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June 18-24, 1999

ENTERTAINMENT

Mining Memory and History in 'Strawberry Fields'

BY TRACY UBA

Writer/Reporter

Rea Tajiri's newly released independent film, the first feature for this Japanese American director/producer, may have taken its title from the pop-music nostalgia of an old Beatles song, but rest assured, this ain't no '60s caper crusade through A Hard Days Night.

Showcasing an all-Asian American cast and premiering earlier this year at the San Francisco International Asian Film Festival, "What Happened to Her?" and the "Strawberry Fields" is, rather, a promising coming-of-age tale, part psychodrama, part historical account, told from the refreshing perspective of a troubled JA teenager growing up in Chicago during the turbulent early 1970s.

New York-based Tajiri, who herself grew up in Chicago in the 1960s and then lived in the San Fernando Valley region of Southern California in the 1970s, makes the leap, this time out, from documentary work such as 1993's "Passion for Justice" about renowned community and civil rights activist Yuri Kochiyama, to intricate narrative terrain, artfully interweaving splintered pieces of time, place and circumstance as they might be recalled in the human mind. For her part,

Tajiri offers an intriguing vision of the retrieval of memory and history as they are necessary components to claiming one's self identity.

At the film's opening, defiant 16-year-old Irene Kawai (Suzy Nakamura), cigarette dangling from her solemn frown, is tormented by a sense of disconnection which she can't quite put her finger on, until the sudden unexplained death of her younger sister Terri (Heather Yoshimura) plunges her headlong into an even deeper abyss of anger and rebellion that boils over in the wake of the Vietnam War, here, fashioned into the pseudo-social politics of student "demos" and hippie psychedelia. (In one, dare I say, comical scene, we witness a deadpan Irene fronting a band, microphone in hand, as she lets loose a single wide-mouthed wail and then stalks off the makeshift stage. So much for cathartic rockstardom.)

Thus withdrawing into the requisite badlands of teen-angst abandon, Irene sleeps with her Hapa boyfriend Luke (James Sie), experiments with your standard mind-altering drugs, and increasingly exhibits compulsive pyromania, a condition which is somehow psychically synced to

SEE TAJIRI page 8

White House Establishes Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

WASHINGTON—On June 7 President Clinton issued an executive order to establish a White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The Initiative will be a working group that coordinates efforts in federal agencies to identify ways to reach out to the Asian Pacific American community, particularly in the areas where the community is underserved by federal programs, including health, education, housing, and transportation services.

"I applaud President Clinton's action to create a White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders," said Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA). "The Initiative will benefit the Asian Pacific American community by requiring the Administration to develop and implement an outreach plan for the community. It will also give community leaders a significant role in advising the Clinton Administration."

The Executive Order directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish the Initiative on AAs and Pacific Islanders, comprised of representatives from each federal agency. Each agency will be responsible for preparing a plan for improving the quality of life for APAs through increased participation in federal programs that currently underserve the community. ■

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D.C. Internal Energy Department Review of Espionage Delayed

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said on June 9 he has turned over an internal investigation into mishandling of the China espionage case to the department's inspector general, delaying its release for at least 30 days.

The long-awaited review of the Energy Department's response to the alleged theft of nuclear secrets from the Los Alamos nuclear weapons laboratory in New Mexico had been expected to be released last week.

"More questions need to be asked. ... I want to do this right. Careers are at stake," Richardson said.

Richardson has said the mishandling of the case involving a three-year espionage investigation of a Los Alamos scientist would result in firings and demotions.

"There will be disciplining. There will be terminations," Richardson reiterated on June 9, speaking to reporters after a three-hour appearance before the Senate Intelligence Committee.

But Richardson said a draft of the internal report given to him on June 7 "did not effectively or adequately deal" with the actions of personnel at the agency's headquarters in Washington. He said he had accepted findings involving Los Alamos employees, but would not elaborate.

"I've now asked the inspector general's office to do a comprehensive report that will be due in

30 days," he told reporters. Richardson refused to discuss whose job might be in jeopardy or whether any senior officials, still at the department, might be disciplined.

The internal investigation has focused on why a Los Alamos scientist, Wen Ho Lee, was allowed to keep his top-secret job access

then-Energy secretary Federico Pena and to members of Congress.

Moler, who has since left the department, has denied any such interference.

Trulock in late May was given a \$10,000 Energy Department award for his persistence in exposing the security problems.

Richardson said on June 9, "He's a member of my team."

Meanwhile, in testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee, Richardson

argued against a Senate proposal for a largely autonomous agency within the Energy Department to oversee the government's nuclear weapons programs.

The proposal would create a Nuclear Security Administration that would have authority over its own budget within the department.

Sen. John Kyl (R-Ariz.) said the measure would "ensure the safety and reliability of the U.S. nuclear arsenal" by providing clear lines of authority and accountability without interference from other offices of the department.

Richardson called the proposal "a step toward military control of nuclear weapons development" that said it would undermine his attempt to gain more control over the nuclear labs including security and counterintelligence activities.

"We don't need any more fiefdoms at the Department of Energy," Richardson said. ■

"More questions need to be asked. ... I want to do this right. Careers are at stake."

— Bill Richardson, Energy Secretary

to the country's most sensitive nuclear secrets while under investigation by the FBI since 1996.

Lee was fired last March for security violations. He has not been charged with a crime and has denied giving secrets to China or anyone else.

In 1997, the FBI informed senior Energy Department officials on several occasions that Lee's transfer to a less sensitive job would not jeopardize the espionage investigation. But that information was not relayed clearly to Los Alamos managers.

The internal investigation has sought to determine the reason for what Richardson has called a "communications break down" involving the Lee case.

At the same time, the report is examining charges by a DOE intelligence officer, Notra Trulock, that he had been blocked by former Deputy Energy Secretary Elizabeth Moler from making concerns of lax security and the Lee espionage case known to

Carole Hayashino Seeks California State Assembly Seat

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Democrat Carole Hayashino, a veteran community and civil rights activist and former JACL associate national director, recently declared her candidacy for a seat on the Bay Area Assembly on June 6, before a crowd of her supporters and the local press.

If elected, the Stockton native would become the first Japanese American woman ever to serve as a California state legislator and would join only two Asian Americans presently in the state Legislature, Assemblymen Mike Honda (D-San Jose) and George Nakano (D-Torrance).

In the upcoming March 2000 primary elections, Hayashino, who said she'd been considering entering the race for the past few months while discussing it with her family, will be running for the Sixth District seat, overseeing Marin County and southern Sonoma County, which is being vacated by Democratic Assemblywoman Kerri Marzoni whose term limit is up.

A longtime redress advocate and member of the Marin County Human Rights Commission, Hayashino has put together an impressive resume,

including involvement as a public information officer and coordinator with the JACL National Redress Committee from 1980 to 1988. She served as acting national director of JACL in 1993 and then as associate national director until 1995.

Currently, she is the president of the Marin County chapter of JACL and is an advisory board member of the California Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF), a statewide grant program which offers funding to projects relating to the internment.

In addition, Hayashino has been director of the Office of University Development at her alma mater, San Francisco State University, since January of 1996, making her the highest-ranking AA woman in the administration.

She graduated from SFSU in 1976, receiving her bachelor's degree in sociology and then went on to get her master's in educational administration from the University of San Francisco.

She is also the board president of San Francisco's Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California and has served as vice president of the Asian American Alliance of Marin since 1996.

With plenty of administrative and community involvement under her belt, coupled with her grassroots organizing and fundraising experience, Hayashino believes that her candidacy offers people the choice to support diversity as well as quality education for children.

Her opponents in the upcoming primaries, or those who have announced their candidacy so far, include Jack Gibson and Joe Nation, both Marin Municipal Water District board members; Barbara Heller, San Rafael City Councilwoman; and Greg Brockbank, board president of the College of Marin.

Others considering candidacy are Sausalito Councilman Paul Albritton, Fairfax Councilman Frank Egger and professional boxer Paul "The Marin County Assassin" Nave.

After the Democratic and Republican 2000 primaries, the winners will then square off in a general election.

For information about Hayashino's campaign, write to PAB 369, 369 S. Third St., San Rafael, CA 94901-3581. ■

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JACL Calendar

National

Fri.-Sun., June 25-27—1999 National Youth Student Conference; University of California, Irvine. Info: Patricia Tai Tom, 559/486-6815, codj@uci.edu or Hiroshi Ueha, chair, hueha@uci.edu.
Fri.-Sun., Sept. 3-5—8th National JACL Singles Convention; Radisson Miyako Hotel, San Francisco; Registration \$150 before July 15, \$180 after. Golf, bowling, workshops, mixer, banquet, dance, brunch, trips. Co-sponsored by San Francisco Bay Area Nikkei Singles and Greater Los Angeles Singles. Info: Georgeann Maeda, 415/753-3340; Gale Kondo, 415/337-9981; website: http://home-stead.com/99 convention.

Eastern

Thurs.-Sun., July 1-4—Bi-District Conference (EDC/MDC), "The Dream Continues: One America in the 21st Century," Angela Oh, keynote speaker; Roosevelt Hotel, 45th & Madison, NYC, \$155/night, 888/833-3969. Regis. \$85 before June 1, \$100 after.

Midwest

Thurs.-Sun., July 1-4—Bi-District Conference, New York City (see EDC).
ST. LOUIS
Sun., July 4—JACL picnic, noon; Eden Theological Seminary, 475 E. Lockwood, Webster Groves.

WISCONSIN

Sun., July 25—Annual JACL Golf Outing, 9 a.m. tee time; Brookfield Hills Golf Course, 16075 Pinehurst Dr. RSVP, info: Eddie Jonikuchi, 414/691-1404.

Mountain Plains

Thurs.-Sun., July 15-18—Tri-District Conference (see IDC), Ogden, Utah.

