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Sec. A—2 Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue: Dec. 22-29, 1989
EDITORIAL OF THE PACIFIC CITIZEN

A Logical Question: Now What?

Now what? The theme of this year's Holiday Issue poses a logical question after JACL's successful 10-year fight to win redress for the injustices suffered by Japanese Americans in World War II. Legislation for a formal apology and token (but important) monetary recompense was passed by Congress and signed by President Reagan in 1988. In 1989 additional legislation circumvented what threatened to be another 10-year struggle to get the funds. Payment without having to go through the tedious and precious appropriations process annually was assured by making it an entitlement.

So the goal that dominated community concerns, attention, energy and resources for so long has been achieved. What now? What next?

In the search for new dragons to slay, we must not overlook a dormant but deeply troubling issue that has been with us since the Evacuation itself. That would be the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the Yasui, Hirabayashi and Korematsu cases. In ruling against these Nisei appellants, the majority of the Supreme Court said that in case of military necessity it was not illegal to violate the letter and spirit of the Bill of Rights and imprison Japanese Americans without trial. The high court in effect ruled that under certain circumstances it was legal to suspend the constitutional rights of certain classes of people. It is difficult to believe this was the intent of the men who framed the first 10 Amendments as a ringing document to safeguard human rights.

The court's ruling remains the law of the land, in the words of Justice Robert H. Jackson's minority opinion, "is a loaded weapon ready for the hand of any authority that can bring forward a plausible claim of an urgent need." The danger inherent in such an interpretation of the Bill of Rights is apparent even in the test case. Long after the imprisonment of Japanese Americans, it was discovered there was no "military necessity."

There have been sporadic and unsuccessful efforts to obtain a review of the decision arrived at under the obvious pressures of a nation at war. When challenged a few years ago, the Department of Justice did, in fact, vacate—that is, withdrew—the original charges against the three Nisei. Subsequently the government has taken the position that since charges have been withdrawn, there is no case against the three, so let's forget the whole thing, okay?

Well, it's not okay, and we don't want to forget the whole thing. We want the Supreme Court decision overturned so there will be no precedent to justify similar violations of citizen rights at some future time.

Last July 4, a date whose significance is hard to ignore, Sen. Tim Wirth of Colorado wrote a letter to Attorney General Richard Thornburgh asking whether the Justice Department would investigate the possibility of having the Supreme Court take another look at the issues raised by the Yasui case. Some three months later an assistant attorney general responded to Wirth's query with these words.

"In sum, unless this question should present itself as ripe for decision in the course of some future live controversy, there is nothing which this department could do to get the Supreme Court to revisit this issue."

We pray there will be no "future live controversy" related to the Evacuation issue. It is to ensure that there will never be a similarly outrageous "future live controversy" that Japanese Americans want the Supreme Court's precedent overthrown.

In view of the Justice Department's present position such a goal may be a Quixotic mission. But Redress, too, was seen as a mission impossible.

There are, of course, many other community issues to be addressed. But in response to the question, "Now what?" certainly a reversal of an abhorrent legal decision is not the least of them.

About Our Artists

R.M. Kato illustrated the cover; he resides in Pasadena, Calif. and is the son of Tadashi and Toshi Kato of San Carlos, Calif., Kaz Aizawa, whose artwork appears on page D-2, is a freelance illustrator residing in Pasadena, Calif.; he prides himself on being real easy to get along with. Neal Yamamoto, whose artwork appears on page D-4, is a cartoonist living and working in Los Angeles. Pete Hironaka, a longtime contributing cartoonist to the P.C., lives in Dayton, Ohio.
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Latin American JACL Fiesta Menu

PANA Touch Rolled into One Evening With Rich Variety of International Cuisine

By Harry K. Honda

GARDENA, Calif.—This was a unique international JACL party—the Latin American chapter’s Fiesta enjoyed during the ’80s and who attended any of the PANA (Pan-American Nikkei Association) conventions in Mexico, Brazil or Argentina during the ’80s and tasted their national cuisine would have found a good sampling of them all in one place on one evening.

Except for the few U.S.-born Nisei (the John Saitos from the Regional Office, Rose Ochi from the Mayor’s Office, Paul, Tad Nakemura, etc., to name a few from the PWS chapters, and this reporter), most of the making, eating and preparing were by the Latin American or Hispanic Nikkei segment now living in Southern California.

It was a happy find for the chapter president Carlos Kagawa of Culver City coordinated the Fiesta celebration, the cooking, table decorations, display of Nikkei material from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Peru and Paraguay—sight of the 1991 PANA convention, the piñata and door prizes.

Responsible for the food were Myriam Shinzato, Argentine; Nancy Higashi, Brazilian; Teresita Uesugi, Filipino; Marilyn Morigugs, Miki and Miki Yamazaki, Mexican.

Tasty Dishes Described

In front of each dish were descriptions, so to say:

ARGENTINA—Cuye con Chorizos (chickens with orig: Argentina best sausages). Empanada (meat pie of beef, eggs, pastry slab, olives, chayotes [beneath sausage sandwich]).

BRAZIL—Afogado (black beans, pork, eggplant, sauce) always served with jale-peno, collard greens, orange and raisins, fried polenta, rice, peanut sauce, Feijoada (matano flavor, bacon, eggs, olives, oranges). Bolo requeijada (rounded, egg, cream). Guarni (natural soft drink).

PERU—Ajiaco con Pollo (chickens, chayote, potatoes, sweet potatoes, cachapa, Fricassee (chicken, rice, hot pepper sauce served cold with white fishes, octopus, shrimp, red onions, lime, chile, spices, sweet potato, Peruvian chilles, Aji Grande (wheat flour, powdered sugar, cajeta, powdered milk, corn starch). Papas a la Huesillo (mashed potatoes, fresh corn, milk, hard-boiled eggs). As de gallo (chicken, wok, milk, vegetables, frutado, lomo saltado (steak, eggs, sauce, green onion), lomo saltado (steak, eggs, sauce, onions), frito (bread), Asado (bread), Carne Asada (beef)

MEXICO—Chiles rellenos (green-red bell peppers, ham, cheese, onion, bell pepper). Tamales (corn flour, chicken, ham, cheese), Narros al Ocho Vino (fried pork skin, green-tomato sauce, rice, cheese), Mole (soup), Aji (horns, rice, onions, chilies, Ranchero white cheese), Ham broth, nus, bowl (mexican soft drink), and seasoned Mexican rice.

Dinner Conversations

For this chapter, it was a “Happy Find” to realize everyone present knew and conveyed in English, even though they were from different countries from Argentina to Brazil in Spanish. The majority of the young workers from St. Paul listened attentively to the lively exchange.

As a result, from Buenos Aires related how the Japanese in Argentina were not so many. But the young workers from Sao Paulo listened attentively to the lively exchange.

Another student from Buenos Aires related how the Japanese in Argentina were not so many. But the young workers from Sao Paulo listened attentively to the lively exchange.

Calling Yochon

Just prior to World War II, I was living in a farm in Iwama, Kofu. My best friend and playmate was a Japanese boy whom I only remember as “Yochon.”

I realize that this is more like a nickname I chose for a boy whom I just remember as “Yochon.”

This is a report of the previous and present of a couple in the different nations of Japanese history in Peru. Both these communities began in the 1900s.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, Chapters, for helping to hit the 97% performance mark. We’ve learned a few new tricks to make it even easier and better next year—and congratulate our hard-working staff for making this a success.

—H.K.H.
Anheuser-Busch Donates to Asian Pacific Causes

ST. LOUIS — The Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., made a contribution of $2,500 to the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association to support the organization's first national conference held recently in San Francisco.

Announcement of the grant was made by Andrew I. Sun, manager of Corporate Relations for Anheuser-Busch.

The three-day conference met at the San Francisco Bar Center, the Commonwealth Club of California, and the University of San Francisco on Nov. 10-12.

Conference programs included a presentation on hiring Asian Pacific American attorneys, a panel discussion on developing corporate clienteles and roundtable discussions on the Asian Pacific American community in the 1990s, race relations between minority communities, immigration and civil rights, Asian in politics and in the judiciary, and access to the legal system.

Sun praised the organizers of the first conference of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association. "This national conference has established a formal communication network among Asian Pacific American attorneys across the country. We applaud the organizers for their efforts."

Other Contribution Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., also contributed $1,000,000 to the Nikkei Endowment. The money will help fund the development of the Japanese American Historical Museum at Gov. Tom McCall Waterfront Park in Portland, Ore.

Sun presented the check to O.N.E. board members Robert Murer, Judy Murer, Henry Sakamoto, and project coordinator Mark Sherman recently at a meeting in Portland. The Japanese American Historical Garden, expected to open in the summer of 1990, will offer visitors the opportunity to experience and learn about the history of the Japanese people in Oregon. It will also serve as an educational site for an estimated 50,000 school children.
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Asian American Methodists’ Top Concerns Seen in Racism, Shared Facilities; Group Honors Rev. Wake

WASHINGTON—In the United Methodist Church and conflict over shared facilities toppled the list of concerns at a meeting of Asian American United Methodists in Dallas Nov. 1-4.

Sharing facilities with other congregations—mainly white—is the primary

ments for developing new Asian American congregations within the denomination, according to those who gathered for the general assembly of the National Federation of Asian American United Methodists. But conflicts between such sharing congregations continue to escalate, they said.

The lack of what the federation’s executive committee calls “consistent procedures for conflict resolution in the shared-society situation,” prompted it to call for General Conference legislation in 1992 to address the issue. The General Conference is the church’s highest body.

When it comes to shared facilities, “we must learn to work together,” said the Rev. Leo L. Hsu, pastor of Chinese United Methodist Church, Los Angeles, and newly elected federation president. “The relationship should not be one of landlord (and) tenant.”

Shared facilities for Asian Americans in the church will likely be necessary for the next five to eight years, he added.

Conflicts between Asian congregation and the larger church have also hampered church growth, said the Rev. Moses Lee, National Division staff who coordinates Asian American Methodists. “Negative feelings toward Asians have caused delays (in church growth),” he said.

The development of Asian American mission congregations will be the topic of a meeting Dec. 7-9 in Newark.

Rev. Lloyd Wake

The development of Asian American mission congregations will be the topic of a meeting Dec. 7-9 in Newark.

When and Where

February 3, 1990 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Ballroom, Ontario Clarion Hotel
2200 E. Holt Boulevard
The Newark-Premont Hilton
Ontario, California
March 9, 1990 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Grand Ballroom
1000 Rancho Bernardo Drive
San Diego, California
March 9, 1990 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Grand Ballroom
3900 Ballarat Drive
Newark-Fremont
Ontario, California
March 30, 1990 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Stevenson Ballroom
Newark, California

EDITIONS

The All news and advertising deadline is the Friday before date of issue. Advertis­ ing space can be reserved with copy reaching the P.C. office not later than Tuesday noon.

N.I., sponsored by the National Division of the Board of Global Ministries. It will bring together more than 50 key Asian American leaders.

The federation also honored the Rev. Lloyd Wake, minister of community relations at San Francisco’s Glide Memorial United Methodist Church. He will retire from this ministry in December.

Also in his honor, the Wake Human Rights Commission was established, and he was granted the title of honorary lifetime member of the federation.

The federation expects to raise $15,000 for the fund.

About 100 lay leaders and clergy representing the seven Asian American groups (Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Indonesian, Southern Asian, Filipino and Filipino) attended the assembly.

NEWS BRIEFS

Japan Society Assistant Killed in Accident

NEW YORK—Tragedy struck the Bill Kochiyama family Nov. 18 when their daughter Aiko, 17, was fatally injured by an automobile in a midtown Manhattan accident and her daughter Akemi, 18, was hospitalized for bruises and other injuries. The two were walking from a Japanese restaurant where they celebrated Akemi’s birthday. Her brother Eddie was nearby and escaped injury.

