

Republican platform recognizes minorities

DALLAS—Steve Nakashima, a Nisei attorney from San Jose, found the Republican national convention anything but dull. He attended not only as a California delegate but also as a member of the party's platform committee, and in the latter capacity he was able to have statements on the WW2 internment of Nikkei and on minority Americans in general included in the platform.

Nakashima, who was interned in Poston during the war, noticed that the platform draft prepared in Washington did not have anything about the evacuation or redress. As a member of the Human Resources and Opportunities committee, he submitted an amendment that called the internment "a grave injustice" but which made no mention of redress.

The platform committee, he recalled, was "leaning extremely right," and under such circumstances his philosophy was, "you take what you can get." Nakashima favors the establishment of a community fund, particularly for elderly Nikkei, although he does not support individual payments.

The amendment, which was accepted unanimously, states that the wartime treatment of Japanese Americans "contravened the fundamental principles of our people" and that "the deprivation of rights they suffered shall never again be permitted in this land of liberty."

Lack of Awareness

Nakashima found that fellow committee members were unaware of the role their states played in Nikkei history. Minnesota congressman Vin Weber, for example, did not know that Ft. Snelling was the site of a language school where the Nisei of Military Intelligence Service were trained. Nakashima also thought that Rep. Trent Lott of Mississippi could have been educated about the training of the 442nd RCT at Camp Shelby.

The scant attention paid to non-whites in the platform—less than four lines—gave Nakashima the impression that the party was "writing off minorities," particularly in view of the fact that the 1980 platform had a special section on Blacks and Hispanics. He said that he "bitterly complained" and submitted a six-paragraph statement that was eventually cleared and adopted with few changes.

The original statement on minorities simply read, "To all Americans, but especially to our Black, Hispanic and Asian American citizens who desire full participation in all aspects of our society, the party of Lincoln will remain the party of equal rights for all."

Contributions by Minorities

The expanded statement reads, in part: "For millions of Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, and members of other minority groups, the past four years have seen a dramatic improvement in their ability to secure for themselves and for their children a better tomorrow."

"... The policies of the Reagan Administration have opened literally millions of doors of opportunity for these Americans, doors which either did not exist or were rapidly being slammed shut by the no-growth policy of the Carter-Mondale Administration."

"We Republicans are proud of our efforts on behalf of all minority groups, and we pledge to do even more during the next four years."

"We will continue to press for enactment of economic and social policies that promote growth and stress individual initiative of minority Americans. Our tax system will continue to be overhauled and reformed by making it fairer and simpler, enabling the families of minorities to work and save for their future. We will continue to push for passage of... legislation... [which] will help minority Ameri-

cans living in cities and urban areas to get jobs, to start their own businesses, and to reap the fruits of entrepreneurship by tapping their individual initiative, energy, and creativity."

The revised statement embodies Nakashima's belief that minorities share common problems and that the solution lies in giving people an opportunity to advance themselves rather than "free handouts."

As vice-chair for Reagan-Bush '84 in California and a member of the Republican State Central Committee as well as an advisory committee to Gov. George Deukmejian, Nakashima is not exactly an unknown. Still, he was thrilled to be sitting on the same committee as such party luminaries as Jesse Helms, Robert Dole, Jack Kemp and Phyllis Schlafly.

He was also honored to be one of two Republicans representing California on the committee (the other was Rep. Bobbi Fiedler). Despite the "awesome responsibility" he felt, he later declared that "the experience was fantastic."

Opinions mixed about GOP responsiveness to Asian concerns

DALLAS—Like their Democratic counterparts, Asian American Republicans are seeking a greater role within their party. While there was a definite Asian presence at this year's Republican national convention, there were mixed opinions as to whether the representation was adequate.

Among delegates and alternates, about 26 (roughly 1% of the total) were of Asian descent. The 13 voting delegates included: Patricia Saiki, Hawaii; Lynne Akiyama, Colorado; David Chen, Oregon; Anna Chennault, Washington, D.C.; Ming Hsu, New Jersey; and Stephen Nakashima, Sam Fujimoto, Hideko Bannai, S.I. Hayakawa, Antonia McMurray, and Carol Li, California. (Echo Goto



Community testers—Among the Nikkei witnesses at Aug. 16 redress hearing were (from left) Mas Fukai, Gordon Nakagawa,

June Kizu, and Bert Nakano, all representing the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (see story on page 3).

Photo by Jon Takasugi

of Los Angeles was also chosen as a delegate but did not attend.) Nakashima and Chen also served on the party's platform committee.

Bannai, whose congressional district includes Gardena, felt that the Republicans "really extended themselves" to include Asians. For example, she said, prominent California Republicans such as the chair of the Los Angeles County board of supervisors attended as alternates while Asians who did not hold elected office went as delegates. "We were made quite a part of the proceedings," she said. She also thought that the number of Asian delegates was adequate because it reflected the percentage of the U.S. population made up by Asians. She expressed certainty

that an Asian Republican caucus would be formed within the next four years.

A conference of Asian Pacific Republicans held Aug. 20, the first day of the convention, was attended by 200-300 people. Speakers included Saiki, Chennault, Nakashima, and Cindy Shinja Daub, the wife of Nebraska congressman Harold Daub.

Daub called for the appointment of more qualified Asian Americans to policy-making positions within the party and for greater Asian representation at its national conventions. A native of South Korea, she also urged fairness and compassion in immigration laws and said that Asian Americans should be looked to as experts and resource people in the area of U.S. relations with Asia.

Saiki, who headed the Hawaii delegation, said that the GOP was not receptive to Asian Americans during the "critical time" immediately after WW2 and that as a consequence Asian Democrats outnumbered Asian Republicans. Despite this "emotional alignment" with the Democratic party, Saiki said, the Republican philosophy is much closer to Asian values with regard to family, education, and the work ethic.

Chennault Rebuffed

Chennault, who is vice-chair of the Reagan-Bush campaign's ethnic voters division, said that Asians still need to overcome their image as "silent Americans" and must work to get Republicans elected and run for office themselves in order to achieve greater visibility within the party.

Chennault was disturbed by the party's handling of its Asian American members at the convention, however. She commented that "It was a big disappointment for the Asian American group to stay in the background while Black, white, and Hispanic delegates played major roles in the convention." At the biennial convention of the Organization of Chinese Americans held in Rockville, Maryland, she said that the party rebuffed her request that the Republican National Committee set up an Asian Pacific Caucus like the one established by the Democrats last year.

She said she was told by RNC chair Frank Fahrenkopf that such a caucus was "not necessary because we are all Americans." When she pointed out that the party had Black, Hispanic, and Jewish caucuses, Fahrenkopf reportedly replied that such special caucuses were a thing of the past and would no longer be sanctioned.

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News in Brief

Dept. of education employee charges job discrimination

SACRAMENTO—Jesse Furukawa, a 10-year employee of the California Dept. of Education, filed a complaint Aug. 14 with the state personnel board charging that the department demoted her in retaliation for her advocating programs to help Southeast Asian refugees.

When she brought up her concerns, Furukawa said, "I was accused of trying to 'stir up all the Asians in California,' and was told that Asians don't get educational programs because we speak too many languages and because we don't know how to fight back."

The consultant charges that the department gave her eight assignments to complete in three weeks and then lowered her salary when she failed to finish them all.

The department counters by saying that Furukawa's job performance was poor.

Lucas defends film as fantasy

SAN RAFAEL, Calif.—Lucasfilm, producer of "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom," says the movie "is clearly a fantasy, full of exciting but improbable events, and would not be interpreted by the viewer as a derogatory comment on any race or a social statement of any kind."

In a letter to JACL director Ron Wakabayashi, Sidney Ganis, Lucasfilm vice president, stated that, "Although there is an Asian 'gangster'... it was not our intention thereby to cast a negative light on all Asians.... As you will recall, one of the heroes throughout the film is

an Asian character, Short Round."

"Indiana Jones" has come under fire for its portrayal of Asian Indians as, in the words of one critic, "either evil, disgusting people, or pathetic, disgusting people."

Actors protest casting of play

NEW YORK—Actors Equity has sent formal complaints to the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego, Calif., and the Asolo Theater in Sarasota, Florida, for their failure to cast Asian actors in their productions of "Rashomon" this summer, reports the New York Times.

The play by Ryunosuke Akutagawa is set in feudal Japan and has nine characters. Both theaters cast whites in all roles.

Artistic director John Ulmer at the Asolo Theater said whites were cast "because our director felt it was not a bizarre Oriental play, but a universal one."

Child taken from Calif. home

FAIRFIELD, Calif.—Three-year-old Toshiro (Clark) Handa was kidnapped from his small-town home late Wednesday night, Aug. 22, or early the following morning. The boy was discovered missing at about 8:20 a.m. Thursday. The window next to his bed was open and a ransom note was found on the bed.

Linda Handa works as a nurse's aide; the father, Ron, is an Exxon employee.

The child is described as a 3½-year-old Eurasian, 3 foot 2, 30-40 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes. He was last seen wearing a two-tone brown striped, long-sleeved pullover shirt and red pajama bottoms.

Little Tokyo Life (No. 32):

By Harry Honda



'32 Olympics

The story of Nellie G. Oliver (No. 29) by Henry Mori has another side—the Dai Ichi Gakuen, which occupied the first floor of the massive two-story frame structure on Hewitt and Jackson (see photo) while the Oliver Club members gathered on the second floor. Helping to recall a part of the Dai Ichi Gakuen story is one of its alumni—Naomi Kashiwabara, a retired electrical engineer for the U.S. Navy, a contributing columnist in the San Diego JACL newsletter, and one of the gang in the 3rd and Flower St. neighborhood. He also integrates his memoirs of the 1932 Olympics at Los Angeles. The photo and the recollection below should encourage others to contribute, says Kashiwabara. Hope he's right.

