Davis professor wins Human Relations Award

DAVIS, Calif.—In an emotional ceremony May 28, Isao Fujimoto, a UC Davis professor and community studies, was awarded the city's first Human Relations Award. Fujimoto was honored by the city at the annual meeting of the Davis City Council and the Human Relations Commission. The award was given to individuals who work to improve human relations in Davis.

Fujimoto has served as consultant to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and numerous educational institutions, and was instrumental in establishing the Asian American studies program at UC Davis.

Davis professor wins Human Relations Award

N.Y. Mayor supports financial compensation

NEW YORK—Mayor Edward Koch, in a June 2 letter to LEC executive director Garry Uyehara, expressed support for redress bills H.R. 442 and S. 1003. "Living in a time of racial and fiscal austerity as we do today, allocating $1.5 billion...may seem extravagant," he wrote. "However, we must realize that an enormously grave injustice was committed." Koch went on to say that the wartime internment of Japanese Americans was "the result of long-standing racism against Asians, especially on the West Coast..." "To place a monetary figure on the loss of property, livelihood, education, indeed three years of one's life, is difficult to do. But to ask for compensation for individuals would only be appropriate symbolic restitution."

JACL Committee proposes alternative plan

LOS ANGELES—The JACL Endowment Committee, meeting June 9, decided not to endorse the JACL-LEC application for a grant of $300,000 (see May 28 PC), and offered instead a counterproposal for a loan of the same amount at $25,000 per quarter.

Endowment Committee chair Tomio Moriguchi said that "while fully cognizant of the fact that the National Council has full authority to decide on this matter, the committee felt it advisable to make a recommendation to the council."

Moriguchi said that according to the committee's recommendation, the loan would be made under the same terms as the present Endowment Fund loan to the National JACL Redress program, with payments due Sept. 1, 1989.

Implicit in the plan is a promise that if the ultimate purpose of the loan-redress is successful and that additional fund drive to increase the principal will be undertaken, said Moriguchi.

The current loan to JACL Redress was made with the understanding that National JACL would not encumber the JACL Headquarters building in San Francisco until the loan is repaid. The remaining balance on that loan, approximately $80,000, is due in September.

Present at the meeting were committee members Mike Mitona, Roy Nishikawa, George Kodama and Moriguchi. Mike Masaoka was unable to attend. National officers Ross O. In and Gene Takamine also attended. Pacific Southwest governor Ken Inouye, and LEC fund drive chair Harry Kajihara presented the LEC and National Board position.

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Fujimoto was honored by the city at the annual meeting of the City Council and the Human Relations Commission (HRCC), a group that was formed after the stabbing death of Thong Huynh of Davis High School.

Upon receiving the award, Fujimoto thanked the approximately 200 friends, students and family members gathered for the occasion. "No one person can do the job, so this award is not mine alone," he said. "I think it belongs to all of us who make this a better place to live."

He credited his parents, Ayako and Taichi Fujimoto of Morgan Hill, for guiding him toward a lifetime of community involvement as he recalled an automobile accident which took the lives of three of his 13 siblings. To aid the family, the community of Morgan Hill raised $4,000, which Fujimoto's father used to set up a scholarship fund for high school students whose schoolwork was threatened by family responsibilities.

"In the midst of his tremendous personal loss," Fujimoto said, "my father thought about the welfare of others. That reinforced in me the faith and the notion that everyone counts."

Fujimoto is national vice president of Rural America, a group that addresses problems facing rural people, and serves as an executive board member of American Friends Service Committee and the California Institute for Rural Studies.

Fujimoto has served as consultant to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and numerous educational institutions, and was instrumental in establishing the Asian American studies program at UC Davis.

Calif. Republican to co-sponsor bill

WASHINGTON—Rep. Eugene Chappie, a Republican representing California's 2nd District, which includes most of Sacramento Valley, has announced that he will co-sponsor redress bill H.R. 442.

He is the ninth co-sponsor to sign on since the Apr. 28 House subcommittee hearing on the bill. Chappie, who had been visited by members of Marysville JACL, informed Momoko Hatamaya, head of the lobbying team, of his decision.

Now serving his third term in the House, Chappie will retire at the close of the 99th Congress. He has spent 30 years in public service and has represented over half of California's 56 counties at one time or another in his career. A member of the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse & Control and the Agriculture and Merchant Marine & Fisheries committees, he is known as a fiscal conservative.

