



**PRESIDENTIAL WELCOME**—Alberto Fujimori (right), president of Peru, greets PANA delegates, from left, Martha Tamashiro of Los Angeles and Emiko and Mark Ando, Vancouver, B.C.

## Nikkei—North meets South at PANA event

Peru President Fujimori welcomes delegates at palace

By HARRY K. HONDA  
Senior editor

It was a fast two weeks of South America for some 40 Japanese Americans, a trio of Japanese Canadians, and two Little Tokyo reporters participating at the 6th biennial Pan American Nikkei Association convention at Asuncion, Paraguay. The trip culminated in Lima, Peru, Aug. 2, with a special audience with President Alberto Fujimori at the Government Palace, that country's version of the White House.

Fujimori, speaking in English, thanked the group and PANA's charitable work in Peru. Similar acknowledgment was also paid the previous evening by First Lady Susana Fujimori at an unexpected visit by the North American visitors at the Government Palace.

As one who likes to talk (teaching being his profession), Fujimori explained that the job of being president was difficult—"the most difficult job in the country with many, many problems—indeed, it appears all the problems of the world have been concentrated in one country." His 15-minute talk covered his first year in office. He was inaugurated on his 52nd birthday last year on July 28. (JACL President Cressy Nakagawa had remembered to wish Fujimori a happy birthday in his letter.)

Fujimori, who is scheduled to visit with President Bush in Washington Sept. 17-19, repeated his campaign theme for "a change" in

the 1990s "through honesty, technology, and hard work. There is another way to change, especially in the economic order as many steps have been undertaken in Peru, thanks to the input from the United States," he said, referring to the recent \$94 million aid and training package.

The president, whose parents hail from Kumamoto-ken, declared the people in Peru understand that sacrifice is necessary, that terrorists are hurting tourism, and that narco-trafficking and anti-terrorist activities are national concerns that will take time to solve.

Fujimori said that the government's strategy in agriculture is making headway, that capital improvements in Peru are underway, and that the aspirations of the people are most visible in the streets. Thousands have moved from the mountain valleys to the capital, a city teeming with 5 million people in search of jobs or peddling their wares, food, and services at street corners and sidewalks.

In conclusion, Fujimori acknowledged the cooperation and contributions of the Nikkei through PANA which had gathered relief items that were shipped to Peru last December and had raised \$120,000 for further support. "I was excited by your contributions to my country, as I know what's involved," he said.

The task of rebuilding the country is still formidable and the Nikkei in Peru hope Fujimori completes

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## A short history of the Japanese in Paraguay

ASUNCION, Paraguay—Japanese immigration to Paraguay is relatively recent. The first group arrived to farm at La Colmena, 65 miles southeast of here, on May 15, 1936. Twenty-six more groups from Japan followed until 1941, swelling the pioneer population to 800. Today, the Japanese population is estimated at 7,000 in the Land of Sunshine and Tranquility with its 4 million people.

The formal Paraguayan-Japanese Friendship Treaty, signed in 1919, was significant in that it remained in force through World War II by protecting the Japanese and their private property, despite a belated declaration of war against Japan on Feb. 8, 1945, which one historian called symbolic in nature. There were no detention or concentration camps in this country.

Emi Kasamatsu de Enciso, PANA-Paraguay president, recalled how the first colony struggled to conquer the rich earth which

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## JACL gears up strategy to handle Pearl Harbor event

High on the national agenda in recent weeks has been a carefully planned strategy to combat the potential negative effects of the upcoming 50th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Bill Yoshino, JACL national director, recently sent a letter to all chapter presidents outlining the plan. "In an effort to minimize the possible negative effects of the 50th anniversary commemoration, it is necessary to enlist the assistance of each of our JACL chapters and district councils in a program that will raise a public awareness of our concerns regarding the commemoration, and at the same time, enlist the aid of individuals and groups who will join us in cautioning against and deploping incidents of anti-Japanese and anti-Asian sentiment," Yoshino said.

Basic to the program is a public awareness of JACL's concerns. This will be accomplished by gathering support of organizations and individuals who will endorse JACL concerns and who will assist the organization's efforts.

In this regard, a letter has already been sent to Sen. Paul Simon asking for his support of JACL's position and concerns. The Illinois senator has been a longtime friend of the Asian American community.

Another part of the JACL plan is to actively approach various media with suggestions for alternative coverage.

"We need to make the media and the public aware that while the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor merits commemoration historically, that it has the po-

tential for creating negative sentiment toward Asian Americans and that Pearl Harbor also initiated actions which led to the internment of Japanese Americans with the lesson that racism victimizes communities and can never be tolerated."

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## Statement on Pearl Harbor anniversary

The Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941 was tragic in its loss of lives, in its destruction, and in its consequence in causing America's entry into World War II. As we commemorate that event, it is important to remember that Pearl Harbor also precipitated a series of governmental actions which caused both a Constitutional failure for our country and a personal tragedy and a denial of rights for an entire group of Americans.

In 1942, virtually the entire population of 120,000 Japanese Americans were forcibly removed from their homes on the West Coast and incarcerated in internment camps in desolate areas of our country. As a result, Japanese Americans suffered humiliation and ostracism and be-

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## Arizona Chapter gets involved in Buddhist murder investigation

PHOENIX—The Arizona Chapter of JACL is lending its support to local efforts to solve the mystery of the recent murders of nine people at a Buddhist Temple.

The nine people were found shot in one room of the temple that serves the local Thai community, according to an Associated Press story.

Joe Allman, chapter vice chairman, said "We're unofficially involved. We attended a meeting with the Arizona Asian American Association, which is issuing a

release in support of the Thai community." The Arizona Chapter, he added, will also participate in offering a reward for information leading to an arrest.

At press time, police were still speculating the motives for the slayings. Allman said that the room they had been killed in had been ransacked. "The main part of the temple was untouched," he said. "They (the police) speculated that the monks were wearing gold chains and that the motive was robbery. But that's preposterous.

Buddhists take an oath of poverty. No way could that be."

The chapter is also working with two officials who are actively pursuing the case. Allman said that Maricopa County attorney Richard Romley has worked closely with the Asian American community on hate crimes. Sheriff Tom Agnos has also maintained good relations with the chapter.

Allman added that the FBI has been on hand as observers but can only enter the case if it is acknowledged as a hate crime.

## Crowned



Photo: Alvin Law

Sandra Posey (right), 1990 Nisei Week queen, crowns this year's winner, Mutsuko Susanne Seta, who was sponsored by the East San Gabriel Valley JCC, at the Aug. 10 coronation ball. The event highlighted the festivities that included the parade, fashion show, arts and crafts fair, sports events, and other activities held in Los Angeles.

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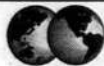
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## Calendar

### Pennsylvania

#### Philadelphia

Thursday, August 22 through Sunday, August 25—JACL EDC, MDC, MPOC 1st District Convention "Legacy for the Future." Hershey Hotel, Philadelphia. Speakers: Patricia Sakai and John R. Dunne. Information: Herb Horkawa, 215/525-6620.

