State allows payments to ex-school clerks

SEATTLE—Redress efforts at all levels of government in the State of Washington culminated in the signing of redress bill HR 1415 by Gov. Booth Gardner at a ceremony hosted by Seattle JACL, Redress Committee at Nippon Katani Hall on Apr. 2.

The bill authorization local governments in the state to pay monetary compensation to former Japanese American employees who were dismissed from their jobs in 1942.

Among those on hand to see Washington Gov. Booth Gardner sign redress bill were (front row, l-r) George Fujii, Jane Okada, Alice Kawashima, Yoshiko Omoto Nobuklu, Toyo Cary, May Higa, May Namba, Teru Kyohara, Rubi Aoki, Sally Kazama, and Seattle School Board member T.J. Vassar.

Eleven of the former school clerks were present to receive their checks from school board member T.J. Vassar, initiator of the 1984 resolution, and Sup. Robert Nelson. The recipients were Rubi Aoki, Toyo Cary, Alice Kawashima, Terry Kyohara, Ai Kashi, Misuko Morishita, May Namba, Jane Okada, May Higa, Yoshiko Omoto Nobuklu and Sally Kazama.

Thirteen others who presently reside in California, Oregon, Minnesota and Florida will be sent their checks by mail. Two former employees are deceased and one, Kiyoko Kikutobi, is unaccounted for.

State Rep. Gary Locke, prime sponsor of the bill, acknowledged the support of his fellow legislators and added, “Some people ask why a Chinese person would be interested in redress. Justice denied to one group is justice denied to all. And to the extent that we can remember past wrongs, we can use them as ammunition and tools to prevent further injustices in the future.”

LOCKE was instrumental in passage of the bill, which was approved in the House by a 63-15 vote on Feb. 15 and in the Senate by a 41-5 vote on March 6. Praising state government officials, Seattle Mayor Charles Royer said, “Their understanding of the statement that we make, as a state, to a nation which is still deciding whether to redress these wrongs is the identical fashion in which both the City of Seattle and the State of Washington have accomplished...to pass this legislation is a major achievement.”

Measures providing compensation for former state and city employees were passed in 1983 and 1984, respectively. The drive to compensate former school district employees was initiated by the Seattle Redress Committee in 1984.

Sally Kazama, speaking on behalf of the former clerks, told the audience, “This is a joyous occasion for us all. The impossible dream has become a reality.”

—Ed Suguro

Neither party has monopoly on A/P vote in L.A. county, study shows

by J.K. Yamamoto

LOS ANGELES—Asian Pacific Americans in L.A. County do not represent a solid voting bloc for either Democrats or Republicans and are still in the process of realizing their full political potential, a newly released study has found.

The UCLA Asian Pacific American Voter Registration Study is based on official county registration for the June 1984 primary in 20 suburban cities with significant Asian Pacific population, plus an area within Los Angeles proper dubbed the “Asian Corridor.” Data from the 1980 census were also used to help explain the findings.

Principal investigator Don Nakashima, a professor at UCLA’s Graduate School of Education, said the estimate of the Asian Pacific electorate in the county ranges from 100,000 to 150,000, or 2% to 3% of the total electorate.

Because the survey relied on sight recognition of Asian names, there were limitations "in regard to people who have intermarried, the kids of intermarriages, and just trying to identify names that are common to other groups," Nakashima explained. "A Ronald Lee—is that person Chinese, Korean, white, Black?"

Some educated guesses were felt to be relatively safe. If a voter's name, for example, was Kamiko Smith, she would be counted as a Japanese American.

In Koreatown if you saw a Lee, Nakashima added, "the likelihood was that the person was Korean."

The cities with the most Asian Pacific voters were Monterey Park with 7,710 (21.2% of that city's voters), Torrance with 6,002 (19.5%), Gardena with 3,477 (14%), Cerritos with 2,680 (12.2%), Carson with 2,496 (7.1%) and Montebello with 2,104 (13.1%).

Although not a separate political entity, the "Asian Corridor" is a continuous geographic area which includes Highland Park, Chinatown, Silverlake, East Hollywood, Los Feliz, Koreatown, Uplands and the Temple area. "That unit, as a whole, has more Asians than any one of these cities in the report," said Nakashima. The area total is 8,939 Asian Pacific voters, or 9.1% of the electorate there.

