

pacific citizen

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

Newsstand: 25¢
(60¢ Postpaid)

ISSN: 0030-8579/Whole No. 2,377/Vol. 102 No. 7

941 East 3rd St. #200, Los Angeles, CA 90013

(213) 626-6936

Friday, February 21, 1986

Century-old injustice recalled

SEATTLE—While celebrations this month have ushered in the Lunar New Year in Chinese American communities across the country, Seattle included, local observances have also been held to mark a more solemn occasion—the 100th anniversary of the expulsion of Chinese immigrants from the city.

On Feb. 7, 1886, a mob of armed white laborers, most of them unemployed, went into the Chinese quarters on Washington Street, forced more than 400 Chinese onto wagons and took them to the waterfront to be shipped to San Francisco.

The Chinese, many of whom had come to America to work on the railroads and had since taken other jobs, were blamed by many white workers for poor economic conditions. Two months earlier, 2,500 had taken part in an anti-Chinese demonstration in Seattle.

The steamer *Queen of the Pacific*, bound for San Francisco, was filled to capacity the next

day with 196 Chinese who feared for their lives. Most of the others left in subsequent weeks, and only a small core of businessmen managed to stay.

On Feb. 8, 100 years later, about 300 people commemorated the event by marching from Hing Hay Park in the International District to Third and Washington, site of the old Chinese quarters, where they released black balloons to symbolize the release of any residual resentment. Marchers then proceeded to First and Yesler, site of the waterfront.

Mayor Charles Royer, speaking at the beginning of the march, said, "This country is based on individual rights, and our diversity makes us strong."

"We're not using this occasion to foment any sort of separation," said Ben Woo, executive director of the Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority.

He stressed the educational aspect. "People like my children

have very scant knowledge of the people who came here and worked on the railroads and lived in ghettos they called Chinatown."

"Even a lot of the older Chinese in the community are surprised to hear about the expulsion," said Bettie Luke Kan, coordinator of the commemoration. "We want to use the past as a school for the present, to see that this type of incident does not occur again."

Steve Goon, whose great-grandfather lived in the area at the time, echoed those sentiments. "This is not meant to be a celebration, but an education so it doesn't happen again."

Other events, held Feb. 15 at Univ. of Washington in conjunction with the centennial, were a symposium with historians Him Mark Lai and Phillip Choy; a slide show on Chinese American women by Judy Yung, a graduate student at UC Berkeley; an autograph party for Ruthann McCunn's book *Sole Survivor*; and a dramatization of the expulsion by author Maria Batayola.

—from reports by *Seattle Times*

Hirabayashi celebrates victory

SEATTLE—Gordon Hirabayashi was a 24-year-old student at University of Washington when he made the decision to violate government orders directed at Japanese Americans.

"If I gave in to this, it would cause me to change my whole philosophy of life," he later said. "I knew I'd be accused of disloyalty, but I just couldn't sit back and passively endorse what was happening."

He turned himself over to the FBI in 1942 and spent 3½ years in various prisons for resisting curfew and evacuation orders. His appeal, which went before the Supreme Court in 1943, was denied. The decision was to stand unchallenged for 40 years.

In 1983, Hirabayashi, along with Fred Korematsu and Min Yasui, whose wartime convictions had also been upheld by the Supreme Court, sought to have their cases reopened on the basis of newly discovered government documents showing that the Court's decision was

based on false information.

Following a hearing held in Seattle last June, during which government witnesses defended the wartime internment, U.S. District Judge Donald Voorhees ruled on Feb. 10 that the government had committed "an error of the most fundamental character" in Hirabayashi's case.

"I feel that my 40-year crusade has been vindicated," Hirabayashi said the next day. "Judge Voorhees ruled that the government suppressed key evidence in my original court proceedings and that I was denied my due process right of a fair hearing..."

"In a democracy, if citizens care enough and are patient enough, there will come an opportunity to overturn the injustice. Such an occasion occurred yesterday."

He added that the verdict was "not only a great victory for me personally, nor just for the Japanese Americans. It is a great victory for America and for our system of justice."

Voorhees focused on the contention of Lt. Gen. John DeWitt of the Western Defense Command that "it was impossible to establish the identity of the loyal and the disloyal with any degree of safety. It was not that there was insufficient time... it was simply a matter of facing the realities that a positive determination could not be made."

The Supreme Court was never aware of DeWitt's racial philosophy; his final report was altered to read that there was not enough time to separate the loyal from the disloyal.

Voorhees wrote that "with very little effort the determination could have been made that tens of thousands of native-born Japanese-Americans—infants in arms, children of high school age or younger, housewives, the infirm and the elderly—were loyal and posed no possible threat to this country."

"More time might have been required to consider the loyalty of those who had spent their adult lives in truck gardening or farming or fishing, but a great number of those, too, could have been rather quickly found to be loyal and of no possible threat."

Hirabayashi's all-volunteer legal team hailed the ruling as "a clear victory" for those who "suffered the hardships, humiliation and indignities of the evacuation and internment."

"Once again, the courts have found that the government con-

Noted architect Yamasaki dies

DETROIT — Architect Minoru Yamasaki, whose designs included the 110-story World Trade Center towers in New York, died Feb. 6 of cancer at Henry Ford Hospital. He was 73.

A resident of Troy, Mich., Yamasaki had been recuperating from a December operation at the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York and was admitted to the Detroit hospital for treatment the week before his death.

Among the many structures he designed are the Century Plaza Towers in Los Angeles, the St. Louis Airport terminal, the Rainier Bank Tower in Seattle, the Federal Reserve Bank in Richmond, the McGregor Memorial Conference Center at Wayne State University in Detroit, and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

His works also include buildings in other countries, such as the U.S. consulate in Kobe, Japan, and the civil air terminal in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Born in 1912 in Seattle, Yamasaki attended Garfield High School and University of Washington, spending summers working at Alaska salmon canneries for \$50 a month. Upon receiving an architecture degree in 1934, he moved to the East Coast because of the prejudice he had ex-

perienced on the West Coast.

