

acific Citiz

Nikkei honored for community service—page 4

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Friday, June 19, 1992

Controversy hits JACL president's Japan trip

By GWEN MURANAKA Assistant editor

JACL National President Cressey Nakagawa's recent trip to Japan and the comments he made there have been the focus of criticism by members of the JACL Japan Chapter. In a letter sent to Nakagawa June 9, Caroline Kawashima, Japan Chapter president, expressed serious concern and disappointment" that chapter mem-bers were not notified of his visit or the nature of comments he made in a May 27 article to the Japan Times

Nakagawa told Pacific Citizen he was in Japan on his

own— and not as JACL president—to speak before the U.S.-Japan Parliamentarians League, of which 400 are mem-bers of the Diet. The subject of his speech was race relations in the U.S. with the recent L.A. riots as a backdrop. In the same trip, Nakagawa spoke to Japan Times reporter Joy Tadaki, and in addition to speaking on hate crimes and Japan-bashing, he said he supported the move for Japan to pay reparations to other Asian countries for injustices committed during World War II. Criticism of the content of Nakagawa's interview is based on the belief by some that See CONTROVERSY/page 5



MEETING THE COMMISSIONER—Fay Vincent (foreground) recently met with Arizona Chapter, JACL members to discuss the Mariner baseball issue. From left are Peggy Matsuishi, Joe Alfman, chapter vice president; Madeline Ong-Sakata, Marian Miyamoto, Kathy Inoshita, Sandra Inoshita.

JACL news

Redress stalls in committee

By KAREN NARASAKI

Washington, D.C., representative
The Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992, H.R. 4551, was
voted out of the Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Govern-mental Affairs more than two months ago, but still has not been scheduled for a full Judiciary Com-mittee vote. Sponsors of the bill have been actively seeking a com-

Time is running short with few legislative weeks left in the ses-sion. The House has already begun its appropriations process. It is imperative that we get the bill out of committee soon. JACL members represented by congress-per-sons on that committee are asked to write or call them for their support to, in turn, ask committee chairman Jack Brooks (D-Texas) and Ranking Minority Member Hamilton Fish, Jr. (R-N.Y.) to

nove the bill as soon as possible. Here are members of the com-

mittee:

Don Edwards (D-Calif.); John
Conyers Jr. (D-Mich.); Romano
L. Mazzoli (D-Ky.); William J.
Hughes (D-N.J.); Mike Synar (D-Okla.); Patricia Schroeder)D-Okia.); Patricia Schroeder)D.

Colo.) Dan Glickman (D-Kan.);
Barney Frank (D-Mass.); Charles
Schumer (D-N.Y.); Edward
Feighan (D-Ohio); Howard
Berman (D-Calif.); Rick Boucher

O. Vo. M. (D-Va.); Harley Staggers Jr. (D-W.Va.); John Bryant (D-Texas); Mel Levine (D-Calif.); George Sangmeister (D-Ill.); Craig Wash-

See AMENDMENT/page 3

CONVENTION UPDATES: Getting

Matsui against balanced budget amendment

WASHINGTON, D.C.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—
Rep. Robert Matanif D.Ca.), a member of the House
Ways and Means Committee, has voted against the
Balanced Budget Constitutional Amendment.

The Balanced Budget Amendment is political avoidance and denial, pura and simple. It implies that difficult problems can be solved simply by issuing a proclamation for them to go away. That implication is fundamentally dishonest, said Matsui.

'It is not the Constitution of the constitu

est, said Matsui.

It is not the Constitu-tion that is lacking, it is our leadership in the White House and in Congress.
But, tragically, instead of offering our constituents honesty and furth about our budget deficit, we are try-ing to snow them with the false promise of a Constitu-tional amendment...

JACL applauds Seattle Mariners purchase

SAN FRANCISCO-The recent approval of the purchase of the Seattle Mariners baseball team by a group of investors headed by the chairman of Nintendo Co. Ltd. was welcomed by officials of the

"It is significant that the baseball owners committee earlier voted unanimously to approve the sale," said Cressey Nakagawa, JACL national president. "We agree with Commissioner Vincent that it was the 'right decision.' It appears that the interests of Seattle's residents were given the attention and priority they de-served. Hopefully our work as an organization on this issue had some positive impact on the out-

Hisami Yoshida, district gover-or of the JACL Pacific Northnor of the JACL Pacific North-west district, believes that the decision came about only because of strong public pressure and scru-tiny. While the outcome was posi-tive, it is disappointing that the

process was long and drawn out and that the issue of certain foreign ownership seemed to be the overriding concern in delibera-tions, stated Yoshida. The ques-tion of race needs to be looked at because it has not been addressed adequately.

