

NUMBER 1 SHIMBUN

July 2013
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HENRY
SCOTT STOKES
Father

+ HARRY
SUGIYAMA
and son
Things he never
told me



JFK
50
YEARS
ON...

ON THE
END OF THE
NATION STATE:
TAKAFUMI HORIE

**Mark
Schreiber
visits Dallas**

YOYAKO DAY!
**Bruce Osborn's family photo project
celebrates its eleventh year**

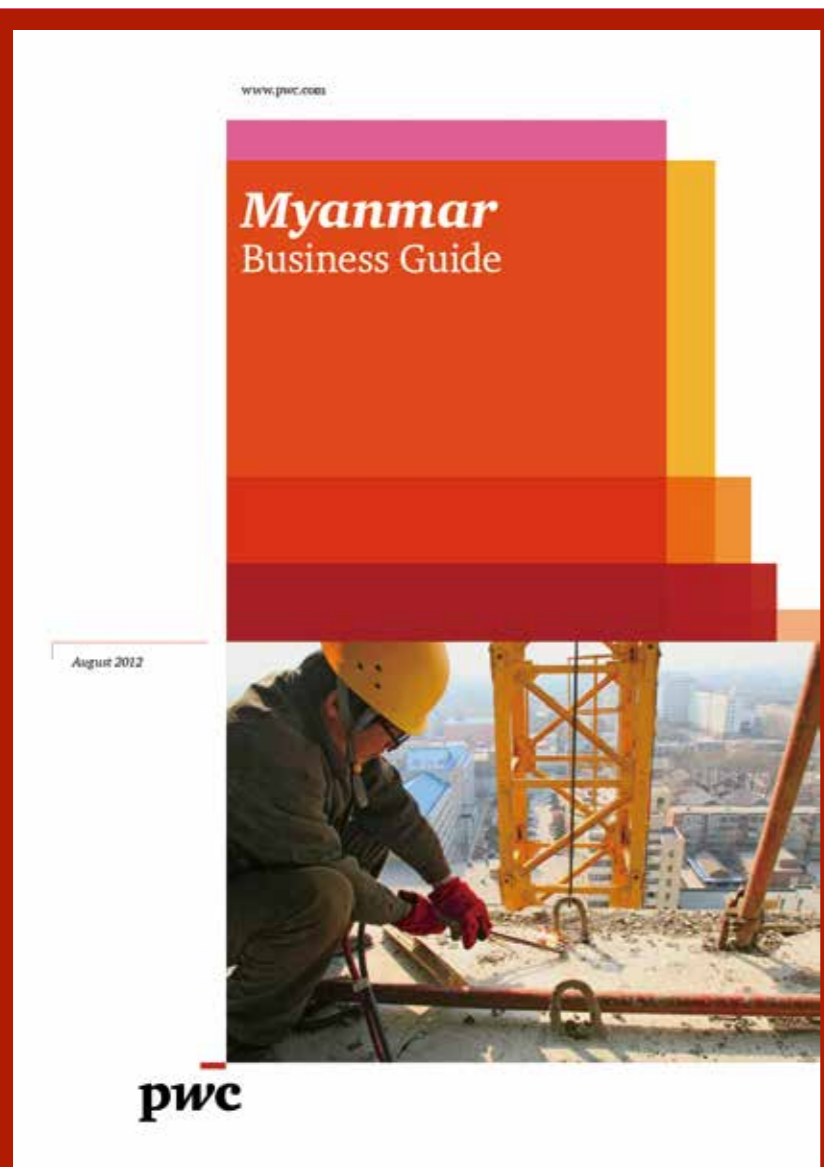
THE MEDIA
BLACKOUT OF
OKINAWA

TETSUO JIMBO
OF VIDEO
NETWORK NEWS

...and more



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"I think the whole concept of the nation-state is on the verge of collapse ... we need to eliminate as much government interference as possible."

Takafumi Horie, entrepreneur and founder of Livedoor page 14



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Cover photograph by Bruce Osborn

From the president's desk



FIRST, SINCERE THANKS TO EVERYONE who made the effort to vote in the election for the board of directors. I admit I used to be a lackluster voter. A few years back, I finally came to realize how important it is for our membership. Your vote is a vote for the sustainability and dynamism of our Club.

(Okay... lecture ended.)

I am honored and thrilled to be the FCCJ's new president. As only the third woman president in the Club's 68-year history, it is a special feeling indeed. Not like a shot of power, or a well-deserved pat on the back. More like an exciting opportunity to test the survival techniques I've learned after many years in this (decidedly patriarchal) foreign land.

Among those, patience and humility top the list. Humor too. Sure to come in handy when tackling the Club's many issues. I've listed some of those issues with tackle strategies in my election statement. Most vexing: how best to handle the thorny issue of member conflict; the bitter infighting and negativity? Donning my reporter's cap, I decided to do a bit of historical research.

I turned to the *The Foreign Correspondents in Japan*, a history of the FCCJ's first 50 years. Written for the Club's 50th anniversary in 1998, and edited by Member Charles Pomeroy, it is a treasure trove of stories from and about Members and the Club's small and great dramas during half a century of historical upheavals.

I highly recommend it if you haven't read it yet. (It's conveniently sold at the front desk.) The book has renewed my respect and love for the Club, and reminded me of the incredible importance of this institution and the vital role it has played in world events and the pursuit of truth.

Trolling through the pages I discovered that, indeed, upheavals and conflict at the Club go hand in hand. Journalists, it seems, naturally like a fight, clean or dirty. The thing that makes us brave radioactivity, needle a politician or unveil the findings of a whistleblower is exactly what makes us argumentative and combative.

One episode in the book makes the argument for congeniality with language at its best. It was 1989 and Mike Tharp, bureau chief of *US News & World Report*, was FCCJ president. I remember him fondly as a gentle giant with a sweet, sharp wit. As he is quoted in the book, "The tone I hoped to set was one of old-fashioned gentlemanly behavior. We could disagree on issues, I reasoned, without resorting to personal animosity."

He gave this example. "At a particularly rancorous general meeting, tempers were fraying, voices were being raised. I didn't remember the cause. One member stood, spoke heatedly for several moments, then said something along the lines that if we didn't follow his course of action, we 'should all be hung.' Leaning to the microphone at the head table, I said quietly: 'It's hanged. But most of us guys would like to be hung.' Mass merriment ensued, and a tense moment was defused."

Unfortunately, I can't be hung, but I can certainly laugh at the thought. Please join me this year with laughter, cordiality, friendship, and the mission to make our Club the best and hottest spot for news in Japan.

- Lucy Birmingham

FCCJ ELECTION RESULTS



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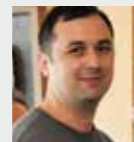
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Fourth Director: **Albert Siegel**, *Freelance*



Kanji: **William Sposato**, *Dow Jones Newswires*

Celebrating "Oyako Day" on July 28



READERS MAY RECOGNIZE THE HAND OF PHOTOGRAPHER BRUCE OSBORN behind our cover this month, shot in the style of his Oyako series.

Osborn shot his first Oyako (parent and child) photograph on a magazine assignment in 1982. He had no inkling then that it would be the start of a project that would find him photographing more than 4,500 families, or that it would still be going strong some 30 years later. The photos have graced innumerable publications and gallery walls (including Ginza's Wako Gallery last June).

This month marks an extension of Osborn's project; *Oyako no hi* or "Oyako Day." In 2003, he and his wife Yoshiko, who manages the photo sessions, decided to take the parent-child idea one step further by creating this social action.

