

Pacific Citizen

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Baseball Commissioner Strikes John Rocker Out

Commissioner Bud Selig suspended John Rocker, Atlanta Braves' No. 1 relief pitcher, for 73 days Jan. 31, for dishonoring Major League Baseball by making disparaging remarks against many groups in a *Sports Illustrated* interview, according to the *New York Times*. This marks the first time a baseball player has been disciplined for speech.

The players' union reported that they plan to file a grievance to challenge the suspension and felt that the disciplinary action was a public relations move. The appeal will be heard by Shyam Das, baseball's arbitrator.

According to Selig, Rocker cannot participate in spring training with the Braves, which constitutes 45 days, and cannot play during the first 28 days of the season. The commissioner also fined Rocker \$20,000 and ordered him to undergo sensitivity training.

Rocker, however, will not lose any of his salary while under suspension, and has yet to sign his contract for 2000.

In a statement, Selig said, "Major League Baseball takes seriously its role as an American institution and the important social responsibility that goes with it. We will not dodge our responsibility. Rocker should understand that his re-

marks offended practically every element of society and brought dishonor to himself, the Atlanta Braves and Major League Baseball."

Rocker, who gained notoriety by lashing out at Mets fans during the National League Championship Series last October, expanded his target group in a December *Sports Illustrated* interview by railing against foreign-born people and homosexuals. He even referred to a black teammate as "a fat monkey."

Some of his comments included: "I'm not a very big fan of foreigners... How the hell did they get in this country?"

"Imagine having to take the 7 train to the ball park, looking like you're (riding through) Beirut next to some kid with purple hair next to some queer with AIDS right next to some dude who just got out of jail for four months right next to some 20-year-old mom with four kids. It's depressing."

Rocker will not be allowed to play for the Braves until May 1.

"I do not believe it is appropriate that I should be harshly disciplined for my misguided speech unaccompanied by any conduct on my part," said Rocker in a statement. "I have previously apologized for my unfortunate remarks and stand by my apology."

80-20 Endorses Bill Bradley, Pushes for APA Bloc-Vote



PHOTO: TRACY UBA

80/20 founding member and former Lt. Gov. of Delaware S.B. Woo urges the Asian Pacific American community to form a bloc-vote at the upcoming 2000 presidential election

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

Leading up to the November 2000 U.S. Presidential Election, one Asian Pacific American group is preparing to make an impact on both voters and candidates now, just in time for the critical state primaries.

The 80-20 Initiative, a national non-partisan project which began a little over a year ago by several Chinese Americans but now includes the Filipino, Indian and Pakistani American communities, has been seeking to do what no other APA organization has done before — to mobilize a national APA voter bloc, which could significantly increase their political clout as a constituent group.

"You may be witnessing the dawn of a new era," said S.B. Woo, founding member of 80-20 and former Lieutenant Governor of Delaware. "Asian Americans beginning to vote in a bloc, that's the American way."

Taking its cue from other minority groups, including blacks and Latinos, who in past elections have successfully delivered bloc-votes by as much as a 9 to 1 ratio, 80-20 is attempting to unite at least 80 percent of the APA population in support of one presidential candidate, an ambitious task considering APA voters split roughly 50-50 between Clinton and Bush in 1992, which, in effect, cancelled them out as a group worth courting to politicians.

"You have Asians who don't know how to use the American political system," said 80-20 special assistant Joy Chang. "Historically, there have been people who know how to manipulate politics, but the Asian community as a whole hasn't figured that out yet."

That is why the 80-20 political action committee has been rigorously circulating mass e-mails to APAs across the country educating them prior to the primaries about the bloc-vote strategy and soliciting their verbal support.

80-20 recently endorsed Democratic presidential hopeful Senator Bill Bradley, the only candidate so far who has publicly stated he would address the needs and interests of APAs.

"Bradley is the first and only one, either Democrat or Republican, to write to say he supported 80-20," said Woo. Meanwhile, Al Gore, Bradley's Democratic challenger in the presidential race, ig-

nored us, he said, which is why we are not supporting him.

80-20 announced in June that they had sent those running for top office a "Declaration to Presidential Candidates," asking for a commitment to meet three primary goals: to vigorously prosecute all cases of racial discrimination, to lift glass ceilings on the professional advancement of APAs and to appoint qualified APAs to policy-making positions in the federal government.

Like Gore, the other candidates, Gary Bauer (R-Kentucky), George W. Bush (R-Texas), Steve Forbes (R), Alan Keyes (R-Maryland), John McCain (R-Arkansas) and Pat Buchanan (Independent), did not respond to 80-20's call for support.

Even without their acknowledgment, however, 80-20 has managed to grow to about 120,000 supporters across the country in the 15 months since its inception. As November fast approaches, 80-20 members estimate the number of supporters could increase anywhere from 300,000 to one million by the time the general presidential election rolls around.

Groups in support of 80-20 include the Organization of Chinese Americans, Committee of 100, Filipino-American Political Association, Indian-American Political Forum, Asian American Political Coalition, N.J., and Pakistani-American Physician Public Affairs Committee.

Woo, who called 80-20 "a mixture of the elite and the grassroots," said members and supporters are able to stay in constant communication through the Internet. They recently received an unexpected e-mail message from an Iowa who wrote to say the local, albeit small, APA community had made a show of support for Bradley at the state caucuses as a result of 80-20's campaign.

According to 80-20's statistics, APAs represent 3.5 percent of the U.S. population. But, of the 875 active federal judges in the nation, only seven are APAs. In 1998, APAs held only two out of 250 cabinet and sub-cabinet positions.

Especially anticipated will be the outcome of the March California Primary. APAs make up 6.5 percent of the voters in California, which has the most electoral college votes of any state at 54. It also represents 20 percent of what is needed to win and thus will be heavily influential in swaying the

overall outcome of the general election.

"Los Angeles has the largest population of Asian Americans in this country. We have the resources here, we have the vote here, we have the candidates here. It must start in Los Angeles," said Charlie Woo, 80-20 Steering Committee member and chair of Chinese Americans United for Self-Empowerment (CAUSE).

Woo acknowledged the work of 80-20 depends on other APA groups who are trying to convince their communities how crucial it is for them to register to vote. "You need voter registration, education, discussion, debate. You need all of that. You can't have one without the other to be successful," he said.

Woo also believes that their success rests in the hands of the youth. "I think we see a lot of young people that can give back to the community. In some ways, they are more important than we are because they can reach the college students."

Chang, a recent graduate of Georgetown University herself, said, "I've been approached by students who say, 'Well, we don't know much about politics.' A lot are apathetic because they don't think their vote is going to count, but it does."

In addition to outreach at colleges, Chang, who moved from Northern California to Los Angeles to help establish 80-20's Southern California base, said efforts are being made to make more solid contacts with the Vietnamese, Korean and Japanese American communities, who represent nearly 50 percent of the pool of potential APA voters.

Although 80-20's main goal is not campaign fund-raising, they've reportedly raised approximately \$150,000 all via e-mail in the one month they've accepted donations.

"Traditional organizations have raised millions of dollars from the Asian American community," said former Lt. Gov. Woo. "80-20 has not yet given money to a candidate, but eventually we will. We believe that funds can act as both a reward and a punishment."

80-20 members are preparing a rally scheduled for the summer Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles.

For more information about 80-20, check out their Web site at www.80-20initiative.net.

Wen Ho Lee Defense Attorneys Challenge Secrets Law

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.—Attorneys for a former Los Alamos scientist accused of mishandling nuclear weapons secrets want to overturn a law that requires them to reveal details of their case to prosecutors before trial.

Attorneys for Wen Ho Lee filed a motion Jan. 26 to have parts of the Classified Information Procedures Act voided as unconstitutional.

The law's interest in protecting national security "cannot justify the burden" on Lee's rights, his attorneys argued. The defense team said the prosecution is under no obligation to disclose similar details of its case.

Criminal defendants generally do not have to reveal details of their defense to prosecutors before trial. But

mands such details. It was passed to prevent someone accused of spying from disclosing so many secrets that prosecutors would find the case too damaging to the nation's security interests.

The law requires Lee's defense attorneys to list and justify any secrets they expect to use, with the filings made in sealed documents and closed hearings. They must tell prosecutors what questions they might ask government witnesses and what Lee might say if he testifies. If challenged, they must explain why the information is important to their case.

The law has withstood several such challenges. A spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's office did not return a call seeking comment.

Lee, 60, could face life in prison if convicted of breaching security by moving classified material to unsecured computers and computer tapes. The prosecution called the data he downloaded the "crown jewels" of American science. Lee, who has not been charged with espionage, is being held without bail.

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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. Info: Tom Ehrlke, 415/921-5225.

Midwest

CHICAGO
Sat., Feb. 19—17th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration Dinner by Asian American Coalition of Chicago (JACL co-founder); see Community Calendar

Pacific Northwest

ALL PNW DISTRICT CHAPTERS
Sun., Feb. 13—Special Tribute and

Obento Lunch; 2 p.m., Kabuki Restaurant, 2919 S. 38th St., Tacoma; co-sponsored by Nisei Veterans Committee. RSVP by Feb. 7: Elsie Taniguchi, 206/824-2402.

Intermountain

SNAKE RIVER
Fri., Feb. 11—Annual Crab Feed and Auction to benefit scholarship fund; see Community Calendar.

NC-WN-Pacific

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sun., Feb. 6—First Quarter District Council Meeting; Marin, FLEMONT
Fri., Feb. 11—Bingo at SACBC. Early helpers arrive by 5 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 13—JASEB Crab Feed; see "Community Calendar; helpers to arrive by 3:45 p.m.
WATSONVILLE
Mon.-Thurs., April 24-27—Senior Center Tour to Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, etc. Info: Carmel Kamigawachi, 831/722-1930, Shig Kizuka, 831/724-0116.

Central California

CLOVIS
Sat., Feb. 5—Clovis/CCC Shrimp Din-

COMMUNITY Calendar

The Midwest

CHICAGO
Sat., Feb. 19—17th Annual Asian American Coalition of Chicago's Lunar New Year Celebration Dinner; Navy Pier; awards, "open mike" forum; hosted by the Pakistani American community. RSVP: Larry Schachtman, 773/275-9292

Intermountain

ONTARIO, ORE.
Fri., Feb. 11—Annual Crab Feed and Auction; 6 p.m., Four Rivers Cultural Center. RSVP: Mike Iseri, 541/889-8691.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND
Sat., Feb. 19—Opening of the Heart Mountain photo exhibit at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 117 NW 2nd Ave. Info: 503/224-1458.
Fri.-Sun., Aug. 11-13—Greater Portland Reunion, "Nikkei Futures 2000; Doubletree Lloyd Center Hotel; mixer, banquet, tours, golf tournament, picnic, etc. Info: Kennie Namba, 503/258-0848, Kurtis Inouye 503/682-3238.