Intermountain

Thurs.-Sun., July 15-18—Tri-District Conference "Changing Generations" (IDCP/NWDC/MPDC); Workshops, JAYS events, bus trip to Wendover, golf, obon festival; Comfort Suites Hotel, 1150 W. 2150 S., Ogden, Utah; Wasatch Front Sports Center, Park City, Utah.
SALT LAKE CITY
Sat., June 26—Japanese Peace Garden beautification; 8:10 a.m., Jordan Park, 1000 S. 900 W. Info: Sandra Kikuchi, 801/581-3645.
Fri., July 16—"Rabbit in the Moon" special screening, chapter fund-raiser; 7 p.m., University of Utah, Orson Spencer Hall. Info: Sherrie Hayashi, 801/243-4180 or Alice Kasai, 801/359-2902

Pacific Northwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Thurs.-Sun., July 15-18—Tri-District Conference (see IDC), Ogden, Utah.

NC-WN-Pacific

RENO
Thurs., July 1—Deadline for Reno chapter scholarship applications. Info: Sheldene Ihara, scholarship chair, 747-3888.
SALINAS VALLEY
Sun., June 27—Obento dinner fund raiser for the National Japanese American Memorial in Washington, D.C. (together with Gilroy, Monterey Peninsula, San Benito and Watsonville chapters), 4-7 p.m., Salinas Buddhist Temple Hall; George Takei, keynote speaker.
SAN MATEO
Sat., July 19—JACL Community Center open house, to celebrate completion of the branch library; 415 S. Claremont St. Info: 650/343-2793.

SONOMA COUNTY

June 27—Community picnic; 11 a.m. Finley Park. Info: Margaret Wallman, 707/544-9368.

Pacific Southwest

ARIZONA

COMMUNITY

of Winchester Mystery House, lunch & social. Info: Richard Sekiguchi, 510/237-0218.
OAKLAND
Through June—Exhibit, "Creative Impressions" wood block prints, Asian Resource Gallery, 310 8th St. Info: Kanae, 510/869-6027, Akemi, 510/869-6084.
SACRAMENTO
June 24-August 8—World War II video discussion series and an exhibit of handmade decorative items made by JA's internees in detention camps; Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento. Info: 916/264-2770.
SAN FRANCISCO
June 25-Aug. 15—Exhibit, "From the Rainbow's Varied Hues: Textiles of the Southern Philippines"; Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. Info: 415/379-8800.
SAN JOSE
Fri., June 25—Silicon Valley fund-raising dinner for National JA Memorial in Washington, D.C.; cocktails 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m.; Hyatt San Jose-Airport Hotel, 1740 N. First St. Business attire. \$150 per person. Info: Roger Minami, 805/524-0467.
SAN MATEO
Mon., June 21—Senior conference, "Staying in Charge—Managing Health Care Options"; 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Crowne Plaza Hotel, Foster City. Free. Register early. Info: 650/343-2793
Sun., June 27—Movie matinee, "The Wedding Banquet"; 1:30 p.m., San Mateo JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St. Info: 650/343-2793.
STOCKTON
Sun., June 27—Stockton Sesqui-centennial Celebration. Info: Aeko Fenelon, 209/948-0966.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES
Tues., June 22—"A Grain of Sand" reunion concert; 7 p.m., the Union Center Cafe, 116 Lodge John Aso St., Little Tokyo. Free. Info: Evelyn Yoshinura, 213/473-1690.
Thurs., June 24—Comedy improvisations by Cold. Info: 7:30 p.m., JANM, 369 E. First St. RSVP: 213/625-0414.
Thurs.-Sat., June 24-26—International Nikkei Research Project Symposium. Info: <http://www.nipj.org>
Sat., June 26—Japanese American Bar Association annual "Know Your Rights" seminar; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Century United Methodist Church, 300 S. Central Ave., Little Tokyo. Free. Japanese transla-

East Coast

BURKE, VIRGINIA
Sat., June 26—Recital/Concert by professionals from Tokyo and Honolulu; 12 noon, St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Rd. Shamisen, shakuhachi, dance.
WASHINGTON, D.C.
Through Nov. 30—Exhibit, "From Benito to Mixed Plate: Americans of Japanese Ancestry in Multicultural Hawaii"; Smithsonian Institution's Arts and Industries Bldg., 900 Jefferson Dr. S.W. Info: 202/357-2700.

The Midwest

GAYLORD, MICHIGAN
Fri.-Sun., July 9-11—Golf Caper at Treetops Sylvan Resort. Info: Host Gery Shimura, Detroit, 248/356-3089 or 553-0112.

Intermountain

Tues., July 6—Film, "Rabbit in the Moon"; on KUED-Channel 7 "Point of View" series.

The Northwest

PORTLAND, ORE.
Sun., Aug. 1—Annual Japanese Ancestral Society golf tournament; Colwood National Golf Course, 7313 NE Columbia Blvd. Entry fee by July 19. Info: Taka Mizote, 503/234-3936, or Henry Ueno, 503/253-3001, 503/872-8445.
Sat., Aug. 7—Obonfest '99, talko, dancing, food, exhibits, demonstrations and children's activities; 2-9 p.m., Oregon Buddhist Temple, 3720 SE 34th Ave. & Powell; obon dancing starts at 7 p.m. Free. Info: 503/234-9456 or 503/254-9536.
Through Aug. 29—Exhibit, "Oregon Nikkei Women: A Proud Legacy," Fri. & Sat., 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sun., noon-3 p.m. Free. Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 117 NW 2nd Ave. Info: Jane Arima Schumann, 503/224-1458.

Northern California

Sun., June 20—Documentary film, "Children of the Camps"; 10:30 p.m., KRCB Channel 22.
EAST BAY
Mon., June 21—East Bay Singles tour

Fri.-Sun.—Nisei Week Festival group tour of the Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles. Info: Kathy Inoshita, 937-5434, Jo Allman, 942-2832.
LAS VEGAS
Sat., July 24—JACL picnic potluck; Lee Canyon, Foxtail picnic area Unit 2. Bus leaves from Clark High School at 10 a.m. Info: 702/382-4443.
Sat., June 26—Singles BBQ; 11:30 a.m. Info: Rhea Fujimoto, 702/254-8060.

ORANGE COUNTY
Fri.-Sun., June 25-27—1999 National Youth Student Conference; University of California, Irvine. Info: Patricia Tai Tom, 559/486-6815, codj@uci.edu or Hiroshi Ueha, chair, hueha@uci.edu.

RIVERSIDE
Sun., June 27—Annual Japanese Community Picnic; Sylvan Park, Redlands, 11 a.m. "Grand Buffet" potluck lunch, bingo, volleyball games, big rifle. Bring family and friends. Info: Meiko Inaba, 909/682-8116.

SAN DIEGO
Sun., June 27—San Diego JACL Community Picnic; 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Mission Bay Park-North & Middle Crown Point (aka East Crown Point Shores) (please note—no glass containers or bottles allowed). Info: Vern Yoshioka, 619/230-0314.

SELANCO
Mon.-Fri., July 26-30—Chibi-No-kaiko youth program, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Orange County Buddhist Church, Anaheim; Application by June 23. Info: Kelly Katayama-Johnson, 562/690-5667, or Gayle Goya, 714/995-2283.

SOUTH BAY
Sat., July 17—Garage-sale fund-raiser. Info: Ernie or Jeanne Tsujimoto, 310/320-3465 after June 17. ■

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.

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Thurs.-Sat., June 24-26—International Nikkei Research Project Symposium. Info: <http://www.nipj.org>
Sat., June 26—Japanese American Bar Association annual "Know Your Rights" seminar; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Century United Methodist Church, 300 S. Central Ave., Little Tokyo. Free. Japanese transla-

tion provided; lawyers available to answer questions. Info: Janette Hasegawa, 213/473-1602, or Julia Haurimi Mass, 626/796-7555.

Sat., June 26—Film presentation and discussion, "Overstay" by director Ann Kaneko; 1 p.m., JANM, 369 E. First St. In conjunction with the International Nikkei Research Project. RSVP: 213/625-0414.

Sat., June 26—Panel discussion, "Nikkei Communities and Cultures in the Global Arena"; 3-5 p.m., JANM, 369 First St. RSVP: 316/25-0414.

Through July 3—Play, "Romeo and Juliet Pinoy/Pinay Style"; East Los Angeles College Auditorium, 1301 E. Caesar Chavez, Monterey Park. Info, tickets: 323/256-2810, atickets@blackdva.net.

Sat.-Sun., Aug. 14-22—Nisei Week Japanese Festival. For information and to volunteer call 213/687-7193; for calendar of events visit Nisei Week website at <http://www.members.aol.com/niseiweek/niseiweek.htm>.

ORANGE COUNTY
Sat., June 26—Orange County Nikkei Coordinating Council (OCNCC) community service awards luncheon. Info: Ken Inouye, 714/968-0934.

Sun., June 27—"Shades of Anaheim"; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Bring family photos to the Anaheim Public Library to be copied while you wait, for the library's Anaheim History Room collection. JA photos needed. Appointment recommended. Info: Jane Newell, 714/765-1850.

Arizona - Nevada

LAS VEGAS
Through June 27 (except Sundays)—Exhibit, "Trace of Time" by Seiko Tachibana; Reed Whipple Cultural Center Gallery, 821 Las Vegas Blvd. North. Info: 702/229-5111.

Sat., July 10—Award-winning documentary, "Rabbit in the Moon," about Poston Relocation Center; 11 p.m., PBS Channel 10. ■

Redress Payment Information

Individuals can call 202/219-8900 and leave a message; or write to: Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, P.O. Box 66280, Washington, D.C. 20035-6260.

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Minority Applications Down, Enrollment Up

HANOVER, N.H.—Dartmouth College will enroll a record number of minority students next fall, despite a slight drop in the number of minority applicants, college officials say.

Asian American, black, Hispanic, American Indian and mixed race students are expected to make up 29 percent of the entering freshman class, up from about 20 percent last year.

Among the 1,070 students who plan to come to Dartmouth next year, 314 say they are minorities, said dean of admissions and financial aid Karl Eisenberg. He added that this year's pool of minority applicants was stronger than the previous year, which partly accounts for the increase in acceptance.

