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Friday, July 26, 1985



Photo by J.K. Yamamoto

**NORTHWEST NEWS** — Lori Matsukawa, KING-TV newscaster, and International Examiner editor Ron Chew discuss plans for the newly formed Seattle chapter of Asian American Journalists Assn., of which they are acting co-chairs. (Story on page 12.)

## News in Brief

### Asian American to head women's caucus

**ATLANTA**—Irene Natividad of New York became the first Asian American to head the 14-year-old National Women's Political Caucus June 30 during a four-day convention here. A native of the Philippines, she is director of the Center for Continuing Education at William Paterson College in New Jersey and a founder of the Democratic Party's Asian Pacific Caucus. Calling her election "a signal that the women's movement is not separate from the civil rights movement," she pledged to fight for ERA, affirmative action and other causes. She defeated Atlanta businesswoman Linda Hallenborg, also a Democrat, by a vote of 312 to 262. The caucus, which has a national membership of 77,000, was established to help put women in political office.

### Lee, Hsieh may run for San Francisco supervisor

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Civil service commissioner and attorney Louis Hop Lee was endorsed July 11 by the Chinese American Democratic Club as "the most viable and electable candidate" to run for the S.F. board of supervisors in 1986, East West reports. Police commissioner Thomas Hsieh, who was recently appointed to the Democratic National Committee, has also said that he is seriously considering running. Potential contenders Julie Tang, S.F. Community College Board president (and Lee's wife), and Ben Tom, S.F. Board of Education commissioner, recently announced that they have decided not to run.

### Discrimination suit against L.A. County postponed

**LOS ANGELES**—Kent Wong of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center announced July 11 that a class action discrimination suit against L.A. County on behalf of county employees Wally Shishido and Tom Ohgi is being postponed until other avenues have been exhausted. Negotiations are currently under way with the staff of the county board of supervisors. Attorneys for the two, who claim that they have been denied promotions to supervisory positions despite over 20 years of service in the Health Dept., charge that the department has a quota on promotions based on the percentage of Asians in the 1980 county census (4.7%) rather than on the percentage of qualified Asian applicants (15%). The filing of the suit had originally been planned for June (see June 28 PC).

### Commissioner Mori reappointed despite criticism

**LOS ANGELES**—Mayor Tom Bradley reappointed attorney Jun Mori to the Harbor Commission July 3 despite recent allegations of a conflict of interest published last month in the L.A. Times. Two city attorneys assigned to the harbor have accused Mori of participating, as harbor commissioner, in matters that could financially affect him and his clients. City Atty. James Kenneth Hahn has agreed to review Mori's conduct. Mori has denied wrongdoing and Bradley reappointed him without comment.

## TV mini-series on internment planned

by J.K. Yamamoto

**LOS ANGELES**—The producers of "U.S. On Trial," a mini-series based on the experiences of Japanese Americans incarcerated during WW2, are asking members of the Nikkei community to submit stories of how this period affected them and their family, friends and neighbors.

A project of Inner Circle Productions, this 10 to 12-hour docudrama is scheduled to begin production next year, with a projected budget of 25 to 30 million dollars, and to air on network TV in 1987.

Co-producer and executive researcher Kerry Nakagawa, whose family was interned, said the series will cover prewar prejudice against JAs, life in the assembly centers, WRA relocation centers and Justice Dept. internment camps, the exploits of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Europe, and the postwar resettlement. He expects the script to be completed within 16 weeks.

Nakagawa described "U.S. On Trial" as "much different from other projects" about Japanese

Americans, such as NHK's "Sanga Moyu," which presented events in the U.S. from a Japanese perspective, and the TV film "Farewell to Manzanar," which told the story of one family in one camp.

He said that he plans to present "as many perspectives as possible" based on both research and community input, particularly interviews with former internees. He emphasized that he is seeking responses from throughout the country, not just locally.

Nakagawa is also interested in the experiences of non-Nikkei who assisted JAs despite the prevailing anti-Japanese sentiment.

Although he plans to incorporate humorous anecdotes about camp life, such as those of Nisei who were children at the time, Nakagawa stressed that the show is "not pulling punches, not compromising" with regard to the death, illness, trauma and property losses caused by the internment. His main purpose is to show the "spirit and courage" of the Japanese Americans.

Actors expected to star in the series include James Shigeta, Robert Ito, Mako, George Takei, Michael Yama, Sab Shimono, Dale Ishimoto, Jeanne Mori, Kim Miyori and Jim Ishida. Nakagawa indicated that some "name" Caucasian actors have also expressed interest in the project.

Funding could come from a number of sources, but Nakagawa said that he would prefer that all of it "come from one entity."

Negotiations for possible on-location filming are being conducted with the governors of Arkansas, Wyoming, Texas and other states where JAs were detained during WW2.

Writer and co-producer Maria Elena Cellino, who is scouting locations, has a particular interest in the project because she was raised by Japanese American parents. Through her influence, Nakagawa said, the project is gaining support not only from the Italian American community but also from Italy because of the role the 442nd played in liberating the country during WW2.

John Curran is serving as executive producer.

Nakagawa feels that "the time is right" for the project because "a lot of Nisei are coming forth with stories" about the camps. He hopes that with the collaboration of the JA community, the end result will be a program that will make younger JAs "feel proud of their heritage."

Persons interested in being interviewed may contact Cellino at (213) 684-1791 or Nakagawa at (213) 665-6818, or write Inner Circle Productions at 2206 Las Lunas, Pasadena, CA 91107.

## State senate endorses redress

**SACRAMENTO**—The California state senate passed a resolution supporting reparations for Japanese Americans interned during WW2 by a 29-3 vote on July 18.

Seven Republicans joined 22 Democrats in voting for the measure, SJR24, which was carried by Sen. Ralph Dills (D-Gardena).

"It's the only thing about Franklin Delano Roosevelt that I cannot forgive," Dills said, referring to FDR's signing of Executive Order 9066 in 1942. "In time of war, the gross exaggerations of fact and fiction get blurred. We owe a debt. It's time to pay."

Sen. Walter Stiern (D-Bakersfield), who is of German descent, noted that German Americans were not incarcerated en masse as Japanese Americans were.

The resolution calls on Congress to pass redress bills HR 442 in the House and S 1053 in the Senate, which would, among other things, pay \$20,000 to each living former internee.

Sen. Jim Ellis (R-San Diego), who voted against the measure along with Sens. H.L. Richardson (R-Glendora) and Robert Presley (D-Riverside), said that the executive order "was done by one person. He [Roosevelt] signed the order. I don't see why we should pay for the mistake."



**MORE SUPPORT** — At its annual meeting May 31 in San Francisco, the Calif. Assn. of Human Rights Organizations unanimously endorsed passage of congressional redress bills HR 442 and S 1053. From left: Randy Shiroy, Sacramento Human Relations Commission; David Yamakawa, S.F. Human Relations Commission; keynote speaker Arthur Flemming, formerly of the U.S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians; Toshiko Yoshida, PSWDC JACL Redress Committee, who introduced the resolution; and Clara Harris, Heartland Human Relations Committee director.



## Community Affairs

**VANCOUVER, B.C.**—The 9th annual **Powell St. Festival**, a celebration of Japanese Canadian community and culture, will be held Aug. 3-4 at Oppenheimer Park (400 block Cordova St.). Featured performers include gymnast Patti Sakaki, singer Terry Watada, sculptor Bart Uchida, and Katari Tai-ko. Other highlights will be folk dancing, amateur sumo wrestling, and a showing of the film "Nisei Soldier." Info: Masayo Hora, 682-4335.

**SEATTLE**—"Nisei Soldier," Loni Ding's documentary about the experiences of Japanese Americans who fought in Europe during WW2, airs on KCTS-TV (Ch. 9) August 11, 11:30 a.m.

"By the Roadside: Sketches of Village Japan," an exhibit of works by Alan Lau, runs Aug. 2-31 at the Francine Seders Gallery, 6701 Greenwood Ave. N., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tue.-Sat., 1-5 p.m. Sun. Lau spent a year in Japan as an exchange artist under the auspices of the Japan-America Friendship Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, and Japan's Ministry of Culture. Info: (206) 782-0355.

"The Way It Was: Northwest Issei and Nisei Before 1941," a photo exhibit of prewar Japanese American community life, is on public view Thursdays, 12-4 p.m., until the end of August at Nippon Kan Theater, 628 S. Washington St. To make appointments for group viewings, call Hideo Hoshida, 725-6906, or Tama Tokuda, 722-6211.

**BERKELEY**—Bowling, golf and dancing are among the offerings at the **Berkeley Nisei Club** 60th anniversary reunion, Aug. 31-Sept. 2. Information: Warren Eijima, 546-0696.

**CARSON, Calif.**—The City of Carson sponsors its third annual **Asian/Pacific Islander Friendship Day**, Aug. 25, noon till 7 p.m., Carriage Crest Park Entertainment, food booths, cultural dis-

plays and martial arts exhibits are planned.

**WEST COVINA, Calif.**—The 17th Obon Festival sponsored by the **West Covina Buddhist Church** will be held July 28, noon till 10 p.m. at the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 West Puente Ave. No charge. All are welcome.

**SAN FRANCISCO**—A gigantic Samurai Festival featuring the finest, most popular films of flashing swordsmanship, starts July 31 at the **Kokusai Theater** and runs through Oct. 1. Starting with the uncut version of "The Seven Samurai," the schedule includes Zatoichi, Sanjuro, Yojimbo, Miyamoto Musashi, and others. Call (415) 563-1400 for times and ticket information.

**DENVER**—The Festival of Asian Arts and Culture continues through Aug. 4 at the Denver Botanic Gardens, 10th and York. Sponsored by **Denver Botanic Gardens, Asian Pacific Development Center, Denver Art Museum** and the **Colorado Asian Organization**, this week-long festival will feature Asian art, lectures on Asian culture and Asian foods.

**TORRANCE, Calif.**—Plans have been finalized for a Chicago Nisei reunion with dinner, entertainment, and dancing at the Elks Lodge, 1735 W. 162 St., Oct. 26. Submit reservations or requests for information to: **Chicago Riunite**, P.O. Box 6007, Torrance, CA 90504.

**LOS ANGELES**—The **Asian/Pacific Women's Network** presents a summer picnic and bake sale, Aug. 3, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Griffith Park. This will be an opportunity for members, family and friends to get acquainted in a relaxed atmosphere of food, fun, games and prizes. Those planning to attend should bring a dish to feed 6 people.

Information: Patricia Horikawa, (213) 974-3981.

"Celebration: 15th," marking the 15th anniversary of **Visual Communications**, the Asian Pacific American media resource and production center, is scheduled for Aug. 24 at the Japan America Theater, 244 S. San Pedro St. A \$15 donation will be asked for the program of premiere screenings and surprises. Golden Circle select seating and special guest reception will be \$30. Information: (213) 680-4462.

A demonstration/lecture on Kabuki history, facts, figures and trivia by Dr. Leonard Pronko will be presented July 27 at the Japan America Theater, 2 p.m., \$5 admission.

