



Pacific Citizen

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

Firebomber gets maximum sentence—p. 3

(\$1.50 Postpaid U.S.) Newsstand: 25¢

#2776/Vol 120, No. 9 ISSN: 0030-8579

2 Coral Circle, Suite 204, Monterey Park, CA 91755

(213) 725-0083

May 5-18, 1995

Militia man accuses Japan in Oklahoma City bombing

JACL officials respond to charge

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

Waco, Oklahoma City... Tokyo? While the FBI has focused its attention on Timothy McVeigh, 27, accused of bombing the Alfred P. Murrah Federal building in Oklahoma City in response to the FBI and ATF attack on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Tex., General Norman Olson, co-founder and commander of the Michigan

Militia, has another suspect in mind: Japan.

Time Magazine recently reported that Olson was relieved of his command by the militia for sending out press releases April 27 alleging that the Japanese government bombed the federal office building "in retaliation for the U.S. gas attack of the subway there."

Olson, a Baptist minister and gun shop owner, claimed to possess information that the U.S. perpetrated the sarin gas attack in the Tokyo subway system which killed 12 and injured thousands as retaliation for the declining value of the dollar against the yen. The Japanese police have focused their

investigations of the attack on the Aum Shinrikyo (Supreme Truth) Cult and its leader Shoko Asahara after finding chemicals and other gas-making materials at the group's compounds near Mt. Fuji.

Olson said he was issuing the allegations "against the wishes of the command. We want everyone to know we are in control. There is nothing to worry about."

Denny Yasuhara, JACL national president, said in response, "When ignorance and racism are combined, it is a dangerous mixture. The Norman Olsons of this world make harmony more difficult."

Immediately after the Oklahoma bombing and prior to the capture of McVeigh,

Yasuhara issued a statement condemning anti-Arab and Muslim scapegoating.

"The JACL is concerned that this situation must not lead to the singling out of the Arab American community. Such an action could result in potentially harmful misrepresentations of that group by the general public and which, more seriously, could lead to acts of violence against Arab Americans," said Yasuhara.

In light of Olson's claims against Japan, the president said, "The increasing numbers of these people in America is cause for alarm for all Americans. The Michigan Militia took the proper course in removing

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Call-in day urged to defend legal immigrant benefits

A coalition of Asian Pacific American (APA) groups announced a "National Call-In Day" for Tuesday, May 16, 1995 to protest Congressional proposals to deny federal benefits to legal immigrants.

On May 17, Sen. Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.) is expected to call a vote on his immigration bill (S.269) in the Senate Subcommittee on Immigration that he chairs. The groups are urging all Asian Pacific Americans to call their senators to urge them to vote against any legislation that would eliminate benefits for legal immigrants.

The groups are concerned about legislation already approved by the House of Representatives that would completely deny legal immigrants access to Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Block Grant and the Social Services Block Grant. In addition, it would "deem" for life or until citizenship all federal, state and local needs-based programs, which include child nutrition, educational loans, job training and elderly nutrition programs. The House welfare reform bill would also give states permission to limit state-funded needs-based assistance to legal immigrants.

According to Karen Narasaki,
See CALL-IN/page 6

Smithsonian director resigns over controversial Enola Gay exhibit

WASHINGTON—The director of the National Air and Space Museum resigned May 2 over a dispute about a planned exhibit of the Enola Gay bomber, which dropped the first atomic bomb over Hiroshima in World War Two, according to the Reuters news service.

The Smithsonian Institution announced that Martin Harwit, veteran director of the air and space museum—the most visited museum in the world—had resigned effective immediately.

He will be replaced temporarily by Robert Hoffman, the acting provost of the Smithsonian.

Harwit, in letters to Smithsonian Secretary L. Michael

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JACL tri-district conference, April 28-30, 1995, Reno

With 'Eye on Future,' members discuss new, old JACL issues



DENNY YASUHARA

Yasuhara says affirmative action is JACL priority

Denny Yasuhara, JACL national president, speaking at the April 28-30 tri-district conference in Reno, Nev. said that affirmative action is the most important civil rights issue facing JACL.

In meetings with both the NCWNP and PSW districts, Yasuhara said that he felt JACL should focus its attention on battling for affirmative action within California and would allocate resources from the national budget.

"The most immediate problem is affirmative action. The stand has to be taken in California. We have the most members here in California, it's where the bulk of our chapters are," said Yasuhara, speaking April 30 at the PSW meeting.

"I have raised the issue with Bill Yoshino (Midwest regional director temporarily in charge of staff). I would like to have three ad hoc committees in each of the three California districts. National would provide them with seed money to approach those in California with legislative influence and go after them," said Yasuhara.

Pointing out California's position as a "bellweather state," Yasuhara said, "There's no chance in the other states, we just don't have the numbers. Our best chance is in California. The way California goes, so go the western states. We need to do it before it gets to Washington, D.C. By that time the die is already cast."

The president said that while affirmative action is important, JACL also needs to focus long term efforts on changing attitudes on diversity in society.

See ACTION/page 7

Staff reports

The hosts for the April 28-30 tri-district conference billed the event as an "Eye on the Future."

Alan Nishi, Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District governor, for instance, opened the conference saying that members would set aside their differences and participate in educational and informative sessions.

It was just that in many cases, as the

MORE CONFERENCE COVERAGE—

Youth Council, awards luncheon and other stories—pages 5-6



PHOTO: GWEN MURANAKA

Enjoying the awards luncheon are, from left, PSW members John Saito, George Kanegai, Mas Hironaka (standing), Mack Yamaguchi, Miki Himeno (standing) and Miyo Senzaki.

Conditional peace plan offered

The four members of the National Board who called for JACL National President Denny Yasuhara's resignation extended an "olive branch" April 30 at the CCDC-NCWNP-PSW Tri-District in Reno, Nev. calling for mediation to help resolve the deep divisions within the board.

Criticism continues

While the olive branch was extended, sharp words, complaints and criticisms on a variety of issues throughout the two-day tri-district meeting indicated the dissatisfaction of some members with the current state of JACL.

Denny Yasuhara, JACL national president, met independently with each of the three districts attending the conference to answer their questions and hear their concerns. There was also a question and answer period Sunday morning with the National Board members present including, Yasuhara, who had to leave early

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conference featured lead-off speaker Dr. Harry Kitano, noted UCLA professor and analyzer of statistics on Asian American outmarriages, a forum on the controversial state of JACL finances, and several lively workshop sessions.

Notably, Trisha Murakawa, JACL vice president of planning and development, offered peace—with certain conditions—that would end the divisiveness within the organization. Yet other members, at the same time occasionally replayed strong criticism against the organization and Pacific Citizen, resurrected issues about departed staff yet one more time.

President Denny Yasuhara, in his opening remarks, said that JACL is at the "crossroads of its destiny." He said that the organization was ready

to collapse because it had no focus, no commitment to members and no agenda. Yet despite this, he said, JACL still has \$6 million in assets and a membership that still numbers nearly 25,000. "It's not ready for the junk heap," he said.

The strength of the organization lies in its chapters and districts, Yasuhara said, echoing a theme he broadcast over the August, 1994, Salt Lake City convention where he was elected. He concluded that despite the fallout from five staff members leaving the organization, JACL will not collapse.

"It will rise to new heights."

During the Sunday morning question and answer session with the National Board, Trisha Murakawa, vice president for planning and development, representing Jonathan Kaji, national secretary-treasurer, Ruth Mizobe, PSW district governor and Kim Nakahara, chair, national youth/student council, said, "In good

faith, I choose to exercise leadership and offer President Yasuhara the olive branch in an attempt to bridge the gap that exists on the National Board so that we can move the organization forward."

Yasuhara responded, "I really appreciate that."

However, after making the initial offer, Murakawa said, "We make this peace offering however with specific expectations. We commit ourselves to meeting these expectations as well."

The expectations Murakawa
See PEACE/page 7

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Pacific Citizen

2 Coral Circle, Suite 204, Monterey Park, CA 91755
Tel: (213) 725-0083, Fax: (213) 725-0064

PACIFIC CITIZEN (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semi-monthly except one in December by the Japanese American Citizens League, 2 Coral Circle, #204, Monterey Park, CA 91755. Annual subscription rates: JACL members: \$12 of the national dues provide one year on a one-per-household basis. Non-members: 1 year—\$30; 2 years—\$55; 3 years—\$80, payable in advance. Additional postage per year—Foreign: US \$22. First class: U.S., Canada, Mexico: US \$30; Airmail Japan/Europe: US \$60. (Subject to change without notice).

National headquarters: 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115. (415) 921-5225

Editorial, news and opinions expressed by columnists other than the National President or National Director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy.

Second-class Postage Paid at Monterey Park, CA, and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: PACIFIC CITIZEN, 2 Coral Circle, #204, Monterey Park, CA 91755.

News/ad deadline Friday before date of issue

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JACL calendar

Eastern

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Thu-Sun., July 20-23—EDC-MDC-MPDC Tri-District Conference, Albuquerque, N.M., Marriott Hotel. (See below: NEW MEXICO).

NEW YORK

Wed. May 10—Monthly Board meeting, 6:45-8:30 p.m., JAA Office, 15 W. 44th, 11th Flr. NOTE—Masako Tamura on "National JACL Washington Seminar," Scott Ito, Asian Americans for Equality, on "Proposition 187, Contractual America."

Thu. May 11—Opening of "The View from Within: Japanese American Art From the Internment Camps-1942-1945," Queen's Museum of Art; info on school tours: Kazuyo Tennant 212/808-7927. NOTE—Exhibit through July 15.

Fri., May 12—Pan Asian Repertory Theatre-scholarship benefit, 8 p.m., St. Clement's at 46th and Ninth Ave., info: Sumi Koide 914/693-2058. NOTE—On stage: "Rita's Resources" by Jeannine Barroga, story of a Filipina seamstress who struggles to keep her daughter and musician husband in line but all rules explode when a sailor comes to stay.

Sat. June 10—Success Through Leadership conference, Traynes Hall, Douglas College Center, Rutgers University, info: Lillian Kimura. NOTE—Leadership Institute for Women of Asia and Pacific Islands, sponsor.

Sun. June 11—STOP HATE Sunday in New Jersey churches, synagogues, temples and mosques.

Sun. June 11—JACL Scholarship luncheon, 1-3 p.m., place to be announced. Contact John Torok for applications 718/875-1777; certain restrictions involved. NOTE—Three awards, \$1,000 Merit, \$1,000 Lucile Nakamura, \$1,500 Financial Aid.

Wed. June 14—Monthly Board meeting, 6:45-8:30 p.m., JAA Office, 15 W. 44th, 11th Flr. NOTE—Haruko Brown of APICHA, "HIV/AIDS."

SOUTHEAST

Sun. June 11—Japanese cooking demonstration, 3-5 p.m., Benihana in downtown Atlanta, info: Glenn Nomura. NOTE—2 p.m. board meeting precedes.

Sun. Aug. 13—'Japanese American Heroism During WWII,' video and speakers, 3-5 p.m., Georgia Power Bldg. Auditorium, downtown Atlanta; info: Dave Furukawa, 404/6232-8008. NOTE—2 p.m. board meeting precedes.

October—Mixed Race / Cultural Identity Forum, co-sponsored with local university, time and date TBA. Info: Bill Sakamoto White.

Sun. Dec. 3—Annual Holiday-Installation Dinner, 7-9 p.m., Kamon

Restaurant, (all you can eat sushi and more); info: Randy Miyahara. NOTE—6 p.m. board meeting precedes.

Midwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Thu-Sun., July 20-23—EDC-MDC-MPDC Tri-District Conference, Albuquerque, N.M., Marriott Hotel. (See below: NEW MEXICO).

Fri-Sun., Oct. 6-8—Fall MDC session, Twin Cities Chapter host.

CINCINNATI

Sun. May 7—Board meeting at Ken Oya's, 513/792-0933.

Sun. Aug. 6—Chapter potluck dinner.

HOOSIER

May—NJAH'S 'Go For Broke' photo exhibit, Ransburg Gallery, University of Indianapolis. NOTE—In conjunction with Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Nisei veterans in the Midwest are being invited to participate in opening ceremony. Their names and addresses requested by Charles Matsumoto, Hoosier JACL president, 849 Reda Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46227; (f & t) 317/888-8505. Monetary support for exhibit also requested by chapter.

