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Japanese Scholar Looks for Nikkei Who Served In Japanese Army During WWII

By **MARTHA NAKAGAWA** and **HARRY K. HONDA**

One book changed Hiroshi Kadoike's life and set him on a mission.

The book: "A Japanese American and the Imperial Navy," written in Japanese by the late Y. Tachibana.

The publication chronicles the fate of a Japanese American Nisei studying in Japan during the World War II era. The Nisei is drafted against his will into the Japanese Imperial Navy and is killed in action, fighting against his own country — the United States.

This real-life account so moved Kadoike, a native of Nagoya, Japan, that he resigned from his position as president of Kyowa Kogyo Company, a manufacturer of metal and stain-

less steel products, and at the age of 47, the Keio University graduate returned to school after 24 years and enrolled into Nagoya City University's multicultural communications graduate pro-

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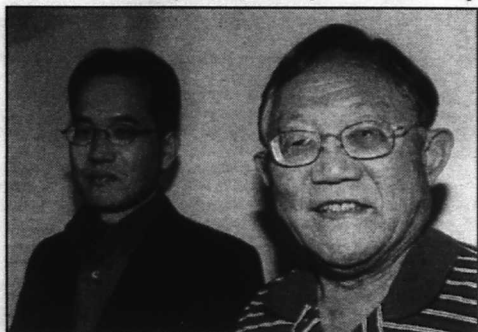


PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA

Hiroshi Kadoike (left), a researcher from Japan, meets with Frank Hirata (right), a Nisei veteran of the Japanese Imperial Army.

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Democrats Show Support For Secretary Mineta After Columnist Coulter's Lashing

More than 50 Democrats have come out publicly in support of Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta after conservative columnist Ann Coulter gave the former congressman a verbal lashing in a Feb. 28 column, largely blaming him for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

In a letter circulated by Rep. Anna Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, the group condemns Coulter's column titled, "Mineta's Bataan Death March" and asks the White House to issue a "public denunciation" of the op-ed piece.

"Ms. Coulter's bigoted remarks can only divide our country during this trying time in our nation's history," wrote the lawmakers, strongly condemning the "racist and hateful language" of the piece.

In her column, Coulter criticizes Mineta's refusal to use racial profiling as part of his airport security measures, accusing him of "burning with hatred for America."

She also goes on to condemn Mineta's comparison of his own World War II internment experience with the recent attacks against the Arab and Muslim communities following the events of Sept. 11.

She writes, "He has taken the

occasion of the most devastating attack on U.S. soil to drone on about how his baseball bat was taken from him as a child headed to one of Franklin Roosevelt's Japanese internment camps." She adds, "Transportation Secretary Mineta is angry and he wants America to suffer ... he's subjecting all of America to the Bataan Death March!"

In an *Oakland Tribune* article, White House spokesman Ken Lisaius refused to address Coulter's criticisms of Mineta and whether Bush would respond. But, he added, "The President selects people to serve in his administration on the qualification that they're the best person for the job."

Among the 54 lawmakers who signed the statement were Mike Honda, D-San Jose; Tom Lantos, D-San Mateo; Ellen Tauscher, D-Alamo, and Barbara Lee, D-Oakland.

Several civil rights groups, including JACL, criticized Coulter's column shortly after it was published.

Coulter's column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate, a division of Andrews McMeel Universal. ■

Professor Ready to Call Off Asian Boycott of Nuclear Labs Over Wen Ho Lee Case

By **ASSOCIATED PRESS**

BERKELEY, Calif.—A professor who urged Asian Americans not to apply for jobs at U.S. nuclear weapons laboratories in response to the firing of Wen Ho Lee says he's ready to call off the protest in exchange for promised workplace changes.

Ling-Chi Wang said March 26 he is prepared to start a recruiting drive if an agreement to change hiring practices and improve working conditions, now pending before officials in Washington, is finalized.

"I think the labs realized they had a real serious problem," said Wang,

who initiated the boycott two years ago.

The plan was submitted on March 25 by the Los Alamos, Livermore and Sandia laboratories to the National Nuclear Security Administration for approval, Los Alamos spokesman John Gustafson said.

Gustafson would not discuss the plan's contents. Wang said he had not read the final draft and could not comment on specifics.

In general, he said, he expects it to address racial profiling and discrimination as well as recruitment, retention and salary parity, and provide for promotion and research opportu-

See LABS/ page 4

First Bainbridge Island Evacuees Honored

By **ASSOCIATED PRESS**

BAINBRIDGE, Wash.—Frank Kitamoto was just 2 years old, too young to remember the day his mother gathered him, his three sisters and as much as she could carry for a ferry ride into exile.

Now, 60 years later, he's trying to make sure others don't forget.

Kitamoto and other Bainbridge Island residents on March 30 dedicated a solemn granite marker to commemorate Civilian Exclusion Order No. 1, which demanded that all persons of Japanese ancestry — whether American citizens or not — leave the island by March 30, 1942.

The 227 people who boarded the ferry for Seattle were the first relocated under executive order by President Franklin Roosevelt.

The government feared their

proximity to naval stations.

"Our community has spent over 50 years of our lives forgetting that that site was there," said Kitamoto, president of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community.

"They were trying to build something for their children, and just when they were becoming successful, they had to leave with six days' notice. They lost their property. They lost their dignity and faith in America and what it stood for."

The Bainbridge residents were taken by train from Seattle to Manganar, a dusty camp near the Mojave Desert in California.

Eventually, all 14,400 Washington residents of Japanese ancestry would be interned. Across the West, 114,000 were.

The ceremony was part of an effort to build a larger memorial at the old Eagledale ferry landing, which is now defunct and part of a federal Superfund cleanup site.

For months, a committee has been working with federal officials to buy land near the ferry landing and develop an interpretive site called "Nidoto Nai Yoni," or "Let It Not Happen Again."

The Legislature also unanimously passed a bill asking President Bush and Congress to designate the landing a national memorial.

"I feel very humbled by the stories that I've heard. And I'm equally humbled to be a part of helping those stories be heard by a

larger group, by acknowledging the suffering that people experienced," said Deborah Hickey-Tierman, co-leader of the Bainbridge Island World War II Nikkei Internment and Exclusion Memorial Committee.

"I want to be a part of a group that stands there and says, 'I see you, I want to hear your stories, and as an American, I want to learn from this experience.' I will stand with this group, or any other group, and say, 'We'll never let this happen again.'"

Japanese immigrants began settling on the island in the late 1800s, working on strawberry farms and in lumber mills.

Before the evacuation, Kitamoto's father had been arrested for having dynamite, which he used to clear his land for farming. Kitamoto's mother had to leave home with her children, who ranged in age from 9 months to 7 years.

Army trucks took the families to the dock, where they boarded the 11:03 a.m. ferry.

At Manzanar, Kitamoto's mother sewed "44 8 E" on her son's clothes, to signify his address: Block 44, Building 8, Room E.

In June that year, the Bainbridge Island High School sent 13 diplomas to the camp for the students who would have graduated.

Kitamoto's father eventually joined his family, and they were later transferred to the Minidoka

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Building a Brighter Future

June 25-30

12 WEEKS

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Mori Memo

Floyd Mori, JACL National President

Moving Onward

The issue of Resisters brings to mind many different thoughts and feelings among members of JACL. I am aware that there are many who are wondering what is so controversial and divisive about the issue. Let me explain why I feel it is the appropriate time to lay this issue to rest and move forward, including this as part of our history and focusing our energies on the present and future.

I have heard several veterans express very deep concern that JACL would go ahead with a ceremony they say is a slap in the face to the veterans. They ask how it is that we can recognize people who refused to fight for our country when the majority of Japanese Americans had the courage to volunteer and prove our loyalty when our true allegiance was in question. The veterans remind us — and rightfully so — about the courage required to volunteer under such circumstances. They also remind us that many of these volunteers were subject to harass-

ment and physical abuse by those who refused to go into the Armed Services at that time. They also remind us of the many who paid the ultimate price for our freedom, correctly telling us that their heroism was a major factor in our community's ability to assimilate into mainstream America after World War II, and a major factor for what we have in today's America.

There is no question about the courage of the veterans and their role in providing the life we enjoy today. However, the error is in the assumption of some veterans that all who refused to go and fight for our country were cowards and draft dodgers. Yes, there were those who were afraid enough of the consequences of war that they did anything to avoid going to war. There were also those who were actually sympathetic to the enemy and ridiculed those who would be disloyal to their "mother country." These people are NOT the ones who will be recognized in the Resisters Ceremony on May 11 in San Francisco.

The resisters who will be recognized are those whose conscience would not allow them to fight for a country that incarcerated their families without due process of law, their right as Americans according to the Constitution. They could not, in good conscience, subjugate themselves to a nation that would allow such a blatant act of racism. Their actions took a great deal of courage — courage of a different kind than that shown by those who fought in the war. It is the kind of courage displayed by Lincoln and Martin Luther King. Most of these resisters paid the price of imprisonment and of ostracism by the community. Is it not time that we pay these people some respect for what they did?

There have been many veterans who have expressed concern about the actions of JACL, but they have been open-minded enough to recognize that we must put this issue to rest. Many veterans have expressed to me that after hearing more clearly the story of

the resisters, they are willing to support the JACL national council's action on this issue taken at the 2000 convention in Monterey. We must be reminded that this is not the action of the national president or the national board. The national council voted by a very wide majority to hold this ceremony. There are many veterans who will be attending the ceremony and I appreciate their understanding.

For those veterans who are disappointed enough to vow to leave JACL, I would ask them to reconsider. JACL is a great organization that will continue on into the future, and we would like to have your support in all of the good things that are done on the local and national level. Our younger generations need your help in remembering your legacy in this great country. The role of our veterans will always be a proud part of our history, and we need you to help ensure that this great story goes on. ■

Letters to the Editor

Re: 18 Nisei VFW Posts

I cheer N. Ota for coming forth in the *Pacific Citizen*. I will not be as kind to rate the Sacramento VFW Post and the 18 other Nisei VFW posts supporting their misguided campaign as highly.

