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Friday, June 19, 1987

'Tokyo Time' Is About Love—Nikkei Style

by J.K. Yamamoto

Can a Sansei whose only interest is rock-and-roll find happiness with a woman from Japan who married him so that she could stay in the country legally?

This question is asked—and answered—in "Living on Tokyo Time," a new film by San Francisco-based filmmaker Steven Okazaki. The low-key comedy is set for release this summer.

The Sansei character, Ken (Ken Nakagawa), is described by Okazaki as "a guy who just stayed in his room all day and never communicated with people and just played records and his guitar." Ken, who has an unexciting job as a janitor, has just been dumped by his girlfriend.

The woman from Japan, Kyoko (Minako Ohashi), has broken up with her boyfriend and come to America, where she works in a Japanese restaurant by day and studies English by night. When Kyoko's visa is about to expire, she and Ken are persuaded to marry by Lana (Kate Connell), a mutual friend. Lana tells Ken that he needs some spontaneity in his life.

After Kyoko moves into Ken's cluttered apartment, complications arise when Ken, despite language and cultural barriers, finds himself falling for his wife.

Other cast members include Mitzi Abe as Ken's sister, Joe Oyama as Ken's father, Judi Nihei as a waitress at the restaurant, Keith Choy as one of Ken's co-workers, and Lane Nishikawa as the "Manju Man."

'Just to Have Fun'

The film is a change of pace for Okazaki, who is best known for two documentaries: "Survivors," which concerns Hiroshima and Nagasaki survivors living in the U.S., and "Unfinished Business," the story of three Nisei who contested the wartime evacuation and internment in court. "Unfinished Business" was nominated for the best feature-length documentary Oscar in 1985.

George Shibata

1st JA West Point Grad Dies

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif.—George Shibata, the first Nisei graduate of West Point and the first Japanese American jet pilot to fight in the Korean War, died May 20. He was 60.

A native of Garland, Utah, Shibata was appointed to West Point in 1947 by Sen. Elbert Thomas (D-Utah) and graduated in 1951. After completing jet pilot and combat crew training, he was sent to Korea, where he flew with the 58th Fighter Bomber Wing. He flew 30 combat missions and was awarded the Air Medal, Service Medal, United Nations Medal, Korean Service Medal, and Korean Presidential Citation Medal.

Shibata remained in the Air Force until 1955, when he re-



Steven Okazaki

"The idea was just to have fun," Okazaki said of his latest film. "...I just wanted to try something less serious, something less relevant." Although the project started as a lark, he realized after shooting began "that the film really had some potential, that people would watch it."



Minako Ohashi

Okazaki thinks feature films are easier to make than documentaries, which have "so many unknown factors" because the filmmaker is "catching spontaneous moments." In a feature film, he said, "you're dealing with people at a different level where they're

Continued on page 2

Calif. Bill Urges President, Congress to Approve Redress

SACRAMENTO — State Sen. Ralph Dills (D-Gardena) introduced a joint resolution June 8 urging the President and Congress to enact redress legislation now in the House and Senate.

"My resolution recognizes the grave injustice that was done to Japanese American citizens," said Dills. "The redress of the injustice done to Japanese Americans that were interned during WW2 is long overdue, and responds to the American values of fairness and justice and equality."

The resolution, SJR 21, states that "basic civil liberties and constitutional rights of the civilians of Japanese ancestry who were interned in the United States during WW2 were fundamentally violated" and that "the Legislature of the State of California urges the President and the Congress of the United States to enact those portions of H.R. 442 and S. 1009 of the 100th Congress, the Civil Liberties Act of 1987, which relate to the redress

of the injustice."

The principal co-authors of the resolution are Sen. David Roberti (D-Los Angeles) and Assemblyman Patrick Johnston (D-Stockton). Other co-authors are:

Sens. Robert Beverly (R-29th), Cecil Green (D-33rd), Leroy Greene (D-6th), Bill Lockyer (D-10th), Milton Marks (R-3rd), Dan McCorquodale (D-12th), Nicholas Petris (D-9th), Herschel Rosenthal (D-22nd), Art Torres (D-24th), Rose Ann Vuich (D-15th), and Diane Watson (D-28th); and

Assembly members Art Agnos (D-16th), William Bradley (R-76th), Willie Brown (D-17th), Robert Campbell (D-11th), Delaine Eastin (D-18th), Sam Farr (D-28th), Bill Filante (R-9th), Terry Friedman (D-43rd), Daniel Hauser (D-2nd), Tom Hayden (D-44th), Teresa Hughes (D-47th), Phillip Isenberg (D-10th), Mike Roos (D-46th), Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-56th), Byron Sher (D-21st), Sally Tanner (D-60th), Curtis Tucker (D-50th), John Vasconcellos (D-23rd), Maxine Waters (D-48th), and Paul Zeltner (R-54th).

A similar resolution was passed in 1985 by a vote of 29-3 in the Senate and 64-0 in the Assembly.



George Shibata in 1955.

He is survived by his wife Evelyn, daughter Stacey, son Byron, brothers Saburo of Chicago and Harry of Garland, and sisters Hatsuiko Fujii of Gardena, Calif., Yuki Sato of Garland, and Teri and Kazuko Shibata of Salt Lake City.

House and Senate Redress Hearings Set for Same Day

WASHINGTON — The House Judiciary Committee, chaired by Rep. Peter Rodino (D-N.J.), was scheduled to hold a hearing on redress bill H.R. 442 on June 17 at 9:30 a.m. On the same day at 2 p.m., a Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee hearing on redress bill S. 1009 was planned (see June 12 PC).

H.R. 442 was marked up and reported to the full Judiciary Committee by the Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations, chaired by Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), on May 13. This marked the first time a redress bill had progressed beyond the subcommittee level.

Of the 35 members of the Judiciary Committee, 17 of the 21 Democrats and 4 of the 14 Republicans are co-sponsors of H.R. 442.

"Knowing that there are many bills reported to the full committee and waiting for consideration, we thought we might have a little wait," said JACL-LEC executive director Grayce Uyehara, who was in the midst of preparing testimony for the Senate hearing. "We are absolutely elated to think that there is a chance for the bill to come out of the full Judiciary Committee. The staff and I are trying very hard to stay on top of the lobbying workload."

"We know we have a ways to go, but we are thankful that redress is finally facing the light of day and will be receiving the chance to be considered by the House if the full committee approves the bill."

"We're facing an especially busy and challenging week for redress legislation," said Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.). "I'm confident that redress will come through this critical week with flying colors."

Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) commented, "The fact that Chairman Rodino has acted so quickly to consider the legislation is a positive sign. I'm optimistic the bill will pass the full committee and that this will be a historic day for redress and Congress."

"I am very encouraged by Chairman Rodino's action," said Rep. Patricia Saiki (R-Hawaii). "H.R. 442 is long overdue. I believe that if the Congress is given the chance to consider this bill on its merits, it will be approved."

