

Pacific Citizen

Newsstand: 25¢

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

#2904 Vol. 130, No. 9 ISSN: 0030-8579

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

Mar. 3-9, 2000

Lawsuit May Be Brewing Over NJAMF Inscription

By **MARTHA NAKAGAWA**
Assistant Editor

The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) may be facing a lawsuit over the selection process and inclusion of a controversial figure on the memorial wall.

Following a tense morning session at a NJAMF board meeting in San Diego on Feb. 26, board member Francis Sogi announced that he will consider filing a lawsuit against the NJAMF if the Mike Masaoka quote is not taken out as part of the inscriptions.

Saying that he, a number of other board members and "a large number of people" strongly feel "communi- cation was not open" as to the Masaoka inscription approval process, Sogi said it was "time to move the issue to the legal arena where we feel the playing field is more level."

To underscore his point on the lack of open communication, Sogi recounted a conversation he had as recent as Feb. 24, with John Parsons, the National Park Service (NPS) official working with the NJAMF.

"I asked him point blank, 'Have you approved the inscriptions, in particular the inclusion of Mike Masaoka?'" He said, "No we have not," said Sogi.

This is in contrast to statements made by NJAMF Executive Director Cherry Tsutsumida and Chairman Melvin Chioji, both of whom have publicly stated the inscriptions have been approved by both the NPS and the Commission on Fine Arts (CFA), two of three commissions that must approve the construction of any memorial in the nation's capital.

Parsons could not be reached via phone calls or email as of press time to clarify this point.

According to Tsutsumida, the CFA "in concept approved all parts of the memorial and subse-

quently sent the inscription to the NPS, which have not indicated disapproval.

"If in fact the Park Service feels they would like to reverse themselves, it is their obligation, in writing, to notify us of that fact," said Tsutsumida. "To date, I have received no notification of that fact."

In response to Sogi's announcement, board member Masaru Funa successfully entertained a motion to "empower the chairman to

community to question NJAMF's exclusion of many aspects of the World War II experience. Among them included the lack of reference to those who fought evacuation or detention through the court systems (i.e., the cases of Mitsuye Endo, Gordon Hirabayashi, Fred Korematsu, Minoru Yasui and the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee); the absence of non-War Relocation Authority camps such as the Department of Justice and Army-

run prisoner of war camps; no mention of voluntary evacuees; and no citation of Nisei women.

When the issue of the Masaoka quote came to the public for late last year, more than 150 letters opposing Masaoka's inclusion were lodged with the CFA and NPS.

As to the latest development, Chioji said, "They're free to sue if they want to but that would be very sad to see occur" and that "it seems like we had a democratic process where we had a vote and it wasn't even a close vote."

The vote Chioji was referring to happened at an Oct. 23 meeting in Washington, D.C., where 22 board members voted to accept them; seven voted no, and five abstained.

At face value, the results of the vote seem simple enough. But eight board members have publicly cried foul over the entire process.

In the minutes from the Oct. 23 NJAMF meeting, it is stated that the board moved to "accept the version of the inscription approved by the Fine Arts Commission." The dissenters question whether the inscriptions were in fact approved by the CFA at the time or whether the board members were led to believe this, thereby curtailing further discussion within the board and in the larger community.

Transcripts from the Oct. 21 CFA meeting has J. Carter Brown, head of CFA, saying "that the final inscription submission therefore would be the only thing excerpted from this total green light" and that "the inscriptions come last and we have really a lot of time before every letter is designed and put on the wall."

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NJAMF Proposed Inscriptions as of Feb. 2000

Panel 1

MAY THIS MEMORIAL BE A TRIBUTE TO THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF A CITIZENRY IN WORLD WAR II WHO REMAINED STEADFAST IN THEIR FAITH IN OUR DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM.

NORMAN Y. MINETA, Evacuee, Heart Mountain Relocation Center, U.S. Congressman

Panel 2

I AM PROUD THAT I AM AN AMERICAN OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY. I BELIEVE IN THIS NATION'S INSTITUTION, IDEALS AND TRADITIONS; I GLORY IN HER HERITAGE; I BOAST OF HER HISTORY; I TRUST IN HER FUTURE.

MIKE M. MASAOKA, World War II Veteran and Civil Rights Advocate

*(Note: The original text reads: "I am proud that I am an American of Japanese ancestry, for my very background makes me appreciate more fully the wonderful advantages of this nation. I believe in her institutions, ideals and traditions; I glory in her heritage; I boast of her history; I trust in her future.")

Panel 3

OUR ACTIONS HERE IN PASSING THE CIVIL LIBERTIES ACT OF 1988 ARE ESSENTIAL FOR GIVING CREDIBILITY TO OUR CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM AND REINFORCING OUR TRADITION OF JUSTICE.

ROBERT T. MATSUI, Evacuee, Tule Lake Relocation Center, U.S. Congressman

Panels 10, 11, 12

See INSCRIPTIONS/page 8

take any and all actions necessary in the area of retaining legal counsel as is deemed necessary" in the event that a lawsuit is filed.

Sogi's action comes on the heels of public opposition over the inclusion of the Masaoka quote. All inscriptions on the monument came under public scrutiny when they were published in an Associated Press article, which appeared in the *Washington Times* on July 16. Eventually, NJAMF was forced to drop the citation of a 1943 Supreme Court ruling which had read: "The court ruled that the adoption by government, in crisis of war and threatened invasion, of measures of public safety, is not wholly beyond the limits of the Constitution and is not to be condemned."

The revelation of the inscriptions further spurred those in the Nikkei

Hawaii Restriction on Voting Struck Down

By **ASSOCIATED PRESS**

WASHINGTON—The Supreme Court on Feb. 23 struck down Hawaii's practice of letting only people with Hawaiian blood vote for leaders of a program that benefits descendants of the island's original residents.

The voting restriction allows unlawful racial discrimination, the justices ruled by a 7-2 vote.

"A state may not deny or abridge the right to vote on account of race, and this law does so," Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote for the court as it invalidated a provision of Hawaii's constitution.

A white Hawaii rancher had challenged the state's limits on who can vote for trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, which administers state funds and proceeds of public land to aid people descended from original Hawaiians.

The office, created in 1978, administers a \$300 million trust that provides economic, social, health and education aid for about 200,000 residents of Hawaiian blood.

The state constitution limits voting for the trustees to people descended from the original Hawai-

ians on the islands in 1778, date of the first known arrival by Europeans.

Hawaii was a kingdom until 1893, when the last queen was overthrown with U.S. help. In 1993, the Clinton administration acknowledged the action was illegal and apologized to Hawaiians for the U.S. involvement.

Hawaii was a U.S. territory until 1959, when it became the 50th state.

Harold Rice, the Big Island rancher who challenged the voting limit, has no Hawaiian blood but his family has lived on the islands since the mid-1800s.

Rice's lawyers argued that the voting restriction was racially discriminatory. He did not challenge the state's right to create a trust to benefit people with Hawaiian blood.

State officials, supported by the federal government, argued that the voting law was valid because Congress and the state have an obligation to native Hawaiians who lost their land, similar to the government's obligation to American Indians.

See HAWAII/page 8

McCain Apologizes for Slur

Republican presidential nominee, Senator John McCain, apologized on Feb. 21 for his continued use of the term "gook" to describe his North Vietnamese captors saying, "I deeply regret any pain I may have caused by my choice of words."

A former Navy pilot, McCain spent five years as a prisoner of war in the infamous North Vietnamese camps and had been quoted and heard using the term "gook" several times in describing his former captors. Most recently he was quoted using the ethnic slur by reporters on his campaign bus in South Carolina.

McCain has been harshly criticized by members of the Asian Pacific American community, including the JACL, for his use of the term that to this day is used as a slur against APAs. Although McCain initially adamantly refused to apologize for his use of the term, the Senator recently had a change of heart.

"For five and a half years, I was mistreated by Ho Chi Minh's

henchmen. My fellow prisoners were treated even worse," said McCain in a statement. "Although I will never forgive my prison guards for the atrocities they committed against my cellmates, I have always held the people of Vietnam in the highest regard and have worked in support of the Vietnamese American community in this country at every opportunity."

"I will continue to condemn those who unfairly mistreated us. But out of respect to a great number of people for whom I hold in very high regard, I will no longer use the term that has caused such discomfort."

"I apologize and renounce all language that is bigoted and offensive, which is contrary to all that I represent and believe," he said.

The term "gook" was used disparagingly by American soldiers during the Korean and Vietnam wars in referring to the Asian enemy and later became a derogatory word for all people of Asian heritage. ■

Wen Ho Lee Attorneys Say 'Mishandled Information' Was Available in Public Domain

By **ASSOCIATED PRESS**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.—Former Los Alamos National Laboratory scientist Wen Ho Lee expects to show during his trial that the nuclear weapons secrets he is accused of mishandling were available to the public from other easily found sources.

The peek at Lee's trial strategy comes from a legal filing made Feb. 22 in a give-and-take over whether Lee should be required to reveal to prosecutors all of the classified information he plans to use in his defense.

Lee is accused of downloading classified information onto unsecured computers and computer tapes, seven of which prosecutors contend may still exist. Lee has said the tapes were destroyed.

Lee expects to establish at trial that the computer codes and other information in the computer files and on the tapes, far from being carefully protected "brown jew-

els," as the government contends, were readily available in open literature, much of it published with the knowledge and approval of the national laboratories and the federal government," the document states.

It continues that the testimony "will refute the government's contention that Dr. Lee acted with criminal intent." The document was filed in U.S. District Court in Albuquerque.

The document also indicates that Lee plans to show, in detail, that the information he was handling was directly related to his job.

Lee, a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in Taiwan, is charged with 69 counts involving security breaches — but not espionage. His trial is set for Nov. 6. He could get life in prison if convicted.

