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Friday, Aug. 15, 1986

City Council, ACLU express opposition to English measure

LOS ANGELES—The City Council voted Aug. 5 to oppose Proposition 63, the initiative which would make English the official language of California if it is passed in November.

Introduced by Councilman Richard Alatorre and seconded by Councilman Mike Woo, the motion states that "Proposition 63 transports us back to the beginning of our struggle for civil rights: to the wretched times of overt discrimination." It passed by a 12-1 vote with Councilman Ernani Bernardi dissenting.

"It is already clearly understood by everyone that English is the common language of this state and nation," said Alatorre. "This proposition, therefore, is not only unnecessary, it is also counterproductive because it is inflammatory and divisive."

In a related development, the American Civil Liberties Union of So. Calif. announced its opposition to Proposition 63 on Aug. 2.

"We feel the 'English Only' initiative would create an atmosphere of intolerance and divisiveness in our state," said Gayle Binton, ACLU/SC executive director. "Although this proposal sounds relatively innocuous and symbolic, in reality it could be used to cut off such publicly funded programs as multilingual 911 emergency operators, health information pamphlets printed in languages other than English, and dozens of programs that deal with issues of health and safety affecting us all."

Figures released on Asian elderly

WASHINGTON—"Portrait of Older Minorities," recently published by American Assn. of Retired Persons (AARP) and its Minority Affairs program, gives a statistical look at health, marriage, income, educational attainment, living arrangements and marital status among the minority elderly.

The publication points out that in recent years, the elderly population of the U.S. has been growing faster among minorities than among whites, a trend that is expected to continue.

The following observations are made about Asian Pacific Americans:

—The AP elderly consist mainly of three groups: immigrants who arrived during the turn of the century, children born to these immigrants, and elderly immigrants, primarily from Southeast Asia, who entered the U.S. in the 1970s with their families.

—Between 1965-75, there was a four-fold increase in the number of AP elderly. About 221,500 (6%) of the AP population are 65 or older. Of those, about 15,000 (6.7%) are 85 or over.

—Unlike in the white and other ethnic minority populations, there are more elderly AP men than women. Among those aged 60-64, there are 84 men for every 100 women. The sex ratio



NIGHT TO REMEMBER—Author Bill Hosokawa with Philip Trezise, recipient of the 1986 Mike M. Masaoka Distinguished Public Service Award, at awards banquet held during JACL National Convention (story on page 7).

Signs in Korean spark backlash

PHILADELPHIA—Longtime residents of Olney, a predominantly white, middle-class neighborhood in north-central Philadelphia, have reacted strongly against the presence of bilingual street signs, reports the New York Times.

Olneyites met July 24 and voted 200 to 1 to force local Koreans, by legal means, to take down Korean street signs that had been put up all over the neighborhood

to supplement signs in English.

While they met, parties unknown took matters into their own hands and defaced or destroyed 25 of the signs. Most are still up but are mangled or spray-painted. Police have appealed for the community's cooperation in tracking down three young white men they believe responsible, and Olney's leaders have said they are upset by the vandalism.

"We wanted the signs down," said Eugene Mansdoerfer, board chair of Greater Olney Civic Assn., "but not like this."

Olney has become home to a growing concentration of Korean businesses and families, and many Koreans cannot yet read English. Koreans have established themselves across the metropolitan area both in successful businesses and as a tight-knit community. They have done it with what many Philadelphians

Congress passes bill intended to increase access to Japanese technical know-how

WASHINGTON—Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) praised his Senate colleagues Aug. 4 for approving his bill to increase access to Japanese technical information.

The legislation, which had been approved unanimously by the Senate the week before, is now awaiting the President's signature. The House passed the bill in May.

The bill encourages the translation of Japanese technical and scientific literature and increases the accessibility of such material to government agencies, the research community and the private sector.

"Some of the finest scientific and commercial research is presently being done in Japan, yet we have not trained enough translators with proficiency in the Japanese language and techni-

cal literature," said Mineta, who authored the bill.

"Failure to recognize the strides made by other nations and failure to assimilate the technological information they produce will be to our detriment."

Under the bill, the Dept. of Commerce would monitor Japanese scientific and technical developments, translate documents, coordinate existing government translation programs, and print an annual report and index of federal publications.

"We must no longer allow the language barrier to impede the flow of information of scientific and technical literature," said Mineta. "These materials will not only help us understand our competition, but also help us set new directions for our commercial and academic enterprises."

Chicago-area Republican persuaded to support House redress legislation

CHICAGO—Rep. John Porter (R-Ill.) became the 19th Republican co-sponsor of redress bill H.R. 442 on Aug. 5.

Porter represents the 10th District, which includes the upscale North Shore suburbs of Chicago—Wilmette, Winnetka, Glencoe, Highland Park and Lake Forest.

Now in his third term, he serves on the House Appropriations Committee and on its Foreign Operations, Legislative, and Labor-Health & Human Services subcommittees.

The grassroots lobbying effort involved many Chicago JACL members. Dr. Frank Sakamoto laid the foundation by asking his friends in the Glenview-Becker Road Home Improvement Club, his professional contacts, and the veterans' unit to which he belongs to write to Porter. Also involved in the letter-writing campaign

were Thomas Crowley, a former captain in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Dr. Victor Izui.

Follow-up work was done by Harvey and Mari Aki of Wilmette. Through Wilmette Congregational Church, the two are friends of Barrett Crawford, a member of Porter's campaign finance committee. After receiving background material from Chicago JACL redress chair Chiye Tomihiro, the couple discussed the bill with Crawford, who in turn met with Porter shortly before the congressman returned to Washington.

Despite Porter's previous objections to payments for former internees, Crawford persuaded him to support the bill. The proposed \$20,000 in individual compensation is "a slap in the face" compared to what the internees are owed, he told Porter.

Seattle school superintendent reneged on promise to hire Asian, coalition says

SEATTLE—A coalition of leaders from 19 Asian organizations met at an International District hotel July 30 to protest the hiring policies of new School Superintendent William Kendrick.

Leaders in the Asian community say that Kendrick reneged on a commitment to name an Asian to one of two top policy-making posts the superintendent recently filled. Frank Irigon, board president of Filipino Youth Activities, and Alan Sugiyama of the Asian Pacific Directors Coalition, said leaders are angry, disillusioned, and have lost confidence in the new superintendent.

Irigon said he believed Kendrick made a commitment to hire an Asian to a Cabinet-level district post when six Asian community leaders met privately with the superintendent.

