

Japanese American Citizens League

NEWSLETTER

TWIN CITIES CHAPTER

October, 1989

Editor: Sam Honda

Our nice summer is gone. It also means golfing season is coming to an end. I was able to golf at least 3 times a week....most weeks 4 times (weather permitting). Some year ago I could do alot of things after golf, but nowadays all I could do is take a nap. So, now is a good time for a newsletter. No apology for my rambling.....rambling it's gonna be.

On REDRESS.....First of all, no action on our Minnesota tax exempt bill. I will meet with state senator Fritz Knaak and representative Brad Stanius sometime late November or early December to get our bill in committee for approval. Hopefully, in early 1990. It will be important at this time for everyone to contact your state senator and representative for their approval. In fact, one step better is to ask them to add their names as co-sponsors. Members of St. Louis Park have done their homework well. The more co-sponsors.....I believe we have a better chance to get an early hearing. We need DFLers!

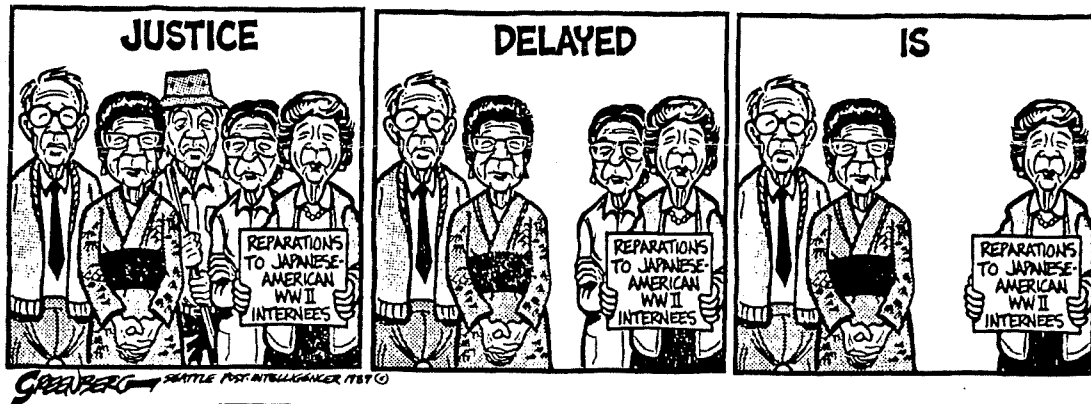
Bill number for the House is H.F. No. 197 & 1058

In the senate S.F. No. 750 & 859

Alot of action in Washington D.C. or should I say "no action". With senator Dan Inouye on the senate appropriations committee, the committee voted zero on redress payment for 1990. Now we have an entitlement program beginning 1991 with the maximum funding of \$500 million. There isn't anything so far as I can see about a minimum.

Let's go back to our original bill that was signed by the president on August 10, 1988. I believe the bill stated the 1,2 billion dollars to be paid off in 10 years. We were so concerned about getting this bill passed that we even said, "the money is symbolic, that no amount of money can pay for damages done back in 1942-45". Now that the bill is passed and signed the heck with the apology....we want the money now!!.. My interpretation of "symbolic" means the money is secondary and whether we receive the money is immaterial. (please keep in mind that is my interpretation and not of the chapter or anyone else)

I realize it's nice to receive the money right away before more internees pass on, but already more than 60,000 have passed away.



From the Redress Monitor an LEC Board member writes, "For some, death also ends aspirations for philanthropy. The internees, by and large a donating group of people, have no assurances that their favorite charities will be remembered by their heirs. Heirs may not share their parents' values of giving back to the community what they have received, nor their emotional ties to internment and redress. Is it too surprising that their share might go for worldly goods and services rather than to the community?". Well, that doesn't say too much for the heirs, besides it should not be of concern to JACL what the internees do with their money or what the heirs do with it.

I realize it's nice to receive the money right away before more internees pass on, but already more than 60,000 have passed away. I'm not against getting the money right away, but let's face the issue. Gram-Rudman, budget deficit, S&L bailout, more money for poison gas and nuclear bombs.....you name it. Annnd.... also....Jesse H may need 200 million dollars for tobacco farmers so the tobacco industry can make more cigarettes to sell to Japan. Yea, where is the money for redress funding gonna come from? Probably from the dept. of Health, Education and Welfare.

