

# pacific citizen

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Friday, June 6, 1986

## Nisei will receive college diploma—44 years later

EUGENE, Ore.—Forty-four years after she completed her requirements for a degree, Michi Ando of Denver, Colo., will receive her diploma from the University of Oregon (UO) in a special presentation at the university's commencement exercises June 15.

Ando, who in 1942 was the only Japanese American student to graduate from UO, was denied the right to attend commencement ceremonies because of the military evacuation orders issued by Gen. John L. DeWitt in May 1942.

Ando, formerly Michi Yasui of Hood River, Ore., was contacted last year by UO archivist Keith Richard after he ran across her file and wondered what became of her. He wanted to have her accept her diploma at last year's commencement, but Ando declined. "It was too short notice, and I had made other plans," she told the Pacific Citizen by phone. "This time, he started last fall to convince me to come to the ceremony, so I had a lot of time to think about it."

It was a big surprise to be notified after all these years, she added, and "I really didn't think they would want to pursue this. But the archivist convinced me that he was sincere. We have to make people more aware of what happened to us and I thought maybe it's time to tell this story."

In order to avoid going to camp, the 65-year-old award-winning elementary school teacher fled from Eugene in 1942 to Colorado, where then-governor Ralph Carr had invited all West Coast Japanese Americans to resettle.

"In Eugene at that time, I was the only Asiatic enrolled at the school, and I know I was under constant surveillance and had to abide by a mandatory evening curfew. I wasn't even allowed to have a radio," she recalled.

Ando also remembers sprinting to the tracks just north of the campus after she was told that her mother, sister and brother were on the train from Portland bound for the Tule Lake camp in Northern California.

"I ran to the tracks, not telling anyone. The train was heavily

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Photo by Bacon Sakatani

**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**—A monument, to be dedicated this month, honors soldiers from the Heart Mountain camp who were killed in action during WW2. Heart Mountain itself looms in the background. (Story on p. 2.)

## Black-Asian tension high in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA—The sentencing of a Powelton Village man for assaulting a Hmong refugee and the popularity of an anti-Chinese song by a local "rap" group are signs of continuing tensions between the Black and Asian communities here.

Anthony Starks, 20, received a 2½-to-20-year prison sentence on Apr. 8 for his role in an August 1984 group attack that left Seng Vang, 33, with two broken legs and a fractured skull.

Common Pleas Court Judge Theodore McKee said that the attack had the character of "mob violence" and "reflected a reckless disregard for the rights of others."

Starks pleaded guilty in January to charges of aggravated and simple assault, conspiracy and possession of an instrument of crime. Defense attorney Stanley Stern had asked the judge to consider the guilty plea as a mitigating circumstance, but McKee rejected that argument, citing the severity of Vang's injuries.

### Two Versions of Attack

The incident took place on the night of Aug. 20, 1984, when Vang, his brother and two cousins stopped at a traffic light on the corner of Baring and Budd Sts. Vang, a resident of Canada who was visiting his brother at the time, said he was dragged from the car by a group of Blacks and hit with poles and bricks. He was unconscious for two days after

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## Coalition fights for bilingual ballots

by J.K. Yamamoto

LOS ANGELES—A survey that will determine whether the city continues to provide bilingual ballots was publicized by the Asian Pacific American Voters Coalition at a May 30 press conference at Cathay Manor in Chinatown.

Included with voter information pamphlets for the June 3 primary, the survey asks respondents to indicate whether they need voting materials in Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Spanish, or other languages.

Lily Chen, former Monterey Park city councilwoman, stressed

that if Asian voters fail to respond, the city "will say, 'There's not enough response, so we don't have to do anything.'"

Because the survey is entirely in English, she pointed out, it can be self-defeating, since those who can read it probably do not require bilingual materials. The coalition therefore decided to call attention to the survey via the ethnic press, she said.

John Saito, Pacific Southwest JACL regional director, added that native English speakers who support the continuation of bilingual ballots—for example, those whose parents would be more comfortable with materials in

Continued on page 8



Photo by Sachii Yamamoto

**HELPING HANDS**—Japanese Americans of all generations took part in "Hands Across America," the fundraising event for the homeless, on May 25. The line, which began in New York and ended in Long Beach, stretched down San Pedro St. in Los Angeles from Little Tokyo to Skid Row.

## Bay Area dinner to raise funds for LEC, pay tribute to Nikkei members of Congress

SAN FRANCISCO—In order to support the lobbying efforts of LEC, the ad hoc Americans for Fairness Committee will hold a fundraiser on June 13 at 7:30 p.m. (cocktails at 6:30) at Empress of China, 838 Grant Ave.

The dinner will honor Sens. Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga (both D-Hawaii) and Reps. Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui (both D-Calif.) for their leadership in promoting redress bills S. 1053 in the Senate and H.R. 442 in the House. Mineta has indicated that he will attend.

Cressey Nakagawa, chair of the committee, said, "This is the time for those who are concerned

about the civil rights of all Americans to show their support. It is imperative that Congress passes the bills and the president signs them, to ensure that the rights guaranteed in the Constitution are not suspended without due process as they were for the Japanese Americans during WW2."

Co-chairing the committee are Frank Damrell, Patricia DiGiorgio, Pamela Duffy, and Jerome Falk.

Tickets are \$100 per person. Checks payable to JACL/LEC should be sent to: Americans for Fairness, 1777 Union St., San Francisco, CA 94123. Info: Cressey Nakagawa, (415) 421-6995.

