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March 30, 1992

SECRET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

KEN KASHIWAHARA TO SPEAK AT EIU

CHARLESTON, IL--ABC news correspondent Ken Kashiwahara will be the third speaker in a new lecture series at Eastern Illinois University titled "One Nation: Many Voices."

The public is invited to attend his lecture titled "The Asian Experience" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, in Eastern's Tarble Arts Center. Admission is free. Individuals may meet informally with Kashiwahara at a reception in his honor following the lecture.

His talk, co-sponsored by Eastern's Cultural Diversity Professorship Committee and the Journalism Department, will open Journalism Week activities April 6-10 and is designed to celebrate the contributions which different groups have made to the mosaic of American society.

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As one of the first Asians to become a network correspondent, Kashiwahara is considered a role model for other Asians who have since become broadcast journalists.

An 18-year veteran with ABC News, Kashiwahara began working with the network in 1978 when he was named San Francisco Bureau Chief.

Prior to that, he was the ABC News Bureau Chief in Hong Kong for three years, during which time he traveled to Beirut to cover the civil war in Lebanon in 1977.

In 1980 he covered a variety of stories including Ronald Reagan's presidential bid, the Mt. St. Helens eruption, and America's premiere space shuttle flight.

Kashiwahara is the brother-in-law of Philippine President Cory Aquino, and assisted in her presidential election. In 1983 he accompanied President Aquino's husband, Benigno Aquino, home to Manila where he was assassinated, triggering the downfall of Ferdinand Marcos.

In 1984 he covered the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco and Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles. In 1986 he won a National Emmy Award for a news segment on "20/20."

Kashiwahara accompanied American veterans to Vietnam in 1988 and 1989 resulting in a special report on "World News Tonight" about three fathers' reunion with their Amer-Asian children, and a one-hour special on "Nightline" concerning veterans with post-traumatic stress disorders.