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House Hearing

Justice Dept. Is Lone Voice Against Bill

WASHINGTON — A House Judiciary subcommittee heard testimony supporting redress bill H.R. 442—and a dissenting voice from the Department of Justice—on April 29.

The witness list for the hearing convened by Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), chair of the Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations, included five members of Congress.

Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) called the bill "a sound, balanced and workable package of remedies... We have continually refined it, and I believe it merits this subcommittee's approval."

Among the refinements listed by Mineta was clarification of tax and benefit eligibility status of the compensation payments and of eligibility criteria for individuals to be compensated.

Payments Spread Out

"Only citizens and lawfully admitted permanent residents at the time of the internment are eligible," he said. The Attorney General would have nine months to identify and locate eligible individuals, Mineta continued, and the \$20,000 payments would be spread over a period of up to 10 years, with the oldest recipients being paid first.

Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) rebutted arguments commonly made against monetary compensation. Redress would not set a precedent for other groups who were wronged in centuries past, he said, because payments would be limited to the 66,000 Japanese Americans who "were actually victims of the government action."

"There are others who have said there are some Americans of Japanese ancestry that are pretty well off, and so why should they be entitled to \$20,000? I would only answer that if one of you... got hit by an automobile

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Photo by J.K. Yamamoto

Pacific Southwest District JACL director John Saito (left) and George Ogawa of South Bay Chapter participate in a rally in front of the Federal Building in Los Angeles, where a deportation hearing for seven Palestinians and one Kenyan was held April 28. Saito and Ogawa said the government is employing tactics used against Japanese Americans during WW2.

Asian Lawyers Urge INS to End Arab Deportation Case

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Asian Law Caucus has urged INS Commissioner Alan Nelson to drop deportation charges against seven Palestinians and one Kenyan arrested in Los Angeles in January.

Attorneys for the eight have charged that the arrests are part of an INS contingency plan that would include the deportation, exclusion and detention of individuals from certain Middle Eastern countries in order to curb terrorism.

In a statement issued April 23, the law caucus said the charges in the case are limited to "alleged political activities" rather than

actual criminal violations.

"No other conclusion can be made but that the arrests of the 'LA. 8' are clearly the test case for the implementation of the contingency plan," the caucus stated. "For the Asian American community, the arrests and attempted deportations are a vivid reminder that the historical racism and anti-civil liberties bias in the immigration laws and of the Justice Department is very much alive..."

"For the Japanese American community in particular, however, the arrests and attempted

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Ebens Found Not Guilty in Vincent Chin Retrial

CINCINNATI — The federal jury in the retrial of Ronald Ebens found the defendant not guilty of civil rights violations in the 1982 beating death of Vincent Chin in Detroit.

Prosecutors had charged that Ebens, an auto worker, was angry at the Japanese auto industry and attacked Chin because he was Asian. The defense, while admitting that Ebens killed Chin, maintained that the death resulted from a drunken brawl with no racial overtones.

Commenting on the May 1 verdict, James Shimoura of American Citizens for Justice, a Detroit-based Asian American coalition, said, "It's a very sad day, one of the darkest days in the history of Asian Americans... The case points out in many ways that there are a lot of problems that Asians have and we have a lot more to do to educate the public."

The coalition was formed after Ebens and his stepson Michael Nitz pleaded guilty to manslaughter and were sentenced by a Wayne County judge to probation and fines. Pressure from ACJ and other civil rights groups led to prosecution of Ebens and

Nitz in 1984 on federal charges of civil rights violations. Nitz was acquitted; Ebens was convicted and given a 25-year jail sentence.

An appeals court reversed the conviction last year and ordered a new trial. Because of extensive publicity in Detroit, the retrial was moved to Cincinnati.

Continuing Efforts

Although all avenues for prosecution in the case have been exhausted, said Shimoura, ACJ will continue to monitor and deal with incidents of anti-Asian violence and anti-Asian sentiment. It is still important to "let the public know that the problem is not going to go away," he said.

Shimoura added that ACJ has expressed "warmest thanks to the Department of Justice for their efforts in this case. They did their duty to the best of their ability... I don't think the jury really understood the issues, which placed the Department of Justice at a real handicap."

Chin's widowed mother Lily "has not appeared in public yet," Shimoura reported. "She's just sitting at home in seclusion." Al-

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H.R. 442 Gets Co-Sponsors

WASHINGTON — The number of co-sponsors of redress bill H.R. 442 reached 139 as of April 29. The new additions were Reps. Constance Morella (R-Md.), Benjamin Cardin (D-Md.), Chester Atkins (D-Mass.), James Bilbray (D-Nev.), and Peter DeFazio (D-Ore.).

DeFazio, who was elected last year, is the first Oregon representative to co-sponsor the bill during the 100th Congress. His predecessor, James Weaver (D), was also a co-sponsor.

Cardin is a member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations, to which H.R. 442 has been assigned. Five members of the subcommittee are now co-sponsors.

The bill needs the votes of at least six of the ten members in order to be moved to the full Judiciary Committee. According to JACL-LEC executive director Grayce Uyehara, the sixth vote was committed during the 99th Congress and will be confirmed during the current session.

Mineta, Matsui Take Sides on Trade Amendment



Rep. Robert Matsui

WASHINGTON — The differing positions taken by Reps. Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui (both D-Calif.) on an amendment to the 1987 Trade and International Policy Act on April 29 reflected disagreement in the House over the effectiveness of tough sanctions against countries that have a trade deficit with the U.S.

The amendment by Rep. Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.) would require U.S. government retaliation against major trading partners, most notably Japan, which are accused of unfair trade practices. If they do not take action to remedy the situation, the U.S. would reduce the imbalances by 10 percent each year through tariffs and quotas.

For Japan, whose trade deficit

with the U.S. was \$58.6 billion for the 1986 calendar year, Gephardt's amendment could mean retaliatory tariffs of \$7 billion a year. Japan already faces a tariff on electrical goods imposed by President Reagan on April 17 because of alleged violations of a semiconductor trading pact.

The amendment was passed by a narrow 218-214 vote. It had the support of House Speaker Jim Wright (D-Texas), but was opposed not only by Reagan and his Republican supporters but also by such Democrats as House Ways and Means chair Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.).

