Inouye considers Senate leadership post

HONOLULU—Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii acknowledges he may make a bid for the Senate's top Democratic post in 1986, according to the Honolulu Advertiser.

"For the first time, I'm looking at it," he said of the minority leader slot held by Robert Byrd of West Virginia. Inouye, third in the Democratic seniority leadership behind Byrd and Democratic Whip Alan Cranston of California, has often been mentioned as a possible successor of Byrd.

Inouye has steadfastly refused to openly seek the job. Last year, however, Byrd endorsed Inouye as his "narrow" choice.

Adding interest in the Democratic leadership lineup is the possibility that the party might retake control from the majority Republicans in the 1986 elections. There are 53 Republicans and 47 Democrats in the Senate; the seats of 22 Republicans and 12 Democrats (including Inouye) will be up for election next year.

News in Brief

Appeal of class action suit dismissed to go to court

WASHINGTON—The U.S. District Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit, will hear the case of National Council for Japanese American Redress (NCJAR) September 24 at 9:30 a.m. NCJAR's class action suit against the government on behalf of WW2 internees was filed in late 1981. In May 1984, it was dismissed on grounds that the statute of limitations had expired; the decision was appealed in July 1984. NCJAR's William Hohri expects a ruling at year's end or early 1986.

California Senate passes bill repealing WW2 law

SACRAMENTO—A bill which would repeal a law used to fire Japanese American state employees during WW2 was approved September 4 by a 22-0 vote in the State Senate. Introduced by Assemblyman Phil Isenberg (D-Sacramento), it was passed by the Assembly on May 20. Section 1957 of the government code, enacted in 1942, allowed the dismissal of civil servants with dual citizenship during wartime. Isenberg argued that the sole purpose of the law was to fire 314 Nisei employees, regardless of their citizenship status. The measure to repeal that law now goes to Gov. George Deukmejian for his signature.

Congressman condemns 'Year of the Dragon'

WASHINGTON—Speaking in the House of Representatives on September 4, Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif) rejected the film "Year of the Dragon," which has been the object of nationwide protests by Asian American community groups. The film, he said, presents "a narrow and twinned portrayal that distorts traditional cultural values and the personal and social and diplomatic responsibilies.

As Democratic leader, Inouye said he would also be forced to cut back on trips to Hawaii. He's averaged 21 round trips a year between Washington and Hawaii over the past 15 years. However, he added, assuming the leadership post would bring with it "additional power and influence," a big increase in staff and greater say over the direction of the Senate.

Inouye has been active in fund-raising and campaigning for fellow Democratic senators and ex-senator Gene Taylor, for example. He is "deeply moved" by the thought of becoming minority or majority leader, but he is quick to say the Campbell administration has "built a lot of negatives," including security and logistical hassles, increased travel and political pressures, and the personal and social and diplomatic responsibilities.

Inouye supports redress bills HR 442 in the House and S 1053 in the Senate. His "reason for the WW2 internment and that an apology to Japanese Americans whose civil liberties and constitutional rights were violated, he said, would also be forced to cut back on trips to Hawaii. He's averaged 21 round trips a year between Washington and Hawaii over the past 15 years. However, he added, assuming the leadership post would bring with it "additional power and influence," a big increase in staff and greater say over the direction of the Senate.

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MIS photo exhibit dedicated in Texas

FREDERICKSBURG, Texas — The Yankee Samurai exhibit of Go For Broke, Inc. was dedicated on Sept. 2 at the Adm., Nimitz State Historical Park with 300 visitors in attendance, including over 100 WW2 Viet Nam Veterans, 1st Cavalry, 1st Cav, VFV and American Legion veterans and their wives.

In his dedication message, Shig Kihara from Go For Broke stated that the extraordinary story of segregation and discrimination against Japanese Americans was now integrated into the extraordinary story of a third generation German American, Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz, and that “this is what America is all about.”

Included in the Nimitz Park is the Garden of Peace, a classic Japanese Garden with a replica of Adm. Hothuahito Togo’s study. Nimitz, as a midshipman, had participated in a Tokyo celebration of Adm.Togo’s victory over the Russian Baltic Fleet in the Battle of Japan Sea in 1905 and became a life long admirer of Togo.

Soon after the surrender of Japan in Sept. 1945, Adm. Nimitz was dismayed by the vandalism and deterioration of Togo’s flagship, Mikasa, and the Togo Shrine in Tokyo.

Nimitz made a personal contribution to start a drive in Japan to rehabilitate both. In 1976, a Japanese committee that had carried out Nimitz’s plan created the Garden of Peace to express their appreciation of Nimitz’s efforts.

JA appointed to state education council

SACRAMENTO — State Supt. of Public Instruction Bill Honig announced August 14 the appointment of Dr. Don Nakanishi to a second term on the Superintendent’s Council on Asian Pacific Islander Education. “The goal of the council,” stated S.F. Asians host Bradley reception

SAN FRANCISCO—Local Asian Americans sponsored a reception August 10 for Los Angeles County Supervisor Tom Bradley, who is considering a gubernatorial run in 1986.