## Governor seeking support for redress

SEATTLE—Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, responding to a letter sent by Washington Gov. Booth Gardner urging governors to support redress bills H.R. 442 and S. 1053, has asked the Massachusetts congressional delegation to support the House bill, reported Marc Hershman, an aide to Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.).

On May 15, Gardner sent the letter to 48 governors—the entire congressional delegations of Alaska and Hawaii are already supporting the bill—asking for their support "to correct an injustice that is now 43 years old."

He continued, "In addition to Washington, the states of New York, Hawaii, Minnesota, New Jersey, California, Oregon and Wisconsin have already passed state resolutions calling for Congress to pass these bills. It is time for all of us to take an active role in seeing that our federal government takes immediate and appropriate action... I urge you to call on the congressional delegation of your state to support this bill entitled Civil Liberties Act of 1985."

In Washington, Sens. Slade Gorton and Daniel Evans (R) and four of eight representatives are co-sponsors of the redress bills. However, according to Pacific Northwest JACL regional director Tim Otani, seven representatives actually favor the bill.

In Massachusetts, Sens. Edward Kennedy and John Kerry (D) and five of 11 representatives are redress co-sponsors.



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## Camp memorial to be dedicated

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo.—The Heart Mountain High School class of 1947 and the homesteaders of Heart Mountain sponsor a monument dedication June 21, 2 p.m., at the site of the camp.

The event will honor the 22 soldiers from the camp who were killed in action during WW2. Also noted will be the selection of Heart Mountain Relocation Center Memorial Park as a National Historic Place.

Guests will include Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), a former Heart Mountain internee; journalist/author Bill Hosokawa, who edited the camp newspaper; LEC chair and Supreme Court case figure Min Yasui; and tentatively, Sen. Al Simpson (R-Wyo.). A banquet will be held that evening at the Holiday Inn in Cody.

The monument, erected last year, reads: "This memorial plaque is dedicated to the more than 600 internees who left Heart Mountain to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II, and to the memory of the 22 Heart Mountaineers who gave

their lives for our country." The following names are listed: Cpl. Yoshiharu Aoyama Sgt. Robert Farmer (an instructor at Heart Mountain High School)

Pfc. Ted Fujioka  
Sgt. Tadashi Hachiya  
Pvt. Stanley K. Hayami  
S/Sgt. Joe Hayashi  
Sgt. John S. Kanazawa  
Pvt. Roy Kawamoto  
Cpl. Yasuo Kenmotsu  
Pvt. Isamu Kunitatsu  
Pfc. Hiroshi Kyono  
Sgt. George Mayeda  
Pvt. Jim Nagata  
Pfc. Akagi Nagaoki  
Cpl. James Okubo  
T/Sgt. George Oyama  
Pfc. Toru Seiki  
Pfc. William Taketa  
Lt. Kei Tanahashi  
S/Sgt. Kei Yamaguchi  
Pfc. Fred Yamamoto  
2nd Lt. Hitoshi Yonemura

The plaque further reads, "May the injustices of the removal and incarceration of 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II, two-thirds of whom were American citizens, never be repeated. Presented by the Heart Mountain

High School Class of 1947, on behalf of the 10,700 persons interned here from 1942-1945, with appreciation to the people of Park County who made this Memorial Park possible."

Tours of the camp grounds are being planned. Remnants include a root cellar where potatoes were stored during the winter; a swimming hole with the diving board still standing; the high school storage vault; the drinking water reservoir; the hospital chimney; and warehouses. About a mile away are sutras found buried by the cemetery and a tombstone. At the park, an honor roll with the names of over 600 servicemen and servicewomen still remains.

The local homesteaders, headed by Chester and Mary Blackburn of Ralston, cleared the area around the honor roll and put up a monument honoring the internees, particularly those who served in the military, in 1977.

On the morning of June 22, Keiichi Ikeda and Bacon Sakatani will lead a group of hikers to the top of Heart Mountain. Hikers will be transported to the bottom of the peak in four-wheel-drive vehicles.

A group formed by Helen Hifumi Kitamura will fly from Los Angeles to Mt. Rushmore, see Custer's battlegrounds, take a bus to Heart Mountain, and then travel to Yellowstone and Salt Lake City before returning home. All openings are taken.

Information and banquet reservations: Bacon Sakatani, 210 N. Shadydale Ave., West Covina, CA 91790; (818) 338-8310.

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May Mineta presents luncheon guest Doris McClory to Nancy Reagan.

## Mrs. Mineta chairs capital event

WASHINGTON—May Mineta, wife of Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), chaired a luncheon honoring First Lady Nancy Reagan on May 14.

More than 1,300 guests, including Barbara Bush and wives of cabinet members and Supreme Court justices, attended the 78th annual Congressional Club luncheon. The theme was "It's a Small World."

"We come together as Democrats and Republicans, but we practice no politics—instead, we practice harmony and friendship," Mineta told the gathering. "I wanted our luncheon to focus

on this harmony and friendship, and on the unity of all people and all nations."

The Brotherhood Singers of Walt Disney World in Florida performed, as did the U.S. Marines Band.

The Congressional Club was incorporated in 1908 to provide a non-partisan setting for friendship among the wives of members of Congress. Mineta also chaired last year's luncheon.

Proceeds go to the Nancy Reagan Drug Abuse Fund; So Others Might Eat; and Christmas in April.