His first job in New York was to wrap chinaware at an import firm, but he soon found work as a draftsman. He married Teruko Hirashiki (whom he would divorce and later remarry) in 1941. Because of the impending West Coast evacuation, he was joined in New York by his Issei parents. His father had been fired from his job of 30 years the day after the Pearl Harbor attack.

He taught at Columbia University from 1943 to 1945, then moved to Detroit and became chief designer for the firm of Smith, Hinchman & Grylls. In 1949 he opened his own business in Troy. His design for the St. Louis Airport earned him the American Institute of Architects' First Honor Award in 1951.

Yamasaki received numerous honors for his achievements, including designation as Alumnus Summa Laude Dignatus by Univ. of Wash. Alumni Assn. in 1960 and as Nisei of the Biennium in 1962 by JACL, as well as a cover story in Time magazine in 1963.

In the Time article he said that his buildings should inspire people "to live a humanitarian, inquisitive, progressive life, beautifully and happily." He drew his inspiration from a variety of sources, from the India's Taj Mahal to Gothic cathedrals.

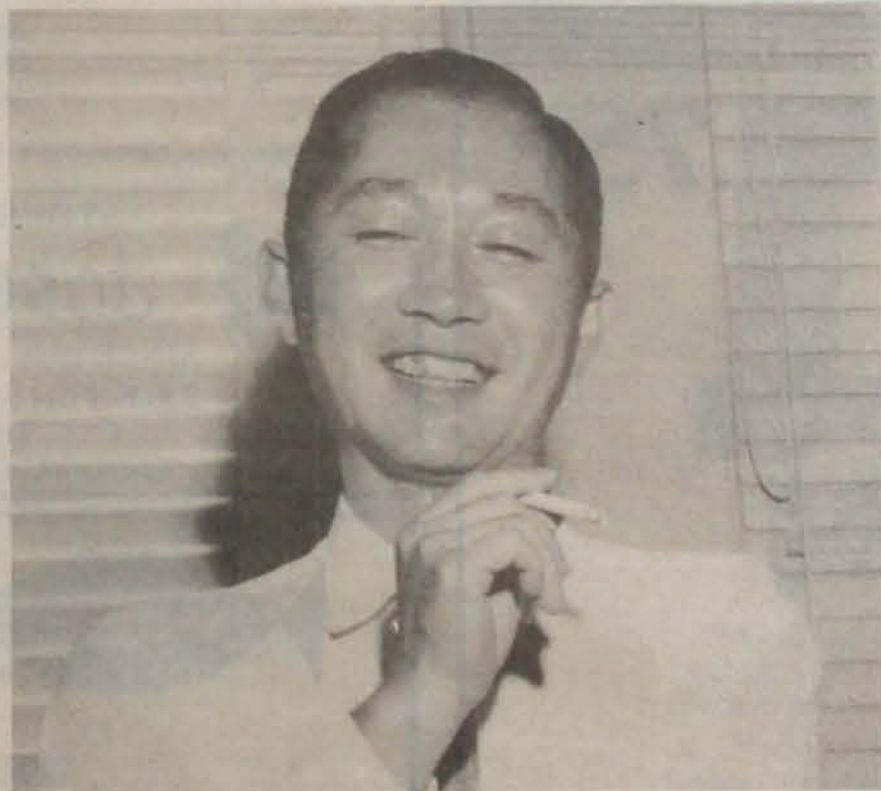


Photo by Elmer Ogawa

Architect Minoru Yamasaki in 1960

He admitted to having "built some real dogs," and his critics agreed. One described his World Trade Center design as "about as humanistic, democratic and serene as a 1964 Lincoln Continental."

The award-winning Pruitt-Igoe public housing project in St. Louis, which Yamasaki designed in the 1950s, became an embarrassment for him in 1972 when city officials, declaring it a high-rise slum, had it demolished. "It was one of the sorriest mistakes I ever made in this business," he

told the Detroit Free Press, although some later studies faulted the administration of the project rather than the design of the 30 buildings.

The World Trade Center and Century Plaza towers, considered among his most spectacular designs, were completed in 1974 and 1975, respectively.

In addition to his wife Teruko, he is survived by sons Kim (a vice president of his firm) and Taro, daughter Carol Chakrin, eight grandchildren and a brother. Services were held Feb. 10.

Continued on page 5

Community Affairs

LOS ANGELES—Little Tokyo Service Center holds a **Nikkei Needs Priority Forum** March 1 at Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., 2nd floor conference room. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The meeting, to be facilitated by Alan Kumamoto, director of Center for Non-profit Management, will enable resource people and consumers to discuss health and social service needs of the community. The \$5 registration fee will cover the cost of postage and printing the report. Info: (213) 680-3729.

Community organizations wishing to have an event, exhibition or other activity listed in the calendar of the city's 8th annual **Asian Pacific American Heritage Week** (May 7-14) must submit an application by Feb. 28 to Asian Pacific Heritage Committee, Mayor's Office, Rm. M-1, 200 N. Spring St., L.A. 90012. Info: Lilly, (213) 485-3404, or Maxine, (213) 468-2331.

Applications are being accepted for **Visual Communications** course in "Graphic Filmmaking." The course focuses on writing, storyboarding, direction and production of short graphic and animation films in Super 8mm and 16mm format. Instructor for the ten-week course is Mar Elepano, graduate of USC's School of Cinema-Television. Fee: \$100. Info: (213) 680-4462. Deadline for applications: Feb. 24.

ALBANY, Calif.—Sakura Kai holds its **Annual Benefit Crab Feed** March 1, 4-7 p.m., at Albany Veterans' Memorial Hall, Portland Ave. and Ramona (behind Albany High School). Tax-deductible donations of \$15 go to Sakura Kai and East Bay Japanese for Action. Info: Bill Waki, 525-7086; Grace Goto, 233-2586; or June Sakaguchi, 235-8625.

SACRAMENTO—Organizations wishing to sponsor or participate in the planning of activities for the state **Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Week**

(May 4-10) should contact Judie Miyao, (916) 427-4748, or Ida Tsujikawa Zoderow, (916) 324-5454. Tax-deductible donations to the week's events may be sent to Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Week, c/o ASEA, P.O. Box 22779, Sacramento, 95822.

