Japan of the JACL's worthy efforts English vocabulary, which have to inform you that it is not and render judgment upon the our national language."

Matsunaga said, "I have request­ed to use the abbreviation. dictionary publishers be encour­aged by Rep. Mike Lowry (D­Callt:) on Feb. 13. announced Rep. Norman Mineta (D­California) on Feb. 12. currently, the Justice Depart­ment's Uniform Crimes Reports (UCR) is now known as JADL. The salon was picket­ed by members of National Coalition for Redress /Reparations and foundations. The salon was picket­ed by members of National Coalition for Redress /Reparations and foundations. The salon was picket­ed by members of National Coalition for Redress /Reparations and foundations.

Hongo, an important part of JA to the House bill, H.R 442, from his subcommittee. Frank chairs the Judiciary Committee by April. Frank chairs the Judiciary Committee by April. Frank chairs the Judiciary Committee. Frank, one of the most talented and effective members of Congress, said Ujifusa, "is in a position to act, and he will. Our commu­nity tech. We have to move on faith alone, can now expect real institutional movement within Congress." Introduction of Senate Bill Uyehara told the board that the number of Senate co-sponsors has climbed to 40 due to the efforts of Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D­Hawaii). The Senate bill has not been introduced, she said, because there is a problem with putting it with 31 co-sponsors. The most important new co-sponsor, said Uyehara, is Minority Leader Robert Dole (R­Kansas), a probable presidential candidate.

by Harry Honda SAN FRANCISCO — A grim projection of unprecedented deficits was presented at the National JACL secretary-treasurer Alan Nishi during the National Board meeting held Feb. 13 at the Masou W. Sato, president of the Japanese American Citizens League. Judging by the 1986 budget experience, it appears that 1987 will end with a $27.02 deficit and 1988 with a much greater deficit. The budget papers indicated. "This is being projected on the basis of a 3 percent drop in mem­bership revenue each year and accompanied, therefore, with a 7 percent cut in operations," Nishi, a banker by profession, declared when the 30-hour agenda called for his report. "It means we need to boost membership." Nishi stressed. He also warned that there are some built-in losses in the 1986 budget as revised and projected.

Continued on next page

Progress Made on House, Senate Bills, LEC Reports

JACL Treasurer Predicts Massive Deficits in '87, '88

by J.K. Yamamoto Garrett Hongo, the former poet, describes his neighborhood as a "Japanese River of Heaven," as "a good mix of incredible romanticism and incredible harshness." The Hawaii-born Yoroi writ­ter has continued his life in California, and now teaches English at Uni­versity of Missouri at Columbia. He wrote the script for Yellow Light, co-author with Lawson Inada and Alan Lass of The Buddha Barrels, Newhouse Highway 9 and founder of the Seattle-based Asian Exhu­lation Foundation (North­west­east Asian Theatre). He talked about his next book, which he expects to be published in early 1989, while in Los Angeles to do poetry readings last month.

River is divided into three parts, the first of which is about Hawaii. "That part of the book has to do with prewar Japanese American history," says Hongo. "A history of incredible hardship ... the diff­icult choices they had to make, which is to say survival over loyal­ty, loyalty even to husbands and wives, loyalty to children." Self-Repression of JAs The second part deals with the legacy of the wartime relocation, which he considers to be one of "self-repression and censorship ... within Japanese­America."

"It taught us a good deal of reli­gion, withholding, stoicism. Ul­timately, I think it might operate to stifle the culture," comments Hongo, whose grandfather was picked up by the FBI and incar­cerated during the war. The third part is about the mix of cultures in Los Angeles. For Hongo, an important part of JA culture is "the way we had to learn how to grow up in L.A. and in Gar­denia, which is how to get along with Black people and Chicanos and whites, or how not to get along with them. And how we mediat­ed our own home world with the world we ran into school and out there on the streets."

The inspiration for one of the poems came from Hongo's junior high school days. "I used to be a part to a boys' glee club," he re­calls. "There was this Black guy who taught me ... gospel singing. He would teach a part and I learned a lot. It was a real good way."

Continued on next page

Hongo Offers a Poet's View of JA Experience

Continued on next page

Continued on next page

Continued on next page

Continued on next page

Continued on next page

Continued on next page

Continued on next page

Continued on next page

Continued on back page
Another co-sponsor is Steven Symms (R-Idaho), considered one of the most conservative senators. Uyehara credited IACL Western mountain District Gov. Hid Hasegawa with persuading Symms. Also supporting the bill are Sens. Bennett Johnston (D-La.) and Jim Sasser (D.Tenn).

