Matsunaga introduces redress bill with 25 co-sponsors

WASHINGTON—A Senate bill calling for redress to Japanese Americans interned by the federal government during WW2 was introduced on May 2 by Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) with 25 other senators as co-sponsors (see list below).

The bill, S 1053, is virtually identical to S 2116, the redress bill which was introduced by Matsunaga in 1983 and which had 20 sponsors by the end of the 98th Congress in 1984. Like its predecessor, S 1053 embodies recommendations made by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in 1983. Redress supporters had hoped to have the bill named S 100 in honor of the all-Nisei 100th Infantry Battalion, but that number had already been taken. The House redress bill has been designated HR 442 in honor of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

In introducing the Senate bill, Matsunaga termed the 1942 removal of 120,000 JAs from their West Coast homes and their incarceration in detention camps “one of America’s worst wartime mistakes.”

Urging Congress to acknowledge “the grave injustice” of the internment, Matsunaga said that passage of the bill “would remove a blot on the pages of our nation’s history” and “remove a cloud which has hung over the heads of Japanese Americans since the end of WW2.”

The bill would provide the estimated $55,000 to $60,000 surviving internees a one-time per capita payment of $20,000 in partial compensation for individual losses and damages; establish a trust fund for humanitarian and educational purposes; and require that Congress and the President apologize to Japanese Americans for the internment.

It also calls for similar restitution for Alaskan Aleuts who were removed from their villages and held in abandoned canneries or mines for the duration of the war.

Continued on Page 7

Pearl Harbor cited in contract dispute

DENVER—State Senator Roy Powers (R-Colorado Springs) angered local Asian Americans when he declared that a Japanese American firm should not have been awarded a state contract because “the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor.”

Powers has introduced a bill, SB 252, which would reduce highway construction contract set-asides for minority businesses from 15% to 11%. At a Senate Transportation Committee hearing two weeks ago, he gave one of his reasons for sponsoring the bill: “Another thing that really got me on this was when I heard of a bid being let to a Hawaii bidder, a Japanese, that we were bombing not 30 years ago.”

However, Koga Engineering & Construction Inc. of Honolulu, to which Powers was referring, was founded by Malcom Koga, a third-generation Hawaiian who served with the Army Corps of Engineers for two years in Vietnam.

Pearl Harbor was never struck by a Japanese plane. However, the Koga contract, sold his home in Hawaii nine months ago and has moved to Colorado permanently.

Two of his uncles served in the ham, Rep. Mervyn Dymally (D-Calif.) and representatives from Inyo County, the nearby town of Lone Pine and the Ft. Independence Shoshone-Paiute tribe. The ceremony took place near the monument marking the location of the camp cemetery.

“Manzanar,” Rogers said before the unveiling, “is representative of the atmosphere of racism, prejudice, mistrust and fear that resulted in American citizens being uprooted from their homes, denied their constitutional rights, and—with neither accusation, indictment, nor conviction—moved to remote relocation camps…”

“Manzanar cannot be celebrated, for it was not a triumph…not a victory.”

Continued on Page 7

Co-sponsors of S 1053

Jeremiah Denton (R-Alabama), Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska), Alan Cranston (D-Colorado), Gary Hart (D-Colorado), Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii), Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), Paul Simon (D-Illinois), Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), John Sarbanes (D-Maryland), Edward Kennedy (D-Massachusetts), John Exon (D-Nebraska), Carl Lewis (D-North Dakota), Donald Riegle (D-Michigan), John Melcher (D-Montana), James Exon (D-Nebraska), Bill Bradley (D-New Jersey), Frank Laubengayer (D-New York), Alfonso Amato (D-New York), Quintin Burdick (D-North Dakota), Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), Mark Hatfield (R-Oregon), Slade Gorton (R-Washington), Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), William Proxmire (D-Wisconsin)

Washington legislature endorses redress

OLYMPIA, Wash. — The Washington State Legislature has asked Congress to pay $50,000 to each American of Japanese ancestry who was interned by the U.S. during WW2.

Senate Joint Memorial 104 was sent to Congress and President Reagan April 17 after winning state house approval in a 61-35 vote following some heated debate, the Associated Press reported.

“We should do something to say we’re sorry we reacted irrational­ly,” said Rep. Kate Allen (R-Edmonds). “We can’t make up for what we’ve done, but we can make a gesture.”

“We cannot free our conscience by buying it off,” snapped Rep. Ray Isasaen (R-Richland).
New Yorkers learn how to succeed

by Teru Kanazawa

The New York NichiBei

On the evening of April 20, the JACL and the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) held their second joint conference, titled "New York Succeeds," at the offices of the Anti-Defamation League near the United Nations. While the featured guests for the evening were former deputy commissioners of Special Services for Children and Deputy Police Commissioner Hugh H. Mo—spoke as city government employees, their remarks focused on how to achieve success in the government and corporate worlds and how being Asian American affects that upward climb.