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community, n. 1. A unified body of individuals.
—Webster’s Dictionary. 2. A kind of group association in which, through being ourselves, we may get to something greater than ourselves.
—Milton J. Rosenberg. 3. It’s the little things that make the big things work.—Union Bank.
A Tribute to Dyke Miyagawa

By Taeie Kasunoki

His friends on both coasts were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Daisho Dyke Miyagawa at his home in Playa del Rey, Calif., on Sept. 13. He was 74-years-old when he succumbed after 14-months to cancer.

Miyagawa, whose clean, unpretentious, often iconoclastic way with words made his writing distinctive and unmistakably "Dyke's," cared more about content than about style, characteristically brushing off praise of his huge journalistic kill with a self-deprecating grunt or comment.

Writing was, to him a means, not an end, and he wrote as knowledgeably and with as much passion and panache about the pre-war organizing of cannery workers as about the problems of the handicapped or the pleasures of listening to Dixieland jazz.

As editor of the English section of the Hokubei Shimpō (now the New York Nichibei) from 1930 to 1952, he created a column called "Big Town Brew," which reflected the diversity of his interests and concerns, with its broad range of topics.

Born in Seattle, Washington, to Daiji and Issie Miyagawa, he was stricken with osteomyelitis since the age of 7 and had been in and out of hospitals all of his life. At age 17, he survived a major operation which left his left leg and hip handicapped. Dyke studied English and journalism at the University of Washington before World War II, and at the same time became involved in the successful struggle to organize Issei and Nisei salmon cannery workers to prevent their being locked out of summer jobs.

His unashamed description of the tactics required to achieve union membership for Japanese workers, as incorporated into Bill Hosokawa's book, "Nisei, the Quiet Americans," and Hosokawa's own comments about what took place at the time, ironicaly, lead this book's controversial subtitle.

During that period, a time when the CIO was being depicted by the rival AFL as anti-Japanese, Miyagawa wrote, "people I had known since the first grade would cross the street or suddenly become hypnotized by a store window when they saw me on the street.

"The only counter possible was to make ourselves familiar, to humanize ourselves and to let people see for themselves that we wore no horns or tails, especially red ones. There were very few conferences of religious groups, sports tournament dances, or socials at which we did not make a calculated appearance. We arranged to be included formally in the program at as many functions as we could, and that failing, made sure we would be heard as non-panel participants at round-table discussions. Not all cannery workers were proper uponders. So we also spent a lot of time getting better known around the gambling tables in Chinatown and in the beer joints and pool halls of Lower Jackson St. In such places, in nearby restaurants and rundown hotel lobbies, we kept in touch with bachelor Issel, did small social service type favors for them, and simultaneously solicited the allegiance of the Filipinos who abounded in the area." (The "we" included two other Nisei college students.)

Later, in 1939, he was asked by some fruit and vegetable market workers for help in writing an organizing leaflet, but none owned a typewriter. So, as Hosokawa reported it, "Miyagawa walked into the offices of the Rafu Shimpō, the leading Japanese-English newspaper in the city, borrowed a typewriter, and wrote the copy. Miyagawa's friends, who were under the impression that the Rafu Shimpō, representing the Establishment, was hostile to unions, were amazed by his audacity."

While interned in Minidoka, Idaho, from 1942 to 1943, Mr. Miyagawa was associate editor of the camp newspaper, the Minidoka Irrigator, and, after leaving the incarceration center, he worked briefly with the late Larry Tajiri on the Pacific Citizen.

In 1943, he joined the publicity staff of the National CIO War Relief Committee which sought funds nationwide to aid European war refugees.

Moving to Chicago in 1952, he became editor of the Chicago Daily Worker. From 1957 to 1961, he did public relations work for Easter Seals and the California Society for Crippled Children and Adults, editing its bi-monthly bulletin, "California Cares," for four years.

The recent introduction in Congress of legislation to protect the rights of handicapped persons would have gratified Mr. Miyagawa, whose own long-time bout with osteomyelitis gave particular credibility to his pleas for greater consideration of the day-to-day architectural barriers encountered by those who are confined to wheelchairs.

"Try climbing Nob Hill in a wheelchair," began one of his appeals in which he decried too-narrow, too-heavy doors and the absence of ramps and handrails in public buildings and dwellings.

After receiving a Master's degree in social welfare from the University of California, he went to work for the California Department of Corrections as a counselor at penal institutions for men at Vacaville, San Quentin and Chino. During his 20 years on that job, it is reported, the recidivism rate of prisoners whom he counseled was among the lowest recorded.

Following his retirement from this job, Miyagawa participated in such activities as panel discussions and study groups devoted to Asian American issues.

In accordance with his wishes, a private family service was held in lieu of a funeral. His ashes were scattered Sept. 28 in the waters of the Pacific off Northern California. He is survived by his wife, Emiko Amy, daughters Yurii and Misako, son Tajiri, grandson Tong Pang, and brothers Daisuke and Daku.

Dyke's last article to appear in the New York Nichibei was a "remembrance" of fellow writer and Seattleite, Eddie Shimano, who died at Candlewood Lake, N.Y., in 1986. In it, he wrote that Mr. Shimano was "close to being the thinnest and most fragile-looking human ever conceived," but that "there was nothing fragile about him." The article concluded, "Eddie's inability to compromise his convictions will live on as long as we knew him manage to stick around."

Dyke Miyagawa was himself a very slender man, but there was nothing fragile about him or his low-keyed, on-target journalistic style. And, as in his own words about his friend, "his inability to compromise his convictions will live on as long as those who knew him manage to stick around."

A personal note: This is undoubtedly the most difficult obituary that I have ever had to write. Dyke was a rare human being, with a rare talent for making friends. Of everybody... Nobody who met him could not like him. His "Big Town Brew" was going to be eagerly awaited each week. It was a measure of his contrariety that although he had injured his right hand in a fall late summer, he managed to "tap out" brief letters using two fingers of his left hand. Among lines typical of him that he "sagged out" in December was this, "I don't know the state of the cancer, but I'm still around and rarely feel downhill."

To know Dyke was to admire and respect and love him. As a writer—ten-fingered or two—he was, quite simply, up there with the best.

Takoe Kasunoki

Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue: Dec. 22-29, 1989 Sec. B-1
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President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Reagan:

The last time you were in New Jersey, we talked about Japanese-American redress legislation. You mentioned your concern for righting what we both view as one of the few black marks on American history.

Since our conversation, I have received two letters from friends in the Japanese-American community. The first, from Grant Ujifusa, responds directly to your question about whether the Japanese-Americans were forced to go to the camps or whether they moved on their own volition. From Grant's letters and the accompanying pictures, I think you will agree that the Japanese-Americans were coerced. They had no choice in the matter.

I also enclose a letter and photo from June Masuda Goto. You will probably recognize the photo of General "Vinegar Joe" Stillwell awarding a posthumous Distinguished Service Cross to Mrs. Goto's brother. I understand you were at the event that day and you gave a rousing speech that is still remembered within the Japanese-American community.

Given your lifelong commitment to the cause of equal rights, and the esteem in which Japanese-Americans now hold you, I feel it would be very fitting for you to sign the redress legislation. It would show the world that America is big enough to admit when we make mistakes, and still true to the values on which we were founded.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Thomas H. Kean
Governor of New Jersey

Governor Tom Kean
State House
125 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Governor Kean:

On behalf of the Japanese-American community, I want to thank you for bringing up redress legislation in your conversation with President Reagan. When you told me that the President understood and sympathized personally with our cause, it was one of the most deeply affecting moments of my life. As an Asian American citizen, I have worked hard for Japanese American redress because I believe that our effort is part of what our country has always stood for and what it will always mean. So it is that our country is finally a great affair of the heart.

From June Masuda Goto, I have enclosed a letter, a photograph, and some material about a California episode in which Ronald Reagan showed his mettle and truly distinguished himself in our community. This was in 1945 in Santa Ana, as he may recall.

I have also included some photographs of my own. These, I feel, show that Japanese Americans during World War II were not beneficiaries of "protective custody." We did not voluntarily leave our homes, our neighborhoods, and our work, but as the San Francisco Examiner had it, we were "raided" from our rights and our property. The guns were pointed toward us, and not toward any group that may have wanted to hurt us.

The truth is that the "protective custody" argument was developed by some government officials and journalists as an after-the-fact rationalization. Many of these people were ashamed of what they advocated and did; some were not. In any case, Japanese Americans were soon enough confronted with the three-cents-on-the-dollar-red-tape horror of the Exclusions Cases Act of 1942. This also scarred our community, adding insult to a profound sense of injury.

We knew we were innocent in 1942; other ordinary Americans could not easily get at the truth. But now with the help of full hindsight, all Americans, I hope, will support us as we petition Congress and our President for redress. We feel that we ask only for simple justice.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Grant Ujifusa

Chappaqua, New York 10514
November 24, 1987

February 6, 1987

Chappaqua, New York 10514
November 24, 1987

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Grant Ujifusa

Governor Tom Kean
State House
125 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Grant Ujifusa
President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

November 19, 1987

Dear President Reagan:

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Perhaps you recall a very special day for our family, December 9, 1945, in Santa Ana, California, when General "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell awarded a posthumous Distinguished Service Cross medal to my brother, Kazuo Masuda. He was killed in action on the banks of the Arno River in Italy on August 27, 1944, while serving with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

You were then Captain Ronald Reagan, and joined General Stilwell after his 3000-mile flight from Washington. All of you came, I feel, not only to honor Kaz, but to help calm great hostility in Orange County to Japanese Americans. People at the time did not accept us as Americans, even after my brother's death. The local cemetery, for example, refused to accept my brother's body for burial. The presence of you and General Stilwell greatly affected the community, and led to a better life for our family.

After General Stilwell pinned the medal on my sister in front of our farm house (I have enclosed a photograph), there was a ceremony at the Santa Ana Bowl. General Stilwell said: "The amount of money, the color of one's skin do not make a measure of Americanism. A square deal all around: free speech; equality before the law; a fair field with no favor; obedience to the majority. An American not only believes in such things, but is willing to fight for them. Who, after all, is the real American? The real American is the man who calls it a fair exchange to lay down his life in order that American ideals may go on living. And judging by such a test, Sgt. Masuda was a better American than any of us here today."

You then rose, and said the following words: "The blood that has soaked into the sand is all one color. America stands unique in the world, the only country not founded on race, but on a way -- an ideal. Not in spite of, but because of our polyglot background, we have had all the strength in the world. That is the American way. Mr. and Mrs. Masuda, just as one member of the family of Americans, speaking to another member, I want to say for what your son Kazuo did -- Thanks."

Many times I have been asked to speak at the Kazuo Masuda middle school. I speak to all the history classes, and quote your words to the students. I bring this up to you because our family feels that what you and General Stilwell said in 1945 are as true and important as ever: the ideals for which all good Americans should be willing to fight and die. My brother did both, even though his parents and family were stripped of all their American rights, and placed in an Arizona internment camp.

The words also express why so many of us in the Japanese American community so deeply support redress legislation now pending in Congress. If the legislation comes to you, I hope you will look upon it favorably. All of us in our family -- I believe Kaz as well -- would be greatly honored if you would. I also believe that America, through you, would honor itself.

Yours truly,

June Masuda Goto

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
August 5, 1988

Dear Mr. Ujifusa:

I want to extend my greetings and best wishes to the Japanese American Citizens League's 35th Biennial Convention. It has been my honor as President to work with you to bind up and heal a wound in the history of our beloved country.

The enactment of H.R. 442 will close a sad chapter in American history in a way that reaffirms America's commitment to the preservation of liberty and justice for all.

I wish you a productive and enjoyable gathering.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

Mr. Grant Ujifusa
Sendai University Plaza
400 Northeast 45th
Seattle, Washington 98105

Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue: Dec. 22-29, 1989 Sec. B—7
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Frank Yoshimura
Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

A late 1988 visitor was Tom Robertson, son-in-law of Ray Haradas of Honolulu, from Silver Springs, Va. Then, the new year started with Paul Bannai and Kay Nishimoto, Va. and Fred & Midori Fujimoto, Mitsue Onizuka, Claude Onizuka & Dennis Ogawa from Hawaii to promote a program on Channel 12. Also, 300 copies of the Ogawa-Glen Grant book on Ellison Onizuka in Japanese were presented to the Onizuka Memorial Committee by PCM President Imai. My involvement was in arranging for translation, publication and liaison among the committee, authors and publisher.

