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**Happy days are
here again**

(If we're careful)

OFFICIAL

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In this issue

In the last month of a very difficult 2020, we're doing our best to send you some seasonal cheer. The President sees light at the end of the tunnel, and so does Yuriko Koike. Jonathan Watts celebrates the perfect chaos of the best-ever PAC event in Club history. Robert Whiting recalls a romance so doomed you could almost be glad to be in 2020, while Yoshiko Miwa shows us how heart and determination will always win through. Yes, we do have an obituary, but an unusually upbeat *Regular* sees one good reason for cheer. And of course all of us at *Number 1 Shimbun* wish all of you a very restful and happy holiday and peace and safety in 2021.

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THE FRONT PAGE

From the President



JULIO SHIKI

Dear members,

If you polish your glasses and squint hard enough, you can just about see it. Yes, that tiny, unfamiliar thing in the distance is a faint sign of light at the end of the tunnel. It's hard to focus on it when Japan has just recorded a new high of 2,684 virus cases in a day and the third wave of the pandemic is casting a pall over the normally lively end of the year. Bars and restaurants in Tokyo and other cities are being asked to close early again, parties are being canceled and travel campaigns brought to a halt. But human ingenuity is giving us much-needed cause to hope. At least three of the more than 200 vaccines under development around the world have proved effective in an almost unbelievably short space of time. While a vaccine typically takes a decade or more to reach the end-user, the U.K. for example, is set to begin immunizations before the end of December. After a year marked by sorrow, anxiety and isolation for so many of us, we can realistically begin to hope that 2021 will bring something better.

For Tokyo, a lot hangs on whether and how the city can finally pull off the delayed Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. Host nations tend to go through cycles of jubilation and frustration over the costs and benefits of welcoming the athletes and their millions of fans - and the risks are all too apparent this time. But, Thomas

Bach of the International Olympic Committee has promised to try to get all the attendees vaccinated, while Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike at her recent FCCJ press conference painted a picture of an ideal scenario, where the venues are packed with fans. There's no denying that if the Games can be held safely, they have the potential to re-set the national mood.

That goes for the Club as much as any other organization. While we've sought to adapt to the current crisis over the months by taking all the precautions we can to maintain safety on our premises and livestreaming our events so that members can take part without concern, opportunities to be in the room with newsmakers are part of our DNA. We're hoping to welcome the many reporters from overseas who will cover the Tokyo Games if they take place next year, and most of all we're looking forward to seeing all our members in person again.

2020 has certainly been full of events most of us want to put out of our minds as quickly as possible. *Bonenkai* forget-the-year parties are not advisable at the moment, so let's quietly raise a glass to that pinprick of light at the end of the tunnel. Here's to a mask-free future!

● Isabel Reynolds has been reporting for Bloomberg in Tokyo since 2012. She has lived in Japan for more than 20 years and been a Regular Member of the FCCJ for most of that time.

PAC AFTERWORD

BEATING THE ODDS

TOKYO GOVERNOR KOIKE YURIKO AT THE FCCJ



COURTESY OF KHALDON AZHARI

Governor meets President: Yuriko Koike and Isabel Reynolds

DAVID McNEILL

Feminist, nationalist, opportunist: Koike Yuriko has been called many things, not all of them flattering. A career of cycling through political parties without committing to any once earned her the moniker 'Madam Kaiten Sushi', after restaurants where plates of wilting raw fish wait to be plucked off a conveyor belt. Her defining characteristic, however, may be her vaunting ambition.

Koike has been compared to former UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and it is hard to avoid the comparison. Apart from the hawkishness and air of steely headmistress, there is that carefully considered wardrobe: she arrived at the FCCJ on November 24th in a Thatcherite blue suit and delivered a speech in her purring, fluent English, extolling Tokyo's success in controlling the coronavirus.

Like Thatcher, Koike has famously duked it out through the male ranks of her profession. Once a member of the

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), she was defence minister in 2007 but lost her chance a year later to become Japan's first woman prime minister when Taro Aso beat her for leadership of the party. She later upset LDP bosses by facing down their candidate, Hiroya Masuda, in the 2016 election for Tokyo governor, trouncing him by more than 1m votes. In case anyone suspected that was a flash in the pan, she was re-elected by a landslide in July.

One reason Koike beats the odds and captures the public imagination is her portrayal as a plucky upstart in the male political bearpit. When one of her predecessors, Ishihara Shintaro, warned in 2016 that running Japan's capital could not be left to "a woman with too much make-up," she laughed and said she was used to such insults. Japan's gender barrier is not made of glass, said Koike, paraphrasing Hillary Clinton; it is made of steel. Like Thatcher, her potent charisma makes most male politicians - particularly blusterers like Shintaro Ishihara - seem wispy and evanescent.

BEATING THE ODDS

“At the moment, being responsible for Tokyo and its population of 14m people is what I see as my utmost priority, along with ensuring the successful hosting of the Olympics and Para-Olympics”

Politics of the pandemic

Koike was scheduled to speak at the Club in March but the Covid-19 pandemic forced her to cancel, and her appearance on November 24th time coincided with a worrying uptick in new infections. Yet, she noted that the number of coronavirus deaths in Japan (fewer than 2,000 in a global total of over 1.3m, and about 40,000 infections in Tokyo) was exceptionally low, despite the country’s large, disproportionately aging population. And that’s relying heavily on voluntary restrictions, rather than the hard lockdowns imposed in many other countries.

Credit, she said, belonged to medical professionals, the high level of public health awareness, and *meiwaku* - the ‘moral duty’ of trying not to cause problems for others - a dig, perhaps, at the culture wars that have paralyzed America’s response to the virus. “Mask-wearing has been a common practice in Japan for many years,” she said, showing grainy slides of masked Tokyo commuters from the global influenza pandemic a century ago. About 400,000 people died from the 1919 flu in Japan, she pointed out, including her own great grandparents. People all around the world, who once saw mask-wearing as an Asian eccentricity, now follow Asia’s lead, she said.

Looking ahead

Despite Tokyo’s relative success against Covid-19, there is no question of easing up. The city’s izakayas may be stuffed again but large public crowds are banned: Emperor Naruhito has called off his traditional New Year public greeting from the Imperial Palace, the first time it has been cancelled since the death of his father Hirohito three decades ago. Koike said there are plans to roll out more medical staff, and her government had assigned hotel beds for the mildly ill to avoid straining hospitals. There is even accommodation for patients to spend time with their pets. How’s that for compassionate conservatism?

And the Olympics?

Would all this ensure that the world’s greatest sporting event proceeds next summer? Koike put up a brave front about the postponed 2020 Olympics. “As the host city, I’m determined to achieve the games whatever it takes.” Yet, with the virus resurging across Europe and still raging across the United States, let alone

much of the developing world, the logistics are forbidding. Athletes and spectators will all have to be tested, everyone monitored, she accepted. Though she neglected to mention cost, experts predict the final price-tag, already wildly inflated from the ¥829 billion (then \$7.3 billion) estimated by the Japanese Olympic Committee in 2013, will leave the host city with a whopping hangover.