NEW YORK—Award-winning composer **Ronald Caltabiano** will present his newest work, **Torched Liberty**, at Merkin Hall, 129 W. 67th St., March 9, 7 p.m. The composition, which looks at America's history of civil rights abuses, includes a segment about Japanese Americans during the 1940s utilizing the words of poets Keiho Sogo, Sojin Takei, and Mitsuye Yamada. Info: (212) 362-8719.

MEDFORD, Mass.—"Yellow is My Favorite Color," a play by Edward Sakamoto, will be performed by Pan Asian Repertory Theatre of New York on Feb. 28, 8 p.m., in Cohen Auditorium on Talbot Ave. as part of Tufts University's Asian Awareness Week (Feb. 28-March 8). Tickets: \$6 general, \$2 students and seniors. Info: 381-3056.

GARDENA, Calif.—A **Genital-Urinary Seminar/Screening Clinic** will be held Feb. 27, 7 p.m., at Nakaoka Community Center, 1700 W. 162nd St. Panelists: doctors Yuichi Ito, Marvin Stein, Yasumitsu Tatsuno. Info: Sue Obayashi, Community Hospital of Gardena, 323-5330 x209.

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Saiki to run for representative

HONOLULU—Former state senator Patricia Saiki, stressing the need to put a Hawaii Republican in Congress, announced Feb. 10 her candidacy for the 1st District House seat currently held by Democrat Cecil Heftel.

On hand for Saiki's announcement were Hiram Fong, who was elected in 1959 as one of Hawaii's first two senators, former governor William Quinn, and Malcolm MacNaughton, retired chief executive officer of Castle & Cooke.

Co-chairs of Saiki's committee are Dr. Franklin Kometani, a Republican Party official, and Andy Poepe, former state legislator and Honolulu city councilman.

Saiki, who stressed the importance of the American enterprise system to Hawaii and the nation, said she can be a "link to the White House and the Republican administration."

"People of Hawaii are very, very unrealistic in sending four Democrats to Congress," said Fong, referring to Reps. Heftel and Daniel Akaka and Sens. Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga. "Can you send a Democrat there and expect to get something for Hawaii? No." Fong is the only Hawaii Republican to serve in Congress.

Saiki served in the state legislature 1974-82, ran for lieutenant governor in 1982, then became GOP state chair—a post she relinquished in order to run for Congress.

Another Republican running for the same seat, Rick Reed, criticized Saiki for using the party chairmanship to maintain visibility for her own race instead of "encouraging new people to run on the Republican ticket." Reed is an aide to Honolulu prosecutor Charles Marsland. Democrats in the race are state senators Steve Cobb and Neil Abercrombie and former governor's aide Mufi Hannemann. Heftel is expected to run for governor this year.

—from a report by Honolulu Advertiser

Discussion on diseases slated

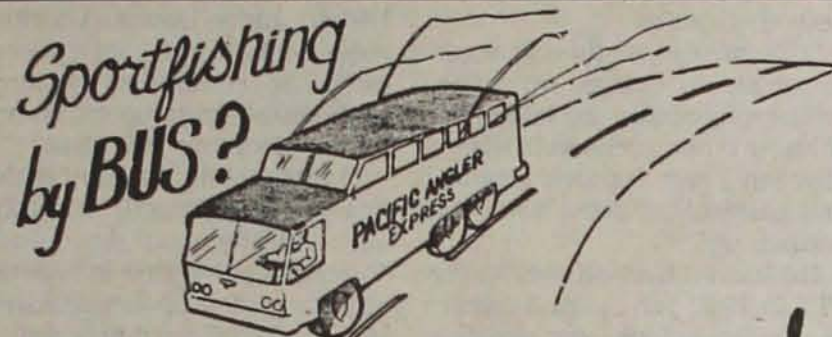
SAN FRANCISCO—Osteoporosis and Alzheimer's disease, both of which sometimes afflict the elderly, will be the topic of a workshop to be held March 1, 1-4 p.m., in Japantown's Sumitomo Community Room.

Two UCSF staff members will be speakers: Dr. Jocelyn Tom, clinical pharmacist, and Rita Yee, family nurse practitioner. Dr. Nelson Kobayashi, UCSF assistant director of pharmacy, will serve as moderator.

Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions about the causes, symptoms and possible treatment of these two diseases.

If time permits, the panel will also discuss some of the latest medical findings about herpes and AIDS.

The workshop, sponsored by Nisei and Retirement, is open to the public and free of charge. Info: Greg Marutani, 641-1697 (evenings).



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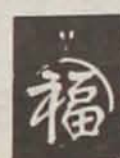
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New ethnic plays presented in L.A.

LOS ANGELES — Three plays currently being presented at L.A. Theatre Center, 514 S. Spring St., feature the work of Asian American artists.

"I Don't Have to Show You No Stinking Badges," a new play by Luis Valdez ("Zoot Suit," "Corridos") that takes a satirical look at middle-class values and minority stereotypes, features Patti Yasutake as Anita Sakai, the girlfriend of frustrated Harvard law student Sonny Villa (Robert Beltran). The play touches upon the relationship between Latinos and Asians in American society.

The title is taken from a line in the film "Treasure of Sierra Madre." James Victor and Anne Betancourt also star.

"The Sound of a Voice" makes its Los Angeles premiere and "As the Crow Flies" its world premiere at the four-theater complex. Both plays are by David Hwang, whose previous works include "F.O.B.," "The



Patti Yasutake

Dance and the Railroad," and "Family Devotions."

Gerrielani Miyazaki, Nelson Mashita, Phyllis Applegate and Nobu McCarthy make up the ensemble.

"Sound" is a fable about an aging samurai sent into a forest of ancient Japan, where he is spellbound by an enchantress; "Crow" is a contemporary ghost story. Both are directed by Reza Abdoh.

"Badges" runs through March 1 and the two Hwang plays run through March 2. Tickets are \$10 and \$20 and performances are Tue.-Sun. at 8 p.m., with weekend matinees at 2 p.m. Box office is open Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sun., 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Info: 627-5599.

