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Friday, August 2, 1985



photo by J.K. Yamamoto

**GRIM REMINDER**—The Atomic Dome (Genbaku Dōmū), a building gutted by the 1945 Hiroshima atomic bomb blast, still stands today as a reminder of the destructive power of nuclear weapons. Memorial services are held every Aug. 6 in Hiroshima's Peace Park, where the Dome is located, and on Aug. 9 in Nagasaki. The 40th anniversary of the two bombings is also being commemorated in the U.S. by anti-nuclear groups, including members of the Nikkei community.

## Senators push for aid for Pacific Islanders

WASHINGTON—Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) joined Sen. Paul Simon (D-Ill.) on June 18 in sponsoring legislation to provide direct financial assistance to colleges and universities serving large numbers of low-income minority students.

Matsunaga, a member of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, said the Institutional Aid Act of 1985 would create a set-aside for Pacific Basin, Native American and Hispanic Institutions of 30% of Part A (Strengthening Institutions) funds by amending Title III of the Higher Education Act. It also clarified how these institutions qualify to be eligible for funds.

"The higher education needs of Native Hawaiians and other Native American Pacific Islander students is a subject of profound importance," Matsunaga said. "Our bill recognized that Native Hawaiians represent less than 5% of the population of Hawaii who hold a college degree. It also recognizes that those attending college represent less than 25% of the traditional college-age population among Native American Pacific Islanders."

He noted that in some Pacific Basin territories a single community college may be the only form of postsecondary education available on an island, with many teachers holding an associate's degree or less.

The bill provides that institutions of higher education which

have an enrollment of at least 5% Native Hawaiian, American Samoan, Micronesian, Guamanian or Northern Marianian, or any combination thereof, are eligible for Title III funds as long as the schools meet the other Title III criteria.

In addition, the measure establishes a set-aside of Title III Part A funds of not less than \$5 million or 5% of such sums, whichever is greater, for institutions serving Native American Pacific Islanders, including Native Hawaiians residing in the Pacific Basin, notably in Hawaii.

Matsunaga said the bill also waives certain eligibility requirements for institutions extensively subsidized by the state in which they are located, such as the University of Hawaii, provided the institutions serve a substantial percentage of low- and middle-income students, increase higher educational opportunities in rural or isolated areas or contribute substantially to increasing higher educational opportunities for Native American Pacific Islanders.

Matsunaga praised the measure as a contribution toward his efforts to establish programs designed to address the unique needs of Native Hawaiian and other Native American Pacific Islander students who are hampered by economic, social and institutional barriers which contribute to their low academic achievement.

## Redress organizations hold 'summit' meeting

SAN FRANCISCO—In what some have described as a redress "summit," representatives of the major redress groups and of other community organizations met July 13 at JACL National Headquarters.

Present at the meeting were Frank Sato, Ron Wakabayashi and John Tateishi of JACL; Min Yasui and Yosh Nakashima of Legislative Education Committee (LEC); Bert Nakano, Naomi Kubota and David Monkawa of National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (NCR); William Hohri, Ellen Carson and Lloyd Wake of National Council for Japanese

American Redress (NCJAR); and Chuck Kato of Washington Coalition for Redress (WCR).

Participating as observers were representatives of Go For Broke, Inc.; the Nisei VFW posts; and the coram nobis legal teams.

This was the first time that all of these groups have jointly convened a redress meeting. The representatives gave updates on their respective organizations and focused on the two current approaches to obtaining redress: the legislative campaign to support House bill HR 442 and Senate bill S 1053; and the class action lawsuit,

now under appeal, initiated by NCJAR.

All organizations agreed to support the two approaches and expressed interest in continuing joint meetings and in sponsoring a nationwide event, the date and place of which have yet to be determined, to demonstrate community support of redress.

Nakano, who is national spokesman for NCR, said the meeting was "the beginning of something that we hope we can continue." JACL president Sato, who chaired the meeting, described it as "very fruitful."

## Student newspaper may be 'absorbed'

by Reggie Chun

LOS ANGELES—UCLA's 10-year-old Asian Pacific newsmagazine, Pacific Ties, and five other student publications face an uncertain future if the Communications Board of the Associated Students ratifies either of two proposals aimed at consolidating the special interest papers.

Opponents of this move, who claim the consolidation will weaken the autonomy and coverage of the publications, are trying to get the vote postponed until the fall quarter, when there are more students on campus. The Asian Coalition and the Graduate Student Assn. are contesting the proposals.

The proposals were introduced as a way to curb spending following a \$100,000 budget cut by the school administration. The campus daily, the Daily Bruin, would be unaffected by the consolidation.

The options being considered are:

—Consolidation of Pacific Ties, the Black paper (Nommo), the Latino paper (La Gente), the women's paper (Together), the Jewish paper (Ha'am), and the gay and lesbian paper (Ten Per-

cent) into one monthly publication;

—Or the combination of three special interest papers—yet to be determined—into one monthly magazine with one editor.

Terry Mock, editor of Pacific Ties, said, "It's easier to control one editor. The board is attempting to contain the voice of special interest groups."

In a single tabloid form, Mock said, less space would be available to Asian, Hispanic, Black and other minority issues. "The usually 14-page coverage of Asian Pacific community issues in Pacific Ties would be cut by more than three-fourths should either proposal pass."

But the Communications Board argues that the consolidation of at least three special interest publications may be necessary to ensure the papers' financial health. According to a 1985 study it sponsored, none of the special interest publications have met more than 38% of their projected advertising revenue for last year.

In addition, the board says a tabloid would minimize frequent staff vacancies and increase efficiency.

Board chair Edward Singer, former business manager for Ha'am, claims that the current form of the six publications must be changed. "Anything that is not published frequently [more than once a month] is not very successful. Even the good special interest papers aren't being read."

According to Mock, the Communications Board only pays about \$22,000 yearly for the publications' office space, electricity, phone lines and maintenance. In the case of Pacific Ties, she said, advertising pays for typography and printing costs, and the labor is practically donated.

