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National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

80/20 Initiative Endorses Gore

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

An unprecedented national novement to deliver an Asian

movement to deliver an Asian Agentical ble vote to a presidential nominee threw its bipartisan support on Aug. 27 behind Democratic Vice President Al Gore. Organizers meeting in Universal Citis-Calif, said they must solidify the group's political clout by persuading at least 80 percent of Americans of Asian descent to gote for Gore. The 80/20 Initiative is the first widespread effort to unite different processing the statement of the second of th first widespread effort to unite dif-ferent groups of AAs who come from varying cultural, political and liguistic backgrounds, in a political

"As a 15-year supporter of the Republican Party, it will be a per-sonal challenge to cross over and vote for a Democrat," said Kenneth Fong, a San Francisco-based geneticist and vice president of the endorsement group. "But I am putting my personal interests aside for the sake of the Asian Paside for the sake of t

aside for the sake of the hamiltonic cific American community."

The organization is nationwide, but members have placed particular emphasis on California because iar emphasis on Cantornia because six percent of its registered voters are AA. With California's 54 elec-toral votes, one-fifth of the 270 needed to win, 80/20 members say the state's AAs could help decide a

The two-year-old organization's 33 delegates are divided equally among Democrats, Republicans and Independents.

During a three-day convention that ended on Aug. 27, the dele-gates hosted an \$80,000 fundraiser and listened to representatives of both the Democratic and Repub

lican parties.

They voted 26-7 to endorse Gore, and those who originally voted for Bush said they will honor the group's decision and support the Democratic nominee.

They said the deciding factor as Democratic National Committee staffer, Courtni Sunjoo Pugh, who promised Gore would appoint AAs within his administration and work to combat workplace discrim-

ination against the ethnic groups.

Others complained that Joel Szabat, a consultant to California's Republican legislators, could not guarantee that Texas Gov. George guarantee that Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the Republican nominee, would appoint a significant num-ber of AAs within his administra-

"Al Gore and the Democrats have done more to advance issues of importance to Asian Pacific Americans," said Chang-Lin Tien, former chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley, and chair-man of the endorsement group. "But both parties have room for

improvement."
Tien emphasized that the 80/20 Then emphasized that the 80/20 Initiative is urging AAs to unite only over the presidential vote, not the Democratic Party in general. Republican 80/20 supporters should feel free to vote for their own party members in other races. The group plans to promote its bloc vote primarily through the Internet. Organizers have compiled an e-mail distribution list of nearly 350.000 people and plan to use

350,000 people and plan to use Web sites to advance their cause among people of Chinese, Japan-ese, Korean, Filipino and Thai decent and among other Asian and Pacific Islander groups.

Lawsuit Accuses Mitsui and Mitsubishi of Using Slave Laborers During WWII

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA

CENTURY CITY, Calif.—A coalition of lawyers filed a class action suit against the Mitsui and Mitsubishi conglomerates on behalf of Chinese people seeking reparations for allegedly being used as slave laborers during World War II.

World War II.

The suit was filed in Los Angeles,
County Superior Court on Aug. 22
under a California law passed lastyear that allows WWII slave labor
victims or their heirs to file for com-

victums of their heirs to hie for com-pensation until Dec. 31, 2010.

But even without the California law, Fisher said the 1951 peace treaty signed between Japan and the Allied Forces resolved issues between the United States as a country and Japan as a country but did not resolve the claims of individual nationals against individual companies or individuals in Japan.

"It is clear to us and clear to those who have analyzed the treaty those who have analyzed the treaty that it does not prohibit or bar in-dividuals — Chinese, Koreans or others — from suing individual companies in Japan," said lead at-torney Barry A. Fisher of Fleish-man & Fisher.

Four of the nine plaintiffs are le-gal California residents, living in Southern California, and the remaining five reside in China, according to Fisher.

New York-based Mitsui did not

New York-based Mitsui did not provide a statement after promising to do so several times.

The lawsuit asserts that the victims were beaten, tortured, starved, and some watched their fellow prisoners being beaten to death by supervisors of Japanese companies or were buried alive in



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGA

Ignatius Ding (left), spokesman for the Global Alliance, comforts lawsuit plaintiff Ou Zong Xuan, who breaks down during the Los Angeles press conference, while Zhang Chang Chao's son looks on.

the mine tunnels

Additional plaintiffs are expected to join the suit, including those living in Korea, Sakhalin Island, nving in Korea, Sakhalin Island, Burma, Vietnam, the Philippines and elsewhere throughout the Pa-cific. The reason the lawsuit err-compasses a vast territory is be-cause Fisher said the Japanese, be-fore and during WWII, were "running the largest slave ship opera-tion in world history since the African slave trade," involving both factory slave labor and sex slaves.

The suit specified no dollar amount and Fisher said the compensation amount will be determined during the damages phase

See LAWSUIT/ page 8

Inouve Named P.C. Editorial Board Chairperson

Former PSW Governor Ken-neth K. Inouye was recently named Pacific Citizen editorial board chairperson by Floyd Mori, JACL national president.

The appointment was announced at JACL's national convention in Monterey, Calif. Inouye succeeds Richard Uno of Sacramento who chaired the board from 1998 to 2000.

Inouye, a longtime JACL mem Inouye, a longtime JACL mem-ber, has been involved at the local, district, and national levels. A for-mer PSW governor, he was a three-term president of the SE-LANOCO chapter of JACL and currently sits on PSW's civil rights caucus. In addition to JACL, Inouye is

involved in a number of communi-ty organizations and is currently chair of both the California Association of Human Relations Orga

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POSTMASTER: Send

nization and the Orange County Human Relations Commission. He is also the vice-president of the Orange County Japanese Ameri-can Association and the Orange County Nikkei Coordinating



Council. In addition, Inouye is board m board mem-ber of the Orange County Japanese American Cultural and Community

Center, the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance, and the 100th/442nd MIS Memo-

rial Foundation.

Born in La Jara, Colorado in 1947, Inouye is a graduate of CSULA Presently he is a manag-ing partner of the CPA firm Inouye, Shively & Longtin. Married to May Inouye (Kondo) for 29 years, Inouye has three daugh-ters, Nicole, Erin, and Shannon.

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Judge Grants Lee Bail Under House-arrest Conditions

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.-Bar-ALDUQUENQUE, N.M.—Bar-ring an appeal by the government, fired Los Alamos National Labora-tory scientist Wen Ho Lee should be free on bail by Sept. 1, a federal judge said Aug. 29. A prosecutor said the government is likely to ap-neal

U.S. District Judge James Parker ordered the government to com-plete its search of Lee's home and finalize conditions for his release on \$1 million bail by noon Sept. 1

tinalize conditions for his release on \$1 million bail by non Sept. 1
"If Judge Parker had been provided a complete record in December, we believe that Dr. Lee would not have spent the last eight months in solitary confinement, inshackles," said Lee's attorney, Marck Holscher.

After twice being denied bail, Judge Parker finally agreed Aug. 24 to release Lee on \$1 million bail, while he awaits trial on charges of mishandling U.S. nuclear secrets. Parker relented after a hearing in which Lee's lawyers cast doubt on the solidity of the government's case and just how sensitive the nuclear material involved was.

To onclude that there now is a combination of conditions that will reasonably assure the appearance of Dr. Lee as required and the safe.

reasonably assure the appearance of Dr. Lee as required and the safety of the community and the nation, Parker said.

tion, Parker said.
"We have contended from the start that Dr. Lee should be freed on bail," said Victor His, national vice president of the Organization of Chinese Americans. "We ap-plaud Judge Parker's decision to-

day."

JACL national president Floyd
Mori added, "We commend Judge
Parker for taking a step in the di-

rection of due process. With the lack of due process thus far, the government seems to have been presuming Dr. Lee guilty unjustly. We encourage the government to follow Judge Parker's action, pursuing justice adhering to process, therefore ensuring fair treatment of Dr. Lee."

Under Parker's proposal, Lee, 60, would be required to remain at his White Rock home under surveillance at most times, and all of his phone calls and mail could be inspected. He could only leave in the company of at least one of his lawyers and would be required to report by telephone twice a day to federal court.

federal court.

The only other person who would be allowed to live in the home is Lee's wife Sylvia, who would be required to notify authorities whenever she leaves. Law enforcement agents would be allowed to search her both before and after leaving. Meanwhile, Lee's children could come for visits prearranged with authorities. could'come for v with authorities.

Lee, who was fired from Los Lee, who was fired from Los Alamos National Laboratory last year and was arrested in Decem-ber, is charged with 59 counts al-leging he transferred restricted data to unsecure computers and tapes. Several of the tapes are missing.

missing.

Lee faces 39 life sentences for the crime of mishandling of classified information with the intent to harm the United States and is the first civilian in U.S. history to be so prosecuted. He is not charged with

espionage.
Since his arrest, Asian American
groups nationwide have decried
Lee's treatment, which they say
has been unnecessarily harsh. He

has been held in solitary confinement, shackled and chained at the hands and feet, allowed restricted contact with his family and is only removed from his cell for one hour

of exercise per day.
"I am relieved beyond belief that "I am relieved beyond belief that the long abusive imprisonment of my good friend Wen Ho Lee is about to end," said Cecilia Chang, who spearheaded the effort for the Wen Ho Lee Defense Fund to raise money for his legal team and to generate a public outcry against the U.S. government's case.

"It's about time that the court

"It's about time that the court end these harsh terms of incarcei-ation," said Victor Hwang, managing attorney for the Asian Lac Caucus (ALC) in San Francisco. This decision shows that the government's case against Lee is unraveling." "Hwang said he honed the index."

Hwang said he hoped the judge would consider the historic context

would consider the historic context of stereotyping and discrimination against Aa.

Two weeks ago, the ALC and the American Civil Liberties Union filed court papers, asking Parker to order the government to produce evidence of racial profiling in the prosecution of Lee. The ALC, representing eight public interest groups, said the Lee case recalls the U.S. government interament of Japanese Americans during World War III and has wrongly depicted Asians as being less loyal than other Americans.

Asians as being less toya unan ou-er Americans.

