

L.A. Pays Tribute to Medal Of Honor Awardees

By **MARTHA NAKAGAWA**
Assistant Editor

BEVERLY HILLS—On Oct. 29, 1944, Private Barney F. Hajiro charged up "Suicide Hill" in France and single-handedly destroyed two machine gun nests and killed two enemy snipers. For this and for prior feats, the 442nd veteran from Company I was recommended for a Medal of Honor in 1944. Instead, he received a Distinguished Service Cross.

"Me and another guy, Okubo, a medic, were both recommend-

Team/100th Infantry Battalion. The other two included Francis B. Wai, 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Division and the first Chinese American to receive the MOH, and Rudolph B. Davila, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division and the third Filipino American MOH recipient.

On Oct. 22, more than 600 people packed the Beverly Hilton Hotel to pay tribute to these men. All seven living MOH recipients and the family members of 13 of the 15 posthumous honorees attended the gala. The Los Angeles luncheon followed the White House reception

Posthumous honorees included (family members who represented them are in parentheses): Private Joe Hayashi (brother Seichi Nakawata and sister Chiye Watanabe); Staff Sergeant Robert T. Kuroda (brother Joe Kuroda and sister-in-law Betty); Private First Class Kaoru Moto (son Eric Moto and daughter Carol Moto); Private First Class Kiyoshi Muranaga (brother Yoshio Muranaga and sister Sally Hamamoto); Private Masato Nakae (daughter Anne Kuroda and son-in-law Brannford); Private Shinyei Nakamine (sister



Decorated with Hawaiian leis, the Medal of Honor recipients are (from left): Yekki Kobashigawa, Shizuya Hayashi, Rudolph B. Davila, George Sakato, U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, Barney Hajiro and Yukio Okutsu.

ed for a Medal of Honor in 1944," recalled Hajiro, 84, a draftee from Hawaii. "But I didn't care if I got the Medal of Honor or not. I was thankful I came home alive."

Hajiro not only came home, he lived to see the day when the government upgraded the medals of his and 21 other Asian American World War II soldiers this June. Twenty of the men were Nisei from the famed 442nd Regimental Combat

in June and a tribute in Hawaii.

The seven living MOH recipients in attendance included: Staff Sergeant Davila from Vista, Calif.; Private Hajiro from Waipahu, Hawaii; Private Shizuya Hayashi from Pearl City, Hawaii; Second Lt. and U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye; Technical Sergeant Yekki Kobashigawa from Waianae, Hawaii; Technical Sergeant Yukio Okutsu from Hilo, Hawaii; and Private George T. Sakato from Denver.

Anita Korenaga; Private First Class William Nakamura (sister June Oshima and brother-in-law Katsu); Private First Class Joe M. Nishimoto (sister Alice Ishida and nephew Mace Ishida); Sergeant Allan M. Ohata (sister-in-law Florence Ohata and grand niece Reiko Ohata); Technician Fifth Grade James K. Okubo (wife Nobu Okubo and daughter Anne Okubo); Staff

See MOH/page 10

Utah English-only Initiative to Appear on November Ballot

By **TRACY UBA**
Writer/Reporter

After two failed attempts to pass English-only legislation in the Utah House, proponents are now looking to put the issue to the people's vote on Nov. 7.

Initiative A, sponsored by Rep. Tammy Rowan, R-Orem, seeks to make English the official language of Utah, which would prohibit state government agencies from conducting business, providing services and printing information in languages other than English.

While supporters claim the initiative will unify the state under one language, opponents argue it is unconstitutional and discriminatory, particularly against Asian and Latino immigrants with limited English proficiency.

"We are very concerned about measures such as Initiative A because they sound innocuous on the surface, but we've seen these laws actually applied against immigrants who haven't yet had the opportunity to become fluent in English," said Karen Narasaki, executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Legal Center (NAPALC) in Washington, D.C., one of several civil rights organizations opposed to the Utah measure.

"We believe that these types of initiatives are generally pushed by people who do not mean well and tend to be extremely anti-immigrant. It sends a message clearly

that some people are not welcome," she said.

But despite the controversial nature of such legislation, the push to make English the official language has already been decided in other parts of the country. Currently, 25 states have English as their official language, while 16 states have enacted "English-only" laws, including Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

Rowan first introduced English-only legislation in Utah in 1996, which died in committee before coming to the House floor for a vote. An almost identical version of Initiative A was subsequently voted down by the Utah House in January 1999.

Earlier this year, she was successful in petitioning to get the initiative on the general ballot. Rowan could not be reached for comment by press time.

The JACL, whose local Utah chapters participated in an anti-Initiative A rally on Oct. 21, recently went on record opposing Rowan's measure. "While we encourage those who choose to live in the United States to speak English as a matter of course, a measure such as Initiative A imposes a mandate

See UTAH/page 11

Oregon's Ballot Measure 9 — Student Protection Act or Anti-gay Measure?

By **CAROLINE AOYAGI**
Executive Editor

Oregon's Ballot Measure 9 has split the community so far apart that at times you'd swear opponents and supporters were discussing two entirely different propositions.

The authors of the measure, also known as the "Student Protection Act," say they are on a mission to protect the kids, but opponents are accusing the group of being anti-gay and malicious in their intent.

The measure essentially "prohibits public school instruction encouraging, promoting, sanctioning homosexual, bisexual behaviors" or the schools could lose some or all of their funding.

Sounds simple enough. But opponents are warning that the measure could run far deeper, affecting health education including HIV/AIDS and abstinence education, and could limit counseling support for gay and lesbian students.

A recent poll by the Oregonian newspaper shows the ballot measure in a virtual dead heat only a few days before citizens head to the polls on Nov. 7 to decide the measure's fate.

"The measure is definitely anti-gay and it's definitely going to hurt our kids," said Kathryn Firestone, president of the Oregon Parent Teachers Association, a group that has been a vocal opponent of Measure 9.

"Our kids, any kids deserve to be treated properly, kindly in our schools," added Firestone. "I feel strongly that there was a great deal of bigotry in this attempt to make schools into an image based on a narrow view of the world."

Lon Mabon, chairman of the Oregon Citizens Alliance (OCA),

the group responsible for the controversial measure, denies the measure is anti-gay. "That's not the purpose of it. It's an effort to stop existing policy. It isn't aimed at individuals though it affects people."

Mabon believes the central issue here is one of morality. "Most people are beginning to realize that the fight is not going away. Either you accept gays wholeheartedly and embrace them or you don't. There's no room in the middle. Underneath it all, the most important question is one of morality."

Mabon's group is well known in Oregon for its right-wing attack on the homosexual community in a state that has often leaned towards a more liberal bent. During the past 12 years the group has attempted to pass four anti-gay measures. All have failed and Measure 9's fate will be determined in a few days.

In 1994, OCA presented Measure 13 which was a constitutional amendment aimed at limiting the rights of homosexuals in state and local governments. With Measure 9 OCA has more narrowly aimed their focus at the schools.

"The measure is discriminatory," said Scott Sakamoto, president of the local Portland JACL chapter, who have been actively participating in the "No on 9" campaign. "A lot of Nikkei should relate to that. This can open the door to other forms of intolerance." He added, "Lon Mabon's group is not a friend of JACL. We can't support anything that fosters intolerance."

"Ballot 9 in Oregon is extremely discriminatory against anyone who is gay or of different sexual

See BALLOT 9/page 12

An Interview With Democratic Stalwart Mary Miyashita

By **MARTHA NAKAGAWA**
Assistant Editor

When Democratic elected officials in California seek political advice or need a boost in their campaign coffers, they usually end up at the doorsteps of "Mary Miyashita, 79."

Miyashita is a rare species: an Asian Pacific American active in politics long before APAs were considered a political force. She's been working behind the scenes for more than 50 years and holds a veteran's insight, but at the same time, retains a newcomer's enthusiasm, thinking nothing of rolling up her sleeves to stuff envelopes or

to make phone calls. In fact, Miyashita downplays her influence, saying "I'm good at menial things like calling people."

But don't let Miyashita's modesty fool you. She isn't just calling anybody. She has access to elected officials from the local level to the governor. Gov. Gray Davis even offered Miyashita an appointment to the Commission on Aging, an offer she turned down. "I told him I don't want an appointment, I want you to appoint the people I recommend," she said. "I only have three recommendations, and I'm



still waiting (for the appointments)."

Miyashita first became interested in politics after her release from the Gila River War Relocation Authority camp. When she, like other camp internees, resettled in Chicago in 1946, Miyashita's wartime experiences had convinced her that the Nikkei needed to become politically involved.

As a result, when a Republican friend introduced her to then Democratic presidential candidate Adlai Stevenson, she was hooked.

It was also in Chicago that Miyashita met her husband,

See MIYASHITA/page 10

Inside the Pacific Citizen

Announcements	
Letters, Calendar	page 2
National News	3
Community News	4-5
By the Board	6
Columns	8-9
Commentaries	7, 9
Obituaries	11

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Publisher: Japanese American Citizens League (founded 1929)
1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115, Tel: 415/921-5225
Fax: 415/931-4671

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NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.

Editorials, news and the opinions expressed by columnists other than the national JACL president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. Events and products advertised in the *Pacific Citizen* do not carry the implicit endorsement of the JACL or this publication. We reserve the right to edit articles.

PACIFIC CITIZEN (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semi-monthly 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: NON-MEMBERS: 1 year-\$35, payable in advance. Additional postage per year - Foreign periodical rate \$25; First Class for U.S., Canada, Mexico: \$30; Air mail to Japan/Europe: \$60. (Subject to change without notice.) Periodicals postage paid at Monterey Park, Calif., and at additional mailing offices.

Permission: No part of this publication may be reproduced without express permission of the publisher. Copying for other than personal or internal reference use without the express permission of P.C. is prohibited. MICROFILM (35mm) of annual issues is available from Bay Microfilm, Inc., 1115 E. Arques Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: *Pacific Citizen*, c/o JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

JACL MEMBERS

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JACL-COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast

ATLANTA

Sun., Dec. 3—Annual Southeastern chapter JACL holiday dinner; 5 p.m., Sato Sushi Restaurant, Norcross, Ga. Info: Roger Ozaki, 770/979-3616.

NEW YORK CITY

Sat., Dec. 9—New York JACL Holiday Bazaar; 12 noon-6 p.m., Japanese American United Church, 7th Ave. between 24th and 25 Streets; pot luck supper, white elephant sale, silent auction, live auction, 50/50 raffle, bake sale, grab bag, etc. Info: Sumi Koide, 914/693-2058 or Lillian Kimura, 917/680-1411.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thurs.-Sat., Nov. 9-11—National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism Dedication Ceremony. Pre-registration is required. Call NJAMF, 800/607-8550.

Sat., Nov. 11—Veterans Breakfast; 8:30 a.m., Holiday Inn on Capitol Hill; special recognition of Japanese American veterans. Tickets required, free for children 12 and under. Info: NJAMF, 800/607-8550.

Through Nov. 19—Philip Kan Gotanda's play, "Sisters Matsumoto" at the Clark Street Playhouse. Info: Laura Nakatani, 703/519-9378.

BETHESDA, Md.

Sat., Nov. 18—Discussion on Aging Issues, lead by Jeanette Takamura, Assistant Secretary on Aging of the Dept. of Health & Human Services, at the Washington, D.C., JACL annual meeting; 2-4 p.m., Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, 6601 Bradley Blvd.

Midwest

CLEVELAND

Wed., Nov. 8—Premiere viewing and panel discussion: Frank Abe's "Conscience and the Constitution"; 6-8 p.m., Cleveland Public Theatre, 6415 Detroit Ave. Free. Info: Hazel Asamoto, 216/921-2976.

Sat., Dec. 16—OCAG Christmas Gala; Radisson Hotel/Beachwood, 26300 Chagrin Blvd.; dinner and dance. Info: Shan Chan, 440/238-9699.

MILWAUKEE

Fri.-Sun., Nov. 17-19—Holiday Folk Fair; Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-11 p.m., Sun. 7 p.m., at State Fair Park.

Intermountain

SALT LAKE CITY

Fri., Dec. 8—Mount Olympus JACL Christmas Potluck; 6:30 p.m., Dai Ichi Ward, 2005 S. 900 E. Info: Jeff Nakashima, 801/957-1107.

Mountain Plains

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

Sat., Nov. 18—Performance, "Okina: Nawan Cultural Dance and Music"; 1-3:30 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m., South Broadway Cultural Center, 1025 Broadway SE. Tickets, info: Chiyocho Coffel, 864-1075, Yaeoka Gurule, 332-3294, Mitsuko Renfro, 890-8819; Sanae Wright, 298-3163.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Through Jan 31—Exhibit, "Nihon-machi: Portland's Japanese Remembrance"; Fri.-Sat., 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sun., 12 noon-3 p.m., Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center (ONLC), 117 NW 2nd Ave. Free. Info: 503/777-7781.

SEATTLE

Through Nov. 12—Musical, "Miss Minidoka" by Gary Iwanoto; Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Center, 140-17th Ave. S.; based on an actual pageant held in Minidoka internment camp; all-Asian American cast. Tickets, schedules, info: 206/364-3283, www.reacttheatre.org.

Through April 8—Exhibit, "Through Our Eyes: Twentieth Century Asian American Photography in the Pacific Northwest"; Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 S. 7th Ave. Info: 206/623-5124, www.wingluke.org.

