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Friday, January 16, 1987

Broadcaster's **Remarks** Add to Black-Asian **Tensions in Pa.**



PHILADELPHIA — Tensions between the Asian and Black communities were exacerbated last month by a neighborhood dispute in West Philadelphia and the comments of a popular Black radio personality.

When Chinese businessman Pooi Hoong Lee was granted permission by the Zoning Board of Adjustment to open a take-out restaurant on 53rd Street near Locust in early December, Black neighbors objected. They held a meeting on Dec. 15 at White Rock Baptist Church "to organize, to map out a strategy and to boycott the restaurant" when it opens, said Charles E. Jones, who owns property near the proposed restaurant site.

'Control Over Community'

Georgie Woods, a WDAS-FM talk show host who has been known as a civil rights advocate since the 1960s, attended the meeting, said Jones. "What he said is if we don't stop this man ... he feels the people should have control over the community and if something isn't done, well, the people can forget it."

Photo by Ron Wakabayashi

Speaking at press conference on Min Yasui's court case are (from left) daughter Holly Yasui, attorney Don Tamaki, wife True Yasui, attorney Peggy Nagae, and brother Homer Yasui. Behind them is a group of former internees.

Family, Attorneys to Continue Yasui Appeal

by Carole Hayashino

SAN FRANCISCO - True Yasui, widow of the late civil rights leader Minoru Yasui, made an emotional appeal on her husband's behalf at a press conference on

and efforts were never for his personal aggrandizement, but a struggle to maintain and further the constitutional rights of all American citizens."

She concluded her statement by tearfully declaring, "We must and will continue the cause to which Min devoted his energy and life."

all of us are gone, the judiciary and the institutions of this nation would endure if all Americans, if each succeeding generation is committed to defending our basic constitutional rights.

WASHINGTON — The Civil Liberties Act of 1987 was introduced in the House of Representatives on Jan. 6, the first day of the 100th Congress, by Rep. Tom Foley (D-Wash.), the new Majority Leader, along with 124 co-sponsors.

The bill, which implements the 1983 recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, is essentially the same as its two predecessors. Among its provisions are an official apology to Japanese Americans interned by the U.S. government during WW2 and appropriations of \$1.5 billion, including \$20,000 to each surviving former internee.

'Strong Backing'

Upon reintroduction of H.R. 442, whose number was chosen to honor the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) said, "Those who care about righting injustice and reaffirming the rights guaranteed by our Constitution have watched the progress of the redress legislation. This bill was introduced with strong backing in the 100th Congress, and I am eager to work with my colleagues to move this legislation along." Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Calif.) said, "Redress legislation is a chance for our government to admit that mistakes were made in the past and to pledge that similar mistakes must never be repeated. We want to emphasize that there is a system of justice and basic rights in this country that must never be violated again."

Woods "did not make any anti-Asian remarks," Jones added.

However, Woods has been accused of doing just that on his radio program. According to the Philadelphia Daily News, Woods las said of Korean merchants, "They don't look like us and they don't live like us and they don't act like us; they don't act like Black folks, but they take our money; they suck our blood." He was also quoted as calling Koreans "the new oppressors."

And a city employee who attended the meeting at the church said that what Woods and other speakers said about Koreans "made the Daily News story read like Dick and Jane."

Korean Grocers 'Nervous'

"Lots of Korean grocery people are nervous," said Hyon Chong Choe, president of the Korean Association of Greater Philadelphia, which met Dec. 17. "We met to talk about what to do. We hope to have six of us meet with Mr. Woods. We do not think Mr. Woods represents all the Black people." A statement criticizing those "attempting to foment racial hatred in the neighborhoods of our city" was issued Dec. 18 by Anthony Hom, president of the Asian American Council of Greater Philadelphia; the Rev. William Moore, president-elect of the Black Clergy of Philadelphia; and Barry Ungar, president of the Jewish Community Relations **Council of Greater Philadelphia**. "Calls for economic boycotts, because of the race or ethnicity of an owner or a business, are anathema to us and totally unacceptable," the statement read. "Even more disturbing are the

Jan. 7.

Yasui's wife, daughter Holly and brother Homer met with attorney Peggy Nagae in San Francisco to present to the Federal Court of Appeals legal briefs arguing that Yasui's coram nobis case should continue despite his death on Nov. 12. The government made a motion two weeks later to have Yasui's petition dismissed.

Symbols of Internment

Standing with the Yasui family at the San Francisco Press Club were former internees from each of the 10 wartime concentration camps. As a symbol of their loss of freedom, each wore an identification tag resembling those worn during their incarceration. Some carried mementos from camp, including a piece of barbed wire and a high school diploma from Tule Lake.

"In Min's mind, the coram nobis cases were a part of the whole redress effort," stated True Yasui. "Min could be stubborn and argumentative, but it was always on the side of justice. His dedication

Holly Yasui shared her memories of her father. "My father knew that after his death, after

'Real Meaning'

"That is what he taught me, and sadly, I didn't understand the real meaning of that responsibility until his death."

Continued on page 8

Congressmen Support Case

WASHINGTON — Reps. Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui (both D-Calif.) have endorsed efforts to keep the coram nobis case of Min Yasui alive.

The two congressmen said that although Yasui died before his litigation challenging the government's wartime actions was fully adjudicated, the fight must be continued.

