



Pacific Citizen

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

Special Travel section
—page 8

(75¢ Postpaid U.S.) Newsstand: 25¢

#2647/Vol 114, No. 1

ISSN: 0030-8579

701 East 3rd Street, Suite 201, Los Angeles, CA 90013

(213) 626-6936

Friday, January 3-10, 1992



Photo: ALAN S. YOSHIM

DONOR—Seabrook member Harumi Tariguchi (left), 89, is the first to contribute to the Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center. With her are Ellen Nakamura, chapter president, and John Fuyume, project director.

Seabrook launches plans for museum

The Seabrook Chapter, JAACL, announces its long-range plans to establish a museum, to be known as Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center (SECC), in Upper Deerfield Township, Cumberland County, N.J., for the preservation of the history of the Japanese Americans in Southern Jersey.

After researching and contacting several well known museums, the concept was established to create a lasting memorial of the coming of the Japanese Americans to the area and their acceptance during the height of World War II. They were the largest group of evacuees from the West Coast relocated by a single employer in the United States.

More than 2,500 persons, representing

over 500 families, resettled late in Seabrook through 1944-1945 through the efforts of the Charles Franklin Seabrook, founder of what is considered the world's largest frozen food plant.

Their acceptance and assimilation held in camps remain a source of community pride and inspiration.

With past JAACL president, John Fuyume, as project director, considerable progress has already been made. Retiring in 1990 and returning to Bridgeton, Fuyume has administrative experience, including 10 years as vice president of Gotans-Larsen Shipping Corporation. He is considered a knowledgeable collector of art and

historical material.

Chapter President Ellen Nakamura, serves as steering committee chairwoman and is recognized as the first Japanese American woman to settle in Seabrook. Her pioneering work in Seabrook as a liaison officer is documented by the War Relocation Authority (WRA) and is catalogued at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

She is one of the 30 survivors of some 300 women profiled in the first extensive history of New Jersey women, from colonial times to the present who historically affected the state, in the publication "Past and Present: Lives of New Jersey Women."

1991—A year of hate crimes

The new crime stories bannered across newspapers across the country told of new and awful attacks—often violent and against minorities. Here is a roundup of major events

By GWEN MURANAKA
PC assistant editor

Crimes up all over the board, but more disturbing is the rise in hate crimes across the country. For 1990, in Los Angeles County there was a total of 550 documented hate crimes, with Asians the victims 8.9% of the time. Although the figures aren't in yet for 1991, it looks 1991 was another banner year for hate. Here's an assessment of the state of anti-Asian violence from leaders across the country.

ting. There hasn't been much coverage in the media," said Wakabayashi.

"The U.S. is going through this strange period. So much of the L.A. community is moving around. The black community is undergoing transition, leadership is moving. Things that usually help keep tensions under control have been weakened." Speaking about the strained relations between Korean storeowners and African American customers, Wakabayashi said, "The tensions that are developing between communities can also take on hate violence characteristics. If you firebomba store because it has a Korean owner, I would call that anti-Asian violence."

Los Angeles—Ron Wakabayashi, executive director of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission, said, "I've spoken with the police, in general there is a slight rise (in hate crimes against Asian Americans) but when you break it into quarters, overall numbers are up 10% against all groups."

Connecticut—The community surrounding Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut is far from the violence of New York or Los Angeles, but racism and intimidation does exist. Jack K. Hasegawa, general secretary of Yale University's Dwight Hall, a nonprofit organization that coordinates students' community-service activities recalled an incident where the dorm room of an Asian American woman was trashed, while her roommates were present, by a group of men and the words "KKK" written on the wall. The woman, then a freshman, came to Hasegawa for help and after going before an executive committee, the perpetrators were given a only light reprimand.

Wakabayashi went on to say that recent incidents of violence against Asian Americans at the Norwalk community center, at the home of a Chinese American in Laguna Beach, and at the home of a Japanese American in Claremont constituted a cluster of violence that hadn't occurred since 1986 when then Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone made a disparaging remark about Latino and African Americans.

"She requested a single room and spent the semester living alone. It's a case of punishing the victim," said Hasegawa.

Outside of campus, walking

Wakabayashi expressed concern about the consequences of the bad economy for Asian Americans. "LA's economy is pretty beat up. People are going to come back to where they were. That's a different circumstance, not just depression, but transition. The labor market seems to conform ethnically, that's problematic."

"I think on another basis, the Civil Rights Bill exclusion of Wards Cove has to be unse-

to conform ethnically, that's problematic."

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Mistaken for Korean, Thai woman is beaten

COMPTON, Calif.—Mistaking a 36-year-old woman of Thai ancestry for Korean, two African American men allegedly pulled her out of her car and proceeded to beat her on Dec. 4. According to police reports, the two men, Kenneth Sadberry, 20, and Lewis Harris, 19, surrounded the vehicle as it stood at the corner of Wilmington and El Segundo Blvd. at 10:45 a.m. and smashed the driver's side window with a baseball bat. The woman suffered lacerations to the neck as a result of shattered glass. She was treated at the scene for her injuries, but refused to be taken to the hospital.

Off-duty RTD police officer Rodrick Evans witnessed the attack and chased the men and apprehended Sadberry. Harris was arrested after he was spotted by a witness at the arraignment of Sadberry on Jan. 3. On the arrest of Harris, Lt. Peridan of the Compton Police Department said, "We just got lucky." According to Lt. Peridan, Harris will be charged with the same four counts of assault with a deadly weapon, auto burglary, attempted robbery, and battery as Sadberry.

Asian American leaders called a press conference on Dec. 20, the day of Sadberry's preliminary hearings, to denounce this most recent incident of racial violence. Among those present were: Dennis Hayashi, national director of JAACL; Jerry Yu, executive director of the Korean American Coalition; Jimmy Tokeshi, regional director of JAACL Pacific Southwest District; and Kathryn Imahara, staff attorney for the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. Imahara said, "We understand there is a lot of anger and tension, but it cannot manifest itself through physical violence. You can't go around assaulting people because of their ethnicity."

Man sues for false arrest in temple murders

PHOENIX, Ariz.—Claiming he was wrongfully arrested for the Aug. 10 killings of nine people at a Buddhist temple near here, Victor Perez Zarate, 28, recently filed a \$20 million claim against Maricopa County.

Zarate is the third man to file such a claim, the others are Leo Bruce, who filed a \$10 million claim, and Mark Nunez, who filed two claims for \$15 million. The Maricopa Sheriff's Department dropped charges against Bruce, Nunez and two others because of

insufficient evidence. Unlike the other claimants however, Zarate was arrested but never charged in the murders. Speaking to the Arizona Republic, Zarate said, "People shouldn't have to go through what I had to go through. They should have evidence before they take people in. There was no reason for them to do this."

Zarate was released after a videotape from Tucson Greyhound Park showed him working at the same time authorities claimed he was in Phoenix. Among Zarate's

allegations are that county investigators denied two requests by Zarate for a lawyer; kept him awake 44 hours; forced him to urinate into empty soda cans; and tried to pick a fight with him.

Authorities have also arrested Alex Garcia, 16, and Jonathan Doody, 17, who both confessed to the killings and have been linked to weapons used in the incident. At present, the two teen-agers remain in custody pending hearings on whether they should be tried as adults in the case.

A calendar of crimes

First half of 1991—The JAACL Pacific Southwest Regional office received 15 hate letters over six months. Among the diatribes were "You birds should move back to Tokyo instead of lobbying constantly for Jap ideas in America." Here are others documented around the country.

February—San Jose, Calif., the windows of a car owned by a Filipino American are shot out and the words "Die Nip" and "Pearl Harbor" spray-painted on the side.

March 4—LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Steven J. Johnson, 20, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor and felony hate crime for severely beating a Japanese student he thought was Hmong.

March—New York, a conference held at SUNY Binghamton university was marred by an incident where a white student lunged and threw punches at a conference participant who was involved in a picket line protesting a racist table decoration put out by the campus' food services.

May 3—Wilmington, North Carolina, Lloyd Piche indicted on one count of conspiracy to violate civil rights and seven counts of aiding and abetting a violation of federally protected activity for the killing of Jim Loon on July 28, 1990.

May 27—Ithaca, New York,—at Cornell University, a

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CRIMES

(Continued from page 1)

across a rectangular park called "The Green," Hasegawa noted that there is ethnic intimidation. "Walking across 'The Green,' frequently black teenagers will have things to say, Bruce Lee screams, 'Chinks.' I know Asian American women sometimes feel very vulnerable walking into the mall, they feel pressure from men of all colors. It's the sense that they're available—china doll stuff. Men walking across campus get harassment from white guys in cars asking when they're going to go home."

According to Hasegawa, Connecticut has seen a dramatic rise in the number of Asians especially with the entry of Japanese companies into the area.

"We don't see physical violence (in Connecticut), but it's a question of what is violence," said Hasegawa.

Hasegawa, in addition to his work at Yale, conducts seminars with managers of corporations in racial sensitivity and awareness. "I want managers to examine the jobs they have—hiring on the basis of accomplishments rather than stereotypes. A lot of the reflex of prejudice comes at an unconscious level, it comes from deep cultural teaching. It's not a white male bashing session. Demographics are changing. We know that managers in technical industries will be managing large numbers of women and Asian immigrants."

Wisconsin—Speaking from her farm in Racine Wisconsin, Kiyoko Fiedler said, "As a child, I grew up in Wisconsin. Being the only minority member besides my sister and brother, I was painfully aware of how racist whites can be."

Over the years, Fiedler has worked for the Urban League of Racine and Kenosha and a former member of the Governor's Asian Council and Ethnic Minority Council. Currently she works with members of the newly immigrated Hmong community to help smooth their transition into American society.

In 1990, in LaCrosse Wisconsin, Steven Johnson severely beat a Japanese student he thought was Hmong. Fiedler also noted an instance where the car of a Hmong family was taken and the family was subsequently chased around a park and the harassment of Hmong women when they enter grocery stores.

"Sometimes the racism is very subtle because people haven't con-

fronted stereotypes. Personally, I've stopped being nice," said Fiedler.

Fiedler has devoted herself to combating racism. "We as Asians, as Japanese Americans, are capable of speaking out. Our silence condones racism. I like to say I'm my mother's revenge. What she couldn't say because she couldn't speak English or because of the culture, I can say. My mother turned me into her weapon."

"What I want to do is make racism socially unacceptable. Confront people with it. I don't feel I have to be tactful anymore."

Philadelphia—John Fong of Asian Americans United cited an increase in racial tension after the killing of star high school basketball player, David Reilly, during a dispute between whites and Cambodians. He cited the persistent use of the term "hacked to death with a meat cleaver" by the media as only adding to tensions between Asians and whites. Fong said that there was a "turf mentality" prevalent on the streets of Southwest Philadelphia. In the Aug. 3 incident, a fight ensued after a group of white men including Reilly approached seven Asian American men and 3 Asian American women who were talking and drinking beer in a park. According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, one of the white men started the trouble by taking a beer from the cooler of the Asian Americans. While Reilly tried to make peace, the other man threatened the group and would shoot the Asian Americans if they didn't leave. The skirmish ensued when Minh La, 21, one of the alleged assailants returned with weapons.

