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Friday, February 12, 1988

Pacific Southwest JACL Programs for '88 Unfolded

By Harry K. Honda

LOS ANGELES—J.D. Hokoyama will be sitting "on the other side" this weekend at the National JACL board meeting at Headquarters as the Pacific Southwest District governor, whereas seven years ago he was on the National JACL staff as acting national director.

Hokoyama won support and received a consensus on matters expected on the National agenda, such as national dues increase, the Washington JACL office, membership issues, affinity card and the education committee—though he admitted he had not received all the "ins & outs" on some issues.

It was revealed Harry Kajihara, national president, has slated the upcoming budget for Saturday night discussion.

Continuing a PSWDC tradition, Bill Kaneko, PSW vice-governor, and Ron Ohata, PSW legal counsel, will be attending as district board observers.

PSW to Expand Board

In view of the strong show of chapter leaders willing to serve at the district executive level (nine candidates running for five at-large positions last November), Hokoyama had promised to expand the board upon assuming his office last year. The by-laws will offer at the May district council session to increase the at-large seats from 6 to 11. Hokoyama received council consent to have the unsuccessful candidates appointed.



Pacific Citizen Photo by George Johnston

ROCKY RELATIONS—Angela Oh of Women's Organization Reaching Koreans questions *Rolling Stone* magazine's recent article on South Korea's recent election. (foreground, l-r) L.A. City Councilman Mike Woo; Oh; and Yoon Hee Kim, Korean American Coalition. (background, l-r) John Saito, PSW-JACL regional director; Dr. Rajen Anand, Federation of Indian American Associates; Jocelyn Yap, Filipino American Los Angeles Democrats; and Ron Kuramoto, LEAP.

Four new committees have been added to the district executive ranks. The chair is to appoint a co-chair from the rank & file. The new ones are:

(1) 1990 Census: chair to be designated, (2) Biennium Planning: Bill Kaneko; (3) National Convention Liaison: B.J. Watanabe, (4) Publicity: Sharon Kumagai, Phyllis Murakawa. Standing Committee chairs: Phyllis Murakawa, Mable Yoshizaki, aging & retirement; Ron Ohata, Constitution-Bylaws; B.J. Watanabe, Leadership Development; Ken Inouye, Linda Hara, membership; Bill Kaneko, public affairs; Marleen Kawahara, Miyo Senzaki, redress-LEC; Ed Mitoma, U.S.-Japan Relations; Jimmy Tokeshi, youth. (Still open: Ethnic Concerns, Women's Concerns.)

PSWDC Trust Fund

Leslie Furukawa, past DC legal

counsel, is succeeding Dr. Roy Nishikawa as the PSWDC Trust Fund chair. Unable to present her report because of being on a honeymoon, Nishikawa (who continues to serve as a trustee) reported the process for applying for grants from the fund has been streamlined and that two deadlines, Mar. 1 and Sept. 1, are to be followed.

Applications through the JACL regional office will still be screened by John Saito, regional director, who will then place them on the PSWDC agenda for approval. The final dollar amount of the grant will be determined by the board of trustees.

Continued on page 4

Stones Thrown, Cast Back; Apology Results from Editor

By George Johnston

LOS ANGELES — *Rolling Stone* magazine's executive editor flew into Los Angeles from New York Feb. 4 to try to mollify representatives of the Korean American community who charged the magazine with racism and insensitivity. The cause was an article entitled "Seoul Brothers," which appeared in the Feb. 11, 1988 issue of *Rolling Stone*. The article was written by former *National Lampoon* writer P.J. O'Rourke, who wrote of his view of the recent elections in South Korea.

They All Look Alike

Outraged members of the Korean American community met with the press in the Los Angeles Civic Center to express the shock and hurt felt by O'Rourke's observations, such as "... they really do all look alike"—the same Blackglama hair, the same high-boned pie-plate face, the same tea-stain complexion, the same sharp-focused look in 1 million anthracite eyes." O'Rourke described the Korean language as sounding like "YO-YO CAMP STOVE HAM HOCK DIP STICK DUCK SOUP HAT RACK PING-PONG LIP SYNC!!!!" The satirist also wrote of being "overwhelmed

by the amazing stink of kimchi."

Los Angeles City Councilman Mike Woo, flanked by a circle of representatives of various Asian American community organizations, began the press conference by calling the article "racist drivel" and called for the magazine to issue an apology and a retraction, hire a Korean or other Asian American writer and for *Rolling Stone* to subsidize an internship or scholarship for Asian American journalism students.

'Seeds of Prejudice'

Korean American Coalition (KAC) President Yoon Hee Kim, with emotion threatening to break her cool demeanor, charged that the article planted "potential seeds of prejudice by reinforcing negative stereotypes regarding Asians and Asian Americans." The KAC requested that: 1) the magazine publish a written statement explaining the intent of the article and an acknowledgment of the inappropriate and inflammatory nature of some parts of the article; 2) the magazine publish a fair sampling of letters it receives in response to the article; 3) a meeting between the

Continued on page 3

NEWS IN BRIEF

Woo Endorses Chu

LOS ANGELES — L.A. City Councilman Mike Woo has announced his endorsement of Judy Chu for the city council of Monterey Park in the April 12 election. Chu is currently a school board member in the Garvey School District, which serves Monterey Park.

Nikkei Woman Shot, Killed—Suspect Arrested

LOS ANGELES — Karen Chikako Toshima of Long Beach, Calif., died at UCLA Medical Center Sunday, Feb. 2, after over 11 hours on life support systems, the result of a gunshot wound to the head from late Saturday night. Toshima, 27, was described as an "innocent bystander," and was apparently caught in the crossfire of a gang-related shootout in Westwood.

On Feb. 6, police identified Durrell DeWitt Collins as the prime suspect in the slaying. Commander Billy Wedgeworth of the Los Angeles Police West Bureau identified Collins as a known gang member.

Black leaders in Los Angeles accused LAPD of racism, saying that because the shooting occurred in Westwood, more resources were being devoted to this case than gang-related violence that occurs in the Black community. Because of protests from Black community leaders, L.A. Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky withdrew his proposed \$25,000 city reward for information leading to arrests in the killing. The Westwood Village Merchants Association offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Toshima's killer or killers.

Robertson Charges 'Master Race' Plot

CONCORD, N.H. — Presidential contender Pat Robertson accused Planned Parenthood's aim is to establish a "master race" and that Margaret Sanger, the founder of Planned Parenthood, advocated the sterilization of "Blacks, Jews, mental defectives and fundamentalist Christians." Planned Parenthood President Fate Wattleton called the attack "the same rhetoric we've heard from televangelists for 10 years."

Bird's Rhyming Debut

SAN FRANCISCO — A poetic ode on internment was the topic as former California Supreme Court Chief Justice Rose Elizabeth Bird made her debut as a commentator on KGO-TV Feb. 4. The two-minute commentary was a poem which closed with the lines "A day of remembrance that burns like an ember. Can it happen again? Yes, unless we remember." About 60 phone calls were received at the station, most of them negative to Bird and her commentary.

Fujiyoshi Leaves Japan

KOBE, Japan — Ronald Fujiyoshi, a longtime fingerprint refuser from the U.S., has left Japan to attend to his ailing father-in-law. Fujiyoshi, 47, went to Japan as a missionary and began a long campaign to protest Japan's fingerprinting laws; fingerprinting is required for aliens residing in Japan. Fujiyoshi believes the laws to be discriminatory, especially toward those of Korean ancestry living in Japan.

Fujiyoshi engaged in a hunger strike from Sept. 5 to Sept. 29, 1987, to protest the policies.

Professor Wins Grievance Against UCLA

By J.K. Yamamoto

UCLA professor Don Nakanishi, who filed a grievance last year with the UCLA Committee on Privilege and Tenure, won his case when the committee agreed that he had received discriminatory treatment in his application for tenure.

San Francisco attorney Dale Minami, who has been representing Nakanishi, told the *Hokubei Mainichi* that "the grievance committee agreed with our allegation that there were procedural improprieties" in last year's review of Nakanishi's qualifications.

Minami is currently negotiating over terms of a new review with UCLA Vice Chancellor Harold Horowitz.

Minami said the last review was "so badly tainted" by bias that "a brand new review committee" that includes "people from his area of specialization" was called for.

In a letter dated Jan. 11, Professor Sydney Roberts, chair of the Committee on Privilege and Tenure, agreed to these and other recommendations.

"I'm hopeful that we can have the new review process start within the next month," said Minami.

Nakanishi, an assistant professor at the UCLA Graduate School of Education and associate director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, applied for tenure in 1986. Tenure was denied in June 1987. Nakanishi requested reconsideration of the decision.

In a grievance filed in October, it

is alleged that "The entire review process was infected with political and racial biases." Included in the grievance are allegations that:

—Despite a positive report from a departmental ad hoc committee, the committee chair, Burton Clark, wrote a letter—without Nakanishi's knowledge—strongly opposing tenure. The letter was read in Clark's absence at a department meeting.

—Although the dean of the Graduate School of Education does not attend faculty meetings on tenure matters, Dean Lewis Solomon—whose strong opposition to Nakanishi was already known—did so in this case in an apparent attempt to intimidate faculty members.

—Reviewers seemed biased against Asian American studies as an academic subject, dismissing Nakanishi's body of original work in the field as "very ordinary" and "not exciting." One reviewer, responding to a description of Nakanishi's work as "pathbreaking," said, "This is taken to mean that as Asian American studies is a new field, most anything could be so described."

These and other actions demonstrated "impermissible bias against Dr. Nakanishi individually and against one of his fields of study," according to the grievance.

The Committee on Privilege and Tenure has recommended that the GSE representative on the ad hoc review committee should be from Nakanishi's area of specialization or a closely related area. All of the previous committee members are to

be replaced.

JACL National Director Ron Wakabayashi noted that the university's decision came after protests from Asian American community leaders throughout the state.

"It's significant that the university has responded after community pressure to meet all of the concerns identified by Dr. Nakanishi and his counsel," he said. "It's always helpful to shine a little light on the process to ensure that employees have a more equitable position in the negotiations."

Lloyd Inui, director of Asian American Studies at California State University Long Beach, said the denial of tenure was "suspect" because Nakanishi "was hired (in 1982) to fill a role in the School of Education with regard to Asian Americans and education issues" and went on to distinguish himself in that field.

"The School of Education, because of its responsibility for public education, should be even more attuned (than other departments) to minority issues," said Inui. "People in the field were taken aback that he would not be recognized for his solid contributions."

The new review will give Nakanishi an opportunity to be "judged by his peers," said Inui.

No Asian American has ever occupied a tenured position at the UCLA School of Education.

Nakanishi has declined to comment publicly on the case until the review process is completed.

—from the *Hokubei Mainichi*.



FINALE—Ryoichi Fukuzawa (Utamaro) on the ladder and cast sing a medley of tunes in the final scene of Taku Izumi's production of "Utamaro: The Musical," which premiered in the U.S. at Little Tokyo's JACCC Japan America Theatre.