"As Min's friend and as a law student, his case has always meant more to me than the liberty of one individual," said Matsui. "He defied the curfew laws imposed upon Americans of Japanese ancestry in the hope that someday the truth would become known. The truth the courts have not yet recognized is that the 120,000 internees were all loyal Americans."

"All of us who knew Min know how important this case was to him," said Mineta. "As his friends and as people who care about justice and the Constitution, we have an obligation to continue this effort with all our energy and our hearts."

New Co-Sponsors

When the 99th Congress adjourned last year, H.R. 442 had 139 voting co-sponsors, 124 of whom returned to the House after the November elections.

Two freshman congressmen are new co-sponsors: John Lewis (D-Ga.) and Mike Espy (D-Miss.). Returning congressmen Les Aspin (D-Wis.) and Kenneth Gray (D-III.) have become co-sponsors

Continued on next page

for the first time.

Arizona, Florida Next?

Proposition 63 Forces Plan Campaigns in Other States

of the initiative making English the official language of California say they will expand the movement to other states with large immigrant populations.

Despite the opposition of many elected officials, including Gov. George Deukmejian, Proposition 63 passed by an overwhelming 73 percent of the vote Nov. 4. Supporters have targeted Arizona, Florida and Texas as states whose voters could be persuaded to approve a similar measure.

"We want to keep inching away at state after state," declared

Proposition 63 campaign and a founder of the Washington, D.C.based U.S. English organization. "I expect that we can maybe get 20 to 30 states in the next two or three years."

More Measures Expected

Diamond said that it is likely that an "Official English" measure will be on the 1988 ballot in Arizona, and that a similar drive has been initiated in Florida.

The legislatures of Illinois, Kentucky, Georgia, Nebraska and Virginia have already declared English their states' offi-

first state to pass such a law through an initiative placed on the ballot by petitions.

Asian, Hispanic and other civil rights groups are preparing to battle attempts to eliminate or curtail existing multilingual services such as ballots, driver's license tests and manuals, and bilingual education.

Immersion in English

With regard to bilingual education, Proposition 63 proponents have argued that immigrant children should be immersed in English immediately, while oppo-

SACRAMENTO — Proponents Stanley Diamond, head of the cial language; California is the nents believe that teaching concepts in the primary language and gradually switching to English results in better language competence.

> "It's absurd to have children in a class where they hear their primary language five or six hours a day," said Diamond. "It's a terrible disservice to the immigrant child.... There is no room for compromise on the basic issue-teaching children English in English."

> Dennis Parker, a consultant to the state Department of Educa-

> > **Continued on page 3**

D_PACIFIC CITIZEN / Friday, January 16, 1987

BLACK-ASIAN

Continued from Front Page

thinly veiled threats of violence being directed against Asian businessmen."

Burt Siegel, a member of the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations and associate executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, said the commission is concerned about potential violence. "In Washington, D.C., Korean businesses have been burned out. There is a fear [here] that it may extend beyond rhetoric to attacks," he said.

He also expressed concern about a possible boye 't directed against Koreans by Blacks. "We're hearing it on the street. People are saying to each other, 'Why are you using a Korean dry cleaners? Georgie Woods says they're sucking our blood.' Georgie Woods has lent legitimacy to comments like that." Commentary.

A Call for Tolerance

Following are excerpts from a Dec. 25 commentary by Acel Moore, associate editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer, on local Black-Asian relations (see story on p. 1).

WDAS radio personality Georgie Woods' inflammatory comments about the proliferation of Korean and other Asian retail businesses in black communities, without question, were irresponsible ... Inflammatory racial, ethnic or religious comments cannot be condoned. In fact, they should be denounced by every fair-minded person, no matter who makes them, even if—as apparently in this case_they are motivated out of a desire to spark black economic development... Woods has continued to focus his radio talk show on a theme of supporting black businesses, arguing that by doing so black residents keep their dollars in their community. As a principle, there is nothing wrong with that. It has been practiced by members of every ethnic, racial and religious group that has come to this country, including Asians. Woods' problem is that he crossed the line between selective patronage and racism when he used words that some people could interpret as advocating violence. Woods' comments are particularly troubling because they come at a time when racial and ethnic intolerance appear to be increasing in the city and in the

nation. People certainly seem more comfortable in expressing their racial and ethnic biases than they were a decade ago.

Nationally, the latest ugly incident occurred last weekend in New York City when a group of white youths set upon three black men, one of whom was killed by a car as he fled his attackers. Police said the attack was racially inspired. Tuesday night, in an apparent retaliation, a group of blacks attacked a white youth in New York City.

Locally, fresh in our minds are deplorable racial incidents in Southwest Philadelphia and the Frankford section, when whites demonstrated against black families who moved into previously all-white neighborhoods.

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Okage Sama De: The Japanese in Hawai'i

by Dorothy Ochiai Hazama and Jane Okamoto Komeiji (Bess Press, 320 pp.)

The story of Americans of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii from the arrival of the first *kanyaku imin* (contract immigrants) in 1885 to the present, featuring oral history excerpts, biographical sketches, photographs (many from family albums), and recent research which gives insight into AJAs as they are today. With a foreword by Sen. Daniel Inouye. For more information, contact Bess Press, P.O. Box 22388, Honolulu, HI 96822, (808) 734-7159.

Blacks, Asians Meet

The commission held a meeting between representatives of the Korean Association, the United Black Business Association and other groups on Dec. 19.