New York—Milyoung Cho, program coordinator for the Committee Against Anti-Asian Violence, said that according to the New York Human Relations Commission, between 1989 and 1990, there was a 120% increase in the number of reported incidents of anti-Asian violence. "While there has been a population increase which would account for some of the increase, there's no doubt that anti-Asian violence is on the rise. As the economy goes down, racial tension increases," said Cho.

Cho said that 40% of the instances were cases of police brutality. In one instance, 8 to 10 police officers overturned the tables of herb vendor Wing T. Lau and without giving Lau time to collect his belongings, assaulted Lau and his mother and aunt. Placed in jail with no medical attention, the three were charged with resisting arrest, obstruction of justice and assaulting police officers. Lau suffered several broken ribs and his mother suffered nerve damage. With these kinds of incidents as a backdrop, Cho said, "I would characterize our relationship with the police department as ambivalent."

On the police response to hate crimes, Cho said, "At the precinct level, there is a determination not to classify crimes as bias crimes. They like to cover up those kinds of motivations, it has to be pretty overt for them to call it bias."

"In terms of the feeling of the city," said Cho, "I would say tension is increasing with unemployment rising over 10%." "Our work continues," said the program coordinator. "As a crisis happens we deal with it."

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ISSN: 0090-8579

Pacific Citizen is published by the Japanese American Citizens League at the above address weekly except the 1st week of the year, biweekly during July and August, and semi-monthly in December. Annual subscriptions rates: JACL members: \$12 of national dues provide one year on a one-per household basis. Non-members: 1 year—\$25; 2 years—\$48, payable in advance. Additional postage per year—Foreign: \$13 US air mail—US, Canada, Mexico: \$30 US-japan/ Europe: \$50 US. (subject to change without notice). National HQ: 1785 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115, 415/921-5225

Editorial, news and opinions expressed by columns other than the national president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy.

2nd class postage paid at Los Angeles, Calif.
Postmaster: Send address change to Pacific Citizen, 701 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90013-1817

News and deadline Friday before date of issue
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DACHAU LIBERATORS—Top left: Typical wire section loaded up and waiting for a combat mission in Germany in 1945, "C-Battery" 522nd. Top right: Typical 105 mm gun section crew. Combat conditions in France 1944, "C-Battery" 522nd. Bottom left: Dachau survivor, Janina Cywinska, pictured with husband. Bottom right: From left to right, Janina Cywinska, Eric Saul, historian; 522nd veterans, George OIye, Clarence Matsumura, and Dr. Susumu Ito at Dec. 4 meeting of 522nd at the United Centenary Methodist Church in Los Angeles.

Friendly faces

Japanese American soldiers of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion who helped to liberate Dachau, the infamous Nazi concentration camp, reunite with the survivors . . .

By GWEN MURANAKA
Assistant editor

LOS ANGELES—Holocaust survivor Janina Cywinska dabbed her eyes as she recalled the horror of Dachau and the Japanese American soldier who became her liberator. The moment came in front of a capacity audience at the Centenary United Methodist Church on Dec. 4 in a program sponsored by the National Coalition for Redress and Reparations (NCR).

Cywinska, a sixty-two year old Catholic woman, had been sent to Dachau after her parents had been caught smuggling weapons to Jewish registers.

"I was standing with a blindfold on, waiting to be shot, but the shot didn't come," said Cywinska. "So I asked the woman next to me, 'Do you think they're trying to make us crazy, so we'll run and they won't have to feel guilty about shooting us? Well, we're not going to run. We'll just stand here.'"

At the time, Cywinska didn't realize that Dachau had been taken over by American soldiers, including the members of Charlie (C) Battery of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion a Japanese American unit. She spoke teary-eyed of the Japanese American soldier who she called "Little Caesar" because he was shorter than the 5'2" Cywinska.

"We stood and stood, and suddenly someone was tugging at my blindfold. He tugged this way and that way, and then he jumped up, because he was short, and he pulled it off. I saw him and I thought, 'Oh, now the Japanese are going to kill us.' And I didn't care anymore. I said, 'Just kill us, get it over with.' He tried to convince me that he was an American and wouldn't kill me. I said, 'Oh, no, you're a Japanese, and you're going to kill us.' We went back and forth, and finally he landed on his knees, crying, with his hands over his face, and he said, 'You are free now. We are American Japanese. You are free.'"

Throughout the years of horror and degradation that Cywinska endured at the hands of the Nazis, Cywinska created a fantasy world where she danced the Sugarplum Fairy in Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*. Cywinska, who now runs a ballet studio in San Francisco, said, "To this day, I see a Japanese face and I love them for giving me a chance to do the *Nutcracker Suite*."

In this unknown bit of history, the 522nd, part of the famed Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team, were assigned to help other Army units chase retreating Nazis toward Munich when they happened upon Dachau.

George OIye, a forward observer in the 522nd said, "My first experience seeing the inmates of Dachau was as lumps in the snow." Remembering the emaciated figures in striped suits, OIye said, "They couldn't withstand the climate because they were weak, scared, ill. My first impression was one of mixed emotions, I cried and wondered how could this be."

OIye took photos of Dachau with a 35mm camera he took from the body of a dead German soldier. These photos and the photos of Dr. Susumu Ito, then a lieutenant in the 522nd, survive as evidence of the 522nd part in the liberation of Dachau. Standing before one of the photos he took as a young lieutenant, Dr. Ito said, "I didn't especially enjoy taking them. Until very recently they were just stowed away in shoeboxes." Dr. Ito and OIye gathered their photos for a 50 year reunion of Charlie Battery, but as word of the 522nd spread, the photos have taken on new meaning for their photographers. "We put together a photo album—for our offspring, for your offspring—we didn't want to see the photos go to waste," said OIye. The photos and also shadowboxes of memorabilia, portraits, and artifacts from Camp Shelby, Italy, France, and the Lost Battalion are scheduled to be shown in Los Angeles, Fresno, Sacramento, San Jose, San Francisco, and Honolulu.

The 522nd were under orders not to give food to the concentration camp survivors. Members of C-Battery disobeyed orders when they helped the emaciated Dachau survivors. Clarence Matsumura, then a radio communications officer, said, "We were told, 'Don't touch anything, don't do anything, we have special people who take care of these things.'"

Matsumura, whose parents were at Heart Mountain, said the tar paper shacks of Dachau reminded him of the Wyoming internment camp, but in his search of Dachau,

Matsumura also came upon horrific remnants of mass genocide.

"We ran into funny smells, incinerator-type ovens with bone, ashes—the living remains of burnt bodies," said Matsumura. "The prisoners asked for help—all I could do was cry."

"When asked why it took so long for the story of the 522nd to be recognized, OIye said, "The timing hasn't been right. It takes a generation for people to start asking questions."

Speaking to the *Los Angeles Times*, Walter Bradford of the U.S. Army Center of Military History said, "People have sort of overlooked the fact that the Japanese Americans did make contact with the people at Dachau. It was pretty ironic that their relatives were in camps in the U.S. while these people were freeing (a Nazi camp)."

Dr. Ito credited the Sanel and the "immense drive" of historian Eric Saul for bringing attention to the 522nd. "I feel rather good about it. My son said the other day, 'Good, Dad. You're finally becoming an activist.'"

Saul said the meeting between 522nd soldiers and concentration camp survivors was the "catalytic point" when the story started to receive notoriety. In April, 522nd members are scheduled to go to Israel to be honored according to Saul. The 522nd will meet with Israeli President Shamir and more concentration camp survivors. In addition, they will return to Dachau to dedicate a monument.

As concentration camp survivors and their Nisei liberators age and their numbers dwindle, it becomes imperative for the story of the 522nd to be recorded for future generations said Saul. At the moment, members of the 522nd and Saul are compiling as much information on the 522nd as possible for inclusion into such libraries as the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley, the Library of Congress in Washington D.C., and the Japanese Historical Society.

"We need people who can take oral histories in an archival manner, and also people to transcribe them," said OIye. Those interested in volunteering for this project, please call: 415/941-4850.

Youth views

Let's support, encourage JACL youth leadership

By TRISHA MURAKAWA
National Youth Chair

In the fall, I attended the JACL National Youth Council's Youth Conference, "A New Generation of Leaders." At this conference I was moved. The participants demonstrated their commitment, dedication, and persistence to their community and to combating issues facing their community; of that I was both impressed and inspired.

The conference was a gathering of youth, students, and new and old members of JACL. The internal purpose of this conference was to bring to these individuals a positive perception of the JACL, its policies, and its programs. The external purposes, however, were to empower youth and students, to assist in some leadership development, to build relationships with student organizations and student leaders, and to identify future leaders within our community.

The conference was successful in fulfilling these purposes.

As one of the organizers of the conference, I was able to play the role of observer. What I observed was this: For the most part, individuals attending this conference had very little, if any, real knowledge of JACL. During the conference, they were educated about the organization, and even impressed with JACL's influence. They were especially impressed with National Director Dennis Hayashi and his commitment to civil rights.

The participants were extremely articulate in communicating their ideas. The organizations they created all had very specific goals, objectives, and the means to accomplish their goals. The participants were also educated about the issues affecting our community, and aggressive in seeking

solutions. Objectives such as voter registration and voter education were pursued as means to seize political empowerment for Asian and Pacific Islander American youth.

I learned at this conference that many of our youth are just as intelligent, experienced, articulate, and sophisticated as some of our leaders. I learned that they are eager to participate in a thriving, respected, and perhaps, even revered organization such as the JACL.

Older, established JACL members shouldn't discount the sentiments or intentions of youth. All too often, the youth hear that they are too inexperienced and "green," that they are too naive and immature. The participants at this conference did not fit any of these descriptions. This group is hungry for an opportunity to be involved and is aggressively working toward positive social change. What better organization for them to become involved but JACL? But it is up to us to give them that chance.

Kimberlee Tachiki, outgoing president of the Asian Pacific American Network (APAN) chapter and current PSW youth representative, said, "Members of APAN thought that the advocacy conference was a good way to outreach to youth and students." APAN is actively working to gain youth involvement in the community and JACL. She added, "I am glad that a lot of chapters sponsored students and participated. I hope this conference encourages chapters to do more outreach to campuses in their areas so they can take advantage of the burgeoning youth leadership."

As chair of the JACL National Youth Council, I firmly believe that to secure our future and the future of JACL, we must cultivate new leaders. I see this occurring within JACL, but we must reach beyond our own membership. We must actively seek new members and reach into the colleges and universities in our communities. The participants at this conference felt strongly that we need to start outreaching to those even as young as junior high school age.