## Community Affairs

FRESNO, Calif.—Central California Nisei-Sansei Singles meet June 22 for a Matthew McKinley Delta Paddle Wheel cruise in Stockton and July 26 for the Sacramento Nikkei Singles annual picnic. Info: Marge Sanbongi, 3706 N. 7th St., Fresno, CA 93726.

SACRAMENTO—Parkview Presbyterian Church, 727 T St., holds a Japanese Food Bazaar, with games and prizes, July 20, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: 443-4464.

LOS ANGELES—Japanese Village Plaza in Little Tokyo presents the improvisational comedy group Cold Tofu and the jazz band Visions, featuring Alan Furutani and Deems Tsutakawa, on June 20 at 7 p.m. Admission is free. On June 21, 4-8 p.m., there will be ondo dancing with professionals teaching the basic steps. Info: (213) 620-8861.

Madam Hiroko Ikuta demonstrates the art of calligraphy in the Rendezvous Lounge of the New Otani Hotel, 120 S. Los Angeles St., on June 8, 2-3 p.m. Free and open to public. Info: 629-1200, ext. 3.

Included in the Northwest Film & Video Festival on July 23, 7:30 p.m., at American Film Institute, 2021 N. Western Ave., will be "Read Only (Phosphor) Memory" by Norie Sato. Admission: \$5 for AFI members, \$4 for non-members. Info: (213) 856-7787.

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## Program to provide help for mail-order, servicemen's wives

WASHINGTON—The National Network of Asian and Pacific Women has been awarded a one-year grant from the Women's Equity Act Program of the Dept. of Education.

The award will fund a project intended to provide disadvantaged Asian and Pacific Islander mail-order and military wives with support, information and training on available resources and how to access them, and knowledge of their rights and responsibilities as wives of U.S. citizens.

In testimony before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in May 1979, Dr. Bok-Lim Kim, professor of social work at University of Illinois, said that problems faced by Asian military wives include communication difficulty, psycho-social isolation and alienation, unfamiliarity with the legal underpinnings of American society, and negative attitudes to foreign-born Asian wives.

"Incidents of spouse abuse, desertion, separation and divorce are not uncommon," she said.

Kim suggested such steps as (1) English classes geared to the needs of these women as wives, mothers and consumers; (2) Collection of systematic data on the location and demographic characteristics of these women so that social service agencies can develop programs; (3) Development and distribution of a multilingual resource book; (4) bilingual and bicultural training and orientation classes for both husband and wife; and (5) a nationwide hotline for crisis intervention, referral and follow-up.

In a White House briefing held in May 1985, the NNAPW took

the position that the mail-order bride business should be eliminated; or, if that is not possible, that it be subject to government regulation to ensure that the women are not exploited or unfairly treated; or, if that is not possible, that Asian Pacific women's organizations be vigilant in the protection of these women's rights and in providing them with emotional support and educational services.

The objective of the current project is to develop a multilingual basic education program. To achieve this, the project will determine the size and geographical concentration of disadvantaged mail-order and military wives, analyze their level of education, familiarity with American culture, attitudes, skills, etc.; design a program, educational materials and a resource directory based on a needs analysis; translate materials into the languages of the three largest groups in the target population (Tagalog, Korean and Japanese); and evaluate the impact of the program.

Materials will then be disseminated. *Continued on page 5*

## PC partly successful in dispute

by Robert Shimabukuro

LOS ANGELES—Pacific Citizen Board business representative Henry Sakai, in his report and commentary on the dispute between 941 Investment Co. and PC, said that "PC won the battle, but lost the war," and that the lesson to be learned from the episode is that everything in a business transaction should be in writing.

Sakai made his comments after arbitrator Claude Bridges ruled that the actual damages to the tenant (PC) for lack of air conditioning last year was \$3,210.41 and that there was insufficient evidence to sustain the other claims of damages (sick days, loss of productivity, and suffering).

The problems started when PC moved into the 941 building June 25. At that time, the air conditioning unit was not in operation (because the 220-volt electrical line had not been approved), the ceiling had not been com-

pleted, and the phone lines had not been installed.

General Manager Harry Honda had been told by contractor George Inouye that the space would be ready for occupancy by June 17. On Apr. 30, Honda notified the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center (PC's landlord at the time) that PC would move out by the end of June.

According to Inouye, he informed Honda around June 12 or 13 that the air conditioning unit would be connected as soon as the final inspection had taken place; Inouye estimated that the process would take about a week to complete.

It was almost four months and five hot spells later that 941 Investment Co. received final approval to connect the air conditioner. The delay was the result of misunderstandings be-

tween 941, the architects, the general contractor, and the city, with all shifting responsibility for plans "lost" in a bureaucratic shuffle, unapproved building plans, and an improper meter. It seemed as if rather than making progress, "everything went backwards for over three months," said Sakai.

The air conditioning was turned on Oct. 16. In lieu of paying rent for the space, PC submitted a claim of \$48,000 to 941, indicating PC's losses, direct and indirect, including compensation for human suffering by staff.

