

EAST WEST REPORT

UNITED STATES PAN ASIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Fall 1997

On an Auspicious Journey, Strangers No More!



Senator Robert Dole greets fellow World War II veteran and Excellence 2000 Award recipient Rudy Tokiwa at the East Meets West Reception preceding the awards program on May 13, 1997. Also pictured are USPAACC President Allen and Excellence 2000 Award recipient Lilly V. Lee.

What would you say if told that the leading force behind today's research for an AIDS cure was an Asian American, or that the father of fiber-optics was also an Asian American? Asian Americans have long endured the stereotype of being scientifically inclined and reserved -- but "the leading force," a World War II veteran or CEO of a \$2 billion company? At the U.S. Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce's (USPAACC) ninth annual **Excellence 2000 Awards** banquet the theme "On an Auspicious Journey, Strangers No More!" recognized this unmistakable force, and also incorporated a sub-theme -- that of breaking the stereotypes placed on Asian Americans in America. Held on May 13th in Washington, DC, USPAACC brought together Asian Americans from across the nation to demonstrate that they not only have a right to call America "home," but are also challenging the stereotypes of the past century through their ground-breaking work and outstanding achievements.

One of the honorees at the **Excellence 2000 Awards** was David Ho, M.D., a top virologist who has made tremendous break throughs in searching for an AIDS cure. This soft spoken gentleman has such a center of substance that it radiated throughout the room of

CONTENTS:

On an Auspicious Journey, Strangers No More!	1
Hong Kong's Reunification	3
ASIA: Economy and Market into the 21st Century	3
"MFN Vote for China: Yeah or Nay?"	4
Visit Us On-Line!	4
USPAACC Joins Fight Against Regulations That Will Hurt The Small Business Community	5
Why Cut the Capital Gains Tax?	5
Singapore and Hong Kong's Economies Get Top Rankings	5
USPAACC Testifies Before House Subcommittee	6
USPAACC Joins Comptroller of the Currency at Minority Small Business Outreach	8
Immigrants Cut Housing Gap	8
Early Christmas Gift for Small Businesses	8
Business Editorial Board Meeting	9
USPAACC at NMSDC 20th Anniversary Dinner	9
A Day of Excellence in Review	11

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)
.... *Auspicious Journey*

500 as he spoke. Known for his practice of "hitting the HIV virus early," Dr. Ho heads the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center in New York and was named *TIME Magazine's* "1996 Man of the Year."

Rudy Tokiwa, the honoree for public service who enlisted in the 422 Regimental Combat Team, at the age of 16 and fought for America in Italy and France during World War II, received a double honor that evening. Mr. Tokiwa and his fellow Japanese Americans unanimously resolved to fight for this country, in spite of their families being interned at that time, so that they could proudly call America "home." He and other members of the Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) were greeted at the **Excellence 2000** reception by Senator Bob Dole, who also fought in France and Italy. Mr. Tokiwa's regiment achieved its greatest fame in rescuing 200 men of the Texas Lost Battalion that had been surrounded by Germans, and suffered 800 casualties to achieve this objective. There was not a dry eye in the room following his remarks, as he was given a standing ovation by the 500 people in attendance.

Dr. Narinder Kapany, also honored by USPAACC, as a student had never been content to accept what his professors told him were scientific "facts." The result, pioneering research in the fields of fiber-optics, lasers, optical information processing and electro-optics which earned him the title "The Father of Fiber-Optics." We benefit daily from his work

whether it's using the telephone or our networked computers. Lilly V. Lee, who rose from being a single parent of two to founding three companies was recognized for her commitment to community service. Ms. Lee chaired the National Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Regional Board which oversaw the RTC's deposition of \$450 billion in failed S&L assets. Lee Liu, President and CEO of IES Industries, a soon-to-be \$2 billion utility company in Iowa received the award for business. When was the last time you

back seat of your car; Henry Lee who is the renowned forensics scientist whom a newspaper called "King of Crime Scenes;" Kristi Yamaguchi who won the Olympic gold in figure skating; famed cellist Yo-Yo Ma; and John Chuang who just turned 30 years old and is running a \$78-million world-wide computer personnel company he founded while studying at Harvard. All of them are **Excellence 2000 Awards** honorees of past years and they were joined on May 13th by the new roll of honorees.

