

EAPI/PI/RSI **Resource Materials Collection** enterviews

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Poster art for "The Tenth Month Comes," an acclaimed Vietnamese film by Center filmmaker-in-residence Dang Nhat Minh. From the 1988 Film Festival series, "Vietnam: The Strangers Meet," an examination of the war from the points of view of the United States, France and Vietnam.

Asian stereotypes still blinding West

by Charles Turner

erek Davies, outspoken editorin-chief of the Far Eastern Economic Review, opened his term as the East-West Center's George Chaplin Scholar-in-Residence recently with a strong plea for better understanding of Asia-Pacific affairs.

The Hong Kong-based journalist told a standing room only audience at the Imin Center-Jefferson Hall's Keoni Auditorium

"As long as East Asia of today and the foreseeable future continues to be judged by irrelevant ideological standards, as long as the emerging societies and economies of East Asia continue to be stuck with outdated, alien labels and placed into Western political pigeon holes, the West will continue to fail to understand what is happening in the fastest growing region in the world."

Davies said that too often, Westerners perceive the Asia-Pacific region "in terms of power struggles...caused by proud tyrants or by old men who have had their day hanging on to power." 'East Asia should not be judged in

the light of ideals and ideologies," he said.

The world-traveled 57-year-old journalist, who has had considerable diplomatic experience, reminded his audience at the outset of his lecture that both China and the Soviet Union "have recognized that their system needs massive reform."

'Approaches have been made to the West, and now we expect a Sino-Soviet summit in the spring," he said.

He wondered, however, whether the West would be ready for what may lie ahead.

"Affairs in East Asia are changing fast, not only in China. Taiwan is relaxing; contacts with the Mainland are proliferative," he said.

"South Korea is taking on a more confident international role after the Olympics vis-a-vis North Korea, China and Moscow. Japan is at least beginning to show signs of realizing that economic power brings global responsibilities and reciprocal duties.

Noting that the United States is on the verge of a presidential election, he asked

"Will the policymaker of the West be flexible and confident enough to respond?"

He answered his own question by saying

"Perhaps not," and recalled the difficulty that the Soviet Union has had with flexibility

"For years the Kremlinologists argued that the Soviet system could not produce a Gorbachev. They spent a lot of time denying his sincerity when he did emerge, and still today many right wing ideologues reckon it is a put-up job, much as their political forebears denied there had been a rift in Sino-Soviet relations in 1960."

Davies, who opened his talk by pointing out how the popular American car-toon "Doonesbury" had lampooned the U.S. presidential campaign, said he be-lieves the "tenor of the U.S. presidential debate does not encourage hope, as the candidates vie by doubting each other's patriotism or devotion to military spending.

"It seems as if the West cannot free itself of built-in attitudes, just as the East is trying to, and peace may depend upon some imaginative response," he said.

Davies gave a detailed background report on how major countries of East Asia came to their present political status.

He noted that in the past 25 years, the countries have shuffled off old dogmas and ideologies and moved toward "a pragmatic, middle-of-the-road approach to the problem of development much more in tune with the Confucian Golden Mean."

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Humans, not Agent Orange, killing Vietnam's forests

A leading Vietnamese botanist says it isn't Agent Orange that has caused the most damage to his country's forests, but poor logging and farming practices by his countrymen.

Le Trong Cuc, an ecologist and expert on Vietnam's trees and agriculture, says land clearing and burning, along with logging, have hurt his country's forests as much as the war.

Cuc made his comments in a recently released paper, "Agroforestry Practices in Vietnam," which he wrote while serving as a visiting fellow for the Center's Environment and Policy Institute. He has since returned to Hanoi, where he serves as vice-chairman of Vietnam's Resources and Environment Research Programme and vice-director of the Center for Resources Management and Environmental Studies at Hanoi University.

Cuc said that Vietnam was once virtually covered by tropical forests, but

that since the mid-1940s its forestry assets have declined from approximately 35 million acres to 18 million acres. Restoration is urgently needed, he said.

Nearly 5 million acres of forest suffered damage from chemicals dropped by air or plowed into the ground during the Vietnam War. The majority of that damage came from Agent Orange and its chemical companion, Agent White. In all, about 100 million pounds of active herbicidal ingredients were dumped on the Viet-

namese landscape during the war. Although the damage was devastating, Cuc said it is not the major cause of the decline in Vietnam's forest

resources. He put much of the blame on the country's ethnic minorities, whose practice of forest clearing by fire has degraded more than 10.5 million acres of forestry land over the past 40 years.

Uncontrolled exploitation of the forests by the state, the cooperatives and private individuals have added to the devastation. Cuc said none of the three followed "procedures for environmental conservation nor do they respect land use decisions. Such intensive extraction has not allowed recovery of degraded forests," he added. "In some areas, forests are continuously exploited with little time for restoration."

Cuc said Vietnam urgently needs reform if it is to maintain its forests and sustain its production of food crops. He called for closure of protected forests and made specific recommendations for Vietnam's midlands, including resettlement of families presently cultivating too high up on the steep slopes or inside protected areas.

Other steps should involve research into "regreening" the barren hills and reforesting useless grasslands, as well as greater efficiency in fire prevention

and fire fighting. Cuc warned, however, that unless population growth is controlled there will be "increasing pressure on land for greater production of staples and more intensive cropping of soil for export crops."

Cuc also warned that "inappropriate" techniques of shifting cultivation should not be used on hilly land, referring to the practice of stripping forests of their foliage, drying out the limbs and leaves and setting them afire.

Although the procedure, now used in lowlands, provides fine ash for the initial crops, the soil soon is exhausted of nutrients and farmers move on to other areas, compounding the problem. Cuc termed such practices as "primitive" and an "obstacle to expansion of agricultural production. The balance between the natural capability of forestlands and human needs has been lost," he said.

Top issues in Asia-Pacific region aired by journalists

"Sooner or later, China and Taiwanwill be united."

Peter Wang, publisher of the United Daily News in Taipei, had no sooner made that remark than Zhu Yinghuang, deputy editor of the China Daily in Beijing, interrupted him to agree. It was a moment which Center Senior Fellow Richard Leonard later said marked "a most memorable and perhaps even historic" panel session at the East-West Center.

The session, "China: What Lies Ahead?," occurred on the concluding day of the second annual Pacific Basin Update Seminar, a Center program designed to provide Hawaii business and community leaders with an inside perspective on critical Asia-Pacific issues. The seminar features briefings by prominent Asia-Pacific journalists and publishing executives and U.S. foreign service and commerce officials.

Wang said that leaders of Taiwan and China have made progress toward resolving their differences. He felt education was the key to bringing the two Chinas together, although he said that the biggest drawback to unity at present is China's "hostility," particularly militarily.

Wang said the people of China and Taiwan talk the same language and eat the same foods, and that many Taiwanese have family members living on the mainland. "We are still one people," he said.

Wang's remarks followed a talk by Zhu on China's economic reforms. Ten years along in a transition from a highly centralized planning economy to a new, more market-oriented economy, the Chinese people, said Zhu, are eating better but are "upset and complaining" because inflation recently reached 18 percent. He said "bureaucratic profiteers" are contributing to the problem by cornering the markets in goods and selling them at huge profits. A recent announcement by the government that it would press ahead with price reform prompted "panic buying," he noted.

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China is at a critical juncture in its reform process, he added, and will make strenuous efforts to curb inflation, increase management efficiency and fight corruption. Price reform is a must for China, he emphasized, while admitting that it would be difficult because "merchants don't fear bankruptcy and workers don't fear unemployment." the Cold War."

Gatmaiten, who also is managing partner of Corporate Farming Ventures, Inc., said that although he is a supporter of President Corazon Aquino, he feared she has "exceeded her quota of miracles—it's five minutes to midnight."

Gatmaiten said Aquino has failed to take necessary land reform measures and has allowed corruption to undermine her government. Asked whether he thought the Philippine people

"The people of China and Taiwan talk the same language and eat the same foods. . . They are still one people."

Derek Davies, editor-in-chief of the Far Eastern Economic Review, said he was fascinated by the "open and frank" discussion started by Zhu. He said the big question remains: Can China do any better? Center President Victor Hao Li, who attended the panel discussion, said, "This discussion could not have taken place 10 years ago," referring to the years of intense hostility between Beijing and Taipei. The discussion was one of five presented at the Update Seminar. Earlier, Antonio Gatmaiten, political affairs editor and columnist for Manila's Business World, spoke on "The Outlook for the Philippines," saying that he be-lieved his country, struggling with a sick economy and internal problems, may become "the last battleground of

wanted former President Ferdinand Marcos to return from Hawaii, Gatmaiten said emphatically, "Of course not!"

However, he said, there is no question that Marcos still has supporters in the Philippines and could garner "22 to 25 percent of the vote." Gatmaiten said Aquino "has admitted that she's stopped reading the newspapers" because of their criticism.

Asked whether anyone could turn the country in a different direction, he said, "I don't think the Left has the answer. "We're in between Genghis Khan and Joan of Arc."

