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National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

Oct. 16-Nov. 5, 1998



LOOKING FOR JUSTICE—(From left) Robin Toma, Richard Katsuda of National Coalition Redress/Reparations, Chris Prince and Richard Field at the recent press conference to announce the lawsuit in Los Angeles.

JLAs seek full redress in latest lawsuit

■ Dept. of Justice predicts shortfall in funds for Japanese Latin Americans

BY CAROLINE AOYAGI
Executive Editor

For Japanese Latin Americans kidnapped and forcibly interned in American concentration camps during World War II, the final chapters of the redress story have yet to be written.

Four months ago JLAs won a bittersweet victory in the *Mochizuki et al. vs. the United States* class-action lawsuit, a settlement that offered an apology and \$5,000 to all surviving former

JLA internees. But since then, some JLAs, frustrated and offended with a redress payment far less than the \$20,000 awarded to Japanese American former internees under the 1988 Civil Liberties Act, have chosen to opt out of the settlement.

Instead, they're filing separate lawsuits seeking to win the full redress.

In late August, JLA former internee Henry Shima filed a \$10 million lawsuit against the United States government seeking damages for the wrongs committed against him during WWII. Most recently, the second lawsuit

since the *Mochizuki et al.* settlement was filed on behalf of JLA former internee Joe Suzuki and the National Coalition for Redress and Reparations.

According to papers filed in federal court in San Francisco on Oct. 13, the plaintiffs accuse the U.S. government of failing to follow through with a provision in the '88 Civil Liberties Act requiring them, as trustees, to invest a minimum of five percent of the \$1.65 billion in the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund; something that wasn't done until early this year. This fund was set up

See JLAs/page 10

Proposition 5 divides tribes and other minority groups along campaign lines

BY TRACY UBA

Writer/Reporter

With state elections just around the corner, Proposition 5, the California Indian Self-Reliance Initiative, is heating up the November ballot, dividing minority groups and even those within different Native American communities along campaign lines.

At a recent board meeting, the national JACL chose, in the name of civil rights, to endorse a yes vote on Prop. 5, a measure which proposes to keep current state-regulated Indian gaming on California tribal lands operating and intact.

In a rigorous outreach effort, pro-Prop. 5 campaigners have tried to appeal specifically to other minority groups for their support. To date, they have solicited the endorsements of hundreds of thousands of individuals and organizations across the state.

Yes on 5 campaigners have reported that close to 95 percent of both gaming and non-gaming tribes are in support of the measure. Among the gaming tribes, 36 out of 41 are in favor of it.

"Not only will Prop. 5 help in terms of our health care and education, it will free us up to [participate in] more ventures," said Yes on 5 spokesperson Stephanie Allan, who is also tribal council secretary and representative for the Berry Creek Tyme Maidu Tribe. "We'll have a more positive relationship with our communities and in turn our communities in the state."

The terms of Prop. 5 allow Cal-

ifornia tribes to retain the limited gaming they've already had on their land for years and allow them to reserve the right to build casinos on federally-recognized reservations. Unlimited expansion of Indian casinos is prohibited under the 1988 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

Meanwhile, 11 tribes who are opposed to Prop. 5 have signed compacts with Gov. Pete Wilson. The Pala Band, for instance, has signed a gaming compact with the government which would prohibit the operation of video gaming machines in Indian casinos.

For them, "it's a constitutional issue," said Dan Nelson, a spokesperson for the No on 5 campaign. Tablemountain Rancheria, Jackson Rancheria and Rumsey, three tribes in Northern and Central California, have also signed compacts with the state, all of which were made independent of the Nevada casinos, according to Nelson.

"We support wholeheartedly Indian self-sufficiency," he continued. "What we are against is unlimited, unregulated gaming which is what Proposition 5 is about."

The Rumsey Band, a gaming tribe that believes its compact agreement is a better deal, made \$20 million off gambling last year. Members have expressed fears that the future effects of Prop. 5 will threaten the stability of their casino, Cache Creek, located in Northern California. The

See GAMING/page 9

*** ELECTION '98 ***

With less than a month remaining before the November 3 elections, the following voter guide has been prepared in collaboration with the Civil Rights Caucus of JACL's Pacific Southwest District and the Pacific Citizen. A selection of candidates in the state of California were asked to provide their perspectives on Asian American issues. The voter guide also provides an overview of additional California State races and APA candidates running for election outside of California.



accountability from everyone — parents, students, teachers, administrators, and society itself. APA educational

port enhancing penalties for perpetrators of hate crimes and would actively seek such enhancements through legislation as governor. One of the first acts of my opponent, upon being elected Attorney General, was to disband the Civil Rights Division of the California Department of Justice. If elected governor, I will reverse that act.

achievement is well known and documented. Parental involvement has undoubtedly played a key role in APA's educational success.

Lungren: Crime, education, and job opportunities are the most important issues to Asian Americans, and indeed, all Americans.



Working with local law enforcement, we've cut the murder rate in half, since I became Attorney General, and reduced overall crime by 37 percent. We've achieved this through common sense crime-control laws that I fought for like, "3 Strikes," 10-20-Life and Megan's Law. We have improved our efforts combating hate crimes, including establishing the Anti-Hate Violence Working Group to coordinate California's law enforcement in a united and effective effort to curb hate crime violence in California. As

See ELECTIONS/page 4

California State Governor
(D) Gray Davis
(R) Dan Lungren

Question One: What are the most important issues to Asian Americans in California and what would you do about them if elected?

Davis: Education is my top priority. This is obviously an important issue to the Asian Pacific American (APA) community. Education has played a critical role in the lives of APAs and has historically been the means by which Americans advance themselves in our society.

I believe that California's public schools are broken. To fix them, the next governor must demand more responsibility and

As governor, I would ensure that every California student has a current textbook for every core course by establishing a \$3 billion "textbook superfund." I propose a more rigorous teacher evaluation, and more equitable compensation for our teachers. I would also place a highly qualified chief financial officer in every school district, and would call for the state to take over poorly performing schools when all else fails.

I would also work to keep our communities safe, and would enforce the ban on assault weapons. I know that race was a factor in the tragic incident in Stockton where a number of APA students were killed. This is unacceptable.

Stopping hate crimes is also an important issue to APAs, as they are often the victims of vicious acts of violence. I strongly sup-

Calif.'s Justice Ming W. Chin campaigns for retention

BY SAM CHU LIN
Special to Pacific Citizen

When California registered voters go to the polls on Nov. 3, they will be asked to determine whether state Supreme Court Justice Ming William Chin and three other justices should be retained.

With all the endorsements they have been receiving, one might think they are a shoo-in. But that isn't the case for Chin and Chief Justice Ronald M. George.

Pro-life factions are targeting the two for removal because they voted in a 4-3 majority decision

overturning a state law requiring minors to seek permission from their parents to get an abortion.

Chin has put together a campaign to fight for his retention, and the Asian Pacific American community is rallying around him.

During a break in his busy schedule, Chin spoke with *Pacific Citizen* and elaborated about the controversial high court ruling. Saying it wasn't a simple rul-



ing that gave the go-ahead to minors to get abortions, he noted it was a decision based on the importance of the right of privacy for minors.

"The opinion was not an opinion that said one way or the other what children ought to be doing with their parents," Chin said. "I think all of us would hope that our children would come and talk to us about major decisions that they have to make. But I don't think you can legislate that. You can't legislate parental love. You can't legislate parental respect. I think that has to come

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Holiday Issue kits have been mailed

Deadline for submitting ads for the Holiday Issue is November 25. Please mail your chapter ads promptly so that your chapter is well represented. If you have any questions please call Brian Tanaka at 800/966-6157.



P.C. SAVE
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Here's my contribution to support the needs of the P.C. and its efforts to return to a weekly publication! (Please send your tax deductible donations to: P.C. SAVE, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755.)

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JACL Calendar

Eastern

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sat. Nov. 7—Quarterly Meeting, JAA Center, 15 W. 44th, 11th Fl., N.Y.C.

NEW YORK

Sat. Nov. 7—New York Chapter Annual Fall Dinner and Installation, the Manhattan Club, 7th Ave. & 52nd St. RSVP: Lillian Kimura, 973/680-1441. Keynote speaker: author and fencing champion Peter Westbrook.

Midwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Fri.-Sun., Oct. 23-25—Fall Meeting, Radisson Hotel Cleveland South-west, Inn, 7230 Engle Rd., Middleburg Hts.; Fri. Eve reception, Sat. a.m. business meeting, Sat. afternoon workshop; Gail Nomura, Ron Katsuyama, speakers. Info: Joyce Theus, 440/582-5443.

CINCINNATI

Sun. Oct. 18—JWA/JACL reunion luncheon, 1 p.m., Best Western, Springdale off Rte 4. RSVP, info: Tokie Wade, 513/553-2045.

CLEVELAND

Sat. Oct. 24—Workshop, report of survey: "Japanese Americans at the Crossroads," 1:30 p.m., Radisson Hotel, Cleveland Southwest, Inn, 7230 Engle Rd., Middleburg Hts. Gail Nomura, Ron Katsuyama, speakers. Info: Joyce Theus, 440/582-5443.

Sat. Nov. 7—Annual JACL Holiday Fair, 3-8 p.m., Euclid Central Middle School, 20701 Euclid Ave. Free. Info: Sets Nakashige & Mary Lou Yano, 440/842-0443.

Fri. Nov. 13—Alternative Medicine Seminar, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Cleveland Health Museum; presented by Drs. Yoshitaka Ohno and Harold Remnick, Ohno Institute of Water & Health.

Pacific Northwest

PUYALLUP VALLEY

Wed. Oct. 28—Asian Pacific Islander Panel Forum, 4 p.m., light dinner 7 p.m., "Within the Silence" presented by Living Voices. Info: Elsie Taniguchi, 206/824-2402.

Sat. Nov. 14—University Students Club Distinguished Alumnus Award, 7:30 p.m., Kawabe House, 2118th S., Seattle. Info: Elsie Taniguchi, 206/824-2402. Scholarship awards and tribute to Aki Kurose.

NC-WN-Pacific

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sun. Nov. 1—District Council Meeting, Morgan Hill Buddhist Community Center, 16450 Murphy Ave., Morgan Hill, hosted by Gilroy Chapter; NCWNP board elections. Delegates, boosters, etc., RSVP to Lily Kawafuchi, 408/847-2478.

CONTRA COSTA

Sat. Nov. 7—Kids Cultural Day, 1-4 p.m., East Bay Free Methodist Church, 5395 Potrero Ave., El Cerrito. Info: Jim Oshima, 510/237-0323, Kaz Ide, 510/222-2421.

PLACER COUNTY

Sat. Oct. 24—70th Anniversary Goodwill Dinner; social hour 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., Buddhist Church in Penryn. Tickets, info: Linda Dickerson, 530/889-7213. Speaker, Stuart Satow (Channel 10); honoring founder Harry Kawahata & past chapter presidents.

SAN FRANCISCO

Through Nov. 7—Linus Pauling Exhibit, co-sponsored by the chapter; Herbst International Exhibition Hall, Main Post in the Presidio. Info, times, tours: 415/255-4687.

S.F. BAY AREA NISEI SINGLES

1999, Fri.-Sun., Sept. 3-5—8th Annual National JACL Singles Convention, Radisson Miyako Hotel, San Francisco. Info: SJBANS, Marge Fletcher, 510/657-5445; Jean Shibata, 408/723-6222. Golf, bowling, workshops, mixer, banquet,

dance, brunch, side trips.

SAN MATEO

Fri. Oct. 29—Seniors' day trip to Santa Cruz Arboretum and Antonelli Begonia Gardens, lunch in Capitola. Info: 650/343-2793.

SONOMA COUNTY

Sat. Nov. 12—Sushi Nite, 6 p.m., Ernjanji Memorial Hall. RSVP by Nov. 16; Jim Murakami, 707/824-8665.

Central California

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sat. Oct. 24—Fourth Quarter Meeting. Info: Patricia Tsai Tom, 209/486-8815.

FRESNO

Sat. Nov. 14—CCDC Health Fair and Installation Banquet, Doubletree Hotel, Downtown Fresno. Info: Patricia Tsai Tom, 209/486-8815.

Pacific Southwest

RIVERSIDE

Sat. Oct. 24—General meeting & potluck luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Highlander Hall, Rm 299, 1200 University Ave., across from University Village. Mike Shimizu and John Salto, speakers.

Wed. Nov. 18—Preview Benefit Shopping Day fund-raiser, 9 a.m.-10 p.m., Robinsons-May at the Inland Center Mall, San Bernardino. Tickets from Michiko Yushima and at the October meeting.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY

Sat. Nov. 7—Installation luncheon, 12 noon, Central City Broiler Restaurant, 1520 N. Broadway. RSVP by Oct. 30. Kaz, 805/937-5776, Irene, 805/937-3254. Speaker: Gerald Yoshitomi, executive director, JACC in Los Angeles, theme: Ties That Bind. ■

DEADLINE FOR CALENDAR

is the Friday before date of issue, on a space-available basis.

Please provide the time and place of the event, and name and phone number (including area code) of a contact person.

COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast

NEW YORK

Wed. Oct. 28—Japanese American Social Services 17th anniversary benefit dinner, 6-9:30 p.m., Hilton Hotel Trianon Room, 54th St. & Ave. of the Americas. Tickets \$200, \$150, discount for Tomo no Kai. Info: 212/255-1881. Opera soprano Michie Nakamura of Japan performing.

Through 1999—Japanese American National Museum's exhibit, "America's Concentration Camps: Remembering the Japanese American Experience." Ellis Island Immigration Museum, New York City. Info: JANM (Los Angeles) 213/625-0414, (New York) 212/952-0774. Free admission.

The Midwest

CHICAGO

Through Nov. 29—Exhibits, "Voyage of a Nation, The Philippines," and "Vanishing Treasures of the Philippine Rain Forest." The Field Museum, Roosevelt Rd. @ Lake Shore. Info: 312/922-9410.

