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 documentary is scheduled to begin production next year, with a projected budget of $25 to $80 million dollars, and to air on network TV in 1987.

Co-producer and executive researcher Kerry Nakagawa, whose family was among those interned, says the stories 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 internment itself.

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 "San-ga 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 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) 694-1791 or Nakagawa at (213) 665-6818, or write Inner Circle Productions at 2206 Las Lunas, Pasadena, CA 91107.

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 Shiroi, Sacramento Human Relations Commission; David Yamakawa, S.F. Human Relations Commission; keynote speaker Arthur Fleming, formerly of the U.S. Commission on War Relocation and Internment of Civilians, Los Angeles; and PSWDC JACL Redress Committee, who introduced the resolution; and Clara Harris, Heartland Human Relations Committee director.
VANCOUVER, B.C.—The 9th annual Powell St. Festival, a celebration of Japanese Canadian community and culture, will be held Aug. 3-4 at Oppen­
heimer Park (400 block Cordova St.). Featured performers include gymnast Patti Sakaki, singer Terry Watada, sculptor Bart Uchida, and Katari­
tai Ohtani. The festival features sumo wrestling, and a showing of the film "Nisol Soldier." Info: 460-2780.

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

"The Roadside: Sketches of Vil­
jage Life," 12 by 16 in., by Alan Lanu, runs Aug. 2-21 at the Fran­
cine Sedgers Gallery, 6701 Greenwood Ave. N., Seattle, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Lanu spent a year in Japan as an exchange artist under the sus­
pices of the Japan-America Friend­
ship Commission, National Endow­
ment for the Arts, and Japan's Minis­
try of Culture.

"The Way It Was: Northwest Issei
and Nisei Before 1941," a photo exhibit of prewar Japanese American com­

munity life, is on public view Thurs­
days, 12-4 p.m., until the end of August at Nippon Kan Theater, 620 S. 16th
St., Seattle. "The Way It Was" is a group viewings, held Aug. 3, 9 a.m. to
12 p.m., at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., 2nd Floor, July 29, 7 p.m., and Aug. 23, 7 p.m.
Gather for a candlelight procession to
memorialize Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
Info: (619) 454-3343.

Los Angeles—"The Pacific Asian/
Women's-Network presents a summer picnic and beer sale, Aug. 3, 11 a.m.
- 3 p.m., Griffith Park. This will be
opportunity for members, family and
friends to get acquainted in a relaxed
ambiance, with music, maid game, food, and prizes. Those planning to attend should bring a dish to feed 6 people.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemorations

Los Angeles—A reception and din­
er for atomic bomb survivors visiting
Japan will be hosted by Asian Pacific Americans for Nuclear Aware­
ness (APANA) at the Japanese Amer­
ican Cultural & Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., 2nd Floor, July 29, 7 p.m. and Aug. 23, 7 p.m.
Gather for a candlelight procession to
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"Imagine There's a Future," a month-long arts festival sponsored by the Hollywood Women's Coalition and Inter­
faith Center to Reverse the Arms Race, includes the following:

—"A Celebration of Life" and "Cera­
mic Sculpture for Human Survival" by David Polsky, July 26-31 at 1210 S. Hope St., Los Angeles.

—Sumitomo Bank, 1210 S. Hope St., Los Angeles.

—Certain ARCO PayPoint locations and

—Selected 7 Eleven stores in California

—Hundreds of STAR SYSTEM

Los Angeles—The 92-member Grand
Kabuki will appear at UCLA's Royce Hall for per­
formances at the Los Angeles Judo Center Peace Plaza. Info: Lyle Butch Padgett, 334-3908; or Charlene Tschir­
hart, 281-4859.

KQED (Ch. 9) presents "Hiroshima Remembered" Aug. 6, 7 p.m. and Aug.
9, 7:30 p.m. The program includes prewar day-to-day photographic footage of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

PORTLAND—Local peace activists will attend the 1985 Hiroshima Commemoration in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
Info: Karen P. Stone, 334-3908; or Charlene Tschir­nhart, 281-4859.

Data Center

Chicago

Located 17,500 sq ft of prime data center and office space available Aug. 1, 1985. Air conditioned, regulated power, 10 amp breaker panel with 24 hour security guard. For more information contact: Jose W. Caravello, Jr., Vice President Comshare Inc., 3001 So. State Ste., Ann Arbor, Mich. 48104, (313) 584-4600.