The prospect of a vaccine being available in time certainly improved the odds of the Games going ahead, Koike said, but the final decision was up to the International Olympic Committee and multiple stakeholders, of which her administration was but one. “First of all, we must ensure that a safe and effective vaccine can be developed,” she said.

High hopes?

Has she abandoned her ambitions of warming the prime minister’s chair? Koike has few worthy competitors. Just 10% of lawmakers in Japan’s lower house are female, putting the country 165th out of 193 countries, according to the Women in Parliament report. But she swatted away the question. “At the moment, being responsible for Tokyo and its population of 14m people is what I see as my utmost priority, along with ensuring the successful hosting of the Olympics and Para-Olympics,” she told the FCCJ.

Still, Yuriko Koike cannot be written off. She is likely to emerge from the pandemic stronger and, at 68, she is a mere spring chicken compared to some of the crusty grandees she has battled in the LDP. But she will have to find a way to navigate through a political world where she is viewed with a mixture of distrust and respect, but not much affection. Japan needs “the strengths of women: fortitude, steadfastness, tenacity”, she said in her 2016 manifesto. Few doubt that she holds these qualities in spades. What she lacks right now is political friends.

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● David McNeill is co-chair of the FCCJ’s Professional Activities Committee and a professor at the Department of English Language, Communication and Cultures at Sacred Heart University in Tokyo. He was previously a correspondent for *The Independent* and *The Economist* newspapers and for *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

FEATURE

GLORIOUS CHAOS

WHEN MARADONA JOINED THE CLUB



PER BODNER

Mock-punishment for your loquacious author

JONATHAN WATTS

July 1, 2002: He came. He saw. He conquered. Then, he escaped through the kitchen and out the back exit. The brief, wondrous visit of Diego Armando Maradona to the FCCJ during the 2002 World Cup will not easily be forgotten by anyone who was there, particularly me. I was supposed to be emceeding the talk with the Argentine football genius, but he ran as many rings around me as he had done around Terry Butcher, Peter Reid and the rest of the England team in 1986. The result? Perfect, glorious chaos.

“El Diego” did not do normal. He had won the World Cup with Argentina in Mexico in 1986, been a runner-up in Italy four years later, and was booted out of the 1994 US tournament after failing a drug test. By the time of

the Japan-South Korea World Cup, he was 41, retired, overweight and undergoing drug rehabilitation in Havana, where he was good friends with Fidel Castro.

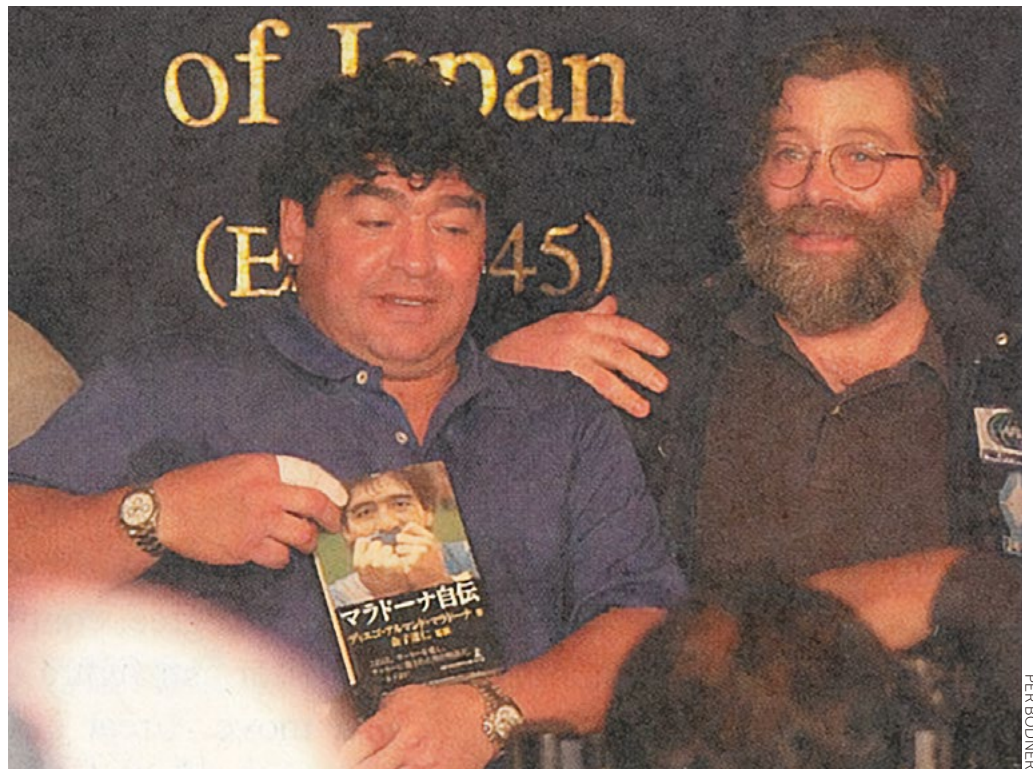
He almost never made it to the first Asian final. Japanese immigration officials had taken one look at his cocaine record and turned down his visa application. At the last minute, the Argentinian government arranged a short-term diplomatic visa to ensure the national icon was present at Yokohama Stadium for the final.

The arrival

Among the first to get a tip-off that he was coming was Italian journalist and FCCJ second vice president Pio d’Emelia. He and I (then first vice president and resident football fanatic at the FCCJ) went to his hotel to convince his entourage that he needed to be at the club.

GLORIOUS CHAOS

▶
Maradona and then FCCJ
director Pio d'Emelia
(Number 1 *Shimbun*,
8th August 2002)



PER BODNER

“(I was banned) even though Americans who dropped the atomic bomb on Japan and (former President of Peru Alberto) Fujimori, who hurt countless Peruvians, are allowed to freely walk the streets of Tokyo”

They agreed to a press conference on 1 July, the day after the final.

All standard protocols went out of the window from the moment Diego arrived on the 20th floor of Yurakucho Denki Building. He was sweating, distinctly agitated and appeared to be having second thoughts. Before such events, it was customary for speakers to go into the ante-room, sign the guest book, and discuss the format. Diego was too impatient to do that. He wanted to start the press conference immediately. If not, he told us, he would walk out.

For some very anxious minutes, his departure seemed a very real possibility. I didn't know if he was jet lagged and irritated, suffering performance anxiety, or had lapsed from rehab, but it felt very much like touch and go. We agreed to start immediately.

