Evening Program Sums Up Commemorating 50 Years Ago This Week

Sunday, Feb. 15, 1942

The Southern California Telephone Company announced that it was requiring a $5 deposit from all alien Japanese “for the duration” in anticipation of possible delinquencies due to uncertainty of conditions.

Source: Rafu Shimpo

Monday, Feb. 16, 1942

The California Joint Immigration Committee urged that all Japanese be removed from the Pacific Coast and any other areas designated vital by the U.S. government. FBI arrests and detention of Japanese aliens was reported to number 2,192.

Source: “Japanese Americans: From Relocation to Redress,” edited by Roger Daniels, Sandra Taylor and Harry Kitano

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 1942

HOLLISTER.—The Central California Coast Counties Athletic Association (4CAA), with a record of having four major sports during its decade of activity, became one of the first Nisei athletic bodies in Northern California to discontinue its sports program during the emergency. The decision was the previous week.

Plans to hold a basketball tournament were abandoned when the majority of clubs were found to be located in restricted areas for enemy aliens.

Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1942

EL CENTRO.—Under the direction of FBI agents, sheriff’s deputies and federal officers made a general round-up of aliens in Imperial Valley and towards evening on Feb. 14 it was reported that 33 Japanese were booked. Similar raids were conducted throughout the state with larger numbers being arrested.

Source: Rafu Shimpo

For the Sake of the Children

(Below) Young people, under the guidance of Jennifer Matsuura and Chris Ihsida, make crafts at the children’s workshop.

Photos by MARIO G. REYES/Rafu Shimpo
A Day with a Blast

movements and facial expressions, Nishikawa brought flurries of laughter to the opening routine.

The Hawaiian-born actor contrasted his performance with a gripping segment called “Uncle Blackie.” The piece was dedicated to his uncle, a member of the 442nd, who had a lot of pent up stress created by the internment experience and the war.

Clad in a 442nd uniform, Nishikawa put on an incredible rendition of his uncle complete with mannequins and a Hawaiian-pigeon accent. The audience was deathly silent throughout the “Uncle Blackie” piece, which addressed the role of the Nisei soldier in relationship to the entire community and some of the heroisms that the 442nd, 100th and MIS performed during World War II.

As well as grabbing the audience’s emotions, Nishikawa himself was near tears after his performance. His ability to “get into character” was incredible.

He summed up his set with another segment from “I’m on a Mission from Buddha” called “Asian America: Where Are You?” which pokes fun at community members who have put away their heritage and assumed new roles in suburbia.

The evening event closed with an hour-and-a-half of music done by a collaboration of Asian American musicians, who one time or another played with the jazz/fusion group Hiroshima.

The “Day of Remembrance Band” featured David Iwataki, Yutaka Yokokura, Jesse Acuna, Atomic Nancy and Pauline Wilson along with active Hiroshima members Dan Kuramoto, June Okida Kuramoto and Johnny Mori.

The adult contemporary/fusion concert brought together some of the Japanese American community’s top players who fused a playful performance that assumed the characteristics of a full-fledged “jam session.”

Tunes from Yokokura, Iwataki and Hiroshima’s repertoire were all highlighted. Egos were all at the back door as each player had time to flush their technique and style. Featuring artists all on the forefront of mainstream entertainment, the “Night of Remembrance” proved to the community that they have something to be proud of.

Applause goes out to the event organizers Yokokura, Iwataki and Miya Iwataki who also acted as one of the evening’s hosts alongside Warren Furutani, president of the Los Angeles City School Board.

Although the evening made the message about internment loud and clear, its unfortunate that this sort of event could not reach a larger, non-Asian, audience who could benefit from learning about the impact that World War II had on the Japanese American community.

But like it said in the title program, this event also played an important role reminding the community of something that should never be forgotten—the internment.

Fighting Spirit Awards go to, left to right, Bert Nakano, Lily Okamoto and Bernadette Nishimura.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Ochi Named to State Council

Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown, Jr. (D-San Francisco) has appointed Rose M. Ochi and Clothilde Hewlett to the California Council on Criminal Justice.

Ochi of Los Angeles is executive director of criminal justice planning for the city of Los Angeles. She holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from UCLA and a J.D. from Loyola Law School.

Hewlett, of San Francisco, director of the Verification and Analysis Committee of Bar Examiners, Office of Admissions, State Bar of California, serves as a public member. She holds a bachelor’s degree from U.C. Berkeley and a J.D. from Boalt Hall Law School.

The California Council on Criminal Justice reviews, revises and approves a comprehensive state plan for the improvement of criminal justice and delinquency prevention activities within the state.

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(Above) Winners of the Day of Remembrance Essay Contest, sponsored by the Y.K. Kubota Scholarship Fund, are, left to right, Dana Kawaoka, first place, senior high division; Daniel Shea, first place, junior high division; Jeremy Shoji, third place, junior high division; Suzanne Kiyomi Shimoyama, third place, senior high division; and Christie Mayumi Onoda, second place, senior high division. Not pictured is Dan Nishimoto, second place winner in the junior high division.

**THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GARDENERS’ FEDERATION, INC.**

EDUCATION & PROGRAM COMMITTEE

P.C.O. TRUCK INSPECTION

Date: FEBRUARY 24, 1992 (MONDAY)
& MARCH 23, 1992 (MONDAY)

Place: FEDERATION PARKING LOT

Time: 9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

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