

FINAL COMMUNIQUE
THE JAPAN - U.S. CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL AND
EDUCATIONAL INTERCHANGE

(CULCON JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING 1984)

I. The Japan-U.S. Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange (CULCON Joint Committee) took place in Washington July 10-11, 1984, under the co-chairmanship of Dr. W. Glenn Campbell, Director of the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace, and Mr. Isao Masamune, Advisory Director of the Industrial Bank of Japan. Representatives from both countries attended as delegates, consultants and observers, including representatives from the Governments, cultural and educational institutions, mass media, visual and performing arts, business and foundations. Greetings were delivered at the opening ceremonies from President Ronald Reagan, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Foreign Minister of Japan Shintaro Abe. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Michael H. Armacost, Director of the United States Information Agency Charles Z. Wick and Japanese Ambassador to the United States Yoshio Okawara delivered remarks.

II. The Conference expressed deep regret at the deaths of three men whose vision and generosity of character had helped guide the activities of the CULCON: Mr. Tatsuo Morito and Mr. Yoshinori Maeda, former Japan panel chairmen, and Mr. Bunsaku Kurata, former chairman of the Japanese Museum Exchange Subcommittee. Each had made important contributions to CULCON and to mutual understanding between Japan and the United States.

III. Brief reports of progress since CULCON XI were presented by both sides. The delegations noted that, as a result of much private initiative as well as Government action, educational and cultural interchange between Japan and the United States had made substantial progress in recent years in terms of not only activity but quality. However, they concluded that much remains to be done to develop clearer perceptions of each other's social, economic and political institutions and of the differing cultural factors that influence fundamental attitudes. Considering the worldwide implications of the U.S.-Japan relationship, true mutual understanding between the two has become more necessary than at any time in the past. Thus, the delegations registered their belief that CULCON's work has taken on new importance while noting that its future relevance will depend on its ability to stimulate implementation of its recommendations.

IV. The Conference, in view of the current efforts by both Governments for educational reform, and with a view to contributing to mutual understanding, decided to promote an extensive comparative study on education, with particular attention to the secondary level and articulation between secondary and higher education, to be undertaken by groups of experts under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Education and the Japanese Ministry of Education. It welcomed efforts of the United States to strengthen teaching of Japanese in American high schools and expressed appreciation for the willingness

of the Japan Foundation and the Ministry of Education to cooperate with American proposals to strengthen Japanese Language Teaching in American high schools and in the plan to send a group of U.S. high school teachers of the Japanese language to Japan in 1985 under the Fulbright program for training and orientation. The Conference welcomed the American move to extend Japanese language teaching from the college level to high schools. It further urged each country to encourage the use of appropriately developed audio-visual materials to illustrate and expand factual knowledge among students at the primary and secondary levels about each country's culture and society. Strong support was voiced for increased exchanges of school students, teachers and administrators, and for greater interaction between the schools themselves. The Conference singled out for commendation the Japanese Government-supported "Senate Fellows" and the U.S. Government-supported Prefectural high school student exchange programs and urged further expansion of youth exchanges.

V. The delegates pointed to the need for closer cooperation among the television industries of both countries to present each society to the other more effectively through projects for specific programs. They urged the TV subcommittees of each panel to further strengthen cooperative relationships in the co-production, acquisition and exchange of various programs. Expansion of productive sister-station relationships was proposed. Underlying all these activities, the Conference felt, was the need to find systematic ways to strengthen professional contact between broadcast leaders of the two countries. The importance of adequate support for broadcast activities from foundations, corporations and other funding sources was stressed.

VI. The Conference noted substantial progress in the exchange of museum exhibitions, especially during the past two years. The number of exhibitions increased by 30 percent while the number of exhibits doubled. The exhibitions travelled to smaller museums and represented a wider range of subjects, such as folk art and photography. The important work of the Japan Foundation, the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission and a number of private sector institutions in furthering exchanges of arts and cultural events was noted by the Conference. However, it concluded that more needs to be done to introduce to each other the full range of performing and visual arts and other cultural events of each society -- especially in the contemporary field and particularly beyond the major cities of each country.

