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Nov. 26-Dec. 2, 1999

Feinstein Wants Data on Japan War Crimes

In a recent legislative push, Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) has introduced a bill seeking to declassify and release all U.S. government documents dealing with the Japanese government's war crimes during World War II.



The legislation, the "Japanese Imperial Army War Crime Disclosure Act," was presented by Feinstein on Nov. 10 and calls for the creation of a federal government interagency to look over, declassify, and make public all U.S. war documents on Japanese war crimes. The interagency would be fully funded for three years to gather all of the documents.

The agency will be looking at events starting from Sept. 18, 1931, the day Japan invaded Manchuria, to Dec. 31, 1948, the last year in which the United States received Imperial Army documents from Japan.

Last year a similar bill calling for the release of all Nazi war crimes records in U.S. government archives through an interagency group was unanimously passed by both the House and Senate and became law.

Ignatius Ding, of the Global Alliance for Preserving the History of WWII in Asia, was quoted by *Kyodo News* as saying Feinstein's bill helps to "shed much light on the Japanese war crimes and criminals who were never publicly identified, let alone prosecuted."

On Nov. 9, the Senate introduced a related bill that allows victims of the Nazi regime and its allies, including Japan, to sue companies in U.S. courts who profited at their expense.

"War-time documents are essential if we want to bring these cases to our court [and] we believe the U.S. government has hundreds of thousands of documents on Japanese war crimes," said Ding to *Kyodo News*.

Among the documents historians and researchers are looking to recover is information on infamous Unit 731's biological weapons testing on humans in Harbin, China, during WWII.

Shunji Yanai, Japanese Ambassador to Washington, has publicly criticized the increasing number of former POWs who

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Bell Tolls for New Xerox Shooting Victims at Rally for Tougher Gun Law

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU—A small brass bell tolled seven times Nov. 19 as advocates for tougher gun control laws in Hawaii gathered at the state Capitol to remember victims of the Xerox Corp. shootings.

The rally staged by the Bell Campaign, founded in San Francisco earlier this year by the families of shooting victims, and the Hawaii Firearms Control Coalition urged lawmakers to pass three bills.

The measures would require periodic re-registration of handguns, registration for ammunition purchases, and the secure storage of guns.

Byran Uyesugi, the copier repairman charged with killing seven of his Xerox co-workers, has pleaded innocent to all nine counts of a grand jury indictment.

A Circuit Court judge on Nov. 15 then, revoked Uyesugi's \$7 million bail and set a Jan. 18 trial date.

The 40-year-old is accused of going on a shooting spree Nov. 2 at the Xerox Corp. parts warehouse where he worked. Six of his fellow technicians and a supervisor were killed.

Big Island resident Pegi Scully, whose 28-year-old son John was one of eight people killed when a gunman opened fire in a San Francisco law firm in 1993, said she was honoring

her son at the rally by working for tougher gun laws.

She said her son, the Xerox employees and other shooting victims "are victims of a brutal infection of a gun disease that we have."

"The mothers, the fathers, the husbands, the babies and all of you, the friends, anyone that knows this situation is a victim," she said.

right to have firearms, she said she wants them to be more responsible in making sure they are used and stored safely.

"Their love for their firearms is no match for the love we have for our children," she said.

House Majority Leader Ed Case, (D-Manoa) who advocates a ban on private ownership of handguns, said the key to getting tougher gun laws is for the general public to contact their lawmakers to offset a major lobbying effort by the pro-gun groups.

The gun lobby "has been much more present in the Legislature than those who support increased gun control," he said.

The difference this coming year is the absence of former state Rep. Terrance Tum, who as House Judiciary Committee chairman blocked tighter gun controls, Case said.

Sen. Matt Matsunaga (D-Kahala-Waialae-Palo), co-chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, has said he supports looking at tougher gun laws.

While Hawaii already has some of the toughest gun controls in the nation, they are weak when compared with the regulation of firearms in most other parts of the world, Case said.

Hawaii may someday approve a total ban on handguns, "but unfortunately not in time to save more lives," he said. ■

"Hawaii is too small a community for guns. Hawaii is too big of a community to let this go on without a solution."

Annelie Amaral

Annelie Amaral, a former police officer and state lawmaker now speaking for the League of Women Voters, suggested stronger actions than the three bills.

"Perhaps this is a wonderful opportunity to truly look at the issue of the possession of handguns in a new way," she said. "We believe that Hawaii is ready for us to take a significant step to control handguns."

"Hawaii is too small a community for guns. Hawaii is too big of a community to let this go on without a solution."

Nadine Onodera, whose son was shot to death in his home in 1983 by an intruder, said Hawaii's laws could be stronger and lives can be saved by passing the bills.

While she respects gun owners'

China May Have Gotten Warhead Secrets From Contractors

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—New evidence widens the FBI's investigation into spying allegations and suggests China may have stolen information about America's most advanced nuclear warhead from one of the weapon's contractors or from the Navy. The *Washington Post* reported.

The probe had focused almost entirely on the Los Alamos National Laboratory in northern New Mexico and Wen Ho Lee, a staff scientist fired from there in March.

But errors found in a Chinese intelligence document describing the W-88 warhead have been traced to a defense installation and contractors that assemble nuclear weapons, sources told the *Post*.

The information most likely came from one of the weapon's assembly points, an unidentified source told the *Post*. These sites include Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M., which builds warhead prototypes, Lockheed Martin Corp., which mounts the warheads on missiles, and the Navy, which supervises the process.

"We have no indication we are under any more scrutiny than any other member of the weapons complex," Sandia spokesman Rod Geer told *The Associated Press*. Investigators are looking at dozens of weapons complex sites such as Sandia that are considered "systems integrators," he said.

"We are not under investigation ourselves, and we have not been implicated with any wrongdoing," Geer said.

A Lockheed Martin spokesman told the newspaper his company is cooperating with the government in its investigation and is not under investigation nor implicated in any wrongdoing.

Mark Holscher, Lee's attorney, told the *Post* the new evidence "is further proof that the focus of the investigation on Dr. Lee was inappropriate and that to continue to prosecute him for lesser charges is unfair." ■

FBI Says Race Still Most Frequent Motive for Hate Crimes

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—Racial prejudice motivated more than half the 7,755 hate crimes committed in 1998 that were reported to the FBI, the bureau said Nov. 18.

As in 1997 and 1996, racial prejudice was the most common motivation for hate crimes, accounting for 4,431 incidents in 1998.

In order of magnitude, there were 1,390 incidents attributed to prejudice over religion, 1,260 over sexual orientation, 754 over ethnic or national origin, 25 over disabilities and five over multiple prejudices, the FBI said.

The 1998 data came from 10,730 law enforcement agencies in 46 states and the District of Columbia, representing 80 percent of the nation's population.

In 1997, there were 8,049 hate crime incidents, of which 4,710 were racially motivated. But 1997 data came from 11,211 law enforcement agencies in 48 states and the District of Columbia, representing 83 percent of the population.

There were nearly 300 fewer incidents in 1998 than 1997, but there were nearly 500 fewer police agencies reporting in 1998.

Because the number of agencies reporting varies under the voluntary system established by the Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990, officials caution against drawing conclusions about trends in hate

No Federal Charges Will Be Filed Against Denny's Restaurant

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—Federal criminal charges will not be filed against Denny's for an alleged incident involving minority patrons who claimed they were racially discriminated against and then physically assaulted, federal prosecutors say.

The decision was made jointly by the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Justice Department on Nov. 17, following an FBI investigation into the April 11, 1997, incident.

Seven Asian American and two black students filed a civil rights lawsuit in August 1997, claiming they were denied service at a Denny's restaurant in Syracuse, N.Y., while other customers were seated ahead of them, and then beaten in the restaurant's parking lot by a group of white customers as two security guards watched.

"After a lengthy investigation, we concluded that the evidence does not support federal prosecution," said Bill Lann Lee, acting assistant attorney general of the Civil Rights Division.

A lawyer representing the students said the decision by the Justice Department was not surprising.

"They ordinarily don't pursue criminal charges in civil rights cases," said Ken Kimerling of the Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund (AALDEF) in New York City.

Meanwhile, the students are

See DENNY'S/ page 8

Pacific Citizen

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JACL Calendar

National

Mon., June 26-Sun., July 2—36th Biennial JACL National Convention: Doubletree Inn, Monterey, Calif.; special rate for JACL conventioners. Reservations: 831/649-4511, <www.doubletreemonterey.com>

Eastern

WASHINGTON, D.C.
Sat., Dec. 18—Mochizuki; Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda; Info: Laura Nakatani, 703/519-9378.

Midwest

CHICAGO
Sun., Dec. 12—Inaugural Dinner and Fund Raiser, 4 p.m., Phoenix Restaurant, 2131 S. Archer. Chinatown; featuring preview of year 2000 Asian events by the Mayor's Office of Special Events; special Chinese banquet with dim sum appetizers, raffle, more; Info: John Suzuki, 312/228-2348.

