Pacific Steinen

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National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

Eyewitness Accounts Highlight Horror of Terrorist Attacks

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA

If Ron Uba had kept his normal work schedule at the U.S. Census work schedule at the U.S. Census Bureau on Sept. 11, he would have been caught in the chaos of the ter-rorist attacks at the World Trade Center. His office is just six blocks away from the two towers. But a twist of fate had him mak-

But a twist of fate had him mak-ing an 8 a.m. marketing presenta-tion to Fortune 500 executives and media personnel at New York Uni-versity a few miles away. Around 8:30 a.m. Uba received a

call on his cell phone from one of his co-workers. "Oh, my god. Oh, my god," repeated his colleague and Uba was told to look towards and Uba was told to look towards the direction of his office. As he did, he witnessed the second plane hit the south tower. Uba, whose office shares a building with the CIA, FBI, INS and Voice of America, knew then that this was a terrorist

attack.

The blue sky suddenly turned black as if it were a solar eclipse, and Uba could see the chemical fire was so intense the metal from the two towers was "peeling off" and "dissolving."

T was just stunned," said Uba,

over and over.

After everyone's initial shock, conference attendees held a mo-

ment of silence, and Uba cut short his presentation. By then, cell phones went dead with the exception of those who sub-scribed to a national plan.
Then came the

dust. Uba said the entire area be-came enveloped in what felt like acid dust. "My eyes were just burn-ing," said Uba. "There was just tons and tons of

Normally, it takes Uba at most an hour to get home to his place in New Jersey across the river. That day, it took him eight. On the way, he saw peo handing er, bulldo water, bulldozers streets, emer-gency crews car-rying body bags, and a huge con-vergence of doc-

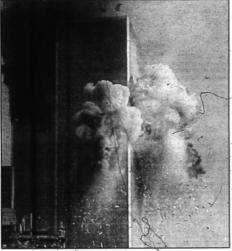


PHOTO-ASSOCIATED PRESS

An explosion of debris falls to the ground seconds after United Airlines flight 175 hits the World Trade Center's south tower on Sept. 11.

gency workers and construction workers.

"l'd never "I'd never seen so many ambulances in my whole life," said Uba:

Later Uba that several co-workers had been on the hijacked plane

supervisor.

Uba, a Pan
A merican
Nikkei Association (PANA) tion (PANA) member who has also been active in the New ,York JACL chapter in the past, spoke to the Pacific Citizen two days after the attack. At that time, he was still getting his news via radio since all TV reception

down. He also added that the elecdown. He also added that the ejec-tricity had been turned off for fear of an explosion, the water had been turned off for fear of contamina-tion, and dead bodies were being sent to Giant Stadium in New Jer-sey to prevent an epidemic.

The day the terrorists attacked

New York had also been election day, and Scott Ito was in the Chinatown area, working on the political campaign of Margaret Chin. (Chinatown is next to the Wall Street area where the World Trade

Center towers were located).

Ito was passing out flyers when
he heard a thunderous boom. "It

he heard a thunderous boom. "It was the loudest noise I ever heard," said Ito. "I can't even explain it." When Ito looked up at the World Trade Center building, he saw what he thought was silver confet-ti falling out of the building. His initial reaction was that this was some sort of political marketing ploy But then he saw smoke coming out and realized this was something more serious. When the second plane hit, he knew this wasn't an accident, and the group shut

an accident, and the group shut down their campaign operations. Ito described that moment as "confusing" and "scary" because he wasn't sure whether bombs were going to start going off all over the

See EYEWITNESS/page 6

Soka Gakkai Mourns Passing of Aoyama, Passenger on Hijacked Airplane



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA (From left): Machiko Aoyama mourns passing of her husband with daughter, Emily and son, George.

Soka Gakkai members around the world held memorial services on Sept. 15 for David Seima Aoyaon Sept. 15 for David Sema Aoya-ma, 48, a passenger aboard Ameri-can Airlines Flight 11 which was the first hijacked plane to hit the World Trade Center on Sept. 11.

internationally, services were held in France, Israel, Japan and Peru. Services were held in the United States including: Chicago, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Memphis, Riverside, Calif., and Santa Moni-ca, Calif.

SOIGE - 42/31/01.
BAT IMAGING ATTN: GARY/SUSAN 749 W STADIUM IN ST

"I know millions of people chant-ed for his life," said David Na-gashima, Soka Gakkai Internagashima, Soka Gakkai Interna-tional (SGI) USA director. Nagashima said they estab-

Nagashima said they estab-lished a scholarship in Aoyama's memory and donated \$10,000 to the American Red Cross to fund on-going emergency relief efforts. In Japan, SGI planted several trees in

Japan, SGI planted several trees in honor of Aoyama.

Close to 1,600 people turned out to Aoyama's memorial service in Santa Monica, where he had worked at SGI-USA's national headquarters as Southern California Zone vice leader. Among the people who sent condolences were SGI President Daisaku Ikeda and U.S. Sen, Barbara Boxer.

See AOYAMA/page 6

Inside the Pacific Citizen Letters page 2 National News 3-4 Community News5 Stranger Than Ficton .6 Obituaries

COMMENTARY An Arab American Internment?

By ERIC L. MULLER

This nation has just suffered a vicious surprise attack on its own soil, apparently by people of a different race and culture. We suffered a similar surprise attack 60 years ago, and so the comparisons

to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor

came immedi-



came immediately. A consensus quickly emerged that the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were the more terrifying: the victims were civilians rather than soldiers, the targets were symbolic rather than strategic, and the enemy kept his

The Pearl Harbor attack led to the most massive government-sponsored human rights violation sponsored human rights violation in the United States since the end of slavery. Within a few months of Pearl Harbor, the federal government uprooted all 110,000 people of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast, aliens and U.S. citizens alike, and jailed them for the dura-tion of World War II in desolate camps in the U.S. interior It was

See MULLER/page 7

Misplaced Anger: Proliferation of Anti-Arab American Hate Crimes

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA

Paralleling the United States preparation for war after the Sept. II terrorist attacks on the World Trade Towers and the Pentagon seems to be an increase in hate crimes committed against those who are or resemble people of Mid-dle Eastern descent.

Reports of hate crimes have been

States and even in other countries such as Canada and Australia. such as Canada and Austrana.
Businesses have been vandalized
or shot at; individuals have been
verbally and/or physically assaulted; and fatal shootings have been
reported in Arizona, New York and
Texas.

Days after the attack, the family Days after the attack, the family of Joseph Santos Heto, a Filipino American postal worker shot to death by a self-preclaimed white supremist, called for ealm to prevent further innocent lives from be-

coming casualties of the violence.

Referring to those perpetuating hate crimes, Ismael Ileto, the brother of the slain postal worker, told the Pacific Citizen, "They need to stop and think rationally about what they're doing because they're asically doing what the terrorists

basically doing what the terror are doing,"
Ismael's wife, Deena, voiced similar sentiment. "If we are killing innocent people, we are not getting

anywhere," she said. "It's only go-ing to get worse and worse. And what are we teaching our next generation? Let's go forward and make a positive impact instead of killing innocent people who have nothing to do with this."

to do with this."
Unlike the period following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, elected officials, starting with Fresident Bush, to the media and community organizations have called for restraint against scapegoating people of Arab descent. Even Jewish American groups such as the Anti-Defamation League have issued statements urging that no one be singled out for hatred due to their

ethnicity or religion.
National JACL, as well as several JACL chapters, urged all Americans not to rush to judgment, while at the same time joining others in mourning the loss of lives and con-demning the acts of terrorism.

"We urge citizens not to release their anger on innocent American citizens simply because of their citizens simply because of their ethnic origin, in this case Americans of Arab ancestry," said JACL National President Floyd Mori. "While we deplore yesterday's acts, we must also protect the rights of citizens. Let us not make the same mistakes as a nation that were made in the hysteria of World War II following the attack at Pearl

See HATE CRIMES/page 8

\$100,000 \$25,000 \$15,000 \$67,561

Up to \$300: Motoko Nakazawa, Yoshi Vamey Up to \$100: Many Akashi, Gish Andao, Okohi Ando, Ben Arikawa, Moto Asakawa, George Baba, Elizabeth Siles Callee, Edna Chung, Ichiro Doi, Jon Doi, Wesley Doi, Kazuo Endow, Amos Freeman, Fusayo Frijumura, Chiyo Futagaik, Affur Hamannishi, Edward Hara, Linda Hara, James Haysshi, Minoru Haysshi, Seich Hayashida, Misui Hironaka, Jamis Hashida, Island-Jacobe, Rizarko Kanda, Randy Iran, Edward Ishi, James Itan Iwansiga, Nami Netalik, Lisland-Jacobe, Rizarko Kanda, Buchir Kajiwara, Aim Kanemoto, George Grana, Hayashida, Mantan, Ben Kawadia, Sadako Nawegud Kasamatok, George Grana, Hogo Pada Matsuki, Kafiharina Matsuki, Seonge Matsumoto, Canton Mantan, Matsuki, Kafiharina Matsuki, Seonge Matsumoto, Samoto, Charles Matsumoto, James Matsuki, Safim Matsuki, George Matsumoto, Samoto, Charles Matsumoto, James Matsuki, Safim Matsuki, George Matsumoto, Samoto, Charles Matsumoto, James Matsuki, Safim Matsukai, George Matsumoto, Dankaman, Matsuki, Mantan, Matsuki, George Matsumoto, Ogawa, Chisata Charles Matsumoto, James Matsuki, Safim Matsukain, Doris Mila, Kenneth Tashi Myamdio, Francos Morioka, Takashi Morita, Iwao Moriyama, John Morozum Mutasa, Albert Nalic, Akidh Akamarra, Tsutorun Nakano, M Mark Nakajuchi, Toyoo Ni Ogawa, Chisata Charles Matsumoto, Jakashi Mantan, Sakai Many Safioka, Gilio Fred Sasaki, Maury Schwartz, Toshi Shmoura, Jonathan Shrota, Eko Sayphhara, Ric Joots Takase, Eko Takwada, Shiro Tokuno, Kerji Tomita, Ester Toyoda, Terd Yoshio Tayi, Hemos Tsumori, Heoda Udrikai, Toshio Delix, Wilkiam Ujiye, Ben Ur Umemzun, Massa Yamannoto, Harry Yamannoto, Hoso Orikis, Oranashita, Saeso Yamashita, Saesoko Yanashita, Saesoko Y



7. Cupania Circle Monterey Park, CA 91755 Tel: 323/725-0083 800/966 6157, Fax: 323/725-0064 F-mail: Paccit@aol.com

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If you have moved,

please send information

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Allow 6 weeks for address changes.