Details of the hearing will appear in next week's issue.

State Resolution Addresses UC Asian Admissions Issue

SACRAMENTO — In response to community concerns about possible limitations on admissions of Asian Americans at University of California campuses, Assembly Speaker Willie Brown has introduced a measure aimed at ensuring equal admissions opportunities for all minorities.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution 70, passed by the Education Committee on June 10, requests that the UC regents to require each UC campus to: (1) consider including minority representatives on admissions and enrollment committees; (2) publicly disclose the process of applicant selection; (3) intensify outreach activities; and (4) institute an advisory committee of minority community leaders.

Testifying in support of the resolution were JACL national director Ron Wakabayashi and Chinese for Affirmative Action executive director Henry Der. Both are members of the Asian American Task Force on University Admissions, which has accused UC Berkeley of imposing admissions criteria that discriminate against Asian applicants.

Members of the Legislature have looked into the Asian admissions issue in recent months. In March, Brown met with the task force, and the Subcommittee on Higher Education, chaired by Assemblyman Tom Hayden, heard testimony from task force members and UC representatives. Senate President Pro Tempore David Roberti has asked the Assembly Joint Legislative Audit Committee to reevaluate a UC Berkeley

report which denied the discrimination charges.

The resolution states, "There has been a growing concern within the Asian Pacific community that the university has been establishing admissions policies which have the effect of establishing a quota on the number of highly qualified Asian Pacific applicants to the university...."

"An Asian American Task Force on University Admissions was created in November 1984 to study and to monitor the admissions policies and procedures.... The task force issued a report and concluded that major improvements needed to be made...."

"It was found that 26 percent of the state's Asian Pacific high school graduates were eligible for freshmen admission to the University of California, and yet, only 17 percent were offered admission in 1986...."

"The application and admissions procedures in a public university system should be made accessible to all interested parties.... Any changes in admissions policies should be provided with sufficient advance notice to the applicants and their families so that applicants have ample time to respond to the changing university admissions criteria...."

The resolution asks the UC regents to prepare a report on their progress in following the four recommendations and to review UC policies which permit different admissions criteria on each campus. The report and review are to be submitted no later than March 15, 1988.

'LIVING ON TOKYO TIME'

Continued from front page

trying to act out what *you* want—your images, your ideas."

Okazaki directed and edited "Tokyo Time" and co-wrote the screenplay with his friend John McCormick.

"The painful thing about documentaries," he continued, "is that you're constantly justifying your project to funders... With a film like this, the issue is, will it make money, is it entertaining?"

Although aiming for a larger audience, Okazaki at first thought the offbeat characters and plot might put off some audiences. "The whole concept of Japanese versus Japanese American really complicates things in terms of the public's understanding what the story is about."

Any reservations he had vanished when "Tokyo Time" was screened at a film festival in Hawaii. The audience was "almost rowdy... they laughed through whole scenes," he recalled, noting that a Nisei couple he was observing "laughed the whole time." And at another screening in Park City, Utah, where Okazaki estimated the audience to be no more than 3 percent Asian, "There was more and more demand for tickets... it was a really great response."

Okazaki said the Nikkei community was helpful in some aspects of making the film, but not in others.

Locations for filming were provided by Kansai, a restaurant in the Embarcadero, and by coffee shop owner Curly Maeda. (For Ken's apartment, Okazaki used his own place. He called the experience "horrible... there was so much junk all over the place.")

In the area of financing, however, "we had only one Japanese American investor," said Okazaki, "and that was Dennis Hayashi, the producer, and his parents."

"People aren't really used to donating to projects like this, or to arts groups or theater groups," he remarked. "... It's really discouraging when you're trying to get it started and the first thing you do is look outside your community."

The film will be released in New York and San Francisco on Aug. 14, in Los Angeles and Honolulu on Aug. 28, and in 16 other cities in September.

Okazaki's next major project will be another comedy, "Love or Marriage," with a script by his writing partner McCormick. "It's about a woman who's turning 35 and decides she absolutely, posi-

tively must get married by her 35th birthday," said Okazaki, who confessed that he had been planning to get married when he became 35 (his present age) but has since decided "just to do research on it and make films."

Also in the works are a short documentary on the Japanese writer Kenzaburo Oe and a possible ABC TV-movie on Fred Korematsu, one of the subjects of "Unfinished Business."

'Tokyo Time' Actress Seeks to Avoid Typecasting

"She's absolutely a natural actress. She just takes to the medium immediately," Steven Okazaki said of Minako Ohashi, who stars in "Living on Tokyo Time."

But Ohashi doesn't want to be confused with Kyoko, the unsophisticated country girl she portrays. "I could associate what she had been through and what I did, but the reaction to that cultural encounter is different... The way she appeared in the film is different from the way I am, so I hope people will figure that out."

A native of Tokyo, Ohashi came to the U.S. at the age of 19 and attended San Francisco State University. She studied theater and worked with Theatre of Yugen, a Bay Area company that performs *noh* and *kyogen* pieces

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in English.

When she auditioned for the part in the film, she was surprised that there were seven others who answered the call for Japanese-speaking actresses. "I didn't think there were even that many," she said. Okazaki decided she was right for the role, but she was required to speak English with far less fluency than she is capable of.

Now a drama student at New York University, Ohashi plans to return to Japan and "work internationally, between countries." One reason she'd rather be based in Japan is that "in the United States, there are not so many film or theatrical opportunities for Asians... I never thought my opportunities would be limited

when I was back home, because there everybody's Japanese... and it's a matter of ability, it's a matter of talent. When I came here, being Asian meant something in terms of filling roles, and that was a shock to me."

She considers herself lucky to have appeared in "Tokyo Time" rather than films like "Shogun" or "Taipan," which some Asian Americans condemned as inaccurate and exploitative.

Appearing in the film was a learning experience for Ohashi. "Lots of Japanese people don't know anything about Japanese Americans, especially young people—their images of Americans are either white or black. So personally, I was glad that I was in-

Continued on next page

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The Californias

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Japanese American History to Be Celebrated During Omatsuri

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Omatsuri, a celebration of more than 95 years of Japanese culture in New Mexico, takes place June 27, 4-10 p.m., at Civic Plaza.

Sponsored by New Mexico JACL and the Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Department, the event will feature "Winter War," a ballet about the WW2 internment experience performed by the mother-and-daughter team of Mariko and Yuriko Murakami of the Pajarito Ballet Theatre, at 7 and 9 p.m.

During opening ceremonies, participants will honor Robert Cullum, who found housing and jobs for former internees while working for the War Relocation Authority in New York, Ohio, and California. He is credited with attesting to the loyalty of Japanese Americans in speeches to various groups in New York, protesting a ban on JA applicants at Case Western Reserve University in

Cleveland, and preventing violence against JAs returning to Visalia, Calif.

Cullum, who is now retired and living in Albuquerque, also helped form the Committee for Equality in Naturalization, which lobbied for citizenship for Japanese immigrants.