Given the fact that business in this country has become so interglobal, it is realistic that major league sports will also expand in this direction," observed Dennis Hayashi, JACL national director. "Because of that, civil rights organizations must continue to be aware of and address any signs of racial discrimination. Racial division in sports is inap-propriate, both at the level of those o play the game and those who

run the game."
The JACL's involvement in the Seattle Mariners controversy began in February after it wa ported that Major League Base ball Commissioner Fay Vincent ner Fay Vincent

was opposed to the sale of the team to "investors outside the U.S. and Canada." Hayashi and Nakagawa immediately sent a letter to the Commissioner requesting a meeting and a clarification ing a meeting and a clarification of the League's policy regarding foreign ownership. The JACL believed a racial double standard was in place given the Canadian ownership of two teams and the growing tide of resentment against Japan at the time.

An intensive letter-writing

An intensive letter-writing campaign to Major League base-ball owners as well as meetings with owners was undertaken. The work of our chapters was instrumental in making our concerns known to team owners, as was the assistance of organiza-tions such as the American Jewish Committee and the Chinese American Citizens Alliance. added Hayashi.

Vincent met with Hayashi and Nakagawa in his New York office on April 23.

Asian American groups to honor memory of Vincent Chin

Asian American groups from around the country will gather to remember Vincent Chin on the 10th anniversary of the death of the 27-year-old Chinese American who was killed in a racially motivated incident in Detroit, Mich.

Chin died June 23, 1982, after a baseball bat beating by two white auto workers who mistook him for a Japanese and blamed him for the sagging American automobile indus-try. Chin's killers never spent a day in jail; his death sparked an Asian American civil rights

Asian Americans in Detroit, Los Angeles,

New York, San Francisco, Washington, D.C. and other places will organize on the 10th anniversary of Chin's death to protest the growing racial violence directed against Asian Americans in particular.

Heightened anti-Asian sentiment in recent

years has led to thousands of racially moti-vated assaults and killings of Asian Americans, according to JACL and other organiza-tions. Yet very few of these attacks have been investigated or prosecuted as hate crimes; many Asian Americans feel the criminal jusce system has failed the Asian community. Highly publicized Japan-bashing, especially

following the 50th Pearl Harbor anniversary iri, December, in addition to pervasive stere types of Asian Americans as the "model mi-nority," has led to increased racial antagonism and hostility directed against all Asian Americans, regardless of their national ori-

National Asian American groups participating in commemorative events include the Organization of Chinese Americans, National Organization of Chinese Americans, National Network Against Anti-Asian Violence, Japa-nese American Citizens League, Chinese American Citizens Allianca, and the National See CHIN/page 2

Convention calls

JACL 32nd Biennial National Convention, "JACL: Solid as the Rockies," Aug. 3-8, Denver, Colo. General or registration informa-tion: Ruth Yamauchi, 303 237-9747, any time; Emilie Ito, 303 421-1302 (after 6 p.m.)



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

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National headquartea: 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115, (415) 921-5225 ial, news and apinions expressed by columnists other than the National Preside nal Director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy.

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Calendar

Hawall -Honolulu

Friday, July 10-Sunday, July 19-apanese American National Museun resents "Canefields and Deserts: Japa ese American Internment," Ala Moana Shopping Center, Free to the public Information: Chris Komai 213/625-0414

Washington Seattle

Through Sunday, June 28—North-west Asian American Theater's premiere of "Godzilla Comes to Little Tokyo," by Karen Tei Yamashita, Th. Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 4 p.m., Theatre Off Jackson, 409 7th Ave., S. Tickets: \$6-\$12. Reservans: 206/340-1049

Sunday, July 26—Seattle JACL and Sunday, July 20—Seated JACL air.

1000 Club's annual golf toürinament
Allenmpre Golf Course in Tacoma, noon
Entry deadline: July 1. Entry fee: \$35
Information: Bob Mizukami 206/9226135 or Reiko Tsubota 206/282-8978.

California San Jose

July 4th weekend — Anime Expo '92, San Jose Red Lion Inn. A weekend of Japanese comic and animation art. Guests: Haruhiko Mikimoto, character designer of the new series "Macross II." Information: Anime Expo '92 2425 B Channing, Suite 684, Berkeley, CA 94704.