Northern California

BERKELEY
Sun., Feb. 6—Nikkei Widowed Group Meeting; 12 noon; new members, men and women welcome. Call for meeting place: Tets Ihara (415) 722-4568, or Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.
EAST BAY
Sun., Feb. 13—20th Annual JASEB Crab Feed; 4-7 p.m. Albany Veteran's Memorial Hall, 1325 Portland Ave.; takeout available. Tickets: Esther Takeuchi, 510/223-2258.
PALO ALTO
Sat., Feb. 12—Concerts, "Harmony 84" Japanese women's choir; 4 p.m. & 7 p.m., Aldridge United Methodist Church, 4243 Marne Ave. Advance tickets are advised: 650/948-4664.
SAN FRANCISCO
Sat., Feb. 26—Tenth anniversary celebration of exhibit, "Strength and Diversity—Japanese American Women, 1885-1990"; 6:30-9 p.m., Grand Hyatt at Union Square, 345 Stockton St.; Rep. Patsy Mink, keynote speaker and honoree. Info: National Japanese American Historical Society, 415/921-5007.
SAN JOSE
Sat., Feb. 19—Yu-Ai Kai Crab/Spaghetti Feed; 6 p.m., San Jose Buddhist Church; Betsuin Annex; "crab", race, "No Attendance Required" fund-raiser

Pacific Southwest
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sun., Feb. 27—PSWDC "Quarterly Meeting; JACCC, 240 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo.
Sun., Feb. 27—2000 District Oratorical Contest; 11 a.m., JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., 2nd floor, Little Tokyo; open to high school students; 16 or older. Application deadline: Feb. 18. Info: Gerald, PSW District Office, 213/626-4471.
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.
VENICE-CULVER
Sat., Feb. 5—Chapter Installation Luncheon; see Community Calendar. ■

DEADLINE for Calendar is the Friday before date of issue, on a space-available basis.
Please provide the time and place of the event, and name and phone number (including area code) of a contact person.

drawing. Tickets, info: 408/294-2505; e-mail: yuaikai@prodigy.net.
SAN MATEO
Sun., Feb. 6—San Mateo Kabuki Group; 1:30 p.m., San Mateo JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St.; continuing "Cushin Gura"; also, NHK Special New Year 2000 program. Info: 650/343-2793.

STOCKTON

Fri., Feb. 18—San Joaquin Nisei Farmers League Annual Banquet; 6 p.m. social hour, 7 p.m. dinner and program; Waterloo Gun and Bocci Club; 4343 N. Ashley Ln.; speaker, Attorney General Bill Lockyer. Info: 209/465-1754.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES
Sat., Feb. 5—Venice-Culver JACL Installation Luncheon; 12 noon, Sea Empress Restaurant, 1636 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., Gardena; members and non-members are welcome; guest speaker, John Tateishi, national JACL executive director. Info: RSVP: Hitoshi Shimizu, 310/391-8628.
Fri.-Sun., Feb. 18-20—Award-winning play about the 10th/442nd RCT, "Our Hearts Were Touched With Fire"; Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. **Order tickets ASAP!** JACCC, 213/680-3700. Schedules: Hideo Anzai, 949/752-5670, Louise Sakamoto, 310/327-3169. ■

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE PROGRAMS

CHICAGO; Sun., Feb. 6: Co-sponsored by the Chicago JACL and the Japanese American Service Committee (JASC); 2 p.m., JASC, 44427 N. Clark St.; speaker, professor George DeVos of the Japanese American Interdisciplinary Research Group. Info: Chiye Tomihori, 773/348-6380.

LOS ANGELES; Sat., Feb. 19: 2-4 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo; focusing on the Japanese Latin Americans; tribute to Michi Weglyn, performances, awards, reception following. Reservations required: 213/625-0414. **Sat., Feb. 19:** 9 a.m.-1 p.m., JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., 2nd floor, Little Tokyo; featured speaker, Dr. Mitchell Maki, author, "Achieving the Impossible Dream: How Japanese Americans Obtained Redress"; refreshments. RSVP by Feb. 16. Info: Gerald Kato, PSWD office, 213/626-4471.

NEW YORK CITY; Sat., March 4: 1 p.m., Japanese American United Church, 7th Ave. between 24th and 25th; a tribute to Japanese American women with special memorial for Michi Weglyn. Info: Julie Azuma, 212/807-8104.

PHILADELPHIA; Sat., Feb. 19: 2-4 p.m., Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, Community Room, 18 South 7th St., between Market and Chestnut; speakers: William Marutani, Grace Uyehara, Tak Morichu; moderator, Teresa Maeboori; refreshments; free to JACL members and friends. Info: Toshi Abe, 609/683-9489, e-mail: ToshiAbe@worldnet.att.net.

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.; Sat., Feb. 26: 6 p.m., Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church, 6929 Franklin Blvd., South Sacramento; keynote speaker, Jerry Enomoto, U.S. marshal for Eastern District of California and head of the national JACL LEC; showing of new videos on the evacuation and return; entertainment; karaoke. Info: Toko Fujii, 916/421-6968. **Sat., March 4:** 2-4 p.m., Florin Buddhist Church YBA Hall.

SALT LAKE CITY; Mon.-Sat., Feb. 14-19: Day of Remembrance Display; University of Utah Marriott Library; artifacts, photographs, memorabilia. **Wed., Feb. 16:** Art Talk: "An American Diary" by professor Roger Shimomura; 7 p.m., Salt Lake Art Center, 20 S.W. Temple; explores the internment camps through his mother's diary entries. **Sat., Feb. 19:** "Utah Japanese American Veterans: A Proud Legacy"; 5:30 buffet reception for keynote speaker Rep. Robert Matsui, Salt Lake Art Center, 20 S.W. Temple; tickets, info: Floyd or Irene Mori, 572-2287, Diane Akiyama, 266/2248; 7:30 p.m., **Sat., Feb. 19:** "Utah Japanese American Veterans: A Proud Legacy"; 7:30 p.m., Salt Lake Art Center, 20 S.W. Temple; free program honoring JA veterans; video, awards presentation, wartime exhibits; keynote speaker, Rep. Robert Matsui.

SAN FRANCISCO; Sun., Feb. 20: 3 p.m. program, 5 p.m. candle-lighting ceremony, 5:30 reception; AMC Kabuki Theatre, 1881 Post St., Japantown; keynote speaker Eryc Yamamoto of coram nobis team; music, dance, poetry. Advance ticket discount: 877/243-3778; group rates: Donna, 415/567-5505.

SAN MATEO, CALIF.; Sat., Feb. 19: "A Community Commemoration of the Day of Remembrance"; 5-8 p.m., San Mateo Buddhist Temple Hall, 2 S. Claremont; exhibit of camp artifacts; keynote address by JACL executive director John Tateishi, installation of chapter officers, rededication ceremony, music from the '40s; etc. Info: Mary Jo, 650/593-7358, Kate, 650/574-6676.

ST. PAUL, MINN.; Sat., Feb. 19: 2-4 p.m., Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. West. **WASHINGTON, D.C.; Sat., Mar. 4:** 1 p.m., Japanese American National United Church, 7th Ave. between 24th and 25th; info: Courtney Goto, 212/353-9146. ■

'Rabbit in the Moon' Awarded AHA O'Connor Film Award

The American Historical Association's seventh John E. O'Connor Film Award for 1999 went to "Rabbit in the Moon," produced and directed by Emiko Omori.

In a citation presented to Omori, AHA President-elect Eric Foner said, "The selection committee takes great pleasure in awarding the 1999 O'Connor Film Award to Emiko Omori's 'Rabbit in the Moon.' Her film treats a terrible, still partially hidden moment in the American past, namely the history of the forced evacuation of people of Japanese ancestry during World War II.

"With empathy and visual imagination, Omori illuminates the divisions that made individuals, even from the same family, experience their internment so differently. Above all, her film speaks about the complex working of memory. Sensitive to the interplay between the personal and the public past, Omori has given us an exemplary meditation on the losses to the individual and the community brought about by the destruction of memory and on the importance of the quest after its recovery."

The AHA established the O'Connor Award in recognition of John E. O'Connor, a New Jersey Institute of Technology instructor, for his role as a pioneer in teaching and researching film and history.

The award seeks to recognize outstanding interpretations of history through the medium of film or video. ■

A Report to the Community from EEOC Vice Chair Paul Igasaki

Paul Igasaki, vice chair of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, released an update on his activities in hopes that it will encourage the public "to build a fairer future for our children."

Agency Funding

While serving as acting chair, Igasaki marshaled support to win an historic \$37 million increase to the EEOC budget as proposed by President Clinton. This increase was used to fill important organizational needs, including the first national priority for multilingual field staff, aggressive outreach to underserved communities and a fully staffed mediation program. As a result, bilingual attorneys have been placed in EEOC's San Jose office for the first time and the Hawaii office has been expanded. In addition, more materials are available in a variety of languages, and every field office is expected to educate and work with all communities that make up this country's diversity.

Igasaki expressed his thanks to Asian Pacific Americans for their support not only for the budget increase, but also for the Commission. Paul Steven Miller's reconfirmation and for the confirmation of Chairwoman Ida Castro by saying, "I am deeply grateful for my community's support, and I hope that my service merits their confidence."

Assertion of APA Rights

The agency's commitment to outreach and aggressive enforcement has led to breakthrough cases of significance to APAs. Some of these include the following:

• Sexual Harassment Against

Immigrant Workers

The breakthrough settlement of a lawsuit against Tanimura and Ande Farms to redress egregious sexual harassment against immigrant farm workers has sent a message that the harassment of immigrant women workers will no longer be tolerated. Another settlement with Fresh West Harvesting Corp., involving sexual harassment and retaliation claims, was also secured. Both were negotiated by the San Francisco District Office.

