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Masaoka tribute set — page 2

National Asian American conference scheduled

LOS ANGELES—A large-scale national conference on Asian American issues will be held Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 24-26, at the Biltmore Hotel.

"This is the first national conference on Asian American issues of this scope and magnitude ever to be held," said symposium consultant John Tateishi, who began organizing "The Asian American Experience: Looking Ahead" more than a year ago.

The focus of the event will be to identify key social and economic challenges facing Asian Americans in the 1990s and examine the public policy implications for American society at large. More than 600 individuals representing at least 30 Asian American ethnic groups and other Americans interested in the Asian American and minority affairs are expected to attend the symposium.

Seminar topics will include issues of culture and values; economics, employment and discrimination; the implications of Pacific Rim economics on Asian Americans; Asian Americans in education; community and minority relationships; and Asian Americans in the social and political context of the '90s. A roundtable discussion of Asian Americans in the arts also will be featured.

Special events for teachers and others involved with education for an about Asian Americans will be incorporated into the symposium.

Networking

WHAT: The Asian American Experience: Looking Ahead"
WHEN: Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 24-26.
WHERE: Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles
SPONSOR: The Asia Society and 20 national Asian American and other ethnically identified national organizations.
INFORMATION: Brochure is available from the Southern California Center of The Asia Society, ARCO Plaza, Level C, 505 So. Flower St., Los Angeles, CA, 90071; 213/624-0945.

According to Tateishi, the conference is timely because of the explosive growth of the Asian American population. While Asian Americans have received acclaim for their academic and professional accomplishments, many are still plagued by poverty, crime and discrimination, Tateishi said.

Significant disparities among Asian national groups along socio-economic lines have hampered efforts by Asian Americans to develop a common social agenda and political strategy. But Asians,

See CONFERENCE/page 3



ELAINE CHAO



REP. ROBERT MATSUI



TRITIA TOYOTA

Conference features distinguished lineup

The "Asian American Experience: Looking Ahead" conference features a distinguished group of speakers and participants from the arts, government, media, business, and academia.

Among them: Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii; Reps. Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui of California; playwright David Henry Hwang; author Amy Tan; filmmaker Renee Tajima; actor B.D. Wong; Los Angeles KCBS-TV anchor Tritia Toyota; actress Jude Narita; California Gov. Pete Wilson; Stewart Kwoh, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center; L.A. Councilman Michael Woo and Mayor Tom Bradley; author Bharati Mukherjee; J.D. Hokoyama, community leader and JACL PSW governor; Don Nakanishi, UCLA Asian American Studies Center director; Elaine Chao, newly named head of the Peace Corps.; Elaine Kim of the University of California at Berkeley; philosopher Tu Weiming of Harvard University; author Jessica Hagedorn; artist Yong Soon Min; musician L. Subramanyan; Sucheng Chau of the University of California at Santa Barbara; Warren Furutani of the L.A. Board of Education; Bill Ong Hing of Stanford University; Shirley Hune of Hunter College; Arthur Hu of *Asian Week*; Margaret

See LINEUP/page 3

Meet the governor



Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar (center), talks with Arthur Morimitsu (left), chairman of JACL's Veterans' Affairs Committee and a WWII Army veteran, and Tom Hachiya, member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Edgar recently signed Senate Bill 442 into law, prohibiting federal redress payments from affecting recipients' eligibility for state general assistance programs.

Bush: Positive message at Pearl Harbor event

President to stress importance of good relations between countries

WASHINGTON, D.C.—When he makes his speech at the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, President George Bush will emphasize the importance of bilateral relations between the United States and Japan, according to a recent *Associated Press* story.

Bush said he will "deliver a speech that will stress the importance of future constructive Japan-U.S. relations," in a message to Japanese former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Nakasone and former President Jimmy Carter were recent guests at the White House to report on proposals for strengthening relations between the two countries from a panel they headed of 30 leaders from both countries.

According to the *AP* story, the panel, in its report, warned that if the two countries could face a "fire storm of recriminations" if they fail to overcome current economic frictions.

The 50th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack was not a topic of discussion by the panel but the event will ultimately play an important role in future bilateral dialogue, said Prof. Susan Pharr, a Harvard University Japan expert.

At the ceremony itself, scheduled for Dec. 7 of this year, no foreign guests will be invited to ease tensions, according to government spokespersons.

In the meantime, however, other Dec. 7 events have been scheduled around the country. A U.S. Pearl Harbor veterans' organization, *AP* reported, has already objected to plans for Japanese groups to appear at some of these events.

To further soften the tone of the event, Bush is expected to visit Japan in November.

More redress videos available

An additional 100 videotapes of "Redress: The JACL Campaign for Justice" is now available from national headquarters.

The videotape, which chronicles the efforts of JACL to achieve redress, costs $25. Write to Masi Nihei, JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, 94115, or call 415/921-5225.

Asian Pacific income higher, says census

By HARRY K. HONDA, Senior Editor

The Census Bureau has released two Current Population Reports that detail the household median income and poverty levels for 1990. And while the 250-page plus reports carry no separate Asian-Pacific Islander breakdowns, it announced:

● Real median income for Asian or Pacific Islander households was $38,450 — not statistically different from 1989 after adjusting for a 5.4% increase in consumer prices. That is higher than whites ($31,231), Hispanic origin ($22,330) and blacks ($18,676).

● About 860,000 or 12.2% of the Asian/Pacific Islander population was "below" the government's official poverty level of $13,359 for a family of four in 1990. And about 22.3 million whites (10.7%), 9.8 million Blacks (31.9%) and 6 million Hispanics (28.1%) were poor in 1990.

The "real median household income" is figured on money income before taxes and not including non-cash benefits such as food stamps, Medicare, Medicaid, public housing and employer fringe benefits.