HONG KONG—A three-week ram­

1986: A Memorial Service and a Call to Action," Aug. 6, 6:30 p.m., at the Japanese Baptist Church, 901 E. Spruce St. (at Broadway). Service in honor of 8th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Info: Tracy Lai, 624-8325 or 329-6712.

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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 Minnouchi Yasui, has appeared before 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 Miami Beach event, sponsored by Asian Pacific American Bar Assn. of the Greater Washington D.C. Area, Reps. Norman Mineta and Don Edwards (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.

Edward Torigoe, Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, said, “Most of the members of my subcommittee and myself as a key civil rights case that must be reolved 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 charter civil rights lawsuit to show that the government had no justification for interning Japanese Americans during the war.”

The following morning, the San Francisco Chronicle ran an article about the tour de force in support of the Hirabayashi legal effort.

Dancer to offer special performance

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Asa “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 “Caberet.” 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 Fever,” “Body Beat” and MTV videos. She has taught modern jazz, ballet and contemporary dance classes at Inner City Institute of the Performing Arts and the UCLA School of Ballet and other dance schools in Southern California. Her repertoire includes her own work “Spirit,” which incorporates elements of traditional Japanese music and martial arts, reflecting her experience as a Sames. This dance number was premiered last spring at the John Anson Ford Theater as part of International Dance Week. She plans to perform in the Los Angeles Nisei Week Festival and is scheduling her first solo professional performance this fall.

by Katie Kaori Hayashi

WEST COVINA, Calif.—Hiroshi Itai, 38, a Japanese national, shot his Japanese American wife and mother-in-law, allegedly because of family problems, on July 8.

Itai’s wife, Tasyako “Terry,” and her mother, Shigeko Oshiro, were at the Valley Hospital soon after the incident. Tasyako, 35, was pronounced dead at the scene, and Shigeko was rushed to the chest. Oshiro, 55, who had a gun shot wound through the jaw, received plastic surgery because a bullet went through 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 San Jose’s Leonard of the West Covina Police Dept. said she was in serious condition.

Itai is being held without bail and was presented in court on 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 residence in West Covina, a day before the shooting, he said. Oshiro was at home, with two psychoactive drugs. He and his wife were married in November 1980.

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 matter is being held by the Asian Task Force and has to put more criminals in jail.”

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First Things First

East Wind

Bill Marutani

There's a segment of AJA's who would seek to elevate "U.S.-Japan Relations" (what ever that may mean) to a top priority for JACL, an organization that happens to be (or at least is supposed to be) a broad-based 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 Americans as well as for restoration of our own dignity as Americans of Japanese ancestry—moral issue of redress does exist and have undivided, absolute priority. For if we gain whatever else, but have not restored our personal and political rights as full-blooded Americans, all else will mean not a whit. We shall then continue to be lessees who were to be rooted, incarcerated, demeaned—with the implication that, somehow, it was justified. Deserves.

I'm also troubled that this concern with U.S.-Japan Relations is motivated by the fear of perceptions of others that (false) perception of others that we are "Japanese" and therefore somehow responsible for what the Japanese do not do, in Japanese economic policies, Japanese trade with the United States. And our reacting and participating in efforts to "tough things over," only serve to confirm the unjustified suspicions of those who believe that we are Americans, first and last.

This country being a free country, if there be AJA's, or anybody else, who have vested interest (economic or otherwise) in U.S.-Japan Relations, they have certainly to participate in telling 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, as an American of Japanese ancestry, I am not proud of my cultural heritage. I am very proud and will not relinquish that heritage. It 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 such a racemic makes a racial 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 isn't, I suggest, to become a spokesperson, a "bridge," and thereby alienate ourselves, as an organization, to an international trade issue involving the deaths of our parents departed scores of years ago. At any rate, AJA's are not possessed of the essential data and facts to speak knowledgeably, and since the entire question can only have those few who purport to speak as "experts," often follow a quickie trip to Japan, and who then beat the drums of fear.

First Things First: We had better first concentrate, with a broad-minded attention and effort, to restoring our soul. Else, having gained many other things, we shall be like empty 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 coming in from the sea, it's like being in a steam bath. The machines are still on strike. Why aren't I, I keep asking myself?

Well, the area quality has not improved very much. "Smog alert, reduce driving," says the poster. It's like being in a family where age determines your station in life, I rarely rise up on the tides. I would stick my nose to the window and feel the cool air rush by as our 1986 Plymouth (and later, a '48 Buick) zipped along at a steady 50 m.p.h. around Manoa Valley in Honolulu.

