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Friday, Aug. 29, 1986

Asian-oriented Public Affairs Show Canceled

by J.K. Yamamoto

OAKLAND, Calif.—Despite protests from community organizations, the long-running public affairs program "Asians Now" will be off the air after its Sept. 13 broadcast.

Citing consistently poor ratings, the new management of KTVU-TV (Ch. 2) is axing "On the Square," "All the People," "Assignment Two," and the Spanish-language "Aqui y Ahora" (Here and Now) as well as "Asians Now" in an effort to improve its ratings. Taking the place of the canceled shows will be "The Noon Show," a weekday news and public affairs hour, and a revamped version of "On the Square" to be aired on Saturday mornings.

Although the new "On the Square" will not be considered a minority show, said Serena Chen, host of "Asians Now," it will "incorporate some of the things I cover in 'Asians Now.'" Chen has not indicated, however, whether she will continue to work at the station.

Meeting With Manager

At a meeting with KTVU vice president and general manager Kevin O'Brien on Aug. 11, Asian and Hispanic groups "expressed how important these programs have been," said Robin Wu of Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA). "They'll be sorely missed programs."

Among those who attended the meeting were CAA executive director Henry Der and Diana Campoamor of Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund (MALDEF).

"Asians Now," a Saturday

Continued on page 8



Photo by Abe Ferrer/Visual Communications

The Sozenji Taiko troupe was just one of many participants in the Aug. 10 Nisei Week Parade in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo. Grand marshal was Frank Kuwahara, past president of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, and parade marshal was actor Gedde Watanabe.

Shimizu Captures Utah GOP Primary

SALT LAKE CITY — County Commissioner M. Tom Shimizu, member of the Mt. Olympus JACL chapter, defeated Douglas Bischoff by a 24 percent margin in the Aug. 19 Republican primary for the 2nd Congressional District in Utah.

According to final tabulations for the election — which claimed the lowest voter turnout in 25 years — Shimizu captured 17,203 votes, or 62 percent, to Bischoff's 10,665 votes, or 38 percent. Only 13.4 percent of the registered voters participated in the election, despite the retirement of Republican incumbent David Monson.

Close Race Predicted

Shimizu, 53, now faces Democratic challenger Wayne Owens, 49, in the Nov. 4 general election. And, if the same poll that predicted Shimizu's victory in the primary runs true, it will be a close race.

That poll, sponsored by the Salt Lake Tribune and conducted just before the primary by Bardsley and Haslacher Inc., gave Shimizu 54 percent of the vote and Bischoff 31 percent for the August election. The undecided margin was 15 percent. The Tribune poll also shows 47 percent of the voters planning to vote for or leaning toward Shimizu, and 44 percent for Owens in the November race. Only nine percent of those polled were undecided.

Name Recognition

Reasons for the projected closeness in the upcoming election include the good name recognition both candidates have.

Shimizu has served for five years as one of Salt Lake County's three commissioners and was re-elected twice.

Owens has had high visibility in the district and state because



M. Tom Shimizu

of strong, but losing, campaigns for the U.S. Senate in 1974 and the Utah governorship in 1984. He was one of two state representatives to the U.S. House in 1972-74.

H.R. 442 Co-Sponsor

Levine: U.S. Should Pay JA Internees

by Harry Honda

LOS ANGELES—Rep. Mel Levine (D-Calif.) declared his support for redress bill H.R. 442 on Aug. 24 in an address before the Pacific Southwest JACL District Council at its summer quarterly session at Sawtelle Gakuen.

Levine, introduced by Torrance City Councilman George Nakano, stressed that "There is no question in my mind about the appropriateness of monetary compensation to Americans of Japanese ancestry [who were interned during WW2]."

"The government of the United States was responsible for the catastrophic damages," he continued, "and the government therefore has a legal and moral responsibility to compensate the internees for those losses."

State Reparations

The congressman, who is a co-sponsor of H.R. 442, also noted that when he was in the state Legislature, he co-authored a 1982 bill which authorized reparations of \$5,000 to Japanese American state employees who were dismissed or who resigned during the war because of their ethnicity.

But, Levine said, "Desirable and appropriate as is the intent of H.R. 442, Americans of Japanese ancestry can and will never be adequately redressed for their loss and suffering."

Executive Order 9066 was signed on Feb. 19, 1942, giving the Secretary of War and military commanders "the power to exclude any and all persons, citizens and aliens, from designated areas in order to provide security against sabotage, espionage and

Continued on next page

L.A. Committee Approves Name Change; Debate Still Unresolved

by J.K. Yamamoto

LOS ANGELES—A proposal to rename Weller Street in Little Tokyo to honor astronaut Ellison Onizuka was approved Aug. 26 by the City Council's Public Works Committee and will soon be voted on by the full council.

The proposed name change, intended to honor the Japanese American astronaut who died in the Jan. 28 explosion of the space shuttle Challenger, has become a source of controversy because of objections by Weller Street merchants, who feel they would be unfairly burdened with the cost of changing the address in

their advertisements, stationery, and other printed matter.

'Divided Community'

"It's unfortunate that it [the name change] has divided the community in this way," said Gloria Uchida of the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) during an Aug. 26 public hearing held by the committee. She announced that both CRA and the Little Tokyo Business Assn. would remain neutral in the matter and expressed hope that a compromise could be reached.

Col. Young Oak Kim, a veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and a board member of Japanese American National Museum, noted that the issue has received nationwide news coverage. The committee's recommendation and the council's vote, he said, "will reflect to a large degree how the city feels about a national hero."

Compromise Sought

Councilman Gilbert Lindsay, who chairs the committee and



Photo by J.K. Yamamoto

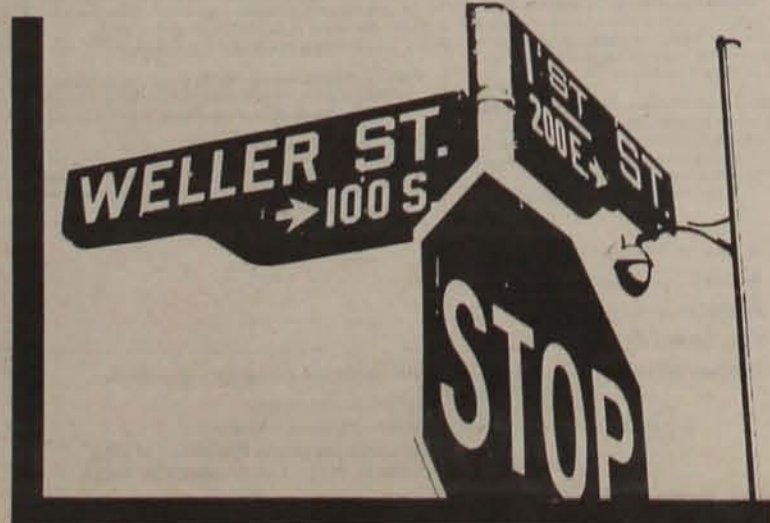
Japanese merchants on Weller Street may be overshadowed by City Hall.

represents the Little Tokyo area, made a proposal that he thought would be acceptable to both sides. Rather than rename the street, he suggested, "build a beautiful monument any place the community wants it." The merchants could make a "sizable

contribution" to the effort, he added.