Because of a registration rate below 50% for all of the ethnic groups studied, the report concludes that the political clout of Asian Pacifics may be far less than their numbers in the popula...
Utah Republican runs for House

SALT LAKE CITY—County commissioner M. Tom Shimizu announced his candidacy for the 2nd Congressional District seat on March 21. Shimizu seeks the Republican nomination for the seat currently held by Rep. David Morson (R), who has declined to run. Other hopefuls include Republicans Doug Bischoff and Stan Parrish and Democrat Wayne Owen.

Born in Los Angeles in 1933, Shimizu moved with his parents to Utah after the outbreak of WW2. He served with the Army in Korea from 1953-55 and graduated in civil engineering from the University of Utah in 1959.


After serving a second mission to Japan, Shimizu became an independent contractor and developer. He and his wife Junko have four sons: Tom, 30; Scott, 18; Mark, 14; and Josh, 12.

Shimizu was appointed a Salt Lake County Commissioner in 1981 and has since been elected to the commission twice. "With the new federalism and the shifting of program responsibilities to local governments," he said, "it is imperative that someone who knows how the actions taken in Congress affect the local taxpayer and the functions of local government be in Washington to help make good and informed policy and decisions."

"I have felt the frustration of the people over the past 4½ years while serving as their county commissioner. You get to know and learn a lot about people when you collect their garbage, patch their chuckholes, and deliver county social services."

Shimizu's agenda includes supporting President Reagan's deficit reduction plans, encouraging economic development in Utah, and advocating a strong national defense.

Selection of delegates takes place April 28, followed by the state convention on June 21, the primary on Aug. 19, and the November general election.

M. Tom Shimizu

Stockton Nikkei to hold reunion

STOCKTON, Calif.—In the spring of 1942, over 4,000 San Joaquin County residents of Japanese ancestry were expelled from their homes and into internment camps. Some returned after the war to rebuild their lives; others settled elsewhere in the country and have never returned.

After 44 years, many former Stockton residents will return, some for the first time since WW2, to attend the Stockton Grand Reunion scheduled for the Labor Day weekend, Aug. 29, 30 and 31.

The reunion is chaired by Ed Win Endow and Dick Puji and coordinated by Stockton JACL, French Camp JACL, Calvary Presbyterian Church, and Stockton Buddhist Temple.

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2—PACIFIC CITIZEN / Friday, April 11, 1986

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2—PACIFIC CITIZEN / Friday, April 11, 1986
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

DELRAY BEACH, Fla.—Mozzo-supa to Markus Kawamura will perform at the Morikami Museum Park and Garden, 400 Morikami Park Rd., Apr. 27, 3:30 p.m. No admission charge, but donations will be accepted. Info: (561) 495-0233.

SEATTLE—The Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival Committee will present its 11th annual festival May 24 at the Seattle Center. Opening ceremonies will be held on the plaza, 6 p.m., May 2. Exhibits will be held in the Flag Pavilion, performances on the Center House stage. The festival commemorates the 1976 gift of 1,000 cherry trees from the government of Japan to Seattle on the occasion of the U.S. Bicentennial. Info: (206) 221-3500.

TORRANCE, Calif.—Torrance Sister City Assn presents its Bunka-sai Japanese Cultural Festival Apr. 26 (11 a.m.-4 p.m.) and Apr. 27 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.) at the Torrance Recreation Center, Torrance Blvd. and Madrona. Proceeds will go to the association's student exchange program.

SANTA MONICA, Calif.—Santa Monica Sister City Assn. holds its 7th annual benefit brunch Apr. 27, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Katsuri Restaurant, 20 Cuito Pl. Contributions $20 for adults, $10 for children and students. Reservations: (213) 480-6045; (213) 829-1130 before Apr. 21.

NURWALK, Calif.—Mildon Kamei, professor of psychology at El Camino College, will speak on "How to Gain More Joy and Adventure in Your Life" Apr. 22, 1:30 p.m., at Southeast Japanese Community Center, 1403 Griffield Rd., at the first meeting of a program for senior citizens and retired people. Info: Lilian Nawa, (213) 421-7596.

Kato, (213) 421-7596; Yoshiko Kiyomura, (633-0009) or Pat Kawamoto, 925-1902.

