

"Seeking Common Ground While Respecting Differences"

CommitteeBridges



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March 2001

Committee of 100

2001 CONFERENCE INVITES BUSH ADMINISTRATION TO ADDRESS COMMITTEE OF 100 CONCERNS

IN WASHINGTON, A FOCUS ON U.S. - CHINA POLICY

Members of President George W. Bush's new cabinet as well as key White House officials have been invited to speak to the Committee of 100 conference, April 26-28, 2001. Conference participants will hear directly from a new administration that already has made history by tapping two Asian Americans for the Cabinet. Already confirmed for Thursday's Gala Dinner is the first Chinese American cabinet member, Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao.



Elaine Chao, Secretary of Labor

The 10th annual conference of the Committee of 100 will be held in Washington, D.C. at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, 1000 H St., NW, with the Gala Banquet at the Mayflower Hotel on Thursday night.

FRIDAY'S THEME IS "CURRENT U.S.-CHINA OUTLOOK"

President Bush seeks a more consistent U.S. stance towards China, marked by greater attention to the needs of Taiwan and by insistence on pursuing national missile defense. How these issues will affect U.S.-China and China-Taiwan relations will be discussed at the conference on Friday, April 27. A panel of C-100 members

are preparing a set of recommendations for the Bush Administration, which will be previewed on Friday morning. Among Friday's speakers are veteran China experts Gerrit Gong (Center for Strategic and International Studies); Robert A. Kapp (U.S.-China Business Council); Harry Harding (George Washington University); and David M. Lampton (Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies).

A sterling panel of past American Ambassadors to China will provide the most authoritative diplomatic perspective on what President Bush might face in his dealings with China and Taiwan. Also speaking is one of China's top America experts, Wang Jisi, the head of American studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing. He may be able to project how Bush's China policy will play in Beijing.

ASIAN AMERICAN ISSUES AND ACTIVISM SHARE CONFERENCE AGENDA

Of special interest on the domestic front, C-100 will present the findings of its survey of American attitudes

toward Asian and Chinese Americans [see stories, page 2 and 3]. A panel on Thursday, April 26 co-sponsored with the Anti-Defamation League will explore how to use the results of public opinion surveys to educate the public as well as opinion-shapers and policy-makers, in areas where stereotyping or prejudice exists.

On Saturday, the theme is "Taking Charge: The Obligations of Public and Private Leadership." Entrepreneurs, government officials, and leaders of non-profit groups will discuss what Asian Americans can do for the greater good. A tentative agenda follows on page 4 and 5.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The conference is open to the public. Those who wish to attend may choose from a range of packages, from the full conference (including Gala Dinner and other meals) to one day of panel presentations only. Students will receive deeply discounted registration rates.

To register, call conference coordinator Maria Covell at (301) 564-6200 or email her at capcityevents@msn.com. The Committee of 100's Web site, www.committee100.org, has the most current conference information.





Committee of 100

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Our mission

- To promote the full participation of Chinese Americans in all fields of American life
- To encourage constructive relations between the peoples of the United States and Greater China

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Dear Committee of 100 Friends:

The Committee 100 is once again demonstrating leadership by launching an initiative to research American attitudes towards Chinese and Asian Americans. This study, conducted with two prominent research firms, Marttila Communications and Yankelovich Partners, and in cooperation with the ADL (Anti-Defamation League), will be the first study of its kind. The key objectives of this study are:



- Through focus groups, interviews and a national poll, determine American attitudes and the extent and nature of prejudices and discrimination against Chinese and Asian Americans.
- Create benchmarks and an index by which on-going monitoring and future assessment can be conducted to determine patterns and trends in such attitudes.
- Compare these results relative to other studies such as those conducted by the ADL.
- Provide widespread distribution and awareness of the findings through leverage of the American, Chinese, Asian and global press as well as other means such as seminars, regional meetings, etc.
- Serve as a major source of input for the development of strategies to combat discrimination and prejudice against Chinese and Asian Americans.
- Help the Committee of 100 establish its own priorities, strategies and programs.

This is a major and serious study. We will be presenting the key findings in a press conference at the National Press Club and conducting workshops and discussions at the Annual Meeting.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Chin
Board Member, Committee of 100

C-100
PRESS CLIPS

Commentary Magazine, Sept. 25, 2000
"In Asian America"

'You can be the top technician, but you'll still never get to be president or even vice president.' Henry Tang reeled off a barrage of statistics: of the 7,000 seats on the boards of the Fortune 500 companies, fewer than 50 (less than 1 percent) are held by Asian Americans. No top New York City hospitals have Asians on their boards (despite the disproportionate number of Asian doctors who staff them), nor do many major universities (despite the influx of Asian students).