Such data when merged, as was done for the 1990 experiment for comparison, show the effect of taxes and non-cash benefits. By using the broader definition of income to include the non-cash fringes, median income of black households was in a ratio of 67.3% to the white median; but 59.8% under the official definition of household income.

The Hispanic - to - white ratio was 77% under the broader definition, 71% under the official definition.

No. 2,636

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Redress Information

The Sumitomo Bank of California would like to congratulate the Japanese American Community and the JACL on its Redress accomplishment. As a public service, JACL Fact Sheets on Redress payment information are available at any branch office of Sumitomo Bank.

Sumitomo Bank
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Calendar

Colorado

Denver

Saturday, November 9—Mile-Hi JACL's Election Pot Luck, Nisei Post, 2019 Market St., Denver, 5 pm. Information: 303/892-6003.

December 1991—Mile-Hi JACL Ski Weekend, date and place to be announced. Information: 303/892-6003.

August 3-8, 1992—JACL's 32nd Biennial National Convention, "JACL: Solid as the Rockies," Denver. Information: 303/892-6003.

Idaho

Saturday, October 26—Tri-cities JACL Area Reunion, Cactus Pete's Jackpot, Nevada. Cost: $20. Reservations: Cactus Pete's 800/321-1103 by October 11.

Washington

Seattle

Friday, October 4—International District Community Health Center's Annual Dinner, Seattle Trade Center, 2601 Elliot Ave., 5:30 pm. Speaker: Le Ly Hayslip, Vietnamese author. Tickets: $45. Information: Jodi, 206/286-0589.

Friday, November 1 and Saturday, November 2—"Beyond the Barriers," National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's Third Annual Convention, Stouffer Madison Hotel. Travel arrangements: Eric Hart, Global Express Travel 206/682-3080. Information: Sharon Sakamoto 206/682-9932 or Mimi Castillo 206/624-1913.

California

San Francisco area

Saturday, November 9—The Contra Costa JACL's Kids Day, East Bay Free Methodist Church, El Cerrito, 2 to 5 pm. Admission: free to all Kids (and parents.) Information: Dennis Okamura 415/234-8252.

Sacramento

Saturday, November 23—The Sacramento JACL's 60th Anniversary dinner, the new Raddison Hotel. Cost: $25 per person (includes prime rib dinner). Information: 916/447-0231.

San Jose

Wednesday, October 9—Yu Ai Kai's annual Flu Shot, San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, 8:30 to 10:30 am. Cost: $3. Information: Lisa Kuramoto 408/294-2505.

Saturday, October 12—Yu-Ai Kai's 9 day "Heritage of America" tour, Stops in New York City, Philadelphia, Amish Country, Virginia, and Washington D.C. Cost: $1349 for twin. Information/brochure: 408/294-2505.

Saturday, October 26—Yu Ai Kai's "Harvest Time Fund Raising Dinner", the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin Annex, 640 N. 5th St., San Jose, 6 pm. Donations of $350, $225 and $175 accepted for respective Lexus LS400, Ford Explorer and Toyota Camry dinner ticket door prize category. Information: 408/294-2505.

Los Angeles area

Every Wednesday through November 6—Jude Narita's "The Tiger on the Right/The Dragon on the Left", the Powerhouse Theatre, 3116 2nd St., Santa Monica, 8 pm. Tickets: $10. Information: Theatix 213/466-1767.

Saturday, October 5—The East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center's 19th Annual Aki Matsuri (Fall Festival), 1203 W. Puente Ave., West Covina, 1 to 9 pm. Information: 818/960-2566, Leroy Kawai 818/912-7205, Ray Takai 714/598-9381.

Saturday, October 5—Carson, Gardena and the South Bay JACL's luncheon honoring Harry Honda, Nakaoka Community Center, 1700 W. 162nd St., Gardena, 12:30 to 3:30 pm. Cost: $7, Chinese buffet. Information: Ruth 213/328-6842, Agnes 213/599-2564, or Midori 213/541-6698.

Saturday, October 5—West Los Angeles JACL's workshop on careers in community medicine and public health, Westside YMCA, corner of Sawtelle and La Grange, West Los Angeles, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. Cost: free. Information: 213/473-3015.

Sunday, October 13—The Greater L.A. Singles JACL's New Members Reception and Sunday Social, Ken Nakaoka Center, 1700 W. 162nd St., Gardena, noon to 5 pm. Information: Avie Ige 714/842-9550.

Sunday, October 13—The Nikkei Widowed Group's meeting, JACCC 244 S. San Pedro St., room 4B, Los Angeles, 1:30 to 4:30 pm. Speaker: Mrs. Edith Wharton. Information: Jim Oka 213/327-8684, Geri Oda 213/327-2280.

Thursday, October 17—Asian Pacific American Legal Center's 6th Annual Awards Dinner, Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles. Honorees: Hitachi Ltd., Congressman Howard Berman, Frederick Hong, Maria Hsia, John Huang and Gloria Ochoa. Information/tickets: Stewart Kwoh or Faith Chen, 213/748-2022.

Saturday, October 19—The San Fernando Valley JACL's an Evening of Oral History, San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, 12953 Branford St., Pacoima, 6:30 pm. Cost: $6 (includes Obento). Come and share your story. Information: Kubota 818/765-7649, Phil Shigekuni 818/893-1581, Nancy Gohata 818/899-4237.

Saturday, October 19—The Orange County Sansei Singles Group's monthly Tabemasho luncheon buffet, Todai Restaurant, 1925 W. Carson St., Torrance, 1:30 pm. Cost: $7.95 plus tax and tip. Information: 213/321-2863 or 714/524-1138.

