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May 31, 1985

News in Brief

Hayakawa ridicules 9th Circuit Court decision

SAN FRANCISCO — On May 20, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of San Francisco State students arrested in a 1969 confrontation with then-president S.I. Hayakawa, ordering the school to erase the disciplinary records of the students from school transcripts, appoint a monitor to supervise the erasure and pay \$100,000 in attorney fees accumulated over the 16-year legal battle. Hayakawa termed the decision "perfectly nonsensical" and "ridiculous" and said that the mass arrest was "completely successful and completely constitutional." Sixteen years ago, Hayakawa emerged as a national political "law and order" personality when he took a hard-line stance toward student activists.

Assembly removes dual-citizenship provision

SACRAMENTO — The California State Assembly voted without debate May 20 to end the state's ability to discipline an employee holding dual-citizenship with a country with which the U.S. is at war. AB 198, authored by Philip Isenberg (D-Sacramento), repeals Section 19573 of the Government Code which was used during WW2 to fire 314 government workers because they were Japanese Americans with dual citizenship. The bill now goes to the State Senate.

Policeman beats Chinese immigrant

BOSTON — On May 1, the same day that the jury in the Anh Mai murder case handed down their guilty verdict for Robert Glass (see May 10 PC), undercover vice-squad detective Francis Kelly allegedly beat and badly injured Long Kuang Huang, a 56-year old Chinese immigrant restaurant worker, on his day off in Chinatown.

Kelly contends that Huang tried to solicit a prostitute and then resisted arrest and attacked the police officer. Numerous employees of the New England Medical Center, next door to where the incident occurred, contradicted Kelly's version.

Denise Shaughnessy said she saw the entire incident. Kelly

"swung at him [Huang] three times," she said. "He missed the first time. He hit him in the nose the second time. Then he hit him in the eye."

Margo O'Toole said that when she and others saw Huang being hit, they yelled: "What are you doing? Leave the man alone." The big guy, the policeman, just said, "It's none of your business. Get out of here."

Numerous other witnesses said that Huang offered no resistance except to try to flee and that Kelly hit Huang in the face at least three times.

According to Kelly, at 11:05 a.m., he decided to arrest both Huang

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JA wins Omaha city council race

OMAHA, Nebr.—Richard Takechi was elected to the District 5 city council seat on May 14 by an overwhelming margin, winning 40 out of 41 precincts. He received 64% of the vote (5,571) to incumbent Connie Findlay's 36% (3,153).

The victory marks a comeback for Takechi, a 47-year-old jeweler who served on the city council from 1977 to 1981, when he was narrowly defeated by Findlay. In this year's campaign, Takechi said he had the backing of voters who were pleased by his performance as city councilman.

"Responsiveness to the people" was Takechi's theme as he faulted Findlay on her record, focusing on her "yes" vote on One Pacific Place, a controversial development project that many district residents opposed. Support for Takechi was particularly strong

in the area near the proposed development site.

Takechi, a Republican, had the backing of Rep. Hal Daub (R-2nd) and other local Republicans. An informal survey of 30 people who voted for Takechi, however, revealed that 16 were Democrats, indicating bipartisan support.

"My biggest satisfaction is not only to my supporters, family and many friends but that my support came from a cross section of the district," he said.

Takechi said he will hold quarterly town hall meetings with constituents and will use his office to provide information on city policies. His stated priorities include improving the area's traffic situation and improving Omaha's image as a tourist attraction.

—from reports by
Omaha World-Herald



Korea Times photo
Clarence M. Pendleton

Mineta protests Manzanar article

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Interior Don Hodel on May 24 told Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (D-Calif) that he would immediately withdraw an April 26 press release announcing Manzanar War Relocation Camp as a national historic landmark. The release described Manzanar as the "first of 10 war relocation camps established for protection against espionage and sabotage."

Hodel was responding to a congressional protest by Mineta and Rep. Don Edwards (D-Calif) who contacted Hodel's office on May 24 complaining about the release.

Mineta said the description of the camp in the press release was, "outrageous and shocking, and contradicted the statements that the Dept. of Interior's own official made at the April dedication of the camp, where he said that Manzanar represented racial prejudice, mistrust, and fear, and that it was a reminder of what no American must ever again be asked to endure."

Edwards wrote Hodel a letter calling the press release "an intolerable mistake" and "revisionist history."

Hodel later agreed that the press release misrepresented the internment experience. The Interior Secretary said he would issue a statement that re-emphasized the points made earlier in April by the Interior official at Manzanar when it was dedicated.

"I believe it was more a case of a press officer at Interior writing a mistaken and thoughtless press release," said Mineta, "but it shows that there is still a shocking ignorance of what the camps were about. All of us have a responsibility to point and shout when we see this sort of nonsense disseminated as truth. This was just a case of Edwards and me blowing the whistle."

'Model Minority' image praised by U. S. Civil Rights Commission chair

by Sophia Kyung Kim
Korea Times Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES—When asked if he agreed with the media's stereotyped perception of Asian Americans as "a model minority," the chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, Clarence M. Pendleton Jr., broke into a big smile and said, "I think they [the media] are right because they are doing a hell of a job, the Asian Americans."

Instead of "protesting loudly" like other minorities and demanding government help, said Pendleton, Asians have "quietly" relied on their own strengths to attain economic success.

Declaring at a crowded news conference May 16 that "one has the opportunity in this country to be anything he or she wants," the blunt-speaking and controversial chairman again condemned affirmative action programs that prefer "one person over another because of... race or gender."

Calling such affirmative action programs "a new kind of racism," Pendleton, a black Reagan appointee, said, "Nothing I read in the civil-rights laws call for race balancing or proportionate representation or goals, quotas and timetables."

Since his appointment three years ago, Pendleton's opinions against affirmative action programs have stirred anger among black leaders who have accused him of being a "mouthpiece" for Reagan. More recently, Pendleton drew criticism again when he accused black leaders of being "new racists" for advocating that blacks should be treated differently from whites because of their race.

