



Pacific Citizen

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INSIDE PAGE 9

Col. Tom Sakamoto:
MIS Nisei GI's
faced a 'third' war

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May 16-June 5, 1997



PARK-PARTNER CEREMONY—National Park Service Supt. Brian O'Neill stands before Bldg. 640, a hangar facing Crissy Field at the Presidio of San Francisco, where the first MIS class studied from November 1941 till the school was moved to Minnesota in June, 1942. See story page 7.

P.C. PHOTO

COMMENTARY:

Political barometer for APAs dipped first week in May

BY BOB SAKANAWA

Washington D.C. JACL Representative

WASHINGTON—During the first week of May, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Institute (CAPACI) holds its annual gala dinner here in Washington, D.C. It was a busy week not only because CAPACI was holding its dinner, legislative conference and briefings but other APA groups were having events as well.

Among them were the Asian Pacific American Heritage Council, Federal Asian Pacific American Council, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, and the National Conference on Korean American Leadership.

Although all of the events were important to their respective communities and well attended, clearly the largest gathering was for the CAPACI dinner where, for the past two years, President Clinton was gracious enough to be the keynote speaker. The CAPACI dinner is an important event for the APA community because it brings in representatives from APA groups around the nation. National JACL as well as the D.C. Chapter had tables at this event. Former congressman Norman Mineta currently serves as the chair of the CAPACI's board.

In a year that has seen the APA See SAKANAWA/page 7

JACL-PSW supports JANM expansion

LOS ANGELES—JACL Pacific Southwest District Council is supporting a \$5 million augmentation to the state's Parks and Recreation budget for the Japanese American National Museum and its expansion project, according to PSW regional director Albert Muratsuchi in a letter to Assembly Budget Committee chair Denise Ducheny.

"The appropriation would be consistent with the state's past efforts to support large-scale museum projects including the Discovery Museum (\$4 million in 1996-97), Museum of Tolerance/Simon Wiesenthal Center (\$7.5 million over the past two budgets) and the Latino Heritage Resource Center (\$600,000 in 1995-96)," Muratsuchi pointed out.

JANM, he added, is the only U.S. institution providing a comprehensive program of history, culture and education on the Japanese American experience. ■

Peruvian Nikkei now feel they're 'no longer foreigners' in Peru

BY HARRY K. HONDA
Editor emeritus

LOS ANGELES—"Without a doubt, President Alberto Fujimori is the most famous Japanese descendant in the world." This was the opening line by Dr.



Mary Fukumoto to as she lectured on "President Alberto Fujimori, the Peruvian Nikkei Community and the Current Hostage Crisis," May 1 at UCLA.

As president, Fujimori tamed the hyperinflation rate after he assumed office from 5,600% to 10% this year, according to the Central Bank of Peru, and foreign investments, especially from Japan, have developed the nation economically. The Nikkei identity in Peru has since been transformed, so that Japanese Peruvians "no longer regard themselves as foreigners."

Japanese Peruvians have long maintained a low profile while quietly integrating into Spanish culture and Peruvian life, aware of the history of anti-Oriental racism in Peru. Thus, as victims of alienation and regarding themselves as foreigners in their native country, Peruvian Nikkei participation in politics was very limited compared with the Nikkei experience in the United States which began to bloom in the 1950s.

The Peruvian Nikkei political picture took form in 1979 when a Nisei, Lima businessman Manuel Kawashita, was elected a delegate to the national Constituent Assembly to ratify a new constitution that restored civilian government. Kawashita was among the 225 hostages who were released Dec. 22 from the beleaguered Japanese Ambassador's residence. (A historical note: No less than 22 constitutions were passed since Peru promulgated its first in 1823.)

A few Nisei won seats in local elections in the 1980-1983 period. (At least eight Nisei were mayors, Dr. Luis Kobashi writes in his 1980 report on the Nikkei in Peru in the Pacific Citizen.) There were 14 Nisei candidates in the 1985 national elections in the House and Senate but none were successful, but the incoming president, Alan Garcia, appointed several to positions in his government.

Then came 1990 when an un-

known candidate in a brand new party on a low-budget nation-wide campaign—a political outsider—managed to force the internationally known author and front-runner from the outset, Mario Vargas Llosa, into a run-off. The latter had polled 28% to Fujimori's 25% in the primaries. While Nisei candidates spoke of ethnic solidarity in their campaigns in the Nikkei community, Fujimori spelled out his goals for Peru, repeating the party slogan, "Honesty, Technology and Work," to renew the moral standards of the nation.

With scant support from the Nikkei community, Fujimori won the runoff election with 56% to Vargas Llosa's 35%, a "trouncing," reported a U.S. correspondent. The other ballots were either blank or irregular. Over 4.5 million total votes were cast. Several Nisei also won seats to Congress. Fujimori was inaugurated on his 52nd birthday, July 28, Peru's Independence Day.

Fukumoto said the Peruvian Nikkei community initially did not know him well as an educator and university rector. It was feared if his government performed badly, "we would suffer by it." Nisei leaders who supported Vargas Llosa also feared fellow Peruvian Nikkei would be targeted by leftist rebels bent on overthrowing a government headed by a Japanese Peruvian.

See PERU/page 7

JACL applauds passage of Arizona hate crimes bill

PHOENIX—Governor Fife Symington signed into law on April 28 Senate Bill 1047, a bill that he was widely expected to veto and similar to one that he had vetoed last year. The new law gives judges the discretion to impose stiffer criminal sentences where a convicted felon intentionally selected the victim because of the victim's race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender or disability.

The Japanese American Citizens League applauded the Arizona governor and state legislature for enacting a new law that adds bigotry to a list of aggravating circumstances for criminal sentencing purposes. Arizona became the 37th state in the nation to enact this type of law to address hate crimes.

"This law sends a strong message. See HATE CRIME/page 11

Mainland ties suspected in graffiti at Oahu cemeteries

HONOLULU—Joint police and FBI task forces collected evidence and analyzed the blood-red spray graffiti which desecrated some 260 grave markers at seven Oahu cemeteries and 22 walls of the columbarium at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (the Punchbowl) during the night hours of April 19-20.

Police Capt. Doug Miller Wednesday (April 23) said the investigators believe the vandalism was done by a group of individuals, possibly with ties to the Mainland. "Differences in handwriting would indicate more than one individual was involved," he felt. And since there were seven sites involved in a short time element, "there may have been more than one person."

Content of the messages, which included racial comments about Hawaii and its police, further points to someone who may be from out of state, he said.

At Hawaii State Veterans Cem-

etry in Kaneohe, Gov. Ben Cayetano said as he was leaving a defaced columbarium wall Sunday. "This desecration is the worst I have ever seen. It's outrageous."

The message on the wall read: "My love was greater than your love. Now my hate is greater than your hate. HPD [Honolulu Police Department] ignores hate crime. Let them ignore this too."

The same message on one marble wall at the Punchbowl was signed: "We are Ps.A.R.I.H. (Psychos Against Racism in Hawaii)."

Police Chief Michael Nakamura, promising action, declared: "I will stick my neck out and say it will be solved eventually."

On Wednesday, April 30, federal and local police reported "significant progress" in their investigations but declined to provide further details. Rewards for information leading to arrest of vandals climbed past \$20,000 by the end of

See OAHU/page 6

Census update: the budget angle looms

WASHINGTON—If the Senate Appropriations Committee action—ordering the Census Bureau not to spend money developing statistical sampling tools to increase accuracy—survives, "the prohibition on sampling may affect minorities and groups that are traditionally undercounted," said Director Martha Farnsworth Riche of the Census Bureau.

The bureau proposes for the 2000 census to use statistical sampling once it had counted 90% of the households in a given

area, and then use that data to calculate what the remaining 10% of the households would presumably be like. Meanwhile, two views expressed in USA Today May 1 addressed the proposed "multiracial" category. The newspaper was for: "Americans shouldn't be denied their identity because it is kaleidoscopic." John J. Miller of the Center for Equal Opportunity, in an opposing view, said the "multiracial box... would also increase the poisonous racialization of American life." ■

Youth 'keeping memories alive' at Manzanar pilgrimage

BY CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant Editor

MANZANAR, Calif.—For Honey Wada, this year's 28th annual Manzanar Pilgrimage was an anniversary of sorts but it wasn't something she had planned.

Wada, a resident of New Jersey, was visiting relatives in Southern California when she came across a local paper announcing the pilgrimage. Fifty years had passed since she last visited the site where she and her family had been interned during World War II, so she decided to take part.

"I'm amazed at all the people who turned out here," said the 76-year-old Nisei, who saw close to 500 people of all generations and backgrounds at the April 26 pil-

grimage. There's no sign of Barrack 17 today, the temporary unit where Wada spent a year of her life. Only a police post and sentry house remain of the camp that once housed 10,000 JAs, but Wada doesn't mind. The scenic mountains cradling Manzanar, the snowcapped tips to the west, and the colorful peaks to the east are all she needed to remember back half a century ago.

"We took the situation of where we were and we made the best of it," she said, gazing up at the mountains, thinking back to the bitterly cold winters and searing summer heat of life in the desert.

The land transfer of the Manzanar National Historic Site from the Los Angeles Department of See MANZANAR/page 7



PHOTO BY CAROLINE AOYAGI

NISEI HONEY WADA (right) and grand-niece Stacey Wada take a break during the 28th annual Manzanar pilgrimage.

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JACL Calendar

ATTENTION: Details indicated with *NOTES* are usually published with a Calendar entry at the outset. All -JACL and Community- will be contained on this one page as far as possible. TIME JAL USE is the chief consideration.

Eastern

NATIONAL 1998: July 1-5 - 35th biennial Nat'l JACL Convention, Sheraton Society Hill, Philadelphia.
NEW YORK Sun, June 1 - '97 Scholarship Awards luncheon, 1-4 p.m., Sanjwa Flower Restaurant, 306 E. 39th St., 1st and 2nd Ave., RSVP by May 26, Ron Uba 210/697-8116

Midwest

TRI-DISTRICT (EDC-MDC-MDC) Thu., Sun. July 31-Aug. 3 - TPCC Conference, Radisson Hotel & Suites, Huron St. nr N. Michigan Ave.; info and mail regis. (\$115 before 6/30, \$145 after) to Bill Yoshino, Chicago JACL, 5415 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640, 773/728-7170, fax 773/728-7231

Southwest

Sat. May 24 - Youth picnic at Strawberry Lane, lunch provided; info: Hazel Asamoto, 216/921-2976, Cleveland, OH 44120, 216/921-2976

Intermountain

BI-DISTRICT JACL-Tukwila, Wash. July 18-19 - Bi-District PNW-Intermountain District Council meeting & conference, Sat. workshops (tentative): Intergenerational dialogue, Raising bi-racial children, Political empowerment/involvement

Northwest

SEABROOK Thu., June 12 - Annual SECC meeting, 7 p.m. Upper Seabrook Terrace Municipal Bldg. WASHINGTON, D.C. Tue., May 20 - APAHC, AJAA, APA Bar Assn talk and book signing by Prof. Man Matsuda, Georgetown Univ. Law Center, 7 p.m., S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Dr SW, info: Marshall Wong, 202/786-2403

Denver

Thu., Sat. Sept. 11-13 - MIS-Rox by Mountain Reunion, Renaissance Hotel, 3801 Quebec St., info: Kent Yonitomo 303/936-1292, MIS Reunion 1997, PO Box 1319, Denver, CO 80201-1319

Oregon

Thu., Mon., May 22-26 - Asn Film Series NETPAC/USC, University of Oregon, Eugene; info: Asn Pac Media Ctr, 213/743-1939

Washington, D.C.

2000: Aug. 11-13 - Greater Portland Reunion III, Lloyd Center Red Lion Inn; Volunteers needed for planning; call Kenzie Namba, Reunion Chair 503/453-0848, Kurts Inoué 503/682-3238

Olympia, Wash.

Mon., Sun., May 26 June 1 - Asn Film Series NETPAC/USC, South Puget Sound Community College, Olympia; info: 213/743-1939

Northern Cal

DAVIS Through July 15 - "Kites: Paper Wings from Japan" exhibit, Davis Art Center, 1919 F St., info: 916/756-6410

Peninsula

Sun., May 25 - USC-Santa Cruz musical drama: "Farewell to Manzanar", p.m., Palo Alto Buddhist Temple hall, 2751 Louis Rd., Palo Alto; Sequoia JACL sponsors; info: Misao Sakamoto 415/493-5508, Hiroko Uyoshida 415/328-4220, Floyd Kumagai 415/856-9662

Sacramento

Through Aug. 8 - "Diamonds in the Rough" exhibit (expanded), State Capitol Museum, 1st floor rotunda. NOTE - Saturday symposiums: May 17, 11 a.m., "Bridge Across the Pacific: Nisei Tours to Japan Prewar and Postwar"; June 14, 11 a.m., "Sports Media and the Nisei Baseball Experience"; Jerry Nakagawa, mod'r.

San Francisco

Thu., May 22 - Asn Law Caucus Welfare Reform Legal Clinic, noon-3 p.m., Richmond Police Station Comm Room, 6th Ave. & Geary St., info: 415/931-1655. NOTE - Attorneys to discuss legal exceptions to Welfare Reform Act and how to deal with Social Security interviews, the appeals process after August re General Assistance, Medical, class-action lawsuit and legislation being proposed in Washington and Sacramento.

San Jose

Sat., Mon., May 26-28 - Annual Asn American jazz festival, Golden Gate Park; info: Asian Art Museum of San Francisco Outreach, 415/379-8979

Tri-District

Fri., May 30 - Preview: "Gravity Falls from Trees," play by Sung J. Rno (pronounced "know") starring Steve Park, 8:30 p.m., Magic Theatre, Fort Mason Center, Bldg "D"; info: 415/440-5545. NOTE - Runs through June 22, Thu-Sat 8:30 p.m., Sun 2 & 7 p.m.

District Council meeting & conference, Best Western Southcenter, 800/544-9863 (mention "JACL" for special room rates). Info: 206/623-5088

NAT'L JACL 1000 CLUB

Fri., Sun., Oct. 10-13 - Fifteenth anniversary 1000 Club celebration, Cactus Peters's, Jackpot, Nev., info: Hid Hasegawa, Idaho Falls 208/529-1525. NOTE - Co-hosts: Intermountain District Council; Friday night mixer, Saturday golf, banquet, Sunday getaway breakfast. Airport shuttle-bus service from Salt Lake City, Twin Falls or Boise to Jackpot to be coordinated.

Pacific Northwest

BI-DISTRICT JACL-Tukwila, Wash. July 18-19 - Bi-District PNW-Intermountain District Council meeting & conference, Sat. workshops (tentative): Intergenerational dialogue, Raising bi-racial children, Political empowerment/involvement; Membership recruitment/services; Cultural arts/craft. Best Western Southcenter, Tukwila (adjacent to Sea-Tac), comments and info: 206/623-5088. NOTE - Mention "JACL" for special room rates, 800/544-9863. Booster events: Friday golf tournament, Sat. evening Seattle Bon Odori Festival; Sun. tour of historic Seattle Nihonmachi. Theme: "Community Envisioning Tomorrow."

NC-WN-Pacific

TRI-DISTRICT Fri., Sun., June 6-8 - CCDC hosts: Tri-District PSW/CN/CWNP Conference, Stardust Hotel-Casino, Las Vegas; info: Patricia Tasi, CCDC director 209/486-6815. NOTE - Paul Igarashi, luncheon speaker for "A57 Club" group; 700 reservations 800/634-6757. The Stardust is unable to accept any Saturday arrivals.

Berkeley Sat., May 31 - Deadline for Dr. Yoshie Togaaki Scholarship, \$1,000 award, open to college students residing in Contra Costa or Alameda County majoring in health science at a 4-year institution; applications from Tamiko Nimura, 1235 Solano, info: #5, Albany, CA 94706, 510/526-1539, or timurak@clm4.berkeley.edu

Fremont Mon., May 26 - Memorial Day service. INFO: 202/727-6315

Sun., Sept. 21 - Fidelity tour: Cynthia Lu, chapter president, 415/338-1100

Sun., Oct. 19 - Halloween in Cynthia Lu. Sun., Nov. 16 - Hochtsuki. Sun., Dec. 14 - Holiday Season potluck. Sun., Jan. 18 - Installation / potluck. Sacramento Sun., June 1 - 47th annual JACL Community

Community

Sun., June 1 - Nikkei Widowed Group, 2-4 p.m. info: Elise Uyeda-Chung 415/221-0268. Kay Yamamoto 510/434-391

Through June 28 - Lacquer picnic sets from Osaka, 9:30 a.m.-5 (Wed-Sun), Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park, info: 415/379-8801

NOTE - June 28-Sept. 28 "India a Celebration" in commemoration of 50th anniversary of Indian independence in 1947

Sat., July 12 through Oct. 31 - Premiere: "Nikkei Music Makers Reminiscing in Swing Time, Herbst Exhibition Hall, The Presidio, Main Post, info: NIAHS, 415/431-5007. NOTE - The NIAHS annual members & board meeting July 16-20

SAN JOSE Sat., June 14 - Mike Moneishi Retirement banquet, 5 p.m., Double Tree (Red Lion Inn), 2050 Gateway Place, info: Ben Katai 408/279-7410, Yu-Ai Kai 408/294-2505. NOTE - Moneishi, Union Kai manager for 20 years at San Jose branch, is retiring June 1997, much admired by the community for his contributions.