Lee, held without bond in the Santa Fe County jail since Dec. 10, has appealed the court's refusal to release him on bail. The Denver-

See WEN HO LEE/page 8

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Pacific Citizen

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Publisher: Japanese American Citizens League (founded 1929) 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115, tel: 415/921-5225 fax: 415/931-4671
JACL President: Helen Kawagoe, **National Director:** John Tateishi
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NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.
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© 2000 (ISSN: 0030-8579) PACIFIC CITIZEN is published weekly except once in December. OFFICE HOURS - Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Pacific Time.
Annual subscription rates: JACL MEMBERS: \$12 of the national dues provide one year on a one-per-household basis. NON-MEMBERS: 1 year-\$30, payable in advance. Additional postage per year - Foreign periodical rate \$22. First Class for U.S., Canada, Mexico \$30, Airmail to Japan/Europe: \$60. (Subject to change without notice.) Periodical postage paid at Monterey Park, Calif., and at additional mailing offices.

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

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JACL Calendar

National

Sat., April 1—Deadline for students other than entering freshmen to submit applications to chapter scholarship committees for national JACL scholarships.
Mon., June 26-Sun., July 2—36th Biennial JACL National Convention; Doubletree Inn, Monterey, Calif.; special rate for JACL conventioners. Reservations ASAP: 831/649-4511, <www.doubletreemonterey.com>.

Eastern

Fri.-Tues., March 31-April 4—Washington, D.C., Leadership Conference; Doubletree Hotel. Info: Tom Ehnie, 415/921-5225.

Midwest

DETROIT

Sun., March 12—54th Annual In-Friday Dinner, 10:4 p.m., Peking House, 215 S. Washington, Royal Oak; speaker, Mary Ann Mahaffey, past city council president. **RSVP by March 5:** Mary Kamidori, 734/522-7917; Toshi Shimoura, 248/356-3089.

COMMUNITY Calendar

The Midwest

CHICAGO

Sun., March 12—Caring Is Preparing workshop: "Long Term Care for Your Parents"; 2-4 p.m., Japanese American Service Committee, 4427 N. Clark St.; **RSVP:** 773/275-7212.

Tues., March 28 & Thurs., March 30—AARP-55 Alive Driver's Ed Class; 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Japanese American Service Committee, 4427 N. Clark St.; Stanley Fukai, instructor. **RSVP:** 773/275-7212.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Through May 20—Exhibit, "The Heart Mountain Story," photos by Hansel Mieth and Otto Hagel taken for Life magazine; Oregon Historical Society, 117 NW 2nd Ave.

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.

SEATTLE

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

Northern California

BAY AREA

Sun., March 5—Nikkei Widowed Group monthly meeting; 2 p.m.; new members, both men and women, are welcome. For location call: Tetsu Hara 415/221-4568 or Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.

Thurs.-Thurs., March 9-16—Asian American Film Festival 2000; AMC Kabuki 8 Theaters in San Francisco and Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley. Info: Julie Kuwabara, 415/863-0814 ext. 216; <http://www.naatanet.org/festival>.

BODEGA BAY

Through March 6—Exhibit, early 20th century woodblock prints by Kawase Hasui, Hiroshi Yoshida, Toshi

Intermountain

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sat., March 4—District Council Meeting, Jackpot, Nev.

NC-WN-Pacific

CONTRA COSTA

Sun., March 19—Senior Appreciation/Scholarship Awards Luncheon potluck; 2-5 p.m., Maple Hall, 1 Alvarado Square, San Pablo; karaoke by Mokuyou-Kai. Info: Esther Takeuchi. **FREMONT**

Sun., March 19—Bay Meadows outing; see Community Calendar.

RENO

Sun., March 12—Teriyaki Dinner fund-raiser; see Community Calendar.

SAN MATEO

Sat., March 25—NCJASC 20th Annual Shinren En Kai; see Community Calendar at Hayward.

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 Kiruka, 831/724-0116.

Central California

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sun., March 12—District Council Meeting, Clovis.

Pacific Southwest

GREATER L.A. SINGLES

Fri., March 10—Meeting/program; 8 p.m., Gardena Valley YWCA, 1341 W. Gardena Blvd.; speaker, attorney Robert F. Nakahiro, candidate for L.A. City Council. Info: Louise Sakamoto, 310/327-3169.

RENO

Sun., March 12—Teriyaki Dinner Scholarship Fund-raiser; see Community Calendar.

SAN DIEGO

Sat., March 18—Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner; 4:30 p.m., China Camp Restaurant. **RSVP by March 15:** 619/230-0314, or Vernon Yoshioka, 619/461-2010; e-mail sdajac@juno.com.

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.

Yoshida; Ren Brown Gallery, 1781 Highway One. Info: 800/585-2921, <www.renbrown.com>.

FREMONT

Sun., March 19—Bay Meadows outing; meet at SACBC at 11 a.m., for car pooling. Info: Ted Inouye, 510/797-3075.

HAYWARD

Sat., March 25—20th Annual Shinren En Kai by the Northern California Japanese American Senior Centers; luncheon, entertainment, arts, crafts, food items. **RSVP by March 10** to your local senior center.

SAN FRANCISCO

Through April 30—Exhibit, "Alienation and Assimilation: Contemporary Images and Installations From the Republic of Korea"; Asian Art Museum, Chong-Moon Lee Center, Golden Gate Park. Info: 415/379-8813.

Through May 7—Exhibit, "Bamboo Masterworks: Japanese Baskets From the Little Cohen Collection"; Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. Info: 415/379-8813.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES

Sat., March 4—Exhibit Opening, "More Than a Game: Sport in the Japanese American Community"; Japanese American National Museum (JANM), 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414.

Saturdays, through March 4—Singing Workshop for Youth; 10 a.m.-noon, JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: **RSVP:** 213/625-0414.

Sun., March 5—Panel Discussion, "First in Their Sports: Pioneering Japanese American Athletes" with Wat Misaka, Wally Yamamine, Fuzzy Shimada; 1 p.m., JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414.

Thurs., March 9—Play reading, "Middle Finger" by MacArthur Fellow Han Ong; 7:30-9 p.m., JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414.

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

janm.org

WEST COVINA

Sat., March 4—"Spring Fling" dance, 7-11:30 p.m., East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 JV Puente Ave.; DJ Jim Ikehara. Info: 626/337-9123

Arizona - Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Fri.-Sat., June 2-3—Gila River Reunion; Jackie Gauthrin's Plaza; exhibit of camp relics; Friday evening mixer, Saturday golf tournament, sight-seeing tour, saturday night banquet. Registration: c/o Hy Shishino, 16031 Sugarpine Ln., Cerritos, CA 90703.

PHOENIX

Through March 10—Photo exchange between Phoenix and Himeji, Japan; 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Phoenix City Hall Atrium.

Sat., March 11—Ikebana demonstration; 9:30 a.m., Paradise Valley Country Club. Info: 480/994-1505.

Wed., March 15—Lecture by artist Roger Shimamura; 7 p.m., Phoenix Art Museum, Central & McDowell roads; exhibit of his work continues through March, includes paintings about the internment camps.

Fri., March 24—Annual Japan Business Luncheon; 11:30 a.m., Hyatt Regency at Gainey Ranch; **RSVP ASAP:** 602/915-0000, e-mail: <jas-phx@gccities.com>.

TEMPE

Permanent Exhibit—About Arizona during WWII, includes internment camps, Arizona Historical Society, Marjorie Center Museum, 1300 N. College. Tempe. Info: 480/929-0292; tour info: Mike Steinberg, ext. 137.

RENO

Sun., March 12—Teriyaki Dinner; noon-4 p.m., Washoe County Senior Center, 9th & Suto; also sushi sale, bake sale, entertainment, bonsai, ikebana, calligraphy, origami, raffle, etc. Info: Tracie Sasaki, 856-4004.

Texas

HOUSTON

Sat.-Sun., March 18-26—Houston Capers XV Golf Tournament, played at a different course each day; post-game dinner also at different restaurants. Info: Mas Yamasaki, 281/866-9392.

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



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Lawsuits to Seek Billions in Compensation From Japanese Corporations That Used Slave Laborers During WWII

Two multi-billion dollar class-action lawsuits were filed on Feb. 22 in California Superior Court in Orange County against the Japanese corporations Mitsubishi and Mitsui for the brutal exploitation of thousands of slave laborers in China and Japan during World War II.

Representing the former U.S. POWs and Chinese civilians (non-U.S. citizens) is the law firm of Millberg Weiss Bershad Hynes & Lerach LLP, which also spearheaded settlements that resulted in more than \$5 billion in compensation from German corporations that profited by leasing laborers from the Nazis.

"The tens of thousands of slave laborers who suffered at the hands of Japanese corporations deserve justice. Japanese corporations should take responsibility for these atrocities just as German companies have finally recognized their obligation to former Nazi slave laborers," said Bill Lerach, a partner with Millberg Weiss Bershad Hynes & Lerach LLP.

During WWII, Japanese corporations cooperated with the Japanese government, following a plan similar to the Nazi extermination through work program. Chinese, Vietnamese, Allied soldiers and other civilians were forced to work

for Japanese corporations as part of the war effort. Slave laborers performed tasks under inhumane conditions for little or no compensation.

"My-story and the stories of many others is one of the untold horrors of World War II. Nothing can replace the years of our lives lost in the mines and factories," said Shung, the lead plaintiff, who was captured at the age of 10 by the Japanese and forced to work for three years in coal mines owned and operated by Mitsubishi and Mitsui. "These lawsuits are an important step toward addressing the human rights abuses committed at the hands of Japanese corporations."

Sung was forced to crawl through air shaft openings in mine shafts where cave-ins had occurred in order to dig out dead bodies. At the Mitsubishi/Mitsui mining complex where he worked, slave laborers were frequently beheaded in front of workers as a warning to others.

Japanese officials have argued that the 1951 treaty between the U.S. and Japan prevents all American claims for reparations from Japan and any Japanese entity. However, many international law scholars assert that the violation of certain universally accepted human

rights may not be impaired by an agreement among states. Moreover, Asian nations such as China and Vietnam, which were victims of Japanese enslavement during WWII, were not parties to the 1951 treaty or to any treaty that would prohibit civilian claims.

"No treaty among nations can nullify slave laborers' claims for violations of fundamental human rights," said Lerach. "In fact, the claims by Chinese and Vietnamese civilians are not barred by any treaty or agreement."

The lawsuits were filed under a California statute enacted in July 1999, which extends the time to file claims for forced labor by Nazis and their co-conspirators during WWII to Dec. 31, 2010.

