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## FBI Sharpshooter case moves to federal court

FBI sharpshooter Lon Horiuchi, the agent charged with involuntary manslaughter in the death of white separatist Randy Weaver's wife Vicki during the 1992 siege at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, won a bid to take his trial out of Idaho state court into federal court on Jan. 12.

The ruling by United States District Judge Edward J. Lodge will allow Horiuchi to assert that he is immune from criminal prosecution because he was acting within his duties as a federal law enforcement officer. The ruling will also allow the trial to be moved hundreds of miles away from the site of the siege. A decision has not been made as to where the pool of jurors will be selected from.

Randy Weaver and his family had barricaded themselves in their remote cabin with guns and ammunition when dozens of federal agents surrounded the compound. At the time, Weaver was being sought on an illegal weapons charge. The 11-day siege eventually led deputy U.S. marshal William Degan, Weaver's 14-year-old son Sam, and Vicki Weaver dead.

Vicki Weaver had been holding her daughter in the cabin's doorway when a bullet shot through the cabin door and killed her. Horiuchi has long claimed that he had been aiming at Randy Weaver's armed friend Kevin Harris, who had been running into the cabin, and did not see Vicki Weaver. Harris also sustained a wound from the shot.

Horiuchi has pleaded not guilty to the charges, for which he could face a maximum of 10 years in prison. He currently remains free on his own recognizance and continues to work for the FBI.

This case marks the first time a federal agent has faced criminal prosecution for the siege since it took place five years ago. In 1994 the U.S. Justice Department had ruled against prosecuting Horiuchi or any of his superiors for the Ruby Ridge incident.

A tentative trial date has been set for March 10, but Horiuchi's lawyers have said they will try to get the case dismissed before then. ■

## Sixty cities take part in first National Days of Dialogue

BY CAROLINE AOYAGI

**Assistant Editor**  
LOS ANGELES — It started off in Los Angeles as a way to heal some of the racial tension resulting from the O.J. Simpson murder trial in 1995.

But in three short years the "Day of Dialogue," has now become the "National Days of Dialogue" as more than 60 cities took part in candid discussions on race relations from Jan. 14 and ending on Martin Luther King Day, Jan. 19.

To launch the nation wide event, more than 50 national and local leaders, led by co-organizers Los Angeles Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas and former Sena-

tor Bill Bradley, gathered for a press conference and discussion at the new Getty Center in L.A. on Jan. 14.

"The tremendous interest this effort has generated clearly shows that large numbers of Americans want to be engaged in improving race relations," said Ridley-Thomas, who's efforts helped to spearhead the first day of dialogue in 1995. "As leaders, we have to step up and tackle the issue of race relations head on. There is too much at stake for us not to."

"Racial reconciliation and understanding" is what the "National Days of Dialogue" is all about, See NAT'L DIALOGUE/page 5



Warren Furutani, president of the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council, takes part in a discussion with fellow community leaders during the National Days of Dialogue at Los Angeles' Getty Center.

## Korematsu receives Presidential Medal of Freedom

It's taken more than fifty years but Fred Korematsu, the Nisei who took his protests against the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II all the way to the supreme court, was honored with the highest civilian award,



the Presidential Medal of Freedom, in a White House ceremony on Jan. 15.

In 1942, Korematsu was arrested and convicted of disobeying Executive Order 9066, the decree that sent hundreds of

thousands of Japanese Americans to internment camps throughout the United States for the duration of the war. And for a number of years he was forced to endure the label of convicted felon.

It was finally in 1983, with the help of attorneys Dale Minami, Peter Irons, Eric Yamamoto and others, that Korematsu had his felony conviction vacated in a landmark coram nobis case. The case went on to play a pivotal role in the successful redress movement that eventually brought reparations to JAs interned during the war.

"I'm greatly honored in receiving this award," said Korematsu in an interview from his home in

San Leandro. He had gotten word of the award two days before Christmas, he said, but White House officials had sworn him to secrecy until President Clinton made the official announcement earlier this year. Fourteen other individuals were also honored with the award.

Korematsu, who attended the ceremony with his wife Kathryn and his son and daughter, continues to make appearances educating the public about the experiences of JAs during WWII because he feels it's important to talk about the internment. "There are still people who don't know that the internment happened,"

See KOREMATSU/page 10

## Denny's again accused of discrimination

The nationally popular restaurant franchise Denny's just can't seem to get its act together.

After two highly publicized discrimination cases against the food chain in less than five years, one filed by a group of black patrons in Maryland four years ago and a lawsuit filed recently by a group of largely Asian and Asian American students in Syracuse, N.Y., a Denny's in Miami has been accused of refusing to serve a group of black and white prison officers.

The six black and three white officers from the Everglades Correctional Institution have accused the manager of the Denny's restaurant located in a largely Hispanic neighborhood of twice refusing to serve them. The first time they were told the oven wasn't working. And then on Jan. 2 they were told the restaurant had run out of food. When they complained, the manager told them, "You guys don't look right together." The officers also noted that other customers, white couples, were being served at the time.

Denny's restaurants suspended the manager with pay on Jan. 7 pending an independent investigation. The restaurant chain has said the manager will be fired if he is found guilty of racial discrimination. The Office of the Civ-

See DENNY'S/page 5

## Sumi-e artist Drue Kataoka impresses with her innovative style

BY CAROLINE AOYAGI

**Assistant Editor**  
SAN FRANCISCO—If the traditional Japanese art form of sumi-e or brush painting could have its ideal ambassador, 19-year-old artist Drue Kataoka would be an obvious choice.

Born in Tokyo to a Japanese father and white American mother, Kataoka was only five when she

picked up her first sumi-e paint brush. At the age of six she and her family moved to Palo Alto, Calif., and what she brought along with her was her passion for sumi-e.

"I've always had a love for sumi-e," said Kataoka, a JACL Sequoia Chapter scholarship recipient in 1996. She's currently a sophomore at Stanford University, where she's majoring in art history. "I think all of my early experiences [in Japan] made a great impression on me," she said. "The whole idea of a 'floating world.'"

Kataoka received her *han*, or stamp of professional status, when she was 17. Since then she's had eight national one-woman shows, including one in Kona, Hawaii, and has sold her paintings throughout the United States, Hong Kong, Australia, and Switzerland.

Although skilled in the traditional sumi-e images of bamboos, landscapes, flowers, and

birds, Kataoka has developed a very unique, very American style of her own. The subjects she uses in her work include hula dancers, jazz musicians, surfers, and tennis players.

During last summer's Bank of the West Pro Tennis Classic at Stanford, two of her paintings were bought by tennis pro Martina Hingis, who also got a two-hour sumi-e lesson from the artist. Recently, Kataoka was cho-

See KATAOKA/page 8

## JACL Activist, Mary Tsukamoto, passes away

Longtime JACL Florin Chapter member, community activist, educator and author Mary Tsukamoto passed away on Jan. 6 at Sacramento Kaiser South at the age of 82 due to complications from pneumonia.

Although afflicted with arthritis since childhood, Tsukamoto was a tireless civil rights activist throughout her life. Playing an integral role in the passage of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act, legislation that brought reparations to hundreds of thou-



sands of Japanese Americans interned during World War II, Tsukamoto was one of the first individuals to receive their reparation check from President Ronald Reagan.

Born in San Francisco on Jan. 17, 1915, to immigrant parents from Okinawa, Japan Tsukamoto grew up in Florin, Calif. She had often said it was because of her and her family's experience of being forced to live in the WWII internment camp at Jerome, Ark. that she dedicated her life to ensuring that the civil rights of all Americans were upheld.

Tsukamoto was featured in the Smithsonian Institution's exhibit, "A More Perfect Union," See TSUKAMOTO/page 11

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JACL website: www.jacl.org  
PC e-mail: paccit@aol.com



Artist Drue Kataoka with one of her innovative sumi-e paintings, "Indigo Moment."



## Let's Keep Communicating



By Nicole Inouye and Hiromi Ueha

## A perfect time for youth involvement

**W**HEN Hiromi and I were sitting down to write one of our last articles for the *Pacific Citizen* as National Youth/Student Chair and Representative, we came to the realization that we only have six months left in office and there are still many things that we are working on.

There are many opportunities that are available to youth and students for 1998. The National Youth/Student Council (NYSC) is offering a stipend of up to \$250 for those chapters and districts who are interested in starting a program or an event geared towards youth and students. There are limited funds available and the stipends can be requested on an application basis with an accompanying budget. For more information you can contact Patricia Tsai-Tom at the CCDC regional office.

Applications are also available for National JACL's scholarships as well as for the Masaoka Fellowship. JACL gives out over \$70,000 annually to college freshmen, undergraduate and graduate students. The deadline is March 1 for high school seniors, April 1 for the rest of the scholarships. The Masaoka Fellowship is accepting applications now for the year 1999 to intern in the office of an API elected official in Washington, D.C. The deadline is June 1, 1998. For more information on the scholarships and fellowship, call National Headquarters or the regional offices.

The most exciting task ahead we must prepare for is the 1998 National Convention in Philadelphia.

phia (June 30 to July 4.) Each district's Youth/Student representative, as well as the national chair and rep, will all be qualified to attend the convention as delegates. In addition to the duties to be performed as delegates, we are planning a week of events targeted to youth and students.

In anticipation of the National Convention in Philadelphia, the NYSC would like to encourage all interested individuals to take part in the many activities geared towards promoting the participation of youth and students. The Min Yasui Oratorical contest is one event held at every convention. Each district selects a representative from their district to send to the competition at the convention. Each contestant will be given a paid trip to the convention as well as lodging for one night. Prizes are awarded to the winning contestant. For more information regarding when each district competition will be held, contact the regional offices or district governors.

As a change from past conventions, the NYSC is planning a youth day on Saturday, July 4. In the morning, a fellowship/internship fair is scheduled; various internships and fellowship recipients are expected to be present. In the afternoon there will be workshops on different issues concerning the Asian American community today. Registration information can be obtained from National Headquarters and the regional offices.

Another convention event is the youth luncheon. A keynote speaker will be addressing issues

that Asian American youth see as being important to their lives. Past keynote speakers have been Congressman Norman Mineta, Bruce Yamashita, and the Nakatani family. This luncheon is open to everyone who would like to attend, not just for the youth and students. This is a time when people can get together to meet other individuals both young and old from the organization.

For the next six months we will be vigorously preparing for the convention and would like to encourage anyone who would like to become involved or just see what JACL is all about to attend. The convention is the place to see how the true JACL organization works, especially through their grassroots efforts. This is where the JACL plans their goals for the next two years by the nationwide membership of the organization.

For those who have any ideas or suggestions of what can be done for the youth and student members, this is the forum to bring them to. The delegates who attend the convention range in age, experience, way of thinking and areas of residence. There are people who attend the convention who have made JACL history. The best thing about the convention is that the individuals who attend all have one thing in mind, to do what is best for the organization. We hope to find the same support and enthusiasm towards youth and student issues as we have seen over the past year and a half. We would like to encourage everyone to get involved in whatever capacity you would like. ■

## JACL News

## Pocatello-Blackfoot Chapter to hold Big Bash/IDC meeting on Feb. 7-8

New IDC Governor Larry Grant of the Wasatch Front chapter will hold his first IDC meeting in conjunction with Pocatello-Blackfoot Chapter's Big Bash on Feb. 7-8, at Cactus Pines in Jackpot, Nev. Room reservations can be made by calling Cactus Pines at 800/821-1103. The JACL room rate is \$45. Banquet and bus reservations can be made by calling Marianne Endo 232-4399 or Alice Konishi 785-2779.