The **Excellence 2000 Awards** banquet annually recognizes prominent Asian Americans, and through the support of American corporations, provide Asian American high school students with scholarships for their post-secondary education. Founded in 1989, the Asian American Scholarship Fund recognized eight students for their academic achievements



Excellence 2000 Award recipients, scholarship winners, and head table guests at USPAACC's May 13, 1997 awards program on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

heard about an Asian American in Iowa? Yet, this Chinese immigrant from Brazil came to Iowa and has taken the business community by storm.

In her welcome remarks, USPAACC president Susan Au Allen said, "On St. Patrick's Day, everyone is Irish. Tonight, let everyone be Asian because there is much to celebrate. We celebrate not only the achievements of those who share our heritage, but the freedom which makes them possible." Ms. Allen told the full house of 500 that Asian American names are now literally household words, so common place that you might not even be aware of them. For example, Amar Bose who is maker of the world famous Bose speakers which *Fortune* magazine once said were so good that you might think Frank Sinatra is in the

and community involvement. They are: Julie Chen of Tucson, Arizona; Michelle Lee of Woodbury, Minnesota; Long Nguyen of Arlington, Virginia; Priya Venkatesan of Pleasanton, California; William Yeh of New York, New York; and Byron Yu of San Jose, California. In addition, Jason Chang of Cranbury, New Jersey, received the Bruce Lee Scholarship; and Kar-mun Woo of Alexandria, Virginia, received the Yue-Sai Kan Scholarship.

The 1997 **Excellence 2000** honorees and scholarship recipients have broken old stereotypes placed upon Asian Americans and have left their mark of excellence on America, their home. Indeed, Asian Americans are on an auspicious journey, and are not strangers any more in this land of the free!

By: *Deborah Toy*

Hong Kong's Reunification

CNN Interview: The Chinese American Community View on Hong Kong's Reversion to China

CNN reporter, asked how the Chinese American community views the July 1 handover. Susan Allen said, "It's not all that different from what you talk to. There are re-thinkers, those who have businesses living in Hong Kong who fear that certain human rights, freedom of assembly, that they enjoyed under colonial rule will disappear. Above all, a small minority view."

"Hong Kong is ready to return to the mainland. They've been a free and desperately is enjoying significant growth and many are ready to embrace change. On the other hand, Hong Kong will deteriorate when the British leave. Those with doubts or fears are embracing the notion 'Let's just get on with things, if it's bad, let's see how bad it will get.'"

"The Hong Kong situation is very complicated. No one knows what will happen." Allen thinks that July 1st will be like any other day, business will continue. "However, after that day, there will be keen competition between politics and economics. How China will fulfill its promises of one country two systems, Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong, and total autonomy except for foreign and military affairs, will determine whether politics wins over economics."



July 4, 1997, Susan Au Allen celebrates the Fourth of July at the Government House, home of Hong Kong Chief Executive C.H. Tung and friend Betty Tung.

Steve Hurst, Chinese American community leader, says the July 1 handover depends on who you ask. There are really three views. First, business interests and relations with Hong Kong. Second, those who value ideas, e.g., democracy, freedom of the press and have enjoyed under colonial rule. Third, none of the above is the majority view.

People as a whole are not ready to leave their motherland. For years, people without a country have wanted to "belong." China's rapid economic growth and poised to join in. There are those who fear deterioration when the British leave.



ASIA: Economy and Market into the 21st Century

In the 50 years between 1945 and 1995, Asia went from rags to riches. It is a miracle propelled by determination, toil, sacrifice, investment in continuing education, and pursuit of one's potential. The main dynamics of growth are found in China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Why? Asia has a relatively young population which is in its spending prime. About 400 million people are in the "middleclass" which is growing by some 30 million people per year. Its middle classes are better educated, marrying later, having fewer children, and are as sophisticated as any other in the world. They look for quality products and services, as they want a quality-of-life

lifestyle.