In my opinion, they are lower than scum for: 1. Misleading and continuing to mention the 830 Nisei KIAs. Among the 830 KIAs, I see a good number of non-Nisei who led them into battle, resisters' siblings and/or relatives, and at least two "Heart Mountain FPC" members. 2. Deceitfully and grievously attacking people whom they grew up with. 3. Not finding out the individual background of those they are attacking. Among them were those known beforehand to be draft-ineligible due to physical unfitness and others who were burdened with dependents. 4. Using many of the same statements about the relocation camps used by this nation and the news media in trying to suppress the resistance to the selective service during the atrocious incarceration of the 1940s.

The Nisei VFW is running the most dishonest, unfair, unjust and deceptive campaign i.e. Lillian Baker. I cannot conceive of honorable men or women denigrating men who fought for their civil rights without regret and a deep feeling of shame.

A. Tanaka
WWII, ETO, 3rd Army
via e-mail

Stop the Spin

Please permit me to relate a lesson that was taught to me some seven decades ago in a story called, "The Tale of the Pencil," which will hopefully help resolve the "resisters" issue and perhaps future issues.

The story begins with two groups, with one group on the right

side and the other group on the left side of the room. A pencil was placed in the center of the room between the two groups. The group on the right side "saw" printed words on the pencil and the group on the left side "saw" the same pencil without any printed words.

Each group tried to convince the other group what each saw, but without success, since what each saw was what each was able to see. Thus, the controversy. With strong emotions, the spin began. As more and more spin was added, faster and faster the pencil began to spin until the pencil, the issue, was reduced to a blur.

Going back hundreds of years to call on King Solomon for help, he stopped the pencil from spinning, brought it to its original position between the two groups and slowly turned the pencil 180 degrees. Lo and behold, each side was clearly able to see the other side, bringing the issue to an indisputable conclusion: they were both equally correct.

With all due respect to all concerned parties, it's time to stop the spin and move on.

Tom Okubo

Life Member Sacramento JACL
VFW Nisei Post 8985,
Sacramento

Grateful to Be an American

Given the tenor of the 40s, if we Nisei had acted as the resisters propose, we now might well be living in the "Land of the Rising Sun!"

Given the fact that the Nisei and Issei served, sacrificed and died for this country, the resisters may have their "time of day."

From our family, four members served in World War II: a brother

was Killed in Action; a sister was an Army nurse; a brother was with the MIS; and a brother was an enlisted person.

I'm grateful to be an American.

George Shiozawa
Pocatello, Idaho

Managing Our Money

The JACL national board recently approved a substantial increase in membership dues. The major reasons that necessitated this increase are reported to be declining membership and a decrease in revenue from the investment income. There is a Japanese saying to describe this predicament — an octopus eating its own legs to survive.

However, I am equally concerned with the information that JACL has been using only one money manager (an investment company) to manage its money. That money totaled some \$8 million (Legacy Fund) some years ago, now down to \$5.5 million, a loss of 30 percent. We know that many stocks have not performed well in the current recession. At the same time, we also know that some funds have done fairly well or have not lost that much.

Years ago, even when the stocks were doing very well, JACL let one company manage (or mismanage) our money over many years without close supervision. The sad result was that we not only missed profits from the upturn stock market, but also paid unreasonably high managing fees to that company. Are we repeating the same mistake again?

Whether investing our own money or that of an organization, the basic strategy for safety is to diversify (see the Enron debacle) and also not to depend on one money manager. As I understand it, JACL has an investment policy

committee, which has retained a financial advisor. This advisor is supposed to select multiple money managers to manage JACL funds. This way, we can not only spread the risk but also compare the performance of the managing firms. However, our current financial advisor is reported to be using only one money manager. I think this setup is not diverse enough and may be disadvantageous to JACL funds.

At the chapter and membership levels, we send our hard-earned money to headquarters. We do this with a hope that the money is managed properly and most effectively, so that the financial future of JACL may be secure.

The very reason for my writing this letter is to call the attention of other members to this situation and hopefully to improve our financial condition for the future of JACL.

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

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

By Pacific Citizen Staff
and Associated Press

Three Companies Targeted in Slavery Reparations Lawsuit

NEW YORK—A woman whose ancestors were slaves sued three companies for allegedly profiting from slavery for nearly two centuries, a long-simmering concept that could pick up steam if more blacks are allowed to join the lawsuits.

Plaintiffs' lawyers said the suits were the first to seek slavery reparations from private companies, including the Aetna insurance company, the FleetBoston financial services group and railroad giant CSX, on behalf of 35 million American descendants of African slaves.

The three suits, which seek unspecified damages, claim that as many as 1,000 unidentified corporations may have benefited from slavery between 1619 and 1865.

Reparations supporters cite other cases where groups have been compensated for historic indignities. In 1988, a letter of formal apology and \$20,000 were given by the U.S. government to each Japanese American held in an internment camp during World War II. In October 2000, Austria established a \$380 million fund to compensate tens of thousands of Nazi-era slave laborers who were born in six eastern European countries.

But opponents argue that victims in the Nazi and JA cases were directly harmed; while many generations separate enslaved blacks and their modern-day descendants.

School Mascot Stirs Controversy

DENVER—The idea started

among some University of Northern Colorado students as a satire of a local high school's American Indian mascot.

The students named their intramural basketball team, made up of American Indians, Hispanics and whites, "the Fightin' Whites." They even designed jerseys saying, "Every thang's going to be all white," with a caricature of a middle-aged white man.

The team chose the name after it couldn't persuade nearby Eaton High School to abandon its nickname, "the Fightin' Reds," and the American Indian caricature on the team logo. The students say the logo is offensive, a claim Eaton School Superintendent John Nuspl disputes.

Critics say the "Fightin' Whites" name is the wrong way to protest a logo that is based on a racial stereotype.

Team member Jeff VanIwarden said demand for the jersey has been overwhelming. He said when shirts are printed, they will have a message condemning racial stereotypes to dissuade people from making light of the issue.

Laotian Couple Gives Birth to Quadruplets

SACRAMENTO—A Laotian couple living in West Sacramento gave birth to four identical quadruplet girls March 25, a phenomenon that only happens in every 1-in-11 million births overall.

Omsee Khamsa, 22, and Verek Muy, 20, conceived the children without the aid of fertility drugs, an extremely unusual situation in cases of multiple births, doctors said. They were born at 30 weeks, with

the largest weighing 2 pounds, 8 ounces. The smallest is 2 pounds, 5 ounces. The couple named their newborns Preeana, Audreyana, Natalie and Melody. They already have a 4-year-old son named Raymond.

Specialists monitored the girls for the first 48 hours but said they expect them to be fine.

About 500 sets of quadruplets are born each year in the United States, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. But an identical set has happened only a handful of times — about 26 sets since 1930, 17 of them female, according to Jennifer Cassidy, who maintains a website devoted to multiple births.

Teens Arrested in Assault of AA Man

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif.—Three 14-year-old boys were arrested for investigation of a hate crime after allegedly beating an Asian American store manager they had taunted with ethnic slurs and white power slogans.

The March 16 afternoon attack took place in a parking lot behind a discount store near Springdale Street and Edinger Avenue, Lt. William Stuart said. The manager was working behind the store when three teens approached and began insulting him with racial slurs.

"They proclaimed themselves as white power people. He told them to leave, but they started taunting (the manager) and gave him a one-armed Nazi-style salute," Stuart said.

The victim was surrounded and the youths struck him with metal pipes, investigators said.

"As they ran away, they swore

they would return and kill him," Stuart said.

The victim, whose name was withheld, was shaken up but did not require hospitalization, the lieutenant said.

The teens were arrested several blocks away and were booked for investigation of felony assault with a deadly weapon, criminal threats and interfering with an individual's civil rights.

Court Urged to Let AA Slave Labor Case Proceed

LOS ANGELES—Legal briefs have been filed urging a state appeals court to let a Korean American sue a Japanese cement company for allegedly using slave labor during World War II.

Jaе Wong Jeong, 79, a retired teacher and now a U.S. citizen, is seeking compensation, an apology and a trust fund to benefit other former forced laborers from Onoda Cement Co., which has a Los Angeles-based subsidiary.

A state appellate court temporarily halted the lawsuit in January and set an April 30 hearing for arguments on whether it should proceed.

At issue in Jeong's case is the constitutionality of a 1999 California law allowing wartime forced labor victims in Europe and Asia to seek redress until 2010 against multinational firms that operate in the state.

A federal court ruled against the law in September, but two months later Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Peter Lichtman allowed Jeong's case to move forward.

Lichtman said he was concerned

the government was acting in an "uneven manner" by allowing claims made by Holocaust survivors to go forward, while preventing Asian victims from seeking reparations from Japanese companies.

114-year-old Japanese Woman Becomes Oldest Living Human

TOKYO—Slugging back shots of stiff sake apparently never hurt 114-year-old Kamato Hongo, now the world's oldest living person, according to Guinness World Records.

Hongo inherited the title March 18 after the death of the previous record holder, Maud Farris-Luse of Coldwater, Mich., Guinness said on its website. Farris-Luse was 115 years and 56 days old.

Hongo, born Sept. 16, 1887, was raised on a farm and counts drinking sake among her favorite things. She has seven children, more than 20 grandchildren, and outlived her eldest daughter, who was in her 90s when she died two years ago, according to Hongo's 45-year-old grandson Tsuyoshi Kurauchi.

She lives in a nursing home in Kagoshima on the island of Kyushu, which also boasts the world's oldest living man.

Retired silkworm farmer Yukichi Chuganji turned 113 on March 23. About 24 relatives gathered to celebrate his birthday, said 72-year-old daughter Kyoko, with whom he lives in the city of Ogori.