Gatmaiten said he believes the Soviet Union is waiting on the sidelines for developments, but discounted reports from his country of increasing anti-American sentiment, saying that there is still "an element of concern, an element of caring" in U.S.– Philippines relations.

Despite its problems, the Philippines is attracting investment, he said, including recent, first-time multi-million dollar expenditures by such multinational firms as Bank of Boston, American Express, Toyota, Arab-Asia Bank and BMW. Companies already operating in the Philippines such as Coca-Cola, San Miguel Corp., Caltex and Nestle also are making big investments, he said.

In addition, the agreement by the United States to pay \$481 million a year for the use of the bases at Clark Field and Subic Bay "offers a ray of hope," he said.

On the bad side, Gatmaiten said, is the "absolute poverty" of more than half of the Philippines population, the lack of fertility controls and a "financial famine" in foreign exchange.

Moreover, he said, the nation's energy resources are deficient and 42 percent of the national budget has to be devoted to debt service. He blamed Marcos for putting the nation in such heavy debt.

Other topics of discussion at the Pacific Basin Update Seminar included "How U.S.-Japan Relationships are Changing," "A U.S. View of Trade Relationships in Asia," and "Prospects for Korea After the Olympic Games." Other speakers included Roger

Severance, deputy assistant secretary for East-Asia/Pacific, U.S. Commerce Department, Washington; Thomas Biddick, recently political officer at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing and presently a diplomat-in-residence at the Center; John Roderick, retired Associated Press correspondent in Tokyo; Edward White, retired Associated Press bureau chief in Seoul; and Susumu Awanohara, *Far Eastern Economic Review* regional editor.

Derek Davies on 'Why the West misunderstands the East'

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"This happened from both ends of the Western-style political spectrum," he said.

"The various forms of socialism were found not to produce either the peace or the wealth which could be distributed on an egalitarian basis."

As an example, he cited Singapore's socialist government, which "moved quickly to set up an entrepreneurial society."

"The process has happened most dramatically in China where the Marxists are busily rewriting Mao's version of Marxism-Leninism and concluding that China must go through the historical experience of capitalism and postpone its aim of achieving socialism," he said.

He said that China's "commodity economy must last at least another 100 years, as Zhao Ziyang told last year's 13th Party Congress..."

Davies said that economic success in once-authoritarian states has resulted in educated middle classes, "people who are not content with only increasing their purchasing power."

their purchasing power." He pointed to the overthrow of President Marcos in the Philippines, which he said "sent ripples around the region," and resulted in frightened governments such as those in Malaysia and Singapore making "paranoid attempts to clamp the lid on what we would call democracy."



George Chaplin Scholar-in-Residence Derek Davies, left, with George Chaplin.

Indonesia is trying to achieve a "liberalization" of its regime by making its ruling party more representative, allowing greater freedom of debate in the press and dismantling its military security apparatus, he said.

South Korea has made "massive concessions to the pressures mounted by student demonstrators' demands for greater freedoms," as well as recognizing opposition parties, showing greater respect for human rights and "even a more imaginative approach to the North," he added.

Discussing Taiwan, he said that government weathered similar crises during the "Chiang Dynasty" by taking steps to end martial law, allowing opposition parties to function, permitting greater freedom of debate and in the press, and resuming trade contacts and visits to Mainland China.

"The trail-blazing country in Southeast Asia has been Thailand," he said, noting that country was "written off by Washington" after the Vietnam War, as well as by Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew and "many other dominotheorists."

Davies said changes which have come about in the current generation have mandated a change in how East Asian countries should be categorized.

"The comfortable pigeon-holing of countries and systems no longer works, is no longer even relevant to the social and political structures which are still emerging in East Asia," he said.

The George Chaplin Scholar-in-Residence program, supported by an endowment from Duty Free Shoppers Group Limited, annually invites a distinguished author or journalist to the East-West Center. John Hughes, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and editor of The Christian Science Monitor, was the Chaplin scholar in 1987.

The program is named after George Chaplin, who retired as editor-in-chief of The Honolulu Advertiser in 1986 after a distinguished 50-year career in newspapers. Chaplin, who continues to write for the Advertiser as a contributing editor, is chairman of the Board of Governors of the East-West Center. He was an early advocate of East-West business and cultural exchanges and has traveled extensively, writing about contemporary issues around the world, particularly about Asia and the Pacific.

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Alumnews

An English teacher befriends a beagle

"From the sky English falls down"

These words are on the cover of Peter lizuka's latest book on English-language teaching. They express his feeling that English—or any other foreign language -should be picked up through repeated and pleasurable exposure, not through intense study. This philosophy makes lizuka, a 1967 Center alum and director of the Tokyo Institute for Research in English Language Education, something of a maverick in Japan, where English instruction has typically employed memorization and translation of literary texts. In contrast, lizuka favors nursery rhymes and-good grief!-Snoopy and the rest of the Peanuts gang.

lizuka, who visited the Center in November, introduced his first Snoopy language instruction materials in 1985. Meant to entertain while teaching, they are based on a selection of 100 cartoon strips from the Peanuts series by Charles M. Schulz. The materials are presented in sets combining a booklet and audio tape. The booklet features Schulz's drawings, and the text is presented in the "sandwich" method developed by lizuka: the Japanese line is sandwiched between the repeated English translation. The accompanying tapes are produced in the same way.

Although originally produced for chil-dren, the effectiveness of the materials has convinced lizuka that they should be offered to students through high school. Some older students are already using the tapes, and "have been caught in their other classes listening to the Snoopy tapes with their walkman earphones hidden in their hair!" he said.

The students' enthusiasm is confirmation of the international appeal of the Peanuts characters. Iizuka has written that Schulz' "rather conservative American Protestant faith seems to be the tonic of the...cartoons, and yet Snoopy is also loved by the peoples of the

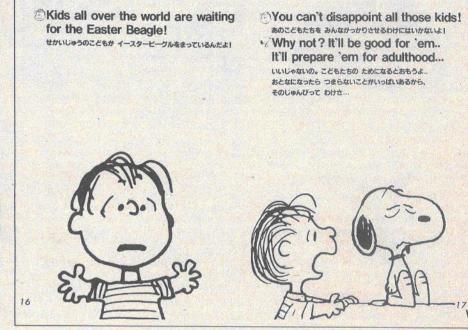


Peter Iizuka

Communist-block and many other non-Christian countries and communities."

But not everything about the Peanuts gang fits in Japan. According to lizuka, "Linus is spiritually much higher than his sister Lucy," who in one strip can't decide whether to slug her little brother or return to Sunday school. Such a dominant sister comes as a shock in Japanese culture, he said.

The popularity of the innovative materials doesn't surprise lizuka, who said traditional teaching methods aren't working. "The typical college graduate in Japan has had 10 years of English language instruction and still can't understand spoken English, read fast or write well." The situation, he said, is



An example from lizuka's language text.

much as it was more than 20 years ago when Iizuka came to the East-West Center after nine years teaching at a Japanese high school.

"I came to the Center in 1965 to study innovative teaching methods," said lizuka. "But when I went back to Japan I found they didn't work well in the rigid public school system." He soon left the public schools and began teaching English to young children-two years old and up. "They are the hardest to 'teach' but the best at picking up language," he said. Based on this experience and others teaching in private schools and working with graduate students, lizuka developed what he has described as a "more effective, learner-centered" approach to English instruction.

His success has brought him visibility, and he was recently asked by the English language newspaper The Japan Times to present the argument for introducing American teaching assistants into English language classes in Japan. Their introduction, as part of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program, has been controversial. But in his article lizuka argued that only through exposure to native English speakers will Japanese students develop truly fluent oral skills. "Many people agree that Japan needs more and more internationalization...and yet it seems to me that English classes...are among the most uninternationalized activities" in Japan, he wrote.

Despite some resistance, both the government and industry are backing the JET program, said lizuka. And even the public school system is showing signs of relaxing its rigid curriculum. Who knows, maybe it will even start using the Snoopy materials. As Linus might put it, "Kids all over Japan are waiting for Peter Iizuka!"

AlumniHappenings

Supatra Masdit Kesornsuk (OG. 1976-78) has been appointed minister in the prime minister's office of the Thai Government, becoming the only female to hold a ministerial appointment in the government . . . David Finkelstein (ISI 1961-63), a free-lance writer in New York City, recently published Greater Nowheres: A Journey Through the Australian Bush (Harper and Row), which documents the author's several thousand mile jaunt through the wild, harsh Australian Outback. The book has received excellent reviews . . . Charles R. Backus (ISI 1967-68) has been named director of the Syracuse University Press. Backus was previously acquisitions editor at the University Press of New England . . . Samir Das (ISI 1966-68), group vice president with United Breweries in Bangalore, is now appearing in Marquis' 1988 edition of Who's Who in the World . . . Carol Ludwig (ISI 1966-67) is the new director of the USIA Foreign Press Centers. She oversees operations in Washington, D.C., New York and Los Angeles . . . Ian Ambury Miller Prior (EWPI 81), a doctor of medicine in the University of New Zealand, has received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science

from Victoria University of Wellington for his research on major health problems faced by people in New Zealand . . . **Riley Kelly Lee** (ICC 1984–86), an internationally acclaimed shakuhachi master, recently presented a recital of music for the Japanese flute at the Honolulu Academy of Arts . . . Bill Cody (OG 1969-71) is Oregon's new trade representative in Japan. He notes that his field study at the Center allowed him to live with a family in Kyoto, which remains "a second family to me." . . . Pi-chong Su (OG 1982-84), associate professor of English at National Kaoshiung Teachers College in Tai-wan, earned the 1988 Outstanding College Teacher Award . . . Karen Watson-Gegeo (EWCLI 1983), associate professor of English as a Second Language at the University of Hawaii, received an Excellence in Teaching Award . . . Ann Auman (EWCI 1980-82) has assumed the post of college relations director for the College of Business Administration at the University of Hawaii . . . William Armbruster (OG 1971-73), formerly world trade editor with The Journal of Commerce in New York, is now senior correspondent for that paper.