'Utamaro: The Musical'

By Harry K. Honda

LOS ANGELES — If you are a contemporary Japanese heritage buff, this is for you. *Utamaro: The Musical*, which began its U.S. premiere tour Feb. 2 at the Japan America Theatre, will appear Feb. 17-18 at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington and Feb. 23-26 at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center in Nashville.

First of all, as one should expect, the dialogue and lyrics are all-Nihongo, abetted by some English sub-titling and translations flashed on small screens at either side on stage. Depending on how fluent your Nihongo is and your ear is able to pick up the small talk by the actors, the screen is either a small help or a big bother.

And by being oblivious to the dialogue, it allows the eyes to be charmed by the bright colors, choreography and special effects.

Even the momentary pauses by the cast, lighting and stage scenery lent an artistic flair that transformed the sight into an *ukiyo-e* come to life.

Singable and Danceable Tunes

Musicals should have you whistling a tune or two when you exit. Producer Taku Izumi's *Utamaro* has

them and we found the ballad, "Why?" (the program notes explain Utamaro's anger explodes into the song here), the most singable. The contemporary "Rockland" and spirited "Ryogoku, My Town", which accompany the more festive scenes in the musical, had your body twitching and feet shuffling with the modern beat.

In the foyer were T-shirts promoting the musical. Why not an LP or cassette of the music instead, we wondered.

The play is set in the Tokugawa or Edo period, chronicling the life and times of Kitagawa Utamaro (1753-1806). It stimulated and can renew interest in this period of Japanese history spanning some 250 years, 1615-1868.

Cultural Development

In the political isolation of excluding foreigners (except for the Dutch traders at Hirado) and prohibiting all foreign travel (there were exceptions, of course, like Manjiro who was picked up at sea by a Yankee whaler and educated on board and at his Massachusetts home in the 1840s), much of Japan's cultural life that Westerners have come to appreciate was developed or matured

Continued on page 3

Playwright Award Given in Memory of Schaar

NEW YORK — The second biennial Ruby Yoshino Schaar Playwright Award will be presented in 1988 as a tribute to and in memory of the former New York chapter president and JACL executive director who died Aug. 26, 1987. Schaar had been an activist dedicated to the struggle for the self realization of Americans of Japanese ancestry. She also served on city and state human rights advisory boards to promote and protect the rights of all.

Schaar's promising career as a concert and aspiring opera singer was abruptly terminated by the onset of WW2. Putting aside her own personal aspirations, she instead encouraged and trained many now renowned artists to pursue and develop their own talents in the theatre and concert stage.

Her firm belief in the dramatic arts as a media to develop public awareness and knowledge of the contributions made by the American and Canadian Japanese in North America provided the impetus for the establishment of the playwright fund by the New York chapter.

Akemi Kikumura, the 1986 winner of the first Ruby Yoshino Schaar Playwright Award, states that she was very much encouraged by the award. Kikumura felt that the recognition validates the efforts of writers and serves to encourage them to "keep going."

Kikumura's play, the "Gambling Den," opened on Jan. 13 at the Northwest Asian Pacific Theatre in Seattle, Washington, and will run for six weeks. A reading of her play is tentatively projected for the summer of 1988 in New York City. The play was produced in December 1986 by the East West Players of Los Angeles, California.

Under the sponsorship of the JACL New York chapter, the Ruby Yoshino Schaar Biennial Playwright Award for 1988 will present its recipient \$2,000.

Applicants interested in competing for this award can obtain forms from their local JACL chapters or by writing to the New York JACL chapter, 7 West 44th Street, N.Y.C., NY 10036. All applications must be postmarked no later than April 1.

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The 1987 reel is available at a \$32 pre-publication price if ordered before March 31, 1988. Cost after that date will be \$42.

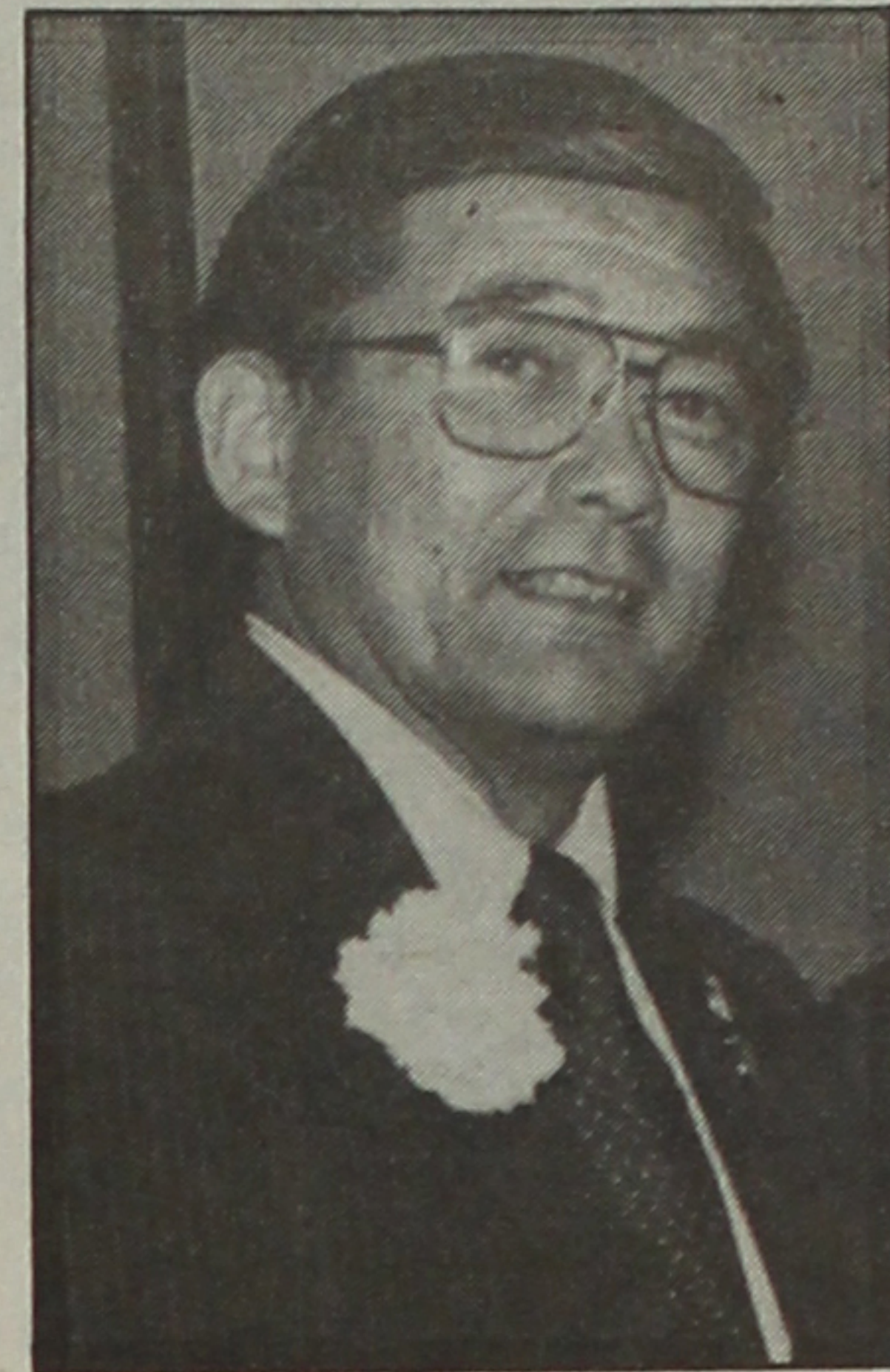
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Mineta Co-chairs Dukakis Group



Norman Mineta

WASHINGTON — Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) has been named state co-chair of the California Dukakis Leadership Group by Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis, governor of Massachusetts. Dukakis made the announcement

on Jan. 28 at a press conference held in the Beverly Hills Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles.

Mineta announced his endorsement of Dukakis for president of the United States on Oct. 16, 1987. He recently reasserted his commitment to the governor, stating, "Mike's style is substance and not the other way around, unlike the present occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Mike and I have long committed ourselves to the ideal that Americans deserve the very best. So I am very pleased to see Mike build a quality grassroots organization here in California, especially as our delegates may well determine the Democratic nominee at the national convention."

In addition to Mineta, two local Santa Clara County officials were named Northern California regional co-chairs for the Dukakis Campaign. The officials are San Jose Vice-Mayor Iola Williams and Santa Clara County Supervisor Rod Diridon.

Letter Strongly Opposes Redress

SEATTLE — At least two form letters regarding the redress legislation have been issued by the White House, with one more strongly against redress than the other.

The report, printed in the Feb. 3 issue of the *Hokubei Mainichi*, comes from the Seattle office of the JACL Legislative Education Committee. The letter many redress supporters report having received after writing to urge the president to sign the Civil Liberties Act of 1987 into law is signed by Anne Higgins, special assistant to the president and director of correspondence.

However, a different letter, signed by Thomas C. Griscom, assistant to the president for communications and planning, was received by Jennifer Dunn, chairwoman of the Washington State Republican Party.

At the request of local LEC representatives, Dunn wrote in November to Attorney General Ed Meese, White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker and Frank Donatelli, assistant to the president for politi-

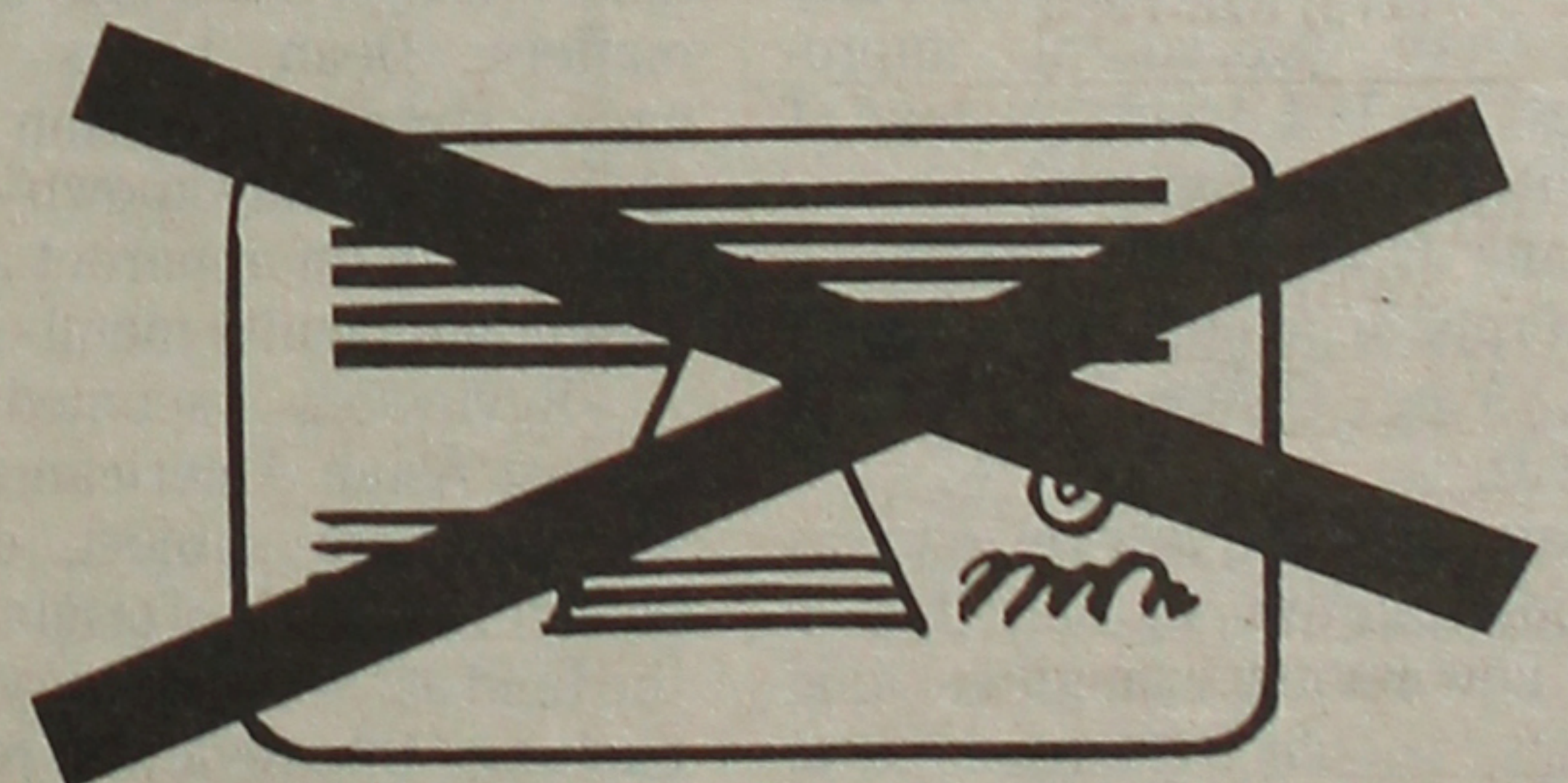
cal and intergovernmental affairs, asking for the Reagan Administration's position on redress.