Mountain-Plains

NEW MEXICO

Thu-Sun., July 20-23—EDC-MDC-MPDC Tri-District Conference, Marriott Hotel, Albuquerque. Workshops: Total quality management for chapters; Finance and accounting for chapters. Grant-writing; Multicultural persons and families in JACL, Interethnic conflict: Latino and African Americans in the Japanese American community; Second Amendment and Asian Americans; Is JACL dying?; The atomic bomb 50 years later: what have we learned? Booster activities and tours. Info: Randolph Shibata 505/883-1258.

Intermountain

BOISE VALLEY

Fri-Sat, June 16-17—Joint IDC-PNWDC conference, Boise, Idaho. Sat. 8-noon, Separate DC sessions; 1:30-5:30, Joint sessions; evening banquet. More details to follow. Info: Ed Hirahara 208/939-2224, Seiichi Hayashida 208/466-7226.

Pacific Northwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Fri-Sat, June 16-17—Joint IDC-PNWDC conference, Boise, Idaho. (See above: BOISE VALLEY)

NorCal-WN-Pac

RENO

Sun. May 21—Barbecue, noon, Knights of Pythias Hall, 980 Nevada

St. NOTE—Honoring our charter members.

SAN JOSE

Chapter Board on 2nd Fridays; '96 Convention Committee on 3rd Tuesdays, info: 408/295-1250.

Central California

FRESNO

Sat. May 20—Fresno JACL scholarship luncheon/workshop; 11 a.m., Ramada Inn, RSVP by May 16, \$12. info: Judi Brown 209/222-5000 (w). NOTE—Dr. Frank Nishio (MIS), luncheon speaker.

Sat.-Sun. June 24-25—Chartered bus trip to Disneyland & Japanese American National Museum; info: Deborah Ikeda 209/434-1264. NOTE—Bus leaves 6 p.m. Friday for Anaheim.

Sat. July 29—100th Infantry Bn. Highway Dedication dinner, 6 p.m. Tornino's on Blackstone north of Shaw, RSVP by July 22, \$35. Dr. Izumi Taniguchi, 738 E. Tenaya Way, Fresno 93710, 209/439-8769. NOTE—Speakers: Eric Saul, Cressley Nakagawa. Co-sponsors: Sierra Nisei VFW Post 8499.

Sun. Sept. 10—10th annual Shinzen Run and chapter picnic. at Woodward Park. Info: Deborah Ikeda 209/434-1264.

Sat. Nov. 4—Annual CCDC dinner.

Pacific Southwest

SAN DIEGO

Sun. June 25—Community picnic, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., De Anza Cove, Mission Bay Park; info: Mas Hironaka 619/230-0314. NOTE—No fishing derby this year because of water pollution.

WEST LOS ANGELES

Sun. June 4—Auxiliary's "Spring Elegance II" fashion show-luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Loew's Santa Monica Beach Hotel, 1700 Ocean Ave., S.M.; RSVP, \$45, Mitzi Kurashita 310/827-3414. NOTE—Entertainment, boutique from 11; fashions by Renko, Naru Mi, Miyo of New York, Itsuko Takeda, Dominique, Obi Mine, Yasuko's, Tamotsu, Kanojo, Zelda, Max and Mabel.

Sat. June 10—MIS Highway dedication luncheon, Simi Valley Raddison Hotel; info: George Kanegai 310/820-5250.

Correction:

To correct the story that appeared on the front page of the April 21-May 4, 1995 issue of *Pacific Citizen* with reference to the March 18 "emergency meeting" in San Francisco, the names of Alan Nishi and Kim Nakahara were inadvertently omitted as being among the six who called for the meeting and attended.

Kimi Yoshino did not attend the meeting due to family reasons.

Small kid time



Gwen Muranaka

Convicted Sacramento firebomber gets maximum sentence

Richard Campos, the 19-year-old convicted of a series of firebombings which terrorized the city of Sacramento in 1993, was given April 20 a maximum sentence of 17 years and four months in prison, reported the *Sacramento Bee*.

The *Bee* reported that Campos, a white supremacist, smirked and rolled his eyes as Judge James T. Ford handed down the stiff sentence. Campos was convicted of a string of racially motivated firebomb attacks including the Sacramento JACL office, the home of Sacramento City Councilman Jimmie Yee, the NAACP office and a Jewish synagogue.

Family members and friends were on hand to ask the judge for leniency because Campos was still a minor when he committed the crimes.

JACL leaders including Denny Yasuhara, national president, and Dick Fukushima, president, Sacramento Chapter, urged the judge to give Campos the maximum penalty.

Others who spoke included Judy H. Hersher, president, Congregation B'nai

Israel, and Clyde Rainwater, former vice president of the Sacramento chapter of the NAACP.

Speaking on behalf of JACL's 118 chapters, Yasuhara urged the judge to give Campos the maximum sentence.

"Imposing the maximum sentence on the defendant would send a very clear and necessary message that the American judicial system will not condone or even tolerate acts of violence rooted in racial bigotry. Especially in these times of growing intolerance, this is a critical message for our criminal justice system to convey to the people of California, and in particular, to all Asian Pacific Americans throughout this great country," said Yasuhara.

Fukushima told the judge the fear that community members felt during the firebombing incidents.

"During the course of the many firebombings, no one in the Japanese American community felt safe. The crimes had a profound emotional and psychological impact on the community. These crimes were calculated and conducted to terrorize and

intimidate innocent victims," said Fukushima.

The Sacramento chapter president said the attack forced chapter officers to undertake new security measures and that members were urged by law enforcement to maintain a low profile while the perpetrator was still at large.

"While we understand that Richard Campos was at a young age when he committed the crimes, he knew what he was doing was wrong and that people could have been hurt or killed," said Fukushima.

The national president said that the firebombing which destroyed the JACL office was indicative of growing anti-Asian sentiment in America.

"The impact of the firebombings has not been limited to the Sacramento JACL Chapter, its dedicated leadership and membership and to the Sacramento community in general," said Yasuhara. "We know from first-hand experience that hate violence targeting Asians and Pacific Islanders is a growing, serious and pervasive problem. In 1993, the year of the fire-bombings, there

were 335 reported incidents of anti-Asian violence and at least 30 homicides in which race was either a suspected or proven factor. This number probably represents only a small fraction of the total number of anti-Asian hate incidents because of widespread underreporting."

Campos' lawyer Michael K. Brady acknowledged that Campos felt no remorse for the crimes, but urged the judge not to punish him for the racism in society.

"If he goes to prison . . . instead of an education, instead of learning that his separatist views are wrong, you will sentence him to a life of racism, a life of narrow-mindedness," said Brady.

With the 17-year maximum sentence Campos could be eligible for parole in about six and half years.

Judge Ford said he was sentencing Campos for his violent acts and not his racist opinions. "Those views do not threaten our community. They will lose in the competition of ideas, and because of our Constitution. You have spat upon that Constitution," said Ford.

CRITICISM

(Continued from page 1)

because he had to catch an airplane; Jonathan Kaji, secretary-treasurer; Ruth Mizobe, PSW district governor; Trisha Murakawa, vice president for planning and development; Kim Nakahara, chair, national youth/student council; Alan Nishi, NCWNP district governor; Travis Nishi, CCDC governor; Barry Saiki, vice president for public affairs, and Kimi Yoshino, national youth/student representative. Questions were submitted in advance on notecards

and read by tri-district conference co-chairs John Hayashi, NCWNP district governor and Lucy Kishiue, former NCWNP governor.

The issues members registered concern about included:

● **Staff reorganization:** During the question and answer period, a notecard charged that JACL leadership "makes decisions too quickly" and asked if the board had considered options other than staff reorganizing to solve JACL's financial problems.

Mizobe, who voted against the staff reorganization, said, "We did make a hasty decision. We did not consider the impact on the Pro-

gram for Action, it was a knee-jerk reaction. In the future, we need to look at decisions as if we are a corporation."

Nishi, speaking as one who has served a number of terms on the National Board said, "We tend to act too quickly without considering all of the options. I wish we could slow down, look at the options and then make a decision."

Saiki, who voted for the reorganization, said, "As a new member of the board, when I attended that meeting I was concerned about one thing, that we had had a financial problem for several years. I don't think it was a hasty decision. It reached a point where

something needed to be done."

Kaji said that the board's decision to reorganize was made without complete information.

"My own opinion is that we did not have complete information. We had a lot of information, but as time goes on, in hindsight I would say we didn't have enough information," said Kaji.

● **Communication:** At the NCWNP meeting with the national president, Kimi Yoshino asked Yasuhara what he would do to improve communication within the National Board and solve its internal problems.

Yasuhara said, "Communication is a two-way street, if you elect to talk to the newspapers it's one thing. We need to change the way we deal with each other. These issues have two sides. I'm not the one who wrote those articles. You don't have to respect me as an individual, but the position must be respected. I will try to mend fences but it is a two-way street."

At the session with the National Board, both Travis Nishi and Kaji said that the board needs to be more open about its decision making processes.

"The biggest thing we can improve is the aspect of communication. With long executive sessions far too many things are done in secrecy," said Nishi, CCDC gover-

nor. "Board meetings are open to members. We need to have time to take issues back to our membership. We need to over-communicate rather than under-communicate."

Kaji added, "All discussion related to budget and finances should be held in open session. When you go behind closed doors it leaves too much to the imagination."

Saiki said that the board members needs to resolve its difference among themselves without involving the outside media.

"I would like to keep our internal affairs internal. There are other organizations interested in seeing JACL go down the drain. We should keep our dirty linen to ourselves," said Saiki.

Mizobe added, "We need to be more responsible for decisions we make and be more accountable. I agree with Barry, but if we didn't have dirty laundry to deal with we wouldn't have that problem."

Mizobe and Murakawa criticized Tom Hara, JACL legal counsel, for a report he issued to the National Board on the recent check bouncing incidents.

A question read during the National Board session asked if something would be done about the

See CRITICISM/page 12

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Move to include Asian American studies hits more campuses

Protests and a hunger strike demanding Asian American studies at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. have set off similar calls and protests in campuses across the country, according to the campus newspaper, the *Daily Northwestern*.

Students at Stanford, Princeton and Columbia universities also recently staged protests calling for Asian American studies programs at their campuses. Eight Stanford students, calling themselves the Concerned Students for Asian American Studies, began a fast in support of the Northwestern students. At Princeton, 27 students staged a sit-in at the office of Harold Shapiro, university president.

The Asian American Advisory Board, an Asian American student group at Northwestern, is demanding that two professors and one permanent director for Asian American Studies be added to the faculty by the 1998-99 academic year. Currently, Northwestern does not offer Asian American studies; approximately 18 percent of its undergraduate population of 7,333 is Asian American.

Of seventeen students at the midwest campus who went on a hunger strike April 12, ten students continued, vowing not to eat until the university agreed to their demands.

Speaking to the *Chicago Tribune*, Charles Chun, 21, a junior majoring in psychology and economics who had been fasting for nine days, said, "This hunger strike is a symbolic statement of how far we are willing to go for the Asian American studies program."

In response to the hunger strike, the university has posted a nurse 24 hours a day in a nearby building and also assigned guards to watch over the students, who had pitched tents on campus grounds.

In a letter to Dean Lawrence B. Dumas, Long Do, public relations assistant chair, Asian American Advisory Board said, "Students will continue the hunger strike indefinitely until the Administration actively offers a committed response consistent with the demands listed above. We hope you will consider the health of your students and the integrity of Northwestern's commitment to a liberal arts education."

Dumas responded saying he is

committed to increasing multicultural education at Northwestern.

"While awaiting recommendations from the Curricular Policies Committee and formal action by the CAS [College of Arts and Sciences] faculty, I have committed funds sufficient for the teaching of four courses in Asian American studies during the 1995-96 academic year. In case the CAS faculty fails to reach definitive conclusion on Asian American studies curricular proposals during the 1995-96 academic year, I will again allocate funds for four courses during the 1996-97 academic year," said Dumas.

But the Asian American Advisory Board replied that the university proposal was not a guarantee that Asian American studies would be taught at the campus.

"We want to guarantee that NU students will always have the opportunity to take a course on Asian Americans," they said. "This means tenure-track Asian Americanists must be hired. Your letter of April 20, 1995, demonstrates again your lack of commitment to this goal."