On Nov. 26, Honda and Sakai met with Bruce and Jon Kaji of 941 to try to resolve the matter. Bruce Kaji offered a 50% reduction in rent with the rebate to be distributed to the PC staff for the inconvenience caused. In addition, PC was asked to purchase the spot cooler that had been installed to keep the machines at

*Continued on Page 7*

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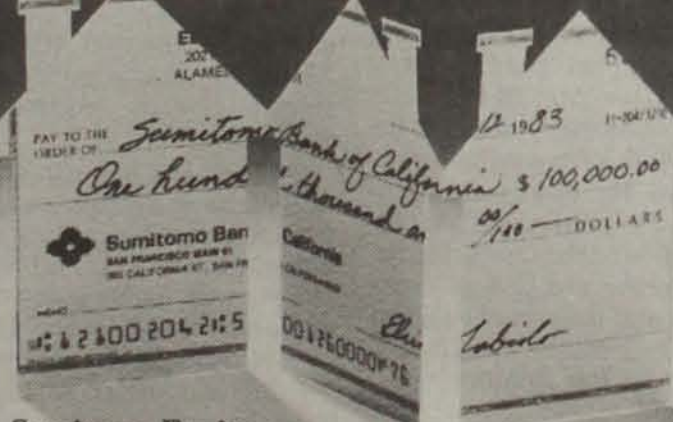
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I may not want to follow;*



*walk by my side and  
let's be friends.*

—Camus



Courtesy H. DICK YAMASHITA, Tokyo; JACL Ways and Means Chair



## GUEST'S CORNER

## Songs that Touch the Heart

One evening some time ago, accompanied by our daughter, Carrie, my wife and I attended what turned out to be one of the most enjoyable cultural events sponsored in the San Francisco Bay Area. The event, called "Images of Ourselves," celebrated the opening of an Asian American women's art exhibit at the Sargent Johnson Gallery in the Western Addition Cultural Center near Japantown.

Strumming on a guitar, Sui Wei Anderson, a part Chinese American folk singer from Boston, announced, "I'm going to dedicate this song to my American mother who raised me and to my Chinese mother who worked in a restaurant in Hong Kong for low wages."

"People wonder why I have a name like Anderson," she said. Her natural mother could not support her, so she was adopted by visiting Americans. "In family pictures," Sui Wei said, "I always stood out from the rest!"

Included among the many songs she sang, there was one about a Nisei woman roommate who always shared the rice and fish she cooked.

While still a small girl in Illinois, Sui Wei was the only Asian

attending grammar school. She said, "I was taken for Japanese by the other children. The whole responsibility of World

WEST WIND: by Joe Oyama

War II was put upon my shoulders."

But there were lighter moments when, she said, "My American mother would put her head together with me and we would laugh."

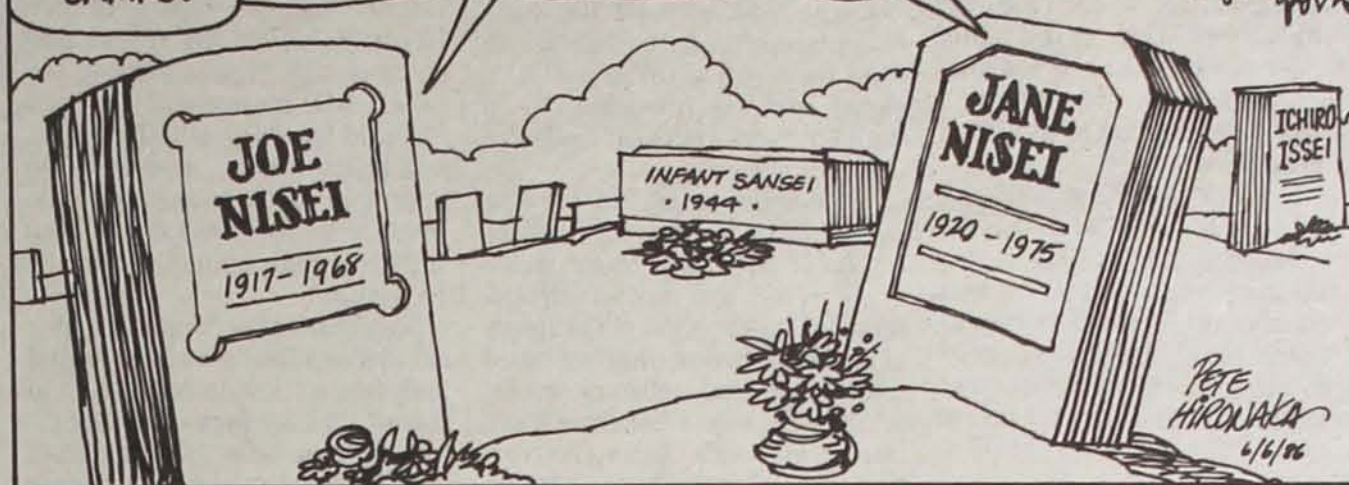
Moving to San Francisco as a folk singer and singing for cultural events all around the Bay Area, she said, "My own kind of people wondered why I didn't know their customs." Sui Wei sang, "I am returning to my own people again. I am returning to my own kind of people to learn their ways."

The ballads, so simply stated and most sung to the accompaniment of a guitar, had many people—whites, Chicanos, some Blacks, Asians and Asian Americans—crying.

In addition to Sui Wei, there was music performed by Patti Shih, poetry by Nancy Hom from New York, Sansei Janice Mirikitani and Barbara Noda, films by Emiko Omori and a Japanese dance

S.I. HAYAKAWA HAS AGAIN TESTIFIED THAT OUR RELOCATION AND INTERNMENT WAS GOOD FOR US. HE SWEARS WE HAD A VACATION IN THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS.

THOUGHTFUL AND ENDEARING POSTMORTEM SEMANTICS ARE ALWAYS SO TOUCHING TO HEAR.



by an Issei, Mrs. Kodama.

The last we heard was that Sui Wei Anderson had returned to Boston. Does anyone know of her whereabouts?