Says Osborn: "More than anything, we wanted to express our gratitude to all the families we had met through this project. Since the second Sunday of May is Mother's Day and the third Sunday of June is Father's Day, we felt the fourth Sunday of July would be fitting to celebrate Oyako Day. We hoped it would provide an opportunity for all of us to re-examine and reaffirm this bedrock relation that our lives are tied to."

That year they invited 100 families to have their photos taken at one marathon shoot; the response was so overwhelming that they decided to celebrate Oyako Day each year since in the same way.



Bruce at work on Oyako Day

This year, Osborn will be holding the Oyako Day shoot on July 28 at a Tokyo studio. To learn more about Oyako Day, visit the website www.oyako.org.

Their team is also producing a film, entitled *Oyako: Present to the Future*, and is soliciting crowd funding through the motion gallery

website. More information is available at motion-gallery.net/projects/oyako-movie. Osborn, as FCCJ Exhibition Committee chair, has also been responsible for arranging the exhibitions in the Main Bar for the last three years. ①



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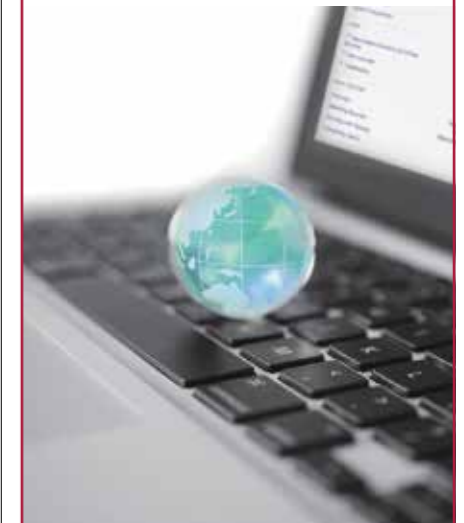
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The Members-only deal allows for flat-rate access at **¥7,900 per month** - offering big savings on a service that normally costs **¥126,000 per month**

The service will be billed by the Club. The FCCJ benefits from all subscriptions sold under this arrangement.

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For those already in on the secret, the application form is available on the FCCJ website or from the 19F Club office.



▶ AN INTER-FAMILY INTERVIEW
LEADS TO SOME SOUL SEARCHING
AND PERSONAL DISCOVERIES

I am rather ashamed to say that, after many years spent studying Shakespeare, Chaucer and Latin at boarding school in England, I hardly remember a thing, apart from the football. However, a quote that I came across back then, on a sunny summer afternoon watching cricket, occasionally comes to mind even a decade later:

“What was silent in the father speaks in the son, and often I found in the son the unveiled secret of the father” – Friedrich Nietzsche

I never studied philosophy and only have a vague impression of the great German thinker's writing, but this quote made me wonder. What could be my father's secrets? What evil deeds or qualities has he hidden, locked up in the deep dungeons of the heart? And are they going to be revealed one day in me, Harry Sugiyama? Are those brain cells that he has given to me going to excel and assert themselves?

As I pondered over the possibilities, I finally came to the conclusion that, in truth, I hardly knew my father. Despite all those years we spent kicking footballs as high as we could (which sometimes landed on the dark-tinted windows of the Mercedes-Benzes parked in our Roppongi neighborhood), and despite calling him by his first name, “Henry,” since I was wee high, we had never really had a proper, face-to-face conversation, apart from family financials. All I knew about him was that he was a veteran journalist who had friends from all sorts of backgrounds, that he was a man who always chose quality over quantity, and that he was not fascinated by money – a big difference from his son.

And so the scene was set: I – a presenter on NHK – would interview the great journalist Henry. Weird with a capital “W”; awkward to say the least.

What followed was a grueling two-and-a-half-hour serious dissection of my father in front of the cameras. I didn't go into it half-hearted, I was going to tackle him and put him on the spot. I was going to “interview” him but also had a mind to “kindly interrogate” him in order to challenge Nietzsche's words.

However, I found no need for interrogation. An outpouring of British traditional public school mannerisms and banter ensued, but give him credit, it was done with true style. We covered a huge amount of ground, from the arrival in 1964 through Mishima and the three Abes. It was a whirlwind of fascinating and revealing information, the portrayal of a man who well and truly plunged himself deep into Japanese culture without regret. And boy has he loved it! He was “an insatiable cormorant,” as Shakespeare would say, thirsty and

Secrets of the son

by HARRY SUGIYAMA

hungry to know the mind and power of the Rising Sun.

I was staggered. I hadn't seen Henry speak with such conviction and passion for donkeys' years (apart from when he discovered that his son has devoured the stock of Cadbury Fruit and Nut that he had hidden away).

Suddenly, something occurred to me. While true that this interview was meant to go back in time and clarify who exactly my father is for people who might be interested in his past, why couldn't I make this a personal thing too? Let this occasion not be just a history lesson; let it be human, something that even people of my own age could relate to. It needn't be complicated, it just needed to be about me. In other words, just what did the old man think of me?

It turned out that my father believes I have a penchant for “failing upwards.” He used it to describe my failure to get into Oxford. (Believe it or not I was the first from the English side of the family to fail to do so in over a century, and had considered it a black spot tattooed into my heart.) And it was true. I failed. I thought I could trick those professors at Oxford in their centurion tweed jackets with my public school charm, but – thank god – they tore me to shreds. If they hadn't given me the thumbs down I would never have gone to China and it's very likely I would never have come back to Japan and be in the position that I am in now. Yes, I am a beautiful example of “failing upwards.”

I was relieved. Tears fell. Was it because of these lovely words? I don't know. But I felt purged of a black spot that has taunted me all these years.

Then I began to wonder. While these words have had a massive impact on me, maybe it is exactly what the people of this country need. What if these same words magically found their way into the mouths of stern, serious bureaucrats, company men and fathers across the country? Would the future of Japan change? It's a fat crime to fail here – just look at history and the warlords who couldn't live with the shame of it.

Come on Japan, do not fear shame. With Abenomics at the ready, it's time to put the foot down and “fail upwards!” But before I forget, here's another question for you, Henry. How did you fail upwards? Nietzsche wants to know! ❶

Secrets of the father

by HENRY SCOTT STOKES

If Nietzsche needs to know, then give him the example of my time at the New York Times office in Tokyo in the 1980s. I was the bureau chief here, the big cheese. The stuff I wrote was conveyed to the U.S. and read by Americans all over, notably in Washington DC. I carried more clout than, say, the U.S. ambassador to Japan (or so I was told). My daily stuff got read at breakfast time in the White House well before they saw what that lovely ambassador Mike Mansfield and his staff had thought fit to write and transmit from Tokyo.

Not that I thought I wrote very well. I lacked the basic skills of a news agency-trained reporter like the AP lot. Friends in journalism in Paris (where I lived with Aki for five years prior) had burst into laughter when I told them that I had been tapped for the job of bureau chief in Tokyo with the sacred Times. After all, it was the Ark of the Covenant, the holy of holies and then some.

“But Henry, how will you cope with that? You don't know how to write a news story,” said Bob Mauthner, the wry Paris correspondent of the *Financial Times* at that time.

Nevertheless, I took the job in Tokyo – basically for financial reasons, since we were, as usual, broke. But after only a few years on this plum job – 1978 to 1983 – I let it slip! I failed upwards!

I loved the paper. What went wrong I could never quite figure out, stupid me. It was something to do with endemic laziness. Even the NYT, blessed organ of the press, had limitations, I discovered, mainly to do with work in Korea, not so much in Japan. In other words, my paper hesitated to touch on the fundamentals to do with the U.S. military. The galling thing was that I myself was hard pressed to analyze what was going on. I became part of the problem. I just didn't dig deep enough.