Reporters for Pacific Ties, which goes to press twice each quarter, receive \$10-15 per issue. Mock called the fiscal report misleading because "the staffs are dedicated and don't expect a salary or commission."

"Our papers are important to the ethnic communities, and the publications enjoy wide readership on and off campus," she added.

"We feel it's important to keep lines of communication open between the university and minority communities if cultural understanding and racial equality are to be achieved."

## House passes 'hate crime' statistics legislation

WASHINGTON—The House of Representatives unanimously passed the "Hate Crimes" Statistics Act on July 23. The measure will require the Justice Dept. to compile statistics on crimes that are motivated by religious, racial and ethnic hatred.

Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), who was the co-sponsor of the original legislation, said, "By passing this bill, we put to rest for good the defense used by some that while there are various newspaper accounts, the data we have on hate

crimes is 'anecdotal' and is not acceptable evidence of any pattern or trend."

"With this legislation we will be able to point to the numbers, undeniable statistics, and refute the argument that nothing needs to be or can be done."

During debate on the House floor, Mineta said, "Recently we are hearing of...beatings and harassment of recent immigrants from Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, the Philippines and many other Asian Pacific countries troubled by violence and unrest."

"As people who came to America to escape violence and...to become hard-working and contributing members of our nation, they should expect our government to do all in its power to protect them from the hatred of unenlightened and ignorant people. That includes violence directed toward them here in their new home by agents from repressive governments in the country they left."

The legislation now moves to the Senate, where supporters hope to find a senator on the Judiciary Committee to sponsor it.



## Community Affairs

**DELRAY BEACH, Fla.**—The Japanese Bon Festival welcomes departed ancestors back to earth for a day of music, dance, and special foods, Sunday, Aug. 11, 4 p.m., at The Morikami Park, Museum and Gardens. Folk dancers in traditional costumes, Japanese chefs offering their delicacies, and a floating lantern ceremony are among the attractions. Sponsored by Friends of The Morikami, Inc. and Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Dept. Information: Larry Rosensweig, curator, 495-0233.

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Aug. 25 is the date of the **Nihonmachi Little Friends** 10th anniversary celebration with an open house at the center, 2031 Bush St., 1-2 p.m., followed by a program and sushi reception at Christ United Presbyterian Church social hall, 1700 Sutter St., 2-5 p.m. Admission: \$10 for adults, \$2

for children 6-15 yrs. Children under 6 are free. Proceeds will support the childcare center's services and the expansion of its pre-school program. Information: 922-8898.

The Nisei Widowed Group will hold their monthly meeting Aug. 4, 2-4 p.m., at Kimochi, 1531 Sutter St. Contact: San Francisco — May Miyamoto, 386-0721, or Elsie Chung, 221-0268; Oakland — Yuri Moriwake, 482-3280, or Mary Matsumoto, 893-9094.

The Japan Society of Northern California marks the 40th anniversary of the end of WW2 in the Pacific with a 3-part lecture series, "Forty Years of Growth: United States/Japan Relations Since WW2," Aug. 14, 21, 28 in the French Parlor of the Sheraton-Palace Hotel, 7 p.m. Admission: \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members.



photo by J.K. Yamamoto

**ASIAN AWARENESS**—Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), who seeks re-election in 1986, met July 19 with members of the Korean American Coalition in Los Angeles to discuss such issues as voter registration, leadership development, trade friction with Asia, immigration bills, a Korean War memorial, and the fingerprinting of Koreans in Japan.

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## Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commemorations

**LOS ANGELES**—"Barefoot Gen" ("Hadashi no Gen"), an animated film about the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, will make its U.S. debut Aug. 4, 1 p.m., at Higashi Hongwanji, 3rd St. & Central Ave. Serialized in a weekly comics magazine and later compiled into book form, "Gen" is a semi-autobiographical story by Keiji Nakazawa, who was 7 years old in 1945. Program is co-sponsored by Asian Americans for Nuclear Disarmament, East Wind magazine and L.A. Buddhist Church Federation. Film is in Japanese with English subtitles. Admission: adults, \$3.50; children, \$2. Call: 291-5734.

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Inspired by the story of Sadako, a 12-year-old girl who died because of the Hiroshima bombing, Bay Area school children will unveil 1,000 paper cranes at City Hall Rotunda on Aug. 5, 12 noon. Supervisor Nancy Walker, a bomb survivor Dr. Francis Tomosawa, and poet Janice Mirikitani will speak. The 1,000 Cranes Project is sponsored by Friends of Hibakusha, which gathered cranes from throughout the country. Children will come from S.F. public schools, Glide Church Children's Program, Nihonmachi Little Friends, and West Marin's San Geronimo School.

**FRESNO, Calif.**—At a ceremony to be held Aug. 4, 7 p.m. at Shinzen Japanese Garden in Woodward Park, there will be a talk by Fresnoans who were in Hiroshima shortly after the bombing and helped care for the victims. A service will be held Aug. 6, 8:15 a.m., at the bell tower of Fresno Betsuin, Kern & "F" streets. Sponsors: Japanese American Interfaith Council, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and Visions of Community.

**CHICAGO**—A rally in remembrance of the bombing of Hiroshima will be held Aug. 9, 1:30 p.m., Daley Plaza. The rally is being planned by a coalition of peace groups, headed by Women For Peace. Also scheduled are films at Facets Multimedia Theatre. Information: Shirley Lens (787-3918) or Chiye Tomihiro (348-6380).

**SACRAMENTO**—Numerous peace groups, including Sacramento Peace Center, Sacramento Religious Community for Peace, Sacramento Nuclear Weapons Freeze, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Social Concerns Committee of the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento, and Mothers for Peace, will sponsor a series of commemorative events, "Learn From the Past,

Create the Present, Envision the Future." Events include:

The 1st "Conference of Cities in Solidarity with Hiroshima and Nagasaki" with Mayor Anne Rudin and Grandmothers for Peace founder Barbara Wiedner, Aug. 5.

