

Pacific Citizen

WEEKLY

\$1.50 postpaid (U.S., Can.) / \$2.30 (Japan Abt)

Newsstand: 25¢

#2877 / Vol. 129, No. 5 ISSN: 0030-8579

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

July 30-Aug. 5, 1999

Proposed California Assembly Resolution Criticizing Japan Generates Debate and Controversy

By SAM CHU LIN
Special to the Pacific Citizen

As California state assemblyman Mike Honda and his wife Jeanne walked out of a Palo Alto restaurant this past Sunday, many of the 260 guests gave him a warm handshake and thanks. He thought to himself, this is an experience he will not soon forget.

The crowd, made up of former World War II POWs, veterans groups, politicians, and Pan Asian political activists, had packed the banquet room for five hours. As the organizers described it, this was an "impromptu get-together" to praise the San Jose lawmaker for sponsoring an assembly resolution that is generating plenty of dialogue and controversy across the country.

Honda's AJR 27, perhaps the first such declaration made by a Japanese American leader, calls

people apart."

As far as Honda is concerned, no more time should be wasted, and Angela Oh, a Los Angeles attorney and a former commissioner of President Clinton's Race Initiative, agrees.

"I think Mike has been courageous in setting forth this resolution," she commented. "I recognize it is a difficult and deeply painful thing for all. But, if my year on the Race Initiative affirmed anything for me, it was the fact that telling hard truths must precede healing and reconciliation."

And it looks like this resolution is going to be "difficult and deeply painful" for even some of the members of the state assembly to accept. Honda's Southern California colleague, assemblyman George Nakano of Torrance is adamantly opposed to it.

"Mike was 'shooting from the hip' when he put this resolution



(L-R): Dr. Lester H. Lee, former UC regent, and wife Helen Lee, representing the Silicon Valley Chinese American community, present a plaque of appreciation to Jeanne and Mike Honda.

on the Japanese government to "formally issue a clear and unambiguous apology for the atrocious war crimes committed by the Japanese military during World War II and to immediately pay reparations to the victims of those crimes."

"It was emotionally overpowering," Honda stated as he reacted to the reception he received at the luncheon. "As we go into the new millenium, we need to put things like this behind us and move forward. We need to deal with this so we can stop something like this from keeping our

together," Nakano remarked. "He wasn't thinking of the consequences. It's divisive!"

"Mike and I are the only two Asian Americans in the state assembly. We live in a state where Asian Americans make up almost 12 per cent of the population. What Mike should be doing instead is using that energy to win more political empowerment for APAs in the state."

Honda, a former history teacher, says he is working hard to help accomplish that goal, but

See RESOLUTION page 8

Asian Pacific American Community Holds Nat'l Rally in Support of Bill Lann Lee Nomination

By Pacific Citizen Staff

With Bill Lann Lee's renomination for assistant attorney general for civil rights in the Department of Justice still languishing in committee, the Asian Pacific American community voiced its outrage at a national "Bill Lann Lee Action Day" organized by the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans on July 21.

At simultaneous press conferences in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, Philadelphia, and Salt Lake City, APA community leaders, elected officials, and other ethnic minority leaders pressed Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) to allow Lee's nomination to proceed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee, of which he is the chair, and to allow the full Senate to vote on Lee's nomination.

"I am proud to stand with the Asian Pacific American community, and indeed the vast coalition of Hispanic, African American, disabilities, religious, and civil rights organizations that support Bill Lann Lee to be our assistant attorney general for civil rights," said Vice-President Al Gore at the Washington, D.C., rally. "Bill Lann Lee, the Clinton/Gore Administration's nominee for the highest civil rights post in the nation deserves a full and fair debate in the Senate."

Recent, widely-publicized incidents of hate crimes, including the hate motivated shoot-

ings in Indiana and Illinois of Asian Americans, Jewish Americans, and Africans Americans by a white supremacist, have prompted calls for Lee's confirmation as assistant attorney general for civil rights.

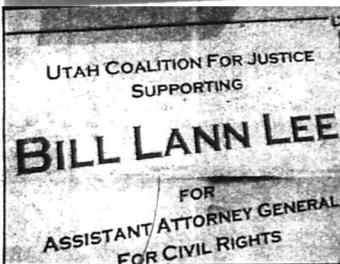
Bill Lann Lee has successfully litigated groundbreaking cases on behalf of African Americans, Latinos, and Asian Pacific Americans. He is the new face of civil rights in this country, building bridges between communities."

The various groups participating in the national rally included JACL; Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO; American Civil Liberties Union; NAACP; Jewish Labor Committee; Organization of Chinese Americans; Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund; Korean American Coalition; the Western Law Center for Disability Rights; and the National Federation of Filipino American Associations.

Lee's bipartisan supporters include California Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa, Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), Sen. Diane Feinstein (D-Calif.), General Colin Powell, Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.), Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-HI), and L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan. He has also won the support of seven previous assistant attorney generals for civil rights who served under the Eisenhower, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Bush, and Clinton administrations.

July 21 marked the two year anniversary of President Clinton's original nomination of Lee to the nation's highest civil rights post. In March of this year Clinton resubmitted Lee's nomination to the position after

See BILL LANN LEE/ page 6



Tab Uno, president of the JACL Salt Lake City chapter, speaks at the Salt Lake City rally in support of Bill Lann Lee. Standing to his left is Larry Grant, Intermountain District governor.

"The recent shootings in Indiana and Illinois should serve as a wake up call," said Stewart Kwoh, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, and moderator of the L.A. rally. "Our nation needs strong leadership in the enforcement of our nation's civil rights protec-

What's in a Word? Inscriptions on Nat'l Nikkei Monument Stirs Controversy

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

Inscriptions to appear on the proposed National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism has captured the attention of the Nikkei community, many of whom have donated to and are concerned about what will be etched on the estimated \$10.6 million monument.

The controversy first surfaced after the Washington Times ran an Associated Press article on July 16, reporting that the Fine Arts Commission had delayed their decision to approve the Nikkei patriotism monument because they felt there were too many inscriptions on it. For many, this was the first time they had heard about the selected quotes.

One quote in particular from a 1943 Supreme Court ruling caught the ire of the Nikkei community, and several people sent letters of protest to the foundation.

"We're taking that [controversial inscription] out," said Cherry Tsutsumida, executive director of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF).

The particular citation from the 1943 Supreme Court ruling reads: "The court ruled that the adoption by government, in times of war and threatened invasion, of measures of public safety, is not wholly beyond the limits of the Constitution and is not to be condemned."

J. Carter Brown, chair of the Fine Arts Commission, one of several commissions which must give approval of the monument before it can begin construction, favors limiting the quotes to three presidents — Truman, Ford and Reagan — and a list of the 10 government-sponsored War Relocation Authority camps.

The presidential quotes under consideration would read: Reagan: "Here we admit a wrong. Here we affirm our commitment as a nation to equal justice under the law." Truman: "You fought not only the enemy, but you fought preju-

dice. ... And you won. Keep up the fight to make this great republic stand for what the Constitution says it stands for."

Ford: "Not only was evacuation wrong ... we have learned from the tragedy to forever treasure liberty and justice for each individual American, and resolve that this kind of action shall never be repeated."

The foundation is also pushing to include quotes from Senator Daniel Inouye, former Congressman Norman Mineta, the late Senator Masayuki "Spark" Matsunaga, Congressman Robert Matsui and the late Mike Massoka, JACL's first executive secretary.

Massoka is the only private individual included on this list.

There will be no quotes from women. Tsutsumida said notable Nikkei women such as the late Michi Nishiura Weglyn were not included because the quotes were limited to elected officials with an exception made for Massoka,

See MONUMENT/ page 6

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115

50166 12/01/99

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1929 1999

ANNIVERSARY

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© 1999 (ISSN: 0030-8579) PACIFIC CITIZEN is published weekly except once in December. **OFFICE HOURS** — Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Pacific Time.

Annual subscription rates: JACL MEMBERS: \$12 of the national dues provide one year on a one-per-household basis. NON-MEMBERS: 1 year—\$30, payable in advance. Additional postage per year — Foreign periodical rate \$22; First Class for U.S., Canada, Mexico: \$30; Airmail to Japan/Europe: \$60. (Subject to change without notice.) Periodical postage paid at Monterey Park, Calif., and at additional mailing offices.

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JACL Calendar

National

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 Maedo, 415/753-3340; Gale Kondo, 415/337-9981; website: http://home.earthlink.net/~99convention.

Eastern

PHILADELPHIA
Sat., Aug. 28—Trip to "Splendors of Meiji: Treasures of Imperial Japan" exhibit, 2 p.m. at First USA Riverfront Center, Wilmington, and dinner at Utage Japanese Restaurant, 5 p.m.; **RSVP by Aug. 10:** Mary Burke, 215/487-1678; maryburke@msn.com.
Sat., Aug. 28—Guided tour of exhibit, "Art of 20th-century Zen," 12 noon; Delaware Art Museum, Kentmere Parkway. **RSVP by Aug. 10:** Mary Burke, 215/487-1678; maryburke@msn.com.

Midwest

CINCINNATI
Sun., Aug. 15—Annual Potluck Dinner; 1:30 p.m. board meeting, 4 p.m. silent auction, 5 p.m. dinner; Hyde Park Bethlehem United Methodist Church, Madison Rd. & Hyde Park Ave.; speaker, mushroom grower Matt Madison.

