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Oct. 17-Nov. 6, 1997

INSIDE PAGE 6

Final installment
of Fujimori and
'Hostage Watch'

Car salesman fired for racist remarks towards Asian Americans

COLMA, Calif.—Less than a week after an Asian American family spread word of their racist mistreatment at an auto dealership through the internet, the car salesman accused of making the derogatory remarks has been fired.

Patrick Poon and his family had intended to look at the new Acuras at the Golden Gate, Cadillac & Acura dealership in Colma, Calif., on Sept. 27 when it was alleged that salesman Dan Fallon greeted them by saying, "There are no Chinese salespeople here, so you have to

speaking English. No speak Chinese. We fired all the Chinese salespeople because they were giving away the cars too cheap."

After a short verbal exchange the family decided to leave, wrote Poon in an e-mail broadcast to several AA individuals and organizations, including the *Pacific Citizen*. But as they were about to leave the lot, Fallon and another salesman, Sam Sharieh, started laughing and gave each other a high-five. That's when the Poon family turned their car around to lodge a complaint with the dealership.

At first, Fallon gave the Poon family a false name calling himself Dave Johnson, said Poon. Another salesman who saw the incident even tried to apologize on Fallon's behalf. But they were finally directed to the general sales manager Brian McSherry, by an AA salesman named Raymond Kwong.

McSherry listened to the Poon's complaint and agreed that he would have also been offended by the comment and called Fallon into his office, wrote Poon. That's when a second altercation took place.

"Fallon stated he had done nothing wrong and came up very close (about 18 inches) to my face screaming that he will never apologize to me about what he did."

\$50 million claim filed against Rohnert Park city

ROHNERT PARK, Calif.—An administrative claim against the City of Rohnert Park was filed on Oct. 1 for damages in the shooting death of a Chinese American, Kuanchung Kao, by a Rohnert Park police officer in April (Aug. 15-Sept. 4 PC).

The claim is the first step before a lawsuit can be filed before a federal court and the city has 45 days to either accept or reject the claim.

John Burris, a police-misconduct attorney who worked on the Rodney King case, and attorney Victor Hwang of the Asian Law Caucus, filed the claim on behalf of Kao's

See ROHNERT PARK/page 9

Jury recommends death for White supremacist in hate-crime killing of AA

SANTA ANA, Calif.—A White supremacist who randomly chose and murdered a Vietnamese American honors student, and later bragged that he had "killed a Jap," was handed a death sentence by an Orange County Superior Court jury on Oct. 9.

Gunner Lindberg, 24 of Tustin, was found guilty of murdering 24-year-old Thien Minh Ly under the special circumstances of committing the act as a hate crime and during an attempted robbery, thus making him eligible for the death penalty. The case is thought to be Orange County's first capital murder case involving a hate crime.

Ly, a graduate of UCLA and Georgetown University, had been visiting his parents in Tustin when he encountered Lindberg and Dementic M. Christopher, while rollerblading in a nearby unlit tennis court on Jan. 28 of

last year. The two men attempted to rob Ly, but when they learned he had nothing of value Lindberg stabbed him 50 times, 14 times in the heart, and slashed his throat. Lindberg's accomplice, Christopher, 17 at the time of the incident, had been tried as an adult and was convicted of first-degree murder last April. He is serving a sentence of 25 years to life.

During the trial it was revealed that Lindberg had bragged to his cousin, Walter Ray Dulaney IV, part Japanese, that he had "killed a Jap," that it had felt "better than a drug" and that he had murdered Ly because of a "racial movement." Dulaney also said that he and Lindberg were founding members of an organization called "Insane Criminal Posse," a White Supremacist gang.

Lindberg will be formally sentenced on Dec. 12.—Caroline Aoyagi

See SALESMAN/page 7

Old zip peaks into 1000 Club's 50th anniversary reunion

By HARRY K. HONDA

Editor emeritus

JACKPOT, Nev.—A hardy turnout of 80 Thousanders and JACLers—most of them from the Intermountain District where the JACL 1000 Club was founded in 1947—celebrated the club's 50th anniversary over the Oct. 10-12 weekend at Cactus Petes Resort-Casino. [At the 40th Anniversary celebration in Nov. 20-21, 1987, close to 150 attended at Cactus Pete's Hotel/Casino.]

Local media coverage of the 1000 Club Reunion excursion Friday noon to Minidoka Relocation Center overwhelmed the 1000ers as they gathered around the TV sets at the hospitality suite at Cactus Petes to try to spot themselves at the 6 o'clock news show on KMYT (11), the Magic Valley station in Twin Falls. The front-page story with a photo in color of George Hirai, Coos Bay, Ore., recounting

what life was like in the 1940s at the internment camp near Hunt in the *Twin Falls Times-News* assured the sale of all the papers Saturday morning at the hotel newsstand. While not mentioned in the caption stands Donna Okubo from National JACL Headquarters in the 5x7.5-inch picture.

A group of 50 returned to Minidoka near the tiny town of Hunt in Jerome County where 12,800 Japanese Americans stayed between August 1942 and October 1945. A few like Manzanar internee Lillian Kimura from New York, Topaz internee Lucy Adachi from San Francisco and Gila River internee Frank Sakamoto from Denver were here for the first time.

Midst a carefree style reminiscent of whining dings of the early years, 1000 Club chair Dr. Frank Sakamoto (current Mile-Hi JACL chapter president), assisted by Don-

See OLD ZIP/page 3

'Doubles' (da-buruzu) replacing 'ha-fu' name for mixed heritage JAs

BY CAROLINE AOYAGI

Assistant Editor

WHEN the Japanese American community holds a panel discussion on Hapa or mixed races issues, people come.

The interest is obvious; the Asian American community is outmarrying at phenomenal rates, the highest number belonging to JAs at 65 percent.

So when the Hapa Issues Forum and Little Tokyo Services Center held a showing of the film *Doubles: Japan and America's Intercultural Children* by Reggie Life, and a panel discussion at the Japanese American National Museum on Oct. 5, it was standing room only as more than 80 people crowded into the screening area.

Doubles... tells the story of children of Japanese nationals and Americans of European, Black, and Mexican descent growing up in Japan and the United States. The term "double," meaning "of two cultures," is what many mixed race persons in Japan prefer to call



Panelists at the "Doubles ..." film and discussion at JANM were (from left) Steven Ropp, Mika Tanner, Curtiss Rooks, and Teresa Williams.

themselves today as opposed to the word "hafu" (half) that's often been used in the past.

And like the interviewees in the film, panel members Steven Masami Ropp, a graduate student of anthropology at UCLA, Mika Tanner, JANM's communications & public relations manager and a *Rafu Shimpo* columnist, Curtiss Takada Rooks, a lecturer at Loyola Mary-

mount University and a research associate at Imoyase Firm, and Teresa Kay Williams, assistant professor of Asian American Studies at Cal State Northridge, shared their personal stories of what it was like growing up as mixed race persons in Japan and America.

Ropp, by his own admission, is your "typical Yonsei," he doesn't speak Japanese and he's never vis-

See DOUBLES/page 4

Race categories now a big census problem in Hawaii

HONOLULU—A lot of head-scratching can be expected when the next census hits Hawaii, since 55-60 percent of the babies now born in Hawaii are of mixed ethnicity, a problem for parents who will have to identify their children by race, *Advertiser* staff writer Sandra Oshiro predicted.

"This has always been a problem for people who are hapa, or multiracial. But with the increasing numbers of mixed race births, the issue takes on added importance," she noted.

The Office of Management and Budget is considering a "multiracial" option. On the other hand, a task force has recommended that people should be allowed "to choose more than one racial designation." A final decision is expected by the end of October.

The OMB idea for a multiracial category has kicked up a political

storm, Oshiro adds. House Speaker Newt Gingrich supports it. Opponents fear it could erode civil rights protections and race-based government benefits by drawing numbers away from particular race groups.

The census also may come up short for Hawaii. To draft a simpler survey for Census 2000, the bureau will no longer count "condominium" units. That makes it impossible to compare the numbers of 1990 with those of the year 2000, according to statisticians. Condos are an important part of Hawaii's housing.

APA organizations oppose plan against census 'sampling'

SAN FRANCISCO—Various Asian American organizations, including the National JACL, announced recently that they are opposed to a proposed ban on the use of "sampling" for the Census 2000.

Other opposing groups include the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC), and the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance of the AFL-CIO (APALA).

The sampling method being proposed by the Census Bureau will tally residents by mail, phone, and in person, counting the remaining individuals using statistical projection.

See APA/page 7

Journalist K.W. Lee's 40-year collection of works at UC Davis

DAVIS, Calif.—The UC Davis Asian American studies program conference this past week (Oct. 8) honored Asian American pioneer journalist K.W. Lee for his role as an investigative reporter in setting free Chol Soo Lee, a Korean immigrant wrongly convicted of murder in 1974.

Stuart Hanlon, a defense lawyer, spoke on Lee's role in the defense of Chol Soo Lee. He was joined by Bill Wong, former associate editor of the *Oak-*

land Tribune and former *Wall Street Journal* reporter, who discussed the lessons of the Free Chol Soo Lee movement in relation to current Asian American bashing.

The UC Davis Shields Library announced the receipt of a 40-year collection of Lee's news articles, writing, ethnic publications, correspondence, rare original photographs and oral histories, chronicling the century-old Korean American experience.



K.W. Lee

Sen. Boxer announces \$310,000 for Manzanar National Historic Site

WASHINGTON—Senator Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) has announced that \$310,000 for the Manzanar National Historic Site was included in the Interior Appropriations Conference Report which was approved Oct. 1 by the Conference Committee. Boxer worked with her colleagues on the Senate Interior appropriations subcommittee to include these important funds in the Conference Report. They will be used for operations, maintenance and construction projects at the Manzanar National Historic Site.

Boxer said, "The Manzanar National Historic site will help to ensure that we never forget the tragic injustice committed against thousands of Japanese Americans. I am pleased that my colleagues understood the importance of funding this project."

Congress established Manzanar as a National Historic Site in 1992, and last year Congress enacted legislation introduced by Senator Boxer to transfer the land that completed the Manzanar National Historic Site.

RAPNAP license plate to be recalled

LOS ANGELES—What Robin Arnett Petty and his wife Judy Ann Petty thought was a cute play on their initials on their California license plate, was ruled offensive by Administrative Law Judge Jerry Mitchell earlier this month.

The ruling was sparked by a chance spotting of the RAPNAP license plate by Jay Iida, a Japanese American Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy, who immediately filed a complaint with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

This led to a hearing on Aug. 26 where a number of JA community members and groups, including JACL, testified that the use of the word "Jap," a derogatory term for Japanese, on the Petty's license plate was racist and offensive.

The Petties, of Mission Viejo, who are opposed to changing their license plate, have maintained that in the 11 years they've owned their RAPNAP plate there have been no previous complaints. The couple plans to appeal the ruling.

By the Board



By Grace Kimoto, CCDC Governor

Focus the spotlight on chapter leaders

I BELIEVE my eyes may have a very unique perspective of our JACL. I have, now attended two National Board meetings and am just beginning to grasp the workings of the important "nuts and bolts" from the inside. I know most people cannot comprehend how much time, effort, knowledge, tough decision, focus of task and responsibilities and yes, personal dollars our leaders and our staff expend. And to think of my many, many leaders in the past who have given and given, and the many that are still giving.



Lloyd Kurihara

As I looked back to the first half of my biennium, I wondered why the governors of the districts needed to be on the National Board, as I really wanted to just get to know my chapters in my district and work with them to identify chapter wants and, yes, further JACL programs to the grassroots.

I can see the wisdom of our past planners now. So I have had to learn from both ends, the national picture and the chapter needs, and I feel I am just scratching the surface. I have visited chapters and gotten acquainted with many of our people (that eight-hour bus trip to Las Vegas Tri-District did help), but there is much to do at the grassroots.

One thing that pops out in my concern now is that we (JACL) are not serving many, many persons in pockets of areas that have no chapters. Our many Sansei have taken jobs away from "home," wherever companies and professions send them. (And did you notice, the Nisei grandparents move with them?) We can offer them a "community" that binds them whether they be of whatever religion, color, or age. Sansei and Yonsei will have a place to bring their children and enjoy those times

when they themselves grow up developing that warm sense of community and ethnic concerns and care. That sense of *urusato*.

That brings me to some revelations I have had as I get to know the local chapters. Local chapters are "where it's at, ladies and gentlemen." There, you will find the local JACLers who hang in there when the going gets tough. They are truly the "workers." And they have been serving JACL and their COMMUNITY, (be it ethnically or the community-at-large) faithfully and diligently on and on for years. And they are still serving!!!

Every chapter needs to now lift these people in the limelight for they are our "heroes" or our real leaders. They do lead the local activities and they do work at the district level gladly when asked, they will dig deeply when dollars are needed for something they believe in, but you never see them awarded a national limelight.

I lift the name of just one of them, Lloyd Kurihara. He is the president of the Sanger chapter of JACL. Yes, that means he works on the CCDC board, is a 100th/442nd veteran, works in his church, Lions club worker (coordinated Sanger's Toyland Parade, raised money for the Eye Foundation, chairman of pancake breakfasts, etc.) past president of Sanger's Fraternal Order of Eagles, Post Commander of Post 7168, and the list goes on and on. He received the highest award of the Sanger Chamber of Commerce to March of this year, the HALL OF FAME AWARD.

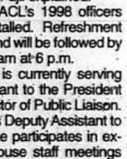
He is one of our grassroots workers! He is JACL in the "field." And work, he does...!! He uses his energy to serve others. Can you fathom the many hours of work and energy he gave??

And still gives!! He was really helpful on our bus trip to Las Vegas. He leads such groups and knew where to get all the best deals "on the road." I hope all can join me in saluting, MR. LLOYD KURIHARA, JACLER!!!

Sacramento JACL installation fete and awards dinner set Nov. 16

SACRAMENTO—The local JACL's 1997 Community Service Recognition Dinner at the Radisson Hotel on Sunday, Nov. 16, will honor Doris Matsui, Ralph T. Sugimoto Jr. and Ted Kobata.

The annual blue ribbon event traditionally honors Nisei of this area whose contributions to the Japanese American community have been Doris Matsui



judged outstanding and significant, event chair Toko Fuji explained.

Sacramento JACL's 1998 officers will also be installed. Refreshment hour starts at 5 and will be followed by dinner and program at 6 p.m.

Doris Matsui is currently serving as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Public Liaison. In her capacity as Deputy Assistant to the President, she participates in executive White House staff meetings and takes part in formative discussions on critical domestic issues. Her principal areas of responsibilities include education, children and families, and the nonprofit sector. She is married to congressman Robert T. Matsui. They have a son, Brian.

Ralph Sugimoto, longtime community activist, is the current president of Buddhist churches of America (San Francisco) and Sacramento JACL treasurer. He has been president of the Sacramento Betsuin, the Asian Community Center and Nursing Home and the Matsuyama-Sacramento Sister City Corp. He and his wife Pearl have two children, Douglas

and Stefanie Abdelnour.

Ted Kobata, a lifelong resident of Sacramento, was born in 1924 in the Mayhew area. His main vocation was in the general construction business. Among his notable projects are The Godatsu Church (1982), Mayhew Baptist Church (1988), Poston Memorial Monument (1992) and Poston Monument Kiosk (1995).

The Japanese American National Museum of Los Angeles also called on Ted to help supervise the dismantling of a barracks in Heart Mountain, which was then reassembled in Los Angeles as part of its "America's Concentration Camps" exhibit in 1994. He and his wife, Miyo Frances, have three children, Glenn, Hannah, Stanley, and three grandchildren.