A press conference with members of the Hibakusha Peace Tour, 11:30 a.m., Federal building, 650 Capitol Mall, Aug. 6. At 7 p.m. a reception for the hibakusha will be held at St. Francis Catholic Church, 28th and K St.

"Spacebridge," a film about the presentation of the Beyond War Award to the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, at the Music Recital Hall, CSUS campus, 7:30 p.m., Aug. 7. Program will be repeated on Aug. 8.

A mock trial, "Are Nuclear Weapons Illegal: A Confrontation Between Lawyers," presented by Lawyers for Nuclear Arms Control in the Sacramento Superior Court House, Dept. 1, 720 9th St., Aug. 8, noon.

A commemoration and re-dedication to peacemaking service at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 7:30 p.m., Aug. 9. Service includes a children's play on peace, an audio-visual presentation and a closing candlelight procession.

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## Nihonmachi Street Fair tradition continues

by Jane Kaihatsu

SAN FRANCISCO—Every August for the past 11 years, Japantown's streets have been transformed into a lively conglomeration of music, Asian food, free information and friends coming together for the largest Asian American party the Bay Area has ever known.

The Nihonmachi Street Fair, whose organizers include Ron Kanzaki, Dean Ito Taylor, Rich Eijima, Steve Nakajo, Leland Wong and Kenny Kanzaki, is set for August 3-4. Working from many years of experience, not only do these men have the knowledge to operate such a massive event, but a few of them were also the originators of its concept.

Exactly what is the concept of the Street Fair? Although initiated shortly after the volatile "Asian American movement" of the '60s, Nakajo believes the spirit of the Street Fair still applies today.

"It's the discovery of identity; of all of us getting to know each other, from the intellectuals to the street kids and having a good time doing it," Nakajo stated. "It's also what was and what is real. Even though it's held in Japantown, all different Asian American people come to promote their organizations and meet friends. That's what our lives are all about."

This simple idea was not easily accepted in the early days, admits

1985 co-chair Ron Kanzaki. "This [Asian American] idea was out of the norm, and we did have trouble gaining acceptance from the established groups," he recalled. "But we hung in there and struggled to get our point across."

Perhaps one of the strongest examples of Asian Americans working to make the Street Fair possible is the efforts of Wong, who in 1973 was a Chinatown boy who liked to draw and pal around with the Kanzaki brothers.

Wong was involved from the Street Fair's inception and has created the graphic design and publicity poster for almost every Street Fair.

The posters, reflecting his unique style, are the graphic indicators that the Street Fair is about to happen. Wong, however, searches for ideas all year. He always tries to incorporate some traditional Asian art theme, such as the Tibetan snow lion depicted in the 1985 version, and combine it with a contemporary element, like a comic-book-style heading.

"I like the support and people seem to appreciate it," commented Wong as he spoke of why he works on the posters, often alone, year after year. "That and the community spirit, the feeling of solidarity doesn't seem to change."

His posters from years past hang in law offices, apartments,

stores, restaurants; either hastily thumb-tacked up or beautifully framed. But the posters are nonetheless displayed—Asian American art themes represented by swashbuckling colors shouting the energy of an event many people wish to preserve.

A main element of any good party, the Street Fair included, is the entertainment and food. The Street Fair boasts plenty of both. The professional entertainment ranges from Azteca, a salsa group featured at the very first Street Fair, to local and West Coast Asian American bands and performers.

Not surprisingly, Ron Kanzaki, proprietor of Kanzaki's Lounge, is in charge of entertainment coordination. Kanzaki's Lounge is well known for showcasing local musical talent.

"Part of me has always wanted to promote Asian American talent, because maybe due to circumstance or history, they don't otherwise get the exposure they need and deserve," he said.

Aside from the entertainment, the 50-plus booths of non-profit organizations selling tasty food or passing out literature are another crowd pleaser. Kenny Kanzaki is this year's coordinator. He ensures that Health Dept. codes are met and a varied menu, from sushi to teriyaki burgers to potstickers, is maintained as organizations get ready for what some consider their biggest fundraiser of the year.

Others choose to provide information and recruit members. Some groups are political; others are health-oriented, such as the American Red Cross. The San Jose Police Dept. comes recruiting for possible applicants for the South Bay force.

Kenny Kanzaki says he enjoys the outreach the Street Fair has. "It's great to see people from our own community and other Asian communities, like Sacramento and Los Angeles, and even as far away as Washington, D.C. We get tourists, the black community nearby, and the entertainers draw other segments. It's a good mix."



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## Artists voice opposition to apartheid

by Mark Jue

SAN FRANCISCO—As the government of South Africa imposed a state of emergency which resulted in arrests, imprisonment and death for hundreds of Blacks, Asian American artists here came together to express their outrage and to voice their opposition to the apartheid system.

"It's easy for artists to become escapist and pursue art only for art's sake, because art emphasizes the individual so much. Sometimes we forget that we're part of the human race, and until we make that link-up, I don't think our art can be valid," commented poet-playwright Genny Lim.

The author of the stage play and TV drama "Paper Angels" was one of several artists to perform at "Asian American Artists Against Apartheid," a program sponsored by East Wind magazine on July 20 at Christ United Presbyterian Church.

Other performers included musicians Jon Jang, Francis Wong and Susan Hayase, poet Doug Yamamoto, and members of the Philippine Education Support Committee.

The program also included a showing of "Generations of Resistance," a historical film by Peter Davis on the struggle against apartheid by Black South Africans, and a speech by Stanford student Vivian Wu arguing for full divestment from South Africa by U.S. corporations.

"Black people in South Africa are being killed every day. We couldn't just stand back," said Ernestine Tayabas, a spokesperson for East Wind. "We feel our role is to bring this issue to the Asian American community. Although we can never experience the real oppression of South Africa's apartheid system, we have to appeal to compassionate people to support the struggle of Black South Africans to end apartheid."

## 'Fools' Dance' garners another honor

NEW YORK—"Fools' Dance," a film by Karen Ishizuka and Robert Nakamura, was selected for special screening at the XIII International Congress of Gerontology July 15 at the Rockefeller Center.