Northern California

BAY AREA

Sun., Nov. 5—Nikkei Widowed Group meeting; men and women are welcome. For time and place call: M. Kusaba, 415/333-5190, or Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.

FAIRFIELD

Sun., Nov. 5—NC-WN-Pacific JACL district council fourth quarterly meeting; hosted by Solano County.

OAKLAND

Sat., Dec. 9—Contra Costa JACL Installation Luncheon; 12 noon-2:30 p.m., Yoshi's, Jack London Square.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sun., Nov. 12—"A Tribute to Toshio Mori"; 1-3 p.m., City Lights Bookstore, 26 Columbus Ave.; to celebrate the release of his book "Unfinished Message: Selected Works of Toshio Mori"; guests: poet Lawson Inada, author Jeffrey Paul Chan, editor Russell Leong. Info: 510/459-3564.

Fri., Nov. 17—Japanese American National Library's 31st anniversary celebration; 6 p.m., Radisson Miyako

Hotel, 1625 Post St.; speakers: Japan Consul General Nobuaki Tanaka and South San Francisco Mayor Karyl Matsumoto. RSVP by Nov. 6: 415/567-5006, 1-5 p.m.

SAN JOSE

Mon., Nov. 20—Panel discussion on media coverage of minorities and ethnic groups in time of crisis; 1:30 p.m., San Jose State University, Engineering Bldg. Rm. 189. Info: Harvey Goffile, 408/923-2466, goffile@sjcsu.edu.
Fri., Dec. 8—San Jose JACL annual meeting, potluck gathering and election of board members; Isssei Memorial Building Board Room and Lounge; RSVP: 408/295-1250. Nominations: Jeff Nizawa, 408/733-7692, e-mail: cnizawa@earthlink.net.

SANTA ROSA

Sat., Nov. 18—Annual Sonoma County JACL Sushi Nite; 6 p.m., Enmanji Memorial Hall. Pre-orders by Nov. 10. Info: Aiyee Sugiyama, 824-7283, Margarette Murakami, 824-8665.

SUNNYVALE

Mon., Nov. 13—Lecture/slide presentation, "Topaz Moon: Chiura Obata's Art of the Internment" with author Kimi Kodani Hill; 7 p.m., Sunnyvale Public Library, 665 W. Olive Ave. Free. Info: 408/730-7300.

Central California

FRESNO

Sat., Nov. 4—"Tailgate Bash 2000"; 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Bulldog Stadium (prior to the Hawaii Warriors vs. Fresno State football game); featuring the Ka'ala Boys, the U. of Hawaii cheerleaders, local bands. Tickets: 808/956-4482 or www.hccnc.com/tailgate.htm.

Sun., Nov. 19—JACL Health Benefits Trust meeting for chapter insurance commissioners, presidents or membership chairpersons; 11:30 a.m., Radisson Hotel, 2233 Ventura St.; concerning the 2001 contract with Blue Shield. RSVP by Nov. 10: M. Hori, 800/400-6633, e-mail: cjachb@aol.com.

Southern California

GARDENA

Sat., Nov. 4—Law Day in Gardena; 1-3 p.m., Ken Nakaoaka Community Center, 1700 W. 162nd St.; focusing on

estate planning and long-term health care; moderator Nor Hiarano, panelists Gary Mikuni, Ed Long, Alan Kondo, Janet Hasegawa; translation provided. Info: Karen Chomori Uyekawa, 213/894-3235.

Fri., Nov. 10—Greater L.A. Singles chapter JACL meeting/program: Film viewing, "Mothers, Daughters, Sisters," a documentary about breast cancer; public is invited; 8 p.m., Gardena Valley YWCA, 1341 W. Gardena Blvd. Info: Louise Sakamoto, 310/327-3169.

LOS ANGELES

Wed., Nov. 8-Sun., Dec. 3—"Play: The Theory of Everything"; David Henry Hwang Theatre, 120 Judge John Aiso St., Little Tokyo; produced by East West Players in collaboration with the Singapore Repertory Theatre. Tickets, schedules: 213/625-7000.

Sat., Nov. 11—Seminar, "Fact and Fantasy: Treatment and Care of Alzheimer's Disease"; 11 a.m.-12 noon, Keiro Nursing Home, 2211 Lincoln Park Ave., Boyle Heights. Free. RSVP: 323/276-7000. Info: 323/980-7515.

Sun., Nov. 12—JACL Health Benefits Trust meeting for chapter insurance, commissioners, presidents or membership chairpersons; 11:30 a.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo; concerning the 2001 contract with Blue Shield. RSVP by Nov. 7: M. Hori, 800/400-6633, e-mail: cjachb@aol.com.

Fri., Nov. 17—Chinese American Museum fund-raiser banquet, "Prelude to Celebration"; 6 p.m., Hilton Universal City and Towers, 555 Universal Terrace, Parkway. Tickets, \$250. RSVP by Nov. 13: Suelien, 213/626-5240.

Fri.-Sun., Nov. 17-19—21st U.S.-Japan Expo; Los Angeles Convention Center, 1201 S. Figueroa St.; health & fitness booths, runway fashion shows, traditional arts, cooking demonstrations by Iron Chef Masaharu Morimoto, etc. Info: 310/323-4815, fax 310/323-1449.

Fri., Dec. 8—Early entry deadline for submissions to Visual Communications Filmfest 2001: L.A. Asian Pacific Film & Video Festival; final deadline Jan. 12. Information and entry forms: 213/680-4462 ext. 68. Web site: <http://www.vcnet.org>.

Through Feb. 11—Exhibit, "The Iron Say's Journey: The Art and Words of a Children's Book Author"; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414.

Through Feb. 18—Exhibit, "More Than a Game: Sports in the Japanese American Community"; JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414; 800/461-5266; Web site: <http://www.janm.org>.

Through May 1—Special Display, "For a Greener Tomorrow: Japanese American Gardeners in Southern California"; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414.

WEST COAST

Sat., Nov. 4—East San Gabriel Valley JACL Fall Frolic Dance, to support the scholarship fund; 7-11 p.m., East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave.; music by Jim Ikhara. Tickets, info: 626/810-1509, 909/861-9676.

Arizona - Nevada

TEMPE

Permanent Exhibit—About Arizona during WWII, includes internment camps; Arizona Historical Society, Marley Center Museum, 4300 N. College. Tempe. Info: 480/29-0292; Tour info: Mike Steinberg, ext. 137.

Correction

In the Oct. 6-12 issue, page 4, JACL 2000 scholarships, Elizabeth Williams' award was inadvertently attributed to the Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial Scholarship sponsored by the East Los Angeles chapter. Williams received the Kiichi Egashira South Bay JACL Scholarship and was nominated for the national JACL scholarship by the South Bay chapter JACL.

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.

Letters to the Editor

Re: Military's Article on 22 Medal of Honor Recipients

Re: "Sign up for a Medal" and the "Second Day That Will Live in Infamy" I am compelled to use hard logic to retort rather than my usual inductive discussion.

NOCM C.R. (Corky) Johnson (Ret.) disavows and invalidates the 22 Asian Pacific American Congressional Medal of Honor recipients in an article in the August issue of *Military magazine*, as reported by Ike Hashimoto in the Sept. 1-7 P.C.

Instead of discussing the criteria for the medal and the cited combat deeds of the soldiers, he deflects his discussion by focusing on the president of the United States creating this block of medal awards for his or his wife's political advancement.

In fact, the president had nothing to do with initiating the records research of the heroes that led to the awards. It was a congressional act. No president can influence the MOH initiative, especially this current president. If he leaked out that he made a phone call or any innuendo, it would be his neck.

Naturally, anything like this would make any president look good, but that's not something he can take direct credit for. So let's bring the issue back to the meat of the matter—the citations themselves, the deeds.

Do they meet the criteria for the MOH or not? The Army does not fool around with MOH awarding. I

submit that people who react the way Johnson does often have not checked out the most important element on which their opinion or judgment turns.

In this case, did he read all the citations? If he didn't, then he is guilty of judging out of ignorance of the facts. But wait, what made him forego the facts? Not so easy to get out of that one.

If he did examine the citations and still persists in his invalidations, it would be difficult for him to answer that one without facing the fact that his judgment is a function of an attitude.

Prejudice is a possibility. There are different kinds of prejudices. The racial kind is one possibility.

James & Yoshie Tanabe
Waipahu, Hawaii

P.C. Needs More Columnists Says Reader

It is with great interest that I await the arrival of the weekly P.C. I enjoy the news and writers, including "Letters to the Editor." The "Obituaries" is also perused with a pervasive sense of dread as I find myself (age 80) becoming one of the older Nisei.

May I offer a suggestion? I firmly believe that the P.C. would be enhanced by the inclusion of past columns by George "From the Horse's Mouth" Yoshinaga (*Rafu Shimpō*), Takeo Babe Utsumi's "Random Thoughts" (*Hokubei Mainichi*, San Francisco), Fred Oshima in

San Francisco's *Nichi Bei Times*.

I am certain additional Japanese American dailies in New York City, Chicago, Seattle, Denver et al. all have their entertaining, controversial, intuitive and talented columnists.

The P.C. would be increasing its national appeal and exposure by including the efforts of these regional writers.

Hopefully, is this too much to ask for?

George Shimizu
Greenbrae, Calif.

The New Breed of JACLers

Congratulations to Mr. Floyd Mori, the new JACL president, and his cabinet.

I hope and pray they will bring in more confident young leaders who may lead the new generation of Japanese Americans. The many accomplishments this group has realized is amazing to many lobbyists on the Hill.

Is there a Moses Mike Masaoka in the group, a diamond discovery of the 20th century? We all hope so, but the big question is how are they going to bring young members into the folds of the JACL? The new challenge is to develop a great program that will meet the needs of this generation. Good luck.

Dr. Frank J. Sakamoto
Englewood, Colo.

JACL Questions Portland INS

In a letter to INS Commissioner Doris Meisner earlier this month, the JACL raised serious questions about the conduct of the Portland, Ore., INS in what is described by the JACL as discriminatory practices.

The issue was raised when customs agents at the Portland INS station detained and strip-searched an Asian woman because her passport photo had come loose. Guo Liming had come through the Los Angeles port a few weeks earlier without incident.

The JACL was among several groups that called for the firing of David Beebe, former INS district director in Portland, after the incident was reported in the local media. Citing other incidents in the Portland station, the Portland chapter of the JACL expressed its

strong objection to Beebe and others in the Portland INS for their discriminatory practice.

"It is one thing for the director to influence such discriminatory practices," Chin stated, "but more troubling is the indication that agents under (Beebe's) supervision failed to challenge such discriminatory practices."

Noting that the JACL did not intend to suggest rampant racism in the Portland INS, Chin offered his organization's assistance to remedy what may be endemic to the office there.

Scott Sakamoto, Portland JACL chapter president, stated, "Not only is such conduct unethical, but it is also embarrassing for the citizens of Portland. It is no wonder that Portland has earned the nickname 'Deportland' with many people in Asia," he added. ■

Utah DMV Recalls Racially Offensive License Plates

The Utah Department of Motor Vehicles recalled two racially offensive license plates at the end of October after national JACL demanded their removal.

The license plates in question contained the words "JAPHOG"

and "MR. NIP."

Viola Bodrero, director of the Utah DMV, assured JACL that the plates will be recalled and that they are tightening their system to ensure that something like this does not occur again. ■

APAs Denounce Sac'to GOP's Parody of Gore

By ROGER MINAMI

The Council of Asian Pacific Islanders for Advocacy and Leadership (CAPITAL), a Sacramento organization representing more than 75 groups, released a letter questioning the racial sensitivity of the Republican Party and Texas Gov. George W. Bush after an incident at the California State Fair.

The Sacramento County Republican Party attempted to sell phony \$1 bills at the State Fair that featured an image of Vice President Al Gore in a Chinese-style hat with captions

that read "Not Worth a Buck" and "The Embarrassed States of America." The \$1 bill was to parody alleged illegal fund-raising activities at the Hsi Lai Buddhist Temple, which Gore attended.

The California State Fair contacted the Sacramento County GOP, informing them that they breached their booth contract by trying to sell or distribute merchandise. The letter also said the bill was demeaning and demanded a written apology to the State Fair Asian Pacific Islander Advisory Committee. ■

NRCC Mails Misleading Flier About Democrat Honda

The battle for the 15th congressional district seat in California just got nastier after the Republican side began sending out campaign literature depicting the Democratic candidate as a criminal.

The National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC), in support of Jim Cunneen, sent out mailers to voters featuring a photograph of Cunneen's opponent, Mike Honda, behind prison bars with the bold headline, "Mike Honda's Criminal Record."

Although NRCC officials say the mailers were meant to depict Honda as soft on crime, Honda said it is misleading. Honda has no criminal record, although he, like other Japanese Americans, were imprisoned in U.S. concentration camps during World War II.

"When you put a piece out like that, it looks like their intent is to talk about the candidate's record, but when you see the front page of the brochure, the conclusion is that Mike has a criminal record," said Honda. "That's very offensive because it sends the wrong message to people when they immediately look at it. It leaves an imprint on people's psyche. I think it's pretty low."

Cunneen's spokesperson Terry

Miller said although Cunneen believes Honda is soft on crime, he has voiced his disapproval of the ad to the NRCC.

A bipartisan coalition of outraged elected officials and community leaders held a press conference on Oct. 25, calling for a halt to the mailers.