The judge granted friend-of-the-court status to both groups on Aug. 23, allowing them to file briefs in support of the defense petition for-disclosure. Parkër is also consider-ing defense motions to dismiss all but 10 counts against Lee.

See LEE/ page 8



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Calendar

WASHINGTON, D.C.
Sun. Sept. 10—D.C. Chapter Picnic; 1
p.m., Wheaton Regional Park, 2000
Shorefield Rd., Wheaton, Md. Info:
Laura Nakatani, 703/519-9378.

Michwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL Fri.-Sun., Sept. 22-24—District Council Meeting: Milwaukee.
ST. LOUIS

at.-Mon., Sept. 2-4—24th Annual panese Festival; see Community

Japanese Calendar

TWIN CITIES Sun., Sept. 17—5th Annual Head-waters Fund Walk for Justice; see

Community Calendar.

Sat., Sept. 30—30th Annual Fuji Festival; see Community Calendar

Intermentain LITAH CHAPTERS

Sat., Sept. 16—Fifth Annual Autumn Golf Classic Scholarship Tournament; shotgun start at 8 a.m., Meadowbrook Golf Course. Entry Deadline Sept. 9: Golf Course. Entry Deadline Sept. 9: Info: Floyd Mori, 572-2287.

Pacific Northwest

LAKE WASHINGTON Sat.-Sun., Sept. 23-24—Eastside Ni-hon Matsuri; see Community Calendar at Rellevue

NC-WN-Pacific

DISTRICT COUNCIL Sat., Sept. 30—Fourth Quarter District Executive Board Meeting.

FRENCH CAMP
Sat., Sept. 16—Semi-annual Rummage Sale; see Community Calendar.

Central California

Sun., Sept. 17—15th Annual Shinzen Run and Walk; see Community

Pacific Southwest

Sat., Sept. 16—PSWD Annual Awards Dinner; see Community Calendar WEST LOS ANGELES

Sat., Sept. 9—BBQ and Bingo schol-arship fund-raiser; see Community Sun. Sept. 24—Aki Matsuri 2000

Boutique; see Community Calendar.

DEADLINE for Calendar is the Friday before date of issue, on a space-available basis. Please provide the time, place

of the event, contact name and phone number (including area

COMMUNITY Calendar

Fast Coast

WASHINGTON, D.C.

WASHINGTON, D.C. Through Sept. 4—Exhibit, "An American Diary and Memories of Childhood" by Roger Shimomura; National Museum of American History, 12th & Constitution NW. Free. Info: 202/357-2700.

Thurs.-Sat., Nov. 9-11—National Memorial to Patriotism Dedication Ceremony. Pre-registration required: NIAMF, 800/607-8550. (Hotel reservations accepted up to Oct. 15.)

The Midwest

CHICAGO

Sat., Sept. 30—30th Annual Fuji Festival; The Palmer House Hilton, 17 Festival; The Palmer House Hillton, 17 East Monroe. Reception/Silent auction 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m.; featuring Congresswoman Patsy Mink; Fuji Fest Raffle. Reservations and raffle tickets: 773/275-7512; e-mail: jasc@ioils.net. MINNEAPOLIS

Sun., Sept. 17—5th Annual Head-waters Fund Walk for Justice; 11 a.m. registration; walk 3.5 miles around Boom Island; sponsors also wanted. Info: Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, 952/925-2429

ST. LOUIS

Sat.-Mon., Sept. 2-4-24th Annual Japanese Festival, "Spirit of Stone"; 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday; Missouri Bo-tanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd. food taiko, nami, music from Japan Okinawa deigo kai, hanamizuki, bon-sai, ikebana, tea ceremonies, bon-odori, fashion show, raku pottery, children's activities, much more. 577-9400, 800/642-8842.

The Northwest

BELLEVUE

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 23-24—Eastside Ni-hon Matsuri; Bellevue Community College gym; live stage performances, artisan demonstrations, exhibits, food booth, etc. Free admission, info: www.enma.org, or 425/861-9109,

Fri.-Sun., Sept. 15-17—Heart Mountain Reunion; SeaTac DoubleTree Hotel. Info: Toshi Terayama, registrar, 253/520-8005, e-mail: toshiter@ ix.netcom.com.

Sat., Sept. 30-Nikkei Concerns 25th Sat., Sept. 30—Nikkei Concerns 25th Anniversary Celebration/Banquet; 5 p.m. social hour and silent auction, 6:30 p.m. dinner and program; Washington State Convention and Trade Center, 800 Convention Place, Seattle. Lori Matsukawa, King 5 News anchor, keynote speaker. \$60; Info., reservations: Amy French, 206/726-6501, e-mail: amyf@nikkeiconcerns.org.
PORTLAND

Jan, 31—Nihonmachi: Through Jan, 31—Nihonmachi: Portland's Japantown Remembered; Oregon. Nikkei Legacy Center (ONLQ, 117 NW 2nd Ave., Portland. Free. Info: 503/977-7781.

Northern California RERKEI FY

Sun., Sept. 10—Nikkei Widowed Group monthly meeting; new members, both men and women, are welcome; For meeting place and time: M. Kusaba, 415/333-5190 or Kay Kusaba, 415/333-5190 Yamamoto, 510/444-3911. FRENCH CAMP

Sat., Sept. 16—Rummage, Sale; 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Japanese Community Håll, 170 E. French Camp Rd.

Sat., Sept. 30-55th Annual Class Sat., sept. 30—55th Annual Class Reunion Luncheon, Topaz Utah High 1945; 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sequoyah Country Club in Oakland. Info: Carvin Dowke, 415/564-9771; e-maif: dowke@ibm.net. SACRAMENTO

Fri.-Sat., Sept. 8-9—Tulelake Re-union; DoubleTree Hotel and Resort; union; Double free Hotel and Resort; Friday registration and gala mixer; Saturday Sayonara banquet, RSVP early: Tulelake Reunion, P.O. Box 22877, Sacramento, CA 95822.

Sun., Sept. 10—Greater Sacramento Sun., sept. 10—Greater Sacramento Valley Region-wide Reunion; DoubleTree Hotel; 11 a.m. fellow-ship/mixer, 1 p.m. buffet lunch; keynote speaker Cherry Tsutsumida of the NJAMF; the historical book of the Sacramento region will be available. Info: Toko Fujii, 916/421-6968. Sun., Sept. 17—Jan Ken Po Gakko

Annual Arts and Crafts Fair: 10 a.m.-3 Annual Arts and Crafts Fair; 10 a.m., 3 p.m., Sacramento Elik Lodge, 6446 Riverside Blvd.; featuring Asian arts and crafts; Info: Mary Ann Y. Kashiwagi, 916/395-2300. SAN FRANCISCO

SAN HANCISCO
Through Sept. 29—Exhibit, "Latent
August: The Legacy of Hiroshima &
Nagasaki"; National Japanese & Merican Historical Society, 1684 Post St.;
a video by Robert Handa accompanies the exhibit. Info., schedules: nies the exhibit. Info., schedules: 415/921-5007; www.njahs.org.

Central California

FRESNO

Fri., Sept. 8—Fat Friday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Fresno Chinatown; food vendors, handmade goods, live band, re-laxed parking meters. Info: 559/441-7915

at., Sept. 9—Chinatown Jazz 2000 featuring Hiroshima and Fattburger. Ticket giveaways, KEZL-96.7 FM. Info: 559/441-7315.

Sun., Sept. 17—15th Annual Shinzen Run and Walk; 6 a.m. registration, Woodward Park; to benefit the Friendship Garden and Nikkei Service Center Info: Randy Aoki, 559/278-0415, or Bobbi Hanada, 559/434-1692.

Southern California SAN DIFGO

Sun., Sept. 3—50th Annual Ocean View United Church of Christ Bazaar; view Onited Church of Christ Bazaar; 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 3541 Ocean View Blvd., San Diego; food, kendo demon-stration, games, ikebana (flower ar-ranging) demonstration, etc. Info: 619/233-3620.

LOS ANGELES

Thurs., Sept. 7—Book discussion series, "From Harsh Winters to Bountiful Harvests: The Journey of Japanese Americans" with Professor Mitch Maki: "Harvest Son" by David Mas Masumoto; noon-2 p.m.; bring your lunch; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Books available on 213/625-0414.

Thurs., Sept. 7—Documentary film premiere, "The World of Mei Lanfang," directed by Mei Juin Chen; reception prior to screening, 7 p.m.; screening, 7:30 p.m.; Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena. Info: 626/449-2742 e t. 31. Sat., Sept. 9—"Zowie! Powl Wham!: A Day of Comics"; noon 4 p.m., 1-3 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Museum, 369 L. First St., Little Tokyo. Free admission. Info: 213/625-0414. Sat., Sept. 9—BBQ and Bingo; dinner 5:30-6:30 p.m., then Bingo; Japanese Institute of Sawtelle, "2110 Corinth Ave., West L.A. Info., tickets, direc-

tions: Frank Hirata, 310/478-7845.

Sat., Sept. 16—JACL Pacific Southwest District's Annual Awards Dinner; 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner, Torrance Marriott Hotel, 3635 Fashion Way; California Appointments Secretary Michael Yamaki, speaker; \$85; Tickets: 213/626-4471.

Sun. Sept. 24—Aki. Matsuri 2000 Boutique; 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Venice Japanese Community Center, 12448 Braddock Dr., Culver City vicinity; designer clothing sportswear, original jewelry, gifts, stationery, foods, etc. Info: Jean,310/390-6914, Eiko, 340/ 820-1875

Sun., Sept. 24—63rd L.A. Roosevelt High School Class of 1937-38 Reunion; Montebello Country Club, 901 Via San Clemente: music by "The mariachis and Aztec Time Machine," dancers: cost \$50: send checks to Dave Brenner, 1700 Bagley, Los Angeles, CA 90035. Reserve early: 310/837-6582.

