PC announces twice monthly schedule

Pacific Citizen will officially publish on the first and third Fridays of each month. As usual, deadlines are the Fridays preceding the publication date.

Here is the complete publishing schedule.

1995 PC schedule

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PC toll-free number back in operation

Pacific Citizen's toll-free phone number, which was inoperable during the latter part of December, has been repaired.

Members and subscribers may call PC at the same number:

1/800/968-6157.

PC apologizes for the inconvenience.

Happy NEW YEAR - 1995

President explains board decision to downsize staff

For JACL, the new year, 1995, begins with much work to be done on its road to reorganization and financial stability. Faced with a financial crisis, President Denny T. Yasuhara appointed the National JACL Budget Analysis Committee, headed by Mae Takahashi of the Los Angeles Chapter, JACL.

That committee prepared a 50-page document to the National Board at its Dec. 3, 1994, meeting in Los Angeles. After hours of discussion, the board voted to adopt a plan which would decrease the national staff at San Francisco and the staff at Pacific Citizen in Monterey Park.

At the department level, five positions would be reduced to three, with the opportunity for staff to reapply for the newly defined positions. PC would be cut back by one and a half positions.

Some members of the board believed that the decision was unfair and asked to resist the discussion in a teleconference.

The issue since then has remained controversial.

"Here, then, is Yasuhara's explanation of what was decided and why."

By DENNY T. YASUHARA

JACL National president

Cries always bring out either the best or worst in people in matters what that crisis may be. Those of us in leadership positions must always be mindful of that and have accordingly. There is no greater need for calm and objectivity and no greater need for the cooperation and support of our membership than is today. I have stressed this many times in the recent past. As community and JACL leaders we cannot push the panic button during such times, for too often it serves no useful purpose but only stirs up people's emotions.

No one could take pleasure from the decisions that had to be made by the National Board in December. But the belief that those on the Board who voted for staff reductions were somehow less compassionate than those that didn't, in an unwarranted, unjustified and disservice to all members of the Board. All of us are volunteers, some had little to do with the problems we are facing, others are serving at great cost to themselves, but we all are trying to do the best we can with the cards that we were dealt. The current Board deserves credit for trying to make a significant effort to correct the mistakes of the past that led to today's financial crisis. None are uncaring people.

The central issue before us, above all else, is the Board's fiduciary responsibility to its membership, which is not only a moral responsibility but a legal one as well. We have tried to address that. All JACL members need to keep this uppermost in mind, because this is a fundamental responsibility that the National Board owes to its membership.

To summarize, again, the financial situation of JACL at the time of the board meeting in December:

1. A deficit of $75,000 at the end of 1993.

2. Projected additional 1994 deficit of $37,000, which increased by the end of 1994.

3. A reserve fund that totaled $397,362 at the end of 1992 will be depleted by the end of 1994, with the exception of monies earmarked for building renovations.

4. Roughly $270,000 of the reserve fund was utilized to offset budget deficits of 1993 and 1994 and possibly more if the deficit exceeds previous projections.

5. Those cost overruns occurred despite total revenue increase from the Legacy Fund earnings from 1991 through 1994 of $147,413.

6. A request for an advance of Legacy Fund earnings to meet payroll in December because of cash flow problems.

7. Membership revenues had been "flat" over the last five years.

8. Membership dues have not been increased since 1988.

9. The adopted budget reductions were predicated upon those reductions being effective Jan. 1, 1995. This, with current staffing being continued until March 10, 1995, and with proposed severance packages not being considered in the budget, we will be in a deficit position already in the first quarter of 1995.

10. Today, 96% of the membership revenues are taken up by personnel and related costs, up 22% from 1990.

Those personnel costs take up some 66% of our total revenue. Much of the remaining 40% is made up of fixed costs such as insurance, building maintenance, utilities, and contract services that cannot be cut, see YASUHARA/page 5.

Neal Taniguchi resigns as membership VP

Saying he did not agree with the National Board's decision to restructure JACL staff and other budget cuts, Neal Taniguchi, vice president of membership and services, resigned Dec. 17 effective immediately.

Taniguchi said, "I cannot reconcile our action, my vote, with my own principles of fair play and compassion, my own goals and objectives with respect to JACL and my own vision of the long-term direction of the organization."

A former national staff member and vice president of operations during the Lillian Kimura administration, Taniguchi said that he could no longer work with JACL National President Denny Yasuhara, accusing him of "bullying" the board into making the decision to reduce the budget and restructuring staff.

The vice president said that by compromising five staff positions at national headquarters into three that the changes would "decimate the membership staff," which handles membership and programming.

Denny Yasuhara, JACL national president, called the decision necessary in light of a projected $280,000 deficit for 1995 and a depleted cash reserve. Speaking to the Daily Shogun, Yasuhara said that the national board had a moral and fiduciary responsibility to see that the organization was made whole again.

See TANIGUCHI/page 5.
Outdoor, winter, April 4, 1897 - July 2, 1898.

-ranging Japanese paper, washi, from kozo, followed by the 10th anniversary of the Museum. Their names and addresses will be published in the Japanese American Museum's newsletter.