There are an estimated 15,000 Japanese over the age of 100, and women make up about 80 percent of the total. Japan has the world's longest average life expectancy at 79.9, according to government figures. ■

Report Finds Post 9-11 Spike in Hate Crimes Against APAs

Nearly 250 bias-motivated incidents targeting Asian Pacific Americans, including two murders, were documented in the three months following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, according to a preliminary report released recently by the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC) in Washington, D.C.

The 250 documented incidents within a three-month span is in sharp contrast to the approximately 400-500 reports NAPALC has been receiving on an annual basis.

The report's executive summary found that:

- bias-motivated incidents included a high degree of physical violence with approximately one in five cases involving incidents where the victims suffered bodily injury from physical assaults;

- an alarming number of post 9-11 incidents against APAs occurred in schools and in the workplace;

- unlike previous years in which most bias-motivated incidents involved male victims and perpetrators, the post 9-11 backlash victims and perpetrators include women and men, small business owners, students, mothers and children;

- the attacks occurred throughout the country, with a large majority of incidents involving South Asian Americans, and more particularly, Sikh Americans;

- the media has not done enough to cover the backlash story;

- statements denouncing the backlash incidents made by public officials following the terrorist attacks were undercut by contrary government action;

- various APA communities have responded and reached out to both the victims of the terrorist attacks and the victims of backlash since 9-11.

The findings by the preliminary post 9-11 report was in contrast to the "2000 Audit of Violence Against Asian Pacific Americans,"

released at the same time by NAPALC.

In the 2000 audit, NAPALC found that anti-APA incidents had decreased 19 percent overall, although certain states — Connecticut, Michigan, Nevada and Wyoming — all experienced more than a 50 percent increase.

And despite the overall decrease, there were six reported bias-motivated murders in 2000, compared to four such deaths in 1999. Among the other highlights of the 2000 report were the growing seriousness of on-campus hate crimes and the difficulties in obtaining data from law enforcement agencies.

Recommendations listed in the post-9-11 report included:

- President Bush and Congress should create programs providing incentives to ensure that law enforcement comply with the Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990 and collect accurate and fully detailed data on hate violence;

- employers and schools must provide diversity training and implement formal policies regarding harassment;

- the media should seek to improve its reporting of race, national origin and religion, and the hate crimes that have occurred since Sept. 11, by digging deeper into the issues;

- public officials and community and religious leaders, must speak out and condemn any and all bias-motivated incidents to send a message that targeting victims based on their actual or perceived race, ethnicity, immigrant status, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability will not be tolerated;

- as leader of the nation's chief civil rights enforcement agency, the attorney general must work to repeal policies and initiatives that discriminate based on race, religion and national origin;

- all sectors of government and law enforcement should provide

diversity and sensitivity training to their employees, as well as training for law enforcement that focuses on how to recognize, document and report hate crimes. ■

APAs in the News Awards, Appointments, Announcements

Rear Admiral Kenneth P. Moritsugu, M.D., M.P.H., has been named Acting Surgeon General with the departure of Surgeon General Dr. Davidatcher in February. Moritsugu was appointed the deputy surgeon general by Satcher on Oct. 1, 1998. He served as assistant surgeon general beginning with Surgeon General C. Everett Koop in 1988.

Judge Raymond Uno was recently awarded a certificate of appreciation from the Utah Judicial Council for his service as an active senior judge from July 1993 to January 2002. He retired as an active judge in December 1990 and was called to serve as an active senior judge in

1993. Uno was the cofounder and first president of the Utah Minority Bar Association (UMBA) in 1998

received the Utah State Bar Association Advancement of Minorities in the Law award, which the Utah State Bar renamed as the Raymond Uno Advancement of Minorities in the Law award in his honor.

He is currently the chair of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Reunion VIII to be held in Salt Lake City Aug. 30-Sept. 2. ■

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SCHOLAR

(Continued from page 1)

Whenever Kadoike or his sister complained about their food, his father would remind them that in New Guinea he had to subsist on grass, rats, lizards, and anything remotely edible. After his father's death, Kadoike continued his interest in WWII through books.

Kadoike was introduced to the plight of the Nisei during the 1980s when he read Toyoko Yamazaki's novel, "Futatsu no Sokoku" (Two Homelands), which was later made into a TV series called "Sanga Moyu."

At the same time, Kadoike became friends with the handful of JAs and Japanese Latin Americans working for his company. But it wasn't until 1994, when he read Tachibana's book, that he felt a calling to change his career. He searched out Tachibana but was disappointed to discover that Tachibana had passed away.

A new lead appeared when Kadoike read Iwao Peter Sano's book, "1,000 Days in Siberia," which had been published in English in 1997 and translated into Japanese in 1999.

The book is Sano's autobiography as a Nisei youth sent to Japan in 1939 and drafted into the Japanese Army in 1945. Sano ended up in Manchuria where his unit was captured by the Russians just as WWII was ending and spent nearly three years as a prisoner of war. Meanwhile in America, Sano's father had been incarcerated at the Department of Justice camp at Bismarck, N.D. and the rest of his family sent to Poston. Sano returned to the United States in 1952.

Kadoike, who has read extensively on JA history, believes Tachibana's and Sano's books are the only two publications in Japanese that recount the experiences of a Nisei in the Japanese military.

Through the publisher, Kadoike made contact with Sano, 78, currently a Palo Alto, Calif., resident who in turn contacted other Nisei Japanese military veterans.

Sano, when questioned whether it was difficult to get these Nisei men to be interviewed, said four of the five in Northern California accepted and the one man who declined had probably done so more out of financial motives rather than a reluctance to share his past.

In Los Angeles, Kadoike met with Frank Hironobu Hirata, 76. Hirata was born in Spokane, Wash., but was sent to Japan to receive an education at the age of 10. Hirata had a difficult time adjusting to Japanese life, and even into his middle school years one teacher in particular continually taunted Hirata in front of the classroom, branding him a *kokuzoku* or national enemy. Hirata was drafted into the Japanese Army on Jan. 4, 1945, after Japan lowered the draft age from 20 to 19 and loosened physical requirements.

Hirata unsuccessfully tried to get another Southern California Nisei to meet with Kadoike. "This Nisei living in the same community that I once lived said, 'I haven't told anybody of my service in the Japanese military. Not even my own grown-up kids know of my service in Japan.' I don't know why he never talked about it to his family, but it is his own business, and I wish to respect his privacy,"

said Hirata.

In terms of whether Sano or Hirata had ever been questioned about their loyalties, Sano said, "So far, no." In fact, after the publication of his book, Sano said, "The opportunities to meet and hear from a variety of people have been a most unanticipated outcome and reward."

However, Sano added that: "I think it is important to know why Nisei and even some Sansei went to Japan prior to World War II. Some did so to seek a better life because of the bad economic situation here, compounded by racial prejudice. Some went for the reasons of parental and cultural influence, while others went because of family responsibilities. The list could go on and on. ... When some of these Nisei received the order that they report for military service, they went.

"After the surrender, some, if not all, who were in the Japanese military were questioned by the U.S. authorities when they went to consult their citizenship status. They were asked questions such as 'Did you protest when you were called into service?' and 'Did you try to escape?' A friend replied, 'I wouldn't be alive and standing here if I took any such actions at that time!' With that, he withdrew his papers and left the office never to do anything further to regain his citizenship. He said that if he had protested or tried to escape, he would have been a loyal American but a dumb dead Jap."

Hirata said, "I have never been questioned about my loyalty to the U.S., nor have I overheard of anyone questioning my loyalty. To me, I was always loyal to the U.S., except during the wartime when

under the circumstances I was loyal to Japan. Only those who had lived in Japan during the war can understand what is meant by this statement.

"I consider those accusing fellow Nisei as disloyal 'no no boys' or resisters extremely narrow minded people who don't know what reconciliation means. Just as we cannot permanently grieve over the death of our kin, we have to put past things in perspective, face the reality of today, and live in hope and trust in God."

Nisei who have served in the Japanese military or those who know of one are asked to contact Hiroshi Kadoike at Nagoya City University, Master of Multicultural Communications, 565-44 Sasagane Kikkou, Moriyama-ku, Nagoya 463-0004 Japan; or call 011-81-052-736-1101; or fax 011-81-052-736-1102; or email kado@gctv.ne.jp.

LABS

(Continued from page 1)

nities for minority employees.

Lee, a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in Taiwan, was arrested in 1999 and indicted on 59 felony counts alleging he transferred nuclear weapons information to portable computer tapes. The nuclear scientist denied passing secrets and was never charged with espionage.

The government's case ultimately fell apart, and after nine months in solitary confinement, Lee pleaded guilty to a single count of downloading sensitive material and was freed. The judge in the case apologized to Lee.

Lee's supporters claimed he was a victim of racial profiling. The boycott was endorsed by Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education and the Association of Asian American Studies.

After the boycott took effect, a number of Asians left the labs and officials reported fewer applications from Asian graduate students. But administrators said it was possible that outside factors, such as the dot-com boom, played a role.

Wang said that lab officials have been looking into the treatment of AA employees and have made some promotions in recent months.

At Los Alamos, there are three AAs in top management positions now, compared with none five years ago. ■

BAINBRIDGE

(Continued from page 1)

War Relocation Center in southern Idaho. After more than three years in the camps, they returned home. Only half the Bainbridge internees returned to the island.

"The issue we need to remind people of is that we were American citizens, most of us were, and we were deprived of our rights just because of racial identification," said Junkoh Harui, 69, whose family was one of three from Bainbridge who fled to Moses Lake.

"This is exactly what's happening with the Muslims."

Gov. Gary Locke and various members of the Japanese American community attended the ceremony, which included performances by the Seattle Kokon Taiko drum group. ■

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JACL Credit Union Building Named After Shigeki "Shake" Ushio

Honoring Shigeki "Shake" Ushio for his 53 years of service on the JACL Credit Union's board, the Credit Union board members recently voted to rename their building in Salt Lake City after him.



Ushio recently retired from the board after 53 years of continuous service except for a brief seven-year period when he and his wife Momoko served in Japan with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Ushio was board chairman of the Credit Union for 42 years.