"The continuing build-up of redress co-sponsors is a testament to what hard work and diligence on a local level can produce," said Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.). "The JACL members who worked to secure these co-sponsors should be congratulated for their efforts. I am delighted to have these new co-sponsors and even more delighted to see the effort that has produced them."

LEC executive director Garry Uyehara said Mineta and Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) "are owed a debt of gratitude...for their personal commitment which has led to securing the support and momentum H.R. 442 has received on the Hill during this session of the 99th Congress.

They have taken the time from their House duties to answer the concerns of members on H.R. 442 and have sent 'Dear Colleagues' letters to seek support for the bill.'"

She also credited the lobbying of Philadelphia JACL and the help of the South New Jersey Regional Community Relations Council for the co-sponsorship of New Jersey Democrat James Florio (see June 13 PC).

 Owners to change salon's name

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—The owners of JASP, the hair salon whose name has been a source of controversy for nearly two years, have told National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (NCCR) that they are in the process of changing the name. For the past 18 months, NCCR and Marina JACL have engaged in a series of activities to have the name changed, including a petition campaign, letters and phone calls to the salon, and demonstrations outside the salon.

After hearing testimony on the issue in December, the City Council unanimously passed a resolution in April urging the owners to change the name.

On May 24, co-owner Shujikida told NCCR that ideas for a new name were being solicited and that a new logo would be designed in June. NCCR members have submitted a list of possible names.

Richard Katzsuda, co-chair of NCCR's anti-JASP campaign, commended the owners for "taking an affirmative action toward changing the name."

The name is a acronym made from the first initials of the five co-owners, two of whom are from Japan. Although they have maintained that the name was not intended as a slur, campaign co-chair Miles Hamada said, "No matter what the intention of the owners, the word JASP is considered derogatory and offensive to Japanese Americans and should not continue to be used."
LOS ANGELES—A workshop on "Making Cross-Cultural Marriages Work" will be held June 26, 10 a.m., at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., 2nd Floor. Panelists: Kay Ikeda, clinical psychologist; Sachiko Reece, RN, MPH; Yasuko Kawakuchi, MSW; Yuichi Motomatsu, LCSW, and Richard Naito, MS. Topics include concepts of marriage and parenting, verbal and non-verbal communication, role fulfillment and conflict resolution. Fee: $30 per couple, $50 per individual. Individual or couples counseling also available. Info: Yasuko Sakamoto, (213) 680-3789.


ALAMEDA, Calif.—The Alameda Buddhist Temple Vacationland Carnival and Razzle will be held June 30, 4 p.m., and June 28, 9-9 p.m., at 225 Pacific Ave. There will be Japanese food, game booths and a raffle drawing.

SALINAS/Poston
SALINAS, Calif.—Former Nikkei residents of Salinas and the Poston, Arizona Block 23 Reunion Committee are combining their reunion plans for an all-day gathering at Toro Park on Aug. 30. All former residents and their relatives are invited.

A delicious Japanese-style box lunch and a steak barbeque dinner will be served. Registration is $20 per person, and the deadline for registration is June 30.

Info: Harry Sakasegawa, 612 Batista Dr., Salinas, CA 93901; Helen Ahaira Kitajit, 460 Cabrillo Ave., Salinas, CA 93901; Fusako Myanagi Nakai, 61 Irving Ave., Salinas, CA 93975; Tamaan Shizui, 2811 N. Fourth St., P.O. Box 167, Alhambra, CA 90003; and Alice Matsushita Hirabayashi, 8511 Naylor Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90045; and Isam Nakamura, 1350 W. 31st St., Los Angeles, CA 90016.

Topaz Jr. High
OAKLAND, Calif.—The first reunion of Topaz Jr. High students (who would have graduated high school between 1946 and 1950) will be held over the Sept. 29 weekend at the Hyatt International Hotel near the airport. Those wishing to attend may write to: Topaz Jr. High Reunion, c/o Tomi Goyotko, 826 38th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121.

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SAN FRANCISCO—Japanese American Day with the S.F. Giants takes place July 5, 13:00 p.m., when the home team plays the St. Louis Cardinals. Lower reserved tickets are available for $6 each. Info: Steve Nakajo, executive director of Kinomi, Inc., 636-9325.

GARDENA, Calif.—The Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute, 19215 S. Gramercy Pl., holds its annual carnival featuring food, games and exhibits, on June 28, 10-5 p.m., & June 29, 14 p.m.

Reunions

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Wada: ‘Best and Worst of Times’

He was born in 1916 in the San Joaquin Valley. His father died when he was eight, leaving his mother to raise four children by herself. Wada remembers his mother as being very strong and never showing tenderness. However, the children never doubted her love for them, he said.