However, over the past 15 to 20 months, intra-regional trade in Asia, and trade generally, has dropped dramatically for most of the region. Asia's export growth has slumped. Some serious political/economic structural problems have also emerged

(Continued on page 6)

"MFN Vote for China: Yeah or Nay?"

Once again, China emerged victoriously from Congress' annual renewal debate over "Most Favored Nation" (MFN) status. The debate is often intense, and the vote uncertain. This year was no exception.

In her opening remarks at our June 18th business luncheon, USPAACC President Allen, set the stage for the panelists by identifying the two sides in MFN ideological battle. "On the one side you have an 'unholy alliance' of conservatives, organized labor advocates and liberals who oppose renewing China's MFN status on grounds such as dismal human rights records and nuclear proliferation concerns, while on the other there are the pro-business groups who see the vast, largely untapped economic market that China represents." The luncheon panel comprised Mark Anderson, Secretary Treasurer of the Food & Allied Service Trade Department, AFL-CIO; Helle Bering-Jensen, Deputy Editorial Page Editor, *The Washington Times*; Kevin L. Kearns, President, U.S. Business & Industrial Council; and Stephen Yates, China Policy Analyst at the Heritage Foundation's Asian Studies Center.

A spokesman for organized labor, Anderson opposes renewal of MFN for two reasons: first, China's severely restrictive market which results in our U.S. \$40 billion trade deficit with it; and second, China's dismal human rights record, making it the largest forced labor market in the world. "The U.S. policy of the last seventeen years is merely a triumph of hope over

experience," stated Anderson, who does not believe that a trade war would develop should MFN be revoked. "China does not have the economic capacity to shut off trade. They import what they need, namely agricultural and capital goods."

Bering-Jensen, just returning from an extensive trip to Hong Kong and China, proposed a conditional granting

concerns over our trade imbalance with China, Kearns criticized the high tariffs and intellectual piracy that American companies experience when trading there. "China is about taking all the technology it can get, and taking over the world markets. It's competitive advantage is its cheap labor." According to Kearns, most of China's imports come in the form of parts shipped there

for assembly, with the final product then being resold to the original supplying country. "If China's exports to the U.S. face high tariffs, it will not be cost effective for countries like France and Germany to have their goods assembled in China, and they will look elsewhere." For Kearns, a key emphasis of US-Sino relations must be to implement a policy which governs commercial and military transfers of technology to

(Continued on page 6)



Panelists at USPAACC June lunch: (left to right) Stephen Yates, Mark Anderson, Helle Bering-Jensen, Susan Au Allen, and Kevin L. Kearns

of MFN with a focus on addressing the outstanding social and human rights issues. "There is a limit to how much the U.S. alone can influence Chinese politics," claimed Jensen. Although a Presidential veto is likely if Congress revokes China's MFN status, this annual debate is not futile, according to Jensen. "Chinese officials do care about U.S. opinion," said Jensen. "Other means of putting pressure on China are available including limiting IMF and World Bank loans."

"Even if religious freedoms, human rights and nuclear proliferation issues are ignored, renewing MFN for China is not in our nation's best interests," stated Kearns. Echoing Anderson's

Visit Us On-Line!

USPAACC is on the internet at <http://www.his.com/~uspaacc/>

We will use our home pages to enhance membership information, provide up-to-date listings of our monthly business luncheons, and highlight this year's *Excellence 2000 Awards* Program. In addition, we would like to add links to members' pages on our "Other Sites" page. Please forward your website and e-mail address, and any other suggestions to USPAACC, at uspaacc@his.com, or via fax at 202-296-5225.

USPAACC Joins Fight Against Regulations That Will Hurt The Small Business Community

On June 5, 1997, USPAACC, the National Black Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Investment Companies, and National Indian Business Association held a news briefing in Washington, DC to discuss the negative effects that the Environmental Protection Agency's air quality proposals for ozone and particulate matter (dust and soot) would have on small business development.

