

Hayakawa testifies against payments

Twenty-six witnesses testified at a hearing on redress bill S 2116 held Aug. 16 at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Brentwood by the Senate Subcommittee on Civil Service, Post Office and General Services. Due to the volume of testimonies given, PC will cover the anti-redress witnesses this week and the pro-redress witnesses next week.

By J.K. Yamamoto

LOS ANGELES—The first anti-redress witness at the Aug. 16 Senate hearing was former senator S. I. Hayakawa (R-Calif.), who gave testimony similar to that which he gave before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in 1981.

Looking at the internment "the way it was seen by the Issei," he said that by complying with government orders, the evacuees demonstrated the Japanese qualities of *on* (obligation) and *giri* to one's name (which he said meant "self-respect"), thereby showing themselves to be "men and women of honor."

Hayakawa cited the exploits of the Nisei of the 442nd RCT in Europe and Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific, who proved "over and over again their high sense of honor," and the "ability of the Issei...to draw upon their moral resources and ethical traditions to accept the discomforts and agonies of relocation with stoicism and dignity." Nikkei, he said in summary, "accepted the mass relocation with dignity and maturity, making the best of a humiliating and unjust situation."

He then criticized "the Sansei...who are now pressing for redress" because "having learned to analyze the world in the trendy language of Black Panther ideology, (they) have no idea what gave backbone and courage and character to their parents and grandparents in times of stress."

Hayakawa added that there were "unforeseen benefits" to the relocation. "Through the adventure of relocation, almost all Nisei and many Issei were thrown out of their ghettoized Japantown existence into the



Photo by Jon Takasugi

Saying 'no' to redress—Former senator S.I. Hayakawa reiterates his views on the issue at Aug. 16 Senate hearing in Los Angeles.

mainstream of American life and learned to converse, joke, quarrel, bargain or pray with their fellow Americans without racial self-consciousness. They learned to be at home in their own country!"

He quoted economist Thomas Sowell as saying that the internment gave Nikkei greater occupational and residential mobility, released Nisei from the strict control of their parents, and "decisively broke the back of the anti-Japanese prejudice" that they had experienced up to that time. Despite individual hardships, he continued, "Japanese Americans as a group prospered more after they returned from the internment camps than before."

In an interview with a KNX-AM reporter shortly after his testimony, Hayakawa also said that if reparations are awarded, "every other minority is going to be sore as hell." When asked if his views would be different if he had been interned (he and his wife were in Chicago during WW2), he replied, "No...don't forget, Japan started the war."

In response to Hayakawa's comments, Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), who also testified that day, said, "None of this is his own personal experience. For him it's an academic exercise."

Witnesses claim most Nikkei were traitors

LOS ANGELES—As Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) listened, opponents of reparations presented their arguments at length, often vehemently denouncing not only the redress bill but also condemning Nikkei as a group. It was argued that the CWRIC's pro-redress findings are inaccurate and biased, and that Japanese Americans were actively disloyal.

Charlotte Elam said she had documented evidence that Nikkei were putting "millions of dollars...in Japan-owned banks, thousands of it designated for the war effort" and that "Nisei, to a great extent, were providing subversive materials."

Unlike German or Italian Americans, she said, Japanese Americans refused to report subversive activity and had dual citizenship which they refused to renounce. She further charged that Nisei living in Japan were not thought disloyal and served in the army, where "they were free to brutalize and torture our soldiers."

In the Japanese language schools, she declared, children "were taught *bushido*, which is treachery and brutality." She warned that "there's talk now of bringing those schools back in America today."

To minimize the accomplishments of the 442nd, she said that the unit's most highly decorated officer was of Korean, not Japanese, descent and that "these men were not sent into combat in the Pacific area, where they would be tempted to switch sides." She also stressed that "the length of service of many Japanese Americans was comparatively short."

"A Solemn Public Lie"

Frederick Wiener, a retired U.S. Army colonel from Phoenix, called the CWRIC report "a solemn public lie" and said that the commissioners were "persons whose reactions and points of view were well-known and predictable" and that the commission's staff members, 40 percent of whom had Japanese surnames, were also biased.

He went on to cite the number of Japanese Americans who sought repatriation, refused to serve in the armed forces, or refused to swear allegiance to the U.S. "If these Japanese Americans were really 100

percent American in their total outlook," he argued, "the loyalty program wouldn't have been divisive." He also claimed that two Nikkei "were duly convicted of treason."

Wiener denied that the internment was racially motivated, stating that President Roosevelt "didn't have a drop of racism in his entire body" and citing the government's 1943 repeal of the ban on Chinese immigration and naturalization. To show that not only whites were against the Japanese, he said there were instances of "a Chinese American, a Filipino and a Jap—and a Black, I beg your pardon...attacking Japanese ethnics."

A public apology can be considered, he concluded, "after the commission apologizes for the misleading document it has foisted upon the public and after the government of Japan apologizes for Pearl Harbor."

"They Were Enemy Nationals"

Henry Kane, an Oregon attorney who has fought against the *coram nobis* case of Minoru Yasui, elaborated on the previous witnesses' themes. As evidence of Nisei disloyalty, he cited records of enemy soldiers in the South Pacific "speaking perfect colloquial American—the kind of American that is learned by being born here." He said there was also a case of "a Japanese war bomb that had been buried in a field by...an alien who was helping to finance Japanese aggression in China."

As for the fact that Issei were classified as aliens because they were barred from citizenship, Kane's response was, "So what? They were enemy nationals." He suggested that they still professed their loyalty to Japan.

Kane said that the idea that all internees were loyal Americans was "improper" and called on the Senate to put itself in the position of 1942 legislators who were aware of "the horrible military situation on the West Coast."

"Thousands of Illegals"

Catherine Treadgold of San Francisco claimed to have registered evacuees before they were sent to camp and described herself as "an authority." She declared that "They were en masse disloyal!"

Continued on Page 9

Sato edges Yasui by scant 58½–56½ vote

HONOLULU—In hotly contested races, JACL National Council members elected Frank Sato president for 1984-86 and Kaz Mayeda vice president for public affairs. Sato garnered 58½ votes to Min Yasui's 56½. Mayeda received 59½ votes to incumbent Chuck Kubokawa's 55½.

Running unopposed were Yosh Nakashima, vice president for general operations (110 votes); Rose Ochi, vice president for membership and services (104 votes); Miki Himeno, vice president for planning and development (93 votes); and Gene Takamine, secretary-treasurer (82½ votes).

In business sessions, the council:

—Adopted the Program for Action (see Aug. 17 PC) submitted for discussion.

—Adopted the budget as submitted by the secretary-treasurer (see Aug. 10 PC),

with the addition of a footnote indicating that the redress program must repay \$10,000 to the endowment fund by Oct. 1984 and another \$40,000 by Oct. 1985.

—Moved that the JACL provide the necessary funds and transfer the appropriate staff to the Legislative Education Committee (LEC) to continue the redress effort (see Floyd Shimomura's column, Aug. 10 PC).

—Rejected a motion to adopt a system whereby a member would mail dues directly to national headquarters instead of through the chapter. This change to the bylaws would have been necessary to implement the automated membership renewal system recommended by the national board (see July 27 PC).

Resolutions passed by the National Council will be covered in next week's PC.

Matsunaga kicks off Honolulu convention activities

HONOLULU—Hawaii's multi-ethnic culture "has contributed greatly to the enormous strides our country has made over the last 25 years toward ethnic equality for all," Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) told a crowd of 600 at the JACL national convention Aloha Banquet Aug. 13.

The Native Hawaiians' hospitality and ability to live in harmony, Matsunaga said, have made the Islands "a model of integration and a standard of neighborliness that have left a lasting impression on millions of Americans who have visited here."

Americans who would heal the wounds suffered by those interned 42 years ago, he added, would do well to emulate the Native Hawaiian practice known as *ho oponopono*: "to mediate and put to rights interpersonal relationships through a mental cleansing akin to collective confession and meditation."

In a more concrete measure, the senator has introduced S 2116, a bill that would provide monetary compensation to Nikkei excluded from the West Coast during WW2.

Referring to that legislation, Matsunaga said, "We must never forget that American idealism is the central unifying force for our multi-racial, pluralistic society. It is what binds us as a nation, many races but one people. In the spirit of the Hawaiians, there must be a 'putting to rights' among us, so that we are able to look to a wholesome future because we have healed the wounds of the past."

Community Leaders Honored

Recognized at the banquet for their many contributions to the Honolulu Chapter were former territorial legislator and early sports promoter Steere G. Noda, attorney and founding chapter president Earl Nishimura, and author and longtime JACL supporter Thomas Taro Higa.

Also recognized were Hilo businessman James Hirano, attorney Katsugo Miho, community leader Tetsuro Oi, and former Kauai circuit court judge Benjamin Tashiro who were instrumental in the effort to win naturalization rights for the Issei in 1952. Their role was described by Mike

Another hearing on HR 4110 scheduled

WASHINGTON — Reps. Robert Matsui and Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) announced Aug. 14 that the House Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations will hold another day of hearing on redress legislation Sept. 12 in Washington, D.C.