Thursday, October 24 through Saturday, October 26—The Asia Society's National Symposium "The Asian American Experience: Looking Ahead," the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles. Explore the critical issues facing Asian Americans in the 1990s and the importance of these issues to American society at large. Information: 213/624-0945.

Saturday, October 26—Little Tokyo Community Health Fair, Japanese American Cultural Community Center. Information: Bill Watanabe, 213/680-3729.

Saturday, October 26—The Orange County Widows & Widowers Club's 1st annual Installation Dinner-Dance, the Proud Bird, 11022 Aviation Blvd., Los Angeles, 6pm. Music by Taka. Cost: $30. Information: 714/262-0270.

2nd and 4th Fridays, Every Month—The Legal Aid Foundation's legal clinic, Little Tokyo Service Center, 244 S. San Pedro St., Suite 411, 4 to 6 p.m. Japanese language services available. Info: 213/680-3729.

Calendar items must be submitted at least THREE WEEKS in advance of the day of event. Include day or night phone numbers for further information.

Masaoka tribute scheduled by Intermountain

JACKPOT, Nev. — A tribute to the late Mike Masaoka will highlight the Intermountain JACL District Convention on Saturday, Oct. 26, at Cactus Pete's. He was its first district governor in 1939-40.

The weekend will also host the Tri-Cities JACL Area (Idaho Falls, Rexburg, and Pocatello-Blackfoot) reunion, it was announced by Hid Hasegawa, past IDC governor and convention chair.

Grant Ujifusa, legislative strategist for the successful JACL redress campaign, will deliver the keynote address at the Saturday banquet at 7 p.m. On tap are the Masaoka tribute, installation of new district officers, awards and the Tri-Cities Reunion program. It was added that Etsu Masaoka has accepted the invitation to be present.

Cressey Nakagawa, national JACL president, and Ujifusa will hold a morning news conference at 10, in view of the topics scheduled for the three workshops: (1) Pearl Harbor: What it meant to Japanese Americans; (2) JACL Education Initiative: How can we assure history textbooks accurately reflect the Japanese American and Asian American experience? and (3) Anti-Asian violence.

The IDC will meet from 11:30 — straight through with lunch being brought into the meeting room. Registration desk opens at 2 and workshops follow at 2:30. Members are expected to make their own room reservations by Oct. 11 at JACL convention rates: Cactus Pete's (800/321-1103). Dinner tickets, $20 per person, may be ordered from Martha Inouye, 206 Troy Idaho Falls, ID 83402; Mikie Morimoto, 786 Bryan Ave., Pocatello, ID 83201, Mary Hikida, P.O. Box 176, Teton City, ID 83451; (IDC delegates) Hid Hasegawa, 3562 E. Crawford, Idaho Falls, ID 83401.

Reminders

● Tri-cities JACL reunion, Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, Nev., Saturday, Oct. 26, Ruby Mountain Room, registration, 2 p.m., social hour, 6-7 p.m., banquet, 7 p.m., program follows.

Cost: $20.

Information: Idaho Falls area, Martha Inouye, 206 Troy, Idaho Falls, ID, 83402; Rexburg area, Mary Hikida, P.O. Box 176, Teton City, ID, 83451; Pocatello/Blackfoot area, Mikie Morimoto, 786 Bryan Ave., Pocatello, ID, 83201; IDC delegate, Hid Hasegawa, 3562 E. Crawford, Idaho Falls, ID, 83401.

● Luncheon for Japanese American women veterans, in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the MIS reunion in San Francisco, luncheon, Wednesday, Oct. 30, 1991, 11:30 a.m., Five Happiness restaurant, 4142 Geary Blvd.

Cost: $8.

Send check payable to Miwako Yanamoto (Fort Snelling WAC), P.O. Box 27367, Los Angeles, CA, 90027, by Oct. 15.

● Shock Wave Records, an independent record label based in San Francisco is searching for talented, young (18 to 26 years old) vocalists for possible recording opportunities.

Currently accepting demo tapes from serious Asian American vocalists and bands.

Submit demo tape, biography and photo to Shock Wave Records, 223 Balboa St., San Francisco, CA, 94118.

Biz notes

● "Export Asia 2000" Made in the U.S.A.." Tuesday, Oct. 22, ANA/Westin Hotel, 24th and M Sts., N.W., Washington, D.C., sponsored United States Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce. All-day forum aimed at new exporters and others interested in doing business in Hong Kong and Japan. Topics include real or imagined trade barriers; legal aspects of trade with Hong Kong and Japan; the role of Japanese trading companies; manufacturing and service companies; U.S. companys' success stories in Japan and Hong Kong; political stability in Hong Kong; intellectual property and contractual rights; U.S. export control law, financing a deal, and other topics.

Registration fee $100 for USPAACC members and $75 for each additional USPAACC corporate member wishing to attend; $150 non-members.

Information: Robin Downing, USPAACC, 1625 K St., N.W., Suite 380, Washington, D.C., 20006; 202/638-1764, 202/638-1766, fax.

● Asian American Economic Development Enterprises, Inc., a non-profit corporation, opened its new Technology Development Center Sept. 28 in Torrance, Calif. The center is geared to meet the problems of unemployment and depressed economic conditions in the Southern California region.

TDC will seek donations of high tech equipment from substantial resource companies to be used as training tools for unemployed Asian Americans.

Information: 213/687-0677.

● Subaru of America announced Sept. 21 that it will consolidate two of its six regional offices. The company's Western Regional Office located in Irvine, Calif., will be integrated into the Northwest Regional Office in Portland, Ore.

The move is expected to be completed by Jan. 1.

Redress ceremony not scheduled

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Office of Redress Administration (ORA) will not be conducting a second round redress check presentation ceremony in New York City as announced in a previous edition of *Pacific Citizen*.

According to Robert K. Bratt, ORA administrator, the event could not be scheduled as originally announced by Japanese American Social Services Inc.