Mineta was one of 15 California Democrats who voted for the amendment; Matsui was one of 11 Democrats and 18 Republicans

who voted against it.

"I voted to support Congressman Gephardt's amendment to the trade bill for one reason: jobs," said Mineta. "This provision will put pressure on America's trading partners to drop their trade barriers and open their markets to American products. That means more exports and more jobs here at home."

Trade War Feared

But Matsui warned that the amendment would lead to a trade war: "If the Gephardt amendment were to become law, it would be a giant step backward for U.S. trade policy. Instead of opening foreign markets to U.S. goods, this amendment is more likely to force us to close our markets, in-

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Rep. Norman Mineta

VINCENT CHIN CASE

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though Mrs. Chin might collect monetary damages from Ebens in a still-pending wrongful death suit, "I don't think it's any solace to her at all," said Shimoura.

In Cincinnati, the Americans for Asian Concerns coalition (formerly Roundtable of Americans of Asian Descent), chaired by C.K. Wang and Dean Goto, issued a statement which read, in part: "The brutal killing of Vincent Chin... is more than an isolated case of violence against an Asian American... The Justice Department has also recognized that the violence against Asians throughout the U.S. is the fastest-growing area of discrimination."

"Today, American industry and labor are facing intense international competition from both Europe and Asia. Hostility against minority races and scapegoating have historically always increased during hard economic times. The social and economic conditions which gave rise to violence against Asian Americans are also present in Cincinnati."

"For example, on July 4, 1986, the city witnessed the outbreak of violence between newly resettled Asian refugees and the long-time residents of Camp Washington. Some of the Cambodian newcomers were impelled to move out of Camp Washington. A number of local residents have ex-

pressed resentment against the perceived economic aid given to refugees, as well as against the free-market job successes of some of the new neighbors.

"In 1982, it was fashionable in Detroit to smash Japanese-made cars as a means of expression against loss of American jobs. This form of violent expression caught on in Cincinnati on Nov. 16, 1986, with the smashing of a Toyota following the announcement of the closing of the Norwood automobile assembly plant and of the Fairfield auto body plant. However, we hardly ever see a sledgehammer swung on a Volkswagen..."

"We are... asking our community for assistance in preventing acts of violence, harassment and discrimination against Asian Americans in the coming years, especially in light of upcoming plant closings and other trade war fallout. The Vincent Chin case should serve as the catalyst for all people of Cincinnati to come together and begin to overcome the barriers of prejudice..."

"I'm still very sorry about the death that occurred, but I'm very relieved it is over after four years," said Ebens, who, with his wife Juanita, broke into tears at the verdict.

Defense attorney Frank Eaman commented, "We said all along

this case was a frame-up. This was never a civil rights case, and he got a fair trial."

Federal prosecutor Floyd Cardy's only comment was, "We're disappointed. We accept the verdict of the jury."

Earlier motions for acquittal and mistrial had been denied. The defense claimed that the government had failed to prove that the beating was racially motivated and that graphic testimony about the beating could prejudice the jury.

Robert Siroskey, a friend of Chin's who was in the bar where the fight began, testified that he heard the word "Chink" coming from where Ebens was sitting.

Keith Reed, a witness who was at a nearby McDonald's, testified that he clearly heard the sound of Ebens' baseball bat striking Chin's head.

The defense relied heavily on a taped conversation between attorney Lisa Chan and three prosecution witnesses, including Siroskey, before the 1984 trial. At one point on the tape, Chan says, "Just remember your lines. You remember 'chink,' you remember foreign cars." Defense attorneys said the tape proved that Chin's friends were coached to testify about racial slurs.

— from reports by Associated Press, Cincinnati Post and Pacific Citizen staff

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HOUSE HEARING

Continued from front page

and lost your arms and legs, a defense against awarding monetary damages in a court of law could not be that you are members of Congress and you make 'x' dollars. Your particular wealth has nothing to do with it. The issue is fundamental justice."

Both Mineta and Matsui noted that Solicitor General Charles Fried, representing the government at an April 20 Supreme Court hearing on a class action suit filed by former internees, acknowledged that the internment was wrong but still argued against monetary compensation.

Rep. Patricia Saiki (R-Hawaii) focused on the wartime experience of the Hawaiian Japanese. "Armed men with rifles came unannounced to our doors and without cause searched our homes for evidence of subversive activities. To avoid being detained, we buried everything Japanese, including cameras, dishes, family heirlooms, even books. Fear was the climate of the day."

"People were being arrested for no reason, interrogated and held without charges against them. My uncle was taken from his family in the middle of the night and placed in a detention camp at Sand Island in Honolulu. He was told that he was to be transported to an internment camp in Topaz, Utah, and had the choice of taking his young family with him."

Saiki said that more than 1,500 Japanese Americans were sent from Hawaii to Mainland detention camps, and about 300 were placed in the Honouliuli camp at Ewa Beach on Oahu.

"The measure before us is not a budget issue," she said. "It is a

matter of personal freedom... Restitution should be made and accepted."

Rep. Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii) added his support, saying, "The Japanese Americans who underwent relocation endured tremendous injustices. At a minimum, we owe them what this bill provides."

Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska) and attorney John Kirtland, special counsel to the Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association and the Aleut Corporation, presented the case for H.R. 1631, which would compensate Aleuts removed from their homes because of the danger of a Japanese attack.

Many Aleuts fell ill or died because of substandard conditions in the camps where they were housed, and survivors returned to their villages to find property stolen or damaged by U.S. troops. The island of Attu was never returned to the Aleuts.

"No matter how hard this task is, I believe it is the obligation of a fair and just government to repay citizens for property taken by that government," said Young. "even where the motive is to protect the nation in time of war. The obligation to repay innocent citizens for property taken by government is not lost solely through the passage of time."

Opposing Viewpoint

Referring to both H.R. 442 and H.R. 1631, Assistant Attorney General Richard Willard stated that "the Administration recommends against enactment of this legislation."