To celebrate the 1952 passage of the Walter-McCarran Act, which enabled the Issei to become naturalized citizens, over 200 immigrants will be sworn in as citizens during the opening ceremonies. Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.) and Mayor Ken Schultz are scheduled to attend.

Omatsuri will also include Japanese songs sung by Akio Kado-naka, taiko and shamisen performances, demonstrations of *ken-jutsu*, Japanese folk dances, *bonsai* displays, and Japanese food.

Info: Harry Watson, (505) 892-6434, or Randolph Shibata, 883-1258.



Kimochi, Inc., the San Francisco-based senior service organization, has hired two new staff members. Gail Nakatsu replaces Sandy Mori as program director. A graduate of UC Santa Barbara and UCLA, she is former program director of refugee child care projects at Union of Pan Asian Communities in San Diego. Sango Harumi, who takes the place of social worker Donna Otis, is a graduate of Waseda University and San Francisco State University and former president of Nobiru Kai. He coordinates Himawari Kai, a Japanese newcomers group.

Oregon Educator Selected as Outstanding Woman by YWCA

SALEM, Ore. — Alyce Yoshikai was named Outstanding Woman of the Year on May 14 at the YWCA's first annual tribute to outstanding women and employers.

Yoshikai, director of elementary education for Salem-Keizer public schools, said she sees the program drawing together women in fellowship, support, and appreciation.

Several months were spent searching for and considering nominees in the mid-valley area who have shown strength in leadership.

Employers nominated 28 women for contributions toward making a significant difference in women's roles in the workplace.

Salem-Keizer School District Superintendent Homer Kearns praised Yoshikai as a good link between the school district and the community. "She's just so highly thought of by the people she works for," he said.

Yoshikai came to Salem in 1951 after graduating from Eastern Oregon State College at Le-Grande. She has been principal at several elementary schools

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MINAKO OHASHI

Continued from page 2

volved in the activities of the Japanese American community because I learned new things."

She hopes the film will be of interest "not only for the Asian community, but for everybody." As for how the film will be received in Japan, she said, "One thing I think will be difficult is that the sense of humor is pretty American, and really low key. ... [But] there's no films made about a contemporary Japanese person and a Japanese American person's relationship, so in that sense they'll probably be interested. ... I guess they'll like this one better than 'Gung Ho.'"

— J.K. Yamamoto

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Optimism is growing. If redress legislation is to be passed into law, much will depend on the level of grassroots efforts exerted to support the splendid work of our Nikkei members of Congress and our own JACL-LEC Washington office.

In this current highly important letter-writing campaign, we cannot sit back and expect others to do what each of us must do ourselves. Let's not let them down.

Secondary Goal

Regardless of whether a legislative victory is won or not, our secondary aim—the educational benefits of the redress effort over the past decade—can certainly be declared won by virtue of having familiarized a greater segment of the American public to the tragic injustices endured by a selected minority group.

One observes quite frequently the educational aspects of redress being carried on voluntarily in most JACL districts, ranging from the informal spot interviews given to the media to the structured all-day programs on redress updates and the internment experience.

Many of these well-meaning efforts, however, have resulted in our talking to each other and to audiences that are already involved. In terms of reaching a wider audience and preserving the story of the JA experience long after we survivors are gone, how better to accomplish a ripple effect than through the educational system? The children of today who learn about injustice are the adults of tomorrow who will set policies to prevent such injustices.

Seattle Schools Program

One such unique program—done for the first time, to my knowledge—was a cooperative effort between Seattle Chapter JACL and the Seattle School District, entitled "Redress: An American Issue," held last month under the skillful organizing of May Sasaki, supervisor of the Intercultural Unit of the Seattle Public Schools. She also happens to be the current chapter president.

The seed for the project was planted at an open meeting last year in which concerns were expressed to the superintendent of schools that there was little regarding the JA experience in the textbooks and histories being taught. The superintendent responded by authorizing a curriculum project for staff development with support by nominal funding from a Rockefeller grant

which was available to the school district. (Details of the highly successful one-day seminar are outlined in the June 12 PC.)

Not only did the 120 members of the audience, both educators and members of the general public, consider it a worthwhile day of speakers, panels, film, and resource materials resulting in immediate rewards, but it was also apparent that far-reaching benefits can result from an effort such as this.

Level-by-Level Talks

What was significant about the day was a brainstorming workshop in the afternoon session, which was restricted to preregistered teachers. The elementary, middle school, and high school educators broke up into their respective groups to explore ways in which to approach the JA experience at the various student levels.

Although it was felt that the issue of the internment experience might be too difficult for students at the elementary levels to grasp, it was suggested that dealing conceptually and experientially with the surrounding human relations concepts might be one approach. For example, questions which could be asked regarding the idea of fear and prejudice include, "Why do people fear?" and "When we fear, who do we pick on and why?"

Another approach suggested was the establishing of a basic classroom environment which validates differences as being positive and focuses on respect as the most basic of rules.

At the middle school level, role-playing with students taking the part of General John DeWitt, Gordon Hirabayashi, an internee, a draft resister, a volunteer, and so on was one suggestion. Another was a journal-writing project focusing on "how would I have felt?" A more traditional approach suggested was a project of researching the history of immigration showing the repetition of discrimination against the various ethnic groups.

At both the middle and high school levels, it was found that some teachers had already implemented various projects, but additional suggestions at the high school level were: a study of the influence of hysteria on American policy, with current thoughts about the arrest of Palestinians for alleged political beliefs, the internment of AIDS victims, etc.; a study of citizenship and its costs or benefits, i.e., did internment create a debt by the government and has the present generation inherited that debt?; a study of the Supreme Court and its failure to divorce politics from constitutional law, looking at the question, "If the Supreme Court is the final protector of minorities, who protects them if the Court fails?"

Even if only half of the 30

Continued on page 5



The Buck Doesn't Stop Here

FROM THE
FRYING PAN

Bill
Hosokawa



The United States is a nation governed by law, and the Supreme Court is the final court of appeal. The court moves slowly and with decorum, carefully following precedent and established channels and only rarely venturing into new ground. That is as it should be, for the high court is responsible for continuity and consistency in the endless search for justice. Most of the time it works well.

Yet there are occasions when the high court appears to have faltered under pressures of expediency. One such occasion involved the Yasui, Hirabayashi, and Korematsu cases, in which the court, in effect, approved the arbitrary suspension of the constitutional rights of American citizens of a particular origin under certain circumstances.

The expediency in these cases involved a war, but what the court

said was that under special circumstances the rights guaranteed by the Constitution really don't mean what they appear to mean. That's nonsense, of course, if the sanctity of the Bill of Rights is to be respected, but the justices managed to avoid recognizing the obvious.

In a more recent case, the Supreme Court relied on an old argument, lack of jurisdiction, to avoid hearing the suit that William Hohri, et al., had brought seeking some \$25 billion in damages on behalf of victims of the evacuation. The high court said Hohri's case should have gone to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, rather than the U.S. Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia Circuit.