More than 100 people attended the event, held at Adm. Nimitz Restaurant. Organizers included Harold Yee, Harry Der, Jeff Mori and Yori Wada. “From the gist of his [Bradley’s] comments, it appears that he is planning to run for governor,” said Wada.

Bradley, a Democrat, lost to Republican George Deukmejian in the 1982 gubernatorial race. In Bradley’s successful bid for re-election as mayor earlier this year, Asian Americans made up 28% of donors who gave $100 or more to his campaign, according to a Los Angeles Times poll.

Kobayashi murder linked to Stalker?

SAN FRANCISCO—The murder of Masataska Kobayashi, chef and co-owner of the Nob Hill restaurant Massa’s, is one of the unsolved Bay Area slayings being checked for possible links to “Night Stalker,” suspect Richard Ramirez, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Dayle Okazaki, killed in her Rosemead home March 17, was first believed to be the Stalker’s first victim, but investigators have attributed at least one Los Angeles area murder which took place earlier this year to the Ramirez.

Kobayashi was found beaten to death in his apartment November 11, 1984. Lt. George Kowalski of SFPD’s Homicide Division told the Times that Ramirez may have been visiting San Francisco since early 1983.

Ramirez, who was arrested August 31, has been formally charged with murdering William Dui of Monterey Park on May 14.

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Magic study featured in new America

LOS ANGELES — The role of “Magic”—the code name for a U.S. intelligence project which cracked Japanese diplomatic codes—in the decision to intern Japanese Americans during WW2 is the subject of a study by John Herzig, a retired lieutenant colonel, published in UCLA’s Asian American Studies Center.

Herring, a retired lieutenant colonel, served as a counterintelligence officer for the Army in Japan and Europe. He testified in June at the Gordon Hirobayashi trial in Seattle, in which the basis for the evacuation and internment was challenged.

In his article, Herrig rebuts the 1984 congressional testimony of former National Security Agency official David Lowman, who cited “Magic” as evidence of disloyalty among Japanese Americans. Herzig has concluded from his research that “Documents written by or about key decision-makers of the time make no mention of any intelligence information inimical to Japanese Americans when discussing ‘Magic’ inter-

Among the journalists scheduled to participate are: Emeriak Yep, KRON-TV; Ken Kawashima, ABC News; Lutulaki Kasihawara, KGO-TV; Curtis Kim, KNBR radio, William Wong, Oakland Tribune; Shari Shih and Terez Watanabe, San Jose Mercury News; Leslie Guevarra, San Francisco Examiner; Ed Iwata, San Francisco Chronicle; Ed Diokno, Philippine News; and Paul Sakuma, Associated Press.

For further information, call Ed Iwata, (415) 465-0614; Teresa Watanabe, (415) 964-7670; or Jan Kamamoto, (415) 639-2525.

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**Fujita charges county with sex bias**

LOS ANGELES—A County Civil Service Commission hearing into sex discrimination charges leveled against the County Dept. of Health Services by a Japanese American pharmacist opened August 21 at the Hall of Administration.

Dr. Carole Fujita charges that the county violated federal and state equal opportunity laws in a promotional examination for the position of Pharmacy Services Chief III earlier this year.

Contrary to what women are not represented in supervisory positions in the same proportion that they are employed, as pharmacists, Fujita alleges that a woman has never been promoted to Pharmacy Services Chief III. That in the past category down, Pharmacopie Supervisor I. only 2% of women, even though 40% of all county pharmacists are women.

"Clearly, women employers under-utilized class," stated Russell linguich, Fujita's attorney.

It was further alleged by linguich that the prerequisite two years of experience at the Supervisor level was lowered to one year after it was discovered that the acting male Pharmacy Services Chief III did not meet the requirement.

Although the Civil Service Commission ruled in 1980 that Fujita had been discriminated against because of sex as well as race in a previous case, she says that the county has done nothing to correct this problem.

Irene Hirano of Asian Pacific Legal Defense and Education Fund contends. "It is unfortunate that it is necessary to return to the Civil Service Commission repeatedly to bring to their attention the fact that the discrimination they ordered to end has continued unabated for five years.

Further hearings are scheduled for October 23–25. For further information, call (213) 628-4471.

**Paul Bannai**

WASHINGTON — Paul Bannai, chief memorial affairs director of the Veterans Administration, has announced he will retire September 29 and return to his home in Gardena, Calif.

Appointed in July 1981, Bannai held the post of managing the National Cemetery System the longest since it became a VA program in 1973. VA administrator Harry Walters called Bannai "a tireless and dedicated public official who has earned the deep respect of his colleagues, his employees, and the veteran community."

Frank Sato, JACL president and VA inspector general, also praised Bannai's work. "As the only Japanese American to run a major department of the federal government, he clears the way for others to follow. We wish him Goodspeed."

Bannai oversaw operation of the nation's 109 national cemeteries and associated burial benefit programs. He guided expansion of the system through development of additional sites at Quantico, Va., Fort Custer, Mich., and Indianap Park, Ga.