SUN MATEO Sun., June 1 - Discussion Group: "Onnagata," Kabuki actor Bando Tamasaburo's portrayal of female roles; 1:30 p.m., home of Iru Sugihara in San Francisco, member follows at local restaurant; info: Tamiko Miyachi, discussion leader 415/343-2793

Southern Cal

GARDENA-MINIDOKA Sun., July 27 - Minidoka Camp Reunion, "Sharing Memories" luncheon, Sea Empress Seafood Restaurant, Gardena. RSVP; info: Betty (Yamauchi) Endo 213/321-5279, Toshi (Shoji) to 909/861-9676. NOTE - Poet Mitsuye (Yasutake) Yamada, author of Camp Notes (Harmony and Minidoka) and Other Poems, guest speaker.

Sat., Oct. 18 - 7th annual Japanese American Historical Society of So Calif. community heritage awards dinner. LOS ANGELES Sat., May 17 - St. Mary's annual bazaar-carnival, 11 a.m.-8 p.m., 915 S. Mariposa, info: 213/387-1324

Sat., May 17 - UCLA Asn Am Studies Ctr-Visual Comm Independent Feature workshop, James West Alumni Center, info: 213/680-4462

Wed., May 21 - Film premiere: "Visas and Virtue," 7 p.m., Laemmle's Sunset 5 Theatre, 8000 Sunset Blvd., info: Cedar Grove Productions, 213/668-1018. NOTE - Five dates: May 24, 25, 26, 31, June 10, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Fri., Mon., May 23-26 - Japanese American Korean War Memorial Wall dedication and reunion, JACCSC; Sat. banquet at Hyatt Regency, Picnic, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., William Land Park, adjacent to Riverside Blvd. across from Jewish Temple. NOTE - Taiko Dan concert, noon; kiddies' races, adult games, 12:30 p.m., free Binge; 7 p.m.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY Mon., July 7 - 1st annual JACL Scholarship golf tournament, Sierra LaVerne Country Club; info and scholarship fund donations to: Toshi Ito, 1824 Leaning Pine Dr., Diamond Bar, CA 91765

DICTIONARY Sat., May 24 - JACL Community picnic, 10 a.m., Mickle Grove, Lodi; info: Ruby Dobana 209/575-1801, May Saiki 465-8107, Edwin Endow 477-6905. NOTE - Turn right at main gate to the San Joaquin section

WEST VALLEY/NEXT GENERATION Sat., Sun., June 7-8 - Volleyball tournament, 30 teams on six courts, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills; info: Steve Abe 408/241-5749, Troy Takao 408/4482. NOTE - Second tournament follows Aug. 23-24 at San Jose State

Through Aug. 10 - Ten-week Volleyball League (5 bye dates): 7:10 p.m., Campbell Community Center; info: Steve Abe 408/241-5749, Troy Takao 408/4482. NOTE - Instructions from Coach Ruben Nieves, head coach, Stanford University Men's Team; Tom Shoda, NVG volleyball director

Pacific Southwest

NATIONAL JACL YOUTH Fri., Sun., June 20-22 - Nat'l JACL Youth Conference, UC Irvine; info: Nat'l HQ 415/921-5225; Hiroshi Ueha 714/824-7414 day, 559-1353 eve; hueh@aol.com; NOTE - \$50 regis. (includes meals) by May 30, \$25 after May 30; computer package \$25; meal, parking and conference fees; Vision Awards Saturday dinner, \$25; includes conference, 2 nights stay, meals; barbecue, workshops, movie/night, luncheon, Sat. dinner. Rappin' among the Generations. Closing speaker: Warren Furutani. There is no shuttle service from John Wayne Airport to UCI miles away

TRI-DISTRICT Fri., Sun., June 6-8 - CCDC hosts: Tri-District PSW/CN/CWNP Conference, Stardust Hotel-Casino, Las Vegas; info: Patricia Tasi, CCDC director 209/486-6815. NOTE - For "JACL Group 697" room reservations 800/634-6757. The Stardust is unable to accept any Saturday arrivals.

DISTRICT COUNCIL Sun., May 18 - 2nd Quarterly Session, Willow Street Center, 4101 E. Willow St., Long Beach; info: 213/626-4471. NOTE - Greater L.A. Singles host. ARIZONA 1998: Jan. 5-Feb. 19 - Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibit: "A More Perfect Union," Phoenix Public Library.

AFAN (Asn Pac Am Network) Wed., May 28 - Deadline for chapter scholarships to college-bound Asian/Pacific Islander high school graduates; applications/info: Elaine Kojima 310/473-7094; Eric Kurumura 310/782-9765

GREATER L.A. SINGLES Sat., May 18 - Hosting 2nd PSW/DC session, Willow Street Center, 4101 E. Willow St., Long Beach, 310/626-0555

LA S VEGAS Sun., June 29 - 22nd annual International Food Festival/terrace/skiss booth, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Cashman Field Exhibit Hall, info: 702/658-0212

SOUTH BAY/YAG Fri., May 16 - 2nd general meeting, 8 p.m., JANN, 369 E. Little Tokyo (site tentative); info: Harelina 310/854-4570

VENTURA COUNTY Fri., July 4 - Ventura Street Fair food booth: gyoza and shaved ice. SE corner of Figueroa and East Main St., near the park, 7 a.m. set up, sales from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; info: Any chapter board member. Chuck 805/484-0676

Sun., Oct. 5 - Cultural Heritage Day. 6 p.m. info: Min Tona 216/919-1269, Robert Wada 714/992-5461

Wed., May 28 - U.S. premiere of Japanese animation film "The Cat Returns" at the Electronic Gate International, 1649-18th St., Santa Monica. RSVP Japan America Society 213/627-6217 x-17. NOTE - In conjunction with Mxxx Publications and Electronic Gate.

Sat., May 31 - JANN Book party with Al Sakakima, Mxx Forum's sponsor Thy Children, 1:30 p.m., JANN, 369 E. 1st St., RSVP recommended, 213/625-0414

Sat., June 7 - Nikkei Singles Moon dance, 7-11 p.m., VFW, 1964 W. 162nd St., Gardena; info: Bra 213/938-6464

Sat., June 7 - Sage United Methodist Church bazaar, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., at new church location: 1850 W. Hellman Ave., Alhambra (8 blks west of Atlantic Blvd.); info: 818/570-4500

Through June 8 - Exhibit: "The Kona Coffee Story," JACL, 369 E. 1st St., 213/626-0414

Sat., June 14 - East San Gabriel Valley ICC Sabes/Saberette Youth Basketball Org. "Casino Night", 6:30-11 p.m., Center Gym, 1203 W. Puente Ave., West Covina; info: 818/912-8908

Sat., June 14-15 - Fathers Day celebration, Japanese Village Plaza, Little Tokyo, info: Katherin Inouye, 818/280-4432

Thu., June 19-29 - UCLA Film - TV Archives' Pan-Asian Cinema Festival, "Electric Shadows," details TBA, Bing Theatre, L.A. County Museum of Museum of Art, co-sponsors Visual Communication, FACMA

LOS ANGELES-MEXICO CITY Sun., June 29 - PANA Friendship golf tournament, 9:30 a.m., Los Amigos Golf Course, 7295 Quill Dr., info: Seicho Fujikawa, PANA USA, 431 Crocker St., Los Angeles, CA 90013

SUN JOSE Sat., July 24-27 - 9th PANA Convention at Mexico City; info: Convention regis fee \$300 (payable to PANA-USA, c/o Ernest Hilda), U.S. delegates to stay at Nikko Hotel, details from Ernest Hilda, American Holiday Travel, 312 E. 1st St., Suite 341, Los Angeles, CA 90012, 213/225-2234

LOS ANGELES-POSTON I Fri., Sun., Oct. 24-26 - 55th Year camp reunion, Torrance Marriott Hotel; info: Shiz Tanaka-Fujimoto 714/540-4969, Mary Kinoshita-Higashi 310/832-3033, Nancy Matsumoto-Futsuda 313/888-9992. NOTE - Because many have moved in the past five years, the committee is unable to contact all former residents.

ORANGE COUNTY Fri., Mon., May 16-19 - Asian Film Series NETPAC/USC, National University, Costa Mesa; info: Asn Pac Media Ctr, 213/743-1939

SAN DIEGO Sat., May 10 - Union of Pan Asian Communities "Magic of Asia" dinner, 6 p.m., Sheraton San Diego, RSVP by May 2, U.PAC, Lana Tom 619/232-6454

Small kid time



Gwen Muranaka



POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

JACL MEMBERS Change of Address

If you have moved, please send information to: National JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115

JACL MEMBERS Support & Assist Volunteer Effort

Here's my contribution to support the JACL membership subscription rates are raised adequately, and to help bring C...

back to a weekly publication. Please send your tax deductible donations to: P.C. SAVE, 7 Cupanica Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755. Clarification: None of the contributions was ever intended to benefit staff personnel.

☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ More

Name _____ Address _____ City/State/ZIP _____

Thanks to the generosity of P.C. cartoonist, Pete Hirouaka of Dayton JACL, the first 100 who contribute \$100 or more to support the Pacific Citizen will receive a signed full-colored lithographed poster. These it measures 21x28 inches.

CORRECTION

The correct address in the letter from Mas Hatano (p.9, May 2 P.C.) is: 111 "I" St. Sacramento, CA 95814-2265.



By the Board

By RICHARD UNO

Re: Committee appointments, Media bashing

Thanks to P.C.'s "By the Board", for this opportunity to communicate. It is important for national JACL officers to be accessible to the membership. To that end, I and most of the national board will be attending the upcoming Tri-District convention (NCWNDC, CCDC and PSWDC) in Vegas, June 6-8. I further plan to attend the PNW-IDC Bi-District in Seattle July 18-19, and the EDC-MDC-MPDC Tri-District in Chicago July 31-Aug. 3. The round table discussions give you, as members, an opportunity to hear what's going on with national as well as ask a few questions of your leadership.

On a final note regarding accessibility, I plan to travel to Philadelphia this summer to meet with the convention committee. My apologies to Herb Horikawa, Gracye Ueyehara and Tom Komietani for not yet scheduling such a meeting. I will do so in the near future. I know that you and the convention committee already are hard at work.

Ever mindful of the need to increase JACL membership, our (Irene and my) son, Richard Joel, was born on May 9. I believe that the Florin Chapter membership chair, Tommy Kushi, has already mailed an application for him. All kidding aside, Tommy is really on the ball, bringing on new members for our chapter.

As VP of General Operations, I have several committees under my "jurisdiction." I have been able to recommend a number of individuals for chairpersonships. After my recommendation, the president, Helen Kawagoe, has the option to accept or reject those recommendations. Those accepted then have to be approved by the National Board. All of my recommendations "passed muster" and are as follows:

Convention Committee: Herb

Horikawa, Philadelphia chapter.
Nominations Committee: (co-chairs) Kim Nakahara, Washington, D.C. chapter; other co-chair is pending board approval.

Credentials Committee: Grace Kimoto, Governor of CCDC, Livingston Merced chapter.

Awards & Recognition Committee: Henry Tanaka, past National president, Cleveland chapter.

Japanese American of the Bi-annium Committee: chair is pending board approval.

Resolutions Committee: Andy Hamano, Mile Hi chapter.

There are two ad hoc committees Helen Kawagoe authorized and designated the VP/GO to appoint chairs for:
Bylaw & Constitution Revisions Committee: chair is pending board approval.

Chapter Relations Committee: (co-chairs) David Kawamoto, governor, PSWDC, San Diego chapter; other co-chair is pending.

I will, in a future article, talk a little bit about each of these chair persons and announce the other chairs once the National Board has had an opportunity to consider and approve them.

I consulted with the district governors in making these suggestions for committee chairs as I recognize that, as a national organization, our key people should reflect the geographic diversity of our group. I am confident that these individuals bring solid credentials to their positions as chair and will act in the best interests of JACL through their hard work and commitment.

I feel good that when I asked people to serve as a chair of a national committee, by and large they stepped forward. A couple of people who declined to serve carefully explained that they had other pressing obligations at work and in the community, i.e. they wanted to serve, but didn't have the time.

The point I would like to make is that JACLers and Asian Pacific Americans in general must step forward and get involved in this organization or in leadership positions in the Asian Community. This is important for our long-term organizational health as well as the community's well being.

All of us recognize the media bashing of Asian Americans (usually tied in with non-U.S. Asians) that has grown out of the alleged wrongful solicitation of campaign donations from foreign sources by John Huang. Some quarters say that the climate fostered by these misguided attacks on Asian Americans has had a "chilling effect" on our involvement in electoral politics, from campaigning for viable candidates to running for office to seeking appointments.

I encourage you to actively participate in the JACL whether it is at the chapter, district or national level. Your involvement in activities and leadership will strengthen our organization which has spoken out against the media bashing of Asian Americans.

Each of us should consider becoming active in leadership roles in our communities. This can mean involvement in the campaigns of candidates that are responsive to our concerns, running for school board or serving on a local board or commission.

As JACLers we must be active and cannot be passive in the face of media attacks on Asian American involvement in electoral politics. The last time I checked, these were constitutional rights. ■

Richard Uno is National Vice President for General Operations and an attorney, and writes from Sacramento.



JACL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE DELEGATES—Seated (from left): Patty Wada, Grace Kimoto, Assemblyman Nao Takasugi, Ross Kakinami. Standing—Richard Uno, Mrs. Mike Sawamura, Karen-Liane Shiba, Natsuko Sakai, Lori Fujimoto, Alice Ishigame-Tao, Patricia Tsai, Yoshiaki Kubota, Emily Murase, Al Muratsuchi, Mark Mitani, Herb Yamanishi, Craig Osaki. Photo taken in the State Capitol's Senate Hearing Room.

'Inside' view of state politics seen

BY EMILY MURASE

San Francisco JACL member

What does it take to run for political office? Does the money for the California lottery really go to education? What is the outlook for restoring welfare benefits to legal immigrants?

These were a few of the dozens of questions we posed to state legislators and policy-makers at the California Legislative Leadership Conference sponsored by the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District Council on April 20-22.

The JACL delegation included representatives from all over the state:

Alice Ishigame-Tao (APAN/Selanoco chapter), Ross Kakinami (Fresno chapter), Grace Kimoto (Livingston-Merced chapter and CCDC District governor), Yoshi Kubota (Riverside chapter), Mark Mitani (Watsonville chapter), Randy Okamura (San Jose chapter), Craig

See MURASE/ page 4

BY YOSHIKI KUBOTA

Riverside JACL member

Asian Americans represent approximately 10 percent of the population in California, yet they represent less than 2 percent of the membership of the state legislature. Only two of the 80 Assembly members are Asian, none among the 40 in the state senate. There is a need to increase Asian American representation at the state level. How can Asian Americans, who represent 10 percent of the population, have so little representation at the legislative level?

Between April 20-22, the JACL-NCWNPC District sponsored the California Legislative Leadership Conference, a three-day crash course in state politics, to introduce JACL members to individual California political leaders and teach them ways to bring influence to the state legislative and administrative process.

The 14-member JACL delegation

See KUBOTA/ page 4



By the Board

By TOM KOMIETANI

The value of networking

House Speaker Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill, Jr., once claimed that "all politics is local." Despite the wheeling and dealing that goes on inside the Beltway, congresspersons ultimately respond to their home voters. Many examples of that truth were evident in JACL's successful push for the Japanese American Redress legislation, HR442, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The monumental challenge was to get the support of congresspersons across the 50 states, most of which had virtually no Japanese Americans much less people that have even heard of the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans. In fact, 80 percent of the congressional members came from states east of the Rocky Mountains, where only 20 percent of the Japanese Americans resided.

The network of 114 JACL chapters was crucial in securing grassroots support across the country. For example, networking helped get the vote of a key congressperson from West Virginia.

Early in the Redress campaign, JACL Legislative Education Committee (LEC) strategist Grant Ujifusa

and Director Gracye Ueyehara focused lobbying efforts on the members of the House Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations.

HR442 was stalled in the subcommittee (most bills die in subcommittees) and it was critical to move the bill on to the full committee before a full floor debate and vote could take place.

Half of the subcommittee supported the Redress bill. Although, subcommittee member Rep. Harley O. Staggers, Jr., (D-West Virginia) favored the bill, he declined to commit support because he had not heard from his constituents concerning the issue.

Gracye asked me, as the Eastern legislative coordinator, to get constituent letters to Staggers' office urging support for Redress. Since there were no known Japanese Americans in West Virginia, we had to look for other connections.

I was a lay member of the New Jersey United Methodist Conference. The Conference, as well as the National United Methodist Organization, had already passed resolutions supporting HR442. Bishop

Neil Irons had just been assigned to the New Jersey Conference from the West Virginia Conference and was able to provide names of several West Virginia clergypersons. After many telephone calls, I persuaded several members of the clergy to write Rep. Staggers and get others to do the same. One of these people was the minister of Harley Staggers' brother in Keyser. Another minister turned out to be a classmate of the Congressman (Who, Bucky? Gosh, I went to high school with him—sure, I'll write him). In a short time, about a dozen letters got to "Bucky" and he signed onto the bill, which was then reported out to the full Committee.