Both speakers have been in positions of high visibility and responsibility in city government and the private sector. In his capacity as a member Herbert Sue, "well qualified" to speak on the subject. Last year, as a result of a child abuse scandal at a day-care facility in the Bronx, Kong was forced to resign his position as deputy commissioner. And Mo, whose job it is to oversee disciplinary proceedings in the police department, including those involving police brutality, commented on the different week it had been.

Prefacing her remarks, Kong held up a handwritten sign, which stated, "Take a risk or save face. What will people think? Power—Responsibility—Interesting Work."

After reviewing the various categories of jobs available in city government, Kong discussed "issues" for Asians, saying Asians "don't admit what we don't know." She stressed that asking questions and socializing or "networking" are important for Asians. Asians are viewed with some caution and suspicion and, therefore, she said, "reaching out helps dispel some myths."

Mo addressed the nature of stereotypes of Asians and the myths that many, particularly first-generation Asians, have of the workings of American society. Hard work, Mo asserted, is not the only ingredient that makes one recognized. But, he added, "quality hard work" helps, as the ability to work creatively and innovatively within a set deadline.

Mo added that interpersonal and communications skills and the presentation of a highly professional attitude also help determine how one is regarded.

More referred to popular stereotypes of Asians as containing "grains of truth." He described a "colonial mentality" among Asians which "suppresses ethnic identity, culture, and heritage," and which, in turn, leads to the stereotypes that Asians are not independent or original thinkers, lack self-confidence, and are untruthful.

He stressed that Asians take their cultural identity seriously and emphasized, "If you're a banana, you might as well forget about politics." Mo advised that Asians network, but that doing so entails being ready with resources, pay attention to current events, and draw up "network balance sheets" of contacts who would make job referrals and recommendations, give pro... Continued on Page 3

Chinese American astronaut encounters share of problems

HOUSTON—Dr. Taylor G. Wang, 44, became the first Chinese American in space as a crew member of the space shuttle Challenger, which lifted off from Cape Canaveral April 29 and landed at California's Edwards AFB May 6.

Wang is a senior scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., and an expert on fluid dynamics. He and other mission specialists conducted experiments in the $1 billion Space lab which was kept in the shuttle's cargo bay.

Like other devices on the shuttle, the $3.5 million Drop Dynamics Module which Wang helped develop failed to work initially, short-circuiting when Wang attempted to start it on the first day of the mission. "I refuse to come home until I get this thing fixed," he said on May 3, having spent three days searching for the short.

Later that day, Wang announced that he had fixed the machine. Although its power had been reduced...

Petitioners ask leniency for Kimura

by Katie Kaori Hayashi

SANTA MONICA, Calif.—To ask for leniency for Fusako Kimura, who is charged with murder and felony child endangering in the deaths of her two children, petitioners have been sent to Deputy District Attorney Louise Comar from supporters in Japan and the Los Angeles area.

Kimura, a Japanese national, is alleged to have walked into the daughter on Jan. 29, 1981, in the Los Angeles area.

Gerald Klausner, Kimura's attorney, received a petition signed by supporters in Japan and the Japanese American Community. Klausner volunteered to collect signatures on behalf of her. In the petition, which had been distributed at the first meeting of a local support group for Kimura, and that 176 Japanese nationals and Japanese Americans had signed as of April 30. Noting that other small groups had been working to collect signatures, she said, "I hope everyone will have compassion for the tragedy of the lady and sign the petition."

Some of the Japanese nationals who support Kimura gave their reasons for signing the petition.

Chiko Okano, housewife: "I want to consider Kimura's cultural background. Her act, which is considered by Japanese standards a serious crime by American legal standards, resulted from her Japanese cultural background. She killed her beloved children, but her intent was to die with them."

Yasuhiro Okano, housewife: "I can understand her act. I think that every Japanese national could be the second Fusako Kimura. Japanese nationals aren't familiar with American law, and we are intrinsically Japanese even though we try hard to assimilate into American culture. I think that she is a victim torn between two cultures and legal standards. I don't think that it is reasonable that she is going to be punished by American legal standards."

NoriKawasaki, student: "I think that the charges against her are too harsh. I think that a reasonable charge for her could be involuntary manslaughter because she didn't take her children's lives for malevolence, cruelty or financial gain."

Takako Gotoh, student: "I can understand her act, even though it is a serious crime in this country."

Petitions are available at the Little Tokyo Service Center, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., Rm. 418, Los Angeles, CA 90012. ... Continued on Page 2

Grief workshop slated

STOCKTON, Calif.—Asian American communities of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced counties are cordially invited to hear Thomas E. Bruce on Friday, May 10, 7:30 p.m. at California First Bank meeting room, 35 S. El Dorado St. The event is free.