### Illinois

#### Chicago

Friday, August 16 through Sunday, August 18—Midwest Buddhist Temple's 36th Annual Ginza Holiday, a Japanese cultural festival, 435 W. Menomonee St., Friday, 6:30 to 9:30 pm; Saturday, 11:30 am to 8 pm; Sunday, 11:30 am to 8 pm. Cost: \$2.50, children under 12 free with adult. Food, exhibits and demonstrations. Information: 312/943-7801.

### Minnesota

#### Minneapolis/St. Paul

Sunday, August 18—The Twin Cities JACL's annual summer golf tournament, Gross Golf Course, Minneapolis, first tee 11:30 am. Fees: \$5 members, \$7.50 for non-members (does not include green fees). Information: John Nakasone, 612/698-3647.

### Washington D.C.

Saturday, September 28 through Thursday, October 3—JACL's Washington, D.C. Leadership Seminar, Mayflower Hotel. Tuition: \$800 per person. Information: JACL National Headquarters, 415/921-5225.

### Washington

#### Seattle

Wednesday, Aug. 21 through Saturday, Aug. 24—Asian American Journalists Association National Convention, Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Seattle.

Friday, November 1 and Saturday, November 2—"Beyond the Barriers," National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's Third Annual Convention, Stouffer Madison Hotel. Travel arrangements: Eric Hart, Global Express Travel, 206/682-3080. Information: Sharon Sakamoto, 206/682-9932 or Mimi Castillo, 206/624-1913.

### Colorado

#### Denver

Friday, August 30 through Monday, September 2—5th National JACL Singles Convention, Scanticon Hotel. Information: Denver Nikkei Singles Club, P.O. Box 21321, Denver, Colo. 80221 or Jim Hada 303/237-2159.

### California

#### San Francisco area

Through Saturday, October 19—The Eden Township JACL Eden Japanese Community Center and the Hayward Area Historical Society's Japanese American Exhibit, Hayward Area Historical Society Museum. Information: John Yamada, 415/278-6145 or Kairi Fuji, 415/886-0543.

Sunday, September 1—National Japanese Historical Society's annual fundraising picnic, Shibata family's Japanese garden in Mt. Eden. Tickets: \$25, children under 12 free. Information: 415/431-5007.

#### Sacramento

Saturday, September 28—

Florin JACL's first Women's Day Forum, Sacramento Harbor, Broadway and Front Street, 8:45 am to 1:30 pm. Topics: Diabetes, AIDS, Family Mental Health and much more. Tickets: \$5 for members and \$15 for non-members. Includes lunch. Information: Dr. Eileen Namba Otsuji, 916/427-2690 or Carol Hisatomi, 916/444-5827.

#### San Jose

Saturday, August 17—The West Valley JACL's 14th annual Daruma Folk Festival, parking lot of Saratoga Bowling, Saratoga Ave. and Graves, 10 am to 5 pm. Information: John Kaku, 408/253-8187.

Saturday, October 12—Yu-Ai Kai's 9 day "Heritage of America" tour. Stops in New York City, Philadelphia, Amish Country, Virginia and Washington, D.C. Cost: \$1349 for twin. Information/brochure: 408/294-2505.

## Reminders

● The dramatic story of Nisei intelligence agent Richard Sakakida will be one of the featured events of the MHS 50th Reunion dinner, Oct. 31, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Monterey, Calif.

During the war, Sakakida and Arthur Komori were recruited in Hawaii by a Nisei officer for duty in the Corps of Intelligence Police (CIP), later renamed the Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC).

Both men became American agents in the Philippines, collecting and passing back information on the Japanese community.

These and other details of their wartime exploits will be recounted at the reunion.

● The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History will present a symposium, "Japanese Americans and Executive Order 9066: Fifty Years After," on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 21-22. Featured will be social historians, legal scholars, former internees, redress experts, and others who have been involved in the events affecting Japanese Americans during the past 50 years. Event is free. Museum is located at Constitution Avenue and 14th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. Hours: open daily, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Information: 307/357-4185.

● 1991 International Baseball Association World All-Star Game, featuring the top amateur baseball players, will be played Saturday, Aug. 24, at Dodger Stadium, Los Angeles. Game matches an American team against an international team that includes players from Japan, Korea and the People's Republic of China. Tickets: Dodger Stadium, 213/224-1400, or TicketMaster, 213/480-3232.

### Tule Lake

Friday, Sept. 27, through Sunday, Sept. 29—Tule Lake Pilgrimage, Tour of Tule Lake Campsite, Abalone Hill & Castle Rock tour Workshops, Memorial Service, cultural program. Information: San Francisco: Julie Hanna, 415/221-2508, eve.; East Bay: Stephanie Miyahiro, 415/824-2624; San Jose: Tom Izu, 408/292-6938; Sacramento: Diane Tomoda, 916/443-6917.

### Fresno

Sunday, September 15—Fresno JACL Shinzen Run, Woodward Park; 1K kid run, 2-mile walkers, 2-mile and 10K run, wheelchair division. \$10 pre-registration by Sept. 8. Information: Glenn Hamamoto, 209/432-2484.

### Los Angeles area

Saturday, August 24—L.A. Asian Ski Club's 3rd annual golf tournament, Upland Hills Country Club, 1231 E. 18th St. in Upland, 11 am first tee off. Cost: \$39 without lunch, \$45 with lunch (includes cart rental). Information: Steve Kumagai, 818/635-6184 or Forrest Nishio, 213/866-5609.

Wednesday, August 28—Pacific Asian American Women Writers-West's "Where the Waters Meet," Highways, 1651 18th St., Santa Monica, 8:30 pm, with Pasion Cummings, Amy Hill, Naomi Hirahara, Setsuko Joyce Nagatsuma, Joyce Nako, Jude Narita, Thelma Soto, Mari Sunada, Diane Uyeda. Tickets: \$10. Reservation: (213) 453-1755.

Saturday, September 21—The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California and the Chinese Chamber of Commerce's Chinese Moon Festival 1991, throughout Los Angeles Chinatown, 1 pm to 10 pm. Information: 213/617-0396.

Saturday, September 28—Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California's Community Service/Achievement Awards Dinner, Shangri-La Restaurant, 6 pm. Honorees: East West Players, Shiro Nomura and Betty K. Mitsun. Tickets: \$35. Information/reservation: Iku Kiriya, 213/326-0608.

Saturday, September 28—50th Anniversary celebration, Theodore Roosevelt Senior High School, L.A., Classes of '41, '42, Marriott Hotel, L.A. International Airport. Information: 800/244-6106 or write to Madeline Levine, 9603 Beverlywood St., L.A. 90034.

Thursday, October 17—Asian Pacific American Legal Center's 6th Annual Awards Dinner, Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles. Honorees: Hitachi Ltd., Congressman Howard Berman, Frederick Hong, Maria Hsia, John Huang and Gloria Ochoa. Information/tickets: Stewart Kwok or Faith Chen, 213/748-2022.

Thursday, October 24 through Saturday, October 26—The Asia Society's National Symposium "The Asian American Experience: Looking Ahead," the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles. Explore the critical issues facing Asian Americans in the 1990s and the importance of these issues to American society at large. Information: 213/624-0945.

