



N.O.C.

NIHONMACHI OUTREACH COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 2293, San Jose, CA 95109

Web: <http://www.sjnoc.org> Email: info@sjnoc.org

JUNE 2005 NEWSLETTER

60th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION of the ATOMIC BOMBINGS of HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI

Date: Sunday, August 7, 2005

Time: 2 to 4 pm

Place: Yu-Ai-Kai building, 588 North 4th Street, San Jose.

Details: The Hiroshima/Nagasaki event is free and all are welcome. Doors open at 1:45 pm and refreshments will be provided. Program includes speakers, posters, and sale of educational material.

For information: Call Masao at 373-0817

Commentary by Masao Suzuki
60 years after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and 35 years after the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NNPT) took affect, the threat of Nuclear War still hangs over our planet. While the media in the United States has focused on spread of nuclear weapons to Iran and North Korea, it ignores the development and production of atomic weapons to U.S. allies Israel and Pakistan. The recent NNPT conference deadlocked because the Nuclear Powers and the United States in particular, are ignoring their commitment to reduce its nuclear stockpile under the non-proliferation treaty. Please join us on August 7th to support efforts for nuclear disarmament.

September NOC general membership meeting to begin plans for DoR 2006

Date: Sunday, September 18, 2005

Time: 2 to 4 p.m.

Place: Yu-Ai-Kai building, 588 North 4th Street, San Jose.

NOC has meetings for general members twice a year in March and September. Please save the date and join us to begin plans for the 2006 Day of Remembrance event. If you are not a NOC member, please clip the membership form in this newsletter and mail it to NOC with your dues.

NOC SUMMER PICNIC!

Date: Sunday, July 3, 2005

Time: 11 am to 3 pm

Place: Maple Leaf Picnic Area, Kelley Park, San Jose. (Between the Japanese Friendship Gardens and History Park)

Details: Picnic is free and all are welcome. Parking lot is adjacent (parking fee is \$5/car, \$2/senior). Picnic is potluck: NOC will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, water, paper plates, etc.

RSVP is preferred but not necessary: Call Gary at 408-374-2722.

2005 San Jose Day of Remembrance

by Fran Ellis

The 25th Annual San Jose Day of Remembrance (DoR) was held on February 20 at the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin and was attended by about 200 people. The theme of this year's DoR was "Democracy and Dissent" and was co-emceed by Gary Jio of NOC and Amina Ansari of Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR).

Richard Katsuda of Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress-Los Angeles and a founding member of NOC spoke about the history of Day of Remembrance and the struggle for Redress and Reparations. Representative Mike Honda spoke about the need for individuals to speak up when they see their government repeating the mistakes of the past. Grace Shimizu of the Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project spoke about the Assembly of Wartime Internment and

Relocation of Civilians that was held on April 8 and 9. (see article below)

Imam Tahir Anwar of the South Bay Islamic Association and Imam Zaid Shakir of the Zaytuna Institute spoke of the backlash from 9/11 and the how this event affected their communities. They spoke of how the Nikkei community stepped in and spoke out against the detentions and arrests of Muslims and Arabs. Japanese Americans remembered what had happened to the Japanese people living on the West Coast during WWII and deemed that the same fate should not befall the Muslim and Arab peoples. They both thanked the Nikkei community for supporting their peoples.

Barbara Muramoto and one of her students played two beautiful selections on the koto accompanied by Dick Matsueda on the shakuhachi and the San Jose Taiko concluded the evening by playing several rousing pieces.

Assembly on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (AWIRC)

by Reiko Nakayama

"Here, in America?" was the title of a gathering of testimony of Japanese Latin American, German American and Italian American former internees at Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco on April 8 and 9, 2005.

The Assembly of Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (AWRIC), funded in part by the Civil Liberties Public Education Program, and by contributions from numerous organizations and individuals dedicated to the preservation of the former internees' stories, presented eight panel discussions over two days on various aspects of the World War II arrest, detention and internment of persons whom the government deemed as "enemy aliens." The witnesses themselves or their representatives read testimonies, which at times were very moving. All the proceedings were videotaped so that these testimonies can be preserved and distributed as educational and persuasive tools.

Among the speakers were Grace Shimizu, AWRIC Program Coordinator; Hon. Xavier Becerra, U.S. Congressman; Don Tamaki, Esq.

The Assembly on Wartime Relocation and Internment" is a vitally important event which promises to raise the consciousness about a little known aspect of World War II and the internment of Japanese Latin Americans, German Americans, Italian Americans and Japanese Americans who did not receive redress due to technicalities of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

For more information, visit <http://www.campaignforjusticejla.org>.

NOC Film Showing of "Caught In-Between" by Lina Hoshino

Date: Sunday, July 17th

Time: 2 to 4 pm

Place: Yu-Ai-Kai building, 588 North 4th Street, San Jose.

See the enclosed flyer for more information.

Original design for the N.O.C. Newsletter by Dana Kawaoka. This issue was edited by Masao Suzuki.