



Pacific Citizen

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

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NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.

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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, ©2001.

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; (Airmail to Japan/Europe: \$60. (Subject to change without notice.) Periodicals postage paid at Monterey Park, Calif., and at additional mailing offices.

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JACL-COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast CLARKSTON, GA.

Sun, May 6—Southeast chapter annual JACL picnic; Millam Park; food, fun, prizes. Info: Roger Ozaki, 770/979-3616.

SEABROOK, NJ Sat., April 28—Dedication of the Ellen Nakamura Memorial Gallery at the Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center; luncheon, 12 noon, Seabrook Fire Company No. 2 Hall, Parsonage Rd. Info: SECC, 856/451-8393. WASHINGTON, D.C. Mon.-Wed., May 7-9—National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development (CAPACD) convention; Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert St. NW, reduced rate before April 14; 202/734-0700. Convention registration by April 30. Info: Aleyamma Mathew, 212/979-1108 ext. 103; [aleayamma@nationalcapaccd.org](mailto:aleayamma@nationalcapaccd.org).

The Midwest CINCINNATI

Thurs.-Sun., June 28-July 1—EDC-MDC-MPPC Tri-District meeting; Weston Hotel; "Training for Trainers" workshop, youth retreat, etc.; youth scholarships available. Info: Hank Tanaka, 616/229-2491.

MILWAUKEE Sun., May 6—Wisconsin JACL recognition and scholarship awards dinner; 3:30 p.m. cocktails, 4 p.m. dinner, 5 p.m. program; Seigo's Japanese Steakhouse. RSVP by April 29: Lynn Lueck, 414/421-0992, or Sherri Fujihira, 414/423-1148.

MINNEAPOLIS

Fri.-Sun. April 20-22—MDC district council meeting; concurrent with the Great Lakes Regional Conference for Social Studies; Aki Hida will present a workshop at the conference on behalf of the MDC education committee.

ST. LOUIS Sat., April 28—St. Louis JACL potluck supper; 4-8 p.m., Eden Seminar Student Hall, 475 E. Lockwood, Webster Groves.

Sat., May 5—Focus Group on the needs of the Japanese American community; 10 a.m.-noon, University of Missouri, Department of Social Work. An honorarium is offered and pizza will be served. RSVP: Dr. Uma A. Segal, 314/516-6379, e-mail: [umasegal@umsl.edu](mailto:umasegal@umsl.edu).

Intermountain SALT LAKE CITY

Sat., April 28—Mount Olympus JACL FundRama; 6:30 dinner, Cottonwood High School, 5717 Zion 1300 East; sushi/manju/bake sale, raffle, children's games, bingo. RSVP to any chapter board member for discounted tickets. Info: Silvana Watanabe, 801/261-2424.

2002: Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 30-Sept. 2—Hearth Mountain Reunion 2002; Info: Raymond Uno, 801/355-0284.

Pacific Northwest PORTLAND

Sat., May 5—Japanese American community graduation banquet; 5 p.m., Multnomah Athletic Club. Info: Connie Masuoka, 503/236-8623. Through June 2—Traveling exhibit, "Executive Order 9066: 50 Years Before and 50 Years After"; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Fridays & Saturdays, noon-3 p.m. on Sundays; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 117 NW 2nd Ave. Free. Info: Marci Ozawa, 503/977-7781, e-mail: [marci\\_ozawa@hotmail.com](mailto:marci_ozawa@hotmail.com).

SEATTLE Fri.-Sun., April 20-22—Annual Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Flag Pavilion, Seattle Center Pavilion and Center House; theme: "Chibu Region—Traditions and Visions"; fine and applied arts, crafts, performing arts, martial arts, demonstrations, food, kids' activities, etc. Free. Info: Aki Takeda, [takeda@cjapanease.org](mailto:takeda@cjapanease.org). Through May 27—Exhibit, "Chinese Calligraphy from the John B. Elliott Collection"; Seattle Asian Art Museum, 1400 E. Prospect St. Info: 206/654-3255, [www.seattleartmuseum.org](http://www.seattleartmuseum.org).

Northern California BAY AREA

Sun., April 8—Nikkei Widowed Group meeting; new members, both men and women, are welcome; Call for time and place: M. Kusaba, 415/333-5190, or Kay Yamamoto,

510/444-3911. OAKLAND Fri.-Sun., April 13-15—Performance, dance and multimedia, "Light Sound and Space"; 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday; Open Arts Circle, 530 E. 8th St. RSVP: 510/465-4475, e-mail: [wormy@pacbell.net](mailto:wormy@pacbell.net). Wed.-Thurs., April 25-26—Asian American Cancer Control Academy: Focus on Lung & liver Cancer Prevention; Oakland Asian Cultural Center. Registration and info: Hy Lam, 415/476-0557, e-mail: [hlam@sa.uscd.edu](mailto:hlam@sa.uscd.edu).

PLEASANTON Sun., April 6—Tri-Valley JACL 25th annual Teriyaki Chicken Dinner Sale; 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Alameda County Fairgrounds Cafeteria, Pleasanton Ave. entrance; karate, taiko and traditional folk dance demonstrations from 1 p.m. Tickets, info: Dean Suzuki, 820-1454. REDWOOD CITY Through July—Exhibit, "A Community Story: A History of Japanese Americans in San Mateo County"; San Mateo County Museum, 777 Hamilton St. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: Karen Brey, 650/299-0104.

RICHMOND Sun., May 6—JACL NCWNP district council meeting, hosted by Contra Costa chapter.

SACRAMENTO

Sat., April 7—Sacramento JACL Easter egg hunt; 9:30 registration, 10 a.m. entertainment, 10:30 egg hunt, City Park, Fruitridge Rd. at South Land Park Dr. Sat., April 28—Fresno JACL first Asian American and Pacific Islander youth leadership conference; 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Cal State Fresno Education Bldg., Rm. 140; for grades 9-12; Registration, info: Randy A. Aoki, 559/278-0415, [crandyao@csufresno.edu](mailto:crandyao@csufresno.edu). Through June 10—Exhibit, "Time of Remembrance: The Japanese American Experience in California History"; Golden State Museum, 1020 O St. at Tenth St.; photos, documents and artifacts drawn from the JA Archival Collection at CSU Sacramento. Info: 916/653-7524, [www.goldenstatemuseum.org](http://www.goldenstatemuseum.org).

SAN FRANCISCO

Fri.-Sat., April 27-28—Premiere performance/installation, "5/15/45-The Last Dance"; 8 p.m., Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum, 701 Mission St. near Third; Tickets, 415/978-2787. Through May 15—"Silent Voices Speak," an art exhibition and lecture series on the Holocaust and social injustice today; Herbst International Exhibit Hall, Theaters series will include Tsuyako "Soo" Kitashima and Jeff Adachi (May 6); Chinese dissident Harry Wu (May 15); many others. Free. Exhibition hours 10 a.m.-8 p.m. except Mondays. Schedules and info: 415/928-2992, fax 415/928-8886, e-mail: [silentvoices@talmus.com](mailto:silentvoices@talmus.com).

SAN MATEO

Sun., April 22—Senior Appreciation Brunch; 9:30 a.m., Miyako Hotel; sponsored by AT&T and Nikkei Lions; Takeo Kitagawa to be honored. No charge, but RSVP: 650/343-2793.

Thurs., April 26—San Mateo JACL Community Center to attend Giants vs. Cincinnati Reds game at 12:35 p.m. at Pac Bell Park. RSVP ASAP: Info: Henry Hiraiki, 415/343-2893.

SAN JOSE Sun., May 6—24th annual Nikkei Matsuri; 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., 5th and Jackson Street. [www.pwggroup.com/nikkeimatsuri](http://www.pwggroup.com/nikkeimatsuri).

SANTA CRUZ-WATSONVILLE

Thurs., May 17—Fairfield Area senior trip; jelly Belly Factory tour, Anheuser-Busch Fairfield Brewery tour, lunch at Todai Restaurant in San Jose. Info: Carmel Kamigawachi, 722-1930, or Shig T. Kizuka, 728-2693.

Central California FRESNO

Mon., April 9—Central California Alliance Dinner; 7 p.m., Pardini's, Shaw & Van Ness Ext.; U.S. Rep. Barney Frank to speak. RSVP: 559/265-7117.

Southern California GARDENA

Fri., April 13—Greater L.A. Singles JACL meeting/program; 8 p.m., Gardena Valley YWCA, 1341 W. Gardena Blvd.; speaker Steve Nakamoto, author of "Men Are Like Fish: What Every Woman Needs to Know About Catching a Man"; the public is invited. Info: Louise Sakamoto, 310/327-3169. Sat., April 21—Seminar, "Genes and Memory: New Advances in Understanding the Genetic Risk of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia"; 1:30 p.m., Ken Nakaoka



Photo Courtesy of the Wing Luke Asian Museum  
A photo of two children at Minidoka Relocation Center, Idaho, circa 1943, can be viewed as part of a traveling exhibit at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center.

Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St.; Speaker Dr. Helen Chui; Japanese translation available. Free. Info: Karen Chomori Ueyakawa, 213/894-3235.

LONG BEACH Sat., April 28—Juniko Ueno Garrett piano recital; 8 p.m., Gerald R. Daniel Recital Hall, Cal State Long Beach. Tickets: 562/985-7000 or 818/951-0133.

LOS ANGELES

Wed., April 11—Japan America Society annual dinner; Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel, Beverly Hills; honoring Nissan Chair & CEO Yoshiyuki Hanawa. Info: 213/627-6217 ext. 208; e-mail: [dapanamerica1@hotmail.com](mailto:dapanamerica1@hotmail.com).

Sat., April 21—Koreisha Chushoku Kai 25th anniversary Chushoku; 11 a.m. reception, 12 p.m. luncheon and entertainment; New Otani Hotel and Garden, 120 S. Los Angeles St., Little Tokyo; music by Hiroshima; co-emcees George Takei and Tamlyn Tomita. RSVP by 7:30: 213/680-9173.

Sat., April 28—Seminar, "Alzheimer's and Dementia: Concerns in the 21st Century"; 10 a.m.-noon, Keiro Retirement Home Concert Hall, 325 S. Boyle Ave. at Fourth St.; featuring Dr. Helen Chui of USC/Rancho Alzheimer's Disease Research Center of California, Keiko Kotani, Little Tokyo Service Center, and Beverly Ito, Keiro Intermediate Care Facility; light lunch provided; speakers will be available for discussion. RSVP: Judy Abe or Rie Sera, 323/980-7529.

Sun., April 29—Juniko Cheng in Concert; 1:30 p.m., Faith United Methodist Church, 2115 W. 182nd St., Torrance; inspirational original Christian pop music in English and Japanese. Free. Info: 310/217-7000, e-mail: [faith90504@aol.com](mailto:faith90504@aol.com).

Through May 1—Special display, "For a Greener Tomorrow: Japanese American Gardeners in Southern California"; JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414. Through May 6—Exhibit, "Superflat," organized by Takashi Murakami with MOCA; Pacific Design Center, 8687 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood; art, animation, fashion and graphic design by 19 Japanese artists. Info: MOCA, 213/626-6222, [www.moca.org](http://www.moca.org). Through May 15—Exhibit, the Max Paleyky collection of woodblock prints, including prints by Hanihobo, Utagawa and Hokusai; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd. Info: 323/857-6000, [www.lacma.org](http://www.lacma.org).

Fri., Aug. 3—"Salute 2001," All Nikkei Veterans and Family Event; Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: JANM, 213/625-0414 ext. 2240.

Through Sept. 16—Exhibit, "Henry Sugimoto: Painting an American Experience"; JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Info: 213/625-0414.

MONTEREY PARK

Sat., April 21—Book reading and discussion, "Days of Love: Azazora's Morning Light"; Japanese poetry and music, presented by Pacific Asian American Writers-West (PAAWWW); 3 p.m., Bugumeymer Memorial Library, 318 S. Ramona Ave. Free. Info: 626/307-1418.

PASADENA

Through April 15—Exhibit, "Around Pacific Asia," traditional woodcut prints by Zhou Sijing; Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave. Info: 626/449-2742 ext. 31.

RIVERSIDE

Sat., April 7—Riverside JACL annual Easter egg hunt and potluck lunch; 11 a.m., Canyon Crest Park, UC Riverside campus. Info: Helen Yoshikawa, 909/735-8441, or Meiko Inaba, 909/682-8116.

SAN DIEGO

Sat., April 7—San Diego Symphony and San Diego JACL present world premiere of "Formosa's Seasons" by

Gordon Chin, plus works by Brahms and Richard Strauss; conductor Jung-Ho Pak; 8 p.m., Copley Symphony Hall, 250 B St. Tickets: 619/235-0800 ext. 210.

Sun., April 8—San Diego JACL presents documentary film, "Old Man River"; 2 p.m., Hiroshi McDonald Moon Performing Arts Center, 3010 Juniper St., North Park; writer/performer Cynthia Gates Fujikawa will be present; the film is an autobiography of her father, Nisei actor Jerry Fujikawa. Info: 619/230-0314.