Tickets at \$30 are obtainable from Sacramento JACL, 2124 10th St., Sacramento, CA 95818; JACL board members, Tom Fujimoto, Kunii Hirohara, Shig Shimizu, Hiroko Ninomiya or call Toko Fuji, 916/421-0328 or 421-6968 evenings. ■

Intermountain District re-elects Yas Tokita

JACKPOT, Nev.—Intermountain District Council re-elected Gov. Yas Tokita for the 1997-99 biennium during the 1000 Club 50th anniversary reunion festivities at Jackpot on Oct. 10. Elected with him were:

Larry Grant (Wasatch Front North), 1st v.p.; Miki Kawakami (Pocatello), 2nd v.p.; Seichi Hayashi (Boise Valley), treas.; Elaine Tokita (Mt. Olympus), sec.; Dan Teraguchi (Pocatello), youth rep.; Jeff Itami (Salt Lake), ex-officio. ■

Cortez JACL to host NCWPCD session Nov. 2

SAN FRANCISCO—The next NCWPCD District Council meeting will be held Sunday, Nov. 2, hosted by the Cortez JACL, at Cortez JACL Hall, located at the corner of Linwood Road and Cortez Avenue in Turlock.

Registration begins at 9 a.m., the meeting opens at 10 a.m. Chapters are expected to RSVP to Cortez JACL President Gary Asai, 209/632-0606, by Oct. 27.

On the agenda will be election of individuals to serve on the NCWPCD District Executive Board. Already throwing their hats into the ring are current NCWPCD board member John Hayashi (San Francisco JACL), and past NCWPCD Board member Tom Shigemasa (San Jose JACL). There are five vacant seats. Those elected serve for two-year terms.

For information contact District Governor Alan Nishi at 916/624-8916 (home) as regional director Patty Wada is currently on a leave of absence. ■

Cleveland JACL youth hosts veterans program

CLEVELAND—The Cleveland JACL Youth hosted a Japanese American Community / U.S. Military Veterans Appreciation Day on Saturday, Aug. 9, at the Wildlife Presbytery Church and welcomed more than 100 persons, including veterans and widows. Nearly half were Sansei and Yonsei.

Former Cleveland JACL president Joe Kadawaki, guest speaker, spoke of his life, of losing his father while very young, of his struggle to help his mother, struggling during the Evacuation and of his stint in the army (with the 442nd in Europe and earning the Bronze Star Medal)—and keeping the promise he made to dad, *Gambare*, to persevere, finish school and become a successful businessman.

Jim Hosaka, chapter v.p., opened the meeting with Gary Yano as emcee. The Cleveland City Council proclamation congratulated the JACL in recognizing the veterans and widows. The Sho-Jo-Ji dancers, Jennifer and Lindsay Ramsey, Ellen Hashiguchi, Kathleen Kerecman, Colleen Williams, Gwen Hashimoto and Charlotte Greene, entertained with three numbers with their instructors Nanci Tanaka and Beverly Kerecman. The chapter, in the meanwhile, is completing its list of Veterans—112 Nisei and JACLers, 30 since deceased.

The community event was assisted by the JACL Legacy Fund; church members prepared the chicken menu; Harry Taketa and Jim Hosaka co-chaired the program committee. —Eve Hashiguchi. ■

Tomodachi preps for Holiday boutique

SAN MATEO—The San Mateo JACL Tomodachi Women's Group announced its 1997 Holiday Boutique will be held Nov. 14-15 at the San Mateo Gardeners Association Bldg., 1015 Fifth Avenue. The annual fund-raiser supports non-profit organizations in the Bay Area, including the Asian Women's Shelter, Samaritan House, San Mateo JACL Community Center, San Mateo JACL scholarship program, Meals on Wheels, Japanese Youth Organization and the Winter Shelter.

Mari Komatsu and Toshi Takashi, Tomodachi co-presidents, recently presented a \$250 check to the Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center, formerly the Gay Asian Pacific American HIV program. ■

Aizu-Wakamatsu

Site of the strongest fortress in the Tohoku region during the Tokugawa period, its pro-Shogun Aizu clan was defeated in the 1868 Restoration. Remains of samurai led by Prussian weapons expert Henry Schnell emigrated to California in 1889 to establish the ill-fated Wakamatsu Colony. A member of the party, the Japanese girl Okei, died in 1871 and is buried in a private plot near Gold Hill (El Dorado County). A replica of that tombstone is located in the city. —Japan: Official Guide. ■

By Choice

One easy and fun way to be 'involved' in the community

BY BARBARA TERAJI

Washington DC co-president

There is a saying that you get out of "it" what you put into "it" — whatever "it" might be. Recent events, ranging from the various Asian Pacific American Heritage Month activities, to the Memorial Day, ceremony at Arlington Cemetery, to the sushi social, have led me to reflect on that saying, because at some point in the past year, after increasing levels of involvement, I truly felt like part of the JACL community.

By participating in the activities of the chapter, by getting to know and working with members, by spending time on the phone making sure people knew what was going on, slowly became an integral part of this D.C. Chapter community. It is not easy to join a group. There are usually sub-groups already established, and I believe that Japanese Americans, in particular, can be more reserved than the average group, making it even



Teraji

harder to "break in".

However, "you get out of it what you put into it," has certainly rung true with me. While everyone was genuinely welcoming when I attended the initial functions, especially the new member social held at the Okura's home, it was not until I joined the Picnic Committee that I really started to develop ties of community. As my level of involvement increased, so did my feeling of belonging and links to the wonderful people of this organization.

I am often asked, "Why should I join JACL?" and I usually talk about the national civil liberties missions. But now I will add that if they want, and they are willing to put some effort into it, they can become part of a unique community where the ties are not based on work or geography, but on common experiences as Japanese Americans. I sincerely hope that others will take the time to become active in our chapter events and leadership, in order to reap this reward. ■

President's messages, columns and features appearing in JACL chapter newsletters are being gleaned for this corner.—Editor

JACL golf tournament in Utah successful

SALT LAKE CITY—Mount Olympus and Salt Lake Chapters sponsored their second annual JACL Fall Classic Golf Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 13 at Riverbend Golf Course in Riverton, Utah, south of Salt Lake City. Ninety golfers participated for a day of golf, fun and friendship.

After completing their 18 holes, golfers were treated to sandwiches provided by Erin Nishi of Food for Thought. Apples were donated by Salt Lake Produce (Harry Imamura and sons), Peppermill Hotel Casino in Wendover donated four night stays and dinner buffets which were used as prizes. Winners in order of finish were:

Women's Flight—Yeiko Nagata, Mary Wakayama, Juliann Chapman, and Sadie Yoshimura. Men's C Flight—Kirk Terashima, Osamu Hoshino, Douglas Matsuri, Dean Mochizuki, Joe Valentine, and Nobuo Mori. Men's B Flight—Duzzo Sako, Joe Miyashima, Frank Sasaki, John Kikuchi, and Paul Terashima. Men's A Flight—Don Goetting, Logan Hunter, Lindy Johnston, Jerry Tsuyuki, and Shawn Cook.

Names of the first place winners will be inscribed on a large trophy donated last year by the National JACL Credit Union.

Hole sponsors helped to raise chapter scholarship money, as well as prizes of over \$1000 in cash and merchandise to the players. Sponsors were:

Mountain West Travel, Yas Tokita; Macey's, Ken Macey; National JACL Credit Union; State Farm Insurance, Vance Yoshikawa; Jardine's Collision Repair, Danny Savage; Mt. Olympus

JACL Chapter; Reagan Signs, Dewey Reagan; Mt. West Title, John Knappus; Bill and Shigeko Mazono; Golf Connections, Koji Sato; Redcon, Tom Hori; Bowne Financial Printing, Steve Yagi; ARCAL Golf, Floyd Mori; Enterprise Car Rental, Rhett Fomori; A Plus Glass, Perry Nelson; Salt Lake JACL Chapter; Food for Thought, Erin Nishi; Commissioner Randy Horiuchi, Jimi and Barbara Mitsunaga; World Wide Packaging, Pap Miya.

Special help was given by Lynne Aoyama, Carolyn Valentine and others. Although there were windy conditions and some rain, all seemed to have a good time. —FM ■

Cherrystone golf meet aids Gardena Pioneers

GARDENA—The eighth annual Cherrystones Grill & Grotto restaurant golf tournament Aug. 13 at Skylinks course in Long Beach was hailed a huge success by Leonard Kim, restaurant owner, with 88 participants including sportscaster Rob Fukuzaki, and many contributions and prizes from the community members and organizations.

Proceeds go to the Gardena Pioneer Project, a nonprofit social and recreational service agency for Japanese American seniors currently 700 strong. As the group receives no government assistance, it is dependent on community support for its continued operation. Info: Margaret Chonhori 310/834-5719. ■

Old zip peaks into 1000 Club's 50th anniversary reunion

(Continued from page 1)

na Okubo, JACL staff on membership development, bestowed medals at the Friday reception too.

Snake River Valley JACLer Joe Saito, one of the three living 1000 Club founders (the other two being Dr. Yoshiye Togasaki of Contra Costa JACL and Edison Fujii of Snake River Valley JACL); Senanoo JACLer Clarence Nishizaki, the oldest 1000er by age and with continuous years in JACL; Boise Valley JACLer Seichi Hayashida, the most years of continuous 1000 Club/Century Club present; Reno JACL 1000er Nor Yamamoto, being the "newest" Life Trust member; Idaho Falls JACLers Sam Sakaguchi, a 47th year 1000 Clubber, and Charley Hirai, 46th year, whose contributions would exceed a onetime Life Trust membership contribution.

Also attending were three past national presidents: Judge Raymond Uno, Salt Lake; Lillian

Kimura, New York; and Denny Yasuhara, Spokane; Masaki Hirakawa, 1000 Club Life Trust promoter par excellence from San Diego; charter 1000 Club Life members Joe Nishioka, Deto Hagida, "Sud" Morishita and Century Life Trust member Lucy Adachi.

For National Director Herb Yamashita, who lived in Nampa, Idaho, during his high school and college years, it was meeting some of the Intermountain JACL pioneers he had heard about in the '60s who sustained National Headquarters during the war years when it had relocated from San Francisco in 1942 and the West Coast chapters had shut down.

For the next issue will be some photos of the Reunion which were being taken by Ron Harano, former IDC governor, for the souvenir memory book which will be printed and mailed sometime in December, assured Hid Hasegawa and Seichi Hayashida, Reunion co-chair. ■



East Wind

By Bill Marutani

Private affirmative action

I MUST CONFESS that for a number of years I've been indulging in my own private form of "affirmative action," if it may be called that. If the statement sounds a bit tentative, it's because I do have some mixed thoughts about this private "affirmative action." I'll try to explain.

But first a bit of background.

ON THE ROAD, operating an automobile, I try to be accommodating and even courteous. If some cowboy tailgates me, I'll move to the lane to my right; if the cowboy not only tailgates but also flashes his headlights—I suppress the urge to hang tight, and I'll move. We've all had the unpleasant experience of looking for a parking spot as we went 'round and 'round, finally spotting one and as we position the automobile to move into the slot, some cowboy (or, let's face it, "cowgirl") slips into the spot. I let it go. There's just no use in making an issue of the matter; win, lose or draw. Raising a ruckus only ruins what's left of the day. Some folks get clubbed or even shot during a ruckus arising from the operation of a vehicle.

There are enough problems in life without taking a slug.

ROAD COURTESY is something I also try to observe. We've all been caught in a situation where an intersection gets snarled because some cross-traffic drivers are oblivious to the timing of the traffic light turning red. I try to remain calm; no lowering the windows to hurl a few choice obscenities, not even leaning on the horn button to register some protest. Oh, I might mutter to myself about some "jerks," but I try to keep a poker face.

(Inscrutable!)

THIS PATTERN of driving

behavior extends to allowing a vehicle from a side road to enter into the flow of traffic. However, I don't go so far as to let a whole line of such vehicles to enter, which would require me to hold up all the traffic backed up behind me. (We've all been in a situation where some super-Samaritan ahead of us freezes the flow of traffic as he waves on a line of automobiles to enter onto the road.) Generally, I've found that extending reasonable courtesies to other drivers somehow lightens the stress and makes the day better.

For everybody.

NOW, MY PRIVATE "affirmative action." When the other driver happens to be a person of color, I very often will go one step further in extending road courtesy. The way I see it, while all of us—regardless of color—appreciate having a bit of sunshine, and should have it, people of color could use an extra boost to make up for other miseries that have littered their road life. And will have to continue to cope. This doesn't mean that all other folks are treated shabbily; they get the standard road courtesies that all of us hope to get. It's just that the underdog gets a bit extra, to help make up some of the shortages.

THERE WILL BE a few readers out there who will label my practice as constituting "reverse racism" or whatever. But think about it: isn't it "American" to root for the "underdog" whether it be a boxing match, a football game, or any other competition in life?

Shucks. I figure I'm only being a good American.

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

Helen Kawagoe to speak at Santa Maria's 65th

SANTA MARIA—The Santa Maria Valley JACL's 65th anniversary installation dinner will be held on Saturday, Nov. 1, at the Santa Maria Airport Hilton, 3455 Skyway Dr., with Helen TOYO MIYATAKE PHOTO Kawagoe, national president, as the main speaker at the dinner at 6 p.m.

The chapter was founded in April 1932 with Ken Utsunomiya [1910-1967] serving as chapter president through 1933. The Utsunomiyas were pioneer wheat farmers in Santa Ynez Valley during WWI and when the elder Utsunomiya died in 1930, son Ken assumed the family responsibilities. He was chapter president again in 1938 when he was elected in the 1938-40 biennium, he served as National JACL "executive secretary," a post whose office was his home in Santa Maria. In 1942, Ken married Grace Wada in 1942 and interned in Heart Mountain. They lived briefly in Denver.

Ken was believed to be the first Nisei employed by U.S. Naval Intelligence during WWII. His mission

took him to New Orleans, McGehee, Ark., and Memphis, Tenn.

After finishing a watch-making school in Peoria, Ill., he resettled in Los Angeles in 1946, just in time to assist Frank Chuman in the reactivation of the postwar JACL chapter.

Past presidents are to be honored. Jerry Namba, Esq., will emcee. There will also be door prizes, and a fund-raiser for chapter programs. Tickets are \$25 per person, with a choice of prime rib or chicken breast piccata, from Kaz Oye (805) 937-5776 or Namba (805) 347-9848. —HKH

Pioneer Nisei cartoonist signs animation art

KING OF PRUSSIA, Pa.—One of the surviving members of the fraternity of cartoonists who pioneered theatrical cartoons in the 1940s, Iwa Takamoto made a personal appearance Aug. 10, signing Hanna-Barbera animation art here at the Warner Bros. Studio Store gallery. He began working at Walt Disney Studios on short animated cartoons and full-length feature films and moved in 1960 to Hanna-Barbera, designing Scooby-Doo, among other characters. *Business News* reported.

'Doubles' (da-buruzu) replacing 'ha-fu' name for mixed heritage JAs

(Continued from page 1)

ited Japan. JA culture for him growing up was "the Nisei bowling league and the church bazaar," he said.

And even though most people think that his JA mother and White father met in the military, said Ropp, neither of his parents are currently nor were ever members of the armed forces. They met at a gas station in Sacramento, he said, and eventually decided to get married.

Ropp has always considered himself to be biracial, both JA and Caucasian. As a kid growing up in California, Hapa was the term he used to describe himself, he said, and it meant that you were mixed but still a part of the JA community.

But all of these words like "double," or Hapa, or multiracial, are simply labels used by mixed race people to help identify themselves, said Ropp. "It's a process of finding what you're comfortable with."

Tanner grew up in Palo Alto, Calif., a community she describes as "very White." She never grew up around Japanese culture, she said, but her Shin-Issai mother and White father made sure she learned it.

Visits to Japan were frequent, she said, and she's able to speak Japanese fluently today largely because of her mother's efforts. As a child, if Tanner didn't speak in Japanese her mother would pretend not to hear her.

But looking back now, said Tanner, "I'm so glad I had the opportunity to go to Japan and speak Japanese ... to be able to talk to my relatives." And being able to speak Japanese has helped her to have a close relationship with her mother, she said.

As an insecure and shy teen, there were times when Tanner felt like she never quite fit in; she didn't meet the White community's standard of beauty, she said, and in Japan it was the same thing.

But when she moved to Los Angeles, she felt an immediate connection with the JA community. When she met and spoke with other Hapas or JAs there was a sense of commonality. "Even though my experience growing up as a Hapa was different from other JAs," she said, "there was still this sense of connection."

"There was a time in my life that I would have passed as a Caucasian if I could have, but because of my [Asian] looks I couldn't," admitted Tanner.