LINEUP

(Continued from page 1)

Fung, executive director of the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund; S.B. Woo, former lieutenant governor of Delaware; Shirley Young, vice president, General Motors Corp.; Eddie Williams, president, Joint Center Political and Economic Studies; Roger Daniels of the University of Cincinnati; Andrea Rich, executive vice chancellor of UCLA; Dr. Sarjit Singh, president of the American Association of Physicians from India; Ngoan Le, deputy administrator, Planning and Services, Illinois Department of Public Aid; Gloria Megino Ochoa, Board of Supervisors, Santa Barbara; and Sichan Siv, deputy assistant to the president for public liaison, the White House.

CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 1)

Tateishi added, are portrayed as success stories by the media, and therefore have not been given serious consideration by local, state, and national government, and private agencies.

A symposium report, to be published by The Asia Society and distributed nationally, will be co-authored by Pulitzer Prize winning author Stanley Karnow and Los Angeles Times editorial staff writer Nancy Yoshihara.

Nikkei teaches science as wonder, discovery



AKI KUROSE

SEATTLE — A former astronaut now a professor in astronomy is helping to launch a "Washington Initiative in Science Education" and national award-winning elementary school teacher, Aki Kurose of Seattle, is among the chief exponents rooting for it. She was recognized for teaching math and science to kindergarteners.

What has given national attention to the problem was the Feb. 25 *Newsweek* charge that "most university scientists couldn't care less about teaching anyone but future scientists" and the *Seattle Times* developed a timely local angle with the new semester about to open in September.

Kurose says most fundamental science ideas are simple. The fear is unwarranted: "You don't have to be smart" to enjoy science. She is of the hands-on-process school — science is trial, error and discovery.

She now shuns science textbooks: "I'd rather see the money spent on materials kids can manipulate. Textbooks stifle." The former astronaut, Prof. George "Pinky" Nelson, adds: "You can't teach science out of a book anymore than you teach basketball out of a book."

About beefing up science in the middle or high school programs, Kurose says, "It's too late ... if you've already lost them in elementary schools." Peggy Soong Yaplee, middle school teacher, added, "By the time most of them get to me, they hate science."

Kurose turns to the world about her in the kindergarten and first grade classrooms, hatching salmon, taking students outside to peer at the daytime moon, changing the air pressure to suck and pop a shelled, hard-boiled egg in and out of a bottle. Such programs to train teachers are growing in Washington state.

Eight awarded scholarships by mental health foundation

WASHINGTON — The Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation awarded its first scholarships to eight Asian-Pacific Americans in the human services and related fields with the just concluded "Week in Washington," a continous series of professional dialogue, inspection trips, Congressional briefings, luncheons and a wrap-up session on the last day, Sept. 13.

The awardees were:

(1) Diane Fujino, psychology intern at UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute, Los Angeles; (2) Scott Miyake Geron, assistant professor, Catholic University School of Social Science, Washington, D.C.; (3) Kimberly Hee, outpatient director, Asian American Drug Abuse Program, Los Angeles; (4) Greg M. Hirokawa, Ph.D., intern, UC Irvine Medical Center; (5) Joanne Lee, administration/development director, Progress Foundation, San Francisco; (6) Barbara Michihira, director, Orange County Center, Crippled Children's Society, Anaheim, Calif.; (7) Mayse Moua, Asian youth worker, Boulder County Mental Health Center and Asian/Pacific Center for Human Development, Denver; and (8) Edward Chang Yim, management fellow, American Symphony League, Washington, D.C.

The six-day program, Sept. 8-13, was headquartered at the Hampshire Hotel. Among the participating Washingtonian notables were:

Bertram S. Brown, M.D., chairman of the Okura Foundation board; all six directors from ADAMHA (Alcohol Drug Abuse Mental Health Administration); Frank Sato, CPA, former inspector general, Veterans Administration; Tosh Hoshide, former deputy director, Department of Defense, Map Service; Rep. Norman Mineta, Rep. Robert Matsui, Sen. Daniel Inouye, Sen. Daniel Akaka; William E. Houston, deputy assistant secretary, Department of Interior, Territorial & International Affairs; Mike M. Suzuki, associate commissioner, Administration on Aging; Dr. Tom Crouch, curator, Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of American History; Sichan Siv, deputy assistant to the President, The White House; and Elliot Richardson, former Attorney General and former Secretary of HEW.

The "Week in Washington," designed as an all-expense paid trip to see federal government in action, was awarded on the basis of interest and leadership in the field of mental health, human services and related fields by the Okura Foundation, with K. Patrick Okura, president

Make a note

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Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

Snipping away a stereotype

As with many men I know, getting a haircut is a necessary nuisance that I must attend to periodically. (Considering the alternative, which is a billiard-ball noggin that requires little care other than occasional polishing with a washcloth, I should not complain.)

For many years Mas Nonaka took very good care of my tonsorial needs. Then I quit going downtown regularly, and it became inconvenient to drive across town to Mas's place even when the need arose. So I found a neighborhood barber. His name is Chris Montoya and as the name indicates he is of Hispanic descent. Chris and his wife run a combination barber-shop-beauty parlor in a shopette not far from my home and they do a pretty darned good business.

But this is not a column about barbers or barbershops, but about what happened one recent day when I had dropped in to, as we used to say, have my ears lowered.

While I was waiting my turn a couple came in with a teenage lad, presumably their son, who obviously needed a haircut. All three, by their appearance, were Hispanics, and apparently they spoke no English.

There are very few Hispanic customers who show up at Chris's place because it's not in the right neighborhood for that kind of clientele, but he took in the situation quickly. He spoke to the three in Spanish. There was an animated conversation back and forth for a short while, and then the teenager was escorted to a chair and a barber took over while his parents seated themselves.

