

ASIAN CIRCLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASIAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION
Volume I Number 5

Stop the Selection Index!

On April 27th, over 500 Circle students came out to protest the passing of the Committee on Student Recruitment, Admissions and Retention (commonly referred to as the Selection Index). This new admissions policy threatens to eliminate many Asians, as well as other minority students. At the April 27th rally, many members of the ASO participated, and Nate gave this speech for the ASO at the rally:

The Asian Student Organization stands totally opposed to the Selection Index. We support the demands of the Coalition for the expansion of minority admissions to Circle. The Selection Index is an attack on Asian and other minorities--an attempt to annihilate minorities here at UIOC. If the Selection Index is implemented, one out of every four Asians will be denied admissions. The ACT tests are racist and culturally biased--for example, because for many Asians, English is their second language, and the tests are heavily weighed in English, we generally score much lower than other students. The ACT scores in no way reflect the academic potential of Asian students.

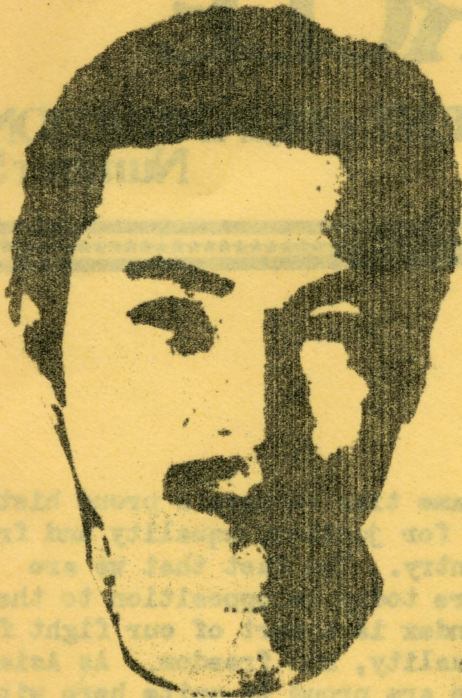
We see the Selection Index as a violation of the educational rights of Asian people and threatens the future of potential Asian doctors, lawyers, and scientists who can serve the interest of Asian people. What is happening here today with the Selection Index is nothing new to us. Since we first stepped foot in this country we have faced many forms of discrimination and oppression. From the Exclusion Acts of the 1880's, to the internment of 110,000 Japanese-Americans into concentration camps during WW II, to the brutal exploitation of Filipino farmworkers in the lettuce fields of California.

At the same time we have a proud history of struggle for justice, equality and freedom in this country. The fact that we are standing here today in opposition to the Selection Index is a part of our fight for justice, equality, and freedom. As Asian students, we are proud to unite here with our Black and Latino brothers and sisters and all other Circle students in opposing the Selection Index. United together we can smash the Selection Index. For Asian students, the word "Selection Index" should be glued into our heads, we've got to get organized and support the struggle.

The Asian Student Organization says:
Down with the Selection Index!
Makibaka, Hwag Matakot!
Dare to Struggle, have no fear!



FREE CHOL SOO LEE



As a result of his trial last March, Chol Soo Lee was convicted and is now facing the death sentence. On April 30th, a hearing of Chol Soo Lee's case was heard in Stockton, California, but the final sentencing was postponed until May 14th. To show that there are many supporters for Chol Soo Lee, rallies were set up all across the country. There were rallies in New York, Chicago, and in San Francisco, a picnic fund-raiser was held to raise money for Chol Soo Lee's defense.

But for Chol Soo Lee, it is very likely that he will get the death sentence. The only person that can override it is the judge himself. But he won't overrule the death penalty, that is almost for certain. If Chol Soo Lee does get the death penalty, there will be an appeal of the death sentence that must be heard within 150 days. We, as members of the ASO, are in every way hoping for and working in every way we can for the freedom of Chol Soo Lee for the crime he did not commit.

On Wednesday, May 23rd, the ASO and the Korean Circle will be sponsoring a Bake Sale with all the proceeds going to the defense of Chol Soo Lee. Come sample the various pastries and Asian delicacies and SUPPORT CHOL SOO LEE! "The Ballad of Chol Soo Lee" will be on sale for \$1.50. Petitions and more information on Chol Soo Lee's case will also be available.