The reply, dated Dec. 2, reads in part:

"The administration does oppose the legislation and the president has expressed his intent to veto the bill if it reaches his desk in its current form... the United States has already acknowledged the unjustified personal hardships caused by the internment... in enacting the American Japanese Evacuation Claims Act of 1948... Further payments, especially those authorized in H.R. 442... are not warranted."

Grant Ujifusa, LEC legislative chair, said that the Griscom letter reflects positions issued last spring by the Justice Department and the Office of Management and Budget. However, he added, "Neither the president nor anyone who speaks for the president has made any final decisions."

The president has yet to speak publicly on the issue.



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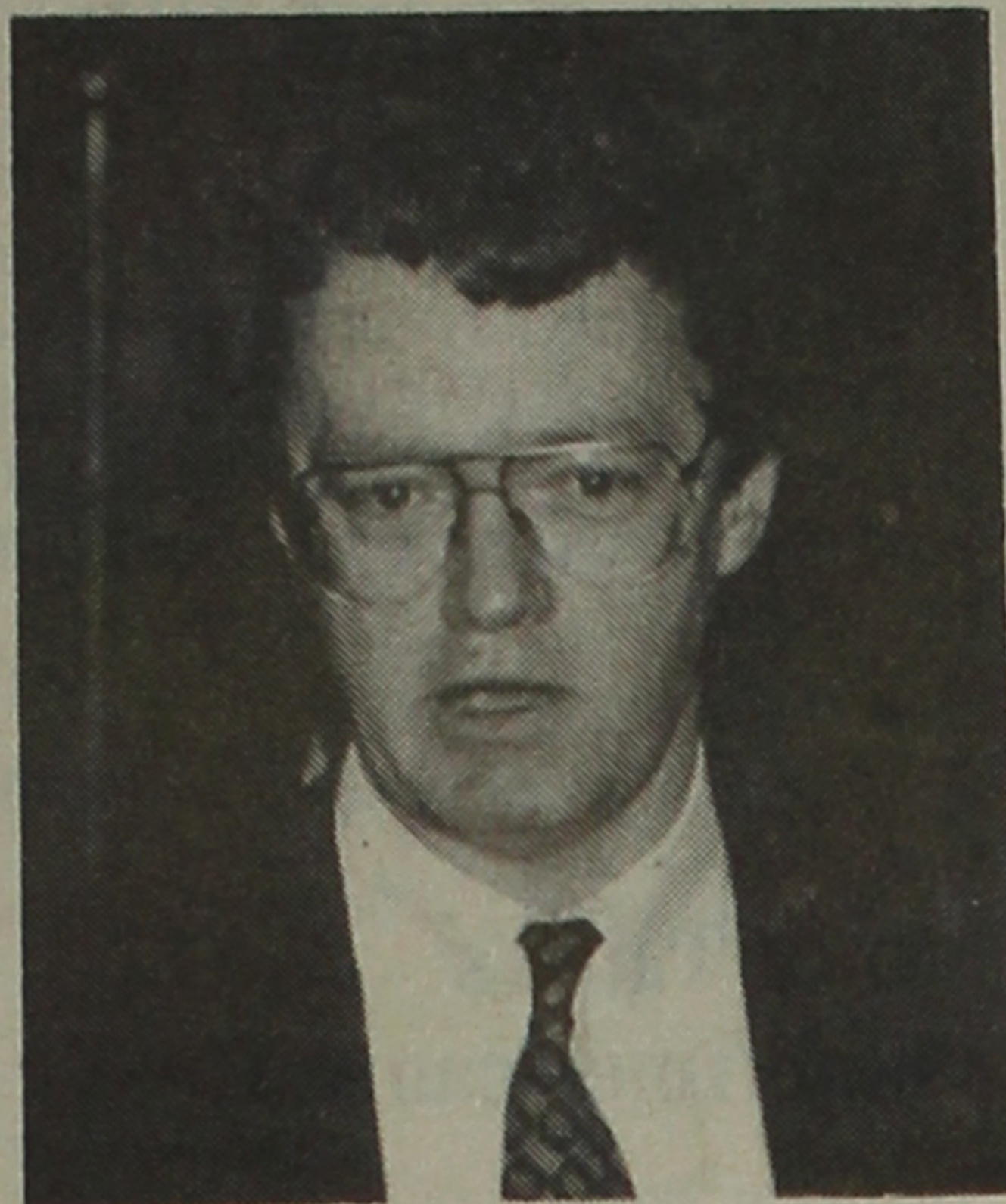
Rolling Stone editorial staff (and P.J. O'Rourke) and the Korean American community; 4) the magazine publish an article to counterbalance O'Rourke's story; and 5), the magazine establish a program to promote understanding and sensitivity of minority issues.

Angela Oh, representing the Women's Organization Reaching Koreans (WORK) and the Korean American Bar Association, denounced the intent and content of article, saying the general response to the article was "disbelief, confusion and anger." She also questioned how such an article could get past the editorial staff unchanged.

'Sincere Apology'

In response to the seriousness of the charges, Robert Wallace, *Rolling Stone's* executive editor, flew into Los Angeles from New York for the press conference. Doing his best to

defuse the situation, Wallace began his comments by giving "a sincere apology" on behalf of the magazine.



Robert Wallace

Wallace seemed genuinely conciliatory and ready to meet with representatives of the Korean American community as soon as possible to discuss and implement their ideas. Despite this, he gave no plausible

explanation how the article was printed without a second thought by the editorial staff, saying, "I can certainly get into what our attitude was toward the piece. I'm sure it won't be satisfactory nor is it meant as a defense, since it's hard to defend a piece against such obviously strong emotion."

As for O'Rourke's viewpoint, Wallace said, "In his attempt to be humorous and satirical, he painted with too broad a brush... in doing so, he hurt the Korean and Asian community. That is why I am here today, to apologize on behalf of the magazine for any insult that has been caused."

Rolling Stone, has a national circulation of 1.2 million and recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. It began in San Francisco as a tabloid which covered rock music, the counterculture and politics. According to Wallace, there is at least one Asian American currently on the *Rolling Stone* editorial staff.



COMMENDATION—Mistress of Ceremonies Jan Yanehiro and Nancy Takahashi, co-chair of a bicentennial banquet held Nov. 21, 1987, present Dr. Harold Langely with a certificate of commendation from the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. In conjunction with the banquet which benefited the San Mateo JACL Community Center, the San Mateo Chapter sponsored a raffle with proceeds towards the LEC.

LEC Update

The Time Has Come for S. 1009

By Grayce Uyehara

For all who are patiently waiting for S. 1009 to go before the Senate for a vote, we can only say that the vote will be scheduled soon but it is not possible to give the exact date. It seems that we may have to be satisfied with the short notice just as happened with the Civil Rights Restoration Act, which was passed the other week.

The vote on contra aid took place Feb. 34 in the Senate; then the Senate went on a one week recess.

During the week before the recess, Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) met with Mike M. Masaoka, of the Go for Broke Nisei Veterans Association; Grant Ujifusa, JACL-LEC legislative chair; and Grayce Uyehara, JACL-LEC executive director. Matsunaga said that S. 1009 will have to move before April. The time-table for the second session of the 100th Congress is shorter and major issues will be coming before Congress. Matsunaga said, "It is important to keep the letters coming to the senators right up to the vote."

The JACL-LEC office in following Matsunaga's suggestion has letters going to the senators from the task force of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR), which represents 185 human and civil rights organizations, as well as from JACL-LEC, Go for Broke Nisei Veterans Association and the coalition of church and religious organizations.

The following is the list of non-co-sponsors of S. 1009. JACL-LEC asks that letters or telephone calls be made to these senators asking for their support: Howell Heflin (D-Ala.), Richard Shelby (D-Ala.), John McCain (R-Ariz.), Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.), William Roth (R-Del.), Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), James McClure (R-Idaho), Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), Steven Symms (R-Idaho), Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kans.), Wendell Ford (D-Ky.), John Danforth (R-Mo.), John Stennis (D-Miss.), Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), Chic Hecht (R-Nev.), Gordon Humphrey (R-N.H.), Don Nickles (R-Okla.), John Heinz (R-Pa.), John Chafe (R-R.I.), Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.), Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), Phil Gramm (R-Texas), Paul Trible (R-Va.) and Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo.).

Your letters, at this time, will make the difference. It will be important to tally a resounding "Yes" vote for S. 1009.

San Diego Gears for '90 Nat'l JACL Convention

SAN DIEGO—The 1988 San Diego JACL annual general membership meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 29, 7:30 p.m., at the San Diego Princess Resort, Island Room.

"This will be the introduction to the local community on the planning for the 1990 National JACL Convention at the convention site," according to Vernon Yoshioka, convention board chair.

The locale in Mission Bay was previously called Vacation Village. The '90 Convention contact: Yoshioka (619) 461-2010 or JACL Office (619) 230-0314.

• The chapter will show the film, "Wataridori," at Kiku Gardens, 1260-3rd Ave., Chula Vista on Feb. 19, 7 p.m., as part of the Day of Remembrance program. For info: Marleen Kawahara, (619) 458-1710.

UTAMARO

Continued from page 2

during this time, such as:

Woodblock prints in robust color, *ukiyo-e*; lacquerware, porcelain and pottery; sumi-e or ink painting; paintings on screen and scrolls; the Kabuki (song-dance art) and the Joruri (puppet theater). Metalworks and *netsuke* or tiny carvings shared in the cultural prosperity of this era.