More than two dozen blacks representing such civil rights organizations as the National Association for the Advancement of

Colored People (NAACP), Urban League and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference picketed outside the Biltmore Hotel, where Pendleton held the news conference and later spoke at a luncheon sponsored by the Los Angeles World Affairs Council.

Speaking on behalf of the protesters, Raymond L. Johnson Jr., president of the Los Angeles chapter of the NAACP, accused Pendleton of making "a mockery" of the Civil Rights Commission. "I object to his idea that any form of race-conscious affirmative action must be thrown away," he said. "The blacks in this country have been discriminated against for over two centuries. It's going to take us more than two decades to get us out of this mess."

Johnson also accused the Reagan Administration of attempting to "dismantle and destroy that commission," which "at one point in time, was the conscience of this government [and] our society by criticizing the government and executive branch... in terms of its civil rights record."

When asked if it is necessary for the government to rectify past discriminations against blacks, Pendleton said amends were made with the passage of the 1866 Civil Rights Act and reaffirmed nearly a century later with the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. But he added, "There is nothing that I see in the laws that require anybody to make up something for the past."

Pointing out that there are enough laws on the books that provide "equality of opportunity," Pendleton said what blacks are looking for today is "equality of results." He mockingly suggested that if blacks feel that Amer-

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A/P Democratic Caucus dropped

WASHINGTON — Democratic leaders stripped the party's Asian Pacific Caucus of official recognition during a May 17 executive committee meeting in an apparent attempt to show that the party does not cater to "special interests."

In a voice vote taken after little debate, committee members approved a resolution that ended the practice of putting caucus meetings on the official agenda and giving caucuses automatic access to facilities. Also affected were the gay and lesbian, liberal and progressive, and business and professional caucuses.

While any 10 Democratic National Committee members can still get help from the party staff to arrange meetings "for any purpose consistent with those of the Democratic Party," the groups will have no official status. "We've clearly diminished the power of caucuses," said Brian Lunde, executive director of the national committee.

The Black, Latino and women's caucuses have special status protected by the party's charter and bylaws, which the executive committee cannot alter. They will therefore continue to be repre-

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Coalition monitors Woo/Stevenson race

LOS ANGELES—As the city council race between challenger Mike Woo and incumbent Peggy Stevenson neared the June 4 election, a coalition of local Asian Pacific groups called on the two to sign a pledge not to focus on "race, ethnicity, sex or age" in their campaigns.

Although the newly formed Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Political Campaigns is not endorsing Woo, its plea, made at a May 21 press conference, was

aimed at Stevenson, who used "racial innuendos" in her 1981 campaign against Woo, according to coalition vice-chair Paul Suzuki.

After Woo forced Stevenson into a runoff four years ago, Stevenson's campaign leaflets portrayed Woo as a tool of Asian businessmen trying to gain a foothold in the 13th district. Woo and his supporters believe this strategy may have contributed to Woo's defeat.

Suzuki stated that Stevenson's campaign staff was repeating a

tactic it used in 1981—that of phoning non-Asian voters and asking if they would support an Asian as a city councilperson. He said that he knew of two people who have received such calls in connection with the current campaign.

"In 1981...the Asian Pacific community didn't do anything," Suzuki said. "This time, we will not be silent." The coalition will monitor campaign practices and bring any cases of "hit pieces" based on race to the attention of the media.

Coalition members include Pacific Asian American Round Table, Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Pacific Southwest District JACL, Korean American Bar Assn., Japanese American Bar Assn. and Japanese American Democratic Club.

Woo signed the pledge on May 18. Stevenson's campaign manager has declined, explaining that Stevenson has already signed a pledge "modeled after the one drafted by the California Fair Political Practices Commission." Suzuki charged that Stevenson's pledge does not address the issue of race.

Charges of Scandal

Since being forced into a runoff with Woo in April, Stevenson has focused on linking Woo with W. Patrick Moriarty, a fireworks manufacturer who pleaded guilty

in March to making several illegal political contributions. In 1981, Woo received two checks totaling \$5,400 from Condo Vest, a firm run by one of Moriarty's business associates.

Stevenson has not proven that Woo knew Moriarty or knew that the donations came from Moriarty, but she has established that Woo did not try to find out who was behind Condo Vest. Her campaign literature charges that the Moriarty affair "raises serious questions about Michael Woo's ethics and better judgment."

Meanwhile, Woo has been capitalizing on voter dissatisfaction with Stevenson's performance during the last 10 years. Accusing her of favoring development over her constituents' wishes, Woo has said that she changed her vote on oil drilling in Pacific Palisades after receiving \$15,000 from Occidental Petroleum.

Woo's campaign received a boost May 23 when city councilmen Zev Yaroslavsky and Marvin Braude, in a break with tradition, backed Woo over the incumbent. Both agreed with Woo's accusations that Stevenson is controlled by special interests.

Stevenson is backed by a majority of the council, including Council President Pat Russell. Mayor Tom Bradley has remained neutral, lending his name to both campaigns.

BOSTON

Continued from Front Page

and Audrey Manns on prostitution charges. When he attempted to arrest Huang, Huang struck Kelly several times on the upper body, chest and arms in an attempt to flee. Kelly is about 6 feet, 200 pounds, in his late 30's. Huang is about 5' 6", 125 pounds.

Shaughnessy and other witnesses say that the alleged prostitute, Audrey Manns, apparently knew Kelly and said, "Kelly, Kelly, that's not the guy, that's the wrong one."

Huang was taken to the Medical Center, treated, booked on solicitation charges and assault and battery on a policeman, and released from the hospital, despite the fact that he was nauseous and did not know his way home.

Huang, speaking through an interpreter, said he was merely walking from home to Chinatown to buy some things when he felt someone "grab me by the coat and push me toward his car. Then he hit me."