Born in Colorado, Bannai was interned with his Japanese born parents during WW2, later serving with the U.S. Army in the Pacific from 1943-46. Prior to his VA appointment, he was executive director of the Commission on War Relocation and Internment of Civilians and had served as a California state assemblyman.

**Anaheim Community Affairs**

ANAHEIM, Calif.—The 2nd annual "Fall Festival of bonsai Treasures" will be presented by Kaffi Bonnai at the Anaheim Civic Center, 2271 W. Crescent Ave., Oct. 5. The exhibit will feature over 100 bonsai nursery in a film series. A beginning bonsai enthusiasts is scheduled. Door open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free.

BURBANK, Calif.—The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California presents a historical Chinese fashion show and luncheon on Sept. 21 at the Calabasas Restaurant, 1328 W. Broadway Rd. Over 30 different styles of historical significance will be presented, including several over 100 years old. A $15 tax-deductible contribution will be charged. Proceeds will be used to fund Society projects. Info and reservations: Cindy Fong, (213) 354-7222.

LOS ANGELES—The 8th Annual Business Association Awards Banquet will honor Kenji Hiyagasa, owner of Monterey Furniture and Air-Conditioning; the Asian Business Owner of the Year, Oct. 4 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel. Actor George Takei will serve as host. Info: Lmyne Chey Uyeda & Assoc., 1771 S. Cloverdale Ave., (213) 633-1151.

Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce will host the opening performance to begin at dusk (approximately 7:30 p.m.) . Tickets: $10. Info: (213) 629-2775.

"Los Angeles Ephemera," a photographic exhibition by Mari Usukubo, continues through Oct. 5 at the Los Angeles Photography Center, 412 S. Parkview St. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-p.m.; weekends, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: 383-7542.

MONROVIA, Calif.—Asashanada-Rogers dances her own compositions and associated burial benefit programs. He guided expansion of the system through development of additional sites at Quantico, Va., Fort Custer, Mich., and Indianapark, Ga.

Asashanada-Rogers dances her own compositions along with those choreographed by L. Martina Young, Raymond Johnson, Florence Lui and Helga Kansky at the Monrovia Arts Centre, 110 E. Colorado Blvd., Sept. 14 (8 p.m.) and Sept. 15 (2:30 p.m.). Info: (310) 305-05 or (310) 305-0604.

FENRYN, Calif.—Cultural exhibits, demonstrations, and food (homemade ham) among the attraction at the 21st annual Place Buddhists Church autumn festival and food fair, Sept. 26-28, 3124 Boylston Rd. Info: basts and a teriyaki dinner are also on tap. Info: Rev. Ensio Nokola, 602-6130.

MONTREY PARK, Calif.—Celebration of the Arts, sponsored by Sage United Methodist Church at 303 S. Garfield, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., features fine art and ceramics. Info: (310) 306-4777.

SAN FRANCISCO—Anthropologist Lane Hiroba-yashi, an Asian American studies instructor at SF State University, discusses the social, cultural and political character of the Nikkei community in Gardena, Calif. during the late 1970s at a meeting of the Center for Japanese American Studies on Sept. 20, 8 p.m., at Pine United Methodist Church, 426 33rd Ave. Free and open to the public.

Los Angeles' film "Nisei Soldier" will be shown at Meblin Theater in the Exploratorium, 3600 Lyon St., Oct. 16, 8 p.m., as part of a three-day festival of documentaries about environmental and social issues shaping international and local politics. It will appear with filmmaker Jon Else: "The Day After Trinity" and Philip Green of the S.F. Art Institute after the screening. Admission: $3. Info: Linda Drackman, (415) 563-7277.

Joint redress forum set for October

LOS ANGELES—A community forum on redress will be held Oct. 9, 3 p.m.-4 p.m., at Venice Japanese Community Center, 12444 Braddock Dr. It is jointly organized by JACL and the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (NCRR).

Guest speakers include Peter Irout, author of Justice At War, attorney Frank Chan, Joyce Okinaka of National Council on Japanese American Redress, and LEC chair Min Yasui.

The cost, including bento lunch, is $10 general, $7 for students and seniors. Send checks payable to JACL, Redress Committee to PSW JACL, 244 S. San Pedro St., L.A. 90012. Info: 626-2471 or 626-2134.

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Keeping Your Eyes on the Ball

We have enough issues, right here at home, that require our attention. With so many others who seek attention, we have to stay focused. And with that said, I firmly respond, “Thank you, but no thank you.”

OF COURSE, those seeking the limelight for the program can come up with anything they want, or do something so terrible, Japan will see its reputation suffer. But even if it does, our country can still be seen as a victim of unbridled greed and incompetence. The whole world will see what a great place Japan is. And will they? Of course not. They will continue to see us as a nation that can’t make the right decisions. But that’s ok. We know better. And we will continue to work towards a brighter future.