So what were they to do with me? Even 30 years down the pike, I shudder at the embarrassment. And that famous line of Groucho's – “Don't let the door hit you on the way out” – still sticks in my head. Some of the most *distingué* newsmen in the business were eventually involved in the task of finding an elegant solution to the question – Abe Rosenthal was one, Scotty Reston was another. I became in the words of Joe Lelyveld, “the former Henry Scott Stokes.” Very funny, Joe.

So I finally took a hint from my favorite

person on the NYT, the immortal Sydney Gru-son. Sydney was very high on the totem pole at the paper. As deputy chairman he occupied a roomy office next to Punch Sulzberger, the publisher. Sydney – a short, small, peppery Jew from Dublin – came from nowhere and he just implanted himself in *The Times* as the man who knew how to keep Punch happy and life worth living.

He was the ultimate exponent, as I never tire of repeating, of the concept of failing upward. All I had to do, he made me understand, was to accept a cash settlement and walk out on West 43rd St. with a huge smile on my face, to show the world that I was happy . . . that good things would surely come to pass.

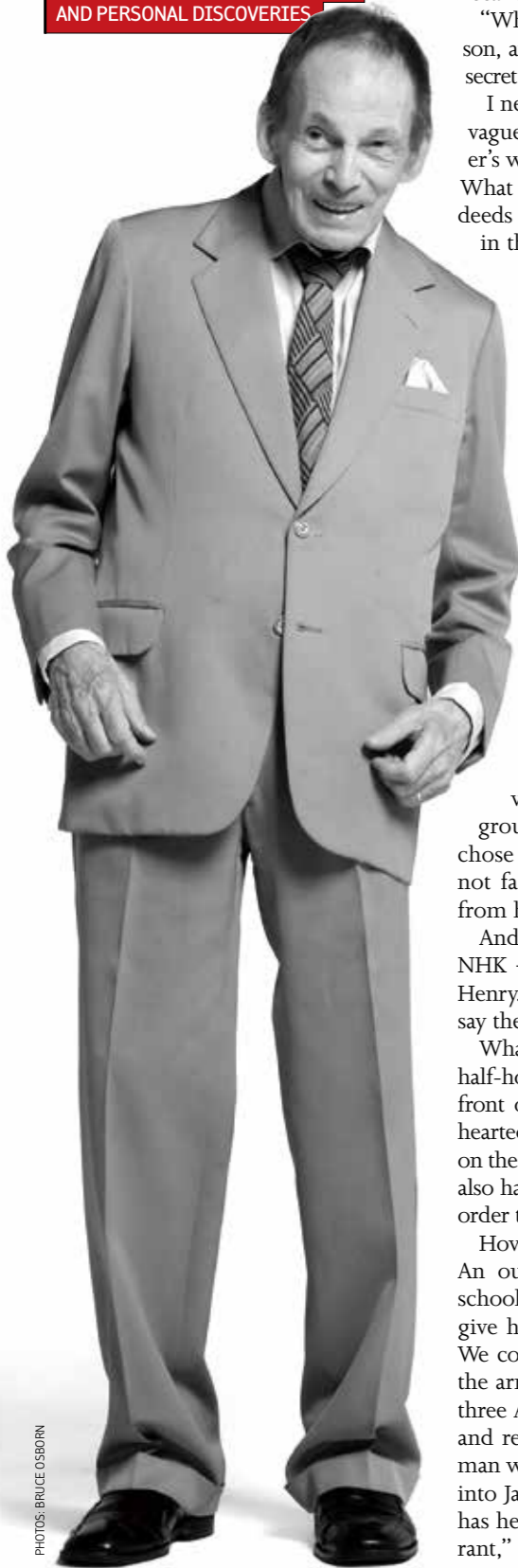
I saved my life, as it were, by following Sydney's main precept. That boiled down to having you, Harry, in 1985, and to taking a ten-year leave of absence from journalism, while I got to work with some of the finest artists I knew – Henry Moore in the UK and Christo and Jeanne-Claude in New York. I was able to indulge my interest in the arts to the full, mainly as one of the key people involved in “The Umbrellas, Japan-USA, 1984-91.” Working as the so-called Project Director healed my soul.

So “failing upward” may be a family trait. In fact, despite your “failing” at Oxford, your years at London's SOAS, at university in Beijing, and the Tokyo Chinese language institute have made me proud. Especially that year in Beijing, where you picked up Chinese as if your very life depended on it. Ever since my first trip to China in 1964 I had wanted to find a way into the labyrinth on the mainland. And on my visit some half dozen years ago, watching you hold a long, detailed discussion on the menu with the maitre d', I realized that, well, now I have a proxy to do it for me.

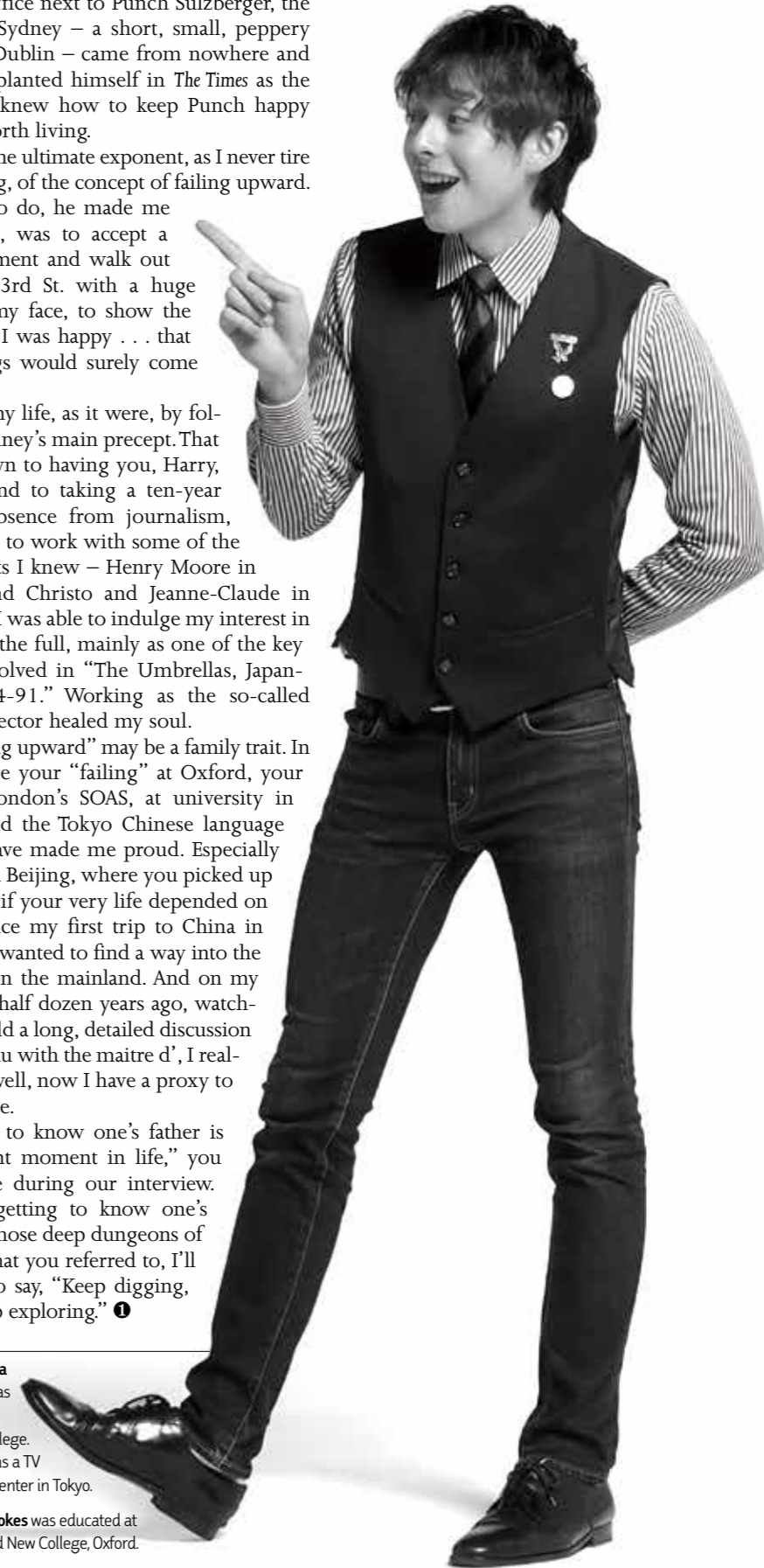
“Getting to know one's father is a significant moment in life,” you said to me during our interview. Ditto for getting to know one's son. As to those deep dungeons of the heart that you referred to, I'll just have to say, “Keep digging, Harry. Keep exploring.” ❶