Loni Ding brought "The Color of Honor" when she came to Japan on another project. Her film was shown at meetings of the U.S. Japan Society and Japan Chapter. She also attended a screening of Steven Okazaki's "Living on Tokyo Time", where Ken Nakagawa was present to answer questions.

Dr. Neil Sandberg and David A. Harris of Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., respectively, of the American Jewish Committee met several JACL members including Nisei Sensation... Then came Toy Kanegai, Los Angeles; the Stewart Tsutubos, Marin; Reiko Hashimoto, Tacoma; and Bill Hosokawa & Larry Green, Denver.

Decided to attend a two-day California Historical Institute Conference at UOP, Stockton, in late April. Participants included John Tateishi, Floyd Shimomura, Loni Ding, Steven Okazaki, Yuji Ichioka, Peter Irons, Jerry Enomoto, Mary Tsukamoto, etc. Became a panelist with Richard Yoshikawa and Lou Tominekawa on prewar Stockton... Went to testimonial dinner for Shig Kubara at San Francisco's Marriot and met the Roy Takais, Lefty Nakashis, Richard Hayashi, Yukio Kawamoto, DC; Bill Himel, DC; John Yamasuki, Nob Yohishumuras, Cliff Uyedas, San Francisco; Tak Morita, Roy Uyehata, Harry Iida, Tom Kawaguchi, Joe Kurata; Art Morimotto, Medie Fujioka and Loni Ding... Watched San Francisco's Sakura Matsuri on Apr. 23—the parade included the Boy Scout band, several "taiko" groups, several Japanese dancing groups, a number of Akita dogs but everywhere in Nihonmachi Japanese culture and food were on display.

Saw the Humbergars in their convoluted home, through assistance of Art Nakashima. Had Chinese dinner with Ruth Dobanas, George Babas, Henry Kasumaa, Bingo Kitagawa, George Akimoto, the Mikasa families and the Saiki clan... In San Jose, saw Gunji and Ats Morichii, Tom and Sadie Sakamoto and Terry Fukuhara. Tom is now president of San Jose Nihonmachi Corp. At the Tokyo wedding party for Steve Nakasone & Mariko Oghira, both active JACLers, met Mrs. Ray Nakasone, and Mrs. May Higa, East Faldadina... Mike and Eimi Masaoka arrived in Tokyo to promote Japanese translation of "Moses." Mike spoke at U.S.-Japan Society luncheon.

Other visitors: Noby & Tami Yoshiruma, San Francisco; Naomi & Emi Kashiwabara, San Diego; Ed Mitomas, Palos Verdes; Sathyia Sigel, San Francisco; with Buddhist group, led by Hiroshi Ablao, Toshi Hiro, Gardenia; Ken Nakano, Seattle; Peter & Masa Okada, Seattle; Gene Uraita, Marin; George Sakaguchi, St. Louis; JACL Nat'l Pres. Cressy Nakagawa (shared dinner with Board members).

Also Kay & Mina Saiki, Don & Olga Saiki, Beatrice Yoshida, Jane Tahara, Elisha Hanson (niece), Kumi Yagi, Art Nakashima were part of Stockton-Shimizu Sister City group... Glen Grant & Dennis Ogawa came with Matsuo Takabuki from Hawaii on business. Ogawa's Cable TV in Hawaii has been showing "Sausa Moya" full-length, with about 100 percent favorable response.

Thank you to Ted Ruhstaller of Haggin Museum, Stockton, for its three-month exhibit on relocation and to NIAHS (Alan Iwasaki was at conference) for supplying material... Jack Hirose, San Francisco, made his annual visit. Mr. Dr. Charles C. Wong now teaching at Yamashita University.

The year was left sadder with the passing of Elizabeth Hambargar, Stockton; Tom Sakamoto, Tokyo; Charles Nakata, Seattle; Toshi Tanaka, Tokyo; Saige Okazaki, San Jose; and Debbie Saiki (lovable niece), Stockton. Next year is the Year of the Horse. From late April to July, will be moving around to include JACL Convention, San Diego; Veterans' Reunion at Kona, Hawaii; and Rohwer Reunion, San Angeles.

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By Barry Saiki

The history of every one of the 115 or more JACL chapters is unique, for chapters do not simply materialize out of thin air. They are given substance by a common purpose and a goal, which are strong enough to establish a chapter.

Ten years or two, overseas chapters were recognized at about the same time: The Hawaii and the Japan Chapters. At the 1980 Convention, Earl Nishiyama presented his report on the Japan Chapter. This mid-Pacific chapter grew robust enough to host the 1984 National JACL Convention in Honolulu—a sunny, cheerful convention which even included a memorable blackout. Recently, a new chapter has been formed in the islands. Also, Hawaii is again bidding for a future convention. Before too much time passes, the Hawaii Chapter should record their early years for posterity.

Nishimura represented the Hawaii Chapter. This mid-Pacific chapter began in the autumn of 1979; however, the Hawaii Chapter did not grow robust enough to host the 1984 National JACL Convention in Honolulu—twa...
By Jerry Enomoto
Nov. 21 marked the next to last major milestone in the long struggle for redress, when President Bush signed the appropriations bill that contained the entitlement provision that guarantees payment of redress by 1993. The final milestone, of course, will be reached when the last surviving internee receives his or her check.

As we enjoy this holiday season, we are blessed with the additional joy of seeing perhaps the biggest and most significant battle ever fought by the JACL finally won. That it was won despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles makes victory even sweeter.

Future events and history will properly acknowledge the roles of the many persons, known and unknown, who have helped make redress a reality. I do have the opportunity here to mention some, whose work I am personally aware of.

A decade ago the JACL first moved to make redress a priority objective on its agenda during the presidential administration of Dr. Clifford Uyeda. A vital part of the initial JACL efforts in establishing an effective grass roots lobbying structure was John Tateishi, who worked first as a volunteer, and then as a member of the staff.

During and before those years, individuals of vision such as Edison Uno and Ed Yamamoto were vocal in their urging that steps be taken to hold our government accountable for the injustice of internment.

History will record that the JACL National Council's decision to urge Congress to push for the appointment of a presidential commission, was indeed a major factor in the ultimate passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

The creation of the Legislative Education Committee made possible the raising of hundreds of thousands of dollars through the effective organization of the grass roots communities throughout our land. Lobbying and fundraising were the keys. The late Min Yasui, first chair of the LEC, was a dedicated fighter from his early challenge of the evacuation order, to his untiring work in the cause of Redress.

I became chair of the LEC Board during the administration of National JACL President Harry Kajihara, who was also the first LEC fundraising chair. Over the years, board members have included many familiar names. Current board members include myself, Mollie Fujitaka, Cherry Kinoshita, Tom Kometani, Peggy Liggert, Meriko Morit, Arthur Morimitsu, Crescent Nakagawa, Mae Takahashi, Hank Tanaka, Grant Ujifusa, and Shig Wakamatsu. Serving in the past were Gary Glenn, Harry Kajihara, Kaz Mayeda, Yoshio Nakashima, David Nikaido, Rose Ochi, Joe Rauh, Frank Sato, Gene Takamine, James Tsujimura, Gracie Uyehara, Denny Yasuhara, and Min Yasui. They have all made their contributions to the success of redress.

It must mention particularly Cherry Kinoshita, Denny Yasuhara, Mollie Fujitaka, and Mollie Fujitaka, all uniriting individuals whose "inside the family" leadership, seldom publicized, contributed immeasurably to the ultimate victory.

Grant Ujifusa's work with the Congress and the White House has been often mentioned. His contributions have been vital and unique, and the accolades he has received have been well deserved.

Without the respected record of Nisei fighting men in both Europe and the Pacific, redress could not have been achieved. We are greatly indebted to LEC Board liaison to the veterans organizations, Art Morimitsu, for his consistent and conscientious work.

Always working under pressure, with few resources, Gracie Uyehara was LEC's first executive director. She did the tough work of mobilizing the grass roots network and promoting fundraising activities. Gracie was succeeded by Rita Takahashi and the current executive director, JoAnne Kagiwada. Mention must be made of Rochelle Wandzura, whose staff support work has been an important factor. All have good reason to be proud of their work, always "beyond the call of duty."

Mike Masaoka, as he has done all his life, provided counsel and leadership throughout the long struggle, so important to the well-being of Japanese Americans.

The partnership between the community and its elected representatives has been one of the most beautiful results of this campaign. Too much cannot be said about the senate's "one-two punch," i.e., the personal leadership of Sen. Spark Matsunaga in securing the 71 sponsors in the Senate for the redress bill, and the final hour move by Sen. Daniel Inouye, whose entitlement proposal finally won the day.

In the fray from the beginning, Reps. Bob Matsui and Norman Mineta, provided the essential leadership in the House. Rep. Patricia Saiki added her efforts when she became a member of Congress. It is clear that redress would not have been successful without strong bipartisan support. Backers from all over the country and from all places in the political spectrum joined together to make this happen.

The National JACL Convention in San Diego in June of 1990 will be an appropriate occasion to recognize the achievement of JACL's number one priority, and the last of its major objectives. You may ask "What now?" We of the JACL-LEC Board will be convening soon to discuss that very question. We are very conscious of our responsibility to the community whose contributions funded the LEC operation. There are those who feel that our job will be done when the first checks are issued in October of 1990. Others think that we should continue our work until the last check is issued by Office of Redress Administration. Many other issues also need to be addressed.

Finally, in keeping this accomplishment in proper perspective, we should recognize that it was truly achieved by a partnership of the human spirit and faith in democratic ideals. It was a team effort. Organizations such as NJCJR and NCCR were much involved in the fight. Many individuals and organizations stayed the course over these many years. Contributions large and small, publicized and unpublicized, all were important. We should all feel good about each other. -Jerry Enomoto, past National JACL president, is the chair of JACL-LEC.

Redress Recognition

By George Ogawa
With the signing of H.R. 2991, the Appropriations for Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, by President Bush on Nov. 21, checks will now start to flow from the Treasury to all those eligible, in Oct. 1990. This completes the second step, after the signing of H.R. 442 by President Reagan in August, 1988, in the effort to achieve redress for grievances originating in the relocation of persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II. This action recognizes that the government made certain mistakes, connected with Executive Order 9066 signed by President Roosevelt. It strengthens the constitutional rights of everyone. However, the fight to preserve the civil liberties of everyone is an ongoing one. As someone said, "Dermal vigilance is the price of liberty."

This will mark the end of the work accomplished by hundreds of persons and many organizations throughout the country.

Recognition must first be given to Fred Korematsu, Gordon Hirabayashi, and Min Yasui, as well as Mitsuye Endo, who were courageous enough to raise constitutional questions and who lost because of altered evidence presented to the final appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. Recognition is also due to Aiko Herzig, who discovered the crucial unmodified Final Report prepared by the War Department as well as to the coram nobis legal team, including Peter Irons.

The legislators, obviously, deserve an enormous amount of credit. Those would include Sens. Cranston, Inouye, Matsunaga, Stevens, as well as Rudman who was influential in obtaining the entitlement status for Redress compensation. Representatives who must be mentioned are Matsui, Mineta, Dymally, Saiki, Frank, Wright, Foley, Lowry, and Akaka. The organizations who were essential in the lobbying effort include the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the American Civil Liberties Union, many churches—including the Lutherans and Methodists—the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations, the Community Relations Conference of Southern California, the American Jewish Committee, and of the veterans groups, certainly the 442nd/100th veterans.

Within the JACL, thanks are due to John Tateishi, Gracie Uyehara, and the uncountable ones who wrote letters to their friends in order to lobby congressmen outside the Pacific Coast states. One particu-
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We gratefully acknowledge the splendid response to our request for an advertisement and greetings for this Holiday Issue. May we earnestly encourage our members to reciprocate by supporting these FRIENDS of our Chapter.