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last names and a listing by country and professional interests. By using both indexes, you can locate your friends and locate new professional colleagues when you are traveling or looking for professional contacts in other locations. Each entry includes name and address as well as phone, fax, and telex numbers if available. In addition, each entry includes information on the type and time of EWC award and three professional areas of interest. To order your directory, make out a check or international money order to the East-West Center Alumni Fund for \$12 (or \$22 for the directory and airmail delivery) and fill in the form below and mail both to the East-West Center Distribution Office, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848, USA.

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Last spring, EWCA members voted for the new EWCA Executive Board members. These new members were formally installed during the International Alumni Conference in Bali. In this issue, *Alumnews* profiles the four officers of the new Board. Future issues will profile the rest of the Board.



Sachio Semmoto, Chairman

Semmoto is the senior vice president of DDI, Ltd., a major private telecommunications company in Japan. He took the lead in building the new company, which was formally dedicated on October 7, 1988.

Semmoto participated in a summer seminar in the Communications Institute at the Center in 1978 and was also a Fulbright exchange student. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the Universities of Wisconsin and Florida.

About his work with the EWCA, he says, "The EWCA can play an important role in the emerging information era. I will make every effort to achieve this goal. My immediate objectives as chair are to further strengthen the relationship between the Association and the Center and to increase the recognition of the Center and the Association as important contributors to the emerging Pacific Era. Long live the East-West Center!"



Cynthia Ai, Vice Chair for Resource Development

Cynthia Ai was vice president of the previous board and chaired the 1985 fund raising campaign and the auctions in 1986 and 1987. She is an attorney-atlaw and president of East/West Enterprises, Inc. She was an M.A. student in art history in ISI from 1965 to 1967. Ai has visited 10 alumni chapters during her tenure on the board in order to gather information about and to stimulate alumni activities.

In commenting on her relationship to the Association, she notes that "participating on the Board has been my expression of gratitude for the education, intercultural experiences and the lasting friendships gained while I was a grantee. We on the Board will seek to develop substantive programs of value, interest and concern to the Center and its alumni. We will also continue to develop our alumni network on professional, cultural and social levels, since such a network is of great value to the alumni and the Center.

"As products of the Center, we have become leaders in government, education, the arts and business. I look forward to witnessing increased participation by alumni in Association activities such as chapter projects and regional workshops. I am secure in the knowledge that our alumni will play critical roles in Asia, the Pacific and the United States as we enter the 21st century."



Puongpun Sananikone, Vice Chair for Programs and Planning

Sananikone previously served on the Hawaii Chapter Board and chaired the 1988 directory ad campaign. He was a student in ISI from 1964-68. Pursuing a career as a development economist and international business executive, he has served as director of socioeconomic planning with the Royal Government of Laos, operations officer and chief economist with Louis Berger International, and executive vice president with Hawaiian Agronomics (International). In his current position, he directs an international management consulting group, PacMar, Inc., which provides socioeconomic development expertise to both public and private clients throughout Asia and the Pacific. He serves on a number of Hawaii-based community boards

Puongpun says that the "EWCA provides a wonderful framework for professional networking for those who want to be a part of the emerging Asia-Pacific Era. It also provides a forum for us to contribute to furthering the ideals and goals of the EWCA. But for the EWCA to be effective, it needs both the *interest* and *commitment* of former grantees."



Vicki Shambaugh, Secretary/Treasurer Shambaugh was on the Hawaii Chap-

ter Board for five years, serving as secretary and treasurer. As director of research and development with the Pacific Health Research Institute she is involved in planning, proposal development and coordination of research activities. Projects include cancer, arthritis, heart disease, leprosy and quality/cost of care.

Vicki has supported many EWCA activities including the East-West auction, the 1985 International Alumni Conference, the Alumni-in-Residence fellowship program and the Distinguished Alumni award. She is the president of the Board of Hawaii Planned Parenthood and serves as a host family for the Friends of the East-West Center.

She says, "I became interested in working with the EWCA because of the friends I developed at the Center friends who have played key roles in shaping and enriching my life. Over time this personal network has evolved into a professional network as well. The trust and understanding developed between people at the Center creates an environment for mutually beneficial work between countries as well as individuals. I hope my work on the EWCA board will contribute to further enhancing these relationships."

AlumniChapterHappenings

Chapter development is a top priority of the new EWCA Board, says Chairman Sachio Semmoto, noting that there are now 21 formally established chapters, many of which are just getting started. To assist them, the Center and the Board are planning two activities. First, a Chapter Leaders Workshop is scheduled from January 23-25, 1989, in Honolulu. This workshop will bring 10-15 chapter leaders together with Center officials and EWCA Board members. The goal is to help define and develop a strategic plan for the alumni network. Specific objectives include updating chapter leaders on current programs and priorities of the Center and the EWCA; providing advice to chapters on developing programs at the local level; identifying chapters willing to hold regional meetings; and having each chapter leader prepare an action plan for his/her chapter. Second, the EWCA is again offering incentive funds in support of chapter-initiated programs and activities. Last year these funds allowed the Beijing Chapter to organize a minifilm festival, the Okinawa Chapter to produce a directory of local alumni, and the Hawaii Chapter to support its program sending EWC students to visit neighbor islands.

The EWCA Executive Board has unani-

mously approved the request of the **Thai Alumni Chapter** to host the 1991 International Alumni Conference in Thailand. Chamnong Vibulsri, president of the Thai Chapter, reported to the Executive Board that Wichit Srisa-an, permanent secretary of the Ministry of University Affairs, has agreed to serve as chair of the Executive Committee for the conference. The conference will be held in collaboration with the Ministry of University Affairs, the Thai Alumni Chapter, the East-West Center and the East-West Center Association.

The Thai Conference Committee is initiating plans to determine the theme, program, time and venue for the conference. More information will be available in upcoming issues of Centerviews. In the meantime mark your 1991 calendar NOW.

The EWCA New Zealand Chapter under the leadership of John Gilbert has published "The South Pacific Update," a newsletter John says grew out of a desire expressed at the Bali Conference to strengthen EWCA regional ties. "The newsletter is, at this stage, a single issue enterprise," says John. "The objective is to bring information from the conference to the South Pacific alumni. It also recognizes the very real difficulty that alumni from the region have in meeting face-to-face. As the emphasis on EWCA activities is on 'information giving' to support professional and personal links, we thought that a newsletter with a regional perspective on the conference would be useful."

Several new chapters are forming. As a result of the Bali conference, the EWCA Bali Chapter has begun organizing under the leadership of Ida Bagus Narendra and Gus Kairupan. Under the leadership of Reynaldo Garay, the EWCA Los Angeles Chapter will hold a membership meeting in November. Leaders of this new chapter have met with Dean Miyahira to plan activities. And the EWCA Melbourne Australia Chapter is emerging under the guidance of M. Akbar Hessami and Denis Bourke.

The EWCA Philippines Chapter has been busy. Within its program theme of "Networking for Popular Democracy," the chapter cosponsored a forum on "Perspectives on Women and the Constitution" at Ateneo University, cosponsored a forum on the Nairobi Conference on Women, conducted a forum on Philippine membership in the Organization of Islamic Conference, and held a roundtable discussion on "International Influences on Philippine Education." Other roundtable dialogues are planned for the remainder of the year.

The EWCA Japan Chapter in Tokyo published a newsletter last spring which was sent to all alumni in Japan. Alumni also held two seminars in Japan this past March. Keizo Nagatani (ISI 1962-64), a well-known economist and professor at the University of British Columbia, spoke on "Oh, Canada!," and Joseph Kess (ISI 1962-65), a distinguished linguist at the University of Victoria in Canada, spoke in Kobe on "Difficulty and Ambiguity in English-Syntactic, Discourse and Psycholinguistic Approach."

The EWCA Washington, D.C., Chapter cosponsored with the Asia Society a May lecture on "The Politics of Energy" by Toufiq Siddiqi, research associate at the Center. D.C. Chapter member Mary Jo Furgal (ISI 1965–68) organized an aloha welcome for four EWC students participating in the Washington Campus Program. Their sojourn in Washington ended with a successful picnic for alumni and students hosted by Ardith (ISI 1962–64) and Russell Betts (ISI 1962–64). The chapter is planning another cosponsored lecture in November featuring Center President Victor Hao Li.