VII. The Conference agreed to consider the establishment of a subcommittee for the exchange of the performing arts. The decision on the creation of the new subcommittee will be made at the next Steering Committee meeting, after considering the recommendation of a meeting of experts to be convened by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Japan Society (New York), and representatives from the U. S. and Japan this fall.

VIII. Special efforts are needed, according to the Conference, to harness already existing networks of international exchange and public affairs groups to the task of deepening bilateral understanding and

goodwill through better cooperation among them and more community support. Development was urged of new means to stimulate such organizations to focus on promoting U.S. - Japan relations, for example through the numerous existing sister city relationships. In this context, it noted the work of such Japanese organizations as the International House of Japan, the Japan Center for International Exchange, and the America-Japan Society (Tokyo), and of American organizations such as the Japan Society (New York), the Associated Japan-America Societies of the United States and its constituent organizations. The recent agreement to establish a federation of America-Japan Societies in Japan was also welcomed as a potentially important step which could substantially strengthen the role of those societies all over Japan.

IX. The Conference emphasized the need for both Governments to encourage the expansion of exchanges -- especially for young people -- through the cooperation of local governments, including sister city committees, and various private associations. In this connection, the Conference recognized that increased private contributions for exchanges would be stimulated by obtaining tax incentives.

X. Welcomed by the Conference were the private efforts of a number of Japanese and American leaders in business and other fields to bring about the establishment of a "Japan-America House" in Tokyo, both as a symbol of close Japan-United States relations and to help make various cultural exchange efforts more effective.

XI. Reaffirmation of support was expressed for important ongoing programs -- and for the development of new ones -- in Japanese and American Studies. Special praise went to the Inter-University Center in Tokyo, the cornerstone of advanced Japanese language training for Americans, and for recently introduced programs and courses at U.S. universities that focus on the Japanese economy and business, such as those at UCLA, the University of Michigan, Stanford, the University of South Carolina and Harvard. The importance of Japan Foundation activities in Japanese studies in the United States, through fellowship programs, grants to institutions, and the funneling of donations to universities from the private sector was reaffirmed. Also recognized was the new program of collaborative economic research undertaken this year by the Japan-U.S. Educational (Fulbright) Commission. While noting that some new courses on the United States have already or soon will be introduced, the Conference hoped that more would be done along these lines at Japanese Universities. The Conference welcomed publication of "Japanese Studies in the 1980's." On the basis of this report and CULCON subcommittee discussions, the Conference expressed the urgency of vigorous efforts to maintain and increase support from all possible sources to maintain and strengthen the present structure of training, employment and research in Japanese studies in America. This is particularly important in view of the trend toward diminished support at the very time when student and public interest and concern are rising. The Conference hoped that American universities would maintain their commitment to Japanese studies and that support needed for faculty

research, employment and training will be forthcoming, especially in the U.S., where sources of funding have diminished in recent years.

XII. The delegations also expressed praise for the kinds of exchanges being effected with the encouragement of the News Media subcommittees. Especially important are exchanges of business and financial writers and news wire editors, which should be continued. The Asia Foundation's translation of Japanese newspaper articles for reprinting in American newspapers was considered especially important.

The Conference decided to appoint a special study group, with the participation of publishing and other representatives, to examine the continuing problem posed by the lack of translated books in various fields, exported to the United States, and the high cost of imported books in each country. The group will submit its recommendations to the next CULCON Steering Committee meeting.

XIII. The Conference welcomed recent moves in both countries to expand exchanges of parliamentarians, and expressed appreciation for the role of the Japan Society and the Japan Center for International Exchange in promoting such exchanges in the past.

XIV. The Conference expressed satisfaction over the clear indication during the meetings of renewed determination on both sides to make CULCON constructive and action-oriented in strengthening mutual understanding. The Conference endorsed the attached recommendations, of the subcommittees and agreed to carry them out by the summer of 1986, when CULCON XIII is to convene in Tokyo. Progress reports were requested of the secretariats in time for the steering committee meeting in 1985.