The offenses committed pervaded every facet of the Japanese war effort, including coal mining, ship building, bomb making and the development of biological and chemical weapons through human experimentation on slave laborers," said Dr. Sheldon Harris, an expert on WWII POWs and emeritus professor of history at the California State University, Northridge. "Archived records in Allied countries, China and Japan confirm the extent of Japanese industries' involvement."

Nikkei Congressional Candidate Receives Democratic Endorsements

Bob Kent, a Nikkei candidate for a U.S. congressional seat in the third district, received the endorsement of the California State Democratic Party at their convention in San Jose. Kent is running for a seat that is held by Republican Congressman Doug Eusebio who won in 1998 after Democratic Congressman W. Fazio retired after serving the district for 20 years.

Democratic State Party Chair Art Torres; Democratic State Party First Vice Chair Alicia Wang; and California Board of Equalization member John Chiang.

The State Democratic Party caucuses that have endorsed Kent include: Asian Pacific Islander, Native American, Irish American, Chicano and Latino, rainbow, labor, senior, and rural.

Kent was born in Japan to a Japanese mother and an American father who was serving in the U.S. Occupation forces. He attended Brigham Young University from 1967-

1972, and while a resident of Monterey, Calif., Kent taught judo for several years at the Monterey Buddhist Church. The current Marysville JAACL chapter board member was also a past Japan JAACL chapter chairman while serving in Tokyo as chair-man of the board for Phoenix Associates Co., Ltd., a training and development company engaged in training multinational corporate executives in cross-cultural management issues.

Until recently, he was also a board member of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California.

He and his wife, Carol, live with their family in Yuba City, Calif.

NJAMF

(Continued from page 1)

The dissenters further contend that the full board was not informed of the Oct. 21 meeting where public testimony over the inscriptions were to be heard by the CFA. This, in light of the fact, that most board members were in D.C. to attend the groundbreaking ceremony and board meeting scheduled for Oct. 23.

Among the board members who were alerted to the CFA meeting through another source was Harry Fukuhara. Although he "had nothing prepared," Fukuhara was among a handful who went before the CFA, asking for more time to discuss the inscriptions with the board.

But both Tsutsumida and Chiojioji said a discussion was conducted at the Oct. 23 board meeting and that the board-approved inscriptions were re-submitted to the CFA which then fully approved the monument. The CFA then sent the information to the NPS, which approved the inscriptions, excluding technical and historical changes, said Tsutsumida.

To respond to the public outcry and to democratize the process, a Dec. 14 memo signed by board members Paul Terasaki and Jun Mori asked Chiojioji and Tsutsumida to conduct a survey.

"The body of the memo read: 'We are now coming to believe that our Board has the responsibility to publish the proposed inscriptions BEFORE (emphasis theirs) the words are actually etched in stone. The complaint that NO ONE outside the board, even those who donated, is ever allowed to know what will be etched is a very serious class action (which could even result in a class action suit). We realize that this will open ourselves to a great deal of work but this may be our DUTY as the custodians of the donated funds. Can we ask that you circulate this voting slip among the Board members and ask that they return their responses to you?' Question: Would you be willing to publish the proposed inscriptions on our web page and send it to the vernacular press? yes no Name. A no vote says that you do NOT want to tell the public before going ahead with the etching, despite a suggestion that we do so.'

The memo was never disseminated since Tsutsumida said he "never got the memo" but had only "heard of it." Tsutsumida also added that all donors have been given updates on the inscriptions.

"Most of the noise that is coming is from non-donors," said Chiojioji. "The guys who are raising all the hell are not the people who have been supporting the memorial to start with."

Tsutsumida said only two people, excluding the dissenting board members, have asked to have their donations returned and those contributions totaled less than \$2,000. In contrast, Tsutsumida said more than two dozen recent donors included words of encouragement with their donations.

On the JAACL front, the national JAACL board voted unanimously at a recent February board meeting to stand "fully behind (the NJAMF) board," according to Helen Kawagoe, NJAMF board member and national JAACL president. Kawagoe added the JAACL had voted to fully support the NJAMF as early as 1996 at a national JAACL convention in San Jose.

Kawagoe did not foresee a copyright problem with the NJAMF's use of excerpts from Masako's "Japanese American Creed," which in the 1970s had been adopted into the JAACL bylaws.

"If he said those words, they belong to me," Masako," said Kawagoe. "Those are his words."

Within the larger Nikkei community, Masako, JAACL's first national executive director, is a controversial figure due to his WWII activities.

"When NJAMF was questioned as to the rational of selecting a quote from an individual, whose actions still continue to divide the Nikkei community, Chiojioji replied, 'I'm not sure how many people really percentage wise is against it. You heard Helen Kawagoe say that the entire JAACL is in favor of this thing, so I don't understand what percentage is against this. It seems like, even in my short experience, that this is a very small number of people who are raising all this hell.'"

Some of the major allegations made by critics of Masako include his advocacy of a "suicide battalion" during WWII and his support of the Walter-McCarran Act.

The Lim Report says that they never could say Mike said he advocated a suicide battalion," said Tsutsumida. "Even the Lim Report says that." But a reading of the Lim Report, researched by Deborah Lim at the behest of JAACL, gives a different conclusion. Lim cites an actual Masako memo which was titled, "Final Report," written on April 22, 1944, and archived at the Bancroft Library under File # 7.15. JERS.

The Masako memo read in part: "...One was to form a volunteer 'suicide battalion' which would go anywhere to spearhead the most dangerous missions. To assure skeptics that the members of the suicide battalion would remain loyal, if such guarantees were necessary to quell the objections of the professional agitators of the west, the families and friends of the volunteers would place themselves in the hands of the governments as 'hostages.' When this idea was informally discussed with a high ranking Japanese official, we were informed that it was not the practice of the government to require 'hostages' or to sponsor such 'suicide battalions.'"

In Masako's autobiographical book, "They Call Me Moses Masako," co-written by Masako and NJAMF board member Bill Hosokawa, Masako makes specific reference to "hostages" but only passing inference to what may be construed as a "suicide battalion."

In the book, Masako, when describing a meeting with military officials in San Jose as to "the loyalty of the parent generation" (pp. 80-81),

he writes: "We'll vouch for their loyalty by our willingness to fight and die for our country if necessary, and if in turn would serve as hostages to guarantee our loyalty. One of the generals waved me off. The Army's policy is opposed to segregated units except in the case of Negroes," he said, "and we certainly don't believe in keeping people as hostages."

But Chiojioji notes that had Masako made references to a "suicide battalion," it has been taken out of context.

"Even if he may have said that, it could have been in a certain context," said Chiojioji, who has not read the Lim Report. "For example, I've lived in Washington, D.C. for the last 30 years where there's a lot of testimony and people take things out of context without taking a look at the whole issue. In some cases, if he said, 'I favor a suicide battalion in this particular instance,' they need to say in what instance he said this."

But an important point, said Chiojioji is that to be fair to the individual, you can't go on the basis of allegations, and even let's say the allegations were true, you've got to take a look at the whole individual and what he did throughout his career.

Regarding Masako's support of the controversial Walter-McCarran Act, Tsutsumida said, "It's true that all the liberals were against the Walter-McCarran Act, but it was the only opportunity for the Issei to gain citizenship. I'm sorry but I kind of feel it's the better of two evils. And if there's one reason I feel Mike should be on the wall, it's because he assured us that, if he would get citizenship. That means a helluva lot to me."

But the Walter-McCarran Act, which allowed the Issei to become eligible for naturalization, also had a provision, which snatched off EO 9066-type action. In response to growing anti-Communist sentiment, a provision authorized the Department of Justice to round up people deemed security risks in the event of a national emergency and hold them without trial.

Sakae Ishihara, credited with forming the Nisei Progressive in Los Angeles, described the act as "an anti-Issei act that would keep the doors for McCarthyism to happen." "We did not oppose the Walter-McCarran Act on the basis of allowing citizenship to the Issei," said Ishihara. "We opposed it because it allowed the government to persecute the left-wingers and put them into jail without trial and what a Red hunt. In fact, we tried to get them to separate the two."

The Nisei Progressives, although virtually forgotten today, played a significant role during the 1940s, and even Masako makes mention of their opposition of the Walter-McCarran Act in his book, "They Call Me Moses Masako."

Ishihara, a MIS veteran who got hounded by the FBI for his involvement with the Progressive Party, ultimately received a subpoena signed by none other than Congressman Francis E. Walter, one of the legislators re-

Assemblymembers Nakano, Honda Introduce Day of Remembrance Resolution

California's two Japanese American state Legislators, Assemblymember George Nakano (D-Torrance) and Assemblymember Mike Honda (D-San Jose), introduced legislation on Feb. 18 to declare February 19 as a Day of Remembrance.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 126 commemorates the chronology of events surrounding the internment of JAs and resident aliens during World War II, beginning with President Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 and culminating in the passage of the Civil Liberties Act in 1988.

Several veterans of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and 100th Battalion witnessed the ceremony in the Assembly gallery. Nakano's remarks on the Assembly floor paid special tribute to their service.

"These brave men blazed a path responsible for the Walter-McCarran Act and was forced to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee."

"Mike Masako supported the bill realizing that it jeopardized the civil rights of the general public," said Ishihara.

Another criticism lobbied against the NJAMF is the absence of Nikkei women on the wall. Over the names of Akemi Ehrlich, one of the winning tanka in a national NJAMF-sponsored contest, will not be cited. According to Tsutsumida, Ehrlich's name was dropped when the board voted to remove all names of non-elected officials. But in a subsequent meeting, the board selected a quote from Masako, a private citizen, and voted to include his name in what was explained as a "separate vote" from the motion that removed Ehrlich's name, according to Chiojioji.

When questioned about the absence of women, Chiojioji said, "We thought very hard as a matter of fact because this issue in regards to women has been brought up about a year ago as a matter of fact. But we couldn't find anybody in the World War II era. Now, there's a lot of women after World War II, but this is a World War II memorial."

for many of us who pursued public office. They volunteered to fight despite the fact that their parents were locked behind barbed wire. They went on to become the most decorated military units of their size in the history of the United States."

The 442nd Regiment, 100th Battalion and 552nd Field Artillery Battalion were the only JA regiments in Europe during WWII.