Fri.-Sun., June 1-3—Poston Camp Hill 10th reunion; Mission Valley Double-Tree Hotel; Friday night mixer, day trip to Viejas Tribal Casino, city tour, San Diego Zoo, golf tournament, exhibit of camp memorabilia, Sunday sayonara breakfast buffet, etc. Info: Ben Segawa 619/482-1736, e-mail: [CBSegawa@aol.com](mailto:CBSegawa@aol.com); Ariold Seck, 619/427-7116, e-mail: [CSanseil@hotmail.com](mailto:CSanseil@hotmail.com); Michi Himaka, 619/660-9865.

TORRANCE

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 31-Sept. 2—Ninth Biennial National JACL Singles Convention, "Come Together 2001"; Torrance Marriott Hotel; workshops, seminars, mixer with line dancing, dinner dance, optional trips to Las Vegas, Little Tokyo, JANM, Getty Center, golf, bowling. Call hotel for special convention rate: 800/228-9290. Register before June 30 for early bird discount: Victor Kato, 714/891-6606, [lbelug9@aol.com](mailto:lbelug9@aol.com).

Sat., Sept. 22—JACL PSW Awards Dinner; 6 p.m., Torrance Marriott Hotel; 6 p.m. cocktails/silent auction, 7 p.m. dinner; proceeds to support FSWD-JACL youth programming; community leaders will be honored; all are welcome. Ticket prices, donations, hotel information, etc.: 213/626-4471.

UPLAND

Sat., May 12—West Covina Buddhist Temple 5th annual golf classic; 12:30 p.m., Upland Hills Country Club. Info: Glenn, 626/915-5388, or Ray, 909/595-6718.

Arizona - Nevada

GLENDALE

Sun., April 29—Arizona JACL 40th Annual Sara Hutchings Clardy scholarship awards and graduates' luncheon; 1 p.m., Glendale Civic Center, 5715 W. Glenn Dr.; speaker: Hon. Betty Bayless; RSVP by April 24; Michele Namba, 623/572-3913, or Marilyn Inoshita-Tang, 602/861-2638.

LAS VEGAS

Fri., April 13-Sun., April 15—Orchid Show; Friday 1-6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; The California Hotel-Ohana Room, 516 Main St. Free admission. Info: Everett Stockstill, 310/325-0625; e-mail: [pulpulehapa@earthlink.net](mailto:pulpulehapa@earthlink.net).

Mon.-Wed., Sept. 24—Manzanar High School Reunion; Fremont Hotel; entertainment, dancing, slot machine tournament; banquet to be dedicated to the late Shiro Nomura. Info: Kazu Nagai, 213/280-2641.

PHOENIX

Fri.-Sun. April 20-22—Arizona Asian Festival; Patriot Square; JACL will have an information booth. Info: Joe Allman, 602/942-2832.

RENO

Fri.-Sun., April 20-22—JACL Tri-District Conference: Central California, Pacific Northwest and Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific districts; Peppermill Hotel and Casino, 2707 S. Virginia St. Info: Robbie Teruya, 925/654-1269, or Alan Nishi, 916/424-8916. ■

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.

# House Votes to Toughen State Hate Crime Law

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Inspired by a racist's deadly shooting spree, the Illinois House voted March 20 to expand the state hate crime law.

The House voted 96-10 for a measure creating the offense of "conspiracy against civil rights." It is meant to target the leaders of hate groups who encourage followers to commit crimes.

It was inspired by Benjamin Smith, who killed two people and injured nine in 1999. He had belonged to the racist World Church of the Creator before the shootings, and critics said the group's leader was partly responsible for the violence.

"It's regrettable that leaders of hate groups have legally insulated themselves from prosecution," said the bill's sponsor, Rep. Jeffrey Schoenberg, D-Evanston. "We've seen too much pain in our communities to date, and we have the opportunity to address that and change that."

The measure now goes to the state Senate, where a similar bill died last year. Critics call the measure too broad.

Schoenberg said it would give prosecutors a tool against people who urge other people to commit hate crimes. It cannot be used against ordinary speech — even racist speech — since that would not reach the level of criminal conspiracy, he said.

The bill also would increase penalties for some hate crimes and make the law clear that prejudice does not have to be the only motive in a crime for it to qualify as a hate crime.

Bill Yoshino, JAACL Midwest director, stated that the new law will give more latitude to authorities to pursue hate groups. Commenting on the mixed-mo-

tive amendment, Yoshino said, "It's important to make clear that a hate crime can be charged regardless of the existence of any other motivating factor."

According to Yoshino, the bill will do the following:

- change the Illinois Hate Crimes Act to penalize those who encourage their followers to commit hate crimes;
- clarify the existing law and allow prosecutors to seek stiffer penalties for repeat offenders;
- make it a crime when a person agrees with another to use violence, threat or intimidation in order to interfere with another person's free exercise of any right or privilege under federal or state constitutions. A person can be charged with a Class 4 felony (a probational offense, which carries a one-to-three-year prison sentence) for a first offense and a Class 2 felony (a probational offense which carries a three-to-seven-year prison sentence) for a second or subsequent offense;
- clarify mixed-motive hate crimes where, under current law, there is a confusion whether hate must be the sole motivating factor in order to charge a person with a hate crime. While the courts have uniformly held that multiple motives do not rule out the hate crime charge, police and prosecutors around the state have not consistently interpreted the law;
- increase penalties for hate crimes committed on properties such as cemeteries, places of worship, schools, public parks or ethnic and religious community centers;
- impose mandatory fines and community service for individuals convicted of hate crimes;
- repeat hate crime offenders will be ineligible for probation or conditional discharge. ■

# Nearly 300 Attend D.C. Reception to Honor Mineta

Several Asian Pacific American organizations hosted a reception to honor Norman Y. Mineta, the 14th U.S. Department of Transportation secretary.

Close to 300 people attended the March 13 event, which was organized by national JAACL, Washington, D.C., JAACL chapter, National Council of Asian Pacific Americans, and Asian Pacific American Municipal Officials (APAMO). Included among the guests were newly elected Rep. Mike Honda, D-San Jose, and Clayton Johnson, assistant to President Bush for personnel.

Mineta is not only the first APA to hold a cabinet post, but is also the second individual to serve as a cabinet secretary under two different presidents and the first to do so under two presidents of different political parties.

A slide show chronicled Mineta's career, from his days as a cub scout in San Jose to his service in the U.S. Military Intelligence Service, to his days as the first APA mayor, of a major mainland city. The slide show, written and produced by Kristine Minami, JAACL's Washington, D.C., representative, and Aileen Li with the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), also highlighted Mineta's many post-congressional contributions, including his service as the first chairman of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and as U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary during the second Clinton Administration.

John Tateishi, JAACL national executive director and emcee of the event, talked about Mineta's recognition as a leader in the area of transportation, technology and civil rights. Tateishi then joked that "we thank Secretary Mineta for the great economic contributions to the region and think of him every time we're stuck in traffic in San Jose."

Floyd Mori, JAACL national president, was also on hand to show his support.

Johnson, speaking on behalf of Bush, talked about the selection process for the transportation secretary position, which had been discussed months before Bush was elected president. He noted that Mineta fit all the criteria that the Bush Administration was looking for — an understanding of transportation issues, knowledge about the workings of government, experience on the cabinet and respect of

line-up and thanked Mineta for his work in building coalitions among all APAs.

Honda referred to Mineta as an "older brother," who had mentored him and gave him the confidence and guidance to run for public office.

Representatives from APAMO presented Mineta with a plaque to honor his new position and thanked him for his service as mayor and city councilman of San Jose.

In his brief address to the crowd, Mineta emphasized the role of



(L-r): Clyde Nishimura, EDC governor; Floyd Mori, JAACL national president; Hon. Norman Mineta, Secretary of Transportation; Kristine Minami, JAACL Wash. D.C. rep.; and John Tateishi, JAACL executive director

Congress. In fact, Johnson said, Mineta was the only cabinet secretary confirmed by the Senate before his confirmation hearings had been completed.

A common theme among speakers was that Mineta led the way for other APAs in the political arena and that he served as a role model in all of his elected offices.

Daphne Kwok, OCA executive director and soon-to-be executive director of APAICS, joked about being the "token" female in the speakers'

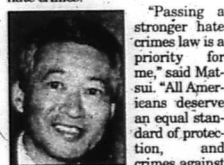
APAs in public service and urged the public to continue participating in government. He said he was honored to be a member of the Bush Administration and would work to bring Democrats and Republicans together on key issues.

Mineta, his wife Deni and stepson stayed for almost an hour after the festivities to mingle with the guests. ■

Kim Nakahara, Laura Nakatani and Craig Uchida contributed to this article.

# Matsui Reintroduces Hate Crime Legislation as Original Cosponsor

U.S. Rep. Robert Matsui, D-Sacramento, recently announced that he is joining members of the House and Senate in co-sponsoring and reintroducing the bipartisan Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act (LLEEA). This bill would provide assistance to state and local law enforcement agencies and amend federal law to streamline the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes.



"Passing a stronger hate crimes law is a priority for me," said Matsui. "All Americans deserve an equal standard of protection, and crimes against civil rights should be prosecuted equally. To let another year pass without the federal government making a commitment to pass hate crime legislation shows a shocking indifference to civil rights."

The National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC), and its affiliates, the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF), the Asian Law Caucus (ALC), and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (APALC), are also urging Congress to pass the revised law.

Current law limits federal prosecution of a hate crime to federally protected activities, such as voting, and prohibits federal involvement in cases of crimes motivated by bias against the victim's sexual orientation, gender or disability.

LLEEA will also provide legal protection for residents in the seven U.S. states currently without any type of hate crime laws, such as Wyoming, and residents in the 20 states with weak hate crime laws, such as Texas. For example, if this law had been in existence in 1998, the federal government could have prosecuted the murder of Matthew Shepherd in Wyoming as a hate crime.

Last year, LLEEA sailed through the Senate with 57 to 42 votes. In a non-binding resolution, House representatives voted 232 to 192 in

support of LLEEA, reflecting the rapidly growing bi-partisan support for the bill.

"Asian Pacific Americans want Congress to take a stand against hate crimes," said Karen Narasaki, NAPALC executive director. "Asian Pacific Americans have been killed in the past three major shooting sprees where the gunman picked Asians, African-Americans and Jewish people as targets. Asian Pacific American communities across the nation have been mobilizing efforts to urge support for LLEEA."

In addition to expanding the ability of the federal government to prosecute hate crimes, LLEEA also provides local governments resources and funding to offset the costs of hate crime investigation and prosecution.

"Although hate crime legislation passed the Senate and was approved by the House last year, the language was never included in a bill that made it to the president's desk. This year Congress needs to get serious about hate crimes and strengthen the law," said Matsui. ■

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# Kings' Jason Williams Apologizes for Anti-Asian Remarks

(Continued from page 1)

Michael Ohing, who is of Chinese and Japanese descent, was one of several Asian American fans involved in the incident. Politely sent letters to the NBA, the Golden State Warriors and the Sacramento Kings, demanding an apology from Williams. Former Sacramento Mayor Jimmie Yee also held meetings with Kings representatives and encouraged an apology to the Asian Pacific American community.

Letters were also sent by various APA community organizations, including the JAACL. Letters from the NCWNP district, the Florin chapter, and the San Francisco chapter were sent to the Sacramento Kings and the

NBA demanding an apology from the basketball star.

"Such language, even if proven to be in response to obnoxious fans, is unacceptable," wrote the Florin chapter in their letter to Geoff Petrie, general manager of the Kings. "Racial slurs are an insult to all and smear the entire Asian Pacific American community, not just a few individuals. Coming from a famous sports star who might be looked up to by thousands of kids as a role model, it has wide-ranging impact and makes it even more of a travesty."

They added, "We take this as an extremely serious matter. Threats about Pearl Harbor and to 'kill all you Asian motherf---' — were used before — to look up 120,000 innocent Japanese Americans in World War II con-

centration camps. Racial slurs, stereotypes, and scapegoating for the actions of Japan dehumanized Japanese Americans and paved the way for taking away our freedom, homes, farms, businesses, and possessions."

NCWNP District Regional Director Patti Wada also sent a letter to David Stern, NBA commissioner, criticizing Williams' actions. "In light of the fact that hate violence against Asian Americans and homosexuals has increased in our nation, it is imperative that we do not employ the tactic of avoidance," Wada wrote. "It is important that we do not view this incident as simply a player who cursed a fan. It goes far beyond that, and the destruction that racism and homophobia foster must be taken seriously." ■

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## CENSUS 2000 APA Population Increases Nationwide

By Pacific Citizen Staff  
and Associated Press

### MARYLAND

Asian Americans, Hispanics, blacks and other minorities experienced dramatic growth over the past decade, accounting for all of the 515,000 people added to the state's population since 1990, according to recently released Census 2000 data.

About 80 percent of the growth occurred in the Washington suburbs. Montgomery County is especially diverse, with an AA population nearly as large as its Hispanic community.