Earlier in the month, Kendrick appointed Mona Bailey, who is Black, as assistant superintendent for school operations, and had

previously appointed Arthur Binnie as assistant superintendent for school support services and Donna Dunning as director of community relations; both are white. Sugiyama said there were Asian candidates for these jobs.

Kendrick said that he and the screening committees went with the best candidates, while Dunning told the coalition members that her boss had not completed changes in the cabinet structure he inherited from former Supt. Robert Nelson.

Coalition leaders say they believe Kendrick's top-level staff is now in place. Said Irigon, "We don't want him to create a position just to pacify us. We want a meaningful position." He added, "I'm ticked off that he said he'd hire [an Asian], and now he tries to placate us by hinting that he's not through hiring."

Sugiyama was concerned about representation. "When it comes

Continued on Page 8



Photo by J.K. Yamamoto

'NO MORE HIROSHIMAS'—Los Angeles City Councilman Mike Woo presents commendations to Luci Solomon (left) of Asian Pacific Americans for Nuclear Awareness and Kaz Suyeishi, a Hiroshima survivor and spokesperson for Committee of Atomic Bomb Survivors, during Aug. 9 commemoration of 41st anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. The annual anti-nuclear program included solidarity statements from such groups as Nuclear Freeze Campaign, the Great Peace March, and War Tax Resisters League. It concluded with candle-lighting ceremony using Hiroshima Peace Flame, followed by procession to City Hall and interfaith prayer service.

A Profile of Three Judges

by Clayton Fong

When George Deukmejian launched his first campaign for California's governorship, he explained that his decision to run was based in part on the fact that "attorney generals do not appoint judges, but governors do."

He also pointed out that because of his background and experience he was uniquely qualified to appoint the tough but fair judges that California needs—judges who are as concerned about the rights of the victims of crime as they are about the rights of the accused.

As he recently stated, he has had the opportunity to appoint "men and women of the highest integrity" to the bench, including three distinguished Japanese Americans.



• Cary Nishimoto, who was sworn in as a Municipal Court judge in Los Angeles on July 6, 1984, was the first American of Japanese ancestry to be appointed to the bench by Deukmejian.

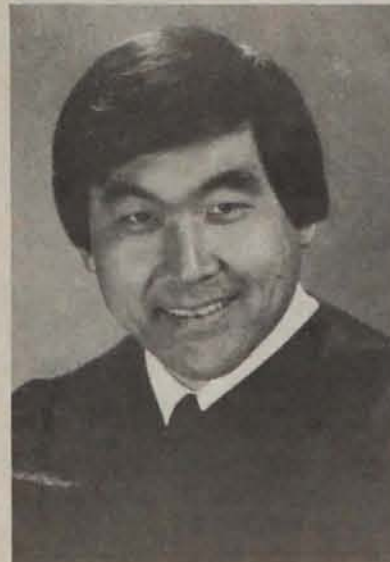
He initially was assigned to preside over criminal trials involving serious misdemeanors. However, eager to handle more complicated cases, he requested and received a coveted assignment to L.A.'s main criminal courthouse, where he currently handles felony preliminary hearings.

Nishimoto was born in 1945 in Cleveland, Ohio, where his family had moved following release from an Arizona internment camp. His parents, originally from Los Angeles, returned to California with their three children in 1952.

He graduated from UC Berkeley in 1967 with a B.A. in political science and received his juris doctor degree in 1970 from California Western University in San Diego.

He returned to Los Angeles to work with a private law firm, and in 1973 joined the Office of the L.A. City Attorney. He prosecuted criminal cases for two years and defended the city's Dept. of Water & Power in personal injury and property damage litigation until 1982, when he opened his own law office.

Nishimoto and his wife Linda live in West Los Angeles. They enjoy skiing and jogging.



• A Sansei whose grandparents immigrated to California in the early 1900s, Nathan Mihara was appointed by Deukmejian to Santa Clara Municipal Court in June 1985. He was initially assigned to a general misdemeanor jury trial department and now presides over a criminal arraignment and pretrial master department.

He was born in Japan in 1950 while his father was stationed with a U.S. Army Intelligence group in Tokyo. When his father retired from military service in 1964, Mihara and his family settled in Sunnyvale, Calif.

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Upon graduating as valedictorian from Mountain View High School, he was awarded a full scholarship to University of Washington, where he received a B.A. in economics. He received his juris doctor degree from Hastings College of Law in 1975.

The following year Mihara was admitted to the California State Bar and began a general family and business law practice. Shortly thereafter, he accepted a position with the State Attorney General's Office as a deputy attorney general. He worked in the criminal law division, prosecuting cases in both the trial and appellate courts.

He and his wife Suzanne reside in Sunnyvale with their 3-year-old son Jonathan. Mihara's interests include classical music, 18th century naval history, and sports.



• Fumiko Hachiya Wasserman was appointed by the governor in February 1986 as a municipal court judge for the Los Angeles Judicial District and currently works in the misdemeanor trials

department.

A native of Southern California, she received her undergraduate degree in anthropology from UCLA, and upon graduation taught elementary school in Torrance. After the birth of her eldest son, she enrolled in Loyola Law School. She received her juris doctor degree in 1978.

Her legal background includes having been a judicial clerk to Judge Terry Hatter, Jr.; an associate for the Los Angeles law firm of Adams, Duque & Hazeltine; an L.A. deputy city attorney; and most recently, an assistant U.S. attorney for California's Central District.

She has been honored by numerous civic and community organizations, including Japanese American Optimist Club, YWCA, and the L.A. County Board of Education. She has served as president of the Torrance Unified School District Board of Trustees and the South Bay School Trustees & Administrators Assn.

She is married to Ronald Wasserman, who also is an attorney. They reside in Torrance with their sons Gavin, 13, and Steven, 9. She enjoys music and tennis as well as scouting and Little League activities.

Fong is a representative of Deukmejian's Office of Community Relations.

Reunions

Canal High School

FRESNO, Calif.—A reunion for the classes of 1943 through 1948 at Canal High School in the Gila, Ariz., camp is planned for May 2-3 next year.

Tom Nagata and James Yamamoto are co-chairs. Members of the class of 1948 are asked to contact Mary Urushima (Yamamoto) at 6320 E. Montecito, Fresno, CA 93727.

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consider amazing speed, and they are widely credited with trying to do it by cooperating with everyone around them.

But when the signs went up, white Olney residents said they were angry because, although the city government had approved the signs, neither the government nor Korean community leaders had consulted neighborhood leaders first.

