Civil rights policies articulated

WASHINGTON — President Reagan's re-election Nov. 6 has generated a growing concern among minority groups that the next four years will see a reversal of civil rights progress. Of particular concern are Reagan's possible appointments to the U.S. Supreme Court, should any seat fall vacant, and the policies of the U.S. Dept. of Justice. The latter has argued, for example, against affirmative action quotas before the Supreme Court.

Chief spokesman for the Administration's views in this area is William Bradford Reynolds, assistant attorney general, Civil Rights Division, Dept. of Justice.

"My position, and that of this Administration, enthusiastically endorses use of affirmative measures, such as recruitment and outreach programs, to bring increased numbers of minorities and women into the workforce, which has insisted on 'make whole' relief for all individual victims of the discriminatory practices. But we have declined, on both legal and moral grounds, to use race-conscious techniques (quotas, goals, set-asides, etc.) that assign to nonvictims of the employer's discrimination a preference based on race."

"All of the opinion polls show that the American public in both its minorities and nonminorities) overwhelmingly support race-neutrality and oppose quota remedies. Congressman Connelly has similarly committed itself to the high road of equal opportunity, rejecting explicitly all racial discomfort that can be found in proportional representation or equality of results."

And last Term, the same signal came from the Supreme Court in its celebrated decision in Firefighters Local Union v. Stotts, the Memphis firefighters' case. "In this case the Court ruled that the fire department could not lay off certain white employees with seniority rights due to keep a certain percentage of minorities on the force. The Court held that there was nothing wrong in the policy of the blacks protected from layoff who had been a victim of discrimination."

"Stotts may well represent the most significant victory for civil rights in this Nation in a great many years—not a victory for whites or males or union members or any other discrete group in our pluralistic society, but a victory for all Americans."

"I dare to make so bold a statement because the inescapable consequence of the Stotts decision is to move government at the federal, state and local levels, across the country, in the direction of providing all citizens with a truly equal opportunity to participate."
Hwang one-act plays to premiere in Bay Area

SAN FRANCISCO—Fantasy and intrigue set in traditional and modern Japan are the themes of two new one-act plays preliminary at the American Theatre Company through Jan. 13. The plays, "The Sound of a Voice" and "The House of Sleeping Beauties," were both written by award-winning playwright David Henry Hwang.

New York Successes

The works had successful runs in New York last year. Two of Hwang's plays previously produced by the AATC were "FOB," winner of the 1981 Best Play Outer Critics Circle Award, and a sold-out production of "The Railway and the Railroad," a 1982 Drama Desk Award nominee.

RIGHTS POLICIES

Compete on merit for the benefits that our society has to offer—an opportunity that allows an individual to go as far as that person's energy, ability, enthusiasm, and not be hemmed in by the artificial allotment given to his group in the form of a quota...

"...the use of race in an effort to restructure society along lines that better represent someone's preconceived notions of how our limited educational and economic resources should be allocated among the many groups in our pluralistic society necessarily forecloses opportunities to those having the misfortune—solely by reason of skin color—to be members of a group whose allotment has already been filled."

"...I would submit to you that the humanitarian practice of era justifica the effects—all the effects of prior discrimination. And it does so without infringing on the legal rights of innocent employees."

"The Sound of a Voice" features Randy Nakano and Diana Tanaka in a story of a woman who hunts down a man he believes is a witch, only to fall in love with him.

"The House of Sleeping Beauties" is based on a short story about a bizarre brothel where women are kept in a drug-induced sleep. The play stars Amy Hill and Hiroshi Kashikashi. Both plays are directed by Christine Yagi.

 Curtain time is 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, and 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, at People's Theatrical Production Council's "Theatre on the Road," a 1982 Drama Desk Award nominee.

Council to hear Asian mental health concerns

SACRAMENTO—A state advisory council is holding a series of six public hearings to gather information on the nature of Asian Pacific American mental health needs, announced Allan Seid of Palo Alto, the body's chair. California Citizens Advisory Council's Ad Hoc Committee on Asian Pacific American Mental Health Issues is a 15-member body that advises the governor, the legislature, and the state department of mental health.

The committee will hear experiences of the APA community in obtaining mental health services and listen to recommendations for effective delivery systems.

The first hearing was held in Los Angeles Nov. 16. Future hearings are scheduled for San Diego, Dec. 7; Sacramento, Jan. 17; Merced-Fresno, Feb. 1; San Francisco-Oakland, Feb. 24; and San Jose, Feb. 25.

For information, call the council office, (916) 323-8305, or Dr. Seid, (415) 327-1666.

For the Record

In the Nov. 9 PC Henry Gosho's title for the U.S. pavilion at Tsu­kuba Expo was incorrect. Gosho is Special Asst. to Ambassador James J. Needham, Commissioner General, United States Pa­vilion, Japan International Ex­position, Tsukuba 1985.

Reward offered in kidnapping case

BERKELEY, Calif.—Friends and family of a UC Berkeley student who disappeared Nov. 4 while jogging are offering $5,000 for information leading to her return. Missing is Roberta "Bibi" Lee, who was last seen being dragged toward a van by a heavy-set white male near Monterey Blvd. in Oak­land. A witness was able to iden­tify Lee from flyers posted in Red­wood Regional Park, where Lee is reported to have vanished. The sighting has been confirmed by tracking dogs who followed Lee's scent for 100 feet in the area.

The missing Lee was seen struggling with is described as white, 40 to 42 years old, with a bloated facial appearance, beer belly, unkempt curly-brown collar-length hair, beard and mustache, and wearing a tan sleeveless t-shirt and tan pants.

Lee is 21 years old, 5 foot 6 in­ches tall, 151 pounds, with black shoulder-length hair. She was wearing black-and-white striped shorts, a dark shirt and running shoes.

The van they were traveling near is described as a golden metallic brown Dodge, Ford or Chevrolet with smoked windows on the rear doors and no windows along the side behind the driver's seat.

