



Pacific Citizen

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

Midwest camps
to be dedicated
—page 5

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701 East 3rd Street, Suite 201, Los Angeles, CA 90013

(213) 626-6936

Friday, May 15, 1992

2 Asian Americans killed in L.A. riots

LOS ANGELES—Two Asian Americans were among the 58 casualties stemming from the riots in Los Angeles. Edward Song Lee, 18-year old freshman, was killed April 30 in Koreatown when he was caught in the crossfire of bullets from guns of police, security guards and looters.

Funeral services for Lee were held May 6 in Koreatown and attended by 5,000 mourners.

Monterey Park resident Thanh Lam, 25, was killed April 30 driving home after helping clear debris at his older brother's market in Compton, which was gutted by fire. According to police reports, Lam was killed in Compton by two African American men who pulled alongside Lam's vehicle and began firing. As of now, there are no suspects.

Takao Hirata, 47, was recently released from the hospital after receiving treatment for head, eye and ear injuries suffered April 29 when he was pulled from his Ford Bronco at the intersection of Florence and Normandie and beaten by rioters. The Gardena resident was driving home from his job in Glendale when a mob surrounded his car, took his money and proceeded to beat him. Captured on live television by helicopter camera crews, Hirata was saved by Gregory Alan Williams, an actor, who took him from his vehicle and helped him walk away from the mob scene. Williams and four other Good Samaritans were honored May 5 by the Los Angeles City Council.

Journalists condemn L.A. Times poll

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles chapter of the Asian American Journalist Association, in a letter to the Los Angeles Times editorial board, called for representation of Asian Americans in recent polling around the riots following the Rodney King verdict.

The poll, which ran in the May 6 issue, presented data on white, black, and Latino opinions on the King verdict and the subsequent violence. Asians were not included in the polling group. In the letter, Dean Takahashi, president of AAJA-Los Angeles, said:

See TAKES/page 4

Convention deadline for resolutions is June 1

Resolutions for consideration at the JACL national convention Aug. 3-8 are due by June 1 to the resolutions chairperson, c/o JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

Resolutions, or formal declarations of an organization's opinion, policy or position in any subject area, may be of the following: a statement of the policy of the organization; an expression of approval or disapproval of measures, issues or positions in which the organization has an interest; urge actions by other bodies or individuals who are in a position to act on an issue, measure or position; an extension of appreciation or recognition to an individual or group. Resolutions may be used to introduce new items of business, propose changes in positions adopted at previous conventions or refer recommendations to the national board in areas for

See RESOLUTIONS/page 8

MORE CONVENTION NEWS: Golf tournaments set for Denver—page 2



Koreatown relief launched

Los Angeles City Councilman Michael Woo and Trisha Murakawa, JACL chairwoman of the Youth Council, were among those supporting the Koreatown Emergency Relief Fund recently. Leaders of Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Asian Indian and Jewish communities came together for the cause of rebuilding the city. Among those present were Saykin Foo, Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Claudine Cheng, Organization of Chinese Americans, Jimmy Tokeshi, PSW regional director, and Dr. Rajen Anand, Indo-American Political Association. Interested donors should make checks payable to KAC/Relief Fund and send them to Korean American Coalition, 610 S. Harvard Blvd., #111, Los Angeles, CA, 90005, or call 213/380-6175. Donations may also be dropped off at any of California Korea Bank's nine branch locations.

Short takes

Asian American groups organize to help for riot victims

Nikkeis provide counseling

LOS ANGELES—The Japanese Americans for L.A. Recovery recently met to help victims of the recent riots in Los Angeles.

Kathy Imahara, attorney with the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC) reported that many of the victims are bewildered by the jargon in their insurance policies, while others have no idea how to apply for SBA loans.

Imahara said volunteers from the Japanese American Bar Association, Japanese American Casualty Association and accounting

professions offered free services May 9. Legal information: APALC, 213/748-2022.

Bill Watanabe, Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC) executive director, said his organization will help with information and social services, including stress counseling. Call 213/680-3729.

Rose Ochi of the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice said the city hotline for reporting property damage is 213/485-2000.

The relief organization set up a fund and called on donors from the Japanese American community to help victims of the violence. The Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, a non-profit, charitable organization, will be in charge of funds until the committee can distribute them to appropriate sources. Make checks to the L.A. Recovery Fund, c/o JACCOC.

Attending were Jim Tokeshi, JACL; Kathleen Hiyake, APALC; Bill Watanabe.

See RELIEF/page 8

Volunteers sought

The Asian Pacific Legal Center is asking for volunteers to help serve victims of the Los Angeles riots. Call Stewart Kwoh, 213/748-2022. The center is providing free legal consultation to victims.

Getting relief

If you are in need after the L.A. riots or would like to help the recovery, the following is a listing of organizations providing assistance.

● **The Japanese American Cultural and Community Center**—the "L.A. Recovery Fund" has been set up to assist victims of the riots. Checks should be made out to the L.A. Recovery Fund, c/o JACCOC and sent to 244 S. San Pedro St., #505, L.A. 90012. Information: 213/628-2725.

● **Asian Pacific Counseling Center**—Offering free crisis intervention counseling services for Asian

See HELP/page 8

Newsmaker

Cheryl Lau has key Republican convention role



WASHINGTON—In 1981, Cheryl Lau moved from California to Nevada and accepted a job in the state attorney general's office. Nine years later, she was elected in her first political campaign the Nevada secretary of state, defeating her Democrat opponent and veteran politician by nearly 10% points in the statewide race.

