“Dear Mrs. White

We at Asian American studies at UC Berkeley are happy to take this opportunity to express our complete confidence in and support for the work of the Asian Community Library. Our experience with the ACL since its inception has allowed us a chance to watch and participate in its growth much to our own benefit. What has impressed us most profoundly is the library’s total commitment to the community concept. Their deep concern for community input has made it very easy for us to participate in its development. It has been our belief that the best way to serve the community is to work with them. Our own desire to provide this type of extensive service is very often hampered by the stigma of academic snobbism that is many times the University’s image among community people. So we can fully appreciate any project which can reach as many people as the ACL has. It is precisely for this reason that the Asian community library has our total support. Their strong community base has often times been our source of contact with community groups and leaders. The library not only sponsors numerous community events, like children’s programs, cultural presentations, etc, but library staff members are personally visible in other aspects of community life: for instance advisory boards, advocacy groups, etc outside of the library. Our role with the Asian community library has been much more than advisory. As would be expected, we recommend materials for possible purchase and provide easy access to materials in our library that can be duplicated for the Asian Community Library. But Asian American studies library staff members are also volunteering some of their work hours for ACL projects. We are assisting the ACL and compiling and annotated bibliography of selected Asian-American materials, providing the ACL with an annotated bibliography of writings on Asians in the U.S., in the San Francisco Theological Seminary library at San Anselmo, and the Pacific School of religion at Berkeley working jointly on a mailing list of Asian American organizations and contact people in the Bay area, and we are attempting to index articles from Asian American magazines to make them more accessible to the public. We plan to continue as a consultant and as a source of manpower for special projects that the ACL may pursue in its future development. In addition, the ethnic studies department is hoping to offer a library class on third world information sources from which ACL staff members might. The Asian Community Library is filling a tremendous gap in a very challenging field and we are not alone in voicing our complete support for the much needed service that is being provided to the Asian Community. There is no doubt in our minds that this project should be re-funded.”

“...Oh, that’s right. They were going to de-fund the project”