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National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

Bill Gains GOP Co-Sponsor

WASHINGTON — Rep. Jerry Lewis (R-Calif.) became the 142nd co-sponsor of redress bill H.R. 442 on Sept. 29. He is the third California Republican to support

the bill. The other two are Reps. Charles Pashayan and Eugene Chappie.

Lewis represents the 35th District, which includes most of San Bernardino County. He serves on the House Appropriations Committee and its Foreign Operations, HUD-Independent Agencies, and Legislative subcommittees.

JA Ethnic Hospitals Gone But Still Needed, Researcher Says

by Kathryn Garvey

DAVIS, Calif. - A little-known injustice against Americans of Japanese ancestry began surfacing several decades before the WW2 internment and threatened their very survival, a Sacramento-

based physician says. Denied "sympathetic medical care" from mainstream hospitals, Japanese Americans suffered a disproportionate number of deaths from such epidemics as the influenza outbreak of 1918. Subsequently, they formed their own hospitals, according to Troy Kaji, who recently researched the rise and fall of Japanese ethnic hospitals in California.

Kaji, a first-year family prac-tice resident at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, said the 72-year era of Japanese ethnic hospitals in California ended in July 1985, when City View Hospital in East Los Angeles closed

"It was the last known functioning Japanese American hospital in the United States," Kaji

The closure marked the end of an era born of injustice, marred

by legal adversity, and toppled by financial hardship.

But there is still a need for similar hospitals in cities with large ethnic concentrations, said Kaji, the recipient of a SmithKline Beckman Medical Perspectives Fellowship, financed through the National Fund for Medical Education.

Unique Opportunities

'I think they can be unique and excellent training areas for ethnically oriented hospice care, pre-medical community health awareness, and ethnically oriented programs," Kaji said. "They would hold lessons for cross-cultural medicine researchers that could be gained nowhere else."

Kaji focused his six-month fellowship research on City View but also touched on hospitals in Sacramento, Fresno, Stockton and San Jose.

He said the Japanese Americans began forming their own hospitals in California as early as 1913. Factors contributing to the rise of ethnic hospitals in-

Continued on back page

Change in JACL Election Laws Urged



Jerry Enomoto

by Robert Shimabukuro

In last week's PC, Part 1 of this article related the events which led to the controversy about bloc voting and proxy limits at the JACL National Convention in Chicago, held

It all began when, by a majority vote at a July 9 CCDC meeting, the council decided to vote as a bloc for presidential candidate Harry Kajihara. But at the convention, delegates Kathy Sasaki (Fresno), Dale Ikeda (Clovis; Reedley proxy), Deb-bie Ikeda (Fresno; Selma proxy), and Maude Ishida (Tulare County) expressed a preference for Kajihara's opponent, Rose Ochi. CCDC Gov. Peggy Liggett, wishing to uphold CCDC's vote, had Selma and Reedley proxies transferred to herself.

Since a two-vote switch could have produced a change in results in two of the national offices, the controversy took on added signifi-

This week, the PC takes a look at some of the issues raised by the controversy.

Bloc Voting, **Proxies at Issue After Charges** of 'Coercion'



Clifford Uyeda

Clovis delegate Dale Ikeda, who had Reedley's proxy taken away at the convention by CCDC Gov. Peggy Liggett, told PC that both he and Debbie Ikeda, who had held Selma's proxy, were prepared to vote for the candidates desired by Reedley and Selma. What they were questioning was CCDC's right to "force"

> least not in the presidential race. In his letter to Clovis chapter president Gene Tsukamoto, Dale Ikeda related his perspective of the events. He felt that he had been instructed to vote his con-

> chapters to vote as the district

wanted. So the end result of the

voting would not have changed, at

science

'Voting Our Conscience'

"I did not intend to vote the district mandate," he told the PC. 'Maude [Tulare County] and the Fresno delegates [Debbie Ikeda and Kathy Sasaki] also felt the same way. All of us were authorized to vote our conscience."

Tsukamoto thought the same way. "I don't think the district had any idea that their decision was going to be so far-reaching. I can't really fault what our delegate did-I do the same at district meetings. You have to make some unilateral decisions."

But at the same time he added, "Although he [Ikeda] was instructed to vote his conscience, when the chapter presidents voted [at the July 9 CCDC meeting] and locked up the vote, it, in essence, locked up his vote, but Dale didn't see it that way.

Wayne Nishio, Fresno chapter president, had a slightly different perspective. "I was person-ally against bloc voting. But my chapter was for it, so I had to vote for it at the meeting."

Ikeda, in his report to Tsukamoto, made the following recommendations: (1) prohibit the use of coercion or undue influence on a national delegate for the purpose of altering his or her

Continued on page 2

Congressmen, Community Leaders Protest

Minorities React Angrily to Nakasone's Remark on Race

"... It was not my intention whatsoever to imply any racial discrimination nor to criticize any aspect of the American society."

-Prime Minister Nakasone





. [Nakasone's apology] emphasizes the prime minister's commitment to better the relationship between our two nations . .

-Rep. Norman Mineta



"This apology allows us to put it aside and begin to build strong bridges of understanding between our two nations."

-Rep. Robert Matsui



"I'm glad he apologized, but I think the damage has been done.

-Ron Wakabayashi

WASHINGTON -Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, in response to widespread criticism of a remark he made about Blacks and Hispanics, issued on Sept. 26 an apology to Congress and the Reagan Administration through Ambassador Nobuo Matsunaga.

I realize that my recent remarks have offended many Americans," the statement read. "I would like to express my heartfelt apology.

"Let me make one thing very clear. I have always firmly belived that America's greatness derives from the dynamism and achievements of her many ethnic communities. It was not my intention whatsoever to imply any racial discrimination nor to criticize any aspect of the American society.

Meeting With Congressmen

Members of the Congressional Black and Hispanic caucuses, along with Reps. Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui (both D-Calif.), met privately with Matsunaga to discuss the issue.

Mineta said that Nakasone's statement "offers an apology, which is what many members of Congress demanded, and it emphasizes the prime minister's commitment to better the relationship between our two nations. I don't see the prime minister's statement as a conclusion, but as the beginning of further discussions and stronger friendship between Japan and the United States.

Matsui was also pleased. "While the original statement of Mr. Nakasone will not be forgotten," he said, "this apology allows us to put it aside and begin to build strong bridges of understanding between our two nations."