But "I'm very proud of having that [Japanese culture] and sharing it with others," she said, "and I will make sure to pass it on to my

children."

Curtis Rooks, also one of the interviewees in the film *Doubles*, always knew, growing up in Okinawa, that he was both Japanese and African American. But like many mixed race persons, he was called "hafu," which has the connotation of being "not quite full," he said.

That's why Rooks likes the increasing use of the term "doubles" by mixed race persons in Japan to show pride in their heritage. It's important that "people actively define for themselves who they are," he said. "Hafu" was simply a term given to them.

But even today there's a lot of misunderstanding among some JAs when it comes to the African American community, said Rooks. "There's a segment of the JA community and some Japanese that see the Black community as only gang-bangers ... as being uneducated."

One of Rooks' goals is to introduce the JA community to the many positive aspects of the African American culture that are often overlooked, he said; the importance placed on family, the oral histories that are passed down from one generation to the next. His own strong sense of community values come from his African American roots, said Rooks.

When Teresa Williams was 18

years old she didn't look forward to moving back to the United States. Although born in Sacramento, she was raised in Japan and had heard all kinds of horror stories about America's violent and crime-riddled society. Her story also appears in the film *Doubles*.

She eventually decided that Hawaii was the next best thing and headed to the island to attend college. For a number of years, Williams, doubted she'd ever feel comfortable living in the States. "Asian Americans seemed to be so American," she said. Most of the JAs she met had never even been to Japan and very few could speak more than a couple of words of Japanese.

But when Williams landed in Los Angeles, she felt for the first time in her life that she had finally come home. And for the past ten years she's been re-evaluating who she is and her relationship with Asian America, she said. There's a feeling of relating to Japanese America but she has also found empowerment in embracing her White background.

"Being able to connect with family and our roots is a way of appreciating who we are and where we came from," said Williams. What's important is "being able to be who we are and being embraced for being who we are."

Planet Hapa appearing at CCDC Convention

FRESNO—In a slightly different format from years past, the Central California District Council (CCDC) is planning its 48th annual installation banquet with the theme, "Planet Hapa: The Changing Face of Japanese Americans."

On Saturday, Nov. 8, at the United Japanese Christian Church (UJCC) in Clovis.

The day's activities will begin with two concurrent workshops presented by Hapa Issues Forum, a Berkeley-based organization for individuals of mixed race heritage. One workshop will look at multiracial identity and how being of mixed heritage affects self-image. The other workshop will explore multiracial family issues. Both workshops are free with paid banquet registration and both begin at 10 a.m. To address the issue of multiracial identity, CCDC-JACL has invited television and movie actress Amy Hill to be the keynote speaker at this year's

luncheon, at noon at UJCC. Her keynote speech will be adapted from one of her shows called "Beside Myself."

Amy, of Finnish and Japanese ancestry, has appeared in films such as *Singles*, *Dim Sum*, and *Rising Sun*. Her television credits include *Seinfeld*, *Maybe This Time*, and *Pauly*. Known for her comic style, she has created several critically acclaimed one-woman shows.

Registration for the banquet and workshops is \$25 for JACL members, \$15 for youth under 18 or currently-enrolled college students. To register for the banquet, please contact your chapter president or Patricia Tsai Torn at the Central California Regional Office 209/486-6815.

S. F. host of first national conference on AAs and campaign finance

The first national conference on Asian Americans and Campaign Finance Reform will take place at the Radisson Miyako Hotel in San Francisco on Nov. 14-15.

Sponsored by the Asian American Studies Department of the University of California, Berkeley, Public Campaign of Washington, D.C., and AAs for Campaign Finance Reform (AACFR), the conference will examine the effect the campaign finance scandal has had and continues to have on the AA community, and will also look at the portrayal of AAs in the media.

The conference will bring together various scholars, community leaders, and journalists including Ling-chi Wang of UC Berkeley's AA Studies Department, Don Nakanishi, Director of UCLA's AA Studies Center, and Ellen Miller, Executive Director of Public Campaign of Washington, D.C. Various workshops are scheduled for the two-day conference including "Education and Mobilization of AA Voters," "Sensitizing the Media," and "Race & Class in the Campaign Finance Scandal."

For a registration form and more information, please contact Prof. L. Ling-chi Wang at UC Berkeley, 510/642-6555, 510/642-6456 (fax), or e-mail: LCWang@uclink2.berkeley.edu.

The Embarrasero

Name of the San Francisco waterfront, the Embarrasero has become famous, with restaurants, tourist malls, and Fisherman's Wharf.



MINIDOKA MINI-REUNION—Gardena Mayor Don Dear (left) and Ron Shiozaki raise a plaque from the Gardena City Council in recognition of the 55th anniversary of the Evacuation at the Minidoka "77 Sharing Memories" reunion July 27 at Sea Empress Seafood Restaurant.



From the Frying Pan

By Bill Hosokawa

A conservation-minded appeal that went bad

OVER the years I have sent small contributions to a number of conservation organizations. I hate to see the environment being despoiled, and I would like to see owls, whales, porpoises and other wild creatures saved from extinction. I think clear-cutting of old growth forests is unnecessary and deplorable, that redwood groves should be preserved, and shores should not be polluted and that rivers should run clean and clear. So I send the conservationist organizations a little money from time to time.

These modest gifts, which started with a small check to an organization whose name I cannot remember, ensured that word of my generosity would be shared with other kindred organizations and my name and address passed around. The result is that I get appeals from many groups which wish me to contribute funds for saving the world and all its endangered creatures.

Early in August I received a large white envelope from the Natural Resources Defense Council with the following eye-catching message in large black type on the cover: "Mitsubishi is threatening North America's last untouched Gray Whale Nursery."

Now, that is serious business and I hastened to learn more. What I found inside was an appeal for money to stop a Mitsubishi project to build a salt extraction plant with Mexican government approval in Baja California. This plant, the appeal said, would ruin an important whale nursery. The way the appeal was couched moved me to write a letter to Jon H. Adams, identified as the executive director. I would like to share it with you.

Dear Mr. Adams:

I have just received your mailing inviting support for your campaign to save Laguna San Ignacio as a nursery for gray whales. While I am in sympathy with the objective of your cam-

paign, I was offended by your sensational condemnation of Mitsubishi on the envelope. "Mitsubishi is threatening North America's last untouched Gray Whale nursery," screamed the large, black, attention-getting type on the envelope. And in red ink, "SIGN HERE TO PROTEST MITSUBISHI'S ACTIONS."

But on reading the text of your letter I learned the proposed salt plant, which presumably would hurt the whales, could not be built without the support and approval of the Mexican government. Mexico is as responsible for the impending ecological disaster as Mitsubishi. However, your envelope gives the impression only Mitsubishi is to blame.

Your text makes Mexico's involvement clear, but you threaten only Mitsubishi with the prospect of a heavy price in the U.S. marketplace. Why not a boycott of Mexican products, too? Your printed "Letter of Protest" to the president of Mitsubishi begins, "I am outraged by Mitsubishi's joint venture..." The form letter to the president of Mitsubishi begins with a milder "I am deeply disturbed by Mexico's joint venture with Mitsubishi."

There seems to be a considerable difference between expressing outrage and being deeply disturbed. Why were you not outraged by Mexico and deeply disturbed by Mitsubishi?

I would be interested in your reason for unequal treatment of two equal partners in a threat to a vital natural resource.

I signed my name with address and telephone number and sent the letter to Mr. Adams at his post office box in Washington, D.C. That was last August 13. I have not had a reply. I don't expect to get one. Perhaps he is busy saving whales. ■

Hosokawa is the former editorial page director of the Denver Post. His columns have appeared regularly in the Pacific Citizen since 1942.

Nikkei scholars size up looks of Japantowns around year 2050

OAKLAND—Advance registration by Oct. 10 was encouraged for the JASEB Intergenerational Conference that will ask what the future holds for Japantowns in California. Four Northern California scholars, with Professor Ted Jitodai moderating, will examine the question on Saturday, Oct. 18 at the Buddhist Church of Oakland, 825 Jackson St.

The afternoon panel will feature demographer Larry H. Shinagawa, Ph.D., of Sonoma State University, who has done extensive research on the Nikkei community, examining the effects of interracial marriages and questioning the centrality of race in the future; Rebecca King, Ph.D., University of San Francisco, offering a multi-cultural perspective; and Ford Hatamaya, diversity trainer/facilitator with WEB Associates who has been involved as a volunteer for community service groups in Japantown. Participants will be able to contribute their opinions to the discussion.

Speculating over the future of the Japanese community because of the diffusion being caused through dispersal and mixed marriages will be a morning panel, facilitated by Ronald Mah, of three couples repre-

sentative of the different combinations of marriage-partnerships, discussing the impact of intra-family communications.

The lunch hour skit, "A Nikkei Family 4th of July," looks at the role that traditions and culture play in considering the value of ethnic-specific community services.

Hosted by the Japanese American Services of the East Bay (JASEB—510/848-3560), the fee for the full-day program with lunch is \$15 (\$25 per couple) which opens with Ellen Sawamura, Ph.D., providing a historical glimpse of the Japanese communities and how the pioneer Issei founded them for fu-

La Brea Tar Pits

Discovered by the friars in 1769, the fossilized remains of prehistoric animals together with evidence of human habitation some 15,000 years ago in Los Angeles continue to ooze bubbles through the tar pits. ■

"Shangri-La"

Adopted in 1942 by President Roosevelt as the code-name for the aircraft carrier *Hornet*, from which General Douglas MacArthur's bombers were launched on April 18, 1942, for the first WWII air raid on Tokyo, Nagoya and other cities in Japan. ■

MI brigade dedicates its operations in honor of Richard Sakakida

FT. LEWIS, Wash.—The 201st Military Intelligence Brigade honored the late Lt. Col. Richard Sakakida by dedicating its operational facility in his memory with a bronze plaque at its headquarters entrance. The unveiling ceremony took place July 25, attended by Mrs. Cherry Sakakida, relatives, MIS Norcal and Northwest members.

How the heroic WWII exploits of a Hawaiian-born Nisei won recognition at a Pacific Northwest installation was recounted in the MIS Norcal newsletter. A guest at the MIS Northwest reunion event in 1995, the senior intelligence officer at Ft. Lewis, heard of Sakakida's story and was astounded. He contacted two knowledgeable MISers in the state, Tak Matsui of Seattle and Spady Koyama of Spokane, for more information. Thus a building was named in honor of Sakakida as a role model for present-day MI personnel.

The Sakakida Story
Sakakida was recruited in March 1941 as an undercover agent by the Army in Honolulu to monitor the activities of Japanese businessmen in Manila.

Korean War AJA vets to meet at S.F. Presidio

SAN FRANCISCO—Japanese American Korean War Veterans have scheduled a general meeting on Saturday, Nov. 8, at the Herbst International Exhibition Hall adjacent to the Officers Club in the Presidio of San Francisco, it was announced by JAKWV president Robert Wada.

JAKWV is also seeking names of all veterans who served in the armed forces from 1950 to 1955 regardless of where they served. The organization recognizes all veterans who served anywhere in the world during the wartime period as Korean War veterans. Contact: Robert M. Wada 714/992-5461 or fax 714/625-9761. ■

PSW seeks aspirants for executive board

LOS ANGELES—Pacific Southwest District Governor Dave Kawamoto of San Diego and Selanoco JACLER Lucy Kishine for district treasurer are two names thus far on the PSWDC election ballot for four offices (i.e., governor, vice governor, treasurer, secretary) for Nov. 1 session at Las Vegas. Aspirants may call Regional Director Al Muratsuchi, 213/626-4471 for information.

Two candidates for district student/youth representative position are Brian Ikeda, CSU Fullerton senior, and Kei Nagao, UCLA sophomore. ■

After the Japanese landed in the Philippines, Sakakida was jailed with the rest of the Japanese but was soon released to U.S. intelligence and moved to Bataan, where he was to interrogate Japanese POWs.

When the U.S. surrendered at Corregidor in May, he was taken prisoner and singled out as a Nisei by the Japanese military police—*bempeitai*—who tortured him for information and to learn why he was serving for American forces; he had already been identified as an Army sergeant by Japanese who were POWs on Bataan. Yet Sakakida repeated his cover story over and over: that he had jumped ship in Manila in order to avoid the U.S. military draft.

Convinced by Sakakida's story, the Japanese Army then decided to utilize his bilingual skills and he served as "boy-sen" for the chief judge advocate (the officer conducting court martials) for three years. A Filipino who wanted a pass to visit Ernesto Tupas, a guerrilla in prison, was to serve as his outside contact to convey intelligence to MacArthur. Sakakida remembered Ernesto Tupas as a G-2 colleague. Sakakida also successfully organized a prison break with Tupas help, enabling nearly 500 former guerrillas to escape one night. Sakakida remained.

When the Americans landed in Lin-

guyen Gulf in January 1945, the Japanese Army on Luzon began their retreat northward. Sakakida, who was suffering with beriberi and malaria, told the judge he was too weak to be of service and was thus left behind. He was told to catch up as soon as he was well.

Now alone, unable to communicate with the friendly Igorots, he left their hospitality and wandered about in the mountains. He was hit one day by enemy mortar fire, managed to remove a piece of shrapnel from his stomach, crawled to a nearby river to wash the wound, and lived by catching tiny freshwater crabs.

Finally able to walk, unkmpt and unshaven, he followed the river downstream, then recognized American voices and emerged from his hiding with hands up, yelling, "Don't shoot!" Identifying himself as a CIC member taken prisoner on Corregidor, he was directed to and rejoined the CIC field post. This was in late September 1945.

Asked by Col. Tom Sakamoto (ret.) to be keynote speaker at MISLS's 50th anniversary in 1991, Sakakida spoke for the first time of his torture by the Kempeitai and his other experiences. He remarked, "I'm glad I had the opportunity to serve and only hope no one will be placed in the position I had endured in captivity." ■

MISer Roy Aka awarded Bronze Star after 50 years

CINCINNATI—Roy Yoshimori Aka, who served with the 309th Intelligence Detachment on Saipan and Iwojima, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal after a 50-year delay, plus the U.S. flag which was flown over the Capitol on June 11, 1997, in recognition of the MISLS graduate. Presentation was made by Air Force General John Lise (ret.) and Rep. Bob Portman (R-Cincinnati, Ohio). Present were his wife Momoko, sister Bernice

Hashimoto, and some 40 General Electric employees and fellow retirees.

It was noted the detachment may be the most decorated in the Pacific with 11 medals for the ten-member team: one Silver Star for Iwojima operation, one Bronze Star with Oakleaf Cluster for Iwojima, eight Bronze Stars and one Soldier's Medal for the Saipan operation. —Cincinnati JACL Grains of Rice Newsletter ■

JAHSSC to honor 2 men, four organizations

TORRANCE, Calif.—The Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California honors two men and four organizations at its 1997 Heritage awards dinner on Saturday, Oct. 18 at the Torrance Marriott Hotel. The awardees, who have contributed to the well-being of the Southland Nikkei, are:

Richard Katsuda, president, NCCRI, director, Asian Pacific American Education Commission, L.A. Unified School district; community volunteer including Little Tokyo Mochitsuki, Amerasia Bookstore, United Teachers Los Angeles Asian Pacific committee.

Dr. Takeo Sasaki, founder and tireless volunteer for ASM (Asian Miracle Marrow Matches), founder, West LA JACL Earth Science Section; Westside YMCA board member; 62nd Field Artillery veteran; adviser, Sons and Daughters of 100442 Veterans.

Friends of Little Tokyo Branch Library, which raised over \$85,000 in

equipment and furnishings to the public library branch in Little Tokyo.

Gardena Valley Gardeners Association, for their contributed time, talent and funds beautifying many areas, including the Nakaoka Community Center, CSU Dominguez Hills, South Coast Botanic Garden, Descanso Gardens, City of Hope, Mayme Dear County Library.

Japanese American Optimists, the first Southland Nikkei Optimist group founded in 1954 for its support of youths through sports, scholarships, trips for the disadvantaged, oratorical and essay contests.

