

The Bottom Line



Helen Kawagoe

JACL National President

Happy New Year to All!

Revenues are healthy! Membership is up and growing!

Three cheers for JACL! These past 17 months have been incredible times for JACL, and for me — a time that I will always remember.

It is said that a person is lucky to be at the right place at the right time. Friends, I believe that happened for me, the national board and staff. I am proud to say that JACL is alive, well and kicking!

Your national officers, board and staff headed by National Director Herb Yamashita, are generous with their time, energy and oftentimes with their personal finances. They want JACL to succeed and by their actions have displayed a genuine commitment to work as a team with one agenda, an agenda to serve JACL. Most important, we are able to accomplish this because of the encouragement and support that our members and friends continue to provide. Thank you all and please keep it coming!

During this biennium, CCDC Governor Travis Nishi and most recently, PNWDC Governor Terence Yamada completed their terms of office. They both departed with positive comments about JACL and service on the National Board. Thank you, Travis and Terry!

Newsletters

I receive newsletters from Fresno, Arizona, Las Vegas, South Bay, Ventura County, Sacramento, Florin, Selanoco, Watsonville, San Jose, Cincinnati, Lake Washington, Gardena Valley, Detroit, Pacific Southwest District and Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District.

Additionally, Joe Allman of Arizona JACL thoughtfully sends me the Asian JCLNews. I am always interested to read about each chapter/district's success stories with their fundraisers and cultural activities.

If you need ideas, call these chapters/districts. They know how to do it! I am sure that other chapters are equally successful but I don't know about them.

Membership Drives

Congratulations to Santa Maria Valley Chapter's reactivation efforts under the able leadership of President Kaz Oye. With an aggressive recruitment program, Santa Maria has successfully almost doubled their membership by increasing it from 53 to 97 members in a very short time. They believe that they can interest and recruit more members.

Intermountain District has worked hard as well.

If all chapters could engage this level of positive spirit, JACL will benefit with increased revenues to fund programs and perhaps have the Pacific Citizen back on a weekly schedule. Without dollars, JACL can only minimally serve the needs of its members and our communities. It is no different than our own personal budgets.

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Census Bureau offers Asian American profile

WASHINGTON—Asian Americans living in the United States tend to be younger and better educated than other Americans, the latest profile of 9,653,000 Asians and Pacific Islanders released by the Census Bureau Dec. 9 indicated.

The numbers are based on the March 1996 Current Population Survey, which represents about 3.7 percent of the population. Findings include:

- Asians are concentrated in the

West, with 55 percent compared with 22 percent of the total population.

- Ninety-four percent of Asian Americans live in metropolitan areas, compared with 80 percent of the total population.

- The median age of Asian and Pacific Islanders is 29.8 years, compared with the nation's 33.6 years. ("Median" means half of the people are older and half younger than that age.)

- Just 3.8 percent of Asians are di-

voiced, compared with 8.9 percent of all Americans 15 and over. More Asians have never married — 34.8 percent compared with 27.5 percent. About the same share are currently married and living with their spouses — 53.5 percent for Asians and 53.4 percent overall.

- For people age 25 and over, 41.7 percent of Asians have a college degree compared with 23.6 percent of the general population.

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COMMENTARY

What we have learned from 1997

BY BOB SAKANITWA

Washington JACL Representative

WHAT kind of year will 1998 be for the Asian Pacific American (APA) community? Needless to say, anyone following political events last year knows that the community received more than its share of media coverage, mostly in the form of negative coverage linked to the campaign finance scandal.

Last year should have gotten off to a celebration for the community for getting unprecedented numbers of APAs out to the voting booths, which was a due in a large part to the grassroots efforts of the National Asian Pacific American Voter Registration Campaign. This project, in which the JACL took part, involved 19 other APA organizations and was coordinated by the Organization of Chinese Americans. An entertaining and energizing public service announcement (PSA) video was created called "Voice Your Vote" and brought together today's premier actors who have roots in the APA community. It was shown widely before the elections and helped to get the APA vote out.

Although APAs make up roughly 4 percent of the U.S. population, over 60 congressional districts, the APA population makes up approximately 5 percent of the electorate. Increasingly, congressional elections are decided by just a few percentage points — making the APA vote one that candidates cannot afford to overlook.

In an effort to celebrate the com-

munity's efforts to turn out the vote, the first-ever APA inaugural ball was held in January. Unfortunately, the excitement of having gotten the vote out was quickly muted when we learned about the Democratic National Committee's (DNC) so-called audit of campaign contributions.

To the community, the DNC's audit was simply a thinly veiled and heavy handed attempt to weed out "good" APA money from "bad" Asian money. Not even donors who had been law-abiding political participants with a history of involvement were safe from this inquisition. Imagine how it must have felt to those persons who, while having contributed legally in the past, were now being asked for their tax records and motivations.

It gives me some hint of what it must have been like for a person of Japanese ancestry to be questioned about her loyalty to this country during World War II.

The DNC implemented several quick-fix solutions to the growing campaign finance scandal: Don't accept soft money contributions, (donations of money that go to the national party instead of a specific candidate) of more than \$100,000, and don't accept money from legal permanent residents (LPR), a practice that is legal under current law. As I understand it, the DNC has recently lifted the ban on soft money in excess of \$100,000; however, the more troubling ban (to the community, anyway) on LPRs being able to contribute is still in effect.

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TRYING TIMES FACE BILL LANN LEE

New Year ushers APA hope for 'acting' assistant attorney general for civil rights

ALTHOUGH Bill Lann Lee got an early Christmas present when President Clinton named him acting assistant attorney general for civil rights on Dec. 15, the gift he and the Asian American community are still waiting for is the deletion of the word "act-

ing" from his title.

At a press conference announcing the appointment, Clinton indicated that he will resubmit Lee's nomination for full Senate confirmation this year. As acting assistant attorney general, Lee can technically remain on the job for

the duration of Clinton's term without Senate confirmation. But in an "acting" position, concerns have been raised that Lee is vulnerable to Republican attacks and lacks the full authority of his office. If confirmed, he will have the full powers of his office and can hold the position even after Clinton completes his presidency.

In addition to being named acting assistant attorney general for civil rights, Lee was named counselor to the Attorney General for civil rights. The "counselor" designation will allow him to remain in the Justice Department even if his nomination as assistant attorney general for civil rights is not confirmed.

For several months, Lee's nomination was stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee while Republicans raised concerns about the nominee's position in support of affirmative action programs; a stance, that coincides with Clinton's. The nomination never moved to the full

APAs organize national voice on public policy

SAN FRANCISCO—During the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Conference here in mid-November, over 20 Asian Pacific American (APA) groups gathered to form of the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans to provide a "national voice" for the APA community. Many of the founding organizations have long felt that APAs need a strong and better coordinated voice and presence on the national scene, and that without such a voice, APA concerns are not always taken into account in the public policy arena.

Elected to the interim Executive Council were:

Asian American Institute, APA Labor Alliance, AFI-CIO, APA Women's Leadership Institute, Chinese American United for Self Empowerment, Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Institute, India Abroad Center for Political Awareness, Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), Korean American Coalition, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP), National APA Bar Association, National APA Legal Consortium, National Federation of Filipino American Associations, National Korean American Service and Education Consortium, Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) and the Vietnamese Community of Orange County.

NCAPA chair Daphne Kwok of OCA commented: "The Asian Pacific American community has taken a tremendous leap toward empowering our community by coming together. We are tired of being the scapegoat for the country's immigration, welfare and campaign finance issues."

NCAPA vice chair J.D. Hokoyama of LEAP said: "We will build an infrastructure that will disseminate critical information and enable the APA community to rapidly respond to issues of concern. Now we will be able to firmly speak with one voice."

NCAPA secretary Matthew Finucane, executive director of the APA Labor Alliance, remarked: "The first resolution that NCAPA passed was a strong statement in support for the nomination of Bill Lann Lee to become the next Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. We have a united voice to speak for Bill Lee and we will do everything we can to obtain Senate confirmation for Bill Lee."

NCAPA treasurer Bob Sakanitwa, Washington JACL representative, stated: "Former congressman Norman Mineta played a key role in bringing together the APA community into this new organization. He galvanized organizations across the country serving our different populations to work together on improving our livelihoods in this country. The APA community is breaking out of its political slumber in an organized and unified manner."

Selanoco installation rescheduled Jan. 17

ANAHEIM—Due to a conflict in Rep. Loretta Sanchez's schedule, the Selanoco JACL luncheon has been advanced one week to Saturday, Jan. 17, 11:30 a.m., at the Anaheim Marriott, 700 W. Convention Way, off Harbor Blvd. and the first street south Katella Ave.

Tickets, prepaid or at the door, \$25 adults, \$15 student/young. Social hour precedes from 10:30. RSVP with Karen-Liane Shiba, 714/220-1549. ■



PICTURE OF THE YEAR—Instead of the powdered-donut-eating race, we used the yellow koko. Here, two five-year-olds taste koko instead of what they thought was a yellow lemon drop. See WATSONVILLE/page 10

See TRYING/page 4



Looking over 1997 — JACL's Finances

SINCE the 1998 Biennial Convention comes a month earlier, it is impressed upon me to begin looking both forward and backward at what has been accomplished in the past year and what needs to be done in the forthcoming months.

One of the principal efforts in the past year has been to restore and to build JACL "infrastructure." Generally speaking, "infrastructure" is the underlying framework or system(s) that keep the organization operating. It may not be readily apparent that it exists. But without it, the organization does not operate well. If the infrastructure is old and has not been maintained, it can lead to eventual collapse of the organization.

Fundamental to the JACL's structure is its system of accounting and financial management. To upgrade the system, new auditors were chosen to study JACL's system of fiscal controls; new accounting software was purchased; all investment committees were dissolved and one new committee was created to oversee all JACL investments; and an investment policy was adopted for the first time in the history of the organization.

The audit took over sixteen months to complete, in part because it covers 1995 and 1996 rather than the usual one year. In general terms, the audit shows that JACL is back to reasonable fiscal control. Probably the most significant result, and the most time consuming part of the audit process, has been the restatement of JACL's investments as either permanently restricted, temporarily restricted, or unrestricted.

The restatement of endowments as permanently restricted, such as the scholarship funds, the Masako Fellowship, and the Legacy Endowment Fund, means that the purpose and use of those endowments can never be changed.

Even in a time of financial crisis, neither the National Board of Directors, nor the National Council can use the funds to bail out the organization.

On the other hand, the smaller National Endowment and the Life Membership Funds are considered unrestricted. Their uses are governed by either the National Council or the National Board of Directors. This determination should put to rest any question which investment fund can or cannot be used to underwrite a financial crisis.

THE NEW accounting/membership software was introduced early in 1997 but its implementation has taken more time than anticipated.

The software will combine both membership and financial accounting functions into one operation. It should make the tracking of information easier for both membership and accounting. In turn, membership accounting errors should be reduced and eventually contribute to better service to Chapters.

While the new accounting/membership software will save time, it also opens up new possibilities. For the past several months, JACL Headquarters staff, led by Clyde Izumi, have been developing a new program budgeting plan using the new software.

The most visible result will be the format for the budget and financial reports. No longer will there be a list of line items such as personnel, supplies, travel, etc. Instead, one will see the programs of the JACL such as the NISEI project, Legacy Grants, Redress, Advocacy, Scholarships, Curriculum and Resource Guide, etc. Each program will have its own set of line items.

The budgeting process should also help the resolutions process at Convention time. Now it will be more apparent where the responsibilities rest with regard to a given activity. In any case, fiscal impacts will also have to be determined.

ON THE investment side, the Investment Committee has gotten off the ground under the leadership of Arnold Miyamoto, a consultant and manager for institutional investors with the Bank of America. He personally developed the JACL Investment Policy. Now the Committee is in the process of slowly reorganizing the investment process and allocation of the investments.

The market value of JACL's investment portfolios has risen dramatically over the past two years. This comes largely as a consequence of an improving American economy. While some may argue that the investments could have done better, especially when comparing to such indices as Standard and Poors, one should be mindful that JACL is a nonprofit organization. When comparing investment results with the nonprofit sector and not the private sector, JACL's investments appear to have performed better than the typical nonprofit service organization, hospital, college, or foundation.

While the fiscal infrastructure is being updated, it is still far from being complete. The 1998 budget needs to be updated and reorganized and presented to the National Council along with the 1999/2000 budget. The new accounting system needs to be put into operation and tested. The fiscal operational procedures for the

management of the fiscal budget need to be rewritten.

The Investment Committee will be making further consolidations of investment portfolios, making fund allocation decisions, and contracting for the management of the investments.

An unanticipated result of the audit has been that capital gains, either realized or unrealized, must now be stated in the financial reports as revenue. Prior to 1995, capital gains were minimal and they were automatically used to purchase more stocks. The issue of capital gains had very little meaning. (Note — JACL as a charitable organization does not pay capital gains taxes.) At the same time accounting rules changed, JACL experienced a very rapid rise in the market value of some of its investment portfolios. This gives the appearance, on paper, that JACL has substantially more money than it may have.

FOR THE investment Committee, and the Board of Directors, the dilemma is to decide whether or not to "cash out" those gains and take them as real income. The drawback is that the stock market could suddenly drop. (Think about how safe everyone thought investing in Asian businesses was one year ago.) A substantial drop in the stock market could put the future of the JACL at risk.

The other option is to move some or all of the stock investments to safer and more liquid investments such as bonds and certificates of deposit. Ultimately, the decision will rest with the National Council level in Philadelphia.

Next time, a review of the JACL programs. ■

San Mateo calls for scholarship applicants

SAN MATEO—Tomodachi Senior Women's Group and San Mateo JACL scholarship program for 1998 will feature two \$1,000 and four \$500 awards to deserving high school graduates from the San Mateo County area who plan to continue their studies in the fall at any institution of higher learning, trade or business school.

The program is open to National JACL members and their families. Entering freshman applications and supporting papers must be postmarked no later than March 1, 1998, and submitted to the San Mateo JACL, 416 St. Claremont St., San Mateo, CA 94401, 650/343-2793.

After local award recipients are selected, the top three will be nominated for further judging in the National JACL scholarship program comprised of some 40 awards totaling over \$40,000, noted scholarship committee members Roz Enomoto and Kitty Hongo. ■

Cleveland JACLer receives 33rd Degree

TOLEDO, Ohio—Joe G. Kado-waki, longtime Cleveland JACLer, was conferred the 33rd Degree, the highest honor of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, last Sept. 23 at Grand Rapids (Mich.) Grand Center Convention Complex for "out-standing service or for significant contributions to humanity, reflecting credit upon their Fraternity." The degree conferral climaxed the annual meeting of the Supreme Council of Scottish Rite for the 15 northeastern and midwestern states.—Hazel Asamoto ■

Gateway Arch

A tall metal arch on the west side of the Mississippi River at St. Louis, MO, symbolizing the city's reputation as the "Gateway to the West." It was designed by Eero Saarinen and rises to 630 feet above the ground. ■

COMMENTARY

What we have learned from 1997

(Continued from page 1)

The ban on LPRs is troubling for several reasons. LPRs are taxpaying members of this society who have reason to be concerned about the way in which the government is run. They have a constitutional right based in the First Amendment to freely express their political views, and the Supreme Court has recognized campaign contributions as a form of speech.

Aside from these policy and constitutional arguments though, we should ask what the practical reasons were for the DNC to implement such a ban.

I think they were extremely concerned and embarrassed by foreign contributions, which we all agree are illegal. But what the DNC did was to scapegoat legal permanent residents, legal immigrants, people who hold green cards, for the DNC's failure to make sure the sources of money they were gladly accepting were not coming from overseas.

Let me restate, legal permanent residents can legally contribute under current law.

The DNC's policy is bad enough, but if a ban on an LPR's ability to contribute is made into law there would be negative consequences for APAs as well.

Unfortunately, we would be the ones who would be asked to prove our citizenship when such a law is being enforced.

There had been enough negative incidents and actions to spin out of the campaign finance scandal and the ensuing investigations that members of the APA community decided to bring this matter to the attention of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Fourteen APA organizations, along with four indi-

viduals, signed on to the petition asking the commission to look into the pattern of bias and the impact of such bias on the community.

The commission agreed to listen to the petitioners, and a briefing was held on Dec. 5, 1997. It was a good opportunity for APA community members to educate the commission about the cumulative effects of such things as racial mimicking, negative racial stereotypes and guilt by association, and the type of impact they were having and continue to have on the community. The commission will now hopefully be better prepared to monitor, understand and address concerns of the APA community as they arise. ■

THERE are crucial civil rights issues that will come up in 1998. Affirmative action, hate crimes legislation and the race relations initiative are some of the battles that will be fought, as well as the struggle to get Japanese Latin Americans and railroad/mining workers recognized under the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. What all this means is, that as a community we must stay politically involved.

We saw a glimpse of what can happen when the community comes together for a struggle such as Bill Lann Lee's nomination to head the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department. That battle will also continue as we work to get the word "acting" out of Bill Lee's title.

The APA community cannot afford to let the disappointments of 1997 keep it from continuing the fight to have a full and equal voice at the table. ■

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Sansei corporate leader to keynote Seattle JACL installation Jan. 31

SEATTLE—A top Sansei banking executive, Phyllis Campbell, president of U.S. Bank of Washington, will be the keynote speaker at Seattle JACL's 76th annual installation dinner on Jan. 31 at the Seattle Sheraton Towers, it was announced by Jeff Hattori, '97 chapter president.

Born and raised in Spokane, Campbell ascended the corporate ladder starting as a management trainee at the Old National Bank in Spokane, then moved from managing one of the bank's branches to becoming a senior vice president in charge of all Spokane branches.

After U.S. Bank acquired Old National Bank, Campbell was promoted to senior vice president and area manager for Eastern Washington. In 1989 she was promoted to executive vice president and manager of the retail branch system for the entire state. She was elected to her current position in 1993, pro-

viding leadership during a period of tremendous growth in the bank's operations.

Campbell, graduate of Washington State University, earned an MBA from the University of Washington and completed graduate work at the UW's Pacific Coast Banking School and Stanford University's 1997 executive management program.

A champion of family-friendly workplaces, children's issues and education, Campbell will lead the 1998 United Way Fund Drive in the greater Seattle area. She also serves on many philanthropic and corporate boards including SAFE-CO, Puget Sound Energy, the Seattle Foundation and the Pacific Science Center.

Her speech, "Common Bonds, Uniting Communities," promises to be a lively highlight of the Seattle chapter's annual event, said Hattori. ■



From the Frying Pan

By Bill Hosokawa

Greater 'lives' for retired Nisei unfolded

FOR a number of months, or maybe it's years, the New York chapter of JACL has been videotaping interviews with many of its more veteran members. I use "veteran" to avoid "older," a word perceived as unkind by some.

Many have fascinating stories to tell about how they left the camps and went to New York to seek fortunes which, sadly, eluded most of them. Making their way in Gotham-on-the-Hudson was not easy. But they persevered and New York, with its astonishing combination of grime, glamor and opportunity, is still home.

Recently at a meeting of the New York chapter I was able to see an edited version of the videotapes. They make up a priceless collection of individual stories, something for viewing in the future to see what life was like for Japanese Americans in the war and postwar years.

One of those interviewed was Dr. Harry Abe who, after war service, had to struggle to find a medical school that would accept him. But characteristically, he persevered, and became a prominent physician. He is the last to appear on the videotape that I saw and he brings a loud roar of laughter from the au-

dience when he winds up the presentation by declaring with a broad grin that the Nisei are "blah."

Of course we all know that they aren't, but I got to thinking about a handful of Nisei I happen to know whose life experiences were anything but blah. Without further research, and just off the top of my graying head, let me tell you about four of them.

John Nishimura, a Coloradoan formerly of the U.S. Forest Service: After retirement he went to Saudi Arabia to help the government to develop a program for conserving the little rain that falls on its forests. Until I talked to Nishimura I had thought Saudi Arabia was nothing but sandy desert dotted with oil derricks, but he says there are indeed forests and they need all the water they can get.

Ben Miyahara and his wife Flo, both retired Denver physicians. Several years ago they went on a volunteer mission to bring modern medicine to a rural area in the Philippines. More recently they went on a similar mission to Mozambique in Africa to treat patients without access to medical help.

Bob Horiuchi and his wife Chiye: After retiring from Colorado state service Bob went to Kabul, Afghanistan, to set up an accounting and tax-collecting system for the gov-

ernment. That wasn't enough. The Thiaguich took a similar assignment for a group of nations in Central Africa.

Joshua Tsujimoto, a Christian missionary whose leadership and ingenuity has transformed the lives of farmers in an impoverished area of Bangladesh: He taught them how to grow, in often flooded sandy soil, crops which mature at a time when vegetables are scarce throughout the country, thus ensuring a reliable income for the villagers. He has also helped to organize schools in his area, and is planning to set up an industry making book bags for export.

All those named above are Japanese Americans who, after retirement, took their know-how to help other parts of the world. Certainly their lives were not blah and Dr. Abe would agree.

No doubt there are many other Nisei like them who are helping to improve the lot of people in less favored parts of the world. If you know of any who deserve recognition, please write to me about them for possible mention in a future column.

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



East Wind

AALDEF

By Bill Marutani

cific ways.

WELL, DENNY'S BACK in court again. According to a report appearing in the latest issue of *Outlook*, some Asian American students were beset upon by a group of white patrons in Denny's parking lot in Syracuse, N.Y. It is reported that when the Asian American students complained about not being served, they were told to leave the restaurant. Denny's security guards were reported to have stood idly by as the Asian American students were being assaulted to cries of "chink." Two were rendered unconscious. Some African American students intervened, finally stopping the attack. In August 1997, AALDEF filed a lawsuit against Denny's and the County of Onondaga. Three African American students, who complained about the security guards' inaction and who also had been denied Denny's service, joined in the lawsuit. Police who arrived to the scene refused to file a complaint because of statements provided by the security guards.

And what about the D.A.? The county district attorney, William Fitzpatrick, had closed the matter and announced that no arrests would be made. He dismissed the Asian American claims of racial discrimination as "orchestrated nonsense."

AALDEF'S VIGIL has focused upon restaurant operations right in its own backyard, including Chinese restaurants. A suit filed in January 1997 against N.Y. Chinatown's largest restaurant, Jing Fong, was settled when the restaurant agreed to pay \$1,145,000 in back wages, overtime and tips to 58 workers. The lawsuit had contended that management had illegally appropriated the waiters' tips and violated minimum wage and overtime laws. There have been other legal proceedings brought by AALDEF against other businesses in Chinatown. By now the merchants are no longer surprised by proceedings initiated and sustained by an Asian American law group, but I suspect that when the first lawsuit was filed against a Chinese business operation, a shock wave reverberated throughout the ethnic community.

IN THE FORMATION of AALDEF, I was involved, traveling to New York. Margaret Fung, Esq., the Executive Director, was among those early organizers. She and the staff are doing an effective job. Volunteers welcome. AALDEF: 99 Hudson St., New York, NY 10013-2869. 212/966-5932.

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

Keith Fudenna, 48, named Fremont-Union City judge

SACRAMENTO—Gov. Pete Wilson appointed Keith Harry Fudenna, 48, as municipal court judge for the Fremont-Union City district on Dec. 17. Fudenna had been commissioner in the same court since 1990. A UC Berkeley graduate in engineering in 1971 with a law degree from Hastings College in 1974, he was in private practice during the 1980s, was with the Alameda County district attorney's office upon graduation and was assistant city attorney for Fremont in 1975.

Palm Springs

Until the 1930s when the desert city in Riverside County, Calif., became a community of wealthy clientele in the winter, it was known as Palmetto Spring. Big Palm Spring and Agua Caliente.

TRYING TIMES FACE BILL LANN LEE

New Year ushers APA hope for 'acting' assistant attorney general for civil rights

(Continued from page 1)

Senate for confirmation.

As acting assistant attorney general for civil rights, Lee becomes one of the highest ranking Asians in the Clinton administration. Lee, 48, the son of Chinese immigrants, is a graduate of Yale University and Columbia University Law School. A Los Angeles area attorney, he most recently served as the western regional counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

"The appointment is an important signal to the Asian Pacific American community," National JACL President Helen Kawagoe said. "It gives some assurance that APAs are going to be supported and appreciated when they seek to serve in a high profile public office."

She added, "It is tough enough that public service, whether by election or appointment, is too often looked upon as something distasteful." Kawagoe was herself one of the first Japanese American

women in the nation to be elected into local office and has served as Carson, Calif.'s city clerk since 1974.

National JACL Director Herbert Yamanishi said, "A significant lesson learned from the World War II incarceration experience was that empowerment means involvement in the political process. The recent demand for about APA campaign contributions has already had its chilling effect on the participation of APAs in the political process," he said.

"The President's effort to support Bill Lann Lee and Bill Lann Lee's ability to withstand the microscope of public scrutiny should fortify APAs' belief that empowerment through the political process can be worthwhile," said Yamanishi. "We are hopeful that Bill Lee's appointment is a first step towards the recognition that APAs can be significant contributors to governance in America."

Okura Mental Health preps for 1998 program

WASHINGTON—Established in October 1988, when the namesake of the Okura Mental Health Foundation, K. Patsum Okura, celebrated his 77th birthday that year, all the gifts that were tendered, and the \$40,000 received from the U.S. Government by his wife Lily and himself for redress as the financial base for the tax-exempt nonprofit foundation.

Sometime this month, Bertram S. Brown, MD, chairman of the Foundation board of directors, will announce the details for its 1998

program, which includes a "Week in Washington" seminar, now scheduled for April 19-25, and a six-month fellowship assisting the White House Office of Public Liaison, headed by Doris Matsui. The fellowship recipient is offered a \$7,500 stipend.

Thus far, the foundation has provided 60 promising Asian American leaders in the field of human services with experiences and know-how needed to be a leader in their respective field, in their community and in their country, Dr. Brown explained.



Voice of a Sansei

BY AKEMI KAYLENG

My Nisei draft board

LET the truth be known. I was

drafted into this. The first awareness I had that others see me as a leader was when I was asked, "Why did you seek your Chapter's Presidency?" I had no answer. After a few moments I simply told the truth: I was drafted into this. More than drafted, I accepted the position with reservations and actually fought it for about a month. You see, I pulled an absolute zero regarding past organizations and people experience. I didn't see myself as a leader.

So imagine my surprise when, following my acceptance speech at last year's Installation, I got comments and letters from people saying, "You have a plan." What plan? That was just me shooting off on how I felt about things.

Then I started writing this column. I was drafted into this one, too. I sent the *Pacific Citizen* a few pieces for the big Holiday issue, but I never applied for a job as a columnist. Harry Honda drafted me. And again, I was surprised, because I have an absolute zero in formal credentials or previous experience as a writer.

So I continued to write, voicing my opinions on everything. Just like with that Installation speech, I was not subscribing to any theory of society or leadership style. I was just shooting off.

Then I started getting some interesting reactions. "I don't understand what she's talking about..." People were provoked, fascinated, impressed, upset... I'll let you imagine how they let me know how they felt.

So, what does this all come down to?

My thought patterns are not like those of many of you. Having grown up JA, I see that influence on me. However, being a postwar product of a new era, I'm not quite classic Japantown, either.

We are a community on a Japantown raft which now spans that ocean of America. Our raft is rapidly becoming fragmented. We must regenerate our community vessel to accommodate the larger persons we have become. I'm different from many of you in that I'm already running with the currents out there. I can teach you how I think our new vessel can be constructed, to reflect these new times we are living in.

It still feels strange to think of myself as a leader. Having a typical postwar mainstream mentality, I don't think of myself in terms of a group. I didn't become involved with JACL because of community concerns. I was going through a 40ish WASP male style midlife crisis, on top of the world and realizing my goals hadn't been quite the right ones. I got into JACL with some unfocused plan for working through that funk.

But from the reactions I've been getting, I am part of a group, and I've been drafted once again into a leadership position. So, from now on, I'll try to think more concretely about what our plan and destination is. I'm still trying to figure out the theory behind that message so many people seem to think I have. I will do my best to lead you well.

During World War II, we were drafted to fight a well defined enemy. We didn't like our adversaries, but we knew who they were: We fought well.

Today we are fighting our own uncertainties as to who we are and where we are going. You have drafted me to lead you in that battle. I hope to serve you as well as the Nisei served our country.

Akemi Kayleng Knight is president of the San Fernando Valley, JACL. Her columns are copyrighted.

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Census Bureau offers Asian American profile

(Continued from page 1)

Whites were least likely to move. The rate had dropped steadily since 1980 when the rate was 20 percent for whites. About 16 percent of them moved from 1995 to 1996, compared with 20 percent of Asians, 20 percent of blacks, and Hispanics, the most, at 23 percent.

MEANWHILE, the Census Bureau is moving ahead with plans for three trial runs this year. An April test run in Sacramento will use the statistical estimates known as "sampling." Traditional methods of direct counting will be used in Columbia, S.C., and at the Menominee Indian Reservation in Wisconsin.

Proponents for sampling hold it

will make for a more accurate count, while opponents say the Constitution requires an actual headcount. A new House subcommittee, headed by Rep. Dan Miller (R-Fla.), is overseeing the Census and is planning hearings early this year on whether the oversight board can ensure that sampling will be impartial.

National JACL joined other Asian American organizations opposed to the ban on "sampling" program.

[The P.C. headline in the Oct. 17 issue was misleading. APA organizations oppose "ban" (not plan) against census sampling. We regret the error.—HKH]

New Year Special

The Same Car to Both Guys

By Grant Ujifusa

I want to thank you, Mitch [Maki] and Harry [Kitano], for inviting me to this UCLA redress conference, which I think might turn out to become an important event in Japanese American history. You are to be congratulated for thinking up the idea and making it a reality.

All of us in the room can be proud of our contributions to redress success. It was long shot — a rare victory of spirit over numbers — of qualitative *gaman* over the quantitative expanse of the country. The effort was thoroughly American, but it did have a Japanese accent to it, didn't it? This, I feel, binds all of us here together.

I've often wondered why so many of us worked so hard. What were the springs of action to right the wrong of a racist regime of terror? One answer might be a personal heaviness of heart, combined with a sharp, even physical, pain of grievance — for me, lodged just below where the heart was heavy. A melancholy outrage, yet one without bitterness.

And if you're not bitter, you can work our political system.

Redress happened. And for me its success proves that we are not by any means a hopelessly racist country. We carried the day among more than 218 mostly middle-aged white males in the House, more than 51 mostly white guys in the Senate, and ditto a conservative white male in the White House.

I don't think the Turks in Germany, or the Algerians in France, or the Koreans in Japan could have made something like redress happen. As Norm Mineta said on the floor of the House: Only in America.

For the rest of my time, I want to talk a little bit about three things:

(1) How I tried to frame the issue; what my sales pitch was. This part is concept, not a story.

(2) What happened on Barney Frank's House Judiciary subcommittee; how redress got out of there. This is a little story, not a concept.

(3) How we got an hour of Reagan's time, enough for him to read and react to June Masuda Goto's letter about her brother Kaz. This is again a story, not a concept.

The sales pitch

Any marketing person wants the River Jordan for his product: the river is deep and the river is wide. Such a product is the Ford Taurus, and I imagined myself as car salesman with one stripped down, dark blue sedan in the showroom and two in the back lot.

In walk Barney Frank and Ronald Reagan, and it's my job to sell the same car to both guys. What's the feature that might make both into buyers? I decided to turn the car into the Constitution: Barney likes whole car — what the government can do for people, and what it shouldn't do to people. Ron only likes what the government shouldn't do.

So you sell what the federal government *shouldn't* do, or is never supposed to do, to people — which is where Barney and Ron come together. Also, the issue framed this way might keep Reagan and conservative members of Congress from thinking that redress is really just a big government payoff to a special interest constituency of the Democratic party — ethnic Japanese Americans. A rare politician willingly delivers what he thinks is pork to people who vote for his opponents.

The message you want the sales pitch to

leave behind: very bad things often happen when the government doesn't leave people alone.

This is as wide as I could make the River Jordan. How about deep? In every society, most of what happens doesn't come out of the coercive force of the law, but out of deep, often unconscious, habit and custom. In the case of redress, I think things go way back to some judges in England. Sam Ervin said something like this in the Watergate hearings about another presidentially-sanctioned break-in. Old Sam drawled there was once a power-mad English King who wanted to dissolve

"An excellent job of explaining what is truly effective in American politics — direct action is sometimes a satisfactory emotional outlet, but rarely a useful political tool."

The insights into the process and the ability to tell stories well makes the exposition especially powerful."

—Rep. Barney Frank

Parliament, and some members appealed to the judiciary. The judges said:

THE KING NEITHER DESIRES NOR DARES. The king backed off.

Another English judge Ervin quoted once said:

THE WIND AND THE RAIN MAY FREELY ENTER A YEOMAN'S COTTAGE, BUT THE KING OF ENGLAND MAY NEVER.

The Americans' way of putting it was this: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, etc." This is the 4th Amendment, which for me began to look a whole lot like a stripped down, dark blue Taurus.

A nice car for both Barney and Ron. The only thing we're selling, guys, is the 4th Amendment in the Bill of Rights. You against that?

When you're lobbying a politician, she's asking herself two questions: what are the merits of this thing, and what are the politics?

Well, the merits in general are hard to deny if you compare what happened in 1942 to what you find in black and white in our Founding Document. Accordingly, the merits of the specific legislative case were very strongly advanced by the Commission [CWRIC], Coram Nobis and the NCJAR suit.

And what about the politics of redress for the Republicans we needed: In the 1992 election that Bush lost to Clinton, Asian Americans voted 53 percent Bush, even as he got only 37 percent in the general electorate. Republicans knew and know that Asians, though not blacks, are winnable.

How did the bill get out of the House Judiciary subcommittee?

The short answer is that we were ready for good luck to happen. A redress non-supporter, Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas, really helped. He wanted Republicans to take over seats held by conservative Democrats all over the South, one of whom was Sam Hall of Wichita Falls, Texas. Republican Gramm got Republican Reagan to appoint Hall a federal district judge. Hall, of course, had the bill bottled up for a long time.

With Hall gone, Dan Glickman from Kansas took over the subcommittee with jurisdiction over our bill. Bob [Rep. Robert Matsui] and I had lunch with Glickman, and it looked like he might move 442. He didn't because he was thinking about taking on Dole for the Kansas Senate seat, and redress was not going to help Glickman in Kansas. This was 1984.

In 1986, Glickman took over an open wheat subcommittee chairmanship on the Ag Committee. Since you can only chair one subcommittee, this left Pat Schroeder next in line, but she chose to chair a subcommittee on Defense. After Schroeder was Barney, and he took the job. As it turned out, Chairman Frank was as important to the passage of redress as Norm, Bob, Sparky [Sen. Matsunaga] and Dan [Sen. Inouye].

I met with Barney, who said we needed Pat Swindall, the ranking Republican on the subcommittee, to create a bipartisan majority. Swindall was a born-again Christian conservative from often high-income east Atlanta and a crescent of suburbs to the east of the city. Gracely Uyehara asked Gene Doi, a Swindall constituent, to talk to him. Meanwhile, I met with David Brodie, chief lobbyist for B'nai B'rith in Washington, who set up a meeting in Swindall's office.

Dave, Swindall and I talk. Swindall says he thinks he can support us. I couldn't believe it. On the street later, Dave Brodie explained: First, a good number of Jewish families in the textile and fashion trade live in Swindall's district and form an important part of his constituency. In fact, the old Georgia 4th might be called a "Driving-Miss-Daisy" district.

Second, Swindall is like many born-again who believe that the Messiah will not return until Israel is fully in place and secure. Brodie has flown many Southern born-again politicians to Israel on fact-finding missions, i.e., junkets. Dave plugged redress into the Jewish/born-again coalition.

Swindall told me he had a half-Japanese American aide who supported redress. When I heard Swindall definitely say he'd co-sponsor, I said, "Please call Bob Matsui right now. We absolutely need you." Would you believe the hoped-for return of the Messiah pushed redress along? Only in America.

While we were trying to get Swindall, Bob also had me going after Newt Gingrich and Dick Cheney. These two very conservative men, like liberal Barney Frank, were big backers of Soviet dissidents. Human rights in Russia — what about here? Both said, "Sign me up as a co-sponsor." I said, "Call Bob right now."

How do you know I'm telling you the truth? You can write Gingrich and Cheney and ask them, or ask Bob, who's here now.

The day of the floor debate and the House vote arrived. Pat Swindall, in a strong pro-redress speech, tied constitutional rights for Japanese Americans to constitutional rights for unborn fetuses. You can look it up. Would you believe redress allied with the anti-abortion movement? Only in America.

An hour of Reagan's time

I had four lines into the White House, and I hoped that at least one of them might work.

The first was Bill Bennett, then Reagan's Education Secretary. I used to play touch football with him in college and we've been friends since, but he would sort of over-promise then, and he sort of still does. I think. I met with him, and he said he would tell the President that he supported redress. I'm not sure Bill did, but he put me on to his buddy, Gary Bauer, now of Dobson's

Focus on the Family, then Domestic Policy Advisor. Gary said his father, a Pacific War Marine, hated the idea of redress, but he himself felt differently and would talk to the President. I think Gary did, but maybe didn't carry enough clout at the time. Gary is ideologically unfashionable, but he is a nice man.

The second was Richard Wirthlin, a mild-mannered and brilliant former Berkeley economics professor, who was Reagan's pollster. He met with Reagan every week to look at the numbers, and said he would talk to him about the bill. Wirthlin said he grew up with a Nisei boy in Murray, Utah, and knew the story of internment. My guess is that Dick decided not to pursue the issue aggressively. He did call me after House passage and said that the White House was dead set against, and recommended that we wait another two years. We couldn't and we didn't.

The third was Ed Rollins, who managed Reagan's landslide re-election in 1984. He said he would help out of respect for an East Bay Nisei who owned an ice company near Oakland. As a kid he worked for the Nisei, who told him the camp story and showed no bitterness. Ed said he loved that Nisei man. So far as I know, Ed never talked to the President, and I met with Ed three times.

The fourth was Governor Tom Kean of New Jersey, and he put himself out in a way that has become well known among Japanese Americans. After lobbying the issue with Reagan and his Chief of Staff Ken Duberstein, Tom put the letter from June Masuda Goto into a mail pouch that went directly to the President. I see Rudy Tokiwa here today, and there would have been no letter from June without Rudy, a 442 buddy of her fallen brother Kaz.

The effect of the letter on Reagan was something like this: Japanese American redress is not about protective custody, not about an ethnic Democratic constituency, but about the heroes of the 442 and about the ceremony in Santa Ana where I spoke years ago. And it's about the federal government barging into people's lives, when the federal government should just stay small and limited. I get it, I'm for this thing. I don't care what the Justice Department says, don't care what the deficit hawks at OMB think, I'm on board.

