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Friday, January 18, 1991

NATIONAL JACL STATEMENT:

On the Scrutiny of Arab Americans Due to Persian Gulf Tensions

The continuing escalation of tensions in the Persian Gulf together with recent actions of the FBI to conduct interviews with individuals in the Arab American community must be viewed with great concern. The Persian Gulf situation must not lead to the singling out of the Arab American community which could result in potentially harmful misrepresentations of that group by the general public and which, more seriously, could lead to acts of violence against Arab Americans.

The Japanese American community is well aware of the manner in which racism coupled with misdirected emotion can victimize an entire ethnic community. Extreme caution must be exercised

to ensure that neither the mood nor the events experienced by Japanese Americans, in 1942 are visited upon Arab Americans today.

In 1983, District Federal Judge Marilyn Hall Patel set aside a conviction in a court case used to justify the Japanese American internment stating, "In times of international hostilities and antagonisms our institutions, the executive, the legislative, the judicial must take the lead to protect all citizens from petty fears and prejudices that are so easily stirred up during those times." We must learn from our past that unwarranted actions toward a group of Americans based solely on their ancestry are wrong.

—BILL YOSHINO, National Director

Glitches over Penalties in California Law on Redress Payment to Be Cleared in Bill

SACRAMENTO — Assemblyman Richard E. Fontana (D-10th) introduced emergency legislation Dec. 3 to ensure that Japanese American survivors of World War II internment camps who received reparations payments from the federal government will not be penalized by the State of California for any interest earned on these payments.

Reparation recipients who put their money in banks have discovered that any interest earned will count against their eligibility for all other government programs, such as Medicaid.

Redress Info Book Is Bilingual

SAN FRANCISCO — Nihonmachi Legal Outreach has published a booklet, "Reclaiming Your Money: What to Do if You Are Denied Payments," in English and Japanese. For a copy call or write to: Nihonmachi Legal Outreach, 1840 Sutter St., Box 200, San Francisco, CA 94115, (415) 397-6225. There is no charge for the booklet itself but the mailing cost is \$2.

Peace Bell Replica

HONOLULU — City officials and a delegation from Nagasaki came to dedicate a peace bell Dec. 7 at the Civic Center. The bell is a replica of one at the Urugami Cultural tower, which survived the Aug. 9, 1945, atomic bomb blast.

ALLAN HIDA, PAUL KUSUDA:

Wisconsin ACLU to Honor Milwaukee JACLers as Civil Liberties Advocates

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Allan Hida and Paul Kusuda could not believe the United States would intern them and their families without due process during World War II; on Jan. 26 the two will receive special recognition awards from Wisconsin's American Civil Liberties Union for their efforts to see that such injustices never happen again.

Hida, Executive Director of the Japanese American Society of Wisconsin and a retired Milwaukee science teacher, and Kusuda, retired Deputy Director of Wisconsin's Bureau of Juvenile Services in Madison, helped spearhead the work of the Japanese American Citizens League that led to passage of the 1983 Civil Liberties Act, in which the country apologized for the internment of Japanese American and pledged to pay \$1.25 billion to survivors.

Chapter Redress Chair

Hida, originally from Sacramento, was interned for two years at the Tule Lake and Granada internment camps. His family moved inland to Wisconsin. In 1981 Hida testified before the Con-

gressional Commission on Wartime Relocation and Relocation of Civilians; since 1982 he has been Redress chair of the Milwaukee JACL.

Kusuda, who as a 19-year-old interned in Los Angeles volunteered to join the U.S. Army but was turned down, is a life member of the JACL.

A social worker professionally involved in issues of justice and humane treatment, he has become a spokesman for the Japanese community. A member of the University of Wisconsin's Asian Coalition, and on the Advisory Council of the Asian American Studies Project, Kusuda has also worked for racial justice as a member of non-Asian groups like CORE and Chicago's Fellowship for Reconciliation. He is currently writing and testifying on state legislation involving hate-crime laws, senior-citizen interests, and universal health plan.

Hida and Kusuda will receive their awards at ACLU-WI's annual Bill of Rights Dinner. Other honorees include Charles Page, Pulitzer-Prize-winning columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

Legacy Fund Tops \$1 Million

MEDFORD, N.J. With good news so scarce when looking at this nation this first month of 1991, the JACL Legacy Fund Campaign Committee has announced the contributions to the Legacy Fund reached the \$1 million mark on Jan. 2.

"This good news uplifts the spirit of many individuals who believe that JACL is a vital organization in our community and our nation," declared campaign chair Grace Uyehara this week.

"JACL still has much unfinished and challenging work to advance its mission to secure and uphold the human and civil rights of Americans of Japanese ancestry and of others and also to promote and preserve the cultural heritage and values of Japanese Americans."