The 92-member **Grand Kabuki** will appear at UCLA's Royce Hall for performances Aug. 7-11. For information, call JACCC Box Office, (213) 680-3700 or UCLA Central Ticket Office, (213) 825-9261.

Ondo practice for the 1985 **Nisei Week Japanese Festival** will be held every Wednesday and Friday until Aug. 2, 7:30-9 p.m. in the JACCC Plaza. Soft drinks will be provided to the dancers.

The Festival's **Prince and Princess Pageant** will be held Aug. 3, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Parker Center Auditorium, 150 N. Los Angeles St. This event is sponsored by the **Los Angeles/Nagoya Sister City Affiliation** and the **Sigma Phi Omega Alumnae of USC**. Contestants must be of Japanese heritage, between the ages of 12 months and 6 years, 11 months. Applications, along with a \$10 entry fee will be accepted at the pageant.

"The Best of Times" is the theme of the Festival's Fashion Show Luncheon to be held noon, Aug. 4, at the International Ballroom of the Beverly Hilton Hotel. The event is sponsored by the

**Montebello Japanese Women's Club**. Coordinator of the show is Holly Mitchell. Information: (213) 723-4929.

Other events in the 45th annual **Nisei Week Festival** include:

Opening ceremonies, Aug. 7, 6 p.m., JACCC.

Coronation ball, Aug. 10, 6 p.m., Bonaventure Hotel; grand parade, Aug. 11, 3 p.m., Little Tokyo; awards dinner, Aug. 12, 6 p.m., New Otani Hotel; pioneer luncheon, Aug. 14, noon, New Otani.

Japanese folk music show, Aug. 15, 7:30 p.m., Koyasan Hall; shigin taikai, Aug. 16, 7 p.m., Zenshuji Temple; casino night, Aug. 16, 7:30 p.m., Venice Japanese Community Center.

Carnival, Aug. 17-18, 11 a.m.-11 p.m., San Pedro St. Parking Lot; street art festival, Aug. 17-18, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Weller Court; ondo street dance, closing ceremony, Aug. 18, 6 p.m., San Pedro St.; music of Japan, Aug. 25, 1 p.m., Union Church.

No. 2,349

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## Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemorations

**LOS ANGELES**—A reception and dinner for atomic bomb survivors visiting from Japan will be hosted by **Asian Pacific Americans for Nuclear Awareness (APANA)** at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., 2nd floor, July 28, 7 p.m. Candles will be lit from the Hiroshima Peace Flame brought from Japan last year at a Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration on Aug. 3, 6 p.m., also at the JACCC. Info for both events: 626-2249 or 261-9784.

"Imagine There's a Future," a month-long arts festival sponsored by Hollywood Women's Coalition and Interfaith Center to Reverse the Arms Race, includes the following:

—"A Celebration of Life" and "Ceramic Sculpture for Human Survival" at Doizaki Gallery, JACCC through Aug. 4, Tue.-Sun., 12-5 p.m.

—"Unforgettable Fire: Drawings of Atomic Bomb Survivors" at So. Calif. Library for Social Studies & Research, 6120 S. Vermont Ave., Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m., through Aug. 17.

—An exhibition of contemporary photography focusing on Hiroshima/Nagasaki at USC Atelier, 393 Santa Monica Place, 3rd fl., Santa Monica, Tue.-Sun. 12-6 p.m. and Fri., 12-9 p.m., through Sept. 1.

—A Hiroshima vigil along Wilshire Blvd. from Ocean Ave. in Santa Monica to Grand Ave. in downtown L.A., Aug. 6, 12-2 p.m., and a Nagasaki vigil at Long Beach City Hall, 333 W. Ocean Blvd., Aug. 9, 7 p.m.

Info for all events: (213) 653-3240.

**SEATTLE**—Northwest Network for a Nuclear Free & Independent Pacific and American Friends Service Committee sponsor "Hiroshima 1945-Seat-

tle 1985: A Memorial Service and a Call to Action" Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m., at Japanese Baptist Church, 901 E. Spruce St. (at Broadway). Service includes speakers, poetry readings and musical performances. Info: Tracy Lai, 624-3925 or 329-0172.

**PORTLAND**—Local peace activists gather for a candlelight procession to Tom McCall Waterfront Park on Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m. to commemorate Hiroshima. On Nagasaki Day, Aug. 9, speakers will be presented at Pioneer Square, 12 noon.

**SAN DIEGO**—The first MEND (Mothers Embracing Nuclear Disarmament) Walk for Peace starts Aug. 6, 5 p.m., at corner of 6th and Laurel in Balboa Park. A four-block walk to Cypress Grove will be followed by a program with Kaz Suyeishi, v.p. of Committee of Atomic Bomb Survivors in the U.S. (CABS); Adm. Eugene Carroll (Ret.), deputy director of the Center for Defense Information; singer Melissa Manchester; actress Margot Kidder; and the MEND Children's Choir. Info: (619) 454-3343.

A **Nagasaki Day Fundraiser** for CABS will be held by the Hiroshima Nagasaki Committee on Aug. 9, 6:30 p.m., at 1313 60th St., featuring music by the jazz band Main Force and a speaker from CABS. Donation requested. Info: 275-1162.

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Bay Area Asians for Nuclear Disarmament (BAAND) presents a **Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Week**, including an interfaith service Aug. 4 at St. Mary's Cathedral and a citywide commemoration program Aug. 6 at the Japantown Center Peace Plaza. Info: Lyle Butch Wing, 561-8297 or 524-1837; Randall

Padgett, 334-9968; or Charlene Tschirhart, 621-0858.

KQED (Ch. 9) presents "Hiroshima Remembered" Aug. 6, 7 p.m. and Aug. 7, 11 p.m. The program includes same-day satellite footage of the annual commemoration in Hiroshima and John Else's film "The Day After Trinity: J. Robert Oppenheimer," about the father of the A-bomb. Another show, "Search for the Super," traces the evolution of the first H-bomb on Aug. 8, 7:30 p.m.

**OAKLAND, Ca.**—"A Remembrance: A Celebration of the Spirit of Peace," will be presented by the Ecumenical Peace Institute/CALC at Ohana Cultural Center, 4345 Telegraph Ave., Aug. 6, 8 p.m. Speakers/performers include Rev. Nobuaki Hanaoka, Friends of Hibakusha; poet Janice Mirikitani; Ying Lee Kelly of Rep. Ron Dellums' office; and the singing group Hot-Cha. Info: 849-2214.

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## Hirabayashi gains East Coast support

Gordon Hirabayashi, who challenged the basis for his WW2 conviction of violating curfew and evacuation orders last month in federal court, recently toured three East Coast cities to raise funds for his legal effort.

Hirabayashi, along with Fred Korematsu and Minoru Yasui, had his appeal turned down by the Supreme Court 40 years ago. The three are now charging that the government manipulated evidence in order to justify its contention that the internment of JAs was militarily necessary.

At a Mott House reception sponsored by Asian Pacific American Bar Assn. of the Greater Washington D.C. Area, Reps. Norman Mineta and Don Edwards (both D-Calif.) expressed support for Hirabayashi's case.

"I believe the name of Hirabayashi, along with Korematsu and Yasui, will go down in history not just as the names of horrible Supreme Court decisions, but as the names of cases where our judicial system admits that it was flat out wrong," said Mineta.

Edwards, who chairs the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, said, "Most of the members of my subcommittee regard this as a key civil rights case that must be resolved if our Constitution is to mean anything."

Hirabayashi described the case as doing more than just vacating his conviction. "Rather," he said, "it is a chance for the record to show that the government had no justification for internment Japanese Americans during the war."

The following day in Boston, Hirabayashi spoke before the Massachusetts Bar Assn. and at Northeastern Law School and University of Massachusetts. The latter two programs included showings of "Unfinished Business," a documentary about Hirabayashi, Korematsu and Yasui.

Funds from the Boston events went to Hirabayashi's case as well as to the Harry H. Dow Memorial Legal Assistance Fund, named after Massachusetts' first Asian American attorney. Dow, who died recently, spent his retirement years providing free legal services for the economically disadvantaged.

In New York on July 10, Hirabayashi, who was a student at University of Washington at the time of his conviction, met with other

former Seattle residents at a "New York Celebrates Seattle" program held at Japanese American United Church.

Attorney Marc Hideo Iyeki gave an update on the redress movement and greetings to "Seattleites in spirit" from Rep. Mike Lowry (D-Wash.), a redress advocate, were read.

Hirabayashi not only talked about his case but also told anecdotes about his Issei mother. Members of the audience related their memories of life in prewar Seattle and other experiences.

The East Coast speaking tour was coordinated by Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) and sponsored by Asian American community groups in each city.

### At camp reunion

## Dancer to offer special performance

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Asha "Patti" Hanada-Rogers, a dancer and choreographer from Southern California, will be guest performer at the 2nd Heart Mountain Reunion dinner/dance to be held Aug. 31 at the Red Lion Inn.

A resident of Alhambra, she began her dance training at age five. She has appeared in local musical productions such as "The King and I," "Fiddler on the Roof," "The Music Man," and "Cabaret." She received her B.A. in dance from UC Santa Barbara.

Hanada-Rogers has been principal dancer and soloist with Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Theatre and appeared on TV as a featured dancer on "Dance Fe-

## Japanese national kills wife, wounds mother-in-law

by Katie Kaori Hayashi

WEST COVINA, Calif.—Hiroshi Itai, 35, a Japanese national, shot his Japanese American wife and mother-in-law, allegedly because of family problems, on July 8.

Itai's wife, Tsuyako "Terry," and her mother, Shigeko Oshiro, were taken to Queen of the Valley Hospital soon after the incident. Tsuyako, 35, was pronounced dead with four gunshot wounds in the chest. Oshiro, 55, who had a gunshot wound through the jaw, received plastic surgery because a bullet went from her right cheek to her left cheek and destroyed her tongue.

A nurse at the hospital said that Oshiro would be out of the hospital in two weeks and is recovering well. But Sgt. Dan Leonard of the West Covina Police Dept. said she was in serious condition.

Itai is being held without bail and was prosecuted on one count each of first degree murder and attempted murder. His arraignment will be held July 27 in Citrus Municipal Court.

Itai, who had been separated from his wife for three months, visited Oshiro's Lawnmower Service, which was run by his wife's family, at about 10 a.m. on the day of the shooting. He and his wife started arguing because he hadn't brought their 3-year-old daughter, Christy, with him. Christy had stayed one night with her father with his wife's consent.

Itai went back to his car and returned with a .357 magnum revolver he had bought a month before. He shot Tsuyako four times and shot Oshiro once when she tried to help her daughter. After the shooting, he waited to be arrested by the police.

Sgt. Leonard said that Itai didn't say why he shot the two but that the couple had had trouble over their daughter.

Sgt. Ross Arai of the Los Angeles Police Dept.'s Asian Task Force and Masaharu Nigi of the Los Angeles Japanese Consulate, both bilingual, helped to interview Itai to make sure that he understood questions. Arai said Itai's English was "very poor."