Recently, she embarked on another challenge

as vice-chairwoman of the Republican National Convention's 1992 platform committee, a major job at any political convention. Her job is to assist in the development of the single document representing the views of Republicans from across the country. The committee held one of its hearings in San Diego.

See NEWSMAKER/page 4



11 weeks until the Convention

JACL Solid as the Rockies - August 3-8, 1992 - Mile-Hi Chapter - Denver, CO

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Calender

Colorado Denver

Aug. 3-8—JACL's 32nd Biennial National Convention, "JACL Solid as the Rockies," Denver. Information: 303/692-6003

Saturday, May 23—Denver Central Optimists' annual pilgrimage to the former site of the relocation center at Amache. Arrangements for transportation will be made at nominal cost. Information: Art Moriya, 3835 W. Raddoff Ave., Denver CO 80236, 303/798-0268 or Kent Yoritomo, 5946 W. Iowa Pl., Lakewood, CO 80232, 303/936-1292

Oregon

Beaverton

Friday, May 22—Sahomi Tachibana performs classical and folk dances of Japan, Beaverton Community Center, 12350 SW 5th, 7 p.m. Cost: \$5 adults, \$4 students. Tickets: 526-2288

Washington Seattle

Thursday, May 28—Asian Pacific American Community Voice Awards sponsored by the International Examiner, Nippon Kan Theatre, 628 S. Washington St., 5:30 p.m. Tickets: \$40. Information: International Examiner, 206/624-3925

Utah

Salt Lake City

Saturday, October 10—Davis High School Alumni and Friends Reunion, Little America Hotel & Towers, 500 S. Main St., Salt Lake City. Cost: \$30 per person. Information: George Hirabayashi, 3042 S. 1000 W. Syracuse, UT 84075, 801/773-2285. Hotel reservations: 800/453-9450

California

Sacramento Area

Saturday, May 25—Sacramento Reunion III will be held at the Red Lion Hotel following the Tule Lake Reunion.

Linking up at JACL convention

If golf is your game, the JACL convention in Denver, Colo., Aug. 3-8, will provide you with plenty of challenges. Two courses have been selected for members of all levels.

The Arrowhead Golf Course, developed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., has been designated as one of America's top 50 public golf courses. It's located in the foothills of the Rockies, surrounded by cathedral-like red rocks.

The Plum Creek Golf Course is located just south of Denver. This is a tournament player championship course designed by Pete Dye in a natural amphitheater setting. The fairways consist of bent grass, the best for good shots to the green.

Scoring for each day will be by individual stroke play with handicap, using a system similar to Callaway, making everyone eligible for prizes. One and two-day tournaments with a total purse of \$5,000 will be offered.

Complete rules for play will be issued at each course. Shotgun starts both days: Tuesday, Aug. 4, 1 p.m., Plum Creek; Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 a.m., Arrowhead. Entry fee: \$150 for JACL member; \$165 for non-JACL member. Includes both days.

Make check payable and mail to: Mile-Hi Chapter-Golf, JACL 32nd Biennial Convention, P.O. Box 480682 TA, Denver, CO, 80248-0682.

For the record

Vail, the well known Colorado resort town, was incorrectly identified in the May 8 issue. The town is one of the featured sites at the JACL convention.

Cost: \$20 including a buffet luncheon, program and entertainment. Reservations and information: Sacramento Reunion—Toko Fujii, c/o Union Bank, 700 L St. Sacramento 95814, or call: Toko Fujii 916/421-2112 eves or 916/441-7900 days

Friday, May 22, to Sunday, May 24—Tulelake Reunion IV, Red Lion Resort and Hotel, Sacramento (picnic to be held at Elk Grove Park, South Sacramento)

Los Angeles area

Saturday, May 23—Japanese American Republicans' fundraiser at the NBC Seafood Restaurant, 404-A S. Atlantic Blvd., 6:30 p.m. Reservations and information: Alvin Kusumoto 310/428-5349 evening, Kei Higashi 818/337-5705, or Norma Tazori 714/532-2635 evening

San Diego

Saturday, May 16—The Union of Pan Asian Communities ninth annual fundraiser dinner and silent auction at the Pan Pacific Hotel. Speaker: Mrs. Haru Reischauer, widow of Dr. Edwin O. Reischauer. Cost: \$120. Information: call UPAC at 619/232-6454

Saturday, June 13-Sunday, June 14—The San Diego Bonsai Society's weekend exhibition at the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. both days. Admission: \$2 adults, \$1 children and seniors. Information: Juli Takusagawa or Stacy Cole 323-2780

Santa Barbara

Friday, May 29—B.B. Chung King and the Screaming Buddhaheads plays the Ketch, State Street, Santa Barbara, 10 p.m. Featured in the PC, see these up and coming Japanese American rock artists. Tickets and information: 805/564-3231

Convention calls

For general or registration information regarding the JACL convention:

- Ruth Yamauchi, 303/237-9747, any time.
- Emilie Ito, 303/421-1302 (after 6 p.m.)

Mountain States

JACL chapters of the Mountain Plains District will hold its first team golf championship at the national convention in Denver, Colo.

Rules for the tournament, to be held concurrently with the JACL national golf tournament, are as follows:

• Teams will be selected by districts on a district basis, and will be limited to a maximum of two men's and women's teams to represent the district council.

• Team selection should include representation from different chapters comprising the council. If districts find that this requirement is difficult to meet, they should contact Mas Yamasaki or Randolph Shibata by May 15.