Ishizuka and Nakamura were awarded a National Media Award from the Retirement Research Institute in Chicago for "Fools' Dance" last May. Nakamura was recently named a recipient of the first Steve Tatsukawa Memorial Award for his contributions to Asian American media.

The film, a dramatic comedy of the influence a mysterious man, played by Mako, has on the lives of the staff and residents of

an American convalescent home, is part of the second "Silk Screens" series which will be broadcast on PBS stations soon.

James A. Davis, chair of the audio-visual program of the international convention, said, "After reviewing over 120 films, we extended special invitations to those we felt were of outstanding quality and would be of greatest interest and value to Congress participants. We are proud to present 'Fools' Dance' to this prestigious international audience."

Emiko Omori's film on aging and retirement made for JACL was also one of the films selected to be shown at this prestigious Congress.

## Nisei Week Festival still going strong

by Katie Kaori Hayashi

LOS ANGELES—The history of the Nisei Week Festival, which runs August 10-18 in Little Tokyo, can be traced back to 1934.

In the Depression, the merchants in Little Tokyo were desperate to attract customers, and this festival was originated to stimulate business. Since Nisei had become powerful and started taking social responsibilities in the Japanese American community, the festival involved many Nisei. The festival was disrupted from 1942 to 1947 because of WW2.

"I think that this is the oldest Japanese American festival in the United States because Sakura Matsuri in Hawaii and San Francisco started after WW2," said Katsumi "Kats" Kunitugu, general chair of the 1985 Nisei Week and executive secretary at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center.

She added that the meaning of the festival has been transformed from a business promotion to a community affair.

"The main purpose of this festival is to make the general public, who are outside the Japanese community, aware of Japanese Americans and to make Sansei

and Yonsei realize their cultural background," she explained.

Koshiro Torii, former chair of Nisei Week and chair of the Little Tokyo Business Association, said this festival helps to bridge the gap between Japanese Americans and Japanese businessmen because Japanese companies financially support the festival.

Joyce Wakano Chinn, general manager of the 1985 Nisei Week and a school teacher, said the festival depends on donations, so the financial problem is the biggest concern.

Also working for Nisei Week this year are Anne Chiba, Patrick Takahashi and Amy Yamashiro.

The festival starts at 6 p.m. on August 7 with a traditional Shinto purification ceremony at JACCC. At 8 a.m. on August 11, a 5-kilometer run starts at the Japanese Village Plaza fire tower.

At 3 p.m. on August 11, the Grand Parade, which includes Japanese dances, taiko drums, floats and marching bands, will feature kabuki actor Ichikawa Danjuro XII, astronaut Ellison Onizuka, and actor George Takei of "Star Trek."

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## A Japanese 'Eiga'

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lage dealt with the problem of aged folks who are a burden upon poverty-stricken families. It was a movie produced in 1983, and movie critic Gene Siskel gave it top-rating Four stars. And anyway, I was getting tired of getting my ration of *chambara* from video-cassette tapes.

The title of this presentation: "The Ballad of Narayama."

THE OTHER NIGHT, on the spur of the moment, we decided to see a movie when we noticed it was a Japanese *eiga* with English sub-titles. It was playing at a theater in the suburbs called Narberth, one of the "bedroom communities" that surround Philadelphia. Knowing that the Tamaki's — Tom and Marion — enjoy *eiga* (we've gone together to see *eiga* in New York, also while we were in Japan, as well as to various places hereabouts), although it was at the very last minute, we gave them a call.

Their ready response: "Sure."

NOW, I DIDN'T know what the movie was all about, except something about it having won an award at the Cannes Film Festival and it dealt with some Japanese legend of how one vil-

THE PERIOD SETTING is in the 19th century, the place in northern Japan, mountainous country. Stunning vistas, in color. The story focuses upon a particular farm family which, while not living "high on the hog" as they say, is comparatively well off compared to its neighbors (one in particular). In the household is a widowed matriarch, now age 69 years and reaching that fatal number of 70 when such elderly are removed up into the mountains (Narayama). Except this matriarch happens to be vigorous, active, productive and has just about all her teeth. At least 28 of them. We'll stop right here as to the plot; there may be some of you out there who are planning to see the movie.

THERE WERE A COUPLE of scenes that caught us off guard.



Sexual scenes, including one of sodomy. On the way home, Vicki and I were commenting: "Is this the kind of scenes they permit on movie screens in Japan? With mothers, perhaps, taking their youngsters?" Obviously, in part the answer to these questions is "yes." So those of you planning to see the movie, leave the kiddies at home. This is no *jidai chambara*. (Although I must observe that some of those *chambara* are explicitly gory, what with severed limbs flying through the air, blood gushing out from chests, and so forth.)

THERE'S LITTLE QUESTION that the so-called "sexual revolution" has made inroads into the once-prim culture of Japan. Perhaps a mixed blessing. I have to admit, however, that when they depict a stoic samurai nowadays, seizing the lady-in-waiting and (roughly) engaging in *seppun*, it sort of destroys my boyhood concepts. It's somewhat akin to seeing Roy Rogers involved in a torrid encounter with Dale Evans as Trigger whinnies nearby.

You know what I mean? (If you do, you're older than you're will-

ing to admit.)

WHEN THE MOVIE "Narayama" had ended (two hours), and the cast of characters and credits began to roll down the screen, the audience sat, unmoving. That's usually an indication that they thoroughly enjoyed it and sort of regretted that it had come to an end. We four AJA's, however, weren't quite so captivated, for we were among the first to get up and leave. We retired to a nearby *china-meshi* place owned by Jim Chen who, it turned out, was known to the Tamaki's as well as ourselves.

## The Vernaculars

by J.K. Yamamoto

A few years ago, I worked on the staff of the now defunct Nikkei Sentinel, which was jointly published by Little Tokyo People's Rights Organization in L.A. and Japanese Community Progressive Alliance in San Francisco. It was unique in that it had staff in both cities and dealt with issues in both English and Japanese.

