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Oct. 20-Nov. 2, 1995

Matsui: New Asian American leaders must be developed

By GWEN MURAKA
Assistant editor

With the resignation of Norman Mineta from Congress, Rep. Robert Matsui, speaking Oct. 5 before a gathering of journalists and community leaders at the Union Church in Little Tokyo, said it is vital that Asian Americans develop new leadership.

"We need urgently to develop political leadership. It has to begin immediately. We've hit a crisis point," said Matsui.

"In terms of Asian Pacific Americans in Congress there is myself, Dan Inouye, Jay Kim and Patsy Mink. There are delegates, but they can't vote. We in the Asian American community will have to come to grips with the fact that we are not going to be here for 20 years," said Matsui.

The representative sharply criticized the Republican House and Senate.

"I try not to sound partisan. But there really is an assault on basic values by the Republican House and Senate. The word has got to get out. The Asian American community has to know what has been done and how they are voting," said Matsui. "Ralph Reed of the



ROBERT MATSUI
Crisis situation

Christian Coalition has said publicly that he has a seat at Bob Dole's presidential campaign. These are the kind of things that have to be noted. We have a responsibility to speak out on these things."

Referring to the divide created by the O.J. Simpson verdict, Matsui said, "What happened in the last 48 hours shows a cleavage. We have to have people bring these diverse people together. I never thought it was a problem in the United States. After the fall of the Berlin Wall and the conflict between the Croats and the Serbs, we in this country have to be sensitive to race. We have to find strength in diversity," said Matsui.

On redress, Matsui said that the redress education fund com-

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Analysis

Leaders comment on impact of O.J. verdict on APA communities

Worries, doubts, concerns begin to surface

By GWEN MURAKA
Assistant editor

The aftermath of the O.J. Simpson verdict has been a play of images seemingly etched in black and white. Blacks, jubilant at the outcome, celebrate in front of the downtown L.A. court house immediately after a jury consisting of nine blacks, two whites and one Latino acquits Simpson Oct. 3 in the murders of his ex-wife Nicole Brown and her friend Ronald Goldman. Whites, enraged by the decision, fill the airwaves with angry talk of injustice and judicial reform. The media have fashioned the verdict as strictly a black-white issue. But in the midst of all of this, where are Asian Americans? The "trial of the century" has culminated in a debate over the growing racial divide in America between blacks and whites. Where do Asian Americans fit in the racial melee left in the Simpson trial aftermath?

Pacific Citizen talked to Asian American leaders about their reaction to the verdict—but more importantly, about the implications for Asian Americans.

"I was surprised by the verdict. Personally, I think the jury made a political decision," said C.J. Kim, a Korean American community activist in Los Angeles.

Kim said that Korean Americans, still recovering from the 1992 L.A. riots after incurring nearly \$300 million in property damage, were fearful that the Simpson verdict might spur another riot. The Los Angeles Police Department had gone on tactical alert prior to the reading of the verdict, and Judge Lance Ito delayed the reading overnight so that the city could prepare.

Kim expressed anger at both blacks and whites, noting that no one has apologized to Korean Americans for all the damage done by the riots. He said that there has been a high incidence of suicide and depression in the Korean community since the riots.

"We're powerless. The *Los Angeles Times* doesn't even list how Asians feel about the verdict. They don't even care," said Kim, alluding to a survey done by the L.A. Times which queried blacks, whites and Latinos about their reactions after the verdict and their perceptions of the police and race relations.

A *Times* staff writer Oct. 10 also questioned the absence of Asian American perspectives. Sheryl Stolberg wrote, "What about Latinos and Asian Americans? Who is examining their views?"

"We're still recovering from the



"Those angry white males are going to use this as another launch point. Anglos have had an overestimation of how many minorities there are in the United States. Their perception is that there are more minorities and that they are doing better than whites."

—Glenda Joe



"What concerns me is that a lot of white commentators are blaming affirmative action and other race-based remedies... I think there is definitely a backlash. There were reports that some whites are taking it out on blacks in small ways..."

—Leigh-Ann Miyasato

riots. We're victims of double jeopardy. First we were victimized by the riot, then the City Council would not allow us to reopen our stores," said Kim, noting recent ordinances which restricted locations where liquor stores can be opened.

"Why are they pointing fingers at the merchants? If they don't want it in their neighborhoods, buy them out, but don't just kick them out. It's not fair. There are a lot of people who have not recovered," said Kim, who pointed out that many of those who pushed for such changes are African American.

"This should be a wake up call for all Asian Americans. We have

"This should be a wake-up call for all Asian Americans. We have to study harder, work harder... Right now, we don't have power."

—C.J. Kim

to study harder, work harder. Get into good schools, get good grades. Learn from the Jewish community. Right now we don't have power. It doesn't matter if you're Chinese, Japanese, Korean or Vietnamese," said Kim.

About the police, Kim said, "I wish that some law enforcement officers would be more open-minded. Don't treat everyone as if they are a criminal. We have no

choice but to rely on law enforcement. During the riot we didn't have that."

In Houston, Glenda Joe of the Council of Asian American Organizations said reaction among Asians will be split on the verdict depending on their experience with the police. She said that the news televised Asian youth at a local school cheering the acquittal.

"If you're a younger person, you're Asian, and you've been rousted by the police because they think you're a member of an Asian gang, then you're going to have less faith in the credibility of the police. The verdict was an indictment of the LAPD [Los Angeles Police Department]," said Joe.

Joe, who received the Edison Uno award for civil rights at last year's JACL national convention, confronted the Ku Klux Klan when they were threatening Vietnamese fisherman in the '80s.

"The old Cantonese Chinese see the police like whites see the police. They haven't been rousted and had their civil rights abused. They've never been hassled," said Joe.

Joe alluded to the infamous audio tapes of LAPD officer Mark Fuhrman using racial epithets and said that it is time for reform in police organizations around the

See VERDICT/page 4

Photo: JEM LEW



For Vietnam vets

Ground was broken Oct. 11 at the Japanese American Community and Cultural Center (JACCC) in Los Angeles for a monument honoring Nikkei Vietnam veterans killed or still missing in action. From left, with shovels, are veterans Victor Kato, Mike Nagaoka, Dave Kobayashi, Ken Hayashi and Gary Hayakawa. In background, left, are veteran Vince Okamoto and Duane Ebata of the JCCC. The memorial, which will be a smaller version of the one in Washington, D.C., is scheduled for completion Nov. 11, Veteran's Day.

On his way out, Mineta critical of majority Republican leaders

After over twenty years in the House of Representatives, Norman Mineta left Congress Oct. 10 with some sharp words for the Republican majority, reported the *San Jose Mercury News*.

Speaking to the *Mercury News*, Mineta said, "We came here with the idea of reform—with changes that had to be made. But it was done with respect for the institution and love for it. The folks who are coming in here now don't like government. And they don't like this place either."

Mineta resigned from Congress to become CEO of the Transporta-

tion Systems and Services Division of Lockheed Martin Corp. in Washington, D.C.

On the upcoming election for his open seat, Mineta said that Republican State Sen. Tom Campbell, who is expected to be the Republican nominee, would only strengthen the conservative control of Congress.

"Tom (Campbell) always portrays himself as a very thoughtful, moderate person. He's very thoughtful—no question about it. But when it comes to voting, he

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

Tel: (213) 725-0083 • Fax: (213) 725-0064 • E-Mail: PacCit@aol.com

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Editor/General Manager: Richard Suenaga

Assistant Editor: Gwen Muranaka

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JACL calendar

Eastern

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sat. Nov. 4—Fall quarterly, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., JAA Community Office, 15 W. 44th St. 11th flr, New York; to reserve lunch: Tom Kometani, EDC gov. 201/582-6559; Lillian Kimura 201/680-1441; or Ron Uba 800/513-8813.

NEW YORK

Wed. Nov. 8—East Coast Benefit reception/art auction, 6-9:00 p.m., Japanese American United Church, 255 West 7th Ave., New York; RSVP and invitation required, info: Scott Ito 212/249-3816, Ron Uba 800/513-8813; Lillian Kimura 201/680-1441. "Celebrating Freedom: 50 Years After" with Yukiko Sugihara, wife of the late Chiune Sugihara; Recognitions of 100-442-MIS and other WWII veterans, and Jewish/Japanese community supporters by National JACL president Denny Yasuhara.

PHILADELPHIA

Sat. Oct. 28—Senior Citizens Appreciation Day, 2-7 p.m., Valley Forge Presbyterian Church, Town Center Rd. and Prince Frederick St., King of Prussia, Pa. [exit 26A: King of Prussia, North on 202, pass over Turnpike, Left on Town Center to end of street.] Info: Dean Kujubu 610/664-5234. NOTE—Potluck: please bring appetizer, main dish or dessert.

WASHINGTON D.C.

Sat. Nov. 4—General meeting, 1:30-4:30 p.m., Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, Md.; info: Lily Okura 301/530-0945.

Midwest

CLEVELAND

Sat. Nov. 4—Holiday Fair, 25th Anniversary fund-raiser, 3-8 p.m., Euclid Central Middle School, Euclid. Info: 216/229-2491.

Sat. Dec. 4—Installation dinner, 6:30 p.m., Li Wah Restaurant, Cleveland; info: Sets Nakashige 216/842-0443. NOTE—Denny Yasuhara, speaker.

Sun. Dec. 10—JACL Youth Christmas party, 2-5 p.m., Euclid Square Mall. Info: Scott Furukawa and Bev. Kerecman, info: Hazel Asamoto 216/921-2976.

DAYTON

Wed. Oct. 30—Teacher training workshop on Japanese Americans, all 4-7 p.m., Huber Heights Library, 6363 Brandt Pike, Huber Heights; info: Dr. Mace Ishida, coordinator of the workshops through November with Vernelia Randall, Kim O'Leary, Univ. of

Dayton Law School, and Dr. Ron Katsuyama, Psychology Dept., Univ. of Dayton 513/294-8815. Nov. 6, Wilmington-Stroop Library, 3980 Wilmington Pike, Kettering; Nov. 8, Dayton/Montgomery Main Library, 215 E. 3rd St., Dayton; Nov. 9 and 13, Muse Machine Headquarters, 126 N. Main St., Dayton.

Sun. Nov. 5—General meetings and cultural program, 2-6 p.m., info: Darryl Sakada, pres., 513/298-1252. NOTE—Japanese cuisine, language and customs.

Sun. Dec. 10—Christmas party. Details to be announced.

DETROIT

Sun. Nov. 12—General meeting, 4-6 p.m., Kyoto Restaurant, 8 Mile Rd. and Haggerty (across Novi Hilton Hotel); RSVP Nov. 5, Mary Kamidori 313/522-7917, Toshi Shimoura 810/356-3089.

TWIN CITIES

Chapter Board once a month, preceded by potluck dinner; open to any visitor; info Joanne Kumagai, chapter president, 612/537-8076.

Sun., Dec. 3—7th annual special holiday party for kids, Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 N. Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, Minn., 2 p.m. Refreshments, Santa and Eric the Juggling Magician. Free. Please bring one new, unwrapped toy for donation. Reserve by Nov. 27. Information: Christing Murakami Noonan, 612/486-9150.

NorCal-WN-Pacific

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sun. Nov. 5—DC fall quarterly, election of six members to board, Stockton; info: JACL regional office, Patty Wada, 415/921-5225.

CONTRA COSTA

Thu. Nov. 9—Chapter bingo, 5:30 p.m., Gilman St. Bingo Parlor, Berkeley; info: Natsuko Irei 510/237-8730. NOTE—Chapter hosts bingo for JASEB-JACL programs every second Thursday of the month.

FLORIN / SACRAMENTO

Thu. Oct. 26—Asian Pacific Filipino American Forum, 7:30 p.m., Japanese United Methodist Church, 6929 Franklin Blvd., off Hwy. 99 between 47th Ave. and Florin Rd., Sacramento. Info: Toko Fujii 916/421-0328. NOTE—Keynote: Angelo Ancheta, Esq., Asian Law Caucus executive director; Affirmative Action skits, directed by Dennis Yip; expert panel moderated by Jerry Enomoto, Chris Cabaldon, Le Dam, Dean Lan, Kimi Lee, James Ramos,

Karen Tomine.

JAPAN-TOKYO

Chapter Board on the 1st Tuesday every month (unless it falls on the 1st or the 2nd day), Union Church, info: Ted Shigeno, 0468-76-2431.

Tue. Nov. 28—Election meeting, Union Church, info: Ted Shigeno.

SAN FRANCISCO

Chapter Board on first Tuesdays, 7 p.m., National JACL HQ, 1765 Sutter St., open to all members and public, info: Jeff Adachi 415/922-1534.

Sat., Dec. 2—Annual JACL crab & spaghetti feed, Christ United Presbyterian Church, info: Jeff Adachi 415/553-9318.

SAN JOSE

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

Sat. Oct. 21—JACL Casino night, 6 p.m., Lou's Village; Mark Kobayashi, chair, 408/295-1250.

WEST VALLEY

Sat. Nov. 18—General meeting, elections, pizza. Info: JACL, 408/253-0458.

Sat. Dec. 2—Mochitsuki, all day, West Valley JACL Clubhouse, 1545 Teresita Dr., San Jose; info: JACL, 408/253-0458.