The entry

As Diego Maradona walked into the packed conference room to loud applause, I realised the TV camera crews were still struggling to set up. To buy time, I made an extended introduction - a few minutes long. Big mistake. I can't remember exactly what I said, but among the plaudits and the gratitude, I no doubt mentioned that I was English, that Maradona had traumatised me and my compatriots back in

1986 with his “Hand of God” (the notorious hand ball goal), and then left us speechless with awe after scoring that extraordinary second. While I was speaking, an irate Diego looked up from his phone and said something to Pio, who tapped my arm and translated the message for me.

“If you don't get on with it, he's leaving. And before he leaves, he will hit you.”

Time to shut up. After all, it is not every day you get threatened by a global superstar. I tried to joke my way out of my embarrassment by offering to shake his hand and then pulling back and pretending to check first that I wasn't touching “the hand of God.” It was comic ham, but he seemed to appreciate the cheek of it and laughed for the first time.

Game on

From then on, the mood changed. Diego held nothing back, particularly in his criticism of the Japanese visa authorities.

“(I was banned) even though Americans who dropped the atomic bomb on Japan and (former President of Peru Alberto) Fujimori, who hurt countless Peruvians, are allowed to freely walk the streets of Tokyo,” he declared. “But thanks to many people in Japan and South Korea who invited me, I was able to watch the final, and I thank them from my heart.”

GLORIOUS CHAOS

PER BODNER



► The Maradona PAC of July 1 2002: before the ice melted

“Fame is gauged on what you do on the pitch at the World Cup. People talk about ‘Beckham-mania’ but I don't see David Beckham with the World Cup trophy”

Brazil had won their fifth tournament with a 2-0 victory over Germany. Diego was unimpressed:

“The final summed up the level of the tournament. It was a poor match. Brazil are just a collection of individuals. They don't play as a team.”

He was still more dismissive of David Beckham, though the England captain had scored the penalty that knocked Argentina out of the tournament.

“Fame is gauged on what you do on the pitch at the World Cup. People talk about ‘Beckham-mania’ but I don't see David Beckham with the World Cup trophy,” he shrugged.

The audience were treated with just as little mercy. When one woman journalist in the audience asked why Maradona was so overweight, he fired back, “Why are you so old?” Another questioner asked how he felt about being named by FIFA alongside Pele as the greatest football player in history, Maradona retorted, “It's a great honour for Pele to be put in the same class as me”.

He was by turns brutal, funny and sharp, never dodging an issue, never resorting to formulaic statements. He gave a lot of himself. By the end, he was posing for pics and juggling a ball that had been tossed to him by one of the audience. Such was the clamour that he had to escape through the kitchen, taking another half-hour to sign autographs for the staff there on his way out.

Epic finale

All of this came as a fittingly epic finale to an incredible month of football, street parties, naked jumping into the Dotonburi and mega-events at the FCCJ. The club football team (yes, we had one back in those days!) played games

against a side of Diet politicians, including former Japan playmaker Ruy Ramos as a ringer, and former prime minister Yoshiro Mori as a supporter, at the national stadium. For the opening match of the World Cup, more than 200 people had crammed into the club for a viewing party with a Samba band and Okinawan musicians. In the run up and during the tournament, the FCCJ staff, particularly events secretary Wayne Hunter, had done an incredible job pulling in speakers, including Japanese team manager Philippe Troussier, playmaker Hidetoshi Nakata, FIFA president Sepp Blatter, vice president Chung Mong-Joon, and Brazilian footballing legend Pele.

Of all the speakers we had during those halcyon days, none - in my opinion - held a candle to Diego. Pele may have been a more talented and successful player, even a nicer human being. He was certainly ahead in terms of politeness and polish. But Diego Maradona was more authentic, more himself. That he was a troubled man, openly flawed, not entirely stable, often arrogant, sometimes rude, was obvious. But that he was supremely talented, generous and loyal to the people he had grown up with, a genius in the raw, was undeniable on that day.

When I heard the news of his death last week, I was deeply saddened. That experience at the FCCJ had changed my opinion of him. The cheat, the Hand of God and the drug abuser didn't really matter any more. Maradona had become a real person for whom I felt a profound sympathy - as well as admiration. It can't have been easy being him, particularly during the lows in his too-short life, of which there had been far too many by July 2002. That he was still able to share so much of himself on that day left a deep impression, and no little trauma until I got out of the way of his genius. At least I was in good company. Diego had many gifts, but I suspect the one he enjoyed most was leaving Englishmen in the dust. RIP.

Note: The quotes and anecdotes above are compiled from news clippings, stories told to me recently by friends who were there, and my own shell-shocked recollections. After 18 years, I cannot vouch for my memory.

● Jonathan Watts is Global Environment Editor for The Guardian. He has served the Club as First Vice-President on two Boards in 2001-2003.

FEATURE

THE COLONEL AND THE VISCOUNTESS

A ROMANTIC REVERSE COURSE IN OCCUPATION JAPAN

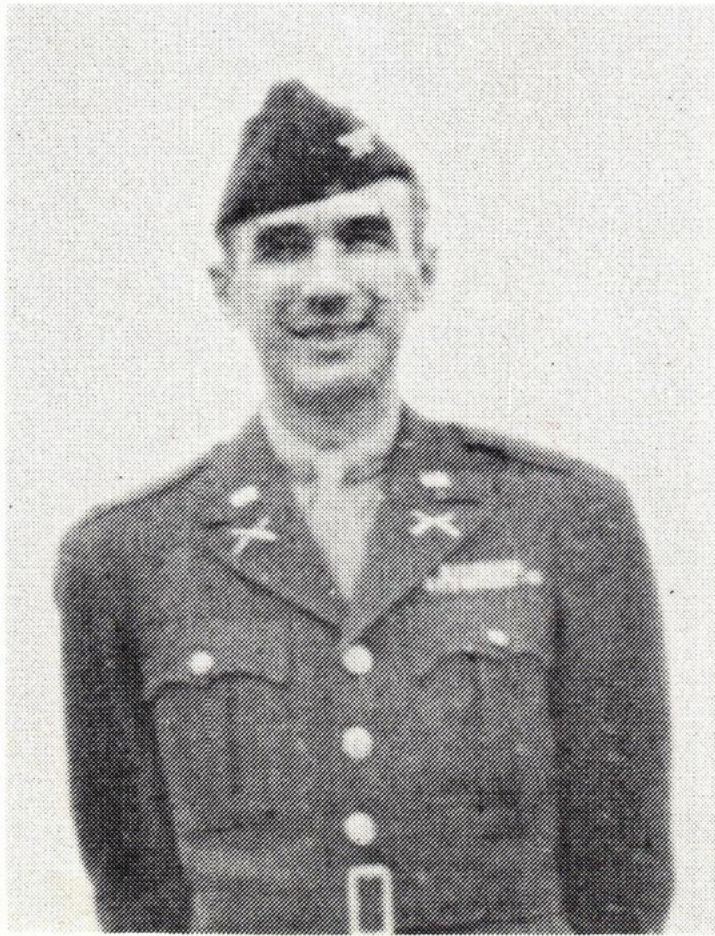
ROBERT WHITING

A few months back in *Number 1 Shimbun* this author described how the G-2 Intelligence wing of the GHQ and the Canon Agency spied on communists during the Occupation. However, they also spied on fellow Americans. One of their targets was Charles Louis Kades (1906-1996), who was having an affair with the wife of a Japanese aristocrat.



