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Treasured memories

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JACL news

(213) 626-6936 Friday, July 17, July 24, 1992



front of Topaz barracks is part of the museum collection of the scheduledWestern Treasure Valley Cultural Center. Story on page 4.

Sonoma chapter works to establish civil rights agency

Special to the Pacific Citizen

To combat the rising tide of race-motivated incidents and in anticipation of the 50th anniversary commemoration of Penri Harbor; the Sonoma County Chapter, JACL, has been successful in the development of a human rights commis-sion and an educational currifulum guide in the area.

sion and an educational curriculum guide in the area. Beginning late last year, the chapter mounted a series of activities in the county. These included a hate crimes workshop, spearheading a drive for a suinty human rela-tions commission, and co-sponsoring and publishing a cur-riculum guide on Japanese Americante.

The chapter's community-wide anti-Asian hate crimes workshop, held last September, focused on MORE CHAPTER NEWS-See Agenda, page 5 preventive measures and solutions and iden-

tified a network of county resources. Representatives from several minority groups attended but several non-Asians also were present, as well as members of law enforcement agencies, the media, and Dennis Hayashi, the scon-to-beninted national director of JACL at the time. app

Noting that a human relations commission had not been established in the county, supervisors attending the workshop said that such an agency might be valuable in dealing with human rights violations. They added, however, that budgetary constraints might prohibit the county from establishing one at that time.

Nonetheless, the chapter sponsored a drive for start-up funds to create an agency. Board member Mei Nakano, who presided over the workshop, mobilized a coalition repre-senting diverse groups in the county: African Americans, Chinese Americans, Filipino Americans, Japanese Ameri-cans, Jewish Americans, Native Americans, Hispanic Americans, gay and lesbian groups, and other human rights activitists. After months of meetings, the coalition emerged with strategies and a strong vision of how the commission should be defined.

In a public meeting last month, delegates from the coalition presented a mission statement before the County Board of Supervisors and argued for the establishment of a human rights commission. The board unanimously approved.

ere surprised, but I guess we shouldn't have b said Nakano. "We had done a lot of ground work, and the list of members of our coalition, representing all those groups, sent a strong message. Also, the presentation happened shortly after the Rodney King fiasco, which might have helped.

The formal launching of the commission will take place sometime this fall, after details concerning budgetary and structural matters have been worked out between coalition members and the Office of the County Administration. "These were significant events for our JACL," said Carol

See SONOMA/page 9

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.)

Convention updates

FAMOUS READER—Olympic champion Kristi Yamaguchi, reading a copy of Pacific Citizen, is one of the JACL biennium award winners. Story: 3

Yamaguchi, Moriguchi win JACL biennium awards

Kristi Yamaguchi, whose exploits on ice have thrilled audiences and made her an international celebrity, and Tomio Moriguchi, a distinguished and successful businessman who is equally known for his civic and community work in the Pacific Northwest, have been chosen to receive JACL's biennium award.

The award, to be presented at the biennial convention in Denver, Colo., recognizes and honors those Americans of Japanese ancestry wh outstanding achievements in dif-ferent fields of endeavor have received regional, national or international recognition and whose contributions have added to the sum of human knowledge and/or enhanced the quality of life in our society.

"As in years past, we had a num-ber of very distinguished nominees

See AWARDS/page 3



INVOLVED-Seattle businessman Tomio Moriguchi's work in the local community as well as in JACL has ned him the top JACL award

co-host reception

Nikkei Singles of Denver Tech Hotel, site of the con-See RECEPTION/page 2



Redress is still stalled

By KAREN K. NARASAKI

ashington, D.C., Representative The Civil Liberties Act mendments of 1992, S. 2553/ H.R. 4551, continue to stall in Congress due to the continto stall ued insistence by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) that the additional \$320 million being sought not be accorded the same treat-ment under the Budget En-forcement Act as the original funds. The White House has 'to send responses' to begun our letter writing campaig The response states that OMB See REDRESS/page 9

New at national

JACL bulletin

The first issue of a monthly bulletin detailing current activities and projects of na-tional JACL has been sent to all chapter presidents to facilitate information between hendquarters and member-ship, according to Joy Morimoto, public information officer.

"Communication has been a' long-standing problem within the organization. One means of trying to better keep our members informed is to have a monthly newsletter which explains some of the current legislation we are addressing, as well as issues of import to the organization, Morimoto said



Joseph M. Horiye, a 1990-1991 president of the Associ-ated Students at San Diego State University, was named the first Mike M. Masaoka See MASAOKA/page 3



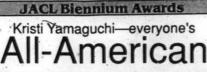
Inouye is keynote speaker NOUVE IS KEYNOTE SPECKET U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouve (D-Ha-waii) will be keynote speaker at the Sayonara Banquet, 7 pm., Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Sheraton Tech Hotal, Denver, Cola. The hanquet closes the Sind hiennial JACL convention. At 6 pm., Reps. Robert Mataui and Norman Minesta will host a recep-tion. Both will be in attendance at the banquet, along with Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D.-Colo.)

1000 Club to

The 1000 Club will host a joint convention recep-tion and dance with the according to 1000 Club Chairman Frank Sakamoto. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 4, at the Sheraton



Pacific Citizen, Friday, July 17, July 24, 1992-3



he is a role model, an Olympic champion, a ce-lebrity, and a heroine to

C) lebrity, and a heroire to many Americans, young and old. Bift perhaps the most fitting de-scription of Kristi Yamaguchi is simply this: "all-American." A Yonsei from Fremont, Calif., Yamaguchi began her illustrious akating career at the age of 7. Earlier this year in Albertville, France, ahe became the first American woman since Dorothy Hamill in 1976 to win the gold medal in women's ficure exkating. medal in women's figure skating. Following up her gold medal per-formance, Yamaguchi succesfully defended her world title in March.

In recognition of her o itstand. ing accomplishments and the im-pact she has had upon both the sports world and society in gensports world and society in gen-eral, Yamaguchi is one of two re-cipients of this year's Japanese American of the Biennium award, the highest public award of the National JACL. Although she will be unable to attend the JACL National Convention next month in Denver, her family will be on hand crept the award on her behalf.

Speaking on the impact of Yamaguchi's accomplishments, Frank Sato, chairman of the Japanese American of the Biennium Award Committee, said, "Kristi's perserverance and determination, coupled with the grace and dignity with which she competes and carries herself, has made her an important role model for American youth. She has brought a great sense of pride to this country and to the Japanese American com-

munity in particular." The reason for Yamaguchi's absence from the convention is simple. She is one of four athletes who will attend the Summer Olympics in Barcelona as part of resident Buans official delega-tion. They are Arnold Schwarzenegger, Mary Lou Retton, and basketball player Greg Anthony.

In a recent interview at her Fremont home, Yamaguchi discussed the JACL award and the events of

the past few months. Yamaguchi said she was truly surprised at being named Japa-nese American of the Biennium, especially upon learning that she is the first athlete and youngest recipient of the award. "It is such a prestigious award ... there are so many Japanese Americans do-ing great things ... It is an honor. Th we had so much support and ouragement from everyone in the Japanese American commu-nity and I want to thank them." She gives credit to the community for helping her get to where she is today

ince the World Championships in March, Yamaguchi has taken a respite from training and has only recently resumed practice ses-sions. She has been busy on the road touring and performing in shows, and having fun in the pro-cess. She has also managed to squeeze in time for a much-needed vacation, the first one in years; she expla ined. In addition to visits to the White House, which in-Ins to the white House, which in-cluded meeting Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Yamaguchi has ap-peared twice on the "Arsenio Hall Show," and most recently played a Show," and most recently played a little basketball with Magic Johnson and Larry Bird.