By 1868, it should be noted, with reopening of Japan and restoration of the emperor, contacts with West-

ern art stimulated the traditional styles of Japanese artists and artisans.

Some 30 years ago, the Broadway hit *My Fair Lady* was introduced as the first U.S. musical in Japan, which has been credited for springing such productions as *Utamaro*. Its U.S. premiere is an international first, but unlike the Japanese autos adapted to the American hand, this musical is "as is", unadulterated from a theatrical standpoint with the tough task of translation somewhat met by the subtitles on stage and a slick program all in Eigo (English).

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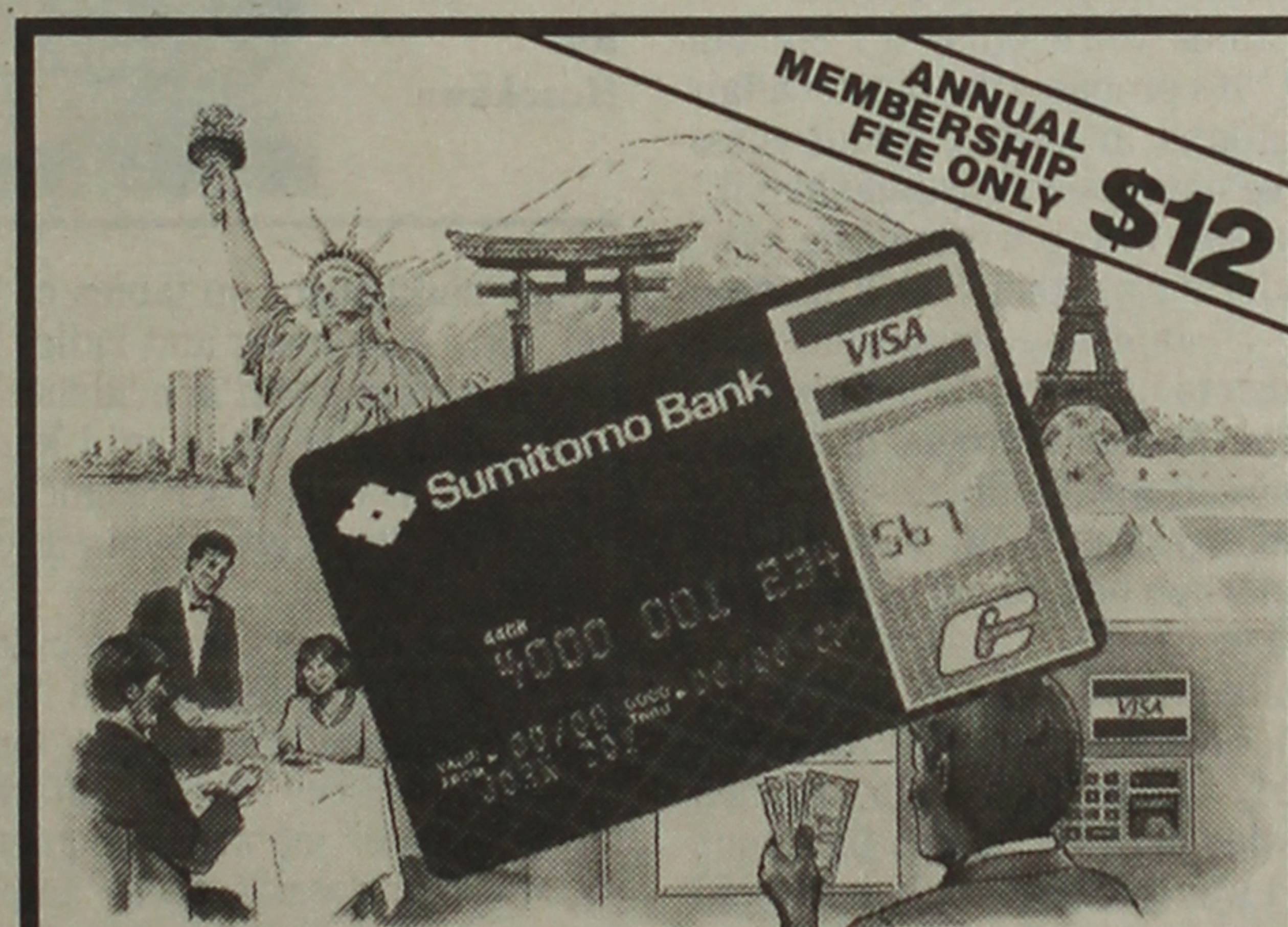
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EDITORIAL OF THE PACIFIC CITIZEN:

Our New Readers in ZIP 967—, 968—

WHILE our readership has been shifting between 60,000 and 75,000 over the past 15 years, the 1987 circulation totals reveal over 70,000 readers or 23,000 paid subscribers, including a new corps of some 1,000 new subscribers in the State of Hawaii, where the ZIP prefix is either 967— (outside of the City of Honolulu) or 968— (inside the City of Honolulu). Aloha!

From a paid subscription count in Hawaii of 66 in 1984, when the Hawaii JACL hosted one of the finest national conventions in JACL history and the first outside the continental 48-states, to 285 at year-end 1986 and now 1,047 at year-end 1987, the year's growth is an astounding 267%. The spread is about 50-50 between ZIP 967— and 968—. Our subscription department gives credit to the SRS recruitment effort for this membership-subscription increase.

Reminded that there many ex-Islanders active throughout JACL, a listing of all the post offices (not the ZIPs) by counties to show where our P.C. readers live may be a bit nostalgic for them and an education to the rest of us Mainlanders who will be seeing some of these names for the first time. (Cities are listed by readership strength.)

HONOLULU CITY—505.

HONOLULU COUNTY—295: Windward (86)—Kaneohe, Kailua, Waimanalo; Aiea, Pearl City, Waipahu (137); Wahiawa, Mililani Town, Waialua (64); Wainae (3) and Ewa (4).

HAWAII / BIG ISLAND—101: Hilo (65); Captain Cook, Hawi, Holualoa, Honokaa, Kamuela/Waimea, Keaau, Kurtistown, Laupahoehoe, Ookala, Paauilo, Pahala, Pahoa, Papaikou, Pepeekeo, Volcano (36).

MAUI—70: Kahului, Wailuku (34); Haiku, Hana, Kihei, Lahaina, Makawao, Kula, Paia (36).

KAUAI—66: Lihue (20); Kalaheo, Koloa, Lawai (20); Eleele, Hanapepe (12); Kekaha, Waimea (11); Kapaa (6).

MOLOKAI—10: Kaunakakai (7), Kualapuu (3).

Stringing the names of the post offices geographically was simplified by referring to the ATLAS OF HAWAII: 2nd Edition, Univ. of Hawaii Press, 1983, p. 189.

JACL PROGRAMS

Continued from front page

tees after favorable action from the district council.

The fund currently has \$149,000 with 80% of the dividends available for grants and on-going expenses while the 20% stays in the fund, Nishikawa explained. Applications from outside the district have been honored, the most recent being a \$1,500 award to the Japanese American Library, San Francisco, which is establishing a national redress repository, including the JACL-LEC archives. Their collection will include material from WRA, CWRIC, camp publications, personal accounts, books and newspapers and "coram nobis" papers.

Upcoming Major Events

Kaneko, who will also be serving as PSWDC JACL program intern through the CORO Foundation, announced a calendar of several major events, geared for membership and community interest. One will be the "Critical Issues / Critical Choices" one-day conference May 14, which will precede the regular district council meeting the next day. Two more will be scheduled in the early spring and fall of 1989.

Hokoyama will head up a PSW board and committee chair retreat over the Mar. 26-27 weekend "to do some serious thinking about where JACL is going this coming biennium" along with getting to know each other better.

Jimmy Tokeshi announced a college-age conference for April 30 at Gardena Japanese Community Center to introduce JACL and stage workshops on Japanese American awareness and on professional management planning.

PSWDC-JACL has joined with JACCC, veteran and community groups to co-sponsor the single March 6, Sunday afternoon showing

at the JACCC Japan America Theatre of Loni Ding's documentary on the WW2 Military Intelligence Service, *The Color of Honor*. Chapters now have tickets at \$50, a tax-deductible donation, or call the Theatre (680-3700).

Guest from Northern Cal

Ted Inouye, NC-WNPDC vice-governor, attending with his nephew, past DC governor Ken Inouye, accepted a PSW membership challenge for new members signed this year—the winners to be treated to dinner at the next Tri-District Conference tentatively set for 1989 in Reno.

Another nephew, Dennis Wakita, representing the Marina chapter, was also asked to rise.

John Saito, who has been making the installation circuit, revealed Hollywood has been revived with Wiley Higuchi back at the helm.

Terry Takeda's report on the Asian Pacific Voters Project was rendered by Hokoyama, who reported the PSW has donated \$1,000 to the project now pushing voter registration in Monterey Park and Gardena, where many Asian Americans reside.

Amy Tambara noted the 1987 Christmas Cheer campaign received some \$16,000 in donations; \$13,000 was distributed and \$3,500 remains on account for 1988. Downtown L.A. JACL accepted the PSW request to succeed the now disbanded Pan Asian chapter to manage the campaign.

The Hokoyama family served the Chinese chicken salad luncheon with side dishes, refreshments and dessert. The session, adjourning at 2, drew close to 100 delegates.

Members are welcome to attend district board meetings, now set for the first Monday nights of the month (unless a holiday, then the 2nd Monday) at the JACCC 2nd floor meeting room.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be typewritten (double-spaced) or legibly hand-printed and no more than 200 words. A contact phone number and address must be included or P.C. will not print the letter. Letters may be subject to editing.

Questions Answered

Fred Hirasuna recently re-raised the questions concerning JACL personnel policies in view of the JACL's budget shortage. His specific concerns related to staff salaries, lines of authority, authority of the National Director, etc. (P.C., 1-8).

I appreciate Mr. Hirasuna's concern with the finances and operations of our organization and would like to reassure him and the membership that the the National Board has discussed these matters extensively in executive and open session meetings of the Board during the past year.

At its October 1987 meeting, the National Board authorized the Personnel Committee to work out the issues relative to staff benefits and responsibilities of the National Director. We are proceeding with this work and will be finalizing these issues in the near future.

Secondly, it appears that some JACLers have been led to believe that we are in a serious financial deficit. Let me reiterate that the organization is in a healthier financial situation than earlier projected (see National Treasurer's Update, P.C. 1-8). According to Alan Nishi, our improved financial position is due to: (1) the chapters repayment of redress pledge monies; (2) successful membership recruitment by SRS; and (3) a 6 percent reduction of the 1987 National operating budget.

Nishi also commented that his primary financial concern was maintaining our membership numbers which have been on the decline.

This should be the topic for discussion in the P.C. Rather than continuing to publicly debate personnel issues, we should begin to examine issues and programs which will attract and involve new and existing members.