San Francisco area

Monday, June 22— East Bay Nikkei ingles Chapter, 7:30 p.m., Union Bank, 1750 Broadway, Oakland (parking lot on 19th St.). Speaker: Michael Nitake, pharmacist, on "Cholesterol and Your Health."

-Yu-Al Kai's day Tuesday, June 30-Tuesday, June 30—70-Ar Kar's cay to the California Marine Mammal Center, a group devoted to rescuing stranded marine mammals, group leaves from Yu-Ai Kai, 565 N. 5th St. at 9 a.m. No host lunch and browsing in Sausalito. Cost: \$24. Information: 408-

Wednesday, July 1—San Mateo JACL Community Center goes to see Giants vs. Braves at Candlestick, open to all those interested. Information: 415/

Friday, July 5—The Nisei Widowed Group's monthly meeting, at the home of Stella Takahashi, 2-4 p.m. New mem-bers welcome. Information: Elsie Uyeda Chung (S.F.) 415/221-0268 or

Chung (S.F.) 415/221-0268 or Yun Moriwaki (E.B.) 510/482-3280... Thursday, July 9—San Mateo JACL Community Center sponsors trip to San Francisco's Fort Mason. Information:

Fresno

Friday, July 3-Sun., July 5—Cal-lomia Asian American Tennis Tourna-ment, sponsored by Fresno Jay's JACL, benefit for Nikkei Foundation, at Roeding Park. A.B.C doubles and mixed. Dead-line: June 26, 5 p.m.; S20 per team. Applications: Russ Nakaguchi, 209/431-435.

Los Angeles

LOS ANGEIES

Wednesday June 24—JACCC 12th
anniversary dinner, Winter Galden Ballroom at the Regent Beverly Wilster
Hotel. Information: 213-628-2725.

Thursday, June 25—Asian Business
League's 5th annual real estate forum
on "Disney's \$4 billion commitment to
California," Westin Bonaventure, 404
S. Figueroa St in downtown L.A., 5:30
pm. Cost: \$20 ABI. members, \$25 nonmembers, \$25 at door, Information: ABI.

294-2505

343-2793

818/225-8634.nights Oynard

Saturday, July 18—Oxnard Buddhist Church's Obon Festival, 250 South H St., 2 to 9 p.m. Food, games, entertain-ment. Admission: free. Information: 805/ 483,5048

office 213/626-5387 or Marion Fond

Saturday, June 27—Greater LA Singles JACL's Scholarship and Fundraising Dance, 7:30-11:30pm, Ken Nakaoka Center, 1700 W 162nd St. June 27-Greater LA

Gardena, \$12 in advance, \$14 at door. Information/tickets: Bea 213/935-8648

Thursday, July 2—Marina JACL 4th of July BBO, 6:30 pm. Burton Chace Park, Marina Del Rey. Information: Alice 310/324-0582.

Through Sunday, July 5—Long Beach Museum of Art sponsors "Relo-cations and Revisions: The Japanese Arierican Internment Reconsidered," 2/500 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach. A

2000 E. Coban Bivd., Long Beach. A nultimedia exhibition presenting con-temporary perspectives on the interm-ment experience. Museum hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 12-5 p.m. Infor-mation: 310/439-2119.

Seturday, July 11-Marina

sunset horseback ride, Sunset Ranch, Hollywood, 5 p.m. Cost: \$30. Informa-tion: Isaac 213/653-7400 ext. 247 days,

or Janet 213/835-7568

Ventura

Ventura JACL's Sunday, June 28-Ventura JACL's Japanese cultural festival at the settia Pavilion 3451 Foothill Rd in Ventura, 2-5 p.m. Featured will be the Kinnara Taiko group, demonstrations of kendo karate, ondo, tea ceremony and doll making. Admission: \$5 adults, \$2 children or seniors, \$10 families. Information: 805/656-6605.

San Diego

Sunday, June 28—The San Diego Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park presents the San Diego Kendo Dojo group in a display of martial arts, 1-3 p.m. Cost: \$2 adults, \$1 children and seniors, \$5 families. Information: Juli Takusagawa or Stacy Cole 232-2780.

(Continued from page 1)

Asian Pacific American Bar Asso-

In San Francisco, four events were scheduled to mark this anni-

versary. A community cultural program was scheduled June 20 at St. Mary's Chinese Catholic Center Auditorium, featuring a

variety of performers.