CSU Fullerton's Japanese American Oral History Project receives special recognition for its quarter century of recording individual stories of well-known Nikkei, their interment experiences and recently of those who lived at the Manzanar orphanage, the Children's Village. ■

POSTWAR J.A. COMMUNITIES QUARRY OF INTERVIEWERS



REGENERATIONS SEMINAR—The Regenerations Oral History Project seminar at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles this summer gathered representatives from four participating organizations. Partially funded by a grant from the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, the project, "Regenerations: Rebuilding Japanese American Families, Communities and Civil Rights in the Resettlement Era," seeks to explore and document the impact of the World War II incarceration of 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry by the U.S. government.

The partnership includes the Museum, the Japanese American Resource Center/Museum (JARC/M) of San

Jose, the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego (JAHSSD) and the Chicago Japanese American National History Society (CJAHS). Among those participating were (left to right): Front row—Debra Kodama, Darcie Ili-Museum Project Director, and Leslie Ito; seated, 2nd row—Joseph Yasutake, Mary Doi-CJAHS Regional Coordinator, Susan Hasegawa-JAHSSD regional coordinator, Steven Wong and Dr. Aggie Iderata-JARC/M regional advisor; standing—Alice Murato-CJAHS regional scholar, Pat Amino, Sandra Yamate, Joseph Kim, Leng Loh, Art Hansen-Museum regional scholar, Huu-Quyen Ngo, Nobu Kuroishi, Joyce Teague, Karen Matsuko, Melina Sasaki and Jim Gatewood. ■

Fujimori and the 'hostage watch' (VII)

A Special Series that began the first week of May when the some 500 hostages (then reported to be a higher count up to 800) were held captive in the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Peru and the final lot of 72 were all liberated, this is the final installment. [One of the series was numbered twice, hence this is No. 7.]

Day 80—Thu., March 6 Rebels accuse govt of building secret tunnel.

The guerrillas abruptly suspended negotiations with the Government today, accusing police commandos of tunneling under the rebel-held Residence in preparation for an assault. Cerpa's decision was relayed in his radio messages with reporters. "Everything indicates a military attack plan exists or at least that there is that intent, using a tactic of external attack and internal infiltration."



FUJIMORI

The government had no reaction to the claims. The Peruvian police dismissed allegations that they were burrowing underneath the Japanese ambassador's residence. One police official called the rebels' report an "invention." Peru's Defense Ministry in Bolivia also denied the existence of any tunnels.

Cerpa said his rebels had heard noises coming from below the mansion's floors for three days. While the newspapers said they held off publishing the information to protect a possible rescue raid, the digging had been carried out as the police blasted popular music and staged noisy tank maneuvers outside the Residence that was to cover the clamor of excavation. "They started to play the music to cover the noise that was going on," one Peruvian official was reported to have said. The local journalists were inclined to believe the rebels.

La Republica published rumors that American commandos would be involved in a plan to raid the Residence. The U.S. Embassy denied it. The paper also reported police trucks were transporting dirt between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. every night since January and in addition to distracting rebels by playing loud music and throwing stones, journalists were away from nearby rooftops and cordoned off more streets. Newspapers also reported that the idea of carving a tunnel under the Residence was first raised in a meeting of security officials to give the rebels "a taste of their own medicine." In 1990 near the end of Alex Garcia's administration, 52 Tupac Amaru prisoners escaped from a maximum security prison through a secret tunnel.

Day 81—Fri., March 7 Fujimori repeats desire for peaceful solution.

The Peruvian newspapers today said they are holding off publishing more information that one or more tunnels had been dug beneath the besieged Residence "to protect a possible rescue raid," according to the *New York Times* reporter Diana Jean Schemo.

Though the Government did not confirm the existence of tunnels, they have emerged as the major stumbling block to negotiations as the peaceful approach to resolving the crisis. Fujimori, in his statement today said, "The state, in consequence, will stay alert at all times to any change in this scenario."

Day 86—Wed., March 12 Talks break down again over Cerpa's demand.

Breakdown of talks after the 10th round of preliminary discussions was announced this date by the Vatican representative Archbishop Juan Luis Cipriani of Ayacucho, "because there was no agreement of certain points." He said, "A stage of reflection is necessary... to facilitate alternatives that will make a solution viable." The meeting was the first since March 6 (Day 80) when the rebels accused the government of building secret tunnels after President Fujimori had obtained a pledge from Cuba President Fidel Castro that he would provide asylum for the rebels.

On Monday, March 10 (Day 84), it was government negotiator Domingo Palermo who would not come to the negotiation table. The next day, President Fujimori said he could not confirm local reports that he had agreed to asylum and asylum for only some of the hostage takers.

Day 92—Tue., March 18 Japan's envoy begins talks in Peru, Cuba.

Top Japanese envoy Masahiko Komura began a flurry of meetings during a one-day visit to Lima March 18 and to Havana March 19 in his efforts to resolve the three-month-old hostage crisis. Reports said he reiterated Japan's insistence on reaching a peaceful settlement that would allow the release of the 72 hostages. The rebels demanded the release of their jailed comrades and Peruvian officials continued to refuse.

In Havana (Day 94), Komura said he was "optimistic" over a peaceful solution.

Day 98—Mon., March 24 Mediators outline tentative agreement.

Mediators crafted a proposal to end the hostage crisis that includes a cash payoff to the captors and an early release of some jailed guerrillas, the newspaper *La Republica* reported. The paper said the proposal would be presented "within days" to government negotiators and the leftist Tupac Amaru rebels.

[Ed. Note: The paper did not attribute its source for this development nor did USA Today which carried the story. In the past, *La Republica* published sensational rumors and speculations about U.S. interests in Peru as well as the U.S. denied. One Panamanian leader noted: "They print lies, lies, lies... so that some people think it's the truth. Others regarded *La Republica* and the weekly magazine *Caracas*, two anti-government publications even before Fujimori as 'communist' (or ultra liberal) papers.]

Day 102—Thu., March 27 Fujimori says negotiated settlement is likely.

The 72 captive men who spent Christmas and New Year's holiday and benefit away from their families during 14 agonizing weeks as hostages of the Tupac Amaru rebels at the Japanese Ambassador's residence now face the prospect of departing Eastern Hemisphere President Fujimori. This date negotiations with the guerrillas that although difficulties remain, "the task of the negotiators will bear fruit." He finished the stage of preliminary talks and if we haven't entered into final talks, it's because there's a break-period of reflection.

Wire services also carried rumors of a plan under which the rebels would fly to Cuba with a multimillion-dollar payoff and the promise of the release of some (at least 17 of 300) of their jailed comrades—in reference to earlier reports (see above, March 24). *La Republica* mentioned Nancy Givorno, wife of the rebel leader Nestor Cerpa, to be among the 17. Meanwhile, *Kyodo News* said that Japan is considering economic aid to Cuba if Cuba takes in rebels.

On Easter Monday March 31 (Day 106), a holiday in Peru, new pessimism gripped the 106-day-old hostage crisis after Archbishop Juan Luis Cipriani, member of the three-man negotiating team, observed the country's heart is completely broken "by the siege and no new talks in sight."

On Thursday, April 3 (Day 106), Peruvian national police said they have isolated guerrilla inmates in a maximum security prison in the altiplano, high in the Andes.

Day 110—Sat., April 5 Fujimori disallows using force in crisis.

The government will not use force to free 72 hostages held by the leftists, except in "an unmanageable emergency." President Fujimori added, he does not expect that to happen. Remarks were made in Bolivia where he updated President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada.

On Sunday, April 13 (Day 118), USA Today noted the longest hostage crisis in South America was about to enter its fifth month on the 17th. Among the hostages are President Fujimori's younger brother, Pedro, two Cabinet ministers and about two dozen Japanese business executives and diplomats.

Relatives attended a special Mass near the siege site this date. "We are so close to them and yet so far," says Beatriz de Gumpo, wife of the Bolivian ambassador.

Some police commandos guarding the residence have started to wear black T-shirts that read "Hostage Rescue" over a picture of troops shimmying down ropes from helicopters onto a building. An elite police unit set up headquarters this past week near the residence.

Day 125—Sun., April 20 National police chief and interior minister resign.

President Fujimori appointed two hard-line generals to crucial security posts, Gen. Cesar Sautco replacing Juan Briones and Fernando Dierckens for Lt. Gen. Antonio Ketin Vidal, who were stepping down to accept blame that led to rebels to seize hostages on Dec. 17. Sautco is the new interior minister.

A poll released today by Imagen polling firm, showed Mr. Fujimori near an all-time low with 44% responding approval of his performance.

Day 127—Tue., April 22 Peruvian forces storm compound in daring rescue of all hostages.

The four-month standoff by Tupac Amaru rebels was suddenly ended when Peruvian Army commandos, in a daring, some called "miraculous," daylight move, rescued all 72 hostages from the Japanese Ambassador's compound. One of the 72, Supreme Court Justice Carlos Guisti Acuña who was shot by a stray bullet died of heart attack on the way to the hospital. Peru Foreign Minister Tudela was carried out on a stretcher, sustaining a gunshot while scrambling down the outdoor stairs from the second floor. Ambassador Aoki, smiling and waving from the ambulance that carried him away. He suffered a slight elbow injury during the rescue.

The initial explosion was under the huge living room, where a group of rebels were playing indoor soccer. The players were all killed by the blast or by commandos as they entered the Residence, according to President Fujimori's communications made April 25 (Day 133). Some rebels scrambled up the circular staircase toward the second-floor bedrooms where the 72 hostages were held.

Two more explosions followed. Soldiers

swept through the front door, others through the rear and some climbed to the roof firing at will. As if used, the hostages made their escape. Suddenly the shooting stopped, the dust settled. Peruvian troops hauled down the banners from the roof and MRTA flag and raised the Japanese flag.

In less than an hour, the Japanese Embassy was secure, though the Residence was littered with debris and dead bodies: two Peruvian troops, Col. Juan Valera and Capt. Raul Jimenez, died and all 14 Tupac Amaru rebels (some of them teenagers). Around an hour later, President Fujimori, wearing a bullet-proof vest, entered the compound to inspect the aftermath. Out front, Fujimori, soldiers and some released hostages gathered to sing the national anthem. The freed men boarded the two buses to have a medical check at the military hospital. Hopping aboard, Fujimori was shaking hands and waving the large red and white Peruvian flag as the bus left the Residence. The hostages, smiling, gave the thumbs-up sign.

[As described in the next day, the rescue was a meticulously executed plan in which 140 commandos blasted their way into the mansion through underground tunnels. One of the hostages, forewarned secretly by radio of the raid, had opened a sealed door for soldiers to enter. A Japanese hostage rammed a locked door to the second-floor balcony and jumped and broke of his foot upon landing. How the hostages were warned they would be rescued within minutes, to then lie face down and cover their heads was not immediately known for intelligence reasons.

In Tokyo, it was a little after 5:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 23, when news came that the commandos began their rescue efforts. For most of the day, news on live TV coverage, the rescue operation dominated into the night. Businessmen who were finally free after four months under the gun telephoned their home offices amid families. Jubilation reigned. Twelve of the 72 hostages work for Japanese companies and each company held a telephone news conference with their rescued employee.

Prime Minister Hashimoto spoke to the nation twice on live TV calling it a "splendid rescue" but also said how "regrettable" it was not to be advised of Fujimori's decision to storm the compound, otherwise he was grateful for the results. He said all the Japanese hostages—12 businessmen and 12 diplomats—survived, some slightly injured. About 10 of the Japanese hostages, including Ambassador Aoki, were reading in a second-floor room when security forces struck.

Thu., April 24 Fujimori's popularity up from 38% to 68%.

Fujimori's popularity rose from a Sunday 38% on Day 126 to a spectacular high of 68% yesterday—the day after the rescue—of the 424 Lima residents who were polled by the prestigious Apoyo Opinion firm whose margin of error was 5%. Among those favoring Fujimori, 84% supported his decision to use force and nearly nine out of 10 approved of the military's performance.

Japanese Foreign Minister Yukihiko Ikeda returned to personally thank President Fujimori.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported today that investors "are breathing easier in Peru" as Fujimori is able to focus privatization of two electric generating companies and a big bank. The government was also stilled by the crisis in reducing the size of its administrative staff. "The fact that Fujimori's stature has been enhanced internationally should help," said the senior economist William Romary of UBS Securities in New York. Just before the hostage crisis, Peru's economy was growing by more than 4% over the previous year with the boom in construction and strong exports of fish, fruit and vegetables. Peru's central bank said the inflation rate has slipped to the 10% level for 1996.

While public spending has boomed construction, in the suburbs that were once shanty towns sprawled around Lima, houses made of cinder blocks years ago are acquiring a cement floor and a second floor, perhaps a tree and small garden on the side. While exporters want to see the Peruvian dollar (sol) weaken, thus eroding the value of currency that the poor takes home, they are buying cinder blocks which represents hard currency. Cinder blocks are used extensively to build neighborhood schools, a common kitchen and the open-air mess hall/cafe/terrace, a small town hall and a place of worship. The Fujimori government has been installing electricity, telephone, water and sewer lines in the "new towns."

One of two rescuers killed in the Tuesday rescue mission, Lt. Col. Juan Valera Sandoval, 38, who was shot while ushering Peru's foreign minister to safety during the half-hour rescue operation, was buried today. Kenji Fujimori, the President's 16-year-old son, fought back tears and kissed the coffin of his slain chief bodyguard at the Garden of Peace Cemetery as he mourned with Valera's widow, two children and hundreds of military officers.

The others being buried today at the same cemetery were Supreme Court Justice Carlos Guisti Acuña who blew to death after being hit in the leg by a bullet and Capt. Raul Jimenez Chavez, 27, who was to be married on April 7. He was one of the first commandos to burst into the Residence, President Fujimori said at the gravesite. His voice trem-

bling, Fujimori declared: "He was the first to open the way for the rest of his companions." Fujimori also said he wanted the rebels to travel to Cuba in early March as Fidel Castro had agreed to safe passage if the rebels asked.

Though it was considered a domestic issue by the Havana government, Cuba said it regretted the loss of life, the official Cuban news service monitored in Mexico City reported.

Fri., April 25 Report: rebels face toughened commandos.

Quoting an unnamed intelligence agent who was monitoring the raid through listening devices, the opposition paper, *La Republica*, reported yesterday that soldiers conducting the raid had "shoot-to-kill" orders. All 14 rebels including two teen-age women who reportedly tried to surrender, were killed. The paper said rebel leader Nestor Cerpa had a bullet wound in his forehead, indicating that it could have been a summary execution. Several bodies were riddled with bullets, the paper reported. While Fujimori did not respond directly to the reports, he said the soldiers underwent intense training and could take no chances. "Facing an armed terrorist, none of the commandos was going to leave himself exposed," Fujimori said.

The newspaper *El Comercio* reported yesterday that to gain entry underneath the Residence, tunnels 10 feet underground, were equipped with electric lights and ventilation. About 9 lbs. of plastic explosives were used to blast holes to the first floor, stunning or killing the rebels. Four rebels playing soccer in the main reception hall were instantly killed by the blast. Four others, including Cerpa and the two girls, dashed for their guns and were running up the stairs when they were shot.

Asian Pacific American seat added to DNC

WASHINGTON—The Democratic National Committee, at its fall meeting, voted to alter its charter and bylaws to create an Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) Caucus, with a permanent seat on the executive committee for the caucus chairperson.

"Strengthening and enhancing our relationship with the Asian Pacific American community is one of our top priorities," DNC National Chair Steve Grossman said.

Sun., Oct. 5 Japan invites Archbishop Cipriani, ex-Foreign Minister Tudela.

The Japanese government invited Archbishop Cipriani, a key figure in the final negotiations representing the Vatican and a confidante of President Fujimori, and past Foreign Minister Francisco Tudela "to show its appreciation of the Archbishop's dedication and Mr. Tudela's suffering during the occupation." The archbishop arrived on Oct. 5 and Tudela the following day. Both were greeted by Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and were to meet with other officials. ■

Legend (approximate word count):

I—May 2 issue (1,200)
II—June 6 (3,600)
III—July 4 (2,300)
IV—August 1 (2,600)
V—August 15 (2,600)*
VI—September 5 (2,600)
VII—October 17 (3,900)
* w/T. Ayayai photo

Appreciation:

The digest was compiled from reports from the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Washington Times*, *Associated Press*, *USA Today*, *Los Angeles Times* and from Lima and Tokyo. Our thanks again to George Wakjiri of Washington, D.C. JACL for continuously supplying us with the newspaper clippings.