► Dangerous liaison?
Viscountess Torio
ca.1947

THE COLONEL AND THE VISCOUNTESS



▲
Colonel Charles
Louis Kades

Kades, a Harvard graduate, Roosevelt New Dealer and Wall Street lawyer, was deputy chief of the Government Section of General Headquarters (GHQ). Working under MacArthur, Kades was the moving force behind many of the Occupation's postwar reforms designed to endow Japan with modern democratic institutions and do away with the feudal system that had put Japan on a path to war. Kades had arrived in Tokyo in late August 1945. He had overseen the purging and imprisonment of the Japanese military officers, politicians, government officials and businessmen who had led Japan in to the war and he had encouraged the formation of labor unions. Kades was charged with creating the GHQ draft of a new Constitution, a remarkable document that renounced war, stripped the Emperor of authority while leaving him as head of state, established an elected government and guaranteed a range of civil rights, including, for the first time, full equality for women (who had previously been subservient under the law to the male head of the household). The new Constitution took effect on May 3, 1947.

Willoughby sees red

The head of G-2 Intelligence, General Charles Willoughby, thought Kades was going too far to the left. The Cold War with the Russians had begun and Willoughby was concerned about the rising tide of communism in mainland China and in North Korea and feared its impact on Japan, where leftist demonstrations were getting larger and noisier. The leader of the Japan Communist Party had called for a general nationwide strike or economic and political concessions involving six million railway, school, factory and government and other workers on February 1, 1947. The strike was averted only after a sharp public rebuke by MacArthur and the implied threat of retaliation from American soldiers. Willoughby thought the Occupation could use the services of Japan's top military officers in combating the rising Red threat, as well as the help of Japan's top industrialists in running the postwar economy, which was caught in an inflationary spiral. There were many New Dealers in the GS and Economic and Science Division (ESS). Willoughby suspected there were communists or people with communist leanings in the Government Section and the Economic and Science Division (ESS), operating under the guise of democratization.

The leftist direction of the Occupation had also attracted the attention of a group of influential Wall Street executives affiliated with the Morgans, the Rockefellers and other large multinationals with substantial pre-war business interests in Japan who feared the new policies would harm their investments. This group began lobbying for a change in Occupation policy, using their contacts in the US media and direct contacts to encourage Willoughby to conduct intense investigations into those suspected of leftist leanings in Tokyo, checking into their histories, family structure and friends, in coordination with the FBI and the Intelligence wing of the US Defense Department. Willoughby paid special attention to Kades, his staff, their families and the circles they moved in.

Setting a Viscountess to catch a Colonel

Willoughby was particularly intrigued by Kades' personal life. It seemed that Kades, a married man whose wife was in New York undergoing treatment for cancer, had a Japanese mistress and a very special one at that, the Viscountess

THE COLONEL AND THE VISCOUNTESS



▲
Viscount and
Viscountess Torio
and family

Tsuruyo (Tae) Torio (鳥尾鶴代元子爵婦人, hereafter Torio) (1912-1991), wife of the Viscount Norimitsu Torio and mother of two children.

The stunningly attractive Viscountess Torio had been involved with Kades since the early days of the Occupation. Some believed that the Imperial Household had assigned Torio to seduce Kades in 1946 and ensure that nothing in the new constitution Kades was helping to formulate would limit the Emperor's sovereignty.

Torio was born in 1912 and raised in privilege and luxury, but during the war years the family fell on hard times. In the early days of the Occupation Japanese officials found her elegance and fluency in English extremely effective in their dealings with the Americans.

Torio first met Kades at a dinner party for high ranking GHQ officials hosted by Cabinet Secretary Chie Narahashi at the home of prominent leftist journalist Tanzan Ishibashi. The goal of the get together was to ensure that nothing in the new constitution set limits on the sovereignty of the Emperor or otherwise weakened the emperor system.

Nicknamed the 'Charles Boyer of the GHQ', Kades was a man of considerable charm. As Beate Sirota Gordon, an aide to Kades who was instrumental in [the inclusion of an equal rights clause for women in the new Constitution](#), said, "He was wonderful. All the girls in the Occupation were in love with him. Including me."

Kades' secretary, Ruth Ellerman put it this way, "There were a lot of upper-class Japanese women who tried to get close to the liberals in the Government Section. In the case of Kades, the attraction wasn't just a political or an intellectual one; it was more than that. But Chuck was not the kind of man to chase after women himself; they chased after him."

Nevertheless, Kades was reportedly very taken with Torio, and she with him. As she put it in a 1985 memoir published, she had an open marriage. Her husband kept a mistress himself, but agreed that what was sauce for the goose was sauce for the gander. Soon Torio and Kades began enjoying romantic weekend getaways in Karuizawa, where the Torio family had a summer home. Kades also became a frequent visitor

THE COLONEL AND THE VISCOUNTESS



► An unidentified friend with Torio and Kades on the beach at Shonan.

to the Torio residence in Fukuzawa, Ryogoku, parking his 1946 black silver Chevrolet in front of the house for all to see and bringing presents from the PX for Mr. and Mrs. Torio and their two children, including items forbidden to the Japanese under Occupation rules. Kades also helped Torio open a boutique in the Ginza, catering to the wives and mistresses of GHQ officers and well-heeled Japanese businessmen.

In turn, as Torio tells it in her autobiography, she helped Kades understand the Japanese as a people, explaining their devotion to Emperor Hirohito and the need to keep the emperor system in place. Torio maintained that a purge of Japan's prewar military and financial business leaders would weaken the administrative core of the new Japan.

As part of his investigation of Kades, Willoughby arranged for a plain clothes detective from the Metropolitan Police Department to monitor his visits to the Torio residence, and to report back via Jack Canon. As the detective on this watch remarked, it did not take much work to uncover the relationship between Kades and Torio. Viscount Torio not only knew about and condoned the affair but seemed to see it as an honor bestowed on his family. Besides it left him free to pursue his own interests. The Viscount would see Kades and his wife off with a friendly wave, then go to pick up his secretary and bring her back to his home. According to the detective the Torios' neighbors could not wrap their heads around the goings on in the Torio household.