He grew up in the small town of Hanford, where the Japanese American community was close-knit during the Depression. His coming of age in the 30s was “the best and worst of times” for him. There were picnics, the moshitsukai, baseball teams, and bon odori. There was also the re-belligerence of the teenage years, Wada said, with watermelons, drinking mascate, and singing ariettes.

But there were deep wounds from prejudice and discrimination. Wada remembered moving the lawns around the community, which were not allowed to swim in them. When he tried to find housing at the start of his first day at UC Berkeley, he was turned away everywhere except at a Japanese rooming house.

After surviving an extremely painful and isolating first year at Berkeley, he was offered a position as a research assistant. He shared his room with other minority students at a dorm where he felt accepted. He was active in the student movement; when Japan invaded China, his group held pickets and he reminded his Japanese citizenship.

After graduation, he couldn’t find work and was forced to return to his hometown. When drafted into the Army, he was hoping for travel and a chance to escape the small town.

When his family was interned, he was able to get overseas duty. Wada and other Nisei in

Continued on Back Page

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NEW YORK — Internationally renowned filmmaker Christine Choy will receive the 1986 Steve Tatsukawa Memorial Fund Annual Award for her outstanding contributions to Asian American media arts at the gala opening night reception of the ninth Asian American International Film Festival June 27 at the Silver Palace, 50 Bowery.

Choy's films have received numerous awards. "Teach Our Children," which she co-produced and co-directed with Susan Rosben, won first prize at the 1974 International Black Film Festival. A 1976 documentary, "Death Penalty," was shown at the 1985 and 1986 New York Film Festivals, and "The Bobby Walters Orchestra" was screened at the 1985 and 1986 San Francisco International Film Festivals.

Choy was born in Myong-hae, South Korea, and attended University of Hawaii's School of Journalism. She earned a degree in Government before moving to New York City, where she became interested in film, photography, and political science.

Choy's film, "The Time Before," is a historical reconstruction of the Japanese internment camps during World War II. It has been shown at the 1985 and 1986 New York Film Festivals, and "The Bobby Walters Orchestra" was screened at the 1985 and 1986 San Francisco International Film Festivals.

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A Morning at Traffic Court

Bill Marutani

COUPLE MONTHS AGO, after having dinner with friends in the University of Pennsylvania area, I returned to the car in order to find a parking ticket on the windshield. When I had parked the auto at the same place during daylight hours, I checked the meter hour: I had missed the time by about half an hour. So technically, I was at fault.

It bothers me, however, that having failed to feed a quarter into the meter, under those circumstances I should have to pay a parking fine. When I am at fault, I pay the parking fine. A couple of years ago, when we had house guests from Japan, I had occasion to drive them to the convention. We then had to drive to the parking meter, it was a Saturday night, and there was no one in the vicinity. I returned to the automobile to pay the fine.

A similar request during the emergency is “a sudden, unexpected occurrence or an emergency.” What then, is an emergency?

Delegates should understand that Article XV Section 3 of the JACL Bylaws prevents the use of the principal of the Endowment Fund except upon an emergency determined by the written approval of three-fourths of the charted chapters (p.110, 1982 convention minutes, under JACL Constitution).

What then, is an emergency? According to Merriam’s dictionary, an emergency is “a sudden, generally unexpected occurrence or set of circumstances demanding immediate action.” Implicit in this definition are feelings of fear, anxiety, and a deep concern for the loss of property and liberty, and even apprehension regarding personal safety. Such were the conditions in 1941-42.

What did the original founders of the postwar Endowment Fund have in mind when they set up the “emergency” requirement in the early 1950s? I quote in part from JACL staffer Sam Ishikawa’s memorandum which is reproduced in the 1982 convention minutes:

1. “Any amount donated by a recipient of an emergency” as defined by JACL and apparently supported by the National Board, describes a financial problem arising out of an inability to meet personal needs.

2. As National JACL Treasurer (1950-56), I accompanied then President George Inagaki and staff member Isahkawa to the Bank of America to help draw up the original trust agreement for the Endowment Fund. Later, as National JACL president (1956-59) and chairman of the Committee on the Endowment Fund, I wrote thousands of solicitation letters on National JACL’s behalf, promising contributors the permanence, fidelity and integrity of the Endowment Fund. The nature of the Fund was also widely publicized in the press and at all JACL district meetings. Therefore, despite the urging of the NEC and the current National Board to endorse, support and approve the resolution, I cannot do so in good conscience because I would be breaking faith with the original donors—many of whom are now dead.