EPA Administrator, Carol Browner's proposed revisions to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for particulate matter and ozone will cost energy-intensive businesses billions, but with little or no positive impact on public health, according to the Small Business Survival Committee. Small business owners, industry, and consumers will be forced to spend billions to comply with the new standards. State and local officials will have to mandate certain activities, e.g., forced car-pooling. The estimated annual costs will exceed \$17 billion in the year 2001. These proposed changes come at a time when the nation's air quality has been improving steadily, and will further improve as the 1990 Amendments to the Clean Air Act are implemented.

Inner cities will be the hardest hit and that is where many over-regulated, over-taxed small businesses are struggling to keep their doors open.

The data that the EPA used as the basis for the proposed revisions has never been made available for public review. Furthermore, the proposed standards have been criticized by scientists, including members of the EPA's own scientific advisory

committee. They question the validity of the science which the EPA used to bolster the proposed standards, and the claim that the revisions will be more protective of public health than the existing standards.

It is against this backdrop that USPAACC stands opposed to the EPA's revisions to NAAQS.



Why Cut the Capital Gains Tax?

Finally, there will be a cut in the Capital Gains Tax, a direct tax that the Federal Government levies on investments, the heart of economic growth. It is a double taxation since individuals are placing their after-income-tax dollars into investments and are subsequently taxed on the assets' gains upon disposition. Reasons why the capital gains tax will be cut:

- * Lower tax rates produce incentives to invest and take risks.
- * As more people invest, businesses will grow and create jobs, and the economy will expand.
- * New businesses will be created. New business incorporations have been rising at the pitiful annual rate of 1.1% following the 1986 capital gains tax hike compared to an annual rate of

6.8% between 1968 and 1986.

- * Contrary to popular belief, capital gains tax cuts provide benefits for all levels of income. 84% of income earners claiming capital gains have total incomes of less than \$100,000, while 57% have of these have incomes of less than \$50,000.
- * Higher economic growth will mean more revenues, and smaller budget deficits.

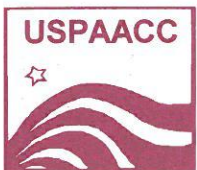
Source: SBSC's "Checklist for Cutting the Capital Gains Tax"



Singapore and Hong Kong's Economies Get Top Rankings

The economies of Singapore and Hong Kong rank 1st and 2nd again this year according to the 1997 Global Competitiveness Report published by the World Economic Forum. In third place is the United States, which is the most competitive among the large economies, and the world leader in technology and management. Indonesia, whose rankings rose from 30th to 15th since last year, has the most competitive economy among the big emerging markets. China jumped 7 positions to 29th and its economy was rated the world's fastest growing one.





(Continued from page 4)

MFN Vote

China.

Yates labeled the MFN procedure "deeply flawed" for three reasons: first, it hurts those it's meant to help, namely Hong Kong and Taiwan by negatively impacting jobs there; second, the problem in China is not its one billion member private sector but rather the government itself; and third, U.S. sanctions require our allies' support to be effective. According to Yates, "We must find a policy outside of MFN. At some point China will become a member of the World Trade Organization and then they will have permanent MFN status. The goal of U.S. Sino policy should be to generate transparency and rule of law in China."

Editor's Note: While China's MFN status was renewed again by Congress at the end of June, this issue will continue to be hotly contested until if and when it is granted permanent status. In a vote by the luncheon attendees following our panel discussion, the "Yeas" narrowly outnumbered the "Nays" by one vote, perhaps indicating another tight Congressional debate next summer.



(Continued from page 3)

Asia: Economy and Market....

in Thailand, South Korea, Japan, and Indonesia. Many Asia watchers are beginning to say that East Asia's growth rates are not sustainable, and that the Asian bubble is bursting.

What's gone wrong over the past year in Asia? In a nutshell, it is the strong U.S. dollar; the weak Japanese yen

(which increased competition); and the downturn in global electronics and the computer industry.