The college said it also made a serious effort to attract prospective minority students through personal contact, writing letters and telephoning to invite them to visit the school, at no cost to those who demonstrated financial need.

First AA Wins Miss Pennsylvania

ALLENTOWN, Pa.—Susan Spafford, a 22-year-old Korean American who was adopted by a Caucasian couple when she was 3, was recently crowned the state's first Asian American Miss Pennsylvania.

Spafford, who is earning her master's degree in music from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., went back to Korea just seven months ago to meet her birth parents and

National

family after nearly two decades. The trip was paid for by the Korean consulate and a Korean overseas association.

In only the second beauty pageant she's entered, Spafford won scholarship money, including \$5,000 for the Miss Pennsylvania title and \$2,000 for her violin performance in the talent competition. She now advances to the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City on Sept. 18.

'The King and I' Cast Too White?

STOUX FALLS, S.D.—A local theater production of "The King and I" has some people upset that the cast is all white in a story which features Asian characters, including the king of Siam, a pair of lovers, courtiers and other supporting roles.

In a perfect world, the actors would be Asian, said Larue Blankens, executive director of the Sioux Falls Community Playhouse, but the city has only a small Asian American population. "If you do not have the ethnic constituency audience for you, you can't do it," she said.

Quite Aware of the Sioux Falls Municipal Center said that if the playhouse could find any Asian people, they are understandable, but if they don't research it, then it's a different story," John Koch, the play director, said he never thought to look for Asian actors.

Ben Matias, director of the Center for Arts Criticism in Twin Cities, saw no excuse. "Were at the beginning of the 21st century, and they've got to catch up. Peo-

ple of color are there—they're just not seeing them."

Adding diversity to its pool of actors has been a chronic problem for the playhouse, which conducted a publicized search earlier this season for black actors for "To Kill a Mockingbird."

Locke Returns Campaign Funds

OLYMPIA, Wash.—Gov. Gary Locke is returning \$750 in contributions his campaign received in 1998 from Democratic Party fund-raiser John Huang, state Locke's campaign spokesman Blair Butterworth.

The decision to return the money came a week after the Justice Department said Huang is prepared to plead guilty to conspiracy as one of the central figures in a national Democratic Party fund-raising scandal. Huang, a former Commerce Department official, was the Democratic Party's chief fund-raiser for Asian Pacific Americans in the 1996 elections.

Locke was returning the money to the state's attorney general because the money had not been fully disclosed or been fully paid, or if it was an inappropriate expense. Democrats across the country have returned about \$1.6 million given or raised by Huang since the controversy began.

Discrimination Suit Settled

SAN FRANCISCO—Pamela Ter, loc. of Synapse, a division of Saint Luke Medical Center,

will pay a total of \$83,261 to seven employees to settle federal claims that the company's pay policies discriminated against minorities.

A two-year review by the U.S. Department of Labor completed in April revealed that minorities in several job categories, including senior quality technicians, test development engineers and mechanical engineers, were paid less than non-minorities, according to federal records. The settlement includes pay raises ranging from 4 to 21 percent and totaling \$46,046.

The employees will also receive back pay of \$37,215 to compensate them for salaries below those of equally qualified counterparts over the past two years. The company has agreed to better monitor pay setting practices.

Chinatown Lost & Found

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Construction for a freeway expansion recently unearthed one of the city's first Chinatowns, which existed in the late 19th century but since when transients and Chinese had departed the country.

About 350 to 400 people mostly men, were believed to have lived in the Woolen Mills Chinatown, an eight-block village on the Guadalupe River from 1887 to 1902 until a fire thought to be the result of arson destroyed most of the buildings.

An excavation project begun last month revealed 16 brick-front stores, barber shops, two restaurants, two temples, an open theater building, a warehouse, and a commercial street.

system. Archaeologists say many of the artifacts found, mainly stone, glass and cooking ware, were clearly purchased outside the immediate community.

City records, newspaper accounts and fire insurance maps suggested the existence of a Chinese community in the area, but no traces had been found until this excavation.

Mistrial in Hsia Tax Evasion Case

LOS ANGELES—A federal judge declared a mistrial in the tax evasion case of Democratic campaign fund-raiser Maria Hsia after a jury said it was deadlocked on all four charges.

Federal prosecutors claim Hsia, who runs an immigration consulting business, failed to file an income tax return for 1994, underestimated her income for 1995 and 1996 involving a total of \$175,000 for the three years, and assisted in filing a false tax return for her business.

Leaving toward acquittal, the jury said it was divided because of conflicting testimony given by the government's key witness. Hsia's bookkeeper Richard Tsai confirmed jury foreman Tom Smith. A decision by the U.S. Attorney's Office on whether to retry the case is pending.

The tax charges are separate from the Washington, D.C., case against Hsia, accusing her of funneling thousands of dollars through Bond-Hill mine at a 1996 Clinton-Gore campaign fund-raiser. She was indicted on six conspiracy counts, but five were dismissed. Hsia must still stand trial in Washington on another conspiracy charge involving \$65,000 in illegal contributions. ■

Anti-Smoking Campaign Targets Vietnamese Americans

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA ANA, Calif.—Vietnamese celebrities are spreading the word to members of their community that smoking is uncool.

Anti-tobacco ads will appear through the year 2001 in Vietnamese-language television and newspaper ads in Los Angeles, Orange County and the San Francisco Bay area, in a state where 35 percent of Vietnamese men smoke. "Particularly with men, it's cool to smoke. That's the thing that needs to be changed," said rapper Henry Chuc, who will appear in some of the ads. "I do rap, so young people see me as being tough and a role model. But I don't smoke or drink and, hopefully, I can get the word out to younger people."

The campaign is being headed by University of California, San Francisco, researchers and funded by the state's tobacco tax. It was recently announced in Orange County, which has the nation's largest population of Vietnamese Americans.

In Vietnam, 73 percent of the men smoke, one of the highest percentages in the world, according to researchers.

An estimated 46,000 of California's Vietnamese smokers are expected to die from smoking-related diseases, said Chris Jenkins, director of the Vietnamese Community Health Promotion Project.

Entertainers were chosen to deliver the anti-smoking messages because they have wide community exposure. In addition to Chuc, the ads will feature singers Dalena, Viet Dung, Duc Huy and his wife, Thao My.

"For the Asian community in general, and specifically for the Vietnamese adults, smoking is a way of life," said Mai Cong, CEO and president of the Vietnamese Community of Orange County. "But these efforts will attract their attention and make them aware of the devastating impact on their health." ■

Southeast Asian-Owned Businesses Flourish in Minnesota

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. PAUL—San Francisco and New York have their Chinatowns. Suburban Los Angeles has Little Saigon. And west of the Capitol on University Ave. in St. Paul... well, there are a lot of Asian restaurants and businesses. ■

No catchy name or snappy marketing. Some call it "Asian Main Street," others "Asian Avenue." Chinatown doesn't fit because there are hardly any Chinese there.

The lack of a name, a marquee or a high profile has not prevented the two-mile stretch from becoming one of the most sweeping urban-revivals in the Twin Cities in recent years. More than 100 new, mainly Southeast Asian-owned businesses now line the 17 blocks between Lexington Parkway and Marion Street.

But in a city that likes to tout its distinguishing features, possibilities for promoting a unique home-grown strip are being overlooked.

The change in the past 10 years has been dramatic. Where strip clubs once dominated, more than two dozen Asian restaurants and groceries are concentrated. There is a used-car lot, a 20-tenant mall and a medical clinic to the west. On the east are a six-tenant mall, a dental clinic and an Asian bookstore.

In between are insurance and financial service companies; jewelry, clothing and gift shops; tailors and travel agencies; and an ample supply of video stores and hair salons.

The reinvention is an outgrowth of the state's rapidly growing Southeast Asian population, which may have hit 100,000 and is heavily concentrated in St. Paul. Vietnam War refugees saw the gaps and seized the opportunities; an abundant supply of cheap and abandoned buildings on a bus line near public housing developments filled with their natural customer base.

"This is the Asian business area," says Yuepheng Xiong, who

owns Hmong Arts, Books & Crafts and recently bought a building across the street from his store. He says he never considered moving off the avenue. "In this area, people know where we are. They come to visit the Asian community in general. It's better to stick with the community."

Community organizer Mike Samuelson said the Asian business success has rippled into nearby residential neighborhoods.

"We've got an Asian community that rivals any Chinatown from here to the West Coast. That type of vitality spins out to other efforts like housing," Samuelson said. "White folks and black folks want to live in this community again. If the services you need are around the corner, you're more likely to want to live there."

But while ethnic clusters elsewhere have become popular destinations for tourists and a bread segment of the public, this Southeast Asian strip has not made that leap.

It gets no mention in the main tourist brochures and its merchants do little business with non-Southeast Asians. To a great degree, the shopkeepers have little contact with each other and remain isolated from the larger community.

City Hall has not promoted the area as a distinct entity, city politicians and planners are not known to many of the strip's merchants and mainstream civic business groups lack contacts with the new merchants.

The St. Paul Convention and Visitors Bureau is among those who have made few inroads.

"We'd like to establish some links with them," said bureau president Eileen McMahon. "They've got a great product."

But a recent city-financed report showed many Southeast Asian merchants are distrustful of government, don't like to join associations and prefer one-on-one contacts to meetings.

Aesthetically, the strip has little distinguishing architecture reflect-

ing the Asian presence. There are no street banners, attractive lighting or other softening touches to signal passing motorists that they have entered a special district.

Also, many Asian restaurants do a booming lunchtime trade, but street crime and prostitution get blamed for drying up business at night.

"If the government pays more attention to the area, it will succeed," said Tuan Pham, owner of Capital Market. "Otherwise they will kill small business."

Kim Long, the first Southeast Asian merchant on the avenue, is discouraged. Long owns International Plaza, a 12-tenant mall, and two other buildings. The Vietnamese refugee first opened a restaurant there in 1975.