Cincinnati

Sat., Dec. 4—Joint Installation, 50th anniversary celebration with Dayton chapter; details at Dayton.

Dayton

Sat., Dec. 4—50th Anniversary Celebration, "Celebrating the Past, Anticipating the Future" joint installation with Cincinnati chapter. Detroits invited; 6:30 p.m. reception, 7:30 banquet; Downtown Dayton Kettering Tower; recognition of Dayton chapter founders; comparison of civil rights 50 years ago vs. today; George Tate, keynote speaker; RSVP: Seps Nagaka, 937/233-6286 or Yae Sato, 937/278-4314.

Detroit

Sat., Dec. 4—See Dayton chapter.

St. Louis

Sat., Dec. 11—JACL Christmas Party, 4 p.m.; Taiwanese Presbyterian Church, 242 Ries Rd., Ballwin.

Twin Cities

Sat., Dec. 4—Screening, "Beyond Barbed Wire"; kickoff to Day of Remembrance Project; see Com-

munity Calendar.

WISCONSIN

Sun., Dec. 5—JACL Christmas Party, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Mitchell Park Pavilion, 525 S. Layton Blvd.; open to membership and family.

Intermountain

MOUNT OLYMPUS

Fri., Dec. 3—Annual Christmas Party, 6:30 p.m.; Dai Ichi Ward, 2005 South 900 East.

Mountain Plains

NEW MEXICO

Fri., Dec. 31—New Year's Eve Party: Wyndham Airport Hotel. Info: Calvin Kobayashi, 256-1610.

Pacific Northwest

Thurs., Dec. 2—PSW District member Ken Inouye to be honored at the Williams Institute Inc. Inaugural Village Keeper awards gala; 6:30 cocktails, 7:30 p.m. dinner; Café Rose, 3 Imperial Promenade, Santa Ana; RSVP: JACL PSW office, 213/626-4471.

PLAYALL VALLEY

Sat., Dec. 18—Mochizuki, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; Tacoma Buddhist Temple Social Hall, 1717 S. Fawcett Ave.; preparations begin Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Info: Steve Kono, 253/922-5310.

SEATTLE

Sat., Jan. 29, 2000—Save the date! Seattle JACL installation dinner, 6 p.m.; Doubletree Suites, Tukwila; speaker, Martha Choe; Lori Matsukawa, M.C.; Doubletree Suites, Tukwila; tickets available in December.

NC-WN-Pacific

Sun., Dec. 5—JACL Health Benefits Trust chapter commissioners meeting. Info: John Yasumoto, 415/929-1853.

CONTRA COSTA

Sun., Dec. 5—CCJACL Installation Luncheon, 12:30-3 p.m.; Silver Dragon Restaurant, 835 Webster St., Oakland; John Tateishi, speaker. RSVP by Dec. 1: Names A-M: Mary Ann Furuchi, 510/625-3020; names N-Z, June Kodani, 510/548-4104.

FREMONT

Thurs., Dec. 9—Installation/Board Appreciation/65th Anniversary Din-

ner, 6 p.m.; Rose Garden Restaurant, 33348 Alvarado-Niles Rd., Union City. Info: Diane Endo, 925/648-0467.

SONOMA COUNTY

Sat., Dec. 11—Mochizuki, 6 p.m. Enmanji Memorial Hall. Order in advance; 10-lb. limit per person. **Order deadline: December 7.** Info: 707/964-9325.

Pacific Southwest

ARIZONA

Sat., Dec. 18—Chojukai Bonenkai: see Community Calendar.

GREAT L.A. SINGLES

Sat., Dec. 4—Holiday Party Dinner: Dance & 18th Installation, 6 p.m. no-host cocktail, 6:30 p.m. dinner; Public welcome; see Community Calendar.

LAS VEGAS

Fri.-Sun., Dec. 10-12—Las Vegas Crap Shoot Golf Caper. Info: Kaz Mayeda, 9708 Craighead Ln., Las Vegas, NV, 89117, phone 702/256-0314.

RIVERSIDE

Sun., Dec. 5—16th Annual Japanese Dance/Potluck in San Bernardino; see Community Calendar.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

Fri., Dec. 31—New Year's Eve party: fund-raiser; see Community Calendar.

SELANOCO

Sat., Dec. 4—Mochizuki, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, 13711 Fairview St., Garden Grove. Potluck lunch. **Order deadline: Nov. 30.** June Fukushima, 562/865-5039; Charles Ida, 714/974-1076; Ken Inouye, 714/968-0934; BJ Watanabe, 714/779-4140.

Wed., Dec. 15—Deadline for SELANOCO chapter scholarship applications. Info: Hiroshi Kamae, scholarship chair, 714/637-7412.

WEST LA

Mon., Dec. 13—WLA JACL Holiday Party, 5:30 "Attitude Adjustment," 6 p.m. Hawaiian Luau Buffet Dinner. Mrs. Garcia's, 13365 Washington Blvd. (Bil. 310) 827-8993. **RSVP by Dec. 7:** Bill Sakurai, 310/820-3237.

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

COMMUNITY Calendar

The Midwest

ST. PAUL

Sat., Dec. 4—Screening, "Beyond Barbed Wire," 1:30 p.m.; Minnesota History Center 3M Auditorium, 345 Kellogg Blvd. West; Q&A and recognition of WWII vets to follow. Free. Info: Tom Ohno, 612/831-5869.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Wed.-Sun., Dec. 1-5—The Japanese Garden's Gaijutsu Sai Artist's Festival. Info: 503/223-1321.

Through Dec. 3—Ceramics gallery show and workshop with Yoshio Ikeda; PCC Rock Creek Campus, 17705 N.W. Springville Rd. Info: 503/614-7329.

Through Jan. 15—Exhibit, "Determined to Succeed—Oregon's Issei," Fridays & Saturdays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sundays, noon-3 p.m.; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 117 NW 2nd Ave. Info: 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

BERKELEY

Sat. & Sun., Nov. 27-Dec. 19—Berkeley Artisans Open Studio, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Suzuki, 2240 Grant St. Info: 510/849-1427.

EAST BAY

Sat., Dec. 4—East Bay Nisei Singles Christmas Party/Installation: 11:30 a.m. social hour, 12 noon luncheon; entertainment, door prizes; no gift exchanges; no cost for members. RSVP: Marion Lee, 510/656-5449, 510/452-3854.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sat., Dec. 4—Play reading, "Superfriends of Flushing Queens" by Ji Hyun Lee; 7 p.m., Center for African, African Art and Culture, 762 Fulton St., 3rd Floor; presented by the San Francisco Asian American Theater

Company. Info: AATC, 415/440-5545.
Thurs.-Sun. Jan. 6-9—San Francisco Film Society Retrospective, "Unfolding Horizons: The Films of Hou Hsiao-Hsien"; Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. Call the Museum for times, etc.: 415/379-8879.

SAN MATEO

Sun., Dec. 12—Sunday Matinee Movie, 1:30 p.m.; San Mateo JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St. (No movie in November). Info: 650/343-2793.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES

Mon., Nov. 29, Dec. 14—Visual Communications "Monday Nite VC," 7:30; Union Center for the Arts, 120 Judge John Aiso St., Little Tokyo. Free admission. Program Info: 213/680-4462 ext. 25, <http://viscomapanet.org>.

Thurs., Dec. 2—UCLA Asian American Studies Center book signing & presentation, "The Americas of Asian American Literature: Gendered Fictions of Nation and Transnation," with Professor Rachel C. Lee, 4 p.m.; Kinsey Hall 355, UCLA. Info: 310/825-2974, <www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aaso>.

Thurs., Dec. 2—Play reading, "Sleepwalk," presented by East West Sleepers; 7:30 p.m., Japanese American National Museum Legacy Center, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. RSVP: 213/625-0414.

Sat., Dec. 4—Greater L.A. Singles Holiday Party Dinner Dance & 18th Installation, 6 p.m. no-host cocktails, 6:30 p.m. dinner; Hacienda Hotel, 525 N. Sepulveda Blvd., El Segundo; D.J. music of High Resolutions; \$35; public welcome. RSVP: Info: Joyce Okazaki, 562/430-5783 or Janet Okazaki, 310/835-7568.

Sat., Dec. 4—Nihon Bujo concert, 1:30 p.m.; Japan American Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo; memorial concert for Fujima Fujiko Sensei. RSVP: 213/680-3700.

Sun., Dec. 5—Book signing with Momo Yashima, 10 a.m.-noon, Dale Futanishi, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Canon Community Center, 801 E. Canon St., Canon. Info: Heritage Source, 661/

263-0623.