-Tamar Jacoby

COMMITTEE OF 100 COMMISSIONS 21ST CENTURY NATIONAL OPINION POLL

AMERICAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS CHINESE AND ASIAN AMERICANS

By Jane Leung Larson

The Committee of 100 has commissioned the first nationwide, in-depth survey of public opinion towards Chinese and Asian Americans. Intensive focus groups combined with an extensive phone survey are being conducted this winter by two highly respected public opinion firms, Yankelovich Partners and Marttila Communications Group. Among the questions the survey hopes to answer are:

-  What are Americans' views and stereotypes of Chinese and Asian Americans?
-  What is the nature and degree of discrimination expressed against Chinese and Asian Americans?
-  How does this compare to other ethnic groups?
-  How do such events as the Wen Ho Lee case and campaign finance scandals alter attitudes towards Chinese Americans?
-  How much connection is there between opinions about China and attitudes about Chinese and Asian Americans?
-  Do Americans consider China a serious threat to the U.S.?
-  How do Chinese Americans themselves assess their status and the degree of discrimination they suffer vis-à-vis other Americans?

The survey was proposed in response to urgent concerns expressed by Asian American leaders about such issues as ethnic profiling and employment glass ceilings. The Committee's efforts are being led by board member **Carolyn Chin**, who tells more about how C-100 will use the survey's findings on p. 2.

Findings will be presented at a news conference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. on April 25 and discussed in detail at C-100's national conference the following day.


FOCUS GROUPS FOR DEPTH

Marttila Communications Group of Boston has conducted a number of studies for the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) on discrimination and prejudice against Jews. Marttila has also examined American reaction to foreign

events by the general public, opinion leaders, and members of Congress and the government. C-100 has asked Marttila to run ten focus groups in Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York City. Each group is composed of a selected cross-section of Americans—highly-educated persons who follow foreign policy issues, Chinese Americans, Asian Americans, or a representative mix of Americans. This process helps formulate the questions for the national phone survey, while yielding important qualitative insights as to how people come to their beliefs and opinions. Finally, Marttila will also do personal interviews with key opinion leaders and opinion shapers to gain insight into their views on Chinese and Asian Americans as well as about China policy.

NATIONAL PHONE SURVEY

The prominent firm of Yankelovich Partners is well known for its Time/CNN polls and has explored the American social climate for the past 40 years. It will perform a telephone survey of a nationally representative sample of approximately 1,400 Americans (to include 400 Chinese Americans). This large number of respondents allows for analysis by region, gender, education, and other categories. The phone survey will measure how strongly Americans hold various positive and negative views and stereotypes of Chinese and Asian Americans. It will also attempt to ascertain discriminatory attitudes by asking how the respondents would feel about having a Chinese American as a boss or manager, for example. Perhaps even more revealing will be answers to questions about actual everyday interactions with Chinese and Asian Americans.

Finally, the survey will also attempt to measure perceptions about Chinese Americans as a part of American society—for example, do the respondents distinguish between Chinese Americans who are American-born and those who are immigrants? The Chinese American sample will be given a different set of questions focusing on their perceptions of discrimination and prejudice. 



COMMITTEE OF 100

WASHINGTON, D.C.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

11:00 am

Press Conference (open to public)

The Committee of 100 21st Century National Opinion Poll: American Attitudes towards Chinese and Asian Americans

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

GRAND HYATT HOTEL

10:00 am

Registration

12:00 pm

(Luncheon) Speaker: **Bill Moyers**, President, Public Affairs Television

2:00 - 4:00 pm

(FORUM I) THE PATH FORWARD: A RESPONSE TO THE COMMITTEE OF 100 NATIONAL OPINION POLL

Speakers: **Abraham Foxman**, National Director, Anti-Defamation League; **J.D.Hokoyama**, President and CEO, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics; **Frank Wu**, Associate Professor, Howard University Law School

6:00 pm

MAYFLOWER HOTEL

Gala Reception & Dinner

Grand Hostess: **Anna Chennault**

Speaker: **Elaine Chao**, U.S.Secretary of Labor

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

GRAND HYATT HOTEL THE CURRENT U.S.-CHINA OUTLOOK

8:00 - 9:00 am

(Breakfast) **Kenneth G. Lieberthal**, Former Assistant to the President & Senior Director for Asian Affairs,NSC

9:15 - 10:45 pm

(FORUM I) U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS: CHALLENGES & PROSPECTS

Moderator: **Gerrit Gong**, Freeman Chair & Director, Asia Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies

Speakers: **Wang Jisi**, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; **Harry Harding**, School of International Affairs,George Washington University; **David Lampton**, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University

10:45 - 11:00 am

Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:30 pm

(FORUM II) WTO AND BEYOND

Moderator: **Robert A.Kapp**, President, U.S.-China Business Council

Speakers: **Liu Guangxi**, Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade; **Malcolm Lee**, Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State; **Don Phillips**, Office of U.S.Trade Representative