Itai came to the U.S. five years ago from Kagoshima Prefecture. He was a cook but became a gardener after marrying. He reportedly had a drinking problem.

The Oshiros came to the U.S. from Okinawa when Tsuyako was a child. According to Leonard, "the store and the family are well known in the city." He added that "the city has a substantial Japanese population, but this is the first murder case."

Detective Sam Masuda of the LAPD's Asian Task Force said, "Usually very few crimes occur in the Japanese community... it is unusual to have murder cases committed by persons of Japanese nationality."

But he added that more Japanese nationals are flowing into Los Angeles and that "the more people come in, the more crimes occur." The major accomplishments of the Asian Task Force have been to put more criminals in jail.

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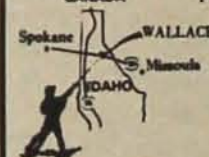
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## First Things First

EAST  
WIND

Bill  
Marutani



have undivided, absolute priority. For if we gain whatever else, but have not restored our personal dignities as full-fledged Americans, all else will mean not a whit. We shall then continue to be peoples who were uprooted, incarcerated, demeaned—with the implication that, somehow, it was justified. Deserved.

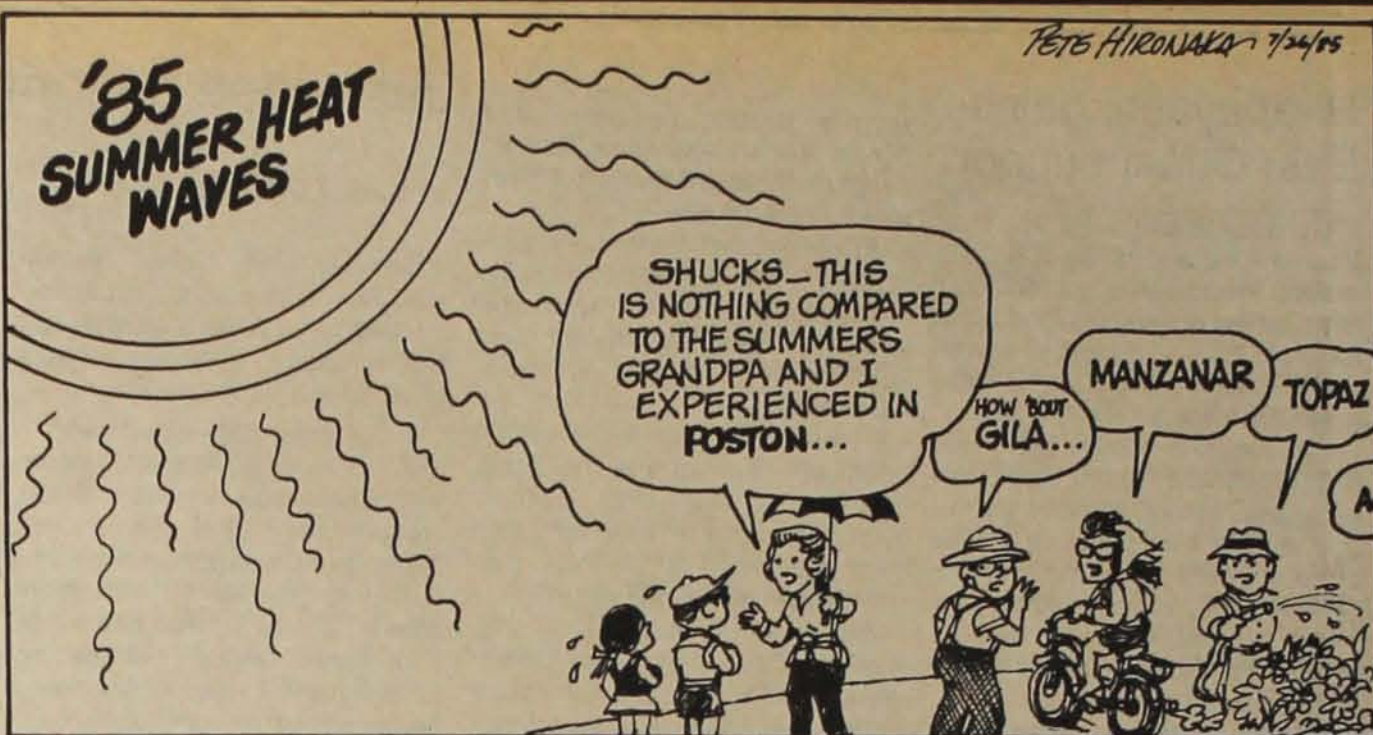
THERE'S A SEGMENT of AJA's who would seek to elevate "U.S.—Japan Relations" (whatever that may mean) to a top priority for JACL, an organization that happens to be (or at least is supposed to be) a civil rights organization. Without coming flat out and saying so, these proponents suggest that "As Japanese economic policies go, so go the welfare and well-being of AJA's in America."

Well, I, for one, have a great deal of difficulty—nay, difficulties—with that position.

FIRST AND FOREMOST, insofar as priorities are concerned, the moral issue—moral for America as well as for restoration of our own dignity as Americans of Japanese ancestry—the moral issue of redress does and must

be. I'M ALSO TROUBLED that this concern with U.S.—Japan Relations is motivated by the fear of perceptions of others, the (false) perception of others that we are "Japanese" and therefore somehow responsible for what Japan does or does not do, for Japanese economic policies, Japanese trade with the United States. And our reacting and participating in efforts "to smooth things over," only serve to confirm the unjustified suspicions of those who fail to understand that we are Americans, first and last.

This country being a free country, if there be AJA's, or anybody else for that matter, who have an interest (economic or otherwise) in U.S.—Japan Relations, they can certainly participate to their hearts content. But it's another thing when they seek to enlist a



civil rights organization to the issue.

THIS ISN'T TO SAY that I, as an American of Japanese ancestry, am not proud of my cultural heritage. I am very proud and will not reject it. That heritage has many, many fine things which, if only adopted by our society, could vastly improve it. This isn't to say, either, that we should not speak up when some Iacocca makes a racist remark in the trade context; we should, promptly and firmly. This isn't to say, either, that a Vincent Chin

was not clubbed with baseball bats because he was associated by his killers with Japan, more particularly with the Japanese automobile industry. And, this isn't to say that in many segments of our society, AJA's continue to be associated with Japan.

But the answer is not, I suggest, to become a spokesperson, a "bridge," and thereby associate ourselves, as an organization, to an international trade issue involving the land from which our parents departed scores of years ago. At any rate, AJA's are not

possessed of the essential data and facts to speak knowledgeably on the entire question. We only have those few who purport to speak as "experts," often following a quickie trip to Japan, and who then beat the drums of fear.

FIRST THINGS FIRST: We had better first concentrate, with undivided attention and effort, to restoring our soul. Else, having gained many other things, we shall be doomed to being second-class citizens, citizens without a soul.

## The Air That I Breathe

ONE THING  
LEADS  
TO ANOTHER

Bob  
Shimabukuro



Well, another week has gone by and there is no air conditioning yet. Last week, I thought I was being fried. This week, I feel like I'm being boiled. With the humidity running around 60-70 percent, it's like being in a steam bath. The machines are still on strike. Why aren't I, I keep asking myself?

Meanwhile, the air quality has not improved very much. "Smog alert; reduce driving," says the sign on the freeway. It's said that continuously since the beginning of June. Nobody pays any attention. If anything, I know I've driven more, trying to find some air.

When I was young and was down with an asthma attack, I used to love to hear my dad say, "Bob, you wanna go for a drive, get some fresh air?" One of the benefits of being sick was being able to sit in the front (as the 5th child in a family where age determined your station in life, I rarely rode up front). I would stick my nose to the window and feel the cool air rush by as our 1936 Plymouth (and later, a '48 Buick) zipped along at a nice 35 m.p.h. around Manoa Valley in Honolulu.

More often than not, we would end up at the drive-in on the main drag of Manoa which had a television prominently displayed in its window; often, the fights were on. It took me years to figure out that my dad would take these drives in order to watch the fights. We didn't have a television set; apparently, neither did the 6 or 7 other regulars who watched the fights with us.

At the time, I thought it rather strange, but I did notice that after the drive and the fight, I did feel a lot better. The better the fight, the easier it was to breathe.

Someone later told me that asthmatics need adrenalin and watching a good fight definitely gets the adrenalin going. Anyway, I still love a good boxing match.

And I still love to go cruising (with someone else driving), whenever I feel bad, physically or emotionally, especially when I have a hard time breathing.

The problem here, of course, is you have to go far to get some clean air. And all the junk that you have to breathe while getting to the place you want to be makes the drive totally unproductive. Being encased in an oxygen tent was always my idea of heaven. Being encased in the atmosphere I find myself in now was always my idea of hell. Maybe hell isn't as bad as it is made out to be. I'm still alive. Barely.

□ □ □  
"Who was that lady I saw you with last night?"

"That was no lady, that was my daughter."

Having my daughter here the past few weeks has been a boon. Everyone keeps commenting how "adult" Mira acts. I haven't figured out if that's good or bad, but I like it. If nothing else, she keeps me from being totally preoccupied with the PC and its day-to-day hassles.

□ □ □  
Last item: Anyone wanting to help out the editor here can send some cool, refreshing mountain air, c/o the Pacific Citizen. Or they can bug the city of Los Angeles to send the electrical inspector over here, and hassle the contractor to finish up the job. It would make life more bearable.

## Letters

### Change of Heart

This letter is regarding the foreigners in Japan being fingerprinted. I wrote earlier suggesting that those in Rome do as the Romans do—follow the law and regulations of the host country.

Now, I am simply appalled at the attitude of the Japanese government. First, I learned that babies born there of non-Japanese parents are not automatically given Japanese citizenship.

Second, several municipalities oppose this mandatory fingerprinting and they let those law-abiding denizens register without fingerprinting.

Third, Japan excels in electronic gadgetry, e.g., artificial intelligence, automatic translation, yet their consideration for humanity is way behind. Don't they know that fingerprints do not change year to year? Once someone is fingerprinted, isn't that enough?

Conclusion: the Japanese still suffer from the "sakoku" mentality, that of a little frog living in a small well. I pity those narrow-minded Japanese.

YASUO ISHIDA  
St. Louis

### Thanks Again, Pete

The Redress Committee of Salinas Valley Chapter JACL is grateful to Pete Hironaka for the cartoon booklets he recently donated to the Salinas Chapter Prime Solicitors for LEC. His booklet makes a valuable addition to the improved packet each of the five Prime Solicitors will be using to appeal for LEC donations.

Hironaka's cartoons graphically and emphatically point out the issues involved in our efforts to seek redress and were recently commended by a member of the

California senate and by a U.S. congressman, who suggested that the booklet would be useful in informing members of the House of the tragic episode of the internment and the necessity for redress.

Well done, Pete Hironaka, and a sincere thank you! Your cartoons are invaluable to us and to all Nikkei, so keep up your endeavors for they will play a large part in securing redress for former internees.