By Naomi Kashiwabara

It is 1984 and the summer Olympic Games have returned like Halley's comet to earth to Los Angeles. It was in 1932 that the 10th Olympiad was held in a smogless L.A. and we Li'l Tokio (that's the way it was rendered in the prewar Nisei press) Nisei can remember that Olympic.

In 1932, I was a boy who every day in the late afternoon attended the Rafu Daiichi Gakuen, located at Hewitt and Jackson Sts., a few blocks east of the heart of Li'l Tokio. Class ran for 45 minutes. (Someone else should write its history.) As young boys and girls in 1932, we had pro-Japanese feelings about Olympic competition. A classmate wrote in a composition—sakubun that Chuhei Nambu was a cinch to win the broadjump, now called long jump. Nambu did not win. Eddie Gordon (U.S.A.) won. Nambu did, however, win the gold medal in the triple jump, then called hop-step-and-jump.

Takanori Yoshioka, wearing a headband (hachimaki), represented Japan in the sprints. He was fast off the blocks but was no match for Eddie Tolan, Ralph Metcalfe and George Simpson of the U.S.A. In the pole vault, Shuhei Nishida won the silver medal, trailing Bill Miller of the U.S.A. I remember the little Japanese runner—was his name Murakoso?—being lapped in the 5,000 or 10,000 meter race and moving to the outside to let the faster runners have the inside track. I also remember standing on the sidewalk, cheering on Japan's marathon runners, two of whom were Koreans. One of them gave us students a tired smile as he ran past us. Argentina's Juan Zabala, wearing a white cap, won the marathon. Japan won no medal.

The Japanese community in Los Angeles was elated when Japanese swimmers swept the men's swimming races. When Buster Crabbe won the 400-meter race for U.S.A.'s only gold medal—and Japan's only first-place defeat, our feelings were mixed.

One Saturday, I went with my father and friends to the awesome country club—was it the Riviera?—to watch Baron Takeichi Nishi from Satsuma (my roots) on his horse Uranus in an Olympic equestrian jumping contest. Baron Nishi and Uranus won a gold medal for Japan. It was the only time I had missed a gakuen class in eight years; but it was excused. No one could foretell on that victorious Saturday in '32 that Nishi would die on Iwojima during WW2.

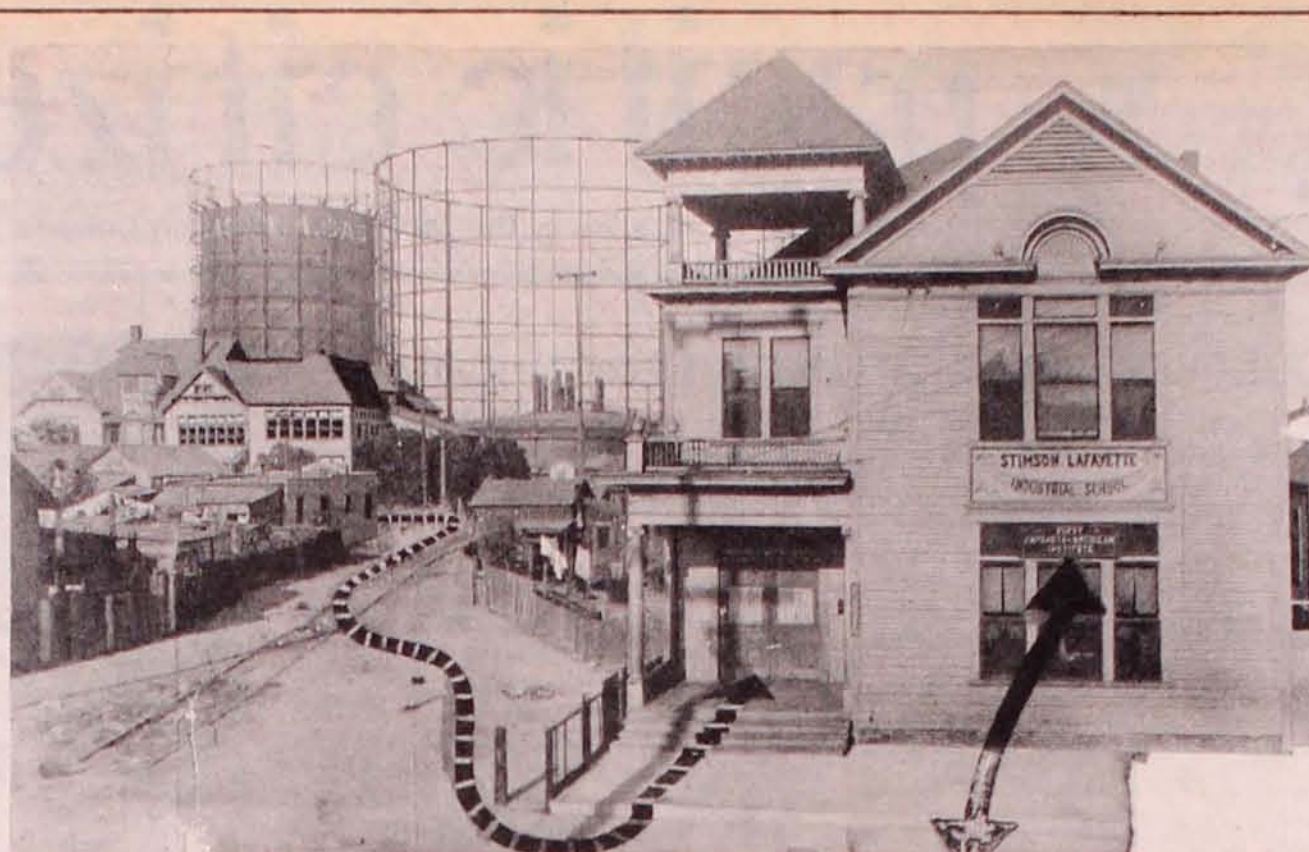
As I grew older, my Gakuen attendance grew spotty, although my attendance was better than other male students who stayed after hours at high school to take part in football, basketball, gymnastics or track & field. For me, Japanese language school became a place to relax after serious study at high school. [Belmont High, of old Crown Hill fame where the first oil wells were drilled in the city—H.H.]

In the original Gakuen class dating from 1926 of 25 boys and 25 girls—the largest in its history—two boys (not I) and eight girls completed the 12-year course of instruction in 1938.

In 1937, I voluntarily went to the Japanese consulate and severed my Japanese citizenship, nullifying my dual citizenship. By this act, I considered myself totally American with cultural and ancestral ties to Japan. I generalize and say that all Rafu Daiichi Gakuen students, Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt notwithstanding, felt the same way.

FEEDBACK: Yuki Kamayatsu, now serving on the L.A. county grand jury, has shared some notes about her late husband Charles' memoirs about Miss Oliver, a retired kindergarten teacher at Amelia St. School (by the gas tanks in the photo where the dotted line starts) who took care of the Stimson-Lafayette Industrial School, later shortened to Stimson Institute. Mr. Stimson was a successful industrialist who put up the building to help the disadvantaged minorities in the area—Mexicans, Indians and Negroes. The upper room was an old-fashioned parlor that had been a sewing school. Charles thought it was heaven. "We never saw a place like that before. And when Miss Oliver invited us over for the first time (c. 1917) and said it was going to be our club room, we were never so thrilled!"

The club met monthly. Charles was then about 13 or 14, going into high school. The boys were taught folk-dancing, the Virginia reel and square dancing in the afternoons for about five months. She decided to switch the class to one evening—and that caused problems. "The parents were very strict; they didn't want you to stay at people's houses at night. But Miss Oliver went to each family and asked, 'May we invite



Dai Ichi Gakuen—A gift from the old L.A. Examiner files, this photo was taken around 1911 when Dai Ichi Gakuen (the First Japanese-American Institute) was established at Hewitt and Jackson Sts., a block away from Amelia St. School. It is only speculation why the picture has dotted lines added—showing where young Nisei students walked from the public elementary school to the Japanese lan-

guage school in the afternoons and the heavy lines (at right) to show where the sign had been in the gutter and raised back to its proper position. And whose laundry is hanging from the lines next to the gakuen? ... Story of the Dai Ichi Gakuen, Little Tokyo's first, may be in the 1938 school annual on loan from George Fujita of West L.A. Over 100 gakuens existed in Southern California prewar.

your daughter, and would you please come, too.' It was her way to get acquainted with the families ..."

Many years later, Charles recalled Miss Oliver as a tall woman, of English descent and with relatives on the Martha

Washington side. The committee which staged the Oliver Sportsmanship Award dinner Aug. 18 really missed Charles—a raconteur first class whose yarns were filled with laughter.

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Internees recall camp deaths

By J.K. Yamamoto

This week, PC carries the final installment of its coverage of the redress hearing held in Los Angeles by the Senate's Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Civil Service, Post Office, and General Services, chaired by Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska).

LOS ANGELES—Former internees and other members of the Nikkei community showed near unanimity in declaring that monetary payments are justified and that an apology for the WW2 internment would be inadequate during an Aug. 16 Senate subcommittee hearing on redress bill S2116.

Actor George Takei, dentist Kiyoshi Sonoda and physician Mary Oda testified as a panel representing JACL. Takei was "too young to know the anguish" that his parents underwent when his family was interned, but recalled the barbed wire and guard towers, the atmosphere of anxiety and tension, and the move from Santa Anita to Arkansas to Tule Lake.

As he grew up, he felt "an uneasy sense of shame about being Japanese" and would say nothing when a teacher mispronounced his name or referred to him as "that Jap boy." The camp experience, he said, "reached far into the postwar period... and stayed in my head a long, long time."

Civilians were not the only ones relocated, Sonoda said. His younger brother, who was in the Army, was transferred from the San Francisco area to Ft. Riley, Kansas, where he and other Nisei were locked up during a visit from President Roosevelt. His older brother, a narcotics agent for the Treasury Dept., had to turn in his gun and was moved from the West Coast to Baltimore, Md.