CLEVELAND

Sun., Sept. 12—1999 Community Picnic; 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Brushwood

Shelter, Furnace Run Park (Akron Metro park), Townsend Rd., Richfield. Info: John Ochi, 440/442-6211.
WISCONSIN
Sun., Aug. 8—Annual JACL picnic, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; 12:30 lunch; St. Francis Memorial Park, St. Francis; baseball, volleyball, cards before lunch, games after lunch; **RSVP by August 1:** Nancy Jonokuchi, 414/672-5544, Eddie Jonokuchi, 414/691-1404, Renee Murakami, 414/228-0171.

Pacific Northwest

OLYMPIA
Fri.-Sat., Aug. 6-7—Obon Odori; see Community Calendar.
PORTLAND
Sun., Aug. 15—Ninth Annual Nikkei Community Picnic, noon-6 p.m.; Bring a side dish to share. **RSVP by August 10** to Connie Masuoka, 503/243-3291. See Community Calendar.

NC-WN-Pacific

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sun., Aug. 1—District Council Meeting; hosted by Eden JACL.
SAN FRANCISCO
Sat., Sept. 18—Workday at the National AIDS Memorial Grove, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., east end of Golden Gate Park; sponsored by San Francisco chapter JACL. Info: John Handa, 415/282-2803.
SAN MATEO
Sat., Aug. 7—Community potluck dinner & raffle, 5-8 p.m.; San Mateo Center, 2645 Alameda de las Playas Games, entertainment, flowers, music. Info: 650/343-2793.

SEQUOIA

Sat., Aug. 21—"A Day with the (San Jose) Giants"; BBQ dinner at 3 p.m., game at 5 p.m.; San Jose Municipal Stadium; San Jose Giants vs. Lancaster

Jethaws, Lenn Sakata coaching the Giants. **RSVP BY Aug. 1:** Mike Kaku (Sequoia JACL) 408/985-2747, or Alan Mikuni (Fremont JACL), 510/791-8628.
WATSONVILLE
Sun., Aug. 8—Annual JACL community picnic; BBQ lunch, races, prizes, raffle, bingo, Taiko; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Aptos Village Park, 100 Aptos Creek Rd.

Central California

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sat., Aug. 28—District Council quarterly meeting; proposed location Merced College.

Pacific Southwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sun., Aug. 29—District Council Meeting, Santa Maria.
ARIZONA
Fri.-Sun., Aug. 13-15—Nisei Week Festival group tour of the Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles. Info: Kathy Inoshita, 917-5434, Joe Allman, 942-2832. ■

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.

HOLIDAY ISSUE AD KITS READY

Holiday issue advertising kits are currently being prepared. Each chapter should call Brian Tanaka at 800/966-6157 with the name and address of their Holiday Issue advertising coordinator. Thank you.

COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast

MCLEAN, VA
Sun., Aug. 29—National Japanese American Memorial Foundation Luncheon-Fund Raiser, "Natsu No Owan," 12 noon-3 p.m.; Tachibana Restaurant, 6715 Lowell Ave. \$50 per person. **RSVP by Aug. 15:** Fred Murakami, 2511 Babcock Road, Vienna, VA 22181. Info: Kyo Yamada, 703/521-7653.

WASHINGTON, D.C.
Through Nov. 30—Exhibit, "From Bento 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

CHICAGO
Fri.-Sun., Aug. 20-22—"Ginza Holiday," Japanese cultural festival; Midwest Buddhist Temple, 435 W. Menomonee; featuring Waza Crafts-people of Japan, Taiko, Japanese dancing, aikido, judo, karate, kendo, exhibits, food. Info: 312/943-7801.
Sun., Aug. 29—5th annual Asian American community picnic, Bunker Hill Forest Preserve, Grove #7; softball, volleyball, 2-person geta races, piñata, Chicago Mounted Police and Canine Corp demos; bring bento; hamburgers & hot dogs provided. Info: JACL, 773/728-7170.

INDIANAPOLIS
Fri.-Sun., Sept. 17-19—Indianapolis Golf Caper; housing at Hampton Inn. Info: Chuck Matsumoto, 317/888-8505.

The Northwest
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND
Sun., Aug. 15—Japanese American Community Reunion Picnic, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Battle Point Park; bring your own bento, drinks and watermelon provided, award-winning exhibit, "Kodomo No Tame Ni" on display. Info: 206/842-4774, 206/842-5094.

OLYMPIA
Fri., Aug. 6—Obon Odori practice; 7-9 p.m., 222 N. Columbia St.
Sat., Aug. 7—Obon Odori; 5 p.m., Water Street at Capitol Lake. Info: Bob Nakamura, 360/413-9873, e-mail: sgmliehhob@earthlink.net.

PORTLAND, ORE.
Sat., Aug. 7—Obon '99, Seattle Taiko, classical dance, 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.
Sun., Aug. 15—Ninth Annual Nikkei Community Picnic, noon-6 p.m.; Oaks Amusement Park, east end of the Sellwood Bridge Southgrove area B; look for Nikkei Community Picnic banner; BBQ, games, raffle prizes, rides. Info: Marci Ozawa, Portland JACL, 503/977-7781.

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: June Arima Schumann, 503/224-1458.

SEATTLE

Through April 2000—Exhibit, "A Different Battle: Stories of Asian Pacific American Veterans"; Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S. Info: 206/623-5124.

Northern California

PACIFIC GROVE
Thurs.-Sun., Sept. 9-12—1999 Yuki Teikei Haku! Retreat, Ailomar; walk, write, reflect, attend workshops; featuring Sosome Kanda from Kyoto, Violet Kazue de Cristoforo, Kyoko Tokutomi; excursion to Big Sur with Claire Callaghan; Ash performance by Ellen Brooks; 11:45/1 night, \$300/3 nights. **RSVP:** Mary Hill, 413 Fern, Palo Alto, CA 94306, www.yuki-teikei.org.

SACRAMENTO
Fri., Aug. 6—August Women's Peace Event, "Peace Begins at Home" panel discussion; 6-8:30 p.m., at The Grand, 1215 "J" St. Info: 916/441-0764.
Through Aug. 8—World War II video discussion series and exhibit of handmade decorative items made by JAs in internment in detention camps; Central Library, 828 "F" Street. Info: 916/264-2770.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES
Sat., July 31—Lecture/demonstration, "North American Taiko-Making," 9:45-11:45 a.m.; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-1770.
Sat., July 31—Workshop, "Taiko Drumming for Families," 2:45-4:45 p.m.; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-1770.

Fri.-Sun., July 30, 31, Aug. 1, 6-7—Butoh dance performance, part three of The Cinema Trilogy, "A Glorious Day for an Unknown Woman"; 8 p.m., Espace D&D, 2847 S. Robertson Blvd. Tickets: 310/839-0661.
Fri. & Sat., July 30, 31, Aug. 6, 7—One-man show, "The Rice Room: Scenes From a Bar" with Noel Alumit, director Deborah Nishimura; 8:30 p.m., Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St., Santa Monica; **RSVP:**

310/315-1459.
Sat., Aug. 7—Exhibit opening, "Hisako Terasaki: A Self-Portrait"; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-1770.

Sun., Aug. 8—Fashion Show & Boutique fund-raiser for Nisei Week 10 a.m.; Regal Biltmore Hotel, 506 S. Grand Ave.; Tamlin Tomita, MC; featuring clothing by Anne Nambu Okinawan designers, more; Tickets: Shigeko Kaiji, 213/272-5515; Chris Naito, 213/680-4039.

Thurs., Aug. 12—Reading and Book Signing, 7:30 p.m.; "Jade Palace Vendetta," mystery by author Dale Furutani. Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. **RSVP:** 213/625-1770.

Fri., Aug. 13—Akimatsuri golf tournament; 1 p.m. shotgun start, California Country Club, 1509 S. Workman Mill Rd., Whittier. Info: Dr. Roy Takemura, 909/594-3600.

Sat., Aug. 14—Roundtable discussion with performance, "J-Town, Our Town: Deep in the Heart of Little Tokyo," 1 p.m.; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. **RSVP:** 213/625-1770.

Sat., Aug. 14-Sun., Aug. 22—Nisei Week Japanese Festival, "Bridging Tradition with Diversity," San Pedro St. between Second and Third, Little Tokyo. For information and to volunteer call 213/687-7193; for calendar of events visit Nisei Week website at <http://www.niseiweek.aol.com/nisei-week/niseiweek.htm>.

Sun., Aug. 22—Japan America Society family fishing trip, 12:30 p.m. registration; Long Beach Marina, Seaport Village. **RSVP by Aug. 18:** 213/627-6217 ext. 17.

ORANGE COUNTY
Sat., Aug. 21—Orange County Sansei Singles 'Nisei Week Dinner-Dance', "Solid Gold...a blast from the past"; 6 p.m.-1 a.m., New Otani Hotel, 120 S. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles; dinner, dancing, door prizes; music by The Music Company with Maniko and Howie. DJ by Fat Cat; to benefit the National Japanese American Memorial. **\$40 by Aug. 10, \$45 after.** **RSVP:** Stan Masumoto, 310/830-0321. ■

Correction

In the July 29-29 issue of the Pacific Citizen, one of the guest speakers who spoke at the Utah tri-district fund-raising workshop was wrongly identified as Gary Young. His correct name is Gary Howard; he heads Howard Communications.

Hate Crime Prevention Act Passes Senate, Hatch Introduces New Bill

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Supporters of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA) won a major victory on July 22 when the bill was adopted by the Senate as part of the Commerce, State, Justice Appropriations legislation.

The bill — S622 in the Senate and HR 1082 in the House — had been languishing in committee since its introduction in March. In an effort to move the legislation, supporters garnered public support, including those from JACL members, and successfully had the bill taken out of the Senate Judiciary Committee and attached to the appropriations legislation.

