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Redress for
Railroaders
See p. 9

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FEB. 21-MARCH 6, 1997

Congresswoman Mink introduces expedited naturalization bill

WASHINGTON — Alarmed by the recently implemented federal welfare reform laws that cut needed benefits to legal immigrants, Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink (D-Hawaii) introduced an expedited citizenship bill, HR 574, on Feb. 4.

Mink is asking congress to speed up the naturalization process for four categories of legal immigrants:

- Persons who have lived in the United States for at least 20 years.
- Persons who have worked in the U.S. and paid Social Security taxes for a minimum of 40 quarters.
- Persons who are at least 70 years old and have resided in the U.S. legally for no less than 5 years.
- U.S. veterans who received an honorable discharge.

The bill would help speed up the long waiting period most applicants encounter by allowing persons from the above categories to forego literacy and civic tests. But requirements such as "good moral character," "attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States," and "well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States" would remain. HR 574 was introduced to com-



CONGRESSWOMAN MINK

bat the anti-immigrant sentiment in Congress, embodied in the immigration reform and welfare reform bills passed last year.

"Elderly non-citizens, those who fought for our country, and those who have worked or lived in the U.S. for a substantial period of time, applying for naturalization, have shown dedication to this country and a clear desire to become American citizens," said Congresswoman Mink. "Their patriotism and loyalty to the U.S. should be rewarded rather than hindered by delays in the naturalization process." ■

JACL and Little Tokyo Service Center to host citizenship workshops

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant Editor

LOS ANGELES — More than 100 Japanese Americans have signed up for the citizenship workshops set up by JACL Pacific Southwest District and downtown Los Angeles' Little Tokyo Service Center as recently passed federal welfare reform laws threaten to cut off much-needed benefits.

Many Japanese Americans don't realize that a number of people in their community are affected by these cuts, explains Al Muratsuchi, PSWD regional director. "There's a real sense of urgency. We've received between five and ten calls every day in the last couple of weeks," he says.

If they don't become U.S. citizens by August of this year, most legal immigrants will lose their Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and become ineligible for food stamps. SSI is a federally-funded program that helps the poor, elderly, disabled, or blind. Federal authorities estimate that approximately 220,000 legal immigrants living in California will have their benefits cut in the summer.

Each citizenship workshop can accommodate up to approximately 60 people. The first workshop took place on Feb. 8 and filled up within a few days, says Muratsuchi. Currently, there is a waiting list of more than 100 and the next workshop will be held March 1, in the West Los Angeles, Venice-Culver City area.

The majority of people who've called the PSWD office are elderly Issei women with little command

of the English language, — persons who have been living in the United States for a number of years but never felt compelled to get their U.S. citizenship, explains Muratsuchi. "They're rushing to our offices because they're fearful of being punished, of the anti-immigrant climate in Congress."

"I feel for these people," says Alice Ishigame of Little Tokyo Service Center, project coordinator of the workshops. "It's a real heart-break. They don't want to give up their Japanese citizenship. A lot of them came here when times were bad," she explains. "But when times were good they put money into the system. Now that it's bad again, they're being punished."

Ishigame is saddened that very few politicians have spoken out against these welfare reform laws. "There's not enough political voice against this whole thing. A lot of people are unwilling to risk political suicide to stop this," she says.

Alex Fukui is a bilingual Nisei lawyer and a PSWD executive board member who's volunteering his time at the citizenship workshops. "I felt compelled to help people who can't help themselves," he explains.

Fukui's mother is a legal immigrant who's been living and working in the United States for more than 30 years. She's currently applying to become a U.S. citizen to make sure she gets her benefits once she retires. "I think she's worked hard and has earned her right to earn benefits," adds Fukui.

Muratsuchi stresses that the Issei need the workshops now. Even if they fill out the citizenship

application forms immediately, it will take about six months to get an interview, he says. If they pass the interview, another three to six months will go by before their swearing-in ceremony. Thus, it could take up to a year before they become U.S. citizens.

He wants the various JACL chapters in PSWD to help set up citizenship workshops around the Los Angeles area. "I hope our chapters will rise up to the challenge and help many of these Issei who are trying to get citizenship," he says.

Each chapter would need between six and ten volunteers and a designated area for the venue. Volunteers would help fill out citizenship forms and perform various administrative duties. So far, the Venice-Culver, West Los Angeles, Selanuco, South Bay, San Gabriel Valley, and APAN chapters have agreed to sponsor workshops.

In addition to the workshops, Muratsuchi urges people to write letters to President Clinton demanding benefits be restored to legal immigrants. "A lot of people don't distinguish between legal and illegal immigrants... people who came here seeking a better life," he says.

"I think it's in JACL's tradition to promote U.S. citizenship, to defend immigrants' rights," adds Muratsuchi. "And to speak out against the anti-Asian sentiment in Congress."

For more information about the citizenship campaign, call the PSWD office 213/626-4471. ■

ORA must close its door by law on Aug. 10, 1998

By BOB SAKINAWA
and PATTY WADA
(Special to the Pacific Citizen)

The Civil Liberties Act was signed into law on Aug. 10, 1988, by President Ronald Reagan. Out of that Act, the Office of Redress Administration (ORA) was established and given the task of identifying and locating all potentially

Staff of the ORA are also willing to attend internment camp reunions, conferences and community events in order to locate as many people as possible. Those chapters sponsoring programs with a large Japanese American turnout should consider inviting an ORA staffperson to attend.

Redress Categories

A summary of the various redress categories. See REDRESS/page 10

Clinton nominates Judge Ishii to federal bench

WASHINGTON—President Clinton, accepting Sen. Barbara Boxer's recommendation, will present Anthony Ishii, 49, of Fresno to the Senate Judiciary Committee for confirmation as judge to the federal court district.

A municipal court judge for the Central Valley District in Fresno, Ishii is being nominated for an opening on California's Eastern District Court. An active JACL member, a doctor of pharmacy and a 1973 graduate of UC Berkeley Boalt Hall, he was in private practice until appointed in 1983 to the Parlier-Selma Judicial District bench. He also served as deputy city attorney in Sacramento, deputy public defender in Fresno County, the California Judicial Council and its committee on the administration of justice on rural counties. ■

Hapa issues attract JACL chapter's attention

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant editor

Hapa, Amerasian, multiracial, or multicultural? They haven't decided on a name yet, but there's a new group in Southern California devoted to this segment of the Asian American community.

The group is currently using the name Marina/SCAN Hapa, explains Wayne Nagata, president of the Marina Chapter JACL and one of the group's founders. "We're just forming," he says. "Hopefully it will be a place to network initially and to meet people of similar backgrounds."

Approximately 20 people attended the first meeting on Feb. 6 at Burton Chace Park, Marina del Rey. Most of the participants were young people although a few families were also in attendance.

Nagata sees a real need for a

See HAPA/page 10



© JEM LEW: PHOTO

Marina/SCAN Hapa founders from left: Jeff Yoshimi, Wayne Nagata, and Steven Ropp pose at the group's first meeting in early February.

A Redress Update

eligible individuals entitled to an apology and redress/reparations. Thus far, redress payments have been issued to 89,178 recipients, and ORA reports it has sufficient funds remaining to pay an additional 2,072 individuals. However, ORA announced it is still seeking the whereabouts of 3,100 individuals who have not contacted their offices as listed in War Relocation Authority (WRA) records.

With ORA scheduled to close its doors on Aug. 10, 1998, and bring the 10-year program to a close, it is critical that as many individuals as possible are located. ORA will be unable to receive or process any claims submitted after that date.

In its efforts to do outreach, the ORA has published a list of those people being sought. The list has been printed in both booklet form and on poster-size sheets of paper for chapters to display at their events. Anyone wishing to check the list or use the posters may contact JACL Headquarters at 415/921-5225.

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Pacific Citizen

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Thanks to the generosity of PC cartoonist, Pete Hironaka of Dayton JACL, the first 100 who contribute \$100 or more to support the Pacific Citizen will receive a signed full-colored lithographed poster, "Issei". It measures 21x28 inches.

JACL calendar

ATTENTION: All calendar items—JACL and Community—will be contained on this one page as far as possible. TIME-VALUE is the chief consideration.

Eastern

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sat. April 5—EDC Quarterly Session, 10 a.m., Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, 2nd and Walnut Sts.; Host: Philadelphia JACL, info: Grayce Uyehara, 609/654-3685.
PHILADELPHIA
Sat. April 5—50th anniversary Installation, 6 p.m., Happy hour & exhibit, 7 p.m. dinner, Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, 2nd and Walnut Sts., info: G. Uyehara 609/654-3685.

Midwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL (Date/site change)

Fri.-Sun., March 14-16—Spring MDC session, Sheraton Plaza Hotel, St. Louis; info: Irma Yokota, 314/921-7933.
ST. LOUIS

CLEVELAND

Sat. March 1—Entry deadline for Cleveland JACL directory, contact for forms: Charlotte Furukawa, 2720 Bramblewood Dr., Broadview Hts., OH 44147. NOTE—Fall publication.

ST. LOUIS

Fri.-Sun., March 14-16—Host: Spring MDC session, Sheraton Plaza Hotel, St. Louis; info: Irma Yokota, 314/921-7933.

TWIN CITIES

Sat. April 5—Chapter's 50th Anniversary celebration, info: Lynn Yamazaki, 403 Totem Rd., St. Paul, MN 55119, 612/735-6124.

NOTE—Docutech (rather than photocopy) old photos for exhibit.

Mountain Plains

HOUSTON

Sat. April 12—Houston Capers XII golf tournament/first annual 72-hole medal play, George Sakaguchi Memorial, TPC Golf Course (home of the PGA Shell Houston Open), info: Mas Yamazaki, 16402 Farnell Court, Spring, TX 77379, 713/370-1503.

OMAHA

Sat.-Mon., May 3-5—50th Anniversary

Celebration, Best Western Renaissance Hotel, info: Sharon Ishii Jordan, 402/397-3443.

Intermountain

NATIONAL JACL

Fri.-Sun., Oct. 13—Fiftieth anniversary 1000 Club celebration, Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, Nev., info: Hid Hasegawa, Idaho Falls 208/529-1525.

NCal-WN-Pacific

RENO info: Cynthia Lu 702/827-6385.

Thu. Feb. 27—Diversity Exhibit reception, 6 p.m., Nevada State Library, 100 N. Stewart, Carson City.
Sun. March 16—Potluck dinner fundraiser, noon-4 p.m., Washoe County Senior Center, 9th & Sutor.

SACRAMENTO

Sat. Feb. 22—Day of Remembrance 1997, 6 p.m., potluck supper, 7 p.m. program, Japanese United Methodist Church, 5629 Franklin Blvd., info: 916/447-0231.

SEQUEIA

Sat. Feb. 22—Crab & spaghetti feed, 4:30 p.m., Palo Alto Buddhist Hall, info: Mike Kaku 408/985-2747.

Central California

TRI-DISTRICT/CCDC

Fri.-Sun., June 6-8—CCDC hosts: Tri-District PSW/NCNCPW Conference, Stardust Hotel-Casino, Las Vegas; info: Patricia Tsai, CCDC director 209/486-6815. NOTE—For "JACL Group 697" room reservations 800/634-6757.

Pacific Southwest

NATIONAL JACL

Thu.-Sun., March 20-23—National JACL board and staff meeting, JACC 2nd floor conference room, 244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles; info: Natli HQ 415/921-5225. NOTE—Thu.: Staff retreat: Fri.: 9 a.m. Committees, 2-5 p.m.; Board, Sat.: 9-5; Board, Sun.: 10 a.m.-noon. Fri.-Sun., June 20-22—Natli JACL Youth Conference, UC Irvine (site under consideration), Natli HQ 415/921-5225.

Community calendar

Eastern

NEW YORK

Sat. March 1—Day of Remembrance, 1 p.m. Japanese American United Church, 255 Seventh Ave., potluck luncheon follows, info: Mike Ishii 718/857-2392, Julie Azuma, 212/807-8104, Cyril Nishimoto 212/255-1881, Leslie Inaba Wong 212/964-6226.

PHILADELPHIA

Sat. March 1—Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia/JACL film discussion, "Doubles: Japan and America's Intercultural Children," 1:30 p.m., Philadelphia Senior Center, 509 S. Broad St., info: Catherine Nagel, 215/675-2200.
Sun. March 2-9—Phila. "Rokkaku" Flower Show, Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, info: 610/617-9510.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Sun. March 10—Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation White House Fellowship application deadline. Forms: Helen Fries, Office of Forensic Medical Advisory Service, 11300 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, 301/984-6180, fax 202/70-1423. NOTE—A five-month fellowship: April 1—Sept. 1, with a \$7,500 stipend.