More 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 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 bad as it is made out to be. I'm still bare.

"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, to the Pacific Citizen. Or, can they 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 foreigner in Japan being fingerprinted. I wrote earlier suggesting that those who 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 laws abide, denying citizens register without fingerprinting.

Third, Japan excels in electronic gadgetry, e.g., artificial intelligence, automatic translation, yet a multitude of dedicated people are fighting to change that. This letter is written to bring the issue to the forefront.

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 Hirakona for the caricature booklets he recently donated to the Salinas Chapter Prime Solicitors for LEA. His booklets makes a valuable addition to the information each of the five Prime Solicitors will be using to appeal for LEA donations.

Hiranona's caricatures 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 Hirakona, and a sincere thank you! Your booklets are invaluable to us and to all Nikkei, so keep up your endeavors, and we will play a large part in securing redress for former internees.

VIOLETT DECRISTOFORO
Salinas, Calif.

NCWNP and LEC

There is a lot of activity in the latest effort to raise funds for the Legislative Education Committee of National JACL. There are a multitude of dedicated people who have worked long and hard for this important effort. We should be proud 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, innuendos, and questionings letters do not contribute to a sure future of 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
For Fellow Philatelists

by Henry S. Sakai

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

LEC

I think everyone should support the LEC fund. An effective fund driven by Henry Kajihara, since it's going to take as much as $1.5 million to mount an effective campaign for 2, 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 it at bat and 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 I hire a big lobbying firm that has connections inside on both sides to push it through or attack it as a rider on a major bill at the right time? How much does that cost and what's the chance of success? If I'm 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, we need to know what happened that had a 20% chance and 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 Wakahatsu; 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 cause.

Communications

In order for the membership to understand what is going on in JACL, there must be communication. If chapter delegates are too close 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 Hime, president Shinomura, PC chair, Yyada and an occasional "Mam­bi" from the national director, what information comes down? How many of the 30 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

Carole Fujita: The Fight Continues

by YOSH NAKASHIMA

San Francisco

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

Donations to Pacific Citizen

For Typesetting Fund

As of July 20, 1985: $30,129.30 (749)

This week's total: $26.28 (5)

Last week's total: $29,602.02 (744)

From: John/Chisato Nomura, $10; Tommy/Kazuko Nakajo, $38.36; Ted Nagata, $50; Howard/Dorothy Toriumi, $105; George Kenako.

Thank you!

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4

redress program will develop into 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.

VOSHI NAKASHIMA

San Francisco

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

An item in this column back on May 10 about envelopes bearing postmarks from the wartime relocation centers has drawn a couple of noteworthy responses.

The column quoted Richard B. Graham in Linn’s Stamp News to the effect that McGehee, Ark., was the only WRA camp to have its own postmark.

That, it turns out, was only partly right. Bill Fujita of Berkeley has provided evidence that the McGehee postmark is the only one using the words “Relocation R. Br.” But there were other postmarks from Tulelake, Manzanar, Poston, Rohwer/Segregated Site, Hunt (Minden), 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 1 AM 1943, and APR 29 8:30PM 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 history buff focusing on World War II internment in the U.S., Canada and Latin America.

He writes:

“I am presently gathering, photographing and photocopying envelopes used during this period. I am preparing for a series of articles to appear in the philatelic press and other periodicals that reach a national audience. I am also working on 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 squandered away and are doing some internal lobbying. I 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.

CAROLE FUJITA

The woman who worked as an assistant hospital administrator at the 1980 grievance hearing is the subject of the feature article. After listening to both sides, the arbitrator made a decision that Carole ended up with $11,500. Interestingly, Carole ended up with $11,500, out of order for the membership to work efficiently for the cause.

Carole Fujita: The Fight Continues

by John Saito

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

In the history of the L.A. County Department 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 is held 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 supervisor 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 far below the average. She and the acting supervisor got a score of 100.

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

After listening to both sides, the commission asked Lungenich what he was being asked as a remedy. Since there were questions of discrimination based on sex and other non-widely used grounds, Carole's attorney, in effect, requested a new examination. 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. 502, 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 have the opportunity to submit their statements to the commission prior to the hearing date.

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

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

Photo by J.K. Yamamoto
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 Board to participate 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 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 benefited from this program? At the end of the trip, it is not clear what the benefits are. A broader approach to good health follows:

Seminars focus on Nisei fitness

SAN FRANCISCO—Nutrition in mid-life and after is a major issue as more nutritionally related disorders such as obesity, hyperension, 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 Japanese, 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 on nutrition, effects of nutritional foods; discussions on positive attitudes toward aging; body image and exercise, and shiaitsu 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 cripped with rheumatoid arthritis. Teacher Geri Handa is a longtime practitioner and teacher of shiaitsu.