JACLers, EEOP leader support Northwestern students

The JACL National Youth/Student Council, Paul Igasaki, vice-chair, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Midwest District of JACL and the Chicago Chapter have joined in support of the student protest for Asian American studies at Northwestern University.

Responding to the protests for Asian American studies, the JACL National Youth/Student Council chaired by Kim Nakahara said, "The National Youth/Student Council is committed to the establishment of ethnic studies programs at colleges and universities and applauds the efforts of the Northwestern, Stanford and Princeton University students. It is sad that students have to starve themselves in order to gain basic educational rights."

In a letter to university president Henry S. Bienen, Igasaki said, "As a public official involved

in the enforcement of our nation's anti-discrimination laws, it is my belief that at the root of the discrimination and intergroup tensions that continue to plague our nation lies the failure to fully understand each other's histories, similarities and differences."

Igasaki, who graduated from Northwestern in 1976, said, "I learned much during my years at Northwestern. But in many respects, this was due as much to what the school did not provide me as for what it did. . . . Both to serve those students, but more importantly, to fill for the entire Northwestern community the academic vacuum that has existed for too long, it is time for the administration to create an Asian American studies curriculum."

In a resolution passed at its district meeting, the Midwest District Council said it "encourages and supports initiation, maintenance and growth of Asian American Studies in higher education in particular and in the U.S. education system in general."

The district encouraged JACL at all levels to support Asian American studies. The Chicago Chapter was asked by the students to join in the protest for Asian American studies.

Rev. S. Michael Yasutake, chair, Human Rights Committee, reported in the chapter newsletter that chapter board member and NU student Kathryn Iyata was helping to lead the effort for the chapter.

"The history of Asian Americans is an integral part of the history of the United States, and is of importance to all students, not just Asian Americans. A good liberal education calls for an understanding of the contributions made by all Americans, not just those of European descent," said Yasutake.

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Clinton to address congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus

President Bill Clinton is scheduled deliver the keynote address for a May 18 dinner celebrating the foundation of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Institute at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The institute is a non-profit, non-partisan, education organization with the goal of enhancing the ability of Asian Pacific Americans to participate in federal public policy debates. The event with Clinton is expected draw over 1,000 Asian Pacific Americans.

Rep. Norman Mineta, who is a board member of the institute, said, "This is an exciting development for our community, and I am proud to be part of this historic event."

While all members of the Asian Pacific American Congressional Caucus have been invited to serve on the board of the institute, the institute will be a separate entity outside the caucus, as required by Congressional ethics rules.

Susan C. Lee, interim institute chair, said, "This dinner and inauguration of the institute mark

a new beginning for Asian Pacific Americans. It is critical that we increase our access and presence in the democratic process."

The four goals of the Caucus Institute include:

- Assist, promote, support and conduct non-partisan education and informational activities designed to enhance and increase the participation and utilization of Asian Pacific Americans in the democratic process at the national, state, and local levels.
- Gather, compile and distribute, as a national clearinghouse, statistical and informational materials on Asian Pacific Americans.
- Track legislation in Congress and administrative decisions in the executive branch of concern to Asian Pacific Americans and disseminate that information to community organizations and individuals around the country.
- Fund scholarships for young Asian Pacific Americans wishing to pursue public policy internships in the Congress, executive branch and non-profit advocacy organizations in Washington, D.C.

Conference views WWII nuclear legacy

Fifty years after atomic bombs killed more than 100,000 people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, tough questions are still being asked about the decision to use nuclear weapons. On Saturday, May 13, UCSB will host a one-day conference that will explore the legacy of the decision.

The conference, titled "Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Views After Fifty Years," will be held from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the UCSB Corwin Pavilion, with a lunch break at 11:45 a.m., and will include lectures, artistic performances, and films.

Conference admission is free for UC faculty, staff, and students, and to students at other Santa Barbara schools and colleges. Admission is \$10 for the general public, with 20 percent discounts available for groups and senior citizens. Information: 805/893-7660.

JACL tri-district conference

Youth discuss how to attract new members



Youth panelists, from left, Hiromi Smith, PSW youth representative, John Hayashi, South Bay Young Adults Group, and Christine Sato, South Bay Young Adults Group, share experiences at tri-district event.

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

Before an intergenerational audience, youth/student members of JACL said that there are a number of ways to attract more young people into JACL chapters from focusing on civil rights and leadership training to social gatherings.

Kimi Yoshino, National Board representative, national youth/student council, said, "It's going to take a while to start a (youth/student) program. It is absolutely crucial that there's a strong commitment. It's not going to be an easy thing to get started, you need to determine what focus you want your youth chapter to take."

Other participants in the panel included: Kim Nakahara, chair, JACL youth/student council; Ross Nakasone, NCWNP youth representative; Hiromi Smith, PSW youth representative; Christine Sato and John Hayashi, Young Adults of the South Bay JACL.

Nakahara said, "The key to starting a youth/student group is to look at your area, identify a need and then tailor it to your area."

Nakasone, a student at UC Davis, said that in Sacramento, the focus of youth groups has been on leadership training.

"In Hawaii, student groups are more issue-oriented. In Sacramento the emphasis is on leadership development and community involvement with a focus on Asian American studies, programs and

issues like the California Civil Rights Initiative, said Nakasone.

Sato said that the South Bay group started out with financial and moral support from senior members of the South Bay Chapter, JACL.

"We are currently in our second year. We have our own cabinet, and banking account. There are currently 60 members with 90 on our mailing list. The only way we

"It's going to take a while to start a (youth-student) program. It's absolutely crucial that there's a strong commitment. It's not going to be an easy thing to get started, you need to determine what focus you want your youth chapter to take."

—Kimi Yoshino

reached this level is we had a strong cabinet and strong support from the senior cabinet," said Sato, crediting Midori Kamei, chapter president and Ed Mitoma, board member.

Hayashi said that South Bay young adults have started their own newsletter and telephone number which gives an updated list of coming events.

"Our chapter fills a need for people coming out of college who still want to stay involved. We have members who come from all over southern California," said Hayashi.

Smith, a member of the SELANOCO chapter, said the chapter established ties with the Japanese American student group Tomono Kai at University of California at Irvine.

"SELANOCO has been very supportive of Tomono Kai. For our annual cultural night the chapter bought advertising and went to the function. They have also helped finance people going to the National Youth Council conference last year," said Smith.

John Yamada, Eden Township, said that his chapter focused its attention on recruiting high school members.

"Eden Township has a youth group which is 100 percent high school students. There are currently 55 members, with about half being Chinese American. They have many activities including helping Alzheimers patients," said Yamada.

Yamada, a Nisei, said the chapter has a point system where youth members receive points each time they participate in a chapter activity which goes towards special events.

Shigemasa, Takahashi, *Rafu* honored

At the awards ceremony, Saturday, April 29, Tom Shigemasa, Mae Takahashi and the *Rafu Shimpō* newspaper were honored by the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific, Central California, and Pacific Southwest Districts, respectively.

Shigemasa, assistant chief of police of the San Jose Police Department, has distinguished himself in his profession as well as in the area of civil rights. He currently serves as chair of the 1996 JACL national convention committee.

In the San Jose Police Department, he has served in a variety of capacities, including deputy chief of investigations, deputy chief of administration, captain of investigations, lieutenant in charge of narcotics, traffic enforcement and street crimes units, and sergeant in the Internal Affairs unit.

Shigemasa was co-founder and past chair of the Coalition of Asian Americans for Public Safety, Asian Officers Association of City Employees, and South Bay Chapter

of the Asian Peace Officers Association. He is also the first and current president of the National Association of Asian American Law Enforcement Commanders.

Takahashi, a pharmacist who owns and operates Valley Medical Pharmacy, Inc. in Fresno, Calif., was honored for her years of service and dedication to JACL and the Asian American community. Most recently, she was asked to chair the JACL Budget Analysis Committee. She is active in the Clovis Chapter, JACL, and has served as district governor from 1987-88. She has also served as treasurer of JACL's Legislative Education Committee.

In addition to her JACL involvement, Takahashi has served on many civic boards, including the Soroptimist International. She was the co-founder and charter president of the California Asian Pacific Women's Network. President George Bush appointed her to serve on the USDA Citizen's Advisory Board to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture from 1991-93. The *Rafu Shimpō*, a Los Ange-

les-based daily newspaper, was honored for its "vital role in the Japanese American community throughout its distinguished history." The newspaper began in 1903 as a Japanese language publication. The first English section was published in 1926 and in 1932, the *Rafu Shimpō* began publishing in both Japanese and English.

The newspaper's publisher and president is Michael Komai, who succeeded his father, Akira, and his grandfather, H.T.

Under Komai's leadership, the newspaper has covered issues that affect the Japanese American as well as Asian Pacific communities.

PSW also acknowledged the *Rafu Shimpō*'s role in the community with its support of organizations such as Nisei Week, the Japanese American National Museum, and JACL.

English editor Naomi Hirahara accepted the award on behalf of the newspaper.

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JACL tri-district conference

Panelists give views, insights into JACL financial situation

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

Where do we go from here? The opening workshop at the CCDC-NCWNP-PSW Tri-District meeting in Reno, Nev. April 28 titled "JACL financial crisis: An organization at crossroads," presented various perspectives on the complicated topic of JACL finances.

The workshop panel included: Dale Ikeda, moderator; John Hayashi, vice governor, NCWNP; Trisha Murakawa, vice president of planning and development; Alan Nishi, NCWNP district governor; Mae Takahashi, chairwoman, and Ken Inouye, member, Budget Analysis Committee, and the last-minute appearance of Jonathan Kaji, JACL national secretary-treasurer, who flew in from Japan.

Following are comments by each of the panelists:

● Nishi, who was JACL secretary-treasurer for two terms in the '80s, related that JACL was able to work through earlier deficits through teamwork, spending cuts and an increase in dues. He said that in '86, when JACL had a deficit of \$75,000, "I had a good budget finance committee, we worked as a team. I had an understanding national president, a business manager I was very comfortable with, a good national director. As a team we were able to work this thing out," said Nishi.

● Takahashi stressed that in order for JACL to get its finances in order it needs to install, as soon as possible, a computer account-



Participating in a forum on JACL finances are, from left, Alan Nishi, NCWNP District governor; Mae Takahashi and Ken Inouye of the Budget Analysis Committee; and Trisha Murakawa, JACL vice president, planning and development.

ing system which can distribute timely financial information to the National Board and JACL members. "The accounting system should allow JACL to establish a chart of accounts, manage assets, and track and report on accounts payable and receivable," she said.

She blamed a lack of accountability on deficiencies within JACL's bylaws, citing the JACL reserve fund as an example. "JACL started as a 'mom and pop' operation and quickly grew into a prominent national organization with \$6 million in assets. During this transition, we neglected to institute appropriate management policies and procedures," she said.

● Inouye, who is a CPA, presented a preliminary draft of unaudited '94 revenue and expense reports which he had worked on with the help of Patti Paganini, former JACL business manager.

Concerning whether there was a \$31,000 surplus or a \$75,000 deficit in '94, he explained that the numbers can be interpreted in several ways, and saying JACL had a \$31,000 surplus was telling only "half the story." "If JACL had run business as usual, we would have had a deficiency of \$160,000." He also said, "You have to remember that people on either side of this issue had JACL's best interest at heart."

● Murakawa, who voted against the December '94 National Board decision to reorganize, prefaced her remarks by saying she is a "layperson," not a financial professional. She agreed with Takahashi's recommendation for

a computerized accounting system and, after questioning Inouye, explained that his charts indicated JACL had a \$75,000 deficit if read on a cash basis and a \$31,000 surplus if read on an accrual basis. "JACL's finances are recorded on an accrual basis, which is the generally accepted accounting practice," she said.

● Hayashi also works with finances but is not directly involved with JACL's current financial problems. He presented a three-point recommendation for avoiding such problems: 1. Preparation of accurate and timely information for communication with leadership and membership. 2. Avoid a 'spend first, find the money later' mentality—find the money within the available budget. 3. Once JACL determines it has the money, decide whether expenditure will be fusesful to the organization.

● Kaji, who was not a member of the panel, told the audience without getting into specifics that he is hopeful he will be able to present to membership a full and accurate disclosure of JACL's finances.

"I am hopeful that there's a sentiment that in order to make good decisions you need a well-informed membership and board. There have been disagreements on information distributed to the board.