Preparation of the Way - Events for the Year of the Horse.

Tribute to the Composition of the Latin America Symphony: 7 p.m., Performing Arts Center, 700 W. 12th St., L.A.

March 7-10 - "Loyd's" Book-signing. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays. $5 fee per session.

Interfaith: Latino and African American organizations are being invited to participate in this year's event.

Chinatown: Davis Business Association conference at Los Angeles; conference brochure available.

This year's program includes panels on the Midwest are being invited to participate in this year's event.


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Yamashita to file federal class-action suit for marine discrimination victims

Launching the final phase of his five-year battle against racial discrimination in the United States Marine Corps, Marine Reserve Capt. Bruce Yamashita announced Jan. 2 that he will file a class-action suit on behalf of hundreds of diverse Corps officers who were victimized by the same institutional racism to which he was subjected at Marine Corps Officer Candidate School.

The lawsuit, to be filed in federal court in Washington, D.C., cites the acknowledged absence of adequate mechanisms within the Navy and Marine Corps to deal with sexual harassment and discrimination, and asks the court to order the Corps to establish an internal process to correct those inadequacies.

"This action is aimed at protecting the rights of those who suffer from racial, ethnic, or gender discrimination by providing a forum where their complaints can be heard and redressed," Yamashita said. "Our goal is simply to prevent victims of discrimination from being further victimized through denial of their fundamental rights."

In his filing with the federal court, Yamashita states, "the absence of an effective, administrative process by which minorities in the United States Marine Corps can seek redress against discriminatory conduct on the basis of their race, denies them, and more particularly, the class of people presented in this action, due process of law protected by the Fifth Amendment."

"This class action embodies the larger principles involved in Bruce's case—fairness, equity, and justice for all minorities," said Colbert Matsumoto, incoming president of the Honolulu Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) in a separate statement.

Yamashita's personal battle against discrimination in the Corps culminated in his commissioning as a Marine Corps Reserve Captain in March 1994. During that period, Navy officials acknowledged deficiencies and inadequacies in administrative procedures that hampered resolution of his case.

In his 1993 hearing before the Naval Discharge Review Board, the chairperson of the hearing panel admitted that she was not aware of any Navy-Marine Corps board which had the authority to redress Yamashita's claim of discriminatory treatment and, in the formal written decision, offered no recommendation. As a captain, the Assistant Navy Secretary for Manpower Affairs cited "the absence of any meaningful alternative remedies presently available" in Yamashita's case.

NORMAN MINETA

"I am honored that the members of the House Democratic Caucus have restated their faith in my leadership ability," said Rep. Norman Mineta, ranking Democrat in the House Democratic Caucus. "This is another indication that members of Congress have not lost faith in the principles involved, we could not have succeeded because of the fundamental flaws in the administrative system.

"What we are doing is proceeding with this class action—on behalf of the hundreds of people who are not fortunate to have enjoyed the support that I have, and on behalf of those who will follow so that they will not have to sacrifice their careers and lives, as I did with the Constitution that they desire to protect."
San Francisco DJ fired for racial remarks

A San Francisco radio disc jockey was recently fired for broadcasting racially insensitive remarks against Japanese Americans, a representative of the Japanese American Citizens League said.

In an earlier argument with callers, a KFRC-FM show host asked a Japanese American disc jockey to comment on a.compute incident at a nearby Japanese restaurant. The disc jockey then made racially offensive remarks.

Several civil rights organizations have filed a lawsuit calling for the implementation of the Motor Voter law.

The lawsuit was filed by the Los Angeles-based National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium, a coalition of Asian American and gay and lesbian communities. In a song parody, Bryan made fun of June Ito, speaking in broken English and using a fake Japanese accent. Bryan was reprimanded but not suspended for the incident. Listeners also complained when the disc jockeys earlier called lesbians and gays "sick and pathetic.

Whitmore, KFRC station manager, said he thought the comments factored into Emerson's dismissal.

"What we wanted was for KFRC to change their policy, to not promote such comments and other types of discrimination. We thought it was a very simple request," said Hume.

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L.A. museum schedules artifact identification day

The Japanese American National Museum of Los Angeles is scheduled to hold its Artifact Identification Day Saturday, Jan. 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the museum, 369 E First St., in Little Tokyo. The day is dedicated solely to artifacts related to the military, specifically World War II internment, but not exclusively.

The museum is looking to locate and identify military artifacts which might be used in future exhibitions. Kaoru Oguri, Ph.D., of the museum emphasized that the museum is seeking information and is not looking to accept any artifacts immediately. Rather this day is dedicated to locating and identifying what sorts of artifacts still exist and may be made available for display.

"We realize how important these objects are to the families of the soldiers," she explained. "The museum isn't looking to 'take' them away from anyone. But it's... vital that we locate these items for their historic value."

Dr. Oguri will be the curator of two permanent exhibits at the Japanese American National Museum on Japanese American soldiers who fought during World War II. Dr. Oguri added that the museum is interested in personal effects, such as letters, "It could be something like a good luck charm a soldier might have taken into battle," Dr. Oguri observed.