• Harsh Conditions and Promotional Discrimination Against Vietnamese Fishermen

Vietnamese American workers facing severe conditions on board a fishing factory ship, working with the EEOC's Seattle District Office, were able to obtain a precedent-setting \$1.25 million settlement of a suit brought against American Seafoods, the largest fishing company in the United States. In this case, 10 Vietnamese American workers were never given a chance to progress beyond the lowest job level and were often given the least desirable jobs. They were repeatedly called derogatory and vulgar names which demeaned their national origin, and they were deprived of food, medical care and rest while violently ill, which is a violation of maritime law. During his announcement of the settlement in Seattle, Igasaki said, "The courage of these workers serve as a model for others in our community. They have made a step forward for immigrant workers in an industry that employs many facing similar conditions."

• Unequal Pay to Filipino Nurses

Sixty-five registered Filipino nurses were forced by their employer, Woodbine Healthcare Limited Partnership in Missouri, to work as nurses aides for half the pay of non-Filipino nursing staff. Because they were admitted to the United States to work expressly at Woodbine, fear of deportation inhibited the workers from quitting or filing complaints. These women, however, came forward to work with EEOC's St. Louis District Office to complain not only of the pay differential but also of harassment, intimidation and rules forbidding the use of their native language. As a result, these women obtained a \$2.1 million settlement.

• Language Case Settlement

The EEOC has prioritized appropriate cases protecting the rights of workers to be free of discrimination based on their accents or the use of their native languages. Because of restrictive decisions from some federal circuits, the EEOC has chosen cases in this area carefully. Language discrimination cases are being pursued by EEOC offices in New York and Texas, and a significant case was recently settled in Chicago.

In the Chicago case, EEOC's Chicago District Office entered into a \$55,000 settlement on Nov. 12, 1999, of a national origin discrimination lawsuit against Synchro-Start Products, an Illinois-based manufacturer of engine parts. Under the terms of the settlement, the original charging party, who is Polish-speaking, and the three employees, whose primary language is Spanish, will share the monetary benefits. The consent decree also requires the company to provide training

on national origin bias to all employees and to post a notice advising workers of the consent decree.

Recent Speeches/Visits

Over the past year, Igasaki has spoken to a variety of civil rights groups, employers, and legal and human resource associations in cities such as Chicago, Seattle, Atlanta, Dallas, Houston, Honolulu, Detroit, Ann Arbor, Mich., Raleigh, N.C., and Albuquerque, N.M.

Igasaki has also led community-based outreach programs in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, San Jose and Fresno.

On invitation of the Organization Resources Counselors, Igasaki visited Japan last summer to meet with business leaders to discuss compliance with American anti-discrimination laws. This was Igasaki's second opportunity to educate Japanese companies on the requirements of U.S. civil rights laws. He also participated in a forum on sexual harassment law at the University of Tokyo's law school, and met with civil rights groups representing women and the Buraku minority. In addition, he met with members of the Diet and the Ministry of Labor, who noted that both the Mitsubishi Motors of America lawsuit, which was settled last year, and Igasaki's previous trip to Japan provided an important impetus for the passage of Japan's new gender discrimination and sexual harassment laws. He was also able to share about U.S. employment discrimination laws through Japan's daily press and business magazine coverage.

See IGASAKI/page 7

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

37 Million Asia-Pacific Kids Get No Education, Says U.N.

BANGKOK, Thailand—Ten years after a landmark "education for all" U.N. conference, 37 million children in the Asia-Pacific still don't attend school, a senior U.N. official recently told education officials from more than 40 countries.

The Asia-Pacific, where about half the world's population lives, is still home to 70 percent of the world's illiterates, said Adrianus Mooy, executive secretary of the U.N. Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific.

Victor Ordonez, the U.N. Education and Scientific Organization's director for the Asia-Pacific, said the greatest success has been in kindergarten schooling, now available to 47 million children, up nearly 60 percent in the last decade. The number of primary school children in the Asia-Pacific has also grown from 330 million in 1990 to 400 million today. However, urban communities rather than needy rural ones benefited the most, he said.

In South Asia, discrimination between boys and girls still persists, despite major funds being poured into girls' education. Meanwhile, China made the most impressive progress in expanding education. In 20 years, the rate of children attending school has gone from 30 to 40 percent to 95 percent, said Ordonez.

He attributed this partly to the "continuity in authority" in the Chinese communist regime, which meant education programs did not suffer from changes of government, as in many Southeast Asian countries.

China Tightens Internet Control on Internet

BEIJING—Tightening its Internet security, China is ordering companies to register software used to transmit sensitive data and threatening punishment for letting government secrets slip onto the Web.

The regulations could retard e-commerce and scare off foreign firms eager to tap into China's bursting Internet market. They also underscore the government's ambivalent desire to exploit the Internet for business while constraining information considered threatening to communist rule.

The regulations say everyone from Internet servers to chat-room users must gain approval from the government before publishing previously unreleased information on the Web. Firms require companies to hand over serial numbers and list employees using the software, possibly making it easier for the government to track use.

Encryption software is used to prevent prying, yet some worry the technology might contain secret pathways enabling outsiders to peer into Chinese businesses or government agencies.

"Chinese Web sites have displayed a liveliness unfound in the traditional, state-controlled media. In recent months, sites carried reports on tests of a new submarine-launched missile and a corruption scandal implicating a senior party leader, both unreported by official media."

In the last six months of 1999, Chinese users more than doubled from 4 million to 8.9 million.

Young Monk May Be New Political Leader

NEW DELHI, India—Exiled Tibetans have embraced the recent arrival of the 14-year-old Tibetan monk thought to be the reincarnation of the 16th Karmapa, who died in 1981.

In early January, the young monk, who is the 17th Karmapa and leader of the Karma Kagyu sect, fled China and made a grueling eight-day trek by car, horse and foot over 1,400 kilometers (900 miles) across the snow-covered Himalayas, joining the 64-year-old Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of all Tibetan Buddhists, who also defected to India years prior.

Over 40 years, the 14th Dalai Lama has enlightened the West about Tibet, inspired the spread of Buddhism and kept a global spotlight on China's dominance of his isolated nation. In 1989, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

But the Dalai Lama currently has no obvious successor, which is why some are hoping the young Karmapa will inherit the mantle of political resistance after the Dalai Lama dies.

The second most powerful figure in the Tibetan hierarchy, the Panchen Lama, hasn't been seen in public since 1995 and is believed to be under Chinese house arrest. A rival Panchen Lama, enthroned by the Chinese four years ago is rejected by most Tibetans.

Centenarian Kin Narita Dies at 107

TOKYO—Kin Narita, who became a beloved symbol of graceful aging as one of Japan's oldest and best-known twins, died the morning of Jan. 23 of heart failure, a family representative said. She was 107.

Kin and twin sister Gin Kanie

became celebrities in a country that reveres the elderly, frequently appearing on TV talk shows and charming the public with their sharp wit and positive outlook on life.

The sisters celebrated their 107th birthday on Aug. 1, while traveling in Northern Japan, where they were guests of honor at a tree-planting ceremony.

The family has not yet finalized funeral plans, said Minoru Fujii, who spoke on behalf of the family. Kin is survived by five children, 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The world's oldest person, 117-year-old Sarah Knauss of Allentown, Pa., died two days before the New Year. A new oldest person has not been identified.

Scientists Breed First Recloned Cow

TOKYO—Japanese scientists have successfully bred a calf from a cloned bull, the first time a large animal has been re-cloned, researchers said Jan. 24.

The calf, which was born Jan. 23, is part of a project to study the life expectancy and aging of cloned animals at the Kagoshima Prefectural Cattle Breeding Development Institute. There are now three generations of the genetically identical bulls — the original and the two clones.

In re-cloning, skin tissue from the ear of the first-generation cloned bull was taken in April, when it was four-months-old. Those cells were fused with an unfertilized egg that had been stripped of its nucleus. That was then placed in the uterus of a surrogate mother cow, which led to the birth of the 44-kilogram (96.8 pound) male calf. A second re-

cloned animal produced by the institute is expected to be born by late March.

But despite the possible research benefits, the primary purpose of the project is to produce tasty beef. Cloned beef is already on sale in Japanese supermarkets, although the government's announcement in April that it had allowed cloned beef to be sold unmarked for at least two years sparked a beef boycott nationwide.

Police Raid Japanese Domsday Cult Facilities

YOKOHAMA, Japan—Police on Jan. 26 raided four facilities of the doomsday cult accused in the 1995 fatal gassing on Tokyo subway as part of their investigation into a recent kidnapping of the former guru's son.

Several intruders suspected of being cult followers broke into a cult facility and kidnapped the seven-year-old son of Shoko Asahara.

Asahara is on trial on charges of masterminding the gassing that killed 12 people and sickened more than 5,000. Asahara was recently replaced as guru, part of the group's efforts to tone down its image.

The cult recently accepted for the first time responsibility in the 1995 sarin attack and promised to compensate the victims.

Police found the kidnapped boy on Jan. 30. Three members of Aum Shinri Kyo, which changed its name to Aleph, were arrested in the kidnapping. Asahara's children are believed by followers to possess spiritual powers.

Fumihiko Joyu, one of the cult's top leaders, has been trying to ward off a further crackdown by the authorities. ■

pacific echoes

COMMUNITY VIEWS

Omit Masaoka Quote From Memorial

The following is a rejoinder to Gerald Yamada's Jan. 7, 2000, letter to the Commission of Fine Arts written by NJAMF board member Rita Takahashi on Jan. 27.

"In a 12-page letter (dated 7 January 2000) to the Honorable J. Carter Brown, Chair of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA), Gerald Yamada 'strongly' urged that the CFA approve the proposed inscriptions for the Japanese American national memorial in Washington, D.C. The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) proposes to inscribe a quotation by Mike Masaoka on the memorial, and this has prompted many to protest and fight against the proposal. Over the months, the controversy has heated up and expanded, prompting Yamada to write and express his opinion in favor of including the Masaoka quotation.

"Yamada directs his attention to the research and scholarship that have been completed by scholars addressing the work and actions of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and its leaders, particularly Mike Masaoka. He singled out those who have expressed their opposition to including the controversial quotation, and by his own admission, he focused in particular on communications by Professors Chris Iijima, Eric Yamamoto, and me (Rita Takahashi).