Other scheduled events include:
Monday, June 22, at 6 p.m.:
Justice Harry Low, national president of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACA), Thomas Ng.
S. F. Wie commissioner, and Den. S.F. Fire commissioner, and Den-nis Hayashi, national director of

the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), were scheduled speakers at a benefit dinner at the Cathay House, 718 California St. Proceeds of go to the National Network Against Auti-Asian Asian Violence, which performs ongoing activities regarding hate crime awareness and education. Tuesday, June 23, noon: As

part of the national day of remem-brance for Chin,a rally and commoration ceremony will be held memoration ceremony will be held at Portsmouth Square, in San Francisco's Chinatown. Theme: "Remember Vincent Chin: The Struggle for Justice Lives On." Tentative speakers are: Eva Pater-son, chairwoman, Coalition for Civil Rights; Dennis Hayashi, JACL national director; Mike Wong, Break the Silence — Coalition Against Anti-Asian Violence; and Low, Low.

Tuesday, June 23, 7 p.m.: An educational forum titled "Shar-ing Histories—Building Bridges," a town meeting on hate violence and inter-community relations, takes place at Jones United Meth-odist Church, 1975 Post St., S.F. Information: Janice Yee, 415/982-

Further information on the events, call: the Bay Area Vincent Chin Remembrance Committee at (415) 982-4618 (Yvonne Lee) or 415/921-5225 (Patty Wada).

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JACL news

AMENDMENT

(Continued from page 1)

ington (D-Texas); Peter Hoagland (D-Neb.); Mike Kopetski (D-Ore.); Jack Reed (D-R.I.)

Carlos Moorhead (R-Calif.); Carlos Moorhead (R-Call).; Henry J. Hyde (R-Ill.); Jim Sensen brenner Jr. (R-Wis.); Bill McCollum (R-Fla.); George Gekas (R-Pa.); Howard Coble (R-N.C.); James (R-Fla.); Tom Campbell (R-Calif.); Steven Schiff (R-N.M.); Jim Ramstad (R-Minn.); and

George Allen (R-Va.) Address: U.S. House of Repre sentatives, Washington, D.C., 20515. The Senate Governmen-tal Affairs Committee is scheduled to mark up the Senate Version, S. 2553, on June 25.

Sweepstakes announced

National JACL invites all to participate in the 1992 Sweep-stakes which offers one grand prize of two round-trip airline tickets within the continental U.S., plus \$1,500 in cash. The contest is held in conjunction with the organization's national biennial vention

Five runner-up cash awards of \$1,000 each will also be offered. A \$25 contribution to the JACL support fund entitles the contributor to one entry. No more than 2,000 entries will be sold. Winners will be drawn at the Sayonara Ban-quet, Aug. 8, at the Denver con-vention. Winners need not be present.

A tax-deductible contribution to the National Support Fund will benefit the national programs and services of the JACL

Contract local chapters for pur-chasing tickets or national head-quarters at 415/921-5225.

Volleyball tourney set for convention

A coed volleyball tournament will be held Aug. 4-5 during the JACL national convention, accord-ing to the Miled-Hi Chapter. Fourperson teams from chapters and districts will compete in a roundrobin format. Teams may consist of two males and two females or one male and three females. Game is to 15 points and United States Volleyball Association rules ap-

ply. Entry fee is \$80 per per team

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with several prizes to be awarded. Both competitive and recreational levels of play will be offered. Volleyball courts are located in

a park near the convention site

Legacy Fund grant proposals submitted

Nine districts or chapters have submitted proposals for use of Legacy Fund grants.

We are very impressed with we are very impressed with the programs and the creativity captured in each of the propos-als," said Bill Kaneko, chairman of the Grants Committee for the Legacy Fund Grants Distribution Program. "The response to the initial distribution is very encouraging—it clearly demonstrates the need for programmatic funding at the chapter level."
The submissions were made by

The submissions were made by Contra Cost-NCWNP; San Mateo-NCWNP; Seattle; PNW: Lake Washington-PNW; Philadelophia-EDC; Detroit=MDC; Chicago-MDC; SELANOCO-PSW; and Asian Pacific American Network-PSW

Selection of the programs for

funding will takeplace no later runding will take place no later than July 20, 1992, by the Grants Committee, comprised of Cherry Kinoshita, PNW District, Joanne Mukai, NCWNP District, John Hayashi, PSW District; and Kaneko, national vice president planning and development.