Later, as he began to snip away at my hair, Chris said something like this: "I don't get much opportunity to talk Spanish any more. I had to think about the words and do a little mental gear-shifting when I talked to those customers."

I asked Chris whether he spoke Spanish at home.

"No," he said, "my wife and I and the kids all speak English. I didn't even speak much Spanish when I was growing up down in the valley. I know Spanish, but if you don't have any occasion to use it, you forget."

Chris's problem with Spanish isn't much different from the problem that Nisei and some Sansei experience with Japanese. They know something about the ancestral tongue, usually enough to make themselves understood if there is a need. But the need does not rise very often, so the tongue becomes rusty with disuse. And that's too bad.

But in appearance Chris is a Hispanic, just as Japanese Americans look Asian. People have a tough time ridding themselves of stereotypes, and they expect anyone who looks Hispanic to be fluent in Spanish, just as they expect Japanese Americans to be fluent in Japanese.

I suppose I was guilty of stereotyping when I asked Chris about the language he uses at home. Why should it be anything other than English even though he looks Hispanic? Why should anyone look at me or you and ask whether we speak Japanese at home?

We don't, but they still ask questions. Just the way I did.



Moshi Moshi

JIN KONOMI

Skip-aid consultants

You are buried under a mountain of debts. Your creditors are after you like a pack of hungry wolves. There is no way you can get out. What can you do?

If you are American, you can declare voluntary bankruptcy, a legal recourse which is comparatively easy to follow. A bankrupt does not automatically become the object of censure or scorn; no legal or social obstructions are placed in the way of his rehabilitation.

If you are Japanese, however, you face a quite different situation, although Japanese bankruptcy law is modeled after the American. Considerable stigma still clings to the bankrupt; his rehabilitation must overcome some obstacles. So, what can you do?

The only recourse left to you is to become a deadbeat and skip out by night—to pull the *yonige*, the age old trick of the slum dwellers of Edo, as Tokyo used to be called under the Shoguns.

And—*mirabile dictu!*—there are helping hands to pull you out from under the heap and set you free. They belong to organizations exclusively set up for the purpose. Not as philanthropy, but as business.

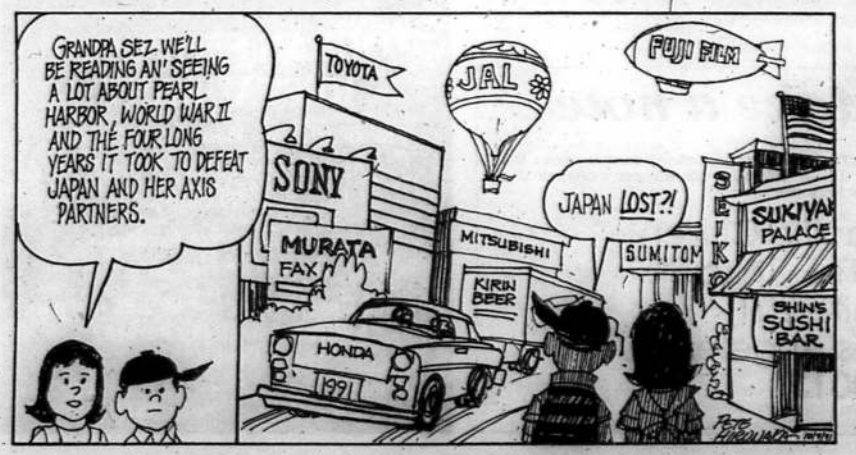
Yonige-ya, literally *yonige* house, came to the attention of the mass media about 5 years ago. Some organizations began to run ads under names such as "*Yonige* Consultants" and "Moving Service for the Distressed" The head of one even gave interview to a magazine. The public began to be aware that behind the dazzling façade of ever booming prosperity, Japan, Incorporated shelters thousands of struggling small businesses and strapped individuals who must seek help from these enterprises.

When you consider practically every big happening or social phenomenon is grist for the movie and TV mills, it is strange that the *yonige* syndrome, with its uncommonly rich potentials for drama, had so long remained untouched. But Toho, one of the major movie makers finally began shooting their "*Yonige-ya Honpo*" (*Honpo* means the flagship store) to be released early next year.

The various techniques and tricks of *yonige ya* for whisking away the deadbeating debtors from under the hawk eyes of the creditors; and the various pitfalls of overspending and unforeseen setbacks which originally put the unfortunates in their predicaments are the theme and substance of the story which seems precariously close to overstepping the thin moral line between entertainment and abetting an illegal action. Sensitive to such a view, and in answer to the apprehension that the picture may cause a rise in deadbeating, Toho is consulting a lawyer on what episodes to and not to use, how to and not to present a trick in question.

Such a concern seems a bit silly, in my opinion. All the techniques and tricks used in the picture will lose their effectiveness by exposure. The creditors will be watching it, too. In the film the client must meet certain conditions to be accepted. (1) Credit card debts, regardless of number, must individually be of amounts that can be written off; (2) that he has contested the demands for payment in writing; (3) that he still has enough funds to satisfy obligations to his neighbors. Highly unrealistic, I think, for truly desperate debtors won't be able to meet even these. They seem to have been put in more to placate the viewers' scruples.

The picture is an unflattering backside view of life in Tokyo. But it also presents one aspect of that life: the entrepreneurial ingenuity and resourcefulness of the people on the fringe, which, I think, is one sure measure of the vitality of the society at large.



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*, 701 E. Third St., Los Angeles, 90013.

PC cartoon called 'racist'

You disappointed me with your editorial page cartoon in the Sept. 13 *PC*. It is about as racist a piece of art work that I have seen in quite some time.

No, I don't plan to stop reading the *Pacific Citizen*, but I will be more sensitive to its content in the future. You can do better, my friend.