Midwest

CHICAGO

Ending March 6—Smithsonian's "A More Perfect Union" travel exhibit, Harold Washington Library, info: Sam Ozaki, 773/743-3617; Ross Hirano, 312/467-0623. NOTE: March 2—Resettlement of Japanese Americans in Chicago, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Dr. Setsuko Nishi, speaker.

WISCONSIN

Wed. March 19-23—25th annual National Association for Ethnic Studies conference, "Ethnicity: Retrospectives and Prospectives," Radisson Hotel La Crosse, info: UW-La Crosse 608/785-6500. NOTE—Keynote speaker, Dr. Ronald Takaki, UC Berkeley.

The Rockies

DENVER

Sat. March 1—Joint J.A. Kai-JACL Spring

Event, 5 p.m., 1720 S. Elkhart St., Denver, info: Dr. Frank Sakamoto, 303/694-4790.
Tue., May 6—Asian-Pacific Women's Network of Colorado "Silk Wings" awards luncheon, St. Cajetan's Church, on the Auraria campus, info: Betty Inouye, 303/857-4494.
Thu.-Sat., Sept. 11-13—MIS-Rocky Mountain reunion, Renaissance Hotel, 2801 Quebec St. info: Sus Hida 303/986-3215, MIS Reunion 1997, PO Box 1319, Denver, CO 80201-1319.

Arizona

PHOENIX

Sat., March 22—Dedication of Replica of Flag-raising at Wajima monument by Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post at Ira H. Hayes Memorial Park, Sacaton; info: Sara Bernal, Box 667, Sacaton 85247, 520/662-4024, Joe Aliman, 602/942-2832.

Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Mon.-Wed. April 21-22—Fri. Sam Houston A.J.A. veterans reunion, Fitzgerald's Hotel, RSVP by Feb. 15, Nora Hatay, 1136 Carleton St., Berkeley CA 94702; 510/845-6878. NOTE—Harry Honda, spkr.

LAS VEGAS-GILA RIVER

Fri.-Sun., June 6-8—Fun reunion, 6 p.m. Friday reception, Sat. golf and banquet; info: Ben Tonooka, Chico Masai, 2161 W. 182nd St. #101, Torrance, CA 90505.

LAS VEGAS-HEART MOUNTAIN

Fri.-Sun., Sept. 26-28—Reunion VI, Plaza Hotel, info: Ask for former internees who have never attended a previous Reunion: Bacon Sakatani, 210 N. Shady Lane Ave., West Covina, CA 91790, 818/338-8310.

LAUGHLIN-POSTONVILLE

Mon.-Wed., April 7-9—Poston Camp 3 Reunion VII, NOTE—To be on mailing list, write Poston 3 Reunion VII, 26807 S. Rolling Vista Dr., Lomita, CA 90717.

Northern Cal

BERKELEY

Sat.-Sun., March 7-8—Asian American

NOTE—Warren Furutani, keynote speaker.

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Thu. Feb. 27—Japanese Latin American send-off party, 6:30 p.m., Don Felix Peruvian Restaurant, 4435 Fountain Ave., RSVP JACL Office 213/626-4471. NOTE—Co-sponsors NCRJ, Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project, ACJU of Southern California.

Sun., May 6—2nd quarterly session, Willow Street Center, 4101 E. Willow St., Long Beach; info: 213/626-4471. NOTE—Greater L.A. Singles host.

ARIZONA

Sat. March 2—Arizona JACL Credit Union annual dinner, 5 p.m., JACL Hall, info: 931-1985 (Mon-Thu 7-9 p.m.).

Sun. April 27—Scholarship awards banquet, 1 p.m., Embassy Suites, Phoenix, 2630 E. Camelback Rd., info: Kathy Inoshita, 602/937-5434.

SANFERNANDO VALLEY

Sunday, Feb. 23—Luncheon meeting, Japanese Latin American address, 1 p.m., West Valley Methodist Church, 10824 Topanga Canyon Bl., info: Phil Shigekuni, 818/693-1591.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Important: JACL membership is required to be considered for a JACL scholarship. Membership must be held by applicant or the applicant's parents; only extended ties do not qualify. Applicant must also be planning to be or be enrolled in a college, trade/business school, etc., in the fall of 1997. Inquire about Student Membership.

For application forms, applicants should write to National JACL Headquarters for the appropriate application; enclose a self-addressed stamped (32¢) 10 envelope. General deadlines with postmarks no later than the particular date cited are: (1) March 1, 1997: Entering Freshman (high school grads) applications to a JACL chapter scholarship committee; (2) April 1, 1997: All other applications with supporting documents. Awards are to be announced July 1, 1997. ■

Theater Co. program, La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., box office 510/849-2568. NOTE—Diana Sori's "RAW" (Cause I'm a Woman), Yongsong Park's "Five Countries," and Takeda's comedy sketch "Kitty Hashimoto."

Sat. March 22—UC Berkeley Japanese Women Alumni Luncheon reunion, 11 a.m., Holiday Inn, Emeryville; RSVP, info: JWAUCB, 2332 California St., Berkeley CA 94704, 415/848-5362. NOTE—London Broll or Salmon entries must be ordered in advance. Dr. Naomi Nakashima (60 UCSF), retired chief of pediatrics at Kaiser South San Francisco, guest speaker.

SACRAMENTO

Sat. March 8—Tsubaki Dance Club's 14th annual spring party, 7:30-11:30 p.m., Scottish Rite Masonic Hall, 6151 H St., Tickets from Steve Egri 916/427-2757, Doug Fong 381-7596, Tom Tokuhisa 966-1723, Don Iyeki 707/488-2563.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sun. March 2—Nisei Widowed Group, 2-4 p.m., info: Elsie Uyeda chong 415/221-0268, Kay Yamamoto 510/444-3911.
Sat. March 8—"Pat Suzuki Returns" benefit concert, 7:30 p.m., Alcazar Theater, info: Nihonmachi Legal Outreach, 415/567-6255.

Ending March 23—"Four Centuries of Fashion: Classical kimono from Kyoto Nat'l Museum," 9:30-5, Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Pk., info: 415/378-8801.

SAN JOSE

Fri. March 7—Yu-ai Kai JACS "Dream the Future" Community Recognition dinner, Fairmont Hotel, info: 408/294-2505.

Through March 13—Yu-ai Kai JACS Watercolor Painting classes, 10-11:30 a.m., info: 408/294-2505.

Fri.-Sat., March 21-22—San Jose Talker concert, 2 and 8 p.m., Loui B. Mayer Theater, Santa Clara University, Franklin and Lafayette Sts., Santa Clara; box office: 408/392-4400, info: NAL 415/567-6255.

Southern Cal

GARDENA-MINIDOKA

Sun. July 27—Minidoka Camp reunion,

See COMMUNITY/page 4

Small kid time



Gwen Muranaka

JACL views



Words from Herb

By HERBERT YAMANISHI

Remembering Executive Order 9066

On February 19, 1942, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. It was the document that not only changed the course of life for Americans of Japanese ancestry, it is a symbol of official permission for government to violate American citizen's constitutional rights. To this day, the question of constitutionality of the Order still remains. There may be a day when the issue of the constitutionality of the Order can be brought before the U.S. Supreme Court. Until that time, the JACL's responsibility is to continue to educate the American public about Executive Order 9066 - how it came about and how it impacted not only the quality of life of Americans of Japanese ancestry but the standards by which we measure democracy in America and around the world. Across the United States, at least 14 JACL chapters observed a "Day of Remembrance" to commemorate the signing of Executive Order 9066.

Programs for Chapters

We are sending to recently installed chapter presidents, the new revised JACL Curriculum and Resource Guide - "A Lesson in Ameri-

can History: The Japanese American Experience." Chapters that do not have one are encouraged to develop an Education Committee. The committee is a very useful vehicle for developing local strategies for distribution of the guide. National JACL has also submitted two proposals to the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund to develop more educational materials about the internment and redress experiences. Should either proposal be approved, National JACL will be able to be much more proactive in its efforts to educate the American public and to assist chapters.

The guide is now available for sale at \$15 per copy. Quantity orders of five or more are charged \$10 per copy. This is a great opportunity for chapters looking for a project that can involve young people and the community.

The other program supported by the National JACL is about financial planning. Workshops about the subject of financial planning are presented by professionals from American Express Financial.

National JACL has an agreement with the company to conduct the workshops for chapters at no charge. Chapters sponsoring the sessions

will receive, from National Headquarters, three dollars for every person enrolling in the session. The sessions cover a variety of topics including planned giving, preparation for retirement, estate planning, etc. There is no obligation to use American Express Financial services or to contribute to the National JACL. Chapters will be receiving more information, including sponsorship information, in the next few weeks.

Staff Update

The newest person coming to the JACL Headquarters is Donna Okubo. She will be in charge of the membership and fund raising programs. Donna comes to the JACL with substantial experience in both membership administration and fund-raising. She will officially start at the JACL on March 13. In the meantime, Dairdre Howard is doing double duty keeping the membership responsibilities on track. ■

National JACL Director Herbert Yamanishi writes from San Francisco.

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IN REMEMBRANCE

By Dr. Mitsuo Miura

This is my story, from a faraway place,
And because of what had happened, it can
never lose its trace.

This is my story, which continues to come
from out of the past;

This is my story, and there are so many
who appear in the vivid cast.

This is my story of all those who were there,
yet remained so brave and
unflinching true;

This is my story, and this is my praise,
to all who were there, who will continue to
be in bright and shining view.

By the Board

By KAREN-LIANE SHIBA

New membership administrator coming on board

It's hard to believe that so much has happened since the August Convention. We've concluded our end of the year membership drive that resulted in boosting our membership numbers! THANK YOU to all who participated in recruiting and joining! Due to the departure of Amy Yamashiro in December, I have been unable to coordinate the winners' drawings and unable to tally the numbers as yet. I shall be working with our new Membership Administrator to calculate and publish the results of the drive and drawings when she joins us at the National Office in March.

A belated thank you to Amy Yamashiro for the hard work she put in on rebuilding the membership database. Many thanks also to Tomiko, volunteers and staff at National who have worked (and continue to work) in the Membership Department inputting data, helping with the mailings, answering phones and just filling in and keeping us going!

More Good News Department:

1. As I mentioned earlier, a new Membership/Fund Raiser Administrator, Donna Okubo, will be coming on board in mid-March. Let's all make Donna feel welcome and please give her some time to get familiar with us!

Donna comes to us from the Tech Museum of Innovation in San Jose and brings to JACL her expertise in membership development and valuable fund-raising skills.

2. I've been hearing exciting news about people becoming involved in recruiting new members by revisiting old, tried and true methods as well as inventing new ideas.

Dr. Frank Sakamoto continues to work hard on rejuvenating chapters and developing membership programs.

Mas Hironaka is sharing his wisdom and ideas with me to help

develop ways of increasing 1000 Club and Life memberships.

News of Floyd & Irene Mori's wonderful insights and ideas have reached me and I'm looking forward to capturing their successful programs in a form that can easily be shared with all the JACL Chapters. Anyone wishing to join the Membership Development Team or has ideas to share with me should leave me a message at home: 714-220-1549 or e-mail me at: EBSHiba@CompuServe.com.

3. The preliminary 1996 year-end membership numbers are up! Both membership numbers and dollars received rose during the last quarter of the year for a total of about 23,000 members.

4. Membership payments were very strong for January 1997! (For the same time period, 1997 membership payments received exceeded those received in 1996 by 647 payments.) Let's keep up the momentum and we'll be sure to exceed our goal for increasing our membership!

Upcoming Events Department:

I've been invited to and am planning on attending the following events - I hope to see many of you at these events!

1. CCDC/CNWNPD/PSW Tri-District Conference - Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, June 6-8, 1997.

2. National Youth/Student Conference - University of California, Irvine, June 20-22, 1997. Pre-registration (before May) \$50 fee includes 2 nights stay, all meals and the conference! Young-at-heart of ALL ages are welcome! JACL Chapter discounts available. Contact National Headquarters for more info.

3. 50th Anniversary of the 1000 Club. Reunion Chair Hid Hasegawa has exciting plans in the works for October 10-12 at Cactus Jack's in Jackpot, Nevada. Mark your calendar and plan to be there for lots of

fun ("Order of the Tie and Garter-type" celebration), Golf Tournament scheduled. Keep reading the PC for more details and registration information.

New Expiration System:

Many items on my agenda for 1997 focus on outreach to existing and new members by developing new membership contests and increasing communication and assistance to chapters in their recruitment efforts.

I shall be working with Donna and the National Board to convert from the Anniversary Date renewal system to the Annual renewal date system (due to take effect in Spring 1998). We will be setting up a pro-rated structure for those members whose memberships are renewed in the proposed nine month changeover period.