Northern Cal

SACRAMENTO

Nov. 2-13—Special exhibit, Japanese Archival Collection, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., CSU Sacramento. Info: CSUS Library JAAC, 916/278-6144. Collection includes more than 70 Florin JACL oral histories, photos, documents, etc.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sun. Nov. 1—Nikkei Widowed Group meeting, 2-4:30 p.m., 558 16th St. Elsie Uyeda Chung, 415/221-0268; Tetsu Ihara, 415/221-4568; Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911. Men and women welcome.

Sat. Nov. 21—Japanese American National Library fund-raiser art exhibit, 1:30-4 p.m., Nihonmachi Terrace, Hinode Tower, 1615 Sutter St.; featuring manga art of Issai Henry Kiyama, cartoons by Nisei Jack Matsuo, comic book art of Saneel Stan Sato. To support the library. Info/tickets: Karl Matsushita, 415/567-5006.

Central Cal

FRESNO

Sat. Oct. 17—"Myths and Realities of Cancer Care ... or, Yes, You can Survive Cancer Therapy," talk by the author of *Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy Survival Guide*, 9:30-11 a.m., Fresno Buddhist

Church, 1340 Kern St. Info: 916/434-1070 or 322-8090.

Fri.-Sun., Oct. 16-18—Jerome and Denison High School Reunion, Double Tree Hotel; 1055 Van Ness Ave. Info: Shigeko Masuda Okajima, 209/875-3878; Miyoko Kunitake Kawamura; 714/961-1249; Shiro Tahara, 916/428-0494.

Southern Cal

LOS ANGELES

Mon.-Sat., Oct. 19-25—Hitachi Group Exhibit, Doizaki Gallery, Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Gallery hours: Tue.-Fri. noon-5 p.m., Sat. & Sun., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: 213/628-2725. Calligraphy, batik, jewelry, fashion, furniture, shikishi cards, more.

Sat. Oct. 24—Little Tokyo Community Health Fair, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Union Church, 402 E. 3rd St. Info: Bill Watanabe, 213/473-1600.

Sat. Oct. 24—Norwalk Dance Club Halloween Nite Social, 7-11 p.m., Southeast Japanese School and Community Center, 14615 S. Gridley Rd., Norwalk. Info: Mitzi Shiba, 714/527-5714.

Sat. Oct. 24-Sun. Nov. 1—Toshiko Takemura Exhibit honoring the memory of her brother, killed in action in WWII. North Gallery, Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Gallery hours, info: 213/628-2725.

Thu. Oct. 29—Films of Susumu Hani from the UCLA Archive: Tickets at box office; schedule, info: 310/206-FILM.

Thursdays-Sundays, Oct. 29-Nov. 29—7th Annual Asian Pacific American Performance & Visual Arts Series; Oct. 29-Nov. 1: *Golden Nuggets*; Nov. 5-8: *The House is on Fire* (dance by Oguri & Li Chiao-ping); Nov. 12-15: *Stories from a Nail Salon* (by Cup O' Noodles). 8:30 p.m., Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St., Santa Monica. Tickets: 213/660-8587.

Sun. Nov. 1—Films of Susumu Hani from the UCLA Archive: Info: see Oct. 29.
Fri.-Sun. Apr. 16-18—Rohwer Reunion II, Torrance Marriott Hotel, Torrance. RSVP by Nov. 15. Info: So. Calif.—Peggy Tsuruta, 310/323-6337, Frank Yamaguchi, 310/329-2547, Chuckie Watanabe Seki, 213/935-3027, Betty Oka, 714/636-8207, Helen Takata, 626/968-2966; No. Calif.—Nelli Utsumi Noguchi, 415/387-5265, Lillian Uyeda Inouye, 510/235-6042, Asako Homimoto Maeda, 510/832-2275, Yone Kumura Asai, 510/828-2086.
SAN BERNARDINO

Sun. Oct. 25—15th Annual Japanese Dance/Potluck, 1 p.m., Patton Hospital Auditorium, 3102 E. Highland Ave., San Bernardino. Info: Mihoko, 909/864-2018. Bring one dish per family.

Arizona-Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Thu.-Sun., Nov. 5-8—3rd Annual Japan Festival. Info: Japan-America Society of Nevada, 702/252-0277.

PHOENIX

Fri. Nov. 6—Japan-America Society 16th Annual Business Meeting/Banquet, 6 p.m., Embassy Suites, 24th St. & Camelback. Info: 602/915-0000. Ms. Cherry Blossom to be announced. ■

NOTICE: The following was

omitted in a recent article about the Diablo Valley Chapter scholarship recipients. The chapter apologizes for the error.

The 1998 George S. Fujioka Memorial Scholarship recipient is Ms. Magnolia Tun. She attended Los Medanos College where she completed her lower division classes in preparation to attend California State University at San Jose majoring in electrical engineering.

Tun completed high school in Burma in 1986. Due to political and economic unrest, universities were closed down by the government. Immigrating to the United States in 1995, Tun began her college studies in 1996. In her spare time she volunteered at a local elementary school, where she helped tutor fifth graders in math and science. ■

NOTICE

JACL is now a member of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). When someone representing the CFC asks you for your payroll deduction or donation to the CFC, remember that you can now designate the JACL as a recipient for your contribution. The JACL is the only Asian Pacific American organization in the CFC dedicated to service in the United States.

Contributions to JACL will help assist its chapters and further its mission as a civil and human rights organization.

★ ★ ★ ELECTION '98 ★ ★ ★

Asian American vote may emerge crucial in Boxer vs. Fong Senate race

BY MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

Democratic Senator Barbara Boxer faces a tough challenge from state Treasurer Matt Fong in a race where Asian American voters may tilt the scale away from the incumbent.

The stakes are high as Republicans hold onto a slim majority in Congress, making every seat in the nation critical as both parties battle for control.

Republicans have an advantage this election since historically elections held during non-presidential years tend to favor the party out of power. Add to that the "Clinton factor," where candidates, particularly Democrats, may feel the affects of President Clinton's affair with former intern Monica Lewinsky.

If a June primary exit poll conducted among Chinese American voters in Southern California is any indication, Boxer is in a fight for her political life. Chinese Americans are considered the largest Asian American voting bloc in California, comprising one of every five Asian American voters.

Vision 21, a non-partisan Chinese American political empowerment collaboration in conjunction with the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California, interviewed more than 330 Chinese American voters from a broad cross section of the population.

The study found that 83.7 percent of Chinese respondents voted for Republican Matt Fong; 10.6 percent for Barbara Boxer; 2.5 percent for then-Republican candidate Darrell Issa; and 3.2 percent for others.

The survey also found that many Chinese Americans crossed party lines to vote for Matt Fong. Of the Chinese American respondents who were registered Democrats, 65.6 percent voted for Fong; 29.7 percent for Boxer; and 1.6 percent for Issa. Of the Chinese American respondents who were registered Republicans, 90.8 percent voted for Fong; 4.1 percent for Boxer; and one percent for Issa.

Fong also enjoys the backing of a popular Asian American Democratic figure — his mother, March Fong Eu. While Eu's political philosophy is closer to Boxer than to her conservative son, in this case, family comes first.

Eu, a vocal advocate for her son, has



made it no secret that she is upset over the Democratic National Committee's fundraising scandal which targeted Asian American donors. But Fong, for his part, has not played up the race issue, making him, some believe, less threatening to white voters.

This is not to say that Boxer hasn't garnered Asian American support. She has received the endorsements of a number of Asian American political heavy weights such as Hawaii Senators Daniel Inouye and Daniel Akaka; Congresspersons Robert Matsui and Patsy Mink; former Congressman Norman Mineta; Washington Governor Gary Locke; California State Assemblyman Mike Honda; and Angela Oh, a member of President Clinton's Commission on Race.

In addition, Boxer's Asian American supporters have been reminding voters about the Senator's past support of Asian American issues.

Some of Boxer's past support of the Asian American community includes: sponsorship of legislation to make the former Manzanar Relocation Center into a national historic park; originally co-sponsored HR 442, which called for a national apology to Japanese Americans interned during World War II and authorized \$1.25 billion in monetary compensation; co-sponsored the Civil Liberties Act of 1987 which later became the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (the redress bill), the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1988 and the Civil Rights Act of 1990 and 1991; co-sponsored and testified in support of the Filipino Veterans Equity Act written by Senator Daniel Inouye; and fought to preserve federal benefits for legal immigrants during the debate over the 1996 Welfare Reform bill.

Boxer has also recommended a number of Asian Pacific Americans for federal appointments, including Judge Anthony Ishii for a seat on the U.S. District Court bench; George King for the Central District federal

bench; Jerry Enomoto for U.S. Marshal; and Michael Yamaguchi for U.S. Attorney. She also supported the Clinton Administration's nomination of Judge Wallace Tashima to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

WHERE THE CANDIDATES STAND

Voters this fall will have a choice between two candidates whose views are decidedly different. Boxer supports affirmative action, bilingual education, the public school systems and a woman's right to choose.

Fong, on the other hand, supported Proposition 227, the California initiative that dismantled bilingual education, and Proposition 209, the California measure that banned government-sponsored programs that promoted affirmative action, supports school vouchers, and after some prodding, came out in favor of pro-life.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Boxer opposed Proposition 209, the California initiative that bans government-sponsored affirmative action programs on the basis that "affirmative action, if done properly, gives opportunities to all people."

She refuted claims that affirmative action programs pit one race against another or that it sets up quota systems, pointing out that correctly run programs ensure that the best qualified people are given the same opportunity in areas traditionally locked out to them.

"If done properly, it's a wonderful solution to years and years of bias," said Boxer.

Fong, who supported Proposition 209, proposed the creation of a new program which he referred to as "affirmative opportunity." Under this government-sponsored program, candidates would be chosen

See BOXER-FONG/page 5

Washington's anti-affirmative action measure attracting national attention

The November outcome of I-200, the state of Washington's anti-affirmative action initiative, is being watched nationally as other states consider similar ballot measures.

Washington's move follows in the footsteps of California, which recently passed Proposition 209, the initiative that dismantled state-sponsored affirmative action programs.

Washington's I-200 (Initiative 200) or the "Civil Rights Initiative" is worded much like California's measure and seeks to prevent the use of gender and race in public contracting, education and employment.

National JACL and the Pacific Northwest District earlier this year passed resolutions opposing I-200. The PNWD also spearheaded the formation of the Asian Pacific Americans for Equality (APACE), a coalition of more than 50 Asian Pacific American organizations that opposes the initiative.

"In many ways, all eyes are trained on what the outcome will be here," said Jeffrey Hattori, past Seattle JACL chapter president. "In some ways, we may be the gatekeepers of what continues nationally."

Hattori's comments come in light of the fact that more than 19 states are currently considering anti-affirmative action measures, according to the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, a civil rights organization. These states include Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas,

Colorado, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina and Texas.

To date, more than \$35,000 from national JACL and JACL chapters has poured into this effort.

Aaron Owada, JACL PNW co-governor, said they considered countering I-200 with a "citizens initiative," but that campaign was dropped in order to focus attention on combatting I-200 head on.

National JACL Executive Director Herb Yamanishi is scheduled to fly up to Washington this week to participate in a Friday rally with OCA (Organization of Chinese Americans), the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle, El Centro de La Raza and a number of other organizations.

The joint event is a show of unity in opposing I-200. The organizations also plan to begin dialogue on how to maximize their resources to educate the public on the advantages of affirmative action programs, according to Yamanishi.

"National organizations really need to pay attention to this and act on it," said Hattori, "because all the hard work of the Issei and Nisei can go down the drain." ■

Safe bet on trio's re-election



Matsui



Inouye



Honda

If results from the primary elections are any indication, it's safe to predict that the following three Asian American representatives will be re-elected into office.

U.S. Congressman Robert Matsui (D-Sacramento) is considered a shoo-in against Republican candidate Robert Dinsmore, who makes his fourth attempt against the 10-term incumbent.

During the primary, Matsui clinched 70.7 percent of the popular vote, in comparison to Dinsmore who received 17.8 percent of the popular vote.

Five-term U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) sailed through the primary

with 88.6 percent of the popular vote, while his Democratic challenger, Richard Thompson, received only 6.9 percent of the popular vote. Inouye's Republican opponent, Crystal Young, captured 16.9 percent of the popular vote during the primary.

California State Assemblyman Mike Honda (D-San Jose), representing the 23rd District, faces Republican contender Patrick Du Long.

Long, who ran unopposed from the Republican camp during the primary, received 22 percent of the popular vote, while Honda captured 55.6 percent of the popular vote. ■

Senate tables measure to remove Bill Lann Lee from civil rights post

Last month, a bill targeting the removal of Bill Lann Lee from the position of acting assistant attorney general for civil rights died in the Senate following a filibuster of the bill by Democrats over another portion of the bill that related to health care.

Had the bill passed, the amendment of the so-called "Vacancies Act" would have required that federal appointees in "acting" positions undergo Senate confirmation after serving 150 days.

Both California Democratic Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein voted against limiting debate. Sixty votes in favor of limiting debate are needed to end a filibuster, but the majority Republican Senate fell short of the requirement with a 53-38 vote.

Sen. Robert C. Byrd (D-W. Va.), the original author of the bill and the only Democrat to vote to end debate, introduced the amendment because he felt the appointment process was being abused by the executive branch.

President Clinton appointed Lee to the acting position on December 15 after an unsuccessful Senate confirmation hearing. Lee became a target of Republican



committee members who decried his support of affirmative action and his opposition to the California ballot measure, Proposition 209.

Currently, Lee, as acting attorney general, can remain in his position for the duration of Clinton's term without Senate confirmation.

And while the recent bill was killed in the Senate, Boxer said this issue is bound to be brought up again. For this very reason, she felt it was important that voters support Democrats who are committed to civil rights issues and who support appointees committed to that cause.