Hiroshi Uyehara and Sumiko Kobayashi of Philadelphia JACL were among the representatives of Pan Asian American Association of Greater Philadelphia in attendance. Although some of the Black community members were "very vocal" at first, said Kobayashi, by the end of the meeting there "appeared to be a dialogue" in the making.

WDAS general manager Cody Anderson, who attended the meeting, apologized to the Asian community for Woods' remarks.

Woods himself would not apologize, saying that he had been talking about Black economic power, not hate. "Asians are not my enemies," he stated.

been accused of rudeness; they complain of intimidation. "Of such stuff ethnic collisions long have been made in America -an ugly history that need not be recited to anyone who has grown up, for example, black in Philadelphia. But it doesn't help matters to confuse economic competition with racial prejudice. The sooner everyone understands the distinction, the sooner the debate might yield constructive result." -from reports by Philadelphia Inquirer and Pacific Citizen staff

Targets of Violence

Philadelphia's Asian population—estimated to be 110,000, including Koreans, Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos and Southeast Asians—has been the target of racism and violence in white and black neighborhoods.

Some of the new Asian immigrants, particularly Southeast Asians, have settled in poor black and white neighborhoods where longtime residents are the least prepared to deal psychologically and economically with people of different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. This results in some conflict between the immigrants and their neighbors.

Continued on page 6

Day of

Issei, Nisei, War Bride: Three Generations of Japanese American Women in Domestic Service

by Evelyn Nakano Glenn (Temple University Press, 408 pp., \$29.95)

A study of Issei and Nisei women and post-WW2 war brides who have engaged in domestic service, one of the largest fields for firsttime employment for recent immigrants. In a series of interviews, the women discuss their work conditions, how they coped with their jobs, and their relationships with their families and communities.

An American Taste of Japan

by Elizabeth Andoh (William Morrow and Company, 334 pp., \$24.95)

A collection of more than 120 recipes that integrate Japanese ingredients, kitchen techniques and culinary philosophy with American foodstuffs, kitchen appliances, and eating habits. Andoh, who lived and studied in Japan for 20 years, gives the origins of each dish, suggestions on what to serve with it, descriptions of special ingredients and equipment, and tips on what to look for when buying them. Includes chapters on soup, appetizers, sushi, main dishes, side dishes and desserts. Illustrated with drawings and color photographs.

This Is My Own: Letters to Wes and Other Writings on Japanese Canadians, 1941-1948

by Muriel Kitagawa, edited by Roy Miki (Talonbooks, 310 pp.)

This book consists of letters written by Muriel Kitagawa (1912-1974), a Nisei caught up in the forced expulsion of 21,000 Japanese Canadians from the West Coast during WW2, to her brother Wes. Also included are essays and articles she wrote in the aftermath of the uprooting, family and archival photographs, and an introduction by the editor which gives the historical context of Kitagawa's writings. For more information, write to Talonbooks, 201/1019 East Cordova Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6A 1M8, Canada.

Undercurrent Remains'

A Dec. 23 editorial in the Philadelphia Inquirer said, in part: "WDAS has apologized for the incendiary remarks—as well it should...But the matter isn't settled. There remains an undercurrent of anti-Asian sentiment in some communities, fanned by language and cultural differences and, on occasion, hardball business practices. The Koreans have

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Remembrance

Organizations planning events on or around Feb. 19 to commemorate the signing of Executive Order 9066 are asked to notify PC no later than Feb. 6 for publication in our Feb. 13 issue. Send info to 941 E. 3rd St., Rm. 200, Los Angeles 90013 or call (213) 626-3004.





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9

SPECIAL REQUEST from ALBUM COMMITTEE

Parents, alumni, students, faculty, benefactors, members and family of Maryknoll School and Church over the past 75 years are invited to have their picture taken in color for the Commemorative Album to be published with memorable photographs of the celebration. Appointments are being taken (write or call: 213-626-2279 day, 818-288-8648 eve) for these weekends: Jan. 17, 18; Jan. 24, 25; and Feb. 7-8, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday. The Committee will provide one copy of the photograph selected for the Album. • Out-of-towners have until March 30 to submit their own color photo no larger than 3X: 31/2x5-inches.

D.C. Dispute

Take-Out Owner Sentenced; **Controversy May Be Subsiding**

WASHINGTON — The Chinese American owner of an Anacostia carry-out accused of pointing a gun at a Black customer was sentenced Jan. 6 to 15 months' probation and ordered to perform 100 hours of volunteer work amid signs that the racial tensions heightened by the incident may be easing.

Cheung Hung Chan, who had pleaded guilty to reduced charges of failure to register a firearm, also was sentenced in D.C. Superior Court to a 90-day suspended sentence by Judge Harold Cushenberry, who said he had

"It was a gesture of Mr. Chan to the community," said Robinson after the sentencing, adding that he expected Chan to reopen the carry-out but was unable to pinpoint a date. Robinson would not comment on reports that he had been meeting with Wilson and other protesters in an effort to reach a compromise.

Both Chan and Robinson attended a Dec. 30 holiday service at Wilson's church, where they were welcomed by the reverend.

Split Over Protests

Since the incident, Black community members have split over the protest. One community leader told the judge that two local business associations had approved resolutions welcoming Chan back into the community. "Our neighborhood does not need the reputation of driving businesses out," said Bernard Gray of the Frederick Douglass Improvement Council, which approved the resolution along with the Anacostia Professional Merchants Association. Gray said that a number of people in the community had come to believe that "there are actually two stories. The incident was not as outrageous from our concept as reported." After the initial reports, a witness to the incident said Chan showed Carter his gun after she complained about the food and threatened to return with her son and "blow the joint up."