YOSH NAKASHIMA

National Vice President, Operations

Vince Tajiri's "Bad Americanism"

Dear Mr. Tajiri:

Your brother Larry would "thumb down" on your prize winning story "The Bird Pines," because you forgot why we fought WW2. In your epilogue to the story, you do a big disservice to our brave, loyal Nisei who gave their lives for our country so that you, me, Matsui, Mineta, Sai-ki, Hosokawa, Hayakawa, and thousands of other Nisei can take their places in our country with pride.

Cubby knew what he stood for. I don't know what you stand for, except bad Americanism.

You should rewrite the epilogue, because you do not do justice to the Nisei who wrote our history with their lives.

I enjoyed reading your story. I lived vicariously with it until I came to your epilogue; then you turned me off.

Let's not forget why we can enjoy our life here in blessed America. It's because of Cubby's sacrifice.

BEN MATSUOKA

Chicago, Ill.

Changing Times

On a recent brief and hurried trip to San Francisco, Yoshimi Shibata and Frank Minami arranged for me to attend the annual new year party of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California.

"I think you'll enjoy it," Shibata said. "It's probably the biggest affair of its kind in town. I would guess you've never seen anything like it."

I asked where it would be held, wondering whether San Francisco had a Japanese restaurant big enough to accommodate a banquet.

"The grand ballroom of the St. Francis Hotel," Shibata said. All I could say was Wow. I said Wow again when he told me tickets were \$55. Per head.

Shibata was right. I had never seen anything like this banquet. Nearly 1,000 men and women crowded into the grand ballroom, and I was told they could have sold more tickets if they had had the space.

I should make it clear that the Japanese Chamber of Commerce is made up of Japanese-Japanese, not Japanese-American firms. The banks, like Sumitomo and California First, and the big trading com-

FROM THE FRYING PAN

Bill Hosokawa



panies had bought up tables of 10, and their executives and ladies in furs were very much in evidence.

In that kind of situation, I knew they weren't going to serve chicken. I was right. The filet mignon was excellent.

After the dinner came the entertainment, which featured a lady singer summoned from Japan for the occasion. Her name, unfortunately, escapes me at the moment. She was a professional with ample stage presence, mature enough to joke about her age, but still able to croon or belt them out as the music required. The Japanese loved it, for she evoked that kind of nostalgia that moves them deeply. Later, someone who should know confided that the singer had been paid

Tajiri Responds

First of all, I'm glad you liked "The Bird Pines" right up to the epilogue. That's important because the story was based on a true incident involving racism that I and my Nisei friends encountered in the late '30s. Woven within the story was my homage to the Issei.

The epilogue was an afterthought injected to illustrate that the Nisei, growing up victims of prejudices that peaked with internment during WW2, proved their loyalty by volunteering for the Armed Forces and going into battle. "Cubby" was the example. I take it you were offended by my reference to him as a "dumb-assed rookie" (because he volunteered out of Poston to catch a piece of shrapnel).

I believe that short stories, like life, should be somewhat inexplicable and subject to the each reader's interpretations. A sort of "Rashomon" with each person shaping the story according to personal prejudices, philosophies and fears. Therefore, while I believe you misread my feelings about Cubby, I must respect your interpretation.

However, when your interpretation prompts charging me with "bad Americanism" and doing a "big disservice to our brave, loyal Nisei who gave their lives for our country," I am compelled to reply. Especially when these charges are contained in a letter with a carbon copy to the Pacific Citizen (intended, it appears, for publication).

So, let me start at the top of your letter: "brother Larry would 'thumb down' (story) because you forgot why

Continued on page 6

\$10,000 for her performance. I didn't learn whether that included expenses.

When they began drawing for door prizes, I said Wow again. The top prize was two executive class round trip tickets to Japan, courtesy Japan Airlines, and the rest tapered down from that level. I told Shibata that if I won the tickets I'd give him one and we'd take our wives to Tokyo. He said he would reciprocate the courtesy and we shook on that. We needn't have bothered. The tickets went elsewhere.

This was a glittering event that reflected the affluence and economic clout of Japanese doing business in the States. Obviously, the executives at the party were well-paid, well-fed, confident of their know-how and status in the world marketplace.

Let's see, was it 1951 that Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida came to San Francisco to sign the treaty that officially ended the war that began at Pearl Harbor? I was at the Opera House as a reporter to witness that event 37 years ago. Many of the men and women at the St. Francis celebrating the arrival of 1988 hadn't been born at that time.

Time flies swiftly and situations change. We need to change with them.

pear to take advantage of advances in "desktop publishing" (newslet-

IROIRO

George Johnston



ters produced with a computer). Although start up costs aren't cheap, computer composition will probably become more common as time goes by.

A newsletter with a visually interesting style is produced by the Marina Chapter. It has a good layout

Continued on page 7

Chapter Newsletters

It tells when and where meetings will be ... it keeps members up to date with organizational affairs ... it gives the latest news about members ... "it" is the newsletter and the Pacific Citizen receives quite a number every month.

The P.C. receives newsletters from organizations like the Jackson-Taylor Business & Professional Association, the Asian American Social Club, JCCNC Update, Nota Bene, M.I.S. Club of Southern California, the Rice Paper and many more. P.C. also receives many JACL chapter newsletters (although we don't get all of them, which would be neat).

It is from these newsletters that the P.C. keeps up with chapter hap-

penings. Many of the items found in the "JACL Pulse" section of the P.C. were culled from the many newsletters received. Whenever there is something written by a chapter president that may be of particular interest JACL members, it may appear in the "Porch" section of the P.C. Many of the lists of new chapter officers appearing in the P.C. were from the newsletters.

Depending upon the resources, time and abilities of the newsletter editors, the chapter newsletters range from mimeographed or photocopied publications to versions done at a print shop. Many newsletters even carry advertising.

Most newsletters are done with a typewriter, but some newsletters ap-

THE PACIFIC CITIZEN BOOKSHELF:

He Always Worked Within the System

■ **They Call Me Moses Masaoka.** Mike Masaoka with Bill Hosokawa. William Morrow & Co., New York, 383 pp, \$18.95 hard.

It is a sign of our times that popular autobiography is all too often the literary equivalent of junk food: fun to consume but, in the final analysis, lacking in substance. Ironically, although much of *They Call Me Moses Masaoka* resembles a "Hollywood biography" in its self-serving aspects, the book is worthy of serious attention. Despite its flaws, it provides the only full-length account—including the background, political philosophy and rise to power—of Mike M. (for Masaru, not Moses) Masaoka, a pivotal figure in the Japanese American community.

Although his name is not familiar to many people, Masaoka is a well-known and controversial figure to Japanese Americans. For over 40 years, he has wielded tremendous influence as an adviser to the leading Japanese American ethnic organization: the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL).

'Heartbreaking Experiences'

The first three chapters of Masaoka's story are the most engaging. They provide a lively and intimate account of his family, childhood and education. As Masaoka himself points out, many of the values that shaped his career in civil rights were clearly rooted in his family experience. He indicates that his parents were excluded from full and equal participation in the larger society because they, like all Japanese immigrants, were classified as "aliens, ineligible for citizenship."

As such, Masaoka's mother and father were not allowed to own land in California because of the state's Alien Land Law. Nor were they protected by the law. For example, when Masaoka's parents finally bought land in Utah, sight unseen, it turned out to be *underneath* the Great Salt Lake. His parents resigned themselves to the loss because, as his mother put it, "We would have been laughed out of court if we had dared to complain." Heartbreaking family experiences like this one had an impact on Masaoka's activities in Washington, D.C. years later.

After graduating from college, Masaoka established himself with the JACL as the organizer of a new "Intermountain" chapter in 1940. His debating and campaigning talents were quickly recognized, and the following year he was hired as JACL's "executive secretary." During World War II, Masaoka, who was never confined in a detention camp, was free to go to Washington to advocate the creation of a segregated Nisei (Japanese American) combat unit.

He believed that by being allowed to fight for the United States, even when deprived of their constitutional rights, Japanese Americans could prove beyond a doubt that they were worthy of the status of full-fledged citizens. Masaoka is convinced that such commitment, paid for in blood, directly led to the acceptance of the Nisei in the larger society.

JACL Lobbyist

Masaoka tries to demonstrate how this acceptance enabled the JACL to end anti-Japanese discrimination in the postwar setting, a task in which he played no small role. In 1946, Masaoka became the Washington, D.C. lobbyist for the JACL, a position that he held until 1972. In that capacity, Masaoka writes that he was personally involved in helping pass numerous pieces of civil rights legislation by pushing for the reform of discriminatory laws affecting naturalization, land laws and immigration.

According to Masaoka, he and the JACL also championed statehood for Hawaii, as well as monetary redress for losses suffered by Japanese Americans during the period of removal from the West Coast.

The strategy behind these victories entailed a definite style of ethnic politics. Masaoka himself is explicit about the fact that neither he nor the JACL ever challenged the system directly: "What we accomplished was achieved through 'the system.'"

What he doesn't say, but what becomes clear as he discusses his involvement with the American political system, is that his approach revolved around the twin strategies of accommodation and compromise. In numerous examples scattered throughout the book, it is also apparent that Masaoka relied upon persuasion and discreet lobbying among his personal acquaintances in Congress whenever faced with discriminatory legislation or policies which resisted reform.

'Resistance Was Useless'

For example, under Masaoka's leadership, the JACL became the primary advocate within the community of total cooperation with government policies during World War II, resulting in the mass imprisonment of over 110,000 people of Japanese ancestry. Masaoka claims that resistance was useless and that "we had been led to believe that if we cooperated... the government would make every effort to be as helpful and humane as possible."

However, because Masaoka and his second-generation followers were so eager to please the government, many Japanese Americans during the war suspected that JACL representatives informed on individuals they felt to be pro-Japanese. Masaoka acknowledges that JACL members responded fully to the questions of intelligence officers. Dodging the larger issue, by failing to reveal the actual nature of information given, Masaoka argues that this was the patriotic duty of JACL members: "We were never informers in the sense that we ran to the FBI with information in the hope of currying favor."

Within the last five years, University of California historians Peter Irons and Yuji Ichioka have independently cited documents in their research that indicate JACL members actually did inform on "suspicious" Issei (first-generation Japanese immigrants) both before and after the attack on Pearl Harbor. This finding is especially tragic, because thousands of men were arrested and, in some cases, sent to special jails run by the Justice Department where they were kept in isolation: their wives and children were sent elsewhere.

Thus, because of a desperate desire to be loyal to America, a number of JACL leaders appear to have assisted the government in identifying "suspicious persons," instead of standing up for the rights of the Japanese American community at large. The closest Masaoka comes to acknowledging mistakes, however, is to state that while the JACL was right in going along with the removal from the West Coast, the organization should have more aggressively protested confinement in segregated concentration camps run by the United States government. Thus, even today, Masaoka fails to confront the full implications of the wartime activities of JACL leaders. In this fashion, here and throughout the book, Masaoka greatly weakens the credibility of his account.

'Admiration For Moses'

In the final analysis, critical evaluation of Masaoka's story can be tied to the somewhat bizarre title of the book. It reflects Masaoka's admiration for Moses, the biblical figure who, outraged by the persecution of his people, defied the Pharaoh and led the Jews out of Egypt. By comparing himself to the divinely inspired prophet, Masaoka suggests that readers share his view that he has led Japanese Americans "within sight of the promised land of justice for all and social and economic equality in our native America."