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 Hayes 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 call for a specialized health approach. These seminars are open to the public at 1734 Taraval.

Chapter Pulse

Francisco—Florian churches' 50th anniversary celebration is set for October 26 at the Sacramento Hilton Inn, 2200 Harvard on 1st and Arden Way West. Local dignitaries, members of neighbor JACL chapters and Florian officers of the past 50 years will attend. Main speaker is Rep. Robert Matsui. Co-chairs for the event are Al Tashima and Billy Kashigawa. Info: (916) 635-2856.

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 kimono.

Tone year-delegation came to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the agreement to exchange cultural programs between the two towns. The luncheon was sponsored by the Idaho Falls chapter.

San Jose SAN JOSE, CA.—A fashion show, “Sportswear for all Seasons,” will be held noon, Aug. 25 at the Red Lion Inn. Tickets may be purchased by making a check made payable to San Jose JACL. Luncheon, 563 Main St. Information: (408) 971-3204.

Placer County PENNY, 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 to be 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. 11, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Saratoga Lakes Parkng Lot, Sarato­ga Ave. and Graves. The last planning and status meeting is July 31, 7-30 p.m. at the clubhouse. Those needing raffle tickets to sell should call Tom Taniguchi at 222-4313.

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. 14.

In addition to workshops on Aging, Ethnic Concerns, Leadership, and business sessions of the various districts, a session hosted by the Milwaukee chapter, will feature a meeting/dinner banquet with keynote speaker, Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D—Calif.), Aug. 3, 7:30 p.m. The newly-elected officers of the MFA 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 p.m. — registration; 6:30 p.m. — hospitality and general meeting.

Aug. 2-9 noon—separate business sessions, EDO, MO, JDAYS; 1:30 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 — cocktail building, James Shin­mours; 6:30—1000 Club Whing Ding.

Aug. 3, 9-noon — LEO/Pres­ident, Min Yasui; 1:30-3 p.m. — aging and retirement, 7-9:30 — Installation Dinner; 9:30 — Dance, 11 p.m. — Mud Room.

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by Roland Kotani Honolulu 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 Nisei 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 money loser,” he said.

Founded 90 Years Ago

The newspaper was founded on Oct. 15, 1895 as a six-page mimeographed semi-weekly called the Yaman. Under proprietor and editor Shuntaro Aino, 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 Yaman Shimbon.

When the private immigration companies began liquidating their assets in Hawaii, Yasutaro Soga, the grandfather of Walter Soga, became the editor in 1906. 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 store clerk and as a staff member of the prominent Hawaii Shimpou newspaper. According to his memoirs, the immigration companies had donated all their real estate holdings to the Japanese Benevolent Society and the Yaman Shimbon 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 Nippon Ji on November 3, the birthday of the Emperor Meiji, in 1906. The following year, the company was incorporated as Nippon Ji Co. Ltd. The newspaper became a daily beginning with the issue of May 2, 1906.

Times Supports Workers

During the Great Japanese Strike of 1909, the Nippon Ji played an important role in agitating for higher wages for Japanese plantation workers. Soga and reporter Yolichis Tatsaka were jailed for conspiracy to undermine the profits of the sugar companies. “Other large newspapers of that time, such as Hawaii Nichinichi and Hawaii Shimpou, with circulations of 1,200 each, were against the strike,” wrote 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 Nippon Ji 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 Nippon Ji “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 Nippon Ji and the Hawaii Hochi became the leading Japanese language newspapers and contended for influence in the Nihonmachi community. By 1938, the Nippon Ji 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 were temporarily suspended. On January 8, 1942, the Nippon Ji 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 Nippon Ji 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 Shimoka Shimbun, a Japanese company, in 1962. According to the 1978 Hawaii Business Directory, the Hawaii Times had 56 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 may be more 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 been not been affected by the newspaper’s bankruptcy filing.

Oldest Japanese-language newspaper in Hawaii folds
Why Tonosama Enjoyed the Samma

by Jin Konomi

My article, "A Tonosama Story" (Jan. 25) was a follow-up on the previous "His Lordship: Tonosama" (Dec. 28). Together they were intended as part of a series which I have been contemplating on the samrai—to clear the misunderstandings and truths, to put it more frankly, to debunk the samurai and bushidō, and the whole mystique surrounding the class.