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We gratefully acknowledge the splendid response to our request for advertisements in this Holiday issue. May we earnestly encourage our members to reciprocate by supporting these FRIENDS of our Chapter.

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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Library Could Teach Younger Nikkei Their Heritage

By Mas Odo, Ken Sato, Ed Suguro

The justly celebrated Redress issue, perhaps the JACL should turn its attention to the urgent needs of our young people.

To illustrate, JA activists make a big issue about educating all Asian Americans about the Japanese American experience, while overlooking the fact that our Sansei know very little about their own roots. The reason is that of the hundreds of books and articles about Japanese Americans, only a handful are really available. May we suggest that the National JACL encourage local chapters to co-sponsor library and activity centers to rectify this deleterious situation?

An anti-AIAN Violence Conference

The anti-AIAN letter carelessly published in the College of San Mateo news (Calif.) student newsletter, it contained the ominous statement: "I never hated them before, but I will hate them in the future." We have presented the following...
Motivated towards Contributing

By Lucy Kishie

In recent issues of the Pacific Citizen, you may have read about the Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference. I was fortunate to be selected as one of the participants from various facets of government and from concern groups. The conference brought out the "roll up the sleeves" approach to working together to solve the problems we confront. The highlight of the conference was meeting all the Nikkei members of Congress in small group sessions throughout the week. It was an ideal opportunity to share the perspective of each congressperson regarding the inner workings of the American Capitol and committees, and the larger domain of civil rights. This open dialogue included a bigger message for Japanese Americans to become more visibly involved in the public policy system and to extend more outreach to other ethnically-based organizations.

I asked myself, "What has this conference done for me?" I gained a greater understanding of our government from a national level and the challenges facing JACL, regarding the 1990 Census, the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, immigration legislation, anti-Asian violence, entitlement, and media monitoring; the tenacity required for success in the political system, the ability to make connections at the local chapter level; and the impact individuals can make.

What also surfaced for me was the critical need to become more involved in the political arena, to build needed coalitions with other groups, including and beyond the Asian American scope, in order to become visible and supportive of the entire voice of civil rights. The most prevalent theme from this conference was an established network with fellow participants from various chapters. This opens communication for exchanging ideas, understanding local issues, and providing support for each other. Like all friendships, this will take a lot of effort to sustain; the benefits, however, are long lasting and will never be forgotten.

I believe the change for JACL is to sustain the valuable foundation poured by our previous leadership, to allow more creativity and energy of commitment by all members and potential members, and to bring to the future picture of JACL's direction in the 1990s.

Thank you very much for providing this opportunity for me. It has caused a deeper sense of motivation and I hope this type of meeting can bring about many others to contribute. The "D.C. Experience" was GREAT! Just ask me!

Lucy Kishie, 1989 JACL Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference participant, lives in El Sobrante, Calif., and is a member of the San Francisco Chapter of the JACL.

Meeting Leaders to New Insights

By Joe Soong

From Sept. 30 to Oct. 6, Trisha Murakawa (Nikkei Leadership Association) and Jimmy Tokeshi (Downtown Los Angeles) and I attended the JACL Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference to represent the JACL PSWDC. The yearly conference has been ongoing since 1983, when the National Board decided to establish this program as a means for people who were at the local level to get exposure to issues that were of import on a national level.

The three of us, out of a total of 12 conference participants, represented the Los Angeles-area, thanks to the district selection committee consisting of B. J. Watanabe, Doug Utara, Helen Kawagoe, Jeanne Mitoma, Roy Nishikawa and Ron Wakabayashi. Only one of us three had any detailed knowledge of Washington politics, so we were all excited about seeing how the government and the JACL functioned on a national basis.

My memories of the trip are varied, but several impressions stand out among the others. The Smithonian exhibit, "A More Perfect Union," detailed the relocation experience of Japanese Americans in WW II.

The exhibit brought into focus the consequences of when a government chooses to ignore the basic civil rights of its citizens. Civil rights are a nice concept to most people to verbal, however, civil rights can appear as an unnecessary privilege rather than a constitutional right.

For many of us, it is difficult to understand what the effects of a large scale abrogation of these rights can mean. The exhibit personalized the camp experience for each and every visitor to the Smithsonian.

Displays such as the life-sized model of a typical cramped room in the camp gave a more intimate impression of the barren accommodations in the relocation camps and the unsettled lives people were forced to lead.

Meeting fellow JACLers from areas out of California was interesting. Mark Honda was from Minnesota, Barry Kita, from Colorado and Cathy Maeda, from California was interesting. Mark Honda was from

Although I am one of those type who likes the East Coast but wouldn't want to live there, I couldn't help but envy the efficiency of the transit systems in the major cities. Public transit is very convenient, whether travel is by subway, bus, train, or any combination of these. In Washington, D.C., New York, Chicago and Boston, literally all I needed was a transit map to go anywhere in the city and suburbs. Not having to worry about car payments, car insurance, and increased fuel prices is a unfamiliar luxury for Californians.

One aspect that Washington D.C. has and L.A. lacks is a feeling of intensity. In retrospect, the strongest impression I have from the seven days I spent there was the feeling of vibrancy and power of the city. An image that remained with me was our lunch with Rep. Patricia Saiki from Hawaii. She had informed us that the House vote for the comprehensive health care bill for the elderly was imminent and she might have to leave our lunchroom early. My assumption was that she would get called by one of her staff from her office. Instead, she had a voice beeper which went off, gave a summary of the bill to be voted on, and let her know that she had 15 minutes to get back to the Capitol to vote. I later found out that all traffic in the Capitol area is blocked off during congressional votes so that members can reach the Hill. Anyone interfering with a congressman or senator attempting to cast his vote can be arrested and detained.

Later, we all watched the health care vote from the House visitor's gallery, it struck me that the laws being passed would affect millions of people and that the power and influence that causes laws to pass were not necessarily manifestations of the will of the general populace, but were the result of a lot of negotiation and compromise between politicians with many different district interests.

Along the same lines, the importance of coalition building became apparent as the conference progressed. From the local chapter perspective, I had little knowledge about other organizations in place.

The various seminars impressed upon me the importance of reaching out and establishing working relationships with other organizations having parallel interests and a common goal. (I would like to express special thanks to Charles Kamashiki (National Council of LaRaza), Melinda Yee (Organization of Chinese Americans), and Wade Henderson (American Civil Liberties Union) for their very useful goals of their organizations and emphasized how networking with other groups could be a very effective tool for promoting their programs. Listening to the seminars has impressed upon me that sometimes the only way for smaller special interest groups to be effective was through the influence and actions of coalition building.

One of the highlights of the conference was meeting the representatives and senators. Dinners with Reps. Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui, lunch with Rep. Saiki, and an 1/2 hour private session with Sen. Daniel Inouye gave our trip a special touch. Our group had the opportunity to meet with such prominent congress people.

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Meeting fellow JACLers from areas out of California was interesting. Mark Honda was from Minnesota, Barry Kita, from Colorado and Cathy Maeda, from California. None of the preceding observation would be possible if it were not for the time and effort of JACL Washington D.C. representative Paul Isgaki and his aide, Louanna, who both went out of their way to make sure everything went smoothly. Logistically, the conference had the potential of becoming a nightmare for the participants. In Washington, there are at least six different room, so whenever a change of plans occurred everyone had to be notified. Then there was the recurring ordeal of shepherding everyone by taxi to different locations throughout the city. Making sure we all knew how to get there. I'm not even mentioning the effort it took to previously mentioned representatives and senators, who are very difficult to meet with because of their extremely busy schedule.

From the 1989 conference participants, a sincere thank you to Paul and Louanna.

As a pleasant finish to our conference, we were all invited to dine at the home of Sen. Daniel Inouye, who are JACL members in Washington, D.C. All of us were becoming a bit worn down by the packed schedule of events in the conference itinerary. A typical day lasted from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., with activities ranging from luncheons with guest speakers to seminars at locations throughout the city. The dinner at the Okura's came at just the right time, with an abundance of food for everyone. We had an opportunity to meet people from the Washington area and to just sit back and relax.

The highlight of the evening was when the Kura­ mura family entertained us with traditional Japanese music and that we had a lot of talented singers in our midst (well, maybe not so talented, but very enthusiastic).

I think this seminar demonstrated to us the conference members that JACL is a national organization.

Many of us had little awareness of the national scope of the group and found the week spent in Washington a very exciting experience. We had the opportunity to dine from the Senate dining room to the power lunch spots of the city. We were given a taste of many issues people have been lobbying for, such as immigration, Asian Americans. Racial discrimination, immigration quotas, and race relations were just some of the issues covered in the seminars we attended. All the participants came away from this conference with a stronger commitment to the JACL. I believe the change for JACL is to sustain the valuable foundation poured by our previous leadership, to allow more creativity and energy of commitment by all members and potential members, and to bring to the future picture of JACL's direction in the 1990s.

Thank you very much for providing this opportunity for me. It has caused a deeper sense of motivation and I hope this type of meeting can bring about many others to contribute. The "D.C. Experience" was GREAT! Just ask me!

Lucy Kishie, 1989 JACL Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference participant, lives in El Sobrante, Calif., and is a member of the San Francisco Chapter of the JACL.

Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue: Dec. 22-29, 1989 Sec. C--13
From Evacuation to Redress: A Speech Delivered at the Third Heart Mountain Reunion

By Bill Hookeawa

Editor’s note: The following is the text of a speech delivered Sept. 9, 1989, at the third Heart Mountain Reunion.

Time has a way of getting away from us. Many of the friends who attended the first reunion in Los Angeles in 1982 are no longer here. Three years later we had our second reunion. That was in San Jose, and it was sponsored by the Heart Mountain High School class of 47, dedicated to the men from the camp who gave their lives in military service. We have Bacon Sakatani to thank for that effort. There were two principal speakers, one on the 50th anniversary of the Congresswoman Norman Mineta, and Minory Yasui, and you know that Min is now gone. So these reunions are increasingly more precious events, deeply meaningful occasions to meet good friends from long ago and revive fading memories before they, too, slip away.

It may be difficult to believe, but it was 47 years ago, in the late summer of 1942—that Heart Mountain War Relocation Center, the desolate barracks town on the Wyoming benchland, took on life. The first evacuees to arrive were from the Pomona Assembly Center, an advance party of 292 who reached Heart Mountain on Aug. 12 after an exhausting three-day train ride. Six days later, on Aug. 18, the first regular trainload of contingent arrived. It was made up of 529 persons. Each day for the next nine days a trainload of evacuees arrived from Pomona. The population of Heart Mountain, an American concentration camp in the hills of Wyoming, soared within a period of two weeks from zero to 5,260 men, women and children.

But there were more to come. Two trainloads, totaling 938 persons, arrived from Portland, Ore. on the last day of August and the first day of September. Immediately after that the movement from Santa Anita began. Trainloads arrived on Sept. 2nd, 4th and 6th. On Sept. 8, 42 year, 593 evacuees reached Heart Mountain from Santa Anita. There were no arrivals on the 9th, but on the 10th another train pulled up to the siding called Vocation, Wyo., with 586 passengers. Before the influx ended, there were nearly 11,000 of us in the camp. In a month’s time Heart Mountain was transformed from nothing into a city.

In reference to those who arrived aboard the trains, I use the word “passengers” adversely. Those trains provided only basic transportation and none of the amenities the railroad traveler might expect. Diner service? Despite katelle Ishigo’s recollections of an air-conditioned dining car on a train from San Francisco, who, incidentally, was never imprisoned in a camp, tried to explain it. He said we developed a closeness because we shared the trauma of having been victims of oppression. Young and old, rich and poor, learned or sparsely educated, we were all victims of the nation’s wartime hysteria. We shared a common sad experience based on community. But I contend there is more to the bond. Yes, we were victims, but more important, we are survivors. We survived the nation’s unreasoning injustice without losing our faith in America. We survived the trauma of abandonment by our country without letting it damage us permanently. We survived staggering economic loss to come back and create careers for ourselves, and homes for our families. Together we survived a devastating experience. Together we shared the march into America’s desert concentration camps, and together we have refused to let that terrible experience scar us, and that is the bond that makes us kin.