JACL national director Ron Wakabayashi's response was, 'Tm glad he apologized, but I think the damage has been done." In order to ease tensions that may have been caused by the remark, he said, Japanese Americans "have to accelerate our outreach and contact" with Black and Hispanic groups.

The controversy began when Nakasone, in a Sept. 22 speech before members of his Liberal Democratic Party in Shizuoka, was reported to have said, "In an information-oriented and highly

Continued on Page 3

Calif. Bishops Opposed to **Proposition 63**

SAN FRANCISCO - Representatives of the California Catholic Conference of Bishops declared their opposition to Proposition 63, the ballot initiative that would make English the state's official language, at a Sept. 25 press conference.

A written statement released by the bishops reads, in part: "While Proposition 63 appears at first glance to be an innocuous attempt to declare English the official language of California, closer scrutiny reveals very negative implications ...

Prop. 63 jeopardizes all forms of bilingual assistance, including emergency services, hospital translators, counseling, court interpreters, and other services that guarantee public safety ... It would open the way for endless and costly lawsuits against bilingual programs and services, including those offered by our network of Catholic Charities.

"The proposed amendment implies that linguistic minority

Continued on Page 3

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SAN FRANCISCO - In a major reorganizational move, the National Japanese American Historical Society on Sept. 18 announced the formation of an interim Executive Committee to serve as the administrative and operational decision-making body of the organization.

That decision was made following the Sept. 8 resignation of NJAHS executive director Tom Kawaguchi, founder of Go For Broke Inc., the former name of the NJAHS.

Kawaguchi, a business consultant, has headed the organization on a volunteer basis for the past six years. Because the demands of the job have been growing, he has found it increasingly difficult to devote the necessary time to

"After devoting six years of my life to seeing this organization established and operating," said Kawaguchi, 'Tm more than ready to begin enjoying my semi-retirement, which actually began two years ago."

The newly created Executive Committee will meet regularly and will assume operational responsibilities for the organization until NJAHS finances allow for the hiring of a full-time paid director.

IT'S NEW!

Founder of Waihee Nominated for Hawaii Governor; Mink Finishes 3rd

HONOLULU - The Hawaii elections took a surprising turn Sept. 20 as Lt. Gov. John Waihee upset the heavily favored former Congressman Cecil Heftel to capture the Democratic nomination for governor.

Waihee, who could become the state's first governor of Hawaiian heritage, garnered 105,579 votes to Heftel's 83,939. Patsy Mink, Honolulu city councilwoman, finished a distant third with 37,998 votes.

Waihee will face D.G. Anderson, who easily captured the GOP nomination with 38,790 votes, in the November general elections.

Congressional Results

In the race for U.S. Senate, incumbent Daniel K. Inouye, running unopposed on the Democratic ticket, pulled in 191,676 votes; businessman Frank Hutchinson defeated Waikiki pedicab driver Marvin Franklin 20,375-9.714 to win the Republican nomination.

Former State Sen. Neil Abercrombie, a Democrat, nosed out former GOP State Party Chair Patricia Saiki, 42,031-41,067, to win the special congressional election for the seat vacated by Heftel, who had resigned to run for governor.

However, Abercrombie lost the Democratic nomination for the First District seat for the next

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session of Congress to former White House aide and sugar lobbyist Mufi Hanneman. Hanneman received 46,269 votes to Abercrombie's 45,107.

Saiki, running unopposed on the Republican ballot, received 17,453 votes. She will face Hanneman in the general election. If elected, Hanneman would become the first voting congressman of Samoan ancestry.

In the race for Hawaii's Seccond District House seat, Democratic incumbent Daniel Akaka and Republican Maria Hustace ran unopposed.

State Sen. Ben Cayetano became the first candidate of Filipino ancestry to win a nomination for a major statewide office in Hawaii, defeating former Honolulu Mayor Eileen Anderson, 130,124-87,324, for the Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor.

Businessman John Henry Felix received 17,228 votes, defeating attorney Cynthia Thielen for the Republican nomination. Vicky Bunye, director of the Honolulu Office of Human Resources, came in third.

In mayoral races, incumbent Maui Mayor Hannibal Tayares will face Marvin Miura, who easily won the Democratic nomination, while incumbent Tony Kunimura of Kauai turned back a surprising challenge by Raymond Aki, 7,739-6,366. Kunimura will face his Republican opponent, John Barretto, in the general election.

-from reports in Honolulu Advertiser

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ELECTION CONTROVERSY

Continued from page 1

vote; (2) prohibit bloc voting by district; (3) limit the time within which a chapter can reassign its proxy; (4) limit the number of proxies that a delegate may hold; (5) make the vice president of General Operations a member or chair of the Rules and Credentials committees; (6) encourage delegates to consider factors of generational, geographic, and gender balance in voting for national officers

'Democratic Process Denied'

In a letter to vice president of general operations Yosh Nakashima, Golden Gate delegate Clifford Uyeda requested a full review of the election practice and procedures of the Chicago convention. According to Uyeda, "the spirit of sanctity of a secret ballot was broken with a district officer attempting to monitor voting," and "attempts at forcing bloc voting of a district denied the fundamental democratic process of each chapter's right to make its independent selection."

President Harry Kajihara told PC that he had appointed former national president Jerry Enomoto to head a committee to "maintain the credibility and integrity of the electoral process for national JACL officers." When asked if this included an investigation into the controversy which erupted at the convention, Kajihara replied, "whatever it takes to maintain credibility.'

Enomoto, whose appointment must still be approved by the national board, said that his charge as he saw it was 'to chair a committee to look into the election procedures which triggered the disputes." Chicago convention chair Ron Yoshino, past Nominations Committee chair Teresa Maebori, and NCWNP District Gov. Mollie Fujioka will be asked to serve on the committee, he said.

Issues to be Resolved

Of the many issues which surfaced, bloc voting was the one which drew the most attention.

Interim legal counsel Paul Igasaki ruled that delegates were "free to cast their votes on behalf of their chapters without control from the District level."

Attorney Frank Iwama, who was asked by national director Ron Wakabayashi to give an informal review of Igasaki's opinion, concurred with Igasaki.

Iwama further stated that under California Non-Profit Corporation Law, "a voting agree-

Continued on page 5

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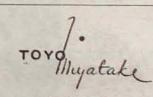
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Community Calendar Oct. 4 - 18

DELRAY BEACH

Oct. 7 11:30 a.m.