When the war broke out, Sonoda moved with his family to a "free zone" near Fresno, where they lived in chicken coops. In Aug. 1942, they were moved to Gila River, Ariz. "despite earlier assurances that we would be allowed to stay in the free zone."

On the trains that took Nikkei across the desert, he recalled, the MP escorts "had no understanding of the special needs of the aged, the infirm, the women and the children" and "no provisions for medical care were made during transport." He described the arrival of an infant who was severely dehydrated after the 20-hour trip. As camp doctors administered fluids, "I felt his leg twitch and his body went limp as he died in my arms."

Having lost all his property, his father was "too tired and too old to start all over again" when released from camp. Sonoda believed the internment was a factor in his father's heart condition and death at 66. As president of the board of Little Tokyo Towers, a housing project for elderly Nikkei, Sonoda said he knew "all too well the suffering endured by those still living." More than 500 Nikkei are on the waiting list for residence in the Towers.

Oda said that the property owned by her family prior to the exclusion—including a four-bedroom house, two tractors, three trucks, and a gas tank and pump—would be worth \$500,000 in today's dollars. In addition, Oda said she lost 2 years in medical training and her brother lost 5 years in dental training.

Oda said she regards the "relocation centers" as death camps because three members of her family died within three years of the evacuation. While in camp, her father developed

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Institute offers training in public affairs

LOS ANGELES—Recruitment is under way for Coro Foundation's training course for leaders in the Asian Pacific community, designed to give 12 individuals an intensive introduction to public affairs decision-making in Southern California.

Beginning Oct. 20 and ending Dec. 3, the program includes a day-long orientation, two Saturday sessions, and 12 evening seminars.

Projects will strengthen such skills as decision-making, communication, project planning, interviewing, and group management.

Candidates must be of Asian or Pacific background.

Individuals will also be judged for leadership potential, commitment to community service, intellectual curiosity, self-discipline, flexibility, stamina and the ability to work with others. Participants must have a firm grasp of the English language.

Applicants will be screened and finalists selected on the basis of a written application and two letters of recommendation.

Applications must be received by Sherry Kurland at Coro Foundation, 617 S. Olive St., Suite 610, Los Angeles, CA 90014, by Monday, Sept. 24. To obtain an application, call (213) 623-1234.

Cal alumni to fete first award winners

SAN FRANCISCO—Reservations are being taken by the California Japanese Alumni Assn. for its first scholarship awards dinner and dance. The event will be held in the Japanese Pavilion, Cathedral Hill Hotel, Van Ness and Geary, Saturday, Sept. 29, from 6:30 p.m.

Yori Wada, Univ. of California board regents chair, will introduce guest speaker Ira Michael Heyman, UC Berkeley chancellor.

Awards of \$2,000 each will be awarded to Isaac Kazato, Mika Hiramatsu, Stanley

Yogi, Alan Uba, and Steven Kawashima. They are granted in conjunction with the JACL's annual scholarship program to students in the UC system.

Reservations can be made by mailing a check payable to CJAA for \$25 per person and mailed to 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115. Information: Elsie Nakamura, 2 Clairview Ct., San Francisco, CA 94131, 647-4273; or George Kondo, 1890 Sutter St. #305, San Francisco, CA 94115, 922-9491 (eves), 921-5225 (days).

Community affairs

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Members are being sought for an Ad Hoc Committee on Asian Pacific American Mental Health Issues, recently established by the state Citizens Advisory Council. Persons interested in serving on the committee should contact committee chair Dr. Allan Seid; 230 California Ave. Suite 205; Palo Alto, CA 94306; (415) 327-1056. Deadline is Sept. 28.

SAN FRANCISCO—Proceeds from its third annual golf tournament benefit Kimochi Home Project, Friday, Sept. 21. Tee-off is 12 p.m. at Peacock Gap Golf and Country Club in San Rafael. Awards ceremony and dinner follow. To participate, call 931-2294.

LOS ANGELES—Visual Communications presents a series of three Saturday workshops in video production: Documentary Video Production, Sept. 15; Advanced Camera and Lighting Techniques, Sept. 29; and Creative Use of Sound, Oct. 13. Each of the workshops is a complete course, with a fee of \$15 per session. The workshops are held at Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each date. To pre-enroll, call 680-4462.

Cultural events

SEATTLE—The Group Theatre Company is seeking new scripts for its American Minority Playwrights Festival in Spring 1985. Three scripts will be given a workshop production and five a cold reading during the week-long festival. All scripts must be previously unproduced. No children's plays or musicals will be considered. Scripts with cover letter should be sent to The Group Theatre, 3940 Brooklyn N.E., Seattle, WA 98105. Deadline is Oct. 1.

SAN FRANCISCO—"Topic: Asian American," a new series on KALW-FM (91.7), airs every Monday and Friday from 4:50 to 4:55 p.m. Host for the series is Steve Nakajo, executive director of Kimochi, Inc.

SAN JOSE—The Spartan Oriocci, non-profit campus group at San Jose State University, will hold a dance Sept. 7, 9 p.m. at Rickey's Hyatt, Palo Alto. The Night Flight band will play.

LOS ANGELES—Stonebridge Productions celebrate Hawaii's 25th statehood anniversary by bringing "The Krush" in a live concert Wednesday, Sept. 19, 7 and 10 p.m. at the JACCC Japan America Theatre. Tickets: \$8.50, reserved seating, (714) 639-1007 or (213) 488-9668.

LOS ANGELES—About 40 decorative bamboo flower baskets dating from the late 19th and 20th century comprise "The Japanese Basket" exhibition Sept. 8-Oct. 20 at the JACCC Doizaki Gallery.

LOS ANGELES—Singer Andy Russell (a son of Boyle Heights) will headline the Japanese Retirement Home benefit concert, "Music of the '40s," at the JACCC Japan America Theatre Sept. 22, according to Gerald Ishibashi, sponsor of the 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. show. Tickets are \$30, first come first serve, by calling 263-9651 or the box office. Proceeds go toward a building reconstruction fund.

A social mixer with the Capitol Records star after the concert is being planned by other prewar Boyle Heightsers who attended Roosevelt High. Toy Kanegai is chair.

Holiday Issue Kits

Chapters which have assisted us in the past soliciting greetings for the Holiday Issue are reminded that the Advertising Kits are being mailed out the week after Labor Day.

The kits are in two parts containing: 1—Insertion orders and latest rate card via 1st Class; 2—Various printed forms, sample issue, etc., via 3rd Class or UPS.

Chapter commissions for advertising: standard 15% (any issue, Regular or Holiday), or bulk rate with commissions ranging between 20 to 50% depending on the amount of ad space contracted in the Holiday Issue.

The usual deadlines apply:

Nov. 15—Reservations for bulk-rate space.

Nov. 30—Ad Copy for First Section (first 64 pages).

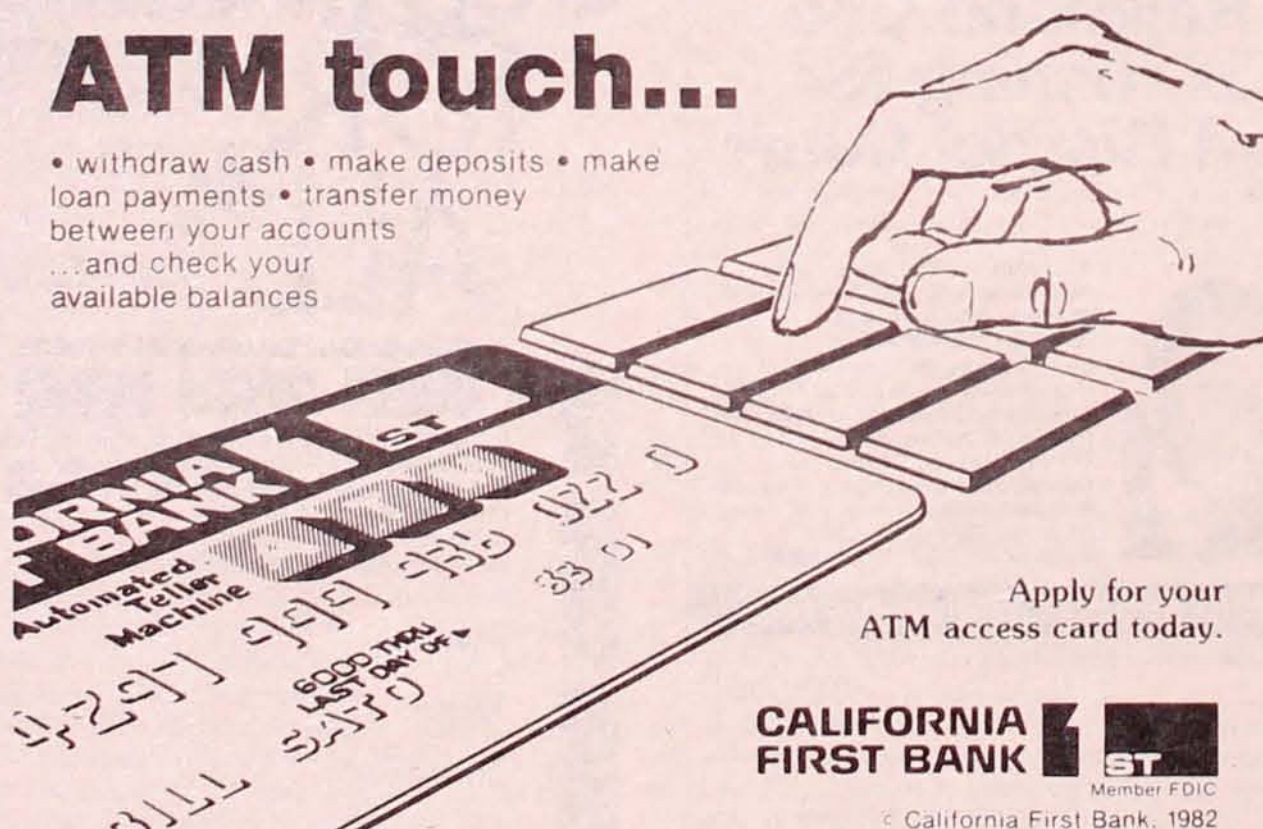
Dec. 7—Absolute deadline for all copy.