THE COLONEL AND THE VISCOUNTESS



▲
Tae Torio as a Ginza bar *mamasan* in the post-Occupation era

The consequences went beyond the household and the neighborhood. As the affair became increasingly public knowledge, individuals who had been purged by GHQ asked Torio to use her influence with Kades to remove their names from the purge list. All this came out when Willoughby submitted his report on Kades to MacArthur. As he put it, “Sir, in the Occupation Policy Manual, there is nothing that indicates it is all right to occupy the wife of another man. Also, I might add that Kades already has a wife.”

MacArthur, famous for saying of his men that, “They could Madam Butterfly themselves to death for all I care” was not moved to action, however, so Willoughby took the next best course of action and set about destroying Kades’ career, sending a copy of the police report to Kades’ wife in New York. Mrs. Kades took the first flight to Tokyo, confronted her husband with Willoughby’s undeniable evidence, returned to the US and filed for divorce.

Reverse Course kicks in

On March 1, 1948, the pro-Socialist Hitoshi Ashida Cabinet took power, strongly supported by Kades and many in his Government Section at GHQ. MacArthur’s ban on strikes and collective bargaining had weakened the leftist movement somewhat, as had increased arrests of communist agitators by Willoughby’s people, but the new administration still enjoyed sizeable public support, a state of affairs Willoughby found intolerable.

Willoughby’s war on Kades reached critical mass in the spring of 1948 when Torio’s husband, now running a car repair business and struggling to turn a profit, tried and failed to borrow money from the Reconstruction Finance Bank, an institution backed by GHQ and set up by the Japanese government to help ailing businesses get back on their feet. The Viscount had asked his wife to ask Kades if he could find out why his loan application had been rejected. Kades did investigate and discovered that the RFN, bribed by high-ranking officials, had channeled all its funds into the Showa Electric company, Japan’s largest manufacturer of fertilizer. Key members of the Ashida government were implicated as well as the personnel in the GHQ. When Willoughby got wind of the bribes he leaked details to the U.S. wire services AP and UPI via the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan. Although censorship had been imposed by the Occupation’s GS, reprints of the wire service articles sent word back to Japan. In June 1948, Kozo Hinodera, President of Showa Denko, was arrested.

Shortly after Hinodera’s arrest, a glamorous heavily coiffed woman clad in a mink coat appeared at Viscountess Torio’s Ginza boutique. Torio recognized her as Hidekoma, a high-ranking geisha and a fellow customer at the beauty salon in the Imperial Hotel arcade. Hidekoma presented a bulky satchel to Torio, begging her to accept it.

“There’s a million yen in there,” she was quoted as saying in Torio’s 1985 memoir, “and there is more where that came from. Please give it to Colonel Kades and ask him to get Hinodera-san out of jail.”

Torio refused. Kades wasn’t that kind of man, she replied. He had too much integrity to accept a bribe. Hidekoma left in tears, her satchel no lighter.

THE COLONEL AND THE VISCOUNTESS



▲
Tae Torio in 1985,
when she published
her memoir

PRIMARY SOURCES

- Torio Tae, *Watashi No Ashi Oto ga Kikoeru*, (Tokyo: Bungei Shunju, 1985)
- *Kodo No Koi. 'GHQ No Onna' to Yobarete Koshaku Fujin* (Shodensha, Tokyo 2011)
- *Shukan Shincho* Editorial Staff, "Makassa To Nihon" (Tokyo: Shinchosha, 1970)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This article and the photographs published here owe a great deal to Torie Tae's 1985 Memoir, *Watashi No Ashi Oto ga Kikoeru* and to the courtesy of her publisher, Bungei Shunju.

In all, in November 1948, 63 more were arrested, indicted and tried in the Showa Denko scandal, including Prime Minister Ashida himself and the Minister of Finance. The Ashida government was forced to resign and Conservative leader Shigeru Yoshida, a close ally of Willoughby, became Prime Minister, ushering in four decades of right wing rule in Japan and cementing what would come to be known as the Reverse Course in Occupation history. Purged industrial and military leaders were reinstated and many early reforms repealed. Soon reports of the links between Torio-Kades and Hinodera-Hidekoma began to appear in the Japanese weeklies. Some articles portrayed Kades as a corrupt American bureaucrat who had taken as much as ¥30 million yen in bribes via his Japanese lover Torio, who was portrayed as little more than a prostitute. It was not hard to guess the origin of these rumors (see *Shukan Shincho*, 1970, citation below).

A final, final meeting

In December 1948 Kades was reassigned to Washington. Before he left, he visited Torio

to say goodbye. Torio wanted to continue the relationship but Kades dismissed it as an impossibility: "I can't stay here because I am too disliked by the Japanese, after what happened with the Ashida cabinet and everything. I can't take you back to the states because there is too much discrimination against Japanese. People remember Pearl Harbor. I don't want to hear anyone call you Jap."

The downfall of the Ashida government and the revelations of Kades relationship with Torio ruined Kades' career in Tokyo, but there is no sound evidence to support a cluster of contemporary rumors: that it had all been preplanned; that Torio had a connection with Showa Denko; that she had conspired with Willoughby or that she had been a paid agent of the Emperor.

Kades officially resigned from the GHQ GS in May 1949, on Constitution Day, the anniversary honoring the day of the creation of the document that Kades had done so much to forge. He had since remarried.

On June 24 1949, Viscount Torio died of a cerebral stroke. After her husband's death, the Viscountess took a position as the head of PR for Nihon Kaihatsu Kikai Co., in addition to her job at the clothing store. In 1950, she moved to the Aoyama section of Tokyo and - irony of ironies - fell in love with Kiyoshi Mori, who lived across the street from her. Mori was the fourth son of the then-President of Showa Denko and would later become a member of the Lower House. In 1953, Torio opened a bar in the Ginza called "Torio Fujin" but closed it after two years and 8 months.

In 1964, Torio traveled to New York city in an attempt to rekindle her romance with Kades, whom she had heard was once again single. Tae Torio went on a severe diet, went on a fitness course, bought some new outfits and set out for New York, booking into the midtown Hilton. Kades kept her waiting for days, finally making himself available on the last night of Torio's stay. Kades took Torio out to dinner at a good restaurant. When he dropped Torio off at the Hilton, his final words were, "Got an early engagement. Nice seeing you, Tae."

And that, as they say, was that.

● This article is excerpted from *Tokyo Outsiders*, a new book from Robert Whiting, scheduled for publication in 2021.

FEATURE

D S B I G
I A L N

D S B L T
I A I I Y

MAKING THE ARGUMENT FOR INTELLIGENT EMPATHY AND SMART FINANCE

In this first-person account marking the United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3, Yoshiko Miwa discusses the ongoing challenges she still faces on the job and explains what keeps her going.