The Olympics has been the best part of my life so far, because it part of my hie so far, because it has always been my dream to just be there," said Yamaguchi, as she discussed the äftermath and im-plications of winning an Olympic gold medal. "It was beyond my dreams to do as well as I did and come home with the gold medal.' Noting that it was also impor-tant to simply enjoy the Olympic experience, Yamaguchi said, "I wanted to make my first experience at the Olympics an enjoy-able one. I wanted to have fun and

interact with some of the ath-letes, yet still know that when it came down to skating, that was the important thing, and to concentrate on that." The publicity resulting from the Olympic games has touched other members of her family, she laughed. She related a humo story of how her grandmother, who has appeared several times on TV, was recognized at a on TV, was recognized at McDonald'srestaurant. "Someo came up to her and said, 'Grandma!' and asked for her autograph. She was excited!

From a close-knit family, "Yamaguchi speaks fondly of her late grandfather. "He was prob ably ne of my biggest fans, she said. "He was very supportive and went to a lot of my competitions," even accompanying her to Japan when she entered an NHK com-petition. During World War II, while Yamaguchi's grandmother lived in an internment camp, her grandfather served in the U.S. Army. "I looked up to him a lot ise he loved America. It was Whatever he might his home. have felt about the war and war. time experience were things he never expressed to his grandchil-dren. 'It just made us realize how lucky we are today and every-thing we have, said Yamaguchi. Asked whether in her career she has ever been made to feel

uncomfortable about being a Japanese American, Yamaguchi said See KRISTI/page 9

AWARDS (Continued from page 1)

for this award," said Frank Sato,

chair of the awards committee. Born and raised in the Puget Born and raised in the Puget Sound area of Washington, More guchi graduated from the Univer-sity of Washington with a degree in mechanical engineering. He worked briefly for Boeing before entering his family's business. To-day, he is president and CEO of Uwajimaya, Inc., which began as a mom-and-pop store to become a \$30 million ayear retail and whole-sale enterprise.

a mom-and-pop store to become a \$30 million a year retail and whole-sale entrprise. Actively involved in the Japa-nese American and greater Se-attle community, Moriguchi was instrumental in developing the Keiro Nuraing Home project, a \$7 million nursing home facility in Seattle. He is also credited with spearbeading the revitalization of Seattle's International District, which in the 1960s encompassed a Chinatown, a Nihonmachi, and was home to many Filipinoa. Moriguchi brought together di-verse groups to form the Interna-tional District Improvement As-sociation, which in turn fostered creation of the International Di-strict Health Clinic, Asian Coun-seling and Referral Service, Chi-nese Information and Services Conter, and the Denise Louie Child Care Center. Active in JACL, Moriguchi serv-ed as president of the Seattle Chapter and was a member of the santional JACL board the Service In 1974.

Some of his current activities board of this current activities include serving as a member of the board of directors of Seafirst Cor-poration, Seattle First National Bank (the first Nikkei to serve), Washington Energy Company (parent company of Washington Natural Gas Co.), Seattle Foundation, Pacific Science Center, and the Seattle Chamber of Comme Moriguchi presently serves on the Washington State Advisory Coun-cil on International Trade velopment and the advisory and De board of the International Trade Institute of North Seattle Com-munity College.

MASAOKA (Continued from page 1)

Congressional Intern to serve 15 weeks in Washington, D.C., in the office of U.S. Congressman Norman Y. Mineta. Etsu Mineta Masaoka, widow of Mike-M. Masaoka, will make the presen-

tation at the awards dinner Aug. 6 during the JACL National Convention in Denver, Colo.

Horiye, a fourth-year student, is working toward a degree in business administration and fi-nance, and looks ahead to inter-

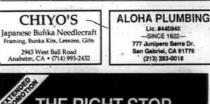
national commerce as well as the Horiye, a fourth-year student, is majoring in business adminis-tration and finance. He is also interested in international commerce and political scene. Among his affiliations are: board me ber of San Diego Chapter, JACL; member of the Japan America Society of Southern California; del-egate to the National Annual Student Lobbying Conference in Washington, D.C.; and recipient of Outstanding Contribution to Student Government award.



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PLANTING TIME— Farmer (top photo) prepares soil for onions for a seed crop on the Sumida farm on the Oregon Slope, north of Ontario, Ore., 1952.

G.I. HERO—Pvt. John Harano (right), 1944, enlisted in the Army (442 RCT) from the Topaz Relocation Center. KIA Oct. 29, 1944, Vosges Mountains France.

Treasured memories

The Western Treasure Valley Cultural Center will capture Japanese American life in eastern Oregon and southwestern Idaho.

By RANDY HARANO IDC District Governor

he Western Treasure Valley lies in eastern Oregon and southwestern Idaho, in dry praine country where cattle raising has centrally. With the arid climate, farming was a hit or miss,proposition until the large water impoundiment projects of the 1930s. Damming the precious water gave farmers foreknowledge of how much water would be available for their crops during the long, dry summer. Among the first farmers to utilize this resource were a handful of lasei immigrants. Their experience and expertise helped develop the row crop farms that have become the backbone of the region.

During World War II, as thousands of Japanese Americans on the West Coast were sent to interriment camps, Western Treasure Valley geared up for war. The local agricultural industry responded with increased production for the war effort despite a shortage in the labor supply. The area in and around Ontario, Ore., was in the designated Three zone, "Where relocated Japanese Americans were allowed to live and work instead of going to an internment camp. On May 21, 1942, a group of 15 evaciones left the Portland Army Assembly Center for seasonal agricultural work in the Western Treasure Valley under civilian restriction order of the Western Defense Command. So well did this pilot program succeed that subsequently 10,000 evacuese would venture out from the barbed wire compounds to help produce the earth's bounty. In the Western Treasure Valley the number grew to more than 2,000 that came to work the fields.

came to work thereas.
Following the war, many of the former internees found it difficult to return to their former homes where feelings of hate and animosity prevailed. Some chose to relocate in the Western Treasure Valley on the recommendation of friends and family, others simply because they had nowhere else to go. Elmo Smith, thein mayor of Oragon, was instrumental in making the Japanese [American thewcomers welcome and actively sought housing and jobs for those in need. As a result, the area's Japanese American population grew to more than 5,000 and has become an intrinsic part of the community.

intrinsic part of the community. From the beginning Japanese culture has been shared with the community. Early on the Nisei. organized the Ore-Ida Judo Club which is now one of the most popular organizations for children and adults in the Western Treasure Valley. The annual Obon festival brings the entire community

together in a celebration of Japanese culture. But, more importantly, the people live and work together for the betterment of the community. It is here where Japanese Americans want to show how their culture has enriched the community and to show how people working together can bring about positive results for everyone.

bring about positive results for everyone. These stories will become the hub for educational experiences made available through the Western Treasure Valley Cultural Center museum. The interpretive museum will tell story of the Issei pioneers and their contribution to the agriculture of the region as well as tell the internment story and the heroics of Nisei vets during World War II.

A multi-purpose facility located on the campus of Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario Oregon, WTVCC will combine comfort, beauty and versatility. The civic center and "Community Gathering Place" will provide meeting and banquet rooms for small groups as well as large gatherings. The performing arts auditorium will feature a multi-faceted stage with state of the art electronics and acoustical design. Built by the community—for the community—WTVCC will serve the cultural, social and educational needs of the eastern Oregon and southwestern Idaho area.

Photos wanted for Treasure Valley exhibit

The Western Treasure Valley Cultural Center is seeking historical photographs that deplet the Japanese American experience in the Pacific Northwest. Of particular interest are photographs of Japanese American farms and families from 1935 to 1960 and photograph of the relocation and internment experience. WTVCC is dedicated to talling the story of Japanese American life in the Pacific Northwest through provocative muscum exhibits and educational programs. Let us add copies of your photographs to the study collection that will be available to scholars and historians interested in the Japanese American experience. Sead your photographs to WTVCC, PO Box 980, Ontario, OR 97914. Your original photograph and a copy print will be externed to you and a copy negative safely stored in our museum archives.