Bruce teaches a popular course on death, dying and grief at Sacramento City College, and is in demand as a speaker on this subject. He is known for his work with hospices and grief support group guidance and training. He was a recipient of a public service award from the Mental Health Assn. of Sacramento.

Bruce speaks on "Coping With Grief and Loss. " Grief is experienced any time there is separation, not only in terms of death, but when there is the loss of a job, change in health, loss of personal, freedom, separation from life...
Hiroshima/Nagasakis to be commemorated

by Dr. James Tsujimura and Ken Nakano
Co-chairs, Atomic Bomb Survivors Committee

Many peace organizations in this country will take part this summer in events commemorating the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 40 years ago. They will renew their call for worldwide nuclear disarmament, and many will couple that call with grassroots efforts urging an end to all nuclear weapons testing.

Looking back 40 years is a painful exercise for many Japanese Americans, none more so than for the survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki holocaust. But the pain is lessened by several developments that give hope:

—Since Hiroshima and Nagasaki, no other people have suffered the excruciating fate of those cities.
—People across the globe now understand the terrible destructiveness of nuclear war and are working together to prevent it from ever recurring.
—Those countries that have built nuclear bombs are under increasing pressure from non-nuclear states to make significant reductions in their nuclear stockpiles and ultimately to agree to worldwide nuclear disarmament.
—Negotiations for verifiable arms control have resumed between the United States and Soviet Union.
—The Japanese American Citizens League is a member, along with 56 other national organizations in the United States, of a coalition called Citizens Against Nuclear War.

WW2 Lost Battalion

A symposium will be held Saturday, May 11, featuring Eric Saul, curator, Presidio Army Museum; Chet Tanaka, author of Go For Broken; and Tom Kawaguchi, executive director, Go For Broken, Inc.

BERKELEY, Calif. — Asian American Studies Library at UC Berkeley hosts an open house on Friday, May 10, from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the International House in Berkeley. The event features a keynote speech by Paul Y. Nakano, director of the International House at the University of California, Berkeley, and a reception and networking opportunity for all.

Asian Health Services is holding a fundraiser to celebrate the inception of its perinatal services on Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the International House in Berkeley. The event includes a keynote speech by, among others, Dr. Sandra Chen, founder of the Asian Health Services, and a networking opportunity for all.

The library hosts the largest and most comprehensive Asian American collection in the U.S.

The symposium will feature presentations on various aspects of Asian American history, culture, and politics, as well as opportunities for networking and discussion.

The event will also feature a reception and networking opportunity for all.

For more information, call (510) 642-1111 or visit the Asian American Studies Library at UC Berkeley's website.

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Thanks, Mom

ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER

Bob Shimabukuro

I was home from school one day, laid up with asthma attack, trying desperately to breathe. My mom was with me, gently rubbing my back, singing. My brother's cocker spaniel, named Ronnie Hansen Shimabukuro after the Baltimore Orioles shortstop, lay just off the futon as close as he could get to us without being shoed off, when we heard a car drive up.

Some three decades ago when this letter arrived here from out of law school, we became, as far as we know, the first Asian American lawyer in the state. From an early period we were alone until a Chinese American by the name of Arthur Lee opened up his practice in Chinatown, Austin, a truly fine gentleman, suddenly passed away about five years ago, a big loss to the community.

Because of our surname, for many years we received consistent solicitations from the Justinian Society, a group comprised solely of lawyers of Italian ancestry in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and America, having no ethnic affiliation. Finally, I filled in my application to the Justinians. No response. Thereafter, for a while, whenever I saw a prominent member of the Justinians I'd jokingly inquire about the status of my application. (This is known as the "regular" bar associations.) I have to at least one parent of Italian ancestry in order to be eligible.

The normal organization of the Justinians also sent invitations, so I joined.

So I can lay claim to being at least an "honorary Italo-American" barrister.

Speaking of the American Bar Association, that's a story in itself. Since I had joined one of the law firms in Philadelphia, "specifically" included joining the American Bar.

The membership application form had a space for the ethnicity which I filled in by filling in the word "human." Back came the application with directions to indicate the ancestry of my parents. Now what? A lawyer as a barrister was beyond me, and back went a letter to headquarters in this vein. The response was short and to the point. There was some reason believing that "because this is business practice." I wrote back declining to accept that as a reason. They finally gave up and accepted my membership.

Not too long after that, this inquiry was removed. At least, I never saw it again.

AND NOW TODAY some 35 Asian American lawyers in various areas and levels of legal department, state attorney general's staff, federal law department, a number in many of Philadelphia's most prominent firms, including a number of women lawyers. We understand that shortly after, American women lawyer will be joining one of our local law schools as a professor, reportedly a "first" outside of Harvard.

We've Come A Long Way. But it's only another beginning.

