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### Japan's Dan Rather to give UM lecture on U.S.-Far East relations

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# The University of Montana

## NEWS RELEASE

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March 2, 1994

### **JAPAN'S DAN RATHER TO GIVE UM LECTURE ON U.S.-FAR EAST RELATIONS**

#### **MISSOULA --**

TV and radio commentator Masao Kunihiro, often called Japan's Dan Rather, will discuss increasing mutual suspicions among Japan, China and the United States in a lecture Monday, March 7, at The University of Montana.

His free public talk, the 25th Mansfield Lecture in International Relations, will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Montana Theatre.

Kunihiro, who holds professorships in cultural anthropology at Tokyo International and Sophia universities, will also touch upon the sociocultural components of the tremendous growth of Far Eastern countries, giving what he calls "an overall review of what makes East Asia tick."

Considered a pioneer in Japanese-American relations, Kunihiro "is a master of communication between Japan and the U.S.," Mansfield Center Acting Director Philip West said last week. In his lecture, Kunihiro will clarify many of the misunderstandings that have led to increased tensions between the two countries, West said.

Kunihiro's reputation as Japan's Dan Rather developed during his 11 years as news anchor on Nippon Television, where, sharply critical of the Liberal Democratic Party, he ran the risk of government censorship and expulsion from the world of TV journalism. He also hosted a television talk show, interviewing such notables as Hubert Humphrey, Ralph Nader and Zbigniew Brzezinski. He's now on leave from his university positions to serve in the House of Councillors of the

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National Diet of Japan.

Kunihiro will be in Missoula March 3-9, talking informally to classes on the UM campus and making himself available for media interviews.

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**CONTACT:** The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 243-2988.

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