All this information will be presented in full to the board for discussion," he said.

During the brief question-and-answer session, Peggy Liggett, Fresno Chapter, asked Kaji if the initial staff projection of a \$187,000 deficit for '94 and the \$75,000 deficit reported for '93 were on a cash or accrual basis. Kaji replied that both figures were based on an the accrual system.

Miko Sawamura, Sacramento Chapter, asked about the purpose of the Campbell report, an analysis of JACL's accounting practices by the Professional Exchange Service. Takahashi said that it was initiated to start the process of moving the organization forward. "Unless JACL understands the underlying causes of our financial problems, we will not be able to move forward." She added that downsizing staff was only a first step and would not automatically solve all of the problems. JACL needs to better understand its own finances, or the financial crisis will continue, she said.

Sawamura asked how the firm was hired. Denny Yasuhara, JACL national president, who was in the audience, said that he had commissioned the report in order to get more information about JACL's finances. Ikeda noted that the costs of the report were not borne by the organization.

CALL-IN

(Continued from page 1)

Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (APALC), "Senators are saying that they are not hearing any opposition from their constituents. It is important for them to know that although the legal permanent residents may not be able to vote, Asian Pacific American voters will be judging their actions on this issue at the ballot box. The Senate needs to be told that discriminating against legal immigrants and their tax paying families is simply unfair."

Daphne Kwok, executive director for the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), urged those calling in to make the following four points: (1) Legal immigrants, just like U.S. citizens, pay local, state and federal taxes, and must register for the draft, and therefore should be provided the safety nets applicable to U.S. citizens; (2) Any welfare costs saved at the federal level will result in a cost-shift to local and state governments; (3) immigrants on the whole do not abuse welfare and, in fact, use public benefits less than the general population; and (4) Denying legal immigrants preventive health care will result in immigrants using emergency health care and

will not save money as the bill's proponents argue. "Senators need to know the consequences that the immigrant restrictions will have, not just to the immigrant community, but to the greater American society."

Matthew Finucane, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO (APALA), stressed the importance of calling the Senate at this time. "It is important that all of us recognize that the House bill was aimed in large part at our community, which is two-thirds foreign born. History has taught us that we cannot allow politicians to unfairly target Asian Pacific Americans without letting our voices be heard."

Dong Suh, policy analyst for the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIA/HF), pointed out that the attack on immigrants is at an all-time high. "At the same time that Congress is making it harder for legal immigrants to be eligible for public benefits, it also is moving to cut programs that would ease the naturalization process. Congress needs to hear that immigrants come here to join their families, work, and contribute in many ways to the United States. But most of all, they need to hear Asian Pacific American voices and see

'At the same time that Congress is making it harder for legal immigrants to be eligible for public benefits, it also is moving to cut programs that would ease the naturalization process.'

—Dong Suh

APA faces."

The United States Senate can be reached by calling 202/224-3121. In some large cities, a local office may be listed in the phone directory. When voicing concerns, callers should request a response from their senator and provide their name, address and phone number.

The National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium, the Organization of Chinese Americans, the Asian and Pacific Islander Health Forum and the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance advocate on behalf of the Asian Pacific American communities in the United States. All maintain offices in Washington, D.C.

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EXTENDED DEADLINE

Viewpoint

By LEIGH-ANN MIYASATO

We must be concerned with anti-immigration laws

Viewpoint is a Pacific Citizen forum for in-depth analyses of key issues affecting the JACL or the Japanese American community in general. Opposing views are welcome.



Nearly all JACL members are U.S. citizens. Why then, should we care about legislation to cut off benefits for legal immigrants, proposals to end or restrict immigration, or recommendations to set up a national employment verification system? Let us remember our history. Japanese and Chinese immigrants in the late 1800s and early 1900s faced hostility, discrimination, and violence when they came to this country. Anti-immigrant fervor was so great that Congress passed a series of Chinese Exclusion Acts in the 1880s and the Asian Exclusion Act, aimed at Japanese immigration, in 1924.

Similar strains of xenophobia and thinly-veiled racism are apparent in the anti-immigration movement today. We would not be having an immigration debate if most immigrants were from Europe rather than from Asia and Mexico. Japanese Americans must combat such bigotry because it is wrong and dangerous. Racial hysteria is readily ignited, as we saw in the proposals to intern Arab Americans during the Gulf War and in the accusations that Islamic fundamentalists must have been responsible for the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City in April. And Japanese Americans do not hold exemptions from racism by reason of citizenry. We know how easy it is for other Americans to consider us "foreigners." Even a United States senator, Alfonse D'Amato, had to be told that it was an insult to use a Japanese accent to mock Judge Lance Ito—who has no accent.

The proposed legislation, though neutral on its face, is based on inaccurate and unfair stereotypes about immigrants. First, the Personal Responsibility Act, passed by the House of Representatives and currently being considered by the Senate, cuts off legal immigrants' access to AFDC, food stamps, SSI, Medicaid, and Social Services block grants. The act assumes that legal immigrants are a drain on our society. In fact, only 2% of legal immigrants use welfare programs, while 3.7% of U.S. natives do so. Moreover, immigrants pay \$25 billion more in taxes than they receive in benefits. The act penalizes the most vulnerable in our society and will hurt elders and others in the Asian American community who have followed the rules and are legally in this country.

Second, several bills pending in Congress would slash legal immigration from about 800,000 to 300,000 per year. Brothers and sisters of U.S. citizens could no longer emigrate at all. Parents would no longer be considered "immediate relatives" of U.S. citizens. Employment-based immigration would be reduced from 140,000 to 25,000. Refugee admissions would be barred in all but extraordinary circumstances. These proposals are based in part on the notion that too many immigrants are coming from undesirable parts of the world. But consider these facts:

- Family immigration has been the cornerstone of our nation's immigration policy for decades. The reunification of close family members has strengthened the basic economic and social unit on which this country was founded. Drastic cutbacks in immigration will weaken these families and the social structure of our nation.

- Employment-based immigration is limited to highly specialized and skilled workers. The government should not tie the hands of employers who wish to hire these workers. They help U.S. companies remain competitive in the global marketplace and fuel American prosperity. Companies who wish to bring workers from Japan and other Asian countries would be directly affected by proposals to restrict such immigration.

- Protection is offered to fewer than 1% of the world's refugees (about 100,000). Proposals to place absolute caps on refugee admissions or to summarily exclude those who seek protection at ports of entry, undermine our nation's commitment to freedom and human rights that is a beacon of hope in the world.

Third, the Commission on Legal Immigration has proposed a national registry for immigration control. The system would register every authorized worker in the U.S. in a centralized, government-run database so that, theoretically, illegal immigrants would not be able to obtain jobs.

Such a system would create enormous governmental intrusions into the business decisions of American employers and into the private lives of American workers. It would force an employer to ask the government for permission every time a new worker is hired. It would subject workers to database errors that could cost them jobs; allow personal information to become accessible to government officials and to the public; and will inevitably be used for purposes other than immigration control.

Moreover, the system will be used to discriminate against Asian and Latino workers because to many employers, they look "foreign" or speak with a "foreign accent."

We in the JACL should be concerned about these anti-immigrant proposals, which reflect an ugly strain of racism and bigotry in our country. Please write to your senators and representatives to inform them of your opposition to these proposals. There will also be a "National Call-in Day" on May 16 to protest legislation denying federal benefits to legal immigrants. A coalition of Asian Pacific American groups is asking that members of our community call their senators to urge them to vote against the legislation. (See story on page 1.) For further information or sample letters, contact the Washington, D.C. office of the JACL at (202) 223-1240.

Miyasato is the acting JACL Washington, D.C., representative.

PEACE

(Continued from page 1)

enumerated include:

- An agreement that JACL business will be conducted in open session rather than executive session unless the board is discussing personnel or litigation issues.

- Fostering open and honest communication on the National Board.

- A commitment to mutual respect and conducting business professionally.

- A commitment to working with Yasuhara and the rest of the board members to find a "minimum level of trust on which we can agree so we can work together as a team."

- The expectation that the "appropriately established channels to address budget and financial matters will be utilized."

- The expectation that there will be open discussion on all policy matters on which the board must vote and that votes not be made by mail or facsimile.

- Commitment to responding to legitimate requests and concerns and expecting the same in return.

- Commitment to carrying out "our designated responsibilities according to our position and do not anticipate that our responsibilities will be usurped by others."

- Commitment to raising legitimate concerns and not sweep any of these issues under the rug.

- The expectation that decisions be made by the entire board and not subgroups of the board.

- Providing the individuals affected by the reorganization with a fair and reasonable severance.

- Committing to no longer calling for the resignation of President Yasuhara.

- Agreeing to enter mediation through an outside party to start the healing process.

Yasuhara said in response, "I will make every effort to match the olive branch that's been offered to me and as I said, we will move forward; hopefully our board meeting May 6-7 will reflect that."

Speaking to the audience, the national president said, "You're the people I'm responsible to, and hopefully we can move forward with the next board meeting and resolve some of the problems we have and hopefully look at a better year in 1996."

Murakawa said that Steven Tom of the Department of Justice has volunteered to offer his services to mediate for the National Board.

"He feels concerned that JACL as a national leading civil rights organization working in the Asian and Pacific Islander community is undergoing this internal struggle and feels that if we are

suffering it affects the larger Asian Pacific Islander image in terms of being able to effectively advocate," said Murakawa.

Barry Saiki, vice president for public affairs who voted for the staff reorganization at the December '94 board meeting, said, "I am glad to hear Trisha speak about the olive branch. It's good to hear. I hope something can be resolved."

At the same time, Saiki criticized what he called the "shotgun approach" to publicly airing protests in the Japanese vernaculars and other newspapers about the staff reorganization.

"... the people reading it don't know where this is coming from, if this is official board policy or not. I would like to see that on anything which impinges upon the crisis or the decisions affecting the board, at least a copy be sent to me as vice president for public affairs so I can then check with other board members and formulate an answer."

Yasuhara, who had to leave to catch an airplane, said briefly in response to a call for a ban on teleconference or fax voting by the National Board, "Due to the fact that we'll probably have only one more meeting this year, that there's some things we're going to have to settle by fax or phone mainly for budget reasons."

ACTION

(Continued from page 1)

Ruth Mizobe, PSW district governor, said during the district meeting that she intends to present a motion to the National Board at its May 5-6 meeting to push for a board position on affirmative action and welfare reform. She said that she and Trisha Murakawa, vice president for public affairs and chair of the PSW civil rights caucus, were preparing a report to present to the National Board and that the district would conduct a workshop on affirmative action at its next district council meeting.

"We are in the midst of putting together a package to present to the National Board to make sure we have a position on dismantling affirmative action. This is not just

a California issue, it has to be a national issue," said Mizobe.

Yasuhara also said that JACL needs to address the needs of the growing number of bi-racial or "hapa" people within the Japanese American community.

"Our future lies in how we deal with the hapa issue. If we don't deal with that then our organization is doomed," said Yasuhara.

He noted that chapters such as Mid-Columbia and Snake River Valley consist largely of bi-racial and non-Japanese Americans.

"I went to Hood River and it's 40-50% Caucasian. They said, 'What are you folks doing for us?' They don't see the relevance of the National JACL. Ontario is the same way. If we don't address this issue, we are going to be in trouble," said Yasuhara.

On the same-sex marriage is-

sue, Yasuhara said JACL needs to better educate its membership.

"We need workshops at the district level in issues relative to lesbians and homosexuals," said Yasuhara.

Murakawa, who has been involved with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force working on the Hawaii Supreme Court case, said JACL's position on the issue is more supportive rather than being in a lead position.

"I fully intend to move forward with a grass roots effort. Not taking the lead on the issue, it doesn't affect a majority of the membership, but filling a supporting role," Murakawa explained.

The vice president said it would be presumptuous of JACL to play a central role in an issue which is central to the gay and lesbian communities.

RESIGN

(Continued from page 1)

Heyman, listed the Enola Gay dispute as reason for resigning "with deep regret." He had held the post for eight years.

"Initial plans for a historical display of this aircraft have persistently provoked controversy and divisiveness," Harwit said.

"Three months after the cancellation of that planned exhibition, the controversy still continues. I believe that nothing less than my stepping down from the directorship will satisfy the museum's critics and allow the museum to move forward with important new projects."

