



## Transracial Issues, Interracial Families: AAs Parenting Adopted Asian Children

(This is the third in a four-part series exploring Asian American families and adoption.)

BY TRACY UBA  
Writer/Reporter

Jeri Okamoto Floyd remembers the first time she ever laid eyes on her infant daughter—the terrified look on her face was one of a deer caught in the headlights.

But these days, her mom says, 3-and-a-half-year-old Rachel Mariko HaiYi Floyd, who was born in rural Hefei in the Anhui province of eastern China, likes to gallop around her house in Los Angeles pretending she's a little horse.

"Right now, she thinks everything hatches out of eggs," Jeri, 38, laughs. "But we talk to her about what it means to be adopted. We tell her about her story in China."

It was Mother's Day back in 1995 and one year into their marriage when Jeri and her husband, Dan, 39, both of whom are attorneys, first contemplated intercountry adoption through China after reading an article about someone who'd done it, in the *Rocky Mountain News*.

They had just come from a trip in Denver, visiting Jeri's father, Herb Okamoto, and she was feeling particularly down about her own mother Chiyo, who had passed away in 1992.

By spring of 1996, however, nearly one year after reading that article, the Floyds had completed their home study, sent off their paperwork and found themselves traveling to China with nine other families from places such as Texas, Ohio and New York, as well as an intercountry adoption facilitator who would act both as an

"The minute you get that picture, you just want to go right over there," Jeri recalled, after receiving a photo of the two-month-old little girl they had been matched up with. By the time they had finished packing for their trip abroad, bringing giant suitcases full of diapers, clothes, toilet paper, hotpots, she said, "It was like, 'I can't believe we're finally going!' It was all very much like a dream."

The Floyds first flew into Hong Kong and then traveled into

out," she said. "When they finally called out her name, HaiYi, HaiYi, we were like, 'Wow, this is our little girl.'"

"Sometimes it takes people a long time to come to the decision to adopt," she said. "For us, it just felt like this is what we were supposed to be doing."

Herb recalls his first encounter with his adopted granddaughter was just as natural, no different in fact than seeing his biological grandchildren for the first time.

"It must've taken me only five minutes to bond with her," he said. "There was no bias whatsoever. If anything, I felt [closer to] Rachel."

"I've always felt that if you have the opportunity to give a better life to another person," he added, "it's a worthwhile effort."

Pure philanthropy may not initially be the primary motivation for most people choosing to adopt through a different country, but often it becomes a significant part of the equation when parents find out about the plight of disadvantaged children such as those thousands still remaining in China's orphanages.

Organizations promoting the welfare and health of children in China are sprouting up all the time as more and more Americans adopt internationally and as the public is made aware of social and economic conditions which burden certain countries.

One such group is Families With Children From China (FWCC), which originated in New York in the mid-1990s. It is an international, loosely associated network of over 90 independently functioning chapters.

Jeri, who has postponed work as a law partner for now, currently juggles her time as a stay-at-home mom and as co-chair of the non-profit, volunteer-run Los Angeles chapter of FWCC.

FWCC-LA, which has about 400 adult members from around the Greater Los Angeles area, provides educational services, informational resources and cultural activities for families who have adopted or are in the process of adopting children from China. Part of their mission is to foster a sense of community by having families participate in Chinese and Asian American cultural activities and by acquainting their children with others who share similar backgrounds.

Jeri said the group hosts regular meetings once a month in



Dan and Jeri Floyd with their daughter Rachel.

Shanghai, where they spent a fairly sleepless night in a hotel. The babies, meanwhile, most of them 9 to 10 months old by now, were ferried over from Guangzhou and overseen by nannies. Jeri recalls the next day watching all of the other parents meet their children for the first time while they waited to be united with theirs.

"I just remember Rachel was the very, very last to be brought

## FBI Widens Investigation of Possible China Spying

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—After focusing for nearly four years on a scientist at Los Alamos nuclear weapons lab in New Mexico, the government is broadening its investigation into the alleged Chinese theft of secrets concerning a sophisticated nuclear warhead.

Justice Department and FBI officials briefed members of the Senate Intelligence Committee on Sept. 22 about the latest developments involving the Chinese espionage case.

Attorney General Janet Reno said that the probe's expansion "is in response to questions that have been raised in terms of new evidence. I think there may have been new facts brought to the attention of the FBI." Several outside panels have criticized the original probe for concentrating exclusively on Los Alamos and pointed out that many other government and industry people had access to the information that may have been taken.

China again rejected any allegations of espionage.

"We have said many times that it is false and irresponsible," Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan said in New York before a meeting with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

He also reiterated China's accusation that the United States

intentionally bombed the Chinese embassy in Belgrade in the conflict in Yugoslavia earlier in the year.

A government official acknowledged that the FBI will now put more resources into the investigation and expand it beyond the Los Alamos laboratory, where the FBI's attention has been concentrated since early 1996.

More serious consideration will be given to other agencies or individuals as possible sources of the technical information that China is believed to have obtained in the 1980s, said the official, speaking on condition of not being further identified.

Still, a former Los Alamos computer scientist, Wen Ho Lee, who was fired in March for violating security rules, remains a suspect in the FBI's investigation, said another official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Although not charged with a crime, Lee has been the prime—some say virtually only—target the FBI has pursued in the nearly four-year investigation.

"Sometimes we can identify both the crime and the criminal too quickly," said Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont, the senior Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee. "I think this is a case that as more and more information

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## APA Political Education Institute Holds Conference

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA  
Assistant Editor

Chinese Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE) and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center co-sponsored the 1999 Asian Pacific American Political Education Institute from Sept. 18-19 at the Los Angeles Marriott Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

More than 50 people attended the two-day event where political consultants, elected officials, community leaders and the media gathered to advise APAs interested in running for elected office. The conference, which focused on the nuts and bolts of organizing a political campaign, attracted participants ranging from Northern and Southern California to Arizona.

For tips from experts see page 4.

The forum follows in the heels of a similar program sponsored in May by the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) in Washington, D.C.

Don Nakaniishi, who has helped organize APAICS May forum and is head of UCLA's Asian American Studies Center, noted that the Washington, D.C., conference focused on elected officials interested in running for higher office, while the Los Angeles event targeted first time candidates.

"We hope to have one or two programs like this a year," said Nakaniishi, adding that he was "very happy with the turnout."

Charlie Woo, president of CAUSE, hinted that perhaps the next conference could be held in Northern California.

Woo noted that they decided to organize this event after talking with various APA leaders across the

nation.

"We've discussed with Asian Pacific American leaders on the issue of what is needed for more Asian Pacific American political involvement, and they've said conferences like this is the number one thing that is needed," said Woo. "Whether we go to Texas or the East Coast, this is what they say. ... But I would say this is more than a training workshop. I would say this is a political summit so that political leaders in the Asian Pacific American community can come together."

United States Congressman Ed Royce, who represents California's 39th District, was very supportive of the conference, saying that unlike the past where Europe directed American politics, the new millennium will be heavily dominated by Asia.

"The focus has changed in trade, in politics in terms of the vast influence that Asia is having on the United States," said Royce. "So it becomes absolutely essential for the United States' future success over the Pacific Rim that we have people who understand the languages and culture, and will be leaders of the future who will engage the United States with Asia in trade and politics."

According to Royce, the United States in the past eight years has seen the APA population increase by more than 41 percent. Los Angeles and Orange counties have seen a slightly higher increase at 44 percent, he added.

"The reality is that, outside of Asia, the city that ranks first is Los Angeles, the city that ranks second is Honolulu, and third is Orange County in terms of influence of Asian Americans," said Royce. "One of the things that you're focused on is turning that influence into political

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# Pacific Citizen

7 Cupertine Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755  
Tel: 323/725-0083, 800/966-6157, Fax: 323/725-0084  
E-mail: Paccit@aol.com

Executive Editor: Caroline Y. Aoyagi  
Assistant Editor: Martha Nakagawa  
Editor Emeritus/Archivist: Harry K. Honda  
Office Manager: Brian Tanaka  
Production Assistant: Margot Brunswick  
Writer/Reporter: Tracy Ube  
Circulation: Eva Lau-Ting

Special contributors: Patricia Ama, Allan Beekman, Toko Fuji, S. Ruth Y. Hashimoto, Bob Hirata, Ada Honda, Mas Imai, Misa Ise, Naomi Kashiwaba, Bill Kashiwaba, William Marumoto, Elsu Masakata, Bill Matsumoto, Fred Oshima, Ed Suguro, Milla Tanner, George Waki, Jem Lew

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JACL President: Helen Kawagoe, National Director: Herbert Yamanishi  
Pacific Citizen Board of Directors: Rick Uno, chairperson; Clyde Nishimura, EDC; Hank Tanaka, MDC; Deborah Ikeda, CCDC; Claire Onuma, NCWPDG; Don Maekawa, PNWDC; Jeff Watanabe, IDC; Gil Asakawa, MPDC; Sam Shimoguchi, PSWDC

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## JACL Calendar

### National

**NATIONAL BOARD**  
Fri.-Sun., Oct. 8-10—National Board Meeting, JACL Headquarters, San Francisco.

### Eastern

**WASHINGTON**  
Fri., Oct. 22—National Japanese American Memorial groundbreaking. Info: NJAMF, 202/861-8845; fax: 202/861-8848; e-mail: NJAMF@aol.com; www.njamf.org.

### Midwest

**TWIN CITIES**  
Sat., Oct. 16—Generations Pot-Luck Dinner: Union Congregational Church, 3700 Alabama Ave. S., St. Louis Park. Food, games and fun. Info: Kathy Ohama Koch, 612/884-1560.