But like other short-lived community publications, the Nikkei folded due to a variety of problems, some organizational and some financial (despite having an all-volunteer staff, including people who hand-wrote the Japanese section). It was a lesson in the difficulty of maintaining an ethnic newspaper.

So, bearing in mind that a list of community newspapers needs to be updated periodically as papers come and go, here is an overview of places where you are likely to find Nikkei news.

Only L.A. and S.F. have two JA dailies each: Rafu Shimpō and Kashu Mainichi down here and Hokubei Mainichi and Nichibei Times up there. Naturally there is some overlapping of coverage, but there are distinct differences as well. Readers in both cities definitely have a choice.

Elsewhere in the U.S. are New York Nichibei, Rocky Mountain Jiho (published in Denver), Utah Nippo, Chicago Shimpō, and Hawaii Hōchi. For Japanese Canadian readers, there are New Canadian and Canada Times.

Each of these papers is bilingual, but the English side contains Nikkei community news plus news of Japan while the Japanese side provides general coverage—world, national, state and local—to Japanese-speaking readers who are unable to read all-English newspapers. Rather than being mirror images of each other, the English and Japanese sides are

separate entities with separate readerships.

That makes Pacific Citizen one of only three all-English Japanese American papers, the other two being Hawaii Herald and the L.A.-based Tozai Times. The Herald, which comes out twice a month, and the newly established Tozai, which comes out once a month, are both feature-oriented and are aimed at their respective local readerships.

The one distinction that PC can claim as its own is that it is still the only Japanese American newspaper intended for a nationwide audience. Although we have an editorial staff of two and only a handful of correspondents outside L.A. (not counting columnists, who do not report the news), we are somehow able to do our job with some degree of success.

Because we are based in L.A., some may think of us as an L.A. paper. But if the mail we get is any indication, PC is most appreciated by people living in areas that do not have any other JA publication—areas well removed from Southern California.

If you'll allow me a moment of personal bias, my favorites among fellow JA papers are (in no particular order) Rafu, Hokubei, N.Y. Nichibei, the Herald, and the Tozai.

A roundup like this would not be complete without mentioning other papers that try to cover a variety of Asian American issues, including those of the Nikkei community. In San Francisco, there are East West, which is English on one side and Chinese on the other, and Asian Week, which is all English with a Chinese American emphasis.

The only other English/Chinese paper I'm aware of is Sampan in Boston, which deals almost exclusively with local issues. For some reason, L.A. does not seem to have an English-language Chinese American paper, even though there is a need for one.

The English section of the mostly Korean-language Korea Times in L.A. does an admirable job of covering pan-Asian issues in addition to those which are of special interest to Korean Americans.

Pacific Ties, published at UCLA, is (to my knowledge) the only Asian American student paper that comes out on a regular basis. Along with UCLA's other minority papers, it is being threatened with absorption into one all-purpose special interest paper (see story on page 1).

And in Seattle, the all-English International Examiner, like the International District in which it is located, covers the broad spectrum of Asian American communities.

Another Seattle publication, Asian Family Affair, folded earlier this year. Some might list it along with the above papers, but because it was typed on a typewriter rather than typeset, I'm not sure it qualified as a newspaper. (Even without the equipment, I'm sure the staff was no less dedicated.)

This sampling shows that there is no shortage of Asian American news to cover; the only question is how many people want to read about it.

The fate that befell Nikkei and Family Affair, and the precarious position of Pacific Ties, demonstrate another fact: an ethnic Asian newspaper—including PC—cannot be taken for granted.

## Letters

### Lack of Cohesion

I'm beginning to feel that the whole aspect of reparations for Japanese Americans is similar to the American Indian land claims issue. Here in Maine, we have seen how a lack of cohesiveness hindered that resolution.

Unless there is a more concentrated effort, perhaps you should just forget about it and get busy with another subject which has more appeal. How about a national JACL basketball team?

VIRGINIA SUYAMA  
Ellsworth, Maine

### Cover-Up

Is it possible to place the mailing label elsewhere rather than in the upper left corner? It has been disconcerting to have interesting pictures and headlines covered up with the label.

Many of us are interested in preserving certain articles and pictures but find the article ruined when attempting to peel off the mailing label.

Would appreciate another site for the labels.

JOHN T. OMORI  
Chicago

The mailing labels are placed on the reverse side of the change of address form so that when the form is sent, the label with the old address is attached, making it easier for our circulation department to handle address changes.

We try to place a photo or headline in the top left corner so that no news is covered by the label, the thought being that it's better to cover a photo or headline than the first paragraph of a story.

We will entertain any suggestions on the matter, however.

—Ed.

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pacific citizen

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News or opinions expressed by columnists other than the National President or National Director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy.

Frank Sato, Nat'l JACL Pres.

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## A Question of Expertise

FROM THE  
FRYING PAN:

Bill  
Hosokawa



Paraphrasing from someone who at the moment I cannot identify, diplomacy is too important a national function to be left in the hands of professionals.

The people have to get into the act, and there is much that they can do to build understanding, create good will and promote friendly relations with the people of other nations. There are numerous vehicles for this kind of activity—the People to People and Sister Cities programs, student exchanges through schools and service clubs, organized tourism, professorial exchanges, and international movements such as Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Optimists.

In their fields of competence there's no better way to make friends and influence people than through such programs. But there are complex and sensitive areas best left to the professionals.

William Ouchi, professor at UCLA's Graduate School of Management, seemed to be addressing this point in an interview published in the June 21 Pacific Citizen. Regarding Japanese Americans as a bridge over trade tensions between the U.S. and Japan, he said:

"I think that to the extent that Japanese Americans naturally develop relations both with American business and government leaders and with Japanese business and government leaders, it will be helpful for them to serve as a source of informal communication when there are trade disputes.

"But that's a process that has to happen naturally. It will happen only if in fact people who are Japanese American have more interest, more natural access to parties on both sides of the trade issue. If a Japanese American civic group or other organization attempts to place itself formally, institutionally, in an intermediary position, I think it will be more a hindrance than a help.