The Making of ‘Yuki Shimoda’

by J.K. Yamamoto

The film “Yuki Shimoda: Asian American Actor” was four years in the making. In Hollywood, that would be time enough to make a blockbuster and follow it up with a sequel. But for the non-profits, the film is about bringing awareness to the unique experiences of Asian American actors and the struggles they face.

The film is a testament to the power of storytelling and the importance of preserving our history. It is a shining example of how we can use film to educate and inspire future generations. And it is a reminder that we should always be fighting for the rights of all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, or background.

September Hibachi

Four-PACIFIC CITIZEN / Friday, September 13, 1985

Letters

We Can Win with Min

It has come to my attention that the JACL Board of Directors is considering a merger with the NAACP. I have had many conversations with Min Yasui, and I believe that a merger would be a positive step forward for our organization.

I do not believe that merging with the NAACP would be a good decision for the JACL. We have a unique history and mission, and I believe that we should continue to focus on our own goals and objectives.

I urge all JACL members to take a stand against the merger. Let’s stand together and show that we can win with Min Yasui!

HENRY TANDA
Salinas, Calif.

JOHN TANAKA

PACIFIC CITIZEN

Published by the Japanese American Citizens League every Friday except the first and last week of the month.

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We understand that the JACL National Board will be considering, or perhaps has already considered, establishing some new guidelines for the JACL. For this card-carrying JACL member, I convey this plea to the leadership. You must (politely) reject the entire proposal. That is the only guideline by which you should operate.

And then I turn our attention to the issues here at home.

[...]MORE...

END

END
A World of Interesting People

FROM THE FRINGY PAN:

Bill Hosokawa

Jan and Kyoko Uchida, post-war immigrants from Kagoshima who run a couple of very successful floral greenhouses in Salinas, California, arranged for me to meet Shunji Nishimura, a town about 350 miles from Sao Paulo, during my recent trip to Brazil.

Nishimura, too, was an immigrant. He had an opportunity to go to the United States. The program covers Brazil instead. It was a lucky decision even though he spent the first three years in the back-breaking role of farm laborer. He picked me up at the Sao Paulo airport in his company plane and flew to the city of Murita, a chauffeur-driven car took us the rest of the way to Pomerode, a town of maybe 1,800 in a rich agricultural area.

Nishimura wanted me to see two of his proudest creations. The

Learning to Lead

by Mary Nishimoto

A handout on the week-long JACL Washington D.C. Program made its purpose as to “identify, train and develop young Japanese Americans for future roles in our communities across the United States.” The program covers the American political system and the role that the JACL and Japanese Americans must play in it.

I applied to the program seeking information which I could use in my capacity as a leader within our community. I applied to the program seeking to develop a national perspective. I looked forward to meeting with and among the nation’s leaders in the capital. I thought the program would focus on leadership development, the federal government process, and the role of key participants in that process.

The program actually dealt with some of JACL’s National President Frank Sako’s concerns relative to leadership, namely communication skills, interpersonal skills, networking, and strategy.

In terms of strategy around the priority issues (i.e., redress and U.S.-Japan relations), the delegation was informed.

Min Yasui updated the group on the redress effort, particularly the status of HR 442 and S 1053. Nikkei senators and congressmen were optimistic as to how far the redress bills would move this year: for example, the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Government Operations, which expects to hold hearings on HR 442. JACL Washington D.C. Representative Daniel Inouye explained the interrelationship between the legislative bills, the coram nobis effort, and the class action suit.

Ken Fukushima, Director of Japan, Office of the U.S. Trade

Representative, summarized the areas under discussion in the U.S.-Japan trade talks: citrus and forestry products, electronics and telecommunications equipment.

When asked about Japanese American involvement in U.S.-Japan relations, the Nikkei congressmen felt that we should be concerned, in the sense of learning all we can about the relationship between Japan and the United States in its cultural and economic dimensions.

The delegation did spend lengthy sessions with Senators Daniel Inouye, Paul Laxalt, and Spark Matsunaga. The informal meetings with Congressmen Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui were also enjoyable. Most of the elected officials spent much of their time field questions from the delegation.

Some, like Senator Matsunaga and Congressman Mineta, made comments on and participated in their committee assignments (Senate Subcommittee on International Trade and Finance Committee, House Subcommittee on Trade and House Committee on Science and Technology, respectively) and Robert Matsui spent time commenting on issues not particular to Americans of Japanese ancestry (e.g., the budget and social security issues) while serving the different leadership styles of the elected officials to be helpful and to encourage our own.

Kaz Oshiki, Gail Mukaihata and Hideki Hamamoto provided valuable perspectives as to influencing issues. Such as the fact that Hamamoto’s personal touch to his presentation (i.e., sharing his goals and objectives, and how he is moving toward achieving them) was also appreciated by the group. Paul Bannai contrasted his experience as an elected official with being an appointed one.

The decision to make the organization was discussed from an inside and outside point of view were must淋浴. EDC Governor Mike Suzuki and Washington D.C. Chamber President Kris Ikejiri discussed Nisei-Sansei relations in JACL. Cherry Yatsushiro visited upon women and their role in JACL. Joseph Bahl of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR) and The Educational Development Corporation of Brazil discussed its educational program.