Other projects include (but are not limited to): continuing reevaluation of membership needs and benefits, continuing investigations of new benefits for members (e.g., reactivating a travel program) and continuing monitoring the health insurance situation.

I urge all JACL members to take advantage of the existing benefits such as subscribing to A Magazine (a part of each subscription comes to the JACL) and participating in the American Express/JACL financial planning workshops (very informational and no obligation to attend). Participants and JACL all win when members use their benefits!

Again, many thanks to all of you who participated in the membership drive and for those who did not get the chance to participate, another chance will come in the near future! Let's all keep the JACL's momentum going! ■

Karen Liane Shiba is National V.P. for 1000 Club and Membership Services.

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PSW district council meets in Arizona to focus on civil rights, welfare reform, youth leadership

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant Editor

PHOENIX—Defending civil rights and encouraging youth leadership were the pressing topics at the PSWD quarterly session on Feb. 8, hosted by the Arizona Chapter JACL and sponsored by the Phoenix & Valley of the Sun Convention & Visitors Bureau at the Phoenix Inn.

The devastating effects of the recently implemented federal welfare reform laws are being felt by the Japanese American community said PSWD Regional Director, Al Muratsuchi. The PSWD office in Little Tokyo Los Angeles has been flooded with calls from worried Shin-Issei (postwar immigrants from Japan).

"These are people who've been working in the community for years...nice, elderly Japanese Americans," said Muratsuchi. "They're fearful of being punished, of the anti-immigrant climate in congress." Unfortunately, many Issei never felt compelled to get their U.S. citizenship and could therefore lose their benefits, he explained.

The JACL is currently working with Little Tokyo Service Center, setting up citizenship workshops for these elderly Issei. Muratsuchi is requesting interested chapters to recruit between 5 to 10 volunteers and designate a venue for the workshops. For more information: call the PSWD office, 213/626-4471.

For many Japanese Americans, 1988 signalled the end in a long-fought battle to receive redress. But for Japanese from Latin America the struggle continues. Though they too were interned by the United States government during WWII, they have yet to see a dime.

And time is running out. In less than a year, the Office of Redress Administration will close its doors, no longer accepting new cases. JACL, along with the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations, American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, and the Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project, have formed "Campaign For Justice," fighting to ensure that every Japanese Latin Ameri-

can interned during WWII receives reparations.

They are currently conducting a letter-writing campaign. Gary Mayeda, JACL National Vice President for Planning and Development, wants to collect 2,264 signed letters. "We want one letter for each individual abducted during the war," he said. The letters will be brought to the White House in early March. A copy of the letter was published by the P.C. (Jan. 24-Feb. 6, p.3) in Muratsuchi's column, *What's happenin' in PSW*.

The campaign against Proposition 209 by JACL and other Asian groups was a success, said Ron Osajima, PSWD vice-governor. JACL held educational debates in Southern California, raised money for ads, and conducted a telephone campaign, encouraging JACLers to vote against the anti-affirmative action initiative. Though the proposition passed, the campaign conducted by various Asian groups managed to narrow the gap between the "yes" and "no" votes, explained Osajima.

"In general, we're very happy with the effort put forward last year," he said. "When JACL sees something important, it galvanizes and puts the effort forward." Prop. 209 has yet to be enforced, pending further court action.

The Arizona Chapter JACL, has been working hard to fight hate crime, and their efforts are producing results. As of March 1, the Phoenix Police Department will have a hate crimes unit called the "Bias Crimes Investigations Squad." On Feb. 5 a bill called the "Aggravating Circumstances Bill HB-2182" was approved by the state's House Judiciary Committee.

With this bill courts will be able to give longer sentences for felons motivated by bigotry. HB-2182 also allows courts to consider as an aggravating circumstance any crime where the defendant purposefully chose their victim because of race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or ancestry.

"We've just begun the fight to pass this bill," said Joe Allman, vice president of the Arizona Chap-

ter JACL and member of the Arizona Hate Crimes Task Force. It could be months before the bill becomes law. HB-2182 will now go before the House Rules Committee and must then be approved by various committees in the Senate before it goes before the governor, he explained.

Chapters around the nation worry about the lack of youth interest and leadership in JACL. But now there's an opportunity to help change that. The JACL National Youth/Student Council is holding its annual youth conference, "Leading Into the Future," on June 20-22 at the University of California, Irvine.

The \$50 registration fee includes the conference, two nights' stay and meals.

"We're trying to get chapters to send as many people as they can," says PSWD Youth/Student Representative Kent Kawai, who hopes to have 300 to 400 attend.

Chapters have to keep in mind that those who attend the youth conference don't have to be JACL members. Gary Mayeda, former National Youth/Student Council Representative for the PC Editorial Board pointed out. Recruiting students from the local high

schools and colleges is a great way to arouse interest in JACL, he said.

To show its commitment to the youth, the PSWD donated \$1,000 to the National JACL youth conference. "It's great that PSWD is putting out the effort to show support for the youth," said Kawai. The money will be used to sponsor the Vision Award Luncheon that will take place during the June Conference. Chapters who wish to make a contribution should forward checks to Carol Saito, PSWD office.

Developing youth leadership in JACL is an ongoing commitment. For this year's Washington D.C. Leadership Conference the PSWD has chosen Michael Matsuda of SELANOCO and Erica Isono of the South Bay Chapter. Applications for the Sacramento Leadership Conference in April will be distributed to the chapters shortly, Muratsuchi said.

The third edition of JACL's resource guide, "A Lesson in American History: The Japanese American Experience," was recently released by the National JACL Education Committee.

Fifteen hundred copies were printed and each chapter will re-

ceive a complimentary copy, if their new active chapter roster has been sent to National Headquarters, said Carol Kawamoto, PSW Education Committee member.

Chapters should take the guides to local schools so they can be used as an educational tool. They can be used in schools from kindergarten all the way to grade 12, explained Kawamoto.

New board appointments were announced by PSWD governor David Kawamoto. Lissa Ishiue becomes the new PSWD treasurer and also the PSWD trust fund treasurer. Ishiue is the former governor of PNWD. Ken Inouye becomes the newest member of the PSWD executive board.

It was a good year for JACL. After years of membership decline, 1996 saw an increase from about 22,000 members to over 23,000, Muratsuchi reported.

JACL also had a budget surplus in '96 of more than \$100,000 which was largely due to the increase in membership dues and annual giving, he explained.

The next quarterly PSWD meeting will be held Sunday, May 18, at the Willow Street Center, 4101 E. Willow St., Long Beach. ■

COMMUNITY

(Continued from page 2)

"Sharing Memories" luncheon. Sea Empress Seafood Restaurant. Info: Betty Yamashita/Endo 213-5279, Toshi Shoji to 909/861-9676.

LOS ANGELES
Sat. March 1—Book reading: John N. Tsuchida's "Reflections: Memoirs of Japanese American Women in Minnesota." 1-3 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. 1st St., info: 213/625-0414.

Sat. March 1—East San Gabriel Valley JCC benefit dance, 7:30-11:30, Center gym, 1203 W. Puente Ave., West Covina. Info: Toshi Ito 909/861-9676, Barbara Shiota 818/610-1509. NOTE—Music by Dr. Howard Sato.

Thu. March 6—Three Farewells to Manzanar. Letters from Camp Exhibit Series, 7-8:30 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. 1st St., info: 213/625-0414. NOTE—Jeff Burton, NPS archeologist, speaker; slide show by Sue Embley.

Sat. March 8—West Covina Buddhist Temple "Oldies, Part II" dance, 8 p.m.-12:30, ESQVJCC. Info: Joanne 818/2184-8192, Ross 909/595-6183, Frank 714/890-

1776.

Sat. March 9—40th anniversary judo tournament, Mt. San Antonio College. Info: Sensei Aki Yokoyama 818/331-9714 or 960-2566 for registration forms at West Covina Judo Dojo, 1203 E. Puente Ave., West Covina.

Thu. March 13—East/West Players Writers Gallery series, 7-8 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. 1st St., info: 213/625-0414. NOTE—"Slants" by Hiro Kanagawa.

Sat. March 15—Book reading: Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, 1-3 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. 1st St., info: 213/625-0414.

Thu. March 27—Kona Coffee House: songs and rhythms of Hawaii, 7-8 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. 1st St., info: 213/625-0414; NOTE—Alina O. Kaleponi Hawaiian Civic Club entertainers. **Fri. March 28**—Hawaii Children's Chorus from Japan, 7-8 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. 1st St., info: 213/625-0414.

LOS ANGELES-MANZANAR
Sat. April 26—Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage, 200 miles north of Los Angeles on US 395, info: Manzanar Committee, 213/662-5102.

TORRANCE-POSTON I
Fri. Sun., Oct. 24-26—55th Year reunion, Torrance Marriott Hotel, info: Shiz Tanaka-Fujimoto 714/540-4948, Mary Kinoshita-Higashi 310/832-6303, Nancy Matsumoto-Matsuda 213/888-992.

ORANGE COUNTY
Fri. Feb. 28—Medallion reception for premiere showing of "Banagaga" (antique Japanese bamboo flower baskets with flower arrangement), 6-8 p.m., Bowers

Museum of Cultural Art, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana. Info: 714/637-4890. NOTE—Toshiko McCallum, UCLA, lecturer.

Sat. March 1—So-Phi fashion show, 9:30 a.m., boutique, 111 luncheon, Anaheim Hills and Towers Hotel, info: Gayle Sato 714/827-0676. NOTE—Designers include Kanojo, Yasuko, Hiroshi, Naru-Mi, Shebue, JAI Children's clothes; entertainment by Phyllis Chang; Julie Nickson and Rob Fukuzaki commentators; Lorene Miyake coordinator. Proceeds to Kairo Retirement Home, Koreisha Chusoku, JANM and others.

Sat. March 29—55th annual Western Young Buddhist League conference, Anaheim Sheraton and Orange County Synagogue, info: Craig Kawamoto 818/348-2301, Annette Miyake 310/575-7026. NOTE—Geared to young adults, 17-25 from U.S., Hawaii and Canada.

SAN DIEGO
Ending April 13—Photo exhibit: "Whispered Silences: Japanese American Detention Camps 50 Years Later," photographs by Joan Myers, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Museum of Photographic Arts, Balboa Park, info: 619/238-7659.

Through Aug. 10—Exhibit: "The 100 Years Road: Japan to San Diego: The Japanese American journey," Museum of San Diego's History, Balboa Park. NOTE—Co-sponsors: Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego, March 5, 7 p.m., Joan Myers lecture. Theater: Theater March 15, 1 p.m.—Panel discussion at Thornton Theater with Don Estes, moderator; April 6, 1 p.m., at Thornton Theater lecture by Prof. Peter Irons, UCSD Dept. of Political Science, author of Justice at War: the story of Japanese American Internment Camps. ■

By the board

By GRACE KIMOTO

I'm betting on the future!

WINTON, Calif.—Hello from the "new kid on the block" governor. As I studied the district constitution, I found that my term does not start until January 1st, so my 100 days are yet to be! And I now know how much I really don't know!

What I do know is that I come to this position of feeling very positive that our JACL is on the right track and that there is much to do for our members, for the districts and, yes, for our country. I hope I can serve JACL to some degree.

One thought I may leave here is that I still sense the insecurities and nervousness about our status and our civil rights positions by some of our members. Do we need JACL for the next century? Do multi-cultural families fit in our JACL goals? Do our youths find their goals in our goals? Do gay persons find themselves included? Are our goals ethically towards "one nation indivisible"? How are we viewed in our nation's eye? How come so many of our number believe they've "arrived" and don't think others may need "a level playing field" so the really able will get the jobs? (That the Nisei already have paid for affirmative action.)

JACL status is "A-OK." We need to be given real facts so we can sing that song, "I FEEL GOOD." Our national director, Herb Yamanishi, in a recent installation address, did just that! He countered all our worries with facts. I loved the counter to "our membership average age is so old." He says, "Wait a minute. People now live much longer and they have many more years of JACL." He even tells us our membership is no longer going down, but up!

So if we are sincere in hoping others will join us in our missions and quests and join us in membership, we had better "feel good" as JACLers. We are of proud heritage and of noble goals.

That brings me to "LET'S CELEBRATE JACL." YOU'RE ALL INVITED! The CCDC will host the Tri-District Conference in Las Vegas June 6-7, 8. Are you ready, ALL PSWers, NCWNPers, and CCDCers?

BULLETIN—The 1997 Tri-District Conference will be held at the Stardust Hotel/Casino. We have arranged a group rate of \$85/night for JACL conference participants (regular rate is \$100). To reserve your rooms, please call Stardust

group reservations at 800/634-6757. Our group code is: JACL697. Please be aware that a deposit of \$91.80 (first night's stay, including tax) must be paid within two weeks of making the reservation. Also there is a 48-hour cancellation policy. If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Tsai at the Regional Office 209/486-6815.