The hearings held June 20, 21, and 27 "have already begun to do what we expected," the congressmen said in their press release. "They are enlightening those House members who may not yet realize the trauma endured by Americans of Japanese ancestry in WW2. The hearings have been very constructive, and we are encouraged."

Scheduled witnesses include figures from the internment period: Edward Ennis, director of enemy alien control of the Justice dept., and Karl Bendetsen, Assistant Chief of Staff in charge of Civilian Affairs of the Western Defense Command. A panel of former internees will also give testimony.

Matsui and Mineta also announced that Rep. Richard Lehman (D-Calif., 18th district) has become the 104th cosponsor of HR 4110.

Nurse's invention wins top award

SACRAMENTO—There is now no excuse for undiagnosed lazy-eye or amblyopia in young children.

A school nurse has revolutionized the ordinary eye screening for little children, for which she received the top award of \$2,000 from the RN Foundation for Excellence in Nursing.

No more do preschoolers need to grapple with the unfamiliar letter E. The Blackbird System, invented by Kiyo Sato-Viacrucis, public health nurse, has changed the "unchangeable" Snellen E, nationally recommended since 1862 for screening school-age non-readers and, for lack of a better method, for preschool children.

Doctors generally consider the Snellen E non-productive in screening young children due to their lack of understanding of the test.

The modified E, developed by Sato-Viacrucis, uses pic-

tures of blackbirds in different flight patterns.

The key to reaching non-verbal, non-reading preschoolers is the "Story of Blackbird," which captivates the children and teaches the flying positions of the testing symbol as they "fly with Blackbird."

The new method is designed for screening preschoolers, kindergartners and learning handicapped children.

The Blackbird Vision Screening System was described as "a great service to mankind" by the late Gerald Portney, chief of ophthalmology, U.C. Davis.

Lazy-eye must be identified by age four for optimum correction. Blackbird now makes this possible.

It is estimated that 100,000 children are losing sight of an eye each year because they are tested too late.



Spark Matsunaga addresses guests at Aloha Banquet.

Masaoka in a statement read by chapter president Lawrence Kumabe:

"I remember especially how James Hirano of the Big Island, Judge Ben Tashiro of Kauai, and Tats Miho and Tets

Redress gets more endorsements

Efforts to obtain redress for Nikkei affected by the WW2 internment have been endorsed by two city councils and two large professional organizations.

The Philadelphia City Council passed a resolution supporting JACL's redress efforts May 17. The resolution was presented by Councilman Lucien Blackwell at a May 23 dinner held by Philadelphia JACL and American Friends Service Committee in honor of Gordon Hirabayashi. Councilwoman Augusta Clark also attended and Councilman David Cohen paid a brief visit. Council members Thatcher Longstreth and Joan Specter were represented by their staff.

The Watsonville (Calif.) City Council unanimously endorsed redress at its June 12 meeting. Sumio Koga of Watsonville JACL wrote a letter to the editor of the local newspaper, the Register-Pajaronian, to commend the council's action.

On the recommendation of its Committee of Asian American Psychiatrists, Council on National Affairs, and Joint Reference Committee, the board of trustees of the American Psychiatric Assn. voted June 29 to endorse a resolution supporting the CWRIC's findings and urging the passage of redress legislation. The month before, Patrick Okura of Washington D.C. JACL had written to Dr. Melvin Sabshin, APA medical director, requesting that the board consider endorsing the resolution.

The same resolution was passed by the American Orthopsychiatric Assn. at its annual meeting in Toronto on Apr. 10.

Oi of Oahu worked long and hard to organize and then carry out the successful fund drives that provided JACL with more than a quarter of a million dollars that made the difference between success and failure in our Washington efforts."

Cherry Kinoshita of Seattle Chapter and James Shimoura of Detroit Chapter were honored as JACLers of the Bienium (see July 6 PC). Kaz Mayeda, Detroit Chapter president, accepted for Shimoura. (June 29)

Frank Iwama, for his more than 10 years of continuous service at the national level, was awarded the JACL ruby pin.

Chapter Awards

Seattle Chapter won the Inagaki Chapter Award for its programs in redress and other areas of community concern. San Diego Chapter won honorable mention.

Winners of the membership contest were: Group 1 (fewer than 100 members)—Olympia, Wash., for increasing its membership by 352 percent; New York, for recruiting 138 new members; Group 2 (101 to 250 members)—Spokane, Wash., which added 104 new members, an increase of 175 percent; and Group 3 (more than 250 members)—San Francisco, which enrolled 375 new members, an increase of 144 percent.

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Christian Church restates 1942 position against internment

ST. LOUIS—The general board of the 1.2 million-member Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) unanimously passed a resolution supporting the recommendations of the CWRIC and the redress bills currently in the House and Senate during a convention held here June 23-26.

The resolution was introduced by David Kagiwada, pastor of Crestview Christian Church in Indianapolis and a member of Hoosier JACL. Midwest District Council governor George Sakaguchi, who worked with Kagiwada on the resolution, thanked the church board on behalf of JACL.

A native of Los Angeles, Kagiwada was interned in Poston, Arizona (Camp III) during WW2.

For the Christian Church, the redress resolution is largely a restatement of views that it held during WW2. In its "Resolution on Japanese Evacuation and Internment," issued July 31, 1942, the International Convention of Disciples of Christ, meeting in Grand Rapids, Mich., strongly opposed the government's actions. The wartime resolution read, in part:

"We recognize that it is the duty of government to take all necessary precautions to protect the country from betrayal and sabotage. We recognize also that in time of war, nationals of one belligerent country residing in another must expect some restrictions upon their freedom.

"But we hold that all steps taken for this purpose should be within the framework of the Constitution and should be based upon evidence of or strong presumption of guilt. Evacuation of more than 100,000 people, more than 70% of whom are American citizens, from their homes, their farms, their businesses, their professions, and their jobs, and placing them within internment camps without the filing of charges, holding of hearings or court procedures of any kind, or conviction in any court of law, is contrary to the American concept of justice.

"Mass internment upon the basis of suspicions arising from race, color, or ancestry is a form of reprisal no more to be condoned in the U.S. than in Germany. We point out that no such steps have been taken against persons of German or

Italian ancestry living in the U.S., though numerous cases of spying and sabotage have been uncovered. In every instance, the proper agency of government has proceeded against such persons before legally constituted tribunals and under accepted rules of evidence.

"The loyalty of the vast majority of Japanese residing in the U.S. and Hawaii is unquestioned. Rumors of disloyalty and sabotage have either been disproved or remain unsubstantiated. As recently as June 27, 1942, Associated Press quotes the U.S. army Headquarters in Hawaii as saying that American soldiers of Japanese ancestry 'had established an enviable record for efficiency and devotion to duty and that their conduct before, during and since the attack on Pearl Harbor had been exemplary.'

"In view of these facts, this Board of Managers makes the following statement of conviction:

"1. We urge that hearing or investigating boards be set up at once to determine the loyalty to the U.S. of all persons of Japanese ancestry now interned, and that all such persons be given an opportunity to appear before such boards to prove their citizenship and loyalty. Said boards should have the power to release all persons adjudged to be loyal to the U.S. Persons whose loyalty to the U.S. is questioned should be turned over to the proper agency of government for action under the law.

"2. All persons released from internment should be given governmental aid in securing jobs, farms, or in re-entering business or professional life. We urge our churches to cooperate in providing for these families until they are reassimilated into American life.

"3. We believe that the government should compensate innocent interned persons for losses sustained because of the internment order.

"4. We are opposed to the proposal to extend the internment order to all Japanese residing in the U.S., and to all legislation designed to deprive any person of American citizenship on the ground of race, color, or ancestry.

"5. We believe that the whole principle of democratic liberty as well as our future relations with Oriental peoples is at stake in our treatment of the Japanese within our borders. We must demonstrate to peoples of enemy occupied, neutral, and colonial countries that we can maintain democratic liberties in wartime, and that we believe in them for others as well as for ourselves.

"6. It is our conviction that the current internment of Japanese is not in harmony with the fixed policies of our government, but that it is an unfortunate incident resulting from ill-considered action by reprehensible pressure groups.

The 1984 resolution "supports the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians which have been encompassed in HR 4110... and S2116... [and recommends] that the General Minister and President be requested to communicate this action with all members of Congress."

Santa Clara to pay back county workers

SAN JOSE, Calif.—The Santa Clara County board of supervisors voted July 31 to set aside \$50,000 to be divided among Japanese American county employees who had to leave their jobs because of the WW2 internment.

The ordinance, introduced by Supervisor Rod Diridon, also provides funding for the development of an oral history project about the internment and \$5,000 for historical markers, the location of which will be determined at a later date.

Although 4,000 Nikkei lived in the county in 1942, so far only Elsie Inouye, 77, has been identified as a former county employee. She was a nurse at the county hospital when she received a 2 a.m. telegram in May, 1942 telling her she was to be interned.

Once her employment is verified through Social Security and tax records, she will receive \$5,000. "I really need it," a grateful Inouye said. "I'm in debt right now. Everybody's rich but me."

Inouye, who was not able to attend the supervisors' meeting because of illness, was interned in Arizona, returned to Santa Clara County, and worked again at the hospital until her retirement.