Central California

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sun. Nov. 5—Annual CCDC installation banquet, 5 p.m., Anderson's Pea Soup, Selma; info: Regional office—Patricia Tsai, 209/486-6815. NOTE—Jerry Stanley, author of "I Am an American," a children's book describing the Japanese American experience.

Pacific Southwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sat.-Sun., Oct. 28-29—Quarterly session & board elections, Sahara Hotel, Las Vegas; info: JACL Office, 213/626-4471; NOTE—Mtg regis \$20 p/person (includes continental Bkfst and Lunch); Spcl room rate Fri, Sat-\$151.20, chartered bus from JACCC Friday, 1 p.m., to Las Vegas noon Sunday; \$33 r.t., first come first serve.

LAS VEGAS

Mon. Oct. 23—General meeting, 7 p.m., Nevada Power, Sahara near Jones. Info: Ed Wakayama, pres. 702/435-2569. Sat. Nov. 18—JACL Cultural Crafts Show, North Las Vegas Multicultural Faire. Info: 702/382-4443.

Community calendar

East Coast

NEW YORK

Tue. Nov. 14—Community event: "Sugihara: the Japanese Schindler," 7 p.m., Town Hall, 123 W. 43rd St., New York. Benefit tickets: \$25, \$36, \$50 and \$100. NOTE—Co-sponsored by New York Japan Society, Holocaust Oral History Project of San Francisco. Info: Town Hall, 212/840-2824.

Midwest

CHICAGO

Sun. Oct. 29—Chicago Shimo 50th anniversary dinner, Raddison Lincolnwood Hotel; info: Art Morimitsu 312/478-6170.

DETROIT

Wed. Nov. 1—Wed. Nov. 15—Japan Children's Arts 'travaganza, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 6000 Pembroke, (only Midwest stop of a national tour). NOTE—JACL is seeking hostesses, 313/482-3778.

MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL

Wed. Oct. 25—Tue. Oct. 31—Children's paintings of the Kobe Earthquake, 11:20 a.m.-11 p.m., Sakura Restaurant, Garrick Ramp Bldg., 34 W. 6th St., St. Paul; info: 612/224-0185. NOTE—This traveling exhibit, organized by Ashiya Junior Art Education Society, continues

Thu.-Sun., Nov. 2-5, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Union Congregational Church, 3700 Alabama Ave., St. Louis Park, Minn.; info: 612/929-8566.

Arizona

POSTON

Tue. Nov. 7—Memorial Monument Kiosk dedication, 11 a.m., Colorado River Indian Tribe Reservation; info: Frank Iritani 916/395-7944, (Camp I) Nancy Matsuda 213/723-3847, (Camp II) Vi Hatano 916/451-5000, (Camp III) Mas Asakawa 6109/453-2739.

California

CONCORD

Sat., Nov. 4—Shinwakai Chrysanthemum Kiku Festival, Concord. Group leaving from San Mateo JACL Office.

LOS ANGELES

Sun. Nov. 5—JBA Women's Committee charity bazaar, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles; info: Japanese Business Assn. 213/485-0160.

SACRAMENTO

Sun. Nov. 5—Trek to the Stars with George Takei, CSU Sacramento, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., North and South Gym; info: tickets 916/278-6595. NOTE: Benefit for Sacramento State's Japanese

American collection; Sacramento and Florin JACL chapters among co-sponsors.

SAN FRANCISCO

Ending Oct. 26—Asian American art exhibit, "With New Eyes," 12-4 p.m., Mon-Sat, free adm., S.F. State University Art Dept. Gallery, 2d floor, 1600 Holloway Ave., info: Susan Sterling, coordinator, 415/338-6535 (Tue, Wed).

Sat. Nov. 4—Nisei Ski Club's "Winter Wonderland" pre-season dance, 7:30 p.m. meeting, 9 p.m. dance, Golden Gate Yacht Club, 1 Yacht Rd., San Francisco Marina. Info: Annie Tsui 415/750-1265, Kay Gamo 415/824-6905.

Sun. Nov. 5—Nisei Widowed Group meeting, 2-4:30 p.m., info: Elsie Uyeda Chung 415/221-0268, Sam Uchiumi 510/524-0489.

SAN MATEO

Wed. Oct. 25—Opera matinee at San Francisco Opera's La Cenerentola by Rossini, bus leaves Buddhist Temple parking lot, 11:45 a.m. Cost: \$32; info: May Hamamoto, 415/343-2793.

Wed. Nov. 1—Flu prevention clinic, 1 p.m., JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont; info: 415/343-2793. NOTE—Co-sponsors: Visiting Nurse Assn., Hospice of Northern California.

Small kid time



Gwen Muranaka

JACL legal counsel comments on severance, improper conduct charges

For several months, two issues have been before the JACL leadership and membership. One is the severance settlement with former JACL staff and the other is the controversy over charges of improper conduct against a JACL national officer.

Here are comments on these issues from Tom Hara, JACL legal counsel.

By TOM HARA

"As National JACL Legal Counsel, I have refrained from public comment on two internal matters which have received extensive coverage in *Pacific Citizen* and the vernacular press: the severance settlement for four former employees and the claims of improper conduct lodged by two female staff against a national officer.

"My silence on these matters was dictated by traditional notions of discretion for ongoing processes, although the visibility which both subjects have attained would suggest that these notions are not necessarily shared by others. Be that as it may, the two topics will be coming before the National Board at its October meeting, and I consider this an appropriate occasion to outline the situation for our membership.

"With regard to the severance matter, your Board is under no legal obligation to pay any severance to those employees who were affected by the December 1994 reorganization plan. Even so, your Board—very appropriately, I think—determined then that those employees who chose not to reapply for the reclassified positions (or were not selected upon reapplication) should be offered 'fair' severance terms. It therefore became my duty to assist National Vice President Jim Miyazaki, chairman of the Implementation Committee, and Mountain Plains District Governor Emille Kutsuma, chairwoman of the Personnel Committee, in the formulation of an appropriate plan.

"As it happened, none of the five employees affected chose to reapply. Accordingly, the Implementation Committee agreed that they need not render further services to JACL after February 10, 1995. Instead, they were allowed the full month prior to the scheduled March 10 effective date to utilize their time to seek new employment, at full compensation. In addition, the Corporation continued to pay premiums for health care coverage until participating employees made their respective decisions (in accordance with federal law) as to retention of coverage at their own expense. Moreover, the Corporation, as part of its final payroll to these employees, paid accrued vacation and sick leave allowances, as it was obliged to do under California

law.

"Not counting the February payroll, the foregoing items amounted to \$3,374 (health care), \$11,374 (vacation pay), and \$1,942 (sick leave). As noted, these were amounts which the Corporation was obligated to pay, by law or consistent with the personnel manual, and so I make no claim that we were in any wise generous in this regard. I mention them only because those components which were wage-related became subject to payroll taxes with all other compensation, an issue raised by John Yangisawa in his letter to *Pacific Citizen* (question 4) of October 8.

"That brings us to severance, as such. Your Board's directive was to offer a fair plan, and I believe that the Implementation Committee did so. Of the five employees, three served for various periods of less than four years; one served more than five years, and the most senior, about 15. After reviewing several corporate plans as models, the committee adopted a sliding scale for the benefit of the two longer-term employees. In essence, it proposed one week of salary for each year (or part of a year) if the employee had less than five years' total service, and increased to two weeks for each year (or fraction) between five and 10 years, and to three weeks salary for each year between 10 and 15 years. As applied, this plan would produce a range from two weeks salary to 15 weeks salary, or an aggregate of about \$30,000 for the five. Additionally, it proposed an out-placement payment equal to 10 percent of annual salary for the two most senior departing staff, or a total of \$9,375.

"The attorney for four of these employees (we settled with the fifth employee on the above schedule) made a counterproposal based upon one month's salary for each year of service. This would have added \$67,000 in severance. With the approval of your Board, I proposed alternative dispute resolution on the issue of 'fairness' of our severance offer, which opposing counsel agreed to.

"Although the mediator scheduled a hearing for June 8, I was notified on June 5 by San Jose attorney Bob Owens (whom I had retained to represent the Corporation in the mediation) that he had been served with a brief by opposing counsel. Instead of addressing the 'fairness' of JACL's severance proposal—e.g., comparisons to the plan(s) of other nonprofit corporations, or even to those of business corporations—the four employees' brief advanced only their theories of illegal motives and improper procedures in the Board's adoption of the December reorganization plan. I instructed attorney Owens to inform opposing counsel that the Corporation was prepared to dis-

cuss the fairness of the severance proposal, nothing else, and that he should cancel the hearing if the former employees were inclined only to advance legal claims against the Corporation based upon tort or contract. There is a recognized process for the latter and that is litigation. I do not comprehend the logic of conferring a non-obligatory severance benefit upon those who wish to sue us.

"Through occasional contacts between Owens and opposing counsel over the summer, some progress was made in breaking the impasse in numbers. With the authority given me by your Board in May, I agreed in July to an additional two weeks salary for the three employees of shortest tenure, and in August to two more weeks salary for each. Although I thought we were headed toward a conclusion on that basis, I saw on October 4 that opposing counsel's proposed revisions to the settlement agreement were directed to apportioning the relevant sums between wage-related claims and 'personal injury claims arising in tort.'

"In the absence of any credible evidence of tortious liability on the part of the Corporation, I instructed attorney Owens that counsel's revisions were unacceptable. Since the numbers appeared to be satisfactory at this point (e.g., seven weeks salary for less than three years' service), I authorized him to advance our last proposal one more time with regard to the three, with such offer to terminate at the close of business on Monday, October 16. If the offer is not accepted, I will propose to the Board that it make some severance award (nominal, at best) and prepare for litigation. (With the expectation that we would either pay severance or have trial counsel under retainer, I advised the National Office staff to incorporate a \$40,000 budget figure for both 1995 and 1996, as a precaution. I presume that this addresses another issue raised in the Yanagisawa critique as to the 'payroll' line item.)

"On the allegations of improper conduct, which surfaced in a public letter emanating from Sacramento on February 10, I submitted an interim report to your Board on May 1. Because the names of all parties have now been publicized in the vernacular press, there is no reason to maintain the confidentiality of that report. I will therefore recommend to the Board that it publish and disseminate that report to the chapters, and to any others interested at cost (it's rather lengthy with all of the exhibits). My personal view is that neither claim, alone or together, constitutes 'sexual harassment' in the legal sense, absent additional information which does not appear to be forthcoming. In any event, the readers can form their own opinion."

MATSUI

(Continued from page 1)

mittee is being held up and its status is uncertain. On the remaining redress recipients and new classifications which remain to be paid, Matsui estimated that an additional \$50 million would have to be appropriated. He said it is important to identify all those individuals who now qualify under the rulings made on the Ishida and Consolo legal decisions.

"My belief is that once we get a final universe, then we are going to go in there for appropriation," said Matsui.

Prior to the press meeting, Matsui spoke before a group of seniors at the church about the proposed Republican overhaul of Medicare will have a devastating impact on senior citizens.

"We believe if their Medicaid cuts become law most seniors will

have to sell most of their assets. If they have a spouse, they will have to put themselves in poverty before they can qualify for a nursing home," said Matsui.

Matsui sits on House Ways and Means Committee. The committee voted Oct. 11 along party lines 22-14 to approve HR2425 which would cut \$270 billion from Medicare over the next seven years. With the help of a Japanese interpreter, Matsui spoke to the senior audience, many of whom did not speak English.

According to *Congressional Quarterly*, Bill Archer (R-Texas) said, "Instead of the quick fixes of the past, we have kept our word and we have saved Medicare."

Prior to the vote Matsui said, "It is an assault on health care for senior citizens and nursing home care which is so vital for senior citizens today."

"What's going to happen if this becomes law? You're going to lose

the choice of your own doctor and you will be paying more. The quality of health care will go down," said Matsui.

The congressman explained that the proposal will mean that senior citizens will be encouraged to switch to HMOs rather than staying with personal physicians.

"The problem is that when you sign up for an HMO, the government will pay for part of it. Then the HMO will be free to charge whatever they want," said Matsui.

Matsui also criticized cuts in benefits to legal immigrants, saying that the cuts will hurt many Asian Pacific Americans.

"If you are a legal immigrant you will not be able to collect Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, Social Security. They will only allow these benefits to citizens of the United States. What we have seen is an attack on illegal immigration shift to an attack on legal immigrants," said Matsui.



Pacific Citizen SAVE

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Agenda

Lively speakers highlight Florin Women's Day Forum

By DOLLY UYENO

A capacity audience filled the Sacramento Marina Harbor-master's Conference Room on Saturday, Sept. 30, for the fifth annual Florin, JACL, Women's Day Forum. According to attendees, the event provided meaningful insights into Nikkei culture and heritage.

Topics and speakers were: "Nikkei Identity: Multi Ethnic Families," Satsuki Ina, Ph.D.; "Affirmative Action: What Is It?" Karen Kiyo Alman, J.D.; "Affirmative Action: Higher Education," Janie Matsumoto-Low, Ed.D.; "Japanese American Collection and Archives," Linda Stallone and Georgiana White; "The Politics of Affirmative Action," Illa Collin; "Keep Smiling," Lynn Yamamoto; "Fur, Fin, and Feathers?" Irene Sakaishi Griffith, D.V.M.