VIOLET deCRISTOFORO  
Salinas, Calif.

### NCWNP and LEC

There is a lot of activity in the latest effort to raise funds for the Legislative Education Committee fund of National JACL. There are a multitude of dedicated people who have worked long and hard for this important effort. We should be positive as much as possible and unified as the effort continues.

The effort in NCWNP District has been slow in getting started for a variety of reasons, all valid. Once we get geared up and running, I'm sure that the funds shall come in and we shall be counted as we have in the past. Somehow, our district always comes through in the end.

One concern needs to be addressed and clarified. The leadership in our district has not purposely held up nor opposed the fundraising, as has been rumored by some people in other districts. Rumors, innuendo, and questioning letters do not contribute to assure a positive support position. Let us move forward from here and work together for the benefit of the LEC redress program.

As new information becomes available as to how and what the

Continued on Next Page

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## For Fellow Philatelists

### FROM THE FRYING PAN:

Bill Hosokawa



has provided evidence that the McGehee postmark is the only one using the words "Relocation Br." But there were other postmarks from Tulalake, Manzanar, Poston, Rivers (Gila), Hunt (Minidoka), Topaz, Heart Mountain, Amache, and Denson, Ark., none of which mentions relocation centers.

Fujita sent along a copy of an outline map of the United States with a postmark from each of the ten camps marking its location.

Incidentally, even during wartime in the WRA camps, when letter mail required only a 3-cent stamp, the postal service noted both date and time on its postmarks. For example, MAY 7 11 AM 1943, and APR 29 330PM 1943.

Today, for 22 cents, the postal service notes only whether it was AM or PM when the letter was postmarked.

The second response, of greater historical import, is from Dr. Louis Fiset (pronounced Fi-zay) of Seattle who identifies himself as a postal historian focusing on World War II internment in the U.S., Canada and Latin America. He writes:

"I am presently gathering, photographing and photocopying envelopes and correspondence in preparation for a series of articles to appear in the philatelic press and other periodicals that reach a wider audience. From these articles and the correspondence generated from them I will produce a

monograph documenting the entire history of events surrounding the internment.

"In order to compile a complete documentation I must look to the Japanese American community for help. I am very interested in gaining access to those old letters you advise readers to hang onto a bit longer. Envelopes are documents that record people, places, dates and historical settings. Contents of these envelopes, however personal, may provide facts of historical significance. Letting envelopes and letters tell the story allows many people access to a study of history who might be intimidated by textbooks and lecture halls. It is my conviction that all Americans should understand the personal impact of this sad chapter in United States history.

"Among the letters and envelopes I have located to date I am able to document the FBI roundup on the heels of Pearl Harbor, assembly centers, WRA relocation camps, military, saving the sugarbeet crop, the first Christmas, student relocation to inland colleges, and even postwar envelopes from individuals awaiting outcomes of repatriation hearings. . . . My research may result, perhaps, in preservation and documentation of many pieces of a complex puzzle that, when assembled, will reveal the whole story on the internment."

Sounds like a worthy project. If you have old envelopes and letters squirreled away and would like to help, you can write to Dr. Louis Fiset, 7554 Brooklyn Ave., N.E. Seattle, WA 98115.

## Evaluating and Communicating

by Henry S. Sakai

Continuing from last week, former JACL national treasurer and Pacific Citizen board chair Sakai expresses concerns about what is happening (or not happening) in JACL at the national level.

### LEC

I think everyone should support the LEC fund drive chaired by Harry Kajihara, since it's going to take as much as \$1.5 million to mount an effective campaign for 2, 3, or even 4 years. My concern is with the planning of the campaign because I don't know if all the options were considered.

Since my job in engineering management is to identify the problem, evaluate, determine the various options for resolution and

then either select or recommend what option is best to resolve the problem, I have repeatedly asked that the various redress plan options be identified and evaluated.

For instance: Should we go all out this year and the next? What are the chances of success? Should we keep at it but at a reduced level and save our resources for a big push with the next Congress after the '86 elections? What's our chance of success then? Should we hire a big lobbying firm that has connections inside on both sides to push it through or attach it as a rider on a major bill at the right time? How much does that cost and what's the chance of success?

Right now it looks like LEC is doing the grassroots bit (where

are the other redress groups?), doing some internal lobbying. I wonder—did the LEC board identify and evaluate each option and decide on the best plan? I've talked to a few board members and haven't gotten a comfortable feeling that was done. In other words, would you go with an option that had a 20% chance when another option costing twice as much had a 60% chance, etc.?

It's important that LEC maintain good accountability. It's too bad that George Kodama wasn't selected to the LEC board and made the treasurer, since he put JACL finances under cost control. This is not to take anything away from Shig Wakamatsu; I'm sure he is a very dedicated person. The

other thing that the redress movement must do is to put aside the egos and personalities and pull in all groups to work efficiently for the common cause.

### Communications

In order for the membership to understand what is going on in JACL, there must be communication. If chapter delegates are to go to the national convention and make rational decisions, they must understand the issues and take interest in what's going on in the organization. I see most delegates go with very little information on the issues.

So, how do they get that information? The best vehicle is the Pacific Citizen. Unfortunately, very few people at the national

level write reports or articles for the PC. Other than president Sato, VP Nakashima, VP Himeno, past president Shimomura, PC chair Uyeda and an occasional "Musubi" from the national director, what information comes down? How many of the 20 or so who went to Japan have related their experience?

I think the national director should report every month and National Board members and committee chairs should report at least once a quarter. The PC will be happy to accommodate these articles. I think members have a right to know what's going on and what their money is being spent for.

*Last in a series*

### Donations to Pacific Citizen

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As of July 20, 1985: \$30,129.30 (749)  
This week's total: \$ 226.28 ( 5)  
Last week's total: \$29,903.02 (744)  
\$10 from: John/Chisato Nomura.  
\$25 from: Tommy/Kazuko Nakayama.  
\$36.28 from: Ted Nagata.  
\$50 from: Howard/Dorothy Toriumi.  
\$105 from: George Kaneko.

Thank you!

## Carole Fujita: The Fight Continues

From  
PACIFIC  
SOUTHWEST:  
by  
John Saito



Back in 1980, Dr. Carole Fujita charged the County of Los Angeles with race and sex discrimination in promotion. The County Civil Service Commission heard the case and ruled in her favor, and she was eventually promoted to the position of Pharmacy Supervisor I.

In the history of the L.A. County Dept. of Health Services, there has never been a female pharmacy chief. Therefore, when a vacancy recently occurred at Harbor-UCLA General Hospital, Dr. Fujita, along with about 14 other pharmacists, applied for that position.

Usually a promotional examination includes the application, appraisal of promotability (AP), written test, and an oral interview. In the promotional exam for Pharmacy Services Chief III, the AP was used for the final score.

In Dr. Fujita's case, her AP couldn't be done by her supervisor

since he had recently resigned. The acting supervisor could not do it either since he was also applying for the position, and therefore the task was assigned to an assistant hospital administrator.

It just so happened that this assistant hospital administrator had ruled against Dr. Fujita on a prior grievance hearing but was overruled by her superior. This alone should have disqualified her from evaluating Carole, but the fact that she was not a pharmacist should have further disqualified her from any valid evaluation process.

As it turned out, Carole ended up with a score of 70, which is equivalent to "the kiss of death," and the acting supervisor got a score of 100.

Representing Carole at the July 17 Civil Service Commission hearing was her attorney, Russell Iungerich. He had been her attorney at the 1980 grievance hearing also.

After listening to both sides, the commission asked Iungerich what he was seeking as a remedy. Since there were questions of discrimination based on sex and other non-merit factors, Carole's attorney, in effect, requested a new ex-

amination. The commission has granted a hearing to see whether a new examination should be given.

The next hearing is scheduled for August 21 at the Hall of Administration, 222 N. Grand Ave., Rm. 522, beginning at 10 a.m. The other

13 applicants for the position of Pharmacy Services Chief III will be notified of the hearing and will be given the opportunity to submit their statements to the commission prior to the hearing date.

For more information, call (213) 626-4471.



Photo by J.K. Yamamoto

STEP RIGHT UP — Seattle JAYs (Japanese American Youth) were among the Asian community organizations participating in the 10th annual Chinatown-International District Summer Festival held July 14 in Hing Hay Park. Thousands attended the multi-ethnic event.

## LETTERS

Continued from Page 4

redress program will develop into in the months ahead, it is my hope that some accommodation can be made to strongly continue the deductible donation part of the national redress program. I believe that this feature must be studied and presented in a more positive manner so that the entire program shall not falter. An effective fund drive must include the deductible factor to work hand in hand with the non-deductible fundraising.

The common goal must overcome personalities and egos if we are to succeed.

YOSH NAKASHIMA  
San Francisco

Nakashima is immediate past governor of No. Calif.-W. Nev.-Pacific District JACL.



## Is the Benefit Mutual?

There has been a lot printed about the recent trips to Japan by certain JACLers as guests of the Liberal Democratic Party to better acquaint themselves with Japan. For whatever reason, the LDP decided to ask the executives of National JACL for assistance in initiating this program in 1984.

Although it was never intended to be for JACL members only, somehow that is how the first and the second delegations turned out to be. It was my feeling that if certain JACL staff and leaders were going to participate in this program regardless of the National Board endorsing it, the members of the National Board should have a greater voice in decision-making.

The only way to gain input into the process was for the National Board to formally add this program to its official programs. One

## BY THE BOARD

by Yosh Nakashima

option not considered by the National Board was to completely remove itself from this program, including all staff and executive officers as long as they held their respective positions. This option can be discussed at a future board meeting if appropriate.

As Hank Sakai has asked, what is the purpose and goal for JACL with this program? So far it seems that the main purpose is to satisfy the needs of the LDP, not JACL. After two trips, has JACL benefit-

ted from this program, or have only the individuals benefitted? JACL should seek to determine the benefit for the organization in addition to the benefit for the individuals who participated.

In future trips, if such are to occur, the selection process must include a broader range, both geographically and age-wise. Sansei are of ages beyond 30 and 40. Sansei are also living throughout the whole of the U.S., not just California and Washington D.C.

I am not aware of any tangible benefit for JACL with this program, but I am aware of some controversy and serious concern by the general membership. We truly need to clarify the true intent and purpose of this program for JACL to continue its active participation.

In the interim, while the matter is active and the next delegation is being formed, it is important for others to comment either way, positive or negative. It is also important for those who have participated in this program to write articles of how JACL may benefit and why it should continue.

Let us set the record straight and assure the questioning and concerned members of the need to continue this program.

## Tri-district meet coming soon

MILWAUKEE—The first tri-district JACL convention held east of the Rockies, with participation from the Eastern, Midwest and Mountain Plains districts, will be held at the downtown Hyatt Regency Aug. 1-4.

In addition to workshops on Aging, Ethnic Concerns, Leadership, and business sessions of the various districts, this convention, hosted by the Milwaukee chapter, will feature a meeting/dinner/dance banquet with keynote speaker, Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D-Calif.), Aug. 3, 7:30 p.m. The newly-elected officers of the MDC will be installed during the dinner/meeting portion of the evening.