Boxer, who has strongly supported Lee's appointment, said she was "appalled" that Republicans are aiming to oust Lee out of office due to his views on affirmative action, particularly since Lee is committed to enforcing federally-sponsored affirmative actions programs which are still "the law of the land."

Boxer described Lee as "performing magnificently" and "a credit to all Americans."

Fong took a more moderate approach than most Republicans on this issue.

While Fong acknowledged that he and Lee held different views, Fong said, "In general, I would support nominees of any president, as long as they are qualified. Even though I have differences in opinion on affirmative action with Bill Lann Lee, I would be supportive of his appointment, as long as he was qualified because Bill Clinton was elected president, although I don't support him. But the fact that he is president means he deserves to have his team."

Fong felt Lee was being targeted not because of his views on affirmative action but because Lee had become a scapegoat of partisan bickering.

"What the community should understand is that Bill Lann Lee is being tossed back and forth, not necessarily because of his views on affirmative action, as much as it is retribution to the Democrats for doing the same exact thing in the same exact position to a Ronald Reagan appointee," said Fong. ■

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VOTER GUIDE

(Continued from page 1)

governor, I will build upon these successes that have yielded the largest drop in crime ever over the past four years.

I will also fight for top-to-bottom reform of education, with authority returned to local educators, teachers and parents. Statewide performance standards, traditional, proven curriculum and teaching methods must be restored in our public schools K-12. Our community colleges, which provide the best dollar-for-dollar educational product in America, must be given the ability to provide a skilled, educated workforce. Furthermore, I will continue to push for school choice, both through eliminating the existing cap on charter schools and by advocating the freedom for parents to choose the best school for their children — whether public, private or parochial.

We must push forward with efforts to make California more job-friendly, particularly to small businesses, many of which are owned by members of the Japanese American community. A job-friendly California is achieved both through lower taxes and streamlined government regulations.

Question Two: What is the role of the executive branch of the California state government in promoting diversity within the public and private sectors and how would you carry out that role?

Davis: California needs a leader of the executive branch who accentuates diversity and uses this wonderful quality to bring greater success to our state. I am a consensus and coalition builder with scores of successful public policies and actions in more than 20 years of public service.

As we enter the new millennium, we Californians face a challenge of the spirit. That is, how can we maintain our increasingly diverse social fabric? The next governor will play a leading role in determining what kind of state California will be — and what kind of people we are. My priority is to unite Californians in a common purpose and focus on what we can accomplish by working together — not dividing people as has been done by other administrations. As governor, I pledge to build an inclusive administration that reaches out to and represents all the people of California. The great power of California is that it is the most diverse state in America and because of this, we have an opportunity to set an example of how people can work together to achieve common goals.

Lungren: I support outreach programs to insure diversity in both the public and private sectors. We must continue working so that all have an opportunity to succeed. I do not support quotas or set-asides; indeed, hard-working Japanese Americans were among those repeatedly discriminated against under the now-outlawed quotas and set-asides. As governor, I will continue strong outreach efforts, but reject dis-

crimatory quotas and set-asides.

Question Three: What is your commitment to increasing the representation of Asian Americans in appointive offices and in permanent jobs at all levels of state government?

Davis: I am committed to ensuring that Asian Pacific Americans are well represented throughout state government. The APA community is the fastest growing population in California, and we need to make sure that government is responsive to all California constituencies.

I have served the public in high-level positions throughout state government for more than 25 years. In each of these positions, I sought out and tried to be responsive to the Asian Pacific American community.

As chief of staff to Governor Jerry Brown, I helped ensure that this administration was one of the most diverse in California's history. APAs received a number of appointments in judicial and executive branches of government. Many of the judges appointed under Brown's administration are still serving our state with distinction.

Lungren: First, I am proud of my record on issues of concern to your community and the award I received from your organization at the 1997 California Legislative Leadership Conference. Specifically, though, my commitment to Asian American employment opportunities is best reflected by my record. Asian Americans have always been among my top employees, both as a congressman and as attorney general, including the head of my civil law division and the person formerly heading the government law section. My deputy campaign director is Asian American as is one of my top issue advisors. In short, I have a strong record of hiring Asian Americans that will continue as governor.

Question Four: Redress for the wartime relocation and internment of Japanese Americans is winding down, but remains a topic of great interest to Japanese Americans. What was your role in bringing about redress as embodied in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988?

Davis: I support redress for Japanese Americans and, unlike my opponent, I would have voted in favor of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

Lungren: Were it not for my efforts on Japanese internment, the apology, redress and education fund would never have become a reality. Unfortunately, my record has been blatantly distorted by some political adversaries on this issue. A truthful understanding of my efforts show that I co-sponsored the bill and was a key member lobbying other members to support the bill that created the Japanese internment commission; served as vice-chairman of the commission — the only member of Congress to serve; led efforts to establish a \$50 million education fund on the subject; and while initially opposed to the single issue of indi-

vidual reparations, voted for the final legislation signed into law that included a formal apology by the U.S. government, the education fund and individual reparations.

**California
Lieutenant Governor
(D) Cruz Bustamante
(R) Tim Leslie**

Question One: What are the most important issues to Asian Americans in California and what would you do about them if elected?

Bustamante: When I became the first Latino to serve as speaker of the California Assembly, some people expected I would pursue a "radical ethnic agenda." And there is such an agenda that I believe we share: decent jobs,



better schools, safe places to live and raise our families. This is the agenda I will pursue as it governor. In addition, I will work to promote equal access to educational and economic opportunity and, by reactivating the Lt. Governor's Commission on the Prevention of Hate Violence, work to combat the effects of ignorance and bigotry in our society.

Leslie: I believe that issues of primary importance to Asian Americans are the same as for all Americans to obtain a top-notch education for ourselves and our children; to be able to secure affordable and effective health care for ourselves and our family; to live and raise our children in communities free of crime and violence; to live in an economically thriving state that affords many employment opportunities for ourselves and our loved ones.

Subsequently, I have worked tirelessly toward these goals during my 12 years as a legislator. Included in the legislation that I authored or co-authored are a measure to reduce class sizes in K-3 classrooms; the Public Schools Accountability Act — a measure intended to finally bring accountability to our public school system; legislation that would require a medical license for any person who makes decisions regarding the medical necessity or appropriateness that affects any diagnosis, treatment, operation or prescription; the Hertzberg-Leslie Witness Protection Act; the landmark "Three Strikes - You're Out" law, and a measure to repeal the car tax.

Question Two: What is the role of the executive branch of California state government in promoting diversity within the public and private sectors and how would you carry out that role?

Bustamante: California's elected leaders have a duty to honor the state's diversity and promote opportunity for all Californians. We also have a duty to avoid wedge issues and immigrant bashing. That's why, as speaker of the Assembly, I wrote legislation condemning Asian-bashing and stereotyping that was coming out of campaign finance hearings in Washington.

As Lt. governor, I will work with leaders in the private sector to remind them of the benefits of diversity in the workplace and in the marketplace.

As a regent of the University of California and the California State University, I will continue working to ensure the highest quality of college education for all qualified students.

Leslie: I strongly believe that the best solution we have towards promoting diversity within the public and private sectors is to create a climate in California whereby each one of us has



as much an opportunity to succeed in life as the next individual. Moreover, to successfully create such a climate means providing people with better educational and economic opportunities. As Lt. governor, I will also sit on the University of California Board of Regents and I will be a trustee for the California State University system.

I will use both positions to advocate higher academic standards for students entering both systems, and I will continue the efforts I began in the legislature towards ensuring our public elementary and secondary schools are providing our public universities with students well equipped to succeed in higher education and beyond.

I will also use the Office of Lieutenant Governor as a bully pulpit for ensuring that California creates and retains a business climate in which small — and large businesses can flourish, free from government meddling.

Question Three: What is your commitment to increasing the representation of Asian Americans in appointive offices and in permanent jobs at all levels of state government?

Bustamante: I believe Asian Americans are underrepresented in state government — both in appointive office and elected office.

I am committed to expanding educational and economic opportunities that will help make sure California's government appropriately reflects our diversity.

I will continue to support outstanding candidates for offices such as U.S. Representative Bob Matsui and Assemblyman Mike Honda, whose endorsements I am proud to have in my campaign for Lt. governor.

Leslie: As I previously stated, I strongly believe in creating a climate in which everyone has a reasonable opportunity to achieve anything he or she desires.

I also strongly believe in judging people by their abilities and strength of character, and not by the color of their skin or their ethnic background.

In this manner, I truly feel — whether it is the private or public sector — the best candidate for a job will be chosen and that all interested persons have the op-

**California State 53rd
Assembly District
(D) George Nakano
(R) William Eggers**

(Republican candidate William Eggers declined to participate in the voter guide.)

Question One: What do you feel are the most important issues facing APAs in your district?

Nakano: Most of the important issues facing Asian Americans in California are dependent upon the central issue of political participation and empowerment.

Asian Americans account for over 12 percent of the state's population, yet we are absent from the electoral process in terms of voter mobilization and representation in elected office.

One way I intend to attack this problem is through serving on the reapportionment committee, where, once elected, I can speak out on the need for greater representation in our decision-making process to better reflect the diversity of this state.

Question Two: What are your views on the role of the executive branch of the California state government in promoting diversity within the public and private sectors and how would you carry out that role?

Nakano: The executive branch of the California state government should be a positive force in the effort to promote diversity in the public and private sector. In order to create harmonious productivity among our varied citizenry, we must effectively express the idea that diversity is a comparative advantage in all sectors of society.

Question Three: What is your commitment to increasing the representation of Asian Americans in appointive offices and in permanent jobs at all levels of State government?

Nakano: I have a strong commitment to increasing the representation of Asian Americans and all other underrepresented Americans in appointive offices and in permanent jobs at all levels of state government. All qualified Americans should have an equal opportunity to pursue the American dream.

Question Four: Redress for the wartime internment of Japanese Americans is winding down but remains a topic of interest to Nikkel. What are your views on the federal government's recent ruling to approve a \$5,000 settlement and a national apology to Japanese Latin Americans who were interned by the U.S. Government during World War II?

What happened to the Japanese Latin Americans during World War II was an egregious injustice, in that they were kidnapped out of their own country.

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The recent ruling was obviously a positive step towards righting the wrong that was the internment of Japanese Latin Americans. As a Japanese American internnee, the federal government's decision was especially meaningful for me.

California State 60th Assembly District (D) Ben Wong (R) Robert Pacheco

Question One: What do you feel are the most important issues facing Asian/Pacific Islander Americans (APAs) in your district?

Wong: I believe the issues facing APAs are less specific to my 60th Assembly District, but are more statewide or "society-wide" in general. The issues which are most important to our APA community are a growing anti-immigrant, anti-minority sentiment — as seen in Propositions 187 and 209, educational issues —

Proposition 218 mandates for children from limited-English-proficiency family situations, and under-representation in political and governmental processes.

Pacheco: One of the biggest issues facing APAs in our district is education. APAs have consistently achieved success in our K-12 schools only to be denied admission to universities and medical schools. While Proposition 209 helped alleviate some discriminatory practices, there are still obstacles in place which do not allow a student to gain admission to certain institutions because of quotas and set-asides. Another issue facing APAs is the proliferation of Asian gangs and crime, and in particular, home invasions against other Asians.

Question Two: How do you plan on addressing these issues?

Wong: I believe we can only break down these sentiments, which come from an unwarranted fear of what is different and unknown, by continuing to demonstrate that APAs are no different from the rest of society. Like others, we too want the "American Dream" of a good job, a safe home and a better future for our children and future generations. As an elected official, I will continue to fight all forms of discrimination. I will work to ensure that all children have equal access to a quality education, regardless of their background. I will also work for greater participation of APAs on all levels of government and politics.

Pacheco: I will work towards the elimination of quota and set-asides that discriminate against successful students while I am in the legislature. In regards to gang and criminal activity, I support trying juvenile gang members as adults in addition to enforcing injunctions against known gangs.

Question Three: Will you make a commitment to appointing APAs to your staff?

Wong: I would welcome the chance to appoint APAs to my staff; to open new doors, particularly for young people who will be the next generation of leaders.

Pacheco: I believe in hiring people based on their talents and ability, and if an APA is the most qualified, that person will be hired. I am committed to engaging leaders of all ethnic communities in dialogue so that I will make intelligent, informed decisions regarding the issues that affect an ever-growing ethnically diverse state.

Question Four: Will you support the appointment of APAs to commissions, the judicial bench, and other key institutions?

Wong: Yes, definitely. Until there is greater diversity and equity in these high level appointments, we must all continue to support that which is just and overdue.

Pacheco: As I have stated, I will make appointments and recommendations based on who I believe is the best qualified individual for the job.

Question Five: What is/was your position on redress for Japanese American internees of World War II?

Wong: I believe that redress for Japanese American internees of World War II was an important action to make up, albeit in a small way, for the grossly unfair treatment that America put these innocent citizens through. It was only fair that some redress occur.

Pacheco: I believe there should be a reasonable redress for the families of Japanese American internees.

California State 68th Assembly District (D) Mike Matsuda (R) Ken Maddux

(Republican candidate Ken Maddux declined to participate in the voter guide.)

Question One: What do you perceive as the most important issues facing Asian Americans in California and how would you tackle them if elected?

Matsuda: I believe the two most important issues facing Asian Americans in California are education and welfare reform.

As an award-winning educator who has worked with hundreds of Asian Pacific students, I understand the importance of education to Asian Pacific families. Our K-12 education system has steeply declined over the years and our UC/CSU system is be-



coming inaccessible to many lower-income Asian Americans. As an Assemblyman, I will fight to ensure that schools are well equipped and teachers are well trained. I will also work hard to stop any tuition increase at the UC/CSU level.

Welfare reform has had a detrimental effect on refugees and immigrants in California; many have lost the safety net which would have helped them to survive and thrive in their new country. As an Assemblyman, I will continue what I do now as a community leader — to work closely with community-based organizations and advocacy groups that are working to ensure immigrant access to government benefits.