The delegation spent a samba band was whooping and hollering things up, so it was less than satisfactory. I came away hoping to meet the general again under less hectic conditions. We live in a world full of interesting people.

The coram nobis hearings of Gordon Hirabayashi held recently in Seattle, and indeed, all of the coram nobis cases, are part of a complementary action to the legislative redress bills currently before Congress. Each requires branches of the government to re-examine their respective roles in the original evacuation and internment, and to remedy, to the extent as possible, the damage to our constitutional ideals done thereby.

The legislative redress bills currently before Congress, H.R. 442 and S 1053, address the role of Congress in the internment. Primarily, this was the enactment of legislation providing criminal sanctions for failure to obey the discriminatory orders of the military. Indeed, the congressional delegations from California, Oregon, and Washington played a major role in shaping the intervention of the military in U.S. West Coast domestic politics.

The coram nobis cases address the disappointing failure of the judiciary to enforce the constitutional rights of Japanese Americans. Such a failure to enforce constitutional rights, in essence, created a privilege on the part of the government to engage in discriminatory actions in wartime, solely on a racial basis. It must be remembered that all three branches of the federal government were involved in the evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans during WW2. This includes not only the war-making branches of government (the executive and legislative branches), which would tend, ex cessively in this case, to follow the swing in public attitudes (and, indeed, inherently structur ed to respond in such a manner), but the judicial branch as well.

According to Jacobus ten Broek, the "greatest failure of all" in the evacuation and internment program was "the failure of the courts, specifically the U.S. Supreme Court, to enforce the constitutional rights of individuals against the abuses imposed upon them by this nation." It is the role of the judiciary, and not the executive or legislative branches, to determine the property of any governmental action by striking a balance between the power of the nation and the rights of the people under the Constitution.

Broek states that the failure of the Court to examine, much less strike down, as unconstitutional, the Japanese American evacuation and internment was one of the Court’s greatest failures in history, “comparable to the surrender of the earlier in... Dred Scott v. Sandford.”

In closing, I feel that I have gained a better perspective of the legislative bills currently before Congress. I am more aware of how JACL and non-JACL leaders perceive this organization. I am more sensitized regarding JACL’s national objectives—from both an inside and outside point of view—because I gained knowledge in the cause of the legislative bills affecting these issues take place.

Having completed the program, I am challenged to increase my understanding of the level of involvement in the JACL.
Philadelphia

CHERRY HILL, N.J.—Sept. 21 is the date for the JACL candidates’ party at the Murakami residence, 30 Laurel Hill Dr., from 2-7 p.m. A contemporary Japanese movie, a sing-along plus a very special surprise are planned for this potluck event. Donations of $1 will be asked from children and JACL members. $2 from non-members. Info: the Murakamis, (609) 778-6770; Rodger Nogaki, (609) 771-1110; Sim/Betty Endo, (215) 847-7317.

Marina

LOS ANGELES—Dance to the music of Carry On at the Marina chapter’s “Crazy in the Night” at the LAX Hyatt, 2225 W. Century Blvd, 8:30 p.m.-1 a.m. $30 in advance ($35 at the door), 11-8 p.m. Ticket info: Janis, (213) 322-7640; Carol, (213) 294-5734; Other info: Larry, (213) 477-4978.

New York

NEW YORK—The New York chapter of JACL and the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) are sponsoring a seminar on the advantages of networking on Sept. 20, 7-10 p.m. in the Gold Room of the AT&T Building, 55 Madison Ave. Esther Kee of the U.S. A. Institute, which is involved in U.S./Asia trade relations, and Frank Sog, senior partner of Kelley Drye and Warren, which is actively involved in international trade law, will be featured speakers.

The cost is $30 to JACL and OCA members. Non-members enrolling in advance will be assessed the same fee. Non-members registering at the door will be charged $35. Info: Days—Laura Okamura, (213) 800-3132; evenings—Fae Minabe, (213) 227-1469.

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JACKPOT—Nevada—Hid Hasegawa announced the “package” costs (including lodging, taxes, registration, bus to Minidoka, luncheon at Twin Falls, work shops, meetings, continental breakfast, refreshments) for the upcoming Oct 11-14 trip through Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. $900/person, single; $500/person, double. One night—$50. In addition, the prime rib dinner banquet on Oct. 12 will cost $25, with an additional $10 will be charged for the Sunday farewell brunch.

Bus service to Jackpot for those flying into Salt Lake City will be provided. The cost for the bus is $15. Transportation will be provided at no extra cost for those flying into Twin Falls, Idaho.

Payments should be sent to Elizabeth Beber, c/o Crossroad Travel, P.O. Box 1333, Idaho Travel, 83340 before Sept. 27. The last day to get “in” will be the 30th.

Memberships in the Minidoka Fellows is achieved by individual or corporate contributions to the Mike M. Masaoka fund, a perpetual fund which the JACL would annually support the general operations of the Minidoka Center. Contributions are deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Minidoka, $100 (fellow), $100 (sustaining), $25 (associate), $10 (member), $5 (student), $36.28 (Nisei, 23 and younger).