Perhaps as a start, JACL National Youth Council programs should become institutionalized as annual JACL events, fully accepted into the Program for Action, and encouraged by the overall JACL membership and leadership. Currently, this is not the case. Perhaps even more

importantly, funding for youth programs should be built directly into the budget. Youth programs shouldn't be treated as "step-child" programs; full funding should be appropriated for youth programs like all other programs. The need for leadership development was identified in JACL's National Program for Action, therefore, youth should be expected to fully participate as equal partners, especially in existing advocacy training programs like the D.C. Leadership Conference.

To further validate the commitment of youth, especially this biennium's National Youth Council, nearly all the goals and objectives of the 1990-1991 Youth Program for Action have been met. There is a youth representative in every district; a brochure was developed and produced targeting a youth/student constituency; four youth were sent to the D.C. Leadership Conference, two of which were specified youth slots; and the National Youth Council planned and executed a national conference targeting youth and students.

What more must youth members do to prove their commitment and determination to perpetuate the JACL as the leading Asian American civil rights organization in this nation? If youth members are not welcomed into JACL and their voices are not heard, they will surely find other organizations in which to become involved. If this scenario plays out, it will be a great loss to our organization.

Finally, it should be an unwritten rule of the JACL to empower youth. Organizationally, we can longer be elitists of power. As an education civil rights organization, this power should be developed and shared equally, rather than preserved for a select few. We need to embark into a new era and become generalists so that we may continue our forward movement in our mission to gain true empowerment and obtain social justice for all. Otherwise, if there is internal strife, we will lose all credibility in the outside world as a legitimate force to obtain civil rights and civil liberties for all people.

To the young leaders, I say, "Gambare! Keep persevering." I avidly entrust in you the reins of leadership. To the current leaders who are not working to develop new ones, I encourage you to become mentors to the talented next generation.



TRISHA MURAKAWA

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Opinions

From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

A new generation of writers

I had been reading and enjoying the delightful short stories in Ruth Sasaki's new book, *The Loom* when a thought occurred. But before I share that thought, which may or may not be significant, let me tell you about the book and the author.

She signs herself R.A. Sasaki, for what reason I know not, and lives in Berkeley, CA. She is a Sansei and introduces herself in the book thusly:

"I was an ugly child. I had a long horse face, not much of a nose, and two front teeth that got in the way no matter what I tried to do, and made my expressions for surprise, friendliness, confusion, and anger look the same... I was sheltered from the crushing reality of my own plainness by the reassurances of a loving family."

(The author's picture on the back cover doesn't reveal any of that self-described homeliness. No, indeed.)

The stories in the book are mostly about Sansei sisters and their parents.

The mother is a Nisei who grew up in San Francisco's Japantown and went to the University of California in Berkeley like so many of her contemporaries. She applied for a job as a teacher and had spent two years vainly waiting to be called when the Evacuation sent her to Tanforan and then to Topaz. She left camp only once, to go to Chicago to marry a Kibei who was stationed at Fort Bragg.

The father is a quiet, earnest man, set in his ways, a good provider, comfortable in the Japanese American community, wary of the world outside that community and unable to accept the fact that one of his daughters has fallen in love with a Caucasian.

The stories are vignettes about the Sansei author and her sisters—all different, all individuals—about their sometimes bewildered parents and how the girls cope with the cultural differences that shape their outlook in their relations with each other and the world about them. The stories are told with great insight and gentleness.

Oh, yes, about the thought that came to

me as I read Sasaki's stories. It was the realization that these were not stories by Niseis writing about their Nisei contemporaries or their pioneer Issei forebears, which we have come to expect from Japanese American writers.

These were stories by a Sansei writing about Sansei and their Nisei parents. It is a new era with new perspectives.

Does that make a difference? Of course it does. People of my Nisei generation are not examining ourselves or our parents on paper as we used to, but in turn are being examined and written about by the next generation, having our idiosyncrasies dissected, having our reaction to our particular world analyzed, being portrayed with tolerant humor and curiosity and not a little gentle love. You will find that in the portraits that emerge some of us are not quite what we believed ourselves to be, and that can be devastating, amusing and even refreshing.

I think you will like the book. It is published by Graywolf Press, 2402 University Ave., Suite 203, St. Paul, Minn., 55114.



East Wind

BILL MARUTANI

Nisei in the Military Intelligence

SURE TO BE a "collector's item" is a soft-back publication entitled *The Pacific War and Peace, Americans of Japanese Ancestry in Military Intelligence Service, 1941 to 1952*. Issued as a joint project of the MIS Association of Northern California and The National Japanese American Historical Society (San Francisco) this 96-page booklet outlines facets of Nisei service in the Pacific War heretofore unknown or only vaguely known. Illustrated with 40 photographs as well as eight maps, plus a most helpful glossary, the booklet is well organized and written in a readable, straightforward manner.

PROVIDING SOME IDEA of its excellent coverage, the table of contents lists, among others: The Pre-War Years; Military Intelligence Language School (Presidio, Savage, Snelling, Defense Language Institute, Manhattan Project); Women's Army Corps; Office of Strategic Services (the precursor to the present day CIA); Alaska (Attu, Kiska in the Aleutians where Nisei served); the entire South Pacific campaign with "Prisoners of War," "Ambush of Admiral Yamamoto," "The Z Plan," paratroopers (Nisei MIS troops), the China-Burma-India opera-

tions, Occupation of Japan (including Nisei involvement in the surrender, occupation, adoption of a new *kenpo* (Constitution), land reform, war crime trials, counter intelligence, repatriation of Japanese troops from Manchuria); etc. The report moves right into the year of 1952, touching upon the Korean War in which Nisei soldiers were again very much involved, not only in the fighting (Hershey Miyamura earned the Congressional Medal of Honor) but also in continuing intelligence work involving interrogating prisoners.

THESE MIS service people—I say "people" rather than simply "men" for WAC's also served in ATIS (Allied Translator and Interpreter Section) -thus operated in every facet of the military operation in the Pacific: from dangerous CIC (counter intelligence corps) work pre-hostilities in the Philippines, into the war itself and continuing with the post-war rehabilitation period. Indeed, I am reminded by the booklet that to limit MIS (Military Intelligence Service) operations of these Nisei to the "Pacific" would be inaccurate, for MIS service people were in Europe at the highest echelons of military involvement such as SHAEF (Supreme

Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force) at Versailles, France. The Japanese Imperial Forces were very much in touch with the German Wehrmacht and exchanges of messages were being intercepted in Turkey and the translations from *nihongo* were cleared at SHAEF. Beyond this, preparations were being made to seize Japanese records as Allied Forces captured such documents in German-controlled areas.

INDIVIDUAL NAMES appear throughout the booklet which provides a personal touch in that particularly if you are a Nikkei, there will be names of people you recognize or otherwise know personally. My hat is off to each of them—the unknown as well as those whose names I recognized.

I don't know how many copies of this booklet were printed. It is one that you will wish to have if you are a Nikkei or have any interest in the role of the Nisei in the war in the Pacific.

The booklet is bound to be a collector's item as well.

*The booklet is available, while supplies last, by writing to: National Japanese American Historical Society, 1855 Folsom Street, San Francisco, CA. 94103. Cost \$10 plus \$2 P & H, total: \$12.00.

Letters

PC letter policy

Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. Please sign your letter but make sure we are able to read your name. Include mailing address and telephone number. You may fax letters to 213/626-8213 or mail them to Letters to the Editor, Pacific Citizen, 941 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90013.

Wants to see articles on Program for Action

I am concerned and puzzled as to why the phrase, "After Redress, What?" continues to be of concern to members and some JACL leaders.

Could it be that our Long Range Plan (Program for Action), which was approved with enthusiasm at the San Diego Convention in 1990, is still an unknown document to many JACLers?

Could it be that JACL members and some leaders are skeptical about the organization's ability to carry out the Plan? Are they looking for direction and guidance?

Could it be that the general membership is unaware of the fact that the Program for Action has begun to be operationalized since August, 1990?

Also, I am concerned that several of our midwest chapters are having difficulty moving beyond the traditional annual programs. Current leadership is waning. New leadership, especially from among the young adults, is difficult to recruit.

Somehow, the Program for Action doesn't excite the chapters to forge ahead with renewed enthusiasm and progressive programs. Why?

Would a series of articles on the Long Range Plan (Program for Action) be helpful? Some topics might be:

- How it Came About
- The Grassroot Participation
- Results to Date
- Barriers and Limitations
- Steps for Improvement
- The Plan and the Legacy Fund

I would be glad to write these articles; however, others may be interested in contributing to the series. What do you think?

Hank Tanaka

Cleveland, Ohio

EDITOR NOTE: Sounds like a good idea. Let's do it.

Takes issue with Marutani column

After reading Marutani's column in the Oct. 18 issue of the PC, I feel I must respond. However, before I continue, I would like to refer the readership to a *Peanuts* cartoon of not so long ago. It featured Charlie and Linus. Charlie is excitedly describing how one football team scores a last second touchdown for a come from behind victory. He relates how the players of the winning team rush out on the field, hug each other, and celebrate jubilantly in the next frame, Linus asks, "How did the other team feel?"

Marutani, in his column, "believes" that the quality of the membership of the Japan JACL chapter is "up there among the best." Maybe so, but was it necessary to "air" such a view? What he implied inadvertently is that there is at least one chapter out there (the other team) whose membership quality is up there among the best.

Usually I enjoy Marutani's column.

H.K. Matsumoto
Tokyo

Wants recognition for Colorado governor

The Denver Central Optimist Club will again be sponsoring the annual trip to Amache, (possibly for the last time, and hopefully replace it with an annual observance of former Gov. Ralph Carr in Denver,) on May 23 Saturday preceding the Monday Memorial Day weekend. On Memorial Day, there will be an observance of Nisei Post American Legion Veterans day gathering at the Fairmont Cemetery from 11 a.m. to noon and after this service we can walk over to former Gov. Ralph Carr's grave site and give reverence to him who had the wisdom and righteousness to steadfastly stick to his beliefs all alone in spite of unanimous opposition. It is through his strong conviction that

LETTERS continued on next page



many of us Nikkeis are living here in this beautiful state today.

We would hope more people would become concerned and speak out for the remembrance of the late Gov. Ralph Carr of Colorado.

Here is a quote from the September 21, 1991 *Denver Central Optimist News*: "Most of the heroes I have known just happened to be at the right place at the right time. The real hero is one who ignores personal risk and goes ahead and does something because it needs to be done because it is right." So says Gene Amole in part, a columnist with the *Rocky Mountain News* in Dec. 19, 1987.

He goes on to say, "I started thinking about this because Sen. William Armstrong has begun a campaign to put another statue of a distinguished Coloradan in National Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol. Each state is entitled to honor two of its citizens. Colorado has only one statue, that of Dr. Florence Sabin. My vote goes to Carr."

"When World War II broke out, he was the only western governor to welcome the loyal Japanese-Americans who were being rounded up in the West Coast states and sent to concentration camps. Colorado Sen. Ed Johnson made a clear implication in a statement that the Colorado National Guard should be called out to keep Japanese-Americans out of Colorado. Carr held firm. What this brave man did in Colorado at a precarious time in American history honors all free men everywhere. For this reason, I believe his service should be commemorated by placing a statue of Ralph Carr in the U.S. Capitol in Washington. He was a genuine hero."