Those who have information regarding the kidnapping should contact Berkeley Police Dept. nomi­nally detail, (415) 644-6855; the 24-hour dept. number, 644-6745; or the Friends of Bibi Lee network, 546-1255.

Washington announced that the 10th Battalion and the 42nd Regimental Combat Team, she decided to tell their story in­stead.

Her research, begun in 1978, comprised more than 300 individ­ual interviews in Hawaii, major cities on the mainland, and in Buryes, France.

In May 1982 the first of her series on the "Liberators of Bru­yeres" was published in "Bungei Shunju" magazine, a prestigious monthly with a circulation of a million readers.

At the dinner in Buryes received a plaque from the National JACL, a plaque and a scroll from Company K Club, and a certificate of appreci­ation for Go For Broke, the company K Club plans to circul­ate videotapes of the testimonial among its members who were un­able to attend.

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**Community Affairs**

LOS ANGELES — “Can’t Stop the Beat!” — a dance party featuring the rock-n-roll band Use a Guitar. Go to Prison — will be held Saturday, Dec. 8, to benefit East Wind Magazine. Happy hour begins at 8 p.m., with music from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Downtown Dance Studio, 929 E. 2nd St. Advance tickets are $5 and can be obtained by calling Richard Katsuda, 680-3729. Tickets at the door are $7. East Wind is a semi-annual publication covering the politics and culture of Asian Americans.


Shogun Santa Children’s Parade begins 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 2, in Little Tokyo. Children will march, dance and sing along 2nd and 1st Sts., ending at Japanese Village Plaza. Santa will hand out toys to all children as he is carried on a mikoshi.

SAN MARINO, Calif. — Mark Sasaki, president of Financial Planning Consultants, Inc., conducts a two-part workshop on personal financial planning at 200 Mission St., Suite 100. Participants may choose between Tuesday evening sessions, Dec. 4 and 11, 7-10 p.m., or Saturday, Dec. 8 and 15, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Reservations required. Cost is $125 per individual or $175 per couple. Information: (818) 799-5611.

SAN FRANCISCO: The Assn. of Chi­ nese Teachers (TACT) offers a 1985 calendar of photographs, entitled “Chinese Women of America, Past and Present.” The calendars are available from TACT Curriculum Project, 764A Ninth Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118. Cost is $5.95, including postage and handling.

Nisei Widowed Group holds its monthly meeting Dec. 2 at Mrs. Yuri Moriwaki from 2 p.m. In­ formation: Yuri Moriwaki, Oakland, 482-3388; Elsie Chung, San Francisco, 221-6368.

Nihonmachi Little Friends holds its annual Christmas arts and crafts fair Dec. 1, at 3011 Bush St. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information: 922-8080.

HAYWARD, Calif. — About 600 peo­ ple attended the open house cere­ mony of Eden Losen Terrace on Nov. 3. The project is a 100 unit facility for low-income elderly and handicapped sponsored by East Bay Jersi Housing, Inc., and Eden Housing, Inc.

SEATTLE — Northwest Asian Am­ erican Theatre presents a benefit party at the Atrium, 503 Sixth Ave. S., on New Year’s Eve, featuring the music of Desert Wolf and Tsutakawa. There will be bars d’ocues, sushi and party favors. Dona­tion is $70 in advance, $25 at door. Information: Ed Locke, 281-8748.

Asian Pacific Women’s Caucus sponsors an Asian Santa Claus in the International District, with whom children may have their picture taken for $2.50. Santa appears at Wing Luke Memorial Museum, Saturday, Dec. 15, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Information: 522-8080.

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — “Go for Broke” and “Yankee Samurai” photo exhibits are on display at the Parents Assn. Gallery in the student union of the University of Maryland from Dec. 2-7 and Jan. 7-18. Hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday; noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. For holiday hours Dec. 22 to Jan. 6, call 454-2801.

HONOLULU — In cooperation with the Hawaii International Film Festi­ val, the U.S. Park Service is making available the Arizona Memorial Vis­i tors’ Center Theatre for showings of “Farewell to Manzanar” and “Nisei Soldier” on Monday, Dec. 3. This is the first time the Arizona Memorial Theater has shown any film to the public other than its documentary of the bombing Pearl Harbor.

AMSTERDAM, Holland — “Life in the Fast Lane,” Lane Nishikawa’s one­ man show, will be presented at the International Theatre Festival at De Bonte Theater beginning Dec. 7.

**Film raises $10,000 in So. California**

GARDENA, Calif. — Donations received for the Southern Califor­ nia debut of Steven Okazaki’s doc­ umentary “Unfinished Business” are expected to reach $10,000 ac­ cording to Glenn Oshima, treas­ urer for the steering committee that organized the screening.

On Oct. 6 at the Gardena High School auditorium, an audience of 900 saw the film, which documents the W22 internment of Califor­ nia and the legal battle of three Nisei-Fred Korematsu, Gordon Hirabayashi and Minoru Yasui—who challenged the gov­ ernment’s actions. The donations, which are still coming in, will help offset the cost of distribution of the film.

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**Chi­cago endorses monetary redress**

CHICAGO — By unanimous ac­ tion, the city council of Chicago on Oct. 31 adopted a resolution endor­ sing the findings and recom­ mendations of the Commission on Warfare Time Internment and De­ nial of Civilians. The council also urged that “all legislative bod­ ies in the United States enact similar resolutions urging Con­ gress to redress the wrongs in­ flicted on Japanese Americans during World War II.”

The resolution was originally introduced by Alderman David Orr, representing the 49th ward on Chicago’s far north side. In his testimony, presented Oct. 19, before the council’s Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, Orr stated that, “Their [Japanese Americans’] story is poignant and sometimes painful. My goal is not to reopen these kinds of wounds but rather to face up to a sad chapter in American history, recognize our mistakes and re­ dedicate ourselves to the protection of our civil liberties.”

It was also important that the city council address this issue, Orr said, “I’m convinced that the government, state and federal, must accept responsibility for the protection of civil liberties. We cannot ignore the fact that we have done any adequate job in office while at the same time other branches of government neglect or infringe on the rights of any citizen. Many of us may wish that someone else would handle such controversial matters, but we all share mutual responsibility.”