Ushio was instrumental in establishing the credit union during World War II. At the time, financial institutions were ordered to severely limit access to bank accounts by persons of Japanese ancestry. Thus, the credit union emerged to assist internees to obtain credit or to place their funds in a savings account.

Today, the credit union serves over 4,500 members and has assets of over \$21 million.

The National JACL Credit Union held its annual meeting on March 16 at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City, marking 58 years of financial service to JACL members.

The current board includes: Dean Hirabayashi, chairman; Floyd Mori, also JACL national president; Rob Sonoda, and Charlie Brown. ■

Medal of Honor Recipient Ted Tanouye Exhibit Unveiled at Torrance Historical Society Museum

Medal of Honor posthumous recipient Tech. Sgt. Ted Tanouye was honored recently by the city of Torrance with a permanent display at the Torrance Historical Society Museum for his service as a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in World War II.

Tanouye was a member of Company K of the 442nd RCT and the only person from Torrance ever awarded the Medal of Honor. Gary Kuwahara, president of the Torrance Unified School District Board of Education said Tanouye "brings back to us the true meaning of honor, valor, sacrifice...."

Tanouye's younger brother, Isao, surrounded by representatives from the Torrance City Council, Torrance Unified School District Administration and Board of Education, Go for Broke Educational Foundation veterans and staff, family and friends, unveiled the framed display that included photographs of his brother's Medal of Honor and Presidential Citation.



Pictured (l-r) are Larson, Kuwahara, Tanouye's brother Isao Tanouye, Min Sueda, Nakano and Standifer.

George Larson and Jim Standifer of the Torrance High School Alumni Association coordinated the display and ceremony. The alumni association has established a memorial and scholarship fund honoring Tanouye, who graduated in 1938.

California Assemblymember George Nakano was instrumental in

also securing approval to rename the National Guard Armory in Torrance for Tanouye. He is currently coordinating a dedication ceremony in May with the Army and the alumni association.

The Torrance Historical Society Museum is located at 1345 Post Ave. in downtown Torrance. ■

2002 Min Yasui Oratorical Competition to be Held June 28 in Las Vegas

The JACL will present the 2002 Min Yasui Oratorical Competition at the 37th Biennial National JACL Convention in Las Vegas on June 28 at the Riviera Hotel and Casino.

This year's contestants from eight regional districts will address the question, "With the changing dynamics of the Japanese American community, what is JACL's role in the future?"

The competition is named in honor of Min Yasui, who hoped to continue to inspire young adults to discuss current events affecting the Asian Pacific American community.

Yasui was famous for being one of three Nisei to challenge the wartime incarceration of Japanese Americans. During World War II, Yasui challenged the constitutionality of the curfew law imposed on JAs and subsequently was found guilty of violating the curfew,



YASUI

served nine months in prison and nearly lost his citizenship.

After the war, Yasui practiced law as a civil rights attorney in the Portland area. He was honored as the JACL's Japanese American of the Biennium in 1952. In 1979 he was appointed chair of the JACL Committee on Redress and traveled the country advocating for redress for JAs who were interned during WWII.

This year's first-place winner will receive a notebook computer and a plaque of achievement from national JACL. The second-place winner will receive a desktop computer. All contestants will receive awards of recognition.

The competition will take place on June 28 at 3 p.m. in the Grande "E" Ballroom at the Riviera. ■

Manzanar Pilgrimage to Honor Heart Mountain and Rohwer Camps

The 33rd annual Manzanar Pilgrimage will take place on April 27 and will honor the internees of the Heart Mountain and Rohwer World War II relocation camps, in addition to commemorating the 60th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066.

A celebration commemorating the groundbreaking of the Interpretive Center at Manzanar National Historic Site will also take place prior to the pilgrimage on April 26.

The Heart Mountain Relocation Center opened in August of 1942 and closed on Nov. 10, 1945. The first evacuees came from California, Oregon and Washington, with a population of 10,767 making it the third largest wartime city in Wyoming. The center was located on the terraces of the Shoshone River southwest of Cody, at an elevation of about 4,000 ft.

Rohwer Relocation Center in Delta County, Ark., was about 110 miles southeast of Little Rock. Five miles from the Mississippi River at an elevation of 110 ft., the center was swampy, with canals, canyons and creeks. Construction of the center began on July 1, 1942, and it was opened for use in September 1942. The maximum population, reached in November 1942, was 8,475.

The Manzanar camp, located six miles south of Independence, Calif., was the largest wartime city between Los Angeles and Reno. After the war, all but three of the camp's 800 buildings were razed or relocated. The National Park Service purchased the high school auditorium to be restored for use as an interpretive center.

Pilgrimage participants are reminded to bring their own lunches and snacks, as there are no facilities

at Manzanar to purchase food. For those staying overnight, a "Manzanar After Dark" program will be held at the American Legion Hall in Independence. It will feature group discussions, poetry reading and music. The pilgrimage is free and open to the public, and registration is not required.

A chartered bus will leave from Little Tokyo in Los Angeles at 7 a.m. for the one-day pilgrimage trip. To reserve a seat on the bus, mail the non-refundable prepaid fee of \$20 to the Manzanar Committee, P.O. Box 9489, Marina del Rey, CA 90295. No phone reservations will be accepted.

For information about the pilgrimage or the groundbreaking celebration, contact the Manzanar Committee at www.manzanarcommittee.org, phone 323/662-5102, or e-mail: sueke@msn.com. ■

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PACKAGE REGISTRATION (includes all Individual Events)

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Regular Package	\$200	\$250
Regular + Youth Luncheon	\$225	\$275
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(Includes Regular Package + Youth Luncheon)

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (included in package registration)

All Meetings	\$40	\$45
Workshops	\$20	\$25
Welcome Mixer	\$50	\$60
Awards Luncheon	\$45	\$55
Sayonara Banquet	\$75	\$85

SPECIAL EVENTS

Youth Luncheon	\$25	\$35
Salute to WWII Leaders Dinner	\$75	\$85
Slot Tournament	\$30	\$35

Convention Package	\$
Individual Events	\$
Special Events	\$
TOTAL	\$

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No registration will be processed without accompanying payment. This form is for convention registration only and NOT for hotel reservations. If you are registering more than one person, please use additional forms or copies.

2002 JACL National Convention - Las Vegas, June 25-30

- Workshop Topics**
8:30 a.m. Session
 APA Leadership
 Social Security Administration
 Asian Pacific Entrepreneurs (Youth)
 Media Advocacy
 Care Giving - AARP
 API Women's Health Issues
 Community Strategies in Addressing Hate Crimes
 Planned Giving
10:15 Session
 APA Leadership
 Social Security Administration
 Easy Japanese Cooking (Youth)
 Media Advocacy
 Health and Wellness - AARP
 Successful Bicultural Marriage/Relationships
 Community Strategies in Addressing Hate Crimes
 U.S.-Japan Relations

When registering please specify which workshops you are attending.

Registration Information
 Register before April 30, 2002, to take advantage of reduced registration fees and discounts on special events. Please indicate your choice of package and/or individual and special events. Amounts listed are per person.

Package Registration
 The Regular Convention Package admits registered badge holders to all National Council business sessions, workshops, exhibits, oratorical competition, Welcome Mixer, Awards Luncheon and Sayonara Banquet. The Regular and Youth Luncheon Package is the Regular Package plus the Youth Luncheon. The Youth package is the same as the above, discounted for Youth members.

Individual Event Registration
 Registration is available for those interested in attending only specific convention events. A registration fee of \$20 (plus at the door, space permitting) is required for admission to exhibits, business sessions or workshops on a per-day basis. Badges must be worn.

Cancellation Policy
 Written cancellation requests received by May 31 will be refunded in full. Cancellations received after that date will be

denied and residual amount will become a charitable contribution to JACL. There will be no partial refunds if a registrant does not attend all functions.

Hotel Registration
 A block of rooms at a special rate has been set aside at the Riviera for JACL members. Contact the Riviera Hotel directly and be sure to mention that you are attending the JACL National Convention to get the special rate. Reservations must be made by May 31, 2002. There is limited availability, so book your rooms early. Convention room rates are:
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Local Transportation
 Coach USA is providing JACL with special rates. The following services are available (shuttles are 2 for 1):
 Shuttle bus to and from airport: \$6.75 round trip
 Shuttle bus and taxi cab service at standard rates are readily available at the airport.

For more information or to download the registration form visit www.jacl.org or contact:

Betty Atkins (702) 221-0414
 Las Vegas JACL (702) 382-4443

REMINDER:

Advertisements for the 2002 convention booklet are now being accepted. Deadline for ad submission is May 1, 2002. For more information, email Roy Suzuki at: hvjacl@juno.com.

Minidoka Photos on Display

In conjunction with the 60th anniversary of the World War II internment, an exhibition of contemporary black-and-white photographs associated with Idaho's Minidoka internment camp by Teresa Tamura will be shown at the Jerome (Idaho) Library beginning in early April.

Tamura's exhibition, "Remnants: The Minidoka Internment," is part of a statewide commemoration of the internment.

Her photographs comprise an eclectic collection of subjects. Images of small chairs made of scrap lumber, metal beds in one of the camp's original barracks and overviews of the original camp site are included in Tamura's first set of photographs of Minidoka.

"I remember reading an Associated Press article last year when a portion of the original Minidoka relocation center was designated a national monument," said Tamura. "I'm a Sansei, or third generation, Japanese American. Though I was born and raised in Idaho, I'd never been to the Minidoka site."

The Minidoka designation inspired Tamura to research the camp. She discovered that very little has been published about Minidoka,

prompting her to photograph whatever she could of the site and its subjects at cost and money allowed.

Roger Shimomura, an internationally known artist and former Minidoka internee, was Tamura's first subject. Shimomura had created a series of lithographs based on life in the camp from the diary entries of his grandmother.