All too often we despair in the want of heroes. We owe Gene Amole a debt of thanks for reminding us of a truly great humanitarian.

In the first floor of the State Capitol is a bronze plaque placed there by Japanese-Americans to honor Ralph Carr, who in time of war-heated frenzy kept his head and the United States Constitution intact. He had the character and courage to say no to hysteria. The plaque's dedication reads:

"Dedicated to Governor Ralph L. Carr—A wise, humane man, not influenced by the hysteria and bigotry directed against the Japanese-American during World War II. By his humanitarian efforts, no Colorado resident of Japanese ancestry was deprived of his basic freedoms, and when no others would accept the evacuated West Coast Japanese, except for confinement in internment camps, Governor Carr opened the doors and welcomed them to Colorado. The spirit of his deeds will live in the hearts of all true Americans."

The plaque was presented October 1974 by the Japanese Community and the Oriental Culture Society of Colorado.

Many evacuees married Colorado natives and chose to make their home here in the beautiful Columbine State. Thank God for Ralph Carr who had the strength and wisdom and never wavered from the principles of Abraham Lincoln.

Since 1992 is the 50th Anniversary of the ill-fated evacuation, as a community service, let's recognize and honor the late Gov. Carr on some designated date with solemn reverence. A forgotten hero, he is not.

It is not too early to map out the nucleus planning. It could be a Fairmont Cemetery at Ralph Carr's gravesite on the same Memorial Day with the Nisei Post Veterans Memorial Service which is only walking distance away. There could be many visitors from out of state.

Art Moriya
Denver, Colo.

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Travel

FISH STORIES

FROM
ALASKA

For some, fishing creates little glimpses into the meaning of life. And in Alaska, in a sea of gray water and sky, life seems a sunburst, a sharp clarity.

You forget the disjointed, interrupted life of the big city; the ragged edges disappear.

You leave behind the work world and its clockwork responsibilities that never seem to let up, let go. Life becomes more linear, purpose and order seem possible. Life becomes less passive. If life in the big city is an algebraic equation with fuzzy solutions, the math is simpler in Alaska. It's one-on-one against a fish. Add a buddy or two, subtract the responsibilities and work back home.

Forget the yuppie cabs—this is flannel shirt country. Nothing snazzy, jazzy or loopy here. Just straight forward, straight ahead people. An Alaska vacation makes buddies out of acquaintances, even strangers. Kinship and camaraderie flourish.

Take Tak Hoshizaki, for instance. A retired JPL scientist, he read about an Alaskan outing in *Pacific Citizen* and linked up with travel agent Tyler Tanaka of San Diego. "I had been to Kodiak in Alaska," Tak said, "and I've traveled around the world. I've fished a lot too. I go out around Southern California, Mammoth, and go deep sea fishing for albacore. This fishing trip to Alaska sounded good to me."

Tyler called two of his friends and colleagues in the travel business—Richard L. Mandl and Noel Houwing—to complete the expeditionary assault on the king salmon in the inlets and water passages of Southeast Alaska. The travel experts each have been around the world several times—seen it all, fished it all. Yet Alaska still elicited excitement. The fishing villages just west of Ketchikan called up the adventurous spirit.

The group rendezvoused in Los Angeles, then flew up to Seattle, then on to Ketchikan where they boarded a small shuttle plane and headed for the final destination—Whales Resort on Prince of Wales Island.

While the lure of tackling salmon on the run in late August was prime motivation, this was not a rough-it and tough-it trip.

Whales Resort is pure comfort. Like home. No, maybe even better than home.

The luxury-concept resort is the idea of Bill Fagnam and Richard Yamada.

Bill, 53, is a Hawaii-based investor and developer who makes frequent connections with Japanese businessmen.

In the summer of 1989, he was invited to a Juneau lodge by Richard, 42, who is also a Hawaii-based developer. He first landed in Alaska as a Russian linguist with the Air Force.

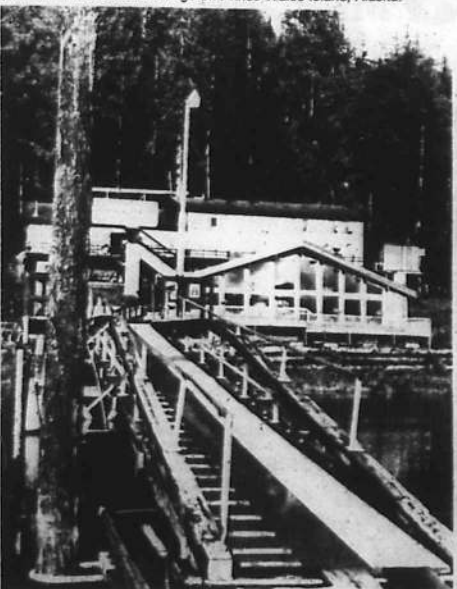
"I really had an education background," Richard said. "I worked in TV, for PBS, for the Department of Education. I did was interested in cross-cultural teaching, oral histories of native Alaskans. I always had an affinity for Alaska."

Most fishing lodges in Alaska are rustic and unadorned. Bill and

By RICHARD SUENAGA
Editor



PRIZE CATCH—In above photo, Tak Hoshizaki, left) poses with fishing guide Matt Sugai (center) and Kelly Higashi, lodge assistant. Below is photo of Whales Resort Lodge on Prince Wales Island, Alaska.



(See ALASKA/page 17)

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- #3A Hong Kong/Seoul
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Phyllis Murakawa, escort
- #4 Japan Cherry Blossom Tour
March 30 - April 14
Michi Ishii, escort
- #5 Historic East Tour
April 30 - May 9
Roy Takeda, escort
- #6 New Mexico, Land of Enchantment (Tauck)
May 1 - 8
Yuki Sato, escort
- #7 Hokkaido/Nihon-Kai Tour
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Toy Kanegai, escort
- #7a Camp Savage/Ft. Snelling MISLS Reunion
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Travel

South Pacific tours offered

J&O Pacific has released the 1992 South Pacific Dreambook under their new name, J&O Holidays. The Dreambook contains some new itineraries for Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti, Fiji, and Papua New Guinea. Existing trips, such as the 17-Day Highlights program, remain with pricing rolled back to 1989 levels.

A cultural experience is the recurring theme in J&O Holidays' new South Pacific Dreambook. "Our everyday lives have become so busy that we scarcely have time to get to know those we meet," states Judy Riley, director of South Pacific for J&O Holidays. "A vacation is the perfect time to slow down and discover other cultures that shape our world and have an impact on our lives."

Australia is a land much like the United States in size and language, but vastly different in its cultural aspects. Early Australian settlers, banished from the country of their birth, were rugged folk who literally carved their niche in "The Rocks" section of what is now Sydney. The original natives of the land were aboriginals with a lifestyle that is passed down generations through "dreamtime." You can experience "Dreamtime," learn how the boomerang is used for hunting, and witness the aboriginal lifestyle on your holiday program.

If you book J&O Holidays' Contrast of Australia, you will have an opportunity to "Take a Camel to Dinner." Imagine riding a camel into the desert, arriving at Chateau Hornsby Winery at sunset for wine tasting and a sumptuous meal. Here, you will learn that the neighbors come from miles around to assist in picking grapes at harvest time. This sharing is a neighborly ritual forged by the need to survive in Australia's sparsely populated desert.

New Zealand, too, is a land of emigres. It is the largest of the Polynesian Islands and offers spectacular scenery from glaciers to white sand beaches. The song and dance of the native Maories is reminiscent of Polynesia, but the style is unique due to New Zealand's distance from other islands. There are 8- and 9-day New Zealand programs in the Dreambook, as well as programs that combine Australia with New Zealand for an extensive vacation.

Papua New Guinea has been added to J&O's programs this year. "However," Riley cautions, "this is not a destination for everyone. It is necessary to have a spirit of adventure to truly enjoy this remote area."

Tahiti and Fiji round out the South Pacific Dreambook programs. Tahiti is a part of the 115 island French Polynesia; while Fiji is a 300 island nation, both are well known for their warm tropical beaches. These are places where the scenery alone can make your dream vacations come true. But, here too, there are rich rewards for those who wish to expand and experience the culture of these islands.

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Here's a travel treasure—Nova Scotia

By TYLER TANAKA

Unlike being caressed by the thick tropical breezes of Hawaii, or after having your senses assailed by the blare of traffic, colors and fragrances of Hong Kong, Nova Scotia is sublime. A land with strong geographic similarity to Scotland, it is a land of poetry, music, and song. The land whose people gave birth to Longfellow's Evangeline. A destination which is refreshing as the cool fresh air and the green picture-book perfect countryside.

Having traveled extensively throughout the world, I wondered how I could occupy myself for an entire week in this Atlantic Canadian province. Looking back, even 10 days would have been short for visiting just the highlights. My one week stay had two one night stops. Both deserved one additional day stay.

My journey began from Halifax to Peggy's Cove and on to Lunenburg. A side journey was taken to the Bay of Fundy where the tide rises and lowers 53 feet twice a day. Then a short flight brought us to Sydney on the Northern end of Nova Scotia known as Cape Breton. Visits were made to

a restored French Fort at Louisbourg, a place as lovely as one can imagine but with the unlikely name of Ingonish, Alexander Graham Bell's museum, plus other interesting places too numerous to mention.

Hotel accommodations were outstanding. In my travel career, I learned very early on that each day of touring was made doubly enjoyable if followed by a good night's rest. It is my belief that a hotel is more than "just a place to sleep." To me, it is an important travel dimension. A dimension which is often rich in history, sometimes architecturally and always a place that reflects the local culture. Halifax and neighboring Dartmouth have many outstanding hotels. I was at the Holiday Inn in Dartmouth. Two very delightful hotels where I stayed were the Kaitic Lodge in Ingonish and the Inverary Inn Resort in Baddeck. The Kaitic Lodge is listed by Fortune Magazine as one of the 10 most romantic hotels in the world. I would not argue this point. The adjoining magnificent, groomed golf course was in the Scottish style, following the natural contour of the land. The site where the Inverary

Inn is located was not as spectacular as that of the Kaitic Lodge, but the hotel had a very homey atmosphere. Many antiques were on display in the public areas. The rooms were large and comfortable. The thing that delighted me the most was an electric wall switch which, when turned on, would immediately light the fireplace.

There were many activities. Visits to the museum which preserved the history of the Grand Bank Fishermen. Information about cod and the role it played when it was the principle winter protein in Europe. A visit to the Gaelic College to learn of the Scottish role in this part of the world. A visit to a coal mine, a sail through the harbor on a old Grand Bank fishing sailing vessel called the "Bluenose"...and more.

No journey is complete without mentioning the food of the region. Lobster. Good Atlantic lobster served steamed and garnished with delicious mussel. A mouth-watering delight which needs no description. Atlantic salmon and other sea food of every variety were also abundantly available.

