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Friday, January 24, 1986



Photo by Sachi Yamamoto
Sen. Spark Matsunaga

Nikkei legislators advise continued lobbying

by J.K. Yamamoto

LOS ANGELES—The four Japanese American members of Congress assessed the status of the House and Senate redress bills at a dinner held in their honor by Pacific Southwest District JACL on Jan. 17.

More than 500 people heard Sens. Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga (both D-Hawaii) and Reps. Norman Mineta and Robert

Matsui (both D-Calif.) speak at the Bonaventure Hotel during "Redress—An American Promise," a fundraiser for the JACL-LEC legislative campaign.

Inouye acknowledged that the recent enactment of the Gramm-Rudman budget bill and anti-Japanese sentiment resulting from the trade deficit will make passage of the redress bills difficult. "But they are not insurmountable obstacles," he added. "We have met many other obstacles, and we have been able to surmount all of them."

"There is much work to be done by all of us," he stressed. "First of all, I think we should convince many of our fellow Nikkei. One would like to conclude that there is a unanimous consensus in the community, but that is not so... Then I think we

should convince our fellow Americans—our neighbors, our co-workers, and obviously, convince members of Congress. And to do this convincing requires much effort and much money."

While he usually avoids predicting the fate of a bill "because there're too many unknowns involved," Inouye said, "I can tell you this much: this bill will pass."

Being from Hawaii, Inouye was not interned, but he recalled visiting the Rohwer, Ark., camp while stationed with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team at Camp Shelby in Mississippi.

"The men from Hawaii and the men from the Mainland just would not get together. There were fights all the time... Then one day someone had a bright idea: send those Hawaiian non-coms to one of the camps and let them appreciate the mainlanders... When we got there, we were just stunned. This was a camp with barbed wire, with guard posts..."

"At that moment, we became blood brothers... As a blood brother, what angered them angered me... As a blood brother, the least I could do is participate in this [redress] movement. To do less than that would not live up to the trust as a blood brother."

Matsunaga also drew on his personal experiences. While lobbying for Hawaiian statehood in the '50s, he met with Sen. Russell Long (D-La.), a statehood opponent. "He said, 'Young man, you must remember that a U.S. senator is primarily interested in two things—one, to be elected; two, to be reelected.' He said, 'Don't come to me; go to my constituents. If my constituents tell me I should support Hawaiian statehood, I will.'"

Matsunaga said he took Long's advice and managed to persuade him to switch his vote. "I relate this story to show how important it is that we have got to get to the constituents of senators and representatives if we are going to see passage at all."

He recommended concentrating on members of the congressional committees where the bills reside, "but if you can get any members who are not on the committees, still, ask them to co-sign the bill."

Mineta and Matsui, who announced that hearings on the House bill will be held March 19, were also optimistic.

"We really are progressing very nicely," said Mineta, adding that Rep. Dan Glickman (D-Kan.), chair of the Judiciary subcom-



Photo by Sachi Yamamoto

Sen. Daniel Inouye

mittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations, "is very sympathetic about the legislation."

"We're picking up conservative support for our efforts," said Matsui, noting the redress bill co-sponsorship of 15 House Republicans, including Henry Hyde of Illinois and Charles Pashayan of California. "That is a very major step in terms of getting a national consensus on redress. My only desire for all of you... is to make sure you keep the momentum going in terms of contacting your representatives and senators. We still have a ways to go."

"However real and vivid the internment was for us, most Americans still know very little about it," cautioned Mineta. "We can't convince anyone that our package of remedies is appropriate without educating them first about what really happened."

"Secondly, we must mobilize everyone we know. Do you have a sister in Chicago, a brother in New York? Make sure they write their representatives. Do you have a friend from school now living in the South? Call them up and get them busy too. What about... service clubs, business and professional clubs? Have you spoken to them about redress?... Go ahead and make a bit of a pest of yourself, because it is for a good cause."

Mineta recalled his family's stay at Santa Anita racetrack "as guests of the government." Matsui cited an episode in his childhood

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News in Brief

Asian Pacific caucus of Nat'l League of Cities formed

SEATTLE—Asian Pacific American Municipal Officials was established as part of the National League of Cities, an organization of local elected officials, during an NLC meeting Dec. 7-11, reports the International Examiner. Members include temporary chair Lloyd Hara, Seattle city treasurer; Dolores Sibonga, Seattle city councilwoman; Robert Mizukami, mayor of Fife, Wash.; Nao Takasugi, mayor of Oxnard, Calif.; and Mike Woo, Los Angeles city councilman. One of the group's first actions was to initiate NLC passage of a resolution endorsing the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (see next week's PC for details).

About 5,000 attended the NLC meeting, during which a resolution against apartheid was passed and Henry Cisneros, mayor of San Antonio, became the organization's first Hispanic president.

American Public Health Assn. endorses JA redress

WASHINGTON—At its annual meeting Nov. 17-21, the American Public Health Assn. adopted a resolution urging "compensation, education and public remembrances for the World War II relocation of Japanese-Americans and Aleut-Americans." During the meeting, which was attended by about 10,500, the APHA council passed 33 statements and rejected or allowed withdrawal of 10. New York governor Mario Cuomo gave the keynote speech.

Four AAs appointed to S.F. commissions; one quits

SAN FRANCISCO—Mayor Dianne Feinstein appointed four Asian Americans to four-year commission terms Jan. 9. Anne Saito Howden of the Fire Commission and Yoshio Nakashima of the Planning Commission were reappointed; Jeffrey Lee, former Dept. of Public Works director, will serve on the Public Utilities Commission and Mamie How, an educator in the S.F. Community College District, was appointed to the Rent Stabilization and Arbitration Board.