Long said business in his area is stagnant; he has hardly raised his rents of \$12 to \$14 per square foot in the last decade; and he does not think City Hall appreciates the immigrants' efforts.

Mayor Norm Coleman is making changes to improve ties to the Southeast Asian community.

He appointed Cha Vang as an assistant. Vang is the son of Vang Pao, the Laotian Hmong leader and legendary Vietnam War military commander. Coleman also transferred Vang's predecessor Hoe Young to the city's Department of Planning and Economic Development to focus on economic issues.

"I see this as an incredible opportunity for this city," Coleman said. "I'm a kid who grew up in New York—I understood the power of Chinatown and Little Italy and ethnic centers in our midst. There is a huge opportunity for us to promote the Asian businesses and get it into the entire community."

Clark Armstead, who sold his Frogtown Diner to the owner of Ha Tien Grocery and is selling another building to a Hmong-owned dental clinic, says the challenge is for Asian businesses to attract a broader range of clientele.

"Those businesses that begin to look to the rest of the population for patronization are going to succeed," Armstead said.

One business trying to appeal to everyone is Foodsmart. Besides selling American grocery products, Foodsmart's Leotian Hmong owners are also offering Asian, Mexican, African and Middle Eastern food.

"They recognized there are other folks that shop in the neighborhood. That's the way for long-term growth, in my view. I can get my TV dinner there next to the guy who gets his 20-pound bag of rice," Samuelson said.

What it lacks in order, this part of University Avenue, makes up for in chaotic vitality.

Several Southeast Asian merchants are remodeling or moving to better spaces on the strip. Hopeful grand openings, as well as throw-in-the-towel business closings, are common.

But if Sunrise market is any indication, the future is hopeful and the Southeast Asian influence has not yet peaked.

Less than two years ago, Peter Vang worried about filling the large warehouse he bought in the early 1990s. His grocery wasn't doing well, he hadn't signed many tenants, and he was losing money on the building mortgage.

Today, he has filled his building with about 20 tenants. It is the largest, most diverse and most robust of the three Asian main-stalls on the strip, surpassing Kim Long's International Plaza and Somsay Vang's Phnom Penh Bangkok Market.

"I plan for this to be a Hmong business center and to make it attractive to neighborhood people," Vang said. "This will be a permanent home for Hmong and Asian people. There's still a lot of Asians looking to do business on the avenue."

"This is Main Street for the Asian communities." ■

San Diego Chapter Awards \$5 Scholarships

The San Diego Chapter held its 42nd annual scholarship dinner on May 2. Thanks to a generous donation from the Chula Vista Gakuen, the chapter has been able to annually provide awards to area scholars.

This year's awards ceremony featured the Mayor of Chula Vista, Shirley Horton, as the keynote speaker. Mayor Horton was born in Japan, and her mother is Japanese. She is the first Asian American mayor in San Diego County.

The San Diego chapter awarded a \$1,000 college scholarship to Brian Sato of Rancho Bernardo High School. Brian accumulated a 4.417 grade point average to earn him valedictorian honors at his school. Additionally, he played on his school's tennis team and was in the academic decathlon. Brian is the son of Dr. Keith and Jill Sato.

The chapter awarded a \$750 scholarship to Scott Tanaka (Bonita Vista High School), the son of Dr. Lawrence and Sheryl Tanaka. In addition to his academic accomplishments, Scott was a two-year varsity football letterman, and served as his school's associated student body president during his senior year. Scott plans to attend UC Davis, where he will major in chemistry.

La Jolla High School's Sae Takada received the chapter's \$500 award. Sae's parents are



Pictured are: Standing (left to right); Carol Kawamoto (scholarship chair), Motoki Nishi, Mary Oyster, Scott Tanaka, Keith Kawamoto, Kevin Hill, Brandon Inouye, Brian Sato, Nobuo Ohashi, Justin Keating, David Kawamoto (PSW district governor). Seated (left to right); Sanae Yuki, Sae Takada, Chie Saito, Mayor Shirley Horton (keynote speaker), Kacie Yamada, Janeese Tanaka, Sandra Sakai.

Yoshikazu and Yoko Takada. Sae is valedictorian of her class and active in numerous campus clubs. She also found time to perform numerous piano recitals and write poetry. She will study pre-med at Harvard University.

Awarded \$250 scholarships were Kevin Hill (Patrick Henry High School), Brandon Inouye (Mt. Miguel High School), Keith Kawamoto (Patrick Henry High School), Justin Keating (St. Augustine High School), Motoki Nishi (Serra High School), Nobuo Ohashi (Torrey Pine High School), Mary Oyster (San Dieguito Acad-

emy), Chie Saito (Mira Mesa High School), Sandra Sakai (Bonita Vista High School), Janeese Tanaka (Chula Vista High School), Kacie Yamada (West Hills High School), and Sanae Yuki (University City High School).

In addition to the scholarship awards, Chapter Scholarship Committee Chair Carol Kawamoto awarded JACL silver pins to long standing committee members James Yamate, Elizabeth Ozaki, and Judge Gale Kaneshiro. It was noted that Yamate has served on the committee for 41 of its 42 years. ■

Graduates Lauded at Community Banquet

BY SHARON TAKAHASHI

Special to the Pacific Citizen

Twenty-one graduating seniors from the Portland metro area, including Vancouver, Wash., were honored by the Japanese American community on May 2 at the annual banquet held at Legin Restaurant in Portland.

The banquet is an affair sponsored by the Daibanzan Henjoi Temple Epworth United Methodist Church, Gresham-Trousdale JACL, Portland JACL, Japanese Ancestral Society, Nichiren Buddhist church, Nikkei Fujinkai, Oregon Buddhist Temple, Oregon Nisei Veterans and Veleda Club. Other supporting organizations are the Shokokuji (Japanese Business Organization) and the Consulate General of Japan.

Keynote speaker for the evening, Peggy Nagae of Eugene, Ore., chose to speak with the group in an interactive exchange which elicited personal testimony, humor, and multiple nodes of agreement from the audience in general. Nagae was one of the attorneys for Minoru Yasui in

the '80s who fought to have his curfew violation conviction invalidated in 1985. She is the owner of Total Diversity Management, a consulting firm.

As she implored the youth to explore new ground, Nagae reiterated the importance of remembering where their roots were. If they understood and remembered the struggles of their grandparents and parents, they were duty bound to speak out when they saw similar acts of racism directed at others, she said.

The audience shared smiles when Nagae revealed that she, too, had been a senior honored at the banquet some decades ago. "It was just as uncomfortable then," she remarked, as she went on to set them at ease. "Be risk takers," she encouraged, "for you never know what talents you'd uncover."

Scholarships awarded were: Japanese Ancestral Society — Satrudai Arzuman; Derek Koida (Clackamas); Hide Naito; Shinichiro Iwata (Westview); Minamoto; Taubasa Tanaka (Sherwood);

Recognition: Courtney and Kimberly Miller (Jesuit), Ryan Ando and Katherine Sakurai (Beaverton); Mark Maehara (Gresham), Seth Hunt (Milwaukie), Mica Mizutani (Reynolds), Leslie Annand (Sherwood), Yoko Takahashi (Westview), Nick Itami (Clackamas).

Shokokuji: Julie Sunada (Wilson); Gresham-Trousdale JACL: Sean Hirohara (Rex Putnam); Portland JACL: Jared Russell (Beaverton); Oregon Buddhist Temple: Jeanine Ishii (Bush Prairie); Portland General Electric: Kellie Tashima (Clackamas); Nikkei Fujinkai: Dona Smith (Lincoln).

Oregon Nikkei Vets — Ouchida: Junpei Kodama (Lake Oswego); Tash Kuge; Lance Watanabe (Reynolds); Roger Okamoto; Heather Nishimura (Salem Barlow); J.K. Kid; Mariko Abe (Clackamas); Veterans: Jenine Selzman (Catin Gable).

All graduates received Cross pens from the Japanese Ancestral Society, certificates from the banquet committee and carnations from the Oregon Nisei Veterans. ■

Placer County JACL Hosts Teacher Training Workshop

On May 10, the first teacher training workshop was held at the Placer County Office of Education in Auburn, California. "An American Story: From the Bill of Rights to Redress" was funded by the State of California and conducted by the JACL, the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) and the 100th/442nd Military Intelligence Service (MIS) World War II Memorial Foundation.

All site arrangements including school districts contacts were handled by Debbie Pieta, of the Placer County Office of Education.

Fifteen teachers from fourteen school districts participated in the workshop. The successful program was facilitated by Greg Marutani and Dr. Izzy Taniguchi, representing national JACL, and Lloyd Kajikawa from JANM.

Four local Placer County residents were guest speakers and shared personal experiences regarding internment and the contributions made by the veterans of the 100th/442nd(MIS). Those included chapter members Fusae Miyamoto, Frank Kageta and Shig Yokote of Loomis and chap-



(From left) Miya Mune-Craig, Frank Kageta, Hisea Mune, Fusae Miyamoto and Shig Yokote.

ter board member, Hisea Mune of Auburn. The four speakers volunteered their time and spoke eloquently about their experiences. Also participating and displaying their exhibit materials were Kiyu Sato-Viacrucis and Jim Tanaka from the Sacramento PVF 200885.

The teachers were enthusiastic about the materials presented in the curriculum guide and espe-

cially the local speakers who brought the story alive with their personal stories. The local speakers have already been contacted regarding future speaking engagements in the classroom.

The Placer County JACL chapter was pleased with the workshop and will hold other workshops in the future as well as offer additional resources to interested schools. ■

Salinas to Host NJAMF Fund-Raiser

Direct from Hollywood to Salinas — none other than George Takei, the celebrated Mr. Sulu of the classic TV series Star Trek, will headline the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation's fund-raising dinner June 27 at the Buddhist Temple of Salinas.

As a tribute to Gasei and beyond — from the Issei to Gosei and beyond — for their unique contribution to America, a national drive is currently underway to raise \$8,600,000 to finance the national memorial to patriotism by the NJAMF, headquartered in Washington, D.C. To be built on a 34-acre plot provided by the federal government, the triangular site is conveniently located right in the heart of downtown Washington — between the Capitol and the mall, the Union Station and the White House.