Though an obvious spoof, the classic rūkugo "Meguru no Samma" conveys considerable truth, for it shows the common people's astute perception of the species Tonosama. No doubt Lord Matsuye was slogging out as the butt of the plebeian humor, and to add a touch of the truth, for it shows the common people's astute perception of the species Tonosama. No doubt Lord Matsuye was slogging out as the butt of the plebeian humor, and to add a touch of the humor, for it shows the common people's astute perception of the species Tonosama. No doubt Lord Matsuye was slogging out as the butt of the plebeian humor, and to add a touch of the humor, for it shows the common people's astute perception of the species Tonosama. No doubt Lord Matsuye was slogging out as the butt of the plebeian humor, and to add a touch of the humor, for it shows the common people's astute perception of the species Tonosama. 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For Info: George Kanegai, Travel Counselor

HAYWARD, Calif. — San Jose JACL won its third straight NC- West Region championships June 2 at the Chabot College. Fourteen records were also set.

MEN'S DIVISION

B-220—F. Galang (Tri-City), 23.575; C-106—Dennis Sugando (Waterloo), 5.785; C-106—Dennis Namisuma (San Jose), 10.355 tie; C-220—Dennis Nakamura (Tri-City), 7.065.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

A-440—Michelle Smith (San), 0.0275; 110—Low—Michelle Smith (San), 14.965; Mile—Kenny Bell (SJ), 530.255; A-shot—Jen Aguno (Tri-City), 1.440; Sacramento, 31.580; B-880—Rita Jazikas (TU), 2.45.155; B-440 relay—Diablo Valley, 170-115; C-220—Michelle Mio (W), 12.565.

For Info: George Kanegai, Travel Counselor

Outstanding Athletes: Meet—Billy Li (SF) for L.A., 440, 880, mile relay; Men's Division—A. Chris Hoang (Tri-City); D. Mark Otsui (SMac); Dennis Namisuma (SJ); Anthony Lim SJ. F. Le-Fu (Tri-City); Jennifer Okubo (D). Women's Division—A. Kelly Burg (SJ), Michelle Sato (Tri-City) C—Michelle Mio (W).


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For Info: George Kanegai, Travel Counselor

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JAPANESE AMERICAN TRAVEL CLUB

For Info: George Kanegai, Travel Counselor

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Mini-schedule 1985: 30

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HAYWARD, Calif.

by Ann Mutuoka Cotunga
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 carefully defined roles as women in Japanese society. They came to Hawaii with virtually no idea of what to expect, and they experienced hardships which their mothers and grandmothers had never encountered.

In Hawaii, these women faced many hardships, but they also discovered the opportunity to create their own roles in an entirely different environment. According to Saiki, 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. But it also meant living in a tiny room in "Honolulu," a life in which money was so scarce that they made diapers, underwear, sheets and curtains out of rice bags. It also meant freedom from the confines of her mother-in-law's home and the traditions that she had to perform services for the family while maintaining the status of an outsider, the daughter-in-law.

For Saiki, it meant 3 long years working on a plantation, following her breakwork by working with her husband as a rice farmer.

Other women encountered a variety of situations. Tomi Ozawa found herself working 12-14 months a year in the King’s court until historical events and other circumstances required her to change her role. Chika Saiki, who accompanied her husband to a plantation in Kauai, was chosen by the camp secretary to work with the Japanese Consul in Honolulu to protest their employer's infringement of contract terms. This resulted in her having new eyes to political realities and taught her lessons which she passed on to her children.

Other women, like Akiko Fujitani, a wife of a Buddhist priest, devoted their lives to serving the community. This woman ran schools and cultural centers and reaching out to those in need. As conditions changed and the Japanese community became more aware of the possibilities, Saiki presents these stories in a straightforward manner, without moralizing or trying to inflame. Rather, she concerns herself with portraying the conditions, how her experiences motivated them to grow and develop.

So Calif. celebrates Tanabata
by Katie Koari 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 in blue and white, or placing origami cranes on trees, Japanese pray for a clear sky for the lovers Shoqou and Kengyu. It is believed that if they are able to live in heaven and are separated by the Milky Way, they can meet only once a year, on the night of July 7, viewing the bridge of 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 bamboo, colorful lanterns and flower ball streamers. A demonstration by a candy sculptor and performance by a shakuhachi player (bamboo flute) took place. The Senzeni Taiko group, and Hanayagi Rokumie and her dancers were presented July 5-7 in the fountain area. More than 100 people watched each show.