### Pacific Northwest

**SEATTLE**  
Sat., Jan. 29, 2000—Save the date! Seattle JACL installation dinner; speaker, Martha Choe; M.C. Lori Matsue.

## COMMUNITY Calendar

### East Coast

**ATLANTA**  
Through Nov. 5—Exhibits, "America's Concentration Camps: Remembering the Japanese American Experience," and "Witness: Our Brothers' Keepers"; The William Brennan Jewish Heritage Museum, 1440 Spring St. NW; both exhibits developed by the Japanese American National Museum. Info: hros: 404/873-1661.

**DELAWARE BEACH, FLA.**  
Tues., Oct. 12—Exhibit opening, "Reckoning Tokyo Time: A Look at Japanese Clocks, Calendars and Chronology"; The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, 4000 Morikami Park Rd. Info: 561/495-0233; www.morikami.org.

**NEW YORK CITY**  
Tues.-Sat., Oct. 5-9—1999 Chinese Film Festival. Lila Acheson Wallace Auditorium, Oct. 5, 8, 9; Tinker Auditorium at the French Institute Alliance Francaise, Oct. 6, 7; showing six films which have never been seen in the United States. Free. Info: 888/906-FILM.  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**  
Through Nov. 30—Exhibit, "From Bento to Mixed Plate: Americans of Japanese Ancestry in Multicultural Hawaii"; Smithsonian Institution, Arts & Industry Bldg.; developed by the Japanese American National Museum. Info: 800/461-5266.

### Intermountain

**OGDEN, UTAH**  
Sat., Oct. 23—Box Elder County Japanese American Reunion; 9 a.m. registration; Marriott Hotel, 247 24th St.; breakfast buffet, raffle, door prizes, silent auction, Sane/Seisei poster contest, photo exhibits, talk, entertainment, karaoke. Info: Bonnie Shires, 435/257-2139 or Frank Nishiguchi, 435/458-3737.

### Pacific Northwest

**BELLEVUE, WASH.**  
Sat.-Sun., Oct. 2-3—Family Fun at Factoria Mall, south Bellevue, all day; Japan-related exhibits, stage performances, craft demos, information on Japanese products & services, book reading/signing. "Ryoma: Life of a Renaissance Samurai" with author Romulus Hillsborough. Free. Info: 425/861-9109; <http://www.ENMA.org>.  
**SEATTLE**  
Through April 2000—Exhibit, "A Different Battle: Stories of Asian Pacific American Veterans"; Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S. Info: 206/523-5124.

### Southern California

**EAST BAY**  
Wed., Oct. 6—East Bay Nisei Singles field trip: nature walk in Muir Woods; lunch and dinner. Info: Richard Selditch, 510/237-0218.  
**SAN FRANCISCO**  
Thurs., Oct. 7—Film Screening and Q&A session, "Old Man River" with writer/director Cynthia Gates Fujiwara; Kabuki 8 Cinema, 1881 Post St. Tickets: Info: National Japanese American Historical Society, 415/921-

kawa; Doubletree Suites, Tukwila; tickets available in December.

### NC-WN-Pacific

**DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
Sat., Oct. 2—Executive Board Meeting; Alan Terry's residence.  
Sun., Nov. 7—District Council Meeting, Sacramento; special programs: Hate Crimes Workshop and introduction of Gov. Davis' Asian American appointees.

**FLORENCE**  
Sat., Oct. 23—Annual Scholarship Fund-raising, Spaghetti Dinner/Bingo Nite.

**SAN MATEO**  
Wed., Oct. 6—Flu vaccine clinic; see Community Calendar.

**THURSDAY**  
Thurs., Oct. 7—Annual Senior Citizens Conference; see Community Calendar.

**SUN, OCT. 10—San Mateo JACL Golf Tournament**, 1st tee-off 9:45 a.m.; Skywest Golf Course, 1401 Golf Course, Hayward; Entry due by Sept. 25. To benefit Scholarship Fund; sponsors and donors needed. Info: Vince Asai, 650/349-3590.

**WEST VALLEY**  
Sun., Oct. 24—Next Generation luncheon and fashion show, to benefit

Senior Center programs and Washington, D.C., memorial; see Community Calendar.

### Pacific Southwest

**SAN DIEGO**  
Sun., Oct. 3—Film showing, "Visas and Virtue," sponsored by San Diego chapter; see community calendar.  
**VENTURA COUNTY**  
Sun., Oct. 3—Annual Japanese Cultural Festival; see Community Calendar.

**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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Holiday issue advertising kits are being mailed. Thank you to those of you who called to let us know where the kits should be sent. As a reminder, please call 800/966-6157 when you receive them. Thank you.

Heritage Awards Dinner; Torrance Marriott, Torrance. Honoring: Harry Nakada, Brian Kito, Scott Nagatani, Francis Nakano. RSVP: Iku Kiriya, 310/324-2875.  
Sun., Oct. 10—Artist's Talk, "An American Diary: Paintings by Roger Shimomura" based upon the wartime diaries of his grandmother, Tokyo Shimomura; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. RSVP: 213/625-0414.  
Tues., Oct. 12—Mirai X-Change Restaurant review, 7:30 p.m.; Chaya Brasserie, 8741 Arden Dr. (310) 859-8833. RSVP by Oct. 8; Japan America Society, 213/627-6217 ext. 17.  
Thurs., Oct. 14—Play reading, "The Poet of Columbus Avenue," presented by East West Players; 7:30 p.m.; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. RSVP: 213/625-0414.  
Sat., Oct. 16—Film showing and discussion, "Old Man River," featuring Cynthia Gates Fujiwara, 1 p.m.; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. RSVP: 213/625-0414.  
Sat., Oct. 16—Oldies Dance VII, "It's Just Like Heaven," 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave., West Covina. Info, song requests: Joannee, 626/284-8192; Roy, 909/595-6183; Frank, 714/890-1776.

Through October 17—East West Players perform "Tulsi's Hibiscus" by Jon Shinto; Union Center for the Arts, Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-7000.  
Through October 17—Award-winning play, "Texas" by Judy So Hoo, Thurs.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 1 p.m.; The Secret Rose Theatre, 11246 Magnolia Blvd., North Hollywood. Info, tickets: 323/993-7245.

**SAN DIEGO**  
Sun., Oct. 3—Film showing, "Visas and Virtue," 2 p.m.; Japanese American Community Senior Housing Project, 1260 3rd Ave., Chula Vista. Free. Info: 619/230-0314.  
Sat., Oct. 9—Video documentary showing and discussion, "Children of the Camps," 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; San Diego Buddhist Temple, 2929 Market St.; program free; bento lunch \$15. RSVP for lunch by Oct. 4; Jeanne Elyea, 714/482-1736, Yukio Kawamoto, 714/286-8203, Masato Asakawa, 714/453-2739.

**VENTURA COUNTY**  
Sun., Oct. 3—"Celebrating Our Heritage: Japanese Cultural Festival," 2-5 p.m.; Camarillo Community Center, 1605 E. Burnley St.; East-West Players Drama group, Togen Daiko drum group, Japanese dance, karate, children's activities and storytelling, tea ceremony, ikebana exhibits, bonsai, sumi-e brush painting, koi, food tasting, etc. Info: 805/655-5559.

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## LOS ALAMOS

(Continued from page 1)

tion comes out, it cries out for re-evaluation."

Leahy and Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) both said a majority of lawmakers want an expanded and more thorough investigation.

In recent months, the FBI, as well as the Justice and Energy departments, have come under criticism both in Congress and within the intelligence community for focusing too narrowly on Los Alamos, the New Mexico research lab where the first atomic bomb was developed 54 years ago and where the W-88 also was created.

The technical information about the W-88 "had been widely available" from numerous places in government and among private contractors "and could have come from many organizations other than the weapons labs," a panel of the president's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board concluded in a report in June.

The advisory panel, chaired by former Senator Warren Rudman of New Hampshire, questioned why "only one investigation was initiated" and it focused "on only one category of potential sources, the bomb designers at the national labs."

Likewise, a report by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee last month questioned why the FBI did not cast a broader net when first told to find out who might have given the W-88 secrets to China.

From the beginning, the FBI identified Los Alamos "as the

likely source ... and set about trying to produce possible suspects" at the laboratory, the report by Sens. Fred Thompson, (R-Tenn.), and Joseph Lieberman, (D-Conn.), said.

Lee, a Taiwan-born computer scientist who worked with the top-secret weapons design team at Los Alamos since the late 1970s, has denied giving any secrets to China and has accused the government of singling him out because he is Chinese American.

Lee has not been charged with any crime. Government sources familiar with the investigation have expressed doubt that an espionage case can be made against him, although prosecution on lesser security violations has not been ruled out.

After Lee was fired last March, it was discovered during a search of his office computer that he had improperly transferred thousands of files of warhead computer codes — so-called Legacy codes that chronicle the development of America's nuclear arsenal — into a less secure computer network.

It is not known whether any of the information left the lab's unclassified computer system. With little information linking him to the W-88 warhead espionage, sources familiar with the investigation said any potential criminal prosecution likely would involve the file transfers.

Investigators have acknowledged that Lee became a prime target in part because he and his wife had frequent contact with Chinese scientific delegations and they had made trips to China in the 1980s. Lee has said lab officials approved those trips. ■

## Jan Masaoka Included Among Top 50 National Nonprofit Leaders

Bay Area executive Jan Masaoka has been named one of 1999's "Power and Influence Top 50" by *NonProfit Times*, a national news journal for the nonprofit sector.