Gearing Up For '86 Convention

Bob Shimabukuro

The Second Beginning

EAST WIND
Bill Marutani

Late last fall, there was formed in the Philadelphia area an organization of Asian American lawyers, some 35 barristers of whom approximately one-third are women. Included are Chinese, Korean, one Pacific Islander (Fijian) and Japanese attorneys. Of this last ethnic group, there are about a half dozen including the president of the organization, Dennis Morikawa. Dennis is a labor lawyer with a Philadelphia law firm that is the largest in the United States. He is, by the way, the son of Rev. Jisao Morikawa who was the pastor of a church in Hyde Park in Chicago where some of us as students visited when word of this eloquent preacher spread. Impressive.

Dennis Morikawa has since been given the Baptist theological seminary in the suburbs nearby.

The Pacific Citizen
Poetry of Memories

What he went through has been likened to the experience of Jackie Robinson who broke the color bar in American baseball. Although he has been called a Jap­

A guidebook for “Hosting a Na­tionial Convention” is also the book that is being done by our national director. Some­
time this year we hope we will finish. It is not as easy as we thought it would be. It will be in loose-leaf format so that changes can be added without reprinting the whole thing. A guidebook for “Hosting a Na­tionial Convention” is also the book that is being done by our national director. Some­
Journey Into Our Heritage

by June Oka Hashimoto

FREMONT, Calif.—Braving the cold and threatening weather, 25 friends and members of the Fremont JACL attended the unveiling of the photos of the 100-year anniversary of the Japanese immigration to America held at Angel Island in San Francisco Bay on April 20. With a carpool of five cars, the group left Fremont at 8 a.m.

The 15-minute ride on the ferry to Angel Island was lovely and enjoyable. Once on Angel Island, the group would be held in immigration building where the photo exhibit was held.

The photo exhibit was impressive and told the story vividly of the immigration to America. Since I was born and raised in Hawaii, the photo exhibit on Hawaii was especially interesting. As I approached the end of the exhibit, my eyes focused on a photo with a caption that read "West Maui Community" with a familiar banyan tree in the background and the Honolul Spirit island-which is so often used as a ferry by many on their way home from grammar school.

Excitedly, as I studied the group, I recognized my late grandfather. Mrs. Okuno Oba, and standing next to her late grandfather, Mr. Joichi Oba. It was especially emotional for me and for our children and two children ages 15 and 11 and had never seen a photograph of my grandfather. Grandpa Oba died at the age of 74, 33 years ago in 1952. I was nine at the time of his death and did not remember him looking so young.

The photo clearly showed her wearing an eyeglass with the left lens broken. He had lost his eye when he was in his late twenties working on a demolition gang in Hawaii.

As I studied my grandmother in the photo, she too looked younger than I ever remembered. She died in 1979 at the age of 94. Men in the photo of my early years surfaced as I gazed at the photo. I recognized the black shoes she wore with the chunky heels that I used to wear running around the house in child’s play.

The sad, painful look on the faces of the Issel parents in the photograph (probably taken around 1940) who were never-ending sacrifices—case in this, the loss of sons in battle for their newly adopted country.

I would like to express our sincere gratitude to Go For Broke, Inc. and the exhibit committee for a most outstanding photographic display of the first Japanese immigrant generation.

White House briefing set

LOS ANGELES—National JACL women’s concerns committee chair Irene Hirano announced that the White House will host a briefing on issues of concern to Asian and Pacific Islander women and individuals from the National Network of Asian and Pacific Women and the JACL National Board.

Hirano indicated that more than 28 Asian and Pacific women’s organizations, including the national JACL women’s concerns committee, will be sending representatives to participate in the briefing and conference. The following women, from geographically diverse areas of the country, will represent the JACL: Betty Waki, Rita Cates, Peggy Sasashima Ligggett, Clare Kawamura, Margaret Yamamoto, Lily Okura, Lillian Kimura, Grace Yehara, Fae Mine, Mollie Fuzioka, Mei Nakano, Irene Hirano, Jeanette Iida, Mie Takahashi, Mary Nishimoto, Karen Seriguchi, and Lisa Shigemura.

Hirano and JACL program director Lia Shigemura will lead a workshop on the issue of mail-order marriage.

The mail-order marriage issue has been of recent concern to the JACL women’s concern committee because of the reinforcement of stereotypes and concerns regarding exploitative aspects of the mail-order marriage industry, which deals in the trade of Asian women. The women’s concern committee’s position on this issue has been endorsed by a number of Asian/Pacific organizations, including the National Network of Asian and Pacific Women and the JACL National Board.

The White House briefing and conference will provide an opportunity for Asian and Pacific Islander women leaders from around the country to share information and provide input to the White House and individuals in public and policy-making positions.

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can ever again be asked to endure.