Fri.-Sat., Oct. 13-14—Fifth Jerome Reunion; New Otani Hotel, Los Angeles. Info: Helen Yoshimura Takata, 626/968-2966; Miyo Kunitake Kawamura, 714/961-1249; Dollie Nagai Fukawa, 310/323-9615: Rose Masuda Okajima, 559/875-3878. ■

JACL CHAPTERS

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Civil Rights Groups Join 'Virtual Convention

Leading Asian Pacific American

Leading Asian Pacific American-civil rights groups across the na-tion, including JACL, are mem-hers of a coalition of over 180 or-ganizations behind the first online "Virtual Convention."

The event aims to garner sup-port for Congress to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and is modeled after political conven-tions, complete with a convention, platform and kevnote speakers. atform and keynote speakers.

The virtual convention is a

way of spreading a message in a way that has never been done beway that has never been done be-fore and will be helpful to those who want to learn more about hate crimes, which asect all Americans—not just APAs, "said George Ong, national president of the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA)

The virtual convention is part on the www.UnitedAgainstHate.org The virtual convention is part of campaign supporting the passing of the Hate Crimes Prevention or the Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA). UnitedAgain-stHate.org represents the first time civil rights, women's, reli-gious and labor organizations have collectively leveraged Internet technology to mount a coordinated grassroots online advocacy campa

Hate crimes legislation passed the Senate on June 20 by a 57-42 margin. Thirteen Republicans joined with all but one Democrat in supporting the measure. To date, the House of Representatives has refused to schedule a floor vote on the HCPA, HR 1082. The HCPA would strengthen current hate crime laws against race and religion-based crimes and extend current law to over sexual orientation, gender and disability. The HCPA has bipartisan support from 192 representatives; 22 state from 192 representatives; 22 state attorneys general; and over 185 law enforcement, civil rights, civic and religious organizations.

Organizations represented on the site include JACL, OCA, NAACP, National Council of La NAACP, National Council of La Raza, National Council of Churches, National Council of Jewish Women, NOW Legal De-fense and Educational Fund, Na-tional Congress of American Indians, Human Rights Campaign

nd many more.
The site also showcases a "Platform Against Hate," containing stories of victims of a number of hate crimes, including the recent dragging death of a migrant farm worker in California, the April worker in California, the April shootings in Pittsburgh and last year's Independence Day shooting spree through the Midwest. "The Hate Crimes Prevention

Act must be passed as soon as possible," said Daphne Kwok, OCA executive director. "Hopeful-by, the virtual convention will help our elected officials in the House of Representatives realize how important this issue is to their constituents and move them to act accordingly."

Experts Wrangle Over Judge's Bail Decision on Wen Ho Lee

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.-A ALBUQUENCY
law professor cautions against reading too much into a judge's order to release Wen Ho Lee on bail, but a classification expert says the action exposes

says the action exposes nig holes in the government case. U.S. District Judge James Parker initially refused to release Lee on ball last December, citing ar and convincing evidence that he was a threat to national security. But now, after hearing contradictory scientific views over the importance of the infor-mation Lee is accused of mishandling, the judge says the govern-ment "no longer has the requisite clarity and persuasive character necessary to keep Lee jailed pending his November trial.

On Aug. 25, the judge ruled the defense may use some of the classified evidence it hopes to present at trial, and negotiations on a possible plea, ordered more than

a month ago, were continuing.

On the bail decision, University of New Mexico law professor Leo Romero said "I would not read that narrowly. I think that when he says the case, he means on the bail issue, not the case on merits

The judge's decision does not indicate whether the government will win the case or not, can say the case is not as ironclad as the government wanted the son, a professor of criminal law at Loyola University Law School in California.

"This is an indication the judge has lost a bit of confidence in the materials presented by the gov-ernment," she said. "They may sort themselves out later, but

sort themselves out later, but right now they may not be reli-able enough." Steven Aftergood, a classifica-tion expert at the Federation of American Scientists, reads the hail decision as an "implicit repuon" of part of the government's case - the importance of ne information in question.
"I think some big holes have

been poked in the prosecution's said Aftergood, whose ngton, D.C.-based group Washington, D.C.-based group was founded by former scientists from Los Alamos Laboratory where Lee is accused of downloading sensitive weapons material to an unsecure computer and

tapes.
"If Wen Ho Lee is entitled to bail now, then he was entitled to bail eight months ago," said Af-tergood, who directs the federation's Project on Government Se crecy. "And the fact that he was d on the basis of faulty prosecution testimony imposes a ma-

jor burden on the prosecution."

An FBI agent whose testimony was key in denying bail to Lee twice acknowledged inaccuracies last week. In addition, scientists testifying for the defense said much of the nuclear information was, available in open literature, could not be used to make a bomb and was not even classified secret at the time

"I don't suggest that prosecu-on witnesses deliberately mistion witne represented their case, but be-cause of their exaggerations and errors, a man was locked up for errors, a man was locked up for eight months without being guilty of any crime," Aftergood said. "I wonder just how big a mistake the prosecution has to make before their whole case is called into question."

Victor Hwang, managing attor-ney for the Asian Law Caucus in San Francisco, said he believe Parker picked up on a change in

government theories.

They've shifted from the idea of his being a spy to someone who broke the rules in a job search," Hwang said. "I think what's been inconsistent is what they've charged him with, this mish of classified information. and the rhetoric they've used to keep him in jail ... Which is that he could harm the United

Parker granted friend-of-thecourt status on Aug. 23 to Hwang's group and the American Civil Liberties Union, letting them file arguments in support of a defense motion to disclose any evidence that Lee, a Taiwanes born U.S. citizen, was singled out for prosecution because of ethnic profiling.

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Hate Crimes in Los Angeles County Second Highest in 20 Years

The Los Angeles Commission on Human Relations announced on Aug. 23 that hate crimes in the county reached a total of 859 for 1999, the second highest total in

The 1999 figure represents a 11.7 percent increase from the previous year, when 769 hate crimes were reported. The 1999 total of 859 crimes is second only to 1996, when 995 crimes were re

The county commission's annual report shows increases in all the major categories of hate crime: race, sexual orientation and religion.

The increase in racial hate crimes runs counter to the theory that such crimes are closely tied to poverty rates. Moreover, the county rise in sexual orientation crime contrasts with a slight de-cline in such crime nationally and in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Of religious hate crir overwhelming majority of victims were Jewish (86 percent). The growth in anti-Semitic crime seems to be closely tied to the North Valley Jewish Community North Valley Jewish Community Center shooting in Southern Cal-ifornia last summer, which may have spawned other anti-Semitic

crimes.

Although one of the most high profile hate crimes in 1999 was the Aug. 10 killing of Filipino American Joseph Ileto and the wounding of five at the North Valley Jewish Community Center, such white supremacist attacks are a small minority of hate crimes. A growing number of vio-lent racial hate crimes are carried out by racially-based youth gangs whose racism blends with territo-

For the second year in a row, hate crimes on school campuses exhibited a dramatic increase (58.7 percent). Hate crime pros amatic increase cutions of juveniles were up 19 percent in 1999, marking an in-crease in such prosecutions for

crease in such prosecutions for the second consecutive year. Ruben Lizardo, commission president who was newly ap-pointed on Aug. 22, said, "These numbers make it clear that the commission's work continues to be urgently needed. Hate crime stats alert us to the fact that we need to strategically focus on schools, gangs and high-risk youths, and to recognize that intergroup relations must be con-sistently addressed in our classrooms, not only when there are race riots on campus or killings in our neighborhoods."

The county commission also highlighted a number of new commission-sponsored initiatives intended to stem the rise of hate

 Education about on about hate crime laws and advocacy for prevention programs are at the center of a \$450,000 initiative funded by the Los Angeles Board of Supervisor that empowers community-bas organizations to focus on some communities hardest hit by

hate crime.

A multimedia public educaton campaign is being planned to
reach youth throughout the region on issues of racism, homophobia, bigotry, and what they
can say and do to reject the racial
group dynamics that force alignment by race when it is irrelevant. hate crime.

A Web site will be launched to

provide easily accessible informa-tion about anti-hate resources and organizations. The Web site will be designed as an alternative to the numerous hate-oriented

Web sites targeting youth.

"Hate crime data lets us know
where prejudice and intolerance
is acted out in its most anti-social m, and what kinds of bias is resulting in criminal acts against people and communities," said Robin Toma, acting executive di-rector of the commission. "The disproportionate role of youth, as shown in the rise in school crime and hate crime prosecutions, tell us that our focus on young people by the

is on track and urgently ne Other major findings b county commission include: As in previous years, the reatest number of hate crimes - 458 of 859 — were motivated greatest nun

Second most numerous 264 - were sexual orientation

hate crimes.

• A total of 137 hate crimes

ere motivated by religious hate.

• In absolute numbers, sexual • In absolute numbers, sexual orientation crimes showed the greatest increase, followed by crimes based on religion and then racially-motivated crimes. The rate of increase among the three categories, however, differs markedly. Sexual orientation hate crimes increased by 38 (16.8 percent); religious hate crimes by 35 (34.3 percent); racial hate percent), religious hate crimes by 35 (34.3 percent); racial hate crimes by 22 (5 percent). The county commission report is based on data from 47 police de-

as used on data from 47 police departments, four community-based organizations, five fair housing councils and one school district.

INS Officials Under Fire for Detaining Chinese Businesswoman

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND, Ore.- Federal immigration inspectors in Oregon, lost some of their authority on Aug. 28 in the wake of a furor over the strip-search and two-day jailing of a Chinese business-woman.

Immigration and Naturaliza Johnny Williams also promised an immediate review of incidents involving Asian travelers detained at Portland International

Airport.
Both Williams and Oregon INS
Director David Beebe faced an
angry group of elected officials
who have called for Beebe's resignation because of the treatment two weeks ago of 36-year-old Guo Liming. She was ordered to strip to her underwear, and then jailed, after inspectors incorrectly thought her passport might have been altered

Politicians said the hourlong meeting, was constructive. But they insisted that fixing problems at the airport — and repairing Oregon's damaged reputation — must include Beebe's dismissal. Sen. Slade Gorton, R-Wash, called Oregon's INS department a "rogue unit" and characterized the behavior of inspectors as "thuggish."

Williams called the description too harsh.

