

Pacific Citizen

Newsstand: 25¢

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

#2932/ Vol. 131, No. 13 ISSN: 0030-8579

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

SEPT. 15-21, 2000

Lee's Release Delayed Again

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.—The expected release of Wen Ho Lee was delayed Sept. 11 as prosecutors and Lee's defense team haggled over a plea deal that would release the jailed Los Alamos nuclear scientist.

U.S. District Judge James Parker gave no reason for putting off a scheduled hearing until Sept. 13. Lee's daughter, Alberta, left the packed courtroom in tears and her mother, Sylvia, appeared dazed. Defense attorneys declined to comment, as did Justice Department officials in Washington.

The 80/20 Initiative, a political action committee which endorsed Vice President Al Gore for president, also filed an amicus brief.

Under the deal described Sept. 10 by government sources, Lee was expected to drop allegations that he was targeted because he is Chinese, claims included in a lawsuit against the FBI and the U.S. Departments of Energy and Justice. His attorney, Brian Sun, said the lawsuit is "still viable."

According to sources, Lee had agreed to plead guilty to only one of 59 counts accusing him of violating national security. His sentence was to be the nine months he has already served in solitary confinement. In exchange for his freedom, Lee was expected to explain what he knows about seven computer tapes he was accused of downloading.

"The issue here is—are we getting the tapes back and we find out what happened to those tapes. I think that is the key," Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tenn., before the postponement was announced.

The 60-year-old Lee was accused of downloading the "crown jewels" of U.S. nuclear weaponry. But the government has since backed down from nearly all charges. Sources said Lee agreed to plead guilty to one count of unlawful gathering of national de-

fense information, to aid federal investigators over the next six months, and drop the claims that prosecutors went after him because he is Chinese American. Lee is a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in Taiwan.

"He deserves a national apology," said John Vance, a safety engineer at Los Alamos National Laboratory. "The president of the United States should call him in and apologize on national television for the damage that's done."

The lab considers Lee, who worked for the lab for more than 21 years, as retired. A spokesman said Lee is getting a pension.

Lee was fired from Los Alamos in March 1999 and nine months later was formally accused of downloading restricted nuclear data to unsecured computers and tapes. Lee has been jailed since Dec. 10 and faced life in prison if convicted of all 59 counts.

The case began disintegrating last month at Lee's bail hearing. FBI agent Robert Messner, whose testimony was key in denying Lee bail originally, said he repeatedly erred in that testimony.

Scientists, including a former Los Alamos lab director, also weighed in on the side of the defense, dismissing the importance of the information Lee was accused of mishandling. One scientist said "99 percent" of the information was available anywhere.

A week later, Parker agreed to release Lee on \$1 million bail, saying information presented by the government "no longer has the requisite clarity and persuasive character necessary" to keep Lee in jail until trial. Parker ordered the government to produce documents to help determine whether Lee was targeted because of his race and he outlined his reasons for favoring bail.

"What the government described in December 1999 as the 'crown jewels' of the United States nuclear weapons program no longer is so clearly deserving of that label," he wrote. ■

'Rabbit in the Moon' Wins Emmy Award

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

Emiko and Chizu Omori, producers of the controversial documentary "Rabbit in the Moon," became the first Japanese Americans to receive an Emmy for achievement in historical programming, taking home one of television's most prestigious awards on Sept. 6.

"Rabbit in the Moon" (P.O.V./American Documentary Inc.), which aired in July of 1999 on PBS, was named Outstanding Historical Program at the 21st Annual News and Documentary Emmy Awards presented by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences in New York at the Marriott Marquis Hotel.

The news and documentary awards ceremony preceded the televised prime-time Emmy Awards which took place in Los Angeles on Sept. 10.

"It was just a real thrill to win this award," said Chizu. "It's a feeling of validation that the outside community is starting to pay attention to our community."

The Omoris co-received the Emmy along with "Searching for the Promised Land" (ABC News—The Century), a news program featuring correspondent Peter Jennings.

The other nominees in their category were "The Black Press: Soldiers Without Swords" (PBS History's Best) and "The Johnson Tapes: Uncivil Liberties" (TLC). Recipients were chosen by panels of prominent newsmakers from more than 1,500 eligible entries. The format of the awards was such that there was a possibility of multiple winners or no winners in each respective category.

"The fact that a story about the internment was given an award by the press at large, I felt honored by that," said Emiko, who



PHOTO: DARLEEN RUBIN/TRIPLE RATE
Emiko and Chizu Omori, co-producers of the documentary "Rabbit in the Moon," show off their two-look, four-pound Emmy Award, which they received for achievement in historical programming.

co-produced as well as directed the documentary. "There was a lot of sweet irony in it."

"It's really about what history remains and who tells it. It's hard to get mainstream media to get interested in Asian Americans unless it's a 'spy' case," she said ironically, referring to the Wen Ho Lee investigation.

"But I hope it gets across that [the internment] was a terrible thing that happened. It was about people's lives. Lives were ruined, lives were derailed, and it should never be forgotten. I just want that to be recognized by the mainstream," she stressed.

In addition to the Emmy, "Rabbit" has received awards from the American Historical Association and the American Anthropological Association and won Best Cinematography at the 1999 Sundance Film Festival.

"I'm very happy for the Omori

sisters," said Mits Koshiyama, a member of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee who was featured in the documentary. "Finally, a lot of the Nisei are finding out the other side of the story. Much of Japanese American history has been told from one side. Something like 'Rabbit' shows there are two sides to every story and people are willing to listen to it."

"I had hoped that it would be recognized, but I thought there would be outside pressures saying 'Rabbit' was too one-sided. I'm sure the judges didn't let politics get in the way," Koshiyama said.

Frank Emi, who was also interviewed in the documentary as a leader of the Heart Mountain resistance movement, said the film's relevance is that "it tells part of the camp-era story that

See RABBIT/page 8

California Board of Equalization Member John Chiang Clarifies Tax on Recalled Firestone Tires

John Chiang, California Board of Equalization member, announced on Sept. 6 that California consumers should not be charged a sales tax or tire recycling fee when they receive tires at no charge as replacements for the recalled Firestone tires.

Regardless of who installs the tires, or whether Firestone tires or any other brand of tires are used for replacement, no sales tax is

due. The retailer replacing the tires is acquiring the tires for resale and distributing them as a warranty replacement as part of the original sales transaction.

In situations where a consumer wants to purchase upgraded tires above the value of the original Firestone tires, sales tax is due only on the amount paid by the consumer for the upgraded tires, not the entire tire amount. A tire recycling fee is due.

For more information, call Chiang's office at 213/239-8506. Staff is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. ■

LTSC CDC Aids Small APA Businesses

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

Don't speak English but want to start a small business and don't know where to start? Have questions on how to utilize new technology to enhance your small business?

If you live in Los Angeles, chances are the Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation (LTSC CDC) can help you out.

Through a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, LTSC CDC partnered with four other Los Angeles-based, long-established APA agencies—Chinatown Service Center, Thai CDC, Korean Youth and Community Center and the Search to Involve Filipino Americans—to form the Asian Pacific Islander Small Business Program (API SBP), whose purpose is to assist immigrant-owned and small businesses in the various APA communities.

Multilingual business counselors work directly with those wanting to open a business by providing workshops, individualized business counseling, access to capital and links to other public and private small business services. Most, if not all, services are free.

Other major grants include funds from the Merrill Lynch & Co. Foundation, BankAmerica Foundation and the Wells Fargo Foundation. Within the Little Tokyo commu-

nity, LTSC CDC recently hired bilingual business counselor Nancy Kikuchi, who has 10 years of experience in the real estate sector.

"What I found is that when you look at the different business counselors in the different communities, they all have some kind of strength," said Kikuchi. "In the Thai community, the counselor's strength is import/export. At the Chinatown Service Center, the counselor's expertise is working with 'C' and 'B' graded restaurants [by the Los Angeles County Health Services Department] to upgrade them to an 'A'."

Since restaurant owners comprise a large part of Little Tokyo, LTSC CDC, along with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, the Little Tokyo Business Association and L.A. County Health Services, co-sponsored a seminar on the proper handling of sushi rice. More than 25 local restaurant owners came out to this seminar which covered everything from the proper temperature of sushi rice to storage.

"I've never seen so many hands go up asking about sushi rice because if a county inspector comes and the temperature is wrong, they have to throw the whole batch away," said Kikuchi.