In concluding his remarks, Orr stated the importance of immediate action on the resolution. “It is important that we provide a clear message to the 90th Congress when it convenes in January of 1985.”
There are voices which blatantly trivialize the meaning and nobility of the citizen's guarantees that are enshrined in the Bill of Rights to our United States Constitution. These are the voices which belong to people speaking against the current effort of the Nikkei to exercise a right which appears in the very first amendment—the mighty "First Amendment" to the Constitution—which preserved the right to "petition the government for a redress of grievances." Redress? Not apology.

Let us review precisely why.

In the act of uprooting some 115,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry and their parents in 1942, summarily shipping them off to incarceration in barbed-wire camps, and in the course thereof disrupting communities, homes, families, and individuals, life as well as inflicting losses of hard-earned savings and properties—all under the nefariously unbridled cloud of impinged disloyalty (even as their sons, husbands, brothers, etc. defended this land against the enemy in the Pacific as well as in the European Theatre)—the entire panoply of sacred rights guaranteed to all Americans and residents was trampled upon. Just to list a few, as a reminder: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures . . . Fourth Amendment"; due process of law, "equal protection of the laws" (Fourteenth Amendment); apply these violations by multiplying the lives involved over 115,000 innocent souls whose only crime was being of "wrong" race. In the United States of America.

In the distorted view of some "Americans," all this is to be overlooked, excused, and no rectifying gesture is necessary. Because and these "bêtes" take on many forms of misleading—not to mention racist generalizations. Many of you have heard them: "The camps were not that unpleasant, I've visited some and found them to be quite nice. You were free to come and go anywhere you pleased. "All your farms, personal belongings, crops were taken care of and you were given credit for your accounts, you lost nothing." You were helped, benefited, by the evacuation being dispersed from your ghettos. (Try selling real estate to the Italian American community here in South Philadelphia, or to the Polish American community in Milwaukee, to persuade them to break up their communities.)

Let us examine instead of the tar-papered barracks in some hot (or extremely cold) god forsaken desert, you were shipped in first-class accommodations from your pre-1942 community to be housed in the Waldorf-Astoria, where you would have your call bell and room service. Would that then justify the violations of all these rights guarantees? The Constitution, the rule of law, the Constitution, the rule of law would not retract its decision in Korematsu, Hirabayashi, and Yasui. America seemed to think that "voices" would seek to foist upon us. By the way: I propose one "voice" would support another "evacuation" in order to break up the "ghettos" that can be seen in America in Los Angeles' city hall, San Francisco's Sutter, Buchanan area, and so on. Then, next to all we can work on the Italians, Poles, Ukrainians, etc., and make it a clean sweep.

Among members of Congress who have raised this redress legislation, attitudes toward the issue vary. Some agree that the WWII internment of Japanese Americans was an injustice but for some reason do not support monetary compensation. Others maintain that the internment was justified and scoff at the idea of redress.

San, Paula Hawkins (R): "While I believe that our government made a mistake by detaining Japanese Americans without cause during World War II, I also believe that monetary compensation is not appropriate.

"World War II created great hardships for almost all Americans. No monetary compensation could overcome this suffering. Monetary compensation will only exacerbate the fact that we treated these Americans with harshness."

"The proper course of action at this time is to recognize our mistake and express our understanding to those wronged by the internment decision."

Sen, Lawton Chiles (D): "It may well have been that some people have in this detention program suffered losses in terms of their homes, businesses, and income. I think it was a very unfortunate situation and no American can feel good that it happened."

"However, we have to remember that we were at war with Japan at that time, and that Japan had attacked our Navy bases in Hawaii. The President, as commander-in-chief, did what he thought was necessary to protect our national security. Moreover, that action of detention was upheld as being legal and constitutional by the Supreme Court."

"I served in the Army during the Korean War, and I know that sometimes you have to make tough decisions in the heat of battle. It may be easy to second guess those decisions years and even decades later. But I think that the decisions have to be reviewed in light of the situation at the time they were made."

"If I'm called on to vote on this issue, I certainly plan on voting the fact that we were in the middle of the biggest war in the history of mankind up until my deliberation."

Rep, Bill Chappell (D-4th): "Regarding the issue of compensation, I'm in favor of such compensation. Monetary value can be set for the damage against these people or how such action will help undo the original wrong and further protect against its recurrence."

"In light of the emotional atmosphere at the time, I am not convinced that financial compensation is appropriate or adds to the public finding and acknowledgment of error."

Rep, Bill McCollum (R-5th): "The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians) recommended monetary and other compensation for these citizens. However, such compensation would have to be authorized by the United States Congress. Under the present budgetary restraints, such compensation seems unlikely."

"However, unfortunately, and I also think there was an attempt here to destroy our democracy with all those who had to go through it, credible evidence has been presented to the Senate Committee (on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations) that the relocation was necessary and justified based on intelligence reports of espionage activities that had been planned by the Japanese government and a number of Japanese Americans."

"What, if any, action the Subcommittee will take on the bills will be decided beyond the holding of these hearings is not yet clear."

The only Florida Congressman to support a resolution during the 85th Congress was Democratic Sen. Edward H. Young who introduced an amendment to the Bill of Rights which would guarantee the rights of African Americans. The resolution was adopted by the House and Senate, and signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson.

Florida Delegation

Elected representatives reveal misconceptions

Harry N. Kazuo (D), chairman of the House Committee on Claims, said: "We are here to review the history of the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. The purpose of this hearing is to provide a forum for discussion and to ensure that all pertinent evidence is considered before any recommendation is made.

"The internment of Japanese Americans during World War II was a tragic event in our nation's history. It was a violation of the constitutional rights of American citizens. The courts have ruled that the internment was unconstitutional."

"As a member of Congress, I am committed to ensuring that justice is done for those who were wronged by this act. We must not repeat the mistakes of the past."

"We must ensure that our laws protect the rights of all Americans, regardless of race or ethnicity. We must also ensure that our laws are fair and just."