Sun., Dec. 5—Flower arrangement demonstration, 2-3 p.m.; New Otani Hotel & Garden Rendezvous Lounge, 120 S. Los Angeles St., Little Tokyo; featuring Mme. Eika Fukui of Sogetsu school of Ikebana. Info: Yoko Sugi, 213/253-9295, or hotel desk, 213/629-1200.

Wed., Dec. 6—Japan America Society champagne & light breakfast open house, 9-10 a.m.; 505 S. Flower St., Level C, Los Angeles. **RSVP by Dec. 6:** 213/627-6217 ext. 17, fax 213/627-1353.

Thurs.-Sun., Dec. 9-12—Performances "A Live Bomber's Christmas," 7:30 p.m. except 2 p.m. on Saturday; Japanese American National Museum Legacy Center, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. RSVP: 213/625-0414.

Fri., Dec. 31—New Year's Eve party, 6 p.m. social hour, 7 p.m. dinner; East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave., West Covina; dancing, entertainment, open bar, party favors, etc.; to benefit JACL high school scholarship fund; Non-dancers also welcome. RSVP: Barbara, 626/810-1509, Toshi, 909/861-9676.

Through 2000—Exhibit, "Re-Visioning Manzanar," featuring works by Ansel Adams, Robert Hasuile, Masumi Hayashi, David Alan Yamamoto and others; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414, 800/461-5266. Web site: <http://www.janm.org>.

SAN BERNARDINO
Sun. Dec. 5—16th Annual Japanese Dance/Potluck, 1 p.m.; Patton Hospital Auditorium 3102 E. Highland Ave.; special guests, karaoke group, talko. Info: Mihoko, 909/864-2018.

Arizona - Nevada

Sat., Dec. 18—Chojukai Bonenkai end of year party; JACL Hall, 5414 W. Glenn Dr., Glendale; bring canned goods/staples for Westside Food Bank. Info: 623/931-1935.

Permanent Exhibit—About Arizona during WWII, includes internment camps; Arizona Historical Society, Marjorie Center Museum, 1300 N. College. Telpe. Info: 480/295-0252; tour info: Mike Steinberg, ext. 137. ■

Court Upholds Order Keeping Honolulu Star-Bulletin Operating

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO—A federal appeals court on Nov. 15 refused to let the Honolulu Star-Bulletin shut down while courts consider the state of Hawaii's antitrust suit.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco unanimously upheld a federal judge's injunction last month keeping the 117-year-old afternoon newspaper operating.

Gannett Pacific Corp., owner of the morning Honolulu Advertiser, planned to pay Star-Bulletin owners Liberty Newspapers Limited Partnership as part of a deal prematurely ending their joint operating agreement, which was scheduled to run through 2012. The Star-Bulletin's owner then planned to halt publication Oct. 30.

"I would presume that it means... that both parties have an option of backing out of the original termination agreement if they so choose," said Michael Fisch, the Advertiser's publisher and president of the Hawaii Newspaper Agency.

The state argued that the \$26.5 million was a payment to eliminate competition, in violation of antitrust laws. The U.S. Justice Department has begun its own antitrust investigation and also asked the court to keep the newspaper running while the case is pending.

The appeals court ruling keeps the Star-Bulletin publishing at least until a September trial in Honolulu federal court.

"Now I know what a death row inmate feels when the governor calls," sportswriter Paul Arnett, a nine-year veteran, said.

Owners of the two newspapers were supported by numerous media companies, including The Asso-

ciated Press, which argued that a court order to keep publishing violated constitutional freedom of the press.

The injunction against closure of the Star-Bulletin was issued Oct. 13 in Honolulu by U.S. District Judge Alan Kay. Citing the public interest in preserving separate editorial voices in Hawaii, he ordered the newspaper owners to take no action that would cause the Star-Bulletin to lose circulation, advertising or standing in the community.

In a brief order, the appeals court said Kay's injunction was not based on mistaken legal principles or clearly erroneous factual findings, and therefore must be upheld. The order was issued by Judges J. Clifford Wallace, Jerome Farris and Thomas Nelson.

"This is a good day for freedom of the press," Gov. Ben Cayetano said. "It's unquestionably better for our community to live with more than one daily print media perspective, and this day brings us one step closer to ensuring we do."

The court did not explain its reasoning or discuss legal issues in the case. The ruling leaves the injunction in place until the case goes to trial in Kay's court on Sept. 12.

"There's a lot of happy people around here," Star-Bulletin managing editor Dave Shapiro said. "This has been an incredibly stressful couple of months."

The case is being closely watched in San Francisco, where newspaper owners also want to end their joint operating agreement, close the afternoon paper and publish a morning daily without competition.

The Hearst Corp., owner of the afternoon San Francisco Examiner, bought the morning Chronicle in August and says it's still looking

for a buyer for the Examiner. Knight Rider Corp., a potential buyer, claims Hearst is sidestepping the law by offering little more than the Examiner's name and circulation list for sale.

The Justice Department is also looking into the San Francisco case, but no lawsuit has been filed.

The government has historically allowed many JOAs to end ahead of schedule after owners showed their afternoon papers were such failures that no qualified buyers could be found.

In Hawaii, critics say Liberty made no effort to sell the afternoon paper before agreeing to close it in exchange for \$26.5 million, Gannett's savings from ending the JOA early. Liberty's general partner, Rupert Phillips, says there have been no offers for the Star-Bulletin.

Gannett bought the Advertiser and sold the Star-Bulletin to Liberty in 1993 but agreed to continue the JOA until 2012. That agreement allows the papers to share business, advertising and circulation departments but maintain separate newsmen.

A Gannett spokeswoman in Virginia returned telephone messages.

Lawyers for Gannett and Liberty refused to comment on the decision or whether they will appeal. The newspapers can ask the full appeals court for a review by 11 of its members or they can appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

It also is unclear what effect this ruling will have on the proposed deal to end the JOA. The deal must close by Dec. 23 or else the JOA "shall remain in full force and effect for its remaining term, unless the parties otherwise agree in writing."

Nippon Express Blamed in Korean American's Suicide

Korean Americans expressed their anger towards Nippon Express USA Inc. by picketing their offices on Nov. 17 following the funeral of Myung-Suh Lee, a former employee of the worldwide shipping company who took his own life last month allegedly because of racial discrimination he experienced at the hands of his former employer.

Lee, a Korean immigrant, had worked for Nippon Express for almost five years, and had often complained about the discrimination he faced at work by his Japanese bosses who allegedly made disparaging remarks about his Korean heritage.

At a meeting to address his complaints, company officials asked Lee his feelings towards those who had made the racial remarks, at which he replied that he felt like killing them.

Company officials took his comments seriously and called the police. Lee was subsequently arrested and charged and was also fired from his job. If convicted of the criminal charges, Lee faced deportation.

Fred McFarland, a Nippon Express spokesman, denied accusations that Lee was harassed by company employees because of his ethnicity. He said that Lee had made threats against company officials and they were taken seriously.

But Lee's Japanese wife, Junko Lee, said that it is unconscionable that company officials would arrest her husband for answering their questions honestly. Her husband would never hurt anyone, she said.

Lee and Nippon Express had reached a \$50,000 out-of-court settlement in regard to his harassment allegations, but after talking to his wife, Lee told his attorney to back out of the settlement.

Lee's mother, Ok-Ran Kim, 66, flew in from Seoul, and his mother-in-law from Nara, Japan, to attend the funeral.

Census Bureau Trying to Break Language Barriers

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND, Maine—As part of its effort to get a more accurate count, the U.S. Census Bureau is hiring people of diverse ethnic backgrounds in an effort to overcome language barriers and distrust of government among some immigrants.

The Census Bureau missed about 12,000 Mainers, and about 5.2 million people nationwide, in the last count in 1990.

The bureau is pledging that all residents will be talked in the national count beginning in spring, in part by trying harder to reach foreign-born residents and encouraging everyone to fill out their census forms. Those who don't will be visited by census takers.

Among the 1,000 people hired for the census effort in Maine will be Cambodians, Somalians and members of other minority communities. They will work within their communities to try to make sure everyone fills out the questionnaires.

Members of various ethnic communities say that an accurate count will help them get their fair share of public services.

"We [Hispanics] feel we have been underrepresented in the past in Maine," said Juan Perez-Felbes, a state Labor Department advocate for migrant workers.

Misunderstandings about the census were partly to blame for past problems, Perez-Felbes said.

"A lot of those people come from countries where they've been exploited or abused by government figures, so when a [census] person walks up and says 'I work with the government,' they shut up," he said.

He said people who do not speak English sometimes do not understand what the census is or how to respond to it.

The Census Bureau is making several changes this time around to try to get an accurate count, including printing questionnaires in Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Chinese and Tagalog, which is spoken in the Philippines, said Terry Drake, census supervisor for southern and western Maine.