The Japanese American soldiers who fought during World War II. Dr. Oguri stated that the museum is also interested in materials from Nikkei soldiers who served during the war in Europe. The second exhibit, set for November, will focus on the Japanese American family during WWII. Dr. Kaoru Oguri of the museum is the curator of the second exhibit, the "Purple Hearts medals earned by his buddies."

The stories that go with each object are just as important. Artifacts' histories, where something came from and how and why it was obtained and then preserved, are vital to its use in exhibitions. For example, historic photographs need accompanying data, such as when and where they were taken.

Besides the concentration on World War II, Dr. Oguri stated that the museum is also interested in materials from Nikkei soldiers who served during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

Information: Dr. Kaoru Oguri at (310) 626-0414, extension 268.

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DAVID A. FURUKAWA, CPA

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MORROW, REALTOR

TANIGUCHI (Continued from page 1)

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New to the business is the Pacific Citizen "For example, historic photographs need accompanying data, such as when and where they were taken.

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213-467-5970

FLOWER VIEW GARDENS
1691 N. Western Ave, Los Angeles 90027
213-207-6973

Dr. Darlyne Fujimoto,
Optometrist

DAVID W. EGAWA, Attorney
200 Parkcenter Drive, Suite 200
San Leandro, CA 94577
(213) 625-0413, ext 268.

TAMA TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL
Maria Iizuki Travel Services
204 N. Indian Wells Center
Indian Wells, CA 92210
(714) 691-6551

DEAR RICH HELMOTO
CLINICAL PATHOLOGY, INC.
204 N. Indian Wells Center
Indian Wells, CA 92210
(714) 691-6551

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL
SACRAMENTO JR. LITTLE LEAGUE
3071 12th St
Sacramento, CA 95819

David A. FURUKAWA, CPA

DAVID A. FURUKAWA, CPA

DAVID A. FURUKAWA, CPA

DAVID A. FURUKAWA, CPA

DAVID A. FURUKAWA, CPA

MORROW, REALTOR

TANIGUCHI (Continued from page 1)

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New to the business is the Pacific Citizen "For example, historic photographs need accompanying data, such as when and where they were taken.

The stories that go with each object are just as important. Artifacts' histories, where something came from and how and why it was obtained and then preserved, are vital to its use in exhibitions. For example, historic photographs need accompanying data, such as when and where they were taken.

Besides the concentration on World War II, Dr. Oguri stated that the museum is also interested in materials from Nikkei soldiers who served during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

Information: Dr. Kaoru Oguri at (310) 626-0414, extension 268.
Season’sGreetings
San Fernando Valley
Blake, Elizabeth...7802 Satauma Ave., Sun Valley, CA 91352
Imai, Hiro/Hilda
Koskata, Tom/Flora
Nakada, Harry/Helen
Nishinaka, John/Harriet/Stev/Sue/Susan
10500 Portola Ave., Granada Hills, CA 91344
Oda, Kay/Nancy
Usui, Isao
Yamaguchi, Sumi
Yamamoto, Takenori

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Director
Japanese American
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(212) 255-1881

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we learned? Booster activities and tours. Info:
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No Cal-W-N-P
Florin
Sat., March 11—Time for Reformation," Florin
Buddhist Temple Hall, 7233 Pinfold Rd., Sacra·
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day. 9/5/91—1921 eve. Planning meetings scheduled
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of Japanese American Women."

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Jan., 14—9:00 a.m. installation, 5 p.m. noth·
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Reserve at 503-3199. NOTE—Archie McDonald, author;
The Japa·
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SEASON’S GREETINGS
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Berkeley, Ca. 94702

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San Francisco, California 94115
80215.

DENVER CENTRAL OPTIMISTS
EXTENDS HOLIDAY GREETINGS
This has been a year of renewed interest in the former War Relocation Center known as Amache. The U.S. Department of Interior has placed the former camp site on the Register of National Historic Places. Also, the Colorado Historical Society has given grants to provide better access and to develop interpretive signs and to restore a portion of the camp site as a visitation area. The Denver Central Optimists have shouldered the major responsibilities in this effort. Progress has been made but additional funds will be needed to complete this. An appeal is therefore being made to all interested persons. Donations for the ‘Amache Fund’ may be sent to the Denver Central Optimists, 2390 Vance Street, Lakewood, CO 80215.

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From the frying pan

BIL HOSOKAWA

JACL president looks for support

The JACL administration of President Danny Yasuhara, elected by overwhelming majority at the national convention last summer, has wasted little time in addressing the staggering budgetary deficits run up by the previous administration.

In what Yasuhara describes as a "heart-rending, 15-hour board meeting," the National Board adopted most of the recommendations presented by a national budget analysis committee. The $1,270,400 budget proposed for 1995 but not passed at the convention was trimmed by approximately $142,000, a nearly 11% reduction.

Some of this was achieved by consolidating responsibilities at national headquarters, in effect eliminating half of the top staff positions. In addition, Pacific Citizen was put on a twice-monthly schedule rather than weekly, and appropriations for meetings and travel were reduced. We've probably read the details elsewhere.