On Valentine's Day in February of 1988, I met with Ken Duberstein and his aide, a guy named Will Ball, in Duberstein's West Wing office. Ken was a smoker, and was running a little vacuum device attached to an ashtray. Ken told me that the President was definitely signing. Am I telling you the real story? Write Duberstein in Washington, and ask him.

Walking back up Connecticut Avenue to the JACL office where Gracely Uyehara was waiting, I was very happy.

Finally, I want to talk about Marie Blanco, an aide to Sen. Inouye. She worked with a Darman aide named Janet Hale at OMB [Office of Management and Budget] to assure the entitlement appropriation idea became a reality. For me, Marie represents the hundreds of redress people, especially younger Nisei women, who did tons and tons of work, but who get virtually no credit.

Thank you, Marie. We wouldn't be here today without you. Nobody can sell a car better than you.

Thank you all very much for listening. ■

Meet the Author



Grant Ujifusa

A. Wyoming-born, Sansei, Grant Ujifusa served as the JACL-LEC strategy chair following Congressional passage of the Civil Liberties Act, by the House in September 1987, and by the Senate in April 1988. A possible presidential veto loomed. While a network of JACLers, Nisei veterans and former internees were contacting members of Congress, bipartisan leaders of congress were brought on board early as one of the necessary strategies to push the redress bill through Congress. Ujifusa, co-author of *The Almanac of American Politics*, used his connections to get through closed doors. He knew the mechanics of politics. The effort paid off, as we all know. In response to our request and from his friends, the text of his Sept. 13, 1987, speech given at the so-called UJACL redress summit, appears on this page. ■

TRUE CONFESSIONS:

Now & Then

By SACHI SEKO

AT 70

On this cold November morning, light is late arriving. The weather report, rarely accurate anymore, predicts snow later today. From the closet, I will choose either black slacks or skirt and a black top. It is a simple and efficient way to dress. Basic black can be worn with any colored sweater or jacket, even decorated with a jeweled or metallic collar. Sometimes, I sling a string of crystals or turquoise or lapis around my neck. I rarely wear pearls because my fingers fumble with clasps. At 70, the genetic curse that courses through the female line of my family rages with unremitting vengeance. "It has gone amok," my doctor says, prescribing further pharmaceutical intervention.

AT 50

The disease lay dormant. I even hoped to elude it. My mother, publicly stoic and privately devastated by the disease's assault, thought I might be spared because I never sat still long enough to catch anything. Besides, she said, anyone with such a wicked tongue should be incapable of capture. She wished I had been more subtle. She, with her elegant language. But I know, too, that no one was more entertained by my sinful and unsolicited comments. Then why do you always laugh, I asked. "Because you are so absurd," she said, slapping me on the shoulder.

Sometimes, I wondered whether I had been adopted. How else could I explain being the daughter of someone unlike myself. I was born so plain my mother insisted early on I'd better develop some skills. So I learned to vacuum and to type. Fortunately, she didn't suggest I do needlework because I would have failed at that. Too klutzy. My mother was a thinker, never a knitter. She practiced the more intellectual pursuits like reading or writing haiku. Years after her death, in my mind's eye, I see her humped figure hunched at her desk, gripping the pen in a claw of a hand and hear the scratching of pen against paper.

AT 70

Frost has claimed the last of my flowers, sturdy geraniums. This spring I decided to have a white flower garden. It took two months for the flower specialist I hired to complete the task. The long wait was so exasperating I would have fired him had I not paid him in advance. He had a very honest face. For Utah, this past summer was pleasant, so I took my books out onto the patio and read while occasionally pausing to admire the white flowers.

AT 50

I was engrossed in being the ultimate gardener. For 27 years I labored without ever pausing to admire the environment of my creation. From morning until night, from early spring until late fall, I worked in the several-tiered garden on a large lot. The steel and glass house of contemporary design was my husband's house, bought over my objections. I preferred a smaller, secluded place. In a stroke of stunning treachery, my mother said, "Let him have his house." But the garden was mine. It began when we bought the place, still in our prime, and he declined to work on the enormous rock garden which fronted the property. He thought the neighbors might mistake him for being a gardener. And one thing led to another. One day, years into my labor, a stranger stopped his car and asked if I would be interested in working for him as a gardener. Ecstatic, I reported the incident to my husband. "The man was going to pay me." My husband shot me a look of withering pity, saying I was pleased by the oddest things. But even today, in my time of decline, my spirit soars at the memory.

At 50 I wrote (PC—8/19/77) "The wild plum tree spreads its boughs to shade me. On its thorned branches, golden glistens the fruit. The time of gathering has come."

AT 70

I remember the yield of fruit that year, a bumper crop. There were so many plums that much of it dropped before the gathering. They fell pell mell, juice squirting from golden casings. Bees and ants swarmed over the spillage. When I reached into the upper branches of the tree my arms snagged on its thorns, receiving a bloody river of piercing pain. So it remained for time and weather to complete the harvest. Later, bereft of fruit, I noticed the tree stood straighter, taller. Eventually, autumn winds stripped its last leaves. It then achieved a pristine beauty, completely barren.

Trees are a requirement. Even in this small house, the lot is wooded and through every window there is a view of trees. Each spring, after the first leafing, not a day passes when I don't think of Russ Kano and Kane Toyota, both long dead, who initiated me into the joy of gardening. Until last year, I was able to participate in the garden's care. But since shortly after the new year, I have been further hampered by back problems. My mother's warning resounds from the past. "That's not woman's work." She, born to higher expectations, who also did her share of lifting and toting. Could I have done less? My mother taught me to play roles: daughter, wife and mother. Forever supporting cast.

Early this year, the doctor promised my back would cause severe leg pains. A prediction which has been fulfilled. So, reluctantly, I have yielded my garden to excellent professional care. I confess, however, that knowing the painful price, I occasionally satisfy my need to feel and to work in the soil.

AT 50

Even with my slight figure, not quite 90 lbs. then, I thought myself indestructible. After the war, in the family store, I never begged my father to excuse me from the heavier chores of lifting sacks of rice or bringing up groceries from the storage below. My father, a strapping tall man, was afraid he would slip and injure himself. I, the eldest and the smallest and a daughter, was dispensable. Often, in a foolish display of bravado, I grabbed the shovel and removed the snow, not only from in front of our business but our neighbor's place, too.

The neighbor telephoned saying, "Kay, thanks for shoveling for me."

"Don't mention it, glad to do it, anytime," my father responded, later chuckling and enjoying his duplicity. My observant mother placed a warning finger against her lips.

Years later, appalled by my activity in the large garden, my mother worried about my health. She thought I should hire someone. Surely, you josh, I replied. My husband would never allow it. He thought I should be kept fully occupied and liked telling friends it was therapeutic for me.

"You'll live to regret this," my mother said, watching me whack at the weeds. Younger and dumber, I even thought sleeping was a waste of time. I got by on a few hours fueled by coffee and cigarettes. Sometimes, I wrote a column here or there. And for a lark, even tried my hand at poetry. Or on winter nights, stayed up reading an entire book in one sitting.

AT 70

Reading remains my pleasure. Sometimes, I can read a book in a day. But more often, I savor the luxury of finally having the leisure to linger over a fine paragraph or a line of lyrical phrasing. If I have inherited the curse of disease, it arrived accompanied by a gift. My grandmother often said I acquired my love of language at my mother's breast. She, who recited Shakespeare and Longfellow and the

Psalms and the Proverbs to me.

My son, an only child, comes on Saturdays to help with the heavier chores. Someone wondered what we talked about. Generally, we are too occupied with completing our task. We are accustomed to working together because during my husband's frequent absences on business I relied on my son to assist me from the time he was young. I was also determined to raise a son who would be unashamed to perform essential household tasks and do them well. Although a bride of the dark ages, I knew even then that women deserved better. My son knows the way I live has remained almost unchanged. By a certain age, routines are established. Relocation does not bring alteration in lifestyle, from a large house to a small house. Friends notice the similarity in my environment. Mobiles hang from the vaulted ceiling. My prized Granizo tiles, Nishijima and Mizuno paintings grace the walls. Potted plants compose an indoor garden. The largest ficus is dominated by a gorgeous origami bird, a gift of Barry Said. Books in every room. But no longer are crystal objects displayed on the rosewood table. Daily dusting has become inconvenient, so they are kept in the teak cabinet with other souvenirs.

The length of my son's visits depends on his golf or tennis games or other social commitments. I like to complain he spends most of his time here washing his car and reading my magazines and allowing me to prepare his lunch. It amuses him, too, to hear me say that. It is in character with our relationship. He commends me for being consistent. Sometimes, we talk about books or articles we've read and people we know. But we have also mastered the companionable language of silence. He examines my garden remembering, I'm sure, how we landscaped together long ago. We did our share of hauling rocks and dirt from a hillside above the house and clearing a ditch that ran to the canyon. Last week, he brought me a tape on Picasso, knowing I used to collect books about the artist. I still own a piece of Picasso pottery, purchased during a shopping spree when we also bought a T-Bird. And a silk reproduction of "The Three Musicians" decorates a kitchen wall. All are reminders of the age of acquisition and accumulation.



South side of the rock garden.

Around my 70th birthday, this sunnier, one of my sisters said, "You didn't amount to much compared to your peers, did you?"

"You're right," I agreed. "But I've kept my friends." In the end, and I have always said this, one's success or failure in life is best measured by the friends one has made and kept. Many of us go back 50 years or more. Often, we marvel at being 70. For at heart, we will always be 17. Most of my friendships were forged during the terrible years of incarceration.

And so it is not illogical that even those from that time and place, with whom my connections are sporadic, or even severed after the camps, still have a special claim on my heart, always will.

Each holiday season, there are names to be removed from a mailing that becomes smaller. Perhaps it is a condition of aging, or more likely my bad mind, but often I confuse who has died and who is living. My good friend, Noby, has been dead over a year, but I find myself reaching for the phone to share some funny experience. I

miss the sound of her easy and generous laughter. I miss her. I am grateful that our last conversation happened the day before her death. At my age, we can no longer defer the things we want to say or write or give. There is only one time. It is now.

There are advantages to being old. We discard much of the unimportant. No longer are we required to make appearances. Sometimes, we even improve. My mother, I'm sure, would be surprised that I now try to curb the impulse to ask, "Are you lying?" Instead, in my nicest voice, I inquire, "Are you being insincere?"

It is too late for regrets. But desires? There is one. I wish I had time and health to raise another dog. There are never enough dogs in anyone's lifetime. My doctor suggested I get a replacement after the death of my last German shepherd. I laughed and said, "You're telling me to get an old and probably terminally ill dog. One on its last legs so I won't have very long to care for it."

"I didn't say that," my doctor said. Nowadays to get an unsentimental reading on my health, I pose the question of getting another dog to him. How old a dog? I think I am being clever.

My family says I spoiled my dog, often taking him for rides two or three times a day. It was a thrilling activity because I am a very nervous driver. Strange, but his head resting on my shoulder bolstered my confidence. We were almost like the Lone Ranger and Tonto. I only hope I returned even half the pleasure and fidelity the dog brought me. As my husband lay dying, the dog could not be persuaded into another part of the house. Even when I removed him from the bedroom, he hunkered down against the door in the hallway, refusing the escape I offered. He never had to be called. None of this business of "call me if you need me." He was just there.

When the moon is full, I see his image. In the last weeks of the dog's life, I often slept beside him on the floor. And on full moon nights, I promised, I would look for him on the face of the moon. Sometimes, I imagine hearing the tinkle of his tags. Among my friends I include the dogs I have owned or known.

The weather forecast was wrong again.

No wonder the weather bureau is being investigated. They deserve to be. It did not snow this afternoon. Instead, the sun came out. Light streamed in through the windows, casting a gentle, golden glow. I find there is a beauty and warmth unique to November light that I failed to notice before. And, maybe, if I am lucky, I will dream of dogs tonight.

(This is for PC reader Herbert L. Jensen of Hilo, Hawaii, who kept the piece published on my 50th birthday and remembered I turned 70 this year.)

DURING the years when the late Larry Fujitani was at the PC helm (1942-1952), Sachi Wada had relocated from Gila River War Relocation Center and began to contribute columns from Minnesota.

She resumed her writing under her married name, Sachi Seko, from Salt Lake City (referred to as "Happy Valley") around 1972, delighting her fans and attracting new regulars—readers who would automatically turn to page 2 where her columns appeared when PC was a standard-size newspaper.

When PC returned to the tabloid format, her column, "From Happy Valley," shared space with Bill Hosokawa's "Fry" and Hironaka's cartoons and the JACL President's Corner on page 4 or 5. Her columns appeared every other week until the New Age dawned and she composed her "Susan Song" for the Oct. 1, 1982 column.

There followed a couple of book reviews—one in particular, "Epitaph for a Peach" by David Mas Masumoto, which was marred by a mix-up of photos that was most unfortunate in the 1996 January New Year issue.

When we called on past PC writers to write about the coming millennium in the 1996 Holiday Issue, Sachi chose to write with elegance and poignance about "The Season of Loss," of her past and present.

And this year, aware of her arthritic hands, she hesitated to clasp the Holiday Issue tell into her realm of difficulties, but it must have charged again those writing cells that have tantalized the lot of us.—HKH.

Genesis, 1946: JACL - Reparations - Redress

BY HARRY K. HONDA, Editor emeritus

In a limited fashion by referring to the records on hand—the *Pacific Citizen*, JACL national convention minutes and documents in our Archives, we undertook to compile a summary that only scratches the subject matter of "Redress" when it was once known as "Reparations."

In the meantime, the JACL-LEC (Legislative Education Committee) is planning kick off its own writing of their successful campaign. And we can understand why: A standard work on Japanese American history, such as the one by Bill Hosokawa, was published in 1969 when the 100th anniversary of Japanese immigration to the United States was being celebrated.

Four years ago, Nisei was reprinted with a 27-page Afterword. Half of these pages are devoted to the redress campaign that was launched in 1978.

The Civil Liberties Act, which provided the government's apology and a \$20,000 check, was passed in 1988 and the Office of Redress Administration will shut down on Aug. 10, 1993, as stipulated by the Act. ■

Redress vs. Claims (March, 1946)

Under leadership of Saburo Kido, wartime national JACL president, the 1946 National JACL Convention in Denver launched an ambitious post-war legislative campaign that included reparations. A redress proposal based upon days spent in camp was passed over for individual claims for financial losses sustained because of Evacuation. And there were Nisei who wondered: "When had anyone ever collected an indemnity from the government? Wasn't it wiser to let well enough alone?"

As for individual redress, some Nisei maintained that a price could not be put for the loss of freedom, as if to run down JACL's efforts for compensation due to Evacuation.

"[E]arliest story in the Pacific Citizen about 'prompting federal action to indemnify evacuees for losses suffered by Japanese Americans during the Evacuation,' appeared Dec. 15, 1945. The quotes belong to author and lecturer Carey McWilliams, who was addressing the American Council on Race Relations at its Chicago headquarters Dec. 4, 1945. He also urged Nisei citizenship for those served in WWII with OSS and OWI. Three issues later, Jan. 5, 1946, Interior Secretary Harold Ickes is reported telling a Dec. 28 press conference he favors compensation for evacuee losses.]

Action in Congress came upon request of the Department of Interior, successor agency to the War Relocation Authority, as Rep. Hutton Summers (D-Texas) introduced the first evacuation claims bill (HR 6780) April, 1946, to investigate and adjudicate evacuee claims for losses and damages. Sen. Allen J. Ellender (D-La.) authored the companion bill (S 2127) "to create an evacuation claims commission under the general supervision of the Secretary of Interior, and to provide the powers, duties and functions thereof, and for other purposes."

Then, the bills languished in committee until President Truman wrote letters for congressional passage in mid-July.

"The fears which impelled the Government to adopt the harsh expedient of excluding Americans of Japanese ancestry from strategic military areas, most happily, proved largely groundless," the President declared. "An overwhelming majority of our Japanese American population has proved itself to be loyal and patriotic in every sense. Those of them, and there were many, who entered the armed services have acquitted themselves with great distinction. It would, in my opinion, be a tragic anomaly if the United States were, on the one hand, to acclaim and decorate with honors the brave Nisei troops who fought so valiantly and at such sacrifice. On the other hand, it ignored and left unredressed the very real and grievous losses which some of them, together with their immediate families, have suffered as a result of Government action in the midst of the same war."

Rep. Francis Walter (D-Pa.), chairman of the House Judiciary subcommittee which studied the claims bill, had cited the "outstanding record of our 23,000 Japanese Americans who served in the armed forces" and recommended the bill should pass "in all fairness."

Masaoka, a veteran of the 442nd Combat Team, expressed belief that the two-hour parade down Constitution Avenue to the Ellipse and Truman's review of the Japanese American regiment home from Europe were factors in developing congressional interest in the evacuee claims bill.

Because of the log-jam in both houses and facing adjournment in August, the Ellender bill, approved by the Senate judiciary committee, was placed on the consent calendar and passed with two minor changes—the claims commission was empowered to hear the cases of accountable property and business losses as a direct result of Evacuation, and if the final award is under \$2,500 the commission could make immediate payment. On sums over \$2,500, Congressional approval was required. Sen. Pat McCarran (D-Nev.), chairman of the judiciary committee, steered the bill to Senate passage.

It moved the House to do likewise, but the Interior Department's bill (HR 6780) was doomed for the 79th Session as Rep. Claire Engle (D-Ill. Bluff, Calif.) spearheaded the opposition of two (with Rep. John Phillips, also of California). Under House consent calendar rules, passage requires unanimous approval for consideration in the closing

days.

It appeared to JACL that Engle, whose district included the wartime Tule Lake segregation center, was moved by allegations of late registrants and Nisei renunciations who changed their minds and were cleared by the Justice Department would also share in the benefits of the proposed legislation: [P.C., Aug. 3, 1946, pg. 1: "Evacuee Claims Measure Stalled in House."]

The Washington JACL Office (1947)

The following year, Mike Masaoka, with wife Etsu, moved to Washington, D.C., in mid-January and opened the Washington JACL Office to lobby for JACL programs that required congressional action with a meager budget of \$120,000. Masaoka was named acting national secretary at a special Thanksgiving weekend meeting of JACL officers at Salt Lake City to allow national secretary Masaoka to devote full time to JACL's legislative program through the newly-formed Anti-Discrimination Committee (JACL-ADC), as its executive secretary. This was the beginning of the ensuing 25 years when JACL carried on its meaningful mission on behalf of Japanese Americans.

With a new 80th Congress, Rep. Earl Michener (R-Mich.) introduced HR 2768, a bill to establish a three-member evacuation claims commission, which was identical to the 1946 bill. Masaoka met with Interior Undersecretary Oscar Chapman, asking for liberalization of the bill that had narrowly missed passage during the final days of the 79th Congress.

JACL suggested across-the-board payment of \$1,000 to every adult evacuee over age 18, \$500 for those from 6 to 18 and nothing for those under age 6 at the time of military exclusion orders. JACL also proposed the regular court of claims be opened to those who felt they had suffered greater losses than the amount of the lump sum payment.

Should the Department disapprove, Masaoka proposed that the wholly inadequate evacuee salaries in camp be adjusted to the pay-scale of civil service camp personnel for comparable work. He also asked the field of recoverable claims be extended to include such items as lost goodwill. Regardless of whether the liberalization is added, Masaoka further asked that:

- (1) All claims be exempt from both state and federal income taxes;
- (2) The Statute of Limitations barring action against the government for evacuation losses be waived;
- (3) A maximum fee which attorneys might charge for their services, be reduced from 20% to 10%.

Meantime, President Truman signed a \$300,000 bill on May 19, 1947, to pay 97 claimants for personal losses sustained in two WRA camp fires: the 1943 Christmas fire at Poston 11, and the July 28, 1944, warehouse fire at Manzanar. This represented the first U.S. payment for evacuee losses.

Public hearings on HR 2768 were held May 29, 1947, by the House judiciary subcommittee on claims, presided by Rep. John W. Gwynne (R-Iowa), chair. Undersecretary Chapman explained the bill was "a matter in which we as a nation have a real and immediate obligation to meet... toward discharging a very definite moral obligation due to persons, most of them citizens who, as I have said, were guilty of no crime other than their accident of birth and ancestry."

WRA Director Dillon Meyer told the subcommittee that WRA protection of evacuee property in their care was either not made or inadequate. Rep. Clair Engle (D-Calif.), as he did in blocking the bill in 1946, cited reports from the House Un-American Activities Committee that charged more than 25% of American-born Japanese were "disloyal" and urged that these persons and aliens be barred from claiming benefits.

National JACL President Hito Okada of Salt Lake City said JACL recognized that in wartime every person suffers and sacrifices. "We do not now argue that many other Americans suffered and sacrificed less but we insist that what happened to us was unique and was visited upon no other group of Americans."

Masaoka challenged Engle's figures on the percentage of allegedly "disloyal" Nisei, pointing out that the so-called loyalty questionnaire was "misworded, misunderstood and misinterpreted." He added the ADC/JACL's separate lobbying arm had no objection to a provision denying renunciations and repealing the benefits of the bill if such a provision was necessary to insure its passage. He said that he

took the position "in order not to penalize the loyal Japanese American and Japanese alien and in order that the great majority of the evacuees would not lose an opportunity to file claims for economic losses."

A month later, the Gwynne subcommittee favorably reported the bill to the full House Judiciary Committee, where it was ordered revised by Rep. Earl C. Michener (R-Mich.), committee chairman, to shift the administration of the indemnification program from the Interior's three-member evacuation claims panel to the Attorney General and the Justice Department and also reduced attorney fees from 20% to 10% of the amount allowed. The amended portions were incorporated into his claims bill, HR 3999, originally introduced March 25.

Masaoka saw any interpretations will be more or less strict and technical than it had been left to the jurisdiction of the Interior Department.

HR 3999 represented two years of work. House passed the bill unanimously on July 23. There was no opposition recorded during the 20-minute floor discussion to "pay for property losses. The House Rules Committee had granted a full hour.

Gwynne declared, "There was no sabotage by persons of Japanese descent. On the contrary, the people involved had a higher percentage of enlistments in the armed forces than the nationwide average."

Rep. Sam Hobbs (D-Ala.) complimented the subcommittee for "giving the House the opportunity to pass this bill which is grounded in honor and in justice."

Rep. Homer D. Angell (R-Ore.) also complimented the House committee and told of the evacuation of large numbers of Japanese Americans from Oregon. "They suffered material damage and were indeed loyal in most cases."

Walter, a veteran of WWI and WWII, spoke in tribute to the Nisei soldiers who were "some of the finest fighting men that wore our uniform." He said, "This bill, in a small way, will make whole those people who were innocent victims of an order that probably never should have been issued... It is significant that there was not a case of espionage or sabotage brought against percentages of Japanese ancestry in the United States and Hawaii."

Rep. Angier L. Goodwin (R-Mass.) declared passage of HR 3999 "will show to the world 'we are ready, willing and anxious to go forward with remedial legislation and attempt to redress those wrongs and do the right thing in the interests of simple justice.'"

Delegate Joseph R. Farrington (R-Hawaii) declared he was "very much in favor of this measure, although the number of Japanese who were evacuated from the Territory of Hawaii was limited."

Masaoka hailed the action. He credited the efforts of Michener and Gwynne, but noted Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.) pushed the legislation from its earliest stages. "The fact that there was a single dissenting voice raised against the bill is indicative of the healthy attitude which Congress seems to be adopting toward persons of Japanese ancestry."

The bill was sent to the Senate, which passed a similar bill unanimously in 1946. Because of the mass of unfinished business on the Senate agenda before adjournment on Sunday, July 27, HR 3999 was tabled in the Senate Judiciary Committee until January, 1948.

Truman Urges Speedy Action (February, 1948)

PRESIDENT Truman called upon Congress on Monday, Feb. 2, to speed up legislation on the unfinished business of Evacuation as well early removal of racial or national barriers which prohibited qualified Japanese and other "ineligible alien" residents from becoming U.S. citizens. These two recommendations were among the ten the President named in his special civil rights message to the Congress.

"This is the first time that any President has recommended in a special message to the Congress legislation directly beneficial to the Japanese in America," Masaoka said. The eight others, some of which affect Japanese as well, were directed toward (1) re-establishment of the Fair Employment Practices Commission, (2) a permanent Civil Rights Commission, (3) a joint Congressional Committee on Civil Rights, (4) a civil rights division in the Justice Department, (5) strengthening the civil rights statutes, (7) federal laws against lynching, (8) statehood for Hawaii and Alaska.

Nonetheless, action by the Senate on HR 3999 was delayed until May 21 when seven witnesses appeared before the judiciary subcommittee of Sens. John C. Cooper (R-Ky.) and Warren Magnuson (D-Wash.).

First witness, John J. McCloy, president of World Bank and former assistant secretary of war, reiterated the Evacuation was a matter of military necessity but admitted that it imposed unprecedented responsibilities on persons of Japanese ancestry who endured hardships and suffered accountable damages for which they should be compensated. He praised the good temper and cooperation of evacuees during the mass movement and declared it was "most impressive." He paid tribute to the 442nd Infantry Regimental Central Postal Directory, which was formed partly by volunteers from the war relocation centers, and that he was extremely gratified.

Questioned by Sen. Cooper, McCloy admitted that only the most rudimentary type of protection of evacuee property was considered during the evacuation and suggested that the federal government may have some responsibility for evacuee losses. "I

frankly approve of the bill and urge its favorable consideration at the earliest possible moment," McCloy added.

Appearing for Undersecretary Oscar Chapman, solicitor Mastin G. White reviewed the Interior Department's interest in the problem and said that Evacuation Claims bill meets with "the heartiest approval of the entire Department."

In his statement, Interior Secretary Julius Krug admitted the evacuation orders gave little time to the desperately imposed evacuees to settle their affairs. Government safeguards designed to prevent undue loss were "somewhat tardily instituted, not effectively published." He pointed out the merchants had to dispose of their stocks and businesses at sacrifice prices. Valuable leasehold interests had to be abandoned, and a large number had to accept totally inadequate arrangements for protection and management of property. The department's role in support of the measure was one of the high points of the hearings.

Dillon S. Myer, head of the Inter-American Institute and former WRA director, explained the timetable for evacuation made losses inevitable and general confusion during the early days over property management. Much of the losses, he added, were due to acts of vandalism perpetrated against evacuee-owned property, forced liquidations and general deterioration. Like McCloy, he also praised the cooperative attitude of the evacuees and stressed the role of the Nisei evacuees in the 442nd combat team and the war effort.

Francis Biddle, Attorney General at the time of Evacuation, declared the mass evacuation was one of the most tragic occurrences of the war. He urged the committee to speed up action because the bill would only compensate the evacuees for severe losses but would remedy a moral wrong.

Edward J. Ennis, head of the Justice Department's Enemy Alien Control Unit during the war, praised the bill which, he said, was well calculated to achieve the objective of restoring some degree of the losses which the evacuees sustained as a result of Evacuation. It is "a small way to make amends" and emphasized that evacuees should receive reparations for their grievous losses in view of their complete cooperation accorded to the government.

Galen M. Fisher of the wartime West Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play declared his support of the bill because, besides providing elemental justice and fair play, it would give support to democratic elements in present-day Japan who "are watching everything we do here."

Mike Masaoka, legislative director of the JACL Anti-Discrimination Committee, impressively wound up the hearing and concluded with an urgent appeal for urgent Senate action. The Nisei record during the war was clear and expressed hope that Congress would recognize the merits and desirability of the House-passed measure, plus June 19.

President Truman signed HR 3999 [PL 80-886] on July 2, 1948, authorizing the Attorney General to receive and adjudicate claims for loss of real or personal property arising out of the 1942 Evacuation.

By the Jan. 3, 1950 deadline, the Justice Department had received 24,064 claims, requesting the payment of \$129,996,589.80. As the adjudicative procedure was too technical and administratively expensive, the JACL at its 1950 National Convention, Chicago, called for amendment to authorize and compromise claims up to \$2,500. These were the so-called "pots and pans claims."

Some in JACL felt the authorization was too small. Thus the 1952 National Convention at Los Angeles urged and Congress approved a change in the basic 1948 law, allowing the Attorney General to settle claims up to \$100,000. Over that, it was to be settled in the Court of Claims.

On Nov. 10, 1958, Attorney General William Rogers signed the last compromise claim. By that time, 26,552 claims had been settled for \$36,874,240.99. Eight claims, each for about \$1,000,000 or more, and nine cases in which the claimants were not satisfied, were filed in the Court of Claims. "As unsatisfactory as it was," noted Masaoka, "the evacuation claims program represents a major triumph for not only JACL but also for the American way."

"The Washington Post editorial (Oct. 9, 1965) said: 'The injustice done to the Japanese Americans will remain forever a stain on American history. There is some comfort, however, in the general acknowledgment of the injustice and in the conscientious effort that has been made to provide restitution for the property losses suffered by the evacuated citizens. Restitution or reparations of this sort is always, of course, pitifully inadequate.'"

San Francisco Congressman Philip Burton (D) remarked: "Under this act, we have tried to make reparation to the thousands of Japanese Americans who hysteria and prejudice forced them into relocation centers during the early 1940s." (Congressional Record, Oct. 12, 1947.)

1965: Last Evacuation Claims

On Oct. 1, 1965, the U.S. Court of Claims approved a judgment of \$862,500 as the last claim settled under the 1948 Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act for Jean Koda, surviving widow and executrix of the Estate of William S. Koda, and Edward K. Koda, representing the Koda Rice Farm, South Dos Palos, Calif., founded by Keisaburo Koda. It was also the largest settlement.²

See GENESIS/page 20

¹ Bill Hosokawa, *Nisei: the Quiet American* (1969, p. 442).

² Larry Tajiri, "Nisei USA," P.C., Aug. 10, 1946, p. 4.

Making a difference starts with INDIVIDUALS



Hiromi Ueha & Nicole Houve

NICOLE AND I can honestly say that after a year and a half, we are comfortable in our positions as JACL National Youth/Student Representative and JACL National Youth/Student Chairperson respectively.

In a way, we feel as if we have "come of age." "Generation Xers" may be, but this "coming of age" does not come without its obligations. Presently, we have been given an opportunity to address you, the readers, on our insights of what we have seen and may see as "Generation Xers" who have done something to try to dispel the stereotypes about our generation.

As JACL's youth/student representatives, Nicole and I have had the experiences of going out into the Japanese American and Asian American communities. All the talking that we did with other community members has led us to believe that the AA community needs to be more proactive and start dialoguing with one another.

As leaders in the community, we strive to share a common goal — to make our community and our society a better place. In order to achieve this goal, we all must be on the same page and feel as passionate about it as the next person. Each of our individual ethnic groups have their own struggles and injustices, but overall, we have all been oppressed. And because we are not always given forums to express our opinions, we need to start getting involved and getting our voices heard.

As we need to break this image that we are unseen and unheard. Politics govern our lives; it defines what is good and bad, right and wrong. The current debate about denying citizenship to U.S.-born children of undocumented immigrants is an example of how government directs our lives. It instills in the minds of the American people that what they are doing is okay because it is validated by the government.

The government has been excluding others for many years. These exclusion laws have set the tone for further legislation like California's Proposition 187. In order to change the political tone, especially to reflect the needs of the AA community, we must become active participants of the political process by voting or running for public office.

Individually or collectively, AAs can make a difference. We should take to heart the phrase, "power in numbers," especially because Asian immigrants are becoming the fastest growing group in the United States

today. A way we can achieve part of this power is by broadening our definition of community. We can even start by broadening our own JA community to include multiracial JAs, Japanese nationals, and JAs from all generations. By broadening the definition of community to include other Asians and AA groups, we have the power in numbers to make a difference and come closer to achieving our goal for a better society.

The AA community's rallying for Bill Lann Lee's nomination for the top civil rights job in the Department of Justice is a prime example of how the AA community along with other ethnic communities are coming together. Groups like the JACL and OCA are working hard, pressuring Congress for Lee's confirmation and educating the public about his qualifications. The power in numbers will affect the outcome of his nomination.

Working together as a global community will be the key to the future. But it has to start with us as individuals. We ourselves will have to make that personal choice to become involved.

We can start by educating ourselves on current issues. When you don't agree with a particular issue, make noise by contacting your local, state and/or federal officials. How they decide to vote on a particular issue will depend on who, from their constituents, they hear from. Voting is also a good way to participate, and so people should vote.

Involve your family, especially your children. They are our future. Foster leadership by encouraging them to participate in their school's student body. Empower them. Encourage them to speak up when injustice occurs. If they see you as parents getting involved and caring about what is going on, they will want to become involved because they see the importance of it. That is one reason why Nicole and I are involved with JACL. Nicole had her parents as role models in becoming active, and I had a mentor who saw the importance of students and young adults becoming involved. These are some of the things we have learned from our experiences with the JACL.

YOU AS parents can start involving your children by encouraging them to enter the JACL 1998 Min Yasui Oratorical Contest, a nation-wide speech contest, with a chance to win a cash prize.

The competition is open to high school students 16 years old and above and undergraduate college students. It has two phases:

- (1) a district-wide competition in each of the eight JACL districts, and
- (2) a national competition at the 1998 JACL National Convention in Philadelphia.

Minoru Yasui, famous as one of the three Nisei who challenged the internment of JAs, was a civil rights attorney in the Portland, Ore., area. In 1952, Yasui was honored as the JACL's Japanese American of the Bismarck.

During World War II, Yasui challenged the constitutionality of the curfew law imposed on JAs: He was found guilty of violating the curfew law and served a nine-month prison sentence, and during the process almost lost his citizenship.

After the war, Yasui went on to practice law and served as legal counsel for various community organizations. In 1979, he was appointed chair of the JACL Committee on Redress. He traveled the country in that capacity advocating redress for JAs interned during WWII.

Because of his contributions, this competition was named in his honor in hopes of continuing to inspire young adults to discuss current issues affecting the APA community.

Speeches for the contest should be no longer than five minutes and should respond to one of the following questions:

- (1) How can we increase positive portrayals of Asian Pacific Americans in light of anti-immigrant/foreign sentiment and the campaign finance scandal?
- (2) What do you think is needed for the development of future APA political leaders and, specifically, how can the JACL develop the leaders of tomorrow?
- (3) How do you think multiracial heritage should be addressed by the 2000 Census? What impact will multiracial AAs have on the future of the JA/APA community?
- (4) With the increase of anti-Asian incidents and racial violence, and President Clinton's recently formed race relations commission, what should be the role of APAs?

Winners of the district competitions will receive free travel to the 1998 JACL National Convention in Philadelphia July 3-4. The district winners will compete against each other for a cash prize.

For more information, please contact one of the following JACL offices:

Chicago, 773/728-1170; Fresno, 209/486-6715; Los Angeles, 213/626-4471; San Francisco, 415/921-5225; Seattle, 206/623-5088; Washington, D.C. 202/223-1240. ■

1998
The year of
the tiger



The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation



Correction to last week's list of major donors: Dr. James Taguchi of Denver, CO should have been placed under the Sponsor's category.

Happy New Year

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Tales of the Truk Lagoon

By Stanley N. Kanzaki

WORLD War II, early dawn of February 17, 1944, somewhere in the South Pacific. The first planes of Vice Admiral Marc Mitscher's task force have left the aircraft carriers to begin "Operation Hailstorm." The mission is to fly and destroy the Japanese Imperial Navy's 4th Fleet on Truk Lagoon, Micronesia. The raid lasts two days and a night, ending in its destruction.

The lagoon was an ideal naval base 40 miles across, 822 square miles with 15 primary islands. The raid destroyed over 60 ships, 250 planes and ended thousands of lives. Military historians called this the turning point of the Pacific War. The sunken ships were a monument of the world gone mad but now the largest man-made reef in the world resting peacefully on the bottom.

Meanwhile, prior to the raid, what was the situation on the Japanese Imperial Naval base? This story I'm about to relate is hearsay. It is not a historical fact and requires someone to refute or substantiate it. But it has some drama to write about.

THE tale begins with the shore commander angrily observing the last of the major combat ships departing the base. He and all hands in the command knew that a U.S. naval raid was inevitable and the end coming, but not the when. This was an ominous sign. It further angered him to know that all who remained were being abandoned and sacrificed. A command decision was made. An invitation sent out to all hands for one final party on the main island of Moen. It must have been a great bash with much sake lasting all night long. But—then there was one problem. When dawn came and all hands were hung over the inevitable came to pass, for Operation Hailstorm greeted them and as the saying goes the rest is history.

Now 53 years later, October 13, 1997, on the 107 ft. live-aboard dive ship the "Truk Aggressor II," ten impatient SCUBA divers

sat through a briefing for the first dive on the "Shinkoku (Nation of God) Maru." This was a huge 500 ft. tanker resting on an even keel 130 ft. at its deepest point. Hellcat and Avenger torpedo bombers attacked her, but a large bomb dropped during a night raid finally sunk her into Davy Jones's locker. Despite the damages we were to find it still in good state of preservation. A total of seven dives were made on this wreck including one night dive. Of the 60 wrecks, we ended diving on eight including one Zero and a "Betty" bomber.

The briefing over, we hurriedly put on our equipment. There was excitement for we were about to dive into history, an underwater war museum and the ghost fleet of Truk Lagoon. We jumped off easily from the dive platform and was handed our underwater cameras and videos.

Following down the anchor line we spotted the ship's king-post that looked like small stanchions on the Brooklyn Bridge. The marine growth gave the wreck natural beauty cloaked in bright rainbow colors from the soft corals, sponges, sea fans, gorgonias, molluscs and clouds of tropical fishes. It looked like an English garden, especially when the sun was strong. Only nature can create beauty on what was once the ugly machineries of war.

We swam above the ship like underwater Hellcats and then dropped deeper upon reaching the stern. Locating a torpedo hole we began our penetration of the interior. Turning on our lights we saw the confusion of numerous pipes, cables and boilers of the engine room. Squeezing in-between the openings and peering through floating sediments we saw the Japanese "furo," uncrusted white commodes and urinals scattered. This area is what the Navy calls the "head." At the sick bay I was surprised to see remnants of an autoclave. Medical bottles and equipment strewn near what was once an operating table. Barely identifiable was the galley and the mess. I imagined seeing

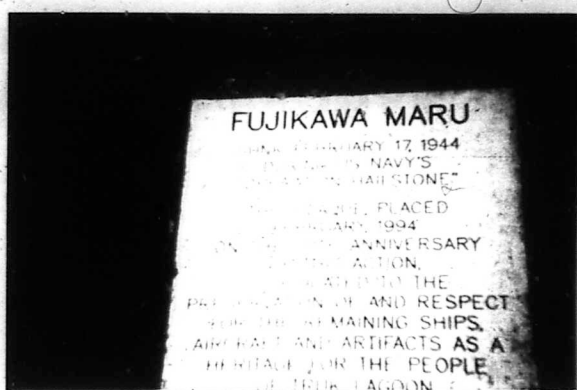


PHOTO BY STANLEY KANZAKI

Taken on Deck of Fujikawa Maru (60 feet deep) in Truk (Chuuk) Lagoon, Federated States of Micronesia

sailors through my mask eating *gohan* and hearing them proudly sing the "Gunkan Machi" through my water pressured ears. Ascending higher, there was the wheel house and the telegraph machine. There were artifacts such as the encrusted ordnance, sake bottles, sake cups and flasks, and chinaware so preserved that it can be used to serve food after a quick rinse.