To avoid interruptions in receiving your P.C., please notify your post-moster to include periodicals in your change of address (USPS) Form 3575)

Calendar

Thurs.-Sun., Sept. 6-30—Play, "Wooyan Killer" by Chiori Miyagawa; presented by Crossing Jamaica Avenue and HERE. Tickets: \$15. Info: 212/647-0202 or www.here.org.

Michwost

MINNEAPOLIS

MINNEAPOLIS
Sat., Sept. 29—Twin Cities JACL "Oral
History 101" community forum; 13:30, p.m.; YWCA of MinneapolisChildren's Center, 2121 E. Lake St.,
learn how to tell your family's history.
Info and registration: Lyhn Yamanaka,
651/735-6124.

Pacific Northwest

OLYMPIA
Sat., Sept. 29—Reunion with pre1942 students of Southbay Elementary
School; trying to locate former Nikkei
students. Info: Joan, 360/459-2449 or e-mail: olysugarbear@aol.com.

PORTLAND

Thur.-Sun., Oct. 4-7—Exhibit, "Hidden Places, Silent Spaces: Japanese American- and Japanese Canadian Concentration. Camps" by Masumi Hayashi; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center; opening reception, Thur. 6-8 p.m.; Hayashi lecture, Sun. 2-4 p.m. Exhibit hours: Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Exhibit hours: fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-3 g.m., sun. 12 noon-3 p.m.; free admission; exhibit through Jan. 12, 2002. Sun., Oct. 7—Oregon Buddhist Temple Sukiyaki Bazaar; 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; 37:20 SE 34th Ave.; sukiya-ki ort teriyaki chicken \$5.50; chow mein \$4; baked goods, fresh-produce; gifts. Info: 503/254-9536. Sat.-Sun., Oct. 20-21—lkebana exhibitor: Sat. 10. a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. 12

bition; Sat. 10. a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 12 noon-5 p.m.; Portland Art Museum North-Wing, 1119 SW Park; \$5 gener-North-Wing, 1119 SW Park; \$5 gener-North-Wing, 1119 SW Park; \$5 gener-North-Wing, 1119 SW Park; \$5 gener-North-Wing al, children under 8 free. Info: Helen al, chilus... Chadsey, 503/22/---linsen, 503/292-3994. 503/227-6155 or Judy

SEATTLE Fri.-Sun, Sept. 21-23—Aki Matsuri 2001; Bellevue Community College; karaoke contest, video showing of "JACL Eastside Japanese American History" project; sponsored by Eastside Nihon Matsuri Assn. Info: 425/861-

9109 or www.enma.org. Sat.-Sun., Sept. 22-23—Saga Goryu School of Ikebana floral exhibit; 12 noon-5 p.m.; demonstrations 2 p.m.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Free. Info: Nobuko Ohgi, 206/232-8736 or Mary Shigaya, 206/271-0875. Wed., Spt. 26—Book launching, "Born in Seattle: The Campaign for Japanese American Redress" by Robert Shimabukuro; 5:30-6:15 p.m.; Northwest Asian American Theatre; reception and book signing follow at Wing Luke Asian Museum, 6:15-7:30 p.m. Info: 206/623-5124 ext. 114.

Northern California BERKELEY

Group monthly meeting: Info: Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.

CONTRA COSTA

Fri., Sept. 28—"College Planning"
seminar; 7:30 p.m.; East Bay Free
Methodist Church. Info: Contra Costa JACL co-presidents James Oshima, 234-8437 or Esther Takeuchi, 223-

FLORIN

Sat, Sept. 29—25th anniversary celebration for Florin Buddhist Church; 1:30 p.m.; guest speaker TV newscaster Sharon Ito. Info: Myrtle Furukawa, 916/383-0116 or Teri Mizusaka, 916/383-0116 916/381-0849. OAKLAND

Sat., Oct. 6—Nihonmachi Legal Outreach's 26th Anniversary Celebration; Hawaiian Island Cuisine with Sam Choy; 'Dunsmuir House & Sam Choy; Dunsmuir Ho Gardens, 2960 Peralta Oaks Polynesian attire recommended. RSVP.

by Sept. 21. Sun., Oct. 7—Book reading, "Free to Die for Your Country" by Eric Muller; 12 noon; Northern California Indepen-dent Booksellers Assn. Convention. SAN FRANCISCO

Thur., Oct. 4—"25 Years: Sharing Stories of Courage & Vision," benefit for Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation; 6-9 p.m.; Gabbiano's Restaurant; \$125 per person; reception, silent auction, dinner program

tion, stent auction, dinner program and awards presentation. Info: Laurie J. Earp & Company, 510/532-7700.

Sat., Oct. 6—Book reading, "Free to Die for Your Country" by Eric Muller; 2 p.m.; Japanese American National Library, Info: 415/567-5006. SAN MATEO

SAN MATEO
Sun., Sept. 23—Movie screening,
"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" directed by Ang Lee; 1:30 p.m.; JACL
Community Center.

Mon., Oct. 1—Documenary, "Conscience and the Constitution"; Sunnyvale Public Library, Program

Room, 665 W. Olive Ave.; discussion to follow screening. 408/730-7300.

Southern California

CAMARILLO Sun., Oct. 14—Cultural Festival; illo Community Center. LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELS
FFI-Sun, Sept. 21-23—API Festival at
A. County Fair; cultural entertainment, free health screening: crafts,
food, representing 15 Asian countries.
Discount tickets: \$8 adults, \$5 children ages 6-12. Ticket outlets: East
West Bank, 888/468-6392; Colden San Gabriel Optometric Vision Center, 626/288-8023; Marukai Markets, 310/660-6300 (Gasdena), 626/430-0900 (West Covins), Info: The Titan

0900 (West Gwinn), into: The Han Group, 626/279-7979. Sat., Sept. 29—Hanayui, Special Komerkome Festival Event; 8 p.m.; Japan America, Theatre; Tickets; \$18– \$21 JACCC members, \$21-\$24 re-served seating, Info: JAT box office, 213/680-3700.

Studies Center all-day teach-in, "Asian American" Studies Center all-day teach-in, "Asian Americans: The Movement and the Moment"; James West Alumni Center; 325 Westwood Plaza.

325 Westwood Plaza.

Sun., Sept. 30—Inekari Harvest
Celebration; 1 p.m.; JACCC plaza;
Asian Pacific Folk Dance Festival; ornaniu demonstration and workshop. -3 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 30—Aki Matsuri Boutique; 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Venice Japanese Community Center, 12448 Braddock Dr.; designer clothing, art work, handwengere coorning, art work, hand-made cards, jewelry, food; sponsored by WLA JACL Auxiliary. Info: Jean Ushijima; 310/390-6914 or e-mail: jmushi@earthlink.net. Sun., Sept. 30—Inekari Harvest

jmushi@earthlink.net.
Sun., Sept. 30—Inekari Harvest Celebration; blessing of rice by Konko. Church, classical danding manju demonstration; 1 p.m.; IACCQ-Plaza. Free admission. Info: 213/628-2725.
Sat., Oct. 6—UCLA Asian Xugerciagn Studies Center dinner, "Millenbugm Legacies & Tributes"; 5 p.m.; UCLA Faculty. Center: presention and silent.

Faculty Center; reception and silent

auction.
Thurs., Oct. 11—Book reading, "Free to Die for Your Country" by Eric Muller; 7:30 p.m.; Midnight Special Bookstore, 1318 Third Street Promenade. MONTERFY PARK

Sat., Sept. 29—Pacific Asian American Women Writers West and the Bruggemeyer Memorial Library present "Moving the Mountain," dramatic reading, conversation panel, author book signing: 3 p.m.; Monterey Park City Hall Council Chamber. Free. Info: 626/307-1368 or www.paawww.org PASADENA

Through Sept. 30—Exhibits, "The Through Sept. 30—Exhibits, "The Nature of the Beast: Portrayals of Animals in Japanese Paintings" and "Paintings, Prints and Drawings by Hokusai", Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave. RSVP: 626/449-2742

RIVERSIDE

Through Mon., Oct. 1—Exhibits by Yoshio C. Nakamura (painting and graphics) and Gary Cominotto (conremporary raku ceramics); Wild Wine Fine Art Gallery, "Oakwood," 54425 North Circle Dr. #3, Idyllwild. Info: 909/659-6040.