HOTOE FRANK T. HABANO





Florin's forgotten pioneers

Sixteen Issei pioneers and their children, buried in the early-1900s at the Elder Creek Cemetery in Florin, had been forgotten until a new community-funded memorial was dedicated to them on Memorial Day. Standing (from left) are the Rev. Mark Nakagawa and Sam Kashiwagi both of Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church; Andy Noguchi, Florin Chapter, JACL, project sponsor; Shiro Tahara, Florin Buddhist Church; Thip Okimura memorial project chair; and the Rev. Newton Ishiura, Florin Buddhist Church; This part of the Japanese exciton of the cometon had been resoluted for decoder. Japanese section of the cemetery had been neglected for decades

Washington, D.C.: Continuing the Arlington tradition

Arlington tradition ARLINGTON, Va.—The gravesite of Col. Saige Okazaki, a WWII, Korean and Vietnam cam-paign veteran, was the locale of the annual Washington, D.C. JACL Memorial Day observances at the Arlington National Cem-eteryilat May 24. Maj. Gen. James Nukoyama of Chiengo yous guest speaker. Col. Phil Ishio, MIS(ret.) laid the wreath at the gravesite while Mukoyama laid the JACL wreath at the Tomb of the Un-knowns in ceremonies following knowns in ceremonies following the lunch at the Fort Myers Offic-

ers Club. Key Kobayashi, chapter presi-dent, noted attendees visited the gravesites of 37 Nisei and Sansei soldiers interred at Arlington as well as Col. Virgil Miller of the 442nd, Joseph Harrington, author of Yankee Samurai and OSS mem-ber Kay K. Sugahara at the rium

Watsonville: Nikkei class of '42 finally get diplomas By MAS HASHIMOTO

vecial to the Pacific Citizen WATSONVILLE, Calif.-Fifty

years agoon Priday, June 12, 1942, the 119 seniors of Watsonville High School were graduated in their blue and white cap and gowns (class colors) with the graduates in a "V for Victory" for-mation. Constitutively absent mation. Conspicuously absent from the ceremony were 47 Japa-nese American students, most of them removed to the Salinas Assembly Center as ordered by Executive Order 9066.

A bd

A week later (June 18, 1942), a small graduation ceremony was held for 30 Nisei students. Principal T. S. MacQuiddy and Louise Worthington, dean of girls, managed to gain entrance to the as-sembly center at the Salinas Fairgrounds to present the diplomas and honors won by the students and ponors won by the student ap but they were not garbed with cap and gowns. Interestingly, as part of the program, the "Star Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America" were sung.

were sung. Seven Nisei never received pub-lic recognition. Four never re-ceived their diplomas as the mail

never caught up with them. This year, Watsonville High is celebrating its centennial. Along with the commemoration, the Centennial Class of 1992, the high school faculty and administration, with cooperation from the Pajaro

See WATSONVILLE/ page 9





6-Pacific Citizen, Friday, July 17, July 24, 1992

Opinions



BILL HOSOKAWA Found: a 49-star flag for 'the Fourth'

n the morning of July 4th I ventured O into the basement in search of a cor-rugated cardboard box about two inches tall, four inches wide and four feet long. Eventually I found it, right where I had stored it.

The box contains a cotton American flag and an aluminum staff which comes in two pieces that fit together like a fishing rod. I bought the flag many years ago to display on national holidays. I still like to do that.

I've forgotten how long ago the flag came To our house, but there are several clues. One is the receipt, still taped to the box. It says in fading ink that the flag had cost me \$2.50. Today the flag would cost maybe five times that much

The receipt also indicates I had paid 7 cents sales tax. Near as I can figure, 7 cents tax on a purchase of \$2.50 would be about 3%. The sales tax hereabouts today is around 7%. So I was correct in recalling that the flag had been bought some time hack

The flag in the box was somewhat



A BOOK REVIEW appearing in an April issue of the Washington Post arrived in the mail. The title of the book was "The Chairman" and it was about Mr. was The Children and it was about Mr. John J. McCloy, among other things a Wall Street lawyer, former U.S. High Commis-sioner in Germany who had entered gov-ernment in 1940 as special assistant to Secretary of War Henry Stimson. Having mat and moders to the sectionson a decade met and spoken to the gentleman a decade or so in Washington, D.C., I read the book or so in Washington, D.C., 1 read the book review with some personal interest; Mr. McCloyhad passed away about three years ago. The book title's use of the term "chair-man" is undoubtedly apt in this instance: Mr. McCloy was chairman, among other things, of the Chase Bank, Ford Founda-tion, and Council on Foreign Relations.

THE KEY INGREDIENT to all this success? "Gravitas," a Roman word mean-ing "a core, a weight of judgment and hon-est appraisal." According to Mr. McCloy (as the reviewer quotes from the book): "[T]he regard of his countrymen, whether he was in the [Roman] forum or on the farm..." One wrinkled but the white was white and the red and blue portions bright and radiant. It is still a good flag. On a whim I spread it out on my lap and counted the stars. There were only 49, no matter which way I counted.

The 13 stripes, red and white alternately, symbolize the original 13 states. And the stars represent the states now united into a nation. For a long time there had been only 48 of them. Then allaska became a state in January of 1959 and the 49th star was added on July 4 of that year. Hawaii attained statehood in August of 1959 and got its star on July 4, 1960. Soit seems my lag was purchissed either in 1959 or early 1960. A third of a century ago. symbolize the original 13 states. And the

Well, who counts the stars on a flag flapping in the breeze? No one. Does it a flag matter that I should be flying an outdated flag?

No, so far as I can tell. Yet it seems sad and perhaps insulting to my Hawaiian friends, that the lovely state of Hawaii is not represented in the United States flag that flutters in the Colorado breeze outside

assumes that the speaker was not excluding himself from that special category of gifted, godlike giants. Whether he did or not, that Mr. McCloy achieved and accom-

plished a great deal during his lifetime cannot be gainsaid. Some of them, in my opinion, not so

AN ACHIEVEMENT unworthy of a

public servant, particularly a lawyer who has been trained to uphold the Constitu-tion and the laws of the land, was Mr.

McCloy's key involvement leading to the

rounding up and incarceration of some 115,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry and their Issei parents, solely based upon

the repugnant criterion of race. In the Battle of Midway 50 years ago—June 4-5, 1942— our Navy decisively crushed the backbone

our Navy decisively crushed the backbone of the Japanese Imperial Navy, including any capability it might have had to invade our Pacific Coast. Yet, the AJAs (Ameri-

cans of Japanese ancestry) and their par-ents were moved about and kept confined

behind barbed wire fences

nendable.

to

BILL MARUTANI

'Gravitas'

my home: But there is something even more troubling.

Some years ago many homes in our area, maybe half of them, flew the Stars and Stripes on national holidays. Displaying the flag was a gesture of pride, a symbol of patriotism.

This year on the Fourth of July only a high span of the Policy on of five showed the flag. What does this mean? I am not sure. Perhaps we are more sophisticated or more cynical about a government that has trouble making things work, or disillusioned about the state of the nation, disinclined to respect traditional values. Perhaps the Supreme Court set the tone for the country when it ruled that burning the flag is an acceptable way to exercise freedom of speech. Assault the symbol of the nation as a way of preserving its principles?

No wonder we're confused. But there no confusion about the beauty of flags flying on a holiday, even though they may be a star or two short of history. I must remember to get an updated one.

Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) at the Washington, D.C. hearings in 1981. When he heard" the word "incarcerated" as ap-

plied to the AJAs and their Issei parents, his gravitas impelled him to angrily object

in gravitas impered nim to angrily object to the use of the term. (In the biography which is the subject of the book review, he is reported to have written in 1942; "I wonder if anyone realizes the skill, speed

wonder if anyone realizes the skill, speed and humanity with which the evacuation of the Japanese has been handled by the Army on the West Coast?") After all, one of the elements of gravitas is "honest appraisal."

THE COMPASS BEARING by which

THE COMPASS BEAMING by which Mr. McCloyviewed Americans of Japanese ancestry and by which he was moved, is exposed in a revealing comment he is re-portedly to have made after the CWRIC hearings. After reportedly characterizing the hearings as a "diagrace" he is quoted as

condemning the redress effort as follows: "Money, money, money. Why don't they dun the Japanese government? We

See EAST WIND/page 9

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 Ange-

RIP: Kanemitsu

les, CA, 90013.

Letters

I was sorry to read (May 22 P.C) Matsumi Kanemitsu passed away. Before he enlisted into the army, Matsumi and I worked together for about two years in Mcrill, Nev., on the track gang for Kennecott Copper of Nevada, Being an artist, he drew many pictures of the fellow workers and acquaintances. We knew then Matsumi had great talent.

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

Hides Twamoto

Salt Lake City, Utah Time for sincere

apology by JACL, he says

Regarding the Japan Times Weekly In-mational Edition (June 8-14) article headternatio lined "Japanese-American backs repara-tions, Time for "Tokyo to face up to its past and deal with it," Cressey Nakagawa, naand deal with it, Cressey Nakagawa, na-tional president of the Japanese American Citizens-League, addressed members of the Diet and (reportedly) said that Japan should face up to its past (Manking massa-cre, Korean "comfort women," etc.) and cre, Korean deal with it.

Here are some quotes made by the

Nakagawa: "Other nations have, in effect, met their past and dealing with it. But here you have a major economic power that still persists in denying these things occurred With Japan as rich as it is, why don't the Japa nese do the right thing?"

Cressey Nakagawa is a hypocrite! He has no business asking anyone to apologize when he and the JACL can't even apologize for their shameful treatment of the courageous Heart Mountain draft resistors, the No-No Boys, and anyone else who dared to speak or act against the some of the ridicu-lous policies of the JACL. To me, Cressey Nak agawa and the JACL's inability to apolo gize is just plain sad. A simple, sincere apology would go a long way to get more Japanese Americans behind the JACL.

Dick Obayashi

Los Angeles

WWII Nisei veterans monument appeal

This appeal to the mayor and city council of Los Angeles is shared to open the way as planned the erection of the Nisei WWII veterans monument to preserve in this historical structure a most instructive chapter in the annals of American history. The Nisei WWII veterans were aware of

the fact that soon after Dec. 7, 1941, they were classified in the draft system as enemy aliens (4-C). However, they volun-teered, went to war and fought valiantly is "Go for Broke" fashion. Thousands of them were maimed or killed. Under the most adverse circumstances, they established a brilliant war record that no other group in WWII could match.

The mentality of those Japanese Ar cans fiercely opposing the erection of the 100th/442nd/MIS monument schoes the deep-rooted conviction of three main groups: (1) Those who threw rocks at the Nisei veterans volunteering from behind the barbed wire of concentration camps, (2) those who wished to refrain from fighting against the country of their parents, but would have enlisted for service in the Kowould have enlisted for service in the Ko-rean War, or (3) those who resisted the draft because their basic constitutional rights were totally violated. The opposition by these groups should not be supported by the Mayor or the City Council. *Semces Oda* WWII veteran not connected with the 100th 442nd/MIS Monument Committee Northridee Calif.

Northridge, Calif. Editor's note: For the past 18 years, Mr. Editor's note: For the past to years, sar, Oda and his wife Dr. Mary have been con-tinuing their Eugene Oda Memorial Schol-arships, now consisting of four \$1,000 awards through the San Fernando Valley JACL and one \$500 award through River-ted 1000 side JACL.



Guest editorial

The role of the JACL president

Earlier this year, JACL President Cressey Nakagawa was invited to Japan to speak before the U.S.-Japan Parliamentarians League, many members of which belong to the Japanese Diet. In addition to his speech, Nakagawa was also interviewed by the Japan Times, the text of which appears below. Some members of the Japan Chapter, JACL, expressed serious concerns and doubts about Nakagawa's role in speaking before that group and the comments he made in the article. Was he speaking as president of JACL? If so, were his comments discussed and approved at the national level? Why didn't he communicate and meet with the local Japan Chapter to discuss the speech and article? And why did he make comments on such sensitive issues as "comfort women."

Since this situation has become a topic of controversy, Pacific Citizen has provided editorial space for Nakagawa to answer these and other

questions in detail. We will offer similar opportunity to interested readers to respond to these comments

Wednesday, May 27, 1992, article reprinted with permission of the Japan Times

Japanese-American backs Asia reparations

By Joy M. Tadaki Japan Times staff s staff write

Japan should not "bury its head like an ostrich" but instead clean up its past and recognize the need for repara-tions, particularly to other Asian nations, said a visiting leade

tions, particulary to other Asian nations, and a visiting leader of a Japanese American organization. Creasey Nakagawa, national president of the Japanese American Clittons League, visited Tokyo last week to ad-dress the U.S.-Japan Parliamentarians League, consisting

dress the U.S. Japan Parliamentarians League, consisting of about 400 Diets members. In an interview, Nakagawa said Japan most disclose its records on and address such issues as the Nanjing Massacre; the 'comfort women' case, in which women were forced to serve in brothels in Japanese-occipied parts of Asia; and the emotional debate surrounding the Pearl Harbor attack. Other nations have, in effect, met their responsibility by

recognizing their past and dealing with it, Nakagawa said, citing World War II redress by the United States, Canada, and even the former Soviet Union and West Germany.

"But here you have a major economic power in the world that still persists to deny that these things occurred," he said, "and only until (Japan is) forced to do it, does (it) finally

Do the right thing The argument is being made that "with Japan as rich as it is, why don't (the Japanese) do the right thing?" Nakagawa said

But he recognized that even if Japan officially apologizes, as Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa did to South Korea in January, lack of coverage in the U.S. would fail to "clear the nir

Part of the problem in the American mind, "Nakagawa said, "is that there is the impression embedded there that Japanese are racist, Japanese are different and ought to be treated differently and therefore are always viewed as being foreign.

Nakagawa said he fears such a U.S. perception may manifest itself in a form of Japan-bashing, justifying statements such as "Japan is a racist country, so why should we (Americans) be worried about exhibiting a little bit of rac-

But he also attributed the current bilateral friction to But he also attributed the current bilateral friction to disparities in the economic situation, asying such percep-tions will linger despite impressions of a recovering U.S. economy and a deciling japanese one. Race-related crimes against the Japanese American com-munity have been rising. Nakagawa asid, although Asian American hesitation to report problems has led to an inaccu-rate reflection of their catent. He attributed the root of such crimes to a combination of own. Jacoma hashing intervolution and medical harter that

envy, Japan-bashing, stereotyping, and residual hatred that has lingered from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam

wars.² Although such hate crimes appear to have subsided, "if you think that Japan-bashing has gone away and won't (return) again, the answer is no, "it will, 'Nakagawa said. The U.S. will continue to see more "less than complimen-tary' books and articles depicting Japan's economic might, which serve to 'concretice' misperceptions, he added. The average American does not understand the details of economic friction and technical trade disputes plaquing the bilateral relationship, Nakagawa said. What relates and has an impact on him is whether or not there are jobs only, whethere ron to there is reconston created and whether or not cutbacks are expected," he said.