Chairing the forum were Carol Ouye Hisatomi and Eileen Namba Otsuji.

Ina's study concerning the impact of the internment experience on the younger generations was informative. Affirmative action was high on the agenda and Alman, Matsumoto-Low, and Collin provoked thought and dis-



SPEAKING UP—Participants in the recent Florin Chapter, JACL, Women's Day Forum were, front row, from left, Karen Alman, Carol Ouye Hisatomi, Eileen Namba

Otsuji and Irene Sakaishi Griffith. In back, from left, are Janie Matsumoto-Low, Georgiana White, Illa Collin, Linda Stallone, Lynn Yamamoto, and Satsuki Ina.

cussion as they defined the term and discussed what it means to the Nikkei community, with particular regard to higher education and politics.

Participants agreed that the artifacts and memorabilia donated to Cal State University, Sacramento (CSUS) are in the good hands of Stallone and White. The enthusiasm with which they spoke

about their work with the Japanese American Archival Collection was well received.

Yamamoto spoke about the various ways that help humans to stay in good spirits.

"Fur, Fin, and Feathers" was Griffith's description of life as a veterinarian—busy, varied, but also rewarding as shown by her

informative slides.

The forum was also an opportunity to share the expertise and experiences of the impressive presenters who were commended not only for their achievements but for their spirit of community, their willingness to share and to speak to a group such as this.

Co-chairwomen Hisatomi and Otsuji, and the Florin Chapter,

JACL, were congratulated on their contribution to the community in making such important, pertinent information available. Some attendees' quotes: "I am so proud to be Nikkei" and "I'm proud of being Japanese!" Evaluations turned in by participants at the conclusion of the forum indicated all topics and speakers were very highly regarded.

A foreign student at CSUS wrote, "I'm very very glad to be here today. I'm proud of being Japanese! All the speakers reminded me of the beautiful quality of Japanese that we, pure Japanese living in Japan, tend to forget. It is a powerful experience to meet Nikkei women who are blooming wonderfully on the earth of the United States! I'm also moved by the non-Japanese who opened their hearts to the heritage of Japanese Americans."

Otsuji said that "The community spirit and the academic achievements of the speakers are phenomenal. All the Nikkei presenters have doctor titles!" She added also that many who attended were non-JACLers and came from Marysville, Yuba City, Stockton, Fair Oaks, and Citrus Heights.

Florin Chapter to honor Issei and Niseis at Nov. 3-4 event.

The Florin Chapter, JACL, will honor Issei and Nisei for their "remarkable courage and vision," Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Red Lion Hotel, Sacramento.

The theme of the Nov. 4 dinner program is "Orbiting into the 21st Century." It will also feature author-actor George Takei and JACL National President Denny Yasuhara. Takei, star of *Star Trek*, is the author of *To the Stars*. JACL National President Denny Yasuhara will be the keynote

speaker.

In 1935, the Florin Chapter was founded by the Issei pioneers in and around Florin which is on the outskirts of Sacramento and home of "the sweetest strawberries and tastiest Tokay grapes in the world." Today, the town of Florin is gone, but the legacy of the visionary pioneers lives on as the Florin Chapter commemorates 60 years of memorable and extraordinary achievements.

"Trek to the Stars" is a family

day, Sunday, Nov. 5, for Trekkers of all ages. Participating will be Takei, actress Patty Yasutake of Los Angeles, and local celebrity Cynthia Guow, Channel 19 News anchor, Sacramento, will lead a full day of games, costume contests, auctions, science, computer exhibits and book signings.

All proceeds go to the California State University Sacramento Library Japanese American Collections Endowment Fund for the preservation, research, teaching

and display of significant Japanese American archival collections. Through greater understanding of the many contributions of Japanese Americans, not only can students appreciate their efforts and cultural gifts, but also significant strides can be made in uniting all citizens against prejudice and fear of cultural diversity.

On Friday and Saturday, Nov. 3 and 4, the Northern California-Western Nevada District Council

meets. "National Leadership Caucus" on organization, roles and responsibilities and leadership is planned for Nov. 3, from 6 to 9 p.m., with Yasuhara as the main speaker. Information: Eileen Namba Otsuji, 916/427-2690.

The NCWNP District Council meets Sunday in the CSUS Library, South Reading Room, coordinated by Alan Nishi, district governor, and Patty Wada, JACL regional director. Box lunch will be served.

VERDICT

(Continued from page 1)

country.

"When the police roust young people and call them racial names, it undermines their authority. That short-term gratification is going to end up getting someone killed. But they don't understand that," said Joe.

Joe said the verdict would further inflame those who want to cut aid to immigrants and minorities.

"Those angry white males are going to use this as another launch point. Anglos have had an overestimation of how many minorities there are in the United States. Their perception is that there are more minorities and that they are doing better than whites," said Joe.

Marshall Wong, one of the founders of the Afro-Asian Relations Council in Washington, D.C., said he didn't closely follow the trial, but that some of the commentary after the trial has been disturbing.

"There seems to be an inability to talk about what needs to be done for the progress of society as a whole. The polarization and angry feelings have sort of promoted and rewarded civic leaders for speaking on behalf of just their own constituents. There is an inability to talk about where our interests intersect," said Wong.

The Afro-Asian Relations Council was started seven years ago with its main purpose improving relations between African Americans and Asian Americans in the D.C. area. He said that many Asian merchants have tried outreaching to the communities they serve through charitable drives and scholarships.

"It's a positive step. Ultimately, though, the community has to see

themselves involved in the economic development of the area so that interests intersect on a day-to-day basis," said Wong.

According to Wong, Asians own half of all convenient stores in Washington, but they make up only 2 percent of the population.

"There is a huge economic presence, but after dark they roll home to the suburbs. This is about defining for ourselves what it means to be good citizens," said Wong.

Karyl Matsumoto, JACL interim national director, said she was personally surprised by the verdict.

"The first thing that came to mind was that I hope that the verdict was based on law and not on racial polarization," said Matsumoto.

"For Asians, I think we're looking at the case objectively. Hopefully we're not looking at it in terms of color," said Matsumoto.

During the trial, JACL protested racial caricatures of Ito, but now that the trial is over, the organization remains focused on affirmative action and getting its financial affairs organized. At the Oct. 21 JACL National Board meeting, she will be presenting a revised position statement on affirmative action.

"Like the NAACP, we're regrouping now. They've also been quiet. We're active, but we can't be as active as we want to be. There's a lot of things we have to strengthen first. Civil rights advocacy takes money and resources," said Matsumoto.

Leigh Ann Miyasato, JACL Washington consultant, said that the Simpson verdict has had an impact on other issues such as affirmative action.

"What concerns me is that a lot of white commentators are blaming affirmative action and other race-based remedies on the verdict," said Miyasato.

"I think there is definitely a backlash. There were reports that some whites are taking it out on blacks in small ways—not giving tips to black doormen. It could be a sign of the future," said Miyasato.

"We're caught in the middle. I don't know that there's an Asian perspective. We're certainly used as a buffer," said Miyasato.

She said that the prominent roles of Judge Lance Ito, and defense witness Dr. Henry Lee was good for the image of Asian Americans. "It was good for people to see Asian Americans participating in the justice system, although the perception of Judge Ito held by some is not particularly good. It helped raise the visibility of Asian Americans. It showed that we're here, we're part of this country and we have a role to play," said Miyasato.

Beyond the polarization among races, Miyasato said that the political climate has become increasingly polarized in Washington since the Republicans took over the Congress.

"It's pretty distressing. There are fewer and fewer moderates who are getting pushed to the side. Programs such as Medicare and Medicaid which used to be sacrosanct are now up for deep cuts. It doesn't bode well to have such polarization. For Asians, we're ignored in one sense and used in another. We're pulled in a lot of different directions. Maybe we're going to be pulled into left wing Asians and right wing Asians and no one in between," said Miyasato.

Speaking personally, Vicki Shu, immigration project coordinator, Organization of Chinese Americans, Washington, D.C., said she was surprised by the verdict.

"On the matter of racial issues, I am not surprised. It's been around for a long time between blacks and whites and also Asians and Hispanics," said Shu. "It con-

tributes a lot to the fear. But I don't know of an Asian perspective. The media tends to look at things as black and white and ignore Asians."

Shu said that OCA has not taken a position on the Simpson verdict or its aftermath. OCA has been garnering grassroots support to combat proposed cuts in immigration and welfare, which she criticized as racially motivated.

"I've never seen so much energy from the Asian Pacific American community. This is an issue that's touching them. I'm getting calls from people asking what we can do and asking for updates. I've never seen such a response before," said Shu.

"There is a need for groups to stand out and say we're here, you can't keep bashing us and targeting us. There are differences between groups. We need to deal with them and work on solutions. We can't keep blaming everyone," said Shu.

The jury has gone home. The principals in the Simpson case are scrambling for book deals and TV appearances, but what happens now? Can Asian Americans help ease racial tensions and promote dialogue between ethnic groups?

Kim said Asian organizations are not interested in the Simpson aftermath. "Not that many Asian groups care about O.J. We don't want to step in and get victimized ourselves," said Kim.

Wong said that Asians must not avoid involvement in the discussions on race.

"For Asian Americans there is a tendency when the discussion is defined as black-white relations to fade into the wall and not be assertive. There is fear that by being assertive we will be caught in the crossfire. There is a sense that Asian Americans must choose a side, instead of do what we feel is best for society as a whole.

Thinking we can somehow avoid getting involved would be detrimental," said Wong.

Matsumoto said that one way to assure a part in the ongoing social discussion is to get out and vote. The interim national director said, "We can no longer just talk to each other. We need to register and get out the vote. Get our parents out and vote. We need to assure others that we're out there," said Matsumoto.

Joe said Asians have a tendency to be reactive rather than proactive. "This makes us a target of both whites and blacks. For Asians, it's real important to watch what the trends appear to be that come out of it. We're too close right now. The effects are going to be varied. We need to pay very close attention to the outcome so we can figure out how best we can respond in a proactive way," said Joe.

"We have a tendency to say, 'Gosh, if it's not my store I'm not going to pay attention to it.' The tendency of Asians is to wait until it affects us personally. It's a good idea for journalists and academicians to keep attention on the issue and create opportunities for discussion," said Joe.

Wong said that "There needs to be some real soul searching on the part of Asian Pacific Americans. In a period of polarization there will be pressure that we pick a side. Asians find themselves uncomfortable with all of the positions and unsure how to assert our own agenda," said Wong.

Wong said that some of the issues that Asian Americans agree on are anti-Asian violence, the rights of legal immigrants and labor issues such as the glass ceiling.

"On other issues such as affirmative action where we see widely divided views, that's where soul searching has to occur," said Wong.



JACL Education Committee

By TERESA MAEBORI
JACL Education Committee/co-chair

Volunteers continue the task of spreading the word and work of the JACL Education Committee across the country.

Education questionnaire

Last April, national headquarters sent out a questionnaire to all JACL chapter presidents asking them to provide feedback on their use of the curriculum guide which was distributed two years ago. Out of the 116 questionnaires sent, 22 were returned, which is an approximate 19 percent return rate.

From this small sampling it was indicated that the committee and national headquarters need to do a better job of informing the organization of this resource and how to use it.

This will be one of the committee's priorities for the remainder of the biennium.

In addition we will utilize the information from the questionnaire to help fashion a 1996 national convention workshop in San Jose, Calif.

Here are some of the information that came out of the questionnaire:

■ 16 of the 22 chapters had made use of the guide.

■ 10 of the 22 had ordered more copies. 163 copies were listed as being purchased by the chapters.

■ 10 chapters had plans or had already distributed copies of the guides to schools, libraries, boards of education, etc.

■ 5 chapters had taken advantage of the video offer and had ordered videos.

■ 12 chapters wrote some suggestions about support services.

Responding chapters

Here is a list of the responding chapters:

■ No. Cal.-W. Nev. Pacific: Fremont, Eden Town-

ship, French Camp, Lodi, San Mateo

■ Central Cal.: Fresno, Delano

■ Pacific Southwest: San Diego, Pasadena, South Bay, Selanoco, Las Vegas

■ Mountain Plains: Arkansas Valley

■ Midwest: Wisconsin, St. Louis, Detroit, Cincinnati, Arkansas Valley, Hoosier

■ Intermountain: Boise Valley

■ Eastern: Washington, D.C., Southeast, Philadelphia

The responses also included suggestions to support local JACL Education Committees. According to some comments, chapters can make relatively simple efforts to disseminate the guide. Some chapters have donated the guide to their local library, to the public high school, middle school, or elementary school, for instance. It was suggested that JACL parents, grandparents, or relatives donate the guide to their child's school or discuss the curriculum with their child's current teacher.

In another response, it was suggested that current JACL chapter boards go through a workshop on the lessons from the guide. One chapter has published sections of the historical overview in its newsletter to inform and educate the membership on the important events for Japanese Americans.

At the district level a speaker's bureau could be developed.

Chapters are urged to discuss all of these ideas at their board meetings.