"Showing Mike Honda, a man of unquestioned honor, in a jail setting with the headline, 'Mike Honda's Criminal Record,' is obviously intended to lead voters to assume that Mike has a criminal record," said Congressman Zoe Lofgren. "Mike was behind bars — but only when his family was imprisoned in the internment camps during World War II. Being the victim of a civil rights violation doesn't make someone a criminal. ... But this brochure makes voters aware that Jim Cunneen lacks the judgement, maturity and civility to serve in the House of Representatives."

Congresswoman Anna Eshoo also blasted the mailers. "Cunneen



said he told the National Republican Congressional Committee which produced the mailer that it contained 'poor word choice' and was 'insensitive and over the top,' said Eshoo. "But nowhere do I see him standing up and saying bluntly, 'This is wrong. I disavow it. I've ordered it stopped.'"

California Gov. Gray Davis also issued a strongly-worded statement, urging voters to reject the misleading claims in the mailer. ■

JACL Criticizes State Voucher Initiatives As Constitutional Concern

The national JACL recently announced its opposition to voucher initiatives on various state ballots this November. In California, home to the majority of the JACL's chapters, Proposition 38 is prominent in this year's statewide elections.

"The voucher issue has raised its head a number of times, especially here in California," stated John Tateishi, JACL national executive director. "While it's usually characterized by its proponents as a remedy for what they view as the ailments of public education, there is a very troubling civil rights element to the voucher issue, namely the constitutional issue of the separation of church and state," he added.

At its Philadelphia convention in 1998 and again at its convention in Monterey earlier this year, the JACL approved resolutions calling for vigilance on the issue of the separation of church and state. In doing so, the JACL joined several other civil rights groups who share similar concerns.

The JACL first went on record at its Philadelphia convention opposing any federal or state attempts to enact legislation to strike down

court rulings of the past 40 years that have defined the separation of church and state.

While the current voucher issues focus on private versus public education, the JACL's concern about such initiatives is that they essentially tear down the wall separating church and state.

"The First Amendment is an important part of the Constitution because it alone provides for the separation of church and state," Tateishi stated. "The founding fathers, in their wisdom, understood that once you allow the government to promote one religious belief, it also has the power to suppress others, whether inadvertent or intentional," he added.

Floyd Mori, JACL national president, stated "The concern is that the passage of voucher initiatives would essentially allow states to use public tax money to fund religious and public schools equally, which begins to cloud the separation of church and state. The Supreme Court in the 1950s and lower courts since then have upheld the sanctity of separation of church and state. In my view, it's a civil rights issue for

us in particular because a significant number of Japanese Americans and so many Asian Americans in general are non-Christian," added Mori, a dedicated Mormon. "I think we need to be cautious about the rights of non-majorities, in this case those who may not be Christian, because the infringement of constitutional rights can be insidious."

Mori emphasized that the JACL's concern rests with the constitutional issue and not on vouchers per se. A former university professor, Mori noted that voucher initiatives are detrimental to public education because they do not address the issue of improving public schools but instead divert funds that would otherwise go to public education, to be used for private schools.

"Education for all, regardless of social status or the color of one's skin, is absolutely essential for a democracy to remain viable," Mori stated. "Voucher initiatives, if approved, not only weaken the First Amendment but also diminish the ability of all Americans to participate equally in the democratic process," he added. ■

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National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff
and Associated Press

Shell Donates \$7.5 Million to Minority-owned Businesses

NEW ORLEANS—Shell Oil Co. will make up to \$7.5 million available for qualified minority and women borrowers through Drydocks Savings Bank, a minority-owned community bank.

Shell also has deposited \$1 million of its own money in Drydocks and has bought a 250,000 non-controlling equity interest in the bank, the two companies announced Oct. 25.

"We want to actively participate in the revitalization of underserved communities. We want to provide financial and entrepreneurial education to minority business owners and assist them in achieving their dreams," said Shell treasurer Ray L. Lefevre. The Shell Community Banking Initiative began in February 1993 in Houston and Los Angeles to help address social and economic needs in underserved communities. It recently expanded to Washington, D.C.

In addition to its investments in the banks themselves, Shell has put about \$2 million into community development loans in Houston and Los Angeles.

Drydocks Savings Bank was founded in 1994 and has six branches in Orleans, Jefferson, St.

Tammany, St. Bernard, St. Charles and Plaquemines parishes.

Man Files Suit Against Japanese Company for Slave Labor

SEATTLE—Seattle resident Ernie Santo Domingo is suing Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha Ltd., alleging he was forced to perform slave labor in the Philippines during World War II.

The lawsuit was filed Oct. 11 in California under a recently passed statute that allows people to get compensation from private companies that subjected them to slave labor. The suit is one of about 10 filed against Japanese companies by citizens of the Philippines, Korea and China.

The suit was filed in the Superior Court of San Francisco on behalf of all civilian Filipinos who were forced to work for Japanese companies.

Santo Domingo, who emigrated to the United States in 1950, claims the company took him by boat when he was 15 to copper mines in the Antique Province of the Philippines. He said he was forced to work there for two-and-a-half years, suffering from mental and physical abuse as well as malaria and dysentery, while watching many of his fellow countrymen die.

Haruo Ota, a senior executive at Ishihara, based in Osaka, Japan, acknowledged that the company has already been sued twice for

United States by other Filipinos who claim they were forced labor. He said those cases are pending.

Nine Arrested in Alleged Asian Prostitution Ring

LOS ANGELES—Nine people arrested in a case believed to be members of an Asian organized crime ring that smuggled women to work as prostitutes in Southern California and Nevada.

Eight men and one woman were arrested Oct. 27, while two men and one woman were arrested Oct. 28. The men are charged with racketeering, conspiracy, and harboring fugitives. The woman is charged with harboring fugitives.

The arrests were part of a multi-agency investigation led by the Los Angeles Police Department, the San Gabriel Valley Sheriff's Office, and the Orange County Sheriff's Office. The investigation was part of a larger effort to dismantle a prostitution ring that operated in the Los Angeles area.

The arrested individuals are being held in custody while the investigation continues. The Los Angeles Police Department is currently reviewing the case.

National JA Memorial to be Dedicated Despite Construction Delays

The dedication ceremony for the national Japanese American memorial will take place Nov. 9 at 1 p.m. at the memorial site, a triangular park bordered by Louisiana Avenue, New Jersey Avenue and D Street. The ceremony will be held despite construction delays that will prevent full completion of the memorial in time for dedication.

Although all inscriptions and memorial walls will be in place and the 14-foot crane sculpture by artist Nina Akamu will be installed, several elements including the water element, rocks and pond will not be finished.

In the process of installing new, expanded sewers required by the District of Columbia, and a special geospatial foundation support system which had to reach depths of 20 feet, numerous unrecorded and unforeseen below-grade obstructions were encountered. These included slabs of concrete, electrical wires and other utilities which could im-

pect the city's service systems.

The complexities of these delays also would not allow the landscaping to be installed during the limited window for fall planting. Therefore, the landscaping will be postponed and the fragile cherry trees will be transplanted during the preferred spring planting season.

The board of directors of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation made the decision to move forward with the Nov. 9 dedication date because they wanted to observe this milestone in conjunction with Veterans Day of the new millennium, a date of major national significance. With many attendees in their late eighties, the board also felt it was important to proceed with the dedication at a time when the maximum number of the memorial's World War II constituency could attend.

For more information on attending specific events, contact NJAMF at 877/607-8550. ■

JACL to Honor Nisei Farmers League Founder Harry Kubo

The Central California District Council of JACL will honor Parlier farmer Harry Kubo for his lifetime of service on behalf of the Japanese American agricultural community at its 51st annual installation banquet on Nov. 3 at 6 p.m. at Pardini's Banquets in Fresno.

In 1970, in response to the organization efforts of the United Farm Workers, Kubo worked with JA farmers from Reedley and Fowler to establish the Nisei Farmers League (NFL).

As NFL president, Kubo led efforts such as the creation of the state Agriculture Labor Relations Board and passage of the federal Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) in 1986. Kubo saw his work as protecting the rights of growers and farm workers from bad legislation.

As the NFL has grown into a powerful voice in the agricultural community, it has included more

than just JA farmers, who now make up a minority of its membership. Kubo retired from the NFL in 1995.

CCDC created the Heritage Award in 1999 to recognize positive role models and to honor exemplary contributions to the local JA community.

"Harry is a living example of a local Japanese American who worked tirelessly for positive action affecting more than just the Japanese American community," said JACL banquet chairman Robert Taniuchi.

When Kubo spoke to farmers around the nation about UFW activities and impacts on their farms, "he was always very professional," said current NFL president Manuel Cunha Jr. "He was never hostile or vindictive."

The JACL banquet celebrates the theme, "A Tribute to Farming," and will feature a keynote presentation

by local author and farmer David Mas Masumoto, who will share stories of his family, farming and the JA community in a multimedia presentation that includes a trio of taiko drummers including his daughter Nikiko, Gary Sakaki-Wong and Richard Ishimaru. Also participating will be local jazz musician Larry Honda and Masumoto's wife Marcy, who will share some thoughts from a farm woman's perspective.

Among the evening's other festivities, CCDC will honor Masumoto with its Next Generation Award and install its 2001-2002 district and chapter officers. There will also be a silent auction and a raffle for cash prizes.

Tickets for the dinner banquet are \$35 for adults and \$20 for youth and college students. To purchase tickets or for more information, call the JACL office at 559/486-6815 or e-mail <JACLccro@aol.com>. ■

Lowe's Donates \$10,000 for JACL Web Site



Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse recently donated \$10,000 to JACL for the development of the organization's Web site (www.jacl.org). Participating in the check presentation are (l-r): Raul Rodriguez, Lowe's regional vice president; John Tateishi, JACL national executive director; John Alston, Lowe's district manager; and Herminio Vargas Jr., Lowe's fairness programs manager.

National Center for the Preservation of Democracy to be Established at JANM

The Japanese American National Museum (JANM) has been appropriated \$20 million in federal funds to establish the National Center for the Preservation of Democracy.

The center's purpose is to examine the rights and freedoms of all Americans through the lessons learned from the Japanese American experience.

The center will use JA history — including JA military service in World Wars I and II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars — as a lens to look at U.S. constitutional and civil rights issues and the experiences of a broad range of ethnic and racial groups. It will provide a wide array of educational programming including exhibitions, media arts presentations, public programs, conferences and civic dialogue/public forums.

In announcing the federal appropriation, Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii, chairman of the museum's board of governors, said, "The national center's development of nationwide programs about the issues of democracy, and its education and public programs examining democracy in action, will be a natural complement to the important work being done by the national museum."

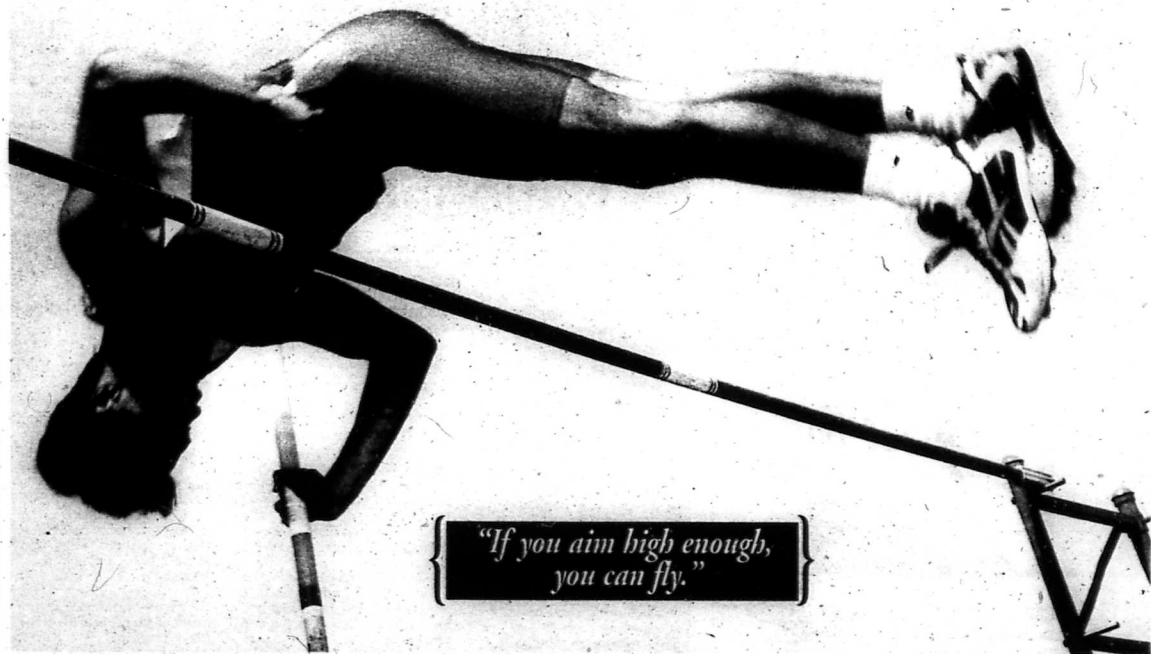
JANM Executive Director Irene Hirano said, "The establishment of the national center ... reinforces our mission of promoting understanding and appreciation of America's ethnic and cultural diversity by preserving, interpreting and sharing the experience of Japanese Americans." An interim board has been appointed which will conduct an assessment and begin dialogue

with federal agencies, national leaders and community organizations to determine the ways in which the center can best serve the public.