Harry Sugiyama
Scott Stokes was
educated at
Winchester College.
He now works as a TV
talent and presenter in Tokyo.

Henry Scott-Stokes was educated at
Winchester and New College, Oxford.



PHOTOS: BRUCE OSBORN





CAUGHT BETWEEN BEING IGNORED AND BEING OCCUPIED: THE UNDER-REPORTING OF OKINAWA

What happens in Okinawa...

by Jon Mitchell

In September 2012, Okinawa residents succeeded in doing what the governments of the U.S. and Japan have been promising since 1996: they closed the Marine base at Futenma. For 22 hours, protesters blocked the main gates of the base, preventing anyone from entering or leaving, and it was only after Japanese police had dragged away and illegally detained more than 100 people – including two members of the National Diet – that Futenma was finally reopened.

This was the first time that the installation had been shut down since Okinawa's reversion to Japan in 1972, but you'll be forgiven if you've never heard about this small slice of history. Although the story topped the island's nightly news and made the headlines of its two daily newspapers – *Okinawa Times* and *Ryukyu Shimpō* – the national media chose to ignore it.

Such treatment is typical of the main-

land press, which consistently turns a blind eye to the iniquities suffered by residents of Japan's poorest and most militarized prefecture. Take the August 2004 crash of a U.S. military helicopter on the campus of Okinawa International University; the Japanese mainstream media barely broke from its coverage of the opening of the Athens Olympic games. More recently, it has neglected the Japanese government's SLAPP (strategic lawsuit against public participation) action versus residents blocking the construction of Osprey helipads in the northern Okinawan jungles. If Tokyo is victorious in this case, it will set a precedent for future suppression of civil disobedience throughout Japan.

True, there have been gaps in the media's wall of silence – the 1995 gang-rape of a schoolgirl and the 100,000-person anti-Osprey protest in September 2012 spring

to mind – but these are exceptions. The island has always been a place where the governments of the U.S. and Japan have done things that they couldn't get away with elsewhere. And, all too often, these injustices have been allowed to pass unreported and unchallenged.

Tomo Yara, a former *Okinawa Times* journalist who has been covering U.S. base issues for 21 years, blames this failure on two main reasons.

"Mainland journalists depend too much on Japanese government sources who themselves know very little about military issues in Okinawa. For example, they don't even know the precise number of U.S. Marines actually stationed on the island. Secondly, the Japanese correspondents in Washington are very well-controlled by the U.S. government's Japan handlers – all of whom say that the only reason U.S. bases are needed in Okinawa is to protect the island and Japan."

A refusal to subscribe to this myth that military bases are necessary for the security of the island divides many Okinawa journalists from their mainland counterparts. Okinawa was the only Japanese prefecture to be invaded during World

War II and the slaughter of more than a quarter of its population taught islanders that military bases never protect civilians, they merely make them more of a target.

A HISTORY OF PRESS MANIPULATION

These firsthand experiences of the Battle of Okinawa shaped the attitude of many Okinawan journalists in the 1950s who brought to their reportage a distrust of not only the U.S. military but any military. In the early days of the Cold War, while the Pentagon transformed their island into its much-heralded "Keystone of the Pacific," these journalists covered the seizure by bulldozer and bayonet of farmers' land – a history little remembered on the mainland today. Throughout the 1960s, the same reporters chronicled the rapes, assaults and murders in Okinawa committed by traumatized American troops on R&R from the jungles of Vietnam.

In chasing down these stories, some Okinawa journalists allied themselves with members of the American antiwar groups that formed within the bases. These GI's tipped off reporters with inside information related to military accidents and secret B-52 bombing runs to Southeast Asia.

While the U.S. authorities did not explicitly censor the Okinawa media at the time, they had other ways to control the island's journalists. If officials were unhappy with reporters, their press cards were suspended, which prevented them from attending briefings. When stories were published that revealed particularly sensitive information, Okinawa journalists faced sustained grilling to make them give up their sources.

The Pentagon found hampering international journalists' attempts to report on the island far easier, since it could control access to the island. Correspondents whose visits were green-lit found themselves shuttled from well-manicured bases to meetings with pro-U.S. friendship societies on micro-managed junkets overseen by a military guide. Despite many U.S. journalists' critical stance towards the war in Southeast Asia, they wrote very few articles about the problems that occurred on the forward staging post for the conflict – Okinawa.

Throughout the '50s and early '60s, most Japanese journalists showed little sympathy for Okinawa. However, as U.S. plans to return the island to Japan became known, overnight more Japanese reporters developed an interest. At official press conferences, these new arrivals frustrated local journalists by hogging ques-

tion time with enquiries about reversion rather than the more explosive issues of the 1969 leak of nerve gas near Kadena Air Base and the post-reversion fate of the island's nuclear arsenal.

The investigative skills that many Okinawan journalists had honed during the 27-year U.S. occupation put them in good stead for the period after 1972, and the next generation of reporters inherited their seniors' expertise. When U.S. military personnel cordoned off the site of the 2004 helicopter crash at Okinawa International University, for example, one young Okinawa TV reporter attempted to

Okinawa's protest legacy: opposite, remnants of protest on the wire at Henko bay and, below, a pre-reversion demonstration at Koza



break through the barricades, lambasting the MP's for their flagrant abuse of extraterritoriality. It's difficult to envisage a similar display from mainland journalists firmly tethered to their networks.

Despite – or perhaps because of – its neglect of Okinawa issues, the mainland community often recognizes the *cojones* of its island peers. Both Okinawa dailies have won awards from the Japan Congress of Journalists and the Japan Shimbun Rouren. Likewise, TV documentaries produced by Okinawa local networks regularly receive national acclaim.

IGNORANCE AND REPERCUSSIONS

Which brings me to my own interest in the gap between Okinawa and Japan's mainland media. In November 2012, *Defoliated Island*, a Ryukyu Asahi Broadcasting documentary based upon my investigations into the usage of Agent Orange in Okinawa during the Vietnam War, picked up a commendation for excellence and was short-listed for a broadcast culture award from Japan's Association of Commercial Broadcasters. For the past two years, my articles for *The Japan Times* on the legacy of chemical weapons in Okinawa have been regularly followed-up by Okinawa's media. But the

mainstream has roundly ignored them – even when I reported allegations that hundreds of barrels of Agent Orange were still buried beneath a strip of Okinawa's prime tourist turf.