The list recognizes 50 pivotal leaders in the national nonprofit sector. Also honored this year are, among others, Betty Beene, president of the "United Way of America"; consumer advocate Ralph Nader, founder of the Center for the Study of Responsive Law; and Susan Packard Orr, chairwoman of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

Masaoka is executive director of the Support Center/NDC, the nation's largest nonprofit management consulting and training organization, a position she has

held since 1993.

With offices in San Francisco and San Jose, the center provides comprehensive consulting services, workshops in computer and management topics, and original-content publications for nonprofit managers and board members.

In addition, the center maintains three Web sites to assist nonprofits: <www.supportcenter.org>, <www.genie.org>, and <www.ontap.org>.

"Little moves on the left coast without Masaoka being in the middle of it," *NonProfit Times* commented in the August article announcing the "Power and Influence Top 50."

The journal characterizes the Support Center/NDC as instrumental in "convening the sector's thinkers."

The article can be found online at <www.nptimes.com/aug99.html>.

*NonProfit Times* notes Masaoka's authorship of "All Hands on

Board," a guide for board members of all-volunteer organizations, and her editorship of "Board Care," a free national electronic newsletter for nonprofit board members that currently has over 7,000 subscribers.

Masaoka is also president of the San Francisco Foundation Community Initiative Funds, a member of the San Francisco Telecommunications Initiative and an Advisory Committee member of the Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center.

She is a Seneas who grew up in San Mateo. Her late father, Tad, was a leader in civil rights and Japanese American community affairs; her mother, Sachi, is active in Sturge Presbyterian Church and the Topaz High School Reunion Committee; her sister, Miya, is a noted kotoist, composer and a performance artist; her brother, Mark, has been active in United Auto Workers and Asian American community affairs in Los Angeles. ■



Jan Masaoka

## U.S. Justice Department Honors L.A. County Commission

The U.S. Department of Justice, Community Relations Services, honored the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations with the State and Local Partnership Award, to recognize its role in the Los Angeles County Hate Crime Response Team and its efforts toward strengthening race relations in America.

The award was presented to Ron Wakabayashi, executive director of the commission, on Sept. 17 during the department's Race Relations Symposium at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Joining Wakabayashi in the recognition were several of the commission's partners, including

Scott Millington from the District Attorney's Hate Crime Prosecution Unit; Capt. Richard Odenthal, Sheriff's Hate Crime Task Force; Dr. Angie Stockwell, the Los Angeles Unified School District's Office of Intergroup Relations; and Marsha Ramos of the City of Burbank and past president of HRMAC, the commission's Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium of cities.

The national Community Relations Service works throughout the country to mediate racial conflict, prevent violence and promote race relations. The Los Angeles County Commission has been singled out in a showcase of best practices in use around the

nation.

The commission has been instrumental in advancing the development of hate crime response, initially through its Hate Crime Network. It has facilitated strong partnerships that have evolved over many years, said Wakabayashi.

Wakabayashi and kept hate crime concerns and issues in the forefront. But, he added, "There is much work still ahead." ■



Wakabayashi

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

### Ex-POWs Seek Redress for Slave Labor

NEW YORK — Claiming they were forced into slave labor by Japanese companies, 500 American former prisoners of war are seeking an apology and millions of dollars from their captors.

A lawsuit, which seeks class-action status, was filed Sept. 16 in U.S. District Court in Albuquerque, N.M., against five Japanese companies: Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd.; Mitsui & Co. Inc.; Mitsubishi International Corp.; Nippon Steel Corp.; and Showa Denko. The suit is the first filed in Japan against industrial firms that used POWs to produce war goods in coal mines, factories and shipping docks between 1942 and 1945.

Such actions are illegal under the Geneva Convention and various treaties that Japan's wartime government agreed to before and after World War II.

The Washington-based Center for Human Rights has filed a lawsuit in U.S. federal court, claiming that the Japanese government should be held responsible for the actions of its military and police forces.

The suit embraces families and widows of POWs who died, took compensation for labor and injuries, and would be the defendants from doing business in the United States. However, it named no money figure.

On Sept. 16, in California, three former POWs filed a similar lawsuit under the new state law seeking reparation from Mitsubishi Corp., the company that allegedly held them captive during WWII.

**Report: Government Determined to Control Religious Minorities**

WASHINGTON — Authoritarian governments in Asia re-

main determined to control religious beliefs and practices, a U.S. State Department report on religious freedom recently said. Among those governments are China, North Korea, Vietnam, Laos and Burma.

The report also mentioned legislation in Pakistan that it said encouraged religious intolerance and said India there has been a sharp increase in violence by extremists against religious minorities.

In China, the report said, government intolerance of religious activity outside officially sponsored churches has led to harassment, prolonged detention, imprisonment in labor camps and police seizure of places of worship.

The report included accounts of abuse and torture of Buddhist monks and nuns in China and denied the allegations.

The report said North Korean communist government persecutes all overseas Christians, including the regime's own citizens, said Vietnam it said uses a variety of tactics to persecute and monitor religious activity, up to 54 may be currently imprisoned for their beliefs.

In Laos, the report said, the religious freedom of the majority Buddhist population was limited, sometimes through mandatory training in Marxism and Leninism, and in isolated cases, through forced renunciations of faith.

Burma's government arrests and imprisons Buddhist monks who promote human and political rights. Security forces reportedly destroyed or looted churches, mosques and monasteries. Meanwhile, Pakistan extremists have allegedly committed violence against religious minorities like Christians and Hindus, the department reported.

Responses by state and local

prosecutors to these events often were inadequate, the report said. "In some cases local police and government officials abetted the violence."

### Minority Enrollment Up at UW

ABSTIN — Enrollment at the University of Texas-Austin this fall totals 49,034, and school officials said that the freshman class includes increases in minority students.

The total includes 37,179 undergraduate students, 10,416 graduate students and 1,880 law students. It is a slight increase over last fall's enrollment of 48,906.

Out of 7,040 entering freshmen, the year's blacks increased to 286, up 57 students or 43.7 percent. Asian-Americans reached 1,217, up 84 or 7.4 percent, and Hispanic students rose 374, up 83 or 23 percent.

141 officials have worked to boost minority enrollment despite the 1956 federal court ruling known as *Hoyt v. Ponder*, which ended consideration of race in college admissions in Texas.

### UW Discrimination Case Tentatively Settled

MADISON, Wis. — A white art teacher who filed a racial discrimination lawsuit after he was denied tenure at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse could receive \$150,000 and a position at the school under a tentative settlement.

John Ready, 42, sued the Board of Regents in May 1997 after he was rejected for a tenure sculpture-teaching position. The job was first offered to a white woman who rejected the offer, then to Gerald Gray, an Asian American, who accepted it.

U.S. District Judge Barbara Crabb ruled in July that the university's affirmative action plan could be used to diversity its faculty and staff, but that the school did not legally implement it in Ready's case. Crabb said Ready was correct in his claim that the university let race govern the choice of Gray for the job, which it cannot use as a deciding factor in employment.

Ready's lawyer and the Board of Regents agreed that he would receive \$75,000 in compensatory damages and \$75,000 for lost pay if the board's appeal of Crabb's decision fails. Ready would also get a position as the director of the art gallery at UW-La Crosse, which could lead to him getting tenure.

### Koreans File Suit for Forced Wartime Labor

MADISON — A law firm filed a federal court suit seeking damages from Japanese companies for Koreans claiming that the United States who caused their war-related injuries in Japan during World War II.

The suit was filed last week by Jike Shikawa, 76, a Japanese resident who said that he was forced to go to Japan to work in 1943, when Korea was a Japanese colony. When he arrived, he said he was forced to work long hours at a steel mill six days a week, was not allowed to quit and his pay was withheld as "patriotic deposits."

Choe seeks unspecified damages from Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Nippon Steel Inc. and a declaration that defendants are war criminals who should be barred from doing business in the United States.

Two years ago, Nippon Steel became the first Japanese company to pay a broad-labor claim with a settlement that paid about

\$15,000 each to 11 Korean families.

The Japanese government is not a defendant. It paid \$500 million in 1965 to settle war-related claims by South Korea. The money went to the South Korean government. Japan has also settled war claims with the U.S. In 1989, however, Japan allowed foreign individuals to sue Japanese employers for wartime deeds.

### Uwajima Village Construction Continues

SEATTLE — Following a court ruling, construction continues for the Uwajima Village, scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2000.

On June 30, King County Superior Court Judge Kathleen Learned affirmed the Seattle Hearing Examiner's earlier decision by finding no fault in the city's handling of the Uwajima Village permit application. Learned ruled against Sava, Lane Street and all 16 points it raised. Sava Lane Street has appealed to the State Supreme Court, but the appeal will take a year or so to get down to the construction currently underway.

Based on the facts of the case, the court upheld the city's decision, said Judge Kathleen Learned. Uwajima's chairman, in order for the entire district to move forward, a vote was taken, representing the promise by both sides would be.

Uwajima, founded in 1971, will be the anchor tenant in proposed Uwajima Village, which is slated to provide a mix of retail space and apartments. The apartments will be built above the retail floor, will surround a courtyard with an Asian rock garden.

Uwajima Village is owned by Seattle's International District Association. ■



# Lessons Learned From the Campaign Trail

Advice From Veteran Politicians Fong, Honda

Matthew Fong shared some of his tips after running a tight U.S. Senate race against incumbent Barbara Boxer in last year's election.