"We are beginning to see and feel genuine momentum, so we must redouble our efforts," said Uyehara, who urged JACLers to write letters of thanks to the co-sponsors. She also recommended constituent meetings with representatives and senators during the next district work period, Apr. 11-20.

Uyehara placed special emphasis on contacting members of Frank's subcommittee in the House and of the Governmental Affairs Committee in the Senate.

If the redress campaign succeeds this year, she said, "Americans of Japanese descent will be able to join in the celebration of the bicentennial of the Constitution. Our efforts will bring to reality the ideals of the Constitution and insure that they will remain in place for all Americans."

KING'S PARTING COMPANY

Executive and interior
Substantial guaranteed
Full estimate, best price
And occasional specials
(213) 977-6757

KINGS PARTING COMPANY

Executive and interior
Substantial guaranteed
Full estimate, best price
And occasional specials
(213) 977-6757

"Break the Silence"

Violence in Bay Area Schools to Be Discussed

SAN FRANCISCO — "Violence in the Schools," the first in a series of educational programs on anti-Asian violence, will be held Feb. 24, 7 p.m. at JACL National Headquarters, 785 Sutter St.

Sponsored by the Break the Silence Coalition, the program will focus on student, parent and school district reaction to the increase of violence on school campuses, the role of the criminal justice system in the issue, and what the community can do to reduce campus attacks.

Speakers will be Gary Yee, assistant vice principal at Franklin Elementary Year-Around School in Oakland; Keith Choy, director of Chinatown Youth Services; and David Kakishiba, director of Berkeley Asian Youth Center.

Future presentations are still in the planning stage. For more information, call Rachel Shiga-Kane at (415) 925-0900.

The coalition publishes a news letter as well as the proceedings from a conference on anti-Asian violence held last May in Berkeley. For more information on the group, call the Chinese American Aftirmative Action, (415) 892-0001, or Asian Law Caucus, (415) 685-1647.

I'll be happy to move," and a showing match ensued. The Asian students soon left the restaurant to avoid trouble.

But as they left, they were followed by a group of white students, who began to throw snow balls and shout such epithets as, "You f-ing Chinese, get out of this neighborhood!"

Wai Xin Wong, 17, was struck on the head and neck with a cane wielded by Capobianco. Wai Fung Chan, 18, and Wong Chung Ng, 17, were assaulted by the mob, suffering numerous minor injuries. The alleged attacker went into the 95th Street stop on the B-line and alerted the police officer, who called the transit police and an ambulance for Wong. Wong Transit Authority office Vincent Valerio searched the area with Chan and Ng and managed to locate Capobianco, who was charged the next day with discrimination, assault, and criminal possession of a weapon.

A joint investigation between the 62nd Precinct and the NYPD Bias Investigation Unit was initiated following the stabbing. Capobianco, 16, was arrested Feb. 9, a third suspect, whose name was withheld because of his age, has also been arrested.

Police Brutality Alleged

A March 30 hearing has been set for four Chinese Americans accused of assault, resisting arrest, and theft of service; and theft of service; his or her turn, have charged the arrest.

The incident took place on Jan. 2, when Hung Wong Wong of Chinatown was held by Mike Santiago, an employee of Manpower, Inc., that illegally connected him. The suspect had been found leading to Wong's apartment.

Wong, who was his 19th.
National JACL, budgets are prepared on a two-year basis for adoption by chapter delegations at national conventions. Revisions are made by the National Board. The 1986 budget was prepared in the spring of 1984, adopted at the Honolulu convention that summer and revised in March of 1985.

Total revenue for the organization was $1,916,000 in 1986, while $1,167,000 was expended. The Finance Committee, comprised of the national president, national vice president, national treasurer and national director, initiates recommendations for budget revisions during the biennium. Cuts were instituted this past year for the balance of the budget, a total of $1,167,000 and revised in March of 1985.

In other actions taken by the National Board:

- At UCSD
- Student Union
- Holding Calif. Conference

SAN DIEGO—"Living in America: Land of Opportunity?" is the theme of Asian Pacific Student Union’s annual statewide conference to be held Feb. 28 at UC San Diego.

Keynote speakers include Lily Chen, former mayor of Monterey Park and the nation’s first Chinese American woman mayor, and Sumo Koria, a Samoan community leader and second vice president of the Committee of 100. Among workshop topics are the immigration experiences, educational rights, Asian and Pacific Islander culture and identity, and political empowerment on campus and in the community. APSU is a network of more than 35 student organizations. About 400 people from throughout California are expected to attend.