Tamura, who lives in Hailey, Idaho, grew up in the Boise area. She has worked for several daily newspapers, including the *Times-News* in Twin Falls, the *Morning Call* in Allentown, Pa., the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Seattle Times*.

Tamura currently teaches black-and-white photography at the Community School in Sun Valley.

"Remnants: The Minidoka Internment" is funded in part by the Idaho Commission on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. Tamura plans to seek additional funding to continue her documentation of Minidoka. Her goal is to publish a book about the camp and the people who lived through the period.

For information on the 60th Commemoration of the Camps, call Maya Hata Lemmon at 208/735-0936 or e-mail her at mayahl@earthlink.net. ■

Little Tokyo Building Restored

A celebration to mark the restoration of the Far East Building, a historic landmark in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo, took place on March 14. Among the attendees were L.A. Mayor Jim Hahn, Councilwoman Jan Perry and Democratic nominee for California state controller Steve Westly.

The rehabilitation of the Far East Building will be undertaken by the Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation. The building, constructed in 1909, was closed after it suffered severe structural damage during the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

Before its closure, the building housed a hotel (the Queens), a storefront (Anzen Kanamonoten) and the Far East Café, which had a loyal following among Japanese Americans and local politicians.

Look Mar Jung opened the Far East Café in 1935. Because it was owned by a Chinese family, the Far East was able to remain open during World War II. After the war, the Mar family often extended living space and meals on credit to penniless JAs returning from the camps.

The eatery with its trademark wood-paneled booths also served as a backdrop for several Hollywood movies, including "Farewell, My Lovely," "Chinatown," "Come See the Paradise" and "Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story."

The Mar family donated the building to the LTSC CDC, which plans to preserve the building. The restaurant space will be turned into a new eatery, the hotel into affordable housing and the storefront into the Diskovery Community Computer Learning Center, which will provide nonprofit job training and community computer access.

Dr. Andrew Chong, a grandson of one of the owners, said the decision to give up the building was a difficult one. "But once we made the decision, we knew it was the best choice for all of us," he said. Chong, now an optometrist, once worked as a busboy and waiter at the Far East.

Sue Mar, Chong's cousin and widow of Look Mar's grandson Do Mar, recalled fond memories of helping out with the family business, particularly during Nisei Week festivities. ■

'Uncommon Courage' Receives Award

KVIE Channel 6, the Central California Valley's public television station, announced that "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties" is the recipient of The Radio-Television News Directors Association Region Two (California, Guam, Hawaii and Nevada) Edward R. Murrow Award.

"Uncommon Courage," a documentary by media producer Gayle Yamada, was recognized in the category of "News Documentary."

"Nearly 60 years have passed since thousands of young Japanese American soldiers became heroes. To be able to bring the little-known story of the Military Intelligence Service to the American public is an honor, and it is a tribute to their story that the telling of it is recognized by the Edward R. Murrow Award," said Yamada.

"Uncommon Courage" explores the personal histories of the Nisei who served in the U.S. Army's MIS as Japanese language specialists in the Pacific during World War II and during the Occupation. It examines the motives and actions of these soldiers who defended their country while many of their families and friends were incarcerated in camps.

"Uncommon Courage" will air on PBS in May. This is the first time the story of the MIS is being broadcast on national television.

The cost of stepping up this program to a national broadcast is \$50,000 for editing, promotion and publicity. Contributions can be made to "Uncommon Courage"/NAATA, c/o Don Young, 346 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. ■

Florin JAACL Holds 'Time of Remembrance'

Nearly 300 people attended Florin JAACL's 20th annual Time of Remembrance program on March 9 in commemoration of the internment and Sept. 11.

Keynote speaker John Tateishi, JAACL executive director, pointed out that the successful redress movement greatly shaped the consciousness of America today, evident in recent news coverage of the wrongful targeting of people of Arab, Muslim and Sikh ancestry and others mistaken for terrorists.

A candle-lighting ceremony honored local civil rights efforts in both the

Japanese American and Arab, Muslim and Sikh American communities. Art Shibayama, a Japanese Latin American former internee, lit the final candle.

The Florin JAACL also presented outstanding citizen awards to U.S. Marshall Jerry Enomoto, a long-time Asian American civil rights leader in Sacramento; Dr. Sonny Chong, chair of the CAPITAL coalition; and Georgiana White, California State University, Sacramento, coordinator of the Japanese American Archival Collection. ■

2002 Marin Chapter Board Installed



Kenji Treanor (pictured right) was recently installed as the new president of the Marin chapter at a dinner held at the North Sea Village restaurant in Sausalito, Calif. Ebrahim Nana (middle), executive board member of the Islamic Center of Mill Valley, was the guest speaker. The new 2002 Marin JAACL board members also include: Lewis Kawahara, first vice president; Roland Minami, second vice president; Mas Fujii, corresponding secretary; Steven Gotanda (left), recording secretary; Gene Oishi, treasurer; Jim Ueda, membership; Bob Koshiyama, newsletter; and members-at-large: Carole Hayashino, Toyoko Doi, Don Nakahata, Pat Orr and Bob Nii.

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In Sports & Entertainment

2002 World Figure Skating Championships

Stories By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Kwan Settles for Second Behind Russia's Slutskaya; Ina and Zimmerman Take Bronze in Pairs

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 2 Stanford Upset by Colorado

NAGANO, Japan—Four-time world champion **Michelle Kwan** of Torrance, Calif., was defeated by Russian rival **Irina Slutskaya** at the World Figure Skating Championships March 23.

Slutskaya captured her first world title, as Kwan took silver and Fumie Suguri of Japan took bronze.

Slutskaya has finished ahead of Kwan in eight of their last 10 events since January 2000.

The Russian's only two losses to Kwan were at the 2000 and 2001 world championships, where she finished second to the American both times.

Kwan's silver was her seventh consecutive medal at the worlds. She has won four times and was silver medalist in 1997, 1999 and 2002.

"Each medal was a different experience and a new one," Kwan said.

Slutskaya held on to the lead after the short program by winning the

free skate. Both Slutskaya and Kwan did six triple jumps.

Kwan was in third place after the short program but needed to win the free skate and have someone else beat Slutskaya to earn her third straight title.

Kwan's routine to "Scheherazade" featured six triples, including two triple-double combinations like Slutskaya. But her landings were less secure than Slutskaya's and the technical marks reflected it. Kwan earned five 5.7s and four 5.8s, while Slutskaya had one 5.9, seven 5.8s and one 5.7.

Three-time Japanese national champion Suguri, 21, was nearly flawless in her short program, then slipped to Kwan in the free skate. American Sasha Cohen took fourth. Olympic gold medalist Sarah Hughes did not compete in the event.

U.S. Olympians **Kyoko Ina** and **John Zimmerman** won the bronze

medal in pairs competition March 20 at the world championships.

The medal for Ina was her first in eight appearances at the worlds.

Ina, who was born in Tokyo in 1972, moved to New York City when she was 6 months old. But she carries on a family tradition in sports that spans three generations.

Her mother, Yoshiko, was a Japanese national champion swimmer who competed in the Asian Games. Her grandfather, Katsuo Okazaki, was a long-distance runner at the 1924 Summer Olympics in Paris. Grandmother Shimako Maeda played tennis at Wimbledon in the 1940s.

"We've always been taught to strive to be the best you can at whatever you do, and that's definitely the motto of the family," Ina said.

She took an interest in figure skating at age 4 after seeing the skaters at Rockefeller Center during Christmas.

At 14, Ina's parents decided she

should compete for Japan at the junior level and she quickly became a frequent flyer, jetting between New York and Tokyo. In Japan, however, she was an outsider and had problems communicating, and with the strict Japanese customs.

Before the 1988 national championships, Ina told her parents she'd had enough, and since then has always skated for the United States. "I just got really tired and decided skating wasn't worth all the traveling," said Ina, who now lives in Greenwich, Conn.

She partnered with Jason Dungen from 1991-98 to claim two U.S. championships, and the pair finished fourth at the 1998 Nagano Olympics. She began skating with Zimmerman after Nagano.

The pair finished fifth in the controversial pairs competition at last month's Salt Lake City Games. ■

BOISE, Idaho—The Stanford women ended their quest for an NCAA title March 23 as the Cardinal fell to third-seeded Colorado 62-59 in a West Regional semifinal.

Stanford (32-3) had a chance to force overtime with 4.2 seconds left. The ball went to 6-foot-2 Nicole Powell on the left wing, but she passed to **Lindsey Yamasaki** at the top of the key. Her 3-point attempt at the horn bounced off the backboard.

"We work every day on that play in practice," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. "We look for Nicole to take the 3. I thought Nicole had the look, but then it went to Lindsey."

Asked if she planned to take the shot, Yamasaki said, "No. The plan wasn't for me to take the last shot."

Yamasaki capped off her college career with 14 points, while Powell added 13 points, eight rebounds and six assists. Bethany Doniphon scored 13.

Meanwhile, Colorado's **Randi Wirt** swished two free throws with eight seconds remaining and **Tera Bjorkland** scored 10 of her 17 points in the second half for the Buffaloes.

This was Stanford's 15th consecutive tournament. They advanced to the Final Four six times and won NCAA Championships in 1990 and 1992. They took the conference title this season with a perfect 18-0 record but lost in the Pac-10 tournament to Arizona State. Yamasaki missed the tournament after she had an emergency appendectomy. ■

Black Actors Reigned at Oscars, but What About Other Minorities?

LOS ANGELES—Denzel Washington and Halle Berry made history with their Academy Award wins March 24, but minority groups say diversity must extend beyond Hollywood's glamour night and include other groups such as Asian Americans, Hispanics and American Indians.

"Historic for me will be when all people of color are represented and are capable of garnering these awards," said **Sonny Skyhawk**, president of advocacy group American Indians in Film.

Skyhawk, an actor who's appeared in "Young Guns II" and "Geronimo: An American Legend," joined other show-business minority leaders March 25 in saying the Oscars and the entertainment industry in general were overdue for broader racial representation.