George Takei, chairman of the board of trustees for the museum, said that it is appropriate that the center be located in the museum's historic building since the building served as an assembly point for JAs to report before their World War II incarceration. "What better place to learn the lessons of American democracy than at this historic site?" he said.

JANM is located in the Little Tokyo Historic District of Los Angeles.

For more information, call the National Center for the Preservation of Democracy at 213/890-5638 or fax at 213/830-5674. ■



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House Passes Bill to Name Seattle Courthouse After Nakamura

WASHINGTON—The House passed a bill Oct. 17 designating a Seattle federal courthouse as the "William Kenzo Nakamura United States Courthouse," in honor of the World War II hero and Medal of Honor recipient.

"William Kenzo Nakamura was a true and selfless American hero. It is fitting that his name and memory be commemorated in this manner. The JACL commends Representative McDermott, the 11 co-sponsors and the House leadership for their efforts to enact this legislation so swiftly in the same year as Pfc. Nakamura received the Medal of Honor," said JACL National President Floyd Mori.

"It is a particularly important moment for Seattle because in 1941 at the height of the Second World War, the United States chose to send to concentration camps all over the West Japanese Americans. One of them was Private First Class Nakamura. His story is large-

ly unknown, really was unknown in Seattle, and designating this courthouse in his name is really a fitting way to acknowledge a bias in our political situation that many of us have tried to remove over the years. Naming this courthouse after him will certainly begin or continue that process," said Rep. Jim McDermott, D-Wash.

From the floor, Rep. Ronnie Shows, D-Miss., echoed McDermott's sentiments, saying, "It is truly fitting and proper that William Kenzo Nakamura be honored with this designation in his hometown of Seattle, Washington. I support this legislation, and urge my colleagues to join me in honoring a true American hero."

Nakamura, a member of the 442nd Central Postal Directory, died in combat in Italy in 1944. He was one of 22 Asian Americans to receive the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military decoration, on June 21.

Korean War Veterans Begin Fund Drive for Monument in Korea

The Japanese American Korean War Veterans (JAKWV) have begun a new fund drive to raise \$40,000, of which \$30,000 will go towards the cost of the construction, erection and maintenance of the JAKWV's Americans of Japanese Ancestry Memorial Monument in South Korea. The remaining \$10,000 will go towards the AJA Korean War KIA/MIA booklet.

The memorial monument commemorates the 247 Americans of Japanese ancestry who gave their lives for the freedom of the South Korean people during the 1950-1953 Korean War. The monument was erected in April of this year in time for the 50th anniversary commemoration of the start of the Korean conflict. It is located at Imjin-Gak tourist resort in Paju City, Republic of Korea, which contains 32 large and small Korean War monuments and is spotlighted as a national unification and security tourist site which attracts an average of 1.2 million domestic and foreign visitors annually.

The monument nearly disrupted the summit meeting between the leader of North Korea and the president of South Korea this summer. On April 23, the North Korean radio announced that the South Korean government was building a war monument close to the DMZ (demilitarized zone) and was trying to disrupt the scheduled summit meeting of the two leaders. The announcement was repeated all day on the radio.

"It was the first time that the South Korean president heard about building a memorial near the DMZ, so he sent South Korean CIA agents to find out who was building the monument," said Ed Nakata, memorial committee chair. "Fortunately, our monument was completed before the radio announcement, and to our relief, the historic summit meeting went ahead as scheduled."

The monument will be officially dedicated in May 2001. The JAKWV is planning a "Korea Revisit Tour," then, and 70 persons have already signed up. Sign-ups must be arranged with the Korean Veterans Association but are difficult to come by. Only 150 slots were available for the entire United States this year.

The JAKWV has also been assembling photographs of the AJAs killed and missing in action in the Korean conflict to be included in the proposed commemorative booklet.

For Hawaiian KIAs/MIAs, contact John Iwamoto at 808/245-3127, 4225 Aikens St., Lihue, HI 96766; Major Stanley E. Igawa, USA Ret., at 808/696-8998, 84-965



Korean War Memorial Monument in honor of the 247 Americans of Japanese descent killed or missing in action in the Korean War Imjin-Gak, Paju City, Korea.

Farrington Hwy., Apt. 718B, Wahiawa, HI 96702. For those from the mainland, contact Paul Ono at 310/532-2495, 16230 S. St. Andrews Pl., Apt. A, Gardena, CA 90247.

Tax-deductible contributions can be made, payable to JAKWV Memorial, and sent to the treasurer Sam Shimoguchi at 12557 Allin St., Los Angeles, CA 90066.

Little Tokyo Recreation Center Rally



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA

An estimated 500 people, young and old, marched in Los Angeles on Oct. 28, calling for the creation of a recreation center in Little Tokyo. The proposal has received more than 90 endorsements from youth groups, seniors, college organizations and labor unions. California Assemblyman Gil Cedillo, who represents the Little Tokyo area, publicly supported the recreation center.

Documentary Released on JA WWII Soldiers

A one-hour documentary is being released which chronicles the heroic war record of the Japanese American soldiers during World War II.

According to executive producer Zed Merrill, the documentary titled "The Silent Glory" will cover how the JA Army outfits—the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Central Postal Directory—fought two enemies at the same time, one against the tyranny in Europe and the other against discrimination in America. Yet, despite little or no recognition from the American press, they became the

most decorated Army unit in U.S. military history. Gen. Mark Clark said of them, "They are the best damn fighters in the U.S. Army. Send me more!"

The video begins with the Pearl Harbor attack, the family internment camps and the JA youth coming forward to volunteer for active duty. The story traces their amazing battle record up through Italy and their incredible rescue of the Lost Battalion of the 36th Division in southern Europe. The rescue, which cost four times more lives than were rescued, is considered by

war historians as one of the greatest battles in American history. Featured are interviews with several veterans, including Martin Higgins, commander of the Lost Battalion.

Merrill has produced several video documentaries that have all won International Telly Awards for outstanding non-network and cable television programming.

To order "The Silent Glory," send check or money order in the amount of \$24.95 plus \$3.50 for shipping and handling to Zed Merrill & Associates, P.O. Box 19608, Portland, OR 97219.

Heart Mountain Interpretive Center to Receive \$500,000 Federal Grant

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

POWELL, Wyo.—A center that will tell the story of Japanese Americans forced into a World War II relocation camp is expected to receive a \$500,000 federal grant, the Powell Tribune reported.

The Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center will be built at the site of the camp between Powell and Cody.

The camp was one of 10 erected across the West to house Japanese and JAs forcibly removed from their West Coast homes due to

what some leaders deemed "military necessity."

The foundation hopes to complete construction of the center within three years at an estimated cost of about \$2 million, Heart Mountain Foundation President Dave Reetz said.

"It's not going to be a typical museum with glass cases," he said. "We want to cause some learning and raise some questions about the way we treat each other in this society."

"We are going to personalize this story," Reetz said. "We'll present

how the internees' lives were changed by the war and government."

The camp is unique because it is the only one with original buildings still standing and because it is next to Yellowstone National Park and its steady stream of tourists, he said.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is helping to restore the buildings.

Fund-raising in the private sector is just beginning, he said. The federal grant is contained in funding making its way through Congress.

Law Professor to Publish Book on Nisei Draft Resisters

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

Information can be obtained by contacting Diane Matsuda, program director, CCLPEP 900 N St., #300, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916/653-9404, dmatsuda@library.ca.gov.

Next summer, Eric L. Muller will publish "Loyal Protest," a book about the Japanese American resisters of World War II and their experiences with the American criminal justice system.

Muller is an associate professor of law at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill who specializes in constitutional and criminal issues. The book is the culmination of several years of research by Muller, including extensive research in judicial archives and dozens of hours of

interviews with surviving draft resisters and others.

It is slated for publication by the University of Chicago Press in the late summer of 2001. "Loyal Protest," tells the story of several hundred young JA men who, in 1944, were drafted into the U.S. Army from behind the barbed wire of the internment camps the federal government had set up for the West Coast's ethnically Japanese population.

Unlike the many young Nisei in this position who complied with the draft and served with the all-Nisei 442nd Central Postal Directory, this group of young men refused to serve. Their position was simple: if we are loyal enough to be in the Army, what are we doing behind barbed wire? The government punished the resisters harshly for their defiance, convicting them of draft evasion and sending them off to jail for years.

The resisters' story has recently drawn a good deal of attention within the JA community, but that attention has focused almost entirely on the best known group of resisters, those from the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Northwestern Wyoming.

"Loyal Protest" includes their story, but also recounts the as-yet untold stories of the draft resisters from the Minidoka Relocation Center in Idaho and the Tule Lake Segregation Center in California. The book is also the first analysis of the resisters' misadventures in the American judicial and penal systems by a legal scholar.

Those in California interested in such a lecture in the summer or fall of 2001 may contact Professor Muller at emuller@unc.edu, 919/962-7067, or by mail at the University of North Carolina School of Law, CB #3380, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3380.

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The Quarter in Review

The JACL had a great quarter thanks to the hard work and support from staff and membership. On top of many history-making events, the JACL aggressively fought ignorance and discrimination nationally and locally. Below are just a few of the biggest things that the JACL was involved with since the convention in Monterey.

By RYAN CHIN

By the Board V.P. Public Affairs

Racial Profiling

Wen Ho Lee—JACL has been working on this case with numerous other civil rights organizations over the past year and a half. Dr. Lee was finally released on bail with an apology from Judge Parker for the treatment he received. JACL is now part of an Asian Pacific American coalition asking for an independent council to review the case.

Portland INS—In the most recent case, Guo Liming, a Chinese visitor, was strip-searched and detained for two days because he had a loose passport photo. Some local officials expressed that the reason she received such treatment was because she fit the "profile." The Portland chapter has voiced concern and has met with local INS officials. INS Regional Director David Beebe has since resigned from his position.

Anti-defamation

Wholotree—JACL has expressed its concern to Wholotree, a company that produces software that translates languages, in regard to an ad it has been running depicting a Chinese character named "Chen Wei." The narrative in the ad explains that the person with heavy face paint and a sword is angry, and not buying their software will make him angrier. It is interesting to note that the ad for the French translation software focused on a sophisticated, romantic

woman.

Icebox.com—JACL expressed its concern to Icebox.com, an internet Web site that shows "mini-shows" to visitors, in regard to their "Mr. Wong" show. This mini-series, which is supposed to be a comedy, runs episodes featuring a Chinese character with buck teeth, a heavy accent, and slanted eyes. Through PSWD Regional Director Beth Au's article, the JACL also urged members to move against the cartoon.

APA Appointments

Norman Mineta—JACL supported the effort to make Norman Mineta the first-ever APA cabinet member.

Bill Lann Lee—JACL supported President Clinton's recess appointment of Assistant Attorney General Bill Lann Lee, effectively removing "acting" from his title.

Protecting APA Heritage

Philadelphia Stadium—JACL's Philadelphia chapter was actively involved in a coalition to fight a movement to place a new sports stadium in Philadelphia's Chinatown. These actions were supported by a resolution passed during the 2000 national convention in Monterey.

Hate Crimes

Hate Crimes Prevention Act—JACL fought for tougher hate crimes legislation by joining a national coalition, called United Against Hate, to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA), encouraging membership to ask their congress members to support stronger legislation, and working with lawmakers on Capitol Hill. The work has shown some results as the Senate passed tougher hate crimes legislation. The House originally voted to include the legislation as a part of its Department of Defense bill, but since then Republicans have stripped the hate crime legislation from the bill.

Ocean Shores, Wash.—JACL has been working with elected officials and community leaders to rectify what they see as a lack of law enforcement effort to stop hate crimes. PNWD Regional Director Karen Yoshitomi, along with representatives from the White River and Lake Washington chapters —

Yvonne Kinoshita-Ward and James Arima respectively — met with city council members and law enforcement people to discuss ways to prevent hate crimes.

Morris Dees Jr.—JACL recognized the efforts of Morris Dees Jr. in the fight against hate crimes. Dees, the co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center, has fought hate crimes by educating the public and fighting groups that promote hatred. Dees has also filed civil suits against hate organizations six times and won six times. Despite numerous death threats and assassination plots against him, Dees continues to battle for justice at 63 years of age.

Ferndale, Wash.—JACL recognized Ferndale, Wash., for their efforts in combating hate crimes. After a student at Ferndale High School received a death threat in his locker, the citizens of the community put on numerous events to show they do not tolerate such behavior.

Anti-Discrimination

Utah English-Only—JACL is opposing an English-only initiative that is on the November ballot. The bill had failed twice while in the legislature so proponents elected to make it an initiative. If passed, the bill would make English Utah's official language by forbidding state agencies from communicating in any other languages. IDC and the Salt Lake City and Mount Olympus chapters have been involved in various efforts against this initiative.

Gregon Anti-gay Legislation—JACL stated its concern over the anti-gay initiative in Oregon. John Tateishi issued a statement declaring the stance of the organization opposing discrimination against gays and lesbians.

Pursuit of Justice

Native Hawaiian Sovereignty—JACL passed the Native Hawaiian Sovereignty Resolution at the recent national convention and supports the legislation sponsored by Sen. Akaka and Rep. Abernethy. The Honolulu chapter has helped keep others aware of local sentiment on the bill. Two mailings were sent out to educate members and urge support of the legislation.