The "Methodist connection" is an example of effective networking. I am continually amazed at the potential influence individual Japanese Americans across the U.S. can exert in their work and home communities. JACL has achieved its legislative goals over the decades by calling on its network of diverse talents and connections to gain the support of other Americans.

JACL has worked in concert with other groups and organizations on common issues and concerns. We need to keep that network alive and well.

Recognizing the value and necessity of networking, the 1997 EDC/MDC/MPDC Tri-District Conference in Chicago July 31-August 3 will feature a Networking Workshop conducted by Janice "Sam" Sears of the Southeast JACL Chapter. Sam developed the workshop for personal effectiveness in the business community and has adapted it for volunteer organizations.

I hope many of you will take advantage of this opportunity to sharpen your networking skills. ■

Tom Komietani, Eastern District Council governor, writes from Warren, N.J.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

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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MURASE

(Continued from page 3)

Osaki (APAN chapter), Natsuko Sakai (APAN chapter), Karen-Liane Shiba (Selanoco chapter), and myself (San Francisco chapter).

We came from diverse backgrounds (social work, farming, law, education, health science, retail, architecture, and telecommunications) and ages (college-aged to semi-retired). And our opinions were sometimes divided (e.g., on the proper role of government, equity of the criminal justice system, and the economics of labor rights). But our goal was a common one: to understand the legislative process and to exchange views with key policymakers on issues important to our community.

In the executive branch, we spoke with Assistant Secretary of State Jeff Uyeda about voting rights and statewide elections; Henry Der, Deputy Superintendent for External Affairs at the Department of Education, about strengthening high school curriculum; and Attorney General Dan Lungren about countering hate crimes. Al Lee, Chief Deputy Director of the Employment Development Agency, offered advice on effecting policy change by working cooperatively with government agencies. A highlight of the conference was a tour of the state vault with Assistant Treasurer Joseph Yew.

We also met with legislators from all over the state. Assemblyman Steve Kuykendall of Long Beach discussed bipartisanship; Senator Patrick Johnston of Stockton talked about school standards; Assemblyman Nao Takasugi of Oxnard shared his experiences as an elected official; Assemblyman Mike Honda offered strategies for a successful campaign. Priscilla Ouchida of Senator Johnston's office took us on a privileged "behind the scenes tour" of the building. Tom Keaney, Chief

of Staff to Congressman Robert Matsui, traveled from Washington, D.C., to meet with us after hours to discuss the view from Washington.

In answer to our questions, Assemblyman Honda offered his advice about what it takes to run for political office: know yourself and develop a wide network including not only Japanese Americans, but a variety of ethnic and community groups.

Regarding whether schools benefited from California lottery proceeds, the answer was a disappointing "no."

And, according to several members of the legislature engaged in restoring welfare benefits to legal immigrants, there is reason to be optimistic. Of course, the outcome will be influenced by the degree to which community groups continue to push for legislation to modify punitive welfare reform measures.

What was most impressive about our briefings was the network of smart, talented, and very dedicated Asian Pacific Americans involved in state government. Our session with legislative staffers Jody Fujii of Assemblyman Machado's office and Bill Wong of Assemblyman Honda's office on the "Do's and Don'ts of Lobbying" was one of the most informative.

And there is also a strong network of Asian Pacific Americans in the local media, covering the news in and around the state capitol. News producer Stanton Tang of the Sacramento NBC news affiliate and local FOX news reporter Lonnie Wong provided insights on how best to engage media for community issues and events.

It was clear in the wrap-up session that we had emerged from the conference more knowledgeable about the political process and energized to play a role in it—as a future candidate, cabinet member, community advocate or organizer. This was JACL at its very best—training leaders for the community.

KUBOTA

(Continued from page 3)

represented a diverse group of Asian Americans hailing from all across California. (Their names are listed in the companion piece by Emily Murase of San Francisco.) We discussed politics and policies with legislators, state agency administrators and top policy makers.

Getting a legislator to pay attention to the Asian American may seem difficult, but it is not impossible. The process of influencing the state legislative and administrators was outlined by legislative staffers Jody Fujii for Michael Machado and Bill Wong for Mike Honda. Tom Keaney, Chief of Staff to Congressman Matsui, discussed the process at the federal level. The staffers discussed how Asian Americans could affect policy through working relationships with legislators and staff. Once these relationships are established with Asian American activists, then the Asian American community as a whole will benefit from its increased political stature.

The media is another vehicle by which public opinion and policy can be changed. Stanton Tang of NBC News and Lonnie Wong of FOX News provided insight into this process. The media set the agenda for what issues are deemed to be important on any given day, thus it is essential to get your message understood by those in the media. How is this done? It helps to know someone on the inside to have your message heard; for example, know your local newspaper editor.

The ability to have an impact on a policy or law does not end when it is implemented. Once a bill becomes law, it must be enforced by the executive branch. The administration is not immune to public pressure or public concern. It operates with the public in mind. Jeff Uyeda, Assistant Secretary of State, spoke about voting rights and statewide elections. Henry Der, Deputy Superintendent for External Affairs at the Department of Education, discussed affirmative action and education; Joseph Yew, Assistant Treasurer, spoke about the Treasurer's office

and impact of economic policy; Al Lee, Chief Deputy Director of the Employment Development Agency, gave an overview of its services; and Attorney General Dan Lungren spoke about California's Anti-Hate-Violence Project.

The most influential policy makers are the legislators themselves. The following legislators addressed the Conference: Senator Patrick Johnston of Stockton; Assemblyman Steve Kuykendall of Long Beach; Assemblyman Nao Takasugi of Oxnard; and Assemblyman Mike Honda of Santa Clara. Johnston discussed school standards, while Kuykendall spoke on bipartisanship and legislation.

The conference highlight was the meeting with Assemblyman Takasugi and Assemblyman Honda. Takasugi (R-Oxnard) demonstrated an inherent understanding of how to affect policy at the local and state level. His involvement with politics was accidental. A businessman who became dissatisfied with local government, he understood that the only way to change the system was to get involved. He not only got involved but soon found himself the mayor of Oxnard. Takasugi was so successful as mayor, local community leaders pushed him into the race for Assembly seat.

Honda, (D-San Jose) discussed his experiences as a state legislator. His political career began when he was appointed to the San Jose Planning Commission. He was elected to the San Jose school board and then to the Santa Clara County board of supervisors. One of the most dynamic and personable speakers, he explained the key elements of what is necessary to run for office: know yourself; be honest with yourself; cultivate relationships; and work hard at fund-raising.

The conference demonstrated that influencing policies, at any level, is not impossible. Simply put: Asian Americans must get involved.

The conference was a great success. Special thanks to Patty Wada, Lori Fujimoto, John Hayashi, Mark Morodomi and Herb Yamanishi for organizing and hosting the California Leadership Conference. ■

A very special thanks to Patty Wada (NCWNP Director), Lori Fujimoto, vice president for Public Affairs, John Hayashi (San Francisco chapter) and Mark Morodomi (Florin chapter) for organizing the activity. And thanks to JACL staff Al Muratsuchi (PSW Director), Patricia Tsai (CCDC Director), Herb Yama-

nishi (National Director), and Rick Uno (National Vice President for General Operations) for their leadership during the conference. We also enjoyed the gracious hospitality of the Sacramento and Florin chapters, and NCWNP District governor Alan Nishi. ■

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To find out more about a meeting in your area or for more information about Shield 65, please call 1-800-977-8998 or the JACL Group Health Trust office at 1-800-400-6633. If you are not a current JACL member, you may sign up to become one at one of the informational meetings.

For Your Information

There are many individuals who have been actively promoting the JACL Curriculum and Resource Guide across the country, some since the first publication of the Guide back in 1992, others who have been involved in outreach by making presentations in classrooms when invited. It is our intention to recognize some of these volunteers and share their stories with the readers of the Pacific Citizen. If you know of someone who is, or has been, involved in efforts to reach into the education community and bring the story of the internment into the classroom, we would like you to contact the Pacific Citizen.

THE Education Committee of Washington, D.C. Chapter has accomplished a great deal through exemplary teamwork. One of those team members was Marilyn Nagano-Schliel. She attended the National JACL Education Workshop over the Memorial Day weekend in 1994 where she first saw the Curriculum and Resource Guide and participated in the workshops, offering many positive comments and suggestions. Upon her return to D.C., she presented the "team" with her enthusiasm and the Guide which resulted in a three pronged program.

The first prong was the oral history interviews of local Issei and Nisei with a focus on the personal impact the internment experience had on them. This was initiated by Leslie Hatamiya while she was in Washington, D.C. Financial support came from many sources including the Eastern District Council and Legacy Fund grants.

The second prong was to utilize the latest technologies to share and disseminate information about the internment camps in the United States. This involved volunteer technical assistance from Tokyo Broadcasting Company and the Education Committee was able to record eight interviews in addition to the 13 oral histories and two written ones. At present, they are investigating how to develop an educational CD-ROM about the internment.

The Committee worked with students from Thomas Jefferson Science and Technology Magnet High School. They put together a nine-minute video with excerpts from the many interviews that the Committee had completed and it was screened at the 50th anniversary of the Chapter last year.

An ongoing part of the third prong includes the continued outreach to the local school districts through chapter-sponsored teacher workshops like those conducted at Montgomery County School District in Maryland and Arlington Public School District in Virginia. Copies of the JACL Curriculum and Resource Guide were provided to the educators attending the workshop. The speakers' bureau, consisting of volunteers, respond to requests from local schools, churches, and community organizations to have someone talk about the internment and the constitutional violations that occurred during World War II against Americans of Japanese ancestry.

The Committee continues to work on developing a resource library for use by the volunteers of the speaker's bureau, as well as for educators who are seeking supplemental material and information about the internment.

With the commitment of each of the team members George Wakiji, Betty Wakiji, Clyde Nishimura, Susan Higashi-Rumberg, Julia Kuroda, Yuka Fujikura, Fumi Nishi, Mary Oda, Carol Izumi, Mary Teda, and Karen Makkreef, a former Mike Masaoka fellow, they have come a long way in bringing the internment experience into the classroom. Their stories will serve as a lesson so such an experience will never happen again to any group in the United States. They demonstrate what can be accomplished together and exemplify the best of JACL volunteers. ■

Okura Mental Health Foundation names 1997 interns

BETHESDA, Md.—Ten applicants were selected by the Okura Mental Health Foundation as White House Fellows/Interns for this year, and the Week in Washington leadership seminar, held April 20-26. More than 40 applicants had applied. The 1997 Fellows are:

Alvin N. Alvarez, Ph.D., senior staff psychologist; Director, Outreach & Consultation, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Jacqueline J. Berganio, Program Analyst/Press Coordinator Seattle-King Co.; Dept. of Public Health, Div. of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, Seattle, Wash.

Karin H. Chao, Psychology Master Program, California State University, Long Beach, Calif.

Chetra A. Keo, Parent/Community Educator, United Cambodian Community, Long Beach, Calif.

Andrew Y. Kim, Director, Asian American Counseling & Learning Center, Chantilly, Va.

Jocelyn A. Lui, Manager, Children, Youth and Family Program, Asian Counseling Referral Serv., Seattle, Wash.

Hoang Thanh Nguyen, Data Analyst, University of Texas, Medical Branch at Galveston, Galveston, Texas.

Ly Nguyen, Graduate Intern, American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

Marie P. Ting, Program Coordinator, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Julie C. Yi, Ph.D. Candidate, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. ■

Heart Mountain, Wyo., Foundation organized, charter members sought

POWELL, Wyo.—The Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation (HMWF) is conducting its first membership drive since its formation last year as a nonprofit Wyoming corporation "to educate the public about the significance of the historical events surrounding the internment of Japanese-Americans during WWII, and especially the experiences of Japanese-Americans who were interned at the Heart Mountain camp near Powell, Wyo."

Serving on an interim board until a permanent board is seated include Foundation president David Reetz, Paul Tsuneishi (Sunland, Calif.), Carol K. Takeshita (Denver), Barbara Uriu Ralston (Cheyenne, Wyo.), Antonette C. Noble (Cora, Wyo.), historian; Advisory Council: Alan K. Simpson, Norman Mineta, Sue Kunitomo Embrey (Manzanar Committee), Lane Ryo Hirabayashi, Ph.D. (University of Colorado-Boulder) and Nancy Araki (JANM, Los Angeles).

Reetz sought to merge two Powell groups interested in preserving the Heart Mountain Camp history: the H.M. Relocation Center Memorial Association and the H.M. Japanese American Memorial Foundation.

Teachers publish own Asian American histories for classroom

RICHMOND, Calif.—In the 1970s the Richmond Unified School District organized several Asian American faculty members during the summer of 1972 to start doing something about the dearth in the classrooms of the history of the Chinese and Japanese-Americans in California.

The teachers strove to fill the gap between specialized academic studies suitable for university students on one end and the short, sporadic and spotty inserts in general readers on the other end. The project entailed extensive research and writing for use by elementary and secondary students.

Under supervision of Leland Shimada (Berkeley), Yas Aoki (elementary), June Kodani (secondary), Shirley Wong Easton (elementary), Annie Soo (secondary) and Sue Yusa (elementary), histories were produced of their respective ethnic communities for classroom use.

The Richmond Unified School District also supplemented the project with workshops for teachers to facilitate the successful incorporation of the materials into their lessons.

In 1992, Chizu Iiyama and June

The 'real' right stuff: the GI Joes in the 442nd Regt.

(Excerpts from Washington Post staff writer Phil McCombs' interview with Joseph Ichiji last October.)

BETHESDA, Md.—"He's just another guy. You'd pass him in the Safeway and never look twice. You wouldn't know he's an American hero."

"Of course, he'd seriously object to any such designation, and probably wouldn't have given me an interview if he'd known I'd call him that. His name is Joseph Ichiji and he lives with wife, Susie (or Asako, take your pick), in a nice house up in Bethesda—a perfectly mild-mannered, soft-voiced retired Agency for International Development accountant in gray sweats with a Dior logo stamped on the jacket, 77 winters at his back, and pictures of his beloved grandchildren all over the living room."

That's how McCombs sizes up the Washington, DC JACLer who grew up in Pacific Grove, Calif., where his father was a shoe repairman with six children, and then after Pearl Harbor was evacuated with his family and interned in Poston, Arizona.

The reporter also remembered his own grandparents lived in San Bernardino during the period and that his grandfather, Elmer McCombs, a Prudential insurance office manager, had defended a family that was shipped to the camps. "He had risked his standing in the community for writing

letters vouching for their loyalty and praising them as exemplary citizens."

Here's where the "hero part" in McCombs' story begins.

"Joe's family had gone to Poston in August '42, and the following March he volunteered for military service. ... Joe already had been drafted into the Army and served briefly, only to be kicked out after Pearl Harbor. Now, volunteering, he felt it was 'my choice again to serve my country and show my loyalty because the United States is my home, my country.' Talk about attitude."

Joe trained with the 522nd Field Artillery at Camp Shelby, and McCombs then cites the military record and casualty numbers (57% of the 18,000 men in the 442nd) and the remarks of President Truman when he attached the seventh Presidential Unit Citation on the 442nd RCT colors: "I can't tell you how much I appreciate the privilege of being able to show you just how much the United States thinks of what you have done. You fought not only the enemy, but you fought prejudice, and you won."

McCombs adds: "Joe remains typically modest about all this, as real heroes tend to be. Just GI Joe." (Ichiji was not personally a part of the Presidential review.)

Of the 522nd's liberation of the Nazi concentration camp at Dachau on April 29, 1945, Joe recalls his battalion was heading toward

Munich. "I was in the middle of the convoy and when I went by the entrance it had already been liberated by our advance scouts. The Jewish prisoners were coming out of the gate. ... They were skin and bones. When you think about it, makes you almost cry."

"We went around and bivouacked on the side of the camp, built a fire ... the prisoners came around and we gave them C rations and K rations. We found later we weren't supposed to do that because the food was too strong for their systems."

"It didn't dawn on me until later, and I realized it was sort of ironic that several [of us] came from relocation camps, and to run into this type of concentration camp in Germany! Of course, the American version of a camp was just for interment, temporarily, till the war was over; but the Germans were exterminating the Jews."

In the fall of 1994, Joe attended a banquet in Bruyeres on the 50th anniversary of the town's liberation by the 442nd. One of the liberated Dachau prisoners showed up. "I took a picture of him. I also have his number that was assigned to him in Dachau. It was something to see him. ... He hugged me, embraced me, he was so happy to see us. He was Jewish. ... He thanked us very much."

Again Joe said: "When you think about it, it makes you almost cry." —HKH. ■



'FORT SAMMERS'—Ken Uchida of Ogden, Utah (left), is about to introduce Sam Itaya of Stockton at the Ft. Sam Houston AJA Veterans Reunion held in Las Vegas April 21-23. © JEM LEW PHOTO

Ft. Sam Houston AJA reunion vets meet, vow to return in '98

LAS VEGAS—The 1996 Ft. Sam Houston AJA Reunion veterans swapped war stories, exchanged notes about their recent operations and determined to come back to Vegas next spring. Counting spouses and friends, close to 70 gathered April 21-23 at Fitzgerald's Hotel on Fremont.

Missing his first reunion last year because of a debilitating illness, reunion chair emeritus Ken Uchida of Ogden was warmly welcomed and appreciated the prayers, support and calls. With him were his wife Susan (nee Mukai) and their son, Don, who was born in San Antonio. He "made the day" for the P.C. editor emeritus when he said that he had to come to hear the main speaker.