2nd and 4th Fridays, Every Month—The Legal Aid Foundation's legal clinic, Little Tokyo Service Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., Suite 411, 4 to 6 p.m. Japanese language services available. Info: 213/680-3723.

### San Diego

Sunday, September 1—Ocean View United Church of Christ's Annual Bazaar, 3525 Ocean View Blvd., 11 am to 4 pm. Food (ushi, udon etc.), live entertainment, games, fun, fun and more fun. Information: 619/233-3620.

### San Benito County

Saturday, September 21—Former San Benito County residents' 1991 annual reunion, Ridgemark Country Club in Hollister, noon to 5 pm. Cost: \$25. Information: Tak Obata, 415/345-5585; Mitsugu Aiba, 408/293-7108; Lily Yamashita, 408/722-0282; Hiroshi Wada, 213/321-9761.

### Marysville-Yuba City

Friday, Sept. 27 through Sunday, Sept. 29—Third Yuba, Sutter Butte and Colusa Counties' Nikkei Reunion. Newsletter, registration information: Mazie Sasaki, 938 Chestnut St., Yuba City, 95991.

## PANA

(Continued from page 1)

his five-year term of office. As a sign of confidence, PANA announced its that the 1995 convention would be held in Yacover in late July. The 1995 convention would be held in Lima, Peru, when Fujimori leaves office in 1995. Mexico will then host the 1997 PANA convention in conjunction with a gala centennial celebration of Japanese immigration to Mexico.

On Sunday, July 28, President Fujimori, in his state-of-the-nation address, announced the International Monetary Fund's director had recommended approval of Peru's economic stabilization program, thus enabling Peru to secure fresh loans. Peru was cut off from new lending in the mid-1980s since the previous president, Alan Garcia, decided to sharply limit debt payments to existing loans. "The worst of the economic crisis is left behind," one newspaper headline read.

The visitors from North America had arrived by 10:30 a.m. for the 11 o'clock gathering but the palace keeper (if that's his title) explained the president was delayed and that he would escort the group on a VIP tour of the new palace and courtyard that was completed in 1938. The old palace was destroyed in a fire several years earlier. Image of the palace is still maintained with its two-story facade and the changing of the guard ceremony each day at 12:45 p.m.

President Fujimori (who was not at Asuncion as inadvertently mentioned in the Aug. 2-9 P.C. story) entered the grand reception room about 11:30 where the Nikkei were assembled and, as he circulated about, shaking hands and welcoming them.

The audience opened with messages from the group leaders who, in essence, assured their continued support of President Fujimori's administration to better the lot of Peru and its 22 million people. Speaking were PANA-USA President Noriohshi Kanai of Los Angeles, PANA-Canada president Mark Ando of Vancouver, B.C., and this reporter in handing over a letter from National JACL president Cressey Nakagawa. Martha Tamashiro, group tour coordinator who was acting as the impromptu mistress of ceremonies, was then asked by the president to read aloud Nakagawa's letter.

Kanai relayed the request from PANA-International for Fujimori to serve as its honorary president for two years, and he graciously accepted as the room filled with applause. "It's an honor for me to accept the invitation to be the honorary president of the Pan American Nikkei Association," he said.

PANA-International also made Japan Sen, Antonio Enoki an honorary member. The popular professional wrestler who grew up in São Paulo said he would take steps to assist the *dekasegi* problem in Japan. An estimated 120,000 South American Japanese are working under contract in Japanese firms, earning as much as \$1,000 a month while minimum wages at home might be as low as \$50 a month. The problems are of a social nature for the *dekasegi* who do not speak *Nihongo*, those who are not interested in assembly-line work, encountering problems with their contract and more recently a homicide.

As a footnote, there was an obstinate cloud of doubt as to whether there would be a visit with President Fujimori in Peru, in view of the cholera and murder by anti-government terrorists of three Japanese technologists working on a Peruvian Japanese chicken farm and horticultural station on July 13, just a week prior to the start of the PANA convention tours from Los Angeles via Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina and Chile.

—HARRY HONDA

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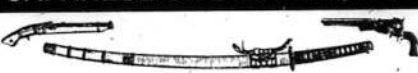
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**HISTORY**

(Continued from page 1)

would become to be theirs. Heading this band of settlers were Chihiro Uchida, administrator; Antonio H. Kasamatsu, planning engineer; and Yoshitomo Sekai, assistant. "The pioneers were considered models of Japanese immigration to Paraguay because they maintained their culture and tradition, above all the essential characteristics, discipline and ethics. Many years later, those who studied Japanese immigrants considered the preservation of the Meiji Era spirit in Paraguay a phenomenon worthy of mention.

"And little by little, the Japanese too were incorporating the values, customs and culture of the Paraguayans and paved the way for formation of a new Nikkei society that strengthened Paraguayan and Japanese relations," the PANA-Paraguay president added. Other early Japanese pioneer families being recalled were Shushei Fujikatsu, Shonosuke Oka, Kichigoro Udagawa, Kichigoro Moriya, Go Hioki and from Asuncion, Michiteru Ishii (Ishy), Shotaro Fukuko and Shigeto Kishi—surnames of many Nisei who managed to pull off the only PANA convention which was honored by the presence of its head of state, Paraguay President General Andres Rodriguez.

In 1956, Japan established its first legation in Asuncion. In 1959, the two countries signed a 30-year immigration treaty, which paved the admittance of up to 8,500 Japanese (the postwar Issei) plus supply and equipment to establish farms in six areas: Iguazu (the largest today in grains), Amambay, Pirapó, Presidente Chaves and Colonia Fuji (both in the Itapúa / Encarnación area) and in Asuncion, where outside the capital vegetable farms and apiculture abound. Their experimentation and research with crops greatly improved the different techniques and quality of Paraguayan agriculture.

Japanese-run vineyards and solid augmentation of farm cooperatives with the prospect of cheap hydroelectric power from Itaipu Dam spell good times for Japanese in Paraguay, panelist Tomo Hamano observed in the workshop of Nikkei in economics.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), its technicians and volunteers, have been also collaborating with the Nikkei here since the 1980s in the development of Paraguay.

Memorable events include the first Paraguayan president's visit (General Alfredo Stroessner) in April, 1972, to Japan; the visit in June, 1978, of Crown Prince Akihito and Crown Princess Michiko to Paraguay. In the spring (October) of 1986 when Paraguayan Nikkei celebrated its 50th year of immigration, Japan Prince Hitachi and Princess Hanako attended the festivities.

The PANA-Paraguay convention booklet contains messages, history and summaries in both Spanish and English. Of particular interest was the notice given to Mercosur (the South Cone Common Market of Latin America—Paraguay, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil)—that was signed here and effective this year) and completion of Itaipu Dam, the world's biggest hydroelectric resource, strictly for Brazil (95%) and Paraguay (5%) only and unavailable to a third country by treaty.

Contrary to other Latin American countries, Paraguay is the only nation maintaining its native Indian tongue, Guaraní, as an official language with Spanish. The popular mixture of both languages is known as Yopará and its monetary unit is the Guaraní (about 1,300 to US\$1). Paraguayan Nikkei also revealed some Guaraní words sound very Japanese.