Deadlines set for distinguished alum, alumni fellowships

Announcement of Distinguished Alumni Awards

Nominations are invited for the 1989 Distinguished Alumni Awards. These awards, established by an endowment fund donated by Dai-Ho Chun, former director of the Center's Institute of Technical Interchange, honor Center alumni for exceptional accomplishments in their professions and contributions toward the promotion of better East-West relations and understanding.

The 1988 Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented to Soon Kwon Kim, leader of the Hybrid Maize Project at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Ibadan, Nigeria; Pei Shengji, director of the Kunming Institute of Tropical Botany, Yunnan, China; and Ricardo Trimillos, professor of ethno-

musicology, University of Hawaii. If you are interested in nominating a candidate for this award, write to the Alumni Office, East-West Center, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96848. The deadline for receipt of nominations is April 30, 1989.

Announcement of AIR Fellowships

Applications are now being accepted for the FY 1990 Alumni-in-Residence Fellowships. These fellowships provide a \$2,000 monthly stipend for up to six months of research work at the East-West Center. Preference is given to proposals which enable alumni to complete major projects which represent the culmination of professional work since leaving the Center.

In order to meet eligibility requirements, applicants must have had an award of at least six months of continuous residence at the Center and at least



Soon Kwon Kim, left, receives the Distinguished Alumni Award from Sarah Miyahira, dean of Student Affairs and Open Grants.

five years must have elapsed since the applicant's last affiliation with the Center (excluding attendance at shortterm conferences or workshops).

Since the program was begun five years ago, 21 alumni have returned to the Center as alumni fellows. Three alumni have been selected for FY 1989. They are: Mohammad Asghar, senior lecturer and head of Basic Agricultural Sciences at the Univerity of the South Pacific Alafua Campus, Western Samoa, who will prepare a report on soils and plant nutrition in Western Samoa; Sun-tharalechmy Akinde, senior lecturer with the Faculty of Education at Ondo State University in Nigeria, who will prepare teacher education resource

materials on environment and values education; and Federico V. Magdalena, professor of sociology at Mindanao State University, the Philippines, who will write on migration, ethnicity and

conflict in the Philippine South. To apply for a 1990 Alumni-in-Residence fellowship, write to the Alumni Office, East-West Center, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96848. The deadline for receipt of applications is May 15, 1989.

Regional Workshops

The Indonesian Alumni Chapter has agreed to hold a Regional Workshop on

"ASEAN Economic Growth Through Resource Development: 1990-2015." The workshop will be held in conjunction with the Indonesian Institute of Sciences, the East-West Center and various international organizations and institutions

Didin Sastrapradja, former chair of the EWCA Executive Board and vice chair of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences, said that the workshop will focus on selected strategic development issues which are essential for the ASEAN region to achieve sustainable growth over the next 25 years. The specific areas for review will include energy and mineral resources, renewable resources and the environment, human resources and culture, and in-formation resources. "We are looking forward to working with the Center and other organizations in the region in continuing the dialogue begun during our recent Bali Conference," he said.

The workshop, Sastrapradja added, "recognizes that strategic planning by national governments is generally focused on short-term perspectives and limited to country-specific forecasts. In an era of increasing interdependence, it is essential to adopt a longer term per-spective for strategic development at the regional level."

Puongpun Sananikone, EWCA vice chair for programs and planning, noted that "our hope is that other alumni chapters will follow Indonesia's lead and organize similar workshops in their regions. Our goal is to hold one workshop in each major region before our next international conference in 1991. If this is achieved, the international conference can serve to integrate and summarize the results of these workshops."

Alumni give generously to help support new programs

Mahalo to the 582 donors who contributed nearly \$40,000 to the 1988 Alumni Fund Drive. Thanks to your contributions we were able to publish the new International Alumni Directory, hold the International Alumni Conference in Bali and bring three Alumni Fellows back to the Center.

We are deeply grateful to the following individuals who contributed to the fund drive:

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Film symposium focuses on family Home is where the heart—and the hurt—is

NCWEAMEER_DECESTREN 1989 Commentance

by Wimal Dissanayake

ugene O'Neill, the celebrated dramatist, once said that all drama takes place within the family. This is absolutely right; indeed, one can even expand this claim to include all forms of narrative. Fairy tales, ballads, the Bible, epics, the works of Sophocles and Shakespeare, soap operas and the novels of Tolstoy and Dickens, in one way or another deal with the problems, tensions and privations associated with the family. Film is no exception. The family presents us with a microcosm of the joys and sorrows, hopes and anxieties, triumphs and defeats typical of the world at large. This makes it a convenient domain for scholarly and artistic exploration.

The family is one of the oldest of human institutions; it is also considered to be the smallest unit which has a palpable impact on society and state. Religionists see it as representing the will of God; economists study it as an economic unit; anthropologists investigate it as a human institution which is vitally connected with issues ranging from kinship to land tenure; psychologists seek to examine the interpersonal conflicts generated by the dynamics of family members as well as the positive environment the family can provide. Hence, scholars studying the family are apt to emphasize its different aspects depending on their theoretical predilections and academic vantage points. The general point, however, is that the family furnishes us with a wonderful institution through which to study man and society

The family has become such a compelling focus of examination for scholars and creative artists alike because it makes concrete the contradictory pulls of society. Family is seen as a haven from the cruelties of the outer world, a place of education and socialization, inculcation of norms and values, love, harmony and security. On the other hand, the family is also seen as a highly-charged emotional milieu in which latent brutalities and cruelties come into play, a place where human freedom and spontaneity are curbed, and where human personality is warped. Edmund Leach, in his controversial Reith Lectures of 1967, maintained that far from being the basis of the good society, the family, with its narrow privacy and tawdry secrets, is the source of all our discontents. These contradictory perceptions and their consequences naturally hold a great fascination for scholars as well as novelists, dramatists and filmmakers.

Filmmakers, both in the East and West, have found the institution of the family to be an excellent subject for cinematic exploration. Of them, Yasujiro Ozu perhaps deserves most attention. Ozu was preoccupied by one theme the family and its decline. In over 50 films, Ozu explored through a limited number of characters and situations the emotional attachments, mutual dependencies, selfhood and freedoms associated with family life. A dimension of family life that stirred his deepest imagination is the conflict between generations.

Let us consider his film *The Only Son*. Tsune, a widow, is advised by a young school teacher that her only son, Ryosuke, must go to Tokyo for a good secondary education. This means additional financial burdens for Tsune. Time passes by, and Ryosuke has matured; Tsune goes to Tokyo to visit him. He takes her to the poor quarter of the city where he lives. There Tsune learns that her son is married and has a child. The glorious expectations and dreams that



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A scene from ''The Yen Family,'' described by critics as a ''slashing look at a profit driven family.'' Directed by Yohiro Takita. From the 1988 Film Festival Symposium, ''Family and Cinema: East and West.''

the mother had for her son begin to wither away, leaving her with the harsh reality. The disappointment of the mother is met by the shame and guilt of her son. Tsune had made great financial sacrifices on behalf of Ryosuke, and he gradually begins to realize this.

The forces of modernization also have exercised a profound influence on the family, challenging some of its traditional structures and values. There are those who would argue, armed with social data of various kinds, that the family as an institution is in a state of crisis. High divorce rates, married women entering the labor market in ever growing numbers, low birth rates and the decline of family size, generational conflicts, more children living with single parents, all point to the magnitude of this crisis.

Christopher Lasch, the well-known historian, has said that while the family once provided a haven of love and decency in a heartless world, it does not do so any more. External forces such as advertising, the media and family professionals have invaded the family and robbed it of its function and authority. Corporate capitalism, he adds, with its emphasis on insatiable consumption has contributed to the creation of a "culture of narcissism" where caring for others has all but ceased to be a social value.

This challenge to traditional values can often be seen most clearly in films from the developing countries. One of the most widely discussed Asian films in recent times, *The Mirage* by the young Indian film director Nirad Mohaptra, deals precisely with the issue of modernization.

The Mirage is set in Orissa and portrays the dissolution of a middle-class extended family and the emotional an-

guish and moral uncertainties that it brings in its wake. Raj Kirhose Babu is an elderly headmaster of a school who lives with his mother, wife and five children. The eldest son works as a lecturer and is dutifully conscious of his filial obligations. The second son, who has done well in his studies, is his father's favorite. The father expects much from him in terms of the welfare of the family. The third son sees himself as a failure and leans very heavily for support on the family, while the fourth son is rebellious and has no compunction in challenging the traditions and norms of conduct endorsed by the family.

The second son succeeds in securing a lucrative job and marries a woman who is socially superior to him. He and his wife come home bringing with them the numerous gifts they received. New furniture and new appliances are brought, and the household becomes different from what it was. Before long tensions surface, threatening the peace and tranquility of the family. The second son's wife refuses to play the role of the traditional daughter-in-law, in the way that the eldest son's wife does. A sense of antagonism develops between them. The second son and his wife leave for the city; the grandmother dies; the eldest son has been transferred to the state capital and decides to leave home. In his film, Nirad Mohaptra sensitively portrays how external and internal frictions result in the disintegration of the extended family.