Poetry Corner

IN DEFENSE OF CHOL SOO LEE: FOR THE
SAKE OF LIBERTY

Had this persecution but happened
By some different land
Fair and square judgement,
could've made a stand!

The 26 year old Chol Soo Lee
For the sake of Liberty must be free.
Unfortunate was the death of his
lawyer
With no defense under the court's
mockery
The man unjustly convicted might face
death penalty.

A sitting pigeon of this country's
judiciary
A case of primary concern to other
minorities.

The church tried its hand,
Even the students made their stand.

Petitions in numbers spelled out disgust,
(the persecuted Korean is innocent)
Not to be treated like dust,
Though the humble play of man
This game of mistakes,
When consequences are crucial
For Chol Soo Lee if his struggle is lost
Where dost equality, morality, and jus-
tice shineth?

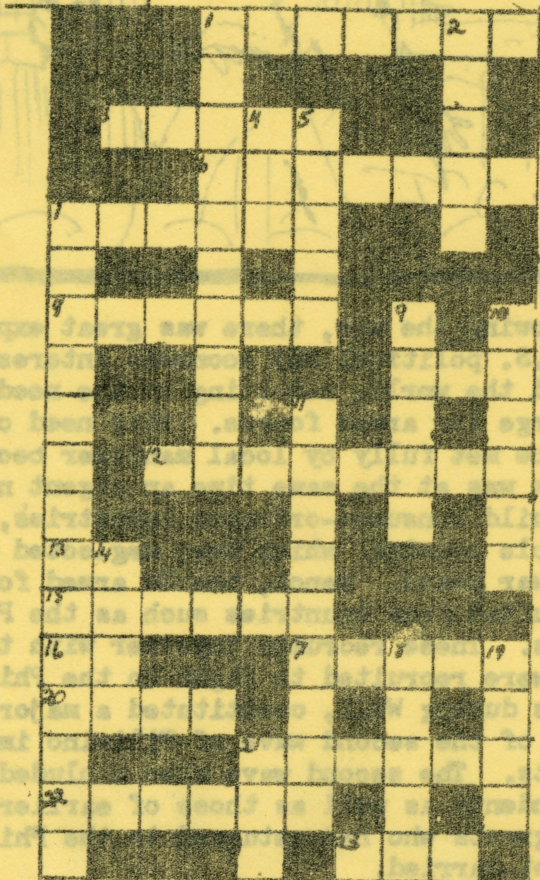
Another precedent is set.
From '78 Bakke Decision
To '79 Chol Soo Lee conviction.
O' Democracy! Where art thou?
No sooner had he realized
It was a crime to be a Korean.

"Yes; quaint and curious law is!
accuse a fellow and persecute
They'd ignore, if not Asian he is,
or consider possibilities."

Unfortunate misguidance.
In defense of Chol Soo Lee.

--Kate Defensor

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS:

- 1) A well-known singer, Barry _____
- 3) Not a god
- 6) A Japanese dish
- 7) A Japanese word for master or teacher
- 8) Opposite of much
- 11) A Chinese dish
- 13) _____ Simpson, a well-known football player
- 15) Scolded or argued
- 16) Not out
- 17) To go against
- 20) Clean and orderly
- 21) Used to view movies
- 22) A famous type of dish
- 23) Not even

DOWN:

- 1) A former Chinese leader
- 2) A form of TV program, soap _____
- 4) A common Chinese or Korean surname
- 5) What people do when they are in a good mood _____
- 9) Many people read this to believe in the word of God
- 10) A form of Japanese government
- 12) A Chinese dish that consists of vegetables and skin
- 14) A girl's name
- 18) One of the basis food groups
- 19) To connect between
- 21) A body of water, not a bay

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

Recipe

CUCUMBER AND SHRIMP SALAD

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1 cucumber | 2 t. sugar |
| 8 oz shrimp | 1/2 t. MSG |
| 1/2 c. vinegar | 1-inch piece of fresh ginger root (opt.) |
| 1 t. salt | |

Wash the cucumber and slice in julienne strips. Salt lightly and let stand in a colander for thirty minutes. Press out the excess liquid with a dry, clean cloth. Use either tinned or fresh shrimp; if fresh shrimp are used, cook by immersing in salted boiling water for one or two minutes. Cool and remove shells. Mix together the vinegar, salt, sugar and MSG and pour over the shrimp and cucumber strips. Let marinate in this liquid until time to serve and drain before serving. A garnish of finely-sliced ginger root may be added if desired.