The change in demographics can be seen especially in the products, shops and services offered by minority business owners who have been quick to seize opportunities in the area. Marketers and big business are beginning to take notice of this boom and are reaching out to these groups, hiring more minorities and advertising in Spanish and Korean-language publications.

"It's been said the Asian American community at this point in time may not have political clout, but they have purchasing clout," said Ginny Gong, a Montgomery County administrator and AA activist.

### MASSACHUSETTS

Whites are still the majority statewide, but in cities like Lawrence and Lowell, Asian American and Hispanic communities have surged.

In the last decade, the number of AAs grew by 67.8 percent statewide, to 240,613, while the Hispanic population grew by 49.1 percent, to 428,279, of the total 6.3 million.

In Lowell, AAs make up 16.55 percent of the city's population, the highest proportion of AAs in any city in the state, according to census data.

Samkhanh C. Khoeun, 37, director of the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association, noted the influx of Cambodian immigrants and businesses since 1990. "People are pleased with everything we do for the community," said Khoeun, who came to the city in 1995 from Chicago. "We let them know we are here to stay. They used to say, 'Oh, they're just refugees from overseas.'"

The makeup of the school system is also changing. At Lowell High School, the population is estimated to be about one-third AA. City Councilman Rithy Uong, 41, moved to Lowell in 1990 and got a job as the school's guidance counselor after the administration was pressured into making available more ethnically appropriate support services for the many Cambodian American students.

### NEW YORK

The Asian American community now constitutes over 10 percent of the population in New York City and number over one million statewide, according to census data.

The Asian American Federation of New York (AAFNY) said that the tremendous growth of the AA population throughout New York City and surrounding suburbs will likely have significant policy implications.

In New York City, the AA population grew by 72.9 percent from 1990 to 2000. That number included all respondents who filled in Asian/Pacific Islander in combination with any other race.

The AAFNY's analysis shows that the population of AAs living in Queens increased by over 83 percent between 1990 and 2000 and the growth was even greater in Brooklyn where it grew by nearly 90 percent.

Despite a history of over 150 years in New York City, no AA has ever been elected to a city council, state legislative or congressional district representing New York.

This year, at least a dozen AA candidates are running for city council seats throughout Manhattan and Queens.

The AAFNY is currently developing an analysis of public funding provided to social service organizations for AAs in New York, many of whom are still underserved.

### NORTH CAROLINA

Thousands of Asian Americans who moved to North Carolina in the 1990s helped to make it the state's third largest racial group today, behind whites and blacks, according to Census 2000 data.

The census counted 113,689 AAs in the state, or 1.4 percent of the population. In 1990, there were 52,166 AAs, or 0.8 percent.

Most AA residents moved in from other parts of the country, as North Carolina is not a major point of entry for immigrants. Bailian Li, a past president of the Chinese American Friendship Group in the Triangle, said high-tech jobs in Research Triangle Park are a big draw.

Most of the 1,200 members of the friendship group work at North Carolina State, UNC-Chapel Hill or Duke University, or at any of the several nearby companies: IBM, Nortel, Glaxo Wellcome, Cisco, Ericsson or SAS.

Li said it's different from other parts of the country, such as San Francisco or New York, where Chinese and other Asians frequently work in the service industry.

### ALABAMA

Census figures show that one-third of the 2,313 residents of mostly white Bayou La Batre identify themselves as Asian and that the town's 770 AA residents are the largest minority, outnumbering blacks by more than 3-to-1.

Since the end of the Vietnam War, many Vietnamese, Cambodians and Laotians have joined the nearly two million fishermen working on the Gulf of Mexico. Some immigrants find jobs picking crabs and processing shrimp and oysters in the bayou's thriving seafood industry, which ranks among the top in the nation for production.

Carter Huynh, 22, works in his family's seafood business, Two Brothers, but often doubles as a translator for other Vietnamese immigrants. He recently assisted a Vietnamese man completing a police report about an assault.

Vu Tran, 27, works in his family's First Oriental store. His father, Phan Van, arrived in Alabama in April 1975 and brought the rest of the family years later. Four generations now live in the bayou.

### WASHINGTON

The Asian American population in Seattle nearly doubled, according to statistics from the 2000 Census. But within that diverse group, there are farm workers, Microsoft techies, fifth-generation Japanese Americans and toddlers from China adopted last month by white parents.

"It's a problem to lump us all as Asians," said state Rep. Velma Veloria, a Seattle Democrat who was born in the Philippines. She pointed out that the needs of a Cambodian refugee who speaks no English differ vastly from the needs of an East Indian high-tech employee, even though both are classified as "Asian" by the census.

There are also a growing number of mixed race AAs and interracial families, such as Mel Cloyd, who is black, his girlfriend, Yoko Hibino, who moved to Seattle from Japan four years ago, and his 10-year-old daughter, Chloee Barrera-Cloyd, who all regularly shop at Uwajimaya, a market in Seattle's International District.

### CALIFORNIA

Census data shows that Asian Americans are the fastest growing minority group in California, hav-

ing increased, 53.8 percent, from over 2.8 to nearly 4.4 million, since 1990.

AAs now make up nearly 13 percent of the state's population, according to last year's count.

Much of the AA population growth is due to immigration. According to a report by the Pat Brown Institute of Public Affairs, 32 percent of the documented immigration to California from 1994 to 1998 was from countries in Asia and the Pacific.

The 2000 census data also found that more Pacific Islanders make their homes in California than in Hawaii.

Twenty-nine percent of the country's Pacific Islanders, or 116,961, live in the Golden State while 113,539 live in Hawaii.

Previous census forms listed only Asian Pacific Islander as a race option, making it impossible to separate the two. The new Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander category includes such groups as native Hawaiians, Guamanians, Samoans, Tongans, Tahitians and Pijians.

"The Asian numbers were always much higher and we could never get a true picture of the Pacific Islander community," said Susie Sufai'a of the Census Race Ethnic Advisory Committee. "This was important so we could really identify the needs of this community."

Pacific Islanders' migration to California began shortly after World War II. Over the years, many have come in search of work during hard economic times and high unemployment in Hawaii.

Some Pacific Islanders say they stay connected to their homelands and their culture through island spirit and brotherhood. Many still cling to family systems and traditions.

"If I see a Hawaiian brother or a Tongan brother, we say, 'How you doing?'" said Ryan Anoa'i, 33, a Samoan from Daly City. "We consider ourselves flesh and blood. We're like cousins."

In the San Francisco Bay area, Hawaiians, Samoans and Tongans are most common.

Most Hawaiians have settled in Fremont, Hayward and San Francisco. Tongans are mostly in San Bruno, San Mateo and East Palo Alto, while Samoans are mainly in San Jose, Daly City and San Francisco.

The various cultures are visible throughout the Bay Area through everything from hula clubs to Samoan Flag Day - the anniversary date of the annexation of American Samoa by the United States.

"People respond to Hawaiian music. It's unreal," said Rena Kalehua Nelson, 66, a disc jockey at a Santa Clara Hawaiian music station. "It reminds people of being in Hawaii."

### HAWAII

More than one in five Hawaii residents identified themselves as multiracial, according to the latest census data.

The 21.4 percent who said they belong to two or more races in last year's count compared with a national average of about 2.4 percent. Nearly 7 percent said they belonged to three or more races.

Of those in Hawaii who said they were of only one race, 24 percent said they were white; 9 percent said they were Native Hawaiian or other Pacific islander; and 2 percent said they were black.

Nearly 5 percent said they were both Asian and white, while another roughly 5 percent said they were Asian and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander and 3 percent said they were white and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

The census data also showed a population shift from the urban center of Oahu to the more rural neighboring islands in the past decade.

## Report Shows Increased Dropout Rate for API Students in 1999

Asian Pacific Islander children of new immigrants contributed to a record level of nationwide student enrollment in 1999, according to a report released March 23 by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The report also estimated that 88 percent of API students had at least one foreign-born parent, compared with 65 percent of Hispanic students, 11 percent of black or African American students and 7 percent of non-Hispanic white students.

In analyzing the report, the Asian American Federation Census Information Center found that approximately 513,000 API students, or 4.8 percent, dropped out of high school in 1999, which is the highest dropout rate for that group in the last five years; of the 15 million college students enrolled in 1999, APIs accounted for 7 percent of the nation's college student population; of the API college students, 29 percent were in graduate school in 1999; similar to the trend in primary and high schools, a significant majority (75 percent) of API college students enrolled in public institutions.

The report's findings are not derived from Census 2000 data but are based on data collected in the Current Population Survey conducted by the Census Bureau in October 1999.

## Census 2000 and the Multiracial Debate

The U.S. Census Bureau released its broad findings on the country's multiracial population, which met with mixed reactions from minority groups across the country.

The 2000 Census was the first to give Americans the option of marking more than one race. Asian Americans, more than blacks and other minority groups, were willing to check off multiple races, which civil rights groups fear will erode their political clout by splintering "Asians" into subgroups.

The numbers are important because both courts of law and public opinion use them to prove discrimination. Civil rights lawyers point out that if a city is 20 percent AA but its government workforce is only 5 percent AA, they have a good claim. But if that 20 percent figure fell to 10 percent because half of the AAs identified as multiracial, the case would be less compelling.

Racial and ethnic minorities may be diluted, diminished and even disappear in certain contexts," said Glenn Magpantay, an attorney with New York-based Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund. "It could make it easier for conservatives to argue that there are fewer people of color and, therefore, there can't be racial discrimination."

Groups such as the National Council of La Raza, National Urban Center and Southern California Indian Center asked its members not to check more than one box on the census.

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By Pacific Citizen Staff  
and Associated Press

# National Newsbytes

## □ Court to Review Affirmative Action Case

WASHINGTON—The Supreme Court agreed March 26 to decide whether a federal program to help disadvantaged business amounts to unlawful race discrimination.

Adarand Constructors Inc. won a major ruling in 1995 that sharply restricted federal affirmative action programs. The court ruled that federal programs offering minorities special help to remedy past discrimination must meet a strict standard.

The Colorado-based Adarand, owned by a white man, had sued over a 1990 Transportation Department program that gave bonuses to highway contractors if at least 10 percent of their subcontracts went to "disadvantaged business enterprises." Companies owned by racial minorities were presumed to be disadvantaged.

After the 1995 ruling, Congress reauthorized the law and the Transportation Department revised the program.

## □ Court Rules Against Race-based Admissions

DETROIT—The University of Michigan law school's admissions standards are unconstitutional because they may use race as a factor in judging applicants, a federal judge ruled March 27.

"There is no question about the long and tragic history of race discrimination in this country," U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman wrote in his ruling. However, he said, the law school's justification for using race to assemble a racially diverse student population is not a compelling state interest.

Even if it was in the state interest, the law school has not narrowly tailored its use of race to achieve that interest, he said.

The suit was brought by the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Individual Rights on behalf of Bar-

bara Grutter, a white who claimed she was denied admission in 1997 because less-qualified minorities get preferential treatment.

In December, another federal judge ruled the university's undergraduate admissions policy — which allows consideration of race but not racial quotas — is a constitutional way to achieve diversity. That case is likely headed to the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati.

Both suits could wind up in the U.S. Supreme Court.

## □ Groups Oppose Hate Crimes Bills

AUSTIN—Rep. Wayne Christian, R-Center, and several conservative groups recently spoke out against two James Byrd Hate Crimes Acts that have been approved by legislative committees and are awaiting action by the Senate and the House.

The bills were named for Byrd, who was dragged to death behind a pickup truck by three white supremacists in 1998. Two are awaiting execution, while the third is serving a life term.

If signed into law, the bills would enhance penalties for crimes motivated by factors including race, religion, color, disability, sexual orientation, national origin and ancestry.

But some contend that dividing and classifying people into such classes will protect certain Texans and not others. "When laws list special classes of people who are more worthy of protection than others, who is going to be omitted? Are you going to omit athletes, hunters, fisherman, journalists, grandmothers?" said Becky Farar, Texas director of Concerned Women for America.

"The homosexual who leaves the gay bar should receive full protection of the law, but so should your grandmother on her way to the supermarket," added Kelly Shack-

elford, president of the Free Market Foundation.

Jim Rigby, a pastor at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, called the groups' statements "pitiful attempts" to protect their right to judge. "These are all groups that are into attacking gays and lesbians," he said. "It's not honest for them to pretend this is an equal protection issue."

## □ JA Medal of Honor Recipients Celebrated

SEATTLE—Medal of Honor recipients William K. Nakamura and James K. Okubo were honored March 25 by local and state officials, members of their units and fellow Medal of Honor winners at a ceremony on the National Medal of Honor Day.

The United States Courthouse in Seattle, where Nakamura was born and raised, was to be renamed the William Kenzo Nakamura Courthouse in a ceremony March 26, while a medical and dental clinic under construction at Fort Lewis will be named in honor of Okubo.