Dec. 17—Day of press-run.

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EAST WIND: by Bill Marutani

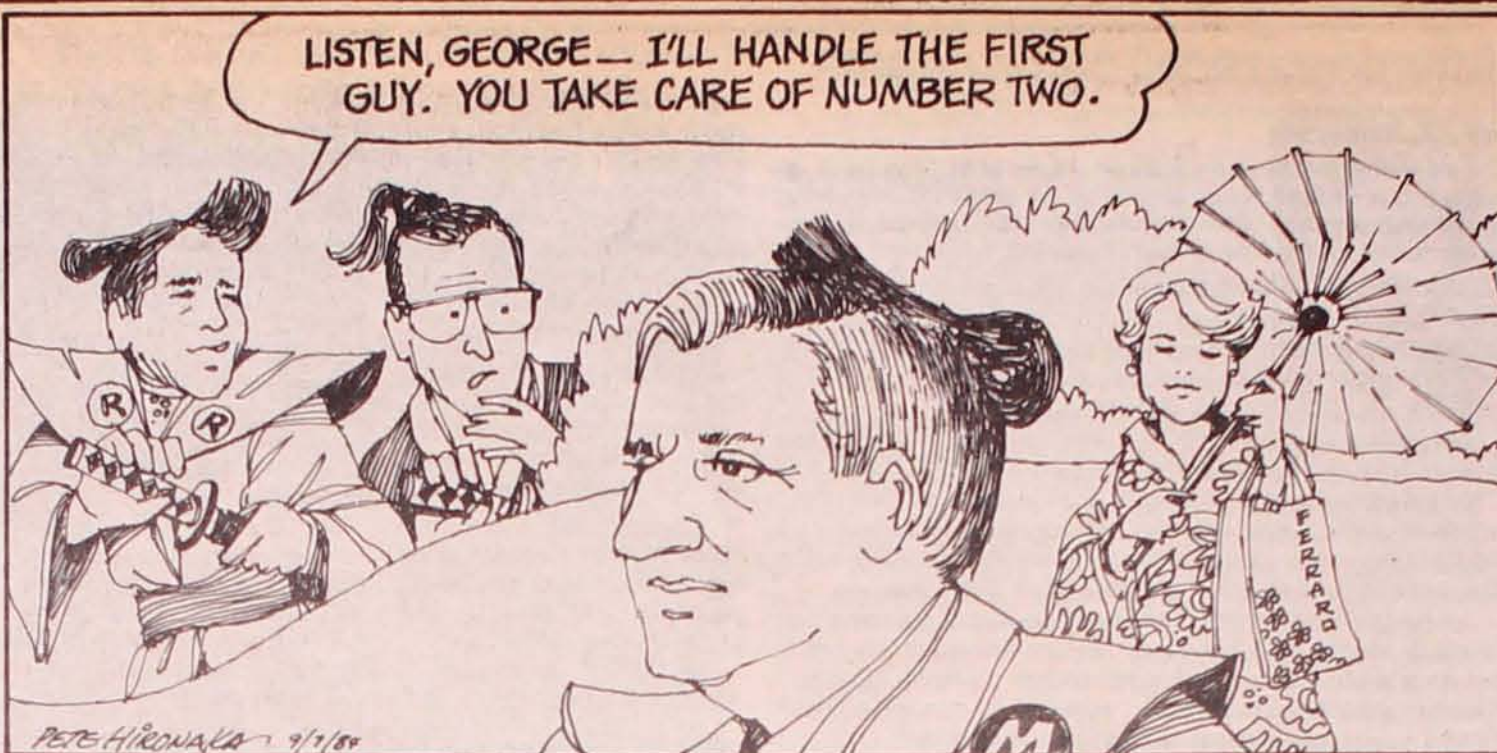


Made in Yusa

WHILE BROWSING AROUND near the appliance department the other week, we indulged ourselves by buying one of those play-anywhere, five-inch-screen color TV sets. We advisedly say "indulge," because, to be quite honest about it, we don't need such a thing. We don't even watch the regular ones we do have. Bluntly stated, it's just an "adult toy" purchase.

TOY OR NOT, those blessed things are somewhat expensive. One would think that something smaller should cost less, but it apparently doesn't work that way. At any rate, among other things, we checked it over to determine where it was made. We've had some poor experiences with electronic pieces—whether it be a simple radio or a tape player—that were put together in some developing country. Checking the manufacturer's plate and finding "Made in Japan," we satisfied ourselves with the quality of the merchandise and we bought it.

IT WASN'T ALWAYS that way, you'll remember. To see the legend "Made in Japan" on any piece of goods—toy, camera, bicycle, radio, etc.—meant that the goods were poorly made and wouldn't last very long. So negative was that label that at one point some ingenious (but misleading) entrepreneur in the Land of the Rising Sun located a village called Yusa, Anglicized (modified) the name to "Usa," then capitalized the entire name as modified, and came up with the label "Made in USA." It wasn't long before our trade officials put a stop to that.



IN A MANNER of speaking, we've come full circle. We've noted how some of our manufacturers...uh, "lean" in the presentation of their goods so that our American-produced goods reflect the aura of Japanese-manufactured items. For example, when Nissan Motors came out with the Datsun 280-Z (a sports car rated highly by the avant-garde of the automotive world), it was no simple accident that Chevrolet came out with a play thereon with its "Z-28" sports sedan. So entrenched is Japanese reputation for quality control that they can give almost any name to an automobile and the doggone things sell: Accord, Camry, Civic, Corolla, Cressida and so on. (If, before all this, they had come to

you and asked your advice as to these vehicular names, would you have advised them to go with those?) Isuzu and Mitsubishi are now entrenching themselves in the East with dealerships opening up.

WE NOW GET a little suspicious that the tag "Made in Japan" gets placed on goods that are produced in some developing country. After all, there have been ersatz Rolex watches, Jordache imitations and so forth flooding the markets. Recently we bought a simple electrical item under the label of "Sanyo" and upon reaching home happened to look underneath and noticed for the first time the legend "Made in Mexico."

We still don't know what "sanyo" means in Spanish.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER: by Frank Sato



Convention Wrap-Up

Annandale, Va.

The 28th Biennial JACL convention is now behind me. June and I would like to thank everyone who supported our efforts at the convention. Now the work begins. Numerous plans are being made to lay the groundwork for the biennium ahead. It is with a deep gratitude for your trust that I pledge my best effort to carry out the responsibilities as your new National President, and I ask for guidance, support, and input from the total organization.

The Honolulu convention was particularly well run. Ed Hamasu, convention chair, Larry Kumabe, Honolulu Chapter president, and the whole convention committee deserve high praise for a job well done. Ron

Yoshino, convention chair for 1986 in Chicago, has his work cut out for him—but I know he's equal to the task.

The new National Board met on Saturday, Aug. 18, after the convention. The following requirements and timetables for the National organization were established:

1—Recommendations for National Committee assignments are to be made to National Headquarters by Friday, Sept. 28, 1984.

2—Suggested goals, objectives and new initiatives are also to be submitted by Board members to National Headquarters by Sept. 28.

3—The above recommendations and suggestions will be distributed to the Board members prior to the next Board meeting on Oct. 19-21. At this meeting, goals and

objectives and committee appointments will be established. Staff responsibilities, budget priorities, follow-up on Council resolutions, program for action plans and oversight responsibilities will be established.

We hope to have a well organized national program with responsibilities delegated to specific people. We also hope to get participation from as broad a segment of the membership as possible. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please forward them to National JACL Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115, (415) 921-5225. Or to me at 4105 Whispering Lane, Annandale, VA 22005.

Together, we can make a difference!

Advertising/Subscription Rates

Continuing increases in the expense of publishing the Pacific Citizen have made it necessary to raise advertising and subscription rates, effective September, 1984. Current advertisers are being billed at the new rate effective the end of this month. At the same time, the PC shall convert to the new Standard Advertising Unit format of five wider columns across the tabloid page for news and display advertising and a special 7-column format for all classified display advertising the first week in October.

Subscription rates for non-JACL members will increase to \$18 a year.

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by John Tateishi

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MUSUBI: by Ron Wakabayashi



The Blackout

Honolulu

The Sayonara Banquet had reached closure. A number of JACL staff happened on each other in the foyer of the Grand Ballroom of the Pacific Beach Hotel and conspired to escape the convention. A rendezvous was arranged, and many of the staff found ourselves at the adjoining hotel, the Hawaiian Regent, toasting ourselves for having survived the ordeal of another National Convention.