Other times, Kikuchi helps non-English speaking, would-be business owners fill out the various city, county and state forms.

"A lot of these people are Japanese [nationals] and they'll look at an

English form and won't understand it," said Kikuchi. "So I'll sit down with them and help them fill it out."

Computer Kiosk

The most visible project by LTSC CDC has been the computer kiosk, available at the Little Tokyo Kiosk & Visitors' Center. Anyone can access the computer kiosk which has information and maps to various retail stores in Little Tokyo.

Since the computer kiosk's debut at the end of July, it has already come in handy.

During the Nisei Week festivities, a man had dropped his eyeglasses while viewing an exhibit at the Japanese American National Museum. He came into the kiosk, asking for assistance. Kikuchi searched through the computer kiosk database and was able to locate an optometrist in Little Tokyo open on Saturdays. Kikuchi called Dr. Fred Kurata's office, explained the situation, and the man was able to get his glasses fixed that day.

Another time, a woman came to the kiosk to report a stolen purse. While filling out a police report, the woman was unable to provide an address because her purse had been stolen at a sidewalk sale booth. However, by going through the computer kiosk database, Kikuchi was able to provide an approximate address of where the purse had been stolen.

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

1001/13/2/21
SUNNYVALE, CA 94085-3404
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Pacific Citizen

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JACL President: Floyd Mori, **National Director:** John Tateishi
Pacific Citizen Board of Directors: Ken Inouye, chairperson; Paul Uye-hara, EDC; Hank Tanaka, MDC; Deborah Ikeda, CCDC; Claire Omura, NCWNPCD; Elsie Taniguchi, PNWDC; Jeff Watanabe, IDC; Vacant, MPDC; Dani Uejima, PSWDC

NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.
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PACIFIC CITIZEN (ISSN: 0090-8579) is published weekly except once in December by the Japanese American Citizens League, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755. **OFFICE HOURS** — Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Pacific Time. ©2000.

Annual subscription rates: JACL MEMBERS: \$12 of the national dues provide one year on a one-per-household basis. NON-MEMBERS: 1 year—\$35, payable in advance. Additional postage per year — Foreign periodical rate \$25; First Class for U.S., Canada, Mexico: \$30; Airmail to Japan/Europe: \$60. (Subject to change without notice.) Periodicals postage paid at Monterey Park, Calif., and at additional mailing offices.

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JACL Calendar

Midwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Fri.-Sun., Sept. 22-24—District Council Meeting; Milwaukee.

CHICAGO

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

Pacific Northwest

LAKE WASHINGTON

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 23-24—Eastside Nihon Matsuri; see Community Calendar at Bellevue.

NC-WN Pacific

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sun., Sept. 5—Fourth Quarter District Board Meeting; Sonoma.
FRENCH CAMP

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

SAN MATEO

Sun., Oct. 1—2000 San Mateo JACL Golf Tournament; see Community Calendar.

Sun., Sept. 17—Lion's Club Flea Market, Central Middle School Playground, 1700 Cedar St., San Carlos. To contribute items for sale, call Mary Jo Kubota-Arcarese 650/593-7358, or Kate Motoyama, 650/574-6676

Central California

FRESNO

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

Sat., Sept. 22—Film screening/discussion, "Children of the Camps" with producer Satsuki Ina; see

Community Calendar at Clovis.

Pacific Southwest

Sat., Sept. 16—PSW Annual Awards Dinner; see Community Calendar, Los Angeles.

SANTA MARIA

Sun., Sept. 17—Santa Maria Valley chapter picnic; see Community Calendar.

WEST LOS ANGELES

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 and place of the event, and name and phone number (including area code) of a contact person.

COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast

NEW YORK

Mon., Sept. 18—President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Town Hall, "Action for Access and Partnerships in the 21st Century"; 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m., NYU Law School, Tishman Auditorium, Vanderbilt Hall, 40 Washington Square S.; Martha Choe, chair. Info: Lisa Hasegawa, 301/443-2492, Hiroko Hatanaka, 212/292-5087.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thurs.-Sat., Nov. 9-11—National Memorial to Patriotism Dedication Ceremony. Pre-registration required: NJAMF, 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 East Monroe; reception/silent auction 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m.; featuring Congresswoman Patsy Mink; Fuji Fest raffie. Reservations and raffie tickets: 773/275-7512; e-mail: jasc@iols.net.

Intermountain

SALT LAKE CITY

Sat., Sept. 30—Student presentation and discussion with Karen Narasaki, executive director of the National Asian-Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC), "Hate Crimes on Campuses: How Utah Students are Affected"; 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., University of Utah Student Union Little Theater. Info: Yas Tokita, 801/487-4567, or Diane Akiyama, 801/266-2248.

Sat., Sept. 30—Dinner presentation with Karen Narasaki, executive director of the National Asian-Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC), "Challenging Invisibility: Asian Pacific Americans and Elections 2000"; 5:30 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. keynote address, Shanghai Garden Restaurant, 188 W. 7200 S. Info: Yas Tokita, 801/487-4567, or Diane Akiyama, 801/266-2248.

The Northwest

BELLEVUE

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

SEATTLE

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 23-24—Floral and bonsai exhibit; 12 noon-5 p.m., St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 1610 S. King St.; presented by the Saga Goryu School of Ikebana. Free admission; tea will be served. Info: Nobuko Ohgi, 206/232-8736, Mary Shigaya, 206/271-0875.

Sat., Sept. 30—Nikkei Concerns' 25th

anniversary celebration/banquet; 5 p.m. social hour and silent auction, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Washington State Convention and Trade Center, 800 Convention Pl., Ballroom 6ABC; keynote speaker Lori Matsukawa, KING-5 news anchor. RSVP: Amy French, 206/726-6501, e-mail amyf@nikkeiconcerns.org.

Northern California

FRENCH CAMP

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

OAKLAND

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

SACRAMENTO

Sun., Sept. 17—Jan Ken Po Gakko Annual Arts and Crafts Fair; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sacramento Elks Lodge, 6446 Riverside Blvd.; featuring Asian arts and crafts; Info: Mary Ann Y. Kashiwagi, 916/395-2300.

SAN FRANCISCO

Fri.-Sun., Sept. 22-24—"Asian American Jazz 2000"; featuring Asian Crisis, Melody of China, Circle of Fire, Gathering of Ancestors, hip-hop animated film "Wave Twisters," tribute to the late Glenn Horuchi, more. Schedules, locations: 415/379-8879 or www.asianart.org.
Fri.-Sat., Sept. 22-23 and Thurs.-Sat., Sept. 28-30—Performance, "Rice Women," an evening of dance and music exploring the past and present of being Asian, American and female; 8 p.m., Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St. at 17th. Tickets: 415/621-9496. Info: 510/891-9496.

Wed., Sept. 27—Program, "Cause For Celebration," to benefit the Angel Island Immigration Station restoration; 5:30-8 p.m., Pacific Room, Bank of America Center, 52nd Floor, 555 California St., Charlie Chin, emcee; "Gateway to Gold Mountain" exhibit, performance by Francis Wong abed "Gathering of Ancestors," silent auction, tribute to Kathy Lim Ko. Info: 415/561-2160; fax 415/561-2162, www.aiisf.org.

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

SAN MATEO

Sun., Sept. 24—Sunday Movie Matinee, "Gone With the Wind"; 1 p.m., JACL Community Center, 415 Claremont St. Info: 650/243-2793.
Sun., Oct. 1—2000 San Mateo JACL Golf Tournament; first tee-off 10 a.m., Poplar Creek Golf Course, 1700 Coyote Point Dr.; all levels welcome, no established handicap necessary, tee prizes for all entrants. Info: Vince Asai, 650/349-3590.

Central California

CLOVIS

Fri., Sept. 22—Film screening/discussion, "Children of the Camps" with producer Satsuki Ina; 7-9 p.m., United Japanese Christian Church, 136 N. Villa Ave. Info: Roger Morimoto, 559/322-0701; Bobbie Hanada, 559/434/1662; Katsuyo Howard, 559/278-2028.

FRESNO

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

CLAREMONT

Tues., Sept. 26—Lecture, "Japanese Animation: A Secret History"; 4:15 p.m., Pomona College, Hahn Bldg. 420 N. Harvard, Rm 101. Info: 909/621-8515.

LOS ANGELES

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 Ushijima, 310/390-6914.