Before voting, supervisors heard from members of the local Nikkei community, such as 77-year-old Masuo

Akizuki, who said, "It is important for the board to make a strong statement. You must do whatever is in your power to set the record straight."

Representing the Peninsula Redress League, Judy Nizawa told the supervisors, "It is important that you recognize the Japanese American as a contributing member of the community, even though the two countries were at war."

When the vote was taken, Supervisor Rebecca Morgan abstained because she felt it was unfair to single out one group among all the groups that have suffered in America.

Supervisor Zoe Lofgren disagreed, saying, "As a representative of this government, I feel a responsibility to take a stand. This is a passage for a healing, and a statement—never again."

ANNOUNCEMENT

In accordance with Section 105(f) of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982, the California Department for Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to establish goals of 13% for Disadvantaged Business (DB) firms and 3% for Woman Business Enterprises (WBE).

These overall goals will be used when preparing individual contract goals for projects in California using Federal-aid funds.

Caltrans will be holding public meetings from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the following locations:

State Building, 107 South Broadway, Room 1122, Los Angeles, California, September 4, 1984.

Fresno Dept. of General Services, 2550 Mariposa Mall, Fresno, California, Corner of Tulare and "O" Street, September 5, 1984.

Caltrans, 1120 N Street, Room 10 (Basement Hearing Room) Sacramento, California, September 6, 1984.

If you need further information call (916) 445-2059.

If you believe you qualify as a Disadvantaged Business or Woman Business Enterprise, and are interested in obtaining contracts with Caltrans, you are encouraged to apply for certification with the Caltrans Office of Civil Rights.

Applications may be obtained through that office at 1120 N Street, Room 1424, Sacramento, CA, or by calling (916) 445-2059.

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The Symbolism of Seashells

FROM OUR PARENTS have been handed down to us Nikkei many fine cultural and ethical values such as patience (*gaman*), restraint (*enryo*), industry (*doryoku*), sense of honor (*giri*)—just to name a few. Noble as these ethical values may be, much as we Nikkei may believe in them, and much as this society would be well to embrace them fully—the sad but realistic fact is that some of these values are considered with disdain, and at times with outright contempt, in some cynical circles. At the very least, those who manifest these values are often considered timid and weak. Often the consequences are what the Issei referred to as “baka ni sarareru.” To be taken advantage of as a fool.

WE DO NOT for a moment suggest that the Nikkei abandon these fine principles. On the contrary, they should be nurtured and adopted in full by this society for the betterment of all. In the meantime, however, these principles should not be allowed to be used as avenues for the exploitation of the Nikkei to be “baka ni sarareru.” In the name of *gaman*, *enryo* or whatever, the Nikkei should not become a doormat. To do so is to pervert these noble precepts.

Which brings us to the current issue of redress.

UNTIL SUCH TIME as our society's values are such that an apology alone has substance, it is obstinate folly on our part to think and be treated to the contrary. To explain this point: if, for example, in our society's standards the accepted manner in conveying an apology was to toss three pink seashells over the right shoulder—this Nikkei, for one, would heartily accept that gesture. Obviously, the shells have no meaning, it is their significance of giving meaning, understood by the offender and the offended. Of course, in our present day social order we do not use seashells to provide the essential meaningfulness of an apology: rather, it is money. And for this Nikkei, the money in and of itself is merely a symbol, a necessary symbol. Just like the seashells.

THERE IS THE matter of honor: the honor of the Nikkei; the honor of the Issei; and most importantly, the honor of this proud Nation. There is a tendency on the part of some folks to focus upon the monetary aspect of redress as something fiscal rather than the unavoidably-only-symbol that we employ in the place of those hypothetical seashells. They are mesmerized by the dollar sign rather than its symbolism to support a meaningful regret.

WHETHER ONE HAPPENS to agree with the concept of individual redress, the fact of the matter was and is that overwhelmingly—from the East Coast to the West Coast, including not a few Issei, up to Alaska where the Aleuts testified—the plea from the witnesses, the victims if you will, was for individual redress. And in our jurisprudential system, it is most appropriate to hear from the victims as to what remedial relief is appropriate.

All too often have we had self-appointed arbiters who were not the victims, intone what is good for those who suffered unjustly.

WE HEARD A Nikkei comment that he's madder today about what happened than at the time it actually happened to him.

That's what thinking like an American will do for you.

OUR BIENNIAL MEDALLION

TAIL



HEAD



Pete Hirabayashi 8/27/84

—Letters—

Witnesses mistaken

The July 13 Pacific Citizen carried excerpts of testimony presented before the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations by Ken Masugi, a resident fellow at the Claremont Institute for the study of Statesmanship and Political Philosophy. Among other statements, he charged the CWRIC of “extraordinary arrogance to use the standards... of the 1980s to evaluate what happened... in the 1940s.”

Masugi overlooks the fact that the fundamental issue involved in the CWRIC's findings and the case for redress is the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights. Is the Bill of Rights to be applied equally to all persons in these United States or just to a privileged few, or is that decision to be made by government officials or determined by the mood of the public?

In the day-to-day course of events when individual or group rights are not threat-

ened, the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights are merely words on a piece of paper. It is when the rights of individuals are threatened that these documents come to life and meaning is given to the words by those charged with this responsibility.

Public officials, even the President of the United States, take an oath of office to uphold the Constitution. There is nothing in the oath to suggest that officials need uphold the Constitution only when convenient or popular. This responsibility was best stated during another national crisis many years ago by Justice David Davis of the U.S. Supreme Court in *Ex Parte Milligan* (1866).

The Constitution of the United States is a law for rulers and people, equally in war and in peace, and covers with the shield of its protection all classes of men, at all times, and under all circumstances.

No doctrine involving more pernicious consequences was ever invented by wit of man than that any of its provisions can be suspended during any of

the great exigencies of government.

In the July 20 Pacific Citizen were excerpts from the testimony presented to the subcommittee by Harry Kubo, Nisei Farmers League president. Mr. Kubo's testimony focused mainly on his objections to compensation for the survivors of the 1942 evacuation, relocation and detention. He stated that compensation “runs counter to the basic philosophy” of the Issei. “Such an act will not and could not be accepted by most of the Issei and their offspring, the Nisei, without the feeling of disgrace that they are some way being bought off.”

Time has a way of “warping” one's view of what happened some 42 years ago. I would refresh Mr. Kubo's memory by reminding him of the enormity of the wrong committed against West

Coast residents of Japanese ancestry. 120,000 men, women and children were evacuated, relocated and detained, in some cases for up to 3½ years, without any charges of wrong-doing filed against them and without trial or hearing. Does that sound like some minor miscarriage of justice that should be dismissed with an apology which would be forgotten almost as soon as it was uttered?

Under our system of justice when people are wronged restitution is made. Compensation is a symbolic form of righting a wrong. It has nothing to do with pride, disgrace or being bought off. Compensation as a symbolic form of justice would give meaning to the loss of freedom, indignities and economic losses heaped upon 120,000 persons of Japanese

Continued on Page 5

Judge Raymond Uno is running for 3rd District Court

Raymond is currently a Circuit Court Judge. He is running for 3rd District Court, State of Utah.



- Past National President, JACL
- Past National Legal Counsel, JACL
- Member, National JACL Redress Committee
- Co-Chairman, National JACL Biennial Convention, 1976-1978
- Chairman, Centennial of Japanese Immigration Banquet, Utah Centennial Committee
- Coordinator, Civil Rights Program, National JACL
- JA of the Biennium, 1974
- Nisei of the Biennium, 1969, IDC

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FROM THE FRYING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa



Walville, Wash.

Hitoshi, Chiye and Bette Umehara were youngsters when fire destroyed the lumber mill at Walville. That was 1929 or 1930. You never heard of Walville? Well, it is, or more accurately, was, not far from Doty and Pe Ell, and about 25 miles west of Chehalis. That's in southwestern Washington.

When the mill was destroyed, it took with it the livelihood of a crew of Japanese laborers. There was nothing else in Walville to keep them there so they scattered.

The Umehara family moved to Seattle and they lived on 15th between Spruce and Alder, not far from Collins playfield, where many other Nisei kids lived.

In 1939 the Umehara family moved to West Los Angeles. Bette attended Emerson Junior High (where a class photo includes a girl named Norma Jean Baker, later to become Marilyn Monroe) and University High School in Sawtelle.

When war came the Umeharas were evacuated to Manzanar and eventually Bette relocated to Chicago. There she met Patrick Sano, a student at the University

of Nebraska who between semesters usually went to Chicago to see friends from Brawley. They kept in touch and in 1949, when Pat was working out of Portland, Ore., as a field geologist for the Corps of Engineers, they were married.

A few months after the wedding Bette said she'd like to visit Walville, her birthplace, only a short distance north across the Columbia River. Walville was still on highway maps but when the Sanos reached the place where the town was supposed to be they found nothing. Let Pat Sano take up the story at this point:

"With the help of a few natives and a small wooden marker partially hidden in a heavy growth of wild blackberries, we discovered where Walville once existed. Bette's memory was somewhat revived, and we found the small, deserted country school where she attended kindergarten.