LANGUAGE LAWS

Continued from Front Page

tion, is among those who insist that programs that begin in the child's first language produce pupils with a better understanding of English.

"One of the most important factors is hearing things you can understand, not just being exposed to the language," he said. "The game here isn't just English proficiency, which is necessary, but cognitive development and academic achievement."

ESL Funding

There has been no argument about the need to provide more ESL (English as a second language) classes for adults. Opponents of Proposition 63 have pointed out, however, that the initiative had no provision for increasing adult ESL funding. Diamond said Reps. Norman Shumway (R-Calif.) and Steven Symms (R-Idaho) will introduce a constitutional amendment to make English the nation's official language. This will be the third time such legislation has been introduced (passage was sought in 1981 by then-Sen. S.I. Hayakawa), and proponents admit it is unlikely to pass.

been "impressed" by the support shown in court for Chan.

"I'm sorry about everything," said Chan. "I will never have a gun again."

Customer's Complaint

Chan was arrested Sept. 27 after Sarah Carter, a customer, complained that he had chased her out of the Good Hope Carry-Out with a gun and threatened her. The incident sparked daily protests, which closed Chan's store, and fueled debates about the proliferation of Asian-owned businesses in predominantly Black areas.

Led by the Rev. Willie Wilson, pastor of Union Temple Baptist Church, protest organizers had vowed to keep the store closed. The protests ended last month, according to Chan's lawyer, Wendell Robinson, who said that Chan allowed Wilson's church to use his parking lot to sell Christmas trees.

-from reports by the Washington Post

Pat Morita, star of ABC's "Ohara," with supporting cast members (from left) Catherine Keener, Richard Yniguez, Jack Wallace and Kevin Conroy.

Morita Plays L.A. Detective in Upcoming ABC-TV Series

LOS ANGELES — Pat Morita stars as an LAPD detective in the series "Ohara," which joins ABC's Saturday night lineup on Jan. 17. According to the network, Morita plays a widowed lieutenant with 'tremendous insight into people and what makes them tick, gained after 20 hard years of experience on the force." The character is described as "street-

Jack Wallace as Sgt. Phil O'Brian. Madge Sinclair plays Gussie Lemmone, the owner of a cafe and the widow of Ohara's late partner. Brian Grazer and Hal Sitowitz are executive producers; Skip Ward is the producer.

Morita was best known as a comedian prior to his portrayal of Miyagi in "The Karate Kid," which earned him an Oscar nomination, and "Karate Kid II." He -from a report by UPI

For the Record

The donation to Asian Pacific Family Center from San Gabriel Valley JACL (Jan. 2-9 PC, p. 7) was secured from the Pacific Southwest District JACL Trust Fund, not the National JACL Endowment Fund.



-PACIFIC CITIZEN / Friday, January 16, 1987

Mikan and Matsutake



IN A COLUMN last year (Feb. 14), in the course of sharing the scenic points of Shirahama (Wakayama-ken), we mentioned the delectable and incomparable nihon-mikan for which nearby Mie-ken is famous. (You'll recall them just about osho-gatsu time; those neat little wooden crates bound in straw ropes. And inside: ambrosia.)

And in that column I lamented, when would someone be able to grow those thin-skinned, sweet, seedless citrus fruit?

ines in the supermarket, only to find them thick-skinned, bland in taste, sour, and always with seeds. Most came from Florida.

JUST ABOUT 15 years ago, Mr. Uota began developing his mikan, balancing shape, color, smoothness of skin (important, n'est-ce pas? Or simply: ne?), balance of flavor and sugar, and-seedlessness. And voilà, resounding success to which I can personally, and delightedly, attest.

Our Fresno reader reports that the Uota mikan is difficult to find even in the local area because of the high demand for the product, most of it being shipped to the metropolitan markets such as San Francisco. I suspect that as soon as the shipment hits the stores, they're gone-perhaps with favored customers placing reservations for the Uota mikan. I know I've never seen any during my browsing in the grocery stores in Jaytown. **OBVIOUSLY, ANY MAN who** can coax a citrus plant to do his bidding is a remarkable individual. Mr. Uota came to the U.S. in 1921 at the age of 15 years (which figures to make him an octogenarian) and with his older brother, Teruichi, commenced farming in the Ivanhoe district. When the elder was killed in an accident, Shig Uota's younger brother came to help from Japan and they've worked together ever since. During WW2 Shig Uota and family were placed in Poston No. 3 of the Roastin' and Toastin' group. In recognition of his work in bringing about greater understanding between agriculturalists in Japan and America, Mr. Uota was honored by Emperor Hirohito with the Sixth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun.



The New Congressional Lineup

Hallelujah. The wait is over.

SEVERAL WEEKS AGO there arrived a box of tangerines-no, I must call them *mikan*—sent by a thoughtful and remembering reader from Fresno. (I don't get paid for writing this column, but that one box was more than payment.)

The Fresno reader kindly sent along a news item from the Fresno Bee, telling something about a remarkable person: Mr. Shigeo "Shig" Uota.

ABOUT 40 MILES or so southeast of Fresno there is a community known as Ivanhoe. There Shig Uota grows a variety of mouth-watering fruits on a 240acre ranch: grapes, olives, plums, nectarines and several varieties of citrus-navels, valencias, tangelos, lemons, and the Satsuma mandarins.