Budget cutsbacks are not easy under the best of circumstances. In JACL's case they were not only prudent but necessary for its very survival. Yasuhara's board had the guts to begin work on the organization's problems head-on.

Yet there is something lacking in Yasuhara's account of a "heart-rending" board meeting. Given that with cutbacks some jobs inevitably would be lost and some programs abandoned, it would be enlightening for the membership to know that alternatives were proposed and by whom.

We have not been told who said what, and whether the key votes were unanimous, lop-sided or close. In a democratic organization this kind of information is essential to intelligent membership over-sight. If the board meeting, except on personnel matters, was closed on issues that affect the entire organization, it shouldn't have been. If the voting was by secret ballot, it shouldn't have been. The membership has a right to know what happened.

Having said that, let it be repeated that the need for supporting JACL is greater than at any time since the dismal Evacuation days. Yasuhara doesn't deserve the kind of unfair sniping demonstrated in a Japanese American newspaper's board meeting report based on faulty information from "sources who asked to remain anonymous"'unnamed 'JACL insiders,' and other 'unidentified sources.'

JACL has been familiar with a lot of dumb things. But in its mission it is the best we have by far and Denny Yasuhara, who sought the presidency knowing the kind of mess he was inheriting, is doing his damnedest to clean it up. He is making progress. He is entitled to support.

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

The mixed date flap at Wedowee

A t the Randolph County High School, Wedowee, Alabama, the school administration was making plans for a prom. Principal Hulon Humphries called an assembly and asked the students if anyone intended to attend with a date of another race. If Humphries had no further objection, Revonda Bowen, an assembly member from the 16 year old class, stood up and asked what race should her date be. Humphries said his objection to mixed dating was "the evil of mixed dating." Revonda Bowen, to have skipped over Humphries' diatribe and gone with a white boy-intending to attend with her white boy-friend, was put on a twice-monthly schedule rather than weekly, and appropriations for meetings and travel were reduced. We've probably read the details elsewhere.

But more importantly I must confess that this tiny high school in the sticks of Alabama, with its 803 students, is more civilized than some high schools of supposed to be more metropolitan and progressive California.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JIN KONOMI

The mixed date flap at Wedowee

REVIEWING PRIORITIES

In a transparently revealing and emotionally painful turn of events, the Japanese American Citizens League has come to terms with the hard fact that its national budget has been reduced by 11% from the planned amount.

"We're in a fiscal crisis," interim director Joseph E. Keller said in a telephone interview with the Pacific Citizen earlier this month. "We've decided to focus on the essentials - essential to intelligent membership over-sight. If the board meeting, except on personnel matters, was closed on issues that affect the entire organization, it shouldn't have been. If the voting was by secret ballot, it shouldn't have been. The membership has a right to know what happened."

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fort; and the increasingly bitter efforts to protect and promote civil rights for all Americans, the primary and continuing concern of this organization, is to be the welfare of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

I believe that the membership has re­mained loyal through many sensitive Japa­nese American issues, even if they haven't agreed with National's position. When highly controversial, non-Japanese American issues are added to the agenda, the potential loss of support of members in­creases greatly.

It is my hope that JACL cannot and must not involve itself in non-Japanese American issues which are so divisive that the abil­ity of the organization to support and protect JACL is the Japanese American community's needs.

The Japanese American Community League is the membership. It also requires understand­ng and sympathy because this business of restructuring and job elimination always involves pain at the personal level, on people we have come to know and love.

We would all wish otherwise, but the hard facts revealed in the Budget Analysis Committee Report made an imperative for the Board to act. The message was clear - the JACL is spending more than its income, and it must cut back or be forced to close the Reserve Fund was depleted; and unless steps were taken to balance our budget in 1995, Wedowee would face a cash flow crunch without acceptable revenue—which means in plain English—budget cuts.

I think the Budget Analysis Committee did a great service, foremost of which was to provide for the Board at this critical point, a set of recommendations that would lead to a balanced budget in 1995.

I think it is a credit to the Board that they lost no time in acting.

As 1995 unfolds, let us support JACL, confident that we have overcome other cri­ses before, and will continue to do so, and that JACL may continue to fulfill its historic obliga­tion to the greater Japanese American com­munity whose welfare we serve.

H. Shig Wakahama
Past JACL national president
Chicago, Ill.

Pacific Citizen Policies

Editorials, columns and cartoons

The opinions, views and statements in theedit­als, columns and cartoons appearing in the Pacific Citizen are those of the authors and as such do not necessarily reflect the views of the Japanese American Citizens League. Pacific Citizen includes editorials, columns and cartoons by American Citizens League staff writers, freelance writers and people who are not members of the Japanese American Citizens League.