12:30 - 2:00 pm

(Luncheon) Speaker: Senior Administration official (to be announced)

2:00 - 3:30 pm

(FORUM III) CHINA YESTERDAY AND TOMORROW: PERSPECTIVES OF U.S. AMBASSADORS

Moderator: **Andrea Koppel**, Correspondent,Cable News Network

Speakers: **Winston Lord** (1985-89) (invited); **James Lilley** (1989-91) (invited); **Stapleton Roy** (1991-95) (invited); **James Sasser** (1995-99)

TENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

APRIL 26 - 28, 2001

3:30 - 4:00 pm

Coffee Break

4:00 - 5:30 pm

(FORUM IV) U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS: PERSPECTIVES OF CHINESE AMERICAN SCHOLARS
Moderator: Ambassador [Julia Chang Bloch](#)
Speakers: [Cheng Li](#), Hamilton College; [Huang Yasheng](#), Harvard University; [Ming Zhang](#), Asia Research Institute; [Zhao Quansheng](#), American University

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

GRAND HYATT HOTEL TAKING CHARGE: THE OBLIGATIONS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LEADERSHIP

9:00 - 10:30 am

(FORUM I) MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH PUBLIC SERVICE

Moderator: [Robert Gee](#), former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Energy

Speakers: [Julia Chang Bloch](#), former U.S. Ambassador to Nepal; [Matt Fong](#), former Treasurer, State of California; [John Fugh](#), former Judge Advocate General, United States Army; [Ming Chen Hsu](#), former Commissioner, U.S. Federal Maritime Commission; [Bill Lann Lee](#), former U.S. Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights (invited)

10:30 - 10:45 am

Coffee Break

10:45 - 12:00 pm

(FORUM II) CREATING PROSPERITY THROUGH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Moderator: [Robert Lee](#), former Executive Vice President, Pacific Bell

Speakers: [Pehong Chen](#), BroadVision; [Andrew Cherng](#), Panda Management Company; [David Chu](#), Nautica International; [Jerry Yang](#), Yahoo (invited); [Walter Wang](#), J-M Manufacturing Company

12:00 - 2:00 pm

Luncheon

(program to be announced)

2:00 - 3:30 pm

(FORUM III) HOW WASHINGTON WORKS . . . WITH WINNING RESULTS

Moderator: [Henry Tang](#), Chairman, Committee of 100

Speakers: [Laura Efurd](#), former Deputy Assistant to President Clinton; [Clayton Fong](#), former Deputy Assistant to President G.H.W. Bush; [Karen Narasaki](#), Executive Director, National APA Legal Consortium; [Fred Pang](#), former Assistant Secretary of Defense; [Ben Wu](#), Counsel, House Science Committee

3:30 - 4:00 pm

Coffee Break

4:00 - 5:30 pm

(FORUM IV) SHAPING AN APA AGENDA WITH THE COUNTRY'S NEW ADMINISTRATION

Moderator: [Stewart Kwoh](#), President, Asian Pacific American Legal Center

Speakers: [John Tateishi](#), Japanese American Citizens League; [George Ong](#), Organization of Chinese Americans; [Charles Kim](#), Korean American Coalition; [Joe Montano](#), National Federation of Filipino American Organizations

AGENDA

C-100 IN ACTION

COMMITTEE REACHES OUT TO MEDIA ON EAST AND WEST COASTS


By Carol Edgar

The winter months saw a flurry of activity with the media beginning in December when **Henry Tang**, **Alice Young**, and **I.M. Pei** met with the editors of the *New York Times* to discuss perceptions of Chinese Americans and the media's role in shaping those perceptions. The spirit of the meeting was extremely cordial, and some vital information was shared with what many regard as the most powerful newspaper in the world.

In January, Tang and 2001 Conference Co-Chair **John Fugh** spent several days in meetings with West coast members and media. The highlight was a session titled "U.S. Media Perceptions of China and Chinese Americans," a cocktail reception in the San Francisco home of Carol and **Richard King**, with **Y.C. Yang**, Professor Ling-Chi Wang, and journalist Sam Chu Lin among those who attended. A lively dialogue followed with media representatives from the *San Jose Mercury News*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and KQED, the public radio station in the Bay Area. Also participating was Rene Astudillo, executive director of the Asian American Journalists Association, which is based in San Francisco. The discussion included remarks by pollster John Marttila, who had just conducted the first focus groups as part of the process of developing a survey of attitudes towards Chinese Americans (see articles, page 2 and 3).

Tang and Fugh also met editors and reporters of the *Orange County Register*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *San Jose Mercury News*.

"These West Coast meetings laid important groundwork for what's happening in the coming months," said Tang. "We were also mindful while on

the West Coast that our 2002 conference will take place in Northern California and touched some bases to prepare for that event." 

