

Protestors Urge Removal of Confederate Flag From Statehouse

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, S.C.—With signs reading "Your heritage is my slavery," thousands of people marched on Martin Luther King Jr. Day to protest the Confederate flag that flies above the Statehouse and demand a permanent state holiday honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

King's son, Martin Luther King III, opened the day with a prayer breakfast at the University of South Carolina.

"This is the kind of thing we need to be doing on Martin Luther King's birthday," King said. "The flag is a terrible symbol that brings a lot of negative energy. And while we believe the flag has an appropriate place, it just does not belong on top of the Capitol because it is not a sign of unification."

Demonstrators gathered at a downtown church for a service before marching to the Statehouse six blocks away, singing "the flag is coming down" and waving American flags. The marchers were led with a banner declaring "A March and Rally for the Removal of the Confederate Flag."

"We will be very strong and firm and clear that the flag must come down and justice must go up," Bishop John Hurst Adams, bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Churches, told marchers.

Police Chief Charles Austin estimated that at least 10,000 people were involved.

The marchers included a smattering of whites, including 16-year-old Heather Showman. She said the flag did not offend her but she understood why others were offended by it.

"We need to get this flag off the Statehouse and promote racial unity," she said.

People seeking the flag's removal say it is a bitter reminder of slavery and racism. Flag supporters say it represents the heritage of those who fought and died for a cause they believed in.

More than 6,000 marched a week ago in the South Carolina Heritage 2000 rally to show support for keeping the flag atop the Statehouse.

In addition to the flag issue, civil rights groups want the state to make Martin Luther

King Jr. Day a permanent holiday for state workers, who now can take off that day or one of several tied to Confederate anniversaries.

South Carolina Gov. Jim Hodges decided to speak at a King Day observation rather than attend today's rally, said spokeswoman Nina Brook.

"The governor wants to be a mediator, a person who helps folks come together on the flag," Brook told *The State* newspaper of Columbia. "Therefore, it's not appropriate for him to participate in events that are being portrayed as either anti-flag or pro-flag."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People started a tourism boycott of the state Jan. 4, pushing the issue of the flag.

The boycott has been effective, said Nelson B. Rivers III, the NAACP's national field director. Many people who came to the city today for the rally elected to stay at churches rather than at hotels.

He also said the boycott has promoted discussion. "The General Assembly has now had more talk about trying to take it down in the last three weeks than they have in the last three years," Rivers III said on NBC's "Today" show.

But state House Speaker Pro Tem Terry Haskins said the boycott has had little effect.

"This boycott was nothing but a phony publicity stunt from the start," Haskins said on "Today."

On Sunday talk shows, Texas Gov. George W. Bush, Sen. John McCain and businessman Steve Forbes agreed that South Carolina voters should determine whether the flag continues to fly atop the state capitol. All three, who are running for the Republican nomination for president, also said it shouldn't be an issue for their campaign.

"That's a legitimate debate, that will be decided by the people of South Carolina," said Forbes.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson's Rainbow/PUSH Coalition also is urging tourists to boycott Georgia until that state's Legislature removes the Confederate emblem from its state flag. The emblem was incorporated in 1956—two years after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled racial segregation illegal in public schools.

Civil rights activists plan to call for the Georgia boycott Jan. 30, in Atlanta, said Joe Beasley, Southern regional director for Rainbow/PUSH. ■

Minority Coalition Resumes TV Diversity Efforts Despite Discord

By TRACY UBA
Writers/Reporter

The four co-chairs of a minority media coalition outraged by the conspicuous lack of ethnic diversity on television this season came together on Jan. 11 in Los Angeles to offer public reassurances that they are a united front, despite recent news reports of discord.

Norman Mineta, of the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition, Esteban Torres, of the National Latino Media Council, Sonny Skyhawk, of American Indians in Film and Television, and Kweisi Mfume, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, along with California

working to remedy the so-called "whitewashing" of major TV networks since last June, when it was evident that the fall slate of programs included no ethnic minorities in leading roles.

"When people look at television, they want to see America. But they aren't seeing America reflected on the screen. That's all we're saying," said Mineta, who, along with Mfume and Torres, is

there is a problem."

To address this problem, the coalition scheduled separate meetings with NBC and CBS which were to take place directly after the press conference, while another with Fox was to take place soon after.

LA Gov. Bustamante, who in September sponsored One California, a seminar studying multiculturalism in the television

industry, was to sit in on the coalition's meetings with network executives.

Bustamante said NBC and Fox in particular have conveyed a commitment to increase minority representation on their shows.

"Their response was very encouraging," he said. "They expressed an interest in creating



Chair of the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition and former U.S. Congressman Norman Mineta pushes for greater inclusion of ethnic minorities on TV, along with colleagues NAACP president Kweisi Mfume and National Latino Media Council chair Esteban Torres.

a former U.S. representative.

"When you do not have people of color in the decision-making process," added NAACP president and CEO Mfume, "the decisions too oftentimes represent themselves the way they did with the unveiling of this fall season, not only with a virtual 'whitewash' but with nobody having any alarm or any sense of outrage because nobody sees that

roles beyond stereotypes."

"Most of the roles on television are ethnic neutral," added Mineta, who is specifically looking to increase development deals for minorities. "There's no reason why people of color can't be in different acting roles."

The coalition said that in addition to the major networks

See TV DIVERSITY/page 8

Asian American Activism on Rise in Wake of Wen Ho Lee Indictment

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—Asian Americans who felt targeted as a race in the 1996 Democratic fundraising scandal have found a new cause in Wen Ho Lee, the former Los Alamos National Laboratory scientist indicted on charges of mishandling U.S. nuclear secrets.

Activism in support of Lee has grown among AA groups, although some are taking a cautious approach until they learn more about the government's case.

"Our parents told us don't make a fuss, stay out of the public eye. But that advice serves no purpose in a diverse democracy," said Frank Wu, an AA advocate and law professor at Howard University.

Supporters have created the Wen Ho Lee Defense Fund. The fund has raised about \$100,000 so far for his legal bills, much of it at a fund-raiser and rally near San Francisco. Other similar events are planned elsewhere.

The case also has given rise to several sites on the World Wide Web that are providing commentary, news stories and a chat room on Lee's plight.

Karen Narasaki, executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium, sees Lee's case as a watershed event.

"This community bought into the notion that if you work hard, pay attention to your family, you will be accepted. This case says it's not true," Narasaki said.

Lee, a 60-year-old Taiwan-born researcher, is being held without bail for allegedly copying classified data on nuclear weapons technology to computer tapes, seven of which are missing. Lee has said he destroyed the tapes.

The indictment does not accuse Lee of passing classified information to a foreign government. The scientist has pleaded innocent to 59 counts under the Atomic Energy and Espionage Acts. If convicted, the former employee of the New Mexico defense lab could face life in prison.

Lee has sued the FBI and the Justice and Energy departments, alleging they violated his privacy and wrongly portrayed him as a Chinese spy.

Federal prosecutors deny their investigation was biased and maintain the FBI's skepticism about Lee's statements was justified because he'd lied in the past.

Nancy Choy, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association, said that while the facts of the case are murky, news media have painted Lee as a spy.

"A trial hasn't even started but Dr. Lee is being portrayed as a dangerous foreigner," Choy said.

"It's a difficult situation for us at this point because nobody wants [to] get into a full defense of Wen Ho Lee on the merits of the case just yet," she added. "But we all want to make sure he gets his due process and a lot of us feel he hasn't been treated fairly."

Lee advocates say the outpouring of support might not have been as strong were it not for the Democratic fund-raising scandal of 1996, which AAs say unfairly tainted them.

John Huang, a former Commerce Department official and Democratic party's chief fund-raiser for the AA population during the 1996 election, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to make illegal contributions.

Unlike other minority groups, organizing noisy demonstrations and making public appeals is

See WEN HO LEE/page 8

Inside the P.C. Weekly

- Announcements.....
- Calendar page 2
- National News.....
- Pacific Echoes 3
- Community News 4&5
- Stranger Than Fiction.....
- By the Board 6
- Obituaries 7

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JACL Calendar

National

Fri.-Sun., Feb. 11-13—National Board Meeting, San Francisco.
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.
Fri.-Tues., March 31-April 4—Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference; Doubletree Hotel. Applications from district governors to JACL headquarters by Jan. 21. Info: Tom Ehrlie, 415/921-5225.

Midwest

CHICAGO
Sun., Feb. 6—Day of Remembrance program, co-sponsored by the Chicago JACL and the Japanese American Service Committee (JASC); see Community Calendar for details.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Sun., Feb. 6—Day of Remembrance program, co-sponsored by the Chicago JACL and the Japanese American Service Committee (JASC); 2 p.m., JASC, 4442 N. Clark St.; speaker, professor George DeVos of the Japanese American Interspersal Research Group. Info: Chiye Tomihiro, 773/48-6380.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Sun., Feb. 6—"Mochitsuki 2000"; 1-4 p.m., Portland State University, Smith Memorial Center Ballroom, 1825 SW Broadway; special performance by renowned storyteller Robert Kikuchi-Yngogo. RSVP: 503/224-1458.
SEATTLE
Through April—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

Sun., Feb. 6—Nikkei Widowed Group Meeting, 12 noon. New members, men and women welcome. Call for meeting place: Tetsu Ihara (415/221-4568), or Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.

SACRAMENTO

Sun., Feb. 6—Mochitsuki; 1:30-4 p.m., Smith Center Ballroom, Portland State Univ. Info: June Schumann, 224-1458.
SEATTLE
Sat., Jan. 29—Seattle JACL installation dinner, 6 p.m.; Doubletree Suites, Tukwila; speaker, Martha Choe; Lori Matsukawa, M.C.