Breaking stories such as these, and then watching as they sank without trace, not only rankled my pride but also brought home the extent to which Okinawa is treated as a foreign country. If those barrels of dioxin-leaking poisons had been buried beneath Tokyo's Odaiba, for instance, the media (in particular Fuji TV, whose studios are located there) would likely have been up in arms. However, it seems that what happens in Okinawa stays in Okinawa.

The root of this ignorance seems to lie in an over-reliance on official sources and the belief that the suffering of Okinawa's residents is a small sacrifice against the fictional security that military occupation offers Japan from Chinese aggression. In addition there is also an element of condescension towards the island's grassroots civil-disobedience movements – an elitism also evident in the failure to report on Tokyo's weekly anti-nuclear demonstrations.

At the award ceremony for *Defoliated Island* last November, I received a glimpse of one more possible explanation. A reporter from one of the mainland networks approached me and, after the obligatory congratulations, asked if I worried about repercussions from my writing about Okinawa. I reminded him that freedom of the press was protected in Japan and he nodded politely. But before he walked away, he told me to remember Takichi Nishiyama, the *Mainichi Shimbun* journalist whose reporting of monies paid by Tokyo to the U.S. for Okinawa's reversion had resulted in his reputation being destroyed by the powers-that-be.

Although Nishiyama's allegations have long since been vindicated, the fact that his name is still invoked with such wariness suggests just how deep his humiliation had resonated. The Japanese government had meant his persecution to send a signal to others meddling in its affairs, and it had worked. It was a lesson to the rest of the media of the personal and professional risks involved in writing critically about an island still 20 percent under Pentagon control – an island where Washington and Tokyo still feel entitled to trample with impunity on the rights of 1.4 million people. ❶

Jon Mitchell is an *Asia-Pacific Journal* associate who writes regularly about Okinawa for *The Japan Times*.

Tetsuo "Teddy" Jimbo of Video News Network

by David McNeill

Like most of us, Teddy Jimbo can remember the proverbial fork in the road that offered an alternative path to his life. Teddy's came at age 15, when he was sent to a competitive boarding school for elite-track children.

At the end of the road he'd been following lay a possible place in the University of Tokyo and a career in business or government. In between loomed three years of misery, he recalls. "I really didn't like it there – basically we were forced to give up all the fun a teenager can have."

So in 1977 Teddy left Tokyo, where he had grown up, to join his free-spirited mother in New York. She had put him in the care of his grandmother in 1974 to study and teach music at Teacher's College, Columbia University. "All my relatives were opposed to the trip because they thought it was better to stay in Japan rather than follow some strange woman to America."

Teddy spent a demanding three years at a New York high school. "I could hardly speak any English but my vocabulary was very good," he says. He won a place at Columbia University but after finishing his freshman year he began traveling around the world. He landed back in Japan, broke, in the early 1980s.

By the time he graduated from Tokyo's International Christian University in 1985, he knew he wanted to be a journalist. The conversion came slowly: He had produced a high-school graduation video in 1980 using a Sony Betamax camera and been bitten by the reporting bug. At ICU, he had written a thesis about poverty and development in the Third World and concluded he wanted to cover those issues.

"I knew I didn't like office work," he says. "I wanted to do something that would allow me to be at the scene of the action. And I enjoyed writing and producing videos." The late FCCJ stalwart Sam Jameson advised him to work a year before going to journalism graduate school, so he began writing for *Pacific Stars and Stripes* in Tokyo.

There followed a postgraduate degree from Columbia University and stints with the *Christian Science Monitor* in Boston and AP in New York. In 1988, a shorthanded AP office in Tokyo pulled him back to the city. It was, he recalls, like "jumping into a war zone." 1988-1990 were the years

of the Recruit scandal, the democracy movement in South Korea and the death of Emperor Hirohito. "The news situation was so hectic," he says.

In the 1990s, he turned freelance – writing for both the Japanese and English media – then gradually drifted toward the new medium of video. "I was fearless, I guess," says Teddy, smiling. "I became a journalist because I wanted to do stories on poverty and the environment, and it's tough to do that within a big organization like AP."

'I'D RATHER STICK TO QUALITY JOURNALISM, BECAUSE I SEE A DANGER IN JOURNALISTS ONLY GOING AFTER POPULAR OR SENSATIONAL STORIES.'

Covering landmines and global environmental issues didn't pay well, he laments, but he got to work as a freelancer across much of Africa and Asia, and he learned how to use portable video technology, particularly the then revolutionary Sony BX1000. The equipment allowed him to meet minimum-level broadcast standards and he began selling footage from Africa to Japanese and U.S. television companies.

Teddy calls what he has done since, "video journalism" – reportage shot not by cameramen or videographers but by reporters with a feel for a story and editing. "We deliberately show the process of journalism so the journalistic quality is very



David McNeill writes for *The Independent*, *The Economist*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and other publications.

different from conventional television."

In 1999, Teddy took another leap in the dark when he set up *Videonews.com*, an independent, subscriber-only video news producer. Today, his company employs 10 people and has 15,000 subscribers paying ¥500 a month. Its two-hour weekly special is probably the longest-running internet program in the world. Three years ago *Videonews.com* passed the business break-even point.

In early April 2011, Teddy took his cameras into the contaminated no-go zone

around the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, stealing a scoop from Japan's big TV networks, which had collectively agreed to stay away. In a remarkable spirit of public service, he put the compelling footage online for free, where it scored around 2.5 million hits. "The world was watching – so I thought making it public was much more important than trying to sell it," he explains.

"I do what I do as a journalist because I see a story that I need to cover, and I don't really worry about how many hits or readers it gets," he continues. "It's nice to be printed and seen in the *Yomiuri*, but I'd rather stick to quality journalism because I see a danger in journalists only going after popular or sensational stories."

Teddy has penned a dozen books and continues to write articles, produce output for his company and occasionally for the big TV networks. His next book will explore what he calls the current "scary and critical" transitional moment in contemporary media. Many journalists have yet to realize, he says, that the internet has opened up the delivery path to the public – with potentially revolutionary results.

"Conventional journalism is losing its function but new media has yet to fill the gap."

The "still heavily protected" Japanese media is particularly unprepared for this transition, he adds. "Their privileges won't last forever." ❶

ANDREW POTHECARY





▶ THE HALF-CENTURY MARK OF THE ASSASSINATION OF JFK DRAWS OUR CORRESPONDENT INTO VISITING THE SCENE OF THE CRIME

JFK still haunts Dallas 50 years on

by Mark Schreiber

Every American over a certain age has vivid recollections of November 22, 1963, when the shocking news broke of President John F. Kennedy's shooting.

In my case, I was drowsing in Mr. Thomas' fifth-period English class at high school in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Just before 2:00 p.m., I was rudely awakened by noisy static from the classroom's PA, followed by the voice of an excited radio announcer relaying news of the shooting to the room full of horror-stricken 11th graders.

I spent the rest of that dreadful weekend at home, glued to the black-and-white Zenith TV in the family den. Sunday afternoon, the networks delivered another shock, as I witnessed — live from the basement of the Dallas Police Department — the

telecast of the fatal shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald, JFK's accused killer, by Jack Ruby.

Fast forward to December 2012. I had been to the graves of JFK and his first lady (who died in May 1994) at Arlington Cemetery outside Washington D.C. The run-up to the 50th anniversary seemed like a good time to visit the place where he met his untimely death.