"Yamada submitted his letter not only to the CFA, but also to the entire NJAMF Board and the vernaculars. As a result, the newspapers have or are planning to publish his letter in its entirety. Because Yamada chose to air his vitriolic letter in a public forum, I am compelled to respond similarly. It would not have been my decision to proceed in this manner, but Yamada set the venue and stage. Yamada also chose to focus on Mike Masaoka and his track record, so my rejoinder, by necessity, addresses the same issues he raised.

Introductory Comments:

"1. Gerald Yamada's 7 January 2000 letter is an obvious attempt to divert one's attention from the memorandum written by eight (8) NJAMF Board members. In their 22 December 1999 memorandum to the full NJAMF Board and Executive Director, this group identified and discussed the following problem areas needing attention: 1. 'Distorted, incomplete, or false communications'; 2. 'Lack of critical information and insufficient notice'; and 3. 'Procedural and process irregularities'.

"2. In his letter, Yamada also attempts to divert attention from the unsubstantiated and unfounded statements he made in his letter to the CFA, dated 1 November 1999. I responded in a 6 December 1999 letter to Yamada, asking that he produce evidence for his assertion that Mike Masaoka's 'set of principles' and 'creed' reflected the 'true sentiment' of Japanese Americans. In my letter to Yamada, I said: 'I am very interested in your thesis because, in the twenty-plus years of my research, I have never uncovered any document or received any information about studies revealing that Mike Masaoka's 'set of principles' and 'creed' reflected the 'true sentiment' of Japanese Americans.' I challenged Yamada to produce evidence for his assertions, and he produced none.

"3. Yamada distorts and misrepresents the content and meaning of my Ph.D. dissertation. He does this by making up a thesis that does not exist, and then he proceeds to 'prove' by twisting and distorting documentation. All this is done to advocate and advance his own agenda, to influence the Board's and other bodies' decision making, to undermine, stifle and silence my opposing voice, and to weaken my position on the Board. Such tactics are, in my opinion, unprofessional and unethical, especially when implemented by Yamada, the Board's general counsel.

"4. The inflammatory tone and content of Yamada's 7 January

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.

2000 letter seem retaliatory in nature. Clearly, he lashes out against those who oppose his own objectives: expose irregularities, and 'blow the whistle' on his and the NJAMF's wrongdoings. He directs most of his criticism at me, in retaliation for the 22 December 1999 joint memorandum and my 6 December 1999 letter to him. His retaliatory words appear deliberately crafted to attack, undermine, discredit, and misrepresent my work and me. Such behavior calls into question his professional and legal standards and ethical practices.

"5. In his communications to the CFA, Yamada states that he is the NJAMF general counsel. In his 1 November 1999 letter to CFA, he also asserts that he wrote for 'the law firm where he works, Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP.' On the other hand, he states in his letters that he speaks as an individual. Frankly, I question and doubt whether he, as counsel, can speak as an individual in this situation involving highly controversial NJAMF Board matters. As counsel, he is supposed to represent the entire Board's interest. As a Board member, I am presumably one of his clients. In a client and attorney relationship, lawyers are ethically bound to represent the interest of the client. Attacking, undermining, discrediting, and misrepresenting the client are usually serious violations of the professional and ethical standards set forth by the American Bar Association.

"6. In an attempt to invalidate my credibility and to undermine any influence I have with the Board in opposing his objectives, Yamada mailed copies of his letter to all NJAMF Board members. I believe this exceeds the generally accepted bounds of professional behavior on the part of a board legal counsel. It violates what I think constitutes the legal duties, roles and responsibilities of a board's representative.

"7. Yamada also mailed his letter to the vernacular newspapers, and they have either published or are planning to publish his letter. As a result of his actions, the Board controversy and turmoil have deepened and broadened beyond the Board and reached further into the community. I believe this is another example of operating outside the line of appropriate behavior prescribed for legal counsel of any organization.

"In the following discussion, I will address some (among many) wrongs and misrepresentations in Yamada's 7 January 2000 letter. Additional problems posed by Yamada's letter are addressed by others, including William Hohri and Chris Iijima.

'Yamada's Approach to Arguments:
'Yamada is long on stating what he thinks is 'plausible' or 'probable,' but he is short on documenting and substantiating evidence.

"Throughout his letter, Yamada uses what I call 'absolutist' and 'dualistic' thinking, where one views the world in terms of absolutes — the 'all good' or 'all bad' approach, with no variations between opposing polar ends.

"Like everyone else, Mike Masaoka was not 'absolutely' one way or the other. No one is saying that Masaoka did absolutely nothing in terms of civil rights legislation, and no one is saying he is 'all bad.' It appears to be out of Yamada's thinking that, there are many shades and variations, rather than polar opposites. Oftentimes, however, one's positive accomplishments are overshadowed by negative track records. For example, President Lyndon B. Johnson's social legislation and war on poverty, for example, have been overshadowed, in the minds of many, by his escalation of the Southeast Asia War.

"Masaoka and JACL's spirit of cooperation with the government did not always lead to the results that may have been intended. Contrary to what Yamada would like one to believe, the real for cooperation may have had some adverse impacts. In his newly-published book, *Growing up Nisei*, Race, Genera-

tion, and Culture Among Japanese Americans in California, 1924-49, David Yoo (2000) says, 'Masaoka's overriding concern to cooperate left him vulnerable to the ways that the [Tolan] committee sought to marshal opinion and build a case justifying internment' (p. 142). He quotes Masaoka's 23 February 1942 hearings response to U.S. Representative John Tolan's (D-CA) question, 'That about your people at Pearl Harbor? Did they remain loyal American?' Masaoka responded:

'Well, there seems to be some conflicting reports to that. In other words, frankly, Secretary of the Navy Knox himself admits that there were some Japanese who turned their guns on the invaders. Then, on the other hand, the reports would seem to indicate another thing — sabotage. But I would like to make this a point, which I think ought to be considered. Here in the United States of America we are distinctly a minority group. We can be singled out because of our characteristics. In the Hawaiian Islands or Philippine Islands the Japanese are either in a majority or like the majority, and therefore, I think they could hide more easily in the general identity of the mass than we could here. Furthermore, I think we are further removed from the domination of the Imperial Japanese Government and I think that most of us are cognizant of the things that America has to offer.' (p. 142)

'Disertation:

"Yamada denigrates a long-established requirement for the doctoral degree — the Ph.D. dissertation. His cynical denigration reveals a shameful disrespect for our institutions of higher education.

"Furthermore, Yamada, who works outside academia and my academic discipline, passes judgment on and devalues my dissertation (and by implication, my professions). In the process, he arrogantly undermines the judgment of distinguished Ph.D. dissertations who serve on my dissertation committee and who passed my dissertation with highest marks, 'with distinction' at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Social Work and Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.

"Yamada stretches, exaggerates, and distorts what I say, and then falsely imposes a thesis to resist that does not exist in my dissertation. His 'cause/effect' and 'shifting blame' statements are total distortions, which he presents with the apparent assumption that this will help him realize his desired goal. It appears that Yamada neither read my dissertation nor understood the excerpted portions. If he did read the entire dissertation, then the wrongs conveyed can be even more serious. I believe that Yamada attacked my dissertation because it unearths and documents evidence of JACL's unsavory decisions and actions of the past, based on many public and private sources. It contradicts the information and message Yamada presents and wants everyone to believe, and it undermines his efforts to memorialize the organization and at least one of its leaders.

"The general rules of professional courtesies and ethical codes of conduct may have been seriously breached by Yamada in his 7 January 2000 letter. He placed a false spin to my work to dismiss and undermine the in a number of ways, as I attempt to further his goal. He seems to find it acceptable to cross the line of professionalism by resorting to distorting, exaggerating, and misrepresenting tactics. When unprofessional behaviors occur, the perpetrator should be disciplined. The wrongs here are magnified by the fact that this was done by the person who represents himself as the general counsel for the NJAMF Board and who says he speaks for the law firm, Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP.

"Yamada wants the reader to believe that an 'unpublished dissertation' is an important point to note. I am sure he knows, because most do, that very few dissertations are actually published. He also passes judgment before he knows the

facts. Perhaps the reason a dissertation is not published is because the author did not spend the time or make it a top priority — to re-vamp it for book publication, as was true in my case. A publisher had agreed to publish the book shortly after it was completed, and this commitment was repeated in my most recent communications with the publisher. Because of the dissertation's length (641 pages), it is necessary to edit it down to a more manageable size. Written in 1980, the dissertation was not typed on a computer but on a typewriter. Now that scanners are more accurate, the tasks of loading the data and editing are much less daunting, and I do plan to proceed.

"Yamada constructs a 'limited and narrow definition' that 'collusion' always means with an enemy. Actually, there are many definitions of collusion and many different examples. The way this word was used and applied in my dissertation was appropriate and accurate. Using his absolutist thinking, Yamada can fathom only one narrow definition. He should check around and read various dictionaries, if that is the scholarly source he wishes to use. He will find that all have different definitions, but none absolutely say collusion is always 'with the enemy.' This is cited as one example.

"In my dissertation, I point out the range of roles JACL played. Clearly, some JACL leaders met with authorities, made sweeping statements on behalf of the community (as if designated spokespersons), made projections about how people would behave if certain policies were passed, made policy and procedural recommendations, and served as informants to the FBI. All of this is documented in the records. The less than honorable behavior of some JACL leaders is not to be extended this to all JACLers or to the entire organization over all periods of time. While many did not know what was going on, many others recognized the controversy surrounding JACL decisions and practices and attempted to make changes.

"C. Hirota, Taper: Another thing, too, we might follow a policy of trying to encourage suggestions, and encourage some of the advice of those who are against the JACL. I feel that we are, in general, tried to resist the idea, but we do come to 'setting policies' or to actually determining what our factors are going to be, we are a little bit snug to those who might be against the JACL. My policy is to win over our enemies. It is sometimes hard to deal with them and let them speak their mind. Many of them have very good criticisms that we might take up. I'd let them know that such a thing came through their suggestion. I had a couple of this kind of people who were against the JACL and their policies. Their statement is that JACL does not stand strong enough on its own feet on certain basic policies.' (p. 85)

'JACL:

"Yamada writes about JACL's 'approach' as if there was one — absolutely. Mounds of historical documentation verify a complexity that cannot be boiled into a simplistic, neat package approach, as suggested by Yamada. His statement that 'JACL adopted a policy of working in cooperation with the federal government...' is true (however, actual evidence reveals that their 'approach' went well beyond this, as previously pointed out). At the 23 February 1942 Tolan Hearings, Mike Masaoka agreed that Japanese Americans would not protest against 'evacuation' and that they would cooperate with the government. In response to Representative John Sparkman's (Alabama) follow-up question, 'Even at a sacrifice?' Masaoka replied, 'Oh, yes, definitely...' (from Yoo, p. 143)

'JACL Employment:

"Yamada seems to think there is a contradiction between my previous employment with JACL and my critiques about the organization's World War II activities. I was asked to go to Washington, D.C. to help with the drive for Japanese American redress. Because I was

already involved in and deeply committed to redress, I agreed, took a two-year leave of absence from the university and went to work for JACL-Legislative Education Committee (JACL-LEC). After redress passed, I returned to academia. There is no contradiction because organizations are as good as its members and 'leaders.'