**Fundraising**  
• On fund-raising, Fong said, "You are on your own." He cautioned against relying on "promised" donations because when it comes time to collect, the funds may not materialize.

• Obtaining a fund-raiser does not guarantee donations. "Hiring a fund-raiser does not solve your problems of raising funds," said Fong. He said fund-raisers are hired to assist candidates in raising money. Fong estimated he spent about 18 out of a 24-hour day asking for money.

• Although putting in personal money may allow a candidate to get a quick start, Fong said, "Going into your own pocket should be the last resort." If a candidate is considering this, Fong encouraged a "loan" to the campaign rather than a "donation," "so if you win, you can take the money out."

**Campaign Management Team**  
• Hiring a campaign management team is "probably the most critical decision," said Fong. He said hiring a campaign team means hiring a network of people who can open doors to endorsement and funds. On the flip side, Fong said campaign teams will have enemies, which the candidate will "inherit" by hiring them. To ensure compatibility, Fong said "understand the history of who you're hiring" and "take the time to start interviewing and getting to know some of the consultants."

• Fong's rule of thumb was to "pick the one that believes in him and his cause" and is willing to "take a call at one in the morning." He cautioned against hiring a team on name recognition because if the team is working on a bigger race, it may take precedence.

**Media**  
• Because ethnic and mainstream press reach different communities, it is important to run separate campaigns, said Fong.

• Fong emphasized the importance of sticking to your message and discouraged candidates from speaking to the media if they have no message to convey.

**Impact on Family**  
• Fong didn't deny that "politics is probably one of the worst professions for a family." Despite his best efforts, Fong has been forced to miss family events. During the last election, Fong said his daughter got harassed by other students and even teachers. To prevent a family break up, Fong said a candidate should explain to their loved ones what they are fighting for. He also urged them to invite loved ones to public functions and to have them to read literature that conveys the candidate's message. ■

California State Assemblyman Mike Honda's tips focused more on the personal aspects of politics. Honda shared his reasons for becoming involved in politics. As a former school teacher, Honda said he wanted to find better ways to improve the education system. He was also frustrated with how things were being run in his school district, and he realized the lack of elected officials addressing the needs of the Asian Pacific American community.

"I realized I would rather be frustrated and have a vote than be frustrated and not have a vote," said Honda. "I would rather be frustrated and have information, rather than be frustrated and wonder what the hell is going on with my community, my state, etc."

But Honda admitted he had to first overcome his own fears such as the fear of public speaking or rejection after losing a race and his general lack of self-confidence in new situations.

"The greatest barrier of Asian Americans participating in elected office, whether it's elected or appointed, is ourselves," said Honda, who admitted that overcoming his fears was a constant struggle.

What bolstered his confidence, Honda said, was realizing that "what you have to say may be important to other people."

"The things that make you persevere, don't let that be a barrier," continued Honda. "Look at it as a challenge and address it."

He refuted any claims that there are no qualified APA candidates, saying when he visited the nation's capital, he met a number of talented APAs working in government.

To those interested in running for elected office, Honda encouraged them to examine what he termed as "skill sets," or the ability to work with people; plan, execute and manage projects; being able to work in a group; and listening and responding appropriately.

Honda noted the importance of these "skill sets" and urged that candidates work on them to improve themselves. Honda illustrated the importance of these skills as he recounted an early political experience of standing before a crowd where he had been unable to answer a question. Before the session was over, one of Honda's friends walked out.

"That moment, I realized I had to get over the barrier of being self-conscious and work on getting the message out," said Honda.

One way Honda honed his "skill sets" is to develop "internal snitches," or people who can be honest with him to let him know what points to improve. ■

Tips From the Consultants

Kam Kuwata, head of the public relations firm Kuwata Communications, noted that different levels of political races (i.e., local, state, national) are run differently and there was "no cookie cutter approach." But he did add that he approaches all political campaigns with the three "m's" — message, mechanics and money.

According to Kuwata, a candidate's message should encompass why they are running, what their theme is, what they stand for and why they should be elected. He said candidates should be able to answer what in political circles is considered the "Roger Mudd" question, a term which came into existence in 1980 when newscaster Mudd asked then presidential hopeful Ted Kennedy why he wanted to be president. Kennedy failed to adequately answer that question and damaged his campaign. "You have to be able to answer that question," said Kuwata.

In addition, Kuwata pointed to the importance of having a theme. As an example, Kuwata pointed to the presidential bid of Texas governor, George W. Bush, who has chosen the theme of "compassionate conservatism."

"That is the overarching theme for his campaign," said Kuwata. "It's a very disciplined candidate because everything he talks about is tied into that package of compassionate conservatism. I'm a partisan Democrat. I don't want George Bush to win, but I have to respect and admire the fact that he has this discipline. On our side, it's hard to explain what the Gore campaign is trying to communicate."

Once a candidate's message is defined, the next step is determining the most efficient way in getting the message to the public, or the mechanics of campaigning, according to Kuwata.

Kuwata cautioned candidates from relying on the media, saying in general it is difficult to get the media to focus on political issues. "Let me tell you, the media in California is terrible," said Kuwata. "They get an 'F' because they just don't cover what is important in our daily lives, and you cannot get them to cover a political campaign unless there's a car chase going on."

But despite media apathy, Kuwata says it is important to be familiar with major news outlet reporters in case the candidate's opponent uses an article in a smear campaign. "Give them (journalists) a call so they know what you're thinking, know the points of your campaign," said Kuwata.

Kuwata said the best way to determine how to convey the candidate's message is through research and public opinion polls. But while polls are helpful, he also warned against using them to dictate the candidate's message. "If you have to take a poll to answer a question, you're in a lot of trouble and you probably shouldn't be running," said Kuwata.

Through polls candidates can determine the demographics of their target voters such as, what TV shows they view so as to purchase advertisement during those time slots, according to Kuwata.

Kuwata also urged candidates to talk to "real" people and not limit themselves to campaign people because "the real world changes."

Judy Yu, head of the public relations company AsiaNet Marketing, worked on the successful gubernatorial campaign of Washington State Governor Gary Locke.

Yu's message to Asian Americans was simple: focus on positive messages and emphasize the contributions that APAs have made to the nation.

In Locke's case, Yu said their market research indicated that the general attitude towards APAs was positive, revealing that APAs were generally viewed as hard working, education oriented and loyal.

Locke's campaign capitalized and highlighted these positive aspects, said Yu. She noted Locke's link to the AA community gave him credibility when he announced he wanted to be the education governor of Washington.

Harvey Englander has been involved in politics for the past 31

years and heads the Englander Group, formed in 1980. Like Kuwata, Englander considers research to be crucial in winning a race. "I don't do much without research," stated Englander. "Research is the critical element."

When Englander worked on Michael Woo's successful bid for a Los Angeles City Council seat in 1985, he noted that one of the first things that became clear through research was that no one in the 13th council district knew who Michael Woo was.

To remedy this lack of name recognition, Englander put together the "Beth Woo letter," a correspondence from Woo's mother describing her son. The letter also included pictures of a six-year-old Woo sitting in front of a Christmas tree and an adult Woo in a sweat suit to show that he was part of the jogging craze of the 1980s.

"We created a piece of mail to tell Mike Woo's story from his mother, and the critical piece was that it showed he was 'one of us' but not your next door neighbor," said Englander.

Englander also urged candidates to take advantage of opportunities. He pointed to the Laura Chick/Joy Pius race for an L.A. City Council seat. Ten days before election, a local TV station ran a story on his client's opponent incumbent Pius. The story focused on Pius' habit of dozing off at meetings and showed actual footage of Pius asleep. Englander's challenge was then "how do you take this story and not look like we're jumping all over it on an unfortunate medical situation, and

on limited time." Englander's team ended up reprinting the news story almost frame by frame and transcribing the commentary next to the pictures. No other editorials were inserted except a message at the end, urging readers to elect Chick. Chick went on to defeat Pius in the biggest win for a L.A. City Council seat, according to Englander.

To get the message out, the candidate will also need to raise money, said Englander. He noted that in general first time candidates do not receive funds from special interest groups and will need to rely on their personal contacts.

Englander's ideal candidate schedule would run like this: wake up in the morning, go to a fundraising breakfast, head to the office, make fundraising phone calls, in the afternoon visit a local organization and hand out giveaways such as pot holders or key chains, attend a fundraiser luncheon, return to the office around 4 p.m., make more fund-raising calls and then go out and walk precincts.

Other critical points Englander pointed out included:

- candidates must stay involved and meet their constituents
- opposition research
- appropriate computer software
- choose a consulting firm that is right for you. Englander said, "You don't want a consultant that runs one campaign 200 times, but one who runs 200 campaigns once. Every campaign must be unique to fit your personality." ■

Text by Martina Nakagawa

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## COMMENTARIES

## Rabbit in the Moon Revisited

## Dissenters' Actions Worsened Hostility

By SHIM HIRAOKA

In viewing "Rabbit in the Moon," a dialogue of the evacuation and internment of the Japanese in World War II was presented, but it was colored by an attempt by each narrator to justify the acts of the Tule Lake resisters.

Plaudits of courage and heroism are reserved for those persons who, by their actions, benefit a group and, in this case, the Japanese community. In that connection, what good or benefit did the Japanese, in camp or out, receive from the negative responses to questions 27 and 28 by the "no-no" group? What good did the renouncing of citizenship by over 5,000 Nisei, who ended up in Tule Lake, bring the Japanese populace? What good did those resisting the draft bring the Japanese to help solve the loyalty problem? Their actions, though conscientious, accomplished nothing except to worsen the climate of hostility that existed.