Ties between our country and Canada are always the strongest. But, those between the Nova Scotia province and the States are especially close. It was not until I was on this journey that I learned that originally there were 14 colonies planning independence. Nova Scotia was the 14th. But, because of extreme pressure the King of England brought to bear on the governor, alas, this was not to be.

Nova Scotia deserves your consideration as a vacation destination. A visit there will add immeasurably to your treasure chest of travel memories.

Tanaka is owner of Japan Orient Tours of San Diego.

Pacific Citizen welcomes travel article submissions from readers or industry experts for editorial consideration. Send them to Editor, Pacific Citizen, 7021 East 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90013.

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Video volleys

During October and November of 1991, an exchange of letters appeared in Japanese newspapers focusing on the JACL video that documented the redress process. William Hohri of Chicago began the controversy by challenging JACL's claims in the video. Cherry Kinoshita, JACL redress video project director and national JACL redress chairwoman, responded. That elicited a second letter from Hohri—to which Kinoshita answered back. Also responding on behalf of JACL was Ross Harano. Here then, in order, are the issues brought forth by these individuals.

William Hohri charges JACL redress distortion

Recently, I watched the video, "Redress: The JACL Campaign for Justice," which is the JACL's version of the movement for Japanese American redress.

I was reminded of how history was manipulated in the old Soviet Union. One of the World War II parallels to the American program of mass exclusion and detention occurred in the Soviet Union following the German invasion, when Stalin ordered the forcible uprooting and harsh movement to the interior of millions of Soviet citizens of several ethnic groups. In transit, hundreds of thousands died of starvation and exposure. While some of these groups have been allowed to return, others continue their long exile. Punctuating this horror, the Soviet government removed the groups' ethnic names from encyclopedias and history, as though they never existed.

The JACL video also deletes names from the redress movement and alters history to make the JACL larger than life.

I had been warned repeatedly during the movement's final decade that the JACL would take all the credit. I was skeptical. After all, I reasoned, history is history. I was wrong.

The JACL's distortions began before the redress movement. The video gives the JACL credit for the repeal of Title II, when most of the work was done by the National Ad Hoc Committee for Repeal of the Emergency Detention Act, led by Edison Uno and Raymond Okamura.

The committee's title clearly states its *ad hoc* nature. I worked with the Chicago branch of the committee, under the leadership of Hiroshi Kanno. We received organizational and fund-raising support from the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights and not the Chicago chapter of the JACL. Of the many contributions our Chicago branch received, only one came from a JACLer.

When Edison Uno first proposed reparations for JAs at the 1970 National Convention of the JACL, he addressed the national council as a part of group of JACL dissidents, most from the National Ad Hoc Committee, who were attempting to reform the JACL into becoming more democratic and more active in support of the civil rights and peace movements.

The convention was about as receptive to the idea of reparations as it was to eliminating proxy voting and taking a stand on the war in Vietnam, neither of which was done. It would take the JACL six years to decide to form its National Committee for Redress, then two more years to act to seek redress through the U.S. Congress.

The first Day of Remembrance was conceived and pushed by Frank Chin. He was also behind the Washington Post advertisement and same day press conference in major cities that publicly rebutted the anti-



WILLIAM HOHRI

redress position of Senator Hayakawa.

Chin also hustled and coaxed me into accepting leadership of a new redress organization that was formed in Seattle and Chicago and was named the National Council for Japanese American Redress. The video deletes Chin's name and ignores the restoration of draft registers.

This JACL's version of redress is spoken mainly by Japanese American members of Congress, as though they were among the leaders of the movement. They did indeed work at forefront after the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians had completed its work and issued its report and recommendations in 1983.

But in the 1980 Senate and House hearings on redress and the study commission, Mike Lowry was the only member of Congress to testify for redress. And the only organizations supporting redress in these hearings were the Washington State Commission on Asian American Affairs and the National Council for Japanese American Redress. (By the way, the Lowry redress bill did not "die in committee." It was one of three bills considered. To facilitate the resolution of differences in the three, a single bill, HR 5499, was used as the parliamentary vehicle. The vehicle was amended to suit the wishes of the committee.)

What was significant at this initial stage of the redress movement was the presence of non-JACL voices in congressional deliberations on a major JA issue. These same congressional voices and Grant Ujifusa, a JACL lobbyist, intimate that members of Congress were ahead of the JA community on redress. The opposite was true.

The *Rafu Shimpō* conducted a survey in 1961 that indicated overwhelming JA support for redress: 96 percent. The voters pushed Congress as did other institutions. My local United Methodist church, Parish of the Holy Covenant, for example, introduced legislation which was adopted by the General Conference of the United Methodist Church in 1980, thereby putting this 9-million member body in support of redress.

In limiting its focus to the JACL and Congress, the video also but ignores significant achieve-

ments by other groups in other areas. Frank Chin's Day of Remembrance was replicated in different years by different groups in different places such as the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (Los Angeles and San Francisco), the Washington Area Coalition for Redress (Seattle), the National Council for Japanese American Redress (Chicago), the Japanese American Redress Committee (Chicago), and the Day of Remembrance committee (New York). In Chicago, the JACL rarely participated in these community-wide commemorations of the issuance of Executive Order No. 9066.

The video mentions but fails to describe the significant achievements won in the courts. Coram nobis cases were successful in vacating the wartime convictions of Fred Korematsu, Minoru Yasui and Gordon Hirabayashi. These efforts were based on new insights and facts surrounding their original appeals, in particular the government's concealment of evidence in its presentations before the U.S. Supreme Court. The legal teams and leadership for these cases were developed independently of the JACL. I have heard estimates go over \$1 million to evaluate the *pro bono* "costs" given to the cases.

The class action lawsuit of *William Hohri et al. v. United States of America* was an effort to obtain compensatory redress from the U.S., based on 22 causes of action on behalf of the entire victim class of 125,000 persons or their estates. More than any other document, the lawsuit's complaint defines the issue of redress in terms of legal and constitutional injuries and remedies. The cost of this lawsuit was underwritten by its supporters. These included members of the JACL and one JACL chapter. But the bulk of the support was non-JACL.

The Hohri case went to the U.S. Supreme Court and was heard in oral argument in April, 1987. As the case approached the Court, redress legislation, which had been stalled for four years in Congress, began moving.

The legislation was modified to link its payments to the potential compensation under the lawsuit. Wording for an extinguishment of claims provision was added, making the legislation serve, in effect, an out-of-court settlement. That is, if one accepted payment under the legislation all other claims against the government would be extinguished, these other claims being those potentially available under the lawsuit.

Though the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 by the legislative branch nullified the court action of the lawsuit in the judicial branch, the lawsuit did apply pressure, arguably the pressure necessary, to move redress legislation to enactment.

(The video's story of President Reagan's conversion to redress does not explain his subsequent allocation of a mere \$20 million to fulfill a \$600 million requirement to make redress payments. He never put his money where his mouth was. What his signature on the legislation did do was to nullify the class action lawsuit as

it was making its second approach to the Supreme Court. But I don't think he was smart enough to make the connection. Nor do I believe in his conversion. We should not forget the 1988 presidential campaign. George Bush had much to gain, little to lose. What we need are authoritative accounts garnered from Reagan himself, assuming he remembers, his top aides, or his papers.)

Perhaps the most enduring achievement will be the research and gathering of primary documents that served the coram nobis cases, the class action lawsuit, and the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and the commission's report, "Personal Justice Denied." This research was collected by Aiko and Jack Herzog. It has already served scholars and historians and will continue to do so.

And this, too, the video ignores. The Lowry bill, the class action lawsuit, and the research and collection of primary documents were accomplished through the leadership of the National Council for Japanese American Redress. Though NCJAR was a small organization comprised of a board of around 12 members (the number varied as people joined and left the board) and around 3,000 supporters, NCJAR was able to raise \$40,000 to cover the cost of legal fees and expenses and its own organization costs.

The role of NCJAR demonstrated that there is a considerable constituency of Japanese Americans who are willing to support an alternative to the JACL. The NCJAR was all but ignored by the video.

Finally, the video completely ignored the daunting program of identification, location and verification of the tens of thousands of Japanese Americans eligible for payment. This program was characterized in a Senate hearing in 1980 by an official of the U.S. Department of Justice as being "possibly impossible." But it has been carried forward effectively by this same department and its Office of Redress Administration, under the courageous, caring and capable leadership of Bob Bratt.

The JACL should realize that we live in the era of *glasnost* and *perestroika*, that the old regime is gone, and that truth, the whole truth, is what keeps our democracy healthy.

William Hohri
Chicago

Cherry Kinoshita responds to Hohri complaints

JACL is indebted to NCJAR's William Hohri (to allow him) to vent his spleen against the JACL video, "Redress, the JACL Campaign for Justice." If this widespread publicity spurs others to view the videotape, they can judge for themselves the merits of such an irresponsible diatribe.

From the very first sentence, Hohri grossly errs in his assumption



CHERRY KINOSHITA

tion about the JACL redress video when he describes it as "JACL's version of the movement for Japanese American redress."

Two things must first be understood about the JACL video:

(1) When this project was first conceived, its purpose was defined to produce a visual record about JACL, for JACL, essentially to document the JACL's role in the redress effort (and recognizing there were others), with clearly no pretense of comprehensively covering the total spectrum of the remedial movements undertaken by the Japanese American community.

(2) To cover JACL's involvement with redress from 1970 on was, in itself, straining the limited budget for a 30-minute video.

With that in mind, the scope of the video concentrated on JACL's efforts in the lobbying and congressional phase, thereby sacrificing the documenting of other significant efforts by JACL members in fund-raising to the tune of \$1.5 million, obtaining resolutions in favor nationwide, working with organizations which comprised the coalition, and with the Office of Redress Administration in clarifying and simplifying eligibility requirements, assisting in payment procedures and other substantial contributions.

Having clarified that, it is common knowledge that paralleling the legislative drive there were two other related and significant movements which developed subsequently, centered in the judiciary realm: (a) the coram nobis cases of Hirabayashi, Yasui and Korematsu, and (b) the class action lawsuit.

As an organization, JACL focus and priority as determined by its membership (National JACL Council) was upon the legislative phase. JACL has no reservation in saying that all credit for successes in the above two efforts rightly belongs to the coram nobis legal teams and to NCJAR. JACL has never, despite Hohri's insinuations, sought credit for, or identification with the related court actions.

However, when help was asked, JACL responded. For example: A friend-of-the-court brief supporting the class action suit was provided at Hohri's request.

So, on the one hand, Hohri obliquely criticizes JACL's minimal involvement in the legal cases and

in the lawsuit; on the other hand, he castigates the video for ignoring significant coverage of these events. The aim of the JACL video was to tell the story of JACL's activities and the narrator so states.

Other groups had specific roles in the total redress movement, and they, too, are encouraged to tell their story — as one group has already done. For Hohri to think that he knows better than the JACL what JACL's role involved is just as preposterous as for JACL to think it could tell the story of the class action lawsuit. If Hohri were to produce a 30-minute video on William Hohri, et al., U.S., do you think for one moment that the legislative work of JACL in a parallel effort would be included? We know it would not; nor would we expect it, nor in a documentary about the coram nobis cases.