"We can all agree that Japanese Americans suffered much deprivation and hardship," said Willard. "... it is impossible to restore to all those Americans the freedom that was taken as a result of war. However, previous congresses, presidents and the

Continued on page 5

TV Documentary Focuses on Life in Topaz

SALT LAKE CITY — Public TV station KUED 7 will present "Topaz," a documentary on the wartime internment camp, May 9 at 6 p.m.

The documentary focuses on Japanese Americans of the San Francisco Bay Area who were removed from their homes and shipped to Topaz, located on a windswept stretch of rangeland

near Delta. With a population of more than 8,000, the camp became the fifth largest city in Utah.

"Topaz" explores the atmosphere in Utah during this period through archival films and photographs, many of which have not been broadcast before, and interviews with former internees and camp workers.

"Topaz" also examines how in-

ternees tried to lead normal lives under camp conditions; how they felt about being interned by their own country; the losses of parents whose Nisei sons were killed in action while fighting for the U.S.; and the case of an elderly man gunned down by a guard within the confines of the camp.

KUED senior producer Ken Verdoia served as producer and director. Colleen Casto was associate producer; Carl Seibert was videographer.

For more information, contact KUED at 101 Gardner Hall, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112; (801) 581-6163.

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DEPORTATION

Continued from front page

deportations, combined with the INS contingency plan to detain thousands of Middle Eastern persons at the remote federal detention facility in Oakdale, La., clearly signify that the Justice Department has refused to learn the lessons of the WW2 concentration camps in the United States."

Creating Stereotypes

In an April 23 letter to Nelson, law caucus director Peggy Saika and staff attorney William Tamayo wrote, "The Department of Justice...has had more than ample signals to recognize that such deportation plans and 'concentration camps' efforts are not acceptable among those who believe in civil liberties."

"Furthermore, when such efforts are contingent upon creating a stereotype that all those from certain Middle Eastern countries are suddenly 'terrorists,' the proponents engage in the same type of practice towards Japanese Americans that was condemned by writers, government commissions and Supreme Court justices."

'Lessons of Internment'

Saika and Tamayo urged that the prosecution of the case and the contingency plan be dropped. Continued prosecution, they said, "would only reaffirm the fact that the department has failed (or chooses not) to learn from the lessons of the Japanese internment."

Facing deportation are Khader Hamide, Michel Shehadeh, Amjad Obeid, Bashar Hasam Amer, Ayman Obeid, Aiad Barakat, Naim Sharif, and Julie Nyungui Mungai. They were charged with belonging to a radical faction of the PLO and advocating world communism.



Yasushi "Chewy" Ito speaks at nursing home dedication ceremony.

Sacramento Nursing Home for Asian Community Opens

SACRAMENTO — The \$6 million Asian Community Nursing Home was officially dedicated on April 18.

Following an invocation by the Rev. Bob Oshita of Sacramento Buddhist Church, congratulations were extended by Mayor Anne Rudin, Supervisor Illa Collin, Larry Meeks of Statewide Health Planning and philanthropist Angelo Tsakopoulos, who donated the land. Toko Fujii served as master of ceremonies.

ACC chair Yasushi "Chewy" Ito and nursing home administrator Fred Takayasu spoke on behalf of the ACC board of directors and the nursing home staff. The ribbon-cutting was performed by nursing home resident Matsu Horita with the assistance of Ito and Takayasu. The nursing home now has 10 residents.

For more information on ACC, write to 7801 Rush River Dr., Sacramento, CA 95831 or call (916) 393-9020.

Rep. Mineta Getting Divorced

WASHINGTON — Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) and his wife May are divorcing after 25 years of marriage.

Mineta's office released the following statement on April 23: "Congressman and Mrs. Mineta agreed to a separation last fall

and ultimately concluded that they would get a divorce."

A divorce petition filed by the congressman sought joint custody of the couple's 16-year-old son Stuart. The Minetas have another son, David, 23.

TRADE BILL

Continued from front page

viting retaliation from abroad.

"Like the failed policies of 50 years ago, when the Smoot-Hawley Act contributed to the Depression, this amendment could trigger a trade war that would result in more lost jobs in California, higher consumer prices, and the risk of world recession."

Contending that only 10 percent of the U.S. trade surplus is linked to unfair trade practices, Matsui said, "The reality is that the causes of the U.S. trade deficit are rooted firmly in bankrupt economic policies both here and abroad. Forcing such severe retaliation against our trading partners is an admission that we can't compete in the world."

He added that the House bill without the amendment "is tough without being protectionist" and "focuses on expanding world trade and access to markets."

"If negotiations to open markets don't succeed, it requires

the President to take action by imposing tariffs or import quotas," Matsui explained. "But it doesn't resort to the harsh sanctions that Gephardt would inflict on our trading partners."

Rice Quotas

The overall trade bill, which was approved April 30, included language by Matsui directing the U.S. Trade Representative to address rice and citrus issues first in negotiations with Japan.

"Japanese barriers to the importation of rice are symbolic of a host of other trade barriers that the Japanese have erected against U.S. products," said Matsui. "This legislation sends a message to Japan that the U.S. will not tolerate unfair and unreasonable barriers to free trade."

"U.S. rice farmers have been particularly hurt by Japan's virtual prohibition of rice imports. American rice producers deserve a chance to compete on a level playing field."

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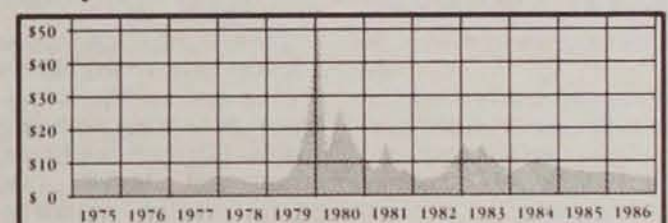
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Bill Marutani
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In the past few months, there have appeared in these pages expressions of dismay focusing on the so-called "Personnel Manual" that is in the midst of being revised and brought up to date.

At least two of the writers—Dr. Roy Nishikawa and George Kodama—are individuals well known to me and for whom I have the greatest respect. And I understand their expressions of concern. Were I in their position, I, too, may well have articulated the very same concerns and in the same manner.

Indeed, much, if not all, of which both expressed have validity and will undoubtedly be fully considered by those in charge of developing the standards as well as by the National Board.