With the Asian tiger economies in turmoil because of falling currencies and unstable financial systems, many think that China should be poised to absorb the excess exports from many of these economies. But the Chinese economy and market is a complex one. For years, it has been experiencing double digit growth; in 1997 it is growing at 9.5% a year. However, the per capita income remains under \$700 a year and grows at 2% in 1997. China is still years away from the \$4,000 to \$5,000 a year income bracket that the Chinese need in order to own cars and buy homes. So, for foreign investors who sell cheap consumer products, they can turn a profit in two or three years; but not for capital goods. There are still not enough people in China who can afford these products.

Over the past two years, there has also been a shift in outlook toward China. It is a market showing signs of serious over saturation and under performance. New foreign investments committed to China in the first six months this year dropped by 50% from the same period last year. While actual investment increased, this was because money pledged in contracts signed several years ago finally arrived.

There are many factors that have contributed to the drop in pledged investments in China. First, China is still a poor country. The allure of a largely untapped consumer market of 1.2 billion people attracted \$122 billion worth of contracts signed in 1992 by foreign investors. Some of these investments were poorly targeted, resulting in those segments of the China market drowning in over capacity. Second, sales were impeded because distribution must be handled by government-run distribution companies. Third, China lifted an exemption on

duties on capital equipment imports. Fourth, China imposed a moratorium in 1996 on foreign investments in the retail sector. Finally, the average return on investment is extremely poor, compared to other emerging markets. It will take many companies 10 or more years to recoup their investments.

As Asia prepares to enter the new millennium, it must overcome some glaring obstacles that impede its economic growth. Widespread infrastructure bottlenecks exist as both transportation and power systems have not kept up with industrial expansion. Worse yet, the shortage of skilled workers in economies such as Thailand will be one of the biggest challenges in the region. Also, countries like South Korea are too heavily concentrated on a few industries, such as electronics and petrochemicals.

Other than in Thailand where the financial bubble has burst, and South Korea where there are high-profile bankruptcies and shaky banks, Asia's growth will probably resume, driven as in the past, by education, savings, and growing labor force participation. In China, there are a lot of people waiting to be admitted into the modern world. Asia will continue to be the most important regional economic development in the world, partly because most human beings are, after all, Asian.



USPAACC Testifies Before House Subcommittee

In her July 24, 1997, testimony before the House Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Empowerment, USPAACC President Allen took issue with the current tax and regulatory systems for the negative

(Continued on page 10)



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USPAACC Joins Comptroller of the Currency at Minority Small Business Outreach

On June 5, USPAACC joined Comptroller of the Currency, Eugene A. Ludwig, at an outreach meeting with small business owners and commercial bankers to discuss problems and solutions for minority business owners seeking financial services, in order to improve access to capital.

Ludwig has taken a keen interest in ensuring financial services are available for all sectors of the economy through the Community Restoration Act (CRA) and fair lending laws. Banks are encouraged to become more involved with their local communities.

In addition, Ludwig is committed to allowing banks to offer new products and services provided they can demonstrate an ability to protect the consumer and limit the risks associated with these new ventures. This should result in lower costs in insurance and investment services for consumers.

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency is an independent branch of the Treasury which examines and supervises our nation's federally chartered national banks. National banks represent approximately 29 percent of all commercial banks and 56 percent of the total assets of the banking system.



Immigrants Cut Housing Gap

A recent study conducted by the Fannie Mae Foundation shows that the gap in home ownership is narrowing between immigrants and native-born Americans. The study which compared households comprised of immigrants with native-born Americans, all between the ages of 25 and 34, revealed that in 1980 only 21% of immigrants owned homes as compared to 55% of their native-born counterparts. Yet, 10 years later, the difference is only 12%, with 56% of immigrant households and 68% of native-born Americans now owning homes. Immigrant home ownership will probably increase by 2.2 million between 1995 and 2010. Immigrants, on average, own their own homes after 10 years of residence.