AAJA scholarship forms available

LOS ANGELES—Applications for the 1986 Asian American Journalists Assn. (AAJA) scholarships are now available. Asian American high school seniors and college students attending accredited institutions anywhere in the U.S. may apply.

Awards are based on scholastic achievement, demonstrated journalistic ability, financial need and desire to pursue a career in print or broadcast journalism. Finalists are judged by a panel of editors and reporters from major news organizations.

Last year, AAJA gave a total of \$13,800, in amounts ranging from \$250 to \$2,500, to 14 students. Awards were presented on behalf of Times Mirror Co., KCBS-TV and Benihana of Tokyo as well as AAJA.

Deadline for submission of applications, at least two reference letters, and work samples (clippings, photographs or videocassettes) is Apr. 14. Application forms can be obtained by contacting Karen Seriguchi, AAJA executive director, 3921 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 315, L.A., CA 90010; (213) 389-8383.



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Coro offers leadership course

SAN FRANCISCO—Coro Foundation is accepting applications for a public affairs training course for Bay Area Asian Pacific community leaders to be held May 17-July 18. Application deadline is Apr. 4.

The Seminar Course in Public Affairs is open to 12 individuals of Asian or Pacific Islander background who wish to develop and mold the future of their communities through more effective

participation in public affairs. To be eligible, applicants must live or work in San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo or Marin counties. The 9-week program includes sessions on 9 Tuesday evenings, 5 Friday afternoons and 5 Saturdays.

The seminar is designed to give Asian Pacific community leaders an intensive, up-close introduction to public affairs decision-making in the Bay Area,

with the goal of encouraging more active participation in public policy-making at the local level.

Originally developed at the request of Asian Pacific community leaders in Southern California and first conducted through Coro's center in Los Angeles, the program was conducted by the San Francisco Coro center in Oakland and San Francisco last year.

The course emphasizes hands-on training and development of a broad understanding of how a city functions and how individuals and institutions interact to shape the public agenda. Participants will test and enhance their abilities to define and analyze public issues and refine their group management, project planning, decision-making and communication skills. A public issue in the Asian Pacific community will be studied.

Tuition is \$250; financial assistance is available based on need.

For more information, contact Coro Foundation at 1370 Mission St., San Francisco 94103; (415) 863-4601.

State Capitol site of JA exhibit

SACRAMENTO—"East to America: A Panorama of Japanese American Experience" will be exhibited through March 1 at the East Wing of the State Capitol.

Produced by National Japanese American Historical Society/Go For Broke, Inc., the exhibit features 100 sepia photographic enlargements depicting the Japanese immigrants' arrival in Hawaii and the mainland and their incarceration during WW2. Many of the photos are unpublished and come from private sources.

Two-thirds of the photographs

are from NJAHS' national collection and one-third is from the Sacramento chapter's collection.

The exhibit coincides with observances of the 44th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942, which paved the way for the internment.

Info: Henry Taketa, (916) 444-5877; George Matsuoka, 391-8770; or Diane Tomoda, 441-6255.

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JAPAN TOUR OCTOBER 1986: Itinerary, dates and price to be announced.

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WE WERE INVITED to Toronto to share with Japanese Canadians our impressions of the redress efforts in the United States, focusing primarily on the hearings and work of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. Although born and raised in the State of Washington, which is contiguous to Canada, and then spending just about my entire adult life in Pennsylvania, which is only an hour's flight to our neighbors to the north, this was my first trip to Canada.

I quickly learned that Mike Masaoka had preceded me by at least nine years when, in 1974, he had gone up to Canada to assist in the amalgamation of JC's into a national group. (I continue to learn of little-heard contributions by Mike unselfishly extended in the cause of promoting human dignity for others.)

IN QUIETLY LISTENING to the experiences of the JC's, I was impressed by the striking similarities of their WW2 experiences, as well as by some of the more egregious indignities to which they were subjected. For many years, the JC's were denied the right to vote, an incomprehensible situation in a democracy.

In 1942, starting from February—a month all too familiar to AJA's—the powers in Canada ordered the expulsion of all Canadians of Japanese ancestry from the west coast of British Columbia. Some 21,000 persons were summarily uprooted, most confined to detention camps while others were scattered throughout other parts of Canada. Those dispersed often faced official resistance as they sought refuge in the provinces and cities. Still others were given the proverbial "Hobson's Choice" of being shipped to war-torn Japan, to a land with which the Issei had remnants of tenuous ties and with which the Nisei had none.

THE GOVERNMENT SEIZED all lands and personal property and unilaterally proceeded to liquidate them, without consent or consultation. In one area alone, some 769 farms involving

THE COMMAND FROM THE HELM

PETE
HIROKAWA
2/21/86



13,000 acres of prime agricultural land were disposed of at \$64 an acre. Some 12,000 fishing boats were seized and sold off by the government; approximately 1,500 vehicles of various types were auctioned off wholesale with used car dealers descending as buzzards upon a carcass. After expenses, fees, commissions, etc., there was little left from the distress prices realized.

It was not to stop there.

AS LATE AS the spring of 1945, when it was beyond doubt that the Japanese forces were breathing their last gasps, the

Canadian government carried out a nefarious "loyalty survey," the test being whether a JC and/or his Issei parents would "voluntarily" remove themselves east of the Rockies. Those who declined were deemed disloyal, stripped of their citizenship and earmarked for banishment to Japan. Some 10,000 were so classified and about 4,000 were forced to Japan before public opinion and a United Nations declaration finally caused the government to cease.

During my tour of duty with the U.S. Armed Forces in occupied Japan, I personally came

across a number of JC's in various parts of Japan.

THE DEVICES EMPLOYED, the impetus therefor, the timing, the nature of the mentality behind everything—all bore an all-too-familiar resemblance to what had occurred in the States. Indeed, a mirror image, one might say. And so it is that our cousins to the north are also engaged in an effort to restore their dignity in the form of redress, thereby providing Canada with an opportunity to remove this blot on its history and restore its rightful pride.