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), a co-sponsor of the bill, said, "Hate crimes are more than an assault on people or property — they are an assault on our country's fundamental belief that all people are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Recent events demonstrate the unfortunate need to increase prevention efforts and enhance law enforcement's ability to respond to crimes motivated by race, religion, sexual orientation or gender. If signed into law, this important legislation would help improve our nation's ability to address these horrible crimes."

The bill, authored by Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) will now go to the House for approval. The bill comes at a time when hate crime incidents have been growing nationally since reports were first required in 1991.

In general, reports of hate crimes have risen from 4,755 cases in 1991 to 9,861 in 1997, the most recent year where data is available. Reports of hate crime violence against Asian Pacific Americans rose from 452 reported cases in 1994 to 481 in 1997.

More recently, Won-Joon Yoon, a Korean American student, became a victim of a killing spree by a white supremacist in Bloom-

ington, Ind.

The proposed HCPA would strengthen existing federal hate crime laws in the following ways:

- It would allow federal prosecution in all instances where violent crimes are motivated by racial or religious hatred. The current act limits prosecution to only activities such as serving on a jury, voting or attending a public school.

- An amended act will provide additional federal support to prosecute against acts of hate based on gender, sexual orientation and disability. Under current law, these matters are left up to states. Although more than 40 states have hate crime statutes, only 22 states have laws covering gender, 21 states cover sexual orientation and disabilities.

In addition, extending the federal law would allow state and local authorities to take advantage of federal investigative resources and personnel in bringing cases based on state law. It would also allow state and local authorities to be authorized by the DOJ to bring cases based on federal law.

Under the act, any individual, who "willfully causes bodily injury to any persons or, through the use of fire, a firearm or an explosive device, attempts to cause injury to any person ..." would be punished.

Name calling or verbal abuse is not covered under this act.

Meanwhile, Sen. Orrin Hatch, who has been accused of racism by some Democrats for blocking Bill Lann Lee's nomination as assistant attorney general for civil rights, has introduced a separate bill meant to help states fight hate crimes.

"The Senate must lead and speak against hate crimes," Hatch, who chairs the Senate Ju-

diary Committee and is also a presidential candidate, told the Senate.

He also announced that he has invited several Asian American groups to meet with him about their concerns about Lee's nomination.

He told the Senate his hate crime bill comes in response to widely publicized crimes, such as James Byrd, an African American who had been dragged to death behind a pickup truck in Jasper, Texas, and Matthew Shepard, a gay student at the University of Wyoming, being beaten to death.

Hatch's bill would create a new fund to help states combat hate crimes; analyze data collected since 1990 to determine if some states are lax in prosecution; create a forum to draft a model hate crime statute for states; and allow federal prosecution of hate crimes committed across multiple state lines.

Such crimes send "a message of hatred to an entire community," Hatch said. They "are more likely to provoke retaliatory crimes; they inflict deep, lasting and distinct injuries ... they incite community unrest; and ultimately they are downright un-American."

He said his approach allows federal leadership without total federal control of the states.

Meanwhile, Jeanne Lopatto, spokeswoman for Hatch's Senate Judiciary Committee, said he has not changed his position about Lee but has vowed to make a thorough re-evaluation of whether Lee's nomination merits consideration.

Hatch blocked Lee's nomination two years ago — but President Clinton appointed him while Congress was adjourned.

Clinton nominated him again this year. However, Republicans contend Lee illegally pushes racial hiring quotas and other "reverse discrimination."



Sen. Hatch

Midwestern Asian Americans Speak Out Against Hate Crimes

Two weeks after Benjamin Smith went on a racially motivated shooting rampage in several Midwestern cities, the Asian American community came together to speak out against the violence that left three people dead, including the gunman.

William Yoshino, director of the Midwest office of the JACL, joined 16 other local Asian Pacific American organizations in a joint statement, offering their support in raising racial tolerance and mourning the death of the victims of the Fourth, of July racially motivated shooting spree.

The joint statement read in part: "We again convey our condolences to all the victims of the July 4 weekend shootings and their families. ... The Asian American community stands ready to work with individuals and groups, both within the Asian American community and with others in the area of education to help create a legislative process to deter acts of intolerance; and with organizations who share a commitment for social justice."

The statement was released during a joint press conference where Yoshino joined Rev. Suk Jin Lee, president of the Korean Churches Federation of Greater Chicago; Soyoung Kwon, president of the Korean American Cit-

izens Coalition; Karen Narasaki, executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium; and Shih-Oh Yoon, father of victim, Won-Joon Yoon.

The National Federation of Asian American United Methodists (NFAAUM) also strongly condemned the incident and called upon "United

Methodist clergy and laity everywhere to challenge and confront individuals and organizations that seek to propagate ideologies of race hatred, superiority and inferiority, anti-Semitism, homophobia and any other form of behavior that diminishes human life."

Smith, an Indiana University student, shot and killed Yoon, a Korean American doctoral student at Indiana University, and Ricky Byrdson, former Northwestern University men's basketball coach.

Smith also shot and injured other Asian Americans, African Americans and Jewish Americans, before turning the gun on himself following a police chase that ended in Salem, Ill.

More recently, the Hate Crimes Awareness Initiative presented "Journey Against Hate," a three-day tour that visited Bloomington and five other Midwestern cities affected by Smith's rampage. ■



William Yoshino

New Research Shows 47 Chinese Men Served in Civil War

New research by two Washington, D.C., historians has revealed that nearly 50 Chinese men served in the Civil War, many more than the one or two previously listed. The findings were announced recently at the National Archives in Washington.

Thomas P. Lowry, a retired physician, and Edward S. Milligan, a retired Army officer, are professional researchers who met at the archives while each was pursuing information on Chinese involvement in the war.

Milligan had been hired by an Australian Civil War researcher, Terry Foreander, to find Chinese who had served in the Navy. Lowry, who is self-employed and is the author of several books based on research in the archives, said he felt challenged when Mike Musick, archivist for Civil War military records at the archives, told him several years ago that the Chinese were the last unexplored ethnic group of the war.

During the presentation, the two discussed the difficulty they encountered in tracking the Chinese in the official records. Lowry said he tried to find them by searching for surnames such as Wong, Fong, Gee, Chew or Hong, but that didn't work out; he said in a recent *Washington Post* article, as some with Chinese-seeming names turned out to be not Chinese, and some who were Chinese had names like Edward Day Cahota, Joseph Pierce and Antonio Dardelle.

Lowry found most of his men through pension records or newspaper obituaries. Milligan searched through induction papers, where nativity was noted, and on ships' logs where the in-

formation was repeated. However, names would be spelled as many as seven different ways in the logs because the log keeper was often changed. He said in the article that he did not find any records of pensions issued because the men either did not apply or went back to China or died.

Together, Milligan and Lowry documented 47 Chinese men who served in the war.

Mike Musick, archivist for Civil War military records at the National Archives, stated in the article that most people would be surprised to know the Chinese had any presence in the war. According to Musick, besides the work of Lowry and Milligan and that of Ruthanne Lum McCunn, no other serious research has been done on the subject. McCunn published an article on Chinese who served in the war in the magazine "Chinese America: History and Perspectives in 1966."

Franklin Fung Chow, a retired government worker who lives in Washington, said the findings are very significant to him and that it is important for Chinese and Chinese Americans to know about them.

Among those who attended the presentation was Ta-tung Jacob Chang, a public affairs officer for the U.S. office of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representatives, who said that he has a sense of pride in learning that Chinese had a part in the Civil War.

Lowry said that although the number of Chinese who served was small in relationship to the total Chinese American population of the time, a higher percentage served than in any other ethnic group. ■

D.C. Energy Department Official Says He Was 'Out of the Loop' During Espionage Inquiry

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—The Energy Department official in charge of nuclear weapons programs says he felt "out of the loop" during a three-year espionage probe at Los Alamos National Laboratory, and learned the key suspect's name from newspapers.

Victor Reis, who recently submitted his resignation as assistant secretary for defense programs, said he knew of concerns raised by DOE security officials about the weapons labs, but felt the problems were being addressed by others in the department.

"I thought people in charge of them were doing it well, doing it well enough," he told a hearing of the House Armed Services Committee in response to a question about the investigation into the alleged loss of nuclear secrets to China from the weapons labs.

It was Reis' first public comments on the China espionage and security flap that has prompted a growing number of lawmakers to demand sweeping changes at the Energy Department. Reis appeared before the House committee to argue for creation of a largely autonomous nuclear agency within the department, a position that has put him into conflict with Energy Secretary Bill Richardson. Reis said he will leave the department at the end of the month because of the disagreement.

Reis acknowledged he had

been briefed sporadically by Nora Trulock, the intelligence officer who was most vocal in raising concerns as early as 1995 about the apparent loss of secrets from the Los Alamos lab. He said he knew "something was going on."

"My reading on this was, 'Hey, the FBI's involved, the FBI is a very professional organization. Do I have a need to know?'" said Reis after the hearing. "My understanding was it was under control."

The FBI, beginning in 1996, focused on Los Alamos and one of its computer scientists, Taiwan-born Wen Ho Lee, in its investigation into the possible loss to China of nuclear warhead secrets in the 1980s.

While "theoretically the labs worked for me I didn't know the gentleman's name until I read it in the newspaper," Reis said, referring to Lee, whose name surfaced publicly in March when he was fired for security violations. Lee, who continues to be under investigation, has not been charged with a crime and has denied providing secrets to China or anyone else.

An internal Energy Department investigation into the Los Alamos espionage investigation, and particularly why Lee was not removed much earlier from his security-sensitive job, is expected to be completed within weeks.