"What I foresee is that when groups—community, civic, ethnic groups—encourage their own members, in particular their young members, to develop them-

selves, to develop broad contacts on both sides of the Pacific, then they will be growing a future generation of very broad leaders who in fact will be those informal intermediaries.

"But it's not something you can force, it's not something that you can artificially create, not something you can design and put in place and make it happen tomorrow or next year."

The essence of Professor Ouchi's advice seems to be that Japanese Americans are in position to serve as trans-Pacific bridges, but first they'd better qualify themselves for that responsibility.

The attitude that Japanese Americans are natural bridges between the United States and Japan simply because of their ethnicity is as stereotypical as saying all blacks have rhythm and will make good dancers, or that all blacks are outstanding basketball players.

The opportunity is present and Japanese Americans can seize it if they'll prepare themselves. Some have. To name a few, people like Barry Saiki and Dick Yamashita in Tokyo, Mike Masaoka and Dave Nikaido in Washington, and of course Ouchi himself. But their skills and expertise were acquired less because of their ethnicity than because they worked at it.

## Eight Who Excel

PRESIDENT'S  
CORNER:

by  
Frank Sato



It is natural to be concerned about what the future holds for JACL. A look at the impressive records of participants in this summer's Second National JACL Washington, D.C. Leadership Program points to a bright future. These Sansei and Yonsei display outstanding leadership within JACL and in their communities.

Their interests and deeds promise that the best and brightest JACL leaders of tomorrow are there to capably carry the torch of leadership. They are as follows:

- Catherine K. Higashioka, 36, of Pasadena, is coordinator of volunteer programs for the Los Angeles Dept. of Consumer Affairs. Ms. Higashioka helped establish a volunteer program to provide nutritious meals for the elderly in L.A.'s Little Tokyo in 1972, for which she received a commendation from the city. She also served as a counselor with the Japanese Community Counseling Center to address social service needs of the Issei in Little Tokyo, where she also conducted field trips for the elderly and served on the board of the senior center.

She is fluent in Japanese, having lived six months in Japan. She holds a *sho-dan* rank in the martial art of *naginata* and helps teach this skill in various classes and seminars.

In 1983 she helped form the Torrance JACL chapter, of which she is now president. She also sits on the board of the Pacific Southwest District Council.

- Alan S. Nishi, 29, of Stockton, is assistant branch manager/agricultural loan officer with Stockton Production Credit Assn. He graduated with honors from California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo. He is also immediate past president of French Camp JACL and a member of the No. Calif.-W. Nevada-Pacific District Council board.

- Cyril N. Nishimoto, 29, of Jackson Heights, N.Y., is director of Japanese American Social Services, Inc., a non-profit organization providing assistance and information to the New York area Japanese community. He helped form youth and young adult groups at Japanese American Unity Church, sits on the board of the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, which provides legal services, and helped found the Japanese American Counseling Center to provide community mental health services.

He graduated from Yale University Summa Cum Laude in 1977 and holds a law degree from Columbia Law School (1980). Since 1981, Mr. Nishimoto has been on the board of New York JACL.

- Mary H. Nishimoto, 28, of Gardena, is western regional manager of National Urban Fellows, Inc., and assistant conference coordinator for the UCLA International Student Center. She is a founding member of the UCLA

Asian Pacific Women's Caucus, which led to the formation this year of the Asian Pacific Women's Network.

Ms. Nishimoto is president of Downtown L.A. JACL and a member of the National and PSW District Women's Concerns committees.

- Arthur Nishioka, 33, of San Diego, is on the corporate staff of Kyocera International, Inc., a subsidiary of a Japanese firm. Deacon of his church and audit committee member for San Diego JACL Federal Credit Union, he holds an MBA from the University of Illinois at Urbana (1978) and participated in a one-year Japanese language program at Keio University in Tokyo (1974).

Mr. Nishioka is treasurer and past budget director of San Diego JACL.

- Sam S. Okimoto, 31, of San Jose, is market development sales director for AC-Delco Division of General Motors. He was elected in 1980 to the A.S.I.A. Hall of Fame for outstanding sales. He is treasurer and past president of the UCLA Bay Area Bruins Alumni Club.

In 1978, Mr. Okimoto helped reconstitute Oakland JACL from dormant to active status. Currently he serves as chapter treasurer and secretary of the NCWNP District Council.

- Katherine Y. Sasaki, 32, of Fresno, instructor of community mental health nursing at California State University at Fresno, has worked as an intensive care nurse and charge nurse in a private psychiatric hospital in Baltimore and as a practitioner-teacher in Chicago.

Ms. Sasaki became involved with JACL as a graduate student in Baltimore, then served as vice president of programs in Chicago JACL. Currently she is vice president of membership for the Fresno chapter.

- Gene L. Takamine, 38, of Fountain Valley, is senior partner in the law firm of Takamine, Huang and Gomez with specialty in issues concerning the Pacific rim. He was campaign chair for "Gomez for Congress" in California's 30th congressional district. He formerly taught history and Latin at the high school level and served as a junior Foreign Service officer in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Takamine is National JACL secretary-treasurer. He was president of the Selanoco chapter in 1980.

During the week of July 15-19, this group had the opportunity to meet and discuss issues with Sens. Inouye and Matsunaga, Reps. Mineta and Matsui, Sen. Paul Laxalt (R-Nev.), and a number of other Washington officials, including Japanese Americans in the legislative and executive branches of government.

A primary focus was on leadership issues which address current matters of importance to JACL and the Japanese American community, such as redress and the challenges ahead in seeking a broader leadership role in our government.

Only time will tell us how successful the program is. From my brief personal appearance with the group, I'm optimistic for the future of JACL. Let's support them in every way as they move ahead.