TORRANCE

TORRANCE Tues.-Mon., Sept. 19-24—Tomihiro in LA. Inspirational Art Exhibit; 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Community Hall, 333 Civic Center Dr.; \$7 adults, \$5 children under 12. Info: www.hoshinotomihirouya.org: or Mikko Haggott-Henson, 310/378-3550, e-mail: mhaggott@ aol.com. Fri.-Sun., Oct. 26-28—Rohwer Re-

union III: Torrance Marriott Hotel Registration deadline: Sept. 30. Info, Southern California: Betty Horikiri Oka, 71/4/636-8207; Toshi Kusumoto, Oka, 114/636-5207; Iosiii Kusumolo, 213/382-5712; Peggy Hayashino Tsuruta, 310/323-6337; Helen Yoshimura Takata, 626/968-2966; or likko Kimoto Sato, 323/733-3435; Northern California: Lillian Uyeda Inouye, 510/235-6042; Asako Induye, 510/235-6042; Asako Horimoto Mayeda, 510/832-2275; Yone Kimura Asai, 925/828-2086; Gary Shiota, 916/381-2081; Ben Nagatani, 661/725-0483; or-Miyako Kosaka Tsunekawa, 209/462-1124. WEST COVINA

WEST COVINA
Sat., Oct. 6—Aki Matsuri Fall Festival;
11 a.m.-8 p.m.; East San Gabriel Valley
Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave

Arizona Nevada

LAS VEGAS

LAS VEGAS
Sat., Oct. 6—Las Vegas JACL
Hawajiran Luau; 12 noon-4 p.m.;
Spring Meadows Presbyterian Church
Tickets: \$10 general, \$5 children 8-12,
under 7 free. Info: Betty Atkins,
702/221-0414.

Mon.-Wed., Sept. 24-26—Manzanar High School Reunion; banquet dedi-cated to the late Shiro Nomura. RSVP ASAP: Kazie Nagai, 212/380-2611; Sam Ono, 310/327-5568; Ray Ono-dera, 626/ 573-5279; or Arnold Maeda, 213/398-5157. ■

Letters to the Editor

Let Our Voices Be Heard

This is a call to all who have felt the sting of wrongly directed hate threats to rally around the cause of tolerance on behalf of Muslims and those who are of Middle East de-

This is a call specifically to those Japanese Americans whose par-ents, brothers and sisters felt that same hatred from hardened hearts at the beginning of the war with Japan Those of you should be especially sensitive to how few stood up for us, and should now redeem that

wrong by doing right.
Stand up and be heard on the side of tolerance. Let our individual

Pastfile Cistern

7 Cunania Circle

e-mail: paccit@aol.com * Except for the National Direc-tor's Report, news and the views

expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The columns are the personal

opinion of the writers.

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

viewpoint of the editorial board of the Padific Chitzen.

* "Short expressions" on public issues, usually one or two para-graphs, should include signature, address and daytime phone num-fler. Because of space limitations, letters are "subject to abridge-ment. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we accordant the interest and views

appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.

opinion of the writers.

rey Park, CA 91755-7406 fax: 323/725-0064

and community voices be heard to call out for tolerance and work to wards letting the Islamic communi ty know they are not alone, and there are those who understand.

Mark Watanabe Fullerton Calif

Americans Must Come Together

Our nation, has been forever changed by this senseless, cowardly assault on our people. It is impor-tant that we all take time to re-member in our thoughts and prayers the victims and their fami-liceth. lies, the emergency workers on the scene, our service men and women on alert and all our fellow Americans during this time of great sorrow. In this time of mourning and recovery, we must pull together as Americans, first.

as Americans, first.

I know you will join me in provid-ing support for our president, and the nation's leaders as they move forward and take the actions they

sary to respond to this grave act of terrorism on our fellow citizens, bring those responsible to justice and begin the healing process in our nation.

process in our nation.

In the aftermath of this tragic terrorist attack on our country, here are some helpful general information numbers and website addresses should you want to contribute to the emergency response, relief and recovery effort or have tips for law enforcement

American Red Cross, 800/HELP-American Red Cross, 890/HELF-NOW; America's Blood Centers, 888/BLOOD-88; Salvation Army, 800/SAL-ARMY; FBI Tip Website, www.ifcchi.gov; United Way of New York Website, www.uwnyc.

Philip J. Brutus Florida State Rep. District 108

Reader Supports Renaming of Airport

I am getting impatient with peo-ple who want the City of San Jose's

name on everything, everywhere! Why? Is our inferiority complex to the point where we have to see our me everywh San Jose International Airport

should be renamed and I congratu-late Mayor Gonzales for his proposal to name the airport after San Jose's greatest public servant, Norman Y. Mineta.

The renaming should be done soon as possible, and no one should fear people will forget the existence of San Jose. Let's remember of San Jose. Let's remember Dulles, Reagan, John Wayne, Charles DeGaulle, La Guardia, McCarran, Heathrow and Lindberg are airfields in some of the world's greatest urbanized

Let's do what's right, and let's do it now! I support our new name for the San Jose International Airport be changed to the Norman Y. Mineta International Airport!

Jack Ybarra

	Carrying	the Toro	ch into th	he 21st Centur
	Yes, I/we want to help continue the work of the JACL for future generations.			
JACL	Enclosed \$25	is my/our gift	of: - \$100	Other
	Name:	-	1	
	Address:	13/10	260	
	City:		State: _	Zip:
	Chapter:		Member LD.	
Я		Box 7144, San Franc		American Citizens League (JACL) 44

National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

☐ Senate Won't Oppose POW Lawsuits Against Japanese Firms WASHINGTON—The Senate washingtion—The Senate voted to ber the administration from opposing lawsuits filed by for-mer American POWs against Japanese corporations that en-slaved them during World War II.

The amendment to the spending The amendment to the spending bill, sponsored by Sens. Tom Harkin, D-Jowa, and Bob Smith, R-NH, passed the Senate 58-34 on Sept. 10. The vote came two days after Secretary of State Colin Powell, in San Francisco to mark the 50th anniversary of the treaty that officially ended the Pacific War, stressed that under the terms of that treaty the allied powers could that treaty, the allied powers could

that treaty, the allied powers could not sue Japan for reparations. But lawmakers differed with that reading of the document, pointing to a 1951 letter that was recently made public in which the Japanese foreign minister told his Dutch counterpart that lawsuits against Japanese citizens and cor-

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN JOSE, Calif.-San Jose

SAN JUSE, Calli.—San Jose City Council members voted unanimously Sept. 4 to name the city's international airport after U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norm Mineta, who also served as mayor of San Jose from 1971 to 1974.

Mineta was the first Asian

American to serve on the U.S. Cab American to serve on the U.S. Can-inet when he was named screetary of commerce by President Clinton. "Norm Mineta has provided ex-emplary service to San Jose, and this '(dedication) is to respect his many years of work for the city," porations were allowed under the treaty.

Ci Man Questioned in Shooting of Sikh MESA/Ariz.—A man was ques-tion with the shooting death oil/a gas station owner, an Indian Sikh

gas station owner, an indian Sixnimmigrant.

Authorities are also investigating two other shootings that took place Sept. 15, involving a man who fits the same description.

The victim was identified as Baltic Strate State 1.

bir Singh Sodhi, believed to be 52 Sodhi had received a verbal threat earlier that week from a man who walked into his store. He reported walked into his store. He reported it to police. Mess Police Sgt. Mike Goulet said a white male in a pick-up truck described as a Chevrolet S-10 drove into a Chevron station parking lot, fired several shots with a handgun from the truck and then sped away. Sodhi was struck by at least one bullet and pronounced dead at the scene. He is survived by his wife and three adult chil-dren. Police said several shots were

said David Vossprink, of the San

Jose Mayor Ron Gonzale's office.
"As a Japanese American, he has

broken many race barriers at every level of public office he has held." level of public office he has held."
Gonzales announced the name
proposal, when Mineta was visiting San Jose International Airport
for a runway dedication. The city
council's staff will take over proce-

dures regarding the renaming with the Federal Aviation Administra-

tion and the San Jose Airport Com

mission. That process could take about a month, Vossprink said. The city council will take a final vote to

grant approval for the change.

cle at a Mobil station, whose owners are Arabic. No one was hit. Ten minutes later shots were fired at a

Sikhs are not Muslims but have been mistaken for them because of their turbans and beards, much like those donned by Osama bin Laden, an Islamic militant who is spected of masterminding the re

□ Nakano's API Anti-Hate

U Nakano's API Anti-Hate Crime Program Approved SACRAMENTO—AB 1312 by George Nakano, D-Torrance, which establishes the Asian Pacific Is-lander Anti-Hate Crime Program was approved by the Legislature and has been sent to the governor. The bill provides \$250,000 to the

state Department of Justice to assist in educating API communities on the impact of hate crimes, how to report them and the best way for communities to handle them. AB 1312 was one of several civil rights bills sponsored by California Attorney General Bill Lockyer. ■

Idaho Mountain Officially Renamed 'Chinese Peak'

After a three-year effort by the JACL and other Asian American organizations, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (USBGN) approved the name change for a 5,000-foot mountain in Idaho from "Chirks Peak" to "Chinese Peak." The vote was an exhilarating surprise, "said Micki Kawakami, a Pocatello-Blackfoot JACL member who led the three-year effort headed

who led the three-year effort headed up by the Concerned Citizens of Pocatello, a coalition group that had sought the name change. "At times it seemed so tough... to stay the course over the years and to get through all of the administrative hoops at the state and federal levels

The mountain located five miles from Pocatello was named in honor of the historic contributions of the early Chinese pioneers in Idaho and in recognition of their integral role in American history. But Karen Yoshitomi, PNW regional director, points out that the word "Chink" serves to dehumanize eth-

nic Chinese and perpetuates a stereotype of Asians as foreigners. Most members of the USBGN agreed with the need to make the name change. In advocating for the elimination of hatred and promotion of racial justice, my city along with a number of other Idaho cities supports the name change, said Greg Anderson, mayor of Pocatello. "We, the mayors of Idaho Cities, are firmly committed to and supportive of changing geographic place names considered to be offensive and derogatory by Idaho's cultural and ethoic groups. In those tural and ethnic groups — to those which honor and respect all Idaho

citizens."
But Jeff Ford, chairman of the Idaho Geographic Names Advisory Council, voiced opposition to the name change, saying this will "set a dangerous precedent."