Update: 3rd Edition

Education Committee members, Greg Marutani and Izumi Taniguchi, have been actively working on a third edition of the curriculum guide. Verifying factual information, upgrading photographs, adding lesson plans and books to the resource section, and adding information about the Japanese Peruvian internment are some of the items

this team has been working on. A proposal will be presented at the October national board meeting for the third reprinting.

Karyl Matsumoto, JACL interim national director at headquarters, has also been investigating sources of funding to reprint this guide.

American Library Association

Greg Marutani has worked with American Library Association to identify sites which will host the Smithsonian exhibit, "A More Perfect Union." He has made a presentation to the ALA illustrating how the guide can enhance the exhibit. Some JACL chapters have been contacted to work with their local libraries to present a series of programs to discuss the internment.

In the Philadelphia area, the Camden County (N.J.) library made a proposal to host the exhibit. Although it was not accepted as a site, the library nevertheless decided to go ahead with the educational program. On Oct. 10, Grayce Ueyhara presented a historical overview of the internment and redress. On Oct. 17, Ellen Nakamura and John Fuyume were scheduled to speak of the Seabrook, N.J., experience. And on Oct. 24, I am scheduled to give a workshop for elementary, middle and high school teachers on the lessons of the internment.

JACL may still have the opportunity to present a similar program when the Smithsonian exhibit arrives at the Montgomery County library in Norristown, Pa. I have been asked as the education chairperson to give an educational workshop about the internment.

Educational Workshops

In August the Seattle Chapter, See EDUCATION/page 11

JACL Education Committee Questionnaire

JACL Chapter _____ Date _____

JACL chapter president or education chairperson _____

Address _____

To help the JACL Education Committee assess the uses of the curriculum and resource guide and to help us support the needs of the chapters we request that you take a few minutes and give us some feedback about your chapter's educational activities.

1. Has your chapter made use of the guide, "The Japanese American Experience: A Lesson in History?"

YES _____ NO _____

If YES, describe how your chapter has used the guide. (Use a separate paper)

2. Has your chapter ordered copies of the guide from Headquarters?

YES _____ NO _____ If YES, how many? _____

3. Does your chapter plan to disseminate the guide to schools and libraries in your area?

YES _____ NO _____

4. Has your chapter ordered the videos that were offered for a limited time?

YES _____ NO _____

5. What support services would your chapter suggest the education committee provide to make your task at disseminating the guide easier?

Thank you for your cooperation. We hope to share this information with all the chapters and to develop plans to help you. Please return the questionnaire by May 13, 1996 to: Teresa MaeBori, Education Committee, 2807 Midvale Ave., Philadelphia, PA, 19129.

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Books

Three books bring alive the many stories of Nikkei vets

By BARBARA NEKOBA

As they gather now in the twilight of their years, it would be natural for a casual onlooker to suppose them to be an ordinary group of unassuming harmless old Asian men. Only if you knew of their exploits would you realize that they are quite extraordinary. For these are Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in the U.S. Army during WW II as members of the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service.

Their stories, now chronicled by three recent books, aren't just about the courage that rises in men in tough times. They are stories about culture, family, honor and duty—and the strength that bound these men to these values.

There were many doubters who felt that Japanese Americans would never fight "their own people." The Navy, Marine Corps, Army Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines did not want them—so they volunteered to serve in the Army. Even so, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower rejected them. Gen. Mark Clark, however, said that he would take anybody who would fight and would later recount, "These are some of the best goddamn fighters in the U.S. Army. If you have more, send them over." After the war, Gen. George Marshall wrote, "I will say about the Japanese fighting in these units we had, 'they were superb! That word correctly describes it—Superb! They took terrific casualties. They showed rare courage and tremendous fighting spirit. Not too much can be said of the performance of these battalions in Europe, and nobody wanted them.'"

And they were superb. Most of the world knows that now, but three authors have brought these men closer to our minds and hearts by making their stories not just

war stories but human stories.

Honor By Fire: Japanese Americans in Europe and the Pacific, by Lyn Crost. Presidio Press. 346 pages

Lyn Crost, a former reporter for the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, was the European war correspondent who covered the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team. Her book is a comprehensive account of Japanese American military service during World War II and is the first book to combine the exploits of the Japanese American soldiers who served in the Military Intelligence Service and the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Based on hundreds of interviews with Japanese American veterans, she recounts the Nisei's experiences as they served in Europe and in every major campaign battle in the Pacific. She describes the efforts of the Nisei who fought in Burma with Merrill's Marauders as they set out on reconnaissance patrols to maneuver behind enemy lines to listen to conversations of Japanese soldiers and tap enemy telephone lines, and to learn Japanese plans and troop dispositions.

She writes of Richard Sakakida, an MIS interpreter who spent many months behind enemy lines to relay information back to American troops. Captured and tortured, he was nonetheless able to convince his Japanese captors that he was not a spy and subsequently served as an interpreter to the Japanese military, where he was able to continue funneling information about enemy plans and was even able to mastermind the liberation of 500 Philippino guerilla POWs.

She writes of the rescue of the Texas Lost Battalion in one of the costliest campaigns in the European Theater. The Nisei fought in the Vosges Mountains for six days to reach these men trapped

behind enemy lines, nine miles away. They saved 211 Texans, but suffered more than 800 casualties, including 140 deaths.

She writes of Staff Sgt. Kazuo Masuda who deliberately sacrificed his life so that his comrades were able to deliver vital information to their headquarters. Masuda was posthumously awarded a Distinguished Service Cross by Gen. Joseph Stillwell.

At the end of the war members of Masuda's family, who had been interned at Gila River, were warned by vigilantes not to return to their farm in Talbert, Calif. They returned anyway. Three years later, the Masuda family brought Staff Sgt. Masuda's body back to the U.S. for burial and was denied a burial plot. Only with the intercession of Gen. Mark Clark was one found.

American Patriots: MIS in the War Against Japan, by Stanley L. Falk and Warren M. Tsuneishi, editors. Japanese American Veterans Association of Washington, D.C. 142 pages

Like many other veterans around the world who are hosting reunions to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, so too are Japanese American veterans from coast to coast. Some of these groups have compiled accounts of their war experiences. *The MIS and the War Against Japan* is one such compilation. It presents individual recollections of 24 veterans who served as Japanese language specialists in the Military Intelligence Service during World War II, written following the Japanese American Veterans Association Convention held in 1993 in Washington, D.C.

More than 6,000 Nisei soldiers served in the MIS in the Pacific, East Asia and the occupation of

See BOOKS/page 7

Evacuation book: pop history with holes

Democracy on Trial: The Japanese American Evacuation and Relocation in World War II by Page Smith. Simon & Schuster, \$27.50.

By WILLIAM HOHRI

Until now, the published histories and accounts of wartime America's mass exclusion and detention of Japanese Americans have been factually sound and enlightening. As the quality and quantity of facts improved over the half-century since the event, its history has been refined and the judgment of this history all but certain. In addition, at the 1970 National Convention of the Japanese American Citizens League, Edison Uno, speaking on behalf of a resolution that asked the league to seek congressional legislation to compensate Japanese Americans for wrongful incarceration, launched the movement for Japanese American redress which slowly grew, gathered momentum, and transformed the judgment of history into judgments by the courts and Congress (1988). Now we have historian Page Smith, author of *A People's History of the United States*, writing what could become the popular history of this event, yet one, unfortunately, that revises and ignores histories written by his peers and is unaware of the pronouncements of the courts and Congress.

A small but not unimportant issue is his consistent use of "evacuation" and "relocation," beginning with the subtitle and end-

ing with this conclusion on page 436: *What I think we must admit is that responsible public officials, most of whom were publicly and privately extremely reluctant to take such a step, were persuaded by those "on the ground" and in command of the broadest range of evidence that the evacuation of the exclusionary zone was, if not essential, given the evidence, wise and prudent. And those officials involved, on the whole, decent, intelligent and humane individuals, maintained until their dying day that the decision to relocate was, if not in retrospect necessary, at least understandable and was based on what were genuinely believed to be security considerations and not, in any substantial degree, on race.* "Evacuation," "relocation," "evacuee," "relocation center," were euphemisms deliberately crafted by our government to hide "mass exclusion and detention," "detainee," and "detention camp." The camps, called War Relocation Centers, were administered by the War Relocation Authority (WRA). In a telling example of deception become self-deception, Edgar Bernhard, principal attorney, WRA, wrote in September 1943: *That word "relocation" certainly does not refer only to final relocation outside of a center. The evacuee who is detained for the duration of the war in a relocation center has also been "relocated" and is being "maintained." His place of relocation is a center.*

Smith is also unaware of Public Proclamations No. 8 (June 1942) and WD-1 (August 1942), issued respectively by the Western De-

fense Command and War Department. These two orders made the ten "war relocation centers" concentration camps. They invoked presidential Executive Order 9066 (February 1942) and explicitly prohibited Japanese Americans from leaving their confines under penalty of fine and imprisonment. Smith writes as though "exclusionary zones" were all that flowed from 9066. It was exclusion and detention.

Smith's "broadest range of evidence" consists of these "facts": illegal radio transmissions, shore-to-ship signalings, and a cache of weapons and ammunition. While Smith cites these, he fails to report that each "fact" was investigated at the time by appropriate Federal agencies and found to be without merit. Another evidentiary item he cites is the report of Lt. Commander Kenneth Ringle, Office of Naval Intelligence. Again Smith fails to reveal that Ringle, our government's expert on the threat posed by Japanese-Americans, recommended a case-by-case approach to the problem of internal subversion—something the ONI and FBI had accomplished before the mass program began—and opposed indiscriminate exclusion-detention based on race. Finally, Smith ignores the findings on this matter by the congressional Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (1980-83) and by an evidentiary hearing in the coram nobis case of Gordon Hirabayashi before Judge Donald

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BOOKS

(Continued from page 2)

Japan. According to Maj. Charles Willoughby, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Chief of Staff for military intelligence, their achievements "saved a million lives and shortened the war by two years." However, their exploits remained largely unknown until recently because their role was kept secret to protect the Nisei themselves and to prevent the enemy from learning of their linguistic capabilities.

This book changes all of that. Throughout the war, Japan had been lax about security because they were so sure that the Americans couldn't understand their language. The MIS translated captured enemy documents, interrogated Japanese prisoners of war, intercepted, decoded and interpreted Japanese communications. Air-dropped behind enemy lines to assess the enemy situation, they shouted out Japanese battle cries to confuse the enemy soldiers. They also tried to convince enemy soldiers and civilians to surrender rather than to commit suicide. Their lives were at risk not only from enemy gunfire, but from American troops, who sometimes mistook them for the enemy.

The thousands of Japanese Americans and hundreds of *hakujin* who formed the MIS came from varied backgrounds, according to the author. Prior to the war, there was only a handful of Caucasians and Nisei in the U.S. who spoke or wrote Japanese.

The individual stories relate how military service began for some, the experiences of others in the Southwest Pacific, Pacific Ocean and China-Burma-India Theaters, and the occupation of Japan. One of the most important documents captured and translated was the Japanese Combined Fleet's "Z Plan." This allowed the Americans to decimate the Japanese carrier force.

The individual accounts are not only of the Nisei soldiers, but of the *hakujin* soldiers who served alongside them in the MIS. All of these stories create a remarkable tapestry woven together by threads illustrating individual and group determination, team work, patriotism, hope and heroism. The telling of each story is matter-of-fact, often even mundane—which might belie, if history did not bear witness, the great contributions these MIS soldiers made toward the early resolution of the war.

***I Can Never Forget: Men of the 100th/442nd*, by Thelma Chang. SIGI Productions, Inc. 207 pages**

Thelma Chang's finely illustrated book, *I Can Never Forget: Men of the 100th/442nd*, presents

—many for the first time—the individual accounts of the 100th Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team veterans' war experiences.

The 100th Battalion was originally comprised of 1,400 Japanese American men from Hawaii. Later, due to their success, 4,000-plus Japanese American men from the U.S. mainland and Hawaii were organized into the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The two units combined in June, 1944, when the 100th became the first battalion of the 442nd. Because the 100th Battalion had previously earned such an outstanding record, it was allowed to keep its own identity. The 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team was comprised entirely of Japanese Americans, except for most of the officers who were Caucasian.

Though three-fourths of the Japanese Americans were college educated they were at first not allowed, and later discouraged, from becoming officers, according to the author. Albert Oki, for instance, was told that an IQ of at least 110 was required to become an officer. When he responded that his IQ was 147 according to recent army tests, he was dismissed with, "That's impossible."

The 100th/W442nd fought from Naples to Foggia, Rome, the Arno, the Rhineland, Central Europe and the Po Valley. As many people know, the "Go For Broke" regiment became the most decorated military unit of its size in American history. It earned seven presidential unit citations, 43 division commendations, 9,486 Purple Hearts, 18,143 individual awards and decorations including one Medal of Honor and 52 Distinguished Service Medals.

If you knew the whole story, however, you might not at first believe all this would happen.

In the beginning, there was friction between the easygoing Hawaii-born soldiers, who felt a natural cultural bonding with fellow islanders with whom many cultural similarities were shared, and the more reserved, individualistic mainland-born soldiers. But both groups shared cultural values that emphasized allegiance, honor and obligation. Chang describes the plantation roots of the men from Hawaii and those of the mainlanders, whose Issei parents struggled to survive and assimilate into a white environment.