In the end, despite his self-aggrandizing claims, Masaoka was no Moses. Rather, than challenging "the Pharaoh" (President Roosevelt), or leading his

Continued on page 7



A Shimbun

EAST WIND

Bill Marutani



money.

WHAT PROMPTS ALL this is my coming across a copy of *The Japan Times* issued in September, a few months ago. The masthead, somewhat self-righteously, perhaps, proclaims: "All the News Without Fear or Favor." Scanning the contents, while I did not note any "crusading" or even scathing commentary, I'd say the newspaper is quite good. There was news on President Aquino, the progress on the arms accord between the U.S. and Russia, the conflict between Iran and Iraq, and so on. The newspaper is in various sections: international, national, business (domestic and overseas), finance (stocks), lifestyle and fashions, tv-radio, sports and opinion. Yes, there's even a crossword puzzle. That's quite comprehensive, wouldn't you agree?

OH, YES, CLASSIFIED. Rentals are even more eye-popping today.

Given that this is in the Tokyo area, generally the rental is ¥600,000 with many in the ¥2 million range. Scouring the ads, I found a couple of "bargains": at Edogawabashi there is an apartment "atop bldg near subway station" for a mere ¥180,000. (One might wish to first look at the building on which this bargain is "atop" before plunking down the deposit.) Speaking of deposits, it is my understanding that tenants are often required to place a non-refundable deposit equivalent to six months or even a year's rent.

By the way, I, too, thought those rental rates were for per annum. I understand they're per month. And the dollar is worth about 130 yen or so?

CRIME-FREE JAPAN, or so Nippon is widely regarded. There was a tragic account of a five-year old boy kidnapped in Maebashi and held for ¥20 million ransom, but since the father was but a fireman, could not come up with the money. The kidnapper reduced it to ¥10 million. The boy's body was found floating in the river.

It is reported that this was the 155th kidnapping for ransom in Japan since WW-II.

A Modest Proposal for the Reparations Debate

The following article appeared in the Dec. 14, 1987, issue of the Los Angeles Times. David Tamashiro is a writer in Pasadena, California.

By David M. Tamashiro

I was a 3-year-old American of Okinawan ancestry living in Hawaii when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. I was not put into an internment camp, but I know people who were in those camps and who now are leaders of the reparations movement. I am concerned about the divisions that have surfaced in the debate over reparations, and so I have prepared a modest proposal in the event the Senate votes down a reparations bill, or President Reagan vetoes a bill passed by both chambers.

My proposal was inspired by a story told by the Rev. Cecil Lower, a Presbyterian minister in Illinois: A church in Scotland was observing missions week and the deacons were passing the long-handled offering baskets through the congregation. One deacon stopped at a Scotsman who was a tightwad even among Scotsmen. The deacon said, "Please give something for the missions." The tightwad ignored him. The deacon said a second time, "Please give something for the missions." The tightwad said, "Don't rush me!" The deacon said a third time, "Please give something for the missions." The tightwad said, "Not now!" Finally, the deacon said, "Then take something out; it's for the heathen!"

My proposal was also inspired by the example of the 442nd Regimental

Combat Team. In James Michener's *Hawaii*, a Caucasian father wonders why such a fuss is made over the casualties in the 442nd while his own son, who was a Navy pilot, was unsung in his death. There is a difference. The Caucasian died for a country that kept faith with him. The men of the 442nd were Japanese Americans who had been in internment camps, or had families in internment camps. They went the second mile in signing up to defend a country that had broken faith with them in the area of civil rights and liberties. They went the third mile when they determined to "go for broke" for that same country. So when a member of the 442nd became a casualty, his mileage was different from that of the Caucasian father's son.

This is my proposal:

If the U.S. government fails to acknowledge the wrong that was done to the internees, I propose that each internee voluntarily contribute 1% of the settlement proposed by the House bill in order to pay the national debt. In other words, each person who would have received \$20,000 under that bill will instead pay \$200 in consideration for the hospitality he or she had received at the expense of that government. It has been observed that the former internees are more prosperous as individuals than the United States is as a nation, so let the principle of deep pockets prevail.

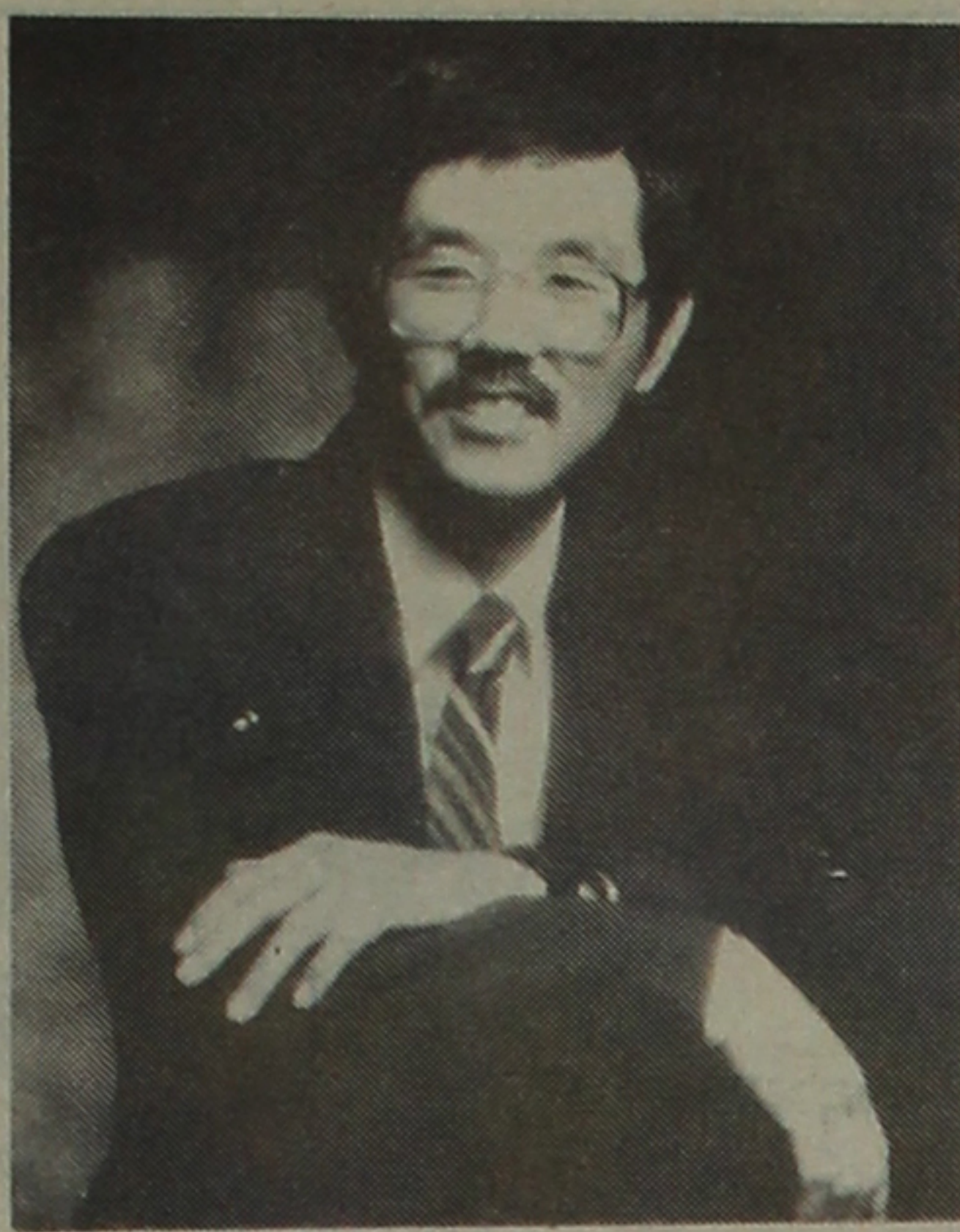
If all the internees gave \$200 each, the estimated contribution to the payment of the national debt would be \$12 million, which is a minuscule

amount compared with a debt estimated in the trillions. But consider the multiplier effect that is possible if the internees also challenge the people who are the wealthiest 1% of this country's population to help pay the debt. If the internees could give 1% of an award they never received, in recognition of the unprecedented way they were treated, surely the wealthiest 1% can give 1% of some substantial base amount for a country that has treated them so handsomely.

There is a precedent for going the third mile in the history of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. There was a "Lost Battalion" of Texans who were rescued by the 442nd at great loss to themselves. In gratitude for the sacrificial rescue, Texas made members of the 442nd honorary citizens of the Lone Star State.

When the internees' challenges to the rich are complete, the amount contributed to pay the national debt could be substantial. And then, perhaps, the United States government will find in its heart a gratitude as large as Texas and accord the internees the status of honorary citizens of the United States. Or the United States government might decide to be bigger than Texas and recognize that the internees were actual citizens all the time and tender them an apology—together with a substantial amount in reparations.

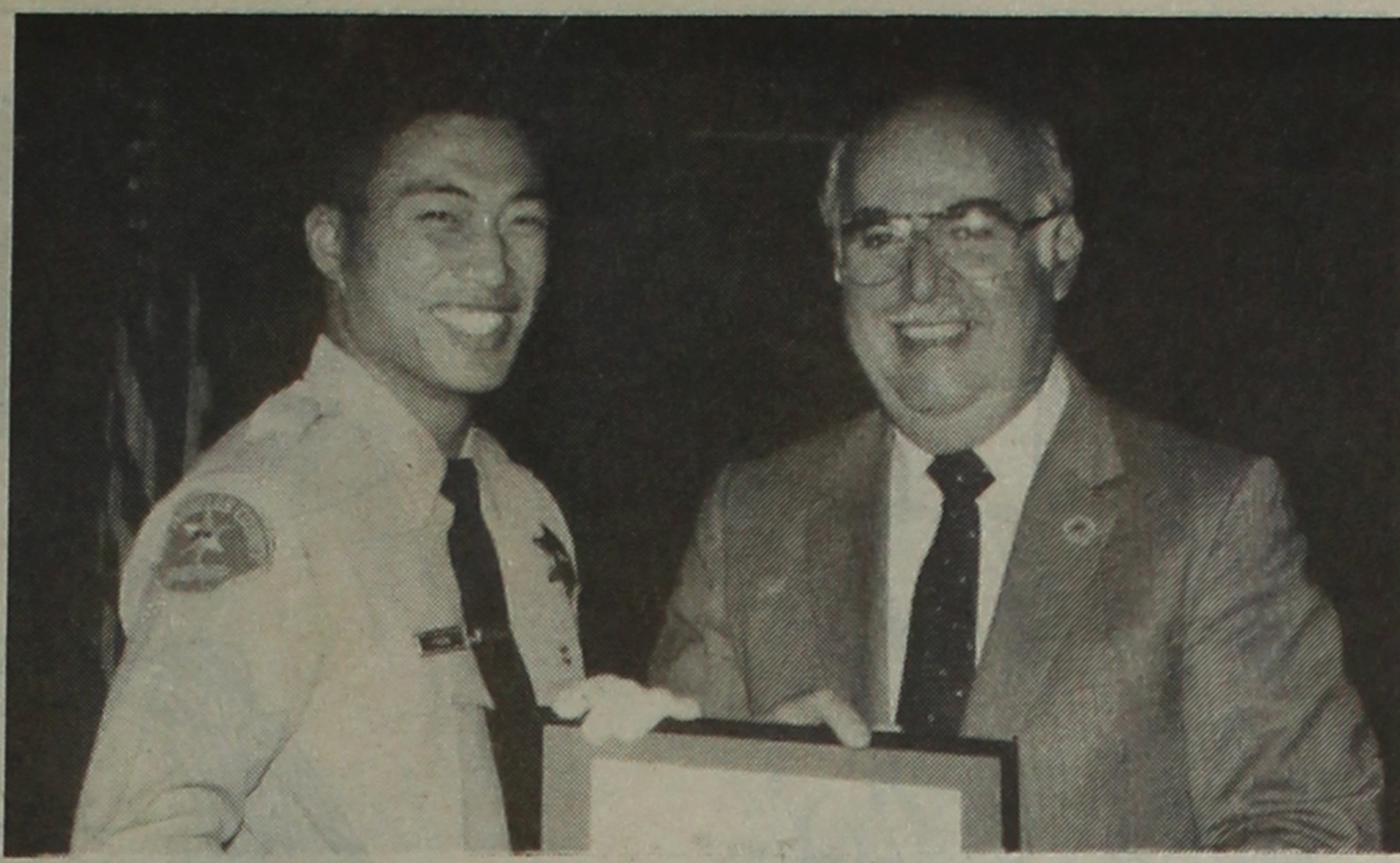
At that point, the Japanese of Japan may be moved to help in the healing process by offering to lend their elder brothers in democracy a low-interest loan to pay for the reparations.