60th Wedding Anniversary: Alice and Roy Nishikawa Feted by Family, Friends

Family and JACL friends honored Alice (née Yoshiye Kawakami) and Dr. Roy-M. Nishikawa at their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 12 at a Chinese seafood restaurant in Cerritos, Calif.

Cerritos, Calif.

A bulk of those years, for Roy, besides his profession as an optometrist in Los Angeles, overflowed with leadership in JACL at
local, district and national levels,
which continues to this day.

which continues to this day.

Immediate past national president Helen Kawagoe presented an elegant wall clock in their honor, and Dr. Hayato Kihara led the and Dr. Hayato Khara led the toast. Nephew Byron Kawaichi read the family memories and granddaughter Noelle Nishikawa-Shahin of San Jose welcomed near-Shahin of San Jose welcomed nearly 50 people to the event. Her home-made quilt, decorated with computer-digitized photographs of her grandparents, even their 1940 mar-riage certificate, won immediate ap-plause at the gathering. Alice retired from the LA. Coun-ty criminal courts system as court

ty criminal courts system as court clerk after many years

ry crimmai courts system as court clerk after many years. Prewar old-timers remember Roy by his nickname, "Mush" (for Mas). He lettered in fotoball, track and basketball at Venice High in the

early 30s, and grad-uated from UCLA in 1941. In 1946, he m 1941. In 1946, he graduated from Northern Illinois College of Optome-try in Chicago, and try in Chicago, and returned to Los An-

geles to practice.
Roy's JACL service record began in 1940 at Venice, then as founding chapter president of South L.A. 1948-49 PSWDC chair from 1949-50, and board chair of the 1954 na-tional JACL convention at Los Angeles. For three bienniums, he was also na-tional JACL treasurer, and during the 1956-58 bienni-

um, he served as national presi-dent. He is the "dean" of past na-

dent. He is the dean of past in-tional presidents.

His past 40 years are highlighted as P.C. board chair in the 50s, and as a permanent member of the JACL Endowment Fund. In 1997,



snowing on the creative quilt are Auce instrinwa (seat-ed), and Dr. Roy Nishikawa with granddaughter Noelle Nishikawa-Shahin (standing at right), designed by Noelle with digitized snapshots of the Nishikawas' 60 years together with their marriage certificate as the

Alice and Roy were recognized for their combined 110 years in JACL. "Without her tolerance, patience and understanding, my contribu-tion to JACL would have been far more limited," he confessed at that time. — Harry K. Honda. ■ Legacy

By Ryan Chin, V.P. Public Affairs

Kelly Yamada

or many, 18 years of age marks a significant mile-stone, a time when you are permitted to participate in certain activities for the first time. For Kelly Yamada; it marked the age when he could become a JACL member.

In the early years of the organi-In the early years of the organization, one of the requirements was that members had to be at least 18 years old. So, Kelly was not pictured in the group photo taken in Seattle at the first convention in 1930 because he was two months shy of being able to legally be a member of JACL Instead, he stood by the cameraman, helping to organize the JACLers in the pitot. e the JACLers in the photo.

nze the JAULers in the photo.
However, this would not be the
only time Yamada volunteered in
his youth. In fact, Kelly devoted a
lot of his time helping Jimme
Sakamoto, a founder of the JACL, start the Courier, a paper for the Japanese American community in Souttle

Soon thereafter hard times hit: the Great Depression forced many banks into bankruptcy — including the one holding Yamada's life sav-

the one holding Yamada's life sav-ings. Forced to drop out of the Uni-versity of Washington, Yamada's work eventually landed him in the San Francisco Bay Area. After a stint of being employed on a ship, he took a job with Dr. Russell WeHara, the first Japanese optometrist in California. Dr. We-Hara, who changed the spelling of his last name so Caucasians could pronounce it correctly, provided the pronounce it correctly, provided the experience which helped influence Yamada's decision to become an eye

Despite the hard times, his loyalty to the JACL remained. During the 1934 JACL national convention in San Francisco, Yamada co-chaired the picnic committee. A year later, he used some of the con-nections he attained in the Bay Area to help form the Oakland

The leadership skills he demonstrated at the national convention.



him a natural first president. Even though the majority of Yamada's life

along with his

involvement in

the formation of the new

chapter, made

has been spent in the Pacific Northwest, the Bay Area holds

Yamada's greatest JACL memo-ry occurred at a Northern Califor-nia Western Nevada Pacific nia Western Nevada Pacific (NCWNP) District Council in Martinez Calif. as he met the woman the would marry — now for 64 years. Being located in Northern California also allowed him to work with JACL's top leaders frequently.
In fact, he used to help Saburo Kido
bundle Pacific Citizens in San

During his tenure with the orga-nization Yamada served as the co-chair of the national convention chair of the national convention picnic committee, Oakland chapter president, NcWNP governor and Pacific Northwest (PNW) governor. The accomplishment he is most proud of is that he served as the governor for multiple districts. The JACL recognized many of Kelly's accomplishments by awarding him a saprabire nin E phire pin.

Elaine Ikeda to Lead California Campus Compact of SFSU

Elaine Ikeda, project director of Learning Clearinghouse of VCLA, has been selected executive exector of California Campus Compact (CACC), announced San Francisco State University President Robert

State University Pressure A. Corrigan.

"Elaine Ikeda brings to California Campus Compact a wealth of experience in service learning and student development," said Corrigative Chair of an, who serves as executive chair of CACC. She is a nationally recog-nized researcher and administrator who will help our Compact campus-es and students become more

deeply involved in active, hands-on learning and civic engagement." Ikeda, who will begin her new post Sept. 5, will be responsible for leading the efforts of CACC in promoting community service learn moting community service learning and civic engagement. Her duties will include grant-writing and fundraising activities, interacting with association members and collaborating with key players at other universities.

universities.
California Campus Compact,
which is based in the San Francisco Urban Institute, promotes the de velopment of strategies to integrat es to integrate community service learning and academic study. Formed in 1988 as an association of college and uni-versity leaders in California, CACC

supports more than 55 member in-stitutions of higher education. Ikeda replaces Elson Nash, who will join a venture capital firm for social entrepreneurs in Washington, D.C. Before

efore joining the Service Learn-Before joining the Service Learning Clearinghouse, likeda was a research analyst at UCLAs Higher
Education Institute where she
worked closely with nationally reognized researcher Alexander Astin
on service-learning research. Ikeda
has earned a doctorate in education
from UCLA.



In years of national Judo championships, Amy Tong has proven one thing: "You need to master both your physical skills and your mental skills. Being the best, means constantly improving in order to stay the best." We have high goals, too. We're building California's best banking relationships, with an unmatched combination of strengths; state-of-the-art resources, backed by over \$6 billion in assets, and personalized, professional service at over 70 offices statewide. So give us a call. It's much easier to stay the best when you have the right bank working with you.

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Arts & Entertainment

Godzilla 2000

Old School, Low-tech and Larger than Life

Ahh, the days when Godzilla was just a guy in a big rubber di-nosaur suit, stomping miniaturescaled buildings, breathing ra-dioactive fire and generally wegaking havoc on the citizens of Japan while battling equally ugly oafish foes.

Well, he's back. And as he should be — old school, low-tech

and in surprisingly top form, despite his premature death in 1995's "Godzilla vs. Destoroyah" which was intended to give way to TriStar's 1998 American ver sion, a big-budget, fully-digitized "Godzilla" that lacked the same campy charm and ultimately

bombed at the box-office.

Lucky for us, Toho Studios, producer of the Godzilla movie series, was given the chance to revive the big G once again after Hollywood's disappointing effort. Hollywood's disappointing effort. Now, hoping to capitalize on the success of other Japanese im-ports such as "Pokemon," distrib-utor Sony recently release "Godzilla 2000" in about 2,000 U.S. theater's nationwide.

It is the first "traditional"

Godzilla flick to play to American

audiences in 15 years.
Godzilla, or "Gojira" as Japanese fans know him, a half gorillahalf whale mutant borne out of hall whate mutant borne out of nuclear radiation as legend goes, made his feature film debut back in 1954. That was succeeded by 23 lucrative sequels and an inter-national cult following rivaling the Theleign.

While "Godzilla 2000" sounds like a cyber-charged, futuristic take on an old classic, there's nothing G2K about it, so to speak. Rather, it harkens back to the crude yet signature style which was well-known and loved for over 40 years — mediocre special effects, bad dialogue and even worse dubbing.

At the outset, an annoying re-porter named Yuki Ichinose (Naomi Nishida), who is desperthat to take photos of the gigantic beast, hooks up with the Godzilla Prediction Network, comprised of a renegade scientist named Yuji Shinoda (Takehiro Murata) and Shinoda (lakeniro Murata) and his precocious young daughter lo (Mayu Suzuki). The GPN, as they are called, is interested in tracking and studying the sometimes reclusive Godzilla.

We soon learn, however, that

We soon learn, nowever, that their efforts are being thwarted by the government-run Crisis Control Intelligence Agency, headed by suave bad-guy Mitsuo Katagiri (Hiroshi Abe) and his nerdy sidekick Shiro Miyasaka (Shiro Sano), who, though they ended up taking vastly different paths, was once Shinoda's comrade in school.

Of course, the CCIA simply treats Godzilla as target practice, assaulting him with every type of artillery, tank and jetfighter in their arsenal. But the subtext is an interesting indictment of war and of the Japanese military. It is also an approbation of the inde-pendent spirit embodied by Shin-oda and, curiously enough, even by Godzilla.

by Godzilia.

As any devoted fan will tell you, Godzilla is actually a good guy with really bad skin. Although his monstrous disposition and penchant for destruction are painfully apparent, he is simply misunderstood, and Shinoda has it right when he says of the hu-

it right when he says of the hu-man race, "Anything we don't un-derstand, we try to destroy."

But the fact is, for every point-ed tooth, for every ugly spike on his back, Godzilia challenges the standard of a hete. For every building that he crushes, he re-deems himself a hundredfold by saving the city of Shinjuku, and the world for that matter, from the world for that matter, from certain annihilation by an even greater enemy. This time around,

it's a giant alien vessel which has been disturbed out of the sea — by those pesky humans no less — after laying dormant for 60 million years.