Last August, President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, better known as the Redress bill. For each of us it was legislation of profound significance. It took a decade of intense effort to persuade Congress to approve the measure, but eventually it was passed by an overwhelming margin and it became the law of the land when President Reagan signed it. The President’s remarks during the signing ceremony, reviewing the circumstances that made the bill so significant, are so important that they deserve repetition here. He said what he said:

“Mrs. Reagan, we gather here today to right a grave wrong. More than 40 years ago, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were forcibly removed from their homes and placed in makeshift internment camps. This action was taken without trial, without inquiry. It was based solely on race—these 120,000 were Americans of Japanese descent.

“Yes, the nation was then at war, struggling for its survival—and it’s not for us today to pass judgment upon those who may have been caught up in the excitement and engaged in that great struggle. Yet we must recognize that the internment of Japanese Americans was just that—a mistake. For throughout the war, Japanese Americans in the tens of thousands remained utterly loyal to the United States.

“Indeed, scores of Japanese Americans volunteered for our Armed Forces and stepped forward in the internment camps themselves. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team, made up entirely of those who may have been interned, fought with distinction—to defend this nation, their nation.

“But at home, the soldiers’ families were being denied the very freedom for which so many of them fought and died. Some of the Mineta family lived in those conditions not for a matter of weeks or months, but for three long years.

“The legislation that I am about to sign provides for a redemption payment to each of the 60,000 surviving Japanese Americans of the 120,000 who were relocated or detained. Yet no payment can make up for those lost years.

“So what is more important in this bill has less to do with property than with honor. For here we admit a wrong. Here we reaffirm our commitment as a nation to equal justice under the law. Let me repeat this last paragraph, for it states the essence of Redress: ‘What is more important in this bill has less to do with property than with honor. For here we admit a wrong. Here we reaffirm our commitment as a nation to equal justice under the law.’

Yet we know that Redress is not complete until there is justice. Congress has failed so far to appropriate the funds promised by the bill that President Reagan signed. We must continue to remind Congress of that promise, for while a restitution payment may be only a token to some, it will provide a very critical measure of security and material comfort to many, many others.

The city or organization of this reunion and individuals were very prominent in the spadework that led to passage of the Redress bill. We should be grateful for their efforts, for the righteousness of what President Reagan described as a historical wrong was not a victory of ours alone, but a triumph for all Americans concerned with justice and fair play. There is more than enough credit to go around. A large share belongs to the men who went to war on our behalf, particularly those whose sacrifice is commemorated by monuments like the one at Heart Mountain campsite. And certainly the evacuees themselves are deserving of credit, for without their patience and exemplary conduct in the face of great provocation, without bitterness and disillusionment would have been understandable, it would have been infinitely more difficult to win vindication.

America, through Congress and the president, has admitted wrong. It was a mistake, Mr. Reagan declared. Here we admit a wrong, he said, here we...
The Horrors of Combat, the Nisei Vet and Redress
By Bill Hosokawa

It's been said of the Nisei that they are, or were, reluctant to talk about the Evacuation. They kept their outrage locked in their hearts like a personal shame, and even so much as a whisper about the Evacuation to a fellow Nisei would have been enough to cause that Nisei's secret to be known to the world. True enough, for many American Evacuation veterans were so overwrought by the experience that they did not talk about the Evacuation at all. But we must not forget that what took place in a time of stress and fear. I make this statement not in a spirit of vindictiveness, but in the determination that our nation must not repeat the mistake as an easy solution in some future crisis. People today ask how something as terrible as the Evacuation could have happened in our country, the United States of America, where human rights are protected by law.

We must remember that the least we can do at this late date is to try to make the greatest contribution of which we were capable, not for Hawai'i's Japanese Americans, but for Hawai'i."

No one doubts that it was the Nisei war record that made statehood possible for Hawai'i as early as it came. Military service gave Japanese Americans the determination, the confidence and the opportunity to claim their rights, to elect their own representatives to public office.

On the mainland their war experience was enabling Japanese Americans to seize other opportunities for achieving justice. Lacking the voting power of Nisei in Hawai'i, the Japanese American Citizens League's strategy was to lobby for changes in discriminatory law. Mike Masaoka was sent to Washington with an obvious legislative agenda. Time and again he was to cite the war record of Nisei servicemen, first to gain a hearing for his pleas for justice, then to win support to redress legal inequities.

Masaoka enjoyed remarkable success. Congress found it difficult not to heed men who had shed blood for the United States. The list of legislative achievements was long:

- The Evacuation Claims Act, which while only token payment for losses suffered in the Evacuation, provided badly needed money into Japanese American communities when they were struggling to recover.
- The California court decision ruling the alien land law unconstitutional.
- The GI's Bill enabling service personnel to marry and bring home spouses of nationalities ineligible for immigration to the U.S.
- Naturalization rights for the Nisei.
- Immigration quotas for Asian and Pacific peoples.

And ultimately, Redress, in which Congress apologized for the mistake of Evacuation and provided a token settlement for its surviving victims.

In remarks published in the Congressional Record for March 21, 1987, veteran Democrat of California recognized the part the Nisei military record played in these legislative victories:

"I am certain that corrective and remedial legislation and litigation would not have been possible without the bloody war record and its unanswerable evidence of loyal service to our country. In practically all statutes which have been enacted for the specific benefit of those Japanese ancestry, for example, the unique battle standards of the Nisei soldiers have been used as models for favorable consideration. It is a record that cannot be discounted or ignored."

Perhaps we have sensed the truth of Congressman Edwards' tribute. That is not enough as we enter the final decade of a momentous century. We should respect the wish of Nisei vets to forget their nightmares. But they deserve to be told in every possible way, by all of us who benefited, of our humble gratitude for what they went through.

-Bill Hosokawa, long-time journalist, author and P.C. contributor, lives in Denver.

Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue: Dec. 22-29, 1989

C.—17
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Season’s Greetings
By Karl Ichida

Yukan: The Japanese custom of ritually washing the body of the newly deceased before burial.

I was flying home after eleven years for my mother’s funeral, and as my plane banked to the right, I could see the city’s lights sprinkled across the brown, dark lawn of night. Although I had returned to Honolulu many times before, nostalgia beat gentle wings against me as I caught sight, even in the darkness, of waves, as they neared shore, breaking into graceful feathered arcs.

Emerging from the plane at the terminal, I smelled the unmistakable heavy sweat of the island, as the night tradewinds pressed against my face like a warm damp cloth. My sisters, Helen and Rachel, met me at the baggage-claim area, and I gave them huge long hugs.

The reason for my homecoming and not having seen each other or communicated for so long was manifested in an uneasy silence. We waited by the luggage carousel, glad for the hypnotic drift of boxes and suitcases to occupy the silence.

Helen had begun to gray at the temples, and strands of white marbled her long black hair, but her face still made her appear younger than her fifty-two years. She was smoking discreetly, holding her cigarette behind her, knowing my distaste of the habit.

Helen and I joked about how we could scare our children with ghost stories mother used to tell from her plantation days on Kanai. We laughed about the chicken-kits mother had given us about how the chickens and some friends had walked through a graveyard in Eleale at night and had seen green vapors in human shape floating from tombstone to tombstone. I recalled mother’s story about her mother chasing her through the house with a meat cleaver, the same knife that could, in our mother’s hands, reduce a whole chicken to bite-size chunks for sake in less than a minute.

They had had an argument when grandmother found out that she had been seeing a haole (a Caucasian), something taboo for the daughter of a Japanese plantation worker.

Jet lag overcame me and my sisters’ conversation soon turned into muffled cadences that the darkness of the valley swallowed. The next morning turned into muffled cadence that the sound of tradewinds slapping the wooden veran blind windows against the wind. The gray light of an overcast day in the valley filled my room.

A man in a navy-blue gaberdine suit greeted us. Presently a reverend came.

We didn’t say much in the car, but I kept looking at her out of the corner of my eye and thinking about grandmother pursuing mother with a meat knife. I started to laugh inside as the words of the nursery song “Three Blind Mice,” suddenly came to mind. She cut off their tails with a carving knife.

Rachel’s ample black hair was gathered into a bun which was one of the reasons she looked older than she was. What I had once thought was an affection, I realized now, was Rachel’s effort to absorb the style of the old plantation workers. They would play for hours by the light of kerosene lamps, and often I was talked to by their animated voices, hearing the sound of their hanafuda cards being slapped against bamboo mats.

There was nothing in our parents’ lives beyond the struggle to survive in the plantation camps and avoid the wrath of the Portuguese luna (a plantation field boss) who rode through the fields on their well-fed horses. I would have imagined my parents saw no change in our lives had because our parents had outlooks as gritty, dusty and dry as the wooden plantation houses and Quonset huts they had lived in. Wahiawa, Puunene, Eleale—beautiful Hawaiian names that belied their lonely and desolate landscape.

“You’re just as ungrateful and self-centered as you’ve always been,” came Rachel’s predictable reaction whenever I started harping about our parents.

For all these years I had been battling my sisters who always erected a barrier to any criticism I made about our parents. It was partly their allegiance to the Oriental tradition of respecting one’s parents and elders. But I also sensed deeply that it was their way of blocking me, for some reason, from the core of our family.

The recurring sense of frustration and bitterness made me feel that I had decided correctly twenty years before to remain in Boston after medical school and to practice and raise my family as far from home as possible. The resurrected turmoil was distracting me. I would have chambers for my patients. The clouds of steam were rolling over the hot asphalt road, white diamonds crawling over a black sea. There was a heavy smog rain on the windshield. If I make it through the next turn off the highway into the valley.

The funeral services were quick. Next day we were numb from the shock of the loss, the recollection of friends and relatives bowing respectfully and lighting incense sticks in front of mother’s bronze urn.

Continued on Next Page

Clavell American Japanese National Literary Award Winner

San Francisco Chronicle, 10/16/1989
Yukan
Continued from Previous Page
mourned words of sympathy were like the tiny pinches of herbs others dropped into the earthworm box. The last of the white roses covered by beautifully brocaded sashes. They struck the bronze bell resting on a crimson jar and cover it with this piece of paper. "I'll make it," he had promised her. "I'll make it," she said as she started to walk outside. "I'll make it," I repeated to myself in that darkening room where the candles from the shrine and put it on the floor. There was no light. There was a grand piano in the living room, with elaborately carved wooden cabinets. There was a sense of obligation and duty that I had to explain to me.

The smell of incense filled the bag with leaves, thanked her and went over the box. I found the envelope with my name handwritten on it. The death of a young child, the fall of maple leaves in November. There was a grand piano in the living room, with elaborately carved wooden cabinets. There was a sense of obligation and duty that I had to explain to me.

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Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue: Dec. 22-29, 1989 Sec. D-7
By Manzen (Tom Ariola)

Old Arai, or Tak, as his friends called him, stopped and watched intrigued by the little boy's action, captivated by the intensity of his concentration. He smiled and chuckled softly, enjoying the pleasant interruption of his morning walk. He thought of his childhood days when he, his brother and sister played in the small ditch that ran alongside their home in Venice, Calif. They had not only chased waterbugs but caught crawdads as well. Crawdads were abundant in the ditch and they were fascinating the way they scooted backwards flipping their tail. The ones that were caught were never kept for more than a day. They were usually released the morning after. It was pure joy to see them scoot around again after having been confined in a cramped Mason jar, to be released back into their own habitat; freed, to continue their life as if uninterrupted, to settle back comfortably in their own friendly and familiar environment.

How different it was for him, Old Arai thought, and for other Japanese Americans who were incarcerated during the war years. The war years had been disruptive and destructive. For everyone. War was like that. But for Japanese Americans and those of Japanese ancestry it was more so, he reflected. Not only physically and materially, but psychologically as well. To be aperoosed, dislocated and incarcerated by their own government. On short notice. To be branded and stigmatized as being disloyal. Surrounded by barbed wires, watch towers and guns. Then to be released after years of internment into a suspicious, unfriendly and unfamiliar environment. It was devastating! And then to try to pick up the scattered pieces, or to start again, anew, from scratch. It was traumatic! No one could ever really know the lasting, malignant pain that underlies the seemingly benign scar that still exists, unless they had experienced it themselves.