Instructions will be available in 38 languages, and non-English speaking residents can get extra help from interpreters at Questionnaire Assistance Centers that will be opened near ethnic communities.

The bureau is trying to make sure everyone knows the head count is under way and knows the importance of an accurate count come Census Day, April 1, 2000. The results will be used to reapportion seats in the House and many state and local districts and to distribute \$185 billion in federal aid to cities, states and communities.

Tritia Toyota Leaves KCBS After 14 Years

Longtime KCBS-TV anchor Tritia Toyota has left the station she has worked at for 14 years, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Toyota has not appeared on-air since being taken off both the morning and noon newscasts in September and October.

According to the Times, an insider said that Toyota declined an offer to continue working at the station. Toyota's departure from KCBS has raised the concern of community groups including Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA) and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC).

In a written statement from Guy Aoki, MANAA president, and Stewart Kwok, APALC executive director, to KCBS they said, "Tritia has long been a respected figure in the Asian American community because of her involvement in and awareness of our issues and for getting them covered in your new programs."

"We are hoping you will place her as an anchor or in an appropriate, newscast position as her presence is sorely missing."

Toyota was taken off the early morning and noon newscasts along with veteran anchor Paul Dandridge. They were replaced by Sophia Choi and John Overall.

In response to Choi's appointment, both MANAA and APALC said they were encouraged but that Toyota's presence at the station, especially with her commitment to the community, still needed to be recognized.



Black Politicians Denounce Bush's Affirmative Action Plan

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORLANDO, Fla.—Minority voters should send Gov. Jeb Bush a message that they're outraged at his executive order to eliminate affirmative action and set-asides in Florida, black politicians say.

Voters should not strike back at just Bush at the polls, said Rep. Corrine Brown, D-Fla., but also at his brother, Republican presidential front-runner George W. Bush.

The Florida governor's views on affirmative action closely mirror that of the Texas governor, said Scott McClellan, a spokesman for the Bush presidential campaign in Austin, Texas.

"Gov. Bush has consistently opposed quotas because they pit people against one another," McClellan said. "He believes in bringing people together by giving them equal opportunity."

Brown has written letters to President Clinton and the secretaries of the federal departments of education, labor and transportation, urging them to put pressure on Bush to delay implementing the order.

She planned to meet with national leaders of the NAACP and the Urban League in Washington to discuss how to respond to Bush's order. Black leaders plan to protest at the Capitol in Tallahassee at the start of the legislative session in March.

"When Gov. Bush ran for governor in 1994 and a reporter asked him what he was going to do for African Americans, he said nothing," Brown said. "Well, he has made good on his promise to do nothing for African Americans, Hispanics, native Americans, Haitian Americans, women and all other minorities in the state of Florida."

The governor's executive order, signed last week, bars racial set-asides and quotas in the state contracting decisions, and wipes out race and ethnicity as factors in Florida university admissions.

The Republican governor said his program "transcended" affirmative action and would unite Floridians.

The plan guarantees state university admission to the top 20 percent of the state's high school seniors, proposes adding \$20 million to the state's financial aid budget and makes it easier for minority businesses to be certified to work across the state. Ordinarily, contractors must be certified in each county they work in.

When a federal court struck down race-based college admissions in Texas, George W. Bush helped push through a plan in 1997 to guarantee a university seat for the top 10 percent of high school seniors, regardless of their standardized test scores. That court action also ended racially based admissions in Alabama and Louisiana.

There is another attempt to end affirmative action in Florida through a ballot initiative. California businessman Ward Connerly, who is spearheading the drive, said he will continue his effort despite Bush's order.

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So Much to Do and See Monterey to Host 2000 JACL National Convention

By MAS HASHIMOTO

What should you know about the five host chapters — Gilroy, San Benito County, Watsonville, Salinas Valley, and the Monterey Peninsula — and their cities who are hosting the 36th biennial JACL national convention June 27-July 2, 2000?

If you're coming from the Central Valley on Highway 152, you'll be able to follow the road with your keen olfactory sense. Gilroy is known for hosting the best garlic festival in the world. Nearly 100,000 people each year enjoy sampling creative dishes made from the pungent bulb.

If you're driving south along Coast Highway 1 or on Highway 17 from the San Francisco Bay area, plan to spend a day at the Santa Cruz beach and boardwalk where the admission is free. The famous roller coaster, built in 1926, is still considered one of the world's best, and the merry-go-round features original wooden horses that are faithfully maintained. They're both national treasures.

In nearby Felton you can enjoy riding a narrow-gauged steam train through a coast redwood forest. After the ride you can enjoy a chuckwagon barbecue. Before leaving the Santa Cruz area you will be stupefied at the famous Mystery Spot. Japanese tourists say that if didn't see the Mystery Spot, you didn't see California.

Santa Cruz is the brussels sprout capital of the world, and when they throw a festival, nobody came, not even the reporters who were promised free food.

In Watsonville you can sample the finest strawberries in the world — Nativara, Coastal Berry, Berry Bowl, Well-Pict, and Driscoll. Watsonville is home to Martinelli's Apple Cider, established in 1868 and whose slogan is, "Drink your apple a day."

Watsonville is also home to Annieglass (Oprah's favorite), Granite Construction Company and West Marine. Some of the healthiest people in the world live in Watsonville, where the weather is near perfect every day of the year. Many Nikkei families throughout the country can trace their roots to Watsonville.

Castroville is known as the artichoke capital of the world, but did you know that Norma Jean Baker was the very first "Miss Artichoke"? You know her better by her stage name, Marilyn Monroe.

Hollister, in San Benito County, is known as the earthquake capital of the world and is among the fastest growing areas in the state. Marion Brando made Hollister famous in "The Wild One," based on a motorcycle incident there. Kim Novak and Jimmy Stewart brought fame to the San Juan Bautista Mission when they starred in Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, "Vertigo." Today, the finest sake, the Ozeki brand, is made in Hollister.

The San Benito County JACL has the longest continuing history, for the officers met regularly dur-

ing wartime, often after curfew, in the Salinas Assembly Center and in Potosi.

The Salinas Valley is John Steinbeck country. Required reading will include "The Grapes of Wrath," "In Dubious Battle," "Tortilla Flat," "Of Mice and Men," "Cannery Row," "Sweet Thursday," "The Pearl," "East of Eden," "The Sea of Cortez," "The Red Pony," and "Travels With Charley." In Search of America." The beautiful National Steinbeck Center is located in the heart of downtown Salinas.

Today, the Salinas Valley prides itself as the salad bowl of the world and is home to the California rodeo.

The Monterey Peninsula is so unique it requires a special article unto itself.

Make your reservations now for the convention. The magnificent Doubletree Hotel, located in the heart of downtown Monterey, is the site of the convention. The negotiated room rates are secured at \$109 a night for singles or double, and a limited number of rooms have been set aside for JACL conventioners.

Contact the Doubletree Hotel at Fisherman's Wharf, Two Portola Plaza, Monterey, CA 93940, or phone them at 831/649-4511 for reservations. You can also contact the Doubletree at their Website at <www.doubletreemonterey.com> for more information or reservations. ■



First English-Korean Web Magazine Debuts

Paving the way to tap into the thriving global Korean community, koreanday.com — a division of the day.com companies — has launched a Web site believed to be the ethnic community's first bilingual Web magazine to offer content ranging from high fashion to useful business tips.

"Koreans, who tend to be Net savvy, own more than 69,000 businesses in America with annual sales exceeding \$7.6 billion, and the average Korean American household has a reported income 12 percent higher than the U.S. average," notes Glenn D. Slovenko, CEO, who launched koreanday.com with partner Jai V. Bae, a native of South Korea.

"Koreans are extremely homogeneous and ethnocentric, and tend to conduct business through relatives and other members of the Korean community. They are loyal consumers with appreciable purchasing power," said Slovenko.

Bae, koreanday.com's publisher, says the decision to utilize a bilingual format presented significant technical challenges but positions the Webzine in a unique niche. "Although Korean Americans have successfully assimilated in American and other societies, they take great pride in their own written language, Hangeul," she explains. "There are an estimated 75 million Korean-speaking people in the world who can now receive information in either Korean or English from our Webzine. We are working very hard to serve fellow Koreans

wherever they may be." The Web site is updated several times each week. It features links to a bilingual online auction and downloadable music clips, as well as such timely articles as "Running a Family Business," "I Had Learned to Hate Exercising but Not Any more," and interviews with Korean youths starting out on their careers in America. Visitors can also conveniently sign up for such offers as AT&T Long Distance at 74¢ a minute or AT&T WorldNet Service with free Internet access for one month.

"We extensively polled and surveyed the Korean community before launching koreanday.com," says Bae. "In addition to discovering the preference for a bilingual publication, we also found that most Koreans enjoy information on business, music, style and relationships presented in light format that can be read for relaxation. Based on this information we tailored koreanday.com to offer a mixture of trend-conscious and business-related material."

