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April 24, 1996

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## Nuclear War Key Focus of Japanese Film Festival Slated for IWU in May

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Six Japanese films will be shown at Illinois Wesleyan University next month in conjunction with a special month-long physics course, "Problems in Nuclear Disarmament."

The films, which are open to the public free-of-charge, will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Center for Natural Science Learning and Research, 201 E. Beecher St., Bloomington.

The films are:

- "The Hidden Fortress" (1958) is reported to be the inspiration for Steven Spielberg's "Star Wars" trilogy. It will be shown, May 8, in Room C-102, an auditorium on the north side of the science center's Commons.
- "Black Rain" (1988) is a film exploring the lives of survivors of the U.S. atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima in August, 1945, during World War II. It focuses on survivors five years after the war. The film is a Cannes Film Festival award winner. It will be shown, May 14, in Room C-101, an auditorium on the north side of the science center's Commons.
- "MacArthur's Children" (1988) probes life in a small Japanese island village after Tokyo's defeat at a time when people ask: "What will the Americans do to us? What's going to happen to our lives and our children?" It will be shown, May 15, in Room C-102 in the science center.
- "Barefoot Gen" (1983) is an autobiographical account of a Hiroshima family at the end of the war and after the U.S. atomic bomb attack. It will be shown, May 20, in Room C-101 in the science center.
- "Sandakan 8" (1974) is the address of a brothel in a story focusing on Japan's early 20th-century expansion into Southeast Asia and how young women were "traded" into prostitution. This is an adult film. It will be shown, May 22, in Room C-102 of the science center.
- "Minbo or the Gentle Art of Japanese Extortion" (1992) is a scathing satire of the Japanese Mafia (yakuza). It will be shown, May 27, in Room C-101 of the science center.

May Term is a month-long program where students study a single course intensively on campus, take a travel course, or work on an internship. With a shift in IWU's academic calendar during the 1995-96 school year, this type of learning experience for students was switched from January to May.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 1,850 students in a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. A \$15 million athletics and recreation center opened in the fall of 1994; and a \$25 million science building opened in the fall of 1995. The Carnegie Commission for the Advancement of Teaching promoted Illinois Wesleyan to a "Baccalaureate I" institution in 1994, a classification that places it among 161 highly selective National Liberal Arts Colleges in the annual *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges*, another respected college guide, rated IWU "highly competitive (+)" in its latest edition.