Elbert L. Watson
Indianapolis, Ind.

Comment on monuments

I've been following with some interest the ongoing discussion on the type of monument to be raised in Little Tokyo to war veterans. The story in the Sept. 13 issue rang a bell when it talked about the fact that one group would like to see the inclusion of a greater number of names, and according to the article, this would include the Nikkei killed on board the U.S.S. Maine.

First, a couple of piddling technical points. We were not at war when the Maine exploded and went down, so ". . . killed in action"? (A term utilized in the story.) There seems to be a good deal of scholarly evidence indicating that the explosion was in fact caused by coal dust, and not by the Spanish authorities.

All that aside, I think, for whatever it's worth, those on the Maine should indeed be included which brings me to the point of this letter.

On July 21, 1905, the U.S.S. Bennington blew up in San Diego Harbor. It was a boiler explosion and 35 officers and men were killed and subsequently buried in a mass grave at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery. Among the dead was a Nikkei whose headstone reads: "Cook Sago Takata. "The individual headstones are in a separate plot marked by a 30 foot granite obelisk. On the shaft is the following inscription: "Presented to by the officers and men of the Pacific Squadron to the memory of those who lost their lives in the performance of duty.

I was wondering if you might, with your vast array of connections, pass Takata's name along to the group whose pushing that all those killed in the line of duty be included. It seems to me it would be a shame to overlook this poor cook, who, from my way of thinking died under much the same circumstances as his brothers on the U.S.S. Maine.

Don Estes
San Diego

Wants racists letters published

With the approaching 50th year of the attack on Pearl Harbor, there will be letters in the newspaper which indicates racism, etc. We need to counter such letters with rebuttal letters.

Would it be possible for the *Pacific Citizen* to publish the offending letters along with the letter of rebuttal? This would give ideas to other letter writers to use in their rebuttal letters for their local papers.

It is suggested that the use of phony names is the best. You don't want to be harassed with unwanted phone calls at all hours of the night when sending in rebuttal letters. But you should give the correct phone number so that someone answer if the editor's representative calls to verify that you are the letter writer.

It is hoped that statements issued by the JACL headquarters contain material on adverse conditions which compelled Japan to attack Pearl Harbor. Many people are not familiar with the real facts, plus, . . . it was the U.S. (sic) Navy that had long ago formulated plans for the attack onPearl Harbor.

Hashime Saito
Tucson, Ariz.

Personally speaking

Former President Gerald Ford presented the Spirit of Volunteerism award to two Monterey Peninsula JACLers, **Ted Durein** and **Kei Nakamura**, for their 40 years of voluntary service with the annual Pro-Am Golf Tournament at Pebble Beach. It was popularly known as Bing Crosby's tournament. The award, which included an engraved clock, was presented by the AT&T Pebble Beach Golf Foundation during its annual charity luncheon at the Lodge. The Fords were honored guests with Mrs. Betty Ford speaking on volunteerism.

Attorney **Peggy Sasashima Liggett** was appointed by Fresno Mayor Karen Humphrey to the city planning commission. Having previously served with the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency and other community-oriented activities, her appointment was applauded by Joni Johnson of the Fresno Neighborhood Alliance, a citizens group which appears regularly before the commission advocating controls on land use, traffic, air and water issues.

Milton Kato, social studies and Spanish teacher at Thomas Jefferson Junior High School over the past 16 years, was named Madera (Calif.) Teacher of the Year. He was also appointed by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Bill Honig to serve on a blue-ribbon committee on history and social science. He was honored earlier by the California League of Middle Schools as Teacher of the Year in Region 7.

Paintings and drawings of **Shigeru Kasama**, retired *Rafu Shimpo* Japanese language editor who pursued his avocation for 30 years on the side after his graduation from Chouinard Art Institute in 1957, went on display at the George I. Doizaki Gallery at Little Tokyo's JACCC Sept. 15-29. Since retiring as a journalist in 1988, he has devoted full time to his pursuit of art.

Art Miki of Winnipeg and president of the National Association of Japanese Canadians was awarded the Order of Canada for his leadership and contribution to the Nikkei community during the redress campaign. He said the honor was positive for the community because Japanese Canadians get public recognition in the eyes of other Canadians. It is the government's highest civilian award.

The name and face of **Yoshiko Yamaguchi**, prewar movie star, singer and now Japanese politician, reappeared in the Tokyo newspapers, thanks to a popular musical based upon her a recently published autobiography, *Rikoran*, which has been running for two years. The Manchurian-born Rikoran (Li Xiang-lan) was well-known in the States prewar singing "Shina no Yoru" and postwar as a Hollywood filmstar, Shirley Yamaguchi, whose brief marriage in New York to sculptor Isamu Noguchi ended in a divorce in the late 1950s. In 1974 she ran successfully for a seat in the House of Councillors, the upper house in the Japanese Diet, where the 71-year-old star is now in her third term.

The Chicago Public Schools board of education approved the appointment of **Linda Matsumoto** as its press secretary. She had been media relations specialist with Northwestern University, public information director for the Chicago Public Library as well as the Terra Museum of American Art. An honors graduate from Columbia College, she earned honorable mention in the 1979 *Glamour Magazine's* top ten college women contest, contributed to national literary anthologies, edited a status report on the Asian American community for the Chicago Community Trust's community fellowship program and promoted local art shows and nonprofit groups. The appointment was effective Aug. 19.

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale honored **Dr. Michael S. Hoshiko**, professor of speech pathology-audiology, upon his retirement from the faculty Aug. 28. An active St. Louis JACLer, he was coordinator at the SIU clinic center for 24 years, became professor in 1967 of what is now the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences, previously taught at University of Toronto Medical School, University of Kansas and Illinois State. He received his bachelor's degree at Heidelberg (Ohio), his master's at Bowling Green State and his doctorate at Purdue. He was born in Surrey, B.C., and has contributed several stories to the P.C. on the Rohwer WRA camp in Arkansas.

