

From the Office of Public Relations
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
Tel: UN 4-6900, Ext. 2701

FOR RELEASE
FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1965

The sixth M. I. T. degree in his family will be awarded to Richard Winyu Tsien, 20, of Livingston, N.J., president of the Class of 1965, during Commencement at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology today (June 11).

His father Hsue-Chu Tsien received the master's degree at M. I. T. in 1937 in aeronautics and astronautics. Two uncles, who are on the M. I. T. faculty, are Dr. Shih-Ying Lee, who received the master's degree in 1943 and doctorate in 1945, and Yao T. Li, recipient of the master's degree in 1938 and the doctorate in 1939. Dr. Lee is associate professor of mechanical engineering and Dr. Li is professor of aeronautics and astronautics and director of the Man-Vehicle Control Laboratory of M. I. T.'s Center for Space Research.

Richard Tsien, a straight-A student, received the bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

Mr. and Mrs. Hsue-Chu Tsien, his parents, live at 21 Browning Drive, Livingston.

As president of the graduating seniors, Dick, along with three other class officers, led the Commencement procession of graduates and acted as marshal of the seniors. He addressed the degree winners at a luncheon after Commencement on the Great Court lawn and was chairman of a Graduation Eve Party. The party had as its entertainers the Dave Brubeck Quartet and as its guests 1, 200 graduates and their parents.

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TSIEN
FEATURE

2. R. Tsien -- M.I.T. Commencement

Dick, who this spring received the Karl Taylor Compton Prize for outstanding contribution to the M.I.T. community, has immediate plans to use his M.I.T. training on a seventeen month scientific sail around the world.

He and five other M.I.T. men -- three others who will receive degrees at Commencement, and two graduate students -- are making plans now for a venture in oceanography that will take them through the oceans of the Southern Hemisphere, oceans least known scientifically.

Already adventurers to a degree, all of them have experience in sailboat racing and cruising, mountain climbing, canoeing, scuba diving, and underwater photography. Two of them have even built their own boats.

Dick, who has mountain-climbed in New Hampshire and sailed in the Bahamas, was born in China, came to the U.S. at a very young age, and now hopes to visit many parts of the Orient. He also speaks Chinese.

Right now the sailors are making plans for their cruising sailboat, oceanographic equipment, cameras and radio gear.

Once around the world, Dick plans to return to M.I.T. to work for a doctorate in a phase of communications science, perhaps in machine translation of speech.

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June 9, 1965