Sac'to VFW Proposes to Rescind JACL's Apology to Resisters of Conscience

The following was submitted by the Post 8985 Resolution Com-mittee Leo Hosoda, Tom Fujimo-to, Barry Saiki, James Iso, Gary Shiola, Tom Kashiwabara, and hiota, To

Sacramento Nisei VI w. rost 8985 has developed a resolution op-posing national JACL's Resolution #2 which purports to forgive, honor, and formally apologize to the Nisei Draft Resisters of World War II. Drait resisters of world war in.

Members of the Sacramento Nisei
VFW Post 8985 are in strong opposition to any notion of an apology to
the draft resisters.

For the Nisei veterans to remain

silent would be tantamount to be-traying the 830 Nisei comrades Killed in Action (KIA) on the battlefield and the many who were maimed and scarred for life. That is far too great a sacrifice to put aside in order to appease the Nisei

draft resisters of WWII.

During WWII our ideological differences were miles apart. Fears of violence and sleeping with a base-ball bat by the bedside were real. Physical attack of JACL leaders who advocated service to country was real. Somehow history has been revised to make the draft re-sisters not a part of that violation. It would also be a betrayal of the

It would also be a betrayal of the wartime JACL leaders who recognized that "service to country" was a means to refute the evacuation order and get back into the main-stream of American life. How true this is when one considers today's many "success stories" of JAs, including many in high governmen-tal positions. I submit to you this would not have been possible with-out the heroic stories of the WWII Nisei soldiers and other wars that followed.

Sacramento Nisei VFW Post 8985 Resolution:

"WHEREAS, the delegates at the National Japanese American Citizens League's (JACL) Biennium Convention held in Monterey, California in July year 2000 had adopted a resolution to forgive, honor, and formally apologize to the Draft Resisters (aka Resisters of Conscience) of the World War II period,

and
"WHEREAS, during that World War period, the Draft Resisters not only harassed, but on occasion physically attacked the then wartime JACL leaders,
and additionally antagonized other Japanese Americans who advocated and
supported patriotic service in the Armed Forces of the United States, and
"WHEREAS, in consonance with the Draft Resisters we agree that the Unit-

"WHEREAS, in consonance with the Draft Resisters we agree that the United States Government-erroneously abrogated our Constitutional rights as American citizens by the internment of all Japanese Americans residing along the West Coast throughout World War II. However, it is our carefully studied judgement that it was a critical period in our history where a negative demonstration on our part would have had negative results sind that the better course of action at that time was to comply with the Executive mandate and, to display our patriotism through honorable service in the United States Armed Forces. and

play our patriotism through honorause service in the place of the JACL Forces, and "WHEREAS, through the reisdom, leadership, and visions of the JACL Board members of World Wiff II who encouraged all patriotis Japaneses Americans to embrace the JACL Credo, and thus to demonstrate our patriotism and loyalty beyond a shadow of doubly, and with the conviction that these records of loyalty will be a matter of pride as well as honor for Japanese Americans for future ownerations to come, and

loyalty beyond a shadow of doubt, and with the conviction that these records of loyalty will be a matter of pride as well as honor for Japanese Americans for future generations to come, and "WHEREAS, following the then JACL credo, more than 30,000 Japanese Americans served in the United States Armed Forces with honor, bravery, and great distinction during World War II, most noteworthy being the achievements of the famous 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team in Europe, and "WHEREAS, in recognition of these exemplary military services by the Nissi veterans, the grateful nation has in the Pacific, and "where the service (MIS) in the Pacific, and when the service the service that the ensuing-decades seen fit to award deserved Presidential, Congressional, and Military honors to the Japanese and in pardon for the Draft Resisters by the President of the United States, all of which have elevated the social standing of all Japanese Americans on high plateau in American jost war society, and "WHEREAS, if the wartime JACL leadership had instead adopted the negative stance of the Draft Resisters, in the darkened atmosphere of public anger and widespread fear, the Japanese Americans profit in in, and accomplishments during World War II, would not have been recorded and recognized, and "WHEREAS, while the Nisei veterans do recognize the legitimitary of the right of the Draft Resisters to take their position of refusal to enter the United States military service in World War II on moral grounds, and suffering the consequences of their actions (as did all those who resisted the draft), now, the sufficient of the traft of

consequences of their actions (as and an those who resisted the draft, now, therefore, be the therefore, be it is a second that: We vigorously oppose JACL's extension of an official apology to the Nisei Draft Resisters of World War II, which would be tantamount to disclaiming the Supreme Sacrifices if the 830 Japanese Americans Killed in Action and the accomplishments of the Nisei World War II veterans; and be it further "SESCIVED that this Resolution be forwarded to other Nisei VFW Posts."

and be it further
**RESOLVED, that this Resolution be forwarded to other Nisei UFW Posts
of California and other Nisei veterans organizations throughout the United
States requesting their concurrence and support.

This resolution was discussed and approved by the members of the Sacramento Nisei VFW Post 8885 at their meeting June 8, 2001. Cosymers of the resolution include: Club 100, SoCal; Monterey Peninsula Nisei Post 1629;
100th 142nd Veterans Association; Sierra Nisei VFW-Post 8499; MIS SoCal;
Gardena Nisei Post 1961; Saian Pacific Post 4851; San Jose Nisei Post 9970;
Nisei Liberty VFW Post 5869; and Golden Gate Nisei Memorial Post 9879.



Council Votes to Name San Jose's Airport After Mineta

Blue Shield of California offers group health care coverage to current JACL members age 18 and over who reside in California Plans may include a wide range of benefits, including vision care, worldwide emergency coverage, dental care, prescription drug benefits and more. For more information about these plans, call the JACL Health

Benefits Trust today at 1-800-400-6633. Website: http://www.jaclhealthbenefits.org







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JACL National Board Sets Date for Resisters Ceremony, Looks at Florida and Opposes Charitable Choice Legislation

SAN FRANCISCO-The JACL national board held their quarterly meeting at national headquarters Aug. 18-19. Below is a summary of the various actions taken.

Nat'l President's Report
Blue Ribbon Committee The Blue Ribbon Committee held The Blue Ribbon Committee held several focus groups last month including San Francisco and Philadelphia. The groups were comprised of several JACL members and the committee is looking to form some focus and the committee is looking to form some focus and the committee is looking to form some focus and the committee is looking to form some focus and the committee is looking to form some focus and the committee is looking to form some focus and the committee is looking to form some focus and the committee is looking to form some focus and the committee is looking to form some focus and the committee is looking to focus and the committ to form some focus groups with non-members also

NCWNPD Governor Alan Teruya said that his district recent ly passed a resolution seeking more information about the costs sur-rounding the Blue Ribbon Commit-

John Tateishi, JACL national ex John Tateishi, JACL national ex-ceutive director, said he will work on getting more information about the committee to the district. Floyd Mori, national president, reminded the board that the Blue

Ribbon Committee members are volunteering their time and their efforts are strictly pro-bono. He also added that the committee is a work in progress. The committee will present a report at the upcomnational board meeting in No-

. Programs for Youth - Mori proposed two new programs for youth: an internment camp experience and a student exchange pro-

The internment camp experi ence would involve a group of youth, college age and older, spend-ing several days at one of the for-mer World War II camps. They would be driven in Army trucks to the camp, live in barracks, eat the type of food that would have been served, and listen to the stories of former internees. Currently, further discussion is taking place on

The student exchange program
would involve JACL chapters sending individuals to Japan. The students would be expected to report back on what they learned. In turn, the Japanese students would also learn about JA culture. This pro-gram could also include younger high school students.

· Resisters of Conscience Ceremony - The public ceremony recognizing the WWII resisters of

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conscience has been scheduled for Feb. 10, 2002, in San Francisco. Details of the event will be an-nounced at a later date.

Mori has spent much of his pres idency talking to various veterans' groups and resisters of conscience. He is encouraged by the dialogue that has taken place and hopes to continue the talks at the upcoming 2002 JACL national convention in Las Vegas.

"There is a lot more reason today than there has been," he said, adding that both sides are starting to see each others viewpoints. "As they hear each other we want to

to see each others viewpoints. "As they hear each other we want to bring these people together for more and more dialogue."
It was also revealed that the Sacramento VFW is planning to present a resolution at the upcom-ing 2002 convention to nullify the resolution of apology to the resisters of conscience passed at the 2000 JACL convention in Mon-

National Executive Director's

Report
• 'Pearl Harbor' - Tateishi reinterviewed more than 150 times about the re-cent Disney movie "Pearl Harbor" and the concerns of the Asian American community. As a result, JACL got a lot of press attention and Tateishi continues to receive a number of media calls regarding various AA issues.

· Banzai' and Politically In correct' - A letter was sent to the president of USA Networks expressident of USA Networks ex-pressing JACLs concern about the network's "Banzai" TV series. Some of the concerns include voiceovers by non-Asian actors mimicking Japanese characters on the show. Tateishi is to speak with the president of the network. In addition, Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA) President Guy Aoki took on comedian Sarah Silverman on "Politically In-correct" to discuss the comic's use of the derogatory term "chink" in her

· Florida - Tateishi is scheduled • Florida - Tateishi is scheduigd to speak in Florida this menth and hopes to gather interest in starting a JACL Florida chapter. Several letters have been mailed to JAs liv-ing in the state, including several who are already members of the organization. According to the 2000 Census there are currently about 10,000 JAs residing in the state of

· 'Jap Road' - The JACL Houston chapter is working to change the names of "Jap Road" in Jeffer-son County and "Jap Lane" in Or-ange County. "Jap Lane" was named in honor of Kichimatsu Kishi who founded an agricultural colony in 1908 and whose descendants continue to sponsor Japan-ese cultural events. "Jap Road" was named in recognition of Yasuo named in recognition of fastion Mayumi, another pioneer farmer The Houston chapter suggests re-naming the roads "Japanese Road," "Mayumi Road," or "Kishi Vane." In supporter's efforts, the JACL natural ter's efforts, the JACL natural ter's efforts are solution commenane." In support of the local chap-er's efforts, the JACL national

Pacific Citizen

Ken Inouye, P.C. editorial board chairperson, received clarification of the editorial board's role, specifi-cally that the editorial board does not exercise any financial function over the newspaper, only editorial

Inouye asked the national board to reinstate the 10 percent cut to the P.C.'s allocation, about \$24,000, that was made at the May board meeting. The national board meeting. sed a resolution to reinstate the 10 percent or \$24,000 cut from P.C.'s allocation if and when funds e available

Tateishi reported that the archives from P.C., national head-quarters, and the PSW District office have now been moved to the Japanese American National Muum. Jessica Silver from JANM will now be collecting the archive from the other district offices an to complete all transfers by hopes ring 2002

Youth Council Report

The national board passed a resolution in support of the national youth/student council which stated members of the JACL National Board do hereby recog nize the tremendous efforts and commitment of the National Youth/Student Council in continu-National ing to focus vast amounts of undy ing energy in getting young people further involved and empowered within the Japanese American Citizens League and in the United States of America."