SAN FRANCISCO—"Using the Media," a workshop for community groups that want to learn how to get their stories or issues covered by the news media, takes place Apr. 18, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at San Francisco Public Library, Civic Center Plaza. Panelists will include William Wong, Oakland Tribune associate managing editor, Mike Galapagos, KOIP radio political editor, Jerry Burns, S.F. Chronicle editorial page editor; Rose Guillnait, KGO-TV editorial director, and Steve Robinson, KTVU-TV assignment editor. Herb Choat Gunther, director of Public Media Center, will be keynote speaker. Sponsor: Asian American Journalists Assn. Reservations: Janet Lim, (415) 479-4000; Linda Jue, (415) 479-6000; or L.A. Chung, 821-0877.

GARDENA, Calif.—The L.A. County Sheriff's Dept. holds a seminar for Asian Americans interested in joining the force Apr. 17, 7 p.m., at Kern Naka­oka Community Center, 1748 162nd St.

APPLICATIONS FOR PROGRAM DIRECTOR POSITION

NOW BEING ACCEPTED

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES: Under the supervision of the Na­tional Director, responsible for staffing assigned National JACL committees and other national programs including 1) Minority Health Affairs, 2) Women's Concerns, 3) Aging and Retirement, 4) Membership Benefits, 5) Resource Development, 6) Program Planning, 7) Budget Administration, 8) Represent the JACL at various meetings/conferences, 9) and other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS: 1) Four years experience in community based organization, human service provider or other related experience, or educational equivalent in Humanities, social sciences or public administration. 2) Ability to communicate well, both in written and in oral presentation. 3) Ability to work with a diversity of personalities and settings. 4) Knowledge and experience in the history, dynamics, and issues pertaining to the Japanese American community, nationally.

REQUIREMENTS: 1) Valid driver's license. 2) Ability to per­iodically travel. 3) JACL membership for at least one year. 4) Salary Range: $18,000-$22,000. (Depending on background and experience).

May 5 Closing Date of Applications.

APPLICATION: Please send most recent resume with cover letter stating interest in position to:

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As heard on KJAC

Friday, April 11, 1986 / PACIFIC CITIZEN — 3
Appeal from an Issei Vet

Don't Ignore U.S.-Japan
by Edwin Y. Mitoma

Let's Not Get Involved
by Ed Suguro

New Labeling System for PC

EAST WIND

by Bill Marutani

THE OTHER DAY, we received a message from Ernest Kinz- Watanabe, who is a University of Georgia. He is an Issei vet ern of the Vietnam War. And thus the message was from 1911 years old, is a U.S. World War II veteran who resides in Japan. His son says the way, is a vet ern of the Vietnam War. And thus the message was from veterans from two different wars to compound the irony of it all, to this writer who served in WWII. And all three of us were in the same camps-in our own United States.

THE ELDER WAKAYAMA was one of several Issei who appeared before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians to testify. Traveling from Fukuka to present his testimony, he appeared in San Francisco on Aug. 11, 1981, when the commission held hear­ings at the Golden Gate University. We've reviewed his pithy and pungent testimony. The limitations of space will permit us only to sketchily touch upon a few aspects of his experience.

This World War I veteran was arrested, handcuffed and hand­cuffed. Among the places in which he was incarcerated: Los Angeles County Jail (72 days), Santa Anita, Pomona, Manzanar, Lone Pine Prison; Tule Lake; Santa Fe; Crystal City, Off to Vancouver from whence shipped to all these places. And all these indignities heaped upon a proud American who had nobly served his country in Europe during World War I.

As Mr. Wakayama testified: "I do have to die twice to show and establish my loyalty," Where do I find my freedom, liberty, righteousness and champion democracy under the Constitution that I admired as a sacred document? And he tragically continues: "I was a prisoner who died on the battlefront and did not return home, rather than being kicked around...20 years later made to be branded and declared as disloyal...because unfortunately I returned home alive." He poignantly closed: "The severe shock and mental wound received 40 years ago still aches in my heart, though a number of years elapsed with no remedy. My remaining life is now very short. I will say this: I was a real American, and I still believe so." Amen.