We're chartering a hassle-free Via bus for CCDC. I'll take us from our home town straight to the Stardust hotel/casino (base for our Tri-District airports, grabbing an airporter to the hotel, or running to the carousel and waiting for our baggage! Think of the fun enroute, talking, sleeping, eating. Why don't you start a charter bus from your home town? It's economical, too!

"I'M BETTING ON THE FUTURE!" ARE YOU? ■

Grace Kimoto is the Central California District Governor

NCWNP district to host state leadership conference

SAN FRANCISCO—The Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District Council of the JACL is hosting a California Legislative Leadership Conference Sunday through Tuesday, April 20-22 in Sacramento.

The purpose of the conference is to provide JACL leaders with an insider's view of the legislative process and to encourage their involvement in the political arena.

The conference already has commitments from California Assembly Members Mike Honda, Nao Takasugi and Steven Kuykendall; Deputy Superintendent of External Affairs, Dept. of Education, Henry Dear; State Treasurer Matt Fong; Chief Deputy Director, Employment Development Dept., Al Lee; Assistant Secretary of State Jeff Uyeda; and staff members from the Health & Welfare Agency.

Invitations have also been extended to Governor Pete Wilson, Assembly Speaker Cruz Bustamante, Attorney General Dan Lungren and State Senator Tom Hayden, among others.

Topics of discussion will include affirmative action, welfare reform, Asian Americans in politics, biparti-

anship and legislation.

Also planned are tours of the Capitol, observing the legislature in session, a reception with Asian American staff and appointees, and a media relations workshop organized by the Sacramento Chapter of the Asian American Journalists Association.

Applications are limited to JACL members from NCWNP, CCDC or PSW and have strong leadership qualities at the chapter, district and/or youth levels. They must also be committed to continuing their involvement in the JACL and have an interest in the political process.

The cost \$275 per person, and includes registration, lodging for two nights, materials and scheduled meals. Participants must arrange for their own travel to and from Sacramento.

Applications have already been distributed to the California chapters, and should be submitted to the respective District Boards by Feb. 28.

For information or an application, contact chapter president or NCWNP Regional Director Patty Wada (415) 921-5225. ■

Guest Column

The five Masaoka GIs together again

By MARTIN SNAPP

With permission from the Berkeley Voice

An American Hero: Have you ever met an older man and instantly thought, "I wish he was my father?"

That's how I felt about Tad Masaoka. The moment I met him, I knew that this was a man who lived on a higher spiritual plane than the rest of us.

That was five years ago, and the years since have only increased my admiration. He was thoughtful, he was kind, he was mischievous, and he was wise. Being with him was like being with Yoda.

Tad Masaoka died last week [Dec. 15] at the age of 72, and I am devastated. And I'm not the only one. The entire Japanese-American community is in mourning.

You see, you have to understand what his passing means. Tad was the last surviving member of the Masaoka brothers. There were five of them, and all five fought in the U.S. Army during World War II. One brother, Hank, became a paratrooper. The other four — Mike, Ben, Ike and Tad — joined the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the famous Nisei unit that earned more medals than any other unit in the whole history of the U.S. military.

And they were all volunteers. Not only that, they volunteered from concentration camps, where they and their families had been sent after Pearl Harbor. (Not death camps like Auschwitz or Buchenwald, but concentration camps, just the same.)

I ask you: If your family had been rounded up and put behind barbed wire, would you volunteer to fight for the government that did this?

But the men of the 442nd did. And the very first volunteer was Mike Masaoka.

Mike won the Croix de Guerre, the Legion of Merit, the Combat Infantryman's Badge and a Presidential Unit Citation. Though he was eligible for a Purple Heart, he refused it, saying his wound "wasn't serious enough." Ben, Ike



ARMY SIGNAL CORP PHOTO

ASHELBY FOURSOME—When the Army activated the all-Nisei 442nd Regimental Combat Team in 1943 and called for volunteers, the five Masaoka brothers enlisted. Pictured at Camp Shelby are (from left) Ben Frank, "Mike" Masaru, "Tad" Tadashi and "Ike" Akira. The fifth brother, "Hank" Iwano, had transferred from the 442nd and became a paratrooper.

and Tad Masaoka won Purple Hearts, Combat Infantryman's Badges, and Presidential Unit Citations.

And they came by those decorations the hard way. There were two reasons why the 442nd won so many medals. First, they were very brave. Second, they were given the most dangerous jobs to do.

Perhaps their most famous exploit was the rescue of the Lost Battalion, a unit of about 300 Texans who had gotten trapped behind German lines.

On Oct. 24, 1944, the high command ordered the 442nd to rescue the Texans. That meant a frontal assault up a steep mountain against heavily entrenched positions. It was an assault that should never have been made.

But the 442nd did it. They rescued the 300 Texans. But they lost 800 men doing it.

One was Ben Masaoka. "Ben was point man that day," Tad told me. "They were walking across a field without much cover when the Germans opened up. The guys in back were able to scramble for cover. Ben was caught out in the open. My buddies told me they could see his body jumping as the bullets hit it."

"Six months later Army Graves Registration notified my mother that they had found Ben's body, but I don't think it was really Ben. All they had was an unidentified GI with no dog tags. But my brothers and I decided to accept it as Ben, to put my mother's mind at rest."

Tad was also wounded that day. The concussion from an exploding shell ripped open the stitches from an earlier wound. He should have still been in the hospital that day, but he had gone AWOL and sneaked back to his company. "You didn't want to let your buddies down," he explained.

But the Masaoka brothers' service to their country didn't end with World War II. After the war, Mike led the struggle to win reparations for the injustices done to Japanese Americans during the war. And his brothers were right alongside him.

The reparations didn't make up for what was done, of course, but at least it restored some small measure of honor to our country. It is for this, as much as for their wartime heroics, that America owes a debt of gratitude to the Masaoka brothers.

And don't think the discrimination ended when the war did. When Tad got back, none of his medals mattered when he started looking for work. He tried 50 or 60 companies, but they wouldn't even let him take the qualifying exam.

Finally, a friend suggested he try the federal government.

"It never would have occurred to me," he said. "Who would have thought that the same government that put me in Manzanar in 1942 would hire me five years later?"

He started out as an environmental specialist at HEW (the ancestor of HUD). By the time he retired, he was HUD's environmental staff director for the entire North-

ern California-Nevada area.

I once asked him why the men of the 442nd had returned such good for such evil. "For two reasons," he said. "We wanted to defend our country, and we wanted to prove we were citizens, too. If it hadn't been for the 442nd, I don't think we would have gotten reparations, or naturalization for our parents' generation, or even statehood for Hawaii. Yes, I think we did our job."

And now the Masaoka brothers are finally together again. And yes, they sure did their job. ■

Wanted: anti-Asian hate crimes data JACL Curriculum and Resource Guide released

WASHINGTON —The National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium and its affiliates are collecting data for its annual audit, *Violence Against Asian Pacific Americans*, for 1996, and is seeking reports of incidents against Asian Pacific Americans. The consortium urges the community to send in copies of newspaper clippings or reports by local law enforcement and commissions on human rights. They will also accept letters documenting incidents. These letters should include:

- Date of incident
- Location of incident (city, state)
- Description of incident, including type of violence or harassment and any specific slurs
- Info on victim(s) and perpetrator(s), including number,

gender, age, ethnicity or race

*Any police response
*Known or suspected bias or motive (race, gender, immigrant, sexual orientation).

All information should be sent by March 10, 1997 to:

Julie Su, Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California, 1010 S. Flower St., Suite 302, Los Angeles, CA 90015; Facsimile: 213-748-0679.

NAPALC executive director Karen Narasaki said, "It is of utmost importance that our community reports incidents of hate crimes. Otherwise policymakers and law enforcement will not take appropriate steps to end the violence."

The annual audit compiled by the consortium is an effort to edu-

cate Asian Pacific Americans and the general public about the extent of hate-motivated violence committed against Asian Pacific Americans. Given the heightened anti-immigrant sentiment and challenges to affirmative action in 1996, the consortium regards it as particularly important to assess the level of incidents in 1996.

The consortium has been publishing the *Audit of Violence Against Asian Pacific Americans* since 1993. They document incidents of violence, examine national and regional trends of hate crimes, provide updates on pending cases against perpetrators, and recommend solutions. Copies of the 1995 audit are available for \$5 from NAPALC: 1001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 522, Washington, DC 20036. ■

JACL slaps unwarranted use of 'j' word in film

SAN FRANCISCO —Not quite a sequel to "A Fish Called Wanda," but that film's cast was recalled for "Fierce Creatures" (Universal Release: A Fish Prods./Jersey Films Production), which opened over the last weekend in January. Tagged as PG-13 for sexual innuendo and language, it's a farce about attempts to save a London zoo and its inhabitants from the commercial wiles of its conglomerate parent. Distantly related to these events, media baron Rod McCain (Kevin Klein) shows up in a funny showdown with his son (again Rod McCain) to turn a profit by selling the zoo "to the japs for a golf course" — a line that, to Contra Costa JACL past president Don Delocello, was "a cheap shot at Japan" and a desperate use of a racial slur for laughs "in an already faltering script."

The critics already have called it "funny but flawed." Delocello noted, as National JACL vice president for public relations Lori Fujimoto, who viewed the film Feb. 1, wrote

to MCA/Universal Studios chairman Frank Biondi, Jr. that the offensive and derogatory references to people of Japanese ancestry were appalling.

"The demeaning references are extremely offensive not only to Americans of Japanese ancestry, but to all Americans. MCA/Universal Studios may not consider racially offensive stereotypes and epithets repugnant, (but) as Americans of Japanese ancestry, we are personally aware of how such derogatory remarks relating to our ethnicity have been used to our detriment," her letter emphasized.

Fujimoto called upon the distributors to recall all copies to eliminate the offensive references, to take steps to prevent racist skits or parodies, remarks and stereotypes in the future, and to issue a public apology for the insensitive nature and offense content of the film in question.

Throughout history, Fujimoto continued, individuals excuse such condescending remarks by claim-

ing that no harm was intended. Yet, a vast majority of Americans, including members of the media, still view Americans of Japanese ancestry as foreigners. "We have experienced many instances when well educated individuals characterize Americans of Japanese ancestry who are all U.S.-born and have no ties with Japan as 'Japanese from Japan or foreign-born'."

"In light of this misperception, we surely do not need Universal's 'Fierce Creatures' to reinforce and support racist remarks such as used by Kevin Kline's character."

Delocello, a fan of cast members Monty Python's John Cleese and Michael Palin from "A Fish Called Wanda," added "the time is past when anyone can get a cheap laugh at the expense of others while employing racial slurs. 'The j' word is out; the j' word is out, too. Racial slurs and stereotypes are not to be tolerated or condoned, and I urge everyone to speak out against it."

— HKH. ■

The JACL Curriculum and Resource Guide is a real bargain at \$15, and for orders of five or more to a single address it is just \$10 each. National JACL President Helen Kawaga declared this past week as copies are now available.

While the Guide retains much of the contents from previous editions, there have been several changes, along with the name of the Guide, including:

- (1) An overview of the Japanese Latin American experience of abduction from South America and imprisonment in the United States;
- (2) Updated additions to the Chronology;
- (3) More references in the Resource sections; and
- (4) New photographs.

Thanks to the National Asian American Telecommunications Association (NAATA), the Guide now includes special offers on selected videotapes related to the Japanese American experience.

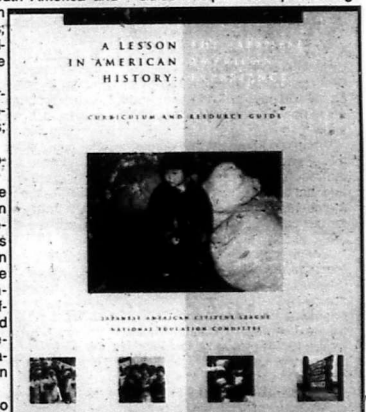
NAATA is also making a special offer of the 30-minute video, "A Personal Matter, Gordon Hirabayashi vs. The United States," related lesson plans and other teaching materials with purchase of the Guide. The videotape, which normally retails for \$125, may

be purchased at \$50. The chapter flyer includes an order form.

Copies of the Guide are being sent to all 112 JACL chapter presidents. They are to be used as a tool to show the kind of information and material that is readily available to anyone interested in bringing this lesson into the classroom, especially to teachers.

The Guide should also encourage chapters, which have not already done so to establish an Education Committee at the local level.

Research and preparation of the Guide was paid for in part through



FRONT COVER: Curriculum Guide

the financial support of the United Parcel Service Foundation.

