

APHAFIC annual meeting

APHAFIC held its ninth annual meeting at Emerald Chinese Seafood restaurant on May 7th, 2011. A total of 52 people attended. This meeting featured an invited talk by retired mathematics Professor Wu-Chung Hsiang of Yale, and Princeton University on " PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF TIAO-YU-TAI".

Tiao-Yu-Tai is a group of small islands about 50 miles from Yi-Lan, Taiwan, 300 miles from Okinawa. In the 50's to 60's, UN studies showed that there were rich oil and mineral deposits nearby. More important, it is the gateway of Taiwan toward the Pacific. If it belongs to Taiwan-China, the resources within the 200 miles radius all belong to Taiwan-China. If it belongs to Japan, the natural resources near Tiao-Yu-Tai would be lost to Japan; even the gas platform recently established by China out in the East Sea would have to be shared with Japan.

In 1968 with the discovery of sub-sea oil fields in the region, Japan began to claim the islands as Japan's territory. A U.S. endorsed plan to turnover the islands to Japan ignited large Chinese student protests worldwide against Japan's attempts to take the islands. (<http://aam1968.blogspot.com/2007/12/tiao-yu-tai-movement-in1971.html>). Taiwan government did not take action to protest it. Professor Hsiang joined the Tiao-Yu-Tai movement in the US in the early 70s.

During the Tiao-Yu-Tai movement from 1970 to 1972 in the US, Chinese students in the US became politically active: protests in New York, in front of the State Department, the Embassies from Japan and Taipei in Washington, and Ann Arbor (and earlier at Brown University) to discuss the future of China. Five activists went to Beijing to meet with Chou En-Lai. Many hand-written and mimeographed magazines were sent many US universities. A full-page ad in New York Times was to advocate ideas of the movement. We all thought that it was another "May 4th" movement again.

In 1970 to 1972. It took the Beijing government by complete surprise to see graduate students from Taiwan would support People's Republic in Mainland so strongly. Beijing government paid some lip services in 1970-1971 for a while, which were abandoned when Japanese Prime Minister Tanaka visited Beijing in 1972 and signed a Peace Treaty with PRC. Chou En-Lai stated that would suspend the Tiao-Yu-Tai problem and leave it to future generations. Deng Xiao Ping followed suit later. What a mistake they have made!

In the 90's, Japanese right wing politicians built a lighthouse on Tiao-Yu-Tai to claim its sovereignty. Both Beijing and Taipei government did very little to counter it, even though there were again strong protests from civilian Chinese communities in US, Hongkong and Taiwan. Beijing did not wish to stir up the troublesome nationalistic feeling after the June 4th of 1989 and Taipei wanted the US-Japanese protections.

What happened in the last two years is most interesting for the Tiao-Yu-Tai conflict.

US is perceived to be weaker due to the Middle Eastern conflict and the economic crises since 2008. At the same time, Beijing has emerged as a strong economic power, and Taiwan and Beijing are on friendly basis. Japan has become weak economically and its government politically unstable. US and Japan began military exercises in the Pacific using Tiao-Yu-Tai as one of the focal point. The other focal point is North Korea.

Meanwhile, in recent years, the prediction of natural resources near Tiao-Yu-Tai has become more real as some says that it is worth about 20 trillion dollars. (Who knows!)

China realized if no action is taken over Tiao-Yu-Tai, Japanese territorial claim of Tiao-Yu-Tai, its construction of the light tower, and the patrolling of nearby water may in another ten years become proof of sovereignty under international law. Beijing recently has taken action by patrolling the area around Tiao-Yu-Tai. However no action was taken by Taipei. On the contrary, former traitor president Lee Teng Hui claimed that Tiao-Yu-Tai belonged to Japan.