Modern feminism is still another force that has dramatically challenged the presuppositions of the family. Women who were once confined to a shadowy existence, their identity denied and their existence marginalized, have been encouraged to redefine their existence in accordance with their own aspirations, to go out of the household to the world of work which has remained largely the preserve of the male. The feminist movement ushered in a new consciousness and gave greater voice to women, thereby urging a re-evaluation of the concept of the family.

During the last two decades film theory and cultural studies have made rapid strides, with feminist theory making a distinctive contribution. The net result of this has been a fundamental rethinking of the representation of the family in cinema. Feminist scholars have pointed out how stereotypical images of women have denied them their identity, how femininity is constructed in films, how patriarchal social relations tend to marginalize women, how male hegemony needs to be counteracted by feminist interventions. As much of the representation of women takes place within the context of the family, the implications of this mode of thinking for the cinematic representation of the family are enormous.

Family continues to be one of the most important subjects for filmic representation both in the East and the West. This is hardly surprising. The family is one of the oldest of human institutions, representing in microcosm the tensions of the wider world.

"Family and Cinema: East and West" is the theme for the film symposium of the 1988 Hawaii International Film Festival. The symposium will bring together scholars and filmmakers to present papers and discuss family life and its relation to the region's cinema. Wimal Dissanayake, who heads the Center's film program, is editor of the East-West Film Journal. To subscribe to the journal, write to the University of Hawaii Press, 2840 Kolowalu Street, Honolulu, HI 96822 or call (808) 948-8255.

Sea of Japan: a backwater may have a brighter future

by Grady Timmons

Surrounded by Japan, Korea and the Soviet Far East, the Sea of Japan has, since the close of the Pacific War, been relegated to the status of a backwater. Maritime and trade activity in Japan has centered on its Pacific side, while to the Soviet Union, the Sea of Japan generally has been as unimportant as it is distant from Moscow. For North and South Korea, interest has long been tilted toward the Yellow Sea which borders with China.

That began to change when, in a 1986 speech in Vladivostok, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev declared the Soviet Union a Pacific power, one that intended to participate in Pacific development. This signaled that the Vladivostok naval facilities, and other ports on the Sea of Japan, might become the hub of new activity, giving the Sea a new importance.

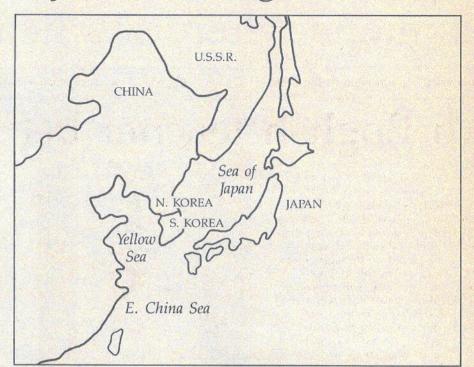
The Sea of Japan was recently in the news again, as the subject of an East-West Center conference in Niigata, Japan. The conference, attended by scholars and policymakers from Japan, South Korea, China and the United States, was the second in a series on critical maritime issues and the possibilities for cooperation in the East Asian Seas. Its spirit was perhaps best captured by Hisao Kanamori, a leading Japanese economist who painted a futuristic scenario of Chinese and Korean labor combining with Japanese capital and management to develop Siberian resources and change the Sea of Japan from a backwater to a thriving body of commerce

"Although a bit far-fetched, the spirit of the idea was nevertheless embraced by everyone in attendance," says Norton Ginsburg, the director of the Center's Environment and Policy Institute. It was also what officials of the host city of Niigata had in mind. Situated on Japan's western coast, Niigata hopes to be a main beneficiary of any future increase in trade. According to Ginsburg, there were two major purposes to the conference: to gather materials for forthcoming publications, including a policy atlas on the East Asian Seas; and to bring together countries which normally would not be talking to one another.

In this case, that included almost everyone. Indeed, historical animosities among Japan, Korea, China and the Soviet Union are well known. North Korea declined an invitation to attend the conference. Academician Ilychiev, head of the Far Eastern Branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, had committed to send 10 Soviet maritime experts to the conference. However, they failed to show, although their papers were presented by Center Senior Consultant John Bardach. "As far as we can ascertain, it was a bureaucratic foul-up on the Soviet side that led to their absence," says Ginsburg. "It wasn't due to malice or indifference or ideological differences." On an optimistic note, Academician Ilychiev has since apologized for their unexpected absence and expressed interest in hosting a followup conference.

Issues addressed at the conference included resources, trade, fisheries and pollution. According to Center Research Associate Mark J. Valencia, among the findings were that seamounts in the Sea of Japan may contain gold and that there are signs of oil in some deep water areas. Information on fisheries, especially in the western and northern parts of the sea, is limited. In fact, says Valencia, one of the major findings of the conference was how little is known about the Sea of Japan.

Center Research Associate Joseph Morgan says although the Sea of Japan is generally quite healthy, there are signs of pollution, particularly by mercury. One of the interesting conference findings is that pollutants have a long "residence time" in the sea. "Residence time is the time the water stays in the sea before it is flushed out," Morgan says. "Residence time for the Sea of Japan is about 300 years. By compari-



The Sea of Japan-will it take on a new importance?

son, residence time for the Mediterranean Sea, which is a much larger body of water, is about 75 years. So any pollutants you put in the Sea of Japan are liable to stay."

Ginsburg adds, however, that there are presently no manifestly critical problems in the Sea of Japan. "But one function of a meeting like this is to anticipate problems and to serve as an early warning system, so that marine activity and coastal development among the surrounding countries will be benign," he says.

A number of subjects have been delineated for cooperative scientific research. These include basin studies and detailed mapping of the seafloor, an ecological study of fish stocks in the northern and western parts of the sea and the standardizing of data for the Sea of Japan and its adjacent seas. Other possible areas of cooperation include environmental protection, a venture in shipbuilding among Japan, South Korea and China, weather monitoring and broadcasting, navigation, and traffic separation schemes.

Cosponsoring the conference with the Center were the United Nations University and the International University of Japan. Others key participants included Saburo Okita, chairman of the Institute for Domestic and International Policy Studies in Tokyo and a former Japanese foreign minister; Kim Kihwan, president of The Sejong Institute in Seoul and a former deputy minister of economic planning in South Korea; Elisabeth Mann Borgese of Dalhousie University in Canada and founder of the International Ocean Institute in Malta; Kinhide Mushakoji and Roland J. Fuchs, vice rectors of the United Nations University in Tokyo; and Lee-Jay Cho, vice president of the East-West Center.

Economics, ecology combined in graduate program

A new joint academic program of the East-West Center and the University of Hawaii will begin offering graduate students a certificate in resource management in 1989.

The program fills a void in the study of resource-related problems and will concentrate on the relationship among resources, economics and the environment.

The Center's Resource Systems Institute and Environment and Policy Institute are involved in the program along with the University's College of Social Science and College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

According to RSI research associate Allen Clark, "In resource management, economics and the environment are two different sides of the same coin, and students have to know both. What we have found in the past is that Center students from abroad obtain expertise in a lone area such as energy or forestry and then go into ministries back home where they are given much broader responsibilities."

Students need a wider perspective, says Joseph Morgan, a research associate in EAPI. "This is an area where a lot of people need to be trained. We look at it as an absolute necessity. All you have to do is look at the Asia-Pacific region and its problems to see how important a program this is." Problems relating to resources are

persistent and evolving, says Clark. At first, governments were concerned with obtaining access to resources. Then there were questions of ownership of resources and whether their development could be sustained. Now governments are seeing the environmental consequences of exploitation. Deforestation, for instance, leads to loss of biological diversity while mining leads to pollution, and so on.

Sound management of resource endowments in the Asia-Pacific region, adds Morgan, is critical for sustainable economic development. Water, soil, forests, oceans and other renewable resources can be managed for long-term yields or they can be degraded through short-term mismanagement. Information, education and training in analytical methods are prerequisites to responsible decision-making.

The resource management certificate, which has had the strong backing of Center President Victor Hao Li and University of Hawaii President Albert Simone, is designed for students who are pursuing graduate studies in traditional disciplines and also seeking expertise in environmental and resource management.

The Center brings to the program its expertise in development policy and planning, and Center researchers will lead a required seminar on resource issues in the Asia-Pacific region.

To earn a resource management certificate, students must complete 15 credits, which include a course in project evaluation and resource management, one course in social science analysis that is outside of a student's discipline, and two courses from one of the following six fields: agricultural resources management, energy/mineral resources management, environmental resources management, forestry management, marine resources management and water resources management.

The resource management certificate complements degree programs in fields ranging from anthropology, botanical science and geography to civil engineering and agricultural and resource economics. The certificate will serve as a valuable credential for those considering employment in the fields of energy, resources and environmental management and for positions at international agencies, national and regional levels of government, the private sector and public interest groups.