• The team championship will be played 36 holes at full handicap. Contestants should submit an accredited USCA handicap or equivalent, based on the current USGA handicap system.

• Entry fee for the competition will be \$125 per team. All profits from the tournament will be given to the JACL Legacy Fund.

Districts interested in entering a team should contact Mas Yamasaki, 9797 Leawood, #405, Houston, TX, 77099, or 713/568-3761; or Randolph Shibata, 2821 Cuervo NE, Albuquerque, N.M., 87110, or call 5905/883-1258.

Short Takes

(Continued from page 1)

Angeles and L.A. Times Orange County edition staff writer, said, "Our concern is that the Times poll once again did not break out statistical data on Asian American attitudes about the King verdict and the riots when it broke out data on attitudes of Anglos, Latinos, and blacks."

"Wouldn't it have been worth it to spend the extra money to over-sample the Asian American population in order to gauge attitudes? Since so much has transpired with respect to race relations and there has been a lot of anecdotal analysis of the riots, we believe that Asian Americans should be polled," said Takahashi.

Rebels clash in Lima prison

LIMA, Peru — Presidential decrees signed by Alberto Fujimori on May 6 to mete harsh prison terms to captured rebels erupted with police clashing with inmates

at Canto Grande, a maximum-security facility, according to Reuters news agency. Police said at least 16 police and 11 rebels, all women, were injured.

About 650 Sendero Luminoso rebels, nearly half being women, are in prison awaiting trial. The military has long sought tough jail terms for rebels, but most have died in the Congress. With the Congress dissolved, Fujimori was free to issue his decree.

"We want a country without violence and a climate of security and tranquility, both for human life and for the nation's socioeconomic development," Fujimori declared.

North Korea nuclear sites revealed

TOKYO — The International Atomic Energy Agency has issued a 100-page study describing North Korea's nuclear sites, including a web of previously unknown facilities, according to David Sanger, a

New York Times reporter here anticipating the arrival of U.S. inspection team officials here.

While North Korea has denied the existence of a reprocessing center at Yongbyon, about 60 miles north the capital, Pyongyang, which U.S. intelligence surveillance has called a mysterious site, the true nature will not be known until inspectors arrive at the site.

Separate J.A. exhibit to close soon

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Section II of "Continuing Traditions: Japanese Americans" at Sacramento History Museum in Old Town is scheduled to close by the end of May, according to Toko Fujii, of the Sacramento Regional Japanese American 1992 Exhibit Committee. Its highlight is the Hasuiki diorama of the Manzanar Camp and a cutout view of the barracks. Section I, or the permanent exhibit co-sponsored by many Nikkei groups, has been a popular attraction since it opened in February, according to Wayne Maeda, project director/guest curator.

REDIRECTION

(Continued from page 1)

offer L.A. recovery efforts. According to the Korean American Coalition (KAC), losses in the Korean American community alone total to \$360 million. During the rioting, 1,700 Korean-owned stores were either burned or looted.

Commenting on the Bush visit

to Los Angeles, Kwoh said, "I'm not encouraged. The Bush administration has to share responsibility for the decline of the inner city. There has to be a major commitment. Before this, we've tended to fight over crumbs."

The director was one of the Asian American leaders who recently signed a letter protesting the fact that President Bush did not meet with Asian American groups during a meeting with civil rights leaders called immediately after the L.A. riots.

"The president can exert leadership to help rebuild, but people have to become stakeholders in the process. There has to be an openness to listening instead of just playing out old ideas; otherwise, I don't think it's going to work."

Kwoh recently attended a meeting of community leaders with the Rebuild L.A. the program headed by Peter Ueberroth. "There are a number of different efforts to rebuild by government, business and private enterprise. We need to be innovative before positions start hardening."

Cressey Nakagawa, JACL national president, said that time was necessary to assess what should be done to address the L.A. aftermath and its effects on Asian Americans across the country. "All we do now is add to the cacophony of sounds, it doesn't play well to solutions that need to be found. What is it that you are trying to create here? That's a larger question than rebuilding infrastructure."

Nakagawa said that prejudice reduction is key to rebuilding social infrastructure. "It's a civil rights test for us. Looking at com-

munity relationships, we're not just talking about seeking additional rights, but seeking an implementation of rights that are already there. Unfortunately, President Bush is not addressing that well at the moment."

Marcia Choo, program director of the Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center, similarly called for inclusion of Asian American and other minority community groups in the rebuilding process. "If it's just about raising money, it's not going to work."

"Our leadership has to be more inclusive of our people. The entire community has to be involved in (rebuilding) otherwise the buildings will come down again," said Choo.

Focusing on the Bush visit, Choo said, "We need Bush as our leader and our president to acknowledge that a lot of people have responsibility. We need resources, specifically to rebuild the community. We need to create opportunities to make young people feel like they have a stake and a place in this country."

"The devastation of Los Angeles shows that the country need to reprimand itself. We need a new national agenda that works toward equity and justice for all," said Choo.

NEWSMAKER

(Continued from page 1)

Lau said she hopes the platform committee recognizes the value of a strong economy and business opportunity to the American society. As secretary of state, she works closely with business and oversees Nevada laws that regulate the establishment of corporations. And "I come from a small business family," she continued.

From the time she was in high school in Hilo, Hawaii, until she left for college on the Mainland (Indiana University), she worked at the family store, a small clothing and souvenir shop operated by her parents. Lau, who plays the flute, majored in music and piano performance at Indiana, earned her master's in music education at Smith College (Northampton, Mass.), and a doctorate from the University of Oregon. She briefly taught music at Soochow University and the College of Chinese Culture in Taiwan, returned to the Mainland and joined the California State University faculty at Los Angeles as professor of music.

