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## NCCR Delegates Attend Hearings



Tsuyako Kitashima



Naomi Kubota



Marlene Tonai

Early Tuesday morning, June 19, the Bay Area members of the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (NCCR) delegation left for Washington, D.C. to attend the Congressional subcommittee hearings on HR 4110, The Civil Liberties Act of 1983; and to lobby different members of Congress to support the bill.

Delegates from the San Francisco Bay Area are Tsuyako (Sox) Kitashima, Naomi Kubota and Marlene Tonai.

Kitashima, a Nisei, was born and raised in Hayward. She is well known to the San Francisco Japanese American community not only as a San Francisco resident since the closing of the World War II internment camps, but also for her active involvement in several community organizations, including the Japanese Community Progressive Association (JCPA), the Nisei Widowed Group and Nisei and Retirement.

She is also a member of the Kimochi, Inc. board of directors and has participated in fundraisers, volunteered at the Nutrition Program and donated her time and energy to the Kimochi Home.

She said she is often asked by those seniors who know of her involvement in NCCR about the progress of the redress efforts.

They tell her "I want to see it (monetary reparation payments) before I die." She said she will make their sentiments known while she is in Washington.

Having herself been incarcerated for three years and four months at Tanforan Assembly Center and Topaz Relocation Camp, Kitashima testified at the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) hearings in 1981.

Kubota, a Sansei, was a founding member of NCCR and represented the San Francisco Region when she testified on its behalf before the CWRIC in San Francisco.

Currently employed as a legal secretary, she is a former member of the United Auto Workers' Union and as such got her local to pass a resolution supporting redress and testify to that effect before the CWRIC.

As a member of NCCR's Steering Committee she is presently working with the committee planning the 1984 Tule Lake Pilgrimage.

Tonai, also a Sansei, is a member of NCCR's Steering Committee and was the chairperson of this year's Bay Area Day of Remembrance Committee, an ad hoc group she has helped bring together for the past several years to commemorate Feb. 19, the date President

Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, as a Day of Remembrance.

She works at East Bay Japanese for Action as their volunteer coordinator, a job which brings her into contact with many segments of the East Bay Japanese American community.

In addition to these three people from the San Francisco area, other NCCR delegates are: Julie Hatta and Tom Izu from San Jose; NCCR National Spokesperson Bert Nakano, Miya Iwataki and Kay Ochi from Los Angeles; and Bill Kochiyama, Leslie Inaba Wong and John Kanzawa from New York.

On Tuesday, the delegates met with Senator Inouye and Congressman Sam Hall, chairman of the House judiciary subcommittee on administrative law and governmental relations, which is holding the hearings. They have also met with aides to Congressmen Boucher, Kindness, Shaw, and Lungren and to Senators Stevens and Matsunaga.

The three Bay Area delegates will show pictures and report on the hearings at a community forum sponsored by NCCR on Friday, June 29, at 7:30 p.m. at the California First Bank Hospitality Room. The public is cordially invited.

Call Mari or Cathy at (415) 922-8898 for further information.