These soldiers were modest and unassuming. "I was only one of many" is often how they regard their efforts. They speak in terms of group sacrifice and group achievement rather than individual ones. They minimize their own contributions. The key to their successes lay in the selfless individual sacrifices they made for the benefit of their fellow soldiers, their families and their country.

The war affected them all in many ways. Stories are told of the

suspicion and hostility that followed them, even as they offered their lives to preserve American freedom. Chang tells of Tadao Beppu, who remembers the distrust of fellow government workers in Hawaii following the Pearl Harbor attack. Although Hawaii-born, he had to wear a special badge with a black border, akin to the Star of David Jews had to don in wartime Germany, that identified Japanese Americans in government jobs.

Demonstrating the "Go For Broke" spirit, the 100th/442nd defeated the Germans in the Vosage Mountains at Bruyeres and Biffontaine in France under the direction of Maj. Gen. John Dahlquist who was almost surely racist, clearly reckless and irresponsible, according to the author. The reality of their expendability became clear when they were ordered again and again into battle with no time to regroup or to rest. Within a month of fighting from Bruyeres to St. Die, the 100th/442nd lost two-thirds of its men. Casualties estimated at 2,200 included 161 dead and 1,800 wounded. "Why us every time?" some wondered. "It is a matter of honor," others responded. It was not unusual for wounded Nisei soldiers, to leave the aid station or hospital to rejoin their comrades on the battlefield and get wounded again. Shiro Kashiro was wounded six times and received six Purple Hearts; though wounded he still returned to his unit.

Nor was it unusual for one family to have several sons serving in the Army at one time. Robert Kuroda had routinely set aside part of his \$21 monthly wages to help his parents pay for his brothers' educational expenses. Eventually, four brothers served in the military. Robert was killed at Bruyeres. He was awarded a posthumous Distinguished Service Cross for attempting to flush out an enemy machine gun nest.

With their Asian faces they aroused curiosity wherever they went. "Why do you fight for America?" the puzzled Germans asked. "I was born in America," the Japanese American soldiers replied. Little known is the fact that members of the 442nd's 552nd Field Artillery Battalion were among the first to liberate the prisoners of Dachau. Official U.S. Army historical records do not document this fact, but instead generally credit an all-white unit.

Wherever they went, the Japanese Americans earned a reputation for compassion and caring, often sharing rations with starving peoples they encountered. However, this compassion was often not extended to them upon their return home. Anti-Japanese sentiment was very strong, particularly on the mainland. Jobs

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of this spirit. He calls the samurai sword "murderous," flower arranging "obsessive," and the Japanese therefore "exotic." He views the phenomenon of the *Kibei*, U.S.-born children, who were sent to Japan for part of their education or other family reasons, and the Japanese language schools as extensions of Japanese militarism. He thereby replays the paranoid hostility of wartime America's anti-Japanese racism. He even ascribes the informant activity of the Japanese American Citizens League as being "true to the ancient Japanese practice of conspiratorial loyalty." I would say, if the league was guilty of anything, it was an excess of all-American loyalty to the United States.

Despite its serious inaccuracies and omissions and anti-Japanese bias, the book is seductive. Smith favors Christians and a sentimental form of the Christian faith. Christians are pro-American, while Buddhists are Japanese nationalists. Showering internees with Christmas gifts showed that churches cared. He has also peppered the text with quotes from many Japanese Americans who will probably like seeing their names and words in print. And, of

course, his widest audience, white folks, will love his conclusion that it wasn't race but military necessity that was the culprit. The book will sell.

What troubles me deeply about Smith is his "Smith Thesis," whereby he invokes Freud's Oedipus Complex and casts Japan as son to U.S. as father. The Great White Father? "The son," Smith explains, "desperate to free himself from the dominating father, attacks and grievously injures the father to the point that his life seems for a time in danger." It's Pearl Harbor, of course. Then the father, you guessed it, has to punish the son with two atomic bombs. The son is "freed from the curse of his own furious, warlike psyche. His remarkable talents were channeled into peaceful pursuits."

What is missing is the mother who has been violated—not by the son but by Smith. Who is she? She is Japanese American history.

William Hohri is the author of *Repairing America: An Account of the Movement for Japanese-American Redress*, Washington State University Press, 1988.

HOLIDAY
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POP

(Continued from page 6)

S. Voorhis (June 1985). Both contradict his conclusion of the "broadest range of evidence."

Inexplicably, Smith ignores the Supreme Court test cases of Minoru Yasui, Gordon Hirabayashi, Fred Korematsu, and Mitsuye Endo. He credits the closing of the camps to the WRA rather than the court's Endo decision which ordered her release and thereby the release of all internees.

On the issue of a racial motive, Smith manifests the racism he denies existed. He uses *Yamato damashii*, meaning "Japanese spirit," to characterize the Japanese spirit for the length and breadth of its history. According to *Japanese American History*, the term emerged in the 1930s and was related to Japanese militarism and nationalism linked to unquestioning loyalty to emperor and nation. Smith, however, cites the 18th century tale of the 47 *Ronin*, Japanese flower arranging, gift wrapping, tea ceremony, and social hierarchy as examples

of this spirit. He calls the samurai sword "murderous," flower arranging "obsessive," and the Japanese therefore "exotic." He views the phenomenon of the *Kibei*, U.S.-born children, who were sent to Japan for part of their education or other family reasons, and the Japanese language schools as extensions of Japanese militarism. He thereby replays the paranoid hostility of wartime America's anti-Japanese racism. He even ascribes the informant activity of the Japanese American Citizens League as being "true to the ancient Japanese practice of conspiratorial loyalty." I would say, if the league was guilty of anything, it was an excess of all-American loyalty to the United States.

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

A Nebraska homecoming for Nisei

In the part of the country where I live, the University of Nebraska is seen largely as a football factory whose huge, corn-fed athletes consistently manage to kick the stuffing out of the University of Colorado Buffaloes. This gets old after a while. There is little love lost in these parts for the Cornhuskers.

Thus I was not a little surprised to receive a handsome booklet from Patrick Sano of Apple Valley, Calif., applauding Nebraska-U. The booklet is an album commemorating a reunion in Lincoln last November of Nisei who attended the University of Nebraska during and just after the war years.

To understand why this reunion was so important it is necessary to know about the National Student Relocation Council. In the earliest days of the Evacuation some educators saw the tragedy of disrupting the education of Nisei college students. Educators saw the possibility of losing the talents of an entire college generation. The U.S. government approved the formation of the above-named council and President John W. Nason of Swarthmore College was named chairman to develop educational opportunities.

That wasn't easy to do. Many schools were conducting classified research for the military and declined to accept Nisei students. Others set up quotas which limited the number of Nisei on the campus. In still other cases hostile college administrators or hostile communities discouraged Nisei enrollment.

One shining exception was the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. The commemorative booklet recalls:

"Approximately 50 Nisei students were admitted to the University of Nebraska in the fall of 1942, thanks to the efforts of NU Chancellor Chauncey S. Boucher, registrar George Rosenlof and members of the faculty and campus ministry. In its efforts to help Nisei students, NU went farther than many other colleges and universities in the United States, many of which allied themselves with the doubts and suspicions implicit in President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066.

"NU embraced these students without campuses. It went beyond simply meeting its 'quota' for admissions. It made a concerted effort to bring the Nisei into contact with the local community, and many NU officials and faculty members continued to

support their Japanese American alumni long after cessation of hostilities."

The Nisei did not fail their supporters. Almost without exception they went on to become upright citizens, leaders in their fields of study, a credit to the University of Nebraska and the nation. Nor did they forget their benefactors. Scores of them came back for the reunion to reminisce and express their thanks.

Arthur Gorai, now retired in Seattle, was among those attending. He received his medical degree at Nebraska and worked as chemist, industrial hygiene engineer and physician until retirement. He quoted another University of Nebraska graduate, Ben Kuroki, in expressing his appreciation.

"Ben Kuroki said it for us," Gorai declared. "God bless Nebraska and its people."

A sense of gratitude is an important part of the Japanese culture. What the University of Nebraska did for Japanese Americans won't be forgotten.

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



East wind

BILL MARUTANI

The reunion

THIS PAST SUMMER, a "Thomas School Reunion" was held in Auburn, Wash. Auburn is located in the White River Valley region in the state of Washington, located a bit closer to Tacoma than Seattle. Some 350-400 Nikkei, their friends and relatives reportedly attended. (I was unable to attend.) As I scanned the list of names of those who registered, the name "Charlie Toshi" caught my eye. "Charlie" my gosh! As some of you may remember, I was born and attended school in the White River Valley ("Shirakawa" as it was known to some), and the Toshi family has known me, for better or for worse, since I was a tadpole.

And that's a lo-o-n-g time ago, friends.

THE LAST TIME I met a "Toshi" was in 1946 during my tour of duty in Japan. I visited the Toshi family during one of my visits to Hiroshima - actually, out in the *inaka* (countryside) where the Marutani homestead was located, where my sister and her two youngsters had taken refuge post-atom-bombing of Hiroshima. Mr. and Mrs. Toshi had left the White River Valley and had resettled in Hiroshima's *inaka*, where they safely survived the dropping of the A-bomb. We chatted about old times

back home in the Valley, recalling mutual acquaintances and past memorable times. Mrs. Toshi most aptly expressed her yearning when she said, "Beh-kon moo-ikkai tabete mitai to omo-u." (I'd like to taste [American] bacon just one more time.)

THERE WAS ANOTHER couple from White River Valley that I met during one of those trips to Hiroshima. You readers familiar with the Valley, more particularly Kent, Washington, may remember Mr. and Mrs. Hara who owned and operated a food market on the West Highway in Kent where they did a thriving business. Some years before the outbreak of the Pacific War, the Hara's, having no children, sold the market and retired to Hiroshima (also to the countryside); there they built a magnificent *dacha*. Both were looking hale and hearty.

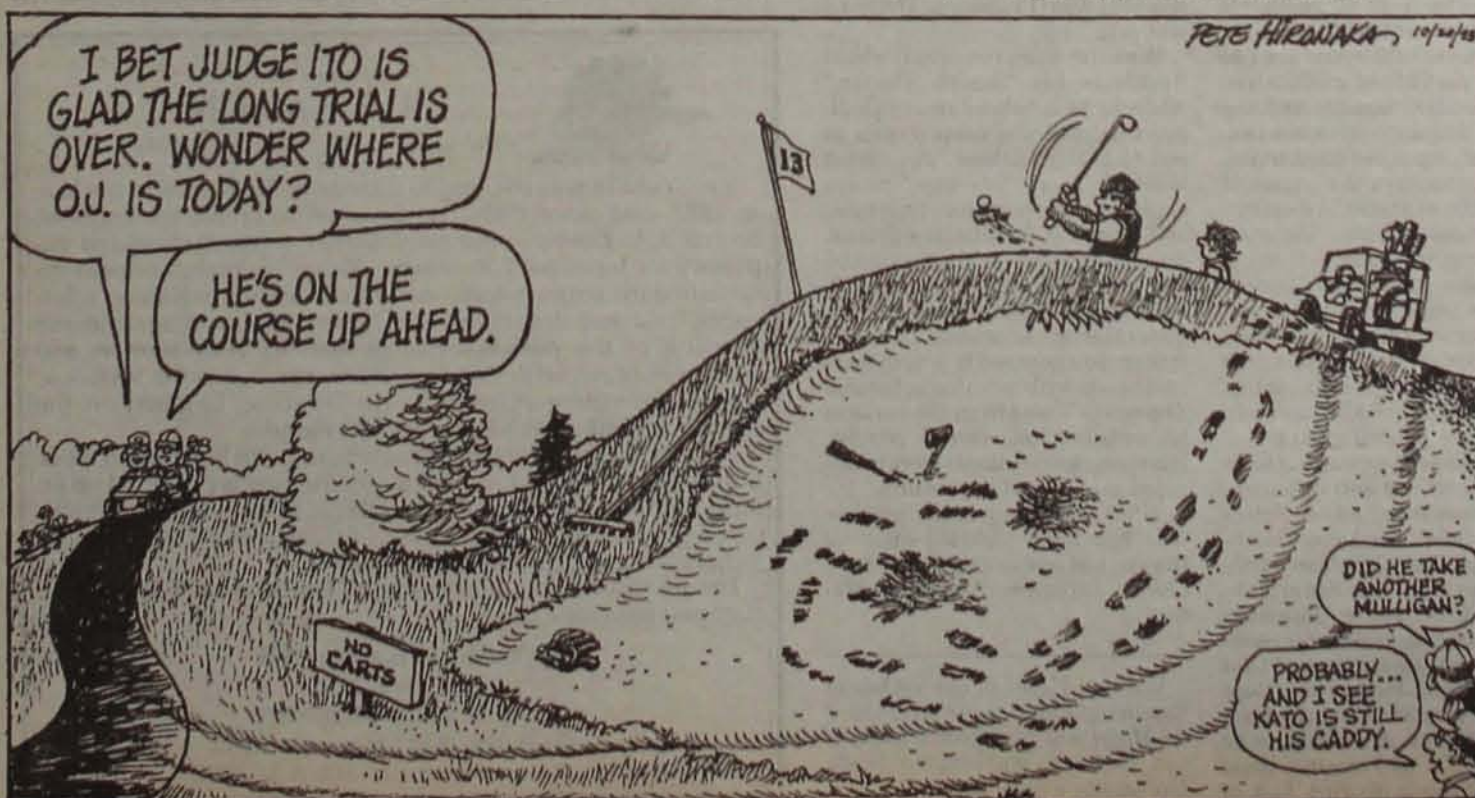
AS A KID, our home in Kent was just a short jog from Hara's market. I don't now recall how it came about but when I was yet in elementary school the Hara's periodically had me helping out at their shop - be it selling cut flowers or, during the Fourth of July period, huckstering *hana-bi* (fireworks). There was one particular fireworks item - I think it was called a "torpedo," a

round, dark-colored device which thrown against a wall or any hard object, would explode - that I recall using as a sales device. To spice up sales, I'd throw a torpedo to the ground. The problem with this sales technique was that the parking area consisted of loose gravel and every so often a rock would ricochet against the market's glass. This would invariably bring a frown to Mr. Hara's countenance. However, I continued to be recalled each Fourth until I finally grew out of the job.