\$1,136,788.37 Acknowledged

Clay Harada, Legacy Fund administrator, reported that as of Jan. 8, \$1,136,788.37 from 1,646 contributors has been received at JACL Headquarters. The fundraising campaign was kicked off in October, 1990 after a slow start on the Legacy Fund which had been approved four months earlier by the JACL National Council in San Diego.

To attain over one million dollars within three months reflects the hard work of the Legacy Fund Campaign Committee, the National Board and the

JACL staff along with the three part-time Legacy Fund coordinators working in the PSW and NCWNP district offices, Uyehara stated.

"Contrary to what some letter writers to the vernacular who criticized JACL for establishing the Legacy Fund, many people decided on their own that they wished to express their appreciation to JACL for the years of effort given to win redress for Americans of Japanese ancestry for their human pain and suffering."

'Horse's Mouth' Column

"It would be remiss for me to fail to note that George Yoshinaga in his *Kashi Meinichi* Horse's Mouth column, "Redress Checks Recipients," seems to understand fairness when he wrote that JACL certainly deserves to be first line of all the organizations who are soliciting funds from redress check recipients. Yoshinaga further wrote: "After all, when everyone was saying 'it will never come to pass,' it was the JACL which kept slugging along to get the redress and reparations bill passed." Thank you, George Yoshinaga, from the JACL Legacy Fund Campaign Committee.

The JACL National Board recognized that it has the responsibility to move forward in setting clear priorities for the programs which JACL will initiate when funds become available.

Upcoming Priorities

These special programs will come from the Program for Action which will replace the redress program, the first priority for five bienniums.

Two programs which were determined to require JACL's foremost attention and membership action are to decrease the rising anti-Asian violence in the United States and to assure that U.S. history books include and reflect accurately the Japanese American and other Asian American experiences.

JACL has been most effective in coalition work and both projects, as with redress, will require an organized push with the support of the many national organizations who have long worked under the banner of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. JACL will first have to get all the facts related to these two issues and put together a working paper and make the resolution of these two issues, a nationwide program, the board noted.

"We already know that students are not taught in schools about Asian Americans," Uyehara continued.

"With the state of the U.S. economy and its impact on all Americans, JACL will be responding to the run-off from the economic problems as more and more Americans are

Continued on Page 6

TO BE LOCATED IN LITTLE TOKYO'S FIRST STREET NORTH PLAZA:

Nation-wide Search Ends as Memorial Design for Japanese American Veterans Unveiled

LOS ANGELES — The winning design to a competition for a memorial to Japanese American Veterans of World War II was unveiled this week (Jan. 14) in Little Tokyo and its creator awarded a \$10,000 first place prize.

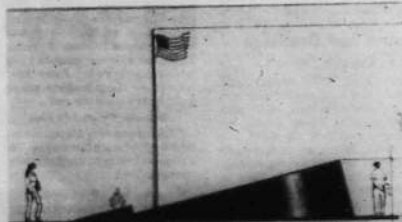
Los Angeles architect Roger Yanagita, a Samet, won the award, and was introduced and presented his prize at a press conference emceed by actor George Takei of "Star Trek" fame.

The competition was sponsored by the 100th/442nd M.I.S. World War II Memorial Foundation and it was conceived by Michael D. Barker, co-managing partner for the Barker-Pattinelly Group and managing partner for the downtown Los Angeles First Street North project where the Memorial will be permanently placed.

Over 130 Entries Received

The competition was "blind" with names of entrants concealed until final evaluation was concluded. Design sub-

Continued on Page 3



A SIDE PERSPECTIVE—The Japanese American Veterans Memorial will be a black granite circle peaking at one side and tapering to grade level at the other, metaphorically representing a mountain. Lower end of circle feature on eternal flame and the American flag.



ROGER M. YANAGITA, 40
Winning Designer of
Memorial Competition



OUTER RIM VIEW—The outer rim of the circle serves as a wall where names of the soldiers will be engraved in bronze letters.

Support Positive to Endowment Fund

SACRAMENTO — Response to the Sacramento JACL Endowment Fund solicitation has been very positive, said chairs Royce Makishima, Mike Sawamura and Mike Iwamoto. The chapter endowment fund will be governed by a Board of Directors, to be named.

The interest will be used to fund the fixed costs of the chapter's annual budget and to help many chapter programs.

Those who wish to contribute send in their donations to Sacramento JACL Endowment Fund, 2124-10th St., Sacramento, CA 95818.

Greater State Access to Property Crime Aid Seen

OLYMPIA, Wash. — Inner-city businesses and residents in Washington may soon have greater access to affordable property-crime insurance thanks to the findings of a state insurance commission study requested by state Rep. Gary Locke, (D-Seattle).

Insurance Commissioner Richard Marquardt has issued a report Jan. 8, recommending the Washington re-entry in the Federal Crime Insurance Protection (FCIP), which offers affordable crime insurance that is underwritten and sold directly by the federal government.