Pacific Square in Gardena was also decorated with flower ball streamers. The shopping center features a large fountain, with colorful origami, the couple Shoqou and Kengyu. The lovers are separated, and one night of July 7, they are able to meet in heaven.

Patsy Saiki, before them, the daughters and granddaughters of these immigrant women also found the opportunity to create new paths in which they, too, could express their values, state senator and lieutenant governor, remains committed to her concern for the future of Hawaii and the world.

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

Books from Kodansha / Japan Publications

By special arrangement with Kodansha International/USA, the Pacific Citizen offers popular Japanese titles in paperback, as well as Japanese titles on a “direct shipment” basis. Some books are on display only at the PC Office.

KODANSHA (COOKING)

Kodansha: The Flower of Japanese Textile Arts. By Toshiko Parrott, as by Marisa Bella. A history of the art of textile in Japan. An old and nearly forgotten craft. The book is illustrated with 112 color plates, footnotes, and glossary. $49.50. 127pp, 8x8".


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Topaz reunion held

SAN FRANCISCO—Taking classmates down a memory lane filled with often hilarious, sometimes nostalgic, 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-

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 23 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.


Taira studied at the California School of Fine Arts, Art Students League of New York and Columbia University. He has won awards from National Fine Arts Club, Knickerbocker Artists and other groups, had one-man shows sponsored by the Emily Lowe Foundation and the Caravan House Gallery, and been included in "Who's Who in American Art" and "Men of Achievement."

The current exhibit was made possible by the support of Laura Jervis, executive director of the West Side Federation for Senior Housing, who in turn backed Taira's work and arranged for the exhibit space.

Japanese American Help for the Arts is geared toward raising the issue of redress and unity of the fundamental forces of the peace movement. 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.

Sansei professor awarded fellowship

NEW YORK—The Japanese government has announced that Dr. Michio Kaku, a Sansei molecular 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 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 14 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.

For further information, call: Chizuko Iiyama, (408) 535-6506, East Bay; Susan Nakamura, (408) 448-5460, San Jose: Alice Nakahata, (415) 386-0112, San Francisco.
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 12.

About 46 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-chair Lori Matsukawa, KING-TV news anchor, and Ron Che, editor of International Examiner as well as Southern California chapter president Tittia Toyota, chapter chair Bill Sing, and national executive director Karen Seriguchi.

Toyota, a news anchor for KCBS-TV, and Singh, 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 get more of us into the profession, but also to get us into management and just in terms of general visibility."

Noting that minorities in general and Asian Americans in particular are underrepresented in the field of journalism, Singh 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 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.

Singh added that in such instances, AAJA could not actually take a position on or against a particular issue such as redress, but would instead focus on fairness and accuracy in coverage.

Matsukawa and Che 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, KOOM-TV; James Hattori, KING-TV; Cary Quan Gelerter, 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 1980's" 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 oram 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: Desa Holcomb, Immigration and Refugee Program, Church World Service; Shirley Hune, Medgar Evers College, City University of New York; Iljoo Kim, Drew University; Jeanette Kwok, National Assn. for Asian and Pacific American Education; Wilfred Maumura, U.S. Bureau of the Census; Bob Suzuki, California State University Los Angeles; Vuong Thuy, Indochinese American Council; and Elizabeth Ann-Toopin, Tufts University.

Headquartered in London and with chapters in 19 countries, Minority Rights Group monitors the situations of minority groups throughout the world. Co-sponsoring the conference with MRG is the Immigration Research Program of Columbia's Center for the Social Sciences.

All interested individuals are invited to attend. Preregistration is $25 general, $15 for students, seniors and the unemployed. On site registration will be an additional $5. Checks, made payable to MRG, can be sent to Asian and Pacific American Project, Minority Rights Group, P.O. Box 6140, Hamden, CT 06517.

Schools to promote Asian awareness

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

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 Parent-Teacher Organization," said AARW director Julian Low. "They should be commended for recognizing the increased presence of the Asian Americans 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 the inclusion of Asian American studies into the curriculums of public schools and universities. If you were to judge from U.S. history books, Asian American history is practically nonexistent."

AARW [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, asistant 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 8th 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 exoticism."

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 8th grade classes at two Chelmsford elementary schools. The project will end with a lower elementary performance by Southeast Asian artists, musicians, and dancers as well as the students themselves.

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