As an afterthought, I recollect Pete Seeger, internationally known folk singer, singing his heart-rending ballads about the Oklahoma Dust Bowl refugees at a semi-formal Nisei evacuee dance at a hotel in New York City years ago.

"Maybe someday one of you will write a song about your experience (expulsion/incarceration)," he said. But that was a long, long time ago.

## Making 'Target' Visible

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Annie sings, "The sun will come out tomorrow," but today in June 1986 we need you more than the sun, especially now in hot, muggy D.C.

A while back, Chuck Kubokawa of Sequoia chapter strongly urged the LEC and its executive director to utilize the media much more in order to increase support for redress. Unfortunately, with two people on the LEC staff, we neither have the funds nor the time to do any more than utilize every "free" PR opportunity.

The recent positive publicity engendered by the April 28 hearing held on H.R. 442 in D.C. by the House Judiciary subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations provided a timely media interest in the redress issue.

Another opportunity for such publicity occurs this month. Chris Anderson, co-producer of "Visible Target," wrote to me, asking for assistance in contacting station program managers to carry the program and to publicize the broadcasts (see Apr. 18 PC).

The documentary focuses on the evacuation of Japanese Americans from Bainbridge Island—the first JA community to be evacuated—and the Caucasian resistance to the evacuation, especially the anti-internment stance of Walt and Millie Woodward, publishers of the Bainbridge Island Review.

As of May 14, only 38 out of more than 200 PBS stations have confirmed dates for the film, which will be fed to PBS stations nationally June 15 at 10 p.m. (EST).

On May 21, we sent a memo to JACL chapter presidents and redress contacts where there are no chapters requesting help to get "Visible Target" on the air.

Milwaukee Chapter president Diane Aratani responded immediately and contacted WMVS.

Milwaukee will have two showings: June 23, 7:30 p.m. and June 24, 10 p.m.

Washington D.C. Chapter president Ben Watada called the stations in Virginia and Maryland. All Maryland PBS stations will show the documentary on June 17, 10 p.m.

Watada plans to follow up on WETA in D.C.—which has scheduled the film for July 2, 11:30 p.m.—to arrange an additional showing at an earlier time. Since the D.C. chapter manned an evening of call-ins this year for WETA's fund-drive, he feels the chapter should get a positive response to his request.

KCET in Los Angeles will air "Visible Target" on June 27, 10:30 p.m.

A suggestion: viewing get-togethers might be planned to coordinate lobbying activities for the chapter and for friends who could help lobby.

## Programs and Meetings

On Saturday, June 7, the Eastern District Council Redress Committee, under the leadership of Tom Kometani, will meet at the home of Tak Moriuchi in Moorestown, N.J. LEC Legislative Strategy Chair Grant Ujifusa will focus on identification of targets, assignments and schedule during the workshop. The strategy for the mid-Atlantic and New England states will be brainstormed by the redress coordinators.

On June 14, the Portland Chapter will have a redress workshop organized by Chisao Hata, redress chair. Min Yasui and William Hohri will participate in the workshop, which will be followed by a Northwest Asian American Theatre production of "Breaking the Silence."

And in San Francisco, San Francisco Chapter president Cressey Nakagawa has brought together a representative city-wide dinner committee to plan the June 13 fundraising dinner at the Empress of China. The proceeds from the "Americans for Fairness" redress dinner will be used by the JACL-LEC for an educational campaign to gain positive support for H.R. 442 and S. 1053.

## Chapter Pulse

## Puyallup Valley

TACOMA, Wash.—Puyallup Valley Chapter's graduation banquet will be held June 15, 6 p.m., at the Sheraton Hotel, South 13th and Broadway Plaza. Dr. Carlton Opgaard, president of Tacoma Community College, will be guest speaker. Cost: \$15. Info: Tacoma—Dr. Charles Rich, 535-2454; Fife—Yosh Tanabe, 922-7045; Valley—Jeff Hiroo, 848-8970.

## Fresno A.L.L.

FRESNO, Calif.—The \$500 Nisei Mary C. Baker Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Karen Nishimura of McLand H.S. The scholarship committee was composed of Mae Morita, Helen Hasegawa and Setsu Hirasuna.

## Greater LA Singles

LOS ANGELES—The June 28 performance of "Rashomon" at East West Players, 1424 Santa Monica Blvd., will be a benefit

for Greater L.A. Singles Chapter. Show begins at 7:30 p.m. Puu puus (hors d'oeuvres) and champagne will be served after the show. Send check for \$15, payable to GLA Singles JACL, to Annabelle Lee, 15305 Berendo Ave., #19, Gardena, CA 90247 by June 20. Info: (213) 327-0099.

## Monterey Peninsula

MONTEREY, Calif.—The chapter's annual scholarship recipient will be presented at the June 25 board of directors meeting (location to be announced). Info: Ken Esaki, 394-2072, or Joan Ouye, 384-3633.

## Tri-Valley

SAN RAMON, Calif.—Masaki Nakazono and Brett Takemoto are the recipients of the 1986 Tri-Valley Chapter Scholarship.

Nakazono is a senior at California H.S. in San Ramon. He plans to enter University of the Pacific in the fall. Among his

scholastic honors are High Honor Roll, California Scholarship Federation (CSF) and Who's Who Among American High School Students. His activities include Music Council, California Connection Christian Club, marching band, and Bayonne Bridgemen Drum & Bugle Corps.