Sensitivity fostered Although the league does not have a long-term plan of

Although the league does not have a long-term plan of action, it focuses on promoting sensitivity and dispelling misperceptions in the political arena. Nakagawa said he particularly hopes to counter radio-hate talk, a "breeding ground" for misinformation, through forums like TV talk shows. We will continue to be actively involved where we think race has become an issue in relation to depan-bashing? Nakagawa said, adding that the league will promote proju-dice-reduction programs and 'go after anything that smacks of racism.

His presentation to Dist members last week focused on minority problems in the U.S., particularly as spatilished by with the recent Las Aggelen rists after thenat quilty verifict on police officers involved in the Rodney King besting. The situation should be seen as an indicator of inner-city poverty, frustration, resentment and envy and should be placed is a larger context to avoid being dismissed as merely a race rist, he said.

Response to Alleged Controversy

By CRESSEY NAKAGAWA

By CRESSEY NAKAGAWA JACL nakonal president I wekome this opportunity to respond to the concernal expressed by some members of the Japan Chapter which becamsche hounda-tion for an article in the Pacific Cilizen of June 19, 1992 entitled "controversy intis JACL President"s Japan trip. The po-called "controversy arises out of an interview which I gave to the Japan Times while I was in Tokyo on a speaking engagement. That interview with the alleged controversial remarks by me appeared in the May 27, 1992 edition of the Japan Times. These article: "Japanese American backs Asia reparations" was controversial. In addition, the fact that the interview disclosed my personal views, was

sembers, the beadine of the Jopan Times article. "Japanese menrican back Asiar reprintions" was controversial I addition, the fact that the interview disclosed my personal views was somehow controversial because I stated that "recognize the need for (Asia) reparations, particularly to other Asian nations..." and that "Japan must disclose its records on and address such issues as the Nanking Massacre; the 'comfort women' case, in which women were fored to serve in military brothels in Japanese coupled parts of Asia;" The additional charges and that such controversial frame show acavalier' manner towards U.S. Japan relations, secording a nother member, and that such controversial statements show acavalier' manner towards U.S. Japan relations, according a nother member, and that such controversial statements the advective were, deviate that these views expressed by me at the interview were, deviate that these views expressed by me the interview were, deviational and "unofficial" as distinguished from being "official" position statements by the National JACL. In other wards, so long any my remarks were clearly indicated to be personal and not "official" JACL statements, the controversial stature of my state in that make the point clear. Lake this opportunity taked in the mark this point clear. Lake this opportunity to share with our JACL members the facts as to my peaking engagement in Japan before members of the facts as to my repark availer of the make the point clear. Lake this opportunity to share with our JACL members the facts as to my repark the dapan Times, the existing organizational polic, the meries of my views on Asian reparations as I expressed the meris of my views on Asian reparations as I expressed the mission of the super Times of the members of the Direct the interview with the Japan theore members of the Japan and the meris of my views on Asian reparations as I expressed. Bariter this were I review and make this point clear. Lake this

them in Japan. U.S.-Japan Parliamentarians League

Earliet this year I received an invitation from Senator Ichiji Iahil, a member of the House of Councillors, to speak to his Diet colleagues about minority problems in the United States and in Japan. Because of our previous discussions about tivil rights and eminority

colleagues about minority protonemis in the United States a. In ad met the Senator on past occasions in the United States and in Japan. Because of our previous discussions about civil rights and minority concerns in America, he inviced me to appeak privately to the Dig-t colleagues on my next trip to Japan. Shortly before my acheduled operator that appan on Miyo 15th, the Los Angeles roits occurred. Senator that appan on Miyo 15th, the Los Angeles roits occurred. The implications of the Los Angeles roits expectally any implica-tions that could affect the U.S. Japan relationship. Thus, in speaking to the U.S. Japan Parliamentarians League. I reviewed the Los Angeles roits (rom the African American, Hispanic and Asian American perspectives, especially any the Korean American concerns. I praised Japanese companies in the Los Angeles area for providing financial aid even though such companies had a right to gramble or refuse to give such aid after the decision by the Los Angeles Coulty Trajsopriation Commissing statements about American perspectition Commissing statements about American such the might and the refuse of the inner civil and other the logic state of the state of the los Angeles area for american perspections for not issuing statements about American engles to the implementation for mesida a centract with a spanese politicania for not issuing statements about American Japanese companies in the los Angeles roits on U.S. Japan relations, I, made the problems of the inner civils and U.S. Japan trade infrastructure. Such an American mod favoring isola-tionism will increase the problems and the inner civil and the economic underclass issues, American smoot favoring isola-tionism will increase the problems and the inner civil and the economic underclass issues. American mod favoring isola-tionism will increase the problems and the inner civil and the economic underclass issues. American mod favoring isola-tionism will increase the problems and the inner civil and the economic underclass issues. America

A security in the Pacific areas. This can only exacerbate terminon between the U.S. and Japan; tensions that we have experienced we the past 40 years. The second implication was that if the Los Angeles riots evi-former the argor of Antrirans who are poor, there are other where the argor of Antrirans who are poor, there are other positive tension of the tension of the tension of the positive tension of the tension of the tension of the same promised to get uong which Japan. Trade protocolonism hooms over larger as the political debates over U.S. policy towards Japan and trade tasses gets heated. The third implication arises out of the fact that the immigrant forean community in Los Angeles discovered that they must find and exceeding the tension of the same that the interpo-tent and the same gets heated. The third implication arises out of the fact that the immigrant forean community in Los Angeles discovered that they must find and exceeding the tension of the results and the same of the tension of their country of origin with Japan. They are disturbed about Japan's military past, its colonialism and its military history and wision America in the disturbing revelations about Asian women being enalayed as 'comfort women' by the Japanese military during World War II is not quickly resolved in the ontext of Asian reparations or otherwise, a prolonged debate in the data American community and the failure or unwillingmess of y bars of the same and the failure or unwilling and the angentical same of a very visible way. This is happening today in America if you follow to an experiment or otherwise, a prolonged debate in the data measurement or otherwise, a prolonged debate in the data measurement or otherwise, a prolonged debate in the data measurement of the failure or unwillingmess of Japan the deal with them can negatively impact the image of Japan to deal with them can negatively impact the image of Japan to deal with them can negatively impact the image of Japan to deal with them can negatively impact the image

and the perception about the Japanese cans. I therefore urged that Japan reso Interview with Japan Times panese people by average Amer an resolve these issues quickly

Interview with Japan Times . In the interview with the Japan Timey foutlined to the reporter the substance of my remarks on racid problems in the Uniterview was not an except of the text of my actual remarks. In responding to specific questions posed by the reporter on my personal views as also the issue of comfort women. I explained the background on the issue as I have studied the matter. The issue of Asian reparations was only a part of a larger discussion about the Los Angeler riots, anti-Asian sentiment and other issues. As I shall explain hereinafter, my personal conclusion and views that Asian reparations are needed are not controversial as they have been made to appear.