Nakano, who as a child spent five years in internment camps with his family, served in the California Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

"It is only in a country as great as America that we can talk about our past mistakes, learn from them and work toward the future so that this can never happen again to any group of people," he said. ■

amazed by the patriotism shown by the soldier's mothers, sisters and wives. Courageous was the Yuri Kouchiyama who performed their patriotic work behind barbed wire or under the threat of martial law. Unlike the Nisei veterans, the contributions and sacrifices of these women have been long forgotten. Most Yonsei don't even know what a gold-star mother is. I am very disappointed by such Yonsei. One of the first Yonsei will be quoted on the National Japanese American Memorial."

Santoki cited a quote, although not given by a gold-star mother, described her contributions. The quote was relayed by NJAMF board member Harry Fukuhara, honoring Richard Sakakida, one of the first Nisei to serve in WWII. The quote reads: "Her last words will forever be remembered as she held his hands and said, 'You are in the military service now. Your father was in the Japanese army, but this is your country. Don't bring any disgrace to yourself and especially to your family. Do your best. That is all I ask of you.' Later, when Sakakida was being tortured by the enemy, the words of his mother gave him strength to undergo the most hideous of physical degradation and pain without breaking."

Another quote Santoki unearthed within 24 hours was from Mary Masuda, Gold Star sister of Sgt. Kazuo Masuda. "We have won the war against fascist abroad, but that is not our whole duty. We must sacrifice ourselves for the larger interest of society and courageously have the principles to advance and fair play in our day-to-day lives in contact with our neighbors."

The next NJAMF board meeting is scheduled for June 9-10 in Washington, D.C. ■

JAACL NATIONAL CONVENTION

A Look at Monterey's History of JA Fishermen and Abalone Divers

Organizers are planning exciting events at the Monterey Bay Aquarium and elsewhere during the upcoming JAACL national convention in Monterey, Calif., June 26-27.

"We are extremely excited that the Monterey Bay Aquarium has given us the opportunity to educate our delegates, guests, and the general public about the history of our Japanese American fishermen and abalone divers," said Larry Oda of Monterey JAACL. Oda serves as co-chair of the JAACL national convention.

To kick off the national convention, Oda and others have been working with the Monterey Bay Aquarium in showing two video presentations on the history of JA fishermen and abalone divers of the Monterey Peninsula. On hand after the video presentation will be a local JA fisherman and abalone diver to share their unique life stories with the audience. The videos will be shown Wednesday evening, June 28, during a cocktail mixer at the aquarium.

Recognized throughout the world as the premiere aquarium, the Monterey Bay Aquarium offers visitors a "diver's eye" view into the underwater environment of Monterey Bay. For information on how to take part in this exciting opportunity, please contact Larry Oda at tsunoel@msn.com.



Photo courtesy of "The Japanese of the Monterey Peninsula"
Roy Hattori (center) shown in his diving gear will be on hand at the Monterey Bay Aquarium cocktail mixer to share his experiences as one of the first Nisei abalone divers in the business.

In addition, the Defense Language Institute (DLI) in Monterey, alma mater of the Military Intelligence Service (MIS), is working in concert with a number of organizations in arranging a dinner tribute to all Japanese American men and women who have served in all wars and in all branches of our Armed Forces during the national convention. These organizations include VFW Nisei Posts, local JAACL members, JAACL districts, national JAACL, 442nd dubs, and many others.

Highlighting this banquet on June 30 will be General Eric Shijaseki, chief of staff of the United States Army, who will serve as the featured speaker. In the afternoon there will be a tour of the JA exhibits at the DLI with a dinner to follow that evening.

Early reservations are strongly recommended for this event. Tickets are \$75 per person. For more information, please contact Judy Niizawa at jniizawa@earthlink.net or Roger Minami at rminami@x.netcom.com. ■

Immigration Act to Be Focus of APAs in Higher Education Conference

Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) recently announced its 13th annual conference at the Long Beach Westin Hotel. The theme of the conference is "35 Years with the Immigration Act: Reflections, Transformations and Expectations."

"We have an outstanding line-up of speakers and workshops and are looking forward to engaging in lively discussion about important social and educational issues of major concern to Asian Pacific American communities," says Gene I. Awakuni, APAHE president and vice president of student affairs at Cal Poly Pomona.

The conference begins on March 9, with a welcome from Awakuni and an address by Lon S. Hatamiya, secretary of the California Trade & Commerce Agency and highest-ranking Asian American in Gov. Gray Davis' administration. Helen Zia, past editor of *Ms. Magazine* and author of the newly released book, "Asian American Dreams: The Emergence of American People," will give the keynote address at the evening banquet.

The conference dinner will also honor Cal State University board of trustees member Stanley Wang for his leadership in higher education. The Wang family established a \$1 million endowment within the CSU in 1998,

providing \$20,000 awards annually to outstanding faculty or administrators.

The conference will focus on three areas. First, attendees will reflect on the profound demographic and social changes of the past 35 years that have impacted the APAs in higher education such as growing ethnic diversity and changes in race relations and immigration politics. The second area of focus is the need to recruit and train the next generation of APA K-12 teachers at a time when the nation faces an unprecedented shortage. And finally, the conference will focus on APAHE's ongoing efforts in the area of leadership development.

The conference will conclude with a plenary session focused on the Wen Ho Lee case. The panel, moderated by I. Ling-Chi Wang, professor and chair of the Ethnic Studies Department at University of California, Berkeley, will address the implications of the case on APAs working in science and technology fields.

For more information about the conference contact Gene I. Awakuni at 909/869-3417. ■



Lon Hatamiya

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UCLA Launches Video Series 'Once Upon A Camp' on the Internment of JA Youth During WWII

The following is an article submitted by one of the 27 grant recipients of the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP).

CCLPEP is a three-year grant program created in 1998 to provide the California community with information and education on the Japanese American experience before, during and immediately after World War II.

Information concerning CCLPEP or any of the specific grant programs funded by CCLPEP can be obtained by contacting Diane Matsuda, program director, CCLPEP, 900 N. St., #300, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916/1653-9404, dmatsuda@library.ca.gov.

The UCLA Asian American Studies Center has partnered with the Japanese American National Museum, the UCLA Center for EthnoCommunication and the Alhambra School District to produce a multi-dimensional classroom video series funded by the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP).

Intended for grades K-12, the series entitled "Once Upon A Camp" will show the life experiences of JA youth inside America's little known concentration camps during WWII. The groundbreaking series, using the perspectives of youth — from both sides of the barbed wire — will focus on the artistic strategies JA youth created to survive and cope with their incarceration. Committed to reaching a diverse audience, the video productions will be multi-ethnic in content and multi-lingual in distribution.

Robert A. Nakamura, an acclaimed documentary filmmaker and film professor heads the project. "During World War II, over

110,000 Japanese Americans, my family included, were shipped off to U.S. military guarded camps because we looked like the Japanese enemy, which we weren't. Perhaps it was most difficult for the youth that were uprooted from a time in their life where there was much hope and anticipation. Our videos will explore this," said Nakamura.

"These were American kids like our intended audience, who were suddenly the enemy," said Karen L. Ishizuka, director of the Media Arts Center, Japanese American National Museum. "We want the youth of today to realize that this did happen and it could happen again. How can we prevent history from repeating itself?"

This video series includes titles: "Dear Miss Breed" based on correspondence written by incarcerated teenagers to San Diego Children's librarian Clara Breed (for grades 7-12); "Our World" inspired by the Manzanar High School yearbook of 1943-1944 with interviews from '44 yearbook editors today (for grades 9-12) and "The Bracelet" a video version of the classic camp story by Yoshiko Uchida (for grades K-5).

"Once Upon A Camp" is made up of four comprehensive curriculum packages which include a video production (10-15 minutes), teacher lesson plan and study guide. All classroom videos will be translated into one or more languages, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin and/or Vietnamese, for greater community outreach. For content analysis, the videos will be pilot-tested in the Alhambra School District, a diverse public school system serving over 20,000 students in the greater Los Angeles area. About 40 percent of Alhambra students are Hispanic, 50 percent Asian, and 10 percent other origins.

"Once Upon A Camp" is supported by a multi-ethnic board of advisors that include children's media/development experts, school principals and teachers, education professors, documentarians and community organizers. The advisors are: Chris Aihara, JACC; Terry Delgado, Calif. Dept. Of Education; Richard Katsuda, LAUSD; Dr. Gordon Berry, UCLA Grad. School of Ed. and Information Studies; Dr. Kenyon Chan, College of Liberal Arts, LMU; Paul Espinosa, Espinosa Productions; Dr. Gay Yuen Wong, Charter School of Education, Cal. State L.A.; John Kao, Southeast Adult Center; Barbara Wong, Park Elementary School and Russell Yamataka, Alhambra High School.

Production has already begun on the series and will be completed by June 2000. A Web site is also under construction and will be completed by June 2000. "Camp" was one of twenty seven proposals received by CCLPEP out of 137 to be awarded funds.

The award-winning Media Arts Center team of Japanese American National Museum will carry out the technical aspect of the video production. Museum staff John Esaki (director, *Macco: Demon drummer from East L.A.*) and Justin Lin (director, *Shopping for Fangs*) are also directing segments. "Camp" staff members are: Robert A. Nakamura, project director; Dr. Don T. Nakanishi, project director; Karen Ishizuka, director, Media Arts Center; Jennifer Kim, coordination producer; John Esaki, video director; Justin Lin, video director; Russell Leong, editor, curriculum; John Kao, Alhambra School liaison; Richard Bis, production assistant; and Charlene Shih, intern.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Kim at 310/206-8889 or jmkim@ucla.edu. ■

JOB OPENING

Program Assistant

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) seeks a dynamic, organized, detail-oriented, and motivated individual for a Program Assistant position at the JACL National Headquarters office.

The Program Assistant will provide programmatic support for the various programs of the organization and administrative support for the Headquarters and District operations and will be under the supervision of the National Director. Duties include clerical support and other duties as assigned.

Requires at least two years college, experience working in or managing programs; ability to work independently and take initiative; excellent verbal and written communications skills; excellent interpersonal and organizational skills; experience with Microsoft Office computer programs. Experience with nonprofit organizations and Asian Pacific American communities a definite plus.