Thomas Hsieh, who is expected to announce his candidacy for the Board of Supervisors soon, resigned from the Police Commission. Feinstein replaced him with Louis Giraudo of the Public Utilities Commission. Hsieh, along with members of such community organizations as Chinese American Democratic Club and Chinese for Affirmative Action, have expressed disappointment that Feinstein chose not to appoint another Asian, according to East West.

Korean American journalist charges radio station with race discrimination

SAN FRANCISCO — Radio reporter Curtiss Kim filed suit in S.F. County Superior Court on Dec. 18 against NBC and KNBR-AM, charging racial discrimination and retaliation for previous complaints against the station.

Kim, a 12-year veteran of KNBR and the only Korean American broadcast reporter working at the network level, was reassigned

on Oct. 11 from the day shift to the graveyard shift, where his job has consisted mainly of playing pre-recorded tapes. His day job went to a white reporter, Steve Bitker.

In a complaint filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Nov. 5, Kim said he was "stripped of duties

Continued on Next Page



Photo by Sachi Yamamoto
Rep. Norman Mineta

Hearing on House redress bill slated

WASHINGTON — Rep. Dan Glickman (D-Kan.), chair of the House Judiciary subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations, has scheduled a hearing on redress bill HR 442 for March 19 in Washington, D.C.

According to LEC executive director Grayce Uyebara, a day and a half will be available, with half a day each for proponents of JA redress, opponents of JA redress, and Aleuts interned in Alaska during WW2.

This hearing is the first for HR 442, which was introduced in January 1985. Hearings were held on its predecessor, HR 4110, in June and September of 1984.

LEC's testimony will focus on constitutional and payment issues. Those who wish to testify or submit written testimony are asked to contact the LEC Washington office at (202) 223-1240. The number of people who can testify is limited, but all written statements will be accepted.



Photo by Sachi Yamamoto

Rep. Robert Matsui

KIM

Continued from Front Page

that I have been performing for the last ten years" despite "exemplary" job performance. The station's action, he charged, was "solely based on my race" and on previous EEOC complaints.

Kim has covered such major stories as the arrest and trial of Patty Hearst, the assassination of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, and the "White Night" riots that resulted when assassin Dan White was convicted of manslaughter instead of murder. Reporter Dick Leonard of KGO called the demotion "a waste of talent."

Letters urging Kim's reinstatement have been sent to KNBR by Sen. Alan Cranston, Reps. Sala Burton and Barbara Boxer, assemblymen Art Agnos and Louis Papan, Henry Der of Chinese for Affirmative Action, Tom Kim (no relation to the plaintiff) of Korean Community Service Center, Ron Wakabayashi of JACL, and the Bay Area chapter of Asian American Journalists Assn.

Kim said the outpouring of support from the Asian American community and elected officials is "really gratifying."

His complaints against station management date back to 1976, when he was a news anchor on KNBR and its FM affiliate, KNAL. Kim, who was laid off while Caucasian employees with less seniority were retained, filed a discrimination claim with EEOC and was reinstated.

In negotiations between KNBR and American Federation of Television and Radio An-



Curtiss Kim in broadcasting booth at San Francisco radio station KNBR.

nouncers last year, the station agreed to make concessions to employees if two on-air staff positions—those of Kim and Christine Ray, who had also filed a previous complaint with EEOC—were eliminated. Kim again filed a claim with EEOC in July and the offer was withdrawn. The demotion came three months later.

Charging "retaliatory conduct" and "an atmosphere of discrimination" at KNBR, the suit calls for the ending of such practices, Kim's reinstatement, back pay, and punitive damages.

In addition to emotional distress, the suit says the demotion will cause financial losses because as a reporter Kim received bonuses for local reports that were picked up by the network.

KNBR general manager Bill Dwyer, a defendant in the case, has so far not responded to the charges publicly, and there has

been "no movement from the company" on the legal front, according to Kim, who expects a meeting with Dwyer, along with their respective attorneys, within the next 30 days.

Bitker, in a letter printed in the Dec. 20 issue of Asian Week, has gone on record as saying, "I wasn't shafted in two previous jobs because I'm half-Jewish, and Curtiss isn't being shafted now because he is Korean American."

LEC

Continued from Front Page

when a friend "looked at me and said, 'I wish I wasn't Japanese.' And I looked at him and said, 'Yeah, me too.' We both knew exactly what we meant, because we, at a very young age, had been raped by our country... and as a result of that, we were ashamed of what we were."

But Japanese Americans have now reached a stage where "we can say forever we are proud to be Americans of Japanese ancestry," he said. "You are here tonight not for \$20,000. You are here tonight because you want to reaffirm this country's commitment to due process, to individual rights."

John Tateishi, who recently

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Coro selects program participants

SAN FRANCISCO—Coro Foundation has announced the selection of four Asian Pacifics to participate in a new City Focus leadership training program:

—Virginia Gee, recently appointed special assistant to the chief, State Dept. of Industrial Relations, Division of Apprenticeship Standards. She has been appointed commissioner to the Federal Committee on Apprenticeship, Calif. Apprenticeship Council, and S.F. Private Industry Council. She is also a mayoral appointee to S.F. Conservation Corps and is on the boards of Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Northeast Medical Services, and Chinatown Resources Development Center.

—Norman Ishimoto, nominated by Court Appointed Special

Advocates Program, an arm of S.F. Juvenile Court. Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) endorsed his nomination. He represents her on the City/County Democratic Central Committee and runs a management consulting partnership, Kiyomura-Ishimoto Associates, with his wife Harriet. A native of Washington, D.C., he has lived in San Francisco since 1974.

—Pat Luce, who has been executive director of National Office of Samoan Affairs, a national advocacy organization for the civil rights of Samoans and other Pacific Islanders, for the past decade. Born in American Samoa and raised in Sacramento, she is a member of the State Human Rights Commission, Lt. Governor's Interrelations Commission, Regional Advisory Council on Samoan Affairs, State Advisory Group for Bilingual Programs, National Island Women's Assn., and Samoan Women's Network. She has a master's in counseling psychology.