While teaching music and writing a book, Lau felt the tug of public policy and began to study law part-time. It launched her new career into politics.

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Agenda

St. Louis Chapter meets with Jewish group

By SHERRY SHIMAMOTO PRATT

ST. LOUIS—Dr. Neil C. Sandberg, director of the Pacific Rim Institute, was the recent guest speaker at the first meeting of the St. Louis chapters of the Japanese American Citizens League and the American Jewish Committee (AJC).

The AJC invited St. Louis JACL members to share a special tribute to the 522nd Field Artillery of the 100/442 RCT, which liberated the Nazi death camp at Dachau April 29, 1945.

Sandberg's presentation, titled "Pluralism, Politics and Prejudice in the 'New' World Order," compared the xenophobia southern and central Europeans faced in the 19th and 20th centuries to that Asian Americans face today. Because of Japan-bashing and differences in the Japanese and U.S. cultures, many Japanese nationals are having a difficult time being accepted in the United States, Sandberg said, adding that many third and fourth generation Asian Americans are experiencing similar problems.

"The great experiment in America is our desire, our willingness to bring us together... while holding onto the traditions that still have meaning for us," Sandberg said.

"Here in the United States, we've developed mechanisms for dealing with conflict, such as fair employment, anti-discrimination and civil rights laws," he said. The AJC and JACL have been sources of much of this legislation. Coalitions of Japanese Americans, Korean Americans, Chinese Americans and African Americans have provided groundwork for this kind of legislation and are necessary for future progress, Sandberg said.

Following the tribute and speaker, Saul Mirowsitz, national AJC vice president, presented Steven Mitori, St. Louis Chapter president, with a menorah symbolizing the common link between Jewish and Japanese Americans.

Asian American athletes to be honored in L.A.

LOS ANGELES—Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi will be one of the honorees May 20 at the 14th annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Month dinner at the Biltmore Hotel.

Celebrating the contributions of Asian American athletes, other honorees attending the dinner include: Diana Gee, table tennis member, 1988, 1992 U.S. Olympic Team; Rick Noji, track and field member, 1991 World Championship Team; Scott Fujii, taekwondo, 1991 National Champion; Gary Saito, volleyball, gold medalist coach, 1988 Olympics; and Glenn Fujimoto, swimming 1991 Special Olympics Champion.

Information and reservations: Jimmy Tokeshi, 213/626-4471.

Restored Rohwer, new Jerome camps scheduled to be dedicated

The dedication of the restored original monuments at Rohwer and of the new Georgia granite monument at Jerome will take place on May 27, 1992. A banquet will be held May 26 at the Excelsior Hotel in Little Rock, Ark. Lei Schiffer, daughter of McGehee Mayor Rosalie Gould, will host. Schiffer, now a practicing lawyer in Houston, attended the high school that was built on a part of the original Rohwer Relocation Camp site. National JACL President Cressy Nakagawa and Bill Yoshino of the Midwest District Office will also attend the dedication. Other distinguished guests have been invited also.

The dedication of the monuments will be held at 10 a.m. at Rohwer on May 27. Transportation will be available for those without cars. Lunch, hosted by Mayor Gould, will be served in McGehee. After lunch, the new monument at Jerome will be dedicated.

The success of this project is largely due to the efforts of many groups and individuals who are concerned about the exact location of the camps and the continued presence of monuments at Rohwer and Jerome. They feel that preserving the remaining evidence of the camp

will help maintain the awareness of the significance of the camps in American history.

The Rohwer Reunion Committee, the JACL and other organizations who were instrumental in fund-raising, are encouraging all those who were interned at either the Rohwer or Jerome camps to attend the dedication ceremonies. Contributions to the restoration fund are still needed to meet Federal guidelines to qualify as a National Historic Landmark.

George Kanagai of West L.A. Travel Inc., Los Angeles, (310) 820-5252, will provide group travel information. Hotel reservations can be made by calling Gini Askew at the Excelsior Hotel, Little Rock, at (800) 527-1745.

Further information and registration forms: Rohwer restoration project director, George Sakaguchi, P.O. Box 270005, St. Louis, MO, 63126, or call (314) 842-3138. The banquet dinner costs \$25. Order tickets for the banquet when requesting hotel reservations. Reservations for accommodations and/or just the dinner must be received by the Excelsior Hotel by the middle of May.

More St. Louis Chapter JACL activities

● Member George Hasegawa was honored for his work in international relations at a scheduled ceremony held by the International Institute May 6. George was instrumental in initiating and developing the famous Japanese Garden in the Missouri Botanical Garden.

● Kimi Durham, member, is organizing a Sept. 29-Oct. 20 trip to Nagano, Missouri's sister state in Japan.

● The St. Louis chapter has raised \$34,600 for the Legacy Fund, which is 2/3 of our goal. Information: Sherry Shimamoto Pratt, (314) 963-6115.

JACL

(Continued from page 3)

Justice for Wards Cove Workers Act: JACL, along with the Organization for Chinese Americans and the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, is leading the fight to remove a special interest provision in the Civil Rights Act of 1991.

This provision excuses 2,000 Asian American and Native Alaskan cannery workers, who sued Wards Cove Packing Company for employment discrimination, from the protection of the Civil Rights Act of 1991.