Rare Distinction

The National Park Service has had "a special interest" in Manzanar,
he noted, because internes temporarily housed at Civilian
Conservation Corps barracks at nearby Death Valley National
Monument volunteered their time in park improvement and main-
tenance.

The camp site, which was de-
cleared in California Historical Landmark in 1972, was nominated
as a possible national landmark in the summer of 1984 and, after a

study by the National Park Ser-
vice, approved by the Dept. of the
Interior in February.

Manzanar is one of about 1600
National Historic Landmarks na-
tionwide and the 78th in California. Reports considered the designa-
tion of Manzanar to be "of exceptional
significance" because places less
than 50 years old are rarely given this
distinction.

Accepting the plaque on behalf
of the City of Los Angeles, which
owns the property where Manzan-
ar stood, Cunningham praised
"the spirit of those who perse-
vered "in the camps and declared,
"nor will any of us will we allow this to
happen..." Among those accompanying
him on the platform were his side,
Dennis Nishikawa, and Rose Ochi
of the mayor's office.

After presenting Manzanar Commemorative Committee Chair Sue Embrey
with a congressional certificate of
appreciation, Dyamaly gave an
update on House redress bill HR
442, which he co-sponsoring. He
expressed hope that Congress would pass the bill "not next year,
but this year."

The bill is now in the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Administrative
Law and Governmental Relations,
which has been chaired by Rep.
Sam Hall (D-Texas). Hall's ex-
dected departure from the sub-
committee is "a very good sign
for us," Dyamally said, because
Hall "was not favorably disposed
to this bill." Next in line chair
the subcommittee is Rep. Pat
Schroeder (D-Colorado), who Dy-

mally thinks will be more sympa-
thetic.

Other statements on redress ef-
forts were made by Jim Matsusaka
of National Coalition for Redress
Reparations; George Ogawa, re-
dress chair of JACL's Pacific
Southwest District; Elaine Yone-
da, who announced a redress en-
dorsement from the International
Longshoremen and Warehousemen's
Union (ILWU); and Ralph
Lazo of National Council on Japa-

nese American Redress.

Warren Furutani of the Manza-
ar Committee directed some of
his comments at non-internees in
the audience. Referring to the
desert heat, he said, "Think about
living out here in these conditions
for two, three, four years. And you
didn't have the choice of getting
into your air-conditioned car
and driving home to Los Angeles. You
didn't know when you were going
to leave."

Experiencing the environment
in which internes had to live
should create "not only a respect
for the people that endured, but
also energy to make sure that
... they receive the justice that
is due to them," he said.

Located 210 miles north of Los
Angeles on Highway 395, the re-
mains of the camp consist mostly
of building foundations. The guard
houses at the entrance, the camp
auditorium (now used by the Inyo
County Dept. of Highways) and the
memorial monument are the
only standing structures left.

The pilgrimage, organized by
the Manzanar Committee, in-
cudes walking tours of the camp
and its foundations, minidocumentaries in memory of those who died there, a
potluck and ono dancing.

MUSEUM CONTAINS CAMP ARTIFACTS

INDEPENDENCE, Calif. — Six
miles north of Manzanar, artifacts
and memorabilia of the WW2
camp are on display at the Eastern
California Museum, thanks to
contributions from former resi-
dents and the work of Shi Nomura
over the past ten years.

The frontier-style museum,
located three blocks west of Inyo
County Courthouse (which is on
US 395), features Manzanar pho-
tos from many Nisei and from the
private collection of the late Ralph
Merrill, project director, includ-
ingshots of the first incoming
group and the last family leaving.
Also of interest are local pioneer
and Paulette-Shoshone material.
Nomura is currently taking a
voluntary census of Manzanar res-
dents. He requests the following:
(1) name, (2) maiden name, (3)
address, (4) phone, (5) address
while in Manzanar, (6) club, sports,
or social affiliations, (7) military
service, (8) prewar residence.

Information should be sent to
Eastern California Museum, P.O.
Box 206, Independence, CA 93526.

MUSEUM CONTAINS CAMP ARTIFACTS

Chapter Pulse

Mile-Hi

AURORA, Colorado — Monday,
May 20 is the date for the Go For
Brine Golf Tournament at the
Wellshire Golf Course. The tour-
nament is a benefit for the com-
munity graduates program for the
Community Graduates Award
Dinner, Sunday, June 6 at the
Ramada Renaissance Hotel, 3300
S. Parker Road. Banquet tickets
are $20, with reduced rates for
seniors and students. Entry fee
for the golf tournament is $100.
Tickets and information for both
events are available from Dennis
Loka at 796-8758 or Kent
Yortom at 596-4392.