Richardson has said that a number of DOE and Los Alamos officials will be disciplined and some face dismissal. Department

sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, have said that Reis is among the officials whose actions were being reviewed.

Reis, who has been head of defense programs since 1993, said he has been "given no indication whatsoever" that he will be singled out for criticism in the upcoming DOE inspector general's report.

"Contending he had been largely kept 'out of the loop' on details of the Lee case and the Los Alamos security concerns, Reis said, "I was sort of the landlord of the laboratories. Does a landlord know what all the tenants are doing? I should have been in charge. I was not in charge."

But some DOE security officials said Reis was briefed to a point where he should have expressed greater alarm.

"He was interested in the science and not the security. He distanced himself from the issue whenever he could," maintained Edward McCallum, director of DOE's Office of Safeguards and Security. "He took advantage of the structure to dodge and move. We told him in grueling detail about the (security) problem and he did not react."

McCallum, who is under investigation at DOE and has temporarily been suspended from his job, sat in the hearing room as Reis testified. Lawmakers alluded to both Reis and McCallum as "heroes" as well as "victims" in the security and espionage brouhaha. ■

Next Generation of West Valley JACL Donates \$25,000 to Memorial Foundation

The Next Generation of West Valley JACL officially announced their support of the National Japanese American Memorial at a local fund-raising dinner held at the Hyatt House in San Jose.

Next Generation presented a pledge of \$25,000 to NJAMF Executive Director Cherry Tsutsimura at the Silicon Valley fund raising dinner, which was chaired by Yosh Uchida and Harry Fukuhara for the Silicon Valley area.

During the presentation, current Next Generation President Jim Nagareda stated that "upon initially hearing about the national memorial project early this year, the board of directors of Next Generation wished to donate \$10,000 to the foundation. However, after a presentation by Roger Minami (California fund-raising coordinator), the Next Generation board felt that this project was so important that they enthusiastically voted to raise this donation to \$25,000!"

"We care deeply about our history and about what they [past generations] did for us," said Ed Ikeda, a past president of Next Generation, in response to the generous donation to the memorial founda-

tion. A small committee within Next Generation was formed specifically to educate members about the memorial and to encourage members to participate as donors. Upcoming fundraisers such as the annual West Valley JACL Daruma Festival (a cultural food and crafts festival in San Jose) on August 21 and a Fashion Show on October 24 (in San Jose) will designate funds to the Memorial.

An act like this is not unusual for Next Generation, who celebrated their fifth anniversary in 1997. Although it is their largest single contribution to date, preserving heritage and supporting the community are the foundation on which Next Generation was started.

Their mission statement is to "encourage the involvement of young people in the Japanese American community and to help preserve our unique heritage for the appreciation of future generations." They have a strong legacy of giving to the community since their inception. Their support of senior activities and programs includes the local Shinnen Kai, Keiro Kai and special programs



Members of the Next Generation of West Valley JACL with \$25,000 check which was presented to the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation. (Seated L to R: Linda Horuchi, Kathryn Uenaka, Fern Yoshida, Pam Yoshida (VP), Jean Arase (Sec). Standing L to R: Mike Izumi, Lisa Izumi, Jim Nagareda (Pres), Suga Ikeda, Jull Tachibana, Todd Yoshida, Bob Uenaka and Ed Ikeda.)

for the West Valley JACL Senior Club and other local senior clubs as well.

Originally developed by the West Valley JACL as a forum for the Silicon Area and Bay Area young adults to gather and organize for social, cultural and service activities benefiting the JA community, Next Generation has grown to over 200 members throughout the Bay Area.

Activities include a weekly volleyball league, volleyball tourna-

ments, and hosting of events such as golf socials and a summer concert series. A popular activity, the "Cultural Series," with events such as movie nights and trips to local Asian American performing art events, is ongoing. The group recently returned from a weekend trip to the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles and

included activities such as a trip to Universal Studios in Universal City and a comedy club in Pasadena.

For membership and general information regarding the Next Generation and the upcoming Daruma Festival and Fashion Show, contact Jean Arase 610/792-1795 or email: Irukad@aol.com. ■

John Hara Receives Micah Leadership Award

ST. LOUIS—The St. Louis chapter of the American Jewish Committee (AJC) honored Dr. John Hara with the Micah Award at its 54th annual dinner meeting held recently at the Ritz Carlton Hotel.

The AJC, a human relations organization, recognized Dr. Hara as "an advocate and leader for the Asian American community." The Micah Award recognizes achievements that exemplify the teaching of the prophet Micah: "to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God." Dr. Hara is the first AA to receive the award.

A native of California, Hara and his family were incarcerated during World War II by the U.S. government in camps for Japanese Americans. Following his service in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, Hara received a bachelor of science degree in public health from UCLA and his degree in dentistry from the Washington University School of Dental Medicine. He has practiced dentistry in Kirkwood for more than 35 years.

Hara is the founder and past president of the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans and is a past president of the JACL St. Louis chapter. He is a member of the board of Maryville University St. Louis Japanese American Oral History Project and the St. Louis/Suwa Sister City Committee.

He has held leadership positions

with the St. Louis Center for International Relations, Advisory Council for KMOX radio, clinical faculty of the Washington University School of Dental Medicine, Midwest district board of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and the U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission. He edits several ethnic and professional newsletters and is a frequent guest lecturer for schools and public groups.

Hara has received the U.S. Army SIMA Asian Pacific American Heritage Award, the National JACL Silver Service Award, the St. Louis City and County Community Ser-

vice Award, and recognition by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, the Washington University School of Dental Medicine and the Meramec St. Louis Community College. ■



Rosaly Borg, area director of the American Jewish Committee, presents the Micah Award to Dr. John Hara.

Chicago JACL Credit Union Merger

At its annual meeting held recently members of the Chicago JACL Federal Credit Union gathered at Colletti's Restaurant to vote and unanimously approve the proposed merger of the 63-year-old Chicago JACL Federal Credit Union with the Salt Lake City-based National JACL Credit Union. Roland Yoshinaga and Terry Nagata, representing the National JACL Credit Union, were in attendance for the final vote tally. The merger became effective June 1.

Chicago JACL's credit union was founded in 1946 by a group of active JACLers to assist Nisei arriving in Chicago from wartime internment camps to settle and begin new lives. For its duration, the credit union has operated with a volunteer staff and board of directors. Arie Oda has served as treasurer almost from the beginning. During its 53-year history, the credit union has served the greater Nikkei community in Chicago. In the recent past, however, the small, community-



(L to r seated): Susan Nakazawa, May Nakano, Arie Oda, Carol Yoshino, Linda Ogawa, standing: Peggy Wallace, Dennis Mondoro, Aki Matsushita, Lisa Sakai, Dudley Yatabe, Tak Tomiyama, Richard Yamada; not pictured: Jean Kaihatsu, Roy Kuse, Steve Takaki.

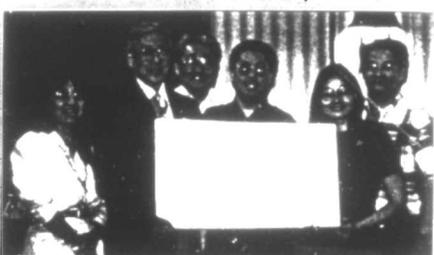
based credit union has struggled to compete with large, technology-driven financial resources now available to the public.

Recognizing the market-driven changes needed to survive, the board of directors last year made the decision to seek a partner for merger purposes. The alliance with the National JACL Credit Union was determined to be the best partner to preserve the history of the or-

ganization while also providing a broader range of services.

Retiring officers and board members are: Linda Ogawa (president) Lisa Sakai (vice president), Arie Oda (treasurer), May Nakano (secretary), Jean Kaihatsu, Roy Kuse, Aki Matsushita, Dennis Mondoro, Susan Nakazawa, Steve Takaki, Tak Tomiyama, Peggy Wallace, Richard Yamada, Dudley Yatabe and Carol Yoshino. ■

New Mexico JACL donates \$5,000 to the NJAMF



The New Mexico JACL board voted wholeheartedly to donate a maturing Certificate of Deposit to the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation and recently presented a check for \$5,000 to Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura (second from left), who accepted on behalf of the NJAMF. Miyamura, of Gallup, N.M., an army veteran and former POW of the Korean War, was awarded the Medal of Honor for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty" by President Dwight Eisenhower.

Heart Mountain Committee donates \$5,000



(From left): Bacon Sakatani, Paul Bannai, Mike Shimizu, Sachii Sasaki, Babe Fujioka, Don Tokunaga, Eiko Watanabe and John Saito.

PHOTO: FRED HOSHIMAMA

PSW Hires Youth Coordinator and Interns

The Pacific Southwest District office recently hired Gerald Kato as the new PSW Youth Coordinator. Kato will be graduating soon from CSU, Dominguez Hills, where he is majoring in political science with a minor in Asian Pacific Studies.

As a former JACL scholarship recipient of the Riverside chapter, Kato would "like to get more younger students involved in community activities and to develop leadership to lead organizations such as the JACL in the future." As PSW youth coordinator, one of Kato's goals will be recruitment. He is hoping to concentrate on recruiting members from the UC and CSU campuses.

The summer internship program with the PSWD office has hired two interns. Jennifer Mukai is a recent graduate of UCLA with a degree in

English and Japanese Studies. She is working exclusively on updating and renovating the PSW website with her skills as a webmaster. Besides her work with computers, Jennifer was actively involved as a news reporter for the UCLA Daily Bruin while a student from 1994-97.