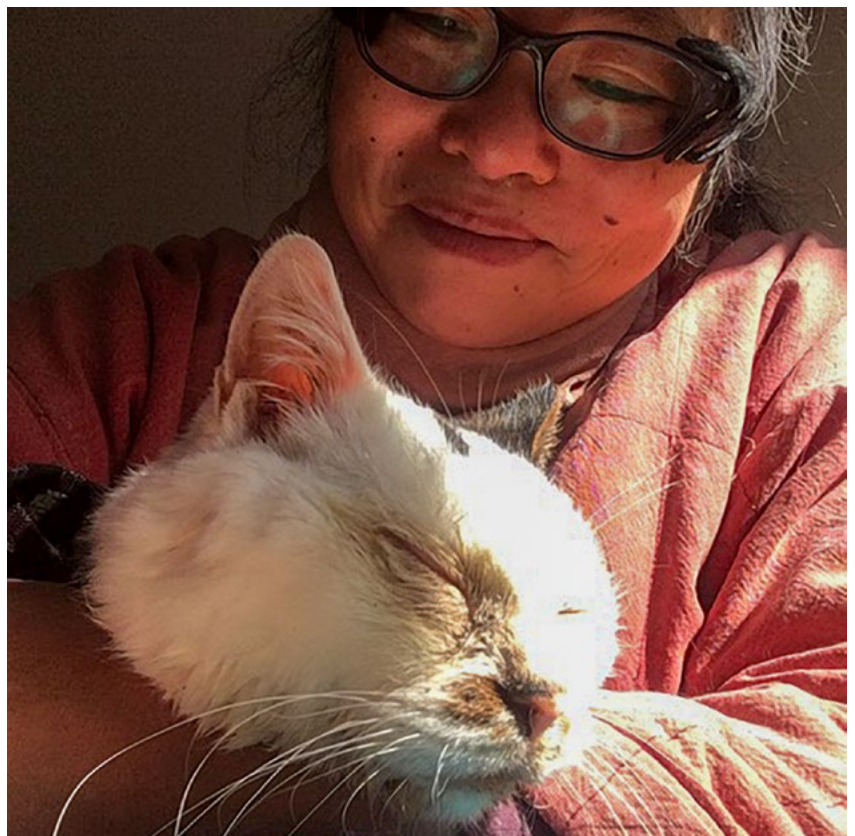
YOSHIKO MIWA

I lost the use of my limbs in 2005, becoming permanently bound to a wheelchair at the age of 42. The physical sense of loss was compounded by a similarly striking psychological sense of loss.

I felt I had no one to rely on. I have had a difficult and abusive relationship with my relatives, who have not only lacked empathy for my disability but were also prejudiced against and felt so ashamed of my condition that they tried to confine me to a hidden facility.

Neither could I rely on work as a form of distraction. Once I lost my ability to walk, my writing offers began to dry up. At the time, I had numerous sources of income from semiconductor engineering and computer education work, as well as from freelance writing. These career setbacks came as a major financial blow.

Likewise, I could not rely on the government. In 2000, five years before I lost my ability to walk, the government tightened the criteria to qualify me for national welfare support amid budget cuts. Unlike before, when evidence of



The author with Ryu, now in recovery from uraemia.

DISABLING DISABILITY

“My own personal survival has hinged on learning the ropes and learning through personal experience about social welfare and disability issues in Japan”



► Geneva Feb. 2016: The author just before periodic review for Japan of the UN's 1979 CEDAW* Convention

the symptoms of my disability had sufficed, I needed a proper diagnosis to providing clear justification for my disability certificate. However, my doctors could not find a clear cause for my degenerative disorder, which meant I did not have a diagnosis.

This has been a painful journey that has seen far more downs than ups. In the early days of my paralysis, I had to scramble to find ways to pay off my mounting bills, including a monthly 30,000 yen lease for my electric wheelchair. My only solace came from my three cats, who have been with me through thick and thin over the years, as well as disability rights activists who lent more than a listening ear.

Disability certificate

I finally got my disability certificate in 2007. A doctor found that my survival was not sustainable without it and made effort. By 2010, I had managed to obtain sufficient grants and disability pension income to scrape by. My own personal survival has hinged on learning the ropes and learning through personal experi-

ence about social welfare and disability issues in Japan.

But I refused to write about such matters because doing so, I thought, would mean admitting to defeat by my disability. But I changed my mind after the Great Eastern Japan earthquake, the tsunami and nuclear disaster of 2011, when I realized just how many people with disabilities were also barely surviving, out of sight and out of mind.

Life mission

I tracked news reports of the disaster closely, but for as long as three weeks after the tragedy I found no media reports about the fate of survivors with disabilities, among the countless stories of victims who were trying to pick up the pieces.

How could this be? I soon came to realize that persons with disabilities and their families would either have been turned away by shelters that were unable to accommodate them or had no choice but to live in their car or their partially-destroyed home.

DISABLING DISABILITY



▲
Sendai city Nov. 2011:
Sidewalks remain
damaged and hard to
navigate 8 months after
the March earthquake.

This was not only due to a lack of infrastructure at shelters set up for able-bodied people. But worse than that is the gap in empathy, as survival instincts inevitably kick in when people have to fend for themselves. In disasters, sentiments that have long bubbled under the surface are blown up and amplified.

Difference and disability

There are many different forms of disability. The loss of full use of one's limbs makes it difficult for me and anyone disabled to get around. But there are also psychiatric disorders, which cause sufferers to be shunned or seen as crazy if they disclose their condition. Those with intellectual or developmental disabilities, meanwhile, are

discriminated against if they are seen as 'causing trouble'.

My own disability made me feel personally invested in uncovering the important stories among others like myself that the mainstream media seemed to be uninterested in. My journey towards writing about disability issues began in May 2011 when [I visited the coastal town of Urakawa](#) in Hokkaido.

There, I learnt about its tsunami countermeasures, which were borne out of the fears of a person with a severe psychiatric disorder, afraid that a tsunami would strike someday and wipe out her town. Rather than rubbishing this as irrational clairvoyance, other residents in the community instead worked with her in a project to make the town more tsunami-resilient. The decision paid off, when a 2.8-meter high tsunami struck the town in March 2011.

As a person with a disability myself, I can personally relate to the challenges faced by other people like me. It is clearly my life mission to tell these stories.

Financial struggles

In 2012, I began contributing a weekly series to the online news site Diamond Online, discussing the issues surrounding welfare payments in Japan. The series is ongoing.

Two years later, I began a doctoral study about public policy-making on welfare payments in Japan. I hoped to present the real value of social welfare such that the benefits can be felt by society-at-large, and not just directly by the recipients.

I have sought to do on-site reporting as far as I can, as this allows me to directly observe what people think. This despite the additional time cost and inconvenience of getting around, and the fact that, as a freelancer, I sometimes have to dip into my own savings.

The Japanese government has, since 2000, enacted policies dubbed 'From Welfare To Work' designed to enable people with disabilities to work so as to financially support themselves. But I do not think these have been very effective, nor do freelancers like myself stand to benefit.