Initial feedback has been "simply excellent," according to Bae. "Koreans from as far away as Tonga and Russia have told us that they've waited a long time for something like this," she said. "And many potential advertisers are sending us inquiries."

Headquartered in Hartsdale, N.Y., the day.com companies offer online publishing, auction and commercial sites in addition to koreanday.com. ■

Sac'to JACL Sets Recognition Dinner for Dec. 9

Sacramento JACL has set Dec. 9 as the date for its 1999 Recognition Dinner. The event will be held at the Radisson Hotel. Refreshments will be at 6 p.m. and the dinner and program start at 7 p.m.

Honored this year for service to the Nikkei community are:

MIDORI HIYAMA

Midori Hiyama, who was a longtime faculty member and head of the English Department at Sacramento City College, is being recognized for her many decades of service to the Sacramento Japanese American community in the area of academics. She, along with Henry Taketa and other old-timers, built up the Sacramento JACL Scholarship Program to the point where it is the largest chapter-level scholarship program with over \$20,000 being awarded to deserving students each year.

PERCY & GLADYS MASAKI

Percy (deceased recently) and Gladys Masaki are being recognized for their many years of dedicated service to the Sacramento JACL, especially in the early and formative years of the local chapter. Their joint contributions not only included many years of rent-free space, but thousands of hours of volunteer time in the areas of coordination of community events and the publishing and distribution of the chapter newsletters.

SHIGERU SHIMAZU

Shigeru Shimazu, known simply as Shig, is being honored for his 40 years of invaluable service to the Nikkei of the Sacramento area. He has been consistently active and productive to the JACL, Nisei Post 8985 VFW, Bocho Doshikai and South Sacramento Shinwakai. Although he was not always visible during his participation in hundreds of community functions during the past decades, his contributions are countless.

UNION BANK OF CALIFORNIA

Union Bank of California is the corporate honoree for the 1999 Community Service Recognition Dinner. This financial institution has been supportive of the Sacramento JACL and many other Nikkei organizations in the entire state.

The Union Bank of California's contributions, to not only JACL but to the various churches, tanoshimi kais, the Asian Community Nursing Home, the Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce and Public TV Channel 6, are well documented.

The Union Bank of California's policy of service-charge-free accounts to all nonprofit organizations has been well received.

The total contributions to the community by Union Bank of California has been truly outstanding.

ANNE RUDIN

Anne Rudin, former mayor of the City of Sacramento, has been selected as the non-Nikkei honoree of 1999. She has been very active in the JA community for the past thirty years. She was the first honorary chair of the Matsuyama-Sacramento Sister City Corporation and has been back to Japan several times. Her official trips have been as delegate to Japan-United States Mayors Conference and as a member of the Sacramento contingent to the Matsuyama-Sacramento Sister City conferences.

JAMES MADDOCK & the SACRAMENTO BEE

James Maddock of the FBI and the Sacramento Bee, represented by Howard Weaver, are being awarded the first Civil Rights Awards for their support during the recent arson attacks on the three Jewish places of worship. Their intensive and active support during the aftermath of the hate crimes helped galvanize the citizens of this area against all hate crimes.

Tickets for the dinner are priced at \$30 per person and may be purchased from all board members or at the JACL office at 2124 10th St.

Office hours are Mon.-Wed., 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. ■

Korean War Vets Set 'Get Acquainted' Mini-Reunion

All Korean War era veterans, other veterans of all wars, and friends are invited to attend the first "get acquainted or get reacquainted pre-2000 reunion social gathering" to be held at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACC), 244 S. San Pedro St. in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo on Saturday, Dec. 4.

The social will begin at 2 p.m., and will bring together Korean War era vets to help make new friends or reacquaint old friends.

Chairman Henry Suzuki emphasized that this social event is

for all Korean War era veterans regardless of where they served. The evening will help convey the plans for the 50th anniversary reunion, tribute to Henshey Miyamura and fund raising for the Japanese American Korean War veterans memorial to be erected near Seoul, Korea. The monument will list the 247 Japanese Americans who died in defense of South Korea.

This mini-reunion will give people a chance to meet with the 50th anniversary reunion committees, stated President Robert Wada. Re-

freshments will be served. Reservation is not mandatory but highly recommended. Call Chairman Henry Suzuki at 210/539-0832 or Robert Wada at 714/992-5461, fax 714/525-9761, or e-mail: rtwaine@earthlink.net.

Registration packets for the 50th anniversary reunion to be headquartered at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Los Angeles on April 27-30, 2000, have been mailed. Anyone who has not received a packet should contact Victor Murakami, at 818/897-1533 or fax 818/897-1714. ■

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Hazel Taniguchi to Run for Torrance City Council

Longtime community volunteer and retired public school teacher Hazel Taniguchi announced recently that she is a candidate for the March 7, 2000, Torrance City Council election to fill one of the three seats that will be open.

Taniguchi said, "I love Torrance, and I am ready to serve this community as a member of the city council." She continued, "I will always strive to be honest, fair, available and a team player."

Recognizing that a variety of issues affect quality of life and the stability of neighborhoods, Taniguchi said, "I will work to keep our city safe and to attract and retain businesses and jobs, to support education, and to address the specific concerns of our young families and our seniors."

Taniguchi retired from teaching after 28 years with the Los Angeles Unified School District and is ready to use her experience as a community volunteer to serve all the residents of Torrance. Her early endorsements include former Torrance Mayor Katy Geisert, Ursel "Russ" Nolte of the Commission on Aging and Focal Point, and Gary Kuwahara of the Torrance Unified School District board.

Taniguchi is currently the chairperson of the Community Services Commission of the City of Torrance and was appointed to that commission in 1996. She is immediate past president of the Torrance Sister City Association, president of the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California, secretary of the American Association of Retired



Persons-Torrance chapter, and a member of the 1999 Strategic Plan Committee of the City of Torrance. She is also a member of several other volunteer organizations, including the California Retired Teachers Association and the Young Seniors of Torrance.

Taniguchi has received several awards as a community volunteer. In 1994, she received the community service award from the North Torrance Lions Club and the YWCA Women of the Year (one of nine women) award. In 1998, she was honored with a Volunteer of the Year award by the California Parks and Recreation Society District IX, was named the 53rd Assembly District's Woman of the Year by then-State Assemblymember Debra Bowen, and was named the Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Taniguchi and her husband have lived in Torrance for almost twelve years. They have three daughters and four grandchildren.

Artist Who Learned Her Craft at Japanese American Internment Camp is Selected for State Capital Exhibition

State Sen. Adam B. Schiff announced Nov. 19 that Momo Nagano, a talented weaver whose love of her craft was sparked while interned at Manzanar Relocation Center during World War II, has been selected to be part of a year-long art exhibition in the state capital building next year. Nagano's work will represent the 21st state senate district, encompassing Burbank, Glendale, Pasadena and surrounding communities, in the year 2000 California State Senate Contemporary California Art Collection.

Nagano, 74, said her love of weaving had its roots in her camp experience. "Though we were considered suspect by our own government and our patriotism questioned, camouflage net facilities were set up in the assembly centers and internment camps and we were called upon to support the U.S. war effort by making the camouflage nets," the longtime Silver Lake resident said. "I was a teenager and signed up to work at the Manzanar Relocation Center camouflage net project and discovered that I loved weaving the strips of burlap through the netting base. When I took up weaving 22 years later, that love was rekindled and I have been weaving ever since."

Nagano's untitled work selected for the exhibition depicts an abstract landscape and was woven of linen and wool. "I am proud to nominate Ms. Nagano's work for inclusion in the first California State Senate exhibition of the new millennium," said Schiff, chair of the Joint Committee on the Arts. "Her weavings are a testament to her remarkable resiliency, courageous spirit and enduring love for California in

the face of tremendous adversity."

"Born and raised in Los Angeles, Nagano received a bachelor's degree in history from Wheaton College in Massachusetts after graduating from Manzanar High School. She later attended several local art schools, and after studying weaving at Barnsdall Arts and Crafts Center in Los Angeles in 1964 she became a weaver. She has conducted weaving work-

shops statewide, volunteered for the Artmobile Program for inner-city schools, and has served as administrator of the gallery of the Japanese American cultural and community Center in Los Angeles. Most recently, she was awarded a grant by the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program to weave a wall hanging depicting Los Angeles families relocated to the internment camps. ■

California State Interscholastic Federation Honors Marie Sugiyama of Santa Rosa

As part of "A Celebration of 25 Years of Girls Sports in the California Interscholastic Federation,"

Marie Sugiyama of Santa Rosa was one of several women recognized by the California State Interscholastic Federation as a bridge builder in establishing girls interscholastic sports in California.