Kango Kunitsugu of Kango Kunitsugu & Associates said that he favored both a name change and a statue.

Continued on page 8





Robert, left, and Carol Koshi, co-chairs of the Friends of Ellison S. Onizuka Committee, present checks totaling \$5,000 to, from left, Frank Fujimoto, Kona Museum Onizuka Memorial, \$1,500; Bruce Kaji, Japanese American National Museum, \$500; Matt Matsuoka, Astronaut Ellison S. Onizuka Memorial, \$1,500; and Claude Onizuka, Konawaena High School Scholarship Fund, \$1,500. The memorial donations were presented Aug. 15 during a fundraising dinner sponsored by Friends of Ellison S. Onizuka at Gung Hay restaurant in Gardena, Calif.

LEVINE

Continued from page 1

fifth column activities," Levine noted. But in actuality, "shortly thereafter all American citizens of Japanese descent were prohibited from living, working or traveling on the West Coast of the United States," he said.

He also cited "bitter ironies in

the wake of E.O. 9066," including a newspaper photograph of a little Japanese boy on a train headed for an internment camp in 1942. The boy was leaning out the window, waving an American flag. "And in an attempt to 'Americanize' the already American children in the camps," Levine added, "they [the children] had to salute the flag

and sing, 'My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty.' In this context, these words ring hollow and exceedingly cruel."

In closing, Levine urged JACLers to become politically involved, "for with that involvement comes power."

"Don't forget that being excluded from the American political process left Americans of Japanese ancestry virtually defenseless against the horrible discriminatory actions of WW2," he said.

No. 2,404

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PSWDC Quarterly Update

In addition to hearing the address by Rep. Mel Levine, the Pacific Southwest District Council conducted regular business at its quarterly session, hosted by West Los Angeles JACL.

As this was the first meeting since the National Convention in Chicago, PSW Governor Ken Inouye went over conference highlights, including the election of PSW members Harry Kajihara (President), Mary Nishimoto (VP for 1,000 Club, Membership & Services) and Ruth Mizobe (Youth Representative) to national office.

In addition:
 • Jonathan Kaji of Gardena Valley and Doug Urata of Riverside related their experiences at the Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference in early August. Bill Kaneko of Marina Chapter was the third participant from PSW.

• Guest speaker Linda Wong of Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund (MALDEF) spoke against Proposition 63, which would establish and enforce English as the state's official language. PSWDC, to supplement a similar resolution passed by the JACL National Council, voted to contribute \$1,000 to the Californians United Committee Against Proposition 63.

• San Diego JACL's resolution against Proposition 64, which would quarantine all AIDS victims, also won PSWDC approval.

• Sandi Kawasaki of Pan Asian Chapter announced that plans are under way to conduct the next Tri-District Conference at the Los Angeles Airport Hyatt from May 1-3, 1987. Kawasaki, Nishimoto and Cathy Higashioka are co-chairing the biennial event.

• Gardena Valley JACL will host the Nov. 16 district meeting (site to be announced).

—Harry Honda

State Bill Aids Victims of Hate Crimes

SACRAMENTO—Atty. General John Van de Kamp announced July 10 the passage of legislation that will provide victims of hate crimes or unlawful discrimination with attorney's fees, increases in damages, and expanded relief.

SB 1961, authored by State Sen. Diane Watson (D-Los Angeles), amends the Ralph Civil Rights Act as recommended by the Attorney General's Commission on Racial, Ethnic, Religious & Minority Violence in its final report. The commission was created by Van de Kamp in May 1984 to conduct a two-year investigation of violence based on discrimination against minorities.

"I am delighted by the prompt

response of the Legislature and Gov. [George] Deukmejian to the commission's recommendations," said Van de Kamp. "This new law fills an important need: to provide additional civil relief to victims of hate violence in cases where criminal remedies are unavailable or inappropriate."

In its report, the commission noted that the Ralph Act currently does not provide for attorney's fees and that the maximum civil penalties allowed barely cover the cost of difficult, time-consuming civil rights litigation. Commissioners recommended inclusion of a standard attorney's fees clause to encourage use of the act and ensure that victims re-

ceive fair awards in successful actions.

The bill modifies the Ralph Act by providing (1) attorney's fees for plaintiffs in successful actions under the act, (2) triple the amount of damages awarded, plus fines of up to \$10,000 against those found guilty of hate violence or discrimination; and (3) expeditious and inexpensive administrative remedies through the state Dept. of Fair Employment & Housing.

The legislation goes into effect in January.

For more information, contact Marty Mercado, director of Van de Kamp's Office of Community & Consumer Affairs, at (916) 324-7859.

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Books from Pacific Citizen

As of JUNE 1, 1985

Some books listed previously are out of stock at the PC.

RECENT ARRIVALS

The Lost Years: 1942-1946. Edited by Sue Kunitomi Embrey. Features "Why It Happened Here" by Roger Daniels (1967), a historian's view of the Evacuation after 25 years . . . Pictures, poems and pieces of camp life . . . Selected bibliography.
 \$5.00 ppd, softcover.

Little Tokyo: 100 Years in Pictures. By Ichiro Murase. A medley of images of Little Tokyo's past.
160 pp.
 \$21.25 ppd, softcover.

Private War of Dr. Yamada. by Lee Ruttle. Novel based upon author's experiences as a U.S. Marine in Peleliu and the Japanese army doctor torn by effects of war and his own humanitarianism.
 \$12.50 ppd, hardcover.

Japanese Women in Hawaii: The First 100 Years. by Patsy S. Saki. Struggles and achievements of Hawaii's Japanese women form an integral part of island history.
 \$7.95 ppd, softcover. 158pp.

CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

JACL in Quest of Justice. By Bill Hosokawa. The JACL Story—not only for members and its critics but for new Americans to understand how one minority group was able to overcome discrimination.
 \$13.75 ppd, hardcover.

Through Harsh Winters: The Life of a Japanese Immigrant Woman. By Akemi Kikumura. An Issei mother's ability to triumph over hardship, loneliness and despair will be familiar to all immigrants who have made America their home.
 \$ 8.20 ppd, soft. Autographed copy available.

Thirty-Five Years in the Frying Pan. by Bill Hosokawa. Selections from his popular column in the Pacific Citizen with background material and running commentary.
 \$11.20 ppd, hardcover.

Comfort All Who Mourn. By H.V. Nicholson and Margaret Wilke. Life story of Herbert and Madeline Nicholson. Includes first-hand account of WW2 internment of Japanese Americans.
 \$7.20 ppd, softcover.

Justice at War. By Peter Irons. The behind-the-scenes story of the Yasui, Hirabayashi and Korematsu cases of WW2 and the current campaign to reverse the wartime convictions of these three.
 \$10.00 ppd, softcover.

The Nihau Incident. By Allan Beekman. Fascinating, highly entertaining, informative history of the legendary Nihau island, where a Japanese pilot landed during the Dec. 7 attack upon Pearl Harbor.
 \$11.20 ppd, hardcover.