At a Dec. 7 meeting the board elected the following officers: president, Micki Kawakami (official delegate); vice president, Dwight Morimoto (official delegate); secretary, Joanne Kent; and treasurer, Masa Tsukamoto. They will be sworn in at the Big Bash Banquet.

Chapter committee assignments include: Big Bash Feb. 7,

Micki Kawakami, Joe Sato and Mike Abe; Big Bash next year, Shirley Kawamura and Marie Proctor; Cultural Workshops, Joanne Kent; Office on Aging, Sanaye Okamura and Hero Shiosaki; SEICOG, Ron Endo; Christmas Party, Rich and Heidi Higashi; Youth Group Mentors, Micki, Ron and Dale Endo, Rich and Heidi Higashi; Pocatello Membership, Micki Kawakami;

Blackfoot Membership, Hero Shiosaki; Education, Hero Shiosaki, assisted by Danny Teraguchi; Special Services, Pocatello, Mickie Morimoto and Marianne Endo; Special Services, Blackfoot, Mae Endow and Mid Tsukamoto; Memorial Day Service, Mickie Morimoto and Hero Shiosaki; Scholarship Committee, Alyce Sato, Micki Kawakami, Tina DeGiuli, Karl Endo, Hero Shiosaki. ■

## Riverside JACL to mark 30th anniversary at luncheon

RIVERSIDE, Calif.—Special recognition will be extended to founders of the Riverside JACL at its 30th anniversary installation luncheon Sunday, Feb. 8, at the University Club on the UC Riverside campus, 900 University Ave. Social hour starts at noon, luncheon at 1 p.m.

P.C. editor emeritus Harry K. Handa, who attended the first installation at a country club restaurant, will be installing officers. Joining in the celebration will be members of the historic Coachella Valley JACL chapter, which was founded in October 1966.

RSVP by Jan. 31 with treasurer Junji Kumamoto, 909/684-0864. The chapter is also honoring his son Paul, who was voted

the Riverside County baseball coach of the year.

Longtime JACLers Dr. Gen Ogata and wife Dolly were recognized by the Martin Luther King Jr. Monument Visionaries for many years of community service and exemplifying his spirit. The Ogatas will be honored Jan. 24 at the Riverside Convention Center. Both were also recently honored, along with fellow chapter members Mable Bristol, Masako Gifford and Clyde Wilson for outstanding service by the International Relations Council.

When Satoshi Mikami, 95, husband, father and grandfather of many Riverside JACLers, celebrated his birthday recently, he was touted as the eldest member of the chapter. —Riverside Newsletter, Lily Taka ■

## What's Happening in PSW

By Ai Muratsuchi  
PSW Regional Director

## Political empowerment and the JACL civil rights agenda

**W**HEN I recently organized a nonpartisan JACL seminar on running for office, two longtime JACLers whom I love and respect questioned whether such a topic was appropriate for a civil rights organization like JACL. They felt that issues of electoral politics should be left to Democratic and Republican clubs.

I had to politely disagree. By politically empowering our community, we are better prepared to protect our civil rights. JACL should be at the forefront of training and supporting conscientious people to become involved in all aspects of American politics. We need more people who want to serve our community as organizers, political appointees, and elected officials.

At a recent dinner, I had the opportunity to chat with California State Treasurer and U.S. Senate candidate Matt Fong. When I shared my frustration with apathy in the Nikkei community, he responded, "I would think that the Japanese American community would know as well as anyone the importance of being engaged in the political process, to look out for your community's well-being."

Fong, of course, was referring to the internment, in American po-

litical leadership. How things would have been different if the Nikkei community had more political clout during the war.

And how things were different, when JACL was able to rely on the political leadership of people like Senators Spark Matsunaga and Dan Inouye, Congressmen Norm Mineta and Bob Matsui, in rectifying the internment with redress.

Today, the increasingly middle-class and assimilated Japanese American community relies less on politics and government in protecting community interests than on getting good jobs and living in the suburbs. A strategy that seems to work just fine, especially for those who seem to care less about ongoing problems of racism that do not immediately confront them or their loved ones.

But as an organization dedicated to protecting civil and human rights, JACLers should be committed to supporting and promoting leaders who will ensure that the nation never forgets what happened to Japanese Americans during World War II, and who will fight to prevent similar tragedies from ever happening again, to any group of people. To that end, JACL should make political leadership development one of our top priorities.

Many JACLers already recog-

nize the importance of political leadership development. One of JACL's most outstanding programs is our annual Washington, D.C., leadership program, where JACLers from all over the country meet with elected and appointed officials, government staff, lobbyists, and the media to learn how national policy is developed.

One of the participants in last year's program was Michael Matsuda of SELANOCO JACL, a young high school teacher who has worked for many years with the National Conference of Christians and Jews to promote better race relations. Recently, Mike announced that he will be running for a state Assembly seat in Garden Grove. Mike is just one of many examples of JACL's success in encouraging and developing our future leaders. ■

## www.jacl.org

JACL has a website on Internet by typing in "www.jacl.org". The current website includes basic information about JACL. New information is being added, including a list of chapters, membership-subscription information, curriculum guide, summary information, press releases, discussions of the latest policies and issues, a section for youth, scholarship information, Mike Masaoka Fellowship, etc. Ideas and suggestions from chapters are always welcome. ■

## "Unsung Heroes" to be honored by Florin JACL, March 7

The JACL Florin Chapter's 16th Time of Remembrance (TOR) program will honor Caucasian relocation camp teachers, as well as others who helped Nikkei in extraordinary ways during WWII. The event will be held on March 7 at the Florin Buddhist Hall (at Florin and Pritchard Rds.), Sacramento.

Margaret Gunderson (1903-1997) was one of such dedicated persons living with the courage of their convictions and who was a great inspiration and lifelong friend to many young Nisei at Tule Lake, where there was so much confusion and turmoil.

One of Gunderson's students at the Tule Lake Tri-State High School, Yuzuru John Takeshita, Ph.D., professor emeritus at the University of Michigan, will be the main speaker at the TOR program.

A Florin JACL-Gunderson Scholarship Fund has been set up, and in addition to contributions, proceeds from the sale of Evelyn Iritani's book, *An Ocean Between Us*, will go towards the fund.

For further information contact Frank Iritani, 916/395-7944 (phone and fax) or TOR chairperson Christine Umeda, 427-2841. ■

## Sacramento 'DOR' and potluck event Feb. 28; crab-feed precedes

Sacramento JACL's annual observance of "Day of Remembrance" will be held Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church, 6929 Franklin Blvd.

"Day of Remembrance" is the observance of the day, February 19, 1942, when President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 which caused the evacuation and incarceration of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast.

The chapter's annual Senior Appreciation Day will be combined with the DOR program as a potluck event with members and friends bringing their favorite dishes. All those 80 years of age and over will be presented special

gifts.

This year the program will feature the "Children of the Camps" video project. Dr. Satsuki Ina of CSU Sacramento, a longtime chapter member, and Audrey Kashio-Wells, a new member, have been in production of the documentary which explores the long-term effects of the Evacuation experience on children.

As a bonus, Bay Area singers Toru Saito and Bessie Masuda will entertain with songs from the '40s.

Although phone calls will be made for the potluck, those interested are asked to call project coordinator Toko Fujii at 916/421-0328 or 916/421-6968 to participate. ■

# JACL Chapter Installations

## Eden Township honors Yoshiye "Yo" Kawabata

The Eden Township Chapter JACL and the Eden Youth Club 1998 board members were installed at a November dinner at the Eden Community Center. A silver pin was presented to Yoshiye "Yo" Kawabata, active board officer and a board member of long standing, in recognition of her outstanding and dedicated contributions and involvement with the chapter and many chapter affiliated community organizations. Presenting the award was Herb Yamanishi, National Director, who also served as the installing officer. Also present was Helen Kawagoe, National President. Special guest speaker of the evening was Lance Gima, Director of the State DNA laboratory in Berkeley, Calif. Entertainment was by the Eden Aoba Taiko group. Event chairperson was Victor Fuji, with

chapter co-president Ron Sakae serving as M.C.

• 1998 chapter and youth board members are:

Officers: Moses Oshima and Ron Sakae co-pres.; Yo Kawabata v.p.;

Janet Mitobe alternate; Kimi Kitayama Holiday Issue P.C.; Tomi Miyamoto newsletter/publicity; John Yamada civil rights.

Board of Directors: Bob Agawa, William Asai, Masa Fukuzumi, Yas

Ishida, Yo Kasai, Gary Kawabata, Yo Kawabata, Kimi Kitayama, Uaka Kobori, Judy Loh, Kunio Okui, Natalie Shew, James Takeuchi, Rev. James Toda, Pattie Utsumi, Motoichi Yana-

Ex. Officer: Dick Sasaki, Karen Shinoda, Janet Mitobe, Victor Fuji.

Eden Youth: Courtney Jan and Brandon Fong co-pres.; Stephanie Ide Kawabata community service director; Stacy Yamaoka social activity director; Lori Taniguchi publicity; Aivy Cordoba membership; Alex Taniguchi hospitality; Daniel Fukuchi historian; Kathy Jang, Cindy Wong, Gordon Ide, Teresa Taniguchi, Bonnie Tom and Peggy Huie, advisors. ■



Photo: from left—Lance Gima, guest speaker, Yo Kawabata, silver pin recipient, JACL National Director Herb Yamanishi and National President Helen Kawagoe.

Ada Wada recording sec'y; Dick Sasaki corres. sec'y; Ted Kitayama and Shig Naito co-treas.; John Yamada membership; Tomi Miyamoto historian; Tets Sakai and John Yamada 1000 Club; Robert Sakai scholarship; John Yamada and Ada Wada official delegates; Shig Naito insurance commissioner; Yo Kawabata JASEB rep.,

v.p.; Janet McCarty treas.; Christine Kawabata community service director; Stacy Yamaoka social activity director; Lori Taniguchi publicity; Aivy Cordoba membership; Alex Taniguchi hospitality; Daniel Fukuchi historian; Kathy Jang, Cindy Wong, Gordon Ide, Teresa Taniguchi, Bonnie Tom and Peggy Huie, advisors. ■

## Jeff Yoshioka, CPA, to lead San Jose JACL

SAN JOSE—Another native son of San Jose, Jeff Yoshioka, and his cabinet members were installed for 1998. A certified public accountant with Nyeama Accountancy since 1980, he is being joined by fellow officers who are also being further identified.

Dentist Dr. Kaz Uyesugi, v.p. (finance); financial adviser Tom Maeda, v.p. (activities); financial planner Ken Sakamoto, v.p. (civic

affairs); longtime JACLer Ada Uyeda, v.p. (membership services); resource teacher trainer Sharon Uyeda, v.p. (scholarship program); language speech pathologist, past president ('80-'81) Judy Niizawa, rec. sec.; Jeff Yoshioka, treas.; retired attorney, past president ('68) Karl Kinaga, and engineer, immediate past president ('97) Mark Kobayashi, delegates.