Sumi Sasajima will offer a kimono demonstration at Orange Grove House in Atlantic Plaza. Lunch will be served. Reservations required. Cost: \$20. Info: Morikami

OAKLAND

Oct.5

Nisei Widowed Group will meet at the home of Bessie Ueshiro. Info: Elsie Chung, (415) 221-0268, or Yori Mori-

Oct. 11 8 p.m.

Seattle jazz pianist Deems Tsutakawa will perform with his band at a benefit for Asian Foundation for Community Development at Oakland Museum's James Moore Theater, 1000 Oak St. Tickets: \$10. Info: AFCD, 444-2680.

PASADENA

Oct. 11 5 p.m.

The 9th annual Festival of the Autumn Moon Art Auction and Dinner, a benefit for Pacific Asia Museum, will be held in the museum courtyard, 46 N. Los Robles Ave. Admission: \$150. Info: Kathleen Fukasawa, (818) 449-2742.

WEST COVINA

Oct 5 Noon-9 p.m.

The 14th annual Aki Matsuri Festival will be held at East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center. Art and craft exhibits, food and drawings for prizes will be featured. West Covina Taiko Group will perform. Info: (818) 337-9123, (818) 960-2566.

NORWALK

Oct 8 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

The opening ceremony of the Asian/Pacific Unit of Metropolitan State Hospital will be held at the administration building near the main gate, 11400 Norwalk Blvd. Info: Charleen Milburn, (213) 863-7011, or Richard Yanez. (916) 323-8173.

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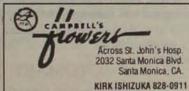
PROPOSITION 63

Continued from Front Page

groups are un-American, and ignores the long-standing American tradition of appreciation of ethnic and linguistic heritage... We feel that a better way to encourage the use of English would be for the government, at all levels, to provide increased funding for English language programs. Restricting the use of other languages is not the answer.'

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NAKASONE'S RACIAL REMARKS CRITICIZED Continued from front page

educated society such as Japan, the people require a politics that bravely faces [the country's] problems. The level in the United

States is lower because of a considerable number of Blacks, Puerto Ricans and Mexicans.'

Although Japanese newspapers and government officials differed on whether Nakasone was referring to Americans' intelligence level or literacy level, members of Congress were nonetheless outraged.

Boycott Urged

Rep. Mickey Leland (D-Texas) said on Sept. 25 that he was "angered by the recent insensitivity and ignorance demonstrated by the Japanese prime minister in linking the presence of ethnic diversity in our great nation with a lower intelligence level."

Rep. William Gray (D-Pa.) said he was "appalled at the insensitivity, at best, and racism, at worst" of Nakasone's remark, and Rep. Parren Mitchell (D-Md.) urged "all Blacks and minorities to stop buying Japanese-made cars."

Rep. Esteban Torres (D-Calif.), chair of the Hispanic Caucus, said, "Our diversity is our strength. At a time when many of us in Congress are working to improve relations with Japan, the prime minister's remarks are unfortunate.'

Mineta and Matsui joined in the criticism. "I am alarmed and angered when I find the rhetoric and actions of the Japanese prime minister embrace a racist view of the United States that seeks to twist the rich fabric of our society into something negative or detrimental," said Mineta.

Matsui commented, "What Mr. Nakasone said was absolutely outrageous. They in Japan are a very closed society. They dis-

criminate against the Koreans. Filipinos, and a lot of other groups."

Although the State Department said on Sept. 24 that it accepted Nakasone's initial response-that he had been quoted out of context-a House resolution introduced by Leland sought a retraction of the State Department's position as well as an apology from Nakasone.

Calling the remark "a horrible reflection upon the Japanese," JACL's Wakabayashi said, "As Americans of Japanese ancestry, we repudiate such a statement."

Raul Yzaguirre, president of National Council of La Raza, said Nakasone's statement was "neither positive nor accurate," attributing literacy problems among Hispanics to "discrimination and lack of resources in our schools" rather than low levels of intelligence.

Black civil rights activist Jesse Jackson led a delegation to the Japanese embassy on Sept. 25 to

demand an apology. Mike Murase, a board member of Jackson's Rainbow Coalition, told Pacific Citizen that Jackson is also concerned that Nakasone's remark could have "some impact on Japanese Americans" and on other Asian Americans.

Although no acts of violence have been linked to the controversy, bomb threats received by Japan Air Lines and Fuji Bank in New York on Sept. 25 may have been inspired by anti-Japanese sentiment.

Reaction in Japan

The Japanese press paid little attention to Nakasone's speech until it became a major issue in the United States. However, opposition leaders in Japan agreed with U.S. critics. Takako Doi, newly appointed chair of the Socialist Party, said Nakasone's statement "shows the shallowness of his international views.

Some critics have called Nakasone a sexist as well as a racist because of his suggestion, made in the same speech, that women TV viewers tend to remember the color of his necktie rather than the content of his speeches.

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Academic Attainment



SOME OF YOU may have seen the public television presentation featuring the oldest public school in the United States-the Boston Latin School in Massachusettswhich was established as a private school by the Puritans in 1635. That's more than three-and-a-half centuries ago. Initially a white, allboys institution, today it is coed and multiracial. Indeed, if I heard correctly, one out of every five students is Asian. Traditionally, admission to the school is based on one criterion: scholastic attainment. Retention in the school is based on the same, regardless of race, creed, color or national

ONE MIGHT THINK that such a standard-academic attainment -would be unassailable to charges of discrimination. No so. The Boston Latin School is being chal-lenged as "elitist" and racially exclusive. In all honesty, I don't quite comprehend the basis for such contentions, but I am certainly willing to listen and to modify my views, if not made into a convert.

In a manner of speaking, I can comprehend a bit of both sides of the proposition.