The most amazing artifact was a thick book with *kazji* print. Even after being submerged for over 50 years it was still readable. As one diver said, "Hey, look at here. It says, 'Yankee go home.'"

Coming up on the fore deck near the gun mount a cold sweat broke out on my Polartec suit-covered back. Looking at me in an eternal stare was a human skull. I pointed my Nikonos V underwater camera but did not press the shutter for I felt it to be profane to do so. He was once a living human being with loved ones who do not know of his fate.

I checked my dive computer and saw it was time to ascend. As I slowly did so a voice seem to call out. "The horror. The horror."

That night on the top deck I stretched out a beach chair and laid a mattress and a blanket on it. Being from the city I at times enjoy sleeping under the stars instead of in an air-conditioned cabin. Leaning over the railing, I gazed into the darkened ocean with the moon shining on it. It was in this setting that I recalled where I first came across the words that seemed to echo as I was ascending from the dive. This goes back a long way to my schoolboy days when I struggled to read Joseph Conrad's "The Heart of Darkness." In short, the story is about Captain Marlow's search in the Congo jungle for Mr. Kurtz. The latter, the main character, is a white trader and ivory hunter tormented and ruthless.

Then I recalled Francis Coppola's classic Vietnam movie "Apocalypse Now" for it had a similar theme and plot. The characters were also similar, with a Captain Willard, U.S. Army, searching for Colonel Kurtz in the jungles of Cambodia. However, unlike his counterpart, his mission was to "terminate him with extreme prejudice."

Both stories reveal a similar message about the darkness of the human soul and the capacity for good and evil. Aside from the psychological aspects it was also a commentary of the time on the evils of colonialism and the end of the Victorian era. The movie also portrayed the evils of America's military presence in Vietnam and the end of their influence in Southeast Asia. But in the end it is the individuals who find the perils of going native into "the savage heart of the jungle." In their dying breath they realize too late their souls to be dark and evil and can only utter, "The horror! The horror!"

IT surprised me that in the middle of Truk Lagoon I came up with these thoughts and to realize the similarities of the plot and theme. Surely Coppola must have appropriated from Conrad's book. But the skull got me to thinking again. What of these Japanese warriors? They followed the Bushido, code of military ethics. Loyalty to the emperor only. It was to live and die for him. Was this their jungle, the darkness to finally end as a skull in the deep? Perhaps there was no way out. Like the white transparent jellyfish I saw on the top of the king-post of the sunken Shinkoku Maru caught in the Velcro-like tentacles of an anemone; no matter how much it struggled it could not free itself, and the tormenting bites of the encrusting fishes.

All this mind game plus the wine at dinner made me drowsy. Looking again into the dark waters I thought I saw spirits dancing on the surface. But long time ago an Iseian *sensei* once told me that the spirits of Japanese warriors who die in battle are for-

ever enshrined in Japan's Yasukuni Jinja.

With visions like this I knew it was time to get some sleep. As I laid down I thought of the once proud Japanese Imperial Navy, but as the poet wrote, "The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

It seemed like a short while that I opened my eyes. Like in a dream I saw the distance a dot as if made by a red felt pen on a dark background. Blinking my eyes I realized it was the beginning of sunrise. I sat and watched in wonder the beauty of a new day arising. As the sun rose its rays colored the clouds red, which seemed to cleanse the earth.

Standing by the railing I thought about the video I saw the night before on the fiftieth anniversary of the battle. Former combatants from America, Japan and Truk returned in peace. They gathered the remains of the dead from the sea and ceremoniously each in their cultural manner cremated them. Their ashes were then returned back into the sea. In memoriam a small monument was placed on the deck of the sunken Fujikawa Maru 110 feet below.

Finally the sun was like a great big red beach ball bouncing on the blue surface of the water, then to rise heavenward. It was truly awesome. I felt hopeful and so happy to be alive. I must have felt just like that little Italian silk-winder Pippa from Robert Browning's poem "Songs from Pippa Passes" when she was inspired to say, "God's in his heaven — All's right with the world!"

POSTSCRIPT: After Truk I spent a few days in Honolulu wearing proudly my Truk T-shirt which displayed several black silhouettes of the sunken ships and a rising sun on the back. As with most tourists I went to the huge Ala Moana Shopping Center. There I was looking at a display of *bento*, deciding which one to buy.

Nearby I noticed an elderly Japanese gentleman looking at my T-shirt. He slowly came to me and politely asked if I spoke Japanese. Upon assuring him he asked if I was from "Turaku." I explained I was from New York and just few days ago SCUBA diving in "Turaku." He looked surprised and wished he could do the same but was now too old. Then he pointed to one of the silhouettes and asked if it might be the Shinkoku Maru? He looked at it for a while and stated, "It was a long time ago but I was once a young sailor on that ship."

Now it was my time to be surprised. He briefly described the raid he saw from shore and said that he had never seen anything so swift and so destructive. In a saddened voice he mentioned the sinking of his ship and the guilt of not dying with his shipmates. He seemed to be in deep thought. I felt uneasy for I did not quite know what to say.

Suddenly a voice called out. It was the tour director asking all the tourists to return to the bus. The gentleman looked up and apologized for an old man talking about the past something he had not thought about in a long time. Thanking me for listening to him he shook my hand as we bowed together. I walked him to the bus and saw him sitting next to a lady who I assumed was his wife.

As the bus pulled away I felt a sense of loss. Here was an ex-warrior who was there and witnessed history in the making. It would have been wonderful to have sat with him over some sake and hear his oral history of the raid. There would have been many things to ask. One of which would be about the shore commander's "one final party." Hey, he may have been one of the celebrants and the reason for his shore leave. But I do not think I would have mentioned the skull I saw on his sunken former ship the Shinkoku Maru. ■

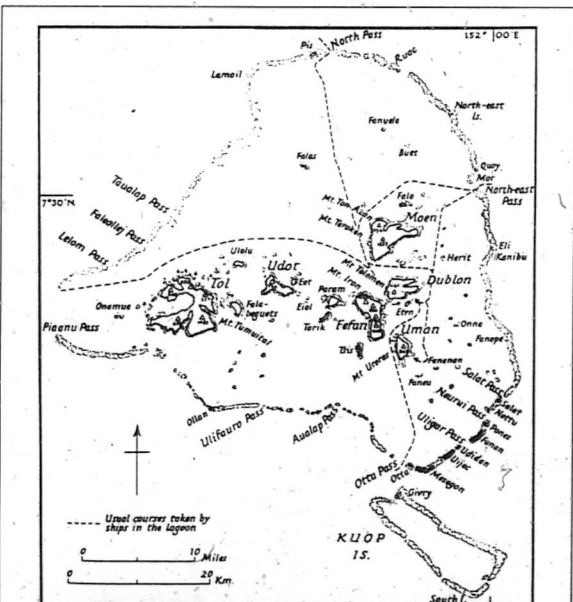


Figure 2. Truk Atoll: The Barrier Reef and Islands within the Lagoon. (UK Naval Intelligence Division 1945, 391; British Crown copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of Her Britannic Majesty's Stationery Office)

'Toraku-Tō' (Truk Island)—Indeed, Japanese presence in Micronesia (especially, the Carolines—basically from Palau at the western edge across 2,000 miles to Ponape at the eastern edge), matches the 19th century history of Japanese emigration to Hawaii, North and South America. This map appears in Mark Peattie's amazing book, *Nanyo: the Rise and Fall of the Japanese in Micronesia 1885-1945*; University of Hawaii Press, 1988.

Exceptional programs for Watsonville JACL

By MAS HASHIMOTO
1996 Chapter President

THE Watsonville, Calif., Chapter has had an exceptionally busy year. Soon after our January Installation Dinner, which honored the memory of two former presidents — Tommy Sakata and Kee Kitayama, we were confronted in February with criticism in the Watsonville newspaper by several Caucasian citizens of our Day of Remembrance and Redress programs. Our chapter responded with a full page explanation of the Japanese and Japanese American experiences that included discriminatory laws; forced evacuation (internment); loss of civil rights; the contributions of the 100th/442nd RCT and MIS veterans; court cases of Korematsu, Yasui, Hirabayashi, and Endo; and the success of redress. It became apparent that we needed to secure sufficient funds to educate our community; therefore we started our own "Day of Remembrance Education Fund."

In April our chapter helped to sponsor the

film showing of *Beyond Barbed Wire*, in Watsonville with the Pacific Film Festival. We expected 300 people to attend, but nearly 1,000, mostly Caucasian and school children, were in attendance. A second showing was required, for the theater held only 570 seats. That night a special tribute was accorded our World War II Nisei veterans of the Pajaro Valley (Santa Cruz and northern Monterey Counties).

In June, a \$20,000 donation from Mrs. Keiko Kitayama to be used for scholarships was received in memory of her husband, Kee Kitayama, a past JACL president. This year's recipients were Mindy Ueyematsu, daughter of Robert and Sachiko Ueyematsu, and Nikolas Chan, son of Thomas and Debbie (Hoshiyama) Chan. Mindy is a freshman attending University of Southern California, majoring in pre-business law, and Nikolas is at UC Berkeley, majoring in political science and international law.

After an absence of several years, the chapter, along with Kokoro no Gakko (a

summer cultural school) students, entered a float in the "Spirit of Watsonville" Fourth of July parade and won third place.

The annual August community picnic, which dates back to the early 1920s, is one of the highlights of the

year. It features something for everyone — bingo for the seniors, barbecue for the younger parents, and races for the children. Many local businesses and friends contribute to the raffle, and entertainment is provided by our Watsonville Taiko and a talented ensemble led by Mark Takeuchi.

For six weeks starting in September, our chapter worked with the Santa Cruz City Public Libraries, the University of California Santa Cruz Library, and the Watsonville City Public Library on the Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibit, "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the United States Constitution." Displays, lectures, panel discussion, video reviewing, film festival, school invitations, etc., were executed in fine fashion. The highlight of the event was a panel discussion led by author Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston (*Farewell to Manzanar*). Other panelists were Dr. Masako Miura of Topaz and Manzanar,

artist-instructor Howard Ikemoto (Tule Lake), Libia Yamamoto of the Peruvian Japanese Oral History Project, and Mas Hashimoto, intern of Salinas Assembly Center and Poston II.

Another criticism of the Japanese American experience, this time from an ex-WWII U.S. Naval officer and now community college instructor, appeared in a Santa Cruz newspaper. Once again a full page response was required explaining the Japanese American experience.

A good friend of our JACL, popular history instructor Sandy Lydon of Cabrillo College (Aptos), wrote a new book, *The Japanese in the Monterey Bay Region: A Brief History*. In conjunction with the San Benito County JACL chapter, we had very successful a book signing party at our Watsonville JACL Kizuka Hall on Dec. 6.

Finally, in January at our Installation Dinner, we will be honoring our JACLer of the Year — Willie Yahiro, a former high school teacher and now an insurance broker who specializes in helping farm workers with health benefits. Willie had helped to establish our JACL Blue Cross medical program. As a current trustee of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District (18,000 K-12 enrollment), he has consistently taken strong stands supporting civil rights issues. ■



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Watsonville JACL

1997 OFFICERS

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
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| 2nd Vice President | Paul Kaneko | | Carmel Kamigawachi |
| Secretary | Marcia Hashimoto | | Shig Kizuka |
| Treasurer | Stuart Yamamoto | | Iwao Yamashita |
| Auditor | Alan Ueyematsu | | |

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Sonoma County Chapter JACL satisfied at 1997 year's end

BY MEI NAKANO

The Sonoma County Chapter JACL ended the year of the *ushi* (ox) with its annual *mochitsuki*, heaving a sigh of satisfaction at having fulfilled its mission of promoting community solidarity, fostering knowledge of Japanese culture and arts, and participating in the resolution of civil and human rights issues in the larger society.

At the same time, past and current President Carol Kawase sees plenty of challenges ahead. Two large discussions lie large on the table: (1) whether or not to actively support the push for an initiative to restore affirmative action in California and (2) the question of establishing some sort of long term care for the elders of our JA community. (Where I refer to the "JA community" or "community," here and elsewhere in this piece, I mean the body comprised of both JACL and Enmanji Buddhist Church members, a longstanding, rather unique relationship of mutual respect, cooperation and support.)

Community New Year's Banquet.

1997 started out—as it does every year—with a New Year's potluck banquet you'd be hard-put to match, with the Chapter and the Enmanji taking charge in alternate years. Delectables from sushi to salmon to apple pie appear and each year more lavish than the last. Most folks here treasure this 40-year-old tradition which we use as the occasion to install officers and board members, bestow Chapter's fishermen's prizes and awards. It affords yet another opportunity to strengthen ties as a kind of large community family.

Community Picnic. Among the other annual events is the Community Picnic in June. JACL administered scholarships are awarded at that time. The Chapter provides the main dish where all ages get into the fun part, and compete in such traditional and

nostalgic picnic games as sack races, apple-peeling contests, and the like.

Joint Potluck Dinner. The annual potluck dinner, which the Chapter and the Redwood Empire Chinese Association take turns hosting, happened in September, this fourth year co-chaired by Marie Sugiyama and Ruth Serrano. Initiated by the Chapter as an effort to form closer ties with other Asian groups, it is a proven winner with over 150 attendees this year. Not only do we each share our cultural arts (e.g., food, *taichi*, *taiko*), we support one another in civil and human rights issues, as for example, the Chapter's support for investigating the Kuan Kao case see below.

Keiro Kai. Back when they were still in the community, the Sansei began this annual event to honor the elderly. Then, the elderly were mostly Issei. Today, with the Issei all but gone, and the Sansei scattered thither and yon, the Chapter honors its "over 70" with a luncheon in October—and entertainment guaranteed to keep the honorees awake.

Sushi Nite. Hard on the heels of the above event, Sushi Nite looms forth as the one fundraiser of the year. Highly successful, this 15-year-old annual event attracts ever more diners from the larger community each year, so that they comprise about 75% of the customers. So successful was the event this year, co-chaired by Alyce Sugiyama and Marguerite Murakami, doors had to be closed an hour or so after opening, everything from *inari-gushi* to special order *nigiri* items gone.

Mochitsuki. Few community members would be willing to give up this traditional December event sponsored by the Chapter, chaired this year and others by Curly Ishizu. Over 75 members took great pleasure in pounding, grinding and molding 900 pounds of mochi into *kasane* and individual cakes,

plain, or stuffed with *an*.

Ongoing Programs. But the Chapter is not all fun and food. Among its ongoing programs is the *Enman No Tomo* monthly program for the elderly. More than a dozen years old now, under the leadership of Lucy Kishida and Kinu Iwamoto from its inception, the program features exercise, educational events, and enriching field trips. This year, the group published a cookbook, a compilation of all those "May I have your recipe?" requests that emerge from community dinners.

The Chapter also sponsors the **Sonoma County Taiko Drummers**, increasingly becoming one of the most sought-after entertainment groups area-wide. Led by Bruce Shimizu, one-time JACL youth director, the group is comprised of an equal number of Japanese Americans and persons from other cultures.

A well-stocked **Library** about the history and culture of Japanese Americans is also maintained by the Chapter. Material can be checked out for one month, and, at different functions such as the Sushi Nite when a large or public is on hand. Current library keeper Alice Kashiwagi displays the books, slides and videos.

The Chapter is proud of its **Scholarship** program as well. Under the leadership of Margaret Wallman, the Scholarship Committee administered \$6,400 in awards this year to high school graduates, and a substantial ongoing grant to a post-graduate student.

Special Events. As in the numerous forums held last year ("Color of Fear" Forum on racial bigotry, the Hapa Forum, two Health Care forums), the Chapter usually sponsors at least one special event. This year, we sponsored the Sugihara Exhibit and Program. Chaired by Mei Nakano, and in cooperation with the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust out of Sonoma State University, the event generated area-wide interest. A standing-room-only crowd at SSU's Warren Auditorium greeted Hiroki

Sugihara, who told the extraordinary heroics of his father Chiune Sugihara via video tape and a narrative of his personal experience.

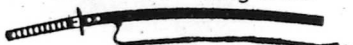
At a reception afterwards, Tami Adachi, representative of the Asian Employees group of Pacific Gas and Electric and PG&E itself, presented a check to the Chapter to enable the showing of the hour-long videotape of the Sugihara story "Visas for Life" on public television. The film has since aired three times because of viewer interest, and will no doubt be run again.

Kuan Kao Case. This case, in which a Taiwanese was shot and killed under questionable circumstances, became a cause celebrated county-wide, and spawned the movement for a Civilian Review Board. Our Chapter supported the local Chinese Association's effort to have the incident thoroughly investigated by outside authorities as a possible case of a civil rights violation because of race and one of several possible cases of excessive force used by the police. We are currently participating in discussions to create a Civilian Review Board.

JACL as Resource. Our Chapter has established itself in the minds of members of the county as a resource for speakers on Japanese American history and culture and for participation in civil and human rights issues. Having been listed in county human rights groups and Board of Education directories as such, members are often called upon to speak before students or at local events. Increasingly, Sansei are heading the call.

Summary. In sum, the Chapter's "sigh of satisfaction" comes from what it deems a worthy as well as enjoyable program accomplished for the year. Membership chair Jim Murakami reports that new members are replacing those lost by attrition so that the roll remains stable. More Sansei are taking part. Monthly board meetings bring together an average of 17 members, an outstanding record by any account. These tellingly reflect the interest and optimism with which Chapter members view the coming year. ■

Snake River Valley JACL



COLLECTOR
JAPANESE SWORDS
MEMBER OF
JAPANESE SWORD SOCIETY / U.S.

Dyke Nagasaka
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(208) 549-3841

Tracy Nakamura
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Pocatello /
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EDC is Supporting the Philadelphia Chapter
in Hosting the

1998 NATIONAL JACL CONVENTION
IN PHILADELPHIA
JUNE 30 - JULY 5, 1998



1998

Happy New
Year



Here is the third roster of JACL chapter presidents, an 11-year update since its second appearance in the 1986 New Year Special. The first one was published in 1955 on the occasion of National JACL's 25th anniversary. It has been a gigantic task to convert the material from the old pages into a computerized file—thanks to Lani Miyamoto and Brian Tanaka—but hereafter a veritably simple job to maintain, update and correct. The P.C. will acknowledge new information and corrections in a timely manner. (odu = Organization date unknown)

- Alameda**
 Organized April 6, 1932
 George Tagashiro (odu)
 32 Haruo Imura
 34 Masayoshi Morio
 35 Ken Fukutome
 36 Ken Nakase
 37 Mas Narahara
 38 Tim Yamashiro
 39 Mas Narahara
 40 George Shikuma
 41 Sakae Date
 42 Scott Tsuchiya
 Reactivated June 13, 1947
 43 John Towata
 44-50 Shiro Nakase
 51 Haruo Imura
 52 Dr. Roland Kodomo
 53 Yamao Yamashiro
 54 Tom Harata
 55 Yasuhiro Koike
 56 George Uchiyama
 57-63 Min Yonokura
 64-65 Shiro Takahashi
 66-67 Fuji Fujimoto
 68 George Uchiyama
 69 Al Kashiwara
 70 Shigeo Sugiyama
 71 Shiro Takahashi
 72-73 Haruo Akagi
 74-75 Kent Takeshi
 76-77 Hui Kenko
 78-79 Yae Kono
 80 Nancy Tajima
 81 Mrs. Tei Yoshizawa
 82-83 Yae Kono

- Alaska**
 (Anchorage)
 92-96 Sylvia Kobayashi
 97 Susan Churchill
- APT Lambda**
 (Los Angeles)
 96-97 May Yamamoto

- Arizona**
 Organized 1934
 34 Togo Iida
 35 36
 37 John Yamashiro
 38 John Hirohata
 39 Al Paul Tanaka
 40 Bill Kagawa
 41-43 Tetsuo Ikeda
 44 Shigeo Tanaka
 45 Carl Sato
 46 George S. Sato
 47 Masao Tetsudomura
 48 Sam I. Okuma
 49 John Tefano
 50 Masao Yamashiro
 51 Masao Nishihara
 52 Tom Kadenoma
 53 Robert Takahashi
 54 Nurt Yamamoto
 55 Jim Ozawa
 56 George Kashiwara
 57 Cherry Tetsudomura
 58 John Kihara
 59-61 Cherry Tetsudomura
 62 Mike Deobashi
 63-64 Hideo Miyahara
 65 George Onodera
 66 Tom T. Okuma
 67 John Sakata
 68 Richard Matsushita
 69 Roy Morochi
 70 Richard Matsushita
 71 John Kimura
 72 Koko Nakawara
 73 Richard Matsushita
 74 Pat Watanebe
 75 Tom Yano
 76-77 Jim Shinto
 78-81 Fumi Okabayashi
 82 Gary Tadano
 83 Masa Takahashi
 84 Wendell DeCress
 85 Anthony Shimizu
 86-87 Gary Tadano
 88 Wendell W. DeCress
 89 Richard Matsushita
 90 Roy Morochi
 91 Richard Matsushita
 92 John Kimura
 93 Koko Nakawara
 94 Richard Matsushita
 95 Pat Watanebe
 96 Tom Yano
 97-98 Jim Shinto
 99-01 Fumi Okabayashi
 02 Gary Tadano

- Arkansas Valley**
 Organized Apr. 4, 1950
 50-53 Up Harada
 54 Harry Shirokawa
 55 Ted Maruyama
 56 George Uchiyama
 57 Up Harada
 58 John Maruyama
 59 Elmo Sakai
 60 Tom Tanaka
 61 Robert Miyahara
 62 Henry Kono
 63 Jim Hiraki
 64 Mike Fujimoto
 65 Joe M. Wyne
 66 Gene Hirakata
 67 George Uchiyama
 68-69 Harry Shirokawa
 70 George Uchiyama
 71 Ichiro Sato
 72 Tom Tanabe
 73 Mary Takahashi
 74-75 George Fujimoto
 76-81 George Uchiyama
 82 Harry Shirokawa
 83-84 Up Harada
 85-86 George Uchiyama
 87 Any Kenishi
 88 Harry Shirokawa

- Asian Pac. American**
 Network (APAN)
 91 Kimberly Takahashi
 92 Shari Uyeda
 93 Key Yamamoto
 94 Danny Goto
 95 John Okazaki
 96 Mike Koshimoto
 97 Gary Berkeley

- Berkeley (odu)**
 42 Kimo Ohta
 Reactivated May 1977 as part

- Boise Valley**
 Organized 1937
 37-38 Henry Souchira
 39 Howard Fujii
 40 Joe Sato
 41 Yuta Tamura
 42 Martha Nishitani
 43 Ake Sato
 44 George Nishitani
 45 Mas Yamashiro
 46 Soapy S. Sagami
 47 Tom Takatori
 48 Edmon Fuji
 49 George Koyama
 50 George Ishihara
 51 Dyke Ito
 52 Tom Takatori
 53 Seichi Hayashida
 54 Masahiko Yamada
 55 Henry Souchira
 56 Steve Hirai
 57 Harry Hamada
 58 James Yamada
 59 Seichi Hayashida
 60 Masao Yamashiro
 61 Masao Nishihara
 62 Junji Yamamoto
 63 Yoshiko Takahashi
 64 John Arima
 65 Ray Inouye
 66 Takashi Koyama
 67 George Koyama
 68 Tomy Miyasaka
 69 Toshi Iida
 70-72 George Tamura
 73-74 Deu Hayashida
 75-76 Yoshio Takahashi
 77 James Oyama
 78 Sam Fujishiro
 79-80 Tak Yamashiro
 81 Barry Fujishiro
 82-83 Dr. Stanley Eto
 84 John Kimura
 85 Koko Nakawara
 86-88 Seichi Hayashida
 89-90 John H. Muto
 91 92
 93-94 Seichi Hayashida
 94-97 Ed Hirahara

- Canton**
 Organized 1976
 76-77 Joe Sakamoto
 78-79 Tom Kawamoto
 80-81 Min Nishihara
 82 Helen Kamakura
 83-84 Helen Kamakura
 85-86 Roy Nakada
 87-88 Miriam Nakada
 89-90 Seichi Hayashida
 91-92 Joe Sakamoto
- Chicago**
 Organized June 1944
 45 William Minami
 46 Noboru Honda
 47 Jack Nakagawa
 48 Mas Nakabayashi
 49 Shigeo Wakamatsu
 50 Ronald I. Suzuki
 51-52 Asa Hagawa
 53-54 Kenji Yoshino
 55-56 Dr. Frank Koshino
 57-58 Hui Mayeda
 59-60 Joe K. Sagami
 61-62 Mark Yoshino
 63-64 Lincoln Shimizu
 65-66 Henry Terada
 67-68 Tom Tanaka
 69-70 Rose Haruto
 71 Tak Taniguchi
 72 Hiroshi Kashiwa
 73-74 Ron Yoshino
 75-76 Perry Miyake
 77-78 Chieyo Terahara
 79-80 Hui Takahashi
 81-82 Hui Takahashi
 83-84 Hui Takahashi
 85-86 Hui Takahashi
 87-88 Hui Takahashi
 89-90 Hui Takahashi
 91-92 Hui Takahashi
 93-94 Hui Takahashi
 95-96 Hui Takahashi
 97-98 Hui Takahashi
 99-01 Hui Takahashi

- Cincinnati**
 Organized April 5, 1946
 46-47 Mike Yamaguchi
 48-49 Hui Takahashi
 50-51 Hui Takahashi
 52-53 Hui Takahashi
 54-55 Hui Takahashi
 56-57 Hui Takahashi
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 82-83 Hui Takahashi
 84-85 Hui Takahashi
 86-87 Hui Takahashi
 88-89 Hui Takahashi
 90-91 Hui Takahashi
 92-93 Hui Takahashi
 94-95 Hui Takahashi
 96-97 Hui Takahashi
 98-99 Hui Takahashi
 00-01 Hui Takahashi

- Central Coast**
 Organized April 1933
 33-34 Wanda Furuta
 35-36 Katsumi Harano
 37-38 Kideo Arai
 39-40 Hui Takahashi
 41-42 Hui Takahashi
 43-44 Hui Takahashi
 45-46 Hui Takahashi
 47-48 Hui Takahashi
 49-50 Hui Takahashi
 51-52 Hui Takahashi
 53-54 Hui Takahashi
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 89-90 Hui Takahashi
 91-92 Hui Takahashi
 93-94 Hui Takahashi
 95-96 Hui Takahashi
 97-98 Hui Takahashi
 99-01 Hui Takahashi

- East Los Angeles**
 Organized Sept. 30, 1948
 48 Akira Hasegawa
 49 Bill Takahashi
 50 Lynn N. Takagaki
 51 George Akagaki
 52-53 Edna Uno
 54 John Watanabe
 55 Wilbur Sato
 56 Jim Y. Higashi
 57 Fred Takahashi
 58-59 Bill Takahashi
 60-61 George Akagaki
 62-63 Edna Uno
 64-65 John Watanabe
 66-67 Wilbur Sato
 68-69 Jim Y. Higashi
 70-71 Fred Takahashi
 72-73 Bill Takahashi
 74-75 George Akagaki
 76-77 Edna Uno
 78-79 John Watanabe
 80-81 Wilbur Sato
 82-83 Jim Y. Higashi
 84-85 Fred Takahashi
 86-87 Bill Takahashi
 88-89 George Akagaki
 90-91 Edna Uno
 92-93 John Watanabe
 94-95 Wilbur Sato
 96-97 Jim Y. Higashi
 98-99 Fred Takahashi
 00-01 Bill Takahashi

- Detroit**
 Organized June 7, 1946
 46-47 Peter Fujimoto
 48-49 Ken Kato
 50 Mark M. Kondo
 51 Wallace Kato
 52 Goro Ochi
 53 Minoru Takagaki
 54 Kenji Yoshino
 55-56 Mrs. Miyoko O'Neill
 57 Yoshio Kashiwa
 58-59 Charles Kashiwa
 60-61 William Mayo
 62-63 Fred Watanabe
 64-65 Peter Fujimoto
 66-67 Ken Kato
 68-69 Mark M. Kondo
 70-71 Wallace Kato
 72-73 Goro Ochi
 74-75 Minoru Takagaki
 76-77 Kenji Yoshino
 78-79 Mrs. Miyoko O'Neill
 80-81 Yoshio Kashiwa
 82-83 Charles Kashiwa
 84-85 William Mayo
 86-87 Fred Watanabe
 88-89 Peter Fujimoto
 89-90 Ken Kato
 90-91 Mark M. Kondo
 91-92 Wallace Kato
 92-93 Goro Ochi
 93-94 Minoru Takagaki
 94-95 Kenji Yoshino
 95-96 Mrs. Miyoko O'Neill
 96-97 Yoshio Kashiwa
 98-99 Charles Kashiwa
 99-01 William Mayo

- Diablo Valley**
 Organized April 19, 1977
 77 Haruo Morimoto
 78 Jack Nakahashi
 79 Yoko Wada
 80-81 Mollie Fujikawa
 82 Roy Takai
 83-84 Carl Mune
 85-86 Akiko Terada
 87-88 Edward E. Kubokawa
 89-90 Hannah Yashiro
 91-92 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 93-94 Masao Shirogami
 95-96 Akiko Terada
 97-98 Roy Takai
 99-01 Carl Mune
 02-03 Akiko Terada
 04-05 Edward E. Kubokawa
 06-07 Hannah Yashiro
 08-09 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 10-11 Masao Shirogami
 12-13 Akiko Terada
 14-15 Roy Takai
 16-17 Carl Mune
 18-19 Akiko Terada
 20-21 Edward E. Kubokawa
 22-23 Hannah Yashiro
 24-25 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 26-27 Masao Shirogami
 28-29 Akiko Terada
 30-31 Roy Takai
 32-33 Carl Mune
 34-35 Akiko Terada
 36-37 Edward E. Kubokawa
 38-39 Hannah Yashiro
 40-41 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 42-43 Masao Shirogami
 44-45 Akiko Terada
 46-47 Roy Takai
 48-49 Carl Mune
 50-51 Akiko Terada
 52-53 Edward E. Kubokawa
 54-55 Hannah Yashiro
 56-57 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 58-59 Masao Shirogami
 60-61 Akiko Terada
 62-63 Roy Takai
 64-65 Carl Mune
 66-67 Akiko Terada
 68-69 Edward E. Kubokawa
 70-71 Hannah Yashiro
 72-73 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 74-75 Masao Shirogami
 76-77 Akiko Terada
 78-79 Roy Takai
 80-81 Carl Mune
 82-83 Akiko Terada
 84-85 Edward E. Kubokawa
 86-87 Hannah Yashiro
 88-89 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 90-91 Masao Shirogami
 92-93 Akiko Terada
 94-95 Roy Takai
 96-97 Carl Mune
 98-99 Akiko Terada
 00-01 Edward E. Kubokawa

- Downtown L.A.**
 Pioneer Chapter
 Organized 1929 as
 Los Angeles JACL
 29-30 Masao Inoue
 31-32 Charles Yamaguchi
 33-34 John S. Ando
 35-36 Karl Iwagawa
 37-38 Elton Sato
 39-40 Ted Fujishiro
 41-42 John S. Ando
 43-44 John S. Ando
 45-46 John S. Ando
 47-48 John S. Ando
 49-50 John S. Ando
 51-52 John S. Ando
 53-54 John S. Ando
 55-56 John S. Ando
 57-58 John S. Ando
 59-60 John S. Ando
 61-62 John S. Ando
 63-64 John S. Ando
 65-66 John S. Ando
 67-68 John S. Ando
 69-70 John S. Ando
 71-72 John S. Ando
 73-74 John S. Ando
 75-76 John S. Ando
 77-78 John S. Ando
 79-80 John S. Ando
 81-82 John S. Ando
 83-84 John S. Ando
 85-86 John S. Ando
 87-88 John S. Ando
 89-90 John S. Ando
 91-92 John S. Ando
 93-94 John S. Ando
 95-96 John S. Ando
 97-98 John S. Ando
 99-01 John S. Ando

- Fort Lupton (odu)**
 44-45 Floyd Koshio
 46-47 John S. Ando
 48-49 John S. Ando
 50-51 John S. Ando
 52-53 John S. Ando
 54-55 John S. Ando
 56-57 John S. Ando
 58-59 John S. Ando
 60-61 John S. Ando
 62-63 John S. Ando
 64-65 John S. Ando
 66-67 John S. Ando
 68-69 John S. Ando
 70-71 John S. Ando
 72-73 John S. Ando
 74-75 John S. Ando
 76-77 John S. Ando
 78-79 John S. Ando
 80-81 John S. Ando
 82-83 John S. Ando
 84-85 John S. Ando
 86-87 John S. Ando
 88-89 John S. Ando
 90-91 John S. Ando
 92-93 John S. Ando
 94-95 John S. Ando
 96-97 John S. Ando
 98-99 John S. Ando
 00-01 John S. Ando

- Fowler**
 Organized 1952
 52-53 George Miyake
 54-55 Harry Nakamura
 56-57 George Miyake
 58-59 Harry Nakamura
 60-61 George Miyake
 62-63 Harry Nakamura
 64-65 George Miyake
 66-67 Harry Nakamura
 68-69 George Miyake
 70-71 Harry Nakamura
 72-73 George Miyake
 74-75 Harry Nakamura
 76-77 George Miyake
 78-79 Harry Nakamura
 80-81 George Miyake
 82-83 Harry Nakamura
 84-85 George Miyake
 86-87 Harry Nakamura
 88-89 George Miyake
 90-91 Harry Nakamura
 92-93 George Miyake
 94-95 Harry Nakamura
 96-97 George Miyake
 98-99 Harry Nakamura
 00-01 George Miyake

- Fremont**
 Organized 1954 as
 Washington Township
 54-55 Harry Kondo
 56-57 Kazuo Shikano
 58-59 Harry Kondo
 60-61 Kazuo Shikano
 62-63 Harry Kondo
 64-65 Kazuo Shikano
 66-67 Harry Kondo
 68-69 Kazuo Shikano
 70-71 Harry Kondo
 72-73 Kazuo Shikano
 74-75 Harry Kondo
 76-77 Kazuo Shikano
 78-79 Harry Kondo
 80-81 Kazuo Shikano
 82-83 Harry Kondo
 84-85 Kazuo Shikano
 86-87 Harry Kondo
 88-89 Kazuo Shikano
 90-91 Harry Kondo
 92-93 Kazuo Shikano
 94-95 Harry Kondo
 96-97 Kazuo Shikano
 98-99 Harry Kondo
 00-01 Kazuo Shikano

- Florida**
 Organized Aug. 16, 1935
 35-36 Yoshio Kashiwa
 37-38 Alfred Tsuchiya
 39-40 John Hirohata
 41-42 Hugh M. Kuno
 43-44 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 45-46 Alfred Tsuchiya
 47-48 Yoshio Kashiwa
 49-50 John Hirohata
 51-52 Hugh M. Kuno
 53-54 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 55-56 Alfred Tsuchiya
 57-58 Yoshio Kashiwa
 59-60 John Hirohata
 61-62 Hugh M. Kuno
 63-64 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 65-66 Alfred Tsuchiya
 67-68 Yoshio Kashiwa
 69-70 John Hirohata
 71-72 Hugh M. Kuno
 73-74 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 75-76 Alfred Tsuchiya
 77-78 Yoshio Kashiwa
 79-80 John Hirohata
 81-82 Hugh M. Kuno
 83-84 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 85-86 Alfred Tsuchiya
 87-88 Yoshio Kashiwa
 89-90 John Hirohata
 91-92 Hugh M. Kuno
 93-94 Richard Dec. 10, 1947
 95-96 Alfred Tsuchiya
 97-98 Yoshio Kashiwa
 99-01 John Hirohata

- Gardena Valley**
 Organized Jan. 25, 1939
 39-40 George T. Yamashiro
 41-42 Fred H. Hagiwara
 43-44 George T. Yamashiro
 45-46 Fred H. Hagiwara
 47-48 George T. Yamashiro
 49-50 Fred H. Hagiwara
 51-52 George T. Yamashiro
 53-54 Fred H. Hagiwara
 55-56 George T. Yamashiro
 57-58 Fred H. Hagiwara
 59-60 George T. Yamashiro
 61-62 Fred H. Hagiwara
 63-64 George T. Yamashiro
 65-66 Fred H. Hagiwara
 67-68 George T. Yamashiro
 69-70 Fred H. Hagiwara
 71-72 George T. Yamashiro
 73-74 Fred H. Hagiwara
 75-76 George T. Yamashiro
 77-78 Fred H. Hagiwara
 79-80 George T. Yamashiro
 81-82 Fred H. Hagiwara
 83-84 George T. Yamashiro
 85-86 Fred H. Hagiwara
 87-88 George T. Yamashiro
 89-90 Fred H. Hagiwara
 91-92 George T. Yamashiro
 93-94 Fred H. Hagiwara
 95-96 George T. Yamashiro
 97-98 Fred H. Hagiwara
 99-01 George T. Yamashiro

- French Camp**
 Organized 1948
 48-49 George T. Yamashiro
 50-51 Fred H. Hagiwara
 52-53 George T. Yamashiro
 54-55 Fred H. Hagiwara
 56-57 George T. Yamashiro
 58-59 Fred H. Hagiwara
 60-61 George T. Yamashiro
 62-63 Fred H. Hagiwara
 64-65 George T. Yamashiro
 66-67 Fred H. Hagiwara
 68-69 George T. Yamashiro
 70-71 Fred H. Hagiwara
 72-73 George T. Yamashiro
 74-75 Fred H. Hagiwara
 76-77 George T. Yamashiro
 78-79 Fred H. Hagiwara
 80-81 George T. Yamashiro
 82-83 Fred H. Hagiwara
 84-85 George T. Yamashiro
 86-87 Fred H. Hagiwara
 88-89 George T. Yamashiro
 90-91 Fred H. Hagiwara
 92-93 George T. Yamashiro
 94-95 Fred H. Hagiwara
 96-97 George T. Yamashiro
 98-99 Fred H. Hagiwara
 00-01 George T. Yamashiro