THE LEGAL RELIEF of the writ of habeas corpus—involving every resident of this proud land—which had been filed by veteran Wakayama was contemptuously ignored. In the twil­ight of his years, veteran Wakayama doggedly seeks an account­ ing. He has written to many, including Ambassador Mike Mansfield as well as President Carter. In his persistence to clear his name, he now writes to this powerless columnist, in desperation. When the National People's Congress was told he was in Fukuka, he handed his son papers to institute what­ever steps as may be necessary to gain some restoration of his dignity. It is a bitter tale: a World War II veteran, through his Vietnam experience and communicating to this WWII veteran, seeking the redress that has been denied us to date.

A B E N EFT IS: The torch is being handed to each of us, to all of us, to carry forth, to keep alive, until justice is done. In a very real sense, it is the same torch that adorned the proud shoulder patch of "Go For Broke." We must not let it go out. We must not retreat. For 91-year-old veteran Wakayama. For the other 120,000.

Don't Ignore U.S.-Japan

by Edwin Y. Mitoma

Re: Bill Marutani's "First Things First" (July 26, 1985 FC) and "U.S.-Japan Relations. Part 2" (Aug. 2, 1985 FC).

I have known Bill Marutani since my days with the EDC in the 1960s and I have admired Bill's commitment to civil rights and to JACL through all these years. I enjoy his regular "East Wind" columns in the PC, especially the ones on his observations on Japanese culture. But I have reservations on Bill's two referenced columns and so would like to present my personal comments on the subject.

I think that Bill's views go as long as we are known as Japanese Americans, whether we like it or not, the relationship between the U.S. and Japan will have a definite impact on our civil rights. The best example is WWII. The resultant racial hysteria and concentration camps caused the loss of our civil rights. Any friction between the two countries tends to affect Japanese Americans. It is for that reason that is should be the prime priority of JACL. By expounding most of our effort on this problem, hopefully it can be successfully concluded within a short period of time. But we should be concerned with the U.S.-Japan relationship, which should go on forever. In any organization there are efforts on future planning. To disregard this relationship would be a sin.

What JACL intends to do may be a meaningless subject, but the subject of the JACL relationship is well defined. U.S.-Japan relations should take into account all factors affecting the relationship. Those include: economic, cultural, social, political, military, educational, scientific, and technical aspects. JACL should be knowledgeable in all phases of the relationship so as to be an expert position for protecting our civil rights.

It is great to be proud of our cultural ethics and heritage, but it should not mean that we be ignorant of all other aspects of the U.S.-Japan relationship. We cannot pick subjects that we like and disregard other aspects and still be experts.

We are not experts in the field at the present time. In fact, among the American public, Japanese Americans and Japanese nationals, there is an appalling degree of ignorance.

The National JACL USJRC Committee memo (David Nikido, February 1985) sets up a network of contacts with both government officials, I disagree with this approach. I feel that JACL should set up internal committees to educate ourselves in all phases of Japan. We should formPOSITIONs on specific problems of interest to us.

Broader participation may follow, but we should become experts first. In any case, we should be a spokesperson for ourselves.

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The six-week advance notice required for change of address and new subscriptions will stay in force.

Pressure-sensitive Cheshire labels will still be available for chapters and district councils upon written request. Minimum charge is $10 plus shipping.
Beyond ‘Nisei Soldier’

FROM THE FRINGY PANT:

Bill Hosokawa

On the first day of my recent trip to Japan, Barry Saiki told me in happy tones that Loni Ding, the San Francisco film director and producer, was in Tokyo and he urged me to meet her.

She was, he said, tossing interviews with a number of Nisei who for one reason or another had made their homes in Japan. Among them were some who, as a matter of conscience, had replied “No-No” to the infamous “loyalty” questionnaire in the WRA camps and, in anger or sorrow or both, turned their backs on their native country.

Well, Tokyo is a big place and both Saiki and I were busy. Our paths didn’t cross until my last day in Tokyo, just a few hours before the time to hurry out to Narita for the flight home. She, too, was heading back to the States and was hosting a lunch that day at the Sanno Hotel for some of the people who had been helpful during her visit. Saiki assured me I would be welcome. I was kept to be one of those lunches where you bolt down the food and run for a cab, which is what I did. Loni Ding had operations to keep in touch with and we didn’t have time for much more than a handshake and a promise to keep in touch.