Sun., Sept. 24—"Going Overtime: Health and Fitness Tips From Senior Athletes"; 1-3 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. RSVP: 213/625-0414.
Sun., Sept. 24—63rd L.A. Roosevelt High School Class of 1937-38 Reunion; Montebello Country Club, 901 Via San Clemente; music by "The Time Machine," mariachi, Aztec dancers, TV coverage; cost \$50; send checks to Dave Brenner, 1700 Bagley, Los Angeles, CA 90035. Reserve early: 310/837-6582.

SANTA MARIA

Sun., Sept. 17—Santa Maria Valley chapter picnic; 12 noon-4 p.m., Pioneer Park; BBQ chicken potluck lunch, door prizes, Bingo. Info: Kaz Oye, 805/937-5776, Jerry Sakamoto, 805/740-0099.
WEST COVINA
Sat., Sept. 16—Oldies Dance IX, "Get in Line for Oldies Nine"; 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m., East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave.; ages 21 and over; music by Steve Kikuchi & High Resolution. Info: Joanne, 626/284-8192; Roy, 909/595-6183, Frank 714/890-1776.

Arizona • Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 23-24—Pacific Islands Festival Ho'olaule'a 2000; Lorenzi Park, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; crafts, food, souvenirs. Free admission. Info: _____

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World War II Asian American Veterans' Finale Set for Oct. 22

The grand finale of tributes staged to commemorate the bravery and sacrifice of the World War II Asian and Pacific Islander American veterans given the Medal of Honor by President Bill Clinton is set for Sunday, Oct. 22, from 11:30 a.m. at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills.

All seven of the living Medal of Honor recipients will attend the banquet luncheon, along with the families of the posthumous honorees.

The event, titled "Legendary Valor," will be co-hosted by the 100th/442nd MIS World War II Memorial Foundation, Japanese American National Museum and more than a dozen veterans and community groups, including organizations representing both Chinese and Filipino Americans.

The West Coast salute concludes a series of programs that began with a White House Ceremony on June 21 and continued with a weekend of tributes in Honolulu.

Among the 22 Medal of Honor recipients are 20 JAs who fought with the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Central Postal Directory, one Filipino American who served in the 7th Infantry, and a veteran of the 34th Infantry Division who remains the only Chinese American to have ever been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest honor for bravery.

Medal of Honor recipients attending the event are Rudolph B. Devila, Vista, Calif.; Barney F. Hajo, Waipahu, Hawaii; Shizuya Hayashi, Pearl City, Hawaii; U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Honolulu; Yeiki Kobashigawa, Waiwae, Hawaii; Yukio Okutsu, Hilo, Hawaii; and George T. Sakato, Denver, Colo.

Among those representing posthumous recipients will be the families of Mikio Hasemoto from Waipahu, Hawaii; Robert T. Kuroda from Aiea, Hawaii; Kaoru Moto from Makawao, Maui, Hawaii; Kiyoshi K. Muranaga from Arleta, Calif.; Masato Nakae from Kaneohe, Hawaii; Shinyei Nakamine from Waiwae, Hawaii; William K. Nakamura from El Monte, Calif.; Allen M. Ohta from Honolulu; Kazuo Otani from Fresno, Calif.; Ted Tanoyue from Rolling Hills, Calif.; and Francis B. Wai from Honolulu.

Program co-hosts also include the Go For Broke National Veterans Association, JACL, Japanese American Veterans Association, National Council of JAs Veterans, National Federation of Filipino American Associations, National Japanese American Historical Society, National Japanese American Memorial Foundation and Organization of Chinese Americans.

Additional co-hosts are the 100th/442nd Veterans Association, AJA WWII Memorial Alliance, Club 100, MIS Association of Northern California, MIS Veterans Club of Southern California, the Sacramento Nisei Memorial Post 8985 VFW and more.

Sponsors are invited to help pay for travel and hotel accommodations for the 22 Medal of Honor recipients and/or their next of kin.

Tickets for the Legendary Valor tribute are \$100 per person, and early reservations are encouraged.

The Beverly Hilton Hotel is located at Wilshire and Santa Monica Boulevards. Sponsorship and reservation information is available by calling 310/715-3141. ■

APALA Releases Voter Education Material

The Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO announced on Sept. 11 the release of a voter education material as part of APALA Vote 2000, a nationwide, non-partisan voter education campaign.

The voter education materials will be available in several Asian languages including Chinese, Korean, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

"We know from various local exit polls that members of our community vote according to the issues," said Gloria Caoile, APALA's first vice president. "Issues are both the 'push' and 'pull' factors when it comes to turning out Asian Pacific Americans to the polls. As a non-partisan project, our most important responsibility is to educate the general public on why they should be voting. We need to make the case that a lot is at stake November 7 for Asian Pacific Americans."

In conjunction with other APA organizations, APALA Vote 2000 has conducted a series of voter registration drives and 15 political education "train the trainer" programs, targeting leaders in the APA community. In addition, APALA Vote 2000 will be coordinating a number of "get-out-the-vote" projects in San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, New York, Seattle, Las Vegas and Minneapolis.

"One of the goals of APALA Vote 2000 is to go where the communities are located and educate them on what's at stake at the upcoming election," said Guy Fujimura, APALA president.

APALA, founded in 1992 with support from the AFL-CIO, is the first and only organization of APA trade unionists.

To receive copies of the voter education material, call the national office at 202/842-1263. ■



PHOTO: SAM CHU LIN

California State Assemblyman Mike Honda, a candidate for the 15th congressional seat, was endorsed by Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-San Jose) and Secretary of Commerce Norman Mineta at a recent Founders Day Parade in San Jose, Calif.

Charges of Ethnic Slurs Fly During California State Assembly Debate

California Assemblyman Mike Machado, D-Stockton was accused on Sept. 6 of slinging racial slurs at two Republicans during a heated debate in the Assembly over a water control bill.

According to the *Lodi News Sentinel*, he was heard calling state Sen. Maurice Johannessen, R-Redding, an "a--" and telling him to "go back to where he came from." Johannessen was born in Norway and speaks English with an accent.

When Johannessen advised Machado that the water control bill he was sponsoring would hurt his chances against Republican Lodi city councilmember Dr. Alan Nakanishi, in the November election for the state Senate, Machado was said to have retorted that the Republicans should "get an oppo-

nent who speaks English," apparently referring to the fact that Nakanishi is Japanese American.

Machado later said he did not recall the exchange and that he had the highest respect for Nakanishi's character. Johannessen also said he realized Machado had spoken during a tense time and he would not take the remark personally, but that it has motivated him to help Nakanishi in his campaign (against Machado).

According to the Stockton Record, when Nakanishi heard of Machado's remark he said that he was born in Sacramento (Calif.) and that perhaps his childhood in an internment camp had affected his speech. "But it was good enough for the U.S. Army and medical school." ■

Boxer Asks Clinton to Honor Nisei Baseball League

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer wrote President Clinton Sept. 1, urging him to invite the surviving members of the Nisei Baseball League to the White House. The Nisei Baseball League featured Nisei players who were barred from the major leagues because of their ethnic heritage. The Nisei League was extremely popular between 1920 and the outbreak of WWII. Several Nisei championship teams were based in California.

In 1998, the National Baseball Hall of Fame formally honored 15 Nisei players. Boxer asked President Clinton to take this belated recognition a step further

by personally inviting the players, now in their nineties, to the White House. Surviving Negro League players were similarly honored a few years ago.

In her letter to Clinton, Boxer encourages him to right an injustice by giving the Nisei players the recognition they clearly deserve. "Although being recognized at the Hall of Fame is a great honor, the surviving players are hopeful that you will welcome them to the White House... I hope that you share my enthusiasm for recognizing the Nisei players, and I look forward to working with you to bestow a much deserved honor upon them." ■

Census 2000: APIs, Hispanics Fastest Growing Minorities in the United States

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Census Bureau estimates released Aug. 30 show that Asian and Pacific Islanders and Hispanics are the nation's two fastest growing minority populations in the country.

Between July 1, 1990 and July 1, 1999, the nation's API population grew 43.0 percent to 10.8 million, while the Hispanic population grew 38.8 percent to 31.3 million, the Census estimates show. These are the last estimates to be released before detailed results come out next year.

GEORGIA

In northern Georgia, a construction boom in cities such as Doraville, along with abundant jobs at poultry processing and carpet-making plants, have caused API and Hispanic immigration to surge.

The API population increased 180.7 percent to 28,793 in Gwinnett County and rose 135.7 percent to 18,758 in Cobb County. Meanwhile, Hispanics grew 215.6 percent to 26,731 and 158.9 percent to 24,350 respectively.