70 Joe Ohta
71 Lawrence Sakai
72 Benry Yamane
73-74 James Yamane
75-76 Shig Yamane
77 James Sakai
78 Bob Hirahara
79 Bob Yamaguchi
80 John Hanamoto
81 James Ogawa
82 Sam Sada
83 Atsuko Ohta
84 Masuo Nizawa
85 John Kado
86 Dr. Eric R. Nagareda
87-88 Alan Kawafuchi
89 Michael F. Hoshida
90 Mitsu Nizawa
91 Michael Hoshida
92 Teri Iwanaga
93-94
95 Kenneth Kamei
97 Janet Yamane

Golden Gate
Organized 1980
80-81 Susan Honami
82-83 Yumiko Yamamoto
84-86 Patricia Reyes
86-88 Donna Kotake
89-90 T. Kawamoto
90 Katherine M. Reyes
91, 92
93-94 George Kawamoto
95 Yuki Nakashima
97 Elise Komimoto
Carol Tatemoto

Greater L.A. Singles
Organized Aug. 1982
82 Midori Watanabe
83 Tom Shimazaki
84 Yoko Yamamoto
85 Karl Nobuyuki
87-88 Mienko Mori
89 Ken Ishiguro
90-91 T. Shimazaki
91-92 Janet Okubo
93-94 Christine Ishida
95-96 Miyoko N. Kadogawa
97 Janet Okubo

Greater Pasadena Area
Organized 1969
70 Harry Kawahara
71 Robert Uchida
72 Fred Miwa
73 Rei Ouchi
74 Robert Uchida
75-76 Franklin Odo
77-79 Harry Kawahara
80-81 Craig Hagi / F. Sato
82-83 Bob Uchida

Gresham Troutdale
Organized Mar. 11, 1950
50-51 Shiz Uchida
52 Jack Okouchi
53 Sam Fujimoto
54 Toshiro Okino
55 Kenzo Kinoshita
56 Henry T. Kato
57 Dr. Joe Ouchi
58 Jack Okouchi
59 Ken Tamura
60 Edward Honma
61 Kenzo Kinoshita
62 Dr. Joe Ouchi
63 Toshi Okino
64 Henry T. Kato
65 Shigenari Nagae
66 Kenzo Tamura
67 Sam Fujimoto
68 Edward Fujii
69 Dr. Henry Masahiro
70 Richard Nishimura
71 Yuki Masahiro
72 Henry Kato
73 Kenzo Tamura
74 Shigenari Nagae
75 Hiram Hachiyu
76 Richard Nishimura
77 Dr. Henry Masahiro
78 Ed Honma
79 Shiz Uchida
80 Edward Fujii
81-82 Henry Muramatsu
83 Kenzo Kinoshita
84 Ken Kinoshita
85 Edward Honma
86 Joe M. Ouchi
87 Larry Murahashi
88 Shigenari Nagae
89 Peter Nakamura
90 Kenzo Kinoshita
91 Willie Kinoshita
92 Henry Muramatsu
93-97 Ben Demise

Hawaii
Organized in 1980
80-81 Earl Nishimura
82-83 Lawrence Kumabe
84 Nakano Yonamine
85 William Kaneke
90 Lawrence Kumabe
91-92 William Kaneke
93-94 Alley Hilde
95 Colbert Matsumoto
96 Alan Muramatsu
97 Charin Tatemoto
98 Alan Muramatsu

High Desert (odu)
(Palmdale, Lancaster, Calif.)
81 Irene Yamasaki
82 Neil Sugimoto
83 John Nakamura
95-96 Vicky Tomonada

Hollywood
Organized Feb. 28, 1951
31-32 Henry Turutani
33-35 Merged with Los Angeles

Los Angeles
Organized 1980
80-82 Barry Sakai
83-84 David Yamashita
85-86 Calvin Kuniyuki
87-88 Shiro Sakai
89 Robert Ken
90 David Kaput
91-92 Dick H. Yamashita
93-94 Caroline Kawahara
95-96 Vicky Tomonada

70-71 Alan Kamamoto
72-73 Amy Ishii
74 Tam Takemouchi
75-76 Tetsuo Ogita
77-79 Francis Yokoyama
80-81 Toshiaki Ogita
82 William Koseki
83 Louis Moore
84-87 Dr. Jerry Wong
88-90 Wiley Higuchi
90 Jerry Wong
91-94 Wiley Higuchi
95-97 Francis Y. Wong

Hoosier
Organized January, 1976
80-81 Mary Sato (ex)
82 George Umemura
83 William R. Alexander
84 Dr. George Hansono
85 Shirley Nakatsunaga
86-88 Vaneke Matsumoto
89 Katsuo Kojiro
90 Ken Matsumoto
91-92 Sam Hannell
93 Kathleen Ase
94 Walter Nakatsunaga
95 George M. Umemura
96-97 Yumiko Matsumoto

Idaho Falls
Organized Feb. 17, 1940 as
Southwestern Idaho
40-41 Yukio Inoue
42-43 Mitsuo Kasai
44-45 Yukio Inoue
46-47 Mitsuo Kasai
48-49 Mitsuo Kasai
50-51 Mitsuo Kasai
52-53 Mitsuo Kasai
54-55 Mitsuo Kasai
56-57 Mitsuo Kasai
58-59 Mitsuo Kasai
60-61 Mitsuo Kasai
62-63 Mitsuo Kasai
64-65 Mitsuo Kasai
66-67 Mitsuo Kasai
68-69 Mitsuo Kasai
70-71 Mitsuo Kasai
72-73 Mitsuo Kasai
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76-77 Mitsuo Kasai
78-79 Mitsuo Kasai
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
84-85 Mitsuo Kasai
86-87 Mitsuo Kasai
88-89 Mitsuo Kasai
90-91 Mitsuo Kasai
92-93 Mitsuo Kasai
94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Imperial Valley
Organized May 12, 1958
50-51 Shiz Uchida
52 Jack Okouchi
53 Sam Fujimoto
54 Toshiro Okino
55 Kenzo Kinoshita
56 Henry T. Kato
57 Dr. Joe Ouchi
58 Jack Okouchi
59 Ken Tamura
60 Edward Honma
61 Kenzo Kinoshita
62 Dr. Joe Ouchi
63 Toshi Okino
64 Henry T. Kato
65 Shigenari Nagae
66 Kenzo Tamura
67 Sam Fujimoto
68 Edward Fujii
69 Dr. Henry Masahiro
70 Richard Nishimura
71 Yuki Masahiro
72 Henry Kato
73 Kenzo Tamura
74 Shigenari Nagae
75 Hiram Hachiyu
76 Richard Nishimura
77 Dr. Henry Masahiro
78 Ed Honma
79 Shiz Uchida
80 Edward Fujii
81-82 Henry Muramatsu
83 Kenzo Kinoshita
84 Ken Kinoshita
85 Edward Honma
86 Joe M. Ouchi
87 Larry Murahashi
88 Shigenari Nagae
89 Peter Nakamura
90 Kenzo Kinoshita
91 Willie Kinoshita
92 Henry Muramatsu
93-97 Ben Demise

Livingston-Merced
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
84-85 Mitsuo Kasai
86-87 Mitsuo Kasai
88-89 Mitsuo Kasai
90-91 Mitsuo Kasai
92-93 Mitsuo Kasai
94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Lodi (odu)
Organized Jan. 20, 1976
70-71 Toshiro Okino
72-73 Toshiro Okino
74-75 Toshiro Okino
76-77 Toshiro Okino
78-79 Toshiro Okino
80-81 Toshiro Okino
82-83 Toshiro Okino
84-85 Toshiro Okino
86-87 Toshiro Okino
88-89 Toshiro Okino
90-91 Toshiro Okino
92-93 Toshiro Okino
94-95 Toshiro Okino
96-97 Toshiro Okino

Marin County (San Francisco)
Organized 1975
70-71 Toshiro Okino
72-73 Toshiro Okino
74-75 Toshiro Okino
76-77 Toshiro Okino
78-79 Toshiro Okino
80-81 Toshiro Okino
82-83 Toshiro Okino
84-85 Toshiro Okino
86-87 Toshiro Okino
88-89 Toshiro Okino
90-91 Toshiro Okino
92-93 Toshiro Okino
94-95 Toshiro Okino
96-97 Toshiro Okino

Marina (San Francisco)
Organized 1975
70-71 Toshiro Okino
72-73 Toshiro Okino
74-75 Toshiro Okino
76-77 Toshiro Okino
78-79 Toshiro Okino
80-81 Toshiro Okino
82-83 Toshiro Okino
84-85 Toshiro Okino
86-87 Toshiro Okino
88-89 Toshiro Okino
90-91 Toshiro Okino
92-93 Toshiro Okino
94-95 Toshiro Okino
96-97 Toshiro Okino

Marysville
Organized July 15, 1955
(Tuba, Sutter, Butte, Colusa)
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
84-85 Mitsuo Kasai
86-87 Mitsuo Kasai
88-89 Mitsuo Kasai
90-91 Mitsuo Kasai
92-93 Mitsuo Kasai
94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Merced
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
84-85 Mitsuo Kasai
86-87 Mitsuo Kasai
88-89 Mitsuo Kasai
90-91 Mitsuo Kasai
92-93 Mitsuo Kasai
94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
84-85 Mitsuo Kasai
86-87 Mitsuo Kasai
88-89 Mitsuo Kasai
90-91 Mitsuo Kasai
92-93 Mitsuo Kasai
94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

57 George Nakao
58 George Nakao
59 Bill Tsugi
60 Dr. Yutaka Toyoda
61 Shiro Matsumoto
62 Terry Manji
63 Roger Tokuda
64 Robert Kodama
65 Arthur Os
66 George Yoshimoto
67 Clark Tokuda
68 Fred Matsuo
69 Fred Matsuo
70 Toshi Sano
71 Harry Fukumitsu
72 George Nakagawa
73 Ken Yoshikawa
74 Sada Nakamura
75 Bill Henry
76 Bill Henry
77 Bill Henry
78 Bill Henry
79 Bill Henry
80 George Nakao
81 George H. Kodama
82 Robert H. Kodama
83-84 Mrs. Helen Manji
85 Monako Hatayama
86 Eisei Council
87 Monako Miriam
88 George Nakao
89 Barton T. Yoshida
90 Irene Itamura
91 Helen Manji
92 Helen Manji / Frank
93 Helen Manji / Frank
94 Helen Manji / Frank
95 Helen Manji / Frank
96 Helen Manji / Frank
97 Helen Manji / Frank

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
84-85 Mitsuo Kasai
86-87 Mitsuo Kasai
88-89 Mitsuo Kasai
90-91 Mitsuo Kasai
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94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
84-85 Mitsuo Kasai
86-87 Mitsuo Kasai
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
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86-87 Mitsuo Kasai
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
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94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
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94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
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94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
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90-91 Mitsuo Kasai
92-93 Mitsuo Kasai
94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

57 George Nakao
58 George Nakao
59 Bill Tsugi
60 Dr. Yutaka Toyoda
61 Shiro Matsumoto
62 Terry Manji
63 Roger Tokuda
64 Robert Kodama
65 Arthur Os
66 George Yoshimoto
67 Clark Tokuda
68 Fred Matsuo
69 Fred Matsuo
70 Toshi Sano
71 Harry Fukumitsu
72 George Nakagawa
73 Ken Yoshikawa
74 Sada Nakamura
75 Bill Henry
76 Bill Henry
77 Bill Henry
78 Bill Henry
79 Bill Henry
80 George Nakao
81 George H. Kodama
82 Robert H. Kodama
83-84 Mrs. Helen Manji
85 Monako Hatayama
86 Eisei Council
87 Monako Miriam
88 George Nakao
89 Barton T. Yoshida
90 Irene Itamura
91 Helen Manji
92 Helen Manji / Frank
93 Helen Manji / Frank
94 Helen Manji / Frank
95 Helen Manji / Frank
96 Helen Manji / Frank
97 Helen Manji / Frank

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
82-83 Mitsuo Kasai
84-85 Mitsuo Kasai
86-87 Mitsuo Kasai
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94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
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Mountain View
Organized 1938
80-81 Mitsuo Kasai
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Mountain View
Organized 1938
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96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

57 George Nakao
58 George Nakao
59 Bill Tsugi
60 Dr. Yutaka Toyoda
61 Shiro Matsumoto
62 Terry Manji
63 Roger Tokuda
64 Robert Kodama
65 Arthur Os
66 George Yoshimoto
67 Clark Tokuda
68 Fred Matsuo
69 Fred Matsuo
70 Toshi Sano
71 Harry Fukumitsu
72 George Nakagawa
73 Ken Yoshikawa
74 Sada Nakamura
75 Bill Henry
76 Bill Henry
77 Bill Henry
78 Bill Henry
79 Bill Henry
80 George Nakao
81 George H. Kodama
82 Robert H. Kodama
83-84 Mrs. Helen Manji
85 Monako Hatayama
86 Eisei Council
87 Monako Miriam
88 George Nakao
89 Barton T. Yoshida
90 Irene Itamura
91 Helen Manji
92 Helen Manji / Frank
93 Helen Manji / Frank
94 Helen Manji / Frank
95 Helen Manji / Frank
96 Helen Manji / Frank
97 Helen Manji / Frank

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57 George Nakao
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59 Bill Tsugi
60 Dr. Yutaka Toyoda
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64 Robert Kodama
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66 George Yoshimoto
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97 Helen Manji / Frank

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65 Arthur Os
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70 Toshi Sano
71 Harry Fukumitsu
72 George Nakagawa
73 Ken Yoshikawa
74 Sada Nakamura
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94-95 Mitsuo Kasai
96-97 Mitsuo Kasai

Progressive Westside

Organized May 17, 1948 as
Southwest L.A.
 69 Ned Nishikawa
 50-51 Tut Yama
 52 Dick H. Fujioke
 53 Mack Hanganaka
 54 Hisashi Horita
 55 Dr. Tora Iura
 56 Dr. Ito Iura
 57 Kengo Kunitagawa
 58 San Hirasawa
 59 Joe Yanaki
 60 Thomas Shimizu
 61 Frank Kagiuchi
 62 John Aikawa
 63 Mas Shimizu
 Chapter Reincarnated 1966
 64 Fred Fujita
 65 Budger Kane
 66 Dr. Franklin Minami
 67 Mrs. Toru Shimizu
 68 Irm Inami
 69 Mrs. Tomi Ohta
 70 Toshiyoshi Yoshida

Puyallup Valley

Organized Feb. 1931
 31-32 J. M. Yamamoto
 33-34 Daichi Yokosaka
 35-36 Tetsu Kurumoto
 37-38 Dan Sakahara
 Howard Sakuma (Etriv)
 39-40 Mas Nakamichi
 41-42 Lefty S. Sasaki
 43 Kiyoko S. Hanamura
 Reincarnated Feb. 19, 1948
 44-49 Kaz Yamane
 50 Art Yamada
 51 Ken Takamura
 52 Hiroshi Sakahara
 53 John Sasaki
 54 Robert Mizukami
 55 Dr. K. Tada
 56 Yosh Kawabata
 57 Thomas Takemura
 58 Dr. John Kanda
 59 Robert Mizukami
 60 Dr. Sam Uchiyama
 61 Toshiro Tsuboi
 62 Kaz Yamane
 63 George Iwakura
 64 Joe Kawai
 65 Frank H. Komoto
 66 George Murakami
 67 Frank Mizukami
 68-69 Yoshio Kono
 70-71 Yoshihiko Tanabe
 72-74 Etsu Sonekawa
 75-76 Dr. Paul W. Ellis
 77 Gregory Mizukami
 78 Tom Shiga
 79-80 Joseph Kawai
 81-82 Dr. John M. Kanda
 83-85 Etsu Sonekawa
 86-87 Tom Fukuyama
 88 Jan Yoshizawa
 89 H. Del Tanabe
 90 Etsu Sonekawa
 91 H. Del Tanabe
 92-93 Jeff Herry
 94 George Fujita

Redley

Organized June 8, 1935
 35 George Ikuta
 36 Ben Okumura
 38 Charles Iwakura
 40 Seyichi Okumura
 41 Koji Kitahara
 42 George Ikuta
 Reincarnated Sept. 25, 1948
 43 Masaru Abe
 44 Marshall Hirose
 45 Charles Iwakura
 51 Mas Sakuma
 52 Jack Shimizu
 53 Akira Tajiri
 54 Masaru Abe
 55 Charles Iwakura
 56 Dr. James Ikemura
 57 Tak Naito
 58 Ed Yano
 59 Frank Kimura
 60 Kiyoshi Kawamoto
 61 Ken Kitahara
 62 Ken Kitahara
 63 Henry Hosaka
 64 Bill Yamada
 65 Masaru Abe
 66 George Kiyomoto
 67 George Ikemura
 68 George Katsuki
 69 Henry Iwanaga
 70 George Hosaka
 71 Dr. Kanji Asami
 72 Sam Nakano
 73 Larry Iwakura
 75 Ken Sunamoto
 76 Roy Watari
 77 Ron Nishikawa
 78 Harvey Hanamoto
 79 Wayne Kai
 80 Dennis D. Ikuta
 81 Kim Kurumaji
 82 George Ikuta
 83 Dale Okumura
 84 San Hirahara
 85 Curtis Kaga
 86 Tom Shitanihara
 87 Stanley Ishii
 88-89 Tim Kurumaji
 90 San Hirahara
 91-92
 93 Stan Hirahara
 94-95
 96-97 Stan Hirahara

Reno

Organized March 1, 1948
 48 Bob Ito
 49 Fred Yamaguchi
 50 George Oshima
 51 Oscar Fujita
 52 Fred Ayama
 53 Oscar Fujita
 54-55 Fred Ayama
 56 Henry Hattori
 57 Mrs. Fukui
 58-59 Bud Fujita
 60 Mrs. Hana Ayama
 61 Mrs. Yoshie Fujita
 62 Mrs. Etsu Oshima
 63 Robert Deloid
 64 Mas Baba
 65 Fred Ayama
 66 Mrs. Joe Chikami
 68 William R. Spahr
 69 Kay Fujita
 70 Dr. Eugene Chong
 71 James Iura

Salinas Valley

Organized in 1931
 31 Takao Yuki
 32 Harry Kato
 33 Ken Fujino
 34 Henry Shigemasa
 35 John Urabe
 36 Kenji Kato
 37 Takao Yuki
 38 Kenzo Yashida
 39 Isamu Fujita
 40 George Ohashi
 41 George Ohashi
 42 George Ohashi
 43 George Ohashi
 44 George Ohashi
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 59 George Ohashi
 60 George Ohashi

Riverside

Organized May 29, 1931
 67 William Takano
 68 Dr. Ege Ogata
 69 Mas Kokutani
 70 Leo Anzaki
 71 Dolly Ogata
 72 Jim Urabe
 73 Glenn Ruchel
 74 Peter Sasaki
 75 Mable Bristol
 76 Jack Nakaya
 77 Masami Shimamura
 78 Carl Bristol
 80 Douglas Ueda
 81 Dolly Ogata
 82 Helen Kaji
 83 Kiyoko S. Hanamura
 85-86 Dr. Junji Kumamoto
 87-88 William Takano
 89 Masami Shimamura
 90 Kiyoko S. Hanamura
 91 Douglas Ueda
 92-93 Michiko Yoshimura
 94-95 Dr. K. Tada
 96-97 Beverly Inaba
 Clyde Wilson

Sacramento

Organized 1922 as American Loyalty League
 22-24 Walter Tukamoto
 24-31 Inactive
 Chartered Oct. 31, 1931
 32-33 Walter Tukamoto
 34-35 Jiro Muramoto
 36-37 Henry Taketa
 38 Edward Kuranami
 39-40 George Taketa
 41-42 Goro Muramoto
 Reincarnated Aug. 10, 1947
 43-44 Henry Taketa (org.)
 45-46 Mitsuhiro Hara
 47-48 Mitsuhiro Nishio
 49-50 Kyo Sato
 51-52 M. M. Matsumoto
 53-54 Giji Mizutani
 55-56 George Tambara
 57-58 Toku Fujii
 59-60 H. Del Tanabe
 61-62 H. Del Tanabe
 63-64 H. Del Tanabe
 65-66 H. Del Tanabe
 67-68 H. Del Tanabe
 69-70 H. Del Tanabe
 71-72 H. Del Tanabe
 73-74 H. Del Tanabe
 75-76 H. Del Tanabe
 77-78 H. Del Tanabe
 79-80 H. Del Tanabe
 81-82 H. Del Tanabe
 83-84 H. Del Tanabe
 85-86 H. Del Tanabe
 87-88 H. Del Tanabe
 89-90 H. Del Tanabe
 91-92 H. Del Tanabe
 93-94 H. Del Tanabe
 95-96 H. Del Tanabe
 97-98 H. Del Tanabe
 99-100 H. Del Tanabe

San Benito County

Organized June 22, 1935
 This chapter is the only West Coast chapter which maintains its active status despite evacuation, through the war years.
 35-37 Dick Fukushima
 38 George Nishio
 39 James Sugoku
 40 Richard Nishimoto
 41-42 Henry Omoto
 43-44 Richard Nishimoto
 45-46 Takanishi Kadani
 47-48 George Nishio
 49-50 George Nishio
 51-52 George Nishio
 53-54 George Nishio
 55-56 George Nishio
 57-58 George Nishio
 59-60 George Nishio
 61-62 George Nishio
 63-64 George Nishio
 65-66 George Nishio
 67-68 George Nishio
 69-70 George Nishio
 71-72 George Nishio
 73-74 George Nishio
 75-76 George Nishio
 77-78 George Nishio
 79-80 George Nishio
 81-82 George Nishio
 83-84 George Nishio
 85-86 George Nishio
 87-88 George Nishio
 89-90 George Nishio
 91-92 George Nishio
 93-94 George Nishio
 95-96 George Nishio
 97-98 George Nishio
 99-100 George Nishio

Santa Maria Valley

Organized April 8, 1932
 32-33 Ken Usumiyama
 34 Dr. Earl M. Yusa
 35 Ken Kitakawa
 36-37 Ryoji Hiramoto
 38 Ken Usumiyama
 39 Butch Y. Tamura
 40-41 Harry Miyake
 42-43 Harry Miyake
 44-45 Harry Miyake
 46-47 Harry Miyake
 48-49 Harry Miyake
 50-51 Harry Miyake
 52-53 Harry Miyake
 54-55 Harry Miyake
 56-57 Harry Miyake
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 86-87 Harry Miyake
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 90-91 Harry Miyake
 92-93 Harry Miyake
 94-95 Harry Miyake
 96-97 Harry Miyake
 98-99 Harry Miyake
 100 Harry Miyake

San Gabriel Valley

Organized April 28, 1933
 Shinko Shirane (org.)
 33-34 Frank T. Tanaka
 35 Dave Nishida
 36-37 James Takayama
 38-39 James Takayama
 40-41 James Takayama
 42-43 James Takayama
 44-45 James Takayama
 46-47 James Takayama
 48-49 James Takayama
 50-51 James Takayama
 52-53 James Takayama
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 56-57 James Takayama
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 90-91 James Takayama
 92-93 James Takayama
 94-95 James Takayama
 96-97 James Takayama
 98-99 James Takayama
 100 James Takayama

San Diego

Organized Aug. 18, 1933
 Hanako Moriyama (org.)
 33 George Ohashi
 34 Frank Ohashi
 35 George Ohashi
 36-37 George Ohashi
 38 Isamu Fujita
 39 George Ohashi
 40 Isamu Fujita
 41-42 George Ohashi
 43-44 George Ohashi
 45-46 George Ohashi
 47-48 George Ohashi
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 51-52 George Ohashi
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 79-80 George Ohashi
 81-82 George Ohashi
 83-84 George Ohashi
 85-86 George Ohashi
 87-88 George Ohashi
 89-90 George Ohashi
 91-92 George Ohashi
 93-94 George Ohashi
 95-96 George Ohashi
 97-98 George Ohashi
 99-100 George Ohashi

San Jose

First organized in 1923 as the American Loyalty League
 The name was changed to A.L.C. in 1930 and when it was reactivated in 1945, it was merged with the Santa Clara County United Citizens League until 1954
 32-33 Nishida
 34-35 Records Missing
 36-37 Harry Taketa
 38-39 Records Missing
 40-41 Harry Taketa
 42-43 Harry Taketa
 44-45 Harry Taketa
 46-47 Harry Taketa
 48-49 Harry Taketa
 50-51 Harry Taketa
 52-53 Harry Taketa
 54-55 Harry Taketa
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 84-85 Harry Taketa
 86-87 Harry Taketa
 88-89 Harry Taketa
 89-90 Harry Taketa
 91-92 Harry Taketa
 93-94 Harry Taketa
 95-96 Harry Taketa
 97-98 Harry Taketa
 99-100 Harry Taketa

San Fernando Valley

Organized Feb. 16, 1942
 42 Tom Inai
 Reincarnated Sept. 24, 1946
 43-44 Tom Inai
 45-46 Tom Inai
 47-48 Tom Inai
 49-50 Tom Inai
 51-52 Tom Inai
 53-54 Tom Inai
 55-56 Tom Inai
 57-58 Tom Inai
 59-60 Tom Inai
 61-62 Tom Inai
 63-64 Tom Inai
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 81-82 Tom Inai
 83-84 Tom Inai
 85-86 Tom Inai
 87-88 Tom Inai
 89-90 Tom Inai
 91-92 Tom Inai
 93-94 Tom Inai
 95-96 Tom Inai
 97-98 Tom Inai
 99-100 Tom Inai

San Francisco

Peewee Chapter
Organized 1928
 28-29 Saburo Kido
 30 George Takagaki
 31 George Takagaki
 32 Saburo Kido
 33 George Takagaki
 34 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 35 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 36 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 37 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 38 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 39 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 40 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 41 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 42 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 43 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 44 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 45 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 46 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
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 48 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 49 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
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 51 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 52 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 53 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 54 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 55 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 56 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
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 62 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 63 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 64 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 65 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 66 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 67 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 68 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
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 71 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 72 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 73 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 74 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
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 77 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 78 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 79 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
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 81 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 82 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
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 95 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 96 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 97 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 98 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 99 Dr. T. T. Hayashi
 100 Dr. T. T. Hayashi

San Luis Obispo

Organized March 1931
 31-33 Ernest K. Iwakura
 34 Kofuji Fukumoto
 35-36 Ernest K. Iwakura
 37 Ben Fujiwara
 38 Sam Oda
 39 Ken Dye
 40 George Harihara
 41-42 Karl Nakaji
 43-44 Karl Nakaji
 45-46 Karl Nakaji
 47-48 Karl Nakaji
 49-50 Karl Nakaji
 51-52 Karl Nakaji
 53-54 Karl Nakaji
 55-56 Karl Nakaji
 57-58 Karl Nakaji
 59-60 Karl Nakaji
 61-62 Karl Nakaji
 63-64 Karl Nakaji
 65-66 Karl Nakaji
 67-68 Karl Nakaji
 69-70 Karl Nakaji
 71-72 Karl Nakaji
 73-74 Karl Nakaji
 75-76 Karl Nakaji
 77-78 Karl Nakaji
 79-80 Karl Nakaji
 81-82 Karl Nakaji
 83-84 Karl Nakaji
 85-86 Karl Nakaji
 87-88 Karl Nakaji
 89-90 Karl Nakaji
 91-92 Karl Nakaji
 93-94 Karl Nakaji
 95-96 Karl Nakaji
 97-98 Karl Nakaji
 99-100 Karl Nakaji

San Mateo County (odu)

35-36 Sakai Munemoto
 37 Frank Kawai
 38 Ken Yamada
 39-40 Ken Yamada
 41-42 Ken Yamada
 43-44 Ken Yamada
 45-46 Ken Yamada
 47-48 Ken Yamada
 49-50 Ken Yamada
 51-52 Ken Yamada
 53-54 Ken Yamada
 55-56 Ken Yamada
 57-58 Ken Yamada
 59-60 Ken Yamada
 61-62 Ken Yamada
 63-64 Ken Yamada
 65-66 Ken Yamada
 67-68 Ken Yamada
 69-70 Ken Yamada
 71-72 Ken Yamada
 73-74 Ken Yamada
 75-76 Ken Yamada
 77-78 Ken Yamada
 79-80 Ken Yamada
 81-82 Ken Yamada
 83-84 Ken Yamada
 85-86 Ken Yamada
 87-88 Ken Yamada
 89-90 Ken Yamada
 91-92 Ken Yamada
 93-94 Ken Yamada
 95-96 Ken Yamada
 97-98 Ken Yamada
 99-100 Ken Yamada

San Jose

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 32-33 Nishida
 34-35 Records Missing
 36-37 Harry Taketa
 38-39 Records Missing
 40-41 Harry Taketa
 42-43 Harry Taketa
 44-45 Harry Taketa
 46-47 Harry Taketa
 48-49 Harry Taketa
 50-51 Harry Taketa
 52-53 Harry Taketa
 54-55 Harry Taketa
 56-57 Harry Taketa
 58-59 Harry Taketa
 60-61 Harry Taketa
 62-63 Harry Taketa
 64-65 Harry Taketa
 66-67 Harry Taketa
 68-69 Harry Taketa
 70-71 Harry Taketa
 72-73 Harry Taketa
 74-75 Harry Taketa
 76-77 Harry Taketa
 78-79 Harry Taketa
 80-81 Harry Taketa
 82-83 Harry Taketa
 84-85 Harry Taketa
 86-87 Harry Taketa
 88-89 Harry Taketa
 89-90 Harry Taketa
 91-92 Harry Taketa
 93-94 Harry Taketa
 95-96 Harry Taketa
 97-98 Harry Taketa
 99-100 Harry Taketa

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 32-33 Nishida
 34-35 Records Missing
 36-37 Harry Taketa
 38-39 Records Missing
 40-41 Harry Taketa
 42-43 Harry Taketa
 44-45 Harry Taketa
 46-47 Harry Taketa
 48-49 Harry Taketa
 50-51 Harry Taketa
 52-53 Harry Taketa
 54-55 Harry Taketa
 56-57 Harry Taketa
 58-59 Harry Taketa
 60-61 Harry Taketa
 62-63 Harry Taketa
 64-65 Harry Taketa
 66-67 Harry Taketa
 68-69 Harry Taketa
 70-71 Harry Taketa
 72-73 Harry Taketa
 74-75 Harry Taketa
 76-77 Harry Taketa
 78-79 Harry Taketa
 80-81 Harry Taketa
 82-83 Harry Taketa
 84-85 Harry Taketa
 86-87 Harry Taketa
 88-89 Harry Taketa
 89-90 Harry Taketa
 91-92 Harry Taketa
 93-94 Harry Taketa
 95-96 Harry Taketa
 97-98 Harry Taketa
 99-100 Harry Taketa

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 32-33 Nishida
 34-35 Records Missing
 36-37 Harry Taketa
 38-39 Records Missing
 40-41 Harry Taketa
 42-43 Harry Taketa
 44-45 Harry Taketa
 46-47 Harry Taketa
 48-49 Harry Taketa
 50-51 Harry Taketa
 52-53 Harry Taketa
 54-55 Harry Taketa
 56-57 Harry Taketa
 58-59 Harry Taketa
 60-61 Harry Taketa
 62-63 Harry Taketa
 64-65 Harry Taketa
 66-67 Harry Taketa
 68-69 Harry Taketa
 70-71 Harry Taketa
 72-73 Harry Taketa
 74-75 Harry Taketa
 76-77 Harry Taketa
 78-79 Harry Taketa
 80-81 Harry Taketa
 82-83 Harry Taketa
 84-85 Harry Taketa
 86-87 Harry Taketa
 88-89 Harry Taketa
 89-90 Harry Taketa
 91-92 Harry Taketa
 93-94 Harry Taketa
 95-96 Harry Taketa
 97-98 Harry Taketa
 99-100 Harry Taketa

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 32-33 Nishida
 34-35 Records Missing
 36-37 Harry Taketa
 38-39 Records Missing
 40-41 Harry Taketa
 42-43 Harry Taketa
 44-45 Harry Taketa
 46-47 Harry Taketa
 48-49 Harry Taketa
 50-51 Harry Taketa
 52-53 Harry Taketa
 54-55 Harry Taketa
 56-57 Harry Taketa
 58-59 Harry Taketa
 60-61 Harry Taketa
 62-63 Harry Taketa
 64-65 Harry Taketa
 66-67 Harry Taketa
 68-69 Harry Taketa
 70-71 Harry Taketa
 72-73 Harry Taketa
 74-75 Harry Taketa
 76-77 Harry Taketa
 78-79 Harry Taketa
 80-81 Harry Taketa
 82-83 Harry Taketa
 84-85 Harry Taketa
 86-87 Harry Taketa
 88-89 Harry Taketa
 89-90 Harry Taketa
 91-92 Harry Taketa
 93-94 Harry Taketa
 95-96 Harry Taketa
 97-98 Harry Taketa
 99-100 Harry Taketa

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 36-37 Harry Taketa
 38-39 Records Missing
 40-41 Harry Taketa
 42-43 Harry Taketa
 44-45 Harry Taketa
 46-47 Harry Taketa
 48-49 Harry Taketa
 50-51 Harry Taketa
 52-53 Harry Taketa
 54-55 Harry Taketa
 56-57 Harry Taketa
 58-59 Harry Taketa
 60-61 Harry Taketa
 62-63 Harry Taketa
 64-65 Harry Taketa
 66-67 Harry Taketa
 68-69 Harry Taketa
 70-71 Harry Taketa
 72-73 Harry Taketa
 74-75 Harry Taketa
 76-77 Harry Taketa
 78-79 Harry Taketa
 80-81 Harry Taketa
 82-83 Harry Taketa
 84-85 Harry Taketa
 86-87 Harry Taketa
 88-89 Harry Taketa
 89-90 Harry Taketa
 91-92 Harry Taketa
 93-94 Harry Taketa
 95-96 Harry Taketa
 97-98 Harry Taketa
 99-100 Harry Taketa

