

Mineta criticizes health care for Asian Americans

Speaking before the House Subcommittee on Health and Environment, Rep. Norman Mineta June 9 strongly criticized the response of the federal government to the health care concerns of Asian Pacific Americans.

"The Asian Pacific American community continues to encounter ignorance and outright opposition within the public health community when our health care concerns are raised," Mineta said. "These attitudes are pervasive and clearly represent a pattern which the community will no longer tolerate and can no longer ignore."

His comments came at a hearing to review the health status of racial and ethnic minority populations.

Mineta leveled special criticism at several agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: specifically, the Agency for Health Care Policy Research (AHCPR), the Office of Minority Health (OMH), and the Bureau of Health Care Delivery Assistance (BHCA).

Among the specific examples cited by Mineta:

- After consulting with Asian Pacific American health organizations, Mineta's office could identify only one project focusing on Asian Pacific American health funded by AHCPR during the past three years. That \$400,000 grant to UCLA accounted for one-tenth of one percent of AHCPR's total funding over that time period.

- The Office of Minority Health at the Department of Health and Human Services was ordered by the Disadvantaged Minority Health Improvement Act of 1990 to establish a grants program to assist public health agencies and private non-profit agencies in hiring bilingual health care workers. Mineta authored that provision of the Act. OMH announced the first solicitation for this program eight days before the hearing—and three years after the Act was passed.

- The Bureau of Health Care Delivery Assistance (BHCA), which administers the Community and Migrant Health Centers program has adopted policies which have the effect of locking out Asian Pacific American community organizations from applying for funding under the Act.

"BHCA will not consider a funding application for a new clinic in the same geographic area as that served by an existing center, even if the target population is different," Mineta noted.

"However, neither will BHCA take action to ensure that existing centers provide services to all of the populations within their service areas," Mineta said. "This is the kind of Catch-22 the Asian Pacific American community can no longer tolerate."

"Asian Pacific Americans pay taxes in this country just like everybody else," Mineta said. "We have the right to know that government programs, particularly those designed to reach the most vulnerable in our communities, are responding to our concerns."

The hearing was held as the Subcommittee on Health and the Environment prepares to reauthorize the Community and Migrant Health Centers Act and the Disadvantaged Minority Health Improvement Act.

Nikkei lose 1st battle but vow to change 'Jap Road'

JACL members Sandra Tanamachi Nakata and Betty Waki fight Texas townspeople who believe 'Jap' is inoffensive . . .

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

The Jap Road issue is over, the road will keep its name, said Mark Domingue, commissioner, Jefferson County, Texas. In a report in the *Beaumont Enterprise*, Domingue, speaking at a meeting June 18 of more than 100 local residents, said, "When this meeting is over tonight the issue is dead. The name is not going to change." But according to Betty Waki, president, Houston Chapter, JACL, the fight is far from over.

"One mistake we've made is to tell people what we're going to do. They were able to preempt us," said Waki.

Neither Sandra Tanamachi Nakata of Beaumont or Waki, both members of the Houston Chapter, JACL, were present at the meeting, fearing they would be overwhelmed by protesters. Earlier, they had called for a meeting for June 23 at the Jefferson County Courthouse, but the members of the recently formed "Keep Jap Road Committee" informed Tanamachi Nakata through a certified letter that they wouldn't be attending her meeting and invited her to their June 18 meeting instead. The chapter has since cancelled the June 23 meeting.

Waki said the next step is to let things simmer down. She said the chapter was working on its options and that Efraim Martinez of the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Services, and the chapter are planning to meet with small groups of local people.

From the local perspective, the word "Jap" is not apparently offensive.

In defense of Jap Road, Denise Broussard, whose mother is Japanese American, said, "If it was discrimination and meant to be offensive, then yes, it would be bad. But it's not. It (Jap) was a bad phrase during and after the war, but the war is forgotten and we've become educated again. It's a good word again, unless it's used in a bad way."

At the meeting, different residents spoke of how the name had historical significance and that the farmers who lived on the road would call themselves the "Japs of Jap Road."

In a Beaumont *Enterprise* letter to the editor, Candy Thornton Melancon writes,

"Many of us see 'Jap' for Japanese as 'Tex' for Texan. If someone found offense in the phrase Tex-Mex would we have to change it also? How far must we go before enough is enough? Speaking to *Pacific Citizen*, David Bauerlein, staff writer for the Beaumont *Enterprise*, said, prior to the cancellation of the June 23 meeting, "It's pretty much over. Ms. Nakata is still going to have a meeting on Wednesday (June 23), but I don't know if any of the commissioners are even going to attend. The sentiment is that there is no inclination to change the road's name."

Despite local opinion, Waki said, "We haven't given up." From the beginning, she told chapter members that changing the road name would take about five years, nothing that has happened recently changes that estimate, she added.



NAKATA



WAKI

JACL Texans say they got little help from National Director Hayashi

The two members of the Houston Chapter, JACL, who have stepped forward to change the name of Jap Road in Beaumont, Texas, said that the battle has been difficult because they have gotten little support from National JACL.

Since the fall of 1992, Sandra Tanamachi Nakata and Betty Waki both assert that they have made numerous attempts to contact former national director Dennis Hayashi for help, but with no success.

Pacific Citizen reached Hayashi at Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C. where he is now the director of the agency's Civil Rights Division. Hayashi said he could not comment at length on Waki and Tanamachi Nakata's complaints, but he denied their allegations saying, "We did call them and didn't

get calls back." While the former national director wouldn't say whether he made any of the calls personally, he insisted that, "Calls were placed from our office."

Waki said she tried to call Hayashi on at least five separate occasions and while she spoke to intermediaries, including former staffer Cheryl Kagawa and Janelle Sasaki, at national headquarters she never spoke with him directly.

"He (Hayashi) could have at least had the courtesy to call and give Sandra a little encouragement," said Waki, president, Houston Chapter. "They have to understand in San Francisco that we're basically alone here. When I recruit for our chapter I say, 'We're here, we're

See TEXANS/page 6

Chapter opposes Pearl Harbor Highway name

The San Fernando Valley Chapter, JACL, recently voiced its opposition to a measure (SCR 13) that would rename segments of Highway 99 the "Pearl Harbor Survivors Memorial Highway." According to Ellen Kaminoto, regional director, Central California District, the bill passed through the full Senate and now goes to the Assembly Transportation Committee, with a hearing before the committee scheduled for June 28.

In a May 26 letter to California State Senator David Roberti, Arnold Miyamoto, member, San Fernando Valley Chapter, JACL, said, "SCR 13 is poorly timed and insults the integrity of Americans of Japanese ancestry throughout California and particularly in Central California."

"As a result of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese Americans wrongfully suffered due to ignorance, racial intolerance and greed.

Much of this was documented to have occurred in Central California, precisely along the site of addressed in SCR 13."

The proposed name change would occur on Highway 99 between Tulare and Fresno.

Citing the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, the chapter said that naming the road after Pearl Harbor would perpetuate negative stereotypes

of Japanese Americans.

"SCR 13 is geographically inaccurate, historically deceiving and blindly ignores the facts of the events in California immediately following the attack on Pearl Harbor. SCR 13 will do more to condone racism and greed and very little to memorialize the dedication of American citizens in facing adversity (i.e. 442nd, 100th and the MIS)," said Miyamoto.

Cleveland, Ohio

August 19-22, 1993

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Editor/General Manager: Richard Suenaga

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Calendar

Illinois

Chicago

Fri.-Sun., Sept. 5-8—Sixth National JACL Singles Convention, Chicago Marriott Hotel, 540 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. Banquet and dance on Sat. night to feature Lillian Kimura, JACL national president, and emcee Adele Arakawa, anchor WBBM-TV. Cost: \$125 before July 1; \$145 after July 1. Sat. banquet and dance: \$50 before July 1; \$55 after July 1. Information: Elise Ogawa, registrar, 708/679-4710.

Ohio

Cleveland

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 19-22—EDC-MDC-MPDG JACL TN-District meeting, Sheraton Cleveland City Centre Hotel, 77 St. Clair Ave. NE, Cleveland, Cost: \$90, register before July 14, Joyce Asamoto-Tosh, Treasurer, 216/582-5443; 10053 Hawley Dr., North Royalton, OH 44133. Hotel: \$75/night, single or double; \$85/night, triple or quad. Registration and hospitality, Thurs.; luncheon, workshops and Midwest Bash reception, Fri.; workshops, Tai-ko performance and banquet with Irene Natividad, Sat.; joint tri-district meeting and Tai-ko performance, Sun. Information: Hank Tanaka, 216/229-2491.

Michigan

Detroit

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 20-22—Detroit Chapter, JACL, sponsors a weekend trip to the annual Giza Holiday at the Mid-west Buddhist Temple, Chicago. Trip includes lodging in downtown Chicago and transportation. Cost: \$100, members; \$110 non-members. Information: Toshi Shimura, 313/535-3089.

Washington

Auburn

Saturday, July 24—White River Buddhist Temple Bon Odori Festival, temple's front parking lot, 3625 Auburn Way North, Auburn, 5 p.m. Free. Food, music, fresh produce and Japanese and bazaar displays. Dance practices: from early July, 7:30 p.m. Information: June Nakano, 206/833-1442.