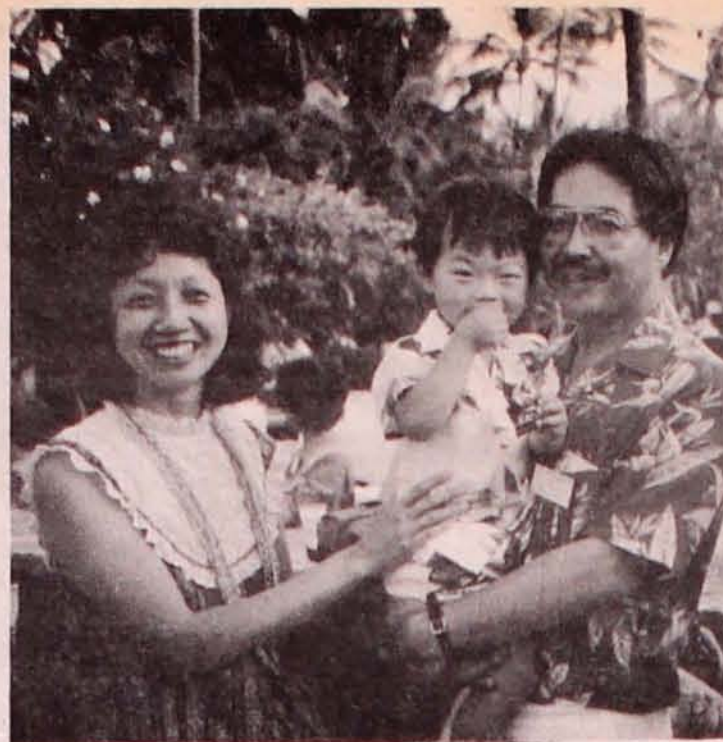
We had consumed the first round of drinks, sharing anecdotes about the convention—when IT happened. A major power failure struck Oahu. In the darkness, hotel staff scurried around with candles. From the vantage point of the open air bar, we could see that the convention site hotel was completely dark. After some debate, we made the decision to return to the hotel to check on the situation there. Lia Shigemura, our Program Director, resourced an interesting tool: a glow stick that illumined our path back.

Hotel staff with flashlights greeted us. They were positioned at strategic points on the ground floor to guide us and others returning to the hotel. Some of our convention delegates had arranged themselves around the table in the outdoor patio area that was designated the Aloha Center. Others began procuring space on couches in the main lobby. A good many people continued festivities in the second floor Venus Room, where a post-convention celebration was taking place.

Early in the blackout, there was a general air of confidence that this inconvenience would be shortlived. The day previous there was a 30-minute interruption of power within the hotel. That led many to assume that this incident would be equally short. Still, we had concern for the few people, who were in elevators, and wondered about some of the people that might have some difficulty with stairs.

As it turned out, the extension of the power failure, eventually led many to make a decision to attack the stairwells, even though the vast majority had rooms above the 30th floor. It was a decision that was not easily made. The prospect of entering a dark enclosed staircase with little light or ventilation forced a careful assessment of options. Pacific Citizen editor Karen Seriguchi took possession of Shigemura's glow stick and was one of the pioneers making the 35-story climb. David Nakayama and I, assisted by Alvin Onaka of the Honolulu Chapter, began a process of grouping our people together in various locations and passed out hurricane candles that we recruited from around the hotel.

Dr. Clifford Uyeda was involved with attending to one of our delegates that met an impasse by the time they reached the tenth floor. Because of concerns about the physical stress for those choosing to make the climb back to their rooms, JACL and hotel staff escorted groups making the effort. Having



PC Photo

Enjoying the sun—Jean Wong, Jay (in daddy's arm) and Ron Wakabayashi enjoy the convention luau at Paradise Cove—a 40-minute bus ride from the Pacific Beach Hotel at Waikiki toward Ewa.

finished that task, there remained a number of people who had made a decision to not attempt the climb. Most had found couches in the lobby. For those that did not, we convinced the hotel desk that opening one of the second floor meeting rooms and providing some beach mats to sleep on would be the hospitable thing to do.

By 4 a.m., we appeared to have everyone secured. I wondered whether the 7:30 breakfast meeting would still be on as I said goodnight to Alvin Onaka and made another trek up to my own room.

May I point out to the JACL readers that the Alvin Onaka that I mention in this piece was at the hotel for the entire evening, making sure that we were secure. He is the same Alvin Onaka that performed the tedious task of recording all the registrations for all of the events. He stationed himself at the convention daily and took detailed care of changes that were requested, or snafus not of his doing, to insure that we had a good convention. At the close-down meetings with the hotel and with Hawaiian Adventures, his calculations were exact, greatly assisting in keeping the costs of the convention to a minimum.

We didn't get a chance to thank you properly, Alvin. In fact, some of our folks were downright abusive to you at times. Kotonks are a demanding bunch, sometimes. This Musubi is for you, Brah. Mahalo for the object lesson in aloha.

FROM THE FRYING PAN: by Bill Hosokawa



Tidbits from Japan's Press

Things you learn from reading the English-language part of the Japanese press:

—Summer is the season for eating eels, although I contend any season is a good time. Last year the Japanese consumed 480 million of them, which would amount to 4 for every man, woman and child.

The belief is that the eel gives the eater stamina to beat the humid heat and promotes sexual vigor. Even so, says the Japan Times, there are many sources of protein to choose from these days and air conditioning has made summer less oppressive. But tradition dies hard. One-third of Japan's eel consumption takes place during the summer months.

—Aug. 6 and 9 are the dates for commemorating those who died in the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and pledging that there will be no more nuclear wars.

What many don't realize, says Masaru Ogawa in the Japan Times, is that at least 350,000 Japanese—more than were killed in the atomic blasts—died as a result of the Soviet attack on Manchuria and Korea just days before Japan's surrender in 1945.

"Exact statistics are not available," Ogawa writes, "but it is estimated that the Soviet forces took 600,000 Japanese prisoners to Siberia and kept them for 10 years or more. It is said at least 350,000 did not come home. They died of hunger and cold."

There's another dimension to this story. In their frantic flight from Soviet armies, many Japanese families in Manchuria lost track of or abandoned children. Many were adopted and reared by Chinese families. Recently

some of them, now middle-aged, have been visiting Japan in search of relatives.

—An odd kind of discrimination is being practiced by two posh resort hotels in Okinawa, Kyodo reports. One bars its beaches to American servicemen below the rank of sergeant 3rd class unless accompanied by families or girlfriends. The other imposes similar restrictions on U.S. soldiers below the rank of corporal.

The reason: young servicemen were accused of holding wild parties on the beaches far into the night.

Do a couple of stripes improve the behavior of servicemen in swimming suits?

—Prince Norihito, 29, a nephew of Emperor Hirohito and ninth in line of succession to the throne, recently became engaged to Hisako Tottori, 31, a graduate of a British university and daughter of a trading company official.

In keeping with tradition, their engagement had to be approved by the Imperial Family Council, made up of the prime minister, the chief justice of the supreme court, chairmen of the two houses of parliament, the groom-to-be's father, Prince Mikasa, and five others of impressive rank.

But there was a Western touch. Prince Norihito revealed in a press conference that he was too shy to propose in his native tongue and asked her in English: "Will you marry me?" Her reply, also in English: "Yes."

I had never regarded English as romantic, but then Americans, Britons, Australians, New Zealanders and sundry others find English suitable for the first step toward marriage.

Letters

Casual epithets

Thank you for your Aug. 17 article reporting on the Olympic incident where a U.S. wrestler, Randy Lewis, was allowed to use the racial slur "Jap" on national television.

I became very disturbed after hearing the remark, not only because it is a strike against my nationality, but also because it is not representative of what the Olympics supposedly symbolize (i.e., brotherhood among nations). If we continue to allow other Randy Lewises to freely voice their racial epithets, especially on programs like the Olympics, there will never be true brotherhood, and we will forever suffer as a group.

I was also concerned about how other Japanese Americans would react to the incident, and scanned the newspapers to see if anything was said or done about it. Thanks to your article, I now know that we didn't let this one slip by easily.

DEBBIE NAKAMURA
Palo Alto, Calif.

Visual aid

It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words and I

find Pete Hironaka's cartoons very timely, very appropriate and significant, especially at this point in our struggle to achieve redress.

The Salinas Valley Chapter redress committee has been using Pete's cartoons, along with other prepared background materials, as a useful tool to obtain resolutions from various civic and service organizations in support of the two legislative bills now before Congress—HR 4110 and S2116.

Many thanks, Pete Hironaka, for sensitivity and insight you have injected into your cartoons, particularly the one entitled "42 Year Wait For Redress—Statue of Liberty Under Repairs Since 1942"; the three flying carp, "Nikkei Symbols For Over 40 Years"; and "After 4 Years—After 4 Decades." Your work is always well received by so many of us and, in particular, by non-Nikkei groups.

You are doing a great service in the cause of redress, Pete.

VIOLET de CRISTOFORO
Redress chair
Salinas Valley JACL

More Letters on Page 6

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H—Autumn Tour Oct 6-Oct 26

Tour Guide—Steve Yagi
Southern Honshu: Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Shimoda, Shuzenji Spa, Ise, Toba, Nara, Kyoto, Hiroshima; Kyushu: Beppu, Miyazaki, Kagoshima, Ibusuki, 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

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Letters

Redress issue

I am sputtering with indignation over statements quoted from Charlotte Elam, Frederick Wiener, Henry Kane, Catherine Treadgold, Lillian Baker, David Lowman, and especially Rachel Kawasaki in the Aug. 24 PC.

These people have said that they have "documentary evidence" of wrongdoing on the part of Nikkei. A careful "inventory" of their allegations and claims should be made from their testimony before Sen. Stevens, and they should be invited to submit such evidence to an impartial representative of Congress or of the Justice Dept. (rules having been previously established as to what is—and is not—evidence of wrongdoing and also as to just what "wrongdoing" is. For instance, sending money to Japan to help one's family certainly should not be considered "wrongdoing" by any fair-minded person).

100 percent loyalty cannot be expected of ANY group—regardless of nationality—if the standards of what comprises "loyalty" were left to the group quoted in the article.

I knew a Rachel Kawasaki in Poston, Ariz. in 1943. She was Caucasian and had emigrated to the U.S. from Ireland. She would be in her 80s now. I also remember her husband, a fine old man, and her son and daughter. If the woman who testified is the same Rachel Kawasaki, I can refute many of the things she had to say about life in Poston—I was there.

I am so disturbed over the

misrepresentations quoted that I cannot write calmly. The Nikkei, in asking for redress, are working to protect all of us U.S. citizens against such pressure groups, and should therefore have the help of all citizens.

DAVID C. MOORE
Phoenix, Ariz.