—David Nakayama, national youth director of JACL. Formerly a law librarian with Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp. in Oakland, he is active in the Boy Scouts, Big Brothers/Sisters of No. Calif., Kimochi Inc., and Berkeley United Methodist Church. He was born in Berkeley and attended St. Mary's College in Moraga.

Coro Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan institute for leadership training, citizen education and public affairs research. Founded in 1942 in San Francisco, it has other training centers in St. Louis, New York, Kansas City and Los Angeles.

City Focus is a seminar program in public affairs which aims to equip emerging leaders in San Francisco with the tools and understanding necessary to manage the city's future growth.

resigned as JACL redress director, paid tribute to the honorees and defended JACL's decision to seek establishment of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in 1980 rather than seeking redress directly. "It was through the commission [hearings] that the voices of Japanese Americans finally arose."

Other speakers included LEC executive director Grayce Uyehara, LEC board chair Minoru Yasui, and JACL national president Frank Sato, who thanked the Nikkei members of Congress for carving "a niche in the leadership in the whole arena of civil and human rights and for all of us as Asian Americans and Japanese Americans." Newscaster Tritia Toyota emceed.

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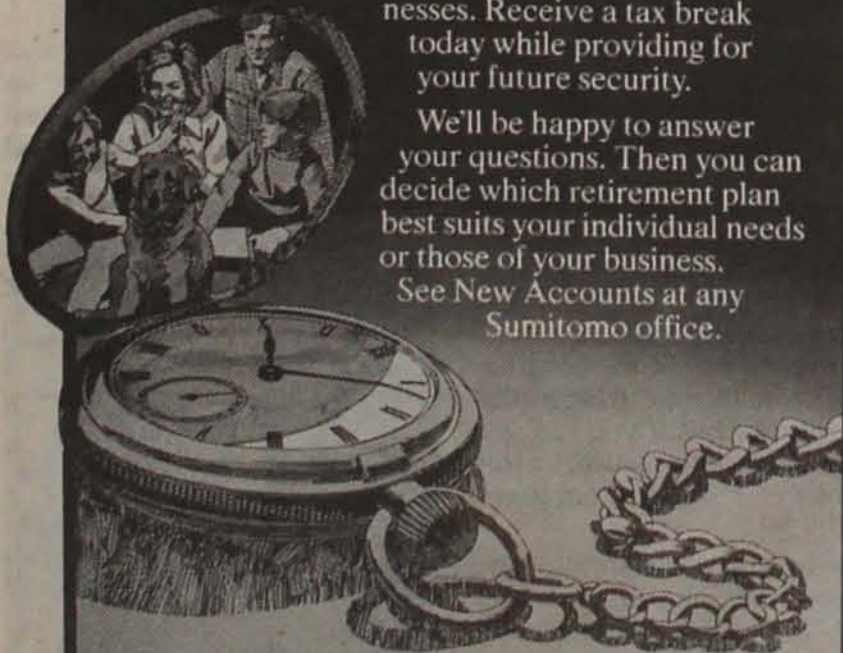
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The Search

EAST
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Bill
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PARTICULARLY OUTSIDE JAPAN, little is heard and less known of the poignant story of Japanese "war orphans" who, for various causes, were left behind in China when their parents fled at the conclusion of WW2. The Japanese Imperial Army in China had laid down its arms and had surrendered. The social order which the Japanese residents had known was in ashes.

The vengeful and harsh Russian hordes were about to descend. The Japanese homeland itself was in shambles—physically and economically. The choices facing Japanese residents in China were between terrible and worse. In order to spare their minor children of the grave uncertainties and expected extreme hardship in post-

war Japan, a number of Japanese parents left their youngsters with foster Chinese parents in various parts of China.

That was 40 years ago. What ever happened to these Japanese "war orphans"?

SOME FOUR YEARS ago, the Japanese government initiated a search campaign for these orphans. During my recent trip to Japan, the ninth search group, consisting of 135 members, arrived in Japan to seek traces of long lost parents. The first contingent of 45 was from Liaoning province in northeast China.

Of this contingent, more than half were less than three years old when they were separated from their parents. One can imagine the odds these searchers face in finding their Japanese parents. However, in the eighth search group, also consisting of 135 members, 34 of them (or about one-quarter) were able to locate kin.

What ambivalence, what torn emotions these searchers must experience—particularly if they do locate kin or parents!

WE KNOW NOTHING about this saga, although as fate had it,

we well may have been unknowingly on the fringes of one phase of the process. For we were stationed in Sasebo (Nagasaki) and Maisuru (Kyoto-fu), ports when the Japanese soldiers and *hiki-age-sha's* from Manchuria were being repatriated to Japan. As we look back to those post-war days of 1946, we now recall seeing disproportionately fewer little children. Of course, the Japanese troops brought no families so overall the ratio was not out of line.