There were no interscholastic high school athletic programs for girls when Sugiyama attended and graduated from Analy High School in Sebastopol. Most of her professional career, though, has been spent ensuring that the generations to follow have the chance to compete on the athletic field.

Marie attended Santa Rosa Junior College where she participated in interscholastic field hockey and basketball. She graduated from Chico State

University where she competed in badminton, basketball, football and volleyball. She received her master's degree in physical education at San Francisco State University.

Sugiyama was at Montgomery High School for 31 years as a teacher of physical education and business, a coach of basketball, field hockey, softball and badminton, and was the girls' athletic director for 23 years. Sugiyama retired from teaching, coaching, and as girls' athletic director in 1997.

Sugiyama is currently in her 25th year as the North Bay Athletic League co-commissioner. She is a member of the North Coast Section Sports Advisory Committee of League Commissioners and served as the chairperson from 1985 to 1994. She has also served on NCS management committees for badminton, softball, basketball and volleyball.

North Coast Section Commissioner Paul Gaddini said of Sugiyama, "Marie has been one of the foundations for girls' and boys' interscholastic athletics during the last two decades. Her quiet manner belies the influence she has had upon educational athletics."

Sugiyama is a Sonoma County JACL board member and is currently the vice president of finance. She is also active as a board member of the Santa Rosa City Schools Plus Committee that raises funds for extracurricular activities (athletics, music and the arts). ■




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Filing deadline is March 1, 2000. Salary range: \$75,000 - \$100,000. Submit cover letter and resume to: JACL, Personnel Committee, JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. To obtain a detailed job description including qualifications, duties and responsibilities call or write John Tateishi at JACL Headquarters, 415/921-5225 or email to natdir@jacl.org.



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A Bridge Across the Pacific

By Emily Murase

Taking a Stand for Equality

When Rep. Lynn Woolsey (D-Sonoma, Marin) and her band of congresswomen, including Patsy Mink (D-Hawaii) and Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco), stormed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to present Chairman Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) a letter from 100 of their colleagues demanding a hearing on the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) on Oct. 27, they were taking a stand for all of us.

CEDAW seeks to rid society of discrimination against women and girls, defined as "any distinction, exclusion, or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality between men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms of political, economic, social, cultural, civil, legal or any other field."

The treaty was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1979. Since then, 165 countries, including all of the industrialized nations except ours, have adopted the treaty. Then-President Jimmy Carter signed the treaty in 1980, but U.S. ratification also requires 2/3 majority vote by the Senate. For the past 20 years, despite support for the treaty among his colleagues in Congress and the president, Sen. Helms, as chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has held the treaty hostage by refusing to schedule hearings.

Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) recently introduced legislation urging the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to convene hearings on CEDAW and for the full Senate to act on the

treaty by International Women's Day, March 8, 2000.

What can we do to take a stand on this important issue? At the federal level, get in touch with your representative in Congress and voice your support for the treaty and Sen. Boxer's legislation. At the local level, there are important ways to take a stand as well.

In April 1998, San Francisco adopted a groundbreaking ordinance to implement CEDAW at the local level. The San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women was charged with leading the local implementation. The ordinance established a CEDAW task force composed of members of the government and the community, including human rights and women's organizations.

Together, the commission and the task force conducted a gender analysis of city departments, first, to identify discrimination in employment practices, budget allocation, and service delivery and, second, to propose remedies.

Identifying discrimination was not just a matter of how many women were employed in a city department relative to their percentage in the local population. The gender analysis sought to identify the differential impact of a wide range of city policies and practices, from the hiring of construction engineers, to family leave policies, to the availability of street lighting. Insufficient street lighting, for example, creates greater risks for women than men since women are the predominant target for sexual assault.

On Nov. 8, the commission presented its findings to the mayor and the board of supervisors. It concluded that while departments have some policies that equitably address the needs of girls and women, there

were several areas that require improvement. These included 1) employment of women in nontraditional positions (e.g., skilled craft, engineering), 2) family-friendly employment policies (e.g., flex-time work schedules, childcare referral services) and 3) gender specific services (e.g., training for probation officers to address the needs of detained girls).

The work of the commission and the task force continues as they conduct gender analysis on additional city departments. Meanwhile, other California cities and counties have passed resolution supporting CEDAW, including Los Angeles County, Marin County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County, the City of Redlands, the City of San Diego, the City of San Jose, and the City of West Hollywood.

The State of California has also passed resolutions supporting CEDAW. And community advocates in Seattle, Chicago, and Boston seek to pass local legislation similar to the San Francisco ordinance.

Do we not want equality for our mothers, sisters, and daughters in this country? If so, we must take a stand for equality, urge Congress to ratify the CEDAW treaty, and seek local implementation of this important principle in civil and human rights. ■

Emily Murase was appointed to the seven-member San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women in November 1998 and is the only Asian American currently serving. She chairs the CEDAW Task Force, and can be reached at emurase@stanford.edu.

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Stranger Than Fiction

By Christina Shigemura

Come One, Come All

It's funny, when you think about it, that an event which has happened 30 years before I was born has become so important to me. And that Generation X stuff, about how people my age are supposedly apathetic, is kind of ironic, because all I've been able to think about lately is —

The geography, the numbers are undeniable. Thousands of American civilian prisoners of the Japanese military were subjected to forced labor.

The remaining American survivors of a Japanese prison camp in Manchuria still suffer the effects of Japanese military chemical and biological experiments.

Women suffered especially at the hands of Japanese imperialism. Tens of thousands of women raped by occupying Japanese soldiers in Nanking, China, between December 1937 and February 1938. From Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan, Okinawa and the Andaman Islands, an estimated 200,000 comfort women were forced into sexual slavery to serve the Japanese Imperial Army.

Today, some Japanese revisionist historians would like to eliminate even the moderate language which currently explains Japan's wartime atrocities from the nation's textbooks. Some Japanese Americans, too, deny the existence of the comfort women and would like to pretend that atrocities committed by the Japanese military during World War II are simply anti-Asian propaganda.

But as long as we deny what happened, how can we possibly prevent it from happening again? I hope that the legacy of what happened to JAs during WWII in this country is not relegated to shelves and displays locked away in the Japanese American National Museum. Instead, we need to practice in our daily lives the values and beliefs we have gained through our struggle. We need to make a commitment to justice and to standing in solidarity with those who are seeking justice.

In order to disseminate the facts about the comfort women in a constructive and unifying manner, National Coalition for Redress and Reparations (NCR), UCLA Law Center, and Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights in Los Angeles (CHIRLA) have been working together for the past few months to put on an educational program for

the public. The program will be held on Friday, Dec. 3, at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, located at 244 S. San Pedro St. in Los Angeles. The program will open at 6:30 p.m. with light refreshments and informative photo displays about the Rape of Nanking and sexual exploitation of women in Latin America and Asia.

At 7 p.m., the program will begin with a performance by a Korean women's drumming group. Featured speakers will include Assemblyman Mike Honda, sponsor of AJR 27 (for more information on the bill, go to <www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/sam/s_0050_ajr_27_bill_19990826_chaptered.html>), Martha Matsuoaka from Okinawa Peace Network, and Lisa Maza, secretary general of GABRIELLA (an international Philippine women's organization). We will also read testimonies from a Korean comfort woman and a survivor of the Rape of Nanking.

The event is free to the public, and Spanish, Thai and Korean language translation will be provided.

Endorsers of the program include: Asian Left Forum, Asian Pacific American Democratic Club, Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council, Coalition Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, Coalition of Labor Union Women, Filipino American Service Group, Inc., GABRIELLA, Gardens Valley Democratic Club, JACL Civil Rights Caucus Pacific Southwest, Korean Resource Center, Korean Immigrant Workers Advocates, NAKASEC, Okinawa Peace Network, Filipino Workers' Center, and the Thai Community Development Center.

For more information on the event, please call Eileen Ma at 310/794-5984.

Oh, yeah. One more thing has been on my mind. Speaking of justice and WWII, Veterans' Day just passed, and the surviving 75,000 Filipino WWII veterans who fought in the U.S. Armed Forces still have not received their GI benefits. Please call or write your congressman, or you can e-mail Ingrid Gonzalez at: igonzalez@ucla.edu for more information. ■

Christina Shigemura is a teacher and member of NCR.

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COMMENTARY Why Can't the Community Let Go?

By KEN YABUSAKI

A colleague once shared a joke with me about an Israeli who asked God if there would ever be peace between Palestine and Israel; God answered the Israeli by saying, "Yes, of course, but not in my time."

I liken the context of this joke to whether there will ever be any reconciliation on whether the JACL in 1942, under the leadership of Mike Masaoka, betrayed its community, the plight of the draft resisters versus those who volunteered for the military, the adoption of resolutions, and whether apologies are in order.