Horsetooth Hotel: 2-night package (Oct. 11-12—$80/person, single occupancy; $55/person, double occupancy. Two-night (Oct. 11-12—$70/person, single; $40/person, double. One night (Oct. 11 or 12—$45/person. Granada Range Hotel: 3-night package (Oct. 11-14—$120/person, single; $100/person, double. Two-night (Oct. 11-12—$90/person, double occupancy). $50/person, single $50/person, double: One night—$50.

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Some discussions have been taking place recently on what role Nisei should play in U.S.-Japan relations. Personality, my position is — in as many roles as we can participate, while not forgetting our primary responsibility to the community. The principles being of an American organization.

The spectrum of bilateral relations is quite vast — runs from the top-level government and political activities to the lesser publicized social and cultural ones. In the upper echelon, there are two broad categories, also represented by numerous organizations and activities.

In the social and cultural fields, covering education, community services, and related forms, the Japanese Americans have attained fair degrees of participation, such as in judo, kendo, ikebana, bonsai, Japanese studies at various universities, sister cities and arts. In the economic sphere, there are very few visibly businessmen of international stature. In the various communities and social groups, the participation by Japanese Americans is at best spotty.

It wasn't as if the station came out of a meeting in 1980 when staff and other resources from KCRA's news department — "all draining the same pot," as Yep says.

The minority producers are pulled from the news department, she adds. "We don't have all the time and resources that the producers pull together to do an award-winning program." The Minority Network includes five stations, including KCRA.

"It's by chance. Starting at KCRA as a video editor, she has also served as producer, writer, and reporter. And I've been part of the community for a long time."

As a community advisory group that met with KCRA in 1978 wanted a show that would articulate our values in an accurate manner, and educate and inform Asian Pacific communities as well as the general viewing public.

Since its debut in December 1978, "Perceptions," an Asian American program seen quarterly on Sacramento's KCRA-TV (Ch. 3), and a battle is still being waged to keep it on the air.

"It's a political potboiler. "Yep recalls that the consensus was to create "Perceptions" as a way to "get our words out" or "to have our voice heard." What were we to accomplish? To articulate minority values, to have our voices heard, to give a voice to the people."

The story follows the adventures of Kenji, a 14-year-old Japanese boy played by Max Symonds. "It was a constant struggle to create "Perceptions" as a constant feature on KCRA," says Yep. "We fought for this show every time it came around to the community."

It was never a question. And I think as long as that's always there... KCRA and stations like it will have minority shows to compete with."

"Then they are sufficiently interested in U.S.-Japan relations to participate actively."

The alternate choice is to let the others take the lead and maintain the "wall flower" philosophy. By default then, our opinions merely become "backbiting," wherein we relieve our frustrations in our own lives and spend the expense and the toil of our time."

The optimistic note is that many Nisei have said that they cannot ignore their heritage. From curiosity to active interest is natural sequence. "But we live in the future of "Perceptions.""

By J.K. Yamamoto

It took a struggle to create "Perceptions," an Asian American program seen quarterly on Sacramento's KCRA-TV (Ch. 3), and a battle is still being waged to keep it on the air.

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Shinju: A Human Act, Not a Cultural One

by William Weatherall

The author, a member of Japan-chapter JABC, is a permanent resident of Japan and a free lance journalist and researcher specializing in social problems.

J.K. Yamamoto's "Not Quite a Bridge," which argues against the notion that ancestry qualifies anyone as a "bridge" between the U.S. and Japan. While fully agreeing that she can take exception to the notion that "Very recent immigrants from Japan know the real deal about their native country." A good example of a recent immigrant who knows less than she thinks she does is at least--Katie Kaori Hayashi, who has been reporting about the Pumiko Kimura case in the PC and other papers.

Japanese parents who kill their children in the course of committing suicide do so for essentially the same variety of reasons as parents in other countries.

It is my contention that Kimura did what she is alleged to have done--kill her children in the course of committing suicide--mainly because she was a distressed human being, rather than because she is Japanese. Moreover, I believe that she can be defended, if defense is what her needs, by recourse to the enormous amount that is known about murder and suicide as universal human behaviors.

Resorting to dubious concepts of "ethnicity" in order to get Kimura a "fair trial" in her adopted country (her nationality is irrelevant) sets back the progress that has been made in discovering the universals of murder-suicide. As someone who has devoted half his adult life to the study of this subject, I also find the admission of "ethnicity" into the discussion of murder-suicide a regress to anti-humanism.

Not a "Custom"

Kimura's act could not have been caused by "Japanese customs" as the PC and every other way I know of 1 know of is no such "custom" in Japan. Everyone who reads the PC knows that their children in the course of committing suicide do so for essentially the same variety of reasons as parents in other countries.

There may be psychocultural overlays in the psychological and sociological explanations of the act, in the physical forms of the act, and in the popular and academic explanations of the act. But the fact of the matter is that murder and suicide are human and therefore universal.