"A little south of the school was a well-kept house. There they inquired about Walville. It turned out the gentleman had owned the mill and seemed to recall Bette's father."

Time passed. The Sanos moved to the Los Angeles area where Pat joined an agricultural chemical company. In 1972 their daughter married a fellow from Vancouver, Wash., and the Sanos, while visiting his family, looked in on Walville again. This time the school was gone, and so was the mill-owner.

In 1980 the Sanos visited the Walville site a third time. On this trip they met one Fred Cox who, it turned out, also had been born in Walville and was a contemporary of Bette's. Cox even had a photograph of the Japanese crew that had worked at the mill, and in the center of the picture was a man who looked like Bette's father.

Walville is long gone, and with it vanished the story of the Japanese immigrants who lived and worked there. Perhaps some of the Japanese also died and were buried in some now-forgotten cemetery. The Sanos plan to keep going back, looking for bits and pieces of the Walville story, and more power to them.

The fascinating thing is that there must be other Walvilles scattered around California, Oregon and Washington, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico, where lie buried fascinating stories of early-day Japanese immigrants.

—Letters—

Continued from Page 4

ancestry during World War II.

Lastly, I would remind Mr. Kubo that there is nothing in the bills before the House and the Senate that mandates that a person must accept the compensation, assuming that it is to be awarded. He can accept it, reject it or accept and give it to his favorite charity.

WALTER SAKAI
Portland, Ore.

Most favor redress

Regarding Harry Kubo's testimony on the matter of redress given in Washington recently, we think that Harry would be the first to admit that the views he expressed were his personal opinions and not necessarily the views of the members of the Nisei Farmers League, or for that

matter, the views of the majority of the Japanese American population of the San Joaquin Valley.

Our opinion, which is admittedly personal, is that Harry's views do not express Japanese American sentiments here. A sampling of the opinions of Japanese American growers and other Japanese Americans of this area indicates the exact opposite. There seems to be a strong belief that an apology and redress payments are due.

Despite the opinions of some that all Japanese Americans are affluent and in no need of financial aid, there are those who are in need, especially among the elderly, and many such do exist. But these facts should not be controlling factors in this problem. The demand

for payments is a just one. It is a just and justifiable demand. Wrongful imprisonment under American law is compensable. *Seeking such payments is not demeaning and does not reflect on ethnic pride, self-respect or other intangible factors.*

We have no personal financial interest in redress payments because we were voluntary evacuees and not eligible for such payments, but we would be less than fair and compassionate if we did anything to impair, in any degree, the chances of those who do need help to gain such payments.

FRED Y. HIRASUNA
Fresno, CA

"Voluntary evacuees" may be eligible for redress payments if the U.S. Congress so interprets

HR 4110 and S 2116. As they are currently drafted, the bills define the "evacuation, relocation and internment period" as beginning on Dec. 7, 1941, and ending on June 30, 1946.

Eligible individuals are those of Japanese ancestry who are "enrolled on the records of the United States Government during the evacuation, relocation, and internment periods as being in a prohibited military zone...."

Author's correction

There was an error in the article "Nikkei senior citizens learn to cut back on meat and salt intake" (July 6). One phrase should have read, "There is a direct correlation between the intake of salt and HYPERTENSION," and not "heart attacks" as incorrectly written.

JOE OYAMA
Oakland, CA

Redress money donated to community

SEATTLE—Three Nikkei who received \$5,000 in compensation from the city of Seattle for losing their jobs during WW2 have donated large amounts of their redress money to community organizations.

Thomas T. Kobayashi, who was a junior clerk in the accounting dept. of Seattle City Light in 1942, donated \$1,000 to Seattle JACL redress committee and Washington Coalition for Redress, saying that "the JACL cause is very close to me." Kobayashi was interned in Minidoka, trained with the 442nd RCT, and served in the Signal Corps for two years, during which he helped break Japanese codes.

Ruth Kazama, who also worked in the accounting division of City Light, demonstrated her support of the redress and coram nobis efforts by donating \$800 each to Seattle JACL, Washington Coalition for Redress, and the Coram Nobis Legal Defense Fund. Kazama was interned in Puyallup and Minidoka, left the camp in 1943 to take a federal job in Washington, D.C., and returned to Seattle in 1945. She presently works for the Dept. of Health and Human Services.

Sumi Haji Kuriyama, another former City Light employee, donated her \$5,000 to the Keiro Nursing Home in memory of her parents and brother (see July 13 PC).

Sponsored by Councilwoman Dolores Sibonga, the compensation legislation was passed March 5. Like other measures taken in Washington and California on the city, county and state levels, the payment is for Nikkei civil servants who lost their jobs because of their ancestry. It is not intended as redress for the internment, which was an act of the federal government.

Redress Pledge

Actual amounts acknowledged by JACL Headquarters for the period of May 29 - June 11, 1984.
This Report: (10) \$1,736.24
June 26 Total: (10) \$110,187.98

Fresno JACL \$2,085; Livingston-Merced \$250; Solano County \$230.00; Sanger JACL '84 pledge, \$930.00; French Camp '84 pledge, \$720.00; Seattle Redress Committee & JACL \$313.00 & \$313.25, resp.; Marin JACL \$75; PSWDC (3d inst) \$10,000.

FY-84 DISTRICT BREAKDOWN

(Actual: Oct '83—June 31, '84)
NC-WN-Pac 39,566.48
Pac Southwest 39,990.00
Intermountain 7,000.00
Pac Northwest 6,802.50
Eastern 5,020.00
Central Cal 4,980.00
Midwest 3,540.00
Mt Plains 3,289.00

Total: (4-30-84) \$84,049.25

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For Typesetting Equipment

As of August 18, 1984: \$5,301.70 (298)

\$5 from: Tadashi/Shigeko Iura, Irene/Mark Kanzawa, Kiyo Katano, Mary Minamoto, Sho/Mae Sakaguchi, John/Ito Yamashita.

\$10 from: Frank/Martha Hayami, Dunbar Morris, Louis Oki, Ayako Slocum, Monroe Sweetland, Saburo/Dorothy Tanaka.

\$20 from: Wallace/Jereann Tanaka.

\$25 from: S. Sim/Betty Endo, Tadashi/Lilly Kato, Ko Tsuji, Hiroshi/Grayce Uyehara.

\$50 from: Greater L.A. Singles JACL, Theodore Yenari.

\$100 from: Cherry Ishimatsu.

\$200 from: San Fernando Valley JACL.

Last week's total: \$4,691.70 (277)

This week's total: \$610 (21)

Thank you!

Having suffered yet another breakdown of the typesetter during production of this week's issue, PC expresses heartfelt thanks to the staff of Rafu Shimpo for letting us use their equipment and showing us how to use it. And to our readers—your continued donations will help prevent similar emergencies in the future. Please give generously!

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* Glimpse of China (Extr. sold out) Oct 15-Oct 27

Tour Guide—Toy Kanegai

H—Autumn Tour Oct 6-Oct 26

Tour Guide—Steve Yagi

Southern Honshu: Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Shimoda, Shuzenji Spa, Ise, Tobu, Nara, Kyoto, Hiroshima; Kyushu: Beppu, Miyazaki, Kagoshima, Ibusaki, Kumamoto, Nagasaki, Fukuoka, Tokyo.

J—Fall Foliage (New England/Canada)

Oct. 3-11

Tour Guide—Bill Sakurai

I—Caribbean Cruise Oct 24-Nov 6

Tour Guide—Mochizuki

K—Special Holiday Tour Dec 22-Jan 5

Tour Guide—George Kanegai

FOR INFORMATION, RESERVATIONS, CALL OR WRITE

Roy Takeda: 1702 Wellesley Ave., West Los Angeles 90025 820-4309

Steve Yagi: 3950 Berryman Ave., L.A. 90066 397-7921

Toy Kanegai: 1857 Brockton, L.A. 90025 820-3592

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A Growing Maturity

Following is the JACL president's biennial report for 1982-84, delivered to the National Council in Honolulu Aug. 14.

By Floyd Shimomura

Distinguished JACLers from across the United States, aloha! Welcome to the 28th Biennial National JACL Convention in beautiful Honolulu, Hawaii.

Hawaii. The center of the Pacific. The hub of the burgeoning East/West trade. Hawaii. A multi-ethnic state where persons of Japanese ancestry have distinguished themselves in politics, business, education, and the professions. Hawaii. A state which, perhaps more than any other, symbolizes the great contributions which Japanese Americans can and are making in the 1980s to our nation and the world. Hawaii. A living example that our Japanese American community is beginning to mature.

Much has happened since last we met at the Gardena convention. In many respects, our JACL biennium report reflects—just as Hawaii symbolizes—the growing maturity of the Japanese American community. JACL is no longer known principally on the West Coast. Today, leaders in Washington, D.C. because of our redress efforts—in Tokyo, because of our U.S.-Japan initiatives—and Honolulu, because of this convention—know of the JACL. The JACL has been quoted in Time, Newsweek, the New York Times, NHK television, and the Asahi Shimbun.