On May 3, community leaders met with Boston Police Commissioner Francis Roache to discuss

the incident. Roache promised a "fair, thorough and objective investigation into this allegation of excessive force directed to an Asian person."

On May 9, Asians for Justice held a community meeting attended by nearly 400 community members. A formal Committee to Support Long Guang Huang was established, and a set of community demands for justice was formulated. The demands include: (1) that all charges against Huang be dropped; (2) that an open investigation of Kelly's behavior be conducted with community involvement; (3) that Kelly be suspended without pay during the investigation; (4) that Huang be compensated by the city for all losses and damages suffered.

Community demands include: (1) appointing an Asian American to the police command staff; (2) hiring bilingual police officers; (3) establishing a review process for official misconduct; (4) eliminating the "Combat Zone" [Boston's adult entertainment district adjacent to Chinatown] with decisions about Chinatown made by the community.

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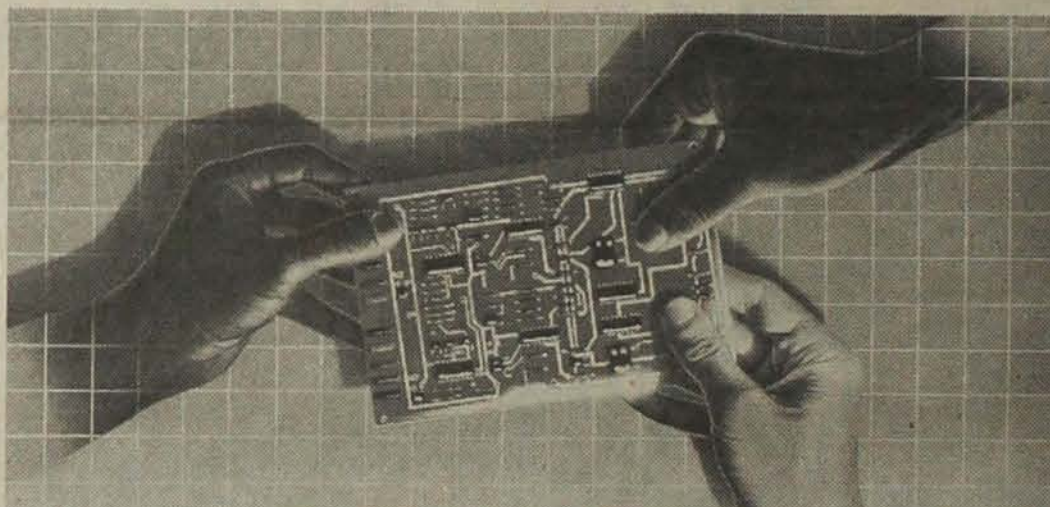
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Name change for NY center

NEW YORK—Effective immediately, the Japanese American Counseling Center of the Asian American Mental Health Demonstration Project will be renamed the Asian American Mental Health Service—Japanese Unit. Services (two social workers and one part-time psychiatrist) and location (236 W. 72nd St., 4th F, New York, NY 10023) remain the same. Call (212) 787-7741 for appointments.



Community Affairs

SAN JOSE—Herbert Hayde, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan and chairman of Burroughs Japan, speaks on "United States-Japan Trade Tensions: The View of American Business in Japan" on June 12, 5:30 p.m. at the Red Lion Inn, 2050 Gateway Place. Information: The Japan Society, (415) 986-4383.

SACRAMENTO—A benefit "Monte Carlo" night for the Sacramento Asian/Pacific Women's Network scholarship program will be held June 1, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., at the Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd. A \$10/person donation is requested. A no-host bar, Asian appetizers and local celebrity dealers will be featured. Information: 427-3600.

LOS ANGELES—The first U.S. exhibition of Japanese photographer Toshiro Morita will open at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center's Doizaki Gallery, 244 S. San Pedro St., on Saturday, June 9 and continue through June 30. Featured will be his photos from the Kabuki stage and his series entitled "Kumadori," portraits showing the stylized makeup of Kabuki performers. Gallery hours are noon-5 p.m. daily except Mondays.

Discussion groups on interethnic and interracial marriages are being started at Western Region Asian American Project, 11646 W. Pico Blvd. Anyone interested is asked to call Emily Takeuchi, 478-8241.

Japan America Society, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, and other organizations host the Ambassador of Japan to the United States, Nobuo Matsunaga, June 19, at the Sheraton Grande Hotel, 333 S. Figueroa St., beginning with no-host cocktails at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$50.

The 10th annual West Los Angeles Minority Community Health Fair is planned for Sunday, June 9 at the Japanese Institute of Sawtelle, 2110 Corinth Ave., noon to 3 p.m. Services offered include anemia testing, blood pressure reading, dental screening, immunization, podiatry and urine testing. A 12-hour fast is required for a \$10 blood chemistry test, and a \$5 charge will be asked for a coronary risk blood test. Sponsored by WLA JACL, Western Region Asian American Project and Nora Sterry Community Lighted School. Information: Sid Yamazaki, 931-1026.

World renowned sitarist-composer Ravi Shankar performs with local Japanese classical musicians June Kuramoto, Johnny Mori, Kazu Matsui and Yumi Kawatani in a program fusing classical Indian music with Japanese traditional music at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, June 7-8. Tickets: Japan America Theatre box office, 244 S. San Pedro St., or call (213) 680-3700.

Valley JAs to honor scholarship winners

PACOIMA, Calif.—Invitations are extended to family members, friends, teachers, and the community to honor 23 high school seniors Saturday, June 1, 7:30 p.m. at the Japanese Community Center, 12953 Branford, Arleta. The program is an annual event jointly sponsored by the community center and the San Fernando Valley chapter of JACL.

Guest speaker will be Dr. Susan Shimomaye, a past recipient of an award, who has completed her internship and is now specializing in dermatology.