In recent days, Black families looking for homes in two other Philadelphia neighborhoods were subject to incidents of intimidation. In the wake of the vandalism, Olneyites feared they were being lumped as bigots with intimidators in other areas.

When another neighborhood meeting was convened July 31, Mary Anderson, a neighborhood

leader who ran the meeting, urged everyone to extend courtesy to every speaker to show the city that Olneyites are "polite, courteous people."

"Many of you—most of you, all of you—are appalled that the signs were defaced," she said, adding with some force, "We are not a lawless people in Olney, nor are we a stupid people." Nor, she said, was this "a racial, prejudicial thing."

Capt. Carl Bittenbender of the 35th Police Division said the record of comity between Koreans and other Olneyites has been good. "I have yet to get a complaint," he said. But he added, outside the meeting hall, that a man like Mansdoerfer "eats, sleeps and drinks Olney, and it's a matter of pride that it's Olney, not Koreatown."

One speaker said the Koreans who arranged to have the signs put up "were outsiders" to the neighborhood and "didn't even

talk to the Koreans in the community."

A priest disagreed with the claims that race was not involved. "I think there are some people here who are prejudiced," he said. The audience stirred restlessly.

A city official commented, "If there is underlying racial tension here, they'll never say so. We've fought three wars against Asians. It doesn't go away easily."

One speaker got a big hand for his forceful defense of English as "the first language of the United States of America."

Dissenting Voice

But when Natalie Lavant got up to speak, there was no applause at all. She had cast the lone dissenting vote in the previous week's decision to remove the signs. "There's always one," said a woman in the crowd. "Oh, sit down," said another.

Explaining that she had always enjoyed exploring new cultures, Lavant defended "the right of the Korean people to find their way to shops."

"Oh, knock it off," came the cry.

"I just want people to know that yours is not a unanimous point of view," she went on. "There are those of us who are not born in foreign countries who do not share your point of view."

'Not Touching All Bases'

Anderson reported that the Korean leadership had not yet agreed to remove the signs but would present the question to the Korean community at large.

Jin H. Yu, a Korean leader who has won widespread respect for his efforts to build bridges between the two communities, said after the meeting, "We don't want the signs up there the way they are." He acknowledged that the Koreans "had made a mistake in not touching all the bases."

In Korea, he explained, "You don't have to go to the community to put signs up. You go to the government. I think we learned something from this experience. Hopefully, we can work together."

"The signs will come down," emphasized Anderson. "Legally,"

Pageant honors astronaut, writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.—The 1986 queen was chosen, astronaut Ellison Onizuka was honored, and the winner of the American Japanese National Literary Award was named at the Miss Nikkei California Pageant on July 26 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

The crown went to Amanda Watase, 20, of Torrance. A communications major at USC, she was sponsored by that school's Gamma Epsilon Omega fraternity.

Also named by the nine-member panel of judges were:

First runner up—Sandra Posey of Carson, sponsored by Lambda Phi Epsilon fraternity of UCLA; second runner up—Bobbi Fujiwara of Manhattan Beach, sponsored by Chi Alpha Delta sorority of UCLA; third runner up—Kimberly Hiura of Los Altos, sponsored by Sequoia JACL; fourth runner up—Haruko Kinoshita of Fountain Valley, sponsored by Lambda Theta Delta fraternity of UC Irvine.

Accepting the Fred Ishimoto Outstanding American Award on behalf of her late husband was Lorna Onizuka, accompanied by her daughter Darien. The posthumous award was presented by Richard Coliver, vice president and general operations manager of Mazda, the pageant's

sponsor. Astronaut Gary Payton paid tribute to his colleague.

Presenting scrolls and plaques of recognition to Mrs. Onizuka were Secretary of State March Fong Eu, L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich, Clayton Fong on behalf of Gov. George Deukmejian, and Michael Davis on behalf of Assemblywoman Maxine Waters.

The American Japanese National Literary Award, which includes a \$1,000 prize, was given to David Mas Masumoto of Del Rey for his short story "Western Temple."

In giving the background of the story, Masumoto said, "Today in many small Buddhist communities, the temple is all that is left. We had a reunion where 300 to 400 of the old residents came back for a visit. It made me think of the changing community, age, tradition, and culture. I was thinking of the dynamic of change."

The annual award was established by author James Clavell.

Emcees of the pageant, which featured dancing, singing and a fashion show, were Joey Miyashima, Helen Funai and Mari Ataki.

—from a report by Rafu Shimpō

Role of Go For Broke in Smithsonian's Japanese American exhibit discussed

SAN FRANCISCO—The National Japanese American Historical Society/Go For Broke met with over 30 concerned individuals and representatives of Bay Area community groups Aug. 3 to discuss the Smithsonian Institution exhibit on Japanese Americans.

The exhibit, which will celebrate the bicentennial of the Constitution by featuring the Japanese American story as its centerpiece, is scheduled to open with official ceremonies on Oct. 1, 1987.

The purpose of the meeting, said NJAHS executive director Tom Kawaguchi, was to provide information about NJAHS' functions and to discuss its role in the planning of the exhibit.

Because NJAHS is perceived as a veterans' organization, a major concern raised by some of those who attended was whether the exhibit would have a disproportionate focus on the military exploits of the Nisei soldiers in relation to the broader historical perspectives and implications of the WW2 internment.

NJAHS representatives responded that the organization has greatly expanded its functions to record and preserve the entire tri-generational experience of Japanese Americans throughout the country. Its current exhibit and artifact collection reflects this, they said, ranging from rare glass photos of the early Issei immigrants to more recent items. Many of these items will be on loan to the Smithsonian.

It was also pointed out that the Smithsonian selected NJAHS as the principal community organization to assist in the planning of the exhibit.

NJAHS board member Clifford Uyeda said that concerns about the focus of the exhibit were shared by some members of the board. He agreed that the exhibit should present an accurate and honest portrayal of the total JA experience.

The NJAHS representatives said these and other concerns expressed at the meeting would be communicated to the Smithsonian staff.

Oral history of JA farmer published

SANTA CRUZ, Calif.—UC Santa Cruz has published *Hiroshi Shikuma: Strawberry-Growing in the Pajaro Valley* as the most recent volume in a series of oral history interviews conducted and edited by regional historian Randall Jarrell for the UCSC Regional History Project.

The volume is divided into two parts. In the first, Shikuma describes family life in the Japanese American community in the Pajaro Valley during the first decades of the 20th century. In the second, he discusses the growth and development of strawberries as an important specialty

crop in the valley's agriculture.