Obituaries

Sugahara granted burial at Arlington

(Special to the *Pacific Citizen* from Lily Okura)

WASHINGTON — Kay (Keiichi) Sugahara, who served in the Office of Strategic Services during World War II, was reburied with military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on Sept. 6. He had passed away at his Pelham Manor, N.Y., home on Sept. 25, 1988, at the age of 79.

Though the OSS was technically not a part of the armed forces, the contributions to the Nation of certain men and women in this organization for the State Department who served in an outstanding manner have been recognized and granted the privilege of interment in the National Cemetery.

Yone Sugahara, the widow, was notified last winter that her late husband was to be honored with full military rites at Arlington. With family, relatives and close friends present, the religious services were held at historic Old Chapel at Fort Myers with the Rev. Carol Matteson Cox, pastor of Christ United Methodist Church, New Rochelle, N.Y., and Army Chaplain O. Svedlund officiating.

The Army honor guard detail conducted the military rites: firing of three volleys, "Taps" and folding of the flag and its presentation to the widow. A military escort led the procession to the terraced gardens of the marbled-walled columbarium to the final resting place.

The OSS first sent Sugahara to India and he later worked with Japan experts, Joseph Grew and Eugene Dooman, on postwar policies. He headed a secret U.S. procurement mission during the Korean war and at the request of the State Department to reorient U.S. opinion of Japan, he helped organize the American Council for Japan.

A Seattle-born Nisei who grew up in prewar Little Tokyo, he



KAY SUGAHARA

graduated from UCLA in 1932, led the Los Angeles JACL and founded the Nisei Week Festival in 1934. In 1983 he was its grand parade marshal.

Sugahara was chairman of Fairfield-Maxwell Ltd., which owned or managed oil tankers and refrigerator vessels, and engaged in oil exploration in Texas.

See OBITUARIES/page 6

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OBITUARIES
(Continued from page 5)

Adachi, Katsuhiko, 86, San Francisco, Sept. 10; Tottori-born, survived by wife Hideko, sons Masahiko, Dr. Roy, daughter Kimiko Uehara, sisters-in-law Mariko Hayashi, Katsuko Ishikawa, grandchildren.

Asayama, Misao, 92, Gardena, Aug. 31; Kumamoto-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by sons Noboru, Minoru, Mitsuo, daughters Helen Yukiko Yamamoto, Haruko Morimoto, 10 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren.

Baba, Yozo, 77, Northridge, Sept. 24; San Francisco-born, survived by wife Michiko, sons Bryon, Rodney, daughters Beverly Baba-Helgeson, Robin Patel, 8 grandchildren, brothers Dr George (Palo Alto), Soshiro, (Oakland).

Chino, Hatsuyo, Del Mar, Sept. 17; North San Diego County pioneer Issei resident, survived by her 9 sons Dr Jun, Junji Jack, Dr Shigeo, Frank Ko, Hideo, Fumio, Tom Haruya, Clarence Ho, Kazumi, sisters Fumiko Kino, Kazuo Saika, grandchildren.

Kodama, Fujie, 88, San Francisco, Sept. 8; Hiroshima-born, survived by daughter Takako Yue, 2 grandchildren, 1 grandchild.

Kono, Torako, 88, Los Angeles, Aug. 29; Hiroshima-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by son Jim, daughters Shinoye Akutagawa, Naoko, Emiko, June, 8 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, daughter-in-law Toni Kono.

Koyama, Misae, 96, Osaka-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by son Albert Toshio, daughter Yoshiko Sugano, 2 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren.

Kunihiro, Fred M, 74, La Crescenta, Aug. 30; Oakland-born, survived by son George (New York), daughter Shoko Sakanaka, grandchildren, sister Maya.

Kusuno, Fred, Honolulu, Aug. 15; Hawaii-born 100th Bn. veteran and Denverite, survived by wife Sumako, brother-in-law Raymond Handa.

MacInnis, Hon. Grace, 85, Sechelt, B.C., July 12; born in Winnipeg, married in 1932, British Columbia's first woman member of parliament, and with her late husband Angus (who died in 1964) spoke against government treatment of Japanese Canadians during WWII, strong public supporter in the 1980s of Japanese Canadian redress despite failing health, participated in the Sept. 25, 1988, celebration of redress settlement; a charter member of Canada's pioneer socialist parties, the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) which was founded by her father J.S. Woodsworth, and the New Democratic Party, CCF's successor;.

Okazaki, Hachiro, 72, Montebello, Aug. 8; Hawaii-born, survived by wife Hideko, sons Yukio, Hideo, daughter Emiko Takai, 2 grandchildren, sister Mrs. Togo (Hawaii).

Onouye, Teru, 92, Los Angeles, Sept. 8; Kagoshima-born, survived by niece Fujiko Vreeland, 3 grandchildren.

Osa, Shigeno, 92, Gardena, Aug. 31; Hiroshima-born, survived by son Megumi, daughter Misako Sasaki, 4 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, brother in Japan.

Otsuji, Harry T, 89, Sunnyvale, Aug. 27; Shiga-born, survived by wife Sumie, sons Fred, Richard, Mas, daughters Grace Horibe, June Nakamura, Eriko Sumiya, 17 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, 2 sisters in Japan, predeceased daughter Yoshie Komatsu.

Ouye, Harold N, 84, Sacramento, Aug. 21; Florin-born, survived by wife Grace, daughters Sandra Mori (San Francisco), Gail Yoshioka (San Jose), son Lloyd, 5 grandchildren.