The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee passed S.1962 out of committee last month. The House bill, H.R.3748, is stuck in the House Judiciary Committee and the Education and Labor Committee, despite the fact

that the bill currently has 116 co-sponsors in the House and Speaker Foley's commitment to move the bill. There is still a chance that the bill can pass if compromise language can be agreed upon, but continued community pressure is crucial to get Congress to act.

Equal Remedies Act: JACL is working with other members of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights to support passage of the Equal Remedies Act, S.2062/H.S.3975, which would remove the limitations on damages for intentional violations of Title VII discrimination cases brought by women and religious minorities.

Removal of these arbitrary caps is important to the Asian American community because the caps represent dangerous precedent for capping damages available in race discrimination cases as well.

The Senate is expected to vote sometime in May.

Small kid time



Gwen Muranaka

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

You won't believe this!

A person I know who has won awards for her TV documentaries told me recently she was thinking of doing a program on Japanese picture brides who came to the U.S. to marry men they had never seen.

Good idea, if a little late. There may be a few of them still living who could tell firsthand stories, but probably not many. She asked whether she could run some ideas and questions by me about Japanese Americans and I said sure, no problem.

She has been sending me questions ever since. I am horrified by her ignorance. Let me share with you a sampling.

Was it true, she asked, that the Issei did not return to Japan because they would be killed if they did?

Nonsense. Thousands of young Japanese males came to the United States at the turn of the century and shortly thereafter, and while many stayed, many others went back to Japan without facing execution.

The producer double-checked her sources

and it turned out that either she, or the person who gave her the information, confused 20th Century immigration with what happened nearly 300 years earlier. In 1636, in an effort to rid feudal Japan of foreign influence, the Tokugawa shogunate forbade Japanese to go abroad and did not allow them to return. But that changed after Commodore Perry persuaded Japan, under threat of gunfire, to open its doors in 1854.

Another question: Before World War II, passage back and forth to Japan was not uncommon, but the woman who became known as Tokyo Rose was stuck in Japan because the U.S. government refused to give her the papers necessary to return.

Nonsense again. She and many other Japanese Americans were caught in Japan by the outbreak of war because they didn't realize war was about to start.

Question: Why did most Japanese Americans on the East Coast return to Japan just prior to the war, while those who settled on

the West Coast didn't? If they were different, in what way were they different?

Simple. Most of the ethnic Japanese on the East Coast in 1941 were residents of Japan who were in the U.S. temporarily with their families as businessmen representing Japanese companies. As business fell off due to war fears, they went home. The ethnic Japanese on the West Coast were immigrants with American-born offspring, permanent residents of the United States who had no reason to go to Japan since America was home. Somehow, even today, many people don't understand the difference between Japanese businessmen fresh from Tokyo and fourth and fifth generation Americans of Japanese origin.

Where is this producer getting this kind of information that is confused at best and totally false at worst? From, she tells me, a university instructor who teaches a course on Japanese immigration.

Something is terribly, terribly wrong here. The reason needs to be explored and the situation corrected. ☐

Voices

Some thoughts on JACL restructuring

By HANK SAKAI
Past National Treasurer
Past PC Board Chair

It seems like every five years or so, Lillian Kimura and/or Henry Tanaka and committee come up with a Long Range Plan for JACL. Each time they talk about increasing JACL membership to 30,000 or more but never come up with a plan on how to do it. Unfortunately JACL has never had an innovative Membership VP. To increase membership. As an example what ever happened to the automated membership system that was ready to be implemented at the 1984 convention? This would have relieved the chapter membership chairs of a lot of paperwork and allowed them to concentrate on recruiting new members.

Both Lillian Kimura and Hank Tanaka should remember the disaster of the '70s, when Hank was one of presidents, and the organization suffered a major setback. If I recall, JACL got hit with several lawsuits and the loss of a couple grants because of questionable practices. Part of the problem was too much power vested in or assumed by the National Director and a closed clique of people trying to run the organization and keeping the membership in the dark. I think that's part of the reason we have the District Governors on the National Board and try to avoid Executive Board meetings except for sensitive personnel matters. We need more openness not less in order to avoid some of the problems of the past.

In regards to the *Pacific Citizen* there is a lack of understanding by the committee both of the purpose of the PC and its finances. First of all the PC Board Chair should probably come from the Los Angeles area (or have someone representing her or she) and have some understanding or interest in finances. It's essential that the Chair or its representative spend time at the PC office to know what's going on and give support so that the PC can be effectively represented at National Board meetings. The reason the PC staff is not under the National Director is that during the troubled times of the '70s, the National Director and some officials at the National level tried and did control (sometimes by intimidation) the news so that the readership never really got to know what was going on. Since the PC is a membership paper, often times the only information or direct benefit membership sees from their dues, it needs to be independent enough to print fair an objective news even though it may at times be critical of the organization, otherwise as in the '70s we get censored news and rumors.

When Dr. Cliff Uyeda was PC Board Chair in 1980-81, 83-84 he pushed for editorial and fiscal independence of the PC, as National Treasurer and later PC Board Chair I agreed with Cliff. Basically if PC is to operate as a business and be able to make needed capital expenditures it has to be able to plan ahead and estimate what in-

come it may have. PC must receive from the National budget at least the cost of a subscription from dues. For instance if it cost \$14 to provide a member subscription they should receive that not \$12 as currently allocated. When Cressey said last year that National subsidized PC he didn't understand the budget or finances. So with about 22,000 subscriptions that means if PC isn't receiving that extra \$44,000 it is subsidizing National which is what was happening in the '70s and Harry Honda scraped by on whatever he could. That doesn't mean that if PC does make a profit and after setting aside necessary reserves that the rest shouldn't be turned back over to National. If we expect to have a growing and successful newspaper then it's going to take a little time and capital with adequate staff and planning. This can't be done if National tries to control only from their perspective. PC could and should become at least a sixteen page newspaper and the potential is there.