The schedule for the convention follows:

Thursday, Aug. 1, 1 p.m. — Golf tournament; 5:30 - 8 p.m. — regis-

tration; 6:30 p.m. — hospitality *gemutlichkeit* style.

Aug. 2, 9 - noon — separate business sessions, EDC/MDC/JAYS; 1:30 - 2 p.m. — opening ceremony, with remarks from chapter chair Ken Nakano and national president Frank Sato; 2 - 3 p.m. — workshop on styles of leadership, Tom Nakao facilitating; 3:30 - 5 — coalition building, James Shimura; 6:30 — 1000 Club Whing Ding.

Aug. 3, 9 - noon — LEC/Redress, Min Yasui; 1:30 - 3:30 — aging and retirement; 7 - 9:30 — Installation Dinner; 9:30 — Dance, with "In the Mood" band.

Aug. 4, 9 - noon — joint district business session, question and answer period with president Sato and executive director Ron Wakabayashi.

## Seminars focus on Nisei fitness

SAN FRANCISCO—Nutrition in mid-life and after is a major issue as more nutritionally related disorders such as osteoporosis, hypertension, and heart problems occur during these years.

Local nutrition researcher Pearl Yamane, guest speaker at "Miles to Go," a total fitness class for Nisei held weekly in Japan-town, stated recently that these conditions need not occur or at least can be delayed with proper nutrition and regular exercise. She extolled the benefits of Asian foods which are low in fat and cholesterol and high in fiber but warned that they also have a rather high sodium content.

"Miles to Go" is a class with a broad approach to good health focusing on the Nisei. The class includes lectures; demonstrations of nutritional foods; discussions on positive attitudes toward aging; body movement and aerobics; and shiatsu lessons. The class also serves as a support group for Nisei who choose to take care of themselves beyond having their annual check-up.

Now in its third year, it meets

Tuesdays, 9-11 a.m., at Christ Presbyterian Church, Sutter & Laguna. Teacher Kiku Funabiki, a former Yoga Institute student who now studies nutrition at S.F. State University, was once crippled with rheumatoid arthritis. Teacher Geri Handa is a longtime practitioner and teacher of shiatsu.

Yamane, who says that studies of Asians by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) are meager in comparison to extensive research on whites, Blacks and Hispanics, feels that Asians need their own standards to assess their health and nutritional needs rather than using existing standards that have been adapted for Asians.

She and Grove Haynes give free seminars Sundays at 1 p.m. on the effects of westernization on Asian/Pacific Islanders' health. Topics include recent research by major universities and medical teams indicating that Asians have a unique physiological makeup calling for a specialized health approach. These seminars are open to the public at 1734 Taraval.

## Chapter Pulse

### Florin

SACRAMENTO—Florin chapter's 50th anniversary celebration is set for October 26 at the Sacramento Hilton Inn, 2200 Harvard on I-80 and Arden Way West. Local dignitaries, members of neighboring JACL chapters and Florin officers of the past 50 years will attend. Main speaker is Rep. Robert Matsui. Co-chairs for the event are Al Tsukamoto and Bill Kashiwagi. Info: (916) 635-2815.

### Idaho Falls

IDAHO FALLS, Id.—A sister city delegation from Tokai-Mura was honored July 4 with a luncheon at Tauphaus Park after they participated in the July 4th parade attired in their colorful kimonos. The 18-member delegation came to celebrate the 4th anniversary of the agreement to exchange cultural programs between the two cities. The luncheon was sponsored by the Idaho Falls chapter.

### San Jose

SAN JOSE, Ca.—A fashion show, "Sportswear for all Seasons," will be held at noon, Aug. 25 at

the Red Lion Inn ballroom. Tickets may be purchased by mailing a check made payable to San Jose JACL Luncheon, 565 N. 5th St. Information: (408) 971-2364.

### Placer County

PENRYN, Calif. — Placer County chapter will sponsor its annual benefit movie fund-raiser Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m., at the Placer Buddhist Church hall. Proceeds from this event helps pay for various chapter programs and activities. The two films shown will be: "Keiji Monogatari 2" (a karate detective movie) and "Izakaya Choji," a literary drama depicting the struggle of a small time entrepreneur in a big city.

### West Valley

SAN JOSE — The 8th annual Daruma Folk Festival, a benefit for senior citizens, takes place Aug. 17, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Saratoga Lanes Parking Lot, Saratoga Ave. and Graves. The last planning and status meeting is set for July 31, 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse. Those needing raffle tickets to sell should call Tom Taniguchi at 252-4313.



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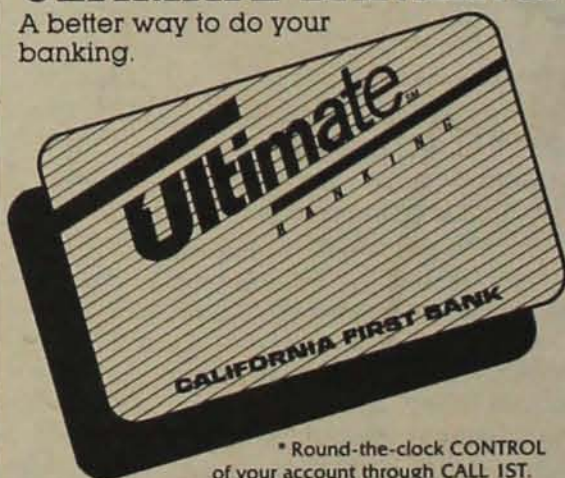


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# Oldest Japanese-language newspaper in Hawaii folds

by Roland Kotani  
Hawaii Herald

HONOLULU—During the centennial year of Japanese government contract immigration to Hawaii, the oldest Japanese language periodical in the Islands has ceased publication. On May 4, The Hawaii Times Ltd., which has served its Nikkei readers for 90 years, closed its offices. Four days later, the company filed for reorganization and protection from creditors under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy law.

According to the Honolulu Advertiser, the decision to file for bankruptcy was made shortly after the company's board determined that liabilities exceeded assets. However, Dennis Davis, Hawaii Times bankruptcy attorney told the Pacific Business News that the company only had cash-flow problems and its assets far exceeded its liabilities.

Walter Soga, Hawaii Times vice president, stated that operations will be suspended "while we assess the financial condition of the company and see whether it's possible to bring it back ... It's sad when any organization that has such a historical legend has to close. But it just wasn't possible to continue without tremendous losses."

Attorney Davis also stated that the company's "liquidity problem" apparently could be resolved but admitted that he was unsure whether the publication of the Times would resume. "The records are jumbled but from what we can determine, the newspaper is the main moneyloser," he said.

## Founded 90 Years Ago

The newspaper was founded on Oct. 15, 1895 as a six-page mim-

eographed semi-weekly called the Yamato. Under proprietor and editor Shintaro Anno, the newspaper served as the organ of the Japanese private immigration companies. Between 1895 and 1905, ownership changed hands four times and the newspaper offices were relocated four times. In 1896, the periodical became the tri-weekly Yamato Shimbun.

When the private immigration companies began liquidating their assets in Hawaii, Yasutaro Soga, the grandfather of Walter Soga, became the editor in 1905. Yasutaro Soga, a former student at the Tokyo Pharmacy School and the English Law Institute, had arrived in Hawaii in 1896 and had worked as a storeclerk and as a staff member of the prominent Hawaii Shimpo newspaper. According to his memoirs, the immigration companies had donated all their real estate holdings to the Japanese Benevolent Society and the Yamato Shimbun was their only remaining undisposed property. The owners agreed to underwrite Soga's losses for the first few months if he maintained the periodical as an independent newspaper.

Under Soga, the newspaper was enlarged to eight pages and became the Nippu Jiji on November 3, the birthday of the Emperor Meiji, in 1906. The following year, the company was incorporated as Nippu Jiji Co. Ltd. The newspaper became a daily beginning with the issue of May 2, 1908.

## Times Supports Workers

During the Great Japanese Strike of 1909, the Nippu Jiji played an important role in agitating for higher wages for Japanese plantation workers. Soga and reporter Yokichi Tasaka were

jailed for conspiracy to undermine the profits of the sugar companies. "Other large newspapers of that time, such as Hawaii Nichinichi and Hawaii Shimpo, with circulations of 1,200 each, were against the strike," write Franklin Odo and Kazuko Sinoto in *A Pictorial History of Japanese in Hawaii, 1885-1924*. "Later, when it was discovered that those newspapers had been bribed by the planters, the Nippu Jiji won strong support from the community and its circulation greatly expanded."

Although the newspaper carried one or two columns in English as early as 1903, this practice was later discontinued. However, the newspaper established a regular English section in 1919, becoming the first bilingual Japanese-English daily newspaper in Hawaii. According to Soga, he wanted the Nippu Jiji "to enable Americans to understand what was happening in the Japanese community, to acquaint the children born of Japanese parents in Hawaii with what was occurring in their own community, and to promote better understanding between the Japanese and Americans." In the 1920s, the newspaper adopted a conservative editorial stance and opposed the controversial legal test case organized by Fred Makino, publisher of the Hawaii Hochi, when the Territorial government cracked down on foreign language schools.

During the prewar period, the Nippu Jiji and the Hawaii Hochi became the leading Japanese language newspapers and contended for influence in the Nikkei community. By 1938, the Nippu Jiji was a member of two leading American news agencies—the Associated Press and the International News Service—and received radio

news from the Domei News Agency of Japan. The bilingual daily newspaper of 12 or more pages was printed on a rotary press and had a circulation of 15,000 and a work force of 200.

## Wartime Name Change

With the outbreak of World War II, publications of the Japanese language newspapers was temporarily suspended. On January 8, 1942, the Nippu Jiji and the Hawaii Hochi were allowed to resume publication under orders of the military government to provide information on wartime directives and regulations to the non-English speaking Japanese. As a concession to the anti-Japanese mood, the Nippu Jiji changed its name to The Hawaii Times. During the war, publisher Yasutaro Soga was interned in concentration camps on the Mainland.

Since 1941, The Hawaii Times and the Hawaii Hochi have been the only Japanese language daily newspapers in the islands. The Times continued publication during the postwar period, appearing every afternoon except Sundays and holidays until three years ago. In the first decades of the statehood era, the Times managed to keep its head above water financially and criticized the Hochi for selling out to Shizuoka Shimbun, a Japanese company, in 1962. According to the 1978 Hawaii Business Directory, the Hawaii Times had 98 employees.

Nevertheless, declining circulation and aging presses undermined the company's financial position, leading the Times to sell its historic building at 928 Nuuanu Avenue in downtown Honolulu and move to a new location on Reed Lane in 1982. In June 1982, the newspaper became a Japanese-

only weekly publication. Before the newspaper became a weekly, the Hawaii Times still had as many as 40 employees.