Winners are as follows:

Eugene Oda Memorial Scholarships: Lisa Kawamoto, North Hollywood HS; Erika Ono, Chatsworth HS; Glenn Molina, Birmingham HS; Saul Gomez, San Fer-

nando HS.

SAM Award (Sport-Art-Music): Ann Asaoka, Granada HS; Stanley Wada, Monroe HS.

JACL Boutique Award: Jeffrey Yasuda, Van Nuys HS.

JACL-JACC Scholarships: Susan Baba, Kennedy HS; John Furutani, Polytechnic HS; Tina Ganaja, Granada Hills HS; Lisa Horio, Monroe HS; Kevin Kanamura, Kennedy HS; Evan Kitahara, El Camino HS; Linda Koga, Granada Hills HS; Gena Lew, Birmingham HS; Tracy Mahony, Kennedy HS; Linda Oda, Monroe HS; Christopher Scott, North Hollywood HS; Leinette Shinsato, Polytechnic HS; Carol Suruki, Monroe HS; Rumi Takahashi, Kennedy HS; Wesley Tanijiri, Sylmar HS; Brian Yasui, Canoga Park HS.



Hisao Inouye

S.F. to honor community leader

SAN FRANCISCO—Mayor Dianne Feinstein will officially proclaim June 7 as Hisao Inouye Day in recognition of the community leader's contributions to San Francisco's civic and business communities.

Feinstein and Japan consul general Masaki Seo are honorary co-chairs of a special appreciation dinner, sponsored by Kimochi Kai, to be held June 7, 7 p.m., at the Sheraton Palace Hotel.

Inouye helped organize the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California in 1950 and was its first president. He was instrumental in the creation of Japan Food Corp. and its eventual development into JFC International, Inc. He served as secretary/treasurer and board member for JFC until he retired in 1974.

A pioneer in community activity as well, Inouye set up the first Cherry Blossom Festival committee in 1967 and was the festival's first general chairman. His organizing expertise also benefitted the Nikkei Lions Club of San Francisco and Boy Scout Troop 12, the city's oldest Japanese American troop.

His concern for Japanese American seniors led him to serve as board chair of Kimochi, Inc. from 1977 to 1984. In 1983 he was awarded a certificate of honor by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in recognition of the successful completion of the Kimochi Home project.

Corporate sponsors of the dinner include Ron and Steve Omori's Minato Electric Co., Nikkei Lions Club, Sumitomo Bank, and Pacific Bell. Reservations are \$35 each and can be obtained by calling Kimochi Home from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (415) 922-9972.

JACL files brief in support of Hirabayashi

WASHINGTON — JACL D.C. representative Tim Gojio announced that a joint *amicus curiae* brief signed by JACL and the American Jewish Committee was filed May 24 in Federal District Court in Seattle in support of the *coram nobis* case of Gordon Hirabayashi.

The 40-page brief traces the history of anti-Asian sentiment, and relates some of the facts surrounding internment. It also discusses the constitutional threat posed by the internment cases,

including the loss of civilian control over the military and the obscuring of limits which should be imposed upon the exercise of federal war powers.

"Japanese Americans seek to educate not only the general public, but those who make and interpret the laws, that a tragic mistake was made by the government in internment 120,000 men, women and children of Japanese descent during WW2," the brief continued. "We urge the court to overturn the 1942 conviction of Gordon Hirabayashi."

Entries sought for short story contest

ALTADENA, Calif. — Manuscripts for the 7th annual American/Japanese Literary Award, initiated by author James Clavell, are due by June 30, it was announced by Ted Tajima, contest coordinator.

The winner of the 1985 short story contest will be presented a \$1,000 cash prize and a perpetual trophy at the 1985 Miss Sansei California Pageant.

The award was initiated in 1979 with a grant of \$10,000 by Clavell, author of "Shogun" and other best-selling novels, as a way of encouraging Japanese Americans to write on the experience of Japanese and their descendants in America.

Clavell's emotional bond with the Japanese prompted him to establish the contest with the intention to motivate and develop the talent among Americans of Japanese ancestry and to help document and preserve a living Japanese American history.

The trophy and all entries to the 1985 contest are to be exhibited in the Franklin D. Murphy Library of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center in Los Angeles.

The American Japanese National Literary Award (AJNLA) contest is open to all JAs regardless of age. The following rules apply:

(1) All entries must be original and not previously published. A letter from each entrant stating the work is original and unpublished must accompany each entry.

(2) All entries should incorporate some aspect of the Japanese

American experience. (Experience of the Japanese in Canada and Latin America is also included.)

(3) All entries should exhibit both plot and character development of a short story. All entries must be written in English.

(4) All entries will be less than 5,000 words in length.

(5) Eligibility for competition is limited to persons with at least one parent of Japanese ancestry. Otherwise, the contest is open to all regardless of "amateur/professional" status.

(6) All entries shall be retained by the AJNLA foundation to be used for documentation, history, anthology and publication or any other use beneficial to the purposes of the AJNLA foundation committee. Any monetary net profits received by the AJNLA from the publication of any entry shall be shared by the writer and the AJNLA.

(7) A writer may seek a publisher for his/her own entry. In the event a writer obtains a publisher through his/her own effort and receives any monies, the writer shall retain the total amount paid to the writer by that publisher.

(8) Entries must be postmarked no later than midnight, June 30, 1985. All entries must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. Entries should include name, address and telephone number.

(9) Entries should be mailed to: American Japanese National Literary Award, c/o Ted Tajima, 1855 Homewood Drive, Altadena, CA 91001.

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THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL segments of peoples in both Japan and the U.S. who harbor a common misconception of *Nikkei-beijin's*, Americans of Japanese ancestry. The paradox is that such peoples in these two differing countries and societies share the same misconception; both fail to comprehend a simple, basic fact: AJA's are Americans, no more and no less. One would suppose that by now, both in Japan and the U.S., this fundamental, and proven, fact would be unfailingly understood—particularly inasmuch as AJA's served, valiantly, in the cause of this country in the Pacific as well as European Theatre, even as our parents, younger siblings and spouses remained confined in barbed-wire camps in the very country for which we were fighting.