"The Japanese Americans are the ethnic group singularly identified with this crop specialty in California," said Jarrell. "They have made major contributions in marketing, cultivation and horticultural practices in the strawberry industry during the past 75 years. And the Shikuma family has played a leading role in agricultural experimentation and evolution in the industry since the turn of the century."

Shikuma begins his narration with reminiscences of his father Unosuke, who came to California

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Karate Kid III



Pete Hironaka 8/15/86

The Man with the Voice

ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER

Bob Shimabukuro



Any regular reader of this column probably knows of my aversion to awards banquets and testimonials, but I must admit that I was taken in by the festivities at the recent convention (see articles on pages 6 and 7).

The Kickoff Banquet had its share of historical/emotional drama in Mary Tsukamoto's and Tom Shimasaki's acceptance speeches, and in the tributes paid to the Woodwards and their subsequent tribute to Paul Ohtaki; while the Mike Masaoka Banquet too had its moments in Bill Hosokawa's and Philip Trezise's tributes to Mike Masaoka and in Shig Wakamatsu's accounting of the meeting with publisher Howard Cady; and the Sayonara Banquet had a very star-studded line-up, led by a gracious Lorna Onizuka and Rep. Jim Wright of Texas, who handled a very serious topic with a precious personal delicacy and humor.

While not trying to belittle the importance of the aforementioned, however, I would like to pay tribute to one person who to me was overlooked, one who kept everyone alert and attentive throughout the final evening, toastmaster Gene Honda. From his very first words, you knew he was definitely in charge. Nobody was going to sleep on this guy.

In his deep, resonant voice, he introduced speaker after speaker as if they were all-stars being introduced to a large crowd; when he came out with, "Ladies and gentlemen, from the 13th district of California, the honorable Norman Mineta!" I halfway expected to see the Congressman come

running out of the locker room to take his bows before 50,000 cheering fans.

But it's no wonder. I found out from Bill Yoshino and Jane Kaihatsu that he was until very recently the Chicago White Sox announcer. I'm not sure how Mineta and Matsui felt about the intros but I would have been thrilled. After all, isn't it everybody's goal to be introduced like that? I would have been able to hit the winning home run in the bottom of the ninth with two out in the seventh game of the World Series after an intro like that... Well, maybe—if I ever got that far.

The closest I ever got was attempting a tag on a runner at home, which would have been the final out, preserving a 12-11 (or was it 16-15?) win to give Yano Store its first victory in Manoa League some 30 years ago. The runner, about twice my size, bowled me over, as I tripped over my oversize catcher's equipment and very unheroically dropped the ball... If only Gene had introduced me as the smallest, toughest catcher in the league. Who knows what might have happened?

Sometimes I wonder whether in stereotyping ourselves we unnecessarily separate ourselves from other groups. With all the statements at the workshops emphasizing the difference between Western and Asian values, two that I found particularly bothersome were: 1) that Asians love to work, and 2) that Asians love the family structure.

Bob's quiz of the week: Can anyone tell me of an ethnic group that *doesn't* want to work and *doesn't* like the family? Also the converse, aren't there any Asians (besides me) who hate work, and hate families? I eagerly await the avalanche of replies.

One last comment about the banquets: the food still leaves a lot to be desired.

EAST WIND

Bill Marutani



A FEW ISSUES ago (Apr. 11), this column had occasion to write about the plight and testimony of Ernest Kinzo Wakayama, a U.S. WWI veteran who, in 1942, was summarily hauled, incarcerated and then hustled off to Japan. Now 91 years of age and residing in Fukuoka, Japan, he continues his struggle to vindicate his honor as the American that he is.

In the twilight of his years, he valiantly continues to seek an accounting from the government he so honorably served in the First World War. As we wrote, in his efforts he has written to the President as well as to Ambassador Mike Mansfield in Tokyo.

But, to date, the accounting has not been made.

KINZO ERNEST WAKAYAMA'S plight first came to my attention when he came all the way from Fukuoka to present his testimony before the Commission on

Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians during the hearings in San Francisco at Golden Gate University. I don't know whether he was the oldest person to testify before the Commission; if not, he surely must have been among the older of the witnesses who reviewed the injustices and indignities inflicted upon them in 1942—injustices which continue in that they have been thus far ignored without accounting.

As time inexorably passes.

UPON MY RETURN from the National JACL Convention in Chicago, there awaited a bit of news that gave me a slight ray of hope. His son George, a Vietnam veteran who is seeking to assist in this struggle to vindicate the honor of his father, wrote to me.

Included in the correspondence from the son was a photo of his father proudly standing before the Stars 'n Stripes that he served, holding a certificate in his hand attesting that the colors were those that flew over the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

The occasion: his 91st birthday.

MEMBER OF CONGRESS, the Honorable Norman Y. Mineta of the 13th District of California, was instrumental in effecting this

thoughtful and moving tribute to this gentleman who had served his country even before the Congressman was born. The elder Wakayama sent along a copy of the congratulatory birthday message that the Congressman had directed to the forcibly expatriated veteran. As an American, I was touched. And I know the elder Wakayama, and his son and family, must have been deeply touched by this fine gesture.

One cannot help but pause to think that none of this would have occurred but for the fact that we have Nikkei members of Congress in Washington.

GREAT AS THIS moving gesture was and is, there is yet an accounting to be rendered by our government, to Mr. Wakayama and to the 120,000 other victims who were forced to endure indignities based upon racial ancestry. There is an accounting to be made to vindicate the basic elements of fairness as proclaimed in our founding documents—the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the Amendments. An accounting to restore the dignity and greatness to which our country is proudly entitled. An accounting which will speak to future generations, those who are to follow.

The elder Wakayama, now past 90 years, desperately seeks such an accounting—before it's too late.

Letters

Faulty Documentation

I write this letter because Professor Peter T. Suzuki branded me as a "wartime informer" in his letter to the PC (Aug. 1).

Soon after the document in question was declassified in 1979, Frank Chin wrote me that he was writing a book on JACL's "betrayal" of Japanese America and that he would like to use the document in his book. I told him to check and double-check the sources, for I might take legal action against the publisher.

It is a matter of public record that I was an outspoken activist exposing subversive activities of the pro-Japan extremists in Manzanar.

However, the Naval Intelligence document Suzuki refers to deals with detailed personal histories of members of the pro-Japan gang in Manzanar. Under no circumstances could I be the author of this document, since I had never associated with any members of the gang.

I presume that Naval Intelligence had its own undercover agents planted within the gang to compile such data. They used my name to conceal the true source of information. Intelligence organizations are known to engage in such subterfuge.