Nathan Watanabe is a junior at Stanford University where he is majoring in human biology and minoring in Japanese. He will begin his internship at the end of July and concentrate on indexing archives as well as identifying primary sources for future research. Watanabe is an active member with the JACL Student/Youth Council and was the second-place winner in the student oratorical contest at the 1998 national convention in Philadelphia. ■

CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Diablo Valley Chapter Awards 1999 Scholarships

The Diablo Valley JACL chapter held their 1999 scholarship awards luncheon on June 27 at Marie Callender's Restaurant in Concord. The following recipients were recognized:

Japan-born Yuta Kato of Ygnacio Valley High School received the Diablo Valley Chapter Scholarship award. Yuta was a seal bearer in the California Scholarship Federation and participated in varsity tennis, the multi-cultural council, the school band and the San Francisco Taiko Dojo, and attended Japanese language school. He will be attending UCLA in the fall.



Yuta Kato

ketball player for 1998, and received the Phi Theta Kappa All-California Academic Team Award for 1999. She will transfer to San Jose State University in the fall and will pursue a degree in mechanical engineering.

The recipients of the Dr. Togasaki Scholarship, which provides financial support for students planning a career in health services, were: Shoshana Arai, a single parent who works weekends as a critical care nurse, and will attend the University of California, San Francisco, to earn her Ph.D. in nursing. She plans to do research to determine the effect of cultural change on the health status of Southeast Asians.

Alex Manini, a graduate of MIT who will be a second-year medical student this fall at

UCSF. As a volunteer, he organized and led a free clinic for the homeless in San Francisco. He has received a B.H. Kean Fellowship in Tropical Medicine and will work through Child Family Health International this summer to provide medical care for poor people in Ecuador.

Cassandra Cochran

Cassandra Cochran has an associate degree in biological science and an associate of arts degree in liberal studies from Contra Costa College, and will work toward a bachelor of science degree at St. Mary's College in Moraga, Calif. Her goal is to earn a Ph.D. or an M.D. in medical and forensic science. She may specialize in the care and treatment of patients with cystic fibrosis, a disease she possesses; she has raised funds for cystic fibrosis and programs for the needy.

Keynote speaker at the luncheon was Julie Wong, a former recipient of the chapter scholarship, presently serving as California press secretary to Sen. Barbara Boxer. ■



Aisha Oke

Alex Manini

Aisha Oke received the George S. Fujioka Memorial Scholarship. At Los Medanos College she was recognized as most outstanding physics student and most improved bas-

Houston JACL Honors Two High School Students



(From left): Scholarship chair Sut Oishi, Natasha Browne-Kondo, Eric Lindsay, and Elyn Okumura at the Houston JACL scholarship awards ceremony.

The Houston JACL chapter held their annual scholarship awards ceremony on June 6; two high school students were recognized with the Ray Okumura Memorial scholarship.

The recipients were Natasha Browne-Kondo and Eric Lindsay.

Browne-Kondo, daughter of Al Kondo and Natalie Brown, graduated from Robert E. Lee High School with a grade point average of 5.43, ranking her third in her class. She studied music, played soccer, participated in student government and was a cheerleader during her senior year. She will be attending the University of Texas as a psychology major.

Lindsay, the son of Howard and Sylvia Lindsay, graduated

from Bellaire High School, ranking 106 out of 629. His SAT score was 1560, making him a National Merit finalist. His interests include photography and chess, and he plans to attend Rice University as an economics major.

The Ray Okumura Memorial scholarship was established by the Okumura family (parents, Hooch and Cherry, and sister Elyn) in 1990 after Okumura passed away in a sudden fishing accident.

Through the Okumura Memorial scholarship, the top graduating high school senior in the Houston area is awarded \$500 annually. This year, additional funds allowed the program to honor two seniors. ■

Berkeley Chapter Awards Scholarships

The Berkeley chapter recently held its scholarship awards banquet. Scholarship co-chairs Kelly Shintani and Renee Tanaka announced that the chapter had awarded three scholarships and three honorariums to high school students in the East Bay area.

Recipient of the chapter's \$1,000 scholarship was Aimee Terauchi of El Cerrito High School. She will attend the University of Berkeley and plans to major in molecular and cell biology.

Walter Teruya of Skyline High School (Oakland) was awarded the chapter's \$800 scholarship. He will attend the University of California at Davis and will study computer science.

Meridith Satake of Miramonte High School (Orinda) was awarded the chapter's \$500 scholarship. She will attend the University of California at Davis and will major in international relations.

In addition, the chapter awarded three scholastic honorariums to Margrothe Narahara (Bishop O'Dowd High



Kelly Shintani (scholarship co-chair), Walter Teruya, Steve Nakajo (guest speaker), Renee Tanaka (scholarship co-chair), Margrothe Narahara, Meridith Satake, Matthew Togami, Aimee Terauchi, Justin Yamamoto.

School, Oakland), Matthew Togami (Berkeley High School), and Justin Yamamoto (Piedmont High School).

Steve Nakajo, founder/executive director of San Francisco's Kimochi-Kai, was the guest speaker and spoke on "The Changing Face of Japanese Americans in the Community as We Approach the New Millennium."

In addition, the chapter also honored Terry Yamashita as its "Pioneer Award" recipient, to recognize her long history of distinguished and dedicated service to the Berkeley Chapter and the community. ■

Greater L.A. Singles Chapter Awards Hana Uno Shepard Memorial

The Greater L.A. Singles chapter of the JACL recently awarded the \$1,000 Hana Uno Shepard Memorial Scholarship to Donald Masumi Nickel, son of Mrs. Chian Nickel, at a fund-raiser dance held at the Nakaoka Center in Gardena.



Donald Nickel

Donald is a graduate of North High School at Turrance, Calif. The scholarship is awarded annually to a senior student of a single-parent family. ■

Watsonville Chapter Seeks Applicants for Dr. Francis Choy Memorial Scholarship

The Watsonville Chapter has announced that they are seeking qualified candidates for the \$1,300 Dr. Francis Choy Memorial Scholarship, to be awarded to an entering freshman or undergraduate at the University of California, Berkeley. Applicants should have graduated from a public or private high school in Santa Cruz County or from Cabrillo College.

Applicants do not need to be of Japanese ancestry or a member of JACL, but must be planning to attend UCB for the fall semester with a normal load of credits and must present proof of acceptance and enrollment.

The following should also be submitted: a resume of school activities and community service; a clearly defined mission

statement; a letter of recommendation from a non-relative adult; and an essay of not less than 500 or more than 750 words on the following subject: "Discuss your position on the issue of affirmative action as it applies to college/university enrollment, as a means of promoting and achieving social justice."

All necessary papers must be postmarked no later than Sept. 1, 1999, to Watsonville JACL, Attn: Mas Hashimoto, P.O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077. The winner will be announced on Sept. 15.

Dr. Francis Choy, an American of Chinese ancestry, was a highly respected dermatologist in Watsonville. ■

San Fernando Valley JACL-JACC Scholarship Program Held



The San Fernando Valley JACL-JACC Scholarship program was held on June 6 at the Nikkei Village Dining Hall where eight students were presented scholarships by SFV Chapter President Tak Yamamoto and JACC President Kelvin Arai. The scholarship recipients were (front row, l-r): Cathy Kurata, Keri Hazama, (back row, l-r): Robby Tanouye, Jonathan Mukai, Darren Takemoto, Taro Wayama, Brent Tasugi, and Roger Miyagishima.

Placer County Chapter Awards Scholarships

The Placer County chapter JACL has awarded scholarships to two graduating high school seniors. They are Kristin Takemoto of Del Oro High in Loomis and Kristine Hashimoto of Oakmont High in Roseville.

Kristin is the recipient of the \$1,000 Thomas Yego Memorial Scholarship. She will attend California State Polytechnic (Cal Poly)

in San Luis Obispo. Kristin is the daughter of Gordon and Joann Takemoto.

Kristine was awarded the \$600 Mas Sakamoto Memorial Scholarship. She plans to attend Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif. Kristine's parents are Craig and Norma Hashimoto.

Nancy Mune Whiteside was scholarship chair. ■

Holiday Issue kits will be mailed the second week of August.

MONUMENT

(Continued from page 1)

who had made a significant impact on the Nikkei community during World War II.

There are those in the community, however, who are concerned that the public had little input into the inscription selection process.

"I think it is ironic that the inscription on a monument to honor the contributions of the Nikkei community will be decided without input from the community," said Chris Iijima, assistant professor with the Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. "It is doubly ironic that the quotations considered will be from representatives of the very branches of government that originally incarcerated the Issei and Nisei in the first instance."

"This monument should be a testament to the strength and spirit of an entire community—a community of 'ordinary people' who prevailed against extraordinary odds and power," continued Iijima. There are many heroes and many powerful poetic voices that emanate from our community that speak about justice, racial equality and the hope for the next generation. I would hope that the committee would consider letting those whose voices have been less heard in the past speak for us now."

Attorney Dale Minami, who was lead attorney on the coram nobis cases, voiced similar sentiment. "I hope the public which has responded to help fund the memorial will have some input," said Minami, who pointed out that the memorial was a tribute to the entire Japanese American experience and the inscriptions should reflect that diversity.

But Tsutsumida said "to be honest, it is getting late" and indicated that getting public input at this late date may be difficult.

According to her, the quotes were selected by the board, which originally started out with 28 pages of potential quotes to choose from.

The quotes were chosen by Bill Hosokawa, who estimates that he had gone through roughly 10 drafts and has been working on this project for three years.

Hosokawa said he initially chose the quotes to complement the larger text which told the history of the Nikkei. He noted that selecting the quotes was not a difficult task since, in his career as a writer, he was familiar with many of them. In the early drafts, Hosokawa had presented before the board quotes from such individuals as President Franklin Roosevelt and John DeWitt.