Competitive salary commensurate with experience; excellent fringe benefit package. Send resume and cover letter to: JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115, Attn: Personnel. For questions, contact Tom Ehrlich at (415) 921-5225 or email jpd@jaci.org. Deadline for applications is March 10, 2000, or until filled.

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COMMENTARY

Journalists and Friendships

By SACHI SEKO

Rarely has an article in recent Pacific Citizen issues engaged my attention more than Bill Hosokawa's column, "Larry Tajiri, a Better Choice," (P.C. 2-11-7). Hosokawa wondered, as I did, why James Omura was selected as the journalist among "Influential Japanese Americans of the Past Century." Omura undeniably deserves his place in our common history for his courageous, solitary defense of the resisters of conscience. As Hosokawa indicates, the importance of the issue is sustained to this day by continuous conflict. I have long been a supporter of the resisters and the American principles they represented. It is both reprehensible and regrettable that the issue was not resolved before the end of the last millennium.

As my generation of witnesses and participants in our American disgrace diminishes more rapidly each year, it is unconscionable to perpetuate the outright hostility between defenders of the resisters and their opponents. Often, the argument centers on opposing editorial positions of James Omura and Larry Tajiri.

Before his death in 1994, James Omura was publicly recognized and provided ample opportunity to explain and even expand the position he took at the forfeiture of employment opportunities and the endurance of general ostracism by his community. James Omura realized vindication for his role before he died. However, in comparison with other Nisei journalists, his professional production and influence were very limited.

The attacks by the defenders of the resisters to their perceived opposition are largely directed at editorials and other pieces written by Larry Tajiri, then editor of the P.C. Every assault that I have read, and there are probably many more, are based solely on his published record during that period. No historical material is attached for elucidation. Is it not possible, that in his way, Larry was protecting the internees' inevitable reentry into mainstream society through his editorials? We must remember that in the '40s our communication with the outside world was largely dependent on the P.C. Also, we lacked the technology which proved immensely helpful during the civil rights movement decades later.

I have another theory which is probably beyond the cultural capture of generations who came after the internment camps. And it is understandable that younger generations, never subjected to such shame, will scoff at my idea. But in my time, it was often assumed the welfare of the majority took precedence over the smaller minority. Also, consider this: As a group, our average age was 17 and that included infants and the very aged and infirm, many in their last months and years of their lives. They required and deserved protection, even at the compromise of one's heart of hearts. That is a tremendous price to pay, especially for a writer with immaculate principles. Would Larry have sacrificed himself for the good of his people much as James Omura did for the resisters? I know, what my answer is.

But I cannot speak for Larry, nor can anyone else. And even his harshest critics have confessed they never had the opportunity or the decency to confront him with their questions. In my opinion that is hardly fair play. Also, as anyone with even the least knowledge of writing well knows, writing is often constructed in layers, decipherable to only the writer and perhaps to an intimate few. Often, it requires years, even centuries, for conclusive interpretations. And here, with Larry, we are dealing with an extraordinary writer of an erudite mind and superb lyrical style. Even today, reading the small pieces I retain of his writing, I am dazzled anew by the poetry of his sentencing, its passionate rhythm which defies duplication.

I had just turned 18 when I first met Larry. He gave me my first break by publishing a column I briefly called "Tomorrow's Heirs," when I was 19. Young and impressionable, I thought he was the most fascinating person I ever met. Even now, in my last years, my initial perception remains unchanged. During long coffees and lunches and visits at this chaotic office, he was my mentor and I was his student. His knowledge was expansive, including politics, race relations, particularly of blacks, literature, entertainment, art. He could be serious or funny. He even mentioned some regrets during his life. And he expressed his disap-

proval that I always wore hats. I am still that crazy, maybe plain crazy. However, we never discussed the resisters issue. Frankly, at the time, I was too young and naive and it did not occur to me. In today's politically and socially changed environment I am certain the matter would have been discussed if I had been more mature. However, it is obvious that others older and wiser failed to seize the opportunity for a dialogue with Larry before his untimely death in the early '60s.

One day, when I had returned from Minneapolis, Larry said Bill Hosokawa was coming by and they planned to have dinner together. Larry's wife and P.C. partner, Guyo, was visiting her family in California. Larry suggested I join the two men for dinner, saying, "I think you should meet Bill. I know you'll like each other. He's the greatest Nisei journalist."

Intimidated by the opportunity to meet "the greatest Nisei journalist," I invented an excuse to decline the invitation. The very idea of meeting anyone who was "the greatest" anything was terrifying.

When I finally met Bill, it was under the most extraordinary circumstances. He and his beautiful wife, Alice, had come to Salt Lake City so he could deliver an address at some JAACL function. Months previously, I had learned of Larry's death in Denver where he was happily employed as an art and literary critic for the Denver Post. When I first received word of his death from a stroke, I refused to believe it.

Hoping to make the bad news go away, I inexcusably delayed in writing his widow, Guyo, a note of condolence. While Bill was seated on the dais that night in Salt Lake City, I approached him and identified myself as a friend of Larry's. I asked him to explain Larry's hospitalization and death to me. From the painful expression on his face, I realized the inappropriateness of my request. But for some incomprehensible reason I had to know. Later, I realized it made Larry's death a reality for me and for that kindness I remain beholden to Bill.

In the almost four decades since Larry's death, Bill Hosokawa has continued to be a prolific writer of articles and books. He left camp to write for the Des Moines Register and later moved on to the Denver Post, where he eventually became one of its editors. In 1990 he was awarded an honorary doctorate

by the University of Denver. He is the only Japanese American that I know who served on the Pulitzer Prize Journalistic Jury. During this time, he continued to contribute his weekly columns to the P.C.

Bill Hosokawa is surely our journalist among the "Influential Japanese Americans of the Past Century." As Larry said, "he is the greatest." Even more unique, in this age of self-aggrandizement, was the expression of friendship between two men, who could have been competitors, but instead were friends. Acquaintances are numerous, often fleeting encounters. Friendships are rare treasures, perhaps only a handful in a lifetime, and only that many if you are very lucky. Most remarkable is Bill's remembrance with grace and generosity of a friend now absent for almost four decades. Fidelity is the core of friendship.

There is one other thing that requires mentioning. Larry Tajiri and Bill Hosokawa opened the doors of opportunity for Sansei and Yonsei journalists and writers. I am occasionally dismayed by the arrogance of those who "make it," believing they did it alone. It was difficult to open the doors so firmly locked against pioneering Nisei who endured unimaginable prejudice and humiliation. But these brave men and women unlocked the doors so others could follow. And further, they held the doors open to make certain others made it safely through.

I would be remiss not to also mention Harry Honda, the man under whose patronage I returned to the P.C. many years ago. We have shared a large part of JA history, including the rough years for both the P.C. the JAACL. I can remember when the P.C. was operating on a shoestring budget. And Harry almost singlehandedly published the paper each week, without complaint or much recognition.

I owe him a personal debt of gratitude for his constant friendship and availability. His encyclopedic memory has always reliably provided any factual information I required. Further, I have depended on his keen sense of moral guidance, and he has never failed me. There are many others who have also been recipients of his generosity, several who have left the P.C. to further their careers elsewhere. Surely, Harry Honda, too, belongs among our "Influential Japanese Americans of the Past Century."

JABA Honors Judge Takasugi With Lifetime Achievement Award

Judge Robert M. Takasugi's 40-year service to the legal community was duly recognized by his colleagues in the profession and the Asian American community during the annual Japanese American Bar Association installation banquet on Feb. 25, at the Hotel Inter-Continental in downtown Los Angeles.

As recipient of the JABA Lifetime Achievement Award, Takasugi expressed in brief remarks his appreciation of the lifetime role of his wife, Dorothy.

It was 40 years ago that Takasugi, then in private practice in Montebello, founded a "pro bono" bar review course for public interest and minority students. Although the course is no longer taught in his home, Judge Takasugi, appointed to the federal bench in 1976 after two years at the East Los Angeles municipal court and a year in superior court, continues to teach bar review courses, assisted by other attorneys who share his vision for the community. Takasugi was also national JAACL legal counsel in 1970-72. He was introduced by Judge Ernest Hiroshige.

Keynote speaker Asanobu George Nakano (D-Tor-

rance) pointed to the importance of Asian Pacific Americans being counted in the 2000 Census in April. He cited the growing populations of Asian minorities in the state but that the numbers were not reflected in the legislature. Nakano is currently serving his second and last term in office because of the two-term limitation.

Andrew J. Yamamoto, outgoing JABA president, is being suc-

ceeded by Alex H. Fukui, a 1991 UCLA law graduate, with LeBoeuf, Lamb, Green & MacRae, Orange County Judge Tam Nomoto Schumann installed the 2000 officers and board of governors including past PSW Regional Director Al Muratsuchi and national JAACL Deputy Legal Counsel Gene H. Shioda. Judge Sam Ohta was master of ceremonies. Over 300 attended the gala event. ■



PHOTO: JEM LEW
Judge Robert Takasugi (right) receives JABA's lifetime achievement award from Judge Ernest Hiroshige for service in the legal community.

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A Bridge Across the Pacific

By Emily Murase

On the Campaign Trail: An Interview With Leslie Hatamiya

The daughter of Roy and Momo Hatamiya, Leslie is a Sansei from Marysville. She joined the Bill Bradley presidential campaign in February 1999 and has served as deputy campaign manager since June 1999.

How did you get involved in the presidential campaign?

I worked as special assistant for Senator Bradley for three years in the early 1990s. I was basically his right-hand person. Every piece of paper that crossed his desk crossed mine first. I helped write speeches, engaged in legislative work, worked on a whole variety of issues. When he was organizing his campaign in late 1998, he called me up and asked me to join his staff.

As deputy campaign manager, what are your primary responsibilities? What are your toughest challenges?

I run the day-to-day campaign operations out of the national headquarters. I spend a lot of time in meetings and on the phone, making sure that each of the departments is coordinated with each other. I watch over much of the financial operation, making sure that we're using money in the most responsible and efficient way possible. I also do a lot of approving of the campaign materials.

Typical hours on the job?

I'm at work from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m. most days, even weekends — except on weekends, I can go in a little later in the morning. The toughest challenge is keeping on top of a rapidly growing organization. A presi-

dential campaign is really like a start-up company, with all of the challenges of expanding in a very short amount of time.