Board Members (newly elected) for 1998-1999: Katie Hironaka, Art Honda, Leon Kimura, Karl Kinaga, Susan Mineta, Claire Omura, Miles Yamamoto, Aya Uyeda, Eiichi Sakayue, Joanne Breitmeier, Adele Hirose, Wade Katsuyoshi, Curt Matsushima, Randy Okamura, Ken Sakamoto, Nori Tagawa.

Continuing board members through 1998: Alan Aoyama, George Fuji, Carl Fujita, Gary Jio, Aiko Nakahara, Judy Niizawa, Tom Nishisaka, Tom Shigemasa, Karen Shiraki, Kathy Takeda, Wayne Tando, Sharon Uyeda, Kaz Uyesugi, Jeff Yoshioka.

Richard Konda, Esq., executive director of the Asian Law Alliance administered the oath of office. The A.L.A., established in 1977, was among the original tenants in the JACL Office Bldg.

After 30 years of service with the San Jose Police Department, assistant chief Thomas Shigemasa "has found a new career—fishing!!" He was honored at a retirement luncheon Jan. 22, at the Rose Garden Inn, 1520 The Alameda, by his cohorts and friends.—Judy Niizawa. ■

## Sacramento JACL honors Doris Matsui at Community Service Dinner

BY TOKO FUJII

Sacramento JACL's Fourth Annual Community Service Recognition Dinner was attended by nearly 500 members and guests, who filled the Grand Ballroom of the Radisson Hotel on Nov. 16.

Lori Fujimoto, National JACL vice president of public affairs, commended Doris Matsui, a Clinton staff member, for her many contributions to the Asian American community and presented her with her award. Ted Kobata was presented an award for his many years of volunteerism by his long-time friend Kuni Hironaka, and Assemblyman Mike Honda, who also gave the keynote address, presented Ralph T. Sugimoto his award for years of civic

and community contributions.

Speakers included National JACL President Helen Kawagoe, Sacramento Supervisors Ila Collin and Roger Dickinson, Mayor Joe Serna, Councilman Sam Pannell and Police Chief Art Venegas.

Herb Yamanishi, JACL national director, installed the following 1998 officers: Miyoko Sawamura, pres.; Dick Fukushima, past pres.; Lori Fujimoto, v.p.; Ralph Sugimoto, treas.; Randy Imai and Erin Komatsubara, co-sec.; directors at large: Mike Sawamura, Mike Iwahiro, Gary Kikumoto, Deanna Bican, Priscilla Ouchida, Mika Furukawa, Toko Fujii, Tom Fujimoto, Gene Itogawa, Michael Futamase and Gary Hatano. ■



Sacramento JACL Community Service Recognition Dinner (from left): Honorees Ralph T. Sugimoto Jr., Ted Kobata, and Doris Matsui; Keynote speaker Assemblyman Mike Honda.

## Greater L.A. Singles installs '98 cabinet in holiday spirit

LOS ANGELES—Janet Okubo was re-elected and installed as the 1998 Greater Los Angeles Singles chapter president at its year-end Holiday party Dec. 6 at the Proud Bird Restaurant by LAX airport. The officers were installed by Al Muratsuchi, PSW regional director. Her cabinet members, also re-elected, consists of:

Three 1st v.p. (programs): Louise Sakamoto, Bebe Reschke (activities), Norma Tazai (trips); two 2nd v.p. (membership): Joyce Okazaki and Mas Kuwahara; 3rd v.p. (legislation): Miyako Kadogawa; Mary Ann Tanaka, rec. sec.;

Bea Fujimoto, cor. sec.; Ken Kishiyama, treas.; Mary Yasui, hist.-pub.; Herb Fukuda, insurance.

Board (1st year)—Joyce Kuruma, Emi Mukai, Helen Watanabe, Yoshie Yoshimura, (2nd year)—Sally Akazawa, Janet Araki, Don Kawamori, Toshiko Ogita, Emy Sakamoto.

Committee appointees—Sachiko Yamaguchi, scholarship; Annabelle Lee, cheers; Sally Akazawa, refreshments.

Founded in 1983, the chapter meets every second Friday, 7 p.m., at the Gardena Valley WYCA, 1341 W. Gardena Blvd., Gardena. Meetings are open to the public. ■



© JEM LEW PHOTO

GREATER L.A. SINGLES 1998 chapter president Janet Okubo (second from left) entertains with Luana Baba (left), Jerry Muranaka and Fusa Motowaki in a Hawaiian number at the installation party held Dec. 6 at the Proud Bird.



CCDC Vice Governor Bob Taniguchi and Governor Grace Kimoto listen as banquet keynote speaker Amy Hill talks about her experience as a multi-racial film and television actress.



ELECTION MEETING—Gathered at the San Jose JACL board meeting are (from left) Karl Kinaga, Jeff Yoshioka (the new president), Leon Kimura, Claire Omura, Carl Fujita, Wayne Tando, Tom Shigemasa, and Adele Hirose. Some chapter members are pictured attending this Nov. 14, 1997, meeting.

## Honolulu elects attorney Ikei as president



HONOLULU—Attorney and civil rights activist Clayton Ikei will lead the Japanese American Citizens League, Honolulu Chapter, through 1998. The election of its 1998-99 board of directors was held at its annual meeting on Dec. 14, 1997, at the Ala Moana Hotel. Pictured from left to right are:

Front Row—Kyle Kajihira, v.p. programs; Art Koga, treas.; Clayton Ikei, pres.; Ernie Kimoto, v.p. administration; Keith Karmisugi, v.p. public affairs; David Forman, secretary. 2nd Row—directors Ben Kudo, Steve Okino, Alicyn Hilda Tasaka, Helen Nagatlon-Miller, Doreen Nakatsu, Brandon Abe, Kalene Shm. 3rd Row—directors Bill Kaneko, Bill Hoshio, Colbert Matsumoto, Marie "Dolly" Strazar, Garret Toguchi, Mark Nakashima, Alan Murakami. Not Pictured—directors Karl Sakamoto, Dennis Sato, Devon Nekoba, Dan Ishii, Alice Hokama. ■

## St. Louis Chapter elects new board

The JACL St. Louis Chapter recently elected its officers and board for the coming year.

The 1998 board: Dr. Kendall Itoku, president; Irma Yokota, vice president of programs; Steve Mitori, vice president of membership; Bob Mitori, treasurer; Wendy Roll, secretary; Sam Nakano; and Mike Minzey. ■

## 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.

Mail of fax items to: 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755, 213/725-0064.

## Around the NATION

### All-American Nikkei conference on race/identity planned April 3-5

LOS ANGELES—What ties bind all Japanese Americans, whether young or old, Issei or Yonsei, pre-war or post-war immigrant, of Japanese or of multi-ethnic heritage? What needs to be done to ensure that the Japanese American community prospers into the 21st Century?

On April 3-5, people from across the country are being called to redefine Nikkei identity and community through "Ties that Bind: A Japanese American Community Conference" at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center. It is being coordinated by representatives of major Nikkei organizations.

The JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., will serve as primary conference site, with activities also at the Japanese American National Museum.

The registration fee (\$45, individuals, \$20 students and those with limited income) includes a Friday evening cultural performance, Saturday bento lunch, and one copy of the Directory of Japanese American Community Organizations. A directory is being developed from a pre-conference survey.

Organizational sponsors to date include:

Asian American Drug Abuse Program, Asian Pacific Planning and Pol-

icy Council, Association of Japanese Language Schools, Center for Nikkei Studies, San Francisco State University, Chih-Ni No Gakko, Christ United Methodist Church, Church of Perfect Liberty, Inc., Japanese American Citizens League, JACCC, Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California, Japanese American National Museum, Japanese American Resource Center/Museum, Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Northern California (JCCNC), Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society, Kanya Sanjo V. Kabuki Dance Co., Keiro Services, Kimochi, KSCC Channel 18, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc., Little Tokyo Service Center, Making Waves: Asians in Action, Manzanar Committee, Maryknoll Japanese Catholic Center, St. Francis Xavier Chapel, Mountain Pacific Travel, National Asian Pacific American Families Against Nikkei Interfaith Fellowship, Nikkei in Education, Pacific Asian American Women Writers West, The Rafu Shimpō, Substance Abuse, NAPAFA, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, UCLA Asian American Studies, Yu-Ai Kai, and more are joining daily.

The Ties that Bind Conference is funded in part by the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, Pacific Bell, and Southern California Edison. To become an organizational sponsor, or for more information, call Watanabe (LTSC) 213/473-1600 or Chris Aihara (JACCC) 213/628-2725. ■

### Utah turnout lively at meeting for ORA team

BY JEFF ITAMI

SALT LAKE CITY—The Nikkei turnout was massive for the Office of Redress Administration (ORA) team here Nov. 22 at the Japanese Church of Christ, who reminded all potential redress applicants to file before Jan. 31, 1998, or if denied and wish to appeal, by April 1988 through the Appellate Division.

Here from Washington were Joanne Chiedi, assistant ORA director; Lisa Johnson and Tim Cooper.

Present were 108 Nikkei, many vitally concerned over ORA's research of FBI, military and Naval Intelligence documents and telephone logs to ascertain whether railroad and mining executives were influenced regarding the summary firing of Japanese Americans in wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941.

At this time, according to Chiedi, the ORA has letters from railroad company executives affirming they took individual action to fire Japanese Americans and had been warned by the U.S. Attorney General's Office not to fire aliens or cause mass hysteria. (The FBI and the Justice Department were also against the Army's mass evacuation plans because "dangerous" enemy aliens of the German, Japanese and Italian descent were immediately detained after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.—Ed. Note)

The informational presentation culminated with questions from the audience and answers from ORA legal counsel Cooper.

In response to the status of Japanese Latin Americans' campaign for justice, Chiedi was unable to comment as their case



Joann Chiedi, ORA assistant director, speaks to 108 Nikkei at a Salt Lake City meeting just before Thanksgiving (Nov. 22, 1997).

is under litigation. While the ORA has found no "smoking gun," the office is diligently reviewing literally tons of material seeking any such connection, she assured.

The meeting broke up into small groups so that potential applicants were able to explain their case and fill out an ORA application. Many were also able to inquire about their individual situations.

IDC Gov. Yas Tokita opened the meeting, followed by an invocation from Rev. Kent Ikeda. Other speakers included: former Japanese Latin American internee Kazuo Matsubayashi; Jeanne Konishi, whose father was among Japanese railroaders fired because of ancestry; and Dawn Nodzu, who is researching the case of railroad-mining workers.

Delta High School teacher Jane Beckwith of the Delta Topaz Museum announced the recent acquisition of 400 acres at the former campsite as a historical area. ■

### View your WRA files at the National Archives

WASHINGTON—The Civil Liberties Public Education Fund Board of Directors encourages former internees to view their War Relocation Authority files during their visit to Washington, D.C., for the National Day of Remembrance ceremony on Feb. 19 or whenever they are in the area.