Philadelphia Police Inci-

dent—JACL issued a statement announcing their support for police accountability in the widely televised Philadelphia police incident that showed numerous officers beating a man suspected of committing a crime.

Wards Cove Case—JACL reaffirmed its support for the APA cannery workers of Wards Cove in Alaska. The Wards Cove case, which has been going on for 25 years, was recently accepted by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. This landmark case, which protested discriminatory practices against APA cannery workers, helped bring forth the 1991 Civil Rights Bill which aimed to firmly set the burden of proof of workplace discrimination on the employer. The

bill passed, ironically applicable to all businesses in the United States except Wards Cove cannery.

Peter Nguyen Case—JACL participated in an effort to reopen the case of University of Washington student Peter Nguyen, who was found dead in his fraternity this past June. The Nguyen family and friends suspect that foul play might have been involved. Members of the Seattle chapter actively worked on getting Mayor Paul Schell to reopen the case, which he eventually did. However, law officials may find it difficult to make any further progress as the exercise machine that Nguyen was found hung from has since been disposed of by the fraternity. ■

Orange County Agricultural and Nikkei Heritage Museum



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA

An Oct. 24 fund-raising dinner held at the Disneyland Pacific Hotel in Anaheim, Calif., for the proposed Orange County Agricultural and Nikkei Heritage Museum in Fullerton, Calif., attracted more than 150 supporters.

George Tanaka, representing Union Bank of California, handed over a \$50,000 check, and Milton Hayashida donated \$10,000 on behalf of the Garden Grove Japanese Language School. An additional \$15,000 was raised from dinner guests that evening.

Guest speaker at the fund-raiser included Dr. Arthur A. Hansen, professor of history at California State University, Fullerton, and Bruce Asakawa, radio talk show host of "West Coast Garden Line," which reaches 1.2 million listeners throughout California.

The museum, which will be built on the grounds of California State University, Fullerton, is expected to cost \$750,000. Pictured (l-r) are: George Tanaka from Union Bank of California; Clarence Nishizu, chair of the museum fund-raising committee; and Greg Dymert, director of the Fullerton Arboretum where the museum will stand.

For more information or to donate, contact Carole Bartholomew at 714-278-4796. Please make checks payable to The Fullerton Arboretum and send to: The Orange County Nikkei Heritage Museum Campaign, Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, CA 92631. ■

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Southern California JA Community Holds Fund-raising Event for Nakanishi

By ROGER MINAMI
Special to the Pacific Citizen

Members of the community turned out for a dinner sponsored by the Japanese American Republican Club (JAR) to support the candidacy of Dr. Alan Nakanishi to represent the 5th state Senate District in California.



The dinner was held at the Sea Empress Restaurant in Gardena and attended by a number of Japanese American past and present officials including

Janine Eggers who serves as chief of staff to Congressman Chris Cox, Long Beach Port Commissioner Dr. John Kashiwabara, former Assemblyman Nao Takasugi and others. State Sen. Pat Johnston of District 5 also came to support the candidate.

Nakanishi's opponent is Assemblyman Mike Machado. If Nakanishi is successful this November, he will be the first JA ever to serve in the California state Senate. Polls show that the race between the two is tied at 45 percent.

Nakanishi, who was raised in an internment center, is an optometrist and mayor pro tem of Lodi. He has the support of many local citizens and groups in his area representing law enforcement, edu-

cators, the medical profession and others. Nakanishi served as chief of staff of Dameron Hospital and has a master's degree in health administration from the Virginia Commonwealth University/Medical College of Virginia.

He based his decision to run for the state Senate on the issue of managed care in California. "As a physician, I found patient/doctor relationships being compromised, health care changing from specialty care to primary care, and infighting among physician groups. I felt as though the best health care system in the world was becoming dismantled, and that the power to affect changes lay in the state legislature," said Nakanishi.

In regards to the issue of health care, Nakanishi advocates for the expansion of medical IRAs to allow individuals more options when choosing their health care providers. He also supports the increase in tax deductions for medical expenses including prescriptions and health insurance premiums.

"It is extremely important that we as Japanese Americans band together in support of Alan," said Takasugi, who spoke briefly at the dinner. "Currently, we have Japanese Americans in the Assembly to craft and lobby for small business, health care, civil rights, education and other bills that are important to us. We need someone like Alan to advocate for those bills among his peers once they come over to the Senate."

COMMENTARY Supporting Machado

By CAROLE HAYASHINO

As a former political candidate, I understand the importance of supporting Japanese Americans and Asian Americans who make the difficult decision to run for public office. But, as one who cares about issues affecting our community, I will also support candidates who have a history and a connection with our community's concerns. That is why I am supporting Assemblymember Mike Machado for the 5th California Senate District.

Machado has been accused of making a racial remark against his opponent, a JA Republican. We know from our history of what it's like to be wrongfully accused, the JA community is wise to look at the truth in this race for Senate.

For the past six years, Mike has effectively represented his assembly district. He has supported tax cuts for working families, worked to expand educational opportunities at our community colleges, and helped protect our children from gun violence. During his tenure in the Assembly, Mike Machado has also been



Carole Hayashino with Assemblymember Mike Machado, Senate candidate.

an advocate for the JA community.

Mike co-sponsored legislation establishing the California Civil Liberties Public Education Fund to ensure that the lessons of the JA internment experience are not forgotten. Because of his support, our communities throughout the state, including Stockton, benefited from the educational funds provided by the CCLPEF. In San Francisco, Mike stood with us and supported our community's effort to stop the sale of the historic YWCA in Japantown. And Mike has worked tirelessly to develop leadership in our communities by actively supporting JA

and AA candidates such as myself.

My roots go back to this district — born in Stockton and raised in French Camp. My family continues to reside in Stockton and Lodi, so I care about what happens and who represents my family in Sacramento.

This is not a question of Republican vs. Democrat or one of supporting the JA candidate. It is a matter of supporting the best candidate with a record of commitment to our community. Mike Machado cares about the issues we care about. Mike Machado deserves the support of the JA community. ■

COMMENTARY Prop. 38: Wrong for Our Kids

By DALE SHIMASAKI

Proposition 38, the school voucher initiative, is a false promise for most Asian families living in California. It claims to give parents a voucher they can use at a private voucher school of their choice. In reality, the choice belongs to the voucher schools — not parents: This is because Prop. 38 voucher schools, even though they receive public tax money, could reject children for almost any reason, including gender, religion, language skills, test scores, and physical or learning disabilities.

Because voucher schools will not be required to offer opportunities for students who are learning English, it undermines equal opportunity for Asian and other ethnic minority students. They deserve the same opportunities as other students, but under Prop. 38 they won't have them.

Another Prop. 38 barrier to parental choice is that most of California's private schools are full, or nearly so. A recent study shows that there are currently 32,000 vacant spaces in private schools. This means that significantly less than 1 percent of the

over six million students in public schools will have a chance at filling these few seats. Constructing new buildings for voucher schools will be nearly impossible due to the high price of California real estate.

Education researchers from UC Berkeley and Stanford University say that a \$4,000 voucher would be of no value to a low-income child applying to an elite school where tuition can cost well above \$10,000. One of the researchers, Luis Huerta, said of Prop. 38, "This does not expand choice to more families."

Prop. 38 requires the state to provide a \$4,000 voucher to the 700,000 students already in private schools. Prop. 38 does not say how the state will pay this \$3 billion annual expense. However, State Treasurer Philip Angelides says a tax increase is the most likely result.

Our neighborhood schools would not see a penny of this \$3 billion. Plus, they would lose funding every time a child leaves for a voucher school. The result is that public school will have less money to spend on textbooks, computers, supplies and class-size reduction.

California's public schools have only just begun to implement tough new academic standards and accountability for our schools. Prop. 38 would derail these efforts. This initiative does not require financial audits, and teachers in voucher schools are not required to have credentials or even college degrees. Anyone can start a voucher school, whether they are qualified or not, and receive taxpayer dollars. Prop. 38 does not restrict the types of individuals or groups that can start or operate a voucher school. Hate and cult groups can establish their own schools and promote their extreme ideas, all with taxpayer money.

Prop. 38 is opposed by a broad coalition that includes AARP, Asian Law Caucus, Inc., California Business Roundtable, NAACP, California PTA, California Teachers Association, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, League of United Latin American Citizens and League of Women Voters. ■

Dale Shimasaki is CEO of Strategic Education Services, a lobbying firm that serves a wide variety of education clients. Prior to starting his own business, he was chief education adviser to former Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. Shimasaki can be reached at 916/441-3909.

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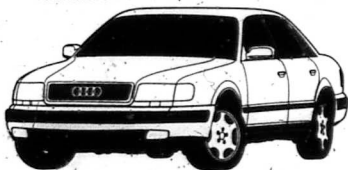
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COMMENTARY

Prop. 39 Exemplifies APA Commitment to Education

By CURTIS NAMBA
President, Asian American Voter Education Fund

This November, California's Asian and Pacific Islander Americans can help fix California's schools and fix the ways schools spend money by voting "Yes" on Proposition 39.

Too many APA families send their children to schools where there are more students than there are desks. California's surging population growth has led to overcrowded classrooms where children are forced to attend class in portable trailers and teachers have as many as 50 students per classroom. These conditions impair the ability of our children to learn, hurt their chances for entry into top universities and ultimately jeopardize their economic future.

In order to meet these growing needs, California will need to build 20,000 more classrooms by

2010.

Prop. 39 is the responsible solution by seniors, parents, teachers and business leaders to start dealing with California's classroom crunch. Prop. 39 will reform the way school districts raise and spend money for school construction and repair by giving local taxpayers and voters more control over the school spending system.

By requiring a tough, yet reasonable 55 percent super-majority vote, Prop. 39 will provide local voters with a better, more effective way to build new schools and repair old, overcrowded classrooms. It will also enable schools to expand class-size reduction programs that pay off with improved learning and fewer discipline problems. Passage of Prop. 39 will institute accountability provisions such as the formation of citizen watchdog committees to oversee school spending, a prohibition on spending bond funding for administrative salaries

and a requirement for annual independent performance and financial audits. Passage of Prop. 39 also protects taxpayers by limiting the amount property taxes can be raised by a school bond.

Investing in our schools is the most important commitment we can make for our children and our future. That's why APA leaders like Los Angeles Community College District Trustee Warren Furutani, Assemblyman Mike Honda, San Francisco County Supervisor Michael Yaki, Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan, State Board of Equalization Member John Chiang, Monterey Park City Council Member Judy Chu, West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon, Sacramento Korean American Coalition President Dong Kim and the American Viet League urge you to vote "Yes" on Prop. 39.

For additional information call 916/341-1055 or click on www.YesonProp39.org. ■

The San Francisco City Mouse Meets the Daisen Country Mouse

At 4 a.m. and every 30 minutes or so, the resident rooster crier "Kobke ko kou! Kobke ko kou!" (that's "cockle doodle doo" in Japanese). My immediate reaction was "Kill the rooster!" But I thought better of my malevolent thoughts as I remembered that I was a guest on a farm in a remote part of Japan.

In August, my sister Mimi and I took a trip to visit our Japanese cousins, Michiko and Lisa, and their families. They live in a home their families built in the shadow of the Daisen Mountain (nicknamed "Little Fuji"), near the small city of Yonago in Tottori Prefecture where is located west of Osaka, along the Japan Sea.

We had not seen our cousins for many, many years. In my case, it had not been since Michiko and Lisa had come from Tokyo on a family vacation to Disneyland where we joined them, some 20 years ago! We did keep up with the fact that both of them had three children each, but were unsure of their names and ages.

All of our worries of not remembering who was who evaporated as we were greeted enthusiastically by the entire clan upon our arrival: Emi (3 years), Mizuki (6), Itsuki (7), Yuuki (9), Lintaro (10), Mizuho (11).

As we were driving from the airport, Lisa warned us that the conditions in which they lived were "primitive" compared to the urban lifestyle we were accustomed to.

It was 11 years ago that Lisa and

her husband had the idea of leaving the pressure cooker environment of Tokyo for the countryside, with the dream of starting an organic farm and raising their families there. Michiko and her husband joined them and they settled in Tottori.



By EMILY MOTO MURASE

They leased an abandoned farm and started to plant organic fruits and vegetables. They recruited friends to join them in the countryside and they lived and worked together.

A Bridge Across the Pacific

According to my cousins, their idealistic efforts were met with considerable suspicion from the local residents. With young people flocking to the cities, why would my cousins want to head for the countryside? There was talk of the farm housing a radical religious cult and other undesirable activity.

As they became old enough to attend school, my cousins' kids were met with hostility, not only from other children, but the school administration as well (the issue of *jime* or harassment at school has

become a major societal problem in Japan). So my cousins elected to educate them at home.

For Lisa, her husband, and the kids, the day began before dawn, way before my sister or I woke up. As we were enjoying the typical Japanese breakfast of rice and *umeboshi* that my cousin had left for us, the clan returned from several hours of work in the fields. That day's harvest included *daikon*, *shiso* leaves, cherry tomatoes, eggplant, carrots, squash and watermelons, all carefully grown without the use of pesticides.

Michiko no longer spends her day in the fields. Instead, she is an apprentice carpenter, learning to build homes with the goal of constructing a guest house on the farm. The Daisen Mountain area is a popular ski resort in the winter and hiking area in the summer. Lisa and Michiko hope to make a place for tourists to stay on the farm — to introduce urban dwellers like my sister and me to the natural beauty of the area.