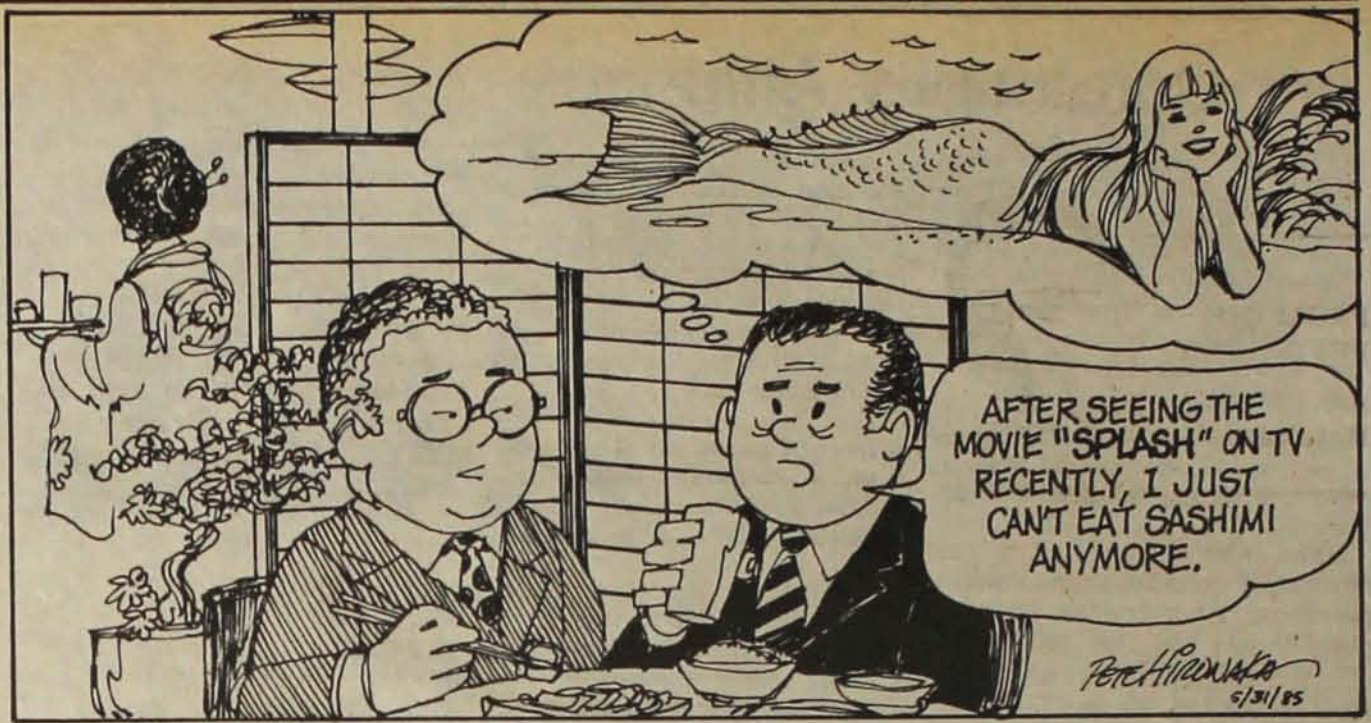
No other Americans can point to such dedication during those trying times.

MOST OF US are aware of the

pervasive, negative manifestations we've endured because of this continuing misconception by an all-too-large segment of our own citizenry. We've all experienced them—and continue to experience them, even if some of us may be reluctant to acknowledge the distastefulness of reality. But whether for better or for worse, this is our country, our land; it belongs to us and we belong to it. Nothing can change that, no matter what some cynical minds may choose to believe or say. And such cynics, operating on unAmerican principles, are not going to dislodge AJA's from their own land or homes. Physically or otherwise.

Once was once too often.

AS WE SUGGESTED, in Japan AJA's are viewed with ambivalence. Although acknowledged as having American *kokuseki*, Japanese society in general, and many Japanese in particular, expect Japanese behavior and observance of Japanese standards by AJA's—something they do not expect from other Americans. Thus, although AJA's may be attired like any other Americans, or generally behave and speak as the Americans that they are, such appearance and behavior are frowned upon when applied to AJA's. This is because that society expects that "If you look like a



Japanese, you must behave and speak as a Japanese." Even if you are an American.

An AJA visiting in Japan can become downright schizophrenic.

DURING OUR LAST visit to Japan a couple years ago, we were in the maze of the Tokyo station to board the "Bullet Train" for points south. Wishing to be absolutely sure that we headed for the assigned platform, I paused to ask a train official for the location of the platform-stop for the *shinkansen*. His response was somewhat abrupt, as if he were addressing an uncouth nit-wit. Any Japanese should know where to catch and board the *shinkansen*.

Had my hair been blonde, he

probably would have not only given me directions—in a polite manner this time—but also have taken me by the arm and physically led me to the correct spot. And then bow as he left.

IT ISN'T THAT AJA's expect special treatment. On the contrary, our plight is precisely that: we are given treatment differing from other Americans. We are expected to be Japanese when we are not. But beyond these superficial manifestations, there is a huge void in the understanding of the Japanese people of just who AJA's are, that AJA's are Americans who happen to embrace many of the fine ethical traditions handed down to them by and

through the Issei, that we are not Japanese except by the happenstance of ancestry. And, I might add, proud of our own ancestry—just as any other American is proud of his ancestry, whatever that may be.

THE RESOLUTION OF this situation is not at the governmental level; rather, it is on a people-to-people level. But it must be methodically organized and deliberately implemented on a long-range basis. Just having so-and-so go over for a quickie trip for a couple of weeks hardly makes a dent and is not far-reaching or long-lasting.

And clearly, merely talking about it means nothing.