New jobs in construction, food processing and textile industries make Georgia attractive to immigrants, confirmed Robert Giacomini, director of research for the state's data center.

Charlie Yan, a manager at the Farmers Market, said Koreans flock to Gwinnett County for the same reason many others have moved to Atlanta in recent years, "a lot of trees, fresh air and the schools are OK."

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin's low unemployment rate is attracting more Hispanics and APIs, experts say. Census estimates show Wisconsin's API population — a category which includes Hmong from Southeast Asia — grew 53.6 percent to 83,265 between 1990 and 1999. The state's Hispanic population rose 50.4 percent to 140,235 over that period.

Wisconsin's hot labor market is one reason for the influx, said Dan Verhoff, a demographics specialist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

As far as the API population, Verhoff said the Hmong population in particular has grown in recent years.

"Milwaukee as well as other major cities in Wisconsin already have a large number of Hmong people, and no doubt they have a lot of relatives living in Wisconsin," said Ge Xiong, executive director of Hmong Educational Advancements. "I think over the past three or four years we have seen a number of Asians, particularly Hmong, moving from California to Wisconsin."

NEVADA

An influx of Asians and Hispanics looking to fill new construction and service-industry jobs has made Nevada one of the fastest growing states in the 1990s. Its API population rose 123.7 percent to 88,208, the largest such increase in the nation. Its Hispanic population rose 144.6 percent to 304,364.

"It's largely a condition of jobs and the network of people they have here," said John Haaga, of the Population Reference Bureau, a Washington-based research group.

California, Texas and New York

— the three most populous states — continue to have the highest numbers of minorities, but Nevada, Georgia and North Carolina experienced the biggest percent increases, Census analyst Larry Sink said. The API and Hispanic growth is "largely fueled by immigration," said Sink.

Overall, Nevada's 50 percent population growth led all states during the 1990s.

CALIFORNIA

San Francisco is expected to join Honolulu this year as the nation's only major cities where APIs outnumber whites, according to the latest census data.

Estimates show that San Francisco is well ahead of a statewide trend that has resulted in minorities becoming California's majority for the first time. The API and white populations in San Francisco each were 36 percent of the city's population in 1999. While the Asian population continues to grow, the white population has leveled off, according to the census preview.

While APIs comprise Vietnamese, Japanese, Koreans and other ethnicities, Chinese are the largest Asian group in San Francisco. Increases are due both to an influx of new immigrants and a large number of births.

In public schools, APIs constitute 52 percent of enrollment, while whites represent 12 percent, according to the California Department of Education.

Some of the upper ranks of city leaders are filled by Asian Americans, such as Police Chief Fred Law and city Chief Administrative Officer Bill Lee. Three AAs serve on the city's Board of Supervisors. ■

Census 2000 Breakfast Held to Thank Supporters

Following a successful campaign to increase California's participation in Census 2000, the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), U.S. Census Bureau, and National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC) held a recognition breakfast on Aug. 23 to highlight the contributions by both business and the media in supporting grassroots mobilization efforts.

Corporations and foundations honored were The California Endowment, AT&T, AT&T Foundation, Bank of America Foundation, Fannie Mae Foundation, Southern California Edison, State Farm Insurance, TAWA Supermarket, Inc., Wal-Mart Foundation, InterTrend, Inc., Nakatomi & Associates, Inc., Verizon Communications, AT&T Digital Media Centers, KSCI-TV, KTSF-TV, Media One International, Chevron Corporation, Anheuser Busch Companies, International Channel, Merrill Lynch, Pacific Bell/SBC, and Imada Wong Communications Group, Inc.

The California Asian and Pacific Islander Census 2000 Network (launched by APALC as its lead agency), the U.S. Census Bureau and NAPALC concluded their successful Census 2000 campaign, with an early mail-back response rate of 68 percent in California as

of April 25. This represents an increase of 3 percent from California's 65 percent mail-back response rate in the 1990 Census.

While a full picture of California's participation in Census 2000 is still pending, the returns indicate that California may be seeing a more accurate count for the next 10 years in redistricting, apportionment and the allocation of federal funds, services and representation.

Although APALC is still awaiting data on the API count in California, preliminary indications on those cities and counties with high API concentrations targeted by the California Asian and Pacific Islander Census 2000 Network seem to indicate higher levels of participation as well, and will most likely mean a more complete and accurate count of the API populations in the state.

"Many of the cities and counties targeted by our outreach and education efforts have met or exceeded the 1990 Census mail-back response rate by as much as 6 percent," said Bonnie Tang, Equal Access Unit project director for APALC.

APALC hopes to use the statewide coalitions developed from the census project to continue its efforts in the redistricting process to follow. ■

'Issei' Sculpture Added to Washington's White River Valley Museum Collection

A sculpture titled, "Issei," was recently added to the White River Valley Museum in Auburn, Wash.

The life-size bronze sculpture of Kisa Iseri was created to honor all Issei (first generation) Japanese women who worked hard to create a life for their families in the Auburn and Kent valleys.

In the sculpture, Kisa is eight-and-one-half months pregnant, and seated for a rest after a day in the strawberry fields.

Her form is modeled from a photograph in the museum's collection. The child she carries is Mae (Iseri) Yamada, who at age 84, now serves as a board member emeritus for the White River Valley Museum.

Kisa Okuna Iseri, who lived to be 103, came to the United States from Japan in 1907. Her family had arranged a marriage with Matabichi (Mat) Iseri, a man from her hometown of Kumamoto-ken.

The couple settled in Thomas, Wash., a small farming village in an area that eventually drew many Japanese immigrants. Iseri's husband was a farmer and shopkeeper whose gregarious interest in people took him all over the region. He became a leader who helped bring together the local public school and the non-English-speaking Issei parents.

Kisa bore 12 children, ran her household without extra help, worked on the family farm, and provided aid and friendship to

all those around her. She was never famous, but was greatly respected.

One thing she always told her children was: "Remember to help others whenever you have the chance. None of us arrived where we are on our own. We got here with the help of many hands."

"Issei" was designed to honor this generation of women who taught their children the value of community, work and integrity—often without the ability to read or write either Japanese or English.

Their lives set strong examples of hard work, personal honor and family devotion. The adage, "*kodomo no tame ni*" or "for the sake of the children," was said time and again by these women.

The sculpture was made possible by private donations, primarily from Japanese American families of the area, and with a grant from the Auburn Arts Commission.

The piece is by sculptor Reynaldo Rivera of Albuquerque, N.M., and is a permanent part of the museum's collection.

The White River Valley Museum is open Wed.-Sun., noon-4 p.m., and by appointment for group tours and research. Admission is \$1 for children and seniors; \$2 for adults. Wednesdays are free for everyone. For recorded information, call 253/939-2590.

To speak with staff members, call 253/939-2783, or fax 253/939-4523. ■



Kisa Okuna Iseri

Call for Papers for 2001 AAAS Conference in Toronto

The first Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) conference to be held outside the United States will be held March 28-April 1, 2001, in Toronto.

The conference theme is "Boundaries of Asian American Studies," which was selected to raise general and specific questions about ethnic, area, and transnational studies. The conference welcomes comparative studies of Asians in the Americas—North, Central, South, the Pacific and the Caribbean.

The theme also invites discussion of relations across disciplines, theories and methods toward strengthening disciplinary and interdisciplinary studies on Asian Americans and Asian Canadians.

The Association invites proposals from all disciplines, and especially seeks to increase the involvement of social scientists and policy researchers.

In addition, the conference welcomes panel proposals that address and cross national, ethnic, disciplinary and other borders, and teaching sessions devoted to issues of curriculum and pedagogy.

Proposals must be submitted by October 15 to: 2001 Program Committee, Association for Asian American Studies, Asian American Studies Program, 420 Rockefeller Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-2602; or call 607/255-3320; or fax 607/254-4996; or send e-mail: aaasconference@cornell.edu or apa1@cornell.edu.

Since all correspondence will be by e-mail, please include e-mail address. If you do not have e-mail, please provide a telephone number.

Further information and guidelines may be obtained at the same address and found on the AAAS homepage: <http://www.aasp.cornell.edu>. ■

Puyallup JACL Announces Three Scholarship Winners

The Puyallup Valley JACL recently announced three scholarship winners: Ryan Hiroo, Jason Kono and Collin Matsumoto.