The national youth/student council recently held its national youth conference in Seattle. conference w Nakata, national youth/student chair, reported the conference was a tremendous suc-cess with 116 participants from all across the country, representing 31 different chapters. The national youth/student retreat will be held Oct 5-7 in Salt Lake City.

General Operations
• Liability Insurance - There are still a nu nber of chapters who have not responded to a letter from national headquarters regarding liability insurance. Currently, he quarters is being charged between \$100-\$200 annually per chapter for their activities. If chapters do not respond to headquarter's inquiry regarding their various activitie

JACL is charged \$200 for each non-

response regardless.
Currently, JACL is paying about \$15,000 per year for this liability insurance. David Kawamoto, vice president of general operations, submitted a motion to ask the chapters to pay for their individual ance payments but it

hability insurance payments but it was defeated.

An alternate motion submitted by Art Koga, national treasurer's secretary, to have headquarters pay the \$15,000 for the liability inance and to bill those chapters who do not respond to their request to list their various activities passed instead

Website policy - Amotion to dopt the National JACL Website

Policy was passed.

The policy states that the content of the JACL Website is to be consistent with the constitution and bylaws and with the policies and programs of the national orgaation. All press releases from ional JACL will be posted on the Website. Other press releases, including those from chapters or districts, may be posted at the dis cretion of the executive director of the national board.

Public Affairs

• Federal Funding of Faith Based Organizations - A resolu-tion was passed against charitable thoir was passed against chain the choice legislation. It stated in part:
"... the JACL strongly urges the U.S. Congress to reject any legislation that provides federal funding of faith-based organizations. Recently, the U.S. House of Repre recently, the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation allowing the U.S. government to use federal money to fund activities of faith-based organizations or religious non-profit groups.

· Resolutions in Support of Resolutions in Support ed.
 JAs - U.S. Sen. Patty Murray will mark the 60th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 that sent 120,000 JAs to concentration camps by introducing two resolutions. One will be to honor those who were interned and to have Congress mark the 60th anniversary of the Day of Remembrance. A second resolution will ask the U.S. Postal Service to issue a com-U.S. Postal Service to issue a co orative stamp to mark the

anniversary

Membership

As of July 2001 the membership ount is 21,516 members. Some of the chapters that saw an increase in their numbers include: Mon-terey Peninsula, Salinas Valley, Clovis Clovis, Pasadena, Alaska, Port-land, Idaho Falls, Arkansas Valley Twin Cities, and Southeast

- · Same-Sey Renefits . Rhue Shield of California will begin of fering same-sex partner benefits starting Jan. 1, 2002. In addition to the health insurance, JACL is look-ing into providing same-sex mem-ber benefits in other service areas
- · Chapters in Good Standing Gary Mayeda, vice president of membership, asked the district governors to look at their chapters to see which are not in good stand-ing. JACL needs to see what they ing. JACL needs to see what they can do about chapters that are not in good standing

Planning and Development
• Legacy Grants - The legacy
fund committee is currently looking at how to deal with partial
grant awards since oftentimes they are not able to fund the entire amount that an applicant re-quests. Karen-Liane Shiba, vice vice president of planning and develop-ment, wants to ask governors to implement rotating appointments the committee.

- Education Reprinting of the DACL curriculum guide, with funding from Lowe's, was sched-uled to be completed by the end of August. The education committee is looking to host a "Train the Teachers" workshop at the upcom-Teachers' workshop at the upcom-ing national convention. They will also be hosting a number of work-shops in California in conjunction with the Go For Broke Founda-tion, The education Website is now up and running on the JACL site at www.jacl.org.
- Scholarships The national board passed a resolution to have all national scholarship applica-tions go through the chapters first and then to national headquarters postmarked no later than the April 1 deadline.

PHOTO CONTEST . PHOTO CONTEST . PHOTO CONTEST . PHOTO CONTEST . PHO-CLICK!



The Pacific Citizen is having a photo contest for the 2001 Holiday Issue cover. This vear's theme is "Family" and winning photos will be included in a cover-page collage. Please send photos to: Photo Contest, c/o Pacific Citizen, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755 or e-mail to: paccit@aol.com TES Scanned photos should be sent in JPEG format. Photos will not be returned without a SASE. Entry deadline is Nov. 15. Cover will be in color.

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U.S. and Japan Celebrate 50th Anniversary of Peace Treaty

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

On opposite ends of the Pacific, in San Francisco and in Tokyo, dignitaries githered Sept. 8 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the peace treaty that officially ended World War II and promised future cooperation between the United States and Japan.

States and Japan.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin

Powell and Japanese Foreign Minister Makiko Tanaka spent the
morning reaffirming ties between
the two countries during a ceremony at a former San Francisco
military base.

"A strong alliance with Japan is essential," Powell said, toasting both American and Japanese dele-

gates.

In Tokyo, JACL national president Floyd Mori was a special guest at a ceremony attended by Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and about 800 other government officials, diplomats, scholars, businesspeople and citizens.

Mori was one of four Americans, including former vice president Dan Quayle, to be honored. ACL was recognized for the contributions made by Japanese Americans to assist in Japan's post-war recovery.

recovery.

"It is very significant that the Japanese have acknowledged the role of Japanese Americans in the rebuilding of Japan," Mori said. "Many JAs in the military and private sector helped Japanese business adapt to the U.S. economic machine which contributed to the post-war economic recovery of Japan.

post-war economic recovery of Japan.

The JACL has always recognized U.S./Japan, relations to be an important element of our organization," he said. "Our heritage istied to Japan, and the policy routes they choose often have significant impact-upon how we are perceived in the American public. Our task is to understand that

heritage and apply JACL principles to maximize their positive influence while at the same time work to mitigate any negative impact Japan policy has in our communities."

munities.

On Sept. 8, 1951, delegates gathered at the Presidio Army base to sign a treaty which cemented a defense pact that remains a cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy. Powell and Tanaka attended a second ceremony at the War Memorial Opera House, where 50 years ago representatives from both countries signed the San Francisco Peace Treaty, which gave Japan political independence.

During the San Francisco ceremony, Tanaka expressed remorse and sympathy to American prisoners of war forced into labor by Jananese companies

oners of war forced into labor by Japanese companies.

The event was met by some protest however, including those who don't believe Japan will take responsibility for its atrocities against American POWs as well as Chinese whose families were slaughtered and Asian women forced into sexual slavery during the occupation.

Hundreds of protestors thronged outside the Opera House, chanting and holding signs for Japanese apologies and reparations.

signs for Japanese apologies and reparations.
Under the San Francisco Peace Treaty, Japan was not required to apologize for wartime acts, much less compensate the victims of its march across Asia. American negotiators agreed to those terms because they wanted Japan to become an ally against communism in East Asia.

in East Asia.

The State Department has argued in U.S. courts that the treaty prevents Japan from compensating American POWs. Powell said he understood the suffering of the prisoners, but said 'the treaty dealt with this matter 50 years ago."

ago." Until recently, trade spats were

Nisei Vets Honor Former Army Secretary Caldera

Former Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera, 45, was warmly applauded by 250 Nikkei veterans and friends at an appreciation luncheon hosted by the 60 For Broke Educational Foundation, 100th/42nd Veterans Association, MIS Club of Southern California and MIS Association for Northern California on Sept. 8. at the Four Points Sheraton.
Sally Hamamoto Sister of Market

Sally Hamamoto, sister of Medal of Honor recipient Kiyoshi Muranaga, recalled her personal experiences when the call came from Washington that her brother was among the 20 Nisei veterans who were to be decorated last year. The hospitality shown the honored families was unbelievable and unforgettable, she emphasized.

namines was unnenevanie and unforgettable, she emphasized.

*Col. Young Oak Kim (retired) and Col. Harry Fukuhara (retired) extended remarks on behalf of the 100th-442nd and Military Intelligence Service veterans, respectively. Kim, who met Caldera about 12

Kim, who met Caldera about 12 years ago as state assemblyman from the Central L.A. District including. Little Tokyol, recounted Caldera's support in creating the Go For Broke Monument. Fukuhara related some of the high points of the Nisei in military intelligence.

Caldera was appointed by President Clinton as Secretary of the Army and served from 1998-2001. He is currently vice chancellor for the University Advancement of the California State University System, the largest four-year university system in the country.

the only major source of friction between the allies. Even so Japan has become an important U.S. export market and America's third-largest trading partner, with \$212 billion in exchanges last year, according to the Census Bureau. Despite a prolonged recession, Japanese firms have invested heavily in the United States.