It seems waking up the vessel vasn't such a bright idea because after some diagnostic prodding ordered by Katagiri it begins to fly around, eventually landing on the city's systems information center, and proceeds to suck all the data out of its computers.

Although the concept of regeneration or cloning throws an in-teresting element into the mix, I can't say I had much patience for most of the plot, which drags at times partly because Godzilla is barely present in the first third of the movie. Suspense begins to simmer, however, once we know what the UFO is after.

The film only really kicks into ear when the alien creature Orga finally sheds his vessel shell and a good old-fashioned apocalyptic stomp fest with Godzilla ensues. There appear to be a few digital effects and tricks which enhance some of those fi-nal scenes but not enough to distract viewers from its generally unrefined appeal.

True to form, the human characters remain amusingly one-di-mensional, and I found some of the re-edited one-liners pretty funny, as when Yuki turns to Shinoda and spouts "Bite mel" a and spouts, "Bite m Doubtful the American slang is a

direct Japanese translation.

The important thing is that Godzilla comes out on top in the end as he always has, proving himself to be not only the ultimate anti-hero for saving the people of Shinjuku from intergalactic colonialism, but a God-figure who dishes out the right retribution to the real enemies. If you don't get any other pleasure from watching a guy in a big rub-ber dinosaur suit, take some satisfaction in that

APAWLI Names Eleven Fellows for 2000

The Denver-based Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute (APAWLI) has awarded ships to 11 "extremely pow erful" women to participate in the group's 2000 leadership pro-gram, according to Martha Lee, APAWLI president and CEO.

This is a highly accomplished, compassionate group of leaders that will become even more effective through the fellowship's journey of introspection and growth,"

Each year the non-profit orga-nization selects a group of suc-cessful APA women leaders to at-tend three one-week training sessions throughout the year. objective of the program is to provide a nurturing curriculum that helps the fellows further develop skills needed to be ethical and caring leaders in their communities. After completing their training, the fellows are expected to develop and implement a project that positively changes the lives of at least 25 APA women.

The 2000 fellows include: Juli-et Arboleda Beezley (La Mesa, CA), principal for Training and Development Resources; Vida Development Resources; Vida Benavides (San Leandro, CA) community affairs consultant Mervina Cash-Kaeo (Honolulu) deputy director of the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii; Esther Paik Goodhart (Demarest, NJ), come-dienne; D.J. Ida (Denver), direc-tor of Child and Adolescent Services for the Asian Pacific Development Center; Daphne Kwok (Washington, DC); executive director for the Organization of Chinese Americans; Debra Chinese Americans; Debra Nakatomi (Santa Monica, CA) president & CEO of Nakatomi & Associates, Inc.; Anna Rhee (Washington, DC), director of Re-ligious Affairs for the Children's Defense Fund; Yasuko Sakamoto Kowalchuk (Los Angeles, CA), di-rector of Social Service Department for Little Tokyo Service Center, Jean Sun Shaw (New Center, Jean Sun Shaw (New York, NY), psychotherapist and career counselor, Diane Yen-Mei Wong (San Francisco, CA) writer and editor; Linda Yamauchi (Rosemead, CA) consumer affairs manager for Southern California

The organization provides the ally national leadership enrich-ent initiative for APA women. ment initiative for APA women.
"We offer our fellows space for reflection to probe "Who am I?,"
What do I want to do next?,"
How can I contribute to the common good?," Lee said. "This soulsearching, combined with leadership enhancement training, is invaluable in cultivating truly dynamic leaders

namic leaders."

Applications for the class of 2001 can be obtained by contacting APAWLI at 303/399-8899, by e-mail at sapawli@apawli.org, or visit the Web site at www.apawli.org.

Lessons in Democracy -The National JACL Education Web Site

The following is an article submitted by one of the 30 grant re-cipients of the California Civil Liberties Public Education Pro-

CCLPEP is a three-year program created in 1998 to pro-vide the California with information and education on the Japanese American experi ence before, during and immedi-ately after World War II.

Information concerning CCLPEP or any of the specific grant programs funded by CCLPEP can be obtained by con-tacting Diane Matsuda, program director, CCLPEP, 900 N Street, #300, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916/653-9404, dmatsuda@library.ca.gov.

The National JACL recently received funding from the Cali-fornia Civil Liberties Public Education Program to create a web-site to benefit all residents in the State of California

The focal point of this site will be to examine how Asian Americans and other victims are im-pacted by the historical and current instances of limitations of freedom, which have been manifested by bigotry and intolerance.
"The World War II incarcera-

tion experience of the Japanese Americans will serve as a centerpiece of the site and a launching point for a broader discussion of the impact of individuals and institutional racism," said National Executive Director John

This Web site will offer various features including a lesson plan center, a resource center which will provide summary overviews of JA history and a resource list of books and videos.

In addition, the JACL curricu-lum and resource guide, "A Les-son in American History: The Japanese American Experience," will be available to download or update online, as well as links to other organizations and JACL

It is hoped that these resources will encourage teachers to incor-porate lessons posted on the Web site. A link to the California De-partment of Education's Standards and Assessment Division will also be available for teachers

with inquiries about state stan-dards and curriculum planning.
"Not only do we find this a valuable tool and resource for teachers but we also look at this site as a place where parents and their children can visit to use as a resource and to work on a school project together and discuss their own family history about the camps," said Tateishi.

For further information, contact Beth Au, PSW regional director, 213/636-4471 or e-mail her at PSW@jacl.org.

JANM's Irene Hirano to **Keynote Tulelake Reunion IV**

Irene Hirano, executive director of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, will be the keynote speaker at the Tulelake Reunion IV on Sept. 8-9 at the Duble-Tree Hotel in Sacramen.

The Sacramento Jan
Ken Po Gakko Players
will be presenting a show entitled, "We, The People," which
narrates the story of late activist

y Bukamoto.

so present at the reunion
will be volunteers from
JANM and their vast
array of books and merchandise as well as
their database relating
to the information of
each individual and
family who were evacuated in 1942. In addi-

tion, Florence Hongo's AACP, Inc., suppliers of Asian American books will have a display.

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lina Houston, Playwrigh



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By Harry Honda

Eloquence of Nisei Teenagers in the 1930s

IXTY-EIGHT years Japan Times correspondent Paul Tsunegoro Hirohata collected speeches and essays from 48 Nisei students then attending pub-

Nisci students then attending public schools in California for his book, "Orations & Essays by the Japanese Second Generation of America," published in 1932.

"The collection of speeches, essays and poetry by grammar through college-aged students gives an intimate and fascinating glimpse into what was on the minds and hearts of Japanese Americans in the "30s," remarks Hirohata's granddaughter. Jove Hirohata's granddaughter, Joyce Hirohata. The subsequent events Hirohata. The subsequent events of World War II and the intern-ment (makes) these compositions all the more poignant and ironic ... [as] to how patriotic these young citizens were. Reading the essays one can't help wonder."

one can't help wonder."

To sayor this precious piece of Nisei history by republishing the book, updated with photographs, biographies and stories of what happened to them, Joyce wants to happened to them, soyce wants to hear from persons who have known her grandfather, the stu-dents (check their excerpts below), a surviving relative, friends or classmates. What follows may be enough to coax some remembrances for Joyce's project. You can contact Joyce at 510/336-2481 or e-mail her at hirohata@earth

Florence Akiyama (Sanger High, '32): What High School Means to Me— High school education is like an unpol-ished gem which each groduate receives [each] will be polished in different ways and sent their rays in different di-

Mary Fukaye Asada (Selma High, thusiasm — For so long as en-m lasts, so long will youth en-

Chizuko Doi (Edison Tech, Fresno): The woman of today has come of age: the woman of 1800 was a child in com-

Kozue Fujikawa (Burroughs Jr. High, Burbank, '33): In Japan, books

High, Burbank, '33): In Japan, books are valued as treasured possessions, treated with respect.

Doris Fujisawa (Audubon Jr. High, Los Angeles, '32): Influence of the Olympic Games — Other races had lived under a four-orable conditions (as the ancient Greeks) and had not actioned the energy possible.

ined the same results. Haruko Fujita (Arcadia Grammar, ATTURO Fujita (Arcana Grammar, 32): Why Japanese Came to America— Now we find California the melting pot of the two currents of civilization. Hidemitsu Ginoza (Fowler High, 32): George Washington and the Con-stitution—He showed his abiding faith in our nations future and its records.

our nation's future and its people.
Jimmie C. Hamasaki (Santa

Maria Union High, '34): Citizenship — The only true citizenship is the love of country with a lofty conception of what the Nation should be.

the Nation should be.

James H. Hashimoto (Long Beach
Poly, '34): Equality of Opportunities in
Education — But where in all the
world can the lowly,' the poor, the foreigner be welcomed into the rich opportunities afforded by the public schools
more cordially than in America?

Yoshiko Higuchi (Monterey Union High, 32): Women and World Peace — Probably in the near future, the Pacific will be the central stage of internation

will to the control of the control o

Helen Hirata (San Bernardino Jr. College, '32): Let the voice of service be-come so integral a part of ourselves that every fiber of our bodies reacts to its

call

Matilde S. Honda (Brawley Union
High, 33). Do I love learning? How well
can I read! Is my family backing me!
Can I poy the price! ..., After onswering
such self-inquiries, is one sufficiently
repeared to answer the paremount
question — 'Shall I go to college?'
Ayame Lehiyasu (San Francisco
High of Commerce, 33). Valedictorian

Memories the priceless treasure of

— Memories, the priceless treasure of youth, which neither gold nor jewels

can buy ... will be most sucred.

George Inagaki (Sacramento
High, 32): Future of California — It is
in the hands of youth today to prepare
California for the responsibilities which
will be hers when she becomes the cultural and industrial leader of the Na-

Charles Inouye (Sequoia High, Redwood City, 32): I do not know that it is for all of us to achieve success, but we all have had an extraordinary opportunity to do so

Shizu Komae (Lafayette Jr. High, Los Angeles, '31): Festivals of Japan —

Los Angeles, '311' Festivals of Japan — Like the carp, Japanese boys are taught they must go through the stream of life and overcome all difficulties. Pearl Kurokawa '(Arroyo Grand Bugh, '32) We must not allow this phase of education to become idle. Mitsue Matsumunue (Salinas Central Grammar, '32): Salutatorian — This motto, 'Success Through Effort,' has carried us through odds — through thick and thin.

thick and thin.