Early Christmas Gift for Small Businesses

In a bizarre turn of events, the Small Business Administration recently announced a major bookkeeping error which gave it a \$2.5 billion loan pool, instead of an earlier projection of zero. The discovery following an audit by the General Accounting Office, resulted in the SBA lifting a \$500,000 loan cap and an \$80 million weekly limit on loan approvals. This spells good news for entrepreneurs seeking loans to start "risky" new businesses, the backbone of our economy's new job creation. While attempting to blame Congress for appropriating too little money, the SBA had imposed the emergency measures for "7(a) loans" by claiming that its \$7.8 billion fund was almost exhausted. In reality, the SBA had \$10.3 billion, but a technical glitch in the administration's computers caused too much money to be reserved for program costs, and lending was restricted to \$7.8 billion. Folks, you now know where the money is.



USPAACC President Allen, Grant Ujifusa co-author of The Almanac of American Politics, and Tommy Hodinh of Austin, Texas at the 20th anniversary dinner of the National Minority Supplier's Development Council.

Business Editorial Board Meeting

USPAACC at NMSDC 20th Anniversary Dinner

USPAACC President Allen, Executive Director James D. Epp, and Asian American business leaders from around the country met the business editorial staff of *The Washington Post*



Susan Au Allen leads delegation of Asian American business leaders for Business Editorial Board Meeting at The Washington Post.

on May 14. With no pre-determined agenda, it was a tremendous opportunity to showcase some of our nation's finest Asian American business leaders.

Lee Liu, CEO of IES Industries, and a 1997 *Excellence 2000 Award* recipient vouched that he and IES Industries would be active members of USPAACC. Domonic Pangborn, President of Pangborn Design, Ltd. expressed a desire to establish a USPAACC chapter in Detroit, MI, and has begun the process. Lilly V. Lee, founder of Lilly International, Inc. raised concerns over how the press handled the campaign contributions scandal. Angie Chen Button and George Wan, both of Texas Instruments, reported on TI's minority employee initiative. Anthony Yu, owner of Embassy Travel, discussed some of the struggles a small business must face.

The Washington Post has been a faithful annual supporter of the *Excellence 2000 Awards*. We appreciate their friendship and support, and look forward to future opportunities to meet with its business editorial board.

On May 21, 1997, USPAACC President Allen and *Excellence 2000 Awards* alumnus Grant Ujifusa attended the National Minority Supplier's Development Council's 20th anniversary dinner at the New York Hilton in New York City. USPAACC has been involved with the NMSDC since 1992, when Allen delivered the keynote speech "New Horizons," which was published in *Vital Speeches*. We are also a member of NMSDC's honorary advisory board. NMSDC has been a friend and colleague, and it's been a delight to have been associated with them over the last five years. We hope this relationship continues, as President Allen joins the NMSDC on November 21, 1997 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington DC to speak on contracting opportunities in the private sector. Because Asian Americans have been going into business in droves over the past ten years, having a total of 606,000 Asian-owned businesses nationwide as of 1992, we expect contracting opportunities will continue to increase. Receipts in the Asian-owned businesses increased from \$34 billion to \$99.7 billion, an increase of 193%, during a five year period from 1987 to 1992. A comparison of all businesses during that same period shows a 6% increase in receipts from \$1,995 billion to \$3,324 billion.





USPAACC President Allen speaking at the 24th Economic Seminar organized by the American Embassy, Bangkok, Thailand on August 2. The topic of her lecture was "Change in Management: Lessons from the private sector, and productivity management." Then she spoke at the American Chamber of Commerce in Thailand's luncheon. Her topic was the MFN Vote for China and how China's economy impacts neighboring countries in the region, such as Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

(Continued from page 6)

USPAACC Testifies

impacts they have on small - and medium-sized businesses, including minority-owned business enterprises.

Allen told the Committee four major reasons the current tax laws adversely impact small businesses.

1) Capital Gains Tax: Small business owners often face a catch-22. If they sell their holdings during a boom, they are levied with a large capital gains tax bill. On the otherhand, if they sell during a decline, there would be little left after the same tax is paid. It's often a no win situation if you factor in inflation, and the lost opportunity to invest the money elsewhere.

2) Estate Tax: Dreams of passing a successful business down to future

generations often become nightmares when the heirs receive the estate tax bill. However, if we do away with, or substantially reduce estate taxes, a small business can stay within the family, and future generations can take the business to new heights without having to divert hard earned

resources to pay a bill that does nothing to further the health of the business nor create jobs.