This development reflects the work of 50 years, not two, and the effort of many, not a few. In my opinion, we have compiled a record of which we can take pride. It is my honor, as your outgoing national president, to highlight some of your accomplishments.

Program Report

I will begin with a report on our key programs:

Redress. At Gardena, the Commission hearings had been held but no report had been issued. Our JACL redress funds were almost depleted by our participation in the hearings. We were at a critical point. This National Council came to the rescue by reaffirming redress as JACL's number one priority and improvising a financing scheme involving voluntary chapter pledges and endowment borrowing.

During the biennium, the Commission issued a report titled "Personal Justice Denied," which vindicated the JACL position by calling the World War II treatment of Ja-

pinese Americans "a grave injustice." It later estimated losses in the billions of dollars and recommended an official apology and \$20,000 monetary compensation to each survivor. The JACL supported the introduction of bills in both the House (HR 4110) and Senate (S 2116) to implement the Commission's recommendations and advocated their adoption before legislative committees. Currently, we have 103 co-sponsors on HR 4110 and 20 co-sponsors on S 2116.

This remarkable progress would not have been possible without the support of the chapters which raised well over \$210,000 during this biennium in chapter pledges. Although a potential line of credit of up to \$300,000 was authorized from the endowment, it appears that we will end the biennium with an outstanding balance of only \$60,000—far less than what was originally anticipated.

The chapters deserve to be commended for their loyal support. A special thanks must be extended to three key JACLers for their outstanding contribution: Min Yasui, redress chair; Ron Ikejiri, Washington representative; and John Tateishi, redress staff coordinator and author of *And Justice for All*—an oral history of the evacuation published by Random House.

U.S.-Japan Relations. At Gardena, the convention adopted a resolution that mandated "that JACL become involved in matters of concern in the American-Japanese partnership, with adequate care that JACL does not either in image or in fact, become a 'front' or propagandist for Japan." This resolution recognized that Japanese Americans are often affected by the social "backlash" caused by trade friction and that JACL had matured to the point where it needed to become involved.

During this biennium, the JACL took the following initiatives in this area:

(1) in Washington, under the leadership of Mike Masaoka and David Nikaido, periodic meetings and discussions have been held with both the U.S. State Department and the Japanese Embassy;

(2) in Tokyo, under the leadership of Sen Nishiyama and Dick Yamashita, the JACL president was invited to Japan to meet with such officials as Prime Minister Nakasone and U.S. Ambassador Mike Mansfield to discuss issues relating to the social "backlash" against Japanese Americans in the U.S. due to trade disputes and the sometimes inaccurate portrayal of Japanese Americans in

Japanese novels—such as *Futatsu No Sokoku*—and television—such as "Sanga Moyu"; (3) in Northern California, under the leadership of Frank Iwama, much has been done to help facilitate a dialogue between California officials in Sacramento and the Japanese consulate in San Francisco regarding issues involving the state's business climate; and (4) in other areas such as Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, and Seattle, JACLers have begun a dialogue with Japanese and American officials regarding trying to improve better understanding between the U.S. and Japan. This area certainly ought to remain a priority area for JACL in the 1980s.

PANA. The JACL continued its participation with the Pan American Nikkei Association (PANA) during this biennium. During July 1983, a large JACL delegation attended the PANA convention in Lima, Peru, in an attempt to foster better relations. Vice President Chuck Kubokawa and JACL PANA chair Luis Yamakawa deserve much credit for this program.

Violence Against Asians. During the biennium, violence against Asian Americans increased. The influx of Indochinese refugees, the trade conflict with Japan and other Asian countries, and the depressed state of our economy appeared to be the principal factors contributing to this rise. In Detroit, the base-

ball bat murder of Vincent Chin by an auto-worker venting his racial frustration symbolized this problem. The outstanding work by our Detroit JACL chapter and Jim Shimoura, who worked with the various Asian support groups, must be commended.

Retirement and Aging. At the Gardena convention, the retirement and aging committee's workshop was among the most well received portions of the program. During this biennium, this committee has continued its fine work under the leadership of its chair, Dr. Michael Ego. Under the direction of Emiko Omori, the committee has produced an excellent film titled "A Tale of Nisei Retirement." The film features, among others, actor George Takei of "Star Trek" fame. There will be a special showing at the convention and it will be available to all chapters. JACL program director Lia Shigemura must be commended for her work with this committee.

New Programs: Women, Leadership, Singles. This biennium, new national programs were initiated to try to keep the JACL program responsive to the issues of the 1980s. The first was the creation of the national JACL women's concerns committee at the request of Vice President Miki Himeno. Under the leadership of Irene Hirano, former state

Continued on Next Page



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—Chapter Pulse—

West Valley

COYOTE, Calif.—The chapter's first annual golf tournament will be held Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Riverside Golf Course. The field has been limited to 32 players. Those wishing to participate should send name, handicap (if any), and fee of \$18 to Ray Uchiyama, 19595 Via Escuela Dr., Saratoga, CA 95070. Carts may be reserved for an additional \$14.

Seattle

SEATTLE—Winners of the 13th annual 1000 Club golf tournament were (for men): Roy Sakamoto, Toru Sakahara, Eddie Shimomura, Tom Tsubota, Ben Nakagawa, Hiram Akira, John Matsumoto, Pete Yoshino, and Al Shimoguchi. Women who won were Fumi

Noji, Kinu Tsubota, Fumi Yamasaki, Kimi Nakanishi, Helen Akita and Luana Yoshino. Jiro Nakahara and Kinu Tsubota won K.P. hole #6; Sam Kozu and Aya Shimomura won K.P. hole #16.

Trophies were presented at a dinner following the tournament. Chuck and Mary Furuta, last year's winners, chaired the event, assisted by Aub Funai and Dick Yamasaki.

Washington

SPRINGFIELD, Va.—An "arigato" picnic will be held at Lake Accotink Saturday, Sept. 15 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with lunch served between 12 and 1 p.m. The event is the board's thank you to the general membership for its support. Information: Kris Ikejiri, 447-4155 (days), 845-0099 (eves).

—Calendar—

●To Aug. 26

Los Angeles—"Bugaku: Treasures from the Kasuga Shrine" on exhibit at JACCC, 244 S San Pedro, 11am-5pm

●To Aug. 28

San Francisco—A-bomb photographic exhibit with drawings by survivors, First Unitarian Ch, 1187 Franklin

●To Sept. 5

San Francisco—"Asian Masterpieces in Wood," Asian Art Mus, Golden Gate Park, daily 10am-5pm

●Aug 18-19

San Francisco—Nihonmachi St Fair

●Aug 19 (Sunday)

Los Angeles—Nisei Wk grand parade, Little Tokyo, 4:30pm

●AUG 25 (Saturday)

Los Angeles—Nisei Wk carnival, S San Pedro St, 11am-11pm; arts festival, 11am-6pm

●AUG 26 (Sunday)

Los Angeles—Nisei Wk carnival, Little Tokyo, 11am-11pm; ondo, 6pm; arts festival, 11am-6pm

Los Angeles—"Karoake taikai" Jpn Am Th, 244 S San Pedro, 2pm

●SEPT 1 (Saturday)

Los Angeles—Manzanar reunion dinner, Bonaventure Hotel, 6pm; info: Bruce Kaji, (213) 624-7456

San Diego—Internat'l Peace Garden clean up, 8am; lunch provided

●SEPT 2 (Sunday)

Sacramento—Vacaville reunion, Plaza Holiday Inn, 5pm

●SEPT 8 (Saturday)

Los Angeles—Volunteer Information Day, 9:30am-12n; 244 S San Pedro; info: 680-3729

Gilroy—Comm'ty potluck and memb drive, Community Hall

●SEPT 10 (Monday)

Los Angeles—Am Assn of Ret Persons mtg, 244 S San Pedro, Rm 410, 1:30pm; for those 50 and over. Info 293-3165, 263-8469

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SHIMOMURA

Continued from Page 6

chairperson of the California Commission on the Status of Women, the committee has conducted workshops, written PC articles, and tried to inform our membership about issues relating to the rapidly changing relationship between men and women.

The second was the inauguration of the first JACL Washington D.C. Leadership Program in June of 1983. This program brought potential young leaders to Washington, D.C. for a week of meetings and briefings with top government, business, and organizational leaders. JACL Washington Representative Ron Ikejiri, and JACL Youth Director David Nakayama should be commended for their effort in this successful project. Both of these new programs should be continued in the next biennium.

Finally, the Greater Los Angeles Singles Chapter must be recognized for organizing and hosting the first JACL national singles convention on May 25-27, 1984. Midori K. Watanabe and her committee did an outstanding job. There is a convention resolution to make this a national JACL committee.

Administrative Report

Next, I will proceed to a summary of our administrative report:

Membership. Overall, membership will close the biennium at about the same level as it began—at approximately 26,500 members. In 1978, our national membership reached a high of 32,545. In 1979, it dropped to 30,036. In 1980, fell to 29,075. In 1981, it slipped to 26,615. In 1982, we experienced a slight increase to 26,770. However, in 1983, membership again fell a little to 25,942. This year, 1984, the membership rate is ahead of the 1983 pace so it appears likely that we will close the year at approximately the same membership level that we had when we began the biennium in 1982.