T'anks, Eh, Richard

ONE THING
LEADS
TO ANOTHER

Bob
Shimabukuro



Hawaiian pidgin English, as anyone who has been to the Islands knows, has a flavor and uniqueness that is, at its best, sparse and inventive, incorporating both the words and language structure of the various immigrant groups, and at its worst, totally incomprehensible to mainlanders. As a language that evolved as a means of communication between the diverse groups, it permitted the necessary business and personal transactions of everyday life in the Islands. But

what in effect happened was the creation of a language which many felt was limiting and "improper," or, in its best light, a "cute" expression of local color.

During the ethnic awareness movements of the '60s and '70s, however, pride in one's upbringing and heritage led writers from Hawaii to utilize pidgin as a "legitimate" language of expression, and writers such as Milton Murayama (*All I Asking for Is My Body*) used pidgin to great advantage.

In the past few years, a few books worth mentioning have appeared. A trio of "locals," Douglas Simonson (Peppo), Ken Sakata and Pat Sasaki, put out *Pidgin to Da Max* (Peppovision, 1981), *Pidgin to Da Max Hana Hou* (Peppovision, 1982), and *Fax to Da Max* (Bess Press 1985), humorous explanations of pidgin vocabulary, punctuated with drawings,

facts about Hawaii, and terms from "small-kid time."

If language is one of the vehicles by which our cultural traditions are preserved and transmitted, then these books offer a great service to those who grew up in Hawaii; the success of these books suggests that many Hawaiian residents and expatriates feel that there is something about the shared experience that is worth preserving.

Still, for those who grew up prior to the '60s, there was a definite stigma attached to speaking pidgin. My *nesan*, Toki, constantly admonished me, "I don't care if you speak pidgin, just as long as you can speak proper English when you have to."

Speaking "properly" was not one of my life goals as a kid since that immediately classified me as "kotonk" by my Japanese American friends, or as "too haolefied" by my friends of other ethnic groups. But under continuing pressure from my sister and my immigrant father, who felt that the only way out of our poverty was a good education and the ability to speak "properly," I too grew up believing that pidgin was limiting, that one could not communicate intellectual and emotional concepts other than the most basic necessary for survival.

That notion was drastically challenged with the appearance of Richard Kapololu's *Punchbowl Song* (Topgallant Publishing, 1985), a collection of poems, anecdotes and drawings about "small kid time" in Hawaii of the '30s-'40s.

Song covers a range of topics from the perspective of a poor Portuguese-Hawaiian at work and play; the "shame" of being

poor, the love/hate feelings toward Japanese locals, the contradictions of being hapa, the attitudes of family and relations, and personal growth. These topics are covered with a humor and sensitivity that is often painful in its rendering, but always to the point, honest, and most definitely alive.

The economy of pidgin is probably utilized best in poetry and storytelling, and Kapololu has captured Hawaiian "small-kid time" better than any other writer has so far. In the process, he has demonstrated that it hasn't been the language that has been limiting; it is the stigma attached to pidgin and the prevailing attitudes which have placed boundaries on the creative impulse. Kapololu has done much to remove those boundaries.

Whether mainlanders will find the book interesting or even understandable remains to be seen, but Hawaiian locals and expatriates are sure to find much that is valuable.

Since much of the writing comes out of the Hawaiian oral tradition, however, and since pidgin has a beautiful lyrical quality to it, a reading of selections from this book would convey a lot more, especially to mainlanders who would probably understand an oral rendering better since the phrasing and construction (not to mention the vocabulary) is sometimes difficult for the uninitiated.

For those interested, the address listed for Topgallant Publications is P.O. Box 4590, Honolulu, HI 96813.

Anyway, "t'anks eh, Richard, you wen' help change my mind 'bout pidgin little bit."

□ □ □

In our Holiday Issue article about ad sales and the Selanoco chapter we inadvertently left out the name of a very important member of the chapter's ad sales team, Clarence Nishizu. Thanks, Clarence. Your efforts did not go unnoticed.

Slopman

Short, bowleg Japanese man come pick up slop.

One bucket carry each hand, when full, splash over the side, good thing the bugger wear boot. Just like he do one zigzag kind dance, go house by house, almost same kind walk like duck. Pretty soon big black can on top truck all full up, tire come flat. Go home feed 'em to pig.

Stink job.

Nobody like do 'em but got to. Bet slopman son hate eat porkchop already.

Before Sleep

Talk silly stuff little bit. Hear dog bark way up Papakolea side.

Daddy, Ma in the kitchen still yet, he tell what happen today work. Last thing do, go there in the kitchen, tell 'em, Goodnight Mama Bless Me, Goodnight Daddy Bless Me. They tell, Goodnight God Bless You. Kiss 'em. Go back bed. Try sleep.

Quiet now, outside the wind blow, can hear 'em. Little bit rain fall on top the iron roof. Pretty soon, fall asleep, all kind sound no more, my ear finish work today.

—from Punchbowl Song
© Richard Kapololu, 1985



pacific citizen

Natl JACL Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115,
(415) 921-5225

Published by the Japanese American Citizens League every Friday except the first and last weeks of the year at 941 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90013; (213) 626-6936. • 2nd Class postage paid at Los Angeles, Ca. • Annual Subscriptions—JACL members: \$10 of national dues provides one-year on a per-household basis. Nonmembers: \$20/yr., \$38 two years, payable in advance. • Foreign addresses: Add U.S.\$12.00; 1st class air — U.S./Canada addresses: \$25 extra, Japan/Europe: U.S.\$60 extra.

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Overseas Japanese

FROM THE
FRYING PAN:

Bill
Hosokawa



without having to cope with the goshawful crush of Tokyo traffic, freedom to drive into the mountains to ski or picnic, freedom to shop as they wish in huge supermarkets, freedom to stretch out in homes that are super-spacious by Japanese standards, freedom to play golf with guests and customers without having to reserve a time on the links a couple of months ahead of time.

But of course they miss other aspects of their culture. To help meet that need they have formed the Japanese Business Firms Association, a loosely organized social group. Recently the association held its traditional New Year's party at a Chinese restaurant—where else?—and we were privileged to be invited.

It was a noisy, happy affair where the men and their wives could shed the caution and the reserve that seems to be an inevitable part of living in an alien environment. They were free to chatter away in a familiar tongue and I suppose that for a little while it was almost like being back home.