"The internment of Japanese Americans was a gross violation of our constitutional rights. We must ensure that this does not happen again."

"Thank you for your time and attention. I am confident that we will be able to come to a fair and just resolution of this matter."

"We will continue to work on this issue until justice is done for all Americans."

"Thank you."

Papers for South America Convention

SAN FRANCISCO—A call for academic and professional papers regarding the contribution and role of persons of Japanese ancestry in their native countries was issued by Charles Kubokawa, board member, Pan American Nikkei Assn. The papers will be presented at the 3rd biennial Pan American Nikkei Convention to be held July 25-29, 1985, in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Harry Honda, general manager/operations of the Pacific Citizen, is planning to submit a paper on the population of the Japanese in the U.S. and a brief immigrant history—a report he made orally in Peru on short notice at the last JACL convention. Early submission of papers will ensure their translation into Spanish and Portuguese, Kubokawa announced.

In the meantime, Japanese Americans who attended the first convention in Mexico City in 1981 and the second convention in Lima, Peru, in 1983, have received flyers about the third gathering and what the tourist to Brazil should anticipate.

Convention arrangements for the JACL/Pan American convention group are being coordinated by George Kondo, deputy JACL secretary, JACL headquarters, 1768 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

Masahiko Chikahisa, head of the Brazil conference organizing committee, also extended an official invitation during the JACL National Convention in Hawaii PANA President Carlos Kasuga of Mexico City similarly issued an invitation during the recent Sao Cali. karaoke invitation contest in Little Tokyo.

About 100 Nikkei from the U.S. went to the previous PANA conferences, enjoying the hospitality of host families and discussing matters connected with the past, present and future of Nikkei communities in the Americas.
Differences between Nikkei and Chinese Americans

by Glen S. Fukushima

Americans readily admit they don't have a corner on the world's best athletes. In their search for excellence they import baseball players from Mexico and the Caribbean, basketball players from Yugoslavia and in at least one case, Africa, and soccer-style kickers from everywhere to convert field goals for football teams.

But Japanese chauvinism and xenophobia surged to the surface recently when a young 28-year-old American Samoan named Sal- eva Aatisone came close to winning the World Grand Slam Tournament. Performing as Ko- nishiki, he scored victories over assorted stars of the sumo world and finally finished second. The fact that he weighs 215 kilograms, which according to my calculation is in the neighborhood of 470 pounds, may have had something to do with his success.

And in performance, accord- ing to press reports, starred some strongly hostile feelings. One former grand champion was quoted as saying Aatisone's vic- tories were a "shame for Japan.

A sumo writer said that if a for- eign comes grand champion, "sumo tournaments should be called off." A magazine reported that a "Stop Konishiki" move- ment is gaining momentum.

What seems to irk the fans is that Aatisone-Konishiki, unlike the Hawaiian Takayama who moved to Japan, intentionally made no attempt to make sumo a long-term commitment. He is re- ported to be thinking of going back to Hawaii and opening a supermarket after his sumo ca- reer is ended.

The darker side of sumo has been revealed by the Ato- nose Konishiki fias. Some have sug- gested he ought to be intentionally injured during practice sessions. Others have said his chunky chun- nabi, the high-calorie dish that makes up a large part of the sumo wrestlers' diet, sugar- laced with sugar to make him sus- ceptible to diabetes.

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But Japanese chauvinism and xenophobia surged to the surface recently when a young 28-year-old American Samoan named Sal- eva Aatisone came close to winning the World Grand Slam Tournament. Performing as Ko- nishiki, he scored victories over assorted stars of the sumo world and finally finished second. The fact that he weighs 215 kilograms, which according to my calculation is in the neighborhood of 470 pounds, may have had something to do with his success.

And in performance, accord- ing to press reports, starred some strongly hostile feelings. One former grand champion was quoted as saying Aatisone's vic- tories were a "shame for Japan.

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Mountain Plains wins powerful ally in Senate

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Highlighting the meeting of Mountain Plains District Council was the banquet held Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Classic Hotel. Sen. Pete Domenici (R) was speaker and, according to the New Mexico JACL newsletter, those who listened "will never forget what happened."

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**Calendar**

- **Dec 2 (Sunday)**
  - San Diego—Inusr dir. Kona Kids Club, Shelter Dr. 4pm, info: 613-8152. Early bird reg.: 03-27-73.
  - Cincinnati—Daytime—Inusr dir. Mad- 
    daly Regen. 1700 River Rd. 4pm, Jim 
    Shimerock speaker, res. by Nov. 25, Frances 
    Tejo 021-0097.
  - **Dec 5 (Thursday)**
    - Marina—Xmas pty, Burton Chase Pk, 
      public gift exchange, 7pm.
  - **Dec 6 (Friday)**
    - Scrub-a-dub—Sit up At, Ebbin- 
  - **Dec 7 (Saturday)**
    - San Diego—Inusr dir. Royal Mandarin Inn, 
      Northgate Shopping Ctr, Tenisco 4pm, 
      res: Nell Nagash 499-1666.
  - **Dec 8 (Saturday)**
    - Los Angeles—Inusr dir. Instrum- 
      ents, 1st Ave St. 4pm, info: 28.
  - **Dec 9 (Saturday)**
    - Washington—Machinists. Bradley Hills 
      Presby Ch.
  - **Dec 10 (Sunday)**
    - San Jose—New Year’s Eve dance, JACL 
      dance club.
  - **Dec 11 (Monday)**
    - Berkeley—New Year’s Eve dance, ECL 
      Cerro Comunity Ctr, 7pm, info: 28-6277.
  - **Jan 13 (Friday)**
    - Monterey Peninsula—Inusr dir. Rancho 
      Club, Sammy Dc, 83-9, info: 28-6277.
  - **Jan 20 (Friday)**
    - San Diego—Inusr dir. Instrum- 
      ents, 1st Ave St. 4pm, info: 28.
  - **Jan 27 (Friday)**
    - Monterey Peninsula—Inusr dir. Rancho 
      Club, 83-9, info: 28-6277.