"I FEEL LIKE A CRIMINAL RUNNING AWAY FROM A CRIME I DID NOT COMMIT...I CAME TO KNOW AFTERWARDS THAT IN MANY WAYS IT WAS A CRIME TO BE A FILIPINO IN CALIFORNIA."

--Carlos Bilosan
(A well-known
Filipino poet)

a historical look at filipino immigration



In Metropolitan Chicago which comprises a six-county area of Cook, Du Page, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will, a conservative estimate suggest that there are at the moment 80,000 Filipinos residing in the area. The Filipino have the highest rate of migration out of all the other minorities in the Chicago area during the past decade. One big factor that caused the Filipino migration to the United States is the general situation in the Philippines which motivates the Filipinos to leave their country. Under the oppressive rule of Martial Law, the country's economic, political, and social conditions is enough to make one seek out for something better rather than remain miserable. Another factor that is considered as a motivation for the migrating Filipinos is the manpower needs of the US. This is why most recent immigrants are usually professionals the reason being is that, also, immigrants leaving the country must be in the professional fields.

The first Filipinos in the early 1900's numbered at one estimate 200-300 in the Chicago area. Exactly when Filipinos first started emigrating to the United States is not known. Some believe that it dates back to nearly 299 years ago when Filipinos serving under the Spanish flag during the Galleon Trade between Spain and the Philippines via Acapulco, Mexico, settled in Louisiana. Harper's Weekly featured a Filipino settlement in 1883 in Saint Malo, Louisiana which had existed for about 50 years. The next recorded group of Filipinos to migrate were students who came during a span of three decades following the formal conclusion of the Philippines-American War in 1902. The second wave of large-scale immigration occurred after World War II.

Following the war, there was great expansion of U.S. political and economic interests around the world, resulting in the need to enlarge its armed forces. This need could not be met fully by local manpower because there was at the same time an urgent need to build consumer-oriented industries, for example housing, which were neglected during the war years. Hence, the US armed forces recruited from countries such as the Philippines. These recruits together with those who were recruited to fight in the Philippines during WWII, constituted a major portion of the second wave of Filipino immigrants. The second wave also included their dependents as well as those of earlier immigrants who had returned to the Philippines to get married.

The third major wave of Filipino came in the wake of the Immigration Act of 1965. Under this law, immigration is based either on the occupational needs of the United States or on immediate relationships to US citizens or permanent residents. This latest wave of immigrants is composed of, in large part college educated and skilled workers. It also includes Filipino immigrants who came not because of their training or skills, but to join their immediate families. The rate of migration to the US has burgeoned as a result of this immigration law. Whereas there were only 3130 Filipino immigrants entering the US in 1965, the number increased sharply to 31,203 five years later. Since 1970, an average of 30,000 Filipino immigrants have been entering the US annually.

The distribution of Filipinos in all 50 states is uneven with an estimated 71% located in the Pacific States of Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska and Hawaii.

In Chicago area, the heaviest concentrations are on the zip code areas 60640, 60651, 60612, 60614, 60622, 60613, 60657, 60625, 60632, and 60616 respectively with 80% living in the city proper. Oak Park, Northbrook, Skokie, Evanston, Bolingbrook, Broadview, Park Ridge, Oak Brook, Hinsdale and Hanover Park are the suburbs with the most number of Filipinos with the heavy concentrations on Cook and Du Page counties.

As the wicked cycle of history turns with the agony experienced by society's minorities, it is to no surprise that the Filipinos had also encountered prejudice and discrimination as immigrants in the US like previous minority groups had to face when adjusting to the new environment. Prejudice in terms of job opportunities and housing were problems the Filipinos in the Chicago area in the 1920's had to deal with. They could only work as busboys, dishwashers, houseboys, factory or railroad workers, elevator boys, Post Office mail sorters, barbers, or if they were fortunate, as cooks, regardless of their education. Faced with the hardship in finding housing, some of them settled in the neighborhood of Crane Junior College (vicinity of 1800 W. Madison), whereas other settled in the near North Side, between Wells and Dearborn Sts., and between Illinois St. and North Ave.