Under the leadership of Vice President Rose Ochi, the national board will be proposing a new, centralized membership renewal process. This will modernize our present system and free local resources for membership development.

Finance. We will close the 1982-84 biennium "in the black." During the first year of the biennium (1983), we ran a slight surplus anticipating a slight deficit in the second year (1984) due to the costs of holding the national convention. The two years will "wash," leading the national JACL budget basically in balance for the biennium. Frank Sato, JACL treasurer, and Ron Wakabayashi, national director, deserve credit for their fine and prudent management of JACL funds.

Moreover, the national JACL endowment fund has done well over the past two years, sharing in the general "bull market." It is currently valued at approximately \$450,000. The endowment board, under the chairmanship of Mike Mitoma, has done an excellent job of periodically reviewing our funds. Finally, Gene Takamine, JACL ways and means chair, and Frank Sakamoto, Thousand Club chair, must be recognized for their leadership in initiating the Mike Masaoka Fellowship Fund, which has raised over \$20,000 this biennium.

Pacific Citizen. This biennium, the Pacific Citizen has been able to publish a normally 12- and sometimes 16-page newspaper. In the previous biennium, the paper was usually 8 pages with an occasional 12-page issue. Advertising revenue has also increased. The PC is now reasonably healthy financially and is seeking greater financial independence. The Pacific Citizen board, under the able chairmanship of Hank Sakai, as well as Karen Seriguchi, editor; Harry Honda, general manager/operations; and the PC staff must be commended for their fine performance.

Scholarship. During this biennium, the amount of funds administered as a part of the JACL scholarship student aid program increased by nearly one third—from roughly \$40,500 to \$53,500 annually. A large part of the increase is due to the decision of the California Japanese Alumni Assn. and its president, George Kondo, to work cooperatively with the JACL in the awarding of scholarships. Special thanks must be given to J.D. Hokoyama,

scholarship committee chair, and Helen Mineta, student aid committee chair. Also, the able assistance of David Nakayama, JACL youth director, must be recognized.

Convention. The success of the Hawaii convention—the first ever on the islands—must be attributed to the hard work of the Hawaii Chapter, the convention board, and individuals such as Edgar Hamasu and Larry Kumabe. Moreover, the work of Vice President Ben Takeshita must also be recognized.

Staff This biennium, our key professional staff matured with experience. This was clearly evident in our national director, Ron Wakabayashi, who served his first full biennium. The JACL is fortunate to have a person of Ron's talent, commitment, and integrity administering our national budget and staff. In one word, he is a "professional." He is efficient, well organized, and has a great sensitivity for the "people" side of the JACL. It was a pleasure working with him. Lia Shigemura, program director, David Nakayama, youth director, and Mike McFeely also completed their first full biennium on staff. They too have grown proficient at their respective

tasks as alluded to at other points in this report.

My greatest disappointment as national president was my inability to persuade Ron Ikejiri, our Washington representative for the past six years, to serve another biennium. JACL's outstanding progress in Washington, D.C., during the past six years in both our redress and international relations programs are due in large part to Ron's work. He will be missed.

The Future

Looking ahead, I am very optimistic about the future of JACL with a few caveats. Of course, for the next biennium redress must remain our number one priority. However, to remain responsive, the JACL must recognize that the Japanese American community is maturing and its aspirations rising. The list of our Nikkei of the Biennium winners reveals this: Gov. George Ariyoshi of Hawaii; chairman of the board of regents Yori Wada, of the University of California; and world-renowned architect Isamu Noguchi. JACL must be willing to think "big" and must develop a clear vision of where larger historical forces

are pushing us.

To look forward, we must first look back. In the 1940s, the central issue confronting our nation was war and peace. Our loyalty was in question. Our community was poor and powerless. JACL provided leadership to the Japanese American community by becoming a "patriotic" organization.

By the 1960s, the central issues confronting our nation centered on social equality. Discrimination became increasingly unbearable. The JACL began to look outside to other minority communities. JACL provided leadership by transforming itself from a "patriotic organization" into a domestic "civil rights" organization.

Today, in the 1980s, the central question facing our nation involves redefining America's role in a world increasingly transformed by Asia rather than Europe, by technology rather than ideology, and by economic rather than military power. As our nation struggles to react and adjust to this new "challenge," we find the level of violence and discrimination against Asian Americans rising as we

Continued on Page 10

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NISEI IN JAPAN: by Barry Saiki



In recent years, a number of prominent U.S. economists and Japan experts have been predicting that Japan will be the No. 1 economic power of the world by the turn of the century. This premise is misleading and at the same time arouses unnecessary envy in both the U.S. and Europe.

Realistically, knowledgeable leaders in both Japan and the U.S. are fully aware that Japan can never become No. 1 economically, in spite of her work ethics, educational levels, quality control circles, automated techniques and high-tech know-how. Japan can be No. 1 in specific fields, such as production of steel, autos, cameras, watches and some precision products. She may well challenge the U.S. leadership in electronics and in some technological and scientific fields.

But countries like Japan (or Singapore and Hong Kong in miniature forms) are perpetually faced with the need to export in order to survive. They must import resources and materials to support their industries.

Healthy international trade is the key and the mainstay of Japanese success. In addition to her highly visible industrial and consumer products, it is her large group of enterprising and highly experienced trading companies as well as thousands of small traders, which give her a competitive edge in her search for imports and exports. Widely spread throughout the world, this network has yet to be duplicated by any other nation.

Somewhat like the venturesome Dutch and British traders of the 16th and 17th centuries, when their commercial ships ranged the world to seek new resources and wealth, the contemporary Japanese representatives work in more advanced

Never No. 1 Economically

ways. They keep abreast of the market trends in all key countries and make decisions for purchases or sales, either on their own initiative based on experience or on orders from their head offices.

The Japanese companies compete with those of other countries and among themselves. Sometimes, the competitiveness can get out of hand as in the case of the herring roe, once considered almost worthless on the West Coast, which now bring high returns as the Japanese traders jacked up the prices among themselves. About ten years ago, the frantic bidding for lumber in Washington, due to the building boom in Japan, doubled the stateside lumber prices in the Northwest within three to six months, causing concern among the U.S. consumers.

Eight or nine years ago, a bowling boom resulted in the construction of more than a thousand bowling emporiums in Japan with 100 or more lanes, but as the fad withered away, more than 80 percent went bankrupt.

Nonetheless, Japan's success in international trade is a

combination of industrial energy with marketing knowhow. Her recent huge surpluses through active exports have been the bases for trade frictions. Another key factor has been her ability to control her inflation and her interest rates.

However, in international trade negotiations, she will always have to go hat in hand, because she can ill afford to offend her major trading partners. The cases in point are the recent negotiations on beef, citrus and on liberalization of finance. Other examples are her annual talks over fishing rights with the U.S. and USSR. She must negotiate or barter for her concessions. She must consider both domestic and foreign factors. Because of her heavy dependence on foreign trade, Japan can never be No. 1 economically.

She can assume a contributory role in a number of spheres, such as aid to developing countries, funds for research and technology and joint funding of ocean and space explorations.

Industriousness and ingenuity, nurtured on the need for survival, may really be the keystones to her current success rather than unfair competition.

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The Concept of 'Blood'

By Raymond Okamura

The theme of divided or dual loyalties in "Futatsu no Sokoku/Sanga Moyu" has been exhaustively discussed by numerous commentators during the past year, so one might think that there is nothing new which can be said.

There is, however, an underlying philosophy behind the trappings of loyalty which has not been adequately explored. Awareness of this basal doctrine is much more important in the long run because it has the potential to cause devastating practical consequences.

Why does the author, Toyoko Yamasaki, self-assuredly proclaim that it is "natural" for Japanese Americans to feel some degree of loyalty to Japan? The answer lies in her fundamental belief—a belief shared by most of her fellow Japanese—that there is a mystical essence called "Japanese blood" (Nipponjin no chi) which binds all persons of Japanese ancestry to Japan.

Biologically speaking, though, there is no such thing as "Japanese blood." Human blood can be classified according to various blood group systems (e.g., ABO, MNS, P, Rh-Hr), but there is nothing unique about the blood of Japanese people. At least 16 major blood group systems, plus hundreds of subgroups are known to hematologists, yet there is no factor which can differentiate the blood of Japanese people from the rest of humankind.

HEARING

Continued from Front Page

When authorities searched a Japanese ranch house, she said, "there was a little elderly grandmother lying on the bed, and the Japanese said, 'Please don't move her, she's sick.' As an afterthought, they moved her, and under her bed and under the floorboards were the caches of arms."

Treadgold said that *coram nobis* defendant Fred Korematsu had his face surgically altered in order to work in a war plant and "wait for the invasion." She then described a Nisei who spoke English poorly—"Of course, they don't particularly honor another language," she remarked—and who declared himself to be "an officer in the imperial army of Japan."

She also described "Black Dragon Society" members who refused to swear loyalty to America because "we don't know who's going to win this war, and if Japan wins we will be here to greet them."

The horse stalls in the assembly centers, she said, were completely renovated and cleaned before they were occupied. In denouncing the use of the term "concentration camp," she mentioned the Nazi holocaust and shouted, "Show me a tattooed Japanese from any of those centers!"