He thought of his father and a cloud descended. He remembered once he had watched his father trudging off to work in Chicago where they had relocated after camp. He had a job putting together clocks. He had come to America in his teens and had been a laundryman, a nurseryman, and just before the war, a farmer. And now, having lost his farm due to the incarceration, he was assembling clocks. To make it more painful, his father was of the old school, of samurai stock, nurtured in the Meiji culture which was steeped in the familial values of Confucian thought. He was programmed literally to be the head of the family, to rule the roost. He was benevolent and kind but his word was more than law. Not just a command . . . it was an edict.

But he was essentially a silent man, a quiet man, letting his action do his talking. Though he did not hug or pamper them, he had drawn for them and played with them, Old Arai remembered. One of the games they had played as kids was karuta, a game of cards with sayings in Japanese. Sayings like "Carelessness is the greatest enemy" or "From little ashes, the mighty mountains grow." They couldn't read Japanese, not really, but they could identify the matching characters. They had laughed together then, no matter who had won.

Perhaps he became silent because his English was so poor, their Japanese so inadequate, and his world had changed so dramatically. Perhaps it was all or none of these. But whatever the cause; his father, having resignedly relinquished his role as head of the house by then, went to work that day in Chicago looking as if he felt he had been reduced to just earning his keep.

The noticeable transformation had begun in Chicago. Perhaps it began in the latter years of the incarceration when the future looked so obscured and bleak; not knowing when the internment would end, if ever; when hopes and dreams were mere speculation, nothing more than wishful, wistful fantasies swirling in a maudlin of a nightmare. Family life, too, began to unravel then with commissary living taking its steady. Mess halls, public latrines and showers, block (community) laundries; they all served insidiously to the unraveling. Family ties and love were still there, but the "freedom" of camp life mitigated to widen the gap between generations. Fung (young, with a decidedly negative overtone) seemed to be on every Issai's lips.

Relinquishing the family reins by his father, who was only 56 at the time of the confinement, was not dramatic. It just happened. Silent and unknowingly. In camp decisions of note were by and large infrequent, but in Chicago they seemed often and monumental. Especially for him, who at 61, was in Chicago with his family attempting to establish another new beginning, with only "broken English" at his command.

More and more, important decisions began to fall on George, his eldest son who was still in his early 20s. George had just returned from the army where he had served in Europe with the now famed 442, the all Nisei battalion. He had relocated the family to Chicago and was looked upon as the nominal head of the family. The mantle was thrust upon him, but he wore it as if he was born for it, which in a way he was, being the eldest son. Old Arai at the time was in Japan serving with the MIS, the U.S. Military Intelligence Service.

Continued on Page D-16
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Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue: Dec. 22-29, 1989 Sec. D—13
Educatjng the Public

By Kango Kunisugu

ow that the Redress issue has been resolved, this uncle wants to write about something which has been bugging me for some time.

When the Redress issue first surfaced more than two decades ago at a National Board meeting of the JACL in San Francisco (I was there so I never forget), it somehow takes on an exciting concept, albeit a very long shot at the time, to right a wrong.

Then as the Redress concept began to be hammered into shape during the subsequent years, which also called for a redress payment of $20,000 to each victim of the Evacuation, I started having second thoughts about the Redress movement since the money appeared to be a "payment" of the racially motivated Evacuation (I always capitalize the word because it was a major historical event) and internment.

It was as though the government was going to say, "Yes, we're sorry, we took the wrong path, so people please shut up about being put into concentration camps? We're even, okay?"

Well, as the national Redress committee started pushing it into halls of Congress I changed my mind again and supporting it for another reason.

I knew the issue of the $20,000 was going to create a lot of flak not only in Congress, but also from a lot of folks in the nation who probably feel even today that the "right thing" by putting all of us behind barbed wire fences during the war.

My reason for supporting Redress was that because of the expected flak, I figured that the resultant commotion would bring to the forefront the story of the Evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans. And hopefully, that this would help to educate the general public about how and why it happened.

We are all familiar with the fact that there are many Americans who do not know anything about the Evacuation and internment, and there are a lot of them, who have a racist attitude about it.

The letters to editor pages of the nation's newspapers are a sort of a mini-barometer of what the average American thinks about various national issues and the Redress issue is a hot item today.

Many letters are supportive of Redress, but just as many are not. Normally a few of the negative letters tend to raise my temperature, but there are a number of them which really get me upset.

As expected, many Americans cannot differentiate between Americans of Japanese descent and Japanese from Japan. And this causes many writers to boggle that the Japanese government should then compensate those families whose sons were killed or captured by Japanese forces during the war in the Pacific.

But what really galls me are the many letters which charge that while we were in concentration camp "clothed, fed and cooled," they were in the foxholes fighting the war. With all the publicity about the war record of the Nisei soldiers, including a movie about the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, there are still a lot of people sitting in bars who still don't know a damn thing about the story of the Japanese American soldier.

They don't know that the Nisei volunteered or were drafted into the Army from these so-called "relocation camps" which provide showers and guard towers. Hell, I was drafted into the Army in 1944 from Rohwer along with hundreds of other Nisei.

It is this "while we were fighting the war, you people were safe in camps" crap which burns me up.

Whenever I hear or read that statement, it always reminds me of the story of Toshio and Tetsu Hozaki. They were two small boys, about 10 years old, who lived in Block 11 (my block) in Rohwer. The two brothers were friends of mine in Los Angeles before the Evacuation.

They were both in action in Europe serving with the 442nd RCT while their parents were still in Rohwer. Toshio and Tetsu were the only children of Mr. and Mrs. Hozaki. And so I was really angry.

It seems like we haven't done a good enough job of educating the general public about the history of the Issei and Nisei. The recent flap in Sacramento about some Issei who were denied citizenship in the school history books of the story of the Evacuation and internment is another case in point.

We've got to do a better job and hopefully, next year's Rohwer Reunion could serve as a major step in educating the general public about the Evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans and the Issei, who also were denied citizenship for many years because of their race. (Did you know that the Issei were the last racial group to be given the opportunity to become naturalized citizens)?

Both to see the Rohwer Reunion photo exhibit publicized and invite the general public. I'd like to propose a seminar about the Evacuation and internment, and maybe, we could do that instead. I'd like to see and do a lot more, but you get the general idea.

What we need is a forum just not us, but for others so that they will learn and get off our backs.

Kango Kunisugi is a consultant for development and editor of the Rohwer Outreach newsletter, from which this article was printed. For more information, in the next Rohwer reunion, write the Rohwer Reunion Committee at 1540 Gramercy Pl., Gardena, CA 90249.

By Arthur T. Morimitsu

This is a story of the times so familiar, voices that echo in the distance, the cool breeze that sweeps by, as memories come back. It's like a dream—the scenes so familiar, voices that you won't forget.

Evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans was a major historical event) and internment.

For some families accustomed to daily existence in the middle of a prehistoric sea near an ancient volcanic mountain once the stronghold of the Oregon Modoc Indians of long ago. Within the barb-wire enclosure now called Tule Lake Relocation Center, Japanese American evacuees from California, Washington and Oregon found themselves lining up for their meals in community mess halls, taking showers and laundering in community washrooms one for daily gossip and ration cards.

By the little boy playing in the dirt, the smell of the evening dust. Dust. The weather of Tule Lake, an unpredictable as a woman in a millinery shop. Snow in May, Indian Summer in November—but all the year round, wind, wind and more wind. Wind, gentle as a baby's breath; strong enough to rattle the windows; wild enough to shriek between the telephone wires—whirling dust and papers like a miniature tornado—sending fine dust particles seeping through the window, blemishing furniture and floor with a coating of white. Dust. Dust. Dust.

The first snowfall, Tule Lake Project under its baptismal chart, the lilies of the waters, floating down, silently, gently. It piles up on the front door steps; it's slippery as the dickens, and it invariably turns into slush.

Despite the uncertainty for the future, the country, looked upon with undisguised suspicion by the U.S. government—the frustration became unbearable.

Mothers of young children fretted because their offspring, aware of the lack of parental discipline, became unmanageable with their newfound freedom. Even the Issei resorted to "borrowing" lumber from the public area to build shelves, porches for the barracks. In former civilian life, this abuse of public property was unthinkable.

Since the majority of community leaders—ministers, priests, teachers, business and organization leaders—had been rounded up for investigation, the leadership role was thrust upon young Nisei and others.

Dust. Dust. The weather of Tule Lake, an unpredictable as a woman in a millinery shop. Snow in May, Indian Summer in November—but all the year round, wind, wind and more wind. Wind, gentle as a baby's breath; strong enough to rattle the windows; wild enough to shriek between the telephone wires—whirling dust and papers like a miniature tornado—sending fine dust particles seeping through the window, blemishing furniture and floor with a coating of white. Dust. Dust. Dust.

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Despite the uncertainty for the future, the Nisei now looked as old as the Issei looked then. He certainly didn't feel old. Was it just an image one generation paints upon another? He wondered.

Glancing at the little boy playing in the puddle, he wondered about loneliness and youthfulness. He is his father one day in much the same way he had done just now. Although a stranger, he wondered, too, what laid ahead of him in life. How many hills and valleys he was to cross, how many continents and oceans? The puddle was small. How will he play in the ocean? Silently Old Arai closed his eyes and wished him well.

Then he thought of his sons and grandchildren and of the coming years. He wondered whether their life will be easier than his had been. He hoped that it would.

Yet he was somewhat apprehensive, fearful that they may not see the underrows and the ripples in the vast ocean that was life. But he knew his strength, their values and standards would see them through. He had watched his sons grow up and felt good about having the objecting to his objections. He thought. You teach them everything you know, and then, when your turn comes, you bend over and let those following you jump ahead.
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and for; that like the proverbial 'bundle of sticks,' it had changing; thanks to them and to all the Asian American of them, for they, the individual, the member, was the media people whose efforts are altering the negative growing and coming closer. The clouds looked glad he was getting old. The future looked gray with threatening storm clouds in the Pacific Rim countries. Economic impact of Asian organizations as 'it' or 'they' and not a part of superimposed. He sighed and for a moment he was habitual. Old Arai watched the waterbugs for a while. About twenty, "Say, I finally wrote those thank you letters to those congressmen. Been meaning to fora lon g tim e. Finally got it done. Didn't take too long once I got started. Should have done it long ago. I'm going to update rally Saturday night. Want a lift?"

"Oh!" He mused. It's large and widely known; by Congress, Mit had not been involved in anything except maybe gaining 'lift' and "Great." Old Anti "Starts about eight, OK?"

"OK, see you then. Got to run down to the Plaza to pick up some things. So long, now," and with that Mits was gone.

Old Arai watched him as he left. It was amazing. Mits had not been involved in anything except maybe family, close friends, and some sponsored social things, but he had gone ha and getting involved in all kinds of things. He had joined the local chapter of the JACL recently and was getting enthusiastic about contributing his time, energy and whatever talent he had. He had been silent and reclusive for years, but now he was getting more outward and vocal; obnoxiously so, sometimes, Old Arai chuckled. Perhaps it was because he had retired and had time to 'smell the flowers' and ponder about life subjectively.