In almost any sphere of our lives—whether it be our personal habits, the way we operate our business, the way we organize our records (or don't organize), how we use (or dissipate) our time, etc.—there is a tendency to do it "the way we always have."

Some call this tendency "inertia." Inertia is narcissistic; it abhors and resists changes of any kind, even needed ones.

While I am a newcomer to the National Board still in the process of learning what is going on, what is not going on, and what should be going on, it certainly doesn't take much cerebral pondering to see that the national organization is sorely in need of review and, where necessary, overhaul.

Membership has been declining for years; we continue to be in such financial straits that monetary resources are consumed simply in keeping the organization alive and little is left to carry out programs—the very reason for the existence of the organiza-

tion. If one were operating a business and were confronted with such a state of affairs, and then failed to review the situation, prepared to make necessary adjustments and changes, one's fate is foredoomed.

The effort to effect change, to seek improvement, is not and should not be interpreted as an effort to destroy. On the contrary, in this instance, at least, the intentions are to stem the downward trend that has been in operation for a number of years, and thereupon to stabilize and uplift the organization.

Nor should these efforts be considered as criticism of the efforts of others. In my mind, at least, there is no question that everyone performed as best they could.

We certainly don't wish to dissipate our energies in crab-in-the-barrel pull-downs.

But in order to consider changes, it becomes necessary to first determine what has transpired in the recent past, what is in the works at the present—in short, to gain intimate familiarity with the various facets of the organization's programs, operations, personnel, expenditures, etc.

And this responsibility must be that of the entire National Board, and not be imposed upon any single person. So far, there has not been a single source, such as a "briefing book" handed out to all board members, informing each member of the "ins" and "outs" of the organization, and apparently one has never existed in the past.

And so we find ourselves discovering bit by bit new information: insurance coverage, salary patterns, pension funding, membership health and hospitalization program, etc.

There's something unsettling about change. I don't like disruption myself, whether in my personal life or in organizational activities. But there are times, personally and otherwise, that one would do well to reexamine and, if necessary, readjust.

So, patience and understanding is called for. By all.



Comic Relief for Illiteracy?

FROM THE
FRYING PAN

Bill
Hosokawa



One of our nation's most serious problems is illiteracy. Would you believe that one in seven adults is functionally illiterate? That 40 percent of minority youths are functionally illiterate?

What these figures mean is that we're building a two-tiered society—a society of the literate and a society of the illiterate, people who can read and those who cannot, those who can think on the basis of ideas transmitted by the written word and those who cannot.

The politicians and the hucksters have recognized the significance of the statistics. They are seeing to it that since so many people no longer read, information is provided them in 30-second spot commercials. Knowledge and understanding and wisdom, whether about critical national

issues or breakfast cereal, are based on half-minute segments of the hucksters' art. You'll witness this in coming months as the presidential election heats up.

What's the solution? Strangely enough, perhaps Japan, with its nearly 100 percent literacy, has come up with one: comic books. Ingeniously, the Japanese publishing industry is using comic books not only for escapist entertainment, but to treat serious topics ranging from classical literature to investments in the stock market, medical tips to etiquette, legal advice to an explanation of international economics.

A report from the Sankei Shimbun, provided by the Asia Foundation's Translation Service, says "Japanese Economy for Beginners," a fictionalized comic book discussion of current problems, sold more than 250,000 copies in two months. The principal character is Kudo-san, who works for Santomo, a large trading company. The story begins in Detroit, where unemployed auto workers are milling angrily around a Toyosan. The scene shifts to Tokyo, where Kudo-san discusses trade problems with fellow Santomo

employees.

Comic books also serve as a kind of cram sheet for college students. They can learn about Freud, Einstein and *Das Kapital* in comic books without the tedium of reading texts.

Comic books are being used as a political tool. The Liberal Democratic Party in 1981 published and sold 1.5 million copies of a comic book titled "Why We Need the U.S.-Japan Mutual Security Treaty."

Is this kind of approach to serious issues a good idea? I have my doubts about the wisdom of oversimplifying and presenting complex problems in stark boom-crash-bang comic book fashion. The comic book approach by its nature is black and white with few gray areas. That, unfortunately, is the way political fanatics and religious extremists see the world.

On the other hand, maybe even a little knowledge is better than none, and none is the way so much of our population is headed. In view of our nation's staggering literacy problem, Japan's comic book approach to disseminating information is worth a long, hard look.

Coming Together in '88

BY THE
BOARD

Yosh Nakashima
V.P. of Operations

The theme of the 1988 JACL National Convention—"Coming Home"—is most appropriate and signals a new beginning or a change in course for JACL as we remember the root beginnings. Seattle has a long and proud history of activism and achievement at every level of participation—chapter, district and national.

We were privileged to be in Seattle on April 25-26 and had a most productive meeting with the chairs of the host committee as well as with the Pacific Northwest regional director and the two youth leaders.

Although the convention is very tightly scheduled, there is ample time to enjoy the friendships from previous conventions and make new ones. The University of Washington campus is a unique setting and I feel that everyone will appreciate the facilities once they get there. I would strongly urge that everyone plan to stay on the campus to maximize work and play time by eliminating travel time.

Most things are close by and within an easy five-to-ten-minute

walk. The view from the dorms is fantastic and the atmosphere ideal. For those who can, plan on driving to the convention, as there is ample parking and lots to see and do in Seattle.

The programming is still in the development stage, but things look really good. There are several sports tournaments planned prior to the business sessions as well as possible tours of the area.

If everything works out, a special leadership seminar is being anticipated for those who are just beginning their careers in the corporate world. This seminar should give special insight into how to effectively climb the ladder of success and achieve a level of personal satisfaction

along with the success. Keep watching for more information.

A comprehensive youth convention is also being planned to run concurrently with the main convention. There will be some overlap with a dinner event as well as other special functions. There will be lots to keep one busy and also the opportunity to meet new people and exchange ideas and interests. More to come in the months ahead.

Finally, the cost of this convention should be about 30 to 50 percent less than previous ones at hotels.

Plan on attending during the week of Aug. 5-12, 1988. Save the dates.