The personnel policies at the PC and National should be the same. However, the PC staff should report to the General Manager who reports to the National Board through the PC Board and not to the National Director to prevent a repeat of the '70s.

National Staff—JACL had a National Director with outstanding Human Rela-

See THOUGHTS/page 8

Very truly yours

—Harry K. Honda—

The Watts riot—how it was then

When they ask you, how was it then? (referring to the "Watts Rebellion of 1965" as African Americans call it today), our quick refuge are the P.C. pages of that week. The lead story of the Aug. 20 issue is headlined: "Los Angeles riot heaps Nisei business with \$1 million loss." And 42 column inches of copy follows — no pictures, however.

The riot broke out in Watts on a steam-hot evening on Wednesday, Aug. 11, when a California Highway Patrol motorcycle officer routinely arrested a young black, Marquette Frye, for speeding and reckless driving. Since he failed to pass the sobriety test, Frye was put under arrest for drunk driving and the officer radioed for a patrol car to carry the youth to jail. By that time, Frye's mother, his brother and several other people surrounded the scene. A scuffle with police ensued. The patrol car was prevented from leaving and police called for more reinforcement. As the police slowly departed the E. 103rd and Wilmington Ave. corner, the mob of 1,000 there turned angry and began to hurl bottles and rocks at unsuspecting whites driving through the area.

More rioting followed. Here is where much of the 42-column-inch story comes in, reporting the Nisei businesses and shops in the South-Central area which were hit.

The National Guard arrived on the scene the fourth evening (Saturday) to restore order and clear the streets of rioters and looters.

On Monday (Aug. 17), 34 persons, mostly black, were dead; more than 1,000 wounded, nearly 4,000 arrested; and property damage estimated at \$40 million with over 600 buildings destroyed or damaged within the 46 square-mile curfew area.

Prominent in the news: now Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley was a member of the City Council; Rep. Mervyn Dymally was then a state assemblyman. Civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. came to meet with Police Chief William Parker who had branded the rioters as "monkeys in a zoo"; and councilman Billy Mills, a superior court judge today, wanted to depose Parker.

In the aftermath, Gov. Jerry Brown appointed former CIA director John McCone to head a commission to investigate the riots. Its report, "Violence in the City—An End or a Beginning?" absolved the police chief and the department, dismissed police brutality as highly exaggerated, advocated strengthening the police commission and proposed an outside inspector general to review citizen complaints.

It also urged that more black and Latino officers be hired. Only 8 percent of the force was minority. It documented the serious housing shortage, lack of jobs, education and transportation in the black ghetto. It also minimized the black participation in the riots.

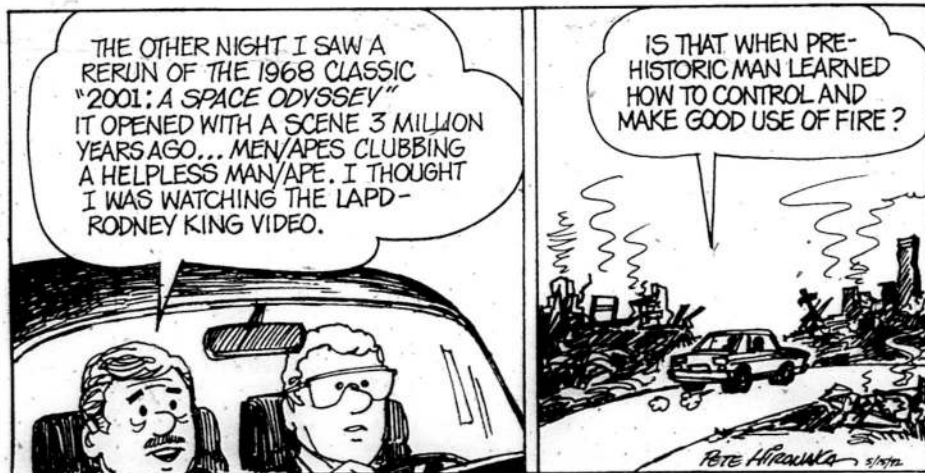
On the front page is a tragic item: Eugene Shimatsu, 18, (a Westside Sansei) and a black companion were slain by police as a suspected burglars in front of a liquor store at 5446 W. Washington. Shimatsu was listed as "dead" in the *Times*; but not in the other daily, the *Herald-Examiner*, since the incident had occurred outside the riot curfew area.

My "Ye Editor's Desk" column on page 2 ended with a paragraph about a meeting the same night the Watts riot started. John Saito, now working on the JACL Legacy Fund and immediate past PSW regional director, coordinated that meeting as a staff member of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations. The column carried no names of attendees. We were discussing how to strengthen the lines of communications between the black and Nikkei communities.

Besides observing National Guardsmen directing traffic inside the curfew area and jeeps with machine guns mounted stationed at these corners, I saw race relations in Los Angeles being handed a violent setback in 1965 when we thought it was on the upswing.

The column also gave a personal view "from inside the curfew area." We lived in the Westside. There were many Nikkei.