We also need to ensure that Asian Pacific Americans are counted accurately in the 2000 U.S. Census, which will impact many aspects of the Asian Pacific community, from social services funding to political redistricting.

Question Two: What are your views on the role of the executive branch of the California State government in promoting diversity within the public and private sectors, and how would you carry out that role.

Matsuda: This question does not seem to be applicable to the State Assembly.

Question Three: What is your commitment in increasing the representation of Asian Americans in appointive offices and in permanent jobs at all levels of State government?

Matsuda: I have a strong commitment to address the under-representation of Asian Pacific Americans in government.

In the current State Assembly, we have only two members of Asian Pacific descent, one of which is at the end of his term. If elected, I will ensure that competent and qualified Asian Pacific candidates are given full consideration for appointed and permanent positions.

Question Four: Redress for the wartime relocation and internment of Japanese Americans is winding down but remains a topic of great interest to Japanese Americans. What are your views on the federal government's recent ruling to approve a \$5,000 settlement and a national apology to Japanese Latin Americans who were interned by the U.S. Government during World War II?

Matsuda: Our country's official apology for the relocation and internment of Japanese Latin Americans is long overdue.

Although any amount of financial compensation cannot undo the years of pain and hardship, the financial settlement outlined in the ruling seems inadequate.

U.S. Congress from California

District 38
Peter Mathews (D)
Steve Horn (R)

State-Level Candidates, California

State Assembly Candidates District 41
Sheila Kuehl (D)
K. Paul Jhin (R)

District 46
Gil Cedillo (D)
Andrew Kim (R)

Secretary of State:
Michela Alioto (D)
Bill Jones (R)

Controller:
Kathleen Connell (D)
Ruben Barrales (R)

Treasurer:
Phil Angelides (D)
Curt Pringle (R)

Attorney General:
Bill Lockyer (D)
Dave Stirling (R)

Insurance Commissioner:
Diane Martinez (D)
Chuck Quakenbush (R)

Superintendent of Public Instruction (non-partisan office):
Gloria Matta Tuchman
Delanie Eastin

Board of Equalization District 4
John Chiang (D)
Joe Adams (R)

APA Candidates Running in State Level Races Outside California

Arizona State Representative:
Barry Wong (D)

Colorado State Senate:
Stan Matsunaga (D) Loveland

Hawaii Governor:
Ben Cayetano (D) Honolulu

Hawaii Lt. Governor:
Maize Hirono (D) Honolulu
Stan Koki (R) Honolulu

Minnesota State Representative:
Satveer Chowdry (D)

New York State Senate:
Morshed Alam (D)

Oregon State Senate:
Mae Yin (D) Salem
John Lim (R) Gresham

Oregon State Representative
David Wu (D)

Washington State Senate:
Paul Shin (D)

Washington State Representatives:
Kip Tokuda (D)
Velma Veloria (D)
Sharon Tomiko Santos (D)

Boxer-Fong senate race in dead heat

(Continued from page 3)

based on qualification rather than on gender or racial background.

"There are Caucasians who need help just as much as minorities," said Fong. "There are minorities who are very wealthy who don't deserve help, so that's why I think it should be needs based. This takes away from pitting one race against another and moves instead to just helping people."

BILINGUAL EDUCATION

Boxer and Fong also differed on their stance on Proposition 227, the California ballot measure that dismantles bilingual education.

Boxer said she opposed Proposition 227 because she felt the initiative attempts to fix a complex problem with a "one size fits all" solution. The staunch public school supporter felt that each school has different needs and that it was unreasonable to force all California schools to comply to a single standard, non-bilingual education curricula.

To ensure the success of a child, Boxer felt it was more important for local schools to determine their needs by allowing school officials, teachers and parents to set those standards.

For this reason, Boxer agreed with the waiver program under the provisions of Proposition 227, which allows parents to request waivers for their children after they have been enrolled in an English-language class for 30 days. Parents have no deadline as to when waiver requests must be turned in.

"This gives parents a choice of

insisting on bilingual education," said Boxer, adding that it was important for parents to know what their rights are.

Fong also agreed on this point precisely because the waiver program gives parents a choice. But in general, Fong felt bilingual education, as it exists in California, was "ineffective" and instead proposed an immersion program.

"Immersion works," said Fong, who touted a program in Israel called OPANS, a system he became familiar with while a guest of the Israeli government. According to him, the Israeli government faces similar language diversity challenges as California due to the influx of African Jews and Russians.

"Their challenge is to have everyone speak Hebrew," said Fong. "So the young and old are put into OPANS and are immersed in Hebrew. From that, they come out speaking that language."

On a more personal level, Fong pointed out that his wife Paula's first language had been Cantonese and that she had learned English in her first grade class through an immersion program while attending a school in Phoenix, Arizona.

"I'm very pragmatic," said Fong. "So I would hope that the Japanese American community would recognize that my being against bilingual education should be in no way interpreted as my being against immigrants' ability to learn how to speak English. In fact, I want them to learn how to speak English as fast as possible because without the language ability, they will

See BOXER-FONG/page 10

JACL files Census brief with U.S. Supreme Court

JACL announced on Oct. 9 that it is filing an amicus or "friend of the court" brief with the United States Supreme Court in the matter of *U.S. Department of Commerce vs. U.S. House of Representatives*. This case involves a dispute over whether or not the Census Bureau can use a method of counting the population known as "statistical sampling" for the year 2000 census.

"The ability to use statistical sampling is critical in the effort to achieve an accurate census in the year 2000," stated JACL National Director Herbert Yamaniishi. Yamaniishi went on further to explain, "So many vital statistics, funding levels of government programs and civil rights enforcement issues require that there be an accurate count of the population here in this nation. We cannot afford to overlook anyone whether they be in our inner cities or remote rural areas."

The JACL is very concerned that the people who are not counted in the census are those who can least afford to be overlooked — minority populations, people living in the inner cities, the rural poor and children. In the amicus brief, the JACL argues that since Asian Americans have in the past been the subject of legal discrimination, they have an especially compelling interest that equal representation is ensured. Furthermore, the JACL believes that the U.S. Constitution does not permit an undercounting of minority groups when more accurate methods are reasonably available. The JACL also asserts, when read correctly, the Census Act permits the use of statistical sampling.

Using scientific techniques such as statistical sampling has been recommended to the Census Bureau by the National Academy of Sciences as a way of ensuring the most accurate count in the year

2000. However, the use of these scientific methods would only be used to supplement an aggressive direct enumeration effort.

Attorneys filing the brief on behalf of the JACL noted that "Article I of the Constitution provides for a decennial census, as originally enacted in 1789. It provided that each slave was to be counted as three-fifths of a person. This stain on our democracy was removed after the Civil War by the Fourteenth Amendment. We argue (among other things) that the counting method urged by the House of Representatives, known to systematically undercount minority populations, suffers from a constitutional defect similar to the infamous 'three-fifths compromise.'"

The JACL's amicus brief was prepared by Michael Traynor, William S. Freeman, Darryl M. Woo, Gary H. Ritchey and Wendy J. Brenner, of Cooley Godward LLP, which has offices in Palo Alto, San Francisco, San Diego, and Kirkland, Wash. The amicus was provided pro bono by the nationally recognized law firm.

The JACL was founded in 1929 to fight discrimination against people of Japanese ancestry. The organization advances its mission through programs of civil rights, education, leadership, advocacy and redress. It is the largest and one of the oldest Asian Pacific American organizations in the United States. The JACL is associated with a number of legislative accomplishments, including the passage of the naturalization act for Asian Americans (Walter-McCarran Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1952) and redress for more than 120,000 Japanese Americans forced into prison camps during World War II solely because of their racial heritage (Civil Liberties Act of 1988). ■

National Board Meeting Motions Oct. 3-4

● Motion: David Hayashi, second, Elaine Akagi.

To accept the nominations to the Personnel Committee as presented.

● Motion: Alan Nishi, second, Aaron Owada. Motion tabled.

To table the previous motion until after the Governor's Caucus meeting.

● Motion: Alan Nishi, second, Lori Fujimoto. Carried.

To accept the Nominations Committee report as presented.

● Motion: Lori Fujimoto, second, Grace Kimoto. Carried.

To approve a business management study of JACL, if service is provided pro bono.

● Motion: Aaron Owada, second, Marie Matsunami. Carried.

To ratify the ballot vote taken to amend the bylaws as presented to the national council as Bylaw Amendment A-2, "Budget and Finance."

● Motion: David Kawamoto, second, Corey-Jeanne Houck. Carried.

To receive the quarterly financial report as presented.

● Motion: Alan Nishi, second, David Kawamoto. Carried.

To prepare a letter asking the U.S. Air Force to provide a fair hearing for Walter Horton.

● Motion: Lori Fujimoto, second, Hiromi Ueha. Motion tabled.

To approve the creation of a railroad and mine worker scholarship fund.

● Motion: Lori Fujimoto, second, Grace Kimoto.

To support the lawsuit as presented by Chris Prince.

● Motion: Lori Fujimoto, second, Alan Nishi. Motion defeated.

To amend the previous motion to join as a plaintiff.

● Motion: Aaron Owada, second, David Hayashi. Carried.

That the national JACL endorse a yes vote on California's Proposition 5.

● Motion: David Hayashi, second, Lori Fujimoto. Carried.

To accept Milo Yoshino's oral report with the condition that a written report, consistent with the oral report, is provided.

● Motion: Aaron Owada, second, Lori Fujimoto. Carried.

To ratify the creation of a Railroad and Mine Worker Scholarship Fund with the following conditions:

1. The corpus of the scholarship fund shall remain as a restricted fund;

2. Interest received on the corpus shall be unrestricted in nature;

3. Dividends, capital gains, or any other increase shall be treated as unrestricted funds in nature;

4. Scholarship applications and distributions shall follow the JACL's protocol currently adopted or hereafter amended.

● Motion: Alan Nishi, second, Aaron Owada. Carried.

To accept Rick Uno's personnel report as presented in executive session.

● Motion: Alan Nishi, second, Corey-Jeanne Houck. Carried.

To authorize Lori Fujimoto to prepare and release a press statement regarding JACL's position with respect to the Japanese Latin American situation.

● Motion: Gary Mayeda, second, Larry Grant. Carried.

To form a committee comprised of three members and a staff person lead by the vice president for planning and development with a report to be completed by June 1, 1999. ■

Floyd Mori new JACL VP general operations

JACL national president Helen Kawagoe recently announced the appointment of S. Floyd Mori to the JACL national board as vice president of general operations.



Mori has been a city councilman and mayor of the city of Pleasonton, Calif. He has

also served six years in the California State Assembly and as director of the California Office of International Trade, and is now operating his own firm, Mori International, as an international business consultant.

Mori replaces Richard Uno, who is now serving as chair of the Pacific Citizen editorial board. ■

Rohwer Reunion

The plans for Rohwer Reunion II have now been completed. The event is scheduled to take place at the Torrance Marriott Hotel in Torrance, Calif., on April 16, 17 and 18.

Scheduled events include a golf tournament on Friday morning, April 16, and a mixer on Friday night. The banquet will be held Saturday night, and for those interested, Sunday breakfast.

Early registration discount is in force. The deadline is November 15.

For reservation forms or additional information contact: Southern California—Peggy Tsuruta at 310/323-6337, Frank Yamaguchi at 310/329-2547, Chuckie Watanabe Seki at 213/935-3027, Betty Oka at 714/636-8207, Helen Takata at 626/968-2966; Northern California—Nelli Utsumi Noguchi at 415/387-5265, Lillian Uyeda Inouye at 510/235-6042, Asako Horimoto Maeda at 510/832-2275, and Yone Kumura Asai at 510/828-2086. ■

'Minoru Yasui Plaza' dedicated in Denver

DENVER—The Denver City Council voted unanimously on Sept. 28 to name a newly acquired 17-story municipal office building "Minoru Yasui Plaza." Of the 11 members of the city council present, eight spoke in glowing terms of Yasui's dedication to the promotion of human rights.



Yasui was executive director of Denver's Community Relations Commission for 16 years, retiring in 1983. He died in 1986, two years before Congress passed the Civil Liberties Act of 1998 which Yasui had fought for as chairman of JACL's Legislative Education Committee.

The proposal to name the building, which stands across from city hall, was made by Mayor Wellington Webb in his "State of the City" speech last

summer. The city council's action confirmed Webb's proposal.

"Several members of the council noted that while Yasui struck a great blow for justice in a U.S. Supreme Court case testing the legality of the imprisonment of Japanese Americans in World War II, his concerns extended to all segments of society. Councilman Edward P. Thomas, speaking emotionally, declared Yasui deserved the nation's highest civilian award, which would be equivalent to the Congressional Medal of Honor for military heroes.

"Minoru Yasui," said Council President Allegra Haynes, "stood for social justice for everyone, not for Japanese Americans alone."

Yasui had been found guilty of violating federal orders and imprisoned in early 1942, when he challenged military curfew orders against all ethnic Japanese civilians on the West Coast; the decision was eventually reversed. ■

Sacramento Community Service Recognition Dinner

BY TOKO FUJII

The Sacramento Community Service Recognition Dinner for 1998 has been set for Nov. 19 at the Raddison Hotel. Sponsored by the Sacramento JACL, this outstanding event is in its fifth year of honoring various members of the Japanese American community and the general Sacramento community for their outstanding contributions.

The honorees this year are Hiroko Ninomiya and Larry Takai from the JA community, Chief Arturo Venegas of the Sacramento Police Department, and state senator

Ralph Dils from Gardena; all have contributed to the general well-being of Japanese Americans and the population at large.

The Raddison Hotel was the elegant setting for Chapter's 65th anniversary dinner last year. The committee promises another outstanding menu for this year's gathering.