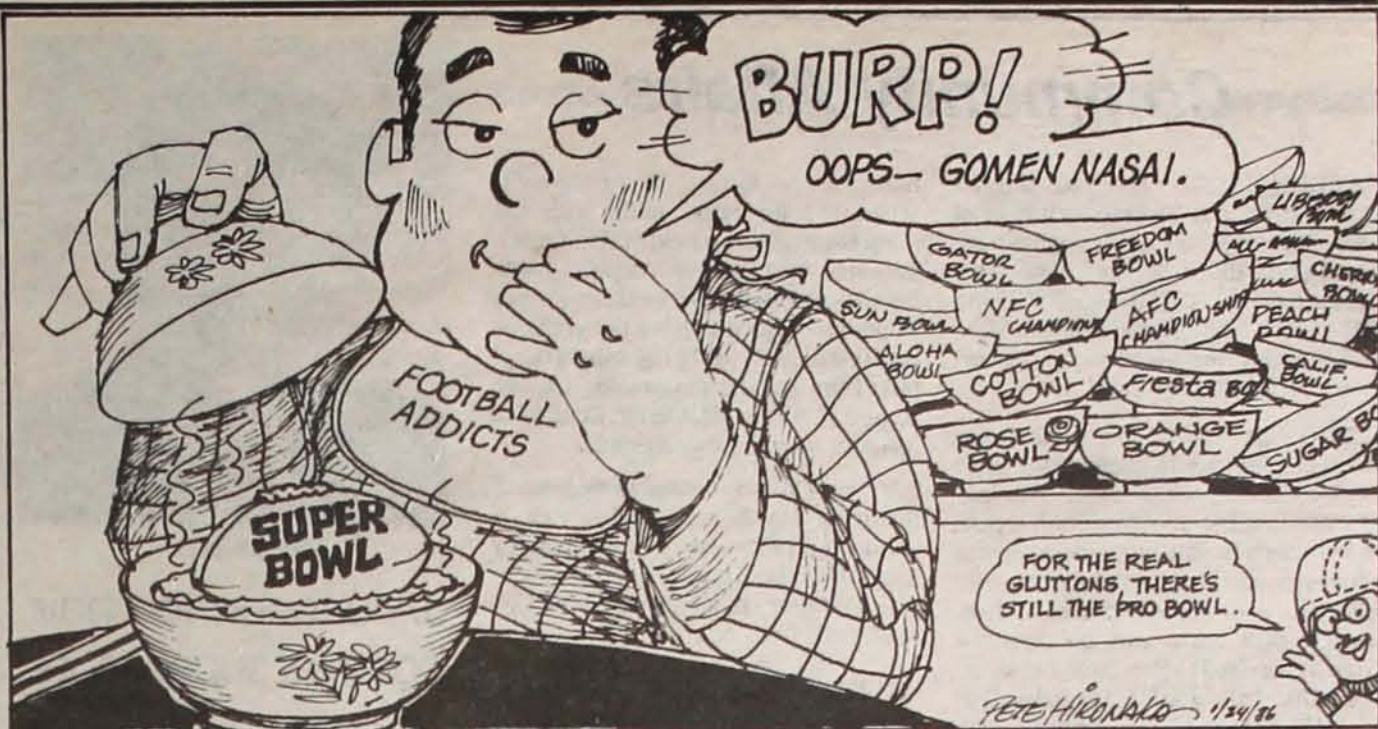
But back to these orphans who

had been left behind in China.

IT APPEARS THAT these children were raised by their foster (Chinese) parents in the same manner as any Chinese child, complete with Chinese names. For example, two names of children of Japanese parentage that appeared in print are: Yuan Daoping, age 39, of Dandong (Liaoning province); and Zhang Fengjiang, age 43, of Fushun. As for Yuan, his foster Chinese parents had passed away and he was too young to have any memory of his natural parents.

I WOULD BE most interested in reading a comprehensive report of this episode involving these "war orphans" who are now in their 40s. Do any of them elect to assume permanent residency in Japan? If so, how are they faring? And what of the "pull" that they must experience for the land, communities and friends in and among whom they were raised in China? And what feelings did those who returned to China take back with them?

What a potential for a moving story.



'English Only': Danger Ahead

by J.K. Yamamoto

Some readers have wondered why we gave such extensive coverage to the California "English Only" ordinances that failed in Monterey Park and Alhambra but passed in Los Altos (Nov. 29, Dec. 6 and Jan. 3-10 PC). Why is there opposition to the "Official English" movement? Why should it matter to Japanese Americans?

On the surface, a resolution declaring English the official language of a city (or a state or the nation) seems harmless enough; since English is already the language used at all levels of government, making it official could be taken as a symbolic act without the force of law. But the proponents of "Official English" have some very concrete goals.

Frank Arcuri, who spearheaded the Monterey Park initiative, former senator S.I. Hayakawa, honorary chair of the U.S. English organization, and other proponents make no secret of their

desire to get rid of bilingual ballots, bilingual education and other areas in which the government uses languages other than English.

Eliminating such services as bilingual ballots, bilingual emergency operators, and court interpreters would be like suddenly cutting off all welfare recipients because of a few welfare cheats. There may well be "dead-beats" who make no attempt to learn English, but there are many cases of legitimate need. Many immigrants know enough English to function well in everyday situations but are not advanced enough to understand the complexities of ballot measures or legal procedures. Should they all be left in the dark?

Arguments against bilingual education often seem to be based on the false assumption that a child enrolled in such a program hears only his native language and therefore never

becomes proficient in English. (If that were the case, it would be called monolingual education.) In reality, the student's native language is used less and less as the student becomes better at English. It's preferable to the "sink or swim" method of tossing a non-English-speaking student into an entirely English-speaking classroom.

The main problem with the "Official English" measures is that they may be used to deprive immigrants of needed services rather than to help them learn English by providing more specialized instruction for immigrant children and adults.

Having taught adult school, community college and university extension courses in English as a second language, I have seen first-hand how eager immigrants are to learn English—and how hard it is for schools to keep up with the demand. I vividly remember one summer when I was the only teacher for about 70 students, most of them Southeast Asians, with a school cafeteria for a classroom. (Fortunately, I was provided with a teacher's assistant and a couple of chalkboards, but the conditions were still less than ideal.)

Would an "English Only" rule help provide more facilities, more teachers, more materials? I doubt it, since that is not the stated intent.

Japanese Americans, being the only Asian American group in which the American-born outnumber the immigrants, are not as sensitive to these language policy issues. In fact, Arcuri told me that Japanese support him "almost to a man," and both he and his Alhambra counterpart, Mark Lockman, speak of Hayakawa in glowing terms.