A few weeks ago she sent me, as she said she would, a video-tape cassette of her highly acclaimed “Nisei Soldier,” a 30-minute film about Japanese Americans in WW2. For some reason I had missed seeing it when it was shown on PBS.

I plugged the tape into the recorder the kids had given us for Christmas and viewed a moving but all-too-brief account of Americans who, in Ding’s words, were “Hibakusha abroad, prisoners at home.”

Television is an amazingly powerful medium. The spoken word can be replaced by action photography in color carries an immediate impact that far exceeds that of the printed word. Print has the advantage of detail and permanence, but cassette tapes which can be kept in one’s own library overcome the disadvantage of film’s transient image.

“Nisei Soldier,” calling extensively on newsweed film, takes advantage of the medium’s strengths to tell a deeply moving story. But it has one weakness. Within the limit imposed by 30 minutes, one is forced to re-count the story of a people except in headlines.

Now Ding is in the process of repairing that inadequacy by creating another documentary film, tentatively titled “The Japanese American Soldier in World War II,” which is expected to run 75 to 90 minutes. It will include the Nisei linguists who worked in the Pacific, a facet skipped over in the earlier film. It will probe deeply into questions about the values and training that enabled the Nisei to perform with honor and fidelity under the ambiguities they faced.

Ding has demonstrated in her previous work that she can take a difficult subject and make it believable and sensitively. Her documentation will certainly avoid the offensive phoniness of the Japanese American prime-time shows and will serve as an educational tool for seeing her product. It should prove to be a richly worthy addition to the already tremendous output about an important minority in the tapestry of American society of which we are a part.


Sansei Mike Yamashita, an East Coast boy who, as a child, spent several years in a Japanese internment camp, became a frequent visitor and caller to Headquarters and plant—a本身 often at my former place of employment, the Asian American Drug Abuse Program, as he became more involved in the project.

We are still discussing other potential uses for the other 599 cassettes. There is no lack of interest in the Japanese-American story. Gene Oishi was the original organizer of the project. For an assortment of reasons, the piece that he developed ended up being printed in the San Francisco Bay area.

For the majority of us Nisei, Japan’s contribution to our lives will be through the legacy the Issei left us—our cultural heritage. Certainly most of us have been exposed to some aspect of Japanese culture that we like or have become proficient in and pass it on to future generations.

Julio, kendo, ailido, go, shogi, odori, shaman, shakuhachi, ikebana, bonsai, hibiscus, bonsai, zentaku, cooking, language— the list is endless. Many of us have become familiar with these and they continue to exist despite the fact that there are few Japanese immigrants to take over. This will be Japan’s contribution to enriching our lives. And that should basically be the extent of its influence in our lives.

U.S.-JAPAN

Continued from Previous Page

(9) But what about the Vincent Chin case? By chance I was watching the TV dial a few years ago when Leonard Sussmann, the guitarist, was on Cable News Network, and I stopped to listen. The man, who was Chin’s companion at the Detroit bar where the altercation began, said he had been called a “Chink” by Ronald Ebens, the murderer.

Further investigation in a Los Angeles Times report showed that Ebens asked bystanders to help him find a “Chinaman.” Ebens may not have known the Asian ancestry of the people in the bar at the beginning, but he ultimately did know they were Chinese.

If trade with Japan had been the root cause, there would have been no problem because the people were Chinese, not natives of Japan. But there had been an alteration over a dancer in the bar that started it all, with racism as an obvious contributing factor.

(10) IFC becomes involved in U.S.-Japan relations, whose “sidewalk do we take? Has our government asked us to become involved? Has Japan?” Can we really be expected to be taken seriously as arbitrators when there might be dissensions that might put our race above our nationality? We can’t have it both ways, we are not a servant of two masters.

(11) I have heard some speakers from the Japanese embassy and Japanese American leaders state that Japanese Americans should do more to maintain good relations between Japan and the U.S. When I hear this, I often think of the Issei when they used to say similar things—which I ultimately understood to mean doing more for Japan or trying to explain Japan to the U.S. Unfortunately, we don’t set policy for Japan.rance. Japan has its own public relations work.

(12) For a time JACL accepted the offer of the Issei’s General Assembly Democratic Party to send Sansei on trips to Japan. I’m all for their going to Japan for education and travel, but not under the rubric of a Japanese political party.