I have no idea whether this is correct. I do know that it appears suspiciously like a buck-passing action that belongs in the same league with strategies made infamous by the fictitious legal firm of Delay, Confuse & Obfuscate.

Delay was involved in the Hohri case. Now it goes back to a lower court for a rehearing. Translate that to mean a couple of years in limbo at staggering legal and human cost. No matter which way the appeals court rules, the case in all likelihood

will go back to the Supreme Court. If the high court doesn't find another reason for not accepting the case, it will go on the calendar for review at some future time.

Meanwhile the aggrieved, now down to half the original number, will continue to die off each year by the hundreds, if not the thousands.

Justice must be tempered with mercy, but there has been precious little mercy demonstrated in this case involving some basic human rights issues.

In a few notable cases, the Supreme Court responded to changing public opinion and moved away from traditional positions. One was *Brown vs. Board of Education*, which desegregated public schools. A few years ago the court reversed itself in the *Miranda* case after the public opposed a ruling that appeared to favor the criminal suspect over the victim.

Someday, perhaps, the public will recognize more widely and intensely the injustice of the evacuation and the court, too, will be persuaded.

But at this point the high court has agreed unanimously that what it considers to be a technical flaw takes precedence over an opportunity to redress human rights.

Facing Fiscal Facts

by Alan Nishi
Secretary-
Treasurer



As most of you know by now from PC articles covering my budget projections at the last National Board meeting, our organization will be facing serious budgetary deficits this biennium.

The primary purpose of my projections was to get the message to both the membership and the National Board of the potential size of the deficit which could befall us if corrective action is not taken immediately. My projections were made on a conservative basis, assuming that the declining membership trend continues and that there will be no major budget changes for the remainder of the biennium.

In view of our current deficit, I had met with our national director and national business manager prior to the February board meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to adjust the already lean 1987 national budget, trimming it by approximately 7 percent (\$36,000), most of which came from the general operations portion of the budget.

I would like to point out that this is not the solution to our

budgetary problems. We can do all the budget cutting possible, but this will not remedy the problem if membership continues to decline. Maintaining or increasing membership is the key to a balanced budget which our organization has to focus on.

The National Board has already initiated actions in this area. They include:

(1) Contracting the services of a mail solicitation service, which is conducting a nationwide direct mail membership solicitation campaign. This has shown favorable results to date.

(2) Formation of a 1000 Club Life Committee, which has initiated an aggressive membership campaign to establish an endowment to support the national operating budget.

(3) Formation of a Diversified Funding Committee by our national president to identify and seed outside funding of JACL programs.

Although these are steps in the right direction, they are not enough. It is up to us, as JACL members and leaders, to aggressively seek out potential JACLers and solicit their membership. Should we be unable to maintain our membership, the only alternatives would be continued budget cuts and membership dues increases—which may be a real possibility, given the current membership trend.

As I also reported at the last board meeting, JACL's cash flow or "hard dollar" operating deficit stood at approximately \$75,000 as of Dec. 31, 1986. In other words, if National JACL were to pay all of its current operating debts at year's end, the national operating treasury would be short of meeting all of its current financial obligations by \$75,000.

Last October, in anticipation of this deficit, the National Board authorized a short-term loan of \$75,000 from commercial sources to get us through the end of the year until our cash flow picked up in January with 1987 membership income. With the receipt of the late 1986 membership dues income and the delaying of payment of a few large payables to minimize our borrowing, JACL borrowed only \$25,000, which was paid in full last February.

However, I must emphasize that borrowing is only a temporary solution to our deficit position as the shortfall will still have to be made up during 1987 to keep us out of a deficit at the end of the year.

Given the seriousness of our current financial situation, it is clear that JACL must function in a more businesslike manner, with financial decisions made on a sound, prudent fiscal basis. My responsibility as national treasurer is to see that this approach is taken, as we cannot afford to operate any other way if we are to continue to be a viable organization.

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New Setback for Internees

The following editorial appeared in the June 4 edition of the Los Angeles Times.

Sometimes the law works against justice.

Shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor more than 45 years ago, about 120,000 Japanese Americans living on the West Coast of the United States were declared dangerous to the country and were rounded up and interned. At the time, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld this wholesale violation of basic civil liberties as necessary for the war effort.

More recently, however, virtually everyone in this country—including the Supreme Court—has come to realize what a terrible injustice was done to these people, many of whom lost all their property and were kept in concentration camps for years even though they had done nothing wrong and had no intention of doing anything wrong.

In 1976 President Gerald R. Ford declared the World War II internment "a sad day in American history," and in 1983 a congressional commission recommended that each surviving internee be paid \$20,000. But so far Congress has not acted, and no compensation has been paid.

In the meantime, the Supreme Court has reheard the wartime internment cases—which involved three Japanese Americans who refused to be evacuated—and, in an extraordinary step, reversed its judgment, declaring that the government lied about the need

to round these people up. Still, however, no compensation has been paid. [The editorial is inaccurate on this point. The *Hirabayashi*, *Yasui* and *Korematsu* cases have been reheard in U.S. district courts but have never reached the Supreme Court — Ed.]

The court had the opportunity this week to straighten out this disgraceful episode, but, for reasons that only the justices know, it ducked the chance. A class-action suit filed on behalf of the 60,000 survivors of the internment (United States vs. Hohri, No. 86-510) has reached the court, but the justices barely looked at the merits of the case and instead sent it back to a lower court on jurisdictional grounds.

The case should have been heard by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the justices said, rather than the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Every delay in this case compounds the injustice. After the case is heard by the proper appeals court, it will no doubt return to the Supreme Court in two or three years, by which time fewer of these elderly people will still be alive. They have been waiting 45 years for justice. Why should they have to wait longer?

The court will have to face the basic issue someday. It could have faced it now. "Justice delayed is justice denied" is a well-known aphorism. Or, as Charles Dickens wrote, "The law is a ass."

'Steele Justice' Just Another Asian Exploitation Movie

by Craig Kusaba

"Steele Justice" is merely the latest in a long line of Asian-bashing, post-Vietnam War, low-budget exploitation flicks.

This one stars Martin Kove, usually typecast as a villain and best known as the redneck karate school sensei in "The Karate Kid." As hero John Steele, he's the kind of guy who can take multiple gunshots to the legs and still hobble away.

Kove's co-stars include a number of Asian American actors and actresses in stereotypically lousy one-dimensional parts. Such people as Robert Kim, Jan Gan Boyd, Irene Tsu, Peter Kwong, Al Leong, and Soon Teck Oh muddle their way along.

The plot involves Steele bringing back his pal Lee Van Minh (Robert Kim) back to America with him at the close of the Vietnam War. Jumping forward in time 12 years, Minh has become a positive example of the American dream, having a loving wife and daughter and a home in an unnamed Southern California suburb. Minh is a successful narcotics cop on the Asian Task Force.