JACL Corner

Livingston-Merced Chapter Builds Ties with Southeast Asian Community

Southeast Asian Community
After receiving \$2,000 from the
JACL Legacy Fund Grant this
year, the Livingston-Merced
JACL will once again offer its
mentor program, which was first
launched two years ago as a way
to build ties between JACL members and members of the local
Southeast Asian community.

bers and members of the local Southeast Asian community.

Mentors from the chapter are paired with a Southeast Asian student to whom they will provide support and guidance through monthly group outings and frequent phone contact until graduation from high school.

The memory with half from

tion from high school.

The mentors, with help from UC Scholars, an outreach program, will ensure that students take the courses needed to meet the rigorous admissions standards of University of California schools.

A tenth UC campus is scheduled to be completed in Merced by 2004 with an enrollment of 1,000 students. About 800 students will be added annually until enrollment reaches 25,000.

ment reaches 25,000.
For more information about the mentor program, contact Karen Philson at kphilson@lckinsurance.com or Bob Taniguchi at taniguchir@merced.cc.ca.us.

San Francisco Presents Kay Okamoto Volunteer Award

Ikebana teacher and taiko player, Susumu Saiki, received the 2001 Kay Okamoto Volunteer Award from the San Francisco JACL. Saiki teaches shigin at Hamilton Senior Center and has served for over 50 years on the board of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco, where he has participated in over 40 Obon festivals.

He was awarded \$1,000, which he requested be shared between Hamilton Senior Center and the Buddhist Church of San Francis-

o. 🔳

Over 300 Attend National JACL Singles Convention



PHOTO: PAUL BANNA

More than 300 people attended the ninth annual National JACL Singles Convention held over Labor Day weekend in Torrance, Calif. Pictured are (I-r): Warren Furutani, who spoke at the Sunday brunch, Miyako Kadogawa, convention co-chair, and Terry Terauchi, City of Gardena mayor.



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Micienda Heights

Akiko Kawashima (626) 912-2503

La Palma

Hiroko Matsumoto...... (714) 562-5650

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Santa Monica

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Torrance

West Los Angeles

Ikumi Avalos. (310) 477-8211 Michael Nagai (310) 477-8211

.



Visit to Cuba

packages of American over-the-counter medicines, which are diffi-cult to obtain in Cuba due to the

U.S. trade embargo.

The heart of the trip to Cuba

The heart of the trip to Cuba, however, was a visit to the "Isle de la Juventud" (Island of Youth) to celebrate Obon and by commemorate the wrongful imprisonment of Cuban Nikkei men during World War II. Under the influence of the United States, Fulgencio Batista ordered the internment of all Cuban men of Japanese ancestry. Approximately 300 Nikkei men were imprisoned on the Isle of Youth formerly named the Island

Youth, formerly named the Island of Pines, while Nikkei women and children were left to fend for them-

children were left to lend for them-selves from 1942 to 1946. After Nikkei men were released from the prison, Nikkei families quickly scat-tered across Cuba seeking work. To-day, the Nikkei population in Cuba is still dispersed, and Cuban Nikkei

have lost many of their Japanese

Francisco Miyasaka, a Nisei who

Francisco Miyasaka, a Nise who participated in the Cuban revolution and who currently serves as the president of the Japanese Cuban Society, invited the JA delegation to teach Cuban Nikkei about some of the traditions of their American counterparts. Nobuko

Miyamoto, a well-known JA per-former and longtime community ac-tivist, went to Cuba to lead the del-

egation in teaching Obon dances on the Isle of Youth. About 25 Cuban

Nikkei bravely joined in the Obon dancing, one of the lost traditions in

Members of the delegation noted

Members of the delegation noted that JAs have a lot to learn from their Cuban counterparts. Delegate Suzy Katsuda said, "Cubans] eat less and live longer [than Ameri-cans], "referring to the fact that the average life expectancy for Cubans is one year longer than for Ameri-cans despite occasional food short-ages in Cuba. Other delegates were impressed by the fact that Cuban

impressed by the fact that Cuban Nikkei are trying to teach them-selves how to speak Japanese. Del

egates also noticed that the Japan

ese tradition of reverence for the el-derly is still practiced in Cuba. The

delegation was introduced to Mr. Shimazu, the oldest living Cuban Nikkei, who is 95 years old.

On Sept. 30, members of the del-

he watermelon was out of this world, said Haru Kuromiya, referring to her recent visit to a cooperative organic farm which is run by four families in Cuba. Kuromiya was part of an 18-member delegation



CHRISTINA SHIGEMURA

sponsored by Nikkei for Civ-il Rights and Rights and Redress (NCRR) in order to partici tural exchange with some of

Cuban Nikkei Ironically, the watermel-on Kuromiya

Stranger Than **Fiction**

raved about was descended from watermelon seeds which came from the United States. Aside from the watermelon, Kuromiya said she was also struck by how much life on the Cuban farm reminded her of her childhood in the United States. She commented that "the tractors She commented that the tractors and trucks are old but well-maintained [in Cubal], and there is a lot of cooperation and sharing, similar to how the Issei [in the United States] farmed."

In addition to the organic farm, members of the NCRR-sponsored

delegation visited an ecological vil-lage, an alternative health clinic and many historic sites in Havana and many historic sites in Havana. The group met_swith ECAP (an international friendship organization), People's Power (neighborhood-based governing body in Cuba) and Mutsuo Mabachi, the Japanese ambassador to Cuba, who invited the delegation to dinner. During the trip, members of the delegation were able to split into small groups in order to meet Cuban families and distribute

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EYEWITNESS

(Continued from page 1)

city. And each time a building went down, Ito said he heard a col-

went down, to said a neart a collective cry of people screaming.

Then people completely covered in gray dust started coming through Chinatown. "I thought I was seeing zombies," Ito said.

Many were distraught and cry-

ing. One woman was so emotion-ally upset that Ito went over to the complete stranger and hugged her

Ito, who works for Asian Americans for Equality, said New York cans for Equality, said New York like every other major city has had its share of hate crimes connected to this tragedy. To prevent further violence, he urged everyone across the nation to hold educational fo-rums where the public can learn about the Arab American commu-

nity.
Immediately after the attack,
Lillian Kimura with the New York JACL chapter coordinated efforts to ensure that JACLers who worked in the lower Manhattan area were safe. Her periodic e-mail updates provided names and mail updates provided names and eyewitness accounts. At the time P.C. spoke with Kimura, she, like others who live in the outlying New York and New Jersey areas, could only get TV reception on one channel

Attorney Francis Sogi, who ommutes between New York and Hawaii, had just flown out of New York two days before the attack. "I don't feel like traveling right now. I think I'll stay put for a while," said Sogi from his home in

Between 1959 and 1973, Sogi's law firm had an office on Wall Street and Broadway where he watched the construction of the

egation to Cuba will report on their experiences in Cuba. The reportback, which will feature a multi-media slide presentation and quesinema saue presentation and ques-tion-and-answer session, will take place at 2 p.m. at the Japanese American Cultural and Communi-ty Center in L.A.'s Little Tokyo. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information about the event, call 213/680-3484.

Christina Shigemura is a Hapa Yonsei and a member of NCRR.

World Trade Center. This July, he had taken his granddaughter up to the top of one of the towers during a break in the PANA convention. To see it go down like a piece of toy

is just so amazing," said Sogi.
In Washington, D.C., Clyde
Nishimura, EDC district governor whose office is about three miles from the Pentagon, was driving to work when he caught sight of smoke rising. When he got into work, he was notified that the Pentagon had been hit, and the employees were told to go home. Nishimura said that moment was chaotic with some 2,000 people from his building trying to get out. He resigned himself to remain at his office rather than try to fight the mass congestion.

Lucy Kishiue, national JACL

membership coordinator, had flown into D.C. on Sept. 9 to par-ticipate in a LEAP leadership conference. She and a colleague were driving on the freeway when they heard over the car radio that the World Trade Center and the Pen-World Trade Center and the Pen-tagon had been hit. By that time, traffic had become so congested they couldn't get off at an off-ramp to turn around. The snail-like pace of the traffic flow took them by the Pentagon 20 minutes after it had

Since the Pentagon had been hit on the south side and Kishiue was on the north side, she said all she could see were plumes of smoke. Understandably, the LEAP conference was cut short, and participants scrambled to get home. As of Sept. 17, Kishiue was still stuck on the East Coast, but another LEAP leader and JACLEr, Doug Urata, was able to make it home to Los Angeles after being stranded in Kansas for a few days.

JACL Washington, D.C., representative Kristine Minami was home when she heard about the could see were plumes of smoke

home when she heard about the World Trade Center attacks. When she heard the Pentagon had also been hit, she decided not to go into work. She said her initial reaction

was of "shock and extreme sorrow." For several days following, was very anxious and stressed. she said

But on a more encouraging note, Minami said there is a spirit of co-operation among elected officials.

"Tve never seen such a show of unity," she said. "Too bad it took this to get everyone on the same

page."

Those who were contacted for this article urged the public to do-nate blood. Monetary contribu-tions are also welcome. But most uons are also welcome. But most importantly, they urged educational forums in order to prevent the proliferation of hate crimes in retaliation for the Sept. 11 tragedy.

AMAYOA

(Continued from page 1)

During the service, Aoyama's two children — Emily, 18, and George, 16 — gave tearful eulogies, recounting the happy times with their father. Anyama's wife, Machiko, gave brief words of ap-preciation. She declined to make a public statement to the Pacific Cit.



izen, saying she was not ready at this William

Roe, one of Aoyama's best friends, had this to say: "To have someone who is so close lose their life

DAVID AOYAMA

that way just that way just tore half of me out. On the other hand, I have kind of taken what we did together and determined myself to work even harder in my own endeavors for the sake of oth-

own endeavors for the sake of oner human beings."