This document is poorly written, to say the least. Many Japanese names are misspelled and its content is ambiguous at some points. I believe it is a fabrication

put together by Naval Intelligence with the aid of people unfamiliar with Japanese Americans or the Manzanar camp for the purpose of concealing the true source of information.

I have never met in person with any of the people mentioned in the list, although some are familiar names. As for lesser known figures mentioned in the document, I did not even know their names, let alone their personal background.

However, I don't repudiate the main theme of the document. The individuals named are guilty as stated. I just wanted to keep the record straight on the source of the information.

Maj. Karl Gould [who is identified in the document as having taken a statement from Oda] came to Manzanar to recruit us and might have been on hand to welcome us when we reached MIS headquarters at Camp Savage. I have never met him since—not even once.

To supply the information provided in the document, one has to have spent a whole day. I met Maj. Gould in a casual manner about 20 minutes. There was no secretary present taking down notes. So it was a complete surprise to me that this document came out of the meeting.

I don't believe in informing because the accused has no chance to defend himself. Throughout my career I was victimized by informers.

If anyone is interested in getting to the bottom of this episode, he should seek out any survivors mentioned in the report and find out who the real culprit was.

Now some words about Professor Suzuki. He implies that we were informing on numerous law-abiding, innocent Manzanar citizens. That was not the case here, I believe. If he is in fact defending organizers of the bloody pro-Japan riot, he should come out openly and say so. Then the readers get a clearer picture of what is at stake.

The late Koji Ariyoshi did an outstanding job as a member of the Dixie Mission in Yenan, China. Today America and China are on friendly terms, but America wasted 20 years because she did not listen to Ariyoshi and company.

As for Karl Yoneda, I don't want to speak for him. He is a different breed. But he served well in the Burma jungle during the war. Let's give him credit where credit is due. I ask Suzuki, what have you done for America?

JAMES ODA

North Hollywood, Calif.

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\$50 from: Tetsuo Michi Iwasaki, Flora Morita, Peter Raith.

Thank You!



Photo by Bob Shimabukuro

HAIL TO THE CHIEFS — Attending the Past Presidents' Luncheon at the JACL National Convention in Chicago were (seated, from left) Jerry Enomoto (1966-70), Shig Wakamatsu (1958-60), and Henry Tanaka (1972-74); (standing, from left) Frank Sato (1984-86), Clifford Uyeda (1978-80), Jim Tsujimura (1980-82), and K. Patrick Okura (1962-64).

Stamping Out Slurs

FROM THE
FRYING PAN

Bill
Hosokawa



Society in general, and the press in particular, have become more sensitive about racial and ethnic slurs. One rarely sees or hears blatantly offensive epithets. What remains is largely the result of ignorance as to what is offensive and is to be regarded more in sorrow than anger. The term "Jap" falls in this category.

Thus it is reassuring that the U.S. House of Representatives, by voice vote usually reserved for issues on which there is little or no opposition, adopted a resolution calling for the use of "Jpn." rather than "Jap" as an abbreviation for Japan or Japanese.

Various arms of JACL at various times have campaigned to eliminate "Jap," which once appeared regularly in newspaper headlines. It now shows up rarely, but often enough to require vigi-

lance. Interestingly enough, a Seattle Kibei, Ken Nakano, was the prime mover in the latest campaign, working through his congressman, Mike Lowry.

Congressman Norman Mineta, co-sponsor of the resolution, put the issue in perspective when he said: "Our motivation in bringing this resolution to the floor is simple. We seek to wipe out once and for all the use of a deeply offensive racial epithet often applied to Japanese nationals and indeed to Americans of Japanese descent."

"I know that some individuals continue to use this racial epithet because they do not understand how offensive the term is. Unfortunately, the use of the abbreviation 'Jap.' reinforces the use of that term and implies that it is an acceptable usage. . . . It is that usage we seek to influence with today's action."

What makes "Jap" so offensive is that it was a term of hate and derision employed malevolently in the long history of what we called—I think it was by Roger Daniels—California's war against Japan and the Japanese. It is more than simply a useful, natural abbreviation, like "Swede" or "Turk," as some believe. But not

everyone knows this, including many kindly people of good will, and that's a very good reason for working to discourage the term.

All of us have been guilty at some time or another of using a slur out of ignorance, for as in the case of "Jap," what may be acceptable to some is offensive to others. Here are some examples:

"Paddy wagon" for patrol car is acceptable slang in most of the country but sure to provoke angry calls to the editor if it appears in Boston newspapers. Why? Because it derives from a time when drunken Irish immigrants (another stereotype) were hauled off to jail for breaching the peace.

Recently a Denver newspaper headlined a feature story about fast-food hamburgers, "The glory that was grease," an obvious take-off on "The glory that was Greece." An American of Greek ancestry told me he was deeply offended, having been teased and jeered in boyhood as a "greasy Greek."

A story making the rounds recently asks the name of the Mexican telephone company. The answer: "Taco Bell." Funny to some, offensive to others.

Those who would educate their fellow Americans about the offensiveness of one term affecting them have an obligation to respect the sensitivities of others.

FARMER

Continued from Page 3

from Japan in 1902. Shikuma conveys the texture of everyday life in the Watsonville JA community, recalling details of housing, food preparation, education, religion, and childhood responsibilities in a farming family. He includes memories of his father's participation in the Christian church and of the discrimination faced by Japanese Americans prior to WW2.

In the second part, Shikuma describes strawberry cultivation carried out during the 1920s and 1930s. He traces his father's advancement from farm laborer to sharecropper to independent grower and contributions to the founding of Naturipe Berry Growers, which continues as one of the leading marketing firms in the strawberry industry today.

Shikuma emphasizes the complexity of the industry in contemporary times, discussing the need for high capital investment, the sophistication and expertise required of the grower, the intricacies of timing involved in successfully marketing berries, and the changing labor situation in the valley.

Bound, indexed and illustrated copies of the oral history can be purchased from the Regional History Project at cost (\$35 plus postage) for research collections. The volume is available on a non-circulating basis in Special Collections at McHenry Library, UCSC; in Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley; and at Watsonville Public Library.

Info: Regional History Project, McHenry Library, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA 95064; (408) 429-2847.



Photo by Bob Shimabukuro

VICTORIOUS SMILE—Harry Kaji-hara shortly after being notified that he had won the presidential race at the JACL National Convention.

Waning Weeks in Washington

An interesting phenomenon takes place in Washington during the dog days of August. Members of Congress are attempting to beat the clock before they leave Washington for their three-week summer recess starting on Aug. 16. During the hot, sultry days, some eight months into the second session of the 99th Congress, much legislative business is packed into the waning weeks.