Horiuchi

► **Glenn Horiuchi** is releasing his premiere album, *Next Step*, on the AsianImprov label in the very near future. To mail order the album, send \$10 to: Asante, Box 1085, San Diego, CA 92112.

► **Deputy John Fukuda** was presented with a Certificate of Merit as the Honor Cadet of Class #239 by Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block Dec. 4, 1987.



Fukuda, Block

► **Frank Sato**, inspector general of the Veterans' Administration since 1981, resigned Jan. 8 after completing over 34 years of distinguished federal service. A charter member of the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency, his demonstrated leadership and skills have been repeatedly cited in numerous awards. At his retirement, Administrator of Veterans Affairs

Thomas Turnage presented him with the VA's Exceptional Service Award. Sato is the immediate past National JACL president.

► **Mark Matsunaga** of Hawaii was recently promoted to the post of night city editor at the *Honolulu Advertiser*.

► **Nao Takasugi**, 65, of Oxnard, Calif., was recently appointed to the Private Security Services Advisory Board by California Gov. George Deukmejian. He is also the mayor of Oxnard.

► **Alisa Gyse** of the Broadway musical *Dreamgirls* is ready to sign an RCA recording contract with her co-stars. Her mother is Lillian Gyse, nee Hijikata of Chicago.

Omaha CL to Host MPDC Meeting

OMAHA, Neb.—The spring session of the Mountain Plains District Council March 11-12 here at the Holiday Inn Central will feature a Saturday workshop on multicultural education / cooperative pluralism conducted by Mako Nakagawa of Seattle and Mollie Fujioka as installation speaker for

the Omaha chapter that evening, it was announced by MPDC Governor Steve Hasegawa.

Fujioka, the JACL Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific district governor, recently indicated her intention to run for national JACL presidency this summer.

Room reservations at \$53 double, \$46 single should be confirmed by Feb. 26 through Hasegawa, (402) 895-4157 res. or 271-3145 bus. DC meeting registration plus ticket for the installation banquet at Venice Inn, 6920 Pacific St., is \$15.

Hotel limo is available from the airport. Chapter hospitality room opens Friday at 6 p.m. with Judy and Gary Gotsdiner as hosts. The business sessions start at 8 a.m. Saturday, followed by *bento* at Mt. Fuji Inn. Afternoon workshop will run from 1:15 till 4 p.m. at the hotel. Dinner starts at 6.

Nat'l JACL Credit Union Slates Meeting

SALT LAKE CITY—The 44th annual meeting of the National JACL Credit Union will be held on Saturday, March 12, at the Double Tree Hotel.

The credit union declared a 6% dividend plus 1% bonus for regular and organization accounts for the last quarter, 1987. IRA accounts earned at a 6.58% dividend rate.

Earlier in the day, the Intermountain District Council will have its first session of the year here.

LETTER

Continued from page 4

we fought WW2."

Right away we disagree. Knowing Larry as I did, I believe that he would have liked the story because it was written with honesty and integrity.

As for your reference to my forgetting why we fought WW2, you're wrong again. I was too intimately involved in it—emotionally and physically—to ever forget.

Since you brought my family into this with the reference to Larry, let me give you an idea as to our involvement. Following Pearl Harbor, Larry tried to enlist and was turned down because of very poor eyesight. He was offered a gig with the OWI (Office of War Information) which he turned down because he felt he could be of more value to the relocatees and the evacuees by keeping them informed—and telling their story—through the *Pacific Citizen*.

Since you're in Chicago you probably know about the Chicago Nisei Post No. 1183. Well, I've been a member of that American Legion Post for 35 years. A past commander of that Post is my brother Thomas, also a WW2 veteran. I'm also a life member of the Disabled American Veterans, Camp Kearney Post. Tom's second son, Jimmy, is a recent Annapolis graduate and a Navy lieutenant.

Another brother, James, after serving in WW2 reenlisted at the start of the Korean War, got his commission with the crack paratroop 101st Airborne, "Screaming Eagles," and served through three wars ending up with the Green Berets in Vietnam. At retirement, he was a lieutenant colonel. His youngest daughter, Kathleen, is an Air Force captain stationed at Travis Air Force Base in California.

My brother George Shinkichi's 16th birthday was December 7, 1941. He took the attack on Pearl Harbor personally and on December 7, 1943, when he was 18, he volunteered out of Poston and showed up at Shelby. It caught me totally by surprise and with confused emotions (love, pride and anger) I called him a dumb-assed rookie" for his heroics; he did "catch a piece of shrapnel" that tore up his thigh (not his gut, like "Cubby"). Also, the "Cubby" in my story wasn't Shinkichi. I used the incident in the epilogue, as I said, as an illustration.

That accounts for me and my brothers. The sixth child in our family is my sister, Yoshiko, who served as an editor with the Armed Forces

newspaper, the *Pacific Stars and Stripes*.

The point is this: if you're going to question my feelings about having someone volunteer for military duty, you should know that while I consider war a horrible waste of some of the world's finest young men, I am proud of my family's continuing involvement in the military. And I strongly resent slurs on my "Americanism."

I would never minimize what 33,000 Nisei who served in all the theaters of WW2 did—not only for our nation—but, for all Japanese Americans. All Nikkei are enormously indebted to these men.

And, if you say I forgot why we fought WW2, I will tell you that I will never forget going into Poston to see my mother on my last furlough. There beyond the sentry gates where I had to submit to the indignity of having my duffel bags searched, I joined 30,000 others who had been shorn of dignity and subjected to the humility of being imprisoned in narrow quarters. Was one's ancestry sufficient cause for incarceration? Well, for Adolf Hitler, it was. But wasn't that theory of a superior race precisely what we Americans opposed? What then were we fighting for?

I don't like to be accused of "bad Americanism" since there ain't no such thing. Americanism is akin to patriotism. You either have it or not. My version of Americanism comes down to a single phrase in the Declaration of Independence that declares all men are created equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights.

However, I believe that "Americanism" and all attitudes promoting nationalism started becoming obsolete on Aug. 6, 1945. The bomb that exploded above Hiroshima mushroomed and radiated in all directions over the universe. Today's nuclear weapons are several hundred times more deadly, and much more pervasive and indiscriminate. Death-dealing chemistry that recognizes no national boundaries nor race. As we continue to pollute the atmosphere and our oceans, we continue to contaminate all mankind. And the death that rides nuclear weaponry will mark us all. If we as people cannot be friends, then as enemies we will all be victims.

So, that's about where I stand, Ben. I hope that this brings you to a better understanding of me. Thanks for your letter and for your patience in reading mine.

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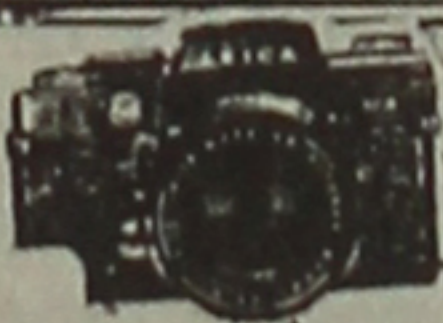
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Community Calendar

DENVER/BOULDER

■ Feb. 22—"Working With Refugees: Social and Adjustment Issues," a series of workshops at the University of Colorado at Boulder, 8 am-5 pm. Info: Sumiko Hennessy, 303 393-0304.

■ Feb. 29—"Improving Educational Opportunities for Minorities," a conference at the Auraria Higher Education Center, sponsored by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education and the Colorado Commission on Higher Education. Participants will include Gov. Roy Romer, state legislators and university/college presidents. Info: Russell Endo, 303 443-9587.

LOS ANGELES AREA

■ Feb. 12-19—The 2nd Annual Japanese American Cultural Celebration, a cultural and educational program about the history and heritage of Japanese Americans, presented by UCLA's Japanese American student organization and the UCLA Nikkei Student Union (NSU). Highlights include:

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NOTICE OF A BIENNIAL PUBLIC HEARING by the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles, California on the LITTLE TOKYO REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles, California has authorized the setting of Wednesday, February 24, 1988, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., as the time and fixed the 2nd Floor Conference Room, Hotel Tokyo, 328 E. First St., Los Angeles, California, as the place for a biennial public hearing to be held by the Agency on the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project.

The purpose of the public hearing is to: (1) Review the Redevelopment Plan for the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project and evaluate its progress; and (2) Hear the testimony of all parties interested in the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project.

At the above stated day, hour and place any and all persons having any testimony regarding the Redevelopment plan for the Little Tokyo Redevelopment Project may appear before the Agency and be heard.

a taiko drum performance by Kinnara Taiko; films dealing with redress and reparations; an art exhibition; a forum on role models featuring scheduled appearances by Warren Furutani, Lorna Nagata and Tertia Toyota; and a Day of Remembrance, featuring speeches by Alan Nishio and Rep. Norman Mineta. All events free and open to the public. Info: UCLA Nikkei Student Union, 213 825-7184 or the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 213 825-1006.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

■ Feb. 22 & Feb. 24-27—Likha Promotions presents *A Song for Manong*, a

tribute to the first Filipino Immigrants, the Herbst Theatre (Feb. 22) and the Fort Mason Center, Building B (Feb. 24-27). Info: Cherie M. Querol Moreno, 415 992-0169.

SEATTLE

■ Present-Feb. 28—Exhibition of paintings by Roger Shimomura, Greg Kucera Gallery, 608 2nd Ave., Tues.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm; Sun., noon-5 pm.