3) Payroll Taxes and Other Regulatory Burdens: From the moment the alarm clock rings in the morning to the moment the light is switched off at night, business owners are taxed, taxed, taxed. License fees, sales taxes, gas taxes, utility taxes, FICA, FUTA, Workmen's Compensation, and so on and so on.

4) Access to Capital: To survive in today's fast-paced global marketplace, small businesses cannot compete on a level playing field unless they are free to dispose of business assets and reinvest in the business or other ventures. One reason that Hong Kong has been such a success story, is its simple, low and flat tax; people have been free to save, invest and reinvest. If we were to adopt a tax system similar to Hong Kong's, where the highest unincorporated and incorporated taxes are 15% and 16% respectively, we would attract more foreign investment and unleash more capital into the U.S. economy.



July 24, 1997 testimony before the House Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Empowerment. USPAACC President Allen joins Herman Caine, CEO of Godfather's Pizza (left) and other business representatives to testify on the impacts of regulatory burdens, capital gains taxes, and estate taxes on the nation's small businesses.

A Day of *EXCELLENCE* in Review



The Round Table Conference "Shattering the Image" part of the Excellence 2000 Awards, May 13, 1997. Panelists were Elaine Chao, John Chuang, David Ho, Narinder Kapany, Michio Kaku, Lilly V. Lee, Lillian Gonzalez-Pardo, Jhoon Rhee, and Grant Ujifusa.

Questions presented for discussion included:

** When you read news stories about John Huang and Asian American involvement in the campaign finance scandal, did you feel that all Asian American were somehow implicated?*

** Do you think Asian American success has led to a backlash against Asian American?*

** Is political cooperation among all Asian American ethnic groups possible?*

** If a new Cold War with China becomes a reality, how will it affect the lives of Asian Americans?*

Pictured (left to right): Elaine Chao, Narinder Kapany, Michio Kaku and David Ho.

USPAACC is now taking nominations for next year's 10th anniversary Excellence 2000 Awards program. Candidates are chosen, from a wide variety of disciplines, based on their contributions to their professions, their communities, and for improving the quality of life for all Americans.

Please forward your nominations along with a brief statement of why this person should receive an award, to USPAACC, at uspaacc@his.com, via fax at 202-296-5225, or by mail to 1329 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.



Excellence 2000 Awards keynote speaker, Senator Spencer Abraham (R-MI), talks about his immigrant grandfather's journey from Lebanon to the United States. Senator Abraham is a strong advocate for immigrants' rights.



Excellence 2000 Awards honoree, Dr David Ho, TIME magazine's 1996 "Man of the Year" for his ground breaking advances in the quest for an AIDS cure, receives his award from Lisa Chiew of Federal Express.

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About USPAACC

USPAACC was organized to provide advocacy, education, information and network opportunities to its members; promote activities that will further the business and professional interests of its members; collect, evaluate and disseminate among members information of interest to them; represent, express and give effect to the

opinions of its members with respect to trade, finance, commerce, industry and related issues; and conduct charitable, educational and similar programs for the benefit of its members and the Asian American communities.

USPAACC members are Asian Pacific American business owners and

professionals, and others wishing to develop business ties with Asia. Current membership includes high technology and international trade consultants, retailers, government contractors, manufacturers, import and export traders, lawyers, medical professionals, Fortune 500 Companies, construction companies, etc.



Membership Application

Please remit application to USPAACC, 1329 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 Tel (202) 296-5221 Fax (202) 296-5225. Please make checks payable to USPAACC. Annual dues cover the period from January 1 through December 31.

☐ Yes, I would like to be a member of the U.S. Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce.

☐ Enclosed is \$50.00 for a yearly individual membership.

☐ Enclosed is \$250.00 for a yearly corporate membership (for corporations with up to 500 employees).

☐ Enclosed is \$500.00 for a yearly corporate membership (for corporations with more than 500 employees).

☐ Yes, I would like to make a contribution in the amount of \$ _____ to the Asian American Scholarship Fund
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