Mary Toshiko Miyamoto (Clovis
Union High, '33): Of the High Sierras

—There is no line of poetry more full of
meaning than the beginning of the
121st Paalm: I will lift up mine eyes
unto the hills from whence cometh my

unto the hills from whence cometh my help."

Kiyoshi Murakami (Gardena High, 34: Of Hoover Diam — The economic aspect involved will easily outbalance the engineering feats.

Goro Murata (Montebello High, 25): Americans have experienced something of the reality of ideal — that civilization is the among he accomplisher.

lization is the capacity for cooperation.

Yoshimi Nagayama (Gardena
High, '34): Public Domain — Perhaps you have never thought of the conserva-tion of national resources as being re-lated to monopoly or big business about

Hoover Dam.

Michiko Naito (Lovell Grammar, 34): Education is a plant that never stops growing If only its owner tends it a little.

tla little.

Jimmy Nakamura (Jefferson High, Los Angeles, '27) We must grow in knowledge and character. This, indeed, is the fundamental purpose of ed.

ueedion.

set is the julimination by the process of each cuestion.

set is the julimination of the process of each cuestion of control of the process of the parting of the process of the

Ayami Onaka (Fowler High, '33): Ayami Onaka (Fowler High, 33). The happies people are those who think the most interesting thoughts (unkich) can lie only in cultivated minds. They are not only happy in themselves, they are the cause of happi-ness in others. Sakaye Saiki (Katella School, Ana-heim, 32) Valedictorian — We have paddled together up to now, but each must row alone into the deeper chan-nels to come.

nels to come. Kazuya Sanada (University High,

By Brian Niiya



Who Plays

was, I suppose, only a matter of time. Recently, an article apof time. Recently, an article appeared in the Los Angeles Times which focused on Japanese American basketball leagues. As one might expect, the article had a largely negative tone, centering on the issue of eligibility, on how a group that had once been discriminated against was now discriminating against others. Similar stories on Americans of Japanese ancestry (AJA) baseball here in Hawai' i had appeared a few years back.

(A) A) basecian here in riawan i had appeared a few years back. Which raises the question: do these leagues where eligibility is determined by ethnic origin have a

place in our community today?

The roots of AJA baseball in
Hawai and JA basketball on the mainland go back a long time. Hawai`i AJA teams and leagues go back to the turn of the last century. The AJA leagues grew in the con-text of the multi-ethnic Hawaii Baseball League; the AJA leagues provided an opportunity for JA players who weren't quite as skilled to play and develop their games. For various reasons, the HBL even-tually folded, while the AJA base-ball leagues continue to exist. It is

ball leaguer continue to exist. It is because they are the best organized amateur leagues in Hawai' that non-JAs want to play in them. On the mainland, JA football, baseball, and basketball leagues go back to at least the 1830s. While baseball might have been the most popular before the war, basketball became the mainland JA sport after the war. As with AJA baseball in Hawai', the explosion of teams and leagues in the 1870s and beyond gave JA players who weren't good leagues in the 15/0s and 25/0s gave JA players who weren't good enough to play on high school teams or in mainstream leagues the opportunity to play and to improve. Leagues for girls and women formed alongside leagues for boys and men. Also as with Hawai i AJA and men. Also as with Hawai' AJA
baseball, the appeal of the basketball leagues went well beyond the
field or court: they became a way of
life for communities, serving to link
ethnic communities in different
parts of the country, providing
recreation for teenagers in a family
friendly setting, and reinforcing elements of JA culture.

I believe these JA leagues do still

have a place today. They are among the only places where younger JAs willingly maintain a connection with their ethnic community and ethnic identity. As a child of ethnic studies, I believe it is good that young people grow up with an awareness of who they are and where they come from. For young men, these sport leagues can foster a positive sense of self in a world that can be emasculating for Asian men. For young women, being ac-tive in sport has many benefits too numerous to list here

numerous to list here.
However, I also believe that the
JA leagues do need to change with
the times. I don't believe that defining eligibility by race is necessary or
desirable in order to maintain a JA sensibility in the leagues. Culture is not a matter of race

I have previously suggested that JA sport leagues issue a culture test to all who want to play, if players can answer a few basic questions on JA culture, they can play. While I was kidding about it, that is sort of the dilemma for these leagues: how to allow non-JA friends who have close ties to the community while disallowing ringers brought on only because of their skills. One league in Southern California does it by in Southern California does it by only allowing non-JAs to play as adults who played as children. The idea is that someone who played in a Buddhist church leaque at age seven must have assimilated some degree of JA-ness, and is unlikely to be a ringer as an adult. Most JA basketball leagues also allow a small but growing number of Asian Americans, which acknowledges the rise of pan-Asian Americanism. the rise of pan-Asian Americanism

the rise of pan-Asian Americanism. George Johnston of the Rafu Shimpo also suggests changing the name of the leagues to something like the '58" and under Buddhahead Basketball League. While he is no doubt being fiscitious, the notion of incorporating elements of JA culture into league names and having an overt JA historical/cultural educational component to youth teams in particular makes all kinds of sense. If a non-JAs wants to play for the 'Manizanar' team in the 'Nikkei League' and willingly learn about JA history and culture along the way, why not jet her?

For now, the controversy raised by the *L.A. Times* article and the AJA baseball challenges of a few years back have faded away. But I'm sure the issues will come up I'm sure the issues will come up again. I hope the leagues continue to change with the times. But I also hope my daughter will still be able to play in one when she is old

Brian Niiya is a member of the Honolulu chapter of JACL.

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Los Angeles, 35) Crucial changes in edation must move in an atmosphere of vedom — unhampered by worn-out ademic standards. Yuriko Sanwo (Kerman High, 33):

[School] aims first and foremost to widen the scope of knowledge; second, to stimulate mental activity; third, to

to stimulate mental activity; third, to preserve good health.

Aiko Sawada (San Juan Bautista Grammar School, '32): We can never re-pay our teachers, for money does not ex-

press feelings.

Ida Shimanouchi (McKinley Jr.

Ida Shimanouchi (McKinley Jr. High, Passágna): True, men have fought one another for a cause. But it is equally true that men have been friend-by for a cause. Lincoln Shimidru (Lafayette Jr. High, Los Angeles, 30): The Mayan Riddle — What disaster befell this an-cient me that was sturtly in body and been of mind?

cient race that was some theen of mind?

Roku Sugahara (Manual Arts High, Los Angeles, '30): This devil (crime) finds easy access to the hearts of young people. The spirit 'to get away with it,' I believe, is the cause of this standard.

with it." I believe, is the cause of this rime problem.

Jimmsie Tabata (Monterey Union High, 33): Prospects of Foreign Trade.

— An eminent Chinese statesman once remarked, that if every (40) million) people of China were to increase the length of his shirt by one inch, the cot-ton mills of the world would not be suf-ficient to meet the increased demands. Such a market staggers the imagina-tion.

To Shio Yamagata (Fowler High, 33). Unless we earn the right to our place in the comminity and willing to assume our share of the responsibility in the great game of life, we are not good citizens under the laws of society.

Frank Yamakoshi (Gilroy High, 32) Let us do our utmost and show our parents our appreciation for our ducation and what is has taught us.

Norio Yasaki (Foehay Jr. High, Los Angeles): The two great missions of

Norio Yasaki (Foehay Jr. High, Los Angeles): The two great missions of (school), as I see it, are first to give its students the ability to choose good things from bad things, and second, to give its students the opportunity to ex-periment with what he has learned. Dorothy Chiye Yoshida (Sweet-water High, National City, '32: One day every usek [Mahitam Gandhi] keeps complete silence, not broken un-der any circumstances.

der any circumstances.

Michiko Voshithashi (Thomas Starr King Jr. High, Los Angeles, 32):
The one thing that constitutes world progress is the extension of the peace

Kameko Yoshioka (Edison Tech, Fresno, 32): Why Study the English Language — It has become a part of us and helps to identify us as Americans.

Katsumi Yoshizumi (San Pedro

High, '32): Make our harbor the front door of America. ■

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Letters to the Editor

The Dark Side of the Congressional Medal of **Honor Awards**

Readers attention is directed to the August 2000 issue of Military magazine and an article written by NCCM C.R. (Corky) Johnson, (Ret.) titled "Sign Up for a Medal" in which he writes about the June 22, 2000, White House ceremony in which President Clinton awarded 22 Congressional Medals of Honor to 22 Asian Americans for heroism during World War II.

Following are excepts from Johnson's article:

Tim going to call Thursday, 22

Johnson's article:
Tim going to call Thursday, 22
June, 2000, a second 'Ray That
Will Live in Infamy! That's the
date our great leader handed out
22, that's right, 22 Medals of Honor! All 22 recipients had received
the Army Distinguished Service
Cross for heroism under fire during
unsur

Clinton and other top military officials said the event, with the most medals ever awarded at one time, was intended to correct a 50year injustice stemming from racism and fear in the WWII era year injustice stemming from reasism and fear in the WWII era. These recipients were all Asian Americans, with Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-HI) at the head of the line. Well, I don't buy it! It cheapens our nation's highest award for bravery under fire. Anyone with an ounce of sense should be able to see this move was made for political reasons, pure and simple. It would be different if Clinton was sincere in his act. I don't believe he was. This man will go be any lengths to get votes. It wasn't too long ago that he pardoned all those Puerto Rican terrorists. because they were innocent? No, to get the Puerto Ricans to yote for Hillary in her Senate race. Now, I guess he'll call in his marker on the Asians in New York.

York ...
"Playing fast and loose with the presentation of awards in this manner is disgraceful. It's a slap in the face and cheapens the awards which have previously been award-ed to real warnors down where the real warriors down where the and mud flowed."

niood and mud flowed."
Military magazine, published by
MHR Publishing Corp. in Sacramento, Calif. and edited by Michael
Mark shows that not all Americans
approve of the awards, especially to
AAs, including Japanese Americons.