In Chicago the early Filipino residents were students, either pensionados (government-subsidized) or supported by their families, who studied primarily at the University of Chicago where as early as 1906 there was a community of Filipino students in the area. In later years, other students arrived, many of whom supported themselves by working at odd jobs. They attended Crane Junior College, Lewis Institute, De Paul University, or Central YMCA.

In succeeding decades, the Filipino population in Chicago area underwent changes in composition. In 1974, in terms of job categories, 46% were classified as professionals, 45% as skilled and white collar, 2% as managerial, and 6% as semi-skilled or unskilled. Under-employment in the form of downward job mobility between the home country and the US is evident among those in the professional and managerial categories. Many who came as professionals or with managerial experience are now working in a lower job category. Thus, some physicians find themselves

working as physical therapists, engineers working as draftsmen, or accountants working as clerks. In line with this observation is the noticeable increase in the percentage of Filipinos in the white collar worker category. Under-employment is evident also in terms of lowered earning power within the same job category. Limited opportunities for advancement is also another problem they face. As a result, dissatisfaction arises in terms of working conditions although a number of Filipinos in the area have attained financial success.

The Filipino population is definitely not one of a homogeneous type because of unsuitable differences that tend to divide the community into sectors. There are at the moment 90 Filipino organizations in Metropolitan Chicago yet more than half of the population do not belong to any of these organizations. There is currently an awakening to the need for unity if Filipinos are to make an impact on their living and working conditions. The more united we are the better for the advancement of the community so to serve common concerns and interests of the Filipinos. As history turns, conditions are bound to change where Filipinos everywhere will become more compelled to unite.

Unity is Strength!



ASO Held Successful Luncheon

Last April 19th, we held our second annual Spring luncheon. The event featured food and entertainment. The food included such palatable oriental dishes as sushi, tempura, pancit palabok, egg rolls, pork and chicken adobo, sweet and sour chicken, Chinese fried rice, and many more. Entertainment was a boost for the audience who had quite an appetite and at the same time enjoyed the whole affair. Laotian dancing with its smooth tempo and graceful movements created a relaxed mood among the crowd of 70. Martial arts demonstrations being part of the agenda was highlighted with karate kata performances and Arnis de Mano demonstration. Jerry Cervantes with the aid of Nate showed how effective Arnis could be with a series of single cane disarming and defensive techniques. Jerry will soon have a workshop on this Philippine martial art of stick-fighting right here at UICC this coming fall quarter. During the luncheon, announcements were made concerning the "Selection Index" and the Chol Soo Lee case. Petitions were passed out for the defense of Chol Soo Lee and many signatures were collected along with donations. Armbands were also passed out against the Selection Index because this event coincided with the Coalition to Stop the Selection Index's "Armband Day."

The Cultural Luncheon brought people together with good food, entertainment, and a few announcements. We would like to thank those restaurants who donated food and those people who came to make the luncheon a huge success. We hope to see all of you again next year.

The ASO would like to express our deepest gratitude to the restaurants who donated food for our event. We urge people to patronize the following restaurants:

FRIENDSHIP RESTAURANT
2825 N. Milwaukee

ORANGE GARDEN
1942 Irving Park

WOK INN
3450 W. Foster

KING'S
1109 W. Argyle

MATSUYA RESTAURANT
3469 N. Clark

LITTLE QUIAPO

4423 N. Clark

CHIAM RESTAURANT

2323 S. Wentworth

CHAN'S CAFE

513½ E. 47th

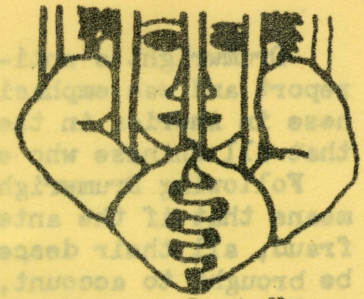


Asian Studies Classes

Again this coming Fall Quarter Asian Studies classes will be offered here at UICC. We urge all interested Asian students to take these classes.