**PANA-PARAGUAY PLAQUE—JACL President Cressey Nakagawa receives award for his presentation at the 8th Convention at Asuncion from Eri Kasamatsu de Enciso, PANA-Paraguay president.**

**Southern California agencies to investigate Red Onion incident**

**LOS ANGELES—**The Los Angeles and Orange County Human Relations Commissions will conduct a joint investigation of an apparent racially-motivated incident at a Red Onion restaurant in Huntington Beach, Calif., in which three women were allegedly assaulted on June 15.

Red Onion restaurants in Southern California have been named in several discrimination charges over the past few years by the Department of Fair Employment and Housing, and by individuals from other minority communities,

according to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who asked for the investigation.

The joint effort will also involve the Orange County District Attorney's Office.

The findings of the investigation will be reported in 30 days, Hahn said.

Currently, the Pacific Southwest regional office of JACL is working with other civil rights organizations in developing a position paper on the incident and the policies and record of the Red Onion restaurant chain.

**JACL**

(Continued from page 1)

came the victims of racial hatred because of an ancestry they shared with a country with which we were at war. Tragically, Japanese Americans lost their freedom for periods of up to four years.

The incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II represented wholesale neglect of the principles of the United States.

The civil rights of Japanese Americans were set aside in the wake of fervent racism. The Constitution and all that it represents and protects became meaningless for an entire group of Americans. In 1988, Congress passed legislation to acknowledge the injustice of the internment and to apologize on behalf of the people of the United States for... a grave injustice... motivated largely by racial prejudice, wartime hysteria, and a failure of political leadership... The legislation was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on August 10, 1988.

The 1980s have witnessed a dramatic increase in hate crimes and negative sentiment directed at Asian Americans. These incidents have ranged from negative media characterizations, to vandalism, to the beatings of Asian Americans and to the murders of individuals such as Vincent Chin in Michigan, Ming Hai Loo in North Carolina and Thong Hy Huynh in California. The economic and trade frictions between the United States and Japan with the resultant "Japan-bashing" have contributed to this trend in which Japanese and Asian Americans have been victimized and have become increasingly vulnerable to the ra-

cial intolerance within our society.

As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor, we must be mindful that some individuals and groups may exploit racial fears based on wartime animosities and the current economic frictions between the United States and Japan. In 1942, Japanese Americans were the victims of a tragic experience because racism was allowed to prevail. The threat of racism and intolerance can have a profound effect on individuals causing fear, vulnerability and suspicion. We must deplore any attempts to create negative emotional messages through racial exploitation that would adversely affect Japanese Americans or Asian Americans as a result of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

**PLAN**

(Continued from page 1)

JACL has also developed a resolution that warns against racial exploitation on the 50th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Yoshino calls for chapters to solicit endorsements of the resolution or separate statements that urge the same kind of concern.

"We need the assistance of all chapters to begin contacting organizations and public officials to create the base of support for public awareness and response to potential anti-Asian sentiment," Yoshino said in his letter.

JACL is currently in the process of developing specific materials, including media and informational packets, for future chapter use.

## Books

## Author chronicles odyssey toward self-discovery

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA  
Staff writer

David Mura's *Turning Japanese: Memoirs of a Sansei* is a poignant yet often humorous account of this third generation Japanese American's experience in Japan. The book is partly a synopsis on Japanese culture, partly a travelogue, but mostly David Mura's personal experiences. Mura, whose background is in poetry, writes with a keen sense for detail and seldom wastes words.

Mura received the opportunity to spend a year in Japan as a U.S./Japan Creative Artist Exchange Fellow "mainly because I wanted time to write." His journey, however, became not just a physical one, but an emotional and psychological one, confronting him with his long-repressed feelings of alienation and self-hatred. Five years and several revisions later, this book represents Mura's search for identity, of realizing that he is neither fully American nor Japanese but Japanese American.

Having grown up in a Jewish neighborhood in Chicago, Mura "knew more Yiddish than Japanese." Japanese food was something to be eaten on holidays, and his perception of Japan "was cheap baseballs, Godzilla, weird sci-fi movies like *Star Man*." His parents rarely spoke about their roots or their experiences in the internment camps during World War II.

Before living in Japan, Mura studied the works of Western writers such as Eliot, Baudelaire, and Sartre, and knew very little about Kawabata, Oe, or Enchi. However, after a dinner party given in honor of a well known but arrogant Italian critic, Mura realized that he could never write like the Eurocentric writers that

## Book review

he read. "I can't just write like a white American. I'm not John Updike. I can't write about four white people talking about their divorce."

What Mura discovers is that Asian Americans—more specifically Japanese Americans—need to find their own voice, a voice which as yet has not been fully realized. "In the world of tradition, I was unimaginative. I would have to imagine myself."

The initial surprise Mura encounters at Japanese customs is how well he physically blends in with the Japanese people and how much his Caucasian wife, Susie, sticks out. Mura soon realizes that there are certain advantages and disadvantages that come with being visually Japanese. On the one hand, he is able to participate in the Narita Airport Protest, "something a white person could never do." On the other, he feels there is more pressure on him to act "Japanese."

Throughout the book, Mura intersperses flashbacks to childhood and his interaction with his peers and his relationship with his parents and grandparents. He reaches a point of reconciliation when he realizes that the rage he felt toward his own self

and toward his father stemmed not from his own deficiencies but was largely due to racial injustice. Later, when Mura's parents join him in Japan, they too experience similar feelings, but "it went deeper for them."

The book closes with Mura's

wife pregnant and Mura hoping that, unlike himself, his multi-racial daughter will grow up with a strong sense of self. "I would like to think that the questions of identity she faces will be easier than mine, less force, less filled with self-neglect and rage."



DAVID MURA on a recent visit to Los Angeles

## Credits

WHAT: "Turning Japanese: Memoirs of a Sansei"

WHO: David Mura

PUBLISHER: Atlantic Monthly Press; March 28, 1991

COST: \$19.95

APPEARANCES: Pacific Asian American Women Writers West, Sept. 28, Los Angeles

## Books in brief

**Lu Chi's Wen Fu: The Art of Writing.** Tr. by Sam Hamill. Milkweed Editions, P.O. Box 3226, Minneapolis, MN 55403; 57 pp, \$6.95 paper (1991).

Chinese scholar, essayist and poet Sam Hamill presents China's first book dedicated to the art of poetry, which was written around 200 A.D. by Lu Chi. This is our first encounter with traditional Chinese literature, its exponents and forms, which (fortunately for us) are explained in the opening half of the book—and unlikely to be our last now.

Hamill explains *wen* means "writing" or "literature" in the generic sense; *fu* means "form." Lu Chi, a soldier-scholar, left some 300 poems and essays. *Wen Fu* reflects Lu Chi's philosophy and is said to reveal the relevance of 2nd-century Chinese thought to today's readers. Remaining about the poems in the second half of the book should provide the key.

**The Red Angel: Life and Times of Elaine Black Nagan.** 1906-1988. Vivian McGuckin Rainier. International Publishers, 239 W. 23rd St., New York, NY 10011; 346 pp, bibliography, index, \$19.00 cloth, \$9.95 paper (1991).