Nakamura died at the age of 22 from an enemy bullet in Castellina, Italy, on July 4, 1944. Okubo served as a medic, risking his life to treat wounded men on the battlefield, and taught first aid classes to other platoons. Both served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Nakamura was buried at Evergreen-Washelli Cemetery in Seattle. Okubo was killed in a 1967 car accident.

"We honor these two men for their uncommon courage and shining example of brotherly love for their fellow soldiers," said Robert Sato, commander of the Nisei Veterans Committee and veteran of the 442nd.

Gov. Gary Locke made a proclamation, declaring the week of March 25-31 in honor of Nakamura and Okubo.

## □ APIs Rally at Capitol

OLYMPIA—About 500 Asians and Pacific Islanders chanted with Rep. Kip Tokuda, D-Seattle, "We are here to stay!"

The message at the March 27 annual API rally resounded in light of the recently released census data, which showed Washington's API population has increased 78 percent in the last decade.

The point of the rally and lobbying day was to pressure legislators to avoid cuts to human services

and to fully fund programs for immigrants and refugees, such as translation services.

Gov. Gary Locke, the first Chinese American governor in the nation, spoke at the event, promising to try to protect translation services and training to ensure agencies can serve a variety of languages and cultures.

Along with Locke, there are four Asian American legislators, three in the House and one in the Senate. Asians make up 5.5 percent of Washington's population and 2.7 percent of the Legislature.

## □ White Supremacists Arrested in Attack on Interracial Couple

RENO, Nev.—Three self-admitted white supremacists were arrested March 23 in connection with last month's attack on an interracial couple — an Asian American man and a black woman — outside a Hollywood Video store.

Dustin Abbey, 18, and brothers Kevin, 19, and Craig Pennington, 20, were booked on battery and hate-crime charges for beating Yong Neeley and choking his wife, Audrey, on Feb. 11.

Both victims refused medical treatment that night, but Mrs. Neeley has since sought treatment for neck and throat injuries. Her husband escaped with minor injuries.

During police questioning, all three suspects confessed to the crime but denied any involvement in a Jan. 1 attack on a Jewish synagogue in Reno. These attacks are the latest in a string of suspected hate crimes in the Reno area.

In December, five skinheads were sentenced to up to 15 years in prison for the November 1999 attempted firebombing of the same temple. White supremacists were also convicted for the 1994 stabbing of a Reno gay man and the 1988 shooting death of a Reno black man.

## □ Gang Violence Growing Outside of Kalihi

HONOLULU—Efforts by police and an outreach organization have helped reduce gang violence in Kalihi, where at least two gang members were killed by rivals and various youth gangs staked out their turf at Farrington High School in the 1990s.

Police began targeting leaders of the more violent gangs by the mid-

1990s, and a nonprofit group called Adults Friends for Youth intensified its efforts of working with youth gang members to help them break the cycle of violence.

Sid Rosen, founder of the group, said gang activity in Kalihi is now almost nonexistent but is rising in outlying areas such as Ewa Beach, Waipahu and Wahiawa.

Two 15-year-old boys were recently injured, one from stab wounds in a Feb. 2 incident at the Punahou Carnival, which may have been gang-related. It is not clear whether the two Roosevelt High School students had gang ties, according to police Lt. Bill Kato, youth gang expert.

But Kato said youths involved in a Nov. 19 crime spree in Kalihi, Kailua and Pearl City had definite gang ties. A prosecution witness at the murder trial testified that his brother and the defendant were members of a gang.

## □ Rape Defendant Pleads Guilty, Likely Will Testify

SPOKANE, Wash.—One of three people arrested in the abductions and rapes of two Japanese students from Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute has pleaded guilty and likely will testify against the others, a prosecutor said.

Lana C. Vickery, 43, pleaded guilty to single counts of first-degree rape and first-degree kidnapping in a plea agreement that dropped several counts of kidnapping and assault.

Vickery will likely testify against Edmund F. Ball and David M. Dailey. The trio videotaped themselves sexually assaulting the students over seven hours on Nov. 11. In addition, Ball is charged with two counts of intimidating witnesses for telling the victims that the videotapes would be sent to their parents, should they go to police.

Dailey is charged with additional counts of kidnapping and assault stemming from an Oct. 28 incident in which two Japanese students attending Eastern Washington University were abducted and assaulted. Similar charges against Vickery were dismissed as part of the plea agreement, said Prosecutor Steve Tucker.

"Vickery told detectives she, Ball and Dailey targeted Japanese students because they were 'submissive and because of the shame and dishonor they would bring on their families, they would not report it.'"

The two Mukogawa students are expected to testify at Ball and Dailey's trial, scheduled for June 4.

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## JACL Corner

### Venice Culver Chapter Announces Frances Kitagawa Award Recipients

The Venice Culver JACL board of directors has announced the first recipients of awards from the Frances Kitagawa Leadership Development Fund. They are Diane Tanaka, Garrett Ogata and Karina Kubota.

Tanaka and Ogata have received a stipend to help cover expenses while they attended the six-day 2001 JACL/OCA Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. Past conferences have included meetings with Bill Lann Lee, then acting assistant attorney general for civil rights, Sens. Robert Matsui, D-Calif., and Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii, and Norman Mineta, U.S. Secretary of Transportation.

Kubota, an 11-year-old sixth grade student from Culver City Middle School has been selected to participate as a member of the California People to People Student Ambassador Delegation in the United Kingdom this summer. Her award will go towards her tuition for this program. The purpose of the program is to bring people from different cultures together in peace and friendship. Student ambassadors

can also earn high school and college credit through their experiences.

For more information about the Frances Kitagawa Leadership Development Fund, contact Sharon Kumagai at 310/416-0291, or e-mail at [vceniceculver@jacl.org](mailto:vceniceculver@jacl.org).

### Sacramento to Host Annual Dinner Honoring Scholarship Recipients

The annual dinner honoring the winners of Sacramento JACL's scholarship program will be held on May 24 at the Holiday Villa Restaurant.

There will be more than 20 scholarship awards, totaling over \$20,000, said chair Michael Iwahiro.

Tickets for the dinner are \$20 per person. For the first time this year, a pair of tickets will be given to each donor. Please call the JACL office at 916/447-0231 for reservations or more information.

### Watsonville JACL to Host 'American Story' Education Program

Now that the Go For Broke monument has been built in Los Angeles, the 100th/442nd/MIS

WWII Memorial Foundation is focusing on its educational goals as the "Go For Broke Education Foundation."

An important community meeting to learn about the "American Story" Education Program will be held Saturday, May 5, at the Watsonville JACL, Kizuka Hall, 150 Blackburn St., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Invitations have been sent to veterans and friends and relatives of veterans of the greater Monterey Bay area.

Christine Sato, executive director of the Go For Broke Educational Foundation, and Jan Hirata will be in Watsonville to make a detailed presentation of the aims and goals of the project.

This community meeting is the fourth event in a statewide effort to create an awareness of education programs on the Japanese American WWII veterans' story: teacher training workshops, oral history program, "Hanashi, The Voice of the Nisei Soldier," media projects — Lane Nishikawa's "When We Were Warriors" and "Forgotten Valor"; interactive website, and a membership newsletter program.

To attend, call 831/722-6859 before April 30.

## EDC, MDC, MPDC Tri-District Conference June 28-July 1

The 2001 EDC, MDC, MPDC Tri-District Conference will be held at the Westin Hotel in Cincinnati June 28-July 1.

Based on the theme "Passing the Torch Through Education," the conference will include workshops on teacher training and a panel discussion, "Education Past, Present, Future," featuring Dr. Roger Daniels, Dr. Edwin Yamauchi, Dr. Mitch Maki, and Mike Carrafiello, with Dr. Sharon Ishii-Jordan as moderator.

There will also be a workshop with Karen Farmer on financial planning, and one with Steve Okamoto on planned giving. Howard University Professor, Frank Wu will be the keynote speaker at the Saturday evening banquet.

Planned events will also include a welcome reception Thursday evening and a cash

bar social hour before the Saturday banquet. The joint session of district delegates will take place Sunday morning.

Conference registration is due by June 1. Cost of full registration, including workshops, lunch on Friday and the Saturday banquet is \$70. The Friday teacher training workshop only, including materials and lunch, is \$40, and the Saturday night banquet only is \$42. For registration materials, including transportation and parking information, contact Hiroko Nishiyama, 2857 Ridgewood Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45213-1055.

The Westin Hotel is located at 21 E. Fifth St. To receive a special rate at the hotel (phone 513/621-7700), reservations should be made early and the JAACL conference should be mentioned. ■

## Deadline for Poston Reunion Registration is April 25

The deadline to register for the 10th Poston Camp III reunion is April 25.

The reunion will take place in San Diego, at the Mission Valley DoubleTree Hotel, from June 1-3.

Individuals planning to stay at the hotel should make their own reservations by the deadline date by calling the hotel at 800/222-8733 or 619/297-5466 and asking for the Poston III reunion rate.

The hotel will honor the group rate three days prior and three days after the reunion dates, based on availability.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Ruth Okimoto of Berkeley. The former San Diego and resident of Block 327 will speak during the Saturday night banquet on the topic, "How Poston Came to Be."

Okimoto, with funding from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program, has been researching methodology used by federal authorities to se-

lect the camp sites and will detail why Poston was selected.

Another special guest will be Dr. Raoul Roko, a structural engineering consultant for the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) on whose land Poston was built. Roko has been assisting the CRIT tribal council in developing a plan to restore, renovate and rebuild a standard 14-barrack camp block.

To date, the CRIT tribal council has committed a 100-acre site around the existing school buildings at the Camp I location for the project. The tribal council has also tentatively received support from the Arizona Department of Transportation and plans to seek additional support from the Department of the Interior to develop a project similar to those approved at Manzanar and Minidoka.

The reunion will also feature internee-made artifacts, historic photographs and a full-size reproduction of a barrack unit. ■

## Placer JAACL Teams with Sierra College on 'Standing Guard' Project

By DEBRA SUTPHEN, Ph.D.  
Sierra College, Dept. of History

The Placer JAACL and Sierra Community College in Rocklin, Calif., have joined forces in a year-long art and education project called "Standing Guard."

Initiated in the fall of 2000 by Sierra College photography professor Rebecca Gregg, "Standing Guard" is a project designed to create a legacy of education about the impact of World War II internment on the Japanese American community in and around Placer County.

The "Standing Guard" project will end in February 2002 with a month-long art and education exhibit in Sierra College's Ridley Gallery that will feature the work of local photographer Dean Tokuno as well as student art projects. Furniture, writings and artifacts produced in internment camps or marking the achievements of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team will also be on view in the exhibit, as will the oral history collection produced by Sierra College students and Placer County residents in the Special Japanese American Oral History Field Course. Students in the course, called

History 35, will interview Placer County residents who were directly affected by internment and report their findings in a professionally published manuscript.

Sierra College professors Lynn Medeiros and Debra Sutphen, team teachers for the History 35 course, provided their 57 students with an intensive seven-week immersion into the history of anti-American and anti-Japanese sentiment in California that paved the way for internment. Part of this educational training included two college-sponsored field trips to San Francisco's Japantown. On Feb. 18 the History 35 class attended this year's "Day of Remembrance" commemoration held in San Francisco.

On Feb. 27 the class met with San Francisco JAACL chapter volunteer Greg Marutani for an extensive discussion on the civil rights issues surrounding internment and also visited the National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) museum. On March 13, the History 35 students received an afternoon training session about Japanese culture by Placer chapter co-president Hiroshi Matsuda. Students will spend the last seven weeks of the semester working with

community members on their oral history narratives.

Financial support from the Placer JAACL will ensure that each oral history interview is professionally recorded and transcribed. The funding will facilitate photographic documentation of each oral history narrator by members of Sierra College photography professor Randy Snook's documentary photography class. Also, Placer JAACL support will ensure design and development of a publishable manuscript compilation of the oral history interviews by Sierra College applied arts and design students, directed by professor Tom Fillebrown.

Two legacies of the cooperation between the Placer JAACL and Sierra College are already in place at Sierra College. Twenty oral history kits, tape recorders, microphones and accompanying equipment will be permanently housed at Sierra College. Additionally, the Sierra College Library plans to develop a "Japanese American Collection" that will house and administer loaning of the oral history audiotapes, transcripts, and oral history manuscript and build a collection of books related to Japanese and JA culture. ■

## Okura Fellows Program Postponed Due to Founder's Illness

The 10th Okura Fellows "Week in Washington," planned for April 28-May 4, has been rescheduled for the spring of 2002 due to an illness suffered by the founder and president of the program, K. Patrick Okura.

The more than 200 applicants who applied for the "Week in Washington" program will be considered again next year.

Okura fell ill earlier this year, shortly after flying out to Santa Barbara, Calif., to accept the "Senior Man of Color" and the Carolyn Attneave awards at the National Multicultural Conference and Summit.

Okura was also recently recognized with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Asian American Psychologist Association and granted an honorary doctorate from Phillips Graduate Institute. ■

## 32nd Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage Set for April 28

The 32nd annual pilgrimage to the Manzanar National Historic Site will take place on Saturday, April 28, and will salute the Gila River and Topaz War Relocation camps. Last year, the Tule Lake and Amache camps were featured at the pilgrimage.