Fortunately, I was able to procure the services of an expert native guide. FCCJ member Glenn Davis, a home-grown Texan and assassination conspiracy buff who now resides in a suburb of Houston, accompanied me for the duration. In addition to teaching me how to use the right lavatory ("The door with the horseshoes pointing up is the men's room"), he led

me to numerous spots off the beaten track, supplementing his historical monologue with a cornucopia of theories regarding the "real" perpetrators of the JFK slaying.

One place we visited was Parkland Memorial Hospital, where Dr. Kemp Clark, Parkland's director of neurological surgery, pronounced Kennedy dead of a gunshot wound to the head.

The actual spot where JFK died, Trauma Room 1, was demolished in the 1970s. But in the hospital's administrative corridor one can view a five-meter long display panel containing the American and Texas state flags, the U.S. presidential seal and portraits of Kennedy and his successor Lyndon Baines Johnson. At the bottom, a bronze plaque carries the text of an office memo-

randum from the hospital's administrator, circulated five days later, which points out that Parkland had briefly become "the temporary seat of the government of the United States" and "the center of attention of the world."

"Our pride is not that we were swept up by the whirlwind of tragic history, but that when we were, we were not found wanting," it concludes.

With the 50th anniversary of JFK's death approaching, it's a safe bet that the local and national media will not be found wanting in serving up reminders of the man and his times.

The host city, however, still appears to be struggling with the repercussions of that tragic whirlwind. An attempt by the municipal authorities to impose order on Dealey Plaza by limiting access during the upcoming anniversary week to invitees only was struck down in court, so it appears that assassination buffs of all stripes will converge unimpeded on the plaza to flaunt their latest findings.

Barring any earth-shattering revelations that can be proved beyond reasonable doubt, however, the often raucous debates over the events that transpired in Dallas in 1963 are almost certainly destined to enter their sixth decade with no solution in sight.

Unlike the glossy waxed corridors of Parkland Hospital, Elm Street in Dealey Plaza projects a somewhat ghoulish aura — due perhaps to the two white letter Xs painted conspicuously in the center lane. They mark the approximate spots of the limousine in which JFK and Texas governor John Connally were seated, en route to a luncheon at the nearby Trade Mart, when they were struck by bullets. Connally survived his wounds.

At the time of my visit, Dealey Plaza, a Depression-era works project completed in 1940 (and finally designated a National Historic Landmark in 1993), was undergoing a major refurbishing.

Barely changed from 1963 newsreels (except for the noticeably higher surrounding trees), are the spots made famous in the news reports, books and documentary films: the infamous "grassy knoll" — a term credited to UPI's Merrimam Smith; the picket fence; the triple underpass; the storm drain; the railway yard; and the concrete pedestal from which local businessman Abraham Zapruder, using his 8mm Bell & Howell home-movie camera, filmed the harrowing 26.6-second sequence that climaxed

Opposite: the limousine carrying mortally wounded President John F. Kennedy races toward the hospital seconds after he was shot. Below: the scene from the book depository today with Xs marking Kennedy's position as the shots were fired.



MARK SCHREIBER

THE DEBATES OVER THE EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRED IN DALLAS IN 1963 ARE ALMOST CERTAINLY DESTINED TO ENTER THEIR SIXTH DECADE WITH NO SOLUTION IN SIGHT

in frame 313, in which a spray of blood and brain matter emanates from the president's head as his wife reacts in horror.

Bearing the smirk of a knowledgeable skeptic, Glenn escorted me to the Sixth Floor Museum inside the former Texas School Book Depository at the corner of Elm and Houston Streets. (We both qualified for a \$2 senior discount; regular admittance charges are \$16 for adults and \$13 for minors age 6-18.)

Museum visitors can watch newsreels and view various artifacts on display, including an old teletype machine whose roll of paper contains a printout of UPI's original news flash, filed at 1:34 pm Eastern Standard Time, that reads "Three shots were fired at President Kennedy's motor-

cade today in downtown Dallas, Texas."

The museum's showpiece is the "sniper's nest" by the southeast corner window, which was reconstructed based on photos of the original crime scene — boxes of textbooks that Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly stacked for concealment before firing his Italian-made Carcano M91/38 carbine at the president's limousine. Unfortunately the corner is encased in protective glass, preventing visitors from approaching the window to view the street below. To circumvent this, we walked up to the seventh floor, whose southeast window gave an unobstructed and almost identical view of what a shooter one floor below would have seen.

The museum also operates a gift shop on the ground floor. For more exotic shopping, CDs and tabloid newspapers serving up assassination conspiracy theories are offered by the veteran hawkers who inhabit the sidewalk at the intersection of Houston and Elm Streets. One declined to be interviewed for this article, complaining that reporters in the past "never ran what I had told them anyway."

Still in business in the nearby suburb of Oak Cliff is the Texas Theater, where Oswald, having allegedly fled the shootings of JFK and police officer J.D. Tippit, was arrested. Glenn also led me on a walking tour of the downtown area, to the JFK Memorial Plaza on Commerce Street. We retraced portions of the 1963 motorcade route past the Nieman-Marcus department store to the old Municipal Building, where strip club owner Jack Ruby fatally shot Oswald.

JFK's assassination, I was to learn years later, also holds vivid memories for TV viewers in Japan. By coincidence, the commencement of live broadcasts from the U.S. via the Telstar communications satellite had been scheduled for Saturday, November 23, 1963 (Japan time). When viewers switched on their sets that morning, the first live transmissions they saw were news bulletins reporting JFK's death.

Influenced by a huge and still-growing body of literature and Oliver Stone's 1991 controversial movie JFK, millions of Americans still hold doubts over the government's explanation of the events that occurred in 1963, as affirmed by periodic surveys. For this writer, a three-day visit to Dallas was more than enough to rekindle painful memories of JFK's untimely death, but provided no new revelations as to his killer's identity. ❶

As a teen, **Mark Schreiber** once wrote to JFK and was thrilled to get a response. He currently writes the "Big in Japan" and "Bilingual" columns for *The Japan Times*.

▶ THE FORMER BUSINESS BAD-BOY HAS SOME UNUSUAL ANSWERS TO JAPAN'S PROBLEMS

Takafumi Horie: Still angry after all these years

by David McNeill

Older, thinner, but with his ability to deliver a peppery *bon mot* still intact, paroled entrepreneur Takafumi Horie was back at the FCCJ on June 5, criticizing “lazy” Japanese management and predicting the demise of the nation-state.

Playing to his core constituency of young Japanese males, “Horiemon” defended controversial Osaka Mayor Toru Hashimoto, warned about Japan’s drift into economic oblivion and even voiced his idiosyncratic theory that development makes women better looking.

“I was in Singapore and I noticed the women had grown much more beautiful,” he told his FCCJ audience, to titters. “I used to not consider the women so highly, but as the economy improves women seem to get better looking, too.”

Now a middle-aged man, the former business bad-boy admitted that since his arrest in 2006 for falsifying the financial reports of Livedoor, the internet firm he founded, he has lost 99 percent of his wealth. Horie served 21 months of a 30-month sentence before being paroled in March.

But ever the optimist, he pledged to rebuild on what’s left – his so-called “intangible” assets: trust and confidence. He said the explosive growth of social media during his time in prison had stimulated entrepreneurship and would make it easier for him to “monetize” these assets.