Following the sale of the Nuuanu building, several directors of the company filed suit against president Roy Soga, grandson of Yasutaro Soga, alleging misuse of the proceeds of the sale. The suit is unsettled. When Roy Soga stepped down as president two months ago, his brother Walter, company vice-president, assumed a more active role in the corporation.

Earlier this year, The Hawaii Times moved to its present site at 656 Queen Street. According to Walter Soga, the relocation of the business has hurt business and made it difficult to piece together the company's financial records. However, he blamed the newspaper's situation on the economic recession and declining circulation with the death of older readers. By the time of the suspension of operations, the Times' labor force had declined to only 12 workers. Some employees may return to work when the commercial printing business is restarted.

Despite the financial problems, Warren Higa, a Honolulu attorney and minority stockholder, has been trying to gain a controlling interest in the company. "We're still negotiating," Higa said in a Star-Bulletin interview on May 20. However, Soga said that Higa's efforts have been hampered by the Hawaii Times' majority ownership of the Japanese-language radio station, KOHO-AM. According to Soga, the Federal Communications Commission must approve any stock sale. Station management reported that KOHO operations have not been affected by the newspaper's bankruptcy filing.



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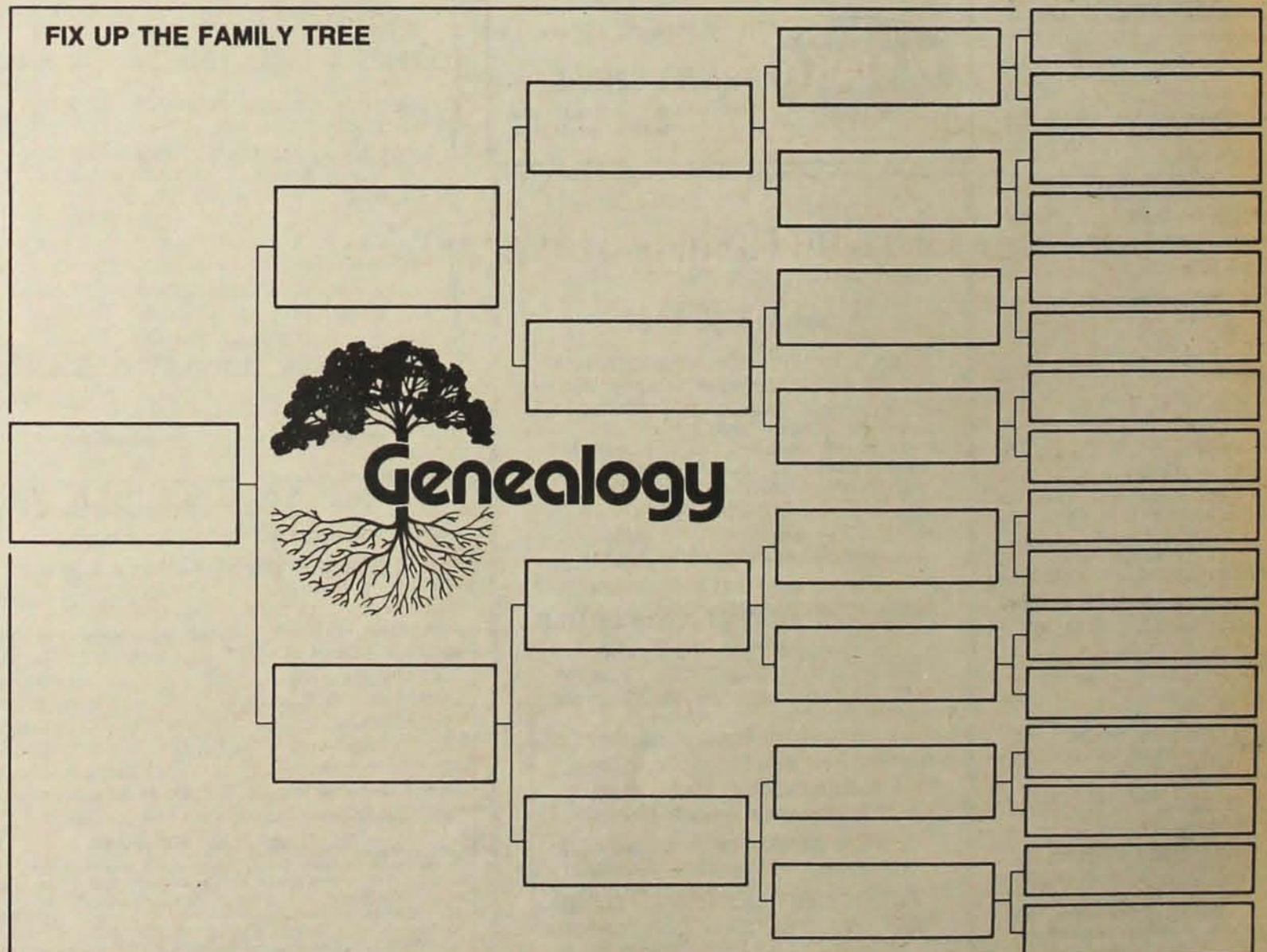
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# Why Tonosama Enjoyed the Samma

MOSHI  
MOSHI

by  
Jin Konomi



My article, "A Tonosama Story" (Jan. 25) was a follow-up on the previous "His Lordship: Tonosama" (Oct. 26, 1984). Together they were intended as part of a series which I have been contemplating on the samurai—to clear some misunderstandings, or, to put it more frankly, to debunk the samurai and bushido, and the whole mystique surrounding the class.

Though an obvious spoof, the classic *rakugo* "Meguro no Samma" conveys considerable truth, for it shows the common people's astute perception of the species *Tonosama*. No doubt Lord Matsuyue was singled out to serve as the butt of the plebeian humor, and to add a touch of authenticity to this most unlikely story. Actually any other lord could have been the protagonist. The *daimyo* under the Tokugawa shoguns, by and large, were an unworldly, even stupid, lot.

One of the few exceptions was Yamauchi Yōdō. Lord of Tosa, a classics scholar, accomplished poet and an excellent athlete. On the scene in the turbulent last decades of the Tokugawa regime, he had no way of exercising his considerable ability because by law his house had been excluded from any government position. He would vent his frustration in drinking, grandiloquence, and dithyrambic poems and ranting at his feckless, gutless fellow lords.

One day, meeting the chancellor Abe Masahiro in the Edo Castle, he greeted the minister with the stereotyped words deemed proper in a situation like that: "The daily ministration of your high office must be an exhausting task. I wish to offer my condolences." Lord Abe smilingly acknowledged the greeting with some platitude of his own and was about to go on when Lord Yamauchi stopped him. Putting his head close to the minister's ear, he whispered: "That was my public remark for others to hear. What I really meant to say was 'You must have an easy time of it, dealing as you do with only a bunch of nincompoops.'"

(Note: Under the Tokugawas the *daimyo* were divided into the

*fudai*, the hereditary vassals, and *tozama*, descendants of the vassals who swore allegiance to Iyeyasu, founder of the regime. The *tozama* were not allowed to participate in the *bakufu*.)

All the above, however, does not explain why in the first place Lord Matsuyue enjoyed the farm wife's *samma* so inordinately.

Although in my first article I mentioned the *daimyo* were living in the lap of luxury on the backbreaking labors of the peasants, and the statement is true, relatively speaking, their luxury did not extend to their food. Because their domestic details were regulated by long established precedents their meals were never varied, using the same sort of materials prepared the same old ways, day in and day out. And because of the constant fear of assassination by poisoning, they were never allowed to eat any-

thing that had not been tasted by official tasters. So everything was cold by the time it was served. No wonder the Lord Matsuyue thought the farm wife's *samma*, still hot off the grill, was the greatest delicacy in the world.

The *daimyo* had little power and freedom. The only indulgence they were allowed, in fact encouraged in, was sex. But it will take another whole article to explain.

## 14 Jr. Olympics records broken

HAYWARD, Calif. — San Jose JACL won its third straight NCPDC Jr. Olympics championship June 2 at the Chabot College track. Fourteen records were also set by:

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### E DIVISION

50—Kris Abe (TC) 7.18s; Softball throw—Stace Morimoto (W), 119ft-1.

### WOMEN'S DIVISION

A-440—Michelle Smith (Sac), 1m-02.72s; 110 Low—Michelle Smith (Sac), 14.96s; Mile—Kelly Bungo

(SJ), 5m30.92s; A-shot—Jen Aquino (TC) 31ft-7; A-440—Sacramento, 51.76s; B-880—Rina Sasaki (TC), 2m-45.14s; B-440 relay—Diablo Valley 57.13s; C-100—Michelle Mio (W) 12.56s.

**Outstanding Athletes: Meet—Billy Lai (SF) four 1sts, A-440, 880, mile, mile relay; Men's Division—A: Chris Kim (SJ), Dean Haraguchi (D); B: Mark Otani (SMateo); C—Dennis Namimatsu (SJ); D—Anthony Lim (SJ); E Division—Kris Abe (TC), Jennifer Okubo (D); Women's Division—A: Kelly Bungo (SJ), Michelle Smith (Sac); B: Rina Sasaki (TC); C—Michelle Mio (W).**

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## Book Review

## Pioneers in the True Sense

*Japanese Women in Hawaii: The First 100 Years*, by Patsy Sumie Saiki, Kiseki, Inc., Honolulu, 1985.

by Ann Mutsuko Colunga

A pioneer, as we all know, is someone who settles in a new land. Webster's also defines a pioneer as a person who "originates or helps open up a new line of thought or activity," someone who "opens or prepares for others to follow." Patsy Sumie Saiki's *Japanese Women in Hawaii: The First 100 Years* is about such pioneers.

These pioneers, the Japanese women who emigrated to Hawaii, brought with them their values, strengths and beliefs. What they left behind were their carefully defined roles as women in Japanese society. They came to Hawaii with virtually no idea of what to expect, and they faced situations which their mothers and grandmothers had never encountered.

In Hawaii they endured many hardships, but they also discovered the opportunity to create their own roles in an entirely different environment. Throughout her book, Saiki reveals a deep respect for the variety of ways in which they responded to the challenge.

For many women, this meant working 10 hours a day, 6 days a week in the sugar cane fields, then coming home to cook, wash, iron, tend to the children, the house and the garden.

For Kame Komatsu, it meant living in a tiny room in "Honolulu," a life in which money was so scarce she made diapers, underwear, sheets and curtains out of rice bags. But it also meant

freedom from the confines of her mother-in-law's home and the traditions that required her to perform services for the family while maintaining the status of an outsider, the daughter-in-law.

For Sake Suenaga, it meant 3 long years working on a plantation, followed by backbreaking work with her husband as a rice farmer.

Other women encountered a variety of situations. Tomi Ozawa was nineteen years old and eight months pregnant when she left Japan as a stowaway in 1868. In Hawaii she shared a life with her husband as servants for a wealthy family and saw her children grow up to be educated and respected members of the community.

Raku Wakita, whose husband became a cook for King Kalakaua, lived in relative luxury in the King's court until historical events and other circumstances radically changed her life.