"We cordially invite all individuals who have any connection with the Gila River and Topaz camps to join the Manzanar Committee in its salute at the pilgrimage," said Manzanar Committee Chair Sue Embery.

Co-sponsoring this event will be JAACL's PSW district.

Debbie Bird, acting superintendent of Manzanar, will provide an update of recent projects completed at the site and will introduce the newly appointed superintendent, Frank Hays.

The Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California plans to present a plaque to the Eastern California Museum in memory of the late Shiro "Shi" Nomura. Nomura, who currently has

an exhibit at the museum named after him, had spent more than 20 years collecting Manzanar artifacts for the museum.

Entertainment will be provided by 47 taiko drummers from Kinara Taiko of the Senshin Buddhist Temple, Tenriyo Missior and the Centenary Methodist Church.

The deputy council general of Japan is also expected to attend the ceremony.

There is no cost to participate in the pilgrimage, but the public is asked to bring their own food since there are no facilities to purchase food. Drinking water will be provided by the committee.

There is a \$15 bus fee to those who need transportation to the Manzanar site. The bus will depart at 7 a.m. from Little Tokyo in downtown Los Angeles.

The committee is requesting that checks be made payable to the Manzanar Committee and sent to P.O. Box 9489, Marina del Rey, CA 90295. For more information, call 323/662-5102. ■

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# APAs in the News

## Awards, Appointments, Announcements

**Tagashi Nakamura**, a Yonsei scholar/activist from Culver City, Calif., was recently inducted into the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) during ceremonies held at the University of California, Los Angeles.

The NSCS is a highly selective national academic honors organization established to promote both scholarship and social responsibility. Every year, it recognizes first and second year undergraduate students who excel in academics, leadership and community service.

Nakamura, who is majoring in Asian American Studies, is currently an officer of the UCLA Concerned Asian Pacific Students Association (CAPSA) and serves as a UCLA Affirmative Action Coalition representative. In addition to being on the Dean's List, Nakamura is a teaching assistant for the Asian and Pacific American Leadership and Development Project and a member of Yellow Brotherhood.

Last year, he was active in planning several student rallies and political events including Proposition 21 Educational Forum and Educate to Liberate, a public forum and celebration of early student activism.

**Mona Pasquil**, a Filipino American from Sacramento, was recently named political director for Gov. Gray Davis. She will serve as a liaison to constituency groups, Democratic Party organizations and elected officials for the governor's political committee.

Pasquil has extensive experience in the political arena. In 2000 she served as deputy chief executive officer for community relations for the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles. From 1997-99, Pasquil was Western political director in the White House Office of Political Affairs, advising President Clinton, Vice President Gore and the Cabinet on California political matters and serving as the administration's liaison to Democratic constituency groups in the state.

Prior to her White House service, Pasquil was director of Asian Pacific Affairs and the

Western political desk at the Democratic National Committee in Washington, D.C. From 1991-95 she served as legislative affairs director for state Treasurer Kathleen Brown and from 1985-91 was a legislative consultant for state Sen. John Garamendi. Pasquil is also the founding president of the Asian Pacific Youth Project of California.

**Diane Honda**, a teacher at Bullard High School in Fresno, Calif., has been named a National Student Press Association (NPSA) 2000 Pioneer Award winner. Honda is the first recipient of this award to come from the San Joaquin Valley. She is also the first Asian Pacific American recipient.

Honda is in her 24th year as a teacher in California. She currently advises *The Charger* newspaper under her leadership for the past seven years has earned All-American rankings each year.

She was awarded the Journalism Education Association's Medal of Merit in 1998 and earned a Master Journalism Educator certification in 1996, one of only 100 in the nation. Honda was awarded a Civil Liberties Public Education Fund grant in 1996 and she re-published the 1944 yearbook from Manzanar High School.

In 1992, Honda was appointed to the JEA Multicultural Commission. She served on the JEA board as the Student Journalist of the Year Chairperson from 1992-98. She currently serves on the JEA Teacher Certification Commission. Honda also serves on the National Council Teachers of English Committee for the Review of Affiliate Publications.

**Kellie Kamimura**, a Yonsei University of Washington golfer, recently broke the Corral de Tierra Country Club women's course record in Salinas, Calif., by firing a bogey-free six under par 66 to capture the 30th Annual San Jose State University Lady Spartan Invitational, topping the old record of 72.

Kamimura, who hails from

Burlington, Wash., also won the Bay Area College Classic in Vallejo with a six under two-day score of 138, finishing 11 strokes ahead of the nearest competitor. The UW junior was named GOLF WORLD'S Collegiate Player of the Week in its March 9 issue.



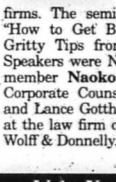
Kamimura is a four-time Washington State High School champion and earned Rolex All American prep honors. She is the daughter of Garret and Patricia Kamimura.

**Shinae Chun** was recently nominated by President George W. Bush to be the director of the Department of Labor Women's Bureau. If named, Chun will be the first Asian Pacific American woman to lead the bureau.

Chun, a first generation Chinese American, is currently the managing director of the ITR Corporation in Chicago and was director of the Illinois Department of Labor from 1991-99. She was director of the Illinois Department of Financial Institutions from 1989-91 and was special assistant to the Governor of Illinois for Asian American Affairs from 1984-89. She is a graduate of Ewha Women's University in Seoul, Korea, and received a master's degree from Northwest-ern University.

**Sandra Yamate**, Chicago JACL member and director of the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession recently presented a showcase program at the ABA mid-year convention at the San Diego Convention Center.

The program was designed to train minority attorneys how to succeed economically in law firms. The seminar was titled "How to Get Business: Nitty-Gritty Tips from the Client." Speakers were New York JACL member Naoko Fujii, Senior Corporate Counsel, Pfizer Inc., and Lance Gotthoff, a partner at the law firm of Oppenheimer Wolf & Donnelly.



The program was designed to help advance the position of minority attorneys in the majority law firms by providing real examples of promotional programs that work.

California Assemblyman **George Nakano**, D-Torrance, has been selected to chair the state's first ever Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus (APILC).

"It is so important to have this caucus as a voice for the API community," said Assemblyman Nakano, "and its creation demonstrates the growing role of Asian Americans in state politics."

Caucuses are formal organizations set up within the State Legislature by the speaker and senate pro tem to allow dialogue be-



tween members with similar interests. Among the other caucuses already established include the Black Caucus, the Latino Caucus, the Women's Caucus and the Moderate/Democratic Caucus.

"The formation of the caucus is something that Mike Honda and I talked about when I first came

to Sacramento in 1998," said Nakano. "The timing couldn't have been better with Assemblymembers Carol Liu and Wilma Chan joining me this year and such key issues in front of us, namely reapportionment and redistricting."

Nakano, stressing the symbolic importance of the APILC to the state's 3.8 million APA residents, said, "This caucus will really serve as a tool to work with a diverse, statewide community representing some 30 different ethnicities, and providing a forum and voice for the myriad of issues facing us all."

Nakano's other legislative assignments for the 2001-2002 session include chairing the Budget Subcommittee on State Administration and the Select Committee on the Aerospace Industry. He is also a member of the Rules and Transportation Committees and landed a key spot on the Elections and Reapportionment Committee. That committee will be instrumental in drawing the new borders for California's congressional and legislative districts later this year.

In addition to Nakano's seats on these standing committees, he sits as a member of several select committees, including the Assembly and Senate Joint Committee to Develop a Master Plan for Education. ■

## JACL Launches e-Mentoring Program

(Continued from page 1)

tsunoto, of Silver Spring, Md., based on their mutual interest in international relations.

"We've exchanged e-mails about three times so far," Mishina said. "It's neat to have a mentee on the East Coast. I don't realize how diverse the membership was in the JACL."

"My initial intent was to advise or share my experience of trying to find work outside of school," Mishina said. "But being that we're both sort of in the same stage in life and that we have similar interests, we're able to exchange information and I'm able to network with her."

Julie Ohara, of New York, said she applied to be a mentor after seeing the program advertised on the JACL website. "Part of it was I'm an only child and I never really had anyone to talk to. I just thought it would be helpful to be there for somebody else."

Ohara's mentee, Kendra Arimoto, 19, is a sophomore at Stanford University who said she also

found out about e-Mentoring through the website. "What struck me about it was that I could be paired up with an Asian American woman. It's difficult to find a role model or a mentor who is both a woman and Asian American, so this is a great opportunity."


"I hope to find out how she got to where she is, who helped her along the way and what challenges she's had as a woman and as an Asian American in her field," Arimoto said.

Au said she is currently trying to create an evaluation for the program, so that participating mentors and students can judge its effectiveness. She said she is also attempting to create a working group between members of JABA (Japanese American Bar Association) and some of the Asian American law student groups so that it becomes "more of a professional network."

The potential for getting funding is there as well, she said. "From what I understand, this is an attractive type of program because there are so many grants out there specifically for technology-based programs. That may be something we look into in the future."

"For us now, it's up to JACL to publicize the program," Au said, "and I think the website is a good way to do that."

For more information about JACL's e-Mentoring program, or for an application, call the PSW office at 213/626-4471, or access the JACL website at [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org). ■



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# The Aussie Nikkei Evacuees Suffered the Most

**S**POKANE, Wash.—The Spokane chapter held its annual Nikkei appreciation luncheon on March 25 at Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute. The full afternoon included greetings from chapter president Dean Nakagawa and guest speakers Cherry Tsutsumida, National JAFL President Floyd Mori and very truly yours,



**My topic was to report on my activity**

## Very Truly Yours

ties as "JACL historian" at the Japanese American National Museum in Little Tokyo. (Meanwhile, working on the *Pacific Citizen*; archives seems never-ending.) Holding up a softcover book I found at JACL headquarters, "Unwanted Aliens: Japanese Internment in Australia" (1996) by Yuriko Nagata, I spoke about the Japanese in Australia's World War II internment camps. In my estimation, they had it worse than evacuees in the United States and Canada.

**A Brief Background**  
Japanese immigration to Australia was restricted to men only in the 1890s. Around 3,600 Japanese worked in the Queensland sugar cane plantations when Australia enacted its immigration restriction law (the White Australia Policy) in 1901. Yet, skilled divers from Japan were admitted with temporary papers. Thursday Island, Darwin and Broome were the major cities where Japanese settled along the Northern Coast.  
The Iseiei men married local women, Caucasian, Malayan or Aborigine, and established families. The Nisei and Sansei who were sent to Japan for schooling and eventually returned to Australia were called "Kigo" — compared with U.S.-born "Kibei" and Canada-born "Kika."  
The Nisei of mixed descent enlisted when the war in Europe began in 1939 and were listed by the military as "Australians." But the Nisei interned were listed by the government as "Japanese."  
A July 1941 census of 1,175 Japanese nationals registered 1,032 males and 143 females. The Army on December 31, 1941, ordered: "All men and women who are Japanese by race should be interned." The arrests were facilitated by the fact that the Japanese communities were small, identifiable and

largely concentrated in the northeast.  
Overall, Australia interned about 16,700 — mainly German and Italian nationals. There were 4,301 Japanese interned: 1,141 "locals," plus 3,160 "overseas" Japanese detained on behalf of other Allied governments — Netherlands East Indies (1,949), New Caledonia (1,124), New Hebrides (34), Solomon Island (3) and New Zealand (50). These numbers come from the Australian War Memorial archives.  
The Hapa 100 Australian-born Nisei and Sansei were British subjects by law (Section 6, Commonwealth Nationality Act, 1920-30). "Any person born within his Majesty's dominions and allegiance ... is deemed to be a natural-born British subject." However, being a natural-born British subject did not always guarantee the rights to which British subjects were entitled. "A natural-born British subject who was the wife or child of an alien could be classified as an alien."  
**Camp Locations**  
Australia had four internment camps at Tatura, 115 miles north of Melbourne — No. 4 was developed as an orchard upon completion of a reservoir and was for the Japanese women and families.