One of the games they play was somewhat akin to "Name that Tune," or whatever it is that the TV show is called. The master of

ceremonies played a few notes of taped popular music, and whoever recognized the song raised his hand. The first to respond was then given a chance to name the song, and if he or she was right, he/she won a prize.

Most of the songs didn't go beyond two or three notes before hands shot up, indicating these folks must spend a lot of time listening to the latest popular tunes. They obviously are, to coin a phrase, with it.

The pull of culture is a powerful force. It is what helped keep the Issei together in clannish groups, and it's what brings Nisei together, even though their numbers are small, in places like New York and Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis. And even Tokyo.

Perhaps the sociologists, or maybe it's the anthropologists or psychologists who study behavior, have a name for the force that brings birds of a feather together.

I rather doubt that the members of the Japanese Business Firms Association have much time for homesickness. They're too busy, and enjoying their American sojourn too much, to yearn for the homeland. But at times there must be moments of nostalgia. They did indeed find pleasure in their get-together and it was a good thing to witness.

The Onizuka Legacy

January 28, 1986 will be long remembered. Our pride and spirits soared for one moment, only to be crushed by the tragic events of Space Mission 51-L, the last flight of the space shuttle Challenger.

We will recall forever the courage of the seven Americans of diverse backgrounds from various parts of this nation, all of them unique individuals, but alike in their pioneering spirit. As the story of those brave men and women who first crossed unknown oceans to explore and settle this new world has carried on, so too will the legacy of these seven men and women.

The JACL joined the nation in mourning the loss of the Challenger crew, including an outstanding Japanese American, Lt. Col. Ellison Onizuka. As national president of the JACL and one of the senior Asian Americans in government (inspector general of the Veterans Administration), I was invited to attend the national memorial service in Houston dedicated to the memory of the space shuttle crew.

Ellison Onizuka will be remembered as a test pilot, astronaut, and pioneer. History will note that he was the first Japanese American in space—that he was a risk-taker. To us as Japanese Americans, indeed to



PRESIDENT'S
CORNER:

by
Frank Sato

all Asian Americans, he was more, for he showed the way to make young dreams into reality. His life example will make Asian youth of today and tomorrow not only proud of his achievements, but also unafraid to seek the seemingly impossible.

The courage to take risks, to seek answers, to explore the celestial mysteries, and to challenge adversity brought these seven American heroes together to become an inspiration to us all. But Ellison Onizuka uniquely contributed to future generations of Japanese Americans and other Asian Americans as a role model.

I wonder how many aspiring young astronauts and space explorers are dreaming their dreams today as a result of his fearless quest for knowledge. For Ellison Onizuka, his dedication and commitment will live in the spirit of future generations of Asian Americans.

A Familiar Problem

MUSUBI

by
Ron
Wakabayashi



The dilemma for ethnic minorities, such as ourselves, is to be able to operate in a manner to minimize negative aspects of difference and make use of the positive aspects of individualism. In order to foster a perception that we are good loyal Americans, we say that we are not Japanese. We know what we mean when we say that. A Japanese national and our fellow Americans may have some difficulty in understanding the seeming contradiction. We certainly look Japanese. What we mean is that we aren't from Japan. We mean that we are Americans. We really don't mean to say that we are not of Japanese ancestry.

try. It becomes very complicated to explain who you are. It is much simpler to be a white American or a Japanese national.

While our language professes that we aren't Japanese (in the sense described above), our situation is antithetical to that. We stand out and we know it. We encounter situations daily that remind us of how we are being perceived (not as real Americans, but a Japanese face). We are asked where we are from. We are complimented on our English facility. We are asked our opinion of the trade deficit with Japan. The desk clerk at the hotel greets us with a friendly "Ohayo gozaimasu," which generally gets a hostile response from one of us. Even our encounter with a Japanese national reinforces this. Ever notice that we bow and shake hands simultaneously when meeting a Japanese national, and that they do the same? It is a unique greeting reserved only for an encounter between a Japanese American and a Japanese national. Certainly, there is some ambivalence or confusion being expressed in this exchange.

The debate on what to call ourselves is tied to our concern for identity. Are we Nikkei? Are we Americans of Japanese ancestry? Are we Japanese Americans? Are we Japanese-Americans (hyphenated)? We are concerned about all of this, because of how we judge the way we are perceived. The controversy about the title of Bill Hosokawa's book *Nisei: The Quiet Americans* in the early 1970s had to be based on some concerns about our self-perception and external perception.

Today, the debate centers around biracial children. What are they to be called? Whatever half or quarter or eighth that stands out (is the most different)

coverage of astronaut Ellison Onizuka. Only through the PC did I have the information that he was the first Asian American to distinguish himself in space. It made me so proud.

Thank you, JACL president Frank Sato, for your eloquent statement on the tragic loss of our hero. I too mourn and pray for his family together with all the citizens of the world.

Banzai to the Pacific Citizen, the National JACL and all its JACL chapters!

(P.S.—Bill Marutani, why are you entertaining the thought of leaving the PC? You gave me the opportunity to travel to Japan vicariously. And it's great fun to identify with you as you reminisce about your Nisei childhood of pre-evacuation years. Love your column. Please keep up the good work.)

A.C. MOORE
Cranbury, N.J.

HIRABAYASHI

Continued from Front Page

cealed information about the internment from the judiciary," said Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), referring to the Appeals Court ruling last month in favor of the class action lawsuit filed by National Council for Japanese American Redress. "Once again, it has been officially determined that the U.S. government acted wrongly."

He lauded Hirabayashi's "tireless efforts to pursue justice for so many years."

Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) said that the overturning of the convictions of Hirabayashi, Yasui and Korematsu for resisting the internment "removes a black stain from the pages of our nation's history and legal textbooks."

will probably predominate. It may get even more complicated.

For the Japanese, his/her ethnicity is a given, so he/she identifies with a prefecture or a company. For the American of Japanese ancestry, surrounded by non-Japanese, he is forced to be conscious of his ethnicity. The numbers dictate it.