Johnson's reference to Puerto Rican terrorists fails to recognize the different Puerto Rican political factions that represent three views: one to continue their commonwealth status; one to break away and become an independent coun-try and one to become the 51st state of the union.

certainly the terrorists could not represent all Puerto Ricans living in New York nor could they be one voting bloc supporting Hillary Clin-ton. And to "call in his marker on the Asians in New York" isn't necessary since most Asians are De-mocrats and represent only a very small voting bloc for Hillary, hard-ly a practical motive for Clinton to ard 22 CMHs.

award 22 CMHs.
Further, denying that the CMH
awardees were not "real warriors
down where the blood and mud
flowed" not only insults the Nisei
soldiers who fought and died in Europe but any combat veteran of any

war.

The presence of such bigotry directed against those Nisei we consider to be heroes is particularly offensive. For people like Johnson, the best way to counter them is for them to know the truth.

And so the struggle goes on.

The Hatchimonic

Hats Off

I would like to comment on a let-ter to the editor by Don Matsuda, president of Club 100, that ap-peared in the Aug. 11-17 issue of the Pacific Citizen, wherein he, as a mainlander, states that the Ameri-

cans of Japanese Ancestry (AJA) in Hawaii were responsible for the formation of the 100th and 442nd. No one will argue that the AJAs from Hawaii played a significant role in forming the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Now let's look at the situation the Niesi in the United States.

Now let's look at the situation of the Nisei in the United States Army after December 7, 1941, most of whom were draftees sta-tioned on the West Coast. After Pearl Harbor, some were dis-charged as enemy aliens, stripped of their weapons, placed under sus-pticion and guarded or summarily discharged without cause. Those remaining in uniform.

discharged without cause.

Those remaining in uniform, some 3,500, were stationed along the West Coast, from Fort Lewis, Wash, to Camp Roberts, Calif, and beyond.

As the forced evacuation of all AJAs on the West Coast was initiated, so were AJAs in uniform moved inland by rail, under guard with shades drawn. By mid-spring of 1942, these Nisei, still in uniform, were assigned menial housekeeping and administrative non-combat-type duties in the Midwest.

when the Army announced the tivation of the 442nd in January When the Army announced the ectivation of the 442nd in January 1942, the mainland Nisei were called upon to provide the cadre, the training staff, for the RCT. These men, the majority of whom were non-commissioned officers, were placed in a position where true loyalty to our country could be affirmed by disregarding their family situation in concentration camps, as well as their previous position as suspects in uniform while stationed on the West Cost. There were no dissenting voices when their names appeared on the cadre list, and subsequently transferred to Camp Shelby. This was a "make it or break it" situation for the Nisei.

enviable combat record of the 100th in Italy paved the way for the 442nd to complete its required training and team up with

the 100th.

Mike Masaoka played a significant role in the War Department
and the Army's decision to reclassiry eligible dryft age men in concentration camps from 4C to 1A so
they would qualify as filler personnel and later replacements for both
the 442nd and the 100th as combat
casualties started to secalate. the 442nd and the 100th as combat casualties started to escalate. These young Nisei who lost their freedom, liberty and rights as U.S. citizens to rise up and place their lives in harm's way in the defense of our country deserve the highest respect and praise that can be be-stowed upon them. I take my hat off to every eng of them off to every one of them.

Jimmie Kanaya Col. RA, Retired Gig Harbor, WA

Keep Masaoka's Name. Creed on Memorial

A friend of mine, who is complet-ing a book about the Holocaust, is critical of Mike Masaoka and the critical of Mike Masaoka and the JACL for what they allegedly failed to do during World War II. He has devoted a chapter to the Japanese American evacuation and interament, which he says has political parallels with the Jewish experience in Germany. He further claims that Masaoka and the JACL could have stopped the evacuation by forming a coalition with groups willing to protest the evacuation orders.

ders.
While I don't believe this could have been possible, let's assume that the JACL could have somehow prevented the evacuation and subprevented the evacuation and sub-sequent interment of the 120,000 JAs during WWII. The question, as it relates to the imemorial, is this: would the memorial to patriotism have been built if the evacuation and interment had not occurred? I don't think so. It is precisely be-cause of the JA people's response to this event that made the building of this memorial, so compelling for Congress to approve.

Congress to approve.'
No other ethnic group in the United States had their constitutional rights overridden en masse, and no other group demonstrated

such loyalty and patriotism under such adverse conditions. It is true that 385 Nisei resisters of con-science refused to be drafted into the U.S. Armed Forces until their constitutional rights were restored. This is a small number, however, ared with the 33 000 JAs who ed in the U.S. Armed Forces during WWII.

during WWII.

If evacuation had been stopped, its unlikely that the segregated all Nikei 442nd Regimental Confibat Team would have been formed. Nisei would have simply been drafted and assigned to existing units in the same manner as German Americans.

Americans and Italian Americans.
The 100th Infantry Battalion
would have fought just as valiantly,
but without being attached to the
442nd, would not have garnered
the acclaim that the 100th and
442nd jointly achieved. By itself,
the military record of the 100th,
though magnificent, would not
have justified the building of a
memorial to patriotism.

have justified the building of a memorial to patriotism. By being attached to the 442nd, the 100th added to the public's perception that the Nisei fought valiantly, for the United States. The point then is that if Massaka is to take partial blame for allowing the evacuation to occur, he should also be recognized for the memorial being built, even if in a totally nega-

tive way.

More compelling is the fact that
Massoka was one of the founding
members of the Go For Broke National Veterans Association, which
launched the memorial project. Therefore, the memorial exists in large part to Masaoka's desire to e a monument to commemo rate the sacrifices of JA servicemen rate the sacrinces of JA servicemen during WWII and his efforts to lob-by Congress for it. His associates later expanded his plan and made it more inclusive of all JAs, and also changed the location from Arlington National Cemetery to the mall in Weshington D.C.

mall in Washington, D.C.
Critics of Masaoka's "Japanese
American Creed" complain that it
exhibits a plantation mentality and does not speak for the future of JAs and the greater American popula-tion in terms of advancing civil

rights and justice.

While this criticism is partly true, Masaoka wrote the creed in 1940 at a time when relations between Japan and the United States were strained, and JAs were looked upon with suspicion. Masaoka felt he needed to write the creed to show skeptical fellow Americans that JAs were just as loyal as any American, and that in the event of war with Japan, JAs could be counted upon to serve America with true American spirit and in the American way, defendant in the control of the theory of the theory of the the theory of the rights and justice and in the American way, defend-ing her against all enemies, foreign

and domestic."

Since the purpose of the memorial to patriotism is to honor the past as well as to chart a course for the future, it is not at all out of place to show the spirit and love of country which resided in much of the JA population during that time of great trial.

and domestic.

Scott Yamazaki Canton, MI

Pastile Gressen

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izen.

* "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

Adachi, Helen Shizuko, 85, Rancho Palos Verdes, August 16; Gardena-born; survived by dau-ther Ann Kubota and husband-Robert, 1 gc.; many nieces and nenhews

nephews.

Asato, Johnny Kazuyoshi,
58, Los Angeles, August 15; Okinawa-born; survived by wife
Eileen Eiko; daughters Sherry
Maki Roetman and husband Robb,
Milei M.; mother Haruko Asato of
Japan; brother Hiroyoshi of Japan;
sister Mitsu Ishiki of Japan.

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcome. 'Death Notices,' which appear in a time-fymanner at request of the family or furneral director, are published at the rate of \$19 per column inch. Text is reworded as needed.

Domoto, Yoshio "D," 79, Glen dale, August 14; Los Angeles-born; survived by wife Tomiko; brother Sam; many other relatives.

Sam; many other relatives.

Dyo, Sei, 75, Carson, August
16; El Paso, Texas-born; survived
by wife Yetsuko; sons Ronald and
wife Cindy, Gary and wife
Stephanie; daughters Janice
Hanada and husband Terry, Nancy; 5 gc.; sister Kow Takata.

cy, 5 gc.; sister Kow Takata.
Fujino, Sawaye M., Fullerton,
August 17; survived by sons Jim
and wife Elza, Roy and wife Eugenia, Ray and wife Paline, Ronnie
and wife Caryl; daughters Keiko
Sadakane and husband Nozo,
Janet Kishiyama, Kim. Pontius
and huband Ralph, Reiko Pultz
and husband Alan, Carol Curry
and husband Kim; 11 gc.; 8 ggc.;
predeceased by husband Masami.

predeceased by husband Masami.

Ikemiya, George Shigeru, 74,
Reedley, August 20; Clovis-born;
survived by wife Kikuyo, daughters Arleen Tahara and husband
Gary, Laura Taylan and husband
Ty, 3 gc; brother Joe and wife Fumiko; sister Teshiko Kawagoe.

Ishizuka, Kirk, 42, Los Angeles, August 23; survived by parents Mary and George; sisters Karen,

Katis,

Kaiso, Dorothy Asako, 86,

Torrance, August 19; Kauai-born;

survived by husband Kenneth K;

son Harry Ogawa and wife Flo
rence; daughter Marcella Onishi

and husband Henry; 4 gc; 5 gc;;

brother Larry Ichimasa and wife

Emi; sisters Jane Dodson, Daisy

Morita and husband Haru, Clara

Shirinim.

Kato, Hitoshi T., 85, Fountain Kato, Hitoshi I., 85, Fountain Valley, August 10; survived by wife Mari; sons Steve, Michael, Duane; daughter Jeanne Goodness and husband Nelson; 3 gc.; brother Tet-suo and wife Eiko; sister Yasuko Ohta and husband John.

Kawamoto, Roy A., 89, Los Angeles, August 20; survived by wife Marion; daughters Keimi Ogura and husband Don, Teiko Salinas and husband Moses; 3 gc.

Kozen, Seijiro T., 90, Mountain View, August 4; Livingstonborn; survived by sons Jim, Bob and wife Julia, Roy and wife Sylvia; daughter Grace; 9 gc.; predeceased by wife Masako.