SOMETHING ELSE that kid remembered seeing in the store: a large sheet of paper on which Chinese characters (*kan-ji*) appeared in the blocks; after a week or so, some of the characters suddenly were blocked out with *sumi* (black ink). On that magic day, it seemed that Nikkei traffic increased as anticipating eyes carefully checked out the blocked out Chinese characters. I wasn't certain what was going on. But I had my hunches.

(By the way, Charlie: How have you been?)

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



Letters

Interim national director responds to budget comments

I write in response to Mr. John Yanigisawa's letter (*Pacific Citizen*/Oct. 6-19) and the 18 questions/statements he raised relative to the Budget Report published in the *Pacific Citizen*/Sept. 15-Oct. 9.

1-2. The projected membership "loss" of \$19,574 (2.5%) was projected for the entire year as was the drop in donations of \$42,580 (50%).

3. The salary decrease of \$72,738 (12%), when combined with items 1 & 2 above results in a net gain rather than deficit of \$10,584 (\$72,738 - \$42,580 - \$19,574).

4. Only footnoted line items were adjusted. The "Remaining Budget" is an approximation of the costs for the remainder of the period. Many of the items were not changed because they were reasonably good estimates and the information available at the time did not justify changes from the revised \$1.2 million budget estimates.

Retirement and fringe benefits were significantly impacted by the change in personnel. Most of the current staff at JACL is temporary; and, as stated in Footnote 2, they do not receive fringe benefits.

5. As of July, 1995, a total of \$1,164 was expended on personnel recruitment for advertising the vacancies and for a national director candidate's interview.

6. Again, as stated in Item 5, \$1,164 has been expended as of July 1995 for personnel recruitment.

7. The management consultants and auditors recommended automation of JACL operations. As noted in Footnote 5, the budget was revised to allow for purchasing/upgrading equipment (including software) in order to implement the recommendations. We now have an automated accounting system which even prints checks that go into window envelopes so we don't have to spend time typing the envelopes. Better yet, we no longer hand write journal entries in the General Ledger. These are just a few of the vast improvements being made at headquarters. Needless to say, this is not only cost-efficient but at long last we are moving into the 20th century (albeit a little late).

8. Miscellaneous expenses as of July 1995 totaled \$6,668. As the name implies, these expenditures do not fall into one of the budget categories and are normally not significant enough to warrant a separate accounting. They include expenditures such as bank service charges, check printing, parking fees, payroll processing fees, etc. Commissions as of July, 1995, totaled \$2,127. Commissions are part of the operating expense of the *Pacific Citizen*.

There are two categories: Utilities and Rent & Utilities. Utilities are costs such as gas and electricity. However, the payment for facilities used by the *Pacific Citizen* includes utilities. There is no reasonable method for separating the two types of costs; hence the category Rent & Utilities.

9. The \$69,243 is the allocation to districts for their operating expenses. The budgeted amount, which originally included

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Pacific Citizen Policies

Editorials, columns and cartoons

The opinions, views and statements in the editorials, columns and cartoons appearing in *Pacific Citizen* are those of the authors and as such do not necessarily represent the Japanese American Citizens League. *Pacific Citizen* editorials, columns, and cartoons of staff will be clearly labeled as such.

Pacific Citizen welcomes for consideration editorials and columns from members of the Japanese American Citizens League, the Japanese American community at large, and beyond. They should be no longer than approximately 750 words. Send them to: Editorial Opinion, *Pacific Citizen*, 2 Coral Circle, Suite 204, Monterey Park, CA, 91755.

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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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By the board

By DAVID HAYASHI

Explaining the American Express program

I wish to thank the members who recently commented (*Pacific Citizen*, Sept. 15 to Oct. 5, on the American Express Financial Advisors' (AEFA) proposal to JACL for a charitable giving program and financial education services, which is now before the National Board. I was somewhat surprised at the alarmist tone of the letter, but I appreciate their willingness to make their concerns known. I am concerned that they feel offended and/or threatened by this proposal. I wish to offer some background (only because my name was used in the letter) which I hope will address their concerns.

I have been a driving force in the development of this concept. I believe in the AEFA as much as I do the JACL. Several years ago I saw an opportunity to develop a relationship between the two organizations. On my own, I researched the possibilities and potential for success.

First, American Express Financial Advisors is not "trying to buy their way into our community" as was insinuated in the letter. Rather, I approached several key executives with the idea of the company building a relationship with JACL, working under JACL's terms and giving the JACL National Board control over the project for the benefit of our membership and the JA community. Of course, there is a benefit for the company, which is simply name recognition and the opportunity to strengthen the relationship with the JA community.

Yes it is true that many in the Japanese American community are professional and

successful. There are many who will benefit from learning more about their personal finances, insurance needs, estate planning, living trusts, charitable giving, tax planning, retirement planning, etc. More than half of our membership is of retirement age, and we are striving to attract younger professionals to the organization. A membership benefit of financial education seminars will act not only as a service to existing members, but also aid in JACL's membership recruitment efforts.

There were initially many concerns that needed to be addressed before moving ahead with this project. I consulted many experts both within the company and outside to learn about and become aware of any potential downside for either party, as well as all positive aspects.

My internal mentor on this project is Steve Kumagai, senior vice president, field business and management systems and a local Sansei JACL chapter member (Wisconsin). I formed an internal team of volunteers to help me research the project in 1993. During 1993, '94 and '95, I introduced the concept and discussed it at length with many of the JACL staff members and National officers to obtain their feedback and concerns. I am now satisfied the concerns have been addressed and it is time to move forward.

Here is a partial list of those concerns and challenges we addressed, as well as some additional information which influenced my decision to move ahead with the project:

1. The Japanese American market is very sensitive and relationship driven. Utmost care must be taken to deliver on any promises. This effort is an educational and relationship building process. Only hand-picked professionals will be allowed to be involved in the presentations. These seminars will be truly educational, with many helpful money-saving hints and useful information.

2. Utilizing Financial Educational Services (FES) in the non-profit sector is a relatively new concept. Pilot charitable giving programs are currently in place or being developed for many prestigious organizations on a national basis. FES was developed to provide educational seminars to employees of our institutional retirement services division as well as providing them with names of many reputable national firms (unfortunately, I cannot name any of our clients here).

3. Professionals from our community with expertise in the financial services industry, law, estate planning, etc., will be encouraged to participate in the program development and presentations at local levels. The purpose of this program is to benefit JACL membership. Individuals will be better equipped to make educated choices in their own financial decisions. That is the goal.

4. There will be no "selling of mailing lists or contacts." Any related mailings must have a clearly stated specific purpose and approval from each chapter board involved. Participants will be asked to fill out a card if they would like a follow-up call or ap-

pointment. It will be an individual choice.

5. There will be national and local board training, as well as staff training on how to facilitate and administer the program—at no expense to the JACL. Each chapter can tailor the presentation to incorporate local Japanese American professionals and specific community needs. Each chapter has the power to say "no" or "go."

6. Dale Preator, vice president, Western Region, FES, and Robin Morishita, district manager, West Los Angeles office, Clifford Okuda and Keith Nakaganeke have volunteered their time for this project. They attended the Salt Lake Convention and the recent tri-district meeting in Albuquerque on their own time. Robin also attended the NCWNPDC spring meeting in Reno. No one has received any fees from these efforts, and, if we go forward, the seminar presenters will be paid for their time through the company, not JACL.

7. No fee/commissions are earned as a result of this proposal being signed by JACL. The agreement does serve as a binding contract to American Express to provide the agreed-upon services and \$3 per attendee fee paid to the JACL, as well as a 15% organizational discount for any members wishing to utilize American Express Financial Advisors services. JACL is under no obligation and can opt to nullify the

See BOARD/page 12

David Hayashi is governor of the Midwest District, JACL.



Sidebar

By MEI NAKANO

Beijing Journal II: The Conference

Huairou. That "other" one, the U.N. accredited one, opens in Beijing today. But, I am so glad to be here in Huairou, with its 25,000 or so women from grassroots organizations. In spite of having to rush to some workshops to get in, the rain and mud we slogged through the other day, not to mention the smelly "squats," women here are in a remarkably mellow mood, friendly, cooperative, open.

Since there are about 400 workshops to choose from daily in 2-hour spacings, I can conceivably go to five a day from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. I maxed out at four the other day and learned to plan my choices more judiciously. And not tarry by the wayside too much inspecting the amazing array of wares offered by women from places I've never been.

I've made some mistakes. A workshop featuring Betty Friedman turned out a big disappointment. Her message, "Beyond Gender," cruised right by me, so insubstantial, and commonplace, it seemed. But I'll have a chance to reconsider, since it's to appear in the form of an article in Newsweek

(9/5/95).

A nother disappointment: I missed Wagilia Muhammed's workshop on the plight of Third World children, having got there too late. They had already locked the door because the room was jam-packed and my pleas to let me in fell on deaf ears. They couldn't know that I had walked/run clear across the conference site (nearly a mile) to get there from a previous workshop.

Sessions on economic development, education, and entrepreneurship rate high with women from developing countries. But empowerment and human rights violations



Conference logo

(yes, there was even a workshop on O.J.) dominate the discussions. And the subject of war resides in the deep reaches of our minds, surfacing at odd turns. "Stop wars and military spending!" has become a familiar cry. "Then maybe we'd be able to take care of the problems of _____" (whatever problem we happen to be discussing).

The horrifying effects of war on women and children comes up often. Women from Rwanda, Lebanon, Korea, the Philippines, China and Japan speak of it passionately.

The most wrenching story came from a so-called "comfort woman," a Korean survivor of that Japanese atrocity. The woman became a virtual sex slave after being abducted from her home when she was only fifteen. Housed in a barnlike structure with about 1,000 other girls, she at first worked in a factory, then she was shipped to a "hospital" in Saigon, where she endured an operation on her female organs to deprive her of sexual pleasure and pregnancy. Eventually, she landed in a "comfort station" set up by the Japanese, ostensibly to prevent

its troops from committing wholesale rape on women in the countries it had occupied. (You have to wonder at the twisted logic behind that.) She sometimes "served" up to 40 men a day and was given opium doses to relieve the pain. When the war ended, and after she had spent a year in a camp at Singapore to overcome her opium addiction, she returned to Korea only to find her parents dead, her father slain, her mother dead by her own hand. Today, this survivor lives with her blind eye, and non-functioning arm, determined to tell her story to the world.

I couldn't stay for the rest of the forum, though it was to run all day, so sickened was I by this story. And struck with guilt for

See SIDEBAR/page 12

Nakano, Nisei author of "Japanese American Women: Three Generations," is presently working on a book about her father. Her column appears monthly in *Pacific Citizen*.

LETTERS

(Continued from page 8)

the D.C. office allocation for its operating expenses, was reduced because these expenses are now paid directly by HQ. Likewise, the Rent & Utilities budgeted amount, which originally included only the *Pacific Citizen* rent, now includes rental costs of the D.C. office.

10. Revenue from fundraising and investments is usually reported net of cost. For cases where it is not, the costs are reported as expenditures such as postage, printing, copying, etc.

11. The negative ending balance is a direct result of expenditures for prior periods (\$20,820 and \$50,000), chapter rebates for 1994 (\$35,188) and capital improvements (\$24,799 for ADA improvements and painting of the SF JACL building).

12. The key word here is projected. At this point in time, we cannot guarantee to the membership that there will be no deficit at year's end; but we are certainly making a concerted effort to end

the year with a balanced budget.

13-16. Items 13-16 pertain to membership and the numbers for the remainder of the year are projections. As 70% of JACL's revenues come from membership dues with the balance from investment income and donations, it is critical that we recruit new members. To that end, the National Board and Districts are committed and are working on aggressive membership campaigns.

17. Assuming these expenditures are incurred evenly throughout the year, which they are not, the variances would be \$302 (7/12 of \$10,000 minus \$5,531) for National Board and \$2,050 (7/12 of \$4,000 minus \$283) for board members. This would result in percentage variances of 5.2% and 87.9%, respectively.