He watched Mits fade away in the distance. As he grew older, his slight figure and the way he favored his right leg reminded him of his father. In a way, they were similar, the way they projected their being, he decided. Mits was getting more and more energetic, whereas his father had grown more and more silent and withdrawn. Perhaps it was because his father was of the old generation; having come to the states in his teens, he had been exposed to the English community, working hard to build a future only to have his world crumble and torn apart by the war. He had learned much by just being his son, and he was grateful he had 'listened.' Even now, he heard his father's 'silence' and the 'silence' he had broken. Glancing at the waterbugs, he noticed they were skimming back and forth across the puddle, effortlessly and without ripples. His childhood was quiet and strangely effervescent. Feeling boyant and serene, he headed home. As he walked, a single white cloud drifted comfortably in the azure sky. It grew peacefully, glowering with...
A Nikkei Problem: Improper Identification

By Allan Berkman

June 19, 1868 there arrived in Honolulu aboard the vessel Ssaco 148 Japanese, including six women and two children, the adults having been recruited to work on the sugar plantations. They found an ar-

my of infant workers, and a large group of Americanists and whose native language was being dis- placed by English. The Americans had identified those of undiluted aboriginal ancestry as pure Hawaiian. They identified the remaining newcomers as part-Hawaiian. This nomenclature rendered the other residents non-part Hawaiian, a designation they strenuously objected to as a discrimination of the economy of the archipelago and the organs of propaganda, and being exposed, in those days of sail, to few visitors who might look askance at the situation.

Japan had only begun to open to the world, after American Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry forced the Treaty of Kanagawa on it, March 3, 1854. The result was that the Japanese were repatriated, but that the United States of America duty free. The Japanese, no longer subject to the rigors of the plantation, gained the right to trade with the United States for labor.

The Nikkei continued to be an asset to the economy of Hawaii. And all now owed fealty to the new, American government. But before the hip could allay, the forces of the revolution were now free to leave the plantation s. Some were recruited in Japan upon the expiration of their contracts. Some had remained. Those still held in bondage before annexa-

tion were now free to leave the plantations. Some emigrated to mainland America.

The American flag flew over Hawaii. And the Nikkei who they had been registered in the name of the American by the Treaty of Kanagawa on it, March 3, 1854. The result was that the Japanese were repatriated, but that the United States of America duty free. The Japanese, no longer subject to the rigors of the plantation, gained the right to trade with the United States for labor.

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Consequently, by 1868 when the Japanese first arrived in large number, the newcomers had found the natives unsuited for labor on the sugar plantations that had begun to flourish and from which the Chinese tended to leave at the first opportunity. So they looked to Japan for labor.

The laws of Hawaii were based on the principle of division, striving to keep the races separate in separate sections of the plantation and paid them on separate days. Near the turn of the century when the annexation of Hawaii to America gathered momentum, the planters supported it. Annexation would mean the abrogation of the contracts through which they held their laborers in bondage and imposed obstacles to importing foreign labor. It would also assure they could import their sugar into mainland America duty free. The gain seemed to more than outweigh the loss.

Through annexation in 1898, Hawaii became nominally American. But though benevolent, the American government did not see fit to be enrolled in the public schools as Japanese, identified as such in the federal census and subjected to an unceasing bar-

rage of propaganda from the press and all the instru-

ments of propaganda that they are Japanese and genet-

ically disqualified from being anything else.

Most Japanese who returned to Hawaii were interned.

SECTION E

The phenomenon of which they should take par-

The planter representative who had recruited them had done so through the consent of the Shogunate government. Before the ship could sail, the forces of propaganda from the press and all the instruments of propaganda that they are Japanese and genetically disqualified from being anything else.

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Reflections on the JACL Lobbying Experience

By Cherry Kinoshita

On the euphoria over the entitlement victory, everyone agreed that it was Sen. Daniel Inouye who was the driving force. He personally engineered the successful outcome in Congress, the appropriations process being pretty much an internal exercise. If any lobbying was effective, it was the senator's veteran staff who had been fighting his causes for decades and the senator himself for persuasively moving his proposals.

It was in the arduous process of the authorization bill, H.R. 442, that many JACLers honed their lobbying skills. What is lobbying—what was it all about anyway? Webster states: "Lobbying, to seek to influence legislation..." The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, which had earlier released its findings in a report titled Personal Justice Denied, came out with its long awaited recommendations in June of 1983. No sooner had their recommendations been issued then Rep. Mike Lowry (D-Wash.), who had earned the distinction of being the first to introduce a redress bill in Congress in 1979, promptly introduced H.R. 3387, his second bill being more closely patterned along the commission's recommendations. Simultaneously, Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) introduced S. 1520, the first Senate redress bill, but his bill did not specify individual monetary redress. So now, in June 1983, there were two bills in Congress and we, members of JACL's chapter redress committees, were supposed to "lobby." Being seasoned to some extent as an amateur lobbyist in the halls of the Washington State Legislature attempting to persuade state senators and representatives to approve state redress compensation bills in three separate legislative efforts, presenting the arguments for redress and the facts to support these positions had become easier. The tricky part was responding appropriately to the objections and resistance of the legislators.

But eventually it was the nation's Congress. The task seemed a bit more awesome. How does one get started? From the League of Women Voters office a list was obtained of our state congressional delegation, their Washington, D.C. addresses, and the names of their administrative aides. From Ruthann Kurose, Washington, D.C. aide to Lowry, with whom we'd had many discussions on the subject of the language in Lowry's bill, we received handy tips—when was the best time to call, how to get an appointment with the congressman back in the home district, and other helpful hints. So that's how it began, the great lobbying experience—and for the next five years that was the goal—to persuade and convince legislators to vote "yes" on redress legislation.

The first thrill of success came as the result of a call to Rep. Thomas Foley's Washington, D.C. office where I explained to Thad Lightfoot, an aide, the reasons for my call, which he then referred to Heather Foley, Rep. Foley's wife, who serves as his administrative assistant. She listened and said she would discuss Lowry's bill with the congressman who was then in the hospital for a minor condition. The next day she called back saying that Rep. Foley would tell me that, yes, Rep. Foley would sign on to Mike Lowry's bill. A letter followed, dated Aug. 4, 1983 signed by Rep. Foley, affirming his sympathetic view on the issue. Unfortunately from that point on, the sentiment of the Susan B. Anthony List, the most single-handed drive in the 100th congressional session to bring together the astonishing total of 74 colleagues to cosponsor his bill, would not have b' come of course unless we could gain congressional endorsement for the bill. In the subsequent years a few of the state delegation approached while they were on the campaign trail. True to their campaign promise, they promptly signed on to the redress bills immediately after they were elected.

This was a tactic which is useful to remember—to get a commitment during a campaign spell where questions can be answered and an impression is made. Candidiates are more likely to promise support when votes are crucial. Following up, however, is essential.

Looking over the fairly conservative background of the state delega­tion, I was thinking someone from eastern Washington, where we had little hope that he would become a cosponsor, but here is where the work of the local group in Yakima had weight. Kara Kondo, an indefatigable activist, had presented the congressman with a petition signed by dozens of local Nikkei residents urging support of redress, but she reported he still was non-committal. She arranged an appointment, nevertheless, so with Regional Director Tim Otsani, we traveled the 142 miles inland to Morris­son's office to meet with him.

As he sat down to talk with us, he said in effect, let's see if you can convince me. We all gave the usual reasons for supporting redress—then I happened to think of a professor who was doing a research project on how to motivate constituents to write their congressmen. He had talked about the petitions of individual monetary redress at the outset, but by the conclusion of the study, which dealt with the mental health of Niseis, she became convinced that individual monetary redress was ap­propriate and necessary for the healing process. I re­lated this to the congressman and paused, thinking, well we gave it a try. Surprisingly, then, after some discussion he said, "I guess I'll be your re­searcher—I can change my views and I agree to support your bill." I mentally danced a little jig. Since that day Rep. Morrison has been a consistent and strong supporter, thanks to the groundwork laid by Kara and the Yakima people.

Convincing the rest of the members of the state delegation was another story, requiring not one or two meetings, but even as many as half-a-dozen dialogues. In getting appointments it helped, of course, to have new reasons, or to convince reasons for a third or fourth meeting, rather than just asking for another meeting on the same issue. Since the first redress support group for these meetings—Chuck Kato, Tim Gojo, Tomio Moriguchi, Sam Shoji, Chizu Omori, Bob Sato, Naomi Sanchez and others—were primarily Seattle residents, one would assume that it was comparatively easier to get the sentiment of the state delegation, be it Everett or Olympia or wherever, as reasons for seeking another meeting, or to ask for an appointment when a crucial vote had been taken by subcommittee, or some development in the bill was to occur which presented a deadline.

One had to keep alert for opportunities, with atten­tion at political gatherings a must since they pro­vided a potential source for meeting specific con­gressmen. At a fundraising shrimp feed for Mike Lowry, we spotted Rep. Don Bonker who had resisted any commitment even after two visits with him, so we decided to corner him and try again. This time, as we were leaving his "office" he said: "Let's meet again. We told him that since the bill was ready for the Rules Committee, that was why it was important to line up the votes, he said, "You don't have to worry about that..."

With that small glimmer of hope, I persisted with his district office manager until an arrangement was made for the congressman to meet with us at the Elliot Bay Bookstore, one of his campaign stops. While Chuck Kato, Tim Gojo and I waited at a small table, Rep. Bonker walked in, asked a few questions about where the money was coming from, and then spoke in somewhat ambiguous terms. We looked at each other as we realized that he was agreeing to support the bill.

Still a little dubious, I asked for a confirming letter. He said, here, I'll write it on this card, and he then proceeded to handwrite, "This is to inform you that I am in favor of H.R. 442 when it reaches the House floor later this year," and dated it, "Aug. 12, 1987.

On the day of the vote about a month later, he him­self told me that he was voting in favor of H.R. 442 when it reaches the House floor later this year.

In one instance we received a copy of a letter from a Nisei woman urging Rep. Al Swift to support redress and commenting she had heard from a beloved teacher whom both she and Rep. Al Swift had known. We asked her to join our group and make her request to him the reason for another meeting. Although Rep. Al Swift was truly sincere, he had trouble articulating his almost passionate objections to the individual monetary compensation. In a letter which I had asked him to write outlining his objections, he referred to "trivializing" the enormity of the event by "conciseness money." That initiated from several of us deeply intro­ductive responses to his rational.

Combined with the long communication with you, your group and me, they have persuaded me the balance on this issue favors the legislation as reported from the Committee. Thank you for your kindness and gentle patience which allowed me to think through this vital matter carefully. I am confident I have made the just decision.

On the 97th voting day the phone rang and I picked it up. "This is Al." Who? "This is Al Swift. I wanted you to know that I voted for the bill as promised.

It is important to note here Swift's reference to Bob Matsui, and to point out the tremendous, tremen­dous job of both Norm Mineta and Bob Matsui, and to point out the essential cooperation of various chapter and state delegations (House members total 435), those congressmen from states which had no Nikkei constituents, could not have been convinced. Their arduous work and di­ligence over the five years in educating their fellow members of the House exemplified their complete and

Continued on Page E-16
Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue: Dec. 22-29, 1989 See E-5

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The 1990s: JACL after Redress

By Hank Tanaka

JACL has a long history of designing long range plans and trying to implement them. Why? Mostly, because these plans have been used as status reports on the organization. Reports have been presented to the JACL's National Council for its blessing and referred to the National Board for “review and consideration.” Unfortunately, the National Board has never given its highest priority to long range planning reports. Other more “day-to-day” issues tend to consume the limited time of board meetings.

During the past two years, JACL has been making new efforts at long range planning. Credit is due to the team of Cressy Nakagawa, president, and Bill Yoshino, national director. The need for clear delineation of the roles and responsibilities of volunteer board members and the guiding members groups of primary concern. Also, the need to develop a clear annual workplan based on the appropriate resolutions by the National Council at the 1988 JACL National Convention in Seattle.

After more than 50 years of “doing business as usual,” and despite significant accomplishments, especially following the Evacuation and incarceration period of the early 1940s, JACL has not kept pace with the environment in which it operates. To wit: aging and decreasing membership, anti-Japanese violence, discrimination in higher education, Japan-bashing, etc.

Sensing the need for JACL to come to grips with the times, President Nakagawa prevailed upon his board to approve the formation of a Long Range Planning Committee. The committee would be given the task to study, in depth, the ability of JACL to effectively carry out its mission: To restate the mission, if necessary, to more accurately reflect what JACL should be about, and to design a strategic plan which would be implemented within the next three to five years.