The May 23 Aging and Retirement Supplement of the Pacific Citizen was great.

I personally was delighted to see two of my former colleagues of the National Mental Health Team re-charging the Aging and Retirement Committee—namely, K. Patrick Okura, my faithful and devoted executive assistant during my eight years as director of NIMH, and Ford Kuramoto, who spent several years with us and then went on to become a community to provide comprehensive mental health services to the needy.

Both continued to serve their fellow men and women as competent professionals and humanistic volunteers. JACL is fortunate to have two such persons co-ordinating programs for the aging niche.

The Pacific Citizen is to be congratulated for its attention to the needs of a growing population.

BERTRAM S. BROWN
President, Hahnemann University
Philadelphia

Letters

A Worthwhile Effort

On behalf of Ford Kuramoto and myself, I wish to extend our appreciation and thanks to the editor and staff of Pacific Citizen for the Aging and Retirement Supplement of May 23.

We and our committee have been working for the past two bienniums with very little fanfare and less financial assistance from the National Board to bring about an awareness among our chapters of the need for a preventive program for the older Nikkei population.

We hope the supplement will arouse the interest and attention of our membership to the services our chapters can provide for the health and welfare of our older population.

For those attending the National Convention in Chicago, a truly worthwhile workshop is being planned.

Again, our sincere thanks to the Pacific Citizen staff for an outstanding supplement. See you in Chicago at the workshop.

K. PATRICK OKURA
Bethesda, Md.

Even though I approve of the principle of redress, which I have supported in many ways, I cannot take the position that “the end justifies the means” in the case of the 1988 Congress on Race Relations which I consider a breach of trust. The issue for me is the importance of redress that is given. This means that one meaning of redress is that it is the right of all people to receive fair and just treatment and to be compensated for any harm suffered as a result of discrimination.
A New Look at the South

FROM THE FRYING PAN:

Bill Hosokawa

What kind of image is created by the word Alabama? Until recently I had stereotypes of an Old South that included alligators and a plantation owner with a black bellboy. But recently I had stereotyped old men—Gov. George Wallace, Police Chief Bull Connor and his dogs, and the Selma march to Montgomery, catfish and red clay and a somber, least countryside.

Several recent visits to three cities in Alabama—Birmingham, Huntsville and Tuscaloosa—have changed that. The University of Alabama, founded in 1831 and with campuses in those three cities, is busy and expertly shaping a role for the state in the final years of the Twentieth Century.

Birmingham, no longer a sleepy steel mill town, is the site of a magnum’s Arms, a new center. Huntsville is leading the way into space with rocket power. Tuscaloosa, which among other things has a street named for Paul (Bear) Bryant, the football coach, also has something called the Capstone International Program Center.

Capstone has academic links with Korea, Japan, England, Germany, Mexico, the Philippines and Latin America, the Soviet Union, China and Central Europe. The emphasis is on Japan. Courses in the college of arts and sciences cover Japanese language, history, politics, philosophy, anthropology and economics. Many of these courses were developed recently through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Japan Victor Co. is building a plant in Tuscaloosa to make magnetic tape. That means jobs. The University of Alabama families will be moving to Tuscaloosa to administer the plant. Several dozen local citizens to be hired as supervisors are going to Japan next month for training. In preparation for this trip they have been taking intensive familiarization courses conducted by Capstone International.

Capstone is also readying a trip to Japan and a grant to their Alabama homes. Among the projects is a Saturday Japanese language school for the children with the University of Alabama providing space, directors and salaries for teachers who will be chosen from among Japanese exchange students.

At another level, the University is sponsoring an Alabama-Japan leadership program with a grant from the U.S.-Japan Foundation. A dozen Alabama opinion leaders—educators, newspaper publishers, a Black neurosurgeon, an attorney, oil and gas industry administrators, a real estate developer, a power company executive—have been chosen to make a two-week visit to Japan late this summer.

To prepare for their visit, a university administrator visited Japan last winter to set up a schedule of arrangements, briefings, and plant visits in order to give the Alabamians an understanding of what makes Japan tick, what opportunities remain untyped in an Alabama-Japan relationship. It is expected these leaders will have much to say to the press, to service clubs, to business associates when they return. A second tour is scheduled for next year.

Japan is on the move and Alabama is making impressive efforts to meet Japan halfway in developing investment opportunities, trade, tourism, cultural exchanges. None of this sounds like the benthed South. It's a new, enlightened South, and it has reacted to the reality of these times with a vigor that leaves many other sections of the country floundering.