"Many may not be aware of the fact that former internees can view their own WRA files at the National Archives," notes Board member Don Nakanishi of Los Angeles. To review their files, camp survivors should write to:

National Archives and Records Administration, Archives & Reference Branch, Textual Reference Division, Attn: Ms. Aloha South (Rm 11-E), Textual Branch, Civil Records, 7th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20408 (202/501-5395).

You will need to provide the following information:

Name used in camp, date of

birth, birthplace, sex, name of WRA Relocation Center and/or name of Immigration & Naturalization Service (INS) internment camp; date and approximate time you will be at National Archives to look at the papers and your present mailing address with phone number and if available, an e-mail address.

Also helpful to correctly identify the file are the name of assembly center; mother's maiden name; father's name; prewar residence; and if available, the WRA family number.

An individual may review records of a family member or friend if they have notarized permission from the relative or friend to the researcher to examine and make copies of their papers. Papers of persons who were born prior to 1920 and are now deceased may be examined without an authorization document. ■

### Manzanar committee seeking photographs for tour book

In preparation of its "Self-Guided Tours of Manzanar" project, the Manzanar Committee has announced that it is seeking photographs of the original gardens, whose remains are currently visible to visitors to the site, to be included in its tour book. They would like photographs of the original gardens in Blocks 6, 9 and 12.

Manzanar Site Superintendent Ross Hopkins is also seeking photographs of the historic auditorium/gymnasium and has requested the help of the Manzanar Committee in his search. The wooden building is being stabilized against further deterioration, but historic photographs are needed

to complete restoration of the auditorium to its original design.

Anyone who has photographs of the gardens or the auditorium is requested to contact the Manzanar Committee. The original photograph will be returned after a copy has been made by the committee, unless the owner wishes to donate it to the committee or to the Manzanar National Historic Site.

The Manzanar Committee has received funding from the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF) for work on the tour book project.

For further information call project manager Sue K. Embrey, 213/662-5102. ■

### Input sought for DOR events on 'web'

SAN FRANCISCO—A calendar of next year's Day of Remembrance (DOR) events will be posted on the World Wide Web site ([www.acon.org/clpef/](http://www.acon.org/clpef/)) of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, vice chair Susan Hayase of San Jose noted. "We want the public to know about all DOR activities to be held throughout the country," said Hayase. The CLPEF program is scheduled for Feb. 19, 1998, at the American History Museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

Sponsors of local DOR activities are being requested to inform the CLPEF as soon as possible of their scheduled events for 1998. ■

### NAT'L DIALOGUE

(Continued from page 1)

said Sen. Bradley, who got involved with the event after receiving an invitation to the first Day of Dialogue from Ridley-Thomas. "I found it tremendously valuable and interesting in terms of racial understanding," he said.

"We can all benefit... if we sit down and talk," said L.A. City Attorney James Hahn, who noted that even though overall crime in L.A. has decreased, the number of hate crimes has increased. "Hate crimes" happen, he said, "because people don't understand each other." Other leaders attending the event included Congresswoman Julian Dixon, (32nd District), Councilman Nate Holden (10th District) and Councilwoman Rita Walters (9th District).

For six days people from all races gathered in schools, churches, mosques, living rooms, and businesses from Miami and New York to Dallas, Baltimore, and San Francisco, to talk about ways to improve race relations. In L.A. alone more than 150 dialogues were held. The event occurs at a

time when President Clinton has launched his own plans to heal race relations in America with the Initiative on Race.

The format for the dialogues was simple; breaking off into small groups of 10 to 20 people, volunteer facilitators guided the groups in honest and candid discussions on race issues for about three hours. The main objective is not to come up with solutions, but to share experiences and talk about ideas.

In planning the "National Days of Dialogue," Ridley-Thomas said, a concerted effort was made to get as many ethnic groups involved. "We quite deliberately and consciously... went into the respective communities."

"We are glad that Asian Americans are present in this effort," he said in an interview with *Pacific Citizen*, noting that various AA organizations were supporting the event, including Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP) and the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), in addition to a number of AAs leaders. "...a lot of Asians are involved," he said, "and it's welcomed. It wouldn't be

See NAT'L DIALOGUE/page 10

## NEWS Briefs

### DNC ends ban on immigrant donations

The Democratic National Committee voted at a Jan. 10 meeting to lift its ban on accepting donations from legal permanent residents of the United States.

Although not qualified to vote, legal immigrants had been permitted to make legal political donations until the ban was imposed in 1996 as a result of controversies over contributions from foreign donors.

A coalition of national Asian Pacific American organizations, including the JACL, said they were pleased with the DNC's decision to repeal the ban.

"We felt that the ban unfairly scapegoated legal immigrants," said Bob Sakaniwa, JACL's Washington D.C. Representative. "Legal immigrants were not significant players in the fund-raising scandal, and prohibiting them from political participation would not have removed any problems from our fund-raising system." ■

### Hate crimes rise in Calif.

Asian Pacific Islanders in California are the third most common group affected by hate crimes, after whites and blacks, according to the state's first extensive study of hate crimes recently released by the attorney general's office.

In 1996 more than 2,500 people were victims of hate crimes in California alone; 71.2 percent were racially motivated, of which 9.6 percent were against APIs. Hate crimes against blacks accounted for 35.5 percent of the cases, 10.9 percent were against whites and 8 percent against Latinos.

This is the most comprehensive study of hate crimes since the state began tracking such crimes two years ago. ■

### Councilman Fukai announces retirement

After 24 years on the job, Gardena City Councilman Mas Fukai announced at a recent council meeting that he will call it quits on March 10.

The former chief deputy of the late County Supervisor, Kenneth Hahn, said he wants to retire to improve his health; Fukai, 71, suffered a stroke three years ago, making it difficult to walk and to use his right arm.

Hahn named Fukai to the county's Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Commission in 1971. Shortly after that he won his first seat on the city council, and in 1987 he was named chief deputy. Throughout his career he has been credited for his stance and work in youth anti-drug programs. ■

### DENNY'S

(Continued from page 1)

il Rights Monitor, which reports to the Justice Department, is currently looking into the case.

Just last August, a group of largely Asian and Asian American students from Syracuse University filed a lawsuit against Denny's for an unspecified amount of damages. The students are accusing the restaurant of racial discrimination after being refused service and than being attacked by a group of white patrons in the parking lot while two of Denny's hired security guards watched.

The company that owns the Syracuse Denny's franchise, NDI Foods Inc., had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy last November, temporarily putting a hold on the students' lawsuit, but a U.S. Bankruptcy court judge recently ruled that the lawsuit can proceed. ■

## Book Review:

## 'Tenno-ka tō Yudaya-jin'

BY JAMES ODA

**H**ISANORI Shinohara was born in 1931. His name has been very prominent in the news media in Japan. His book was published by Kofusha in 1982 and is now in its 20th edition, revealing its popularity. In the meantime, he has authored several other books. The highlight of this one is the Takamatsuzuka Mound that was found and excavated in March 1972 in Asuka Village, Nara-ken. This tomb is reputed to contain the remains of Prince Takachi-no-ōji, possibly regent prince and son of Emperor Temmu (673-686). His mother, Asuko-no-Iratsume, came from the Munakata clan of Kyushu. Shinohara states that the local lords in Kyushu at that time were predominantly Jewish.

The body of Prince Takachi-no-ōji was unusually large as compared to the average Japanese living then, and strange as it may seem, there was a crest of King Herod of Israel on the top of the casket. On the ceiling directly above the casket was the astronomical chart centered around the North Star, indicating that the buried person was an emperor, or a noble person equivalent to an emperor.

On the surrounding inside wall, there were paintings of many court attendants who served under him. The court attendants in those days wore uniforms. A researcher came up with the proof that the attire in the painting was used in a period from April 5, 684 to July 2, 686. Emperor Temmu was the ruler of this period but he has his own tomb elsewhere, and Prince Kusakabe, his other son, and contender for the throne, had died earlier (689). This process narrowed down the identity of the buried to Prince Takachi-no-ōji. (This process of elimination had to be used because there were no identifying markings in Japanese.)

## MUNAKATA CLAN — Amako-no-Iratsume

- ↓ Prince Takachi-no-ōji
- ↓ Emperor Temmu, 40th
- ↓ Prince Kusakabe
- ↓ Empress Jito, 41st
- ↓ Emperor Mommu, 42nd
- ↓ Princess Aha

## FUJIWARA CLAN — Princess Miyakohime

Thus the existence of Jewish noblemen within the imperial family has been proven.

**THE SECOND HIGHLIGHT** of Shinohara's book is his visit to the Ise Shrine. As mentioned in the P.C., Jan. 24, 1997, there is an avenue of more than 100 stone lanterns outside Ise Shrine on each of which a chrysanthemum, King Herod's crest, and King David's star are engraved in that order from top to bottom.

Shinohara's mission was to inquire why these crests were engraved. He directly went to the shrine's administrative office. There he was given a cordial brush-off saying that they weren't in the position to answer the questions. He was told to refer the questions to the people who engraved them. After repeated inquiries, he was given the name of Masahiro Kito, who happened to live in Nishinomiya City, 300 miles away. He had traveled more than 1,000 miles to Ise from Tokyo, but could not complete his mission without heading west 300 miles more to Nishinomiya City.

Masahiro Kito, owner of a masonry company, turned out to be a friendly person and answered all the questions readily. According to him, he was contacted by a Count Futama, then head of the National Shrine Administration, and Zensho Morioka, head of an advisory committee, to make more than 100 stone lanterns. He was specifically ordered to engrave on each one of them the chrysanthemum crest, Herod's crest, and Star of David. He had not the slightest idea about the Herod crest and Star of David, and even today was ignorant of their historical background; it was never explained to him. But he remembered he

expressed his opinion that to engrave three crests on each lantern was a top-heavy order. They insisted that the order came from the highest source and that he had to do what he was told. Their attitude was, "Don't ask questions, just do it, you'll get paid for it."

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: Both Count Futama and Morioka have passed away. The Ise Shrine was originally built in the 5th Century. The stone lanterns were installed in the 20th Century.)

This is the story of the stone lanterns and three crests. It established beyond any doubt that the innermost circle of the imperial family was aware of their connection to the Lost Tribe of Israel.

**ACCORDING** TO ancient Japanese literature, when imperial ancestors descended on Japan, a man named Sarutahiko acted as the chief guide. His physical appearance was described as very tall with a high nose; this description suggests that the person is of Jewish lineage.

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: Generally speaking, Caucasians have a high nose and Japanese a flat nose. The Jewish nose is not striking in a gathering of Caucasians, but becomes conspicuous in a gathering of Jews and Japanese. Japanese literature often makes derogatory remarks, likening the Jewish nose to that of a goblin. It is said that imperial family members retained the Jewish nose because they intermarried within the group for centuries.)

Sarutahiko must have been a retainer or an ally of the Munakata Clan. Apparently the Munakata Clan was an advance party for the Lost Tribe. They had Kyushu under their domination and were waiting for the eventual arrival of the main body. This conclusion was obvious from the literature on hand.

At the welcoming reception, a half-naked woman named Amanozume appeared and took charge of entertainment. She asked Sarutahiko, "Where is the imperial entourage (called sumemima) headed for? Are you going to accompany them?" Sarutahiko replied, "It is all arranged. They will go to Mt. Takachiho, and as for myself, I am going to the upper stream region of the Isuzu River in Ise."