The Legacy Fund Grants Distribution Program is made possible by contributions to the JACL: Legacy Fund. Contribu-tions are put into a permanent endowment and 10 percent of the earnings are set aside in a pro-gram pool for application by dis-tricts and chapters. As of Dec. 31, 1991, \$7,814 was made available through this process.

The program provides a funding source for chapter and district council programs that might otherwise remain unrealized. It repthe first occasion where the JACL will have the opportu-nity to provide substantial funding for individual chapter and district councilprojects on an annual basis. The maximum grant allo-cation per project is \$2,500. Pro-posals must be consistent with

the JACL Program for Action.
Information: JACL national headquarters, 415/921-5225

MIS remembers Twin Cities

By HARRY HONDA

ditor emeritus MINNEAPOLIS -- The 50th MINNEAPOLIS — The 50th anniversary of the MISLS (Military Intelligence Service Language School) to teach Japanese at Camp Savage was highlighted at the recent "Sentimental Journey" reunion here at the Radisson Plaza Hotel and at the Camp Savage site.

Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), an MI officer in the Korean War who retired as a major, was the featured speaker at the banquet. The event also honored the three cities, Savage Minneapolis and St. Paul, for their wartime hospitality to the Nisei.

Selection of Camp Savage - Fort Snelling in the Twin Cities has an interesting history, MIS-South-ern California veteran George Kanegai of West Los Angeles and reunion co-chair, recalled-

After Dec. 7, 1941, the War Department surveyed various metropolitan areas within the conti-nental U.S. to determine the acceptance or reaction of local residents toward a group of Japanese Americans in U.S. military uni-form mingling with the local popu-

"In short, the Twin Cities people displayed the least negative atti-tude toward such a social phe-nomenon," Kanegai said. "Even the friends and relative who left the concentration camps during the war were assisted in finding jobs and housing. They will never forget the pure and simple kind-ness and consideration extended to them.

When the first contingent 175 Nisei reported in May, 1942, at Camp Savage, it had been an abandoned shelter for indigent abandoned sheiter for indigent men. "Actually, they were stink-ing barns for horses," an old timer remembered. As more Nisei, many , from the WRA camps, entered MISLS, it was moved to spacious and historic Fort Snelling.

Pacific Citizen offices burglarized

Pacific Citizen offices were bur-glarized the weekend of June 13-14. Two Mac computers, a fax machine, a camera, and other of-

fice equipment were stolen.
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Sue Kunitomi Embrey, Mas Fukai, and Tim Manaka Jr. will be honored July 17 in Los Angeles withJapaneseAmerican Commu-nity Service Awards by the Little cyo Service Center

Embrey co-founded in the Manzanar Committee in 1971. Born and raised in Los Angeles and interned in Manzanar Embrey has sport much of key Embrey has spent much of her life educating the public about the Japanese American experi-ence in camps. She helped plan. the first Manzanar Pilgrimage in 1969 and has coordinated succes sive hips since 1971. The honoree has also been instrumental in the drive to have the government recognize Manzanar as a national historic site, a goal achieved in March of this year. Fukai, born in Gardena, Calif.,

in 1927, was interned at Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona. Fukai was self-employed in the auto repair business from 1949-62, then joined the Wada, Asato Insurance Agency. He was elected to the Gardena City Council in 1974and has served continuously 1974 and has served continuously since then. In 1975, he joined Los Angeles County Supervisor Ken-neth Hahn's staff, and is now chief deputy to Hahn.

Manaka has also been active in fund-raising efforts such as the JACCC AutumnFest and the Japanese Retirement Home Fundraising Committee.

Every Christmas, Manaka helps the Little Tokyo Service Center to collect food for needy families, to provide financial assistance to destitute clients, to gather toys for children; to collect clothing from friends for distribution, and to encourage others to participate in these efforts. Information: 213/680-3729.

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CONTROVERSY

(Continued from page 1)

JACL has a policy of not menting on the affairs of foreign governments.

Kawashima questioned the nature of Nakagawa's visit, whether he was there in an offi-cial JACL capacity as the organization's national president and if his comments to the Japan Times were made in this light. In her letter Kawashima said, you were indeed acting on behalf of JACL, I would have expected that you inform us prior to such a major presentation and press in-terview, even if you did not consider your remarks to be of a con-troversial nature."