The Issei: Portrait of a Pioneer. ed. by Eileen Suda Sarasohn. A collection of 32 interviews conducted in Japanese and translated into English. A most enlightening presentation.
 \$19.10 ppd, hardcover.

Economics and Politics of Racial Accommodation: The Japanese of Los Angeles 1900-1942. By John Modell. (Part of JACL-JARP's definitive social histories. Modell's research includes checking out the prewar Rafu Shimpo English section.)
 \$13.75 ppd, hardcover. (New stock.)

Japanese American Story. by Budd Fukui. A taste of history and cultural heritage. One chapter by Mike Masaoka recalls JACL's role during WW2's Evacuation of Japanese.
 \$8.20 ppd, hardcover.

Camp II Block 211. by Jack Matsuoka. A young cartoonist sketches life inside internment camp at Poston. The humorous touch, to be sure.
 \$7.25 ppd, softcover.

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The youngest member of the Japanese delegation, Yasuko Nagase, 8, of Tokyo, Japan, presents a Japanese doll to the honorary patron of the Japan America Society, Katsuma Mukaeda, 95, of Van Nuys, Calif.

Delegation from Japan Marks Anniversary of Doll Exchange

PALOS VERDES, Calif. — A group of 73 touring Japanese children, ranging in age from 10 to 13, recently commemorated the 60th anniversary of the first Japan-U.S. doll exchange with a reception and doll presentation.

The Japan-U.S. doll exchange began in 1927 when more than 12,000 blue-eyed dolls bearing greetings of friendship from American children were sent to Japan for distribution to schools as part of the traditional doll festival held each March.

Moved by the gesture, citizens of Japan responded by sending 58 Japanese dolls, handcrafted by the leading doll makers of Kyoto, to the U.S. in time for Christmas.

During WW2, many of the American dolls were destroyed in Japan, and many of the Japanese dolls were abandoned in the U.S. One Japanese doll that survived, however, was "Miyako Kyoto." Although in very poor condition, "Miss Kyoto" was on display at the Boston Children's Museum until last year, when a representative from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs spotted it and offered to take it back to Japan for restoration.

Instead of returning the restored "Miss Kyoto" to the U.S. alone, however, a mission was organized in Japan to revive the 1927 exchange of friendship.

Approximately 100 Japanese dolls were presented this month in five U.S. cities — Boston, New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago and Los Angeles — by the 73 boys and girls who represented each of Japan's 47 prefectures.

Kamar International, a Torrance-based toy manufacturer, in return presented each Japanese child with a special limited edition U.S. doll to be taken back to his or her prefecture for display.

The Los Angeles visit was coordinated by the Japan America Society of Southern California, a nonprofit organization.

English Only

D.C. Groups Oppose Prop. 63

WASHINGTON — Representatives of 24 Hispanic, Asian and other civil rights groups spoke out Aug. 20 against a California proposition that would make English the state's official language.

They also announced "English Plus," an effort to promote learning English as well as other languages, and said they would push U.S. cities to adopt resolutions declaring themselves multilingual and multicultural.

"We agree that the English language is the American language, but why do we need legislation to mandate it?" said Ginger Lew, chair of the National Asian Pacific American Democratic Council.

The "Official English" movement is "anti-immigrant and xenophobic in character," said Wade Henderson, associate director of the American Civil Liberties Union. "It is fed by the perception that immigration to the United States is out of control and that large ethnic communities, particularly Hispanics and Asians, are not willing to assimilate in the traditional 'melting pot' process."

He said the movement, led by the nationwide U.S. English or-

ganization, eventually hopes to ratify a constitutional amendment declaring English the official U.S. language, repeal bilingual ballot requirements under the Voting Rights Act, and sharply reduce federal programs for bilingual education and other government services.

"This is terribly insulting and terribly un-American," said Raul Yzaguirre, president of the National Council of La Raza. "Proponents of these measures talk about preserving English as the 'glue' that binds us together. But what binds this country together is a sense of freedom, pluralism, and opportunity."

Spokespersons for the groups said that immigrants desperately want to learn English but that "English Only" laws would block their chances by cutting back bilingual education.

—from a report by UPI

Bigotry Against Nikkei Persists, Mineta Warns

WASHINGTON—Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) said June 26 that negative reactions to recent news coverage of the redress issue indicate that efforts to educate the public about the WW2 internment are still necessary.

"Our efforts for redress have come a long way—a very long way," he said. "Who would have believed that more than 130 members of the House would co-sponsor H.R. 442, the redress bill? Our struggle to right a grievous wrong, and to strengthen the Constitution, has already found national support.

"Unfortunately, some people don't know, or don't want to know, about the wholesale abrogation of civil rights committed by the U.S. government during the evacuation and internment. We still have a lot of work to do in educating people."

Two letters opposing redress appeared in the June 22 issue of the San Jose Mercury News following publication of an article about Mineta's work for redress. An anonymous writer sent a copy of the Mercury News article to Mineta's office with "No money for any Japs!" scrawled across the top.

"Racism and ignorance still have their strongholds," Mineta commented. "We mustn't let this fact lead us to despair; we should, instead, fight all the harder. We do have many successes to celebrate; but we must not let our past accomplishments fool us into overconfidence or relaxing our efforts.

"When Americans who value liberty learn of the internment, I believe they support righting this wrong. We have to make sure they hear the story. That is how we have garnered the impressive list of sponsors of H.R. 442. But our work can't stop in Congress—we have to reach out to all Americans."

Deaths

SAN FRANCISCO — Herbert Takemi Koga, an active member of the Taiko Dojo, died Aug. 16 at Kaiser Hospital in Redwood City.

Koga was a native of Oakland but resided in San Francisco.

He is survived by his widow, Akiko; mother, Mitsuko Koga; sisters, Sayoko Fong, Jean Koga, Carol Samukawa, Elaine Koga, Vivian Noda, Jessie Koga, Rosemary Harris, Ruri Koga and Kazuko Koga; and brothers, Glen Kotetsu and David Koga.

For the record

In the article on Japanese American Service Committee in Chicago (Aug. 22 PC), the names given were those of the outgoing 1985-86 board members. The 1986-87 board members are: Arthur Morimitsu, president; Kiyo Yoshimura, VP of programs; Thomas Teraji, VP of finance; Beverly Sakauye, VP of public relations; Paul Kadowaki, VP of facilities; Nancy Yoshida, treasurer; and Merry Uchida, secretary. They were elected June 22.

Community Calendar

Aug. 30th-Sept. 13th

LOS ANGELES

Sept. 6 9-11 a.m. Legal seminar focusing on Medi-Cal, SSI, wills, trusts, and property transfers at Chinatown Service Center, 600 N. Broadway. Sponsored by Asian Pacific American Legal Center in cooperation with So. Calif. Chinese Lawyers Assn. and Dept. of Public Social Services. Info: (213) 680-9955.

Sept. 6 Nosetime Origami Workshop with Daniel Nakamura at Los Angeles Children's Museum, 310 N. Main St. Info: (213) 687-8801.