Seattle

Sunday, July 25—Seattle Chapter JACL and 1000 Club annual golf tournament, Jefferson Golf Course, 1:30 p.m. Tee-off times limited to first 40 golfers to sign up. Entry fee: \$25, including dinner at South China Restaurant. Dinner only: \$15. Information: Kiyo Sakahara, 206/526-5009 or Mas Kinoshi, 206/721-0717.

California

San Francisco area

Sunday, July 11—Nikkei Widowed Group's monthly meeting, 2 p.m. New members, men and women, welcome. Information: Elsie Uyeda Chung, 415/221-0268 or Yuri Moriwaki, 510/482-3280.

Saturday, July 17—Lake Park United Methodist Church presents, "Summer Serenade," a benefit dance, El Centro Community Center, 7007 Mosser Ln., 8 p.m. Cost: \$12.50. Information: George Oyama, 510/525-5784 or Leo Sato, 510/893-7092.

Sunday, Aug. 29—San Mateo Chapter, JACL, sponsors the Yosh Kojimoto memorial golf tournament, San Mateo Muni Golf Course, Coyote Point, 10:30 a.m. Cost: \$42, with cart; \$35, without cart. Sign-up deadline: Aug. 8. Information: Vince Asai, 745 Pico Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403, 415/349-3590.

San Jose area

Saturday, Sept. 18—Sixth annual reunion for former residents of San Benito County, Ridgemark Golf and Country

Club, Hollister, 12 p.m. Cost: \$20, send to: Mitsugi Hane, 778 N. 6th St., San Jose, CA 95112; by Aug. 20. Information: Dennis Nakahata, 408/629-2567; Tak Obata, 415/945-5565; Mitsugi Hane, 408/293-7108; Hiroshi Wada, 213/321-9761 or Joe Obata, 408/842-3366.

Saturday, Sept. 25—San Jose Chapter, JACL, sponsors the fourth annual Casino Night fundraiser, Italian Gardens, Oct. 13-Saturday, Oct. 23—Yv. Al-Kel's fall trip. Trip includes stays in New York City, Pennsylvania, Montreal, Ottawa and Niagara Falls. Non-members welcome. Information: 408/294-2505.

Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday—Yu-Ai Kai sponsors Byung Jun, who will teach the game of "Go" to those interested. Yu-Ai Kai community center, 558 N. 4th St., senior lounge, 3rd floor, 1 p.m. Information: 408/294-2505.

Fresno

Sunday, Sept. 19—Annual Shin Zen Run, Woodward Park, Fresno. Ten kilometer run, two mile run, two mile walk and one kilometer race for kids. Registration forms, Central San Joaquin Valley sporting goods stores of JACL CCDC office. Information: JACL CCDC, 209/486-0815.

Los Angeles area

Sunday, June 27—South Bay Chapter, JACL, hosts the annual scholarship/queen recognition reception, Merit Park Community Room, 58 Merit Park Dr., Gardena, 1 p.m. Honorees include: Nisei Week queen candidates, Kichi Egashira, scholarship recipients and national JACL scholarship finalists. Information: Joanne Tejumato, 310/329-3465.

Saturday, July 3—West Covina Buddhist Church's annual obon festival, 1210 Glendora Ave., 1 p.m.; dancing, 7 p.m. Information: 618/339-6326. Odori practice: June 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, July 1.

Sunday, July 4—Greater L.A. Singles Chapter, JACL, sponsors a trip to see David Henry Hwang's "The Dance and The Railroad" and "The House of Sleeping Beauties," East West Theatre, 4424 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A., 2 p.m. Cost: \$20, tax deductible to GLA. Information: Yu Minami, 310/324-1614; Meriko Mori, 310/477-6997.

Saturday, July 16—Japan America Society of Southern California presents the 2nd annual family fishing excursion, Dana Wharf Sportfishing, 34675 Golden Lantern, Dana Point Harbor, 11 a.m. Cost: \$20, children; \$25, adults with car.

Arts calendar

Art

LOS ANGELES—Sat.-Sun., July 17-18—Occidental College presents "Carving and Printing from the Woodblock," a weekend workshop by Keiji Shinohara, Occidental College Press, 10 a.m. Cost: \$125, \$10 lab fee. Registrar: send \$50 deposit to Carolee Campbell, 5040 Noble Ave., Sherman Oaks, CA 91403; checks payable to ACBA. Information: Ninja Press, 618/906-9971.

DELRAY BEACH, Fla.—Through Sunday, Aug. 29—The Morikami Museum presents, "Japanese Playthings," an exhibit of Japanese toys, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach, Tues.-Sun., 10 a.m. Exhibit includes both contemporary and antique folk toys. Cost: \$4.25, adults; \$3.75, seniors; \$2.00 children, 6-18; Morikami museum members, free. Information: 407/495-0233.

Theater

LOS ANGELES—Thurs.-Sat., July 8-Aug. 21—East West Players presents Summer Theatre Workshop '93, 4424 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A., Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. Intensive classes in acting, movement, musical theatre, and a recital.

license, \$35, adults without license. Information: 714/850-4335.

Saturday, July 10—Bringing Everybody's Strength Together (BEST) presents drug prevention training for kids, San Fernando Valley Boys' and Girls' Club, 11251 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima, 9:30 a.m. Information: 818/896-5261.

Saturday-Sunday, July 10-11—1993 Lotus Festival, Echo Park on Glendale Blvd., noon. Arts, crafts, food and Dragon Boat Races.

Mon.-Fri., July 12-23—USC and the Mayor's community redevelopment agency present, the Minority Program in Real Estate Finance and Development. USC campus. Cost: \$2,950, meals and housing. Scholarships available. Information: Dr. David Dale Johnson, 213/740-6526.

July 10 to Oct. 17—Japanese American National Museum presents the photo of Jack M. Iwata, "One More Shot Documenting Changing U.S.-Japan Relations," 569 E. First St., L.A. Information: 213/625-0414.

Through, Wed. June 30—Japanese American National Museum presents "Country Voices: Three Generations of Japanese American Farming." JANM Legacy Center, 369 E. First St., L.A., Information: 213/625-0414.

Friday, July 30—Kero's 2nd annual charity golf classic, California Country Club, 1509 S. Workman Mill Rd., Whittier, 11:30 a.m. Cost: \$100, entry fee, cart and dinner. Information: 213/263-5693.

Sunday, Aug. 8—Aikido Center of L.A. presents Nisei Week annual Aikido and Japanese martial arts exhibition, Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo, noon. Cost: \$12, before Aug. 1; \$15, at door. Information: 213/687-3673.

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 13-15—Committee for Multi-Racial Projects presents, "Multi-Cultural Festival," Riverside Convention Center, 3443 Orange St., Riverside, Fri., 5 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.; Sun., 10 a.m. Food, arts and crafts and exhibits. Information: 909/466-6505.

San Diego

Sunday, July 18—San Diego Chapter, JACL, and Union of Pan Asian Communities, present Akira Kurosawa's "The Lower Depths," Kiku Gardens, 12603 3rd Ave., Chula Vista, 3 p.m. English subtitles. Cost: seniors free; \$2, others. Information: Kiku Gardens, 619/422-4951.

Cost: \$75-\$100, individual classes; \$600, all classes. Instructors include: Amy Hill, Don Magwill, Glen Chin and Tom Aha. Information: 213/560-0366.

LOS ANGELES—Through Sunday, July 11—Cold Told presents the new comedy, "The Grapevine," Los Angeles Theatre Center, Theatre Four, 514 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. Cost includes: Vuj 8, Kumoto and Denise Kumagai. Cost: \$18, general admission; \$15, students, seniors and groups. Information: 213/739-4142.

LOS ANGELES—Thurs.-Sun., July 15-Aug. 15—East West Players present, Amy Hill debuting her new one-woman show, "Beside Myself," 4424 Santa Monica Blvd., Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 2 p.m. Cost: \$12-\$15. Information: 213/660-0366.

Photography

TORRANCE, Calif.—Through Wednesday, June 30—Joelyn Fine Arts Gallery of the Torrance Cultural Arts Center presents, "From Sea to Shining Sea: A Portrait of America by Hiroki Kubota," 3330 Civic Center Drive, Torrance, Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-Sat., 10 a.m.

Small kid time



Gwen Muranaka



News

Marriott Library receives Masaoka papers

Scholars of Japanese American history will now have the advantage of exploring the life and times of University of Utah graduate Mike Masaoka through his original papers, thanks to a gift of the papers to the Marriott Library, it was announced by the University of Utah Development Office, Salt Lake City.

Former U.S. Ambassador to Japan Edwin O. Reischauer called the late Masaoka "a legendary individual of tremendous achievements—a moving force in the Japanese American Citizens League, a member of the famous

442nd Regimental Combat Team, and an extraordinarily skilled lobbyist" who "helped win full political and social equality for Americans of Japanese descent and through this helped start the whole post-World War II movement for greater minority rights."

In an introduction to Masaoka's biography, Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (D-Calif.) called him a "fighter for freedom and justice for all Americans throughout his life. He was one of those men who have helped make our Constitution a living document."

Masaoka (1915-1991) was 26

years old at the time, a fact which older JACL officers wanted to keep quiet for fear he may have been considered too young, when he was hired as National JACL's first paid staff member as national secretary and field executive from Sept. 1, 1941. He graduated in 1937 with a B.A. in political science, honored in 1976 by the University of Utah as distinguished alumnus for public service and decorated in 1983 with the Order of the Sacred Treasure, 2nd Class (Japan's highest award to foreigners who are not government officials).