It did not take courage to resist the draft. Resisting provided an assurance that, instead of being wounded or killed in combat, they could languish in jail for the duration, with three square meals a day and a warm place to sleep. These are luxuries the Nisei WWII veterans rarely enjoyed. But for their valorous performances with more than 680 killed in action and receipt of 9,486 Purple Hearts, there would have continued the anti-Japanese tirades. The acts of the veterans stifled the voices of the resisters, which began around 1900, ending on a charge that the Nisei were disloyal. Almost 50 years of crusading against the Japanese had resulted in the passage of the Alien Land Acts, the anti-Japanese fishing bills, the Exclusion Law of 1924, among others. The heroes of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Central Postal Directory and 442nd Central Postal Directory, the anti-Japanese fishing bills, the Exclusion Law of 1924, among others. The heroes of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Central Postal Directory and 442nd Central Postal Directory, the anti-Japanese fishing bills, the Exclusion Law of 1924, among others.

The question is: what would have happened to the Japanese had all of us done what the Tule Lake resisters did? I would like to hear an explanation from each of the narrators.

The Japanese constituted only 1/10th of 1 percent of the U.S. population in 1942. It was one of the smallest racial minorities in America, with no political clout.

The point was made by a narrator that he will never forgive an acquaintance who turned his back on the speaker because of his being in Tule Lake. He won't forgive, but he expects what he did to be correct and that he should be forgiven. Isn't forgiveness a two-way street?

As for James Omura and his condemnation of JACL, it would appear to me that he, being a journalist, should have known or realized that regardless of JACL's stance, evacuation and internment would have resulted. All Omura had to do was review the statements of the public, politicians, media, businesses and civic organizations which, vociferously, demanded for their removal. Omura would have discovered that all political parties, the media and many organizations, namely, the Native Sons of the Golden West, State Grange, State Federation of Labor, all Trade Unions, American Legion and even the Veterans of Foreign Wars, supported this, as did the politicians, especially U.S. Senator Hiram W. Johnson, U.S. Senator James D. Phelan, Attorney General U.S. Webb, and California Governor Earl Warren, who were advocating removal.

As for Issei narrator Shoukutei Sasaki, all that needs be said is that he was an alien Issei. The outbreak of the war made him an enemy alien, subject to deportation or to be used as a hostage in the exchange of prisoners. In other words, he had no rights. He should be happy he wasn't deported or used in the exchange of prisoners. There has been found no intent by the government to use Nisei as hostages. Had we all responded like the Tule Lake resisters, the public might have demanded the Nisei be used as hostages. After all, Nisei loyalty was questioned because so many had their births registered in Japan. This argument of dual citizenship was used by the Joint Immigration Committee, after 1924, to prove the Nisei's allegiance to be to the Emperor.

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Shim Hirooka is a 442nd veteran from Fresno, Calif.

## Film Liberates Dissenters From JACL Vise Grip

By TAKASUMI KOJIMA

We thought the documentary, "Rabbit in the Moon," was a powerful story of what took place during the internment camps. The attempts at discrediting the Nikkei dissenters which included the Issei, Kibei, draft resisters and protesters of the "loyalty questionnaire" have become an important part of contemporary Nikkei history.

An impressive body of evidence has accumulated to corroborate the undermining of the Issei and Kibei by the War Relocation Authority (WRA) and JACL.

Today, motivated by desire to help repel the insouciance of the JACL, which misleads by factual omission or selectively uses historical information that denies Issei and Kibei loyalties, the documentary does not get any better than this.

The award-winning producers are in peak form in this evocation of how the Issei and Kibei coped with the bitter legacies of internment and the daunting challenges of rebuilding a devastated life. Emiko Omori's insight and unerring eye for the humor and hypocrisy animate this documentary, making it a major contribution to our understanding of Nikkei society.

These participants set about doing what no other internment personnel had done before: remaking the political, social, cultural and economic fabric of the forgotten group, and in the process, changing the very way of viewing the Nikkei legacy.

What is refreshing is the attention given to the varied experiences of the Issei and Kibei. Thus, the voices of ordinary Nikkei powerfully convey the complexities and hardships which arose from the biases of the WRA and JACL.

The war propaganda and dehumanization this entailed left the Issei and Kibei unprepared and apprehensive about the loyalty questionnaire. Omori roots out the hypocrisy on both sides.

During the war, the Issei and other resisters were saturated with propaganda extolling the virtues of American values and the nobility of sacrificing for the greater common good. However, many in JACL displayed no concern for the good of society. They viewed sacrifice as an inconvenience to be borne by others. They concentrated instead on enriching themselves by traveling freely from camp to camp and to Salt Lake City and other cities in order to fraternize and plot the discrediting of the dissenters with WRA officials, and then to political grandstanding and blaming the Issei and Kibei for disloyalty.

This rampant blaming by a venal JACL at a time when the Nikkei public was pushed to the edge of survival generated disgust and wiped away any doubts the Issei might have had about the JACL leadership.

Camp newspaper coverage about this selfishness tarnished the image of those JACLers who had coerced the Nikkei to sign the loyalty questionnaire and sacrifice everything for the war effort. This agitation against the dissenters had some regrettable effects and contaminated certain areas of Japanese American political, educational and social life. There was a need to denounce the agitation as disruptive of the Nikkei tradition. Thus, the Nikkei, both in influential and grassroots levels, rejected the hysteria of hatred that was being whipped up by a vociferous minority of bigots: the JACL.

The question, then, is whether one can regard the wartime interaction of the dissenters and JACL as a beneficial joint existence. Were these two groups members of a common community, or did this community exist only in each

group's respective fantasies?

Omori goes so far as to reject the presumption of an Issei-JACL cohabitation, thus leveling a devastating critique at what she views as a consistently one-sided effort.

To invoke the idea of an Issei-JACL relationship is to reconsider the problems inherent not only to the historical phenomenon itself, but also to contemporary historical analysis and memory. In the five decades since the internment, the relationship between the JACL and Issei/Kibei has certainly been wrought with both tension and harmony.

In recent years, the Nikkei have explored the degree to which the identities of the JACL and dissenters are interconnected. Discussions of internment, especially as they were articulated since the 1960s, are not merely about Nikkei coming to grips with its scarred past, but about how to grasp the dissenter element running throughout its history. In a sense, "Rabbit in the Moon," has made it harder than ever to ignore the links between these two Nikkei cultures.

The Issei, Kibei and other dissenters waited some 50 years before they were officially accorded equality as human beings. It was this documentary that liberated the Issei and Kibei from the vise-grip of the JACL. This new attitude towards the dissenters did not happen overnight. It was a slow, painful, even courageous act, nurtured by a long line of Nikkei social thinkers and the third-generation activists.

Deeply moved by the historical injustices of the Issei and Kibei, Emiko Omori and her sister Chizu Omori produced this film to show that there were other explanations for the Issei attitude towards the evacuation, coupled with an appeal to the conscience of the Nikkei society to redress the wrong by granting the dissenters equal rights and voices with all other internees.

But the emancipation of the Issei has come slowly. At various times, the JACL has issued commentaries raising the issue of Issei and Kibei loyalty. The struggle went on year in and year out. Full equality at least within the open-minded group, were achieved by this program.

The recently resigned JACL national director wrote in the *Pacific Citizen* (May 7-20) about being aware of and wanting to form a committee to study this documentary as there may be a backlash; but he also wanted to be conciliatory by bringing all parties together and have a public dialogue — an excellent idea.

After digesting the JACL predilection for 50 years, it is refreshing to hear the other side. Despite considerable harassment, the Issei, Kibei, and other dissenters managed to lead a well-integrated group life. That, in itself, is testimony to their capacity to adjust to all conditions of life, a virtuosity acquired from their historic conditioning.

We have finally recognized that the threat to the civil rights of any minority group, whether of foreign birth such as the Issei or native Kibei also poses danger, since the privileges in a democratic society either work for all without exception or none at all.

The Nikkei cannot have a future unless we know our complete history. The Nikkei spirit, developed by so many years of sacrifice, should be preserved and developed further so that in America as elsewhere, our children may live lives and do deeds worthy of their ancestry.

Our grateful thanks to Emiko and Chizu Omori for their courage in producing this historic documentary. Our rating: all thumbs up! ■

Takasumi Kojima writes from Berkeley, Calif.

## Reconciling Our Past, Strengthening Our Future

By ANDY NOGUCHI

Florin JACL Civil Rights Chair

When I was growing up, my father shared with me some of his Military Intelligence Service experiences during World War II. Since my wife Twila and I have been working on redress programs for many years in Florin and San Jose, we thought we had heard just about everything on the camps. So six years ago I was surprised to hear of the 315 Nisei in camp who had resisted the draft in order to protest internment. Like many Sensei and Yonsei, we had not heard this part of the camp story.

This controversial issue has been actively taken up by the JACL. In 1994, the Florin JACL recognized the resisters of conscience, along with Gordon Hirabayashi, as our Day of Remembrance. Recently the Florin chapter co-sponsored a resolution with the Sequoia and Golden Gate chapters before the Northern California JACL district council.

This resolution recognizes the resisters, calls for an apology by national JACL for not recognizing their stand and a public ceremony. It passed in the Northern California district by an 18 to 2 vote. Currently, this resolution has been passed by 5 of 6 districts (two still pending) and a majority of chapters representing most JACL members. Because it did not pass all eight districts, it will not be enacted this year.