The $12 registration fee includes meals, cultural night, and dance. Info: Los Angeles area—Jerry, (213) 784-6606, or Amy, (213) 784-6607; San Diego—(619) 304-3040; Northern California—(415) 353-1339 or (909) 251-7539.

For the Record

San Gabriel Valley Singles is not a JACL chapter as described in "1987 Chapter Officers" (Feb 6 PC). We apologize for the error.
JACL's Future Function

by Paul Shinkawa

A common perception or misperception today is that Asian rights activists have accomplished everything that they are capable of accomplishing. South Africa is the big topic and apartheid is particularly sensitive. The reasons for the worst of Southern segregationists to shame as weak sentimentalists. The reasons for the worst of Southern segregationists to shame as weak sentimentalists. This is a myth. We may not be out of the woods quite since 1941.

What does this have to do with this memorial issue? One of the principal membership issues is that JACL has accomplished almost that an activist organization can reasonably expect to accomplish.

A common topic when JACL members get together to discuss the future of the organization is the existence of any future at all after redress. It is almost a well-accepted usefulness within JACL that redress will complete our work and we will have no function once it has been concluded. This is a myth. The right may indeed die after redress, but if it does, it won't be because we no longer are a needed or vital part of society as long as people retain the mental and moral stamina to recognize racial intolerance and bigotry.

In the overall panoply of civil rights organizations there probably is only a small portion of concern that JACL will not be perceived to be the principal, or at least most visible, representative of Asian Americans. As long as we retain this recognition as a civil rights organization, we retain the one wish to fail, expectations of Nikkei as their representative.

The idea that we are at the very least that we should be planning to be the only organization regardless of redress leads us

handcuffing him; Mrs. Wong, who was seven years pregnant and was shoved against a door, then struck with handcuffs, was afraid she would be worse and handcuffed after protesting.

Holy Wong, another victim, was said to have been an Asian who was among the officers who had gathered in the hallway, but who when he saw what was happening, rather than only response was to grab her husband and say to her too.

The four claims they were never told why they were being arrested until they arrived at the police station.

According to Capt. John Regan of the 5th Precinct, the two officers were also injured. Richie and Soto refused to comment for the time being. The Wong's and their attorney are seeking the assistance of the office.

I WAS READING a communication from Karl K. Obayashi, president of the Greater Los Angeles Singles Chapter of JACL. From across the table, Mrs. Vicki slowly announced: "Sooner or later, everyone will be single." Though I was completely unprepared for the rough time I was about to have over my future, I couldn't help but wonder what was in store for me. I was about to complete my studies andI thought I would finally be able to find a suitable partner.

But if the separation were permanent, whether by death or divorce, there would be some kind of resolution to remain single. But other possibilities exist. "I think I'll never get married," I said to my friend. "I can't imagine myself ever saying I do." My friend shook her head. "You've got to marry someone," she said. "That's what people do." Sooner or later, everyone will be single.

I looked after, for it had not occurred to me that I could be single again, voluntarily or involuntarily.

But, LIFE BEING what it is uncertain, it can happen to any one of us. As long as we are, we will have to remain single.

I hope to last long enough so that she doesn't end up alone. Some day, I hope, I will have the time to be with her. I think I might even enjoy that. She's been through a lot, and I'm sure she has. I think she's been through a lot. She's been through a lot, and I'm sure she has.

IT IS HIGHLY speculative to try to contemplate the impact of being single again, whether by death or divorce. In other words, there undoubtedly would be some kind of resolution to remain single. But other possibilities exist. "I think I'll never get married," I said to my friend. "I can't imagine myself ever saying I do." My friend shook her head. "You've got to marry someone," she said. "That's what people do." Sooner or later, everyone will be single.

I was about to complete my studies and I thought I would finally be able to find a suitable partner.

My contemplation of what it would be like to be a single woman was very superficial. I think of the frivoIousness, ranging from a week up to over a month when she's off on one of her overseas sojourns. Starting from the moment I return home from the airport, I can't find the can opener or just anything. But if the separation were permanent, whether by death or divorce, they would probably be some kind of resolution to remain single. But other possibilities exist. "I think I'll never get married," I said to my friend. "I can't imagine myself ever saying I do." My friend shook her head. "You've got to marry someone," she said. "That's what people do." Sooner or later, everyone will be single.