To show how dangerously numerous Japanese were in California, she said that there were "thousands of illegals" coming here before the war. "Our farmers never knew what hit them...We couldn't compete with that kind of slave labor." And to illustrate how prolific Japanese were, she recalled meeting a man with two wives and 23 children.

She went on to describe Japan's current "unfair trade practices" as a "continuation of Pearl Harbor" and warned that the Japanese have returned to emperor worship and intend to spread their culture in America. "They want Japanese cultures in every state of the union...they do not amalgamate, they colonize... (but) we cannot have the worship of many gods."

"The Big Lie"

Longtime redress opponent Lillian Baker of Gardena said that "for 40 long years, a very carefully planned objective was orchestrated by a small group of dissidents to implant into the minds of the public and the media the big lie." Redress proponents, she said, chose not to wait 50 years because by then documents invalidating their cause would be declassified.

Baker also denied that the government's actions were racist. If the exclusion were really racist, she argued, "why weren't all persons of Japanese descent throughout the U.S. affected? Why did it affect only those on the West Coast?"

She said that personal property was "leased, not lost" and that much of it was "stored at taxpayers' expense."

Condemning the CWRIC report as "based on hearsay," Baker said that any elected official who accepts the commission's conclusions "makes a travesty of his oath of office."

"I Was There"

Rachel Kawasaki, a Caucasian who said she chose to accompany her Japanese husband and their daughter to an assembly center and relocation center, prefaced her remarks by saying, "I happen to know much more than many of the people that are up here testifying."

To be sure, there is a higher percentage of persons with "type B" blood in Japan than in Europe and South America (about 20% compared to about 10% and 5% respectively). But if one looks at the neighboring areas of Korea, China, and Mongolia, the ABO frequencies are nearly identical. The proportion of blood "types" in any population varies as a function of large geographic distances—not national boundaries.

Basically, a person with a given blood "type" in Japan has exactly the same blood as a person with the same blood "type" anywhere else in the world. Furthermore, in every nation on earth (including Japan), more people have "type O" blood than any other kind.

East Asians Racially Indistinguishable

I realize that the term "blood" is not always used in the foregoing biological sense. Instead, it is more commonly (and erroneously) used in the anthropological sense to mean "race."

But here again, there is no such thing as a "Japanese race." No matter what racial characteristics are measured (e.g., skin color, hair color, eye shape, nose shape, bone structure, general height), the people of Japan are racially indistinguishable from the people in the nearby nations of East Asia. How often have you heard the lament, "I can't tell the difference between a Chinese and a Japanese"? Of course you can't, there are no physical differences.

Her voice bristling with anger, she said, "We evacuees and/or relocatees were never interned! We were never incarcerated! And we never resided in a concentration camp because there never was a concentration camp in this United States of America!"

The camps were established, according to Kawasaki, to protect Nikkei "from overzealous patriots" and to help evacuees "find employment and housing in communities away from the Western Defense Zone. Any person...who chose to stay at the center for the duration did so of their own volition. No one was forced to do anything other than evacuate...We were not forced to stay at the centers. They were only a temporary way station in the process of implementing the relocation program."

Kawasaki also contended that internees were financially well off during and after their incarceration. She said they were given a \$4 million loan with which to invest in profitable, evacuee-owned co-ops that included "dry cleaners, soy sauce factories, fish markets, barber shops, beauty shops...This was some concentration camp. Any person...would have loved a piece of this kind of action."

She also stated that the camps were run by the evacuees, who were free to walk in and out of the centers and to own their own cars. "All of this nonsense...about how we were

Continued on Page 12

Like the blood groups, race has nothing to do with nationality; and racial characteristics vary only with great distances. Physical features change so gradually over the land masses that it is impossible to discern differences among nearby peoples. Anthropologists have long ago concluded that human beings cannot be classified into races beyond the basic "black," "white," and "yellow" phenotypes.

What is Japanese Identity?

If there is no such thing as "Japanese blood" or a "Japanese race," what does it then mean to be Japanese? First of all, one can be Japanese by nationality (i.e., a citizen of Japan); but we Japanese Americans are Americans by nationality, so that leaves us out. Also, one can be Japanese by culture; but culture is something which must be learned, and most Japanese Americans simply do not know much about Japanese culture, let alone practice it.

The feeling of being Japanese, or the sense of peoplehood comes from a combination of a shared nationality, language, culture, religion, and history. But we Japanese Americans have a different nationality, language, culture, religion, and history from the people in Japan. Thus, Japanese Americans are not Japanese under any meaning of the word. Instead, we are Americans of Japanese ancestry, which is an entirely different breed of animal.

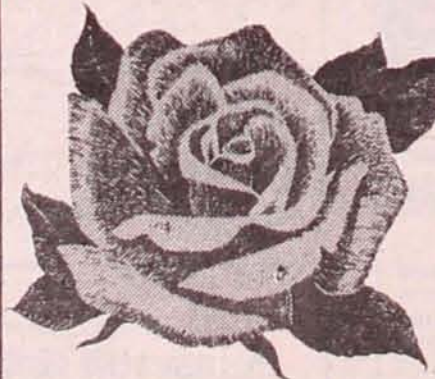
We should be cognizant of these basic misconceptions regarding race, culture, and nationality because the mystique of "blood" has been used all too often in the past as a tool of oppression and genocide. Adolf Hitler and the Nazis used these false theories to annihilate millions of fellow Europeans of the Jewish faith. The Japanese militarists also used these racial concepts to slaughter hundreds of thousands of fellow Asians in China, Korea, and Manchuria.

Hitting closer to home, General John DeWitt used these same misconceptions to imprison the entire Japanese American population on the West Coast. His "A Jap is a Jap" statement is a classic rendering from a racist mentality: a mentality which could not distinguish between "race" and nationality, and between "blood" and ancestry.

Even today in Japan, the Japanese people seem to be so mesmerized by the idea of "Japanese blood" that they refuse to accept as fellow Japanese those persons of Korean, Buraku, and Ainu descent who have lived in Japan for numerous generations, and who are Japanese in all respects except for the discrimination they face.

In conclusion, I do not think there is any way we Japanese Americans can endorse "Futatsu no Sokoku" or "Sanga Moyu" because of the fundamental and irreconcilable differences of opinion with respect to the concept of race. After all, we fought and suffered during World War II to free ourselves from the kind of racism being advocated by Ms. Yamasaki.

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SHIMOMURA

Continued from Page 7

increasingly also become perceived as "competitors."

To be responsive in the 1980s, the JACL must again transform itself. This time from a domestic to an "international civil rights" organization. This process has already begun with the Tsujimura initiative to Tokyo in 1981. We have continued that initiative. We must not be afraid to address matters involving international issues when, such as the controversy with NHK-TV over *Futatsu No Sokoku*, we have a clear interest at stake.

Moreover, the distinction between domestic and international civil rights issues—such as in the Vincent Chin case—will become less clear. In fact, redress itself has become an "international" issue and is followed in Japan and elsewhere.

Finally, an international perspective will, I believe, ultimately force the JACL to address the whole question of the nuclear arms race and what that means for the future of perhaps the greatest civil right of all—the right to live. With the growing political and economic maturity of the Japanese American community and with our unique history and experience, we certainly possess the capacity to

make a contribution on these and other issues. The question is whether we—within the JACL—have the will and the vision to continue to provide the progressive leadership that we have in the past. In fact, the fate of the JACL will turn on our answer.

Conclusion

I remain convinced that JACL will rise to the occasion and fashion a response to the challenges of the 1980s within the context of our historic commitment to the values of patriotism, civil rights, and humanitarianism. On the other hand, the maturing of the JACL and its greater involvement in national and international affairs requires that we establish a structural stability that permits us to continue long-term relationships without abrupt changes in policy and wholesale changes in personnel. This has not always been a JACL strength. If this can be overcome, our future is bright.

In the end, the JACL is not money, or a San Francisco building, or even a scrap of paper with a corporate seal. It is good people—with a proud history—with a legacy of service to the community—and with a commitment to high ideals. It has been an honor to serve as your national president. Ruth and I will continue to support our wonderful JACL family in the future.

-People-

Education

Martin Fujitani, a high school student from Sacramento, Calif., was named an academic all-American by the National Secondary Education Council. The council selects such scholars on recommendation from teachers, coaches, and counselors.

For the Record

In the Aug. 10 *Hiroshima Peace Flame* article, a Hawaiian island was incorrectly identified as Kaho'olawe Ohana. The island's name is Kaho'olawe, and the word "ohana" refers to the group formed to protect the island.

Press Row

Lori Matsukawa recently received the Washington Education Assn. Better Understanding award for television. Matsukawa anchors Seattle's KING-TV's

"Top Story" each weeknight. Her award is the highest such recognition given by the WEA. She was cited for her coverage of the school levy fight in Kitsap County.

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University gives Seattle sculptor Tsutakawa highest award

SEATTLE—A man whose fountain sculptures grace parks and public areas throughout Japan, the United States and Canada has been awarded the highest honor given a University of Washington alumnus.

