chinese and Japanese; namely, the idea that they possess knowledge beyond the comprehension of others, as well as intelligence and strengths that are beyond those exhibited by others. Gillen went on to say that I responded to Ms. Okamoto's criticism responsibly and with great sensitivity.

In the course of the response I apologized to Ms. Okamoto for having called her, as she says in her attack on me, "a superhuman being and private protector.

**Unwarranted Reaction**

I am prepared to accept Ms. Okamoto's reaction to my slide presentation as both excessive and unwarranted. This feeling is shared by at least three other women who not only saw the presentation but also heard Ms. Okamoto attack it. One is Jennifer Choi, a Chinese woman educated in both Taiwan and the United States, who has the best academic record of any student to graduate in East Asian Studies at Vassar and had instructed her students for the presentation out of that program 17 years ago. In a letter dated April 28 to Virginia Smith, president of Vassar, she wrote:

I had taken Professor Gillen's class as a sophomore in the fall semester of 1980, and I had seen a similar presentation which had also included pornographic slides of Asian women. I understand that Professor Gillen has recently been granted a leave of absence for the year 1984-85 and that this is the reason for his attempt in presenting a truthful and realistic portrayal of Asian stereotypes which exist in the Western perspective.

I do not contest that seeing such pornographic material in a classroom environment may be offensive to our conventions and values, but I do believe that it is the understanding of the world, its virtues and vices, which underlies the value of a true liberal arts education. Furthermore, the showing of a few pornographic slides does not immediately and necessarily imply an endorsement of sexual stereotypes, but may be positively translated as a constructive attempt to be open-minded and honest in the study of Asian stereotypes.

Another woman who both saw the presentation and heard Ms. Okamoto's arguments against it is Sarah Dubray, who currently is a psychotherapist practicing in Laramie, Wyoming, among other feminist activities, she is counseling women who work for victims of sexual assault and family violence.

In a letter to President Smith, dated April 13, Dr. Dubray says that the number of women present, with whom she later spoke, were dismayed by the tone of Ms. Okamoto's attack on me and that the attack itself was unjustified.

In her letter Dr. Dubray also recalls that after the presentation Susan Brownmiller, author of the definitive feminist criticism of me, listened to me and then saw all illustrated in the Gillen's effort, his attempt as a male to make a valuable contribution to feminist thought. Although several representatives of an Asian woman's group were present, as Dr. Dubray also states, Ms. Okamoto was the only woman there who voiced criticism of the presentation. Dr. Dubray goes on to say that I responded to Ms. Okamoto's criticisms responsibly and with great sensitivity.

In the course of the response I apologized to Ms. Okamoto for having called her, as she says in her attack on me, "a superhuman being and private protector.

**Usefulness of Films**

Ms. Okamoto also directs me for using Hollywood films in my class because they have not portrayed Asians and that I tried to use these films in order to combat rather than reinforce the stereotypes they contain.

A case in point is a "Fu Manchu" film produced in 1934, which I showed some time ago. Students were assigned readings in Harold Isaac's "Scratches on Our Minds: American Images of China and India," which still is the most definitive scholarly work on that subject and, before screening the film, I delivered a 45-minute lecture on it.

One of the women in the class, which was a very large one, had a student assistant that she had been shown by the presentation. She said that, having come from a small town in the Middle West, she had encountered no people of Asian descent until she arrived at Vassar. Nor had she ever heard of "Fu Manchu," much less read any books or seen any films containing this stereotype. Yet, she said, after doing the reading, she realized that her attitude toward the Asians and Asian-Americans she had encountered here had been affected profoundly by the prejudices and misconceptions associated with the "Fu Manchu" imagery which, somehow or other, she had come to believe without ever having come up against that imagery per se. Comments made to me by other students suggested that many in the class had shared this reaction. Certainly, this suggests that I must be doing something right in showing Hollywood films.

This brings up the subject of, from time to time, I have screened for my class a "Charlie Chan" film. Before screening such a film, I have always explained to my class why Chinese Americans do not want to be called the "Chan" image, although my friend Mark Ong, the illustrator of the San Francisco Francisco author, Jade Snow Wong, to the effect that he was to have it to choose between being the "Charlie Chan" image, which would set the "Manchu," who at least identified with China and stood up to the whites, to that of "Charlie Chan," whose sexlessness and subservience to the whites have generated a gaze of Chinese-American. My justification for still showing such a film is historical and has to do with the profound impact of the "Charlie Chan" imagery on American attitudes toward the Chinese and China.