NC-WN-Pacific

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sun., Feb. 6—First Quarter District Council Meeting.

CILROY, MONTEREY PENINSULA, SALINAS VALLEY, SAN BENITO COUNTY, WATSONVILLE

Fri., Jan. 28—Joint Installation Dinner; 6 p.m. no-host cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner; Jeannie Wakatsuki Houston, keynote speaker; San Juan Oaks Golf Club, 3825 Union Rd., Hollister. RSVP, info: Mark Mitani, 831/728-3428; transportation: Camel Kamigawachi, 831/722-1930.

Central California

CLOVIS

Sat., Feb. 5—Clovis/CCC Shrimp Dinner.

Pacific Southwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Through Jan. 30—Play, "And the Soul Shall Dance" by Wakako Yamauchi, about two families farming in the Imperial Valley during the dust bowl years; the Broadway Playhouse, 4010 El Camino Ave. Tickets, info: 452-6174.

Thurs., Jan. 27—Sacramento Asian-Pacific Chamber of Commerce Installation and Scholarship Awards Dinner; 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner, Radisson Hotel. Info, tickets: 916/446-7883.

Fri., Feb. 4—Program, "Let's Go to Japan" travel alternatives discussion; 7 p.m., Belle Coolidge Community Center, 5699 S. Land Park Dr. Info, RSVP: 489/1291 or 446-9844.

SAN FRANCISCO

Thursdays through Sundays, Jan. 20-30—Comedy Performance, "My Own Private Sukipratta," by the 18 Mighty Mountain Warriors: Theater of Yugen/NoSpace, 2840 Mariposa Ave. Times, tickets: 415/522-8752, e-mail: <chombug@sfsu.edu>

Mon., Jan 24—TV premier showing, "Regret to Inform," 10 p.m., on PBS (check local listings). Presented by the National Asian American Telecommunications Association (NAATA).

SAN JOSE

Thurs., Feb. 3—Performance, "Stories of Life," by Eth-Noh-Tec presented by Contemporary Asian Theatre Scene; 7 p.m., Milpitas Community Center, Milpitas. Info: 408/298-2287; e-mail: <ccatonline@yahoo.com>.
Sat., Feb. 19—Yu-Ai Kai Crab/Spaghetti Feed; 6 p.m., San Jose Buddhist

Sun., Feb. 27—PSWDC Quarterly Meeting, RIVERSIDE

Sun., Feb. 6—Installation Luncheon; 12 noon, Chan's Oriental Cuisine, 1445 University Ave.; guest speaker, Kaz Oshiki, member, NJAMF board of directors. RSVP: Junji Kumamoto, 909/684-0864.

SELANOCO

Sat., Jan. 22—Installation Luncheon; 11 a.m. social, 12 noon lunch; Amada Club, 7025 Firestone Blvd., Buena Park. RSVP: Karen-Liane Shiba, 714/220-1549.

VENTURA COUNTY

Sun., Feb. 6—Installation Luncheon; 12:30 p.m., Hana Hanu Restaurant, 1490 Daily Dr., Camarillo; film, stage & TV actor Mako will speak on "The History of Hollywood from the Asian American Perspective." RSVP by Jan. 21: Chuck Kuniyoshi, 805/484-0676, Ken Nakano, 818/991-0876. ■

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.

Church Betsuin Annex; "crab" race, "No Attendance Required" fundraiser drawing. Tickets, info: 408/294-2505; e-mail: yuajai@prodigy.net.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES

Sat., Jan. 22—Performance: Glenn Horuchi & Friends in Concert; 4 p.m., Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Tickets: 213/680-3700; group sales: 213/625-0414.

Jan. 26-Feb. 20—"Golden Child" by David Henry Hwang; Union Center for the Arts, Little Tokyo. Info., schedules: Suzanne Hee, 213/625-7000.

Through Feb. 10—Exhibit, "Acts of Nature" paintings and prints by son and father Joel Nakamura and Yoshio C. Nakamura; Rio Hondo College, 3600 Workman Mill Rd., Whittier; gallery talk, Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m., artists' reception, 8-9 p.m. Info, hours: 562/692-0921 ext. 3471.

Arizona - Nevada

PHOENIX

Sat.-Sun., Feb. 26-27—Matsuri; 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Heritage Science Park, 730 St. and Monroe. Info: Beth Cole, 602/262-5071. ■

Correction

In the article about the passing of George Kyotow (Jan. 14-20, page 7), the word "former" was omitted; Kyotow was New York City JACL chapter president in 1959.

Beat the Rush

P.C. non-member rates will increase in April 2000



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80-20 Endorses Bradley for President

The group 80-20, a political action committee of various Asian Pacific American individuals and organizations, recently announced their decision to support presidential candidate Bill Bradley in the upcoming election.

A poll was conducted among 80-20's supporters for a reaction to the group's decision to support Bradley. About 10,000 of those on 80-20's e-mail list for more than seven months support the decision by 10 to 1, regardless of party affiliation, announced the group.

The remaining 80,000 people, recent recruits to the 80-20 e-mail list, were not polled, but uninvited response from this group indicated an 8 to 2 margin of support for the Bradley decision.

S. B. Woo, former Lt. Governor of Delaware, said, "The margin of support exceeds our own expectation. It's truly amazing how the APA community has so quickly grasped the need to engage in

'realpolitik.' In one short year, our community has decided to exercise the power of the ballot box granted by our forefathers."

80-20 estimates that its decision to support Bradley will bring 200,000 additional votes to Bradley in the national primary, of which 80,000 will be in California. Since 80-20 anticipates expanding its mailing list from the current 91,000 to 300,000 by March 2000, the numbers cited above could increase substantially.

Chang-in Tien, former Chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley, states, "We want to take this opportunity to thank our members for their great support. Our community is just not a pile of loose sand" anymore. We can be proud for passing on a better legacy to our children."

Details of the poll are shown below:

Sample size: 385 random samples from "strong supporters."

Rate of participation: 30 per-

cent of total or 115 returns.

Questions:

1. Are you a registered voter?
2. Are you registered, or intend to register, as a Democrat, Independent, or Republican?
3. Which state do you reside in?
4. Will you vote for Sen. Bradley in the presidential primary?
5. If not, why not? Please be brief.

Breakdown of results: 28 Democrats; 15 Republicans; 49 Independent, undeclared, and declines; 9 not registered; 4 not eligible to vote; 37 percent in California.

The final count (excluding "not registered" and "ineligible"): 82 for Bradley; 4 leaning toward Bradley; 2 leaning against Bradley; 5 against Bradley; and 9 undecided.

For more information, look up 80-20's Web site at <http://www.80-20.to>.

Japanese Americans Will Benefit From New Legislation

Since the passage of H.R. 442 in 1988, California has successfully used loopholes in the law to deny Medi-Cal eligibility or place a claim on redress money. An attempt was made in 1992 to tighten the law, but the legislation was vetoed by then-Gov. Pete Wilson. In September, Gov. Gray Davis signed legislation that allows Japanese Americans residing in California to keep assets equal to the amount of a redress payment and still qualify for public benefits. Davis' signing of Senate Bill 164 closes the loopholes and provides permanent protections to JAs.

"In 1989, I authored Assembly Bill 4087 to enable Japanese Americans to receive redress payments from the federal government and still remain eligible for Medi-Cal benefits," said Sen. Patrick Johnston. "Redress payments were compensation for the gross injustices of the past, and I felt government should not make a payment with one hand, and take it away with the other. Federal redress payments should not impact Medi-Cal eligibility."

The intent of the 1988 law was to ensure redress payments were tax-free and payments did not deprive an individual of their Medi-Cal benefits. In practice, California filed claims against redress payments through the Medi-Cal Recovery Act, and denied Medi-Cal benefits to JAs who received or inherited redress payments. Senate Bill 164 authored by Johnston, provides:

- California recipients of federal redress payments made under H.R. 442 can retain assets equal to their \$20,000 federal redress payment and remain eligible for Medi-Cal benefits.

- California individuals who inherit assets equal to the \$20,000 federal redress payment from a spouse can retain those assets and remain eligible for Medi-Cal.

- The State of California cannot place a lien against federal redress payments contained in the estate of a Medi-Cal recipient. Individuals who received federal redress payments and/or inherited a spouse's redress payment can bequeath the redress money to their heirs. Canadian redress payments and payments made to Latin Americans under H.R. 442 are exempt from California state income taxation. Such payments do not impact the eligibility of the individual for Medi-Cal or public assistance benefits.

- Federal redress payments are not to be considered assets for determining eligibility for state student financial assistance.

In order to qualify for the exemption, individuals need to show proof that they received federal redress payments under H.R. 442 of 1988. If a redress payment is passed on to a surviving spouse, the spouse needs to show proof that an inheritance was federal redress money received under H.R. 442 of 1988. Senate Bill 164 is not retroactive, and went into effect Jan. 1, 2000. ■

Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship Fund Seeks Fellow Candidates

The Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship Fund is currently seeking applicants for its ninth Mike M. Masaoka Congressional Fellow Program for the 2000-2001 term.

"The successful candidate(s) will serve his or her fellowship in the office of a U.S. senator or member of the U.S. House of Representatives," said Dr. H. Tom Tamaki, chairman of the fund. "This marks the ninth call for candidates in this successful program which encourages public service."

The fellowship of three and one half months includes a stipend of \$7,500 provided by the fund. The

term served will be for September through December 2000 or February through May of 2001. The choice of fall or spring term will be arranged with the congressional office and the awardee. The deadline for applications is May 2, 2000.