Ryan Hiroo graduated from Rogers High School and will be attending the University of Washington this fall. He was a National Honor Society member and active in his church. He is the son of Jeffrey and Vivian Hiroo, and grandson of Chizuko Shigo.

Jason Kono graduated from Fife High School and will be attending the University of Colorado, majoring in business. Kono graduated with honors,

and was active in his school and community. He is the son of Steve and Nancy Kono, and grandson of Shizuko Kono.

Collin Matsumoto graduated from Puyallup High School and will be attending Oregon State University, majoring in chemical engineering. He also graduated with honors and was very active in his school. He is the son of Elwin and Sharryl Matsumoto, and grandson of Gladys Matsumoto and Jacob and Velma Ng.

All three recipients are top academic scholars and active in their schools and community. ■

10th Florin JACL Women's Day Forum Set for Sept 30th

The Florin JACL chapter will sponsor the 10th Annual Florin JACL Women's Day Forum, themed "Celebrating the American Dream—Speaking Out With Your Vote!" on Sept. 30, from 8:30 a.m.—4 p.m., at California State University, Sacramento Library Special Collections Room.

Presenters will include: • Public Service: California State Assemblyman Mike Honda and Carole Hayashino, former state assembly candidate.

• Art & Entertainment: Author and poet, Lawson Inada.

• Death & Taxes: Heddy Chiang (California Bank & Trust); Kevin Kimura, investment consultant; and Jerilyn Paik, Esq.

• CSUS Japanese American Archival Collection: Sheila O'Neill with the CSUS Library; and Georgiana White, CSUS collection archivist.

• Aging & Elder Care: Dr. Satoshi Ina; Dr. George Hisatomi; and Dr. Richard Ikeda, Health for All executive director.

• Civil Liberties Research & Education: Patricia Wakita, publisher, and civil liberties project coordinators Joanne Iritani and Rhonda Sato-Schafer.

• Health Issues: Rye Kanemoto (MSN, NP); and Debra Oto-Kent (MPH).

This is co-sponsored by the CSUS Library, the Health Education Council's Breast Cancer Early Detection Program, California Bank and Trust and Mobile Osteoporosis Screening Technologies. Registration fee is \$25 per Florin JACL member, \$35 per non-member, and \$10 per student/youth. Fee includes breakfast, lunch, and optional osteoporosis screening. To register, call 916/393-0412, 427-6397 or 422-8252. Free campus parking/disabled parking with registration. ■



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From left to right: Ron Chew, Lori Matsukawa and Frank Abe — founders of the Asian American Journalists Association's Seattle chapter in 1985 — were honored during the organization's 15th anniversary celebration earlier this year.

'Conscience and the Constitution' to be Shown in Southern California on Sept. 23

As part of the New York International Independent Film & Video Festival's traveling exhibit, "Conscience and the Constitution," a documentary on the only organized Nisei resistance to the draft during World War II, will be shown on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 11 a.m., at the Laemmle Theaters Monica 4 Plex in Santa Monica, Calif., 1332 Second St., near Santa Monica and Arizona boulevards. Tickets are \$10.

Attending the screening for a

question-and-answer session will be Frank Abe, producer; Lillian Benson, editor; Alan Koshiyama, musical arranger; and Shannon Gee, co-producer.

The documentary has also been accepted by the Hawaii International Film Festival, and is scheduled to be shown in Honolulu between Nov. 3-12, and in the neighboring islands between Nov. 14-19.

For more information, visit the Web site <www.registers.com>.

Visas for Life Foundation Launches Web Site

The Visas for Life Foundation launched a Web site dedicated to the legacy of Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat during World War II who is credited with saving more than 100,000 Jewish lives by issuing visas.

The Web site will provide testi-

monies from recipients of Chiune's visas, and information on traveling photo exhibits, lecture series and publications related to Sugihara.

This was made possible by the International Education Enterprises Corp. The Web site is <webjapan.com/users/chiunesugihara>.

DHHS Issues Language Access Guidelines

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) issued a new policy guideline on Aug. 30, providing better access for limited English proficiency (LEP) speakers.

Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the courts and OCR have considered discrimination against LEP individuals to be national origin discrimination.

This new guidance clarifies the responsibilities of healthcare and social service providers, who receive federal funding from DHHS, to give linguistic access for LEP persons.

This applies to hospitals; nursing homes; managed care organizations; state Medicaid programs; state Children's Health Insurance programs; state, county and city health departments and welfare agencies; and most family, youth and children programs.

Community leaders applauded the move. "This guidance will be a useful tool for advocates and community members to enforce equal access to health and social services for limited English speakers," said Doreena Wong, staff attorney with the National Health Law Program, a national health policy group. "Federal and state laws require linguistically appropriate access in health, welfare and other programs, but these laws are little known and rarely enforced."

The new guidance requires health providers that receive federal funding to inform LEP persons of their right to receive free interpreter services, and permits the use of family and friends as interpreters only after the free assistance has been declined and documented.

"In healthcare, the use of friends and family members as interpreters can result in serious, even life-threatening consequences," said Yolanda Vera, staff attorney for the Western Center on Law and Poverty, an advocacy organization. "We hear of cases where a teenage boy is inappropriately forced to interpret for a

woman — a stranger — during her gynecology appointment."

Vera added that having family or friends, who may not have the interpreter skills or familiarity with medical terms, interpret may prevent patients from disclosing sensitive information about their health status.

The release of the guidance by DHHS follows the signing of an executive order by President Clinton on Aug. 11, directing all federal agencies to submit plans addressing language access to the U.S. Department of Justice by December 2000.

The executive order requires the agencies themselves — including DHHS, the Social Security Administration, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and others — to provide linguistically accessible services, as well as to provide Title VI policy guidelines to programs and services which the federal agencies fund.

Southern California Office

In addition to issuing the new guidance, DHHS also announced that it will soon open a civil rights field office in Los Angeles to focus on monitoring and enforcing civil rights issues in Southern California.

Currently, civil rights enforcement for all of California is handled by the DHHS regional office in San Francisco.

"We applaud the release of the new guidance and welcome a federal civil rights presence in Southern California," said Karin Wang, staff attorney at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. "APALC and other advocates have been working with many local agencies and hospitals to improve language access for our community members, and we look forward to working with DHHS to accomplish this goal in Southern California."

Wang added that an office in Southern California is critical since Los Angeles County has an immigrant/refugee population with limited English proficiency rate of 50 percent or higher.

Ching Becomes New LAWF President

The Los Angeles Women's Foundation (LAWF) has named Deborah F. Ching as its new president. Ching replaces Bernice Bratter, who retired in June.

Ching has a strong background in leadership, community service, and nonprofit involvement in the Southern California area. She was the executive director of the Chinatown Service Center, a multi-service organization that targets low-income immigrants and refugees. Under Ching's leadership over the past 18 years, the center has developed to be the largest Chinese American community service organization in Southern California.

Ching is also involved in a wide range of community organizations, including the Multi-Cultural Collaborative, the Universal Service Task Force, the Community Technology Policy Council and the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council.

She has served on the Executive Committee on Census 2000, the Asian Pacific Business Advisory Committee and the California Nonprofit Policy Council.

Ching has been the recipient of numerous awards for her community involvement, with recognition from the YWCA of Greater L.A., the Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute, and state Assembly District 45.

Women's Foundation Board Chair Roberta Conroy said, "The L.A. Women's Foundation is delighted to welcome Deborah Ching as our new president. Her remarkable achievements at the Chinatown Service Center provide her with unmatched skills and knowledge in helping people, and will be a boon to the women and girls we serve throughout Southern California."

Ching earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles, and received a Master's degree in public administration from the University of Southern California.

The LAWF is a nonprofit serving as a catalyst for social change to build resources and expand opportunities for women and girls in Southern California.

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Mori Memo



By Floyd Mori
National President

The Work Before Us

Since becoming national JACL president in early July, I have had the opportunity to visit with several JACL chapters throughout the country.

As I travel for business or pleasure, I try to arrange to meet with JACLers.

Because of schedule conflicts, it is impossible to attend all functions to which I am invited. It is always a pleasure to meet with JACL groups, and I try to attend as many community events as possible.

In July, while attending a family reunion in Las Vegas, I was able to meet (along with David Kawamoto, vice president of general operations) with the Las Vegas chapter regarding plans for the next national convention in 2002.

Betty Adkins and her committee are planning an exciting convention. Many booster activities are being made available, and I encourage all JACLers to make plans to attend it.