'JACL Creed:

"There is no Japanese American Creed that was considered and adopted by the diverse Japanese American community. Just because an individual or organization decides to embrace words as a creed for Japanese Americans does not make it true.

'NJAMF Board Action/Inaction:

"Yamada does not reveal that in previous Board action, the Board had rejected the proposal to insert a quotation by Mike Masaoka. Some time later, the Board violated rules of meeting order and ignored its own decision from a prior meeting by acting on a board member's motion from the floor: 'The motion to inscribe unidentified quotations by four individuals, including Mike Masaoka, was made and acted upon immediately. By doing so, the Board circumvented its own vote during a previous meeting to have an ad hoc committee work on an amalgamated version and to bring the results back to the full Board for a vote. The 'straight from the floor' action brushed aside and rendered moot the work of the committee. The Board took action on the floor motion without even rescinding its previous decision to vote on the amalgamated version. Beyond the violation of rules of order, this example is notable because the vast majority of NJAMF Board members voted in favor of inscribing quotations by four individuals without even knowing what the quotations were to say.' Thus began a controversy of major proportions.

"It is unfortunate that the NJAMF has not sufficiently dealt with the contentious issues surrounding this portion of the memorial inscriptions. If not rectified, I believe this controversy will continue, unabated, long after construction and dedication.

"Resolution of the controversy cannot be achieved through the mean-spirited and destructive tactics used by the NJAMF Board's counsel. Whipping up more controversy and generating greater disension inside and outside the Board are the results of Yamada's efforts. His actions work against the best interest of the Board and community.

'Final Comments:

"It is sad that Gerald Yamada allowed his emotions to get in the way of sound and fair judgments and actions. Because he was probably incensed by the fact that I got in the way of his objectives, and because of my challenges to his ability to meet these challenges, he embarrassed him, he lashed out and, in my opinion, retaliated against me. He lost sight of the fact that I am a board member of the organization he represents, and that I am essentially his client in a client-attorney relationship. Instead of representing the interests of the client (me), he attacked, denigrated, undermined, and misrepresented me. In the process, I was converted, in his mind, from 'client' to be represented to 'enemy to be destroyed.' To achieve his objective, he thrust trumped up ideas and theses on me, which he created by misrepresenting and falsifying my work.

"All NJAMF Board members share the same commitment to the Foundation's mission and goals. Each of us wants to see that only the best memorial is constructed, which can and will withstand the test of time. To achieve this, the Board should use tactics and strategies that will resolve the conflict in a fair and just manner. Using a reprehensible approach such as the one (me) was used, his letter can only hinder progress toward a resolution of the problems and controversies. Efforts should be directed at unifying, rather than destroying people and institutions. ■

COMMUNITY VIEWS

Opposition to Masaoka Inscription Small-minded

Editors Note: The following letter was written by Frank Nekoba, USAF colonel (ret.) from Alexandria, Va., to J. Carter Brown of the Fine Arts Commission in support of the Mike Masaoka inscription on the NJAMF memorial.

"I am writing in response to the controversy surrounding the inscribing of excerpts from the Japanese American Creed on the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. I am appalled at the small-mindedness of the opposition to the inscription. They appear to have neither a sense of proportion nor an appreciation for historical context. With perfect hindsight, they selectively criticize the actions and decisions made by some of the Japanese American leaders in the dark days leading up to and during World War II. One person who repeatedly appears to be the target of their wrath is Mike Masaoka. They overlook the circumstances in which Masaoka acted: i.e., hysteria over the 'Japanese aliens' (although most of them were U.S. citizens), rampant discrimination and exclusionary laws.

"Some have even described the creed written by Masaoka as 'obsequious' to our country. If such were the case, then so are the many patriotic songs, poems and pledges written about love of country that is a part of our heritage as Americans. They appear unable to accept it for what it is — an affirmation of loyalty and patriotism. It defines what the memorial is all about. Despite the many injustices visited upon the Japanese American

community during that period, they persevered and the majority demonstrated their love of country through their actions. Many made the ultimate sacrifice in combat during a most critical period in U.S. history. Equally important contributions were made by those who endured and accepted the indignity of life in U.S. concentration camps. While their country may have disavowed them, they never lost faith in their country. Such unswerving loyalty, in no small measure, convinced Congress to authorize the memorial.

"When all is said and done, it appears to me that the opposition to the inscription is a mean-spirited red herring to camouflage their true intent, which is to denigrate Masaoka's contributions and deny him a place in history. Since this memorial is for all the people, I would prefer that no names, other than the KIAs (killed in action) be placed on it. However, the decision has been made — and it is a fair decision. The majority on the foundation's board has approved the names and inscriptions that are to be used. In our form of governance, that should be sufficient.

"As a veteran, I am proud of the memorial and what it represents. In my opinion, too many dedicated and hard working individuals have been defamed and their reputations besmirched by this controversy. We need to disengage with the recriminations. It is time to move forward with alacrity to celebrate the spirit and intent of this defining memorial."

JA Creed Does Not Belong on JA National Memorial

The following letter was written by Chris Iijima, assistant professor of law, University of Hawaii, to J. Carter Brown, chairman of the Fine Arts Commission, in support of excluding the Japanese American Creed from the Japanese American Memorial in Washington, D.C.

"Dear Mr. Brown and Mr. Carson:

"I am in receipt of a copy of lengthy letter to you dated January 7, 1999, from Gerald H. Yamada, Esq., in which he specifically criticizes a letter to you written by Professor Eric Yamamoto and me in which we raised concerns about the inclusion of a quotation by Mike Masaoka on the Japanese American Memorial. Mr. Yamada's letter — long on 'spin' and short on substance — employs a familiar lawyer's trick in which one pounds the table when pounding the facts is insufficient. Since I do not want to take too much of your time, I will respond briefly for the record:

"1. The 'Lim Report' was not 'rejected' by the JACL at all. In fact, there was a tremendous and well documented controversy about it when another, less critical, edited report was circulated by the JACL leadership to be adopted in its place. Suffice it to say, that the copy of the Lim Report I received and utilized was directly ordered from and delivered to me by the JACL (\$5 shipping charge).

"2. My and Prof. Yamamoto's letter referred to the Lim Report as 'evidence in material that was troubling.' Mr. Yamada does not and cannot dispute that. He can disagree with it, but he cannot dispute that the evidence is there and that Mr. Masaoka is a controversial figure with respect to the internment. For example, the 'suicide battalion' Allegation was not only made in the Lim Report, but in other material

as well (Michi Weglyn's 'Years of Infamy' book also alludes to the possibility — an assertion which Mr. Yamada does not mention in his citation to her work).

"3. The branding quotation from the Lim Report speaks for itself. I think it is much less ambiguous than Mr. Yamada seems to assert, but that is a matter of opinion. In any case, Mr. Yamada spends a great deal of his letter suggesting alternative scenarios to my and Ms. Lim's interpretation since he believes 'that any critical interpretation would be counterintuitive,' and 'that his interpretation and reading indicates that Masaoka was making a report and not a recommendation, and that it was 'highly plausible' that some other governmental entity made it. However, given Masaoka's role during the incarceration, it is a matter of opinion as to which interpretation is 'counterintuitive,' and a matter of opinion whether Masaoka was 'only' making a report and thus couldn't be making any recommendations, and a matter of opinion what was 'highly plausible' or not, etc.

"I would belabor the obvious point that Mr. Yamada's facts are, at best, his conclusions. Indeed, I find it remarkable (and, in my opinion, telling) that even in the subsequent interview when faced with the outrageous statement and in the obvious position of being able to condemn it (without any fear of contradiction even if he did make the statement), Masaoka can only mildly suggest he 'didn't recall' making it. In any case, the evidence is there for one to make of it what one will, and we'll let history decide.

"4. Mr. Yamada does not contradict, because he cannot, that the JACL originally opposed the 1979 Lowry reparations bill, and that on March 18, 1980, Mr. Masaoka pro-

posed an alternative to redress approach (see William Hohri's book, 'Repairing America').

"I do not want to get into an extended colloquy with Mr. Yamada, so I hope this will be the last time I trouble you. I do want to reiterate what the purpose of the original letter was: to ask that the memorial speak to what we can learn from the incarceration of Japanese Americans. The lessons of the incarceration are twofold, it seems to me. First, it should remind all of us that people can prevail over injustice, but perhaps more important is the lesson that we must remain vigilant against injustice. To that end, we must not only celebrate how Japanese Americans endured, but we must also celebrate the importance of dissent and resistance to injustice. Even the tiny, isolated, and powerless the dissenters are. That theme is the one which universally connects Japanese Americans to the traditions of African American civil rights heroes, the suffragettes, the labor union heroes, etc.

"It is not my primary purpose to second guess how people responded to wartime racial hysteria and racial incarceration (although I confess I am troubled by what I interpret as the extreme zeal of some to comply and to crush any criticism). I am proud of my mom (who endured incarceration in Topaz) and my dad's 442nd service, but I see nothing on the memorial that honors those who saw and protested the injustice at the time — and who were silenced, not only by the government but also by those within our own community. That their silencers are honored by the dissenters remain silenced today by this memorial is not a legacy I wish for my children when they are given their great heritage and history."

A Feeling of Emptiness Over Soon-to-be Dedicated Nat'l JA Memorial

In reading about the current controversy surrounding the inscriptions for the National Japanese American Memorial, I was saddened to learn that the memorial design continues to be influenced by a few individuals.

Many will not know of the trials and turmoil I had experienced in the past regarding the memorial design. In summary, I had hoped to influence the design of the memorial during the early stages of the project by submitting a design concept for a nationally held design competition for the memorial.