First SAT test in Japanese draws 1,800

More than 1,800 high school students this spring tackled the College Board's first Asian Language Achievement Test—in Japanese. Nearly 50% of the 1,804 test takers were from California (443) and Hawaii (437), according to The College Board, New York City.

There were 100 students each in Washington and New York states, and first-time test takers from 41 states, the District of Columbia and 36 foreign students.

"The number of students study-

ing Asian languages is increasing at a rapid rate," Brian O'Reilly, director of the SAT program, noted. In 1982-83, there were 416 students taking Japanese in 18 classes in California. In 1990-91, it swelled to 2,585 in 101 classes.

The Japanese Language Test With Listening program requires at least two years of study or equivalent. (National JACL in the 1980s encouraged school boards to teach Japanese in the high schools.)

A Chinese Language Test With Listening will be offered for the first time in spring 1994, bringing the number of language offerings to eight. Others are in Spanish, French, German, Italian, Latin and Modern Hebrew.

Sample questions and information are contained in the 1993-94 edition of "Taking the Achievement Tests." The 1993-94 schedule for Japanese language test with listening is Monday, Nov. 8, 1993.

American Samoa official praises 442nd

By THOMAS OWAN
and HANK WAKABAYASHI
Special to the Pacific Citizen

BETHESDA, Md.—A moving presentation on the overall contributions made by Japanese Americans and, in particular the 100th/442nd and MIS, was made by Delegate Eni Faleomavaega (D-American Samoa) May 19 at the National Association of Professional Asian Women dinner, concluding its seventh annual National Training Leadership Program.

The guest speaker, in directing attention to the accomplishments of Japanese Americans during World War II, found equally applicable the phrase, "Never Again," used in connection with the opening of the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., to the cause against unlawful evacua-

tion, relocation and detention of loyal U.S. citizens.

"It didn't matter that, for the most part, these internees were loyal, native-born citizens of the United States," Faleomavaega declared. He underscored the fact that many who volunteered for the Mainland for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team came from concentration camps. He noted that the brilliant war record led the way to acceptance of the Japanese American community into the American mainstream.

The onetime lieutenant governor of American Samoa declared he was a "direct beneficiary of the WWII Nisei war record" as the American mindset was broadened to warmly embrace all ethnic Americans of the Pacific Rim.

In the late 1960s, he served in Vietnam and was a member of

Hawaii's Own, the 100th Infantry Battalion.

Keynote speaker Judge Ida K. Chen, Court of Common Pleas, 1st Judicial District of Pennsylvania, was honored as the Outstanding Asian Woman in the Judiciary. She spoke of her personal campaign experiences, all spiced with humor and filled with insight and words of wisdom.

When Washington Redskins defensive lineman Al Noga and his wife were introduced by the congressman, who revealed the newly-acquired athlete had signed a contract for more \$5 million, Redskins fans bestowed him for autographs.

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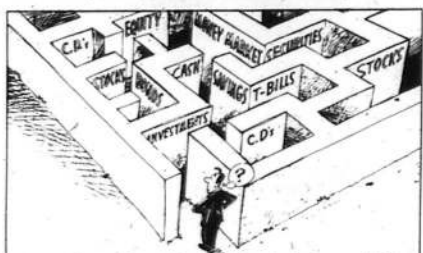
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Scholarships



TOPSCHOLARS—Students receiving honors in the Denver area recently were, top row, from left: Mark Sagara, George Washington High School, Nisei Post #185, Rupert Arai scholarship; Derek Kai Tagawa, Fairview High School, Brighton Japanese American Association scholarship; Jason Aoki, Littleton High School, Japanese American Association, Colorado, Tri-State Buddhist Temple Inouye scholarship; middle row, from left: Jill Inagaki, Chatfield High School, Junichi Onizuka scholarship; Clinton Moinat, George Washington High School, Caroline Tagawa Memorial scholarship; David Namura, Pomona High School, Hagiya - Gov. Carr Memorial scholarship; Kristine Wada, Heritage High School, Nisei War Memorial, Tri-State Buddhist Temple, Kageyama Memorial scholarship; Chad Nitta, Pomona High School, Japanese American Community Graduates Program, Tri-State Buddhist Temple Special Recognition; Nicole Furiue, Niwot High School, Japanese American Community Service scholarship; Jeff Deutchman, East High School, Cindy Yamamoto Memorial scholarship; bottom row, from left: Lisa Sasaki, Wheatridge High School, Sun Financial/Gist scholarship; Karen Numoto, George Washington High School, JACL Minoru Yasui Memorial scholarship; Michelle Hunter, Denver Lutheran High School, Bob Tanaka scholarship; Carol Kanda, Fairview High School, Japanese American Association of Colorado; Kim Newlin, Cherry Creek High School, Mile-Hi Chapter, JACL, scholarship; Kumi Rattenbury, Arapahoe High School, Ellison Onizuka scholarship; Amy Schwartz, Columbine High School, Cindy Yamamoto Memorial-Dr. Takeshi Ito scholarship. Other scholarship winners included Jeff Makita, Allison Tani, Amy Nakamura, Adam Wallace and Kumi Sutherland.

Denver-area scholars honored

By **TOM MASAMORI**
Mile-Hi Chapter, JACL
DENVER—Fifty-eight area graduating high school seniors were invited to the 38th annual program in their honor held recently at the Scanticon Hotel.

Three hundred friends, family and community representatives

gathered to show support for their milestone in graduating.

The original scholarship program, sponsored solely by the Mile-Hi Chapter, JACL, began in 1956 with the awarding of a single scholarship of \$50. Today, there are 21 sponsors giving 34 scholarships, ranging from \$500 to

\$2,000.

The program is also supported by individuals, organizations and an annual "Go for Broke" golf tournament.

Students in attendance are feted with a dinner, dance and a gift.

Global news

Japanese in Brazil celebrate 85th year

By **JUN TAKAHASHI**
Special to the Pacific Citizen

SÃO PAULO—Brazil is celebrating the 85th anniversary of Japanese immigration this week (June 18 - 25), commemorating the arrival of the first group on the Kasato Maru on June 18, 1908. The motto in 1906 in Japan was: "Go to work in Brazil and become rich!" There were 781 men, women and children in the first group.

Tomi Nakagawa, the last survivor of this group, lives in Londrina in Paraná state and will receive a special commendation. She is 87 years old.

Nipo-Brazilian Week opened Sunday with two masses, one Catholic and the other Buddhist, a commemorative exhibit, "Parabéns," congratulating the marriage of Crown Prince

Naruhito and Masako Owada showing some 70 panels of photographs and videotape of the couple since childhood, their wedding ritual and an exposition, "Brazil and Japan: Traditional and New," at the Bunkyo (The Brazilian Association of Japanese Culture).

Two sisters, Toki Nogami, 96, and Hideo Takahashi, 93, were honored by the America do Sul Bank. Nogami, incidentally, arrived in Brazil before the pioneers of the Kasato Maru in 1906.

Her nickname in Brazil, Aurora, means "dawn" like the meaning of her Japanese name. Toki is the third daughter of samurai Judge Saburo Kumebe, has lived on a little farm at Ribeirão Pires in São Paulo state since the '60s. She had married Yutaka Nogami, an agronomist, in the U.S., who

bought the coffee farm after reading about it the local press. He died in 1990 and is succeeded by his eldest son, Shozo, 65. Her five grandchildren and one great-grandson are her happiness to day. "My country is here," she added and hopes to live as long as her mother did, until age 104.

Recent research into Brazilian history reveals three shipwreck Japanese surfaced in 1793 at Florianópolis in Santa Catarina state, then known as Nossa Senhora do Oesterro. In 1869, two Japanese disembarked at Salvador. In 1894, Deputy Tadashi Nemoto arrived on an official mission to open Japanese immigration to the states of Pernambuco, Bahia, Minas and São Paulo. In 1897, the first Japanese ambassador arrived. ☐

Ecology expert David Suzuki headlines PANA-Canada event

VANCOUVER, B.C.—Internationally known Canadian scientist and radio-TV nature commentator, Dr. David T. Suzuki, professor of genetics at the University of British Columbia, will be featured by PANA-Canada's first workshop on Thursday, July 1, 3:15-5 p.m., at Vancouver Convention Trade Center.

Suzuki's workshop on "Racism, Science and the Environment: Different Parts of a Single Story" has switched the previously scheduled topic, "Nikkei Perspectives

on Japan," to Friday, July 2, 1:30 p.m.

A Thursday afternoon session with the Japanese American National Museum has been added with board chairman Francis Sogi of New York and Hiroyuki Nagahashi of the Los Angeles staff present.

Vancouver Sansei Linda Ohama's Golden Sheaf Award documentary, "The Last Harvest," is billed for 8 p.m., July 1. It is a story of her family and friends adapting to life on the southern

Alberta prairie.

The workshops, including the film, are open to registered guests. The two feature art and history conference exhibits will be open to the public on Saturday, July 3.

The convention committee apprises attendees that workshops (May 28 P.C.) are subject to last minute change.

Information: PANA-Canada, P.O. Box 2123, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3T5, Canada (604) 873-1663; fax (604) 874-4500.

Asian Pacific leadership group schedules awards

Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP) will honor five individuals and organizations at its 10th anniversary awards dinner Friday, July 23, in Los Angeles.

Veteran Southern California television journalist Tritia Toyota of KCBS-TV will be the keynote speaker.