—Harry K. Honda
Editor Emeritus

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Salesman fired for racist remarks towards AAs

(Continued from page 1)

Poon wrote that Fallon justified his comment by saying they have many Chinese customers at the dealership and that the statement should have been funny and the family was just being too serious.

McSherry apologized to the Poon on Fallon's behalf but said there was nothing else he could do because he had not witnessed the incident.

As the family headed towards their car, Fallon once again approached them saying he had had time to clear his head and that he did not feel the incident was racist, said Poon.

"I can't believe that this happened to my family and myself, especially near San Francisco," wrote Poon in his e-mail. "I only hope that

this will never happen to anyone else."

On Oct. 1 Fallon was fired by the dealership and the Poon family received a formal apology. The salesman who had high-fired Fallon in the dealership's lot has been reprimanded.

Poon also received a letter of apology from CEO Donald Lucas of Lucas Dealership Group, who owns Golden Gate Acura. "I sincerely hope that you, your father and the other members of your family will not allow the insensitivity and ignorance of one individual to cloud your opinion of all the other employees at Golden Gate," he wrote. Lucas also noted that 50 percent of the dealership's employees are AA and that AAs make up 45 percent of their sales. —Caroline Aoyagi ■

Asian Miracle Marrow Matches campaigners in pursuit of donors

BY STEPHANIE LAI

Intern, Pacific Citizen

Alan Kuo is a brother, son, boyfriend, a graduate of both Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a successful biomedical researcher for the University of California at San Francisco.

He also has only three months to live, according to his doctors. Kuo has leukemia, cancer of the blood, and his only chance of beating the disease is a bone marrow transplant.

As an added obstacle Alan is an Asian American, which means he needs to have an Asian bone marrow donor. The chances of Alan finding a match are one in a million. This is because the matched traits between donor and recipient are inherited in the same way as eye color, skin color, or hair color. A person is most likely to find a match within one's own racial group. Eighty-five percent of patients who find matches find them within their own racial group.

In 1990, Asians made up less than 1 percent of the bone marrow registry. Each day approximately 200 people search the current bone marrow donor registry and find no matches.

Asian Miracle Marrow Matches (A3M) founded by Sharon Sugiyama, Dr. Takeo Suzuki, and Bill Watanabe is an organization determined to spread awareness, provide education, and to change the odds of Asians with bone related diseases by registering as many Asian Americans as they can.

The Southern California group was formed because of Dr. Suzuki's son Nick's struggle with leukemia in 1990, said Sugiyama in a recent interview. At that time there were only some 2,500 Asian Americans on the national registry. Sugiyama and her brother-in-law Suzuki worked as a family holding drives until, in 1991, Watanabe helped them contact several community host organizations and a small grant was obtained from the National Bone Marrow Association.

A3M currently holds frequent blood drives; there is usually one going on every day in Southern California. They consist of six ethnic task forces for the Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino, and Southeast Asian populations. There are currently 38,000 AA donors on the registry and A3M has had 20 donor-patient matches.

A3M works with different community organizations to host their blood drives and also is contacted by people with bone related diseases, like Alan Kuo, for publicity who allow A3M to use their stories. A3M is looking for sites to hold blood drives. Sugiyama says "All we



OUCH—Intern Stephanie Lai can't bear to look as she donates blood at an A3M blood drive during Nisei Week festivities.

need is the location."

When asked about why she thought the number of Asian Americans on the registry was so low Sugiyama said, "It's a matter of more information being disseminated among the Asian Pacific Islander community," as opposed to cultural ideas that dissuade registration. She stresses that people should register because "patients don't have time to wait."

The organization was represented at a booth at the 1997 Nisei Week passing out literature on their organization and also registering people for the registry.

The response from different parts of the community have been great so far. We just need to get more individuals to sign up," noted recruitment specialist Johann R. Diel. Approximately 200 more people were added to the registry during the two weekends of Nisei Week. After filling out a series of forms, the donor is asked to give about two tablespoons of blood to be tested.

"It's hard to convince [possible donors] that [drawing blood] doesn't hurt," commented Dr. Suzuki, who volunteered his time at A3M's Nisei Week booth. After the blood is drawn, it is analyzed and entered into a computer system. If you are a possible match for a patient you are contacted and then more blood tests are done to make sure the match is exact. A physical exam and counseling is given. If you decide to donate, a small amount, about 3-5 percent, of bone marrow is withdrawn from the pelvic bone using a special needle and syringe. This is done under anesthesia. After an overnight stay in the hospital the donor can resume normal activity and the marrow naturally replenishes itself within a few weeks. The prospective donor is free to decline at any time.

Forty-year-old Alan Yamada was added to the registry during Nisei Week. He has been attending the Nisei festival for the past ten

years, and is from Seattle, Wash. "A lot of my friends have done this already," he commented. He realizes that there are many Asian Americans who need bone marrow transplants.

In addition to the "fear factor," there are also some social issues that result in a low number of Asian registrars. "I guess it's the old Japanese custom," said Dr. Suzuki. "Asian Americans don't like to give for medical purposes," referring to the low number of transplants that take place in Japan.

Diel said that "there's a lot of misinformation about the donor process," that dissuades people from donating. He noted that the bone marrow is taken under anesthesia from the donor's hip bone, not the spine as some people believe.

A3M volunteer Dr. Gary Fujii thinks that people are more informed now and the norms will change. "The more people that are registered, the better," states Dr. Fujii. "Maybe you are a match for Alan Kuo or someone like him."

Other ways one can help are:

(1) Be registered for the marrow donor list along with your friends, family, co-workers, etc.

(2) On the internet, visit (<http://www.slip.net/~rwood>) Alan Kuo's website, (www.marow.org) the National Marrow Donor Program, and (www.lisc.org/a3) A3M's website.

(3) Volunteer your time or a location for a blood drive to A3M or another donor program.

Contact:

Asians for Miracle Marrow Matches (A3M), 213/626-6992

Asian American Donor Program 800/593-6667 or 510/253-3366; Fax: 510/523-3790; E-mail: asamdonors@aol.com

Cammy Lee Leukemia Foundation, 800/777-CAMMY, 212/460-5983; Fax: 212/460-5971; E-mail: cll@junio.com

Buddhist Compassion Relief Trust (Chi Foundation USA), 626/281-9801; (marrow hotline) 626/281-3383; Fax: 626/281-9799; E-mail: Buddhist.tsu.chi.free.clinic@worldnet.att.net ■

APA organizations oppose plan against census 'sampling'

(Continued from page 1)

changes. They're hoping that by using this method gross undercounting of minority populations that took place in the last census will be avoided.

In 1990, the undercount rate for Asian Americans was estimated at 2.3 percent or some 167,000 Asian-Pacific Islanders. The total numbers of APis in 1990 census was 7.27 million. Hispanic Americans were undercounted by 5 percent and African Americans by an estimated rate of 4.4 percent.

As the Census is used by the government to determine the amount of funding various states receive for a period of ten years, states like

California with a large minority population stand to lose a great deal of money if these groups are not accurately counted.

But the issue of sampling looks to be divided among party lines, with Republicans opposed to the proposed "sampling" method. That's because most undercounted ethnic minorities tend to be Democrats and could possibly reduce the number of GOP-held House seats that are determined after the census, the Asian American organizations in opposition explained.

Earlier this year, President Clinton vetoed a disaster-relief bill when Republicans attached an amendment to ban the use of sampling in the next census.

White House aides have said they will also recommend a veto of a Dept. of Commerce funding bill pending in the House if the final version bars the Census Bureau from spending any money on sampling until the Supreme Court decides on the constitutionality of the method. Even if the Supreme Court were to hand down a ruling, the trial census "sampling" sessions will have already passed, making it impossible for use in the 2000 Census.

JACL National Director Herb Yamanishi said the importance of the use of sampling in the next Census is simple. "We want to get an accurate count. That's why we're opposed to the ban on sampling." In the last two Census counts, AAs were grossly undercounted, especially in rural areas, he said. —Car-

Hapas, identity for 2000 census on tap in Chicago

CHICAGO—Is the Japanese American community dying? Are intermarriage and the subsequent increasing number of mixed-race Japanese Americans responsible for the decline of the Japanese American identity? How do the Census and the "One-Drop Rule" affect people of mixed heritage?

These questions and more will be addressed in the fourth of an ongoing series of dialogue programs developed by the Intergenerational Legacy Project, cosponsored by Chicago JACL and the Japanese American Service Committee (JASC), Sun, Nov. 16, 1 p.m., 4427 N. Clark St. For information: JASC 773/275-7212. ■

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REDRESS CONFERENCE AFTERMATH:

Concern for families and children was foremost

BY FRED Y. HIRASUNA

Ed. Note: A lifelong JACLer, Hirasuna had engaged playwright-lecturer Frank Chin in one of the most heated discussions at the Oct. 10-11 UCLA Conference on Redress. Of interest are the questions and Hirasuna's views.

At the recent Japanese Redress Conference held at UCLA, "The Emergence of Draft Resisters in the Redress Movement" was a panel discussion that was not a true discussion. On the panel were Frank Chin, and Frank Emi, Yosh Kurokiya and Mits Koshiyama, all Heart Mountain draft resisters. William Hohri chaired the discussion. On all points raised, the four panelists were allowed extensive remarks without much audience participation. I went to Bill Hohri and asked him whether the audience was going to be given a chance to speak.

I was particularly irked by the remarks made by Frank Chin that JACL did nothing right in the evacuation period. I answered him by

indicating that once JACL realized that the Army was going to evacuate and intern us, no matter what we said or did, we decided to cooperate with the Army in order to secure all the concessions possible to ease the burden upon our people.

His reply, as I recall it, was that if we had resisted, the Army would have done nothing because they did not have enough soldiers to carry out the evacuation and internment with physical force.

Chin, a Chinese American, must have been too young to make mature decisions in 1942. His remarks lead me to believe he is not pro-Japanese. He is, first and foremost, anti-JACL. If he had been old enough in 1942, would he have urged Chinese Americans to rally to the support of the constitutional rights of their beleaguered fellow Asian, Japanese Americans? Would he have urged them not to wear "I Am A Chinese American" buttons?

As a person who was 34 years old in 1942, with a wife and three small kids (6 and 3 years old and one born in February of 1942), with two old parents, a sister and a sister-in-law to look after and to make the hard decisions for, I was in favor of cooperation with the Army. Evacuation

had already been decided upon by the Army. The Tolan Committee Hearings which took place in San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, and Los Angeles were held between February 21, 1942, and March 19, 1942.

Testimonies were taken on a policy that had already been decided. If we resisted, forceful evacuation could have meant physical danger to our people, the aged, the women, little kids, mothers with their husbands gone, the sick and the disabled. My primary concern was for the safety of my own family. After that, my concern was for our Japanese American group.

He, and others, criticized, and still criticize, the failure of JACL to support the draft resisters of Heart Mountain. Min Yasui, whose patriotism and concern for Japanese Americans no one can question, went to Heart Mountain to ask them to consider what their action would do to the overall Japanese American cause.

We pose this question: What if JACL had supported them and urged all Japanese Americans to resist the draft? What if all Japanese Americans followed the exam-

Very Truly Yours

By: Harry Honda

Getting out alive

WITH this issue we finally conclude the continuing series of "President Fujimori and the Hostage Crisis" which the whole world followed closely. A month ago in *America*, the Jesuit magazine carried an inside perspective, an interview by Jesuit priest James Torrens, one of the magazine's associate editors, with another Jesuit priest, Fr. Juan Julio Wicht, among the 72 hostages of the Movimiento Revolucionario Tupac Amaru (MRTA) who were released on the last day. How Fr. Wicht described his experience the day of release deserves repetition here.

There are no words to describe it. All that you saw on television was nothing to the noise, the explosions and the shocks that we went through. I was convinced these were the last few minutes of my life. It was a very well calculated operation, as well as a risky one. The explosions were measured exactly. Every commando [the special Peruvian rescue team] knew where to position himself and where to fire. Every detail was foreseen—but of course there will always be surprise elements, matters of luck.

It is understandable that the 14 MRTA members died [Fr. Wicht, throughout the interview, avoided such terms as guerrillas or rebels]—very sad but understandable in this kind of operation. What I really lament is the mistreatment of the corpses afterwards. The mistreatment took many forms, but started with the Government saying, "There were three deaths." This is not true. Seventeen persons died. It seems that several of the corpses received further abuse after death. That's sad, though an effect of high-pressure operations in war. To sum up, this is all very sad. I hope we can learn from what we suffered and be spared another commando operation. Isn't this the same line of hope when we talk about the Evacuation?

Anyone who attended a Jesuit high school, college or university will appreciate this Fr. Wicht was asked how he endured all the tension. "I don't think I have ever in my life prayed as I did during those 126 days. A very long retreat! ... Such petitions from Our Father, 'Thy will be done' or 'forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us' were constantly remembered. 'God helped very much'—him and others to remain at peace. Ambassador Aoki, a graduate of Eiko Jesuit High in Kamakura, often approached him, saying in English, 'Father, the prayer, the prayer.' The Japanese 'though of another religion very different from Christianity, showed a great appreciation of our religious actions.' They told him, 'Padre Juan Julio, with you we feel ourselves close to

God."

Being on the faculty of the Jesuit-run Universidad del Pacifico in Lima, teaching economics and engaged in Pacific Rim research, was how Fr. Wicht happened to be invited by Ambassador Morihisa Aoki of Japan. Then on the fifth day of captivity, Dec. 23, when they read out the list of 225 who could be freed, his name was close to the bottom. That's when he said in a loud voice so everyone could hear: "I am a priest. Can I stay? As long as there is anyone here, I would like to share the trouble of my companions." To which Commandante Cerpa hesitated [Father always addressed him Commandante] and Cerpa always called him Padre—"careful not to insult one another or use ugly language": "If you'd like to stay, Padre, stay." There was general applause.

Then Cerpa said: "Why don't you leave and then come back? Tell them what's going on here." To which he said: "Whatever I say, if it seems to be against you (MRTA), it will damage everyone. If it seems to be against the Government, the same. I have no desire to leave and be used by journalists or politicians, and the police won't let me back anyway." His integrity was not for sale.

The MRTA, thought of as young and idealistic when they began in the mid-'80s, took on the army with weapons. Little by little, Fr. Wicht explained, various leaders retired from battle so that when the Fujimori Government established a law of repentance, which allowed a return to legal democratic status by renouncing guerrilla life, only a few were left, who unfortunately undertook a campaign of terrorism. Which explains why President Fujimori kept insisting on the word "terrorist" rather than "rebels" or "guerrillas." Father added their campaign, unfortunately, included kidnappings and murders. "Also, they had some obscure links to drug trafficking. This is not social idealism." The other week, the Clinton Administration asked Bolivia to go after the farmers growing coca, to which the Bolivians asked the U.S. to do something about the demand factor here. President Fujimori has said the same before the National Press Club in Washington. In Bolivia, the role of coca in their community is akin to the use of peyote in the U.S. Southwest—one of reverence.

It was obvious from the interview, the bond of friendship developed during captivity would remind one of the kinship or union one senses at our relocation camp and veteran reunions. Father concluded: "It's unforgettable that we were all together. This union is what helped us prevail." Amen to that!

ENJOY THE RIDE.



Pete Hicousta 10/1/97

HAVE YOU SEEN IT?

Letters

Our family lived by the Western Pacific RR

Would you like to hear the epitome of discrimination, injustice, degradation, humiliation, deprivation, loss of liberty, loss of property?

My father was a section foreman for the Western Pacific Railroad company. Our home was in Gerlach, Nevada, a small town 140 miles north of Reno. Our family was the only Japanese living there. Because of his race, my father was suddenly fired in February 1942 and given 24 hours to vacate the premises.

My parents and youngest sister lived in a two-wheel trailer—just large enough to hold a double bed—in the middle of a desert for almost five months in the dead of winter without benefit of water, electricity, adequate heating, or an outdoor. Food and water were taken out to them because they were not allowed to step foot on railroad property. They were prisoners in the truest sense of the word, confined to the trailer, and under constant surveillance by gun-toting FBI and railroad agents and an over-zealous town constable.