Takemoto is a senior at Granada H.S. in Livermore. He plans to attend UC Berkeley in the fall. He is a life member of CSF and belongs to Interact Club and Granada's cross country track team, tennis team and track team.

## Golden Gate

SAN FRANCISCO—Golden Gate Chapter holds its general meeting June 16, 7:30 p.m., at JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St. Meeting is open to the public. The chapter's participation in the National Convention will be discussed. Yosh Nakashima and Clifford Uyeda have been designated by the chapter board as official delegates to the 1986 National Council.

## NCWNP meeting

SAN FRANCISCO—The pre-convention No. Calif.-W. Nev.-Pacific District Council meeting will be held at JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., on June 29, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. San Francisco Chapter hosts. Meeting is open to the general membership.

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# A High Profile

## FROM THE FRYING PAN:

Bill Hosokawa



Since Japanese Americans are taking on increasingly important roles on the national scene, it is reasonable that they become more visible in Washington, D.C., where much of the action is. Witness:

May Mineta, wife of Congressman Norman Y. Mineta, was chairman (or should it be chairperson?) of the First Lady's Lunch-

eon, held each spring by wives of members of Congress for the president's wife. More than 1,400 women—women who are among the capital's movers and shakers, wives of cabinet members, jurists and members of Congress—and a tiny handful of men attended the event at the Shoreham Hotel. First Lady Nancy Reagan and Chairperson May Mineta greeted them in the receiving line.

Any function that large and that important is susceptible to all manner of snafus. My informants tell me Mrs. Mineta was coolly efficient and totally unflappable in putting together one of the capital's most important social events. Sundry friends and

relatives pitched in to make sure every last detail was correct.

Congressman Mineta also won notice when he was one of some 60 representatives profiled in the May issue of Washington Dossier magazine. Some of the information contained in the profile:

Mineta's hero is his father Kunisaku. He considers his greatest achievement being elected to the House of Representatives, and he lists workaholicism as a bad habit. Mineta's favorite movie is "Terms of Endearment" and his favorite TV show is "Cheers." Favorite vacation spot is Lake Tahoe and favorite snack is pizza. Favorite charities are the American Cancer Society, YMCA and the Japanese American Citizens League, photography is his hobby and he believes the nation's most urgent problem is a safe and sane foreign policy.

In the same Washington Dossier feature, Congressman Robert Kastenmeier, the Wisconsin Democrat, names Kaz Oshiki, his veteran administrative assistant, as his "most trusted aide."

The May 26 issue of Business Week magazine recognizes the work of Glen S. Fukushima as director of Japanese affairs for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. The article says Fukushima "tries to bring a special sensitivity to the frequent negotiations aimed at resolving simmering trade tensions between Washington and Tokyo." He is quoted as saying the Japanese took the U.S. market for granted and think Congress is crying wolf when it talks about protectionism. He also blames U.S. business for failing to develop a real understanding of "centuries of Japanese social and cultural practices."

Business Week reports Fuku-

shima traveled to Japan a dozen times this past year, each trip discussing 20 or 30 trade items with the Japanese. Next on Fukushima's agenda: "Pursue stalled talks on trade in semiconductors and monitor Nakasone's efforts to wean Japan away from its dependence on exports."

What a heavy responsibility is resting on the shoulders of this bilingual, 36-year-old, Harvard-educated Japanese American attorney, a former Fulbright Fellow in Japan.

□ □ □

Several weeks ago I erroneously identified Toyoko Yamasaki, author of the controversial *Futatsu no Sokoku*, as also author of *The Story of Yamada Waka*. The latter book was written by Tomoko Yamazaki. My apologies to both Mesdames Yamasaki and Yamazaki.

## BLACK-ASIAN

Continued from Front Page

the beating and had difficulty walking for several months.

Starks initially told police that he and his friends had acted in self-defense, saying that the Hmong—whom he alternately referred to as "Koreans," "Chinks" and "Chinese," initiated the violence by shooting metal balls from slingshots.

Starks' statement that "them rolling up on our corner got us mad" was cited by McKee as evidence that Starks and others wanted to "violate the rights of others."

A second man, Frederick Shakkor, 20, was acquitted Jan. 29 because jurors felt there was insufficient evidence that he was an active participant in the beating. Charges against another man, Richard Pierce, then 17, were dismissed because he was not sufficiently identified.

As a result of the attack, about 200 Hmong left West Philadelphia and the city's Commission on Human Relations held four public hearings on problems of Asian residents.

### Record Pulled

In late April, the commission issued a letter asking local radio stations not to play "The Discombolutorbubulator," a song by the local rap group M.C. Breeze, because it "may be offensive to Asians and further strain relations between Asians and non-Asians. If this song is aired, it could undermine all of our efforts to improve intergroup relations."

The song tells of an angry encounter in a Chinese takeout restaurant in which the rapper ultimately pulls a gun on a Chinese worker. The rapper twice uses the word "Chinks" and describes Chinese food as "chopped dog tongue." In one line, he asks, "When they kill the cats, what do

they do with the fur?"

The rapper, Joseph Ellis, 22, of West Philadelphia, said Apr. 29 that he "meant no harm" with the lyrics. "I was just giving my description of going into a Chinese place in my area, and people could relate to that," he said. "What happens in the store happens all the time—except for the gun part. That was just extravagant."

He acknowledged that "the 'Chink' stuff is kind of racist, and maybe I shouldn't have used it."

Before it was taken off the air in mid-April, the song became a local hit when it was played on WUSL-FM, hitting No. 1 on the station's "Top Nine at Nine" show. "There's a buzz about this song from here to New York and down to Florida," said program director Tony Quartarone. "We haven't played the song for two weeks, but we're still getting 50 requests a day."