San Diego

SAN DIEGO — The annual
JACL community picnic will be
held this year, Sunday, May 20, at
Bonita Basin in Mission Bay
Park. This year's date, a depar-
ture from the traditional July 4
date, was mandated because of
the congested beach space on
Independence Day. What eliminating
the event this year are Ben
Nakata and Robert Ito.

Arizona

GLENDALE, Arizona — The
PSW District Council meeting
will be held at the JACL office
here, June 1-2. The chapter is
providing transportation from
the Phoenix airport to the Em-
bassy Inn and the meeting site.
A Western Barbeque is planned
for Saturday night. For informa-
tion, contact John Saito at the
PSW office, (213) 626-4471; or
George Kanegai, (213) 833-3592
in the evenings.

Golden Gate

SAN FRANCISCO — "Return
to Bainbridge," a film about the
expulsion of Japanese Americans
from their homes on Bainbridge
Island in Washington, will be
shown Monday, May 20, at the
Christ United Presbyterian
Church, Second Social
Hall, 1700 Sutter Street, 7:30 p.m.
The film, to be followed by dis-
cussion, will be presented at the
May meeting of the chapter. The
public is invited.

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WOMEN AS PATROL OFFICERS

AGE: 20-31 SALARY: $2082-$2487 per month

SUCCESS

Continued from Page 3

cessional advice, "give money to
a cause you subscribe to," and
"get you a job." Lacking contacts
in any of these areas, he cau-
tioned, meant that one's ability
to succeed would be hampered.

Discussion in the question-and-
answer period, moderated by
Pae Minabe of the JACL, focused
on attitudes of sexism and ra-
cism in the workplace, ways to
combat stereotyping, and the rela-
tionship of Asians to other
minority groups.

It was announced at the meet-
ing's end that the New York
chapter of the JACL and the
OCA are initiating a series of
workshops on group discussion,
presentation and communica-
tion skills, group dynamics,
managing managerial styles, and
how to get promoted.

Those interested may contact
JACL members, Joy Miyasaki, 130
Water St., Apt. 7F, New York,
N.Y. 10003, or Pae Minabe, 590
Madison Ave., Rm. 29-500P12,
New York, N.Y. 10022.

-Reprinted by permission.
Breaking Silence

For my mother's testimony before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians

There are miracles that happen she said.
From the silences
in the glass cases of our ears,
from the crippled tongue,
the mute, wet eyelash,
testimonies waiting like winter.
We were told
that silence was better
golden like our skin.
From that silence was better
gone don't horsestalls
silences the building of
bolts the bounty of the
ravage. All improvements we had and
or destroyed.
I was coerced into signing documents
before...to take.
...to take.
...to take.
My mother, soft like tallow,
words peeling from her like stikers
of yellow flame,
her testimony
a vat of boiling water
surging through the coldest
bluest vein.
She, when the land labored
with flowers, their scent
flowing into her pores,
had molded her earth
like a woman
soft blossomed slopes
yielding silent mornings
and purple noisy birthings,
yellow hay
and tomatoes throbbing
like the sea.
And then,
all was hushed for announcements:
"Take only what you can carry." We were made to believe
our faces betrayed us.
Our bodies were loud with yellow
screaming flesh
needing to be silenced
behind barred wire.
"Mr. Commissioner... it seems we were singled out from others who were under suspicion.
Our neighbors were of German and Italian descent, some of whom were not citizens..."
It seems we were singled out..."
She had worn her sweat
like lemon leaves
shining on the rough edges of work,
removed the mirrors
from her rooms
so she would not be tempted
by vanity.
Her dreams
honed the blade of her piax.
The land,
the building of food
noisily as the opening of irises.
The sounds of work
bolted in barracks... silenced.
Mr. Commissioner...
So when you tell me I must limit testimony
5 minutes, when you tell me time is up,

I tell you this:
'Pride has kept my lips
my rage coffin.
But I exhume my past
to claim this time.
My youth is buried in Rohwer, Obachan's ghost visits Amache Gate,
My niece haunts Tule Lake.
Words are better than tears,
so I spill them.
I kill this: the silence...

There are miracles that happen,
she said,
and everything is made visible.
We see the cracks and fissures in our soil:
We speak of suicides and intimacies,
of longings lash like wet furrows,
of oceans bearing us toward imagined riches,
of burning humiliations and
and crimes by the government.
Of self hate and of love that breaks
through silences.
We are lightening and justice.
Our souls become transparent like glass
reveling tears for war-dead sons
red ashes of Hiroshima
jagged wounds from barbed wire.
We must recognize ourselves at last
We are a rainforest of color
and noise.
We hear everything.
We are unafraid.
Our language is beautiful.
(Quoted excerpts from my mother's testimony
modified with her permission)
by Janice Mirikitani, 1981
San Francisco
Women fight harassment

WASHINGTON

Continued from Front Page

And Rep. Paul Sanders (R-Bellevue) disputed the claims the in­
terruption was irrational or hasty.