Later that morning, the kids piled into the two sport utility vehicles that my cousins drive to fetch water from a nearby stream. We looked for small fish and crabs on the shallow riverbed. Before we left, we made sure to return every rock to its original location, to leave the site as undisturbed as possible. Nothing like having to fetch water to make you appreciate the importance of running water!

We spent the afternoon driving



Lintaro Takeyama (10) at his family's organic farm in Japan.

up and around Mt. Daisen, enjoying views of lush green vegetation and neat parcels of farmland. Then Lisa suggested that we go to the nearby hot springs resort.

I had not been to an *onsen* in many years. This particular resort featured natural hot springs from the ocean, so the water was slightly salty. Importantly, I was reminded of the bonding that occurs from communal bathing. Communal bathing requires you to recognize that, regardless of the material trappings we surround ourselves with, we are, after all, just human beings.

After our bath, we enjoyed *mugicha* iced tea at an outdoor pic-

nic area just as the sun was setting. It was the perfect way to end an exciting day on the farm.

I hope to take my daughter Junko to visit with Lisa's and Michiko's children. Not only will it expose her to the Japanese language, but she will also have first-time experiences like I did — being awoken by a rooster, fetching water and bathing with her cousins in naturally occurring hot springs from the Japan Sea! ■

Emily Moto Murase has only ever lived in big cities: New York, San Francisco, San Diego, Tokyo and Washington, DC. She can be reached at emurase@stanford.edu.

The OUCH! in School Vouchers

The public school system in California is not perfect, but it soon could become a lot worse if Proposition 38, the School Voucher Initiative, passes on Nov. 7.



By CHRISTINA SHIGEMURA

Prop. 38 would provide a \$4,000 tuition voucher for each student who chooses to attend a private school. Proponents claim that this will create more competition

among children, even those with disabilities and special needs and home languages other than English.

Educating everyone can be a very difficult task. Few private schools would be willing to accept autistic children or kids who act out their rage at being shuttled from foster home to foster home, but public schools embrace these challenges and more. Education for everyone is a cornerstone of any democratic society in which citizens are expected to participate in decision-making processes like elections and jury trials.

Public schools teach more than academics, however. We teach children how to understand and respect our country's rich ethnic and religious diversity. By federal and state law, public schools are prohibited from excluding or discriminating against anyone based on ethnicity, religion, primary language, gender or sexual orientation. Most of the teachers I know teach some kind of multicultural curriculum in their classrooms.

Public schools are also advocates for children who sometimes have no one else to protect them. If a teacher suspects that a child is being physically or sexually abused or neglected, he or she is required to tell the Department of Child and Family Services. If a teacher does not report suspected child abuse, he or she may lose his or her teaching credential and ability to teach. Protecting children from dangerous situa-

tions is often a sad and difficult job, but in doing so, public schools can be instrumental in saving lives.

Many arguments in favor of Prop. 38 are based on the faulty assumption that the low test scores of some public schools are due to lazy, untrained teachers. In fact, every public school teacher must have a credential for the grade or subject that he or

she teaches. Those who do not have credentials when they are hired are required to take steps toward earning a credential through university course work or comprehensive exams.

Permanent, tenured teachers are observed and evaluated by principals or other school administrators every two years. Probationary, temporary and long-term substitute teachers are evaluated every year.

Permanent, tenured teachers are observed and evaluated by principals or other school administrators every two years. Probationary, temporary and long-term substitute teachers are evaluated every year.

The real work of improving education in California and every other state in the nation is a long-term commitment rather than a quick fix. We need to build more schools, buy more textbooks and reduce class size. We need to hire more teachers and pay and treat them better in order to attract and retain the best and brightest. We need more counselors, nurses, librarians and social workers at our schools. We need more programs for parents who want to

become literate themselves or who want to improve their parenting skills. I know the public is tired of hearing about the shortcomings of our public schools, but Prop. 38 is no solution. ■

Christina Shigemura is a sixth grade teacher who holds a Multiple Subject credential and a Cross-Cultural Language and Academic Development certificate.

Perhaps the most basic value that our public schools represent is that every child has the right to an education. In America, we don't just educate the wealthy or intellectually gifted children, but all children, even those with disabilities and special needs and home

Stranger Than Fiction

and public schools will be forced to improve. This is pure fantasy. Prop. 38 isn't about improving education; it's about dismantling the public school system and all of the democratic values that system represents.

Perhaps the most basic value that our public schools represent is that every child has the right to an education. In America, we don't just educate the wealthy or intellectually gifted children, but

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COMMENTARY In Support of Masaoka

By CLARENCE NISHIZU

There are many people who assign blame for the internment of the Japanese and Japanese Americans on the JACL. Many of them feel that the JACL "sold them down the river" and allowed them to be put in camps. They do not appreciate how fortunate they were for having Mike Masaoka as secretary of JACL during those trying days of evacuation.

As a 1000 Club member, I am the second oldest JACL member in the United States next to Fred Hirasuna of Fresno. I am a charter member of the Orange County JACL, which was formed in 1930. I also helped found four other chapters: SELANOCO (South East Los Angeles, North Orange County) in 1966 and three other chapters in Southern California.

The reason I am so pro-JACL is because of people like Mike Masaoka. We were in the same age group when we met face to face with discrimination and my personal experiences mirror those of Mike's.

Being of Japanese heritage, Mike was not allowed to swim in the Salt Lake City pools as a youth. I was also not permitted to swim at the Huntington Beach City swimming pools. Like Mike, when I went to a movie in Santa Ana, I had to go upstairs to the balcony which they called "nigger heaven." When Mike had a chance to go to Harvard, he had to decline because he had to work in the family fruit stand. I wanted to go to the University of California and work my way through college but I had to stay on the farm too and help support our family.

Mike Masaoka was the first Nisei to volunteer to prove his loyalty and his four brothers all joined him. After the war, he became a lobbyist for JACL and was responsible for many laws on behalf of JAs.

In 1925, my father could not rent a farm in Anaheim because he was not a citizen. Instead, he had one of

his close friends, who was a Hawaiian-born Nisei, use his name as a lessee on the land. Twenty-seven years later JACL lobbyist Mike Masaoka was instrumental in the enactment of the McCarran-Walter bill which gave the Issei naturalization and immigration rights which became effective on Dec. 24, 1954.

Many times I have been asked to speak before different clubs or groups of people. At one time before a big group in the city of Fullerton, to end my speech, I recited the Japanese American Creed written by Mike Masaoka. When I got through, the whole congregation stood up and applauded my recitation. What a testament to Mike.

When I ventured into our family real estate business with my two brothers, John and Henry, we bought a two acre corner property in the city of La Palma. We drew up a plan to build a group of small Japanese retail stores on this property. We put in a zone change request to the planning commission of the city of La Palma, and I was requested to submit our plan.

I remembered at one time I heard Mike Masaoka illustrate the beauty of the United States of America as a conglomerate of different colors and races. I used the same analogy to describe our plan of building Japanese stores intertwined with other stores in the neighborhood to add beauty to the area. The zone change was approved.

After the hearing was over, I still recall one man in a gray suit standing up and commending me for my plan for enhancing the beauty of the city of La Palma.

Mike made many sacrifices for the sake of our Issei and Nisei generation. He proved his loyalty to our country and set an example for others to follow.

He should be honored with the inscription on the National Japanese American Memorial as a reminder for future generations as a reminder of our interment and loyalty to our country.

Our Issei taught us, "On wo usurena." Never forget the indebtedness you owe. Let us forget. ■

It's just me, or has something strange been happening in American popular music in the last few years with respect to Asian/Asian American influences? It seems that everywhere you look, you see AAs and/or Asians. What do Metallica, Smashing Pumpkins, and No Doubt have in common besides being three of the most popular rock bands in the world?



By BRIAN NIYA

Troubled In Paradise

members.

There are also a number of Japanese groups who enjoy at least a cult following in the United States, ranging from the American pop melting pot of Pizzicato Five to the tongue in cheek funk of Short and Snappy to the dance grooves of Cibo Matto, and producers Twa Te, Yoshinori Sunahara and Cornelius.

And what about Big Head Todd and the Monsters, 2 Live Crew (Fresh Ice Kid, one of the group's founders, is Chinese Trinidadian), and Money Mark? There are also a number of AA classical musicians who have pop star type followings, most notably the Ahn Trio and pop/classical violinist Vanessa-Mae (who is actually of British national-

Glory Days

ity, but of Asian ancestry). Now there's nothing particularly odd about this in and of itself. Given our numbers and demographics — by and large, the population of most Asian groups is skewed towards the young (with Japanese Americans being the notable exception) — there should be a good number of AAs in any aspect of youth culture. And though it is not well known, there has always been a strong musical subculture in the various AA communities.

What is surprising is how blasé most of us seem to be about this. I can't help but think that if there had been an AA in the Rolling Stones, Doors or Sly and the Family Stone that it would have been a much bigger deal. But as it is, I bet most readers of this publication either didn't know most of the above or don't care much about it or most likely, both. Why is this?

I suspect there's a number of things going on. One is the inevitable generation gap. Most AA publications are by and for an older demographic and are thus not likely to cover Pizzicato Five or Foxy Brown. While there are lively publications that have a younger audience — most notably *Jack Robot* and *A Magazine* — suspect most readers of publications such as this don't also read those.

There's also that pan-Asian thing. I find older JAs in particular to less likely have a pan-Asian American orientation, and in fact find that many of them are hostile to the notion of pan-Asianism for reasons I can only guess at. For this group, the exploits of Filipino American or Korean American musicians are not likely to be of much interest, even if there is some pride in some of the Japanese

or JA artists.

But I think the biggest thing that's going on is that this issue of identity is much less of an issue for younger AAs. I suspect that I'm part of the last age group who really gets a thrill out of seeing AAs break through in any field, whether it's sports or art or business or popular music. I grew up at a time when Asian names and faces were very rare in any of these fields, and so one would notice when the occasional Len Sakata or Bruce Lee would come along and would follow their careers closely. But for someone growing up today, it just isn't the same. When there are relatively large numbers of Asians on TV or on the radio and on the playing fields (there may still not be "a lot" in a general sense, but certainly more than before), I suspect one just doesn't notice as much. It's the Hideo Nomo syndrome — when he was the only Asian playing major league baseball, he got an enormous amount of attention. Now that there are seemingly dozens of Asian pitchers in the big leagues, none get a fraction of the attention. It just doesn't matter anymore.

But for me, it will always matter. Because of where and when I grew up, I will always notice the Asian names and faces, even if one else does. I'm happy to see these Asians break through and perhaps make it easier for other AAs coming after them. But it also makes me wonder about all of the ones who came before them who never did get the chance. Will anyone remember them?

In the meantime, I'll keep enjoying following No Doubt, Cibo Matto and the rest. You should too. ■

Creating a Mailing List

ONE intriguing chapter in "The Toronto Story," recounting the Japanese Canadian Redress movement of the 1980s, deals with a last-minute grind to work up a mailing list of people who needed to know of the efforts for redress because many



By HARRY HONDA

Nikkei in Toronto were not subscribers to Japanese recalled.

Very Truly Yours

Canada and the United States, happens to be one of the early Redress activists who turned her house into the hive that generated about 5,000 names.

Creating a mailing list is a labor known within many organizations, great and small, but the steps described in this chapter are vastly different from the chores we've encountered in the past to generate non-member P.C. subscribers.

The time was 1985 when computers were still quite new. Not many Nisei volunteers who came to Kogawa's home knew how they worked. With a basic database program in place and a crash course in data input, helpers came with membership lists from churches and community organizations. Crews were organized to search for Japanese-sounding names from the huge Metropolitan Toronto and suburban telephone directories.

This information is in Chapter Nine, edited by Joy Kogawa and Addie Kobayashi. There are 17 other chapters in "Japanese Canadian Redress: the Toronto Story," with different authors, obtainable at the Japanese Canadian National Museum, 120-6888 Southcooks Crescent, Burnaby, BC V5E 4M7, Canada, \$25 U.S., shipping and handling

included, softcover, 376pp.

"Since the government's dispersal program of the mid-1940s had been so effective, we had no Little Tokyos or central meeting places, aside from the cultural center and Japanese-dominated churches (in Ontario, where most of the Canadian Nisei lived after the evacuation). We were forced to rely on telephone directories," Kogawa recalled.

When one was not certain whether the name was Japanese, phone calls followed to ascertain whether or not they were. Some turned out to be African, Chinese, Greek or Italian, even Irish. Volunteers were also aware many would be missing because they had non-Japanese names.

As with any phone book, postal codes were not provided. And long hours scouring the postal code directories proved a painstaking task.

After a month of day and night shifts, some for but an hour, the task was accomplished with about 5,000 names and addresses. Then came the matter of mailing out the "Nikkei Voice." Generous benefactors provided their postage meter machines.

"That was a kind of turning point in the community's awareness of Redress as the information began to reach a large number of people," said the author.

On the other side, there was one session to correct the mailing list, as a lot of mail was being returned due to wrong addresses. The project began because the Toronto Japanese Canadian Citizens Association, whose leader advocated a community compensation fund, refused to share its mailing list.

Other chapters in "The Toronto Story" explain the community conflict that had emerged over this issue. The fear: Redress might not have materialized for the Canadian Nikkei.

When Kogawa was on the phone recruiting help, one volunteer remembered: "Joy did not know me

from a hole in a wall, but I just suddenly got a call and — thought holy cow — this woman is calling me and asking me to a meeting... She went out and recruited me and the others."