The House Hearing

LEC
UPDATE

Grayce
Uyehara



The Administrative Law and Governmental Relations subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee held a hearing on H.R. 442 on April 29 at the Rayburn House Building.

Chairman Barney Frank of Massachusetts opened the hearing shortly after the scheduled 9:30 a.m. starting time.

The hearing was on two bills: H.R. 442, to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internments of Civilians; and H.R. 1631, to accept the findings and implement the recommendations of the CWRIC with respect to the Aleut people.

Added to the list of testifiers published in the May 1 Pacific Citizen was Congresswoman Patricia Saiki of Hawaii.

Subcommittee members present during some part of the hearing were: Dan Glickman (D-Kan.),

Howard Berman (D-Calif.), Benjamin Cardin (D-Md.), Ranking Minority Member E. Clay Shaw (R-Fla.), and Howard Coble (R-N.C.). The Democrats who were present are co-sponsors of H.R. 442.

Frank was very much in charge of this hearing as the new chairman of the subcommittee and made clear his support for the bill and his intention to get it through the subcommittee to the full Judiciary Committee.

All of those who testified expressed strong support for the redress bill except for Assistant U.S. Attorney General Richard K. Willard. Further, the supporters wanted to see the redress bill moved to passage in the 100th Congress.

The hearing was recessed three times and consequently went on until 1 p.m., although Frank had planned to end the hearing by noon. The House was focused on getting a trade bill passed that week, when Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone was meeting with President Reagan.

Panelists representing the victims who suffered damages from Executive Order 9066 were the last to testify. In order to end the

Continued on page 5



pacific citizen

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PSW Calls for Redrafting of Staff Manual

by J.K. Yamamoto

LOS ANGELES — A resolution rejecting the proposed JACL personnel manual and urging that a new personnel committee be formed to make necessary changes in the manual was passed April 25 by the Pacific Southwest District Council JACL.

The proposed manual, which includes cutbacks in benefits and other provisions that have caused objections by the staff, is "something that we're really not comfortable with," said Kitty Sankey of Downtown Chapter, who moved to abolish the current ad hoc personnel committee.

Junji Kumamoto of Riverside Chapter, however, said the resolution went beyond the bounds of the district's purview. "It's entirely within the prerogative of the National Board to do what they've done. That's their responsibility. It seems ridiculous for us to say for them to start over again."

While stressing that the manual was "never intended to be a witch hunt," district governor Ken Inouye said PSW was within its rights to make a recommendation. The manual "is not in our province as a district council," he said, "but at the same time we are part of the organization. We can't force National to back off on the first draft... [but] this district's opinion would be very influential."

Norman Arikawa of East Los Angeles Chapter said the proposed manual revision was "very confusing" because it did not indicate what changes were necessary and why. He and others said that changes needed to bring the manual into compliance with state and federal laws should be distinguished from changes that are being made for other reasons.

The "at will" provision falls into the latter category, said Deni Uejima of San Gabriel Valley Chapter, because it means "if we want to terminate you, we terminate you."

Regional director John Saito remarked, "There was a cloud of depression over all staff after the initial presentation" of the manual at the National Board meeting in February. "I'd hate to see any new people come in and work under these types of conditions."

Of the 19 chapters represented, 18 recommended that the National Board appoint a standing National Personnel Committee rather than an ad hoc manual revision committee, and that a cross-section of JACL, including staff, be represented. The committee's charge would be to update the current manual; policy changes would be limited to those necessary for compliance with any legal requirements.

UYEHARA

Continued from page 4

hearing by 1 p.m., the chairman held testifiers to the time limit.

The panel had been assigned the responsibility of discussing the remedies, particularly the trust fund of \$1.5 billion from which the \$20,000 individual payments will be made, with the remaining amount to be used for a civil liberties public education fund.

These testimonies, along with the Department of Justice's reasons for recommending against enactment of this legislation, are reported more fully elsewhere in this issue.

Letters to the Editor

The Fugu Plan

Although I applaud Bill Marutani's column "The Japanese and the Jews" (April 3 PC) in response to the recent popularity in Japan of Masami Uno's anti-Semitic books, I feel compelled to correct a misconception contained in the column.

The Fugu Plan mentioned by Mr. Marutani and the New York Times was not, in fact, a compassionate humanitarian effort to aid European Jews. The motivation of the Japanese government's invitation to European Jews to settle in Manchuria was to use them as pawns to develop the area and make it more profitable to the Japanese, and also to attract the good will and financial assistance of Jews in other countries (whom the Japanese believed, even then, to be in control of most of the world's capital).

This fact is reflected in the very name of the plan, which, contrary to Mr. Marutani's guess, translates not as "ill-fated" or "unfortunate," but refers to the blowfish (*fugu*) which is eaten as a delicacy in Japan, but which is extremely poisonous if not properly prepared.

Capt. Koreschige Inuzuka of the Japanese Imperial Navy, one of the inventors of the Fugu Plan, is quoted in *The Fugu Plan* by Marvin Tokayer and Mary Swartz (Paddington Press, 1979) as saying:

"This plan is very much like *fugu*. If we are indeed skillful in preparing this dish—if we can remain ever-alert to the sly nature of the Jews, if we can continue to devote our constant attention to this enterprise lest the Jews, in their inherently clever manner, manage to turn the tables on us and begin to use us for their own ends—if we succeed in our undertaking, we will create for our nation and our beloved emperor the tastiest and most nutritious dish imaginable. But, if we make the slightest mistake, it will destroy us in the most horrible manner" (p. 52-53).

If the Japanese are to overcome the racist, xenophobic attitudes which make Masami Uno's books so popular, these attitudes must be seen not as an isolated and recent fluke, but as deep-rooted and insidious prejudices.

JOSEPH UGORETZ
Brooklyn, N.Y.

More on Manual

We are writing this letter on behalf of Gardena Valley Chapter.

Our leadership is dismayed by the proposed changes in the JACL personnel policies and procedure manual.

We have no problems with any changes that will bring existing policies into compliance with state and federal employment laws and regulations. However, we do question both the wisdom and motivation of the ad hoc personnel committee in recommending that JACL staff be placed in "at will" employment status.