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RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE CULCON SUBCOMMITTEES
THE JAPAN - U.S. CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL AND
EDUCATIONAL INTERCHANGE

A. AMERICAN STUDIES SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To improve the study of America at Japanese universities substantially, increase the number of introductory survey courses and establish American studies degree programs; expand opportunities not only for graduate students in American studies to matriculate at U.S. universities but for researchers and lecturers to take refresher courses or consult with American specialists; and invite U.S. American Studies specialists to Japan to exchange information with their Japanese colleagues.

2. Systematically collect print and audio-visual materials in American Studies at Japanese universities and promote their effective use.

B. BROADCAST SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To improve, strengthen and increase sister-station relationships, organize a conference among both present and perspective partners in sister-station relationships in Hawaii in January 1985. The American Subcommittee should prepare a draft of a pamphlet, to be published both in English and Japanese, on how to create and utilize a sister-station relationship between Japan and the United States.

2. Create a library of television programs produced by stations in both Japan and the United States to help facilitate the greater use of Japanese programming in the United States and American programming in Japan, both for broadcast and educational purposes.

3. Work toward early realization of an annual conference among Japanese and American broadcast professionals from networks and major station groups and production centers to increase exchange of news and other programming, co-production, facilitation for foreign camera crews and cooperation in technology.

4. Promote small-group visits to each country by broadcasters in key positions of influence to realize such general subcommittee goals as the increased flow of news and public affairs programming between Japan and the United States and greater numbers of co-productions and other cooperative ventures.

C. EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Taking into consideration the movement for educational reform in Japan and the United States, and to clarify the principles that underlie each nation's educational system and their respective merits, an extensive comparative study of education should be undertaken cooperatively in both countries.
2. (Joint recommendation with the Japanese Studies Subcommittee): To promote the teaching of Japanese in American secondary schools, both countries should cooperate in the development of curricula, training of teachers, and the development of teaching materials. Japanese and American specialists in the teaching of Japanese as a foreign language should be consulted in depth and at each stage of the development process to assure that curricula, training and materials are designed to meet the defined needs of American students.

D. JAPANESE STUDIES SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

1. CULCON should urge American funding sources -- in government, in the non-profit sector and in the private sector -- to maintain the nation's existing and future institutional framework and its pool of linguistically and substantively trained teachers and researchers in Japanese studies through financial support that will counter the effects of inflation and recent decreases in funding and that will match the growing contributions of Japanese sources.
2. The American and Japanese CULCON secretariats, in cooperation with other appropriate organizations, should arrange for timely publication of selected papers from the symposium on "Cultural Factors Influencing Japan-United States Economic Relations," held as part of the 1982 meeting of CULCON in Tokyo.

E. MUSEUM EXCHANGE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To increase the possibility of expanding the number of exhibitions of each country's art in the other's museums, American curators and art critics should be invited to discover at first hand the achievement of contemporary Japanese art; communication routes should be opened in Japanese museum circles to encourage circulation of American-created exhibitions; and discussions should be opened with American circulating exhibition services to further showings of contemporary Japanese art.
2. Given the gravity of the problem of conservation of Japanese masterpieces in American museum collections, a study should be undertaken and completed by the U.S. side before CULCON XIII to determine the exact extent of the need and the most effective approach to finding solutions, recognizing that any solution will depend upon Japanese expertise in this area.

F. NEWS MEDIA SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Journalist exchange programs conducted up to the present should be maintained and wherever possible expanded, with more attention paid to the selection of business and economic editors and reporters on the American side. Such meetings as the forthcoming East-West Center business editors conference on the cultural background of the U.S.-Japan relationship should be encouraged.

2. A special committee should be constituted to examine the urgent problem of introducing to American readers the work of noted Japanese novelists and scholars in the social sciences as well as business and technology to balance, at least somewhat, the present preponderance of American works translated into Japanese. This committee should include a member of the Japan Studies panel and a recognized expert in translation, and should involve publishers and concerned parties in both countries.