In terms of inserting new quotes, Hosokawa was doubtful that new inclusions could be possible without eliminating the handful of quotes already chosen.

"I don't think there will be any new ones added," said Hosokawa. The quotes from selected individuals currently under consideration reads as follows:

Inouye: "The lessons learned... must remain in our collective conscience as a grave reminder of what we must not allow to happen again to any group..."

Masaka: "Although some individuals may discriminate against me, I shall never become bitter or lose faith for I know that such persons are not representative of the majority of the American people."

Matsu: "While patriotic men... bravely risked their lives defending their country, their country wrongfully imprisoned their families, and forced those families to leave behind anything they could not carry."

Matsunaga: "We fought to bring an end to second class citizenship for first class Americans."

Mineta: "This memorial is a tribute to the indomitable spirit of

our citizenry... who remained steadfast in their faith in our democratic system."

Kelly Kuwayama, NJAMP board member, added that there were so many people who made significant contributions and sacrifices to the Nikkei community that rather than pick out quotes from one individual or organization, he felt the monument should tell the story about how the Nikkei community held their faith in democracy in spite of the breakdown of the Bill of Rights, the sacrifices made, the redress movement and the need to ensure that this does not happen again.

The inscriptions will be etched onto a 7-foot-3-inch circular granite wall, which will also list the names of Nikkei killed in action during the war and the 10 United States-sponsored War Relocation Authority camps. The wall will encircle a sculpture, commissioned to artist Nina Akamu, depicting two cranes entangled in barbed wire.

The memorial, located in a triangular patch of land about 600 yards from the United States Capitol building, is bounded by Louisiana Ave., New York Ave. and D St., N.W.

To date, Tsutsumida said they are confident they will reach their projected fundraising goal of \$8.6 million to construct the memorial, and was very appreciative of the outpouring of community support across the nation.

However, even if the foundation reaches the \$8.6 million mark, Tsutsumida said they will continue their fundraising drive because due to inflation, complex construction plans and an added educational component which had not been included in the original budget, their expenses may now reach closer to \$10.6 million.

The concept for this national memorial dates back to the 1980s. It was first proposed by members of the Go For Broke National Veterans Association (GFB-NVA), who originally wanted a monument dedicated to the Nikkei veterans.

The GFB-NVA, in their effort to get the ball rolling before the older veterans passed away, launched a design contest in 1991, and Barney Matsumoto, an architect in San Diego, was selected as the winning architect.

But in 1992, the National Commission on Capitol Memorial Planning rejected the GFB-NVA proposal, saying it could not approve an ethnic-specific monument dedicated to a particular military unit. This forced the GFB-NVA to abandon their original plan and to rethink their concept.

With help from then-Rep. Norman Mineta and Senator Daniel Inouye and recommendations from the Memorial Commission, the GFB-NVA was eventually able to receive Congressional approval for the Japanese American Patriotism Memorial (later renamed the National Memorial to Patriotism). The GFB-NVA then formed the non-profit National Japanese American Memorial Foundation which would be responsible for fundraising, and named Davis Buckley, who also designed the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, as lead architect.

In 1997, President Bill Clinton signed over the monument site to the National Parks Service, the agency which will be responsible for maintaining the site.

Part of Congress' stipulation, however, was that the foundation must secure the necessary funds to build the monument by October 1999 before construction can begin, hence the last minute push to raise the remaining few million. A groundbreaking is planned for Oct. 22. The NJAMP can be contacted by writing to 1920 N Street NW, Suite 620, Washington, DC 20036, or calling 202/651-8845, or e-mailing at <njamf@erols.com>. Their website is <www.njamf.org>.

BILL LANN LEE

(Continued from page 1)

bipartisan squabbling prevented any action on the submission. Lee has been serving in the post in an acting capacity since December of 1997.

Lee's right-wing critics, including Sen. Hatch, have criticized the civil rights nominee for his stance on affirmative action.

Lee supporters on the other hand emphasize that he is following the law of the land, namely the same position as the Clinton Administration.

Ironically, both supporters and opponents agree that Lee's credentials are impressive. The son of Chinese immigrants, Lee is a graduate of Yale and earned his law degree at Columbia University. Throughout his career he has worked in the civil rights arena.

As acting assistant attorney general for civil rights, Lee has a proven record of prosecuting hate crimes, enforcing the Americans with Disabilities Act, ensuring fair housing and fair lending, and protecting reproductive health care providers.

In Hatch's home state of Utah, the Senator was reminded by several Asian Pacific Americans and ethnic minority community leaders of his promise to revisit Lee's nomination after meeting with the group several months ago.

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8th National JACL Singles Convention September 3,4,5 San Francisco, Calif. 415/661-0413 for info

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EMPLOYMENT

The Sonoma County Japanese American Citizen's League is looking for a Senior Program Coordinator to provide and administer a program of activities for the 50 to 70 members of the Japanese American community in Sonoma County, initially approximated at half time for one year. Based upon participation levels and acceptance of the senior and intergenerational community, this could become a long term, full-time position. For more information contact Jim Murakami 707/824-8665 or Judith Whitman 707/763-3011 or submit resumes to P.O. Box 1915, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. The deadline is Sept. 15.

The community leaders once again pressed Sen. Hatch to allow Lee's nomination to go before the full Senate.

"To prolong Mr. Lee's confirmation is to ignore his qualifications and current success," said Jimmy Lu, chairperson of the Utah OCA at the Salt Lake City rally. "No one, not even Mr. Lee's opponents, disputes his exceptional credentials. Under the current wave of Asian Pacific American scapegoating, this failure to address Mr. Lee's leadership abilities is offensive to the Asian Pacific American community."

Tab Uno, president of the JACL Salt Lake City chapter, said, "The JACL strongly believes in the qualifications, the experiences, and the integrity of Mr. Bill Lann Lee, and we are convinced that he will faithfully carry out the civil rights principles that Congress and the President have passed into the law of this land."

At a press conference in San Francisco, Herb Yamanishi, JACL national director, said, "It is a travesty for the Senate Judiciary Committee to sit on Bill Lann Lee's nomination for one year. Everyone on the committee, including the chair of the committee, Senator Orrin Hatch, knows that he is eminently qualified for the posi-

tion." He added, "The committee is sitting on the confirmation of his nomination because they find him to be a convenient target for political game playing with the Clinton Administration."

Lee played an integral part in helping the Japanese American railroad and mine workers fired during the onset of World War II finally obtain redress. He was also involved in the resolution of the Mochizuki et al. vs. the United States settlement agreement that provided redress and an apology for Japanese Latin American WWII former internees.

"Consideration of Mr. Lee's nomination should be based on his record and abilities," said Helen Kawagoe, national JACL president. "If some Senators disagree with specific civil rights laws, they should propose legislative changes and not use Mr. Lee as a political football."

Kawagoe added, "If the Senate Judiciary Committee can't agree on his nomination, they can send his nomination to the Senate and let the entire Senate decide how they feel about Mr. Lee. We are confident, if given the chance, the Senate will approve of Mr. Lee's nomination." ■

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Letters to the Editor

'Saving the Barracks,' Cody, Wyoming

Under the above title in a recent issue of the *Pacific Citizen* under National News was information from the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation about efforts on preservation of the camp barracks still remaining. It included the following paragraph:

"A map of the camp drawn up by the Federal War Relocation Authority and now part of the Park County Historical Society shows the date June 18, 1941, evidence that the government had planned the camp at Heart Mountain even before the Pearl Harbor attack and the U.S. entering the war in December 1941."

Upon noting particularly the date June 18, 1941, I wondered whether the date was in error. As an internee then, I, along with my grandparents, mother and siblings, arrived in Heart Mountain not too long after June 1942. Therefore, I can only conclude to day and according to the above report, the Japanese American internment was all planned before the Pearl Harbor attack.

Re-reading again the late Michi Weglyn's book "Years of Infamy," I find the years of infamy preceded what Michi uncovered and included in her monumental book. In "Years of Infamy," the introduction was by James Michener wherein he wrote, "The crucial point is this. Our leaders, having used unconstitutional means to treat our Japanese American citizens as they did in 1942, were half-injured to such treatment of any minority, anywhere, so that later on when Admiral William Leahy submitted his infamous recommendation that the United States do nothing about providing refuge for Jews being slaughtered in Hitlerian Germany, later our Allies be informed, President Roosevelt was able to adopt the recommendation as logical."

Michener further added, "Two remarkable facts must be pointed out. Our internment camps were not allowed to become hell holes of starvation or death; many concerned Americans, military and civilian, saw to it that this did not happen, and in their hard, persistent work helped salvage our national honor. And the stoic heroism with which the impounded Japanese Americans behaved after their lives had been torn asunder and their property stolen from them must always remain a miracle of American history."

All of which keeps me reminded about our experience more than 50 years ago, including the most recent report on the front page of the *Wall Street Journal*, June 25, 1998, titled "Bad Scars, Decades On, a Legacy of War Still Haunts Japanese-Americans." Furthermore, the most recent problems in Kosovo called ethnic cleansing in a way made me think further about the national JACL and draft resister problems, solutions and prevention.

The former Yugoslavia had become Serbia, Kosovo, Albania, etc. Accordingly, it became Serbian, Kosovan and Albanian. The changes ended in war. The case of the JACL and the draft resisters also resulted in unhealthy schisms, although all were citizens of one country. Relative to the arguments used against the resisters has been the Japanese word *ajiki*. In contrast, the resisters' point had been "rights and obligations as a citizen to protect the constitution." As a result of these diverse views and emphases, I wonder whether a change in the name of JACL to ACLA (American Citizens League) would be an appropriate change today and for the future.