In the past four decades, try as they might, no one, but no one, has been able to duplicate the mikan here in the U.S. How many times have we been disappointed as we hopefully bought tanger-



The House redress bill, introduced for the third time, is off the ground running, as befits this Year of the Rabbit. The auspicious start is a good omen. The reality of politics tells us that we must build a quick momentum, for this Congress will have more than the usual major issues on its agenda.

The impressive support for H.R. 442 is the result of the concentrated efforts of both Congressmen Bob Matsui and Norman Mineta and their staff.

The list of H.R. 442 co-sponsors

M. Robert Carr (D-6th) Dale Kildee (D-7th) David Bonior (D-12th) George Crockett (D-13th) Minnesota: Bruce Vento (D-4th) Martin Olav Sabo (D-5th) Gerry Sikorski (D-6th) Mississippi: Mike Espy (D-2nd) Missouri: William Clay (D-1st) Richard Gephardt (D-3rd) Alan Wheat (D-5th) Montana: Pat Williams (D-1st) New Jersey: James Florio (D-1st) William Hughes (D-2nd) James Howard (D-3rd) Bernard Dwyer (D-6th) Robert Roe (D-8th) Robert Torricelli (D-9th) Peter Rodino (D-10th) Dean Gallo (R-11th) Jim Saxton (R-13th) New Mexico: Bill Richardson (D-3rd) New York: Thomas Downey (D-2nd) Gary Ackerman (D-7th) James Scheuer (D-8th) Thomas Manton (D-9th) Charles Schumer (D-10th) Edolphus Towns (D-11th) Major Owens (D-12th) Stephen Solarz (D-13th) Charles Rangel (D-16th) Ted Weiss (D-17th) Robert Garcia (D-18th) Mario Biaggi (D-19th) Hamilton Fish (R-21st) Benjamin Gilman (R-22nd) Matthew McHugh (D-29th) Frank Horton (R-29th) Ohio: Thomas Luken (D-1st) Tony Hall (D-3rd) Edward Feighan (D-19th) Louis Stokes (D-21st) Pennsylvania: Thomas Foglietta (D-1st) William Gray (D-2nd) Robert Borski (D-3rd) Joseph Kolter (D-4th) Peter Kostmayer (D-8th) William Coyne (D-14th) George Gekas (R-17th) Douglas Walgren (D-18th) Austin Murphy (D-22nd) Puerto Rico: Jaime Fuster (D) Tennessee: Harold Ford (D-9th) Texas: Charles Wilson (D-2nd) Mickey Leland (D-18th) Albert Bustamente (D-23rd) Solomon Ortiz (D-27th) Vermont: James Jeffords (R-1st) Virginia: Frederick Boucher (D-9th) Washington: John Miller (R-1st) Sid Morrison (R-4th) Thomas Foley (D-5th)

Gerald Kleczka (D-4th) James Moody (D-5th) Wyoming: Richard Cheney (R)

Total No. of Sponsors: 126 (Note: representatives from American Samoa, District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico do not vote in House.)

Those who co-sponsored the previous bill and who have not signed on as original co-sponsors of the new one are Tommy Robinson (D-Ark.), Edward Madigan (R-III.), Lane Evans (D-III.), Raymond McGrath (R-N.Y.), George Wortley (R-N.Y.), and John Miller (R-Wash.). Jim Saxton (R-N.J.) signed on the following day. The bill's previous prime sponsor, Jim Wright (D-Texas), is now Speaker of the House and does not sponsor bills.

Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) plans to introduce a similar redress bill as soon as he has contacted all the previous cosponsors of S. 1053. As of this writing, the list is incomplete and the Senate plans to recess on Jan. 12. The U.S. Constitution opens with the statement that "We, the people" shall secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity. I think it is the hope and dream of all of us who have worked on redressing the injustice of the forced evacuation, which left us without the protection of the Constitution, that Americans of Japanese ancestry will have cause to join in the bicentennial celebration of the Constitution.

SO NOW, A new challenge for yet another Mr. Uota out there. How about commercially grown matsutake, someone?

A Difficult Decision



After many weeks of sometimes painful soul-searching, I have come to a very difficult decision, and that is, to leave the Pacific Citizen.

My reasons are personal and yet I do feel as though I owe you, our readers, some explanation. My decision has nothing to do with job dissatisfaction, nor does it have anything to do with disillusionment with JACL. On the contrary, I have loved my job, and I have come to understand and respect JACL, not just as a civil rights organization, but more so for the people it represents. I have met more fighters, thinkers, planners, movers and shakers in the past five months than during any other period in my life. And, I have also discovered that JACLers have one common denominator: heart. It is that warm discovery and knowing that there is still so much more that I would like to accomplish at the PC that makes leaving so difficult. But, I must. My personal life is in need of much attention right now and, unfortunately, I do not have the energy, nor are there enough hours in a day, to adequately address both my personal and professional lives. I have made my choice.

At the same time, however, my commitment to the PC remains unshaken and I will be working closely with our new board chair Peggy Liggett to ensure a smooth transition. I hope to remain at the PC at least through the early part of February.