Although acknowledged as the winning design and having received critical reviews for the design's appropriateness for the project, the design was not fairly considered by the board. A reason for not considering the winning concept and the selection of another architect was not provided, other than, as one board member commented, "What happened to Barney (design concept) was not uncommon.... It happens to design competitions."

What a hypocritical comment, especially when one considers that a factor for erecting the memorial was to ensure that a past injustice is not endured again by future generations. This "business as usual" comment only inflamed my desire to realize the true spirit of the project.

Ironically, the recent public memorandum submitted by a group of board members voicing their concerns with the decision-making process of the foundation, the lack of sharing critical information and the absence of public input are similar to the concerns I had regarding the memorial design many years ago. A letter and public campaign on my part was also branded by a few board members, including several of the disenchanted board members, as an ill-advised tactic. Also, my attempt to present my concept and case to the entire board failed.

As a board member stated, partially jest, "People [who] have been silent throughout the process just recently began to find fault with the memorial design.... Let's give the site back to the federal government and have the fault finders build their own memorial in whatever image they can agree on."

In response, I have been toiling

with the design issue for many years, and complete documentation of my quest can be provided. Although stopping the memorial project at this point is unreasonable, it is not too late to slow down the project to allow more public input or at a minimum, have the board resolve the issue stated in the open memo submitted by the eight board members. The goal of building a memorial, regardless of design quality and appropriateness, has always been the unfortunate driving force for the foundation.

In response to the foundation chairman's comments that the current controversy is disrupting the construction process, the chairman needs to step back and ask why a \$10.5 million budget was required in the first place. Consider that the winning competition design was budgeted at three times less than the current design. Also, as the designer of the winning concept, I had offered to waive the fee for the concept through a public process and participate in a team effort with the current architect on record to get the project completed for a far lower fee than the current architectural fees, which I believe is in the excess of \$200,000. I had offered to donate most of my design services for the project. Furthermore, as a Sensei, I was looking forward to serving as a voice of the younger generation on the project, which has always been well represented by the older generation. Even with the addition of the endowment requirement for the memorial maintenance and for continuing education programs, a smaller budget could have been set, so Mr. Chairman, do not labor on the issue of cost as to discourage further input from the public.

And in recalling the original budget of the winning design, it was intentionally kept small and manageable to reflect the intimate scale of the project. The mall and the D.C. area is filled with too many grand memorials — memorials that overwhelm you with their enormous scale and disappoint you with poor design. The underlying stories for erecting these memorials have become lost amongst the existing architectural maze.

As stated in the winning submission, the memorial concept was dedicated to the people of Japanese descent who endured the unusual ad-

versities occurring in the United States of America during World War II. The space was to be spiritual and contemplative, a place where the indomitable spirit of these people will be honored, celebrated and sustained for future generations.

Ironically, the winning design would have reduced the extent of the proposed inscriptions because wall space was kept to a minimum. To attempt to tell the entire story via wall inscriptions is fruitless, for the JA story is far too important to try to capture in a few words. The space needs to speak to the people who visit the memorial. One only has to visit the Vietnam Memorial to understand how a space can speak to a person.

The design of the current memorial is similar to your mother's recipe for a particular food item. Recalling New Year's day, you may eat your mother's *inari zushi* (foxtails) in the morning and then go later to a relative's house and eat their version of *inari zushi* and look the same from the outside, brown and textural, but for some reason, your mother's always tasted better.

It is the same with the memorial design. The low curve wall, the radii shape, the three-boulder symbolism, the use of a haiku and the single row of cherry trees may be reflective of the physical shapes of the original concept, but the spirit and essence of the original is missing. I believe this critical ingredient was lost during the project process — a process that the current controversy and my past actions have been trying to address.

I know that the current controversy will be resolved and the board will come together on a picture perfect poster day to dedicate the completion of the memorial later this year. And far removed from this politically empowered scene, someday, somewhere, the original memorial design will quietly sit and respectfully honor the people whom the memorial was, to be dedicated to: my *obasan*, *ojisan*, mother, father and other people of Japanese descent.

I wrote this letter as a therapeutic exercise to deal with the emptiness I have towards the soon-to-be dedicated memorial in our nation's capital.

Benney J. Matsumoto
San Diego, Calif.



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Very Truly Yours

By Harry Honda

A Quick Look at Kido's Year-end 1943 'Report to the Nisei'

AFTER reading the 1943 P.C.s in depth to work up my New Year piece, I came upon Saburo Kido's year-end "Report to the Nisei," 2,500 words long, in the Dec. 25, 1943, issue but it did not have the usual "Timely Topics" column head. The headline says: "National President refutes rumors regarding JACL in summarizing 1943 events."

As P.C. circulation was then at an all-time WWII low (around 4,000), thus not widely seen in the Nikkei community of that time, his historic report was reprinted for the P.C. archives. With a kicker titled "Report to the Nisei," who were these "Nisei" when Pearl Harbor was attacked? According to WRA statistics, the majority of the 70,000 Nisei in the camps in 1942 were between the ages of 15 and 35 (or between 72 and 92 today). WRA personnel generally regarded the Nisei completely American in speech, dress and manner, who were high school graduates, employed or planning to start their families.

While many issues that Kido cites were known to the Nisei majority, you wonder about the generations thereafter. There's little in the school books about the Pearl Harbor brew that decomposed to race hysteria and the Army-directed Evacuation, as memories of the aging Nisei tend to favor the happier times rather than brood over the denial and tragedy. It may be timely to lift Kido's Report into the Y2K daylight.

National JACL president Saburo Kido was born in Hawaii in 1902. He was 41 years old, among the 600 Nisei over age 35 in a WRA camp on Jan. 1, 1943, when compiling his "Report to the Nisei." He was a "generation older" (about 20 years) than the mainland Nisei.

Here, then, is the essence of Kido's report. It's time to set forth the facts. Beside my paraphrasing and bracketed notes, the report's text is italicized.

The 1943 JACL year was tumultuous, a year of ups and downs, not a bed of roses. JACL's work during the year was hampered by ugly rumors. During the course of the year, the JACL has been charged with:

Charge #1: Causing the Evacuation. —The JACL did not... We stood on our constitutional rights as citizens when we were asked to cooperate in a program to send all male persons of

Japanese ancestry from the coastal region of California. [California Governor Olson called various Issei and Nisei community leaders for a conference Feb. 6, 1942, in Sacramento, informing the Japanese, both nationals and citizens, that they should be prepared to move out of the area at any time. Olson wanted to hear of their willingness to cooperate.]

When the Army ordered evacuation [on March 24, 1942], we decided to cooperate although we were cognizant of the discriminatory policy being adopted. We did not know then enough of the economic interests, the race-baiters and other forces which had intentionally distorted stories to fan race hatred. Nor did we know to what lengths they would go in the future.

We decided on a policy of working for the welfare of the majority. Everyone knows about the 48-hour notice given Terminal Island residents to leave their homes... Women, children and babies slept out in the open in Los Angeles till they could find homes. We decided as an organization then we could not allow the entire Japanese populace to be placed in such a position.

[Rumors that all Japanese on Terminal Island were to be lined up and machine-gunned led more than 55 families numbering about 200 persons to flee the island. When the Navy "condemned" the island on Feb. 14, residents had 30 days to vacate the island. But the Navy on Feb. 25 tacked up posters ordering all Japanese off by midnight Feb. 27. Half of the families had already moved out. —P.C. 9-7-79.]

Charge #2: Not opposing Evacuation. According to Col. Bendetson, the Army had two alternative plans for Evacuation. One was to place all persons of Japanese ancestry into army cantonments within 24 hours in case of emergency. The other was the gradual process, which was eventually carried out. As an organization pledged to support national defense, we saw no other alternative but compliance with military order. Our decision has been supported by numerous friends. [Copy of Bendetson's talk made May 20, 1943, at the San Francisco Commonwealth Club is at the National Archives.] Had JACL opposed the program of evacuation, a repetition of the Terminal Island affair might have occurred. Hearst and other race-baiting papers would have exploited the situation thoroughly. We would have been branded as

saboteurs and our loyalty would have been under attack. Had we not cooperated with the Army, our friends could not today come to our aid and defense. The resettlement program might not today be in effect. [In 1968, William Hiroto analyzed the reporting of events, episodes and incidents in the Los Angeles Times from Dec. 8, 1941, through Feb. 21, 1942, for his USC graduate thesis in journalism, "75 Days." One question he never addressed in the treatise was: "What would/might have happened had not the military acted at the behest of the government?"]

Charge #3: Being instrumental in sending the Issei to concentration camps. —JACL did not send them! Neither JACL leaders nor the organization submitted the names of those who were confined immediately following the war. The FBI did not consult us as to whom they were going to arrest. Before the war and the present time, we cooperated with the government agencies, but never merely to turn in names. This charge rose partly from the fact that there was at times disagreement between our chapters and Issei leaders and suspicion arose that the names were turned in out of spite.

Charge #4: Profiting from the Evacuation. —JACL did not profit! Certainly as an organization, the JACL at the time of Evacuation and ever since, has been greatly handicapped by insufficient funds. Had we profited from Evacuation, we could have carried on far more work and paid adequate wages to the people who have been working with the organization. ... If any leaders had private business or special connections, the organization had no control over the fact. Certainly, most of our leaders suffered as much as any other person, in (some) cases more. ... We believe the JACL chapters rendered splendid service and saved the evacuees much grief, worry and loss.

And for JACL in 1943, combating hostility, unfair criticism and fighting in the courts for recognition of Nisei civil rights were the important works. Kido's "Report to the Nisei" concluded, Chief investigator Robert Stripling (a name many Nisei might recall today) of the Dies Un-American Activities Committee, Kido added, "was used by anti-evacuee forces to discredit the WRA and raise doubts as to the loyalty of the Nisei." ■

AJA WWII Memorial Alliance Dedication Set for Feb. 19

The Americans of Japanese Ancestry World War II Memorial Alliance will hold a dedication ceremony on Sat., Feb. 19, from 10 a.m. to the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

"We thought it appropriate that this year's Day of Remembrance, commemorating the 58th anniversary of the infamous Executive Order 9066, which put Japanese-Americans behind barbed wires without due process during World War II, be the occasion for the dedication of a heartfelt monument to Japanese-American GIs, many of whom volunteered from the concentration camps to demonstrate their loyalty and paid the supreme sacrifice in their efforts," said Dr. Roy Machida, Alliance president.