Meanwhile, Steele has not been so lucky. He has suffered through a divorce, probably for wife-beating, and has been bounced off the police force for alcoholism and insubordination.

Minh's wife is played by veteran actress Irene Tsu. Their 16-year-old daughter Cami is portrayed by Jan Gan Boyd in the biggest miscasting of an Asian American so far this year. It is often said that Asians look younger than their age, but Jan Gan Boyd as a teenager? She has been a hooper in "A Chorus Line: The Movie," and a Secret Service agent in "Assassination." Now we are supposed to believe she is a whining little brat who mutters innocent gibberish all the time, to the delight of everyone around her? Gag. Strangle.

The plot develops with nary a

yawn as Minh bails Steele out of jail and invites him over to the house. While Steele is in the bathtub cleaning up and Cami is out buying groceries, mom, dad, and grandma are gunned down inside their home and dragged into the street in broad daylight in front of their Vietnamese neighbors. The Asian thugs announce that this is a warning to the community not to cross the Vietnamese mafia.

This incident leads to three incredibly dumb plot developments: (1) Cami, coming back from the market, somehow doesn't see her family lying dead in the street and is startled to enter the blood-splattered house; (2) Steele, who is enjoying his bath, is oblivious to everything and becomes understandably distressed upon emerging from the tub and learning of the carnage; (3) the Vietnamese neighbors are all naturally deaf, dumb, and blind, and refuse to cooperate with the police.

The Vietnamese mafia is on the move. Their leader is a former nemesis of Steele, a corrupt general turned narcotics kingpin named Bon Soong Kwan. He is played with slant-eyed duplicity by Soon Teck Oh, who is making a career of becoming a latter-day Richard Loo. In Loo's era, circa WW2, he went from one "dirty Jap" role to another. Now, Oh (remember the prison commandant in "Missing in Action II") is sneaking from one "dirty Gook" role to another. Oh, no. How times change.

Racist caricatures abound in this pitiful "Rambo" imitator. However, one bright side to this film is that the Vietnamese, or Vietnamese Americans as it were, are murdering their own and not threatening the greater society—a.k.a. white people—around them.

So unlike other films of this ilk, like last year's "P.O.W.: The Escape," starring David Carra-

Continued on page 6

Self-Hypnotic Irrationality

EAST WIND

Bill Marutani



THERE ARE SOME AJA's—very few, thank goodness—who, through some twisted "thinking," seek to rationalize the wholesale uprooting and incarceration of 120,000 Americans and their parents in the United States in 1942. How any decent-thinking American can justify such an act inflicted on the controlling (sole) basis of race, particularly under the laws and precepts of this proud land, is beyond fathoming.

My personal assessment of such few folks is that they are simply one of the "casualties" of a traumatic and irrational act which occurred in a mighty democracy.

UNABLE TO COME to terms with stark reality—namely, that they were subjected to ignominious violations of the safeguards of the Bill of Rights and other

amendments to the Constitution—they seek to rationalize that somehow it was "for our good" or that it "wasn't all that bad."

And thus, by such rationalizing, they deceive themselves into thinking that their status as Americans had not been violated; they delude themselves by self-hypnosis that "nothing really happened."

IF THE SAME actions had taken place in, say, Russia, would they similarly rationalize the violations as being somehow justified? One would most assuredly hope not. If such acts in another country are to be condemned, then do we rationalize them away in our own country?

Let us hope not; particularly if we care about this country. And we do.

WHEN CONFRONTED WITH such self-hypnotic rationalizing, one would do well to view it for what it is and to treat it accordingly: ignore it. For how does one respond to irrationality? To react by responding only helps to cloak it with an aura of credibility which it does not deserve.

What it does deserve is pitiful contempt.

I MUST CONFESS that in my own case, I apparently have set up my own "defense mechanism" against the events of the spring of 1942, when I was yanked out of school and hustled aboard a train for a destination unknown, to find myself in a dusty camp behind barbed wire and guarded by bayoneted soldiers.

For the life of me, my mind is a complete blank as to how or where I boarded the train, the train ride, and being disgorged with thousands of others at Pine-dale. I have absolutely no recollection of that phase of my experience.

It continues to puzzle me to this day; I'm baffled by it.

BEYOND THAT, HOWEVER, I have no delusions as to the enormity of what befell me and thousands of others like me. The time is upon us and this nation for a symbolic rectification of the sorry events of 1942 and what followed; for this nation to restore the luster that has been tarnished.

So that rationalizing—and yes, my mental block—can both be put behind and we can proceed anew, together.

Letters to the Editor

Evacuation Didn't Help

Bill Hosokawa's June 5 column makes a personal opinion seem as though it were a fact. In discussing the emancipation of Nisei women in the American work force, he wrote, "We know the evacuation helped change that."

The evacuation did not help. To say that the evacuation helped open up employment opportunities is to advance the arguments of the likes of S.I. Hayakawa. This implies that had there been no evacuation, Nisei women's work opportunities would have continued to be restricted.

The conditions of war helped; witness Rosie the Riveter. WW2 was the single most convulsive event in our history that produced so many changes in our society. It led to the Blacks' civil rights activism, which eventually led to the present open employment policy for all races.

Nisei women also helped themselves. Once given the opportunity, they were able to demonstrate their capabilities and were rewarded accordingly.

In California today, Asian women distinguish themselves as politicians, television news anchors, teachers, etc. This in the state that once was the most anti-Asian in the entire country. This was helped by the evacuation?

Not on your life!

SHIGEO YUGE
Los Angeles

Anti-Redress Material

This is a rebuttal to David Lowman and his ilk, who are distributing anti-redress materials to the news media (June 5 PC).

Even if a majority of Japanese Americans were pro-Japan at the outset of WW2, the government had no right to intern the rest of us. This is the basic concept of a constitutional democracy: no one is guilty of a crime committed by his fellow man. The opposite concept is equated with Hitler's fascism.

As I read Lowman's article, I know how my buddies killed in action in Europe and in the Pacific would react: that they indeed died in vain.

The Nisei, true patriots, played a decisive role in bringing about victory for America. This fact alone overshadows the totally inconsequential stories of Japanese spies.

JAMES ODA
North Hollywood, Calif.
□ □ □

The acknowledgement by the United States government that a wrong was committed against its citizens, and mitigation of that wrong by redress, are honorable, not "shameful." The "payoff" is a

stronger America, not a "sellout" of its principles.

The letter states that 40 percent of those forced to relocate were "enemy aliens." This means that 60 percent were loyal Americans.

The argument that 112,000 (not 120,000) people of Japanese ancestry were forced to evacuate the West Coast because of race is only a statistical argument. If one American was denied his or her constitutional rights due partly or solely to race, it is one too many. The denial of constitutional rights to one American is sufficient to circumvent the principle of equal protection under the Constitution.