Candidates must be American citizens, who are in at least their third year of college or in graduate or professional programs. Preference will be given to those having demonstrated commitment to Asian American issues, particularly affecting the Japanese American community. Written and oral communications skills are important.

The Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship Fund honors the late Mike M. Masaoka, who served as the Washington, D.C., representative for the JACL, for a lifetime of outstanding public service promoting justice, civil rights and human dignity. The

major goal of the fund, which will continue in perpetuity, is to encourage public service, granting awards to educate or train recipients for leadership roles in public service.

Awardees for the 1999-2000 term Nicole Inouye of Huntington Beach, Calif., and David Namura of Arvada, Colo., will begin their service in January 2000. Inouye will be serving in the office of Rep. Patsy T. Mink (D-Hawaii) while Namura will be associated with the office of Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii).

Interested candidates should contact the national JACL headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115, for application forms. They may also call 415/921-5225; fax: 415/931-4671, or e-mail: JACL@JACL.org, for information and applications. ■



By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Thailand Objects to "Anna and the King"

BANGKOK, Thailand—After banning "Anna and the King" within its borders, Thailand is taking its objections to the film overseas, instructing its embassies to explain to the world why it sees the movie as a distortion of history.

New guidelines issued to Thai embassies by the country's Foreign Ministry were published Jan. 8, in the *Nation*. Thai censors decided the film denigrates a beloved 19th-century monarch, King Mongkut, by portraying him as being under the sway of teacher Anna Leonowens, who taught English to the king's children.

The ministry, like the censors, found the film offensive and said it wrongly portrayed the king of Siam as barbaric, senseless and irrational.

The studio that made the film, 20th Century Fox, has decided not to appeal the censor board's ruling against the film last month, saying there is no chance it could be reversed.

Meanwhile, police arrested a third person for allegedly trafficking pirated video CD copies of the film, according to the *Bangkok Post* newspaper. Charges of counterfeiting the movie carry a two-year prison term.

The law forbidding insults to the king is seldom applied. King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the world's longest-reigning living monarch, has said he does not want anyone prosecuted under the law this year.

Economic Growth to Hold Steady in 2000

BEIJING—The deflation that has plagued China for two years appears to have bottomed out and growth should hold steady at around 7 percent this year, a senior official overseeing the economy said Jan. 4.

Dampening speculation that the government might loosen controls on its currency this year, State Development Planning Commission chairman Zeng Peiyan said improved trade figures meant the exchange rate could remain at its current level, which is about 8.26 yuan per U.S. dollar.

Growth in China's gross domestic product was 7.1 percent in 1999 while its trade surplus reached over \$30 billion.

Zeng declined to give a specific estimate for growth in 2000, saying that figure would be approved in March during the annual session of the National People's Congress.

Vietnam: Y2K OK

HANOI, Vietnam—Vietnam has entered the millennium safely, with only a handful of minor Y2K-related problems, officials reported Jan. 4.

The National Y2K Steering Committee said key industries such as telecommunications, electricity, airlines, gas and oil, finance and banking were operating normally Jan. 3, the first working day of the new year.

The report said some telephone switches in the southern province of Ba Ria Vung Tau and the central province of Thua Thien Hue confused the year 2000 with 1900.

Vietnam's relatively low reliance on technology — only

500,000 computers in the country of 76 million people — helped it remain fairly immune from the Y2K bug. Over the past year, the government has spent \$28.5 million to fix or upgrade computers.

Singaporeans With Alzheimer's to Triple by 2030

SINGAPORE—The number of Singaporean men and women with Alzheimer's disease is expected to triple by 2030, according to a study released Jan. 10.

The most important reason is the aging of the population. It will be very dramatic in the next 10 to 15 years," said Professor Kua Ee Heok, head of the psychological medicine department at Singapore's National University.

In Singapore, the majority of elderly sufferers are women. In 30 years, 6,300 women above the age of 65 will have Alzheimer's disease, three times the current 2,100, Kua said. For Singaporean men, the number is expected to triple from the current 1,100.

Kua said the results were based on a study by his department on 600 elderly Singaporeans randomly selected four years ago. World Health Organization officials helped carry out the study, he said. No margin of error was attached to the results.

Baby Boom Expected in Year of the Dragon

TAIPEI, Taiwan—Asia is expected to experience a big baby boom during the Year of the Dragon, regarded by the Chinese as the luckiest time to have a child in the 12-year Chinese astrological cal-

endar. This year is doubly auspicious because it's the millennium, or "Qian Xi," the "Year of a Thousand Happinesses."

Taiwanese officials expect a nearly 20 percent increase in the number of births during the dragon year, which begins Feb. 5. Total births are estimated to shoot up to 380,000 from the past decade's average of 320,000.

In Singapore, where ethnic Chinese account for more than 75 percent of the 3.2 million population, officials expect a 10 to 15 percent rise in the birthrate.

Obstetrician Tseng Chao-yan said many women are under pressure from their superstitious mothers-in-law to have dragon babies. "Some women ignored their own advanced ages and put off their pregnancies in order to get dragon babies," he said.

Meanwhile, some astrologers say a baby will have the best luck if it is born in the middle of the dragon year, when gold — one of the five elements — dominates.

Record Number Visit Shrines, Temples Over New Year's

TOKYO—A record number of people made visits to Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples across Japan during the first three days of the new millennium, police said Jan. 5.

An estimated 88.14 million people, the largest number since 1974, made the trip to pray for good fortune. The number of visitors was up 30,000 from the same period last year, a National Police Agency spokesman said.

Annual pilgrimages are a com-

mon New Year's rite for Japanese, who often hurl coins or bills into offertory boxes before making a silent prayer.

Meiji Shrine in central Tokyo remained the most popular spot over New Year's with 3.32 million visitors, though, curiously, that number was about 80,000 fewer than in 1999.

Police said Tokyo Disneyland was the most popular amusement park in Japan over the first three days of 2000, with 240,000 visitors, up 60,000 from last year.

Newspaper Defends Coverage of Royal Pregnancy

TOKYO—After receiving about 390 letters of complaint from readers, Japanese newspaper *Asahi Shimbun* recently defended its decision to break the news last month that Crown Princess Masako had shown signs of pregnancy.

"The Crown Prince and Crown Princess are public figures, and the imperial family and issues concerning imperial succession are of great concern to the nation," *Asahi* managing editor Akihiko Miura said in the newspaper's New Year's Day edition.

The *Asahi* report, speculating on a possible pregnancy, triggered a media frenzy with camera crews trying to track Masako's every move and reporters hanging around paparazzi-style outside her parents' home.

Palace officials announced on Dec. 31, that the princess had been pregnant but suffered a miscarriage.

"If our reporting put emotional pressure on the princess, we are at a loss for words," said Miura. ■

pacific echoes

COMMUNITY VIEWS

Editor's Note: In recent weeks there has been heated debate in the community over which inscriptions will finally be etched in the Japanese American Memorial in Washington, D.C., scheduled to be unveiled in November. More specifically, the debate has centered around a quote by Mike Masaoka, former JACL national director, better known as the Japanese American Creed. The following commentaries take a look at the pros and cons for inclusion of the quote on the memorial which has garnered more than \$10.5 million in donations from the community.

An Open Letter in Support of Masaoka Quote

The following letter by Gerald Yamada was recently submitted to J. Carter Brown, Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts.

I. INTRODUCTION.

I am submitting comments in response to letters that the Fine Arts Commission ("Commission") has received regarding the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism (Memorial). These letters ask the Commission to delete Mike Masaoka's quotation from the inscriptions that have been approved and submitted by the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF).

In particular, I am addressing comments submitted by Professors Yamamoto and Iijima in a letter dated November 10, 1999, and by Professor Takahashi in a letter dated December 3, 1999. Both letters contain misleading information which I will discuss in detail in this letter.

I ask that this letter be included in the administrative record in support of the NJAMF approved inscriptions.

II. UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS ABOUT MIKE MASAOKA.

In their letter, Professors Yamamoto and Iijima state that "Mr. Masaoka's place in that history [Japanese American experience during World War II] has become increasingly controversial and problematic." They offer no specifics in support of their request to remove Mr. Masaoka from the Memorial inscriptions but rather ask in their letter the Commission to adopt a paper that was rejected by the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL).

While this is neither the time nor place to debate either his role or his legacy it is important to note for the record that there is evidence in material commissioned by the Japanese American Citizens League itself that he proposed a "suicide battalion" of Japanese Americans be formed whose loyalty would be assured by family and friends being held by the government, and in 1942 proposed to the government that Japanese Americans be branded and utilized as cheap labor in the sugar beet fields. In addition, Masaoka failed to support the first Japanese American redress legislation in 1979, and initially opposed individual monetary redress for Japanese Americans. (Emphasis added.)

These allegations could have been easily dismissed as untrue if no effort was made to investigate and analyze the substance of the assertions rather than to record them as fact. The allegations are part of a specious smear campaign.

A. Mike Masaoka Did Not Propose That Japanese Americans Be Branded, Stamped and Utilized as Cheap Labor.

The material relied upon by Professors Yamamoto and Iijima is a paper which was prepared by a Deborah K. Lim in 1990 (Lim Paper). This paper was rejected by JACL which Professors Yamamoto and Iijima neglect to mention in their letter.