I was about to complete my studies and I thought I would finally be able to find a suitable partner.

I was about to complete my studies and I thought I would finally be able to find a suitable partner.

I looked after, for it had not occurred to me that I could be single again, voluntarily or involuntarily.

But, LIFE BEING what it is uncertain, it can happen to any one of us. As long as we are, we will have to remain single.

I hope to last long enough so that she doesn't end up alone. Some day, I hope, I will have the time to be with her. I think I might even enjoy that. She's been through a lot, and I'm sure she has. I think she's been through a lot. She's been through a lot, and I'm sure she has.
Could Matsui Win the '88 Senate Race? by Ricardo Pimentel

Sacramento Bee

In 1980, Rep. Robert Matsui was the target of an overwhelming vote of confidence. A sweeping revision of the U.S. tax code prompted reporters to ask Matsui about the fateful vote of his fellow min-"tai-mute and legislative counterparts. They re-elected him to a fifth term with the highest percentage of any congressman in California, and the fifth highest for any House candidate in the nation. Matsui, by any measure, is one of the best, a long, effective and fulfilling career in the House. But he has paid a high price for that success, including the temporary loss of his own seat and the loss of his son's life in a car accident. This is the story of Matsui's life and career, told through the eyes of someone who has worked closely with him for many years.

Possible Candidates

Joining Matsui on that roster are California State Senator Grace McFarland, Francisco Mayo, Doreene Sneck, Secretary of State March Floyd and Democratic Rep. Mel Levine of Santa Monica and George Miller of Martinez. Only Floyd, it appears, has some kind of a campaign administrator.

Matsui is one of the candidates theJSN, a political action committee, has identified as a possible Democratic challenger to incumbent Senator William Proxmire. The JSN set aside $200,000 for a primary challenge to Proxmire in 1986, and the group is again considering a similar challenge. The JSN is a political action committee that raises money from the Jewish community to support Democratic candidates.

Matsui has about $300,000 in campaign funds, and he has made a national plea last fall for aid from Asian Americans, offering his name as support for endorsing candidates. The JSN, however, has not endorsed any of the candidates.

Finally, in November, Sacramento and San Francisco newspapers carried reports of a potential challenge to Proxmire by Matsui. This is not the first time that a potential challenge to Proxmire has been reported. In 1984, the San Francisco Chronicle reported that Proxmire was facing a challenge from a Democrat in the 1986 election. In 1985, the Sacramento Bee reported that Proxmire was facing a challenge from a Democrat in the 1986 election.

The reports of a potential challenge to Proxmire have been fueled by the fact that Proxmire has not won a Senate seat by a wide margin in recent years. In 1984, he won by a margin of 53.5% to 46.5%. In 1986, he won by a margin of 54.5% to 45.5%.

The potential challenge to Proxmire has been fueled by the fact that Proxmire has not won a Senate seat by a wide margin in recent years. In 1984, he won by a margin of 53.5% to 46.5%. In 1986, he won by a margin of 54.5% to 45.5%.

The reports of a potential challenge to Proxmire have been fueled by the fact that Proxmire has not won a Senate seat by a wide margin in recent years. In 1984, he won by a margin of 53.5% to 46.5%. In 1986, he won by a margin of 54.5% to 45.5%.

The potential challenge to Proxmire has been fueled by the fact that Proxmire has not won a Senate seat by a wide margin in recent years. In 1984, he won by a margin of 53.5% to 46.5%. In 1986, he won by a margin of 54.5% to 45.5%.

The potential challenge to Proxmire has been fueled by the fact that Proxmire has not won a Senate seat by a wide margin in recent years. In 1984, he won by a margin of 53.5% to 46.5%. In 1986, he won by a margin of 54.5% to 45.5%.

The potential challenge to Proxmire has been fueled by the fact that Proxmire has not won a Senate seat by a wide margin in recent years. In 1984, he won by a margin of 53.5% to 46.5%. In 1986, he won by a margin of 54.5% to 45.5%.

The potential challenge to Proxmire has been fueled by the fact that Proxmire has not won a Senate seat by a wide margin in recent years. In 1984, he won by a margin of 53.5% to 46.5%. In 1986, he won by a margin of 54.5% to 45.5%.

The potential challenge to Proxmire has been fueled by the fact that Proxmire has not won a Senate seat by a wide margin in recent years. In 1984, he won by a margin of 53.5% to 46.5%. In 1986, he won by a margin of 54.5% to 45.5%.