“For example, I almost have one million Twitter followers,” he explained, adding that the rise of online video services such as YouTube and www.nicovideo.jp means

“anything” is now possible. Recalling his doomed attempt to take over Fuji TV in 2005, he said, “What was done then as a corporation could now be done by me as an individual.”

“If you consider my one million followers in terms of ratings, that’s about one percent [of Japan’s TV audience],” he said. “If around 10 people with the same amount of followers as myself were to come together that would be about 10 percent. We could do the same things as a traditional television station.”

Horie says he warned Fuji TV executives during his attempted hostile takeover that this internet tsunami was on its way, but they didn’t listen. “Now followers are coming to individuals such as me instead of corporations.”

To his critics, Horie is a reckless and unprincipled carpetbagger who picked at the wounds of Japan’s post-bubble economy and was punished accordingly. His Teflon confidence and apparent lack of contrition will do nothing to convince them otherwise.

His supporters say he was choked by the establishment for trying to challenge Japan Inc; in his introduction, FCCJ president

Georges Baumgartner praised Horie, saying his downfall had “discouraged a generation of young Japanese” from trying out a career in business.

Horie himself, however, seemed anything but discouraged. Nor did he refrain from dispensing advice to would-be entrepreneurs, sounding forth on the need to slash corporate taxes, shake up Japanese management and even scrap licensing systems for lawyers and medical practitioners. “I believe that rather than thinking of how to achieve growth we have to think about how to shrink the size of government and regulations.”

Horie even questioned the need for armies to defend Japan, saying the internet is destroying borders. “As examples of high technology, I like fighter planes. But I don’t think they’re useful at all. I believe that war has until now functioned as a driver for technological development [but] is no longer needed for that purpose.

“I think the whole concept of the nation-state is on the verge of collapse,” he continued, “and we need to eliminate as much government interference as possible.” Without this change, he warned, Japan would continue to slide, relative to faster-moving business competitors like Singapore.

“I really feel this is a serious issue – Japan is being drained of talented human resources, with Japanese business managers slow to catch up with global trends. Those remaining within the system in Japan are those less talented,” he said, adding that the country needs policies “to attract skilled and talented” immigrants.

Was that a hint that he would have another stab at political office? (In his last visit to the FCCJ seven years ago, Horie pledged to become prime minister.) No, he insisted, but he did have a tip for the country’s top political job. Toru Hashimoto, he said, would “alter the status quo” of politics.

“If there is somebody who can do my job, I’d be happy to let that person take over. And now this somebody has finally appeared. It’s Hashimoto,” he said.

The Osaka mayor, who also leads the Japan Restoration Party, has dug himself what many believe is a political grave by saying that Japan’s wartime “comfort women” system of sexual slavery was necessary to “maintain military discipline.” Hashimoto defended those comments at the FCCJ in May.

Horie said someone planning to be a career politician would not make such comments. “I think Hashimoto believes he is ready to quit politics anytime. And unless we have more people like that, we don’t have any chance of reducing the scale of government. And if the government stays the size it is today we will not have any chance to make the country I hope for.”



Takafumi Horie speaking at the Club

▶ EXILED BY CHINA, SHUNNED BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS, LEADER OF UYGUR INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT STRUGGLES ON

Uyghurs fight for independence

by Julian Ryall

More 8.4 million strong, the Uyghur people live in northwest China in what the government terms the Xinjiang Autonomous Region. They are vastly outnumbered by their overlords; and when the Chinese military comes with semi-automatic weapons and hand grenades, they are only able to defend themselves with kitchen implements.

Rebiya Kadeer, the exiled president of the World Uyghur Congress, says she and her people have overcome difficulties in the past. And she believes that growing discontent throughout Chinese society – for economic, social, political and human rights reasons – could help the Uyghur people achieve their aim of independence.

“If you look inside China, it is clear that the people have lost confidence in the government. They don’t believe what they are being told,” 66-year-old Kadeer said at a recent press conference at the Club.

It has been a long campaign for Kadeer, and one that shows no signs of ending soon. Born in poverty in the city of Altay, she built her own laundry business and rose to become one of the five richest people in China. Then she was arrested on suspicion of supporting the independence movement for the Uyghur people.

Tried and found guilty of leaking state secrets in 2000, her case caused international outrage; she was released on medical grounds in 2005 and permitted to settle in the United States.

Today, she hopes that internal dissent coupled with international pressure might just be enough to encourage China to consider granting self-determination to the Uyghur people. Unfortunately, she was not going to be able to meet with any representatives of the Japanese government on her latest trip to Tokyo – apparently everyone was too busy in the run-up to the July election.

She expressed no disappointment, saying instead that the trip was still giving her a chance to inform ordinary Japanese people of her struggle. But she was critical of countries that she had expected more of.

Julian Ryall is Japan correspondent for *The Daily Telegraph*.

“I have provided information to other Islamic nations and organizations about how religious schools are being closed by the Chinese authorities, about how their teachers and students are being arrested and imprisoned,” she said. “Korans are being burned and schools forced to shut. I have told them how during the holy month of Ramadan, Chinese soldiers are going into Uyghur homes and forcing people to drink alcohol and eat.

“I want other Islamic groups and nations to extend support to us, but so far they have not helped us,” she said. “More than 60 countries from around the world signed a document condemning the Burmese government’s treatment of its Muslim minority, while in our country there are more than 10,000 dead and another 10,000 are missing.”

Beijing has circulated a list to other governments of 22 senior Uyghur leaders that it has branded as terrorists. Fearful of being labeled as supporters of extremists in the ongoing war on Islamic terrorism, Arab nations have capitulated and are refusing to allow Kadeer and other members of the World Uyghur Congress to visit, she said.

Any hopes that the situation for minorities might improve under the leadership of new Chinese President Xi Jinping have also been dashed. “Since the government of Xi started, policies on ethnic minorities have become tougher than ever before,” she said. “China has many domestic problems that

are becoming very serious, so they have to show the rest of the people that the government is still powerful.”

Kadeer also dismissed allegations by the Chinese government that there has been an upsurge in Islamic fundamentalism in Uyghur regions. “This land belongs to the Uyghur people, and the people believe in Islam,” she said with a shrug. “We pray and we follow the rules of Islam; we fast during Ramadan. Even if Chinese policy is against us, we will follow our traditions. We are simply following Islamic rules.”

Kadeer says her organization’s demands of Beijing are simple: the right to self-determination. “We have suffered under the Chinese government and it is important that we achieve independence under international law and through self-determination,” she said. “If China wants to talk peacefully with us, then we can do that in a way that both sides can understand. Then we could live in a peaceful society with all the other ethnic groups.”

That would include the millions of Han Chinese who have been encouraged by the central government to settle in traditional Uyghur areas and who now vastly outnumber the original inhabitants of the region.

But until then Kadeer insists the Uyghur people will continue their campaign for independence. “We will fight until the Chinese government understands that we want self-determination,” she added. “And then we can talk. We want a peaceful, just society because we have suffered for too long under the Chinese Communist Party.”



Rebiya Kadeer speaking at the FCCJ

JAPAN'S INLAND SEA PLAYS HOST TO A UNIQUE ART EVENT THAT TAKES ISLAND TOURISM TO A NEW LEVEL

Art hopping through the islands

by Julian Ryall

Twenty-five years ago, when Benesse chairman Soichiro Fukutake sailed his yacht through the islands of the Seto Inland Sea, the area was little more than a series of deforested islands devastated by unchecked industrialization and the illegal dumping of waste.

The damage to the environment was reflected in the residents of the islands, who were abandoning their traditional homes in search of work and a better life. Those who were obliged to stay behind lived among dilapidated houses and the other unmistakable signs of a community in terminal decline.