Moreover, Senator Bradley is really attracting a lot of new people to our campaign. Because he has sought to run a different kind of campaign, one that puts forth his positive vision for the country, our campaign has attracted many people who had never been involved in politics before or had been turned off by the negative campaigning of the last few years. Senator Bradley is reaching out to folks all across the country and he's attracting their support.

What are the key issues in the campaign?

Senator Bradley wants to implement bold changes on several issues. For example, despite our current economic prosperity, 44 million Americans still don't have health insurance. Senator Bradley has put forth a bold proposal to guarantee health insurance for all children and ensure access to affordable health care for all adults.

Then there's the spread of gun violence. We're proposing a ban on junk guns and requiring the registration and licensing of all handguns, just as we register and license our cars.

Senator Bradley has also made fundamental campaign finance reform a priority in order to decrease the influence of special interests in the political process.

Finally, Senator Bradley has made healing the racial divide a top priority. He has pledged to

vigorously enforce our civil rights laws, strengthen our hate crime laws and assemble an administration that reflects the full diversity of the American people.

How do you feel about the general level of Asian American participation in politics?

Participation is increasing, which is a positive thing. But we need to get more people involved. One of the best things that we're seeing now is the emergence of more and more Asian American candidates, such as Carole Hayashino, candidate for Assembly in Marin and southern Sonoma counties; Wilma Chan, candidate for Assembly in Alameda county; and Mike Honda, Assemblyman from San Jose who is running for Congress.

It is also important for those already in office to mentor others, including young people, to consider a greater role in politics.

A lot of AAs are resentful of the way campaign finance issues singled them out on unsubstantiated charges of misconduct. How do you think these folks can be brought back into the process?

We need leadership at the highest levels that doesn't stereotype people — that makes people feel welcome in the political process. Senator Bradley has spoken out against racial profiling, whether it is the local police department in stopping drivers, or federal investigators questioning scientists in the national labs or party officials harassing contributors in the last campaign.

Senator Bradley is committed to healing the racial divide, so that the stereotyping that occurred

during the 1996 campaign won't happen again.

What is important to note is that for Senator Bradley, a commitment to diversity is a core part of his character. His views on the importance of racial equality were formulated early, when, as a child growing up in Crystal City, Miss., his Little League team was turned away from hotels and restaurants because some of his teammates were black, and then later, as a college intern, when he witnessed the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act on the Senate floor.

Through his college roommate at Princeton, Daniel Okimoto (currently a distinguished professor of political science at Stanford), Senator Bradley was exposed to the AA and, in particular, the Japanese American experience.

And when he played for the New York Knicks, Senator Bradley was a white player on a predominantly African American team and he witnessed numerous instances of racism against his African American teammates. Senator Bradley has been consistent throughout his public life, speaking out against racial injustice and trying to forge a new racial dialogue.

What has been your involvement with the JACL?

While I was growing up, my parents were always active members of the Marysville chapter. I became a Life Member when I went to college. Right after college, when I was a Coro Fellow, I worked at the national headquarters. There, I developed the organization's first hate crimes manual called "Walk with Pride," which was distributed to every JACL chapter. Then when I went to D.C. to work for Senator Bradley, I joined the board of the D.C. chapter.

In college, I wrote a book about redress called "Righting a

Wrong: Japanese Americans and the Passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988." It was originally my senior thesis project as an undergraduate at Stanford. I was able to take something personally important to me and combine it with my academic interests.

The redress story is something our community should be very proud of. It is an example of how a small constituency group can mobilize and work within the existing political structure to get something as important as redress accomplished.

How has your involvement with the JACL influenced you?

One of the best things has been the people I've met through the organization — people who became my colleagues and mentors, including Carole Hayashino who was associate director when I first interned at the JACL.

In Washington, D.C., it was great to work with local activists, like Lily and Pat Okura. Their dedication and commitment to the organization was inspiring. It has motivated me in my public service work.

What role should the JACL play in promoting the political participation of its members?

As a nonprofit, JACL can't take sides, but it can provide opportunities for people to get involved by hosting forums and serving as a clearinghouse for information on how to get involved in the political process. It can encourage its members to write to their elected officials on community issues and to work in coalition with other civil rights organizations. ■

Emily Moto Murase encourages all to vote for their favorite candidate in the primary elections. She can be reached at emurase@stanford.edu.

This column does not represent an endorsement of any political candidate by the Pacific Citizen.



Very Truly Yours

By Harry Honda

As California Incumbents Face Their March 7 Primary

A NICE THING happened when Grant Ujifusa sent me "The Almanac of American Politics 2000" in sufficient time to read the fine print that crunches California congressional politics over 160 pages for our March 7 primaries.

"Nice," because there's no other book jammed with information — descriptive, political personal and timely — inside 1,850 pages.

"Nice," because to my eyes its format has improved since the first one in 1972. And it's published every two years by the same twosome, Michael Barone and Ujifusa.

"Nice," because Grant reminds that 5½ is also true, as Bob Matsui has said repeatedly, that redress would have never passed without the "Almanac's" Washington presence. There was no other access into Reagan House members and the Reagan White House. It's very, very, very nice. I can't think of a better word that means so much, even though it sounds trite.

We've peered into the California districts of particular interest to Asian Americans. Serious students should check out the full version. The huge volume delves into political and electoral records plus a recent mug shot and came of each incumbent and the state governors.

The 2000 edition "Almanac," for the first time, features foremost, Washington political handicapper Charlie Cook's exclusive race-by-race election outlook.

Senior Senator—Dianne Feinstein (D) grew up in San Francisco's lush Presidio Heights, went to Stanford ('55), served on the board of supervisors (1970-78), became mayor (1978-88), lost the gubernatorial race to Pete Wilson (49 percent - 46 percent) in '90, but beat his bland choice, John Seymour, for the U.S. Senate in '92.

The "Almanac" notes: "She has kept her distance from the Clinton Administration," was against NAFTA and condemned Clinton's statement of "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky." Towards China, she was more friendly: Says Cook: "Probably safe. If she's the vice presidential nominee. California law allows her to run for both offices."

Calif. 5th District—Native son Rep. Robert Matsui (D) is a 20-year congressman (since 1978), representing the center of metropolitan Sacramento with affluent suburbs, scattered low-income black, Mexican American and Hmong neighborhoods. While he has no memory of the internment experience, having been born in 1941, he "does remember the silence his family and others maintained about it."

The "Almanac" notes that he introduced Vice President Al Gore at Buddhist temple luncheon in Hacienda Heights "where nuts were reportedly making \$5,000 contributions to the DNC. Matsui said in 1997

that he understood all along that the luncheon was both a "community outreach" event and a fund-raiser. But as news of Clinton's finance scandals came out, it became evident that neither Matsui was involved in any wrongdoing." Cook's Call—"Safe. He's a cinch for re-election in 2000."

Calif. 7th District—Voters in Contra Costa and the inland towns around Suisun Bay have elected native son Rep. George Miller (D) to Congress since 1974. The aggressive Democrat on environment also worked for the Manzanar National Historic Site in 1996. Cook's Call—"A fixture in California politics for more than 25 years, Miller has not had to worry about a race in a long time."

Not in the "Almanac." Long-time Contra Costa JACLers remember his presence at chapter functions. The congressman has been a JACLer for more than 25 years, former membership chair Natsuko Irei said.

Calif. 8th District—Representing four-fifths of San Francisco with a growing Asian population (nearly 30 percent by the 1990 Census), Baltimore-born Nancy Pelosi (D), first elected to the House in 1987, is safe, according to Cook's call, "in a seat until she decides to give it up."

The eighth is one of the top 10 congressional districts with a growing Asian Pacific Islander population (P.C. Oct. 22, 1999). "Her lead bill in 1991 to condition

Most Favored Nation status on China with human rights reform and calling as shameful the 1997 White House state dinner for President Jiang Zemin are "by no means universally popular with Asian Americans in her district."

Calif. 9th District—And across the Bay, Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda and adjacent towns combine in the Ninth and has the largest black percentage (33 percent) of any Northern California district plus 15 percent Asian (21.14 percent, according to DNC) and 12 percent Hispanic.

El Paso, Texas-born Barbara Lee (D) grew up in the San Fernando Valley, and has "one of the safest Democratic seats in the nation," Cook calls. The "Almanac" notes that in March 1999, "Lee was the only member of the House to vote against a resolution supporting U.S. troops in Serbia."

Calif. 12th District—The northern Peninsula suburbs and southwest corner of San Francisco are ethnically diverse (33.3 percent Asian by DNC reckoning and the highest on the mainland) and economically prosperous (Silicon Valley). Elected in 1980, Budapest-born Rep. Tom Lantos (D) is the only Holocaust survivor ever to serve in Congress. He initially pursued Clinton Administration scandals and opposes normalizing U.S. relations with China. Cook's call: "Safe."

Calif. 13th District—On the unglamorous side of San Francisco (i.e., Eastbay), rests the Shiba Japanese Garden, CSU Hayward, NUMMI auto plant and a racially-mixed district (27.5 percent API by DNC stats), "sitting atop the hazardous Hayward Fault." Such geographic basics are eye-opening and standard throughout the "Almanac" introductions.

Milwaukee-born Fortney H. "Pete" Stark (D) has been in the

House since 1972 and when he decides to retire, Cook says, "This seat should remain safely in Democratic hands."

Calif. 15th District—What was Norman Mineta's seat (1974-1995), Chicago-born Tom Campbell (R), Stanford law professor and a believer in free markets, won in a special election after Mineta resigned.

Campbell's win cost Democrats a majority in the California delegation for the first time in 37 years; but they won it back in 1996, the "Almanac" points out. Campbell was instrumental in March 1996 to have California's open primary initiative passed. Cook's call—"Potentially competitive ... Will be a good test of whether the impeachment backlash fell in early 1999 has legs in the 2000 general election." This call was obviously made before Campbell decided to challenge Sen. Feinstein.

P.S. Assemblyman Mike Honda (D) is among seven in the wide-open 15th Congressional district primary: five Democrats, two Republicans.

Former Korean-born Congressman Jay Kim (R) is a last-minute candidate in the 42nd District, around the city of San Bernardino, not his prior 41st District seat.