National administrations come and go, but the one constant that has held the organization in good stead has been the national, regional and Pacific Citizen staff. It is obvious to us that these people have exhibited their dedication to the goals and principles of the organization in spite of the fact that they are required to work long hours, on evenings and weekends, and at a pay scale below current market rates.

We would like to register our opposition to the "at will" portion of the personnel manual and also any unreasonable record-keeping requirements. We feel this matter should be referred to the national vice president of operations and that he select a committee which would include the national director. We feel that by doing so, some semblance of organization and good faith can be exhibited to the staff members and JACL membership.

DEENA HARD
President
JONATHAN T. KAJI
Vice President
LANCE IZUMI
Board Member
Gardena, Calif.

Caveat Editor

1983: editor Peter Imamura tries to cut down on the frequency of the "From the Frying Pan" columns. Exit Imamura. "Frying Pan" returns to every-issue regularity.

1987: editor Lynn Sakamoto tries to cut down on the frequency of the "From the Frying Pan" columns. Exit Sakamoto. "Frying Pan" returns to every-issue regularity.

George Santayana once wrote, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Future editors of PC, take heed!

RAYMOND OKAMURA
Berkeley

Wronged Americans

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer ran the following editorial in its April 23 issue.

Restitution can neither repair the indignities nor restore the losses caused by the unwarranted assignment of American citizens to prison camps during WW2. But restitution can provide tangible, if inadequate, justice.

Such justice is now in the hands of the U.S. Supreme Court. Citizens of Japanese ancestry want the court to reinstate their claims for compensation—claims for property lost when they were herded like cattle into camps by government decree.

Admitting internment of U.S. citizens was "deplorable" and "frankly racist," U.S. Solicitor General Charles Fried nevertheless argued before the high court this week that the six-week statute of limitations has run out, and that the court should not

bend the "ordinary rules of law" allowing the claims to be heard.

Hysteria and fear born of war led President Franklin D. Roosevelt to issue Executive Order 9066, which in turn led to corralling citizens into the camps. However real that hysteria and fear, evidence since then shows there was little factual basis for concern that citizens of Japanese heritage would perpetrate acts of disloyalty.

The Supreme Court can correct this by enabling interned citizens to press monetary claims for the property wrongfully seized. Failing this, Congress should enact legislation shelved last year to pay \$20,000 to each of the estimated 66,000 internment camp prisoners still living.

The nation cannot restore the years denied these wronged citizens. It can return a measure of the material things they lost.

HOUSE HEARING

Continued from page 2

attorney general have taken steps to acknowledge and compensate for the injuries suffered by Japanese Americans during this period."

The 1948 American Japanese Claims Act resulted in 26,568 settlements totaling \$37 million, and since many claims were filed on behalf of families rather than individuals, he said, "it is safe to conclude that of the 120,000 evacuees, most submitted claims... and received compensation."

Addressing H.R. 442, he said, "The department opposes these provisions for paying additional reparations to individuals where Congress has already enacted a comprehensive statutory scheme which provided a reasonable and balanced contemporaneous remedy to affected individuals..."

"Although the Commission [on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians] report challenges the amount of compensation chosen by Congress as inadequate, Congress has spoken after considerable debate, and there is no good reason to question that settlement now 3½ decades later."

He also expressed opposition to the bill's proposed educational fund. "We do not believe it is the proper function of our government to adopt an 'official' ver-

sion of these historical events. Similarly, we oppose spending hundreds of millions of dollars to 'educate' the American people to accept this official interpretation of our history."

Other Testimony

Angus MacBeth, former CWRIC special counsel, reiterated his support of the commission's recommendations, which are incorporated into the bill. William Robinson of the American Bar Association urged Congress to enact the legislation promptly.

LEC executive director Grayce Ueyehara responded to the government's arguments by stating that uncompensated losses have been estimated to be \$1.2 to 3.1 billion. "The Evacuation Claims Act was far from a fair settling of the accounts for the real losses suffered by the Japanese Americans," she said. "More importantly, it provided nothing for the deprivation of liberty which is at the center of the redress issue."

Also speaking in support of the bill were National JACL president Harry Kajihara and Mike Masaoka of Go For Broke, the Nisei veterans association.

Written testimonies were submitted by LEC chair Jerry Enomoto, Kris Ikejiri of National Democratic Council of Asian and Pacific Americans, and the American Jewish Committee.

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Chapter Pulse

NEW YORK

• Chapter's annual Scholarship Dinner-Dance will take place May 30 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Warwick Hotel. Dinner committee is being spearheaded by Sandy Funatake. Info: (212) 614-2838.

SEATTLE

• Chapter's benefit golf tournament will take place June 14 at Jefferson Park Golf Course beginning at 11 a.m. Entry fee is \$20 with participants paying green fees. Further information may be obtained by writing Bob Sato, 316 Maynard Ave. S., Room 108, Seattle, WA 98104.

STOCKTON

• Chapter's community picnic will take place May 24 beginning at 10 a.m. at Mieke Grove Park. Signups for horseshoe competition will be taken at 11:30 a.m. Contest will begin at 12:30 p.m. Activities also will include races for boys, girls and adults.

VENTURA

• Chapter will participate in a cleanup of the Japanese Cemetery, Olds and Pleasant Valley Road, Oxnard, May 16 beginning at 9 a.m. Info: Yas Umeda, (805) 487-0666.

PLACER COUNTY

• Chapter's annual scholarship fund-raising dinner will take place May 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Placer Buddhist Church, 3192 Boyington Road. Tickets for the chicken teriyaki/chow mein combination dinner are \$7.50 per person. Recipients of this year's scholarships will be announced during the evening program. Info: Roy Yoshida, (916) 652-6367.

SOUTH BAY

• Chapter will host the next Pacific Southwest District Council meeting May 17 at Sushi Katsu Restaurant, 3963 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. Meeting will be conducted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Info: Mary Ogawa, (213) 325-7622.

Hiroshima to Raise Funds for Asian American Theatre Co.

SAN FRANCISCO—The jazz/fusion group Hiroshima will perform in a benefit concert for the Asian American Theatre Company on May 16, 8 p.m., at Masonic Auditorium, 1111 California St.