B. Lim Paper Is Not Definitive.

In her paper, Ms. Lim extracted the following quote from Minutes of a Special JACL Emergency Meeting ("Minutes"), March 8-10, 1942, First Session, pp. 15-16:

"Mr. Mike Masaoka, reported on conditions in Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, and Montana [Underlining in original.] At the Tolman hearing, to fifteen telegrams sent to governors, nine answered. Eight were in the negative and one qualified. This state was Colorado. Colorado, Wyoming [sic] Nebraska and Montana will take Japanese, but the government must guarantee adequate protection. He recommends one of the three following methods:

1. Be put into Labor Concentration camps to be farmed out to large sugar beet combines as cheap laborers.

2. The Japanese internees be brought in for roadmaking.

3. The Japanese be branded and stamped and put under the supervision of the Federal government."

Ms. Lim speculated in her paper that the phrase "he recommends" could refer to Masaoka or to one of the governors of the four states mentioned. Lim Paper at p. 36. Ms. Lim further implied in her paper that it was Mr. Masaoka who made the recommendation because she believed that he had the opportunity to correct any typographical or transcription errors in the 1942 Minutes in 1970, some 28 years later. Id. However, the statement she is relying upon and quoted in her paper stated that Mr. Masaoka reviewed the Minutes in writing a forward. He did not state that he reviewed in particular the above quoted portion of the Minutes. Furthermore, he was not reviewing the Minutes — some 28 years later — to make typographical or transcription corrections.

It is counter intuitive that a Japanese American would even suggest that other Japanese Americans should be branded and stamped. Any Japanese American, including Mr. Masaoka, would have had to be completely out of touch with reality if he were to suggest to other Japanese Americans that their mothers, fathers, wives, children, grandparents, and grandchildren should be branded like animals.

2. Lim Paper Is Flawed By Its Omissions.

a. Omitted Minutes Showed That Mike Masaoka Was Making a Report and Not Making a Recommendation.

Ms. Lim failed to include in her paper the entire portion of the Minutes summarizing Mr. Masaoka's report. The omitted portion of the Minutes states that Mr. Masaoka concluded his report with the following:

"Montana: The farming season is growing short.

Colorado: The best agricultural state is already occupied except for small patches here and there which is available.

Wyoming: Worse than Nevada, since it is a long and extensive prairie.

Nebraska: Japanese are welcome as they wish to build two highways. The best homestead lands are unavailable for those people who are interested in other things besides farming. Prospects are very negligible. House conditions everywhere are very poor."

This omission is important in that it shows that Mr. Masaoka was making a report and not making a recommendation. With the omission, Ms. Lim's presentation of Mr. Masaoka's report implies that he spoke about the conditions in the four states and then moved onto other matters making a recommendation at the end of his report. However, the omission is directly related to the conditions in the four states which the Minutes stated was the purpose of Mr. Masaoka's report. By ending his report on the conditions in the four states, Mr. Masaoka clearly is shown to be making a report throughout his presentation.

Another reason why it is obvious that Mr. Masaoka was not making a recommendation was that no action was reported as taken by JACL in response to such a purported recommendation. Furthermore, no one attending the Special Emergency Meeting has ever mentioned that Mr. Masaoka or anyone else, attending the special meeting made this alleged recommendation about branding and stamping. In other words, it is inconceivable that such a bizarre and inflammatory

recommendation would not have come to light given the amount of retrospective examination given to the events related to this period of history.

b. Ms. Lim's Interview of Mr. Masaoka Omitted From Paper.

Ms. Lim failed to include in her paper any reference or excerpt from her interview with Mr. Masaoka on or about February 2, 1990. In this interview, he clearly denied making the recommendation that he proposed that his fellow Japanese Americans be branded and stamped.

LIM: ... Here it say you are reporting on the conditions in Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado and Montana. I'll just read it. [Ms. Lim read only the portion of the Minutes quoted in her paper and not the omitted portion described above.]

MASAOKA: Who made that recommendation?

LIM: That is what is not clear from the context of this. I was wondering if you recall this.

MASAOKA: No. I recall that Governor Olson called us in, a number of Japanese Americans, and made suggestions pretty much like that. And also, the Governor talked to us about trying to get some of the people to come and help pick the crops, harvest the crops, and so on. And that sounds very much like what Governor Culbert Olson of California suggested.

LIM: You don't remember making that suggestion yourself?

MASAOKA: No. I don't think I would.

Could it have been one of the governors of those particular states making that suggestion?

MASAOKA: I think they may have. As I recall, Herbert Moore (?) of Utah and Clark of Idaho were governors. They had quite a few Japanese Americans in their area, and they were both very interested in farm labor for their areas."

Masaoka Interview Transcript at pp 22-23.

This interview with Mr. Masaoka highlights a number of points. First, Ms. Lim admitted that the Minutes were not clear as to who made the suggestion. Second, Mr. Masaoka clearly states that he did not make the suggestion. Third, Mr. Masaoka stated that Governor Olson of California most likely made the suggestion.

These important points were omitted in Ms. Lim's paper. These convenient omissions raise questions about a possible bias on Ms. Lim's part to support her speculation that Masaoka made the recommendation.

3. Lim Paper Was Not Probing.

If Ms. Lim did not believe Mr. Masaoka's recollection that it was Governor Olson who made the suggestion, she failed to consider the obvious answer to the question of who made the suggestion. The obvious answer is that a representative of the federal government most likely made the suggestion. It is logical that the federal government officials who were focused on implementing Executive Order 9066 could have made the suggestion. By March 1942, the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command had already announced his exclusion and evacuation orders. Method three even stated that the branded and stamped Japanese be "put under the supervision of the Federal government" indicating that the federal government could have promoted the recommendation.

Further, the Select Committee Investigating National Defense Migration, House of Representatives, 77th Congress ("Tolman Committee"), held hearings in the latter part of February and the beginning of

March of 1942. JACL representatives appeared and testified at these hearings. Lim Paper at p. 25. The reason for the Special JACL Emergency Meeting held in March 1942 was to respond to these Tolman hearings. The Minutes also reported that meetings were recently held with John J. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War, and Thomas C. Clark, Department of Justice Liaison to the Western Defense Command. Finally, in Nisei, 1969, at p. 339, author Bill Hosokawa attributed the idea of "work corps" to "clear and develop land, and produce agricultural and manufactured products" to Milton S. Eisenhower, Director of the War Relocation Authority.

It is highly plausible that either the Tolman Committee or other federal government officials recommended branding and stamping Japanese as a means to "guarantee adequate protection."

4. Mike Masaoka's Civil Rights Record Belies That He Proposed Japanese Americans Be Branded and Stamped.

Mr. Masaoka's civil rights record in promoting the interests of persons of Japanese ancestry belies the possibility that he was capable of making such an inhumane recommendation. His civil rights contributions are outlined by Members of Congress who paid tribute to Mr. Masaoka upon his death. Mr. Masaoka is credited with the passage of the following legislation as a direct result of his lobbying efforts.

Congressman Sidney Yates of Illinois stated that "Mike was instrumental in gaining naturalization rights for the Issei," "Mike was also able to prevent the deportation of more than a thousand alien Japanese who had American citizen families at the end of the war," and "he pushed for the passage of the Soldiers' Bride Act, which made it possible for American servicemen to marry Japanese wives and bring them back to the United States."

137 Cong. Rec. H5892.

Congressman Frank Horton of New York stated that "Mike's efforts were instrumental in winning countless legislative victories for the civil rights movement; the repeal of the Japanese Exclusion Act, the right for all legally resident aliens to become naturalized American citizens, the Japanese American Evacuation Claim Act [of 1948], Statehood for Hawaii, the Immigration and Naturalization Act, and Ratification of the Treaty of Peace with Japan." — to name just some of the more than 500 legislative changes Mike had a hand in. 137 Cong. Rec. H5895.

Congressman Mel Levine of California stated that "Mike Masaoka also helped to repeal the sections of the Internal Security Act of 1950, which codified the presidential authority used to justify the internment of Japanese-Americans during the Second World War. Its repeal will help ensure that no one else will be forced to suffer the wholesale violation of civil liberties that Japanese-Americans endured." 137 Cong. Rec. H5896.

Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi of California stated that "Mike was instrumental in the repeal of the Japanese Exclusion Act of 1924, which barred Japanese immigrants from becoming citizens and from owning land." 137 Cong. Rec. H5896.

Congressman Howard Berman of California stated that "Mike was again at the forefront of efforts to amend the Walter-McCarran Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1952 giving Japanese immigrants the same rights as Europeans under visa preference categories based on national origin. Our earlier immigration system effectively barred entry to Japanese and other Asian immigrants because preference was first given to Europeans." 137 Cong. Rec. H5896.

To be continued in the next issue of the P.C., Jan. 28-Feb. 3, 2000.



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COMMUNITY VIEWS

NJAMF Disregarding Concerns of the JA Community

The following letter was submitted by Jack Herzog to National Japanese American Memorial Foundation Chairman Melvin Chiojioji on Jan. 11.

An Open Letter to Melvin Chiojioji, NJAMF Chairman.

"Dear Chair:

"Thank you very much for your recent letter to the verifiably press as chair of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation. In it you certainly have clarified your lack of concern for the following:

- * That the Japanese American community and other interested persons have been largely ignored by you in developing the wording of the inscriptions for the monument;

- * That the one inscription which was published by the Associated Press in July 1999 stated that the court had upheld the power of the government to incarcerate groups of innocent people in times of emergency, inferring that the Japanese American imprisonment was and is constitutional and is not to be condemned. This proposed inscription resulted in such a furor among knowledgeable persons that you were forced to withdraw it.