Both congressmen said the decision would strengthen the chances of passage for the House redress bill, H.R. 442, which they are co-sponsoring.

Grayce Uyehara, executive director of JACL's Legislative Education Committee (LEC), was similarly upbeat. "The decision... is another big step forward for all those who seek to right the grievous injustice of internment and loss of freedom. We are getting closer to righting the wrong."

"This type of judicial affirmation of misconduct is very critical in terms of making the public aware," said Joanne Akizuki of the San Jose Commission on the Internment of Local Japanese Americans.

The one area of dissatisfaction was Voorhees' decision not to overturn Hirabayashi's curfew conviction. The judge called the wartime curfew "relatively mild."

Hirabayashi is hopeful that the government will agree to vacate that conviction as well.

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Letters

A Satisfied Customer

Yes, Dick Obayashi and Misa Joo (Letters, Jan. 31 PC). I thoroughly support and share your views re: the 1985 Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue. It is, in no uncertain terms, a prized edition!

I commend Robert Shimabukuro in presenting the sensitive subject of interracial marriages. We are all God's children and it was fascinating and thought-provoking to read about our fellow Japanese Americans' feelings, problems and achievements.

"One Thing Leads to Another," "East Wind," "From the Frying Pan"—together with PC's wide coverage of Asian American news (not restricted to Japanese Americans) and above all, information about National JACL's philosophy and admirable work—enable me to be a better informed Nisei.

Thank you, PC, for your earlier

District Beat

NCWNPDC

BERKELEY — LEC director Grayce Uyehara gave a JACL-LEC report and Gov. Mollie Fujioka reported on district business at the first NCWNPDC quarterly meeting for 1986 held at the Berkeley House Feb. 2.

Fujioka reported on the Jan. 18-19 National Board meeting (see Jan. 31 PC), while Uyehara described the planning and preparations for the upcoming House subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations hearings on H.R. 442 on March 19 in Washington, D.C.

In district news, \$1,250 was allocated to the District Forensics contest. John Yamada announced that the district finals will be held at the second quarterly meeting hosted by the Sequoia chapter, May 4; the national finals will be held at the national convention in



Photo by Judy Niizawa

Fremont Chapter delegates Kay Iwata and Ted Inouye take a break during NCWNPDC quarterly meeting. Out of 32 chapters, 28 sent representatives.

Chicago.

Charles Kubokawa announced that messages of condolences for the family of the late Ellison Onizuka had been received from member countries of Pan American Nikkei Assn. (PANA). He also suggested that Onizuka be

posthumously named Nikkei of the Biennium.

A motion to present a resolution of appreciation to John Tateishi for his contributions to JACL at a dinner to be held in his honor March 22 in San Francisco was also approved.

Chapter Pulse

Monterey Peninsula

CARMEL VALLEY, Calif.—Joan Ouye of Marina succeeded David Yamada as president of Monterey Peninsula JACL on Jan. 18 before an audience of more than 150 at the Rancho Canada Golf Club. The installation ceremony was conducted by State Sen. Henry Mello (D-Watsonville).

Other officers installed included Aiko Matsuyama, 1st v.p.; Douglas Tsuchiya, 2nd v.p.; Frank Tanaka, clerk of the board; and Kazuko Matsuyama, treas. Among the guests were mayors Florus Williams of Pacific Grove, Lance McClair of Seaside, and George Takahashi of Marina; Assemblyman Sam Farr (D-Carmel); Superior Court Judge Harkjoon Paik; Monterey County supervisor Dusan Petrovic; and Monterey mayor pro-tem Dan Albert.

The chapter's Citizenship Award for outstanding community service went to Marina city councilman Robert Ouye (Joan's husband), former chapter president and former No. Calif.-W. Nev.-Pacific District JACL vice-governor. Creed Awards went to George Tanaka and Ted Durein, and Goro Yamamoto received the JACL Silver Pin.

Featured speaker was Eric Saul, director of the Presidio of San Francisco Army Museum and curator of the National Japanese American Historical Society.

Placer County

PENRYN, Calif.—Lee Kusumoto, manager of California First Bank in Roseville, will be sworn in as president of Placer County JACL at an installation dinner slated for Feb. 22, 7 p.m. (social hour at 6), at Penryn Restaurant, 3129 Penryn Rd.

Guest speaker will be Alan Nishi, assistant branch manager and agricultural credit officer of Production Credit & Associates in Stockton, president of French Camp JACL and secretary of No. Calif.-W. Nev.-Pacific District JACL's board of directors. He will give a Sansei perspective on the JACL leadership program in Washington D.C., which he participated in last year.

Other officers are: Hike Yego of Penryn, 1st v.p. (program and activities); Judy Buckley of Loomis, 2nd v.p. (membership services); Noboru Hamasaki of Newcastle, 3rd v.p. (community services); Hisako Mune of Auburn, rec. sec'y; Roy Yoshida of Loomis, publicity

and corr. sec'y; Ellen Kubo of Penryn, treas. and official delegate.

Appointed chairpersons: Martha Miyamura, hist.; Hike Yego, 1000 Club; Cosma Sakamoto, ins. commissioner; Frank Kageta, redress; Hugo Nishimoto, p.r. Other board members are Ken Tokutomi (immediate past president), Tom Hirota, James Kaneko, Kazuko King, Sam Maeda, James Makimoto, Dick Nishimura, Toki Okusu, Tad Yamashiro and Albert Yoshikawa. Harry Kawahata is Kubo's alternate.

NCWNP director George Kondo will install the officers.

Cost of dinner is \$10. Info: 885-2515; 663-1005; 663-3438; 663-3730; 652-7157; or 791-1090.

Washington, D.C.

HERNDON, Va.—Washington, D.C. Chapter holds a dance-potluck March 1, 5-11 p.m., at the red brick school house of Frying Pan Park, 2709 West Ox Rd. Baked ham, rolls and drinks provided; participants are asked to bring salad, vegetables or dessert. Cost is \$2.50. Members will teach the waltz, rumba, tango, cha cha, jitterbug, and line dancing. Info: Wayne Yoshino, 681-9188; Amy Watada, 978-5365; Mays Nakashi-

USC scholarships offered to A/Ps

LOS ANGELES — The Asian Pacific American Support Group (APASG) is offering scholarships to Asian Pacific American students at USC for the 1986-87 academic year.

Scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500 will be awarded on the basis of merit and/or financial need.

In order to be eligible, applicants must be enrolled (or planning to be enrolled) in a degree program; must have achieved at least a 3.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) in academic subjects in high school or college; and must be U.S. citizens or permanent U.S. residents. Applica-

tions must be postmarked by April 4.

Applications may be obtained by writing to: APASG Scholarship Fund, USC, Student Union 407, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0690, or by calling (213) 743-4999.

The APASG was chartered in 1982 to offer alumni and friends an opportunity to make a financial investment in the education and future of Asian Pacific American students.

APASG assists the university's office of Asian Pacific American Student Services (APASS) in linking the university, alumni, and students to the Asian Pacific American community.

Matsui to co-sponsor anti-'Jap' bill

WASHINGTON—Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) announced Feb. 13 his co-sponsorship of a bill that would encourage Congress to use "Jpn." rather than "Jap." as the abbreviation for Japan or

Japanese (see Feb. 14 PC).

The legislation was authored by Rep. Mike Lowry (D-Wash.).

"The term 'Jap' has racist and derogatory connotations that should not be countenanced in our society," said Matsui. "But unfortunately, it has recently resurfaced in statements by prominent persons and by respected publications.

"While it is almost impossible to prevent bigoted persons from slurring others, it is important to educate well-intentioned persons. This legislation is an important step toward removing this slur from use."

Professor to speak on Nikkei issues

BOSTON—Ronald Takaki, professor of ethnic studies at UC Berkeley, will discuss "To Be Japanese American in the '80s: A Scholar's Reflection" on Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m., at Faneuil Hall.

He will discuss why Asian Americans are celebrated as a model minority, yet victimized by stereotypes and violence; the effect of the U.S.-Japan "trade war" on Asian Americans; and the implications of the new Asian American presence in universities.

The talk, presented by the Japan Society and funded by a grant from the Mead Corp., is free and open to the public. Info: 451-0726.

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 M Memorial; C/L Century Life

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 Active (previous total)200
 Total this report: # 579
 Current total279

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 Berkeley: 3-Dr Tommy T Hayashi.
 Chicago: 15-Robert Bunya, 17-James C
 Henneberg, 17-Sueichi Taguchi, 26-Hiro-
 shi Tanaka, 30-Chiye Tomihiro*.
 Cincinnati: 27-Fred Morioka.
 Cleveland: 22-Richard Y Fujita, 3-Dr Craig
 Shimizu, 3-Sachi Tanaka.
 Clovis: 12-Roy Uyesaka.
 Detroit: 32-Sue Omori.
 Diablo Valley: 10-Paul H Hayashi.
 Downtown Los Angeles: 30-Chester I Kata-
 yama.
 East Los Angeles: 6-Douglas K Masuda.
 Fremont: 14-Shizuo Harada.
 French Camp: 11-Hito Murata.
 Gardena Valley: 14-Dr Ernest Terao.
 Hollywood: 34-John F Aiso, 16-Arthur M
 Emi.
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Deaths

Komataro Kishi, 107, of New York, believed to be the oldest Japanese American in the mainland U.S., died Jan. 8 in his Bronx apartment in an apparent accidental bathtub drowning. Memorial services were held Jan. 26 at JA United Church. In 1890 he went by boat from Wakayama to San Francisco, where he attended high school and business school. He worked as a railroad foreman in California and as a meat packer in Kansas City and lived in Detroit and Philadelphia before moving to New York, where he worked as a butler following the stock market crash. He is survived by a grandniece and 2 grand-nephews in Wakayama.

Margaret Saeko Akagi, 67, was struck and killed by a truck near her New York City office Nov. 13. She was v.p. of Mesa Group, an advertising agency for book publishers. She grew up in Central and Southern California, attended Westmont College, and was interned in Manzanar during WW2. After the war she worked at Doubleday and Franklin Spier. She was active at Riverside Church, where memorial services were held Nov. 24. She is survived by s John, d Ann Scher and Maude Akagi, m Asa Utsunomiya Hohri, b Takuo, William, and Sohei Hohri, sis Anna Hohri, and g.c. Kate Akagi and Sekka and Avra Scher.

William Takeshi Kawai, 68, former columnist for

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Hokubei Mainichi, died of cancer Nov. 18 in Nagoya. Born in San Francisco, he was spending his retirement in Japan. A graduate of Commerce H.S. and a New World Sun delivery boy in his youth, he served in the Army 1942-62 and was a civilian expert with the Army Communication Electronics Engineering and Installation Agency in the Pacific, Far East and Southwest Asia 1962-75. He

lived in Komono-cho, Mieken at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife Yasuko.

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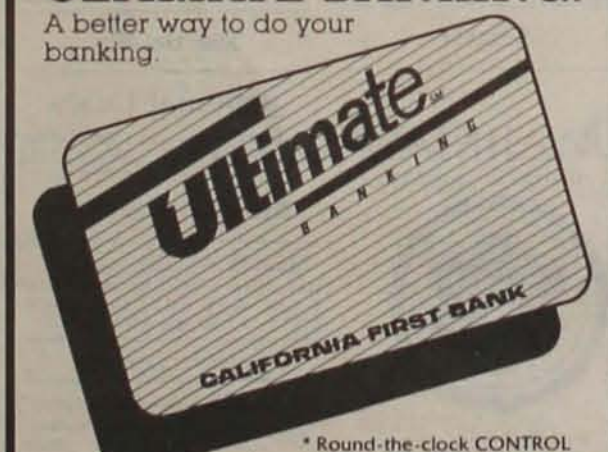
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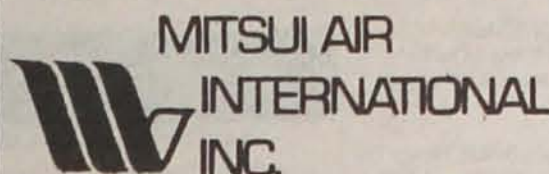


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