That timetable will also allow me the time to work on new projects that we have been planning to unveil this year. One example is a PC stringer network (see item on page 8). This network will greatly increase both the quality and geographic boundaries of our first-hand news accounts. Also on the burner is a financial question-and-answer column for our readers. PC board member Greg Marutani has been instrumental in its development and we are working now on the formation of a core group of financial experts who will take turns answering your questions. And, former Mountain Plains District Gov. Paul Shinkawa has graciously accepted the position of PC membership columnist. Paul, as you may remember, discussed such a column in his last "By the Board" report (Nov. 7). In closing, I would like to say thank you to all of you who have been so supportive and encouraging over the past months. I ask that you continue your show of support for whomever is named the next editor of the PC. Thank you again for everything.

is as follows:

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Friday, January 16, 1987 / PACIFIC CITIZEN_5



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Chapter Pulse

CONTRA COSTA

 Chapter's installation dinner will take place Jan. 24 at Yet Wah Restaurant, 20050 Highway 40. No-host cocktail hour will begin at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. Installation of new officers will begin at 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Peggy Saika, executive director of the Asian Law Caucus. Tickets are \$16 per person.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

 Annual installation dinner will take place Jan. 24 at the Airtel Plaza, 7271 Valjean, Van Nuys. Cocktails will be served from 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Los Angeles City Councilman Michael Woo. Info: (818) 789-0985.

SEATTLE

•Chapter's installation banquet will take place Jan. 24 at the Atrium, 5701 6th Ave. S. No-host cocktail hour will begin at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person and may be obtained by sending check, payable to Seattle JACL, to Ayako Hurd, 9040 Meridian North, Seattle, Wash. **98103**.

ST. LOUIS

N.Y. Asians Participate in Howard Beach Protest

NEW YORK — A contingent of 20 Asian Americans, organized by the Coalition Against Anti-Asian Violence, joined a demonstration in Queens on Dec. 27 to protest the recent mob attack on three Blacks in Howard Beach.

The crowd of about 5,000 demanded vigorous prosecution of the white youths who pursued and beat Michael Griffith, Cedric Sandiford and Timothy Grimes on Dec. 20 when they entered the predominantly white neighborhood. Grimes escaped while the mob chased his two companions for eight blocks. Griffith fled onto the Belt Parkway and was struck and killed by a car.

Mini Liu of CAAAV drew similarities between the Howard Beach incident and cases of anti-Asian violence. Addressing the marchers before the 106th Precinct, she said, "When we heard that Michael Griffith was beaten with baseball bats, we were reminded of Vincent Chin, a Chinese American beaten to death ... by two whites in Detroit four years ago. "And when we heard that Griffith's attackers told him, 'Niggers! Get out of this neighborhood,' we were reminded of Gary Moy's attackers, who shouted, 'Chinks don't belong in this neighborhood!' before stabbing him in Coney Island last June." Liu said her organization seeks to work with Black, Latino and other civil rights groups to combat racially motivated violence. "It's especially important to recognize the anti-alienism which fuels attacks on the rights of Asians and Latinos and also seeks to isolate them from Black Americans."

At a subsequent rally at John Adams High School, which three of the accused attackers_John

Lester, Scott Kern and Jason Ladone-attended, Virgo Lee of **Chinese Progressive Association** issued a statement of solidarity. -from a report by New York Nichibei



 Annual installation dinner will take place Jan. 24 at the House of Hunan Restaurant, 3730 S. Lindbergh, Sunset Hills. Cocktails will be served at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Keynote speaker will be James Shimoura of Detroit. Info: George Sakaguchi, (314) 842-3138.

STOCKTON

 Annual installation dinner will take place Jan. 31 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Sampan Restaurant. Tickets are \$10 per person. Info: Ruby Dobana, (209) 957-1801.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

• U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye will be guest speaker at the chapter's installation dinner-dance Jan. 31 at the Ft. Myer Officers Club in Arlington, Va. Cocktails will be served from 6-6:45 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for members, \$20 for non-members and \$16 for students. For reservations, call Barbara Nekoba, (703) 360-4820, or Katherine Matsuki (301) 946-6995.

NEW YORK

•Membership meeting will take place Jan. 17 at 3:30 p.m. at the Japanese American United Church, 255 7th Ave. Meeting will be preceded by a 2 p.m. memorial service for Min Yasui, former JACL-LEC chair.

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6-PACIFIC CITIZEN / Friday, January 16, 1987

PHILADELPHIA COMMENTARY

Continued from Page 2

The Hmong, a small group of Southeast Asians who settled here, have all left because of conflicts with their new neighbors, both black and white. Incidents of racial conflict against Asians this year include white residents of **Olney vandalizing Korean street** signs that were erected by Korean merchants at their own expense and black youths attacking Asians near Olney High School.

Nakasone's Remarks

Another factor that lingers is Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's insensitive and racist comments last fall when he said that blacks, Puerto Ricans and Mexicans drag down the intelligence level in the United States. Though it would be folly to draw a direct connection between Nakasone's slurs and incidents involving blacks and Asians in Philadelphia, the prime minister's remarks certainly didn't have a positive impact in relations between Asians in general and the black community. **Because Woods is a prominent** black, his remarks have been blown out of proportion. The fact is that black resentment of Asians

is no more prevalent than white resentment of Asians. The reality is that there is resentment of Asians in both black and white communities in the city. And there is, conversely, resentment of blacks and whites by some Asians. It is the kind of conflict that is motivated by ignorance and misunderstanding of cultural differences.

People often cite robberies and muggings of Asian merchants as an example of the black anti-Asian feelings. I discount that. If a person operates a retail business in any neighborhood that is poor and drug-infested, then that person-whether black, white, Hispanic, Asian, or whatever—is vulnerable to those who will steal and rob. Despite those realities and the fact that, in general, racial intolerance appears to be more prevalent, racial violence is the exception rather than the rule. In most black communities, tolerance is the rule.