I'VE OFTEN THOUGHT about why and how so many Nisei were channeled into the professions, particularly at a time when those professions did not appear open to us; why more of us were not steered into the menial segment of the market; and why our Issei parents directed us into academic endeavors and pushed us-and I do mean pushed-to achieve when the prospects looked so bleak. Prospects looked downright dismal, one might say. In the atmosphere of those times, were I then a parent of a Nisei, I'm not at all sure I would have had the optimism and courage to give impetus and make

the sacrifices required

And so, that's one side of the coin. ON THE OTHER side, I also experienced what it meant to be academically retarded. Having attended a good, but nonetheless small and limited high school in a town of maybe 3,000 souls, my freshman year at a big city university, the University of Washington in Seattle, was quite a shocker for me. To this day, I vividly recall being in English 103, where I really did not belong but to which I had been assigned because I had done reasonably well in my small high school English class in an inaka high school. Thrown in with students from big city high schools such as Roosevelt and Garfield High, who used words that I'd never heard and spoke on subjects completely foreign to me, it was quite a traumatic few semesters. It took me a long while to get up to speed. I never really did catch up.

It did not end there. WHEN I ENROLLED for law school, yet in a bigger city (Chicago), my classmates were from throughout the country and they freely used jargon and spoke in terms which I only partially comprehended. My folks never spoke of 'debentures' at the dinner table, or the effect of interest rates on inflation, and so on. The most I overheard was the price of produce, whether peas were bringing issengorin or less per pound, and I was told to eat the last tsubu because rice was not to be wasted.

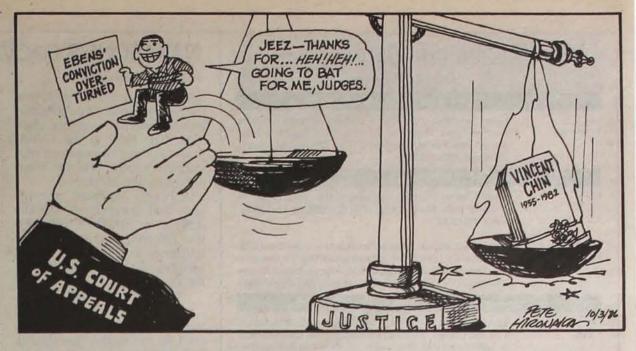
I suspect there are a lot of you out there who know just what I mean.

I MUST SAY, when I read of today's young Japanese Americans graduating from high school with a 4.0 perfect score, as I read recently in the pages of this publication, I have deep admiration.

Indeed.

The JACL membership count in last week's PC erroneously reported membership as of Aug. 31, 1986 as 16,308, or 61.6 percent of last year's total. The correct figure is 20,902, or 78.9 percent of last year's total.

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The Insular Japanese

FROM THE **FRYING PAN**

Bill Hosokawa



The September issue of Atlantic Monthly carries a provocative essay on Japan by James Fallows, its Washington editor spending the next two years in Asia under a Japan Society fellowship. Fallows has discovered much to like and admire about Japan but he finds two aspects objectionable.

The first is casual pornography, although it is hard to imagine anything more offensive than what can be viewed in the U.S. The second is something equally, if not more, deeply ingrained in the Japanese culture, an attitude based on the concept of race purity which was made strikingly pertinent by Prime Minister Nakasone's insensitive remarks recently about American minorities. The flap that followed was well deserved and indicated the prime minister and those around him have much to learn about the country that is their best cus-

Fallows admits Japan is new to him. That accounts for a certain superficiality in his views. But first impressions are often valid ones and what strikes a thoughtful observer like Fallows must be considered important.

Fallows says the effect of Japan's many centuries of isolation was the creation of a distinctive culture and the isolation of a 'pure" racial group, which tempted people to think race and culture were the same.

"The significant point," he writes, "is that as far as the Japanese are concerned, they are inherently different from other people, and are all bound together by birth and blood . . . The Japanese sense of separateness rises to the level of race because the Japanese system is closed. The United States is built on the principle of voluntary association; in theory anyone can become an American. A place in Japanese society is open only to those who are born Japanese."

Later in his essay Fallows

"I have always thought that, simply in practical terms, the United States had a big edge because it tried so hard, albeit inconsistently and with limited success, to digest

people from different backgrounds and parts of the world. Didn't the resulting cultural collisions give us extra creativity and resilience? Didn't the ethnic mixture help us at least slightly in our dealings with other countries? The Japanese, in contrast, have suffered grievously from their lack of any built-in understanding of foreign cultures. Sitting off on their own, it is easy for them to view the rest of the world as merely a market ...

"The United States, like the rest of Western society, has increasingly in the 20th Century considered it morally 'right' to rise above differences of race, inconvenient and uncomfortable as that may sometimes be. Few Western societies, and few people, may succeed in so rising-but they feel guilty when they fail. The Japanese do not.'

These words deserve study and thought. Fallows' theory may at this point be shallow and in need of further examination, but I have a feeling they may hold keys to understanding some critical problems that continue to make Japan something of an enigma to the Western world, a precocious technological and management wizard that in many respects is apallingly insensitive to the rest of the

Tearing Ourselves Apart

ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER

Shimabukuro



The "fiasco," as I would term the great election controversy, is symptomatic of the problems facing JACL today.

It should be noted that all parties acted in a manner which they perceived to be in the interests of JACL CCDC Gov. Peggy Liggett was trying to protect what she saw to be her district's interests; VP of general operations Yosh Nakashima, to protect what he saw to be National JACL's interests.

Problems occurred because the various individuals involved refused to consult with their "adversaries." To compound matters, the individuals consulted for opinions and advice were perceived to be in opposing factions and camps, and, as a result, none were considered impartial.

Any observer of National JACL politics over the past biennium could conclude that the JACL, at present, is a split organization.

While the immediate controversy has its roots in conventions long past the memory of newer JACL members, many I talked to mentioned the 1984 election of Frank Sato as a source of irritation. It has continued to fester and create distrust.

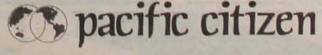
Although all officers publicly deny its existence, the split is real. During the past biennium, national board meetings have been filled with bickering, power plays, finger-pointing, and behind-the-scenes maneuvering. This split has, at times, been regarded as "U.S.Japan vs. Redress"; "LEC vs. JACL"; "Volunteers vs. Staff'; or "City Slicker vs. Inaka Boy.'

Sometimes these characterizations have been treated humorously, but too often it has taken on the character of a vendetta which seriously damages the effectiveness of the organization and hampers staff initiative.

While the PC shares some of the blame for not reporting the ongoing controversy to the membership at large, it has been hampered by the fact that a lot of these disputes are discussed in

Continued on Page 5

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My Side of the Story

by Peggy Liggett

In the Aug 29, 1986 issue of the Pacific Citizen, Yosh Nakashima made a number of personal observations on pages 4 and 5 in the "By the Board" column entitled "Changes That Need to be Made.