George Tsutakawa, UW Class of 1937 and internationally renowned sculptor and painter, was named 1984 Alumnus Summa Laude Dignatus (ASLD) by the university and the UW alumni association. Presentation was made June 8. Freely



translated, "alumnus summa laude dignatus" means "worthy of the highest honor."

Now a professor emeritus of art at the UW, Tsutakawa is the 46th graduate to be named ASLD since the alumni association presented the first award in 1938.

Tsutakawa's work has been exhibited in museums and galleries in Japan, Europe, and North and South America. His fountain sculptures, for which he is best known, enhance parks, shopping centers and public buildings.

Widely honored for his work, he received Japan's Order of the Rising Sun Award from Emperor Hirohito in 1981.

Art and Engineering

Tsutakawa's fountains depart from the Roman tradition of dolphins or nude figures cavorting in water. He seeks an environment rich with rhythm, sound, color and light that demands involvement and response from the people who experience it. Creating the fountains makes him feel closer to people than any other kind of art he produces, he said.

Most of his fountain designs are based on "Obos," a form he is credited with introducing to modern art. "Obos," he explained, is a Tibetan word for the piles of rocks that are created, and gradually added to, by lamas and native travelers in breathtaking scenic spots or sacred places in parts of Asia.

Fountain designers must consider engineering, hydraulics and mathematics as well as art, so when Tsutakawa has refined his sketches and scale models he turns to an engineer and other specialists to create workable drawings. He fabricates most of his fountains in his studio, assisted by his oldest son, Gerard.

Large pieces are formed, under his supervision, in a downtown Seattle metal shop. The creation and installation process, which can take up to a year, usually requires three visits to the fountain site.

"That's very nice when the sculpture is in Japan," he said. His work has been described as a blend of the two cultures he represents—American and Japanese.

"When art critics began to take notice of me, the American critics said my work was 'very Japanese,'" he said. "Japanese critics said, 'this is not Japanese, this is American.'"

Born in Seattle in 1910, Tsutakawa moved to Japan when he was seven and returned to Seattle at 17.

"I couldn't speak any Japanese when I went over there," he said. "When I came back, I couldn't speak any English."

Tsutakawa received both his bachelor's and master's of fine arts degrees from the UW. He served in the U.S. Army during WW2, primarily teaching Japanese in an Alabama Army language school. He met his wife, Ayame, when he visited a California camp where his sister and his future wife were both interned.

He and Ayame were married in 1947 and have four children: Gerard, a sculptor; a daughter, Mayumi, who is a journalist; Deems, a jazz pianist; and Marcus, who teaches in the Seattle public schools.

Gratitude for Opportunity

Tsutakawa joined the UW faculty in 1947, a time when the campus was crowded with GIs returning to school. To this day, he remains deeply grateful for that opportunity.

"The art school was so good to me," he said. "If you can imagine an old Nisei returning from war, coming back to Seattle. There was still a lot of antagonism—not personal, but on the whole. For Isaacs [Walter Isaacs, former director of the school of art] to give me a teaching position in the midst of all this—to encourage my art—that means so much. This art school is one of the best. I'm so grateful, and I'm proud to be its product."

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Arizona: 11-Benjamin Ehara.
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Higashihara, 25-Kaye K Watanabe.
Clovis: 1-Irving Miyamoto.
Dayton: 5-Roy F Sugimoto*.
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deaths

George Tsunayoshi Kaneda, 95, of West Chester, Penn., died Aug. 11. A native of Kagoshima, Japan and former resident of Stockton, Calif., he is survived by d Grayce Ueyehara, Kei Kaneda, and Ruby Friedland; s George, Ben and Roy; sis Fukuye Hirota of Tokyo; 15 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

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Any connection the city of Riverside may have with Little Tokyo prewar is that many of the Nikkei families there and elsewhere gravitated to Los Angeles on weekends and special occasions. Such were the Saturdays in Japanese town. Families came on a shopping spree, for lunch, a movie—or visiting. As a tyke in the '20s, we remember one long drive from Los Angeles to Riverside—and up to Arlington to see some rocky property Mr. Jackson wanted to inspect. (Mr. Jackson, an Englishman who roomed in back of my dad's shoe repair shop, gave me the name, Harry—diminutive for Henry, which was dad's business name. Most Issei answered to "Charlie" or "Chollie" in those days. Generally Nisei adopted English names or anglicized their Japanese names when teachers and classmates seemed tongue-tied trying to pronounce their actual names.)

Getting back to this week's story about Riverside, earlier this year Mark H. Rawitsch sent us his monograph, "No Other Place: Japanese American Pioneers in a Southern California Neighborhood" (UC Riverside, Dept. of History, Riverside, CA 92521; \$9.16 tax/shipping included. Checks payable to

HEARING

Continued from Page 9

rounded up at the point of guns and uprooted and herded from our homes is a lot of hogwash!" she shouted.

Calling redress "another ploy to get more of the taxpayers' money," Kawasaki said that internees "have been paid for any and all losses, real or personal, that they incurred because of the evacuation... They did not lose one dollar."

The "Magic" cables, intercepted Japanese coded messages that purportedly show Nikkei were spies for Japan, were discussed in detail by former intelligence officer David Lowman of Hawaii, who gave an abbreviated version of the testimony he presented at the House redress hearing in June (see July 13 PC).

Throughout the testimonies, Sen. Stevens quietly listened, occasionally asking questions for clarification but never offering his opinions on what was said.

—By J.K. Yamamoto

'No Other Place'

"Regents of Univ. of Calif.") or the Jukichi Harada story and events associated with the first lawsuit filed under the new 1913 alien land law against him by the State of California. Harada ran a restaurant on 8th St. He was no farmer.

The Harada house on Lemon Street in the old downtown residential section was purchased in 1916 in the name of his three Riverside-born hometown children (Mine, Sumi and Yoshizo), their father knowing that a Japanese alien was unable to buy land or a house. When neighbors found a Japanese family was buying the house (now a city cultural heritage landmark), and feared property values would drop, they attempted to block the purchase by offering to buy it back and also "fix the recorder" at the courthouse for handling the deed. Eventually, the white neighbors sued. The elder Harada, befriended by Frank Miller, prominent Riverside businessman, community leader, and friend of the Japanese, was encouraged to fight the case. In 1918, the case was heard before Judge Hugh H. Craig, who found in favor of the Haradas, reiterating that while aliens were barred, their citizen children were entitled to constitutional guarantees of American citizenship. Further, the judge ruled their father could never claim legal interest in the property since the deed did not mention him "even if there were no alien land law." The state didn't appeal the Harada decision. The local press regarded this as "the internationally famous Japanese land case," predicting other Japanese fathers would be doing likewise. The fact that WWI was being waged at the time and that Japan had been an ally, the attorney for the plaintiffs later rationalized the decision was a happy ending to a ticklish situation.

But in the 1920 state election, the Issei were to be political scapegoats as Sen. James D. Phelan (D) sought re-election with his "Keep California White" slogan. Harada posted a "Keep California Green" in support of Japanese farmers. A flock of anti-Japanese organizations was spawned to push the alien land law and later the Japanese exclusion act. Phelan lost but the alien land law was strengthened, closing loopholes in the 1913 law. The monograph also notes many of the other land law cases that followed. Of particular interest was the fact that the father of Judge Thurmond Clarke, who in 1956 ruled the alien land law was wholly unconstitutional in the Haruye Masaoka case, was Deputy Attorney General Robert M. Clarke who had filed the Harada case to test the 1913 law. In

the Masaoka case, the children had bought a piece of property in Pasadena for their Issei mother.

If you're looking for more connections with these two cases, Mine Harada married Saburo Kido who hired one of the Masaoka children, Mike, to be JACL's first professional staff in 1941... Sumi Harada had sent us the article by Tom Patterson, which appeared here two weeks ago recounting the Japanese equestrian event in the 1932 Olympic Games. Patterson is extensively quoted in Rawitsch's monograph for good reason: his 100-year history of Riverside, "A Colony for California" (1971) stands as the most complete local source. I knew I had seen his by-line elsewhere... The moves of a historian preserving a bit of local family history are also clearly defined for other buffs to follow, thus adding further value to this 124-page monograph.

FEEDBACK—That photo in Little Tokyo Life #11 (March 30) showing some men in baseball uniforms in the story about Henry Kotani—the Hollywood actor/cameraman—pleasantly surprised PC reader Masao Nakata, now of Flushing, N.Y., who tells us the same picture is in his family album. The "A" stands for Alameda Taiku-Kai (Alameda All Stars). His father Toshio is standing 3rd from right. Also identified are Shuichi Kadonaga (extreme right), a Mr. Takata (4th from right), Reiji Nakaso (2nd left), his uncle Sashima Itow (kneeling 1st right)—all men from the Shiobara-Tabusa section of Hiroshima... We also had inquired in print what the family register-Koseki reveals and Mas replied: It designates the birthplace of even those born overseas—such as a Nisei—with name, place and date of birth, name of parents, and whether the child is first, second, or third, etc. "Trust that this info may lead to further feedback to the Kotani sequel." The sequel involved the search to prove Tom Masamori's mother was born in Hawaii.

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