A 2016 survey by Kyosaren, which organizes workshops for the disabled, showed that more than 80 percent of people with disabilities rely on an income that puts them below the

DISABLING DISABILITY

I can only hope that throwing a more powerful spotlight on diversity issues in society – including at the FCCJ – will bring about greater awareness and empathy from society at large, encouraging people to lend a helping hand when they can, while also treating us as equals in the job market.

relative poverty line. This ‘income’ does not solely comprise salaries, but also additional government grants such as welfare payments and disability pensions.

Recipients of public assistance are more than five times more likely to be disabled than able-bodied people in Japan. Clearly, not many disabled people in Japan are earning enough to support themselves; those who manage to do so are few and far between.

This relative poverty means it is very difficult to have a social life, still less to aspire to a healthy, sporty lifestyle. Even as Japan is set to host the Paralympic Games next year, many of my peers do not see the value in these Games but instead see the event as an ironic symbol of ‘ableism’ and a reminder of the huge gap between ‘haves’ and the ‘have nots’ in the disabled community.

Resolving these challenges will be a long and arduous journey, a journey made even more complicated by the Covid-19 pandemic, which presents perhaps the greatest hurdle we have to overcome.

Pandemic fears

The crisis is obviously difficult for everyone, but people with disabilities will also feel the impact very acutely. Job cuts will very likely hurt those with disabilities even more than the able-bodied.

To make matters worse, people with disabilities are more likely to have to fend for themselves, given the acute labor shortage among care workers. In 2019, there were 17 job offers for each applicant – a figure that is likely to have risen this year. With the crisis, many caregivers or medical workers have been redeployed to battle the coronavirus, thus affecting the quality of care provided to persons with disabilities. Being more vulnerable given our pre-existing conditions, there are also underlying fears of infection of disabled people by nurses exposed to the coronavirus at hospitals.

Financially, it is almost for sure that persons with disabilities will take much longer to recover than able-bodied people. To begin with, we have fewer resources to cope. The odds are stacked against us in ordinary times: we have always had lower incomes, been given insufficient public support and faced social and physical barriers. The pandemic has hugely compounded our difficulties.

There is no magic bullet to fix all these challenges, but I can only hope that throwing a more powerful spotlight on diversity issues in society – including at the FCCJ – will bring about greater awareness and empathy from society at large, encouraging people to lend a helping hand when they can, while also treating us as equals in the job market. As a journalist, I am determined to do all that I can to be a force for change through my work.

● FCCJ Professional/Journalist Associate Member Yoshiko Miwa is a wheelchair-bound freelance journalist specializing in science, technology, and social welfare issues. She is a regular contributor to the online diversity news site [Diamond Online](https://diamond.jp/category/s-seikatsuhogo). She is also a member of the Board of the Japanese Association of Science and Technology Journalists (JASTJ).

FURTHER READING

Real life protection (生活保護のリアル) Series, 2012:

<https://diamond.jp/category/s-seikatsuhogo>

<https://diamond.jp/category/s-seikatsuhogo2>

CLUB NEWS

New members

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

YASUHIRO KATSUYAMA - Mitsubishi Corporation

REGULAR MEMBER

FUMIHIRO KITAYAMA - The Yomiuri Shimbun

Join the Film Committee...

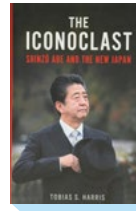


on Wednesday, December 2 at 7:00 pm for a sneak preview of *Bolt*, veteran arthouse director Kaizo Hayashi's visually and aurally ravishing tribute to one of the many forgotten heroes of the 3/11 Fukushima disasters. In a triptych of haunting tales, we see the unnamed protagonist (Masatoshi Nagase) at the nuclear plant on 3/11, then in the evacuation zone 2 years later, and finally, in 2014, living and working in a garage, still mourning his wife, who was swept away in the 3/11 tsunami. Rooted in reality but impressionistic in its dreamlike imagery, *Bolt* features art direction and costumes by acclaimed artist Kenji Yanobe, and calls to mind the films of David Lynch (*Blue Velvet*, *Lost Highway*) and Jean-Pierre Jeunet (*City of Lost Children*). Director Kaizo Hayashi and star Shiro Sano will join us for the Q&A session. (*Bolt*, Japan, 2019, 80 minutes. In Japanese with English subtitles).

● Karen Severns

New in the library

1



The Iconoclast: Shinzo Abe and the New Japan
Tobias Harris
Hurst & Company

2



The Memory Police
Yoko Ogawa
Vintage

3



Seijika no Kakugo 政治家の覚悟
Yoshihide Suga
Bungeishunju

4



Marunouchi nakadori: "akogare no machi" o sasaeru sutoriito no himitsu
丸の内仲通り: "憧れの街"を支えるストリートの秘密
NPO Daimaruyu Area Management Association
Association Marunouchi Nakadori
Bonhensyushitsu
Gentosha
Gift from Hiroaki Fujii

REGULAR IN "ANNUS HORIBILIS"



OBITUARY

GORDON F. JOSELOFF

MAY 13th 1945 – NOVEMBER 9th 2020

PHOTO COURTESY OF CBS NEWS

Gordon Joseloff, 1945-2020

Gordon F. Joseloff, an award-winning CBS News journalist who served as Tokyo bureau chief, died November 9 at his U.S. home with his son and daughter by his side after a three-year battle with myelofibrosis, a rare blood cancer. He was 75.

In addition to his Tokyo posting, during his 16-year tenure at CBS News Joseloff held the roles of correspondent and senior producer and served as bureau chief for New York and Moscow..

In Moscow

Before joining CBS News, Joseloff worked as a correspondent and editor for United Press International. In 1975, on vacation in San Francisco from his first, UPI, assignment to Moscow, Joseloff was an eyewitness to Sara Jane Moore's attempted assassination of then-President Gerald Ford. His description of what he saw appeared worldwide on UPI's wires and radio network.

During his 2nd assignment to Moscow, Joseloff covered related stories in the Soviet Union, including the start of the 1980 labor unrest in Poland - that year, he was the first U.S. network correspondent in Poland when Lech Walesa's Solidarity union movement was created - and Leonid Brezhnev's 1980 trip to India.

At the beginning of his career at CBS News, Joseloff started as

a writer under Walter Cronkite and Dan Rather, two legendary men whose emphasis on trust and journalism explicitly impacted Joseloff's career.

Never one to shy away from difficult stories, Joseloff centered his coverage on groundbreaking news both stateside and worldwide. While on assignment in Moscow, Joseloff covered the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, including the U.S. boycott of the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

In Tokyo

Gordon F. Joseloff joined the FCCJ on his assignment to Tokyo for CBS News in 1981, being a Regular Member from December 1, 1981 to August 1, 1989. Joseloff kept a low-profile at the Club, serving on no committees or on the Board. Instead, he masterfully reported the major Japan and Asia-related news of the day, including the Soviet shutdown of Korean Airlines Flight 007, the Bhopal gas leak, the overthrow of Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos and the death of Japanese Emperor Hirohito. In 1984, his coverage of the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi won him a shared Emmy Award. Gordon Joseloff returned from overseas in 1991 and was instrumental in coordinating CBS News' coverage of the Gulf War.