- 88 Bruce Shimizu
89 Carol Kawase
90 James F. Murakami
91-93 Carol Kawase
94-96
97 Margaret Wellman
98 Carol Kawase
- South Bay**
Organized Feb. 1978
73-76 Mas Miyahara
97 Any Kawaguchi
78 Eric Wada
79-80 Edwin Mitsuma
82 Mary Ogawa
83-84 Wendell Waga
85 Ted Hasegawa
86 George Ogawa
87-88 Midori Watanabe
Kamei
89 George Ogawa
90 Wendell Waga
91 Midori Watanabe Kamei
92-93 Edwin Y. Mitsuma
94-95
96 Midori Watanabe Kamei
97 Christine Ige and
Christine Sato
- SCAN (odu) (So. Calif.**
Assn. of Nikkei)
87 Golen Murakawa
88 Arthur K. Okawachi
89 Nan Takahashi
91 Gail Uyehara
92 Golen Murakawa
93 Linda Hara / Golen
Murakawa
Merged with Marina chapter
in 1994
- Spokane**
Organized in 1940
40-41 Spady Koyama
42 Joe Okamoto
43 Saburo Nishihara
44 Ed Yamamoto
45 George Kiyomoto
46 Joe Okamoto
47 Ed Takakawa
48 Blanche M. Shiohara
50 Sab Hiasayama
51 Ed Yamamoto
52 Shingo Hirata
53 Harry Kadoyama
54-61 No officers
62 Ed Takakawa
63-64 Frank Hiasayama
65 Masao M. Fukui
66 Frank Hiasayama
67 Sam Nakagawa
68-69 Dr. Ya. Watanabe
70-71 George Matsumoto
71-72 Yone Ota
73 Denny Yasuhara
74 Masao Aoyama
75-76 Ed Takahashi
77-78 Dean Nakagawa
79
80 Denny Yasuhara
81 Susan L. Iwata
82-83 Sam Nakagawa
84 Dean Nakagawa
85 Rita Cates
86 Sharon Saito
87-88 Ben Furukawa
89 Sharon Saito
90 Dean Nakagawa
91
92
93 Douglas Heyamoto
94-95
96-97 Virginia Omoto
- Stockton**
Pioneer Chapter
Organized in 1933
28-32 No records
33 Dr. Roy S. Morimoto
34 James Okino
37 Stewart Nakano
38 Dr. Roy S. Morimoto
39 Ted Minkitani
40 Dr. Charles Ishizu
41 Al Kawasaki
42 Stewart Nakano
43 Joe Onishi
44 Jun Agari
45-46 Jack Matsumoto
47-48 Yumiko Terashita
49 Hiroshi Morita
50 Sam Itaya
51 George Baba
52 Henry Kikumoto
53 Richard Yoshikawa
54 Lou Tsunekawa
55 Dr. David Fujishiro
56 George Baba
57 Ted Kamibayashi
58 Ed Yoshikawa
59 Dr. Ken Fuji
60 Ben Shima
61-62 Kenji Terashita
63 Sam Itaya
64-65 George Yatsuoto
66 Goo Hagio
67-68 George Mikawa
69 Dr. Jas. M. Tanaka
70-71 Tada Yoneda
72-74 Ted Yoneda
75-76 Mabel Okubo
77-79 George K. Baba
80-81 Ruby T. Dobano
82-84 Tetsuya Kato
85 Edwin Endo
86-87 Edwin Endo
88-89 Tom Rushing
89 George Baba
90 Tetsuya Kato
91-92
93 Barry Sakai
94-95
96 Aoko Fencilon
97 Aoko Yoshikawa
- Stockton**
(Atlanta, Ga.)
93 Bill Sakamoto/White
94
95
96
97
98
- Torrance**
Organized in 1963
83-84 George S. Nakano
85 Catherine Higashikubo
87 Toshi Doiri
88 Roy Nakano
89 George Tanaka
90 Roy S. Nakano
91-93 George Tanaka
94-95
96 Roy S. Nakano
- 97 Stephanie Nakano
Tri-Valley
Organized 1977
77 Sam Cohen
78-79 Ben Morimoto
80 Dr. Jerry Watanabe
81 Eric Tarjane
82 Tom Mori
83 Henry Kikumoto
84 John Ichiji
85 Eric Tarjane
86 Chuck Daniels
87 Don Kikuchi
88 Keith Yoshikawa
89 Ken Kurata / Mark Shih
90-92
93 Steve Lai (actg)
94-95
96 Aiko and Howard
Morioka
97 Dean Kunihira
- Tulare County**
Organized Nov. 15, 1984
34-36 Harvey Iwata
37 Ben Yabuta
38 John Kubota
39 George Kaku
40-42 Tom Shimasaki
Reactivated Nov. 22, 1947
43-49 Tom Shimasaki
50 Hiroshi Mayeda
51 Kenji Tashiro
52 Edward Nagata
53-54 Ted Hiramoto
55 Yuki Tashiro
56 Mike Imoto
57-58 Jim E. Murakami
59-60 George Yabuta
60 Robert Ishida
61 Jun Hatakeyama
62 Stanley Nagata
63 George Sakaguchi
64 Bill Yebasu
65 Harry Morofuji
66 Tak Ishizu
67 Shigeo Kikuchi
68 Harry Kaku
69-70 Ichiro Okada
71-72 Tom Mori
73-74 H. Nishino
75-76 Ray Hayakawa
77-78 Ben Hayakawa
78-82 Maude Ishida
83-84 Kay Hada
85-86 Wm. E. Yoshimoto
87 Kay Hada
88 Larry Ishimoto
89 William E. Yoshimoto
91-92
93 Kathy Kaneishi
94-95
96-97 Kathy Ishimoto
- Twain Cities**
(Mpls. St. Paul, Minn.)
Organized Sept. 26, 1946
46 George Matsuyama
47 Sam Shijo
48-49 Time Koochayashi /
George Yanagita
50 Takato Tsuchiya
51 Yoko Okamoto
52 Mas Teramoto
53-55 Dr. Isaac Iijima
56 Thomas Kanoo
57 Henry Makino
58 Tom Ono
59 Mas Teramoto / Simpy
Kuramoto
60 Yoko Yanagita
61 Ted Matsuyama
62 Mrs. Kay Kuchino
63-65 Paul Tsuchiya
66 Bill De
67 Dr. Roy Yamahiro
68 Mrs. Kay Kuchino
69 Howard Nomura
70 Miyoko Matsui
71 Frank Ishikawa
72 Sam Honda
73-74 May H. Tanaka
75-76 Tada Takamoto
77 Sam Honda
78 May Tanaka
79
80-82 Thomas L. Hara
83-84 Edward Hara
85 Chris K. Sandberg
86-87
88 Christopher Sandberg
89 Kay Kuchino / Jay
Yamashiro
90 Christopher Sandberg
90 Edward Hara
91-92 Mark Honda
93 David Hayashi
94-95 George Kamagata
97 Ben Ezaki III
- Venice-Culver**
Organized in 1941
41-42 John Aono
Reactivated July 28, 1946
43-44 Jack Wakamatsu
45-46 George Mikawa
50 Fumi Utsuki
51 Kenichi Onishi
52 James Yoneda
53-54 Joe Fukushima
55 Nishi Tanaka
56 Ken Amamoto
57 George T. Ito
58-59 Dr. Takao Shikano
57 Steve Nakaji
58 Pete Furuya
59 Mr. Betty Yumori
60 K. Kuchiki
61 Jane Yamashita
62 George Inagaki
63-64 S. Nomura
64 Hiroshi M. Shimizu
65 George T. Ito
66 Dr. Richard Sakai
67 George Nishiyoshi
68 Shiro Maruyama
69 Sam Shinguchi
70 Frances Kikumoto
71 Betty Yumori
72-74 John Asari
75 Jane Yamashita / Frances
Kikumoto
76-77 Caroline Takemoto
78-80 Akemi Nagao
81 Fred Y. Yoshikawa
82-83 Richard Sakai
84 Akemi N. Wood
85-87 Gregory S. Wood
88 Akemi N. Wood
89 Fred Y. Yoshikawa
- 91 Patricia L. Suda Kondo
92 Masaru Hashimoto
93 Chris Kigaki
94 Eugene Hironaka
95 Mark M. Ito
97 Mas Hashimoto
- West Los Angeles**
Organized 1941
41-42 Tom Ikuta
Reactivated Nov. 28, 1947
43-45 Shio Kamei
46 Elmer Uchida
47 Dr. Kiyoshi Sonoda
51 Richard Jenney
52 Shio Kamei
53 James Kikumoto
54 Elmer Uchida
55 Steve Yagi
56 Steve Yagi
57 Frank Kaku
58 Dr. Milton Inouye
59 Joseph M. Noda
60-61 Akira Ochiai
64 Dr. Sam Takahashi
65 Nagao Fuita
66 Tadashi Kanamori
67 Mike Miyamoto
68 George Kaku
69 James Muroka
60 Willie Hirata
61 Hiroshi Taniguchi
62 Dr. Wakatake
63 Yoshitake Sakazaki
64-65 Yasuhide
66-67 Harry Kijima
68-69 Teri Komatsu
65 Mike Imoto
67 Yoh Takano
68-69 Chuck Konyoshi
70 Teri Komatsu
71 Stan Maki
72-73 Dr. Tazuo Kaku
94
95-96 Harry H. Kijima
97 Executive Volunteers
- Wasatch Front North**
Organized July 1973
73-76 Tom Mori
77-78 Lynn Kato
79-80 Tom Mori
81-84 George T. Suphara
85-97 Marion Mori
- Washington, DC**
Organized June 15, 1946
67 Jack Hirose (org.)
68 Kazuo
47 Harold Haruchi
48-49 Ira Shimasaki
50 Henry Goshu
51 Dan Kikumoto
52 Riko Kumagai
53 Dr. Geo. Furukawa
54 John Kato
55-56 R. Kikumoto
56 Ben Nakao
57 Harvey Iwata
58 Jack Hirose
59-60 Hideo Sakata
60-61 John Yoshino
62 Harry I. Takagi
63 Edwin Y. Mitsuma
64-65 Roy K. Kobayashi
66 Charles Pace
67 Ken Oishi
68-69 Gien Matsumoto
69 Paul Hironaka
70 Toru Hirose
71 Joe Ichiji
72-73 M. Masaka
73-74 Lorry Uchida
74 Sumu Uchida
75 Melvin H. Chigoye
76-77 Michael M. Suzuki
77 Raymond Murakami
78 David Nakano
79 Hideo Hamamoto
80-81 H. Yamada
81 K. Patrick Okura /
Wayne Kamagata (ex-post)
82 Wayne Uchida
83-84 H. Yamada Kato
84-85 Kris Dojiri
86-87 Ben Wataida
88 Edward A. Swada
89-90 L. A. Okura
90-91 Kris Iijima
91-92 Roy K. Kobayashi
93-95 John Nakahata
96-97 Chris Nishimura
97 Richard Amato /
Barbara Teraji
- Watsonville**
Organization Date
Unknown
34 Tom Matsuda
35 Sumu Miyamoto
36 Louis Waki
37-38 Pat Matsushita
39 Frank Oyeda
40 Harry Yagi
41-42 James Hirokawa
Reactivated Nov. 18, 1948
43-44 Bill Fukuoka
45-46 Kenji Kikuchi
47-48 Fumi Fukuoka
49-50 Fumi Fukuoka
51 Kenichi Onishi
52 James Yoneda
53-54 Joe Fukushima
55 Nishi Tanaka
56 Ken Amamoto
57 George T. Ito
58-59 Dr. Takao Shikano
57 Steve Nakaji
58 Pete Furuya
59 Mr. Betty Yumori
60 K. Kuchiki
61 Jane Yamashita
62 George Inagaki
63-64 S. Nomura
64 Hiroshi M. Shimizu
65 George T. Ito
66 Dr. Richard Sakai
67 George Nishiyoshi
68 Shiro Maruyama
69 Sam Shinguchi
70 Frances Kikumoto
71 Betty Yumori
72-74 John Asari
75 Jane Yamashita / Frances
Kikumoto
76-77 Caroline Takemoto
78-80 Akemi Nagao
81 Fred Y. Yoshikawa
82-83 Richard Sakai
84 Akemi N. Wood
85-87 Gregory S. Wood
88 Akemi N. Wood
89 Fred Y. Yoshikawa
- 81 Mary Ishikawa
82 Bill Sakurai
83 Charles Inatomi
84-85 Fred Miyoshi
86-88 Jean Uchida
90 Sid Yamazaki
91 Tony Kanaga
92-93 John Goshiki
94-97 George Kanaga
- West Valley**
Organized Jan. 25, 1970
41-42 Tom Ikuta
Reactivated Nov. 28, 1947
43-45 Shio Kamei
46 Elmer Uchida
47 Dr. Kiyoshi Sonoda
51 Richard Jenney
52 Shio Kamei
53 James Kikumoto
54 Elmer Uchida
55 Steve Yagi
56 Steve Yagi
57 Frank Kaku
58 Dr. Milton Inouye
59 Joseph M. Noda
60-61 Akira Ochiai
64 Dr. Sam Takahashi
65 Nagao Fuita
66 Tadashi Kanamori
67 Mike Miyamoto
68 George Kaku
69 James Muroka
60 Willie Hirata
61 Hiroshi Taniguchi
62 Dr. Wakatake
63 Yoshitake Sakazaki
64-65 Yasuhide
66-67 Harry Kijima
68-69 Teri Komatsu
65 Mike Imoto
67 Yoh Takano
68-69 Chuck Konyoshi
70 Teri Komatsu
71 Stan Maki
72-73 Dr. Tazuo Kaku
94
95-96 Harry H. Kijima
97 Executive Volunteers
- Ann Arbor (Mich.)**
Organized June 9, 1946
46 Dr. Joseph Sasaki
- Bakersfield (Calif.)**
Organized Feb. 8, 1959
59 Lloyd Kikumoto
60 Dr. Warren Nakataki
61 Joe Ota
62 Gyu Muratori
63-64 Joe Ota
65 Mike Tori
66-67 Robert Schaden
67 Gyu Muratori
68 Charles Kataoka
69-71 George Fukuoka
72-73 Ed Yamamoto
74-75 Robert Schaden
76 Kimi Fukuda
77 Margaret Schaden
78 Grace K. Yamamoto
79 George Fukuoka
80 Dr. Richard De
81 Ed Yamamoto
82-83 Robert Schaden
84-85 Edwin M. Yamamoto
86-88 George Yamamoto
89-90 Edward M. Yamamoto
- Bay Area Community**
(Alameda County, Calif.)
Organized Jan. 1971
71 Raymond Okamura
72 Paul Hara / Ko Inagi
73 Ron Lai / Kathy Reyes
74 Dale Minami / Paul Yoshino
75-76 Y. Yoneda / Isami
Waghi
75 Robin L. Matsui
76-77 Paul Y. Ihara
- Bay District**
(Venice, Calif.)
Organized Mar. 7, 1956
36 Frank Matsui
37-38 George Inagaki
39 Philip Nakasaki
40-41 Joe M. Masaka
42 Decentralized to Santa
Monica, Venice and West
Los Angeles chapters
- Ben Lomond**
(Ogden JACL 1938-53)
Organized 1938
40 Jim Tanaka
41 George Yoshida
42 Tazuo Kaku
43-44 Jiro Tanaka
45-46 Hideo Yoneda
46-47 Mike M. Mori
47-48 Tazuo S. Ochi
48-49 Ken Uchida
49-50 George Sugihara
50-51 Tazuo Kaku
51-52 Harold S. Tama
52-53 Tazuo Kaku
53-54 Ken Uchida
54-55 George Sugihara
55-56 Tazuo Kaku
56-57 Dick Kikumoto
57-58 Tazuo Kaku
58-59 Minori Miya
- Brawley (Calif.)**
Pioneer Chapter
Organized Dec. 15, 1928
23-25 Lyle Kurasaki
30 James W. Ito
31 Charles M. Akita
32 William Kawasaki
33 Ernest Fujimoto
34-36 (Records missing)
37 Lyle Kurasaki
38 Harvey Suzuki
39 George Kube
40 Ernest Fujimoto
41 Hideo Yoneda
42 Shigeo Imamura
43 Shigeo Imamura
- Chicago Liberation**
Organized March 23, 1970
70 Hiroshi Kanoo
71 William Hori
- Coachella Valley**
Organized Oct. 4, 1946
46-47 George Sakai
48-49 Bill Fukuoka
50 George Shikata
51 Jack Ito
52 Mas Oishi
53-54 Einar Sakai
54-55 Tazuo Kaku
55 Charles Shikata
56 Ben Sakamoto
57 Hideo Nakamoto
58-60 Tom Sakai
61-62 Tazuo Kaku
63-64 Tazuo Kaku
65-66 Tazuo Kaku
67-68 Tazuo Kaku
69-70 Tazuo Kaku
71-72 Tazuo Kaku
73-74 Tazuo Kaku
75-76 Tazuo Kaku
77-78 Tazuo Kaku
79-80 Tazuo Kaku
81-82 Tazuo Kaku
83-84 Tazuo Kaku
85-86 Tazuo Kaku
87-88 Tazuo Kaku
89-90 Tazuo Kaku
91-92 Tazuo Kaku
93-94 Tazuo Kaku
95-96 Tazuo Kaku
97 Tazuo Kaku
- Delta**
(Walnut Grove, Calif.)
Organized Feb. 20, 1935
35-36 Dr. Akio Hayashi
37-40 Harry Shirokawa
41-42 Jeff Yagi
- Delta**
(Berkeley-Oakland, Calif.)
Organized May 1947
47 Ted Hirota
48 Masao Fuji
49-50 Ted Hirota
50-51 Wataru Miya
51 Masatake Yonemura
52 Ted Hirota
53-54 Ted Hirota
55 Ted Hirota
56 Ted Hirota
57 Ted Hirota
58 Ted Hirota
59 Ted Hirota
60 Ted Hirota
- El Centro (Calif.)**
Organized August 1927
27-30 No Officers
Reactivated 1937
38 Yutaka Nakashima
39-40 Shing H. Miyata
41-42 Harvey Tanaka
- El Paso (Tex.) (odu)**
Organized June 7, 1954
34 Dr. Chitose Yana
35-37 Randolph Sakada
38 Kay Hirao
39 Kelly K. Yamada
40 Frank Tanaka
41 Ted Hirota
- Glendale (Calif.)**
Organized March 27, 1936
36 Gyu Kuramoto
- Greely (Calif.)**
Organized June 24, 1944
44 Fred Hashimoto
45 Hiroko Ueda
- Hilo**
Wayne Miyamoto
Organized 1932
52-57 Mats Aze
- Kings County**
(Hawfield, Calif.)
Organized 1930
39 Kiyoshi Nobusada
41-42 Tom Fujita
- Latin America**
(Los Angeles)
Organized 1932
82 Elena Yoshikawa
83-84 Kiyoshi Nakai
84 Luis Higa
85-86 Yutaka Nakashima
86-87 Luis Higa
88-89 Consuelo Morinaga
90 Luis Higa
91-92 Luis Higa
93-94 Consuelo Morinaga
95-96 Consuelo Morinaga
97 Kathryn Yoshida
- Lompoc, Calif.**
41-42 Takako Kasamatsu
- Magic Valley**
(Twin Falls, Idaho)
Organized April 3, 1943
43 George Makabe (org.)
44 Shigeo Mori
45-46 Tazuo Chung
45 Yoshimi Aizawa
- Metropolitan L.A.**
Organized Mar. 18, 1973
73-74 Ellen Endo
75-76 Ellen E. Kayano
77-78 Ellen Kayano
79-80 Ellen Kayano
- Montana (Hardin, Mont.)**
Organized April 10, 1946
46-47 Ted Miyama
48 George Kawamoto
49 Yutaka Yonemura
50 Joe Nagashima
51 Sam Shuranga
52 Yutaka Yonemura
53 Yutaka Yonemura
54-55 Harriet Nagashima
- Mountain View (odu)**
49-50 Gyu Koyama
51 George Hirao
52 George Hirao
53 George Hirao
54 George Hirao
55 George Hirao
- Nikkei Leadership**
89 Kimberly Tachikawa
90, 91, 92, 93
- North Platte (Nebr.)**
Organized 1942
42-45 George Kuroki
- Northern Utah**
(Ogden, Utah)
Organized 1942
42 Noboru Sato
43 Noboru Sato
44 Noboru Sato
45 Noboru Sato
- Northern Wyoming (odu)**
(North, Wyo.)
Organized Jan. 27, 1949
49 Roy Y. Inouye
50 Frank Waga
51 Roy Y. Inouye
52 Seiji Yonemura
53 Roy Y. Inouye
54 Frank Waga
55 Shiroe Enomoto
56 George Hishinuma
57 Roy Y. Inouye
58 Roy Y. Inouye
59 George Katsumoto
60 Fred Hiyasaka
61 James Kanoo
62 Harry Sumida
63-64 Roy Y. Inouye
64 Kay Shiohata
65 Ben Ono
- Pueblo Colo. (odu)**
45 Hideo Sagara
- Reburb (Idaho)**
Yellowstone JACL 1941-49
41 Fuji Hiki
42 Kiyoshi Sakata
43 Kiyoshi Sakata
44 Kiyoshi Sakata
45 Stomie Hanami
46 Haruo Yamakata
47 Thomas M. Hanami
48-49 Hiroshi Miyasaka
50 Kiyoshi Sakata
51 Jack K. Matsura
52 Haruo Yamakata
53 Masayoshi Fujimoto
54 Haruo Yamakata
55 Kiyoshi Sakata
56 Fuji Hiki
57 John Sakata
58 Tommy Miyasaka
59 Haruo Yamakata
60 Kiyoshi Sakata
61 Kiyoshi Sakata
62 Kiyoshi Sakata
63 Kiyoshi Sakata
64 Kiyoshi Sakata
65 Kiyoshi Sakata
- Santa Clara County**
(San Jose, Calif.)
Organized April 8, 1935
32 Toshi Taketa
33 Toshi Taketa
34 Shigeru Masuaga
35 Shigeru Masuaga
41-42 Henry Mitani
42 Shigeru Masuaga
- Santa Monica (Calif.)**
Organized 1941
41-42 Henry Fukuhara
- Southeast Central**
(Los Angeles)
Organized in 1980
81-83 Ernie Fukamoto
- Tacoma**
Organized 1954
34 Ted Nakamura
35-36 Inactive
37 Ted Nakamura
38 Kaz Yamane
39 Ted Nakamura
40 Kaz Yamane
41 Tazuo Yoshikawa
42 Tazuo Yoshikawa
- Yakima Valley**
(Yakima, Wash.)
Organized 1933
33-34 John Shimizu
35-36 Roy Nishimura
37-38 Roy Nishimura
39-40 Roy Nishimura
41-42 Roy Nishimura
43-44 Roy Nishimura
45-46 Roy Nishimura
47-48 Roy Nishimura
49-50 Roy Nishimura
51-52 Roy Nishimura
53-54 Roy Nishimura
55-56 Roy Nishimura
57-58 Roy Nishimura
59-60 Roy Nishimura
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67-68 Roy Nishimura
69-70 Roy Nishimura
71-72 Roy Nishimura
73-74 Roy Nishimura
75-76 Roy Nishimura
77-78 Roy Nishimura
79-80 Roy Nishimura
81-82 Roy Nishimura
83-84 Roy Nishimura
85-86 Roy Nishimura
87-88 Roy Nishimura
89-90 Roy Nishimura
91-92 Roy Nishimura
93-94 Roy Nishimura
95-96 Roy Nishimura
97 Roy Nishimura
- Yakima Valley**
(Yakima, Wash.)
Organized 1933
33-34 John Shimizu
35-36 Roy Nishimura
37-38 Roy Nishimura
39-40 Roy Nishimura
41-42 Roy Nishimura
43-44 Roy Nishimura
45-46 Roy Nishimura
47-48 Roy Nishimura
49-50 Roy Nishimura
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79-80 Roy Nishimura
81-82 Roy Nishimura
83-84 Roy Nishimura
85-86 Roy Nishimura
87-88 Roy Nishimura
89-90 Roy Nishimura
91-92 Roy Nishimura
93-94 Roy Nishimura
95-96 Roy Nishimura
97 Roy Nishimura
- 'Area Committees'**
JACL established "area committees" in the War Relocation Centers and the immediate post-World War II-era in pockets of Japanese American communities in the Mountain-Plains to assist in the campaign for Issei Naturalization and Evacuation Claims. (An "area committee" consisted of less than 25 members, the minimum necessary to establish a JACL chapter.)
- At least four were organized in the WRA centers. The Northern California chapter—San Benito County JACL, and the only one from the West Coast evacuated area—continued to remain active during the war years by reuniting its chapter dues to Headquarters. Most of its members then met at Poston WRA Center.]
- 1947-48
CHENYEN, Wyo.—Frank
Beno
CROWLEY, Colo.—Kata
Akagi
GALLUP, N.M.—Ann
Shibata
HOUSTON, Texas—
Takao Kobayashi
Waco, Texas—Shigeru
LA JARA-ALAMOSA,
Colo.—Roy Inouye
PUEBLO, Colo.—Suzuo
Shigeru
ROCKY FORD, Colo.—Ugi
Hara
SANDY, Utah—John
Yoshida
TULE LAKE—Walter
Thakumoto, John
Thakumoto.
PASO—George Kurita

1942-1946: 100th Bn.-442nd RCT in action

Continued from the 1997 Holiday Issue

THE 100th Infantry Battalion, under command of Lt. Col. Farrant Turner, consisted of some 1,400 Nisei from Hawaii's Territorial Guards who departed for the Mainland in June, 1942, for training at Camp McCoy, Wis. Soon after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the Honolulu FBI had feared newly arriving American troops might mistake the Nisei garrison soldier on the Islands for the enemy disguised in American uniform. The Nisei in Hawaii about this time also insisted on being called AJAs (Americans of Japanese Ancestry), a monicker which is still heard in the Islands.

The intensity and intelligence of the 100th Infantry GIs also won plaudits from government and community leaders who by year-end 1942 were urging reinstatement of the draft of Japanese Americans and the formation of an all-Nisei combat team.

On Jan. 28, 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt agreed, declaring new volunteers will add to the nearly 5,000 Nisei already in uniform. He concluded: "The principle of Americanism is a matter of the mind and heart; Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry." It was a phrase that JACL often quoted to underscore the loyalty of Japanese Americans during the legislative campaigns and court cases in the succeeding years.

The combat team was comprised of 100th Infantry (six rifle companies, headquarters, medical), 442nd Infantry (four rifle companies per battalion, three battalions, regimental headquarters, service, anti-tank, cannon, medical), 522nd Field Artillery (three batteries, headquarters, service, medical), 22nd Central Postal Directory and 506th Army Band, its maximum unit strength 4,500 men. [Graduates of MISLS, who comprised Co. S in the summer of '43, trained at Shelly before going to combat duty in the Pacific.]

The 100th Battalion, declared "combat ready" after the 1943 Louisiana Third Army maneuvers in late July, shipped out Aug. 11, 1943, for Europe via North Africa. The original directive that no AJA command a rifle company was scratched. Captains Taro Suzuki and Jack Mizuha commanded Co. B and Co. D respectively. The 100th landed Sept. 2 at Oran, North Africa, and attached to the 34th Infantry Division (the first American division to enter combat in the European theater). They fought the Afrika Korps at Kasserine Pass, Tunis, that first week. On Sept. 9, the 34th and 100th were bound for Salerno. By November, General Mark Clark had already passed along to the War Department the call of his unit commanders from the 34th: "They wanted all the Nisei available..."

Seven major battle campaigns in Italy and Southern France were as follows:

(1) Naples-Foggia Campaign (Sept. 9, 1943-Jan. 21, 1944): By end of September, the 34th Division, 100th and British troops, at Salerno, launched a four-month campaign in southern Italy—to push the Wehrmacht off the plains and the crack SS troops toward Monte Cassino.

The first Nisei KIA, Sgt. Shigeo "Joe" Takata of Hawaii, was leading his platoon Sept. 29 when he was hit in the head while advancing upon a German machine gun nest. As he lay dying, he pointed out the location of the nest to his men and they finally silenced the gun.

Now in the hills below Volturno River in October, the 100th battled alongside the 45th Division, and in mid-November was pulled back to rest and refit until the day before Thanksgiving Day. The 100th, which had 1,300 men, suffered over 900 casualties. Its nickname, "Purple Heart Battalion," was being heard almost daily. In the meantime, close to 600 men came as replacements from Camp Shelby as needed in 1943. By mid-January, the 100th had captured the hills up to the Rapido River, looking at their next objective: Monte Cassino, best remembered for its medieval Benedictine abbey, the main part of the Gustav Line.

(2) Rome-Arno Campaign (Jan. 22 - Sept. 9, 1944): On Jan. 24, despite heavy casualties, the 100th crossed the Rapido River, rested briefly before attacking a castle halfway up to the mountain-top abbey. Outpacing its flank support from the 34th, the 100th had to dig in, and held a hill for four days before being ordered back. The records later reported five divisions were finally required to occupy Cassino. The 34th had almost made it—its ranks and material having been depleted.

Reinforced, the 100th's next campaign began March 26 with the 34th Division, French and British forces from the Anzio beachhead—the objective: Rome. Men of the 100th were six miles short of the breakthrough to Rome, when orders came to stop and allow the First Armored Infantry to breeze through the "open city" on June 5. The night before, the Lt. Col. Gordon Singles Task Force, comprised of the 100th, had already reached the northwestern sections of Rome. "Even today, many 100th veterans make no secret of the anger and frustration they still cannot get over," author Masayasu Umezawa Duus was told. See *Unlikely Liberators* (1983).

The 442nd Infantry, with 10 months training, headed overseas on May 1, 1944, (minus the 1st Battalion, renumbered the 171st Infantry, cadre to train replacements from Hampton Roads (Newport News, Va.), reaching Naples by June 2. They boarded LSTs and LCIs (amphibious landing crafts) to Anzio, then were transported to Civitavecchia, 40 miles northwest of Rome. Here, the battle-wise 100th Battalion joined them on June 10. Neatly, the Germans were dug in.

Before dawn June 26, the combined 100th and 442nd moved into line—the objective: the high ground of Belvedere and Sassetta. By end of the first day of combat, the enemy was falling back. The 522nd Field Artillery was effective in support, all of which was the beginning of a combat team. (See: *Shirey, Americans: The Story of the 442nd Combat Team*, 1946). The 442nd and 522nd Field Artillery teamed with the 100th for its baptism of fire.

The "Go for Broke" unit encountered its baptism of fire June 26-27 in the Rome-Arno campaign, capturing two towns, Belvedere and Sassetta, on the

marsh to the next river at Cecina. "The 442nd had charged some 50 miles in four days, averaging as little as two hours sleep, and were so far ahead of the supply lines, they were without food for 24 hours," an AP war correspondent noted of the 442nd's first combat days in July. *Time* Magazine said the Nisei have "proved themselves."

The greatest single exploit, according to Shurey, of these first days of the 442nd was that of SSGT. Kazuo Masuda of Co. F who, using his helmet as a baseplate for a 60mm mortar tube, singlehandedly fired the piece for 12 hours, throwing back two counterattacks, never leaving his observation post except for more ammunition. He had to crawl 200 yards through heavy fire to secure the mortar tube and ammunition. Masuda was later killed on patrol along the Arno River when he exposed himself so that the men with him could return with valuable information. He was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The 442nd dismantled the elite Hermann Goering battalion in one afternoon by cracking through their center enroute to Belvedere. "The *Yank Magazine* account of the 'Battle of Belvedere' was reprinted in the Sept. 6, 1944, *Pacific Citizen*. Other "delat" dispatches from the front trickled into print in about six weeks after the action."

After liberating Lghorn, Pisa, and villages in-between during three weeks of combat July 1-22, the 100/442 were pulled back for rest and rehabilitation—and time for ceremonies the first week. Gen. Clark presented the 100th with the Presidential Unit Citation for its outstanding feat at Belvedere. The following day, July 28, King George VI inspected Allied troops after the fall of Rome. The 442nd's 2nd Battalion formed a part of the Guard of Honor. His Majesty chatted with Sgt. Hideo Taichi of Honolulu and Pfc. Paul Tahara of Olympia, Wash., who were being awarded the Silver Star for gallantry.

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Secretary of the Navy Jim Forrestal also visited the front, meeting with the 100th Battalion honor guard. The Nisei troops were hailed for their contribution.

On Aug. 15, the 442nd had crossed the Arno River near Florence under heavy enemy barrage. The 100th, down river near Pisa, crossed the Arno

Sept. 1, and the "chase" was on as German prisoners were being taken in great numbers. The enemy was fleeing toward its last stand in northern Italy—the Gothic Line in the Apennines. The successful Rome-Arno Campaign, however, was costly: the 100/442 lost over a fourth of its total strength—239 KIA, 17 missing, 972 wounded and 44 in non-combat injuries.

(3) The Southern France Campaign (Aug. 14-Sept. 15, 1944): This mission involved the 442nd Anti-Tank Company, which had trained briefly as a glider company and landed at LeMuy on Aug. 15 to set up roadblocks and anti-tank protection for the 1st Airborne Task Force in the invasion of Southern France. The 442nd Anti-Tank then moved toward the French-Italian border town of Sospel in the French Maritime Alps. For this "D-Day" operation into Southern France, men of the 442nd Anti-Tank Co. won the Combat Infantryman's Badge and Glider Badge for action as glider-borne troops.

(4) Northern Apennines (Sept. 10-27, 1944 / March 23-April 4, 1945): There are two parts to this particular campaign in northern Italy.

The Nisei were first detached from the 34th "Red Bull" Division, pulled back from the Arno River to Naples to regroup and integrate 672 replacements (mostly from the Mainland) who had arrived Sept. 18.

It was during this time that the "Club 100" came into being. Capt. Katsumi Kometsani, 39, Honolulu dentist and among the original 16 AJA officers, was elected the first president. Members contributed a percentage of their pay to buy land in Honolulu and build a clubhouse on it after the war.

In-between was the bitterest fighting for the men of the 100/442—the Rhineland Campaign (Sept. 15, 1944), the Battle of Bruyeres (Oct. 15-18), and rescue of the Texas Lost Battalion (Oct. 25-28), and back to the Northern Apennines for the Po River Campaign. [7]

(5) Rhineland (Sept. 15, 1944 - March 21, 1945): While resting at Naples, the 100/442 was assigned to the 7th Army, boarded Navy transports Sept. 26-27 for Marseille and a two-and-a-half-day, 430 mile journey up the Rhone Valley to the Vosges Forests in southwestern France. Some rode on trucks, some on smelly boxcars to an area 4 km west of Bruyeres and attached to the 36th Infantry Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. John E. Dahlquist.

Unlike Italy, it was cold and rained constantly in the assault on Bruyeres in mid-October. It was also a far different fight as the battleground was close to the Germans' home. Fortifications were deeper, fire-power heavier, their troops more determined. The heavily treed Vosges Forest was extensively mined and booby-trapped. Tree-burst shelling and machine-gun nests in the underbrush were new tricks. The attack began on Oct. 15. By taking the hills overlooking Bruyeres, the 442nd's 3rd Battalion and the 36th's 143rd Infantry Regiment were able to clear Germans out of house-by-house. On the third day, Bruyeres, a rail center, was liberated.

In pursuit along the railroad toward Belmont, more hills were taken. When a complete set of

enemy defense plans were found on the body of a dead German officer, the 442nd took quick action by forming a task force led by Maj. Emmet O'Connor, 3rd Bn. executive officer. It moved in at night behind the enemy forces battling the 2nd and 3rd Battalions. At dawn the O'Connor Task Force went to work with pinpoint accurate fire. That afternoon, Oct. 21, the 2nd and 3rd Battalions joined with elements of the task force, to chase the retreating Germans on the road to Belmont. The O'Connor Task Force, which suffered two casualties, Co. F and Co. L, each received the Presidential Unit Citation for this combat accomplishment.

The next battle for Biffontaine saw the 100th seizing the high ground while the 3rd Battalion protected the flank. The Germans counterattacked. The 100th dug in, held ground but the ammo and food began to run low; the steep terrain held back supply trains. A foot-soldier party from Co. G and Co. L finally succeeded in reaching the 100th. In reserve, the 2nd Battalion was called up to take Biffontaine. After two days of house-to-house encounters, the Germans briefly retreated, only to return with tanks that blasted a house to rubble. The 100th huddled in the cellars, up when the tanks stopped firing to stop enemy attempts to retake Biffontaine. After eight days, the 100th was called off the line for a much-needed rest at Belmont, a hot bath and into dry clothes again.

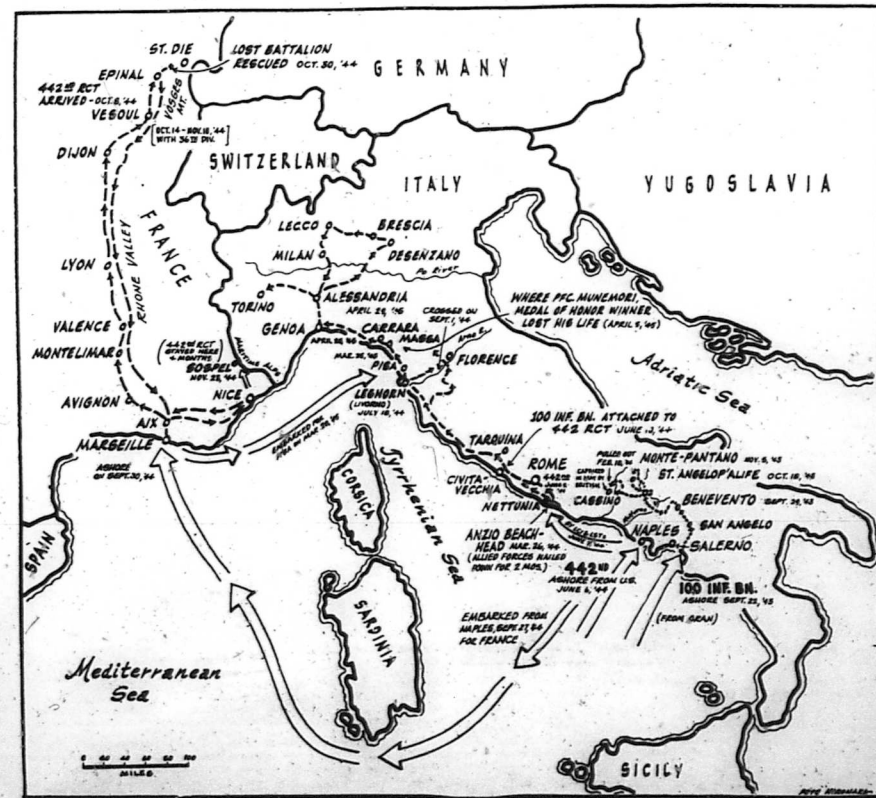
On Oct. 25, the 2nd Battalion went to the hills to relieve the battered 3rd Battalion of the 141st Regiment. The 100th and 442nd's 3rd Battalion went to protect the flanks of the 2nd Battalion. The full story only became evident when the 100/442 was ordered to "rescue the Lost Battalion." The 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 36th's 141st Regt. had made several futile attempts to reach their 1st Battalion.

Now recognized by the Pentagon as among the top 10 battles in U.S. military annals, the rescue of the Texas Lost Battalion by the men of Co. I and Co. K, which bore the brunt of the attack, and their heroic actions have been remembered in countless stories and news reports. "In three days of savage fighting, with close combat use of the grenade and bayonet, the Nisei broke through the enemy cordon. In gratitude, the men of the 36th Division launched a drive and had all members of the 442nd declared honorary Texans..." This Nisei unit sustained 814 battle casualties (nearly, Co. K was down to 17 men. Co. I, eight enlisted men); there were no officers in either company the day after contact with the Lost Battalion; made sergeant, were running the companies." *U.S. Congressional Record*.

Notes:

The Lost Battalion survivors never regarded themselves as "lost," they knew where they were throughout the nine days. After being cut off, in the four weeks (Oct. 15 - Nov. 9) from Bruyeres to St. Die, the combat team was down to less than half of its regimental strength—almost 2,000 casualties, 140 KIA, 1,800 in hospitals.

Co. I, Co. K, ("decimated or not," as Tanaka pictures them in his pictorial history) and Co. L went on the offensive in the center to push the stubborn Germans off the ridge in three days with F, G and E on the flanks, combined with tanks and supporting fire from the 36th Division. The 232nd Engineers of the 442nd even interrupted their day-and-





P.C. ARCHIVES

BRUYERES LIBERATION (1948)—French honor guard and civic leaders of Bruyeres celebrate their liberation from the Germans in ceremonies held Oct. 24 in the Vosges Mountains. Monument bears a plaque donated by JACL recalling the Rescue of the Texas Lost Battalion and liberation of Bruyeres in 1944. Forests in the background have fully recovered since the battle of Bruyeres. Across the road is the Friendship Knot created by 442nd veteran Shinkichi Tajiri, now of Holland, dedicated in 1994.

night road building the third day to join the final push on the ridge. Three days later, on Nov. 9, the 100/442 was relieved from this front, detached from the 7th Army and ordered south to the Maritime Alps. The 36th Division continued its drive, crossing the Rhine and into Germany.

(6) **Central Europe** (March 12–May 11, 1945): While the 100th/442nd was recuperating in the French Maritime Alps in the Nice area, the 522nd Field Artillery was detached from the 442nd on March 9 to join the 7th Army assault on the Siegfried Line with supporting fire to the 45th Division when it crossed the Rhine. The 442nd crossed the Rhine via trestle bridge with the 44th Division near Mannheim March 27. And during the sweep through southern Germany, the 522nd crossed the Danube River on April 26 en route to Salzburg, Austria, and came upon Holocaust victims from Dachau concentration camp.

■ Note

A page from the diary of T4 Ichiro Imamura of the 522nd medics with photographs appearing in Chester Tanaka's pictorial account, *Go For Broke* (1982), reveals the grim, stark reality of the prisoners at Dachau: "Two liaison scouts from the 522nd... were among the first Allied troops to release prisoners in the Dachau... I watched as one of the scouts used his canteen to shoot off the chain that held the prisoner's shirt. Years later, it was learned that the 522nd had liberated one of 54 sub-camps at Dachau 'labor' camp with thousands of civilian prisoners."

During the 522nd PA Bn reunion in Los Angeles in April 1995 marking the 50th anniversary of their Central Europe campaign, three Holocaust survivors highlighted the occasion as they recounted their experiences. Larry Lubetkin from Mexico City, his younger brother Roman of St. Louis, Mo., and their late father—all from Lithuania, were on a forced march with thousands of others out of Dachau toward the Swiss border.

Larry Lubetkin recalled: "I was reborn on May 2, 1945," the morning they met their Japanese American liberators. He was climbing out of the ravine where the prisoners were ordered to spend the night. "It was eerie. There were no Nazi guards or their dogs about." They had fled during the night to avoid the advancing U.S. troops.

Confused at first to see Japanese faces, Lubetkin heard them speak English. "Right then and there, I volunteered to join them." The 522nd, Battery C, outfitted him with GI clothes as he interpreted for the battalion officers during the final weeks of hostilities and in the months of occupation.

The third survivor, a Polish Catholic woman whose father helped the Jews in the Warsaw ghetto, described life inside Dachau and remembered the men of the 522nd. (see: *Pacific Citizen*, June 16, 1995.)