This summer and autumn, thanks to Fukutake's efforts, those same islands are hosting the second Setouchi Triennale, an art event that is building an international reputation. This year's event is featuring 210 artists from 23 countries.

A businessman and confirmed urban dweller, Fukutake told a press conference at the FCCJ on May 30 that his journey through the islands changed his perspectives on daily life and Japanese society. "I realized that although people live in cities, they are not always happy there," he said. "Happiness cannot be achieved in that sort of competitive society.

"So what is a community of happy people?" he asked. "I believe it is one where a lot of elderly people live together. They may have many imperfections, they may no longer be physically fit and their mental capabilities may be fading, but they have achieved a long life and can have a happy community."

Seeing the "terrible legacy of industrialization" that had been wrought on the islands – despite the region's designation as a national park – Fukutake says he was "filled with a tremendous sense of anger."

Channeling that fury into "resistance" against modern society, he set about convincing world-class artists, designers and architects of his vision for a rejuve-



Shinro Ohtake's public bath in Naoshima "I♥湯"

nated and thriving community across the islands, based on art.

It was not, however, an easy sell.

"It was back in 1988 when, out of the blue, Mr. Fukutake told me that he wanted to create something new, something that would be unique in the world of art," renowned architect Tadao Ando told the press conference. "He told me that the Seto Inland Sea was an area of unprecedented beauty and that he wanted to create utopia.

"My immediate thought was that it was just an impossible dream; one that would never become reality," he admitted. "I told him straight off that it would be impossible to attract world-class artists to the region. But he told me he wouldn't give up, so I joined hands with him."

The transformation over the intervening years has been little short of incredible.

Naoshima has built a reputation as one of the world's best locations to see contemporary art. It is home to the Lee Ufan Museum, designed by Ando, the Benesse House Museum and the semi-subterra-

The Setouchi Triennale 2013 holds events from July 20 to Sept. 1, and Oct. 5 to Nov. 4, over 12 islands of the Seto Inland Sea. More information, including tickets and access, can be found at: <http://setouchi-artfest.jp/en/>

nean Chichu Art Museum, with its remarkable collection of no fewer than five of Claude Monet's "Water Lilies" series.

Nearby Teshima hosts Junya Ishigami's Mountain Project, the Teshima Yokoo House and numerous other works and installations throughout the triennale. Similar events will be taking place on Megijima, Ogi-jima, Shodoshima, Oshima, Inujima, Shamijima, Honjima, Takamijima, Awashima and Ibukijima, as well as in the Shikoku

port towns of Takamatsu and Uno.

The presence of art has a larger affect on these communities, Ando emphasized. Fukutake's vision has been stretched to incorporate cultural programs that extend support for the Ibukishima dried sardine plant and the Naoshima rice-growing project. A public bath on the same island is probably the only place in the world where a visitor can scrub off the day's grime surrounded by an array of modern art.

There is more. A food project opened in conjunction with the first Setouchi Triennale in 2010 and is still going strong. A museum on Inujima features the history of the island's granite quarrying and copper smelting industries, as well as the people who made the island home in generations gone by. The Art House Project on Naoshima is supporting an elderly couple who have decided to eschew retirement to operate an udon restaurant.

Fukutake says that what has been achieved in the Inland Sea could serve as a blueprint for Japan's wider society.

"I believe that 10 percent of a company's shares should be held by a foundation set up to help local communities and enhance culture," he said. "I want to promote a new kind of capitalism, first in Japan and then spread throughout the world.

"I believe that the economy should serve culture, not the other way around," he said. "Culture should be the ultimate goal, not the economy." ❶

FCCJ EXHIBITION: THE WORLD HIBAKUSHA EXHIBITION



Above, Nihonmatsu: Evacuees being screened for radiation. (Takashi Morizumi)

Right, Chechersk: The wedding couple said that they would leave this village once they have a baby. (Seiichi Motohashi)



Below right, Roxby Downs: in 1983, Australian Aboriginal representatives staged a month-long sit-in in opposition to uranium mining on a sacred site. In 1988, however, the government gave permission for mining to begin. (Takashi Morizumi)



TO DOCUMENT THE EFFECTS of radioactivity on people, we traveled to nuclear weapon test sites and nuclear power plant accident sites in many parts of the world. We mainly photographed people who lived downwind of tests or in areas contaminated by fallout from nuclear accidents. Many had the same symptoms as the victims of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. What we saw convinced us that although humans are scientifically advanced enough to have unleashed nuclear power, they are not yet spiritually advanced enough to use it properly. We hope that this exhibition will spur people to consider ways to ensure that future generations can live in a world free of nuclear fears.

Contributing photographers: Takashi Ito, Hiroto Kiryu, Ittetsu Morishita, Takashi Morizumi, Seiichi Motohashi and Hiromitsu Toyosaki

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NEW MEMBERS



BIRGA TESKE is happy to join the FCCJ again after four years back in her home country of Germany. Birga has called Japan her home for part of the last 20 years. The first time she came was on a school exchange program to Osaka; she returned, this time to Tokyo's Hitotsubashi University as an exchange student. After graduating from the department of economics at University of Cologne and earning a journalism degree, she began working for the financial newspaper Boersen-Zeitung in Frankfurt, which eventually sent her back to Tokyo as a foreign correspondent. On this visit, she's a freelancer covering financial, economics and political news for several European newspapers.

REINSTATEMENT (REGULAR MEMBER)

Birga Teske, Freelance

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Susumu Sugawara, Kawasaki City Council
Naoki Terakawa, Nissay Hospital
Shoichi Ogawa, Senshu Ikeda Bank Ltd

REINSTATEMENT (ASSOCIATE MEMBERS)

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Hiroshi Adachi, Rakuyu Corporation
Koichi Yamamura, Media Gain Co., Ltd.

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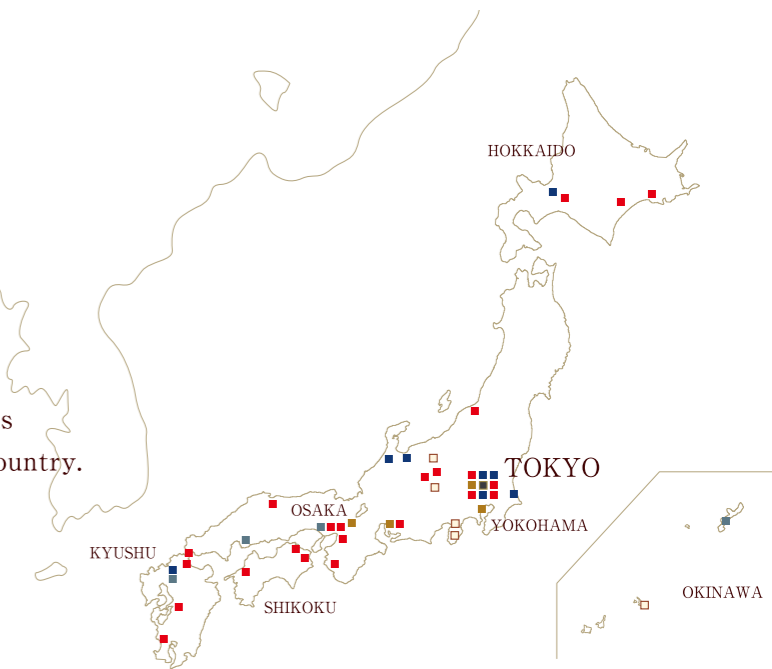
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