To order the Guide contact Greg Marutani, c/o Education Committee, JACL, 1795 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. ■

Greenlining Institute's rhetoric against Sumitomo Bank bothers Nikkei community

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant Editor

SAN FRANCISCO—Worried that Japan bashing could result from allegations against Sumitomo Bank of California by leaders in the Black, Latino, and Asian American community, JACL National Director Herb Yamanishi and other Japanese American community leaders signed a letter on Jan. 17 voicing their concerns.

On Jan. 9 the Greenlining Institute, a San Francisco based public advocacy group of Black, Latino, and Asian American community organizations, filed complaints with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the U.S. Department of Labor, accusing Sumitomo Bank of discriminatory lending and hiring practices that favor Japanese Americans at the expense of other minority groups.

The Nikkei leaders had met with Sumitomo bank executives and Greenlining Institute representatives on Dec. 12 at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California.

Responding to Greenlining's complaints, the Nikkei community leaders explained "as Japanese American leaders in our communities, (we) have watched the escalating dispute between the Greenlining Institute and the Sumitomo Bank with growing concern because it has great potential to stir up racial hatred, division and rancor between the Japanese American/Asian-American communities, and the African-American and Latino communities.

"We share the Greenlining Coalition's position that Japanese-owned corporations must be re-

sponsive and sensitive to the racial diversity of the communities in which they do business regarding the lending practices, minority contracting and employment opportunities. We strongly believe that Sumitomo should make every reasonable effort to increase lending, employment and business opportunities to the African-American, Latino and Southeast Asian Communities.

"However, we are deeply disturbed by the tactics employed by the Greenlining Institute which include claims that we believe are exaggerated, reckless, irresponsible and made without regard to the racial backlash that such rhetoric is likely to generate."

The Greenlining Institute is unhappy with the progress of Sumitomo Bank's ten year, half billion dollar CRA (Community Reinvestment Act) commitment which was filed with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in 1993.

According to the Greenlining Institute, of the 153 housing loans received by Sumitomo Bank of California in 1995, only one was given to a Black.

But Sumitomo says of the 153 loans received, only 4 loan applications were from Blacks and two were approved. In 1996, 44 home lending applications from the Black community were received and 26 were approved, they continued.

Greenlining says the top four percent of Sumitomo's managers are all Japanese male nationals and that none of the top ten percent of its managers are women, Black, Latino, or Southeast Asian. In response, Sumitomo insists that 18.8% of the bank's positions higher

than assistant vice president are occupied by non-Japanese Asian Americans. They also added that two females sit on the board, a Black and a Japanese American, and two Blacks are branch managers.

Though the Nikkei leaders believe Sumitomo should do more to increase their non-Japanese American managerial staff, they point to a historical reason for the numbers. "When discrimination against Japanese Americans was rampant, Sumitomo hired Japanese Americans when other banks refused to do so. Those Japanese Americans who were hired years ago have remained with the bank, and as they retire, we urge Sumitomo to replace them with a more diverse work force. Similarly, as the bank expands its core business into new areas such as home lending, we urge that Sumitomo take affirmative steps to increase its lending to other minorities."

The leaders of the Japanese American community are fearful that the dispute between Greenlining and Sumitomo will add to the already increasing incidents of anti-Asian hate crime in the United States. According to a 1996 survey by the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium, in 1995 racially motivated crimes against Asians rose by 80 percent in Southern California.

Last year, Thien Minh Ly, a Vietnamese UCLA student, was murdered while skating in front of a local high school. He was stabbed 22 times, 14 times in the heart, by the alleged assailant who thought he was Japanese.

"As you know, these incidents

strike a very sensitive chord in the Japanese American community," insist the Nikkei leaders. "Japanese Americans and their families who were interned in concentration camps during WWII have a first-hand understanding of the consequences of demagogic rhetoric which creates and perpetuates the perception that we are foreigners in our own country."

But the Japanese American community leaders also believe that all Japanese-owned corporations should be accountable to laws which require equality for women and racial minorities. "If any company, irrespective of ownership, is unwilling to end discriminatory practices, then aggressive action should be taken and if such action triggers an unintended backlash, the fault lies with that company, not the victims of its discrimination," they write.

But after meeting with Greenlining staff and the Sumitomo Bank president and executives on Dec. 12, the Nikkei community leaders agree that "while Sumitomo's overall record is not stellar, its performance is not so lacking as to warrant the demonic characterization being advanced by the Greenlining Institute; on the contrary in some areas, Sumitomo's performance has been laudable." In addition, "the president of Sumitomo appears to us to be genuinely willing to make commitments to roll out programs designed to improve its performance in areas where it is weak and most importantly, Sumitomo's management appears to be open and willing to meet and work with minority leaders throughout the state.

"Under these circumstances, we feel that the current tactics of the Greenlining Institute are counterproductive in moving Sumitomo to take steps to improve its record, is causing serious damage to the Japanese American community and to the Asian American community in general."

In addition to Herb Yamanishi, the letter was signed by:

Donald K. Tamaki, partner, Minami Lew & Tamaki; Dale Minami of the same firm and president, Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF); Allen Okamoto, president, Japanese Community and Cultural Center of Northern California (JCCNCC); Paul Osaki, executive director, JCCNCC; Kaz Maniwa, chairperson of board, JCCNCC; Dale Shimasaki, executive director, CLPEF; Ron Wakabayashi, executive director, L.A. County on Human Relations; Rev. Lloyd Wade, United Methodist Clergyperson; Jon Osaki, executive director, Japanese Community Youth Council; Patty Wada, regional director, JACL; Chizu Iiyama, president, NCWNP District Women's Concerns Committee; Ernie Iiyama, Contra Costa Chapter, JACL; John Ota, NCRR; Karen Kai, civil rights attorney; Laura Takeuchi, executive director, Japanese American Services of the Bay Area; and Yoshiko Kitawaki, executive director, Nobiru Kai.

Yamanishi says he is still waiting to hear from the Greenlining Institute but Policy Director/General Counsel for Greenlining, Robert Gnaizda, recently stated that he has no objections with the Japanese community leaders participating in ongoing talks with Sumitomo Bank. ■

Agenda

New Mexico Nikkei history project underway

ALBUQUERQUE—Personal stories of Japanese Americans in and out of the state of New Mexico are being gathered for New Mexico JACL's Oral History Project (OHP), it was announced in early November by Jennifer Y. Yazawa, project chair. At the same time, the committee requested that other JACL chapters engaged in OHP activity to keep in touch with New Mexico JACL "so that we might avoid reinventing the wheel and actually be of mutual assistance."

The New Mexico JACL calls for the following information below. And after this list of responses is compiled, it will be shared with cooperating chapters.

Salinas Valley, Monterey Peninsula JACL install board

By FRED OSHIMA

SALINAS—In a refreshing, spirited change of pace to inject some much needed spark into a disenfranchised, staggering national group with a depressed operating fund during the past few years, new JACL President Helen Kawagoe enthusiastically keynoted the annual joint Salinas Valley-Monterey Peninsula chapter installation dinner Feb. 1.

Like a breath of fresh air in springtime, the sprightly City Clerk of Carson in suburban Los Angeles was warmly received as she delightfully charmed some 150 members and guests at the impressive new multi-million-dollar all-purpose hall of the Salinas Buddhist Temple. In a crucial effort to rejuvenate the once dynamic association, the country's single largest JA civil rights faction, Helen Kawagoe forcefully pitched for strong, cohesive organizational unity through more, closer inter-generational understanding and cooperation—in essence, she realistically stated,

"JACL cannot just live in their past with their hard-earned laurel—with their many monumental historic accomplishments alone!" A skillful, prominent political figure in California's Municipal

- (1) Contact person: name and address.
- (2) Title of project.
- (3) Scope of project: What is the focus on the interviews? (e.g., John Tateishi's *And Justice for All* focuses on the WWII internment camp experiences; David Masumoto's *Country Voices* focuses on a family farm community.)
- (4) Status of project: (e.g., published monograph, interviews being collected, many interviews completed and transcribed are deposited at local libraries).
- (5) Funding sources (e.g., local fund raisers, state Endowment for Humanities, etc.). ■

League management circle, and a member of Gardena Valley chapter, Kawagoe deftly delivered, "That the time have come for the Japanese American Citizens' League to intelligently look to the future and now—to seriously move forward and in this transitional process, need to learn and profit from our 'Oldtimer's' contributions—the Nisei members—and at the same time, must look to the younger, energetic group with confidence to lead the league into the 21st century!"

National Director Herb Yamanishi installed the new incoming board members:

MONTEREY PENINSULA: Larry Oda, pres.; Kanako Matsuyama, 1st V.P.; George Uyeda 2nd V.P.; Pat Nakasako, Treas.; and Aiko Matsuyama, rec. sec. Board members: Sam Kawashima, Nick Nakasako, Jack Nishida, Eric Pickering, Frank Tanaka, Tak Yokota, Richard, West, Keith Kuwatani, Jack Harris, Gordon Miyamoto, Susan Nishiguchi, Lyle Quock, Walt Uwate, Helen Nakasako, Jeanne Nakagawa and Dick Wong.

SALINAS VALLEY: Carol Lee Yoshimura, V.P.; Bonnie Marquardt, treas.; Lori Eitoku, sec. and Paul Ichijui, ex-officio. Board members: Kiyo Hirano, Mark Yamaguchi, Robert Oka, Stuart Ozaki, Robert Gatagana, Bob Uemura and George Higashi. ■



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Agenda

Search opens for sixth Masaoka Fellow to serve Sen. Inouye

SAN FRANCISCO—The Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship Fund is seeking applicants for its sixth Mike M. Masaoka Congressional Fellow Program for the 1997-98 term. The successful candidate will serve in the office of U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii), announced Dr. H. Tom Tamaki, fund chairman.

The fellowship of approximately 15 weeks duration includes a \$7,500 stipend funded by the Fund. The term will be open for September through December 1997 or February through May 1998. Choice of fall or spring term will be arranged by the senator's legislative staff and the awardee. Deadline for applications is June 1, 1997.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens, at least in their third year in college or in a graduate or professional program. Preference will be given to those having demonstrated commitment to Asian American issues, particularly those affecting the Japanese American community. Communication skills, both written and verbal, are important.

The fund honors the late Mike M. Masaoka for a lifetime of outstanding public service promoting justice, civil rights and human dig-

nity. The major goal of the fund, which will continue in perpetuity, is to encourage public service, granting awards to educate or train recipients for leadership in public service.

For application forms, contact National JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115, 415/921-5225, fax 931-4671.

The previous Masaoka Fellows were: (1) Joe Horiye, San Diego, with Rep. Norman Mineta's office; (2) Dean Hojo Matsubayashi, Culver City, with Sen. Inouye; (3) Karen Emiko Makkrell, San Francisco, with Rep. Robert Matsui; (4) Traci M. Endo, Sunnyvale, Calif., with Rep. Patsy T. Mink; and (5) and current awardee Karen Har-Yen Chow, La Puente, Calif., with Sen. Daniel K. Akaka. ■

Sacramento JACL scholarships top \$20,000

SACRAMENTO—The annual Sacramento JACL scholarship program now tops \$20,000 in awards, "second only to the National JACL awards," beamed chapter spokesman Toko Fujii in announcing the annual awards dinner will be held on Thursday, May 22, at the Red Lion Hotel.

Sac'to hits \$9,000 for Korean War memorial

SACRAMENTO—Greater Sacramento Valley Region fund-raising campaign for the Japanese American Korean War Memorial heads into its final phase, having raised \$9,000 of its \$12,000 goal, according to Toko Fujii, regional coordinator. He envisions meeting the goal by the end of April, in time for dedication of the memorial the last weekend in May at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center in Little Tokyo.

Of the 33,600 Americans killed in the Korean War, the memorial will be inscribed with the names of 246 soldiers of Japanese ancestry, many of them from this region, Fujii pointed out.

Local organizations (coordinators) in support include Sacramento JACL (Toko Fujii), Nisei VFW Post 8985 (Shig Shimazawa), Marysville JACL (Roy Hatamiya), Lodi JACL (Kinji Hiramoto), Florin JACL (Joanne Iritani), Placer County (Thaya Mune Craig), and Stockton JACL (Aeko Fenelon). Contributions may be sent to: Japanese American War Memorial Fund, Union Bank of California, 700 L St., Sacramento, CA 95814. ■

Royce Makishima and Debbie Sasamoto, scholarship committee co-chair, announced application forms for the scholarships have been mailed to student counselors at all area high schools or may be obtained from the JACL Office, 916/447-0231. ■

Logo unveiled for 'Go for Broke' fund campaign

GARDENA—Kicking off its \$2.5 million fundraising campaign, the 100th-442nd-MIS WWII Memorial Foundation unveiled a new logo at its Feb. 3 meeting "to enhance the bringing together of all the elements about the Foundation and its goal," Col. Young O. Kim, chairman, announced. "We wanted to reflect the Go For Broke spirit of our 1997 fundraising campaign," executive director Debra Nishinaka-Skelton added.