Queen contests

Recently there was an article on beauty queen contests where the author urged JACL chapters not to sponsor candidates. As the president of the Pan Asian chapter, that has sponsored a Nisei Week Queen candidate for the last seven years, I would like to express our side of the issue. Needless to say, we select an attractive, young lady with

poise and charm to represent our chapter. However, we also look for a young woman that has the potential to grow by participating in the Nisei Week activities. We feel that the Nisei Week Queen Pageant is a way for our candidates to mature and gain more self-confidence in herself that will make her a winner in life.

Our ideals were reinforced at this year's Coronation Ball where I talked to four of our past queen candidates. All four women had gained the maturity and grace that our chapter hoped for and it was difficult to believe how much they have achieved for their tender years. As I spoke to each one, I realized that certainly our candidates would be successful in their goals

because just wanting to run for Nisei Week Queen showed that they were confident in themselves and they were achievers. However, I think that the Nisei Week Contest push them to be their very best. Like all things, unless there is a challenge, there is no growth and I feel that the Nisei Week Queen Contest helped our candidates to achieve their goals quicker.

Also, as Chris Taguchi Moi, our very first Queen candidate said, the Nisei Week Contest is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. There is a chance to meet influential people who could help to further your career goals, and if you want to, it's there for you to take advantage of. And with our last queen candidate, Janet Aiso, who is plan-

ning to be a pediatrician, one of our members felt that our sponsorship would be helpful on Janet's resume upon entering medical school. That our sponsorship and her participation in Nisei Week would show her involvement in the Japanese community making her a more well-rounded person. Because of all the reasons stated above, our chapter feels that Nisei Week is a worthwhile function and we will continue to support it.

SANDI KAWASAKI
Monterey Park, Calif.

JACL scholarships

It was not too long ago that the Rev. Jesse Jackson expressed concern about the lack of minority representation at the federal government level, and especially the need for qualified Asian

American representation.

Isn't it about time that JACL addresses itself to this need? To date, we have no "political clout" in D.C. And perhaps, in the greater part, this is the reason for the poor response to the redress issue from Congress.

I am disappointed to find the JACL scholarship committee continuing to award mostly those students bent on careers in science and medicine while ignoring those applicants with aspirations towards political goals and governmental services. If Asian Americans expect equal representation in government, they must work to that end by encouraging young people to be involved in government. Let's look toward the future by doing something now.

ROY U. EBIHARA
Oberlin, OH

あなたの希望する職業を。 あなたの国、 日本で。*

Calendar

SEPT 8 (Saturday)

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

Los Angeles—As Pac Legal Defense & Ed Fund luau, JACCC, 244 S San Pedro, 5:30-9:30pm

Garden Grove—Wintersburg Presbyterian Ch food festival, 13711 Fairview Ave, 3-9pm

San Jose—Wesley United Methodist Ch Aki Matsuri Bazaar, 566 N Fifth St, 3-7:30pm

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

SEPT 9 (Sunday)

San Diego—Japan Day at Balboa Park, presented by House of Japan, House of Pac Relations, 2-4pm

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

SEPT 12 (Wednesday)

Washington—Hearing on HR 4110

SEPT 15 (Saturday)

Washington—Arigato picnic at Lake Accotink, 11am-4pm; lunch at 12n; info Kris Ikejiri, 447-4155

Salt Lake—Issei luncheon, Buddhist Church, 211 W 100th South, 12n

SEPT 16 (Sunday)

Contra Costa—Barbeque at El Cerrito Comm Cntr, 4-9pm; prgm featuring schol winners 6:30-8pm

SEPT 19 (Wednesday)

Los Angeles—Stonebridge Productions present concert by The Krush of Hawaii, JACCC Japan Am Th, 244 S San Pedro, 7 and 10pm; reserv (714) 639-1007/(213) 488-9868

SEPT 21 (Friday)

San Francisco—Kimochi golf tournament, Peacock Gap Golf & Country Club; tee-off 12n; register 931-2294

SEPT 21-23

Tule Lake—pilgrimage to former internment camp; info Kathy (415) 922-8898/387-5276; Tom (408) 275-8797

SEPT 22 (Saturday)

Watsonville—50th anniv celeb, Buddhist Temple, 6pm; info Wally Osato, Bx 163, Watsonville 95077

Los Angeles—Singer Andy Russell sings "Music of the 40s" at JACCC Japan Am Th, for Jpnz Retirement Home benefit; 4&7 pm; reserv 263-9651

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Impressions of the Convention from a First-time Delegate

by Robert Shimabukuro, Portland JACL

I was asked to set down my thoughts about the JACL convention in Honolulu, and as a first-time delegate, I ask that this article be read with a focus on how these conventions could be better run in the future; I trust that those on the planning committee will not take these criticisms personally.

The effectiveness of the convention cannot be discussed without an evaluation of what JACL's needs are, so let me begin by listing those which were brought up often by speakers, candidates for office, and by the committee which drew up the Program for Action:

1. Membership development
2. Leadership development
3. Coalition-building
4. Fundraising

Membership Development

Various proposals were brought up to increase membership, but almost all revolved around lowering dues for selected classes as an incentive (U.S. government approach—use financial incentives). One plan, caustically brought up by the secretary/treasurer-elect, involved simply browbeating members until they paid their dues (take-the-money-and-run approach). These approaches show a considerable lack of understanding or concern for people.

We buy into organizations when we see a need and/or a direct advantage of some kind (companionship, group action, self-defense, identity). It is difficult to solicit membership when an organization does not really reflect the concerns of those it purports to support. Therefore, realistically speaking, the emphasis should be on the programs of the organization.

There are two areas of recruitment—Nikkei over 60 and those under 35. (I will refrain from using the terms "old" and "young." This is the only organization I belong to which refers to me as "young.")

With regard to the group over 60, my per-



Convention site—Honolulu Chapter and Pacific Beach Hotel extend a warm welcome

sonal feeling is that we should encourage their participation in events; whether they pay dues or not is immaterial. If we structure enough programs centered around that age group, together with events where participation from all age groups is encouraged, they can decide for themselves whether they wish to be financially active members or not.

With regard to the group under 35, the establishment of a youth concerns committee is a good start. We need to find out why the younger Nikkei see JACL as irrelevant. We can start by asking the Nisei why their children see no reason for JACL's existence. For if the children of active JACL Nisei decide that JACL is "not their thing," then somewhere along the line the parents themselves, or their peers or institutions, passed on negative signals (verbal and nonverbal) to their children. We need to know what those signals

to JACLers. PC general manager Harry Honda stands at hotel entrance.

were. We need to know why bowling and golf is so important and why civil rights is not. I do not pretend to have the answers, but one possibility is the lack of identity and denial of anything Japanese.

Leadership Development

Observing the operations of the convention, it became painfully obvious that JACL is sorely in need of leaders—people who can instruct, guide, set priorities, and inspire. We need to have a clear understanding of the processes involved in making a decision. The problem of how leaders are developed has never been faced by JACL; one reason may be that most JACL leaders participated on a "learn as you go/grow" basis.

This base has always been one of knowing the right people, having a little perseverance, working on a local chapter level, learning how to handle the paperwork (discretionary use of

the "round file" plus a lot of help from a spouse), working in the district level and then maybe on a national level. A hit-and-miss approach.

Likewise, the idea that sending one person from each district to spend a week in Washington, D.C. and meeting "important" people will make a big difference to the organization is naive, to say the least. That kind of approach has a great potential of turning the idea of leadership into an elitist one, and it ignores the type of leaders that JACL sorely needs: grassroots people with problem-solving abilities who motivate and inspire others to act in an effective manner. There is a shortage of such people in all age groups, and anyone who has that interest should have opportunities to learn and grow. A one-week leadership workshop held at the district level would have a far greater impact.

Coalition-Building

While the Vincent Chin murder did finally point out the value of coalition-building, we must move forward from that incident and continue to press for ties with other minorities. As one who has pressed for JACL to become more involved in concerns of other minorities, I feel that JACL must come to grips with the racism within the Nikkei community itself. Until that is dealt with, it will be difficult to build coalitions or recruit new members.

Fundraising

The area of fundraising is crucial to the programs JACL wants to offer. It should be obvious to us that to garner the kind of financial support we need, we cannot depend solely on the Nikkei community. We comprise less than 1/2% of the population. If we ourselves have to finance both redress and other programs which we sorely need, we will most certainly drain all our resources.

Keeping these four areas of concern in mind, I would like to enter some thoughts about the convention itself and offer suggestions for the planning of the next convention that would make it more attractive and more

Continued on Page 10



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HEARING

Continued from Page 3

constant nasal irritation and died of nose and throat cancer; her sister developed bronchial asthma; and her brother developed intestinal obstruction. "All three had entered the camps in good health and died within 7 months of each other," she said. Another sister suffered a nervous breakdown and Oda herself developed severe palpitations.

She also witnessed the death of a teenaged boy who was shot by guards during the 1942 Manzanar riot.

Oda added that in her practice she has observed "an extremely high incidence of high blood pressure, heart disease, and cancer among the survivors of the camps. Life expectancy seems to be shortened by 10 to 15 years."

After release from camp, her mother, a former teacher, worked as a farm laborer. The \$1,800 received from the government as token compensation paid for the gravestone for Oda's father, sister and brother.

Representing the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations was a panel made up of teachers June Kizu and Gordon Nakagawa and Gardena city councilman Mas Fukai. Kizu cited specific constitutional rights that were violated by the government, including: freedom of speech and association; freedom from unreasonable search and seizure; the right to be formally charged with a crime and to present a defense before being deprived of liberty; the right to a public and speedy trial; and freedom from cruel and unusual punishment.