Jazz Pianist Horichi to Premiere 'Poston Sonata' In San Diego

SAN DIEGO — Former San Diego jazz pianist Glenn Horichi will premiere his newly commissioned piece, "Poston Sonata" on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 5 p.m. at the San Diego City College Theater, 1313 12th Ave.

Financed in part by the San Diego Community Foundation, the San Diego Arts and Culture Commission, the San Diego JACL, San Diego Jazz Society and radio station KSDS, the composition will feature Lillian Nakano from San Francisco on flute and Leon Alexander on percussion.

The piece is in honor and memory of the Japanese Americans interned during World War II near Poston, Arizona, many of whom originated in San Diego.

Horichi was recently awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The free concert is open to the public. Information (619) 234-1062.

Union Bank Donates to S.F. Kimochi Seniors

SAN FRANCISCO — Michiya Egusa, Union Bank's Japanese branch manager, on behalf of Union Bank's president and CEO, Tadashi Shimizu, presented a check for \$2,000 on Dec. 19 to Kimochi, Inc., a non-profit Japanese American senior services organization.

Executive director Julie Hata accepted the check for Kimochi, and expressed her appreciation for Union Bank's generosity.

Shigemoto Re-elected San Jose JACL Chapter

SAN JOSE — The San Jose JACL held its annual installation Jan. 11 at the Wesley Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Tom Shigematsu will again serve as the chapter president for 1991. Judge Wayne Kamekura serves as officers and board members.

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NEWS / AD DEADLINE
Friday Before Date of Issue



ART AND APRIL GORAL—The Art Gorals of Seattle, two West Coast Nisei, left their respective wartime internment camps through help of the Student Relocation Council to complete their collegiate studies at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Many colleges in the East and Midwest were closed to Japanese Americans.

Nisei Evacuees Who Attended College During War Called to Help

SEATTLE — Nisei who attended college during the war are being asked to help continue a legacy of helping students in need.

During World War II, some 4,000 Nisei were helped out of internment camps and into Midwestern and East Coast colleges by the Student Relocation Council, which included the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers), various churches, YMCA and YWCA.

Art Goral heard about the program in the Pensanta Assembly Center. He had attended UCLA and was refused acceptance at several universities for "security" reasons. Goral was finally accepted by the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. He was met at the train station on a cold November day by the Rev. Robert Drew. Art lived in a church basement, stocking a coal furnace to earn his rent.

Neburaka Accepted 80 Nisei
"This is a great thing that the churches are doing," Art remembers thinking. The University of Nebraska accepted 80 Nisei students in 1943.

His wife, Ann Miyamoto Goral of Clovis, Calif., also went to Nebraska. She said Neburakas "were less prejudiced during the war than Californians were before the war."

Some of these Nisei graduates formed

a group called the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund. Since 1983, it's awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships to Southeast Asian students in eight U.S. cities. Ann Goral explains, "Just like us, Southeast Asian students had to leave everything they owned and go to a place they knew nothing about."

Washingtonians Take Over

This year, a Washington State group is coordinating the program to award more than \$7,000 in scholarships to Southeast Asian students. The group is compiling a roster of all those who attended college in the war years through this program, especially those 640 students from Washington state.

Name and address should be sent to: Professor Calvin Takagi, University of Washington School of Social Work, 4101 15th Avenue NE, Rm. 30, Seattle, WA 98195, (206) 343-1924.

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Selected Papers of Sen. Matsunaga to Be in Japanese American Nat'l Museum

LOS ANGELES — The Japanese American National Museum will hold its annual meeting on Feb. 8-10 at the Los Angeles Hilton and Towers, announced Elaine Yamagata of Fort Worth, Texas, who is a Trustee and chairperson of the 1991 meeting.

"This year is probably the most important year for the Museum," Yamagata stated. "With the Museum construction scheduled to be completed later this year, the Museum's leadership volunteers, supporters, and staff have much to do to insure the completion of the Phase-I of the Museum development."

Presentations from the Smithsonian Institution and regional Japanese American communities will highlight the Saturday public meeting Feb. 9, 9 to 5 p.m. in the Sierra Room. The event is free, open to the public.

Mrs. Matsunaga Reception

At 5 p.m. in the Pacific Ballroom, a reception paying tribute to the late U.S. Sen. Spark Matsunaga will be held. Mrs. Helene Matsunaga and son, Kenne will attend along with some of the late Senator's colleagues to view selected items from the Matsunaga collection which are being donated to the Museum.

The \$50 per person donation for this event

will go towards the establishment of the Matsunaga Collection and educational programs at the Museum.

Info: (213) 625-0414.

JASSI Holiday Party

NEW YORK — Forty-one senior citizens and 39 staff members and volunteers attended the annual Japanese American Social Services (JASSI) holiday party at the home of its president, Midori Shimomachi Lederer, Dec. 12. Jazz pianist Kani Mikami accompanied the community singing program and at party's end, each received gifts and a one-pound packet of rice from the Tamaki Rice Mills.