Sept. 13 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2-5 p.m. Two-part photography workshop sponsored by Visual Communications at the Little Tokyo Service Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., Rm. 411. Morning introductory session covers shooting to development of black and white film. Afternoon session focuses on darkroom techniques of developing and printing. Fee: \$50 for one workshop or \$75 for both. Info: (213) 680-4462.

OAKLAND

Sept. 2-Oct. 8 An exhibition of paintings and prints by artist Mayumi Oda will be on display at Mills College's Prieto Gallery. Born in Tokyo and trained at Tokyo University of Fine Art, Oda is known for her depictions of goddesses. The exhibition is supported in part by a grant from the Society for Asian Art.

SACRAMENTO

Sept. 13 7-11:30 p.m. The ninth annual "Beat the Heat" fundraiser dance, sponsored by Asian Legal Services Outreach, will be held at Sacramento Buddhist Church Kaikan, 2401 Riverside Blvd. Features music by Marty Shibata and Jeff Adachi, dancing, door prizes and no-host cocktails. Price: \$6.50 in advance, \$6 for members, seniors and students, and \$10 at the door. Contributions are tax-deductible. Info: Susana Wong, (916) 447-7971.

SAN DIEGO

Aug. 31 11 a.m. Ocean View United Church of Christ Bazaar, 3525 Ocean View Blvd. Info: (619) 233-3620.

SAN FRANCISCO



Shig Doi, one of the veterans of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team featured in "Yankee Samurai," with a few of his mementos.

Sept. 5-6 7:30 and 9 p.m. (both days) "Yankee Samurai" will be screened in a joint benefit for Go For Broke Inc. and the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of No. Calif. at Laurel Heights UC Medical Center, 3333 California St. Info: (415) 567-5505.

SAN JOSE

Sept. 13 3-7:30 p.m. Aki Matsuri, the fall festival bazaar of Wesley United Methodist Church, 566 N. Fifth St. Info: (408) 295-0367 or (408) 773-0706.

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On to Seattle in '88

BY UNANIMOUS VOTE of the delegates gathered in Chicago at the JACL National Convention, the bid by Seattle for the next national gathering in that fair city of the Pacific Northwest was accepted. The date will be sometime in the early part of August of 1988, a time you will wish to set aside to visit the lush green beauty of the area with your family. Particularly for you ex-Northwesterners, you can satisfy your yearning to see the old homesteads and reacquaint yourselves with school chums in the area. Indeed, our frau, who generally is not given to attending conventions, has indicated her assent to attend.

FOR THIS COLUMNIST, it will be a "first" in attending a national convention in Seattle. Also, it will be sort of a homecoming, for I was born and raised in the "valley" in Kent, outside of Seattle. Kent, the self-proclaimed "Lettuce Capital of the World" back in those days. As a *kozo* I used to attend the annual festivals they had in town where we could gorge ourselves on free salad and supplemental fare. One year a damsel by the name of Thelma Saito was the Lettuce Queen. I don't know whether they still hold the festival. California's Imperial Valley may have taken over as the Capital.

Modest as our circumstances were, "Them were the days."

BACK IN THOSE times, this *inaka-mono* viewed Seattle as the Big City. That very first view of the Smith Tower commanding the view of the Puget Sound left a lasting impression on that lad that exists to this day. Neither the Empire State Building, the World Trade Center in New York, nor the Sears Tower in Chicago has overshadowed that early impression. During the CWRIC hearings in Seattle in 1982, on an early morning walk, on the spur of the moment, I made a sentimental visit to the Smith Tower. Making a solitary trip some 40-plus stories up, I saw a huge *koi* banner fluttering in the morning breeze atop the tower.

I thought to myself, "How times have changed."

EAST WIND

Bill Marutani



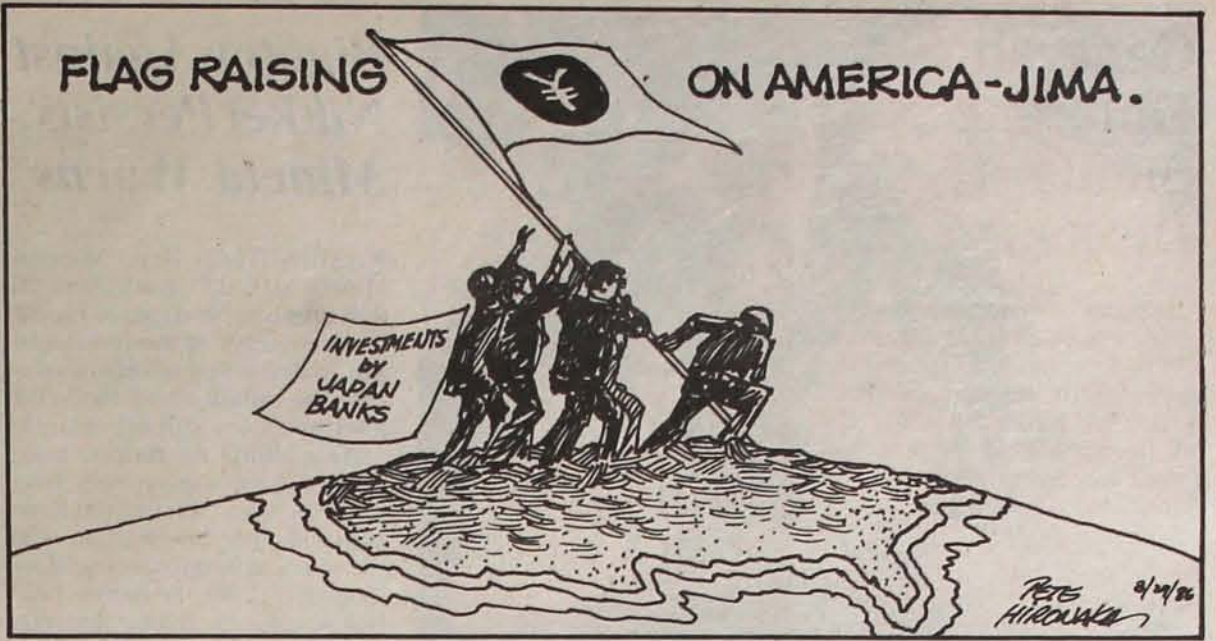
BY THE TIME war had erupted in the Pacific, that country lad had managed to enroll at the University of Washington, where I tramped along that beautiful campus in saddle shoes (remember them?). The UW campus has to be one of the most attractive university campuses in the country, located beside Lake Washington. In May of 1942 I was summarily yanked out and shipped to Pinedale, just outside of Fresno. From the verdancy of the Pacific Northwest to the wilting heat of dusty Pinedale was quite a shocking change, not to mention being incarcerated behind barbed wire.

I lost some college credits, paid for with hard-earned money and earned with a lot of midnight oil. For I was working my way through college.