A Smithsonian official denied Harwit had been forced out of the job.

In late January, the Smithsonian scuttled the original dis-

play and said it would be replaced with a drastically scaled back version consisting of the plane, a film about the crew and limited text.

The original display of the restored B-29 bomber and a narrative drew criticism from veterans groups and congressmen who charged it had a pro-Japanese bias. They said the display focused, among other things, on the estimated 140,000 casualties when the bomb was dropped over Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, the first time an atomic weapon had been used in war.

The text of the original display angered veterans who said that it did not reflect the U.S. view that without the bomb an estimated 63,000 Americans would have been killed in an American invasion of Japan. Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said it was "regrettable" and Hiroshima mayor said the revised

Three months after the cancellation of that planned exhibition, the controversy still continues. I believe that nothing less than my stepping down from the directorship will satisfy the museum's critics and allow the museum to move forward with important new projects.

—Martin Harwit

version undercut his city's international campaign against the use of nuclear weaponry. The new display, to have opened this month, is now scheduled to open mid-June, officials said.

MILITIA

(Continued from page 1)

him."

Time reported that the Michigan Militia, which has been under scrutiny for alleged ties to bombing suspect McVeigh, is considering whether to expel Olson.

When Olson, disheveled and dressed in a blue bathrobe, opened his door for a reporter, he said, "Why are you bothering me? Can't you see I'm trying to stop World War III? I'm trying to stop a war."

Barry Saiki, vice president for public affairs and the founder of Japan Chapter, JACL, said, "Fifty years ago, World War II ended

with our U.S. forces victorious over the Japanese. Yet, when any calamity occurs, including trade deficits as well as bombings, there are still ill informed or prejudiced individuals who cry 'Japanese' or 'foreign.'"

"The removal of Olson from his command is at least a show of conscience. It also shows that eternal vigilance is a part of our legacy," said Saiki.

Leigh-Ann Miyasato, acting JACL Washington, D.C. representative, noted the growth of the militia movement in America and the danger to Japanese Americans. According to the Michigan Militia, it currently has 12,000 members.

"Maybe we shouldn't be too surprised that these right-wing militias are blaming Japan for the bombing. Others have said that the U.S. government bombed the building in order to create an excuse for confiscating guns from militia members."

"Their paranoia is absurd, but it is also frightening. When minority groups become scapegoats in times of fear and anxiety, it is all too easy to whip up hysteria and even violence against them. We must speak out to prevent the irrational ravings of the lunatic fringe from infecting our society with racism and hostility," said Miyasato.

Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

Asian American voting unpredictable

Alfonse D'Amato, a Democrat characterized by Congressman Norman Mineta as that "stupid senator," realized it too late but there is a sizable and growing number of Asian American voters. They are not likely to take kindly to Senator D'Amato's crude and asinine lampoon of California Judge Lance Ito's performance in the difficult role of referee in the murder trial of O.J. Simpson.

A recent study published in American Enterprise magazine indicates ethnic Asians will make up 10 percent of the U.S. population in the next century, which is only a few years distant. The study also shows one of every 10 Californians already is ethnic Asian, a fact that has had a profound effect on that state's politics. Furthermore, by the year 2020—just 25 years from now—they may outnumber blacks nationally.

That's a drastic change from 1940 when ethnic Japanese, the largest group of ethnic Asians in the 48 contiguous states, numbered only about 127,000 and made up about 0.3 percent of the total population.

The current numbers have not escaped political strategists. When you have a potential voting bloc of these proportions, it is important to pay attention to their inter-

ests. Senator Bob Dole of Kansas, likely to become Bill Clinton's Republican challenger in the coming presidential election, already has a committee of Asian Americans which is inviting their well-heeled friends to contribute a thousand bucks and more to his campaign for the privilege of sitting down with the candidate.

However, it's not clear whether the political strategists understand that Asian Americans are not a bloc. The politicians would be making a serious mistake if they assumed that, because most Asian Americans have black hair and eat a lot of rice, they have the same political interests.

Those of us who are members of the community know that some Asian Americans have been Americans for four or five generations and others are recent arrivals. Some are high-paid attorneys and scientists and businessmen, and some wash dishes for a living. Some run corporate farms and others do the sweaty work involved in growing crops. We have no common history, culture or language (other than English which we speak with a variety of accents or none at all). Even our experience as people entering American society is different, some of it benign and some painful, depending on when it hap-

pened.

Although Democrats were in power when Japanese Americans were locked up in detention camps, they tend to vote Democratic. On the other hand there are of late signs that Nisei in their old age and older Sansei are tending to favor more conservative GOP policies.

One recent survey indicates that Korean Americans, with a large number of small businessmen, Chinese and Taiwanese are nominally Republicans as are Vietnamese Americans, while Filipinos are said to be Democrats. In other words, the Asian American bloc is far from monolithic. Even a single segment, like Japanese Americans have widespread differences, as witness the fuss within their only national organization, JACL.

It may not be an altogether bad thing for the politicians to continue thinking of Asian Americans as a tight voting bloc. In numbers there is strength. Keep them guessing as they angle for our votes. For a change, it will be nice to be wooed.

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



East wind

BILL MARUTANI

The Hikiage-sha's

IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD in Japan I was assigned to the task of screening Japanese *hikiage-sha's* (returnees), most of whom came from Manchuria. One boatload in particular, consisting of returning Japanese troops from China, sticks in my mind. The ship, it may have been the Takasago-Maru, arrived at the Hario port (near Sasebo in Kyushu). Among the items we confiscated were the *Nippon-toh's* (swords) which many of the soldiers had brought back with them. One of the Japanese officers met with me and requested that his sword—and all the others were no different—be carefully safeguarded and preserved as an irreplaceable family treasure. I replied that I would relay that to my superiors. Being but a lowly lieutenant, there were many "superiors" above me but that was about all I could do. That was the last I saw of this Japanese officer and I never again saw any of those *katana's* (swords).

Since then, I've often wondered what happened to those swords.

I ALSO RECALL on that occasion, I went aboard the ship as it entered the harbor and asked to meet with the officer-in-charge. In response, a tall Japanese sergeant stepped forward. After returning his salute, I suggested to him that there surely

were more senior men aboard and that I would like to confer with the senior officer. We had a copy of the ship's manifest so I knew there were several officers of flag rank aboard. The sergeant excused himself and shortly, from among the assemblage, outstepped an elderly man, short and slight of build, with no insignia to reflect his rank. Without a doubt, this was the Japanese general in command.

I conveyed preliminary directions as to procedure for disembarking, responded to a few inquiries he had. It was all very business-like.

YEARS LATER, I think it was in the early 1970s, Vicki and I were on a group tour which took us down to Kyushu, all the way down as far as Kagoshima. On the return leg of the tour heading north, when we reached Sasebo, I broke away from the group for the day as planned. I think they were taking a sightseeing cruise of the bay. I hired a cab and asked to be taken to the Hario seaport. Along the route from Sasebo to Hario, there was a restaurant I recognized located on the water's edge; the wooden structure was now dilapidated and leaning perilously to one side. When we reached Hario, there were no structures standing, including the huge warehouse-like structure where the returnees as-

sembled. The docks and the piers were gone and unruly weeds had taken over the area. It was a depressing "homecoming" for me. I vowed to myself that I would not visit old sites where I had been stationed.

It is far better to stay with memories whose rough edges have been mellowed by the passage of years.

BUT OLD SITES continue to have their lure, attracting us back. When the MIS (military intelligence service) group held its reunion up in Minneapolis, Minn., a few years back, we joined with the group. Having spent a number of months studying and training at Ft. Snelling, I expected a flood of reminders to re-sharpen my memories of the military post: the central administration building, the post movie theater, the trolley stop for runs in Minneapolis, the housing for my Company "C" and "A" and so on. Most of the buildings no longer existed, and those that remained were sealed. To expectantly revisit the past only to confront the realities of the present can be disappointing.

And yet I continue to do so.

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

PC won't reprint opinions, letters sent to other media

Pacific Citizen frequently receives letters and opinion articles which are sent to many or all of the vernaculars.

Such duplication needlessly reduces the amount of space available. PC repeats its established policy of publishing only those letters sent to this newspaper.

Letters

Congratulations due Gila River committee

Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, the Nisei rose from the degradations of internment. After 50 years, our spirits are still on target. I was very excited to see that Saburo Tanaka with whom I had the pleasure of growing up together, had brought his son and daughter-in-law. In fact, many of the former evacuees brought their grandchildren to the Gila River Reunion, and some of them performed for us at the Sayonara Banquet, like Judy Narita [granddaughter of Nobuko (Emoto) Ash-Narita], who presented a one-woman play celebrating Asian and Asian American women.

I see that what our parents were saying—study hard, work hard, don't bring shame to the family—took its roots! As I write this article, words like "on" (honor), "giri" (obligation), "gambare" (perseverance), are now invested in the grandchildren. I see that in almost every vocation and profession, Japanese Americans have risen head and shoulders above others. Just to name a few who "rose" from the Gila River camp, are Dr. Ron Matsunaga, a world renowned plastic surgeon; Michi Weglin, author of "Years of Infamy"; Betty Shikata, who played opposite Marlon Brando in "Sayonara." "Yamato Damashii," the spirit of the boys of the 442nd, the 100th, and MIS, lives on!

The grandchildren of the evacuees are also rising splendidly through the ranks in fields such as medicine, business, engineering, acting—everywhere, I heard success stories from proud grandparents.

Congratulations to the Gila River Reunion Committee on the great effort they put forth for all of us. My wife and I immensely enjoyed every bit of it!

*Dr. and Mrs.
Frank Sakamoto
Block 46—Chicago*



Pacific Citizen Policies

Editorials, columns and cartoons

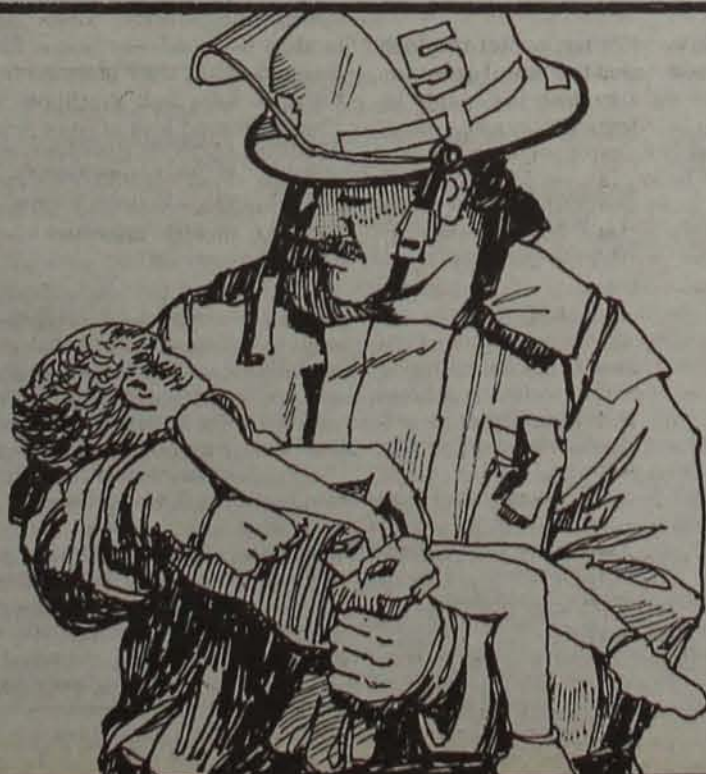
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Letters

Pacific Citizen 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 daytime telephone number. Because of limited space we may condense letters that are accepted for publication. We do not publish form letters, copies or letters written to other publications. Fax letters to 213/725-0064 or mail to Letters to the Editor, *Pacific Citizen*, 2 Coral Circle, Suite 204, Monterey Park, CA, 91755.

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*"One more devil's triumph and
sorrow for angels..."*

Robert Browning

**MAY 5TH IS
KODOMO-NO-HI
(CHILDREN'S DAY)**

PETE HIRQUAKA 5/5/95



Voices

By JERRY J. ENOMOTO

Let's support the president, move ahead

I made several false starts before finally writing what follows, mainly because I hesitated to add to the reams of paper already written about the state of disarray of the JACL. Particularly since most of it has been, in my opinion, negative, divisive and mean-spirited.