If I sound like I'm not very optimistic about getting my redress payment right away..... you're right. My guess is that if you are 62 years old and under, your payment is due about 1996. I suppose it's better late than never.

I agree with LEC that the apology and the \$20,000 is long overdue. How many will die without ever receiving their apology and payment? We must keep fighting and fighting for redress!!

Let's support efforts by LEC by contributing to Redress

Dear JACL/LEC:

Yes, I support your efforts to lobby and monitor the appropriations process. Enclosed is my contribution of:

_____ \$25.00 _____ \$50.00 _____ \$100.00 _____ \$250.00 _____ \$500.00 _____ Other

Name _____

Address _____ Apt # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____

Please make checks payable to : JACL/LEC

**Please mail checks to : Mae Takahashi
5795 North First Street
Fresno, CA 93710**

Contributions to this organization are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Golf Tournament.....Its been so long ago I forgot when we played.....July, August. Frank Tanaka won in the A flight, Lil Tanaka won the women's flight, George Nishida won in the B flight and Su Hirakawa won in the C flight. As in the past, we received donations from Saji-ya Japanese Restaurant, Shin-On's Sushi Bar, Pyramid Products and the TC JACL Chapter. Thank you for your donations.

Next year we'll go for the true handicap system. I'm sure every golfer will turn in their true handicap. Few more golfing days left so let's get out there before the snow falls.

CONTAINING JAPAN

Regarding James Fallows's "Containing Japan" (May *Atlantic*):

On the one side, a nation whose citizens save and reinvest much of what they earn, work from dawn to dusk without complaint, respect authority and feel deep loyalty toward one another, forgo luxuries, live in tiny apartments hours away from their jobs, conscientiously educate their children and instill in them self-discipline, produce for the rest of the world products of high quality at relatively low cost, and willingly accept for their labors foreign currencies whose values continually decline.

On the other side, a nation whose citizens spend almost everything they earn, borrow to the hilt, fail to invest for their future, work erratically, take long vacations, demand numerous benefits from their government, feel no particular loyalty to their bosses or employees, don't educate or instill self-discipline in their kids, produce products of poor quality, and turn their capital markets into giant casinos and their corporations into tradable commodities.

James Fallows tells us that the former group is "eroding the strength" of the latter, and that the latter must therefore defend its interests and values by "constraining" the former. I don't quite get his logic.

ROBERT B. REICH
*Harvard University
Cambridge, Mass.*

When you read this editorial "containing Japan", do you smile or get angry? Are considered the former or the latter?

Just a thought.....
nothing else.

A book.....They call me mooses....Minnesota mooses....Masaoka Moses. Our chapter purchased 50 books at \$13.27 each for fund raising purpose, but as a service project decided on \$13.27 to our members. We have one book left to sell to break even. If interested, call 429-3410.

NEWS  **about your credit union**

TC JACL Credit Union business is picking up
We have money to loan. For Details
call Ed Yoshkawa on 822-8982

Japan Trip.....Elaine Gerbert, instructor of Japanese at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minnesota is promoting a Japan Trip. Proposed itinerary: leaving TC Dec. 29, 1989, arrive Osaka/Kyoto 12/30, Kyoto/Hiroshima 1/10, Hiroshima/Nagasaki 1/12, Nagasaki/Kumamoto 1/13, Kumamoto/Beppu 1/15, Beppu/Osaka 1/16, Osaka/TC 1/22. Here is her letter.

Gustavus Adolphus College will be offering a study-tour of Japan in January 1990 under the auspices of Upper Midwest Association for International Education. While the trip is designed for college students, I welcome, indeed, am recruiting the participation of other persons interested in Japan. Non-students would register but would not be expected to pay the tuition portion of the course, nor would they be required to complete the formal requirements for the course e.g. quizzes and final paper. I would be much obliged if you could post the flyer in a conspicuous place and let JACLers know about this opportunity to see quite a bit of Japan at a rate that, I believe, is quite advantageous.

Sincerely,

Elaine Gerbert

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