CHINESE YEAR OF THE SNAKE STAMP WELCOMED BY C-100 CHAIR

One of the first 34 cent commemorative  stamps printed by the U.S. Postal Service this year is the Year of the Snake stamp issued on January 24, Chinese New Year day. This is the ninth Chinese New Year stamp published, all designed by Chinese American Clarence Lee of Honolulu. **Henry Tang** spoke at New York's stamp dedication ceremony at the American Legion in Chinatown, along with other leaders of China-related organizations. He emphasized how important it was to familiarize Americans with Chinese culture, and the Chinese New Year stamps were a small but symbolic recognition of the contributions of Chinese Americans to our society. 

C-100 BIDS FAREWELL TO CHINESE AMBASSADOR LI ZHAOXING

Nearly 500 people representing 95 different Chinese American organizations gathered to send off the departing Chinese Ambassador to the U.S., Li Zhaoxing, on January 28 in Washington, D.C. **K.L. Wang** greeted the audience on behalf of the Committee and expressed C-100's appreciation of the Ambassador's efforts to promote better understanding and relations between China and the U.S. **Anna Chennault** was the host for the event and introduced the Ambassador. Also attending the banquet were C-100 members **Julia Chang Bloch**, **Robert Gee**, **John Young** and **Chi Wang**.



Ambassador Li is returning to Beijing after nearly three years at the U.S. Embassy. He will take on the post of Executive Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, making him the second most powerful person in the foreign ministry. As one of China's top America experts, he will continue to be influential in Sino-American policy. Li was pleased to report that he had recently been re-assured by the former President Bush as well as by current Bush Administration officials Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice that the new administration would maintain the established "one China" policy.

Replacing Li is Yang Jiechi, also a Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, and an old friend of the Bush family. Yang, who represents a new generation of diplomats, interpreted for George H.W. Bush during the time he was head of the Liaison Office in Beijing in the mid-1970s and later accompanied him on a trip to Tibet. 


TAIWAN'S TOP DIPLOMAT IN U.S. WELCOMED BY C-100

C-100 members hosted a welcome dinner on February 12 at the Georgetown Club for Representative C.J. Chen who now heads the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in Washington, D.C. A senior official whose last position was Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chen is Taiwan's chief delegate to the U.S. and is of the same rank as an ambassador. Representative Chen has long experience as a diplomat in the United States, beginning in 1971 when he was Third Secretary in the Republic of China Embassy and ending in 1989 when he was Deputy Representative of TECRO's predecessor, the Coordination Council for North American Affairs.



(continued on page 7)

C-100 IN ACTION (CONT.)

The C-100 dinner was attended by **Anna Chennault, Julia Bloch, Richard T. Cheng, John Fugh, Robert Gee, Fred Pang, K.L. Wang, John Young** and **Henry Tang**. 

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS HONORS SUPPORTERS AND DEFENDERS OF WEN HO LEE

By Charlie Sie & Janet Yang

Wen Ho Lee's legal team (led by Mark Holscher, Brian Sun and Nancy Hollander) and *Los Angeles Times* columnist Robert Scheer were given the Tzedek Award by the Los Angeles chapter of the American Jewish Congress on February 26. The 350 guests included about 20% Asian Americans, with Wen Ho Lee and his daughter Alberta among them. It was an emotional occasion because many of Lee's supporters had never met him or his defense team.


Janet Yang coordinated C-100's participation in the event with the support of **Joseph Ko** and **Herman Li**. **Charlie Sie**, Vice Chair of the



Charlie Sie

Committee, introduced attorney Brian Sun, whose firm worked with C-100 to persuade the Asian American community to address the issue of due process for Dr. Lee.

In his presentation, *New York Times* reporter James Sterngold argued that freedom of the press is a double-edged sword and warned against an over-zealous press. Sterngold singled out C-100 for acting early to shape a united voice that was first heard after a conference call set up by C-100 Chair **Henry Tang** with 16 Asian American organizations soon after Lee was incarcerated.

Among the attendees was Munson Kwok, Secretary of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, who in early March 1999 was the first person to alert C-100 to the conditions suffered by Asian American scientists in the national laboratories and called  for the Committee to take action.

NEW MEMBERS

Daniel K.H. Chao is Executive Vice President and Managing Director of Bechtel Enterprises and Senior Vice President of Bechtel Group, Inc. in San Francisco. Among his responsibilities are all of Bechtel's global finance and development activities that involve infrastructure industries, including transportation (ground and aviation), highways, tunnels, bridges, water, power, mining, and pipelines. China ranks high among Bechtel's interests, and Chao's projects have included the Hong Kong airport, a coal-fired power plant in Meizhou Wan (Fujian province), and a joint venture with CITIC to develop Da Xie Island near Shanghai. Chao came to Bechtel in 1986 from New York where he held the position of vice president at Chemical Bank and Citicorp Global Investment Bank.