We further address point-by-point the specious criticisms raised by Hohri.

Hohri: The JACL video also deletes names from the redress movement and alters history to make JACL larger than life.

Reply: To "delete" is an active verb charging that names and events (presumably non-JACL) were deliberately excised. Quite the contrary — keeping in mind that by the third cut of the video which was almost 45 minutes in length, cutting another 10 minutes meant condensing interviews, paring sentences, tightening clips and, in short, eliminating entire JACL segments. It was due to the skill of writer/director John Esaki that as much informative material as did appear was finally preserved.

H: The video gives JACL credit for repeal of Title II when most of the work was done by the national Ad Hoc Committee for Repeal of the Emergency Detention Act, led by Edison Uno and Raymond Okamura.

Reply: Frank Chuman's *Bamboo People* (p. 330) states, "On August 23, 1968, at its biennial national convention in San Jose, the JACL officially approved a resolution calling for the repeal of Title II ... Mike Masooka, its Washington representative, was now the senior congressional representative for any civil rights organization ... It was he who marshaled the necessary forces to support the repeal of Title II. His efforts were supported by two vigorous and dedicated members of the JACL, Ray Okamura and Paul Yamamoto, who were appointed co-chairmen of an ad hoc anti-detention committee.

H: Edison Uno first proposed reparations for JAs at the 1970 national convention of the JACL ... it would take JACL six years to decide to form its National Committee for Redress, then two more years to act to seek redress through the U.S. Congress ...

R: Hohri conveniently neglects to mention that from the early '70s through that decade, it was under the umbrella of Seattle JACL that Henry Miyatake, Chuck Kato, Shoukei Sasaki, Ken Nakano and Mike Nakata formulated the first beginnings of redress legislation and promoted redress nationwide. It was this Seattle Evacuation Redress Committee that prevailed upon the campaigning (Rep.) Mike Lowry to promise to sponsor a redress bill should he be elected in November, 1978. The video does not ignore this early piece of JACL redress activity.

H: The first Day of Remembrance was conceived and pushed by Frank Chin.

R: This is right, Frank Chin was the initiator of the concept, and Frank Abe and Kathy Wong carried it out — but it was with the help of JACL, under the auspices of JACL, and in good part funded by JACL. Official flyers publicizing the first Day of Remembrance lists as sponsors: PNWD District Council JACL, chap-

ters of Seattle, Puyallup Valley, White River Valley, National JACL Redress Committee and three other non-JACL organizations.

H: The video all but ignores significant achievements by other groups in other areas ...

R: The video does include references to Southern California groups, E.O. 9066, and the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations. NCRP was not only cited as playing a major role in arranging the CWRC hearings at Los Angeles but includes a picture of its leader, Alan Nishio. The Washington Coalition on Redress is also pictured for its key role in the 1981 Seattle hearings and it may come as a rude reminder to Hohri that the WCR, which was founded, organized and carried forward by JACLers, includes as members the four Puget Sound area JACL chapters, and a core group of seven, except for one dedicated, hard-working non-JACLer, is composed of Seattle JACLers who have sponsored every Day of Remembrance event held in Seattle since 1978.

H: As (the class action) case approached the court, redress legislation, which had been stalled for four years in Congress, began moving ... Wording for an extinguishment of claims provision was added, making the legislation serve, in effect, as an out-of-court settlement ... The lawsuit did apply pressure, arguably the pressure necessary, to move redress legislation to enactment.

R: Extinguishment of claims provided that if one accepted payment under the Congressional legislation, they could no longer claim under the lawsuit. If the legislation passed in this manner, there was the danger that NCJAR would lose all who would be party to the class action suit. NCJAR was concerned over the survival of its lawsuit when it pressured Congress to extend the extinguishment clause from one month to 18 months in which individuals could decide whether to accept or reject redress under the Civil Liberties Act, thereby buying time for his class action lawsuit.

To suggest that these provisions, other than being self-serving, or any developments in the class action lawsuit provided pressure to Congress to move redress legislation to enactment is wishful thinking on Hohri's part. Rather, the record will show corroborated by the Nikkei congressmen, the change in the chairmanship of the subcommittee to Barney Frank, the Matsunaga-Mineta-Matsui in-house lobbying, combined with the nationwide intense constituency lobbying of JACL and by groups in the coalition, coupled with JACL lobbying of the Administration, led to the final enactment.

H: ... Research collected by Aiko and Jack Herzig ... this, too, the video ignores.

R: Aiko Herzig as well as Peter Irons are credited in the video with research that led to the coram nobis cases.

H: The Lowry bill, the 1974 class action lawsuit ... were accomplished through the leadership of the National Council for Japanese American Redress (NCJAR).

R: Come on, William ... let's put that false claim to rest once and for all.

Hohri, in repeatedly claiming credit for the Lowry bill, must be deluding himself to believe that a congressman from the State of Washington would respond to an individual or an organization based in Chicago, rather than to his own constituency from Seattle with whom he had been working since before his election to formulate redress legislation.

This past Oct. 26, I spoke with former congressman Mike Lowry and I read to him the above statement by Hohri for comment. Lowry said, "That is inaccurate. I recall we were on a radio program together, but I have no idea what Bill Hohri is talking about. Definitely the input for my redress bill

came from the Seattle JACL group."

We went on to discuss the drafting of his redress bill through Congress with Seattle JACLers through Ruthann Kurose, his aide. I asked Lowry whether it was inappropriate to refer to his bill as having "died in committee." He recalled that the Lowry bill languished in committee and eventually the Senate and House commission bills were voted out of committee as HR 5499. He affirmed that the terminology regarding his bill was accurate since it was not acted upon; it "died in committee."

The class action lawsuit (Hohri v. U.S.) was an unprecedented noble effort, and if it had, against impossible odds, had its day before the U.S. Supreme Court for a hearing on its merit, the outcome could have been historic. But rather than resting on these laurels, what Hohri seems to be grudging is that NCJAR cannot rightfully claim success in the congressional approach to redress, an effort which he consistently disparaged throughout these years.

Early on, Hohri distinctly placed his lawsuit effort apart from the legislative effort when he stated in the January, 1989, NCJAR Newsletter: "At least we, who were disappointed by the Supreme Court's denial of Japanese American's petition to be heard, were better prepared than those who celebrated enactment of the Civil Liberties Act, with its apology and promise of restitution ... (referring to the meager Reagan appropriation)."

Subsequently, with the class action suit now dead, he continues: "On January 9, the NCJAR board met and decided to continue and to fight for the fulfillment of our government's commitment to redress..." and defensively added a parenthetical note — "Legislative activity is not new to NCJAR. You may recall that NCJAR sought amendments to the Civil Liberties Act to protect its lawsuit. Also when NCJAR was formed in 1979, it supported the first Lowry Redress Bill."

By this very admission, Hohri reveals that NCJAR had a minuscule role in the legislative fight for redress. Yet NCJAR jumped on the bandwagon after passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 not only as Johnny-come-lately but after having actively opposed JACL's legislative efforts during the years of JACL lobbying, persistently urging JACL to give up its congressional efforts and convert its support to the class action suit in the courts as the only viable way to attain redress.

Further, the November 1989 newsletter quotes Hohri: "In the final year of this double-ten, NCJAR focused its attention on the appropriations process." Summarizing in the final newsletter issue, he states in an almost defensive tone, "I believe NCJAR has done as much as any other group to effect the fulfillment of redress for Japanese Americans."

The JACL video gives total credit for the funding of redress by the entitlement provision to Senator Daniel Inouye, to whom it rightfully belongs.

JACL is not a nameless, faceless acronym; contrary to the NCJAR image where a sole individual seems to be running the show, JACL consists of thousands of active individuals, many of whom are dedicated, sincere volunteers working endless hours in purposes that benefit the community. Those who resist fit the marketing of JACL harm each and every one of these individuals.

The hundreds of JACLers and other grassroots people who lobbied their congressmen, visiting them, persuading them, cajoling them, writing endless letters, giving countless interviews and educating the public on the internment experience and redress, did a tremendous job under the leadership of JACL-LEC. And they, along with the lead of key members of Congress, the coalitional

support and the indispensable heroic record of Nisei veterans deservedly can be credited for passage of the Civil Liberties Act. The JACL video project depicts an honest, objective and accurate, albeit tightly condensed, portrayal of JACL's part in this legislative effort.

In the words of Senator Inouye, who commended the production team of John Esaki and Amy Kato of Visual Communications in a letter dated June 5, 1991:

"I wish to commend you for a superb job. The video portrayed an accurate account of the events surrounding the redress campaign. Congratulations to you both."

Cherry Kinoshita
Seattle

Hohri responds to Kinoshita response

Well, if you can't attack the message, do the messenger in.

Cherry Kinoshita has earned points in the art of intimidation with her various ad hominem and extreme characterizations of me, including "vent his spleen," "irresponsible diatribe," "naive," "self-serving," "wishful thinking" and "deluding himself." She also charges my writing with making various insinuations and oblique criticism. But I'm not sure what these have to do with my criticism of the JACL's video: *Redress: The JACL Campaign for Justice*.

Kinoshita ends her piece with this quote from Senator Inouye: "The video portrayed an accurate account of the events surrounding the redress campaign." If this is the response of an astute and informed U.S. senator, you can imagine the response of most ordinary citizens. Despite her usual record about and for JACL, the video's history. It is an attractive, persuasive, and flawed history. It will influence those who see it and, unfortunately, misinform them as well.

Thanks to Kinoshita's comments, I have gained some insight on why the flaws exist. She seems ignorant of the fact that NCJAR was formed in Seattle and included the very people she credits with influencing Congressman Mike Lowry to introduce a redress bill in 1979. Moreover, NCJAR testified in the June 1980 hearings of the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations on behalf of the Lowry bill, HR 5977. (The only direct opposition to HR 5977 came from Mike Masooka, "Mr. JACL." The Lowry bill provided that redress payments would be made to heirs of deceased internees. Masooka accused the Lowry bill of thereby providing redress to the Japanese enemy. See *Repairing America*, p. 77.)

Nor does she appear to have read Raymond Okamura's authoritative account, "Background and History of the Repeal Campaign," *Amerasia Journal*, Volume 2, No. 2, Fall, 1974. According to Okamura, "Masooka's opposition [to the campaign to repeal Title II] was a formidable obstacle because he was the most influential individual in JACL." It was only after a series of confrontations between the repeal committee and Mike Masooka that Masooka agreed to work for the repeal movement. He did not push; he was pulled.

Also Okamura lists many organizations that worked in the campaign, including: Asian American Political Alliance of Berkeley, San Francisco, and Los Angeles; Asian American Concern, University of California, Davis; Asian American Student Association, Yale University; Asian Coalition for Equality, Seattle; Asian Americans for Action, New York; and most notably, the National Committee to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee and its derivatives. There were others. While the repeal committee was part of the JACL, its orga-

nizational base was broad. ("Ad hoc," by the way, does not mean independent.)