The torch, created with a *sumi* brush, symbolizes "liberty" which the Nisei veterans were pursuing not only for America but for their families that were incarcerated in the camps. The strokes with the *fude* (brush) also identifies the dual cultures of the Nisei, Nishinaka-Skelton explained.

Teresa Woo-Murray of Woo+De-



signs, creator of the logo, is the stepdaughter of Ruth Oya Woo of Seattle, whose family was interned first at Tule Lake and later transferred to Minidoka, said: "My generation has assimilated into the American culture with success greatly due to the heroic actions of the Japanese American World War II veterans, who served the United States with distinguished valor. They proved to America how unjust it was to carry anti-ethnic prejudices. Theirs is truly an American story."

Information: 1233 W. Gardena Blvd. #205, Gardena, CA 90247, 310/327-4193. ■



EXHIBIT AT FLORIN—JACLers prepare for 15th annual Day of Remembrance with exhibits at Elk Grove Unified School District board room ending Feb. 28 and the annual gathering Saturday, March 1, at the Florin Buddhist Church, 7235 Pritchard Rd. They are (from left): seated—Mary Tsukamoto, Christine Umeda (chairperson, 916/427-2841), Joanne Iritani, Frank Iritani, Ted Kobata, Marion Kanemoto, Heidi Sakazaki; standing—Jim Tanaka, Sam Kashiwagi, Mary and Amos Freeman, Stan Umeda.



MERRILL'S MARAUDERS—Heroics of 14 Nisei who volunteered for the MIS language school at Camp Savage during WWII for a mission that was to infiltrate behind enemy lines in northern Burma and recapture the airstrip near Myittha was memorialized last summer at Fort Benning, Ga., with a service plaque, noting they performed "above and beyond the call of duty."

Two veterans sporting the CBI (China Burma India) patch on their cap and T-shirt are Grant J. Hirabayashi (left) and Roy H. Matsumoto. Other names inscribed are Edward Mitsukado, Thomas K. Tsubota, Herbert Y. Miyasaki, Robert Y. Honda, Roy K. Nakada, Russell K. Kono, Howard H. Furumoto, Jimmy Yamaguchi, Henry Goshō, Calvin T. Kobata, Akiji Yoshimura and Ben S. Sugeta.



1997 MILE-HI CHAPTER BOARD INSTALLATION—(Back from left) Herb Okamoto, Sumi Takeno, Tom Masamor, Jeanne Moroye, Richard Hamal, treasurer; Andy Hamano, Tom Migaki, Paul Kot, Peter Kanda, Carol Arata-Nichols. Seated Mark Shimoda, Kathryn Nakazono, youth rep.; Pres. Frank Sakamoto.

7-day internship at White House applications due

ROCKVILLE, Md.—Applications for the one-week White House internship April 20-26 from the Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation are due Friday, March 29, promising young Asian Pacific American leaders were reminded.

The White House week in Washington program includes all travel expenses, lodging and meals for candidates between the ages of 26 and 39 who are expected to assume a leadership role in the community and nationally, executive director Lily Okura explained (who will be at her desk after Feb. 28), 301/530-0945 or fax 350-0522. Applicants should be engaged in social work, psychology, psychiatry, nursing, mental health, substance abuse, or health and human services.

Application forms are available during February from Helen Freas, 11330 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, 301/984-6180, fax 770-1423. ■

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Opinion



From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Year-end listings of 'most' and 'best'

I've spent some hours lately making the acquaintance of two very slick, very hip, very handsome magazines published for Asian American readers.

One is called *Avenue* (in big letters) *Asia* (in small letters). The other is *A Magazine: Inside Asian America*.

Both are based in New York City and have the kind of avant-garde layout in vogue among art directors but which puzzle more traditional readers as to just where on the page stories begin. Both, but *Avenue* in particular, seem to favor very small type, like the bottom line optometrists challenge you to decipher while testing for bifocals. Such tiny type is considered chic but makes for difficult reading for old guys like me.

Whether by coincidence or otherwise, the year-end issue of both magazines feature the "most influential Asians" in America. *A Magazine* names 25, *Avenue* picked 500. Magazines have a way of publishing "most" and "best" lists — the most prestigious restaurants or the best place to live, or the most glamorous whatever, and this usually guarantees a mention in newspapers. Nice way to get publicity. It works, as witness this column.

But seldom is there any explanation for the criteria used in selecting "most" and "best."

A Magazine's list of 25 is headed by Jerry Yang, a 28-year-old multi-millionaire who came to the U.S. from Taiwan as a 10-year-old. Yang heads Yahoo! Inc., which seems to be the young giant of the Internet business.

Gary Locke, the Chinese American elected governor of Washington, is rated No. 2, and Dr. David Ho, Taiwan-born and on the verge of conquering the AIDS virus, is No. 4. Dr. Ho was *Time Magazine's* Man of the Year.

So far as I can tell, three luminaries of Japanese origins are on the magazine's list. Scott Sassa, 37, until recently president of "Ted Turner's far-flung broadcast empire," is No. 6. Congresswoman Patsy Mink of Hawaii is No. 8. And baseball player Hideo Nomo of the Los Angeles Dodgers shares No. 15 with Korean Chan Ho Park, another Dodgers pitcher.

Avenue, in listing 500, has much more leeway in introducing us to the most "influential" Asian Americans. They range from Japanese luminary Nobuyuki Idei who is

president of Sony Corp., to Rocky Aoki of Benihana restaurants, to Mark Takano who is a high school teacher and president of the board of directors of a community college, to Gordon Kato, a New York literary agent. Nor should we overlook chef Makoto Tanaka of Santa Monica, chef Nobuyuki Matsuhisa of Los Angeles and New York ("the most celebrated Japanese chef in America") and chef Roy Yamaguchi of Honolulu who are among the 500.

To be sure politicians, who presumably have "influence," are listed and predictably among them are Senator Dan Inouye, Congressman Bob Matsui, his wife Doris who works in the White House, and former Congressman Norm Mineta.

You don't necessarily have to agree with the listings, but they are likely to cause some pondering among those who continue to deplore the "glass ceiling" that they contend blocks the economic advancement of Asian Americans. ■

Hosokawa is the former editorial page editor for the Denver Post. His columns have appeared regularly since June 1942 in the Pacific Citizen.

Very truly yours

By HARRY K. HONDA

A 30-year volunteer

Natsuko Irei came to everyone's attention many years ago hustling chapter-affle tickets to visiting National Board members in San Francisco (or maybe it was a fund-raiser for some other East Bay Nikkei charity). She never stopped! This week, her Contra Costa JACL chapter board presented her a Special Service Award that provided to outline the multitude of activities that merited her with the Past Presidents Award (1981), JACL Silver Pin (1983), Sapphire Pin (1989), George Sugihara Award (1990), Special President's Award (1992) and Special Honors Award (1995).



A member since 1968, Natsuko has represented Contra Costa JACL diligently, and present at every district, tri-district and national convention since 1972.

She also traveled with Yours Truly to the biennial PANA conventions, starting with Mexico City in 1981; then Lima, São Paulo, Buenos Aires, Los Angeles, Asunción, Vancouver, and Lima. She shook hands with President Fujimori as did other U.S. delegates during our stopover in Lima after the 1990 convention hosted by Paraguay. We've heard the 1997 PANA convention is scheduled July 22-27 in Mexico City. Carlos Kasuga is convention chair. No other details have come.

Contra Costa recognitions: hair Yoshino Tokiwa has carefully noted that Natsuko was a leader with: (1) the annual 4th of July barbecue, (2) joint Senior appreciation and scholarship benefit fund-raiser, (3) highly successful 50th (in '85) and 60th anniversary chapter celebrations, (4) Holiday Issue solicitations for 15 years—four full pages worth, (5) Ladies Day gift-wrapping and rolling makizushi projects.

She coordinated other fundraisers: (6) several Monte Carlo nights, (7) chicken bento, (8) picnic raffish with no help from the P.C. because of Post Office regulations against carrying such matters, (9) makizushi sale, (10) chapter support of JASEB bingo, (11) teriyaki booth at the City of El Cerrito festival, (12) Kanojo fashion shows, (13) National JACL Redress and (14) Legacy Fund drives within the chapter.

She co-chaired (15) the chapter awards and recognitions committee, (16) edited the last five chapter membership directories [including *unlisted phone numbers*, too] and when Contra Costa sponsored the formation of the Diablo Valley chapter in 1977, with a third of its membership transferring out, that (17) "under Natsuko's stewardship, the chapter has recovered its loss which currently stands at 536." The chapter proudly boasts its numbers of Century Club Life and 1000 Club Life members.

The honors note (18) her outstanding community service award from JASEB, (19) interpreting services with the Richmond-Shimada Friendship Commission and (20) recently assuming the membership vice-presidency for National Japanese American Historical Society.

"Nattchan," who worked for years with Schlage, the key-maker, is a volunteer who knew how to lock in membership. That she did it for 16 years of the 20 years on the board, she deserves a "JACL Key" award of her own. ■

East wind

By BILL MARUTANI

Linking Together



WHEN THE MEN of the 100th Battalion/442nd Regiment returned from Europe, President Harry S. Truman proudly pinned the 8th Presidential Unit Citation on the regimental colors. In so doing, he declared: "You fought the enemy abroad, and you fought prejudice at home. And you won." Some 50 years later, those encouraging assurances are being smothered by a renewed germination of racism.

SOME INCIDENTS that should be a wake-up call to us: a Nikkei officer candidate at the Marine Corps school is "disenrolled" just a few days before graduation. A prominent U.S. Senator from New York phones a radio talk-show and in a heavily accented ethnic mimicry disparages Judge Lance Ito, the presiding trial judge in the O.J. Simpson criminal trial. The municipal council in a Texas town refuses to change the name "Jap Road" despite the gallant efforts of a Nikkei resident — whose uncle is buried in Arlington Cemetery. (There is also a "Jap Lane" nearby in a Louisiana town.) Several veterans' posts gear up to introduce resolutions opposing any redress for Nikkei — with contentions such as they should look to the Japanese government, that no redress was proffered for the Bataan Death March, and similar disoriented contentions. A news

article in the VFW magazine publishes a letter referring to the barbed-wire encampments in which the Issei and Nisei were confined, as a "minor inconvenience." On the anniversary of December 7, a veterans post of "Survivors of Pearl Harbor" schedules a program which has the potential as a vehicle for vicious vilification of all "Japanese," very much including Nikkei Americans. The fatal shooting of a Japanese student who was seeking the house where a Halloween party was to be held, with the slayer being given a probationary sentence.

And the list can go on and on. Unfortunately.

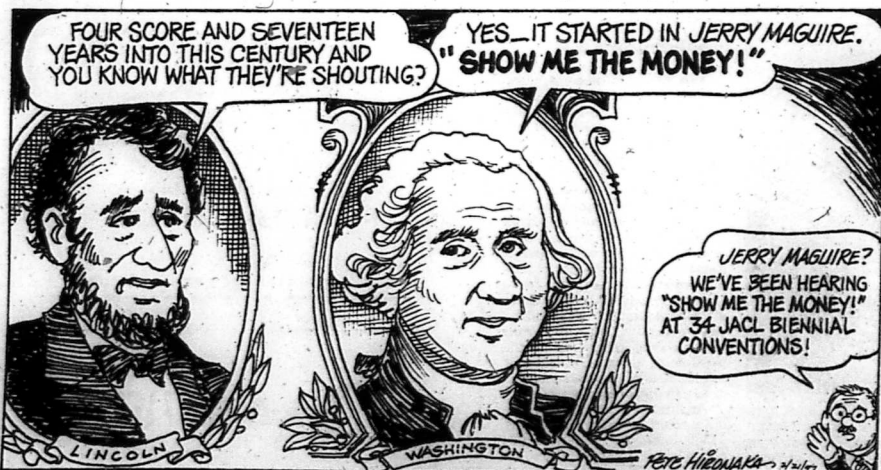
A NIKKEI VETERANS' organization known as "Go For Broke National Veterans Association" (GFB-NVA) spoke up in many of these instances with letters to the principals involved. As veterans, the voice of GFB-NVA could not be dismissed as coming from some bleeding heart crackpots. On the redress drive, Nikkei vets such as Art Morimitsu, a tireless MIS veteran from Chicago who is a charter member of GFB-NVA, worked to enlighten and scuttle redress opposition that was then festering among some national veterans organizations. Had the national American Legion and/or the Veterans of Foreign Wars adopted a resolution opposing redress, such very

well may have scuttled the drive.