Positively Speaking

Almost all the letters we receive from readers appreciate and respect the coverage and the way articles and news stories are handled. While the staff appreciates that response, we also would like to hear from those who have questions or criticisms of the paper. What we receive in the way of criticism comes from members of the Pacific Citizen Board who keep us informed about the objections readers are voicing to them.

This is as it should be, I suppose, for JACLers are reluctant to give the appearance of "tampering with the press." However, it gives us no way to respond directly. As far as I can gather from memos from Board chair Clifford Uyeda, the criticisms address (1) the emphasis on Asian American issues rather than Japanese American and (2) the

ONE THING
LEADS
TO ANOTHER

Bob
Shimabukuro



"negative" portrayal of Asian Americans.

As Uyeda wrote: "The psyche of the 'protest era' is dominated by frustrations and anger. After the tearing down period, there comes a time of rebuilding. Although we are in the rebuilding phase, many said, we are not highlighting those who are attempting this. We do not emphasize the positive role models, but are still dwelling mostly on the

negative Asian American images. Reports on both are necessary. A better balance would improve PC, the readers seem to be saying."

It is difficult to answer a criticism like this, because it doesn't define exactly what "positive" and "negative" is. In addition, it carries the inference that protesting an intolerable situation is "negative."

From my vantage point, positive role models include, but are not limited to, people like James Shimoura, Peggy Nagae, Kaz Maeda, Chiye Tomihiro, Misa Joo, and Cherry Kinoshita who are interested in seeing that injustices be exposed and corrected, and we have, whenever possible, highlighted these kinds of efforts.

These people are not "tearing down" anything; they are, in fact, "building bridges" with other ethnic minorities here in this country. And given the charge of the JACL, that is of utmost importance and, in my book, the most positive statement that can be made about Japanese Americans, more positive than someone being appointed bank manager, elected the local sheriff or chosen Miss Gardena.

In addition, when we report stories about Asians being mistreated, it is to point out an existing problem. If readers feel that that produces a negative image of Asians, then we have a perceptual disagreement. Most of our articles dealing with such subject matter, however, also include coverage of how Asians are responding and fighting back. And to me, fighting back is "positive."

To the other charge, that we don't have enough Japanese

American news, I really don't know how to answer other than by questioning whether people are reading the paper. Looking over the past year of PC, I am surprised that anyone can make that charge. In addition to exclusively JA events and happenings, the PC, as has been noted, covers pan-Asian activities.

Japanese Americans are very prominent in pan-Asian organizations, including American Citizens for Justice, Asian Pacific American Advocates of California, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Asian American Journalists Assn., Association of Asian Pacific American Artists and National Asian American Telecommunications Assn., and when we cover these organizations, we are covering Japanese Americans.

In terms of specific objections, the only one we heard, other than the letter Charlotte Hirasuna wrote (see May 17 PC), was that we didn't have enough Tritia Toyota coverage. Given the fact that Toyota has publicly stated that she would much rather be a newsreporter than a newsmaker, and that PC has run stories and photos of her in recent months (at least 4 times since October), I don't understand the basis for this complaint either.

Now, I realize that people get tired of reading about Norman Mineta and Bob Matsui repeatedly, and I suppose that AJAs are, like most Americans, celebrity oriented. That being the case, here's a little Tritia Toyota piece:

First of all I would like to thank her for giving me a lead on the Hyman Bravin/1800 Engineer story which we ran as our

front page story (May 24 PC). No one else knew about it, I don't know how she found out about it, but thanks.

Second, from Sophia Kyung Kim of the Korea Times Los Angeles Edition, I learned that Toyota spoke at a Korean American Coalition meeting, May 2, where she urged the young audience to make "a commitment to community involvement." She stressed the importance of biculturalism, to "really celebrate that we are Americans of Asian ancestry." She also added that Koreans must unite with other Asian-Pacific American communities and speak as one voice in order to gain any real political power.

"I know that in the Japanese community, there are all kinds of factions and I am sure it is the same in your community, but we have got to get beyond that. As Asian Americans—that is how people are going to view us." A realistic appraisal of an existing situation, an appeal for pan-Asian unity. According to my definition, a very "positive" statement.

But, for those who have complaints, let me know what you view as "positive." And remember while you write your opinion, that the JACL constitution, Article II, states that the purposes of this organization shall be to:

(a) Protect the rights of Japanese Americans as its primary and continuing concern. It shall also strive to secure and uphold civil and human rights for all people....

(c) Participate in the development of understanding between all social and ethnic groups [emphasis added].

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Speak Up for Sushi

FROM THE
FRYING PAN:

Bill
Hosokawa



Some weeks ago a Denver newspaper columnist wrote a supercilious (that means snotty) piece about sushi. Ugh, he said in effect. Raw fish. How horrible. How disgusting. He wouldn't be caught putting that kind of yucky stuff in his mouth.

That writer must have been raised on meat and potatoes, or maybe hamburgers and fries, or more probably sow belly, mustard greens and grits. Nothing wrong with such fare, but there are other interesting foods available in America these days.

What started his dinner table tantrum was a syndicated news story warning that eating raw fish could result in intestinal worms. What he didn't bother to find out was that sushi is not synonymous

with sashimi, and many kinds of sushi don't use raw fish. Nor did his research, minimal if any, reveal that over the centuries the Japanese have learned to use only varieties of fish resistant to infection for sashimi.

Then, the other day, Ruth Tanbara of St. Paul, Minn., sent along a copy of a column from one of the Twin Cities papers based on the same raw-fish-cause-worms dispatch, and repeating the canard about sashimi. In addition, the columnist expressed astonishment, if that is the word, that the Japanese eat the puffer or blowfish "whose incredibly toxic flesh is also served raw in a dish called fugu."

Two things wrong there, fella. It's not the flesh that's toxic, but certain organs. And it's the fish that's called fugu, not the dish. The Minnesota columnist, with the unlikely name of Don Boxmeyer, confirms my contention that newspaper pundits are generically lazy and in times of desperate search for an idea, which is often, they will embrace anything that can be made to fill the space. I know; I've done it. Often.