Publicity items for The Calendar must be typewritten (double-spaced) or legibly hand-printed and mailed at least THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE. Please specify a day or night phone contact for further information.

NEWSLETTERS

Continued from page 4

and good graphics, as well as advertising. Selanoco also has an above average newsletter. The Las Vegas Chapter Newsletter is unique because it arrives in a red cover and has a *Nihongo* section. It too has a number of advertisements, which probably help defray the cost of the newsletter. The Seattle Chapter Newsletter is very well done, with a "clean," easy to read style.

At the risk of appearing provincial, I think the Mile-Hi Chapter's "Mile-Hi Notes" may be the best of the lot. It was edited by Kent Yoritomo, who just handed over the reins to three younger Nikkei. While under Yoritomo's editorship, the newsletter was informative, had

personality and an uncluttered style. Although it doesn't carry any ads, the main feature that distinguished it from other newsletters was the photographs it carried. The Mile-Hi Chapter is fortunate that it has two members who can run cameras, Yoritomo and Tom Masamori.

Producing a chapter newsletter, since it is a volunteer position, isn't always easy and may sometimes seem thankless. But it serves a vital function, disseminating information and even recruiting new members. It can be a great tool for communication, but not every chapter gives its newsletter the priority it should. The next time you see your underappreciated newsletter editor, shake his or her hand and say, "Good job on the newsletter."

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12—Miscellaneous

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DELIVERING HONORS—Dr. Sakaye Shigekawa, an obstetrician who has delivered over 10,000 babies during her long medical career, recently received a commendation from Los County Supervisor Ed Edelman. Dr. Shigekawa served at Queen of Angels Medical Center for 36 years and is now in private practice.

BOOK REVIEW

Continued from page 5

people out of "Egypt" (the West Coast), Masaoka used his political skills to urge accommodation and promote the assimilation of the Japanese American community. Although Masaoka emphasizes only its

benefits, the ultimate price of this strategy will be studied and debated for years to come, especially for those persons whose reputations, lives and families were ruined by wartime events.

—Lane R. Hirabayashi

Lane Hirabayashi teaches Asian American studies at San Francisco State.

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JACL PULSE

FLORIN

• "Florin at the Smithsonian: Justice on the Horizon," the 6th Annual Florin JACL Time of Remembrance, 7 pm, Feb. 20, Florin YBA Hall, 8320 Florin Rd., Sacramento. Features slide presentation by Dr. Tom Crouch, Social and Cultural Dept. director, Smithsonian Institute; and National LEC Board Chairperson Jerry Enomoto. \$8/adult, \$2/Jr. and Sr. High School students; children under 12 free. Info: Al and Mary Tsukamoto, 916 383-3906 or Richard/Irene Uno, 916 424-3330.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

• The Employment Practices Committee will meet Feb. 13, concurrently with the National Board at JACL Headquarters. The agenda will include planning an employment handbook for JACL with a condensed version for chapter use to be inserted in the "President's Handbook" and definite procedures for JACL to follow in employment issues, particularly employment discrimination. Info: District governors or Betty Waki, 8667 Hinman, Houston, TX 77061. Tel.—713 643-1338.

SEATTLE

• Potluck super, 6:30 pm; Day of Remembrance—1988, 7:30 pm, Feb. 19, Bush Asia Center, 409 Maynard Ave. S. Keynote Speaker: Rep. Norman Mineta. Honored Guest: Rep. Mike

Lowry. Co-sponsored by Seattle JACL and the Washington Coalition on Redress. Info: Cherry, 206 721-0717.

SOUTH BAY

• "Fun in the Snow" is the theme for the next Big Bear Weekend outing planned by the Sansei Singles Committee of the South Bay JACL for the weekend of Feb. 19, 20 & 21. The committee has reserved a modern, completely furnished, vacation home in the Snow Summit area of Big Bear that will house 15 people. Cost: \$75; covers lodging and all meals. Deposit: \$25. Send to: Midori Watanabe Kamei, 28011 Indian Rock Dr., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274. Info: 213 541-6698.

VENTURA COUNTY

• Installation Dinner, 6 pm, Feb. 20, the Lobster Trap Restaurant, 3605 Peninsula Rd., Channel Islands Harbor. Guest Speaker: Bill Watababe, director of the Little Tokyo Service Center. Cost: \$16. Info: Gladys Kohatsu, 805 488-3986 or Gene Matsutsuyu, 805 983-8035.

Items publicizing JACL events should be typewritten (double-spaced) or legibly hand-printed and mailed at least THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE to the P.C. office. Please include contact phone numbers, addresses, etc.

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June 15 - 26

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JACL CHAPTER NEWS

Slide Presentation a 'Hit'

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — Prof. Don Estes's address, "Who Will Tell the Story to Our Children?" on Japanese Americans with slides was a "hit" at the Riverside JACL installation Feb. 6 at Riverside City College student union.

The longtime San Diego JACler, who teaches history at San Diego City College and contributes San Diego Issei stories to the Pacific Citizen, was the main speaker. He was introduced by Douglas Urata. Chapter president William Takano, re-elected to a second term, and his cabinet members were installed by Bill Kaneko, PSWDC vice-governor.

In a fast-paced 45-minute presentation, Estes begins with slides of the Issei who came as teenagers or young men in their 20s. The Sansei students who have seen his show in class were struck by the youthful look of their grandfather's genera-

tion, Estes commented while clicking along the slides.

There are pictures which were used for picture bride exchanges, the wedding photos to send back home to Japan, of the babies that followed, and scenes of home, work and play.

A rare photo shows a San Diego Issei who started to grow cotton in Imperial Valley in the 1920s, instead of winter produce as most Japanese were doing.

Estes, who has some 2,000 slides on file and interviewed the families who loaned pictures for his presentation, is half-way in his show with the Evacuation and postwar years, which are in color.

Among the guests were two Sister City exchange students from Sendai, JAClers from Coachella Valley, Orange County and the Selanoco chapter.

—Harry Honda.

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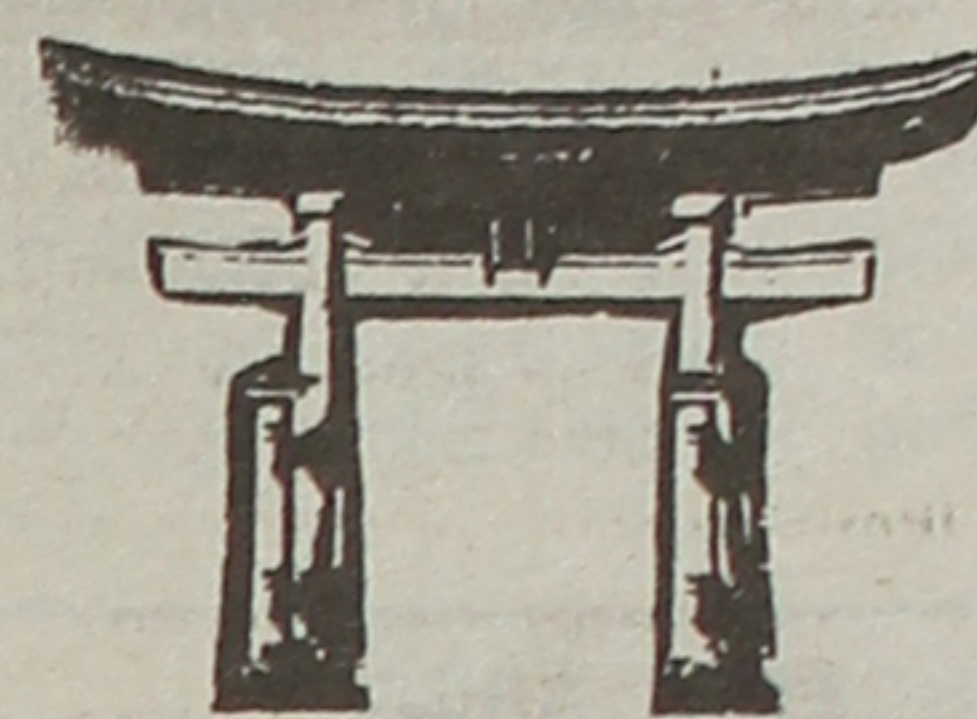
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Movies, slides, fellowship renewal with tour companions, and refreshments, every third Sunday of the month, 1-3 p.m., at Stoner Playground (in the pool area), 11759 Missouri Ave. / at Stoner, West L.A. (Located west of the San Diego Fwy. off Santa Monica Blvd. ramp.)

1988 GROUP TOURS (Revised Jan. 25, 1988)

- # 3 Caribbean Cruise
Feb 7 - Feb 14
Ray Ishii, escort
- # 4 New Orleans Mardi Gras
Feb 13 - Feb 17
George Y. Kanegai, escort
- # 5 Best of Florida with Epcot
Mar 4 - Mar 12
Yuki Janet Sato, escort
- # 6 Japan Cherry Blossom
Tour - Mar 25 - Apr 9
Toy Kanegai, escort
- # 7 Australia and New Zealand
Apr 28 - May 18
George Kanegai, escort
- # 8 Sendai/Ura Nihon Tour
May 7 - May 20
Ray Ishii, escort
- # 9 The Historic East Tour
May 13 - May 21
Bill Sakurai, escort
- #10 The Best of Europe
Jun 3 - Jun 22
Toy Kanegai, escort
- #11 Japan Summer Tour
Jun 24 - Jul 6
Veronica Ohara, escort
- #11a Spain, Portugal & Morocco
Jun 23 - Jul 9
Alyce Komoto, escort
- #12 Alaska and the Yukon
Jul 4 - Jul 16
Toy Kanegai, escort
- #12a See South America
Jul 13 - Jul 28
Masako Kobayashi, escort
- #12b Scandinavia & Russia
Jul 21 - Aug 11
Alyce Komoto, escort
- #13 Canadian Rockies Tour
Aug 9 - Aug 20
Bill Sakurai, escort
- #14 Japan August Tour
Aug 12 - Aug 26
Nancy Takeda
- #15 Yangtze River / China
Sep 7 - Sep 28
Jiro Mochizuki, escort
- #15a India & Nepal
Sep 10 - Sept 28
Alyce Komoto, escort
- #16 Europe Highlights Tour
Sep 22 - Oct 9
Galen Murakawa, escort
- #17 Fall Foliage Tour:
New England/Canada
Oct 1 - Oct 14
Yuki Sato, escort
- #18 New Orleans - Deep South
Sep 17 - Sep 25
Veronica Ohara, escort
- #19 Hokkaido/Nagoya Festival
Tour - Oct 6 - Oct 20
Toy Kanegai, escort
- #20 Australia, N.Z, Tahiti
Oct 6 - Oct 24
Eric Abe/Veronica Ohara
- #21 Japan Basic Tour
Oct 7 - Oct 22
Bill Sakurai, escort
- #22 Okinawa & Kyushu Tour
Oct 22 - Nov 4
Ray Ishii, escort
- #22a Egypt & Holy Land
Oct 26 - Nov 8
Alyce Komoto, escort
- #23 Orient Holiday Tour
Dec 19 - Jan 2
George Kanegai, escort

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