THE GFB-NVA is a national veterans organization with individual and post memberships from coast to coast, including Nikkei brethren in Hawaii. The organization's membership is diverse, including: Nikkei veterans from the MIS, the 100th Battalion/442nd Regiment; Korean, Vietnam, and Desert Storm wars; Army nurse; war correspondent; OSS (Office of Strategic Services, the predecessor to the Central Intelligence Agency); even a WW-I veteran, who has since passed away. I'm reminded of a story which all of you know. A patriarch on his death bed summoned his three sons. He gave each a stick and directed them to break the stick, which each easily did. He then put three sticks together and challenged them to break the resulting bundle; each tried mightily but failed.

FOR NIKKEI AMERICAN vets, there's an obvious lesson: to retain that which is rightfully ours, we can be stronger and better heard when we band together. (Go for Broke National Veterans Assn, P.O. Box 2525, Culver City, CA 90231-2525) ■

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



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Voices

Moshi moshi

By JIN KONOMI

A rivalry between OWI and OSS

(Remembering Joe Koide Part 3)

AT THE 1992 annual Commander's Dinner of the Nisei Veterans' Committee of Seattle, guest speaker Dr. George Taylor, director of OWI's (Office of War Information) Psychological Warfare Division during WWII, outlined his work aimed at Japanese morale and extolled the performance of Nisei under him.

Harry Honda recently sent me a copy of his speech as published in the NVC's official publication. It was a very interesting, enlightening talk.

In a telephone conversation before he sent me this material, I carelessly dropped the remark that OWI and OSS, for which I was working, were at loggerheads with each other, and apparently Harry was intrigued and suggested I do a piece on that. Before I go on, I must apologize for creating a wrong impression. There certainly was an inter-agency rivalry, for the works of the two overlapped in many areas, but they never were at cross-purposes.

And I would like to add that I have a great admiration for the work of Dr. Taylor and his team. On the basis of their research was written that classic masterpiece, *The Chrysanthemum and the Sword*, by Ruth Benedict. But the book came out after the war. Some of my colleagues were frankly contemptuous of some of OWI's work. I particularly remember the *Kiri-Hito*, a post-card-sized aluminum foil stampout in the shape of a paulownia leaf, properly colored, to be scattered over and behind the Japanese lines. The idea was to let the Japanese, both troops and civilians, know that Japan's defeat was a foregone consequence, and was obviously suggested by the saying that the falling of a paulownia leaf symbolically presages the fall from the seat of power, of dynasty, ruling house, dictator, merchant prince, or whoever.

When I realized what its intent was, I winced in disgust. What a stupid idea! The allusion was too literary, too high-faluting to be effective. And what a waste of time, labor and precious resource!

Dr. Taylor had to go to a lot of trouble to determine how to deal with the Japanese Emperor and the Tenno institution. At OSS the question seems to have been settled with hardly a voice raised in argument. This is how it happened, as best I can recall.

At the time I joined, OSS's Pacific operations were an integrated menagerie headquartered in Collingwood, a suburb of Alexandria, Virginia. A few days I arrived, a Caucasian artist named Bill Smith — "Smitty" to Japanese and Nisei workers — had created a caricature cartoon of Hirohito, showing him on the throne in ceremonial dress. In front of him lay some corpses of Japanese soldiers. In a balloon out of his mouth were Japanese characters: "*Zenzai, Zenzai! Nanjira Chin ga tameni yorokonde shinel!*" ("Good, Good! You, my subjects, die gladly for Chin!") Chin, until that time, was the first person singular in Emperor talk. Buck-toothed, upslanting eyes behind horn-rimmed glasses, Hirohito was shown as the then-prevailing Caucasian image of a typical Japanese. From the flawless calligraphy of the words, it was obvious that Smitty had a Japanese assistant who was hostile to the Emperor.

I laughed, for the cartoon was clever, and I was no Emperor-worshipper. Then I pondered. Won't this turn the people against America rather than against the Emperor?

Next morning, at the news briefing hour before the start of the day, Joe Koide read a memorandum which, he said, he was going to submit to the Operations head man. It was an eloquent and succinct ex-

position of what the Emperor is and does, his relationship with the military and the people, and the strategic reason why the Emperor should not be made a target of attack or ridicule. He had written the masterful discourse the night before, at one sitting. It was an impressive performance. It marked the beginning of Joe's leadership, which was thrust upon him by a tacit consensus of the Japanese-Nisei (J-N) group.

At first, OSS headquarters bridled up at the very idea of a Japanese member openly voicing criticism of their product. They stood Joe on the carpet, grilled him with questions, hoping to cow him into a more humble attitude. But so eloquent was Joe that they were forced to concede, however grudgingly, that the J-N contingent's intuitive dislike of Smitty's cartoon merited rethinking.

The war was already in its final phase, yet OSS's Pacific operations could not seem to get off the ground. The incident of Smitty's cartoon brought to the fore some basic problems besetting the operation. One was the headquarters' hang-up on black propaganda. It was no longer necessary, and it may backfire like the Smitty cartoon.

Another was headquarters' mistrust of the J-N contingent. Or, was it contempt? All propaganda ideas originated from the Caucasian staff, handed down in draft forms to the J-N members to work on. It was a far cry from the "creative writing job" dangled before them by the recruiter. The setup and the atmosphere of Collingwood effectively dampened their enthusiasm. What was needed was obvious to all the J-N members. We needed more initiative; propaganda mode must be switched from black to white; the idea to sell was the reconstruction of

Japan as democracy after the fall of the fascist military regime.

At a daily briefing session, Taro Yashima proposed the Collingwood J-N contingent's manifesto: Why we were there; what we must do. By tacit consent again, it fell to Joe Koide to draft the resolution and present it to the headquarters. In a series of discussions, he was so effective in presenting our position that it was adopted as the Pacific operation's official policy.

Soon afterward, the J-N group was split into two squads, one of them to go to a base in the Burma-India theatre, the rest (myself, included) to move to an advance base on Santa Catalina Island (Calif.) under the name Project Green. By this time such was the J-N contingent's mastery of the situation that it was as though we had total autonomy in the creation of propaganda materials. Bogart Carlow, the base director, appointed Joe vice-director, and himself assumed the role of buffer and liaison between the Office and Green.

Over half a century after the end of the war, I still cannot get over my wonderment at this amazing man, Joe Koide. What it took Dr. George Taylor thirty experts' research and counsel to accomplish, it seems Joe did, by himself, with one memorandum. If OSS's psychological operations had any success (and I have grave doubts about that), a great deal of the credit should go to Joe.

But above all I remember him for his charisma, his selfless dedication to the cause, and his warm friendship for me. ■

Columnist Jin Konomi is a prewar Issei newspaperman who lives in Albany, Calif.

Letters

Orange County's Vietnamese Voters

Much deserved credit goes to the many groups, including labor, women, and Latinos that contributed to Loretta Sanchez' victory over Robert K. Dornan in the 46th Congressional District. However, it seems that once again the national media has chosen to marginalize Asian Pacific Americans, specifically the Vietnamese American community, in interpreting the results of the race.

The Vietnamese American community alone comprises over 10% of the registered voters in the district. Traditionally, because of strong GOP anti-Communist rhetoric, Vietnamese vote heavily Republican and indeed it seems Mr. Dornan took it for granted that his Vietnamese base would make the difference in a close contest.

Ms. Sanchez, and her campaign manager John Shallman also recognized this possibility and made a sincere effort to reach out to the community. They found that Vietnamese are not as one-dimensional as Mr. Dornan presumed and are concerned about many issues including cutbacks in education, crime, access to bilingual ballots, anti-affirmative action, and immigration. Ms. Sanchez realized that her positions were much in line with many moderate Vietnamese and APIs who were potential swing voters.

Preliminary exit polling by the Asian Pacific Legal Center has found that Vietnamese Americans, the most staunchly conservative of all API groups, voted strongly against Prop. 209 (79%) and gave Clinton a higher percentage of votes (46%) than all Orange County.

Although specific data for the 46th C.D. is not available, it seems, according to Sanchez' own internal polling, that many Vietnamese Americans, perhaps over 50%, supported Loretta Sanchez. In a race decided by a mere 900+ votes, the Vietnamese and API community also should be mentioned as an important factor in the outcome. The Sanchez campaign should be commended for reaching out to the community and, unlike her opponent, for not taking the API community for granted.

Michael Matsuda
Santa Ana

'JAs in Utah' back in print

Your book review of *Japanese Americans in Utah* (PC, Nov. 1-13, 1996) was of particular interest to me as I have family ties in Utah going back to the 19th century. While you mention that the first printing "is no more," I am very interested in attempting to locate a copy.

Your review made the book sound fascinating in its detail. The photographs, letters and historical detail make this book seem worthy of pursuit.

One source of information we really enjoyed were the JACL offerings of the list of publications addressing this experience (like *Nisei Daughter*) that were available by mail. We haven't seen this feature for some time and really miss it. We hope that as publications become available, the P.C. would consider printing this feature again.

Gayle Matsumoto
Castro Valley, Calif.

The good news (as headlined above) is that this book is back in print. Orders go to the National JACL Credit Union, P.O. Box 1721, Salt Lake City, UT 84119, 800/544-8828. Inquire or place the order and they will report on price, shipping costs, etc. — Editor

Redress plea made for Japanese American railroaders, et al.

By MICHI NISHIMURA WEGLYN

SINCE the story of WWII U.S. hostage-taking from Latin American Republics has finally begun to capture international attention (P.C., Jan. 24/ Feb. 8), it would be folly for administrators not to press for speedy resolution of that heinous act of inhumanity involving those from Peru.

If President Roosevelt could issue an Executive Order to exclude and detain some 120,000 people on the basis of ancestry alone, and could sanction what amounted to kidnapping of barter-baits from foreign soil, why can't our President in 1997 right a long overdue wrong by issuing an executive order making mandatory the restitution of those forcibly removed to mainland concentration camps, whose pleas for justice continue to be unheeded?

Unfortunately, the cases of railroad workers, mine workers, and Arizona-based ones have generated little sympathy among those who have already received redress.

Documents from the period — in the days prior to the issuance of E.O. 9066 — reveal the callous manner in which railroad workers and their families have been dealt with. Typical was the order issued on February 18 by C.F. Donnatini, general manager of the Southern Pacific Railroad: "... arrange to layoff (sic) not later than 6:00 p.m. today, all Japanese in whatever departments employed on your respective divisions, whether Citizens or National.... They shall be required to vacate the property of this company not later than 6:00 p.m. today. Those with families occupying company quarters, immediately upon being notified to evacuate, shall make necessary arrangements for removal of their household effects ... which you will see shall be accomplished as quickly as possible."

In other words, pack your life belongings within a couple of hours. Then get out and get lost!

Following the outbreak of World War II in Europe, close monitoring of "developments affecting critical points of transportation ... systems" had become the province of the Justice Department's FBI, according to a "delimitation agreement" adopted by Navy and Army intelligence and the Federal Bureau of Investigation under J. Edgar Hoover.

That the mass ouster of these railroad workers had official sanction is indisputable. This is clearly laid bare in a letter written by President Jefferson of the Union Pacific Railroad to F.W. Charake, chairman, Executive Committee (New York), which begins:

"I attach ... [a] copy of my letter to Chairman Johnston of the Western Association of Railway Executives; also copy of my letter to J. Edgar Hoover ... I sent copies of these letters to Attorney General Biddle, as he called me on the phone with respect to this subject" (italics mine). In the same letter of Feb. 14, Jeffers adds:

"We are allowing these men five days compensation and transporting them and their families and their household effects to any point on our line where they desire to go, providing, of course they have permission from the state and federal authorities to move." (italics mine).

Obviously, a phone call finally carrying the sanction of War, Navy and Justice departments, and their respective intelligence agencies, resulted in the egregious action which ensued, an action utterly devoid of humanity and rights as promised under the Constitution. Indeed, the plight of railroad workers was worse than those

of us who were placed behind barbed wire and provided with roofs over our heads.

No doubt, ORA administrator Grene has come to the same obvious conclusion. I hope so, for it will spare those already brutalized and grossly violated the need to pursue a costly class action suite, which could only end up bringing greater shame to our nation. ■

The "most celebrated railroad dismissal case" in the Archives (P.C., Oct. 27, 1967) was the claim of Hashime Saito (a 442nd veteran then of San Jose) for his father filed with the National Railroad Adjustment Board. After his original petition for "remuneration" was turned down, Rep. Patsy Mink (D-Hawaii) steered him to the adjustment board. Saito also sought assistance from JACL, ACLU, American Friends Service and from other Japanese Americans in a similar plight, having been dismissed summarily because of ancestry. His father was with the Union Pacific in Wyoming for 37 years — 21 of them as a coal chute foreman in Yoder. The NARB had until the spring of 1968 to respond. The on-time response was, as expected: "No wrong had been committed (by the railroad)."