Nakagawa, responding to Kawashima, explained to the Pa-cific Citizen that he went to Japan as a private citizen, and not as president of JACL.

His comments to the Japan Times, he emphasized, were not made as JACL national president. This is a problem of perception. I framed (the Japan Times interview) as an individual response, I can't tell reporters every time every admonition," said Nakarawa.

Answering questions of proto-col, the JACL national president said that he had informed mem-bers of the JACL executive committee of his trip to Japan. He

Scholarships

also stated that the trip was paid for out of his own pocket and added for out of his own pocket and added that trips he made as national president were at no expense to the national organization.

Speaking to Pacific Citizen, Kawashima said that chapter members were "outraged Nakagawa's comments and the fact that he didn't contact them "We live here and this doesn't help us at all. If anything could be learned, it is for JACL to real-ize that it can't handle U.S.-Japan relations in a cavalier man-We play a role," said ner. Kawashima

Nakagawa noted that he has gone to Japan in an official capacity three times during his term and met with Japan chapter officials. However he said that this trip was not taken on an official basis to meet with Japan chapter members. "If I'm not going there in an official basis as JACL president, why would I be consulting the Japan chapter?" said the Japan Nakagawa.

"It was not an attempt to disregard them," said Nakagawa. "I was there last August and spoke to (then Chapter President Clay) West for the purpose of talking about Japan chapter's role. It's not like they've been shunted

But aside from the protocol issue, much of the concern revolves

on what some consider potentially damaging remarks. From Japan, Glen Fukushima, director of public policy and business developmentat AT&T Japan, said in a letter to Pacific Citizen, "Japanese Americans need to become more knowledgeable about international affairs and more aware of why the kinds of statements quoted in the Japan Times article are likely to engen-

der needless antagonism.
Nakagawa disagreed, saying that he believed his comments would not cause antagonism against Japanese Americans. Japanese Americans need to address the fact that they are affected by what happens in Japan and not be afraid to comment or even criticize when it is appropriate, he said. There are issues that ought to be discussed frankly, not just in the rarefied air of gov-ernment officials. We have a right to be heard. Not saying anything doesn't do the community any good," said Nakagawa.

Calling the controversy an "amazing amount of fuss and fury," Nakagawa said the entire episode could have been resolved quickly if someone had come to him and asked him to clarify the newspaper article. "Before they react in this fashion, they should have telephoned me, I would have told them I was speaking as a private citizen."

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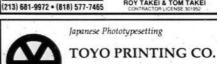
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o, Amy Miyoshi, Tamon Norimoto, and David Yokota. Fresno Chapter, JACL recipients for 1992

 Susan Sugako Kato, recipi-ent of the Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe Memorial Scholarship (\$400). Kato, a senior at Roosevelt High School, her college major is humanities

 Akiko Nakatani, recipient of the Dr. Izumi and Barbara Taniguchi Scholarship (\$400). Senior class president at Edison Computech, Nakatani hopes to attend UC, San Diego, majoring in either chemistry or biochemis

try, ent of the Dr. Henry H. Kazato Memorial scholarship (\$500). Yokota will be attending Fresno City College after graduation from Hoover High School.

Kathy Momoko Nishikawa, recipient of the Kent Kusakai/ Miyahara Family Memorial Schol-arship (\$500). Class valedictorian

and senior class treasurer at Central Union High School, Nishikawa will be attending CSU Fresno in the fall and plans to major in pharmacy.

HIGH SCHOOL HONOREES—Scholarship winners from the Fresno Chapter (from left) are Kathy Nishikawa,

 Tamon Norimoto, recipient of he F.Y. Hirasuna Scholarship (\$650). A senior at Edison Computech, Norimoto hopes to attend UCLA and become a re-

 Amy Miyoshi received the Hana and Masao Kimura Memorial Scholarship (\$500). Miyoshi is student body vice president and newspaper editor at Washington Union High School. She plans to

major in biology at UCLA. The recipients were honored at the 1992 scholarship dinner held May 17

San Mateo Chapter, JACL, 1992 high school senior scholarships

· Tomodachi Club Scholarship (\$500)-Audrey Rei Mimoto, Carlmont High School; Mark Atsushi Yoshimoto, San Mateo High School; Jennifer Rei Kishimoto Wing, Crystal Springs Upland School. Tomodachi Club is a volunteer women's group which raises money through a holiday boutique sale at the San