Hideo Tachibana
Via e-mail

Resisters of Conscription

Assuming there is such a thing as justice for taking a stand that the government cannot ask one to serve when his birthright was denied him, one still must be aware of the fact that there was a war going on.

Against this backdrop, he who set aside all grievances and accepted what he thought, as an American citizen — that he must join rank with other Americans to defeat the enemy — truly shows unswerving courage and coolness of head that was truly remarkable and almost beyond understanding. It was this stance that, considering all things, truly takes one's breath away.

What the members of the 442nd and the 100th Battalion accomplished by their stance pales to anything else. There is no comparison. If there is a bottom line, what they accomplished is so far reaching and so glorious, we are still in awe. They are beyond a doubt heroes in every sense of the word.

We might as well enjoy the fruits of their labor, whether we sat safely at home or worked hard in factories or fields for them back home as soon as possible. Arguing who was right and who was wrong has no place today. Let bygones be bygones. After all it's all spilt milk. There's nothing we can do about it.

Elmer S. Tazuma
Seattle, Wash.

Martha Nakagawa is to be congratulated on her very thorough and factual article (P.C. July 16-22). Her professional competence and perceptive insights are well demonstrated in her article. More importantly, it required courage, determination and professional integrity to see the job through in spite of its politically sensitive nature. In explaining the chronology of the various resolutions and the history and demise of the Deborah Lim Report, she has rendered an invaluable service to the Japanese American community. We are indebted to the truth.

No doubt, she will get some flack from the more short-sighted among us, who may regard the article a threat to the honor of the JACL. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is but a first step in helping JACL clean house. A task long overdue. The U.S. government has acknowledged its error in judgement in the Evacuation/Deportation debacle. How can the JACL, who admittedly (Lim Report) acted as agents for the government during that period, do less?

Today, the credibility of the League hangs in balance; not because of what happened back then, but because of the denials and evasions of today. JACL cannot move forward until it gets its house in order. It has carried the burden of concealment too long. JACL needs the support and cooperation of the JA community. The community needs the political acumen, national network and honest representation of the JACL. Is a trusting relationship possible?

If dedicated people like Martha Nakagawa believe it is possible, can JACL believe less?

Yosh Konomiya
Alhambra, Calif.

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* Except for the National Director's Report, news and the "Views" expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The editor reserves the personal opinion of the writers.

* "Views" 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 will be subject to abridgment. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.

Harry Tayama, 63, Internationally-renowned Horticulturist

Harry Tayama, professor emeritus at Ohio State University, president of Horticulture International Group, Inc., and former executive director of the Ohio Florists' Association, died May 11 in Columbus, Ohio.

Tayama served as an extension specialist, researcher and instructor at the Ohio State University Department of Horticulture from 1964 to 1992. He has been published in more than 300 scientific and trade publications and has presented seminars throughout the United States and abroad.

From 1977 to 1993, Tayama

served as the executive director and publications editor at the Ohio

Florists' Association (OFA). During his tenure, the association became an international leader in floriculture through the co-sponsorship of the International Floriculture Industry Short Course and publications such as the "OFA Bul-



letin" and "Tips on Growing" series.

From April 1993, Tayama managed Horticulture International Group, Inc., an educational and technical services firm he founded. Tayama received numerous awards for outstanding teaching, research, and service in the horticulture industry.

He is survived by his wife, Lucille Muto; son Jeff; daughter Cindy Cooper and husband Todd; and mother Jean Turney Tayama, all of Columbus. He was preceded in death by his father, Harry E. Tayama. ■

Steve Tamaya, 37, Journalist and Senate Aide

Former *San Gabriel Valley Tribune* political reporter Steve Tamaya of Diamond Bar, Calif., died July 3 of complications from a brain cyst that led to a massive stroke, his wife of four years, Diana Ann Powell, revealed. The Cali-

fornia Senate adjourned in his memory July 18, said Sen. Richard Montjoy (R-Monrovia). The Sansei graduate of Rio Hondo College in Whittier was Montjoy's field representative for three years (1995-98), then took a job with the

city of Diamond Bar as a press aide. He covered the UCLA political scene for the *Tribune* for 11 years from 1982. Other survivors are mother Yasuko (South El Monte), brother Dwane and sister Kelly (Sonora). ■

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Fukuhara, Jimmy T., 91, Torrance, July 11; longtime resident of West Los Angeles; survived by wife Helen Aiko; son Larry; daughters Joy Yokoyama and husband Glenn, Ruby Takeshita; 2 g.

Hayashi, Futami Ogawa, 82, New York, July 7; survived by daughter Holly Fujishige and husband Terry; 2 g.; brothers Katsumi Ogawa, Mitsuru Ogawa, predeceased by husband Thomas T.

Iwai, Jean Tsuneko, 54, Cerritos, July 19; Amache, Colo.-born; survived by husband Michio George; son Andy; daughters Suzanne, Jamie Iwai; mother-in-law Yusako; sister-in-law Setsuko.

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 the request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$15 per column inch. Text is restricted as needed.

Kaminishi, George Tsutaya, 78, Gardena, July 13; Gardena-born, WWII veteran; survived by wife Miyoko; son Glenn; daughter Mari Lynn Nishimura and husband Steve; 2 g.; brother Minoru; sister Fusaye Nakano (Hawaii); brother-in-law Hideo Kashitani and wife Joan.

Kamitsubo, Ayako, 64, West Los Angeles, July 18; Fukushima-born; survived by husband Harry Tatsu; sons Shinkichi Koyama and wife Fumiko, Kunizo Koyama and wife Atsuko; 5 g.; 4 g.; brother-in-law Sumiakiyo and wife Yoshio (Japan).

Kawaguchi, Robert K., 57, Cerritos, July 20; Manzanar-born; survived by wife Sheri; son Kevin; daughters Suzie Abeshima and husband James; Tricia; 1 g.

Kitagawa, Sumie Miho, Vacaville, July 13; longtime resident of Fairfield; survived by brothers Shishio Miho (Hermosa Beach), Masuo Miho (Vacaville); sister Toki Morioka (Chico); predeceased by sisters Chizu Hasaba (Tokyo), Hisako Kajioka (Chevy Chase, Md.).

Kubota, Ayako, 81, Santa Monica, July 14; Pasadena-born; survived by son Larry and wife Deborah; daughter Carolyn Elias and husband Andrew; 3 g.; 1 g.; brothers Katsumi Tamura, Yukio Tamura and wife Anne, Bob Tamura and wife Mary.

Kuga, Roy T., 69, Weiser, Idaho, July 20; Dallas, Ore.-born; interned at Jerome, served in U.S. Army during Korean conflict; survived by wife Mary; sons Dennis Roy, Duane Rand and wife Angela (both Boise, Idaho); daughter Debra Kuga Hansen (Fruitland, Idaho); 6 g.; 3 g.; brother Tad (San Jose); sister Ruth Sasaki (Caldwell, Idaho); special sister-in-law Satako (Fruitland, Idaho).

Mayeda, Junichi, 78, Torrance,

July 12; Baker, Ore.-born; survived by wife Etuko; daughters Linda Feldman and husband Stephen (Harbor City), Astara Mayeda (Torrance); 1 g.; predeceased by son Harold.

Mine, Kouzoku Mary, 92, Torrance, July 14; Wakayama-born; survived by daughter Toshiko Shirley Herford and husband David; 3 g.; 2 g.; sister Tsunae Tazaki and husband Junzo; daughter-in-law Hiroko Mine, son-in-law Noboru Yonemoto.

Miura, Miye, Oakland, July 11; Berkeley-born; survived by daughters Carol, Joan, Fay and husband Richard, Margaret and husband Ken, Ruth and husband Pierre; 9 g.; 2 g.

Mori, Ellen Hatsuiko, 85, Hacienda Heights, July 11; Hilo, Hawaii-born; survived by husband Masao; daughters Reiko Hasegawa and husband Lester, Hiromi Asada and husband James; 2 g.; 1 g.

Murakami, Tom Tadashi, 83, Gardena, July 19; Honolulu, Hawaii-born; survived by wife Mary Ayako; daughters Beryl Ito, Myra Ueyama and husband Gary; 6 g.; 3 g.; brother Mitsuo and wife Mary (Hawaii); sister Margaret Ogawa and husband Kami.

Nagata, William M., 46, Monument, Colo., July 3; survived by wife Barbara; daughters Nikki, Shelley; father George; mother Inge (Littleton, Colo.); mother-in-law Elva Joyce.

Nakamoto, Tokuhide "Tok", 74, Chicago, July 5; Kohala, Hawaii-born; survived by wife Thurru; son Craig and wife Angela; daughters Gwen Chinn and husband Dr. Stephen; Lisa Omori and husband Charles; 2 g.; brothers Tokuei, Tokuchi and wife Harriet, Tokushige and wife Barbara, Tokumasa and wife Lillian, Tokusei and wife Florence, Tokunobu and wife Angie; sisters Yoshiko Choo and husband Andrew, Tsuruko Wang and husband Charles, Sueko Dilley and husband William.

Ninomiyi, Kazuo Z. (Cairley), 78, Sacramento, July 11; Portland, Ore.-born; retired professor and emeritus faculty of California State University, Sacramento, received the Medal of Honor (Kunzoku) Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Rosette in 1996 from the Japanese government in honor of his outstanding contribution in promoting goodwill between the United States and Japan; survived by wife Hiroko; sisters Teshiko Fujiwara, Michiko (Okayama, Japan); sister-in-law Reiko Kinoshita (Tokyo).