Menda, John Goro, 70, Sacra-mento, August 6; survived by brothers Frank and wife Hanae, Harry Mitsuo and wife Yaeko, Arthur Shiro and wife Jean; sisters Mitsue Mukai, Joan Haruye Ariyasu and husband Bob.

Anyasu and husband Bob.

Nakahara, Wataru, 77, Oakland, August 13; survived by wife Mitsuko; sons Mark Shinji and Philip Kouji; daughters Dale Natsumi, Peggy Hidemi Watterson and husband David; brother Keisuke Nakamura and wife Higuko of Japan.

Nishi, Azuma, 70, Arcadia, Au-gust 12; survived by wife Mieko Iguchi; daughters Shannon Moedl and husband Bill, Erin Sugiyama and husband Stephan, Darby; son Parker and wife Cindy; 1 gc; pre-deceased by son Miles.

Nishimoto, Keith, 81, Madera, August 3; WWII and Korean War veteran; survived by wife Masako 'Mickey' Fujiki; daughters Judy, Joyce Wilkinson; 1 gc.; brother Sunny.

Okazaki, Isaki, 88, Fontana, August 19; Kochi, Japan born; sur-vived by son Hiroaki; daughters Hiroko Kawai and husband Yoshihiko, Keiko Isobe and husband Michael; brother Kenichi Nozaki and wife Aiko; 4 gc.
Okohira, Katherine Akie, 67,

Okohira, Katherine Akie, 67, Monterey Park, August 20; Hon-olulu-born; survived by husband Theodore Makoto; son Mark Makoto and wife Deana Harumi; 1 gc; sisters May Hiraoka, Edna Ike-da and husband Norman; brothers Kenneth and wife- Edith, Kobayakawa and wife Teruko

Toji, Katsumi, 71, San Gabriel, August 9; Seattle-born; survived by wife Kotoko; son Michael.

Tsuchida, Jack, Yoshio, 81, Sacramento, August 12; survived by sons Steve Akio and wife Reiko; Dennis Hideo and wife Alberta; brothers Mark Noboru and wife Jane Miyoko, Sam Minoru; 4 gc.

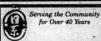
Yasumoto, Yuriye, 72, Sacramento, August 9; survived by sons Kenneth, Richard; daughter Lilian; predeceased by husband Chester Kiyoshi.

SHIGEHARU TAKAHASHI

BETHESDA, Mary.—Shigeharu Taka-ashi, 79, who worked as an agricultural conomist for the World Bank for 26 years, BETHESUA, Many-Snigebaru Takashahi, 78,0-be worked as an agricultural economist for the World Bank for 26 years, passed away of congeister beart failure on Aug. 5. A native of San Francisco, Mr. Takahashi gradiered to Abio University at the outbreak of WWII and earned an economist degree with highest honors. He studied for his Ph.D at the Univ. of Chicago, where he won Marshall Fibel Followship. He entered the Army and taught? Jagnuses at the Army language school in Monterey, Calif. before being sent to postwar Jagnus et the Army and taught? Jagnuses at the Army language school in Monterey, Calif. before being sent to postwar Jagnus with the congular particultural economist. In Burma. During his tenure at the World Bank, he served in Pukistan and Indonesis, but also worked in the countries of Africa hange in developing economises around the world through land reforms and adjustment to agricultural policies. He retired from the World Bank in 1996, He has believed the 1994 of the World Bank in 1996, and remained married for 34 years until her death in 1984. Mr. Takhashhi is survived by his wife of 13 years, June Takhashhi, Juney, Hatamiya (Lon) of Davis, Calif. Am Takhashhi and Tom Keleser of Betheads, Juney is stern, Kyo Takhashhi and Tom Sassaki and Jon and Geonge Hatamiya; sisters, Kyo Takhashhi and Tom Sassaki of San Francisco and tal 30 pm.



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LAWSUIT

(Continued from page 1)

of the case. "It will be related to the labor and with just interest rate that would be found to be appropriate by the court," he said.

ate by the court," he said.

In the recent reparations cases involving Nazi Holocaust victims, in which Fisher took part, settlements from Swiss banks and German and Austrian companies to-taled between \$6 billion to \$7 bil-

He added they are also working on six other cases to be filed in the near future against various Japan-ese corporations and possibly the

Japanese government.
Supporting the lawsuit is the Global Alliance for Preserving the History of World War II in Asia, a California-based, non-governmen-tal agency with 46 chapters world-

wide.

Trom the Chinese or victims standpoint, this case is very simple, said Ignatius Ding, Global Aliance spokesperson. If the Japanese government and the right wing, including businesses, continuated the result of the proper parameter of the results of the r ue to say this never happened, then the victims will continue to pursue this. It's as simiple as that."

this. It's as simiple as that."

Last September, a similar lawsuit was filed in a California court
by three American former prisoners of war against Mitsubishi. That
same month, 500 American former
POWs filed a class action lawsuit
in U.S. District Court in Albuquerque, N.M. against five Japanesse companies including Mitsui
and Mitsubishi.

Plaintiffs

Plaintiffs
Appearing with Fisher were
three of the plaintiffs in the case —
Zhang Chang Chao, 69, Ou-Zong
Xuan, 68; and Huang Boshi, 70. All
three were forced to work for Mitsui on Hai Nan Island, China as

sui on Hai Nan Island, China as children. According to the lawsuit, Zhang, then a 10-year-old, was forced to work for Mitsui from 1939 to 1945. With the help of the Japanese army, Mitsui allegedly took over Zhang's village of Guotang, posting

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the suit alleges that Mitsui began to require a certain quota of grain and rubber to be given to the com-pany without compensation. On one occassion in 1944, Zhang had injured his foot while working in the fields and became unable to produce the rubber quota. When the Mitsui superview found out produce the rubber quota. When the Mitsui supervisor found out about Zhang's shortfall, the super-visor allegedly best Zhang so hard that he slipped into a coma for three days. The incident left Zhang with permanent scars on his head, and to this day, he suffers frequent

headaches.
Ou Zong Xuan was captured by Ou Zong Xuan was captured by Japanese soldiers in 1943 and forced to work for Mitsui. Among the slave labor work she was forced to perform entailed building a bridge. Ou also underwent a number of severe beatings by Mitsui workers, permanently affecting her arms and hands. In 1999, Ou re-quired hospitalization for her in-

Huang Boshi was captured by Japanese forces in 1942, and was forced to work in the coal mines op-erated by Mitsui. Huang's legs are covered with scars from beatings she endured at the hands of Mitsui

Potential Backlash Against

Japanese Americans
Regarding potential backlash against Japanese Americans, Fisher said, "This is not a case against Japanese Americans. This is Japanese Americans. This is wartime history, of a large corporation that profited by exploitation ...
I think that one thing that will help is the support of people in the Japanese community who are

Japanese community who are working with us to support this effort in San Francisco and Los Angeles and elsewhere.

"The exposure of the Holocaust is not a condemnation of German Americans," said Ding. "So this litigation against Japanese businesse has nothing to do, with Japanese Americans. Japanese Americans are Americans like any

are Americans. Japanese Americans are Americans first just like any other ethnic Americans."
To illustrate the point that the fear against backlash was unfounded, Ding noted that there was no anti-JA sentiment when Califor-nia state Assemblyman Mike Honnia state Assemblyman Mike Hon-da last year introduced Assembly Joint Resolution 27, which called for Japan to offer an apology and compensation to survivors of WWII-era atrocities committed by YIII-era atrocities committed by

Japan.
The resolution was passed last "The resolution was passed last August. Did you see any discrimnation?" said Ding. "The facts speak for themselves. This unfounded fear is the same as the one back in 1988 when there was a push for reparations. Some of the people said, 'Don't rock the boat!' But when the checks came, they cashed the \$20,000. It's the same cashed the \$20,000. It's the same bunch of yeeople. They just don't have the vision or the foresight, so they need to be educated." Ding further blasted any rumors that Honda had introduced AJR 27

in an effort to attract campaign

"That wasn't the case," said Ding. "We weren't even aware that

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LEE

(Continued from page 1)

Last week, Lee's lawyers reiter-ated before the judge that he was singled out because he is Asian. They also got an FBI agent whose testimony had been key in deny-ing him bail to acknowledge that he had given inaccurate testimo-

ne had given inaccurate testimo-ny against Lee.

Meanwhile, the prosecution has denied racial profiling and asked the court to reject the disclosure

Chief prosecutor George Stamboulidis argued that Lee could help someone build a bomb or help another country bolster its nuclear program if he is released from jail. "The breadth of harm is so great that ... even a reduced risk is too great to take that gam-ble," he said.

However, defense attorney Mark Holscher told the judge

he was doing this. He went to a photo exhibit, and he was really photo exhibit, and he was really outraged by what he saw He later contacted us for additional infor-mation. That's how we found out about it. He decided to do this on his own. He did not come because someone lobbied him. That's why I someone loppied him. I nats why i say they should be proud of Mike instead of looking down on him because he really stands for justice and honor."

there is no evidence Lee "has the political motivation, the financial motivation or the destructive in-tent" to do anything harmful with the material he is accused of downloading.

downloading.

The defense contends that materials Lee allegedly mishandled were not classified secret at the time. They were labeled "Protect As Restricted Data" (PARD), calli-

ing for lower levels of security.

The prosecution responded that while the materials were labeled while the materials were labeled PARD, 19 files and one tape con-tained information that had high-er classifications, "secret restrict-ed data" (SRD) and "confidential restricted data" (CRD). Earlier this month, the govern-

Earlier this month, the govern-ment submitted supplemental al-legations against Lee, which said he repeatedly sought access to a secure area of the lab even after his electronic access badge, was deactivated by lab officials Dec. 23, 1938. Prosecutors want to in-clude the proposed allegations in Lee's trial, scheduled to begin Nov 6. Granting hail to Wen Ho Lee is

a major victory and a step for-ward, but it is not the end," said Diane Chin, executive director of Chinese for Affirmative Action and a member of the Coalition Against Racial and Ethnic Scape-goating (CARES). "We will continue to work to ensure that Wen Ho Lee receives fair treatment and a fair trial."



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