My decision to do it now is because I believe in the JACL, not in just its past accomplishments, but in what it still means to us as a force for good at a time when we badly need it. I also felt that pride in having served as its national president and in the recognition accorded me, dictates that I speak out.

We must all know by now that some major errors were made in the management of our finances, resulting among other problems, in about \$400,000 in reserves being depleted over several years. It doesn't

take a genius to understand that controls are needed. Neither should it be hard to understand that blaming and scapegoating individuals will get us nowhere.

I cannot take seriously the spectacle of the JACL treasurer calling a press conference to demand the resignation of the current president, who wasn't in office when the mess started and continued. Logically, he should tender his own resignation.

Based upon what has been said and written, one cannot help but come to the conclusion that the accounting and bookkeeping practices left much to be desired. My understanding, based upon discussions with those whose judgment I respect, is that the financial picture remains unsettled. If past national president Harry Kajiha's analysis (April 21-May 4 PC) is accurate, we need to restrict spending at a certain level, and

encourage an all-out effort to raise additional funds. A positive way to move forward.

Unfortunately, the current image of JACL is such that moving forward and increasing membership may be difficult. The treasurer's behavior is only one example why this is so. We also have a former national officer continuing to blame others for problems that he was part of creating. The JACL will indeed fall, if we insist on living in the past, condemning individuals and perpetuating bitterness.

I recently had the opportunity to spend some time with President Denny Yasuhara. We go back a long way, back to the LEC and the struggle for redress. I have great respect for Denny as a principled and committed JACler who took on an unenviable

task and is trying to honor his commitment. We should remember that any action taken was a **board action** based upon information then available. The cliché, "you can't unring a bell," applies here.

I am encouraged by the views of Terry Yamada and Travis Nishi (April 21-May 4 PC). They create hope that their message of dealing with the crisis and moving on, will guide the board at its coming meeting. It is also hoped that the so-called dissenters will quit their divisive campaign and get with the program, if indeed, their motivation is restoring JACL stability and credibility.

Jerry J. Enomoto is a past JACL national president and a member of the Sacramento Chapter.



Voices

By ROY NISHIKAWA

When will the attacks stop?

When will the winter of discontent be over? The demand for President Denny Yasuhara's resignation by four dissident National Board members (Jon Kaji, Trisha Murakawa, Ruth Mizobe and Kim Nakahara) was clearly a case of overkill. A bombshell which boomeranged.

This futile attack upon Denny was not based upon reality but was symbolic: An expression by the dissidents of their frustrations with a strong president they could not intimidate or control. We do have a *new and different* president.

Despite the overwhelming support shown for Denny, the four dissidents tried to blame him!

Denny inherited the problems which the four dissidents and others in the *prior* administration helped to create by their neglect and stonewalling!

Incredulous!

The April 7-20 issue of the *Pacific Citizen* should not only be read but *studied*.

It helps to clear up the confusion caused by prior stories in the *Rafu Shimpō* and other vernaculars.

Those stories created knee-jerk reactions and a rush to judgment. One need only to study the sequence of events and the shifting dynamics of the situation to come to this

conclusion. But it takes homework.

The homework can be tedious. It means keeping notes, memos, correspondence and news clippings.

The *Rafu Shimpō* by publishing the stories (some provided from "anonymous sources") and carrying only selected parts of Denny's response committed a disservice not only to Denny but to the entire JACL and the entire Japanese American community.

The *Rafu* cannot claim that they did not have space when a lot of their space is devoted to trivia.

Over the years, the *Rafu* has published denigrating stories by Dwight Chuman, Bill Hohri, Frank Chin and a long series of articles by James Omura. All of these writers are not friendly to the JACL.

For example, over a decade ago John Saito and I visited the *Rafu* office to present a petition signed by most of the PSW chapters protesting a characterization by Frank Chin that the CWRIC hearings were "grotesque." (The CWRIC hearings laid the foundation for the later passage of the redress act.) The *Rafu* did not publish this protest. It was Chin who recently called for the JACL to label Mike Masaoka as a "monster."

Bill Hohri will be remembered by JAClers as one who said during the Legacy Fund drive, "If JACL needs money let them go rob a bank." And these two are proponents of the "apologize to the draft resisters movement."

President Yasuhara has issued a point by point response to the Kaji group allegations. In fairness and with a journalistic responsibility, the *Rafu Shimpō* should publish Denny's response in full.

The April 7-20 issue of the *Pacific Citizen* contains insights by Harry Kajiha, Grayce Ueyehara, Hank Sakai, Bill Hosokawa and Peter Harris as well as the Campbell Report.

These articles are devastating to Kaji and his cohorts. They will have difficulty restoring their credibility.

So what can we do? The JACL organization with all of its internal problems has been hurt badly. It needs to restore confidence and trust. It needs to go forward. It needs reconciliation.

My suggestion is this: Let's engage in a dialogue. Let's not talk at each other but with each other. Civility and respect can bring this about.

I consider JACL members as an extended family. Every member is a brother and

sister. We cannot afford to have members drop out.

Because they are in my district (PSW), I know Trisha Murakawa and Ruth Mizobe. They are energetic, work very hard and have great potential. We have had disagreements on methods, means and on issues, but I have tried to keep lines of communication open to them.

In Northern California I sense that young leaders like Alan Nishi would welcome a dialogue leading to reconciliation. Alan has a lot of influence up there. Trisha and Ruth have the same in Southern California.

A dialogue with the young, the middle aged, the old, the liberals, the conservatives and the moderates is only a first but necessary step toward reconciliation.

There are those who say "It can't be done, there are too many personal conflicts."

I say it can't be done if we do not TRY.

Is the winter of discontent over? Perhaps not. But even in California the seasons change.

Roy Nishikawa of Los Angeles is a former JACL national president and currently president of the Wilshire Chapter.



Sidebar

By MEI NAKANO

A-bomb revisited

Unless you've been living in a mole hole, you know this year marks the 50th anniversary of the A-bombing on Japan and the end of WW II. And that has heated up the debate regarding the bomb. I'm glad, because it forced me to sort out my ambivalent feelings on the subject. While I had always harbored a kind of gut-feeling that dropping the bomb was wrong, just as I had thought it wrong to use poison gas, I had, quite frankly, been pulled the other way too. Japan, after all, had attacked us first at Pearl Harbor. It had also heaped terrible cruelty and death on other nations in its hemisphere. What's more, if the A-bombing saved lives, couldn't it thus be justified?

The answer is no. I am finally, unequivocally convinced it was wrong to drop the bomb.

The incident in Washington gave me a start. In that debacle, veteran's groups managed to force the venerable Smithsonian to junk most of its planned exhibit of the Enola Gay, the B-29 carrier of the bomb. In aiming to lead viewers to ponder both the reasons for the bomb and its consequences, they put the bomber on display as well as some artifacts like a schoolgirl's charred lunchbox with remains of rice and

peas reduced to carbon. That brought an indignant protest from the American Legion, which claimed that the exhibit suggested the bombing was an immoral act, not crucial to effecting Japan's surrender without great loss of American lives. By pressing their case to President Clinton and a few congressmen, they prevailed. The exhibit was reduced to showing only the fuselage of the plane.

The vets were right about one thing. Showing both sides of the horrifying event was bound to lead viewers to believe the bombing was immoral. But whether they would see the display as carrying the message that the bombing was unnecessary for bringing about Japan's surrender without a huge loss of American lives is a large question.

Another event commemorating the 50th happened deep in the heart of Texas, a retrospective symposium aimed to recap WW II events and provide grist for analysis. Alan Taniguchi of Austin, Texas, Harry Akune of Gardena, Calif., and I participated in a panel to tell the story of POWs in the U.S. Our stories, however, paled beside the horror stories told by POWs of Japan. The latter might have primed the audience for the more volatile portion of this two-day

confab.

In it, Dr. Edward Teller, a chief architect of the bomb, addressed the moral question. The U.S. was right to drop the bomb, he said, because an American invasion of Japan (presumably Kyushu, where a massive invasion had been planned for November 1945) would have resulted in many more deaths for both sides. He was roundly applauded. But get this: at the same time, he told a news conference that a *demonstration* bombing—in Tokyo Bay, for instance—"would have been seen and heard by 10 million Japanese," and would likely have ended the war. This would have been "much better from a moral point of view."

Huh? Now, let me see if I've got this straight. It was okay to drop the bomb and kill masses of civilians, but it probably would have been better to demonstrate its power in an unpopulated area and end the war that way. In addition, Teller conceded that the Nagasaki bombing was "clearly and completely unnecessary."

The notion that the bomb was dropped to save lives doesn't square with the facts of archival research. On the flip side of the debate, respected Stanford historian, Dr. Barton Bernstein, who spoke at the same Texas symposium, has written that "in the

spring and summer 1945, no American leader believed—as some later falsely claimed—that they planned to use the A-bomb to save half a million Americans." The estimated loss of lives was more like 25,000 to 46,000 in the planned invasion of Kyushu. Possibly 250,000 Japanese were killed by the bomb and at least another 100,000, mostly unarmed civilians, sustained injury.

"Put bluntly," Bernstein concludes, "Japanese life—including civilian life—was cheap, and some American leaders, like many rank-and-file citizens, may well have savored the prospect of punishing the Japanese with the A-bomb." Moreover, research shows that by pursuing other tactics, the U.S. could have ended the war by November, the date set for the invasion of Kyushu.

"War is war!" people like to proclaim. Which usually means that anything goes. But before WW II, a code of war generally denounced the targeting of civilians. This war, however, this "Good War", spawned the new morality that, indeed, anything

See SIDEBAR/page 12

Nakano, Nisei author of "Japanese American Women: Three Generations," is presently working on a book about her father.

Around the world . . . FOR PEACE

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor



JUDY TERU IMAI
Global tour of cultures

Much has been said in the media of how small the world of the late 20th century has become—how fax machines, cellular phones and computers have connected the people of the world, our lives tied together in spools of fiber optic thread. Judy Teru Imai knows a different world.

In her three-and-a-half year "Global Walk for a Livable World," Imai walked over 9,000 miles and wore out four pairs of shoes, seeing, smelling, tasting the cultures many of us have only seen on television or passed over in an airplane. Imai, 56, says the experience deepened her convictions about world peace and forced her to confront her own fears and anger.

"I found out about my fears—am I going to be accepted, physical safety, where am I going to sleep, will we get lost—and those fears got to be challenged. Now I feel more at home in the world," said Imai.

Imai, who recounted her travels to a Nikkei group in San Fernando on April 22, said that the walk began in Santa Monica, Calif. Feb. 1, 1990 with 125 people and ended in Hiroshima Aug. 6-9, 1993 with ten of the original members and a group of Japanese peace walkers. Imai, who was 51 at the time, was the eldest and the only Japanese American.

Prior to the journey, Imai quit her job as a teacher/administrator at Allied Health College in North Hollywood, CA, leased out her condo, and used part of her redress check to finance the trip. (She and her family were interned at Manzanar during the war.) "I didn't burn any bridges, but I broke some ties," said Imai. "I was at the point in my life where I felt like stretching



On the last leg of her walk, Judy Teru Imai, third from right with hat, poses with friends in Hiroshima where they participated in a peace ceremony.



Imai and Holocaust survivor Bernard Offen walk by ominous Auschwitz death camp in Poland.

myself and reaching farther. There is always a reward when you do that. It builds confidence knowing you can go one step further."

In addition to her clothes and supplies Imai pushed a small cart, which carried the Hiroshima peace flame from the Koyasan Temple in Los Angeles. The flame went out in Kashgar, China, but Imai said carrying

the flame allowed her to talk about herself as a Japanese American.

"I had to really stretch myself carrying the Hiroshima peace flame, to keep it alive day after day, night after night. It gave me the opportunity to tell people about peace, about me as a Japanese American with roots in Hiroshima, and the effects of war. I could tell them of Manzanar and my uncle

who was in the 442nd."

Imai said that she was often taken for a Japanese national and until she started the walk she had always identified solely with her Japanese background. "I found that I am a blend of European and Asian, which I had been denying all of these years because of the war. I would often be asked if I was an American. Now, I fully claim that I am an American."

She said that people in Japan and Eastern Europe were the friendliest. "In Eastern Europe they were very poor, but they gave us so much. They gave us smiles, they would dance or give sausages and cheese. They didn't have much to give, but gave of their hearts." The only time the group was ever accosted was in the United States when, on two separate occasions, some walkers had bottles thrown at them and their tents were pelted with eggs.