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MEMORIAL

Continued from the Front Page

missions came from as far away as New York, Alaska and Hawaii. The competition was launched in January, 1990, and the last of the 138 entries was accepted in April, 1990.

"Response to this competition has been truly gratifying," said Col. Young O. Kim, president of the Memorial Foundation. "Every entry submitted was significant, and the result will be a memorial all Americans can take pride in for generations to come."

Fund-raising goals have been set at \$2.5 million, the estimated cost of building the memorial, a black granite circle peaking at one side and tapering to grade level at the other, metaphorically representing a mountain. The higher rim of the circle will serve as a curved wall where names of some of those being honored will be engraved, and the low side will feature an eternal flame and the American flag. The upper half of the inside of the circle will be dedicated to the story of the 100th, 442nd and MIS, inscribed in bronze letters against the black granite background.

At First St. & Central Ave.

The memorial will be located in the Little Tokyo area inside the First Street North development in a large central plaza adjoining the Japanese American National Museum and MOCA's Temporary Contemporary Museum.

First Street North is a mixed-use development including a new Los Angeles City office building between First, Alameda, San Pedro and Temple Streets. A City of Los Angeles Request for Proposal for development of the tract outlined basic requirements for the Japanese American World War II Veterans Memorial.

A \$5,000 second place design prize was awarded to Masami Yonezawa of New Haven, Ct., a \$2,500 third place prize to Mitsuru Otsubo of Chicago, and honorable mentions amounting to \$1,000 to E. Sanbon and J. Shimokawa of Los Angeles for a joint effort, and to Tracy Fong, Pasadena.

'No Names of Living'

A few veterans sported "No Names of Living on Memorial" lapel signs. Their contention has been memorials are for the dead only and traditionally not for those who are living.

Dr. Harold Harada, a leading exponent of this so-called controversy which has generated wide publicity and attention, explained the proper term for any listing of the men who fought with the 100th, 442nd and MIS during World War II—living, missing and dead—was "roll call or an honor roll."

The same group, comprised of a majority of the Nisei Veterans Coordinating Council of Southern California, had opposed the "commemorating of names in any shape or form" of the living with the "sacred, precious names of those Japanese American that made the su-

preme sacrifice so that the living could live in honor."

To make certain its intent, the group said hundreds of Nisei veterans "will prohibit the exhibit of their names."

As a Lasting Tribute

The purpose of the competition was to create a lasting tribute to Japanese Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II, and to remind all Americans that never again should fellow citizens be deprived of inherent freedoms because of race or ancestry.

While Nisei soldiers fought in Europe and helped shorten the war in the Pacific, 110,000 Japanese Americans were confined to 10 internment camps scattered across the Western United States. The segregated 442nd, made up entirely of Japanese Americans, became the most decorated unit in U.S. Army history.

Los Angeles Architect

Design winner Roger Yanagita, A.I.A., owns his own architectural firm, Roger M. Yanagita Associates, in the Silverlake area of Los Angeles. This is the first major design competition he has won, and this will be the first public memorial dedicated to the memory of Japanese American veterans of World War II.

The 100th-442nd/MIS World War II Memorial Foundation is incorporated as a nonprofit organization and is accepting donations to construct the Memorial. Contributions should be made payable to the Foundation and mailed to Buddy Maruya, Treasurer, P.O. Box 476, Gardena, CA 90247.

Marine Corps to Reopen Bias Case of Bruce Yamashita

Clipping from Bill Kaneho

HONOLULU—The U.S. Marine Corps has agreed to re-examine allegations of racial discrimination raised by Bruce Yamashita, 34, who was booted out of Officer Candidate School in 1989. (See Nov. 23 P.C.)

Col. J.R. Williams, deputy inspector general, said an investigation will be conducted into allegations made by Yamashita, a self-employed business consultant who wanted to be a marine lawyer.

Yamashita said training officers at Quantico, Va., singled him out and harassed him as a Japanese American. He petitioned the Department of the Navy to correct his military records, which he claims are based on unfair evaluations.

Additional Information Noted

In a letter to Clayton Ibe, Yamashita's attorney, Williams said a preliminary inquiry based on earlier allegations did not substantiate claims of racial discrimination. However, he said, additional allegations and information contained in Yamashita's Oct. 5 petition warrant further investigation.

William Kaneho, president of the Japanese American Citizens League of Honolulu, said the league is accepting contributions to a legal defense fund to help Yamashita.

The governing board of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

recently passed a resolution in support of Yamashita's efforts to correct his military record.

The resolution says the association "demands the reaffirmation and vigorous enforcement by the U.S. Marine Corps of its purported policy of non-discrimination as to all racial and ethnic groups, including Asian Americans."