Pacific Citizen reserves the right to consider editorial and column viewpoints from non-members of the Japanese American Citizens League. The Japanese American Citizens League, the Japanese American Citizens League National Council and the editors of the Pacific Citizen are officers of the organization and are solely responsible for the content of their letter. Pacific Citizen welcomes letters of concern and comment in the form of editorials, columns and cartoons. The Japanese American Citizens League, the Japanese American Citizens League National Council and the editors of the Pacific Citizen are officers of the organization and are solely responsible for the content of their letter. Pacific Citizen welcomes letters of concern and comment in the form of editorials, columns and cartoons.

Letters and Opinions:

Letters to the editor are subject to editing. Readers of the Pacific Citizen are invited to submit their views, comments and suggestions on current issues. We reserve the right to accept or decline articles or letters at our discretion.Pacific Citizen welcomes letters of concern and commentary from its readers. We reserve the right to accept or decline articles or letters at our discretion. Pacific Citizen welcomes letters of concern and commentary from its readers. We reserve the right to accept or decline articles or letters at our discretion. Pacific Citizen welcomes letters of concern and commentary from its readers. We reserve the right to accept or decline letters at our discretion. Pacific Citizen welcomes letters of concern and commentary from its readers. We reserve the right to accept or decline letters at our discretion. Pacific Citizen welcomes letters of concern and commentary from its readers. We reserve the right to accept or decline letters at our discretion. Pacific Citizen welcomes letters of concern and commentary from its readers. We reserve the right to accept or decline letters at our discretion. Pacific Citizen welcomes letters of concern and commentary from its readers. We reserve the right to accept or decline letters at our discretion.
In the first part of his editorial in the November issue of PC, Barry Saiki offered his insight into JACL's controversial wartime role. In part 2, he recounts some of his own personal experiences and views on what happened and why.

The Sansei and Yonsei of today must ask themselves if they have absorbed the full dose of the discriminatory environment which they were forced to live in. The Issei and Nisei fundamentally were sick at the injustice which they were subject to; the Nihonmachi's existence! Why were there overconcerns on housing? What about the segregation laws? Was the strong current of inferiority among the Nisei merely "enryo syndrome" or the result of the attributes of the Issei? Those who were brought up in the 1940s and later cannot fully comprehend the pressures which had been generated by the Hearst and McClatchy papers and their readers.

With several other Berkeley Nisei, I did attend the Feb. 21, 1942, Tolan hearings in San Francisco to listen to a parade of abusive diatribes against any and all persons of Japanese lineage which completely overwhemed statement by JACL and Omura. It showed how weak and ineffective the Nisei were. It was political force instead of political force. It was a complete debacle.

I became one of the so-called "fatherless" in May, 1942. My father had been called in for questioning on three separate occasions. He was about to go on March 8, when he had been the director of the Japanese Association. Later, he was called in for questioning in association with the Baptist Church and the Holubeki Butokukai (kendo organization).

Each time, all those leaders of the organizations were detained and sent off to internment camps, except for my father. He had undergone a period of sickness, which led from pleurisy to pneumonia. He had begun to recover and his doctor's certificate saved him from incarceration.

That was, until May 15, 1942, when our family with Dad as the head, entered the Stockton Assembly Center. The family members each received a cursory medical check, but my father was held for further examination.

An hour later, after my mother and two younger brothers and I had found our barracks, Dad had stuffed our mattress covers with straw, a black sedan pulled up to our barracks.

The next day, my other brother, who was housed in the adjoining room, said that he was glad that the FBI picked him up.

I asked him why. He said that he had heard rumors that Dad could be in jail because he was called in three times and released.

We didn't hear from Dad for about a year. We eventually received a censored mail letter telling us that he was in Lordsburg, N.M.

That was the paranoia, the distrust and misunderstanding which disturbed, even distorted the thoughts of the once cooperative and mutually supportive Japantown people. With most of the key leaders apprehended and stranded by the hysteria and antagonism rapidly developing in the general population, the Nihonmachi organizers were turning any unusual or inexplicable situations into unsubstantiated intimations.

The rumors and backbiting marks were suspended for some time. They were repeated, to the discomfort of the families. The war created trauma for everyone, and more often, it affected the families. In so doing, it was to change the complete structure of the entire Japanese American society.

Whatever leadership that developed in the centers for the most part was temporary. Some sons and daughters took the pioneering role by relocating to the Midwest and East. Others remained in the See Saiki/page 13

Barry Saiki, Stockton Chapter, JACL, is national vice president, public affairs.

In the first part of his editorial in the November issue of PC, Barry Saiki offered his insight into JACL's controversial wartime role. In part 2, he recounts some of his own personal experiences and views on what happened and why.

By ROY M. NISHIKAWA

The Deficit

Mak ing a difference...we all try to do that...in how we live our lives, raise our children, do our jobs etc. But the Diablo Valley Journal, JACL, is trying to make a difference by informing its members, friends and the public that JACL is an organization that can be no complete and honest picture of JACL unless it is shown that it has been actively and tirelessly working to make a difference.

By MOLLIE T. FUKIOKA

Making a difference

In the first part of his editorial in the November issue of PC, Barry Saiki offered his insight into JACL's controversial wartime role. In part 2, he recounts some of his own personal experiences and views on what happened and why.

By ROY M. NISHIKAWA

The Deficit

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of care.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of care.

