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## Michi N. Weglyn, 72, Advocate For Interned Japanese-Americans

By ERIC PACE

Michi N. Weglyn, author of an acclaimed book about the internment of Japanese-Americans in the United States during World War II, died last Sunday at her home on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. She was 72.

She had cancer, said Si Spiegel, the

executor of her estate.

Ms. Weglyn's book, "Years of Infamy: The Untold Story of America's Concentration Camps" (University of Washington Press, 1976), was praised by an American Ambassador to Japan, Mike Mansfield. He called it "a conscience-wrenching book of major significance," and said that "every American concerned with human liberty should know of this bleak period of our national history."

Ms. Weglyn herself was interned in one of the camps as a teen-ager.

Frank Freidel, a professor of American history at Harvard University, wrote in The New York Times Book Review that Japanese-Americans in the western United States, numbering over 100,000, "became the scapegoats for the attack on Pearl Harbor."

"'Years of Infamy' gives an appalling view of the privation, neglect and even brutality that the bewildered Japanese-Americans underwent in the camps," he wrote. Ms. Weglyn's account, he said, "based largely on Government documents, is decidedly grimmer than most earlier books on this disgraceful subject."

In later years Ms. Weglyn worked in behalf of former internees who had not received compensation from



Michi N. Weglyn

the United States Government.

Ms. Weglyn was born in Stockton, Calif., to Tomojiro Nishiura, who was a farmer, and the former Misao Yuasa.

She attended Mount Holyoke College in 1944 and 1945 and Barnard College in 1947 and 1948.

In the 1950's and 60's, under the name Michi, Ms. Weglyn was a designer and manufacturer of theatri-ES VIDERBOOK cal costumes.

Her husband, Walter M. Weglyn, died in 1995. Surviving are a sister, Tomi Fujita, and a nephew, Walter Fujita, both of Los Angeles.

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