Church Summit to Probe 'Environmental Racism'

NEW YORK—The United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice, will convene its first National Minority Environmental Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C. in October, 1991, to probe "environmental racism," that minorities, despite being disproportionately affected by pollution and hazardous wastes, have long been locked out of the policy debate.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, the Commission's executive director who first coined the term "environmental racism," said "the environment is too important to be left to just environmentalists. The evidence clearly shows that African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, and native Americans who are disproportionately living with toxic pollution in their back yards."

NCJA Senior Clubs Ready for 1991 Program

SAN FRANCISCO—The No. Calif. Japanese American Senior Clubs, comprised of 13 clubs in the region, prepared its 1991 program, starting with election of officers and a New Year luncheon Mar. 9 at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. The new officers are: Etsuo Nishida, pres; Yukio Kitagawa, v.p.; and John Yamada, 1st sec; Betty Black, Lucy Kohatsu, sec.

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EDITORIAL OF THE PACIFIC CITIZEN:

The Arab Americans

As this is written, it appears war in the Persian Gulf area can be averted only by divine intervention. "Only God knows" whether it will be peace or war, said U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar after a fruitless 11th hour mission to Baghdad.

A half million soldiers, sailors and airmen, most of them American, are poised to do battle with the armed forces of Iraq which invaded Kuwait last August.

For Americans, the horror of war almost invariably is exacerbated by the very factors that help make the nation great. They include its multi-ethnic character produced by liberal immigration policies and its appeal to other peoples as a place to live or study. It is virtually impossible for the United States to become involved in an unpleasantness anywhere in the world without the action intruding intensely on the lives of some segment of the population with ethnic, sentimental, familial or other ties to the area.

The most deplorable instance of this reality was in World War II when, as a Congressional commission found years later, "race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership" resulted in gross violation of the rights of the Japanese American minority.

If anything was learned from that experience, it is that the shameful episode—of taking out national fear and anger on innocent bystanders—must not be allowed to recur.

Now once again emotions are running high and this time the likely target is the Arab American minority. Like the Japanese Americans, they are a visible ethnic component. Their links are with many sub-groups in the Middle East—with the victimized Kuwaitis, the endangered Saudis, the Moslem Egyptians and Syrians allied with the United Nations, as well as the aggressor Iraqis.

Some Iraqi students in U.S. colleges, heeding nationalism rather than prudence, have spoken out in defense of Saddam Hussein. In the absence of war that is their prerogative. Few if any of them are terrorists. If they wish to return home to fight for their country, they should be encouraged to leave.

But it would be as wrong to direct anger and outrage at the Arab American community now as it was to persecute Japanese Americans a half century ago simply because of ethnic ties. The Federal Bureau of Investigation played a leading part in the emotional buildup after Pearl Harbor by the flamboyant way in which it conducted alien roundups. While recognizing that agency's national security responsibilities, we counsel restraint to avoid fueling emotionalism.

A strong statement urging fairness and understanding has been issued by Bill Yoshino, national director of JACL. It is published elsewhere in this newspaper. Its message should be heeded.

46 Years Ago in the Pacific Citizen

MANILA—Nisei GIs assigned to the War Crimes Commission here reported a number of instances of public insult and humiliation by Filipinos, whose hatred of persons of Japanese ancestry, they contended, may be understandable but in these cases misguided.

SALT LAKE CITY—After 18 months of service overseas, Mike Masaka returned to JACL national headquarters to resume his duties as executive secretary of the organization.

LOS ANGELES—Eachest proceedings against farm property owned by an American citizen of Japanese ancestry was dismissed as the state dropped its suit against Masaka Shinohara and his son, Hajime. The property involved is a 40-acre farm in Ojai, San Diego County.

DENVER—Minoru Yasui was admitted to the state bar on Jan. 14, and is now licensed to practice law in Colorado.

IN THE CLASSIFIED—A Chicago garment factory is seeking 20 women to operate power machines. The company is offering a 60 cents an hour minimum, good piece work rates.

HAGOITA - 1991



FROM THE FRYING PAN

BILL HOSOKAWA

Little Matter of Making Decisions

Her first name is Maria but I can neither pronounce nor spell her last name. Her home is in Tiblisi, in Georgia, U.S.S.R., and she is young and comely. Maria was in the United States for several months recently as an exchange teacher under the American Field Service program.

What, she was asked, do you like best about the United States? That was easy, American kitchens, she said. Women in the Soviet still spend much time in the kitchen. The roominess and convenience of American kitchens—spacious refrigerators, an endless supply of hot water, microwave ovens, stainless ware—made her envious.

And what did you dislike most about America. This time her reply was unexpected, thought-provoking, illuminating. She said: "What I dislike most about life in America is having to make decisions."

Oh? What kind of decisions?

Decisions like what to wear, where to go, what to do. What to eat—you have such an incredible variety of foods. What to read, what television program to watch, who to talk to, what to say.

These are problems? These are difficult decisions? For Americans they are normal, routine, every-day, almost automatic functions and nobody gives them a second thought. The decisions are unpleasant for you?