The fact that there is a word like shinju in Japanese and in English is not sufficient to show that shinju is unique to Japan. But nothing could be further from the truth. Murder-suicide acts are common in Japan. Hunger is hunger wherever it is found. A good reason why so many people may be hungry, or whether lack of food happens to be a greater problem in one place than another. Moreover, hunger is hunger irrespective of what kind of food one prefers, or how one would eat food if any were available.

The fact that English distinguishes "cold" from "flu" while Japanese does not mean that speakers of Japanese do not experience cold and flu symptoms. Nor does it mean that English speakers more frequently than speakers of English come down with a cold or the flu. Or that there are causes where a word is present or absent in a language because its referent exists or doesn't exist in the experiences of the people who speak the language. But lexical differences are usually simply a matter of grouping nouns and labeling common experiences differently. Speakers of different languages may simply at each different social and cultural meanings to similar objects, phenomena, and behavior.

Kimura case, and what they were reporting about similar cases in Japan, she would find that the term muri is usually used. If she were to examine the PC and other papers she would find that cases of so-called shudon jutsus (group suicide)--cases that are no longer used--are subdivided into cases of muri shinju that are evaluated based on the total number of people involved.

Some recent statistics show only the category shinju with no indication of whether lack of food happens to be a greater problem in one place than another. Moreover, hunger is hunger irrespective of what kind of food one prefers, or how one would eat food if any were available.

This approach to the administration of justice holds for many other crimes too. Japanese courts are designed to break down the men who are willing to break down and rebuild. Sometimes that process begins at the moment of arrest. The greater the social and psychological suffering a suspect endures, the greater the "credit" given to the possible sentence. Any attempt to manumit a suspect by self-execute an acknowledged act (confession rates are extremely high in Japan) will be delayed from the suspect's account of judicial sympathy.

Ironically, in being advised to plead guilty in a murder-suicide case in a somewhat "un-Japanese" way. In Japan, an attempt to dehumanize the act involves murder, it is the surest way of getting the book thrown at her.

News Value

Hayashi contends that shinju, the attempt to "educate Americans about her [Kimura's] cultural act" is a sad commentary on the failure to understand personal or social divorce of murder-suicide. She incorrectly states that Japanese police do not simply shrug their shoulders and write such cases off as a "Japanese custom" a "Japanese cultural act" a "Japanese act" that deserves to be only "soul searching" usually result in a substantial reduction of sentence with a nominal fine "cleaning" and "soul searching" usually result in a substantial reduction of sentence with a nominal fine. If Kimura had done what she did in Japan, and survived, she would have been arrested. And she would have been charged with murder-suicide, probably under Article 199 of the Penal Code, which carries a punishment of "death penalty or life in prison". Most cases of muri shinju are muri shinju, and most muri shinju cases involve homicide.

If in Japan

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ROCKVILLE, Md.—During the post-decade, one of the newer problems to emerge in the mental health field concerns the needs of the new immigrants from Southeast Asia. A majority of this population has been facing the traumatic experiences caused by their separation from a familiar culture and lifestyle, and their being thrust into a radically different way of life in a new home, many have developed serious adjustment problems.

In response to a demand from various mental health practitioners, including state and local governments, the National Institute of Mental Health has prepared a source book for mental health professionals, students and those interested in related health care disciplines.

The book, Southeast Asian Mental Health, edited by Tom Choken Owen, contains a series of papers developed by practitioners and researchers in the field. The following are topics: treatment, prevention, services, training, and research.

The sourcebook is available at no charge (as long as supplies last) from the National Institute of Mental Health, 101 North Custer, Chino, CA 91710.

F.H. ~ ~
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Baptist church funds counseling program

PORTLAND—The American Baptist Churches, at their annual convention held here recently, voted to grant $28,900 for an Asian American counseling program in the Los Angeles area.

The project, sponsored by the Los Angeles Baptist City Mission and the Japanese Baptist Endowment Fund, a project of the National Federation of Asian American United Methodists, has awarded its 1985 grants to seven programs. The mission will use funds to help set up a professional counseling service to minister to the mental health needs of the community by the local churches. The grant represents a major thrust by the American Baptist denomination to reach out to Asian Pacific communities.

United Methodist grants awarded

SAN FRANCISCO—Asian American United Methodists, a project of the National Federation of Asian American United Methodists, has awarded its 1985 grants to four applicants.

Two grants of $100 each for continuing education went to the Rev. Alex Vergara of Hawaii and Colleen Tani of Los Angeles; a $400 grant for Chinese education went to the Rev. Carol Kimura of Los Angeles; and a $100 grant for Chinese educational programs went to the Rev. Gerald Jerry of Takoma Park, Md.

The 1986 grant forms will be made available from the office of Asian American Endowment Fund, 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, Calif. 94102.

People

Kayo Aoki of Salt Lake City was named the winner of the National Asian Legal Secretaries Association, 1984-85, Annual Scholarship Award for meritorious service. SEARCH is a non-profit agency made up of criminal justice practitioners across the U.S.