In remarks at the dinner, interim editor Harry K. Honda covered his 50 months in the Army, starting with basic training in Fort Warren, Wyo., in October, 1941, and describing the cordial Japanese community in Cheyenne. Because of a connection from a Maryknoll schoolmate who knew Fumi Ota, Honda said, he was privileged through her to meet the Issei and Nisei pioneers of Wyoming.

The morning after Pearl Harbor was bombed, Honda recalled, the commanding general at Fort Warren noted the presence of American soldiers with German, Italian and Japanese names in training. "We are all Americans, wearing the same uniform and in the same Army to be treated all alike. Any one thinking otherwise, he warned, would be facing charges." "For me, that was the best news about Pearl Harbor," Honda said.

One of the estimated 3,000 Nisei GIs who served WWII within the 48 States, he spiced his stories with humorous accounts and observations of local Nikkei he met while in Texas, Louisiana, Pennsylvania and South Carolina, being discharged on Christmas eve 1945 in Chicago.

Fort Sam Houston, the largest U.S. army post during WWI, has been "home" to two U.S. presidents, Teddy Roosevelt and "Ike" Eisenhower, and General Pershing, who was American Expeditionary Force commander in 1917. Ken Uchida is included in that proud company in a 1993 painting of 12 soldiers projecting the "tradition of service." He rose from the rank of master sergeant with the War Department Personnel Center to the rank of colonel with service in both the Reserve components and Department of the Army Civilian.

Tat and Nora Hataya of Berkeley, and Casey and Yoshie Kasuyama of Los Angeles were singled out for their reunion know-how and commitment, maintaining the classic touches Fort Sammers have come to relish. George and Betty Suzuki of Bellevue, Wash., continue to shoot the reunion photos. Duke Ogawa, who served as L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley's photographer for many years, assisted. Ted Ohira of Gardena not only opened with his favorite 442nd Fight Song but cracked Army-style jokes that added to the reunion spirit.

Note at the morning breakfast approved the 1998 reunion be held again in Las Vegas. Date and place are to be announced. ■

New Mexico Nisei named to senior hall of fame

ALBUQUERQUE N.M.—The Senior Foundation, Inc., will induct three seniors for outstanding achievements and contributions, among them S. Ruth Y. Hashimoto, a longtime JACLer from prewar Seattle and San Jose and founder of the New Mexico chapter post-war, to the Senior Foundation Hall of Fame at ceremonies to be held June 8 at the Bear Canyon Estates Retirement Resident, 4440 Morris NE. ■

AADAP celebrates 25 years of serving APA community

BY CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant Editor

LOS ANGELES—In a span of three decades Masani ("Mas") Fukai has managed to go from scapegoat to hero in the eyes of the Asian American community.

In the '60s he was often criticized by community members for bringing the problem of drug abuse among Japanese American youth to the forefront.

But on April 10, Fukai was recognized for his leadership and contributions by the Asian American Drug Abuse Program (AADAP), a group he helped found, at its 25th anniversary celebration. Approximately 500 people attended the dinner held at the Inter-Continental Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Haru Yamasaki, a longtime supporter of AADAP and a current board member, was also recognized for her many years of service.

"I didn't know I was going to be honored," said 70-year-old Fukai humbly, as well-wishers shook his hand and congratulated him every few minutes.

Fukai was Commissioner of the Los Angeles County Narcotics & Dangerous Drugs Commission in 1972 when he used \$2,000 of his own money to help incorporate AADAP. Twenty-five years later, the nonprofit organization continues to offer drug abuse programs specifically for the Asian Pacific Islander communities in Los Angeles.

In addition to their outpatient, inpatient, and prevention units, AADAP offers job training and housing project services. And to better serve the increasingly diverse Asian Pacific Islander community in the '90s, AADAP has added programs such as the Asian Pacific Youth Project, Indochinese Youth Center, Special Deliveries Perinatal Program, and the East/

West Community Partnership.

"When it [AADAP] first started I didn't think they would make it," said Fukai. "But with strong leadership they were able to overcome the controversy. Not all parents agreed with what we were doing." But when 31 Japanese Americans died from drug overdose in 1971, "JAs had to wake up," he explained. The community finally realized that something was needed to fight the drug abuse problem.

Fukai, a longtime Gardena Valley JACler, believes education is still the key to combating the drug abuse problem in the Asian American community. "Education has to be number one. Educate not only the young people but ALL people," he emphasized.

Dean Nakanishi and Mark Manzo have practiced what they preach. A few years ago they were recovering from drug addiction in AADAP's inpatient program. Today, Nakanishi and Manzo are AADAP staff members, using their experiences to educate the public about drug abuse.

As an AADAP job development counselor, Nakanishi, a Yonsei, helps recovering drug addicts get back into the workforce. He admits he doesn't fit the typical image of a past drug abuser. "My family life was pretty much fine and I was pretty successful at sports," explained the 28-year-old.

But at 18 Nakanishi started using drugs and for the next seven years he fought an addiction to cocaine and marijuana. "I would get clean and then have a relapse," he said.

Nakanishi first learned of AADAP in an advertisement played late one night on the radio. A year into his addiction, he decided to give AADAP's inpatient program a try. He lasted only four months. But he was soon back, and the second time he stuck with it.



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MAS FUKAI WITH daughter Janice Fukai, a Deputy Public Defender, at AADAP's 25th anniversary dinner celebration in Los Angeles.

"I came to AADAP because it was Asian and I felt more comfortable," explained Nakanishi. He could talk about his drug addiction with other Asians who were going through the same thing. "I didn't realize all the issues I had with being Asian," such as the pressure of living up to high expectations and growing up in Fullerton, a mostly White neighborhood, he explained. "But it's important to understand."

Nakanishi believes drug addiction is something most Asian Americans still have difficulty discussing openly. "There's a lot of shame involved...for me there was a lot of shame," he added. "But drug addiction has no walls," it affects all cultures and communities.

"Drug addiction affects certain types of people," he said. "I see drug addicts as more sensitive. They take things to a different level," he explained. "They are very courageous people...sensitive,

beautiful people.

"The problem is, some don't have the will to quit...they don't want to, yet." He said he had the right incentives to quit, he knew he had the potential and he had the support of his family.

"I still think we [Asian Americans] have a way to go," said Nakanishi. "But it's good because we now have a place to go."

Growing up wasn't easy for Mark Manzo, the son of a Japanese American mother and Mexican American father. Now 40, he recalled how the mostly Hispanic kids in his neighborhood would "make fun of my eyes."

Though he did well in school, was athletic and musical, "it wasn't enough for me inside," explained Manzo. He eventually started hanging around a group of mostly White surfers in high school who were into drugs. "It made me feel more whole, but it was a false identity."

For the next 20 years Manzo was

a drug addict. "When you're partying, most people grow out of it. I didn't," he explained. "I did drugs in general — nothing specific...everything."

By 1993 Manzo was finally able to overcome his addiction and now works as the manager of AADAP's MTC Construction project. In addition to various construction and remodeling jobs, MTC has done most of the renovations on AADAP's buildings.

"AADAP enabled me to find out who I was," said Manzo. "Getting okay with my identity and reinstating the morals and values I was taught."

In the inpatient program people from a variety of ethnic groups are forced to get along, said Manzo. Once the group was able to start talking about their problems, the patients realized they could relate to one another and their similar experiences, he explained. "If they were lonely, I've been lonely. There was that common link."

Manzo still sees a reluctance to discuss the topic of drug abuse in the Asian American community. "A lot of it's the pride," he said. "They don't want to believe their family member has a problem."

But talking about his past drug addiction has helped heal some of his old wounds, he explained. Some of the laborers at the MTC Construction project are AADAP patients and confide in him as they work. It helps them get through their drug addiction, he said. "But they have to go through it. To give up the pain and agony and move on. They need to come to terms with it and get it on the table. That's the only way to get it resolved."

"But it wasn't always fun...it wasn't always easy," he added. "By far, it was the hardest thing I've done." ■

Come-on sense

By KARL NOBUYUKI

To paint in the other eye



Given the recent celebration of the AADAP 25th anniversary, it seems fitting that one recalls the intrinsic involvement of JACL in the formation of such service delivery systems. There were JAClers everywhere in assisting the formation of this service delivery program to JAs and AAs. It should not be unacknowledged.

On Thursday, April 10, the Asian American Drug Abuse Program (AADAP) celebrated its 25th anniversary. This was a milestone for Asian Americans as a whole and, more specifically, Japanese Americans.

As the vernacular press printed, "there was a time, when... programs for Asian and Pacific Islander communities did not exist." Now, after 25 years, a direct service program facilitated by JAs is commemorating its silver anniversary.

The issue was an ugly one. Youth deaths from drugs. *Haji* and its associated descriptive terminologies were deeply set in stone. Drug overdoses were "taboo" among AJAs and many of us would have nothing to do with it; or so we hoped. Youthful deaths were attributed to "cardiac arrest" not drug abuse; thus more acceptable, and the family tragedy was kept within a very small circle.

Then things exploded. In 1971, there were 31 JA overdose deaths in L.A. alone. The situation became so large that costumes for ostriches were in short supply—many of us kept "our heads in the sand." But, no one really knew what to do. On one hand there was pressure to do something, but the alternatives were too vague to understand. On the

other hand, the solutions required that a quiet community admit that it needed help beyond itself. This was new territory; this was something that "...just wasn't done."

Somehow, a service program was designed, developed and implemented. AADAP was formed and provided an acceptable alternative for Japanese Americans, and Asian-Americans as a whole. The horror stories about its formation and those that opposed it are silently inscribed in the memory of but a knowledgeable few; and rightfully so. The AADAP story is part of this 25th anniversary celebration.

Yet, there is another story that has yet to be told. The story is about what JAClers did to contribute to the solution. This is an "untold story," yet it is a journey into the inner workings of the League that were inherent to the overall movement to provide service to Asian Americans. It is a matter of fact, that JACL resources were instrumental in bringing many of the service programs to the forefront. JACL people were everywhere, and while not always wearing the "JACL hat" their contributions were.

The AADAP program marches on after 25 years, and now begins to explore new options and fuller visions. AADAP, as a comprehensive program, looks for self-sufficiency and independence. It now expands its wings and flies into territory that is apart from its traditional line of direct patient care. It is the AADAP legacy that provides its basic foundation to survive, and drives its energy forward.

For 25 years, AADAP filled a critical void in the health service safety-net for Asian Americans. It

did this without fanfare or a string of trumpets. It performed its mission skillfully, promptly and cost-effectively. It deserves the commitment of community support.

SIDEBAR: The East Los Angeles-based program "Go For Broke" was one of the early nodes for the development of AADAP. GFB's logo was the Daruma. The creation of the program warranted the first eye.

Now, after 25 years, it's time to paint in the other eye.

Come-on sense: It isn't as important that AADAP was one of the first, rather it's important that AADAP remains one of the best. JACL should look to formalize its support for this critical public service and those others that it supported in years past. ■

Karl K. Nobuyuki is a co-founder of AADAP.

Seattle to open home for elderly Asians

SEATTLE—"Village Square," a place Asian elders can call home in Seattle's International District (at the southeastern corner of 8th Avenue South and So. Dearborn St.), is scheduled for completion late this year, according to project director Wendy Watanabe.

The \$19.5-million housing and social-service project is being developed by the Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority.

Village Square will have 75 apartments, spaces for the Asian Counseling and Referral Service, an employment opportunities center, multicultural child care, Head Start, clinic and community health services. The project hopes the 5,000 square feet for retail space will be occupied by a restaurant. ■

No-bid Treasury Dept. contract for Frank Sato under Senate probe

WASHINGTON—Allegations that Treasury Department Inspector General Valerie Lau arranged to award a no-bid contract to a longtime acquaintance came under the scrutiny of Sen. Charles E. Grassley (R-Iowa), chairman of the Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on administrative oversight and the courts, the *Washington Post* reported April 24.

Lau was seeking a speedy review of her office in order to conduct a department-wide audit. The *Post* was told by a Treasury official who asked not to be identified that the contract for the review was awarded on merit to Frank S. Sato in December 1994. A Treasury Department spokesman said the \$113,000 contract was approved, and eventually \$90,776 was paid

to Sato & Associates.

Sato had served as inspector general with the Veterans Administration and Transportation Departments during the 1980s.

On the review team was at least one other former inspector general, who had investigated the Reagan-era scandals at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

According to the *Post*, Sato had urged a White House official that Lau be considered for inspector general jobs at the Treasury, the Transportation Department, or the Office of Personnel Management.

Grassley explained that no-bid contracts "are usually reserved for matters of 'unusual and compelling urgency.' This contract clearly was neither..." —EM ■

OAHU

(Continued from page 1)

As investigators continued their analysis, maintenance crews and volunteers began removing the red spray paint. Over 700 had signed up, after seeing the news on TV, to help at the Punchbowl where many WWII Nisei soldiers from the 100th/442nd are buried.

The park manager said crews were able to erase most of the graffiti, as the red paint was easily removed from the granite headstones, but not the soft rubber-based paint on some memorials.

At the Punchbowl on April 21, while graffiti clean-up was underway, a 21-gun salute echoed across the grassy plains for Masaji "Shadow" Kurozumi, 81, who served for 37 years as president of the Service chapter of the 442 Club.

Near the gazebo where the Rev. Calvin Takara of Kaimuki Christian Church was leading the services were dozens of structures hit by the vandals. The words "Hawaii is phony" marked the entrance to the columbarium. Inside were obsequies splashed across bronze

plaques honoring the dead.

As fellow 442nd veterans expressed their anger and outrage, one adding *bachi* — something bad is going to happen to the vandals — Rev. Takara said after the service, "We're in a different kind of war today... in a war of values and ideology. We have to be vigilant in this war as those people were in World War II and World War I."

At Honolulu Memorial Park across the Pali Highway from the Punchbowl, the *ohaka* of about 60 Buddhist families were splashed with obscene messages. On Sunday, April 20, Wilfred Sumida, 57, was there visiting his parents' grave to observe the seventh anniversary of his mother's death.

As he tried to rub off the graffiti, he told the *Honolulu Advertiser* reporter on the scene, "It's coming off, but I'm still mad. It actually hits the whole family." He was using Simple Green household cleaner, but a faint impression of the red lettering remained.

The memorial park serves Buddhist families, some of whom brought remains from Japan and Okinawa dating to the 1800s so entire families could be burned together. — AB ■

National Park Service with NJAHS assures unfolding of Nisei MIS saga

BY HARRY K. HONDA

Editor emeritus

PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO—Long wrapped in government secrecy, the accomplishments of Japanese Americans during WWII fighting the enemy Japanese has acquired a permanent exponent through facilities of the National Park Service/Golden Gate National Recreation Area and efforts of the National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS). This partnership was celebrated May 4 at Crissy Field Building 640, the hangar where the Army established the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) Language School in November, 1941. Its first class was graduated May 7, 1942.

Park superintendent Brian O'Neill and retired Santa Clara County superior court judge, Taketsugu Takei, co-chaired the pre-noon program under a bright sun and breezes that bathed the Presidio, which the National Park Service added to its Golden Gate National Recreation Area in October, 1994. Approximately 400 attended the open-air festivities; 260 were accommodated at the luncheon that followed at the historic Officers' Club.

Adding a human touch to Bldg. 640, an abandoned WWI-vintage hangar housing three classrooms, a small office and quarters for 60 students and four Nisei instructors, Col. Thomas T. Sakamoto (ret.) of San Jose, a member of the first class, introduced instructors who taught at Crissy, Shigeya Kihara (Monterey) and Dr. Toshio Tsukahira (Los Angeles) and fellow classmates, Gene Uratsu, Gary Kadani, and Steve Yamamoto.

In the five-minute speeches of the day, Sakamoto, current NJAHS president, focused on the first MIS class and his wartime experiences. Sansei attorney Don Tamaki, a lead attorney in the Coram Nobis Team, provided a deeper understanding to the significance of Executive Order 9066 and what was going on in 1942 in the Japanese American community on the West Coast. It was recalled the Evacuation orders were designed at 4th

Army headquarters at the Presidio. A plaintiff in the Coram Nobis case, Fred Korematsu, and his wife Catherine were introduced. He, Minoru Yasui and Gordon Hirabayashi had appealed to have their wartime cases overturned and were unsuccessful except for their individual convictions.

A highlight of the Park-Partner Ceremony was the belated U.S. Army recognition, in the name of the President of the United States, of seven MIS combat linguists who were decorated. The Legion of Merit "for exceptionally meritorious service" was awarded to Yoshikazu Yamada, Masaru Ariyasu, Rusty Kimura, Shigeru Yamashita, and posthumously to George (Yamashiro) Sankey of North Hollywood and Harold Fudenna of Fremont.

The Bronze Star Medal with "V" for Valor (signifying a second award) was awarded to Roy Matsumoto of Berkeley, a member of Merrill's Marauders who fought in Burma. Inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame at Fort Benning, Ga., in 1993, he won the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star for his death-defying actions.