See WATTS/page 8



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—page 8

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9—Real Estate

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Ardsley Park—Dobbs Ferry Once in a lifetime opportunity to acquire the home of your dreams. This magnificent & traditional estate overlooks Ardsley country club & one of Westchester's top golf courses. You may see it from your fully landscaped lawn or perhaps just sit, relax & watch the sun go down over the hills. In the morning, you'll be amazed of the outside, inside opens the owner created when he designed this home with oak, marble flrs, skylights, tpics & live-in maid's qtrs. Features: 6 bdrm, Lrv w/brkfr, DR, eat-in frml kitch w/tpic, w/dw, in brnt & 2 car gar, sun deck from main rms & maid's qtrs, offc, ac, vac, heat & alarm sys, fully landscaped. Asking \$1,250,000. By owner. (814) 693-0192. 189 Washington Ave, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522.

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9—Real Estate

WHISTLER, CANADA
BC—Lotted 1 Btm Condo. Fully furnished, across new golf course. A steal at \$169K. Call. Selling at a loss. 3 bdrm penthouse next door. Both overlook new 80 million Chateau Westwood. Also at a low price of \$339K. Call. 122 Argonne Crescent, Willowdale, Ont. Canada. (416) 223-5666 (col. lect.). (416) 733-8533.

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SPAIN

Costa Blanca
Luxury villa. Best location. Vast lot. Sea view. To be finished at owners discretion. Total when finished: \$1,250,000 US. (818) 960-1381. Pp.

10—Rentals

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Obituaries

Ira, Tom T., 68, Monterey Park, Feb. 27. Florin-born WWII veteran, survived by wife Harue, sons Steven, Ronnie, Kenny, daughter Wendy, Karen Yokota, 5 grandchildren, eldest Marie and Gloria Miyashiro, sister-in-law Helen Ise.
Iseri, Kisa, 103, Ontario, Ore., Jan. 7. Kikumoto-born prewar Seattle resident. In 1906, she and her husband Matsuichi "Maki" owned and operated a dairy in Summer 1907-1916, opened Japanese grocery department in Thomas, Wash., Iseri & Sons General Store until 1942, returned to farm in Ontario area, husband preceded her in death April 2, 1961; active with Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple; survived by sons Thomas, George, Carl, Oscar (Jumbia, Md.), daughter Mac Yumada (Kent), 21 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren. Also preceded in death by six sons, daughter and three brothers.

Nakada, Maki, 102, Azusa, Jan. 24. Okinawa-born pioneer, survived by son John, daughters Teurko Higa, Shizue Ikehara, Kiyoshi Nakama, daughter-in-law Mitsu Nakada, 16 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, brother Genichi Ise (Jpn).
Nakagawa, Glenaki, 84, Los Angeles, Jan. 24. Gift-born, survived by his sons Jim, Frank, daughters Kazuo Takamura, Reiko Nakamura, Hsiao Kuo, 7 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren.
Omori, Douglas V., 75, Lake Isabella, Calif., Feb. 25. San Jose-born.
Nakamura, Phyllis A., 79, Westminster, Calif., March 5 (funeral). Cypress, Calif.-born, survived by sons Paul, Ronald, Harry, daughters Teruyo Nagura, Yoko Miyahara, 12 grandchildren, sisters-in-law Fumi Ueshima (Santa Maria), Mary Ueshima (Yamashiro, Hsiao, 85, El Monte, Feb. 19). Fukusaka born, survived by daughters Kiyoko Ogata, Michiko Mohr, many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, daughter-in-law Chisato Yamasaki (Jpn).

Dr. Clifford Fujimoto, 79
A native of Watsonville, who practiced dentistry in Watsonville for 30 years, Dr. Fujimoto passed away March 5 in the Watsonville Community Hospital after a long illness. A graduate of U.C. Berkeley and the Washington University School of Dentistry in St. Louis, Mo., he practiced in Chicago until 1952 when he entered the U.S. Army Dental Corps, serving in Japan during the Korean War. He returned in 1954, starting a dental practice. Member of Watsonville Presbyterian Church, Kiwanis Club, American Legion Post 21, VFW Post 1629, Univ. of Calif. Japanese Alumni, Washington University Dental Alumni, American Dental Assn., Calif. Dental Assn., Monterey Bay Dental Assn., Sons in Retirement, Mo. Calif. Golf Assn., Monterey Bay Senior Golf Assn., past president and member Watsonville JACL. Preceded in death by his wife Jane in 1977, survivors are brothers Taira (Westminster, Joe (Las Vegas), sisters Rie Yamamoto (Chula Vista), May Matsumoto (Sacramento), Rose Miyaji (San Diego), Lily Matsumoto (Sacramento), 12 nieces and nephews. The funeral March 7 at the Westview Presbyterian Church was officiated by Rev. Hiroshi Yoshida. Burial took place at Fujian Valley Memorial Park with Davis Memorial Chapel, 609 Main St., Watsonville, CA 95076, in charge of arrangements.

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RELIEF

(Continued from page 1)
LTSC; Ken Morimoto, Japanese Chamber of Commerce; Frank Kawabe, JCC; Jerry Yoshitomi, JACCC; Rev. Satoru Kawa, Jodoishi Buddhist Temple and Los Angeles Buddhist Church Federation; Kats Kunitasugu, JACCC; Rose Ochi, L.A. mayor's office; Ken Wada, Committee to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Japanese American Internment; Evelyn Yoshimura, LTSC; Kathy Imahara, APALC; Ford Kuramoto, National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse; Sam Tonomura, Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society; Ken Kato, Japanese American National Museum; Michael Yamaki, Police Commission; Jeff Matsui, L.A. mayor's office; J.D. Hokyama, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics; Ron Ohata, Japanese American Business Association; and Miya Iwataki, National Coalition for Redress and Reparations.