Professor Hsiang believes that Beijing is correct in its recent change of course. She should deal with Tiao Yu Tai problem with a steadfast hands and show more strength. She should state clearly and strongly that her territorial claim of Tiao-Yu-Tai cannot be compromised. At the same time, Beijing should stop supporting North Korea. As North Korean problem is more important to the US than Tiao-Yu-Tai, this would seem to be a fair exchange. This policy to denounce its support of the North Korean government would also support the Chinese claim that she will not be a bully and thus give Chinese people a high moral standing. Teipei needs merely to claim that Tiao-Yu-Tai is a part of Yi Lan prefecture. When the natural resources finally come out, it can be shared by PRC and ROC.

As to Japan, she has not paid for her Second World War crimes yet. As long as US understands that Chinese policy does not threaten Pacific peace, why should US protect Japan whose war crimes are still haunting most of the Asian countries?

For us, Chinese in the US, we should explain these ideas to our Congressmen and to Chinese and Taiwanese diplomats. In this way, perhaps, our kids can have a better chance to avoid a serious conflict between US, China and Japan.

Outreach activities:

A visit to Department History and Political Science Point Loma Nazarene University on April 27,2011

Nancy Lo and David Hu visited Department History and Political Science Point Loma Nazarene University by invitation of professor Jaeyoon Kim. David Hu gave a talk on "The Fall of China's Capital City Nanking (Nanjing) in 1937- A heartbreaking story of horrors in our human history" to close 150 students and guests. All of them were quite surprised to learn the brutal attack on Chinese by the Japanese imperial army during the invasion of China. Most of students did not know such notorious crimes committed by

the Japanese Imperial Military Forces.

David Hu compared the impact of Nanking massacre to the damage caused by the recent March 11, 2011 earthquake of Richter magnitude of 9.1 occurred in Japan and its aftershocks: The damage toward human lives and numerous aftershocks toward their families then, and years to come by the Nanking massacre was more severe than 9.1 Richter scale struck. Moreover, Japanese extremists and their government still deny such inhuman behavior of the past and had covered up their crimes by stating that all those looting, raping, and killing in China were fabricated by Chinese and Westerners stayed behind the falling city of Nanking. David Hu also provided relevant websites to the class for them to learn more about the forgotten Holocaust in 1937 at the China's capital city of Nanking.

Nancy Lo presented professor Jaeyoon Kim 'American Goddess at the Rape of Nanking' by Hua-ling Hu before professor Kim showed a movie on "In the name of the Emperor: The Rape of Nanjing" produced and directed by Nancy Tong.
http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xu54m_in-the-name-of-the-emperor_shortfilms

The 6th Annual Point Loma History Awards Banquet on June 1, 2011
In the evening of June 1st, 2011, four Point Loma High School students of history class of Mr. Patrick McElhaney were recognized for essays they wrote about their reflection after watching the movie "Nanking" at the Award Banquet, in Bali Hai Restaurant. APHAFIC donated \$200.00 cash award to the high school. Mary Lee, an APHAFIC board member, introduced APHAFIC to the audience and Nancy Lo presented cash awards, certificate of recognition and a DVD of Iris Chang, the rape of Nanking, a movie about the biography of Iris Change, the author of the Rape of Nanking, the forgotten holocaust to each of the four students: Stephanie Leimbach, Forrest Lutz, Desire Lucas and Alyse Waelder.

Celebrating the 90th Birthday of Col. Frank Mason, an ex-POW of WWII and a long time member of APHFIC on May 15th, Sunday at the German-America Societies of San Diego



Picture 1: Professor Wh-Chung Hsiang answered questions at the annual meeting



Picture 2: David Hu gave lecture on rape of Nanking to students at Point Loma Nazaren

University



Picture 3: Professor Jaeyon Kim showed the film of "In the name of the Emperor: The Rape of Nanjing" by producer/director, Nancy Tong while Nancy Lo held the book : American Goddess at the Rape of Nanking by Hua-ling Hu to give to professor Kim.



Picture 4: Nancy Lo presented certificates and cash award to students of Point Loma high school at its annual award banquet (not shown was Mary Lee, one of APHAFIC board members)



Picture 5: Nancy Lo presented a certificate of appreciation to Col. Frank Mason as a long time member and his participation of APHFIC outreach program



Picture 5: Former congressman Duncan Hunter and Col Frank Mason at Col Mason's 90th birthday party