Some past minority Oscar winners include Japanese-born **Miyoshi Umeki** for her supporting role in 1957's "Sayonara" and Cambodian native **Haing S. Ngor** in 1984's "The Killing Fields." American Indian actor **Graham Greene** was nominated for his supporting role in 1990's "Dances With Wolves."

Chris Wang, an agent with Toronto-based Asian Action Talents management company, said he wants more producers to keep an open mind about casting AAs in roles they might otherwise give to whites.

"It's going to take a long time for Asian actors to get those roles. It's not going to change overnight," he said. "But we've seen a lot of changes, and it's getting a lot better for good performers in general."

Frieda Lee Mock was the only AA up for an award at this year's Oscars for her documentary short subject film, "Sing," which lost to Sarah Kermochan and Lynn Appelle's "Tooth."

The Academy Awards have honored Hispanics several times, with Mexican-born **Anthony Quinn** winning two supporting actor prizes in the 1950s for "Viva Zapata!" and "Lust for Life."

Last year, Puerto Rican **Benicio Del Toro** took home the supporting actor trophy for "Traffic," and **Rita Moreno**, also Puerto Rican, received the supporting actress award in 1962 for "West Side Story."

Jennifer Connelly claimed the supporting actress award for playing **Alicia Nash**, the wife of schizophrenic mathematician **John Nash** in best-picture winner "A Beautiful Mind." However, the real woman was born in El Salvador, while Connelly was not.

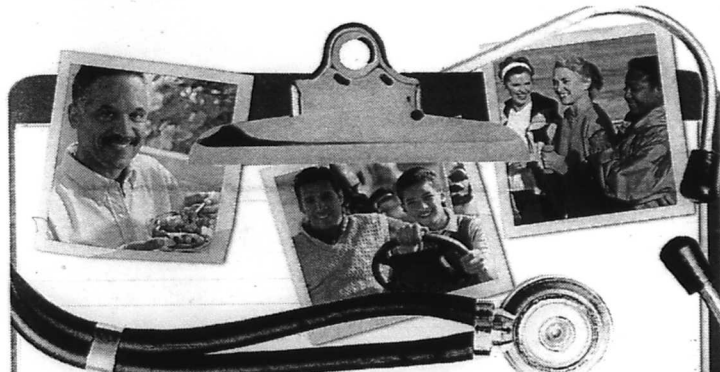
Washington, who received a supporting actor for 1989's "Glory," won this year's Oscar for playing a corrupt cop in "Training Day," becoming the first black to be named best actor since **Sidney Poitier** in 1963's "Lilies of the Field." Now that a trail has been blazed, Washington said, other minority actors must struggle for more significant roles.

"I don't recall seeing any Asian Americans, women or men, being recognized and not too many Latin Americans," he said on NBC's "Today" show. "So there is still a lot of work (to be done)."

Berry's win for "Monster's Ball" made her the first black woman in history to claim the best actress prize.

"If this is a sign that Hollywood is finally ready to give opportunity and judge performance based on skill and not on skin color, then it is a good thing," said NAACP President **Kweisi Mfume**. "However, if this proves to be a momentary flash in a long history of neglect, then Hollywood has failed to learn the real meaning of equality."

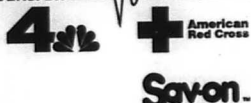
Added **Felix Sanchez**, president of the National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts, "This is a new dynamic. I think we are going to see more and more success stories for minorities. ... I hope this means (studios) are going to tap more writers with diverse stories and cast more actors that represent the true face of American diversity." ■



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East Wind

Bill Marutani

Us Against Them

IN THE AFTERMATH of the 9/11 outrages, our seething anger and frustration may entice us to subscribe to simple solutions. Macho-appealing slogans such as "shoot first, ask questions later," "those not with us are against us" or "us against them" can lure us into unquestioning support for every strategy or tactic devised for homeland security application.

FOR EXAMPLE, take the "us against them" formula. The "us" factor has control and determines who shall be doomed to the target group of "them." If a "them" interposes his/her American citizenship in challenging the legality of "us" actions, the latter may resort to tactics employed by authorities in 1942 against Americans of Japanese ancestry: create a bogus category called "non-Alien" for Nisei, lump them with their resident "Alien" parents (Issei) — ignoring that under the Alien Exclusion Act of 1924, the Issei were prevented from attaining U.S. citizenship — round up 115,000 Aliens and non-Aliens

and place them into barbed-wire camps.

Too obviously a transparent ploy? One would think so, but the U.S. Supreme Court apparently failed to see through it.

I SHARE the concern for vigilance at airport passenger checkpoints, entries to nuclear powerplants, etc., and like many of you, I too have experienced profiling and discrimination because of race. Among the most demeaning and calculated profilings occur at the border, be it Canadian or Mexican. I'm always buoyed up by the thought of returning to the good ole' U.S. of A., my homeland. As I near the border checkpoint, I see vehicles with license plates from many states being perfunctorily checked — more often than not with a friendly smile and an approving wave of the hand from the INS officer.

Now comes my turn.

THE INS OFFICER signals me to roll down my car window. I comply. In a curt tone of voice, he

demands to see ID papers. I hand him my driver's license, my Pennsylvania registration card and even toss in a veteran's membership card. (I had noticed that of the vehicles that preceded me, most all had been waved through. One vehicle, operated by a matronly blonde woman, barely slowed down at the checkpoint.) The INS officer slowly looked over the cards I had handed him. He followed with a barrage of questions: where was I born; where had I been; for what purpose; name of the person visited. (I must admit by then I was in a not-so-slow burn.) My cards were in order, the questions were answered — was I now free to enter my home country? The answer came with the next demand: spring the latch to the vehicle trunk. I could hear him rummaging among the luggage in the trunk, which was concluded by the trunk lid being slammed down so that my vehicle shuddered.

With a grunt, he waved me on.

TWO CORROSIVE PREMISES, antithetical to fundamental concepts of a democratic society, are operating in profiling activities. One is founded upon the premise that *all components of the targeted ethnic group are presumed guilty, unless proved otherwise*. Thus, during World War II, persons of Japanese ancestry, legal resident Aliens and "non-Aliens" alike, could be and were rounded up and confined. This is why I was stopped at the border and "put through the wringer."

The corollary is the reverse side of the first premise: *all others are presumed non-culpable, i.e. innocent, and are not subjected to selective screening*. Thus, that blonde woman was waved right on through that same border crossing.

That isn't the way "equal protection" of the law is supposed to work. ■



Kristine Minami, Wash. D.C. Rep

Just Call Me H-APA

Okay, I admit it — I'm H-APA. That's H-APA, not Hapa. Hapa is a Hawaiian word meaning "half." It is shortened from "hapa haole" which literally means "half foreigner" and generally means "half white." These words are native Hawaiian commonly used in Hawaii to describe people of multi-racial background.

Friends of mine who are native Hawaiian tell me that Hapa is an endearing term that is used as a means of inclusion to identify someone with Hawaiian blood. Implicit in the term is that one half is Hawaiian and by the way, the other half is white. Emphasis is on the Hawaiian half.

Others have seen the label in a less favorable light. According to the Hapa Issues Forum, headquartered in San Francisco, the term was once considered derogatory by some but now is simply a way to describe a person of partial Asian or Pacific Islander ancestry.

Perhaps, this idea of Hapa as a disparaging word comes from the perception that the term was used to make distinctions, to define how someone was different and therefore an outsider — thereby excluding them — rather than as a means to identify commonalities for inclusion. I guess how you feel about being called Hapa depends on your affinity with the native Hawaiian culture and how the word is used.

Having grown up on the East Coast and never having been to Hawaii, I feel no cultural affinity for the word Hapa. And while I don't identify with the word, I

am often identified by it. Even on the East Coast, the term Hapa is widely understood to describe someone with a mixed racial background, particularly someone of partial Asian descent. Because I have been called Hapa for years and years, I have come to accept that it is the easiest and most convenient way of communicating my bi-racial identity.

But I have to say that I have never truly felt comfortable with being called Hapa. If someone calls me Hapa, that's fine. I am not insulted; I just don't feel it describes my identity. Hapa is a Hawaiian word, and I am not Hawaiian. Although colloquial usage of Hapa has evolved such that it now generally means someone who has any Asian blood (not just Hawaiian), my identity is that of a bi-racial Yonsei who grew up on the East Coast.

So, how to come to terms with the term? I've decided that, much like other communities who have embraced words that have been used as racial labels — both insultingly and affectionately — I want to embrace the word Hapa so that I own it, so that it describes what I believe to be my identity.

So okay, let me coin a new phrase and state for the record that I am H-APA. That's H-APA: Half-Asian Pacific American. I embrace being called H-APA because I think it more accurately reflects my cultural identity — multi-racial, of Asian ancestry, living on the mainland. But, if you're from Hawaii, you can also call me Hapa. ■



By the Board

Ryan Chin, V.P. Public Affairs

The Main Attraction

As the days near the JA CL convention in Las Vegas, I eagerly await the privilege of hearing keynote Morris Dees speak during the Sayonara Banquet. Many of you may not have heard of Mr. Dees; after all, he is not Japanese American, a politician or even a government employee — groups that receive the most press in the JA vernaculars. Therefore, as one of Dees' greatest admirers I want to familiarize you with this civil rights hero.

During our national board meeting last August, we were asked for suggestions on potential keynoters for the banquet. This forced me to contemplate what the JA CL is about and who best exemplifies what it stands for. As a grassroots civil rights organization, one name immediately popped into my head: Morris Dees.

Dees is the co-founder and head of the Montgomery, Ala.-based Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), one of the most powerful civil rights organizations in the United States, whose primary focus is to stop hate crimes through numerous methods such as education, hate crime monitoring (SPLC's Klanwatch and Militia Task Force monitor over 800 hate groups), and the prosecution of hate crime offenders.