But take it from one who has

partaken of fugu, the flesh is (1) not toxic and (2) not particularly tasty. Fugu sashimi is so bland it has to be jazzed up with a sauce of lemon and shoyu and other stuff to make it interesting. Give me fresh filet of raw tuna anytime over fugu, which I consider to be vastly overrated as gourmet fare.

Fugu's fascination for the Japanese seems to be that it offers an opportunity to play Russian roulette while sipping warm sake and singing rowdy songs off key. If the chef happened to be nursing a hangover and punctured the dangerous organ while preparing the fish, it could be sayonara for the customers. This happens infrequently but is guaranteed to get lots of newspaper space when it does.

But getting back to Ruth Tanbara, a home ec major. She and her friend Reiko Weston, who owns a string of restaurants in the Twin Cities, took up the cause of sushi, and Boxmeyer's newspaper, with an advanced sense of fair play, gave them a nice spread to explain its delights.

I hope the subscribers read the story. In an area where much of the population comes from cultures that enjoyed lutefisk, pickled herring and smoked salmon, sushi in its many-splendored forms is a natural.

Not Quite a Bridge

by J.K. Yamamoto

Do Japanese Americans form a natural "bridge" between Japan and the U.S.? A number of people think so. The idea is that JAs can help bring about better U.S.-Japan relations because their Japanese ancestry and American upbringing enable them to understand both cultures.

Our Japanese heritage has an impact on how we are brought up, how we perceive ourselves and how others perceive and treat us. But whether that makes us suitable intermediaries between the U.S. and Japan is another question. Just how bicultural and bilingual are we?

Even the Issei, who were born and raised in Japan, would probably have difficulty adapting to life in their native country today. Having lived in the U.S. for at least the last 60 years, many have missed events that have shaped present-day Japan—the devastation of the war, the postwar occupation, the massive economic buildup, and so on. In fact, even someone who has lived here since the 1950s or '60s has missed a lot.

As for the Nisei, most do not speak Japanese fluently and many have either never been to Japan or have only visited as tourists. The wartime internment and postwar dispersal may have caused some to discard the Japanese language and culture.

The Kibei spent some or all of their formative years in Japan, but they—like their Issei parents—are products of prewar Japan.

Sansei, for the most part, do not speak Japanese at all. Many do not have the slightest interest in Japan. And although some have been interested enough to live in Japan as exchange students or to master a Japanese art or craft, that does not necessarily make them bicultural or bilingual.

As we go from generation to generation, and as intermarriage increases, the Japanese influence diminishes even further. Very recent immigrants from Japan know a great deal about their native country but their knowledge of the U.S. may be inadequate for purposes of being a "bridge."

I agree that specific individuals can serve as "bridges" in specific

situations. Anyone of Japanese ancestry (or not of Japanese ancestry, for that matter) who has mastered *ikebana*, *origami*, *go*, *kendo*, *sushi*-making, *Nihongo*, or whatever, can transmit these to fellow Americans and help create an appreciation of Japanese culture and good will toward Japan.

But the above areas are not where the real problem lies. The area that concerns us, because of its potential negative impact on us and on other Asian Americans, is the trade imbalance. To have any real impact on the problem, we require knowledge of business, politics, economics and sociology rather than *sumi-e* or *haiku*.

Many of us may indeed retain certain Japanese traits like *on*, *enryo*, *gaman*, and other characteristics that sociologists say we have. Although this may give us some insight into the Japanese character, it is no substitute for in-depth knowledge of the present political and economic situation in Japan.

The only people who have the necessary expertise to be a "bridge" in any meaningful way would be those individuals who have lived, studied and worked in both countries; who are fluent in both English and Japanese (including reading and writing); who keep up with the latest news in both countries; and who visit both countries with some regularity. Certainly there are Nikkei like that, but these are not characteristics that we all share.

And being a true "bridge" does not mean defending Japan whenever it is criticized; some Japanese may see us as their spokesmen in the U.S., but that is exactly what we mustn't become. Being a "bridge" should mean fully understanding both sides and using that understanding to bring about a mutually acceptable solution.

We should definitely identify those individuals who can do the job. But when we discuss involving Japanese Americans as a whole, our limited knowledge of Japan is a huge stumbling block. Our Japanese ancestry may give us more opportunities and more potential for involvement than other Americans, but just being a JA does not qualify anyone to be a "bridge."

Letters

LEC Appeal

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your help. The Legislative Education Committee directed by Chairperson Min Yasui has been hard at work hammering out a redress pursuit plan. The LEC now has formulated a coordinated legislative, budget, and fundraising redress timeline plan covering from now to the targeted completion of the redress pursuit. We must now marshal as many people as possible to collectively work and push this plan to maximize the possibility of bringing the redress pursuit to a successful conclusion. In the June 7, 1985, issue of the Pacific Citizen there will be a great deal of information on this LEC redress plan.

One definite requirement to carry forward this plan is money. Please read the Legislative Education Committee Section in the June 7, 1985 issue of the PC. Then rush to your LEC District Fund-Raising KEYPERSON to become one of the 200 plus PRIME SOLICITORS LEC needs to raise the money to push the redress pursuit plan to a successful ending. The District Governors can tell you who the District KEYPERSON is. Thank you.

HARRY KAJIHARA
Oxnard, Calif.

First Things First

The compassion, idealism and the sense of morality of the students taking part in the current rash of protests against apartheid, or the plight of the so-called political refugees from Central America are to be commended. But, considering the tragedy that befell 120,000 Japanese American citizens in World War II, aren't these visionaries being a bit naive

and overzealous? After all, "charity" begins at home!