However, much good public discussion has taken place, some misconceptions as to the day of Remembrance recognition given the resisters. This issue has touched a nerve in the community. Many have had to relive the unfair choices forced on them by the loyalty oath. These decisions might have been the hardest ones Japanese Americans faced during the war — decisions affecting life, death, splitting up of families and community in-fighting. I appreciate the many honest comments from all sides of this tough issue. For sponsors of this resolution, the intent is to recognize those resisters who stood up for their constitutional rights, as we also respect the difficult choices made by others. The intent is for the national JACL to admit its lack of support. The intent is to heal the divisions in our community so that we can move forward. Reading the resolution makes this clear.

One misconception about this resolution is that it puts the resisters of conscience above the Nisei veterans. Nothing could be further from the truth. The resolution does not honor those who were disloyal to the United States. Most resisters of conscience were "yes-yen" on the loyalty oath without knowing their family's internment, and many resisters served during the Korean War. The resolution asks only for an apology from the national JACL. The resolution does not say everyone should have resisted the draft. It was vital for JAs to defend America during the war.

The resolution holds today's national JACL accountable for that lack of recognition during WWII. Didn't Presidents Reagan, Bush, and Clinton apologize for the U.S. Government though they were not responsible for internment? It asks national JACL to recognize those who stood up for our constitutional rights in the past, just as the JACL has advocated over the last 20 years for redress. It asks national JACL to lead the reconciliation to strengthen our community by bringing us together, and to better prepare us for future challenges.

When I think about the future, I look to our youth and the need for role models. Our 10 year old daughter Annie has many. She has my father, among the courageous Nisei veterans, who chose to serve in the 442nd Central Postal Directory, America though their families were unfairly interned. She also has our Nisei resisters like Noboru Taguma, Susumu Yenokida and Joe Norikane, who chose to stand up for the Constitution and went to federal prison. Twila and I have taught her to value both choices. ■

This article was reprinted from the Florin Chapter Newsletter.

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## Troubled in Paradise

By Brian Nilya

### Family Stories

A couple years ago, during one of my visits to Los Angeles, I was dragged by some friends to see a play titled "Old Man River." It was a one woman play which was supposed to be about camp. Then as now, I was a bit tired of (a) one man/woman plays by Asian Americans and (b) camp, so it was with some reluctance that I went to see it.

And much to my surprise, I liked it. In fact I was blown away by it.

Written and performed by Cynthia Gates Fujikawa, it is an autobiographical story of her search for family secrets focusing on her father. A character actor throughout her childhood, Jerry Fujikawa made a long career out of playing stereotypical "Oriental" roles in the movies and on TV. But he never spoke about his past, and various mysterious clues about that past led the adult "Cynthia" on a journey in search of her father's secrets. One hesitates to reveal more, as this is one drama that is filled with surprising real-life twists and turns.

To be sure, this is not a "normal" Japanese American story, at least not on the surface. For one thing, Jerry married a European American woman, something very few Nisei did for various reasons, the fact that it was illegal being one of them. Jerry's choice of acting as a career was also unusual for a Nisei, as most of her contemporaries tended to choose occupations involving less risk and uncertainty. And it is a story involving silence about camp, mental illness, broken marriages, and untimely death.

Okay, so maybe it's more "normal" than we realize. Perhaps what is truly unusual is to have such secrets aired in public. "Cynthia" matter-of-factly tells all about the skeletons in this family's closet as part of her effort to try to understand how things came to be.

Eventually, we get to camp. Through telling us the story of what happened afterward first, we learn the camp story after we see the havoc it wreaked in this family. It makes the presentation of the facts of the internment strike us on a personal level. We've already seen its impact.

But "Old Man River" is more than the story of how camp — as well as the racism both before and after the war — affected this family. It is also the story of a Sansei's quest to learn

about it, despite all the obstacles set in her path. I suspect that many of us Sansei will be able to identify with "Cynthia" as she peels back the layers of her family's past.

I had been wanting to write about "Old Man River" for a long time, but I saw it at the end of its run, and it hasn't played much since. But now, a new film version of the play has been released. Directed by Emmy Award winner Allan Holzman, it combines film of Fujikawa's performance with film clips and still photos. There's nothing fancy here, which is wise, since the play and the performance are powerful enough to carry the film.

I'm often asked what one book or film on camp I'd recommend. I never know how to answer this question, as most of the best films and books are quite specialized and don't work so well as introductory pieces, while most of the works which are meant to be overviews or introductions are flawed.

Two of the films I do often recommend as good introductory pieces are Steven Okazaki's "Days of Waiting" and Janice Tanaka's "Who's Going to Pay for These Donuts, Anyway?" I'd add "Old Man River" to the list. All are about very specific families or individuals, none of whom seem to be "typical." None are specifically about camp. But each gets us involved in stories which happen to involve camp and each shows the devastation camp left in its wake on a very personal and specific level. In each case, the specific becomes the best way to talk about the general. And in each case, what is and isn't "typical" is called into question.

None are easy to see, so one should try to seek them out when one can. In October and November, "Old Man River" will have special screenings in San Francisco, Denver, Los Angeles, Burlington (Vermont), Atlanta, and Colorado Springs. Check your local listings or the community calendar in this paper for details. And keep an eye out for additional screenings.

The title of "Old Man River" comes from the song "Jerry" constantly — and unsuccessfully — tries to sing throughout "Cynthia's" childhood, a song which begins and ends the play and film. In between, our understanding of both the song and "Jerry" transforms dramatically. It is a transformation you don't want to miss. ■

## Army Secretary Recommends Medal of Honor for 442nd Vet

Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera, agreeing with the 442nd Veterans Club of Hawaii and Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii), has recommended World War II veteran James K. Okubo, combat medic with the 442nd, be posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry exhibited in France in October-November 1944 while retrieving wounded men under fire. Okubo's heroic actions, first brought him the Silver Star after the Army had disapproved a nomination for the Medal of Honor, according to 442nd veteran Ed Kikawa, who found descriptions of Okubo's heroism at the National Archives in 1997.

"He was helping guys by dodging all the artillery shells, grenades and all that," he told the

senator. "And you know and I know that grenades and mortar shells don't respect the red cross on a medic's helmet."

Akaka requested a review of the account under a special provision of federal law. President Clinton, Congress and the Secretary of Defense must approve the nomination. Akaka added it would be highly unusual for the Secretary of the Army to be rejected. The recommendation was made Sept. 14 for the California native, who died in a car crash in 1967.

Okubo's case is not directly related to the Medal of Honor review process that was started by Akaka, which could award more Congressional Medal of Honor awards for previous WWII recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross. ■

## Very Truly Yours

By Harry Honda

### Onomatopoeically Speaking — Nobi Nobi

Donaru—to roar.

Doro doro—something covered in mud (sloppy); liquid that's opaque and sticky (syrupy); of mixed emotions or muddled. Doro—mud.

Chibi chibi—doing something little by little to make it last as long as possible (sipping a drink). Chibi—a dwarf.

Chiku chiku—a sharp object pricking something; the pain felt from such.

Bara bara—the sound of hailstones falling to the ground; things scattered in bits and pieces, or something that lacks unity.

Bari bari—sound of tearing, crunching something; of energetic action; also something hard and stiff.

Bata bata—the sound of a flag or banner flapping in the wind; making a sound by shaking such objects, objects falling down in succession; someone in a rush.

Bera bera—speaking endlessly; wagging one's tongue.

Beta beta—something sticky or clingy; someone clinging to others (often describes a man and woman who stick closely together); covering a surface with paint, pieces of paper. Beta—all over.

Biku biku—describes part of the body shaking gently; someone who is afraid or nervous (scared). Bikubiku—to feel nervous.

Bura bura—a rather heavy object that is dangling, walking without any real purpose or walking slowly (strolling); spending time without any motive (loafing around); drifting through life.

Buru buru—something shaking, trembling; also describes someone's body shaking from

cold or fear (shivering).

Paku paku—someone opening and closing their mouth many times, like someone eating heartily; a flap that keeps opening and closing. Pakupaku—to puff away at one's cigar.

Peko peko—sound or act of bending a thin metal or plastic sheet back and forth (twanging); bowing humbly many times and assuming a servile attitude; faint with hunger.

Pera pera—chattering away frivolously; speaking fluently in a foreign language; thumping through a book; describes cloth or wooden boards that are thin, cheap-looking. Perapera—fluently.

Pero pero—putting the tongue out and moving it around (licking). Perori—to loll out one's tongue in contempt.

Poka poka—a feeling of warmth throughout one's body; sound of beating someone. Poka—the sound when whacking someone or something.

Pota pota—describes dripping water.

Pun pun—describes someone who is very angry; a strong smell hanging over a place. Punpun—to be in a huff.

Pyon pyon—describes hopping or skipping (like a rabbit, for instance).

These are some of the colorful sounds I heard my mom use off and on.

And a part of P.C.'s past: Iro-iro (miscellaneous, all kinds of) was the title of onetime P.C. Editor George T. Johnston's column in the late 1980s. ■

The new mugshot comes from Sacramento JACler Kiki Rygo, taken at the 1998 Lake Tahoe reunion. Thanks.

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## Letters to the Editor

### Re: U.S.-Japan Relations Committee

Bill Hosokawa's article on JACL's U.S.-Japan Relations Committee in the Sept. 10-16 issue points out some questions facing our committee — questions that may not have any satisfactory answers. I did feel that some further explanation should be made as to why our committee exists.

The main purpose of the U.S.-Japan Relations Committee (USJRC) is to study and analyze key issues and current events in Japan and its interaction with the United States and to educate the JACL on how these events may affect us.