But because the station has "a strong sense of trying to do what's

right for the whole community," he said, the song was pulled. "It was obviously insulting to Chinese people."

"I believe the Asian community would want someone in government to say something about this record," said Commission on Human Relations director Leah Gaskin White on May 1. "We are particularly sensitive to [the community's] needs and feelings now because of incidents they have experienced here recently, and that we have investigated."

Larry Eisenberg, manager of Sounds of Market record store, said the record sold 700 copies within six weeks of its release.

Mary Cousar, a Logan-area activist who has worked to improve Black-Asian relations, said, "It's a little scary that after all that has happened here, and with so much effort to educate people about the Asians and all, that this song could still be so popular."

—from reports by Philadelphia Inquirer

## ASIAN BRIDES

Continued from Page 3

nated through the network as well as through the Dept. of Defense, INS, the mail-order bride businesses, social work agencies and other organizations.

Contact persons: Northern California and Pacific Northwest—Evelyn Luluquisen in San Francisco, (415) 661-8717; Southern California—Maria Sanguin in San Diego, (619) 758-0397; Hawaii—Wayland Quintero in Honolulu, (808) 948-7348; Northeast—Mia Luluquisen in Arlington, Va., (703) 276-9023.

NNAPW is a non-profit educational corporation composed of 28 Asian Pacific women's organizations and about 3,000 individual members. Its other projects include development of an Asian American women's studies curriculum to be implemented by universities nationwide. The mailing address is P.O. Box 39180, Washington, D.C. 20016.

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## Nikkei take part in Japan conference

LOS ANGELES—The concept of the Pan American Nikkei Assn. (PANA) was well received at the 27th Overseas Japanese Assn. conference recently concluded in Tokyo, according to Luis Yamakawa, PANA co-founder and Latin American JACL president, who returned May 18 from his first visit to Japan.

As the majority of participants were second-generation residents of North and South America, Southeast Asia and Europe, both PANA and JACL were encouraged to attend the conferences, which have been promoting the cultural heritage and the welfare of "overseas Japanese." Until recently, most participants had been the pioneer Issei.

PANA president Carlos Kasuga represented the Japanese Mexican community. Also present were many Peruvian and Brazilian Sansei who are currently studying in Japan.

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- 11a: Alaska Cruise/Expo '86 ..... July 9-18
- 12: Canadian Rockies-EXPO 86 ..... (Sold Out)
- 12a: Canadian Rockies-EXPO 86 ..... (Sold Out)
- 12b: NEW—Festival in Japan ..... Aug 1-14
- 12d: NEW—Canadian Rockies-EXPO 86 ..... Sep 8-19
- 14a: NEW—Australia-New Zealand-Fiji ..... Sep 7-23
- 14b: NEW—Niagara Falls, Canada, N Eng'd ..... Sep 13-26
- 15: Hokkaido/Kyushu-Honshu Tour ..... Sept 26-Oct 18
- 16: Fall Foliage-2 Nations, Niagara Falls ..... (Sold Out)
- 16a: Japan Omote Tour ..... Oct 3-20
- 17: Japan Fall Foliage Tour ..... Oct 18-Nov 1
- 18: China Tour ..... Nov 1-13
- 19: South America Tour ..... Nov 8-22
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Tour A: Sapporo, Lake Toya, Noboribetsu, Shiraoi Aino Village, Chitose; Fukuoka, Beppu, Mt. Aso, Kumamoto, Matsushima, Shimabara, Unzen, Nagasaki, Hiroshima. Land tour: ¥250,000 (dbl occ) plus airfare. Tour escort: Bill Sakurai.
- Tour B: Hiroshima, Inland Sea, Kyoto, Takarazuka Excursion, Nara, Gifu, Nagoya, Shuzenji Spa, Atami, Hakone, Lake Kawaguchi, Mt. Fuji, Tokyo. Land tour: ¥199,000 (dbl occ). Tour escort: Bill Sakurai.

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Kyushu Extension: Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Beppu, Mt. Aso, Kumamoto, Amakusa, Unzen, Nagasaki, Fukuoka, Osaka, Tokyo. Land tour: ¥171,000 (dbl occ). Tour escort: Steve Yagi.

### Tohoku Fall Foliage ..... Oct 18-Nov 1

Visit Tokyo, Asamushi Spa, Lake Towada, Ohdate, Lake Tazawa, Tamagawa Spa, Hachimantai, Morioka, Hiraizumi, Sendai, Matsushima Excursion, Togata, Zao, Yamagata, Yonezawa, Izuka Spa, Bandai Plateau, Higashiyama Spa, Koriyama, Utsunomiya, Nikko, Tokyo. Land tour: ¥360,000 (dbl occ), plus airfare. Tour escort: Toy Kanegai.

### China Tour ..... 12 day Nov 1-13

Visit (via Narita) Shanghai, Nanjing, 3 days in Beijing, Great Wall excursion, 2 days in Guilin and cruise down River Li, Guangzhou, 2 nights in Hong Kong. Land tour: \$1,225 (dbl occ), \$1,030 RT airfare. Tour escort: Toy Kanegai.

TOUR/FLIGHT MEETING: Every third Sunday of the month from 1 p.m. at Felicia Mahood Recreation Hall, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd., West Los Angeles (west of the San Diego Freeway).



## PC-941 DISPUTE

Continued from Page 3

a working temperature.