I have also had the opportunity to attend a Pacific Southwest District meeting as well as meetings at JACL headquarters and have met with members of the Alaska and Hawaii chapters. I attended the ceremony in Honolulu honoring the Japanese American Congressional Medal of Honor recipients of whom we can be most proud. A gathering held at the Consul General of Japan's residence in San Francisco, honoring Chiune Sugihara, the Japanese official who saved many Jewish lives during World

War II, was informative and enjoyable.

In September, the Utah JACL chapters will hold their annual scholarship golf tournament of which I am chairman. This event is a good opportunity for members of the community to enjoy a social event as we work to benefit the scholarship program for our outstanding students.

I look forward to the coming months which will bring opportunities to meet with more of you.

Regarding some of the workings of JACL, several new JACL committees have been created, which will improve our effectiveness as an organization. Lori Fujimoto has consented to head a new Task Force on Hate Crimes. It is important for JACL to be vigilant in civil rights matters involving hate crimes.

The U.S./Japan Relations Committee has been headed up by Ed Mitoma, who has decided to resign after 10 years on the committee. We are grateful to Ed for his tireless efforts in working on this committee and keeping people well informed on the issues. This is a vital area for JACL, and this committee will be important in our future.

The Education Committee will be divided into two separate committees. The existing committee members will focus on teacher workshops and enhancing the present curriculum guide. The other will address other important issues in the education arena.

As our membership ages, more

JACLers are concerned with issues facing the older generation. Our Committee on Aging and Retirement will be chaired by Steve Nakajo, who has been involved in senior programs for a number of years as director of the Kimochi program in San Francisco.

Many of our chapters are struggling with maintaining membership. It is important to get younger people involved with JACL to keep our organization growing and thriving. We are issuing a directive requesting each JACL chapter to appoint a youth member to their chapter board. All chapters must focus more on attracting youth as well as middle-aged people who have never become JACL members or who have let their memberships lapse. We must strive to increase our membership so that we may better serve the needs of the Japanese American populace.

New committees being formed and changes in existing committees will make our organization more effective and will give more people opportunities to serve in JACL. Anyone willing and desiring to serve on national JACL committees should contact their chapter presidents, district governors, national headquarters staff, myself or other national board members.

Serving in the office of national JACL president has been keeping me quite busy, but it has been very gratifying to see the dedication of JACLers everywhere. It is an honor to have the opportunity to represent JACL. ■

provides pro bono technical services. The group was organized by Margaret Endo of LTSC. Ebihara is a member, and Umemoto is co-chair with Jason Katakura.

Katakura helped set up LTSC's e-mail system in 1994, when the Internet was still in its infancy and hardly anyone had e-mail. At that time, Katakura said he thought the Internet was "a cool thing" and that "luckily, Bill Watanabe (LTSC executive director), ever the visionary, gave me the go ahead to buy and install the system."

By 1996, LTSC was growing by leaps and bounds, and Katakura said LTSC was "basically functioning like a small ISP (Internet service provider like AOL or Earthlink)." In 1997, Ebihara took over Katakura's position when he left to take a database developer job.

"I think we've been pretty innovative," said Katakura. "We've been using Linux long before anyone had heard of it. We've also installed a wireless wide area network that serves Little Tokyo."

DISKovery Program

Through TAC, LTSC set up the DISKovery Computer Learning Center, which provides affordable computer technology access and training to local residents, mainly to senior citizens.

TAC volunteers donated an estimated \$200,000 to the DISKovery project by literally building 30 computers from parts donated by the private sector.

"People in TAC are phenomenal people," said Umemoto. "We can create a consulting firm and compete against the Anderson Group. That's the kind of caliber of people we have. There's nothing we can't handle." ■

Business Expo Set for Oct. 31

The Asian Pacific Islander Small Business Program will hold a Business Expo on Oct. 31.

Anyone interested in starting a small business is welcome. There will be multilingual representatives from Los Angeles County, IRS, various APA bar associations and other organizations which will provide information on how to start a small business.

For more information, contact Nancy Kikuchi at 213/473-1658; fax 213/473-1681; or e-mail <nkikuchi@ltsc.org>.

Commerce Secretary Mineta Certifies Japan in Whaling Violations

Commerce Secretary Norman Mineta certified Japan under the Pelly Amendment on Sept. 12, to clear the way for the U.S. government to officially document Japan's whale violations and to consider a number of alternatives to halt the practice.

The highest-ranking Japanese member of the International Whaling Commission declared Sept. 4 that slapping sanctions on Japan for its whale research program would backfire on the United States and hurt American whalers.

Masayuki Komatsu, the group's deputy commissioner, was responding to remarks made by Mineta, who said he was consider-

ing asking President Clinton to ban imports of Japanese fishery products to show opposition to Japan's decision to add larger Bryde's and sperm whales to its research program, which until now was confined to minke whales.

The whaling commission banned commercial whaling in the 1980s but allowed some to be killed for research purposes.

Japan needs to conduct research on whales to study pollution levels and the depletion of fish stocks, Komatsu said. By opening the stomachs of whales, scientists can track how much fish the whales are eating and what toxic chemicals are being retained in the blubber. ■

Mori to Speak at Business Conference

National JACL President Floyd Mori will speak at Utah's inaugural ethnic business conference, to be held on Sept. 28 in the Salt Palace Convention Center.

Subjects to be covered at the conference, which is titled "The Changing Face of Utah Business," will include "Finding Dollars for your Business," "Selling to Government & Big Business," "International Marketing—A Door to

the World," and "2002 Olympics—Opportunities for Minorities and Women Businesses."

Sponsors include the Utah Division of Business & Economic Development, Utah Ethnic Offices, American Express and the Utah Supplier Development Council. Registration deadline was Sept. 12, but for information, contact Diane Akiyama at 801/266-2248 or Moon Ji at 801/538-8883. ■

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LTSC

(Continued from page 1)

The idea for a computer kiosk has been in the works for close to five years. In fact, Wataru Ebihara had been thinking about setting one up prior to joining LTSC. At the time, it wasn't vision Ebihara lacked; it was funds. It wasn't until recently that the funds and the people-power finally started to fall into place.

The project received a jump start when Jerry Gee, owner of Tsunami Cafe, donated a touch-screen monitor for the computer kiosk. This was a windfall since LTSC didn't expect to have a touch-screen monitor until phase II or phase III of their three-part approach to the project.

Kikuchi then pounded the pavement and handed out a survey to close to 600 businesses located in or near Little Tokyo to collect data for the computer kiosk. Kikuchi's predecessor, John Okura, had already started this phase.

With that complete, Ebihara said, they are now in phase II, which will entail making the computer data available in Japanese and possibly other languages, and inputting additional material such as restaurant menus, photos, bus schedules and other information into the computer.

Phase III will involve getting the information Web-based so anyone can access it online through the Internet.

"By providing information about Japanese American resources and Little Tokyo information, we hope that people find out what is happening in the community, and will be more inclined to come down to visit Little Tokyo," said Ebihara.

"Wataru [Ebihara] has done such an incredible job on a shoe-string budget," said Bruce Umemoto, president of Xcelcia, an applied service provider company. "He does miracles. He's the technical backbone of TAC."

TAC, which stands for the LTSC-initiated Little Tokyo Technology Advisory Committee team,



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Letters to the Editor

CCDC Unanimously Supports NJAMF

The Central California District Council JACL board of directors recently sent a letter to Rear Admiral Melvin H. Chiopig, chairman of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation board, which read as follows:

"The Central California District Council Japanese American Citizen League Board of Directors on August 20, 2000, at their District Council meeting passed a motion unanimously to support the decision of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation Board to include Mike Masasaka's name and Creed on the Memorial to Patriotism."

"The Central California District Council Japanese American Citizen League has a membership of 1,500 members. As JACLers, we are very cognizant of Mike Masasaka's lifetime dedication in improving the civil rights and welfare of Japanese Americans and all Americans."

"We are very grateful to the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation Board of Directors for their dedication and extraordinary level of commitment and perseverance in directing and guiding the Memorial to Patriotism to fruition."

"The dedication of the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism will be a proud and significant day for us and for all Americans."

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Creed Should Not Be On NJAMF Monument

Bill Hosokawa wrote in his book "Nisei: The Quiet Americans": "Wiser and more sophisticated, many Americans now have abandoned the old concept of a national melting pot in which all elements must lose their identity, and have adopted the idea of an all-American stew in which each of the ingredients remains identifiable."