We feel that we are inextricably connected to USJR. Because Japanese Americans look Japanese and although there is a world of difference between being Japanese and being Japanese American, this difference is not evident to many. It is up to us to educate the public of this difference. The net result is that an amicable relationship between the United States and Japan is advantageous to Americans of Japanese ancestry.

We feel that we cannot afford to stay ignorant of what is going on around us when events and conditions are visibly affecting our well-being. Unfortunately, the grassroots JACLers are not very interested in what is happening in USJR — feeling that things are not too bad and events are not really affecting them to any great extent.

The USJRC is composed of representatives from all eight districts of the JACL and includes an advisory board of prominent academic and business personalities who are active in USJR.

Monitoring of current events is done by committee members, most notably by: Ted Shigeno of Tokyo, George Kodama of Los Angeles, John Kurata of Sacramento, Emilie Muraue of San Francisco, Frank Nishio of Fresno and Yosh Tamura of Rancho Palos Verdes. These are summarized and sent out periodically by the chair, Ed Mitoma.

Obviously, the USJRC is not in the same league as the think tanks that Hosokawa mentions. Our USJRC is trying to find out what is going on and why, and we are trying to educate ourselves.

If readers are interested in receiving more information on the USJRC, you are invited to write to me — Ed Mitoma, 28123 Lomo Dr., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90276 — and I will send you a memo explaining the USJRC and the mission statement. We can also place you on our mailing list for future mailings.

Ed Mitoma  
Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.

### Debate on Resisters Detracts From More Important Issues

"Rabbit in the Moon" was shown recently in Chicago on a program called "P.O.V. — Point of View."

It certainly fit in very appropriately with the program because it presents a very definite point of view of America's concentration camp experience.

I know there were those who did not agree with the movie's point of view, but it was important and good that their point of view was presented.

I think it is abundantly clear by now from the many letters, editorials and opinions that there are many who understand, recognize and respect the

point of view of the draft resisters and others who had other points of view.

To continue the debate about apology can only detract and distract from more important issues that need to be addressed.

In fact I would challenge those who continue to criticize the JACL to join the organization and give it their expertise, energy, and point of view.

My point of view during the critical years of the '40s was to volunteer with four good friends from Jerome, Ark., despite much negative pressure.

Susumi "Bebe" Okura and Eeo Masuda were killed in action in the rescue of the "Lost Battalion."

My only regret is that they did not live to see their families released from America's concentration camps.

They died fighting for their families, the Japanese American community and their country.

It is important to remember and to work together to see that America lives up to its promise of liberty and justice for all, and not liberty and justice for some.

Sam Oyaki  
Chicago, Ill.

### Draft Resisters Need Better Spokesman than Frank Chin

While conceding he has a "rotten personality" (P.C. Sept. 17), Frank Chin should also admit that all he knows about our evacuation is distorted hearsay accounts. Also that he has no respect for Japanese traditions of honorable conduct.

The case of those demanding JACL apologize to Japanese American draft resisters must be without merit, if they depend on an irrational Chinese American, so utterly unqualified, to speak for them.

And why does P.C. editor Caroline Aoyagi dignify Chin's three columns of senseless ramblings by labelling it an editorial? I'm sure she doesn't agree with his wacky accusations against the JACL. 442nd RCT, Mike Masaoka, Bill Hosokawa, Barry Sakai, and Fred Hirasuna. They are the ones whose dedication and self-sacrifice brought us wonderful benefits that would take many volumes to describe!

In contrast, draft resisters and no-no boys intensified hatred against us. Apologizing to them would defame the good and glorify the bad. Let us listen to our old timers who served so well instead of to young, Pollyanna intellectuals, who only read slanted versions of our World War II ordeal.

It is time for JACLers to dedicate ourselves to our motto: "Better Americans in a greater America!"

Mae Odoi  
Renton, Wash.

### Tagawa Hypocritical in "Whitewashing" Article

I know I'm late, but I wanted to respond to your story, "TV 'Whitewashing' Concern on the Rise" (Sep. 3-9). The article quotes Japanese American actor Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa as he urges the Asian American community to become more active and "speak out" against inadequate Asian images in the media.

However, six years ago, the Asian American community did just that. In 1993, 20th Century Fox released the "yellow peril" movie "Rising Sun," a potboiler that portrayed the Japanese as a malignant presence in this coun-

try, as inscrutable predators trying to take over America by having white people murdered. The heroes of "Rising Sun" were two non-Asian detectives (Sean Connery and Wesley Snipes). The day this racially divisive film was released, Asian Americans all across the country — in spirit of Cary Tagawa's advice — "stood up" and "spoke out" against it.

Judging by his comments in your article, Mr. Tagawa should have been proud of their activism. Unfortunately, there was one inconvenient hitch in all this: Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa was in the movie.

Tagawa rationalized his participation in "Rising Sun" by claiming that his character, a virile playboy and the prime murder suspect, broke the stereotype of the sexless Asian man. However, his character ultimately affirmed another stereotype: that of the self-sacrificial Asian sidekick. From the time Sam Jaffe (in brownface) sacrificed his life to save Cary Grant in "Gunga Din" (1939) to the time Dennis Dun sacrificed his life to save Mickey Rourke in "Year of the Dragon" (1985), virtually the only "positive" Asian male that Hollywood could imagine has been the supporting character who lays down his life so that the non-Asian hero can live.

True to form, "Rising Sun" had Tagawa's character willingly take a machete blade intended for Connery and Snipes. Moreover, his character's death helped to affirm the movie's pernicious premise: the Japanese get what they want by murdering people. The constant repetition of the self-sacrificial Asian on the screen suggests that Hollywood doesn't think Asian life is worth preserving.

On the evening of "Rising Sun's" opening, Tagawa engaged in a live local-TV debate with one of the protesters, Guy Aoki (also mentioned in your article). Tagawa could have shown his respect for the activists by having a cordial exchange of differing ideas with Aoki, which might have made for a lively discussion. Instead, Tagawa went on the attack.

Rather than discuss the merits of the film, Tagawa repeatedly accused Aoki of "not having read the novel version of 'Rising Sun'" (Aoki said he had, but Tagawa kept leveling the charge anyway). Every time Aoki tried to make a point on the air, Tagawa would rudely interrupt, filibuster, and distort what Aoki had said. At least for the duration of the "debate," Tagawa successfully shifted the issue from "Rising Sun's" portrayal of Asians (a legitimate concern) to the "irresponsibility" of Aoki not reading a book that he had in fact read. Reminiscent of attack politics, this acrimonious incident laid bare Tagawa's true allegiance: not to his community, but to his individual career.

Now, Tagawa is speaking out against the paucity of good Asian roles in American entertainment, lending his voice to the people he once attacked during the "Rising Sun" controversy. In light of his past behavior, I have to wonder whether Tagawa is truly interested in improving the Asian American media image — or whether he just wants another job.

And the Pacific Citizen suggests its own historical amnesia by uncritically illustrating your article with a still of Tagawa in "Rising Sun," complete with a caption written by 20th Century Fox.

Last of all, I have a question for Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa: why should those of us who are activists follow your advice and "stand up" against the poor portrayal of "Asian Americans" in the media if, when we finally do, you only shoot us down?

Robert Payne  
Studio City, Calif.

## Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Clark, Yoshiko, 66, Las Vegas, Aug. 29; Japan-born; survived by husband Anthony; sons Mario Palabrica Jr. (Hawaii), Antonio Palabrica (Calif.); daughters Marlene DeMello, Antoinette Faith (both Hawaii); 10 gc.; 21 gc.; brother Yutaka Motomura (Calif.).

Hara, Shoji, 86, Fountain Valley, Sept. 19; Arieta-born; survived by sons Kay and wife Diane, Richard and wife Lily; daughters Margaret Nerio and husband Dick, Barbara Matsumoto and husband Stanley, Carolyn Arima, 13 gc.; 2 gc.; brother Toshio and wife Kiyoko.

Hashiguchi, Nasuo, Rockville, Md., Aug. 5; Calif.-born, served as treasurer of Joseph Hecho Society of America; survived by wife Yuki Mizote, son Dean and wife Donna; daughter Lois Ayako Kennedy and husband Gordon; 3 gc.

Ide, Sam Masami, 70, Carson, Sept. 23; El Monte-born; survived by wife Jayne; son Bruce; daughter Jill Kawana and husband Jeff; 1 gc.

Luzumi, Yoko, 81, Van Nuys, Sept. 15; Los Angeles-native; survived by wife Yoshio; son John; daughter Anne Kawashima and husband Ron; 3 gc.; brothers Toru Shishido, Mamo Shishido; sisters Aiko Endow, Miho Goto, Setsu Ahn.

Kamon, John Takao, 69, Altadena, Sept. 19; Santa Maria-born; survived by wife Mieke; son Johnny; brothers Tetsuo and wife Ritsuko, George and wife Tu.

Kusano, Tome, 94, Orange, Sept. 19; Fukuoka-ken-born; survived by sons Asao and wife Kiyoko, Shigeo and wife Gladys; daughters Lily Yuriko Hataya, Julia Hatomi Maruyama and husband Dr. Frank; 11 gc.; 7 gc.; daughter-in-law Emiko.

Matsuye, Makiyama, 88, Los Angeles, Sept. 20; Sacramento-born; survived by sons Ben Hayato and wife Sachiko, James and wife Takako; daughter Takaye Kawashima and husband Richard; 9 gc.; 3 gc.; brother Shigeru Nakagawa and wife Miyoko; sister Kiyoko Yoshimura (Japan); daughter-in-law Kiyomi; sister-in-law Kimiko Nakagawa (Japan).