While in New York, he served on the board of the Chinatown Planning Council and helped form an innovative development corporation to earn funds for the Council's non-profit activities. In California, Chao chairs Cal-Asia, an association of companies that promotes trade between California and Greater China and Southeast Asia through hosting trade delegations and educational programs for its members. He is also a member of the Aegis Garden Advisory Board, a senior assisted living center for Chinese Americans in the San Francisco Bay area.

Cyrus Tang is Chairman and CEO of Tang Industries, 176th in the list of Forbes Top Private Companies in 2000. A conglomerate of more than 20 divisions producing industrial steel, scrap metal and aluminum (National Materials LP), wood and steel office furniture (GF brand), and pharmaceuticals (Curatek Pharmaceuticals), Tang Industries is headquartered in Las Vegas. Tang moved to the United States from Wujiang, Jiangsu province, in 1950 and founded his first company in Chicago in 1960. Today, Tang Industries has over 50 locations in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and China.

Philanthropy is Tang's new focus, with two foundations under his wing. The Cyrus Tang Foundation makes grants of \$2 to \$4 million a year for educational, medical and community projects in the U.S. and China. Every year about 1,000 students receive Foundation scholarships in China to attend eleven top universities, with community service evaluated along with grades in the criteria for support. In China, the foundation has built 180 primary schools and gives incentive awards to excellent teachers to encourage them to stay in their profession. In the U.S., the foundation grants college scholarships and has supported Asian American voter education and research in Southern California. The Tang Foundation for Research of Traditional Chinese Medicine supports two research centers in Beijing and at the University of Chicago to scientifically investigate the efficacy of Chinese herbs. 

MEMBER NEWS

As the first Asian to be appointed to the Foundation Board of the World Economic Forum and co-chair of the Davos Annual Meeting in 1998, **Ronnie Chan** continued to play a strong role representing Asian business interests at the January 2001 annual conference of business and government leaders. Chan, Chairman of Hang Lung Development Company Limited in Hong Kong, spoke at two plenary sessions: "Ten Suggestions to the New U.S. Administration" and "The Impact of Globalization on Asia." Chan's was the sole business voice on the latter panel which included Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore. Chan sits on the committee that organizes the Davos program and last year suggested a session on "What is Chineseness?" which attracted much interest this year.



Many of **Anna Chennault's** activities revolve around her Council for International Cooperation, which supports educational and cultural projects, with many in China. Last September, 250 exemplary teachers from remote areas of China made the journey to Beijing to receive Anna Chennault Educational Awards in the Great Hall of the People. The Anna Chennault Millennium School Project is an international effort to raise funds to build 1,000 school buildings in poor rural areas over the next few years, with the first school now being constructed in Benxi, Liaoning Province. Back in the U.S. Chennault attended her eighth Inauguration this January, having long been involved in Republican politics, with an early leadership position as national chair of Women for Nixon in 1967-68.

Leeann Chin of Leeann Chin Chinese Cuisine in Bloomington,



Minnesota, has joined her daughter, Katie Chin, in writing a new cookbook, *Everyday Chinese Cooking*, published this fall by Random House imprint Clarkson Potter. She shares 150 recipes she developed in her successful buffet and carry-out food business which has 50 locations in the Twin Cities. Chin will be traveling to China this March to film "My Country, My Kitchen" for the Food Network. Chin grew up in Canton where her father was a grocer and immigrated to Minneapolis in 1956, where she raised five children and opened her first restaurant in 1980.



Watching the Tree: A Chinese Daughter Reflects on Happiness, Tradition, and Spiritual Wisdom by **Adeline Yen Mah** has been released this January by the Random House imprint Broadway Books. This is Mah's third book, following her international best-seller, *Falling Leaves: The True Story of an Unwanted Chinese Daughter*, and a children's book, *Cinderella*. Her new book is meant to give readers "an intimate glimpse into a Chinese mind," and links her experiences growing up with her personal philosophy. She wrote the book as an answer to letters from *Falling Leaves* readers who wanted to know how she endured her painful upbringing as an unwanted stepdaughter.



Janet Yang hosted a C-100 meeting at her home in Los Angeles this January, giving valuable input from Chinese American leaders to John Marttila, who is conducting focus

groups for the C-100 opinion survey. **Henry Tang** and **John Fugh** joined Los Angeles members **John Chiang, Stewart Kwoh, Dominic Ng, Lily Lee Chen, Don Liu, Charlie Sie, William Shaw,** and **Adeline Yen Mah** to discuss their perceptions of discrimination against Chinese Americans. While in Los Angeles, Tang dropped in on the shooting of Yang's new movie, "High Crimes," a thriller directed by Carl Franklin and starring Ashley Judd as a criminal lawyer who ends up defending her husband, played by Morgan Freeman. Yang is a producer for Manifest Film Company.