The construction is funded entirely by private donations and some \$6,500,000 has been raised to date. Groundbreaking is projected for this October with completion and dedication slated for next summer.

The Salinas fund drive is sponsored by five Central California

JACL chapters — Gilroy, San Benito County, Monterey Peninsula, Watsonville and Salinas Valley. Cressley H. Nakagawa, former national JACL president and the foundation's vice chairman, will serve as master of ceremonies. Along with George Takei, the program will also include Rear Admiral Melvin R. Chinoiggi, NJAMF's chairman of the board, and Cherry Teutsudima, NJAMF executive director.

Serving on the five-chapter organizing committee — Gilroy, President Teri Iwanaga and Jack Obata; San Benito County, President Tony Boch; Monterey Peninsula, President Larry Oda, Edith Ishiiji and George Uyeida; Watsonville, President Paul Kaneko, Shie Kizuka and Mas Hashimoto; and Salinas Valley, President Bob Shintaku, George Higashi, Paul Ichiji, Bob Oka and General Chairman Fred Oshima.

The dinner is \$25 per person with checks payable to NJAMF. Please contact or mail to your local JACL chapter or to Monterey Peninsula JACL, P.O. Box 1896, Monterey, CA 93942. ■

Riverside JACL Scholarship Winners



(From left) Michelle Sugi, Diana Hayashibara, Robert Agawa, Holly Takemura and Tracy Ntiao.

■ JOB OPENING

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 email. Fund-raising experience a plus. Excellent fringe benefit package provided. Competitive salary commensurate with experience. Send resume and cover letter to: JACL, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115 or fax to 415/931-4671. E-mailed applications/resumes not accepted. Applications will be taken until position is filled.

■ JOB REOPENING

Program Coordinator - Membership

Under the general supervision of the Program Director for Membership/Fund Development, the Membership Coordinator will be responsible for developing and maintaining members and member services on a national scale. Performs a wide variety of duties to ensure the maintenance and development of JACL's membership. Some travel and work on weekends and evenings required. College graduate with one to three years of progressively more responsible work experience in developing membership and membership services preferred. Must be experienced in the use of computer database technology and e-mail.

Position is full-time. 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.

■ JOB REOPENING

Program Director-Education

Under the general direction of the National Director, operates and manages the JACL Education Programs and projects out of the San Francisco office, performing a wide variety of duties to ensure the development and quality performance of the JACL's national education programs and goals. Travel and work on weekends and evenings required. College graduate with a major in education policy or general education preferred. Should have one to five years of progressively more responsible work experience in developing programs and policies in human services/civil rights or education. Must be experienced in the use of computer technology and e-mail.

Position is full-time. Not restricted to internal candidates. Excellent fringe benefit package provided. Salary commensurate with experience. \$26,850-\$44,000 depending on qualifications. 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. Program funded in part through the 100th/442nd(MIS) WWII Memorial Foundation. Deadline for applications: until filled.

■ JOB OPENING

DIRECTOR - PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Under the general direction of the National Director, operates and manages the JACL's Washington, D.C. office and performs a wide variety of duties to ensure the development and maintenance of the JACL's programs and goals at the federal level.

Must have experience with the political process either at a state or federal level. College graduate with a law degree or a Masters degree in political science, community organization, public policy, or related area. Professional experience in public affairs preferred. Should have one to five years of progressively more responsible work experience in developing programs and policies that address civil and human rights issues and concerns. Must be familiar with Asian Pacific American issues and concerns. Should have excellent analytical, speaking and writing skills. Must be experienced in the use of computer technology and email. Written essay required.

Full-time position. Internal applicants - none. Excellent fringe benefit package provided. Competitive salary commensurate with experience. Send resume and cover letter to: JACL, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115 or fax to 415/931-4671. E-mailed applications/resumes not accepted. Deadline for applications - until filled.

Kometani Kittaka to be Inducted in National Teachers Hall of Fame

EMPORIA, Kan.—As part of National Teacher Appreciation Week, the National Teachers Hall of Fame announced recently that educators from California, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, and Missouri will make up its eight class of inductees.

Among the teachers to be honored is Dorothy Kometani Kittaka, music teacher at Haverhill Elementary School, Fort Wayne, Ind., who will be inducted on June 16-18 in Washington, D.C., and June 24-27 in Emporia, Kan.

Other inductees include Jaime Escalante, mathematics and physics teacher, retired from Hiram Johnson High School, Sacramento, Calif.; Debra D. Peppers, English, speech, theatre/debate teacher, Lindbergh High School, St. Louis, Mo.; Ronald W. Poplaw, sociology/community service teacher, Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, Shawnee, Kan.; and Vicki Swartz Roscoe, curriculum resource teacher, Southwood Elementary School, Orlando, Fla.

Kittaka's education began in a nursery school in an American concentration camp in Heart Mountain, Wyo., along with 120,000 other Japanese Americans, who also were sent to various other such camps in the United States.

Her earliest memory of music was a melancholy trumpet melody repeatedly played in the camp by a strange man she called "Po-Pa-Poo Man."

Kittaka graduated from Northern Illinois University with a



Kometani Kittaka

bachelor of science degree in music education in 1961 and earned her master's degree from Indiana University at Fort Wayne in 1982.

She has been a classroom teacher for 28 years, including 20 years as elementary music specialist for Southwest Allen County schools.

The National Teachers Hall of Fame was established in 1989 by Emporia State University, the City of Emporia, and the Emporia Area Chamber of Commerce. The selection committee, representing educational organizations and businesses from across the country met March 9-12 at the National Teachers Hall of Fame to consider nominations from 35 states.

P.C. Cartoon Draws Criticism

It is with some concern and disappointment that I write to you today concerning a recent cartoon published in the June 4-10 issue of the *Pacific Citizen*. The cartoon depicts a character with Asian features wearing a Mao jacket, carrying an assortment of "dishes" with the caption "Chinese Carryouts" written in the corner.

Let me say at the outset that I am a strong proponent of the First Amendment and so I don't think I am violating free speech principles. Furthermore, I don't think I am being overly sensitive when I say that this particular cartoon can be construed as insulting and offensive to Asian Americans, and I would think especially to Chinese Americans, because of its reliance on inappropriate racial and ethnic stereotyping.

In my mind part of the mission for JACL is to educate the general public about who we are as Japanese Americans/AAs, a mission which unfortunately still includes constantly re-enforcing the notion that we are Americans first, who happen to be of Asian ancestry. During the height of the campaign finance scandal we saw events quickly take an ugly turn where any AA would be questioned about their loyalties if they were found to have donated to the Democratic National Committee. The symbol of how bad things could get were encapsulated by the *National Review* cover depicting the Clintons and Al Gore in Asian garb with buck teeth and slanted eyes.

While there were (and still are) plenty of cartoons using negative stereotyping, the racially insulting way in which the *National Review's* cover's depiction and use of Asian features more than made the point to many in the AA community that the focus on Asian donors was blurring the distinction between Asians and AAs.

Although I consider myself fully "American," when slanted eyes and buck teeth are used to symbolize "Asian-ness" it impacts me as an AA. Because many in the general public are unable to distinguish between Asian and AA we must be willing to consistently educate people that AAs are Americans.

We are slipping into the same problem today in the wake of the security concerns emanating from the Los Alamos Laboratories and that facility's inability to keep top secret nuclear information properly secured. This is certainly a matter of grave national concern but there is no need to

racialize or ethnicize the issue with cartoons that use stereotypes that to the general public make it easier to suspect and apply guilt by association to anyone who looks Asian.

Certainly we have enough problems with the mainstream media and elected officials who are more than ready to make this a "Chinese spy" problem, casting a cloud of suspicion and unwarranted doubt and scrutiny on countless scientists and students working in our national labs and defense companies who happen to be of Asian descent. The reality is, there are many nations that have an interest in obtaining the type of information that the Chinese government apparently now has and spies that help obtain this information come in all sizes and colors.

We should not feed into the public's notion that this is an "Asian" problem and we should not add to the stereotyping of Asians by creating caricatures that promote such misconceptions of who we are. Unfortunately the cartoon "Chinese Carryouts" does both.

In my opinion we must balance the principles of the First Amendment, which provide for a free flow of ideas and thought with the important mission of teaching the general public that Americans come from all parts of this world and there can be no stereotype of who is or is not an American.

Cartoons such as "Chinese Carryouts," among other things, work to undermine the consistent message we should be educating the general public with and should not be in an important paper such as the *Pacific Citizen*, unless it is to point out the harm such cartoons can do to the public's understanding of those who are mistakenly assumed to be Americans and those who are not.

Bob Sakamoto
Former JACL Wash., D.C., Representative

I am angry with the June 4 *Pacific Citizen* contribution from Pete Hironaka. Racist cartoons have no place in the official publication of any human/civil rights organization! One message that I can read from the cartoon is, "We are Japanese Americans and we are not like them, i.e., we are not Chinese!" Cease publishing racist material!

Sai Tokuda
Albuquerque, N.M.

If the JACL is going to get embroiled in a controversy over a cartoon in the *New York Post*, the *Pacific Citizen* had better look to make sure their own house is in order first.

Specifically, I refer to Pete Hironaka's cartoon in *P.C.'s* June 4-10 issue. I am sure there are readers, editors, and others out there who can rationalize away the difference and explain how one is okay and the other not, but they are both criticizing the same general situation.

In fact, if I were to pick one over the other as more offensive I would have to select the *P.C.* cartoon since it assumes guilt of espionage before any charges have been brought and any trials have been conducted. The JACL would do well to remember the admonition about casting the first stone.

Genald Horiuchi
Fresno, Calif.

Resisters of Conscience

Once again Martha Nakagawa has written an excellent article, "NCWNP District Apologizes for Not Recognizing World War II Nikkei Resisters of Conscience" (*P.C.* May 21-June 3). It is wonderful to read that the various veterans organizations, JACL chapters and districts are at last coming through towards reconciliation with the "Nikkei resisters of conscience."