What a lady she was: Karl Yoneda's wife Elaine (1906-1988)—whose life is "of the stuff that legends are made," to quote the author. And this on the heels of her husband's book, *Gambatte: 60 Year Struggle of a Kibei Worker* (1983), published by UCLA's Asian American Studies Center!

The Yonedas show a seldom reckoned side of Japanese Americans: prewar politics with the Communist Party, the labor movement, bailing out Karl from the

Los Angeles jail for demonstrating at City Hall on Feb. 10, 1931, intermarriage (in Seattle), back in San Francisco protesting the shipment of scrap iron to Japan with Karl, their experiences during W.W. II (Karl volunteered for MIS and served in the China-Burma-India theater, while Elaine and their son Tommy left Manzanar during the '42 riot for San Francisco), postwar raising of chickens in Petaluma, and their roles bringing trade union support to JACL's Title II repeal and redress campaigns.

Those who know of them, even casually by their mark in the media, will appreciate this tribute to the "Red Angel," a monicker acquired by her work as secretary for the San Francisco International Labor Defense office posting bail for maritime workers in the 1930s.

**Nuclear Playground: Fight for an Independent and Nuclear Free Pacific.** Stewart Firth. 2840 Koloheh St., Honolulu, HI, 96822; 178 pp, index, \$14.95 paper (1987).

In light of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, hopefully the current talks of a nuclear disarmament treaty are about to be concluded soon. Five years ago when this book was being written, the prospect was of World War III starting in the Pacific. U.S. efforts were to keep the Soviets bottled up in the North Pacific and the superpowers called for more weapons in the name of balance. Dr. Firth (a distinguished Australian scholar specializing in Pacific history) ventures into new ground: further development in nuclear weaponry with a review of U.S., British and French nuclear test

By HARRY HONDA  
Senior editor

programs in the Pacific. What Firth puts forth is that the people in the Pacific Islands do not want a nuclear past imposed on them. In the epilogue, a make-believe scenario of WWII, Japan and Korea are prime targets plus Hawaii.

**A Song for Nagasaki.** Paul Glynn, foreword by Shusaku Endo. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, 255 Jefferson Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503; 265 pp, \$11.95 paper (1990).

This is an inspiring and moving story of Takashi Nagai, M.D., pioneer professor of radiology at Nagasaki who died of atomic disease six years after the second A-bomb killed thousands, including his wife. While suffering from terminal radiation, he began writing of peace and reconciliation. His books became best-sellers in Japan.

Glynn (an Australian Marxist priest who worked for 20 years in Japan where he met Nagai's family and other A-bomb survivors—*hibakusha*) weaves Japanese culture, history of Christianity in Japan and "how the citizens of Nagasaki came to venerate the bed-ridden doctor as a saint," quoting from Shusaku Endo's foreword.

**The Sun Never Sets: Confronting the Network of Foreign U.S. Military Bases.** Edited by Joseph Gerson and Bruce Birchard. American Friends Service Committee, 1601 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA, 19102; 388 pp, \$10 (1991).

The Quakers' new book describes the global network of 375 foreign U.S. military bases including 17 major bases in Japan: nine on Naichi (home islands) and eight on Okinawa. Gerson, who wrote

this particular chapter, "Keystone of the Pacific," notes there are strong forces militating against the continued presence of U.S. bases in Japan with the collapse of the Cold War. Furthermore, if the Soviet Union is able to exchange reversion of the Kurile Islands to Japan for Japanese technology and investments in the Far Eastern regions, the rationale for maintaining U.S. bases would be severely undermined.

Gerson maintains the vacuum created by the withdrawal of U.S. bases need not be filled by Japanese militarism. "There are serious political visions of the Pacific Economic Community with the Pacific Ocean becoming a sea of peace, freedom and mutual benefits." He also sees the creation of a nuclear-free, independent and economically-secure Pacific Basin, which includes the United States.

**Turning Leaves: The Photograph Collections of Two Japanese American Families.** Richard Chalfen. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, N.M., 87131; 267 pp, \$39.95 cloth, \$19.95 paper (1991).

Never would one honor old snapshots as pieces of visual anthropology as was superbly and critically addressed by the author, Professor Chalfen in anthropology at Temple University and director of the graduate program in visual anthropology. He worked with Lynne Horiuchi of Denver-Los Angeles through the '80s on her pilot project, the Japanese American Family Album Project, which featured the rich collection of the Nagano and Uyeda Miyamura families (the typesetter at the *Pacific Citizen* help to set the captions). This project has blossomed into a scholarly and

## Nishizu interview book published

FULLERTON, Calif.—Publication of the "Clarence Nishizu Interview" by Dr. Arthur A. Hansen was recently celebrated on the California State University at Fullerton as the latest addition to the Orange County Japanese American Oral History Project named after the late Justice Stephen K. Tamura. There are fewer than 50 copies of the 220-page hardcover book left, according to the Selanoco Chapter, JACL, co-founder who was busy autographing this "Interview" at a reception.

The interview not only covers the personal history of the 81-year-old community leader in an intimate fashion but is garnished with historic photographs and recollections of other Japanese American families who had settled in the county in the 1900s and 1910s.

Clarence was born in Little Tokyo in 1910 where his father was selling Kiku-Masamune. With prohibition enacted in 1917, the family moved to Garden Grove to farm with his uncle who later moved to El Centro where a younger uncle was farming. Clarence describes how his dad and uncle grew chili, dried them in a kiln for sale to a factory or market.

His recollection of classmates at the Garden Grove Japanese Language School and neighborhood is a veritable *Nikkei Who's Who*—George Tuhara, Helen Ban (her father Rev. Takeshi Ban is another story, notes Clarence), George Nagamatsu, Harry Fujino, Mary and Kaz Masuda (of WWII fame), Kay Ihara, Sam Aihara, George Yasukochi, Torao Yoshimura, Hanako Ida, Tom and Lily Yanai, Yasuo Goto (father of Dr. James who lived in the Wintersburg area where Teurumatsu Asari operated a gold fish farm), Frank Kadohiki, et al. The names are all indexed, adding to the value of what appears to be a local history *par excellence*.

celebrated account—indeed a happy presentation.

The Nagano of Los Angeles traced their roots to Manzo Nagano, the first Japanese settler in Canada in 1877 for whom a mountain peak in the British Columbia Rockies was dedicated. The Uyeda/Miyamura families of New Mexico are related, and a son, Hiroshi, is to be noted.

Here is another way of telling a family story. Details are found throughout the book and how significant is up to you.

**Asian Americans: An Interpretive History.** Sucheng Chan. G.K. Hall & Co., 70 Lincoln St., Boston, MA, 02111; 242 pp, \$23.95 (cloth), \$11.95 paper (1991).

Sucheng Chan, professor of history and Asian American studies at UC Santa Barbara, introduces foreign words (the first time in italics) in her narrative of the Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, and Asian Indian groups in America. This is what we on the P.C. have been accustomed to for years—but here are some new ones: *cohong*, *yagban*, *industrado*, *gurdwara*, *jats*, *haiguan*, *gongxue*, *tang*, *dongxia*, *sija*, *tohe*, *long-jang*, *granth*, *sahib*, *pensionados*. This is a partial reading and we omitted the many Japanese terms. Chan's approach is cultural and welcome. Her colleagues find it imaginative, immensely useful and a scholarly synthesis. The *Twayne's Immigrant Heritage of America Series* has published a concise, readable and captivating book.