My mother was in fragile health and shortly after moving into the trailer my father became very ill, and recovered his health a couple of months later. My two brothers were in the military service, my oldest sister was married and lived in Tennessee but fortunately arrived for a visit a few days before my father was fired. My sister sought help from one of our Gerlach "friends," but was told, "We can't help you because our country is at war with your country." This sentiment was shared by the majority of the townspeople.

My sister managed to rent a shack and supervised my three youngest sisters, who received special permission to finish the school year. They were forced to observe a strict curfew and were confined to the boundaries between the shack and school. The over-zealous town constable, with gun at his side, made sure of this. I was attending school in Salt Lake City and finished the year at my parents' insistence.

After the school year ended, our family moved to Reno, which was a far cry from utopia. A Nisei friend of my sister's, who lived in Reno, helped my family find housing, a two-room upstairs apartment which my mother and father dubbed "the pigeon house." One night a rat ran across my mother's foot. Today we wonder how everyone fit.

Reno had many off-limit areas and hostility toward Japanese pervaded. My mother and father were given work by a Japanese farmer and we two older girls gained employment doing housework, again through connections with Reno Japanese residents. My oldest brother sent home his paycheck, which was matched by the government. So we survived.

Ida Nishiguchi Otani
Rocklin, Calif.

Asians in San Francisco J-town not all JA's

I just wanted to respond to the article by Rocky Mitarai in the Aug.

15-Sept. 4 issue of P.C. Though I empathize with the treatment he received in San Francisco's J-town, I have to disagree with the alleged ethnicity of the perpetrators.

Growing up in S.F.'s J-town as a youth and teenager in the 70s and 80s, we had JA groups (cliques, gangs, etc.) back then because there was a larger concentration of JA's in the schools and community. Today, most of us JA's have moved out to other cities for the high-tech, high paying employment, and other various reasons, and because of that there are very few of us who still live in the City.

I travel back to the City every month and noticed the dismal decline of the community in J-town and the City And during the past decade, as most S.F. JA's know, the type of teenagers that frequent J-town are not JA. They are of Chinese and Southeast Asian descent. Just take a visit to Japantown Bowl and see what ethnicity the loiterers are, as the alley is the main gathering place for teenagers.

So when Mr. Mitarai stated "I was beaten by Asians in Japantown..." he should have clarified the ethnicity of the perpetrators. I seriously doubt that teenage JA's were involved in the altercation, because my generation/age group was almost the last to form and instigate a JA group. And I can truly say that the JA (Sansei-Yonsei) group probably ended in the mid-1980s.

Jeffrey Kimoto
Sacramento, Calif.

From railroad foreman to a job in a restaurant

Yes, my father, who had emigrated from Japan as a teenager, was a Union Pacific Railroad foreman at Oasis, Utah. In terms of "loyalty and respect," he and my mother were probably more American than their U.S.-born neighbors. However as you know, they were denied the privilege of becoming U.S. citizens. Dad was a dedicated U.P. employee, giving better than 100%. For example, in his off-duty hours he maintained all the tools his crew used; he learned to speak and write in Spanish and English since many of his workers could only converse in these languages. He maintained the time cards—all in off-duty hours.

In spite of his dedicated service for better than 30 years, when the war broke out he was given three days in which to vacate the company-owned home. Without the help of good neighbors in Oasis, we would have been hard-pressed to survive.

We later moved to Salt Lake City where my father got a job at a local restaurant, working in the kitchen. I respect my dad for having the courage to accept a lower paying, less responsible job than he had held. You might ask, how many of our fellow Americans have as much courage?

In spite of the injustice of these events, I believe the United States is the only country in the world that would try to correct or try to compensate for them.

Bill Mizuno
Salt Lake City

Who are the Kibei?

I know that Nisei think themselves as Americans, but I am interested in how Kibei thinks about their ethnic identity. I heard from one Kibei that they consider 50% Japanese, 50% American, but that is all I know. Are there any books or articles dealing with this topic? All I have is Bill Hosokawa's book, "Nisei: The Quiet Americans" on this issue. I may make presentation on Nisei's American identification at a conference in November, when Kibei's identification will be questioned. I need more materials on Kibei's ethnic identification.

Yudaka Yamagata

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fax: 213/740-8646

MIS logo follow-up

Allow me to respond to your recent article (Sept. 19 P.C.) concerning the MIS logo change. I attended the Denver Reunion, participated fully in the discussions and voted at the business session. I disagree with your report that the change is too late and that the Indian head-dress gopher will be placed alongside the 100th Infantry and 442nd logos on the Hawaii AJA Veterans Monument now being constructed at Fort DeRuss, Hawaii. I checked with MIS-Hawaii president Howard Furumoto and he disavows ever making the statement "It's too late to put up something new and different." He assured me that the MIS-Northwest logo that was voted in at that meeting will be the logo to be displayed alongside the logos of the 100th and 442nd.

Your report also included comments concerning our (JAVM) crane (tsuru) logo. This logo was the creation of one of our MIS member's son who researched hard to perfect a logo. It has the stars and stripes of America with our Japanese American Veterans Minnesota title around the crest to make it distinctive and aesthetically representative of our American heritage. JAVM considered many logos and the *tsuru* was voted in. It's not a family crest and we reject all possible charges that our logo "was stolen from a family crest."

With hopes that future reporting will be accurate.

Bud Nakasone

President, JAVM

White Bear Lake, Minn.

We gracefully stand corrected.

Pacific Citizen

7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755-7406
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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.



Voice of a Sansel

BY AKEMI KAYLENG

The quantum physics of our new reality

BACK when I was a teenager, I had an experience which threw the light on a situation I had been aware of for years.

I had a part-time job after school working as a checker for a local store. The manager was very upset about bad credit risks. I was given a stern lecture about always obtaining two pieces of photo ID before accepting any check.

This particular store had many Japanese American customers, so needless to say I was asking a lot of Nisei for identification. My relatives were shocked. A *Japanese* would never do anything dishonest. And to top it off, I, a *Japanese*, was the one collecting payment! Your own kind never hurt you.

If my kind were to be completely trusted—even if they were strangers—Whites burst open an overflowing sewer of negative feelings in my relatives. Fear, anger, inferiority, embarrassment—you name it, they felt it.

All this was happening over 20 years ago, but even then, the first cracks in our ironclad certainty about who was good and bad were starting to appear. Much, to my family's shock and euphoria, I acquired White friends. And for the first time, our formerly law-abiding community was seeing serious criminal activity, including white collar embezzlement and juvenile delinquency.

Many years have gone by, and believe me, I absolutely do not use race to determine someone's character. Reality is much more complicated than the one my elders saw.

But does this mean the stereotyped conclusions are totally off base? Not really. The aggregate ensemble still converges to some mean. However, today's distributions have a larger standard deviation. Rather than think in absolute terms, I'm thinking more in probabilities. These probabilities still converge to distinct patterns if we consider enough people.

Forgive me. I've slipped back into my hardcore technical days.

What I'm saying is, the average of the whole group still fits an image, but private individuals are distributed differently about that image. Some are right on it, some far away. Young kids as a whole are immature, but some are surprisingly adult for their age. Immigrants often have language problems, but some speak better English than American-born Whites. Anyway, you get what I mean.

I extend this sort of thinking beyond discussions of individuals. Trends, societal conditions, and so forth are complicated averages of many components. If we consider only a small number of components, the ensemble average is not apparent. But if we have a wealth of entities, the ensemble emerges.

As any physics student knows, matter exists in an infinite continuum of time and space. Back in the old days, that infinity was not available to us. Our limited education and White people's racism locked us into a tiny subset of that continuum. Today those set bounds are rapidly falling away, and technology is shrinking geographical space and compressing time. Our old Japantowns are diffusing into that continuum. Our expansion into the American Dream is our acquisition of the richness of that continuum.

As we expand our old certainties appear to be evaporating away, like black *kanji* marks washing away with those currents. But those same currents are opening up new worlds. As we average increasing volumes of life experiences, our new probabilistic realities emerge. Those ensemble averages, alone, without the distributions would have been the old classical world.

Our new existence is less certain, but with that uncertainty comes more freedom to exist in portions of phase existence space closed to the Issei. Our new and more sophisticated Japanese American is a quantum citizen.

Akemi sees no contradiction in enjoying both the arts and hard science.

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First Asian American tapped as police captain in Sac'to

SACRAMENTO—The Sacramento JACL Chapter and members of the Coalition for Community Oriented Policing commended the Sacramento Police Department's appointment and swearing in of Lt. Richard Shiraiishi to the rank of Captain. He is the first Asian Pacific American (APA) to be appointed to this high-ranking position in Sacramento County.



Captain Shiraiishi

An estimated 200 people, a good percentage of which were Asian Americans, crowded the Police Department's conference room to attend the ceremonies Sept. 19.

"It's an awesome responsibility," Shiraiishi said of his historic assignment. "Hopefully, I can fulfill it for the organization and for the community at large."

Police Chief Arturo Venegas Jr. told Shiraiishi: "I can assure you, your community is real proud of you. You really stand out as a role model."

Venegas added, however, that Shiraiishi will be assessed by the agency's 600-plus officers not on his ethnicity, but on what he contributes to the department.

"You're a role model to your com-

munity," Venegas said, "but you're a captain of the Police Department."

As the only candidate with a BA degree, Capt. Shiraiishi will enter a Criminal Justice Master's degree program in the Spring 1998.

He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy (Quantic, Va.), University of Southern California, Delinquency Control Institute and the UC Davis Mid-Management Development Program.

An active Sacramento JACLer, he had served as acting captain for a year.

During his 18-year career with SPD, he has received numerous citations and honors and has contributed over 900 hours annually to community service. —LF ■

ROHNERT PARK

(Continued from page 1)

widow, Aiyling Wu, and their three children. The family is seeking \$50 million in damages for wrongful death, negligent training, infliction of emotional distress, and for violating Kao's civil rights.

Earlier this year officer Jack Shields, who fired the fatal shots, was found innocent of any wrongdoing by Rohnert Park and Sonoma County investigators.

The FBI is currently investigating the incident and Wu's lawyers predict it could be several years before this case is settled. ■

Symposium

How relevant is WWII camp experience to a Nikkei?

Letter from:

KELLY K. KATAYAMA-JOHNSON

The PSW Youth RAP article (Sept. 19-Oct. 2 P.C.) was of great interest. The comments made by Mika Tanner made me understand why history is extremely important. Tanner said that the "camps" were not part of their background. How stupid can you be? If you don't know where you came from, how can you know where to go? Yes, it is true that the Japanese Americans have had only two major issue focuses, internment and WWII.

Tanner and other community members must think about relevant issues to the community as an expansion process. The historical part of our community is important. It may be an overriding topic of discussion because Issei, Nisei, etc. are not informed on what issues are important to the JA youth of today.

Likewise, the youth of today must understand that sometimes because of the hurt and pain of issues or the desire to protect, people tend to have a passionate focus on what is relevant to themselves and forget the needs of other generations or their own communities.

I admire Mika Tanner and others like her for speaking out. She continually reminds me why it is important to be politically as well as socially active. I would like to be invited to the next "rap session." ■

Katayama-Johnson is an eighth-grade teacher and Selanob JACL's Chibi-no-Gakko volunteer.

Response from:

MIKA TANNER

A catch 22:

No past without the present? No present without the past? No future without either?

You are nothing without your past. That is true of individuals, families, communities, and even whole civilizations.

In order to appreciate and understand the present, we all must acknowledge, honor, and learn how that present came to be. Only then are we empowered to right past wrongs, avoid mistakes, and recognize the importance of the people and experiences that touch our lives.

I say all this because very recently I became aware of a letter in which the writer (above) objected to some statements that I was quoted as making at a Japanese American community forum.

The writer had interpreted my comments to mean that I did not value history and the lessons it could teach us about ourselves and our community. I am very grateful for those comments for several reasons:

(1) The sharing of ideas and perspectives is the life blood of our community and its greatest vehicle for change;

(2) I realized that the writer—

AFTERMATH

(Continued from page 7)

ple set by the Heart Mountain group and resisted the draft? What effect would such a decision have had on the Japanese American cause in general, especially after the war, when the very young would have to make their way in American society?

Those young people, who volunteered, or were willingly drafted for military service, in spite of the constitutional wrongs committed on them and their families by their own government, showed more real courage and more commitment to the overall cause of Japanese Americans. They did more for the Japanese American cause than any other single group, more than the Heart Mountain group. Because of them and their outstanding military record, we, and our kids, were able to return after the

war, I see as somewhat representative of the larger JA community—and I am really not that different in our views and ideas about the future of this community; and

(3) I get an opportunity to express and reiterate these views in a way that I hope will not be misunderstood.

I was reported as saying that to many people, younger generations especially, the World War II concentration camp experience is not relevant to their own personal day-to-day lives. To some degree, though it may be hard to swallow, I believe this is true. The other comments made by other young people at the forum attest to this. For these younger folks, what they have no direct experience of is as unreal as something they learn in history books.

Compared to the immediate challenges and issues in their own lives, the legacy of their grandparents and relatives often fades into the background. The World War II experience, which shaped the lives of so many of the Issei and Nisei and was such an integral part of their identity as Japanese Americans, is not, generally, what defines the cultural identity of the younger generation.

This is particularly true of Japanese Americans, myself included, who cannot claim the camp experience as part of their personal family histories. Children of the Shin-Issei, many Hapas, even a number of people from Hawaii, do not have camp as a common thread that binds them to the larger JA community.

However, in no way am I suggesting that this chapter in history should be forgotten, or that because it didn't happen to "us" it's not important, or that it's time to move on to something else for a while.

On the contrary, I believe firmly that the camps and the racism that allowed their existence should always be taught, remembered and discussed. And that the people who lived through this grave injustice should always be valued and appreciated for their courage and strength in the face of adversity.

In fact, on a personal level, I know that gaining a clearer understanding of the events of WWII has opened my eyes to many things and given me a profound appreciation for the freedoms and rights that I used to take for granted.

Thus, having recognized the importance and power of the past, I have come to believe that the history and experiences of other segments within the Japanese American community deserve the same exploration and acknowledgment. There are many Japanese American stories, and all of them deserve to be heard. It is by learning the stories and perspectives of others we can come to understand how diverse and vibrant the Japanese American community really is.

To validate the experiences of other Japanese Americans, where

ther they are Hawaiian, Hapa, Shin-Issei, Yonsei, or a combination of any of these, will only strengthen the bonds of our community and will perhaps teach us to understand the interconnectedness between the past, the present, between the Issei and the Shin-Issei, between Hapas and Nisei, and between the concentration camps and Propositions 187 and 209.

The challenge that faces us today is how to involve the younger generations in the continuation and preservation of the Japanese American culture and community. And it is with this in mind that I have been fairly vocal about the direction the community needs to take.

If young people are the hope for the future, then it is their voices that need to be encouraged, it is their issues that need to be heard. Only by granting them this voice, by validating the authenticity and Japanese Americanness of their experiences, will they feel they are truly a part of a community, and as such, feel a responsibility for preserving this community.

In claiming a Japanese American identity, it is only natural that they will then feel a connection to the past and the history that is integral to it. And in feeling this connection, the history of the camps, the valor of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team, the courage of the Issei and the Shin-Issei will always be remembered and honored. In essence, history must be tied to the present for it to be meaningful to each succeeding generation.

Having said this, I would like to again thank the writer (Kelly Katayama-Johnson) to whom I am responding, and for sharing thoughts on an issue that concerns all Japanese Americans. Her perspectives have allowed me to share my own and, in doing so, engage in a dialogue that is vital to the health and well-being of the community. It also reminds me that, while younger JAs need to find a voice and expression, we need to be mindful that this "voice" does not drown out the lessons of the past.