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**A Holiday Gift Suggestion**

A Holiday Gift Suggestion . . .

By Ichiro M. Muraue, Design by Michael Nakayama

A Project of Visual Communications/Asian American Studies Central, Inc.

Published by Little Tokyo Centennial Committee

A selection from over 65,000 images from a variety of sources, including the 26,000 housed in the Visual Communications archives of the early 1900s, the war years and contemporary period . . . A kind of medley of images and mirror of Little Tokyo’s past. Anyone who has lived in Little

Tokyo or who has friends who grew up in the greater Los Angeles area will discover a family in one of more of the pages . . . 24 pages of text; selected bibliography . . . A pictorial companion to Pacific Citizen’s LITTLE TOKYO LIFE series.

**Mountain Plains DC**

Paul Shinkawa, Texas, governor; Betty Waki, Houston, vice governor Texas; San Koshi, Ft. Lupton, vice governor Colorado; Steve Hasegawa, Omaha, vice governor Nebraska; Randolph Shibli, Albuquerque, vice governor New Mexico; Sharon Ishii-Jordan, Omaha, secretary; Miki Kajio, Miki, treasurer.

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**PSWDC Trust Fund considers 7 community projects**

TORRANCE, Calif.—Seven applications to the PSWDC Trust Fund received endorsement from the Pacific Southwest District Council during its Nov. 18 session at the Civic Library.

The fund board, chaired by Roy Nishikawa, is considering applications from the following JACL chapters:

San Diego—Pacific Citizen typesetter fund; San Fernando Valley—NCCJ Brotherhood Camp, Assn. of Asian Pacific American Artists, Koreisha Christmas Project; West Los Angeles—Generation Film’s Little Tokyo Stroke Project; and Gardena Valley—"Unfinished Business" film project.

In other actions, the PSWDC approved a supplemental budget to cover ‘85 programs for the women’s concerns committee and ethnic concerns; contributed the district’s share of the national membership contest rebate to the district council contest prize fund, and voted to meet Feb. 24 at a site to be designated by the co-host Pan-Asian and Downtown L.A. chapters.

Elizabeth Szu of the South Bay Chinese Assn. was introduced. The JACL videotape, “A Tale of Nisei Retirement,” produced for the Aging and Retirement Committee, was also shown.

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Scholarships Available for Members Only?

By THE BOARD:

by Miki Himeno

At the first National Board meeting of this biennium, newly elected President Frank Sato presented a committee report of goals and objectives, based fundamentally on the JACL constitution and regulations, which we are pleased to announce.

Several programs are optional. Also considered at this meeting were nominations for chairpersons of the committees that will carry out the activities of the National JACL. In the interest of economy and efficiency, the student appointments of these chairpersons were approved. The sooner the committee chairs are selected, the sooner these goals can be met.

The Women’s Concerns Committee under Irene Hirano is already hard at work, continuing efforts begun last biennium. A resource binder is being collated to help this and the newly formed project is soon to be announced.

Aging and Retirement will be led by Ford Kuramoto in Los Angeles, co-chairing with his mentor, Pat Okura in Washington, D.C. They will be seeking grant monies to carry out a Seattle research project. Hopefully, Michael Past has continued his work, which will continue with the film project of the last biennium, to facilitate its packaging and distribution.

Jan Yoshiwara of Tacoma, Washington, has been named Scholarship chairperson, in keeping with the new rotation plan to center the committee in different locations within budgetary constraints. Lori Inagaki will chair a headquarters sub-committee.

My major concern at present is the projected change in policy for the heretofore non-controversial scholarship program. A proposal for this change has been under consideration for some time and, in keeping with the spirit of the approved plan of most National Board members, I find little solace in this being referred to a committee for decision.

Don’t Limit to JACLers

I believe strongly that the scholarship program should remain open to the larger Nikkei community that they should not be denied the opportunity to enter this award competition, just as no one seeking the help of JACL is denied because of non-membership. Or is this trend bit of the direction JACL is headed in? I hope not. Anyone understanding the scholarship procedures in high schools and why Japanese American students specifically need to be recognized, will surely share my position. Mika Hiramatsu, Youth Council chair, points out that college students are not the only people who may buy a textbook. Is JACL to serve only the rich and able? How do other students feel? What about the donors? Would they like to see scholarships pulled back and limited to members only?

At the national convention we empowered a committee for new leadership development and recruitment. By requiring membership one year instead of two, the committee would be terminating the one true outreach and public relations program. It’s lone out here, and they remain a minority dissenting vote on this matter.

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About a third of Asian American families, less among the third and fourth among first-generation, are troubled child despite what the casual observer may see. For an emotional problem, the parents must seek psychiatric help for their child.

"The call was from the parents of a 15-year-old, third-generation Japanese girl who, for the third time, had attempted to take her life by way of a drug overdose. It is clear that the girl is actively suicidal and may very well need psychiatric hospitalization. In fact, that should have been clear two attempts ago. Yet, with this call, the girl’s parents are for the first time seeking psychiatric help for their child. Perhaps what is most unusual about this case is that there is nothing spectacularly unusual about it. According to Tokaji, it is not at all uncommon for Asian parents to postpone seeking psychotherapeutic help for an emotionally troubled child, despite what may be obvious problems to the casual observer.

"To understand why, we must understand the effect of Asian culture on the lives and parenting methods of Asian adults. Because of assimilation, the influence of Asian culture and values changes among first- and second-generation Asian Americans; somewhat less among the third and fourth generation and progressively less among later generations.

"Proliferation among traditional values that Asian children are imbued with are the mores of good behavior, good posturing, academic achievement, hard work and controlling one’s destiny through industriousness.

"Conversely, expression of affection, frustrations, disappointment and other strong emotions—particularly with respect to authority figures—is discouraged, both in the home and in public," Tokaji said.

Central to these values is the concept of “face”: esteem, both personal and communal. A hallmark of what allows a community to comply with and meet these cultural and community standards. Failure to do so creates a loss of face, i.e., shame. Further, losing face affects the individual's family as much as the individual, and, in turn, the individual's community to a lesser or greater extent. Thus, the individual that gains face brings honor to his family and community network; the one that loses face casts dishonor on them.