Extremely valuable are the final chapters "New Immigrants and Refugees" (covering the '80s) and the "Current Socioeconomic Status, Politics, Education and Culture."

## Opinions

From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

## Curious custom of apology in Japan

A curious part of Japanese culture is the custom of apologizing for almost everything, even when by our standards apology is unnecessary or even inappropriate. They present you with a splendid gift and apologize for its humbleness. They invite you to a swanky restaurant and apologize because it isn't swanky. They serve up a banquet and apologize that it is not enough.

This is a stereotype that Tsuneaki Iki, executive vice president of the Japan National Tourist Organization, used to his advantage recently. Addressing a group of travel agents, he observed that Americans start their talks with an anecdote while the Japanese begin with an apology. Then he got the laughter he sought by apologizing for not having a funny story to tell.

But one thing the Japanese haven't apologized for is the attack on Pearl Harbor before declaring war in 1941. The 50th anniversary of that deplorable event will be here in a few months and Tokyo is concerned about how Americans will remember that day. We are not likely to remember happily. But there are some who think an apology, expressed in un-

mistakable terms instead of the circumlocution that characterizes Japanese speech, would help to assuage some of the bitterness.

Japanese government leaders have expressed regret for their country's aggression in Korea, China and some other parts of Asia, but not directly to the United States. Perhaps the sense that the U.S. also has some apologizing to do for the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki has something to do with its stance.

But there may be change coming. Not long ago Yohei Kono, chairman of the influential Foreign Affairs Committee of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party suggested in an article published by Asahi Shimbun that it was time to acknowledge Japan's guilt.

His reference was to the peace proclamations at ceremonies marking the nuking of Hiroshima on Aug. 6 and Nagasaki on Aug. 9. These proclamations speak of the horror of the attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, he wrote, without mentioning "the ultimate cause of the tragedies: Japan's aggression in Asia and the December 1941 attack against the U.S. and Great Britain."

Kono went on to say: "People from other countries who hear or read these statements must think we are indifferent to the massive loss of life and devastation Japan brought on. Americans may also feel that laments about the atomic holocaust devoid of reference to Pearl Harbor are one-sided and inflammatory... This August is a chance to make amends for Pearl Harbor."

News stories out of Hiroshima on this year's observance made no mention of a Pearl Harbor apology although Mayor Takashi Hiraoka, according to the Asahi News Service, "apologized for the hardships Japan caused its Asian and Pacific neighbors during the war." He is also reported to have said:

"We would like to continue to remember the disastrous war that started with the attack on Pearl Harbor and ended with the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

The apology, when it comes and it should be soon, must come from a national leader. Further, if it is to have and effect on the American public, it needs to be in straightforward language Americans understand. Kono needs to be listened to. ☐

## Letters

## PC letter policy

Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. Please sign your letter but make sure we are able to read your name. Include mailing address and telephone number. You may fax letters to 213/626-6213 or mail them to Letters to the Editor, Pacific Citizen, 941 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90013.

## Justice Department should apologize for apology

I wish to add a hearty cheers and thank you to Violet K. de Cristoforo (for) her suggestions in the July 19-26, '91 issue of *Pacific Citizen*. The letter my mother received from the Justice Department from President George Bush was so poorly written it did not seem to be that long promised letter of apology, and his signature was so sloppy that you couldn't tell it was that of the President! I told my mother to hang on to that letter as it was an historic document, but felt that it was pretty shabby for so much hard work on the part of those of us who worked for Redress during the '80's.

I am going to write the Justice Department and request a letter of apology for my deceased father who died in 1978, just 10 years before the 1988 signing of the Redress Bill into law by then President Ronald Reagan. It is almost ironic that he passed away in the spring of the year that the national JACL convention first formed a specific task of obtaining Redress and that 10 years later on the year of his death, it was signed into law, and I, his son, was there to witness it with my mother.

Be gracious to you and the P.C. staff during this long hot summer, and good luck on your move to a new office location in a safer neighborhood!

Jeff K. Kami

ex-officio president,

Salt Lake Chapter, JACL

## Getting new members through sports

Instead of trying to attract new, younger members by creating "a new image which incorporates JACL's basic ideology" (PC, July 19-26), why not adopt methods that have succeeded in the past?

In 1979 the Gardena Chapter developed youth groups, centered around its Nisei relay track team. We held several profitable fund-raisers, including a bake sale (\$240.) and a dance (\$1200) and some fun activities. We worked together with the Orange County chapter, which staged similar events.

How many JA teenagers give two hoots about civil rights for Asian Americans? They want to get involved at the chapter level on constructive projects and recreational activities with other young people. Older JAs, including parents, should play active roles, using their experience and contacts to advise, plan, and support youthful aspirations.

Coed athletics, like golf, tennis, volleyball, and softball will attract many young people. Isn't it time for JACL to sponsor such intradistrict competition?

Mas Odoi

Tacoma, Wash.

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Salinas Valley: 4-Mae Sakagawa.  
San Jose: 11-Dr. Donald S. Fujino.

See ROLL/page 7

East Wind

BILL MARUTANI

## Onomatopoeia or 'gi-on'

THE TERM means "the formation of a word that sounds like its referent, as buzz, crack, cuckoo": American Heritage Dictionary. In short, a word that seeks to imitate the sound it represents such as a dog barking "bow-wow." Somewhere along junior high school, I came across the word and thought it so unusual that I tried to remember it. The subject comes up because I'm in the midst of reading Japanese comic strips as a means to learning *Nihongo* including current vernacular usages. Well, onomatopoeia came up because the Japanese sounds—*gi-on* in Japanese—are quite different from those familiar to us in America. For example, while an American dog barks "bow-wow" (or "woof-woof") in Japan they bark "won-won."

Why, reading—or more accurately, trying to read—a Japanese manga (cartoon) strip requires, for me at least, yet another dictionary on *gi-on* (onomatopoeia).

TAKE, FOR EXAMPLE, a frog croak.

We have a Japanese song tape on which the "Duke Aces" (a Japanese male singing group) sing of frogs serenading. Frankly, I'm not quite sure what the *gi-on* for American frogs is; I've heard an American song recording which would have frogs' guttural intonations as "rib-it." Well, perhaps. But do you know what it is in Japanese; would you believe "ke-yo, ke-yo"? The next time I'm in Nippon and am near a pond, I'll have to cock my ears keenly for the croaking of Japanese frogs. I'm not expecting to hear "ke-yo, ke-yo." Or will I? You see, I've listened to that Duke Aces often enough (there's a Kyoto tune on there that's become a favorite) that I'm beginning to associate "ke-yo, ke-yo" with frogs.

VERBALIZED SOUNDS that, in fact, do not imitate the actual sound but we so closely associate them with the referenced sound that they begin to "sound like the sound" are many. In our comic strips, for example, coughing is verbalized as "cough, cough." Except for the "ugh" part of the word, there really is no sound association

with the sound of coughing. In Japanese *gi-on*, the sound of coughing comes out as "go-ho-tsu." The "tsu" is not verbalized; rather, the pronunciation is cut short. So used, the cough in *Nihongo* comes out "go-ho!" and it indeed does begin to mimic a cough.