Kinoshita also assumes that NCJAR was a one-man show. While I did most of the writing and talking and put up a lot of money, NCJAR had an active board in Chicago that met regularly each month and made its major decisions. The board was chaired by Nelson Kitase for a while and then by Sam Ozaki (both members of the JACL); its books were kept by Bob Imon; its minutes were written by Yao Iwano and then by Doris Sato; its newsletter was edited by Eddie and Doris Sato (both members of the JACL) and was assembled and mailed by the board and other friends. NCJAR retained a lawyer for over eight years that filed a massive class action lawsuit on behalf of 125,000 Japanese Americans for their wartime exclusion and detention, wrote memoranda, presented oral argument, wrote appeals and various briefs all the way into the U.S. Supreme Court, as well as provided NCJAR with representation in the U.S. Congress.

NCJAR relied heavily on the generous work and hospitality of Aiko and Jack Herzig in numerous capacities, most significantly in archival research and legislative representation. NCJAR relied on friends in New York, Washington, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, San Jose, Hawaii, and Los Angeles for organizing meetings, providing accommodations, giving advice, providing 19 named plaintiffs for its lawsuit, and helping with fund raising. NCJAR received support from 65 ronin supporters who each contributed \$1,000 or more. It raised around \$400,000 from around 3,000 supporters and paid neither rent nor salary. NCJAR was hardly a one-man show.

Kinoshita raises several issues that seem to arise from her peculiar use of language. The deletion of Frank Chin's name is reduced to the fact of the active voice of an expression: "The video deletes Frank Chin." Would my argument have persuaded her if I had used the passive voice and said, "Frank Chin was deleted from the video?" Nor am I certain how she interprets "all but ignores" and "arguably the pressure necessary." Nor does seem to understand that an out-of-court settlement is made in response to the threat from a costlier settlement in court.

The JACL's video is flawed history and is not "an accurate account of events surrounding the redress campaign." Let the viewer beware.

Peace,

William Hohri.

Chicago

Kinoshita: One more response to Hohri letter

Regarding the JACL redress video, William Hohri's most recent personal attack has been reduced to patronizing semantic criticisms and carping about already-known but remotely related information.

There was little of substance that Hohri could claim to refute the dozen or more points setting the record straight in my response to his original attack. This says better than any further words, the validity of those points, particularly the regard to his specious claims for success of the legislative redress bill.

Incidentally, Hohri apparently does not consider his initial diatribe against the video charging "manipulation, distortion, and altering history as anything personal" — after all he was only attacking an inanimate videotape — not the people who developed it, right?

William Hohri deservedly should be remembered for his and

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(Continued from page 5)
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Calendar

Los Angeles

Sunday, Jan. 12—Asians for Miracle Marrow Matches are having a bone marrow drive at the Venice Japanese Community Center, 12448 Braddock Dr., 12:30p.m.-3:00p.m. Information: 310/490-7230.

Sunday, Jan. 12—Nikkei Widowed Group meeting, Japanese American Culture and Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., Room 4B, Los Angeles. Speakers: Harold Coates, "Innovative Stress Control"; representative from Little Tokyo Service Center speaking on "Low Cost Housing"; 1:30 p.m. Information: Jim Oka, 213/327-8684, or Geri Oda, 213/327-2280.

Ventura County

Saturday, Feb. 1—Installation dinner, Ventura County Chapter, JAACL, Lobster Trap Restaurant, 3605 Peninsula Rd., Channel Island Harbor, CA, 6:30 p.m., \$25 per person. Speaker: Bob Bratt, Office of Redress Administration director. Information: Janet Kajihara, 805/983-2612, Morris or Cherry Abe, 805/484-1570, or Joanne Nakano, 818/991-0876.

One Thousand Club Honor Roll



The 1000 Club Honor Roll appears each year in the special NEW YEAR Edition to acknowledge the contributions from members over the past year. (The closing date of this particular list, the 39th Edition of the 1000er Honor Roll, was Dec. 16, 1991.) It is carefully compiled by the P.C. and National Headquarters staff to include paid-up members for the current year as well as the perpetual Life Members (living and deceased), Memorials, and emeritus members: those who have contributed at least 20 years or more.

Note: Omissions, incomplete names and designating those who have passed away will be appreciated by the P.C. compiler for updating the record for the 40th Edition.

CENTURY LIFE TRUST
Century Life of \$1,000 & up are often an upgrade from Life Trust. Originally, the 1000ers up had

contributed as much as \$2,000. (Unless the 1992 JAACL National Council indicates to the contrary, "Life Trust" contributions after August, 1992, in the amount of

\$1,000 shall be recorded in this category.)

A-J

Yasuo W. Akiko (SF), Lucy Adachi (SF), Henry Akutagawa (Hon.), Dr. Eiji C. Amemiya (SD), Tom Arima (CNC), Jerry Irie (CNC), Natsuko Irie (CNC), Robert W. Johnson (SD)

K-M

Frank A. Kasama (Fm), Marg T. Kasama (Fm), Eryn O. Katsuka (Hat), Ryo Katsuka (Hat), Corky T. Kawasaki (Por), Ernest K. Kazato (Frs), Jeffrey T. Koda (SD), Dr. John Koyama (Gar), Harry H. Masato (CNC), George Y. Masunaga (Mf), David S. Miyamoto (SFV), Toshiko Miyamoto (SFV), N-S

William U. Nakashima (Sto),

Yone Nakashima (Sto), S. Sen Nishiyama (Tyo), Derek T. Obayashi (SD), Keith A. Obayashi (SD), Mas Oy (Mar), Tom T. Okamoto (Sto), Dr. Gilbert Onaka (Vn), Heizo Oshima (CNC), Mabel T. Ota

(Wj), Shiro F. Shiraga (Ml), Peggy Shirai (CNC), Shige Shirai (CNC), Herbert Z. Shiroma (WDC)

T-Y Gary B. Tsumaki (Por), Miyoko Tokuda (Ab), Dr. James K. Tsujimura (Por), Richard H. Yamada (Ch), Edward M. Yamamoto (Col), Masu Yamamoto (Col)

****CORPORATE DIAMOND 15 Summit Bank of Calif. (SF)

MEMORIAL
Memorials are contributions of \$500 & up in memory of the person. (Note: Life Members who have deceased are not automatically transferred to this section. However, the P.C. intends to do so "deceased" (d) members in our future Life Honor Roll. Cooperation from the chapters shall be expected for this designation.)

A-M Masami Abe (Dnt), Harold Gordon (Ch), Dr. William T. Hura (Ch), F. Kuny Inagaki (Vnc), Harry Isaki (Par), Kensaburo Koda (SF), Ray Koyama (SMV), Haruno Maruzani (Ph), Daikichi Matsubara (Ab), George H. Matsubara (Ab), Tosh Matsubara (Ab), Tamotsu Murayama (SF)

N-Y Frank M. Nonaka

(SF), Hito Okada (SLC), Hisayo Sa (Ab), Morichi Saeda (Ab), Fred Yamaya (SW), Yasuo Togami (Ber), Masunosuke Wakamatsu (Vnc), J. Mamoru Watanabe (Sna), Masu Yamamoto (Col), Minoru Yasu (Mk), Takao Yuki (NCWN)

****CORPORATE SILVER 20-Orain Mercantile Co (SF)

****CORPORATE GOLD 13-Blue Shield of California (SF), 4-William E. Wong Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (Nat)

****CORPORATE DIAMOND 15 Summit Bank of Calif. (SF)

"CENTURY CLUB
Originally designated in 1970 for 1000 Club members who gave a "title extra", they contribute \$120 per year or twice the amount now for perennial 1000ers who donate \$60 a year. Several who were listed in the Century Club have upgraded themselves to the Life Trust category.

22nd Year-Fred K. Ota (Wj), 21st Year-Tad Hirota (Ber), James F. Murakami (Son), Henry T. Tanaka (Cie), 20th Year-Michael M. Watabe (NY), 19th Year-George I. Azumano (Vnc), Henry J. Ishida (NSD), George G. Shumamoto (NY), Frank A. Titus (Day), 18th Year-Ai Hatate (Dnt), George S. Oki (Snc), Mwakio Yamamoto (Hol),

Tanaka Travel Service (SF), 17th Year-Ernest Y. Doizaki (Dnt), Lillian C. Kimura (Ch), Wily Kikukousai Int'l Travel, (Dnt), 16th Year-15th Year-Les Kurakazu/Monterey Park Trustee (Snc), 14th Year-Omar Kaihatsu (Ch), Tom Tsubota (Sec), 13th Year-Jeff Fukawa (Del), Amy E. Fujimura (NY), Akio Masaki (Sak), Joe Masurama (Snc), Dr. Roy Okamoto (Son), Jack E. Russer (Bd), Dr. Newton K. Wesley (Ch), Akira Yoshida/Travel Tech Int'l (Sec), James T. Yoshida J. Asari (Vnc), Eddie Jojouchi (Wis), Tohru Yamakawa (Cie), 11th Year-Raymond Chee (Hol), Bob Fukutomi (Vnc), Seid Hayashida (Bo), Hsiao Inouye (SF), Ethel Kohashi (Dnt), Soady A. Koyama, Samuel Kumagai (Mf), Dr. Victor Makita (Gar), James T. Matsuoka (Cie), Robert Mizukami (Puy), Dr. John I. Mrozum (Sto), Micho Nakajima (MP), Harry H. Nakamura (Or), Torao Neshi (Ber), Dr. Joseph T. Sato (WLA), Louise A. Suski (Cie), Robert N. Takamoto (Gda), 10th Year-Frank Inami (HD), Ardevan K. Kozono (Snc), Robert Nakano (Oma), Mrs. Henry Oji (Mar), George T. Sutoh (SMC), Dr. Stanley H. Tanase (Gar), 9th Year-Taka T. Kora (Bo), Kazuo Kubota (SFV), Henry T. Obayashi (SF), 8th Year-Tom Hayakawa (Vnc),

Tomita Family/West Coast Spring (Set), 7th Year-Dean Akhara (ELA), Fred M. Nakamura (Lod), Harry Onishi (Ch), John Sumida (WV), 6th Year-Paul Isaki (Set), Tom T. Okubo (Snc), Hideko N. Seto (Snc), 5th Year-Dr. Roger T. Karne (Vnc), 4th Year-Harry Masamoto (Ch), K. Pasick Okura (WDC), Henry K. Sakai (Ch), R.G. Shikai (Ch), Archie Uchiyama (Aie), 3rd Year-2nd Year-Wallace T. Kido (Bos), Bill Naito (Por), 1st Year-David Nakashima (Lak), Sheryl Tanaka (SD), Peter Yamaguchi (Thor), James Yamashiro (WLA)

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LIFE TRUST
Since 1964, Life Members have contributed a lump sum of \$300. Then a Life Trust was established for JAACL life memberships, the sign-up period extended to the 1992 August convention. Prior to 1964, Life Members had donated various specified sums, from \$250 to \$1,000.