The danger of minorities being pitted against each other seems

'Constructive' Criticism

ONE THING
LEADS
TO ANOTHER

Bob
Shimabukuro



Makoto Imai, Japanese temple builder and woodworker par excellence, in commenting about his apprenticeship and his sudden realization why his *Oyakata* (craft master) got angry at him every day, once wrote, "One carpenter told me, 'When an *Oyakata* doesn't get angry at an apprentice, that means he's not interested in you and you're not

to be surfacing again. In the "English Only" controversy, JAs are being hailed as a "model minority" not only at the expense of Hispanics, for whom bilingualism is a big issue, but also at the expense of other Asians. Having experienced discriminatory laws ourselves, shouldn't we be more aware of the concerns of other groups?

The same goes for other immigrant-related issues: violence against refugees living in low-income areas, the politically motivated murder of Taiwan critic Henry Liu, changing immigration laws, and so on. Even if we don't feel directly affected by these issues, an understanding of them is necessary in order to work with others toward common goals.

Look at it this way: how can we expect other groups to support redress if we show no knowledge of or interest in the issues of other communities?

worth spending any energy on. So, anger is a good sign for you.' Then I felt deeply thankful to *Oyakata*."

And in another passage, "Of course, *Oyakata* would roar at me all the time. I still have fond memories of *Oyakata* calling me 'Torokusai [stupid]!'."

This Japanese "cultural" attitude, that compliments invite complacency and stagnation and therefore should be avoided, and its corollary, that constant criticism should be accepted with gratitude and humility, is one that continues to find a place in Japanese American attitudes. Most of us, growing up in the '40s, '50s and '60s know the parental response to the 4 A's and one B report card ("How come you got a B?"). Restraint and humility were by far qualities most praised, while pride and arrogance were the most feared. And since too much praise, it was believed, produced arrogant children, very little was offered.

This philosophy is very much alive in the JACL structure and hierarchy. Sansei drift in and out of the organization, trying to find a place for themselves. They complain about lack of support, and the "rigid" Nisei men who don't want to let go. But the Nisei men don't know how to be supportive, at least in their children's terms. For they have never been taught how to be constructive, how to be supportive, how to be complimentary. (In fact, Nisei, I have noticed, have a hard time receiving compliments also.)

Nowhere is this more evident than in the way the organization treats its employees. Working for the JACL is like working for a

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Division by Generation

FROM THE
FRYING PAN:

Bill
Hosokawa



to dictate that they will be multi-cultural as well.

"The image of passing on the torch to the next generation simply is not viable. Our remaining Issei's fire burns as brightly as before ... As our Nisei grow into their retirement years, I think they are finding out that these are the best years, and the future holds even more growth and experiences. Our Sansei and even Yonsei are also growing into the life of the church, and the future is not bleak. Thus, the torch is not passed on, but carried by all."

The concept of a multi-generational organization might be applied to JACL as well. Throughout its history it has been a single generation group. It was founded by Nisei. The Issei, being aliens, were not a part of it until they joined in a small way in their sunset years.

The Nisei have grown old together. Their departure from active roles, yielding control to the Sansei, generally has not been accomplished with grace. The transition has been abrupt, accompanied in some cases by a sense of exclusion and abandonment, and the organization has suffered.

Hagiya notes: "Every generation is necessary in order to carry

us into the future."

This bit of wisdom applies to JACL as well as to his church.

□ □ □

Speaking of wisdom, will our leaders please explain how the Gramm-Rudman Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Reduction Control Act of 1985—which requires the federal government to balance its budget by 1991 through drastic slashes in spending for social as well as military programs—is likely to affect the Redress movement?

□ □ □

In response to comment some weeks ago about the small number of Japanese Americans in top corporate posts, Herb Ogawa of Dallas sent along several clippings about Varo, Inc., of Garland, Texas, manufacturer of night vision products and semiconductor components. A 1979 report names S.T. Yanagisawa as chairman of the board and chief executive officer. In 1985 Varo had 1,350 employees and \$36.77 million in taxable property.

A recent copy of JAMA Forum carries comment on U.S.-Japan trade problems by J. Stuart Tanaka, identified as product manager of TDS, Inc., in Elk Grove Village, Ill., whose company manufactures electronic components and also imports them from the Far East.

Any others?

New Year's Greetings

PRESIDENT'S
CORNER:

by
Frank Sato



The Nikkei community finds itself at a most remarkable point in our history.

It is well over 40 years since that tragic flaw in our country's democratic process allowed for 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry to be stripped of our most basic and cherished rights and banished to 10 desolate camps in the stark interior of the U.S. The response of the Nikkei community to the greatest constitutional violation in this nation's history is really the remarkable story.

The story will be told in the April issue of National Geographic. It has a section in the commemorative book on the centennial of the Statue of Liberty, which we will celebrate this year.

And a year from now, in celebrating the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, the story will be told in our nation's capital at

the Smithsonian Institution. And perhaps most significantly, the story will be told, following the largest civics lesson in this country's history—the Constitutional Bicentennial—in a network television mini-series, planned for airing late that year.

This year marks a very special beginning of enlightening ourselves and our neighbors on what we have stood for as Americans. The story, with all of its human flaws and frailties, needs to be told as we contribute once more to making our country fulfill its promise as the most remarkable experiment in nation building, based on principles rather than race.

1986 comes upon us loaded with opportunity. It arrives carrying great expectations, but also a requirement for real participation to achieve the realization of goals established by the Issei as they dreamt of our futures as Americans. Such opportunities and occasions should be seized.

In every sense, let this be a Happy New Year.

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Is Anybody Out There?

Woodrow Wilson wrote in *Congressional Government*: "Once begin the dance of legislation and you must struggle through its mazes as best you can to the breathless end—if any end there be."