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: The word sumemima might have derived from the Sumerians, antecedents of the Jewish people in Euroasia.)

Thus, the imperial entourage (sumemima) was escorted to the stronghold of the Munakata Clan at Mt. Takachiho, and Sarutahiko went to Ise accompanied by Amanozume, the half-naked lady. Apparently this lady later became his wife, assuming the name Sarume-no-kimi.

Sarutahiko was a powerful figure. What was his mission in Ise? It might be entirely possible that his mission was to develop a site for an imperial shrine where not only imperial goddess Amaterasu-ōmikami, but King David, King Herod and other Jewish ancestors would be enshrined.

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: It is safe to assume that there existed a rigid chain of command within the Lost Tribe.)

Records of the legend of the Lost Tribe in ancient Japan are indeed numerous, according to author Shinohara. After the fall of the Chin Dynasty in 209 B.C., the Lost Tribe escaped to the east and finally settled in the southern part of Korea. There were three small countries in South Korea, namely Benhan, Bahaen and Shinhan. Each one of them was made up of the refugees from the Chin Dynasty and coexisted with one another.

There is a description of these countries in the official Chinese historical document *Gishi-wajin-den*. Their physique was extraordinarily large, they always wore clean clothes, and they were good at weaving. They knew how to cast iron. Kings rode on horses.

Their language and customs were dif-

ferent from the local inhabitants. The ultimate destination of these people was Japan. King Koman of Shinhan came to Japan around 250. His son, King Yuzu, followed him around 280 accompanied by thousands of retainers, with a large quantity of gold, silver and jewelry for tribute.

Emperor Nintoku (16th) dispatched these people in groups to all points of the country to spread the technique of the silk industry. Their number exceeded well over 18,000.

Emperor Yuryaku (21st, 450-480) issued an order to recall all these technicians back to Kyoto and provided permanent quarters for them in the Yamashiro district of Kyoto. They contributed to the well-being of the people by utilizing their knowledge of industrial techniques. For instance, they constructed dams for irrigation purposes. This residential area became the so-called Yamashiro colony. Uzumasa means the great Hata clan. Hata means Chin in Chinese, indicating that they are descended from the Chin Dynasty.

In the vicinity there is a shrine called Osake Shrine, which commemorates King David. There is also a temple named Koryuji built by the Hata clan. In its garden exists a well named *Isarai*, the Japanese way of pronouncing Israel.

There are some controversial, mind-boggling legends in Japan. Author Shinohara elaborates on some of them. The first one is about Jesus Christ. According to legend, Jesus came to Japan during the reign of Emperor Suinin (11th). He landed at Hashidate port and moved east to Echchu where he studied language and custom for ten years. At the age of 33, he went back to Israel to preach the gospel.

However, he encountered harsh criticism from church elders and was finally captured by the Roman soldiers.

He was supposed to have been crucified, but to this date his remains have never been found.

According to a legend, Jesus' younger brother (Iskiri?) took his place and was crucified instead of him. Jesus, accompanied by a few disciples, escaped toward the east.

After wandering in starvation through the wilderness of the Siberian steppe, he and his company arrived in Alaska after four years. After examining geographical surroundings, he decided to go back west and move toward the south by sea. He had an opportunity to get on a boat, and sailed down to Hachinoe port in Aomori-ken.

Jesus settled down at Torai village and married a native girl named Miyu. He quit preaching, but went on walk-

ing tours throughout the country asking aids to the poor. He died at the age of 106 at Torai.

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: According to Christian scholars, there is a period of about ten years in Jesus' life that cannot be accounted for. It is said that he might have spent part of the said ten years in Tibet studying Buddhism. Also it is entirely possible that he came to Japan during this period. If Jesus chose to come back to Japan for the second time to live for the rest of his life, his decision was most logical. Japan was a frontier country and varied people were coming en masse in search of a promised land. The Lost Tribe had already been there, maintaining a commanding position. Aomori-ken is the northernmost country, and imperial troops under the command of the Lost Tribe in pursuit of the Ainu resistance forces had to pause at this dead end. It is safe to assume there were more Jewish settlements in Aomori-ken than anywhere else. In that respect alone, Aomori-ken was the most ideal place for Jesus to settle down.)

Jesus' tomb is located in the backyard of the Sawaguchi family, who claimed to be his descendant. Beside his tomb is another one containing the hair belonging to his brother Iskiri. There remains in the localities all sorts of Jewish customs and folklore. For instance, father is called *dada* and mother *aba*. People wear farmer's work clothes called *harade* which are identical with the ones used in Israel. There is a custom to sew a Star of David emblem on children's clothes. Star of David signs are observed here and there in the villages. Frequently, babies with high noses, reddish cheeks and blue eyes are born and they are called aka-

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onji.

**(AUTHOR'S NOTE:** These phenomena exist, I believe, not because of Jesus' presence but because of many Jewish settlements of the Lost Tribe).

**THERE WAS A** religious "fanatic" named Ohohmaru Takeuchi who claimed that he was a descendant of Sukune Takeuchi (or Nomi), a well-known ancient personality who invented the rules and regulations of sumo wrestling, and that he was in possession of an ancient book translated from Japan's hieroglyphic document which traces the records of the imperial family for more than 10,000 years.

**(AUTHOR'S NOTE:** This author categorically refutes the existence of any such document).

It is said that this Takeuchi one day came to the Torai village and instantly proclaimed that the tomb was that of Jesus Christ. This episode had a negative effect on the authenticity of the Torai legend. Incidentally, Ohohmaru Takeuchi was arrested around 1930 on the charge of lese majesté and was tried in secrecy for 15 years. The reason it took so long was that he introduced a huge volume of ancient literature written not in contemporary Japanese but in hieroglyphic writing or Chinese characters used as syllabary. Prosecuting attorneys and judge couldn't make a head or tail of these documents. Takeuchi made a mockery out of the trial. The impasse was resolved when Gen. Douglas MacArthur made his triumphant entry into defeated Japan; the trial was dismissed on the basis of the violation of religious freedom.

**(AUTHOR'S NOTE:** In Japan there existed such a legal procedure as secret trial. Daisuke Namba was executed by this method for shooting at Prince Regent Hirohito. Shusui Kotoku and company were framed and executed for allegedly organizing an armed rebellion.)

A case similar to the Torai village episode is the Hohatsu, Ishikawa-ken, episode where it is alleged Moses came to Japan and died at this place. According to the legend, Moses landed at Imahama Beach around 1425 B.C., married a native girl named Omuro-hime and after a short sojourn returned to Sinai. Ten years later he came back, engaged in making the ten commandments stone, and again returned to Mt. Sinai. He came back for the third time, this time with a grandson. The three tombs on the hill are for Moses, his wife and grandson. This story was based on the book titled "*Hikari uia Thuo yori* — 'Light from the East,' written by Kikuko Yamane and published in 1937. In this story, it is significant that Moses seemingly made the trips back and forth between Japan and Israel some 3,300 years ago.

**(AUTHOR'S NOTE:** one has to give some credence to this story, because it is said that Moses disappeared into thin air in the latter part of his life and his remains were never found in Israel.)

**THERE IS** another legend of the early Jewish arrivals on Awaji-shima. Awaji-shima is located between Kobe and Shikoku, blocking the eastern extremities of the Seto Inland Sea. According to the Japanese mythology, the Awaji-shima was the first piece of the real state created by Izanagi-no-mikoto and Izanami-no-mikoto upon descending from Heaven. There exist a score of old mounds allegedly related to ancient Jewish settlers between Mt. Komoe and Komoe Beach in the southern portion of the island.

It was reported in the *Kobe Shinbun*, October 12, 1952, that ever since Yoshitaka Shirogama, president of the Awaji Archeological Study Association, announced the existence in Awaji of historical ruins relating to the arrival of Jewish people in ancient times, Professor Tomohide Naito of Tokyo University decided to conduct the excavation of the mounds. He would be assisted by Rabbi M.J. Rosen of the Eighth Army and Koichi Kobayashi of the Israel-Japan Society.

The excavation took place at the mound situated in the center of Shishuen Park in Sumoto-shi. The location was a scenic vista point overlooking the Osaka Bay.

As they dug, they found a V-shaped stone casket with precious blue pebbles inside. According to an expert, the burial site might be a symbol of a woman's sex organ (in this case, that of Izanami-no-mikoto) and the method of construction was of Jewish origin.

According to Tokisaburo Takeuchi of the Kojiki Study Center, who took part in the excavation, there is no denying that Jews came to ancient Japan. He stresses the following three points:

1. From a geological standpoint, Awaji is made up of the oldest soil formations in Japan.
2. It is said that Awaji was inhabited by Ainu, but their language has much in common with the Hebrew language.
3. Komoe means "a mat on top of secrecy" in Hebrew, and it implies that ancient artifacts are buried beneath.

However, Professor Naito cautioned that legend cannot be accepted as scientific evidence and that the acceptance of the theory of the Jewish migration would totally upset the hitherto accepted imperial theory on the origins of the Yamato race.

**(AUTHOR'S NOTE:** The History Department of the Tokyo Imperial University is known to be the authoritative academic body to hand down an official decision on any new interpretation of imperial history. Any theory that damages the imperial position would be tabled by this body for further study — meaning, "Never again brought up for discussion — permanently." The Awaji incident must have met this fate. It never surfaced again until now).

**A**NOTHER LEGEND concerning the Lost Tribe involves the search and excavation of King Solomon's treasure. It is a known fact that Solomon during his reign accumulated an enormous amount

of gold, silver and precious stones from all over the world. It is alleged that, with the defeat of the northern kingdom, the Lost Tribe carried the treasure with them and, after arriving in Japan, they buried it somewhere. In fact, it is mentioned in the Bible (Ch. 20, the Apocalypse) that the treasure was sealed and placed in the deepest gorge of Mt. Tsurugi.

Rev. Masanori Takane, regarded as the highest authority in Japan on the study of the Bible, made an announcement in 1936, after years of

research, that the treasure must have been buried in the deep interior of Mt. Tsurugi, Shikoku. His analysis of the passage in the Bible was supported by many scholars.

Soon a man who had attained wealth in the loan-sharking business appeared at Mt. Tsurugi and started excavation with the help of local villagers. He continued digging for 14 long years, through the Manchurian Incident and through the Second World War. He exhausted all his savings and died broke in 1950. He had lost the biggest gamble of his life.

After his death, another group connected with a splinter religious sect appeared and resumed the excavation at another spot in the vicinity, but to no avail. Retired Naval Admiral Eisuke Yamamoto was conspicuous among the sponsors in this undertaking.

According to the *Rafu Shimpo* dated 10/11/95, still another group is now engaged in the excavation, and a movie company named Sho Kosugi Production is planning a movie based on its entire history.