Her most adventuresome moment on the journey was walking through Cambodia, which was still at war. "Cambodia was in a state of anarchy, and we were told to be careful of thieves and land mines and to stay on the road. But once we got there it was okay," said Imai, pointing out that a strong United Nations presence in the country made them feel relatively safe.

The former Manzanar internee also visited the Nazi concentration camp in Auschwitz and the "killing fields" of Cambodia. "When we went to Auschwitz, I had the opportunity to look at my anger. It astounded me that we could do this to each other. I remember walking out and stomping my feet in the cement—this fury came out of me," said Imai.

"Part of me realized that we still have hatred, anger, fear—that everything is still in place today and that it still could explode. When I started the walk, I was more idealistic; now I am more realistic but I still have hope," said Imai.

The walk supported her feelings about humanity and strengthened her convictions about peace. Imai said, "I always knew human beings were basically good. The walk reinforced that without exception in every country."

On the futility of war, Imai related a story from a visit with a family in the Serbian portion of the former Yugoslavia. (She found out later that the Serbians are the reported aggressors in much of the fighting in the former Yugoslavia, which surprised her because of the warmth of the people she met.) "A soldier came home and he was so happy to see his family. He held his baby boy tightly and said that he was fighting the war because he wanted his son to live a better life. I thought that was nice, but what if he dies? That beautiful boy will be fatherless," said Imai.

Recently she has begun collecting her thoughts for a proposed anthology, and speaking before groups such as a recent gathering of the San Fernando Valley Chapter, JACL.

Forum on aging set for May 27-28 in S.F.

Fitness, sensuality and financial planning are just a few of the topics to be discussed at the Nikkei Forum on Aging II: Together . . . Making a Difference, May 27-28 at the Miyako Hotel in San Francisco.

The forum, which coincides with National Senior Fitness Day and Asian Pacific Heritage Month, is being sponsored by the Northern California Japanese American Senior Centers.

May Fujii Foo, conference chairwoman, said the conference hopes to provide both young and old the opportunity to talk about issues affecting Japanese American seniors.

"We wanted to provide the Japanese American seniors with a forum to discuss aging issues and present the latest information available, because more people are living longer," said Fujii Foo.

Among the workshops being offered are: Aging and Depression—Ain't Necessarily Sol; Breaking Inter-Generational Barriers; Sexuality and Sensuality at 60, 70, 80? and Maximum Independence in the Home. In addition, the conference will offer workshops in Japanese on medical concerns and social issues in aging.

Besides senior issues, the conference will also address intergenerational issues. Rev. Michael Yoshii, Nobu Miyoshi and the Sansei Legacy Project are scheduled to present a workshop on breaking intergenerational barriers.

"The Issei didn't have to care for their elders, but they passed those values onto their children. The Nisei had to care for their parents. With the high rates of outmarriage in the Japanese American community there are questions on how it will affect the Nisei. Will the Sansei still have the same cultural values," Fujii Foo wondered. "The goal is to bridge communication between the two cultures to provide better understanding of our attitudes towards aging."

The conference will also include three keynote addresses. Sandy Ouye Mori, California delegate to the White House Conference on Aging, is scheduled to speak on national aging policies developed and discussed at the conference. Other speakers include: Doris Matsui, White House deputy assistant to the president, deputy director of public liaison, and Rep. Norman Mineta.

Registration fees: \$70 per person; \$35, workshops only; \$40, Saturday banquet only. Registration payable to: Nikkei Forum on Aging, P.O. Box 264, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. Special conference rates are available at the Miyako Hotel, 415/922-3200 ext. 7256 or 800/533-4567. Rooms are limited.

Information: San Mateo JACL Community Center, 415/343-2881.

Free Alzheimer's workshop set for May 20 in Los Angeles

A free Alzheimer's Association "Safe Return Program" workshop will be held Saturday, May 20, 10:30 a.m. to noon, at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles.

Mary Forde of the Alzheimer's Association is the featured speaker.

According to statistics more than four million people in America suffer from the disease. The Safe Return Program

was created to minimize the risk for persons with memory loss through registration, alerting local law enforcement and identification procedures.

Registering those afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease will be available following the workshop. The process costs \$25.

Information: Lily or Akiko, Little Tokyo Service Center, 213/680-3729.

JACL national singles event planned

The past two JACL National Singles conventions, in Denver and Chicago, were successful, and the next one is anticipated with equal expectation.

The Sept. 1-3 event, to be held in Costa Mesa, Calif., features actress/producer Nobu McCarthy, who will talk on "First Impression, Lasting Impressions."

For fun, attendees will be able to enjoy golf and tennis.

Seminars will include male vs. female panel discussions.

Another highlight is a dinner-dance with a live band plus a DJ and stars such as comedienne Amy Hill.

Line dancing at the western-theme mixer

as well as softball, volleyball, and other games round out the entertainment.

The computer match-ups are called "Let's Do Lunch" and/or "Singles into Doubles," and there's a free get-to-know-you raffle with prizes.

A bargain optional Las Vegas package is planned, and an excursion to the Japanese American National Museum.

Mark your calendars for September 1-3, 1995.

Information: write to 7th National JACL Singles Convention, 23802 Bluehill Bay, Monarch Beach, CA 92629, or call 714/496-7779.

Obituaries

Asahara, Masako, 81, Sacramento, March 22; survived by daughters Lois Yuki, Carol Matsukawa, Joanne Kawamura, sons Francis, Dr. Paul, 14 gc., brother Alvin Seno, sisters Florence Abe, Elsie Matsumoto, Nellie Sakakibara, Josephine Fukushima, Mary Shimazu.

Hamamoto, Yoneko, 90, Sacramento, March 31; Florin-born, survived by sons Kazuo Hamamoto, Willie Mizusaka, daughters Mari Fujiyama, Bettie Ariyasu, June Kawano, 14 gc., 5 ggc.

Hamasaki, Ishino, 90, San Mateo, March 21; survived by daughters Toshie Kato, Sadako Bennett-Hamasaki, Hideko Ichiuji, gc. & ggc.

Hattori, Myrtle, 89, Santa Maria, March 27; Westminster-born and former director of nutrition for City of Chicago, retired in '80, survived by daughters Grace Kadota, Sue Hyosaka (Glen Ellyn, Ill.), 3 gc., 6 ggc.; predeceased by husband Frank ('87).

DEATH NOTICE

SHIGERU HASHIMOTO

Shigeru Hashimoto, 79, of Chicago passed away on April 16. The Covina-born retired chemist in the paint industry for 40 years was a stock trader and gardener in retirement. Surviving are wife Kiyo, son Fred, daughters Christine (Sedalia, CO), Pamela Cottrell, brother Fred (Corrales, N.M.), sisters Chiye Taniguchi (Covina, CA), Toshi Okura (Cypress), Yoshie Ohori (Solana Beach).

DEATH NOTICE

KAY KATSUMI TAKEMOTO

Kay Katsumi Takemoto, 92, a native of Hawaii and resident of Lincoln 85 years, died on April 6 in Roseville, CA. He was a self-employed farmer and a member of the Placer Buddhist Church in Penryn and the JACL. He was President of JACL (Placer Chapter) five times during 1933, 1942-45 and 1948.

Funeral service was held at the Placer Buddhist Church in Penryn. Inurnment is placed in the Newcastle District Cemetery.

Mr. Takemoto is survived by his sons, Robert Ray Takemoto and his wife Amy of Lincoln and Stanley Kay Takemoto and his wife Yvonne of Walnut Creek; a daughter, Jeanne Fumie Nakagawa and her husband Gordon of Monterey; his grandchildren, Rodney Takemoto of Nevada, Alan Takemoto of Lincoln, Kim Yoshida and her husband Perry of Watsonville, Greg Nakagawa of San Jose, Steven Nakagawa of Maryland, and Kathy Takayama and her husband Mike of Rocklin; and his great grandchildren, Robert and Krisinda Takemoto of Rocklin and Ryan Takayama of Rocklin.

Hayashi, Aya, 79, Garden Grove, March 15; survived by nephew Kazuo Hashizume, stepsons Kenny and Steven Hayashi, stepdaughter Betty Sue.

Hirata, Ehino, 94, Santa Maria, March 13; Hiroshima-born, survived by sons Nobuo (Jpn), Isao, daughters Sumiko Murakami (Jpn), Akiko Oye, 9 gc., 7 ggc. **Igaue, H Mitzi, 75**, Los Angeles, March 24; Fresno-born, survived by daughter Susan Sweeney, sister Fuzzie Nitahara, brother Tat Mizutani.

Iino, May Murakami, Piedmont, Calif., March 25; Hawaii-born professional singer, director of San Francisco Choraliers, doctorate in vocal performance from University of Arizona, Indiana University graduate, national committee member for new Presbyterian Church Hymnal, survived by husband David T., daughters Cynthia, Laura Kataoka, parents Sam H. and Lillian Murakami (Wahiawa), sister Jean Taguchi.

Ikedo, Noboru, 78, Salinas, March 12 of heart attack; Kagoshima-born, survived by wife Taeko, sons Harold (Aptos), Ken (Aromas), daughter Ayako Sumida (Milpitas), 4 gc.

Imada, Riichi, 76, Clayton, Calif., March 25; survived by wife Grace, son Bob, daughters Linda Taku, Doreen Imada, 2 gc.

Iseri, Thomas T., 87, Ontario, Ore., April 12; Sumner, Wash.-born, first of 12 children, wholesale produce packer since 1941 in Kent (Wash.) Valley, evacuated to and relocated from Minidoka in '42 for Weiser-Ontario, employed by Jaekel and Rogers Produce Co., with partner Shig Hironaka resumed packing-shipping business in '62 as Tom Iseri Produce Co. till illness forced him to stop earlier this year, trustee of National Onion Assn., past member of Holy Rosary Hospital board, Idaho-Oregon Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Assn., JACL, Community United Methodist Church, Kiwanis, survived by son Dr. Tim (Tigard, Ore.), daughters Marie Anderson, Betty Simpson (Weiser), Janet Palmer (Harper, Ore.), 7 gc., brothers George, Oscar (Columbia, Md.), Carl, sister Mae Yamada (Kent), sister-in-law Iku Iseri, preceded in death by wife of 48

years Winona Berhbaum, six brothers and sisters.

Iwate, Sumiko, 71, San Francisco, March 26; survived by husband Tatsumi, sister Helen Hoy.

Jio, Haruo 'Duke,' 66, Santa Clara, March 1; survived by wife Lucy, daughter Lisa Greene, sons Jeff, Steve, Glenn, Craig, 4 gc.

Kami, Taeko, 65, San Francisco, March 19; Hiroshima-born, survived by husband Yoshiaki, son Alex.

Kamikawa, William H, 52, Tokyo, Feb. 28; Reedley-born Sansei, survived by wife Haruko, daughter Amy, mother Hidemi, brother Ken, sisters Frances Kawamoto, Jeanne, Jo, parents-in-laws Takashi and Yoneko Maeda (Jpn).

Kamimoto, Katsumi, 77, San Mateo, April 3; survived by wife Masako, adopted son Sachio (Jpn), sisters Kimiyo Sagawa, Asano Morita, Akiko Takahashi (Jpn).

Kamoto, Kazuo, Bellflower, March 22; survived by wife Ayako, daughter Eileen Santos.

Kayano, Shigeru, 70, San Francisco, April 2; S.F.-born, survived by wife Grace, daughters Arlene, Penny Pepperman, son Douglas, brother George, sister Chiyoko Miyano.

Kinoshita, Haruno, 77, San Francisco, March 11; Isleton, Calif.-born, survived by daughter Sharon, brothers Joji, Henry and Isamu Ogawa, sister Hifumi Yamamoto, in-law Toru Sano.

Kitagawa, Sadako, 81, San Mateo, March 26; survived by sons William, George, gc.

Kitahata, Aiko, 73, Thousand Oaks, March 13; Brawley-born, survived by daughters Suzanne T. Wedel, Vivian Ihori, 4 gc., sister Miyoko Oye (Willow Grove, Pa.)

Koba, Haruki JH, 75, San Diego, March 25; San Diego-born, survived by son Duane, daughter Ann Ong, 1 gc., sisters Midori Koga (Parlier), Mitsuko Kodama.