"Pearl Harbor was followed by the Dec. 7 and the executive order wasn't issued until February of the next year. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a Democrat, had plenty of time to think it over and it was his best judgment as commander in chief."

Sanders also complained that payments of reparations would cost $1.3 billion. "I say let my sons be bony, I say they have to work," he said.

Rep. Mike Padden (R-Spokane) conceded that an injustice had been done to JAs. "But," he said, "there are many injustices, injus­
tices based on religious and racial grounds. The treasury is not big enough to take care of all the injustices in the world." 

He said Roosevelt was motivated to keep the country united and to prevent an American war in Europe. "I say let bygones be bygones," he said.

At first the commission seeks amicable settlements, Crane said, penalties for sexual harassment range from back pay, compensatory damages (includ­
ing damages for stress) and training for employers. Cases in which an employer retaliates against an employee for filing a complaint receive first priority, she added.

The Dept. of Fair Employment and Housing has offices in 11 dis­


Unwitting Victims of Events Abroad

The following article, written by Seattle Times editorial page editor Harry Roberts, appeared in the April 21 edition of the Times. Since the latest U.S.-Japan trade dispute began in May, there has been little evidence of our knowledge, the first editorial in a non-ethnic paper that has drawn a community's attention to the Japan sentiment and hostility toward Japanese-Americans. — Ed.

From the perspective of many American Japanese citizens here, the past week was one of the most highly satisfactory developments in Seattle, for example, there have been reports that the announcement that Mayor Royer has nominated David Okimoto to head the city's Depart­

ment of Port of Seattle. Of interest, Okimoto, a member of several boards and commissions involved in drug-abuse, mental-health, and human-services issues, and for nine years executive director of the Asian Referral and Counseling Service, plainly has good credentials for leadership of one of the city's most sensitive agencies.

The nomination was cause for special approval in the Asian community because Okimoto is the first Japanese-American to be named to the position.

Meantime, word was circulating that Tsuguo (Bee) Ikeda, for 32 years the re­
director of the Atlantic Street Center, soon will receive recognition from one of Seattle's most influ­
fential organizations, the West Seattle Town­

ity Rotary Club. Ikeda is in line for Rotary's prestigious community-service award.

About the same time, in Olympia, the Legislature was completing action on a resolution to Con­

gress and the White House urging reparations payments to Jap­

anese Americans who were forced into internment camps shortly after the start of the Second World War. The resolution received House approval by a comfortable, 61-38 vote.

The bill Wang was referring to was passed in 1983, resulting in payments of up to $5,000 from the State of Washington to Japanese Americans who lost their jobs during WW2 because of their ancestry.

Other Measures

Another redress-related bill, SB 3389 (Senate Substitute Bill 3389), was also introduced in the last legislative session. It was intended to implement the Seattle School Board's decision, made in April 1994, to compensate JA employees fired during WW2. A clause requir­
ing approval by the state attorney general or specific endorsement of the resolution has held up the payments.

SB 3389 would have enabled municipalities (including school boards) to compensate dis­

missed JA employees. It passed the Sen­

ate March 13 but failed to be con­sidered by a committee of the House Local Government Committee before the April 5 deadline.

Jerry Shigaki, head of a lobbying committee composed of JACL and Washington Coalition on Re­

dressed members, expressed optimism that the legislation would be passed in the next legis­

lative session.

In addition to Shigaki, others expressing confidence in SLJ 104 and SB 3389 were the re­

pective prime sponsors, Sens. George Fleming and Phil Tal­

ley; Seattle School District legal counsel Michael Hoge; and --Toyo Tokuda, Tim Uto, Mako Nakagawa, Becky Sasaki, and Jan Yoshida.

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anese Americans who were forced into internment camps shortly after the start of the Second World War. The resolution received House approval by a comfortable, 61-38 vote.

These events are welcomed by many Asian Americans because they come when it is more import­

ant than ever that careful distinc­

tion be made between Japanese nationals and the government of Japan, who have by accident of birth are of Japanese ancestry.

Some of last week's Olympia debate on the reparations resolution, for instance, produced fresh evidence of the lingering, wrong­
headed notion that Japanese Americans here somehow shared with militarists in Tokyo the responsibility for the country's wartime actions.

To argue the motivation of Pres­

ident Roosevelt's wartime relo­
tionship of thousands of people to detention camps is to miss entirely—the main point: that the government perpetrated a grave injustice by imprisoning wholesale on due process and the constitutional rights of its own citizens.

As Congress takes up the reparations issue anew, Japanese Americans well may be apprehen­sive about anti-Japanese feelings in this country in connection with a far more contemporary issue. Throughout the nation, increasing numbers of Japanese Americans are coming more and more impatient toward Tokyo's insistance on reining in its trade barriers.