For more information about the program, contact the Department of Agriculture and Resource Economics, Anthropology, Economics or Geography at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI 96822. Or call the program office of either the Environment and Policy Institute or the Resource Systems Institute (944-7555) at the East-West Center, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848. Vol. 6 No. 6 November-December 1988 Centerviews (ISSN 0746-1402) is published bimonthly by the Public Affairs Office of the East-West Center, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848. It is sent without charge to readers interested in the Center. Second-class postage is paid at Honolulu, Hawaii.

EDITOR: Elisa W. Johnston (phone 808/944-7202)

Designed by Russell Fujita.

THE EASTWEST CENTER is a public, nonprofit educational institution established in Hawaii in 1960 by the United States Congress. The Center's mandate is "to promote better relations and understanding among the nations of Asia, the Pacific, and the United States through cooperative study, training, and research."

Some 2,000 research fellows, graduate students, and professionals in business and government each year work with the Center's international staff on major Asia-Pacific issues relating to population, resources and development, the environment, culture, and communication. Since 1960, more than 25,000 men and women from the region have participated in the Center's cooperative programs.

Principal funding for the Center comes from the U.S. Congress. Support also comes from more than 20 Asian and Pacific governments, as well as private agencies and corporations. The Center has an international board of governors. President Victor Hao Li came to the Center in 1981 after serving as Shelton Professor of International Legal Studies at Stanford University.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Center views, East-West Center, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848.

What's to blame for floods in Bangladesh?

A September article from the Knight-Ridder News Service noted that the tragic floods which recently struck Bangladesh were caused by the "widespread and growing deforestation of the Indian and Nepalese mountains to the north."

The effects of those floods have been well documented: several hundred people died and an estimated 30 million were left homeless. But according to East-West Center Research Associate Larry Hamilton, those who are blaming deforestation are not only wrong but obstructing a hard look at ways to minimize the devastation of such disasters.

"Even if entire river basins had been in forest cover, monsoons of the magnitude that occurred recently in South Asia would have still caused severe flooding," he says. "It was simply a case of too much rain falling in too short a time on land that had been previously saturated."

Hamilton says it is widely, if mistakenly, believed that deforestation by Himalayan residents is having disastrous downstream consequences for the millions of people who inhabit the Ganges plains. Moreover, he adds, the subsistence mountain farmer is being used as the scapegoat.

Hamilton says that, in fact, the forests most often pointed to with horror, the Middle Mountains of Nepal, are not disappearing at an alarming rate. A recent survey of this region has shown that although there has been a reduction in forest density (with the situation varying within localities), between 1964 and 1978 there has been little actual loss of forest area. Moreover, it is doubtful that there has been massive deforestation since 1978. Indeed, there is evidence that there has been an increase in forest land in some areas of the Middle Mountains due to the development of community forests and the fact that livestock are increasingly fed in stalls and not allowed to graze.

Heavy or prolonged rainstorms cause landslips, says Hamilton, in forest and brushland as well as in agricultural store water, soils do. Although removing forests and using the land for cropping or grazing will reduce the ability of the soil to accept and store water, conversion of land into well-maintained, terraced agriculture does not appreciably aggravate flooding. Regrettably, he admits, some of the agriculture that has replaced forests in the mountain country upstream of Bangladesh is abusive

"The real crisis is that these mountain societies, which possess a large fund of environmental wisdom, are being threatened by international political posturing."

lands. However, since Nepalese mountain farmers whose terraces have washed out need the land for the production of food, they work to restore and stabilize them as soon as possible. They have been farming, terracing and restoring for hundreds of years and are not the ignorant peasants some have made them out to be, says Hamilton.

On the other hand, poorly located and maintained roads in the Himalayas are a major direct contributor of sediment to streams, he says. These roadcaused landslides aggravate flooding problems by reducing river capacity or even temporarily creating dams which burst as more water backs up.

Hamilton notes that forests do not

and does result in more rapid run-off of water. However, the soils there generally are not deep and could not store huge quantities of water even in their fully forested state.

The increased run-off from these remote mountain watersheds, Hamilton says, is small compared to the accumulated water from all natural sources in a major storm or monsoon. He points out that the stricken part of Bangladesh is basically an overpopulated delta which is naturally prone to flooding. Compounding the problem is the build-up of sediment in rivers that reduces the capacity to accommodate excess water during a monsoon.

"The removal of forests in the hills and the inappropriate use of land accelerate surface erosion which eventually becomes sediment, but this contribution is dwarfed by the natural sources of river sediment," he says. "The Himalayas are an area of general slope instability, mountain uplift and earthquakes. This results in instability and an incredible number of landslides. In addition, outbursts from glacial lakes sometimes produce walls of water that move vast amounts of sediment to lower stream areas."

Those who lay the blame on deforestation, says Hamilton, dramatize their case by saying that more than 400 million people in the South Asia lowlands are being held hostage by 46 million peasant farmers in the uplands. The real crisis, in his opinion, is that these mountain cultures and societies, which possess a large fund of environmental wisdom, are being threatened by international political posturing that may curtail their livelihood.

To help reduce the severity of floods, Hamilton suggests restricting occupancy of the most serious flood-prone areas, structurally improving buildings, improving flood warning and evacuation programs and constructing floodwater storage reservoirs further upstream. Better mountain forest protection and management will have benefits in reducing locally the commonly occurring small floods.

"Loss of forest is responsible for many other problems including the disappearance of biological diversity and sources of useful wood and related products," Hamilton says, "but restoring forests to the Himalayan hills will not prevent recurrent flood catastrophes in lower Bangladesh."

Scientists determined to build 'mountain constituency'

While the oceans, the tropical rain forests and deserts have powerful constituencies dedicated to their protection, mountains have "no Jacques Cousteau." So noted scientists from Europe, Latin America, Asia, the Pacific, North America and international United Nations agencies who gathered at the Center recently to begin work on establishing a secretariat and center for international mountain research and information.

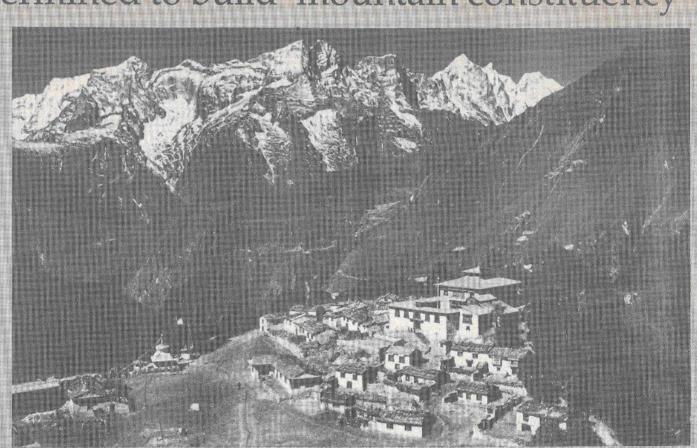
In a background paper the scientists listed reasons for establishing the secretariat:

• Mountains and mountain upland areas comprise about 20 percent of the Earth's terrestrial surface and provide the life support base for about 10 percent of the total human population. Access to mountain resources, directly or indirectly (water, forests, minerals, recreation) is vital for at least half of mankind,

• The lack of a supporting constituency is largely due to the great geographical, cultural and political heterogeneity of mountains and their peoples. Mountains occur on every continent. Moreover, they are frequently dissected by national frontiers, and their inhabitants are often minority ethnic groups divided by numerous languages and religions and subordinated to competing majority political interests.

• Despite the fact that nearly all scientific disciplines have engaged in mountain research, no body of mountain theory has been accumulated, so that broad generalizations in understanding are lacking.

• The mountain scholar frequently reflects the rugged individuality of the mountain inhabitant. Efforts to break



A mountain community in the Khumbu area of Nepal, near Mount Everest. In foreground, the Tengpocle monastery.

down this intellectual isolationism have not even produced a formal communications network of mountain research stations and institutions. This

research stations and institutions. This gap in communication is also a serious obstacle to worldwide cooperation among developers and decisionmakers—whether that be for conservation, preservation or the exploitation of sustainable resources.

A primary function of the secretariat

would be to serve as a clearinghouse and communications facility. The scientists say they have all encountered unfortunate development policies, based either on misunderstanding or ignorance of the complexities of the physical processes; or a failure, or unwillingness, to appreciate the position of mountain inhabitants, or both. The group is currently trying to correct misconceptions about the consequences of mountain deforestation. Thus, they argue, the establishment of an international mountain secretariat is urgently needed. But it must be impervious to bureaucratization and complement and not compete with any existing institution. It must also be an apolitical organization that can deal with sensitive topics that might prove politically difficult for a regional institution.

Unity and communication winning election issues

Steve Olive, an intern in the Environment and Policy Institute, is the newly elected president of the 1989 East-West Center Participants Association.

Olive, a native of Tennessee, is the first non-student elected president of the 15-member board. Participants include students, interns, fellows and professional associates.

The participants association serves an advocacy role and carries out a variety of educational and social activities. These include publications, seminars, Centergames and the International Fair.