For a proper and acceptable end to legislating for Japanese American redress, we must continue the dance of legislation. The struggle through the political mazes, not only in Washington, D.C. but in the hills and valleys

LEC
UPDATE:

Grayce
Uyehara



from ocean to ocean, we are asking each other to take our story and to be involved in a struggle whose end we cannot predict. We have tried to inform you, motivate you and provide the basics for you to participate in the process of getting H.R. 442 and S. 1053 through the steps a bill must go through.

In December 1985, LEC mailed out 185 packets to those people we feel can participate in the "dance of legislation," but maybe JACL chapters and members think that the struggle to get the redress bills passed can be left to the small staff in the Washington office. If that is the thinking, I must say before it is too late that it does not come out that easy.

My question, therefore, is this: Is there anybody out there doing the things we have asked to be done throughout the country? We said redress legislation is do-able if we all do our share and give some time from our busy lives to lobby in the districts.

Since I came on in October 1985 as a volunteer executive director for the JACL Legislative Education Committee, I have sent out monthly legislative packets to all 114 chapter presi-

dents, National JACL and LEC boards, redress chairs at the district and chapter levels, and all other interested people.

We included a summary sheet in the last two packets asking that the sheets be completed with information about the visitation with a member of Congress or his/her aide in the district office. The sheet is to provide LEC with an assessment of the position of members of Congress on H.R. 442 or S. 1053. We will then try to follow up in the Washington office to see what we need to do to assist in helping to firm up the support or to change the position.

To date we have received three summary sheets, which leads us to assume that contacts are not being made. We do not enjoy floating in a void. We then must ask if anyone out there is using the packets for lobbying. We need to know that someone is using the materials which we have put together to make lobbying by the grassroots easier. If the information does not help you to follow through with your contacts, let us know what we can do differently.

□ □ □

January 17 will be a day to remember for the PSW District. A most successful fundraiser dinner took place at the Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles. All four Japanese American members of Congress, Sens. Dan Inouye and Spark Matsunaga and Reps. Bob Matsui and Norman Mineta, were the honored guests at a dinner attended by over 500 people from all over the U.S. We congratulate the PSW LEC dinner committee under the leadership of Toy Kanegai for an event that will make possible a stepped-up lobbying program under LEC.

Yes, victory without fail, now!

Roots of Anti-Asian Violence

MUSUBI

by
Ron
Wakabayashi



On several occasions when I am introduced as a Japanese American, Japanese nationals have made casual inquiries as to whether I possessed a gun.

The question is founded on an interesting assumption about the violent nature of America. The Japanese seem to have a general view of America based on the Wild West. The number of Japanese tourists that fall victim to petty crimes and a few incidents regarding tourists that have reached a level of notoriety in the Japanese press must reinforce the violent image of this country.

When I was speaking with a ranking U.S. government official who has jurisdiction and responsibility over several areas of trade relations with Japan, he noted that the Japanese press is picking up more and more coverage of growing anti-Asian violence. The reporting, according to the official, contains an analysis that would vary considerably from ours.

JACL Headquarters has recently released a report on anti-Asian violence. Within the report, I have a chronology of various incidents that we have recorded in the five-year period that I have been on staff. Our two members of Congress from Cali-

fornia of Japanese ancestry, Norman Y. Mineta and Robert T. Matsui, have distributed the report to their colleagues in the House of Representatives. We have distributed the report to the National Board, chapter presidents, national committee chairs, and other Asian American organizations.

Our report touches on several dynamics, including the phenomenal growth of Asian American communities over the past two decades and the impact of international trade friction on perceptions of Asian Americans. We discuss the role of the media (TV and movies, especially) on perception. In short, I think that our placement and life experience allows for a multifaceted analysis of racial conflict.

The Japanese reporting appears more singular. For example, there appears to be a vague understanding of racism, and the trade conflict is being attributed greatly to that single factor without a real grasp of the dynamics and realities of intergroup relations. The homogeneity of the Japanese population really does not provide that much background and experience in intergroup relations. The little experience the Japanese have with national minorities, such as Chinese, Koreans and Indochinese, does not reflect an enlightened international and intergroup consciousness.

Racism and violence are surely part of America. At the same time, the multicultural experiment in which we live provides the greatest experience base from which to resolve some very ancient human flaws.

Letters

More Material Wanted

First, I want to thank you for printing my last letter to you (Jan. 6-13, 1984 PC). I especially want to thank Hannah Tomiko Holmes, who kindly sent me some very interesting material, and many others also.

I am still doing research on internment camp mail, and would appreciate hearing from anyone who has envelopes, registered mail, and cards from the camps. I am especially in need of mail from the assembly centers and official mail from the War Relocation Authority.

I am willing to pay for any material sent to me. I would also like official documents relating to the sending and receiving of mail.

I am writing a handbook on the above subject and would like to have as many examples of mail that I can find to include. Any help I receive will be acknowledged and appreciated.

DAVID SALOVEY
34 Hillside Ave.
New York, NY 10040

Detroit

BIRMINGHAM, Mich.—Detroit Chapter JACL holds its 40th anniversary installation banquet Feb. 15, 6:30 p.m., at Birmingham Community House. The theme is "Asian Pacific Americans: Issues and Strategies," which reflects the involvement of different Asian communities in recent issues that encompass shared concerns and require shared strategies. Keynote speaker is Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.). Officers to be installed by Kaz Mayeda, national v.p. for public affairs, are: Elaine Prout, chairperson; David Maxon, chairperson-elect; Scott Yamazaki, secretary; Mary Kamidori, treasurer; Gerry Shimura, ex-officio; and board members Peter Fujioka, Jean Izumi, Tak Matsui, David McKendry, Reiko McKendry, and Bob Tera. Tickets are \$22 each. Info: Toshi Shimura, (313) 356-3089.