## Thank God I'm Stupid

NISEI  
IN JAPAN:

Barry  
Saiki



Long ago, as a company grade officer, I was assigned to a specialized unit in Japan under the command of a brilliant but autocratic major (later lieutenant colonel). Texas-born, he looked like Sean Connery and had a photographic mind. His projects were like 007 operations.

On the second day after my assignment, I went to visit my former military unit, with which I had previously spent 30 months. Upon returning from my courtesy call, I was called by the major and was severely castigated for my sense of judgment.

"Listen, stupid, while you're under my command, you owe loyalty only to my unit," he emphasized with a growl. (He had the habit of adding "stupid" to his

statements whenever any action taken or not taken by his officers and men perturbed him.)

For the first two weeks with the unit, I was not given useful assignments. Clearly, he had placed me on his blacklist. Tired of this "cat and mouse" game, I typed a one-page memorandum and tacked it on the bulletin board one evening. The title was "Thank God I'm Stupid."

The gist of the memo was that stupidity had its virtues because one was given no responsibilities, was not expected to know anything and did not have to keep up with current events. Having no aptitude or ambitions, and already classified at the bottom of the ladder, he could blissfully pass the time of day.

The following morning, I got a fast reaction. I was called in by the major, who looked at me quizzically.

"Saiki, who put that memo on the bulletin board?"

"What memo, sir?" I replied.

"The thing about stupidity."

"I don't know, sir."

"Well, you're the only one who could have written that, even if you won't admit it. Now, go and report to Captain Richards." I noted a grin on his face as I left.

From that day, I was put in charge of one of the key projects which was to become increasingly important in the ensuing three years; and he never again called me stupid.

The morals of this episode are many: he had obstinately refused to give me a fruitful assignment because he was displeased with my first action. Through the ironic humor of the indirect memo, he realized that he was wasting my time. Since he was such a domi-

neering individual, the indirect approach proved to be most effective.

This event presages a more common issue—the concept of leadership.

Leadership of any group or of a corporation entails the acceptance of responsibilities, a comprehensive understanding of the organizations and its goals, a keen analysis of the activities and problems, the formulation of plans and programs, the effective supervision and coordination of the group, the financial aspects of the organization, the unity (including morale) of the group—and the ability to recognize one's errors and correct them.

The larger the organization, the greater are the duties and responsibilities, which in turn require a staff of competent and like-minded personnel. Successful groups all have excellent ratings in the above.

One inherent danger to a successful organization is when the leadership assumes that its policies and decisions are above reproach, without periodically turning to the rank-and-file for reaffirmation of the basic aims and goals, as well as the conduct of its activities.

Towards that end, the Pacific Citizen serves as an essential sounding board which can provide readers with an opportunity to express their views, be they in the minority; for the biannual conventions, the National Board meetings and chapter meetings (with some being much more active than others) may not accurately reflect the views of the entire membership.

In addition to other merits, the Pacific Citizen can truly serve as the voice of the membership. It is up to the readers to make proper use of their organ.

### Donations to Pacific Citizen For Typesetting Fund

As of July 30, 1985: \$30,296.30 (758)  
This week's total: \$ 167.00 ( 9)  
Last week's total: \$30,129.30 (749)  
\$ 2 from: George Ogi.  
\$ 5 from: Takeo/Tomie Nakamura.  
\$10 from: Masashi/Yoneko Haya-se, George/Ritsuko Inouye, Kimi Izumida.  
\$15 from: Monroe/Lillie Sweetland.  
\$25 from: Grace Makabe.  
\$40 from: Masaichi Izuno.  
\$50 from: George Yoshida.  
Thank you!



FROM PACIFIC SOUTHWEST:  
John Saito

## TACL

Over the past 4 or 5 years small groups of Taiwanese Americans have visited our office to become acquainted with and knowledgeable of the JACL organization. Our office has provided literature and brochures for this group to study and do further research. Earlier this year this group invited me to speak to a larger group to explain and answer questions about the JACL structure.

On July 13 at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, close to 1,000 people gathered to attend the inaugural convention of the Taiwanese American Citizens League (TACL).

They must have appreciated our assistance efforts because after the keynote speaker, Sen. Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska), and California Secretary of State March Fong Eu addressed the gathering, I was asked to speak.

The group cheered when I said, "To the newly formed TACL, I send our warmest greetings from JACL." I didn't think those words would get such a warm reception from the floor.

The audience was flabbergasted when I said that JACL has been around for 56 years.

I have never been accused of being long winded and I did not wish to break that tradition; therefore I concluded by indicating that the resources and experiences of JACL stand ready to assist whenever needed. Then I went back to my chair and sat down and enjoyed the rest of the evening.



JACL/Blue Shield Administrative Committee (from left) — back row: Bob Tsubota, Doug Urata, Kikuo Nakahara, Tom Tsurumoto, Toshiko Yoshida, Gerald Takehara. Front row: Joe Sugawara, John Yasumoto and Wilson Makabe. Missing from picture: Richard Ikeda, Tad Hirota and Jim Yamaguchi.

## JACL Blue Shield Committee feted

SAN FRANCISCO—Blue Shield of California recently hosted a dinner for the JACL-Blue Shield Administrative Committee and their spouses. At that time, Manuel Nuris, director of Group Retention of Northern California, presented a plaque to the Administrative Committee and a letter of congratulations to chairman John Yasumoto commemorating 20 years of service with Blue Shield of California.

The JACL-Blue Shield Group Health Plan was started in 1964 by the Northern California Western Nevada District Council. Other districts were added to the plan in 1969, '70, '71 and '77.

There is no broker of record for the plan. Members of the Ad-

ministrative Committee, all of whom are elected biennially by the chapter commissioners, oversee the plan operations. The commissioners serve as liaison between the subscribers and the JACL-Blue Shield office.

The plan is open to all JACL members 18-64 years of age who qualify to enroll. Any enrolled subscriber upon reaching age 65 may elect to stay in the plan and integrate benefits with Medicare A and B.