Appointed as chairperson of the Long Range Planning Committee, I prepared a working proposal that would assure direct, face-to-face input from as many members as possible. Their views on JACL’s mission, current strengths and weaknesses, and the need for refinement of the latter were systematically collected in nine workshops conducted by me during 1989.

Workshops were conducted in three combined districts— the Pacific Southwest, Central California, and Northern California — and in the tri-district, the Eastern, Midwest and Mountain Plains tri-district and the Pacific Northwest and Intermountain bi-district — the Eastern, Midwest, Pacific Southwest and Pacific Northwest district meetings, and the National Board. Two workshops were conducted at the tri-district for California. Bill Yoshino assisted with the workshops. Volunteers were recruited from the respective workshops to assist with conducting the sessions. Many were persons in the education, business, or human services fields.

The data from these workshops will be used by the national committee to develop JACL’s strategic plan. More than 270 views on trends affecting Japanese Americans were noted by the 350 workshop participants. JACL participants cited 376 weaknesses and 315 strengths attributed to the organization. A total of some 315 goals were identified.

It is of interest to note that the National Board identified 64 goals and 85 weaknesses in comparison with the other workshops averaged 36 goals and 43 areas of weaknesses.

Each workshop participant was asked to select and prioritize five top goals from the list of goals identified by the respective groups. Additional data have been collected from more than 300 Pacific Citizen readers who responded to the JACL opinion survey. This data will be analyzed by the national committee.

An analysis of this data is in process.

In reviewing the data collected, several themes seem to be apparent. Perhaps it is important to note that there are many other themes which will be evident as the data is analyzed and reviewed by the national committee. Here are some themes:

1. JACL’s current mission statement is acceptable but needs refinement.

2. JACL’s strengths are its network, membership support, legislative educational activities and in-kind resources among its membership.

3. JACL’s weaknesses are its membership marketing strategies, narrow funding base, absence of coalition with other relevant organizations and national committees which function in name only.

4. JACL’s future goals were prioritized by the various workshop groups as follows:

Tri-District, California (afternoon group)
1. Attract younger members.
2. Develop leadership for volunteers.
3. New programs.
4. Intensity educational programs.
5. Keep dues down.
6. Develop external funding base.

Tri-District, California (afternoon group)
2. Develop proactive programs.
3. Recruit young adult members.
4. Develop goals which are membership driven.
5. Build coalitions.
6. Develop career programs for staff.

Tri-District, MDPC, MDC & EDC
1. Increase the membership.
2. Achieve redress payments.
3. Develop youth leadership.
4. Establish financially secure organization.
5. Develop a public relations program.
6. Develop productive relationships with other Japanese American organizations.

Streamlined National Board and Headquarters

Bi-District, IDC & PNWDC
1. Build stronger local chapters.
2. Reach a firm financial situation.
3. Recruit young people into leadership.
4. Create organizational marketing plan.
5. Provide ongoing civil rights activities.
6. Recruit young people into JACL.
7. Computerize membership.

MDC
1. Develop a broad, secure funding base.
2. Atract youth and young adults into JACL.
3. Develop educational programs for leadership training.
4. Assume professional and trained staff.
5. Provide leadership opportunities for women.
6. Work with other Asian American organizations.

ECD
1. Develop public education program on under-standing differences between Japanese Americans and Japanese nationals.

ECD
2. Move National Headquarters to Washington, D.C.

Members Needed
We can’t survive without members. And it’s going to mean a lot of work for chapters because that is where the most effective recruitment takes place. But I think the ongoing Americanization of Nikkei in the United States, and the change that process is having on the community, provides chapters with an opportunity to attract new members. The reality is that the Nikkei family of the not-too-distant future. And crime rates, drug use, divorce rates, and other social statistics will continue to rise in the Nikkei community.

There are new community needs to which chapters can respond. As families become Americanized, there is an increasing desire among parents to expose their children to their cultural heritage and to socialize with other Nikkei. Japanese cooking classes, community picnics, and children’s events are making a comeback. As the social problems of the majority population become evident in the Nikkei community, there is a need for seminars on drug abuse or AIDS, taking into account the idiosyncrasies of Japanese Americans. As senior members become less mobile, bus trips to a baseball game or shopping at factory outlets can be real treats. There is a desire to learn ways to get ahead in American society creating a demand for classes on getting into the college of your choice or personal preparation.

There are those who belittle such “social” events, but if it makes members happy and attracts new members, then it is worthwhile. I don’t think we should judge the reasons a person joins JACL; it is more important that they join at all. In the end, it is numbers that makes us strong.

All of us need to make a personal commitment to the revitalization of JACL in the 1990s. If you care enough to say that something needs to be done to rebuild JACL, you care enough to do something. Don’t look to someone else. No one cares more than you do. You need to get out there and identify potential candidates for the D.C. leadership class. You need to put together an event and send out invitations to nonmembers. Yes, it is a lot of work. And maybe someone else will do it. But probably not.

Priscilla Ouchida is the National JACL v.p. for General Operations.

Rebuilding and Revitalizing

By Priscilla Ouchida

Several weeks ago, we witnessed the final chapter in the long struggle to obtain redress for wrongs inflicted upon Japanese Americans during World War II. The signing of the bill by the President officially grants the redress entitlement, redress payments will now be a reality.

Redress will not be one of the greatest accomplishments in Japanese American history. But with its resolution, JACL must face the question, “What after Redress?”

I don’t think I am more or less qualified than anyone to make any predictions or forecasts. However, I believe that the people of Nikkei who in 1978 started research on a “redress” bill for Japanese American employees who were fired from their jobs with the state of California during World War II may have had the foresight to see what the impact of the eventual redress would be. In 1984, the California Legislature passed a bill that required the state to make reparation to the people of Nikkei who had been fired from their jobs. In addition to being self-serving in that they identify and develop individuals to carry on the work of the organization, these programs reap benefits for the community as well.

Members Needed
We can’t survive without members. And it’s going to mean a lot of work for chapters because that is where the most effective recruitment takes place. But I think the ongoing Americanization of Nikkei in the United States, and the change that process is having on the community, provides chapters with an opportunity to attract new members. The reality is that the Nikkei family of the not-too-distant future. And crime rates, drug use, divorce rates, and other social statistics will continue to rise in the Nikkei community.

There are new community needs to which chapters

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New York's Nikkei Pioneers
By James Nishizaka

There were approximately a dozen Japanese American families in Brooklyn, N.Y., which had a population of about 2 million people. About one half of the families lived in Coney Island, the most famous American amusement area of that period. These six families operated amusement games and rides, small restaurants which served among the regular menu, chop suey on a hamburger bun and fried butterfly shrimp with a brown gravy on a hot dog bun, which I have never seen again. I recall eating the first rectangular pizza and the original, famous Nathan's hot dog concession (now a national fast food chain) located in Coney Island.

Most of the families lived in the upper Westside of Manhattan where the Japanese American Christian church was located at 143rd St., near Broadway; the Buddhist church was at 93rd St. and Riverside Dr. The Christian minister, Rev. Kawamata and an Issei lady, Mrs. Nakamura, conducted a weekly Japanese language class on a rotating basis at the Coney Island homes of the approximately 20 children. Since Coney Island was at the extreme northern end of the city, it was a long way to walk or take a bus or streetcar to get there.

Continued on Next Page
LONG RANGE

Continued from Page E-6

1. Pursue human and civil rights issues.
2. Continue to work for action and settlement.
3. Survey the interests/needs of younger Nikkei.
5. Increase participation of younger Nikkei.
6. Foster Asian American coalitions.

PSWDC

1. Promote positive image to increase meaningful participation in community, social, and political activities.
2. Search out and support Japanese Americans for placement in political system.
3. Respect professional staff as fundraisers, media people, etc.
4. Insure that redress payments are made.
5. Provide Japaneses support that Americans strive to secure/obtain civil rights/human rights for all people.
6. Provide senior citizen homecare and leisure time activities.
7. Increase membership of younger people.

N.Y. NIKKEI

Continued from Previous Page

took the teachers almost 2 hours to travel to Coney Island, a 5 cent subway ride. In the late thirties, I recall visiting a fleet of Japanese warships anchored near the Brooklyn Bridge and thinking how goodwill visit. I remember drinking a soda in which the marble glass round cap was pushed in to drink the contents.

In 1939/1940, we visited the New York World’s Fair which featured the General Motors “Futurama” Pavilion and enjoyed the Japanese Exhibit Building.

My dad owned two skeeball game concessions located on the Coney Island 10-mile-long boardwalk, which was elevated about 12 feet above the beach and run by a number of Nikkei from all over the country. One day, on Dec. 7, 1941, my dad and I were working at one store and two brothers at the other. A police car drove up and asked us to come to the police station. It was an evening, the other five families came to our home to discuss the situation. The police arrived and suggested that we stay home for a few days. Since the children had been in school, one of the Nikkei families, it was decided that they would return to school on Monday. We encountered little discrimination because our neighbors were principally Jewish and Italian American and many thought we were Chinese Americans. My older brother volunteered for the Army and studied six months at the Army Japanese Language School, one of the six major high schools then offered. It was decided that they would return to school on Monday. We had seven siblings, one was in school, and the other five were at home. We encountered little discrimination because our neighbors were principally Jewish and Italian American and many thought we were Chinese Americans. My older brother volunteered for the Army and studied six months at the Army Japanese Language School, one of the six major high schools then offered. It was decided that they would return to school on Monday. We encountered little discrimination because our neighbors were principally Jewish and Italian American and many thought we were Chinese Americans. My older brother volunteered for the Army and studied six months at the Army Japanese Language School, one of the six major high schools then offered. It was decided that they would return to school on Monday. We encountered little discrimination because our neighbors were principally Jewish and Italian American and many thought we were Chinese Americans. My older brother volunteered for the Army and studied six months at the Army Japanese Language School, one of the six major high schools then offered. It was decided that they would return to school on Monday. We encountered little discrimination because our neighbors were principally Jewish and Italian American and many thought we were Chinese Americans. My older brother volunteered for the Army and studied six months at the Army Japanese Language School, one of the six major high schools then offered. It was decided that they would return to school on Monday. We encountered little discrimination because our neighbors were principally Jewish and Italian American and many thought we were Chinese Americans. My older brother volunteered for the Army and studied six months at the Army Japanese Language School, one of the six major high schools then offered. It was decided that they would return to school on Monday. We encountered little discrimination because our neighbors were principally Jewish and Italian American and many thought we were Chinese Americans.

PROBLEM

Continued from Page E-1

some of the physical differences of their forbearers have vanished. But the primary obstacle remains: their identification as foreign nationals.

And this identification is more hurtful to them than it has ever been before, since they are a power in the community, now that so many of them are in league with fabulously wealthy Japanese buying into Hawaii. In former times an American might indulge gently regard it as a manifestation of ignorance if an unprivileged laborer, holding American citizenship, identified himself as Japanese. The view is less easy when some American citizen is a power in local politics or business, or when he is known to be in league with Japanese tycoons buying up local real estate in firms for his personal profits.

The Nikkei are a minority. All about them are those corporations, universities, and institutions that are dedicated believers in American nationalism. They have reason to look askance at such organizations as the junior and senioranches of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Nihonjin Kaijo, an organization of the Japanese Society, the Japanese Women’s Society and so forth.

Hawaii is no longer isolated. The airplane brings mass media and TV exposure of visitors who will return to mainland America to report what they found there.

Traditional religions taught the universality of human beings and the equality of man. Revolution and greater religion of nationalism has no such softness. Nationalism is pitiless.

And we Americans will support their national religion is suggested by the internment of the Nikkei, the saturation bombing of Tokyo and the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Toward approval. Votes may have been wapped. But when it comes time to vote please remember that if his position as being that of “qualified support,” but could be viewed as the heart of the direct lobbying. Let us do it because it is ultimately the right thing to do and only if we do it, can we hope to influence and even initiate legislation which impacts American Americans in the future. (Cherry Kinoshita, of Seattle, is the National JACL vice- president for Washington State, and president of the Yakima Valley JACL.)