Tickets are \$30 per person and may be purchased at the JACL office — 2124 10th Street (916/447-0231), from members of the chapter's board of directors, or from Toko Fujii (916/421-6968). ■

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From the Fryng Pan

By Bill Hosokawa

Never again

IN A previous column I wrote about the Kooskia internment camp in a remote section of central Idaho where several hundred Issei spent a number of months during World War II. Most of them were employed building a road through the wilderness and enjoyed a kind of freedom unknown to Japanese Americans in the WRA detention camps.

For example, Kooskia was not fenced in. If an internee was of a mind, he could buy a \$2 state license and fish for trout which were plentiful in the streams, not far from the barracks that ran through the thickly wooded area. The Issei, who had been held in other detention camps after Pearl Harbor, volunteered to go to Kooskia and be paid \$50 a month. That compares to a top scale of \$19 in the fenced and guarded WRA camps, most of which were in dusty, desolate desert areas.

Why the difference?

The difference is that the Issei, most of whom had lived in the United States for the greater part of their lives, were arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and treated as enemy aliens, which they were. They were placed in Department of Justice camps. And as enemy aliens, they were entitled to loyalty hearings, a right which citizens were denied, and were given the protection of international laws governing the treatment of prisoners of war.

On the other hand, the majority of those held in the WRA camps were native-born American citizens. The Constitution said they were entitled to the protection of American laws just like citizens, but the government didn't see it that way. With something called an executive order,

signed by President Roosevelt, the rights of Americans who happened to be ethnic Japanese were suspended.

And so it happened that American citizens of Japanese ancestry were driven from their homes and taken into custody, just as Japanese citizens were, but the Americans were given fewer rights than the Japanese citizens.

Take, for instance, the Heart Mountain WRA camp in Wyoming. Japanese Americans were invited to work to complete an irrigation ditch so water could be brought to the desert surrounding the camp. Other Japanese Americans, U.S. citizens all, were asked to drive tractors to strip the sagebrush and level the desert so that crops could be grown. For this the citizens were paid \$12 to \$16 a month in addition to food and shelter, such as it was.

Essentially it was the same kind of earth-moving work that Issei prisoners of the United States were doing for \$50 a month just across the mountains in Idaho. In addition, the United States had to feed the prisoners at a standard that met international law whereas WRA camp food for citizens might not have met those requirements at all times.

Of course there's nothing to be gained now by grousing about these long-ago injustices and inequities. But it's never too late to ponder about the weird and outrageous things governments do, and we the citizens permit governments to do.

And to vow, never again. ■

Hosokawa is the former editorial page editor for the Denver Post. His column appears regularly in the Pacific Citizen.



Troubled in paradise

By Brian Niya

Unpopular minorities

BROWSING through some academic articles recently, I came across an interesting piece on the case of the marriage of labor leader Harry Bridges and Noriko (Sawada) Bridges. (The article is by Phillip I. Earl and appears in the *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly*.) Just under 40 years ago, on Dec. 8, 1958, the couple flew into Reno, Nev., with the intent of getting married. At that time, interracial marriages were illegal in Nevada, as they were in many other states, and they were denied a marriage license.

The article details their ultimately successful fight to get that law changed. It was one of a number of cases which helped change the laws in this country which banned interracial marriage, and which served as a precedent for the landmark *Loving v. Commonwealth* Supreme Court decision in 1967. Today, with so many Japanese Americans marrying partners of another race, it is easy to forget that it was virtually impossible to do so just over a generation ago.

I bring this up because a related issue is being contested here in Hawaii.

It began in May of 1991, when three couples were denied a marriage license and sued the state for the right to marry. The reason? The couples in question were same-gender couples.

The case eventually worked its way up to the Hawaii State Supreme Court, which ruled in 1993 that same-gender couples have a right to marry unless the state could offer a compelling reason why they shouldn't and kicked it back down to a lower court. In December of 1996, Circuit Judge Kevin Chang ruled that the state did not offer a reason compelling enough to con-

tinue the ban on same-gender marriages and opened the door for such marriages to be legal. But Judge Chang ruled the following day that the state could postpone issuing marriage licenses to same-gender couples until the appeals on the case were heard.

Essentially, this provided time for the politicians to get in on the action. In early 1997, the state Senate tried to find middle ground by granting some domestic partnership benefits while outlawing actual same-gender marriage. Two more months of negotiation with the House led to an agreement whereby "the people would decide." Hence, the referendum which appears on the ballot next month asks, "Shall the Constitution of the state of Hawaii be amended to specify that the Legislature shall have the power to reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples?"

There is a separate measure also on the ballot which asks, "Shall there be a convention to propose a revision of or amendments to the Constitution?"

The Honolulu chapter of the JACL has been very active in opposing both measures and has a history of speaking out for the rights of gays and lesbians. In 1993, the chapter supported the decision of the Supreme Court and sent out information about the issue to every member of the chapter. In 1994, the chapter introduced a successful resolution supporting same-gender marriage at the biennial convention. This resolution later sparked much debate and discussion in chapters around the country.

This time around, the Honolulu chapter is supporting "Protect the Constitution," a local organization formed to oppose the two measures. Many individual

members of the Honolulu board play key roles in this effort.

The reasons for the chapter's involvement in this issue are pretty simple.

The issue really isn't about same-gender marriage at all. It is about whether an unpopular minority group can be singled out for discriminatory treatment based on the wishes of the majority. As Japanese Americans, we should know what it feels like to be an unpopular minority.

And though the issue isn't specifically a Japanese American issue, it does affect Japanese Americans. A good number of us are gay or lesbian or are the parents, siblings or friends of gay/lesbian couples.

It's going to be a tough fight. With the support of large organizations of the religious right from the mainland, the supporters of these measures have money and human resources the opponents can't match. TV commercials sponsored by these groups which fan the flames of homophobia are now commonplace on local television.

As with many elections here, Japanese Americans are going to be one of key groups which will determine the outcome of this measure. As the only Japanese American organization to lend its name and resources to the effort to defeat it, we have our work cut out for us.

We hope that most Japanese Americans, whatever their personal feelings on same-gender marriage, would see the dangerous precedent this measure would set. For if the rights of one group can be taken away by a popular vote, who's to say it can't happen to others? Who's to say it can't happen to us? ■

Brian Niya is a member of the Honolulu JACL.

Justice Chin seeks re-election

(Continued from page 1)

out of the relationship between the parent and the child and how the child is raised by the parents.

"Put that aside, whether or not the right of privacy benefits minor children, and I think it was the preeminent issue in this case. I cannot frankly think of any other decision that would more affect a minor than that one. I don't think what the legislature did in making a determination and trying to legislate the relationship between the parent and the child helps that situation."

Chin then elaborated about some of the thinking process that was used to arrive at the court's decision.

"People always make the comparison," he said. "A child has to get parental consent to get tattoos, to get pierced, to get all kinds of crazy things, but I don't think any of those rise to the level of events that would alter that child's life forever."

"What happens if the child wants to have the baby and the parents do not? Who prevails? Does the child have to get an abortion because the parents say so? It's always a double-edged sword."

"The first line in the opinion, and this is a paraphrase, says, 'We are not trying to discourage communication between the parent and the child.' That's not what this case is about. It is about the right of privacy and does it extend to minors when we talk about decisions that will alter that minor's life — for the rest of that minor's life?"

To help illustrate the importance of this decision, Chin recounted an incident that happened to him.

"After I gave a speech in L.A., a young woman walked up to me and said, 'I want to thank you for your decision in the parental rights case. When I was a freshman in college, I made a mistake. I got pregnant. I come from a very traditional family. There was no way that I could go to my parents.' She had tears running down her face."

Chin has vowed to fight his battle for retention to "discourage this kind of attack on the judiciary in the future." He said he never imagined the ruling would have the impact that it has had, pointing out that it was carefully thought out, based on the rule of the law.

"This issue is very emotional for both sides," he said. "It's always a difficult decision when the courts have to consider these issues. But I think it's a terrible precedence to select and approve supreme court justices based on single issues. I'd be surprised if everybody agreed with every decision that I ever made. That would be the most surprising thing in the world. Judges are called upon to make tough, difficult decisions. We give it our best shot, and we call them as we see them."

U.S. Federal District Court Judge Ron Lew, who has been supporting Chin's efforts to win retention, said, "The integrity of the decision speaks for itself. It

See JUSTICE/page 10



East Wind

By Bill Marutani

Black, red and yellow

LOADED DOWN with hot Chinese food, I was on my way home in my automobile. It was one of those hot muggy days, somewhere in the 90s. Approaching an incline on the road, I came to a stop due to backed-up traffic. When the traffic started to move, I shifted into first gear. I must have let the clutch out too rapidly, killing my engine. I turned the key to restart the engine. No luck. Everything was out: radio, headlights, signal lights — all out. And, the traffic behind me was swelling. I placed the car in gear, pulled up the emergency brake, tripped the hood lock and lifted up the hood to see if I could locate the problem. In the meantime, automobiles were squeezing around me until a big semi-trailer stopped due to a lack of road space for the rig to get around me. From the tractor, who stepped a muscular driver who headed towards my stalled vehicle.

THE TRUCK DRIVER suggested that I place the gearshift into neutral and he would push me up the incline to the top where there was a gasoline service station. I thought he meant that he would push me with his

rig, the tractor-trailer. No, it was to be the muscular power of his body. What with the heat and all, just as we neared the peak, things momentarily came to a stop. At that point, another motorist who was approaching the intersection from the right stopped his vehicle and dashed over to join the truck driver. The two of them boosted my automobile up and over into the service station. The second driver then dashed back to his vehicle (engine still running), and the truck driver returned to his rig which was stopped.

THIS KIND OF good "Samaritan-ship" is somewhat rare and heartwarming. In this instance, there was a juxtaposition of yet another dimension which gave the experience a special meaning. The tractor-trailer operator was black (he may or may not have been African American); the second driver who came to my assistance was a red-headed Caucasian; and both of them came to assist me, an Asian. A color mix of black, white and yellow. A reflection of much that is good in America. And we do have a lot of good, decent, caring folks in this land.

I WAS AT a roadside telephone as the tractor-trailer rig chugged by. I raised my arms to signal my thanks; in response, the driver gave two short blasts with his horn. In the stress of the situation, I did not even get his name, nor the name of the red-headed fellow. And this is not the kind of situation where one responds with an offer of money which would have only tarnished a beautiful episode. It's priceless.

SO WHAT had caused my automobile to stall so ignominiously? Well, a few years ago I had installed a "quick-disconnect" system on my battery system which would cut off all the power when, for example, I parked my automobile at the airport for a few days, thus not only discouraging auto theft, but also sparing battery rundown. In the following years, the connection to the battery terminal had loosened, resulting in an unexpected cut off of all battery power. (Pays to check the battery cables every so often.) ■

After leaving the bench, Marutani resumed practicing law in Philadelphia. His column appears regularly in the Pacific Citizen.



MIXED MESSAGES

By Mikka Tanner

Asian Invasion??

THEY are everywhere. No matter where I look, there are in overwhelming numbers. I seem to be surrounded by them. In fact, you can hardly turn around without bumping into one or two — that's how many there are. No, I'm not talking about women with breast implants or people with cellular phones attached to their heads. I'm talking about the incredible number of Asian Americans on the UCLA campus, where I just began my first year as a graduate student in Asian American Studies.

For someone who went to high school and college where Asian Americans seemed pretty scarce, this is a big change. The first day of classes, I walked through the center of campus on Bruin Walk, where cliques of students congregate and where fraternities, sororities, and other student organizations set up information tables in the hopes of attracting new members. Walking past, it seemed as though every table was for an Asian American organization of some kind: Hong Kong Student's Association, Korean Christian Fellowship Club, Nikkei Student Union, Japan Society, Asian American sororities and fraternities, etc. It was incredible! A few — maybe two or three — other ethnic and religious organizations dotted the path here and there, but by and large, the groups seemed to serve the Asian American student community.

To tell you the truth, I'm not sure how I feel about this. On one hand, it's great that Asian Americans are participating with such success in America's higher edu-

cation system. It's nice to feel the strength in numbers that was missing from my undergraduate years at Pomona College. At Pomona, at least when I was there, I never could have imagined Asian Americans being such a visible part of the campus scene.

On the other hand, however, walking around campus, I can't help but notice that there seems to be a marked under-representation of other ethnic and minority groups. Of course, this is in no way the fault of the Asian American students, but it's hard not to notice the disparity. I'm guessing this is one of the effects of anti-affirmative action Prop. 209, under which the UCLA admission rate for African American, Native American, and Latino students for this year's freshman class dropped 38 percent from last year. In a California, where these ethnic groups make up roughly 34 percent of the population, it just doesn't seem right that they should account for only 10 percent of this year's admissions.

Asian Americans, however, actually saw an increase in admission rates as a result of the passage of the anti-affirmative action proposition. While this is great for those deserving Asian American students who have always dreamed of going to UCLA, I'm a bit concerned about the backlash that I think is bound to strike. How can the power structure that exists in this society allow such a high percentage of Asian Americans to exist at one of the foremost public universities in the country without feeling threatened in some way? Already, UCLA is known as the

"University of Caucasians Lost among Asians." My boyfriend reports that at UC Berkeley, where similar student population adjustments are taking place, all the graffiti scrawled on the bathroom walls are messages of hate and intolerance directed towards the Asian American student population. I am not at all surprised that some racially intolerant students with inferiority complexes would be quite alarmed at the high number of Asian students and decide to make them the target of their misguided resentment.

Hopefully there will be no backlash. But, given the history of this country and its tradition of protecting the powers that be, I'm not overly optimistic. In the 1920s, for instance, the number of Jewish students enrolling in the nation's premiere universities was reaching such high numbers that school officials tried to curb their enrollment by employing a variety of screening methods such as "character" tests and quotas. I'm not saying that the exact same thing would happen — I sincerely hope it won't — but it wouldn't be a total shock. In a state where racist legislation such as 187 can pass, anything can happen.