"Unfortunately, one of the ways to lose face in the Asian community is through emotional disorders or outright psychiatric illness. Exhibiting such problems violates expected personal behavior, good posturing, academic achievement, control of destiny, et cetera. In failing these standards, the child is considered an adult, for that matter—is often viewed as jeopardizing the family’s and the community’s wellbeing, and is threatened with bringing shame upon his family," Tokaji said.

Withdrawal from School

In response, the parents, in some cases, choose to withdraw the child from school, thus complicating the child’s emotional state by denying one of the most valued social structures of child development.

"We should remember that their response—keeping the child hidden, having a family member take care of him—is not done maliciously. Quite the opposite. Such actions are often taken by more traditional Asians for their own benefit, but for the perceived benefit to the child and community-at-large.

"They feel that this is the best way to help all concerned," Tokaji said. "Asians take pride in taking care of their own.

Traditional families will seek traditional remediation for their troubled child: religion, family, involving acupuncture, herbal medicine and local community support.

But another facet in the development and progression of mental illness among Asian children and adolescents is raised in a traditional Asian household is the subtlety of initial expressions, intake. As troublesome behaviors, the child will often show or voice a complaint—often through acting-out behavior—but this may be masked by denial to occur among traditionally raised Asian children because such behavior, comparatively speaking, is considered far less acceptable among Asians.

Early generation Asian children are strongly taught never to act badly, regardless of the circumstances. If there is something wrong, they are not to express it.

"For this reason, the traditionally raised Asian child or adolescent would likely manifest a quiet withdrawal initially, which would not draw much attention.

"Later, only when the severe depression or psychosis is evident, do we recognize a problem.

"This psychosis is of a more quiet kind—not manic, excited or disruptive, but a psychosis of thought, such as paranoid ideation that, solely from outward appearances, would not be disruptive.

"Short of psychotic conditions, disturbed Asian children and adolescents manifest exhibiting social withdrawal, signs of depression and suicidality. They may have an amalgam of physical complaints, manifesting emotional disturbances as fatigue, headache, backache, gastrointestinal problems, and cardiovascular symptoms, among others," Tokaji said.

Despite indications that Western acculturated parents may perceive as symptoms of mental problems, early generation Asian American parents are unlikely to seek psychiatric help at this stage for their disturbed child.

Avoidance of Help

"There are several reasons for this attitude: Traditional Asians see little value in ‘talking’ treatment, are averse to expressing emotions and prefer to not go outside their cultural environment for help (psychiatry is relatively foreign to even modern Asian societies). Therefore, seeking the services of a psychologist, psychiatrist or psychotherapist conflicts with traditional beliefs, is inferred by others as socially unacceptable, and is only performed as a last and rather desperate recourse," Tokaji said.

This prolonged avoidance of psychiatric treatment, Tokaji believes, is directly reflected in Asian-American mental health statistics.

"As a group, Asian children, adolescents and adults are far below average when it comes to seeking psychotherapeutic treatment for emotional problems. On the surface, it would seem that they are relatively immune to mental health problems. But to get a clearer picture, you have to look at the other side of the coin: How do the diagnoses of this group and all others compare? If they were similar, it would seem that Asians have an exceptional resistance to mental illness," Tokaji said.

Disparities Found

They are, however, dissimilar. Among all groups, depression and chemical abuse rank as the most common diagnoses. Among Asians diagnosed for mental illness, mild to moderate chemical abuse disorders are not nearly as common, while major and severe psychotic illnesses are more common.

"The reason for the disparity is that traditionally raised Asians and their families postpone psychosomatic treatment for mental health disorders. They wait longer and come to us with more severe problems. As such, they tend to require more intensive and longer-term treatment than average, and the prognosis are worse," Tokaji said.

He added that one must keep in mind that the two tendencies—most common among those of traditional—that is, conservative—Asian upbringing. The greater the Occidental acculturation in successive generations, the less prominent are these influences.

Continued on Page 11
How a Newspaper Treated Two Stories

The following columns, which appeared Nov. 1 in the Oakland Tribune, concern media coverage of the recent headlines on Asian gang activity in the U.S. (see last week’s PC). The author is Tribune ombudsman William Wong.

Some racial and ethnic minority Americans distrust the press because of the way newspapers have covered news about them. Generally speaking, they criticize the press for engaging in stereotypes, for not knowing enough about their communities, for writing about them only in “bad” times—crime, conflict, disaster.

With more ethnic and racial minority journalists these days, the situation is improving slowly, but even at the Tribune, with a racially diverse newsroom that presumably is more sensitive to minority issues and judgments about the merits of a racially oriented story can—and do—occur.

Two of the most recent examples involved stories with a Chinese American subject. The poor handling of the two stories is somewhat surprising, because the Tribune over the past five years has won a reputation among some Asian Americans for being accessible and sensitive to news about them.

Last week, the Tribune sensationalized a complete story by giving it front-page prominence. The week before, it virtually ignored a story that had international implications.

Exaggerated Threat

The sensationalized story—on Oct. 26—was headlined, “Asian gangs operating in the Eastbay.” It quoted an Oakland police sergeant, Ray Chenault, who testified several days earlier to the President’s Commission on Organized Crime in New York. He told the Tribune that “the Wah Chung gang is believed to own a restaurant in Oakland, and the Hop Sing gang owns a restaurant in Emeryville.”

The sergeant said that in 1978 each member of the Hop Sing gang was “selling at least four pounds of heroin a year,” but he added that it was difficult to know how much of the Eastbay’s heroin traffic is handled by the two gangs.

As published, the six-paragraph story was irresponsible because it raised more questions than it answered, and by so doing perpetuated stereotypes of a “mysterious Chinatown” replete with long hair and opium dens.