And then reality dawns. Maria comes from an authoritarian society where government—Big Brother—makes the decisions for her and everyone else. She has few choices to make for herself. She has little opportunity to decide what she will read

and do, where and when she would like to go for fun and relaxation, what she will choose from a limited wardrobe. That's the way she was brought up. That's the system under which she has lived all her life. She has had neither opportunity nor need to develop initiative. The result is that she is unsure of her ability to make even the simplest routine decisions. Decision-making is onerous, unpleasant, a strain.

In other respects, Maria is an intelligent woman. She is attractive, outgoing, answers questions freely. She speaks several languages, knows the history of her country, is aware of the upheaval under way in the Soviet Union. Perhaps eventually she will be comfortable with making her own decisions. But not at this time, even after several weeks of living in a free society. The imprint of authoritarianism is too deep.

People in prison have few decisions to make. Someone tells them when to get up and when to turn off their lights. Someone puts food in front of them at preset hours and it's either eat it or go hungry; there is no need to read a menu and make a decision.

In many ways that's the way life was in the World War II internment camps. Others were telling us what to do and how to do it, and never mind the logic. They weren't intentionally practicing mind-control. That's just the way it was behind the barbed wire of a closed society. Fortunately we were able to regain freedom before we lost all our initiative.

I enjoyed meeting Maria and felt a deep twinge of sorrow for her and the restrictiveness of her life and realized how fortunate we are to know freedom.

EAST WIND

BILL MARUTANI

The Early Bird



A WHILE BACK in this column I wrote about Japanese parents enrolling their tykes in *juku's* (private preparatory schools) in preparation for kindergarten. As mentioned in that column, the theory is that to get set for life, one must graduate from one of the more prestigious universities in Japan; to get into such universities, not only must one pass near the top in a strenuous entrance exam but also should be an alumna(us) of a highly-respected high school; and to get into such a high school, one's chances are enhanced not only by top marks but particularly by coming from a well-regarded middle school—and so on down to kindergarten.

And we AJA's thought we had it tough.

NISEI PARENTS may well have related to their offspring about the Nisei academic challenge: working jobs on weekends as well as afternoons during the week, walking miles to school and expected to bring home *man-ten's* (top grades). I don't recall any AJA classmates coming to school by automobile—although there may have been some. As for Sammi and their progeny, I suspect that their mobile facilities are a bit more enhanced. In fact, I know they are.

Which brings me back to the Japanese kindergartens.

JAPANESE TYKES in the more up-scale *yochi-en's* (kindergartens) are exposed to computers (one PC terminal for every two kindergartens) with at least one hour of instruction per week. At the Seiva Education Company's operation, native-language speakers in English and French come in twice a week to teach the tiny tots. The entrance fee alone comes to over \$3,000 (U.S.) and parents can have their tots chauffeured for something little over \$2,000 (again, U.S. conversion) per month. In the school with 160 slots, there's a waiting list of some 30.

Meanwhile, in our United States we're "graduating" from our high schools people who can't even read. Not just a few, but all too many for all too many years.

PROMOTING PROSECUTION in such an early age might seem to be over-emphasizing academic achievement, desirable as it may be. (Among Nisei there would be criticism—perhaps not without a tinge of the proverbial "sour grapes"—that so-and-so may have been academically near the top (if not the top) of his/her class but (s/he was not active in extracurricular programs. That does not appear to be the case of AJA's graduating from high school nowadays.

Well, among the Nippon-jin, they've not forsaken teaching their tiny tots a bit

of their culture.

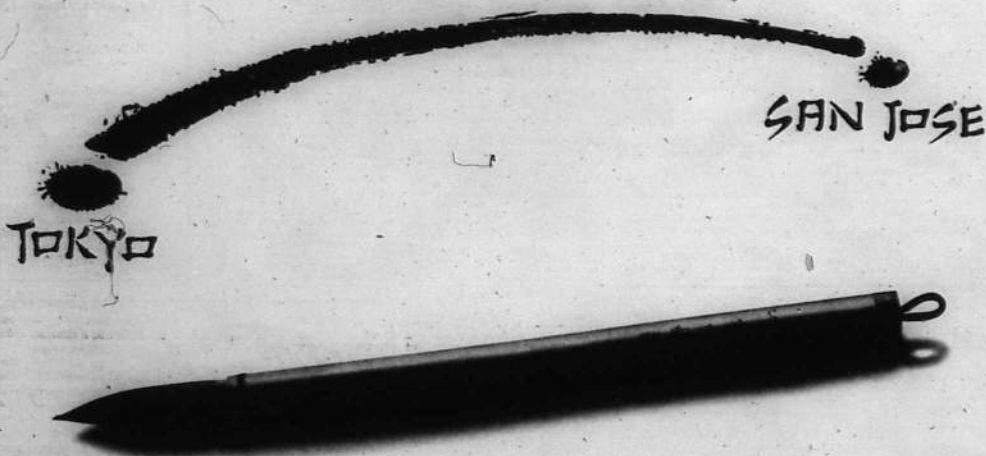
OUT IN Kanagawa-ken, the Misato Yochien has an admirable program to instill in the child's *rai* (clang for I!) ones an appreciation for their roots and culture. There, children are taken out at rice harvesting time into the fields to cut a sheaf of ripening-rice and bring it home to their parents. Beyond that, these city-dwelling children engage in raising different crops in order to promote an appreciation for nature and the seasons.