Sankey and Yamada had translated at ATIS (Allied Translator and Interpreter Section) with three Caucasian MIS officers Operation "Z," a document retrieved by Filipino fishermen from a Japanese plane that had crashed in a storm off the southern Philippines. Operation "Z" was Japan's naval counter-attack strategy in the Central Pacific, and its knowledge by all U.S. naval flag officers enabled the U.S. carrier fleet in June, 1944, to strike a devastating blow upon the Japanese fleet and their air force.

Masaru Ariyasu achievements behind the lines at Guadalcanal in August, 1942, decoding and translating enemy documents and Shigeru Yamashita's exceptional accomplishments providing ground commanders accurate and timely front-line intelligence. The award for Rusty Kimura cited his work with the Australian forces.

Harold Fudenna was told he would be held responsible for the

accuracy of his translation of the radio message he had intercepted in New Guinea, which specified the exact time of arrival of Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, commander-in-chief of the combined Japanese fleets. Only recognition he received were words of appreciation from the Fifth Air Force for his part in the successful mission of P-38s ambushing and shooting down Yamamoto's plane on April 18, 1943, which resulted in his death. General MacArthur deemed this was "one of the most significant actions in the Pacific War."

Closing the outdoor event was Tamyra Hedani read a page found in the Bancroft Library of a child at Topaz WRA Center school yearning to go back to San Francisco. The drums of the San Francisco Taiko Dojo and presentation of colors by the Golden Gate Nisei VFW Memorial Post 9879 opened the program.

Dr. Harry H.L. Kitano, UCLA professor emeritus of social work, was keynote speaker for the luncheon.

Civic dignitaries present included San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown, State Assemblyman Nao Takasugi (who read a message from Governor Pete Wilson), Assemblywoman Carole Migden, Assemblyman Kevin Shelley, San Francisco supervisors Michael Yaki and Leland Yee, U.S. Attorney for Northern California Michael Yamasaki, and former California Supreme Court chief justice Rose Bird.

Among Nikkei personalities introduced were JACL National President Helen Kawagoe, Sue Kunitomi Embrey of the Manzanar Committee, San Francisco Fire Commissioner Steve Nakajo, Yaye (Furutani) Herman, a WAC graduate from MISLS, Allen Okamoto, president, JCCNC; Marvin Uratsu, Harry Fukuhara, MISLS Norcal; George Kanegai, Jim Mita, MIS Club of So. Cal.; and Minoru Tonai, JACCOC president.

At the Presidio's Visitor Center, the 45-minute film, "Fifty Years of Silence," relating the MIS story was also being shown. ■

SAKANIWA

(Continued from page 1)

community under particularly intense scrutiny because of the campaign finance scandal, many community leaders were in town not only to show solidarity with other APA groups during this very trying time but also get as much information from colleagues as possible and to see what the atmosphere was really like here in the nation's capital.

The CAPACI dinner was an especially telling barometer of how the APA community is being perceived by the nation's leaders.

Noting that for the past two years the president of the United States had spoken at this event, the APA community was hoping to get some kind of sign that the current campaign finance scandal was not tainting the entire community with suspicion.

Obviously, the president was not going to be able to show up, since he was in Mexico for an important summit meeting. However, to send another important official, he is the vice president or a cabinet member would have sent a very welcome message to the community. In the end the best that the White House could offer was a very important aide at the sub-cabinet level. CAPACI rightly chose to pass at that offer and with no Republican from the leadership ranks on Capitol Hill accepting, the dinner committee decided on having no keynote speaker this year (although there were two guest speakers).

In the view of many in the APA community, a very important opportunity was missed by the White House and Republican leaders on the Hill. Any elected official showing up at the dinner would have been implicitly making the statement, "I support your community and understand that the alleged wrong doing of a few, who happen to be members of your community, in no way reflects on the important contributions your community provides to our system of democracy."

Understand that there are schedules and commitments that politicians have that are made months in

advance. However, all those scheduling details are weighted by such factors as the importance and event may have for that politician.

I also understand that it is difficult for those who are not familiar with the APA community to fail in distinguishing between foreign Asians and Asian Pacific Americans (and I include in the latter category, legal permanent residents), but when the nation's political leaders begin appearing as if they cannot make these distinctions, this should be a matter of concern for us all.

There was an event during CAPACI's legislative conference that gave me some hope for the future. There was a workshop at the end of a very long day of meetings at which 60 people attended to discuss the need and possibilities of forming some sort of alliance/coalition/umbrella/council of APA groups so that there would be a more unified APA voice and to better coordinate a plan of action for the very diverse APA community. Norm Mineta opened the session by describing why the community needs to be thinking about this type of endeavor.

There is no doubt that to form anything that is to last more than for the duration of the current crisis, much planning is needed. The purpose and goals must be agreed upon, the structure must be worked out, obstacles must be identified and overcome, and finally, commitments have to be made to make it a reality. On top of all of this, we are talking about dealing with organizations that have their own boards and procedures with which to contend.

Ultimately though, regardless of the scope, structure or even purpose of this, as of yet, undefined entity we are trying to develop, there is one thing that is clear: there is a need for the APA community to make policy makers sit up and listen to our community's concern and to get their attention we, as a group, need a higher profile. If we had more political stature as a community one thing would be certain — getting a keynote speaker for a major dinner would not be an issue. ■

MANZANAR

(Continued from page 1)

Water and Power to the U.S. National Park Service was celebrated at this year's pilgrimage. Deputy Secretary of the Interior John Garamendi and Harry Sizemore, an executive with the L.A.D.W.P., made the historic transfer official. This year was also the 55th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066 and the fifth anniversary of the Historic Site designation.

Representatives from L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan's office, Councilwoman Ruth Galanter's office, National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management witnessed the handover. The National Coalition for Redress/Reparations, JACL, and Campaign for Justice were also present.

Entertainment featured performances by artist Jude Narita and Jishin Daiko of Cal State Northridge's Nikkei Student Association. Wada was 21 when she, her parents, and two younger brothers were uprooted from their home in Glendale and brought to Manzanar. After a year she left the camp to attend the University of Maryland and has lived on the East Coast since then.

This was the first time Wada has seen the white cemetery monument with the *kanji* characters in brush, "Ireito" ("In memory of") that stands at Manzanar today. "I think it's good to have a memorial here...for the Issei who struggled," she said. "We need to have something to memorialize their lives."

A former secretary in Manzanar's education department, Wada says she feels no anger, no bitterness today about her internment. "My recollections are of happy memories," she said. "Happy memories of the people I met here."

But what the U.S. government did to the JAs, mostly American citizens, "was an act of indignation," said Wada. "They deprived citizens of their rights." And she sees an eerie similarity in the backlash against legal immigrants in America today. The JA internment experience "needs to be publicized more," said Wada. "To say this shouldn't happen again...to make sure that acts of discrimination against all minority groups never occur."

Wada's great-niece, Stacey Toda, 19, is a veteran of the pilgrimage, having visited so many times she's lost count. Now a history major at UC San Diego, she made the trip with her great-aunt to research a project she's working on.

The theme for this year's pilgrimage, "Bridging Generations: Keeping Memories Alive," emphasized the important role young people play in educating the public of the JA internment experience. "But a lot of young people don't know the story," said Toda. "I don't think they're interested in the experience." Since the third grade, she has made an effort to learn more about her family's internment at Manzanar, but her JA friends have shown no interest in learning about the camps, she said.

But a lack of young people was not a problem at this year's pilgrimage. JA student groups came out for the event including Loyola Marymount University, Cal State Northridge and Cal State Fullerton.

Libby Trietsch is a 19-year-old sociology major at Loyola Marymount and came with *Kyodai*, a JA student group at the university. This was the second pilgrimage for Trietsch, who's half German and half French Canadian. "I think a lot of students know because of the history classes they take," she said of the JA internment during WWII.

"But it makes a difference when you visit here. It brings it all home."

Aki Maehara, director of Asian Pacific Student Services at Loyola Marymount, has been bringing students to the Manzanar Pilgrimage every year for five years now. "It's very important to pass down the legacy and history," he said. "To bring them here to feel the experience."

A few years ago the Manzanar Historical Site was hit with bad weather. The *Kyodai* students got a true feel for what it was like to live with blinding sandstorms and the desert heat, said Maehara. "They couldn't imagine having to stay out here for three years," he said. "It helped to raise their awareness and consciousness."

Cal State Fullerton's Japanese Student Association was just recently formed, but group members made it a point to drive the four and one-half hours from Orange County to make the pilgrimage. "We're appreciative of and grateful to the generations before us that had to go through the hardships," said club vice president Brian Ikeda. "We've had an easier life and we appreciate what they went through for our benefit."

Sue Embrey, chair of the Manzanar Committee, the L.A. based non-profit educational organization, said she's not surprised by the large turnout of young people. Youth have been coming out regularly to the annual pilgrimage, she explained.

"I'm tired, but I'm relieved," said Embrey towards the end of the day. "It took a lot of work to get to this point." The Committee had been campaigning since 1994 to get the Manzanar Historical Site transferred to the federal government and finally saw their efforts pay off. "We had people working behind the scenes," she added. "Things people didn't see that made

PERU

(Continued from page 1)

Professor Yuji Ichioka, research historian at UCLA Asian American Studies Center, introduced Fukumoto as "born, raised and educated a Peruanan." She has read papers on the Peruvian Nikkei at Pan American Nikkei Association (PANA) conferences since the mid-'80s and has just published her book (in Spanish), *Hacia Un Nuevo Sol*, about the Japanese and their descendants in Peru. With a doctorate from the University of Texas, Austin, the cultural anthropologist teaches at the Catholic Pontifical University in Lima.

Her topic was "more timely than anything," being presented at UCLA a week after all the 72 hostages were rescued from the Japanese Ambassador's residence. Ichioka said the UCLA Asian American Studies Center had invited her as a visiting scholar, under auspices of the Japanese American Studies Chair, months before the hostage crisis began Dec. 17.

Besides adding her personal bit as a party-goer when the rebels, stormed the residence and being released hours later with all the women and the elderly, Fukumoto this possible.

"This is a very happy day for me," said Rose Ochi, Assistant Attorney General, Director of Community Relations, and a member of the Federal Manzanar National Historic Site Advisory Commission from Washington, D.C. "It's unfortunate, but if you talk to the average American they have no knowledge that the federal government deprived 120,000, mostly citizens, of their liberty and property," she said.

"The memorialization of the internment experience is important," she added. "But at the same time, only in America can there be not only an acknowledgement of a past injustice, but the creation of a monument for future generations." ■

opened her presentation with a review of the Japanese social and political climate in Peru, a topic of her first lecture, "The Nikkei in Peru: A New Culture and Identity."

Her public lecture on the Nikkei in Peru Saturday (May 3) at the Maryknoll Japanese Catholic Center was co-sponsored by the Peruvian Nikkei Association of Southern California and UCLA Asian American Studies Center. She completed her California stay with lectures in Berkeley and in San Francisco Japantown, with the Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project and the JCCNC as co-sponsors.

Asked about the time when President Fujimori shut down the Congress in August 1992 to fight corruption and drug trafficking, she said the Peruvians accepted it because "Congress wasn't doing anything and it was a good thing anyway." There is a popular expression you hear today in Peru, "We're still poor, but it's better than before," Dr. Fukumoto remarked. "And President Fujimori is better than before, too," as reflected in the opinion poll after the hostage crisis ended April 22.

Ambassador Morihisa Aoki, well-liked in the Japanese Peruvian community, was an outgoing personality, very concerned about their welfare. The evening of the day when he and the hostages were rescued turned out to be a celebration of joy in the Japanese community.

During the hostage crisis, Peruvian Nikkei were reassessing their own standing in the overall community, she observed. Some felt the raid upon the Japanese Ambassador's compound would affect the Japanese community-at-large. On the other hand, the unwavering stand of President Fujimori to hold the jailed terrorists was widely supported.

A by-product of the hostage crisis was the presence of international journalists who reported on the Peruvian Nikkei in Lima, where there is no Japantown, but found a close-knit community of 80,000 people. ■

Opinion

From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Should use of 'Jap' be a part of U.S. history?

Should the word "Jap" be included in the monument that the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation is building in Washington, D.C.?

That was the question discussed long and not without heat at the recent quarterly meeting of the Foundation's board of directors in Chicago. No consensus was reached. So I am asking readers of this column to express your opinions to help the board decide.

This is the background. Congress has provided a very desirable site, not far from the U.S. Capitol, for a monument with three purposes: To commemorate the faith and patriotism of Japanese Americans during World War II, to honor the nation for admitting it erred in imprisoning them on the basis of race and vowing never to make the same mistake, and to remind all of democracy's imperfections and the constant vigilance necessary to make it work.

To get this done, the monument needs to provide historical background. Viewers have to be told something of the temper of the times and what people in authority were saying at the outbreak of war about the danger to the nation posed by Japanese Americans. It is proposed to do this on the monument by quoting some inflammatory remarks based on prejudice or ignorance. One proposed paragraph is as follows:

"Using an offensive racist epithet, General DeWitt told Congress: 'A Jap is a Jap. There is no way to determine their loyalty.

It makes no difference whether he is an American citizen; theoretically he is still a Japanese, and you can't change him by giving him a piece of paper ..."

Some members of the Foundation Board find the word "Jap" so offensive that they object to it being preserved for posterity in the marble of the Monument no matter who is being quoted. Its presence, they contend, would revive it, perpetuate it, even legitimize it even though the word is described as "an offensive racist epithet" or some similar explanation. They just don't want the word on the Monument. Some express concern that seeing the word will encourage its use.

Others contend that since DeWitt was the principal advocate of Evacuation he should be quoted accurately without pulling punches. They point out that many persons who use the word today use it as an innocent contraction for Japanese the way Swede is used as a contraction for Swedish or Brit for British, that they mean no offense, and that it would be educational to state clearly on the Monument that "Jap" is an "offensive racist epithet" or words to that effect.

One way to handle the dispute would be to recast the paragraph this way: "Using a racial epithet offensive to Japanese Americans, General DeWitt told Congress: 'There is no way to determine their loyalty ... It makes no difference whether he is an American citizen, etc. ...'"

This would eliminate the five words that have divided the Foundation's directors. It

would also cause some Monument visitors to become very curious about what words were so terribly offensive that they couldn't be mentioned, the way forbidden profanity or obscenities tantalize children.

Japanese Americans find the word offensive because of its historical context. It was used by the racists and hate-mongers during the years of anti-Japanese agitation and is regarded by Japanese Americans the same way Afro-Americans regard "nigger." But now the issue is whether it ought to be expunged because it is distasteful, or etched into marble as part of the stark historical record.

Undoubtedly this issue will stir the general Japanese American public as it has members of the Foundation Board. What do you think?

The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation invites your comments. Its address is 2445 M Street N.W., Suite 250, Washington, D.C. 20037.

And when you write, please enclose a generous contribution, it's tax-deductible and you'll get an acknowledgment. The Memorial is a worthy project that will cost a lot of money and they have only a couple of years to raise millions. ■

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

More on Peru

SINCE President Fujimori's win in the Hostage Crisis, our free hours have been immersed in re-reading the surge of newspaper clippings from onetime P.C. Board member George Wakiji in Alexandria, Va., and digesting them for print. Though the type is small, there was no way a fortnightly could accommodate so much in a timely fashion. We said in 1990 that his inauguration as president of Peru was "the biggest and most historic Nisei news story of the century." So a number of us from Southern California were credentialed to cover the event in Lima, Peru. And at UCLA the first week of May, visiting scholar Dr. Mary Fukumoto from Peru called him "the most famous Japanese descendant in the world." The voters' mandate to carry on indicates that—56% in the June 1990 run-off and a 64% landslide (the biggest in Peru's history) at the primaries in April, 1995.

How the eminent British financial weekly, The Economist, (April 26), phrases the Fujimori's victory in Peru lends an international line that's unlike the Latin American look from the U.S. sphere. To wit:

VIOLENCE pays. The world's underground movements have proved that repeatedly in the past 50 years ... They are not to complain when governments respond with violence—and more of it. That is the short answer to the criticism already being heard of the sudden assault that ended Peru's four-month-old hostage affair. President Fujimori did not rush in to violence. It was the Tupac Amaru guerrillas who did that—not for the first time—when they invaded the Japanese ambassador's residence in December. [We missed that story] ... What (Peru's or Fujimori's) faults, or those of its army or courts—it has a president recently re-elected. Still, the government was ready to talk. It talked, and talked, and talked. It was ready to allow the guerrillas safe passage to asylum in Cuba. It was they, not the government, who blocked that way out.

So, in the end—but only then—Mr. Fujimori ordered an armed assault. In it, all the hostage-takers were killed, including some ready to surrender. In a better world that would not have happened. But it did, and in the real one it is hypocrisy to shed many tears: the guerrillas took to the sword and they perished by it.

The Economist further notes the challenge now "for those in elected power and (though it is less often remarked) for those who champion the poor: how to improve social conditions without reverting to the old ways of dealing with them ... If they expected free-market ideas to bring instant miracles, they know better now. What they do not know is the answer—how to handle the transition to a better life." Nor does the magazine, though its final comment bears a hint, looking ahead.

... It is hotly Amerindian [after all, Peru is a part of America] poor would still remain a century behind the modern world, especially in their children's schooling. President Fujimori has met one challenge; huge ones still lie ahead, for him and his successors.

