

*Editorial Page*

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## Editorial

# A Welcome to Our Sakai Friends

Sixteen young people from Sakai, Japan, Berkeley's Sister City, arrived here over the weekend for a two-week visit to this city and the Bay Area.

Their arrival here is one more chapter in one of the most successful people-to-people international interchanges, in U.S. memory for Berkeley and Sakai have for three years successfully implemented, with enthusiasm and affection, their trans-Pacific program.

This is the second visit by young men and women, all students, from the Sakai-Osaka area. The first group visited here in the summer of 1968. A Berkeley area group reciprocated last summer.

The cities have interchanged mayors, city officials, gifts, tourists, and many messages. Berkeleyans travelling in Japan have all returned singing the praises of the wonderful treatment they have received from Sakai—officially, personally, individually, collectively. It is Berkeley's turn, again, to reciprocate.

One major reason why the Berkeley-Sakai relationship has flowered so

well is the large Japanese-American community in Berkeley, whose members have contributed so much to Berkeley in all of its beneficial aspects and, while fiercely patriotic Americans, maintain strong cultural and traditional ties to the land of their ancestry.

But aside from the "nisei" component of the program, the sister city project has been an excellent ground on which all segments of Berkeley can work together in the mutually satisfying interests of goodwill, international friendship and expanding horizons.

From its inception, the Berkeley-Sakai Assn. has been blessed with a considerable amount of talent and energy from a wide range of talented and energetic Berkeleyans. The program has been a unifying beacon in a time which could otherwise be euphemistically described as "turbulent" in this city.

So we enthusiastically call on any and all concerned to help the city put its best foot forward in warmly welcoming the young visitors from our Sister City and their chaperone.