Alice Young presented the Justice in Action award to the Wen Ho Lee family and legal team at the annual dinner of the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund at Windows on the World in New York this February. In March, she moderated a panel on Asian Entrepreneurs as part of the Asia Business Conference at the University of California at Berkeley School of Business. This past fall, she spoke on "Opportunities in the Asia Law Practice" for the Harvard Asia Law Society; "Asian Values in the Business Community" at the Cundill Investment Conference in Hong Kong; and "Bricks to Clicks: Pitfalls of the Internet for Corporations," at the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association meeting in Washington, D.C.



Wen Ho Lee's own story will be told this fall, when a book written by Dr. Lee with **Helen Zia** is published by Hyperion Publishers. Zia is now in New Mexico researching the book. She had worked with the Lee family during his defense. ☐

Profile OF A MEMBER: DAVID D. HO

China will soon be the testing ground for an HIV vaccine that could save millions of lives in the next few years. Dr. David Ho and his colleagues at the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center (ADARC) in New York City are working with the Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine to slow down the explosive spread of AIDS in Yunnan and Xinjiang, China. He plans to test a combination vaccine that will first prime and then boost the immune system, with clinical trials to begin as early as this year.

A member of the Committee since 1990, Ho focuses much of his public profile on fighting injustices affecting Asian Americans.

Ho, a microbiologist, gained international fame when he became TIME Man of the Year in 1996, for his discovery that protease inhibitor drug “cocktails” could control the AIDS virus in many HIV-infected individuals. This combination drug therapy has slashed AIDS death rates in the U.S. and Europe seven- to eight-fold. Now Ho is focusing on the more difficult challenge of preventing the world’s most deadly infectious disease. Everyday, 16,000 persons are added to the toll of 50 million persons who have been infected with the HIV virus.

China now has over 650,000 HIV-infected persons, most of whom live in Yunnan, Xinjiang, Sichuan, and Guangxi and got the virus through intravenous use of heroin. At this rate, the Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine predicts 6 million Chinese infected with HIV by 2005. Chinese officials are cooperating with Ho because they see a vaccine as the best way to control this relatively new but rapidly growing epidemic. With a fairly effective medical infrastructure and an epidemic still in its early stage, Ho

believes that China may be the right country to develop an AIDS vaccine.

LIFE’S WORK FOCUSED ON UNDERSTANDING AIDS

The mystery of HIV/AIDS has driven Ho since his residency at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles from 1978 to 1982. It was then that he first treated young homosexual men suffering from rare opportunistic infections that only attacked persons with weakened immune systems. As the numbers of persons with such infections increased and began showing up in others, such as users of intravenous drugs, Ho suspected that a virus was spreading this alarming epidemic. In 1982, Ho began to work with AIDS virologist Martin Hirsch at the Infectious Diseases Unit of Massachusetts General Hospital. His career blossomed when he became the fourth scientist to isolate the AIDS virus, leading to many more discoveries about how HIV is transmitted and how it grows.

Irene Diamond tapped Ho as the Scientific Director and CEO of her new Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center in 1990. At that point, Ho was relatively unknown, and Diamond’s choice brought this defense, “I don’t want a star. I want a wonderful scientist.” ADARC’s achievements have not only included the development of the AIDS cocktail, but many other firsts, such as tracing the origin of the epidemic back to before the 1950s, through genetic sequencing of the oldest known HIV sample. ADARC today is a \$12 million operation with nearly 100 employees and is the world’s largest private AIDS research laboratory.

ADARC under Ho’s leadership is now exploring the possibility of using



President Clinton presents Dr. David Ho the Presidential Citizens Medal on January 8 at a White House ceremony honoring remarkable Americans.

Chinese herbs and extracts as the starting material for building new drugs. ADARC is likely to team up with a new company to apply the new technology of combinatorial chemistry to Chinese medicinal herbs. It will use the most sophisticated chemical analysis to randomly generate thousands of compounds, which would be tested for their effectiveness against AIDS and other diseases.

DRAWN TO ASIA

Ho finds himself “drawn to Asia” more and more, just as the leaders of Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Singapore are drawn to his combination of scientific accomplishment, managerial skills, and vision. Both Taiwan’s president Chen Shui-bian and Hong Kong’s Executive Tung Chee-hwa have appointed Ho as their advisor on the development of a biotechnology industry.

Born in Taichung, Taiwan of a Taiwanese mother and a father from the mainland, Ho says, “Nothing would make me happier than improving relations across the strait.” Ho believes the Committee of 100 could

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PROFILE OF A MEMBER

(continued from page 9)

play a role to help both sides see the importance of exchange and compromise.