Taking my own case as an example, largely as a result of the "Chan" imagery, many affluent Asian Americans who have been overprotected by the American upbringing of those decades acquired an inordinate admiration for the Chinese, whom we even came to regard as superior to us Americans with whom we often did battle over intellectual and moral values and who, in our eyes, increasingly appeared to be among our best friends in another hostile world.

This helps to explain, I pointed out, the peculiarly intense bitterness that characterized American opinion toward China during the 1950s and 1960s, and may also account for our current eagerness to reconcile with China.

Thus, occasionally screening a "Charlie Chan" film is an effective way of calling attention to important aspects of the history of relations between Chinese and Americans. Of course, it is not without saying that such screenings have to be accompanied by an interpretive, critical commentary, and that I have always tried to provide that.

Gillen lists a number of other films he screens in his class: "The Good Earth," for example. "In spite of their obvious failings," he writes, "they also portray accurately or give insights into the Chinese and China."

The Asian Civilization course is an extremely broad survey which examines the entire span of human history, not only in China and Japan but, during the second semester, in India and Southeast Asia as well. Necessarily, the students can be given only an impressionistic knowledge of that history and I have found that films and slides, if they are the right kind, frequently make the strongest and most lasting impressions. Appropriately, it was the ancient Chinese who came up with the adage about a picture being worth a thousand words.

This does not mean, however, that students enrolled in the course are not required to read. Gillen here lists reading and examination requirements.

I say all this in order to refute Ms. Okamoto's inference that my course is "funny." Certainly, this has not been the opinion of many of the students who have gotten to know while they were enrolled in the course and, in contrast to Ms. Okamoto's hearsay evidence, I can produce literally scores of evaluations from such students describing the course as one of the most original, exciting, and valuable they have taken at Vassar.
French Camp
STOCKTON, Calif.—A mid-summer dance will be held Saturday, June 2 at the Stockton Buddhist Church Social Hall on Shinnun Drive, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hayao Motomoya and his Swing Tone Band furnish the music. Proceeds from ticket sales (45 cents per person) will benefit the national JACL, redress campaign.

Coordinating the event are Katzie Komori (chair), John Fujiki, George Komure, Tosh Hotta, Miyuki Kanemoto, Elsie Kagehiro, Alan Nishi, Lydia Ota, Hiroshi Shimomo, Hide Morinaka, Pami Asano, Tom Natsuhara, Yone Hisatomi, Mats Murata, Nancy Natsuhara, Dorothy Ota, Florence Shimizu, Chinu Nonaka, and Kimi Morinaka.

Parents Day: The chapter’s annual Parents Day party will be held at French Camp community hall, Saturday, May 26, from 7:30 p.m. On the committee are Katzie Komure and Pumi Asano (co-chairs), Pamela Yamasaki, Miyuki Kanemoto, Diane Takeishi, Terry Hotta, and Mitzi Shimoto.

New England
CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Discrimination in Japan against the Burakumin is the topic of a discussion with Yasumasa Hirashita, Wednesday, May 30, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room 2, Coolidge Hall, 1372 Cambridge St. The Burakumin are racially indistinguishable from the majority of Japanese. Hirashita notes, but they are discriminated against because of historical prejudice rooted in Shinto and Buddhist beliefs and in the political theory of the Edo period (1603-1867).

Space is limited for the free program. For reservations, call 451-0782. Japan Society of Boston is co-sponsor.

Philadelphia
HAVERFORD, Penn.—Philadelphia JACL and American Friends Service Committee are sponsoring a dinner honoring Gordon K. Hirabayashi, on Wednesday, May 23, 6:30 p.m.

Salt Lake City
SALT LAKE CITY—An informational meeting on redress was held April 29 at the Multi- Ethnic Heritage, attended by about 50 former internees and community members from throughout the state, particularly from the Wasatch Front North.