The evacuation was mandatory due to Executive Order 9066. The entering of relocation camps is not the only issue. The fact that Americans were forced to evacuate because of race is sufficient denial of equal protection.

The "humane" treatment of those people who were incarcerated does not alter the fact that they were denied their rights and falsely imprisoned. The judiciary system is based on the presumption of innocence. The burden of proof is on the accuser.

The letter states that "the only atrocities... were committed by those loyal to the emperor against

Continued on page 6

KINOSHITA

Continued from page 4

teachers who took part in the workshop follow through with an instructional unit for their classes, and even if only half of their students learn something about prejudice and the devastating effects of racism and denial of due process, an educational workshop such as this could reap potential long-range benefits.

The melding of the JA experience and the redress issue with the educational system and its curriculum was an ingenious strategy. May, the school district, and the community volunteers who helped in this endeavor deserve huge pats on the back for their creative efforts.

Long after the redress issue has become ancient history, long after the Issei, Nisei, and Sansei generations have gone, will there be any reminders of an event

which, by cosmic proportions, affected only a minute segment of the population? Realistically, no.

For those who shy away from any monetary redress, it might be food for thought that perhaps one of the significant ways to assure a lasting place in history's record of abuses of civil rights is the attachment of a \$1.5 billion symbolic reminder expressing condemnation of America's concentration camps. Without the monetary stipulations involved, I daresay media coverage of redress efforts based on merely a request for apology would have been minimal.

And only by history's recording of the events of 1942 can future generations, as students, be made aware of the government's shameful imprisonment of its own citizens, and be vigilant as

to similar dangers which may arise in their time. That is why the telling of our story through the educational system is so vastly important.

In this same vein, JACL Ethnic Concerns Committee chair Mako Nakagawa will present a workshop on "Cooperative Pluralism" before the National Board during its June 20 meeting.

The assistance of district governors will be recruited to contact district representatives who may have an interest in multicultural education as a building-block approach to some of JACL's goals through a preventive, rather than reactive, stance. Those interested in this area are urged to contact their district governor or Nakagawa at 4347 13th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98108; (206) 762-7824.

Chapter Pulse

WEST VALLEY

•The tenth annual Daruma Folk Festival, a benefit for senior citizens, will be held Aug. 15, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Saratoga Lanes parking lot, Saratoga and Graves near Prospect Road in San Jose. The Japanese American cultural event features food, drummers, folk singers, folk dancers, fresh produce, and crafts.

SAN MATEO

•Chapter will hold its golf tournament, a benefit for the scholarship fund, July 19, 10:45 a.m., at Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore. Fee is \$35. Entry forms must be received by July 1. Info: Vince Asai, (415) 349-3590 (home) or 342-5726 (work); Hiro Arima, 574-1157 (home); or Steve Okamoto, 574-2641 (home).

DIABLO VALLEY/CONTRA COSTA

•Chapters will hold a joint picnic June 28, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., at Pleasant Hill Park on Gregory Lane in Pleasant Hill. Schedule includes games and barbecue. Cost: \$6 (\$3.50 half portion). Registration deadline is June 24. Info: Tom Shimizu, (415) 935-6753.

PHILADELPHIA

•Chapter will host a potluck dinner social for old and new members June 28, 3-7 p.m., at the home of Skip and Laurel Snyder, 616 Fox Fields Rd., Bryn Mawr.

BERKELEY

•A barbecue and picnic will be held June 28, 1-5 p.m., at Codornices Park on Eunice and Euclid. Cost: \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children aged 10 or younger. RSVP by June 20. Info: Terry Yamashita, (415) 237-1131, or Tad Hirota, 526-8626 or 848-3560.

CONTRA COSTA

•Anna Pierini of the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association blood bank will speak to the chapter's Caring, Aging, and Retirement Program (CARP) June 26, 8 p.m., at 5395 Potrero Ave., El Cerrito. Emi Shinagawa, who worked with Irwin Memorial Blood Bank in San Francisco, will introduce the speaker.

SAN DIEGO

•The chapter's 1987 community picnic will be held June 28, from 11 a.m., at De Anza Cove in Mission Bay Park. Info: (619) 230-0313.

'STEELE JUSTICE'

Continued from page 5

dine and his evil counterpart Mako, "Steele" does not raise passions in the theater audience to the level of chanting "God-damn Gooks!" each time an atrocity is inflicted on a White Anglo-Saxon Protestant.

In the end, following a ferocious—and boring—fight, General Kwan has been blown into a million unidentifiable pieces by our friend Steele. It is also obvious that Cami will be adopted by Steele and his ex-wife, with whom he has reconciled. So Cami will certainly continue her piano lessons, become a cheerleader, and, hopefully, become homecoming queen someday.

"Steele Justice" carries the weight of aluminum foil.

LETTERS

Continued from page 5

residents who were pro-American." The atrocity was committed against the principles of the Constitution.

That Americans unjustly imprisoned volunteered to serve at all is a testimonial to their commitment to a better and greater America.

HOWARD OKANO
Campbell, Calif.

□ □ □

Former Sen. Samuel Hayakawa, where did you obtain such distorted facts about the Japanese Americans during WW2?

If you claim that the members of Hokoku Seinen Dan were subversive and disloyal to the U.S., do you have any documented proof that even one member of that organization engaged in spying, sabotage, or other treasonable acts against the U.S.? Do you know of any Japanese American who engaged in spying for Japan or was caught committing an act of sabotage in any of the factories producing military weapons and machines?

I think that your usage of the term "disloyal" is flawed. The proper word should be "dissident." If you had been removed from your position as instructor at the University of Chicago and sent to one of the 10 concentration camps without any charge being filed against you, you probably would have ended up as one of the most vocal dissidents that had been thrown into any concentration camp.

Isn't it comforting to know that of the more than 4,000 dissidents who renounced their American citizenship and went to Japan shortly after the war, most of them were able to return to the U.S. because they were dissident and not disloyal?

Since Hayakawa was not an American citizen, did not reside in any of the 10 concentration camps, and did not serve in the U.S. Army during WW2, why does he try to represent the views and opinions of Japanese Americans?

I served in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Service on New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and Luzon during WW2.

ROY T. UYEHATA
Cupertino, Calif.

For the Record

The headline for the article on Japanese Mexicans (June 12 PC, p. 1) should have read, "President de la Madrid Credits Mexican Nikkei With Strengthening Japan-Mexico Relationship."

For information on how to obtain a copy of *Beyond Words: Images of America's Concentration Camps* by Deborah Gesensway and Mindy Roseman (May 22 PC), contact Cornell University Press, 124 Roberts Place, P.O. Box 250, Ithaca, NY 14851; (607) 257-7000.

Community Calendar

BERKELEY

June 24
6:30 p.m.

Asian American Social Club will hold a dinner at China Station Restaurant, 700 University Ave. Cost is \$8 members, \$10 guests. RSVP by June 22. Info: Ryan, (415) 834-4118, or Tim, (415) 797-2617.