Unlike the 442nd/100th MIS memorial dedicated last June near the Japanese American National Museum, the Alliance memorial is dedicated solely to JAs killed in action during WWII. It will be placed in the National JA Veterans Memorial Court located in front of the JACCC, and will join the Korean and Vietnam war memorials dedicated to JA GIs killed in action.

Keynote speaker at the dedication will be Rev. George Aki, who served as the 442nd RCT chaplain. Col. Chris Keegan, who was one of the Caucasian officers with "H" Company of the 442nd, will also be speaking. Col. Harry K. Fukuhara will represent the MIS. Yaeiko Yokoyama, sister of the

late Sadao Munemori who received a posthumous Congressional Medal of Honor, and Hershey Miyamura, who received a CMH for his tour of duty during the Korean War, will be present for the ribbon cutting.

Registration will begin on Friday, Feb. 18, from 10 a.m., at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. There will be a mixer from 5-10 p.m.

The dedication will take place on Feb. 19, from 10 a.m., and a gala banquet is planned that same evening.

During that weekend, there will also be a WWII exhibit at JACCC's North Gallery. Ed Sakamoto will perform "Our Hearts Were Touched by Fire," at the Japan America Theatre, and tickets are \$25 for Alliance members.

Bus transportation from West Los Angeles to Little Tokyo has been arranged by Rose Ikuta for the dedication ceremony and Sakamoto's matinee performance. To reserve a space, contact Ikuta at 310/473-0265.

A golf tournament is planned for Feb. 21, from 8 a.m., at the Montebello Country Club.

Machida said the Alliance raised more than \$450,000 to date. Funds raised beyond the construction and maintenance costs will be applied to a CD-ROM project in which information about JAs who served in WWII will be stored and made available to libraries, schools and general public. For more information, call Kats Kunitzugu at 213/628-2725. ■

■ 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, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. With questions call Tom Ehrlie at JACL Headquarters, 415/921-5225 or email to netdir@jacl.org.

31st Manzanar Pilgrimage to Honor Amache, Tule Lake Camp Internees

The 31st annual pilgrimage to the Manzanar National Historic Site, which will be held on April 29, will honor internees held at the Amache (Gránada) and Tule Lake War Relocation Centers during World War II.

The Manzanar Committee, which sponsors the pilgrimage, welcomes everyone, particularly those connected to Amache or Tule Lake. In a statement, the committee said, "Manzanar is a representation of all the WRA camps, and we want to recognize them as the National Park Service begins planning what should be included in the soon-to-be restored auditorium/gym." For information, contact the Manzanar Committee at 323/662-5102; fax 323/666-5161; or write to 1566 Curran St., Los Angeles, CA 90026.

The committee also announced that Manzanar Superintendent Ross Hopkins, who has been in charge of the site since May 1994, plans to retire on April 1. Prior to Manzanar, Hopkins was with the Death Valley National Monument.

Steve Embrey, chair of the Committee and Manzanar Advisory Commission member, had this to say about Hopkins: "Ross has a long and distinguished career in the National Park Service and is looking forward to his retirement. We'll miss his energy and his commitment and the constant support he brought to his job on a very controversial site. We will especially miss his strong support and assistance at our annual pilgrimage."

In more than 38 years of public service, Hopkins served at 16

parks and offices. At Manzanar, Hopkins helped establish and operate an 11-member advisory commission appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. He also oversaw the General Management Plan and park development activities, such as a three-year park history study, a three-season on-site archeological survey/inventory, and hazardous materials survey and mitigation measures. Recently, a boundary fence was completed, a sewer system installed and an auditorium historical structure study was finished. Hopkins and his wife Nancy plan to move to Tucson, Ariz.

Those wanting to thank Superintendent Ross Hopkins for his years of service can write to Manzanar National Historic Site, P.O. Box 426, Independence, CA 93526. ■

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Letters to the Editor

JA Creed Should Not Be Our Paradigm

Congressman Matsui is wrong to assume that much of the opposition to the Japanese American Creed, JACL and national memorial aside, is because the author was Mr. Mike Masaoka.

It is the ethos and tone of obsequiousness that immediately suspends belief. It may have had its genesis and inspiration from the fin de siècle prewar side of our Japanese heritage and not from an affirmation of the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Matsui reminds us how our loyalty and love for our country was unheeded during the dismal years from 1942 to 1946. Yet his seigniorial letter suggests that the "creed" helped persuade "a skeptical Congress that Redress was warranted."

This is not to suspend disbelief but I am more convinced that it was in large part due to the efforts of Mr. Matsui and the rest of the Nikkei congressional caucus.

The Japanese American Creed should not be our paradigm as it underscores servility and plantation mentality.

Eji Suyama
Ft. Meade, S.D.

Time to Move on and Celebrate the Memorial

The clear majority of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation Board made its decision to include a portion of the "Japanese American Creed" on the Japanese American memorial panel.

It's now time to move on to build and dedicate this fitting memorial in our nation's capital.

Kathy Reyes
San Francisco

Masaoka Not a Worthy Representative For JA Community

IGASAKI

(Continued from page 3)

Disability Issues in the APA Community

Among the fastest-growing and most volatile areas of discrimination law is in the area of discrimination based on physical and mental disabilities. In conjunction with the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Igaaki recently kicked off the first ever regional meeting (held in Los Angeles) on issues faced by APAs with disabilities.

While increased national attention has been directed to disability discrimination, inadequate consideration has been given to disability discrimination faced by minorities. Disabled APAs and other minorities are likely to face dual discrimination—discrimination based on race or national origin and on their disability. In addition, cultural issues and language barriers isolate APAs with disabilities.

"A greater effort must be made, considering particular cultural differences and in appropriate languages, to reach these individuals and their communities so that they may be made more aware of their rights," said Igaaki. "Persons with disabilities continue to have the highest unemployment rates and largest number of people living in poverty."

High Tech Companies

On Dec. 14, I wrote a letter to Mr. J. Carter Brown, chairman of the Fine Arts Commission, expressing personal disapproval of using any quote made by Mike Masaoka on a Japanese American memorial.

History will prove that Mike Masaoka was a collaborator for various government agencies; that he never was incarcerated in the camps; that after the war, he reaped the benefits of his collaboration, living a very comfortable life in the environs of Washington, D.C., while the rest of us struggled to rebuild our lives.

As a J.A. I want the memorial to reflect us. Mike Masaoka is not a worthy representative. Let's call it the way it is and not engage in face-saving rhetoric. I am the daughter of one of the leaders of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and am proud of it.

If the Masaoka quote is to be included in the memorial, it should be made very clear that it appears because of the efforts of the JACL and not the JA community at large. After all, JACL is a creature of Mike Masaoka, and unfortunately, JACL will be forever tied to his umbilical cord.

Grace Kubota Ybarra
San Jose, Calif.

Masaoka's Words Belong on Memorial

Perhaps the wisdom of age, or simply an increase in tolerance for differences, has made me hesitate to express opinions on recent controversial subjects appearing in your pages. I do so now because of my friendship and respect for Mike Masaoka, a man described by some as a "true hero" for Americans of Japanese ancestry, and who was a role model to me.

Mike's services to JACL and his fellow Japanese Americans have been well documented and need no defense. Personally, as a young college-age Nisei, my early interest in JACL and its potential as a civil rights organization had a lot to do with Mike's influence. As to a political leader, at a time when we badly needed one,

his accomplishments as JACL's Washington Representative earned him much deserved praise. His writing was without peer, and his speeches were always inspirational.

I valued very much Mike's support during my service as national JACL president. At the risk of sounding "corny," I saw him as a trusted advisor and big brother, whose leadership in the postwar years was critical to JA interests.

It's too bad that some individuals, for whatever reason, now choose to disrespect a man who doesn't deserve it. I believe that the JA Creed was an excellent statement needed to symbolize our belief in America at a time when we were seen as the enemy. Do the words, now under criticism by some, embarrass us? If we take patriotism seriously, we should be proud of those words today.

As one who, like many others, contributed to the memorial and tried to encourage others in our area to do so because I believed in it, I have no patience with petty animosities that detract from our goal. I also believe that Mike Masaoka's words and name belong on the memorial—a place he earned in his lifetime, and whose memory is love and respect.

Jerry J. Ezumoto
Past national JACL president

Pacific Citizen

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* Except for the National Director's Report, news and the views expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The columns are the personal opinion of the writers.

* "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 abridgement. 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.

Affirmative Action Update

Igaaki has been frequently asked about the ongoing importance of affirmative action in addressing the deep effects of historic job and educational discrimination against minorities and women. Despite the efforts of leaders such as former UC Berkeley Chancellor Chang Lin Tien and Washington State Governor Gary Locke, California and Washington have adopted confusing propositions that have limited the ability of state and local governments to redress discrimination against women and minorities. But the law still allows the federal government and private employers to continue to use affirmative efforts to overcome imbalances produced by past and present discrimination. Igaaki continues to share the president's commitment to these important efforts.

"It is unrealistic to believe that we can produce equal opportunity through only individual enforcement efforts," said Igaaki. "Affirmative action efforts, while they needed to be and have been adjusted when necessary for fairness, have only begun to produce the diversity that should exist in employment if there were no discrimination."

For more information or questions concerning job discrimination, contact the local EEOC office or Mark Wong at the vice chair's office at 202/663-4027.

Jim Miyazaki, Former JACL National Board Member, Passes Away

Jim Miyazaki, a former JACL national board member, passed away on Jan. 24, due to complications related to a lung condition. Miyazaki served as JACL vice president for operations in 1994-95, during a time when the national JACL reorganized its financial and organizational structure. He was an active member of the Wisconsin chapter and the Midwest District Council.

Miyazaki was born in Tacoma, Wash., on March 9, 1929. He was interned at Heart Mountain and Tule Lake. Following four years of military service, he graduated from Macalaster College in St. Paul, Minn. He resided in Wauwatosa, Wis., where he retired in 1991 as a senior vice president for Northwestern National Insurance following a 27-year career with the company.

An active member of his commu-

nity, Miyazaki served four terms as chapter president for the Wisconsin JACL. In addition, he dedicated his time to The Boy Scouts of America, The First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa, The Congregational Home and various Masonic organizations.