as they have been made to appear. Asian Reparations, Comfort Women

tended an apology to the South Korean government and promised to conduct a thorough investigation init to the facts. Between January and May, 1992, old soldiers stepped forward to disclose thorough investigation init to the facts. Between January and May, 1992, old soldiers stepped forward were forcibly abducted and used as "comfort women." The esti-mated numbers of women thus abducted or "recruited ranged from 100,000 to 200,000. In addition, law suits for compensation on behalf of 41 Korean women have been filed. The Yomiuri Shimbun of May 16, 1992 finally editorially pre-sured the Japanese government to humanely respond to the "comfort women" issue. This leading newspaper with the largest upon a legal argument that the 1965 treaty with South Korea secolved all wartime claims, including the claims of 'comfort women." The editorial urges the Japanese government to drop legalians" and consider other steps to resolve this insue. Here is a quote from that article: But the government and also all the people of Japan must realize that merely relying on legalians to dispose of the reality of this hearthreaking history would cause truly big problems. It seems natural to maintain the position that the issue has investigations, Japan should consider what other steps to realise of investigations, Japan should consider what other steps can be investigation and leggies and foelings of meres to the victums. Another editorial vice of concern and support for the resolution

victims. Another editorial voice of concern and support for the resolution of the reparations or compensation issue for South Korean womes, yitims appeared in the International Edition of the Appart Times (Jan. 27. Feb. 2, 1992). In commending Prime Minister Miyazawa for his apology to the South Korean government for the "immoral and inhuman wartime conduct against Korean females," the rial stated:

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See ROLE/page 8

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(Continued from page 7)

Article II of the 1965 treaty provides that all claims to property rights and interests are "settled completely and finally." Based upon this language, Japan has contended that such language clearly covers any claims raised by "comfort women."

by "comfort women." These are serious legal questions about the soundness of Japan's posi-tion. If the negotiators of the treaty women" claims because individual claimants did not appear 10 568, how can it be claimed that a knowing waiver of such claims was intended by the partise? Can a treaty between sover-eign nations eliminate the claims of parties. Can a treaty between hover-eign nations eliminate the claims of individuals against Japan? Can the individual claims of women be elimi-nated by a waiver of all other claims on the ground that women are prop-erty rights? Japan's only hope is that its position will be upheld by its court system.

its position will be upheld by its court gystem. If Japan wins before its courts, the result would become an effective legal readblock to any other such claims filed by other 'confiort women' from other countries in Asia. Such alegal victory of Japan would be Pyrrhic at best. If there was inju-tice in the case of Rodney King, auch injustice would pale in comparison to an adverse ruling by Japanes courts in the case of 'comfort women.' The enormous cost to Japan would be a serious 'loss of face' in the interna-tional commonity where Japan is strugging to demonstrate that its political standing should be viewed as "to las to its economic statur."

pontical standing should be viewed as equal to its economic stature. A change in Japan's position may be near. On July 6, 1992, Koichi Kato, Chief Cabinet Secretary, held a press conference at the Foreign Press Cen-ter in Tokyo. On behalf of the Japa-nese government, Mr. Kato announced then exits meth investimation of 107 ier in Tokyo. On Benai or the super-neegovernment, Mr. Kata announced that a six-month igvestigation of 127 documents key by six ministries and agencies, including the Foreign Min-the Schwarz and Schwarz and Schwarz and Schwarz and Schwarz and Schwarz in Schwarz and Schwarz and Schwarz and remment was indeed involved in the matter of "comfort women" from the Korvan perionsula as well as other nations/Asia. Mr. Katofurtherstated that the Japanese government would

nations/Asia.Mr. Katofurtherstated that the Japanese government would consider financial compensation paid to South Kores and other countries. As an aside, I have been accused of creating controversy by my remarks. "In Japan related, to this "comfort women" issue. If this change in Japan's attitude towards compensation for attitude towards compensation for "comfort women" is the result of pres-

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sure caused by "controversy," I am pleased to endure such unwarranted and baseless criticism.

Implications for JACL

For an organization like JACL which deals with human rights is-sues, the "comfort women" issue falls within our sphere of interest for two

asons. First, the Los Angeles riots demon-rated how internationalized racial rife has become. As the Los Angeles imes editorialized on May 10, 1992. trife h Times editorialized on May 10, 1992, the intervention by government fac-tions of South Kores on behalf of South Korean immigrants living in Los An-geles seeking reparations from the United States and the City of Los United States and the City of Los Angeles forproperly biases truly shows how the American dilemma of race relations has suddenly been interna-tionalized. Is there any reason to be-lievelata the 'comfort women' issue, as the 'comfort women' issue will be the 'comfort women' issue will be the 'comfort women' issue will be dialogue on Japan policy yurged by the Korean community or other Asian com-munities?

I believe this will happen as immigrant Asian American communities vocalize their political concerns over issues that confront their country of origin as well as domestic issues. Two issues that controls their county or origin as well'as domestic issues. Two recent examples illustrate this point. The first is an article in Akaim Werk of December 13, 1991, entitled: "From Pearl Harborto Nanking Reflections" written by Lester H. Lee. Mr. Lee is a chinese American immigrant. He is also the president of Recortec, Inc., and a member on the White House for Commission for Executive Exchange. It article rends us that last year's 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor also marked the 64th anniversary of the Nanking Massacre. The article is a vivid example of how other Aking Americans feel about Japan. other Asia

The second example is also an ar-ticle writterby K. Connic Kang in the San Francisco Examiner of January 23, 1992, cnitled: "Japan must erect monuments to 'comfort grins'." Marmonuments to 'comfort girls',' Ms. Kang writes a stirring story of how Korean women of her mother's gen-eration grew up in fear of being snatched by Japanese policemen to be thus "recruited' into the "comfort girls brigade."

For JACL then, these international civil rights and human rights issues cannot be lightly tossed aside if we are to effectively build coalitions with other Asian American communities and organizations. What we specifi-

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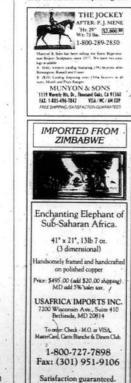
cally do about such issues must be decided on a case-by-case basis. The second and map prescritical rea-tions and map prescritical rea-to an end of the "comfort what impact this issued may-have on our efforts is complete the redress program. Obviously, we need the pas-sage of HR 4551 and companion legis-lation this year to ensure that an ad-ditional 12.500 eligible recipients re-ceive their redress payment as well as provide funding for Civil Liberites Education Pund. If this additional legi-liation is un enacted this year be-

Education Fund. If this additional legi-islation is not enacted this year be-cause of budgetary problems or others reasons, we will have to pursue such legislation in future years with even geneter political hurdles to overcome. The face of Congress promises to change in a dramatic way in this eleve design to retire or have been de-fended in the primaries. We face the difficult future task of educating new members in both the House-sift the difficult future task of educating new members in both the House-shit the Senate about the intermment experi-ence and referes program is well as compete for appropriations at a time when needs and demands for govern-ment funds are enormous, given our deficit and economic recession. Anticipating a worst case scenario, the protections tmode of America will increase as the rebuilding of America becomes our primary national focus. Tensions about the trade imbalance with Japan will not disappear easily,

Tensions about the trade imbalance with Japan will not disappear easily, if at all. Michael Crichton's bestseller, Raing Sun, when produced into a movie, has his lead character describ-ing the Japanese as the most racist people in the world. As nationalism grows in the United States and in Japan, the Japanese American com-munity may again be tarred by Ameri-ceptions about the Japanese people-for the pert flow wars. the events

ceptions about the Japanese people. For the next five years, the events of World War II will be commemo-rated as each 50th anniversary ap-pears. The war with Japan will pro-vide many such events, including the dropping of the atomic bomb. Books on the misteratument of American and other soldiers by the Japanese Army in the Pacific have already appeared in print and more will nome. Serviting age may intensify the efforts of cer-tain American veteran groups to seek their claims for reparations from Ja-

ago may intensify the efforts of cert-tain American veterans groups to seek their claims for reparations from Ja-pan based upon the atrocities commit-ted by the Imperial Army of Japan-All of this suggests that we, as an organization, must be prepared to deal with an aggroup of the second second second with an aggroup of the second second second we pursue the completion of redress. Because the Janamer American com-Bes use the Japanese American com munity has so often been identified with Japanese nationals, we do not need the burden of responding to ar-



uments about the unwilling apan to fairly deal with and villingness of the "comfort women" issue as we work to finish redress in the midst of this worst case scenario. We do not want to worst case scenaris. We'do not want to be confirmated by newly elected women to the Congress and Senate who may develop political resistance to the completion of the redress program bisceause the Japanese government mistreated women. We do not want Asian American mod other minority with Asian concerns about Japan. We do not want to be confronted with the do not want to be confronted with the do not want to be controliced with the unfair argument that American re-dress should be held hostage to Japan's responses to reparations claims by American veterans or anyone else; an argument that we have successfully defeated to date. d to date