Among those to be honored are David Barclay, vice president, Workforce Diversity, Hughes Aircraft Company; Helen Brown, Founder and Director, Philippine American Reading Room and Library (PARRAL); David H. Kim, chairman of the Korean American Grocers Association and Foundation (KAGRO); Yang Il Kim, president, National Korean American Grocers Association; James Riady, deputy chairman, Lippo Group; and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (APALC).

The dinner honors individuals and organizations who have contributed to and provided leadership for the Asian Pacific American communities.

LEAP was founded a decade ago to be a nonprofit, educational, community organization by a cross section of Asian Pacific American leadership in Southern California. Its mission is to mobilize the talent and resources of the Asian Pacific American communities and nurture its leaders while fostering greater public understanding of these communities. This dinner is LEAP's major fundraiser for the year.



TRITIA TOYOTA
Keynote address

Utilizing moneys from this event, LEAP intends to strengthen its existing Leadership Management Institute (LMI) workshops and support the national Asian Pacific American Public Policy Institute (APA-PPI). The APA-PPI recently made national news with the release of its public policy report, "The State of Asian Pacific America: Policy Issues to the Year 2020," a collaborative piece with the UCLA Asian American Studies Center.

Emcee for the event will again be Frank Kwan, producer for KNBC-TV.

The Hyatt Regency Hotel is located at 711 S. Hope St. in the Broadway Plaza in downtown Los Angeles.

Information: Linda Akutagawa, (213) 485-1422.

Like Father Like Son



News

(Continued from page 3)

UCLA Extension aims at myths of modern Japan

Contrary to popular belief, wages in some Japanese industries have been higher than those in the U.S. since the 1980s, according to Dennis Patterson, assistant professor of Japanese politics at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, who will teach a UCLA Extension course, "Japanese Government and Politics," June 29-August 5, 7-10 p.m., at UCLA, 2160 Bunche Hall.

Patterson hopes to dispel myths that Americans have about Japan, its people, system of government and its trade motives. Part of the misunderstanding emanates from "the assumption that the trade balance with Japan is something that can be negotiated," he adds. "Further, the U.S.

uses a legalistic approach/strategy toward trade negotiations. Therefore, it keeps U.S. policy makers from focusing on the real problem—restoring American competitiveness.

"Also, in trade, the Japanese government is not the only actor, but hundreds of thousands of businesses who make their judgments based on economics," Patterson notes.

Another topic is Japan's political problems and an in-depth look at its system of government, a parliamentary democracy unlike its European counterparts.

Information: UCLA Extension (310) 206-8456. Fees: \$240 (4 units, political science), \$185 (non-credit).

War brides in Australia mark 40 years 'Down Under'

Japanese women who married Australian soldiers in the Allied Occupation Forces after World War II are celebrating 40 years of living in Australia as Machiko Bryce, organizing a reunion for the women in Melbourne, told *Kyodo News* recently. She said about 600 had come to join their husbands after the government lifted its notorious "white Australia" policy on March 27, 1952.

The reunion marks 40 years in Australia, "celebrating the way we pioneered and have assimilated into Australian society," she added.

Teruko Blair, who has written a book on her experiences in Australia, survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and had met her husband while working at the Officers' Mess between 1948-1950.

She took the job to obtain more food, although her parents disapproved of her serving the former enemy. She joined him in November, 1953, and remembered the first years abroad were the hardest.

Blair explained the "Japanese language wasn't popular" those days but she refused to blame Australians for her troubles. Her greatest fear then was that war would break out again between Australia and Japan.

The most disturbing incident occurred only two years ago when a woman at a bus stop in Canberra told her she "hated the Japanese" for their part in World War II. Blair said she told the woman: "If you have enough energy to hate the past, why don't you use that

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See NEWS/page 11

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3) In the post war period the U.S. enlisted the services of thousands of Japanese professors and journalists in counter-acting the Soviet Influence. Nosaka was a braintrust of this project. His policy culminated in the renunciation of Mike Masakawa and the war-time JACL and the denigration of Nisei veterans.

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Response great to internet wartime record requests

By **IKE HATCHIMONJI**

An article in the February 19, 1993 issue of the Pacific Citizen entitled *Internet Wars Have Right to Know* Wartime Records urged former WWII internees of WRA camps to write the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. for copies of their personal WRA case files or those of deceased members of their family.

As of the first of June of this year, 755 requests were received and processed or are awaiting processing because of the backlog caused by the large number of requests. The overwhelming response clearly shows that, given the knowledge that their records are available, most internees or their survivors want to know what data was kept on them. It was assumed that most former camp internees were either unaware that their records are theirs for the asking or needed to know how to request them. The response supports the assumption. That knowledge in obtaining one's files was very limited is shown by fiscal years 1990 and 1991 when requests of only 50 and 40 requests respectively were received by the National Archives.

Former internees wishing to obtain copies should know what the files contain and how to request them from the National Archives. Most files contain personal histories, health records, camp school records, property and relocation center employment records, leave

records and related correspondence, memoranda, telegrams and teletypes.

To request copies, send a letter to: Suitland Reference Branch (NNRR), Attention: Greg Brader, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C., 20409.

The letter should contain:
• Your **FULL NAME** (maiden name if unmarried at the time) while in the camp, including nicknames or other names that you may have adopted.
• Your **BIRTHDATE**.

• The **RELOCATION CENTER(S)** you were in.

Requests for copies of files of relatives are available only under the following conditions:

• Relative is a spouse or blood relative.

• If requesting copies for living relatives, written permission must be included with the request letter.

• If request is for a deceased relative, this must be stated in the request letter.

• The same information as required for requesting copies of your own records must be included in the request letter.

The National Archives will charge 25¢ per copied page. They will send a price quote approximately 10 working days after receiving your request along with instructions on how to submit payment. The quotation is based upon the number of pages contained in your file.

Making the records available

has met with a variety of reactions. Most people are surprised at what their records contain. Some were irritated that such personal data was collected and maintained in permanent files, although the information is protected by the Privacy Act. The records of the Iasei proved to be more interesting because of their historical detail, some of which was unknown to their survivors. Some of the Iasei histories contain information useful for family trees. For example, the names of their siblings in Japan are usually shown.

If there are questions concerning the files, call John Butler at the National Archives at 301/763-7410.

Visitors to the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles who were internees can obtain brief, one-page computer database printouts of individual case files of camp records released by the National Archives. Although considerably less detailed than the full case file, the printouts are immediately available and are provided free of charge.

The Japanese American National Museum is located at 369 E. First Street, Los Angeles, CA, 90012. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday and Saturday and Sunday; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday. The museum is closed on Mondays, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Information, call 213/625-0414.

TEXANS

(Continued from page 1)

alone, but it's nice to know JACL is there for us."

"One thing they have to realize is neither Sandra or myself would have gotten involved if we didn't expect help from JACL," said Waki. JACL, for example, could have solicited support from other civil rights organizations which have chapters in Beaumont, she said.

"We deal with more basic problems here like if we're going to get beat up. Dennis or any of the people brought up on the West Coast don't know what it's like to be alone," said Waki. The chapter president said she is concerned about the safety of Tanamachi Nakata, who has been the focus of local media attention. Underscoring the potential danger, a few

months ago Tanamachi Nakata had her mailbox shot up with a high powered BB gun and recently a woman came up to her and said, "You Jap, leave the country!"

Tanamachi Nakata said she too has tried to speak with Hayashi. She first corresponded with Hayashi in Aug., 1992 by letter. Tanamachi Nakata received a letter back from Hayashi dated Sept. 28 in which he acknowledged Tanamachi Nakata's letter and said, "As I have just returned to the office I have not been able to go over all the materials; however, I will call you soon to discuss it with you."

Tanamachi Nakata said that she has never heard from Hayashi directly. She acknowledged that national headquarters staff associates left messages on her answering machine at home while she was at work; to which she said she had in turn responded.

Tanamachi Nakata also received upon request pamphlets on the word "Jap" and a video about

the internment from national headquarters. With the pamphlets, she received a note from Hayashi dated Dec. 2 acknowledging a letter she had sent to him. But she denied Hayashi's allegation that she didn't return his phone calls. She said she called San Francisco headquarters five or six times to speak with Hayashi directly, and with no success.

"I thought he would make a statement for us like he has for everyone else," said Tanamachi Nakata, citing other civil rights issues such as the Marge Schott controversy in Cincinnati and racial stereotypes in the Super Dave cartoon in which Hayashi has made comments.

"If he was here and going through all of this, I know he would really want to help," said Tanamachi Nakata.

The Texas Sansei women had some reason to believe help was coming. During a break at the national board meeting in Washington, D.C., March 21, Sharon Ishii Jordan, governor, Mountain Plains District, said in a private discussion with Hayashi that she requested he contact Waki and Tanamachi Nakata. At the same meeting, Paul Shinkawa, chairman, Pacific Citizen board, made the same request and later called Waki to tell her to expect a call from Hayashi.

"I told him to call Betty and Sandra and let them know what he had done. It was more for moral support than anything," said Ishii Jordan, saying that she was disappointed that direct contact was not made.

The governor broadened the discussion to the issue of communication between national staff and officers and local districts and chapters. At the March 21 board meeting, the issue of communication came up with Jap Road used as an example of a communication breakdown.

"If the national president or national director do something in our area, then they should let us know. Let us know what steps were taken," said Ishii Jordan.