Kogawa said, "I always knew the Nisei were organized. They were just phenomenal. What a sane, steady, cool headed and hard working bunch of people. It's a good thing because if they weren't, it would have been a total shmo."

One volunteer remembered (10 years later when it came time to write the chapter for this book) the computers and basic programs then were "real dinosaurs, very primitive." All of a sudden, everything would get wiped out. One inputting the data would suddenly cry, "Oh, no!" and "our hearts would freeze," he added. That happened several times.

Kobayashi, who worked for the National Film Board and is a freelance transcriptionist, became a Redress activist during 1977 when Japanese in Canada celebrated their 100th anniversary of Japanese immigration. She remembered Kogawa feeding the masses who came in the evenings, others eating whatever was in her refrigerator. Other thoughtful volunteers brought refreshments.

Among the *hakuji* in their midst, most helpful was Ben Fieber, a reporter at *The Globe and Mail*, who helped computerize the mailing list, handled press releases, organized educational events and assisted in a number of ways.

The funny thing passed out to volunteers were the certificates of appreciation. They had a gold seal and read: "Companion of the Order of Bugs of Redress." Dated, 14th of April in the Year of our Lord, 1985, there was also this little pin made of a computer chip that had two little antennae and big wobbly bug eyes. It's indeed an item for any Nikkei museum.

What a great chapter devoted to unsung heroes and portrayed in Kogawa's heartfelt reflection: "What a cast of characters we were the courageous, the timid, the totally determined — all making up the army of the quietly passionate." ■

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MOH

(Continued from page 1)

Sergeant Kazuo Otani (nephew Norman Otani and nephew-in-law Fred Kubota); Technical Sergeant Ted T. Tanouye (brother Isao Tanouye); and Captain Francis B. Wai (brother Robert Wai and sister-in-law Lily).

Family members for posthumous honorees Private First Class Frank H. Ono and Private Mikio Hasemoto could not attend the ceremony.

Among the co-sponsors of the "Legendary Valor" tribute was the JACL. Floyd Mori, JACL National President, said, "I am moved by the extraordinary bravery that was shown by these soldiers. The recognition of these heroes expands the pride I feel towards my heritage as an American of Japanese ancestry. Their example and contribution to our nation's fight for world freedom is the single major factor that allows us our place in America today."

"JACL is a living legacy of the Nisei, and in particular, when you honor the Nisei veterans, it is fitting for us to be here," said JACL National Executive Director John Tateishi. "It is unfortunate it took so long for them to be recognized, but that's just, again, a sign of how long it takes for things to change. I think the cliché, better late than never, applies in this case, although it is unfortunate that out



PHOTO: MARTHA KAGAWA
Sen. Daniel Inouye (left) is congratulated by Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera during ceremonies honoring the recent Medal of Honor upgrades.

of 28 men being honored so many are posthumous recognitions. But I don't think it lessens what they achieved or the magnitude of the courage they showed. I'm glad it happened."

The most recognizable among the recent recipients was Sen. Inouye, D-Hawaii. Inouye, 76, joked around that the way their exploits were being recounted made them sound like a "bunch of Rambos." But he humanized the men, saying, "We were just ordinary people. All of us were young and lonesome and wanted to get home and live a full life."

Inouye said he once asked his fellow soldiers what went through their minds on the eve of their first

attack. Every one of them said he hoped not to bring shame to the family or did not turn out to be a coward. It was to these men and to his predecessors that Inouye paid tribute.

"The making of a man involves many factors," said Inouye. "If I did well, much of the credit should go to my parents, grandparents and the gallant men of my platoon. This is their medal. I will receive it on their behalf."

In 1996, Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, introduced a bill directing the Pentagon to review the services of 104 Asian Pacific American service men. The review was modeled after an Army study which resulted in medal upgrades of seven

African American WWII soldiers in 1997.

Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera said the review was done "to ensure that wartime prejudice, racial animosity and other inappropriate factors had not caused these acts of heroism to go unrecognized."

Caldera said that while the task was a difficult one, several factors compelled him to take a personal interest in the study. This review was a responsibility that was of great personal importance to me in part because I have come to know well since my days as a California Assemblyman the story of the Japanese American soldiers who fought with such bravery and distinction during World War II.

"In part, I suspect, it was also important for me to see this review done quickly and thoroughly because of my own immigrant and military roots and my understanding of how the contributions of a whole people could be overlooked in telling the rich story of the history of our nation. So you can imagine I was particularly honored to have played a small part as Secretary of the Army in correcting the injustices that occurred more than 50 years ago in now fully recognizing the bravery of these great men."

Commerce Secretary Norman Mineta praised the veterans, saying, "It would have been easy to

give up on this nation, but the men we honor today refused to do so."

While racial discrimination was a factor in the original denial of the men receiving the MOH, recipient Davila said, "The usual comment is that we did not receive the medal because of prejudice. But I don't like to use the word prejudice. I like to think that we did not get that medal because the conscience of America just slept for 50 years, and all it needed was a prodding to get it awake. Senator Akaka did that prodding."

Sakato, the only mainland among the six living Nisei MOH recipients, was honored to have been awarded the MOH but felt that WWII veteran Col. Young Oak Kim should also have been recognized.

Robert Wai, brother of the late Francis Wai, perhaps spoke for all the MOH recipients honored posthumously when he said, "For family and friends, this is a great honor. It is unfortunate that he could not be here with us to receive this honor."

In attendance was also Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura, who was part of the 442nd RCT but received his MOH for his services during the Korean War. Until the recent medal upgrades, Miyamura had been the only living Nisei MOH recipient. ■

MIYASHITA

(Continued from page 1)

Kazuo. Together, they moved to Whittier, Calif., known as a Quaker city, with hopes of raising their children in a Quaker environment. But Whittier turned out to be a bastion of Nixonian Republicanism, and Miyashita's early political years were fraught with controversy.

Miyashita took part in the civil rights movement, peace movement, farm workers movement, fight for fair housing and anti-Vietnam War protests. While she was never called before Sen. Joseph McCarthy's House Un-American Activities Committee hearings, she is aware that she has an FBI file.

"I know my name is in the FBI files," she said. "Maybe I should be proud of it. They kept us under surveillance, but we weren't doing anything wrong so why should I worry?"

Miyashita has also been committed to the Democratic Party. From 1964 to 1990, Miyashita held annual fund-raisers at her home for the likes of Alan Cranston, the late Tom Bradley, Jerry Brown, John Van de Kamp, Kathleen Brown, Leo McCarthy, Wilson Riles and many others.

In recent years, Miyashita's battle against cancer has slowed her down, but she still finds time to hold fund-raisers with her weekly chemotherapy sessions. Most recently, she had one for California Assemblymen Mike Honda and George Nakano.

"I hadn't expected to do anymore fund-raisers but somehow I get all charged up when I see a good candidate," said Miyashita. "Although I'm ill, I'll be doing this until the day I die. I can always pick up the phone and call from anywhere."

Miyashita spoke most fondly of Cranston. She said Cranston visited his Nikkei friends at several U.S. concentration camps during WWII. And it was also Cranston who had lobbied Eleanor Roosevelt early in the war to try to convince her husband not to place JAs into camps.

"He is one of my favorites," said Miyashita.

But Miyashita is well aware that it was a Democratic president, Franklin Roosevelt, who signed Executive Order 9066, sending the Nikkei into camps. She countered with: "I also know the president alone does not make that kind of decision. He had advisors, a lot of military people advising him."

Miyashita's voice rises when she discusses John Huang, the central figure in the Democratic National Committee's fund-raising scandal.

"I can't believe people are calling John a bag man for the DNC," said Miyashita. "I can't talk to John without crying. It still pains me."

Miyashita said when she asked Huang to attend a reception in her honor on the eve of the Democratic National Convention this summer, he declined for fear that it would attract negative media coverage.

Those who did show up to the reception included an A-list of politicians from Sen. Daniel Inouye, Secretary of Commerce Norm Mineta, Congressman Robert Matsui and the likes of Patrick Kennedy was also scheduled to appear but missed the event when his flight was delayed.

The flip side of having powerful friends is having powerful enemies. When she received a call from the FBI, questioning her about her connection to the DNC fund-raising scandal, Miyashita was so angry she refused to cooperate.

"I told them why are you using taxpayer money to call people like me. I don't know a thing about this, and even if I did know, I wouldn't tell you a thing," she said. Three months later, Miyashita's tax returns were audited.

Another point that got Miyashita riled up was the JACL's reaction to a private meeting President Clinton had with JACL board members at the 1996 national JACL convention in San Jose.

The headline of a *Pacific Citizen* Aug. 16-Sept. 5, 1996 issue read "Clinton Snubs Organization, Says Leaders," but Miyashita said that was far from the truth.

Miyashita said although Clinton may not have made a public appearance at the JACL convention as the board desired, he broke protocol by having an impromptu private meeting for 15 minutes with JACLers who had not been given advance security clearance.

"The security problems are so great that it really takes a week in advance to clear everything, and for Clinton to come down for 15 minutes is really something," she said. "He violated security rules."

Miyashita was reluctant to discuss her personal life, particularly her WWII experiences. "I think the evacuation was so painful, I went through denial," said Miyashita, who developed a germ phobia in camp which restricts her ability to go out in public.

Miyashita finally faced her past when a friend a few years ago asked her to share her WWII experiences with students at Manual Arts High School.

"That got me started," said Miyashita.

She even sent for her father's files from the National Archives, but it was some time before she opened the packet and went through the documents.

Miyashita is the eldest of two sisters born in Hollywood to Seiichi and Tomiko Taitai Obuchi, both from Nagano, Japan.

Her father was one of the founders of the Union Church in Los Angeles, and the prolific reader once dreamed about writing a book on Saint Paul.

Miyashita's father was also an adept business man. Before the war, her father owned several property sites, including one in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He also ran a hotel on Fourth and Los Angeles streets in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo. It is now a parking lot.

Miyashita described her mother as a strict disciplinarian, who woke her children up at the break of dawn and doused them with cold water to start their day. Like other Nisei, Miyashita spent her Saturdays at a Japanese school in Compton.

She graduated from Belmont High School, and was enrolled at Los Angeles City College as a home economics major when Pearl Harbor was bombed. On that Sunday, the FBI wasted no time in visiting the Miyashita household.

"There was a knock on the door, and there was the FBI," she said. "They followed him around and wouldn't even let him go to the bathroom alone. He was taken the first night. I could never understand that because most of his involvement was church centered."

More than five decades later after reading her father's files, she believes he had been blacklisted for making a small donation (between \$20-\$50) to feed visiting Japanese navy men.

Miyashita declined to make predictions for the Nov. 7 presidential elections but espoused the merits of the Democratic Party. To make her point, she touted the "Donate a Day to LA," a program instituted during the national convention. Delegates were given a list of organizations and asked to set aside a day to volunteer at these agencies.

Miyashita has no plans on retiring from her political activism either. "I don't have influence, but if I can get more Democrats to sign up..." mused Miyashita before she dashed off to another luncheon. ■

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Utah to Vote on English-only Initiative

(Continued from page 1)

that lies in the face of the principle of individual freedoms in this country," said National President Floyd Mori, a resident of Sandy, Utah.

"For many Americans, taking away the ability to communicate with the government in a language other than English is tantamount to taking away the government's services. Clearly, an English-only mandate for Utah is equivalent to oppression, the kind of oppression our forefathers sought to avoid in establishing this nation as a democracy," he said.

"It's a great national question. What is the government's responsibility to immigrants and what is an immigrant's responsibility to the government?" said Tim Schultz, director of communications for U.S. English, a national citizens' action group which advocates for the preservation of English as the common language of the United States.

"The government has a responsibility to immigrants to teach them English as soon as possible, and we think there is also a civic duty for immigrants to learn English," he said.

Schultz dispelled criticism that his group is essentially espousing an anti-immigrant mentality. "We encourage people to retain their first language. Personal bilingualism is great," he said. "But for many immigrants they don't have any incentive to learn English because making money... We don't think immigrants should pursue only their economic interests. If you can't speak the same language, you're never going to be united."

U.S. English, which was founded in 1983 by the late California Sen. S.I. Hayakawa, has over 10,000 members in Utah today and more than 1.4 million members nationwide.

"What we're being stressing is that this is a very divisive issue. It is also unnecessary and unconstitutional," said Carol Gnade, director of the ACLU of Utah. "We see it (Initiative A) as a restriction. It restricts the ability of government agencies and officials to communicate and provide services in languages other than English, and it denies limited English speakers fair and equal access to their government."

"Also, the initiative poses a threat to the First Amendment rights of elected officials and government employees, who, as a result of this law, may become fearful of communicating in languages other than English in the course of

their work," she said.

Unfortunately, the latest polls leading up to the election show 71 percent of Utah voters favor Initiative A, according to Gnade, which is why the ACLU of Utah is gauging its next move, specifically "looking at the possibility of litigation."

Larry Grant, governor of the JACL Intermountain district council (IDC), said he is especially bewildered by those poll statistics which reflect majority support for the initiative because "all the major Utah politicians — both Democrat and Republican — have come out against it."

Last year, Sen. Pete Szabo, D-Salt Lake, as well as the Ogden and Salt Lake City councils, supported an English Plus Resolution, which opposed Rowan's initiative and called for the celebration of Utah's diversity.