SAN JOSE

June 27

A fund-raising dinner to support Yu-Ai Kai's programs for Japanese American seniors will be held at San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin. KNTV-TV newscaster Robert Handa will present a slide show on Yu-Ai Kai's services, which include trips, a nutrition program, and classes on pre-retirement planning and crafts. Tickets are \$150 and \$200. For information, visit Yu-Ai Kai office at 565 N. 5th St. or call Cindy at (408) 294-2505.

LOS ANGELES

June 27
5 p.m.

Benefit luau for East West Players, featuring singers, dancers, comedians, and a Hawaiian revue, at Venice Japanese Community Center, 12448 Braddock Dr. Happy hour will be followed by dinner at 7 and entertainment at 8:30. Celebrities will include Robert Ito, Nobu McCarthy, Beulah Quo, Kim Miyori, Rodney Kageyama, and Mako. Info: Shirley Chami, (213) 558-4255 or 398-9920.

SAN FRANCISCO

June 27
1-3 p.m.

National Coalition for Redress/Reparations will hold a reception for Congressman Norman Mineta at Christ United Presbyterian Church, 1700 Sutter. Mineta will discuss the status of redress legislation. Donation: \$5. Proceeds will support an NCRP delegation which will visit Washington, D.C., from July 25-29. Info: Marlene Tonai, (415) 436-5259.

MONTEBELLO, Calif.

June 29, July 10
1:30-3 p.m.

Visual Communications and Asian Pacific Resource Center present video shorts at the Montebello Library's meeting room, 1550 W. Beverly Blvd. Films include "Dribble" by Allison Kuruma, "Yamaguchi Sensei" by Roland Hazama, "Urushi" by Shane Sato, "Renewal" by Kaz Takeuchi, "No Vacancy" by Naomi Hirahara, and "Chisai Samurai" by Chris Tashima. Info: (213) 690-4462.

OAKLAND, Calif.

June 27
9 p.m.

Not My Fault, an improvisational comedy group of the Asian American Theater Company, will perform at Ohana Cultural Center, 4345 Telegraph Ave. (corner of 4th Street). Performers include Keith Choy, Anna Du-hay, William Ellis Hammond, Fay Kawabata, and Ron Muriera. Admission: \$4. Info: (415) 658-1868 or 849-1289.

ANAHEIM, Calif.

July 9
7:15-8:45 p.m.

First meeting of beginning social dance class at Orange County Buddhist Church, 909 S. Dale. Next class will be held July 23. Cost: \$24 per person for 8 weeks. Info: Donna Kawase, (714) 751-2651, or David Kawai, (714) 898-1074.

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1987 JACL Scholarship Recipients

New York

NEW YORK—The following students were awarded during the New York JACL scholarship dinner held May 30 at the Warwick Hotel in midtown Manhattan:

JACL Merit Scholarship (\$500)—Jean Shigemitsu, a Stuyvesant High School graduate who will enter a seven-year biomedical program at City University of New York Medical School.

Lucille Nakamura Memorial Award (\$500)—Leo Iizuka, whose dramatic adaptation of "Momo-taro" toured 17 schools from the Bronx to Brooklyn, giving children an opportunity, he said, "to experience good live theater." He is majoring in early childhood education at New York University and plans to pursue a master's degree in educational theater.

Financial Aid Scholarship (\$1,000)—James Kumpel, who is majoring in industrial and labor relations at Cornell University, where he is a representative of the sophomore class and treasurer of the Asian American coalition. An article he wrote on the Japanese American internment was published in the Cornell Daily Sun and inserted into the Congressional Record by Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii).

Financial Aid Scholarship (\$1,000)—Edward Onuma, who is pursuing a doctorate at State University of New York in Syracuse. He was unable to attend the awards dinner.

The guest speaker was Robert Machida, an elementary school teacher, civil rights activist, and former State Senate candidate. He called education "the key to enlightenment and a better society and future" because it "weakens the chains of prejudice."

He said that in university admissions, Asian Americans are being treated as Jewish Americans were in the 1950s. "We are being punished for achieving and being successful... because we worked hard and were diligent."

—from a report by New York Nichibei

San Fernando Valley

LOS ANGELES—Over 150 people honored 25 San Fernando Valley scholars on June 5.

Speakers included National JACL president Harry Kajihara, who stressed the need for involvement and keeping issues alive, and Los Angeles Board of Education member-elect Warren Furutani, who urged Sansei to define their own goals, find new challenges, and utilize such Japanese American traits as hard work and stick-to-it-ness to fulfill their potential.

The Association of Asian Pacific American Artists performed its production of "AAPAA Yours," which humorously examines perceptions of Asians.

The following awards were presented:

JACL-JACC (Japanese American Community Center) Scholarship—Frank Fukunaga, Jennifer Hamamoto, Christine Iko, Darren Kameya, Keith Kovta, David Oguri, Rory Shojinaga, and Jerome Wang, Kennedy H.S.; Manabu Hasegawa, Lindsey Ikuta, and Michelle Wada, Monroe H.S.; Brett Nagatani and Collin Tomikawa, North Hollywood H.S.; Tiffany Uyeda, Poly H.S.; Daniel Iha, Verdugo Hills H.S.; and Jana Shirakata, Sylmar H.S.

JACL Boutique Scholarship—Jay Sato, Grant H.S.; Brian Maeda and Clifford Suruki, Monroe H.S.

SAM Award—Randall Hama-

moto, Monroe H.S.; Craig Kawamoto, Taft H.S.

Eugene David Oda Memorial Scholarship—Karen Gohata, Monroe H.S.; Julia Padilla and Robert Salazar Jr., San Fernando H.S.; Vickie Sakamoto, Sylmar H.S.

West Valley

SAN JOSE—Scholarships based on academic achievement (3.7-4.0 GPA), participation in extracurricular activities at school, and good citizenship have been presented by West Valley JACL to four Santa Clara County students:

Anna Lin of Santa Teresa H.S., who received \$750, will major in psychology/biology at Santa Clara University. She is active in the school's German Club, Math Club, Speech Club, and People to People Student Ambassador Program and has received honors from National Honor Society and California Scholarship Federation. She plays first violin in the San Jose Symphony Youth Orchestra and is the youngest member of San Jose Taiko Group.

Leslie Kondo of Cupertino H.S. was awarded \$500 and will major in pre-law or psychology at UCLA. She is a member of National Honor Society and California Scholarship Federation and has been selected for Who's Who Among High School Students and United States Student Council Award. She is active in Key Club, Interact, Altruettes, Student Government Executive and Legislative Councils, and Gifted Education Club and plays clarinet in the school marching and concert bands.

Kari Ann Yoshizuka of Cupertino H.S. received \$500 and will major in economics at UC Davis. She is a member of National Hon-

or Society, California Scholarship Federation, and Spanish Honor Society and has been selected for Who's Who Among High School Students. She has served as vice president, secretary, and representative of the Student Government Executive and Legislative Councils and has won awards in band and flag competitions.