It should be clear that Nakashima's lengthy comments are NOT made on behalf of the National Board by any formal action taken after a full and objective investigation. He has instead chosen to arrive at some conclusions based upon his own very limited and possibly biased investigation.

While he points out that the problems he discussed have existed for more than two decades of JACL conventions, he does not tell us of his own pre-convention efforts to prevent those problems from recurring. As vice president of operations in charge of supervising the convention preparation activities, he was in the best position to anticipate problems and work with his committee chairs to prevent them.

Nakashima knew or should have known that there are a majority of district governors who are Sansei and not familiar with historical but unwritten election guidelines. He knew or should have known that a significant number of chapter presidents also are Sansei and lack his advantage of 20 years' experience with the complex and often contradictory rules governing election

Having recently taken part in my first JACL National Convention and election as district governor of Central California, the following are observations I made as I worked my way through the fascinating maze of the July 1986 election:

1. District Endorsements Prior to

What is the effect of a district endorsement? Does a district have a legal right to endorse a candidate and how may it be done? Pacific Southwest District endorsed one of the two candidates for JACL president by a majority vote of a duly constituted quorum of chapters voting according to rules agreed upon by the district's chapters. Yet persistent questions and innuendos were raised by the losing candidate's campaign chair in a PC "Letter to the Editor" that failed to disclose her special interest. Are there some written but not distributed rules about exceptions to the time-honored democratic principle of decision by majority rule of a quorum when it comes to JACL election procedures?

2. Proxy Limit

No clear written guidelines were provided all chapters and districts prior to the election regarding a maximum number of proxies that could be held and who could hold them. Nakashima indicated in a memo written in August 1986 that he had personally researched the issue months before the election and confirmed there were no written rules to guide chapters and districts. The record of pre-convention proxies show that Nakashima held four proxies. Maude Ishida of the Tulare Chapter, the credential chair appointed by Nakashima and supervised by him, sent a written response to an inquiry from the Pacific Southwest District on April 21, 1986, advising that there was no limit as long as the proxy fee of \$25 was paid. Copies of that response were not distributed to other districts or chapters prior to the election. The credentials chair had an opportunity to share that information at her own district meeting on July 9, 1986 - a meeting specially set to prepare for the convention. Her failure to share the information about the unlimited proxy rule being followed by Nakashima caused CCDC to believe there was a three-proxy limit and unnecessarily transfer a proxy originally assigned to the district governor by the Reedley Chapter

3. Limitations of Candidates From the Same District for the Same Office

Harmony and cooperation are important working principles for the JACL. To permit two candidates to run for the same office from the same district guarantees that divisiveness and hostilities will develop. Was there some historical precedent for allowing this to happen? Where were written guidelines to prevent this divisiveness from occurring and resulting in the bitter feelings that set the tone for the entire election?

4. Bloc Voting by Any District or **Group of Chapters**

Bloc voting has historically been used by districts to support their candidate or some key issue, I am told. A so-called legal memorandum dictated

by the vice president of operations and delivered to me on the afternoon of July 24, 1986 stated that bloc voting was not permitted because it was not specifically provided for in the Constitution or Bylaws. That memo, prepared by a delegate acting as acting legal counsel, also said that because the vice president of operations was not specifically denied the right to control the actions of the districts by the provisions of the JACL Constitution or Bylaws, he therefore had the right to control their actions. That type of legal reasoning is of the same tone and flavor as that behind Executive Order 9066. I personally overheard the vice president of operations dictating the legal conclusions he wanted reached after the legal memorandum was requested and before it was delivered. (The corridor to one of the frequently used ladies lounges was right by the National Office temporary convention headquarters.)

The Central California District Council held its preconvention meeting on July 9, 1986, at which time they conducted a one hour and 40 minute candidates' forum with both presidential candidates given equal time to give a formal presentation and answer questions by chapter representatives. This forum was more extensive and informative than any of those held during the actual convention that took place between July 20-25, 1986.

Since a majority of the CCDC chapters were sending proxies, the chapters decided to go on record as to how they wanted their votes cast at the convention. Each chapter individually caucused with their respective district delegates and chapter members present. In a roll-call vote, the chapters voted to vote as a bloc for Kajihara. This action was taken to ensure that delegates and those holding proxies would cast votes according to the wishes of the respective chapters. Only one delegate present abstained pending instructions from her chapter. No pre-election guidelines had been provided by the vice president of operations between April 1986 and July 24, 1986 regarding rules restricting bloc voting on candidates or issues

5. Delegate and Proxy Attendance and Participation

Delegates whose convention transportation or registration expenses are paid in whole or in part by their sponsoring chapters, or who claim they intend to use convention expenses as tax deductions, should commit themselves to participate fully in all convention activities. This commitment should include being present for all roll calls each morning, and attending and taking part in workshops, particularly when guest workshop leaders are brought in at great cost and effort by the convention committee. The delegates and proxy holders should commit themselves to attend all business sessions as well as all candidates' forums. Delegates or proxy holders who claim the right to ignore their respective chapter's voting instructions but attend no business sessions, workshops, and few candidates' forums have little basis for arguing they are better equipped to make informed choices than the chapters themselves.

6. National Staff Involvement in the **Election Process**

Staff are hired to facilitate the business of JACL. None other than official legal counsel should be giving legal opinions. On July 23, 1986, National Director Ron Wakabayashi advised some CCDC delegates prior to their first convention caucus that they were not bound by their respective chapter's recorded votes and instructions for a bloc vote or the candidate chosen by the chapters. This opinion, by a non-legal staff person, created dissension and caused unnecessary confusion.

For national staff or officers to encourage chapter delegates or holders of proxies to disregard their chapter's

SHIMABUKURO

Continued from page 4

the form of personnel matters, which demand some confidentiality.

The major responsibility lies with the National Board, which has turned every issue, including staff concerns about the operations of the national office and the PC, into a polarized debate on one's commitment to redress.

There is lingering bitterness about the way Min Yasui was "put out to pasture" in early 1984; about Frank Sato's election in Honolulu; about the manner in which Redress Director John Tateishi was treated; about LEC's "arrogance"; about staff loyalties and perceived "lack of commitment" to redress; and of course, the past election at the Chicago convention.