Asian American Journalists to **Be Counted**

AAJA Project

LOS ANGELES — Asian American Journalists Association is launching a nationwide census of Asian American journalists and journalism students.

The survey will seek information about respondents' current positions, how long they have worked in the media, whether they have a special area of expertise (e.g., sports, features, politics), and whether they have foreign language abilities.

AAJA will publish a national roster based on the census information and distribute it to AAJA members as well as to editors and news directors throughout the country. "It will help media employers gain a better understanding of the population of Asian American journalists in their market areas," said AAJA national president Bill Sing. "For our members, if people are changing jobs, this may help them get acquainted with other Asian American journalists in their new location." He added that the directory may be used by colleges and universities to line up guest speakers, and media companies might use it to mail information about internship programs to students. Census forms will be mailed this month, then collected and tabulated in February. To obtain forms, contact AAJA's national headquarters, 3921 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 315, Los Angeles, CA 90010, (213) 389-8383.

Community Galendar Jan. 17-31 INGLEWOOD Jan. 16-19 National Convocation of Asian American United Methodists will take place at Inglewood United Methodist Church, 304 E. Spruce St. Discussion topics will include Indochinese refugees, racism and human rights. Event will begin Jan. 16 at 3 p.m. and will conclude Jan. 19 at 12:30 p.m. Info: The Rev. Leo Hsu, (213) 687-0264. LOS ANGELES Jan. 30-31 Kodo, the heartbeat drummers of Sado Island, will perform at the Japan America Theater of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St. Info: (213) 680-3700. A major policy conference, "Immigration Reform Act: Impact on the Workplace and the Community," will take place at the Amfac Hotel, 8601 Lincoln Blvd., sponsored by the UCLA Institute of Industrial Relations. Fee for the daylong event is \$100. Info: (213) 825-8034.

NEW HAVEN

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Merit Scholars

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Among the 23 students at Huron High School who qualified as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Competition last month were eight Asian Americans: Franklin Chen, Edward Hsu, Jenny Hsu, Kentaro Kato, Hang-Kwang Kuo, Patricia Na, Jonathan Uy, and Lianna Wong.

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Spring semester conference, "Myth or Reality: Perspectives on the Asian American Success Story," will take place at Yale University, sponsored by the Asian American Students Association. Topics will include stereotypes, affirmative action policies for Asian Americans in higher education, and student participation in political and community organizations. Info: Steve Ing, (203) 432-8381.

NEW YORK

Jan. 22

Jan. 18

Jan. 17

Jan. 31

Jan. 30

8 p.m.

9 a.m.

ll a.m. to 5 p.m.

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund's second annual Lunar New Year Dinner will take place at the Silver Palace Restaurant, 52 Bowery, in Chinatown. Justice in Action Awards will be presented to William M. Marutani, civil rights activist; Dith Pran, Cambodian photojournalist and hero of the film "The Killing Fields"; and Michi Weglyn, author. Tickets are \$45 per person. Info: (212) 966-5932.

OLYMPIA

Fifth annual Tribute to Japan will take place at Evergreen State College. Event, co-sponsored by the college and the Olympia Chapter JACL, will feature Japanese arts and crafts, lectures, films and food.

PASADENA

Author and poet Garrett Hongo will be presented in a reading of his work at the Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave. Hongo's works include Yellow Light, a collection of poems, and The Buddha Bandits Down Highway 99, a collection of poems by Hongo, Alan Lau and

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SAN JOSE

Registration for the summer session, June 22 through July 16, at Suzume No Gakko, will take place at Wesley Methodist Church, 566 N. Fifth St., for children in grades 1-6. Suzume No Gakko is a nonprofit Japanese cultural school. Info: (408) 973-8063.

SAN FRANCISCO

Premiere performance of "The Trip," a play written by Wakako Yamauchi and directed by Hiroshi Kashiwagi, will be performed as a staged reading by Nikki Bridges and Sachiko Nakamura at National JACL Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St. Event, sponsored by Center Players and the Center for Japanese American Studies, is free and open to the public.



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B-PACIFIC CITIZEN / Friday, January 16, 1987

Korean American Declares Candidacy for L.A. Council

LOS ANGELES — Some 100 supporters of Art Song Jr. showed up Jan. 7 at a dinner kicking off his campaign for the City Council's 10th District seat.

The 43-year-old attorney is running for the seat left vacant Oct. 1 by the resignation of David Cunningham. Song is the third person to declare his candidacy; the other two are Homer Broome Jr., vice president of the Board of Public Works, and Kenneth Orduna, chief of staff for Rep. Mervyn Dymally (D-Los Angeles).

The primary is Apr. 14; if no candidate gets 50 percent of the vote, there will be a runoff in the June 3 general election. Located in the southwest portion of the city, the 10th District is a racially mixed area: 44 percent Black, 22 percent white, 22 percent Hispanic and 12 percent Asian. The boundaries stretch from Koreatown on the east to Palms on the west. At the dinner, Song took issue with the idea that the 10th District seat should be reserved only for Black candidates. Because the makeup of the city's population is constantly changing, he said, "There is no such thing... as a Black district or a Jewish district. There is no real majority."