- * That you have deliberately attributed public support for the monument as extending also to the inscriptions, which is just one element of the entire monument. The foundation has not published the inscriptions for comments by the Nikkei community and has not invited input, even from the vast majority of people whose generous donations have made the monument possible;

- * That requests by us common folk for information about the monument do not receive the courtesy of a response by your staff. My own request to you made in October 1999 is yet unanswered;

- * That internal procedures originally established by your board to ensure orderly and democratic functioning have been abandoned by your clique on the board in order to achieve a pre-

determined end;

- * That the original inscription about the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team failed to give them proper recognition until, by chance, a local veterans group learned of this error of omission and forced a revision of the text;

- * That despite the designation on one of the inscriptions of the Japanese American Military Intelligence Service, there has never been such an organization;
- * That you didn't care that reference to the 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion was eliminated despite its many wartime accomplishments until the organization comprised of veterans of the 1399th threatened to withhold its financial pledge;

- * That both the Hawaii Club 100 and the 442nd Veterans Association, of Hawaii, have raised objections to the name of Mike Masaoka on the monument;

- * That you have ignored the request of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans Association to mention in the narrative section that Japanese Americans gave their lives in the Spanish American War, World War I, the Korean War in which 246 died, in Vietnam and all other wars;

- * That in your opinion only former camp inmates, thereby excluding some members of your own board, are qualified to contribute to your version of Japanese American and, therefore, American history. Do you rate those who spent time only in Army-operated assembly centers as equally qualified with those who spent time in camps run by the War Relocation Authority? How about those who were interned only in Department of Justice camps with those who were in both DOJ camps and then paroled to WRA camps? Under your criterion, do you allow contributions by the successful *coram nobis* legal teams, most of whom were Sansei but — Heaven forbid! — included non-Nikkei, even Chinese Americans and *hakuin* (Caucasians) like me? What is your assessment of those not being qualified to make additions to history, like Chinese

American Loni Ding with her award-winning films, *Nisei Soldier* and *The Color of Honor*, and Deborah Lim, author of the report on the Japanese American Citizens League?

- * That it made no difference to you that the *haiku* approved by your board was then considered so inappropriate that it was deleted, only somehow to reappear, but then to be removed again, this time at the recommendation of the Commission on

Fine Arts. Will it reappear again, phoenix-like?

"So now you have made it very clear that the real issue with which you are concerned is Mike Masaoka since five of the twelve paragraphs in your news release are about him. If your limited view of Nikkei history is allowed to prevail, the memorial to the patriotism of all Japanese Americans will be perceived by many people as the Mike Masaoka monument."

"It is most distressing to see the third possible catastrophe for Japanese Americans; the first being the devastation caused by the exclusion and incarceration itself, the second, the unjust implementation of the Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act; and now in this monument the disregard for the Japanese American community by your committee of board members in order to attain its personal political ends." ■

COMMENTARY

A Response to NJAMF's Chairman Chiojioji

By WILLIAM HOHRI

The statement by Melvin H. Chiojioji, Jan. 5, prompts this rebuttal.

1. I am taken aback that the board of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation does not cover the travel expenses of its members for their attendance at its quarterly meetings. During the redress movement, even the National Council for Japanese American Redress, which paid neither salary nor rent, covered travel expenses of those it invited to Chicago or elsewhere for various events. Expenses, I believe, are expenses and should be reimbursed, especially for something as basic as a board meeting. One obvious problem with not covering expenses is the way it discriminates against those who cannot afford the journey.

2. The argument that "in any democracy the majority prevails" is incomplete. Vote taking must conform to rules, in this case *Robert's Rules of Order*, in order for the vote to be democratic. Even majority votes may be nullified when these rules are violated.

3. The charge that "eight board members ... have spread scurrilous charges about the board decisions" is beyond exaggeration; in olden times one would be called to defend one's honor when falsely charged with using indecent, vulgar or abusive language. Worse than exaggeration or insult, however, it may reflect ignorance.

4. The fact of "the fact remains that no process which forwards Mr. Mike Masaoka's name on the memorial would be acceptable to some of those who signed the memo," is unsupported by their

memorandum and hence not factual. It is Chiojioji's opinion. In addition, the use of the word "some" is hard to parse for a single memorandum that does not have separate parts for this signatory and that signatory. If one were asked to quantify "some" into a number, say two, one should then be able to attach names to these two. But how can this be done when all eight have signed a single statement? Where is the fact of "some of those who signed the memo"? Who are they?

5. Masaoka's words, "I am proud ... I believe ... I glory ... I boast ... I trust ... were written in 1940 and completely betrayed two years later. Moreover, the genius of the Constitution is that it provides protections and guarantees for minorities and individuals against governmental intrusions and suspensions of their fundamental rights. The oath of office for officeholders is that one agrees to support, defend and uphold the Constitution, not America. This is a very basic issue that must be resolved. Is one patriotic to America or to our Constitution?"

6. The statement, "Masaoka's role as executive director [national secretary] ... when Japanese American leaders were fighting desperately to avert mass imprisonment" must be squared with his four-point statement before the Tolan Committee: 1) opposition to the principle of the evacuation, unless it is ... applied to all persons ... indiscriminately; 2) "that no one group or nationality should be singled out for special attention;" 3) "all citizens should be treated alike;" and culminates with 4) "Even though our beliefs may not be recognized by the military and they should

single out the American citizens of Japanese extraction, as they have done, for special attention, we believe that, as good American citizens, we ought to accept the world of those charged with the responsibility of national safety and that we should cooperate with them to the best of our abilities." Point four is Masaoka's concession and acceptance of mass imprisonment, not "fighting desperately to avert" it.

7. As for the charge that Masaoka and the JACL had no authority to speak for the Japanese American community, one must look at the November 1942 JACL conference of "representatives" from the camps, who met in Salt Lake City. The last thing we can call these people are representatives. They were appointed by the JACL. They were not elected by any duly formed representation of inmates or by referendum of any of the camps as they might have been. And it was this 1942 conference that voted to ask the government to reinstate conscription for the young male detainees, an understandably controversial proposal for people denuded of their rights. Indeed, if one examines the Selective Service Act of 1940, a strong case can be made for the illegality of conscripting detained inmates.

8. Who has said that Mike Masaoka ordered the mass exclusion and detention of JAs? This is a straw man argument.

9. The achievements under Masaoka's leadership must include Masaoka's public statements.

10. As a writer of letters on this issue to the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Park Service, I categorically deny that I write because I have been directed to by anyone else but me. ■

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Montana Hosts Teacher Training Workshop

Participants of the recent Montana Education Association's convention in Missoula, Mont., saw some new faces as professor Dr. Sharon Ishii Jordan from Creighton University in Omaha, Neb., Greg Marutani, president of the San Francisco JACL, and Hero Shiosaki, Pocatello-Blackfoot JACL, met to conduct JACL's first national education committee workshop on the Japanese American experience. In all, 2,858 teachers registered to attend the more than 600 workshops during the two days.

Ishii Jordan and Marutani led a teacher training workshop giving an overview of the history of the Japanese migration to Hawaii and the United States, and all of the underlying obstacles and problems encountered by JAs up to, including, and after the events of World War II to the present time.

Shiosaki spoke about the discriminatory treatment of the Nisei soldiers following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the history of the 100th Battalion in Hawaii, the later charges of the 442nd



Hero Shiosaki gives a presentation during the teacher training workshop.

Infantry Regimental Combat Team in 1943, and their battle records overseas.

At an on-site visit to Fort Missoula, the education committee members met with Joyce Getz, a ninth-grader in 1996 when he decided that for his Eagle Scout project he would undertake the building of a monument dedicated in memory of 3,000 Japanese, 1,000 Italian nationals, and 22

Germans who were prisoners of the Department of Justice during WWII. The Japanese prisoners were Buddhist priests, school teachers, traveling salesmen, and others having influence.

Getz not only spearheaded the building of the monument but also located an original barracks, which he had moved back to Fort Missoula where it has been restored and painted.

Getz's inspiration for the project came to him in his English class as he read and learned about the evacuation and internment. His teacher of English was Carol Kramer.

In 1995 Carol Kramer, Jeanne Langlais, Pam McAtee and Randa Siegle, faculty of the Target Range Middle School, had received a U.S. West grant to attend a Heart Mountain symposium. It was at the symposium that they learned of the unjust, harsh treatment of the internees that made them resolve that all who are graduated from Target Range Middle School would know about the evacuation and internment of JAs. ■



Stranger Than Fiction

By Christina Shigemura

Honk, Honk!

It's almost impossible to get around Los Angeles without a car. To be fair, I should also mention that it's almost impossible to get around Los Angeles with a car, too. Aside from the movie stars, L.A.'s real claim to fame is that it boasts something like five out of the nation's ten worst gridlocks. As one television newscaster so eloquently put it, "Traffic is bad in East L.A. and worse on the Westside."

I used to drive an '83 Toyota Corolla. Even after 200,000 miles and almost 17 years, it was still running well, with no major problems. There were a few little annoyances like the fact that the sunroof would leak fat, icy droplets onto my shoulder on rainy days and I couldn't use the air conditioner because the seal had a leak. The windows didn't close tightly so they whistled when I drove the freeway. But for the most part, it was a great car.

I learned a lot from that car—how to check the oil, where to check Kleenex for easy access from the driver's seat, how to find an honest mechanic (Randy, my current car guy, who gives me the real 411 and doesn't try to sell me parts and services that I don't need).

Some of the lessons from that car even have Zen overtones. For example, years of careful thought and reflection (I had plenty of time while sitting on L.A.'s freeways cum parking lots) yielded this pearl of wisdom: people who look down on people who have old cars are jealous because they did not have the good judgment to choose a car which would last a

long time. The most compassionate way to handle their jealous stares, I decided, is with my best beauty pageant wave (elbow, elbow, wrist), accompanied by a toothy smile. My childhood dentist, Dr. Kanagaki, would have been proud.