The potential challenge to Proxmire has been fueled by the fact that Proxmire has not won a Senate seat by a wide margin in recent years. In 1984, he won by a margin of 53.5% to 46.5%. In 1986, he won by a margin of 54.5% to 45.5%.
The owner is retiring.

---

The Spokane community spans

---

Few dedicated workers, which generates an annual

---

The newly installed Spokane

---

Call (refundable) (518) 459-3734 Ext H

---

Nearly 60 owners, 300 residents, and

---

The RiverSide County

---

The Spokane JACL installation dance will take place Feb. 21 from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Hyatt Whistle Hilltop, 3415 Whistle Blvd. Themed “A Touch of Class,” the event will bring together members from the Marina, Orange County, Venice-Galaver, Torrance, South Bay, Pasaden, Wilshire, L.A., and Latin America chapters.

---

The Spokane community spans

---

For further information and reservations, call Annabelle Lee. (213) 327-0009

---

Demanding Service

---

Toilet. Dishwasher. 

---

The real heart of Aspen

---

7087 is here! Job openings

---

The Spokane community spans

---

The Spokane community spans

---

As seen in the Pacific Citizen

---

Demanding Service

---

The Spokane community spans

---

Demanding Service

---

The Spokane community spans

---

Demanding Service

---

Demanding Service

---

Demanding Service

---

Demanding Service

---

Demanding Service

---

Demanding Service

---

Demanding Service

---

Demanding Service

---

Demanding Service
Gotanda's Play 'The Wash' to Premiere at S.F. Theater

SAN FRANCISCO—Philip Kan Gotanda's play "The Wash" premiered March 4 at the Eureka Theater, 2700 10th St. (at Mission), and runs through March 28.

"The Wash" is a portrait of the older generation's changing role within a Japanese American family. Hill, specifically discussing his experiences facing the Nisei, the play is also "a powerful, yet subtle statement about American life, and the role of older people within American society," according to director Richard Seyd.

Nobu McCarthy is featured as Mas, McCarthy is director of the Asian American Theatre Arts Project at CSU Los Angeles and husband; Judy Momii-Hoy and Sharon Omi play the couple's daughters. Also appearing are Wood Moy, Amy Hill, Lai Diane Takei, and Mitzi Abe.

Gotanda, a native of San Francisco, is a recipient of the JACL-operated Henry and Chiyoko Kunitara Arts grant and the Joseph Kesserwine-Playwrighting Grant. His other plays include "A Song for a Nisei Fisherman" and "The Dream of Kitamura." performances are Wednesday through Sunday at 8 p.m. Tickets are $15. For more information, call 391·5931.

Judo Teacher to Be Saluted

SAN JOSE—Yoshiro "Yosh" Uchida, a retired professor at San Jose State University, will be honored at a testimonial dinner March 15 at 6 p.m. at the San Jose Marriott. A capacity crowd of 700 is expected to attend.

Uchida is president of the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rank with Silver Ribbon, for his contribution to the introduction of judo to the United States. He is president of the U.S. Judo Federation and of the U.S. College Judo Federation; chair of the National Amateur Athletic Union's International Section; and a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Rep. Ben Campbell (D-Colo.), a former student of Uchida's and a member of the 1965 U.S. Olympic Judo Team, will be master of ceremonies. Honorary co-chairs of the dinner are Don "Moon" Kikkichi, I.K. Ishimatsu, Henry Yamasaki and Tom Yuki; event coordinator is Karen Shiraki.

For tickets, call Kikuchi at (408) 577-3850.

Judo Teacher to Be Saluted

SAN JOSE—Yoshiro "Yosh" Uchida, a retired professor at San Jose State University, will be honored at a testimonial dinner March 15 at 6 p.m. at the San Jose Marriott. A capacity crowd of 700 is expected to attend.

Uchida is president of the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rank with Silver Ribbon, for his contribution to the introduction of judo to the United States. He is president of the U.S. Judo Federation and of the U.S. College Judo Federation; chair of the National Amateur Athletic Union's International Section; and a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Rep. Ben Campbell (D-Colo.), a former student of Uchida's and a member of the 1965 U.S. Olympic Judo Team, will be master of ceremonies. Honorary co-chairs of the dinner are Don "Moon" Kikkichi, I.K. Ishimatsu, Henry Yamasaki and Tom Yuki; event coordinator is Karen Shiraki.

For tickets, call Kikuchi at (408) 577-3850.