COME TO THINK OF it, many AJA's were exposed to planting, tending, fertilizing and harvesting crops of various sorts. Except in our case, it was more a matter of survival and bring it home to their parents. Beyond that, these city-dwelling children engage in raising different crops in order to promote an appreciation for nature and the seasons.

What was that about "What goes around, comes around?"

* "Chin" is probably Hiroshima-ken (Hiroshima district) to which I had been exposed from childhood. For example "chikara" in Hiroshima-ken means "small amount."

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Year of Membership Shown	Previous Total: Active	1990 Report No. 1	1990 Report No. 2	1990 Report No. 3	1990 Report No. 4	Current Total
"Century" Corp/Silver, "Corp/Gold"	15	15	20	37	62	117
Corp/Diamond, L-Life, M-Memorial	15	15	20	37	62	117
	15	15	20	37	62	117
	15	15	20	37	62	117
	15	15	20	37	62	117

The 1990 Totals (Life Totals) 1,160 (7)

Previous Total: Active 1,113 (7)

This Report No. 47 1,160 (7)

Current Total 1,160 (7)

No. 47: Nov 25-30, 1990 (37)

Berkley: 15-Maggi G. Unruh.

Detroit: 36-Alex Suenomo.

Diablo Valley: 3-James N. Vanistak.

Downstream: 10-Angela L. 13-John D.

Holopayna: 29-Harold M. Nakano. 30-Takio Yamaguchi.

San Jose: 26-George S. Mizumoto.

Eden Township: 37-Kenji Fuji.

River: 32-Harley M. Nakamura. 34-Mikio Uyama.

Fremont: 6-Danley Y. Sasaki.

Gardena Valley: 21-John J. Fujita. 14-Kay Inoue.

Houston: 5-Billy Ward.

Monterey Peninsula: 31-Joe W. Fletcher. 26-James Tabata. 30-Minoru O. Uyeda.

New England: 4-Midori T. Kono.

New York: 34-George Kytoke.

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Pacific Long Beach: 34-O. Katsumi Izumi.

Portland: 30-D. Roy Yamada.

Providence Westside: 40-John Ty Sello.

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Reno: 7-Gerald A. Noda.

Sacramento: 13-Carmelo O. 32-Hideo N. Sato. 18-Samuel S. Suzuki.

San Jose: 10-Milton Fujita.

Sanger: 30-Tom H. Nagasawa.

San Francisco Valley: 40-Suzumi Kiyomoto.

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THE NEWSMAKERS

Incumbent Redkey city councilman Charles Y. Taguchi carried 10 of the city's 11 precincts in the general November election, amassing 1,932 votes. The Redkey Nisei businessman felt his strong showing reflected confidence and respect to Japanese-Americans, despite the price and costs generated by the modest clothes and apologetic stories prior to the election.

Frank Kawase, Highland Market owner-operator, was elected Foothill Rotary Club president for the 1992-1993 term. The 150-strong business and professional organization is among the largest in Orange County. Kawase is also active with the Seleno JACL.

Judge Michael Jiro Watanabe, 38, Aurora, Colo., of the 18th Judicial District was re-elected in the November general election with nearly a 65% favorable vote (52,796 votes) to stay in office. The Huntington Park, Calif.-born graduate of La Verne College earned his J.D. degree at Western University Law School in San Diego and was in private practice in Denver.

Mitsugu Nakahama, 61, former Kaula scientist superintendent, was elected chairman of the Hawaii State Board of Education Dec. 4. He had spent some 30 years in various state board of education offices before retiring in 1988 and winning a seat on the board.

Susan Shinomura M.D., new San Diego JACL Board Member, was born in Santa Monica and attended San Fernando Valley High School. She received her B.A. from UCLA in biology and went on to medical school at UCLA. She specialized in the field of Dermatology and now has a private practice serving Carlsbad, Vista, and Oceanside. Susan is also a Clinical Instructor at UCSD in Dermatology.

Sadako Ogata, 63, who teaches at Sophia University in Tokyo, was nominated to take charge of the world's 15 million refugees in the new United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to succeed Thorvald Stoltenberg of Norway who resigned Oct. 10 to become foreign minister. Ogata holds degrees from George Washington University and UC Berkeley with emphasis in human rights. She is the first woman to hold a post that has traditionally gone to Western men.