There were three camps at Hay, some 450 miles west of Sydney in semi-arid grazing country — No. 6 was for Japanese men.  
Loveday, about 100 miles northeast of Adelaide in semi-arid country, had three more camps — No. 14, for all Axis nationalities and Australians deemed to be pro-Japan, was under construction at the time of Pearl Harbor.  
British subjects (Caucasian) of Japanese husbands were interned as family members. Aborigines, not considered British subjects, could choose to stay or be interned as family.  
Internees were photographed, fingerprinted, medically examined and given identification numbers upon arrival at the camp. Overseas internees were de-wormed and screened for parasites to prevent introduction of diseases into Australia.  
**Australia Today**  
There are about 20,000 Japanese in the population of around 17 million. Australia repealed its 1901 "white-only" immigration law in 1973 to admit non-Euro-people. Some 10,000 Japanese women (soldier brides of the Occupation period) comprised the first postwar group of Asians. The Japanese are widely dispersed.  
Unlike their North American counterparts, aggrieved Australian Japanese have no organ-

zation to represent them. Some do feel they deserve compensation for what happened to them during the war. One Australian Nisei in Brisbane asked her local MP to investigate the possibility of making a claim, but she was told there was no case to be answered.  
Most were reluctant to talk about that period with the book's author. Ex-internees, now past their 60s, are again suffering the effects of anti-Asian sentiment and negative stereotyping.  
While hindsight holds that most internments were not justified, Yuriko Nagata concludes: "At the time there was probably little alternative. The Japanese in a White Australia besieged by Japan were guaranteed to fail any bureaucratic test of loyalty. ... Lives at the individual level were irrevocably changed and, in many cases, destroyed. If no other positive outcome can be found from civilian internments during WWII, we can at least determine to create a society where it would be extremely difficult to repeat such events." ■  
*The 307-page book was sent to headquarters thanking JACL for its assistance. "Unwanted Aliens" is distributed in the United States and Canada by International Specialized Book Services, 5804 NE Hassalo St., Portland, OR 97213-3640.*

# New Friends, Old Issues

**B**eing a newcomer to this area, one of the things I've enjoyed about being in the Honolulu chapter is getting a chance to meet others who share similar interests and values.  
When I first joined the board of the Honolulu chapter, it was a pretty homogeneous group; I would jokingly tell people that the average board member was a forty-year Japanese American male lawyer. Over the last couple of years, that has started to change, as more women have become active, as well as more non-JAs. We even have a couple of token Nisei. The Tanabes have become among our most active members. We first met



**By BRIAN NIYA**

## Troubled in Paradise

them two years ago when they asked us to do something about the video being shown at the U.S. Arizona Memorial. The video seemed to suggest that local Americans of Japanese ancestry spied for Japan prior to the Pearl Harbor attack. (The Tanabes worked with us to get that video changed, though it took a while. Yoshie Tanabe became a member of our board shortly thereafter, and her husband James also became active.)  
They are a local couple though, with an atypical background. James was born and raised in town and was a member of the Military Intelligence Service after the war. Yoshie is from Kauai. But they and their three kids lived in Chicago for 25 years, where James worked as a supervisor for the Cook County Juvenile Court. They were involved in the civil rights movement there and became concerned with issues of justice. They returned to Hawaii in 1992, continuing their involvement with civil rights issues. That's when we crossed paths.  
While at a board meeting of the 442nd Club to talk about the Arizona Memorial, they saw a presentation on the issue of Japanese Latin American redress. They were stunned by what they heard. As James put it, "it just grabbed me, the way these people were

treated." As they learned more about the issue, they got more involved in it.  
As regular *P.C.* readers know, some 2,264 JAs were kidnapped under arrangement by the U.S. government to be used as hostages for exchange with Americans held by Japan. About a quarter were returned to Japan during the war, the rest were kept in American concentration camps. After the war, they found themselves without a country, as the Latin American countries refused to take them back, while the United States refused to let them stay here. Many ended up in Japan, while some did manage to remain in the United States through legal actions taken by the legendary Wayne Collins.  
These days, the JLA redress issue has become central for the Tanabes. As you probably know, JLas sue the government because they were left out of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act and thus did not receive the apology and \$20,000 reparations payment that interned JAs did. Since the clock was winding down on the redress program, an 11th-hour settlement was engineered that would provide an apology and \$5,000 to JLas. Urged to accept the settlement by the JACL and others, most did accept, though with the understanding that they could seek more compensation through a separate legislative action.  
With the introduction of the Wartime Parity and Justice Act of 2001 by Rep. Xavier Becerra of

California, that action has commented. The bill would provide JLas with reparations equal to that received by interned JAs.  
A couple of weeks ago, James paid his own way to Washington, D.C., to join a lobbying effort organized by Campaign for Justice. The three-person lobbying team met with representatives of some 50 legislators in an attempt to round up support for the bill. Since his return, he has also worked on a resolution supporting the bill with Rep. Marilyn Lee that will be introduced by Lee in the Hawai'i State House of Representatives this week.  
"I keep hearing the number 100," he told me. "I hear that 100 letters received on any one issue will cause a legislator to think about doing something on that issue."  
Yoshie added, "We wish we could let all who read the *P.C.* all over the U.S. know they can help with a simple letter to their congressperson regarding the JLA issue."  
For reasons too lengthy to go into here, the national JACL neither supports nor opposes this legislation. But it is clear that a lot of individuals like the Tanabes who are interested in seeing justice served have taken to this issue.  
"The honor of the U.S. is really discolored by this event," James told me. "I stand as an American ashamed by this, and I must do my part to help clean this up."  
It's hard to argue with that. ■

# New NPS Superintendent Named for Manzanar National Historic Site

Frank R. Hays has accepted the position of superintendent for the Manzanar National Historic Site, according to John J. Reynolds, director of the National Park Service's West Coast facilities.  
Hays, who currently is the manager of a natural resources program at Grand Canyon National Park, is expected to resume his new post in California by May 1.  
"Frank brings to Manzanar a rich understanding of the importance of history and place," said Reynolds. "He gets high marks for accomplishing restoration works and for reaching out to volunteers as park partners."  
Hays has been with the NPS for 20 years as a ranger, natural and cultural resource manager, and on

firefighting assignments at Timpanogos Cave National Monument, Zion National Park and Dinosaur National Monument in Utah, as well as at Chaco Cultural National Monument in New Mexico and Saguaro National Park in Arizona.  
"I am keenly interested in learning from the communities and former internees the evocative story of this place where democracy failed us," Hays said. "And I want to bring to these interest groups a cooperative and strong National Park Service management vision."  
Hays will replace Debbie Bird, who has been serving at Manzanar as an acting superintendent during the year-long search for a permanent park superintendent. ■

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COMMENTARY

WWII Veterans Oppose JACL Apology to Resisters

By SUS SATOW, JAMES ISO, LEO HOSODA, TOM KASHIWARA, GARY SHIOTA, TOM FUJIMOTO, and SHIG YOKOTE  
Nisei WWII Veterans

Recent letters to the editor by Paul Tsuneishi and Eiji Suyama on the subject of JACL's recent apology to the World War II draft resisters begs for a response from WWII veterans. Our mission was to turn around the long prewar discrimination towards Japanese Americans and to prove our loyalty to our birthright country.

We wish to reiterate that the veterans have repeatedly acknowledged the rights of WWII draft resisters in their stand, their stated position and their decision to accept the consequences. However we, as veterans and as JACL members, DO object to the national JACL extending an apology to the resisters.

Why did the Nisei vets willingly put their life on the line and endure such sacrifices on behalf of the JA cause during that traumatic period? The sacrifices of these gallant veterans who gave so much for us, and to our JA generations to come, are well chronicled in history. To measure the resisters' contribution to the betterment of the Sansei and Yonsei generations demands micro analysis. Yet, the Sansei and Yonsei generations are spearheading the efforts to honor the resisters.

Let us establish some facts of exactly what existed for all Japanese prewar and why the WWII veterans did what we did to bring about respect and honor for JAs in the racial climate of the time.

1. In the midst of the "Yellow Peril" attacks against all Asians arriving in the early 1900s, our Issei parents arrived having no English language capabilities, limited education, but enthusiasm to work and succeed.

2. The Asian Exclusion Act of 1924 denied further Asian immigration into the United States. In addition to being denied citizenship, our parents were also prohibited from owning land. Infant Nisei children, having U.S. citizenship, were the recorded deed owners for their parents' home. During

this period the Nisei were coming of age, with their fluent English and access to education. But the Nisei were still young at the time (between 16 and 25) and totally unseasoned. Facing the confrontations, the young Nisei were determined to pull themselves up by their bootstraps from the insidious social quagmire of the past and present.

3. The outbreak of war with Japan on Dec. 7, 1941, led to the incarceration of all West Coast Nikkei into internment camps.

4. The public and the press at the time looked at JAs as the "enemy Japanese," or "a Jap is a Jap."

5. Under this scenario, from behind barbed wire fences, the Nisei had two choices which would establish their destiny, as well as that of our JA generations to follow: a) follow the "no-no" boys and draft resisters' path, or b) follow the path of the JACL leadership.

In the first case, if we followed the "no-no" boys and draft resisters, 12,000 JAs would have served hard time in Fort Leavenworth Penitentiary, Kansas, for many years. Indeed, the draft resisters had their principal point, but what would this have achieved? A field day of "I told you so" confirmations springing from a vast array of past critics, such as Gen. DeWitt, columnist Walter Lippman, California Attorney General Warren and many others. "This proves that indeed the Japanese Americans were an untrustworthy, disloyal and cowardly ethnic racial group in America," would be a comment they could justifiably make. A stigma such as this as a historical record would no doubt have remained for multi-generations of JAs.

However, in following the second avenue open to us, by way of the JACL wartime leadership, we interned Nisei joined the U.S. Army and served honorably, with patriotism and distinction. As Americans, it was our duty. The price we paid in human lives was exorbitantly high. The results of valor and heroism are a matter of historical record: the 442nd/100th Infantry in European operations attained the distinction of being

the most decorated unit in U.S. military history. Nisei in the Military Intelligence Service units in the Pacific attained many medals for heroism, and are accredited with shortening the Pacific War by two years.

The high price paid by JAs in WWII military combat include: 830 killed in action; 18,000 medals for heroic action against the enemy, which included 9,485 combat wounded; and 21 Medal of Honor awardees, the highest award for combat valor America can bestow.

A grateful U.S. president and Congress extended a nation's appreciation for the accomplishments of the Nisei. They also extended an apology to all JAs for their unjust incarceration during WWII. Could this have happened if we had followed the leadership of the resisters? Highly doubtful.

In addition, under a postwar new enactment, our aging Issei parents for the first time were allowed U.S. citizenship. A second law also authorized our Issei parents to own property in America. Another law repealed the 1924 Asian Exclusion Act and allowed Asians once more to immigrate to the United States. We veterans would like to believe that the Nisei WWII accomplishments were one of the early but important cogs which "kickedstart" the successful civil rights movement we see today.

In postwar America, JAs were once more recognized and respected as trusted and loyal Americans. Could all this have happened if we had followed the leadership of the resisters, or the "no-no" boys? Likely, a disastrous misadventure. The real beneficiaries, the Sansei and Yonsei, owe the JACL wartime leaders solemn words of gratitude.

The veterans feel that JACL's priorities on the issue of "apologies" is misdirected. The apologies should be: a) directed to the immediate families and relatives of the 830 WWII Nisei soldiers who gave their lives in battle; b) to the 18,000 Nisei soldiers who were wounded in combat fighting for our rights; c) a proper "honoring and recognition" of the 20 Nisei Medal of Honor awardees; and d) an acknowledgment of the resisters. ■

COMMENTARY

WWII Veteran Supports Stand Taken by Resisters of Conscience

By HISASHI ISHIZAKI  
Former lifetime member of Sacramento Nisei Post 8985

In regards to the recent letter to the editor entitled, "Nisei Veterans Vis-a-vis Draft Resisters," the six authors have a right to their opinion, but they have done a disservice to the readers by continuing the wartime-type diatribe that the then-JACL Pacific Citizen practiced with the help of the Heart Mountain Sentinel. The first paragraph may lead readers to believe that they are speaking for veterans as a group which is not the case.

An apology for the questionable behavior of JACL that brought undue hardship to the Issei parents and families of the 63 members of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee (HMFFPC) was conceived in the 1950s by a pre-war charter president of a Bay Area JACL chapter. Some of the younger JACL leaders that the article refers to of ill-conceiving the idea for an apology may not have even been born yet.

The article asks the question, "Why exacerbate the situation by being a draft resister?" I would very much appreciate it if the authors could tell me when would have been an appropriate time to protest our unconstitutional evacuation and internment? I learned of the Holocaust in Europe after World War II.

It is impossible for anyone who has had the privilege and honor of associating with any member of the HMFFPC over the years to believe that any of their would have demonstrated a "pro-Japan stance" during WWII like the Nisei veterans' letter would lead you to believe. In fact, most of the HMFFPC members' command of Japanese language and Japanese history is pathetic, and most have never even visited Japan.

After the war and their presidential pardon from Harry Truman for their unjust conviction and federal sentence, most of them lead an uncommon Nisei life of being deeply involved in community services in their respected Japanese communities.

The article also implies that the resisters were responsible for the beating of certain JACL leaders. I challenge the authors to produce any documentation that shows that members of the HMFFPC beat any JACL leaders in the Heart Mountain Relocation Center. Very much like the vicious rumors spread in the camps and up at the battlefronts in Europe, the article repeats the unfounded ridiculing and harassing by the HMFFPC of

those already in the service. The families of the men of the HMFFPC very possibly had more siblings in the Armed Services than the general internee families at large. Among the resisters' siblings are medals of valor.

I have the deepest sympathy for those who did not return home from the war, and my sincere condolences go to their families. The authors of the letter write that they are speaking out for many of those killed in action. I remember a boy killed in action who volunteered for the draft from the Heart Mountain Relocation Center because of the wishes of his family. But deep within he wanted to cry out against the injustices trussed upon him and other Japanese Americans. Another lad asked that he be left where he might fall rather than have his body returned to a land that didn't want him.