In the same issue and unexpected were the accounts "before and after" of the L.A. riots. They were frank and true, dwelling on the Korean resurgence "before" and the rebuilding the ruins "after." The riots made the city's Koreans visible and their determination seems to have reaped rewards. The Economist concludes: "Now that the old black-Jewish alliance that used to run Los Angeles has withered away, the time may be ripe for the enterprising Koreans to come forward." A great challenge, if there ever was one, for a community of Asian Americans in the Southland.

Those who've visited London may want the connection this magazine provides—through the public library. A single copy is priced at \$4.95. ■

Pacific Citizen

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* Except for the National Director's Report, news and the "Views" expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The columns are the personal opinion of the writers.

* "Voices" reflect the active, public discussion within JACL of a wide range of ideas and issues, requiring clear presentation though they may not reflect the viewpoint of the editorial board of the Pacific Citizen.

* "Short expressions" on public issues, usually one or two paragraphs, should include signature, address and daytime phone number. Because of space limitations, letters are subject to abridgement. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.



East wind

By BILL MARUTANI

Who, what is a Kibei?

IT'S BEEN SAID that in the vital wartime task of translating Japanese military documents in the battlefields of the Pacific War, the contributions of Kibei men, invariably more facile than the Nisei in the Japanese language, was critically all-important. While Nisei linguists' contributions were legion, when the chips were down, and major battle decisions hinged on the precision and fullness of the Japanese-to-English translation of captured Japanese military documents, the translating team which included a Kibei provided that reassuring edge of confidence. That the Kibei, who were at times viewed with reservation if not outright suspicion, played such a critical role is yet another irony of the World War II period. But what is a Kibei?

IN THIS COLUMN, I once defined a "Kibei" as a Japanese American who received a significant portion of his/her schooling in Japan. I did not attempt to define "significant." On this go-around I thought I'd better turn to the Japanese jiten. Kenkyusha, (1986 edition) at page 810 included the jukugo (compound) of two kanji characters: *kaeru* (on-reading "ki") meaning, among other things "to return, come again." The "bei" part, of course, refers to America. Together "kibei" refers to "one re-

turning to America."

I THEN THOUGHT I'd take a look at an English dictionary to see, if perchance, the term "Kibei" appeared therein. Random House Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 1995 ed., p. 743 contained the following: "Kibei, a person of Japanese descent born in North America but educated mainly in Japan. Compare Issei, Nisei, Sansei [to Japan]."

"North America" may be an accurate geographic point of reference: Canadian neighbors include Nisei who returned to Canada after studying in Japan. But the "bei" (America) part would not apply to those Canadians of Japanese ancestry. So while the prefix may be "Ki," the suffix has to be something other than "bei." In *Nihongo*, "Canada" is written in *katakana* as "ka-na-da."

Furthermore, there are Nikkei residing in South America (Brazil, Peru, etc.) many of whom received some of their schooling in Nippon. In *Nihongo* "South America" is "Nan-bei" (literally "south" and "America"). So what do they call their counterparts of our Kibei?

I HAILED OUT a 1974 edition of Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary (Unabridged) to check if perchance the word "Kibei" appeared therein. Right smack

at page 1,000 appeared the following: "[Japan] a native American citizen born of Japanese parents but educated largely in Japan; distinguished from *issei*, *nisei*." While a 1974 edition may be old, I buy that definition as being appropriate.

OTHER THAN the Kibei possessing a far greater mastery of *Nihongo*, do they differ from the Nisei? I've not heard the Kibei's response to this query, and not very many from Nisei. Meanwhile I've held a tentative opinion on the subject which goes something like this: Kibei seem better assured in their views than Nisei who tend to be equivocal. This I ascribe to the Kibei having been raised during his formative (schooling) years in a milieu where his race need not be defended, whereas the contemporary Nisei grew up in a culture where one's race was constantly targeted, in small and big ways. Such was bound to stunt full potential while promoting reticent postures. Of course, there are exceptions on both sides, including some glaring ones.

Well, right or wrong, that's the way I see it. ■

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



Pacific Citizen logo and contact information. 7 Cupanis Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755-7406. Fax: 213/725-0064. E-mail: pacoci@aol.com. Includes a list of guidelines for contributors regarding the National Director's Report, public discussion, and space limitations.

Letters

Redress for railroaders: My father was denied

This is written in behalf of my father, Kinsaku Inouye, who lived to the age of 97. He worked for the Southern Pacific for 25 exemplary years and was fired on Feb. 18, 1942, for being Japanese. (A copy of a Confidential Mailgram, dated Feb. 19, 1942, referring to a Feb. 17 letter to Mr. A. Mercier, listing 39 Japanese workers being removed from service is enclosed.) He was denied his redress from the ORA who declared losses are not within the definition of suffered losses as result of actions taken by or on behalf of the U.S. government.

When the head of household of a family of seven (1) loses his source of income, (2) has his home and personal property searched/seized by government agents, (3) is forbidden to be on or near railroad property, (4) has imposed by the government a 9 p.m. curfew and (5) is subject to community hostility — how much greater can a loss be?

Further quoting: "ORA was unable to locate any definitive government documents to support the loss of employment as a result of Federal Government action respecting the evacuation, relocation or internment program solely on the basis of Japanese ancestry."

I have in possession copies of correspondences between (a) the railroad administrators to the FBI providing a list of Japanese (citizen/alien) employees and restricting their travel; (b) Office of Military Intelligence to the railroad stating that suspicious individuals should be reported to the FBI; and (c) railroad administrators to J. Edgar Hoover (FBI director) stating that "We are removing Japanese from assignments where they might be made the victims of sabotage committed by others." The letters succinctly informed the FBI of the railroad companies' concern regarding Japanese employees. It is inconceivable how 39 rail-

road workers of Japanese ancestry employed by Southern Pacific Railroad from the western states can be dismissed in the span of six days without some directive from the Federal government (italics for emphasis).

If the U.S. government was processing 120,000 Japanese to concentration camps, logic would suggest that the Federal Government would have no qualms about dismissing 39 railroad workers from their jobs with the Southern Pacific Railroad in the name of national security. Under the circumstances of the times, the presence of racial prejudice, war hysteria, failure of political leadership and the creation of military zoning in various cities, decisions needing to be made quickly by all U.S. government agencies.

Not all directives are necessarily written correspondence. A simple verbal directive from the U.S. Government would have easily initiated the removal of Japanese railroad workers.

ORA needs to reevaluate their guidelines in processing claims. Sometimes common sense may be the only and the strongest reasoning in making just decisions.

Mazie Yamamoto
San Pablo, Calif.

ADDENDUM: The confidential mailgram lists by Division, the Names (Alien or Citizen), Location, and date (all Feb. 18, 1942, except one person) and time of Removal from Service, as follows:

- STORES DEPT.—Geo. Yamaashita (alien), and Hayaji Oda (citizen), West Oakland, 3 p.m.
- SACTOSHOPS—Tomozo Ishii (a), Bob M. Hayashido (c), Sacramento, 4:30 p.m.
- WESTERN—Kiyoshi Kotoku (c), West Oakland; James Tsujimoto (c), Harry Kaku (c), Kenneth Sawada (c), George Masumiya (c), Ichijiro Kaneyuki (a), Sadajiro Kato (a), F. Tsujimoto (a), all Tracy; 6 p.m.

SACRAMENTO (all aliens)—Kigo Y. Hirano, Biggs, 5:45 p.m.; Waichi Watanabe, 4:40 p.m.; Matsuo Kashijiwabara (both Yolo), 6:30 p.m.; Tetsuji Munekawa, Nelson, 6:25 p.m.; Tokusuke Oshiro, Roseville, 4:15 p.m.

SHASTA—Kaichi Maekawa (a), Dunsuir, 11 a.m.

PORTLAND—Takeshi Fujisaka (c), Beaverton, 10 a.m., 2/19/42.

COAST (all aliens)—Moichiro Sano, Edna, 5 p.m.; Seiji Nakanishi, S.L. Obispo, 4:15 p.m.

SALT LAKE (all aliens except one)—Soto Kaneko, Ogden, noon; Takutaro Yagi, Corinne, 3 p.m.; Tetsudo Fujita, Lucin, 6 p.m.; Cohobachi Fujita, Valley Pass, 2 p.m.; Kenichi Ogasawara, Battle Mtn., noon; Takuji Okamoto, Kay Toshitohune, Mas Nakamura (of Likely), 4 p.m.; Unosuke Fujita, Yoshida Takida, Katsudo Kawaguchi, Hechiro Oda, Sataro Kimura, (of Moor), 3 p.m.; I. Endow, Ogden, noon; Kametaro Ishii, Sparks, 4 p.m.; Kinshiro Itakura, Kinsaku Inouye (both Carlin, Nev.), noon; Koichi Kozuma (c), Sparks, 4 p.m.

There were no Japanese employees on the San Joaquin, Tucson or Rio Grande Divisions. In connection with Los Angeles Division, a report covering two part-time Commissary Department employees there as well as the four in that department at West Oakland was furnished previously to Mercier. The signature on the report reads: "J.H. Dyer."

We were denied

My father was a Union Pacific railroader and we were all originally denied redress. While the "Redress plea made for Japanese American railroaders" by Michi Weglyn (Feb. 21-March 6) is not clear as to the action being taken, our family is wondering if we should take individual action or wait to see what decision the Office of Redress Administration makes.

I know this is a complicated matter.

Lucille Agemura
Chicago

Thank you, Michi Weglyn

I am one of the survivors of the degrading and humiliating experiences that some railroad companies imposed upon us during World War II. I have been following with great interest, beginning with Michi Weglyn's article in the Pacific Citizen (Feb. 21-March 6) and every little item pertaining to this issue. Jeanne Konishi's letter (March 21-April 3 P.C.) described

similar experiences that my parents and family endured.

We certainly owe Michi Weglyn a debt of gratitude for championing our cause.

I am wondering how many were victimized by the railroad companies. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who is willing to write.

Ida Otsui
5385 Sierra College Blvd
Rocklin, CA 95677

TOM SAKAMOTO'S SPEECH:
Most Nisei GIs in WWII fought two wars simultaneously, but MISers faced a third



Col. Thomas T. Sakamoto (ret.), San Jose, addressed the momentous "Park-Partner" ceremonies between the National Park Service and the National Japanese American Historical Society May 7 at Presidio of San Francisco's Crissy Field hangar, Bldg. 640.

He recounted his first days as a member of the first MISLS class in November 1941, to being assigned to the Allied press corps to witness the signing of the surrender aboard the USS Missouri on Sept. 2, 1945, and added personal comments for the record and italicized for emphasis.

Here is the text of his speech for the P.C. Archives. —Editor

IT IS MY privilege to represent today the graduates of the first class of a then-secret Army Language School—this 55th year anniversary. This partnership ceremony is indeed significant as we play an active role in furthering the public understanding of Japanese American experience at this Presidio of San Francisco.

In 1941, the U.S. Army survey revealed that the country faced the reality of a possible war with Japan and with virtually no Japanese linguistic ability in combat and in the collection of intelligence. A few in the U.S. Army intelligence took a calculated risk and made a critical decision to place its trust and confidence in Japanese American soldiers to serve in combat intelligence duties in the Pacific.

When we reported for classes [on Nov. 1, 1941], we were greeted by Col. John Weckerling, and Col. Kai Rasmussen who became our commandant, and four civilian instructors. We were shocked to see that this [school building] was a very old airplane hangar in the advanced state of dilapidation. The hangar was nothing more than a large empty and cold warehouse with cement floor and an open latrine at the far end. Classrooms were crudely partitioned with plywood walls. The group was divided into three classes, according to the level of Japanese language skills.

Here we began our spartan life with rows of double-deck bunks and one footlocker each. We Kibei (those educated in Japan) were in the advanced class and the pace of our course was especially intense with the attack at Pearl Harbor as we concentrated on military-related subjects.

It is sad to report today, after 55 years, time has taken its toll, and over half of the teachers and those students who graduated have passed on from the scene. Today, we are fortunate to have with us two original civilian instructors and four veterans from the first class. Let me introduce them: (a) the teachers Shig Kihara and Dr. Toshio Tsukubara; (b) and students from the first class, Gary Kadani, Gene Uratsu, Steve Yamamoto and myself.

Despite the fact that our families were forcibly incarcerated in the American internment camps throughout the U.S.; the original 58 Japanese American students who reported to duty here one month before Pearl Harbor were all volunteers. Forty-two of us completed the course; 32 were immediately shipped to combat areas of the Pacific theater extending from Alaska to Guadalcanal.

They remained back privates for over a year. While some of us were promoted a promotion to second lieutenant, none of us were eventually promoted upon graduation. Nine of us eventually became NCOs (non-commissioned officers) as instructors at the expanding Army Language School, which was moved from San Francisco to Minnesota in May 1942.

Events of war took a rapid turn for me. In February 1944, I found myself in combat in the South Pacific. As a lone Nisei assigned to a brigade-size reconnaissance task force aboard one of the nine destroyers, on Feb. 9, 1944, we landed under enemy fire on the strategic enemy base of Los Negros of the Admiralty Islands in the Southwest Pacific.

Soon after in the heat of battle, I remember trying to interrogate the first captured Japanese prisoner of war. He was semi-conscious with a serious wound. As I began to speak in Japanese, he reacted. I looked Japanese. He suddenly became alert and with fire in his eyes, shouted: "You bastard! Are you Japanese? Are you a traitor?" He insisted on being killed on the spot. The interrogation was not successful.

On the second day after landing, I was able to find among captured enemy documents, a military operations-order which outlined an all-out enemy attack plan for

that evening. This timely information aided General Chase, commander of the 1st Cavalry Brigade, to counter-attack immediately. This forced the Japanese battalion commander to make a futile banzai suicide attack, just 35 yards from our command post.

During the final phase of the Pacific War, on Aug. 30, 1945, I found myself at Atsugi Airbase with elements of the first U.S. forces to invade Japan. As I stood at the foot of General MacArthur's plane, Bataan, General MacArthur appeared in khaki uniform, dark glasses and a well-worn garrison cap, holding an extra-long comb pipe, before descending the ramp. He hesitated a moment, gazed toward the horizon viewing from left to right and took a momentary pose which reminded of the victor and conqueror. He then proceeded to a press conference.

On Sept. 2, 1945, I was privileged to witness at close range the surrender ceremony aboard Battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay. I watched the Japanese delegation headed by aged Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu leaning heavily on his cane, the chief of staff of the Japanese Army, General Yoshijiro Umezumi and his military delegation, now swordless and subjected to the penetrating stare of hostility, standing on mid-deck for a long time. They seemed to be ignored. This silent scene on the Battleship Missouri seemed to epitomize a total disgrace of a defeated nation.

Seven days later on Sept. 9, 1945, as a language officer I accompanied the U.S. press corps and flew to Hiroshima City. It was see at first-hand the effects of the atomic bomb dropped on that city one month earlier. The newsmen were all excited to be the first Americans to cover the aftermath of the atomic bomb.

But after visiting the Red Cross hospital and seeing the flash burns which, literally melted the skins off the faces of children and women, the newsmen were overwhelmed and hastily retreated from the hospital. No one spoke during the return flight back to Tokyo.

THIS hangar before you is the birth place of the U.S. Army Language School, which moved to Minnesota in 1942, and again moved back to the West Coast in June 1946 to become the Defense Language Institute at the Presidio of Monterey.

On Nov. 1, 1993, we of the First Class and Teachers of the Army Language School returned here to dedicate a monument. The inscription on this monument reads in part:

"...Eventually 6,000 Japanese-American soldier graduates served their country valiantly in the Pacific area during World War II. The United States of America owes debt to these Nisei linguists and their families which it can never repay."

"Our objective was not to glorify war but to leave an educational message from the first Army Language School to future generations that, despite the outright bigotry against "Niseis" and the wartime hatred atmosphere that prevailed, there were Japanese Americans who volunteered to prove their loyalty in the field of battle."

It is said that most Japanese American soldiers had to fight two wars simultaneously—one against the enemy and the other against racial prejudice and distrust at home. The third barrier which faced us was the discrimination and distrust within the military itself. We carried not only most of the language work, but did not get full credit for it. Promotions came slowly. It was not until August 1945 when the war was coming to an end, were we finally commissioned to officer rank.

However in closing, may I say that for whatever sacrifices we Nisei endured during the Pacific War, we did so willingly, and we want the American public to know that we are proud to have served our country. ■



Voice of a Sane

© By AKEMI KAYLENG

The first good Nisei man

Asian girls need/want White men to guide them because Asians aren't good enough...

My outmarriage to a mainstream Anglo has been the source of headaches for me. No, we aren't divorcing. We've been happily together for over twenty years. It's this White Man/Asian Woman perception some people have. Perceptions based on annoying stereotypes.

Let's set the record straight. My first real hero was indeed a White guy, and he was my hero because my Asian family truly wasn't good enough. But the full story will alter the stereotypical conclusions some of you may have jumped to.

I've read numerous articles about what fair skinned African Americans have endured from their own race. They are envied and hated. Their internalized racist people see them as White. Now if the fair skinned Black were really White, fear of the White race and the consequences of attacking a White person would have kept things under control. But the light complexioned Black isn't really White. He's White enough to be hated, but Black enough to be safe. The poor Black gets it in his face.