Contrary to what proponents tout as the initiative's benefits, Grant pointed out some of the major fallacies in their claims: that it will not necessarily give non-native speakers more incentive to learn English; that only an insignificant amount of money (about \$20,000 per year) would be saved by phasing out second-language publications; and that there is no formal provision in the initiative which allocates funds into English-as-a-second-language programs.

Meanwhile, Schultz claimed that ballot initiatives are generally "poor appropriating measures." The larger issue, he said, is whether the money saved from not printing multilingual material will be enough to further accommodate public programs such as ESL.

But another problem with Initiative A, Grant added, is that it includes half a dozen exceptions, where, for instance, tourism or health services is involved. "My feeling about why it's so completely unnecessary is that if English is going to be the official language, why have these exceptions? These exceptions prove that the government has to do business in other languages," he said.

"Then you get into the theory behind it. Are we saying that Japanese or Spanish are second-rate languages? Does that also mean that these people are second-rate citizens?"

Setting possible legal precedent, the Arizona Supreme Court recently struck down an amendment to an "English-only" law, similar to the proposed Utah initiative, on grounds that it was unconstitutional. ■

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Alkashi, Kazuko, 68, San Francisco, Oct. 2; Kumamoto-born; survived by husband Mitsuru; sister Haruko Okawa (Japan); brother-in-law Motomu Alkashi and wife Betty; sisters-in-law Satsuki Morimoto, Tomoe Suzuki and husband Shinji, Junko Wadama and husband Masaru.

Akiyoshi, Dennis Hideki, 57, Los Angeles, Oct. 10; Idaho-born; survived by brother William Junya; sisters Jeanne Kusumoto, Anna Belle Kai-Nishimura, Nancy Lim.

Aoyama, Minoru, 97, Monterey Park, Oct. 6; Ehime, Japan-born; survived by son Taichi and wife Reiko; daughters Kazuko Tsutsumi, Hiroko Krasa, Sachiko Nishiwaki and husband Brian, Youko Masch and husband Albert; 15 g.; 17 g.

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.

Hisaoka, Fumiyo, 65, Hayward, Sept. 30; Vacaville-born; survived by brothers Pete Hisaoka, Yosh Hisaoka and wife Jane, Mas Hisaoka and wife Aileen, Tabo Hisaoka and wife Pattie; sisters Yukiko Yamamoto and husband Hiroshi, Yoshiko Nakamishi and husband Makoto, Kay Hisaoka.

Hitomi, Tsuyoshi "Tom", 89, Spokane, Wash., Oct. 20; survived by wife Haruko; sons George, Clifford (both Spokane); brother Johnny (Los Angeles).

Hosono, Ushiro, 97, Saratoga, Oct. 2; Gifu, Japan-born; longtime San Jose resident; survived by daughters Sachi Urata and husband Edward, Shigeo Tahira and husband Ted, Miyo Idemoto and husband Tom, Yoshiko Toyosaki, Chieko Nakamoto and husband George, Kiyoko Nodohara and husband Edward; 10 g.; 2 g.; predeceased by wife Chizuko.

Imada, Masako, 85, Spokane, Wash., Oct. 5; survived by sons Don and Richard (both Yakima); 2 g.; 1 g.; sisters Yoshiko Yamamoto, Mary Sueko Shimizu (also Spokane); predeceased by husband Dick, sister Kikue Tokubo, brother George Hayashi.

Ishii, Howard Shizuo, 61, Arcadia, Oct. 10; Los Angeles-born; Manzanar internee; survived by wife Takiko; sons Andrew and wife Carolyn, Glen; sister Mitsuko Minohara and husband Koichi; brother-in-law Masaru Seki and wife Setsuko; sister-in-law Noriko Kikuta and husband Takashi (Japan).

Izumi, Miyo, 76, Los Angeles, Oct. 2; Los Angeles-born; survived by husband Tom "Tomas"; daughters Cheryl Isobe and husband Craig, Candice Linder and husband David; 4 g.; sisters Sue Kusumoto, Tomi Yokoyama and husband George, Chiyoko Nishiasaka and husband Harry; brother-in-law Mas Mizushima; sister-in-law Reiko Aino.

Kanda, Jane Kimiko, 87, Torrance, Oct. 10; Honolulu-born; survived by daughter Janet Kayko Lahoz and husband Santiago; 3 g.

Kitase, Nelson, 81, Chicago, Oct. 18; Clawson-born; Poston internee; a named plaintiff in the lawsuit for redress and a leader in the Human Rights Committee of Chicago JACL; survived by companion Flora Liu; sons Alan, Bruce; daughter Mari Louie; 6 g.

Kobatsu, Hideko, Gardena, Oct. 4; Hawaii-born; survived by husband James Jini; son Clyde; sister Annie Motoyama and husband Ed; brothers Sadao Oshiro and wife Lillian, Yoshinobu Oshiro (Hawaii), Tom Oshiro; sisters-in-law Elaine Kawasaki and husband Harold, Betty Kureye and husband Walter (Hawaii); brothers-in-law Charles Arakawa and wife Miyo, Fred Arakawa and wife Judith (Hawaii), Kaz Marumoto, Ed Kishaba (Hawaii).

Masada, Miyeko, 82, Monterey

Park, Oct. 8; Los Angeles-born; survived by sons Richard and wife Linda, Thomas and wife Linda; 8 g.; 4 g.; sisters Kimiko Watanabe (Japan), Fumiko Bejima; brother Roy Kito and wife Kazuko.

Matoba, Kishio, Ed. D. 78, Madison, Wis., Oct. 1; Elk Grove-born; survived by wife Chiyeiko Hiroaka; daughters Jeanne Lynett and husband Michael (Whitefish Bay, Wis.), Dr. Susan Adler and husband Robert (Champaign, Ill.), son John and wife Deborah (Shorewood, Wis.); 6 g.; predeceased by brother William Masumi.

Minatoya, Jerry H., 71, Spokane, Wash., Oct. 13; Pasco, Wash.-born; Heart Mountain internee; Korean War Army veteran; survived by sisters Jeanne Kozawa (Milwaukee, Ore.), Arlene Watanabe (Honolulu); Connie Burnett and husband Garland (Edgewood, N.M.), Brenda Kupfer and husband Michael (Kennewick, Wash.).

Mizue, Paul, 87, Honolulu, Oct. 10; Los Angeles-born; survived by wife Yaeiko; son Hiro Paul and wife Ruby (Honolulu); 3 g.; sisters in California: Aiko Mary Sugita, Nobuko Martha Imamura, Chiye Wakahiro, Michi Takeda and husband Ernest (all California).

Monji, David Masami, Los Angeles, Oct. 15; Pasadena-born; WWII veteran; survived by daughter Yumi Froehlich and husband Donald; 2 g.; sister Emi Nogawa and husband Tom; sister-in-law Grace Kubo and husband George.

Morikawa, Larry Mitsuru, 81, Culver City, Oct. 2; Parlier-born; survived by son Mark and wife Hope (Culver City); daughter Karole Morikawa (Sunnyvale); 1 g.

Nagano, Helen Kiyoko, 85, Rosemead, Oct. 8; Hanford-born; survived by daughters Lillian Kazuye Yamauchi, Marian Sachiko Amimoto and husband Seibo; son Kazuo Joe Nanya and wife Rosalie; 7 g.; 15 g.

Nishioka, Fumiko, 77, Gardena, Oct. 13; Hiro, Hawaii-born; survived by husband Jerry; sons Forrest and wife Julie, Daryl and wife Debbie.

Nozaka, Toyoko, 100, Gardena, Oct. 10; Kagoshima-ken-born; longtime resident of Berkeley; survived by daughter Alice Otsuka and husband Paul (Rancho Palos Verdes); son Andrew; Nozaka and wife Dorothy (Saratoga); 4 g.; predeceased by husband Shigeharu.

Sato, Susumu, 81, Olympia, Wash., Sept. 14; Seattle-born oyster farmer; Senryu poetry teacher; Tule Lake internee; survived by wife Miyoko; sons Harry (Seattle), William (Kirkland); daughters Dorothy Brooks, Sharon Sato (both Olympia), Nancy Wicker (Lacey), Marian Pinos (Rancho Cucamonga); 5 g.; 4 g.; sister Yoshiko Sato (Japan).

Shishida, Yeko, Chicago, Sept. 29 service; survived by husband Chuck, daughter Naomi Hoover and husband Marty; 3 g.; brothers Ken Yamamoto and wife Yuka, Kaz Yamamoto and wife Kozo.

Takaragawa, Harry Yutaka, 88, Los Angeles, Oct. 4; Washington-born; survived by wife Miyoko; sons Ronald and wife Irene, Douglas; daughters Jeanne Nakano and husband Milton, Carol Murai and husband Randy; 7 g.

Takouchi, Hideo, 77, Rio Oso, Oct. 10; West Sacramento-born; survived by wife Fumiko; daughters Julian Hardy, June Schafer, Diane Diasharon, Karen Takeuchi; 4 g.

Tanaka, Yoshiko Dorothy, Fort Lupton, Colo., Oct. 5; Berthoud, Colo.-born; survived by sons Roy Masary and wife Jean, Wilbur Hideo and wife Grace; daughter Nancy Kumiko Miyahara and husband Harry; brother Utah Utaka Okimoto.

Tomisaka, Katsumi, 82, Reedley, Sept. 25; Los Angeles-born; survived by husband George; sons Dennis and wife Maria, Gary; daughter Eileen Tomisaka; 1 g.; brother Jack Shimono and wife Akiko.

Une, Yuzuru, 76, Las Vegas, Oct. 7; Hiroshima-ken-born; survived by wife Toshino; daughters Miharu Vicky Kagawa and husband Victor (Las Vegas); Carol Yukiko Mochingaga and husband Dean, Irene Mitsuko Ishigo and husband Terry; 5 g.

Waki, Aiko, 81, Los Angeles, Oct. 14; Honolulu-born; survived by daughter Linda Sakako Inagaki and husband Steve Keizo; 1 g.; brothers and sister in Japan: Kazuo Sakamoto and wife Mary, Sadane Sakamoto and wife Yoshiko, Kiyome Nakashima and husband Ju-kichi; sisters-in-law Asaye Waki, Iwako Kutsa (both Japan).

Watanabe, Irene Sakaye Yoshimura, 81, San Francisco, Sept. 25; Sacramento-born; survived by brother Kiyoshi Yoshimura; sister Yoshiko Yoshimura; stepchildren Akira Watanabe and wife June, Tak Watanabe, Mitzi Kashiwamura; 7 g.; 3 g.

Yanaga, Mariko, 82, Los Angeles, Oct. 6; Hiro, Hawaii-born; survived by son Barron; daughter-in-law Linda; 2 g.

Yasuda, Midori, 75, San Diego, Sept. 29; survived by brother Susumu Yasuda and wife Frances; sister-in-law Reiko Yasuda.

Yasukochi, Mitsuo, 89, San Francisco; longtime resident of New York City; died while on a trip to Holland; survived by sister Sachiko M. Kaneko (San Francisco); brother George Yasukochi (Berkeley); sister-in-law Hisayo Yasukochi; brother-in-law Elliot Harano and wife Yoneko; many nieces and nephews.

Yoshimura, Harry Hideo, 97, Sacramento, Sept. 15; Hiroshima-born; survived by son Ted and wife Sharon; daughter Irene Koizumi and husband Tom; 5 g.

Yoshimura, Ichiro, 82, Yuba City, Sept. 28; Marysville-born; survived by wife Toshiko; daughters Christine Nishijima, Susan Yan and husband Martin, Joanne Sparks and husband David; son Ronald and wife Gini; 4 g.; 3 g.; brothers Sadao, Yoshito, George; sister Haruko Matsue.

Yoshimura, Rose Takeko, 69, Torrance, Sept. 21; Tokyo-born; survived by husband Michi; daughter Ginger Sanae Shimura and husband Ryan Osamu; brother Fumio Omori and wife Hiroko (Japan); sister-in-law Satsuyo Yoshimoto and husband Edward Kiyoko, Kikue Imamura and husband Dick.

Yoshiwara, Andrew, 80, Sunnyvale, Sept. 8; Andrus Island-born; WWII veteran; survived by sons Jon Noel (Reno), J. Paul (San Mateo); daughters Janice Lee Yoshiwara and husband Robert Kim (Olympia, Wash.), Kim Ann Luntz and husband Michael (Meritt Island, Fla.), Sue Ellen Oda and husband Rev. John (San Francisco); 3 g.; brother Joe and wife Gay (Honolulu); sister Marian Bernardo and husband David (San Francisco). ■

Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California Hosts Tribute Dinner



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA

More than 550 people came out to the Torrance Marriott Hotel on Oct. 28 to be a part of the last award dinner to be hosted by the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California.

Iku Kiriya, the backbone of the dinner committee which has organized the event for the past 10 years, thanked attendees for allowing her to meet so many unsung heroes in the community.

Honorees this year included Chris Ahlra, Lillian Nakano, Takeshi Nakayama, Tak Yamamoto and the Gardens Valley Japanese Cultural Institute.

Pictured: Former *Rafu Shimpō* English Editor John Saito (left) watches as former *Rafu Shimpō* English Editor Naomi Hirahara (right) presents Takeshi Nakayama an anti-perspirant to symbolize his dry humor, while Nakayama holds the first edition of the Takeshi Nakayama encyclopedia signed by former and current *Rafu Shimpō* staff members. ■

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