ASST 115	Introduction to Japanese Literature	10:00	TuThF	205LH	Rohlich
ASST 171	History of China and Japan I	11:00	W TuTh	209AH 311AH	Alvarez
ASST 215	Art of China	9:00	MWF	319SH	Edman
ASST 220	Political System of China	11:00	MTuWTh	215BSB	Koh
ASST 234	Ethnography of Southeast Asia	3:00	TuWThF	367BSB	Warren
ASST 301	Topics in East Asian History Samurai and Peasants: Early Modern Japanese Social History	1:00-4:00	Tu	731SEO	Ooms
ASST 336	Problems in South Asian Ethnology	6:00-9:00	Tu	731SEO	Hockings

A "White Paper" on Chinese Immigration



On December 9, 1955, Everett F. Drumwright, American Consul General at Hong Kong, transmitted Foreign Service Dispatch No. 931 to the Department of State, Washington, D.C. The subject of the dispatch was captioned: "Report on Fraud at Hong Kong."

What this report consisted of was an 89 page document attempting to smear the reputations of all Chinese living in America and those wanting to emigrate to the United States from Hong Kong. The report was devoted to accusing all Chinese immigrants to the United States (past and present) of wholesale fraud and criminal conspiracy to evade immigration laws.

Released to the press two months after its dispatch, the report was received by the Chinese community in America in shocked amazement. One of the few Chinese who dared to criticize it openly (as Drumwright was given legal authority to oversee immigration in his Hong Kong district seemingly in any way he saw fit by the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act) was Mr. Dai-Ming Lee, a Chinese-American journalist for the newspaper The Chinese World. His booklet, Commentary on the Drumwright Report is the source of this article.

Mr. Lee's commentary was a careful review of Drumwright's report, its allegations, its anti-Chinese attitude, and the high-handed handling of Chinese immigration cases by Drumwright and his staff. Drumwright's report included a two-and-a-half page synopsis, which is briefly outline here:

"A criminal conspiracy to evade the laws of the United States has developed into so well organized a system at Hong Kong that:

1. Almost any Chinese with the proper resources may enter the United States even if ineligible under immigration laws.
2. Adequate security precautions can hardly be taken to exclude Chinese communist agents or criminal elements.
3. An Alien Chinese can purchase American citizenship for (US) \$3000. Terms: \$500 down, balance after arrival in the U.S.
4. Thousands of dollars in American pensions have been collected annually by persons not entitled to them.

...the American Consulate General at Hong Kong has done everything in its power to combat this system of fraud. During the last several years, a total of 84% of all passport cases fully investigated at Hong Kong were proven fraudulent on one ground or another."

Since 1882, America had tolerated the injustice of several Chinese Exclusion Acts. The last of these acts which were repealed in 1943, set an annual quota of only 105 Chinese immigrants allowed entry into the U.S. When these laws were in effect, women and children were excluded, and even the families of Chinese-American citizens could not be brought into the U.S. The distinctive quality of these laws and their severe restrictions was that they were reserved for the Asian people exclusively.

During the early 1950's, anti-communist hysteria and McCarthyism swept through America. The American Consulate in Hong Kong was given legal authority to conduct immigration procedures in practically any way they was fit, with no legal recourse for the victims of such abuses of power. Drumwright's consulate could successfully block the reunion of children with their fathers by using McCarthy-like tactics of false charges for non-existent crimes, third-degree interrogations of immigration applications and of their families, prolonged detainment without filing charges (if any,) using legally questionable methods such as blood tests and humiliating physical and x-ray examinations of Chinese in order to find "evidence" of fraud. These tactics were used only at Drumwright's consulate, and only on Chinese. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

Drumwright's anti-Chinese attitude was apparent from the beginning of his report and was emphasized by his attempt to cast the antecedents of the Chinese in America in the role criminals. Implicit in his report was the theme that all Chinese who entered the U.S. did so illegally.

Following Drumwright's illogical reasoning to its logical conclusion, it means that if the antecedents of all the Chinese in America were guilty of fraud, all their descendants were also guilty of fraud and should therefore be brought to account, charged with fraud and deported.

Few times before in modern history has an entire race been charged with "a criminal conspiracy." In that respect, the Drumwright report takes its place alongside Hitler's diatribes against the Jews.

Drumwright's actions ignored constitutional guarantees of the freedom of individuals. The powers conferred on Drumwright by the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act enabled him to oppress helpless people. Under the same powers, he proposed to dispose of all Chinese passport applications. To support his denial of their basic rights, he took refuge in the physical examinations of their bodies, their blood, their teeth and their bones. Any slight discrepancy was a ready-made pretext for exclusion and the charge of fraud.