Aoyama was born in Hokkaido,
Japan in 1953, He came to the
United States in 1977 and managed restaurants in Dallas and Memphis before becoming a member of the Buddhist association's staff in 1983. Since 1995 he statt in 1983. Since 1995 he worked at the organization's national headquarters in Santa Monica after serving in its Chicago, Philadelphia and Kansas City regional offices. Aoyama had been returning home from official business in Boston when his plane was hijacked. hijacked.

SGI also has eight members working in the Pentagon and 30 at the World Trade Center. All have been accounted for.



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MULLER

(Continued from page 1)

mass punishment without trial for people whose only crime was

for people whose and their race.

With well more than a million people of Arab descent living in America, we must now ask ourselves: Could it happen again?

The early indications are worrisome. Mosques have been defended Arab-owned businesses

have been shot at and burned. Arab Americans have faced verbal and physical abuse in the streets. Internet chatrooms and message boards burst with antiand anti-Muslim slogans and threats.

and threats.
To his credit, Attorney General
John Ashcroft has clearly condemned this wave of violence and
harassment. "Such reports of violence and threats," he said, "are in direct opposition to the very principles and laws of the United States and will not be tolerated."

These are welcome words, but they do not wipe away the worry that we might be lurching toward a replay of 1942, an Arab American internment in this century to match the Japanese American in-ternment of the last. After all, in the immediate wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Attorney Gener-al Francis Biddle came to the de-fense of Japanese America, arguing publicly and courageously that "the Bill of Rights protects not only American citizens but all not only American citizens but all human beings who live on our American soil, under our Ameri-can flag." His words did not pre-vent the wholesale incarceration of JAs just a few months later.

Is the recent rash of anti-Arab and anti-Muslim violence the first step along a path to a civil rights violation of tragic propor-

The risks of tragedy are clear. In the public's mind, today's enemy is not so different from the enemy of 60 years ago. His religion and his cause are foreign, we tell ourselves. His devotion to them is

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National JACL

GRACE PERIOD

fanatical, even suicidal. He is se-cretive. He is barbaric. His skin is of a different color. And so on. Yet the situations of JAs in 1941 and Arab Americans in 2001

1941 and Arab Americans in 2001 are different in important, and hopeful, ways. The oppression of JAs during World War II came from more than just military fears and racial hatred. Its main engine was, in fact, economic.
The historical record now clearly
shows that the lougest and most effective advocates for evicting and incarcerating the West Coast's JAs were their white busi ss competitors, especially in

Arab Americans, while above Arab Americans, while above the national median in levels of income and education, do not stand as a unified economic tar-get. Unlike JAs in 1941, who were overwhelmingly concentrat-ed in agriculture and in certain retail and service industries, Arab Americans today, spread, them. Americans today spread them-selves across a broader range of the labor force, in both blue- and white-collar work

Arab America is also more broadly dispersed across the country than Japanese America in 1941. At that time, nearly 90 in 1941. At that time, nearly 90 percent of all people of Japanese ancestry in America lived in California, Washington and Oregon, where they made an especially easy target for those frightened of easy target to those inginened of a Japanese assault on the West Coast. Today, Arab Anericans live all over the country. While they are mostly city-dwellers, the

they are mostly city-dwellers, the cities where they live in greatest numbers are in the West (Los Angeles), the Midwest (Chicago and Detroit) and the East (New York and Washington, D.C.).
Unlike JAs in 1941, Arab Americans walk the corridors of American political power. Two of President Bush's cabinet secretaries are of Arab descent: Spencer Abraham, secretary of energy, and Mitchell E. Daniels, director of the Office of Management and Budget. Donna Sharment and Budget. Donna Sharmer and Budget. Donna Sharmer and Budget. ment and Budget. Donna Sha-lala, President Clinton's secretary of Health and Human Services, is. also of Arab ancestry. Spencer Abraham served as a U.S. Sena-tor, and several Arab Americans, such as West Virginia's Nick Ra-hall, serve in the House of Repre-

Perhaps most importantly, the law protects Arab Americans to-day in a way that the law did not protect JAs in 1941. What we today take as commonplace, name-ly that the government may not take race or ethnic origin into ac-count in its dealings with individuals, had not yet been established at the outset of American involve-ment in WWII. Our courts today have nearly 60 years of precedent to rely upon in condemning racebased government action. And what's more, nearly all of our cur-rent Supreme Court justices have condemned the JA internment as unconstitutional, and the 1944 Supreme Court's opinion to the

contrary as a colossal mistake.

Sadly, the anti-Arab and antiMuslim incidents of the last few days have shown that Americans are no less susceptible to racist are no less susceptible to racist fear in the wake of the World Trade Center horror than we were after the tragedy at Pearl Harbor. The situation of Arab Americans is, however, different from that of the JAs during WWII, and we live in a different legal world as well. Let us hope that we are in a better position to hear, and to heed, our attorney general's sensible words of re-straint today than we were in 1941

Eric L. Muller is a Professor of Law at the University of North Car-olina at Chapel Hill and author of "Free to Die for Your Country."

Placer County to Recognize Vets and Former Internees With Diplomas

Placer County Superintendent of Schools Alfred "Bud" Nobili announced a new program called "Operation Recognition," which will issue high school diplomas to World War II and Korean War veterans as well as Japanese Americans who were unable to complete their education due to either military service or the internment

The program will target those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces in the 1940s and 1950s and those who were interned in concentration camps between September 1940 and December

Veterans or family members of posthumous honorees must apply and meet eligibility require-ments, which include proof that they attended high school or re ceived a GED between 1937-1946 or 1950-1955 and served in the U.S. Armed Forces between Sept. 16, 1940-Dec. 31, 1946, or June 25, 1950-Jan. 31, 1955. They must also provide verification of military eligibility or honorable

discharge.

JA citizens or family members must also apply and show evi-dence of having attended high school or received a GED between 1937 and 1946 and of having been interned during that period of time.

Those who were enrolled at Roseville, Placer, Lincoln or Tahoe Truckee High Schools will receive a diploma from their respective school. All others will receive a diploma from the Placer County Office of Education.

The counties participating in this program include Sacramen-to, El Dorado, Yolo, Sutter, Yuba, Nevada, Sierra, Colusa and

Alpin Applications for "Operation Recognition" are available at the Placer County Office of Educa-tion, 360 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA; on the website: www.placercoe.k12.ca.us; or by calling Car olyn Taylor at 530/886-5812. ■

Obituaries

Arite, Tommy Tatsuo, 85, Al-dena, July 27, San Fernandotadena, July 27; San Fernando-born Nisei; survived by wife, Anna; daughters, Ardell Furuta, Jean (Carl) Kato; brothers, Harry (Gail), Tony (Kay) and Ted Arita; 2 gc.; nieces, nephews and other rel-

Fujii, Teruyuki, 75, Rancho Palos Verdes, July 28; Los Ange-les-born Nisei; survived by wife, Hana; sister, Amy (Mikio) Fujino; 2 gc.; nieces and nephews.

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Print-ed obituaries from your newspaper are welcorne. 'Death Notices,' which ap-pear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are pub-lished at the rate of \$14 per column inch. Text is reworded as needed.

Fujii, Tsutomu, 78, Los Angeles, July 19; Terminal Island-born; survived by daughters, Chizue (Richard) Covarrubio and Kaoru (Kenneth) Sakamoto, 4 gc., sisters, Kayoe (Kiyoto). Funaoka and Hisako (Yukio) Kawauchi; brother, Yoshikazu (Miyoko); sisteri-in-law, Aki Fujii; and many relatives.

Fujimoto, Ayako, 84, Morgan Hill, Sept. 7; Seattle-born, Kushi-moto Wakayama raised; Heart Mountain and Tule Lake internee; survived by sons, Isao (Christine) and Kazuya (Dorothy); daughters, Yoshiko (Tadao) Kajiko, Toyoko (Yoichiro) Ohmi, Motoko (Masao) (Yoichiro) Ohmi, Motoko (Massa) Seto, Coleen (Mac Salsbery, Janet (Jack) McCabe, Ann -Fujimoto, Shigeko (Ands) Perryman and Tomiko (Pat) Erranklin; sister, Yuko Nakao, 17 gc.; 2 ggc.; prede-ceased by hussland, Taichi and children, Keiko, Sheko and Don-

Harada, Hisako, 80, Mira Loma, July 22; Galt-born; survived by daughters, JoAnn Gunter, Donna Steele and Gloria Phelps; sons Bobby, Gordon and Leonard; brother, Isao Kameshige; sister, Tochiko Saeki; 11 gc.; and 6 ggc.

Hirano, Urano, 95, Los Ange-les, July 30; Nagoya City, Aichi-ken, Japan-born Issei; survived by son, Shigeo; daughter, Mitsuko (Ted) Nettler; son-in-law, Masami Yasuda; daughter-in-law, Kathy Hirano; 4-gc.; and many other rel-atives.

Hiraoka, Rose, 74, Torrance, July 21; Marysville-born; survived by nephews, Ted (Mieko) Tamamo-to and Paul Hiraoka; niece Jean Ishikawa, great-nephews, Michael Ishikawa, Jonathan Ishikawa and David Ishikawa.

Ishiyama, Dr. Toaru, 80, Parna, Ohio, Aug. 15; WWII veteran; survived by wife, Miyako; sons, John (Marijke Breuning), Howard (Shamén Smithey), and Richard; daughter, Susan; sisters, Miyo (Ken) Schug and Tomie Ishiyama; brothers, Iwao, Kenji and Tetsuo, 3 gc.; many nieces and nephews; predeceased by sister Motoko Naritoku

Ishizawa, Yoshiko "Yo" (nee Yokoyama), 77, Aug. 28; Seattle-born; Minidoka internee; survived by husband, Minoru; daughter, Sandra (Jon) Honda; sisters, Keiko (Takeshi) Sakanashi, Takeko (Jiro) Todo and Donna (Jack) Krivdo; 2 gc.; many nieces and nephews.