We've got to find out how and why we got into this thing and then we've got to get out of it.

Where—National Headquarters and to a lesser extent the Pacific Citizen. Both are controlled (financially) by the National Board and the National staff which writes the checks and keeps the books.

When—This is uncertain. 1990/1991 Any case, the problems were greatly exacerbated under the prior 1992-94 Board and staff.

W: The President, vice president of operations and the treasurer. Some board members may have been "cut out of the loop" and thus remained unaware.

The National staff: the national director, associate director and the business manager.

There are varying degrees of culpability. In this case, the personal and current national directors apparently were not informed and/or provided guidance on dealings with JACL's financial structure.

It is incredible that after the 1993 deficit of $75,000, the January 1, 1991 1994 deficit of $187,000 for 1994. And now we have a projected deficit of $280,000 for 1995.

H: Who was (in) the minding the store?

5. Why—There are several factors.

A: The culture of the 1992-94 National Board that they were the "owners" of JACL.

This culture and mind set started with the leadership: Mita, associate director and the business manager, who cannot tolerate further "cover ups."

But there are far more people who are responsible for the lack of consultation and possibly misinformation.

C: A psychology of denial, avoidance, and stonewalling.

D: A tendency to pursue their own agenda and consequent inattention to the JACL Constitution and budget balancing.

E: Poor judgment and poor management leading to the belief that someone else was responsible and things were under control.

For further detailed information, I refer you to the Pacific Citizen issues of Nov. 26, 1993 and the Jan. 31, April 22, and July 1 issues of 1994.

There is a finger of the people who say, "Let's not point fingers, let's wash our dirty linen in public." But there are far more people who cannot tolerate further "cover ups."

We all know the firestorm that followed the infamous Sept. 25-26, 1993 attempt by the National Board to cover up their proceedings.

The flip side is some of today's leaders by led President Denny Yashima want an investigation and a self examination. This commends respect and goes a long way towards restoring credibility, confidence and trust.

What are the remedies? The answers are a lot tougher—not clear cut as in the five remedies.

1. Absolute openness and honesty with the members—"Nisai" opting out of rationalizing excuses.

2. Temporary salary cap.

3. Elimination of merit raises (there may be a few on a civil rights background but on...)

4. Selection and retention of staff not only on a civil rights background but on... See D E F I C I T / p a g e 13

A former JACL national president, Nishikawa is a member of the Wilshire Chapter.

REMEMBER...
BRUYERES

A special experience, a special meaning...

One of the biggest events of 1994 was the Oct. 14-16, 1994, celebration of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Bruyères and Biffontaine in the Vosges Mountains in eastern France. Some 800 Nikkei, many of them members of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team, came to the site of the battles to pay homage and respect to those who had died.

It was, as well, an event of renewal, of reuniting and re-embroidering the social fabric between the local French townspeople who had many years ago erected monuments to the feats of the Nisei soldiers who freed them decades ago.

In these articles, Harry K. Honda, PC editor emeritus, and Valerie Yoshimura of the Detroit Chapter, JACL, offer their insights, feelings and emotions to this special experience.

In the third article, Honda talks about the Nisei war experience in the infamous Nazi camp—Dachau...

By HARRY K. HONDA

In late July, a controversy dealing with the JACL monument at Bruyères reached our news desk and the callers, George Yoshishara (Co. E), president of the 100th/442nd Veterans Association, wanted a comment.

The principle: Prof. Shintoshi Tajiri. I had met him through his late brother Vince. Answering to France. In October, 1993, he had visited Bruyères and was warmly welcomed. Upon returning home, the internationally known Nisei sculptor, who lives in Holland, decided to create a work of art to donate to the city. It was his "Friendship Knot," not that similar to the one he had fashioned for Weller Court in Little Tokyo.

The controversy: Yoshishara was told that the mayor of Bruyères wanted to put the Tajiri's huge artwork above the monument dedicated to the 100th/442nd volunteer from Poston, Arizona. In mid-October it proved to be an astounding trip, listening to stories 50 years old, vivid as though they happened yesterday. These stories, undoubtedly, have been told and retold. But hearing them was a rich, unforgettable experience. It's a rare kind of history.

Journal notes: 1994

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 3 (Monday) - After a preshow drive across Los Angeles County to the airport, arriving around 8:45 a.m., I was an early check-in for UAL's 8:35 a.m. nonstop flight to Washington D.C. from UAL 971 for Rome - a total of 13 hours with two meals, two snacks and two movies.

George Uchimiy (Co. K) of Gardena, Calif., was the only one in the group who knew Bruyères. He knew it was a military concentration camp, and he had been there in action in Italy. He pointed out two men who were there 50 years ago, Col. Young Oak Kim (ret.) and Capt. Bill Fye of the 100th Co. C troop of the 442nd. The town, which was captured by the Americans who were incarcerated during the war and later the Taji's art sculpture would be its lasting reminder.