I understand. I was a real anomaly in my childhood community, for I spoke like a Caucasian. And that was just the start of things. My body language and social style and general psychological patterns were all White. Keep in mind, all this was going on over thirty years ago in a family of long decreased Issei. I was the White Devil. They cringed and covered in my presence, blew up in explosions of terrifying rage, acted inferior and embarrassed, and were fawning and trying to get my approval. They were putting me through hell, the

way the ghetto turns on the pale Black.

Somewhere during this period, I encountered the man who saved me. His name was Atticus Finch, the lawyer in Harper Lee's novel, *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Like me, he was unpopular. He was not the norm, in the same way I was different. By defending a Black man accused of raping a White woman, he was endorsing Blacks. By speaking English without a Japanese accent, I was endorsing Whites. We both had endorsed the enemy. I watched the town turn on Atticus, and I saw myself in him. My community was turning on me.

Young as I was, I sensed something strange was going on which had nothing to do with me. My family said I felt superior to them, ashamed of them, and so forth. I was puzzled and frightened, for those were not my feelings. So where were their perceptions coming from?

To Kill A Mockingbird explained it all. Something called racism permeated the town. Individual personalities and actions had no significance relative to the race issue. We were seen in terms of our perceived racial identities, rather than as we really were.

Atticus Finch became my role model for coping with my problem. He understood what the town's situation was. He realized he could not easily change people, so he did not try to aggressively persuade them to his point of view. On the other hand, he did not yield to the town's pressures. He never agreed with them or apologized or changed his actions. He quietly and persistently did what he knew was best. Following his example, I chose to ignore my family's comments, and

just keep moving on, living with the silent knowledge within that they were the troubled ones, not me.

Atticus Finch was my hero, a White man who I wanted and needed to guide me because my own race wasn't good enough.

But he was not "good" in the manner which racist/sextist White men obsessed with the "Oriental Airline Stewardess" nonsense think Asian women adore. He wasn't glamorous or charismatic. He wasn't a stylish dresser, in some executive position with a salary which enabled him to keep his Oriental Doll in style.

Professionally he was very competent. Characterwise, he was very ethical. He was a plain and functional man who lived modestly. He had no great personal style or charm. He was extraordinarily capable of enduring great hardships, never losing sight of his larger goal. He worked quietly and persistently for what he knew was a moral obligation. He had *gaman* and *giri*. He was of his people, serving a poorly educated and depressed town. He was Nisei man.

My first real hero was indeed a White man because my own kind weren't "good enough." But they weren't bad because they lacked WASP glamour. They were breaking under the stresses of acculturation. Atticus Finch was not the man Oriental Airline Stewardess obsessed White men think I adore. He was really an Anglo version of the Japanese American elders I had loved, before racism made them turn on me. ■

Akemi Kayleng Knight is San Fernando Valley chapter president and contributes regularly to the Pacific Citizen.

'Something Strong Within'

BY CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant Editor

Memories inevitably fade over time but two Japanese American documentaries have ensured that the suffering of thousands of Japanese Americans interned during World War II will never be forgotten.

Close to 400 people, of all ages and backgrounds, came to see "Celebrating Community Film: *The Topaz Footage and Something Strong Within*" at Los Angeles Japan American Theatre on April 3.

Huell Howser, host and producer of the TV series "California Gold," emceed the screening sponsored by the Association of Moving Image Archivists, the Getty Research Institute for the History of Art and the Humanities, the Japanese American Community and Cultural Center (JACCC), and the Japanese American National Museum (JANM).

Ten minutes from David Tatsuno's historic home movie footage, taken during his internment at Topaz from 1943-45, were viewed by the capacity audience.

Something Strong Within, a 40-minute documentary of other home video footage taken by JA internees, including Tatsuno's films, was then shown in its entirety. Directed and edited by Robert A. Nakamura and written and produced by Karen L. Ishizuka, the film has won a number of awards including the Chris Award from the Columbus International Film and Video Festival and a CINE Golden Eagle award.

Tatsuno's color films of Topaz were recently added to the National Film Registry by the Librarian of Congress. Only 25 films are added to the Registry each year, and Tatsuno's film is just the second home movie ever chosen. (Zapruder's footage of President Kennedy's assassination was the first.) Films are judged on their enduring cultural, historical, or aesthetic significance.

Ishizuka, a Senior Curator at the JANM and also a Visiting Scholar with the Getty Research Institute nominated Tatsuno's film for the Registry. "Having it selected out of a thousand (entries) really acknowledges this governmental body recognizes the importance of Japanese Americans and the community to the history of the United States," she said.

Nakamura, a professor of Film and Television at UCLA and co-founder of Visual Communications, a non-profit media arts organization, first met Tatsuno in 1990. When he and Ishizuka explained to him the historical significance of the Topaz footage, Tatsuno hum-

bly said, "They're just home movies. I'm not an historian."

"We spent time letting David know how really important his films were, not only to the Japanese American community but to the country as a whole," said Ishizuka.

Tatsuno could not attend the screening because of a sickness in his family, so Ishizuka spoke on his behalf. She said that Tatsuno's love of home movies began in 1936. That year his good friend passed away and the movies Tatsuno had taken of him gave him some solace. The 84-year-old resident of San Jose, Calif., has filmed events in his life ever since. He recently finished his 134th videotape.

When he was sent to Topaz in 1942, all cameras were considered contraband, so he sent his to a white friend in Oakland, Calif. But Walter Honderick, a War Relocation Authority staff member at Topaz, helped sneak an 8mm camera into the camp for him. Over a two-year period he used up 25 fifty-foot roles of film shooting through a baby's shoe box.

"Despite the loneliness and despair that enveloped us, we made the best we could with the situation," wrote Tatsuno. "I hope when you look at these you see the spirit of the people; people trying to reconstruct a community despite overwhelming obstacles. This, I feel, is the essence of these home movies."

You'll see no guard towers or barbed wire fences in Tatsuno's Topaz footage, for he couldn't film in the open view of the authorities. Instead, images of a young girl ice skating on a man-made patch of ice, cooks busily preparing meals in the mess hall, and close-ups of smiling children fill up the screen. Only the occasional shots of thick icicles hanging from rooftops and the barren landscape of desert and lonely conditions nearly 8,000 JAs had to endure.

There is no narration in *Something Strong Within*. Instead, video footage of everyday life in the various internment camps (Minidoka, Rohwer, Heart Mountain, Tule Lake, Jerome, Topaz, Amache, and Manzanar) is accompanied by a moving musical score and some original sound. The name of the filmmaker and an occasional written explanation are all that has been added to the images. A Christmas celebration, a school graduation, and traditional mochi-making illustrate the internees' efforts to carry on some semblance of normalcy behind barbed wire fences.

The creators of *Something Strong Within* consciously made few

changes to the original WWII video footage. "It was a chance to show the internment experience through their own eyes," said Nakamura. In the past, documentaries about the JA internment have been told from the outside, said the former Manzanar internee. "It was a strategic decision we made," added Ishizuka. "We wanted to provide a real view from within the camps." Also, "We wanted to intensify the interaction between the audience and the people who took the movies."

Home movies "provide a real history of Japanese in America," said Ishizuka, who developed the JANM's Moving Image Archive, a collection dedicated to the preservation of home movies. "For people of color, the mass media has not documented our communities. So we rely on home videos."

Dozens of former internees from the various camps attended the screening. San Fernando Valley JACLer Ron Yoshida, 69, was interned at Topaz and lived in Block 4. He first viewed Tatsuno's video footage at a Topaz reunion a few years back.

Yoshida was a teenager when Tatsuno got his camera and vaguely remembers him filming in the camps. He appears in the historic video footage but, he said, "You gotta be real alert to see me." At the time, Yoshida said, he had no idea the films would have any historical significance. "He had a lot of foresight."

"I knew him very well," said 83-year-old former Topaz internee Fred Hoshiyama of Tatsuno. "Dave and I go back to the 1929 YMCA days." Tatsuno was his YMCA club leader and they grew up together playing football and competing in track. They still keep in touch.

"I think the film is the stark naked truth," said Hoshiyama, who had already left the camp to fight in the war when Tatsuno got his camera. "It tells the truth of what happened in the camps."

Hoshiyama believes Americans still don't know enough about the JA internment. As a volunteer at the National YMCA, he travels throughout the U.S. speaking to young staff members. "Some are completely ignorant of what hap-

Missouri alumni fetes Sansei educator

COLUMBIA, Mo.—Missouri University Alumni Association expresses its pride and appreciation to faculty and alumni for their achievements and service to higher education through its Faculty-Alumni Award. The current recipient is Professor Michael C. Hosokawa of family and community medicine, assistant dean for curriculum and minority affairs at the Columbia campus.

On the faculty since 1974 to develop an accredited program in public health, his career expanded in 1981 to faculty development and writing more than \$10 million in federal training grants in his department. In 1994, with a \$1.4 million grant which he co-wrote, provided health professions training in rural Missouri.

As assistant dean, he completely revised the Medical School's four-year curriculum which serves as a model for other universities. He has written in journals and authored a major book on the clinical teaching in medicine. As dean of minority affairs, he is developing programs to increase the number of medical students who are racially, culturally, geographically and economically disadvantaged.

He is the son of the Bill Hosokawas of Denver and is the father of two children. ■

admit there were times when they could have done better, but few have done so in a manner so public and so wrenching as Al and Jane Nakatani (then) of San Jose," *Mercury News* writer Lori Eickmann observed.

(Nakatani is scheduled to speak May 31 at the Japanese American National Museum 213/625-0414).

pened," said Hoshiyama. "And this is 1997, and they're college educated."

"There's room and also a need for

America to understand this, to become a more solid, democratic society," said Hoshiyama. "To make sure that the things that happened to us never happen again." ■



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A scene from "Something Strong Within" directed and edited by Robert A. Nakamura and produced and written by Karen L. Ishizuka.

Inspiration from tragedy: the Nakatani story

RICHMOND, Calif.—"Just a reminder," the Contra Costa JACL pegged an upcoming event, Friday, May 23, 7:30 p.m., at Arlington Community Church, (52 Arlington Blvd., Kensington), to hear Al Nakatani of San Jose speak about his book, *Honor Thy Children*, by Molly Fumia of Los Gatos (Conari Press, \$21.95).

"It will be a very special opportunity to hear how personal tragedy and circumstances may forever change the lives of individuals. It will be a thought-provoking and

educational evening," Ron Shiro-moto added.

About the book, the story revolves around the premature deaths of all three Nakatani sons, one, 23, by gun shot (Greg in 1986) during a dispute over a car, and the remaining two, 29 and 26 (Glen in 1992 and Guy 1994), through AIDS. But the focus is not the syndrome, but illustrates the "killing power" from the devaluing and demeaning of young children, San Jose friend Roy Takeuchi said.

"Most parents can look back and

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Correction: MABOROSHI

There were 14 lines missing (as underlined below) from the "Rare Document" feature in the last issue, page 6, column 3. Our apologies for the error in making up the page. —Editor

SINCE this year (1995) is the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, I was interviewed by BBC and SOG, an American TV station. They asked me two questions, one was whether the atomic bombs played the absolutely decisive role in terminating the war, and the other was why the Emperor could not make an explicit declaration to avoid the war, given the fact that he actually made a similar declaration for the Instrument of Surrender. These questions indicated that they were fully convinced of the non-prosecution decision.

It was Adjutant General Ferrers who informed Mr. Terasaki, the author of *Emperor's Monologue*, of the Allied powers' conclusion not to prosecute the Emperor. By March 20, 1946, the Japanese government already obtained reliable information on the decision.

At that time, my father was in Sugamo Prison. On April 18, 1946, Mr. Saburo Ohta, section chief from the Post-War Liaison Office, came to the prison and told my father that the Emperor definitely would not be treated as a defendant or witness,

according to information from sources very close to Mr. Joseph Keenan, the Chief Prosecutor. He also pointed out that accusation would be more severe on my father than it might have been if the Emperor had been indicted.

Mr. Ohta advised my father to get prepared to sacrifice himself to protect his master, the Emperor.

Grandson of the eminent statesman Takayoshi Kido who with Takamori Saigo and Toshimichi Okubo was one of the "three heroes of the restoration of the Emperor" in 1867, Kichiro Kido (1889-1977) was active in government after graduating 1915 from Kyoto Imperial University.

During the 1940s he worked closely with right-wing forces supporting the overthrow of the pro-U.S. and British cabinet of Admiral Yonai and played a role in formation of the General Tojo cabinet. Tried and convicted in 1948 as a Class-A war criminal after the Pacific War, he was given a life sentence. In 1953 he was granted a provisional release because of illness. ■

HATE CRIME

(Continued from page 1)

sage that the State of Arizona will not tolerate bigotry, and that it is a good place to live and do business," said Joe Allman, vice president of the JACL Arizona Chapter and an active member of the Arizona Hate Crimes Task Force. "This is a fine day for Arizona JACL and others who worked hard for this bill."

Symington's signing of the bill was a major policy reversal that represented an uphill battle for the bill's supporters.

In his letter accompanying the signing of the bill, Symington acknowledged that crimes committed for discriminatory reasons are on the rise, and that no racial, religious or ethnic group is immune.

Hate crimes in Arizona have increased steadily in recent years. The Arizona Department of Public Safety announced that in 1996, there

were 248 reported hate crimes, a 10 percent increase from 222 incidents in 1995. Of the reported hate crimes, there were 84 intimidation cases, 70 vandalism cases, 51 assaults, and 35 aggravated assaults.

By far, the largest number of victims were African Americans, with 109 incidents, followed by 31 anti-Jewish crimes and 29 anti-gay incidents.

Five anti-Asian crimes were reported in 1996. It should be noted, however, that underreporting of hate crimes is seen to be prevalent, particularly in immigrant communities.

In Los Angeles, JACL Pacific Southwest Regional Director Albert Muratsuchi said, "Joe Allman and Arizona JACL worked hard for many years to pass this bill."

"This victory, like redress, is a reminder of the importance for all of us to get involved in the legislative process by writing, making phone calls, and meeting with our legislators." ■

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Akita, Ben Y., 90, Laguna Niguel, April 7; Honolulu-born, survived by wife Yaeiko, son Donald, daughters Joan, Donna, Jeanne, 7 gc., sister Sadako Sagara (Japan).

Fujimoto, George Sueharu, 66, San Francisco, April 7; San Juan Bautista-born, survived by wife Seiko.

Fujimoto, Harvey Teruo, 86, Sacramento, April 21; survived by wife Mary, daughter Patricia Honbo (Davis), son Robert (Portland, Ore.).

Fujimura, Rev. Bunyu, 89, Culver City, April 21; Gifu-ken-born, survived by sons Stanley, Robert, 1 gc., sister Kazuko Okuma (Japan).

Goi, Frank, 69, Sacramento, April 8; founding member, Matsuyama-Sacramento Sister City Corp., survived by wife Tessie, son Creston, daughter Renee Kinoshita, 2 gc., brother George, sisters Edith Yotsuya, Barbara Yukinaga.

Hayashi, Shigeo, 71, Fort Lupton, Colo., March 6; 442nd veteran, survived by sister Tomiko Masao (Los Angeles), brothers Masami (Salt Lake City), Kazuo (Japan).

Horita, Henry Haruo, 90, Stockton, March 31; Stockton-born, survived by wife Kazuko, brother George (Monterey Park), sister Chiyo Kikuchi (New York City).

Inadomi, Manuel Kumanosuke, 92, April 24 service; recipient of the Fourth Order of the Sacred Treasure, served on the Board of Harbor Commissioners of Los Angeles, survived by wife Anna, children George, Iri Teragawa, Jean Ishimaru (Berkeley), Kiyo Tashima, Larry.

Kadomatsu, Marian Maruko, 75, Los Angeles, April 10; Los Angeles-born, survived by husband Masao, sons Steven, Gary, daughter Patricia Lujan-Mito, 5 gc., brother Akira Forward Kato (Hawaii), Terry Kato, sons Katsuko Odanaka, Seiko Ruby Zorik, Kurumi Kato (Tokawa, San Francisco), Lillian Hiroko Kusayanagi, Florence Haruko Kato, sister-in-law Ruth Chiyo Watson.

Kageyama, Noboru, 84, Seattle, Dec. 23; Seattle-born, president of *North American Post*, recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun Gold and Silver Rays, survived by wife Mitsuko, daughter Judy Takaya (Costa Mesa), sons David, Arthur (Seattle), Paul (San Jose), 2 gc., Hatsue Kageyama (Japan).

Kanda, Fukuko 'Connie'Cookie, 69, Ontario, Ore., March 25; Kagoshima-born, survived by brother Yasu Kanda (Japan).

Kobayashi, Tom Yoshimitsu, 74, Torrance, April 24; Compton-born, survived by son Tom Jr. (Corona), daughters Jeanne Mayeda, Judy Nakamura (Yorba Linda), Terry Nakada, 6 gc., brother Frank Kobayashi (Anaheim Hills), sister Mary 'Michan' Takahashi (Long Beach).

Kuge, Don, 68, Oakland, April 18; Oakland-born, survived by wife Hisako, daughter Pamela Kumimoto, 2 gc., mother Aiko Kuge, sister Ida Monikawa.

Ku, Taketo, 85, Watsonville, April 20; San Jose-born, survived by wife Sachiko, son Seiji, daughter Kazuko, 2 gc.