THOUGHTS

(Continued from page 6)
tions experience who served for about eight years but got caught up by the petty politics of JACL and was forced out, so I don't think we should denigrate our staff people by implying they are inexperienced and transients since JACL salaries have not been the greatest. In many cases the problem lies with the deficiencies within the JACL leadership and not staff.

The other major problem with JACL has been the lack of program funds to implement new programs or even have meetings. I endorse the idea of getting outside funds both from American and Japanese corporations in this country. Also, the National President should be given a miscellaneous allowance of at least \$3,000 a year to cover out-of-pocket expenses otherwise many qualified members cannot afford to be President. Whatever the restructuring plans that are presented and/or approved at the convention let's remember and avoid past mistakes.

RESOLUTIONS

(Continued from page 1)
which the board has constitutional responsibility.
Members of the Resolutions Committee, chaired by Dale Ikeda, are: Tom Kometani, EDC; Joy Yamasaki, MDC; Larry Ishimoto, CCDC; George Ogawa, PSWDC; Greg Marutani, NCWNPDC; Jeff Itami, IDC; Ron Taka, JPDC; and Bob Sato, PNWDC.

Requirements

- Resolutions must address issues/positions which are national in scope and require concerted action by the national body for effectiveness.
- Resolutions must be submitted to the Resolutions Committee by mail, postmarked no later than June 1, 1992.
- Any member chapter on action of its board of directors, may submit resolutions.
- The original and two copies must be submitted on the prescribed form.
- Each resolution must be submitted on separate sheet of paper.
- Language in the resolution should be brief, clear and precise.
- The resolution must include new content and may not duplicate of be in conflict with proposals of the JACL Program for Action.
- No resolutions, except emergency resolutions, will be accepted after the deadline date.
- The original signature of the president verifying action of the board must accompany the submission. A faxed copy will not be accepted. There must also be an endorsement by the District

HELP

(Continued from page 1)
Americans affected by the riots. Asian Pacific Counseling Center, 3550 W. Sixth, Fifth Floor, L.A. 90020, 213/252-1200.

● **Korean Emergency Relief Fund**—is accepting donations to assist Korean merchants. Checks should be made payable to the KAC/Relief Fund and sent to the Korean American Coalition, 610 S. Harvard Blvd., #111, L.A. 90005, or call 213/380-6175.

● **Chinese Community L.A. Relief Fund**—has been established to assist riot victims. Contact Chinese Service Center, 767 N. Hill St., Suite 400, L.A. 90012 213/680-9556.

● **Oriental Mission Church**—is accepting food donations at 424 N. Western Ave., L.A. Information: 213/466-7101.

● **Disaster assistance**—If you have suffered losses during the L.A. riots, you may qualify for disaster assistance programs, including housing, low interest loans, and grants. Information: 1/800/525-0321. TDD 1/800/660-8005.

WATTS

(Continued from page 5)

living and working in the northwest corner of the curfew area: bounded north/south by Washington Boulevard and Rosecrans Boulevard. 143rd St.; east/west by Alameda and Crenshaw. No one inside the curfew zone ventured out after sunset. (This time, the entire L.A. city and county area was put under curfew for four days; all residents were affected. In 1942, the curfew as imposed on all persons of Japanese ancestry along the Pacific Coast.)

It's been 27 years since the Watts riot. And a quarter-century earlier (1941-42), there was a war — and Nisei are around in L.A. who lived through these three curfew periods. But "we wouldn't trade for the world" our lives elsewhere — to use a hackneyed expression.

Council.

● Any chapter, on action of its board of directors, may submit an emergency resolution by Aug. 5, 1992.

Emergency Resolutions

Emergency resolutions can introduce only new items of business which deal with information or issues that could not be known prior to the resolutions deadline date. Emergency resolutions must: 1) meet all previously stated requirements for resolutions except the deadline date. If the resolution is submitted after Aug. 5, 1992, it must be signed by five delegates from five different chapters and districts as endorsements; 2) document the fact that information for the proposed action could not have been known in time for the regular submission deadline.

Emergency resolutions are due to the resolutions chair, c/o National JACL.

Review process

The Resolutions Committee will review all resolutions submitted to determine whether they meet the requirements. In the event that two or more resolutions are submitted on the same or overlapping subject, the committee has the authority to consolidate these wherever appropriate. The Resolutions Committee has the authority to reject resolutions which: 1) conflict with the National Constitution and Bylaws; 2) fail to meet the established requirements; 3) duplicate or serve only to endorse recommendations proposed by the National Board; 4) duplicate a resolution already accepted for processing.

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NOV. 2-16	15-DAY YAMATO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TOUR
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EAST COAST FOLIAGE TOUR	(10 days) OCT 5
JAPAN AUTUMN ADVENTURE	(13 days) OCT 12
CRYSTAL HARMONY'S PANAMA CANAL CRUISE	(11 days) NOV 5

'93 HOKKAIDO WINTER FESTIVAL (Sapporo Snow fest/Abashiri Hyakku fest/spa accom/most meals) (11 days) FEB 1
'93 FLORIDA EPCOT & NEW ORLEANS HIGHLIGHTS (9 days) FEB 27



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