SPEAKING OUT FOR ASIAN AMERICANS

Propelled into the public arena by his TIME Magazine cover, Ho has taken advantage of the media attention to support his favorite causes. A member of the Committee since 1990, Ho focuses much of his public profile on fighting injustices affecting Asian Americans. He was especially proud of C-100's early activism on the Wen Ho Lee case, a concrete example of how effective it could be in influencing public opinion. President Clinton appointed him as a member of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, which has given Asian Americans a public forum for airing civil rights and other concerns.

Ho has taken behind-the-scenes action too. When he met TIME's editor at a gathering in New York with Chinese President Jiang Zemin last September, he asked him why the magazine hadn't written more about the case or given an Asian American perspective. The result was a powerful editorial, "Profiles in Outrage," in the September 25 issue.

In tribute to his work as a scientist and his contributions to social justice, David Ho was awarded the Presidential Citizens Medal on January 8, 2001. He was one of 28 outstanding Americans honored for their humanitarian service as well as their professional achievements, including such luminaries as Muhammed Ali and former Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin.



Who's Who

IN THE C-100 OFFICE



An Ping is C-100's office manager who also does outreach to the Chinese language press in the U.S. and assists with C-100's Cultural Institute. She comes to the Committee with a background in media and international business. Before moving to New York City in 1999, An Ping was head of corporate communications for Airbus in Beijing.

Previously she was a journalist with the Chinese edition of Forbes Magazine in Hong Kong. She came to the U.S. to be with her husband, a professor of European politics at Amherst College.

An Ping's story is one of chance and persistence. She grew up in Beijing, attending high school during the Cultural Revolution when she was lucky enough to study French. Sent to the countryside after graduation, she kept her language skills alive by listening to French lessons on the radio. This helped her pass the college entrance examinations when they were reinstated in 1977, and she joined the first class to enter the Beijing Languages Institute after the Cultural Revolution. In 1985, An Ping left for Paris and studies at the Sorbonne, a job at the OECD in Paris, a stint in Japan teaching French, and finally to Hong Kong, Beijing, and New York City.



C-100 PRESS CLIPS

Times Magazine, Sept. 25, 2000
"Profiles In Outrage"

Matt Fong was the 1998 Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate and felt the sting during that fierce run for national office. He recalls several instances when a reporter asked him which side he would pick if he were a member of the U.S. Senate and China attacked the U.S. The questions were unjust. Fong is a fourth-generation Californian and served as state treasurer from 1995 to 1999. His mother was California's secretary of state from 1975 to 1994. 'There is a subtle stereotyping and racism below the surface,' says Fong. 'It caught Wen Ho Lee, and it caught me.'

Christopher Lee, former president of production at Columbia Pictures, remembers a comment an executive made to him, objecting to the film version of Amy Tan's *The Joy Luck Club*: 'There are no Americans in it.' Lee replied, 'There are Americans in it. They just don't look like you.'

'There is the perception that Asian Americans are easy to pick on because we don't have political clout and we don't speak out,' says AIDS researcher Dr. David Ho, TIME's 1996 Man of the Year. He and others plan to use a Sept. 18 White House-sponsored "Asian-American initiative" at New York University to rally support for Wen Ho Lee and Asian-American civil rights. Says Ho: 'We need our Jesse Jacksons and Al Sharptons to scream bloody murder when an injustice is carried out against our community.'

-Howard Chua-Eoan

The Committee of 100 Cultural Institute works in the U.S. and China to enhance mutual understanding and creative collaboration through art and culture

JEW IN CHINA IS TOPIC FOR C-100 LECTURE SERIES

The Committee of 100 Cultural Institute is joining with Jewish organizations to develop what may be a series of programs on the long and surprising history of Jewish settlers in China. The goal of the programs is to strengthen the dialogue between American Jews and Chinese Americans.



One famous "Shanghai Jew" is former U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal (2nd. from L.), in Hongkew, the area of Shanghai where Jews used to live.

The Anti-Defamation League in New York and C-100 Cultural Institute co-sponsored a luncheon on February 20 featuring noted Chinese scholar Professor Pan Guang of Shanghai. He spoke on "Jews in China: Legends, History and Perspectives." Pan is Director and Professor of the Institute of European and Asian Studies and Dean of the Center of Jewish Studies, both in Shanghai. In the audience were many American Jews who either were born in China or had family members who were part of the large Jewish communities in Shanghai during the late 19th and first half of the 20th century. Professor Pan promotes Chinese study of Judaism and Israel, but his research centers on the history of Jews in China, a rich yet little explored field.

Jews first arrived in China on the Silk Road from Persia as early as the 8th century. In the Song capital of Kaifeng, they built synagogues and

flourished, only to be almost completely assimilated into Chinese culture. Some Jews even aspired to be Chinese government officials, requiring them to pass the imperial examinations. All changed their surnames to Chinese, Levy becoming "Li", for example.