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

The Old West—in Japan

Yoriko Kusai once chided me for saying Chino, in Nagano Prefecture, where she teaches English to private students, is on the "back" side of Mount Fuji. What is "back" and what is "front," she asked.

I always thought "front" was the classic and handsomely symmetrical profile of Fuji seen from the bullet train, when the clouds aren't low, around Numazu on the Pacific Ocean side of the main Japanese island. Chino is a pleasant little city on the opposite side of the peak.

But I digress. On a brief recent visit to Chino, which is a sister city of Longmont, Colo., Yoriko took us to see a genuine American-style dude ranch called Hope Lodge not far away on the slopes above Lake Shirakaba. It is run by her friend, Yoshihiko Kawamura.

Hope Lodge has a large main log lodge surrounded by a cluster of log cabins. They can accommodate up to 60 guests who can ride some of the 20 genuine American quarterhorses and Appaloosas on the premises, ski nearby in winter, enjoy steaks barbecued near the corral and otherwise make like cowboys. Adding to the Western

ambience are a weather-beaten old canvas-topped wagon, a variety of wagon wheel of course, and sundry decorations like moose horns, snow shoes and a massive set of Texas longhorn horns.

The view from the lodge is a huge, rounded untimbered hill like those one sees in Wyoming and Montana. It was serene and brown at the time, but Yoriko explained in season it would be covered with azalea blossoms and wild lilacs.

Kawamura is lean and mustachioed and looks a little like a Marlboro man. How he got into the dude ranch business in Japan makes an interesting story.

He was working in a lively stable after World War II where he became acquainted with American GIs who came to ride. That got him interested in the American West. He decided the best way to learn more about it was to go to the U.S.

Those were the days when Japanese tourists could take out only a very limited amount of money. Kawamura expected to work and save enough to travel around the country. In Los Angeles he found accommodations at a boarding house where Japanese gardeners came to hire temporary

workers. The pay was \$5 per day. Because he was in the U.S. as a tourist, he wasn't authorized to work. Kawamura's employers made it clear that if the Immigration agents showed up, he was to drop everything and run.

Kawamura proved to be a hard worker. Soon he was offered a steady gardening job at \$20 a day. No thanks, he said, he wanted to see more of the American West. He remembers many who were kind to him, including a Nisei named Muzzy Morita who hired him to pick strawberries on his farm near Huntington Beach.

Kawamura wandered over the West, visited with cowboys, learned how log buildings were put together, and eventually went home to build a bit of the West in the wilds of Nagano Prefecture, not far from the Japan Alps.

If you get a powerful hankering for the Old West while in Japan, you might want to visit Kawamura and set down a spell. He'll be glad to see you. ☐

Hosokawa is the former editorial page editor of the Denver Post. His column appears weekly in the Pacific Citizen.

Letters

Pacific Citizen encourages and welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be brief, are subject to editing and those unpublished can be neither acknowledged nor returned. Please sign your letter but make sure we are able to read your name. Include mailing address and telephone number. Fax letters to 213/626-8213 or mail to Letters to the Editor, Pacific Citizen, 701 E. 3rd St., Ste. 201, Los Angeles, CA, 90013.

Wants way to communicate with people in PC stories

I thoroughly enjoy reading the interesting and well-researched articles by your staff. The articles contain a wealth of information to the reader. On many occasions it has generated a feeling among our readers that we would like to write to or telephone our opinions on these articles.

For example, in a recent Feb. 19 article by Gwen Muranaka, she reported on the racial remark and gesture by Betty Drumheller, Washington state party vice chairwoman. These types of articles have a tendency to generate a feeling or opinion on the part of our readers. However, there is no way we can communicate our feelings or opinions to the organization or person who said or did what is being reported. It would be nice if the reader could write or telephone in an opinion.

We have noticed that a newspaper in our area contains a reference source, that the reader can write to or call to offer their opinions. We would like the Pacific Citizen to consider offering this same service which can be added at the end of an article. This would offer the reader an opportunity to write or telephone the writer.

This added service would hopefully influence the organization or person who voiced or wrote an article that our readers would like to respond to. In this way, our readers may be able to influence the outcome of an issue.

Your consideration in this matter would be sincerely appreciated. Please keep up your excellent work.

Thomas Nishisaka

President, San Jose Chapter, JACL

Editor's note: PC includes phone numbers for readers to obtain more information on calendar items and other stories where appropriate, but when it comes to news stories, it is not customary to provide a phone number or address as a part of a news story or an addendum to it for readers to voice their views, pro or con. It is not our role, unless we are writing an editorial opinion piece, to solicit opinions. If, however, you wish to call us regarding a news story at our toll-free number, 800/966-6157, we will be glad to furnish whatever information we have for you to communicate your views.

Disabled vets views to donate redress money

This refers to Fred Hirasuna's article, "As A Gesture of Gratitude," (May 28, 1993 issue PC). It suggests that those who have not donated some of their redress money to the Legacy Fund, should examine their conscience. I got my redress check and have not donated. Here's why:

Mr. Cressney Nakagawa once said: "No 442nd, No Redress," or words to that effect. In that context I feel I have contributed my fair share already. I am a 442nd disabled vet and extremely lucky to be alive, although not in one piece, and to have lived long enough to see redress materialize. I feel I did my part with my "blood, sweat, and tears." My conscience is clear.

It is inferred that "greed" keeps one from giving money to the Fund. That was an unwarranted, demeaning cheap shot. I urge Mr. Hirasuna, and others whom he seems to speak for, to cool it! Why turn people off with that kind of sermonizing?

Robert T. Shoda

Foster City, Calif.

Says Ginsburg supported JA redress claims

I applaud President Clinton's appointment of Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court. In March, 1983, when Japa-

See LETTERS/page 11

East Wind



BILL MARUTANI

History in the making

Last month, Vicki and I were privileged to attend the swearing-in ceremonies up in New York (Brooklyn) for the Honorable Marilyn D. Go as a federal Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York. Judge Go's installation into this federal position is, to the best of my knowledge, a "first" for any Asian American east of the Rockies, thus further opening new trails to new horizons not only for Asian Americans but also for other minorities.

Including women.

What was I doing there? The story begins about 15 years ago at a time when I was on the bench in Pennsylvania. The year was 1977. In hiring law clerks that year, among the number of applicants were two Asian law graduates from Ivy League schools: University of Pennsylvania Law School and Harvard Law School, the latter being Marilyn's alma mater. Both applicants had excellent law school records; among other things, Marilyn had also graduated from Radcliffe with honors. In consultation with the two law clerks then on my staff, I chose these two Asian Americans to be my next

pair of law clerks. (In choosing succeeding law clerks, I consult with current law clerks, since the latter are aware of my *modus operandi* as well as my peccadilloes, and interviewer and interview contemporaries can be much more open with one another.)

The selections were among the best that I've made.

The Go family, is headed by Dr. Mateo L.P. Go (Chinese extraction) who resided in the Philippines when he decided to come to the U.S. to attend M.I.T. (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) for his engineering degree, moving on to Cornell for his doctorate. Hawaii then lured him where Dr. Go joined the faculty of the University of Hawaii, becoming the chief of the Civil Engineering Department. And Hawaii was where Marilyn received her earlier education. (Incidentally, I was to learn later that Henry S. and Seiko Wakabayashi of Washington, D.C., are longtime friends of the Go family, the two families' paths having crossed during the academic era.) To be a member of the Go clan is to be one who excels in life. Within the Go family are three M.D.'s—Marilyn's older sister plus

Marilyn's twin brother, plus the brother's spouse—with Marilyn, and her husband Richard Dolan, both being lawyers. Overseeing this panoply of brilliance is mother, Jean Go, with her winning charm.

It is one of those rare families like the Iseris, Togasakis, or the Yasui—just to mention but a few within our Nikkei community.

During her clerkship there were bits of seemingly inconsequential hints of the person she was. For example, I overheard that during her clerkship, she had a piano shipped in which had to be hoisted up to the second floor of the apartment she occupied—through the window. This suggested to me that Marilyn's interest was by no means limited to the law; much as she was committed to it. Also, after office hour meetings of interested Asian American lawyers were being called to develop programs for extending legal support to the Asian needy. And thus it comes as no surprise to learn that Marilyn is active in a number of organizations such as the Governor's Task Force

See EAST WIND/page 11





IN-SIGHT

LILLIAN C. KIMURA

Their legacy lives on

A few weeks at home gave me an opportunity on three successive days to participate in activities which for me became celebrations of the lives of several East Coast Nikkei and the contributions they made to society.

First, I went on a Newark Museum excursion to the Isamu Noguchi Garden Museum in Long Island City, Queens. The museum is inconspicuously located amid the rubble of light industry across the East River from the Manhattan skyline. Created and established by the renowned sculptor, it houses over 300 of his works in an indoor/outdoor gallery.

Born in the U.S. of a Japanese father and an American mother, Noguchi was raised in Japan where he was said to have been excluded because of his blue eyes. At age 13, his mother sent him back to the United States to complete his education and he went on to become an artist, studying in France with Brancusi, among others.