THE SEATTLE CONVENTION promises to be a most captivating one: the convention itself will be held on that beautiful university campus. For those who have returned from a JACL convention a thousand dollars lighter, this convention promises to be a welcome relief. (For those addicted to plush accommodations, however, nearby hotel facilities will be set aside.) The relaxed atmosphere of a college campus will be a refreshing treat. We understand that the Seattle convention committee proposes to program business sessions into three successive days so that those who wish to leisurely partake of the sights and beauty of the region can do so.

Maybe, hopefully, this will serve to establish a new trend for JACL national confabs.

WE CONGRATULATE the Seattle JACLers for an imaginative alternative. Keep the date open: early August '88.



Changes That Need to Be Made

BY THE BOARD

by Yosh Nakashima

Everyone should now be back to business as usual with their respective work or activity. As conventions go, the Chicago one was an excellent example of how it should be done. Every aspect was well thought out and implemented without serious hitches.

As is the case with large functions, we could not specifically acknowledge everyone who assisted in the background and made the convention flow well—and made all of us look good. It was a real team effort led by superior chairpersons. All of our staff and especially the Midwest regional director did their jobs well above the call of duty to assure the success of the meeting. It was a job well done and we look forward to a similar result in Seattle in 1988.

JACL Committees

The various committees under our supervision will undergo some changes to improve the processing of their functions:

For the Japanese American of the Biennium Committee, there is no change except to solicit more nominees in the various categories;

The Awards and Recognitions Committee could use some

changes, also with an increase in nominees;

The Resolutions Committee did such an outstanding job that we now have a standard to follow;

The Credentials Committee, a relatively ceremonial position in the past, needs to be looked upon in a serious vein;

The Nominations Committee did their usual great job, but we need to improve their ability to monitor the expenditure by candidates as well as speeding the ballot-counting and process for runoff;

The Convention Committee needs only a national guideline to assist in the early planning;

The Personnel Committee needs to be selected for a longer term to assure continuity and familiarization with employment laws and employee rights as well as interviewing and recommendation of new staffpersons.

Election Process

Since 1984, there has been concern with the election process for national office. There is no easy solution in sight, and some may disagree with our concern. The concern is with regard to pre-convention locked-in votes for a specific candidate by chapter leaders who may not have all the information on each candidate to make the best final decision.

I believe that delegates can be given direction about the various candidates, but should not be mandated into an absolute decision regardless of new information. Guidance should be given on specific issues and positions

on issues and programs, which can then be translated into a candidate's views on them and how that candidate's view melds with the chapter's point of view.

Also, as has been pointed out, delegates to a JACL convention are not selected by candidate representation as in a political party, but to represent the chapter on all matters before the National Council. If pre-convention commitments are to be a fact of life in the future, then we should eliminate the candidates' forum as well as the late night District Council interviews. Why have a charade when the time could be better spent by the delegates to socialize and have a night out on the town with friends old and new?

We are going to recommend a series of changes in the election process in the following areas:

- Proxy limits per delegate/active member;
- Proxy revocation/reassignment;
- Original proxy assignment;
- Parliamentary selection prior to convention;
- Assured legal counsel and back-up legal counsel;
- Credentialing process;
- Candidate code of conduct;
- Any other matters relevant to elections.

It seems that there are those who make and follow their own set of rules rather than abide by the existing constitution and by-laws. There are those who also question a legitimate legal opinion as fake and made-up. It is impossible to write a set of rules to cover those who abuse such rules and violate the true intent of those rules.

Must we write rules about who can or cannot or should or should not participate in a specific candidate advocacy at certain levels of leadership? Must we write rules about pre-election monitoring of votes by mandate and intimidation by district leaders? Where does one stop and where

Continued on next page

Lip Service Not Enough

Excuse me while I express a measure of disappointment at Japanese Americans who talk grandly of an Asian-Pacific coalition to achieve political and other goals, and then give the idea no more than lip service.

I have not been optimistic that such a concept will work for the simple reason that each ethnic group has its own agenda which it is unwilling to sublimate for the good of the whole. This is understandable. To put it bluntly, what does a third- or fourth-generation Japanese American, in a white-collar job making \$70,000 a year, have in common with a Cambodian or Hmong refugee? Little, other than a vaguely related Asian background.

This is not to deny that some sort of alliance, if not a cooperative stance, among Americans of Asian-Pacific background has its value. The newest immigrants from Asia have many knotty cultural, social and economic problems; the descendants of those who came earlier, with a lot of experience and expertise behind them, are in a position to offer a helping hand. My complaint is with Japanese Americans who

FROM THE FRYING PAN

Bill Hosokawa



talk a good game but don't do much to support it.

Several months ago, I wrote about a multi-ethnic organization called Asian Human Services of Chicago. It held a banquet in a downtown hotel to observe four years of community service and to honor seven members of the Asian American community for their contributions to society. It was a warm and colorful affair and it was obvious Asian Human Services is serving an important function among the newest Chicagoans.

The officers and board include Asian Indians, Filipinos, Thais, Chinese, Koreans, Vietnamese, and two Nisei, Omar Kaihatsu and Paul Igasaki. Some 500 persons attended the banquet, but

Japanese Americans were conspicuous by their absence. They lost an opportunity to demonstrate that they care.

In Denver a few weeks ago, a somewhat similar organization, the Asian Pacific Development Center, was primary sponsor of a festival of Asian arts and culture.

The center, founded six years ago, is a tax-exempt organization that offers mental health services to approximately 380 clients in 10 Asian languages. Federal, state and private funds support it. The director is Japan-born Dr. Sumiko Hennessey.

The festival has the twin functions of raising funds for the Center and introducing Asian foods and culture to a Denver public largely unfamiliar with either. Yes, indeed, Japanese Americans took part in the festival. The taiko group beat their drums and some ladies in kimono played the koto. Two artists, an Issei and a Nisei, exhibited their paintings. Contributed sushi was among the hors d'oeuvres at a \$50-per-plate pre-festival banquet which several Japanese Americans attended.

But as in Chicago, popular Japanese American support was conspicuously sparse.

Asian American cooperation is a laudable idea but it isn't likely to work if lip service is all the support it gets from its logical leaders, the Japanese Americans. If we don't intend to do anything about it, we ought to quit talking about it.

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Generational Differences, Similarities Discussed

CHICAGO—Understanding leadership dynamics in JACL was the key issue at the Leadership Development Workshop sponsored by JACL's National Committee on Recruitment & Leadership Development and held at the National JACL Convention.

Nisei and Sansei perceptions, backgrounds and experiences were explored to create a better understanding of the differences and similarities between Nisei and Sansei and how these affect Nisei-Sansei interaction and leadership issues. This exploration was prompted by the committee to gain insight into and to help facilitate the gradual shift of JACL leadership during the coming years.

Facilitated by B.J. Watanabe, chair of the committee, and Bill Kaneko, committee member and vice president of Marina JACL, the program took a two-fold approach to the issue.

The first part of the program explored intergenerational differences. Kaneko facilitated a lively and humorous exercise in which words describing Nisei and Sansei, called out by participants, were written down and displayed on large flip charts.

In addition to predictable descriptions of Nisei, such as "loyal," "conservative," "hard-working" and "sacrificing," other characteristics given included "polyester," "bowling" and "wide ties."