Marumita said, there is no free lunch. Those of us who are Nisei are well aware of the Japanese cultural value of obligations, the requirement of paying gifts for gifts received. How will JACL repay the LDNP? What bonds have been established so we can accept these gifts? This can lead us into a sticky situation which we neither want nor can control.

(13) A few Sansei have become experts on issues relating to Japan and have used their expertise to benefit our country in dealings with the Japanese. Other Sansei say they would like to join the U.S. diplomatic service and should have the opportunity to travel and study there. This is all to the good and we should do everything to encourage this interest in their roots.

Sansei Mike Yamashita, an East Coast boy who, as a child, spent several years in a Japanese internment camp, became a frequent visitor and caller to Headquarters and plant—a himself often at my former place of employment, the Asian American Drug Abuse Program, as he became more involved in the project.

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S56

MAR 24-28, 1986 (75)
Alameda: 26-Dr Roland S Kadoga, 22-Vin Solaguer, 7 Helen Ushijima.
Berkeley: 2 Saki Nakamura.
Chicago: 55-Stephanie Ooka, 4-Chicko Ooka, 4-George Sankei.

- Business Opportunities

ALBERTA, CANADA

Well established Jayco franchised mobile home industrial company. New, job opportunity & new corporate head office system. Asking to sell at $500,000.00 (After 5 yrs). Serious enquires only. (506) 789-8765, Box 334, (Fort William, Ont., in a_box 122)

**B.C. CANADA**

Steak Your Claim!

For only $299,000 you can own the western ranching company of your dreams, with 500 acres of Manitoba’s largest cattle ranch. This 500-acre ranch boasts 500, 400+ head cattle, and a beautiful, rural, private home on a beautiful, ranch. For more info on how you can become a rancher.

Ridder/Chalmer Ranches, Ltd. Rte 2, Gimli, Grey R.R. No. 2 (705) 225-1627

**LAWN & GARDEN PRODUCT**
Inventor 12 years success needs investor for new company. Good Sec.

W. R. LEE
D (714) 786-2594

**BRIDAL/JEWELRY SHOP**
CARMELINO,
(805) 484-4966
985-1059 own

TELEVISION

VACATION RELIEF OPERATOR

Will work in and around a California beach community. 3rd & weekend shifts. Hours will be scheduled to cover vacation times. May be required to work during late evening or in areas requiring shift work. Must be responsible for security. May not be required to work during peak tourist season. Must not have their own vehicle. Send qualifications, including experience in keeping GENERAL LEDGER, bookkeeping, records, AR/AP, and typing to: (805) 687-6000

**SEAK**

DEAN OF STUDENT SERVICES

for West Valley College nestled in the foothills of Saratoga, 50 miles south of San Francisco. West Valley offers a traditional college and cultural student body of over 13,000 students. The Dean is responsible for the development of the College’s student life program, the evaluation and evaluation of student services. Requires an M.S degree and ability to hold or qualify for California Community College Supervisor/Vice President.

- Apply by May 7, 1986

Submit district application, resume, 5 references (include addresses and phone numbers) and a letter of application relative to specific position and experience to the California Community College Supervisor/Vice President.

**PERSONNEL SERVICES**
14000 Fruitvale Avenue
SARATOGA, CA 95070
(408) 626-2200

Wanted and requested to be paid an equal opportunity after affirmative action employer.

- Retail

1 Store for Lease

Good for food carts, etc. Call for details.
(213) 622-6641

- Classified Ads
Japanese American Travel Club

Travel with JACL & JATC Friends
1986 Departures & Group Tours

Waikiki Holiday
To-Wed dep only $349
Includes RT air via Hawaiian Air w/bd in 7-8 days.
Tours day 7 night 7 aboard the Waikiki Beach hotel.
Transfers, luggage, tips, & airfare.
Weekly tours.

Mexican Riviera Cruise
7 days, Fri Jan

Fiesta Cruise
12 days, Fri Dec

PECNDC
SEATTLE—The Pacific Northwest
JACL District Recruitment
and Leadership Development Committee sponsors a workshop on
"Enjoying Competition in the Workplace" on Apr. 17, 7:30 p.m., at
IBM Training Center, Rm. 3317, at 68th and University. Mary Anne
Moreman, human resources
consultant with Gamma Vision, Inc.,
will lead the workshop with em-
phasis on issues which arise for
Info Tim Otani, 623-5083.