Then, beginning in the mid-19th century, Jews again began to pour into China, this time mainly into Shanghai, but also Harbin and Tianjin. The first group was composed of Sephardic Jews, including such figures as Victor Sassoon, who moved his business empire to Hong Kong and Shanghai from Bombay. In the early 1900s, Jewish migrants into China came from Russia, fleeing anti-Semitism and the Revolution, and in the late 1930s and early 1940s, they were escaping Nazi-occupied Europe. Shanghai became a haven for Jewish refugees, encouraged by official Chinese policy as well as by individuals like the Chinese consul general in Vienna, He Fengshan, who helped thousands of Jews go to Shanghai. By the beginning of the 1940s, there were 50,000 Jews living in China, 30,000 in Shanghai alone.



Blumenthal, shown here with the mayor of Hongkew.

How did this cross-cultural experience shape the people of Shanghai as well as the Shanghai Jews themselves? C-100's program may begin to answer this question.

CHINESE OPERA STAR'S AMERICAN DEBUT ASSISTED BY CULTURAL INSTITUTE

Considered by many to be the best baritone in China, C.Y. Liao (Liao Changyong) made his American opera debut at the Kennedy Center last November singing Count di Luna in "Il Trovatore" under the baton of Placido Domingo and the Washington Opera. In the audience were C-100 members **Shirley Young, Henry Tang, John Fugh, and Frederick Pang.**

Liao's performance was "the real coup of the evening" according to the *Washington Post*. "Committed and credible in his acting, Liao inhabited the role like a born Verdi singer, with a dark-hued baritone, vibrant high notes, idiomatic Italian and a command of the long line."

Recognizing Liao's talent, the Committee of 100 Cultural Institute has helped nurture Liao's career in the West. For the "Il Trovatore" role, the Cultural Institute negotiated the contract with the Washington Opera on Liao's behalf and organized a publicity campaign in the U.S. and China. Liao participated in last summer's master opera institute in Shanghai organized by C-100, Marcenas Foundation for Ancient Art, and Shanghai Conservatory of Music and taught by a coaching team led by Joan Dornemann of New York's Metropolitan Opera.

The Washington Opera has invited Liao back this fall to perform in *Tales of Hoffmann*. Liao debuts in Carnegie Hall this May in Donizetti's "Maria Stuarda" starring Ruth Ann Swenson. In China, Liao chairs the Vocal Department at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music.



ASIAN AMERICAN TICKET TO THE AMERICAN DREAM

AN EXCERPT FROM A TALK TO SEATTLE AREA ASIAN AMERICAN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, OCT. 28, 2000

By George Koo



Second class citizenship, with or without the moniker of model minority, just isn't going to cut it any more. Even if you can be satisfied with a permanent seat in the back of the bus, is it right to leave this legacy for future generations of Asian Americans? How can you be sure that your middle class, or even upper middle class, respectability won't be stripped away in a moment's notice when a scapegoat is needed? Or that you won't be shot dead by the police because they fear your martial arts capability even if you are drunk and can barely stand, as happened to a Chinese scientist in Santa Rosa, California? Or that you won't be clubbed to death because some Detroit workers thought you were Japanese, as happened to Vincent Chin?

There is only one way. That is to make sure you belong to the first class with full rights pertaining to the citizenship of the United States. If you have been living in the U.S. for any length of time, you would have heard the saying: "The squeaky wheel gets the grease." What it means is that you will have to act like a regular citizen before you can be treated like one. Register and vote. Speak up about issues in public forum and with letters to the editor. Show up in town hall meetings with your Congressional representative. Support political candidates. Run for office. Be a volunteer in the local community. Every day, look everybody in the eye with the bearing that says I belong here, this is my country too.

Thomas Jefferson said, "Eternal vigilance in the price of liberty." For Asian Americans, a variation should read: "Vigilant insistence of all rights due a citizen so that there will be no more Wen Ho Lees." 



Committee of 100

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PRESS CLIPS

Far Eastern Economic Review, Dec. 7, 2000
"Finding Their Voice"
America's Asian Community

[Asian American leaders] say their ascendancy could also help foster ties between their adopted homeland and Asia. 'If Asian Americans can work as a bridge to get the right information to both sides, hopefully there will be less misunderstanding and more free trade,' says Dominic Ng, the 41-year old CEO of East West Bank, who is a fast rising star in Los Angeles' business community.

[Referring to the U.S. government handling of the Wen Ho Lee case]:

In the end, the vacuum was filled by a public policy group of Chinese Americans, the Committee of 100, led by luminaries such as architect I.M. Pei and cellist Yo-Yo Ma. Through media interviews and letters to the Clinton administration, the grouping vigorously lobbied for fairness in the Lee case.

-Dan Biers and Murray Hiebert

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