For instance, are the restaurants that are “believed to” be and “reportedly” run by the two gangs merely fronts, or is selling heroin a crime? What criminal activities are these gangs engaged in? Is the American community, Oakland and the Eastbay threatened or victimized by these gangs? If so, in what ways? What, if anything, is being done to curb those activities?

Moreover, the story was based on Sgt. Chenault’s investigation of the two gangs in 1978—six years ago. Such old information without any current update should have been a cautionary signal to the Tribune editors. By putting this non-story on the front page, this newspaper gave it a prominence it didn’t deserve.

The intent of the story was to get on the record testimony before the commission that dealt specifically with Oakland. The Tribune didn’t publish wire service accounts of the commission’s first day of hearings (Oct. 22), at which general references were made to the connection between “new crime cartels” from Asia and Chinese fraternal organizations in Oakland and San Francisco, among other U.S. cities.

It’s no longer news that Asian American gangs exist. But if there’s a reason to write about Asian American gangs in the Eastbay, then the Tribune ought to do a thorough and independent reporting job—interviewing police, community and gang sources—rather than offer up a front-page story quoting only one person.

This newspaper has most often dealt with the killing of Henry Liu, a Chinese American writer, at his Daly City home on Oct. 15. Friends of Liu suspect a political motive because he authored a book critical of the political leadership of Taiwan. He also wrote for a San Francisco Chinatown newspaper that favors the People’s Republic of China.

There wasn’t a word about this case in the Tribune until Oct. 20, a mention of the killing should have found its way into the Tribune earlier because some Eastbay readers are interested in the continuing local ramifications of the long-standing international dispute between Taiwan and China.

On Oct. 22, the Tribune appeared to trivialize his funeral by running a photo of his funeral procession and a caption with the inappropriately playful headline, “Henry Liu’s adieu.” In addition, the caption was muddled because it didn’t make clear the possible political motives.

The effect of making something out of nothing (the gang story) and nothing out of something (the Liu story) was to confuse readers who thought the Tribune showed good judgment on stories on sensitive minority issues.

442nd film awarded

CHICAGO—Loni Ding, producer, director of the award-winning documentary “Nisei Soldier” was awarded the silver medal at the Chicago International Film Festival Sunday, Nov. 18, at the Midland Hotel.

“Nisei Soldier Standard Bearer for an Exiled People” is the story of Japanese Americans who volunteered from internment centers during World War II and received worldwide recognition for their bravery. The film, released nationally over public television, also depicts the “evacuation” of Japanese Americans from their West Coast homes to the ten inland centers. Numerous Nisei veterans who served in the military intelligence service in Europe and in the European conflict with the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team relate their experiences of fighting and the book together within

Continued on Page 11

Manzanar photos re-released

FRESNO, Calif. — Though best known as a nature photographer, the late Ansel Adams once delved into a subject that had serious political ramifications. The 1942 internment of Japanese Americans.

In the fall of 1943, Adams visited the Manzanar internment camp at the invitation of Ralph Merrill, the camp director. Working without financial compensation, he recorded on film the day-to-day life in the camp.

The following year, he displayed 204 photographs of Manzanar at the New York Museum of Modern Art. The exhibit closed in three weeks due to negative reaction and political pressure. The 112-page book he wrote to accompany the photos, entitled “Born Free and Equal: The Story of Loyal Japanese Americans,” was removed from circulation for some time, but eventually bought nearly every copy.

Portraits of Individuals

Moved by the human story unfolding in the encirclement of desert and mountains and by the wish to identify my photography in some connection with the tragic momentum of the times, I came to Manzanar with my camera,” wrote Adams in the preface. As the title suggests, Adams strove to portray the internees he met as unique individuals, in direct contradiction to the anti-Japanese propaganda of that period.

The book begins with an excerpt from the 14th Amendment, which guarantees equal protection under the law to all citizens, and includes portraits of Japanese Americans of all ages, backgrounds, and occupations. Adams concludes by declaring, “We must be certain that, as the rights of the individual are the most sacred elements of our society, we will not allow prejudice, vengeance, hatred, and racial antagonism to cloud the principles of universal justice and mercy.”

During the short-lived exhibit, museum officials removed many photos and portions of text from the book, including the 14th Amendment.

Through the efforts of Emily Medvec, a fine arts photographer and former pupil of Adams, 50 of the Manzanar photos are being displayed in a new "Born Free and Equal" exhibit at the Fresno Metropolitan Museum of Art, History and Science through Jan. 30, after which it will travel to other museums across the country.

"Ansel fought to make the collection public, to make noise about it, but it didn’t happen in his lifetime," said Medvec. "I think he’d feel good to know that ‘Born Free and Equal’—and the moment in history it represents—hasn’t been forgotten.

Book Being Reissued

Medvec also published a condensed version of Adams’ book with a new introduction and 50 photos from the original. (Because of restrictions on reproduction rights, the pictures are much smaller than in the 1944 edition.)

She learned of the existence of the prints and negatives, which Adams had donated to the Library of Congress in 1966, from Adams’ son and daughter-in-law, who read about them.

Upon seeing the photos and reading Adams’ account of the Manzanar visit, Medvec “knew that America had to see this collection.” She was so inspired, in fact, that she was able to put the show and the book together within seven weeks.

She was also frightened by the attempts to censor Adams’ works. “Could this happen again?” she asked.

Adams’ Manzanar photos have seldom been seen in public. Selected prints from the collection were once shown with photos taken by famed photographer Toyo Miyatake, who was interned in Manzanar, in 1978 “Two Views of Manzanar” exhibit in Los Angeles.


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LITTLE TOKYO LIFE (No. 43)

by Harry Honda

Long Beach / Signal Hill

Li'l Tokoons (as some L.A. Nisei used to refer to themselves) remember Long Beach best for that 1933 earthquake, in which about 100 people were killed and many injured. About a half-dozen Japanese names were reported in the injured list. Founds as American Colony in 1881 and renamed because of its long beachfront, it thrived as a seaside community. Long Beach to the north was farming country till the Signal Hill oil boom of 1923. The gentle slopes of the hill (in the area then known as Burnett) flourished with flower farms till the oil boom. Its harbor and tidelands to the west were dredged about the same time, ushering the modern era and another home for the U.S. Navy.