One of my first actions as the vice president of public affairs was to get a resolution passed that commended Dees for winning a case against the Aryan Nation, a white supremacist group headquartered in Idaho, in September of 2000. Dees served as the attorney for the Keenan family, who had been victimized by the Aryan Nation. Dees won over \$6 million in damages for the family. The amount awarded surpassed the cash owned by the group, therefore Dees was able to attain the rights of the Aryan Nation base.

This was not by coincidence, as the primary objective for Dees is to bankrupt the largest white supremacist organizations. Dees

has won large settlements against numerous hate groups. In 1981, he sued the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (of Texas) for engaging in scare tactics against Vietnamese immigrants. In 1987, he won a \$7 million suit against the United Klans of America for lynching a 19-year-old African American. In 1990, the White Aryan Resistance was forced to pay \$12.5 million for murdering an Ethiopian student. In 1998, Dees won \$38 million, the largest judgment ever against a hate group, from the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (South Carolina).

Perhaps what strikes me the most about Dees is his unsurpassed character. Raised on a farm in Alabama, Dees is the grandson of a Ku Klux Klan member. He made \$1 million by the age of 30 (1966) by starting a mail-order book business in law school, but today, he needs bodyguards as he constantly receives death threats. These are not unsubstantiated threats, as a court found that members of the White Patriots Party of North Carolina, a hate group that Dees disbanded in 1984 after successfully suing them, plotted to assassinate the civil rights champion and bomb the SPLC. At the age of 64, Dees continues to be vigilant. He also recently published a book on hate organizations. Says Dees, "Don't tell me hate groups are less serious today. Don't tell me they are paper tigers."

We are extremely blessed to have Dees as our keynote. He no longer does public speaking engagements but he has made a special exception for this one-time appearance as he would like the chance to educate the Asian Pacific American community.

For information on SPLC, visit www.splc.org. If you have not registered for the convention, do so today so you can hear this great leader. For me, it is a tiny gesture of paying homage to a man who has sacrificed his life for the well-being of people like myself. ■



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COMMENTARY

Who Are the Resisters of Conscience?

By SUS SATOW

I felt compelled to respond to the recent P.C. commentary (March 1, 2002) by JACL Resisters Ceremony Committee Co-chairs Andy Noguchi and Alan Teruya on the upcoming May 11 ceremony honoring and apologizing to the Japanese American draft resisters of World War II, since many of the passages in the commentary appeared misleading or not telling the whole story.

The resisters' supporters in today's writing convey the resisters' image in camp as one of benign innocence or principled in their action to "do the right thing." They are called "Resisters of Conscience," "Principled Americans," "Patriotic Americans." With the passage of time, forgotten by today's generation is how some Resisters intimidated, threatened or harassed Nisei from camp as they volunteered or entered into military service. I was in Poston War Relocation Center, Camp II, some 59 years ago where riots and beatings of JACL leaders took place. What we veterans object to is this "now" generation, with no apprehension of the past, seeking to "honor" them for their action.

The claim is made that they answered "Yes-Yes" on the loyalty questionnaire. That is a farce because if they had originally done so, Selective Service would have called them up along with those who had volunteered to fill the ranks of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the MIS. What actually happened was that the resisters originally answered "No-No" on the

loyalty questionnaire. They were either shipped to Tule Lake camp or were waiting for eventual repatriation to Japan. But the option of being sent to a losing country was far from appealing. When given the opportunity to re-answer the loyalty questionnaire, they chose to respond "Yes-Yes," with the stipulation that they would serve willingly if their family members were released from the internment camps. That had to be a tactical move, as was obvious. We all know no internee was going to be released and returned to the sensitive West Coast at that time.

Those who continued to remain a "No-No" were repatriated to Japan. After the questionnaire issue was declared unconstitutional by the high court, many came back to America, subsequently serving with honor in the Korean War. Hats off to them.

The Fair Play Committee (FPC) of Heart Mountain took a defiant role with regard to the Selective Service drafting of JAs. But if one was to examine the leadership of the FPC, the organization becomes suspect.

The top leader who wrote the manifesto was removed from Heart Mountain and incarcerated at the Tule Lake segregation center. This would indicate he was a "No-No." The second man in command was a graduate of Meiji University. Since he had fluent command of the Japanese language, his assignment was to reach out to the Issei parents of the draft-age Nisei to discourage compliance with the Selective Service Act. Other leaders included kendo and judo experts. Sixty-three Heart Mountain FPC draft resisters

were tried, convicted and jailed. On Feb. 22-23, at the Veterans of Foreign Wars reunion in Las Vegas, the Posts gathered and reaffirmed its endorsement of the VFW's posture on the resisters issue. The latest to join our endeavor is the Korean War veterans based in Los Angeles. This now makes 18 Nisei veterans organizations with an estimated membership of 4,500, coalescing as one on this issue. The sacrifices of the JA soldier in World War II, the memories of our heroic fallen comrades in battle must not be forgotten. Protecting the integrity of our and future generations of JAs was high as we followed the leadership and credo of JACL of those days. Today, under another generation and another leadership, we find the JACL honoring and apologizing to those groups who, if we had followed, would have brought disaster to the JA people.

If we are in the mode of establishing recognition, is it possible for JACL to establish a "Day of Honor" in recognizing the 830 Nisei WWII Killed in Action, the 9,550 Wounded in Action, the 20 Medal of Honor recipients, and indeed give recognition to the Korean and Vietnam War veterans as well?

If apologies are in order, would it also be possible to gain an apology from the Resisters of Conscience who so viciously attacked the JACL leaders who took part in the 1942 Thanksgiving Conference in Salt Lake City?

If we had followed the leadership and direction of the resisters, as an ethnic group, we would have a legacy which we would not be proud of today. ■

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Please call for booking of any unescorted individual tours or for a detailed itinerary. Travel meetings are held on third Sunday of each month beginning at 1:00 p.m. at Felicia Mahood Center 11388 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Los Angeles.

OBITUARY

Fred Okrand, Defender of Japanese Americans, Japanese Latin Americans, Passes at 84

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Fred Okrand, a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California who defended the rights of Japanese Americans and Japanese Latin Americans, died March 18. He was 84.

Okrand suffered from cancer and had a stroke in the past year. He died at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Woodland Hills, Calif., according to his son, Dean.

Okrand was the first legal director of the local ACLU. He argued at least four cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and several others before California's Supreme Court.

"He was the force behind some of the most significant constitutional challenges in our nation," said Ramona Ripston, executive director of the ACLU of Southern California.

"When I think of what it takes to have the courage to fight for issues because every fiber in your body knows it's right, I think of Fred Okrand," said Gary Mayeda, JACL vice president of membership. "In working with him since 1996 in the fight for Japanese Latin American redress, he has been there every step of the way. He never criticized members of the coalition but always took the time to hear all points of view and made sure everyone's views were heard. He was so very personal but never let differences in personalities get in the way."

Born in East Los Angeles, Okrand was working for a Los Angeles law firm when the United States forcibly incarcerated JAs into camps during World War II. He and Al Wirin, a partner in the firm, left to work for the ACLU to battle what Okrand called "discrimination purely based on race."

In 1942 he helped file federal

court petitions on behalf of a Santa Anita Assembly Center internee challenging the internment. But the JA internee withdrew from the case due to physical threats to his family. Okrand and Wirin were also harassed and called anti-American and unpatriotic for defending JAs.

After a four-year Army stint, Okrand and Wirin waged a successful court fight to help JAs who had renounced their citizenship regain

retired in 1984 but continued to work on cases as the ACLU chapter's emeritus legal director.

Okrand's last pro bono case was the *Mochizuki et al v. U.S.* class-action lawsuit filed in 1996 on behalf of 2,264 people of Japanese descent who were taken from their homes in Latin America and sent to U.S. Department of Justice camps to be used in hostage exchanges between the United States and Japan. The case was settled in 1998 when the government agreed to send the surviving JAs a formal apology and \$5,000 in reparations.

"He brought so much experience and passion to the case," said Robin Toma, executive director of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations. "I will miss him deeply."

"He was very strong on the issues, never waived," said Sue Kunitomi Embrey, Manzanar Committee chair. "His position was justice for everyone, and he especially did so much for the Japanese American community."

Richard Katsuda, co-chair of the Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress who had been working with Okrand on the current redress bill, said, "Fred was a great man and a great guy. It was a real honor and pleasure working with him. I will miss his great vitality and down to earth demeanor."

Besides his son Dean, Okrand is survived by his wife, Mimi, son Marc and two grandchildren. Donations in Okrand's memory may be sent to the ACLU Foundation of Southern California, 1616 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026.

A public memorial is scheduled for April 21; from 1 p.m. at the Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St. ■



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA

Caption: Fred Okrand (left), part of the pro bono legal team in *Mochizuki v. U.S.*, was honored in 2000 with NCRP's Fighting Spirit Award, along with Japanese Latin American plaintiffs Carmen Mochizuki (center) and Alice Nishimoto (right).

During the 1950s, Okrand successfully won cases on behalf of JAs who lost property as a result of the evacuation and incarceration. One of his more high-profile clients was Mike Masaoka. Okrand also won cases against laws that restricted JAs from making a living as fishermen.

"The Japanese American community as well as the American public owes Fred Okrand a debt of gratitude for his willingness, courage and commitment to take on the unpopular fight to protect the civil rights and civil liberties of an oppressed group — the Japanese American community, especially during times that our country was caught up in a swell of jingoism," said Trisha Murakawa, former PSWD governor.

Okrand was unpaid for his ACLU work until he became the paid legal director in 1972. Okrand

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Adachi, Kazuo, 78, Torrance, March 17; Los Angeles-born WWII veteran; survived by wife Masaye; son Michael K. and wife Diane; daughters Susan Closson and husband Bob, Arleen Adachi; 3 gc.; four sisters-in-law, three brothers-in-law.

Enomoto, Tomiko, 90, Laguna Woods, March 16; Los Angeles-

George and wife Betty; predeceased by wife Sumi, daughter Shirley Hinchiff, sister Taeko and brother Harry.