So while it's comforting in a way to see so many Asian American faces around me, it raises some critical issues as well. Prop. 209 is a tragedy, there's no doubt about it. I only hope that Asian Americans aren't made to pay the price. ■

Mikka Tanner is a board member of Hapa Issues Forum. She can be contacted at mtanner@lausd.k12.ca.



Very Truly Yours

By Harry K. Honda

When did I first meet this MIS Hall of Famer?

AT A HOTEL adjacent to the San Francisco International Airport, the Military Intelligence Service NorCal recently roasted and toasted one of their own, Harry Katsuharu Fukuhara, 78, of San Jose. I, myself, being unable to relate exactly "when we first met" — as was the case with the host of his WWII comrades at the luncheon program — I promised to present a photocopy of the page where I first saw his name in the P.C. I strongly felt it would be among the 16-chapter serialization of Joe Harrington's *Yankee Samurai* that appeared during the first half of year 1979.

Harry's name is practically buried in Chapter 5, page 10, March 2 issue, with a flurry of other language students volunteering from the wartime internment camps. The success encountered in 1942 by Nisei linguists in Alaska and Guadalcanal raised a cry from field commanders for more of them — even from Admiral Halsey in New Caledonia, although the Navy officially didn't want them, and in New Guinea under General MacArthur whose chief of intelligence, Gen. Willoughby, recognized their potential.

Harry had volunteered from Gila River, Ariz., after being assured that his sister and her child would be safe in the camp. (It should be remembered, that recruitment of volunteers from the camps for the 442nd began in the middle of 1943.) On Dec. 1, 1942, he departed from Camp Savage, Minn., where his firsthand knowledge of Japan and the language, gained from his earlier years, were most valued.

In 1933, after his father died, his mother and family moved to the Hiroshima, where Harry graduated from high school. He returned alone in 1938 to the U.S. to continue his studies and work his way through college. When war broke out, all of the Fukuhara family was in Japan, except for his widowed elder sis-

ter. One brother was drafted into the Imperial Army to fight in China. His two younger brothers served in the Imperial Navy.

The dichotomy of brothers fighting in opposing forces is certainly not new. Look at the Civil War of the 1860s or the War Between the States. There are instances in Nisei MIS lore where brothers were in opposite lines in battle or at surrender ceremonies.

Heading Chapter 8 — "Winter 1944 sees MIS activities expand in Pacific Theater" — is Harry Fukuhara serving with the Alamo Scouts at Arawe Peninsula (New Britain's south side) on Dec. 15, 1943. "All we could do was lie on the floor and pray," he told Harrington, for foxholes couldn't be dug fast enough in the rocks to help and there were no nearby caves or dense thickets for hiding.

Following VJ-Day and stationed in Kobe, his commander knew his family was in Hiroshima and told him to go find his family, giving him access to a jeep and whatever he could muster in the way of food and clothing. It was an emotional moment when he found his old home, partially destroyed, and two elderly women — his *Okasama* — "mother" and her sister.

Following nearly 30 years in intelligence work, he retired as a colonel in 1971, commanding the foreign liaison detachment of the 500th MI Group in Japan. He continued at the same post as an army civilian until October 1990, culminating a 48-year career. President Bush awarded him with the Distinguished Federal Civilian Service honors; the Emperor of Japan, the 3rd Order of the Rising Sun, and the Army's Legion of Merit medal. But Harry proudly recalls, "Bill (Clinton) played golf with me (in Hawaii)."

In 1993, Harry Fukuhara was inducted into the U.S. Army Intelligence Hall of Fame, Fort Huachuca, Ariz. (The above mentioned pages are on their way to San Jose.) ■

Masako Nakada wins George Sakaguchi Community Service Award

This Labor Day, in a tradition over 20 years old, the Missouri Botanical Garden hosted its annual Japanese Festival. During the opening ceremonies, the St. Louis Chapter of the JAACL and Anheuser-Busch Companies awarded Masako Nakada the 1998 George Sakaguchi Community Service Award.

Nakada volunteers with the Ronald McDonald House in St. Louis, which provides short-term accommodations to sick children and their families who fly in for treatment. Of special note was her assistance with the Harada's, a Japanese family whose 14-year-old son Makoto was in St. Louis waiting for a lung transplant. In addition to the stress associated with such a serious operation, the Harada's also had to cope with staying in a strange country, adjusting to different

customs and cultures, as well as overcoming the communication barrier. Nakada, who previously volunteered in similar capacities in Japan, was able to relieve some of the burden encountered by the family.

The George Sakaguchi Community Service Award was initiated by friends as a lasting tribute after the passing of St. Louis community and JAACL leader George Sakaguchi in 1996. David Kim, Director of Corporate Relations at Anheuser-Busch Companies and a friend of Sakaguchi's, spearheaded the drive while working closely with the St. Louis JAACL.

The St. Louis JAACL and Anheuser-Busch annually present the award to an individual who excels in the Sakaguchi spirit of "...making St. Louis a better place to live...." The recipient re-

ceives a plaque and a donation of \$1000 to the charity of their choice. ■



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■ JOB REOPENING

Regional Director

The Japanese American Citizens League (JAACL) has reopened the search for a Regional Director for the Pacific Southwest District who is energetic, organized, and highly motivated to "make a difference."

Under the general direction of the National Director, the Regional Director carries out JAACL's Program for Action and other policies; conducts advocacy, community relations, and fund-raising activities; serves as a JAACL spokesperson at the regional level; works with JAACL members to develop programs and events; and monitors local, state, and national affairs affecting Asian Americans.

The Regional Director manages the Pacific Southwest District office in Los Angeles, supervising one staff person and periodic student interns. This semi-autonomous position is responsive to the Pacific Southwest District Council and board to ensure that JAACL members in the district are adequately served. Lifting, travel, and work after regular hours and on weekends will be required.

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Gaming initiative divides tribes

(Continued from page 1)

concern is that the measure will promote the growth of Indian gaming in California to such an extent that it will create too much competition for the tribe's casino to survive.

However, the majority of gaming tribes who depend on these popular video machines have refused such a compact, first, because they bring in as much as three-fourths of the casino revenue to be used for education, housing and health care and, second, because, as Allan said, negotiations with the government have not been mutually satisfying.

As for the California economy, Prop. 5 supporters argue that the state stands to benefit. Campaigners estimate that over \$120 million in state and local taxes is generated each year. Indian casinos provide 45,000 jobs directly or non-directly to non-Indians and has saved \$50 million a year by taking nearly 9,000 people off of welfare. The revenue raised in the casinos, moreover, will go towards state emergency medical services in communities around reservations, and non-gaming tribes will receive financing for cultural and human service projects.

In addition, the state will be allowed to require the gaming tribes to reimburse the government for all regulatory costs involving health and safety standards, at no cost to California taxpayers.

But not everyone would agree that this is what Prop. 5 will do. The statewide AFL-CIO has taken a position against the measure. Labor unions, such as Local 11 of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees (HERE) in Nevada, are openly opposed and have been working closely with the three tribes as part of the Coalition Against Unregulated Gambling.

"The main reason [labor is against it] is because Proposition 5 will make permanent the denial of basic workers' rights that all other employers in the state have to respect," said

Maria Elena Durazo, president of the Los Angeles chapter of HERE.

"The statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has [also] taken a position against Prop. 5. There is a clear, clear disadvantage to California businesses because they're not taxes on the revenue generated in [Indian] casinos, and they're substantial revenues. There's a billion and a half dollars generated there," she said. "And when you don't have to deal with health and safety regulations and taxes and all the employee rules and regulations, clearly you're put at a far greater advantage."

"There needs to be some regulation," she adds, "not an entire taking-over. Of course, that would not be good as far as sovereignty, but there needs to be some regulation negotiated."

The Prop. 5 issue has become increasingly contentious not just in terms of division among tribes and minority groups; though, but also in terms of campaign spending on both sides, which has reached a total of nearly \$60 million. It is a figure which some predict will overtake the old state record in election spending of \$84 million, set in 1988.

According to reports filed with the secretary of state's office on Oct. 5, the Yes on 5 campaign has spent \$36 million out of the \$42.7 million raised, which is twice the amount spent by their opponents.

The No on 5 campaign, meanwhile, has spent an estimated \$17.1 million, putting them \$1.6 million over the \$15.5 million they raised mostly through contributions from Nevada-affiliated businesses and casino conglomerates such as Circus Circus Enterprises Inc., Hilton Hotels Corp. and Mirage Resorts Inc.

Both campaigns have spent much of the money on getting the word out in the media through public announcements and commercials. "We believe," Nelson said, "that this campaign will be won through t.v., print and radio." ■



Letters to the Editor

Draft Resisters

As a hakujin who has read the 1990 Lim Report several times and a veteran of WWII and Korea, there is something I have never heard mentioned about the resisters and the JACL: MUTUAL APOLOGIES TO PUT AN END TO THE ISSUE.

There are good and bad issues on both sides. Do you remember how the fellows who volunteered or were drafted were treated? How were their families treated? It was the principal of the issue for the resisters because of the violation of their constitutional rights.

The Pacific Southwest District of the JACL passed a resolution of apology to the resisters in 1994. There were resisters present at the district meeting and the discussion became quite heated at times, but there was a positive vote in favor of an apology. I did not participate in the discussion, but voted in the affirmative.

Joe R. Allman
Phoenix, Ariz.

The Heart Mountain draft resisters, draft dodgers or whatever can "take a hike." In 1943 upon graduating from the Amache High School, I volunteered for the 442nd. If some of you can recall, the protestors called us traitors, *inu's* (dogs) and other unmentionables. It was even suggested to me to aim a little to the left of the Germans. I have resented those comments to this day.

I volunteered because it was my patriotic duty as an American and for the betterment of all of our offspring. All the JAs benefited from our sacrifices, even the protestors.

The protestors had many reasons why they didn't want to go.

1. Some of their political affiliations at the time were very doubtful and some pro-Japan.
2. Some refused because they were unjustly interned.
3. Others didn't want to leave their families.
4. Many didn't want to die.
5. Their reasons were varied and mixed.

In the name of the hundreds of JAs who died in Italy and France during WWII, the draft dodgers, resisters or Fair Play Committee can "Take a Hike." What do they want, recognition? A medal? I have an old Good Conduct Medal they can have. I say let sleeping dogs lie!

R. S. Ichihara
Torrance, Calif.

The Nanking Massacre

I came upon your wonderful Pacific Citizen of Sept. 18-Oct. 1, 1998, and read many interesting articles and wonderful writers. Especially of great interest was Mr. Clifford Uyeda's great article entitled *Japanese Americans and the Nanking Massacre of 1937*.

Mr. Uyeda writes of restitution with great knowledge and historical truths concerning the Nanking massacre of over 61 years ago. This article should have been on page 1 and not on page 13 and 16. The other Japanese atrocities committed were at Manila at the end of World War II, the enslavement of Koreans for over 35 years and the comfort women from the various Asian countries. Nations that commit atrocities will not have one sentence of this in their history books. It is therefore very important that past and current atrocities be exposed in many different ways, otherwise it will continue to destroy humankind.

Japan, the perpetrator of these past atrocities, continues to inhumanly and irresponsibly ignore this issue. To save face, they will not face the truth.

Mr. Uyeda writes about the moral obligation of Japan, which is right, but a question arises, "Why have not these governments of the victimized people made demands for restitution?" The answer, perhaps, lies in the national economic needs over human rights needs. These victimized nations are in dire need of Japan, now the "prosperous perpetrator" of Asia even though at present they're having difficulties. In other words, "Money talks and everything else walks." Sad to say such is the state of the nation/human condition of this world.

Mr. Uyeda, thank you for your wonderful article. Continue to enlighten all of us.

Robert C. S. Lee
New York, N.Y.

Contributing to the Combined Federal Campaign

I am a member of the JACL and a U.S. Army retiree who has spent many years working in the Military Finance and Accountant Office worldwide, and countless time in processing the Combined Federal Campaign payroll forms year after year! I personally am not endorsing, endorsed by or for anyone, or making a "pitch" for anyone to contribute, but I do want to make our readers aware that this program is available for those who normally do make contributions or are first-time contributors of the Combined Federal Campaign through their local, servicing finance office.

JACL as an organization, I believe, made an excellent choice in being a participant of the Combined Federal Campaign program. This organization reaches to everybody in all of the branches of the United States Military, be it the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Army, and the U.S. Air Force.

The U.S. Army normally authorizes the CFC to advertise to all of its members and provides a listing of all the organizations participating, and the service member makes choices of whom he or she wants to contribute to and how much would be payroll-deducted. The rest of the military service also advertises to its members for contributing. The deduction begins with the end of month payroll in January of the following year. Contributing to or through this organization is not mandatory.

In closing, please look at the Combined Federal Campaign program. Contributions made through this organization to any of the groups of your choosing are worthwhile. As mentioned earlier, it is not mandatory to contribute and there are no repercussions if you should decide not to contribute, but it is worthwhile for your consideration.

Robert H. Nakamura
Lacey, Wash.

Coming Home

I enjoyed reading Mika Tanner's article on "Coming Home." It has given me an idea for a local program that I will be organizing for the Nikkei in the Houston area on Oct. 31, coincidentally when we are hosting Irene Hirano of the Japanese American National Museum. Keep up the good work!

P.S. Previously, your articles on the new Issei were also interesting, as they have long been outside of the mainstream Japanese American community.

David Watanabe, Ph.D.
Former president, JACL-Houston Chapter
Board of Governors, JANM

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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 abridgement. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.

JUSTICE CHIN

(Continued from page 7)

wasn't only his vote. It took a majority.

"It comes right down to viewing any justice, you cannot just look at a single decision. You have to look at the breadth of all the decisions and how he participated in them over the course of his entire career. He's been a good judge."