Min Yasui, LEC chair, will have a breakfast meeting with the chapter board Feb. 16 to discuss redress strategies.

Marina

LOS ANGELES—Marina JACL holds a general meeting Feb. 6, 7 p.m., at Burton Chace Park in Marina Del Rey. Dr. Ford Kuramoto will speak on the psychological impact of the concentration camps on Japanese Americans and LEC fundraising chair Harry Kajihara will give an update on the status of JACL-LEC's redress campaign. Info: Shirley Chami, 558-4255, or Sharon Kumagai, 826-8951.

Marysville

MARYSVILLE, Calif.—The chapter installation dinner will be held Feb. 8, 6:30 p.m. (cocktail hour at 5:30), at Bonanza Inn Convention Center in Yuba City. Cost is \$12.95, chicken breast or \$16.95, prime rib. Speaker will be Etsuko Steimetz, curriculum director of Buddhist Churches of America Dharma School. She has traveled extensively and is noted for her lectures. Her main interest lies in emphasizing communication skills of Sansei and cultivating a positive self-image through their heritage. In order to encourage

members to bring their children, all students will be charged half-price. A jukebox will provide music for dancing until the wee hours. Reservations: Fred Okimoto, installation dinner chair, 673-7084.

The 1986 cabinet includes Momo Hatamiya, Ray Kyono and Fred Okimoto, executive council; Terri Okimoto, recording sec'y; Sakaye Takabayashi, corresponding sec'y; Terry Itano, historian; Roy Hatamiya, 1000 Club; Isao Tokunaga, treas.; Kashiwa Hatamiya, membership; Irene Itamura, recognition; Mae Kakiuchi, scholarships; George Nakao, health commissioner.

Downtown Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES—Downtown L.A. Chapter JACL celebrates its 57th anniversary and installs its officers Feb. 8, 7 p.m., at Restaurant Okada, 517 W. 7th St. Guest speaker will be Rose Ochi, national v.p. for membership. Cost: \$25. Info: Dennis Kunisaki, (818) 288-2859; Susanna Baird, (213) 669-0056; or Mary Nishimoto, (213) 295-6655.

Salt Lake City

SALT LAKE CITY—During the holiday season, Salt Lake JACL Building Committee (BC) conducted its first mochitsuki fundraiser. BC chair George Nakamura and family, assisted by M/M Ben Oshita, Kay Nakashima and family, Ben Aoyagi, Bryan Nagata, Taka Kida, Carol Matsukawa and George Yoshimoto, steamed 300 pounds of mochi-gome.

As another fund-raiser to help finance the recent purchase of Spenser Library for chapter headquarters, the BC plans to make manju during 1986. Call George Nakamura at 484-5340 if interested in helping.

Stockton

STOCKTON, Calif.—Gong Lee Minnie's Restaurant is the site of Stockton JACL's annual installation dinner, to be held Jan. 25, 6:30 p.m. (cocktails at 6). Guest speaker will be John Dunning, head coach of Univ. of Pacific's National Championship women's volleyball team.

Chapter Pulse

Officers to be installed are: Edwin Endow, president (reelected for second term); Nelson Nagai, 1st v.p.; Sam Ishihara, 2nd v.p.-activities; James Tanaka, 3rd v.p.-finance; Grace Nagata, recording secretary; Amy Matsu-moto, corresponding secretary; May Saiki, treasurer; George Baba, official delegate; Mitzie Baba and Mabel Okubo, alternate delegates; Mary Kusama, historian; George Matsumoto, commissioner of insurance; Ruby Dobana and Gladys Murakami, membership; Bill Shima and Sam Itaya, scholarships; Mabel Okubo, cultural heritage; Nancy Baba and Carrie Dobana, bulletin editors/publicity; Yutaka Watanabe, 1000 Club; George Baba, redress/LEC rep; Tae Tomoda, aging and retirement; Mitzie Baba, social chair; Richard Yoshikawa and Ted Yoneda, golf tournament; Dick Fujii, picnic chair.

Info: (209) 957-1801.

French Camp

FRENCH CAMP, Calif.—State Assemblyman Patrick Johnston was keynote speaker at French Camp JACL's installation and New Year party Jan. 11 at French Camp Community Hall.

Johnston gave a brief history of the legislation, which he introduced in 1982, that provided payments to JA state employees who were fired because of their race in 1942. He also discussed HR 442, the redress bill now before the House of Representatives.

The installation of new chapter officers by NCWNPDC director George Kondo was witnessed by 125 chapter members, families and friends. Hiroshi Shinmoto made a presentation to outgoing president Hideo Morinaka, and Bob Ota gave special recognition to Bob Tominaga for many years of service to the chapter as CBS Health Insurance commissioner.

Serving on the 1986 cabinet will be Alan Nishi, pres.; Carl Yamasaki, 1st v.p.; Tae Shiromizu, 2nd v.p.; Elsie Kagehiro, 3rd v.p.; Toyo Foundation, rec. sec'y; Katy Komure, corr. sec'y; Tom Natsu-

hara, treas.; Lydia Ota, publicity; Nancy Natsuhara, hist.; Hiroshi Shinmoto, official delegate; Hideo Morinaka, alternate delegate. Standing committee: John Fujiki, buildings & ground; Hiroshi Shinmoto, 1000 Club; Albert Pagnucci, scholarships; Bob Tominaga, health ins.; Dorothy Ota, sunshine; Hideo Morinaka, redress; Katy Komure, newsletter.

Selanoco

BUENA PARK, Calif.—Grayce Uyebara, executive director for JACL's Legislative Education Committee, stressed the importance of constituent participation in passing redress legislation at the Selanoco JACL installation dinner Jan. 18 at Buena Park Hotel.