Nagahama, Norma, 73, Montebello, Sept. 20; Glendale, Arizona-born; survived by husband Raymond; son Glenn; daughters Naomi, Laura Villanueva and husband Bradley, Sharon; 1 gc.; brother Tom Kuhara and wife Mary; sisters Mamie Fukuda, Aki Nishimura and husband Tak; brothers-in-law James and wife Rose, Robert; sisters-in-law Ethel Oyadomori, Daisy Masuhara, Jane Tanida, Hazel Masabal and husband Walter.

Okubo, Jerry, 45, Chicago, Sept. 12; survived by wife Roxile Glasco; son Marc; daughter Leslie; father Howard; mother Yasuko; brother Michael.

Oshiro, Henry Hiroshi, 71, Gardena, Sept. 19; Kaneohe, Hawaii-born; survived by wife Betty H.; daughters Doreen Watanabe, Charlene Aris and husband Rich Aris Jr., Kathy Inouye and husband Dwayne; 1 gc.; brother Robert and wife Carol; sisters Lillian Tamashiro, Betty Toya and husband Frank, Rose Yoshida and husband George (all three from Hawaii).

Sakaue, Yoshio, Alexandria, Va., Aug. 9; Los Angeles-born, served as vice-president of Joseph Hecho Society of America; survived by wife Miyoko; sister-in-law Jane.

Uchiyama, George S. D.D.S., M.S., Sept. 25; survived by wife Betty F. Miyazaki; son Dr. Robert and wife Jayne; daughters Elaine Brunjes and husband Bill, Linda Kelley and husband Steve; 8 gc.; brothers Dr. Sam, Dr. Matthias; sisters May Kimura, Lea Nakachi.

Wakisaka, Shigekazu, 66, Monterey Park, Sept. 16; Wakayama-ken-born; survived by wife Shirley Sachiyo; sons Steve Shigeyuki and wife Kathy, David Takayuki; daughter Chiharu Ichizawa; 2 gc. ■

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.

### Kay Horike, 83, Outlasted the Pearl Harbor League

Remembered as the first Japanese American evacuee from Minidoka in January 1945 to return to Tacoma during World War II, Tsuyoshi "Kay" Horike bore the full brunt of the Remember Pearl Harbor League's efforts to keep Japanese Americans out of the Pacific Northwest. Horike passed away on Sept. 5.

Government officials watched league leader Sumner (Wash.) Standard editor-publisher Corydon "Nifty" Garrett and his cronies harass Horike. Federal agents wanted to see how far the league would go. Horike never talked of the persecution, according to Seattle historian Ron Magden, for the full story is deep in the National Archives. Government accounts describe Horike as determined to outlast the bigots — and succeeded. The Remember Pearl Harbor League disappeared in August 1945.

A graduate of the College of Puget Sound, Horike managed the family hotel until a pyromaniac burned it down in 1954. He then opened Fuji Ten-Cent Store in Seattle, continuing to face the outrage of anti-Japanese postwar hysteria and housed his family near his new shop, breaking the red-line discrimination against people of color.

He was active with the Kiwanis, Seattle Buddhist Church

(board chair from 1973-79), Kawabe House Memorial Foundation, Nikkeijin-Kai, and was decorated by the Emperor of Japan in 1991 for his contributions to U.S.-Japan relations.

Preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Ayako Sakamoto, he is survived by three children, Neil, Cheryl and Janis. ■

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## ADOPTION

(Continued from page 1)

which kids come to play together and parents, both couples and singles, come to commiserate. The group discusses general parenting and cultural education and provides those who have just begun the pre-adoption process with an opportunity to ask questions.

FCC-LA also provides childcare with cultural crafts and hosts special workshops on adoption basics, citizenship and other topics of interest. In March, over 70 families celebrated the Chinese New Year by attending the 100th Golden Dragon Parade in Chinatown.

The growing rate of transracial adoptions in the United States, that is, parents adopting and raising children of a different race, has led to the emergence of fundamental questions relating to how children, particularly minority children, will negotiate their ethnic identity as they get older.

On one side of this general debate is the theoretical question of whether the child will inevitably experience a loss of identity and/or community by being placed in a family of a different racial or cultural background.

On the other side of the debate are some adoption agencies and parents of adopted children who argue that theoretical anxieties about racial identity should not preclude placing a waiting child with a family willing and capable of raising it.

Whether one wants to partake in this debate or dispel it altogether, learning how to parent culturally and being sensitive to a child's ethnic heritage is still an integral facet of the post-adoption process, as members of FCC-LA try to put into practice.

For Mark and Pam Nakagawa,

being a different ethnicity from their 14-month-old son Nicholas, who was born domestically and is half-Chinese and half-Caucasian, has been an issue to consider but they don't necessarily see it as a problem.

"We talked about that," said Mark, 44, a minister at the West Los Angeles United Methodist Church. "But it hasn't been much of a [concern] partly because we live in California which has such a diverse population."

Mark was featured last year in an ABC Father's Day documentary called "The Story of Father and Sons," in which he was interviewed and videotaped performing Nicholas' baptism.

"For Caucasians who are raising an Asian child and living in the Midwest though, for example, that might be a little different," added Pam, 38, currently a stay-at-home mom.

With over 50 percent of Japanese Americans and other AAs marrying out these days, said Mark, those lines between different ethnicities are becoming blurred.

Mark did mention, however, that Nicholas' birth parents, an interracial married couple who fell on some financial hardship and decided it was best to give up their baby for adoption, were happy to see their child go to an AA family.

Unlike many who experience long periods of waiting, it took the Nakagawas only a year to find their son through their adoption facilitator, the Adoption Network in Laguna Niguel, Calif. It was a smooth open adoption; they were present for his birth and they said they are still on good terms with the biological parents.

Like the Nakagawas, the Floyds have also considered the issues that arise out of adopting transracially. They believe that as the child of a third-generation

ation JA mother and a Caucasian father of Irish descent, Rachel will have the benefit of several different cultures. Jeri, in particular, agrees that being a different ethnicity from her daughter won't necessarily be a difficult issue because she herself is AA.

"Because I have an Asian face, I don't get as many questions as someone maybe who is white," said Jeri, who has remained active with various AA community organizations over the years. "People think she is my biological child."

But, she added, "We want her to feel comfortable about being adopted. We don't want her to feel that it was a second choice."

"[Another] goal is to help her feel comfortable with what she looks like and with what others look like. Her ethnic heritage is Chinese-American and Rachel has many friends who are Chinese adoptees. As she grows older, these relationships will be very important," she stressed.

They will be especially important when the time comes to explain the circumstances of her birth family. "It will be hard to tell Rachel as she gets older that there's no information about her [biological] parents."

Although she is still very young, Rachel has already begun to ask questions about the family raising her, ones that may eventually lead back to that delicate intersection when two sets of lives and cultures converged.

"Sometimes," Jeri said, "Rachel asks me, 'Who took care of you when you were a little girl? Who was your mommy?'"

"I tell her Nana Chiyo," she said. Although she was never able to meet her granddaughter, Jeri takes comfort in the idea

that her mom has been watching over and guiding her family in spirit. "I always felt that she could be my guardian angel and that she's telling me, 'This was meant to be.'"

If you would like general information about the international network Families With Children From China (FWCC), look up their Web page at <http://fwcc.org>. For more information about FCC-LA, write to P.O. Box 642560, Los Angeles, CA 90064; call: 310/234-8552; or e-mail: [djfyed@prodci.com](mailto:djfyed@prodci.com).

## CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 1)

cal influence... and I think part of that is reflected in what we're seeing at the city council and mayoral positions across the United States."

Royce also commented on the high percentage of registered APA voters. According to him, an estimated 76 percent of APAs are registered voters.

"This is surprisingly high, given how recent many came to the United States," said Royce. "This is a much higher percentage than we see in other ethnic groups in the United States. Part of that is probably due to the good works, training and involvement in registration that CAUSE and other organizations are doing in the community."

Another participant at the conference was John Amores, a candidate running for an open U.S. House of Representative seat in West Virginia. If he is elected, he will become the first Filipino American to serve in the United States Congress.

"I am here asking for support because this race is a plausible one, a winnable one," said the three-term

member of the West Virginia House of Delegates.

Amores described West Virginians as "unfamously fair-minded," saying that his political experience has been positive despite the fact that APAs only comprise four-tenths of one percent of the entire state's population. Early polls show that Amores is a favored front-runner.

Speakers included: Alice Borden, fundraiser; Ted Chen, Channel 4 News broadcaster; John Chiang, California Board of Equalization member; Judy Chu, mayor of Monterey Park; Harvey Englander, consultant; Matthew Fong, former California State Treasurer; Warren Furutani, Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees; Dr. Fernando J. Guerra, director of the Center for the Study of Los Angeles at Loyola Marymount University; Thomas Hiltach, political and election law specialist; Susan Hiratsuna, KTVB/FOX Channel 11 broadcaster; Allen Hoffenbium, consultant; Mike Honda, California State Assembly member; Michael Qin, Redondo Beach city councilman; Bill Imada, public relations specialist; Kam Kuwata, consultant; David Lang, public relations and political consulting specialist; George Nakano, California State Assembly member; Parke Skelton, consultant; Michael Woo, director of Los Angeles Programs for the Local Initiatives Support and former Los Angeles city councilman; and Judy Yu, consultant.

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