The ballooning U.S.-Japan trade deficit, expected to hit $50 billion this year, is inspiring a fresher wave of "buy American" sentiment within the general pop­

ulation and moves in Congress to­

toward punitive countermeasures.

Last week, for example, Sen. Slade Gorton of this state pro­

posed a 20 percent surcharge on all imports from Japan, which would be 1 percent for each $1 billion annual increase in Japanese purchases of U.S. goods.

Those who let their displeasure over Japan's trade policies find expression in hostile gestures to­

ward U.S. citizens of Japanese
descent repeat the errors of 1942. In effect, Japanese Americans are unwitting victims of decisions and events across the Pacific. It is a time for recognizing the achievements of those in the Ja­

panese American community and for remembering that they are, after all, a part of all of "us."
Eisenhower, former WRA director, dies

BALTIMORE, Md.—Milton S. Eisenhower, former director of the War Relocation Authority during WW2, died May 2 at Johns Hopkins Hospital. He was 88.

Although he served as an advisor to several presidents, including his brother Dwight, and as president of Kansas State, State and Johns Hopkins University, he may be best remembered by Japanese Americans for his role in their WW2 internment.

The WRA was a civilian agency created to oversee the forced removal of JAs from the West and was managed by the President Roosevelt appointed Eisenhower, who had been working in the Agriculture Dept., as the WRA's first director on March 18, 1942.

Though Eisenhower had originally intended to resettle JAs outside the West Coast security zone established by the military, he opted for internment after meeting with politicians from the interior states, all of whomventionaly objected to the presence of Japanese Americans unless they were armed under guard.

In response to public demand, Eisenhower and other policy planners kept wages for internment by the government to $12 a month for unskilled labor and $19 a month for those possessing "exceptional skills," such as doctors.

Confining his misgivings about the internment to his private correspondence, Eisenhower stated in his final report to Roosevelt that "public attitudes have exerted a strong influence in shaping the policy of the War Department," and that "in democracy this is unquestionably sound and proper."

He resigned in June 1942 and was succeeded by Dillon Myer.

In later years he went on a fact-finding tour in Latin America for President Eisenhower, negotiated with Fidel Castro for President Kennedy, and studied causes of domestic violence for President Johnson.

In his 1974 book The President is Culling, Eisenhower declared the evacuation and internment "an inhuman mistake." Americans of Japanese ancestry, he wrote, "were deprived of their rights and freedoms and treated almost like enemy prisoners of war. Many lost their homes, their businesses, and their savings. For 120,000 Japanese the evacuation was a bad dream come to pass."

---

Nip Drivers released

TORRANCE, Calif.—An all-white rock band called Nip Drivers has released its second album, "Oh Blended Freak Show," written by the winners of the national "Be Nip Drivers" contest which was held in Los Angeles.

Participants in the contest included a wide range of musical styles, from punk rock to jazz, and were judged by a panel of music industry experts.

The album, which features a mix of rock, pop, and indie music, has been well-received by critics and fans alike, and has been praised for its innovative sound and catchy hooks.

The band's debut album, "Mistakes," was released in 2022 and was also well-received, establishing them as a force to be reckoned with in the local music scene.

Through their hard work and dedication, Nip Drivers have continued to push the boundaries of their genre, and are sure to continue making waves in the music industry for years to come.  

---

Public Auction

ATTENTION Senior Citizens!

We are holding an auction of antiques, dealers, and collectibles in Los Angeles, Nov. 20th. Area residents and local businesses are invited.

Some featured items include: early American furniture, antique clocks, porcelain, dolls, guns, coins, and more.

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A Liberated Issel Woman
by Merilis Mori

Who is this liberated woman born in 1897 in a little town in Tocchi, Japan? She is my mother, last surviving child of seven children, sixth child and second daughter of the farm family. She was named Yama-naka. Others have known her as Puki-Ba-chan, or Hoishyam Sensei. And why do I say she is a liberated woman? Not an easy question, for she was strong-willed, persevering, energetic and dedicated her life to the children of the Japanese community overseas.

In 1898, when she came as a picture bride on a Japanese freighter, she landed at Long Beach Harbor and was stowed by her brother Gizo. She was introduced to her husband, Suematsu Hoshiyama, born in the Japanese community of Sawtelle. She did not stay on the farm. My father continued farming with his brother, and given the best berth and were treated exceptionally. She learned how to make beautiful beaded designs, and the best time to sell the design was after the harvest.

She went to run her car. But this had no windows — it had a hand crank. She did not stay on the farm. My father continued farming with his brother, and given the best berth and were treated exceptionally. She learned how to make beautiful beaded designs, and the best time to sell the design was after the harvest.

If you see her, do you see her as a liberated woman? Not an easy question, for she was strong-willed, persevering, energetic and dedicated her life to the children of the Japanese community overseas.

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