Mateo JACL Community Center.
San Mateo JACL Chapter
Award (\$500)—Gregory Chew
Chung Sue, senior at St. Ignatius College Preparatory. His applica-tion is being forwarded to national headquarters for further consideration

\$100 scholarships

Fumiko Eve Docker, Eileen Ayako Bader, Nicole Kari Chu, Cynthia Kazue Yamashita, and

Nyree Kikumi Iwamoto.
The awards were presented re-cently at the Community Family Potluck at San Mateo Senior Center (PC)

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

On the comeback 'okagesama de'

ome readers have been kind enough to suggest that a column updating the story of my grandson, Jon Harveson, would be appropriate. I hope you won't mindif I do that.

You may recall that Jon was a strapping, athletic, outgoing 17-year-old last September when an X-ray showed an ominous shadow at the base of his skull. A few days later he was on his way to the operating room. "No tears," he told his parents with a grin. "And don't say goodbye. It's see you later."

We're seeing a good deal of Jon these days. One recent Saturday we went to his high school graduation ceremonies. He wanted very much to be graduated with his class, and he made it, thanks to some intense studying at home with a -tutor the school district provided when Jon was still unsteady on his legs. Now those legs are strong enough to carry him up the stairs to the platform, and to stride purposefully across it to claim his diploma.

The next day his parents threw a party to thank the friends who had been so supportive during long weeks when Jon was fighting back from the effects of nine hours of delicate surgery to remove the tumor entangled in his spinal cord where it joins the brain, the infection that invaded his system, and finally the scarring of his lungs. I don't know how all this happened; it just did.

Jon still works out regularly with a therapist to strengthen his right hand. The nerves that control it were damaged somehow in the process of snipping away at the cancer that was tangled up in them, but day by day his coordination improves.

Last winter he turned out for the high school swimming team. He had been expected to be a star this season but of course his times weren't nearly what they had been. Nonetheless he persevered—working out in the water was good for him—and finished with enough points to win his letter. His teammattee elected him their captain, and at the conference meet he was chosen swimmer of the year in recognition of his gutsy comeback.

The party was a happy affair with lots of stuff to eat, including a full-sized pigroasted whole, and gallons of non-alcoholic beverages for adults and youths alike. Jon circulated from one group to another and long after the others were gone a small band of his closest friends remained to savor the day.

When, finally, only the family remained, Jon sat down to open gifts and cards. Many of the cards contained checks and green-backs. Being a teenager with many material wants, Jon was interested in the money, of course. But I was pleased to see that Jon was interested even more in the hand-written notes and the printed goodwill messages. He read all off them carefully before he looked at the checks. Jon may never become a good businessman but that's okay if he treasures human relations.

When Jon went into surgery last fall, no one knew what the outcome would be. The tumor was not benign, but the malignancy was of a very low order and no further treatment was recommended. He is well on the road to complete recovery and to college. We think we have been fortunate, and thanks to all of you for your concern. As the Japanese would say, okagesama de.

Letters

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 213/626-8213 or mail them to Letters to the Editor, Pacific Citizen, 701 E. 3rd St., Ste. 201, Los Angeles, CA, 90013.

Takes exception to Perot's comments

Is Perot a racist? In his May 29, 1992 interview on ABC's 20/20, Ross Perot made a comment on how the Japanese make a loan to Russian on the condi*on that the Russians buy Japanese products ... while the United States makes a loan to Russian and it's "rot's a ruck" on how the Russians spend the money.

Ross Perot saying "Japanese" and impulsively saying the "rot's a ruck" phrase in the same subject matter should be placed in close scrutiny. Is this a strong indication of a habit of making racial jokes?

I believe the whole phrase was "rot'sa ruck Charlie." Although in fairness the feonment was spoken too quickly for me to be sure. If so, is "Charlie" in reference to the Viet Cong or the Chinese? If so, does he mentally group all Asians together?

John Tanida San Diego, Calif.

In defense of JACL national staff

The Select Committee on Organization Structure is to be commended for tackling an extremely diffcult and important issue as we look into the '90s. Their thoughful analysis and suggestions will help start the process of adapting and evolving JACL for the challengers that will occur in our future.

the challenges that will occur in our future. However, we must respectfully disagree with the implications and characterizations bestowed upon national staff in regards to its skills, professionalism, and careermindedness. Certainly there is always room for improvement in any organization, but we must be careful that criticism be presented in a balanced manner. We, the membership are ultimately responsible for staff and the personnel policies. We are hopeful that the committee's recommendations will be a starting point for more guidance.