The "Champagne Campaign": For four months (Nov. 21, 1944–April 5, 1945) after the rigors of battle in the Vosges mountains and rescue of the Lost Battalion, the Combat Team assembled along the French-Italian border to stop German infiltration and protect the French base at Marseilles. The 100th arrived first and took a choice spot—the Riviera at Menton, a few miles east of off-limit Monte Carlo. The 2nd Battalion had the high ground at the Peira Cava ski resort area; the 3rd Battalion in the middle in picturesque Sospel, about 18 miles (as the crow flies, but much more after negotiating those treacherous hairpin turns) into the mountains above Menton. Regimental headquarters was based at L'Escarène.

The school on a hilltop at Sospel was the CP (command post) for Co. K, where two men were killed by German artillery fire: supply Sgt. Senti (Senji) Sugawara and TS Larry Miura (Miura), a jeep driver. Their names on the memorial plaque are spelled as shown.

A notable prize was captured on Dec. 19, 1944, by the 442nd Anti-Tank Co. of a Nazi mini-sub at Menton. The German corporal thought he had reached the Italian side of the border. The 232nd Engineers hauled it ashore and sent the prize and prisoner to the Allied base at Toulon. This was probably the first time the Navy received a mini-sub captured by an Army infantry unit.

Winter on the Riviera was not to last forever. "Top Secret" orders came in March '45 to ship out. Wholesale changes in command were made. Col. Pence, commanding the 442nd since its formation at Shelby but ailing from a back injury in the fight

ing in the Vosges, was succeeded by Lt. Col. Virgil R. Miller, his executive officer. Maj. Jack Conley took command of the 100th from Lt. Col. Gordon Singles. Under "new management," the 100/442 was going back to Italy March 20–22.

(7) **Po Valley Campaign** (April 5–May 8, 1945): Return of the 442nd to Italy in late March was a closely-kept secret from the Germans. The men had removed all identifying insignias from their helmets and uniforms and were restricted to the staging area near Pisa.

The 442nd's task, along with elements of the all-Negro 92nd Infantry Division, was to crack the western anchor of the Gothic Line, which the Fifth Army was unable to pry open during the 1944 fall offensive. Only the fortifications in the center were dismantled. The elaborately fortified Gothic Line astride mountain peaks (all 3,000 ft. and up), ridge and passes across Italy was to hold the Po River Valley—the last sweep of Italy in German hands. Hitler's armies elsewhere in Europe were in retreat.

Moving up by night (April 3), the 100th and 3rd Battalions began their climb up the slopes of Mt. Folgorito and Mt. Carchio, German observation strongholds off the Ligurian coast and the Highway 1 route north toward Genoa. The 100th remained concealed by day in the town of Vallecchia; the 3rd had in the mountain village of Azzano (April 4). [This area lies between Massa and Pietrasanta in the Northern Apennines, which are usually shown in a national map of Italy.]

That night, the 100th advanced upon their first objective, the southernmost hill, dubbed "Florida." The 3rd Battalion (Co. I, Co. L, Co. M) pulled themselves up the almost vertical cliff, zigzagging toward the saddle between the two peaks of Folgorito and Carchio, to mount its surprise attack at 0500 April 5. Because of the arduous eight-hour climb, the troops did not reach its line of departure (to mount its surprise attack from the rear) until 0530. It was evident the gumbale to sneak in from the rear paid off; gun positions were seized almost without a struggle; the enemy were killed or taken prisoner. The ridge-line was secure by 0730.

The 100th, at dawn, had advanced from "Florida" behind a demonstration of artillery might, surprising the German observation post atop the next hill, dubbed "Georgia." Here was an entrenchment of machine guns inside solid rock that had been shelled and attacked over a five-month period. Despite heavy casualties, Co. A took the post in 32 minutes by 0520.

Recognized in this effort was Pfc. Henry Y. Arao of Watsonville, Calif., the scout who led the attack. He crawled through a heavily mined field, gave first aid to his platoon leader, was then hit by a grenade burst. Arao reorganized the squad, still pinned down by more grenades burst, crawled alone to one emplacement, tossed in a grenade and charged, killing the gunner with his tommy gun, and took the second gunner prisoner. Arao again opened fire and another grenade at the emplacement, silencing the crew. Rest of the enemy then fled toward its bomb-proof dugout. The platoon moved up to seize its objective. Arao earned the Distinguished Service Cross.

In the same action, Pfc. Sadao Munemori of Los Angeles also contributed to the success of Co. A's assault. His squad was pinned down by enemy fire. The squad leader was wounded. As assistant squad leader and now in command, Munemori made a frontal one-man attack, knocking out two machine guns with grenades. Then withdrawing under heavy enemy gunfire and a shower

of grenades, he had nearly reached a shell crater occupied by two of his men when an unexploded grenade bounced from his helmet and rolled toward his helpless comrades. He dived for the grenade, smothering the blast with his own body. He was killed but the two men were spared. Because of his swift, supremely heroic action, Munemori was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest decoration. He had left the Military Intelligence Service to volunteer for combat duty with the 100/442. The medal was presented to his mother, Mrs. Nawa Munemori, at Los Angeles.

■ AN ASIDE

Fifty years later, the names of these two men became public—Akira Shishido of Maui who passed away in 1989, and Jimmie Dei from Idaho, who spoke briefly at the 1994 dedication of the West Los Angeles armed forces recruiting station, named for Pfc. Munemori. Also present was his sister, Yae Yokoyama, Honolulu.

More hills had to be taken—"Ohio 1, 2 and 3," Ceretta and Belvedere, and by April 8 the 442nd had progressed to the outskirts of Massa, secured Mt. Belvedere, a bastion of the veteran Kesseling Machine Gun Battalion. In nearby Carrara, famed since the time of Christ for its marble, the Germans had left as the 100/442 (Co. L) entered the city April 11 and were welcomed by the Italian Partisans and civilians, some of whom, fifty years later, still think that the Nisei troops were Filipinos.

To ensure an escape for themselves, the Germans, at their naval base at La Spezia and other coastal towns, retreated to make a stand at nearby Mt. Nibbione and surrounding hills. Panzer units from Pe Valley also appeared. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions (April 17) encircled and probed the German defenses but were beaten back.

Co. E moved northward (April 20) toward Po Valley, routing the enemy from a town on Highway 63, which passed through Aulla, gateway to the pass that led to Parma in the Po Valley.

Leading this attack was 2nd Lt. Daniel K. Inouye of Honolulu, his platoon knocking out a German mortar observation post to within 40 yards of the main body, entrenched in their bunkers and rock crevices. Then three machine guns stopped them. Devoid of cover, Inouye crawled up the slope to within five yards of the nearest gun, tossed two grenades into the nest and before the Germans recovered, stood up and raked the second gun with his tommy gun, killing the crew. Hit once, he continued to fire at other emplacements until his right arm was shattered by a grenade. Refusing evacuation, he directed the final assault which carried the ridge. Inouye received the Distinguished Service Cross by this action.

The Germans vacated Aulla after "Task Force Fukuda" (April 24) reached a road junction south of Aulla, wearing down the stiff resistance from Italian Fascist troops covering for the retreating Germans. Maj. Mitsuyoshi Fukuda, 100th Bn. commander and one of the original AJA officers, led a special force from his Co. B, Co. F of the 2nd Bn., an anti-tank platoon and a communication crew through the mountains. As the men approached Aulla, they were met by happy civilians offering flowers and wine.

The Po Valley campaign was now winding down despite occasional German artillery fire to slow down the pursuit. Advancing northward from La

Spezia, the 100/442 was mopping up, headed (April 26) to bypass Genoa and head into the highlands to cut off the escape route for Germans still in Genoa. Prisoners were also being taken.

Rolling into Pe Valley, the regimental Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon (April 30), led by Lt. Robert Wakuya, and machine gun section from Co. H made a mad dash for Turin, 75 miles away. [The same day, news flashed that Hitler had committed suicide in Berlin.] The 1&R Platoon, in Turin, was swamped by surrendering Germans and Italians, by the company, battalion and regiment. What to do was a tremendous problem. The war ended officially in Italy on May 2 (a week before the effective date of VE Day, May 9).

Peace/Occupation

The 522nd Field Artillery, detached from the 442nd in March, was part of the Allied Occupation in Austria (May 8–November 1945), manning sentry posts and setting roadblocks around Salzburg-Donauswerth to apprehend fleeing Nazis.

After surrender of the German army in Italy on May 2, the 100/442 was pulled back to garrison Genoa; the 2nd Battalion left for Cuneo May 6 to set up roadblocks and patrol the French border. The Army senters went to Novi Ligure, shed their combat fatigues for Class A uniforms, with hot shower, hot meals, etc., again.

From May 13, they processed within two weeks some 85,000 Nazi and Italian Fascist troops, plus a weird assortment of women camp followers, war material and loot, at the hastily built Fifth Army Enemy Concentration Area at Ghedi Airport near Brescia. As the men turned in truckloads of cognac, rum and champagne, each was allowed a bottle per week to "wash down the dust" until the supply was exhausted.

The homeward trek began May 31. Remaining were those without the "points" to return home and the newly arrived replacements. The 209th Army Ground Forces Band left Ghedi June 9 for Milan; the 232nd Engineers closed down Ghedi for Milan. Meanwhile, more than 1,300 men not eligible for discharge remained with the Peninsular Base Section at Pisa for occupation duty in Italy, in the vicinity of Pisa, Florence, Rome and Naples through October 1945. Some were also stationed in Naples through August and September, guarding military installations.

Nearly 200 volunteered for the Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific. Some attended the Army Study Center in Florence. The 442nd swimming team won every first-place ribbon except one to sweep the Fifth Army championship. Many visited Milan, Florence, Venice, even Switzerland and Greece.

There were occasions when 100/442 soldiers were puzzled to see a Nisei in a strange-looking uniform. They were members of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force, which also battled along the Gothic Line in the Po Valley campaign. In his memoirs, *A Matter of Honor* (1996), Col. James Hanley (2nd Bn. commander) notes Gen. Mark Clark commanded Brazilians, Poles, Italians, New Zealanders, South Africans, British Indians, British and Americans, that comprised the 15th Army Group.

On VJ Day (Sept. 2, 1945), the 100/442 had the honor to lead the parade of the 15,000 Allied troops through the city of Leghorn.

The Combat Team (actually 481 men and 10 officers) returned home July 2, 1946, to a heroes' welcome at New York Harbor and a parade July 15 down Constitution Avenue to the Ellipse where President Truman attached the seventh Presidential Unit Citation ribbon to the regimental colors. He declared: "You fought not only the enemy, but you fought prejudice and you have won. Keep up that fight and we will continue to win... to make this great Republic stand for what the Constitution says it stands for: the welfare of all the people all the time." While in Washington, D.C., they were housed at Fort Belvoir, Va.

The 442nd deactivation site was changed from Fort Belvoir to Honolulu, the Mainlanders moved to Fort Meade, Md., to be discharged, while the remaining group of 239 men returned by sea through the Panama Canal. On Aug. 15, 1946, the 442nd RC-7 was formally deactivated at Kapulani Park, Honolulu. Epilogue—The 100/442 sustained 680 men killed in action, 67 missing in action, and 9,486 wounded. There were nearly 9,500 Purple Hearts (for wounds in combat); over 18,000 individual awards and decorations, including Medal of Honor (posthumously to Pfc. Sadao Munemori, 100th Infantry, of Los Angeles, a volunteer from Manzanar), 52 Distinguished Service Crosses (highest Army award for heroism), one Distinguished Service Medal (to unit commander Col. Charles Pence), 568 Silver Stars (for gallantry in action), and 4,000 Bronze Stars (for valor or meritorious service) and 7 Presidential Unit Citations.

The Combat Team battled from Sept. 2, 1945, until May 8, 1945, with the 86th Army under Gen. Mark Clark in Italy and the 7th Army under Gen. Alexander Patch in southern France. (Gen. Patch had previously served in the Guadalcanal campaign and was well aware of Nisei accomplishments and intelligence.) Their motto, "Go For Broke," lived to be in the American dictionary. ■

The Millennium Series will be continued throughout the year—*HKH, Editor Emeritus*



442nd 'ORIGINALS' (1946)—Heading a gigantic Army Day Parade (April 6) with national and regimental colors in Leghorn, Italy, are four original members of the 442nd (from left): M/Sgt. Jisaku Yoshida (Honolulu), 1st Sgt. Jisaiji Hamamoto (Fillmore, Calif.), 1st Sgt. Melvin Tsuchiya (Waimo, Kauai), and T/Sgt. Tsuneo Nakada (Los Angeles).

永久に称えむ始祖一世

(Towa Ni Tataemu Shiso Issei)

The J. A. Kamon: A Kamon To Eternally Commemorate Our Issei Forefathers

It was the sweat, tears, and indomitable spirit of the Meiji-era Issei which forged the foundations of what is now recognized as the "Nikkei community". I refer to these Issei as our 始祖 (shiso), or "forefathers", because all things have a beginning, and it is with the Issei that the transition took place from a Japanese (Issei) history to a Japanese American (Nisei, Sansei, Yonsei, etc.) one. To ensure that the legacy of the Issei will live on in this Nikkei community, I have been introducing Japanese Americans to the Kamon since 1972 when I held the first Kamon exhibit in the U.S. during the Nisei Week Festival in Little Tokyo, Los Angeles. Since then, I have been continuing to inform Nisei, Sansei, Yonsei and Gosei about the Kamon and its significance to Japanese Americans as an invaluable "key" to unlocking their ancestry when coupled with their Japanese surname and the birthplace of their Japanese forefather, the Issei. I have also designed what I have named the "J. A. Kamon" (=Japanese American Kamon), an original artwork created in bronze so that these 3 priceless inheritances from the Issei will be remain accessible to their future American descendants

for numerous generations.

Many Japanese Americans have traveled to Japan with hopes of finding out more about their Kamon from friends and relatives there. And while it has been the case that the people in Japan are able to show them what their Kamon looks like, they are unable to explain what the design of their Kamon signifies, or how it is representative of their surname and its history. For this reason, I have established the first private library in the U.S. of Kamon, Myoji (=Japanese surnames), and Chimei (=Japanese place-names) reference books, so that these questions may be definitively answered here, without having to leave the U.S. Utilizing this vast collection of resources, a personal Kamon Genealogy can be compiled for you, and a Kamon determined, which is an accurate symbolic representation of your Japanese surname and its rich history. It is only such a "historically accountable" Kamon which I feel is appropriate for permanently preserving in the form of a J. A. Kamon, so that the memory and achievements of the Issei may continue to live on within the Nikkei community.

A map of Japan showing -Ken (=prefecture) and -Kuni (=province) divisions. Below it is a partial list of Daimyo (=feudal lords) who had occupied these provinces during the Edo Period (1600-1868) and their representative Kamon.

資料提供: 吉田家紋文庫
References consulted in the preparation of this article have been provided by:
Yoshida Kamon Bunko



The "Power" of Hand-cast Bronze

(1) (2)



(1.) The people of the Yayoi Period (300 BC to 300 AD) are noted in Japanese history for having left behind the bronze artifacts known as *Dotaku* (銅鐸), which have been excavated at various sites throughout Japan. Many of these ancient *Dotaku* display what appear to be "pictographs" on their surfaces.

Having been indelibly preserved in bronze, these pictographs have thus survived the corrosive effects of Time to bear witness today to a history dating back more than 2000 years.

(2.) Similarly, each bronze J. A. Kamon is a durable, one-of-a-kind record containing a Kamon whose design is fully accounted for in a "Kamon genealogy".

Moreover, like the *dotaku* of the Yayoi Period, each J. A. Kamon is also handcast in solid, one-piece bronze to ensure that it will eternally commemorate the Issei forefathers in your family for 2000 or more years to come.

HOKKAIDO Region

1.) Hokkaidō

TŌHOKU Region

2.) Aomori

3.) Iwate

4.) Miyagi

5.) Akita

6.) Yamagata

7.) Fukushima

8.) Ibaragi

9.) Tochigi

10.) Gunma

11.) Kōzuke

CHŪBU Region

12.) Chiba

13.) Tokyo

14.) Kanagawa

15.) Niigata

16.) Toyama

17.) Ishikawa

18.) Fukui

19.) Yamanashi

20.) Nagano

21.) Gifu

22.) Shizuoka

23.) Aichi

24.) Mie

25.) Shiga

26.) Kyoto

27.) Osaka

28.) Hyōgo

29.) Nara

30.) Wakayama

31.) Tottori

32.) Shimane

33.) Okayama

34.) Hiroshima

35.) Yamaguchi

36.) Tokushima

37.) Kagawa

38.) Ehime

39.) Kōchi

40.) Fukuoka

41.) Saga

42.) Nagasaki

43.) Kumamoto

44.) Ōita

45.) Miyazaki

46.) Kagoshima

47.) Okinawa

48.) Ryūkyū

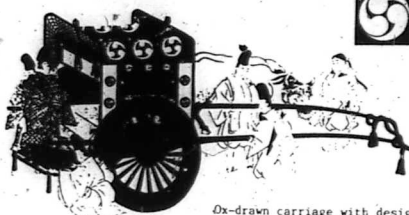


大津藩・御竹園邸（「大津藩」より）



Historically, the Kamon of the nobility originated primarily from:

- 1.) The designs and patterns decorating their clothing
- 2.) The designs and markings used to embellish their ox-drawn carriages.
- 3.) Designs and motifs possessing some commemorative significance.



Ox-drawn carriage with design

The Kamon of the warrior-class originated from the markings employed on military banners and cloth enclosures that were used to encircle and partition encampments.

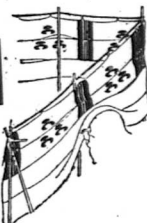
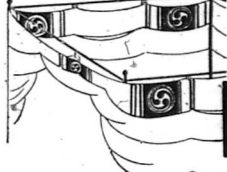
Examples of Camp Enclosures with KAMON

Examples of Military Banners with KAMON



大宰少式

菊地武房



By the Tokugawa/Edo Period (1600-1868), in addition to the samurai-class, commoners as well had begun adopting their own Kamon and the practice of displaying them on certain items of clothing.

It is important to pay careful attention to a Kamon's details; even the most minute details in a design may function in distinguishing one Kamon from another similar-looking one, or may play a role in revealing certain aspects of that Kamon's unique history.

Ex. #1: The DAKI-OMODAKA ('embracing water plantain') KAMON of the DAIMYO ('feudal lord') MORI / 毛利 clan.



The DAKI-OMODAKA crest as pictured in a contemporary MONCHO (crest design book)



The MORI's deliberately varied the details of the inner, blossom-portion of their representative crest, in order to differentiate between their main and branch lines.



山本 毛利氏

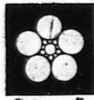


讃岐 毛利氏

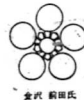


府中 毛利氏

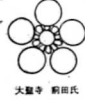
Ex. #2: The UMEBACHI ('plum blossom') KAMON of the DAIMYO ('feudal lord') MAEDA / 前田 clan.



The UMEBACHI crest as pictured in a contemporary MONCHO (crest design book)



金沢 前田氏



大塚 前田氏



富山 前田氏



七日市 前田氏

The MAEDA's also deliberately varied the inner details of their representative crest, in order to differentiate between their main and branch lines.

Some Facts On: Kamon / 家紋 (=Japanese family crests),
Myoji / 苗字 (=Japanese surnames), &
Chimei / 地名 (=Japanese place-names)

- * The Kamon is a symbol of one's Myoji and its history. Thus, any individual who has a Myoji (i.e. Japanese surname), also has a Kamon.
- * From those documented in books alone, there exist more than 20,000 varieties of Kamon.
- * Myoji number the greatest in the world in terms of variety, with over 290,000 in existence.
- * More than 80% of Myoji were originally derived from Chimei (=Japanese place-names).
- * By itself, the Kamon is but a "design" revealing only a limited history, but when coupled with its correct corresponding Myoji (written in kanji) and Chimei (i.e. birthplace of the Issei), these 3 in combination serve as the ultimate "key" to unlocking the rich history behind one's Myoji.



Profile: Madame Kei Yoshida
40 Years of Introducing Kamon
& Japanese dolls to the U.S.

- 1957—Invited to U.S. by the American Federation of Doll Clubs. Brought over 50 of her handcrafted dolls with her from Japan. By holding exhibitions/classes on Japanese doll-making in various cities throughout California, contributed greatly to bettering post-War U.S.-Japan relations by promoting awareness & understanding of Japanese cultural arts.
- 1960—Became the first to receive a permanent visa as a Japanese doll instructor.
- 1965—By request of the (Nisei Week) committee, held the first Japanese doll exhibit during Nisei Week in Little Tokyo, Los Angeles.
- 1971—Founded the Ningyo Sakka Kyokai (=The Japanese Doll Artist's Association).
- 1972—Held the U.S.'s first Kamon exhibit during the Nisei Week Festival. Highlight of exhibit was the original "crest" designed & created for then-President Richard Nixon by Mme. Yoshida's son, Benton.
- 1974—Responding to a special request from a key Issei leader of the Nikkei community, made the Imperial crest used by the Japanese American community to officially greet the Emperor and Empress of Japan during their stopover in L.A. (This same crest was used to welcome the Imperial couple again during their subsequent visits in 1975 & 1994.)
- 1990—Established U.S.'s first & foremost private library of Kamon references. Has been providing research & instruction on the J. A. Kamon to Japanese Americans.

2 examples of J. A. Kamons that accurately symbolize the history behind their corresponding Myoji



The Shigyo / 執行 family
(N. Calif.)

Issei birthplace:
福岡県久留米市
Fukuoka-ken, Kurume-shi

Kamon name:
「抱き葉菜湯に久の字」
"Daki-ha Omodaka ni Kyuu no Ji"

For further info. regarding the
J. A. Kamon, please contact:

Yoshida Kamon Art
P. O. Box 2958
Gardena, CA 90247-1158
(213) 629-2848 - 9am to 9pm / PST
(For info. in English, please leave
message in answering machine)
Researcher/Instructor: Mme. Kei Yoshida
Translator: Nina Yoshida

The Mitarai / 御手洗 family
(Utah)



Issei birthplace:
熊本県菊池郡酒水村吉富
Yoshitomi, Shisui-mura, Kikuchi-gun, Kumamoto-ken

Kamon name:
「六角井桁に並び鷹の羽」
"Rokaku Igeta ni Narabi Taka-no-ha"

Genesis, 1946: JACL - Reparations - Redress

(Continued from page 7)

Keisaburo Koda's claim for \$2,497,500 was for the loss of some 3,000 acres of farm property, a rice mill, machinery, inventory, a herd of hogs, of crops, of rentals, management and legal expenses.

Mike Masaoka noted in his "Washington Newsletter" column (Pacific Citizen, Oct. 22, 1965) that it took 17 years to have the last claim approved. The claim also had tragic aspects: the two principals, elder Koda and son Bill, had passed away, as had three of the four attorneys who handled the case. The column recalled other historic coincidences.

Attorney James C. Purcell of San Francisco, who handled the settlement, is remembered for his pro bono handling the Mitsuyo Endo case before the U.S. Supreme Court which, in December, 1944, held the government had no legal authority to hold loyal American citizens in the relocation centers.

Commissioner C. Murray Bernhardt of the Court of Claims, who conducted the extensive hearings, was chief counsel of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Claims, which had approved the 1948 bill that became the Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act.

Deputy Attorney General Ramsey Clark (and later Attorney General under President Johnson), who reviewed the settlement, is the son of Associate Justice Tom C. Clark who represented Attorney General Francis Biddle in 1942 in the planning of evacuation with General DeWitt at the Presidio of San Francisco, headquarters of the Western Defense Command.

John Douglas, assistant attorney general who transmitted the Court of Claims judgment to the Treasury Department for payment, is the son of Illinois Senator Paul Douglas, one of the consistent senators supporting the JACL evacuation claims program in the Congress.

Hashime Saito Claim

Oct. 27, 1967—Hashime Saito of San Jose claims discharge of his father by Union Pacific Railroad in 1942 was illegal, seeks compensation. [How many other Issei railroad workers who were suspended is not known. The Pacific Citizen in 1997 has published a list of 191 Japanese who were fired from the Union Pacific (Sept. 5, 1997) and 39 from the Southern Pacific. (May 6, 1997)]

To be concluded ...

Kanrin Maru replica

Replica of Kanrin Maru, Japan's first steam-powered warship to cross the Pacific—in 1860—to San Francisco, is now docked in Yokohama, offering cruises around the bay.—Yokohama Scene ■

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■ CONTRIBUTORS TO OUR 'P.C. SAVE'

In this issue, we again acknowledge the checks over the past eight months in chronological order of receipt and, in the spirit of accountability, the amount. Some chose to contribute "anonymously" and they are so noted. Careful scrutiny also will reveal some have contributed twice to P.C. SAVE. Domo arigato!

HARRY K. HONDA
CAROLINE Y. AOYAGI
BRIAN TANAKA
MARGOT BRUNSWICK

April 12-Dec. 17, 1997

James Oda, Northridge, Calif., \$100; Naomi Kashiwabara, San Diego, Calif., \$13; Amy & George Matsumoto, Stockton, Calif., \$100; Paul Ohtaki, San Francisco, Calif., \$50; Betty Meltzer, Beaumont, Calif., \$20; Gen & Dolly Ogata, Riverside, Calif., \$100; Jerô Kodama, San Francisco, Calif., \$50; Edna Chung, Lakewood, Colo., \$75; Yasumasa Akiyama, Sumner, Wash., \$50; Harry Arita, Indio, Calif., \$100; Hisayo Kiyomura, San Mateo, Calif., \$25; Pocatello Blackfoot (Idaho) JACL, \$1,000; H. Hitoshi Kajihara, Oxnard, Calif., \$100; San Jose (Calif.) JACL, \$200; Takuya Maruyama, Los Angeles, Calif., \$100; Mrs. Yukiye Nogami, Denver, Colo., \$20; Miyeko Ishihara, Seattle, Wash., \$20; Rodney Hustead, Keizer, Ore., \$5; C. Tessie Shiotani, Tacoma, Wash., \$20; George & Yuko Terada, Honolulu, HI, \$25; Harry & Hisayo Kiyomura, San Mateo, Calif., \$25; Arthur & Ann Gorai, Seattle, Wash., \$25; Lili Hirata, Spokane, Wash., \$15; George & Mary Shimizu, Greenbrae, Calif., \$100; St. Louis (Mo.) JACL, \$500; Jerry & Natsuko Irei, Richmond, Calif., \$500; Fred Oshima, Salinas, Calif., \$100; Sachi Seko, Salt Lake City, UT, \$1,000; Emi Nomura, St. Paul, Minn., \$15; Tom Ohno, Bloomington, Minn., \$50; Chester Fukuhara, Lodi, Calif., \$40; William M. Marutani, Philadelphia, Penn., \$200; Michi Weglin, New York City, \$250; Joseph R. Allman, Phoenix, Ariz., \$50.

Jan. 1, 1995-April 11, 1997 TOTAL:\$18,400.98
April 12, 1997-Dec. 17, 1997 TOTAL:\$5,043.00

GRAND TOTAL:\$23,643.98

JOB OPENINGS

The Japanese American Cultural & Community Center in Los Angeles is dedicated to presenting, perpetuating, transmitting and promoting Japanese and Japanese American arts and culture to diverse audiences.

Director of Administration and Finance — Salary range \$50,000 - \$60,000 with benefits.

Program Associate — Assist in administration and coordination of cultural programs. Salary range \$22,000 - \$26,000.

For application packet with full job announcement: JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., #505, Los Angeles, CA 90012, 213/628-2725, fax: 213/628-2725, email: tokudomi@jaccc.org. **Deadline date is Wednesday, January 28, 1998.**

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EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The JACL seeks a person to be Executive Editor of the Pacific Citizen, a newspaper located in Monterey Park, Calif. The executive editor will be in charge of overseeing and supervising the semi-monthly publication with a readership of 70,000 and a staff of from four to eight people, depending on the season. The successful candidate will want to build the semi-monthly tabloid to a weekly publication.

Position requires a minimum of two years experience (five years preferred) in copy design, editing, writing, working with correspondents and managing publications; must have experience in the use of Mac/QuarkXPress or its equivalent. Knowledge of and experience with the Japanese American community preferred. Responsibilities include hands-on involvement in the conceptualizing of issues and articles, writing, assigning stories, photography, editing layout, and production. Periodic travel involved, including evenings and weekends. Excellent fringe benefit package provided. Hiring salary range: \$35,150-\$49,100. Send cover letter, résumé and work samples to Richard Jno, Japanese American Citizens League, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115 or fax to 415/931-4671. E-mail questions to JACL@jaccl.org.

■ **JOB OPENING**

Office Manager/Administrative Asst.

The JACL seeks a person to be Office Manager/Administrative Assistant of the Pacific Citizen. The person chosen will provide clerical support to the P.C. editor and ensure the smooth routine operation of the newspaper office.

Position requires two years of college training in bookkeeping and secretarial studies or its equivalent, two to five years of progressively more responsibility in office management. Knowledge and experience with computer word processing and spreadsheet programs required. Experience in the use of publishing software a plus. Duties of the Office Manager include: reviews the Editor's mail, answers correspondence, provides instruction and information to P.C. personnel, maintains files, reports, assemblies and organizes information for the Editor, maintains adequate inventory of supplies, and ensures maintenance of equipment. Works under limited supervision. Excellent fringe benefit package provided. Hiring salary range: \$22,621 - \$26,000. Send cover letter, résumé and work samples to Harry K. Honda, Interim editor, Pacific Citizen, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755, fax: 213/725-0083.

Friday before date of issue

News releases and all advertising (including death notices) for this publication are due the "Friday before Date of Issue." Publicity items are usually consigned to the Calendar page. Be aware of our fortnightly schedule this year. ■

Blue Shield health plans for California JACL members

Blue Shield of California offers group health care coverage to JACL members age 18 and over who reside in California. Choose from three plans: AccessSM HMOSM, Blue Shield PPO and Shield 65. Each has a wide range of benefits, including vision care, worldwide emergency coverage, dental care, prescription drug benefits and more. For more information about these plans, call the JACL Group Health Trust Administrator today at 1-800-400-6633.

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1997 in retrospect

CONTINUING what was styled a year ago in this column, here's another a potpourri of one-liners or bits of a statement that edify some of the highlights found this past year.

#2813 / Jan. 10-23 — Whether the American character ever has been resolute may be arguable, but one thing is sure—it is becoming brittle, caving in to boomer instincts and lazier answers to the ills of the world... The memory of old virtues and truths may now taste rancid in the face of perceived personal enemies. **Richard Suenaga**. From his analysis of "Civil unrest and tension."

#2814 / Jan. 24-Feb. 6 — I am passionately committed to developing a world-class system in education. **Gary Locke**. From his inaugural address, Jan. 15, as the first mainland Asian American governor in the State of Washington.

#2815 / Feb. 7-20 — The cold reality of welfare reform is prompting many less to naturalize. **Al Muratsuchi**. A comment on the anxieties by the JACL regional director after many pleas for JACL assistance. This was a prelude to citizenship workshops that followed.

#2816 / Feb. 21-March 6 — Why can't our President in 1997 right a long overdue wrong by issuing an executive order making mandatory the restitution of those Japanese Latin Americans forcibly removed to [U.S.] concentration camps, whose pleas for justice continue to be snubbed? **Michi Weglyn**. A plea that was included with the redress plea for Japanese railroad and mining workers who were arrested and held in 1942.

#2817 / March 7-20 — The [DNC] campaign finance scandal reopens an old wound and the pain we feel is pain of having to once again prove that we are Americans. **Bob Sakaniwa**.

#2818 / March 21-April 3 — We were surprised and most deeply honored by their generous donation. **Col. Young O. Kim (ret.)**, 100-442-MIS WWII Memorial Foundation chair, on the support of Sakaye and George Aratani's pledge of \$100,000 towards the \$500,000 goal for the spring of 1998 groundbreak. (The Aratani also donated \$500,000 towards the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation's \$8.6-million campaign that must be met by the end of 1998 or the land project by Congress will revert to the Federal government.)

#2819 / April 4-17 — Total JACL investments are now valued at more than \$7-million. **Herbert Yamanishi**. From the National director's opening statement at the March 22 National Board meeting.

#2820 / April 18 - May 1 — It does not add to Charles Pedersen's stature (his Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1987 as inventor of macropolymer) that he considered a Nikkei. **Charles Pedersen**, 1904, of a Norwegian father and a Japanese mother. But it would do great honor to be the Nikkei community if, in life, he would have considered himself to be one of us. **Bill Hosokawa**. From the *Frying Pan*.

#2821 / May 2-15 — Tiger Woods has been telling Oprah Winfrey that he'd rather not be labeled "black" or "African American." **Call (me) Cabinasian**: three-fourths Asian, part-Caucasian, part-black and part-African. According to the *Los Angeles Times* golf writer, **Mike Penner**.

#2822 / May 16-June 5 — Without a doubt, President Alberto Fujimori is the most famous Japanese descendant in the world. A statement from *Pearl's* well-known Nisei cultural anthropologist, **Dr. Mary Fukumoto**, made at UCLA May 1.

#2823 / June 6-19 — The old Nisei will die away, but I want their spirit to live on in their descendants. **Akemi Keylong Knight**. The PC's *Sansui* contributing columnist.

#2824 / June 20 - July 3 — This is a tremendous opportunity. I'm going to have to take it. **Jon Nakamatsu**, 28, St. Francis High School (Mountain View, Calif.) teacher of German with a masters in education from Stanford, upon winning the prestigious Van Cliburn International Piano competition June 8 at Fort Worth, Texas.

#2825 / July 4-17 — Thus far, Civil Liberties Public Education Fund has awarded 15 grants and fellowships totaling approximately \$3.5 million [from a \$5-million fund]. **Dale Shimazaki**, Fund executive director. (Grantees of the first 100 awards are listed in PC.

#2826 / July 18-31 — I didn't expect it (Title IX, Education Act in 1972, signed by President Nixon) to do what it has accomplished. **Rev. Patsy Takemoto Mink (D-Hawaii)**, on the occasion of marking its 25th anniversary. She amazed by its impact and fantastic

numbers of women in high school and college sports.

#2827 / Aug. 1-14 — I never heard of half the stories Yukio talks about in the film "Beyond Barbed Wire" — the 88-minute documentary of the 100th-442nd MIS documented in 1996 by MAC and AVA Motion Pictures, Monterey, Calif. **Mollie Sumida**, a comment by the wife of 442 veteran who was the film's co-producer.

#2828 / Aug. 15-Sept. 4 — We've gotten a lot of E-mail from Buddhists all over the world. It's almost like a cyber-community of Buddhists is being formed. **Peter Hata**, who created the website www.livingdharma.org for the West Coast Buddhist Temple.

#2829 / Sept. 5-18 — The JACL Legacy Fund and the Twin Cities Chapter are most grateful for this major request. **Gracye Uehara**, on the receipt of its largest bequest of \$79,626 from the estate of the late Gladys Ishida Stone.

#2830 / Sept. 19-Oct. 2 — Sometimes it's just easier for young people to speak their minds when they're in a room full of their peers, outside the hearing distance of their elders. **Caroline Aoyagi**, an observation after seeing the JACL Youth/Student Council rap session Aug. 19 at the JACOC in Little Tokyo.

#2831 / Oct. 3 - 16 — There's no evidence of discrimination that the students were discriminated against by Denzai's (in Syracuse, N.Y., on April 11) William Fitzpatrick, Onondaga County District Attorney's finding following a lengthy criminal investigation that a party of seven students (3 Japanese, 3 Asian Americans and 1 Caucasian) illegally charged because of their origin and then were assaulted under by approximately 20 white males.

#2832 / Oct. 17 - Nov. 6 — The Manzanar National Historic Site will help to ensure that we never forget the tragic injustice committed against thousands of Japanese Americans. **Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.)**, in announcing \$30,000 for the project established by Congress in 1992.

#2833 / Nov. 7-20 — The language of (Pearl) is so clear that when it's measured up against the 14th Amendment, there is no doubt about the constitutionality of this measure. **UC Regent Ward Connerly** said it Nov. 3 when the U.S. Supreme Court let stand a lawsuit filed by the voters' group proposition to dismantle the state's race and gender preference programs.

#2834 / Nov. 21 - Dec. 18 — It's important for JACL to fight this battle. We've got to win this battle. **Nasue** addressing fellow National JACL Board members Nov. 15, after Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch delayed the Senate confirmation process Nov. 13 of Chinese American attorney Bill Lann Lee, President Clinton's nominee for assistant attorney general of the civil rights division.

#2835 / Dec. 19 Holiday Issue — You can see there are two "pullout" inserts for the first time... The Holiday Issue totals 136 pages — the highest yet. **Harry K. Honda**.

THIRTY-TWO issues ago Richard Suenaga announced his "desire to pursue other interests" and resigned as editor/general manager on July 30, 1996. Thus, we now add a sequel to Bill Hosokawa's "The 40-year road for PC editor still b-u-m-p-y" (the 1997 Holiday Issue). Kerry Ting, who attended the 1996 National JACL convention as PC business manager, was pressed into a "cub reporter" role after this booster delegate became the PC reporter who was suddenly hospitalized the two nights after visiting the exhibit area with vendors the opening day. The fact was hardly known that Suenaga agreed to assist until a successor was appointed, stayed on as an production editor through the 1996 Holiday Issue and January 1997.

We (the permanent and part-time Holiday Issue crew) weathered the most recent bump: Kerry's two-week notice to resign a week before the second half of the 1997 Holiday Issue was off the press.

This week, a call is being made for "an executive editor" and an "office manager/administrative assistant I," with hope the road ahead is better. But we see a yellow "SLOW—road construction" sign. Refer to a 1996 resolution calling for a feasibility study for relocating the PC. ■



BOTTOM LINE

(Continued from page 1)

Seattle Chapter President **Jeff Hattori** and Intermountain District Governor **Yasuhiko** have recommended that we have a nationwide membership drive in conjunction with the "Day of Remembrance" on Feb. 19-1998. They claim that we should be able to increase our members two-fold with this aggressive campaign.

The "member get a member" proposal was offered by **Ruth Hashimoto of Albuquerque, New Mexico**, at the last JACL National Convention. It can be done if we all work at it.

Jump Start JACL

Thanks to Sacramento JACL for kicking this program off, our "JUMP START JACL" program is halfway to our goal of \$25,000. At the recent Santa Maria Valley JACL installation, "JUMP START JACL" program received a \$150 donation from the chapter, a cash donation of \$50 from Santa Maria City Councilman and Mrs. Toru Miyoshi, and a \$50 check from a generous anonymous donor.