This bitterness erodes board energy and prevents it from dealing effectively with the real task ahead: increasing membership and revenue.

The bickering intensified over the last biennium because of dwindling membership and revenue. It will intensify even more should the revenue situation

It's about time the National Board exercised its fiscal responsibility without shifting that responsibility to staff with mixed directives. If the board cannot come up with a plan to raise revenue, then it should hire someone who can. It's that critical.

Remember: All articles and letters to the editor should be typed or computer printed, double-spaced.

instructions demonstrates a callous disregard for a chapter's interests and right to choose its candidates based upon each chapter's evaluation of the candidates and the issues. This demonstrated disregard of chapter rights creates an atmosphere of distrust and lack of confidence that raises serious obstacles to accomplishing the important work that JACL must do.

7. Proxy Transfer Rules

Proxy transfers were made by chapters from Pacific Southwest and Central California districts with confirming telegrams received on Thursday morning, July 24, 1986, shortly after 10 a.m. Almost 24 hours passed before the transfers were confirmed as required by the credentials chair. Those transfers would have gone unconfirmed and been invalid except for actions taken by the respective district governors to ensure their chapters' instructions were followed. Present and past national officers Frank Sato, Yosh Nakashima and Jim Tsujimura, who were not members of the Credentials or Rules committees, changed proxy transfer rules three times between 7:30 and 10 a.m. on July 25, 1986 in an effort to deny two chapters the right to have their votes cast according to their wishes. Their efforts were inappropriate, confusing and counterproductive.

8. Ballot Counting Procedures

Because of a lack of clear instructions, the ballot counting committee tore ballot envelopes in half during the counting. This caused a considerable delay when a runoff for vice president for public affairs occurred. The fact that there were three candidates for that office was a clear indication that a runoff was possible or, more likely, probable. But no steps were taken to plan for that eventuality to ensure an orderly election.

9. Conclusion

There is little doubt that few of these problems would have arisen had the vice president of operations and his relevant committee chairs, with the advantage of more than 20 years' experience and knowledge of problems that have persisted since 1964, taken steps to send out clear written guidelines to all chapters and districts at a reasonable time before the election.

A Fundamental Freedom

CLIFF'S CORNER

Clifford Uyeda



One of the major endeavors of the Pacific Citizen board over the past three bienniums has been to keep the PC editorially independent to fulfill its function of maintaining freedom of the press.

A lesson learned early in the game was that without financial independence there is no editorial independence. Thus, the movement begun in 1980 to free the PC from the direct control of National Headquarters was finally realized in 1984 with an amendment to Article IX of the JACL Bylaws.

Freedom of the press for PC is essential in order to report facts and opinions to the members. No single elected or appointed officer or staff person can control PC content, and that is how it should be.

PC should become the voice of the Japanese Americans, and that means diversity. The voice of the people cannot be owned by an officer or a staff person who represents them. Members want to know what has happened, as well

As a non-profit public benefit corporation, JACL meetings are open meetings. Open government means there will be mistakes, some confusion and debates. This is healthy. It is a part of PC's efforts to inform the people. The administrative body also will be better informed and better able to make sound deci-

Officers elected by the members have the right to think for themselves and to express those thoughts without having to clear their statements through a channel. We are striving for public information, not public manipula-

If necessary, PC may have to become JACL's severest critic. It is one of the obligations of the free press. The duty of the PC is to inform. The public's right to know is as fundamental a human right as the right to vote.

ELECTION CONTROVERSY

Continued from page 2

ment or voting trust agreement is unenforceable," or, simply put, would not stand up to a court challenge.

Iwama added that California law provides that the Superior Court, upon the filing of an action, is authorized to determine the validity of any election of a corporation-which means that should someone challenge the results of the election, the California Superior Court would end up deciding the matter.

Nakashima said that from a practical standpoint, bloc voting in JACL cannot be permitted. If it were, he said, a majority of chapters in PSW and NCWNP would control all the elections.

'Only Way to Have Influence'

Longtime Fresno chapter member, two-time chapter president, and former CCDC Gov. Fred Hirasuna has a different view. "While that may be true for a big district," he said, "for a small district like CCD, the only way to have any influence is to bloc vote. We only have nine votes.'

Others, like Nishio, feel that if blocs are permitted, there is no need for conventions. Districts could decide before going to the election.

All preconvention voting commitments have also come into question. Nakashima said, "If the present trend continues, we [won't] need district caucuses for candidate interviewing ... Bloc voting also eliminates the right of separate and individual vote by each chapter.'

Convention interim legal counsel Igasaki went a little further than his legal opinion. In a phone conversation, Igasaki told PC that 'you can't force anyone to vote a certain way. The only power districts have is at the nominations level. I would say that even chapters can't coerce their delegates to vote a certain way. The delegates have to vote what they see to be the best interests of the chapter.'

But, he added, chapters have the right to remove their delegate. They also "have the right to change a proxy-but within their chapter bylaws and regulations. Whether chapter presidents can unilaterally change the proxies without board action depends on the chapter bylaws."

Coercion and Undue Influence

According to Cochran's Law Lexicon, "coercion" is "compelling a person to do what he otherwise would not," and "undue influence" is "improper persuasion which results in a person acting otherwise than according to his own free will."

CCDC Gov. Liggett denied threatening or coercing anyone. Tulare delegate Ishida told PC that Liggett came into the CCD caucus and "demanded" and "ordered" delegates to contact their respective chapter presidents and longtime district activists Hirasuna and Tom Shimasaki. Liggett said she "told" delegates to call their chapter presidents.

Former national JACL legal counsel Iwama, former PSW legal counsel Leslie Furukawa and U.S. District Court Judge Robert Takasugi all agreed that coercion and undue influence would be difficult to codify.

The legal concept of "threat" and "coercion," said Takasugi, refers to the subjugation of the free mind of a person; but "that depends on how strong the will of the person being 'threatened'

Furukawa said that so much depends on a person's mental and physical state, age, maturity, and stature in the community that each situation would have to be interpreted separately.

Iwama suggested that in spite of the difficulties, a guideline would be helpful. "Enforcement on fine-line cases will be hard, but if it's out there, it'll prevent the real excessive behavior. It should discourage the kind of things that allegedly occurred."