The theme of his campaign will be the need for people from all racial and ethnic backgrounds to coexist harmoniously, he said. He predicted that the "typical" issues in the campaign will be crime, rehabilitation of neighborhoods, education and pollution.

When asked if Song's ethnicity will be a liability, campaign manager Van Parish answered, "People want a representative that they feel they can go to to get their concerns taken care of. There is a belief that voters vote along ethnic lines. I don't believe that is the case."

"If your message makes sense, they'll vote for you," said Song, adding that "more and more support is coming from outside the Korean community." The kickoff dinner symbolized "a new unity" and "political independence" in the Korean community, proclaimed David Hyun, managing partner of Japanese Village Plaza and vice president of Korean Federation. "Because we Koreans were so few, when we wanted a political favor, we had to go beg for it," he said. "We have to let the City Hall know we are a political force to be reckoned with."



Grace Nakashima has joined the staff of the Japanese American National Museum as an administrative assistant. Prior to joining JANM, Nakashima worked as an administrator with an international consulting firm in Redwood City, Calif. She graduated from Stanford University with a degree in English.

PC Seeking Stringers

As part of a stepped-up effort to broaden and expand its news coverage, the Pacific Citizen is now accepting applications for its new stringer network.

A select number of writers from strategic areas of the country will be chosen to participate in the network, which is being designed to provide maximum first-hand coverage of news for and about Asian Americans.

Stringers will be paid on a per-story basis at a rate to be determined prior to each assignment. Fees are projected to be in the range of \$50 to \$100 per article.

Applicants must have previous journalism experience or strong writing skills. Photography experience is an added plus, but not required.

Interested persons are asked to send their resume, writing samples and a short cover letter to: Lynn Sakamoto, Editor, Pacific Citizen, 941 E. Third St., Los Angeles, CA 90013. Deadline is March 1, 1987.



-from a report by Korea Times



George Obata, a member of Washington, D.C. JACL and a 30year 1000 Club member, died Nov. 28. Memorial services were held Dec. 2 at Calvary Baptist Church.

He is survived by wife Kiyoko, brother Benjamin, and sisters Mary Obata and Grace Amemiya.

INS Discusses New Law With Asian Pacific Community Reps

LOS ANGELES — Representatives of Asian Pacific American legal and social service organizations met Dec. 19 with an official of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to discuss implementation of the recently passed immigration law.

As a result of the meeting, the community representatives and **INS District Director Ernest Gus**tafson agreed upon the following:

• The Asian Pacific Liaison Committee will meet regularly with Gustafson while the act is implemented. The committee will present problems being experienced in Asian Pacific communities and seek resolutions to these issues.

• INS will explore the possibility of translating pertinent materials on the new law into various Asian languages. Community organizations will give INS the names of select-

ed Asian Pacific agencies that will provide information and legalization processing on a voluntary basis. INS will be sensitive to the need for voluntary agencies serving Asian Pacific Americans.

• INS will examine the feasibility of having processing centers near population concentrations of Asians.

 Stewart Kwoh, executive director of Asian Pacific American Legal Center, will coordinate communications with Gustafson.

Serving on the liaison committee are Kwoh and Estelle Chun, APALC; Irene Chu, Asian Pacific Planning Council; Barry Morinaka, Japanese American Bar Association; Tong Suhr, Jay Yoo and Duncan Lee, Korean American Bar Association; Carl Hufana, Philippine Lawyers; and Fred Hong, Southern California Chinese Lawyers. For more information, contact Kwoh or Chun at (213) 748-2022.

CONTINUATION OF YASUI CASE -

Continued from front page

She called her father's case "the most important unfinished business that he left to Americans of Japanese descent, and to all Americans who believe in justice and the rights of American citizens."

only cases in this century where the Supreme Court has upheld racial discrimination."

Also present was Korematsu, whose conviction for evading internment was overturned in 1983 when a federal judge ruled that the government had committed a fraud upon the Supreme Court by falsifying information about the need to intern JAs. Yasui, who was convicted of curfew violations, had sought such a ruling in his case, but in 1984 U.S. District Judge Robert Belloni refused to rule on the

charges of governmental misconduct. Yasui then filed an appeal, which is still pending.

Former internees at the press

conference included Yasui's sis-

Dr. Homer Yasui of Portland, Ore., recalled his last conversation with his brother. "His last wish was that his coram nobis case continue to a just and final conclusion."

Attorney Nagae commented on the legal briefs filed that morning in response to the government's motion. "The government that denied him his constitutional rights during WW2 is the same government that now seeks to deny him his right to a full and fair hearing. There is no mootness: the controversy is alive and justiciable.

"Public interest demands that this case be continued to prevent future acts of racial discrimination and governmental misconduct. This case must be allowed to continue, through his family's efforts, until justice is done, for the benefit of Minoru Yasui, his family, those 110,000 Japanese Americans denied their constitutional rights during the war, and all other Americans." Don Tamaki, a member of the coram nobis legal team, moderated the press conference. He noted the significance of the wartime cases of Yasui, Fred Korematsu and Gordon Hirabayashi as "the

ter-in-law Miyuki Yasui (Heart Mountain), 87-year-old Faith Terasawa (Topaz), Morgan Yamanaka and Mollie Fujioka (Tule Lake), Toshi Takeoka (Minidoka), Dr. Yoshiye Togasaki (Manzanar), Tom and Isabel Oshiro (Jerome), Jane Hara (Rohwer), Noriko Bridges (Poston), Alice Nakahata (Gila River), and Florence Hongo (Amache).

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