**I**N THE summer of 1941, Isamu Kawase, noted agricultural expert, was sent to China. His mission was two-fold: One was to study a certain type of alfalfa for horses, and the second object was to gain knowledge about the sheep called "kanyo" that were raised in North China. He was fortunate to find a herd of the Kanyo sheep in the vicinity of Kai-feng, and he made the following report:

"It is reported that there exist about 100,000 heads of the Kanyo sheep in northern China. This sheep is exceptionally large in size with shorter hind legs and with an exceptionally large tail hanging down almost touching the ground. This extra large tail is used to hoard and preserve excessive fat in spring when forage is abundant. The fat is reverted back to the body when forage is scarce."

Kawase's report was short and concise. Nothing came of it, as Japan had lost the war. It was ignored for 24 years until 1965, when Kawase was invited by the Israeli government as an agricultural consultant. There he saw a huge herd of the Kanyo sheep on a kibbutz farm. He was literally dumbfounded because they were the same kind of sheep that he had found in the Kai-feng area of China 24 years before.

Later he found the same Kanyo sheep (called *auatsi* in Hebrew) in Iran, Iraq and some points along the Silk Road. This created a new theory that the animal was brought by the Lost Tribe to China.

There are historical records that Japan once had raised sheep in the Gumsa area. Presently, no sheep husbandry exists in Japan. It is said that Japan's humid climate is not suitable for sheep raising. But there is a stone monument, built 3/9/711, in the Gumsa area that states that the area was a sheep-raising area. There is a high-quality woolen rug in the Shosoin museum that was woven domestically in the Gumsa area. It was stated that wool hair used in manufacturing came from the Kanyo sheep that came originally from Israel through China to Japan. Thus the arrival of "the Lost Tribe to Japan" was given credence by the movement of animals that accompanied the tribe.

Similarly, horses were brought into ancient Japan from the Near East. According to the *Gishi-Wajin-den* Chinese history book, there were no tall-legged horses in Japan before the Third Century, only short-legged Mongolian-type horses.

According to Isamu Kawase, agricultural authority, fine horses were originally raised on the Turkistan plateau, but they were further improved by introduction of a strain of Arabian horses. He does not agree with the theory of Professor Namio Egami that the horse-riding Tungus tribe came down from the north and conquered ancient Japan. He contends that there were no combat-type horses available to them. He maintains that horses were brought over by the Lost Tribe, together with Kanyo sheep, cows and chickens.

Ur of Mesopotamia was the capital of the First Ur Kingdom, 2800 B.C. Ur also means the capital of cows. Practically all the cows in the world were originally bred in Ur.

It is amazing that all these animals were brought to the Far East by the Lost Tribe in the course of hundreds of years. It is safe to assume that the Lost Tribe made many, many return trips to the Middle East to acquire these objects —

objects basically needed in building a new kingdom in a promised land.

It is estimated that it took them two and a half years to make a round trip between the west end of China and the Near East. It was a slow, slow process. They were refugees with a lofty aim to build a peaceful homeland.

True, they could be classified as colonists. But at that stage of Ur history, they would be looked upon as a progressive people. ■

## The Herodian Dynasty

On top of the casket of Prince Takeuchi-no-oji — as cited (above) in *Tenno-ha to Yudaya-jin* by Hisanori Shinohara, and which James Oda notes in his review of the book — "strange as it may seem, there was a crest of King Herod."

There were two King Herods, as found in the Gospels. The first was "Herod the Great" who reigned at the time the Magi visited him when they were in Jerusalem. The second was Antipas, son of Herod the Great and his fourth wife, who was given the dynastic title *Herod* from Rome and reigned from 4 B.C. to A.D. 39. It was to him that Jesus was sent by Pilate to be tried, as the Gospels record.

Herod the Great appears in the writings of historian Josephus as the ruler of Galilee at age 15, after arresting a brigand who was overrunning Syria and putting him to death. After storming Jerusalem in 37 B.C., Herod was made the king of Judaea and ruled as a client-prince (or vassal king) of the Roman Empire. A peaceful Palestine was important to Rome as a buffer state between the Romans and Parthians (modern-day Iranians).

The Herodian Dynasty consisted of several members who governed Jewish Palestine (Judaea) during the period of Roman domination for 140 years from 40 B.C.-A.D.



100—Encyclopedia Britannica 1911; Oxford Companion to the Bible, 1993.]


**James Oda**  
A Kibei Nisei who started the Japanese language section at *Manzanar Free Press* (1942), he enlisted in the Army and taught Japanese propaganda methods and military language during WWII at the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Minnesota.

This happens to be his fourth essay in the *Pacific Citizen* on the subject of the Lost Tribe of Israel and Japan that began with "A Japanese-Jewish Connection" (Jan. 24 - Feb. 6, 1997), raising the questions, "Can it be that the ancestors of Japanese and Jewish peoples both began their existence in the same area of the ancient world? Can it be that the Imperial Family of Japan are descendants of the Lost Tribe of Israel?"

Referring to Japanese sources (as the subject was reviewed in the 1990s as a prominent issue among Japanese scholars, and because JACL is among organizations relating the saga of courage and compassion of Chiune Sugihara, the Japanese diplomat in Lithuania who rescued the lives of an estimated 6,000 Jews in Poland fleeing the Holocaust in 1939-40 by issuing them transit visas to Japan), Oda in his second contribution (April 18-May 1) reviews the book by Zenichiro Oyabe, "The Jew and the Roots of the Japanese—*Nipponjin no Roots* uia *Yudaya-jin* (1929), wherein Oyabe theorizes that the Ainu people came from Israel through the Siberian steppes, Manchuria, and Korea, and another Ainu group through Sakhalin, Hokkaido, into Japan proper, and as far south as Okinawa. Further, Oyabe writes that the Lost Tribe intentionally concealed its true identity by inventing a mythological tale that they had descended from heaven, and describes 20 of the features common to the two cultures that go back to pre-modern times.

Oda's third essay, "Enigma of the Takeuchi Document—*Takeuchi Monjo*" (Sept. 19-Oct. 2), is named after religious fanatic Ohohmaru Takeuchi, who owned this document that delves into space travel to explain the migrations of people, a compilation that predates the "*Kojiki—the Chronicles of Japan*" (711-712 A.D.) with far-reaching implications. Oda, however, personally believes such a document does not exist.

Oda has offered, as previews to his own book, other essays which are book reviews of other Japanese-language books on the Japanese-Jewish connection, plus two in English: *Who are the Japanese?* by Professor Odlam, and *The Jews and the Japanese: The Successful Outsiders*, by Ben-Ami Shillory. ■



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## From the Frying Pan

### Why is the president honoring Korematsu?

By Bill Hosokawa

PETER Irons, a lawyer, is a professor of political science at the University of California, San Diego. Some years ago he began a study of the four cases involving the evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans which went to the U.S. Supreme Court.

What he found in records uncovered by the Freedom of Information Act startled and angered him. He discovered government attorneys had suppressed or distorted evidence favorable to the Japanese Americans in documents submitted to the Supreme Court. Based in large part on Irons' findings, the three Nisei who had been convicted by the nation's highest tribunal filed the so-called *coram nobis* cases challenging the validity of the earlier verdicts. (The fourth, Mitsuye Endo, had contended the government had no right to keep her in custody in the absence of any finding of disloyalty, and the High Court agreed.)

In 1983 Irons published a book about his findings titled *Justice at War* (Oxford University Press). It was a meticulously researched, very readable account of the circumstances leading up to the conviction of the three men on charges of violating federal orders.

A few days ago I pulled out my copy of *Justice at War* to refresh my memory of those cases. Of one of the litigants, Min Yasui, an attorney, Irons wrote:

"Distinctions between citizens on the grounds of ancestry offended Yasui's conception of the Constitution. He refused to obey the curfew because it 'infringed on my right as a citizen' to be treated without regard to race. ... his act of resistances was deliberate. Yasui emerges from the apparent contradictions of his statements and behavior as a distinctive type of constitutional challenger: the legalist."

Gordon Hirabayashi, a college student and devout Quaker, took the position that each person should follow the will of God according to his own conviction and that he could not reconcile the will of God, a part of which was expressed in the Bill of Rights and the Constitution, with the order discriminating against Japanese aliens and American citizens of Japanese ancestry. He, too, deliberately challenged the government. Irons wrote: "Hirabayashi exemplified a second type of challenger: the moralist."

Of Fred Korematsu's motives, Irons found only "personal interest." A month before the date set for evacuation of his area, Korematsu had a San Francisco plastic surgeon alter his appearance. Police arrested him in San Leandro three weeks after the evacuation deadline. He gave a false name, was carrying a fake draft card and lied about parentage, claiming to be Spanish-Hawaiian.

Later he admitted his intention was to avoid evacuation, marry a girl friend named Ida Boitano, and move inland. Irons wrote:

"Min Yasui and Gordon Hirabayashi both turned themselves in for arrest and intended from the outset of their cases to raise constitutional challenges to DeWitt's (evacuation) orders. Fred Korematsu, in contrast, hoped to evade the exclusion order and seemed to be motivated solely by personal interest."

Recently the Clinton administration presented Fred Korematsu with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award for service to the country and widely recognized as the peacetime equivalent of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Gordon Hirabayashi is retired after a distinguished career as a college professor and lecturer on civil rights. Min Yasui spent a lifetime serving the cause of human rights before he died. A prestigious award for community service in Denver is named for him. Neither Hirabayashi nor Yasui has been honored by the president of the United States.

Two questions: Why Fred Korematsu? How did it come about? We have a right to know. ■

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

## Very Truly Yours

By Harry K. Honda



### A Little Tokyo chronicler

HENRY K. MORI shall be missed for his grasp of Little Tokyo's sights and sounds, born by his many years as a journalist whose "main beat" was Little Tokyo from the time he joined the *Rafu Shimpō* English section staff in 1936, first as an advertising solicitor and his regular "Making the Deadline" columns, and then his postwar stint as English section editor when the *Rafu Shimpō* resumed its publication after the war.

This past week, final rites were held at the Union Church of Los Angeles. He died at Santa Marta Hospital Saturday morning, Jan. 10, from complications due to a stroke. He is survived by wife Mary (nee Oshiro), sons Bennett, Dana and daughter Connie Ohta, grandson David Ohta. He was 81.

Here's our eulogy:

Henry was a personality who was a legend to the many curious Sansei-Yonsei students who knew he could spin yarn after yarn about what life was like for a Nisei growing up in the 1930s in Little Tokyo, of camp life there the duration of World War II and resettlement expectations for evacuees after the war in the 1940s. He was one of the prospects about to open up before videocam, tape recorder and thrust of questions from the Re-Generation Project Committee — which is currently conducting similar interviews of Nisei in various parts of the country.

When I requested he contribute a column in the *Pacific Citizen*, he didn't hesitate. Simply titled, the "Los Angeles Newsletter," he opens with: "Instead of being backward and hesitant and if it helps to fill space in your paper, we'll oblige ... Here it is, if you don't like it, just throw it in the wastebasket." He then writes: "Our ego will not let him throw our stuff away. As you notice, it's in print." That first column appeared in the Jan. 9 P.C. 45 years ago.

Now addressing a nationwide readership, he wistfully posted a week later: "Midwesterners won't have to eye longingly for California's sun-kissed weather. It's been a very damp week."