A Akira Abe (Oak), Masaru Abe (Dai), Mitsuji Abe (Set), Shizue Abe (SW), Lily Akiko (SF), Jun Agari (Sto), Hatsuro Aizawa (SF), David Akashi (WLA), Mary Akashi (WLA), Ronald H. Akashi (ELA), Harvey Akita (Ch), Heien Akita

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ANGLERS—From left, Tyler Tanaka, Dick Mandl, Tak Hoshizaki, and Noel Houwing pose after day's fishing.

ALASKA

(Continued from page 8)

Richard tossed around the idea of an upscale lodge that would cater to corporate clients who wanted to escape to Alaska but also enjoy comfortable and even luxurious amenities. It would be billed as a place where a businessperson could bring along the family, enjoy the fishing, scenery, and have a home-base resort that had the look and feel of first-class comfort, food and treatment.

The evolution from Richard's earlier fish camp concept where guests lived a more Spartan lifestyle developed from the growing interest from people who enjoyed fishing and some Hawaiian and Japanese foods and flavors through in.

Tyler, Dick, and Noel had been among the first to enjoy the resort in early June when it opened and the salmon were running. A second trip, even in late August, the tail-end of the salmon season, was still inviting.

Noel is retired from the travel industry but still consults. Speaking of his first trip to the resort, he said, "This stands out for the level of service. It has a Hawaiian touch and friendliness. This kind of luxury doesn't exist elsewhere in Alaska. And the fishing is as good as anywhere around."

"Fishermen are a breed of people, you know. They get along, they have a common bond. They come from all walks of life, young and old."

Dick is also retired from the travel business but remains active on a part-time basis. "This is my second trip to Whales Resort," he said. "It is really a deluxe place, you find things here that you don't at other lodges. I've fished around the world—in New Zealand, Bolivia, a lot of places, and Alaska still ranks on top."

The group deplored off the pier and was greeted warmly by the Whales Resort staff, led by Tracy Fannemel and Todd Hermanson. In June only the main lodge had been refurbished. As the group marched up the long pier, they noticed the newly created 60 ft. by 40 ft. clubhouse, featuring a bar, fireplace, pool table, shuffleboard, and other games.

The lodge itself is highlighted by the Great Room, a 50 ft. by 80 ft. living room with a big fireplace and lots of sofas and chairs that beckon. It's easy to sink in and stare out the huge glass windows that allow you to see most of the horizon.

Settling into rooms that rival any in most hotels, the group went downstairs for happy hour.

They were happy. They were greeted by fresh salmon sashimi. Todd served as bartender as Tak, Tyler, Dick, and Noel nestled to sofas to talk about scenery and salmon.

In keeping with the luxurious

ambiance all-around, dinner was served in a comfortable dining room. On the menu: prime rib.

Even so, food and amenities only go so far to a fisherman. A good rod is the staff of life, a dependable reel the best tool, and a fish on the line is sustenance itself.

After a full breakfast the following morning, Tyler, Tak, Dick, and Noel donned battle gear: slicker raincoats and overalls, and boots, and headed down the pier to meet with the fishing guides.

Head skipper Matt Sugai, a 29-year-old native of Honolulu and a six-year veteran of Alaskan fishing, straddled the 25 ft. Bayliner, readying the boat for the day's adventure. Strong, with a low-center of gravity to move about and around the boat, he gave you the feeling he knew what he was doing and then some. The guests boarded the Malia Keana feeling like this guy could find salmon if anyone could.

The Whales' Resort skippers pride themselves in their abilities. They know their boats, fishing gear, and where the hot spots are. When not taking guests out fishing, they frequently spend their free time scouting new places to catch salmon and halibut.

"I came here in May," Matt said. "I've been exploring the fish grounds but it takes two years to learn a place—and no two years are the same."

In the history of Whales Resort, the record salmon catch is a whopping 58 1/2-pounder. In July, Matt added, a 236-pound halibut was caught by a woman just over 5 ft. tall. "She had a tough time with it," he said. "She fought for 10 or 15 minutes, then I pulled it in by hand for the last 50 feet."

Frank Chong, 36, also of Honolulu, is the manager of the lodge and doubles as a skipper. A former restaurant-owner and kendo expert, Frank says Whales Resort skippers are trained to be flexible—to meet customer needs and desires. "We talk to them, find out what they're looking for—salmon or halibut—and find out what kind of fishing experiences they've had."

As Hawaiian soulmates, Matt and Frank, from boat to boat, flash reconnoitering glances and communicate the watery terrain and conditions in Hawaiian pigeon-English banter, all of which gets the juices stirring for fishermen who start to feel the anxiety of getting line in water.

The first day out on the boat gives the guests their first chance to see up close the Southeast



IDEA MAN—Richard Yamada, with partner Bill Fannemel, created the Whales Lodge Resort concept.

Alaska coastline. The area is marked by thousands and thousands of inlets and islands where king and silver salmon, and 10 species of whales—among them, humpbacks, grays, and orcas—that all call this their channel turf.

Ever from a boat, you get the feeling of Alaska's vastness, water everywhere—rolling and swelling—and dense forests that are only sprinkled with people and settlements. Alaska ranks number one in size among states with more than a half million square miles but is 50th in population. It is the ultimate wilderness. Glaciers and fjords abound; the land is sculpted by the weather. If the forest doesn't come right up to the beach, you often see massive, sheer cliffs.

Prince of Wales is the third largest island in the United States with an area of 2,231 square miles.

In Southeast Alaska the average rainfall is 100 inches per year. In early summer, the weather is can be sunny and mild. In late August, the group encountered some light rains, but nothing that would deter.

And the Prince William Sound is the major summer feeding ground for humpback whales. The group saw many of them.

"We were going along in the boat," Tyler recounted in a happy hour bull session later that evening, "when we saw the bubble ring."

"That's when the whales dive and thrash up a lot of feed that goes to the surface. You can see the bubbles come up in a ring. And

it means that the whales come up fast to feed."

"A whale came up so close to the boat you could touch it with the fishing pole."

Whales often come fairly close to boats, Matt said, but mishaps are very rare. The only whales most people are wary of are orcas or killer whales.

"Killer whales are like wolves, they hunt in packs. When they're around, fishing stops. Everything clears the way for them."

But fishing was good for the group. As the bait trolled behind the boat, the fishermen scanned the waters, alert for a tug on the line or the call from the skipper that is proverbial music to the ears: "Fish on!"

When that happens, you scramble to grab the pole out of the holder, rod tip up and start reeling. A king salmon is considered the prize catch but must be at least 28 inches to be a keeper.

You learn the lingofast. A shaker is too puny to keep by law. Next to kings, silver salmon, or kohos, are next desirable and perhaps the most fun to catch. Kings tend to simply swim out and away, while silvers tend to zig and zag and even jump up out of the water. They're frisky.

Tyler, Tak, Dick, and Noel all caught their share of kings, silvers and even some halibut. Noel caught the biggest halibut, a 70-plus pounder. Halibut is a good eating fish but fishing for them doesn't compare to salmon. You drag heavily weighted line and bait down from the boat. Once the bottom-feeding halibut strikes, you pull it up from the depths. It's like lifting a heavy weight out of the water.

Next to fishing, the fun is in the fish stories later on. After a long and prosperous day, the group sat back, enjoyed cocktails and freshly caught crab and talked of the days' battles.

Tyler was always congenial and fun-loving. Dick was armed with a joke or story for every occasion. Longtime friends, he and Noel constantly chided each other in good-natured put-down humor.

And Tak and Noel were the hardest of the fishermen. A full day out on the boats wasn't enough. They could be seen in the dusky evenings walking down to the pier to throw a line in.

Silhouetted against the early evening light, you could tell they were fast friends. They had only known each for a few hours, but they were already buddies with one great common interest.

VIDEO—Pros and cons on JACL role in redress

(Continued from page 11)

NCJAR's valiant effort for redress through a class action suit. What a shame that his spiteful attacks tarnish his accomplishments.

To assuage Hohri's unhappiness that NCJAR was "all but ignored" in the JACL video, it has been suggested by those concerned that he produce a half-hour video on the NCJAR's role in the court action for redress. Perhaps he can do a better job about including every single fact, every single group of the entire redress movement—interspersed with the NCJAR story—all in 35 minutes.

Good luck!

Cherry Kinoshita
Seattle

Ross Harano objects to Hohri letter

I must take exception to William Hohri's article in which he attempts to distort JACL's leadership role in the successful ef-

forts to repeal Title II of the Internal Security Act of 1950, otherwise known as the Emergency Detention Act. As Chicago Chapter, president and the National JACL legislative chairman, I was at that time actively involved in the Title II repeal efforts.

The JACL adopted a resolution at its 1968 San Jose National JACL to establish an "ad hoc committee to develop and coordinate an active program, coupled with consideration of necessary financing, to repeal or amend the Emergency Detention Act." Ray Okamura was appointed as one of the Committee's co-chairpersons.

After the convention, the Chicago JACL Ad Hoc Committee was created and Hiroshi Kanno was appointed as its co-chairperson. Later the Ad Hoc committee became the Chicago Chapter, JACL Anti-Detention Camp Committee. Through Hiroshi's efforts, the committee worked closely with the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights. In November, 1969, a 5,000-piece mailing was sent to their Midwest mailing list soliciting support of JACL's repeal efforts and monetary contribution. Hohri states in his article, "of the many contributions our Chicago branch received, only one

came from a JACLer." Since the mailing was to non-JACLers, there were no JACL contributors as a result of that mailing. The funds received were used to cover the cost of the mailing and to fund the committee's activities. The cost of the mailing was advanced by the national JACL Ad Hoc Committee.

I recall that there were many committee meetings which took place during the repeal movement. I do not recall Hohri attending them, however, he attempts to give the impression that he was one of the active members of the committee.

With the passage of time, it appears that Hohri has forgotten many of the details of the efforts of the Chicago JACL to repeal Title II.

(Editor's note: Harano included in his response five legal-size pages of documents were appended as enclosures to verify designation of names.)

Ross Harano
Chicago

Nursery group honors Nikkei

SACRAMENTO—Edwin S. Kubo, George S. Oki Sr., and Harold Sumida were among those recently honored by the California Association of Nurserymen (CAN) for their excellence and service to the horticultural industry.

Kubo, senior vice president of Oki Nursery, Sacramento, was honored with the Elmer J. Merz Memorial Award for his unselfish dedication to the industry and to the association. He is a CAN chapter officer, state director, and chairman of the research committee.

Oki was named an honorary member of CAN, an award previously given to only seven people. Oki guided his nursery's growth from a small family business to one of Northern California's largest wholesale nursery growers. Oki's 44-year career includes 16 continuous years as a CAN state officer.

Sumida of La Sumida Nursery, Santa Barbara, received the California Association of Nurserymen Endowment for Research and Scholarship Hall of Fame Award for his ongoing and exceptional support of CAN members on an association, chapter, and individual level.



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