Prof. Roger Daniels, historian and guest lecturer at the Univ. of Utah from the Univ. of Cincinnati, spoke on “Redress, Retrospect and Prospect.” It was announced that Sadako Nagata, chapter president, has initiated a letter-writing campaign, and that Mitsuji Kasa is Intermountain regional coordinator for redress.

Sonoma County
SEBASTOPOL, Calif.—An all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast costs only $3 on Sunday, May 30, at Memorial Hall, 1200 Gravenstein Hwy., 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Proceeds benefit the Sonoma County JACL.
National JACL to award $52,000 in scholarships

SAN FRANCISCO—The national scholarships committee of the JACL, under leadership of J.D. Hokoymane, recently met in Los Angeles to select recipients of the 1984 scholarship program. A record number of 30 awards totaling $52,000 in scholarships was determined.

Selection Committee

Serving on the selection committee were:

Young JACLers learn how national govt works through PCY

WASHINGTON—Sixteen JACL chapter-sponsored youth have attended the 1984 sessions of the Presidential Classroom for Young Americans here.

This week-long conference on how federal government works has been supported by JACL chapters since 1975. Winter participants and their chapters were:

Katherine Kawase and Susan Qiao, Selonos; Jamie Sue Hirota and Ketso Steimizer, Berkeley; Cheryl Kusunoki Tatsumi, 12558 Valley View, Garden Grove, Calif. 92645 • (714) 895-4554

PSWDC to convene in L.A. May 20

LOS ANGELES—Downtown Los Angeles JACL hosts the second quarterly meeting of the Pacific Southwest District Council this Sunday, May 20, at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 2nd floor, 244 S. San Pedro St. Coffee and donuts will be served at 8:30 a.m. John Tashima, national JACL Redress director, will render an update on redress. Important agenda matters include redress fund raising, membership drive, resolutions for the national convention and standing committee reports. Afternoon opens with a talk about "A Typical JACL Chapter Meeting" (see this week’s women’s concern column), followed by a discussion with panelists Dr. Akemi Kikuma, Titta Toyoda, Floyd Shimomura and moderator Irene Hirano, national JACL women’s concern chair.

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WHERE CARE MEANS EVERYTHING
It may be said that Little Tokyo acquired its present moluk of a basically Japane "town" around 1913 when the Jewish merchants who were doing business on First Street between Los Angeles and Central began to abandon the area for sites in Boyle Heights—especially Brooklyn Ave. east and west of 2nd St. By 1913, Japanese businesses had moved into these store rentals which had been non-Japanese. Notable exceptions were Newmark Bros. Coffee, Tea and Spice Co. (still standing and known as J.B. Newmark Bros. on N. Broadway, postwar, and now the S.K. Ueda Bldg.) and the Armour Packing Plant at 1st and Central. This is our way of introducing the talk in this week’s column on the Jewish neighborhoods outside First and San Pedro Sts. Incidentally, Boyle Heights was the closest to J-town—no more than three miles away on the east side of the river—It was the first Japanese American residential area in Los Angeles, as early as 1904 when you consider a Buddhist temple was established by the Rev. Junzo Imamura at 3rd and Savannah (a block away today from Evergreen Playground, where Nisei had developed their athletic prowess in football, basketball, baseball and swimming in the 1920’s). From the time those Japanese businesses in Boyle Heights, such as boarding houses, baths, grocery stores, pool halls, etc., which were numerous in the 1920’s and 1930’s. Evidently, Little Tokyo was near enough to meet such needs. In fact Boyle Heights was the area that by 1940, Little Tokyo newspapers estimated up to 40,000 Japanese American residents in the Boyle Heights district. The Maryknoll Sisters had their Japanese American Travel Club

For more information or reservation, please call

Japanese American Travel Club

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- **Aug. 24—Riches of the Orient—18 days** $2885.00
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- **Sept. 25—Le Grande Europe—21 days** $3995.00
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- **Nov. 1—Blue Lagoon—10 days** $1767.00
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  - All of the best of Mexico: The Floating Gardens of Xochimilco, the amazing ruins of Teotihuacan, Taxco, Tequila, Guadalajara, and Cancun, the famous Acapulco. First Class hotels, some meals included. Round trip air fare from Los Angeles included.

**Cruise Programs**

- **Aug. 2—Hawaii, In–12 days** From $1553
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