He is survived by his wife, Lucille, daughter Cheryl (Mark) Lund of Bloomington, Minn., sons Kurt (Ruth Hoff) of Yellow Springs, Ohio, and Kevin of Cincinnati, Ohio. He is also survived by sisters Ruth (Hiroshi) Yamamoto of Denver, Colo., Evelyn Kagawa of Hilo, Hawaii, and brother Gilbert (Mae) of Maple Grove, Minn. ■



Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Fujikawa, Masao, 88, Mesa, Wash., Jan. 11; Seattle-born; raised in Kumamoto-ken, Japan; farmed in Bellevue, Wash., before WWII, postwar near Henderson, Colo. and World, Wyo., before settling in Mesa; survived by wife Nobuko, daughter Lynn Nakamura (Pasco, Wash.); sons Bruce (Cupertino), Tom (Littleton, Colo.), Wright (Mesa); 7 gc, 7 gc.

Inano, Tom, 80, Amache interned; retired as chief warrant officer after 23 years with the MIS; survived by wife Miyako; son Chris; daughter Lori Gay; 2 gc, sister Haru Ichishita (Chicago); brother Henri (Upland).

Kuramoto, Chiyeiko, 85, Selma, Jan. 7; survived by husband Maoru; sons Moriaki and wife Kyoko; daughters Midori Nuno and husband Hiroshi, Mineko Kuramoto, Alice Nishimura and husband Eddie; 6 gc, 5 gc; sister Yoshimi Kawamoto (Japan).

Nakaso, Jiro, 79, Berkeley, Jan. 17; Alameda-born WWII 442nd RCT veteran; survived by wife Jean; daughters Judy, Carol, Laurie Ito and husband Marc; sons Andre, Stanley and wife Maria, Peter and wife Lynn; 7 gc; sisters Virginia Nakaso (Berkeley) Betty Miyake (Caruthers), brother Sam and wife Hiko (San Jose).

Okamoto, Yoneko Katayama, 96, Turrence, Jan. 4; Yamaguchi-ken-born, formerly of Chicago; survived by sons Thomas (Chicago), George (Munster, Ind.), Frank (Spring Valley), Roy (Bloomington, Ill.), Ben, Dr. Paul (Naperville, Ill.) Vincent; daughters Hannah Takahashi (Napa), Tave Yamaguchi, Dorothy Nambu; 37 gc, 48 gc.

Sakamoto, Takeo, 92, Alhambra, Jan. 1; Kumamoto-ken-born; survived by sons Shinto and wife Misako, Shingo and wife Emiko, Kenji and wife Grace, Jimmy and wife Jean; daughters Michiko Shimoda and husband Shigeru, Emiko Takeuchi and husband Kunihiko; 14 gc, 16 gc; sister-in-law Hatsune Tani (Japan).

Shibukawa, Akira Frank, 82, Rosemead, Dec. 30; Seattle-born; survived by wife Samko "Sally," sons Duke, Mark and wife Yolande; daughter Sandy Vega and husband Rudolph; 2 gc; brothers George and wife Jenny, Fred and wife Toshi, Tadashi.

Uemura, Hamakichi, 81, Salinas, Jan. 13; Kagoshima-born; survived by wife Miku; daughters Yoko Tsurugi and husband Tadashi, Tamiko Oishi and husband Kenji; sons Hitoshi, Tatsuo and wife Arlene, Osamu and wife June; gc; sisters Kunie Yamashita, Harue Nitao, Akie Kasai, and brother Hideoichi (all of Japan).

Yamamoto, Goro D., 83, Seaside, Jan. 11; Berkeley-born; attended Waseda University in

Tokyo; Japanese language teacher, instructor at the MIS Language School at Camp Savage, Minn., during WWII; member of JACL, helped form the Issei-Jai to support Japanese immigrants;

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.

survived by wife Hideoke; daughters Marsha Yoneda (Watsonville), Janice Yamamoto (San Jose); sons David (Sand City), Gordon (San Jose); brothers Shinji (Madison, Wis.), Michiko (Santa Paula); William (Berkeley), Yoshio and Eiji (both El Cerrito); sisters Chiyo Hironaka (Moscow, Idaho), Tamaye Malloy (Belmont); 1 gc. ■

DEATH NOTICE

YURI UCHIYAMA
OAKLAND, Calif.—Yuri Uchiyama, 76, passed away Dec. 1, 1999. Beloved wife of Archie Uchiyama of Oakland; loving mother of Jane (Derek) Lowe, of Northridge; Grace Uchiyama (Cipriano Salazar) of Castro Valley, Kathy (Duane) Takayama, of San Gabriel; dear sister of Wright (Grace) Kawakami, of San Jose; Mari Terada, of San Jose; Izumi Kawakami, Lloyd Kawakami both of Los Banos; Menlo (Aurora) Kawakami of San Jose; grandmother of six children. Also survived by sister-in-law Lumi (Himeo) Tsunomi of San Francisco; brother-in-law Jim Uchiyama of Fremont. Yuri was a member of the East Bay Heritage Quilters, Threads of Remembrance, and volunteer at the Eden Japanese Senior Center.

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Alumnus Paul Bannai Announces Roosevelt High Reunion to be Held on Sept. 24

Former California legislator Paul T. Bannai, an alumnus of Roosevelt High School in Los Angeles, issued a call to his classmates to attend the 63rd reunion to be held Sun., Sept. 24, at the Montebello County Club, 901 Via San Clemente.

The reunion will be for classes 1937, 1938 and 1939. Bannai, a reunion committee member, said the event will be a luncheon with music and dancing.

Bannai recalled that during the 1930s, Roosevelt High School's student body represented more than 90 nationalities, including a considerable number of Japanese Americans. He hopes that the community can "start the new century with a new get-together."

Those wanting to assist in the reunion are welcome to attend the next committee meeting on Sun., Feb. 6, from 10:30 a.m. at the Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo. The meeting will include a museum tour and lunch. To reserve a spot, please call Helen at 323/727-1199.

Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation Announces Annual Internship Program

The Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation is seeking promising young Asian Pacific American leaders for a one-week leadership seminar in Washington, D.C.

The "Week in Washington" is scheduled for April 16-22. All expenses, including transportation, lodging and meals, are covered during the one-week internship period.

Any person of APA ethnicity engaged in the field of social work, psychology, psychiatry, nursing, mental health, substance abuse, health and human services, and related fields are eligible. Candidates must be between the ages of 26 and 39, and should be interested in assuming a leadership role in the community, both locally and nationally. The seminar will consist of the following:

- 1) Meeting top administrators and directors of mental health, substance abuse and human service programs, and discussion of programs;
- 2) Meeting national leaders in the field of administration, policy

making, philanthropy, politics, human services and civil rights;

- 3) Meeting and being briefed by an APA congressional delegation on Capitol Hill;
- 4) Participating in workshops and briefings provided by APA leaders in government and the private industry;
- 5) A briefing with the White House Office of Public Liaison;
- 6) Meeting leaders in the private sector; and
- 7) Learning how social changes are brought about.

For information regarding application forms contact: Lily A. Okura, Executive Director, Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation, 6303 Friendship Court, Bethesda, MD 20817; or call 301/530-0945; or fax 301/530-0522.

Deadline for the application is March 18. Applications postmarked March 18 will also be accepted.

The Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt public foundation, incorporated in Maryland in 1988. ■

Mile-Hi JACL Installation Dinner



The Mile-Hi chapter JACL recently held their Installation Banquet and Kansa-No-Hi award presentation at the Double Tree Hotel in Denver on Jan. 15. Two community members, Sumi Nakazono and Youko Yamasaki, were presented with the Kansa No Hi award for their volunteer efforts on behalf of the Japanese American community. Those present at the banquet included, top row, l-r: Mile-Hi chapter board members Tom Migaki, Sumi Takeno, Richard Hamai, Mariagnes Medrud and JACL executive director John Tateishi. Bottom row: Herb Okamoto, George Masunaga, Katherine Nakazono and Mark Shimoda. ■

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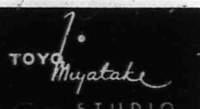
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Fifth Jerome Reunion Scheduled for October in Los Angeles

The fifth Jerome reunion will be held at the New Otani Hotel in Los Angeles on October 13 and 14, 2000. The mixer will be on Friday and the dinner on Saturday.

Registration packets will be mailed soon to those whose addresses are available.

For additional information, the following may be called: Helen Yoshimura Takata, 626/968-2966, Miyo Kunitake Kawamura, 714/961-1249, Dollie Nagai

Fukawa 310/323-9615, and Rose Masuda Okajima, 559/875-3878.

Approximately 500 attended the last Jerome reunion held in Fresno in October 1998.

Jerome Relocation Center in Arkansas was the last center to be opened and the first to be closed, after only 21 months. The first internees arrived in October 1942 and the remaining residents in July 1944 were sent to other relocation centers. ■

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5 days: New Orleans French Quarter	
JAPAN SPRING HOLIDAY TOUR	MAY 8-17
Osaka, Kurazaki, Seto, Osaka Bridge, Kinokuni, Amariyohidate, Kyoto, Kanazawa, Noto Peninsula, Sado Island, Tokyo	
GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR	JUNE 24-JULY 1
Tokyo, Lake Hamana, Hiroshima, Kyoto	
ALASKA/YUKON HOLIDAY CRUISE TOUR	JULY 18-29
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NORTHERN NATIONAL PARKS HOLIDAY TOUR	AUGUST 20-28
Salt Lake City, Jackson Hole, Spokane	
National Parks - Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, Glacier Park, Watkins Lake (Canada)	
ISLANDS OF NEW ENGLAND HOLIDAY TOUR	SEPTEMBER 8-16
Providence, Newport, Block Island, Martha's Vineyard, Plymouth, Hyannis, Nantucket, Cape Cod, Boston	
CRYSTAL HARMONY AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND CRUISE	OCTOBER 1-15
Sydney, Melbourne, Tasmania, Wellington, Christchurch, Auckland	
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CANADIAN ROCKIES / VICTORIA (8 days)	JUNE 14
TAUCK NOVA SCOTIA (8 days)	JULY 14
GRAND PRINCE MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE (14 days)	SEPT 8
TAUCK COLORADO NATIONAL PARKS (10 days)	SEPT 14
BEST OF HOKKAIDO plus TOKYO (6 days)	SEPT 23
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