RINGING BELLS peel out "ding-dong" in our traditional learning. In *Nihongo* it's "jiri, jiri" which is not the toll of an *o-tsu* (temple) bell; more like the small tinkling *suwa* that we've seen. The sound of an object striking the noggin is written often as "boing" or to emphasize the impact then "BOINGGG!" In Japanese comics the comparable *gi-on* is "GON." If the Hawaii bubbleheads tire of referring to mainland Nikkei as "Kotons" (allegedly, the sound emitted by the striking of a mainland Nikkei's head—some what akin to an empty coconut), they can adopt "GON."

Onomatopoeia, pronounced (according to the dictionary that I checked): oh-noma-toh-PEE-yah. *Gi-on* for short. ☐





## The arts

## Actress Hill weaves taut, funny life tales

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA  
Staff writer

Under the direction of Anne Etus, this hour-long "autobiographical romp" is simple but significant. The show opens with images of Japan, projected onto a screen, a shop curtain. A voiceover explains that Hill's father is Finnish, her mother Japanese, and she was raised in Deadwood, S. D. When she turned 18, her parents gave her a choice of either visiting Finland or Japan (although Hill preferred going to Paris and becoming a Bohemian). Hill settled for Japan, and the audience is whisked into the most intimate but immediate necessities of all: how to use the bathroom.

Hill goes on to parody the many Japanese and Japanese American women that she observed. Some of them include a cutesy pop star, an aging and embittered talk show hostess (complete with a huge blue wig), and an offended Asian American student who resents not being treated with the same courtesy that Caucasian foreigners are treated with. Hill notes that "At the same time that I'm recounting my own experiences in Tokyo, I want to explode the stereotypes of Japanese women and investigate the ties we have with our cultural past, both conscious and unconscious."

Hill's one-year visit extended into six, in which time, she eventually married a Japanese national. There are touching moments when Hill recounts her Indian-born mother-in-law's ostracization and her own feelings of alienation. This leads her to a new respect for her mother in America who kept her family together despite cultural and language barriers.

Although Hill intersperses Japanese with English, this is not a distraction and her facial expressions and body language are wonderful. Hill is able to go from a conservative flower ar-



## Credits

WHAT: "Tokyo Bound," a one-woman autobiographical stage production of her coming of age and cultural identity.  
WHO: Japanese-Finnish American actress Amy Hill.  
WHEN: Through Aug. 25, Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.  
WHERE: East West Players, 4424 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles.  
INFORMATION: 213/665-1929.

## Stage review

ranging teacher to a chattering weather girl to a bowing department sales attendant without losing the audience. Hill also makes great use of space as she immerses herself into a hot bath, dances with a naked man, or is being groped on the train by a pervert.

Like Hill's script, the set is simple but well thought out. It consists of a wooden bench shaped like a Japanese *geta* (clogs), which also acts as bathroom, bathtub, and chair. Hill's costumes enhance her characters, the most interesting one being the red chiffon dress laced with junk-food wrappers.

Tokyo Bound is definitely a tight production with little room for criticism, and Amy Hill is a great performer and storyteller.

## Obituaries

Angell, Henry, 87, Campbell, Calif., June 22; survived by wife Mary, son Jeffrey, daughter Rhonda Melton, 5 brothers Fred, Norval, Mason, Tadashi, Daniel, 5 sisters Mase Okamoto, Irene Murata, Teru Higashi, Michiko, Akiko Inoue. Ason, Yoshiaki, 88, San Francisco, June 20; survived by husband Roy, daughter Hilmi de la Fuente, stepson Larry, stepdaughters Corne Macdonald, Brenda Puchner, 7 grandchildren.

Pelle, Savelio Suzuki, 84, Oakland, June 19; San Francisco-born, survived by son Ron, daughter Linda, Holly, brother Toshi Suzuki, sister Takashi, 1 grandchild, son-in-law Max P. Baumann, Lee Otaguro.

Fujimoto, Hisao O. 101, Chicago, June 20; Honolulu, Hawaii, resident, married at 14; was among the first recipients of the \$20,000 redress check.

Hata, George H. 74, Los Angeles, June 19; El Monte-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, son, Kaich, 2 sister Hideo (Lyn), Yuyo Hamada.

Hasegawa, Dr. Akio, 86, Sacramento, June 28; Honolulu-born dentist, UC School of Dentistry graduate (70), began practice in Walnut Grove where he founded and was superintendent of Boy Scout Troop, then moved to Sacramento where he practiced for 10 years during WWII, was a U.S. Public Health Service captain, senior assistant dental surgeon, charter member, past pres. of Senator Time, Hideo Ito, Calif. Lion's Sign Association and Glusacina Trailer Clinic, dist. gov. (68-70); chaired Sacramento City College Advisory Committee (1980-1982); founded Sacramento County Dental Society's dental assistant, dental hygienist program; served on many advisory boards including Sumitomo Bank, Bank of Sacramento, American Cancer Society, Goodwill Industries, member JACL, 1000 Club, Japanese United Methodist Church; survived by wife of 54 years Akio, 3 sons Dr. Robert (Ann Adams Mich.), Etsuo (Francis David) (Mitsuko), daughter Sybil, 2 brothers Masao (Honolulu), Dr. Terry (Pittsburgh, Pa.), 12 grandchildren; also predeceased by two brothers Dr. Takahiro and Dr. Waleli (both Berkeley).

Hsieh, Muey Sebum, 87, Los Angeles, June 18; Fukushima-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by husband George, daughters Amy Porter, Miyoko, grandchild, brother Jiro, sister Tami Amano (both Jpn.).

Hsieh, Richard T. 88, Upper Merionide, N.J., June 28; Hiroshima-born, formerly of Yuba, Hawaii, where he fathered established the first Buddhist temple and school in the U.S. in 1906, graduate of the University of Washington, lettered varsity tennis; import-export business, New York JACL, 1000 Club member, longtime resident of West Lebanon N.H., survived by wife of 54 years Mase (Furuya), sons George T., Frank T. (West Lebanon, N.H.).

Hirayama, Setsuko, 58, Fresno, June 20; survived by husband Satoru "Rizzo" 3 sons Collin, Kevin, Brian, 2 sisters Chieko Fujinaka (Iowa), Emilio Goo (Hawaii).

Ito, Yatsuki "Tuggi," 77; Mahanwah, Ind., June 14; Sugar City, Idaho-born pioneer Oregon resident, owner-manager of Keller Concrete Co. (58-70); survived by wife of 51 years Aiyce (Dot), sister May Yamamura (Greenwich, Conn.).

Yabu, John T. 74, Los Angeles, April 15; California, survived by sister Miori Takatsura, brother Yoshinori Miyamoto (Lyn).

Yaei, Kameto, 77, Los Angeles, June 8; Maui-born, survived by husband Robert S. son Wallace, James, Gary, 2 grandchildren, in-law brother Ralph, Hester, Stanley Yagi, sister Sally Matsumoto (all Hawaii).