Some of the lessons I learned from my '83 Corolla were more practical, however. True knowledge comes from experience, and I had to have my clutch replaced twice in the life of my car. To those of you who have never had this experience, I offer these handy guidelines. You may need a new clutch if: 1) You drive a stick shift. 2) You can't put the car into gear. 3) When you try to put the car into gear, it makes "nyew, nyew" noises like a vacuum cleaner in heat. 4) Your trustworthy mechanic (Randy) tells you that the clutch needs to be replaced.

Recently, I decided to replace my '83 Corolla with a newer car. I wanted to buy a slightly used car in order to get the best value and avoid the exorbitant depreciation that occurs in the first two years of a new car's life, but buying a used car is tricky. So I bought a '97 Honda Civic from Le Truong, who sold my dad's finance a Honda last year.

Truong is a mechanic who fixes salvaged, late-model, Japanese cars and sells them on a small lot in San Jose. "Salvage" sounds scary but usually just means that a professional thief stole the car and took the air bags and a few other salable parts, and the insurance company compensated the former owner for the car,

which police later found. When this happens, the recovered car is declared to be salvaged and is sold at auction.

What all of this means to me is that: 1) I got a great price on my Honda, and 2) since buying my new car, I have discovered the wonderful world of theft-deterrent devices. After all, my car was already stolen from its previous owner, so there is no denying that it could happen again.

I have The Club, which those in the know assure me only slows a professional car thief down by about three seconds, but which I feel nonetheless obligated to use because it color coordinates perfectly with my car.

I am also thinking of getting one of those fancy, flashing, honking alarms which cause one's neighbors to begin cursing at one whenever a pine cone falls on one's car. I have to look into this more, though. Car alarms have so many features and options that shopping for one is almost more difficult than shopping for a new car.

A friend whose Honda Civic was stolen at the Glendale Galleria urged me to get LoJack. For only \$595, LoJack installs a transmitter in a random place on the car, enabling police to locate the car after it has been stolen. I forked over the \$595. I'd like to keep this car for another 15 years. ■

Christina Shigemura is a Hapa Yonsei who spends her time sitting on the 101 freeway and contemplating what to write about next.



By the Board

By Lori Fujimoto

Manzanar Historical Site Needs Support

As we begin a new year, the JACL is exploring the community projects occurring across the country. We have two very important projects that we encourage our JACL members and friends in the community to support.

The Manzanar National Historical site has received a challenge to raise \$150,000 by January 30 of this year. If this is accomplished, the Manzanar National Historical Foundation will receive a matching grant of \$150,000 from the National Park Foundation. This grant was appropriated by Congress in 1996. With this funding, the Manzanar National Historical site will be preserved and enhanced for future generations to learn about the Japanese American experience in Manzanar, California.

The Manzanar National Historical site plans are exciting. Park Service interpretive exhibits will give visitors a sense of what Manzanar was like when it was an internment camp for Americans of Japanese ancestry. Some of the elements they plan to restore are: the entire barbed wire fence, one guard watchtower, some of the barracks, gardens maintained by internees, and the auditorium. This auditorium will also serve as the new visitor center.

Another component to the historical site will be the education

of students and teachers who inquire about the camp experience. The National Park Service is coordinating the Camp Identification Card Project. This project will make an identification card for former internees from all of the camps. The card will include a picture of the person, family background and history, and memories of their camp experience and how it impacted their life today. These cards will be provided to school children who visit the site or to teachers who request teaching aids for their classes.

Through these cards, young students will have an opportunity to learn about the many emotions and experiences in the camps and subsequent to internment. This valuable teaching tool will provide a lasting legacy for camp survivors across the United States. To participate in this lasting legacy for students, please call Karl Coughlin, Manzanar Park Ranger, by May 1.

For Manzanar to tell our story it must be preserved. The National Park Service has taken on that challenge. Let's help them realize it. We must make a concerted, dedicated effort to make sure the Manzanar Historical Site is preserved to tell our story for future generations. Please support these two very important projects. It is our story and our site and our funding. Let's demonstrate our leadership. ■

Seattle Chapter to Celebrate 78th Annual Dinner "2000: Achieving Social Justice"

The Seattle chapter of JACL will host "2000: Achieving Social Justice," its 78th annual installation banquet on Jan. 29 featuring keynote speaker Washington Trade Director Martha Choe and TV anchorwoman Lori Matsukawa as emcee.

Announcements of several community awards will also be made at the event to be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Suites in Tukwila, 16500 Southcenter Parkway, 206/575-0166. The cost is \$50 per person.

"Seattle JACL continues to play a leading role among Japanese Americans, Asian Americans and the Greater Seattle communities," said David Yamaguchi, 1999 president of Seattle JACL. "Over the past year, the organization has been most visible in bringing the Aki Sogabe murals to the Pike Place Market, in its selection as a recipient for a Samuel McKinney racial justice award from the Church Council of Greater Seattle, and in its recent successful drive to change

the name of Sharples Middle School to the Aki Kurose Academy," said Yamaguchi.

Incoming Seattle JACL president, Sharon Sobie-Seymour, will host the award ceremonies. Last year's event honored Frank A. Blethen, publisher of the Seattle Times for his courage in opposing Initiative 200, consistent with the family's longstanding history of supporting racial minorities and women.

Keynote Martha Choe was recently appointed by Gov. Gary Locke as Director of the Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. Previously, she served on the Seattle City Council from 1992 to 1999.

With over 600 members, the Seattle JACL has provided seed funding for the Asian Community Leadership Foundation to provide skill building in the political process, supports projects such as the Aki Kurose Memorial Scholarship fund and is a co-sponsor of the Asian Pacific Islander city and county candidates forum. ■

COMMENTARY

One Nation: Improving Race Relations for a Better America

By SEN. BILL BRADLEY

Like many Americans, I have felt the impulse to consider people of different races as fundamentally different from me. Only contact and interaction has taught me the foolishness of those views.

With Asian Americans, that journey deepened in college when I roomed with a second-generation Japanese American who was born in a stable at Santa Anita Race-track on his way to an internment camp in Poston, Arizona.

My roommate had a way about him that invited openness and manifested genuine interest in another human being. Both of us had served as student leaders and shared a love of sports and history. The only real difference was that he was of Japanese ancestry and I was of Scotch-Irish—which ultimately was no difference at all.

My roommate rarely talked about the internment, but partly as a catharsis and partly as a service, in 1971 he wrote a book called "American in Disguise." It told of how he spent his first few years in an internment camp. During his book tour, I accompanied him one evening to a call-in show at a TV station in St. Louis. I was not prepared for the hostility. Callers said:

"If he doesn't like America, tell him to go back to Japan."

"I don't know why you're complaining, you've done well in America."

"I lost my husband at Pearl Harbor. You can't trust these

Japanese. How do we know what you say about these camps is true? I don't trust you."

Caller after caller spewed out an irrational hatred toward Japanese. None apparently registered that my roommate was American, not Japanese. Their failure to acknowledge what he had recounted was an extreme denial of the historical record. It would not be the last time that I observed such reactions, and always it would be painful.

Race relations in America are never simple. When confronted with the legacy of fear surrounding the issue of race, what can we do beyond deploring violence, enforcing anti-discrimination laws, toughening hate crime laws? How can we peel back the layers of denial and defense that all races bring to the table of multiracial dialogue? How can we overcome our divisions to get to a time when race exists, but doesn't matter?

While many legal barriers are down, divisions still remain, but they are divisions of the heart more than of the law. The law is only a framework. It cannot improve and enrich all the ways that we relate to human beings of a different race. The law can tell people what is right for them and then force them to do it, but it cannot change the way they feel.

In running for president, I am betting that far more than a majority of people in America want to achieve a deeper racial unity. I am betting that the goodness that is in each of us can win out over our more base impulses and that together we can unleash our national potential and live the promise of our Declaration that "all men are created equal."

We are truly at a time when we

will all advance together or each will be diminished. By honestly accepting one another, we can get to a new place where fear and hostility give way to the acceptance of goodness in each of us no matter what race.

Only leadership will get us there. From the president, it starts with making sure that everyone knows just how important this issue is to him, and how fundamental it is to our nation's future.

When Ronald Reagan was president, everyone knew that if you wanted to please the boss, you cut taxes, increased military spending and fought communism. If I am president, I want one thing to be known: if you want to please the boss, one of the things you'd better show is how in your department or agency you've furthered tolerance and racial understanding.

When I was in Iowa earlier this year, I spoke at a diversity forum at the University of Iowa with an audience of mostly white students. Late that evening, in the home of two professors, a woman asked me, "Why are you speaking about the need for racial progress to a group of white lawyers?" And I answered, "Why not to you? I talk about it everywhere I go."

I will continue to talk through this campaign about the importance of deciding whether we will be a collection of 265 million individuals, or 265 million individuals living together as one nation. One nation—where all men and all women are created equal and where each advances and prospers, not because of what they are, but because of who they are, as individuals and as part of that one nation. ■



■ JOB OPENING

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Under the direction of the JACL National Board, the National Director manages and directs the administrative, program and advocacy affairs of the JACL, a national nonprofit civil rights organization.