Sansei were described, in part, as "well educated," "articulate," "aggressive" and "ambitious," as well as "spoiled," "impatient," "liberal" and "conservative."

Kaneko stressed that these descriptions shouldn't be seen as negative or positive, but simply as ways that people view themselves and others.

Longtime JACLer and Eastern District Governor Mike Suzuki next delved into some of the reasons for these differences. He emphasized that the two generations grew up in very different Americas and that their different experiences have greatly affected how each generation feels about being Japanese American.

In relating this to JACL, Suzuki pointed out that differences must be recognized, understood and dealt with because they can be potential sources of conflict. For example, he said, Nisei and Sansei tend to view JACL's U.S.-Japan relations program differently; many Nisei are uneasy about involvement with Japan, while Sansei are interested in their roots and how things Japanese affect JAs today.

The participants were then split up into small groups to discuss their own experiences and to brainstorm on ideas which would help facilitate a Nisei-Sansei leadership transition.

It was agreed that while Nisei and Sansei had some differing reasons for belonging to JACL, the main reasons for both were civil rights and social interaction.

Key themes which emerged were implementation of activities which encouraged Nisei-Sansei interaction and creation of programs geared separately to Nisei and Sansei interests.

Many participants were enthusiastic about having the opportunity to discuss a topic which is important to the organization and yet is neglected in the day-to-day chapter activities.

JACL Convention Photo Album



Top Photo — Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) swears in new National Board as Rep. Jim Wright (D-Texas) looks on (photo by Ken Mazawa).

Above — At Sayonara Banquet are (from left) June Sato, Min and True Yasui, Lorna Onizuka (wife of the late Ellison Onizuka), LEC director Grayce Uyehara, outgoing JACL president Frank Sato, and Rep. Wright (photo by Ken Mazawa).

Right — Shig Wakamatsu presents commendation to publisher Howard S. Cady during Mike Masaoka Distinguished Public Service Award Dinner (photo by George Asai).



Let's Work Together

by Lynn Sakamoto-Chung



As new editor of the Pacific Citizen, I am filled with many emotions, not the least of which is fear.

But greater than my insecurities is the heartfelt commitment I have sensed growing inside of me over the past few weeks — a commitment to give to all of you my best.

The Pacific Citizen has had a glorious past in JACL history, playing the part of watchdog, crusader and educator. But, like most things in this world, it is greatly affected by social, political and economic ebbs and flows.

Today we are faced with dwindling JACL memberships, increasing production costs and

an unexplainable decrease in advertising revenue.

Taking all these things into consideration, it is unrealistic to think that my commitment alone, or that of the entire PC staff, can make the changes necessary to ensure the PC a future of growth.

Instead, it will take a joint effort involving all JACL members and supporters. It will take an increase in the purchasing of PC ads and subscriptions, and in the sharing of information between chapters, districts and the National Board to assist our small but dedicated staff in providing quality news coverage at a national level.

I am personally pledging to sell at least one non-member PC subscription each week, and I challenge anyone reading this to do the same.

Together I believe that we can work to ensure that in 1986, the PC not only has a great past, but a promising future.

NAKASHIMA

Continued from previous page

does one need to begin trust and honor by all involved? Do we need to write rules about the nature of campaigning?

How far do we need to go with written rules to assure a strong, clean campaign based on positive images rather than a whole series of negative campaign rhetoric and outright distortions of truth? We must clean up our methods if we are to succeed in attracting the younger generation of members and leaders.

It is not our desire to institute oversight intrusion into individual conduct and actions. However, if some do not change for the better, then we must do whatever is necessary to assure individual free choice and fairness by all. We must remove from leadership those who do not observe and promote the true sense of fairness, equality and the original intent and purpose of JACL.

I ask every member and leader to take a pledge to reaffirm the dedication of the JACL Creed.

Chicago '86

Reflections of a First-Time JACL Conventioneer

by Meriko Mori

The recent Chicago convention was my very first National JACL Convention, and also my first experience as a chapter delegate. It was a true eye-opener; a balance of first-timers, old-timers, Chicago Chapter members, many young and the old. The atmosphere was very big-city, conducive to convention meetings and banquets, and the accommodations and Hyatt Regency personnel were very efficient and friendly.

However, I would like to see a convention with less emphasis on candidates and more time and energy spent on new and basic issues and the budget.

I come from a background of attending many American Dietetic Assn. annual conventions, with an attendance of 6-7,000 members, where officers for the next year are determined at least a half year prior to the convention by direct mail ballot with resumes enclosed—one vote for each member. (There are many more offices, including a president-elect.)

At the JACL Convention, with so much of the business session taken up with nominations, candidates' forums, district caucuses for candidates, and elections, my time was tied up and I really never had any time to look at the restaurants, much less go to one, nor to appreciate the culture, shopping, and feel of the city of Chicago.

Through my past experience, many business meetings in a workplace are held at early breakfast or lunch. Much gets accomplished where time is at a premium. Besides, you get people there on time—otherwise there might not be any food left.

Let's get rid of the image of people in JACL being uppity and looking down on non-JACLers. I'm tired of hearing that JACL is all talk and no action. Members should be allowed to invite friends and guests to experience part or all of the convention. How else are other folks going to see us in action and find out that JACL is not as bad as the image they hold of us?

More time and concentration were needed for civil rights, anti-Asian violence, employment discrimination, women and singles issues, bicultural parenting, intercultural marriages, etc. These are real issues that could be discussed by sharing of thoughts in small group sessions.

The budget and goals or program of action are integral parts of any organization. Why skim over them so lightly? They determine the parameters of the next biennium!

Twenty-six thousand members are only a drop in the bucket compared to all the potential members who would join us if we only prove our worth. Let's stop the discrimination against others; be supportive of those who are not exactly like the mainstream JACL—the yuppies, gays, women, youth, vets, singles and retirees. We need to stop living in the '40s. This is the '80s. There needs to be more openness and supportive efforts all around toward the common purpose of preserving our civil rights and our heritage.

Mori was a delegate for Greater L.A. Singles Chapter.

D.C. Attorney Heading Asian Pacific Demos

WASHINGTON—Ginger Lew, a Washington, D.C. attorney, was elected June 6 to chair an interim steering committee that will raise funds and solicit members for the National Democratic Council of Asian and Pacific Americans.

Lew succeeds Tom Hsieh, interim steering committee chair for the council since March and former chair of the Democratic National Committee's Asian Pacific Caucus, which was disbanded earlier this year.

In accepting her assignment, Lew said, "Though the concerns of the many Asian and Pacific communities throughout America are in large part those of the average citizen, we are proud of our heritage and want to make a special contribution to the work of the Democratic Party at all levels—national, state and local—as well as pursue other concerns important to us.

"We particularly want to build participation by our community in electoral politics, with the goal of electing more Asian and Pacific Americans to public office."

Other goals set by the steering committee include: establishing local and national fundraising; outreach to Asian Pacific students; legislative tracking and lobbying on issues of importance to Asian Pacific communities; publishing a newsletter; and producing educational materials on voter registration, electing Asian Pacific delegates to the next Democratic National Convention, and other issues.