Talking about rain, he passed along what he heard about the 13th Nisei Week Festival in a July column: "Many are afraid it will be the most 'watered-down' affair. I hope they are wrong!" That was also the year with all the construction activity on the north-side of First Street for police headquarters, and the Ono parade was not crossing First and San Pedro for the first time. Henry noted the pitch being made to create a Japanese garden on Weller Street, which should be in "File Z," as he called his wastebasket.

Another trademark of Henry's columns was the manner in which his children were addressed: Bennett, heir apparent, Dana heir apparent #2 and dear Connie, heiress apparent to the Mori Millions.

A careful peek at the estimated four-to-five hundred columns he wrote in the P.C. can be cast as a "Who's Who of Little Tokyo Making Its Comeback." Henry was an editor who lived by the tried-and-true rule: Names make news. That's his

treasure for the researchers to pick and ponder.

Henry continued to chronicle the sights and sounds of Little Tokyo for 10 years. The *Pacific Citizen*, to convey the Little Tokyo scene to our readers, was fortunate in carrying some of his observations. ■

ON A social cloud, the weekends of January are like ornaments of the season.

The East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, of which we have been members since moving into the area, held its installation buffet dinner at the W. Puente Ave. center on Jan. 10 where Richard Nakawata takes over from Dr. Roy Takemura as president; where I learned that playwright Jon Shirota is finishing a play on Medal of Honor winner Hiroshi Miyamura of the Korean conflict; and where, annually, two scholarships are presented—this evening, the \$1,000 Shigeyuki Kusuda memorial to Geoffrey Yamamoto, a family man who switched from selling beer after 16 years to complete studies at Cal Poly Pomona for teaching credentials after California rolled in its class reduction program, and the \$500 Dr. Kenneth I. Miyata memorial, assisting upper division students who have a financial need, to Yuri Lea Kuwahara, completing her dissertation for her Ph.D. in the School of Education at Stanford.

At the 100th/442nd Veterans Association installation luncheon at a Torrance hotel on Jan. 17, Kiyoyama (Co. E), long associated with the wholesale produce market since coming back, continues as president for a second term; guest speaker David Anglo, who practices law in West Los Angeles, evoked the "Go for Broke" cry and why, as a Sansei, for the Japanese American WWII monument, which is about to be erected this year. On a personal note, chatting with Mas Satow's secretary, Amy (Mitani) Sakamoto of the late 1930s about his spirit and dedication with "us teenagers of them years," was a page of his life hardly known to JACLers of this generation. A 442 vet I haven't seen since those the Mas Satow days when he ran the JAU (Japanese Athletic Union—1935-1941) program, was Mas Miyamoto, father-in-law of P.C. staffer Lani Miyamoto, I was happy to learn.

For Japanese Americans who relish a New Year's beyond the *mochitsuki*, the Maryknoll Japanese Catholic Center *Shinnen-kai* Jan. 18 turned out to be a pleasing afternoon *bento* packed with at least 18 different tastes, and undoubtedly the kind of fare at other occasions. But where else would you see a young Franciscan priest from Japan, Fr. Abraham Tabata here for studies in Los Angeles, be the surprise performer and instantaneous hit of the *dai-nishiki*—the great second half of a New Year's party. He smiled and waved his arms while singing Ryu Sakamoto's "Sukiyaki" and tried desperately to whistle pursuing his lips in sync during the break in the song as the audience of 200 joined him singing the Japanese lyrics, *Ue wo muite arukoo*. And there's nothing "sukiyaki" about the lyrics. ■



## Voice of a Sansei

### The lost satellite

By Akemi Kayling

IT WASN'T a very nice Christmas.

Everything else was fine. We drove up to the high desert north of Los Angeles and spent the holiday season with Steve's extended family. I had a very warm and supportive conversation with Stan's son about my business (they own a business, too). We celebrated our anniversary (we got married three days before Christmas), and, of course, exchanged gifts. Steve's sister's kids loved their bead jewelry and kite kits, and from where I'm sitting I can see Ken's blue glass fish next to the bonsai I got from Rosemary.

But the satellite was lost. It was on the front page of the *Los Angeles Times*, the day after Christmas. One of the satellites Steve and his colleagues had

worked on is now orbiting earth in an uncontrolled path. There were some technical problems, and that satellite is now part of the celestial junkyard of once important but now discarded remnants of the aerospace industry.

This event will have no effect on us. Steve's job is not threatened. His company has lots of other business. Nobody's being blamed, as the Russians were clearly responsible. On a daily basis, life just goes on as usual.

Still, it's a strange feeling to realize that something which was so much a part of your life is gone.

IN PRIVATE conversations, I pick up this uneasy feeling in a lot of people that JACL may not be around in another five or 10 or

20 years. They complain that their Yonsei grandchildren can't understand. If JACL goes, well, so what? We've won the Redress issue and we've assimilated, and society is certainly treating us lots better than it did in the late 1940s.

That's like saying, the lost satellite isn't a problem, for everybody's employment situation hasn't changed. Logically, this assessment is correct. But emotionally, when one has invested so much of oneself in anything, there's always a strange sense of a vacuum when that thing is lost.

Being born in the 1950s, I'm the product of another era. I can't say that JACL was a major formative factor in my identity. Still, in a way, I can understand why so many Nisei don't want JACL to die, even though, logically speaking, the reasons for its existence are no longer as pressing.

The Nisei don't want to see JACL join the sociological graveyard of now defunct American organizations, just as Steve and I wish that satellite wasn't part of the celestial junkyard. ■

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The satellite, ASIATAT-3, was built by El Segundo, Calif.-based Hughes Space & Communications International for Asia Satellite Telecommunications Holdings of Hong Kong to extend digital satellite communication services throughout Asia, the Middle East and the former Soviet Union. The Times reported that a malfunction in the Russian-made booster rocket dumped the satellite into a useless orbit. —Ed. Note.

she had actually painted was a trombone.

"Everything started to converge when I first drew music in sumi-*ie*," she said. "I thought it was really amazing to capture it. It's taking a traditional art form and celebrating it. It's doing something new ... something else."

Kataoka feels a sense of obligation to pass on the art of sumi-*ie* to future generations, so in-between her hectic schedule she holds workshops. "I want to keep it alive," she said. "I want to be a spokesperson for art and for Japanese art. I have a responsibility to share the art form with the Japanese community here," she said. "And I think a lot of JAs like what I do."

Her paintings help to explain what it means to be JA, added

See KATAOKA/page 10

## KATAOKA

(Continued from page 1)

sen to create the poster for the 100th "Big Game" between Stanford and UC Berkeley. Her works are currently displayed at the University Art Stores in Palo Alto, San Francisco, and San Jose, the New Masters Gallery in Carmel, P.R. Conoley at the Stanford Shopping Mall, and the University Art Center in Palo Alto.

Her innovative idea of using non-traditional subjects in her paintings came about as something of an accident. Kataoka, also a skilled flute player, had just finished playing in the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival with the Stanford Jazz Orchestra last year when she sat down to paint. She had begun to draw a traditional bamboo stalk when she suddenly realized that what

## Voices

## Who is 'out of touch'?

BY NATHAN BALDERAMA

Although I have only been a JACL member for over a year, let me comment on the shortcomings of both the JACL and in the *Pacific Citizen* based on the fact that I've been Japanese for 21 years.

This question is often raised in the PC: "How do we get the younger generations to join the JACL." And every issue, a couple of articles focus on this question. And every issue, they miss the point. We are not just an article or two or a special section every few months, we are a member of your community. Yet the PC doesn't treat us this way. You write about us as if we're a different kind of Japanese than you are. You don't need to reach out to us as if we are different from you. We might be different ages, but we are all Japanese in the heart. If you want to get us involved, involve us, but don't separate us. Don't treat us as if your issues aren't our issues and vice versa. We are one, we may be made up of different parts, but we still are one. The reason the JACL doesn't get many younger members is because you are hypocritical.

You want us to join, but you want to separate us.

Maybe if we had more representation other than a few "token" youth members on the board, we would show more interest. I didn't join because of your "youth" activities, I joined because I wanted to. Don't throw that word around like it's a bad thing, being young doesn't necessarily mean we don't know what we're doing. Not one of your "youth" activities have interested me, probably because they are not interesting. It seems as if you are targeting on one section of the younger audience while ignoring another.

In Christina Nagao's "Recruiting Youth into JACL" (July 4 PC), she states that the JACL should coordinate chapters with nearby colleges. That's great for them, but what about these "college-age" people who aren't in college? They're not good enough for the JACL? I go to Santa Clara University, does that mean that I'm better JACL material than someone my age working 40 hours a week? Let's not be that ignorant, the JACL isn't about income, age, or profession, it's about improving things for us.

There are issues of more importance to older generations than to us and vice-versa. But the bottom line is that they are all "our" issues. The JACL needs us a lot more than

we need them, but I want to be a part of the JACL and that's why what you are doing upsets me. So. Equalize the situation by making issues of equal importance for all ages, don't neglect us but don't patronize us by throwing in a few "token" articles by your "token" youth representatives.

Make changes for the better, or else face the consequences. If you need any ideas, ask our youth, I bet they've been simmering with ideas as I have. Give us some credit, or lose your credibility.

And finally, to poor misunderstood Akemi Kayleng, how hard it must be to be so perfect like she is in a corrupt world filled with delinquents like myself. Every issue, I read about complaining about this and that. How both white and Japanese society misjudge her because of her husband or looks or whatever. She talks a lot, but is she really saying anything? Rarely do I hear Kayleng say anything positive or give ideas about how to deal with the so many problems she has to deal with. It's as if she is the only one with all these problems. Maybe if she opened her eyes instead of turning her back she would see that people make mistakes, there are things wrong in the world, and people get discriminated against, that's all part of life.

In a perfect world, it wouldn't be, but we all know that's the case. But by just complaining about it, she comes off as an old lady who has more time than she knows what to do with. Use that time to write some answers and suggestions instead of just complaining about the problem. I realize it is hard to write for so many and I'm sure she gets complaint letters all the time. But when one is so one-sided, she leaves herself open to such attacks. I'm not saying she's wrong, just misunderstood like the so many people she writes about in her article.

Let's get some new and younger blood into the circulation, and maybe we can turn this JACL downtrend back around. Maybe you are mistaken for a 40-year-old white-male sometimes, but if your articles had some ideas instead of gripes, maybe you wouldn't come off as a 90-year-old woman who complains about how things used to be so much better, who has a lot of hot air, but not much of it sinks in because it's only making her feel better, not anyone else. (With all respect to my grandma, who does none of these things.)

## How about the design?

BY ART GORAI

The JACL at the national level has been strongly supporting the Washington D.C. monument to the patriotism of Japanese Americans in World War II sponsored by the National JACL Memorial Foundation. Now that some design details have been shown for the first time in October, I would like to ask that all JACL chapters and members look closely and see if this is what JACL should be supporting critically.

I have written the NJAMF as follows:

"My understanding from your brochure is that you plan to honor the Issei, Nisei, and the Nisei soldier in particular, for his outstanding patriotism in World War II."

"However, from what I have seen, I believe that there is an imbalance in the presentation. The center stage of the monument is occupied by three artistic features, the dominant sculpture of two Japanese cranes entangled in barbed wire, a bell tower described as recalling Japanese temple bells, and a reflective pool that contains rocks representing the islands of Japan and Okinawa and the generations of Japanese Americans interned."