KRC
KENNETH N. KUSUMOTO
RARE COINS
Gold & Silver Bullion Sales
714 / 541-0994

Nexus Financial Center
Orange, CA 92668

The Harvest Of Hate centers around the post-Pearl Harbor uprooting of the Sato family from their southern California farm, and their incarceration at the Poston War Relocation Center in Arizona.

"The story, the characters, the detailed incidents all are far beyond merely plausible—they happened to real people."

Hiroshi Kami, a former internee.

The Harvest Of Hate

A novel of the Japanese American Evacuation by Georgia Day Robertson


To order or write:
Japanese American Project
Oral History Program
Library 433
California State University, Fullerton
Fullerton, CA 92634

Judo Teacher to Be Saluted

SAN JOSE—Yoshiro "Yosh" Uchida, a retired professor at San Jose State University, will be honored at a testimonial dinner March 15 at 6 p.m. at the San Jose Marriott. A capacity crowd of 700 is expected to attend.

Uchida is president of the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rank with Silver Ribbon, for his contribution to the introduction of judo to the United States. He is president of the U.S. Judo Federation and of the U.S. College Judo Federation; chair of the National Amateur Athletic Union's International Section; and a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Rep. Ben Campbell (D-Colo.), a former student of Uchida's and a member of the 1965 U.S. Olympic Judo Team, will be master of ceremonies. Honorary co-chairs of the dinner are Don "Moon" Kikkichi, I.K. Ishimatsu, Henry Yamasaki and Tom Yuki; event coordinator is Karen Shiraki.

For tickets, call Kikuchi at (408) 577-3850.

KRC
KENNETH N. KUSUMOTO
RARE COINS
Gold & Silver Bullion Sales
714 / 541-0994

Nexus Financial Center
Orange, CA 92668

The Harvest Of Hate centers around the post-Pearl Harbor uprooting of the Sato family from their southern California farm, and their incarceration at the Poston War Relocation Center in Arizona.

"The story, the characters, the detailed incidents all are far beyond merely plausible—they happened to real people."

Hiroshi Kami, a former internee.

The Harvest Of Hate

A novel of the Japanese American Evacuation by Georgia Day Robertson


To order or write:
Japanese American Project
Oral History Program
Library 433
California State University, Fullerton
Fullerton, CA 92634

Judo Teacher to Be Saluted

SAN JOSE—Yoshiro "Yosh" Uchida, a retired professor at San Jose State University, will be honored at a testimonial dinner March 15 at 6 p.m. at the San Jose Marriott. A capacity crowd of 700 is expected to attend.

Uchida is president of the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rank with Silver Ribbon, for his contribution to the introduction of judo to the United States. He is president of the U.S. Judo Federation and of the U.S. College Judo Federation; chair of the National Amateur Athletic Union's International Section; and a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Rep. Ben Campbell (D-Colo.), a former student of Uchida's and a member of the 1965 U.S. Olympic Judo Team, will be master of ceremonies. Honorary co-chairs of the dinner are Don "Moon" Kikkichi, I.K. Ishimatsu, Henry Yamasaki and Tom Yuki; event coordinator is Karen Shiraki.

For tickets, call Kikuchi at (408) 577-3850.
Small circle of friends, or the value of being a part of people.

He is also against the practice of arbitrarily "deciding what constitutes Asian American literature," which he says is found in certain segments of the Asian American press. He cites a case where he was not invited to a party held at the New Yorker because it was re­ jected by the community paper he first wrote for. Hongo calls his new book an elegy for his late father, Albert Hongo, "a great hero to me because he was a person who refused to hate. Though the anger probably turned inward itself, I saw him as a hero because he didn't turn anybody away. He rarely showed anger against others. It's a big deal for a guy who went through a lot of changes like he did."

The book's title comes from the Japanese story of the cowherd and the cowgirl who were exiled to opposite ends of the Milky Way for their forbidden love, and were allowed to meet only once a year. "To me, it's a myth of the afterlife, a myth of requital, or conciliation, in some ways redemptive," says Hongo.

In addition to teaching poetry, writing and literature at University of Missouri, he edits poetry for the Missouri Review and devotes his spare time to working on his poems. He says of his calling, "You can't make a lot of money being a poet. Therefore, a lot of greedy people can't become part of this profession. You do it for the art, you don't do it for any other reason."

Although he has not written any plays since "Nisei Bar and Grill," a decade ago, he adds, "After I finish this new green book, I'm gonna go back and write another play. And it'll be really good."