Robinson, Mariko, 52, Los Angeles, Aug. 31; California-born, survived by daughters Yuriko Robinson, Michiko Rolek, Fumi Robinson (New York), brothers Timmy and Mino Inouye.

Sagimori, Kyoko, 61, San Jose, Sept. 1; Sapporo-born scientific glassblower, survived by husband Minoru, stepdaughter June Ryker.

Sakaguchi, Chizuko, 78, Menlo Park, Aug. 21; Hawaii-born, survived by daughters Masako Chikasue, Sumiko, grandchild, brothers and sisters.

Taniguchi, Rito, 94, Torrance, Aug. 3; Shizuoka-born, survived by daughters Ruli Higashi, Toyo Yano, 6 grandchildren.

Tanji, Sue, 81, Montebello, Aug. 19; Yokohama-born, survived by daughters Shinobu Inouye, Marumi, Sayaka Ogg, Megumi Tanji Nakajima, 5 grandchildren, sister-in-law Tetsu Sawamura.

Tawa, Moto, 78, San Pedro, July 26; Okayama-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by wife Yuriko, sons Michael, Glenn, 6 grandchildren, brothers Tsuneo, Mas, sister Haruko.

Taziri, Richard L, 43, Golden, Colo., Aug. 5 (funeral); Greeley-born insurance agent and teacher, survived by daughters Leilani, Heather, parents Nobie and Ruby, sister Marilyn Cox (Aurora).

Terukina, Harry M, 78, Los Angeles, Sept. 17; Okinawa-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by 3 sons George, Robert, Richard, daughter-in-law Chieko Terukina, 8 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, brother William (Hawaii), 4 sisters Lillian Hashizume, Betsy Hirayama (both Hawaii), Florence Taira, Helen Taira.

Tominaga, Miyeko, 67, West Los Angeles, Aug. 15; Sacramento-born, survived by sons Timothy, Perry, Thomas, Kenneth, daughter Margaret, 1 grandchild, brothers Elmer, David, Leo and George Uchida, sisters Mary Kiino, Ruby Nakano, Sumiye Takeno (Denver), Eileen Fukuhara.

Tomita, George Jr, 68, Gardena, Sept. 14 of heart attack; Perkins, Calif.-born WWII veteran, survived by wife Kyoko, brothers Katsuyoshi, Yoshinori, sister Yaeko Kanechika, six in-laws.

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By owner. American transportation co. PUC authority for 48 states, employs 5 & equipment gross sales $400K. Will qualify for US residence visa, asking $500K. Call Mr. Owens (213) 694-4151, fax (714) 371-8792. Or write: 461 So Harbor Blvd, La Habra, CA 92630.

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Truck Stop & Trucking Freight Terminal
24.6 ac, 200,000 sq ft dock space, 8 bay gar, 2 bay wash rack, 10 ton crane, close to downtown Houston, I-45. Asking $6.2 mil. Contact (713) 691-7620 or (713) 356-6738.

Commercial Shrimp Farm. Largest intensive facility in US. Current production 800,000 lbs. 140 ac of ponds & rm for expansion, a total of 419 ac. Loc on So Carolina Coast. Turn-key operation. All equip & mgmt is included. Vry clean & pristine waters. Expert management & technology. Profitable. Premium product. Asking $5,900,000. Tim Czura, broker (803) 726-4902, fax (803) 726-6474.

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5—Employment

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9—Real Estate

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3 bdrm, 2½ bth, split level, vaulted ceilings, deck with circular stair to patio below, a/c privacy & low maintenance, many amenities. $229,900.
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Fax: (619) 588-4130

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9—Real Estate

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ENCINO, CALIFORNIA
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CALIFORNIA
By owner. Main house 3100 sq ft, guest hse 1200 sq ft. Separate entertainment hse w/lrg kitch & dining rm, pool rm, 2 bdrm & bth. Caretakers qrtrs-1 bdrm, 1 bth. Large barn w/ maintenance qrtrs-2 bdrm & bth. Electric gates & 200 wonderful producing fruit trees & much more. $599,000. (805) 944-1571.

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Doug Tanner, Tanner Investments
(916) 631-0355 or fax (916) 638-7648

SACRAMENTO, CA
4 bdrm, 2 bth. $154,000. LR w/frplc w/ insert, family rm, lrg eat-in kitch, pantry, built in microwave and all modern appliances. Adequate closet space, lrg MBR, patio w/built-in gas BBQ. Great investment in growing area! Call Mr. Azar (916) 323-8053, eve (916) 368-6059.

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9—Real Estate

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Asking $750,000.
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Asking $94.9K
Has to be seen
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(409) 594-3791

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Asking $42,000.
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Over 5 ac for horses, poss subdivision, spacious 7 rms, full basement/attic, kitch, 2 bth, 2 frplcs, 2-car garage. Close to shopping & all schools, 2 hrs. Very private/lake country club. (518) 851-7050, write to HCR, Box 106B, Claverack, NY 12513.

9—Real Estate

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1st place award is $500; 2nd, $250; 3rd, $100. Honorable mention winner receives a free 1-year membership to AAPA and the Japanese AmericanCitizens League, which includes a subscription to Pacific Citizen.

Winning story will be published in Pacific Citizen's big Dec. 20-27 holiday issue.

Here are contest guidelines:

- Entries must be postmarked no later than Nov. 15, 1991.
- Entries must be typed.
- Entries must not have been published in another publication.
- Author relinquishes one-time rights only.
- Submittals will not be returned.
- Authors must submit two copies of their story. One copy must include name and address on upper left hand corner; second copy should not include name and address.
- No feature stories or scripts.

DEADLINE IS NOV. 15, 1991

submissions should be sent to:
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Short Story Contest
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Los Angeles, CA, 90013

Pacific Citizen

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Information: 800/966-6157

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