Chika Saka, who accompanied her husband to a plantation in Kauai, was chosen by the camp members to deliver a letter to the Japanese Consul in Honolulu to protest their employer's infringement of contract terms. This experience opened her eyes to political realities and taught her lessons which she passed on to her children.

Other women, such as Aiko Fujitani, wife of a Buddhist priest, devoted their lives to serving others, establishing schools and cultural centers and reaching out to those in need.

As conditions changed and the Japanese community became more aware of the possibilities



Patsy Saiki

before them, the daughters and granddaughters of these immigrant women also found the opportunity to create new paths. Today Japanese American women are actively involved in Hawaiian politics. Jean Sadako King, who served as state representative, state senator and lieutenant governor, remains committed to her concern for the future of Hawaii and the world.

Patricia Fukuda Saiki, elected chair of the Republican Party in 1983, brings her background in education and business along with an appreciation of her heritage to her political outlook.

Patsy Takemoto Mink is a modern day pioneer. She was the first Japanese American woman lawyer in Hawaii, and as congresswoman, spoke out against the Vietnam War and in support of women's rights long before they became popular causes.

#### Motivation and Growth

Through the lives of these pioneer women, Saiki presents an engaging history of the Japanese experience in Hawaii. Such a history cannot be told without including stories of prejudice, injustices and hard times.

## So. Calif. celebrates Tanabata

by Katie Kaori Hayashi

LOS ANGELES—Two Japanese shopping centers observed the Japanese holiday Tanabata, or Festival of Lovers, on July 7.

Tanabata is one of five traditional holidays. By decorating bamboo with colorful origami, the Japanese pray for a clear sky for the lovers Shokujo and Kengyu. It is believed that the lovers, who live in heaven and are separated by the Milky Way, can meet only once a year, on the night of July 7, by walking over the bridge of the Milky Way. If it rains, the river of the Milky Way floods and the lovers cannot meet.

Japanese Village Plaza in Little Tokyo was decorated with small bamboos, colorful lanterns and flower ball streamers. A demonstration by a candy sculptor and performances by a shakuhachi (bamboo flute) player, the Sozenji Taiko group, and Hanayagi Rukmie and her dancers were presented July 5-7 in the fountain area. More than 100 persons watched each show.

Pacific Square in Gardena was also decorated with flower ball

streamers. The shopping center celebrated the holiday with a 5-kilometer run, a baby contest, a koto performance and a karaoke singing contest and raffle July 6-7.

"Seven years ago, a man of Fukui Prefecture proposed to celebrate Tanabata at this shopping center because this festival is quite common in Japan," said Gerald Kobayashi, director of Ricoh Development of California, which manages Pacific Square.

"Ten years ago, approximately 30% of the population of Gardena consisted of Japanese and Japanese Americans, and more than 60 Japanese companies such as Sony, Nissan, Sanyo, Toyota and Honda built their branches and factories in Gardena and adjacent areas, so the present site was supposed to be ideal for a Japanese shopping center," Kobayashi said.

"Sixty percent of the customers are Japanese Americans and Japanese nationals, and they do shopping in both English and Japanese," he said, adding that New Meiji Market, which is the largest Japanese grocery store in the L.A. area, contributed to attracting customers of Japanese ancestry.

Saiki presents these stories in a straightforward manner, without moralizing or trying to inflame. Rather, she concerns herself with how the women reacted to these conditions, how their experiences motivated them to grow and develop.

Saiki traces the evolution of their initial concerns for survival and the family into a commitment to community efforts in creating a just society. These concerns, in turn, have created leaders who now share a role in the shaping of the future of Hawaii and the world.

Finally, in her chapter on widely acclaimed artists Alice Kagawa Parrott and Toshiko Takaezu, she introduces us to two women who have incorporated all of these ideas into universal themes of beauty, harmony and oneness with nature.

Saiki's history of the first 100 years in Hawaii is a gift to Japanese American women of the next 100 years. Those of us of this next generation can thank Saiki for giving us what our predecessors did not have: a wealth of role-models to inspire and challenge us in the decades to come.

## Books from Kodansha / Japan Publications

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- **Higashiyama.** Essay by Yashushi Inoue. A stunning portfolio from Kai Higashiyama (b. 1908), an internationally renowned master of color and composition. 246pp, 10 1/4 x 12 1/4", 80 color, 35 b&w, \$115.
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- **What is Japanese Architecture?** by Kazuo Hishi, ill. by Kazuo Hozumi. A rich picture book that captures Japan's traditional architecture (up to 1868) in all its beauty and majesty. 128pp, 7 1/4 x 10 1/4", over 350 line drawings, \$16.95.
- **A Taste of Japan.** by Donald Richie. A fascinating, highly entertaining exploration of Japan's food culture, from sushi and sake to tempura. For everyone who simply likes to Japanese food. 116pp, 7 1/4 x 10 1/4", \$15.95.
- **Netsuke Masks.** by Raymond Bushnell. The first book devoted entirely to netsuke masks—featuring a beautiful, one-of-a-kind collection in full color. Indispensable for netsuke collectors. 240pp, 8 1/2 x 11 1/2", some 400 color plates, 72 pp in color, \$100.

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- **Ceramic Art of Ogata Kenzan: Japanese Arts Library, Vol. 13.** by Masahiko Kawahara, tr. by Richard Wilson. Here is pottery of universal appeal, by one of Japan's most original, influential ceramicists. Ogata (1663-1743) transformed the craft to an art. 150pp, 7 1/4 x 10 1/4", 28 color, 177 b&w plates, \$24.95.

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- **Yoshitoshi: The Splendid Decadent, The Last Master of Ukiyo-e.** by Shinichi Segi, tr. by Alfred Birnbaum. Powerful, beautiful, fascinating images from the strangest genius of this Japanese art. 128pp, 8 1/2 x 11 1/2", 50 color, 20 b&w plates, \$39.95.
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### KODANSHA (May '85 Paperback)

- **Let's Learn Hiragana.** by Yasuko K. Mitamura. A practical, easy method of learning the Japanese alphabet. 72pp, 8 1/2 x 10 1/4", \$5.95.

### KODANSHA (June '85 Paperback)

- **Japanese Film Directors.** by Audie Bock. The definitive guide to the best talents of the Japanese film industry. (Bock taught Japanese film at Harvard, Yale, and as updated her text for this paperback.) 380pp, 5 1/2 x 8 1/2", \$9.95.

### KODANSHA (COOKING)

- **The Book of Sushi.** Kinjiro Omae & Yuzuru Tachibana, foreword by Jean Pierre Rampal, tr. by Richard Gage. Everything about sushi ... illustrations include gorgeous color photographs. 127pp, 7 1/2 x 10 1/2", 40 color, 20 b/w pages, \$15.50.
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## Topaz reunion held

SAN FRANCISCO—Taking classmates down a memory lane filled with often hilarious, sometimes nostalgic, and occasionally bizarre teenage escapades, banquet speaker Mike Suzuki of Washington, D.C., regaled former internees with vivid recollections of camp life at the Presidio Officers Club on June 30.

The occasion was the 40th reunion of the Class of 1945, Topaz High School. The school was located in central Utah, the site of one of ten internment camps set up by the War Relocation Author-

ity (WRA) to detain more than 110,000 Japanese Americans during WW2.

The former residents of this camp in the barren deserts of Utah received their entire high school education in government-imposed exile. Unique experiences relating to limited and outdated textbooks, questionable faculty members, tarpaper barrack classrooms, coal-fed potbelly stoves, government-issued mackinaws from WWI, and student rule governments were but a few of the stories exchanged among the alumni who gathered for the reunion.

Approximately 150 classmates,

faculty members and their guests enjoyed the reunion festivities, which also included a reception on Saturday afternoon and a breakfast on Sunday.

The majority of the attendees were residents of the San Francisco Bay Area, with a large contingent from the Peninsula, Marin County, East Bay, San Jose, Sacramento, Fresno, and Southern California. Ex-students also traveled from Pennsylvania, Virginia, Missouri, Minnesota, Utah, Washington, Maryland, Texas, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, District of Columbia, and Michigan. Bob Utsuni of Oakland chaired the reunion.

The event ended on a somber note with class members informally raising the issue of redress for their forced internment.

## Sansei professor awarded fellowship

NEW YORK—The Japanese government has announced that Dr. Michio Kaku, a Sansei nuclear physics professor, has been awarded a prestigious fellowship by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS).

The fellowship, which is given to about 12 scientists from around the world each year, will pay all expenses for Kaku to tour Japan's major laboratories and lecture to Japanese scientists at 15 top universities. He will discuss a branch of the Unified Field Theory, which was initiated by Albert Einstein to unite the fundamental forces of the universe into one coherent framework.

Kaku graduated first in his physics class from Harvard University in 1968, received his Ph.D. in nuclear physics from the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory at Berkeley in 1972, and then taught at Princeton University. He is now a professor of theoretical physics at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He has published about 40 scientific papers in international physics journals.

Kaku is also an international figure in the peace movement. He spoke before almost a million people at a June 12 disarmament rally in New York, the largest demonstration in U.S. history. He has given lectures on peace throughout the U.S. and in Berlin, London, and many other cities.

He has appeared on national television, including an interview on PBS's "Nova" series, and is the author of a book, "Nuclear Power: Both Sides," published by W.W. Norton.

mittee JACL" may be sent to Alice Nakahata, 148 Woodbine Drive, Mill Valley, CA 94941.

For further information, call: Chizu Iiyama, (415) 233-9595, East Bay; Susan Nakamura, (408) 448-5445, San Jose; Alice Nakahata, (415) 388-6749, Marin; or Kathy Reyes, (415) 386-0112, San Francisco.

## Artist Taira exhibits in New York

NEW YORK—A July 7 reception at the Marseilles marked the opening of an exhibit of the works of artist Frank Taira, a resident of West Side Senior Housing.

The display of 53 paintings, including portraits, landscapes, and contemporary drawings and of six bronze sculptures, collectively spanning 50 years of the artist's life, was viewed by 150 friends, fellow artists, Marseilles residents and neighborhood art lovers.

Fellow Japanese American artists included Hideo Date, Sanko Kajihara, Aya Kuwayama, Nanae Mamiyama, George Mukai, Eugenia Okoshi, Mine Okubo and Henry Sugimoto.

Taira studied at the California School of Fine Arts, Art Students League of New York, the New

School and Columbia University. He has won awards from National Arts Club, Knickerbocker Artists and other groups, had one-man shows sponsored by the Emily Lowe Foundation and the Caravan House Gallery, and been listed in "Who's Who in American Art" and "Men of Achievement."

The exhibit was made possible by the support of Laura Jervis, executive director of the West Side Federation for Senior Housing, who learned of Taira's work and arranged for the exhibit space. Japanese American Help for the Aging co-sponsored the event through contacts made by George Yuzawa, a West Side Federation member.

—New York Nichibei

## Women's conference planned

OAKLAND, Calif.—The Women's Concerns Committee of Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District JACL plans to hold a Bay Area wide conference for Japanese American women.