I am thankful that the letter did not wrongly identify the HMFFPC members as "no-no" boys who were not asked to answer a draft notice and most of whom were sent to Tule Lake Separation Center.

One of the authors of the letter, Gary Shiota, and I came back from Europe and met for the first time at the Presidio, of Monterey before being reassigned to Japan. I hold nothing against any of the authors for their mistaken, sincere belief. I am sure, that they are fine, well-meaning men instead of the many VFW bigots of WWI. I have a brother-in-law, an active 442nd veteran and active JACL member, who to this day still crusades against the apology.

I was shocked and disappointed at the Heart Mountain Reunion in Seattle last year to listen to the Hon. Judge Lance Ito, whom I still highly respect, speak out with the information that he believes to be true as told to him by his parents, just as some of the misinformed Nisei veterans continue to do today.

The HMFFPC did not need nor have ever asked for an apology. The majority of them have already met their maker. They left and are leaving a legacy of love and caring for others. A legacy which their children and grandchildren would be very proud of. ■

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## COMMENTARY

## Remembering Walt Woodward

By TOM KOMETANI

It was my privilege to attend the community memorial service to give thanks and celebrate the courageous life of Walt Woodward (1910-2001), editor and publisher of the *Bainbridge Island Review* before and after World War II.

Woodward was the lone editor in the United States to regularly editorialize in defense of 278 neighbors of Japanese ancestry who were unlawfully uprooted to internment camps during WWII. He called the internment of Japanese Americans "a blatant violation of their citizenship rights" in a federal hearing in Seattle.

In accepting the national JACL's Edison Uno Civil Rights Award, he said, "It was just the right thing to do."

Woodward was lovingly remembered by over 500 community members, including many JAs, on March 24 at Bainbridge's Woodward Middle School, named for him and his wife, Milly. Rela-

tives, friends, co-workers and politicians shared heartwarming stories of the positive impact Walt made on their lives and their community.

JAs islanders told how Walt encouraged Paul Ohtaki, Sachiko Nakata, Tony Koura and Sada Omoto to be "camp correspondents" from Manzanar and Minidoka. The *Review* regularly reported on births, deaths, marriages, baseball scores and those who enlisted in the U.S. Army. "When the war was over, the way home was paved for Bainbridge JAs.

Dr. Frank Kitamoto, who headed up the island's JA history project, described Walt's courageous role in dispelling racist efforts to prevent the return of JAs to Bainbridge. Walt serves as a role model for all to speak out in defense of justice. It was indeed a celebration of a life dedicated to community service and advocacy of citizens' rights.

The Woodward Middle School Band played Walt's favorite Sousa marches, the Island

Scouts served as color guards and students spoke of Walt's influence on them. Longtime friends Ralph Munro and Gerald Elfen Dahl described Walt as a true American hero who preached that we are all obligated to have opinions and principles and to stand up for them.

Taking a stand was his gift to the community. He had an underlying belief in the integrity of the Constitution.

Not having personally known Walt Woodward, I now feel I know him well. Thank you Walt for your unwavering defense of individual rights.

The Woodward family suggests remembrances to: The Woodward Foundation, c/o Tatsuo Morita, 542 Winslow Way W, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110. The foundation is a fund established by the Bainbridge Island JA community to promote the community values and constitutional principles exemplified by Walt and Milly Woodward's opposition to the internment of JAs during WWII. ■

## COMMENTARY

## A Day in the Life

By BETH AU  
PSWD Regional Director

As I maneuver among a million other Nissans, Hondas and GMs on my freeway commute to downtown Los Angeles, I can't help but think of what the day will be like. As I drive to the Pacific Southwest District office, I notice many interesting things. I see school buses filled



with wide-eyed children, and I wonder where they are headed. I glare at other freeway commuters with their cell phones glued to one ear and

I wonder who they are speaking to (while slowing down traffic). I smile at the "LOTHO" billboard and I wonder if I will hit it big this week.

Having been regional director of the PSWD for two years now, I can truthfully say, I love L.A. The Asian Pacific community is well established here. Some of our leaders have been heading organizations longer than I have been alive, while others, like me, hope to carry on their work well into the 21st century.

Once I arrive at the office, I boot up my computer and read through dozens of e-mails with various requests for information such as membership, calendar events and website solicitations. As the day progresses, I check my palm pilot and realize that I have an appointment at the U.S. Federal Courthouse at 1:30 p.m.

Today is no normal day. Today is the day that Buford Furrow will be sentenced. Furrow is the white supremacist who shot and killed Joseph Ito, a Filipino American postal worker, and injured four others at the San Fernando Valley Jewish Community Center. Since Joseph's death, the Ito family has energized the community with their work on hate crimes and has been an inspiration to everyone in

L.A.

I walk a few blocks to the courthouse. Along the way I notice it is great weather for L.A. It is neither too hot, nor too cold, yet I can't help but feel a strange chill in the air on this spring afternoon as I walk quickly to make all the crosswalk lights and get a place in line at the courthouse. >

Not surprisingly, many in the community have come out in support of the Itoes and the Jewish families. The hour arrives and the door is opened. Slowly we make our way to the front of the line, only to be shut out of the courtroom before we even have a chance to get in. The deputy U.S. marshal tells us that the room is full and that we'll have to wait until the hearing is over.

After a long, 90-minute wait, the room opens and solemn-faced people file out. It is clear that people have been crying. APA community members who have been waiting are told that Furrow was sentenced to two consecutive life terms, in prison without parole and an additional 110 years. None of us are shocked since Furrow agreed to the terms of this plea bargain months ago.

We gather together with the family to support them as they speak to the media. As the press conference comes to a close and the sun begins to set, we disband and I walk back to the JACL office to monitor the news for the day.

Every major station broadcasts the story at 4, 5 and 6 o'clock. I hope we don't face another situation like this for a long time. Although it has brought the community together in a positive way, I feel it could have been accomplished without the tragedy of a life lost or those injured.

After another hour of reading e-mails and other general office duties, I finally shut down my computer, turn off the lights and leave the office. The day ends with my short jaunt down Third to the freeway. Some streets have street lamps, others don't, but most alleyways are filled with the cardboard shanties of the homeless in this City of Angels.

As I ease into my commute home with some classical music, I take a good look around at the lights that snake along the freeway for miles and miles and reflect on the events of the day. ■

## APAWLI's Third National Summit Planned for April 6-8

The Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute (APAWLI) will hold their third national summit in Seattle from April 6-8.

The summit gathers Asian Pacific American women from across the nation to dialogue on social, political, policy, professional and personal issues.

Seattle's own Martha Choe, director of the Office of Trade and Economic Development for the State of Washington, will be one of three keynote speakers. Joining her will be Rev. Wako Puanani-Burgess, a poet, Zen priestess and community organizer from Hawaii; and Josie Natori,

founder and CEO of the Natori Company, who was one of the first APA woman to become vice president of a Fortune 500 company.

Workshop topics include: "Values, Ethics and Power"; "Discovering Your Leadership Voice"; "Diversity in Our Thinking Styles"; "Fending Off Culture Clash and the 'Ing' of the Courageous Leader"; and "Discovering, Understanding, Being."

Other workshops include: "Power of Feng Shui"; "Raising Multi-Racial Children"; "Asian Adoptees: Celebration, Issues and Answers"; "Your Personal Economic Power"; and "Center-

ing Through Martial Arts."

APAWLI, now in its fifth year, strives to build effective and culturally relevant models for leadership training for APA women.

Information on the summit is available online at [www.apawli.org](http://www.apawli.org), or by contacting Jill Nishi at 206/498-1551 or the APAWLI office in Denver at 303/399-8899. ■

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# Community Mourns Passing of JACL Leaders Takahashi and Liggett

By HARRY K. HONDA  
Editor Emeritus

Two distinguished JACLers from the Central California District Council, Dr. Toyoko Mae Takahashi, 65, of Clovis and Peggy S. Liggett, 62, of Fresno, succumbed this past month. It was Takahashi and Liggett who first noted a deficit in national JACL finances and urged then national president Denny Yasuhara (1994-96) to bring expenditures in line with income. Yasuhara established a five-member ad-hoc budget analysis committee, naming Liggett as a member with Takahashi as chair.

After an eight-month investigation, a 42-page report was presented to the national JACL board and gave credibility and impetus for the board to take necessary steps to bring JACL back to financial health, it was recalled by pioneer JACLer Fred Hirasuna of Fresno.

"Peggy gave strong support to the drastic measures taken by Yasuhara. Mae is credited for assuming much of the expenses of the investigation and hiring a professional auditor to examine the books of JACL," he said.

Takahashi passed away on March 24 after a lingering illness. A funeral was held March 30 at the Fresno Buddhist Temple Annex with Dr. William Masuda officiating. Among the 500 mourners were past JACL national presidents Jerry Enomoto, Denny Yasuhara and Helen Kawaga and current president S. Floyd Mori. Interment and Seventh Day services were held at Clovis Cemetery.

Liggett died on March 12. Early in 1996, she was diagnosed with encephalomyelitis and was forced to close her office and law practice.

She had been making progress with rehabilitative treatment when she was recognized in 1998 for her extraordinary dedication in the JACL redress campaign.

Takahashi was the youngest of eight children born to Yoshihei and Shizuyo Takahashi, who established the Takahashi Farms at the turn of the 20th century. The family was interned during World War II at Poston II, where she attended elementary school, finishing after the war at Clovis Elementary and graduating from Clovis High School. She contin-

ued at UC Berkeley with degrees in undergraduate studies (57), bachelor of science from UCSF School of Pharmacy (59) and doctorate of pharmacy (60).

The first woman pharmacist to establish her own drug store in Fresno, she was a founding member of the Professional Pharmacy Alliance, promoting independent-owned drug stores.

Takahashi was actively involved in community and professional and medical organizations since the 1960s, playing key roles in the Woodward Park Shin Zen Garden, Central California Nikkei Foundation, at local, district and national JACL levels, and on the Pacific Citizen board as chair (95-98). She was awarded JACLer of the Biennium (96), the CDC Lifetime Achievement Award (99) and the JACL Ruby Pin.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sisters Isako Ida Imai and Tomiko Takahashi. Surviving are brothers Yoshito and Ted, sisters Shizumi Sue Okada (Gardena), Misako Mickie Takahashi (Concord) and Sadako Sally Matsumoto (Torrance), as well as 20 nieces and nephews and more than 20 grandchildren and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be sent to: Central California Nikkei Foundation, 912 F St., Fresno, CA 93706; Community Medical Foundation, P.O. Box 1232, Fresno, CA 93715-9889; National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, 1920 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20039.

Liggett, an attorney in private practice in Fresno, was the second child of Arata and Akiko Lillian Sasashima in Turlock, Calif., born on Dec. 7, 1939. The family was evacuated to the Stockton Assembly Center and Rohwer, Ark. Liggett's siblings were older sister Barbara Tokuni, a chemistry teacher, her brother Larry, a food distributor, sisters Shirley K. Ihara, a real estate agent, and Linda Sasashima, an insurance agent.

Peggy graduated from Sanger

High School. She excelled in debate, edited the school paper and was elected the first woman student body president. She continued her studies at Fresno State and transferred two years later to San Francisco State College in political science. She was married to Thomas Liggett and had two children, Lillian and John. She was divorced in 1967.

Back in Sanger, Liggett worked for the Fresno County Social Services Department, climbed up the ladder and eventually became supervisor. As a single working mother, she put herself through law school at night and became an attorney in 1978. Four years later she started her own practice, specializing in insurance defense cases.

Her two decades of JACL leadership began at Sanger. She then joined Fresno in 1981, as chapter president (82), and was the convention delegate the same year that the legislative strategy for redress was JACL's No. 1 priority. She was elected CDC vice-governor (83-84) and CDC governor (85-86), and served on the Legislative Education Committee for Redress. In 1985, she was honored among six Fresno County "Women Making History" for her career in social services as a single parent, and for bringing pride to the Japanese American community. She received the JACL Sapphire Pin in 1992.

As P.C. board chair, she was "a clear voice, a strong voice for maintaining the newspaper's position as an independent voice, a former news reporting vehicle," former P.C. editor and general manager Richard Suenaga said in tribute. "She had the courage of conviction to stand up in the often hot winds of conflict to speak her mind." When P.C. was buffeted by controversy, she often took time away from her busy practice to fly to national board meetings to speak for P.C. and its staff and the right of the membership to know what was happening at the chapter and national levels, Suenaga said.

Peggy graduated from Sanger High School and Bill of Rights were all about.

The Woodwards also enlisted Paul Ohtaki, Sa Nakata, Tony Koura and Sada Omoto to become "camp correspondents," reporting on births, deaths, marriages, baseball scores, Miss Minidoka beauty pageant winners and volunteers into the Army from the internment camps.