Konno, Yoshiko, 97, El Cerrito, March 15; Hiroshima-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by son Harry (Redondo Beach), daughter Alyce Furuya, 11 gc., 7 ggc.

Kotow, Michiko, 63, Tiburon, April 1, Mie-born, survived by husband George,

brothers and sisters in Jpn.

Kouno, Yoshiko, 97, El Cerrito, March 15; Hiroshima-born, survived by son Haruo (Redondo Beach), daughter Alyce Furuya, 11 gc., 9 ggc.

Kuranushi, Teruko, 78, Los Angeles, March 18; Folsom-born, survived by husband Katsumi, sons Tadami, Keizo, daughter Chiyo Shur, 4 gc., 1 ggc., sister Chieko Takeda.

Maruyama, Paul, 88, St. Louis, Mo., April 2 of cancer; Yamanashi-born naturalized U.S. citizen, Keio University graduate, prewar Sacramento and WWII Japanese language instructor, Tule Lake internee, opened St. Louis's first Japanese import store, retired in '78, founder of St. Louis JACL and Japanese Botanic Gardens, awarded Japan's 5th Order of Sacred Treasure, survived by son Ken (Atherton, Calif.), Wataru (Tokyo), daughter Teruko Yagi (Tokyo), 2 gc.

Matsuzaki, Frank K., 74, Sacramento, April 4; survived by wife Veta, sons Terry Nicholas, Thomas Matsuzaki, daughter Maureen Hernandez, 11 gc., 1 ggc., brother George, sisters Grace Maeda, May Kansaku, June Gytoku, Amy Ueda, Peggy Soda.

Moriguchi, Yae, 87, Novato, March 24; survived by daughters Lily Campos, June, Katherine Baishiki, Barbara Iwai, 9 gc., 6 ggc.

Nishi, Dick, 73, Davis, March 15; Sacramento-born retired civil engineer with Caltrans of 37 years, past member of Davis Human Relations Council, Yolo County grand juror, Davis Asians for Racial Equality, JACLer, survived by wife Alice, daughter Linda Benton (Vacaville), son Robert, brothers Ellis (Clarksburg), John, Edward (San Francisco), James (Oakland), sisters Aiko Uwate (Los Angeles), Bessie Takeuchi (Torrance), 3 gc.

Okamoto, Harue Lucy, 84, Sacra-

mento, April 7; Folsom-born, survived by son Melvin, 3 gc., sister Irene Fujimoto. **Ono, Mume, 96**, San Francisco, March 12; Hiroshima-born, survived by daughter Nancy Yamamoto, son Toshio, 3 gc., 2 ggc.

Ota, Mary Yukie, 79, Sacramento, March 25; Newcastle-born, survived by son Alan, brothers George Matsumoto, Frank and William, sister Gladys Katsuki. **Ota, Yoshie, 75**, Marysville, March 13; San Luis Obispo-born, survived by husband Joe, son Clem, daughter Ellen Ushimi Lee, 1 gc.

Takaki, Shigeru, 81, Woodland, March 18; Courtland-born, survived by daughter Janet Lopez (Sacramento), son Ronald (Monrovia), 5 gc., 6 ggc., sister Hatsuko Nojima, Sadako Kajiwaru.

Yamanaka, Noboru, 74, Stockton, Feb. 22; Stockton-born, survived by wife Dorothy, daughter Dr. Wendy, sisters Hatsuko Nojima, Sadako Kajiwaru. **Yamanaka, Toshio, 92**, South Pasadena, Feb. 20; Hiroshima-born, survived by wife Fumi, daughter Misuye Toshima, 3 gc., 2 ggc.

Yamanishi, Taniyo, 96, Pomona, March 20; Hiroshima-born, survived by sons Joe, Herbert (Michigan), daughters Amy Nishimura (Idaho), Kathy Shigaki, Rhea Fujimoto (Nevada), Maria Arima (Wash.), Myrtle Nishiguchi (Nev.), 15gc., 5 ggc.

Yao, Yoshio, 83, San Francisco, Feb. 6; Okayama-born, survived by wife Yutaka, son Shinji, daughter Ayako Nishimoto, 5 gc.

"DEATH NOTICES," which appear in timely manner, are requested by the family who wish to be billed. The copy from the family or the funeral director is always reworded as necessary. The rate is \$15 per column inch.



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CRITICISM

(Continued from page 3)

"sarcastic comments by the legal counsel."

Mizobe said, "I completely agree. Legal opinions should be done in a professional manner. I'm not sure if the board is going to do anything. As an individual I've spoken with him. As a board I don't think we will be planning anything."

Murakawa said she was surprised to see the memorandum appear in the *Pacific Citizen*.

"I agree with Ruth. I was surprised to see it in the PC because I was asked to keep it confidential," said Murakawa.

In response, Hara said that he did not send the materials to PC.

● **Finances:** At the PSW meeting, Yasuhara was asked why it is taking so long to settle the severance offered to the four former employees affected by the staff reorganization.

Yasuhara said the National Board had made an offer and that the lawyer representing the former staff had made a counter offer.

"The severance package in my view is generous. It is over \$50,000, it includes back vacation and insurance and the counter offer was in the six figures."

Another question during the National Board session asked if the legal fees for the severance would exceed the amount of yearly salary paid to the staff that left the organization.

Kaji said, "A check for \$1,000 was issued as a retainer. I'm not aware of how much time he has spent on the case. That number is unknown to me."

Mizobe said she had spoken with Jim Miyazaki, vice president for general operations, about the legal fees.

"The lawyer's rate is \$175 an hour. The vice president for general operations said he didn't know what the total cost would be," said Mizobe.

Speaking to *Pacific Citizen*, Tom Hara, national legal counsel, said the legal fees from January 1 to March 20 were \$1,002.

During the PSW session with the president, Phyllis Murakawa, SCAN Chapter, JACL, asked Yasuhara how JACL could effectively lobby on civil rights issues without full time staff in Washington, D.C. and at the PSW regional office.

Yasuhara said that he had told the national director in December to go ahead and hire a PSW regional director and that there is currently an acting Washington, D.C. representative. The PSW position has been vacant since August '94.

Mizobe said that given the staff reorganization, it was difficult to hire a new regional director.

"I want to take it to the National Board and get their authorization for PSW to hire a regional director on behalf of the organization," said Mizobe.

At the end of the question and answer session, Fred Hirasuna, Fresno Chapter, stood up and addressed the board about fiscal responsibility. He was told by moderator Hayashi that the forum was over, but Hirasuna responded that he had submitted questions to ask the board which were never used by Hayashi or Kishiue.

Hirasuna said, "There's been talk this weekend about Nisei control of JACL, we don't want control but we are entitled to express our opinions. I think we can all agree that there was sloppy book-keeping practices at headquarters."

When Hirasuna was cut off by Hayashi, who said that all questions had been answered, Hirasuna said, "None of my questions were considered. If you as JACL members want the organization to continue, you have to support what the majority say. We have to consider the longevity of the organization in terms of fiscal control or we're bound for the garbage can."

● *Pacific Citizen:* Colbert

Matsumoto, Honolulu Chapter, criticized *Pacific Citizen* and asked Yasuhara if he could do something to change its editorial content.

"So much attention has been paid to disputes within the organization. PC has an obsession with this issue as if there are no other issues," said Matsumoto.

Matsumoto pointed out issues such as immigration and affirmative action and said, "What is the National Board going to do about getting our national publication to communicate on other issues?"

Yasuhara said, "Your point is well taken. It isn't just the PC. Some of those articles were distributed by others to all the vernaculars including my hometown paper. To distribute those articles broadly hurts our credibility."

Matsumoto said he was disappointed that the president couldn't do anything to control the newspaper because JACL "subsidizes" PC for \$240,000 in its annual budget.

SIDEBAR

(Continued from page 9)

goes. It became okay to use napalm (Dresden, Tokyo) and the A-bomb (Hiroshima, Nagasaki) to incinerate massive, defenseless civilian populations.

This is not a legacy I want to leave for my children and theirs. So what's to be done about it now? To begin, the U.S. can apologize for dropping the bomb, President Clinton notwithstanding. Only when we acknowledge our own culpability will we have the credibility to insist on nuclear non-proliferation treaties. Only then would we have the credibility to condemn other inhumane practices like using poison gas or other chemical weapons.

Let's hope this will lead the Japanese to issue their own overdue apology.

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Toko Fujii, Sacramento Chapter, said, "If you feel the reporting is very skewed, how do you change that? For that vernacular (*Pacific Citizen*) to keep using space for its own agenda, I think it is unacceptable."

A group of members from the Sacramento Chapter wanted to question Richard Suenaga, PC editor/general manager, about PC policies. After requesting a meeting with Suenaga, Randy Imai, Sacramento Chapter, said he was informed by Cherry Kinoshita, PC editorial board chair, that only the board speaks on policy matters, not staff.

Miko Sawamura, Sacramento Chapter, said, "Since when was that a board policy? When we asked (Suenaga) to come to our

board meeting two years ago, he flat out said 'no.' Now we hear it's the PC chair's policy. To me it's not acceptable as a JACL member."

Yasuhara said in response, "I'm not going to override Cherry's decision. We need to have a chance to discuss it and to have the board discuss it."

Chizu Iiyama, Contra Costa Chapter, said that PC was presenting both sides of the current JACL controversies.

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CRYSTAL SYMPHONY ORIENT CRUISE	OCT 4-19
JAPAN AUTUMN HOLIDAY TOUR	OCT 21-29
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For information and reservations, please write or call:

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BRANSON/TENNESSEE/KENTUCKY (9 days) *2nd Departure Added	SEP 16
GREEK TOUR & CRUISE (12 days)	SEP 29
EAST COAST/FALL FOLIAGE (Amish country, 11 days)	OCT 1
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1995 GROUP TOURS

No.	TOUR	DATES	ESCORT	PRICE
13.	National Parks (Sold Out)	06/05 - 06/17	Roy Takeda	\$1,929
14.	British Heritage Tour	06/15 - 06/29	Toy Kanegai	\$2,649
15.	Summer Tour of Japan (Option to Hiroshima)	06/26 - 07/05	Ray Ishii	\$2,895
16.	Hawaiian Islands Cruise (Sold Out)	07/01 - 07/10	Toy Kanegai	from \$1,730
18.	Best of Scandinavia	08/14 - 08/27	SST	\$2,970
20.	MIS Reunion - 50 Seattle	09/06 - 09/09	George Kanegai	
20a.	Canadian Rockies Tour from Seattle	09/10 - 09/18	Toi Kanegai	\$1,421
20b.	Japan Highlights from Seattle	09/10 - 09/22	George Kanegai	
21.	England, Scotland & Wales Heritage Tour	09/07 - 09/21	Bill Sakurai	\$2,549
22a.	Hokkaido/Tohoku Tour	09/17 - 09/28	Yuki Sato	\$3,395
23.	Nova Scotia, Cabot Trail, Prince Edward Is.	09/22 - 09/30	Roy Takeda	\$1,649
25.	Fall Foliage in Canada & New England	09/21 - 10/05	Galen Murakawa	*\$1,618
26.	Amsterdam, Rhine River & Paris	09/30 - 10/14	Masako Kobayashi	\$2,999
27.	Japan Alps & Ura-Nihon Tour	10/02 - 10/12	Michi Ishii	\$2,995
28.	Arizona, Utah Canyon	10/06 - 10/13	Hidy Mochizuki	\$1,329
28a.	New England nad Canada	10/06 - 10/16		\$1,674
29.	Tennessee, Branson & Ozarks	10/07 - 10/16	Yuki Sato	\$1,599
22.	Discover South America	10/09 - 10/23	Toy Kanegai	\$3,419
30.	Japan October Basic Tour (Hiroshima Option)	10/16 - 10/30	Ray Ishii	\$2,995
19.	Australia & New Zealand	11/03 - 11/18	Yuki Sato	
32.	Copper Canyon Adventure	11/05 - 11/13	John Kobayashi	\$1,519
31.	Okinawa, Kyushu & Shikoku	11/08 - 11/18	Toy Kanegai	\$2,895
33.	Hong Kong Shopping	12/05 - 12/12	George Kanegai	

*Land Tour Cost Only

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Travel Meetings are held on third Sunday of each month beginning at 1:00 PM at Felicia Mahood Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Los Angeles.