Steps were taken to pursue the case before the court. But his father suddenly said, "No! Stop now!" Hashime reluctantly followed his wishes even though his family had suffered greatly during WWII while staying in Colorado. "They would have been better off in camp," so he wrote to the Pacific Citizen in May 1980 from Tucson. Hashime concluded his father was doing what he regarded as the honorable thing — "Forgive and let them know that they have not hurt you." — Editor's Note.

REDRESS

Continued from page 1

dress categories follows:

(1) **Ishida Cases** — Those who fall into this category are children born to voluntary evacuees and children born to internees who left camp and who were unable to return to their parents' home on the West Coast. The regulations regarding this category are currently under review by the Department of Justice.

Being debated is the Department of Justice (DOJ)-recommended cutoff date for eligibility, which states that children must have been born before Jan. 3, 1945.

National JACL, the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations and JACL-LECH have urged DOJ to push the cutoff date to June 30, 1946, the date cited in the Civil Liberties Act as the end of the Internment period. A decision on the cutoff date is expected shortly.

Approximately 1,300 have applied for redress under this category, but ORA estimates that many more could be affected.

(2) **Minor Children** — Those who fall into this category are those Japanese American minor children (under 21) who involuntarily went to Japan during the war and who did not enter into military service for the government of Japan. The DOJ has found that these minor children did not voluntarily choose to relocate to Japan. This category has been ruled eligible by DOJ, and just recently payments were mailed to 110 individuals.

(3) **Crystal City Internees** — Although the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 defines the end of the internment period as June 30, 1946, the Crystal City Camp did not close until Feb. 27, 1948. Currently, children born in this camp after June 30, 1946, have been ruled ineligible, even though they suffered the same loss of liberty as other claimants.

(4) **Hawaii Cases** — ORA has found that some 70 Kahuku/Marconi claimants in Hawaii are eligible for redress. These cases involved individuals who lived in the northern part of Oahu. The military was constructing an airfield in the area and instructed Nikkei residents that they had to

move, while non-Nikkei families in the same area were allowed to remain.

(5) **Phoenix Cases** — During the war, the city was divided in two, and there existed a prohibited zone into which Japanese Americans could not enter. Therefore, Nikkei were denied access to essential services such as schools and hospitals that were located in the prohibited zone. The Arizona JACL has taken the lead in addressing this category of claimants, which involves some 129 cases.

ORA reported that in the state of Arizona, 86 claimants have already been paid or are ready to be paid. There remain 44 claimants who have been found ineligible or are still being evaluated by ORA.

(6) **Railroad and Mining Cases** — During the war, several railroad and mining companies fired workers of Japanese ancestry. While ORA continues its research to determine whether the Federal Government is responsible for these firings, those Nikkei claimants will remain ineligible. ORA staff noted that a decision in *Kaneho vs. United States* on July 16, 1996, the court found in favor of ORA's determination that the claimant was ineligible for redress. That decision may be under appeal.

(7) **Japanese Latin Americans** — During the war, 2,264 Japanese Latin Americans were uprooted from their homes, deported from their countries and interned in U.S. concentration camps for the purposes of exchanging hostages with Japan. While Crystal City was the main camp, others were incarcerated in Texas, Idaho, New Mexico and Montana. The U.S. government orchestrated their deportation, their transport across international borders and their internment into U.S. camps.

At the end of the war, the government classified them as illegal aliens and deportable. However, Peru refused to readmit any Japanese Peruvians, even those who were native-born Peruvian citizens. As a result, over 900 Japanese Peruvians were deported to Japan, a country totally unfamiliar to most of them.

Since the Civil Liberties Act requires that individuals were citizens of permanent resident aliens during the internment period, most

of these cases do not qualify. Only a small number of Japanese Latin Americans were granted retroactive permanent residency status and were deemed eligible for redress.

Japanese Latin Americans recently filed a lawsuit against the U.S. government for a formal apology and redress/reparations. Their "Campaign for Justice" has the endorsement of National JACL, NCR and the ACLU of Southern California. Currently, JACL is assisting the Campaign for Justice in its letter-writing campaign to President Clinton. The letter asks that the President intervene and settle the lawsuit by including Japanese Latin Americans in the provisions of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

ORA Helpline

Those who have not yet applied for redress, they may call ORA at its toll-free helpline 888/219-2900. An Internet home page is currently being developed by ORA to distribute information about the redress program. More details on this project are forthcoming. Applications for redress are also available from JACL Headquarters and the JACL regional offices in Chicago, Seattle, Los Angeles, Fresno and San Francisco.

Student Volunteers Sought

ORA announced it is recruiting student volunteers for the summer. These individuals would do research on the list of unknowns, and historical records to try to account for the remaining individuals on the list. College students who are interested should contact ORA offices. ■

JACL staff members Patty Wada, Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District regional director, and Bob Sakinawa, Washington, D.C., JACL representative, collaborated on this special report.

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HAPA

Continued from page 1

multicultural Asian American group in Southern California. "We want to educate the community about the issues of being biracial," he says, and that's why they started the group.

According to Hapa Issues Forum, a Berkeley based national nonprofit organization, Asian Americans are outmarrying at an incredible rate these days. Japanese Americans marry outside their community at a rate of 65%. For Chinese Americans it's 50% and Koreans outmarry 35% of the time.

Nagata isn't a hapa, but he feels he understands multicultural issues. "Even though I'm full Japanese I've always felt uncomfortable with the Japanese community," he says. "I was raised around Blacks and Whites so I have similar feelings of being hapa or bi-racial."

Jeff Yoshimi and Steven Ropp founded the Southern California group along with Nagata. They are also on the board of directors of Hapa Issues Forum. The two multicultural Asian groups are related but independent of each other.

"Wayne was the catalyst," says Yoshimi, who's half Japanese and

half White. "He started the ball rolling when he called." Though the group needs to work on getting more publicity, "the little we've done has gotten a lot of interest," adds Yoshimi. "The people who've approached us are enthusiastic."

Growing up was mostly a positive experience, explains Yoshimi. "I grew up in Hollywood where there were a lot of hapas and it was a word we used." But he realizes not all children of multicultural families have had the same background. "There isn't one kind of experience. It depends on who you are and the time in which you grew up."

Sadako Matsuura dragged her daughter Lisa out of the shower to attend Marina/SCAN Hapa's first meeting. Matsuura is an Issei who married a White American. Lisa was born in the United States and is fully bilingual.

"It's very special," says Matsuura of hapa children. "It's a whole thing, not a half thing. Even if you take a fraction of this or that, if you add it up they're whole," she adds excitedly. Lisa, like her mother, looks at her multicultural background as an asset. "I feel a tremendous amount of empathy for all people," she explains.

Mika Tanner is half Japanese

and half White. She says she's happy to have a forum in which the hapa community's voice can be heard. Tanner considers herself to be Japanese American, but often that isn't what she's perceived as, she explains.

When you say Japanese American "people assume your background is the same; that you're Issei, Nisei, or Sansei and that your grandparents went through the camps."

"For the future of the kids and for the Japanese American culture to continue, we have to be more inclusive. That's why this group is so important," she adds.

Tanner wants the hapa community to take an active role in educating the community about their heritage and background. "People don't know the hapa experience very much because we're not a unified voice," she says. "We're part of the Japanese American community and we have to share our experience. We have to find our voice and this group is a good vehicle to do that."

Information: Wayne Nagata, 310/670-1089. Marina/SCAN Hapa meets every month on the first Thursday.

Hapa Issues Forum will hold its annual conference April 26 at UC, Berkeley.

Information: 510/466-5859 or e-mail:hapa@ocf.berkeley.edu ■

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Good news: 'JAs in Utah' history to be reprinted

By HARRY K. HONDA,
Editor emeritus

When the P.C. review of the Utah Centennial history, *Japanese Americans in Utah*, appeared in this publication (Nov. 1-14), we also added that the book was an instant sell-out.

Now, the good news. Just before the Christmas holidays, the Utah JA Centennial History Committee with Ted Nagata, editor, announced, "Reprints are now available." Orders go to the National JACL Credit Union, P.O. Box 1721, Salt Lake City, UT 84110, 800/544-8828, 801/355-8040 or fax 801/521-2101. The cost is \$40 plus \$5 shipping. If order is for three or more copies, shipping is free. Checks are payable to "JA Centennial."

Published by the Utah Nikkei community commemorating its 100 years, as the State of Utah was marking its own statehood centennial in 1996, the book con-

tains 58 chapters from 64 authors, 296 pages and over 600 historical photographs bound with hard cover.

A 32-page addendum is tacked onto the reprint, covering the JA Centennial Celebration held Aug. 23-25. Highlights of the celebration include some of the pictures in the Nov. 1-14 issue. The committee is not sending a separate addendum to previous buyers and encourages the purchase of the new and larger edition.

As Nagata says, "Funding for the publication was a big question mark at the outset. Several attempts to secure help were attempted. We are still without a single grant. The book truly came from the community, from our Gold and Silver sponsors who funded most of the publishing costs (plus the 'ad purchasers'.... Sponsors and ad buyers allowed distribution of 300 copies to schools and libraries throughout Utah." ■

The New Ethnic Power... of the '90s

By AKEMI KAYLENG

My good friend Bob Stoneham has lost interest in the civil rights methods of the sixties. He says they were fine as a way of shaking things up and getting the ball rolling. However, they were not good for sustaining the process. They

Voices

had an adolescent quality: defiant, flamboyant, but with no really well thought out administrative plan. Now I could go on forever on Bob's opinions. Here I'd like to focus on one specific item: ethnic pride.

Black pride of the sixties was unmistakable. The Swahili names, in-your-face dashiki, African art hanging all over the office, geometric print hats — and the "I hate Whites" message. That's what Bob thinks the blatantly Afrocentric guys are saying. The emphasis was not really on the beauty of Black. The message was, "Whitey, I'm ultra Afrocentric, and I'll shove it down your throat, and if you don't like it, tough." It was the approach of a teenager in rebellion. Defiant self-assertion for the sake of defiant self-assertion.

We are in the nineties now, a generation past the inception of the civil rights movement, and, hopefully, at a more mature stage of ethnic pride. It's like to present my concept of the new ethnic pride.

My parents wanted to assimilate so badly that they acquired mainstream ways indiscriminately. This means that although they got a lot of good things, they also absorbed a lot of trouble.

In the new ethnic pride, we understand that many things about the mainstream are desirable, but in some ways our traditions were better. We quietly retain them, regardless of what Whites may think. At the same time, we don't present an in-your-face defiance about our practices. But we still manage to get Whites to do things our way. Power is not using coercive intimidation methods. Power is persistently adhering to our better way and calmly pointing out our advantage when Whites want to do it their way.

I see the following scene in my mind. Some White colleague has been taken in by the superficial, materialistic packaging of some employment applicant. The silly *hakujin* is not thinking analytically with controlled emotions. He just felt good about the applicant's appearance and sunny aura. His Japanese American colleague suspends judgment and suggests considering another candidate. The White guy brushes him aside, saying that's not necessary as he just has a feeling the pretty boy's the one. The Japanese American repeats his position with the dry, factual tone of a computer printing

error messages on a terminal screen. The inept computer operator can give the terminal any emotional reaction he wants, but the computer persists. This goes on, until finally the White guy starts to listen and agrees to consider the more logical choice along with the charmer.

Not one word was said about *shibui*. The White was never made to feel *baka*. There were no speeches about the superiority of Asian style emotional control, or denunciations of White overemphasis on materialism and personal charm. The White guy doesn't see this as a culture clash or a '60s-style confrontation. It wasn't. It was a '90s-style assertion that our ways can be better than the mainstream, and a '90s-style push to get Whites to change their practices to ours. There were no sit-ins and picket lines and chanting slogans. There was, however, a people's victory. And although that Japanese American is an anonymous, unremarkable citizen, he achieved a power to the people.

Akemi Kayleng was recently installed as San Fernando Valley JACL chapter president.

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The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is seeking an energetic, organized and highly motivated individual to fill a key position at its newspaper, the *Pacific Citizen*. For questions, contact Richard Uno through the JACL by phone: 415/921-5225; fax: 415/931-4671; or e-mail: JACL@hooked.net.

Editor/General Manager

The Japanese American Citizens League seeks a person to be Editor and General Manager of the *Pacific Citizen*. The person chosen will be in charge of overseeing and supervising the semi-monthly newspaper with a circulation of over 20,000 and a staff of four to eight people, depending on the season.

Position requires experience (five years preferred), in editing, writing and managing publications, and personnel supervision. Knowledge of and experience with the Japanese American Community preferred. Computer experience required, experience in the use of Pagemaker a plus.

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