In the continuing dialogue on this subject, two things, so far, which have not been pointed out are the influences the institution of American culture had on the entire Japanese American community and, what experimental behaviorists have known for some time, the notion that social determinants largely influence an individual's personality and behavioral traits.

This is especially true for the traits of honesty and leadership. It has been shown that the trait of honesty in individual in one situation gave no indication that he/she would be honest in another. Instead of honest-dishonest persons, there were honest-dishonest situations.

A good example of this was President Bill Clinton's behavior in the Monica Lewinsky scandal. Interestingly, the polls taken in California showed that the majority of people were not concerned about whether Clinton lied under oath, obstructed justice, or about his past and present sexual behavior. Does this imply that the people polled in California supported lying?

Leadership can be viewed similarly. There are no predetermined modes of conduct that make one a leader, but rather actions or behaviors that are stimulated by the specific situation or problem at hand. Thus, the situation one is faced with develops the qualities of leadership.

How one perceives the situation at hand is dependent upon many factors. And how one reacts to what is perceived is not absolute. As "Americans," we often minimize the role our culture plays in our behaviors, attitudes and personalities. Because we are so immersed in "it," we fail to notice its influence. In 1942, Margaret Mead, in "And Keep Your Powder Dry," described American character as:

...geared to success and to movement, invigorated by obstacles and difficulties, but plunged into guile and despair by catastrophic failure or a wholesale alteration in the upward and onward pace; a char-

acter in which aggressiveness is uncertain and undefined, to which readiness to fight anyone who starts a fight and un-readiness to engage in violence have both been held up as virtues; a character which measures its successes and failures only against near contemporaries and engages in various quantitative devices for reducing every contemporary to its own stature; a character which sees success as the reward of virtue and failure as the stigma for not being good enough; a character which is uninterested in the past, except when ancestry can be used to make points against other people in the success game; a character oriented towards an unknown future, ambivalent towards other cultures, which are regarded with a sense of inferiority as more coherent than our own and with a sense of superiority because newcomers in America display the strongest mark of other cultural membership in the form of foreignness.

For the case in point, I believe that American culture and in some instances, the conflictual Japanese values (largely imposed by the Issei in 1942) such as loyalty, obedience, not shaming the family, conformity, sense of duty, *gaman* and *giri*, probably had dramatic influences on the behaviors of the entire community long before the signing of Executive Order 9066.

In 1942, leaders of the JACL, the draft resisters, those who volunteered to serve in the military, and the many thousands who were incarcerated were all citizens of a community struggling with Japanese values and at the same time, struggling to be of "American character" as described by Margaret Mead.

We all know that Asians, as an ethnic group, were oppressed as evidenced by land exclusion acts, land and miscegenation laws. In 1942, individuals within our community, in particular the JACL, were compelled to make some difficult decisions compounded by war hysteria, political pressures, and racial biases. These decisions were perceived by many at that time, and to this day, as betrayal, acts of collusion, and cowardice.

Did the individuals in question do the best they could under the circumstances or situation they were faced with? Was Mike Masaoka really a demagogue? Were the draft resisters really cowards? I don't think there are clear-cut "yes" or "no" answers.

Could the decisions made by specific individuals in 1942 have been largely influenced by the perception of the situation they were faced with rather than by their character traits? If there

are no clear-cut "yes" and "no" answers, then it follows that there were no "right" or "wrong" decisions made. The fact is, decisions were made, and nothing can change the course of what happened.

I fully agree with Takasumi Kojima (P.C. Aug. 27-Sept. 3, 1999) that we need to have compassion for everyone and the actions and decisions made at that time. The internment experience happened, and it has taught us that when one group is victimized by violence, crime, injustices, or political impotence, we all suffer. An important question is, in the long term, what does dwelling on the past, pointing fingers, placing blame, and demanding apologies do to our community and organization?

This doesn't mean that we forget the past nor the tragic human sacrifices that were made by those who bravely fought and died in the horrors of war or the innocents who perished in harm's way. This is why we have Days of Remembrance, memorials and museums.

But by the same token, we need to respect the fact that in 1942, people within our community had the courage to make decisions because of the situation they were in or because of how they perceived the situation at that time. Unfortunately, for some in our community, this has caused great distress, divisiveness, frustration and suffering.

What happened can never be changed. It takes courage to accept what happened with love and compassion. By clinging to the past and to our feelings of betrayal, by thinking there was only one "right" or "wrong," the future will pass us by. We will be left wondering what happened to our ability to "love" and have "compassion," what happened to our children; and what will happen to our children's children?

Today, no human group or society is immune from oppression, drug addiction, violent crimes, domestic and gang violence, tyranny, genocide, terrorist acts, hate crimes, racist acts, the possibility of another world war, and the effects of environmental destruction. These are some of the matters we should be more deeply concerned with.

One of the most important questions we can ask each of ourselves is: "Why can't we let go of the past?" Reconciliation must first come from within our individual selves. Only then can the community and our organization as a whole be healed. ■

Ken Yabusaki is a member of the Berkeley chapter and member of the Civil/Human Rights Committee.

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Akiba, Yasuo, 70, San Francisco, Nov. 2; Fukushima Prefecture-born; survived by wife Setuko; sons Nobuo and wife Ann, Kazuo and wife Yoko; 4 gc.

Fukaya, James S., 80, Denver, Nov. 3 service; survived by wife Josephine; daughters Jeanne Martinez, Susan Navarro and husband Fred; son Howard and wife Joanne; 4 gc.

Hamada, Casey, 43, San Francisco, Nov. 6; survived by mother Mary; sister-in-law Jane Hamada.

Hayashi, Larry Takaaki, 78, Sacramento, Oct. 26; survived by wife Helen; sons Ray and wife DeLore, Lane, Patrick; daughters, Janice, Theresa and husband Chris; 4 gc; brother Hiro.

Honjo, Marsha Junko, 45, Valley Village, Nov. 9; Santa Monica-born; survived by husband Gary; sons Justin, Brandon; mother Nancy Shimotsu and husband Inatomi; brothers Stanley Shimotsu and wife Jane Kodani, Stuart Shimotsu; mother-in-law Ruby Honjo and husband Oshio; brother-in-law David Honjo.

Isobe, Gary Gunso, 71, Northridge, Nov. 2.

Kashiwagi, Sumi, 95, Beaumont, Oct. 15; survived by daughter Marianne Wirick and husband Jack; 2 gc; 5 gc; sister Amy Okazaki; predeceased by husband Rio.

Kanemoto, Chiyo, 74, Longmont, Colo., Oct. 31; survived by husband Jim; son Ken and wife Karen; daughter Joyce Williams and husband Jack (Scottsdale, Ariz.); 4 gc, gg.

Kawakami, Kay Koki, Denver, Nov. 4 service; survived by wife Michiko; sons Al, Sam.

Kawamoto, Leo, 68, Bellflower, Nov. 6; Florin-born; survived by wife Mitzi; daughters Pamela Ortiz and husband Arthur, Terri Kawamoto; 2 gc; brothers Ralston, Ray and wife Kiyu, Tom, Aki and wife Barbara, Mutsuo and wife Aiko, sister Aileen Toshiyuki.

Mamiya, George Y., Seattle, Oct. 10 service; Mitsu veteran; survived by wife Yosh; sons Ron A. and wife Linda (Renton, Wash.), Rick Y., brother Sumio and wife Haruko; sister Momoye Takakoshi.

Mayeda, Aiko, 78, Berkeley, Nov. 12; survived by sister Nobuko Bruce; brother-in-law Robert Bruce.

Nakashima, Harry, 83, San Jose, Nov. 13; Reigo-born, raised in Kachi-ken; survived by sons David and wife Leslie, Michael and wife Fran; daughters Pat, Janet Nakashima, Barbara Bravo and husband Greg; 9 gc, 5 ggc.

Nishizaka, William Takuyuki, 62, Los Angeles, Nov. 12; survived by wife Lilie; brother John and wife Harriet; sisters Miyoko Tokio Yamaguchi (Japan), Itsuko Janet Kajihara and husband Hitoshi.

Ninomiya, George, 78, Portland, Ore., Nov. 7; Troutdale, Ore.-born, schooled in Japan; JACL member; survived by wife Juli; son Dr. Ken (Oxnard); sister Toby Onchi (Gresham, Ore.); 1 gc.

Oshita, Teruo, 78, San Mateo, Nov. 8; survived by wife Hatsume; sons Roy Kazuo and wife Linda Mayumi, Dick Kiyoshi; daughter Lucy Terumi and husband Mike Hildei; 2 gc; sister Momoe Oshita (Japan).

Sakagami, Masao "Mass," 78, Seattle, Sept. 9; public relations, usually one or two paragraphs, should include signature, address and daytime phone number. Because of space limitations, letters are subject to abridgment. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.