The Issei community in the 1910s was substantial as evidenced by the presence of the Japanese American Assn. office at 2157 Eml, the same structure which had the Nagahama boarding house and Mac’s Keian (employment agency). Issei stores (Yamato, Tomomatsu, Hidote, Ten-ten), cafes, produce and fishmongers operated in the center of town and along the Paseo (ocean front).

There were over 50 Japanese families—each with an RFD box number in Burnett or Long Beach—in the 1910s farming or growing flowers around and on top of Signal Hill. With the boom, the hill community became a city in 1924. Some of these families moved further east—to Orange County.

By 1950 the Nihonjinkai office went eastward, near Signal Hill to Molino Ave. by the S.P. train tracks. The Long Beach Gakuen was also there. The main Issei-run stores, by now, were dealing in Japanese art goods. There were Issei consensuaries on the Pike, many eateries (chop shop and cafe), over 50 grocery and produce stands (many on E. Broadway), and a number of business and farmer associations. It seems Lily Oka- ra’s and Yayoi Ono’s father (Mr. Arikawa) was the only Issei insurance man in town. Nisei florist and community leader Frank Ishii operated at 120 E. 5th and 11th.

We are about to conclude this year-long series with a segment on the newcomers in our midst and then an assessment of what’s to come in Little Tokyo—as the toils of another Holiday Issue come to bear.

GARDENA ADD—On file are minutes of the GARDENA City Council for Feb. 17, 1942, furnished by City Clerk May Devon upon request of councilman Mas Fukui whose resolution of Oct. 26, 1942, had invalidated a 40-year-old ordinance requiring the general removal to consume away from serving military alien aliens without delay from the city during the duration of the War. In 1942, with the ouster of Japanese from Terminal Island earlier in the week, the wholesale influx of Issei (and serving military alien aliens) and their American-born families into the area bounded by Rosecrance, Normandie, 146th and Western, and particularly the premises of 1555 W. 145th St. with stiff protests from neighbors. While the Gardena Valley JACL (Fred Ikeguchi was then president) informed the city it was helping “evacuees” (so identified in the 1942 minutes) from the prohibited areas by offering use of the Buddhist church at 1631 Haldale and the Japanese school at 223-157th St., Gardena mayor Wayne Bogart called for the U.S. government to control the influx since no city ordinance could stop it, then requested the county health department to check whether the building at 1463 W. St. was fit for human habitation and whether an unlimited number could be housed at the church hall and school.

All this transpired two days before E.O. 9066 was promulgated, when the Roosevelt administration and the U.S. government put into motion the “greatest wartime mistake” and threw out the Bill of Rights in the name of military necessity. The courts sustained this ploy as a constitutional exercise of presidential powers.

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Standing and greeting all a member of the committee, get credit for their work. Noji had community leaders also have a role in the decision-making process, and they were in agreement. Rabaya said:

"I was resolved.

Wong's comment was that "women, in general, do not take leadership enough. They wait to be allowed to take leadership." On the other hand, Rabaya said, women who attempt to "be stronger" to compensate for the stereotypes are often stigmatized and perceived as aggressive. She suggested that community leaders also have a responsibility to bring other people into the decision-making process.

Rabaya and Noji also noted that Asian women often play key roles in community affairs but do not get credit for their work. Noji had an experience in which "I've been directing this major project, I was the chair, and here was someone, a member of the committee, standing and greeting all of these invited guests by the door, and I was setting up the food!"

One of the difficulties in the Asian Pacific community, Hoikoyama stated, is that men and women differ in their ability to articulate problems...unless we can get beyond that to the point where we can talk to each other without feeling as though we're insulting each other, it becomes very difficult.

Before entering the corporate or political arena, Tan suggested, women should be aware of the "rules by which we play," as for values that many Asians grow up with. Wong, said, "sometimes...we have our values, and we should be up front. But at other times, we need to put our values in the back seat and use white values.

In either case, one need not compromise one's values, said Hay. "There you have to be part of the system, but you've got to know what you want to change. If that's not clear in your mind...you could become co-opted, or you could be totally alienated!"

"Your Time Will Come"

Hoshizaka also stressed the importance of "saying when you are and where you want to go." Although one must "play the game" even with those "who do not like you either as an Asian, or as a person who's a liberal, or whatever," she said, there will always be a point where you are in command and then you can assert your principles.

The group had been in agreement as to the need to look at the approaches used by other people—men, whites, role models, peers, and others—and experiment, and to ultimately decide what works best for oneself.

A workshop on "Cultural Values As Strengths" was conducted by Kenyon Chan, clinical psychologist.

According to the audience, Asian Americans are: shy, smart, subtle, non-dynamic, status-quo-oriented, responsible, group-oriented, non-risk-taking, trustworthy, humble, education-oriented, success-oriented, organized, foreign community-oriented, hard-working, practical, parochial, and materialistic; take orders and do not lack social skills—and if not American-born—English skills; and have a sense of cultural pride.

Agreement was not unanimous on every point.

Kawagoe said that one possible response to this apparent disparity between cultural traits and leadership requirements is "to take the traits that we feel are important and to develop new styles in terms of how those that are in leadership positions should act...changing, perhaps, the image of what leadership means."

Referring to the 'negative' traits, Chan emphasized that "none of these things are irrefutable. There are ways of changing."

There are ways of evolving. Leadership is a process of individual development. He also theorized that Asian Americans take risks more readily within their own communities than in the non-Asian one.

Chung expanded on that idea: "Japanese Americans...have been encouraged enough, have become more homogenized within themselves as well as homogenized with the outer society. That makes it easier to organize your own community and to bridge the gap with the other communities, whereas to be effective within the Korean community requires so many skills that are hindrances to us in the outside community."

His conclusion was that "it's true that to be more effective leaders means that you have to become—I hate to use this word—but more assimilated into the mainstream. How do you do that without losing your own cultural identity? It's a matter for each of us to resolve."

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