I note the calendar has been hectic for the past two weeks. Calls are not being returned and appointments are canceled and rescheduled, followed by another cancellation because of floor votes and caucus meetings. I consider myself fortunate that last Thursday the scheduled meeting with Chairman Peter Rodino of the House Judiciary Committee was not canceled.

The chairman and his general counsel met with co-chairs of the Task Force on Redress of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. The other co-chairs who attended were David Brody, director of the Anti-Defamation League of Washington, and Wade Henderson, associate director of the Washington ACLU. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit the chairman's support to move the bill to mark-up. Mr. Rodino said the Task Force needs to check the support votes on the Judiciary Committee so that the bill will be approved. It will set back the redress effort if the bill is defeated in the committee.

Following this meeting, I had a rescheduled meeting with Congressmen Bob Matsui and Norman Mineta, who have had extremely busy weeks since the JACL convention. Also present were their aides, Marc Hershman and Glenn Roberts. Unfortunately, due to a floor vote this meeting was delayed, Matsui was scheduled to meet with the JACL Leadership Conference delegates, and Mineta was called back to the House within 10 minutes. We did agree that the most important tasks for all JACL members who are working on redress are:

(1) Contact any member of the House Judiciary Committee, particularly the co-sponsors, to request their commitment to vote for H.R. 442 by protecting the

basic thrust of the bill and voting against any amendment that strikes out individual payment.

(2) Use all personal connections to increase co-sponsorship on the Judiciary Committee—we must have insurance votes.

(3) Keep up the general effort to get additional co-sponsors by stepping up the letter-writing campaign.

(4) Discuss the bills with candidates who are running for congressional office in order to educate them and get their support on this issue while they are on the campaign trail. Here, I would suggest that you make sure not to put the candidate in an irretrievable position at a public town meeting where the audience could very well be hostile to redress. Some legislators prefer to make a commitment to vote for the bill but will not co-sponsor.

LEC UPDATE

Grayce
Uyehara



In some instances, this decision is a better choice for a member who has a difficult constituency.

In making an honest assessment of where we are at this time, with Congress scheduled to adjourn on Oct. 3, I would have to say we have made notable gains of co-sponsors where our effort has been concentrated.

But what we've accomplished is not enough, and more gains could have been made if our people had been willing to devote some time each week, an hour

or two, to write letters or to call friends and ask for their help in writing letters to the legislators. We have repeatedly said that members of Congress respond only to their constituents, and to those who contribute to their campaigns.

To assist you in responding to this final push, we have listed the 35 members of the House Judiciary Committee. An asterisk identifies the co-sponsors of H.R. 442; the 10 members of the Subcommittee on Administrative Law & Governmental Relations are in italics. Write your letter today and don't forget to send us copies of the replies.

Majority Members (D)

Howard Berman, Calif.*
Jack Brooks, Texas
Frederick Boucher, Va.*
John Bryant, Texas
John Conyers, Jr., Mich.*
George Crockett, Jr., Mich.*
Don Edwards, Calif.*
Edward Feighan, Ohio*
Barney Frank, Mass.*

Dan Glickman, Kan. (subcommittee chair)

William Hughes, N.J.*
Robert Kastenmeier, Wis.*
Romano Mazzoli, Ky.
Bruce Morrison, Conn.*
Peter Rodino, N.J. (committee chair)*
Patricia Schroeder, Colo.*
Charles Schumer, N.Y.*
John Seiberling, Ohio
Lawrence Smith, Fla.*
Harley Staggers, Jr., W.Va.*
Mike Synar, Okla.

(Total majority co-sponsors: 15)

Minority Members (R)

Hank Brown, Colo.
Howard Coble, N.C.
William Dannemeyer, Calif.
Michael DeWine, Ohio
Hamilton Fish, Jr., N.Y. (ranking minority member on committee)*
George Gekas, Pa.*
Henry Hyde, Ill.*
Thomas Kindness, Ohio (ranking minority member on subcommittee)
Daniel Lungren, Calif.
Bill McCollum, Fla.
Carlos Moorhead, Calif.
F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Wis.
E. Clay Shaw, Jr., Fla.
Patrick Swindall, Ga.

(Total minority co-sponsors: 3)

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SALARY RANGE: \$25,000 - 30,000 (based on background and experience)

POSTING: Position opening July 21, 1986 until filled. Posting will remain open a minimum of 30 days.

APPLICATION: Send resume and cover letter to:

Ron Wakabayashi
National Director
Japanese American Citizens League
1765 Sutter Street
San Francisco, California 94115

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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 writing 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 at time of hire.

SALARY RANGE: \$18,000 - \$22,000 (Depending on background and experience)

Position will remain open a minimum of 30 days.

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

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
JACL NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS,
1765 SUTTER STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94115.
INFORMATION: CONTACT: (415) 921-5225

Daniels kicks off convention

by Robert Shimabukuro
and Christina Adachi

Roger Daniels, author and professor of history at University of Cincinnati, deplored the rise of the "new nativism" and warned that there may be hard times ahead for the new immigrants in his keynote address at the JACL convention's Kickoff Banquet.

Following traumatic events since passage of the 1965 Immigration Act and the Civil Rights Act, he said, there has been a "growing hysteria over our borders and the growing numbers of undocumented workers." Fears over the influx of "boat people" and "feet people" together with misperceptions of "unfair" foreign competition and fears of "overpopulation" in this country have heightened anti-immigrant feeling, he said.

The new nativism, Daniels said, has acquired supporters all along the political spectrum, including old nativists, trade unionists, Blacks, and environmentalists.

He predicted that within the next 2-3 years, a more restrictive immigration bill will be passed, creating a "whole lot of different tensions" than exist now. He cited a change in family unification preferences as one aspect of the immigration bill which could cause a lot of friction.

What these nativists fail to acknowledge, Daniels said, "is that the immigrants are con-

tributing a large part to the development of the country, much as their predecessors did." When middle class European Americans fled the cities for the suburbs or the sun belt, he said, immigrants improved the economic health of the city.

As an example of immigrant contributions, Daniels pointed out that Chinese Americans were responsible for revitalizing New York City's garment district and improving the educational standards of that city's public school system.

Tsukamoto, Woodward Honored
Daniels' address followed emotional awards presentations to JACLer of the Biennium Mary Tsukamoto of Florin Chapter and Edison Uno Civil Rights Award winners Walt and Mildred Woodward, former publishers of the Bainbridge Review.