Shimomo, Fushano, 98, Placentia, Nov. 11; Hiroshima-born; survived by sons Henry Hisashi

and wife Miyako, Sam Shigeki and wife Natsuye, George Yoshitaka and wife Barbara, Jim Seiro, Goro; daughters Helen Miyoko Jung, Mary Sekaye and husband Kazuo; 11 gc, 13 ggc, 2 ggc; sisters Misao Osumi, Kazuo Kuwahara.

Shiohara, Ellen Alicia, 42, Irvine, Nov. 6; Claremont-born; survived by husband David; son Brian; father and mother George H. and Virginia Rostvold;

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.

brother Roger Rostvold; sisters Laura Rostvold, Christine Rostvold-Neff; brother-in-law Tom Shiohara and wife Nobuko.

Shirahashi, Gary, 49, Monterey Park, Nov. 18; Los Angeles-born; survived by wife Joy A., mother Sachie Shirahashi; sisters Anne Kaino and husband Kenny, Lucy Lam and husband Ron; brother Kim; parents-in-law Henry and Fumi Inagi; sister-in-law Heidi Higaki and husband Harrison (Northern Calif.); brother-in-law Kirk Inagi and wife Juli.

Shishido, Chuck Yoro, 72, Gardena, Nov. 18; survived by wife Kay; son Jack and wife Jenni; daughter Cheryl Oshiro and husband Gary; 2 gc; brothers Tom and wife Kinu, Saburo and wife Kazuko; sister Haruko Koshimizu and husband Jack; brothers-in-law Hoover Kuriyama and wife May, George Ito; sisters-in-law Inez Tanaka and husband Fred, Lillian Rozadilla and husband Larry, Nivia Kuriyama.

Takewuchi, Toshiko, 77, Los Angeles, Nov. 11; Indio-born; survived by son David; brothers Kenji and wife May, George Ito; sisters-in-law Inez Tanaka and husband Fred, Lillian Rozadilla and husband Larry, Nivia Kuriyama.

Taniguchi, Eddie Albert, 78, Seattle, Sept. 20; Ellensburg, Wash.-born veteran; survived by wife Martha Masayo, daughter Sander Hanamoto and husband Gary; brother Sam and wife Fumie (Camano Island, Wash.); Harry and wife Mitsuye (Fukuo-ka).

Watanabe, Tsutomu Tim, 91, Glendale, Ariz., Nov. 14; Miyagi-ken-born, retired farm manager; JACL member; survived by wife Haruko; daughters Susan, Hancock, Janice; sons Richard, Harvey; sisters Yaeko Seki, Katsuyo Sugawara; brother Toshiji; 3 gc.

Yamano, Ted Teruo, 71, Sacramento, Nov. 10 service; Burbank-born. Heart Mountain internee, U.S. military veteran, judo black belt; survived by wife Nancy; daughters Elaine, Carolin, Marlin; gc; brothers Mas, John, Bill; sisters Betty, Shizuyue.

Yanagimoto, Sadako, 72, Los Angeles, Oct. 30; Montebello-born; survived by husband Minoru; daughter Jo Ann Yanagimoto-Pinedo and husband Adrián Pinedo; sisters Kay Yamada and husband Takeo, Mike Kaihara and husband George, Keiko Marumoto and husband Ben. ■

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Greater Sacramento Valley Fund-raiser for NJAWE Raises Over \$110,000

The grand total raised in the last few months for the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation has exceeded its goal by totaling over \$110,000, said co-chairs Tokio Fujii and Jerry Enomoto.

The goal of \$8.6 million set by the national organization in Washington, D.C., was reached in the middle of August, said National Executive Director Cherry Tsutsumi. She expressed the gratitude of the entire national board for the tremendous effort put forth by the organizations which participated in this project.

The monument, which will be a tribute to the indomitable spirit of the Japanese Americans who overcame the tragedy of mass evacuation in 1942, will be placed on a main thoroughfare between the Capitol and Union Station in the nation's capital.

Organizations joining forces in this successful drive were:

- Sacramento JACL
- Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church
- Placer JACL
- Hokko Humamoto Kenjin Kai
- Kagehishima Kenjin Kai
- Buddhist Church of Florin
- Aichi Kenjin Kai
- Florin JACL
- Hiroshima Nikkeijin Kai
- Maruyeville JACL
- South Sacramento Shinwakai
- Matsuyama-Sacramento Sister City Corporation
- Nishiren Buddhist Church
- Toboku Shinwakai
- Buddhist Church of Sacramento
- Boche Denshi Kai
- Military Intelligence Service of Northern California
- Parkway Presbyterian Church
- Sacramento Nikkeijin Kai
- Northern California Koyasan Temple
- Okayama Kenjin Kai ■

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• "Voices" reflect the active, public discussion within JACL of a wide range of ideas and issues, though they may not reflect the viewpoint of the editorial board of the Pacific Citizen.

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

Kristine Minami Named JACL's Washington, D.C., Representative

Kristine Minami, a native of Washington, D.C., was recently hired as the JACL's Washington, D.C., Representative. Minami, who received an undergraduate degree from Rutgers and a master's degree in international affairs from George Washington University, joined the JACL Washington office at the beginning of November after two years in New York. Her experience includes directing a professional public policy and media fellowship for the Japan Society in New York.

As a Yonsei, Minami brings to the position a strong sense of the need for JACL to look towards the future as we enter the next millennium. With a background in public policy, she represents the next generation of Japanese American leaders who will help forge a new direction for the JACL as the organization looks to the future while maintaining the strengths of its proud history.

"I'm very pleased to have been able to find someone of Kristine's caliber to fill such an important position in the

organization," said John Tateishi, interim national director. "She's a dynamic and charismatic individual whose family is very established in the D.C. area and who will do much to establish the JACL as a major presence in Washington."

In the first few weeks on the job, Minami has already played an important role in helping to shepherd the JACL's role with the White House in efforts related to the World War II internment camp sites as well as being involved in numerous critical issues evolving around Capitol Hill.

"It's a quick initiation for our new Washington Rep.," Tateishi stated, "but I have to total confidence in her abilities to handle the job."

Minami can be reached at the JACL Washington office at 202/223-1240. ■

Foreigners Eager to Invest in China's Internet

SHANGHAI, China—China's promise to allow foreigners

to invest in its booming Internet industry has reawakened interest in Web ventures just two months after a top Chinese telecommunications regulator banned outside ownership of these companies.

U.S. officials say a Nov. 15 deal allowing China to join the World Trade Organization will permit foreigners to own up to 50 percent of Chinese Internet ventures, giving Chinese Web innovators the opportunity to make more money.

However, it is not known how the Chinese government might restrict or censor politically sensitive material. Chinese communist leaders regard the Internet as a source of economic growth but fear its potential to spread dissent. China's state-run Internet carrier already blocks access to material considered pornographic or politically dangerous. That includes sites run by human rights groups and news organizations such as *The New York Times*.

The biggest winners from the deal could be China's private Internet firms, which, unlike the heavily protected state industry, already compete with foreign sites mainly in the areas of entertainment and online sales. Most of those sites are freely available to Chinese Web surfers. ■

Feinstein Seeks Japan's War Crime Data

(Continued from page 1)

have filed lawsuits seeking compensation from various Japanese companies.

"That's absolutely unacceptable — because the [1951] San Francisco peace treaty stipulates the final and complete resolution of the compensation issues — between Japan and the allied nations," he told *Kyodo News*.

The Justice Department itself wants to find out more about Japanese war crimes because it keeps a worldwide "watch list" of war criminal suspects who are barred from entering the United States.

The "watch list" currently consists of about 60,000 persons who are associated with the Nazi Holocaust but has fewer than 100 names of Japanese war crime suspects. Part of the problem is that the Japanese government refuses to confirm the birth dates of suspected Japanese war criminals.

The Japanese government in turn has argued that anyone named on the list would have escaped indictment or would have served their prison term following a conviction, so their legal status is already irreversibly set. ■

Federal Case Against Denny's Dismissed

(Continued from page 1)

ready to go to trial in their federal civil rights lawsuit, he said. U.S. District Judge Frederick Scullin is presently weighing a dismissal motion in that case brought by Denny's Inc., which has said it was not responsible for what happened. Lawyers for the South Carolina-based company said the alleged discrimination happened at a franchise owned by an independent company.

At the time of the incident, the Denny's in question was operated by NDI Foods Inc., a Syracuse-based company that has since entered bankruptcy proceedings and turned its seven upstate New York Denny's franchises back over to Denny's parent company.

NDI has denied that any discrimination occurred.

A federal investigation was initiated after local prosecutors refused to file criminal charges. Onondaga County District Attorney William Fitzpatrick instead accused the students of being drunk, disorderly and "orchestrating" their claim. ■

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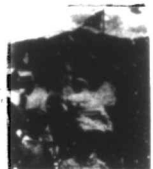


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