I have no doubt that the Japanese American community will survive the challenges of the new millennium. However, I think that it is important to recognize that this community, say in the year 2050, will be vastly different from the one we live in now. Change is inevitable, and though frightening, can be a very positive thing. This doesn't mean, though, that the past will be forgotten and ignored. We build on the past to create the present, and in doing so the legacy of our ancestors will always be there to remind us of who we are and how we came to be. ■

Mika Tanner is active in the formation of a Los Angeles chapter of Hapa Issues Forum, a community organization dedicated to sharing, celebrating, and preserving the diverse range of mixed race Asian American experiences, cultures, and perspectives.

JANM 'rebuilding new traditions' at fall fete

LOS ANGELES—The theme for the annual Japanese-American National Museum fall dinner on Nov. 15 at Century Plaza Hotel is "Building New Traditions: Recognizing Japanese American Excellence." It was announced by Yoshihiro Uchida, JANM chairman, and Irene Hirano, executive director.

Awards of excellence this year are being presented to Ann Curry, NBC News anchor, and to Jon Nakamatsu, gold medalist at the 1997 Van Cliburn International Piano competition. Other awardees are:

Corporate—Mikasa, Kenwood, both founded by George Aratani; Special (posthumously)—Noby Yamakoshi, founder, Nobart Inc., and Museum trustee.

Individual tickets are \$150, \$250 and \$500. Information: JANM, 213/625-0414. ■

'442: For The Future' previewed, a story for all Americans

CAROLINE AOYAGI

Assistant Editor

HOLLYWOOD—The story of the legendary 442nd Regiment of World War II isn't just a Japanese American story, it's a story for all Americans.

Yet, few Americans have ever heard of these heroic Nisei soldiers, the most decorated unit for its size in United States military history. Still fewer realize that many of these men chose to fight for their country even as their families and more than 120,000 JAs were being held in internment camps throughout the U.S.

Sansel Patricia Kinaga is trying to change that. She's written and produced a docudrama chronicling their accomplishments, *442: For the Future*, that will be used as an education tool by schools, libraries, and charities throughout the country.

"Unfortunately, many kids today don't know much, if anything about [the] Japanese American internment, never mind the accomplishments of the 442nd Regiment," said Kinaga, a full-time attorney who worked on the film in her spare time.

"This film is in honor of the veterans," she said. "We made this film as an enduring legacy that, I hope, will be remembered by generations to come. It's our way of saying thank you to those who sacrificed so much for us."

442: For the Future had its national premier on Aug. 23 at the Paramount Studios, and more than 600 people, including hundreds of veterans and their families, crowded into the studio's atrium. U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Frederick Pang gave the keynote address, and CBS-TV news anchor Trish Toyota was the event's emcee.

Torrance City Councilman George Nakano and Assemblyman Nao Takasugi (R-Oxnard) were joined at the premier showing by Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-Calif.), Los Angeles City Councilwoman Rita Walters, State Senator Teresa Hughes, and State Assemblymen Roderick Wright, Tony Cardenas and Jack Scott.

The event was co-sponsored by Pacific Film Currents, the 100th/442nd Veterans Association, Asian Pacific Alumni of UCLA, and the Japanese American Bar Association.

Kinaga had been attending one of the 442 Veterans Club reunions with her father, Thomas, a 442nd veteran, when she first came up with the idea to do a film about the heroic regiment. She was only nine years old at the time, but even today her reasons for making the film remain the same; she wants to tell the story of a group of people who, with courage and forbearance, overcame tremendous prejudice.

"In times of war or economic strife, when times are hard, sometimes the worst comes out of people — this led to the incarceration," said Kinaga during the premier. "In the same vein, out of the same kinds of pressure, people will look into themselves and find strength and rise above the hysteria." That's what the 442nd and other JA veterans managed to do more than a half century ago, she said.

In 1993, Kinaga and dozens of volunteers, including associate producers Lily Baba and Peter J. Wong and editor Bruce Birch, sat down to begin the difficult task of telling the story of the legendary Nisei soldiers.

They started by interviewing veterans at the 442nd's 50th annual reunion in Honolulu. And they also spoke with vets in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Washington, D.C., and New York. These interviews were used to develop the film's story line.

The docudrama tells the story of two Nisei cousins growing up in pre-World War II America and their eventual decisions to join the 442nd, one as a free man in Hawaii and the other as an internee on the mainland. It's through their eyes that the heartaches and heroics of the 442nd are brought to life; from the prejudice they endured because they had the same face as America's enemy, to the successful battles in the European Theater that earned a place for them as heroes in American history.

Throughout most of the film, the only visuals are the more than 300 black and white still photos gathered from the Nisei vets, National Japanese American Historical Society and Toyo Miyatake Studios.

These photos, combined with the narration of actors Nobu McCarthy, Saachiko, Daryl Kunitomi, and Shaun Shimoda and the original music of Glenn Horiuchi and June Kuramoto, tell the 442nd veterans' story.

"There's no doubt in my mind that I am where I am today because of the foundation set by the 442nd," said keynote speaker Frederick Pang, the highest ranking Asian American civilian at the Pentagon. When he was a boy growing up in Hawaii, he said, the 442nd was legendary.

"The 442nd's bravery and patriotism, in peace and in war, has been unsurpassed in our long, long history," said Pang. "Everything that has happened in the last 50 years [to AAs] was set up by the bravery and the families of the 442nd." What they and other war veterans proved was that "we are and always have been loyal Americans," he said.

"Due to what we [the veterans] did during the war, it affected the lives of all Nisei and Sansen," said Kiya Yamate, president of the 100th/442nd Veterans Association. Japanese Americans today enjoy a high standing in the community largely due to the sacrifices and accomplishments of the 100th and 442nd vets, he said.

The story of the 442nd isn't simply a war story, reminded Yamate. It's about a group of JAs who volunteered to fight for their country even while their loved ones were being held in internment camps. "That's a story that should never be forgotten," he said.

The next screenings of *'442: For the Future'* will take place in Chicago, Washington, D.C., the San Francisco Bay area, Seattle, and Hawaii. For information about the film and future screening dates call Pacific Film Currents 818/577-5345.

America's 'melting pot'

In the first half of the 19th century, several German societies concentrated their immigration to Pennsylvania, Texas, Missouri and Wisconsin with earnest hopes to colonize a significant part of the state — Maldwyn Jones, *American Immigration*. ■

'Breaking the Silence' troupe Minidoka, Idaho, Oregon-bound

BOISE, Idaho—A Japanese American oral history play, *Breaking the Silence: Japanese Voices in America*, written by Nikki Nojima, Louis of Seattle, dramatizing the Issei, Nisei and Sansen experience and akin to a Japanese "Roots," played Oct. 11-14 in and around Idaho, having been awarded an Idaho Humanities Council grant.

The play opened Saturday, Oct. 11, at Cactus Pete's Casino and Resort, Jackpot, Nev., followed by a mid-afternoon memorial service at the Minidoka (Idaho) campsite, where three members of the troupe were interned. Remembered were two members of the original 1985 cast, Tomo Shoji and Harry Fujita, Minidoka detainees who have since died, as well as other internees now deceased.

On Sunday, Oct. 12, an evening session in Boise with local human rights groups was planned for networking.

On Monday, Oct. 13, the players,

under auspices of the Boise Valley JACL, visited Boise high schools during the day to perform and dialogue the Japanese American experience. An evening performance followed at the Boise State University Student Union auditorium.

On Tuesday, Oct. 14, the cast performed, under auspices of the Snake River Valley JACL, in Ontario with the same format—by day before high school students and in the evening for the community at large.

Intermountain Vice Governor Ed Hirahara (208/539-2224) adds that a joint function of Boise Valley and Snake River Valley JACLs will be held at Ontario before the group returns to Seattle. "It is not too often chapter members are able to socialize with each other," he commented.

About the Seattle-born author, her father was Japan-born and held by the FBI at Santa Fe, N.M. Her mother was a Nisei; they were interned at Minidoka and relocated to Chicago in '44. A member of "Local Access," an arts-in-education consortium, Louis has written nine plays on civil rights, multicultural and women themes. Her latest, *Keoggs of the Dream*, about women of the civil rights movement, has received an NEA grant for a 1998 production. The Civil Liberties Public Education Fund is supporting *Breaking the Silence*. ■

San Joaquin Valley exhibit on AJA history postponed

FRESNO—The San Joaquin Valley Japanese American History Project exhibit which was planned for Sept. 16 has been postponed until sometime in April 1998. In the meantime, a luncheon at CSU Fresno campus on Sept. 8 was called to focus on the spring exhibit.

One component of the exhibit will be to recognize the Japanese American authors from the valley. Sansen poet and English professor at Southern Oregon Lawson Inada and novelist-farmer David Mamoto of Del Rey are, perhaps, the best known.

"We are interested in anything in print, whether biographies, cookbooks, novels, manuals, articles in the magazines, newspapers and even professional journals," Dr. Izumi Taniguchi announced. Leads should be addressed to him: 738 E. Tenaya Way, Fresno, CA 93710. ■

Dr. William S. Clark

On the campus of the Agriculture Faculty of Hokkaido University is a bust of Dr. William Smith Clark (1828-1885), founder of the Sapporo Agricultural College in 1876, where he taught for a year at the invitation of the Meiji government. His parting words to his students still lives on in Japan, "Boys, be ambitious!" In 1960, the Clark Memorial Hall was completed. —Japan: Official Guide ■

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OBITUARIES

Hawaii supreme court judge Ed Nakamura, 74

HONOLULU—Former labor lawyer and retired Hawaii supreme court justice Edward H. Nakamura, 74, was remembered for his commitment to justice and his compassion for working people. He died Sept. 11 after a heart bypass operation at the Queen's Medical Center.

Born in Honolulu, Nakamura was a 442nd combat veteran who helped the Democratic Party take control of Hawaii politics in the 1950s. He graduated from the University of Chicago Law School and became a member of Bouslog and Symonds, the only labor law firm in Honolulu during the McCarthyism days of the 1950s.

He served on the University of Hawaii board of regents from 1964 to 1971 during the turbulent campus sit-ins demonstrating against the Vietnam War.

Governor George Ariyoshi appointed him to a 10-year term on the high court bench in 1980. By

the time he retired in 1990, he had won praise for his rare combination of writing skills and good judgment, noted Honolulu lawyer Peter Esser, who specializes in handling appeals. He continued to mentor for younger lawyers even after retirement and shunned publicity except in 1991, when he resigned from the State Employees Retirement System board of trustees after he objected to the board chairman's proposal to buy a golf course in Simi Valley, Calif. The deal was scrapped.

Nakamura also opposed the confirmation of Sharon Himeno, wife of then-Attorney General Warren Price, to the Hawaii supreme court, charging cronyism. The senate rejected the nomination.

"He's one of the few guys in Hawaii who would stand up and say the emperor had no clothes," his old friend lawyer James Bickerton told the *Advertiser*. —AB ■

Two WWII Japan vets in U.S. news pass away

TOKYO—Two Japanese WWII soldiers who caught the attention of U.S. newspapers over the years have passed away.

Shoichi Yokoi, 82, died Sept. 22 in a Nagoya hospital. After U.S. troops recaptured Guam in July 1944, he vowed never to surrender and hid in the jungles for 27 years without knowing that the war had ended. He was found by two hunters in January 1972. He returned and traveled around Japan lecturing on survival tactics.

Nobuo Fujita, 85, died Oct. 1 at

his home in Tsuchiura, northeast of Tokyo.

Aboard a small reconnaissance plane launched from an I-Class Japanese submarine that harassed West Coast shipping during the first year of the war, Fujita was the only pilot to drop a bomb on the U.S. mainland—near Brookings, Ore., in September 1942. He had expected to start a forest fire but failed because of the very wet trees. In 1962 he was invited to visit Brookings, where he was praised for his bravery. ■

WHEREABOUTS' PAYOFF
Classmates meet after 55 years

JACL members Richard Tanishita, of Port Hueneme, California, and Earl Fullingim of Anchorage, Alaska, got together on August 11 in Port Hueneme to renew a friendship that was interrupted during World War II.

They were 11th graders in San Pedro (Calif.) High School when they last saw each other on Feb. 25, 1942. That day the FBI told Tanishita and his mother to vacate their home on Terminal Island and leave the area within 48 hours. Later Tanishita and his mother were transported to Manzanar Internment Camp.

Tanishita's father, a long-time U.S. resident, had already been jailed by the FBI as an enemy alien. He was confined later in an alien internment camp near Missoula, Mont. After he became ill from harsh camp conditions and army guard brutality, he was allowed to join his wife and son at Manzanar where he died in 1944 at age 74.

Tanishita and his mother were released in 1945 to find their home destroyed, their possessions looted and trashed, and both of the family's fishing boats stolen. He continued his father's occupation as a commercial fisherman (the only skills he knew) in San Diego, Ensenada and Monterey.

He is now retired and lives with his wife in Port Hueneme.

Fullingim completed high school with their class, served in the U.S. Navy, and attended college at USC, University of Minnesota, and UC Berkeley. He later practiced architecture in Northern California, Minnesota, and Alaska. He and his family also homesteaded 160 acres in Eagle River, Alaska.

Fullingim is active concerning buildings and facilities being accessible to people with disabilities. He has served as a member of the President's Committee on Employment of People With Disabilities and as chairman of the (Alaska) Governor's Committee on Employment of People With Disabilities. He wrote the widely-used reference book, *Checklist for Accessibility*.

Now retired and a computer enthusiast, Fullingim discovered Tanishita's address and telephone through use of a computer CD program that lists all U.S. telephones. —EF ■

Here, the P.C. "Whereabouts" feature was a factor in their reunion. Items for this feature are published as a service to our readers gratis on a space available basis.



Obituaries

All the towns are in California, except as noted.

Adechi, Masakane, 84, Whittier, Sept. 8; Los Angeles-born, survived by wife Hideo, son Masao, sons' daughters Kumiko Gerber, Kazumi Suzuki, Yuki Adechi, Keiko Anne Morisaki, 8, g.c., 3 ggc., brother Masanori, brothers-in-law Kazuo, Masao Furusawa, sisters-in-law Otomi Adachi, Sadako Horita.

Arai, William Sochi, 85, Los Angeles, Sept. 22; San Francisco-born, survived by wife Helen Takao, daughter Patricia Rohlen, sisters Yone Nobe, Virginia Matsui, brother Theodore, 4, g.c., 3 ggc.

Esaki, Susuzhi Susie, 86, Chicago, Aug. 17; service; survived by daughter Lillian Fujita, son Roy, 5, g.c., 6 ggc., predeceased by husband Raihachi.

Fukuhara, Mary, 77, Seattle, Aug. 25; survived by husband George, sons Tom, Jerry, daughter Marsha Nakamura.

Fukunaga, Frank Masato, 85, Gardena, Sept. 22; National, Wash.-born, survived by wife Yoshiko, son Fred Katsumi, daughter Irene Kello, 3, g.c., brother Kenzoku, sisters Mitsuko, Matsuda, Shizuko Koda (both of Japan).

Furusahi, Kazuko, 82, Sacramento, Sept. 15; survived by husband Takachi, sons Takakazu, Norio, daughters Tazuko Sasaki, Akihiro Furusahi, Yukiko Dotson, Satsuko Fukuda, Masako Fukuda, 6, g.c., 4 ggc.

Furusu, Ben, 74, San Francisco, Sept. 15; survived by wife Irene, sons David, Michael, Randy, daughter Gale Tom, stepsons Michael, Stephen Yukama, 6, g.c.

Hanekawa, Yae, 83, Sacramento, Sept. 12; survived by son Ed Shigeo, Bill Motoo, daughter Teruko Sumita, 8, g.c., 13 ggc.

Hashimoto, Natsuko, 92, Marysville, Sept. 15; Hiroshima-born, survived by sons Yonimi, Lew Matsumoto, 3, g.c., sisters Natsuko Akiyoshi, Miyoko Takata, Sumika-Nakamori (all of Japan), brother Hiroko Torubara (Japan).

Hayashi, Ana, 76, Spokane, Wash., Sept. 14; survived by sisters Nino Hayashi, Mara Mihara (both of Spokane), **Hayashi, Kenry Tadao**, 41, San Pedro, Aug. 24; Gardena-born, survived by parents Yoshio and Yoshiko Hayashi, brother Brian Masaru (Conn.), sister Brenda Keiko Ota (Japan), grandmother Tsuchie Wada.