As the rumblings of war in the Pacific were heard, Noguchi's biography notes his transformation into an activist: "With a flash I realized I was no longer the sculptor alone. I was not just an American but Nisei." As Japanese Americans were forced into internment camps, Noguchi hoped to volunteer his services to be useful. He voluntarily interned himself in Poston where he wanted to develop plans for parks

and recreation areas and organize activities for the people as a precursor to the development of an ideal cooperative community for the American Indians. Noguchi was treated as another internee and was not able to put into fruition his plans so he felt it pointless to remain. As he had voluntarily went into camp, Noguchi had much difficulty in trying to leave. When he finally did, he continued to try to find useful ways to work on the war effort. There is a piece in the museum, *My Arizona*, which is described as "a recollection of seven months in an Arizona desert camp for Japanese Americans at Poston near the Colorado River, where the sun shines interminably." I wonder if there are other remnants there of his work with those detained.

Noguchi's magnificent sculpture, *The Issei*, is erected at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center in Little Tokyo, Los Angeles. He was awarded JACL's Nisei of the Biennium Award in 1984.

New York JACLer, Dr. Samuel Koide, senior scientist at the Center for Biomedical Research of The Population Council in New York, invited me to participate in the unveiling of the footstone marker for Dr. and Mrs. Hideyo Noguchi (no relation to Isamu) in Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx. Dr. Noguchi was a bacteriologist who made numerous contributions on the laboratory

diagnosis of syphilis, yellow fever, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, poliomyelitis and rabies, among others. If you remember your history books, he contacted yellow fever in Africa and died on May 21, 1928. For 24 years, Dr. Noguchi was on the staff of Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research. On his death, he was buried by the Institute at Woodlawn Cemetery among other famous Americans such as Victor Herbert, Joseph Pulitzer, Bat Masterson, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and F.W. Woolworth. Dr. Noguchi's headstone has these words, "Through Devotion to Science, He Lived and Died for Humanity." The footstone marker is the first indication that his wife Mary is also buried there.

Thanks to Dr. Koide who brought to my attention Dr. Noguchi's burial here and who made all the arrangements with the cemetery, Rockefeller University and Dr. Hideyo Noguchi Memorial Association of Japan for the unveiling ceremony. The last trip was New York JACL's day long excursion to Philadelphia to see the Japanese House and Garden in Fairmont Park and a visit to the studios of George Nakashima Woodworker in Bucks County. Mr. Nakashima died several years ago but his artistry is carried on by his wife, Marion, daughter, Mira, and son, Kevin. His works displayed at his studios are sights to behold. Nakashima said "each tree has its

own particular destiny" and a woodworker's job was to find the ideal use for a piece of board and "shape the wood to realize its true potential."

When World War II broke, Mr. Nakashima, his wife and infant daughter were sent to Minidoka. There he met a carpenter who was trained in Japan and he became his designer and apprentice. When it became possible to leave camp, the family was invited by Antonin Raymond to move to New Hope, Pennsylvania, to work on his farm. After a year of farming, Mr. Nakashima struck out on his own and built his first woodworking shop in Bucks County.

George Nakashima received the JACL Nikkei of the Biennium Award in 1982.

As I toured the studios where Isamu Noguchi and George Nakashima worked and participated in the unveiling at Dr. Noguchi's gravesite, I really felt proud of these Japanese Americans and their accomplishments and hope they will be adequately remembered as our story is told to future generations. That's thirty for now. ☐

Kimura is the JACL National President. Her IN-SIGHT column appears regularly in Pacific Citizen.



Come-on Sense

KARL K. NOBUYUKI

On Throwing Stones

There is a saying about throwing stones when one lives in a glass house, and it would seem appropriate to apply this when one chooses to be publicly critical about the number of Asian American appointments in President Clinton's Administration.

When Sandra and I went to the White House in May, both of us were favorably impressed with the change in the landscape of Washington's inner circle. There were a lot of young people, specifically educated and immensely dedicated. Granted, there may have been the perception of "newness," albeit that associated with youth, but the commitment to performance was more than rhetorical, it was definite. Sandy and I knew that the formula would result in change and that even though it would be a "bumpy" road, it was inevitable. And, because this was in our nation's capital we knew that change would be significant.

As we walked about the capital in the evening, Sandra and I theorized. We accepted that most Americans would not comprehend the impact of a multi-TRILLION dollar deficit and that the willingness to sacrifice for the national good was probably more of a rhetorical "sound-bite" than a personal commitment. Neither of us could rationalize why any person would be will-

ing to step into the nation's top-spot to try to change forces that, by inheritance, were beyond one's control. And, above all, we were impressed with the presence of Asians in the nation's capital. Granted, they were not all members of the Administration or the Congress, but by-golly it was almost like walking in... Gardens.

One must be careful in determining the commitment of a national leader on the basis of "appointments." These designations are not some boxscore of keeping promises, but really are only a means to an end. As both Congressmen Norm Mineta and Bob Matsui reiterated on that spring day in May, we must look at the quality of the appointments and what those appointments do to further a long-term objective.

To paraphrase Congressman Mineta: in the past there have been a good number of Asian American appointments, and these individuals succeeded in their designations because of their individual qualification. There is nothing wrong with that. These individuals gained considerable personal empowerment as appointees. However, today, when we pass judgment upon the selection of a representative of the White House, we must measure the effectiveness of that particular appointment upon the community's gain. That is to say, "...

Community Empowerment..." This is the only way that as a group Asian Americans can succeed, and the only way that Asian Americans, as a community, can shape their own destiny.

Norm Mineta is right. Appointments come and go and move on to other things. Appointees who seek to pursue the course of community empowerment bring with them the colors of the mosaic—the fabric of American life. Political appointments should not be a numbers game, nor a criterion for success or failure. Rather, appointments should be viewed as a step towards community empowerment and that community's participation in the great American experiment. Finally, and we should not forget this: we should not assume that all the individuals picked for a "top-level appointment" accepted. A measurement of a community's empowerment is not just its ability to say "yes," but also to decline the invitation...

This conceptual framework should not be foreign to JACL. As the league pursues its search for a new national director and professional leadership, our league must also be mindful not just of the qualifications of an individual, but more so, the empowerment that a particular individual will bring to the membership of the associ-

tion. For too long, it appears, that the JACL has ignored its fiduciary responsibility to the local chapters of the organization, looking primarily upon the upper organizational structure, the district and national bodies. Appointment to district and national committees appear to be an "insiders club" locked onto the short-term goal of personal empowerment within the League. It appears that somewhere along the way the upper echelon forgot that these (district and national) bodies consist of local chapters, and that members belong to chapters first and foremost. In turn, chapters belong to the district and national organization.

Yes, we can throw stones, but if we live in a glass house ourselves... ☐

Nobuyuki was a two-term chapter president for the Gardena and Greater L.A. Singles Chapter, JACL, and currently serves on the Board of the San Fernando Valley Chapter, JACL. He served as JACL national executive director from 1977-80 and presently is the chairman of California State Sen. David Roberti's Asian Pacific American Advisory Commission in the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles.



Moshi Moshi

JIN KONOMI

Have dukes, will chastise

The Japanese reaction to the acquittal of Rodney Peairs of the man slaughter charge in the shooting death of the 17-year old Japanese student, was understandably incredulity and anger. It was very much like that of the "ban the gun" majority of Americans. But there was one comment to which I feel compelled to take strong exception. Associate professor Notoji Masako of the American culture studies at the Tokyo University, answering David Sanger of the N. Y. Times, said: "After searching for forgiving explanations,

the answer seems simple. We are more civilized. We rely on words."

Really? Her answer was very thoughtful, and self-indulgent. She was either forgetful or ignorant of Japan's recent history.

In 1932, a group of young naval officers attempted a coup d'état. Early on the morning of May 15, a group of them broke into Premier Inukai Tsuyoshi's bedroom and pointed their guns at him. The Premier calmly said: *Hanasaba wakaru* (If we talk this over the officers' sense of the national

crisis), you will come to an understanding (of Premier's position). The officers said: *Mondomo!* (No use discussing), and fired. Thus died one of the most admirable statesmen of modern Japan. He was the last of the breed of Japanese to whom politicking was a mission and not a means to personal enrichment. With him also died the first government formed of a political party. This so-called 5/15 Incident was the ominous shadow cast by the disastrous events that followed: the attempted coup d'état of 2/26, '36; invasion of China; the rise of the

fascist, military regime; then, finally the crushing defeat in the senseless Pacific War.

Let us consider an ordinary environment, the public schools.

The Japanese school system is noted for producing high performing students. In spite of the usually large classes discipline is hardly a problem, for the students are well behaved and mindful of the teachers. It may be assumed that here words are the persuasive authority. Maybe so in some.

See KONOMI/page 11

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Video review

アイム オン ビデオ



'I'm on video.'

By RICHARD SUENAGA
 Editor

He's the original Vegetarian salesman. He slices, he dices, he chops, he minces, he juliennes—no job is too tough for him. Whap. A coin is bisected. Whap. A candle is split down the middle, with two new wicks—both still burning. Whap. Whap. A piece of pottery lands on the ground neatly quartered.

He'd be steely-eyed if he could see. He looks like Curley in the Three Stooges but you wouldn't want to mess with him. His sword isn't sleek; it's just an old scuffed-up cane-handled model.

But never mind all that. He's Zatoichi. Zorro without a mask, John Wayne without a horse, Clint Eastwood without a scowl and a cheroot.

And, hey, if Clint made spaghetti westerns, then Shintaro Katsu could make an *udon* samurai flick or two (26 to be exact).