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Ernest M. Hiroshige voiced similar feelings. "I've met him personally and reviewed his works," said Hiroshige. "He's a reasonable justice and a good role model for Asian Pacific Americans. If you look at his personal story, he was the son of a farmer and rose up to supreme court justice. He's competent. I've seen his work and all of his opinions are well written and intelligent. He deserves to be renewed for a 12-year term."

Chin supporters come from both sides of the political spectrum, including: George Deukmajian, Pete Wilson, Dianne Feinstein, Barbara Boxer, Matt Fong, Willie Brown, Richard Riordan, Dave Sterling and Bill Lockyer.

Congressman Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) declared, "I strongly support Justice Chin. It's horrible that they are attacking the justice on this principal stance. Just because he was appointed by Republicans doesn't mean Chin needs to rule according to their political views."

Norman Mineta, former congressman and Lockheed Martin vice president, telephoned Chin and offered his assistance. Mineta said, "It is important to have someone of Justice Chin's legal acumen and integrity serving on the supreme court. There are decisions that come up whether they involve — let's say — ethnicity or language capabilities. They ought to be looked at from that perspective."

"Someone who has never had to live under those different circumstances wouldn't appreciate what someone has to go through. I think it's important to have people that are far ranging with wide experiences on the court, and I can't think of a better example than Justice Chin."

As an American of Asian descent, Chin feels he can ensure justice for all. "Discrimination against all Asians was pervasive until about 40 years ago," he said.

"Having an Asian on the supreme court at least gives us a seat at the table to make sure that the Japanese internment, the prohibition of Asians becoming U.S. citizens or preventing us from testifying in court and other travesties will not be repeated."

But political analysts predict Chin's fate may be determined by voter turnout. Single-issue voters, like anti-abortionists, are more likely to go to the polls in large numbers.

"I think the fact that everyone is predicting a low voter turnout makes it that much more important for Asian Pacific Americans to vote in this campaign," said Mineta. "We have to have our voices heard, and... I just hope they (APAs) don't stay away from the polls."

Another factor that could affect Chin's future is GOP gubernatorial hopeful Dan Lungren's "neutral stand."

Chin, who was appointed by Gov. Wilson, said, "A couple of people have talked to me about that, and they have taken the 'message' to Dan and told him he would have much greater support in the Asian community if he would come out and support me. Dan's response was, 'I have always supported Justice Chin.'"

Lungren, as a judicial appointments committee member, voted to confirm Chin as presiding justice on the Court of Appeals and to the state Supreme Court.

As far as Chin is concerned, Lungren's explanation stops short of an official endorsement "and that's disappointing to me."

Analysts theorize Lungren has adopted a "neutral stand" to avoid offending right-wingers over the abortion issue.

The 56-year-old Chin, a father of a daughter and son who are also pursuing legal careers, credits the APA community for giving him "the strongest and most loyal support."

"I want to thank them for that, because it has been most gratifying."

California state Assemblyman Mike Honda points out, with less than a month before the election, Chin needs more help. Honda said, "They (APAs) should support his re-election and like any other campaign, support him with contributions and campaign for him."

For more information about Chin and majority opinions he has rendered, visit his website: www.calforchin.com. ■

JLA and NCRR file lawsuit

(Continued from page 1)

to pay reparations to the tens of thousands of Japanese Americans forced into concentration camps during WWII. The plaintiffs argue that if the money had been invested, an additional \$200-\$300 million would now be available in the fund, an amount more than enough to pay full redress to Japanese Latin Americans, not simply the \$5,000.

The plaintiffs also argue that not only are JLA's being short-changed, but that JAs did not receive all of the money appropriated to them under the '88 Act, including a shortfall of \$45 million that was supposed to be going towards the CLPEF. Instead of \$50 million dollars, the CLPEF received only \$5 million to fund various educational projects across the country.

What the plaintiffs want is for the alleged missing funds to be placed back into the CLPEF and for the sunset date of the Act to be extended past August 10, 1998, so that all of those who deserve full redress can be paid.

"The statute is black and white. [The government] didn't reinvest," said attorney Chris Prince of McCutchen, Doyle, Brown, and Emersen, who along with attorneys Robin Toma, Fred Okrand, and Richard Field announced the filing of the malfeasance, class-action lawsuit on behalf of pro-bono clients Suzuki and NCRR at a press conference in Los Angeles. "I've seen nothing that the government has defense to this. Their only defense is procedural rather than defense on merits."

And according to the lawyers for the plaintiffs, the government has offered no explanations as to why the funds were never invested until this past year.

The lawsuit comes shortly after Campaign for Justice, a coalition group who filed the *Mochizuki* settlement on behalf of Japanese Latin Americans, announced in a press release that attorney Katherine D. Ray of the Department of Justice Civil Division has confirmed that there is not enough money left in the CLPEF to pay all of the JLA former internees their \$5,000 payments.

See JLA/page 12

Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
c/o The Campaign for Justice
P.O. Box 214
Gardena, California 90248

Attention: Doris Matsui

Dear President Clinton:

I applaud your honesty and forthrightness in acknowledging the U.S. Government's responsibility for directing the World War II program which forcibly brought over 2,200 Latin American citizens and residents of Japanese ancestry to the U.S. for imprisonment and use in prisoner or war exchanges with Japan.

I also respect you, Mr. President, and your Attorney General Janet Reno for recently recognizing that those Japanese Latin American former internees should be given redress and an apology, through the settlement of a lawsuit brought pursuant to the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. I also greatly appreciate the crucial support given by Associate Attorney General Ray Fisher and Assistant Attorney General Bill Lann Lee for obtaining redress for the Japanese Latin American former internees.

Given the U.S. government's role in uprooting and internment of the Japanese Latin Americans, I am glad you have made a commitment to ensure that every Japanese Latin American former internee who survived the ordeal receives a \$5,000 redress payment, as the lawsuit settlement provides. We hope you will act quickly to seek additional funds from Congress to account for the shortfall in redress monies to ensure a redress payment for all of the approximately 700 surviving Japanese Latin American former internees.

However, as the *Washington Post's* editorial pointed out, only partial justice has been rendered by the fact that the Japanese Latin Americans, who suffered as much, if not more, than the Japanese Americans, are receiving only \$5,000, a fraction of the \$20,000 redress payment given to others under the Civil Liberties Act.

Mr. President, I ask that you do the only morally correct thing that can be done under these circumstances, and push for congressional legislation to appropriate funds to assure that every eligible Japanese Latin American former internee receive a \$20,000 redress payment, as set forth in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

I also want to say that:

Sincerely,

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

cc: My representatives in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives

JOB OPENING

Program Director - Youth Student Affairs

Under the general direction of the National Director, performs a wide variety of duties to ensure the development and maintenance of the JACL's youth and student programs and goals. Travel and work on weekends and evenings required. Graduate of a four year accredited college or University in behavioral or social science or related field and three to five years of progressively more responsible work experience in developing youth programs and policies preferred. Must be experienced in the use of computer technology and e-mail. Fund raising experience a plus.

Position starts January 1999. Excellent fringe benefit package provided. Competitive salary commensurate with experience. Send resume and cover letter to: JACL, 1765 Sutter St. San Francisco, CA 94115 or fax to 415/931-4671. E-mailed applications/resumes not accepted. Applications will be taken until the position is filled.

BOXER-FONG

(Continued from page 5)

have less opportunities here in America."

SURPLUS

The federal government will have about a \$70 billion surplus this year, the first time since 1969, when Richard Nixon, the second president to face an impeachment process, was in office.

Although Congress debated on how to utilize the surplus, with the Republicans favoring the use of the money to finance a tax cut, Boxer noted that the money was really a "Social Security surplus."

"These extra funds are there because we're waiting for the baby boomers to retire. It belongs to Social Security, and to touch it would be like stealing from the vault," said Boxer.

But Fong felt a surplus indicates that the federal government took in more than it needed. "That why, I think in fairness we should give back some of that money," said Fong.

Although Fong acknowledged that the Social Security program needed money, in general, Fong favors privatizing Social Security to allow individuals and government agencies to invest the funds into stocks and bonds.

With the surplus, he proposed using parts of the surplus to lower payroll taxes. "I think that would be a great way to address the minimum wage issue, not by raising wages but by lowering their taxes. At the same time, I think it would stimulate the economy," said Fong. ■



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NJAMF announces agenda for upcoming board meeting

The board members of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation will convene for their quarterly board meeting in Washington, D.C., Nov. 5-7 1998, according to board chairman Melvin Chiogioi. With the capital campaign at its height, this meeting will focus on consolidating fundraising efforts nation-wide and increasing awareness in all Japanese American communities.

The NJAMF was formed in 1992 with the passing of legislation that established parameters for the construction of a memorial to Japanese American patriotism in WWII. The memorial is scheduled for completion in the year 2000, but the deadline to raise most of the required funds, an estimated \$9 million, is August 1999. Shiro Shiraga of Chicago, chairman of the finance committee, says, "With the support of so many community groups, we know we will make the deadline."

The board meeting's agenda will begin with a dinner reception hosted by the Hon. and Mrs. Kunihiko Saito at the Japanese Embassy on the evening of Nov. 5. Several honored guests are scheduled to attend, including Kristi Yamaguchi and Congressional

Medal of Honor recipient Hershey Miyamura.

The meetings will be held over the course of the following two days at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, where officers will provide updates on the various committees, including the finance, marketing communications, capital campaign and memorial/building committees.

A special time has been reserved for the members to pay their respects to former board director Arthur Morimitsu of Chicago, who passed away Sept. 1. The memorial service will be held at Arlington Cemetery Friday, Nov. 6, at 3 p.m. An editor of a Chicago Japanese American newspaper and a WWII veteran, Morimitsu was credited for many projects he initiated and supported nationally as well as in his community.

Before the weekend's adjournment, the site for the next board meeting will be determined.

Donations and questions may be directed to the following address: National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, 1716 M St. NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036; phone 202/861-8845; fax 202/861-8848; e-mail: NJAMF@erols.com. ■

Tats Kushida, 82, JACL regional director 1947-1957

Tats Kushida, JACL regional director in Chicago (1947-49) and in Los Angeles (1949-1957), died on Oct. 12 due to failing health, at Keiro Nursing Home. Funeral service will be held on Tuesday, 11 a.m. Oct. 20, at the Fukui Mortuary Chapel.

A prewar UC Berkeley com-

merce graduate, he had been a WRA administrator before joining the JACL to organize chapters in the Midwest District, raise funds for JACL-ADC and reactivate chapters in the Pacific Southwest District. He is survived by his wife Mae and two daughters. ■

Obituaries

All the toms are in California except as noted.

Abe, Joe Kiyotaka, 84, Campbell, Sept. 13; survived by wife Mary Iyoso; son Nick; daughters Shary and Norma Judy; 2 gc.

Akutsu, Jim, Seattle, Sept. 22; re-stated draft out of Minidoka; model for Ichiro Yamada in Okada's novel, *No-No Boy*.

Doi, Frank Koso, 80, Riverside, Sept. 8; survived by wife Yoshiye; sons Teruo, Kunio, George Tetsuo and wife Mayumi; daughters Keiko and Kimiko Iwanaka and husband James; cousin Ben Hatakeda; 7 gc., 1 ggc.

Endo, Fujio William, 79, Watsonville-bom, Sept. 2, World War II veteran; survived by wife Miyoko; daughters Cynthia Rodriguez and husband Peter, Yvonne Takemoto and husband Stanley, and Monica Esparza and husband Gabriel; brothers Jerry, Takuo and wife Yoko, Jim and wife Carol, George and wife Margaret and Its; sisters Yae Nagai, Nancy Miyagishi and husband Hisa, Mary Tonal and husband Minoru, Elinor Sakado and husband Mitch; 2 gc.; and many nieces and nephews.

Enfield, Lilly Yuriko, 60, La Palma, Los Angeles-bom; survived by husband Benjamin; daughters Evelyn Saratt and husband Gary, Leilani Copland and husband Wayne, and Darlene; father Tsugio Takeuchi; sisters Jeanne and husband Stan and Katherine Hayashi; 5 gc.; and many other relatives.

Enomoto, Shigeru, 70, Wash., D.C., Aug. 28; survived by sister Kiyoko.

Furukawa, Fukue, 92, Chula Vista, Sept. 10; survived by sons Kenneth and wife Mieko, David and wife Natsumi; daughters Reiko Maruyama and husband John, Taeko Udo and husband Tom, Yasuko Okazaki and husband James; brother Tom Kamei and wife Kay; gc. ggc.

Ishizawa, Katsuji, 55, Temple City, Sept. 17, Aomori-bom; survived by wife Junko; parents Kinzo and Iso; brothers Kazuhiro, Shunzo, Keizo and Katsumi (of Japan); mother-in-law Saki Sugio; brothers-in-law Masahiro Sugio and wife Toshiko, Toshihiro Sugio and wife Sachiyu; sisters-in-law Keiko Kuroki and husband Kunimori, Ryoko Nakanishi and husband Riji; and many other relatives.

Kashima, Mitsuru, 84, Garden Grove, Sept. 13, Hawaii-bom; survived by husband Yukio; son James and his wife Gail; daughters Betty Akagi and husband Rikio, Maizie Hirota and husband Thomas, and Dolly Kamei and husband Lawrence; 7 gc.

Kato, Tamotsu Tom, San Jose, Sept. 5; survived by daughters Rosie and Ruby Green and husband Bob; sons Thomas Jr. and Albert; 4 gc.; predeceased by wife Hanaye.

Kawakami, Yoshiko "Josie", 80, Pocatello, Idaho, Sept. 11; survived by daughters Alyce Brown and husband Jack, Naomi Ota and husband Martin, Lynne Lords and husband Don, and Martha; sons Ken and wife Arlee, Ben and wife Vicki, Joe and wife Kathy, Gene and Leo; 11 gc., 4 ggc.; predeceased by husband Isaac; parents Yonejiro and Kiyono Morimoto Nakao; daughter Amy; sister Masumi; and brother Dean.