Backlash, antagonism and other consequences

From the foregoing, it should be apparent that no new controversy be-tween Japan and the United States or Japan and other Asian nations has tween Japan and other Asian nations has been created by my interview or oth-erwise. Nevertheess, it is dislimed that my statements are likely to engender needless antagonism, or that a back-lash will result against Japanees Americans. To all of these statements, I would like to know where 'antago-niam' against Japanees Americans to nism" against Japanese Americans of the JACL has or might arise by the expression of my views as an indi-vidual. I want to know what "back-

expression of my verse as an inco-vidual. I want to know what Tasck-lash' has or will result against Japa-neee Americans or the JACL. More specifically, I would like the Anow if any Japanese government of-ficial spoke to members of the Japan Chapter, and advised them, that JACL's views for the assumption that JACL's views for the assumption that JACL's views for the assumption that arcenting needless antigonism. My same question arises as to whether any Japanese businese executive so spoke to members of the Japan Chap-ter that inspired this letter campaign to the Pacific Citizen rather than to me. I would also like to know what Tackhash' has been experienced by any Japanese American working in any Japanese American working in Japan. Has there been any backlash raused by Japanese nationals against Japanese Americans or our commu-nity organizations in the United States?

nity organizations in the United States? The answers to such questions are important to JACL for two reasons. If the feared "antagonism" and/or "back-lash' is not factually supportable, then those who make such charges are seek-ing to suppress the voice of JACL or anyone closely connected to it out of some unjustifiable fear of Japan or Japanese interests. On the other hand, if there are flaintich incidents Japan-nese government or Japanese busi-neses antagonisms or backaba against the JACL, we need to know about it in order to respond to any threat to sup-press the opinions and views of JACL as well as any individual Japanese American.

JACL policies respecting international civil rights issues

Civil rights issues Notwithstanding the fact that my diorementioned Diet speech and in-terview were given in my capacity as a private individual, the question of whether JACL has a policy on "inter-national civil rights' has been raised. In other words, if 1 had given the speech and interview of the National President of JACL, does the organiza-tion have a policy guiding the expres-sion of our organizational concerns on uch issues? The answer is Yes. In July, 1982, the national JACL dots first meeting, with the Japh-nese Cultural Affairs and Public Opti-neo Cultural Affairs and Public Opti-pes of that meeting between a study eam from Agan comprised of givern-ment and industrial leaders and the dragan comprised of givern-ment and industrial leaders and the equipation of the result or-maniationally participate in the pro-motion of better relations between Japanese Americans and The Japamotion of better relations between Japanese Americans and the Japanese nationals population in the States as well as to improve the understand-ing of other Americans about Japa-nese Americans, the Japanese people and the nation of Japan. A JACL pa-per was produced is indicate the JACL percention of the Japan A Imp percent of the American and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japanese and the Japanese and pathological sectors and the Japanese and the Japane

Intian 34 was presented and adopted in 1982 by the National Council at our 27ah Bionnial National Convention Hyatt Airport Hotel in Los Angeles tuardona Canvention) held at Use Call. Resolution 34 charged en Angeles, Call. Resolution 35 charged the Inter-national Rolations Committee to "... explore specific ections for attainment of Improved, American-Aganese rela-tions," provided that we do so "... does not sither in him the to face become a "tront" or propagandis for Japan. ("emphasis added] In 1988 at our 30th Bienniel Na-tional Convention in Sectie, Wash, the National Council adopted Reso-

lution 1. Resolution 1 attempted to and does define our organizational involvement in U.S. Japan Relations in a way so that our focus is upon civil and human rights concerns of Japa-ness Americans and all other people. This Resolution 1 reads as follows:

Now, therefore, be it reisolved that the JACL shall consider direct in-volvement in U.S./Japan relations strictly and only within the explicit context of an organization whose mis-sion is to advocate and protect the human and civil rights of Ameri-cans of Japanese ancestry and of all people. (emphasis added). Consistent with these policy state-ments of involvement in international civil rights, we have organizationally problems of the Korean population in Japan from time to time.

expressed our concerns on the specine problems of the Korean population in Japan from time to time. In 1984, at our 28th Bennial Na-tional Convention in Hosobulu, Ha-waii, the National Council adopted Resolution 2. Resolution 2 was an Japan who'... face service social discrimination and live under inse-cure legal status. 'Our organizational concerns set forth in Resolution 2 were directed to the U.S. government. Resolution 2 in 1964 was followed presolutioned adopted sour aforr-mentioned specific convention the National Council adopted Resolution 17 which called for the creation of a fact-finding committee to investigat

fact-finding committee to investigate the allegations of unfairness and disthe allegations of unfairness and dis-crimination by Japan against its Ko-rean, Chinese and other minority populations by use of fingerprinting and other requirements of the Alien Registration Law in Japan. From the foregoing, it should be clear to anyone who educates himself or herselfabout JACL policies that we are concerned about and are organi-zationally involved in international civil and human rights issues. It is

civil and human rights issues. It is also clear that JACL has naturally had a focus on such human and civil rights as it affects the Asian Ameri-

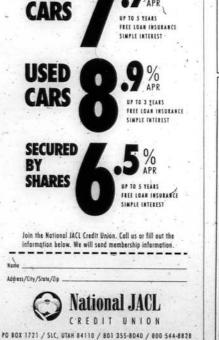
might as it affects the Asian Ameri-can community. The implementation of such poli-cies and views in organizationally left to the national president and the national bacard. As a spokeman for the National JACL, I am well aware of and sensitive to the need for board discussion and consideration where there may be policy questions. In this particular case, while the express sub-ject of Asian regarations or the 'com-fort women' issue has never been ac-tually passed upon by the National Council or the National Board, it is emsistent' with the past policy state-Council or the National Board, it is consistent with the past policy state-ments adopted by the National Coun-cil. In any event, since my interview was not given in an official capacity, there is no clash with any existing policy set by the National Council or National Board. Conclusion

True controversy can be a very healthy experience for an organiza-tion where meaningful differences of tion where mekningful differences of opinion on important issues can be weighed and thoughtfully considered. In this case, here does not appear to be any controversy over the substan-tive merits of the views that I ex-pressed to the Diet members or even in the interview. If there is a differ-ence of opinion or a disagreement on facts relating to the 'comfort women' issue or Asian reparations, let the discussion berin. scussion begin. It appears that the sole basis for the

It appears that the sole basis for the concerns expressed about my views is whether such views are acceptable to the Japanese. In other words, some of our members in Japan fear that the Japanese resent being made aware of or reminded of embarrassing facts and

We must always keep uppermost in We must always keep uppermost in organization that must deal with American human relations problems that are impacted by the actions or a of Japa

inactions of Japan. To the extent that someone seeks to muzzke and control hav voices of the leadership of this organization with no clear reason for such control other. than simple four of the songleapoints by unknown Japanese persons, this or-ganization cannot do its work. To base our involvement in U.S. Japan issues our involvement in U.S. Japan issues upon the subjective interpretation of how an American view could be heard a criticism or controversial by the Japanese means that the leadership of this organization cannot peak out on human rights issues before check-ing off with a designated expert or on human rights issues before check-ing off with a designated expert or experts on U.S. Aspan relations: even though such alleged expertise on U.S. Japan relations may be unrelated to human rights concerns and issues. The organizational decision and choice is to be silent because of fear or to speak out in a thoughful way on all civil rights and human rights issues of concern to AACI. I hape that alter our work on redress we have learned that JACL must never be afraid of exercis-ing its organizational voice.