Primary duties include: Full responsibility for implementing the activities of the JACL Program for Action and other policies and decisions for the JACL's National Council, and National Board of Directors. Serves as chief advocate and spokesperson to the general public, including mass media, government, business and community. Formulates timely positions on civil rights issues in consultation with the National President and National Board. Responsible for the oversight of financial management and accounting, maintenance of physical facilities, property, equipment, disbursement and expenditure of funds, and revenue development. Responsible for personnel matters, including general supervision and development of professional staff, employment and termination of all staff in accordance with the personnel manual, and coordination of the national staff to ensure effective and efficient policy implementation, program planning and development, and program evaluation. Responsible for foundation, corporate and public fundraising, including special fundraising events. Assumes appropriate contact with fundraising sources. Filing deadline is March 1, 2000. Salary range: \$75,000 - \$100,000. Submit cover letter and resume to: JACL Personnel Committee, JACL National Headquarters, 1705 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. With questions call Tom Enrie at JACL Headquarters, 415/921-5225 or email to ntdir@jacl.org.

Sacramento JACL Holds Community Service Recognition Dinner

By TOKO FUJII

Attended by 500 community leaders, members and friends, the 1999 Sacramento JACL Community Service Recognition Dinner was held at the Radisson Hotel Dec. 9.

Honored this year were Midori Hiyama, Percy and Gladys Masaki, Shigeru Shimazu, Anne Rudin and Union Bank of California. Also recognized were the Sacramento Bee and James Maddock of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Opening remarks were made by outgoing president Miyoko Sawamura, followed by the pledge of allegiance, led by Commander Valentino Soto of Nisei Post 8985 VFW. Invocation was delivered by the Rev. Seicho Asahi of Koyasan Buddhist Temple.

John Tateishi, JACL national director, installed the following 2000 officers: Pres.-Dean Okimoto, 1st VP-Toko Fujii; 2nd VP-Erin Komatsubara; Sec.-Elaine Yamaguchi; Treas.-Ralph Sugimoto; Historian-Gene Itogawa; Youth Coordinator-Suzanne Sasaki; Past Pres.-Miyoko Sawamura. Directors at large: Keith Adachi, Lori Fujimoto, Tom Fujimoto, Calvin Hara, Kuni Hirano, Michael Iwahara, Dr. Richard Ikeda, Randy Imai, Gary Kikumoto, Gary Kuwabara, Hiroko Ninomiya, Michael Sawamura, Genevieve Shiroma and Shigeru Shimazu.

Honorees: Midori Hiyama, for outstanding service in the field of education and chapter scholarship program, was introduced by Tom Fujimoto; Percy and Gladys



(From left) JACL National Director John Tateishi installing Sacramento JACL 2000 board of directors: Dean Okimoto, Pres.; Toko Fujii, 1st VP; Erin Komatsubara, 2nd VP.

Masaki, for decades of dedicated service in the organization and perpetuation of the Sacramento chapter, were presented by Tom Okubo; and Shigeru Shimazu who was recognized for her dedication to the VFW Post 8985, the Sacramento JACL, the Bocho Doshikai and South Sacramento Shinwaka, was presented by Kuni Hirano.

Anne Rudin, former mayor of the City of Sacramento, whose dedication and efforts behind the Matsuyama-Sacramento sister City movement were recognized, was introduced by Hiroko Ninomiya.

Union Bank of California, presented by Toko Fujii, was honored for their decades of support and encouragement to the Sacramento JACL in the way of financial support for many of their ma-

jor projects.

The Sacramento Bee, represented by Howard Weaver, and the FBI, represented by Special Agent James Maddock, were honored for their lead in the aftermath of the arson attacks against three Jewish temples of worship in June of this past summer.

Keynote speaker Hon. Bill Lockyer, attorney general of the state of California, was introduced by Don Hatamiya, secretary of commerce and trade. His special message was for the state to take advantage of the diversity of the population and make California the leader in the coming millennium.

The benediction was delivered by the Rev. George Nishikawa, pastor emeritus of the Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church. ■

San Mateo Chapter Announces Annual Scholarship Program

The San Mateo chapter of JACL and the Tomodachi Senior Women's Group of the San Mateo JACL Community Center recently announced their annual scholarship program for 1999. The organizations will award up to \$4,000 to deserving high school seniors from the San Mateo County area who are planning to attend a trade school, business

school, university, or any institution of higher learning in Fall 2000.

The scholarships are open to national JACL members and their families. Applications are available at the San Mateo JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St., San Mateo, CA 94401-3323, 650/342-2793.

Applications are also available

from San Mateo County high schools, the San Mateo Buddhist Temple and the Sturge Presbyterian Church.

Please note that entering freshmen applications and supporting materials must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2000, and should be sent to the scholarship chairman of the San Mateo JACL at 415 S. Claremont St., San Mateo, CA 94401-3323.

After selection of the local award recipients, the top three applicants will be submitted to the JACL headquarters in San Francisco for further judging in the national scholarship program. The national scholarship program will award over 40 scholarships totalling over \$40,000. ■



MICHELLE CHAKONO

Michelle and her family lived in Long Beach, Calif. before being sent to an internment camp in Jerome, Ark. Her parents owned a fruit market on Pine Avenue in Long Beach. She had two brothers, George and Shigame and a sister Sicorro, nickname CoCo. Michelle mailed a carved fish with "19 Jerome R.C. 42" printed on the back. With information about Michelle or her family, please contact Loretta Hollis at 949 N. Rose Street, Phoenix, OR 97335. E-mail: rwright@cdsnet.net.

KOREAN WAR ATIS

John Hong is looking for people who served the U.S. Army during the Korean War in 1950. Specifically he is looking for those that served in the Allied Translation and Interpreter Section. They served the U.S. Army in Korea to translate and interrogate POWs. Information on the following is appreciated: Hayasida, Sergeant; Yamada, Sergeant; Hamasaka, Sergeant; Kawahara, FFAF; Onoda, Sergeant; Takasako, FFAF; Horisige, FFAF; Nakayama, FFAF; Hanasu, CPT; Tsunemaki, CPT; Taniguchi, Pfc; Nagao, FFAF; Honda, FFAF; Inomoto, Sfc; Horisige, CPT. Please contact John Hong, 1640 Overland Drive, San Mateo, CA 94403, tel. and fax: 650/312-1614.

Florin Chapter Donates \$5,000 to NJAMF



Joanne Iritani of the Florin chapter JACL recently presented a \$5,000 check to Toko Fujii, representing the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C.

This contribution brings the total amount of donations from the Sacramento area to more than \$115,000, said Fujii. Added to the total raised in San Joaquin Valley, the present count amounts to more than \$210,000. ■

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Bratcher, Susan Lee Hashitani, 61, Payette, Idaho, Jan. 4, Ontario, Ore.-born, survived by husband Gary; daughter Kimberlee (Boise); son Todd (Caldwell); mother, Kyoko Katie Hashitani (Payette); and brother, Tony Hashitani (Boise); predeceased by her father, Roy Hashitani.

Chibana, Kenneth Yasuo, 62, Gardena, Dec. 27; Hilo, Hawaii-born; survived by wife Hazel, son Keith and wife Holly; brothers Warren and wife Betty; Gordon and wife Ally; Norman and wife Eileen; sisters Helen Nakasone, Charlotte La Briola and husband Jack; brother-in-law James Nakamura and wife Lori; sister-in-law Florence Iguchi.

Fujimoto, Annunziata "Tina", 80, Riverside, Oct. 31; Italy-born naturalized U.S. citizen; survived by husband Charles; sons Ansano Giuntini, Glen Fujimoto; 5 gc.; 3 gr.

Fukuba, Bill, 84, San Jose,

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 \$19 per column inch. Text is reworded as needed.

Dec. 20; Watsonville-born; on editorial staff of the pre-WWII New World Sun; 1000 Club JACL Life member instrumental in reactivating the Watsonville chapter; writer of numerous published articles supporting Japanese American and civil rights issues; survived by wife Rose; sons Brian, Bill Jr.; daughters Kalima, Susan; 2 gc.

Field, Margery Gunderson, 74, Lodi, Nov. 25; Valley City, N.D.-born daughter of Martin and Margaret Gunderson, who were high school superintendent and teacher at Tule Lake; she had to attend the Caucasian high school outside of camp but understood the injustices suffered by the internees; survived by husband Wayne (Lodi); David (Elverta); daughter Deborah (Folsom); 6 gc.

Hirahara, George, 94, Los Angeles, Jan. 4; Wakayama-born, formerly of Wapato and Yakima, Wash.; survived by son Frank and wife Mary; 1 gc.; sister Rosie Uyeda (Seattle).

Igawa, George Minoru, 91, Marina Del Rey, Dec. 28; Fowler-born; survived by wife Kimiko; son George Minoru Jr. and wife Diana; daughter Patricia Yoko Wada; 3 gc.

Imura, Teruo Ted, San Francisco, Dec. 28.

Ito, Sakae, 88, Hiroshima, Jan. 5; A-bomb survivor and anti-nuclear activist, co-founder of the Japanese Confederation of A-bomb and H-bomb Sufferers Organizations.

Iwata, Akiko, 88, Woodbridge, Va., Sept. 26; WWII internnee, longtime JACLer and government librarian.

Kato, Midori, 91, Los Angeles, Dec. 24; Sacramento-born; survived by daughter Ana Fusako Okazaki and husband James K.; 5 gc.; sisters Sumiko Yamaguchi (Denver), Yukiko Tsujimoto and husband James (Tracy); brother Ken Sawada and wife Misao (Arvada, Colo.).

Kuramoto, Chiyeko, 85, Selma, Jan. 7; Hiroshima-born; survived by husband Mamoru; son Moriaki and wife Kyoko; daughters Mineko Kuramoto, Midori Niino and husband Hiroshi, Alice Nishimura and husband Eddie; 6 gc.; 5 gc.; sister Yoshimi Kawamoto (Japan).