Vital Links

Grass-roots lobbyists can help activate more support for Washington Gov. Booth Gardner's request for other governors to support H.R. 442 and S. 1093 (see June 6 PC) by contacting the governors of those states which have passed resolutions to support re-dress. In addition to Washington, three legislatures have passed resolutions of support in New York, Minnesota, New Jersey, California, Oregon and Wisconsin.

There is a good possibility that the number of Republican congressmen co-sponsoring H.R. 442 can be increased if we can get the support of Deukmejian of California, Kean of New Jersey, George Deukmejian of California and Vet A. Jeffreys of Oregon.

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Help From Districts

District governors, district and chapter redress coordinators are urged to begin the statewide lobbying to get the governors to take a position on the bills.

One of the results of the Apr. 28 subcommittee hearings was a June 4 meeting of leaders of human and civil rights organizations convened at the ACU office in Washington, D.C.

On the other hand, the West: America's Odyssey exhibit at the Natural History Museum in Washington, D.C., draws criticism from some who view the exhibit as an attempt to whitewash the history of the West.

The exhibit, which opened in October, includes photographs, films, and interactive computer programs. It has been praised by many for its accuracy and detail, but others have criticized it for its lack of balance.

Old Fashioned Western Fun in Northern Utah

Jim Bridger

One of Our First Mountain Men

Jim Bridger, one of America's first mountain men, lived during the 19th century. He was known for his skills as a scout and his knowledge of the Western wilderness.

Bridger is known for his contributions to the exploration of the American West. He was a guide for several expeditions, including one led by John C. Frémont in 1842.

Bridgerland: A Place to Explore

Utah's Janteine Juniper

The West: America's Odyssey

The exhibit features an interactive display that allows visitors to explore the history and culture of the West through a series of multimedia presentations.

There are also several hands-on activities, such as building a trading post and making a rope out of rawhide.

The exhibit is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and admission is free.

Visit the Great West Fair

The Great West Fair is a carnival with a Western theme that features amusement rides, food, and entertainment. The fair runs from Thursday through Sunday.

JACL recruitment topic of workshop

The Convention, the Leadership Development and Recruitment Committee will hold a workshop on "How to Recruit Younger Members to the JACL." The session will present materials from chapters that have successfully attracted younger people, distribution of resource materials on "tried and true" activities, brainstorming and sharing of experiences.

The session will be held July 20. Reservations must be made by July 1. The fee (to be determined) will include lunch and resource materials.
Minority Bar Assn. honors attorney

LOS ANGELES—Attorney Les­lie Furukawa was honored by the Minority Bar Assn. of Los Angeles at the organization’s installation and awards dinner on June 5 at Mirta Restaurant in Chinoatown.

In presenting the Presidential Service Award, past president Anthony Alexander said that it was being given to Furukawa be­cause he felt that her outstanding efforts on the organization’s behalf were needed to be recognized.

“It’s the first time that the award has been offered,” he said, “and hopefully there will be others in the future.”

Rose Ochi, representing Mayor Tom Bradley’s office, pre­sented Furukawa with a certificate com­memorating the occasion.

Kikkoman donates $10,000 to JACL

SAN FRANCISCO—Kikkoman International executive vice president and general manager Yoshihiro Nagayama presented a $10,000 check to JACL for gen­eral support on June 11.

Participating in the presenta­tion were Iwato “Matt” Matsumoto, Northwestern regional vice president for Kikkoman; Cressy Nakagawa, San Francisco JACL president; Ron Wakabayashi, JACL national director; and Steve Dot, also a JACL member.

Participants noted that a soy sauce container with the Kikk­oman label appears in a painting by Israeli artist Hisak Hibi show­ing life in the Topaz camp during World War II. Kikkoman made contributions through the American Red Cross for distribution in many of the camps. Kikkoman officials also provided medicine and clothing received from Japanese Americans during the war.

The JACL representatives ex­pressed their appreciation to Kikkoman and said that Nagaya­ma’s wish to provide long-term benefits for generations to come coincided with the goals of JACL.

Who’s Qualified to Help?

by Sue Kunisato Embrey

I am compelled to respond to the letters which have appeared in the Pacific Citizen and other ethnic papers these past few weeks, asking for assistance on the participa­tion of Go For Broke, Inc. in the development of the Japanese American exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution.