Pasta's pasta. And the past, for East and West, Japan and America, has its parallels. Whether Wayne or Katsu, Mifune or Eastwood, the heroes were cut from the same cloth, tattered or not. Each in the end relied on their own code and character—and the sword or gun on his hip.

For Japan, for America, the gunfighter of the American West and the samurai of Japan represent a kind of folklore archetypal hero. The similarities are great. Rooted in violence, these characters face malevolent forces with shoot or slice justice. Each country claims its frontier past.

America may or may not have gotten over its frontier past, and maybe these kinds of movies, along with the plethora of martial arts variety, may turn some viewers off. If you care, maybe Zatoichi reaches a rung or two higher than Western heroes. For he's a man of the earth; honor and humility are soaked in with the sweat of his clothes. On the other hand, these films also tell of a time when Japan was a country of factions, of gangs, warlords, and yakuza bosses. To that end, Zatoichi movies may represent yet more cut-'em-up action flicks.

But on some level, there's room for Big Z as just entertainment. He plays the buffoon—the wandering masseur and gambler with the big sword he wields like a knife. No, this isn't *Rashomon* or *Gone With the Wind*, but it is filmmaking with a story, a plot, character development, even humor, even pathos, even a moral or two at the end.

Most of the stories really have subplots. The *PILOT* that threads through most of Zatoichi's adventures is the showdown of rival gangs in Japanese villages, and, of course, the ultimate showdown of Big Z and the gang's brooding and fierce samurai swordlinger.

In the first episode, *The Life and Opinion of Masseur Ichi*, Zatoichi faces down Hiroto in perhaps the story with the least violence. (There's more *yakshi*-yelling than blood.) In *The Blind Swordsman and the Chess Expert*, Big Z looks more like a Big Zero in the opening scene when he almost falls off a plank boarding a boat. Who saves him from his loss of dignity but Juronji, who engages Zatoichi's skill in chess and

Zatoichi, the blind masseur, gambler and supreme swordsman, is now on video—with English subtitles.

mind games. But that is not the only plotline. Zatoichi wins big from some poor village idiots who are also bad losers. They attack Big Z and in the ensuing thrashing, slashing, gnashing and gnashing, a small girl is hurt. Big Z is crushed with melodramatic guilt and must find more money to buy medicine to save her life.

In the end he must also face Juronji, just as he must reluctantly do the same with Jushiro in *Masseur Ichi* and a *Chest of Gold*. In both men, Zatoichi seeks admiration and friendship, but knows deep down, the mounting

tension, the cat-and-mouse dialogue must end sword to sword. But it's not all fighting. *Chest of Gold* may be one of the better Zatoichi movies. Besides wiping out four or five bad guys in a single swipe, Big Z performs a cute dance, has fun in a bath house, and we see how much he likes his rice wine in another scene. He even takes a turn at taiko.

Thus, the Z-classics are filled with elements—if a bit uneven—of good story and movie-making. Zatoichi sagas are not epic; he is not Odysseus on an endless quest. He might be closer to Shane (with stubble), the softspoken gun-fighter whose time is running out, but not before one more battle to protect the good and decent. In mythic style, Zatoichi rumbles through a filmy, foggy, shrouded, still-federal Japan, knowing he has no place, no family, no home town. But he still finds his pleasures—perhaps most of all, in the delight of playing the blind fool when all along he knows who sees best.

Here are brief descriptions of his Zatoichi videos now on the market. *No movie-ratings are provided but most would be rated R for some degree of violence. Copies at \$59.95 each may be obtained from Video Action which has exclusive U.S. rights. Write to Video Action, 708 West First St., Los Angeles, CA, 90012. Selected Zatoichi films may also be rented from some Blockbuster video stores across the country.*

RATING SYSTEM:



The Life and Opinion of Masseur Ichi, The Odyssey begins
 ● 1962, black and white, 96 minutes

● Starring Shintaro Katsu as Zatoichi, with Masayo Mori, Ryuzo Shimada, Gen Mitamura.
 ● Synopsis: Traveling through Shimosa Province, Zatoichi is caught in a gang war. Boss Sukegoro of Ioka seeks the blind swordsman's services, while Shigezo of Sasagawa hires the deadly samurai Hiroto—and so begins what must end in showdown.

Zatoichi's Flashing Sword
 ● 1964, color, 82 minutes
 ● Starring Shintaro Katsu, co-



starring Naoko Kubo, Mayumi Nagisa, Ruytaro Gomi
 ● Synopsis: This must be the sequel to *The Life and Opinion of Masseur Ichi* because it's about, guess what, our hero getting caught in a feud between rival yakuza.

Masseur Ichi and a Chest of Gold
 ● 1964, color, 83 minutes
 ● Starring Shintaro Katsu, co-starring Mikko Tsubouchi, Machiko Hasegawa, Kenzaburo Joh.
 ● Synopsis: Zatoichi travels to Itakura Village to visit the grave of a man he had killed in a sword fight years ago. Minding his own business doesn't help—Zatoichi is mistakenly blamed for a gold robbery, as is his old friend, Boss Chuji. Zatoichi must prove his innocence and ultimately deal with a samurai killer, Jushiro.

KONOMI

(Continued from page 9)

schools, but not in all. As far as I know (here I must admit that my reading is very limited) no American writer has noted the wide use of corporal punishment as possible explanation of the student discipline. It is maintained, largely, by the fists of the teachers.

On a school tour, a student was using a hairdryer, one toilet article which was not on the list of approved articles for the trip. The teacher who was leading the tour chastised the student by striking him so violently that the student died. No criminal action was taken against the teacher. He was merely fired. This happened a few years ago in Gifu.

See KONOMI/page 12

NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

energy to keep the peace?" The Japanese war bride experience defies generalization, she observed.

(ABC-TV's *Good Morning America* show broadcast from Brisbane in late May reported that some 15,000 Australian war brides went to America and some couples and widows are coming home.

After the war ended, U.S. soldiers overseas were told they could marry and bring their wives home "irrespective of race" but the requests of those in Japan were delayed until Congress amended the Soldier Brides Act in 1947. The Senate had first balked over fears of miscegenation and Asians not

being able to assimilate. Mike Masasaka recalls in his autobiography, "They Call Me Moses."

The most publicized soldier bride case from Tokyo involved an Army veteran, 27, and Pia Teruko Kurusu, 21, daughter of Ambassador Saburo Kurusu and Alice Little of Chicago. She was born in Italy in 1936. Her mother was a secretary at the Japanese consulate general and her father, the consul general. The family lived at Karuizawa during WWII.

(Another Tennessee-born wife Gwen Howard of a Japanese diplomat Hidenari Terasaki and their U.S.-born daughter Marilyn Miller, now of Casper, Wyo., who lived in Japan during WWII were told in the book-film, "A Bridge to the Sun.")

In the postwar influx, an estimated 300 Nisei GIs came home with Japanese brides; about 3,000 other American GIs and civilians did likewise. Several JACL chapters, especially in the Midwest, can also attest to the stalwart support of soldier-bride couples to the community.

And in a larger sense, as Prof. Henry H.L. Kitanaka pointed out in 1969, "they have integrated and assimilated before being acculturated...and more advanced in their Americanization than their American-born peers."

COLORADO

(Continued from page 7)

about adapting and adjusting to life in the new country.

Media: Yoriko Imada and her husband Eichi bought the *Rocky Mountain Jiko*, a weekly bilingual newspaper serving the more than 12,000 Japanese Americans in Colorado, in 1977. Yoriko Imada

continues to report on local events as well as topical international issues. In 1990, the *Jiko* began printing a special supplement, *The Colorado Jiko*, to provide an introduction to the state's history and attractions. Recognizing the growing interest in Colorado among Japanese businesspeople, this publication welcomes friends from Japan and provides them with helpful information not available in guidebooks. This contribution has opened many doors for Colorado businesses.

In 1992, the Imadas expanded by bringing Japanese broadcast news to local television viewers.

EAST WIND

(Continued from page 8)

on Minorities on the Bench," "National Asian Pacific American Bar Association" (Chair, Voting Rights Committee), "Asian American Bar Association of New York" (director, co-chair, Asian American Issues Committee, etc.), to name a few.

After completing her law clerkship, Marilyn joined the U.S. Attorney's Office in New York as an assistant U.S. attorney; after four years or so at that position, she joined a law firm in New York, and next elected by the Board of Judges (federal) to her present position.

She has made history. So that others may follow and continue to expand that history.

After leaving the bench, Marutani resumed practicing law in Philadelphia. He writes regularly for the *Pacific Citizen*.

LETTERS

(Continued from page 8)

ness Americans filed a historic class action lawsuit against the United States to obtain redress for their internment during the second World War, a major obstacle was the combination of the Supreme Court's upholding of the internment and the expiration of the six-year statute of limitations. Earlier lawsuits that fell within the limitations period were denied because of the Court's ruling. Predictably, in May, 1984, the lawsuit was dismissed for exceeding the statute of limitations. The dismissal was appealed. In September, 1985, as part of a three-judge panel of the appeals court hearing oral argument, Judge Ginsburg asked the United States:

"These people certainly knew back in the early forties that they were injured. Can they make a claim in court? If wouldn't that depend on their ability to overcome a defense...a defense that the Supreme Court accepted? With that precedent, how could they ever survive? How could they overcome that defense? That was their problem. At what point in time would they have been able to overcome that defense?" (Author's parentheses)

Her questions were followed by a two-one reversal by this court that tolled or postponed the commencement of the limitations clock to July 1980 and allowed the lawsuit to proceed. Though the lawsuit ultimately failed on its second attempt to reach the Supreme Court, it provided part of the pressure that enabled redress for Japanese Americans to be enacted by the legislative and executive

branches of government in August 1988. Though little noted, Ginsburg's questions and decision are significant in Japanese American history and demonstrate her fitness to serve on the high court.