Limitation of Proxy Votes

A constitutional amendment limiting the number of proxies a delegate may carry to three was moved, seconded, and "unanimously adopted" at the 1978 Salt Lake City Convention. However, during the constitutional revision of 1980, that amendment was inadvertently left out. So there is no limitation listed in the present printed version of the JACL Constitution. There was almost unanimous agreement that the limitation should be put back in.

It was one of the few issues in the entire controversy on which

there was agreement.

Chapter Offers Class in D.C.

SAN JOSE — The JACL San Jose Chapter once again will sponsor one student in the Presidential Classroom for Young Americans program March 7-14, 1987, in Washington, D.C.

The one-week class includes participation in 15 seminars presented by members of the congressional, judicial and executive branches of government. Students also will meet with representatives of the news media, diplomatic community, public interest groups, business and labor.

San Jose Chapter will pay for the cost of tuition and registration, hotel accommodations, all meals, curriculum materials, instructional transportation within



Kanya Sanjo V will be presented in the 11th annual Kayo-Buyo series of innovative dance Oct. 5, 2 p.m., at the Japan America Theatre, 244 San Pedro St., Los Angeles. Madame Sanjo is the grandmaster of the Sanjo School of Kabuki Dance. Tickets are \$12.50. For further information call the theater at (213) 680-3700.

the city, health and accident insurance, and special activities such as a trip to the theater.

Applications may be obtained by calling (408) 292-2914. Deadline is Dec. 1, 1986.

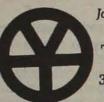


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Joys of Tofu to be Celebrated in Little Tokyo

LOS ANGELES — Japanese Village Plaza, Second Street and Central Avenue, will present its first Tofu Festival on Oct. 11 from 1-5 p.m. as part of its 8th anniversary celebration.

Festival highlights will include a performance by Cold Tofu, an Asian American comedy group. This group of actors and actresses will entertain plaza visitors with, among other things, a tofu-eating contest, compliments of Hinoichi.

Also, actor Sab Shimono, star of the movie and upcoming TV series "Gung Ho," will give cooking demonstrations focusing on the versatility and taste of tofu.

Festival participants also will include artists from L.A. Art Core who will carve tofu sculptures.

Alan Furutani and Visions will provide the West Coast Asian American jazz sounds for the afternoon of fun.

For further information, call the Japanese Plaza Office at (213) 620-8861.

Chapter Pulse

ARIZONA

•General membership/election meeting will take place Oct. 19, 5:30 p.m., at the JACL Hall, 5414 W. Glenn Dr., Glendale. New board members will be elected. Bento dinners are available at \$4 each and may be ordered by sending check to Harry Hirohata, 3122 W. Belmont Ave., Phoenix, Ariz. 85021, by Oct. 12.

CARSON

 Carson Chapter, along with Downtown L.A., Gardena, Marina, Pan Asian, South Bay and Torrance chapters, will sponsor a picnic Oct. 5, beginning at 10 a.m., at Columbia Regional Park, Prairie Avenue and 190th Street, Torrance. Activities will include basketball, softball and volleyball. Info: Jeanne Mitoma, (213) 831-0611, ext. 2381.

SAN JOSE

•Chapter will co-sponsor a showing of the movie "Yankee Samurai" Oct 18 at Morris Dailey Auditorium on the San Jose University campus. Monies raised from the showing will be used for the preparation of the Japanese American exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution scheduled to open in September 1987. Tickets are \$10 with discounts for students and seniors. Info: Katie Hironaka, (408) 292-2914.

STOCKTON

•Chapter's Legislative Education Committee will sponsor an All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti Feed Oct. 12, 5-8 p.m., at Stockton Buddhist Temple, 2820 Shimizu Dr. Tickets are \$5 per person, and children under five years of age are free. Info: Carrie Dobana, (209) 957-1801.

SO. CALIF. ASSN. OF NIKKEI

• The chapter is hosting a car rally and barbecue on Oct. 12. A prize will be awarded to the winner. Winner will be determined by time and mileage. Reservations: Jackie. (213) 214-0314 (weekdays); Paul, (213) 207-2030 (weekends); Art, (213) 379-8362.



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Books from Pacific Citizen (#2)

As of July 1, 1986 - This three-part list supersedes previous advertisements ☐ The Lost Years: 1942-1946. Ed. by Suc Kunttom Embrey. Features: "Why It Happened Here" by Roger Daniels (1967), a historian's view of the Evac-uation after 25 years... Pictures, poems and pieces of camp life....Selected bibliography. \$5.00 ppd.

☐ Japanese American Community: a Three Genera-tion Study. By Gene Levine, "Colbert Rhodes. JACL-JARP survey data of Issein 1963 and Nisei-Sansei in 1966-67 indicates degrees of acculturation, attitudes and behavior within this group and the changes. 87 tables. \$19.20 ppd, hardcover.

☐ Japanese American Story, By Budd Fukei. A taste of history and cultural heritage. One chapter by Mike Masauka recalls JACL: stole during WW2's Evacuation of Japanese. \$8,20 ppd, hardcover.

☐ Justice at War. By Peter Irons. The behind-the-scenes story of the Yasui, Hirabayashi and Korema-tau cases of WW2 and the current campaign to re-verse the wartime convictions of these three. \$10.00

Legal Problems of Japanese Americaust Their History and Development in the United States. By Moritoshi Fukada. A scholar's examination into anti-Japanese legal problems in the U.S. and his analysis. \$10.25 ppd, hardcover

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City, State, ZIP Amount enclosed: \$ Perivate 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. \$12.30 ppd; hardcover.

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NCJAR

Redress Suit Update Slated

CHICAGO — Attorneys for the National Council for Japanese American Redress will provide an update on the organization's recent efforts Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m., at Heiwa Terrace, 920 W. Law-

Focus of the public forum will be a status report by Benjamin Zelenko and Ellen Godbey Carson on NCJAR's petition for writ of certiorari filed Aug. 26 in the U.S. Supreme Court.

Included in the discussion by Zelenko and Carson will be an update on the government's response to the petition and subsequent courses of action by both parties.

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3-Auctions

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HOSPITALS

Continued from front page

 Increased immigration of foreign and American-born Japanese to California, totaling 220,915 between 1900 and 1930;

· Difficulty Japanese American physicians experienced in obtaining medical licenses and barriers they encountered in seeking privileges at mainstream hospitals;

 Anti-Japanese prejudice that went all the way to state and national government levels;

 The 1918 influenza epidemic that wiped out "a disproportionate number of foreign-born," primarily because of their exclusion from mainstream hospitals; and

 The need for a hospital where the foreign-born elderly and others could share a common language, food and customs.