The Los Angeles-based band, which blends jazz, R&B and pop music with traditional Japanese instruments, made its album debut in 1979 with "Hiroshima" and will soon release its fifth album, "Go." The five members of Hiroshima are Dan Kuramoto, June Kuramoto, Johnny Mori, Danny Yamamoto and Barbara Long.

Opening for the band will be San Francisco comedienne Linda Hill and Diane Amos. Hill appears at The Other Cafe and The Punchline; Amos is a member of the improvisational group National Theatre of the Deranged.

Tickets are \$20 for the concert only and \$50 for concert and reception. For more information, call Asian American Theatre Company, (415) 346-8922.

For the Record

In the listing of chapter dues and membership chairs (May 1 PC, p. 5), the contact person for Hoosier JACL should have been Doris Maeda, 310 N. Mitthoeffer Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46229.

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Six Bay Area Asian Women to Receive Awards

SAN FRANCISCO—The Pacific Asian American Women Bay Area Coalition will present the 1987 Woman Warrior Awards on May 17, 4 p.m., at Harbor Village Restaurant, 4 Embarcadero Center. The six recipients are:

• Arts: P.J. Hirabayashi, now in her 13th year with San Jose Taiko Group, which she helped found. She has also designed "ethnic wearable art" and started her own clothing design company, Earthenware.

In the 1960s, she helped organize East Bay Japanese for Action, one of the first organizations to serve Issei in the Bay Area. She has been active as a resource developer and instructor in San Jose State University's Asian American Studies Department. Since February, she has devoted all of her energies to San Jose Taiko, working to develop it into a professional company.

• Human Services: Dora Kim, founder of the Korean Community Service Center in San Francisco, who retired from the center's staff last year. As a job counselor and job developer for California Employment Service for 26 years, she helped Korean immigrants find work.

In 1946, she was the first Asian woman to pass the state real estate broker's examination, but was not admitted as a member of the San Francisco Real Estate Board until 1965. She has served as a vice president of the San Francisco Business and Professional Woman's Club and was honored by the City and County of San Francisco in 1981 for her work as founder and president of United Nationalities, an inter-ethnic organization.

• Politics and Community Advocacy: Alice Bulos, president of Filipino American Council of San Mateo County and vice chair of Filipino American Democratic

State Caucus. A leader in voter registration drives in the Filipino American community, she has chaired and hosted fund-raisers for such candidates as Assemblyman Louis Papan and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley and was a delegate to the 1984 Democratic Convention under the Mondale-Ferraro ticket.

She is active in Sacramento Asian Pacific Women's Network and PAAWBAC and is also a 1986 appointee to the San Mateo Health Commission.

• Community Service: Dorothy Wong, a 39-year member of the Square and Circle Club, a Chinese women's service organization. She has also been active in the Berkeley Chinese Community Church, where she is organizing a senior center.

She has been a moderator of conferences with Pacific Asian American Ministries and United Church of Christ, Northern California chapter. She has served UCC at the national level in the Coordinating Center for Women and the Women in Mission steering committee.

• Health/Human Services: Effie Chow, the first Chinese American woman to be licensed as a certified acupuncturist in California after lobbying for state recognition of acupuncture. She instituted the first Asian American family planning program in the country as project director of Chinatown North Beach Planned Parenthood (now Chinatown Northeast Medical Services).

In 1973 she founded the East West Academy of Healing Arts, which provides consultation and training services to health organizations and community and government agencies. She lectures on family planning, bilingual education and mental health and organizes conferences on holistic health and cultural practices.

• Education: Elaine Kim, one of the founders of UC Berkeley's Asian American studies program. She has initiated courses on such topics as Asian American literature and Korean Americans.

She is a founder of Asian Women United of California, author of *With Silk Wings: Asian American Women at Work*, and a founding director of Korean Community Center of the East Bay.

Tickets for the reception are \$25 each. Proceeds will go to the PAAWBAC scholarship fund. Deadline for reservations: May 11. Reservations can be made by calling Barbara Fong, (415) 668-9099, or Shirley Wong, (408) 298-2128 (evenings).

Deaths

Teiho Hashida, who served as Japanese section editor of the *Rafu Shimpo* in Los Angeles for 36 years, died April 16 of heart failure. Born in Walville, Wash., educated at University of Washington and interned at Tule Lake. He joined the *Rafu Shimpo* in 1941 and retired at the end of 1981.

He helped rebuild the news paper, which had been closed during the war. During his tenure, the readership grew from 3,000 to over 20,000. He is survived by his wife Tagako.

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Community Calendar

May 9 — 23

LOS ANGELES

May 17
11:30 a.m. Oriental Dynasty Fashion Show, sponsored by the Japanese American Optimist Club of Los Angeles, will take place at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Proceeds from the benefit luncheon will go to the Japanese Retirement Home Development Fund and the Optimist Girls' Group Home. Tickets are \$35 per person, or \$50 per person for special Imperial Circle Table seating, and may be obtained by contacting Pam Fukunaga, (213) 329-2800 (days), or Paul Yamaguchi, (818) 507-8714 (evenings).

May 17
1:30 p.m. Monthly meeting of the Nikkei Widowed Group will take place at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, Room 4-B, 244 S. San Pedro St. Guest speaker will be Melissa Tanaka. Topic of her talk will be the prevention of hypertension and diabetes, and staying healthy with good food and exercise. Info: Tak, (213) 822-8070, or Eizo, (213) 372-3592.

MARINA DEL REY

May 17
1 p.m. Drs. H. Paul Kageyama and Margie Rirez will be guest speakers at an information forum sponsored by Megamillions, a Nikkei widow/widowers group, at Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way. Cost is \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door. Info: Shiz, (213) 821-3219, or Nori, (213) 547-2850.

STOCKTON

May 17
2 p.m. Monthly meeting of the Nikkei Widowed Group of San Joaquin Valley will take place at Calvary Presbyterian Church, 1239 S. Monroe St. Special guest will be artist Jiro Sasaki who will discuss "The Art of Bonsai." Public is invited to attend.

VISALIA

May 9
11 a.m.-7 p.m. The 1987 Festival of Japan will take place at the Visalia Convention Center. Exhibits and entertainment will include Japanese dancing, taiko drummers, kendo and judo demonstrations, a doll display and a variety of Japanese foods. Admission is \$1 for adults. Children will be admitted free. Info: Ron Sasaki, (209) 732-8674, or Karen Hirabayashi, (209) 584-5594.

