OMAR » continued from page 2

presumption of innocence guaranteed to every person in the United States, and we expect the Department of Justice to uphold these constitutional protections. We will watch closely to ensure this investigation is conducted fairly, transparently and free from political interference. We will continue to stand by Rep. Omar as this investigation proceeds."

Said Ilhan via social media: " … this is an attempt to target political enemies and weaponize federal law enforcement. For 10 years, Trump has targeted me with baseless lies and smear campaigns. This is just the latest escalation in his campaign of political intimidation."

Early Oct. 12, federal agents conducted a search of Omar's home as part of an "ongoing criminal investigation." The reason appears to be an investigation of paperwork related to her family's immigration history. With the midterm election taking place on Nov. 3, the search was met with condemnation, much of it having to do with Justice Department protocol regarding overt investigations of political candidates close to an election.

JACL D.C. chapter Co-President John Tobe in an email to *Pacific Citizen* stated: "The Department of Justice (DOJ) has had a long-standing policy to abstain from overt actions related to politically sensitive matters 60 days before an election.

"Conducting this search just 22 days before the elections is another attempt by the DOJ to not only politically intimidate a member of Congress but also a continuation of this administration's campaign to target the Somali American community. We stand against this action and ask for transparency and accountability."

"We have seen an outpouring of support for Rep. Ilhan Omar after her home was raided on Monday," said JACL Twin Cities President Vinicius Taguchi. ". . . President Trump has consistently targeted Rep. Omar over her religious and ethnic background.



Rep. Ilhan Omar at the Twin Cities Pride Parade last June.

PHOTO: DAIGO FUJIWARA-SMITH

The Twin Cities community is home to the largest Somali diaspora in the United States, and they were some of those most acutely affected by the so-called 'Operation Metro Surge' earlier this year. As Japanese Americans, we must remember that there was a time when most of our community were politically vulnerable as first- and second-generation immigrants. In particular, this reminds me of the story of the late Norman Mineta, who also served as a U.S. representative but had been unjustly incarcerated at Heart Mountain exclusively due to his ethnic background during a time of rampant xenophobia."

Omar is running for her fifth term as a congressperson representing Minnesota's fifth congressional district. ■

News Briefs

U.S. Armed Forces on Okinawa Ordered to Stay on Base Following Slaying
Following the arrest of Marine Corps enlisted man Devin Jacob Ballard, 20, for the suspected robbery and strangulation of Anna Yagi, 39, at a hotel in Naha city in Japan's Okinawa Prefecture on Oct. 3 *(see tinyurl.com/2v5a7edj)*, U.S. Armed Forces, according to the *Associated Press*, paused all operations for two days, restricted the ability of troops to leave their bases and ordered training on standards, discipline and "our responsibilities as members of the Okinawan community."

16-Year-Old Driver Crashes Into Parked Car, Killing Nobu Sushi Chef
Ryo Uchimiya, 51, was killed around 7 a.m. on Oct. 3 while napping in his legally parked car in front of Malibu, Calif., restaurant Nobu before his shift began. Security video showed an SUV driven at a high rate of speed veering off Pacific Coast Highway and slamming into the rear of Uchimiya's car. A 16-year-old boy was the driver of the vehicle that struck Uchimiya's sedan.

Duly Noted: Ryan Kimura Tapped as JCCCNC's New Executive Director
Kimura's appointment became effective Sept. 1. ¶ Junior Keilani Fujii, a University of Texas at Austin computer science major, was named a recipient of the Parker Skiba Memorial Endowed Presidential Scholarship. ¶ The National Asian Pacific American Bar Assn.'s President's Award will go to Wilson Chu and Sandra Yamate at its Convention in L.A. on Nov. 13. ¶ Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California on Oct. 22 in L.A. will honor ACLU National Legal Director Cecillia Wang; JANM CEO and President Ann Burroughs; Peter and Jihee Huh for their activism and philanthropy; and law firm Morrison Foerster.

— P.C. Staff

Pat Saiki, 96: Represented Hawaii

Helped persuade Republicans to support redress



Pat Saiki *(second from left)* served Hawaii as a U.S. representative when President Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

PHOTO: PACIFIC CITIZEN PHOTO ARCHIVE

By P.C. Staff

Patricia Hatsue Saiki died Sept. 30 in Honolulu. She was 96. Born in Hilo, Hawaii, on May 28, 1930, the Nisei's political career included serving in the state's upper and lower chambers of its Legislature and as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1987-91, becoming the state's first Republican woman elected to that body.

Prior to launching her political career in 1968, when she was elected to the Hawaii State House of Representatives where she served until 1974, Saiki used her 1952 bachelor's degree in education from University of Hawaii at Manoa and found work as a teacher at Punahou School, Kaimuki Intermediate School and Kalani High School. When her husband, Stanley Saiki, MD, moved to Ohio for his medical school residency, she taught in Toledo. Together, the Saiki's were parents to five children.

Before transitioning to politics, as a teacher she helped unionize her colleagues with the formation of the Teachers' Chapter of the Hawaii Government Employees Assn., becoming its chair, serving on the HGEA board of directors and serving as the teachers' spokesperson at the state Legislature.

Her commitment to education extended to her service as a state senator from 1974-82, where she chaired the state's Senate Education Committee and approved funding to establish Kapiolani Community College. That same year, after she made an unsuccessful run for lieutenant governor, she became the state's Republican Party chairperson, reprising that role in 2014-15.

As a Republican, Saiki was seen as a fiscally conservative but socially liberal politician who was pro-choice on abortion and supportive toward gay rights. Her support of redress for Japanese Americans who were incarcerated by the U.S. government during World War II helped persuade fellow Republicans to back a federal apology and $20,000 in reparation money to surviving incarcerees. Two years later, she ran unsuccessfully against Daniel Akaka for the U.S. Senate seat of Spark Matsunaga after his death. Subsequent to this, President George W. Bush tapped her to serve as the Small Business Administration administrator of 1991-93.

Pat Saiki was predeceased by her husband and eldest son, Stanley Saiki Jr. She is survived by her four children: Sandra Saiki, Margaret Saiki, Stuart Saiki and Laurie Saiki, and grandchildren. ■

In MEMORIAM

(Note: Boldfaced names in the PDF version of this are active hyperlinks.)

Baba, Esther Toriye, 95, Honolulu, HI, Feb. 16.

Hibi, David Arthur, 64, Nixa, MO, Sept. 20.



Hirabayashi, Travis, 62, Brigham City, UT, March 27.

Ikeda, Nobuhiko, 86, Novato, CA, April 8.

Keimi, Emiko, 96, Los Angeles, CA, Oct. 4.

Miya, Masami, 99, Roy, UT, March 22.



Nagamoto, Robert, 93, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, Sept, 21.

Okuda, Tazuko, 91, Hacienda Heights, CA, Aug. 21.

Shioshi, Tomiye 'Jeanne', 103, Portland, OR, Aug. 23.

Takemori, Hannah Louise Fumiko, 30, Mercer Island, WA, April 8.

Yamasaki, Richard Alan, 75, Idaho Falls, ID, May 13. ■

PLACE A TRIBUTE
'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. **Tributes** honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of $25/column inch.
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