California's open primary ballot lists candidates, not in alphabetical order, but as determined by an alphabetic lottery. So, "T" was the first letter. Similarly, the alphabetic lottery prevailed in listing for other offices.

Then in the general election November ballot, the top vote getter chosen by voters of the same party wins, even though the winner in the primary may have more open votes but not of his/her political party.

The "Almanac" is in bookstores now: \$72.95 hard, \$55 soft. ■

Letters to the Editor

Masaoka's Name Belongs on National Memorial

It is no longer possible for me to remain silent about the division which has developed at this late stage with the National Japanese American Memorial project. I fully support the memorial, having organized the Philadelphia-area fund-raising campaign.

The memorial is the most important project of our community. It will educate the greatest number of Americans about Japanese American history. It will leave a legacy for the generations of our people who follow us. All these goals will be met because this memorial will be in Washington, just two blocks from the nation's capital.

I remember the gracious practice of issues called "on-gaeshi" in Japanese. "On-gaeshi" translates to "the obligation to repay favors and kindnesses received." I remember the rough path trod by younger Nisei like me (now 80), as all of us lived through the days of virulent hostility and unremitting racism. I know who went before me and am indebted to those who had so little themselves but gave their all for our community.

For their work and sacrifices, I say "kansha itashimasu." Thank you Thomas Yatabe, Tokutaro Slocum, Saburo Kido, Walter Tsukamoto, Jimmie Sakamoto, Toshi Hoshida and the many other founders of JAACL. I remember these men in their late twenties and thirties as dynamic speakers and outstanding leaders, and truly none of us today are their equal. They could articulate our feelings and ideals with so much power that I needed to remind myself that they grew up in communities that were for the most part racially segregated.

Mike Masaoka came along just a few years after these founding fathers. He became our foremost leader, and could speak and write with astonishing power and clarity. Later, he was paid peanuts to lobby and maneuver and cajole Washington for JAs, a tiny ethnic minority easily brushed aside by Southern segregationist committee chairmen who ran the town. The knowledgeable in Washington knew (and know) how much Mike accomplished in advancing the civil rights of all Americans. His is a great record of achievement and an important part of JA history.

And so for me, Mike Masaoka's generous critics stand on his shoulders and box him about the ears. But I will remember his strong and supportive help offered to so many of us. Thank you Mike. Rest in peace. May your name be inscribed on the wall to honor all the sacrifices the Issei and Nisei made for us, who now, as we enjoy so much gratefully, remember why.

Grace Uyehara
Medford, N.J.

Thanks very much for printing Gerald Yamada's very thoughtful and lucid rebuttal to allegations made by those who oppose the inclusion of Mike Masaoka's quote on the Japanese American Memorial. I enclose a letter from John Rehm to J. Carter Brown, exemplifying the esteem in which Mike Masaoka is held by those who knew and worked with him. It's a pity that a vociferous handful of negativists has brought such controversy to what should be a beautiful and memorable tribute to Japanese Americans.

Michio Kobayashi
Washington, D.C.

"Dear Mr. Brown: I am writing to urge your Commission to include, among the inscriptions on the National Japanese American Memorial, the Patriotism, an excerpt from Mike Masaoka's Japanese American Creed.

"During the 1960's, when I served as the first General Counsel of the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, I had the privilege to know and work with Mike Masaoka. In promoting the cause of Japanese Americans in this country, Mike was deservedly known for his integrity and courage. At the time, discrimination against Japanese Americans took many destructive forms. Mike devoted his professional and personal life to combating that discrimination.

"Accordingly, I believe it would be entirely fitting to use an excerpt from Mike's creed on the memorial. It expresses Mike's enduring faith that America would come to respect Japanese Americans and their contributions to our society. Such faith deserved to be memorialized."

Sincerely yours,
John B. Rehm

Mistake to Put Masaoka's Name on Memorial

I have been reading the controversy centered around the proposed inscriptions of the National Japanese American Memorial.

I was particularly distressed to read Gerald Yamada's unfair and rabid attack on Rita Takahashi's Ph.D. dissertation. Upon reexamination of her work—a meticulous, well-documented, scholastic contribution—I could not help but wonder why Yamada was so vicious. As pro bono attorney with the board, isn't he supposed to be working with and assisting the board?

It would help the public to have as much information as possible. The following could help settle the conflict:

—The NJAMP should place and update the versions of the inscriptions via their Web site (<http://www.njamp.org>) as well as in the vernacular press in order to get feedback from the community.

—An independent committee of scholars could be established to clarify an understanding of Mike Masaoka's long career. Members could draw from the National Scholarly Advisory Council of the Japanese American National Museum and from other university scholars in the field who have studied/researched the wartime years.

To place on the national memorial Mike Masaoka's name and any portion of the "Japanese American Creed" he penned in 1940 would be a grave mistake; they are divisive and hurtful to a significant portion of the Japanese American community. The recent columns and letters to the editor in the vernacular press attest to the passion that Masaoka and the JAACL still elicit.

Concerned citizens must share their views with members of the NJAMP and the National Park Service, which will determine the final inscription.

Judy Tachibana
Via e-mail

Influential JA Journalist

I read with interest, Bill Hosokawa's column, "Larry Tajiri, A Better Choice." While Mr. Hosokawa reviews the accomplishments of both Tajiri and Omura as "Influential Japanese Americans of the Past Century," it seems to me that Mr. Hosokawa (would have been the appropriate choice).

No other JA has risen to the journalistic heights of Mr. Hosokawa and his activities were far-reaching. The retired editor of the editorial page of the Denver Post covered the Korean conflict and the Vietnam War as a correspondent.

In the Newseum in the Washington, D.C. area Mr. Hosokawa is recognized along with other figures such as Edward R. Morrow and Ernie Pyle in this "journalism hall

of fame." Japan has bestowed one of its highest honors on him for his work in building relationships between Japan and the United States. As the honorary consul, he hosted the emperor, and empress during their visit to Colorado. A dozen or so books authored by Mr. Hosokawa are historical legacies of the JAs. As a member of the "National Japanese American Memorial board of directors," he has joined with others to provide lasting recognition of JAs.

Yes, there is a better choice. But, maybe the error is in trying to select one individual when many are deserving of the recognition.

Susan Hilton
Jefferson City, MO

An Open Letter to JAACL President Helen Kawagoe

As you may recall, in the spring of 1998 the JAACL distributed to all subscribers of the *Pacific Citizen* copies of an unauthorized version of a case study by the Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government. The official Harvard-approved version that should have been distributed is titled: "Against all Odds: The Campaign in Congress for Japanese American Redress."

The staff of the P.C. forwarded to you a letter which I had written to them about this error on August 6, 1998. My letter included correspondence from Harvard to me explaining that the earlier version of that study had been corrected and rewritten. You did not answer my letter.

On February 5, 1999, I wrote you another letter about this mistake hoping that your organization would take action to see that the correct version would be sent to readers and the scholars, students and interested persons who would be using the case study. The incorrect version should be destroyed. You also ignored that letter.

On April 20, 1999, I sent you copies of all the previous correspondence that I had already sent to you, and requested the courtesy of a reply which you honored with a six-line response. In it you stated that the JAACL is planning to reprint the latest revised text as authorized by Harvard, but I have not had confirmation that this has taken place.

I need not, but I will remind you that the uncorrected study has now been in circulation for almost two years. The oldest Japanese American civil rights organization has the responsibility to see that information it distributes and thereby endorses is correct as well as timely. I hope to see corrective action about this matter taken at the forthcoming national meeting.

Jack Herzog
Falls Church, Va.

Pacific Citizen

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

* Views reflect the active, public discussion within JAACL 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.

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Aoi, Yoshio, 84, Santa Barbara, Jan. 10.

Fujita, Rev. Jonathan Masatake, 85, Huntington Beach, Feb. 8; Tokyo-born naturalized U.S. citizen; survived by wife Masayo Esther; sons Ichiro, Tuguo Tommy and wife Kathy (Colo.); 5 gc., 3 ggc.; sister-in-law Misako Fujita (Japan).

Hara, Hiroshi Jack, 79, Montebello, Feb. 13; Kyushu-born; survived by sons Patrick Kiuchi and wife Diana, Richard Takashi, Bryan Tadashi; daughters Elaine Miyoko Hara, Cary Hiroko Perkins and husband Ed; 3 gc., 1 ggc.; brother Ray Tadao.

Ichinokuchi, Helen Hisae, 81, La Mirada, Feb. 12; Kent, Wash.-born; survived by son Steven and wife Fatima; daughter Carolyn Meronek and husband William; 3 gc.; brother Ben Nakata; sister Aiko Nakata.

Inouye, Minoru Min', 68, Gardena, Feb. 7; Los Angeles-born Korean War veteran; survived by wife Mary Ann Mitsuko; sons Craig and wife Nancy, Chris and wife Maki; daughter Steffi Gee and husband Brad; 5 gc.; sisters Jane Asamoto and husband Mickey, Lillian; mother-in-law Mito Ozawa; brother-in-law John Ozawa.

Ishibashi, Harold A., 80, Oxnard, Feb. 10; survived by wife Mary; daughters Joan and husband Eric Yamamoto (Hawaii), Jane Ishibashi (Orange); brother Toshiharu and wife Nellie (Gardena); sister Sumako Fujita (Torrance); brothers-in-law Tom Okumura (San Diego, Fred Matsui and wife Jean (Yuba City); sisters-in-law Yukiko Ishibashi (Minn.), Fumiko Matsushita (Japan).

Kashima, Esther, 79, Tennessee, Feb. 12; Puenene, Hawaii-born, formerly of Gardena; survived by sons James (Gardena), Alan (Donaldson, Tenn.), Clyde and wife Trish (Ethridge, Tenn.), Aaron (Bishop); daughters Sue Pippin and husband Dennis (White House, Tenn.), Ruth Padgett and husband Fred (Mt. Juliet, Tenn.); 12 gc., 4 ggc.; sisters Ruth Ige and husband George (West Covina), Beatrice Kido and Sumiko Migita (both Hawaii); brother Robert Kurosu and wife Chie and sister-in-law Yoshie Kurosu (Hawaii).