To be held all day Saturday, September 21, at Laney College, the conference, entitled "Japanese Women in Transition," will feature workshops specifically geared toward the needs and interests of Japanese American women of all ages.

will be such concerns as leadership styles, communication skills, parenting (aiding children to develop a sound identity and sense of self esteem taking into account race, single parent and working mother situations), women in business and politics, and how to handle change, e.g., illness, loss of loved one, divorce, shift in housing arrangements.

Registration for the conference is limited. The fee is \$15 (lunch included) before September 1 and \$20 thereafter. Checks made payable to "Women's Concerns Com-

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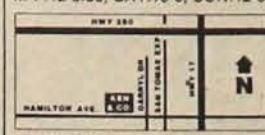
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San Jose, CA 95112; \$48+6% tax/night for 1-4 persons,  
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# People

## Awards

**Daniel Oshiro** of Fullerton, Calif., has received the Silver Knight of Management Award from the Nat'l Management Assn.'s Harbor-UCLA chapter. He is manager of grants and contracts for Research and Education Institute, a non-profit corporation which administers UCLA biomedical research projects.

**Joseph Yamada**, president of the landscape architecture and land planning firm Wimmer Yamada & Associates, was awarded the "Golden Daffodil" award by the San Diego chapter of the Calif. Landscape Contractors Assn. and San Diego Home/Garden Magazine for his contribution to making San Diego County "a greener place to live." His projects include UCSD, San Diego City College, and Sea World.

**Brett Yamashita**, a senior at Carson H.S. in Carson City, Nev., has won the gold medal in the statewide Skill Olympics, Architectural Drafting category. The competition is sponsored by Vocational-Industrial Clubs of America throughout the country.

## Military

**John Shimotsu** of Culver City, Calif., a graduating



1st classman at Virginia Military Institute, was given the Earl L. Valentine, Jr. Award for excelling in leadership while in the Corps of Cadets, in which he held the rank of captain as the regimental S-1. A Marshall Scholar for 2 years, he also received the Garnett Andrews 1st Prize for an essay on a military topic written by a member of the graduating class.

**Maj. Gen. Allan Ono**, formerly of Honolulu, was installed as the 13th commanding general of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command on June 7 at Ft. Sheridan, Ill. He is a graduate of U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and U.S. Army War College and was deputy chief of staff for personnel administration and logistics at Ft. Monroe, Va.

USAREC is responsible for meeting the enlisted manpower needs of the Army.

## Sports

**Dave Yanai**, CSU Dominguez Hills' head basketball coach, went to Japan as national basketball advisor to conduct 6 clinics in conjunction with the World Kirin Games, held June 27-July 9. Set up by the Japan Amateur Basketball Assn., the clinics were held in Tokyo, Okayama, Nagasaki, Fukuoka, Kyoto and Yokkaichi.

## Music

**Eugene Watanabe**, 14, played piano and violin in a special concert at Sundance, Utah, with the Utah Symphony on July 6. It was his fourth appearance with the Symphony; the first was at age 9. He has won 1st place in the elementary, intermediate, junior, senior and college divisions at the Utah State Fair music competition. He began lessons at age 4.

## Education

Under the direction of elementary art instructor **Joanne Niita** of Upper Perk (Pa.) School District, 7 students won awards at the 15th annual Children's Art Competition held in Japan, including 1 of only 9 U.S. gold winners.

## Beauty Contests

**Jeanne Miyamoto**, 25, was named Miss Hawaii on June 13 after being chosen Miss Kalihi in preliminary competition. A graduate of University of Portland, she teaches special education at Makaha Elementary School.

**Jodi Fushimi** has been named Cherry Blossom Queen at Denver's Sakura Festival. Runners-up were **Jaqueline Jones**, (1st), **Kay Thatcher** (2nd), **Mist Miller** (3rd) and **Thea Hewlen** (Miss Congeniality). The contest was sponsored by Restaurant Kyoto and owner **Kazuko Johnson**.

## Religion

**Carolyn Iyoya** of Altadena, Calif., leaves July 29 for the USSR as one of 36 participants in the Presbyterian Global Youth Ministries Peacemaking Seminar to be held Aug. 2-22. After orientation at Stony Point conference grounds in New York, the group goes to Leningrad, Tallin, Kiev and Moscow, followed by debriefing in Helsinki, Finland.

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Frank T. Okita, 29-Thomas S.  
Teraji, 2-William S. Ujiye.  
Clovis: 36-T. June Fujita-  
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Caroline Sakauye.  
Gardena Valley: 32-Frank M.  
Yonemura\*.  
Oakland: 34-Dr. Charles M.  
Ishizu, 6-Molly Kitajima\*,  
Robert Kitajima\*.  
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Sakaguchi\*, 23-Kay Tamura.  
Pasadena: 24-George T. Yusa.  
Portland: 6-Roger Yamada.  
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Kawabata.  
Reedley: 30-Masaru Abe.  
Sacramento: 30-Harry Fujii.  
Saint Louis: 27-Dr. George S.  
Uchiyama.  
Salt Lake City: 27-Ichiro Doi.  
San Fernando Valley: 20-Ka-  
tsumi Arimoto.  
San Jose: 18-Ben Masatani.  
San Luis Obispo: 15-Shig  
Kawaguchi.

San Mateo: 32-Tad T. Masaoka.  
Seattle: 23-S. George Kashi-  
wagi.  
Sequoia: 5-James M. Momii\*.  
Stockton: 18-James Tanji.  
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guchi.  
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## Journalists add third chapter in national push

by J.K. Yamamoto

SEATTLE—The Asian American Journalists Assn. (AAJA), which recently established a Northern California chapter, took another step toward becoming a national organization with the launching of a Seattle chapter on July 13.

About 45 persons, most of them local journalists, attended the kickoff reception at Bush Asia Center in the International District. Speaking on behalf of AAJA were acting Seattle co-chairs Lori Matsukawa, KING-TV news anchor, and Ron Chew, editor of International Examiner, as well as Southern California chapter president Tritia Toyota, chapter chair Bill Sing, and national executive director Karen Seriguchi.

Toyota, a news anchor for KCBS-TV, and Sing, a Los Angeles Times reporter, helped form AAJA in 1981. "Initially, we had no idea that it was going to become as big as it has," said Toyota. "Just in four years, AAJA has become a nationally recognized minority journalism association. . . . We have done phenomenally well in fundraising and just in terms of general visibility."

Last month's San Francisco reception for the Northern California chapter had "an incredible turnout and lots of enthusiasm," she said, "and we're hoping to generate the same kind of feeling up here in the Pacific Northwest."

Noting that minorities in general and Asian Americans in particular are underrepresented in the field of journalism, Sing said, "There really is a need, not only to get more of us into the profession, but also to get us into management, where we can really make a difference."

To help Asian American students seeking a career in journalism, AAJA has awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships



Photo by J.K. Yamamoto

Journalists attending the Seattle AAJA reception included KOMO-TV newscaster Marianne Kushi and KIRO-AM reporter Frank Abe.

over the past four years.

A member of the audience mentioned a recent incident in which the Seattle Times, in an article about the WW2 internment of Japanese Americans, frequently referred to JAs simply as "Japanese," giving the impression that they were foreign nationals rather than Americans. Seriguchi said that a local chapter of AAJA could respond to such problems or, preferably, prevent such incidents from occurring.

Sing added that in such instances, AAJA could not actually take a position for or against a particular issue such as redress,

but would instead focus on fairness and accuracy in coverage.

Matsukawa and Chew said that the results of a questionnaire being distributed to potential members would help determine the kinds of programs the new chapter will undertake.

Other founding committee members in attendance included Marianne Kushi, KOMO-TV; James Hattori, KING-TV; Cary Quan Gelernter, Seattle Times; and Frank Abe, KIRO Newsradio.

The chapter's mailing address is c/o International Examiner, 318 6th Ave. S., Suite 127, Seattle, WA 98104.

## Columbia University to host civil rights conference

NEW YORK—A conference entitled "Perceptions, Policies and Practices: Asian and Pacific Americans in the 1980s" will be held by Minority Rights Group at Columbia University October 4-5.

Panelists scheduled to discuss civil rights issues include Setsuko Nishi, New York State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights; Judge William Marutani, 1st Judicial District, Pennsylvania; Dale Minami, attorney for *coram nobis* plaintiff Fred Korematsu; Benjamin Gim, Chinese Lawyers Assn. of New York; Jim Shimoura, an attorney involved in the Vincent Chin case; and Ronald Takaki,

professor, UC Berkeley.

Topics will include the WW2 internment, immigrant rights, and anti-Asian violence.

Also scheduled to speak are: Desma Holcomb, Immigration and Refugee Program, Church World Service; Shirley Hune, Medgar Evers College, City University of New York; Illsoo Kim, Drew University; Jeanette Kwok, National Assn. for Asian and Pacific American Education; Wilfred Masumura, U.S. Bureau of the Census; Bob Suzuki, California State University Los Angeles; Vuong Thuy, Indochinese American Council; and Elizabeth Ahn-Toupin, Tufts University.

## Schools to promote Asian awareness

BOSTON—The Asian American Resource Workshop (AARW) has recently been funded by the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities for the project "Ten Minutes Away: The Cultures of Southeast Asia and China," a collaboration between Chelmsford Public School District, AARW, and members of the Southeast Asian communities.

The project's goals are to develop understanding and sensitivity among non-Asian students toward the experiences of Southeast Asian immigrants and refugees through the arts and humanities; develop new approaches to studying history through the use of the arts; and develop within students an appreciation of similarities and differences between their own culture and that of Southeast Asians.

"The impetus for the project came from the council of the Chelmsford Parent-Teacher Organization," said AARW director Julian Low. "They should be commended for recognizing the increased presence of Southeast Asians in their community and wanting to formalize the study of their cultures and history."

"The underlying goal is to promote understanding, respect and

appreciation within the students for diverse cultures and people. We've been advocating for a long time for the inclusion of Asian American studies into the curriculum of public schools and universities. If you were to judge from U.S. history books, Asian American history is practically nonexistent."

"They [the PTO council] were concerned that our children and their parents have little knowledge of the fairly large number of families from Southeast Asia that have moved into the Greater Lowell area," said Roger Smyth, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction.

"They were concerned that we are unaware of the problems many of the families have had in relocating in this country, let alone knowledge of the rich cultural background they bring with them. It is hoped that our program will have considerable positive impact on what could be a future problem if it is not dealt with in an intelligent manner."

The project will incorporate into the 6th grade social studies curriculum the history and culture of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

"The unique part of the program is the involvement of the community in the developmental stages," Low said. "We, along with consultants from the Southeast Asian communities, will work with the teachers to establish the main issues, attitudes and perspectives of the curriculum. It will ensure an accurate and honest portrayal of Asian history and culture, and not as some form of exotica."

The curriculum development will take place between August and December, with the classroom activities beginning in the spring semester. The material will be tested on 6th grade classes at two Chelmsford elementary schools. The project will end with a town-wide performance by Southeast Asian artists, musicians, and dancers as well as the students themselves.

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