He further added, "What is there about my heritage that sustained me? What have I and my people contributed to this, my country?"

Does the Mike Masasaka creed represent the diverse views I read today? I do not think so. Why? Could it be likened unto the Hosokawa stew in contrast to the Creed that states "She has granted me liberties and opportunities such as no individual enjoys in this world today."

I answered "yes, yes" to questions 27 and 28 at Heart Mountain in 1944. The truth was I thought I would not be drafted, having had my lung collapsed by pneumo-thorax treatment for tuberculosis. To my surprise, I was inducted, and served in post-war Japan as an interpreter.

Upon returning to California, I

entered the University of California, Berkeley. Before completing the first year, I was dismissed from school because I hemorrhaged due to TB and was told to report to the Veterans Administration hospital. Upon doing so, I was refused hospitalization because I had a history of the disease before service. It became my post-service legal battle that continues. The experience reminded me of Sen. Daniel Inouye being refused a haircut by a barber in California after returning from Europe minus an arm and with a chest of ribbons.

Recently, I again filed my original claim, and the VA replied back: "The presumptive did not apply because evidence clearly and unmistakably established that pulmonary tuberculosis pre-existed active service and no new evidence is presented."

Early in my career, I was told I was not qualified for a civil service technical position for health reasons. Thus, I accepted a position in the heart of America to study soybean diseases, and rejected offers in Hawaii or Maryland for health reasons.

I worked on a crop that had gone from one to nine million acres in Iowa alone during my 27 years as a USDA research plant pathologist. After working in cooperation with university personnel to develop soybeans resistant to major diseases, the USDA closed my position. Because I had begun new research, I fled age and race discrimination but without success. Thereafter, I took early retirement.

Thus, my answer to Hosokawa's second question: "What have I and my people contributed to this, my country?" is this — the historical contributions through agriculture by Japanese Americans can be found in the book "Planted in Good Soil" by Masakazu Iwata published in 1992.

Therefore, based upon my experiences, I have problems with the creed to be incorporated into the NJAMF monument in Washington, D.C. Why? Simply because the sacrifices were too great in too many ways and would have been greater had it not been for those who stood up for their rights, among them Gordon Hirabayashi, Fred Korematsu and Minoru Yasui. Those protesting the issues on constitutional grounds, including the draft resisters, were all imprisoned in one way or another. I doubt any in the preceding examples and others had in mind the creed after curfews, evacuation, confinement and/or discharges from service of men serving prior to evacuation. A constitution violated and unprotected destroys its principal purpose.

I now think the Masasaka creed on the monument would create gross misconception amongst visitors to the monument without appropriate changes now or later.

Hideo Tachibana
Ames, Iowa

Welcome to The Hotel Los Alamos, Such A Lovely

When Dr. Wen Ho Lee was first arrested on charges pertaining to the "crown jewels" of America, (i.e., the nation's nuclear weapons know-how), I felt little sympathy for this Taiwanese-born scientist.

My reason was that Lee, a brilliant man, chose to apply himself to the creation of nuclear bombs intended not only to kill people but kill them by the millions.

I could not understand how a scientist, with all options of re-

search open to him, could give his intelligence to weapons of mass destruction.

But, as it appeared that Lee had freely chosen to do this, and since such research was necessary for the national interest of America, I felt he was honor bound to do so with loyalty. If he indeed was a spy, he should be punished according to law. And I trusted the American government to proceed against him according to law.

Now as trial date approaches and as more facts surrounding Lee's case are made public, it seems that Lee was subjected to unfair investigative tactics, if not misrepresentation by the government. Judge James Parker, after hearing three days of testimony, ordered Lee released from jail on \$1 million bail bond.

Lee has steadfastly insisted that he is innocent. His supporters suggest the investigation is tainted by racial profiling and that Lee is a victim of racial bias. The government has denied that Lee's race was a consideration. After all, the government is concerned that Lee could help someone build a bomb or help a country bolster its nuclear program that could immolate millions.

I cannot but begin to feel sympathy for Lee's plight. Until released by Judge Parker, he had been confined to a tiny solitary cell and is shackled hand and foot when he is outside that cell. He has been threatened with execution. Lee is yet to be found guilty.

Most important, Lee is not accused of spying — the government admits that it has no evidence Lee spied for another country.

Lee has only been accused of mishandling computer files and it seems the best the government can suggest for Lee's motive is that he copied sensitive files to enhance his resume to a foreign power that might employ him in the future. Even so, he is facing a life sentence if convicted.

In the final analysis, objectivity can easily be a first casualty when anyone deals with so profound a subject as nuclear Armageddon. A degree of psychosis inevitably infects anyone involved. Perhaps an old rock-and-roll song sums it up best:

Welcome to the Hotel Los Alamos
Such a lovely place
We are all prisoners here
Of our own device
You can check out anytime you like
But you can never leave.

Nevertheless, Lee deserves a fair shake under American law.
Charleston C. K. Wang
Cincinnati

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

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

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

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Aoyama, Ruth Asako, 90, Monterey Park, Sept. 5; Garden Grove-born; survived by husband Minoru; sons Taichi and wife Reiko; daughters Kazuko Tatum, Hiroko Kranz, Sachiko Nishiwaki and husband Bruno, Youko Mesch and husband Albert; 15 gc. 17 gc.

Fujitani, Kay Katsuko, 78, Hayward, Aug. 27; Hiroshima-born; survived by husband Frank; sister Hatsuie Uyehara; sisters-in-law Shigeo Yamashiro and husband Muneichi, Kiyo Fujitani; brothers-in-law Shiro Fujitani, Takeo Fujitani and wife Jeanne, Mutsuo Fujitani and wife Haruko.

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

Hamada, Masuo "Mas," 82, Mountain View, Aug. 29; survived by wife Yoshiko; sons Gary, Stanley; daughter Karen Harbaugh and husband Rick; gc.; sisters Mary Hikida and husband Bob, Helen Kinoshita and husband Bill, Elsie Mukai and husband Toichi.

Hashimoto, Tomio, 96, Monterey Park, Aug. 13; San Francisco-born; survived by sons Paul Minoru and wife Kay, Roy Masashi and wife Jeannie; daughter Alice Sumiko Yamada and husband Shigeru; 8 gc.; 7 gc.; sister Fumiko Masakawa.

Ikoma, Kiyoi, 78, Chicago, Aug. 19; service; Portland, Ore.-born; survived by daughters Gayle Kodama and husband Ted, Sandra Miyata and husband Victor; son Robert and wife Gail; 4 gc.; predeceased by husband Sumio.

Kudo, Shigeru, 79, Oak Park, Ill., Sept. 6; formerly of Chicago; survived by wife Teruko, daughter Joyce Kudo (Chicago); sons David and wife Soo Ai (Oak Park), Daniel (Des Plaines, Ill.); 3 gc.

Kumamoto, Yukio, 89, Carson City, Nev., Aug. 22; formerly of San Francisco; survived by wife Motoko; son Lawrence; daughter Emyko Sakakura and husband David (W. Va.); son-in-law Steven Kingswood; sister Tsuneyo Okamoto; predeceased by daughter Arlene Kumamoto.

Morioka, Dale K., 83, San Francisco, Aug. 31; survived by wife Frances; daughter Christine Vasconcelos and husband Robert; Cheryl Parks and husband Robert; son Dale and wife Joanne; 3 gc.; 1 gc.; mother Matsui.

OBITUARY

WRA Director, Issei Citizenship Worker: Bob Cullum, 90

Funeral services were held Aug. 19, in Albuquerque, N.M., for Robert M. Cullum, a native of Portland, Ore., who became acquainted with World War II evacuation issues at the War Relocation Authority's New York City office, then transferred to Cleveland in 1944. He was 90.

Before the WRA closed in 1946, Cullum directed the final government study on Japanese American evacuees which resulted in the report, "People in Motion." For a number of years he served as secretary for the Committee for Equality in Naturalization at the Washington JACL office, advocating citizenship for Issei. In 1950, he

Nakayama, George, 51, Whittier, Aug. 29; Kiyoto-born; survived by daughter Jessica Miwa; sisters Ritsuko Nakatani and husband Roy (Sacramento), Toyoko Furukawa and husband Hiroshi, Michiko Morita and husband Tetsuhiro, Anko Yamada and husband Kasamasa (Japan); Parents-in-law Masahisa and Tsuneyo Yamamoto; brother-in-law Masaki Yamamoto and wife Yoko; sister-in-law Akiyo Imoto and husband Dr. Ken.