Regardless, expenditures for board meetings usually occur when the National Board meets; expenditures for National Board members are usually costs submitted by board members which this year have been for airfare only.

18. The increase of \$2,549 (which is about 85%) is largely

due to advances to the National Convention Committee for the 1996 biennial convention in San Jose.

All and all, there was a lot of information we wanted members to have; however, we did not want to make it too complicated.

Should you wish further clarification or have additional questions regarding the budget, please call Clyde Izumi, JACL business manager, at 415/921-5225. The proposed 1996 budget is being prepared and will be ready shortly.

Karyl Matsumoto

JACL Interim National Director
San Francisco

Praise for president on handling budget

I wish to commend the 1995 National Board and National President Denny Yasuhara. President Yasuhara has suffered long, and undeservedly, the harsh slings and arrows of some JACLers for leading the Board into enacting painful, but necessary action, to

put JACL on the glide path towards fiscal health. An organization cannot long survive under continued deficit fiscal conditions.

For those with short memories or never paid heed let's review the essentials, (1) in 1993, the JACL expenditures rose to \$1.5 million, (2) in 1994, the expenditures basically remained at this level because the operation remained status quo relative to 1993, (3) the JACL's annual income has peaked in 1993 at \$1.3 million, meaning a \$200,000 yearly shortfall in 1993-1994 and also a \$200,000 shortfall in 1995 if Yasuhara and the Board comfortably swept JACL's fiscal problem under the proverbial rug, (4) the 1993/1994 fiscal shortfall was covered by depleting JACL's reserve account of \$400,000 (JACL now operates basically with no reserve account, a precarious disconcerting condition for those in responsible positions, and (3) one conclusion reached in Scott J. Seo's Barrington Consulting Group, Inc. report of Feb. 18, 1995, is that taking JACL's fiscal condition in 1994 as base "a flat revenue and modest expense growth does not present JACL with a favorable

fiscal situation beginning in 1996."

It appears that with volunteer workers at National Headquarters, National Board members paying for own lodging, travel, etc., regional staff taking on extra workload, and I suspect that Interim National Director Karyl Matsumoto is running a "fiscally frugal operation," the projected actual expenditures for 1995 seems to be headed for under \$1.2 million (PC 9/15-10/5).

Let it be noted that the latest projected 1995 income is \$1.25 million. It is clear that if this National Board did not give attention to this matter, and operated status quo as per 1993-1994, JACL would have faced a \$200,000 shortfall in 1995, with no reserve account to dip into this time.

So I for one say thank you President Denny Yasuhara and the 1995 National Board for putting JACL onto the glide path toward fiscal health.

Harry Kajihara

President,
Ventura County Chapter

Personally speaking

Trustees and executives

Two new members: GTE Hawaiian Tel president **Warren H. Haruki** of Honolulu, and retired Securities & Exchange Commission official **Kelly Y. Kuwayama** of Washington, D.C., (a 442nd medic with Silver Star and Purple Heart) were appointed to the board of trustees of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF), authorized by Congress to commemorate the patriotism of Japanese Americans during World War II. They bring the number of board members to 26, it was announced by chairman **William H. (Mo) Marumoto**. Haruki, a Purdue graduate in in-



WILLIAM MARUMOTO

dustrial management and an MBA from the University of Hawaii, has been GTE Hawaiian Tel president since January 1992 and currently chairs the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii for 1995-96. NJAMF, previously the Go For Broke National Veterans Association Foundation, is registered as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. For contact: George M. Wakiji, executive director, 2828 Pennsylvania Ave NW, #305, Washington, DC 20007, 202/965-0691, fax 202/965-0695.

President Richard Hopping of So. Calif. College of Optometry, Fullerton, Calif., announced that **Steven Kurata, O.D.**, Los Angeles, has been named to the executive committee of the board of trustees, "to enhance our perspectives as we prepare to direct the college into the 21st century." Kurata is a 1974 graduate of the four-year institution.



TOMIO MORIGUCHI

Seattle's Uwajimaya, distributor, importer and manufacturer of Asian products, announced executive promotions and formation of an advisory council to its board of directors: **Tomio Moriguchi**, who was president for the past 30 years, to the newly-created post of chairman of the board and CEO; **Akira Moriguchi**, who headed the Seasia division since its inception in 1966, as Uwajimaya president and chief operating officer; and development of an advisory council comprised of outside experts for long-range and strategic planning. Uwajimaya, founded as a family store in 1928, is listed among the top 150 privately-held companies in the state.

Recognition Awards

Project Kokoro of the Orange County Buddhist Church outreach, **Mas Dobashi** of *Tozai Times*, **Yuji Ichioka** of UCLA's Asian American Studies Center, reserve officer **Randi Tahara** of the L.A. Police Department, and volunteer tennis coaches **Masa and June Oshiro** with South Bay area youth were honored at the Torrance Marriott Sept. 16 at the annual community service-cultural heritage recognition dinner sponsored by the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California. To celebrate the fifth anniversary of the awards, each honoree received \$650 at the banquet, it was announced by awards committee chair **Iku Kiriya**.

Ichioka is considered an authority on Japanese American history and was featured in a July 24 *Los*

Angeles Times spread as "heritage hero" for his scholarship.

The Asian/Pacific Women's Network of Colorado, headed by president **Madeline Inouye**, has named its 1995 Women of Achievement who have succeeded in fields ranging from mining to media: storyteller **Lindy Soon Curry**, new Premier Bank president **Alice Yee Libis**, TV news anchor **Adele Arakawa**, nutritionist-businesswoman **Mary Lee Chin**, U.S. Geological Survey chemist-analyst **Catharine Fogg**, psychologist **Christine Chao**, youth advocate **Peggy Lore**, and **Linda Ahuna**, director of Colorado State's Asian Pacific American Students Services Center.



CATHERINE T. MOTOYAMA

The College of San Mateo's "Student and Teacher Excellence through Mentoring" (STEM) program was the recipient of the 1995 Exemplary Program Award for the California Community Colleges. Coordinating the project is **Catherine T. Motoyama**, professor of speech and communication at the school.

The College of San Mateo and Motoyama were recently honored as a statewide model at the September Board of Governors meeting in Ventura, Calif.

On behalf of the college and the STEM program, Motoyama accepted a check for \$4,000.

She is a member of the San Mateo Chapter, JACL.

Art exhibit

Seattle-born Nikkei artist-poet

Muneo Makuuchi, a 1953 graduate from Portland, Ore.'s Concordia University, returned to his alma mater to read a selection of his poems and to share stories about his prints focusing on his pre-teen years at Minidoka. The exhibit, "Prints and Poems: the Sacred and the Profane—the Camp & Aftermath," will continue at the library through Oct. 29. Admission is free. Information: Rebecca Pugh 503/280-8614. His works will also be displayed at three other area colleges: Marylhurst, University of Portland, and George Fox College in Newberg. For information on these exhibits, call Melissa Grewenow 503/636-8141. Makuuchi studied art and art education at Valparaiso University and the University of Colorado and received his M.A. in etching at Iowa and MFA in painting at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He taught several years at the University of Ife, Nigeria.

Poll watcher

Mark T. Morodomi, 35, senior counsel with the State of California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), was featured in the Summer 1995 issue of American Bar Association magazine *Barrister* as among "the 21 young lawyers leading us into the 21st Century." His job, to investigate and prosecute political ethics and corruption cases, is to protect the citizens of California when their trust is betrayed by elected officials, he explained. Last year he was lead counsel in the *Matter of Los Angeles Marathon Inc.*, where he obtained the third largest election law fine in U.S. history—\$436,250. In 1993, he was lead counsel in the *Matter of Evergreen America Corp.*, involving a campaign money laundering scheme by the second largest shipping company in the world, and obtained the largest election law fine for a civil prosecution in U.S. history—\$895,000. A 1982 Stanford graduate, he finished law school in 1985 at New York University where he was an Asian Students' Association leader. Before joining FPPC in 1990 he was associated with a major San Francisco law firm, engaged by the Asian Law Caucus.

As Florin Chapter, JACL, president, he was instrumental in pushing the prosecution of the Aryan Liberation Front, a group responsible for the bombing of a Jewish temple, the Sacramento JACL office, the home of a Sacramento city council member, a state civil rights agency and the NAACP.

Inside the 'Beltway'

The recently formed Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses is being headed by Prof. Joyce C. Lashof, a physician at the UC Berkeley School of Public Health. Its executive director, **Robyn Y. Nishimi, Ph.D.**, of Sacramento, has been a senior associate at the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment for nearly 10 years.

'People of influence'

Quoting a Korean proverb that "power lasts 10 years, influence not more than 100," the Sunday, July 9, *Seattle Times Pacific Magazine* gathered pictures and profiles of 100 people who live in the state of Washington as their pick of "People of Influence." Included were nine Asian Americans: (in alphabetical order) **Phyllis Campbell**, banker, a glass-ceiling breaker; **Ron Chew**, who transformed the Wing Luke Asian Museum with award-winning programs and events; **Kay Hirai**, who created her own welfare-to-work program, employing women on welfare at her Studio 904 salons; **Aki Kurose**, first-grade teacher who is changing the world one kid at a time; **Gary Locke**, King County executive who was a top state legislative budget writer in the late 1980s and early 1990s; **Tomio Moriguchi**, a key force in revitalizing the International District who led in the development of the Keiro Nursing Home; **Assunta Ng**, publisher of the *Chinese Post* and *Northwest Asian Weekly* and a cultural interpreter; **Chang Mook Sohn**, state chief economist and arguably the most influential figure in state government at Olympia; and **Ruth Woo**, onetime legislative receptionist who helped make Asian Americans a political force and is seen as the most pivotal person in state politics.

Scholars

Greater Portland Area honors graduates

By **MARY MINAMOTO**

PORTLAND, Ore.—Twenty Nikkei graduates from the Greater Portland Area and Vancouver, Wash., high schools received scholarships from Japanese American community groups at the gala 48th annual banquet May 1 at Red Lion Inn/Lloyd Center.

It was Gresham-Troutdale JACL's turn to organize the event, as chapter president Henry Muramatsu was emcee. Julia Ninomiya and Masako Hinatsu chaired the dinner. Extending congratulations were Japanese Consul General Koji Moriyama and keynoter Janet Kakishita, school principal.

Ava Erickson, daughter of Michael and Nobue, Evergreen H.S., an Oregonian academic all-star, won the Dr. Howard Henjyoji Memorial award. Ken Ono of Buddhist Daihonzan Henjyoji Temple made the presentation.

The Gresham-Troutdale Chapter awards were presented by Kazuo Kinoshita to: **Allison Onchi**, daughter of Dr. Raymond and Janice, student-body president at Gresham High; **Lisa Kakishita**, daughter of

Mark and Janet, Glencoe High; and **Danielle Della Selva**, daughter of Frank and Mariye Nishikawa, Douglas High.

Japanese Ancestral Society memorial scholarships presented by Sam Naito, president, were awarded to: **Aaron Kaneshige**, son of Wayne and Sukjin, Prairie High; **Tsuya Minamoto** memorial; **Joy Miyahira**, daughter of Harold and Priscilla, Tualatin High; **Satsuki Azumano** memorial; and **Masako Iwata**, daughter of Hideki and Yoko, Sunset High, Hide Naito memorial.

Alice Sumida presented the Nikkei Fujinkai scholarship to **Brian Sunada**, son of Frank and Karen, Wilson High. Dr. Al Ono gave the Terakawa-Tamura Memorial award to **Lisa Yoshida**, daughter of Jimmy and Mary, West Linn High, Oregon City swim team president.

Dr. Connie Masuoka, chapter president, awarded the Portland JACL scholarship to **Cecelia Tatsumi**, daughter of Harry and Noriko, Sunset High, who responded for the scholarship recipients. Aspiring to study medicine at the University of Oregon's Robert D. Clark Honors Graduate School, her re-

Clovis announces '95 scholarships

The Clovis Chapter, JACL, announces its 1995 scholarship recipients.

The chapter provides \$2,500 per year for scholarships for local high schools and membership at large.

Recipients, who each received \$500, are: **Stacie Hamamoto**, Edison High School, the Hy Ikeda Memorial Scholarship; **Lynne Yokota**, Hoover High School; **Jee Vang**, Clovis High School; **Lisa Nitta**, Clovis West High School; and **Haidee Hanamaikai**, Buchanan High School.

sponse was rendered in both Japanese and English, acknowledging the support of organizations and churches for a memorable program and the leadership of Al Abe and his community scholarship committee, which conducted individual interviews in the selection process.

Other scholarships went to: **Shokokai** of Portland: **Trisha Furukawa**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Furukawa, Tualatin High; **Veleda**, **Carol Fukasawa**, daughter of Paul and Linda of Aurora, an Oregonian

academic all-star from Canby High. Oregon Nisei Veterans: **Gregory Akagi**, son of Mike and Donna, Aloha High, a percussionist with Portland Youth Philharmonic which has toured Japan, Korea in '92 and Germany this summer, Jim Kida award; **Aaron Shannahan**, Ft. Vancouver High, the Kiyuta Ouchida award and the ONV Athletic Trophy; **Richard Fu**, son of Meicho and Miwako, Sunset High, Roger Okamoto award. **Jay Onchi**, son of Gary and Diane, Centennial High; **Kyle Oyama**, son of Terry and Kathleen, Hillsboro High; and **Jennifer Sunamoto**, daughter of Robert and Lynette, Lincoln High, captain of the state tennis team champions for two seasons.