PHOTOGRAPHY

SPEED, LIGHT AND GASOLINE

JOE HONDA'S WORLD OF MOTORSPORT



© JOE HONDA ARCHIVE

Joe Honda: "Motorsport photography...ran in my my blood and was my life."

In March 1967, with just \$500, two cameras, and only a few words of English, Joe Honda embarked on a journey to Europe that would define the course of his life's work. He shipped his Toyota Corolla (which he later drove around Europe) ahead of him, hopped on a Soviet sea liner, and never looked back.

Born in 1939, Honda graduated from the Nihon University Department of Fine Art and trained with famed photographer Yuji Hayata before going freelance. He began his five-decade-long career in October 1966 at the international Fuji Speedway race, where he crossed paths with British racing stars such as Jackie Stewart, Jim Clark, and Graham Hill, who had come to Japan for the first time. In 1967, Honda became the first Asian to capture the global motorsport scene. He was appointed the International Racing Press Association's (IRPA) regional representative in that same year.

Fifty years in motorsport photography

Over a prolific international career spanning five decades, Honda captured iconic 35 mm film shots of Formula One stars such as Bruce McLaren, Ayrton Senna, Niki Lauda, James Hunt, Michael

Schumacher, and Damon Hill. He documented Formula One, Two, Three, NASCAR, Indy races, Paris-Dakar rallies, motocross, and classic car races. He became widely recognized as the father of motorsport photography in Japan, igniting widespread interest in a country where motorsport had been largely unknown.

Honda's style draws inspiration from art forms as diverse as sculpture, graphic design, French impressionist painting, and documentary photography. His images represent the developments, people, and culture that shaped the motorsport industry. They document a pivotal period in history, showing major shifts in the automotive and photographic industries through one artist's perspective and evolving practice.

Honda has exhibited in major art galleries such as the Nikon and Canon salons in Tokyo and published extensively on the development of Formula One and the automotive industry. The photographs on these pages are derived from Honda's series on Asia's first international race held at the Fuji Speedway in Shizuoka Prefecture in October 1966. This December, the Club will be holding an Exhibition of Joe Honda's work, organized in partnership with award-winning photography atelier Shashin Kosha.

PHOTOGRAPHY



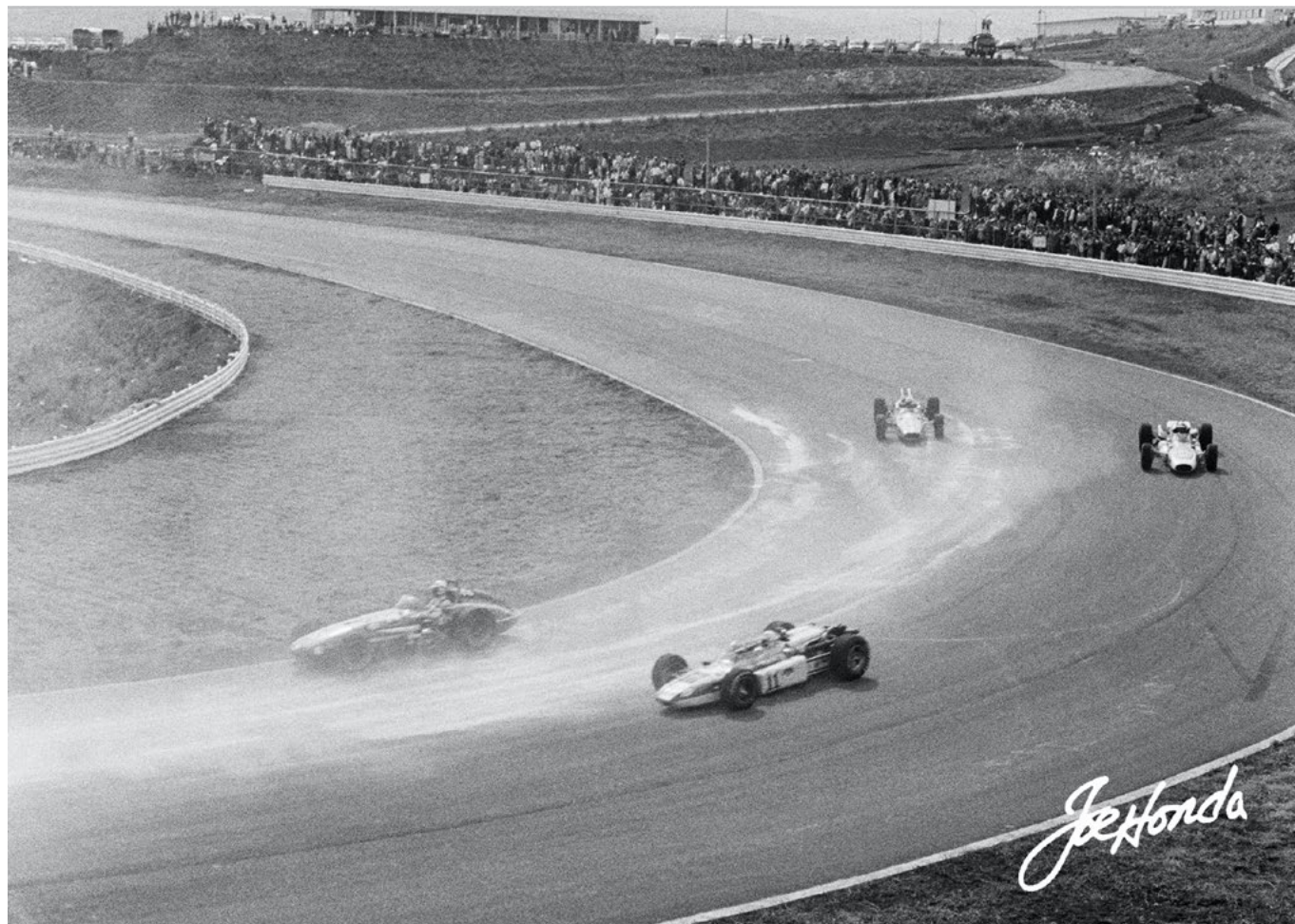
Jackie Stewart gives the victory salute at the Fuji Speedway, 1966

© JOE HONDA ARCHIVE

EXHIBITION

**Total Recall: Remembering Japan's Temple of Speed
December 5th 2020 - January 8th 2021**

PHOTOGRAPHY



© JOE HONDA ARCHIVE

Joe Honda recorded Japan's first international non-championship race, the Fuji Speedway, 1966

EXHIBITION

Total Recall: Remembering Japan's Temple of Speed
December 5th 2020 - January 8th 2021



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