"The overall impression that our fellow Americans will get from these central artistic fea-

tures is that this represents the Issei immigrants and their roots. There is essentially no representation of the Nisei, American-born citizens from whence came the thousands of Nisei soldiers."

"This would appear to be a Japanese story, not an American story. The Memorial wall is said to tell the story of the Japanese American during World War II in words. I believe that the inscriptions, no matter how eloquent, will not compensate for the impression left by the three artistic features, since such features usually deliver the main impact of a monument."

"These design features have just been disclosed at the beginning of the national fund raising drive. I would like to see the Nikkei have an opportunity to provide input into this design before it is finalized by the approval of the various Federal commissions. This would make it possible to let the Nikkei community decide if this is what they want to buy with their contributions."

"I believe that the deadline in 1999 would allow this process to take place, if you would put your negotiations with federal commissions on hold. There apparently is a precedent with the Black Patriots Foundation for changes in design as well as extensions of deadlines."

East is East and West is West?



## Letters to the Editor

## Railroad Ties

My grandfather, Masaichi Kawate, worked for the Union Pacific Railroad from 1904 to February of 1942 when he was suddenly discharged along with nearly 200 other Japanese railroad workers. Our family did not realize the extent of this action until the revelation of a series of railroad articles by Michi Weglyn in the *Pacific Citizen* and vernaculars earlier this year. Apparently this action was not exclusive to the Union Pacific itself but affected other railroad companies nearly simultaneously.

My mother and uncle, both U.S. citizens, also suddenly had to evacuate their company-owned housing, and federal agents confiscated personal property later deemed articles that any ordinary citizen might possess, and my grandfather had his bank account frozen. I recall a story where my uncle was so angry over the occurrence that he did not attend his high school graduation.

My grandfather tried sharecropping tomatoes near Ogden. I recall eating fresh tomatoes on the back porch of his house in Salt Lake City years later, not aware of the significance of this until recently. Grandpa was a section foreman in Wyoming and Utah and was well liked by his subordinates who were of various ethnic origins. He was denied citizenship until the passing of the Walter-McCarran Act of 1952, of which Mike Masaoaka had a large participation. I never heard a word from my grandfather of what happened in 1942, typical of other railroad families.

I strongly support redress of the railroad issue on behalf of the families of the former railroad and mining workers. The enormous economic, social, and psychological consequences are long-term and will not rest until this terrible injustice and loss of liberty are rectified.

Clifford W. Honda  
Santa Barbara, Calif.

## My 442nd buddies

I want to thank you for printing my letter (April 18-May 1 PC), and because of that I went to Alaska, Anchorage, Ekluk and Dillingham for six days in June-July and met my distant cousin Mark Hiratsuka but his younger brother Frank had died in 1989. The last time I saw them was in the fall of 1943 while we were in basic training in Shelby.

Thanks to the Heyano Brothers in Dillingham, who subscribe to the PC, and to Matt O'Connell of Dillingham for suggesting I write to you, I was able visit them all and the Hiratsuka family members. I have one more request. I wish to contact the Heyanos of Kingsburg, Calif., because I have pictures of the Heyano brothers and pictures of their father's gravestone in Ekluk.

Ernie Hiratsuka  
2264 Lanai Ave.,  
San Jose, CA 95122

## MIS Vet wants name off monument

(Open letter to the 100/442 MIS WWII Memorial Foundation)

I wish to have my name, KIHARA, H., deleted from the WWII Honor Roll that was published in the 1997 holiday issue of the *Pacific Citizen*. These are my reasons:

Placing names of the living on the Monument will desecrate the memory and diminish the importance to future generations of those who made the supreme sacrifice. The arbitrary eligibility criteria of the Honor Roll imply that the service of the 15,000 plus other Nisei Veterans of WWII who do not meet them was less than honorable. In effect, it makes them "second class" veterans. One of the goals of those who gave their lives for our country was to reclaim our status as first class citizens. In this respect also, the Monument makes a mockery of their sacrifice.

## Feedback on the 1997 Holiday Issue

I READ Clifford Uyeda's article, "The Origin of the Japanese Imperial Family" (page 69) with much interest. His conclusion, supported by world historians, that Japan's Emperor Jimmu may have been a member of the Paekche royal family from Korea was a complete surprise to me. The story's implication is that Koreans and Japanese had a very close, family relationship in the early history. It challenges us to rethink Japan-Korea relations and how the people of both countries should treat each other.

To promote greater understanding and reconciliation, this precious knowledge should be shared by more Japanese and Koreans as well as by Japanese Americans and Korean Americans. When Japan and Korea set up a joint history commission in the future, perhaps they should start with this fascinating story first.

My deep thanks to Dr. Uyeda and the *Pacific Citizen* for giving us such an interesting history lesson.

John W. Kim  
New York City

Kim is general secretary of the National Association of Korean Americans, 276-5th Avenue, New York, NY 10001.

FIRST, I'd like to include and correct the spelling of my brothers' names in the "Last Call for WWII Veterans Names on the Go For Broke" Monument" (Holiday Issue Insert). My oldest brother PAUL NOBUO MAKABE served in France as an Army scout. DANIEL, MITSUO MAKABE served in the Air Force and went to Italy after hostilities. Both had served in the Air Force in 1941 before Pearl Harbor. WILSON HARUO (not Haruto) MAKABE who went into 442nd Co. I, was injured near Rome and spent the balance of the war in the hospitals in Italy and at Walter Reed in Washington, DC.

Ivy Makabe, Doan  
Bend, Oregon

As requested on the back page of the Insert, nominations (and/or corrections) to the monument need an Exhibit "A"

I encourage the Nisei who have lent their support to this ill-conceived project to reconsider. A monument listing the names of the Nisei soldiers who died in WWII would honor us all.

Hayato Kihara  
MIS Veteran  
Hacienda Heights, Calif.

## Little iron men

Bill Marutani writes about Chester Tanaka's book, *Go For Broke* (Nov. 7-20 PC), is again available from the publisher (Presidio Press) for \$39.95. I thought readers might like to save ten bucks by ordering the same, Item 334715, \$27.96 plus \$3 postage/handling, from Edward R. Hamilton, Falls Village, CT 06031-5000. Connecticut residents must add sales tax.

Shu Miyazaki  
Woodridge, Ill.

(such as a discharge paper) to verify the information as correct, submitted by Feb. 27, 1998, to the 100/442 MIS WWII Memorial Foundation, P.O. Box 2590, Gardena, CA 90247.

About my brother Hideo Okusako in the group picture in "The Institution Named Heishikan" by Kay Tateishi (page 34), he would be 83 today as I am 85. He died in 1945 in Japan. How did my brother get to Japan? He graduated from UC Berkeley in 1938 in political science and a team of government officials came to California to recruit Nisei with bilingual abilities to speak, read and write Japanese fluently. A few students volunteered to go with them; some came back, some stayed.

I would like to contact some of the surviving members who knew my brother Hideo. We were both members in the Placer County JACL way back when.

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

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

## NAT'L DIALOGUE

(Continued from page 5)

complete without it." Other organizations who took an active part in the national event include the Anti-Defamation League, National Urban League, and the American Jewish Congress.

Stewart Kwoh, Executive Director of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California, believes more AAs need to get involved in the various discussions on race taking place across the nation. "The key is, people need to participate. AAs need to look at the entire community and see that everyone's a part of that community," he said. "I think AAs have a lot to add to these initiatives by getting involved."

"The issue is no longer just black and white," said Warren Furutani, president of the Asian

Pacific Policy & Planning Council, who's been involved with the Days of Dialogue since its beginning. As the various community and political leaders broke off into smaller groups, he repeated his thoughts. "This is a multiethnic discussion," he said. "The challenge is clearly to take it to a new place."

Furutani's group included a European American, Sen. Bradley; an African American, Ridley-Thomas; a Mexican American, Dr. Evangelina Stockwell, assistant superintendent, L.A. Unified School District; and a Jewish American, Julie Korenstein, president of the L.A. Board of Education.

Furutani, following his instructions to be candid, shared his frustrations at how, at times, he found it difficult to discuss race relations with non-minorities. "Talking to whites about race is

one of the most difficult things to do," he said. But he feels that it's something that needs to be done. "If you don't know where you come from, you can't go anywhere."

Whites have their "American culture" as their identity and not specific ethnic or cultural values, said Dr. Stockwell, who from experience also found that white leaders tend to stay quiet on matters of race, where minorities speak up. She added, "They're usually the last ones to join in, but when they do it's invaluable."

"We must instill courage to be compassionate...that's what Martin Luther King's legacy is all about," said Cornel West, Harvard University Professor and author of *Race Matters*, who was a special guest of the Getty event. The "Days of Dialogue," he said, is that "hope against the darkness."

## KOREMATSU

(Continued from page 1)

he said. "It is getting better," but "we still have to make appearances."

"His case was a major civil rights case in 1944 and he had the courage to stand up to the United States at the time," said attorney Dale Minagui who also attended the awards ceremony. "Forty years later he stood up again and helped remedy a great wrong done to all JAs."

JACL National Director Herbert Yamanishi said of Korematsu, "He is symbolic of a landmark case that showed previous wrongs, through legal means, could be overturned at the

Supreme Court level." He added, "Out of the case, it became evident that the camp experience was because of racism, not because of military necessity."

Congressman Bob Matsui in a prepared statement, said, "Fred did much more than just exercise his constitutional rights when he pushed his case to the Supreme Court; he animated a national conscience to redress an injustice perpetrated upon citizens by their own government."

"Every American today and in the future owes Fred a debt of gratitude for his efforts to guarantee that no citizen, regardless of their ancestry, can be denied due process and the basic liberties guaranteed by our Constitution."

## KATAOKA

(Continued from page 8)

Kataoka. "By studying sumi-e I feel connected to the past and to the future. Art has the power to bridge communities and answer questions...especially in a multicultural atmosphere."

The process of taking paint brush to paper is long and intensive. Not only can the grinding of the *sumi* (ink stick) on a stone (*suzuri*) to get the perfect black take more than an hour, explained Kataoka, the artist must also meditate about the subject matter. "You're creating the ink you're going to paint with while infusing your own personality into it. It's really important to capture the essence," she said.

The aim of sumi-e "is to make [the painting] come alive, to capture motion."

She compares the preparation of a sumi-e artist to that of an athlete who does a pre-game warm-up or to a musician who tunes an instrument before a performance.

You have to be focused, making sure that each brush stroke is controlled, yet spontaneous. "Like in life, you only get one chance," said Kataoka. "You can't take the brush strokes back."

In two years Kataoka will graduate from Stanford, at which time she plans to make painting her full-time career. Although she has

been able to sell her paintings — ranging from \$600 to framed works at \$2,500 — since receiving her han two years ago, making money from her work was never her main goal. "My first priority is to share the art of sumi-e," said Kataoka. "I want people to have my paintings."

For now, the pressure of being an "ambassador" for sumi-e has yet to phase this 19-year-old. "I don't think it's a lot of pressure," she said. "I see life in terms of brush strokes and moments. If I can make a difference in the community and see it in people's faces, then it's all worth it."

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