Hokyo, Yase Yoshio, 82, Los Angeles, Sept. 19; Honolulu-born, survived by sons Omer, David, daughter Joanne, sisters Myrtle Shizuru, Edith Ushijima (both of Honolulu).

Imai, Joyce Sachio, Seattle, Aug. 19; service; Utah-born, survived by husband George, son Stan, 2, g.c., sister Margie Fuka, Ruth Minami, brothers-in-law Joe Iwasaki, Yoshio Imai (Japan), sisters-in-law Frances Yamura, Kiyomi Kawamoto.

Iriyama, Noboru, 84, Santa Monica, Sept. 23; Orcutt-born, survived by wife Toshiko, sons Dr. Ronald (India), Don, 2, g.c., brother Akira, sisters Nobue Akira (Japan), Fumiyu Minami, brother-in-law Isamu Minami.

Ishii, Tomoyoshi, 78, San Francisco, Sept. 15; survived by brother Motomu, Kajita, Kinichi (both of 78, Seattle, Aug. 5; survived by wife Aiko, daughter Kathy Kajita (Bremerton), sons Kirk (Seattle), Richard, Kenneth (both of Kent), stepson George Chen (Seattle), 10, g.c., 1 ggc., sisters and brothers.

Kagawa, Elder K., 78, Gardena, Sept. 17; Fountain Valley-born former U.S. Army paratrooper, 1950-Orange County JACL pres., survived by son Dennis, daughter Judy Hommen.

Katagiri, Taro (Kats), 74, Fresno, Sept. 15; Caruthers-born, 1945 U.S. Army Colonel, served WWII, Korea, Vietnam, survived by wife Kiyoko, daughter

Suzi Anwar (Berkeley), brothers Kowji (Newark), John Sato (Fresno).

Kikuchi, Teruko, 80, Los Angeles, Sept. 21; Sacramento-born, survived by son Bob Teruo, 8, g.c., 9 ggc., son-in-law Yoshikazu Hayashi, brother Manabu Enselki (Japan).

Kondo, Oscar Junichiro, 73, Idaho, Sept. 11; Seattle-born, former resident of Vale, Ore., survived by wife Lois, daughters Dr. Shawna Inoue (San Bruno), Tina Broski (Mammoth Lakes), Darlene Kondo (Boulder, Colo.), brothers Dr. Roy Kondo, Henry, sister Helen Okai, Kuzutake, Shizuo, 98, Fullerton, Sept. 10; Osaka-born, survived by daughters Amy Ariza, Nancy Harada, 4, g.c., 6 ggc., 9 ggc.

Kunihara, Susie S., 69, Seattle, Aug. 7; survived by husband George, sons Kevin (Seattle), Kelly (both of Kent, Wash.), 3, g.c., sisters Nobu Shimizu, Kiyono Kurashiki (Seattle), Kazuo Mori-matsu (Honolulu), sisters-in-law Shizuko Yoshimoto (Fowler), Kiku Watanabe (Hawaii Heights), Kiku Kuwahara (West Covina).

Maeda, Charles Masato, 63, Lawndale, Sept. 10; Hawaii-born, survived by wife Hideo, son Dennis, daughter Amy, 2, g.c., brother James, brothers-in-law Mitsuo, Tami, Tetsuo, Inakata, (Mukilteo, Wash.), Tami Teleguchi, Agnes Fukumoto, Janet Uemura.

Martin, Jayni (Omoto), 41, Spokane, Wash., Sept. 8; survived by husband Russ, daughters Alexandra, Andrea, sisters Karen, Tereasa (Mukilteo, Wash.), Margene Omoto (Issaquah, Wash.), brother Rich (Spokane).

Matsuda, Linda Miki, Los Angeles, survived by parents John Masao and Mikiko (both of Japan), brother Michael Tadashi, sister Judy Megumi Lew, grandmother Rise Fujikawa.

Matsumoto, Dorothy Shizuko, 73, Sacramento, Sept. 20; survived by husband Larry, sons Russell, Randall, 2, g.c., brother Harold Makishima, sisters-in-law Elsie Matsumoto, Nancy Urakawa, brothers-in-law Lester and Tom Matsumoto.

Matsumoto, Natsuko, 92, Marysville, Sept. 19; Aki, Hiroshima-born, survived by sons Yonimi, Lew, 3, g.c., sisters Natsuko Akiyoshi, Miyoko Takata, Sumika-Nakamori, brother Hiroko Torubara (all of Japan).

Morita, Masano, 97, San Jose, Sept. 5; Chicago resident, survived by daughters Doris Kaneko, Furusawa Terada, Ruth Hidaka, Flor Hidaka, Beth Shibayama, Diana Cole, sons Paul, Claude, Mototsugu Jr., 22, g.c., 16 ggc.

Mugishima, Harold Haruo, 78, Las Vegas, Sept. 10; Rocky Ford, Colo.-born, WWII veteran, former resident of Monterey Park, survived by wife Pearl Ritsuko, son Harold Haruo Jr., daughters Nanette Eiko Kuroki, Emiko Nakamura (both Hacienda Heights, Calif.), 4, g.c., sisters Misha Akagi (Kansas), Evelyn Hikami (Santa Maria), Mary Furutake (New Jersey), brothers George (New Mexico), Sam, Susumu Arlington, Nobe Byron.

Nakamura, Noboru, 73, Los Angeles, Sept. 19; Brawley-born, survived by son Dr. Ken, daughter Teri, 5, g.c.

Nakano, Tomi Hiromu, 74, Bountiful, Utah, June 30; Malad, Idaho-born member of 442nd RCT Co. 1, survived by wife Jean, sons Cliff (Newport Beach), Stan (Bountiful), Craig (Issaquah, Wash.), sisters Midori Hamada, Chris Clark, Teri Otani (all of Salt Lake City), 6, g.c.

Narimatsu, Miyoko, 67, Kingston, Wash., Aug. 6.

Nojima, George Shochi, 73, Torrance, Sept. 3; Yakima, Wash.-born, survived by wife Hannah, sons John, David, daughter Hironaka Villanueva, 1, g.c.

Ogi, Irving Toshiro, 78, San Jose, Sept. 21; survived by son Darrell, daughters Irene Ayoko, Valerie Eiko Ogi (San Jose), sister Edna Handa (Vacaville), predeceased by wife Gladys Yuki.

Okawa, Dorothy Hoshi, 82, Seattle, Aug. 23; Vashon Island, Wash.-born, survived by son Tony Kusumoto (Harbor City), daughter Sue Woo (Spokane), stepdaughter Mary Takai (Spokane), sisters Yui Hasei (Seattle), Margaret Sugihara (Ogden, Utah), Nora Fritts (Waukegan, Ill.), brother Sherman Hoshi (Seattle), 6, g.c., 1 ggc., predeceased by husband Archie.

Okura, Kozue, 97, Ogden, Utah, Sept. 8; Hiroshima-born, survived by daughters Hiroko Taniguchi (Ogden),

Chieko Cherry Tsubota (Mercer Island, Wash.), Toshiko Yoshida (Los Angeles), 12, g.c., 15 ggc., 5 ggc.

Peterson, Bud, 78, Patterson, Neb., Aug. 15; Long Beach-born, survived by wife Shizuo, sons and daughter.

Sakai, Tama, 85, Seattle, Aug. 15; Port Blaney, British Columbia, survived by husband Tom, daughters Sachiko Tsubota, Kathleen Sakai (Seattle), 4, g.c., 2 ggc., brother Sakae Arai and sister Hida Hamaguchi (both of Los Angeles).

Sameshima, Lillian, 73, Seattle, Aug. 6; survived by husband, sons Doug James, daughters Janice Enzmann, Lori Ito, 8, g.c., brothers Victor and Ted Fujiko (Burien, Wash.).

Shimizu, Yoneko "Pat", 81, Seabrook, Wash., Aug. 18; survived by children Sachiko Shimizu, Barbara Kinkoppe, Clara Shimizu, Keiko Furusho, Donna Honda, 3, g.c., sister Dorothy Masako Ono, brother Mas Shimizu (Chicago), predeceased by husband Toshio.

Sunata, George H., 82, Torrance, Sept. 12; Astoria, Ore.-born, survived by wife Kayleen Kazuko, daughters Teri Sunata, Debi Oshiro, Tami Sunata, 4, g.c., sisters Joanne Kashiitani, Jeanne Nakano, Frances Nakagama, Katie Shimizu.

Suzuki, Takashi, 74, Huntington Beach, Sept. 9; Montebello-born, survived by wife Kayoko, daughter Emi, brothers Naoshi, Toshiro, sister Sachiko Kawasaka.

Takawa, Ayako Rose, 85, Encinitas, Sept. 25; West Los Angeles-born, survived by son David Masao, 4, g.c., 1 ggc., brother Paul Mike (Hawaii), sisters Aiko Sugita (Las Vegas), Martha Imanari, Chieko Wakabayashi (Seattle).

Tokuhisa, Thomas Shoji, 74, Citrus Heights, Aug. 29; Los Angeles-born, WWII veteran, Colonel in the Army Reserve Corps of Engineers, survived by wife Mary Takako (nee Akiyama), sons David Allen (Kaneohe, Wis.), James Richard (Pullman, Wash.), daughter Janet Carol (Chicago), stepson Gary Ino (Daly City), sister Yui Shimizu (Citrus Heights), 4, g.c.

Tosaya, William Toshio, Los Angeles, Seattle-born, survived by wife Marie Tosaya, 3, g.c., 3 ggc., sister-in-law Mable Tosaya.

Tsutakawa, Thomas, 70, Seattle, Aug. 3; survived by wife Kiki, daughters Trisha, Laurie, 4, g.c., brothers Tsuyoshi (Japan), Edward (Spokane, Wash.).

Uchida, Fumiko, 81, Gardena, Sept. 7; Boyle Heights-born, survived by husband Kaname, sons Jimmy Katsuyuki, Hiroaki, daughter Kazuo Yoshimura, 8, g.c., brother George Sato, sisters Yoshie Sanada, Ayoko Wozumi.

Uchida, Jack M., 82, Seattle, Aug. 10; Ukai, Grace Miyoko, 95, Hayward, Sept. 12; survived by brother Charles Teshima (Oakland), sister Sister Theresa Teshima (Ala.), predeceased by husband Masayuki.

Uno, Hiroto "Jack", 81, Brighton, Colo., Sept. 11; member of Brighton JAA, and Fort Lupton JACL (83-84 pres.), survived by wife Misa-ayo, daughter Sandi Retteberg (Denver), son Gordon (Norman, Okla.), sisters Carrie Morita, Umi Terao, Tachi Morita, brothers Ken, Dick, James, Don Tuck.

Uyeda, Mary Kiyoko, 89, Seattle, Sept. 1; survived by son Yoshinobu (Japan), brother Fred Dodobara (Seattle), predeceased by husband Nobukazu.

Wada, Miyoko, 85, Lomita, Sept. 16; Winters-born former resident of Harbor City, survivors by son John (Torrance), daughter Jane Uchida (Lomita), Bobbie Tanaka (Hacienda Heights), 7, g.c., 4 ggc., brothers Koki Tsuji (Lomita), Bill Tsuji (Yuba City), sister Sue Fuchiaki (San Leandro).

Watanabe, Chiyono, 87, Mission Hills, Sept. 5; Mazu, Hawaii-born, survived by sons Kazuhiko, Kunio, Henry, daughter Yaeiko Nakamoto, 4, g.c., brother Teisaku Sato, sisters Teruko Sawai, Sadako Hashimoto, Yoshi Sato (all of Japan).

Watanabe, Haruko, Seattle; survived by children Daryl (Redmond, Wash.), Russell (Bellevue, Wash.), Byron (Seattle), Dr. Nancy Watanabe (Seattle), Beth Nakatsu (Woodville, Wash.), 9, g.c., 1 ggc., brothers Dr. Shunji, Yeiichi, and George Kozu, sister Tashiko "Tootie" Watanabe (all of Seattle), predeceased by husband Jun.

Weymura, Lester T., 84, Seattle, Aug. 16; Alviso-born, survived by sons Allan, Ronald, step-daughters Sandra Souza, stepson Gary Kra, 10, g.c., siblings Louisa Weymura (Torrance), Carol Asao (Lake Forest), Amy Kasuyama (Gardena), predeceased by wife Tomi. ■

Whereabouts
Items listed without charge
on a space available basis.

HIROSHI TAKAYAMA
Hiroshi lived on Geary Blvd., San Francisco, and frequently dropped into Misswa Pharmacy before Misswa-san left for Japan. His sister used to give piano recitals. Please write to Harry Yamato, 301 Hill-top Ln., Wyoming, Ohio 45215.

MARK ZUNIGA YAMAMOTO
Bill Nakagawa would like to renew friendship. Last saw him, Korean War casualty, at Camp Cooke Army Hospital in 1951. Call 310/542-0550 or write to me, 17826 Osage Ave., Torrance, CA 90505. ■

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MUSICAL FINALE—Cast of nearly 100 hear the warm applause at the Bellevue, Wash., premiere staging of "The Tale of Otokichi," the saga of three Japanese castaway seamen who reached America after drifting for 14 months in 1834.

Makah Indians, Japanese recreate 1834 rescue of castaways on stage

BELLEVUE, Wash.—A connection established more than 160 years ago between the State of Washington, the Makah tribe and the town of Mihama in Japan was revived by the premiere performance of a musical drama, "The Tale of Otokichi," that kickoff event of Japan Week on Oct. 1.

Among a consortium of sponsoring groups were the Seattle JACL International Relations Committee and Lake Washington JACL, who played key roles in the months of arrangements entailed in this first grassroots exchange project between Mihama and the United States.

The genesis of this good will project was first developed in 1989, according to committee chair Ken Nakano, that's when the monument in memory of the three shipwrecked Japanese seamen, believed to be among the earliest arrivals to the Pacific Northwest in 1834, was erected at Ft. Vancouver, a cooperative project of the Hyogo Boy Scouts, Hyogo prefecture, Vancouver (Wash.) officials, and National JACL spearheaded by the Seattle JACL.

Mihama Mayor Koichi Saito, who had visited the monument site of his ancestral townsmen, broached the possibility of the play dramatizing the story of the seamen being staged in Seattle.

Subsequent negotiations over the

years resulted in the first staging of the play on Oct. 1, produced by the Theater Weekend Troupe of Nagoya and its cast of over 40 in two performances at the local Meydenbauer Center before full houses.

The drama depicts the story of the ship *Hyojun Maru* with its shipload of rice and pottery departing from Mihama in 1832, encountering a storm and becoming adrift for 14 months. When the ship finally lands on the shores of Washington state near Cape Flattery, there are only three survivors: Iwakichi, Kyukichi and Otokichi. Local Indians of the Makah tribe rescue the three and hold them captive until an official of the Hudson Bay Company bring them to Ft. Vancouver. The three seamen are then sent to London with intentions of encour-

aging trade with Japan, but the British officials decide to return the three men to Japan via Macao.

The dramatization portrays the tragic attempt of the three to return to Japan from Macao, only to have their ship repulsed by cannon fire by Japan since by law they could not permit foreign ships, except the Dutch and Chinese, to land.

It was at Ft. Vancouver that young Ronald MacDonald became acquainted with the Japanese sailors and learned some Japanese language from them. Thus began his fascination with Japan and its culture. MacDonald later found his way to Japan and taught English to the Japanese while he was detained in Nagasaki. One of his pupils was Einosuke Moriyama, who later became the interpreter when Commodore Perry arrived in Japan.

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto sent a congratulatory message: "Given the importance of the Japan-United States relationship, I consider it truly significant to be building upon a connection established more than 160 years ago between the town of Mihama and Washington state, conducting this exchange at the grassroots level and to make sure that the exchange endures for years to come."

In recognition of Nagano's continuous quest for international goodwill between the two countries, the town of Mihama presented him with a plaque of appreciation.

Those on the steering committee included:

Seattle JACL—May Namba, Aki Kurose, Ayako Hurd, Mas & Toshi Fukuhara, Jean Joichi; Lake Washington JACL—James Arima, Hugh Burlison, Don Maekawa. ■

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Total This Report: \$1,005 (04/12/97 - 10/10/97)
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