Tsukamoto, in her acceptance speech, paid tribute to her Issei parents, her family and the "many people who gave us the roots and wings to fly."

In particular, she cited her Elk Grove High School teacher Mabel Barron, who trained her to be an orator and taught her the importance of her heritage, and the

Sansei and Yonsei who founded the Jan Ken Po Gakko in Sacramento.

The Woodwards, who continued to speak out against the relocation of Japanese Americans despite threats and loss of advertising revenue and subscriptions, recounted an anecdote about a Nisei high school student who was working for the Review at the time of the evacuation orders.

"When the men came with their bayonets," recalled Walt Woodward, "we told him, 'As of now, you are a reporter. You send news back from Manzanar; deaths, births, marriages, baseball scores, the volunteer fire department, and we will carry it once a week to let the rest of us know that we have some neighbors who aren't with us but are coming back.'"

The correspondent, Paul Ohtaki, was then introduced by Woodward, but declined to speak, later revealing that he did not wish to draw any attention to himself; he wanted the focus to remain on the Woodwards.

In a later interview, Ohtaki, now a business forms broker in San Francisco, praised the courage of the Woodwards' actions and remembered one meeting where 300 angry people suggested that the Japanese Americans and the Woodwards be sent to a Pacific island.

Ohtaki urged JACL chapters to contact their local PBS stations to request that "Visible Target,"



Photo by Miki Himeno

JACLer of the Biennium Mary Tsukamoto chats with LEC legislative strategy chair Grant Ujifusa after National Convention awards banquet.

a John de Graaf/Chris Anderson and KCTS (Seattle) production about the Woodwards and the Bainbridge Island JA community, be aired in their areas.

Other awards presented that night were the George Inagaki Chapter of the Biennium Awards

to the Portland chapter (first place) and the Seattle chapter (runner-up); a Ruby Pin Award to Tom Shimasaki of Lindsay, California; and the Ruby Yoshino Schaar Playwright Award to Akemi Kikumura for her play "Gambling Den."

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Wright: U.S. can rectify errors

by Robert Shimabukuro

Rep. Jim Wright (D-Texas) and Lorna Onizuka shared the spotlight with the new JACL officers and Chevron-sponsored speech contest winners at the Sayonara Banquet/Ball that ended the 1986 JACL Convention.

Wright, after a flattering introduction by Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), presented a brief but effective summary of transgressions by the U.S. government and corrective measures it has taken in attempting to promote the idea of equality.

"Little by little," he said, "painful step by step, over a trail of tears and denials, occasional malice, we've come a long way" toward realizing what Abraham Lincoln called this country—"a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

Wright reminded the gathering that as a result of constitutional compromises, slaves were

counted as only 3/5 of a person for census purposes; that "Indians were uprooted and moved repeatedly, each time given a solemn promise by the government of the U.S. that they would be living in perpetuity on the lands that they then were being given—only some years later to have those lands removed from them"; and that treatment of Asians has not always been "perfect." As examples of the latter point, he cited a Supreme Court ruling of about 100 years ago that it was all right to exclude people of the Mongolian race from this country; the 1924 Oriental Exclusion Act; and the 1942 internment.

But, he continued, this country can admit errors. "We are not, have not, lived up to the promise," but have tried to rectify errors, he said, citing the 13th and 14th constitutional amendments and the repeal of the Alien and Sedition Acts as examples.

When Reps. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) and Mineta asked him to

introduce the bill to establish the commission to investigate the wartime relocation, he said he was "was more than anxious to do it" because it gave him an opportunity to fulfill a promise he had made 40 years ago to try to rectify the injustice of the internment.

JA of the Biennium

Lorna Onizuka received astronaut Ellison Onizuka's JA of the Biennium Award from Lily Okura, chair of the Awards Committee. Okura said that throughout his life, the late astronaut had "projected to a national audience the positive image of an outstanding American citizen... and in doing so, has helped all Amer-

icans gain a better understanding of Americans of Japanese ancestry."

In accepting the award for her husband, Onizuka thanked JACL and called on Japanese Americans to be proud of the spirit and accomplishments of Issei and Nisei. "He [Ellison Onizuka] believed that his accomplishments were a culmination of many great achievements of the past."

Matsui installed the new JACL officers, and Hideki Hamamoto of the National Leadership Task Force and Dick McGrath of Chevron presented the Speech & Forensic Contest awards.

1000 Club Roll

(Year of Membership Shown)
 * Century; ** Corporate; L Life; M Memorial; C/L Century Life
 Summary (Since Jan 1, 1986)
 Active (previous total) 1,657
 Total this report: #30 11
 Current total 1,668
 JULY 28-AUG 1, 1986 (11)
 Alameda: 19-Shigeo Futagaki.
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 Greater Los Angeles Singles: 6-Taeko Kalli.
 Marina: 1-Sophie F Namba.
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FOND FAREWELL—Among those attending Sayonara Ball at JACL National Convention were (from left) national director Ron Wakabayashi, Doris and Rep. Robert Matsui, and Midwest regional director Bill Yoshino.

JACL honors diplomat, editor

by Christina Adachi

Over 300 people filled the Hyatt Regency Ballroom to honor Ambassador Philip Trezise, winner of the 1986 Mike M. Masaoka Distinguished Public Service Award, and Howard S. Cady, the William Morrow editor who published the first Japanese American Research Project (JARP) book, *Nisei: The Quiet Americans* by Bill Hosokawa.

Due to ill health and the recent death of his daughter, Masaoka was unable to present his award and asked his biographer, writer-journalist-editor Hosokawa, to present the award for him.

Hosokawa related the history of the award, which Masaoka started after a testimonial dinner in his honor at the 1970 Chicago Convention netted \$10,000. The award, which includes a \$1,000 check, honors an individual or organization, other than Japanese American, who has promoted understanding and cooperative relations between the U.S. and Japan.

Trezise, in accepting the award, began with a tribute to Masaoka. He said that knowing Masaoka, and reflecting on the kind of man he is and the contributions he has made, reminded him how much a single individual can mean in the course of history. "Few men can be said to have had so long, so pervasive, so consistent an influence for good in our society. That is why I consider myself to be so richly honored tonight."

Trezise, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institute, served as Minister of Economic Affairs at

the American Embassy in Tokyo from 1957-61. He is considered by some to be one of the major architects of Japan's development as an international economic force. He is a former president of the Japan America Society in Washington, D.C. and is presently a trustee.