A nominating convention for the council is planned for spring of 1987. Anyone who has become a council member prior to Jan. 1, 1987 may participate.

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Nikkei Newsmakers



Dr. Fred M. Nomura of Portland Ore., has been appointed regional medical director of Kaiser Permanente and president of the 335-physician group, Northwest Permanente, P.C., Physicians and Surgeons. Nomura is board certified and serves as clinical associate professor in the department of pediatrics, Oregon Health Sciences University.



Dr. John E. Kashiwabara of Long Beach has been appointed a trustee of the California State University by Gov. George Deukmejian. Kashiwabara, who has maintained his own private medical practice in the Long Beach area since 1954, replaces Wallace Albertson of Los Angeles, whose term expired.



Arthur T. Ito of Los Angeles, outgoing president of the Florists' Transworld Delivery Association, has been elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of Interflora, the worldwide florist delivery network. Interflora includes the FTD Association and provides service to 127 countries.

'The Dragon Painter'

Classic Hayakawa Silent Film to be Shown

LOS ANGELES—Sessue Hayakawa's 1919 silent film classic "The Dragon Painter" will be screened Sept. 27 at Japan America Theater as a fundraiser for Japanese American National Museum (JANM).

Although best known for his role as Col. Saito in the 1957 film "Bridge on the River Kwai," the Japanese-born Hayakawa was an important leading man four decades earlier. His films were popular not only in the U.S. but also in Europe, particularly in France.

Produced by the actor's own company, "The Dragon Painter" is generally acknowledged as one of Hayakawa's masterpieces. The film centers around Hayakawa's character, a free-spirited painter who is forced to choose between pursuing his own artistic career and finding love and stability in his life.

Over the years, only one copy of the film—a French print—has survived. JANM has obtained it through the American Film Institute, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Inter-

national Museum of Photography at George Eastman House (the film's official guardian).

The showing will include live narration by actor Mako, artistic director of East West Players. Organist Robert Israel will provide accompaniment.

A buffet dinner and reception at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center plaza will precede the screening. Tickets to the black tie optional event are \$100. Info: (213) 625-0414.

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Refugee Services

Judge Dismisses Lawsuit Filed Against County

OAKLAND — An Alameda County Superior Court judge ruled Aug. 15 that the county can go ahead and disburse about \$280,000 in federal funds earmarked for services to Southeast Asian refugees.

In rendering his decision, Judge William Dunbar found no basis for a lawsuit filed by the Center for Southeast Asian Refugee Resettlement (CSEARR), a San Francisco-based refugee agency whose proposal to provide services had been rejected by Alameda County in favor of local agencies.

The center instituted the action last June against not only the county but also several East Bay social service agencies to which the county had awarded service contracts for fiscal year 1986-87.

Vu Duc Vuong, head of CSEARR, had felt that the county erroneously rejected that agency's proposal and had an alleged conflict of interest between the agencies selected and Dianne Yamashiro, a member of the county advisory council which made recommendations about which agencies should receive funds.

Yamashiro, a long-time community worker in both San Francisco and the East Bay, now heads the Oakland-based Asian Community Foundation. She denied any conflict between her role as that agency's director and as an advisory member.

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Chapter Pulse

CARSON

- Scholarship dinner meeting will take place Sept. 3, 7 p.m., at Hong Kong Gardens, 21718 S. Vermont Ave., Torrance. Info: Miriam, (213) 835-9833.
- Las Vegas Weekend is being sponsored Sept. 26-28. Bus will depart from Carson City Hall parking lot Friday at 6 p.m. Cost is \$61 per person and includes hotel accommodations at the Fremont, double occupancy. Info: Mabel, (213) 424-3352.

FRESNO

- Fall Festival Run will take place Sept. 21 at Mt. View Shelter at Woodward Park. A two-mile race will begin at 7:30 a.m., followed by a six-mile run at 8 a.m. Fee is \$16 until Sept. 16. Late registration, \$8. All participants will receive a custom-designed T-shirt and be eligible for a drawing. Proceeds will go toward construction of a Japanese Garden Tea House at the park. Info: (209) 1-661-2074.

LAKE WASHINGTON

- Dinner program featuring the martial arts of Asian will take place Sept. 20 beginning at 6 p.m. at Kirkland Ramada Inn, 105th NE/Northup Way. Cost is \$13 for dinner and program, \$3 for program only.
- Benefit breakfast seminar, "Planning for the Future," will take place Sept. 27, 9 a.m.-noon, at Kirkland Ramada Inn, 105th NE/Northup Way. Topics will include personal financial planning, estate planning and wills. Cost is \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members. Couples receive a \$10 discount. Proceeds will go to LEC.

SAN MATEO

- Biennial Keiro Kai Dinner honoring individuals over 70 years of age will take place Sept. 7 at San Mateo Buddhist Temple Hall. Cocktails will be served from 4 p.m. Dinner and program will begin at 5 p.m.

SEATTLE

- Chapter members meet with Rep. Mike Lowry (D-Wash.) on Sept. 4, 6 p.m., at Bush Garden Restaurant. Lowry is a co-sponsor of redress bill H.R. 442 and recently introduced legislation changing the official abbreviation of "Japan" or "Japanese" from "Jap" to "Jpn."
- "A Salute to the Nikkei Pioneer Businesses" has been selected as the theme of the 65th annual installation dinner, to be held Jan. 24. Puget Sound-area businesses owned by Nikkei prior to WW2 will be honored. Those who owned (or know someone who owned) such a business are asked to send information, including contact person and phone number, to Installation Dinner Program Committee, JACL Seattle Chapter, 316 Maynard Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98104.

SOUTH BAY

- Reception for newly elected National Board officers Harry Kajihara and Mary Nishimoto is scheduled for Sept. 28, 2-5 p.m., at Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 W. Torrance Blvd.

JCCCNC Picks '86-'87 Board

SAN FRANCISCO — Edith Tanaka was re-elected president of the board of directors of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) during the recent annual meeting of the board of trustees at the center's new facilities, 1840 Sutter St.

Also elected as vice presidents and chairs of the standing committees for the 1986-87 year were: Building, Jack Dairiki; Fundraising, Yo Hironaka; Legal/Insurance, Don Tamaki; Membership, Katherine Nunotani; Program, Nob Fukuda; Property Management, Allen Okamoto; and Publicity, Kathy Reyes.

Other new officers are Isao Kawamoto, chief financial officer; Warrew Eijima, corporate treasurer; and Greg Marutani, corporate secretary.

At-large directors elected to serve this year's term are Wes Doi, Shiz Mihara, Bill Kyono, Tosh Otsubo, David Yamanaka Jr., Hats Aizawa, David Nakagawa, Will Tsukamoto and Kenji Murase.

Reunion

SACRAMENTO — January and June graduates of Sacramento High School's class of 1936 will gather for a 50-year reunion dinner-dance Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Woodlake Resort and Convention Hotel. Cost is \$20 per person. Interested graduates may obtain more information by writing: Class of '36 Reunion Committee, 5416 Virginia Way, Sacramento, CA 95822. Women are asked to include their maiden names. Deadline for reservations is Sept. 29.