The NCWNP District must be praised for their courage, understanding and sense of justice in initiating their resolution. It is one of the finest Nikkei resolutions of our history. This act, after over fifty years of national JACL boards, has at last shed some light to their darkness of denial.

The stand the resisters took required a lot of moral and physical courage beyond that expected of a Nikkei of that time and situation. In a sense they were patriots like the Minutemen of our country.

The article also expressed the viewpoints of Kari Kinaga which were rather droll. His attempts at putting down the "Japanese Sase" (an acronym?) are rather delusional. He accuses them of lacking historical knowledge of Nikkei in America. Who were the lawyers in the coram nobis cases? In the redress action who were the initial movers and the conscience of the movement? Who wrote the many scholarly papers and books about the Nikkei? Certainly it came from Sasei who knew where they came from.

The bells will soon toll in the new millennium. Let us all move forward as one people and meet the challenges of the twenty-first century just as our great Iseai forbearers did in the century that will soon pass.

Stanley A. Kawachi
New York, NY



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ENTERTAINMENT

'New World, New Art: The Asian Artist in America,' to be held August 2-6 at Chicago's Navy Pier

CHICAGO—From Broadway to jazz and from hip hop to Hollywood, Asian American artists will be celebrated in "New World, New Art: The Asian Artist in America," a festival of music, dance, and dialogue August 2-6 at Chicago's Navy Pier. Anthony Brown's Asian American Jazz Orchestra and hip hop turntablist DJ Shortkut of the Invisible Skratz Pixlz headline the event sponsored by the Center of Asian Arts and Media at Columbia College Chicago.

The festival showcases traditional arts from several Asian and Asian American cultures along with cutting-edge artists from across the United States.

Celebrity MCs Lauren Tum ("The Joy Luck Club") and George Takei ("Star Trek") host main-stage performances by DJ Shortkut, classical Indian music/dance group Natyakalalayam, contemporary New York-based H.T. Chen & Dancers, Chinese Lions Dancers, Brown's Asian American Jazz Orchestra performing excerpts from Duke Ellington's "Far East Suite," and other performers, with a stage set of Japanese *washi* (paper) sculpture by artist Kyoko Ibe.

Tony Award-winning playwright David Henry Wang leads a panel discussion on "Asians and Asian Americans in Hollywood: Then and Now." Ac-

trix Beulah Quo heads a panel on "Images of Asians and Asian Americans on Television." Other panelists are National Public Radio essayist Sandra Tsing Loh, filmmaker Jessica Yu and other distinguished writers, artists and critics.

"We want to provide both family fun and intellectual stimulation," says Nancy Tom, founder

of the Center for Asian Arts and Media. "The goal is to promote unity among Asian Americans, break down stereotypes, and encourage young people to learn from their past."

Participating artists will lead free preview performances, public discussions and workshops in community centers, schools, park districts and libraries throughout the Chicago area.

The Center for Asian Arts and Media of Columbia College Chicago presents performances, public discussions and art exhibitions by and about Asians and AAs, and promotes cross-cultural understanding through the arts and media.

Columbia College Chicago is a liberal arts college nationally recognized for outstanding programs in the fields of arts and communications. With an enrollment of over 8,000 students, it is one of the largest private higher education institutions in Illinois. ■



"NEW WORLD, NEW ART" — Actress Lauren Tom, the event's MC, with her mother Nancy Tom, founder of the Center for Asian Arts and Media, and organizer of the festival.

Documentary on Asian Americans in Alaska to be Released Next Fall

FAIRBANKS, Alaska—A new documentary titled "How North is Home: The Asian Alaskan Experience" is getting set to be released next fall.

Written and produced by KUAC-TV producer Suhtling Wong, the documentary focuses on the diversity of Asians living in Alaska, a state which is often overlooked as being a part of Asian America.

With a grant from the Alaska Humanities Forum, the one-and-a-half-hour documentary will cover communities from Juneau to Barrow and from Ketchikan to Kodiak.

According to the 1990 Census, 19,354 Asian Americans called Alaska home. Wong's documentary tells the story of how some of those people got there, exploring such questions as how Koreans cornered the market on taxi cabs in Bethel and how a group of Vietnamese ended up in Nome.

"It's not just a feel-good-Asians-are-here-rah-rah documentary," said Wong, who has been working on the project for the past two years. "In Anchorage, I covered the Southeast Asians coming in. They're not all doing real good."

Wong recruited veteran actor Pat Morita to narrate the documentary.

"In the lower 48, the majority of people consider Alaska to be Eskimo Pie and mukluks," said Morita, a Berkeley, Calif., native. "They can't begin to imagine how diverse the society here is. I think it's important to know Asians contribute to this."

While in Fairbanks, Morita held a forum with the local media on the role of Asians in the national media, saying that the public needs to know more about the vast influence of AAs on society.

Wong hopes the documentary will eventually be picked up for national broadcast on PBS. ■

Kiryama Pacific Rim Book Prize Accepting Entries for 1999 Award

The Kiriyama Pacific Rim Book Prize, worth \$30,000 (U.S.), is now accepting entries for the 1999 award. The prize was established in 1985 to recognize outstanding books that encourage greater understanding among the nations and peoples of the Pacific Rim.

Sponsors of the annual prize, the Kiriyama Pacific Rim Foundation and the University of San Francisco Center for the Pacific Rim, also announced that beginning in 1999 the cash award will be shared equally by the authors of one fiction and one nonfiction book.

Peter Coughlan, president of the Kiriyama Foundation, explained the rationale behind the recent decision to split the prize into two categories: "When the prize was launched in 1986, we did not know when we would receive sufficient books to warrant a distinction into the categories of fiction and nonfiction. With en-

tries now approaching 250 books a year, we are able to give greater recognition to more books in both categories as finalists and as winners."

The Kiriyama Prize continues to be open to publishers worldwide, provided the books entered concern the Pacific Rim in a significant way. In order to be eligible for the 1999 prize, books will have been published between Nov. 1, 1998, and Oct. 31, 1999. Books must be written in English or translated into English from any other language. Deadline for the 1999 prize entries is July 1. (Galley proofs are accepted for books published after the deadline, but before the Oct. 31 cutoff.)

For further details about the prize or to obtain official entry forms, interested parties should contact Jeannine Cuevas, project coordinator for the prize, at 415/422-5984, fax: 415/422-5933, or e-mail: cuevas@usfca.edu. ■

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S. John Nitta, 88, Founder of 'Amchick' School

Shigeru John Nitta, who would have been 88 on Aug. 1, died June 9. Founder of "Amchick," the well-known chick-sexing school founded in 1937 in Los Angeles, he envisioned the future of his enterprise beyond Southern California and moved his operation the same year to Lansdale, Pa., where it continues today.

Nitta, a Philadelphia JACL 1000 Club life member, was born in Seattle. He visited Japan in 1920 and was stranded in Japan due to his father's death, but returned alone in 1923 to Seattle. He then lived with his cousin on Terminal Island, where he graduated from San Pedro High in 1933.

While revisiting his mother in Japan (Wakayama, Wakamura), he enrolled in a school in Nagoya where he learned the art of chick-sexing — segregating day-old chicks by gender: the egg-layers and non-egg-layers. Nitta returned in 1936 to continue his studies at the Hattori hatcheries in Fresno and Mission, hatcheries in Santa

Cruz.

While the U.S. poultry industry had known but were dubious about the art, Nitta determined that the early sexers lacked sufficient training and thus he began his school in 1937. It soon became a lucrative profession as hatcheries favored its graduates.

Nitta served on the Takahimaya (New York) board of directors, Volunteer Medical Services Corps, local Rotary, YMCA, Elks Club, the Shriners, its Royal Order of Masters and various poultry industry groups.

Surviving are his wife Ann Tamiko Kato of Venice, Calif., who was given permission to leave internment camp to travel to Lansdale to be married; and six children: Joanne, David, Florence, Glen, Howard and Wayne. ■

Thomas Academy Celebrates Connection to Areas JA Community

KENT, Wash.—In 1931 families of children attending Thomas School — who were nearly two-thirds Japanese American — planted cherry trees along the front of the property to celebrate the establishment of the first Japanese PTA in the country. There the trees flourished until after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

In early 1942, according to the account of local historian Stan Flewelling, "One evening a truckload of humorless men swept down on the Thomas School and flattened every cherry tree on the grounds." Through the generosity of Hal and Frances Seike of the Des Moines Way Nursery in

branch to commemorate a significant time in the unique history of the community of Thomas and its school, to honor the JA soldiers of Thomas who did not come home from WWII, and to dedicate the newly planted cherry trees.

Honored guests included representatives of the JA community and many others with ties to Thomas School from throughout the greater Seattle and Tacoma area and the Northwest, the Seikes and Joseph Kamikawa, commander of the Nisei Veterans Committee. Families and students of Thomas Academy as well as Mayor Chuck Booth of Auburn and Mayor Jim White of Kent also attended.

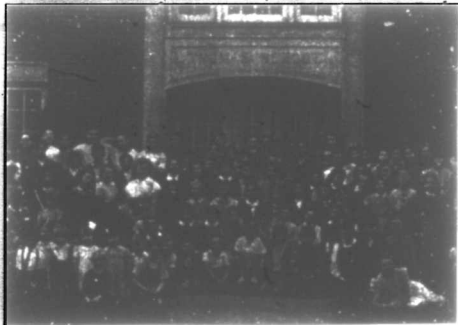


PHOTO: CLARK STUDIO
Students and teachers of Thomas School pose in front of the school's entrance in 1939.

SeaTac, the cherry trees have been replaced.

The trees are a reminder of the history of the school building, now occupied by Thomas Academy, and the lost community of Thomas that it once served. In the 1930s this area was largely populated by first- and second-generation Japanese Americans, most of them truck farmers whose crops supplied the markets of Seattle. When President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 in 1942, these JA families were sent to internment camps and their sons off to war.