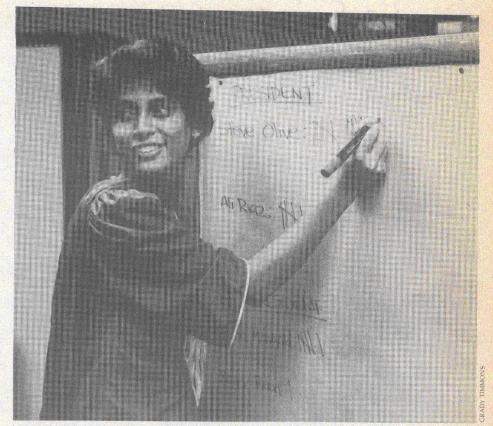
Olive said that interns do not usually run for elective office because they are at the Center on a short-term basis. Olive has an 18-month contract with EAPI, but said he decided to run because of the encouragement he received from other participants and because of a strong desire to serve the Center.

"I feel very fortunate to be here," he said. "A lot of things had to fall in place in order for me to come to Hawaii, and I wanted to be able to give something back."

Olive ran on what he termed a "unity" platform, saying that participant

concerns had to be addressed collectively rather than by individuals. He also promised to improve communication between participants and the administration.

Others elected to the EWCPA board were Beng Soo Yeap of Malaysia (vicepresident), Jayanthi Thasarathapany of Malaysia (secretary), Michael Carl of the United States (treasurer), Changzoo Song of Korea (East Asia representative), Kora Korawali of Papua New Guinea (Oceania representative), Dilip Das of India (South Asia representative), Wiladlak Chuawanlee (Southeast Asia representative), and Dina Pinos (United States representative), Lew Meteliz (Environment and Policy Institute representative), Saba Khattak of Pakistan (Resource Systems Institute representative), John Howe of New Zealand (Institute of Culture and Communication representative), Joan Butler of the United States (Population Institute representative), Patrick Tellei of Palau (Open Grants representative) and Akemi Zdanovich of the United States (spouses representative)



Farial Sabrina of Bangladesh, a biochemistry degree student in Open Grants, tallies up the votes in the EWCPA election.

'Best and brightest' honored at Center's Makana awards Exemplary staff members who have sues written by Center participants. She Vasanthi Ranganathan, a degree student



Debbie Matsumoto

Exemplary staff members who have made significant professional contributions to the Center and served as a source of inspiration to their fellow workers were honored in October at the annual Makana Awards.

In a half-hour ceremony at Imin Center-Jefferson Hall, Center President Victor Hao Li announced and congratulated the winners, who were showered with leis by friends and fellow workers.

Receiving awards for outstanding leadership in participant initiated activities and/or outstanding contributions to recognized participant organizations were Teresita Herrera and Manumaua (Fata) Simanu-Klutz.

Herrera, a degree student in the Institute of Culture and Communication, was largely responsible for the birth of *Horizons*, the journal of Asia-Pacific issues written by Center participants. She was also chairperson of the EWC Philippines Participants Association, publicity coordinator for the International Fair, secretary for the participant computer co-op and a member of the the East West Center Participants Association (EWCPA) social committee.

Simanu-Klutz, a degree student in Open Grants, was recognized for being an effective leader in numerous activities sponsored by the EWCPA, the Pan-Pacific Participants Association, the Pan-Pacific Association and the Samoan Participants Association. She was active in the International Fair, the EWCPA social committee, Centergames and coordinated a tutorial program at the Kamehameha IV housing project.

The award for distinguished contributions to the community at large went to Vasanthi Ranganathan, a degree student in Open Grants, for her promotion of the culture, tradition and values of India. She was an active speaker at public schools, assisted in cultural shows at the Ala Moana Center, and was a presenter at numerous area focus and core seminar discussions.

Gertrude Chun, a degree participant in Open Grants, won the award for distinguished service for outstanding contributions to the Center and its mission. Chun was chairperson for the 1988 International Fair, a student facilitator for the Consortium for Teaching Asia and the Pacific in the Schools, a member of the University of Hawaii Task Force for Samoan and Pacific island students, a volunteer speaker at rotary clubs and the Professional Businesswoman's Association, and chair of the Cultural and Non-Formal Education Committee.

This year's honor award, which is given to non-staff persons who have made a significant contribution to fostering better relations among people of different cultures, went to Alice Mathias, who dispenses lunch with a smile and encouraging word everyday at John A. Burns Hall.

Receiving outstanding achievement awards were the following individuals: Dorothy Izumi, secretary, Resource Systems Institute; Debbie Matsumoto, secretary, Public Affairs; Lillian Shimoda, secretary, Resource Systems Institute; and Norma Uejo, secretary, Population Institute.

Receiving special achievement awards were: Forrest Hooper, secretary, Pacific Islands Development Program; Helen Kumagai, account clerk, disbursing section of Finance and Administration; Anne Li, editor, Population Institute; Jennie Miyasaki, secretary to the director of the Resource Systems Institute; and Nathan Nakata, offset press supervisor in the print shop.

Length-of-service awards went to Sumiye Konoshima, Fannie Lee Kai, Rose Nakamura and Fusae Uyemura, who have been at the Center for 25 years; Wally Fujikawa, Walter Quensell and Greg Trifonovitch, who have 20 years of service; and ten-year veterans Joyce Gruhn, Linda Hamada, Meheroo Jussawalla, Karen Lam, June Sato, Lillian Shimoda, Toufiq Siddiqi, Kirk Smith, Mark Valencia and Geoffrey White.



From left, Manumaua (Fata) Simanu-Klutz, Teresita Herrera, Center President Victor Hao Li, Vasanthi Ranganathan and Gertrude Chun.

by Grady Timmons

t-was in August of 1942 at Guadalcanal and Nggela that the Allied forces turned the tide in the Pacific war against Japan. Although scores of books have been written about those battles and what happened in their aftermath, the voices of the Solomon Islands people have been largely left out of those accounts.

A new book, *The Big Death: Solomon Islanders Remember World War II*, takes a big step toward rectifying that oversight. Compiled by a team of researchers headed by the East-West Center's Geoffrey White, the book examines, through oral histories, the roles that Solomon Islanders played in the war and the effects of the war on their history and culture.

The book succeeds on several levels. On one level, it is first-rate storytelling that stands as testimony to a rich oral tradition in the Solomon Islands. Among the narrators are William Bennett, a Solomon Islander of European and local parentage who was second-incommand for a small scouting and guerilla force that accounted for many Japanese killed and captured without incurring any casualties; James Sao and Henry Vasula who, under cover of night, helped rescue a pair of American dive-bombers (one of whom was badly wounded), passing them via canoes from village to village down a 100-mile stretch of coast; and George Maelalo who, after volunteering for what was surely a suicide mission, walked all night through the jungle, and in the early light of morning blew up a heavily guarded Japanese radar position. Maelalo not only escaped unharmed, he returned with an enemy magazine clip, which he garnered by releasing the pin from the rifle of a sleeping Japanese soldier.

Because the book is told from the perspective of the Solomon Islanders, it recounts the important roles they played in combat, intelligence gathering, coast watching and rescue operations. Indeed, one comes away appreciating not only their heroism and leadership but also their incredible savvy.

William Bennett, for example, recounts a story about a band of six Japanese soldiers which had thrice eluded the Americans. Bennett got permission to have a go at the Japanese with the promise from an American general that if he were successful he would receive a case of cigarettes.

Bennett took his twelve men and, walking through the night, arrived at his destination early the next morning. "I sniffed the air and I could smell them because their body odor was very distinct in the jungle..." he recalls. "I went on ahead to a valley. I walked slowly and quietly and directly ahead of me were the six soldiers. They were packing their belongings and were about to leave. So I signaled my boys and they came....We shot them all. We buried them properly, took their guns, their radios, and documents. And then we returned to our camp....Then right away the box of cigarettes arrived." *The Big Death* seldom fails to be in-

The Big Death seldom fails to be interesting, but it is more than a collection of marvelous war stories. The war changed the Solomon Islands and its people. George Maelalo admits that when he first joined the Solomon Islands Defence Force as a youth of 18 he did not even know what a soldier was. After the war, Maelalo had a difficult time adjusting to village life and left the Solomon Islands for 18 years, traveling the world as a seaman.

But the war also had its positive aspects. At its start, Solomon Islanders were under the colonial rule of the British, who, according to some Islanders,



exploited them and treated them as inferiors. There were poor pay, poor working conditions, a host of legal injustices and a general refusal by the "bosses" to eat or socialize with the Solomon Islanders.

When American black soldiers arrived during the war, the islanders were taken back. As one of the narrators, Jonathan Fifi'i, says, "We saw black soldiers and they all wore white shirts, and they wore trousers. And their job was to work just like the white soldiers. We drank out of the same glasses. They gave us bread and we could just eat with them. Things like this, we saw them and we said, 'These white people here do things with black people!.... These people here are really nice to us. We can all sit on one bed, and we all eat together.'" With the encouragement of the Americans, the Solomon Islanders eventually fought against domination by the British in the years after the war. As Fifi'i says, the Americans "told us, 'If you do it, they will lock you up in jail, they will tie you up, they will shoot you. But you can't be afraid....You must stand up and look them in the eye, be strong and big, and break the ties holding you to the whites. That's what we are telling you.' And we were not afraid. And we did it."