Administrator Frances Morio-ka and administrative assistant Doris Sasaki take care of the day to day operation of the plan. The office is located in the National JACL building, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

## Chapter Pulse

### Contra Costa

EL CERRITO, Calif.—Fifty years of existence will be celebrated with a dinner/dance, Sept. 7, 6 p.m. at the Mira Vista Country Club, 7900 Cutting Blvd. Rep. Norman Mineta will be the featured speaker. Seating is limited, so those attending are asked to make reservations early. Send replies with \$25 c/o Masako Sato, 620 Beliot Ave., Kensington, CA 94708. Those wishing to make donations to the celebration should contact 50th Anniversary committee chair Natsuko Irei.

### Olympia

OLYMPIA, Wash.—Kimiko Emizawa and Christine Farler, both graduates of Timberline High School, were awarded the chapter scholarships at the Graduation Dinner, June 22. Emizawa plans to attend the University of Washington, while Farler will attend Tacoma Community College.

The Evergreen State College president Joseph Olander and Consul General Toshio Isogai of the Seattle office of the Japan Consulate were honored at the dinner.

### Mt. Olympus

SALT LAKE CITY—Julia Mori and Pamela Kobayashi from Alta H.S. and Scot Shimizu from Brighton H.S. were honored with scholarships at the Graduation Recognition Dinner on June 12. About 60 members and graduates attended the event.

Salt Lake City commissioner M. Tom Shimizu was also presented with an award for "Outstanding Community Service."

### Carson

WEST COVINA, Calif.—The PSWD third quarterly meeting will be held at the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave. Featured speaker will be president Frank Sato. Those wishing to attend should call Miriam Nishida, 835-9833.

### Honolulu

HONOLULU—Mary Tarutani and Caroline Otani have been named recipients of the two chapter scholarships. Tarutani, a graduate of University Laboratory School with a 4.0 GPA, plans to study English as a second language and Japanese at Stanford University.

Otani is a graduate of Aiea High School, where she was active in Junior Achievement and student government. She maintains a 3.6 GPA at the University of Hawaii, where she is pursuing a degree in nursing.



Mary Tarutani

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 Current total .....1,637

JULY 15-19, 1985 (26)  
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 Boise Valley: 22-Paul Yasuda.  
 Chicago: 14-Marion K Ishii.  
 Contra Costa: 25-Joe S Sugawara\*.  
 Detroit: 2-Virginia Izumi, 1-David A Maxon, 1-Arthur I Teshima, 1-Yukiko Woo.  
 Downtown Los Angeles: 5-Kenzo K Hirota.  
 Gardena Valley: 14-Gary Hayakawa.  
 Marina: 2-Ruth Horibe, 4-Joseph Kinoshita, 2-Akimi Kodama, 6-Patti Paganini, 5-Hank Y Sakayue, 6-Ryoko Takata.

Marysville: 2-Lt Col Frederick S Okimoto.  
 Milwaukee: 10-Betty H Fuji-hira.  
 Mount Olympus: 13-Huch Aoki.  
 Philadelphia: 30-Dr Tomomi Murakami, 34-Dr Hitoshi Tom Tamaki.  
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**NOTICE OF A BIENNIAL PUBLIC HEARING**  
 BY THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
 OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
 on the LITTLE TOKYO REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles, California, has authorized the setting of Monday, August 19, 1985, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., as the time, and fixed the Social Hall, Tokyo Villa, 222 South Central Avenue, Los Angeles, as the place for a biennial public hearing to be held by the Agency on the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project.  
 The purpose of the public hearing is to:  
 1. Review the Redevelopment Plan for the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project and evaluate its progress; and  
 2. Hear the testimony of all parties interested in the Little Tokyo Project.  
 3. At the above stated day, hour and place any and all persons having any testimony regarding the Redevelopment Plan for the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project may appear before the Agency and be heard.

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## Some Good News, Some Bad

ONE THING  
LEADS  
TO ANOTHER

Bob  
Shimabukuro



Another week has gone by and still no air conditioning. If I have seemed crabby the past few weeks, forgive me. The situation here has moved from bizarre and crazy to downright irritating.

We finally negotiated a settlement with the typesetting machines. The repairman came over three times the past week and came to terms with the machines, at least so that they would operate in these conditions.

However, the processor has decided to pull off the job and call in sick. Too hot, it screamed. Sorry, no more working until the work environment is modified, it stoically said as it walked off the job.

The past few weeks, we've been driving down to Fullerton to typeset the paper. It's a crazy situation. Fullerton is about 30-45 minutes away. At least that office is air conditioned.

The walkout of the processor (I'm not sure whether it's on strike or on sick leave), following the strike by the typesetting machines, leaves me feeling totally inadequate with regard to managerial skills. Just as I felt when I ran a restaurant.

Why me? I'm so kind and considerate, I kept telling the machines. Go picket City Hall. That's where the problem lies. Or the contractor. Or the landlord. Or the PC board. Or Ron

Wakabayashi. But it refuses to listen. Talk about feeling powerless.

But of course, who cares? After all, Americans are once again being faced with a strike of even greater magnitude, the great baseball strike of '85. What's a PC machine strike compared to that one. Big bucks plus a lot of jobs are involved in that one, from the players to the hot dog salesman. A lot of jobs.

Who knows? Maybe the processor wants to be a free agent too. But of course, we can't give in. If we let the processor become a free agent, all the other machines will want to be free agents too. And then what? Maybe the editor will too. We have to be firm.

But there is some good news. The PC staff just learned that we will receive an award from the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations in October. The PC was selected as the recipient of the John Anson Ford Award for outstanding media achievement in the field of human relations for its "broad coverage and focus on multi-ethnic issues and events."

What can we say? Thanks to the Commission and, most of all, thanks to former editor Karen Seriguchi whose vision made the award possible.

And finally, did anyone see Art Buchwald's July 21 column on U.S.-Japan trade? It was suspiciously similar to the Bob and Mike view of U.S.-Japan trade and deficit presented in the May 24 edition of this column. So you see, the PC is where it's at. Time to order a gift subscription for a friend.

Now if we can only solve the problem of our dissident machines.

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