Chapter Pulse

Monterey Peninsula

MONTEREY, Calif.—The JACL
Spring Potluck Dinner will be
held Apr. 19, 5 p.m., at the
Hall. Members and friends are
invited. Games and bingo will be played after dinner. Bring enough for
4 servings, your own utensils and
cups, and a small gift item for
game prizes.

San Jose

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Chapter mem-
ber and 100 Clubber Ray Matsu-
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students.
Continued there, to become a viable force...

"It's a question of whether Asians and Vietnamese, with evidence but also in terms of the TA study, were not seen as a viable force.

Unlike Asians in Gardena, the majority of whom had lived in the same house 5 years earlier, many Asians "are not true new-comers to these communities, not in terms of their residences but in terms of the time of their participation, or lack of it, in the political system," said Nakashima. "It is a question of whether Asian Americans feel welcomed, encouraged to remain there, to become a viable force...whether Asian Americans feel there's a need to establish a presence in those communities as opposed to moving on."

Party Preference
Asian Pacific Democrats outnumbered Republicans in the study by a 32%-21% margin.

"There were only two communities—the Palos Verdes area and South Pasadena—where the plurality of Asian Americans were Republicans," noted Nakashima. These results differ from those of a study done last year at Caltech. This telephone survey identified that Asians leaned more toward the Republicans than the Democrats.

Despite the differences in methodology and conclusions, Nakashima saw certain commonalities. "I think what is similar is that fact that Asians are clearly not as Democratic as Blacks and Hispanics...We would agree wholeheartedly with that.

They (Cal Tech) also say that Asian Americans appear to have a lower voter registration rate than other groups, especially whites. We would also agree with that,

Nakashima reported that some of the findings of the UCLA study were unexpected.

"What we found about Japanese American community clearly goes against what a lot of people thought we would find...We still have this idea that Japanese Americans have not forgotten the Democratic Party, in particular FDR, for the intermission experience, and as a result there would be an overwhelming number of Republicans. A second (common) idea is that Japanese Americans, because of their high median income, would also tend to be more Republican.

"Yet in practically every community we visited, Asian Americans show a majority of Democrats.

At the same time the overall registration rate for JAs was unexpectedly low. One possible factor is that we probably have a larger share of foreign-born, maybe even non-citizen Japanese Americans than some other communities across the country," he said.

Another surprise was the relatively large number—15%—of all Asian Pacific voters—who expressed no party preference.

While he does not have a single theory to account for this, he suggested that many immigrants know there are two parties but "don't feel enough of an allegiance to either one to really commit themselves.

In the case of the non-English speaking potential voters, Nakashima theorized, coverage of political issues in the Asian-language media is "probably very uneven...a lot of things that candidates say, promise, probably don't get covered."

Nakashima believes that there is a great deal of untapped potential in the Asian Pacific population.

"A lot of Asians are not citizens, although a growing number are becoming citizens...The Asian American electorate is in the process of being formed, and its shape really is going to be determined in the next few years...and it could be a complete reversal of what we've seen here.

"It's estimated that a good 30,000-40,000 Asians from Southern California—the vast bulk of them live in Los Angeles County—become citizens every year...The Republicans may have a better shot at them, just because we have a president that's Republican; people just tend to gravitate toward whatever party's in power. That means the Democrats have to tell their story a little better."

The study, he said, gives "some sort of an apparent figures from which to do things like voter registration efforts and perhaps even gives a candidate some rough idea in terms of what base they have from which to operate."

Interested in the study has extended far beyond Los Angeles. There, notes Nakashima, "a lot of interest both statewide and in terms of how Asians are doing in other communities...Quite a number of politicians have asked for a copy of the report."

The report was sponsored by Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Los Angeles and funded by Southwest Voter Registration Project of San Antonio and the Research Committee of the LA-Voter Study. Researchers were Edward Chang, Rani Do, Bernie La For, and Rick Osh. Advisors were Michael Eng and Steward Kabw and city councilman Mike Woo.

Copies of the report are available for $15 from Asian Pacific American Legal Center, 1010 S. Flower St., Suite 302, L.A. 90017, (213) 748-2027. Make check payable to APALC.