Drumwright also used the reasoning that "communist spies and infiltrators were present in overseas Chinese populations." By his reasoning it would then be better to exclude all applicants from entry into the U.S. rather than admit one "communist subversive." Drumwright attempted to justify his abuse of discretionary power in the name of "national security."

In a final desperate gesture to bolster unfounded blanket charges against the Chinese, Drumwright dragged in the question of U.S. social security and veteran's benefits being paid to Hong Kong residents through the consulate. Drumwright charged that "thousands of dollars in American pensions have been collected by persons not entitled to them," using the presumption of fraud on all Chinese receiving U.S. Treasury checks through the American consulate in Hong Kong.

Even in the matter of Chinese students seeking visas to enter the United States for purposes of study, Drumwright again unleashed blanket charges of fraudulent intentions, taking a personal view that the United States is a "special heaven" that Chinese want to enter but not leave. Following this line of anti-Chinese reasoning, all applications for non-immigrant visas therefore must be denied.

"The obvious anti-Chinese bias in the report has succeeded in alienating many of America's friends in the Far East. The report, no matter how intended, has dealt a severe blow to American prestige in the Far East, and for this reason, if for no other, Mr. Drumwright should be removed from his post as Consul-General in Hong Kong. The anti-Chinese theme of the report is representative only of Mr. Drumwright's personal viewpoint. (Mr. Drumwright is an old China-hand and his long experience in China may account for his superiority complex which was common among many foreigners in China before World War II. The emergence of the United States as a leading world power seems to have increased his contempt for the Chinese.) It does not reflect American public opinion nor is it indicative of the policies of the United States government. Actually, it was a report to higher State Department authorities which Washington has seen fit to make public. The report is interesting although inaccurate in many respects. It does not represent the policy of the American government and the author of the report is solely responsible for its errors and omissions," wrote Mr. Lee. However, the Eisenhower administration, not known for championing civil rights or for being a great friend of the Chinese, did not heed protests of Drumwright's actions. Significant progress against racial discrimination in the United States did not take place until the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (while the Civil Rights Movement did start during the 1950's) and immigration quotas were finally abolished in 1968.

Midwest Asian Student United

On April 28, Asian students from throughout the Midwest, including members of the ASO at Circle, came together in Oberlin, Ohio. For many of us, it was one of the first times that we had the chance to meet Asian students from other campuses. It gave us the chance to build new friendships, share our experiences, and talk about the ways that Asian student groups on different campuses could help each other.

We met people from the Asian Alliance at Oberlin, the Asian American Association at Ohio State University and found out that there were also Asian student groups in Michigan and Wisconsin. There were also people at the conference from Michigan State University at Bowling Green and Kent State University who are interested in starting Asian student groups there. This really shows that Asian students in the Midwest are really on the move.

At the conference we talked of how we are trying to serve the cultural, social, and educational needs of Asian students through showing films, having cultural programs, sponsoring speakers, and having luncheons and dinners, as well as other social activities. People also spoke of the need to build Asian-American Studies classes, special admissions, and securing financial aid for Asians, particularly in the wake of the Bakke Decision. We exchanged newsletters, and were much encouraged by the favorable comments that other people made about our newsletter, the Asian Circle.

The conference was highlighted by a member of the Asian/Pacific Islander Student Union who came out all the way from San Francisco. She told us how they had built a whole network of Asian student groups, the Asian/Pacific Islander Student Union (APSU), that covers over 30 campuses in California, Oregon, Washington, Colorado, and Hawaii. We were all impressed by what APSU had been able to accomplish. It shows that the unity of Asian students is growing all over the country.

The trip to Oberlin was well worthwhile. We made friends, learned a lot about what is happening with Asian students throughout the Midwest and decided to exchange newsletters and increase the communications between Asian students on different campuses. We look forward to more opportunities to get together again to build the unity of the Asian student movement.



THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR HELPING TO PUT OUT THIS ISSURE OF THE ASIAN CIRCLE: Nate, Juliette, Mimi, Bill, Al, Al, Sue, Craig, Chuck, Gayle, and all the other people in the ASO.