The ONV Athletic Trophy was also presented to **Jeff Hirata**, Franklin High.

Roundup of chapter scholars

Washington, D.C.

Anthony Masaru Horos, Gaithersburg, Md., Wootton H.S., plans to attend Space Camp for future engineering students. A sophomore, he runs cross-country, plays baseball, the saxophone and has his own grass-cutting business.

Fresno

Chapter scholarship chair was

Photo: ELSIE TANIGUCHI



DANIEL SASAKI, Puyallup High School honors graduate and an engineer major at the University of Washington this fall, won the Puyallup Valley JACL 1995 scholarship. He is the son of Alvin and Donna Sasaki.

Judie Brown, president, Landmark Title Co.

Karah Domoto, daughter of Gary, Fresno-Edison H.S., considers her goal to be a clinical psychologist at a rehab clinic working with adolescent substance abusers or the mentally ill. She won a \$2,500 scholarship to attend UC, Berkeley, from a former JACL scholarship recipient who wishes

See SCHOLARS/page 11

Seattle highlights Curriculum Guide

By ELAINE AKAGI
Seattle Chapter, JACL

The Seattle Chapter sponsored a day-long workshop, geared for teachers, on the topic of the Japanese American Experience. The chapter's goal is to get JACL's curriculum guide out to teachers and help them to teach use it effectively.

The initial goal was to attract around 20 teachers, hoping that they would spread the word to their colleagues. The workshop, instead, attracted almost 50 individuals—not only teachers, but students and other interested parties.

The highlight of the day, was the appearance of Gordon Hirabayashi, who spoke to the group about his experiences in his struggle to have the United States overturn his guilty verdict of the 1940's. The audience was first shown the video, *A Personal Matter*, which chronicles Hira-

bayashi's struggle after he defied Executive Order 9066. After the video, Hirabayashi was able to focus on his most recent courtroom battle which found him "not guilty" and that the U.S. Constitution should have protected him during the time of war.

Cherry Kinoshita followed with a summary of the struggle for redress, sought by Japanese Americans and won in 1988. Kathy Hirose, a Seattle-area teacher, presented a lesson based on an individual's rights and one's protection by the Constitution. This lesson was geared for secondary teachers in the audience.

Following lunch, author Ken Mochizuki read from his latest, *Baseball Saved Us*. The story tells of a young boy in an internment camp.

Teresa Maeboori, National JACL Education Committee chairwoman, followed the reading with a lesson based on the story. This lesson was geared to elementary

and middle school teachers.

Sho Tokita then talked about the effect of an internment camp experience on his life. His presentation was similar to one he has given students in classrooms he's been invited to visit. It gave the teachers an idea of how a guest speaker could enhance a lesson.

This workshop was the idea of the committee chair, Sharon Klostermann. Her committee consisted of Don Maekawa, Michelle Ota and Elaine Akagi.

The workshop was six hours in length, including lunch, but could have been expanded to eight hours. The program was so full that there was little time for questions.

Attendees, in their written evaluation, praised the content, speakers and classroom materials. They especially said they appreciated the presentations by Hirabayashi, Mochizuki, Kinoshita and Maeboori.

which other chapters could learn.

Mace Ishida from Ohio has also dedicated himself to disseminating the guide and in presenting workshops in Ohio and in the Midwest. It is from the grassroots efforts such as Mace's and Al Hida's of Wisconsin that we can reach a larger audience. If there are educational workshops which should be mentioned, members should identify the time and place of these educational conferences.

Secondary lesson plans

The committee would also like to include more secondary lesson

plans about the internment in the third revision of the guide. Secondary school lesson plans that have been successfully created and taught should be sent to the Education Committee at National JACL Headquarters, attention: Teresa Maeboori.

In spite of all these efforts, there is still much work ahead. But the process has begun and we hope that everyone can take part in educating others about Japanese American history. Keys to this process are the individual chapters and their education committees. Please join us in this effort.

EDUCATION

(Continued from page 5)

JACL, organized and hosted a successful workshop for approximately 60 area educators (see story above). I was able to make a presentation for the elementary and middle school teachers and to assist the chapter in thinking through their program. The Seattle Chapter is to be commended for their work on education. Many hours were spent by dedicated volunteers in making an impact on the area teachers. It was a model workshop and one from



San Francisco scholar

Kimmy Jong, third from left, recently won a scholarship from the San Francisco Chapter, JACL. Members of the Scholarship Committee posing with the recipient are Gail Ideno, left, Kay Gamo, second from left, Sheryl Ishizaki, third from right, Susan Okada, second from right, and Greg Marutani, right.

SCHOLARS

(Continued from page 10)

to remain anonymous.

Jennifer Midori Yamamoto, daughter of Hiroshi and Sachiko [Y], Fresno-Hoover H.S., will attend Fresno City College and then transfer to UC Davis to major in microbiology. Long-term goal is "to work at prestigious facility to find vaccines for diseases and viruses, especially the AIDS virus." She was awarded the \$500 Miyahara/Kusakai scholarship.

Julie Nomura, daughter of Larry and M. Ellen [N], Fresno-Hoover H.S., was accepted as a pre-med student at both UC Davis and UC Riverside. She chose medicine because "of extreme fascination with the miracles of modern-day medicine and a genuine desire to help people." The No. 1 graduate in her class of 410 students, she won the \$2,000 Kimura scholarship that is distributed in \$500 increments.

Allan M. Tsuda, a 1976 Fresno-Edison H.S. alumnus who taught English conversation the past decade in Tokyo, returned to pursue legal studies at CSU-Fresno on two scholarships: the \$500 Henry Kazato Award and \$300 Sally Yabumoto Slocum Memorial Student Aid. His goal is to be a foreign service officer at the U.S. consulate in Tokyo. He and his wife Risako have a 14-month-old son

Alec Kaya.

Greater L.A. Singles

Phillis Nagatsuka, Venice H.S., entered Georgetown University to major in international relations. An exchange student to Turkey during her junior year, she has studied French and Russian and is "extremely interested in the study of different cultures and languages," according to chapter scholarship chair Chris Ishida. The chapter's \$1,000 award is in memory of Hana Uno Shepherd.

San Jose JACL

Ninescholarships were recently awarded by the chapter. Scholarship chairperson Coordinator: Sharon Uyeda; presenters: Newton Iwamura of S.J. Ninja Youth Club, Jeff Ota, John Hayakawa and Kathy Takeda, chapter v.p. of education. Awardees were:

John Tadashi Oshidari, son of Thomas and Teruye [O], Lynbrook H.S., \$2,000 Phil Matsumura Community scholarship. **Brent Seiji Izu**, son of Allen and Tonia [I], Piedmont Hills H.S., \$700 San Jose JACL. **Lori Shimonishi**, daughter of Warren and Rosie [S], Willow Glen Educational Park, \$700 San Jose JACL. **Deanna Emiko Lum**, daughter of Frank and Yoko [L], Independence H.S., \$500 San Jose Ninja Youth Club. **Steven Shinari Greenhouse**, son of Woodrow and

Louise [G], Mt. Pleasant H.S., \$500 San Jose Ninja Youth Club. **Reena Diane Prasad**, daughter of Nand and Etsuko [P], \$500 Ray/Lucy Matsumoto Business Scholarship. **Melissa Mikiko Chin**, daughter of Ronald and Marilyn [C], Santa Teresa H.S., \$300 Lanette Yoneko Hayakawa Memorial. **Scott Masaru Yoshikawa**, son of Robert and Phyllis [Y], Lynbrook H.S., \$300 YJA Scholarship. **Ryan Hayashida**, son of Vernon and Barbara [H], Del Mar H.S., \$200 Toshi H. Taketa Memorial.

Grand prize winner of the annual San Jose JACL-Union Bank-Hokubei Mainichi-sponsored Mental Arithmetic Contest for 5th and 6th graders was Stanford 6th grader **Andrew Wu**, who won the \$200 grand prize.

Forty-nine students competed in the one-hour contest, said Mark Kobayashi, event chair. Carl Fujita, chapter president, welcomed the students, parents and teachers.

Clovis Chapter

The 1995 scholarship recipients who each received \$500 are: Stacie Hamamoto, Edison High School, the Hy Ikeda Memorial Scholarship; Lynne Yokota, Hoover High; Jee Vang, Clovis High School; Lisa Nitta, Clovis West High School; and Haidee Hanamaikai, Buchanan High School.

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SIDEBAR

(Continued from page 9)

the sins of my kin. I hope that these tragic victims of sexual slavery—Chinese, Korean, Filipinas—get what they demand: reparations, an apology, punishment for the perpetrators and inclusion of the ugly episode in Japanese textbooks.

To their credit, a group of Japanese women demonstrated in support of these women.

They are amazing, everywhere visible, and vocal here, nearly 5,000 of them, second only in number to delegates from the U.S. They are conducting a number of workshops (nearly 70). From what I've seen, they seem to be in about the place U.S. women were, say, 10 years ago, tackling such issues as the need to abolish rigidly defined gender roles and improving conditions for more opportunities and equal pay for equal work and establishing quotas for women in politics. They talk a lot about the problems of the rapidly aging Japanese society. Since women comprise the majority of the aged and serve as the major caregivers, they bear the brunt of the burden. One solution, they say, is to find more separate housing for the elders. As one woman put it, "I would just like to live within a distance of my parents where I can take them a bowl of soup while it's still warm."

And this will gladden the hearts of Women's Concerns committee members back home: a Councilor, a woman from Saitama announced that she had appointed herself "Minister of Abolishing the Women-Only-Serving-Tea-Role". Another woman led a workshop and demonstration against beauty contests.

Does that sound familiar, or what?

Next time: China and analyses.

BOARD

(Continued from page 9)

contract at any time. It is a win/win situation.

8. American Express has donated more than \$30,000 to Asian American organizations in the last few years, just within the Twin Cities, Minn., area. I do not know the national figures, but I know the company supported many organizations which JACL works with closely. I have been instrumental in obtaining nearly \$20,000 in support from AEFA for JACL at the national, district, and local chapter level.

Finally, I am employed by American Express Financial Advisors as a manager in the Corporate Accounting Operations area of the Finance Department. I am not a marketing person. I do not earn any commissions, nor will I receive any monetary benefit from this agreement should JACL proceed with it. I do agree that because of the "perceived" conflict of interest, I will abstain from voting on any resolutions which come before the JACL National Board in regard to this matter.

I am convinced that American Express Financial Advisors Inc., a national organization with offices in all major cities, many rural areas, Hawaii and Alaska, is a prime vehicle to carry forward this concept with our geographically diverse membership in an organized, up-to-date and consistent manner.

If you wish to discuss the proposal feel free to write me or call Robin Morishita at (310) 543-9994.

BOOKS

(Continued from page 7)

advertised for returning veterans

were not available to them. The names of 16 Japanese American soldiers were removed from an American Legion county war memorial in Hood River, Ore. No matter what the sacrifice, there remained Americans who refused to make a distinction between Japanese Americans and the enemy Japanese.

Over time, however, the impact of the 100th/442nd has grown and these veterans have gone on to make significant contributions to America in other ways as well. Sparky Matsunaga of the 100th Battalion and Dan Inouye of the 442nd, to name just two, became U.S. senators from the state of Hawaii. Statehood for Hawaii, with its large Japanese American population, had been hastened in large measure in recognition of the contributions of the 100th/442nd.

MINETA

(Continued from page 1)

toes the line. If you want to 'morph' [House Speaker Newt] Gingrich, then I guess Tom Campbell would be the person," said Mineta.

He encouraged Democrats to work together, rather than fight among themselves for the seat.

Mineta's final days in Congress have been filled with congratulatory receptions and staff farewell parties. In September, Mineta's official portrait was unveiled in a House office building.

The portrait, which the *Mercury News* described as "unconventional," includes a depiction of Heart Mountain, where Mineta was interned with his family during the war.


"I'm going to miss this place because I love helping people," said Mineta. "I've been the victim of a hurt by my government and I've seen where government can help."

DEATH NOTICE

SHIZUE LILLIAN AMEMIYA
Shizue Lillian Amemiya, 83, resident of Gardena, passed away on Oct. 5. She is survived by children, Margie Masue Amemiya Furuya and Marlene; gc, Glen Furuya, Corinne and Bill Holzer; ggc, Shanna and Briana Holzer.

DEATH NOTICE

ICHIRO OKADA
Ichiro Okada, 78, Dinuba, Calif., passed away Oct. 5 at Alta District Hospital in Dinuba. He was born in Los Angeles. He is survived by daughters, Doris (Congressman Robert Matsui, Lois Okada and Karen (Tom) Callahan; brother George (Masako) Okada and two grandchildren, Brian Matsui and Sophia Callahan. Funeral service was held on Oct. 9 at the Dinuba Buddhist Church.

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Pacific Southwest District

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FAX: (213) 626-4282
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Washington, D.C. Office

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