If each chapter or friend in the community could donate a small sum, we would reach our goal and be able to add another staff person in the Washington, D.C., office to assist **Bob Sakaniwa**. I know that we can do it. On behalf of JACL, a personal thank you to all chapters and persons who have contributed thus far.

Another first is the generous donation of \$5,000 by **George and Sakaye Aratani**, who funded our PSW Intern Program. And the funding of the PC intern by interested parties.

Youth Involvement

Hats off to **Hiromi Ueha**, National Youth Council Chair, and **Nicole Inouye**, National Youth Representative, for their dedicated hard work and efforts spent for JACL. **Hiromi and Nicole** have successfully recruited youth representatives for all districts except for Mountain Plains District. They also continue to attract new members into our program.

Because of their prudent handling of their budget, they have \$2,000 to provide seed money to those chapters and districts who want to sponsor local youth activities. Please contact **Hiromi** at 714/559-1353 or **Nicole** at 714/968-0934 for details. I am proud to call them my "daughters."

A positive comment by **PSW Youth Rep. Kent Kawai**, who said to me, "I have to leave the youth program just when it is beginning to move and be fun!" Thanks, **Kent**, for your involvement and we look forward to your involvement at the next level.

On-going Programs

(a) Support the Latin Americans and Railroad Workers Redress Campaigns.

(b) Support the confirmation of **Bill Lann Lee** to head the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division by contacting and/or writing to their legislators and to local editors.

(c) Leadership Development.

(d) Youth Development.

(e) Affirmative Action.

(f) Support candidates for public office. (Congratulations to **Karyl Matsumoto** upon election to the City of South San Francisco City Council on Nov. 4, 1997... and all others elected to public office.)

(g) Health Programs.

(h) Education Curriculums.

P.C. Wish List

Thanks to longtime friend **Sachi Seko** of Salt Lake City for another generous donation of \$1,000 to the *Pacific Citizen* which she designates in "honor of Helen Kawagoe." This is a first for me and I deeply appreciate her commitment to our cause. Thank you, **Sachi**! Your donation will be used wisely by **Harry Honda**.

Some items on the P.C. wish list to increase productivity are:

- Computer monitors
- Digital camera
- Fontback software
- Laptop computer for the assistant editor
- Voice-mail/new phone system
- News wire service
- Computer for circulation
- Printer for business manager
- 35-mm. Microfilm reader
- Other items for staff are a microwave, refrigerator, and television to review the many videos sent in to the PC.

Anyone who has a spare or can donate any of these items, please contact **Harry Honda** at 1-800-966-6157. We will be most grateful.

1998 JACL Nat'l Convention

As we look forward to the JACL National Convention to be held in Philadelphia July 1 - 5, 1998, I am looking forward to more JACLers running for national office. I can guarantee that you will enjoy the experience and will find the time spent both rewarding and gratifying. Much appreciation to the Philadelphia Chapter and the EDC for tackling this monumental job.

Some deadlines are:

April 1, 1998 — Candidates file for Office with National Headquarters.

April 1, 1998 — Nominees for JA of Biennium, JACLer of Biennium, Edison Ueno Award, George Inagaki Chapter Award to be filed with National Headquarters.

Special "Thank you!" to San Jose Chapter for their check for \$33,555.49 to National JACL from the profits of the 1996 JACL National Convention held in San Jose. Good job!

Memorial and Museums

Let's support these projects which will be our legacy for future generations.

National Japanese American Memorial, Washington, D.C.

Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles.

National Japanese American Historical Society, San Francisco.

Veterans Memorials

Redress Ends Aug. 10, 1998

Senator **Daniel Inouye** suggested that there be a fund-raising dinner to commemorate the end of the Redress period. It would be exciting and effective if dinners were scheduled in major cities by either dis-

tricts or chapters simultaneously and have President Clinton address all of us by cable-cast. What a night that would be!

Unfinished Business

There is still work to be accomplished. So, let's get those candidates ready for election in Philadelphia for the next biennium and pass the torch.

Everyday, I dream for the day when we can attract members like a USC vs. UCLA football game, a World Series baseball game, or a Pro Bowl football game. I dream this because there is still a need for JACL because there will still be discrimination in our communities and workplaces whether covert or overt. There will still be hate crimes directed at Asians, and there will still be discrimination in the appointment process, governmental and judicial. We must continue to be alert.

I think about what **Terry Nagata** (National JACL Credit Union president, Salt Lake City) shared with us at the California Tri-District Conference with the story about the geese and why they fly in a "Y" formation. Science has discovered that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an updraft for the bird immediately following. By flying in a "Y" formation, the whole flock adds at least 70 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

So, people who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier, because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

I think about the words expressed by one of the Carson's citizens, **Frankie Stewart**, named **Ms. Senior America** for 1997. She said, "My own personal philosophy is that life is neither good nor bad, but rather a series of experiences that teach, strengthen and ultimately become the stuff of which character is made."

I think about **Thomas Cannon**, of Richmond, Va., an African American postal worker with an annual income including overtime of \$30,000 who has given away \$96,000 to those in need since 1972. What a remarkable and generous human being.

I think about our JACLers and friends who have gone on to a better place and am grateful for their contributions and involvement.

I think about the lines read by the late **Princess Diana** from a poem by the Australian poet **Adam Lindsay Gordon**, published in 1867:

*Life is mostly froth and bubble,
Two things stand like stone,
Kindness in another's trouble,
Courage in your own.*

Let's Start the New Year With a Bang

JACLers, I welcome the New Year with great anticipation for greater involvement by our youth, our members and our communities. I challenge you to behave like geese, move forward together, pick up the steam and teach our goal!

And finally, I was deeply honored to be introduced at the Sacramento JACL installation by **emcee Mike Sawamura** as the president who brought "humor, peace and harmony" to JACL. I want this to be a New Year's resolution for all of us!

Happy New Year to all! ■

1998 ESCORTED TANAKA TOURS

| | |
|---|---------|
| TAUCK NEW ORLEANS/ANTEBELLUM SOUTH (7 days) | MAR 20 |
| JAPAN SPRING ADVENTURE (8 Takayama Festival, 12 days) | APR 11 |
| TAUCK NEW MEXICO & LAS VEGAS (10 days) | MAY 12 |
| CANADIAN ROCKIES/VICTORIA (8 days) | JUNE 10 |
| PRINCESS ALASKA CRUISE (early Booking Discount, 8 days) | AUG 15 |
| DANUBE RIVER CRUISE (10 days, DELUXE MOZART Riverboat) | AUG 29 |
| HIGHLIGHTS OF BRITAIN & IRELAND (15 days) | SEP 5 |
| TENNESSEE/BRANSON/KENTUCKY (Shop Tabuchi Show, 9 days) | SEP 12 |
| BEST OF HOKKAIDO | SEP 30 |
| EAST COAST/FALL FOLIAGE (11 days) | OCT 4 |
| JAPAN AUTUMN ADVENTURE | OCT 12 |
| CHINA SOJOURN | OCT 20 |
| NIKKEI SO. CARIBBEAN CRUISE (benefit for JOCCNC) | NOV 14 |

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Against All Odds: The Japanese
Americans' Campaign for Redress

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Against All Odds: The Japanese Americans' Campaign for Redress

For most Americans who lived through it, World War II was a period of trial and triumph, a time when the nation united to defeat a common enemy: the forces of fascism. As events from the war reached significant anniversaries in the 1980s, they were commemorated in stories in the news media and in ceremonies—such as the 1984 observance, attended by President Ronald Reagan, of the 40th anniversary of D-Day—that underscored the heroism and suffering of soldiers and citizens alike. But at the same time that the nation was honoring those who had fought in “the good war,” a small group of citizens was trying to call attention to a darker chapter in the history of that conflict. They were Japanese Americans from the West Coast states who had been evacuated from their homes and interned in “relocation centers” or camps in the months following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and had remained there for most of the war, forced to sell or abandon their property and placed under a cloud of suspicion as potential traitors to the nation.

Outside the West Coast, the internment had attracted relatively little public attention or comment; and in the years following the war, aided by the reticence of the internees, many of whom remembered it as a time of shame and humiliation, the relocation faded from the minds of most Americans. But in the Japanese American community, the bitter memories did not recede. In the late 1970s, there was a surge of interest among many Japanese Americans in seeking legal redress for what they saw as a grievous abridgement of their constitutional rights justified in the name of national security but at its base motivated by racism. Redress for the internees meant not just an acknowledgement of the wrong that had been done, and not just an apology from the government, although both were important: redress also meant monetary compensation for the loss of their freedom.

To get that redress, the Japanese Americans would need an act of Congress and, given the formidable obstacles they faced, some would say an act of God. The Japanese American community was tiny, representing less than one-half of one percent of the total population of the United States; never a particularly active force in the political arena, it had little clout to wield in Congress. Most Americans—including most members of Congress—remained ignorant of the internment and the circumstances surrounding it, and more than a few of those who did remember continued to confuse Japanese American citizens with the Japanese aggressors in World War II. Moreover, developments in the early 1980s seemed to conspire to make a tough battle tougher: the election of a conservative administration suspicious of discrimination claims; a skyrocketing federal deficit that put Congress and the nation in a cost-cutting mood; and a growing trade imbalance with Japan that would add to the confused hostility with which some Americans regarded their fellow citizens of Japanese descent.

These were among the concerns of a small group of Japanese Americans who gathered in Washington in 1979 to map out a strategy for a redress campaign. Their number included grassroots

This case was written by Calvin Naito and Esther Scott, based on an idea by Naito, under the supervision of Professor Steven Kelman for use at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. This case was made possible by funds from the Parker Gilbert Montgomery Endowment for Public Policy. Reprinted with permission for use by the Japanese American Citizens League. (1990)

lobbyists from the West Coast and the four Japanese American members of Congress, among them two of Congress' most highly decorated veterans of World War II and two whose childhoods had been disrupted by the internment. As the group discussed what first steps to take in what promised to be a long battle, they agreed that the road ahead was unclear and the likelihood of success at best uncertain.

Background: The Internment

The relocation and internment of Japanese Americans effectively began on February 19, 1942, just 10 weeks after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. The order authorized the secretary of war to exclude civilians from designated areas in order to secure them against espionage or sabotage by enemy sympathizers; while it did not specify any particular group, there was no question that the target of the order was Japanese Americans on the West Coast—an area considered at risk of attack from Japan in the early days of the war.

The signing of the exclusion order came after weeks of outcry for such an action from West Coast politicians and the press, particularly the Hearst newspapers, whose call for the removal of Japanese Americans frequently took on ugly racial overtones. While protection of Japanese Americans from angry mobs was offered by administration officials as one reason for removing them from the West Coast, the chief rationale was national security. Intercepted Japanese cables, not made public in order to avoid tipping Japan that its secret codes had been cracked, indicated the intention of Japanese officials to attempt to recruit Japanese Americans in espionage and information-gathering. While there was no evidence that Japan was ever successful in these efforts, one memo to Secretary of War Henry Stimson argued that Japanese Americans might be willing to do such work, asserting that they differed from Italian and German-Americans in that their "racial strains are undiluted," thus making the Japanese Americans of the West Coast "112,000 potential enemies ... at large today." Such reasoning met with no vociferous opposition, at least publicly, nor was there any strong protest raised when Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. A month later, on March 21, Congress approved legislation that made it a criminal offense to violate the order.

Within weeks of its signing, the effects of the exclusion order were widely felt throughout the Japanese American community on the West Coast. After a brief, failed effort at "voluntary relocation," the Army and then the civilian Wartime Relocation Authority instituted a systematic mandatory evacuation that removed ethnic Japanese from designated "military areas." A series of proclamations and announcements informed "persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien" of pending exclusions, usually giving them no more than a week to dispose of their property and goods. As Japanese Americans scrambled frantically to find caretakers or, more commonly, buyers for their property, they found themselves easy prey for bargain hunters.

Bearing only what they could carry—much of it stipulated in instructions issued by the military and all of it, including their own persons, carefully labeled with ID tags—the evacuees were sent first to "assembly centers," most often located at fairgrounds or racetracks, where they were temporarily housed in makeshift and often primitive facilities. From there, some months later, they were transported by bus or train (with the shades drawn, as per orders of the military) to one of 10

"relocation centers," most of them in western states such as Idaho, Arizona, Wyoming, and the interior of California, and two as far away as Arkansas; many of the relocation centers—or detention camps, as most Japanese Americans labeled them—were in bleak and remote outposts. In all, some 120,000 Japanese Americans were evacuated; the majority of them—at least 75,000—were US citizens.

While most Japanese Americans, eager to show their loyalty, complied with the evacuation, some chose to defy the government orders and related curfew provisions, and were arrested; three of them appealed their convictions all the way up to the Supreme Court. In all three cases, the court let stand the convictions, upholding the government's right to impose curfews and exclusion orders against one group in times of war, and refusing to question the validity of the military judgment that had found those measures necessary.

Most of those who were relocated remained in the camps for over two years, living in often crude conditions and harsh climates, and hedged in by guard towers and barbed wire. There were essentially two ways out of the relocation centers: evacuees could be granted leave to help fill labor shortages in farms or factories in the interior or to attend college, or they could volunteer to serve in military intelligence in the Pacific or in a segregated Japanese American infantry unit—the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which, serving in the European theatre, went on to become the most decorated unit of its size in World War II. (Later, in 1944, the military service became mandatory, as the US began drafting Japanese American men out of the relocation centers.) In all, some 33 percent of the internees were "conditionally released" for various leaves or military duty. The rest stayed on until the federal government decided to end the exclusion in December 1944—long after, in the opinion of many, Japan had ceased to pose a real threat to the West Coast.

When the interned Japanese Americans returned to the West Coast, very few of them retained their prewar holdings. Their losses in income and property, according to later estimates, ranged in the hundreds of millions, in 1945 dollars—and as high as \$2 billion in 1983 dollars. Congress did make some effort to compensate for those losses by passing the Evacuation Claims Act in 1948. The measure established a procedure for internees to file claims for property loss or damage due to the relocation, but it placed a strong burden of proof on the claimants, many of whom—in the rush of the evacuation—had not retained records documenting their holdings. Eventually, though claims totalling \$148 million were filed under the act, the total in payments distributed amounted to only \$37 million—an average of \$200 for each family that filed a claim.

But perhaps more painful than the economic losses were the feelings of many Japanese Americans that they had been uniquely singled out as objects of suspicion and hostility. German Americans and Italian Americans were not subjected to mass exclusion and relocation; and in Hawaii, where ethnic Japanese accounted for over one-third of the population, only a couple of thousand people of Japanese descent were detained during the war. While the rest of the US quickly put the internment out of its mind, many former internees retreated into silence. Later, a woman who had been evacuated explained her reticence: "I did not want my children to feel the burden of shame and feelings of rejection by their fellow Americans."¹

¹ *Time*, August 17, 1981, p. 32.

The Roots of the Redress Movement

Despite the reticence, memories of the internment rankled in the minds of many Japanese Americans in the years following the war. It was not until the 1970s, however, that their feelings about the exclusion began to find expression in the idea of reparations or, as it came to be known, redress. The victories of the civil rights movement, says Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.), toughened the attitude of the Japanese Americans: "In 1942, Japanese Americans were being subservient, and they said, 'Well, okay, if I do this [acquiesce to the internment], then I'll prove my Americanism. But I think that thinking has changed. ... People know [now] that they have rights, and if they're maligned, then they deserve an apology.'²

Even so, it was not easy for the Japanese American community to unite around the notion of redress. The issue first arose in 1970, when a resolution in support of redress was placed before the biennial national convention of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), a civic and patriotic organization founded in 1930 that claimed 27,000 members in 114 chapters nationwide. Although the convention approved the resolution in 1970, and similar ones in 1972 and 1974, little was done to put flesh on an otherwise vague principle, largely due to divisions within JACL, and in the larger Japanese American community, as to the wisdom of seeking redress. Memories of the internment were painful and humiliating, and many had little desire to revisit them. There were concerns, moreover, that an effort to bring up past wrongs would only backfire. Many felt, in the words of one, that "we don't want to rake these coals, because if we do, there's going to be a white backlash."

Divisions over redress intensified when activist members of the Seattle chapter of the JACL, frustrated with the national organization's lack of progress on the issue, developed a concrete proposal for redress which included, for the first time, monetary compensation for individual internees. The concept did not, however, inspire immediate consensus. John Tateishi, who chaired JACL's National Committee for Redress from 1978-85, recalls many who felt that "it really demeans the whole idea of liberty and freedom to put a price tag on it."

While the Seattle plan languished in the national JACL organization, members of the Seattle chapter were successful in their efforts to persuade the White House to revoke Executive Order 9066 which, it turned out, had never been formally rescinded. On February 19, 1976, President Gerald Ford signed a proclamation officially terminating the order. Terming the exclusion "a national mistake," Ford wrote, "We now know what we should have known then—not only was that evacuation wrong, but Japanese-Americans were and are loyal Americans." But by this time, the Japanese American community had become interested in more concrete signs of apology. A 1976 poll of JACL board members throughout the nation, conducted by the Seattle group, indicated that over 94 percent of those polled were willing to lend support to legislation mandating payments to individual internees.³

² David H. Eun, "The Civil Liberties Act of 1988: A Study of Congressional Bill H.R. 442 and its Impetus, the Japanese American Redress Movement," (undergraduate thesis, Harvard University, 1989), p. 15.

³ Yasuko Takezawa, "Breaking the Silence: Ethnicity and the Quest for Redress among Japanese Americans" (PhD dissertation, University of Washington, 1989), p. 49.

By 1978, the push for redress had gathered enough momentum within the leadership of the Japanese American community to prompt the JACL's National Committee for Redress to propose a plan that included provisions for monetary compensation. The plan, presented at the organization's national convention in July of that year, called for a flat payment of \$25,000 per internee, as well as the establishment of a \$100 million trust fund to be used for the benefit of Japanese American community organizations. Total cost of such a program was put at \$3 billion. Although the JACL convention adopted the plan and agreed to make redress the top priority in the organization's activities in the coming two years, the action was still controversial and provoked an angry response from then-US Senator S.I. Hayakawa (R-Calif.) who argued that a demand for monetary compensation was "absurd and ridiculous"⁴ and "not Japanese."

But even among those who had supported redress there was controversy, in this instance about how to press their case for compensation. As they considered their next move, disagreement arose among redress advocates over the best means to the end they sought: the courts, redress legislation submitted to Congress, or a special commission.

A Meeting in Washington

After the 1978 biennial convention, John Tateishi, newly appointed chair of the JACL's National Committee for Redress, set two goals for his group: a campaign to educate the American public on the internment, and the drafting of redress legislation that would be introduced in Congress. The latter began with a meeting with four of the five Japanese American members of Congress: Representatives Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui, both Democrats from California, and Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga, Democrats of Hawaii.⁵

Tateishi and his committee had asked for the meeting, which took place on January 30, 1979 in Inouye's chamber office, to discuss redress and "try to develop a legislative strategy." By this time, Tateishi had already sought the opinions of the heads of national civil rights organizations and Washington lobbyists, and the advice he had gotten was somewhat disheartening. "There was an absolute consistency among all of them," he recalls. "They said, 'You know, no one knows about this issue, and those who do think you guys are guilty anyway. You're never going to get this kind of legislation introduced, let alone passed, in Congress.' And every single one of them suggested that we consider creating a federal commission to investigate." Tateishi's instincts took him in the opposite direction:

In my gut, what I really wanted to do was take this thing straight up. Go in with an appropriation bill ... make an honest fight of it and see what we could do in a battle in the Congress. And if we lost, then we would lose it in an honest fight, and we

⁴ Takezawa, p. 57.

⁵ The fifth member was, of course, Hayakawa, who left the Senate in 1982. Hayakawa, who was living in Chicago at the outbreak of World War II, was not interned.

would have it over with. I knew the commission route would be long and ... difficult and that it wouldn't be popular at all [with Japanese Americans].

Still, Tateishi felt that if Inouye—the Japanese American senior member in Congress—recommended the formation of a commission, “we [would be] really tied to it.” As they waited outside Inouye’s office for the meeting to begin, Tateishi turned to a redress committee member and remarked, “The one thing I hope Inouye doesn’t say in this meeting is ‘a commission.’”

At first, in fact, Inouye said little. The JACL delegation presented two proposals for redress: the original Seattle plan and the guidelines approved in the 1978 JACL convention. After that, Matsunaga and Mineta did most of the talking (Matsui, a freshman representative, had been in the House for just a few weeks), laying out the difficulties of getting a redress bill through Congress. Congressional attitudes, they said, were little different from those in the general public and were colored by racism, ignorance of the issue, and a belief that this was mere special interest legislation calling for a large appropriation for a small group. Moreover, logical supporters of the legislation—such as civil rights advocates—were little-versed in the issue, as well. During a lull in this bleak discussion, Inouye, who had remained largely silent, finally spoke up. “He said,” Tateishi remembers, “‘Maybe what you fellows ought to think about is considering legislation that would establish a federal commission.’” “Frankly,” says Tateishi, “my heart sank. ... At that point, we went silent on our side of the table, because I don’t think anyone’s heart on our side was to go that route.” But Inouye pressed his point, arguing that a commission would generate publicity and establish an official record of government wrongdoing. Mineta supported the idea as well, telling the JACL delegation that a commission, as Tateishi puts it, “would really help a lot. ... There was a real consensus [on a commission] among the members of Congress.”

Choosing a Path

When the JACL members returned to the West Coast, Tateishi convened a two-day session of the National Committee for Redress to discuss their choices. “When I felt the discussion had been exhausted,” Tateishi recalls, “I said that I was going to bring it to a vote.” The vote would be over whether to pursue redress legislation immediately or first seek the creation of a commission. Committee members had discussed the possibility of legal action, particularly in the form of a class action suit, but concluded that it would be too costly and time-consuming a route and would not likely generate the same kind of publicity that a legislative battle would. The committee did not reject the judicial approach outright, but put it on “a back burner” while they aimed their sights at Congress. “Our feeling,” explains Tateishi, “was that it was the Congress and the public that had convicted us in 1942, and that we wanted this country to realize what had happened and to have Congress take responsibility for the action of that body.”

As for which legislative route to take, either alternative had its pluses and minuses. A commission would have the advantage, as had been pointed out, of establishing a record and educating the public and Congress, as well as the backing of arguably the most powerful Japanese American in the

US—Sen. Inouye who, as third-ranking member of the Democratic party, wielded considerable clout in Washington; his support—or his opposition—to any legislative initiative had to be weighed carefully in any redress strategy. On the other hand, a commission would greatly lengthen the time frame in which a redress campaign would be played out. The process of approving the commission legislation and then conducting the study could take years, at a time when many in the Japanese American community were becoming increasingly impatient to begin a redress effort, and when the population of surviving internees was aging fast.

This sense of urgency, plus the feeling that it was insulting to have to prove that there had in fact been any government wrongdoing, made the option of pursuing redress legislation very attractive to some. But while pressing for immediate action would placate some, there was a strong risk that Congress would reject a redress bill, particularly if it included provisions for individual compensation. As Mineta and the rest of the Japanese American congressional delegation had pointed out, redress legislation was likely to be squeezed between the twin pillars of prejudice and indifference. Moreover, the Japanese American community was too small and too dispersed to bring much convincing pressure to bear on Congress. There were only roughly 760,000 Japanese Americans in the US (out of a total population of 240 million), half of whom lived in Hawaii. Eighty-five percent of the mainlanders lived in California, but—a sign of their high degree of assimilation—in numbers too scattered to effect election outcomes. “I believe there’s only one congressional district in the entire country where Japanese Americans make up anything close to a significant number of the population,” says Glenn Roberts, Mineta’s legislative director in the early 1980s. “You’re talking about a community of a few hundred thousand people scattered around the country.”

In the end, the redress committee, though divided, voted to support the idea of the commission.⁶ And, as Inouye had anticipated, the concept proved relatively uncontroversial in Congress. Inouye’s position in the Senate assured passage in that body. There was, however, more resistance in the House, where Norman Mineta was furious at colleagues who raised questions as to how the US could tell whether or not Japanese Americans might have been spies. “Members of Congress,” recalls John Tateishi, “were saying, ‘After all, we were at war with Japan and we couldn’t trust you folks.’” Nonetheless, the House did pass the commission legislation on July 21, 1980, by a vote of 297-109. The level of opposition was a sign of tougher battles to come.

The Commission Hearings

On July 31, President Carter signed into law the bill creating a Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. The nine commission members—three each appointed by the president, the House and the Senate—included former Health and Human Services General Counsel Joan Bernstein, who served as chair; former Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg; former

⁶ Seattle chapter members held out for filing immediate redress legislation. At their urging, Washington Congressman Mike Lowry submitted such legislation, which died in subcommittee after Norman Mineta made it clear to committee members that he preferred to support the commission bill. Nevertheless, says Cherry Kinoshita, JACL’s vice president for public affairs, “we have a great deal of respect and admiration for Mike Lowry who—as a freshman congressman—was willing to break the ice.”

Massachusetts Republican Senator Edward Brooke; Republican Congressman Dan Lungren of California; Judge William Marutani, of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas; and Dr. Arthur Fleming, chairman of the US Civil Rights Commission and Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare under the Eisenhower administration. Their task was threefold: 1) review the facts and circumstances surrounding Executive Order 9066, and its impact; 2) review the military directives requiring relocation and, in some cases, detention in internment camps; and 3) recommend appropriate remedies.

On July 14, 1981, the commission kicked off its study with a hearing in Washington, DC. Over the next year and a half, its members crisscrossed the country, holding a total of 20 days of public hearings in nine cities and collecting testimony from former government officials, public figures, historians, and Japanese Americans who had been interned. It was the latter who provided the most emotional moments of the hearings, offering what the commission later described as "poignant, searing testimony" of their experiences during the evacuation. Witness after witness, many of them weeping, recalled the fear and degradation of the enforced round-ups and transports to assembly centers and relocation camps. "To this day," one woman told the commission,

I can remember vividly the plight of the elderly, some on stretchers, orphans herded onto the train by caretakers, and especially a young couple with four pre-school children. The mother had two frightened toddlers hanging on to her coat. In her arms, she carried two crying babies. ... The shades were drawn on the train for our entire trip. Military police patrolled the aisles.

There were stories of troops with bayonets fixed on the incoming internees, of some who were housed in horse stables at a race track, of a regimented life under armed guard. Gradually, the hearings began to generate stories in the press. "It did happen" began a sympathetic story in *Time* that ran in August 1981. Whatever their effect on the general public, the hearings had a galvanic impact on the Japanese American community. Many of the stories that emerged in testimony were being told for the first time, and the airing of long-suppressed grief and anger created an atmosphere of emotional intensity. Amid the painful outpouring of memories, there was also what Glenn Roberts calls a "great unlocking of passion," which, with some exceptions, brought the "rank and file" of the Japanese American community more solidly behind the idea of redress. "Talking about it" became the first step along the path to political activism, adds Rep. Mineta, on whom the commission hearings were to have a particularly powerful impact. "It was only after talking about it that people could go on to the next step and actually do something about it."⁷

The Commission Report and Recommendations

In taking that next step, Japanese Americans were aided by the report of the commission, which was submitted to Congress in February 1983. Entitled *Personal Justice Denied*, the 359-page document

⁷ Eun, p. 30.

was a relentless indictment of almost every aspect of the evacuation and relocation. Tracing the decision to evacuate back to a history of hostility to ethnic Japanese on the West Coast as well as to fears of attack that followed the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the string of Japanese victories over US forces immediately thereafter, the commission found the exclusion of Japanese Americans totally without foundation. The US had, the report asserted, acted as a result of "race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership." Relocation and internment had been, it said, "a grave injustice."

Several months later, in June 1983, the commission released its recommendations, outlining how the US could atone for that injustice. In regard to the Japanese Americans, the commission recommended, among other things, that: 1) Congress pass a joint resolution, to be signed by the president, apologizing for the internment; 2) Congress appropriate funds to establish a foundation to sponsor research and educational activities related to the evacuation and internment; and 3) Congress establish a fund to provide "personal redress to those who were excluded. ..." In order to fund both the personal redress and the foundation, the commission recommended that Congress appropriate \$1.5 billion, to be used first for a one-time payment of \$20,000 to each of the approximately 60,000 "surviving persons excluded from their places of residence pursuant to Executive Order 9066"; the remaining funds would then be dedicated to the educational foundation. In making the individual payments, the commission further recommended that the burden of locating survivors should rest with the government, and that payments be made to the oldest survivors first. All the recommendations (as well as the findings) of the commission had the unanimous support of its members, with one signal exception: Dan Lungren, the sole active member of Congress in the commission, dissented from the recommendation on personal redress.

Looking Ahead

With the emotional upheaval of the commission hearings behind them, and the report in the hands of Congress and the press, advocates of redress in the Japanese American community next faced the question of how to translate the commission's recommendations into reality. A legislative route seemed the most obvious, but there was widespread agreement, with the assessment of one JACL member that it would be "very, very difficult to get a bill through [Congress]." Although the commission had served an educative function, it was unclear how far its findings had penetrated into the halls of Congress, or the general public. And, as Lungren's dissenting vote indicated, even those who were educated and prepared to apologize for the internment were not necessarily willing to pay for it. Many members of Congress, particularly those on the right, were apt to be suspicious of any bill that seemed to smack of affirmative action, and especially one that would violate their principles of fiscal conservatism.

In considering how to plot a legislative strategy, leaders in the Japanese American community had to ponder what assets they could draw on to help overcome the barriers a redress bill was certain to face. As a small and highly assimilated community, their phone calls and letters alone were unlikely to make a significant impression on Congress. They did, however, have a few influential insiders who could aid their cause. These included, prominently, the four Japanese American members of Congress,

but it would take considerable political courage for them to assume a visible role in a legislative battle for redress. "These are people," Glenn Roberts explains, "who spent their whole lives trying to be seen not as Japanese Americans, but as just plain old Americans." Asking them to shepherd a redress measure through Congress, he adds, meant they would have to "approach their colleagues and say, 'You've got to see me as a Japanese American.'" Just how much the Japanese American members of Congress were willing to risk for the sake of redress legislation was uncertain, although there were signs that Inouye, the most senior of the group, was not inclined to take a leading role in the campaign.

Beyond these four members, Japanese Americans had few connections in Washington that might give them access to Congress. Historically, Japanese Americans had not been politically active and had not established strong ties to the nation's capital, thousands of miles away from their home bases in Hawaii and California. Outside their own community, Japanese Americans could look to other members of Congress who had ties to them dating back to World War II. For example, Sen. Alan Simpson, a conservative Republican from Wyoming, had first met Norman Mineta as a child, on a visit to the Heart Mountain relocation center in Wyoming where the latter, then a 10-year-old and, like Simpson, a Cub Scout, was interned with his family; the two had remained in contact for awhile in the years following the war and had renewed their friendship when their careers took them to Washington, DC. Japanese Americans had, in fact, already made use of one of those ties in obtaining Rep. Jim Wright (D-Texas) as lead sponsor of the legislation creating the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. Wright, who had served in the Pacific during the war, had been, it was said, deeply affected by the rescue of "the lost battalion" of the 36th Texas Division by the much-decorated 442nd Regiment. The rescue had come after several other outfits had failed, and the 442nd had suffered huge casualties in the effort. Later, the soldiers of the 442nd—including Senators Inouye and Matsunaga—were named "honorary Texans" to commemorate the event. Wright, who was the majority leader in 1979, rarely co-sponsored bills, but for the commission legislation he had made an exception. "Many of my good friends in Texas who served in the 36th Division," he later explained, "owe their lives to the heroism of the soldiers of the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team."⁸

Other such connections, both in Congress and in the public at large, presumably existed, but it would be a tricky task for the JACL and other redress supporters to weave the anecdotal into a coherent and coordinated strategy. At the same time, there were others in the Japanese American community urging or pursuing other courses. A dissident group calling itself the National Council for Japanese American Redress (NCJAR) had, just before the commission issued its report, filed a class action suit seeking legal redress of up to \$220,000 for each of the 120,000 internees or their descendants. On another extreme, California Senator S.I. Hayakawa, speaking in the Senate on the 41st anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and only weeks before the end of his tenure in office, warned that the image of an affluent ethnic group—better off than the national average, better represented politically

⁸ However, one observer offered another, more prosaic explanation of Wright's support. When Wright was running against Rep. Philip Burton of California for the post of majority leader, the story went, the one member of the California delegation to break ranks and vote for Wright was Norman Mineta. Wright won the job by one vote. Mineta, however, denies that he switched votes.

than other minority groups—seeking financial compensation would result in “a backlash against both Japanese Americans and Japan.”

Filing a Bill

Such cross-currents notwithstanding, the four Japanese American members of Congress decided to submit legislation to implement the commission's recommendations, in the words of Senator Inouye, “from alpha to omega.” The bill they would endorse called for a one-time payment of \$20,000 to each surviving internee, a public education fund to “prevent recurrence of any similar event” and an appropriation of \$1.5 billion to pay for the measure. But Glenn Roberts, the legislative aide to Norman Mineta who actually wrote the bill, calls the title of the bill the group's “most critical strategic decision. [It] was not titled ‘the Japanese American Redress Act.’ [It] was entitled ‘The Civil Liberties Act.’” With that wording, the measure announced the basic strategy of its supporters, which was, in Roberts' words, “that this is about the Constitution, this is about civil rights, this is for future generations. ...” Constitutional rights, rather than property loss, would be their focus.

Despite such positioning, and despite the record of the commission, the legislation inspired a long, emotional battle in Congress over a five-year period. The struggle to pass the redress bill would call on its supporters to succeed in the use of an array of techniques: rallying the public to pressure members of Congress; calling on the goodwill the bill's legislative sponsors had accumulated over the years with their peers; being ready to respond to substantive objections. As the redress bill appeared and reappeared in Congress over the course of five years, strong responses were frequently, the order of the day for supporters and opponents alike. In testimony and debate, the measure proved to be a vehicle for uncovering memories of the war and discovering personal links to the historical events under scrutiny. “Unlike other bills that are decided after a flurry of special-interest lobbying and political bargaining,” one commentator was to write, “votes for and against restitution are being wrenched straight from the heart.”⁹

Round One: The Civil Liberties Act of 1983

The redress bill made its first appearance on October 6, 1983, when it was introduced in the House, with 74 co-sponsors, as HR 4110, “a bill to accept the findings and to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Citizens.”¹⁰ Prominently heading the list of sponsors was Rep. Jim Wright, then House majority leader, whose association with the bill was considered a coup. After Wright had agreed to be lead sponsor of the bill, Roberts recalls, “Norm [Mineta] and I walked out of his office ... and [when we] stepped into the doorway of the elevator and out of people's sight, we both let out this enormous whoop. Because that was the day we knew we had a real bill.”

⁹ *Los Angeles Times*, October 4, 1987.

¹⁰ There had actually been an earlier bill submitted by Rep. Mike Lowry right after the commission released its recommendations in June 1983. Once HR 4110 surfaced, however, with its powerful co-sponsors, Lowry agreed to let his bill die and asked the 44 co-sponsors to sign on to HR 4110.

Not all their efforts to recruit support ended so well, however. When Mineta paid a "courtesy call" on Rep. Thomas Kindness (R-Ohio), the ranking Republican in the Subcommittee on Administrative Law of the House Judiciary Committee, which would hold hearings on the bill, he was not at all happy with what he heard. "Kindness said," Roberts recalls, "'Well, I actually know about this [the internment] because I've worked with somebody who was involved in it, and I'll certainly look to him for guidance on that.' Norm said, 'Oh really, who?' And [Kindness] said, 'Karl Bendetsen.' And Norm just said, 'Oh,' and he finished the conversation and left. I said to Norm in the hallway, 'What was that all about?' Norm said, 'Don't you know Bendetsen? He was the general who put us in the camps, the son of a bitch.'"

Bendetsen, who had overseen the military's part in the evacuation effort, testified before the Subcommittee on Administrative Law at its June 1984 hearings on the redress measure, and, like others who had played a role in the internment, objected to the commission's conclusion that prejudice and war hysteria had motivated them. Indeed, the commission's work notwithstanding, the basic justification for redress legislation would be debated anew at the subcommittee level. Bendetsen pointed particularly to the intercepted Japanese cables and the concern they raised over the possibility of Japanese American fifth-columnists. Commission critics, including dissenting member Rep. Dan Lungren, argued that the commission had failed to consider the impact of the cables. Several witnesses disputed these claims, however, arguing, in the words of one, that the cables were "unsubstantiated information, subject to many errors" and that public officials were aware of their shortcomings. Still, the issue of the cables did not go away and whenever debate arose in Congress over the need for redress, they were cited as justification for the internment by redress opponents.

While witnesses like Bendetsen bridled at the notion that the internment represented "a grave injustice," others took exception to redress in the form of individual compensation. Testifying before the subcommittee on June 21, 1984, Lungren, who had served as vice chairman of the commission, told his colleagues that while he shared the "basic conclusions" of the commission report, he opposed the recommendations for financial redress. Lungren offered a number of reasons for his opposition to restitution, which were picked up by other opponents of redress and became, along with the intercepted cables, a key part of the discourse on the issue. Lungren argued, first, that money essentially debased the value of the nation's acknowledgment of the wrong it had done. "Do we truly believe that nothing can be sincere and credible unless it involves something of a monetary nature?" he asked subcommittee members rhetorically. Lungren warned that financial restitution could set a dangerous precedent for the redress of "other long-past injustices," such as slavery or the treatment of the Indians. Finally, Lungren posed the problem of the nation's fiscal crisis, which would, he said, make the promise of financial redress either "an empty gesture" or a competitor for scarce resources with more pressing social needs, ranging from nutrition programs to senior citizens housing.

Arrayed against these opponents were venerable members of the Japanese American community, like Mike Masaoka and Minoru Yasui, who had played key (though different) roles at the time of the

internment.¹¹ They scoffed at the notion that the internment camps represented a kind of "protective custody." Masaoka, for instance, told of two elderly men who had been shot reaching for a flower outside their camp's barbed wire. He emphasized, too, the heroism of the 442nd Regiment (in which he had served), particularly in the rescue of the lost Texas battalion. "I happen to be an honorary Texan," said Masaoka. "You'd be surprised how much more credence that gives your testimony," replied Subcommittee Chairman Sam Hall of Texas. Perhaps the most poignant testimony was that of Norman Mineta. After making the case for compensation in constitutional terms, Mineta turned from the general to the personal. "[L]et me tell you about my family," he said.

My father was not a traitor. He came to this country in 1902 and he loved this country. ... My mother was not a secret agent. She kept house and raised her children to be what she was, a loyal American. Who amongst us was the security risk? Was it my sister Aya, or perhaps Etsu, or Helen? ... Or maybe I was the one, a boy of 10 1/2 who this powerful nation felt was so dangerous I needed to be locked up without a trial, kept behind barbed wire, and guarded by troops in high guard towers armed with machine guns. Although I cannot say for sure, I don't think my activities in the Cub Scouts appeared in the [intercepted] cables.