First of all, the questions: What criteria are these critics using to help plan this exhibit? What evidence do they have that Go For Broke or any other organization or National Director is qualified? Who are they to sit in judgment?

As chair of the Manzanar Com­mittee, a community-based edu­cational organization, I made contact with the Smithsonian when the first press release an­nounced the exhibit and called for artifacts and realia. In Feb­ruary, when the Smithsonian staff was in Los Angeles collect­ing materials, I met with them. They saw our large collection of historical photographs, viewed the films in our files, and took names of other individuals and books we recommended for their further research.

The staff and the veterans of Go For Broke in the Los Angeles area have been very sincere and diligent in their efforts to pursue diverse points of view and ex­periences of the Japanese American community which will en­hance the exhibit.

In our 17 years of existence, the Manzanar Committee has been involved in much research and collection of materials on Japanese American history. In the process, we have come to re­spect the community, which en­dured nightmarish adversity as a consequence of their wartime incarceration. We believe Japa­nese Americans are a resilient people whose story needs to be told.

By the same token, through jealousy, competition and pure “sour grapes” attitudes, we cast stones at each other and fan­cionalize our community. We are, after all, fellow human beings. If you have something to loan, or a story to tell (as all of us do), write to the Smithsonian. Give them an opportunity to look at and research the best and most diverse of our community. Write to Tom D. Crouch, Curator, Mechanical Engineering & Manu­facturing, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.

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Continued on Back Page
RELOCATION
Continued from Front Page
Mountain Legal Defense/Offense Committee, "because there's a shared understanding of what it means to be expelled from your land, from your home; for reasons of race."

Only the Nikkei members of Congress can "触动 to their own history...and make that emotional, dynamic argument that is necessary," said Gerwurz. Reps. Norman Mineta and Mike Honda both referred to their experiences as Nisei (both D-Calif.) as children during WW2.

He urged JAs in the audience to write to Mineta, Matsui, and Serra Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga (both D-Hawaii) to persuade them to "help us take the lead in this, and raise these issues in a way that will repeal this law."

Although Inouye voted for PL-93-31 when it was passed in 1974, Gerwurz expressed hope that the senator's position could be changed.

Ali Maehara, who was part of an NCCR delegation to Big Mountain in April, said that the pipeline was a 256-mile fence that kept them [Navajos] from their sacred land, their burial grounds, as well as their grazing lands. And sometimes the fence went right through somebody's property.

Although PL-93-31 was intended to resolve a land dispute between the two tribes, opponents charge that the dispute was fabricated by companies that want access to the coal- and uranium-rich land currently occupied by the Navajos, and by tribal councils that seek to profit by leasing out the land for mining.

These councils do not represent their respective tribes, said Maehara. We got to witness the Navajo and Hopi elders coming together and voting unanimously to allow a united front in opposition to Public Law 93-31."

What he saw at Big Mountain "contradicted everything that has come out of the major media so far," Maehara said.

Alan Nishio of Pacifica JACL, one of the program's co-sponsors, said JAs have a "responsibility to try to get the word out" about the Navajo relocation. The large number of people who attended the program is "a reflection of the interest in the community about this issue," he noted.

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Other speakers included Kevin Hayasega of NCRNC and Lenora Hill of the L.A. Big Mountain Support Group. Additional co-sponsors of the program were the D.C. JACL, the Lutheran Oriental Church, Visual Communications, Asian American Drug Abuse Program, Manzanar Committee, Asian Pacific Student Union, Little Tokyo People's Rights Organization, Latino Asian American Coalition, Comite de la Raza, Women of Color, and Eastwind Magazine.

The L.A. Big Mountain Support Group will have an information table at the MacArthur Park, Wilshire and Alameda, on July 6, 4-11 p.m. (213) 382-045s.

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After the war, Wada returned to San Francisco and went into social work. He said he feels Japanese Americans, who built railroads, toiled in fields and canneries, and have a rich culture, will continue to persevere. While he felt angry that non-Japanese whites were not fully recognized in this society, he hoped that the schools will serve as tools for greater justice and equality.

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SMITHSONIAN
Continued from Page 6
veterans, you do a disservice to our entire community. My personal contact with the 424th and 10th was in 1943-44, when soldier friends were recuperating in Army hospitals around the Chicago area. I was one of the first to receive a personal letter from Yaeko Munemori telling us that her brother, Sadaku, had been killed in action, and another telling of the Congressional Medal of Honor awarded to him posthumously. I believe memories of other friends killed in action are sad and long. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for us to tell our story to the American public. Damn it! Let's not botch it.