William Hohri

Chicago

What saying 'yes' means in Japan

In Ikuko Hirata's commentary on President Clinton's remark to Yeltsin about the Japanese saying 'yes' when they mean 'no' may be taken the way Mr. Hirata interpreted the remark or as it has been written about before, the "yes" is the equivalent of the Japanese "hai" which is merely acknowledging the other person's statement and not necessarily in agreement to the statement itself. Obviously, this can cause some confusion to those unaware of this Japanese custom of acknowledgment. I'd like to give Clinton the benefit of the doubt in this case; otherwise, I should think we really have a cloud in the White House. Mr. Hirata's explanation of yes and no was not entirely satisfactory. Diplomats are trained to answer in obfuscation or I don't have the answer-yet type statements instead of lying. To lie would be uncharacteristically undiplomatic except in war time or other exceptional circumstance, and counterproductive as truth will out later. A politician does the same thing. Clinton may be an exception.

Shigeo Yuge

Los Angeles

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Continued

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Obituaries

Dobashi, Henry T., 82, San Jose, May 5; San Jose-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, daughter Rieko Yasuda, 1 pc, brother Harry, 2 pc, Yoshi, 72, Selma, May 10; Sanger-born, survived by wife Kimiko, sons Calvin, Bruce, daughters Susan Caudle, 3 pc, brother Minoru, sisters Eleanor, Betty Doi.
Hayashi, Masako, 84, Covis, April 26; Long Beach-born, survived by husband Masao, sons Dr. Alvin, Dr. Michael, daughters Carolyn Nishi, Jeanne Soeda, 2 pc, brother George Kawasaka, sister Fumiko Hirose.
Hisayasu, Helen T., 73, Auburn, Wash., April; gourmet cook, Montana-born, prewar Doshira graduate, post-graduate work at Univ. of Washington where she met and married Harry Hirawasa, farmed in Thurston, Mont., moved to Moses Lake in '49 where she had catering business, to Kennewick in '56, to Seattle; in '74 was married to Saburo, who survived, also surviving sons Ronald and Patrick Hirawasa (both Chicago), Darrell Hirawasa (Renton), daughter Sandra Sponker (Bozeman), 8 pc, sister Mary Brynning (Timber Lake, SD).
Isada, Stanley T., 41; Hercules, Calif., May 3, survived by wife Joanne, son Brandon, daughter Krisian, mother Kaoru (El Cerrito), sister Karen Gao.
Isamoto, Tenuo, 75, Sacramento, April 24; Sacramento-born, survived by wife Tsuyuko, son Dr. Norman, Alan, Michael, 3 pc, brothers Hiroshi, Shigem, Norimichi (Jpn), sister Sumiko.
Isida, Kunimaro, 56, San Francisco, April 26; survived by father Nishien Archbishop Nisan, mother Chiyoko, sisters Dr. Taeko Abramson, Noriko Poland, Beniko Deming, brothers Dr. Kibmaro, Kazumaro.
Isamatsu, Katsuzo, 82, Seattle, April 13; survived by wife Yoshie, son Ken, daughter Karen Akira, 2 pc, brother Minoru Shimatsu (Jpn).
Kashino, Hattie M., Seattle, April 5; husband Paul predeceased in January, survived by daughter Pauline deIaria, sons Dr. Dean (Apia, Calif.), Eric, 6 pc, 1 great pc, sisters Yasuko Iwano (Waltoville), Mary Marika.
Kotaka, Mary H., Campbell, April 28; Maryville-born / Hayward-born husband Harry K. died May 1; survived by daughter Heidi, Mary also leaves brothers John and Jimmy Nakaniishi, sister Kikue Munkami; Harry leaves sisters Mitsuko Eguchi, Kazuo Otani, Toyoko Yoshiohka, brothers Kingo, Yutaka.
Kusumasa, Masao, 80, Hanford, April 29; Lemoore-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, daughters Akiko Prewitz, Miko Appleton, 4 pc, brothers Yoshiohri, Yoshinari (both Japan), daughter-in-law Ruth Kusumasa.
Kobayashi, Mikiko, 96, Seattle, March 27; survived by son Ray, daughters Emi Mayeda, Nori Kobayashi, 3 pc, 2 great pc.
Kubo, Tomio, 83, Palo Alto, May 7; Alhambra-born, survived by wife Eleanor, sons David Thomas, daughters Patricia, Frances Hamada, 4 pc, brother Isamu, sister Ann Kubo.
Kurazawa, Fumiko, 75, San Jose, May 3; Tooele, Utah-born, survived by daughter Lillian
Morimoto, 3 pc, brothers Frank and John Akiyama, sisters Betty Hayashida, Bonnie Oye.
Miyasaka, Aayio, 102, Yuba City, April 25; Hiram-born, survived by sons Joe, Rodger, Rodger Takemoto, Jim, Tom, Dr. Larry.
Nakashoji, Paul Y., 45, San Jose, May 3; Wakayama-born, survived by wife Sue, parents Tadashi & Maki, brother Mochio.
Narasaki, Kimiko, 90, Richmond, May 2; Fukue-born, survived by 7 sons (Jpn, N. Mas, Ben, George, Haru, Kunio, daughter Mary Ogawa, 19 pc, 13 great pc.
Sakigahama, Kimiko, 88, Fremont, May 7; Watsonville-born, survived by sons Jim, Ted, Sam, daughters Yuki Nomura, Joyce Tahira, Darlene Fujiwara, 17 pc, 6 great pc.
Suzuki, Anne, 40, Golden, Colo., April 14; Brooklyn-born sporting goods marketing consultant, survived by husband Neil, parents Frank & Marie O'Rourke (Fla.).
Takeshita, Kazuko, 66, Seattle, April 12; survived by son Bob, Don Taka, Ship, 7 pc, 4 great pc.
Tolji, Jinsuke, 85, San Leandro, May 4; survived by wife Kazumi, son Glen, daughters Arlene and Grace.
Tokumoto, Frank A., 88, Hanford, May 9; Hanford-born, survived by wife Ayako, daughter Cheryl Anne, brothers Shigeo, Henry, sisters Kimiko Okada.
Yamada, Tetsu, 94, Sacramento, April 26; Aichi-born, survived by sons Isamu, Dain, 3 pc.

KONOMI
(Continued from page 11)

At a class slumber party, a school event of the Iki High School—Iki is the island where the now infamous dolphin slaughter took place some years ago—two or three boys were talking with a few girls in the lobby of the girls' dorm. Two teachers dashed in, and without giving the boys a chance to explain, gave them a severe beating. The blows were so hard that one boy, 15, lost two upper teeth, suffered a cut on the jaw that required three stitches, and blacked out. Eight days later the boy died. Though medical opinion positively connected the death to the beating, neither the teachers nor the school admitted responsibility, and the Iki police did not take any criminal action. Although this happened in June, last year, as of the article in AERA, Feb. 16, the teachers were still teaching. The magazine's investigation brought out the fact that the teachers made a false report of the "accident," as to time and place, and the circumstances under which it was claimed to have happened, coerced the two other victims of the beating to keep silent. The principal went along with the conspiracy of silence. To the AERA reporter, the principal stated, he did not think that it was such a serious matter.

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In many situations throughout history the Americans have shown greater tolerance and deeper humanity than could be expected of the Japanese in similar, or comparable situations. The American redress to the Japanese Americans for their war time incarceration, and the Japanese government's prevarications on the matter of reparations to the wartime comfort women show a good contrast.

I bridle at the claim that the Japanese are more civilized.

Columnist Konomi is a prewar newspaperman who lives in Albany, Calif. His column appears regularly in Pacific Citizen.

ZATOICHI
(Continued from page 10)

The Blind Swordsman's Vengeance
● 1966, Color, 83 minutes
● Synopsis: Only Big Z could get into this much trouble. He saves a dying man attacked by a gang of thieves. The dying man asks Z to deliver a bag of money to a mysterious man named Taichi. Z meets, yes, a blind priest who leads Z to a peaceful town taken over by yakuza. More mystery, swordplay and death.

The Blind Swordsman and the Fujitives
● 1968, color, 82 minutes
● Synopsis: Zatoichi may be a master swordsman but he's a bozo when it comes picking friends. Z comes upon some men and agrees to give them a massage. The men are actually murderers who are planning deadly fun for our hero. As always, warring gangs create havoc over the countryside and Z is there

to protect the innocent in this bloody story.



The Blind Swordsman and the Chess Expert
● 1965, color, 87 minutes
● Starring Shintaro Katsu, co-starring Miko Narita, Chizu Hayashi, Kaneko Iwasaki, Gaku Yamamoto

● Synopsis: This time poor Zatoichi is just heading up to Mt. Fuji, just to celebrate the New Year. On his way, he meets samurai Jumboji, an expert chess player. They hit it off—in chess and swords. They gamble, win a lot of money, get ambushed by the sore losers, and in the ensuing battle a young girl is injured. Zatoichi is filled with remorse, and gambles to pay for medicine to heal her—and must fight his way along the way.



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