Since PC found that offer unreasonable, both parties agreed to settle the matter in arbitration.

During the arbitration hearing, 941, represented by Jon Kaji, argued that (1) prior to the move, PC had knowledge that the air conditioning was not in operation; the move had been made with the knowledge that the plans had not been approved and were subject to final approval and inspection; and PC had been informed that the electricity had been granted on a temporary use permit only; and that (2) after PC moved in, 941 had used "due diligence" in attempting to complete the work and to speed up the process with the Dept. of Water and Power and therefore had lived up to their side of the lease agreement.

PC argued that 941 knew the critical nature of the temperature and dust-free environment with regard to the typesetting equipment and computers, and had misled Honda about the length of time required for the inspection and hookup of the 220-volt wiring. Said Honda, "Had there been no air conditioning hooked up, we never would have moved. We could have stayed at JACCC."

PC also argued that 941 did not act promptly to resolve the matter and that much of the contact with the inspectors involved was initiated by Honda.

Bridges, at the conclusion of the hearing, stated that the lease was the basis for the decision. As far as employees' grievances are concerned, he went on, "that's outside my jurisdiction." Those come under the category of per-

sonal rights and are not a matter of arbitration, he said.

Sakai found Bridges' Apr. 28 decision disappointing: "The arbitrator apparently agreed with the PC and gave us actual damages related to equipment—\$1,210.41—plus \$2,000 that we estimated for the approximately 100 hours Harry spent trying to resolve the mess.

"The arbitrator, however, did not allow anything for such intangible losses—47 sick days, estimated 33% loss of productivity, and suffering by staff during the

months of no air conditioning. Yet, he must have thought the place was rentable since he allowed 941 the full rent for the period in question. I think PC should have been allowed a portion of the claim for the loss of productivity and sickness. Anyone who is familiar with working in 90-100 degree heat knows that productivity goes down and that sickness goes up."

Jon Kaji of 941 said simply, "I informed the 941 group of the decision and they were satisfied with it."

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Nov 1

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Oct 18

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21days

Sep 29

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## Grand Europe

21days

Sep 14

Group dep fr London: London, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria, Italy, Monaco, France, London. 27 meals fr London Airport transfer; \$1,138 per/person/twin plus airfare fr hometown cities.

## Historic American Heritage

15days

Sept 24

Group departs from LAX; visit Niagara Falls, Vermont, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington D.C. & Williamsburg. 14 meals, \$1,549 p/person/twin plus airfare from hometown cities.

## New England/Canada Fall Foliage

7days

Oct. 6

Other departure dates available. Departs from N.Y. Tour scenic New England, Quebec, Montreal, historic towns of Vermont & Mass. with visits to Shelbourne, Bennington & Williamstown, Mass. 14 meals, \$699 p/per/twin plus air from hometown city.

## Niagara Falls &amp; Ontario

7days

Jul 10, Oct 3

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## BALLOTS

Continued from Front Page

Japanese—may also respond to the survey.

Charles Kim, executive director of Korean American Coalition, said that for immigrants with limited English ability, bilingual ballots are "the only way we can improve our consciousness in American politics."

"It is difficult enough for those persons who are born in Ameri-

ca, who are fluent in English, to read legal documents," said Chen. "It is very intimidating for the new immigrants."

No specific deadline has been set for returning the survey, according to coalition members, but a prompt response was urged.

Stewart Kwoh, executive director of Asian Pacific American Legal Center, discussed the work of the coalition, which includes JACL, KAC, and Chinese Political Action Committee.

"We have been launching a voter registration project... In

the past month and a half, we've already registered over 2,000 new voters... This was done at a couple of citizen swearing-in ceremonies, through many churches, through many community organizations, and also stores in Chinatown, Koreatown, Little Tokyo, and in the Filipino and Vietnamese communities."

Registration to vote in the November general election is open until the beginning of October, he noted.

The L.A. County registration rate among those eligible to vote is 60%, he said, "but even among the highest Asian ethnic group, the Japanese Americans, it is only 41 or 42%. So we have to get more people out to vote."

"The only way the politicians will listen to us... is to show how many Asian voters are turning out," said Chen.

"We don't care who they vote—Democrat or Republican, it's okay—as long as they vote," added Kim.

"I've only been in Eugene once since then, and I'm looking forward to noting all the changes that have taken place. It will be a very meaningful time for me," she said.

*Family and friends will hold a reception for Ando at the university following the graduation ceremonies. For more information, call Peggy Nagae at (503) 686-3852.*

## GRADUATE

Continued from Front Page

guarded, and the shades were drawn. I knew that hundreds of people I'd known from the Hood River Valley were on the train. I had no idea that I would ever see my family again. Unless you can experience something like that yourself, the intensity of the experience can never be conveyed."

Ando, who won a distinguished teacher award from the Teachers Award Foundation of Colorado in 1980, will attend this year's commencement as a guest of UO, with all expenses paid.

In addition, daughters Pamela and Alison and grandchildren Tom and Susan will join brothers Ray, Minoru and Homer at the ceremonies.

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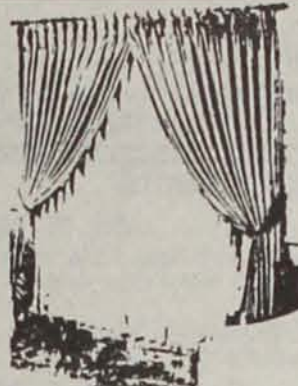
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