Nakagawa refuted the contention that Nikkei bene-

fitted from their forced dispersal throughout the U.S. The CWRIC's estimate of \$6.2 billion (in 1983 dollars) in losses suffered by the Nikkei community, he said, did not include restitution for physical and psychological disabilities, wrongful deaths, disruption of careers and education, fragmenting of the community, and loss of rights. In addition, he said, the government's policy of forced assimilation deprived the community of the material security, mutual support, and collective pride and identity it had before the war.

Fukai called on Congress to act quickly on redress "because with each day of delay we are losing many of our brothers and sisters who were deprived of their dignity." After Fukai's family was released from camp, his mother worked in a cannery. In 1955, his father, who was unable to work after the war, died "feeling he was a failure and a burden on his children." Fukai believed that both his parents "died very sad and unfulfilled, feeling that their dreams really had not come true."

He also said that his wife's family was sent to Japan on the pretext that a telegram had been sent calling them back, but in reality they had been exchanged for an American family being held in Japan. His wife's father later died in the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

Like other speakers, Fukai assailed "the prevailing stereotype that all Americans of Japanese ancestry are successful and affluent...this is a myth."

Junji Kuramoto suggested that the internment provided a supply of hostages with which the U.S. could insure the safety and return of Americans being held by the Japanese. "We were hostages captured by our own government," he said.

Continued on Page 12

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Board members sought for new JACL lobbying arm

SAN FRANCISCO—Eight individuals are soon to be added to the JACL Legislative Education Committee board, which has assumed redress lobbying activities, announced LEC chair Min Yasui.

Nominations for LEC board membership may be submitted by anyone. The nominating

committee, chaired by Jim Tsujimura, will screen nominations and submit recommendations to the LEC board. Deadline for submission of nominations is Sept. 20.

Nominations must list the name of the candidate, his or her address, telephone number, background and, if possible, a written state-

ment from the nominee indicating a willingness to serve.

The LEC was incorporated as a California nonprofit corporation on May 20, 1982. According to Yasui, it was created to raise funds for the redress campaign and to plan legislative strategies. "During the past two years," Yasui stated, "LEC has been quiescent. LEC existed only as a paper organization, awaiting the time when intensive lobbying efforts would become virtually paramount. That time is now rapidly approaching."

"With several redress bills pending in Congress, and with some hearings already concluded—with more to come—it is certain that concentrated lobbying must be done during the 99th Congress, in 1985-86, if redress is to be achieved in the immediate foreseeable future."

Protecting Nonprofit Status

National JACL is a nonprofit, tax exempt organization and may not engage in substantial lobbying activities without jeopardizing its tax exempt status. Thus, the National Council formally transferred redress lobbying to the LEC in Honolulu last month.

LEC has a board of 15 directors. Seven are designated by the JACL National Board; eight are chosen at large.

Present hold-over board members (for JACL) are: Frank Sato, national president; Yosh Nakashima, San Francisco; Rose Ochi, Los Angeles; and Cherry Kinoshita, Seattle. Hold-over at-large members are: David Nikaudo, Washington, D.C.; James Tsujimura, Portland, Ore.; and Minoru Yasui, Denver. Five at-large seats are open.

Nominations should be mailed to: Dr. James Tsujimura, 3120 N.E. 127th Ave., Portland, OR 97230; (503) 229-7654.

Further information may also be obtained from the other members of the nominating committee: Rose Ochi, 730 S. Lincoln St., Monterey Park, CA 91754, (213) 485-4425; or Shig Wakamatsu, 2336 N. Commonwealth St., Chicago, IL 60614, (312) 281-4871.

GOP CONVENTION—

Continued from Front Page

Chennault wrote to party leaders that the GOP was not doing enough to attract Asian voters and warned that further neglect would cause disillusionment among them. "As you are aware, we have lost the Japanese Americans to the Democratic Party," she wrote. "In states like California, New York, Texas, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois and Washington, the Asian vote can make the difference."

Chennault was also disappointed that Asian Republican leaders did not receive more media exposure during the convention.

A resolution drafted Aug. 21 by Asian American Republicans complained about the low number of Asian delegates and convention officers and about the absence of an Asian speaker at the convention. The resolution stated that Asian Republicans deserve "their due share" because they have "worked faithfully for decades" for the GOP, and are the party's largest financial contributors "in percentage among all groups in our party and country."

Since Asians are a fast-growing political and economic force, the resolution said, there is a need to court their vote in November. "We feel very strongly that we can be more effective in our communities if we can convince them that the Republican party is concerned about Asian Americans."

Richard Koo of Los Angeles, an advisor to the ethnic voters division, said that the resolution would be sent to Fahrenkopf and Laxalt. He commented that he saw "much more unity among the Asian Americans at this convention than I have ever seen within the Republican party."

The Asian American who probably received the most media attention during the convention was 16-year-old Thu Nga Tran, who escaped from Vietnam by boat in 1980 and lived in a Philippine refugee camp before relocating to Colorado, where she is now a senior in high school. She led conventioners in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chapter Pulse

Fresno A.L.L.

FRESNO, Calif.—Photographs taken by Ansel Adams at Manzanar will be previewed at a showing of the "Go For Broke" photo exhibit during October at the Fresno Metropolitan Museum.

Fresno Chapter, sponsor of the exhibit, hopes to augment it with photographs and memorabilia from the prewar period, the internment, and postwar relocation. Loans of photographs, signs, posters, newspapers, and other souvenirs are sought. To lend objects or to volunteer time, call 233-4204.

On Sunday, Sept. 9, the A.L.L./JACL holds its summer picnic from noon at the Gazebo section of Woodward Park. Those whose last names begin with A-L should bring a salad; those who fall in M-Z should bring dessert. All should bring eating utensils. Steaks may be ordered by calling 233-4204 or 439-8769. JAYs are invited to arrive at 11 a.m. for a youth meeting.

Placer County

PENRYN, Calif.—The chapter's baseball trip to Candlestick Park in San Francisco has been rescheduled for Sunday, Sept. 9, for the Giants versus Atlanta Braves game.

The bus departs from the Placer Buddhist Church parking lot, 3192 Boyington Rd., at 9:30 a.m. sharp and returns about 8 p.m. Cost of bus fare and game ticket is \$17.50, payable

with reservation. Those interested are urged to make reservations immediately with Hugo Nishimoto, 885-2515; Herb Tokutomi, 663-3006; or Ken Tokutomi, 663-1005.

Contra Costa

EL CERRITO, Calif.—An open invitation to the 79 Contra Costa JACL scholarship winners since 1960 is extended by the chapter for its 25th presentation during a barbecue dinner Sunday, Sept. 16 at El Cerrito Community Center. Steaks should be ready by 5 p.m. An informal panel of past scholarship winners share experiences at 6:30 p.m. Reservations for the gathering should be made immediately with Ray Fujii, 541 Davilla Rd., Richmond, CA 94801.

The chapter will present five awards totaling \$1,825 this year. The first award made in 1960 was for \$100. Contra Costa JACL has also established a scholarship in memory of William Nakatani, active JACLer and community worker, payable to JACL-Nakatani Scholarship Fund, c/o Contra Costa JACL, 130 S. 47th St., Richmond, CA 94804.

On the after-dinner panel are Betty Kano Fallenbaum, artist in acrylics; Gary K. Hirakawa, field sales engineer with Fairchild Camera; Patricia Iiyama, Socialist Workers Party member who has taught Black studies at UCLA and worked as a technician at a chemical plant; Erin Uesugi, architect; and Luana Morimoto, moderator.

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JACL CONVENTION—

Continued from Page 7

meaningful to delegates.

The overriding issue at the convention should be the identity question. All issues, including redress, revolve around how we see ourselves as Americans of Japanese ancestry. JACL as a group seems very fuzzy on what it means to be Japanese American and what Japanese American culture is. We are in a unique position in that our cultural traditions are less than 100 years old, and our thoughts, ideas, and actions are helping to create that tradition. It can be rich and illuminating, encompassing our language, history, poetry, music, and dance; or it can be shallow, incorporating only that which the majority culture permits: buck-toothed stereotypes, sushi, karate and gardening. JACL should make "culture" a vibrant part of its program and its conventions and thereby help define what we want to portray as Japanese American.

A loose definition of a "cultural event" would include a poetry reading, a song, a dramatic presentation, speeches—anything that unifies people around a common experience which in turn creates bonds, i.e., a common culture, an identity.

A poetry reading by Janice Mirikitani, a presentation by Lane Nishikawa, or an address by Warren Furutani would have been more inspiring and illuminating than any of the workshops I attended, and certainly would have been more relevant to AJAs than any of the information disseminated at the convention.

One event which had the flavor of a good workshop was the lecture by Ronald Takaki on immigrant history in Hawaii. The flow was kept informal, the audience learned a lot, and there was a good feeling of shared learning experience.

In direct contrast was the workshop on U.S.-Japan relations. Because we are not clear on what it is to be Japanese American, it still is not clear why U.S.-Japan relations should be important to JACL, a civil rights organization. While U.S.-Japan trade difficulties admittedly impact upon Japanese Americans, the underlying cause for that impact is racism, and that is what we should deal with, not the trade difficulties.

The trade difficulties are not particularly a Japanese American problem, but an American problem. The Vincent Chin case was not a result of trade difficulties, but rather a result of Lee Iaccoca, the United Auto Workers, General Motors propaganda, and the mentality of those who need scapegoats and of those who swallow media portrayals of Asians.

Regardless, the information passed down at the workshop was not anything new, pro-

L.A. Bar Assn. backs redress

LOS ANGELES—Delegates of the 15,000-member Los Angeles County Bar Assn., meeting in caucus Aug. 28, endorsed a resolution calling for monetary redress of \$20,000 to each survivor of the WW2 expulsion and internment. The resolution comes up for debate at the 1984 convention of the State Bar of Calif. next month in Monterey. The County Bar Assn. is expected to send more than 200 delegates to the convention—about one-third of the voting block.