Of course, there will be some Issei and Nisei who will ask, "Why repeat this sordid story now? We know about it. We lived through the internment!" True, but the young cannot remember. They must be told. And neither they nor the protesting students have studied or researched this tragic event and it needs repeating, especially now...

This year two legislative bills, H.R. 442 and S. 1053, have been reintroduced in the Congress to accomplish the CWRIC recommendations. How much more appropriate it would be if the protesting students supported the recommendation of the CWRIC and the two legislative bills for redress!

This is not to say that the students should go out and protest against the government or the internment. But, if each of these idealists were to write a few letters to our national legislators requesting their earnest support for the two legislative bills for the redress of this grievous injustice perpetrated against the Japanese Americans, it would show the whole world that they are upholding the democratic traditions of our country and that a truly democratic society such as ours does not betray its traditions and constitutional guarantees.

WILFRED H. deCRISTOFORO
Salinas, Calif.

deCristoforo is a member of Salinas Valley chapter JACL's redress committee.

A Real Life

Regarding Bill Marutani's column on "Hills and Rivers Ablaze (Sanga Moyu)" on April 19, tele-

vision viewers might consider another perspective if they knew the actual background of the man who was used as the tragic protagonist in the novel and television series.

The Kibei modeled for the story was born in the United States, sent to Japan for an education, attended a Japanese college in Shanghai, and quite significantly decided to return to the U.S. prior to WW2. Evacuated from the West Coast, he left a relocation center to become a civilian instructor of Japanese in Ann Arbor and earned a Legion of Merit award. He was an interpreter for the United States during the war trials and worked as translator at MacArthur's headquarters during the occupation.

Already married prior to the war by formal arrangement, he unfortunately fell in love with a Japanese refugee from Manchuria and fathered her child. It was this conflict between familial obligation and a profound love affair that drove him to commit suicide.

Toyoko Yamazaki, novelist of *Futatsu no Sokoku*, carefully researched her subject—even traveling to the United States to interview people who knew this man. For the sake of popular melodrama, Miss Yamazaki apparently decided to make the motivation for suicide political. It seems to me her ending maligns this Kibei who may well have fled the Japanese militarists repelled by their hubris in China. Distorting a biography may have been a commercial success for the author, but she clearly lacked insight, sensitivity and regard for literary integrity.

MICHI KOBI
New York

PENDLETON

Continued from Front Page

ica "owes" them something "for the terrible state of slavery," they should petition Congress for "reparations" instead of trying to "manipulate the existing laws and regulations and the use of socioeconomic programs under the assumption that they are reparations."

Pendleton said he supports affirmative action programs that espouse "recruitment, training and information to break down the old boys' network." But with 85% of the American population now claiming eligibility for "special preferential treatment, what was thought to be a benefit has now become a burden by going too far."

Citing an example, Pendleton said if a person goes to a hospital

with a sick relative and sees two doctors, one a black female and the other a white male, the visitor will perceive "that black doctor... as being an affirmative-action person. That because of all these special treatment programs, she got to medical school and the white doctor had none of this... But unless you know who she is, whether you are black or white... you wonder if that person has really made it through the process like everybody else, and I think that is sad," Pendleton said.

The U.S. Civil Rights Commission, established under the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is an independent, bi-partisan group that investigates discrimination complaints and civil rights issues and makes recommendations to the federal government.

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People

Awards

Wendy Tokuda, news-caster for KPIX-TV in San Francisco, was one of 10 Bay Area women honored for their activism and achievements in the women's movement at a May 9 dinner held by the S.F. chapter of National Organization for Women (NOW) at the Ft. Mason Officers Club.

Linda K. Nakashima of Gardena, Calif., was one of three named "Woman of the Year" by The Aerospace Corporation, a private, non-profit company based in El Segundo. She is an executive secretary in the Personnel Division of the Administration Group and has been a member of the company's Secretarial Advisory Committee and secretary-treasurer of the Aerospace Asian American Assn.

Dr. Kosaku Yoshida of Cerritos, Calif., won the Lyle E. Gibson Distinguished Teacher Award for his work at Cal State Do-



minguez Hills, where he has taught since 1975. A native of Japan and a graduate of Waseda Univ. and N.Y. Univ., he chairs CSUDH's Dept. of Finance, Quantitative Methods and Real Estate and teaches statistics and operations research, specializing in spectral analysis for business forecasting.

Linna Ueda has been selected by Downtown News as Secretary of the Year. A resident of Gardena, Calif., she is an administrative assistant at First Interstate Bank's International Division. She was praised for her work with loans to the Middle East and Africa.

Music

Hoku award winner Alan Yamamoto, 30, is executive producer of "The Way of Love," a song written and performed by several Hawaii musicians. Proceeds go to USA for Africa, whose "We Are the World" inspired the song, and to local groups providing services to children. The record will be released in June on the Polynesian Odyssey label.

Law Enforcement

Jimmy Sakoda, who recently retired from the LAPD Asian Task Force, was named to head a new Asian investigative unit for the district attorney's office in Los Angeles. Sakoda will serve under Jack

White, chief of the 190-officer bureau of investigations. White said that the details of the new unit have not been worked out. Sakoda said it may be as late as July before the unit becomes operational.

Scholarships

Phillip B. Tsunoda, a College of San Mateo student, has been nominated for a 1985 Harry S. Truman Scholarship, in recognition of his academic performance and commitment to government service. Tsunoda, a resident of San Francisco, is a political science major and plans to pursue a career in public



administration. He is a member of the Asian Students Union and the ETA chapter of Alpha Gamma Sigma. Tsunoda is also a member of Nihonmachi Political Association and is currently working as an aide for Louise Renne, San Francisco Supervisor.

Government

Jean Ushijima, CMC, city clerk of Beverly Hills, Calif., has been accepted into continued membership of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Academy for Advanced Education. Every four years, academy members must demonstrate that they have actively engaged in educational and professional activities in order to keep current with the changing nature of local government. Less than 3% of IIMC's 7,000 members have qualified for academy status.

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