On May 25, hundreds of those who attended Thomas School prior to World War II converged upon the old campus for a ceremony of dedication and remem-

As part of the ceremony, a plaque located in front of the newly planted trees was unveiled. It reads:

Thomas Academy remembers the Japanese American families of Thomas, who in 1931 planted cherry trees on this site to celebrate the founding of the Japanese PTA, and who in World War II endured internment and gave their sons to the cause of liberty. These trees are dedicated in remembrance, May 25, 1989.

Founded in 1964, Thomas Academy is the only non-denominational independent school in South King County. Thomas serves children from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade from throughout South King and North Pierce Counties. ■

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Ebihara, Ann, 65, Fullerton, June 5; Tokyo-born; survived by husband Mitsuo; sons Mitchell; daughter Audrey Masai and husband David; 4 g.; brothers Sadao Endo and wife Kimiko, Katshiko Endo and wife Fumiko (both Japan).

Fukuhara, Henry Kiyoshi, 86, Long Beach, June 1; Santa Barbara-born; Minidoka internee; survived by wife Mary Sadako Nishimoto; sons Victor and wife Masako, Richard and wife Mimi, Larry, Tracy and wife JoAnn; daughters Sandra Masuda, Aki Joyce Vaughn and husband Mike; 8 g.

Furusawa, Yoshiko Audrey, 63, Van Nuys, June 6; Tokyo-born; survived by husband Ted; son Ken; daughter Elizabeth; brothers Kaneyasu Enomoto, Mitsuo Enomoto (both Hawaii).

Harada, George, 84, Los Angeles, June 5; Los Angeles-born; survived by daughter Kiku Katherine (Switzerland); sister Teruko Hirano and husband Eddie.

Hasegawa, Helen Kazato, 86, Fresno, June 1, Fresno-born; survived by sons Craig, Bruce, Ted and wife Marilyn; 3 g.; brother Hugo Kazato.

Inouye, Kikuchi "Kibo," 71, Seattle, May 11; past commander and life member of the Nisei Veterans Committee; survived by wife Jeanne; sons Raymond Hachiya and wife Zita, Randle and wife Cathy, Michael; daughter Gerorgetta Hachiya; 2 g.; sisters Tama Tokuda (Seattle), Tomi Yamamoto and husband Iku (Los Angeles).

Ishihara, Tetsuo "Ted," 94, Stockton, June 1; Hiroshima Prefecture-born; survived by sons Dr. Teruo and wife Shimiko, Teshio and wife Fujiko, Tadashi and wife Carolyn; daughter Miyoko Kawamura; daughter-in-law Shizuko; 12 g., 15 ggc.

Ishimatsu, Hidenori, 49, Aliso Viejo, June 5; Ohita-ken-born; survived by brothers Yoshiyuki and wife Seiko, Shigemitsu and wife Hiroko, Naoshi and wife Tomoko; sisters Chieko Takeishi and husband Kenichi, Tamiko Akiyoshi and husband Y.

Kamei, George Yasunari, 77, Rancho Palos Verdes, June 4; Fresno-born; survived by wife Midori K.; sons Bruce, Chris Watanabe and wife Yuri; daughters Joan, Mari Blevins, Linda St. Agustin and husband Robert; 9 g.; brother-in-law Lloyd Kitazono and wife Taya; sister-in-law Chizu Amemiya.

Kamikawa, Rev. Dr. Aigi, 81, Seattle; survived by wife Kiyu; sons Stephen A. (Fremont), Eugene M. (Reno, Nev.); daughter Ruth Moss (Logan, Utah); 5 g.; brothers Paul (Milwaukee), Joseph (Renton, Wash.); sisters Kyo Sakahara, Hana Kato, Ann Lui (Oakland), Lily Oshiro (Honolulu).

Kawabata, Setsuko, 70, Castro Valley, March 30; survived by husband Toshiro; daughter Nancy Kawabata-Poon and husband Parry; 2 g.; sisters Mary Hasegawa (Alameda), Akiko Fukuyama (Hayward).

Kawaguchi, Masao Mike, 83, North Hollywood, June 4; Bellingham, Wash.-born; 522nd Field Artillery Battalion of the 100th/442nd RCT and MIS veteran; survived by son Nick; daughter Cynthia "Cindy" Kawaguchi Dunn and husband Jim; 3 g.; sister Hise Miyasaki; sisters-in-law Hatsume Kawaguchi (Japan), Sakaye Kurata, Mary Shimizu and husband Ken, Masako Kobayashi (Fresno).

Mizuno, Hiroshi, 55, Riverside-born; survived by mother Hiroko; brothers James, Richard, Ted T.; sisters Beulah Okura and husband Sakuye, Suzie Hatsumaki.

Morimoto, Sakami, 84, Santa Ana, June 3; Los Angeles-born; survived by husband Sugi; son Edward Mamoru and wife Penny; daughters Marion Ikeda and husband Susumu, Anne Firestone; 5 g., 3 ggc.

Nakamura, Masato, 68, San Francisco, June 3; Denver-born; survived by wife Chizuko; son Daniel and wife Lisa; daughter Irene; sister Suzuyo Nishimoto (Japan); sister-in-law Miyeko Fukuda.

Nakanishi, Shigeo George, 83, Alhambra, June 11; Fresno-born; survived by wife Yukiko; son Jimmy and wife Lynn; daughters

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcome. "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$15 per column inch. Text is reworded as needed.

Amy Ougi and husband Fred, Terri Nakata and husband Albert; 7 g.; sister Kikumi Hori (Japan); sisters-in-law Fumiko, Miyoko, Fujiye Idemoto, Misao Matsuda; brother-in-law John Matsuda and wife Mickey.

Nakaya, James Teruo, 78, Los Angeles, June 8; Brawley-born; survived by wife Nancy Natsuko; daughter Betsy Mieko Tango and husband Hiroshi; 2 g., 1 ggc.; mother Tsuruko; brothers Yukio (Japan), Fumio, Takeshi; sister Toshiko Mechenburg and husband Bob (Maryland).

Nishikawa, Michiko, 76, West Los Angeles, June 9; survived by daughter Joanie Kamio and husband Bill; 1 g.; brothers Ben Mayeda and wife Aiko, Tokusei Mayeda and wife Sandy; sisters Toji Yoshinaga and husband Kaz, Carol Jimenez.

Oishi, Masao "Mas," 88, Oakland, June 5; Steege-born; survived by wife Mieko Juen; sisters Sada Mori, Marion Suzuki and husband Frank; sisters-in-law Mary Yamamoto (Japan), Katherine Kinoshita, Aki Toriyama (both Martinez).

Okai, Henry, 80, Anaheim, June 7; Houston-born World War II veteran; survived by wife Millie M.; son Terry; daughters Carole Omata and husband Harvey, Donna Inouye and husband Ken; 2 g., 4 ggc.; brother George; brother-in-law Kuniaki Sakamoto; sisters-in-law Shizume Akinaga (Washington, D.C.), Kimi Kawano, Betty Masuda and husband Bob (Hawaii), Akiko Mitsui, Chiyoko Sakamoto (Fresno).

Okazaki, Frank Kazuo, 66, May 31; New York JACL chapter president, 1951; survived by wife Fran; son John; daughter Jean; stepchildren Patti Blaney, Mark Tanaka, Jamie Tanaka; brother James; sisters Kay, Peggy Shirai.

Ozawa, William H., 77, Seattle, April 24; 442nd RCT veteran; survived by wife Janet; brothers Dr. Roy and wife Margie (Harbor City), Harvey and wife Miya (Monterey Park); sisters Dorothy Hirai and husband Tuba (Twin Falls, Idaho), Hamako Kawamura and husband Sam, Marie Ozawa, Grace Michihira and husband Roy (Huntington Beach); predeceased by brothers Toshi, Jack K.

Sasaki, Eiko, 55, Los Angeles, June 2; survived by husband Clifford; sons Wayne, Chad; parents-in-law Tadashi and Emiko Sasaki.

Sato, Charlie Yutaka, 72, Cerritos, June 5; Utah-born; survived by wife Rose; son George and wife Mindy (Pasadena); brother Henry and wife Maria (Ogden, Utah); sisters-in-law Masaya, Sakaye (both Los Angeles).

Tanaka, Kikuzo, 83, Sacramento, May 28; survived by hus-

band Mickey; brothers Takeyoshi Pete Hamatani and wife Jean, George Hamatani and wife Gail, Minoru Hamatani, Osamu Hamatani and wife Betty, Tomio Hamatani and wife Jane; sisters Fumie Hamatani, Moteo Hamatani, Shizue Sugioka and husband Yoshio, Yukiye Combs and husband Richard; sister-in-law Asako Hamatani.

Tokaji, Lynne Holland, 61, Palos Verdes Estates, June 10; Louisville, Ky.-born; survived by husband Ted J. M.D.; sons Daniel, David; mother Linnie Holland (Louisville, Ky.); brothers Peter Holland and wife Bea (Lexington, Mass.), Michael Holland and wife Mary Ann (Chicago); sister Julie Donahue (Louisville, Ky.).

Ueno, Yukiye, 84, Gardena, June 7; San Pedro-born; survived by sons Dr. Tadao and wife Susan (South Carolina), Dr. Tetsuo and wife Liz (Lancaster); daughter Kazuko Nakawatase and husband Joe Yoshito; 9 g., 1 ggc.; son-in-law Victor Kawasaki; daughter-in-law Miyuki.

Watanabe, "Bobbie" Shizuyo, 87, Fruitland, Idaho, May 29; Boring, Ore.-born Tule Lake internee; survived by son James "Sonny"; daughters Nancy Campbell and husband Gary (Eagle, Idaho), Sharon Hicks and husband Larry (Boise, Idaho); 4 g., 3 ggc.