"While we were in camp, he kept the island people informed of our situation and did us all a favor I can never forget," Nakao said. "When the government said that we could go, Walt and Milly had paved the way for our return."

Woodward served as Washington Newspaper Publishers Association president in 1961. He and his wife stepped down as Review editors in 1963. They remained co-owners until 1988, when they sold their interest.

Woodward's wife died in 1989. He is survived by three daughters, nine grandchildren, a great-grandchild and nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held March 24 at Woodward Middle School. ■



Takahashi



Liggett

# Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Imahōri, Shiro, 74,** Torrance, March 15; Los Angeles, March 15; Los Angeles-born; Korean War veteran; survived by wife Marie Mariko; sons Brian and wife Kal, Dale; brother Saburo and wife Enko (Fresno); sisters Fujie Urayama, Lucille Fujita (El Cerrito), Haru Ota and husband Shigeru (Sacramento); brother-in-law Willy Ota and wife Amy; sisters-in-law Yuki Ota, Mary Masooka.

**Inouye, Chiyo "Bobbie," 91,** Seattle, March 12; Los Angeles-born; interned in Arkansas; longtime Spokane resident; survived by daughters Arima Ota (Bellview, Wash.), Gail Ogata (Menlo Island, Wash.); 5 g.c., 9 g.c.; predeceased by husband Ray Fumio.

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper and website "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$14 per column inch. Text is reworded as needed.

**Kanami, Masao "Chip," 63,** Los Angeles, Jan. 25; survived by son David; daughter Julie; brother Haruo and wife Mary (Nevada); half-brother Kazuo Ogawa; sister Akiko.

**Kizuka, Dick, Isamu, 77,** Gardena, March 9; survived by wife Fujiko, Jean, son Gary; sister Masano Holt and husband Earl; brother-in-law Shim Nakamura and wife Mary.

**Kubota, Hiroko, 82,** Cerritos, March 14; Denver-born; survived by sons Robert, Yoshimoto and wife Sheila, Richard Kubota and wife Darleen; daughter Susan Kubota; 4 g.c.; sisters Tske Miya, Kimiko Miya and husband Kaname, Harue Endo and husband Yoshio; sisters-in-law Noriko and Suzuko Fujinami.

**Marutani, Tom Mitsugi, San** Mateo, Feb. 22; Kent, Wash.-born; WWII Army tank corps veteran; labor organizer, San Mateo JACL president (1968); survived by sons Gregory, Lamar; sister Mary Hayashi; brothers Max, William; predeceased by wife Tomiyama.

**Mayeda, Alice E., Chicago,** March 2 service; survived by brother Harry Mayeda and wife Yeshiko; sisters, Helen Saiki and husband Clarence, Pearl Zarilla; many nieces and nephews.

**Misao, Satake, 94,** Concord, March 3; Wakayama-born; survived by daughters Barbara T. Walker (Vancouver, Wash.), Gerri Matsufuji (Millbrae); 2 g.c., 1 g.c.; brothers Rutaru Maeda (Oakland), James Maeda (Indianapolis, Ind.), Futami Maeda (Alameda); predeceased by husband Mitsuzo and daughter Tokiko Sakuma.

**Nakadoi, Robert Yoshio, 87,** Omaha, Neb., March 6; Peirny-born; survived by sisters Masako Mochizuki and husband Bob, Miyako Kamikawa and husband Leftie; brother Kay and wife Kimi; sisters-in-law Pat Kawachi, Alice Kaya, Rose Ishii, Natchi Furukawa; brothers-in-law Manuel, Don, and Juichi Matsunami.

**Nakazawa, Len, 77,** San Francisco, March 2; Nanto-born; survived by wife Yukiiko; nephew Tadahashi Nakazawa and wife Jinko; niece Tsuneko Fukuda and husband Tsuneko (Japan).

**Namekata, Shigeo, 84,** Riverside, March 3; Los Angeles-born; survived by wife Fujie; daughter Kimiko Koida (Portland, Ore.); sons Akira (Riverside); Larry (Millitas), George (San Jose); 7 g.c.; brothers Kenichi (Riverside), Minoru (Turlock); sisters Nancy Yamamoto (Waterford), Kazuko Shimozaki (Lodi).

**Okawa, Isao, 74,** Tokyo, March 16; chair and co-president of video-games maker Sega Enterprises Ltd., credited with expanding Sega's video-games business.

**Sakatsani, James Kiyoto, Chi-**no, March 13; survived by wife Ruth; sons Terry, Ken; daughter Linda Choy; brothers Masato, Yoshito, Sueo, Katsunaki; sister

Kiyoko Shinohara (Japan).

**Sunada, Mary Yoshiko, 90,** Newcastle, B.C., Stockton-born; survived by son Daniel and wife Kristen; daughters Grace Miyamoto and husband Eddie, Dorothy Fuller and husband William (Newcastle); brothers Tom Tanihara and wife Kay, Yoshio Tanihara and wife Toyoko, Ray Tanihara and wife May; 5 g.c., 7 g.c.; predeceased by brothers Kiyoto, Eddie, Bob and San Tanihara.

**Yamakawa, David Kiyoshi Jr., 65,** San Francisco, March 1; San Francisco-born; Pomona and Heart Mountain internee; lawyer and community activist; survived by sister Patricia; brother-in-law Takeshi Yamamoto; nephews and nieces.

**Yee, James T., 53,** San Francisco, March 19; Bronx, N.Y.-born; former executive director of the Independent Television Service (ITVS), first executive director and co-founder of National Asian American Telecommunications Association (NAATA); Emmy award recipient for documentary "a.k.a. Don Bonus"; survived by wife Betty Quan, daughter Jane and son Liam (all of Piedmont); brother Carvin Yee (Columbus, Ohio); sisters Diane Weirick (Grover City), Geraldine Eng (Santa Maria). ■

## DEATH NOTICE

### ISAMU SAM HANDA

SAN DIEGO, Calif.—Isamu Sam Handa, 85, passed away peacefully at his home on Feb. 25. He was a beloved husband, father and grandfather. Isamu was a proud member of the 442nd Regimental Central Postal Directory during World War II. He spent many years working as a commercial fisherman before joining the United States Postal Service until his retirement in 1985. Sam is survived by his wife Ruth; son Stephen and Beverly Arata; daughter Eileen and Bryson Kim; and grandchildren Nicole and Brent.

## DEATH NOTICE

### JOHN YOSHITO SADANAGA

VACAVILLE, Calif.—John Yoshito Sadanaga, Colonel, United States Air Force, BSC passed away on Mar. 13 at the age of 76 after a short illness. This Portland-born, well decorated WWII 442nd BCT, F Company veteran retired from the USAF after 32 total years of military service and was the last 442nd member to leave the Armed Forces. His retirement speech is included in "Civil Right and Japanese American Internment" produced by Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education, which is being used by high schools throughout America. He held numerous positions in the Solano County Chapter of the JACL including the presidency last year. He was also active in the Nisei Club, YFW and Optometry Society. He volunteered at the local military hospital and was an avid fisherman and bowler. He is survived by his wife, Tsuruko of Vacaville; son and daughter-in-law, Dean and Amanda of Poulsbo, Wash.; brother, Tom of San Dimas; sister, Mary Hirasara of Anaheim; granddaughters, Danielle of Poulsbo; and niece, Patty Takeda of Anaheim.

# Walt Woodward, Publisher Who Opposed JA Internment, Dies

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND,** Wash.—Walter C. Woodward Jr., a former newspaper publisher who regularly editorialized against the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, died March 13 at the age of 91.

Woodward and his late wife, Mildred, edited and published the weekly Bainbridge Review during the years before, during and after the war.

Gerald Einfeldahl, a local historian for Bainbridge Island, said the Woodwards were the only editors on the U.S. West Coast to regularly editorialize against the relocation of people of Japanese ancestry during the war.

Bainbridge, an island in Puget Sound, about six miles west of Seattle and now a ferry-commuting suburb of the city, has a long-time JA population, much of it tied to farming. Its residents were relocated during the war, and the island was the setting for the best-selling novel "Snow Falling on Cedars," which was later made into a movie. Woodward was the inspiration for the novel's character, Arthur Chambers, the newspaper editor.

JACL's Edison Uno Civil Rights "Dove of Peace Award" and the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association's "Freedom Light Award." He was also one of 100 citizens inducted into Washington state's Centennial Hall of Honor for humanitarian and civil libertarian contributions to the state's quality of life.

The island's Woodward Middle School was named for him and his wife, and their story was told in a PBS documentary, "Visible Target."

Woodward was born Feb. 25, 1910, in Seattle. He graduated from the University of Washington in 1933.

He worked as a reporter for The Seattle Times and the Juneau (Alaska) Empire, where he met his wife. They moved to Bainbridge and, with friends, purchased the Review in 1940.

"There was one voice who stood with us," said Bainbridge resident Isamu Nakao, who recalls being relocated during the war. "That was Walt Woodward's. That I will never forget. I know that he took a big beating as far as subscription and advertising losses. However, he kept his integrity. He knew what the Con-

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MANZANAR

(Continued from page 1)

going to be used for commercial purposes... rather than to feed the hungry.

Eritrea seemed like the perfect country to carry out Sato's experiment.

But to get his experiment off the ground, Sato needed funding. As chance would have it, Sato's friend had read an article about Shingo Nomura...

Sato contacted some of his former students in Japan, who now occupied professorships, and asked them to contact Nomura.

The early years of the Manzanar Project were tough ones. Just getting to Eritrea was difficult due to the border wars.

But Sato persevered, and he settled in a small town with a population of about 500, which he refers to as Manzanar.

Sato refutes claims that their method of applying fertilizer pol-

lutes the ocean.

"The closest I've gotten to that (war), is that there were bombers that dropped a few bombs in this town and flew over my house, but the war is far away," said Sato.

In Eritrea, Sato set up a simple system. Artificial mangrove swamps are planted about half a mile inland. To fertilize the trees, which need nitrogen, phosphorus and iron lacking in salt water, Sato packs a plastic bag full of ammonium phosphate and iron oxide.

Next to the mangroves, deeper ponds are created, and a mixture of various animal dung is tossed in as fertilizer to grow algae.

From this, Sato hopes that the inhabitants can cultivate enough food to feed themselves and the rest of the country.

But not all applauded the Manzanar Project. Some environmentalists have raised concerns over the fertilizer that is being released into the ocean, particularly its impact on the coral reefs, and the potential climatic changes that could occur by planting trees where there once were none.

Sato refutes claims that their method of applying fertilizer pol-

lutes the ocean. "Where fertilizer pollutes is when you broadcast it, spread it on the ground and the water leaches to the ground water and eventually goes out to the sea," said Sato.

Sato dismisses other charges as "environmental extremism."

"The problem with this country is not environmental degradation," said Sato. "The problem with this country is poverty, so I just dismiss all these arguments about how we're changing the environment."

Sato estimates that they will plant 250,000 mangroves this year, 500,000 next year and 1 million by the year 2003.

"I'm concentrating on the women because I don't want to take away the villagers from their fishing occupation, which are done by the men," said Sato.

History of Eritrea

Eritrea's coastal location on the Horn of Africa makes it a strategic

military and international trading area. When Italy colonized the territory during the 1800s, they named it Eritrea, a classical Greek word for 'red sea.'

In the midst of World War II in 1941, the Italians were driven out by British and Ethiopian troops. The U.S. also gained control of Agnew, a communications base in Eritrea's capital of Asmara in 1942.

Eritrea found itself in a tug-of-war among various countries. Landlocked Ethiopia wanted coastal access through Eritrea (which the U.S. supported), the British argued to divide Eritrea along religious lines with the Muslim-dominated northern and western areas going to British-ruled Sudan, and the Soviet Union opposed all efforts.

Eritreans, however, continued fighting for complete independence and received aid from Syria, Iraq, Cuba and China. But they were no match for Ethiopia, which was receiving massive arms from the U.S. In 1962, Ethiopia's Emperor Haile

Selassie disregarded the UN resolution, abolishing the Ethiopia-Eritrea federation and forcing Eritrea under his control.

Under Selassie was sowing the seeds of his own downfall. He imposed a cash-crop economy where greedy land owners charged exorbitant rent and taxes on the masses, the majority of whom had been self-sufficient farmers.

Selassie was then overthrown by a group called the Derg. When President Jimmy Carter took office in 1977, the pro-human rights president stopped selling arms to Ethiopia so the Derg turned to the U.S.S.R. By 1978, the Derg was receiving aid from the Soviet Union, Cuba and East Germany, and easily crushed insurgent activities from Eritrea.

But the Derg, like Selassie, neglected the masses, and continued to impose unsustainable farming practices. This, coupled with the devastations of war and droughts, resulted in a massive famine in 1984-5. By 1991, the Derg collapsed as well as its major arms supplier, the Soviet Union. In 1993, Eritrea held a UN-supervised vote where they overwhelmingly voted for independence, but despite the vote, fierce border wars continue between Eritrea and Ethiopia to this day.



Eritrea is a coastal country, on the Horn of Africa.

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