At least three such hospitalsone in Stockton and two in Fresno –sprang up as a direct result of the "unfortunate experiences" during the epidemic, Kaji said.

Financial ill health-lack of paying patients and the refusal of non-Japanese to use the facilities-eventually killed all of the state's Japanese ethnic hospitals.

"Perhaps more than most ethnic hospitals, the Japanese American hospitals served almost exclusively the Japanese community, never gaining the widespread acceptance enjoyed today by the French or Jewish hospitals," observed Kaji.

His interest in the subject arose from the key role his grandfather, the late Dr. Kikuo Tashiro, played in JA hospital history.

Tashiro helped form and incorporate the Japanese Hospital of Los Angeles (later to encompass City View) and successfully battled a discrimination case that reached the California and U.S. Supreme Courts.

Although City View officially died last year, today a spark of life glows at nearby St. Vincent's Medical Center, where the City View staff is temporarily using a 16-bed wing as a special Japaneselanguage ward.

Perhaps, Kaji said, ethnic hospitals "are a thing of the past, but the staff and the community desire their own facility. The Japanese Community Hospital, Inc., is making its first steps to begin anew."

-Reprinted from UC Clip Sheet

Clarification

In "Donations and Deductions: Time is Running Out" (Sept. 19 PC), it is suggested that this may be the last year for individuals to make taxdecuctible contributions to the JACL-PC Typesetter Fund. The individuals we had in mind are those who would not be itemizing. Charitable contributions, which are itemized, are not affected by the current tax reform legislation. -Harry Honda

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GM Exec, Nevada Official Chided for Calling Japanese 'Japs'

The chairman of General Motors and a Nevada state official have been sent letters protesting their use of the term

In an article published in the Aug. 18 issue of Fortune magazine, GM chair Roger B. Smith was quoted as saying, "If [Electronic Data Systems chair] Ross Perot were sitting across the table and I asked him, 'Ross, what's your No. 1 goal right now?' he'd say, 'Beat the hell out of the Japs in automobile manufacturing, cost, quality, and design." That's what I want too.'

In a Sept. 11 letter to Smith, Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) said, "You may have been unaware that the term 'Jap' is the worst slur used against those of Japanese ancestry...

'International economic competition is necessary and healthy. But competition is not healthy if it degenerates to racial epithets, nor if it escalates an already

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tense trade situation into a confrontation between races or cultures. As the leader of one of our nation's most powerful firms, your voice is influential . . . I hope that in the future you choose your words more carefully.

Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.), writing to Smith on Sept. 12, said, "By choosing to characterize an economic issue in a racial manner, you undermine our nation's efforts to approach the task of manufacturing the world's bestmade products in the spirit of respectful competition among equals. In the extreme, this mischaracterization can lead to vio-

Both congressmen referred to the 1982 killing of Vincent Chin, a Chinese American, by an unemployed Detroit auto worker as an example of racial violence resulting from trade tensions.

JACL national director Ron Wakabayashi, in a Sept. 3 letter to Smith, also mentioned the Chin case: "Detroit has been the site of the most glaring and publicized example of a racial incident in recent history. Surely, we have learned from that tragedy."

Official's Statement

Nevada Secretary of State William Swackhamer, discussing the state's policy of using only American-made autos, was quoted in the Aug. 29 issue of the Las Vegas Review and Journal as saying, "Until the Japs start playing fair with free trade both ways, then I'm not willing to change.

They want our markets open to them, but they close theirs to us."

In a Sept. 9 letter to Swackhamer, Wakabayashi expressed profound disappointment in your interjection of a racial slur, speaking as a prominent public elected official."

"Economic issues and racial slurs," Wakabayashi added, "have been joined in statements such as yours, contributing to a dramatic and unfortunate rise in the anti-Asian sentiment and vio-



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Nov 1 departure from LAX includes R.T. air; visit Tokyo, Kamakura, Hakone, Nara, Kyoto, & Hong Kong. Orient Highlights \$2,949

Oct 18 & Nov 8 departures from LAX includes R.T. air; visit Tokyo, Kamakura, Hakone, Nara, Kyoto, Bangkok, Singapore & Hong Kong. 24 meals.

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Hotel, 3 nights at Sheraton Wentworth Hotel, 3 nights at Windsor Hotel, Melbourne; transfers airport/hotel, and city sightseeing tours at Auckland, Sydney
and Melbourne. Optional tour extension to Great Barrier Reef and Ayers Rock &
Alics Caring mail this upon request. Alice Spring available upon request.

Pacific Escape Hi-Lites (New Z'land/Australia) 15 days
 SAT departures (Oct 25, Nov 15, Nov 29) from LAX include R.T. air, tour visits Auckland, Rotorua, Te Anau, Queenstown, Christchurch, Melbourne & Sydney.

 Pacific Escape—Outback (Tahiti, N.Z./Australia) 18 days \$3,222
 FRI departures (from Oct 24) from LAX include R.T. air; tour visits Papeete, Auckland, Rotorua, Te Anau, Queenstown, Christchurch, Melbourne, Ayers Rock, Alice Springs & Sydney

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1987 PREVIEW

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JUL 30 - JAPAN FESTIVALS TOUR - 9 Days - 19 Meals - \$1795. OCT 7 - NISEI VETS SUPER TOUR - 16 Days - 30 Meals Seoul, Taipei, Tohoku & Hokkaido - \$2195.

OCT 22 - HONG KONG, OKINAWA, KYUSHU & SHIKOKU 13 Days - 29 Meals - \$2550.

OCT 31 - JAPAN ODYSSEY - Fall Foliage Tour 12 Days - 26 Meals - \$2295.

NOV 10 - URANIHON TOUR - 12 Days - 28 Meals - \$2295.

NOV 21 - GRAND ORIENT TOUR - 14 Days - Most Meals - \$1995. Kuala Lumpur, Kuching, Singapore, Bangkok & Hong Kong.

All tours include, flights, transfers, porterage, hotels, most meals, sightseeing, tips & taxes and touring transportation.

> **KOKUSAI INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL** 400 E. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012 213/626-5284