Yasuhara, Tetsuzo Ted, 82, Los Angeles, June 3; Los Angeles-born; survived by wife Sachiko; son Robert; daughters Lilly, Nancy, Joyce Sandoval and husband Ernie, Susan; 1 g.; brother Kinji; sister Yaeoko; brothers-in-law Tak Endo, Sar Endo and wife Arleen; sister-in-law Yoshi Yonemura, Aileen Endo.

Yoshioka, Noboru, 91, San Francisco, May 28; Hawaii-born; survived by wife Kazuko; sons David and wife Sylvia; 1 g.; brothers Shoso, Hiroshi (both Japan). ■

HENRY IMANO AND GINZO
With the help of a Doctor Theodore Peterson 3 families left California and relocated to Hoedrege, Nebraska. Dr. Rodney Peterson is trying to locate them. Please write to 920 East 28th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407.

LELAND CLYDE JOHNSON
Was born on June 23, 1962 to Margaret Yoshie Kobayashi and Leland Merle Johnson. Margaret was married to a gentleman by the first name of Robert and possibly resided in Hawthorne, California. Robert may have worked for Prudential. Margaret's brother was an electrician in Culver City. If you have any information on Leland or Margaret, please write to 408 N. Borin Street #8, Anaheim, CA 92806. ■

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TAJIRI

(Continued from page 1)

an act committed some 30 years back by her Issei grandfather, who, in 1942, burned down all of his family's property and belongings, including their beloved strawberry fields where he'd worked as a "fruit tramp."

When her sister's ghost comes back to haunt her with an old photograph of a World War II internment camp, Irene begins to awaken to that untold past, long since repressed by her parents, and especially by her mother Alice (Mariya Takada), whose own private dysfunctions and stifled memories as a result of her family's experience seem to signify those of a generation.

Alice's litter refusal to open up to her daughter sends Irene on a desperate search for the truth as she embarks upon a road trip across the country to the Mojave Desert with Luke and another young JA couple, politically radical Mark (Chris Tashima) and surrogate folk-mother Aura (Heiko Mathieu). But the girls, hoping to discover something about Irene's elusive family history, eventually ditch the boys, drive to Poston, Arizona, and meet up with the eccentric Takayo (Takayo Fischer), a former intern and ex-beauty pageant Daikon Queen, who accompanies them to the now-barren campsite.

Once there, however, Irene is disappointed to find no physical remains and, finally, in a consuming fit of rage — against the dust and desolation, against her ghost-sister's cryptic mocking, against her mother's repressions and against her own eclipsed memory — she literally sets off an explosion in the middle of the desert. As a result, Irene unwittingly unlocks a flashback into her personal past, of a prophetic and definitive moment in her childhood when she commits an act, much like her grandfather before her, which would forever mark the course of her history.

It is in these silent fragmented flashbacks, some of which give the impression of having been ab-

stracted or superimposed, that the film tenders some of its most memorable scenes — a hand lighting a match, a young girl standing before a raging bonfire. But even more poignant are the slight reverse washes of hum and feedback cast over beautifully grainy, barely discernible images of camp, which speak both of a timelessness and of passing time. Archive enthusiasts may be interested to know that the footage was provided courtesy of David Tatsuno, who had filmed life inside camp using an 8 mm camera that he'd smuggled in and hidden in a box with a hole cut out of it.

If the film suffers anywhere, it is that some of the supporting characters are lacking in well-rounded dimensionality. Alice, for instance, is too easily resolved in her complacent role as estranged wife and mother. Her dull antagonism, exhibited in almost every scene she's in, fails to evoke the underlying scarring she endured as a result of the internment, scarring that ultimately ended in a failing relationship with her husband — the banal marital bickering, the sterile sex, his adultery — and in her inability to engage in an open dialogue with her daughter. Even when Alice says to Irene in their final confrontation, "It's hard enough getting punished for the things you can't help," the emotional impact is minimized by the delivery.

Still, quibbles aside, Tajiri, along with screenwriter and award-winning Canadian author Kerri Sakamoto, have etched out an enjoyable gem. They succeed especially in conceptualizing Irene's struggle in coming to terms with self through coming to terms with her cultural history, showing us that beneath conscious perception sometimes lies an even more provocative unconscious memory. ■

Winner of the Grand Prix at the Fukuoka Asian International Film Festival and an official selection at both the Venice International Film Festival and the Los Angeles Independent Film Festival, "What Happened to Her? And the Strawberry Fields" (presented by IVTS and Open City Films, released by Phaedra Cinema) is now playing in limited release around different parts of the country. Check local listings.

Sonoma Chapter Acquires Valuable Tapes, Documents

The Sonoma Chapter JACL recently received sixteen tapes and several documents, a nearly complete record of the hearings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians held in various parts of the country between July and December 1981. George and Hime Nichols, who had attended the three-day hearings held in San Francisco, presented the material to the chapter board at their May meeting.

Not only did George Nichols, a paralegal and co-chair of the Redress Committee for Diablo Valley JACL at the time, record the testimonies heard on the tape, he himself testified, detailing the "hostile prison environment" that exacerbated his mother-in-law's illness and hastened her death. He said that her case "personified the cruelty and injustices resulting from Executive Order 9066."

The commission hearings, conducted by a panel of distinguished jurists and politicians, are now generally deemed to have been critical to the successful drive for redress. In sum, the panel found no justification for the removal of 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast and that prejudice, war hysteria and failure of political leadership underscored this egregious breach of the Constitution. And with the exception of the then Congressman Dan Lundgren, the panel recommended the establishment of a fund for compensatory payment to former internees, the remainder to be used for public educational purposes.



(From left): Chapter archivist Rina Hiral, DOR committee members George Nichols, Hime Nichols, and Marie Sugiyama.

posers. "It's an amazing experience to hear the actual voices that gave life to that historical event," said board member Mei Nakano, who was contacted about the donation. "Now you hear the voice of Col. Boris Pash, Chief of the Western Defense Command Counter Intelligence Corp attempting to justify the imprisonment and immediately afterward being challenged by Col. James Hanley, a Commander of the 442nd Battalion," she continued. "There follows a whole role call of persons representing organizations that forwarded resolutions favoring redress. Then there are all those people you know — some like the Yonedas, now gone, others like Mar-

shall Sumida, Dr. Yoshiye Togeasaki, Kiku Funahiki — speaking simply but powerfully about their experiences. It's a precious legacy."

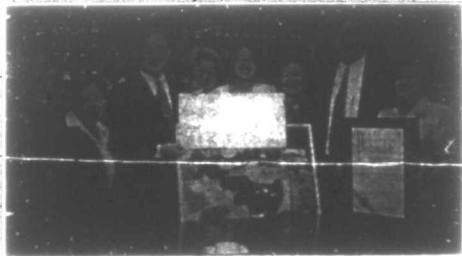
The Nichols' donation includes documents like original agendas for the three days, letters, resolutions from various organizations around the Bay Area and a copy of the memorandum of the now-famous "Munson Report."

Said Carol Kawase, chapter president, "We are deeply grateful to the Nichols' for this gift, which will no doubt become more valuable as the years go by. It will be catalogued and become a permanent part of the reference collection in our library where it will be accessible to the public. ■

Inaugural 'Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk' Hailed

WASHINGTON—With some 500 participants of all ages coming from a broad spectrum of ethnic groups, the inaugural Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk held in April raised \$16,350. Seiko Wakabayashi announced last week. It was a fund-raising activity for the proposed National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism, in conjunction with the National Cherry Blossom Festival on the Mall.

Donations can be sent to NJAMF, 1920 N Street NW, Suite 660, Washington, D.C., 20036 or call 202/861-8845 for more details. ■



From left: Ann Yononura, Ruth Wong, Hark Wakabayashi, David Yao, Seiko Wakabayashi, Laura Nakatani, Yasuo Reddon, NJAMF Chairman Mei Chirogaki, and Executive Director Chery Tsutsumida holding the Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk Proclamation.

KOKUSAI-PACIFICA

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AUG 9 - Canada, Nova Scotia & Niagara - 14 Days - \$2295 - SOLD OUT

SEP 30 - Fall Japan Classic - 11-Day - \$2995 - SOLD OUT

OCT 11-Hokkaido/Tokoro/Fall Foliage - 11-Day-24 Meals-\$3495 - Sapporo Soukiyo-Ainu-Toya-Hakodate-Aomori-Towada-Matsushima-Senjafuji-Tokyo

OCT 18-Uranchi-Outside of Japan 11Day-\$395 - SOLD OUT**

OCT 28-Okinawa-Kyushu-Shikoku-12-Day-27 Meals-\$3495-4-Day Okinawa Nagasaki-Uzen-Kumamoto-Miyazaki-Ashizuri-Kochi-Takamatsu-Osaka

NOV 6 - Orient Deluxe -14-Day - 27 Meals - \$3395 - Hong Kong, Bali, Singapore, 5-day Malaysia Cruise-Phuket, Kuala Lumpur & Langkawi +Bangkok

DEC 1 - Seyonara "Branson Xmas-5-Day-10 Meals - 7 Shows "Shoji & Miké"

DEC 29 - "Millennium Tour" Japan + Orient Cruise - 14-Day - New Year in Tokyo, Orient Cruise & Shirahama Hot Springs in Japan on return.

IN 2000 - Spring Japan 2000 Special, Cherry Blossom Tour, Nishi-Nihon Onsen, Japan by Train + Australia + New Zealand, Summer - Hawaii Cruise, Hawaii Tour, USA Once More - Bus Tour - LA to LA - the West (visit WRA Camps) -Scandinavia. Fall - South Africa, New England+Canada Foliage Cruise, Hokkaido/Tokoku, Uranchi, Okinawa/Kyushu/Shikoku + Orient.

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Nashville - Dover - Paducah - New Madrid - Memphis + Port Charges \$70

Type of Cabin	List Price	Airfare	Taxes	50% Price	After Tax
Outside-Veranda	\$2230	\$578	\$2805	\$1115	FREE \$1115
Inside Cabin	\$2030	\$578	\$2608	\$1015	FREE \$1015
Inside Cabin	\$1680	\$578	\$2258	\$ 840	FREE \$ 840

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