On behalf of all Japanese Americans who were interned, said Mineta, "I ask and entreat this subcommittee to give us back our honor. Give us back the dignity and the pride that this government so unnecessarily took from us in 1942. Every citizen of this land will benefit from our rededication today to equal justice."

When Mineta concluded his emotional testimony, those in the hearing room applauded. Mineta's speech was, however, only the public aspect of a long-running inside effort which fell to the four Japanese American members of Congress who, according to Glenn Roberts, approached "virtually every one" of their colleagues to talk to them about redress. Such personal contact was viewed as key by redress proponents. Members of Congress, explains Roberts, routinely received thousands of pieces of mail each week. "Everybody's cause is absolutely imperative—and many of them are truly right. But when members of Congress had these well-respected, obviously patriotic, loyal people saying, 'As children we were put in [camps] for three years because we were suspected of disloyalty—that was something that made members of Congress stop and pay attention.'"

Powerful as was Mineta's public presentation and private lobbying, it failed to erase the doubts of some subcommittee members, particularly its chairman. Hall, whom Glenn Roberts describes as "a gruff old conservative rural Texan," was swayed by what he had heard of the intercepted cables and other evidence justifying the internment. "Hall seemed genuinely interested," says Roberts, "but he just

¹¹ Masaoka was the JACL's representative in Washington when Pearl Harbor was bombed; he counseled Japanese Americans to comply with the relocation and also fought for a role for Japanese Americans in the US armed forces. Yasui was one of the Japanese Americans who deliberately violated curfew orders in order to test them in court. His case was ultimately heard before the Supreme Court, which ruled against him.

couldn't believe that [the internment] had happened the way it did." The redress measure stayed bottled up in his subcommittee and never came to a vote.

The bill fared no better on the Senate side, where Matsunaga had introduced it as S. 2116, with 13 co-sponsors. Like the House bill, the Senate version had its prestigious sponsors, such as Robert Dole (R-Kan.), himself a seriously wounded veteran of World War II who had fought alongside the 442nd Regiment in Italy. Dole, according to one observer, supported redress primarily out of respect for the tradition of "civil rights Republicanism" of his native Kansas and out of a desire—sharpened by his presidential ambitions—to open up the Republican party to minority groups. Nevertheless, his name on the bill as co-sponsor was not enough to overcome early opposition. Hearings were held in August 1984 before the Subcommittee on Civil Service, Post Office and General Services of the Governmental Affairs Committee, but after that the measure sank out of sight. William Roth (R-Del.), the chairman of the Governmental Affairs Committee, opposed redress on fiscal grounds, and while the measure was in his jurisdiction, says one observer, "it wasn't going to move."

Round Two: The Civil Liberties Act of 1985

Despite the failure of the redress bill to make progress, it had picked up more co-sponsors while it was languishing in subcommittee. When the measure was re-introduced in the House—as HR 442, in honor of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team—on January 3, 1985, it had 99 co-sponsors, with Wright's name again at the head; on the Senate side, Matsunaga introduced the legislation on May 2, 1985, with 25 co-sponsors. Aside from the new sponsors, the redress bill was essentially the same as the one that had been introduced in the previous Congress (though, as a result of Matsui's efforts with fellow members of the Ways and Means Committee, it now stipulated that the compensation would be tax-free); but there were organizational changes—both within the JACL and in a key congressional subcommittee—that could potentially affect the bill's fate in the 99th Congress.

Within the JACL, a decision had been made to shift both the emphasis and the location of its redress efforts. Throughout the early 1980s, the organization's campaign for redress had been directed by its National Committee for Redress, headed by John Tateishi and based in San Francisco, with an emphasis on educating the public about the internment. In May 1985, at a national board meeting, the JACL decided—not without some internal warfare—to activate its Legislative Education Committee (the JACL-LEC), reorient the organization's focus from education to lobbying, and seek a full-time director based in Washington, DC. The LEC had actually been formed back in 1982 as an independent lobbying arm of the JACL,¹² but had been, in the words of one member, "moribund" until 1985.

To spearhead its congressional campaign, the JACL-LEC chairman, Minoru Yasui, recruited Grant Ujifusa, then an editor with Random House in New York, and gave him the post of vice-chairman for legislative strategy. Ujifusa was uniquely suited to help Japanese Americans thread their way through the maze of Congress. As co-author of the *Almanac of American Politics*, Ujifusa

¹² The LEC had been created because of IRS regulations that barred organizations funded by tax-deductible dollars from spending more than 15 percent of their budget on lobbying. As an independent entity, the JACL-LEC could solicit non-deductible contributions to pay for its lobbying efforts.

brought political savvy and a detailed knowledge of the inner workings of the Hill to the campaign for redress. He also brought entrée to the offices of most members of Congress. The almanac, Ujifusa says, was "a big deal inside the beltway," a source used by staffers, lobbyists and journalists to get a "quick fix" on a member of Congress by reading the thumbnail profiles it offered. "It's extremely well-known on the Hill," he explains, "so if you call somebody [in Congress] up and say, 'I co-author the almanac and I don't want to come in and talk to you about the almanac, I want to talk to you about something else'—then they're going to see you."

A third-generation Japanese American whose family were farmers in Worland, Wyoming, Ujifusa had not been directly touched by the internment; but, he says, if only through the racial prejudice that denied his mother valedictorian honors in her high school in southern Colorado, "I knew what the story was, ... I understood it in my belly the way the Nisei [a second-generation Japanese American] who did go to camp as an adult understands it." Although cognizant of a potential perceived conflict of interest between lobbying for redress and his work on the almanac, Ujifusa decided to take on the task, which he viewed as akin to "lobbying motherhood." He knew, though, that his work on the almanac gave him an advantage: "If I wanted to see a Dan Lungren or an Al Simpson, I could get in and see these people."

Ujifusa's first major act as vice-chair for legislative strategy was to produce a four-page document, issued on October 3, 1985, that outlined a plan of action for lobbying Congress. "Our strategy depends on understanding a simple reality and acting on it," his paper began. "[T]he situation in Washington has changed for the better, making chances for passage of the redress bill much brighter." The main reason for this optimism was the departure of Sam Hall—who had been appointed a federal judge—from the chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Administrative Law. Hall's replacement, Rep. Dan Glickman (D-Kan.), Ujifusa wrote, "instinctively understands what happened in 1942."¹³ Moreover, Tom Kindness of Ohio, the ranking Republican on the subcommittee and an avowed foe of redress, had decided to run for the Senate against John Glenn in 1986.

To take advantage of these promising developments, Ujifusa laid out several strategic priorities for the JACL-LEC. Two of them involved lobbying members of Congress in key positions: 1) those who sat on the Subcommittee on Administrative Law, where six votes were needed for a favorable report on the redress bill (Ujifusa considered the full House Judiciary Committee a more likely bet to vote for redress); and 2) those who sat on the full Senate Governmental Affairs Committee which, unfortunately for advocates, was still chaired by redress opponent William Roth.

Another strategic priority concerned lobbying the White House. The "ideal lobbyist" for the White House, Ujifusa wrote, would be someone with personal and professional links to the Reagans dating back to their years in California. The lobbying would not, however, be so much to enlist their support as to defuse their opposition. "For a variety of political reasons," Ujifusa continued, "we are

¹³ Glickman, says Glenn Roberts, had a relative who had been in a German concentration camp. "And he got reparations from the West German government," Roberts explains, "so Glickman understood about reparations and redress payments."

unlikely to get open and public support for the [redress] bill [from the White House]. The goal is to get neutrality. ..."

Ujifusa's paper detailed at length how the Japanese American community should lobby members of Congress through letters and constituent visits. "The grassroots work on your local Representatives and Senator remains vitally important," he asserted. At the same time, however, he noted that "[w]e cannot lobby and pass the redress bill unless we have the support of other civil rights, ethnic, religious and labor groups. We don't ourselves have the numbers, the big money, and the organized clout." Another priority, then, would be "to enlist proxy Nikkei [i.e., Japanese Americans] and proxy Nikkei organizations. ..."

The first and overriding priority, however, Ujifusa assigned to raising money to hire a full-time staff director in Washington "to lead and co-ordinate the lobbying effort." If the Japanese American community "is not able, for whatever reason," he wrote, "to show confidence by supporting our organized effort to win redress, any and all strategic plans are useless, and we might as well shut the operation down. For common sense tells us that without commitment and work at the grassroots level, a national lobbying campaign is an empty exercise." The subsequent hiring of staff director Graye Ueyehara, along with Ujifusa's legislative strategy work, effectively centralized strategic authority for the redress bill, a development Glenn Roberts viewed as crucial to the bill's chances. Ueyehara was, Roberts adds, a valuable asset to the campaign because of her "willingness to go outside JACL's formal processes and use her own personal contacts" in the community to get things done.

There was no immediate improvement in legislative results, however. HR 442 and its companion bill in the Senate sank like stones. Glickman did hold two days of hearings in April and July 1986, but the measure again failed to make it to a vote. Glickman, says Roberts, "was never able to summon the sort of legislative moxie that it took to get [the bill] going." His attitude, adds Ujifusa, was, "I don't want to touch it. It's too hot politically in Kansas, although personally I'm for it. It ain't going to move." Things were even worse in the Senate where, apparently, the opposition of Governmental Affairs Chairman Roth kept the bill from even getting a hearing before the Subcommittee on Civil Service, Post Office and General Services. In the meantime, victories on the legal front—including a ruling that the federal government had suppressed evidence which might have affected the Supreme Court decision upholding internment while it was underway, as well as a favorable appeals court ruling on the NCJAR class action suit—seemed to offer another avenue to gain redress. Legislative proponents, however, not yet discouraged, planned both external and internal campaigns aimed at the coming 100th Congress.

External Strategies: The Grassroots and "Proxy" Campaigns

As executive director of the JACL-LEC, Ueyehara took responsibility for implementing a campaign aimed not only at making Japanese Americans themselves more vocal, but at adding voices from other communities to the pro-redress chorus. To aid in the former goal, she began, in 1987, a series of "action alerts," updates on the progress of the redress bill that were sent to JACL chapters and supporters throughout the country. The action alerts provided redress news, lists of key committees and

their members, form letters to be sent to members of Congress, and scorecards on every member of Congress, including their position on redress, their addresses and the names of their chief aides. JACL members were requested not only to send the letters (and to ask friends and relatives to do likewise), but to visit their representatives either in Washington, or when they were in town during congressional recesses. Such personal contact was deemed especially important. Rep. William Dannemeyer, an ultra-conservative Republican from California, was won over by Clarence Nishizu, a "very conservative, very wealthy" contributor, says Ujifusa, to the congressman's campaigns. "We got [Dannemeyer]," according to Ujifusa, "because of someone like Clarence Nishizu [who knew] him from long ago. [It was] like, 'Clarence, you're telling me that you, Clarence, went to camp; you, Clarence, who've been giving me money for my campaign for all these years, went to camp?' 'Yes.' 'And you wrote me this five-page, impassioned letter in longhand?'"

The lobbying done by Japanese Americans, particularly those who had been interned, says Glenn Roberts, "had the effect of forcing people to focus on the internment and what it meant for individuals, because these were very, very powerful stories."

If you're a member of Congress who doesn't really think much about Japanese Americans from one day to another, and suddenly five constituents show up in your office [and] say, "Here we all are, loyal Americans, voting for you all these years. Let us tell you about what happened to us when we were kids and young people." That's really going to capture your attention.

When Uyehara couldn't find any Japanese American constituents to go to bat for the redress bill, she resorted to often ingenious means to find suitable proxies. Uyehara arranged, for instance, for a JACL member's Methodist minister, originally from West Virginia, to contact ministers he knew in the district of Rep. Harley Staggers (D-W. Va.). Staggers, a member of the Subcommittee on Administrative Law, was one of those Ujifusa had identified as a promising convert to redress but who had no Japanese Americans in his district. Through the Methodist connection, Uyehara was able to see to it that Staggers got some letters supporting redress—only a handful but enough to make the difference. "All he wanted to be able to say was, 'I have heard from constituents who want me to support this issue,'" she explains. "That doesn't mean 100 letters are necessary all the time."¹⁴

While putting individuals to work on producing letters and visits, Uyehara also sought the endorsement of a wide variety of organizations—religious, civil rights, civic, labor, and veterans—to bolster the cause of redress. By early 1987, the JACL-LEC had compiled an impressive list of almost 200 organizations supporting redress, ranging from the American Bar Association to the National League of Cities; from the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League to the National Education Association; from the Black and Hispanic Congressional Caucuses to the AFL-CIO. In addition, a large number of church organizations, some state and city legislative bodies, and even a few veterans groups lent their

¹⁴ Eun, pp. 72-73.

endorsement to redress.¹⁵ The support of non-Japanese American citizens and organizations was particularly important, Glenn Roberts points out, "because that reinforced the point that this was not just a special interest bill ... that this was a broader bill about the whole nation."

These letters, visits, and endorsements were helpful not only in their own right, but as counterweight to the letters that began arriving in opposition to redress once the bill took on greater visibility in the 100th Congress. The mail, much of it from veterans and former prisoners of war, ran as high as 10 to one against redress. Some of the impact of such an overwhelmingly negative response was deflected, Roberts says, "because the people who wrote ... often didn't understand what had happened. That was clear. It was people who wrote and said, 'They bombed Pearl Harbor, why should we pay them compensation?'" So many letters reflecting this confusion with the Japanese crossed Wright's desk that his aides crafted a form letter intended to correct the misperception.¹⁶ "It is important to realize," the letter stated, "that those who were interned in this country were not the Japanese enemy. They were American citizens who were interned on no grounds other than their racial heritage."

Such efforts notwithstanding, the tide of sentiment against redress, as measured in the volume of letters, virtually swamped support for the measure. It was clear, says Grant Ujifusa, that redress "couldn't ever win in a national referendum."

So you had to say, "Look, this is representative government. ...
So we are going to take our constitutional case on the merits,
occupy the high constitutional ground inside the beltway,
particularly on the Hill and in the White House. We are going
to make our case there. It's going to be settled by 536 people,
including the president."

Internal Strategies: Making a Case in Congress

Inside the beltway, Ujifusa, along with Mike Masaoka and the Japanese American members of Congress, met individually with representatives and senators to urge their support for redress. "My responsibility," says Ujifusa, "was the White House [and] conservative members of the House." The access provided by the almanac was "particularly important because it allowed me to talk to people ... on the Republican side." Ujifusa and the others used a variety of tools to persuade, ranging from the ideological to the personal. On the ideological end, they worked to forge a "civil rights/civil liberties coalition" between left and right. The liberals in the House and Senate, Ujifusa notes, were already basically in the pro-redress corner.¹⁷ With the conservatives, particularly those Ujifusa and Roberts call the "intellectual conservatives," they argued the issue on constitutional grounds. Henry Hyde, for example, a conservative Republican congressman from Illinois and, according to Roberts, an influential

¹⁵ However, as the JACL-LEC acknowledged, endorsement in some cases meant that "an organization has acknowledged the injustice of the internment, but has not addressed the question of monetary redress."

¹⁶ Eun, p. 38

¹⁷ Not all the "labor liberals" supported redress, however. "Some of them went with Wright," Ujifusa says. "Others were saying, 'Hey, aren't these the Japs who cost us the steel mill jobs and the car jobs?'"

member of the House Judiciary Committee, was ultimately convinced of the merits of redress "because a lot of conservatives genuinely believe in the Constitution and genuinely believe the Constitution's words." With House Republican leaders Jack Kemp of New York and Dick Cheney of Wyoming, Ujifusa argued, "Hey, this is a constitutional issue. Look at it that way. You know, don't look at it that the usual suspects are up with the usual bad [special interest] bill." Both sides of the political spectrum, Ujifusa notes, met on the issue of "what the Constitution meant in the face of an egregious violation of it."

There were personal links as well that helped forge an alliance on the redress issue. This was particularly true of Simpson, who had met Norman Mineta when the latter was interned at the Heart Mountain, Wyoming relocation center. In addition to this personal brush with internment—which he was to describe in poignant detail in a *Los Angeles Times* interview and later on the Senate floor—Simpson shared some very different memories with Ujifusa, who had grown up just 90 miles away from the senator's hometown, Cody. Simpson vividly recalled Ujifusa as the quarterback of the high school football team which beat the defending state champion Cody team. "When I went to see Al," recalls Ujifusa, "he told me that 'the *Almanac of American Politics* is a great achievement, but not as great as the night you beat us 18 to 6.'" ¹⁸ The almanac did, however, provide access to members of Congress and also occasionally became a forum for airing pro-redress arguments and criticizing anti-redress members of Congress. So, for example, in a section on Hawaii's two senators, the 1986 almanac, noting Inouye's and Matsunaga's support for redress, described internment as "expropriation and wrongful incarceration of 120,000 people by racial edict with no charges ever filed." Although as a rule the almanac was silent on the foes of redress, the 1986 edition, in a generally negative critique of Rep. Thomas Kindness, whose opposition to redress was spotlighted, called his position "absurd," arguing it "can be compared to trying to make today the case for American slavery."

Although by the end of 1986, the lobbying in Congress, along with the grassroots campaign, had picked up more support and co-sponsors for a redress bill, it was unclear whether it had enough backing to move it through the legislative process. It took a couple of key turnovers in Congress—one in the House and one in the Senate—to give the redress measure its best, and maybe last, chance at passage. The first session of the 100th Congress, Grayce Uyehara wrote in one of her "action alerts," was a time to "go for broke."¹⁹

Round Three: The Civil Liberties Act of 1987

The crucial change in the House was the ascension of Barney Frank (D-Mass.) to the chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Administrative Law after Rep. Glickman moved on to an assignment on the Agriculture Committee. Frank had supported redress from its beginnings. His reasons, Frank says, dated back to his college days:

¹⁸ Eun, p. 86.

¹⁹ "Go for broke" was the motto of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

I took Gov. 124, a class on American constitutional law, while at Harvard, and we studied the Korematsu case [one of the test cases argued before the Supreme Court]. I thought that both the internment and the Supreme Court decision were fundamentally wrong.²⁰

Having Frank at the helm of the Subcommittee on Administrative Law, says Roberts, was "absolutely critical. ... Barney is smart, articulate, and adept, and not afraid of a fight."

In the Senate, an equally important change had taken place. As a result of the off-year elections, the Democrats had regained control of that chamber, thus ousting Roth from the chairmanship of the Governmental Affairs Committee and releasing his stranglehold on the redress legislation. His successor, John Glenn of Ohio, was expected to support the redress measure.

As anticipated, Frank quickly signaled his intention to push the bill. "Barney says," Ujifusa recalls, "Grant, look, we're going to move the bill. ... We're not going to do \$250 million of the trust fund; we're going to do \$50 million. And we're not going to funnel it into Japanese American civic organizations."²¹ ... I said, 'Okay, fine. Let's go, Barney.'" Ujifusa then walked over to Inouye's office to tell him the good news. "I say, 'Hey, Barney is going to move it.' And we'd had nothing up to that point. Nothing. So I thought Dan was going to say, 'Hey, hooray!' But he looks at me blankly ... and he says, 'Well, Grant, how many co-sponsors does Spark have?' I think he had about 28 or 29 at that point. And [Inouye] says, 'I think [he's got] 34 or 35 max, don't you?' In other words ... he just didn't think it was going to happen."

But at a later meeting with Ujifusa and Masaoka, Matsunaga vowed to boost the number of sponsors in the Senate. "Spark said, 'Well, by God, we are going to do it. ... I am now going to work.' And we know what Spark was able to do." What Matsunaga did was patiently collar each of his colleagues in the Senate and ask for their support. By the time he introduced the bill in the Senate in the spring of 1987, he had collected 75 co-sponsors—an impressive feat under any circumstances. "Spark was unfailingly courteous," says Ujifusa, "... and the other senators loved him. He was not regarded as a Daniel Webster or a Henry Clay—I don't know who in that body is now—but because [the Senate] is [like] a high school composed of 100 people, a very small high school, you know everybody. ... You have to be able to work with all these people personally. And Spark was a master of that."

At the same time, spurred on by the "action alerts," JACL members and supporters kept up a steady drumbeat of letters and visits, tailoring the content of each to the progress of the bill in Congress. Other Japanese American organizations joined in the campaign as well. The National Coalition for Redress and Reparations (NCRR), a Los Angeles-based grassroots group which emphasized community organizing efforts and alliances with Third World causes, sent letters and petitions to Congress, and organized a five-day lobbying trip to Washington. In addition, the splinter

²⁰ Eun, p. 98.

²¹ The authorization for the trust fund for both payments and public education was cut from \$1.5 to \$1.25 in the House Judiciary Committee mark-up; \$50 million of that was to go to public education. Originally, the bill had called for public education money to be used for "the general welfare of the ethnic Japanese community" in the US.

group, NCJAR, contributed to the legislative campaign, in a backhand way, simply by faltering in its legal initiative. In June 1987, as the redress bill was still making its way through the House Judiciary Committee, the Supreme Court ruled that the wrong Court of Appeals had heard NCJAR's suit and sent it to the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit to be reheard. This was a setback for the proponents of the class action suit, since it meant further delays and the danger that its earlier successful appeal would be overturned. NCJAR's troubles helped those who sought redress through legislation because, according to Glenn Roberts, "no one could ... say to us, 'Why are you pursuing this remedy when you are about to get what you want in the courts,' because it was clear that they weren't going to win in the courts. ..."

Redress in the House. True to his word, Barney Frank lost little time in moving the redress bill. Introduced on January 6, 1987 by House Majority Leader Thomas Foley (D-Wash.), who had succeeded Wright when the latter took the post of Speaker of the House, HR 442 now boasted 125 co-sponsors. After undergoing a third round of hearings before the Subcommittee on Administrative Law on April 19, it was reported out to the full Judiciary Committee in short order on May 13. About a month later, on June 17, the committee approved the bill in a 28-6 vote. Aside from the changes Frank had earlier mentioned to Ujifusa, the redress bill the committee passed was essentially unaltered. In response to some unhappiness over the wording of the "findings" section of the bill, Frank proposed to assign motives for the internment to "racial prejudice and wartime hysteria" alone, omitting the "failure of political leadership." The change was accepted,²² and the measure was at last ready to go to the House floor for a vote. Its supporters faced that prospect with confidence. They had enough votes for passage, says Ujifusa. "It was clear that before Barney and Tom Foley and Jim Wright took this bill to the House floor, we had it won."

That did not stop the bill's opponents from airing once again their arguments against redress when the bill came up for debate on September 17, 1987. The date was a momentous one—two hundred years to the day since the signing of the Constitution, a piece of timing arranged at Mineta's request.²³ No other piece of legislation was scheduled for consideration in the House that day. While supporters of redress alluded to the bicentennial in their speeches on behalf of the bill—"I can think of no finer way to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Constitution of the United States than to rectify a wrong," Speaker Wright told his colleagues—opponents hammered away at the issues that had troubled them since the measure made its first appearance in subcommittee hearings: the intercepted cables, monetary compensation, fiscal constraints, dangerous precedents. "What a funny way they [members of the Judiciary Committee] ask us to rub ashes on our heads," said Rep. Bill Frenzel (R-Minn.). "... The committee is asking us to purge ourselves with another generation's money."

At times, members of the House drew on personal experience as they made their arguments. Rising in opposition to the bill, Rep. Ronald Packard (R-Calif.) told his colleagues about his own hard childhood experience during World War II. Packard's father, a carpenter, had been working on a government construction job on Wake Island when it fell to Japan in 1941; he was taken prisoner for five

²² The language was, however, restored in an amendment offered by Lungren during House deliberations on the bill.

²³ Eun, p. 99.

years, leaving his wife and 17 children to fend for themselves with only token financial assistance from the US government. "An injustice, of course," Packard said. "There are literally hundreds of thousands of families like ours who sustained injustices from wars. Would we now ask our Government or the Japanese Government to satisfy these injustices with a money settlement? Never."

But when it came to memories of World War II, no one in the House could equal Norman Mineta's harrowing tale of the internment. By now, he had recited the details many times, but with undiminished emotion. "[T]o me," he told his colleagues, "this is a very, very emotional day, in sharp contrast to May 29, 1942, when, as a 10-1/2-year-old boy wearing a Cub Scout uniform, I was herded into a train under armed guard. ... It was only "in this kind of a country," he added, "where a 10-1/2-year-old can go from being in a Cub Scout uniform to an armed-guard-guarded train to being a Member of the House of Representatives of the greatest country in the world." Tearfully, Mineta read an excerpt of a letter his father had written after he and his family had been put on a train "to an unknown distant barracks."

I looked at Santa Clara's streets from the train over the subway. I thought this might be the last look at my loved home city. My heart almost broke, and suddenly hot tears just came pouring out, and the whole family cried out, could not stop, until we were out of our loved county.

Mineta's personal remembrances, along with Matsui's, the *Washington Post* reported the next day, "held the House transfixed."

In the end, the pro-redress forces won the day. An amendment offered by Lungren to delete the \$20,000 payments—the chief focus of debate on the measure²⁴—was defeated in a 162-237 vote. Soon after, the House went on to approve the redress bill on a vote of 243 to 141.

Redress in the Senate. With 75 co-sponsors, no one anticipated major problems for the redress bill in the Senate, but its progress through that chamber proved slower than had been expected. After Matsunaga introduced the measure on April 21, 1987, it went to the Subcommittee for Federal Service, Post Office and Civil Service, chaired by David Pryor (D-Ark.), who was sympathetic to redress.²⁵ Hearings were held and before the month was out, the subcommittee sent it on to the full Governmental Affairs Committee, where, under John Glenn's chairmanship, it passed on a unanimous vote, on August 4. During mark-up, the committee had accepted an amendment offered by William Roth that spread the payments out over a five-year period: \$500 million in 1989, \$400 million in 1990, \$200 million in 1991, and \$100 million each in 1992 and 1993. Otherwise, the bill was unchanged in its essentials as it headed to the Senate floor for a last round of debate.

²⁴ Japanese Americans took their revenge on Lungren, who had led the opposition to redress payments on the House floor, that winter. When California Governor George Deukmejian nominated Lungren for state treasurer, a coalition led by Japanese Americans successfully blocked his confirmation by the state legislature.

²⁵ Two relocation centers had been built in Arkansas. Previously, as governor, Pryor had placed historic markers at the sites and made a speech expressing regret over the internment. [Eun, p. 103.]

But that last round proved slow in coming. For a variety of reasons—congressional preoccupation with the budget resolution, the October stock market crash, concerns about possible filibusters—the measure did not make it to the floor in the first session of the 100th Congress; and it was not until April 19, 1988 that the full Senate finally began its deliberations on redress.

On that day and the following, the same arguments were again heard on each side of the issue, with Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) taking the lead in introducing amendments. After an amendment offered by Chic Hecht (R-Nev.) that would eliminate monetary compensation was tabled on a 67-30 vote, Helms presented two other amendments in succession: one providing that no funds be appropriated "in any year in which there will be a budget deficit," and the other requiring that no payments be made until the government of Japan compensated the families of those who were killed as a result of the Pearl Harbor bombing. Both amendments were also tabled, the former on a 61-35 vote, the latter, 91-4.

A number of conservative Republicans rose to speak on behalf of the measure—including Alan Simpson, Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), Warren Rudman (R-N.H.)—but many of them expressed ambivalence about the financial aspect of redress. Simpson recounted at length his meeting with fellow Cub Scout Mineta and his impressions of the relocation center he had visited as a child. "Heart Mountain," he told his colleagues, "rises up strong and majestic from the floor of the lush, irrigated farm valleys in the Big Horn Basin, between Cody and Powell." It was the custom, he said, for local youths of the area to carve their initials in the rocks at its peak. Among the crowd of initials of hometown boys, however, there were Japanese letters and writings engraved by the Japanese Americans who had been interned there. "It is a moving—and sobering—sight," Simpson reflected, "to find high upon a Wyoming mountainside." Despite his conviction that the internment was "the gravest of injustices," Simpson acknowledged that "I have trouble with the money." While he pledged to support "the final product," the payments to individuals left "a strange feeling in my craw." The sooner "we close [the] wound [of the internment] and suture it with love and understanding and affection, we will be better off," Simpson added. "And suturing it with money does not seem like the best way to conclude the issue." Others, like Robert Dole, expressed support for the bill, but warned of the uncertain fate of the monetary compensation provision once it came time to appropriate funds. "Like other authorization bills in the age of 12-digit budget deficits," he said, "[the redress measure] will undergo careful scrutiny in the appropriations process. It is one extremely worthy effort, but it must be evaluated along with other projects worthy in their own right."

These concerns notwithstanding, the Senate finally did pass the redress bill, financial restitution and all, on April 20, on a 69-27 vote. The long battle for congressional approval of redress was over. Redress advocates now geared themselves to face one last hurdle: the White House.

Last Steps

As the redress legislation wended its way through Congress in the fall of 1987, there was deep concern about what President Reagan would do when the bill landed on his desk. The Department of Justice, in the person of Assistant Attorney General Richard Willard, had testified against the measure in subcommittee hearings in the House and Senate that summer, arguing, among

other things, that Congress had already handled compensation back in 1948; that the provisions for restitution would "impose heavy administrative burdens on the Attorney General" (who was responsible for locating and paying eligible individuals); and that the conclusions and "subjective determinations" of the redress commission's report were "subject to debate." For those and other reasons, Willard informed the subcommittee, "the Department of Justice would recommend that the president veto [the redress bill]."

At the same time, for different reasons, OMB was sending out signals that it would not look favorably on the redress measure. On September 18, 1987, the day after the House passed the redress bill, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that OMB "has said it will recommend a presidential veto because of objections to the \$1.2 billion in payments."

These disquieting rumblings turned into something more ominous a few days later when Grant Ujifusa got a phone call from a White House pollster whom he'd asked to test the waters for redress with members of the Reagan administration. "He said," Ujifusa recalls, "I've got very bad news. ... People over at the White House say they've drawn their wagons in a circle and they don't want this [bill] at all. I was very disheartened by that. ... He advised me to give the bill up for a session. He said, 'It's just too tough.'"

Ujifusa, however, was concerned about the negative effects on redress advocates of waiting much longer for a bill. "We were just running out of gas," he says. He arranged a strategy meeting with Masaoka and Matsunaga in mid-October; it was, he recalls, shortly after the stock market plunged, giving rise to the specter of a serious downturn in the economy, which would lend weight to the administration's opposition to the redress bill. At the meeting, it was decided that Matsunaga "would continue to go after co-sponsors, but would not push action on the Senate floor because we had a red light from the White House." Meanwhile, Ujifusa and others would work to change the light to green.

Ujifusa had, in fact, already been at work at the Justice Department seeking to defuse opposition there to the bill before it came up for a House vote. In both a letter and a visit to Assistant Attorney General Willard, he made a pitch that he would use elsewhere in the administration:

I knew they [at Justice] were thinking, "Oh, yeah, the usual suspects are acting up. This is a minority bill. Bad stuff. The usual guys are up trying to get the government to correct every ill in the country." ... So I made a political argument, saying that the Confucian tradition of family, hard work, and education, and, in this country, technology, are really quite consistent with themes expounded by Ronald Reagan. And if you look at the election returns of both '80 and '84, the Asian community did in fact vote Republican, and they did it for cultural reasons.

Whether or not Willard was swayed by these arguments, his response reassured Ujifusa:

He looks at me and says, "Well, you know, when the attorney general [Edwin Meese] said, 'Who wants this issue?', there

were about 20 guys standing in line; and 19 stepped back, and here I was. I didn't want this thing, Grant." ... But then he says, 'I promise you two things. Number one, if this thing ever gets to the White House, I will not be burning up the lines to the White House to have the president veto the bill.... [Number two,] when this thing goes to the floor of the House, and later when it goes to the Senate, I promise you that I'll send no one up there to lobby against this bill.'

"In other words," adds Ujifusa, "Grant, you've got me neutralized."

Ujifusa also took his argument to people who might relay his message directly to Reagan. He visited Secretary of Education William Bennett, whom he's known since they'd been students at Harvard. Bennett promised Ujifusa that "the next time I see the president, I will say to him that I support this bill." At Bennett's suggestion, Ujifusa also enlisted the aid of domestic policy advisor Gary Bauer, "a point-person in anti-abortion, a family values man," he says. "My theory here was that if I get Gary Bauer on my side, then that nails down the movement conservatives in the operational spectrum." Bauer agreed to help, as did Burton Pines of the conservative Heritage Foundation, whom Ujifusa asked to call the White House on behalf of redress, and Paul Weyrich of the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress. "So," says Ujifusa, "we had the support of what was probably the most powerful political movement of the eighties."

Meanwhile, Grayce Uyehara sent out an action alert in October asking supporters to send letters to President Reagan. She urged writers to include some personal history in their letters. "If you have a story about how the incarceration affected you and your family," she wrote, "your letter might be the one to be shared with the president." Above all, however, Uyehara stressed volume. "Candidly speaking," she noted, "I am told that letters generally are separated into two piles—for and against—so it seems the number of letters will be more important than the content." The pro-redress letters did come in but, apparently, they did not stack up well against the opposition. White House aide Anne Higgins, who monitored the mail, told Ujifusa that "we were swamped by the negative mail ... four or five or six to one, particularly from outraged veterans."

Amid all this lobbying activity, it was an encounter between Reagan and Governor Thomas Kean of New Jersey which Ujifusa hoped would "turn the tumblers." Ujifusa had recruited Kean, whose book, *The Politics of Inclusion*, he had edited, in the campaign to win Reagan's support for redress. In October 1987, when Reagan visited New Jersey to stump for Republican candidates for the state legislature, Kean seized his chance. During a 35-minute limousine ride between campaign stops, Kean made the case for redress. The president, Kean later told Ujifusa, was interested and seemed to know about the internment, though he apparently "had the idea that [the purpose of] it was protective custody."

While Kean talked of the internment, he reminded the president of a piece of personal history, relayed to him by Ujifusa. When the town of Santa Ana refused to allow the body of Kazuo Masuda, a Japanese American who had been killed in action in Italy, to be buried in its local cemetery, General

"Vinegar Joe" Stilwell flew to California especially to present his family with the soldier's posthumous Distinguished Service Cross medal. Joining the general at the December 1945 ceremony was a young actor named Ronald Reagan, then a captain in the Army. "It was," the *National Journal* later wrote, "an anecdote [Reagan] might have forgotten—but Ujifusa realized that having Kean remind Reagan of that personal connection would carry more weight with the president than rational argument." Reagan, Ujifusa explains, was "anecdotally inclined. ... You have to reach his heart because he thinks anecdotally, not conceptually."²⁶ The story of his appearance at the ceremony, he adds, was "common lore in our community. People knew of it. The question in my mind was how could we best use it."

Soon after the meeting with Reagan in New Jersey, Kean called Ujifusa to tell him that the president was "receptive, this was something he might want to do." Ujifusa followed up Kean's efforts with a letter to the president explaining that the internment had not, in fact, been a matter of protective custody, and enclosed a letter, addressed to Reagan, from June Masuda Goto, the sister of Kazuo. Recounting his presence at the ceremony and the brief address Reagan had made then, Goto wrote, "The presence of you and General Stilwell greatly affected the community and led to a better life for our family. ... Many times I have been asked to speak at the Kazuo Masuda middle school. I speak to all the history classes, and quote your words to the students." Urging him to support the redress legislation, she concluded, "All of us in our family—I believe Kaz as well—would be greatly honored if you would. I also believe that America, through you, would honor itself."

By February 1988, Ujifusa was receiving new signals from the White House. In a meeting with Ken Duberstein, Reagan's deputy chief of staff, to talk about OMB opposition, Ujifusa was told, "Grant, look, this whole matter has been talked about at a much higher level than that." Later Ujifusa learned that "the word had gone out that the president wants this."

Another Ceremony

With the White House certain to pose no problems and action completed in the Senate, the way was cleared for House-Senate conferees to work out their differences and present a final version of the bill for approval.²⁷ On July 27, 1988, the Senate approved the conference report on a voice vote; the House followed suit a few days later, on August 1, in a 257-156 vote.²⁸ Even with victory assured, opponents of redress in Congress had a final say, reprising the arguments of the past five years. Rep. Helen Bentley (R-Md.) told her colleagues that her husband, a Korean war veteran, had warned her, "If you want a fast divorce, you vote for that outrageous expenditure of our money." He told her, moreover, "That was wartime ... and we did not start the war. If anyone should get anything, it should

²⁶ Eun, p. 120.

²⁷ The final version extended the payment period from five to 10 years. It also stipulated that if an individual eligible for payment had died, his or her spouse, children, or parents would receive the \$20,000. "Eligible" meant any person living at the time of the enactment of the bill who had been interned.

²⁸ While the bill was in its final stages of approval, the class action suit brought by NCJAR was coming to a dead end. In May 1988, the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit dismissed the suit on the grounds that the statute of limitations had expired. Later that year, the Supreme Court refused to review the decision.

be the American prisoners who were treated cruelly and frequently tortured, sometimes tortured to death.' Mr. Speaker," Bentley concluded, "my veteran husband, Bill Bentley, like all veterans in my district, oppose this legislation, as I do." Rep. Jack Davis (R-Ill.) rose to say that he was reversing his vote after considering the issue of precedent and after hearing from his constituents. He was, he told his colleagues, "mindful that the term 'representative' means to represent and while no one has sought my 'yes' vote on this bill, a large number of constituents phoned, wrote, and verbally communicated their opposition to this measure."

Last minute objections notwithstanding, Congress had given its approval to redress and on August 10, 1988, Ronald Reagan added the final touch. In an emotional ceremony attended by over 100 Japanese Americans and key members of Congress, the president briefly recounted the story of the internment, quoting in part from Mineta's own experience. "The legislation that I am about to sign provides for a restitution payment" to surviving internees, he told his audience. "Yet no payment can make up for those lost years. So what is most important in this bill has less to do with property than with honor. For here we admit a wrong. Here we affirm our commitment as a nation to equal justice under the law." Then, taking a clipping sent to him by June Masuda Goto, he read the same brief speech he'd made in 1945 in Santa Ana.

Blood that has soaked into the sands of a beach is all of one color. American stands unique in the world, the only country not founded on race, but on a way—an ideal. Not in spite of, but because of our polyglot background, we have had all the strength in the world. That is the American way.

With that, the president signed the bill. A final battle, this time over the appropriation, still lay ahead before redress would become a reality for Japanese Americans. For the moment, though, veterans of the redress effort savored the fruits of their decade-long campaign.