Kawasaki, Sumio, Berkeley, Sept. 14; survived by wife Matsuko; sons John and Alan; daughter Chiyeiko (Virginia); 9 gc., 4 ggc.; predeceased by daughter Linda Ellenberger.

Kawate, Jane Misae, 74, Gardena, Sept. 3, San Jose-bom; survived by husband Toshiyuki; daughters Rose Kuykendall, Judy Karasawa and her husband Robert, and Junie; sons Kazuo and wife Junko, and Glenn; 4 gc.; and many other relatives.

Kawazoye, Yoshio, 76, Pico Rivera, Sept. 18, Stockton-bom; survived by wife Kaie; son Bruce; daughter Arleen Novotney and husband Michael; sister Toshie Goto (Japan); sisters-in-law Harue and Michiko; 1 gc.

Kitashima, Jack Hitoshi, 86, Santa Monica, Sept. 14; survived by wife Mary Hatsumi; sisters Chito Iwasaki and Fusako; 11 gc.; 4 ggc.; and many nieces and nephews.

Mikami, Erabu, 96, Morgan Hill, Sept. 16; survived by sons Yoshikazu Dean and wife Yukimi Maureen, Harry Kazuya and wife Hiroko and Kazuto (Chris); daughter June Junko Crane and husband Frank; gc.

Miyata, Taka, 96, Gunma-ken, Japan-bom, Sept. 17; survived by son Satoshi and wife Sumiko Sue; 2 gc.; and many other relatives.

Morita, Masanori "Sam", 82, Culver City, Sept. 18, Oregon-bom; survived by

wife Yoshiko; son Herbert Shuichi and wife Carol; daughters Beverly Ikeda and husband Donald, Nancy Uyeda and husband Roy Minoru, Carleen Sagara and husband Harry; 8 gc.; and many other relatives.

Murai, Chiyoiko, 83, Sacramento, Aug. 25; survived by daughters May Brown, Molly Nakaji and husband Fred, Jane Mino and husband Art; son Tom and wife Roberta; 9 gc.; predeceased by husband Tadao; and daughter Helen.

Nakamura, George, El Monte, services held Sept. 10; member of Yamaguchi Kenjin Kai and Nisei Veterans Committee; survived by wife Fujie I.; brother June Setsuko and wife Katsu.

Nakazono, Kana, 95, Los Angeles, Sept. 9, Okinawa-bom; survived by son Henry and wife Julia; daughters Chizuko Yamagawa and husband Joe, Yukiko Aihara and husband Ben, Teruko Iwasaki, Haruko Miller and husband Henry; daughter-in-law Shizuko; 18 gc., 22 ggc.

Nakashima, William S., 88, Stockton, Sept. 7; survived by wife Yone; daughters Janice Chan and husband Michael, Jean Sakoda and husband Duane, and Joyce; son John and wife Kelly; 8 gc.

Nioka, Yuldo, 78, Torrance, Aug. 30, Fresno-bom; survived by wife Tamie; daughters Eri, Heidi Loyd; sister Kyo Hojo; 1 gc.; and other relatives.

Nitta, Hajime, 99, Victorville, Sept. 14, Hiroshima-ken, Japan-bom; survived by son Carl and wife Beadie; daughter-in-law Jane; brother Katsuko and wife Teruko (both of Japan); 4 gc., 9 ggc.; and many other relatives.

Nomura, Kazuko, 66, San Francisco, Sept. 12; survived by husband Bob Tomatsu; sisters Kiyoko Kurata, Shigeo, Hiroshi Shozo Suda (all of Japan); brothers-in-law Isamu and wife Yukiye and Frank; sisters-in-law Mabel Kariya and May Ogasawara.

Norihiro, Kenso "Ken", 66, Arleta, Sept. 19, Glendale-bom; survived by wife Kathleen; daughters Desiree, Yoko, Rumiko; brothers Eichi, Ray, Masaaki, Utsushi, Fujio; sisters Yoshie Sasaki (Hawaii) and Masako Shirataki; mother-in-law Agnes Munasato; brother-in-law Don, Gary and Jimmy; and many other relatives.

Okuda, Murayo, 93, Anaheim, Sept. 18, Japan-bom; survived by son Masayuki; daughter Mary Okamoto and husband John; sisters Yoshiko Hirayama and Mikiko Kura (both of Japan); 4 gc., 9 ggc.; and many other relatives.

Omi, Rev. Dr. Frank Masahiro, 83, Vacaville, Sept. 18, long time El Cerrito resident; survived by wife Nobuki Lillian; daughters Makiko Esther-Olsen, Joyce Unzueta and Ariene Koshimizu; sons Dr. Philip Nori and Dr. Sheldon Ray.

Onishi, Yui "Gene", 76, Walden, N.Y., Sept. 1, Los Angeles-bom, Meals on Wheels-volunteer; survived by wife Grace Hiratsaka; predeceased by brothers Pat and Min.

Onodera, Kaun, 79, Seattle, Wash., Sept. 4, past commander and life member of the Nisei Veterans Committee; survived by wife Sumi; brothers Ko, George Y. and wife Connie; sister Fumi Tsuji and husband Frank; and many nieces and nephews.

Shirakawa, Takashige, 50, Sacramento, Sept. 6; survived by wife Satsuki; son Paul; daughter Christine Kaori.

Sugimoto, Kazuo Fred, 78, Los Angeles, Sept. 7; survived by wife Tszuyue; son Lee and wife Cindy; daughter Tam; sisters Tayeko Tono and husband Ichio, Emiko Nishio and husband Toshio and Chieko Morinaka; 1 gc.

Sumimoto, Tomio, 78, El Cerrito, Sept. 16; survived by wife Yukiko; daughters Akemi Iwamoto and husband Stan and Carol Klyoe Yamato; brothers Tsutomu and wife Yoko and Charles and wife Masae; gc.

Suo, Takao, 96, Fresno, Sept. 21; survived by daughters Jane and Michiko Fukushima; sons Miido and wife Harriet and Seiji and wife Ann; 2 gc.

Suzuki, Kazumi, 87, Las Vegas, Nev., Sept. 8, Japan-bom; survived by daughter Miyoko Ludlow; 13 gc., 11 ggc.

Tahira, Chiyoiko, 84, Fresno, Sept.

13, Colorado-bom, author of *Lotus*; survived by sons Jerry and wife Joyce, Ted and wife Shigeko and Cosmo; daughter Kimi Endo; sisters Tsuneko and Yasuko Sakamoto; brother Isamu Sakamoto and wife Toshie; 9 gc., 4 ggc.

Takahashi, Kazuo Monica, 87, Los Angeles, Sept. 8, Hiroshima-bom; survived by son Joseph; daughters Pauline Chye and Toyo Okita; brother Mitsuo Oda.

Tanaka, Norman Shinji, 44, Los Angeles, Sept. 10, Culver City-bom; survived by mother Kyo; brother Jim; sister Carolyn Kanasaki and husband Toshiyaka Bobby; nephews Ryan and Kevin; and many other relatives.

Tanaka, Thomas Tadashi, 79, Salinas, Sept. 9, Long Beach-bom; survived by sons Richard and wife Kathy (Atlanta), Stuart and wife Cheryl (Chicago), and Paul and wife Rebecca (Oxnard); brother Ken; sister Misao; 5 gc.

Tokutomi, Amy Emiko, 76, Newcaste, Sept. 4; survived by sons Dan and wife Teri, Ken and wife Marilyn, and Wayne; sisters-in-law Shizuko Yoshino and Aileen Nakashima; 2 gc.

Tominaga, Katsumi, 60, Rancho Palos Verdes, Sept. 12, Osaka-bom, Hyogo-ken-raised; survived by wife Keiko; sons Shinichi (Japan) and Seiji; daughter Kuniko Tominaga; sisters Emi Mori and husband Yoshihiro and Masako Oka and husband Masao (both of Japan); brother Isao and wife Toshiko (of Japan); and many other relatives.

Ushiyama, Chiaki, 84, Daly City, Seattle-bom, Sokoji-member; survived by son Glenn Chihiro; sister Mary Takahashi (Japan); step-brother George (Japan).

Watanabe, Yulde, 77, Sunnyvale, Sept. 19; survived by husband Torao; son Howard and wife Mieko; daughters May Matsuzaki and husband Roy, Frances Uto and husband Sadao and Kay Matsumura and husband Larry; gc. ggc.

Yamamoto, Emiko, 71, Hayward, Sept. 6; survived by son Ray and wife Deborah; daughter Gail; 2 gc.

Yamamoto, Gilbert Hisami, 75, San Dimas, Sept. 7; survived by wife Michi; daughter Gilda Yamamoto-Kirby; son-in-law John W. Kirby III; brothers William and Kenneth; 1 gc. ■

DEATH NOTICE

ALBERTA "BERTIE" HOUSEAL IGARASHI
AUBURN, Calif.—Alberta Houseal Igarashi, 69, passed away Sept. 16. She was born Oct. 8, 1928 in Trenton, NJ and was reared in Norristown, PA. Bertie was self-employed for 20 years as a baby chick sexer at different commercial hatcheries in Georgia, Alabama, Illinois and Missouri and later worked for 10 years as a restaurant manager.

She is survived by Joe, her husband of 53 years; sons Allen of Buford, GA and Robert of Mansfield, GA; 6 gc; 3 ggc; sisters Ann Atwell of Daytona Beach, FL and Helen Fritz of Gilbertville, PA; in-laws Abraham and Yoshi Igarashi of Sacramento, Lillian and George Kitagawa of Auburn, AL and Ellen Nitta of Loomis; and many nieces and nephews.

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JLA and NCRR file lawsuit

(Continued from page 10)

At the time the settlement was announced, the government had expressed optimism that there would be enough to pay 1,200 JLAs, the number of estimated former internees who are currently living. Unlike the optimism of the government, the JLAs and community activists had feared and even predicted a shortage in the fund.

But according to the Office of Redress Administration, a clearer picture of the available money in the funds will emerge once the numerous claims currently being processed, both for JLAs and those JLAs under Mochizuki have been processed and after the fairness hearing for the settlement takes place on Nov. 17.

According to ORA, there is approximately \$5 million remaining in the fund. Although the office officially closed on Aug. 10, they are still looking at 427 applications from JLAs, and processing 730 claims from JLAs under the settlement. To date, the ORA has paid \$20,000 each to 81,971 former JA

internes. According to the ORA, preliminary steps are currently being taken to determine if additional funding is available.

But there's no question that the predicted shortfall in the fund is going to add momentum to this latest lawsuit, fueled by the emotional drive to seek justice for JLAs. "Obviously, to the extent to which people are not getting paid, which is the central allegation of our suit, it strengthens [the lawsuit]," said Prince, who along with Field is representing NCRR. Attorneys Toma and Okrand will be representing Suzuki.

At the time of the Mochizuki settlement President Clinton promised to ask Congress for additional funds if monies were to run out of the fund. Reminding Clinton of his promise, Campaign for Justice is launching a letter-writing campaign encouraging the White House to quickly act so that all of the former JLA internees can receive their \$5,000 redress payments. At the same time, the Campaign is also giving their support to this latest lawsuit.

"We're supporting the efforts [of the lawsuit] to make sure that all of the monies that should be there gets there," said Julie Small, Campaign for Justice co-director. "We

have an invested interest in getting the government involved in this obligation. It has to do with the funds so it affects the entire JA community. It affects all Americans."

Suzuki and his family, like hundreds of other JLAs were kidnapped from their home in Peru and brought to the Crystal City, Texas, concentration camp. Many of the JLAs were used in prisoner exchanges with Japan during the duration of the war but the Suzuki's managed to escape that fate. Still, they were forced to remain in the U.S. and were denied permission to return to their home country. Suzuki was eventually drafted into the U.S. Army but was considered an illegal alien until only recently.

Although Suzuki was unable to attend the press conference, NCRR, as the sole organization to sign on as a named plaintiff in the lawsuit, explained its participation as another step in their continued efforts to support the JLAs in their fight for justice.

NCRR President Richard Katsuda, said, "NCRR has been committed to trying to do all it can to ensure the Civil Liberties Act is carried out to fulfillment. That includes reparations to all those de-

prived of civil liberties during WWII." Katsuda also emphasized the organization's concern over the current lack of available funds for the JLA former internees and the shortfall in the monies for educational projects.

Although JACL has not signed on as a plaintiff to the lawsuit they recently reaffirmed their commitment to continue supporting the Mochizuki et al. settlement. Currently continuing its work to locate former JLA internees who may qualify under the settlement agreement, JACL is working with Campaign for Justice in efforts to ensure that the White House follows through with its promise to seek additional funds for the Japanese Latin Americans.

A recently released press statement stated, "The JACL recognizes that there are Japanese Latin Americans who feel that the terms of the Mochizuki settlement are inadequate and wish to pursue their own remedies. While the JACL believes that such sentiments are well founded and legitimate, the JACL is committed to full implementation of the Mochizuki settlement."

Lori Fujimoto, JACL national vice president of public affairs said, "We in good faith supported the Mochizuki settlement with the United States government. So in

good faith we have to continue to support this settlement. It would be disingenuous of us to support or pursue this lawsuit.

"We're committed to enforcing the Mochizuki class, that they receive their award and apology," she continued. "JACL has been working for the last two years to do what's best for the JLAs, helping them seek apologies and restitution. Our intention is to support JLAs as all our partners in the community."

Although various avenues, whether it be implementation of the settlement or individual legislative routes, are currently underway, the common thread through all of the efforts is the goal of seeking justice for the Japanese Latin Americans.

"People underwent tremendous suffering," said Toma. He pointed out that the survival rates for JLAs at the time the Act was passed in 1988 was far lower than those for JAC. "A serious acknowledgement of responsibility [by the government] is to make the payments at least equal" for JLAs.

"We hope through this action that the government will live up to its responsibility and explain its actions," continued Toma. "[The lawsuit] is going to identify yet another reason the government should take prompt measure to make redress real."

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