Oshige, Noboru, 85, Culver City, Sept. 2; Stockton-born; survived by wife Teruko; sons Tadashi; daughters Setsuko Otaki and husband Koji, Tomiko Matthews and son Chris, Harumi Yanase and husband George; 6 gc.; brother John Yoshiyuki and wife Mary; brothers-in-law Yukio Maeda and wife Toshiye, Takashi Maeda; sister-in-law Hatsumi Moore and husband Louis.

Sakamoto, Ayano, 101, Monterey Park, Sept. 2; Wakayama-born; survived by son John and wife Mae; 4 gc.; 4 gc.

Sakimoto, Eddie Kiyoshi, 84, Fullerton, Aug. 31; Moneta-born; survived by wife Tamiko; sons Daniel Tohru and wife Sharyn, Wayne Mitsuru and wife Judean; 4 gc.; sister Emiko Minami (Japan).

Sasaki, Hideo, 80, Lafayette, Aug. 31; Reedley-born landscape architect for the Stanford Library, the Chronicle Pavilion, university and college campuses, Disney World, IBM, the Embarcadero Center in San Francisco, among others; chaired the Department of Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design from 1954-80; recipient of many medals and awards for his impact on landscape architecture; survived by wife Kisa Noguchi; daughters Rin Nakashima (Morgan Hill), Ann Sasaki (Pacifica).

Terada, Yoshiko, 81, Chicago, Aug. 18; service; survived by children Shizuko Nagata, Masami Terada; sister Michiko Morikawa (Japan); predeceased by husband Watsuke, child Masami Terada.

Watanabe, Mitsuko, 71, Alhambra, Aug. 30; San Diego-born; survived by husband Fumio; sons Ken, Jun; sisters Kaoru Fukuda and husband Kingo (Japan), Yeko Matsumura and husband Shigeru; sister-in-law Toshi Hasagawa and husband Teshi (Japan).

Wauke, Masaru, 65, Torrance, Sept. 1; Taiwan-born; survived by wife Jeanne Kyoko; son Brent Jun; daughter Neely Moxley; father Yoshitatsu Wauke; sisters Masaki Tomoyose and husband Teshio, Mitsuko Kunitameto and husband Shiochi, Aiko Yamashiro and husband Mitsunari (all of Japan).

rejoined the federal service and was assigned to the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Muskogee, Okla., again on a relocation program.

When he retired in 1972, he was recognized by the U.S. Department of the Interior's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award.

Cullum's first wife, Vera, predeceased him in the '70s, and he is survived by Ann Howden, a Nisei widow of 14 years at the time of their marriage in 1978. He had two children by his first marriage. (Ann's first husband was the late Yosh Kodama, youth worker in Los Angeles and at Heart Mountain.)

— Robert Shibata ■

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RABBIT

(Continued from page 1)

hasn't been told. It shows the side that hasn't been in the public eye, the side that has been overlooked. It shows there were people that were angry and bitter enough to resist the final insult. "That's wonderful. Wonderful," added Harry Ueno, upon learning of the Emmy win. Ueno said that works such as "Rabbit" are instrumental in educating the public about the camp experience. "A lot of things happened at Manzanar. I suffered some, but I don't regret any of it."

Researcher Aiko Herzog-Yoshi-

naga, who told of her personal camp experience in "Rabbit," said the award is an acknowledgment not only of the Omori sisters as filmmakers but of Japanese American history in general.

"I hope more people in our community will have a chance to see [this documentary]. This is just another part of our history that became a controversial topic," said Herzog. "I wish no one had to be hurt by the history. But more and more it's going to come out."

"In spite of the politics, it's part of our community," added Yosh Kuremija, who was featured in this year's "Conscience and the Constitution." Frank Abe's hotly anticipated documentary on the Heart Mountain residents.

"They both carry the same message about the integrity of the Japanese American community in reaction to the whole [internment] experience, whether people took a principled stand or in terms of self-preservation," Kuremija said.

"Too often we have settled on what was expeditious at the time. I'm not placing blame on anyone. We were all in different circumstances," he said. "Hopefully, all of this will get out to the broader public. Maybe after we get our history outside of the Japanese American community, beyond ourselves, we can reflect on it."

While Kuremija called the Omori's "courageous" for making such a film and breaking down

unspoken barriers, others maintain that "Rabbit" failed to give a balanced perspective, especially in its presentation of JACL.

"Generally, 'Rabbit in the Moon,' ... is a good documentary of evacuation and internment, but in [my] opinion, it is generally anti-JACL marred by the strong anti-JACL remarks of Shosuke Sasaki, Chizuko Omori, older sister of Emiko, and others who were called on to testify against the JACL," said Fred Hirasuna, one of the organization's pioneers who attended the first national convention in 1930.

"Emiko Omori shows her disregard for the accomplishments of the Nisei generation and the JACL in her dedication of the film to ... our mother and father, to James Omura, Ernest Besig, Michi Weglin, Morris Opler and the Issei whose presence and courageous spirit have become a part of this America." [I] believe this omission was deliberate," Hirasuna said.

"There is nothing in her film about the Nisei contribution to the general welfare of the Nikkei in America. She blames JACL for the evacuation and internment. Many witnesses are featured casting JACL as the principal promoter of evacuation and internment," he said, calling that a falsity.

Former JACL national director from 1976-77, Karl Nobuyuki, echoed Hirasuna's sentiments,

saying, "Content-wise, it's sad the film had to spend so much time attacking the JACL. I thought [the Omoris] spent an inordinate amount of time blaming the JACL. At the same time, good for them that they won the award."

"I'm glad to see Asian Americans are doing well in the media," Nobuyuki said, "but the bottom line is I certainly don't always agree with the Academy in the decisions they make."

Chizu acknowledged the reproach the film has received from some within the JA community.

"It's been hard to get people to understand what we were doing and to support it, but I would just like [the Japanese American] community to know our history better, even if that means opening up festering wounds."

Issues such as JACL just happened to come up in their research, she said. What some people took as criticism of the organization's wartime leadership was not intentional. "We were just telling what we found," she said. "It wasn't for us to condemn."

Reaction to Strip-search Exposes Division in INS

PORTLAND, Ore.—The immigration officer who strip-searched a Chinese businesswoman last month was following procedures she learned at her previous post in Hawaii, according to union representatives.

Inspector Robert Peters made Guo Liming, 36, strip to her underwear on Aug. 19 at Portland International Airport, mistakenly believing she had an altered passport.

After the incident, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service officials re-sent the rules on body searches to all Western Points of entry. But *The Oregonian* reported that the practice varied widely.

In Honolulu, for example, where Peters worked from 1991 to 1998, foreigners bearing phony documents are strip-searched, said Steven Roberson, who supervised Honolulu International Airport in-

spectors until 1997.

Roberson became acting INS port director in Portland on Sept. 1, replacing INS District Director David Beebe, who apologized to Guo following the investigation of her strip-search and two-day jailing. While several elected officials called for Beebe's resignation, Oregon Sens. Ron Wyden and Gordon Smith recommended he be transferred in a letter sent to INS Commissioner Doris Meissner on Aug. 29.

INS Regional Director Johnny Williams promised an immediate review of incidents involving Asian travelers detained at the Portland airport, which has had a number of similar complaints in the past. He has also required inspectors to get regional approval before detaining travelers or conducting strip-searches.

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Apr 16 Japan by Train #1 "Far Corners of Japan" 25 Meals - \$3595.

Apr 24 China Deluxe with "Yangtze Cruise" 13 Days - All Meals - \$3295.

May 17 Europe Classic "2 Days in Each City" 14 Days - 26 Meals - \$3495.

May 30 South of France River Cruise with Paris - 11 Days - 23 Meals - \$3295.

Jun 16 America More More #2 - Southwest - 14 Days - 28 Meals - \$1895.

Jun 30 England, Ireland & Scotland - 15 Days - 26 Meals - \$3595.

Aug 08 Niagara, Canada & Nova Scotia - 16 Days - 30 Meals - \$2595.

Sep 01 Egypt & Israel "Nile Cruise" 16 Days - 32 Meals - Estimate \$4500.

Fall Japan Tours - Japan by Train #2 "New Destinations" Hokkaido & Tohoku, Uranoon - Fall Classic - Okinawa, Kyushu & Shikoku

2002 Tours - Mar. "South America" - Chile, Argentina & Brazil. May - Spain, Morocco & Portugal

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