As one who soldiered stateside from October 41 to December 45, writing and reading about the experiences of the Nisei in Italy, it proved to be an astounding trip, listening to stories 50 years old, vivid as though they happened yesterday. These stories, undoubtedly, have been told and retold. But hearing them was a rich, unforgettable experience. It's a rare kind of history.

PERSONAL JOURNAL — JACL President Dennis Yoshishara traveled to Biffontaine-Bruyères, France, to pay tribute to the 100th/442nd and his brother who was killed in action in Italy.
The French Connection

By Valerie Nao Yoshimura

As a student of French literature and the Japanese American history, I didn't think my primary research interests would ever intersect, but they have. The unlikely friendship between Japanese American Niseis and the French of Bruyères and Biffontaine offers a shining example of global commitment to peace. As I slipped between the "words of the French" and the Nikkei at the fiftieth anniversary reunions, I gained insights into how the French conceive of "us," and realized how closely knit our Japanese and French cultures are.

As you may know, Bruyères (pop. 5,400) and Biffontaine (pop. 400) were liberated fifty years ago by the men of the 422nd Regimental Combat Team. Having endured four years of Nazi occupation, the French were overwhelmed with joy—and surprise—when they saw the "potita boshommes" (the little good men) of the 442nd/100th. Even today, the Bruyères recall with tears in their eyes the arrival of "Les Hawaiiens" which enabled them to finally leave the cellars where they had dwelled during the siege of their villages during the last months of the war.

War-torn, heavily liberayed Bruyères were not, at the time, aware of the personal struggles within the ranks of the 442nd and 100th Battalions. As they welcomed the Nikkei liberators, they learned, over the years, of the fallen Nikkei Americans during the war. The knowledge of the men who died for their own liberty at home endears the French even more to the 442; they recognize the supreme sacrifices made by these men for the freedom of both peoples, and feel a shared understanding of injustice endured. Indeed, the French often say that it was on French soil, through the valor of the 442nd/100th, that the fifty-four star of the U.S. flag was earned.

"Les Hawaiens" affectionately—and repeatedly—refer to the men of the 442nd/100th as "Les Hawaiiens." One might ask how the term came to be used; surely they couldn't be called "les Japonais," and a term such as "les americains" may have conjured images of tall, fair men. "Les Hawaiiens" may thus have been the "term of endearment" coined by the Bruyères for their liberators. While the French are increasing knowledgeable of the Nikkei and their liberators came from the islands, the term remains. The image of Hawaiian pironi­ des, of men who came from halfway around the world to restore their liberty, is dear to their hearts and memo­ ries. Additionally, in 1976, sixty Bruyères made a trip to Hawaii, to visit their "sister city,"—an unforget­ table "Visite au Parade" about which they still reminisce to­ day.

The French have not forgotten. Every year since the end of the war, the Bruyères have held a ceremony in the Hollyedres forest at the monument to the 442nd/100th which bears the plaque of the JACL, the road leading to the monument as "Rue de 442ème regiment d'infanterie americaine." A granite monument erected by the 442nd/100th and "Hill A" we took a hike up to the "Aircraft Tower"—the key strategic point held by the Nazis until the arrival of the 442nd/100th—and took in the devastating view.
Las Vegas Clark High School principal Wayne Tanaka was being interviewed by the media on the campus grounds when, because of his innovative teaching methods and during his interview, he discovered he had retinitis pigmentosa. Tanemori came to America in 1954 to study but fell in love with the country and decided to stay. He later changed his last name to Tanemori. Tanemori, a former Las Vegas, Nev., resident, worked as a radio communications engineer. His work with deaf people led to his congressional appointment in 1993 to the Joint Committee on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Tanemori contacted his Congressman, Rep. Bill Baker (R-Danville, Calif.), who asked Moore to assist. He is the lab's deputy director.

Communications engineer in Las Vegas, Tanemori worked as a team, bypassing the administrative booms and bringing the Nisei into contact with the local community.

The friendly environments of the university and of the people of Las Vegas made my Nevada experience an ideal situation for my healing and growing up," said Nakama from his home in Winnetka, Calif.

Among the Nisei attending the reunion were Fred Ishii, Bill Higashino, and Nora Masahara Mitsumori. The event also included a panel discussion, "The Nisei Experience," featuring Tetsu Maryzu, Adachi, George Hachioji, Tom Miyah, Richard Morita, moderators for the Lake Yamanaka and Naka.

Two Japanese-Americans working at Los Angeles Police Department emerged from behind-the-scenes in print recently because of the O.J. Simpson trial. Eni E.G. (a) spoke of the woman Regan Miyamoto said: "She was really the one who had it up-to-the minute coverage," mindful that TV stations face intense competition and attorneys who are not reluctant to reveal specific coverage.

It's been an important year for Nisei attorneys practicing law in California. They have served in the juvenile justice system; as well as taking care of their families by helping sponsors, clients and friends. They are in the process of finding funding for an estimated $8.5 million development project.

RYAN AKIRA DEAN
Ryan Akira Dean, a junior at UCLA, is a senior at Lincoln High School in Danville, Calif., who asked Moore to assist. He is the lab's deputy director.