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Will be honoring Pioneering Issei & Nisei from the Santa Barbara area from early Pre-War years and to date. In conjunction with the Reunion, the Santa Barbara Chapter JACL will sponsor the Barbecue on Sun., Sept. 7th., at Tuckers' Grove Park. For further information please contact: Joe I. Watanabe, (805) 969-1040 or John Suzuki, (805) 962-9324.

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is seeking a consultant in both Northern and Southern California to consult with public and private mental health service providers on budgeting/costing/claiming issues. Applicants should have experience working with government and private mental health agencies on a variety of complex fiscal issues. Contract salary dependent upon qualifications, range, \$4143-\$4553/mo and does not include other benefits.

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Resumes should be sent no later than 9/1/86 to:

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Meeting of IDC Old-Timers Set

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho—A reunion of Intermountain District Council JACL old-timers will take place Sept. 20-21 at Cactus Pete's hotel-casino in Jackpot, Nev., announced IDC governor Hid Hasegawa.

Weekend agenda items include introduction of old-timers from each IDC chapter, a chronology of past activities, and special presentations. Golf, swimming, sightseeing (the site of the wartime Minidoka camp is near-

by), fishing and other outdoor activities will be available.

A block of rooms (\$40 double) has been reserved for Saturday only. The Saturday reunion banquet and Sunday breakfast package will be approximately \$25 per person. Info: Hid Hasegawa, 3562 Crawford, Idaho Falls, ID 83401; (208) 529-1525.

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ONIZUKA

Continued from Front Page

"You're not going to get both," Lindsay replied.

Committee member Joan Milke Flores also supported the idea of a monument. "If there's a work of art, his legend will be put into that monument." Onizuka's story would then be passed on to future generations "long after many people will have forgotten what the name of the street is," she said.

The third committee member, Hal Bernson, was absent.

Some opponents of the name change attended but did not speak. One of them, Toshio Asakura, assistant vice president of Ryowa Corp., had spoken in favor of a monument during a previous hearing. He remarked after the Aug. 26 hearing that his limited English ability prevented him from expressing his position more clearly.

Despite their reservations, Lindsay and Flores approved the name change proposal after a brief discussion.

Proposed by Mayor

Mayor Tom Bradley first proposed the renaming of Weller, which runs diagonally between 1st and 2nd streets, on Feb. 7, only 11 days after the shuttle disaster.

In a joint letter to City Engineer Robert Horii, dated March 17, more than 20 Weller St. merchants, most of them natives of Japan, objected to the proposal. While endorsing the establishment of some kind of memorial for Onizuka, they also pointed out that "Changing the name of the street will cost thousands of dollars in creating new advertisement and packaging expenses."

George Chu, president of Matsuzakaya Akasaka Hanten, also cited the "big financial burden imposed on the merchants of Weller Street" in a March 26 letter to the city Dept. of Public Works.

At the same time, the city received letters from members of the Japanese American community supporting the proposal.



Photo by Kirk Tomioka

PITCHING IN—Jose Canseco, the American League's leading contender for Rookie of the Year, and Japanese American Senior Center representative Steve Nakajo, with son Devon, announce that the first Japanese American Day with the Oakland A's will be held Sept. 6 at Oakland Coliseum. The game against the Detroit Tigers begins at 1:05 p.m. Tickets for lower plaza seats are \$3.50 for senior citizens, \$7 regular. Info: San Francisco — Kimochi, Inc., (415) 563-5626; San Mateo — Ernie Takahashi, (415) 343-2793; San Jose — Yu Ai Kai, (408) 294-2521; East Bay — Japanese American Services for the East Bay, (415) 848-3560, or, for Eden Senior Center, Ichi Nishida, 276-1842, or John Yamada, 278-6145.

"It would be a lasting testimonial to not only Col. Onizuka, but in a larger sense, a reminder of the many contributions in many forms during war and peace made by Japanese Americans," wrote Yosh Nakayama, president of Military Intelligence Service Club of So. Calif., in a July 1 letter to Horii. (Nakayama died July 5.)

Others who sent in statements of support included John Saito, Pacific Southwest District JAACL regional director; George Nishinaka, president of 100th/442nd Veterans Assn.; and Bruce Kaji, president of Japanese American National Museum. In addition, the proposal received the endorsement of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Aug. 15 on a motion by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

"Lt. Col. Onizuka is a genuine symbol of Japanese Americans,"

wrote JAACL national director Ron Wakabayashi in an Aug. 11 letter to Bradley. "His life and manner are cherished by those of us who had the chance to know him." The objections by the merchants, he added, "reflect avarice and insensitivity, and greatly diminish the public regard for the Japanese."

Japanese American Cultural & Community Center executive secretary Katsumi Kunitzugu, while favoring the name change, was more sympathetic to the merchants. "They want to make it clear... that a statue would be a more permanent and better way [of honoring Onizuka]," she said in an interview with PC. "Just changing the name of the street sign is not enough. We should have some kind of bronze plaque or bas-relief, an explanation of his accomplishments."

'ASIANS NOW'

Continued from Front Page

morning talk show, has been on the air since 1975. It has covered a variety of topics related to the Bay Area Asian communities, including anti-Asian violence, interracial marriage, Asians in the media and performing arts, refugee concerns, human rights in Asian countries, and local cultural events.

Critics have expressed doubts that the new programs can maintain the same level of coverage of minority affairs. In response, KTVU station manager Brooke Spectorsky told the San Francisco Chronicle that "Any criticism is very much premature. Anybody who wants to take shots at the new programs without even seeing them is just not being fair or realistic."

Herb Chao Gunther, executive director of the San Francisco-based Public Media Center, said that community groups will, in fact, see what KTVU has to offer before taking organized action. "We're still in the process of finding out exactly what the station's up to," he said. "We'll look at a number of options."

If the station shows a lack of commitment to public affairs, said Gunther, one option would be to "vigorously pursue" a challenge to the station's license when it is up for renewal in 1988. This would also "send a strong signal to other stations," he added.

Community groups have attributed the shake-up at KTVU to the Federal Communications Commission's relaxation of standards for local stations in 1984. Among the guidelines eliminated were those requiring that at least 5 percent of air time be devoted to locally produced programming, at least 5 percent be devoted to news and public affairs,



Photo by Henry Lim

Serena Chen

and at least 10 percent overall be devoted to non-entertainment programming.

"FCC deregulations paved the way for the decision," wrote Oakland Tribune columnist Brenda Payton. "What station is going to keep a less than popular show when the competing stations are only concerned with one thing—ratings?"

Citing the recent demise of KRE, a Black community radio station, as another example of a trend toward less minority programs, she asked, "How long before the airwaves don't reflect anything but the most homogeneous and commercial interests?"

An unsigned letter that has been circulated to local community groups and others, urging concerned citizens to write to KTVU, predicts that "if KTVU is able to cut its public affairs programs without community protest and/or FCC challenges, then the other stations throughout the country are likely to follow."

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