We are concerned about the statementJACL employment is a 'training ground' which can have the result of attracting the inexperienced and transient." The implication is that this is generally the case, but as presented in the report, seems to be based more on hearsay.

If we are to compare JACL to other national civil rights organizations, we must also look at our limited monetary re-

Budgets of these other organizations are significantly larger with accordingly increased staff size. JACL is a unique organization, with a wonderfully active voluntee base, and relatively small staff. Because of what volunteers and staffhave been able to accomplish, JACL has much to be proud of.

Both of us have worked closely with staff at National for almost a decade now and fel that they are a dedicated and hard-working

Lillian Kimura and her committee have taken to task a most difficult venture, one which will sparklively discussion, and will help to take a hard look at the way we do business. Through it all, we will move forward. We eagerly anticipate those debates.

Les Hata

President, San Francisco Chapter, JACL Legacy Fund Campaign Committee, Immediate past district governor, NCWNP

Beth Renge

Chairwoman, Legacy Fund Investment



East Wind

BILL MARUTANI

Gai-jins and o-furo

V ISITING JAPAN is regarded as a most enjoyable sojourn, and it is. However, gaijine (foreigners) who are long-term or permanent residents of Japan endure some disconcerting displacements and irk-some irritations. For example, a mixed couple in Japan, one of whom is a foreigner, cannot have the non-Nipponese spouse's name registered in the jumin-hyo/resident's registration) under which Nippon-jins are listed pursuant to the Residents Registration Act. Now, that may not mean much (Who cares about a non-listing on some governmental record?), but if one is not so listed, it becomes difficult to obtain a bank loan. Some banks may refuse to loan money to gaijins who do not have hanks—one of those round seals bearing the family name used to impress upon documents in place one's signature. Also, if the couple have children, since the jumin-hyo is used to register children for schools, the couple's child may be overlooked. Children attending an "international" junior high school, i.e. other than a traditional Japanese gakko

(school), are ineligible to take the entrance examination for entry into a Japanese high school.

There are yet other problems.

TOURISTS TO JAPAN of course go gaijin resident gainfully or otherwise employed in Japan, (s)he is required to contribute into the government's pension plan—which sounds reasonable enough except that one does not become eligible for benefits therefrom unless one pays in for a minimum of 25 years. Short of that, no refunds. And we've all read or heard about landlords unwilling to lease apartments to gaijins—at times, I must say, not without reason, for apparently some of these foreign tenants can be ruthless when it comes to maintaining a modicum of cleanliness and care of the premises. Many landlords invoke an across-the-board ban on foreigners, to such an extent that enough stranded gaijins have registered complaints, causing the Japanese government to address the matter.

Which brings to mind a diverse thought about "Japanese cultural habits."

THE JAPANESE CULTURE handed down to us Nikkei includes the habit of a daily o-furo' (hot bath). No matter how modest a family's material wealth or circumstances, no matter how clean or dirty one may be at day's end, before going to bed one had to have that o-furo. Nice, hot, soaking o-furo right to the shoulders. Recently, the M.I.S. (Military Intelligence Service) veterans' group, including a few Nikkei WACS (Women's Army Corps) bless 'em, had a 50th reunion up Twin Cities way, the R & grounds for those who trained at Camp Savage and Ft. Snelling. The contingent and their spouses were housed at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Minneapolis for three days or so; the total appeared to number into several hundreds. I mused to myself what the hotel's hot water bill must have been for that three-day period.

I'll bet their profit margin wasn't what they thought it would be. (5)





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 PANAMA CANAL CRUISE - SONG OF NORWAY - 14 Days \(^1\)San Juan, St. Thomas, Curacoo, Son Bias, Panama Canal, Costa Rica & Acapulco, Main Deck - Mid-ship - Inside \$2245 - Outside \$2245 -MAR MAP 18 -SUPER TOUR - CHINA DELUXE - 13 Date -

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All tours include - flights, transfers, porterage, hotels, MOST MEALS, sightseeing tips & taxes and touring by private motorcoach.

Wait List accepted on soid out tours

Uranihon Foliage - 11 Days -

Japan Discovery Foliage - 12 Days.--

- , Okinawam Kyushu & Shikoku - 12 Days ---

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