JOAN MITSUI BROWN
Brown is an associate professor of English at the University of Northern Iowa. He is the author of a book of poetry, "The Nisei Experience," which is fully funded in excess of $1 million, along with his earlier book, "The Nisei Experience," which is fully funded in excess of $1 million.

FRED HOSHAYAMA
Fred Hoshii and Mark Kiguchi were recipients of the 1954th anniversary Japanese American Community Service Award, presented Oct. 7, 1994 in L.A.

MARK KIGUCHI
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CAMILLE HAMILTON PATING
Camille Hamilton Pating, a former deputy city attorney and special prosecutor for the City of San Francisco, was elected president of San Francisco's 181st annual Inauguration in October of last year. The voters created this entity in 1815 as a means of electing changes and stricter controls in government, including in areas of lobbying, campaigns, conflict of interest and government ethics. This year's event will focus on addressing the issue of conflicts.
SAIKI

(Continued from page 9)

leaders came forward or were creat
ed by circumstances, and their las
s account may have been concealed
from justice right. But those judgments then would have been revis...
T. Wada, Navy, 1936-1975; Arthur S. Komori, Army, 1941-1988; and subsequent acceptance of Niseis in the military service of their country. Jack Nagano (MIS) of Los Angeles, 442nd RCT and MIS. They were truly pioneers and the "spirit" of the Nisei soldiers of World War II.

The story about Douglas Wada, recruited by the Navy in '36 because of his Japanese language skills, mentioned Joe Shige Takata, "who later became a 100th Battalion warrior born. Takata and Wada played baseball together at the Honolulu Japanese Senior High School. Who was Takata?"

The 100th, as part of 34th Infantry "Red Bull" Division had landed on the Salerno plain in September, 1943. Swinging northward to cut off and seize Naples, the 100th pushed on the 23rd and two days later, the Germans were in retreat. News of Japanese Americans in Italy was in headlines back home. On Sept. 28, the 100th had moved 106 miles by truck into the mountains to Montemarano on the other side of Mt. Vesuvius.

According to Thomas D. Murphy, in his book, Ambassador in Arms: The Story of Hawaii's 100th Battalion, "Co. B was made up by American machine-gunner, mortar and artillery as it approached the town. The road was "closed in," as the expression goes, Sgt. Takata, Co. B, 5 Platoon, said, "It's the first time, so I'm going forward."

He spotted one of the machine gun nests, walking toward it with his automatic rifle firing. A piece of shrapnel came in his head. Dying, he managed to tell one of his men, who had crawled close, where the German machine guns were. Before this enemy pocket was silenced, another had died, and two more wounded. The 100th had its first heroic moment.

In INFAMOUS SITE—Inside what was a gas chamber—"And note the vents on the ceiling," the guide said. "No one was gassed here as the war had ended, stopping the laborers from completing their job. They were taking their time."
Obituaries

Akitagawa, Richard M., 79, Grandada, Feb. 16; E-wa-born, survived by son Mark, 2 gc., and daughter Lisa Aiko Akitagawa.

Akita, Masao, 87, Torrance, Oct. 30; Bunka-born, survived by son Ken, brother George, sister Lillian Akita, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Arai, Ito, 68, Inglewood, Dec. 2; Los Angeles-born, survived by wife Yutako, daughter Lisa, and a host of relatives.

Arimura, Kazuo, 81, Los Angeles, Oct. 18; Bunka-born, survived by daughter Mariko, son Ken, and a host of relatives.

Asato, George T., 88, Gardena, Nov. 23; Okinawa-born, survived by wife Karen, stepson Dennis, and a host of relatives.

Asato, Richard H., 90, Gardena, Dec. 10; Fukuoka-born, survived by wife Emiko, son Ken, and a host of relatives.

Asato, Toshio, 84, Los Angeles, Nov. 13; Hiroshima-born, survived by wife Harumi, son David, and a host of relatives.

Atsuta, George, 81, Palms, Oct. 19; Tokyo-born, survived by wife Harumi, children Ken, Laura, Tom, and a host of relatives.

Ayukawa, Yuki, 64, Whittier, Dec. 10; Hiroshima-born, survived by wife Yuriko, children Michelle, and a host of relatives.

Azuma, Minoru, 82, San Diego, Aug. 16; Hiroshima-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, daughter Jean, and a host of relatives.

Baba, Ishi, 96, Long Beach, Oct. 21; Hiroshima-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, children Earl, and a host of relatives.

Baba, Kazuko, 89, Los Angeles, Oct. 31, Bunka-born, survived by son Ken, daughter Yoko, and a host of relatives.

Baba, Kazuo, 82, Los Angeles, Oct. 31; Hiroshima-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, children George, and a host of relatives.

Baba, Masao, 65, Los Angeles, Feb. 22; Hiroshima-born, survived by wife Chiyoko, children Ren, and a host of relatives.

Baba, Michiko, 85, Los Angeles, Oct. 31; Hiroshima-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, children George, and a host of relatives.

Baba, Tomi, 93, Los Angeles, Oct. 31; Tokyo-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, children Ken, and a host of relatives.

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