Shig Wakamatsu, JARP national chair, presented a special award to Howard Cady. Wakamatsu recounted JACL's association with Cady, which goes back to 1968. "At that time, we hoped for a major publishing house for *Nisei*, but did not know if anyone besides university presses would look at it. Howard Cady did. He was an invaluable friend and advocate of Japanese Americans seeking to tell their story to the public, and persuaded his colleagues that the book needed to be published as a matter of historical record."

He went on to say that the book was both a critical and economic success, enabling JARP to publish further works.

In accepting his award, Cady said he had never been honored in this way before and was very touched. Quoting Ernest Hemingway, he said that after reading a good book, "You should feel that all that happened, happened to you." Cady added that he felt that way after first reading the manuscript of *Nisei*.

He also mentioned that Hosokawa's biography of Masaoka is scheduled for release next spring.

Cady retired as vice president and senior editor of William Morrow and Company earlier this year.

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AGING

Continued from Front Page

either the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area or in Illinois and Texas.

—As in the white population, the majority of AP men aged 65 and over are married, while the majority of women are widowed.

Living Arrangements

—Of all AP elderly, 96% live outside of institutions, in the community, and only 19% live alone; whereas 94% of white elderly live in the community and 30% live by themselves.

—The proportion of AP elderly living in nursing homes (2%) is also lower than that of whites (5%). This difference is more pronounced among the oldest age group (85 and over), with 10% of APs in nursing homes, compared to 23% of whites.

Education

—Recent AP immigrants include more well-educated professionals than any other immigrant group. Even so, more AP elderly lack formal education than whites (13% versus 1.6%).

—Of all minority elderly, APs have the greatest proportion of high school graduates (26%), yet this is still less than white elderly (41%).

Employment/Income

—A greater number of older APs remain in the labor force than any other racial or ethnic group—approximately 16% of those 65 and over. The proportions are even higher for men only: 21% of those 65 and over and 11.5% of those 75 and over report themselves as either employed or seeking employment.

These figures may relate to the high number of self-employed APs (about 25%), many as farmers or in small businesses. Among those seeking work, 8% of APs are unemployed, as opposed to 5% of whites.

—Median income for elderly APs (65 or over) is less than that of white men in the same age group: \$5,551 versus \$7,408. The

comparable figures for women are \$3,476 for APs and \$3,894 for whites.

Poverty Status

—The proportion of AP elderly living in or near poverty closely compares to that of the white population; overall, 14% of AP elderly and 13% of white elderly live below the poverty level.

—In rural areas, slightly fewer AP elderly live at or near the poverty level than whites (26% versus 27%).

—Of rural women 75 and over, 37% of APs and 21% of whites live in or near poverty.

Health

—Certain types of cancers, hypertension, and tuberculosis are major health concerns of AP elderly.

—Relatively little data exists on the use of health services by AP elderly, but a few studies have documented significant factors. For example, AP elderly are less likely to use formal health care services, such as those reimbursed under Medicare. Cultural and language dif-

ferences, reliance on folk medicine and distrust of Western medicine may be factors.

The AARP Minority Affairs program, which has also compiled information on the Black, Hispanic and Native American elderly, was created to improve the well-being of the nation's older minorities. In particular, it seeks improved living conditions, better job opportunities, greater participation in public and private programs and agencies, and increased awareness of the status of minority elderly.

With more than 22 million members, AARP is the nation's largest organization of Americans aged 50 or over. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the non-profit, non-partisan organization offers membership benefits, legislative representation at the federal and state levels, and educational and community service programs.

Copies of the brochure may be ordered free of charge from: AARP Fulfillment, Portrait of Older Minorities, P.O. Box 2400, Long Beach, CA 90801-2400; or Portrait of Older Minorities, Minority Affairs Initiative, American Assn. of Retired Persons, 1909 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20049.

Kakishiba runs for School Board

BERKELEY, Calif.—The Berkeley Citizens Action (BCA) coalition, at its July 27 convention, nominated David Kakishiba as one of its three candidates for this year's School Board election.

Kakishiba, a member of the Berkeley Police Review Commission and executive director of the Berkeley Asian Youth Center, is the BCA's first Asian American candidate for the School Board. Also nominated were Howard Traylor and Allen Graubard.

"My concerns and focus will be on developing more parent and teacher input at the school site level and improving the overall academic achievement of Third World students," said Kakishiba.

"Decisive leadership must be exercised by the School Board to involve and empower Third World parents, rank and file teachers, community organizations and students. Together we will make a change in November."

Kakishiba is involved in Berkeley Unified School District's Drug Abuse Prevention Program Advisory Committee, Bilingual District Advisory Committee, and School Attendance Review Board. He is a member of Berkeley Asian Task Force, East Bay Asian Pacific Democratic Club, East Bay Japanese for Action, and BCA's steering committee. He has also been a coordinator for Services to Asian American Youth in Los Angeles.

SUPERINTENDENT

Continued from Front Page

to planning policy, there's no Asian input, but Asians represent about 20 percent of the district's enrollment, and it is a growing population."

The coalition presented Kendrick with eight demands, including:

•The appointment of at least one Asian to a post comparable to assistant superintendent.

•Equitable representation of Asians at all levels of the district's staff.

•The hiring of at least two Asians at the director level and as middle school principals.

•Study of and corrective action for lower scores on achievement tests for Asian students.

•The involvement of the Asian community in the selection process in Kendrick's administrative reorganization.

Kendrick, who has been on the job 2½ months, said that he has not had enough time to give definite responses to the concerns, but added that he is trying to set up a meeting with representatives of the coalition.

—from reports by the Seattle Times

New Blue Shield plan offered

SAN FRANCISCO—JACL-Blue Shield of California Group Health Plan will now enroll people who are 65 years old or over as new subscribers effective Oct. 1, announced John Yasumoto, chairman of the plan.

There is no change for current subscribers who are 65 or over and were in the plan prior to reaching this age.

Applicants must: (1) be current JACL members; and (2) have both Medicare A and B coverage (a copy of Medicare card must be provided). Pre-existing conditions will be covered six months after the effective date. Coverage will be effective the first of the month following receipt of the

completed application.

Info: JACL-Blue Shield Health Plan, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco 94115; (415) 931-6633.

Chapter Pulse

Contra Costa

SAN PABLO, Calif.—Contra Costa JACL presents an East Bay Asian Cultural Fair on Aug. 17, 2-7 p.m., at Maple Hall (Church Lane and San Pablo Ave.). Highlights include Japanese fan and sword dance, San Francisco Taiko Dojo, Filipino dance, and performance on the *zheng* (26-string koto) by Madame Yan Zhang of Shanghai.



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