Yamashita, Mrs. Inao, 85, Arleta, May 27; Hiroshima-born, survived by sons Shige, Mas, Ted, Mamoru, daughters Shinobu, Yatsu, Dorothy Kono, Mito Naito, Sachiko, 24 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, sister Masako Hata (Lyn).

See OBITUARIES/page 9

Seattle: 11-Sumie L. Bartz, 15-Dr Saburo Kajimura.  
San Diego: 40-Charles Hayashida.  
Sequoia: 10-Lonny M. Ishihara, 34-Hiroi Kariya.

Spokane: 10-Col Spady A. Koyama, 7-Denny T. Yashihara.  
Venice Culver: 11-Yoshiyuki Yamamoto, Washington, DC: 10-Kay K. Kobayashi.  
West Los Angeles: 36-Ben M. Nishimoto.  
National: 15-Montgomery Park Travel.

LIFE (LJ) / MEMORIAL (M)

Helen Hada (Det.)

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11-Col Spady A. Koyama (Spa), 12-Montgomery Park Travel (Nat).

San Fernando Valley: 35-Dr Bo T. Sakaguchi.

San Francisco: 30-Masao Aishizawa, 33-William Hoshikawa, 33-Denald K. Negi.

11-Tokio Hirono, 11-Shigeo Miyamoto.

San Jose: 24-K Clifford Hayashida, 11-Tony Ueda.

San Jose: 33-Dr Andrew Yoshimura.

Santa Barbara: 35-Masao Makioka.

San Jose: 25-Ellen Nakamura, 25-Ted T. Oya.

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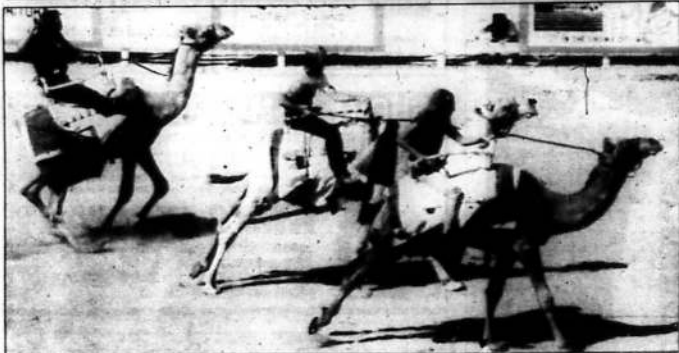
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## Travel



**WINS BY A NECK**—Camel racing is a favorite tourist attraction in Virginia City, Nev. This year's event takes place Sept. 6-8. The city is also close to Reno, Nev., where other travel events and sites are offered.

## Camels line up in Virginia City streets

RENO, Nev.—There's a different kind of Desert Storm brewing when dozens of camels race to the finish line at the 32nd Annual Virginia City International Camel Races Sept. 6-8.

After more than 30 years of wild and unpredictable camel and ostrich racing in Virginia City, the event that plays a role in America's craze for outlandish entertainment is still going strong. More than 25,000 people from around the world turn out each year to see these crazy races.

Camels were first introduced to the Comstock as pack animals, hauling salt and other supplies. The experiment turned sour because townspeople were frightened by the brawny creatures, and the animals were eventually banished from the streets to roam the American West.

The Virginia City Camel Races started out as a joke when, in 1959, Bob Richards, editor of the *Territorial Enterprise*, wrote a fictitious account of the city's camel races to fill a three-inch hole on the paper's front page. The following year, he informed his readers of the upcoming races and was challenged by the *San Francisco Chronicle*. The *Chronicle* also challenged the *Phoenix Gazette* and the *Indio Chamber of Commerce*.

The *Chronicle's* camel, piloted by movie director John Huston, collected the trophy in that first race.

This year, Virginia City hosts the Australians as the teams compete for bragging rights to the International Camel Cup. Virginia City's sister city, Alice Springs in

Australia's Northern Territory, is home to a camel cup competition of its own.

The event begins with opening ceremonies at noon on Friday. Grudge races run from 1-4 p.m., and a Virginia City-style dance is scheduled for 7 p.m. On Saturday, the Camel Race Parade starts at 10 a.m., with camel races from noon to 4 p.m. Evening festivities will also be included. The elimi-

nation camel races start at noon Sunday, with the championship race at 4 p.m.

Shuttles will run from Reno to Virginia City twice daily during the races. Shuttle information: 800/822-6009 or 702/329-2877.

Information: Virginia City International Camel Races, 702/847-RACE, or write P.O. Box 464, Virginia City, NV, 89440. Room reservations: 800/FOR-RENO.

## Snow sculpture



Sapporo, Japan, transforms into a winter wonderland featuring massive snow and ice sculpture created as part of the historic Sapporo Festival, scheduled Feb. 3-9, 1992. The event features sculptures depicting characters out of Japanese myths, famous buildings, and American personalities. Variety incentives, City of Industry, Calif., offers a travel package to the city. Departure is from Los Angeles via Japan Air Lines Monday, Feb. 4. Package includes room accommodations and daily breakfast. Return flight is Sunday, Feb. 10. Information: 818/961-0644.

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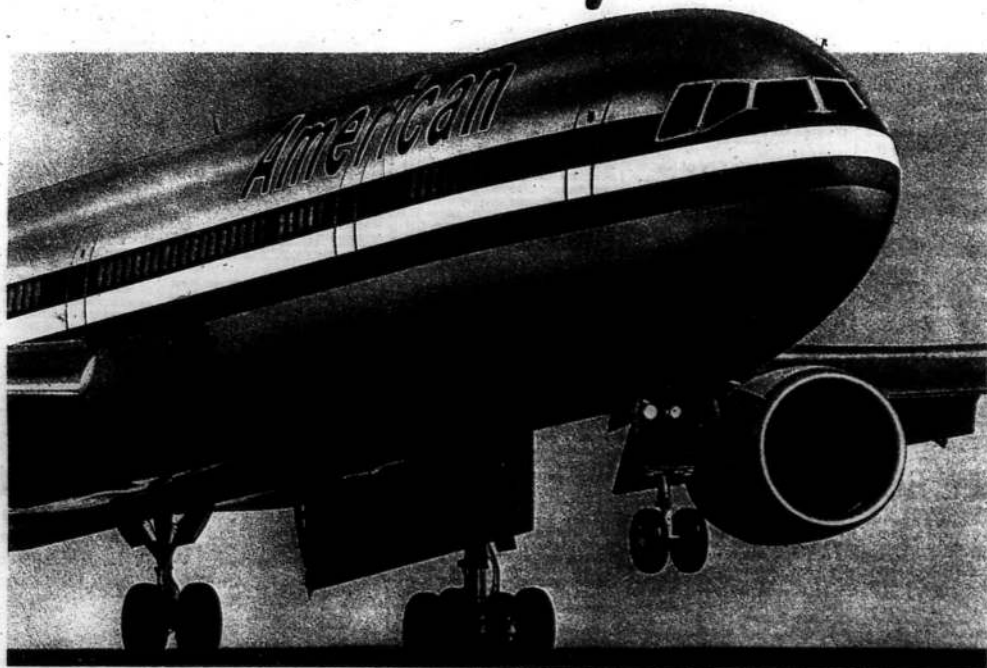
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