Matsuzhi, Bob, 93, Torrance, March 30; Hawaii-born, survived by wife Michiyo, sons Dick, Ed, Ron, daughters Agnes Yoshikawa, Anna Pattison, 9 gc., 2 ggc.

Matsuura, Harry Yoshio, 83, Palo Alto, March 29; survived by wife Mary, son Ronald, daughters Irene, Diana Okamoto, 4 gc., sisters Sachiko Tademaru, Fumiko Yamane, Fumie Takeuchi, Keiko Nagai (all of Japan).

Mayeda, Harumi Dorothy, 85, Montebello, April 22; Tacoma, Wash.-born, survived by son Glenn, daughter Jane Mayeda, 2 gc., sisters Shizuko Hotta, Jane Konatsu.

Menda, Mitsuyo, 99, Lake Worth, Fla., April 8; Hiroshima-ken-born, survived by son Masao (Chicago), daughters Toshiko Ota (Melbourne, Fla.), Nancy Morimoto (Lake Worth, Fla.), Cee Ozaki (Kensington Md.), 9 gc., 13 ggc.

Morioka, Makino, 83, Los Angeles, April 19; Paocima-born, survived by husband Satoru, sons Eddie, David, daughter Joyce Fujita, 5 gc., sister Sumiyu Suzuki.

Mukai, William Ajiro, 83, Seattle, March 30; Akita, Wash.-born, survived by wife Lili, daughters Gail, Judy.

Munemitsu, Seiko 'Ted', 75, Gardena Grove, April 22; survived by wife Yone, daughter Janice Munemitsu, mother Masako Munemitsu, brother Sayo, sisters Akiko Nakauchi, Kazuko Doi, sister-in-law Rikumi Sasaki.

Murami, Takiye, 89, Gardena, April 7; Fukuoka-born, survived by son Frank shinichi, daughter Alice Tetsuko Taka-

hashi, 5 gc., 6 ggc.

Murakami, Yoneichi Jack, 71, Tacoma, Wash., March 28; Eatonville, Wash.-born, World War II army veteran, survived by daughter Wendy Saki (Bellevue), 2 gc., mother Shienko Murakami (Seattle), Satoru, Eiko, 3 gc., brothers Kazuo Kawachi (Renton), Florence Chom Simkiss (Federal Way), sister-in-law Jeanne Murakami.

Nakamura, Raymond Tokio, 56, Monterey Park, April 15; Hawaii-born, survived by son Derek Nakamura (Kona, Hawaii), daughter Darlene Wright (Eureka), brothers Edwin, Benson, Melvin, Harvey, sisters Jane Nakamura, Joyce St. Arnault, Elaine Fernandez.

Nishimoto, Kiyoto Thomas, 78, Seattle, March 22; Newcastle-born, survived by wife Alice, sons Larry, Steve, daughter Gloria Oe, gc., brothers Yoshiharu, Iwami, sister Toshie Shimokon.

Nishiutsu, Fred Hiroshi, 81, Los Angeles, April 17; La Junita, Colo.-born, survived by wife Marian Mitsuko, son Dennis, 2 gc., brothers George James, Arthur, Bill, sisters May Miyazawa (Colo.), Toshiko Shoshima (Tokyo), Anna Kunigi (Colo.), Irene Shimamoto (Imperial), sisters-in-law Tomi Nishitsuiji, Grace Odama, Dorothy Kada.

Oishi, Akira, 69, Los Angeles, April 17; Hawaii-born, survived by wife Leatrice, son Robert, brothers Hal, Hideo, sisters Dorothy, Jean, Kiyoko, 10 gc., sisters-in-law Clara and Helen Oishi.

Okamoto, George, 77, Sebastopol, April 15; Laurel-born, survived by wife Lily, sons Byron, Randolph, daughter Nancy Davlin, brothers Robert, Roy, sister Yasuko Uyeda.

Okamoto, George, 70, Rosemead, April 14; Glendale-born, survived by wife Yoshiko Y. sons K4, Kiki, Kumi, daughter Ken Sandoval, 6 gc., brothers Jim, Fumio, sister Mary Fuhakoshi (Hawaii), sisters-in-law Nova and Lu Okamoto, Aiko Fujimura, Miki Uyeda, Rosy Okazaki.

Okimura, Noboru, 72, Foster City, April 24; Flonn-born, survived by wife Miekko, sons Raymond, Joseph, Rickey, Gerald, Glenn, gc.

Okura, Benny, Cincinnati, April 22; World War II veteran, past president of Cincinnati JACL, survived by wife Ju, daughter Shelly, sisters Patti Leiber, Sally Miciek (Atlanta), Marjorie Sand Gabbard (W. Harrison, Ind.).

Ota, Hisa Mary, 84, Fullerton, April 24; Rowland-born, survived by son Michael, daughters Joan Kawase, Ellen S. Ange Takagom, 8 gc., 4 ggc., brother Henry Mikawa, sisters Toshiko Hiraishi, Masayee Sato, sister-in-law Tsuruko Mikawa.

Riva, Michio, 67, San Francisco, Feb. 13; Osaka-born, survived by daughter Katherine Riva, brother Yoshiaki Matsumoto (Japan).

Saito, Leo Takeshi, 84, Monrovia, April 20; Fresno-born, survived by wife Naoko, sons Tom, Steve, Robert, daughter Elizabeth, 5 gc., sister Masako Inada.

Sakamoto, Miyoko Kaji, 69, Monterey Park, April 14; Fukuoka-ken-born, survived by husband Kiyoshi, son Arlen Norwood.

Sanwo, Allison, 24, Reedley, April 2; survived by parents Richard and Sharon Sanwo, sisters Karen, Michelle, grand-mother Ichika Sanwo.

Sato, Ichiro, 61, Las Vegas; Beach-born, survived by sons, Dennis (Westminster), David (Torrance), daughters Debra Dazet, Deanne Sato (Torrance), Darlene Sato (Gardena), 2 gc., sisters Chiyeo Iwashita (Cypress), Yoshiko Sato, Masako Sato (Carson).

Semba, Amy T., 84, Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 28; Bellevue, Wash.-born, survived by sisters Terry Sato (Lakewood, Colo.), Eve Chewning (Santa Maria), predeceased by husband Ted.

Sera, Tokiyu, 70, Culver City, April 14; Dinuba-born, survived by sons Gary, Ron, daughters Nancy Sera, Alice Yahiro, 3 gc., brothers Akira Sasano, Tomoyuki Sasano (Japan), sisters Mitsuko Hirota, Tsukoko Arakawa (Japan).

Stewart, Jun K., Nakagawa, 72, Salem, Ore., Oct. 17; Auburn, Wash.-born, survived by husband Kenneth C., daughters Georgia Iwai (Moses Lake, Wash.), Cheryl Wilson (Pasco, Wash.), son Michael Iwai (Hillsboro, Ore.), 6 gc., 2 ggc., sisters Doris Sagara (Sumner, Wash.), Chicki Dusablon (Las Vegas).

Sugiyama, Sansaku, 86, Seattle, March 9; Japan-born, survived by daughter of the Buddhist Lotus Seinen Kai, survived by wife Susan, sons Glenn (Renton), Steve (Kirkland), Dick (Shoreline), Alan (Seattle), daughter Carole Burrus (Tukwila) (all Wash.) 10 gc.

Sunohara, Tadeo, 74, Seattle, March 22; survived by wife Toshiko, daughter Lucy Bloedel (Seattle).

Suzuki, Minoru, 79, March 10; Hawaii-born, 15-year resident of Las Vegas, survived by wife Karlie, son Blake, daughter Marie Virkus (both of Las Vegas), 5 gc., 4 ggc., brothers Yutaka (Honolulu), Shinobu Nagura (Tokyo), sisters Suzuno Fujisaki, Sumi Ing (both of Honolulu).

Taguchi, Hisano, 91, Los Angeles, April 15; Okaya-ken-born, survived by sons Seiichi, Aisushi, daughter Misako Kurosaki, 3 gc., 1 ggc., brother Hiroo Hamada (Japan), sister Fumiko Yotsada (Seattle).

Takahashi, Chika, 91, Seattle, March 19; survived by daughter Patti Kihara, 2 gc., sister Chisato Takagi.

Takamune, Thomas, 87, Hawaii, March 27; Hawaii-born educator, executive secretary to U.S. Sen. Oren Long, principal of Farrington High School, survived by wife Masaki, son James, daughters Joan, Diane, 5 gc., brother Hatashi.

Takaynangi, Shigeko, 70, Berkeley, April 1; survived by husband Tadao, daughters Emily, Tracy Hui, 1 gc., sisters Yasuko Hitomi, Miyoko Nakagawa.

Tsuehchuan, Mitsugu Mito, 75, Gardena, April 16; Bakersfield-born, survived by brother Hiroshi.

Tsukimura, Aileen Toshiho, 89, Lafayette, April 17; Fowler-born, survived by daughter Aileen (Lodi), sons Ray (Walnut Creek), Hiro (Sunnyvale), 6 gc., predeceased by husband Edward.

Watanabe, Yasuo Harry, 67, Gardena, April 15; Hawaii-born, survived by wife Evelyn Yoshie, sons Dene, Lee, daughter Staci, 1 gc., brother Satohei Stanley, sisters Nancy Kumakura, Peggy Takamori, Yamao, Tsunayuki, 6 gc., 1 ggc., April 15; Hawaii-born, survived by brother Miyo Koyamatsu, 4 gc., 2 ggc., daughter Takito Yamaguchi.

Yamakoshi, Helen Shigeko, Reedley, March 28; Watsonville-born, survived by husband Frank, daughters Agnes Sasaki, Esther Ura, Shirley Baskin, Lois Yamakoshi, Carole Yamakoshi, 6 gc., brother Tyrone Kuwada, sisters Emily Igarashi, Doris Kunimura, Laraine Noto, Kathleen Hori, Celeste Kitagawa.

Yamauchi, Kaju, 91, Sacramento, April 21; survived by sons Harold, Jim, Thomas, Karl, 2 gc., predeceased by wife Haruyo.

Yokomizo, Virginia 'Virgie' Tatsuue, 68, Northridge, April 10; Riverside-born, survived by husband Hideo, son Ryan, daughter Jody Mitsui, 4 gc., brother Harry Kikuta, sister-in-law Mitsie Kikuta, Kyoko Yokomizo, brother-in-law Ido Yokomizo.

Yorita, Sadao, 78, Sacramento, April 17; survived by sons Jim, Richard, David, Ronald, daughters Evelyn Wakabayashi, Susan Gollas, 11 gc., 1 ggc., predeceased by wife Kimiko.

Yoshida, Chitoshi, Denver, April 17 service; survived by wife Chiyo.

Yoshizawa, Marilyn Naoko, 47, Los Angeles, April 16; Los Angeles-born, survived by husband Edwin, son Jeffrey, daughters Janice Laura father Naoli Bill Kuga, brother Dennis Naoto Kuga, sister Naomi Jean Kishimoto.

Yttrio, Louis, 84, Ontario, Ore., March 18; Delmar, Idaho-born, 33-year Thousand Club JACL member, survived by wife Elsie, children Lou Ann Yttrio, Dolores Bryant, Robert Yttrio (all of Ontario) Yvette Davis, Mary Yttrio (Cascadia, Idaho), 10 gc., step-mother Justa Yttrio (Ontario). ■

DEATH NOTICE

RAE SHIZUE FUJIMOTO
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah—Rae Shizue Nakamoto Fujimoto, 89, passed away peacefully on April 20. She was born in San Francisco to Sekitaro and Tamayo Nakamoto. She married Edward Kanta Fujimoto on Feb. 18, 1940. In 1942, her husband was interned at Bismarck, ND, and Rae and her family were sent to the Topaz relocation camp in Delta, UT. Following the war, Eddie and Rae re-established the Fujimoto Miso Co. in Salt Lake City. After Eddie's death in 1986, Rae continued the business until her retirement in 1976. She was an active member of the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple, Salt Lake JACL, Hiroshima Kenjinkai. Surviving family include a daughter, Grace (Ben) Oshita; sister, Lillian S. Sekino, both of Salt Lake City; sister-in-law, Kiyoko Nakamoto, Bellevue, WA; many nephews, nieces and grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple.

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Monterey Peninsula JACL hosts book signing party on abalone industry

MONTEREY, Calif.—Scrap, Lundy's pictorial history on the California Abalone industry, covers the development of the abalone diving industry from 1853 to 1994 in both words and pictures. A book signing is scheduled June 14, 1-4 p.m., at the JACL, Hall, 424 Adams St. A significant chapter, covering the major role of Issei pioneers and Nisei divers toward making it a commercial industry from 1898 to 1941 was contributed by the late John Goto, local historian and JACL'er. It's the longest chapter in the book," noted Larry Oda, chapter president (408/649-8551). Lundy, author and former abalone diver, spent more than six years in researching the only published history of the pioneer divers. ■

Northern Cal JACL Jr. Olympics set for June 8

HAYWARD, Calif.— On Sunday, June 8, the Northern California JACL District Council will host its 45th annual Junior Olympics track and field meet. For the past 15 years the meet has been held at the excellent track facilities of Chabot College here.

This track meet is the longest running JACL-sponsored meet of its kind. It was started in 1952 by the San Francisco chapter, but in the early '80s San Francisco turned its control over to the District Council because it had become so large and popular with the young JACLers of Northern California.

Those interested in participating in this year's event should call

PANA-Mexico to host July 23-27 convention, program details set

Details of the 1997 PANA convention at Mexico City July 23-27 were announced by American Holiday's Ernest Hida, PANA-USA travel coordinator. The \$300 registration fee for participants from the U.S., Canada and Japan includes:

Opening ceremony, all panels, simultaneous translation, coffee breaks, three luncheons, two banquets with Mexican entertainment and dance, reception at the Japanese Embassy, convention booklet, transportation to the events

Steve Okamoto, 415/981-6212 (day) for more information or check with the local JACL chapter. ■

and airport, ticket for PANA karaoke contest, special program for young people and the "full love from the Mexican Nikkei."

Stay will be at Hotel Nikko, Mexico City. Registrations, payable to PANA-USA, attn: E. Hida, 312 E. 1st St. #341, Los Angeles, CA 90012, submitted after May 30 will be \$330. ■

Artist of the month

A reception for abstract painter Yayoi Aiene Shibata by Angel Gate Cultural Center, 3601 S. Gaffey St., San Pedro, Calif., for its "Featured Artist of the Month" was held Sunday, May 11. On display through May 31 (Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.), is which her new series, "Passages," which narrates her family history and personal identity, and exploring her heritage through the medium of textures, colors, shapes

and fabrics. Shibata, a UCLA fine arts graduate, has exhibited since the 1960s in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York and Tokyo. ■

Harvard bound

Steven Ujifusa, 17, senior at Horace Greeley High, Chappaqua, N.Y., was admitted as an Early Action candidate to Harvard, class of 2001. His interests include architecture and history. He is the son of JACL redress leader and '65 Harvard graduate, Grant and Amy Ujifusa. ■

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DISCOVER RHODE ISLAND & CAPE COD (8 days)	JUN 6
CANADIAN ROCKIES/VICTORIA (8 days)	JUN 18
JAPAN SUMMER ADVENTURE (10 days)	JUL 7
TAUOCK COLORADO NATIONAL PARKS (9 days)	SEP 4
EUROPEAN INTERLUDE (12 days)	SEP 9
MAUI GOLF HOLIDAY (8 days)	SEP 22
TENNESSEE/BRANSON/KENTUCKY (Shoji Tabuchi Show, 9 days)	SEP 13
EAST COAST/FALL FOLIAGE (11 days)	OCT 5
JAPAN AUTUMN ADVENTURE (11 days)	OCT 13
PRINCESS PANAMA CANAL CRUISE (Early Booking Discount, 10 days)	NOV 15

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July 13-21	Yamato Northern Sierra Tour - 9 Days: San Francisco, Fort Bragg, Clearlake to Sparks by Skunk Train, Sparks/Reno casinos and Yosemite.	Steven Nakamoto
July 31-Aug. 10	Yamato Eastern Canada Tour - 11 Days: Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia.	Lilly Nomura
Oct. 6-17	Yamato East Coast/Fall Foliage Tour - 12 Days: Niagara Falls, Baseball Hall of Fame/Cooperstown, Williamstown, Lincoln, Boston, New York, Amish Country, Washington, D.C.	Lilly Nomura
Oct. 24-30	Yamato Steamboat Cruise - 7 Days, aboard the Mississippi Queen boarding from St. Louis to Hannibal, LaCrosse, Red Wing ending in St. Paul. **FREE ROUNDTRIP AIRFARE IF DEPOSIT RECEIVED BY MARCH 20, 1997**	Steven Nakamoto
Oct. 27-Nov. 10	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan - 15 Days: Kyoto, Kurashiki, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Beppu, Hiroshima and Tokyo.	Peggy Mikuni
Nov. 7-21	Yamato Tour to New Zealand and Australia - 15 Days: Auckland, Cambridge, Rotorua, Christchurch, Fox Glacier, Queenstown Sydney and Cairns.	Lilly Nomura
Dec. 6-11	Yamato Christmas Tour to Branson - 6 Days: Visiting Precious Moments and Silver Dollar City and 6 shows: Shoji Tabuchi, Lennon Brothers, Radio City Rockettes, Bobby Vinton, Andy Williams and Baldknobbers with Mike Ito.	Peggy Mikuni

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