Kanematsu, Mari Tokuno, Torrance, July 21; Tokyo-born Is-sei; survived by daughter, Ai Tokuno; sisters, Makoto Varvel and Megumi Kanematsu; brother, Yutaka; many cousins, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Kawasawa, George H., 76, North Hills, July 28, Utah-born; survived by wife Margaret; sons, Dean, Bruce and Kirk; daughter, Lynne Dufresne; brother, Don; sis-ter, Emiko Toyota; 8 gc.

ter, Emiko Toyota, 8 gc.

Minami, Clifford Yayoshi, 66,
Pomona, July 19; Santa Mariabora Sansei; survived by wife Akemi; daughters, Audrey and Alison
Minami; brothers; Masaru (Racquel) Norio (Eileen) and Susumu;
sister, Amy (Gene) Chan; uncles,
Isamu and Mitsugu (Pumiyo) Minami; aunt, Tushiko Iriyama;
nieces and nephews.

Miwa, Masao Terry, 67, Torrance, July 19; San Francisco-born; Heart Mountain internee; survived by wife, Kimiko; son, John; daughter, Julie; sisters, Jean (Tad) Ushijima and Kay (Tom) Okino.

(Ibm) Okano.

Miyagawa, Richard, 81, Madison, Wis, Sept. 3; Maui-born; Gila River internee; survived by wife, Marion; sons, John (Ibai Gervasi) and Rick (Marsha Oliva); daughter, Judy (Dan) McCarthy; brother, Dave (Mary); 6 gc; many nieces and nephews; predeceased by brothers, Stanley and Johnny

Nomura, Sam Jiro, 84, July 26, Everett, Wash-born; survived by wife, Masaye; sons, George (Cynthia) and Jon (Jacqueline), brothers, Carl' and James (Margaret), sisters, Yoshiko Hasegawa and Ayako (Edward) Machida; sister-in-law, Mikako Nomura; 2 gc., nieces, nephews and other rela-

Ozawa, Gerald H., July 27; Ozawa; Gerald, H., July 27; survived by wife, Harrienne; sons Walter, Paul (Eleanor) and William (Elaine); daughters, Stephani (Tony) White, Christie (Robert) Ichikawa and Doris (Sidney) Sakamoto; 2 gc.

Sakamoto, Kiyoaki, 88, Duarte, July 23; San Gabriel-born Nisei; survived by wife, Kiyono; son, Takeshi; daughter, Michiko (Koji) Ishii: brother Noboru (Toki): nieces, nephews and other rela-

sakurada, Hiroshi, 74, Los Angeles, July 28; Terminal Island-born Nisei; survived by wife, Kazue; son, Robert (Jacqueline); daughters, Kiyoko (Vic) and Denise (Steve) Shiroma; 3 gč.

Shibata, Walter D., 86, Albuquerque, N.M., Sept. 10; WWII 442nd veteran; survived by wiife, Anne; sons, Ronald (Lisa) and Randolph; brother, Tom; sister, Mary Shigenaka; 2 gc.

Takiguchi, Wilbur Y., 89, Palo Alto; survived by wife Lilly; sons, Gerard and Roger; 2 gc.

Gerard and Roger, 2 gc.

Tanaka, Eiko, 58, Whittier,
July 29; Tule Lake-born Sansei;
survived by parents, Henry and
Florence; son, Dennis; daughter,
Tiffany (Brent) Ikari; brother,
Takao (Diane) Shiohama; 3 gc.;
many nieces and nephews.

unekawa, Grace Miyeko, Tsunekawa, Grace Miyeko, 76, San Francisco, July 22; Sacra-mento-born; survived by husband, Toshio; sons, Andy, (Sandy) and Michael (Laura); daughters, Carol (Alfred) Wilbon and Nancy (Gary) Loo; 11 gc.; 3 ggc.

Yamashita, Yuriko, 87, Berke-ley, July 20, Oakland-born.

Yoshida, Yoshito Henry, 81, Monterey Park, July 29, Baldwin Park-born; survived by sons, Monterey Park, our, heart-born; survived by sons, Gilbert (Deborah) and Dave (Anabel Estrada); daughter, Diane Childen Sisters-in-law, Toshiko Yoshida; sisters-in-law, Toshiko Senmaru and Chieko (Mike) Miyake; 9 gc.; many cousins, nieces, nephews and other relatives





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HATE CRIMES

(Continued from page 1)

As the support of JACLers across the nation continues to unacross the nation continues to unfold in the coming weeks, some of,
the more immediate responses
have been: Ted Namba, president
of the Arizona chapter, sent out
letters of support to local islamicorganizations and temples and
will be considering further action,
particulary after the shooting
death of Balbir Singh Sodhi, an Indian Sibh I Illian Kinyara with dian Sikh: Lillian Kimura with dian Sikh; Lillian Kimura with the New York chapter has been-co-ordinating efforts to contact New York JACLers to make sure they are safe; Clyde Nishimura, EDC district governor, has been monitoring and responding to hate messages posted on local websites; Bill Yoshino, Midwest regional director, has been monitoring and participating in press conferences calling for restraint, particularly in light of a shooting incident against a business owner in his district; Beth Au, PSW regional director, has been involved in unity events; Kristine Minami, JACL Washington, D.C., representative,

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Lisa Sakai, President

Jean Fullu. **Executive Director** participated in a candlelight vigil at the National Japanese Ameri-can Memorial to Patriotism; and Ken Inouye, P.C. editorial chair who is with the Orange County Human, Relations Commission has been involved in promoting better inter-ethnic relations dur

ing this tense time.

The day after the attack, the Asian American Journalists Assoclation urged the media to "contin-ue responsible coverage on Arab American communities" and pro-

vided several resources.

Nishimura said what he found most disturbing were messages on the Internet of people saying Arab Americans need to prove their loyalty to America just as Japanese Americans did with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II. Nishimura has been responding saying that JAs were good Americans long before Amer-ica entered WWII and the 442nd created

Of JACL's eight districts, Yoshino's jurisdiction encompasses Michigan, in particular Detroit, which has the largest concentration of Arab Americans in the nation, although California has more overall. The day after the Sept. 11 attack, Yoshino was informed through the Chicago Commission on Human Relations that two Islamic schools received bomb

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BEST OF HOKKAIDO/TOHOKU (12 days)

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CLASSIC CITIES OF CHINA (15 day

no descent who was wearing a veil

was physically attacked and a handful of people posted signs that read "I hate Arabs," "F— the Arabs," and "Kill the Arabs." Arabs," and "Kill the Arabs."

In New York, where the most

In New York, where the most devastating terrorist attacks oc-curred, the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) reported hate inci-dents targeting South Asians, par-ticulable, Sibt. Ledices, Reports ticularly Sikh Indians, Bangla-deshis, and Pakistanis. They urged victims or witnesses to re-port such incidents to AALDEF's port such incidents to AALDER's Sinyen Ling at 212/760-9110 or 212/966-5932 or e-mail at sling@aalder.org. All information is kept confidential. But such incidents were not lim-

ited to the Midwest. Robin Toma. ited to the Midwest. Robin Toma, executive director of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, estimated that within two days of the attack, he received reports of between 10-15 hate crime incidents in Los Ange-les County related to the tragedy. Some of the incidents included a freshly painted sign on Interstate 10 which read "Kill All Arabs", a 10-which read "Kill All Arabs"; a teacher saying to a student, "Are you happy now?", high school stu-dents attacking another student because he was Arab American; and a Latino woman in a doctor's office who was forced to leave after a man harassed her by saying such things as "It's you people. You

SEPT 27 SEPT 30

OCT 13

APR 10

JUNE-15 AUG 17

SEPT 23

OCT 19

foreigners who made this happen." Kathay Feng, with the Asian Pa-cific American Legal Center of Southern California, said almost immediately after the tragedy, their office started getting hate crime reports from throughout the country. They ranged from a man in Chicago being dragged out of his car to local young college girls hav-ing their veils torn off.

As of press time, Feng said they

had been too busy to count up the number of calls they had received but said "in every major city, we have heard of an attack in the form of harassment, physical attacks, verbal abuse and vandalism."

Both Toma and Feng said at-tacks have been leveled against anyone who visually fits a certain stereotype. These include Pak-istani, Latinos, South Asians and Indian Sikhs, who are neither Muslim nor Middle Eastern.

Inouye said Orange County, which has over two million people, which has over two million people, has had its share of hate crime in-cidences related to the recent tragedy including a case where el-ementary school students had been harassed. But he has been en-couraged by the immediate recouraged by the immediate re-sponse of community leaders after the tragedy including two of Or-ange County's top leaders — Or-ange County, Supervisor Chair Cynthia P. Coad and Sheriff Chief

Michael Corona - proactively urg ing the public not to rush to judg ment and not to scapegoat inno

cent people.

Inouye said he was also reassured because he has heard people cautioning others not to repeat what happened to JAs during WWII. "It shows we can learn from our mistakes," said Inouye.

The newly appointed members of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Peoffe Idunders also issued a call cent people

Pacific Islanders also issued a call

tolerance.
"We call on all Americans to "We call on all Americans to show solidarity, not against a par-ticular religious or ethnic group, but against terror, itself, and against the specific organizations and individuals who bear responsi-bility for these tragedies," said Dr. John B. Tsu, chairman-designate of the compression. of the commission.

Other APA organizations that

have issued similar statements and/or are urging members to do-nate blood include: the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA), the Asian American Government Executives Network (AAGEN); Chinese Americans United for Self Empowerment; 80/20 political action committee; Filipino Civil Rights Advocates; Japanese American Religious Fed-eration; and the Konko Church of San Francisco.

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If interested, or to find out more information, please call or e-mail: Robbyn Kawaguchi, M.A., 510/521-9707, rkawaguchi@yahoo.com



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