The authors admit that some readers will disagree with certain historical interpretations. They also admit that the distortions of oral historical accounts are well known. At the same time, they note, "their historical value should not be underestimated. They provide a needed corrective to the Euro-centric orientation of written accounts." They also give a better understanding of contemporary attitudes in the Pacific island region.

In keeping with that spirit, *The Big Death* is told twice—first in Solomon Pijin and then in English. The authors say that even though Solomon Pijin is the *lingua franca* of the Solomon Islands, there is still very little pijin literature. "It is hoped," they write, "that publishing a set of war texts will contribute to the growth of such a literature and to efforts at standardizing a Pijin orthography."

The Big Death is available through the East-West Center Distribution Office, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848. Cost: \$8.00 (includes surface postage). Make checks payable to the East-West Center.

*In Solomon pijin, the title The Big Death: Solomon Islanders Remember World War II *reads* Bikfala Faet: Olketa Solomon Aelanda Rimembarem Wol Wo Tu.



At left, the Maria Benitez Spanish Dance Company kicked off a four month national tour with two Honolulu performances. At right, the nationally acclaimed Amherst Saxophone Quartet, which delighted Honolulu audiences with classical, jazz and contemporary pieces. The free performances were sponsored by the Center's Performing Arts Series.



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On behalf of the participants of Taiwan, Paul Tso (right) of the Coordination Council for North American Affairs presents Center President Victor Hao Li with a check for \$100,000. Since 1976, the Council has given more than \$600,000 to support Center programs.

EWCalendar

Calendar listings reflect events scheduled as of mid-November and represent only a portion of programmed Center activities. Since events are subject to change, please consult the East-West Center sponsor for details.

August 15-May 15. Chinese Journalist Trainee Seminar. EWC. An overview of American media and society and news issues in the EWC region. Sponsored by ICC and the University of Hawaii Journalism Program. EWC coordinator: Paul Clark.

October 24-December 2. Vietnam: Cinema and the Arts. Burns Exhibition Hall. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Exhibition of hand-painted posters of current Vietnamese films; lacquer-medium vases, boxes and paintings; folktale prints and multi-media paintings. Presented in conjunction with Vietnam films at the 1988 Hawaii International Film Festival. Sponsored by ICC. EWC coordinator: Benji Bennington.

November 12. Chinese in Hawaii: Tracing Family Histories. Burns Hall Auditorium. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Waverly B. Lowell, director of the National Archives-Pacific Sierra Region, and other speakers will give a presentation on the resources available for tracing family histories of Chinese immigrants to Hawaii. The program will include slides, handouts and anecdotes of the discoveries of family sleuths. Sponsored by East-West Center, the National Archives-Pacific Sierra Region, Bishop Museum, the Hawaii State Archives and the Governor's Commission Commemorating the Chinese Bicentennial. EWC coordinator: Elisa W. Johnston.

November 19–21. The Soviet Union in the Asia-Pacific Region. Honolulu. Participants in a planning meeting for the next phase of the project will present papers on the topic ''The Soviet Union and Southeast Asia'' in an East-West Center organized panel at the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. Sponsored by RSI. EWC coordinators: Charles Morrison and Pushpa Thambipillai.

November 21-January 31. A Moment in Time. Fourth floor of John A. Burns Hall. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. A set of National Palace Museum replicas of ceramics from the Sung, Yuan, Ming and Ch'ing Dynasties. Also color photographs of the East-West Center's Japanese Garden by Forrest Hooper. Sponsored by ICC. EWC coordinator: Benji Bennington.

November 27–December 3. Eighth Hawaii International Film Festival. Hawaii. Significant feature films and documentaries from Asia, the Pacific and the United States related to the theme 'When Strangers Meet' are screened and discussed. Sponsored by EWC, government organizations, businesses and individuals. EWC coordinator: Jeannette Paulson.

November 27-December 3. Rural Transformation. Chiang Mai, Thailand. Joint seminar of the Asian Productivity Organization (APO) and the Resource Systems Institute to review the primary characteristics and consequences of Asia's rural transformation, assess the implications of transformation processes for work employment opportunities in rural areas, and evaluate education strategies that can improve the abilities of rural households to participate in the process of national development. Sponsored by RSI and APO. EWC coordinators: Michael Manson and Bruce Koppel.

November 28-December 2. Symposium on Family and Cinema: East and West. Hawaii. Film experts from Asia, the Pacific and the United States discuss the topic "Families and Cinema: East and West" from Eastern and Western perspectives. Sponsored by ICC. EWC coordinator: Wimal Dissanayake.

ContractsGrantsGifts

Contracts and grants received by the East-West Center from August through October were:

• \$4,188,934 from the Agency for International Development for the Demographic Data Initiatives project. Principal investigator: Lee-Jay Cho, Population Institute.

• \$200,000 from the Agency for International Development for the ASEAN-U.S. Initiative project. Principal investigator: Seiji Naya, Resource Systems Institute.

• \$5,579 from Resources Management International for the Citanduy Geographic Information System: Phase II. Principal investigator: Jefferson Fox, Environment and Policy Institute.

Donations from national governments included:

• \$100,000 from the Coordination Council for North American Affairs

Gifts to the East-West Center Foundation included:

• \$25,000 from Castle & Cooke, Inc. for the Consortium for Teaching Asia and the Pacific in the Schools project (CTAPS)

• \$5,000 from First Hawaiian Bank for the Governor's Congress on Hawaii's International Role

• \$5,000 from GTE Hawaiian Tel for the Governor's Congress on Hawaii's International Role

• \$5,000 from Hawaiian Electric Company for the Governor's Congress on Hawaii's International Role

• \$1,000 from Hilton Hawaiian Village for the Governor's Congress on Hawaii's International Role

• \$5,000 from Oceanic Properties Inc. for the Governor's Congress on Hawaii's International Role

• \$1,000 from Theo H. Davies & Co., Ltd. for the Governor's Congress on Hawaii's International Role

December 7, 8 and 9. Baroque Ensemble Strings. 8 p.m. Keoni Auditorium, Imin Center-Jefferson Hall. Concert by harpsichordist Eiji Hashimoto, joined by a 14-piece string ensemble from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music. Featuring classical and baroque composers (Handel, Haydn, Geminiani and C. P. E. Bach) as well as Japanese (Arima and Taki). For ticket price and information, call 955-8821. Sponsored by EWC Performing Arts Series and Hawaii Public Radio. EWC coordinator: William Feltz.

December 7-January 20. Blanket Series: Alonzo Davis. Burns Exhibition Hall. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Woven and painted strips of canvas and paper reflect the artist's fascination with handwoven textiles, quilts, carpets, scrolls and buffalo hides and the native-American concept of the blanket as ''spirit catcher.'' Davis is the East-West Center's artist-in-residence through January 1989. Sponsored by ICC. EWC coordinator: Benji Bennington.

December 12–16. Botanical Pest Control. Los Banos, Philippines. *The conference will review results of multi-disciplinary studies conducted by institutions in Bangladesh, China, India and the Philippines and define possible follow-up.* Sponsored by RSI, Asian Development Bank and International Rice Research Institute. EWC coordinator: Saleem Ahmed.

January 2–13. Asian Family Surveys. EWC. Participants from Thailand, Korea and the U.S. will finalize questionnaires based on focus group sessions and informal interviews conducted in Thailand and Korea in October–November 1988. Sponsored by PI. EWC coordinator: Linda G. Martin.

January 9–13. Improving Urban Management Policies. EWC. The workshop will review the state of the art of urban management policies and programs in developing countries; provide a forum for discussion of the related research activities of international organizations and research institutions; and identify policy-relevant research needs and priorities and related methodological issues. Sponsored by PI and the United Nations University. EWC coordinator: G. Shabbir Cheema.

January 15–20. Offshore Hydrocarbon Regulation and Management and Prospects for Joint Development in Southeast and East Asia. Bali, Indonesia. Fourth in a series of workshops which will examine the geologic, economic and legal aspects of offshore hydrocarbon regulation and management and prospects for joint development in Southeast and East Asia. Sponsored by RSI. EWC coordinator: Mark J. Valencia.

January 18–20. Pacific Basin News Developments Seminar. EWC. Asian newspaper editors and East-West Center resource persons brief American editors on major developments in the Asia-Pacific region. Sponsored by ICC. EWC coordinator: Richard Leonard.

January 23–27. International Conference on China's Urbanization. EWC. A report on research findings and discussion of their policy implications. Reports also on urban growth and development in other Asian countries, especially on those aspects that may be relevant to China. Sponsored by PI. EWC coordinator: G. Shabbir Cheema.

January 25-March 24. China: Land of Change. Burns Exhibition Hall. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Storyboards illustrate the findings of a Center research project concerned with cultural and social changes taking place in the People's Republic of China. The storyboards and the accompanying brochure will note changes in family life, education, entrepreneurship, communication and other topics. Sponsored by ICC. EWC coordinator: Benji Bennington.

EAPI-Environment and Policy Institute; ICC-Institute of Culture and Communication; PIDP-Pacific Islands Development Program; PI-Population Institute; RSI-Resource Systems Institute; SAOG-Student Affairs and Open Grants.