Miyamoto, Mikio 'Miki', 81, Los Angeles, Feb. 12; San Francisco-born, formerly of Torrance; survived by wife Toshi; sons Dr. Alan and wife Coriis, Eric and wife Teri (Yorba Linda); daughter Tina Wirth and husband John (Cardiff-By-The-Sea); 8 gc.; brother David; sisters Marion Nakata, May Miyamoto (San Jose); brother-in-law Nobuaki Oshima.

Nakamura, Mary Fumi, 89, Los Angeles, Feb. 8; Fukuoka-born; survived by son Dr. Morris; daughters Shizuko Akahoshi, Yuri Wong, Kimi Wada; 13 gc., 5 ggc.

Nakayama, Misao, 91, Montebello, Feb. 10; Santa Cruz-born; survived by son Masami and wife Frances; daughter Yoko Nakayama; 1 gc.; brother George Ikeda and wife Haruyo (San Jose); sisters Peggy Kadotani (San Jose), Ellen Fukushima (Sunnyvale), Hideo Toji and husband Mamoru, Janice Tao and husband Howard (Watsonville).

Nitta, Kenji 'Kenny', Granada Hills, Feb. 8; Stockton-born; survived by wife Emiko; son Eugene and wife Theresa (Hawaii); daughters Margaret Takimoto and husband Dick, Diane Doi and husband Bill, Tiri Nitta-Flock and husband Kelly; 9 gc., 1 ggc.; sisters Takeko Okuhara, Mieko Yoshimura and husband Frank; sister-in-law Shizuno Nitta.

Osajima, Paul Takashi, 75, Palo Alto; survived by daughters Kathy Kobara and husband Shiz, Cyndi Osajima, Shari Noguchi and husband Ross; son Robbie and wife Cindy; 3 gc.

Oshinomi, Satoshi Ted, 78, Los Angeles, Feb. 8; San Diego-born; survived by sons Craig and wife Linda, Kirk and wife Kathy; daughters Vicki Tokirio and husband Carey, Linda Kunisaki and husband Ronald; 8 gc.

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcome. Death Notices, which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$15 per column inch. Text is reworded as needed.

Saisho, Kiyoshi Kay, 84, Monterey Park, Feb. 12; Los Angeles-born; survived by wife Yuriko Lillian, sons Rod Ko, Robert Ryo and wife Kathy; daughter Sandra Emmie; 2 gc.

Sakurada, Alma Chie, 77, Chicago, Feb. 8; formerly of Monterey; survived by Hiraoo Sakuro Sakurada (Chicago); sisters Miko Sakurada, Alyce Miyo Hong (La Crosse, Wis.).

Setuda, Grace Mitsuyo, 74, Gardena, Feb. 9; Los Angeles-born; survived by daughter Joyce Emi Setuda (Maryland); sisters Fern Iaso Sasaki (Japan), Nancy Midori Sasaki (Hawaii); brother David M. Sasaki; sisters-in-law Grace Uno and husband Rev. Ernest (Hawaii), Bernice Goto and husband Ray.

Shigaki, Donald Hiroshi, 76, Los Angeles, Feb. 5 service; WWII 442nd RCT 95th Infantry veteran; survived by sister Miyo Ushijima and husband Kiyo; brothers Tack T., Jerry M. and wife Miwa.

Takata, Kiyoko, 78, Los Angeles, Feb. 6; Fresno-born; survived by husband George Jiri; son Eddie and wife Karen; daughter Donna Fujinami and husband Ronnie; sister Mie Fujinami.

Tanaka, Harry Hiroshi, 78, Bellflower, Feb. 4; Long Beach-born; survived by son Kenneth (Illinois); brothers George T. Ishinaka and wife Mary S., Jun Fukushima and wife Teshiko; sisters-in-law Mary Ishizuka and Ayako Ishizuka (El Cerrito).

Yoshikawa, Emiko, 62, Gardena, Feb. 8; Hiroshima-born; survived by husband Steve Senkichi; son Tak Takahiro and wife Kerry Miyoko; 2 gc.; brother-in-law Kuraso Miyamoto and wife Iruko (Japan); sisters-in-law Emie Okita and husband Hitoshi, Michiko Miyamoto (Japan).

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INSCRIPTIONS

(Continued from page 1)

ON FEBRUARY 19, 1942, 74 DAYS AFTER THE UNITED STATES ENTERED WORLD WAR II, PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT ISSUED EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066 WHICH RESULTED IN THE MASS RELOCATION OF JAPANESE AMERICANS FROM THE WEST COAST. ALLOWED ONLY WHAT THEY COULD CARRY, MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE FORCED TO ABANDON HOMES, FARMS, CLASSROOMS AND BUSINESSES AND WERE INCARCERATED IN 10 REMOTE RELOCATION CAMPS GUARDED BY TROOPS AND SURROUNDED BY BARBED WIRE. IN ADDITION, SOME 4,000 IDENTIFIED BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WERE HELD IN SEPARATE ISOLATION CAMPS INCLUDING THE FAMILY CAMP AT CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS. NOT ONE OF THEM WAS EVER CONVICTED OF WRONGDOING.

MEANWHILE, IN A STIRRING DEMONSTRATION OF LOYALTY, THOUSANDS OF JAPANESE AMERICANS VOLUNTEERED FOR MILITARY SERVICE. THE COMBINED 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION AND THE 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM, FIGHTING IN EUROPE, AND PAYING THE PRICE IN BLOOD, WAS THE MOST HIGHLY DECORATED UNIT FOR ITS SIZE AND LENGTH OF SERVICE IN THE HISTORY OF THE U.S. ARMY IN THE PACIFIC THEATER. BI-LINGUAL JAPANESE AMERICANS IN THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE HELPED TO SHORTEN THE WAR AND THUS SAVED COUNTLESS AMERICAN LIVES. IN HAWAII THE 1399TH ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION BATTALION HELPED BUILD AND FORTIFY THE INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGIC FOR VICTORY.

ALMOST FORTY YEARS AFTER THE WAR ENDED IN 1945, AND AFTER THE INCARCERATED CITIZENS LEFT THE CAMPS

TO REBUILD THEIR LIVES, THE 1983 FEDERAL COMMISSION ON WARTIME RELOCATION, AND INTERMENT OF CIVILIANS FOUND THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO MILITARY NECESSITY FOR MASS IMPRISONMENT OF JAPANESE AMERICANS IN WORLD WAR II AND THAT A GRAVE INJUSTICE HAD BEEN DONE TO THEM.

IN 1988, THE PRESIDENT SIGNED THE CIVIL LIBERTIES ACT WHICH APOLOGIZED FOR THE INJUSTICE PROVIDED TOOKEN COMPENSATION AND REAFFIRMED THE NATION'S COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY UNDER THE LAW FOR ALL AMERICANS.

Panels 20 and 21
HERE WE ADMIT A WRONG. HERE WE AFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT AS A NATION TO EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER THE LAW.

PRESIDENT RONALD W. REAGAN, Upon The Signing of The Civil Liberties Act August 1988

Panel 34
Japanese by blood
Hearts and minds American
With honor unbowed
Bore the stings of injustice
For future generations

Panel 37
WE BELIEVE A THREAT TO THIS NATION'S DEMOCRACY WAS A THREAT TO THE AMERICAN DREAM AND TO ALL FREE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD.

SPARK M. MATSUNAGA, Captain, 100th Battalion, U.S. Congressman, U.S. Senator

Panel 44
YOU FOUGHT NOT ONLY THE ENEMY, BUT YOU FOUGHT

PREJUDICE — AND YOU WON. KEEP UP THAT FIGHT, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO WIN — TO MAKE THIS GREAT REPUBLIC STAND FOR WHAT THE CONSTITUTION STANDS IT STANDS FOR: "THE WELFARE OF ALL THE PEOPLE ALL THE TIME."

PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN, 1946 White House Ceremony for 100th Battalion and The 442nd Regimental Combat Team

Panel 52
THE LESSONS LEARNED MUST REMAIN AS A GRAVE REMINDER OF WHAT WE MUST NOT ALLOW TO HAPPEN AGAIN TO ANY GROUP.

DANIEL K. INOUE, Captain, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, U.S. Congressman, U.S. Senator

Panels 13-19 and Panels 22-28
AMACHE, COLORADO, 9,927; GILA RIVER, ARIZONA, 14,401; POSTON, ARIZONA, 17,707; HEART MOUNTAIN, WYOMING, 12,757; JEROME, ARKANSAS, 2,095; ROHWER, ARKANSAS, 10,337; MANZANAR, CALIFORNIA, 6,233; TULE LAKE, CALIFORNIA, 21,846; MINIDOKA, IDAHO, 12,676; TOPAZ, UTAH, 9,577

HAWAII

(Continued from page 1)

"When the culture and way of life of a people are all but engulfed by a history beyond their control, their sense of loss may extend down through generations and their dismay may be shared by many members of the larger community," Kennedy said. But he added that Hawaii's attempt "to address these realities" must keep in mind that the federal Constitution "has become the heritage of all citizens of Hawaii."

The court refused to treat Hawaii's practice as one similar to federal programs to aid Indian tribes. Justices John Paul Stevens and Ruth Bader Ginsburg dissented. Writing for the two, Stevens said the decision "rests largely on the repetition of glittering generalities that have little, if any, application to the compelling history of the state of Hawaii."

The decision is a rare one for modern times because it rests on the Constitution's 15th Amendment, a Civil War-era measure aimed at protecting the rights of former slaves.

Gov. Ben Cayetano said last week that he had asked the attorney general's office to prepare contingency plans in the event the state lost the case.

The House and Senate have drafted backup measures that would transfer all the assets and resources of OHA to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands which, unlike OHA, was established by Congress.

The case is *Rice v. Cayetano*, 98-818.

WEN HO LEE


(Continued from page 1)
based 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has neither ruled nor set a hearing on his appeal.

The Feb. 22 filing was the most recent installment in the argument over whether Lee can be forced to reveal all the classified information he plans to use in his defense.

The defense petitioned to have portions of the Classified Information Procedures Act declared unconstitutional on grounds the law was being used to compel Lee to provide evidence in violation of his Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination.

Under the act, the defense must provide pretrial notice of classified information it expects to disclose or have disclosed.

"There is no constitutional double standard — one level of protection for ordinary citizens facing criminal charges, and a different, lesser standard, for government employees who work in classified environments," the document states. "This court has only one Constitution."




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