Kasai, Seiko M., 81, Salt Lake City, March 20; Idaho Falls, Idaho-born veteran; survived by wife Grace; adopted son Paul; adopted daughter Linda and husband Wes; brother Mitsugu.

Maeda, Hisako, 70, Sunnyvale, March 23; Tokyo-born; survived by husband Johnny Y.; son Dean; daughter Kumi Lingle; sister Aiko Honda.; brother Takeji Suzuki (Japan); gc.

Matsu, Sidney, 46, San Francisco, March 7; San Francisco-born; survived by wife Maria; children Mike and Mika; father Victor Matsushima; brother Kenny Matsushima.

Oda, Fumi, 100, Monrovia, March 4; San Francisco-born; survived by daughters Saehi Teddi, Haruko Maria; son Takahiko; sisters Ritsu Arison and husband Byron, Violette Nakashima; predeceased by husband Yasuhiko.

Saito, Hisako, 88, Portland, Ore., March 25; Portland-born; Minidoka internee; poet, koto and samisen teacher, recipient of the Emperor's Order of the Precious Crown, Ripple, for her support of Japanese American relations and cultural and community contributions; survived by son Norio; daughter Carrie Saito; brothers Kenji (Seattle) and Harold Onishi; sisters Masako Yada (Salem), Miyoko Iwata (Merced Island, Wash.); predeceased by husband Kane and daughter Judy.

Utsurogi, Mámoru, 81; San Leandro, March 21; Renton, Wash.-born; survived by wife Yoko; sons Howard and wife Elizabeth, Jerry and wife Barbara, Bob and wife Arlene; daughter Janice Albers and husband Harley; 5 gc.; brother Fusao and wife Kazuko; brothers and sister in Japan: Masami and wife Emiko, Shigeo, Kohiro Asahi; brother-in-law Masao Segi.

Yanase, Ayako, 73, Los Altos Hills, March 4; survived by husband Kazuo; daughters Melanie Yee, Lisa, Roshlow; 1 gc.; sisters Chizo Shiro, Hideo Kaneko.

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DEATH NOTICE

HENRY H. SAITO
Henry H. Saito, 91, passed away on Mar. 15, four days short of his 92 birthday. He was a resident of north San Diego county of Oceanside for many years. A horticulturalist at heart, he operated Fletcher Florist on Eagle Rock Blvd. in Los Angeles for many decades with his first wife, the late Lillian Okura Saito. Always outgoing and optimistic, all who knew Hank will remember him with great affection. A private service was held on March 23, 2002 at Forest Lawn in Glendale with Rev. David Manock of the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood officiating.

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Spring Reading

FICTION

Bamboo Ridge Issue 77: Journal of Hawai'i Literature and Arts
Bamboo Ridge Press
259 pp., \$10 plus \$3 shipping and handling

This issue features poetry by the "Three Transpacific Wanderers" — Albert Saijo, Gary Snyder and Nanao Sakaki. Also includes new works by Ian MacMillan, Cathy Song, Eileen Tabios, Lee Tono-tuchi and 34 others. Documentary photographer Franco Salmoiraghi contributed an essay to accompany his photographs of Waialua Town on O'ahu. Bamboo Ridge is published twice a year. Subscriptions are \$35 for four issues, \$20 for two issues.

For info contact them at P.O. Box 61781, Honolulu, HI 96839-1781; or call 808/626-1481; or visit their Website at www.bambooridge.com.

Fox Girl

By Nora Okja Keller
Viking
304 pp., \$24.95 hardback

Set in Korea following the aftermath of the Korean War, "Fox Girl" is the story of three young people abandoned by their society and by the departing American troops. The "fox girl" is Hyun Jin, a model pupil who shines at school, and is ignorant of the gritty reality of nearby America Town, where working women go for weekly checkups at Dr. Pak's Love Clinic No. 5 and where children learn to covet any-

thing American — save the despised offspring of the GIs. When Hyun Jin's parents disown her, she faces a harsh introduction to the ways of America Town at the hands of her best friend Sookie, a teenage prostitute, and Lobetto, a half-black boy who makes a living pimping for the neighborhood women.

Ash

By Holly Thompson
Stone Bridge Press
292 pp., \$16.95 paperback

The novel takes place in Japan and centers around Caitlin Ober, a young American woman. Caitlin lived in Kyoto for a short time as a young girl, and now she has returned to Japan. She is teaching English in Kyushu and lives in the remote city of Kagoshima, opposite the increasingly active volcano Sakurajima. She concocts lies and self-deceptions to prevent a tragic childhood incident in Kyoto from intruding on her present. But like the ash that veils the city, guilt obscures her path. Then, in an ash-coated garden, Caitlin encounters a half-Japanese teenager, Naomi, wrangling with her double identity. Ultimately, the two travel to Kyoto during the obon festival, and amid the bonfires, temple rites and ghostly memories, Caitlin begins to embrace her future.

Pele Ma: Legends of Pele From Kaua'i

By Frederick Wickman
Bamboo Ridge Press
144 pp., \$15 paperback

This is the fourth in Frederick Wickman's "Kaua'i Tales" series. This collection tells the life and exploits of Pele, Kamapua'a, Hi'iaka, Lohi'au and their compan-

ions. Although Pele is always associated with the Big Island, these retellings remind readers that the Pele legends have a strong link to the islands of Kaua'i.

NONFICTION

Naikan: Gratitude, Grace, and the Japanese Art of Self-Reflection

By Gregg Krech
Stone Bridge Press
220 pp., \$14.95 paperback

Naikan is a form of meditative psychotherapy that enables us to see the interconnectedness of all things. In Gregg Krech's book, the reader will find anecdotes, poetry, reflections and daily exercises to help the reader experience and express gratitude and compassion in their daily lives.

Contemporary Asian American Communities: Intersections and Divergences

Edited by Linda Trinh Vo & Rick Bonus
Temple University Press
264 pp., \$16.07 paperback, \$48.65 hardback

The collected essays in this book reveal that it is time to replace the outworn concept of a monolithic Asian America. Some of the topics covered include: "Eligible to be Japanese American: Multiraciality in Japanese American Basketball Leagues and Beauty Pageants," "Asian and Latino Immigration and the Revitalization of Sunset Park, Brooklyn," "The Politics and Poetics of a Taiwanese-Chinese American Identity," "Gay Asian Men in Los Angeles Before the 1980s," "Domestic Violence and the Model Minority Community Identity of South Asians in the United States," and many more.

Kid's Korner



Japanese Fairy Tales, Volumes 1-4
Edited by Keisuke Nishimoto
Illustrated by Yoko Imoto
32 pp., \$14.95 per volume, hardback

While the translation of classic Japanese fairy tales by Yoshiko Uchida during the 1940s and 1950s was geared more towards young adults, this four volume set can be enjoyed by younger children. The illustrations are bright and colorful and the text is kept simple. One drawback may be that the original Japanese titles of these well-known classics are not provided with the English text.

Home of the Brave

By Allen Say
Houghton Mifflin Company
32 pp., \$17 hardback
For all ages

In dreamlike sequences, a man symbolically confronts the trauma of the World War II U.S. internment camp experience of the Japanese Americans. Through this man and the children he encounters, the book captures the confusion, desolation and helplessness the JA prisoners must have felt. This haunting, provocative story challenges readers to look beyond the facts and statistics to the emotional impact of this dark chapter in American history.

Allen Say, winner of the prestigious Caldecott Medal, recently had a retrospective of his artwork at the Japanese American National Museum. Say was born James Allen Koichi Moriwaki Sei in Yokohama, Japan, in 1937 to a Korean father, who had been raised by a British family in Shanghai, and a Japanese American mother, born in Oakland, Calif. Say had a difficult childhood in Japan due to his mixed heritage, coupled with his parents' divorce when he was 8. Since his relationship with his family was rocky, Say negotiated to live by himself in an apartment closer to school and apprenticed himself to Noro Shinpei, a cartoonist. But Say's budding art career was cut short at the age of 16 when his father decided to move the family to America. Say

arrived in Southern California with no knowledge of English. His father enrolled him into the Harding Military Academy, where Say, the only nonwhite student, was segregated from other students with his own "private" quarters in a modified storage room. He was eventually expelled for smoking cigarettes in his room. He then enrolled himself into Citrus Union High School where his new teachers encouraged him to pursue art. He was able to attend special weekend art programs at the

Chouinard Art Institute (now Cal Arts) and the Art Center College of Design. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1962 and spent two years in Germany where his photography caught the eye of his commanding officer. Upon returning to California, Say pursued a commercial photography career. This led to freelancing jobs as an illustrator. In 1988, Walter Lorraine, an editor at Houghton Mifflin, approached Say about illustrating "The Boy of the Three-Year Nap," written by Dianne Snyder. Say, who reluctantly accepted this job, went on to win the prestigious Caldecott Honor and the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award. As a result, Say quit photography and dedicated himself to writing and illustrating children's books.

(Biographical information from the soon-to-be published book, "Distinguished Asian American Artists and Musicians," edited by Brian Niya and Elisa Kamimoto.)

MULTIMEDIA: Book & CD-ROM

Standing Guard: Telling Our Stories

Project Coordinator Debra Sutphen
Sierra College Press
196 pp., book & CD-ROM \$60

This yearlong project by the faculty and students of Sierra Community College in Rocklin, Calif., includes 43 oral history interviews conducted by students of the history course taught by professors Debra Sutphen and Lynn Medeiros. The interviews are complemented by portraits of the narrators created by photography students under the direction of professors Rebecca Gregg and Randy Snook. The volume was designed and developed by applied arts and design professor Tom Fillebrown. Accompanying the book is the interactive CD-ROM produced by applied arts and design professor Pam Johnson. Support for this project was funded by the Placer JACL chapter and the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program. This limited edition is currently available only through the college. All proceeds benefit other Standing Guard programs. To order, call 916/624-3333 or visit the Website at www.sierra.cc.ca.us and click on the "spotlight" for Standing Guard.



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