NEW YORK

May 9
Noon-6 p.m. Ninth annual Asian/Pacific American Heritage Festival will take place at Damrosch Park, West 66th and Columbus Avenue, next to the Lincoln Center.

SAN FRANCISCO

May 16 Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California Awards Dinner will take place at the Cathedral Hill Hotel. Honorees are Haruko Obata, Cultural Award; and Shichinosuke Asano, Sandy Ouye Mori, Dr. Yoshiye Togasaki and Dr. Clifford Uyeda, Community Awards. Tickets are \$50 per person. Reservations and ticket information may be obtained by calling Charles Morimoto at (415) 567-5505.

'Silk Screen' Series to Air on KQED-TV

SAN FRANCISCO — A series of programs on Asian Americans will be aired on KQED-TV (Ch. 9) on May 10 and 17 at 7:30 p.m.

"Silk Screen," hosted by actor Robert Ito, showcases dramatic and documentary films by and about Asian Americans.

"Fool's Dance," which airs on May 10, features Mako as Saichi, a Buddhist patient who brings laughter and life to a staid convalescent home, and Esther Rolle as an overworked social worker who is affected by Saichi's philosophy. Robert Nakamura and Karen Ishizuka produced.

"Talking History," which airs May 17, is a film by Spencer Nakasako about five Asian women—Lai Shi Lo, Kiyo Hirano, Marge Talaugon, Young Shin and Yu Waili Low—who represent the experiences of Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean and Hmong immigrants in America.

"Silk Screen" is produced by National Asian American Telecommunications Association. For more information, call (415) 863-0814.

Toshi Koba Scholarship Being Offered to Black and JA Youth

SAN FRANCISCO — Applications for the Toshi Koba Memorial Scholarship will be accepted until May 30.

Each year, two \$900 scholarships are awarded to students from the Black and/or Japanese American community on the basis of financial need, current community involvement, and potential contributions to one's community.

Applicants must have been accepted or enrolled in a four-year college or graduate school.

The scholarship fund was established in 1983 by the family of the late Toshi Koba, who provided support for the youth of the Black and Japanese American communities in the Bay Area.

Born in 1909, she earned a B.A. and M.S.W. from San Francisco State University and worked for the YMCA until the WW2 internment. After returning to San Francisco, she worked for the Booker T. Washington Community Center until her retirement 32 years later.

Application forms may be obtained by writing to Pine United Methodist Church Scholarship Committee, 426 - 33rd Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121. Recipients will be announced in mid-June.

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PNW Hears About Manual, Multicultural Education

by Robert Shimabukuro

SEATTLE — Pacific Citizen Board Chair Peggy Liggett, presenting background information on the proposed revision of the JACL personnel manual to the Pacific Northwest District Council, was faced with tough questions during her presentation at the district's quarterly meeting April 26 at the Warwick Hotel.

Liggett, who also chairs the ad hoc personnel manual revision committee, said the committee was organized by the National Board because of staff allegations of board misconduct and staff concern that inequitable salary increases and benefit distributions were carried out under board directives.

Former PNW secretary-treasurer Ben Nakagawa wanted to know why Liggett felt it necessary to make her presentation.

While the allegations and background information were "juicy," said Nakagawa, "the relationship of the national director with the National Board is the responsibility of the National Board. It seems rather ludicrous to think about revising a personnel manual because of an administrative situation."

"If the personnel manual needs revision, it needs revision in and of itself, independent of any personalities... If it's a personnel matter, that too is the responsibility of the National Board."

Liggett answered that all she was there for was to disseminate information and to answer questions. She also felt that some JACLers were of the opinion that the committee was formed for no good reason, and that it was therefore important for members to have the background information.

But PNW vice governor Ted Masumoto was not convinced about the need for a committee. The national legal counsel is the one who should be looking over the manual and giving the National Board advice, he said.

White River Chapter president Harvey Watanabe commented that it was not possible to use any background information as gospel because none of it was documented. In the future, he said, both staff and board members should be more business-like and put grievances in writing.



Photo by Robert Shimabukuro
Mako Nakagawa

The general feeling of the council seemed to be that (1) the matter was a National Board concern, and (2) the proposed manual did not address any of the allegations that Liggett said staff members had made against JACL.

Multicultural Education

In other council business, two workshops were offered. Mako Nakagawa, chair of the National JACL Ethnic Concerns Committee, gave a lecture/workshop on multicultural education and cooperative pluralism, and Jerry Iwamoto and Nina Mar presented a workshop on becoming a tax-exempt organization.

Nakagawa, who gives workshops for teachers and parents as program administrator of the state Office of Multicultural and Equity Education, said that the goal of multicultural education is to change the racist mentality that gives rise to civil rights prob-

lems.

"If we keep working on the civil rights issues and responding to the problems we're having... the faucet that turns on the kinds of problems is still on. The education aspect is trying to close that faucet."

As a consequence, she continued, multicultural education should address "serious justice issues."

Not 'Tacos on Tuesday'

It should not mean "tacos on Tuesday and fried rice on Friday," she said. "The only result will be fat kids. Multicultural education should instead try to close psychological spaces between people."

"The rationale [for multicultural education] was that minorities could not relate to the white monocultural educational system and hence needed multicultural education. But with this attitude, the need for multicultural education will always be only for minorities. This rationale must

be changed because it is for all people."

Nakagawa pushed for the concept of cooperative pluralism, in which divergent perspectives of different ethnic groups contribute to a cooperative society while each group maintains its own personal culture.

The tax workshop was designed to help chapters fill out the Arthur Young surveys relating to 501(c)(3) organizations and to aid chapters and the district in incorporating separately from National JACL.

National Convention

In other matters, 1988 National Convention co-chairs Ben Nakagawa and Tomio Moriguchi presented preliminary plans for the Seattle event, which will run from Thursday to Thursday rather than the usual Sunday to Sunday. A golf and tennis tournament on Aug. 4 and 5 will kick off the convention, which will get down to serious business Saturday and Sunday.

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