Reminding the audience that President Reagan declared in his recent United Nations speech that the foundation of liberty is individual freedom, Uyebara said Japanese Americans were denied that "when we were sent to camps by our government in 1942." She repeated what Sen. Daniel Inouye had said the previous night at the PSW LEC dinner—that "this bill (S. 1053) will pass"—but that the participation of senators' and representatives' constituents is needed.

Chapter president Frank Kawase, reelected to a second term, and his cabinet and board members were sworn into office by immediate past president Ken Inouye, who is now Pacific Southwest District governor. Introducing Uyebara was Gene Takamine, JACL national treasurer and Selanoco's first Sansei chapter president.

Gary Sakata, Charles Ida and Clarence Nishizu were recognized as 1985 JACLers of the Year by the chapter for their achievements in community and JACL work.

Ten scholarship awards were presented by scholarship chair Hiroshi Kamei to recent high school graduates Sarah Dohi, Karen Kawanami, Klete Ikemoto, Karen Mochizuki, Kenneth Hayashida Jr., Victoria Takatsuka,

Michelle Takata, Cindy Kodama, Michelle Yamato and Rarret Lee. Dohi, Kawanami and Ikemoto are the chapter's Presidential Classroom for Young Americans delegates.

Judge Richard Hanki entertained the audience of 150 with his one-liners. He filled in for actress Kim Miyori, who was unable to emcee because of a change in her work schedule.

—Harry Honda

Joint Installation

LOS ANGELES—The Greater L.A. Singles, Marina, Orange County, Pasadena, Torrance, Venice-Culver and Wilshire chapters of JACL present their annual installation dinner dance, "We Are the World," Feb. 22 at Hyatt at the Airport, 6225 W. Century Blvd. Cocktails are at 6:30 p.m., dinner follows at 7:30 and dancing starts at 9 with music by The Music Company. Cost: \$20 (\$25 after Feb. 16). Info: Shirley at 558-4255 or Janis at 532-7640.

New book looks at Hawaii immigration

HONOLULU—*Immigashia*, a newly published book by Alan Moriyama, examines Japanese emigration companies, which were the only means by which large groups of Japanese workers could obtain passage to Hawaii between 1894 and 1908.

These companies signed contracts with 125,000 men and women, promising them steady work with guaranteed wages for three years. The book describes the life in Japan these emigrants left behind—some temporarily and others permanently—and what became of them once they arrived in Hawaii.

Moriyama, an associate professor of international relations at Yokohama National University and a graduate of Univ. of Chicago, Univ. of Michigan and UCLA, utilized Japanese archival material on emigration, recent Japanese scholarship on the topic, and oral history sources to examine motivations and actions of the emigrants.

Immigashia describes the government in Japan at the time; the growth of private enterprise during the Meiji period; contributions Japanese emigrants made to the modernization of their home country; the roles played by the Bureau of Immigration, the Japanese consulate and the emigration company representatives in Hawaii's immigration process; and how the Japanese community confronted government and private institutions to secure a better life in the islands.

The book is published by Univ. of Hawaii press.

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(Year of Membership Shown)
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Total this report: # 1 9
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Cortez: 32-Mark Kamiya, 34-Sam Kuwahara, 19-Peter T Yamamoto.
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ONE THING...

Continued from Page 4

harsh *sensei*, except there are lots of them, all full of contradictory advice. If you follow the advice of one, you're sure to receive criticism from another (but at the same time, receive no support from the person whose advice you followed). Most of all, there is no reward for initiative.

The reason for this is that many refuse to believe that there is any value in compliments. The notion of positive reinforcement is lost on most Nisei. The PC Board chair himself, when commenting on his lack of compliments for the PC at a recent staff meeting said, "There is no motivation for improvement from compliments; it is only criticism that motivates you. That's how you improve." What would B.F. Skinner have to say about that?

But then, I sometimes wonder how different Skinner's conclusions would have been had he

District meeting to be held Feb. 2

BERKELEY, Calif.—No. Calif.-W. Nev.-Pacific JACL holds its first 1986 quarterly district council meeting Feb. 2, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at Berkeley House, 920 University Ave. Topics of discussion will include the JACL forensic competition and the upcoming National Convention. Fees: \$10 for delegates, \$9 for boosters.

LEC executive director Grayce Ueyehara will discuss the role of LEC in the redress campaign. Chapter redress chairpersons are urged to attend.

Info: regional director George Kondo, (415) 921-5225.

conducted his research in Japan.

National staff officers often get caught up in these attitudes. While the older (over 50) staff members accept the criticism as part of the ball game, those under 45 find these attitudes unproductive. It means that any initiative is viewed with suspicion; it means that carrying out the wishes of one JACL member puts staffers in jeopardy with another; it means that staff members have to continuously "justify" their actions to one camp or another; it means that a lot of time is wasted having to fight internal battles rather than getting on with the business at hand.

For example, it means that working overtime on the tax audit problem puts you in jeopardy of those who feel more time should be spent on redress (the "How come you got a B" attitude); it means that working overtime on redress draws the comment, "Why aren't you doing anything to increase membership?" And in a more personal example, it means getting a quarter-page ad from Japan produces the comment, "Why don't you get more ads from your friends in Hawaii?"

Sooner or later this organization will have to come to the realization that the younger staff members will not share Imai's attitude of being grateful for being criticized and yelled at every day. Sooner or later, the leaders of this organization will have to realize that the staff members cannot be made scapegoats for the dissension within the organization. And for the sake of the organization, for the sake of the people we purportedly represent, it'd better be sooner than later.

THANK YOU!

To those who attended and supported the highly successful PSWDC-LEC dinner, "Redress—An American Promise," last week at the Bonaventure, our sincere thanks and appreciation.

Pacific Southwest
JACL District Council,
LEC Dinner Committee

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