Japanese American Bar Assn. of the Greater Los Angeles Area submitted the resolution.

VFW supports Nikkei rights

CHICAGO—The Veterans of Foreign Wars passed a Nisei-sponsored resolution guaranteeing civil rights during their 85th national convention here Aug. 17-24 (see Aug. 17 PC).

All 14 Nisei VFW posts in the Dept. of California cosigned the resolution. Bolstering their efforts was the "Go For Broke" pictorial exhibit displayed in the convention hotel lobby. The exhibit was arranged by the Nisei veterans of Chicago, headed by Art Morimitsu, Midwest director of Go For Broke, Inc.

In the resolution, the VFW pledges that it will "continue to protect the civil rights and constitutional guarantees of all Americans, so that rights of citizenship will never depend on race or ancestry."



Popular lecturer—"Pau Hana" author Ron Takaki with program director Lia Shigemura.

posals for action were simplistic ("We have to get to know the Japanese better"), and the questions that were asked (within a very structured format) were answered in a superficial manner.

Besides inclusion of cultural events and a need to define more closely Japanese American culture and identity, we need to develop community organizers so that we, as a community, can help define our contributions to the greater American society, record them, and pass this knowledge on to our children.

Participatory workshops (rather than lectures from "experts") dealing with identity, harassment, community organizing, fundraising from sources outside the community, and networking with other communities would have been extremely helpful. By involving participants within the workshops, valuable skills could have been learned.

Nikkei, I have noticed, like to observe rather than participate, and because of that do not learn skills in group management or even the most basic of skills—arguing a position. These are essential qualities for a leader.

Delegates and alternates could have picked up valuable ideas, tactics, motivation, inspiration—all of which could be used effectively on the local chapter level.

More than a Beach

While everything ran smoothly and on time, the planning took away much of the value of having the convention in Honolulu. Hawaii is a unique state, especially for Asians. Building on the remains of a colonial economy (with tourism, the military and *pakalolo* [marijuana] now dominating the economy instead of sugar or pineapple), Hawaii has managed to maintain a multicultural and cosmopolitan face. All that was lost on the delegates who, because of scheduling, had to spend so much of the time in Waikiki with its highrises, haole, and Japanese tourists. More time should have been spent with the "locals."

JACL, together with its Asian American brothers and sisters, is in a position to define, revise, and create what it is to be Asian American. If we do not address this issue, JACL and other Asian organizations will be rendered meaningless. We will have only the media to define for us what it means to be Asian American, and judging by such movies as "Indiana Jones," "Gremlins" and "Sixteen Candles," the future looks pretty bleak. We cannot let the media choose for us. We can be victimized again, or we can take positive steps. Hawaii, with its diversity, would have been a good place to start.

We also have to let go of traditions which hinder our growth, especially in the areas of racism and sexism, while at the same time creating new ones to help us develop our potential—whether we are 5 or 85 years old. There is always time to grow.

A convention should, at the very least, motivate people to act, offer opportunities to the general membership to learn skills which can be used on the local level, and acquire information about various issues relevant to the objectives of the organization.

The leadership did not inspire the grassroots. Maybe it is time for the grassroots to inspire the leadership.

Again, I do not intend to demean anyone. Any comments would be welcomed. Perhaps, with an open dialogue, the 1986 convention could be the best of all. On to Chicago—we have two years to prepare!

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People

Education

After 30 years in the industry, Cleveland JACLER Nobuyuki Nakajima decided on an early retirement from B.F. Goodrich Co., Akron, Ohio and assumes a new career as of Sept. 1, professor of polymer engineering at the Univ. of Akron. Besides teaching and research, he will assist in revitalizing the regional economy in cooperation with government, industry and the university.

Sam K. Shimomura, Pharm. D., has been awarded the Joseph M. Long Award for Excellence in Teaching by the UC San Francisco School of Pharmacy. Shimomura is associate clinical professor and vice chair of the division of clinical pharmacy. Since 1980 he has been in charge of the

school's program on the UC Irvine campus and at Long Beach Memorial Hospital, where fourth-year students perform their clerkships.

Lorraine Okami, instructor in cosmetology at Honolulu Community College, was among 12 educators presented the Regents Medal for excellence in teaching and distinguished service from the Univ. of Hawaii Foundation recently.

Courtroom

Ronald Sing Wai Lew was appointed to the bench of Los Angeles County superior court by Gov. George Deukmejian. Lew, 42, was first appointed to L.A. municipal court two years ago.

Sports

John Tokunaga, 23, of Yuba City, Calif., participated in the Olympic torch run July 11. His kilometer took him past the former detention center of Tule Lake. Tokunaga is a seed salesman and member of the Marysville JACL. He also ran with some 35 invited runners at the state capitol July 15.

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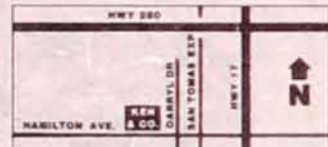
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White teacher harassed for work among Nikkei

By Richard Oyama, Hokubei Mainichi

SAN FRANCISCO—For six years, Pete Healey worked on the teaching staff of Nihon-machi Little Friends (NLF), the bilingual, bicultural daycare program which primarily serves Asian American working families. He now works for Mitsui Air International in export operations, mostly to Japan.

Pete Healey is white. Three months before he resigned from NLF, he received the first in a series of anonymous phone calls "jacking me up about working there. Then I got a letter saying that the kids shouldn't be with me. I was upset about the letter. It got menacing," Healey added. He received the last phone call a month before his resignation.

Cathy Inamasu, the NLF program director, said that she thought Healey was "ready for a change, but it wouldn't have been so soon" if not for the threats.

The first few weeks after the threats, Healey said that he felt like he was "in a vacuum. People didn't know how to handle the situation. It had never happened before. Nobody said anything about it. Then the board discussed it, a parent wrote an in-house letter and parents began to support me."

In April, a support letter signed by parents, board members and NLF staff was printed in the Hokubei Mainichi. "I don't think anything changed," Healey said. "If I remember correctly, I received one more phone call."

Healey believes that the person who was harassing him "had to be someone around, someone who knew the daily NLF schedule." Inamasu speculated, "It's just my personal opinion, but I think it's probably a Nisei or Kibei Nisei from reading the letter to Pete."

When asked about his work in the Nikkei community, Healey said, "I lived in Japan for a couple of years and wanted to do something with the Japanese community here. I took classes with Jim Okutsu in Japanese American studies at San Francisco State and got involved with the Committee Against Nihon-machi Eviction (CANE)."

"I knew parents and staff at NLF and in 1978, they were looking for a bilingual staff person, preferably a male, and I had taught music to kids in Japan."

"One of the good things about NLF is that everybody is involved in different facets of the program. I worked with the Japanese-speaking staff on curriculum, including doing translation, and helped put together the song-book that NLF sells."

After the threats, Healey grew confused and began to wonder himself whether he had any "ulterior motives" for working in the Nikkei community. He said that he felt there was a "definite historical basis" for feelings of hostility toward whites in the Japanese American and other Third World communities and therefore he tried to be careful to avoid being "presumptuous or a bogus interpreter of Third World experience."

He admitted that he still doesn't know all of his reasons for wanting to work in the Japanese American community. Inamasu also agrees that a historical basis exists for hostility toward *hakujin*, "but this was extreme, intimidating," she said.

Resistance to Hakujin

When asked whether she thought members of the Nikkei community were willing to accept whites who demonstrate a sincere com-

mitment to the community, Inamasu said, "I think so. Pete has worked for a number of community organizations — Noburukai, CANE, Japanese Community Progressive Alliance—and is identifiable. Other *hakujin* and other non-Japanese work at NLF as well. I think there's acceptance toward *hakujin*, but a lot of resistance, too. It's a hard issue."

Healey's wife is Japanese and he is concerned about how *happa* children will fit into the Nikkei community. "It is a big question that the community has to discuss," he said.

Inamasu feels most upset that the person who delivered the anonymous threats might believe that he has "accomplished what he set out to do, that he feels satisfaction and might do it again."

Healey still drops by NLF and has promised to work on the upcoming Tule Lake pilgrimage this year.

HEARING

Continued from Page 8

Yoshio Ekimoto, an Antelope Valley resident interned in Poston, detailed the economic losses suffered by his family. The property sold or stolen from the family farm totaled more than \$23,000 in 1942 dollars even when the \$692 received from the government was taken into account.

Charles Kato, representing the Washington Coalition on Redress, cited support for redress in Washington, where the state, the city of Seattle and the Seattle Public School Board have paid \$5,000 to Nikkei employees who lost their jobs during WW2. In a survey of Nikkei residents of King County, he said, over 90% of the respondents favored individual monetary

payments. Washington Gov. John Spellman and Seattle mayor Charles Royer also back redress.

Dennis Hayashi gave testimony for the Committee to Reverse the Japanese American Wartime Cases, the team of attorneys seeking to invalidate the wartime Supreme Court cases of Fred Korematsu, Minoru Yasui and Gordon Hirabayashi. He focused on evidence that government officials presented false information to the high court in order to successfully prosecute the three Nisei.

Richard Kato of the American Civil Liberties Union testified for retiring ACLU legal director Fred Okrand, who was unable to attend the hearing. Okrand was "thoroughly ashamed to see fellow Caucasians jeering

with such hatred toward Japanese Americans" during the exclusion. The ACLU supported Korematsu when he challenged the evacuation orders and now supports redress legislation.

Mas Odoi, a 442nd veteran who said he spoke for the "silent majority" of former internees, was highly critical of the CWRIC report and charged that the "intimidating tactics" of "pro-redress extremists" prevented more moderate Nikkei from being heard. He suggested a redress plan whereby former evacuees would receive credit for \$10,000 to be donated to the charity of their choice and individual payments of \$1,000, although he was willing to let Congress determine the amount. He also urged that Japanese Americans be polled to find out what their views are.

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