WATSONVILLE

(Continued from page 5) Valley Historical Association and the Watsonville JACL, invited the Nisei of those remaining to particinate in their blue and white cap and gowns.

ar, 13 returned and were This year, 13 returned and were hailed at the June 12 graduation ceremonies(exactly 50 years later) on the high school football field. They were: Grace Sugidono (now They were: Grace Sugidono (now Mrs. Yoshi Fujita), Evelyn Matsui (Mrs. Carrnel Kamiga wachi); Shiruko Sugiyama (Mrs. Roger Shiozaki, Monterey); Kikuye Yamamoto (Mrs. Tom Mine); Flo-rence Yoshizumi (Mrs. Kejchi Matsushita, Santa Clara); Hatsuko Eto (Mrs. Mike Imoto, Lindeay); Kama Kamitani (Mrs. Lindsay); Kazue Kamitani (Mrs. Tommy Yamamoto); Dr. Shigeru Kizuka Kazu Oshima San Mateo Bill Hirano, Jiro Sugidono, Frank Matsumoto, Sunnyvale; Bob Yamamoto.

The diplomas were awarded by Board of Education member Wil lie Yahiro, first Nikkei elected to office here. Oshima, responding for the 1942 Nisei graduates present, thanked the Class of 1992 for inviting them and everyone involved for "this gracious ges-

Mas Hashimoto is a social studies teacher at Watsonville High School and JACL chapter president.)

SONOMA (Continued from page 1)

e, chapter president. "Establishing the Human Relations Commission and developing a cur-riculum guide for teachers in Sonoma County are legacies we can claim to have contributed to our community for years to come. In addition, the activities have put us in close touch with other com munity groups and agencies and tightened our working relationship with the media.

The curriculum guide was co-sponsored by the chapter and the Sonoma County Office of Educa-tion. Titled "The Japanese American Wartime Experience—1941-1945," the 65-page guide was de-signed to be used by teachers of-grades 4-12 to fill the gap left in social studies texts on the subject.

Board member Dr. Bob Fuchigami, who, along with Nakano, had been part of the four-person team that developed the guide, headed a workshop for teachers in February to suggest ways of using it. The successful session led to a request for the workshop to be repeated in the

EAST WIND

(Continued from page 6)

didn't attack Pearl Harbor. They did." (emphasis added). Of course, such a civic azimuth is 180 degrees in the opposite directioness, of course, one makes no distinction between an American of Japanese ancestry and the thenenemy Japanese

DURING THOSE HEAR-INGS, at a recess period, I chat-ted with Mr. McCloy, in an effort to have him understand. I men-tioned to him that when the Pacific War broke out in December 1941, our Issei parents advised us that this was our country and we should defend it; that indeed, an older brother of mine was already serving in the Army Air Corps (as it was then called). To this last, Mr. McCloy's response was "On which side

REDRESS (Continued from page 1)

agrees with the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) that the ad-ditional funds constitutes an "en-titlement." Unfortunately, the rense is not as encourag ngasit

ay appear at first glance. OMB is saying that the full entitlement status authorized by Congress in 1989 was capped at the original \$1.25 billion. OMB is taking the position that in order to provide new funding, equiva-lent cuts in other domestic programs or tax increases must be made. The purpose of designating payments unser the original Act as an entitlement in 1989 was to ensure that all eligible individuals would receive their redress payments without having to find an offset in other programs for the payments.

According to CBO, the Budget Enforcement Act does not require Congress to make compensating cuts in other domestic programs to provide funding to complete the original redress program. Therefore, OMB's position presents an unnecessary impediment to successful passage of the legis-lation. Because of the two week recess in July and the one week recess in August, there is very little time left in this session of Congress in which to pass the necessary legislation.

necessary legislation. There is approximately \$250 million remaining in the seiginal fund, enough to pay 12,500 indi-viduals this October. Roughly speaking, that means only indi-viduals born sometime before the end of 1004 could could be a set of the set of the red of 1004 could be a set of the end of 1934 would receive their checks in October. The Office of Redress Administration is still processing claims and is not yet able to provide an exact cutoff date. Failure to pass the legislation would mean that at least 11,000 individuals already found eligible to receive redress pay ments will not be paid. It is cur-rently estimated that the number of individuals who may qualify but not receive radress because of the lack of funding could be as much as 14,500. The Department of Justice has not released a final stimate of the number of verified claims

ther complicated by the Depart-ment of Justice proposal to eliminate the education component of the original Act. President Bush, has recently submitted nomina-tions to the Board that is to over-see the education fund. This ac-tions there into cuestion what tions throw into question what the Administration's actual posi-

the Administration social posi-tion is on the education fund. Senators Stevens (R-AK) and Rudman (R-NH) have recently signed on as co-sponsors of the Senate bill. JACL urges redress supporters to continue to call or write their members of Congress and the President to urge passage of the redress legislation. Sample letters, including followup letters to the White House, are available from the Washington, D.C. office, (202) 223-1240, the otherJACL regional offices and redress dis-trict coordinators. The regional offices also have the addresses and phone numbers of the grassroots network volunteers, if you want to contact the coordinator closest to your

KRISTI

(Continued from page 1) she has not really experienced any prejudice. "Here in California, especially, there are many Asian skaters. When I first started, Tiffany Chin was one of the big Olympic hopefuls. I really looked up to her and it was great seeing other Asian Americans."

Despite the constant demands on her time, Yamaguchi is as steady and composed in public as she is on the ice. "Sometimes it is hard because you are in the public eye a lot . . . fout you want to give a little bit of your time to everyone because they are supporting you and they took the time out to express that to you," she said. "I've had really nice fans and have been lucky that they are supportive." Yamaguchi said she has not yet

made any decision about her fu



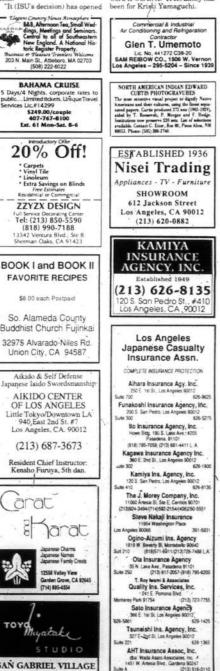
Pacific Citizen, Friday, July 17, July 24, 1992-9

ture plans, the question that is most often asked of her. The Olympics is always such a big goal, the big goal. . . All of a udden that's gone and now I have to find another goal for myself and work toward that." This fall she will appear in national print ads for one of her newest endors-ers, Hoechst Celanese Corp., as spokeswoman for a brand of acate fibers used in appare eb

Her decision about whether to turn professional or not may be made easier given the recent ruling by the International Skating Union (ISU), which allows all professional skaters to compete in Olympic games, with some restric-+11

up many more options for me," said Yamaguchi. "I don't have that pressure to make a definite deciion and not be able to go back (to son and not be able to go back (to competing)." Crediting skater Brian Boitano, 1988 gold medal-ist, with getting the ISU to change the Olympics eligibility require-ments, Yamaguchi said that details still need to be ironed out Being thought of as a role model

her own right is still new to her Her message to young people is this: "If you have a dream, just really dedicate yourself to it and set some goals for yourself. There'll be ups and downs but keep your mind to it and work as hard as you can, because in the end all the work is worth it." It certainly has you



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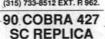
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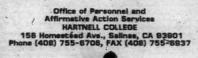
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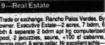
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