Okita, Norikazu, 81, Whittier, July 19; Los Angeles-born; survived by wife Toshiye; sister Emiko Takamoto and husband Ted; sister-in-law Teruko Isobe and husband Jimmy.

Rickert, Haruko Hayashi, 68, Streamwood, Ill., June 25; survived by husband Donald Paul; sons

Michael Donald and wife Suzette, Kelly Donald and wife Claudia; daughter Teresa Haruko Rose and husband Vincent; 4 g.

Sakai, Kimi A., 90, Gardena, July 16; longtime resident of Long Beach; survived by son Ronald and wife Nancy (Chicago); 1 g.; sisters Alyce Ohama (Torrance), Shizu Proctor (New York).

Sumida, Hisako, 88, July 19; Honolulu-born; survived by son Paul M. and wife Keiko K.; 5 g.; 4 g.

Takamine, Mary A., 77, Greeley, Colo., June 26; survived by daughters Cheryl Grossman, Joan Hummel, Barbara Englewold, Linda Eldridge; 5 g.; 1 g.; brother Sam Sato.

Tamura, Misako K., 67, Los Angeles, July 16; Hakata, Fukuo-ka-born; survived by husband Raymond Leigh; sons Clayton and wife Kathy, Ronald and wife Cathy; daughter Carrie; sister Teshiko Koto (Hiroshima); sister-in-law Eleanor Matsuko and husband Calvin.

Yamamoto, George Kiyoshi, 82, Sacramento, July 15; Elk Grove-born; survived by wife Dorothy; son Gary and wife Karen; daughter Georgette Imura and husband Roy; 5 g.; sisters Dorothy Sumida and husband George, Betty Yamagami and husband Yonehisa.

Yamamura, George K. (Yami), 74, San Francisco, July 11; survived by wife Pat; sons Jaime and wife Cheryl, Craig and wife Erin; daughter Wendy Cavanaugh and husband Michael; 1 g. ■

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DEATH NOTICE
GEORGE MOREY
LOS ANGELES, Calif.—George Morey, 86, a Los Angeles born; Nisei passed away July 22. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, July 31, 11:00 a.m. at Union Church of Los Angeles, 401 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles, with Rev. Dr. Grant Hagaya of Centrality-United Methodist Church officiating, under the direction of Fukui Mortuary. He is survived by his sons Dean, John (Joyce) of Foster City, Jim (Claire) and Jack (Janet), grandchildren Joshua and Justice, brother Arthur (Kay Morey) of Michigan and sisters Shizue Yoshino of Los Gatos, Kiyo Kaneko of Aptos and Rose (Roy) Ono.

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RESOLUTION

(Continued from page 1)

he believes it's also important "not to sanitize history. It's just like that old saying: 'If you don't learn from the past about your past mistakes, then you're doomed to repeat the mistakes in the future.'"

He continued on, "Japan has been asked to apologize since the closure of the war, but they have been reluctant or refused to acknowledge the government had been engaged in atrocities in China, Korea, [and elsewhere]. They have not given reparations to the [comfort] women who were victimized. They had offered to give reparations to companies and to make certain kinds of statements, but a direct apology to the victims was not forthcoming."

Honda's proposed resolution has generated so much publicity that the JACL national office has taken a "neutral position on this issue" and is encouraging local chapters to make their own decisions whether or not to support it.

The Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) is staging its national convention in Dallas this week, and delegates are predicting there will be a fight over support for this resolution, because OCA's bylaws dictate that the group can only deal with "domestic issues."

In hopes of preserving Democratic Party unity, California's Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa is also trying to negotiate a peace treaty between the two sides.

"We need to develop some consensus about this issue," he said. "You're talking about a resolution which condemns the Japanese government for the occupation of Nanking and the events and the atrocities that occurred. I think there's an effort right now on the part of Mr. Honda and Mr. Nakano to work out the wording of that resolution. Hopefully we'll be able to get something on the floor in August."

But no meeting has taken place yet. Nakano has introduced his own resolution, which condemns the many atrocities that have tak-

en place in the world during the 20th century, but it makes no mention of Japan or any other country. It "calls upon the President and Congress to declare the 21st century 'The Century for Human Rights Education' and to provide adequate funding for an educational account of mistakes made in the past century that must not be repeated by future generations."

Asked if Japan has made an adequate apology for its actions during World War II, Nakano responded, "It's a matter of interpretation."

Honda is offering to sign Nakano's resolution, but he won't accept it as a substitute for his own.

"To deny or to negate or to oppose this resolution or feel negative about it I think is a pretty good indication someone is not part of mainstream America," Honda stated. "The reason why we fought for redress is to say to mainstream America, we have a principle by

American community, foster greater anti-Asian sentiment in certain segments of our society, and perpetuate the stereotypes that Japanese Americans are responsible for what happened to others during World War II."

Some members of the Japanese business community have also joined the fray, inferring California's economy could be affected.

In a letter to Gov. Gray Davis, Kaz Sugiura, executive director of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California, says, "While JCCNC takes no position on the substance of the resolution, we feel it is unduly antagonistic, discriminates to draw attention toward one set of tragic events in human history and will impair the state's competitiveness."

"It should not be overlooked that Japanese businesspersons place the highest regard on community acceptance and goodwill. Why should any investor Japan-

ferred, "This is no different from having the state assembly pass a resolution saying, 'We want Beijing to improve the human rights in China.' We need California to take the lead because we have a lot of people who understand these issues. They can then move into other states and ask them to do the same thing. We could have a domino effect and convince Congress to take action."

Randy Okamura, one of Honda's supporters and a board member for a San Jose area college district, added, "Although we can't be the world's policeman, there is a sense in every American that a wrong, no matter where in the world it is, should be righted or corrected. I think that is where Mike is coming from. He sees it as a wrong that he can help correct. I don't see it as Japan bashing. I see his resolution as trying to bring closure to an episode in a group of

individuals' lives."

Honda asks, "Why would a Japanese American be involved in this? My question would be, 'Why not?' We fought our own country and our own system to win redress and to make sure our own history would not be sanitized. For me, to stand by and allow any other country to sanitize their history is to be a hypocrite. Our goal is to pass this resolution in the assembly, send it on to the state senate and get Congress to recognize that this is as an issue."

Honda, who has "guarded expectations," will learn the fate of his resolution when the California state assembly returns from its recess August 16.

Anyone who wishes to make comments about AJR 27 should include their letters to either Assemblyman Mike Honda or George Nakano, California State Assembly, Sacramento, California.

Although we can't be the world's policeman, there is a sense in every American that a wrong, no matter where in the world it is, should be righted or corrected. I think that is where Mike is coming from.

Randy Okamura

which we live by. 'You play by the rules, you're okay. We have certain guarantees in the Constitution. You damage somebody, you provide reparations.' That's the American way. To think the opposite of that is to be un-American."

"The question that you have to ask of Japanese Americans is: 'Why do you feel so sensitive or anxious about it?' Is it because you realize that you are Asian too, and that you're not saying anything? Are you saying that your behavior pattern, your psychological reaction, is the same as that of Japan?"

In a letter to the assembly speaker, Irene Hirano, executive director of the Japanese American National Museum, has asked Villaraigosa not to send the resolution to the assembly for debate.

"I understand Assemblyman Honda's personal convictions on the matter of Japan's actions during World War II," Hirano declared. "However, we believe that raising this debate at the state legislature only serves to divide the Asian

and American) risk capital in an environment that is less hospitable than others?"

In contrast, Munson Kwok, an associate of the Chinese American Museum of Los Angeles and a friend of both Hirano and Nakano, states, "I have to differ in opinion with them. I think [the resolution] should be pursued because I think our Chinese American community would like to see some satisfaction, at least in terms of apologies that might come forth from the Japanese government for the atrocities that have been committed."

"Japan should join the world community, get the events of the past fifty years behind them, acknowledge what might have been done by a different government of theirs, and move on. It's a part of bringing closure, healing the wounds."

Lester Lee, a Silicon Valley hi-tech entrepreneur and one of the organizers of Honda's luncheon of

JACL Clarifies Position on Nanking Issue

The following is a joint statement by Helen Kawagoe, national president, and Lori Fujimoto, national vice president.

Much dialogue and controversy arises over a proposed California Legislative Resolution (AJR 27) that pursues an apology and reparations from the Japanese government for atrocities committed by the Japanese military during World War II. Amidst the controversy is a paragraph addressing the conduct of a foreign nation, Japan, and its actions against citizens of another foreign nation, China, specifically in Nanking.

Over the last two months, members of the Asian Pacific community may have inadvertently referred to a National JACL endorsement of this policy effort. We would like to clarify this perception.

At the May 15-16, 1999, National Board meeting, the National JACL unanimously voted to accept a staff report recommending that the organization maintain its focus on the domestic issues (JACL Program for Action) we have undertaken. The JACL's en-

ergy and resources are focused on completing domestic policy issues, including the campaign finance scandal, the alleged Los Alamos intelligence case, hate crimes prevention, promoting equal opportunity, and advocating for the confirmation of APAs at the highest levels of government. We are actively working with our coalition partners in Washington, D.C., to bring resolution to these issues. For the JACL to undertake a foreign policy initiative, we would divert the APA community's advancement on these issues from the last five years.

The JACL's mission is to advocate for the civil and human rights of Americans of Japanese ancestry and all citizens of the United States. The JACL was established over 70 years ago to address the domestic policy issues which impact the APA community. We are committed to bringing closure on these issues, along with our partners in Washington, D.C., and across the United States. To that end, we extend our best wishes to those individuals who are pursuing human rights foreign policy between China and Japan.

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