Education

Francis Nakano, president of Jefferson High School, was one of six "Outstanding Principal of the Year" award winners honored by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Sports

Yasue Akagi of Wakefield, a junior at Texas A & M, defeated Betsy Somore of Hawaii, 6-2, 7-6, in the annual Hawaiian Thanksgiving Tournament's women's final June 1 at Diamond Head Tennis Center. She won the sectionals before winning the state championship.

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Los Angeles (213)
Masayo Kagawa 624-0758 Saburo Shioda 520-6633
Katsuyo Inoue 624-9318 Paul Tsunoda 220-1306
Art Ishikawa 321-4779 Yamato Ins. Sv. 624-9616

Orange County (714)
Ken Iga 643-2791 Yoko Iida 384-4347

San Diego (619)
Maeda-Miura Ins. 696-1727 Ken Ueyuki 540-3770

1986 Annual Awards for Meritorious Service

NAME

Awards

Dr. Thomas Okimoto, a psychiatrist, member of Evergreen Methodist, said, "We are very excited to receive this generous grant. We hope to establish a full-fledged counseling center with professional Asian staff to help those in the community who are encountering some life difficulty. There are many people, both inside and outside the church, who are having difficulty coping with life's stresses. We hope to be a resource for them.

According to Okimoto, the counseling service has been operating for the past two years on a limited basis. Persons interested in receiving counseling services should call (213) 289-8918. Fees are based on a sliding scale depending on income.

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1985 Kokusai Tour Program

Oct 5 Hokkaido-Tohoku Odyssey - 15 Days
Most Meals - $2350 - Space Limited
Hong Kong Tour Option

Oct 19 Hong Kong, Taipei, Okinawa - 6 Days
Most Meals - $1295 - Space Limited

Nov 1 Japan Odyssey - Fall Foliage - 15 Days
Most Meals - $2350 - Hong Kong Option

Kokusai International Travel
400 E. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 626-5284

Going Places? Watch the "PC" Travel Ads

South America Holiday Tour

Join us and see the beautiful, historical and exotic countries of Brazil, Argentina and Peru. Just in time for your Christmas shopping - Bargains in gem stones, handicrafts, good foods, hand, etc.

Visit the local Japanese communities in Sao Paulo and Lima

BRAZIL - Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Iguassu Falls
ARGENTINA - Buenos Aires
PERU - Lima, Cuzco, Machu Picchu (Peru optional)
Tour Escort: Emer T. Higa
Depart: Nov. 6 - 21, 1985
Tour Cost: $2,100.00 per person, twin share

1986 Mexican Holiday Cruise

Join us for our spring cruise along the beautiful and historical Mexican Rivers visiting -- Acapulco, Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan and Cabo San Lucas. Sail the luxurious ms Northland of Holland America Cruises.

Special Conditions: single room available up to 25% discount available. Free airfare from Los Angeles and certain other cities to Acapulco.

Cruise Escort: Escala, Cape. A. Higa
Tour Escort: Emer T. Higa
Departure: April 15 - 26, 1986
Cruise Cost: $1,850.00 - $1,950.00 per person, twin share cabin basis. (space limited)

Japanese American Travel Club

OUR 1985 ESCORTED TOURS
EXCEPTIONAL FEATURATIONS - QUALITY VALUE TOURS
Far East-1st class hotels/meals great, meals .... Nov. 1 (Taiwan, Bangkok, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Japan)

UPCOMING 1986 TOURS
NCL Caribbean Cruise, 9 days .... Jan 25 (Port-of-Calls Optional: New York/New Jersey)
Japan Spring Adventure .... Apr. 8
Europe (17 Days - 7 countries) .... May 29
Canadian Rockies-Victoria-Expo Vancouver .... June 16
Japan Summer Adventure .... July 5

For full information Brochure

Travel with JACL & JATF Friends
1985 Group Escorts
Tour Program Length Depart

NCL Caribbean Cruise - 9 days... Jan 25
Photo Op - Optional: New York/New Jersey)

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"I think it's important to bring everyone much closer to this," says Hara. "And the kitemaker, Kite Fantasy, loaned an antique kite and flew it for us," adds Hara. "And Agnes' husband (a physician) banded Kenji's father, who is supposed to be in a mill accident."

"And the Railway Society was very helpful and offered us a train," says Agnes. "And Tiki, the cameraman, made the shark scene." Said Agnes. "And Tiki pulled it with lines when we shot that scene."

"And there was a woman with her horse and buggy in Waimanalo," adds Agnes. "And Waiulaulu Sugar allowed us to go in and do some filming in the mill."

"Barbara Wakamaki is an expert in Meiji era clothing and she helped us get a deal with patterns and fitting the costumes on the characters," says Hara.

"The women even came up with costumes and the film's images, Hara and Ogata have to worry about everything else."

"So much is serendipity," says Hara. "People are kind when they hear about the project."

"We had the help of Cranky Watanabe, the public relations man at Oahu Sugar who helped us find lonely lanes in the canefields, the ones that didn't look modern."