Michelle Muraoka of Arch Bishop Mitty H.S. received \$250 and will major in history at Mills College. She has won awards in music, social studies, and English and has been selected for Who's Who Among High School Students and the Principal's Honor Roll.

Fowler

FOWLER, Calif.—Jane Bedrosian received the \$150 Fowler JACL Scholarship during Fowler High School's 86th annual commencement, held June 11 at Nielsen Field. She also won the \$350 George Shunsuke Uchiyama Memorial Scholarship, presented by Judge Mikio Uchiyama.

Another graduating senior, Dale Shinkawa, received a \$500 Future Farmers Agriculture Booster Scholarship, a \$150 Sloniker-Feaver Scholarship, and a Bank of America Music Award.

Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS—The recipient of this year's Las Vegas JACL scholarship is Robin Sakahara, a graduating senior at Valley H.S.

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Japanese Peruvians Still Ineligible for Payments

by J.K. Yamamoto

While Japanese Americans who were interned during WW2 are eligible for compensation under the redress bills currently before Congress, Latin American Nikkei who were also interned in the U.S.—the vast majority of them from Peru—are not.

For Japanese Peruvians living in the U.S., the news is not surprising; they were also excluded from the redress bills introduced during the previous session of Congress. But Elsa Kudo, a native of Peru who was interned as a child in Crystal City, Texas, is disappointed.

"The problem seems to be that we were not under the order of [Executive Order] 9066," said Kudo, a resident of Honolulu, in a telephone interview. Although earlier versions of the bills might have included "anyone who was interned," she added, the language of the legislation has become "more exclusive."

During an April 29 House sub-

committee hearing on redress bill H.R. 442, Rep. Norman Mineta stated, "Only citizens and legally admitted permanent residents at the time of the internment are eligible."

Beginning in 1942, about 1,800 Japanese Peruvians were picked up by Peruvian authorities at the request of the U.S. government and shipped to the U.S. to be held in Justice Department detention facilities.

More than half of the Japanese Peruvians were deported to Japan; fewer than 100 were able to return to Peru. Those who chose to remain in the U.S. faced a legal battle, for they were accused of being in the country illegally even though they had been forcibly brought here.

Many of those who stayed, including Kudo's family, found work at Seabrook Farms, a food processing plant in New Jersey that also employed large numbers of Japanese Americans. The Japanese Peruvians later scattered to California, Colorado, Hawaii, and other states.

Many married American Nisei. Kudo, whose husband Eigo is also from Peru, said she is one of the few exceptions, possibly "the only one."

She is one of the organizers of Japanese Peruvian reunions, the most recent of which was held in Los Angeles in August 1985. The next one is scheduled for 1988 in Honolulu.

Commenting on the redress bills, Kudo said, "We are such a small group—no power, no organization, no money—we feel left out, frankly speaking. Now I am an American citizen, and I feel that in the U.S. that [redress]

is the way the government should atone for what they did."

She said she has written to Nikkei members of Congress, but without concrete results. "We have no ideas as to how to do this, other than writing letters. . . . Why couldn't they just include a paragraph or something?"

Seiichi Higashide, Kudo's Issei father, has chronicled the Japanese Peruvian experience in a Japanese-language book entitled *Namida no Adios* (Tearful Farewell), which has been widely read in Japan. Kudo said she wants to translate it into both English and Spanish so that the story will become better known.

"I'd like to do it for my father while he's still living," she said.

JACL Book Sent to Capitol Hill

WASHINGTON — In an effort to "heighten the interest and enlightenment of our congressional representatives to help our redress movement," K. Patrick Okura, chair of the JACL Masao Satow Memorial Committee, has arranged to have copies of Bill Hosokawa's book *JACL In Quest of Justice* sent to every member of Congress.

Sens. Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga (both D-Hawaii) and Reps. Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui (both D-Calif.) have agreed to attach a "Dear Colleague" letter to each book.

To defray the expense of sending the books, the committee is requesting \$10 donations from districts, chapters, and individual members. Checks can be sent to K. Patrick Okura, 6303 Friendship Court, Bethesda, MD 20817.

YOSHIKAI

Continued from page 3

and has served in her present position for three years. She supervises 32 elementary school principals and assists them in staffing, curriculum and facilities.

She serves on various educational advisory committees and is a board member of Salem Hospital and United Way.

Vicki Nakashima, civil rights section manager at the Oregon Department of Transportation, was one of four honorees named as women of achievement. She developed an affirmative action plan and initiated training programs that are bringing her department to the forefront in acting on this issue in state government.

—from a report by the Statesman Journal

Song Being Used to Raise Funds

ALHAMBRA, Calif. — Sansei musicians Edwing and Mikio Sankey of the East West Band have composed a song entitled "Redress—The Time Is Now" and are using it to raise funds for the redress campaign.

Cassette tapes containing the redress song and an instrumental, "Revenge of the Ninja," are being sold for \$3 each. Part of the proceeds go the Pacific Southwest District JACL's redress effort, and part will be used to duplicate more tapes.

Info: San Gabriel Valley—Mikio Sankey, (818) 288-6341/6301; San Fernando Valley—George Sankey, (818) 764-5274; West L.A. and Downtown—Kitty Sankey, (213) 838-8553.

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7 Days CARNIVAL CRUISES CARIBBEAN SPECTACULAR SAVINGS on S/S JUBILEE From \$990
OCT. 11 SAILING ONLY. FREE round trip air from LOS ANGELES to MIAMI plus FREE overnight hotel accommodation a day prior to sailing. PORT CHARGES: \$28/person. Ports of Call: NASSAU, SAN JUAN & ST. THOMAS.

19 Days FALL TRANSCANAL CRUISES on M/V REGENT SEA From \$1985
Sailing from LOS ANGELES Sept. 25, 1987. FREE AIR on return from CURACAO on OCT. 07, 1987. BOOK BY JULY 15, 1987 and receive \$250.00 OFF per person or \$500/per cabin. PORT CHARGES: \$68/person. Ports of Call: ACAPULCO, CALDERA/SAN JOSE, TRANSIT PANAMA CANAL, CARTAGENA, ARUBA & CURACAO.

7-Days Alaska Cruise: SS Amsterdam \$ 1495
Holland America (Westours) Cruises: The sailings each week fr Port of Vancouver, B.C.; for R.T. air between LAX and VANCOUVER; B.C. add \$245 p/person extra. Sharing economy outside upper/lower Category 1 cabin plus port charges of \$36 p/person. Ports of Call: KETCHIKAN, JUNEAU, GLACIER BAY Cruising and SITKA. JATC Sailing Date—JULY 23, 1987.

TOKYO
\$670 effective
June 1
R.T. from LAX plus tax

HONG KONG
From **\$949**
R.T., 6 nights hotel, trnsfr & city tour