East-West Center treasurer Kenji Sumida took over as acting president of the East-West Center Dec. 18, replacing Chuan-Hsun Stanford Professor of Law, Victor Hao Li, who resigned under fire after one study said the center is becoming more diverse. A 1949 McKinley High School graduate, Sumida worked for University of Hawaii for over 20 years in administrative capacities. Li had the job since 1981. He is married to Arlene Liem, publisher of the Honolulu Star Bulletin.

Daniel Nakamura, 33, McLean, Va., was named American Association of Community and Junior Colleges 1991 alumna of the year. The one-time Rio Hondo College student and a computer scientist today at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, Daniel won international honors for his original works. The award will be made April 13 in Kansas City, Mo. His father, Yoshio, is vice president of community services and development at Rio Hondo College, Whittier, Calif.

Hawaii's former congressman, Pat Siskind, was editorially endorsed by the Honolulu Advertiser Dec. 13 to be an early job on the Bush administration as either Secretary of Labor or Secretary of Education. "Bush needs talented women at the top in his administration and Siskind offers the added plus of being an Asian American, which would make for another first in the Cabinet."



GEORGE SAKJOKA

George Sakjoka, who oversees real estate developments and finances for Sakjoka Farms in Costa Mesa, was appointed to board of directors of the UC Irvine Alumni Association to a two-year term. Sakjoka received his bachelor's degree in economics in 1981. He and other family members operate all aspects of the family's Southern California agricultural and real estate interests, including significant operations in Orange County. He serves on the board of directors of South Coast Metro Alliance and the advisory board for the Japan America Society of Southern California. He lives in Newport Beach.

San Francisco artist Judy Hiramoto recently received a Project RENEW Fellowship from the American Association of University Women in Washington, D.C. as well as her first grant from the California Arts Council as Artist-in-Residence at Creative Growth Art Center in Oakland. The artist was born in Tokyo and raised in Hawaii. She began sculpting in 1971 at Antioch University in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Her work is influenced by South American and Asian folk art, as well as the California ceramic movement which encourages experimentation and self-expression in the ceramic medium. She has exhibited and travelled internationally.

Karen Tsai, San Diego JACL secretary this year, is a native San Diego. She graduated from San Diego State University with a B.A. in Mathematics. She lives in Carlsbad with her daughter, Nikki. Karen is a project manager in the Research & Development Department at Temples Graphics Software, Inc., which produces high-performance, computer-intensive computer graphics. Karen's previous association with the San Diego JACL goes back to 1964 when she helped to organize the J. JACL Conference that was held in conjunction with the National JACL Convention. Karen was also instrumental in helping to organize the 1990 Club reception at Disneyland during the 1990 National JACL Convention held in June.

George S. Hirakawa, a Poron resident is the first Asian American in the 130 year of the Chapter to be installed as Excellent High Priest of Delta Chapter No. 27, Royal Arch Masonry. The ceremony was held Jan. 14 at the John H. Robinson Memorial Masonic Temple in Auburn. He has been a Master Mason for more than 23 years.

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OCT 24 - OKINAWA, KYUSHU & SHIKOKU - 12 DAYS - MOST MEALS \$2895
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Karen Nakamura, active in the home-building industry in Hawaii, was honored as the "Builder of the Decade" for the 1980s by the Building Industry Association of Hawaii. In 1985 she was the first woman to be named the "Remodeler of the Year" in the state and is a third-generation contractor. Her grandfather Dennis Nakagami brought wallpaper to Hawaii in 1916 as a plastering, wallpapering and plastering contractor; her father Paul Nakagami continued the business until he retired in 1982 and her daughters, Karen and Annette (Tamura) assumed ownership and management. She also served a five-year term on the Honolulu Planning Commission, served as president on the Girl Scout Council and a producer of the Better Home Shows.

Sandra G. Yip, award-winning Sacramento TV personality, will be honored at a "Celebrity of the Year" ceremony, Jan. 26 at the Hot Sign Restaurant. She will be leaving local Channel 3 to San Francisco's Channel 4, it was disclosed. The set proceeds of this event will go to the Asian Community Nursing Home of Sacramento.

San Francisco KQED Vice President/Television Station Manager David Hoxley announced the appointment of Louise Lo as director, cultural programming department for overseeing its special, series and documentaries. She first joined KQED in 1973 as a news production assistant, covering news and cultural events, was promoted in 1975 to producer-director. Since 1979, Lo has served as an independent executive producer and producer on a number of documentaries and specials for public television.

Wesley Muntant M.D., San Diego JACL member, grew up in San Fernando Valley. He received his B.A. from USC in biology. He then went on to medical school at UCLA where he met Susan Shimomura who is his wife. For several years, he conducted research at the UCSD Medical Center in Rheumatology. He is now Chief of Rheumatology at FHP which is a health maintenance organization in Southern California. He is also a clinical instructor at UCSD in the Rheumatology Dept.

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