Masuda, Seido, 76, Rocky Ford, Colo., Oct. 3; survived by wife Masako; daughters Jodeli

Teruya and husband Elton, Susan Tsuda and husband Jon, and Cathy Kiyota; sons Herbert and wife Tamara, Donald and wife Amy; 6 gc.; sisters Soda Fujishiro, Yok Togashi and husband Hash, and Hide Takagishi; brother Dr. Herbert K. Mamada.

Matsumoto, George Noboru, 80, San Francisco, Dec. 25; Hollywood-born; survived by daughter Alice; son Kenneth.

McGuire, Joyce Nagata, 43, Rockville, Md., Jan. 6; La Jolla-born lawyer, graduate of Cal Poly and the University of San Diego; survived by husband Frank; son Matthew; daughter Margaret; parents Mits and Miki Nagata (Oceanside); two sisters.

Mikami, Satsue, 81, Monterey Park, Dec. 21; Garden Grove-born; survived by husband George; mother Hatsuyo Sadakane; sisters Eiko Kato and husband Tetsuo, Shizumi Matsuda; brother-in-law Yasushi Waki; sister-in-law Fumiko Mikami and Chiyoko Umemoto (Japan).

Nomura, Eugene Hidehiko, 19, Harbor City, Dec. 27; Los Angeles-born; survived by parents Sam S. and Chizuko; sister Christine M. Nomura.

Ota, Fred Kaname, 85, Los Angeles, Oct. 13; JACL life member; survived by wife Mabel; daughters Madeline-Ota, Candice Funakoshi and husband Gary (Encinitas); 2 gc.; brother Jack and wife Michi; sisters Mary Oshiki and husband Sam (Benning), Mabel Kishi and husband Paul, Yuri Kubo and husband Yoko; sisters-in-law Sydney Ota, Margaret Iwashita and husband Charles (Chula Vista).

Sadanaga, Yachio, 75, San Jose, Dec. 27; Santa Clara resident; survived by brother-in-law John Sadanaga and wife Teuruko (Vacaville), Tom Sadanaga and Mary Hirahara (Anaheim); predeceased by husband George.

Ueda, Helen, 67, Spokane, Wash.; Pasco, Wash.-born, Japan-educated JACL member; survived by sons Wayne (Spokane) Keith (Seattle; daughter Janine Rudolf (Forest Grove, Ore.); sister Jane Maruta (Pasco); sister Fujiko Tanizumi and brother Hiroshi Yamauchi (both Hiroshima); 2 gc.

Usuki, Blossom Chiey Fujita, 88, Tokyo, Sept. 3; Fairfield-Suisun-born; 1934 graduate of U.C. Berkeley; pre-WWII resident of Napa and San Francisco; interned at Santa Anita and Topaz and Rohwer; survived by sons Motoharu, Yoshiharu, Noriharu; daughters Kazuo Ihara and husband Yoshikazu, Fusae Usuki, and 10 gc. (all of Japan); sisters Margarette E. Fujita, Martha Fujita Hironaka (Honolulu). ■

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Minority Coalition Fights For TV Diversity

(Continued from page 1)

they will also target the independent cable networks. They are also looking to increase the number of minority writers, producers and directors, among the various behind-the-scenes roles.

But the coalition's positive intentions and initial negotiation efforts were recently overshadowed by reports of a rift between NAACP president Mfume and his three colleagues over a Jan. 6 announcement that NBC had made an agreement with the NAACP ensuring more representation on the network, which the others felt had been reached without their full participation and approval.

While the pact allegedly met most of the NAACP's demands, it did not adequately address those of the APA, American Indian and Latino groups. Out of the four minority groups, blacks have typically had more representation on TV than APAs, American Indians and Latinos.

Believing he was acting and speaking on behalf of the coalition, Mfume had attended that meeting with NBC executives unaccompanied by Mineta, Torres and Skyhawk. Torres claimed they had not been invited.

"Staying in constant contact has been difficult," Torres explained, adding that the "misunderstanding" has since been resolved through a meeting and several conference calls.

"This is a coalition in every

respect," assured Mfume, "dedicated to the cause of equal representation for people of all colors."

Skyhawk reaffirmed that the coalition is "united in purpose" and expressed his belief that working as a group can only benefit the individual minority groups. "We hope that this brings us to a plate in our history where finally the American Indian is going to be represented and is going to have a place in this medium [of television]."

"For too long," he said, "we've been neglected, we've been thrown to the back of the bus so to speak, and this, I think, finally brings the hopes and aspirations of our people to the forefront."

Mineta said he felt that NBC-NAACP pact established a "strong foundation" for increasing diversity which can now be built upon. He also asserted that the coalition has moved past any miscommunication they may have had.

In speaking with the *Pacific Citizen* about whether APAs were in danger of being overlooked in this process, Mineta said, "No, because I think there's a very strong understanding among the coalition leaders about what the needs and interests of the APA community [are] with regard to the negotiations with the networks."

Dan Mayeda, legal counsel to East West Players, said that "advocating side-by-side" is a

crucial factor. "I think we've resolved those issues. We've met. We've come to an understanding. The key point is meeting together with the networks, being at the table."

"I'm optimistic that we can move forward and be an equal partner," he said, expressing his confidence that APAs will be as fully represented in future talks as the other minority groups.

"NBC and ABC, those two networks have already announced some agreement primarily with the NAACP, so we're going to have to include those or expand those to the other groups," Mayeda said. "With CBS and Fox, those have not been finalized yet."

Besides East West Players, the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition represents 17 APA organizations who have been watching closely over the TV diversity campaign for the past seven months, including Asian American Coalition for Total Inclusion on the Networks (ACTIONS), Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA), the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC), the National Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans, JACL and the Organization of Chinese Americans.

Karen Narasak, executive director of NAPALC, expressed her hope that the networks match their words with action. "As we enter the new millennium, the whitewashing of television must end. We applaud the networks for recognizing the lack of diversity in their programming and in their corporate offices. Now we will ensure that ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox will follow through on their stated commitments to resolve this serious problem."

WEN HO LEE

(Continued from page 1)

new to AAs, Wu said.

It's easy to understand why.

While American Indians, Blacks and Latinos have long protested discrimination found in school segregation, unequal voting rights, public accommodations and low educational levels, many of those conditions are foreign to the nation's 10.2 million Asian and Pacific Islanders.

Reno Meets With APA Leaders on Wen Ho Lee Case

WASHINGTON—Attorney General Janet Reno and Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder met with representatives of the Asian Pacific American community on Jan. 12 about concerns pertaining to the Wen Ho Lee case.

Nancy Choy, executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, stated, "We imparted the extreme concern of the APA community about the treatment that Wen Ho Lee has received since incarceration. We informed the attorney general about our concern that Mr. Lee has been denied bail, that his treatment during incarceration seems unduly harsh, and that his attorneys don't have access to the classified documents involved in the case."

The Organization of Chinese Americans' executive director, Daphne Kwok commented, "The major point that we wanted to convey to Attorney General Reno was that the Chinese American and APA community feel that Mr. Lee has been treated as a spy when he is not being charged with espionage. We sincerely appreciate Ms. Reno's and Mr. Hold-

er's sensitivities and interests in the concerns of the community."

"On January 10 in San Francisco, Attorney General Reno attended a community round table forum on justice issues. At that session, Ms. Reno heard from the grassroots about their deep interest in Mr. Lee's case. We are now preparing a list of questions to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice focused on the due process issues for the case. We know that while this case is in litigation the department is going to be constrained to what can be said, but we feel confident that Ms. Reno will impart whatever information that she is able to," remarked Yvonne Lee, commissioner to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

The other APA leaders in attendance included: John Young, executive counselor, Committee of 100; Kristine Minami, JACL Washington representative; Karen Narasak, executive director, and Aranyan Ong, legal fellow, National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium; and Jon Melegrio, executive director, National Federation of Filipino Associations.

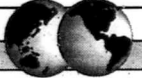
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5/20-5/28	Alaskan Cruise aboard the Ocean Princess	Grace Sakamoto
6/25-7/2	Disney Cruise Vacation	
7/1-7/8	7-Day/Venice to Rome Cruise aboard Wind Surf (95% of brochure rate)	
7/7-7/14	Fabulous London & Paris with Collette Tours	Lilly Nomura
7/13-7/22	Costa Rica, Nature's Museum with Collette Tours	
7/23-8/3	12-Day Grand Princess Barcelona to Istanbul Cruise	Lilly Nomura
8/12-8/21	Fitzgerald Albuquerque Balloon Festival & Carlsbad Caverns	Lilly Nomura
10/7-10/14	Fitzgerald Albuquerque Balloon Festival & Carlsbad Caverns	Lilly Nomura
10/9-10/20	Yamato Exclusive Fall Foliage and East Coast Tour	Lilly Nomura
10/21-10/28	7-Day Radisson Tahiti Cruise aboard the Past Gauguin	Joyce Francis
10/23-11/5	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan	Peggy Mikuni
11/6-11/20	15-Day Spain & Portugal with Collette Tours	Lilly Nomura
12/6-12/12	Fitzgerald New Orleans & San Antonio Christmas Tour	Lilly Nomura

Yamato Travel Bureau® is in its 43rd year of operation and continues to be a full service travel agency. This means we will sell all phases of leisure and corporate travel: airline tickets; hotel accommodations; car rentals; tours; cruises; rail passes; etc. We also have discounted airfare to certain destinations. Please call on our experienced travel consultants for your travel and tour arrangements.

Professional Memberships: American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA), Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), VACATION.COM (a national consortium).

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