

THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS' CLUB OF JAPAN

NUMBER 1 Shimbun

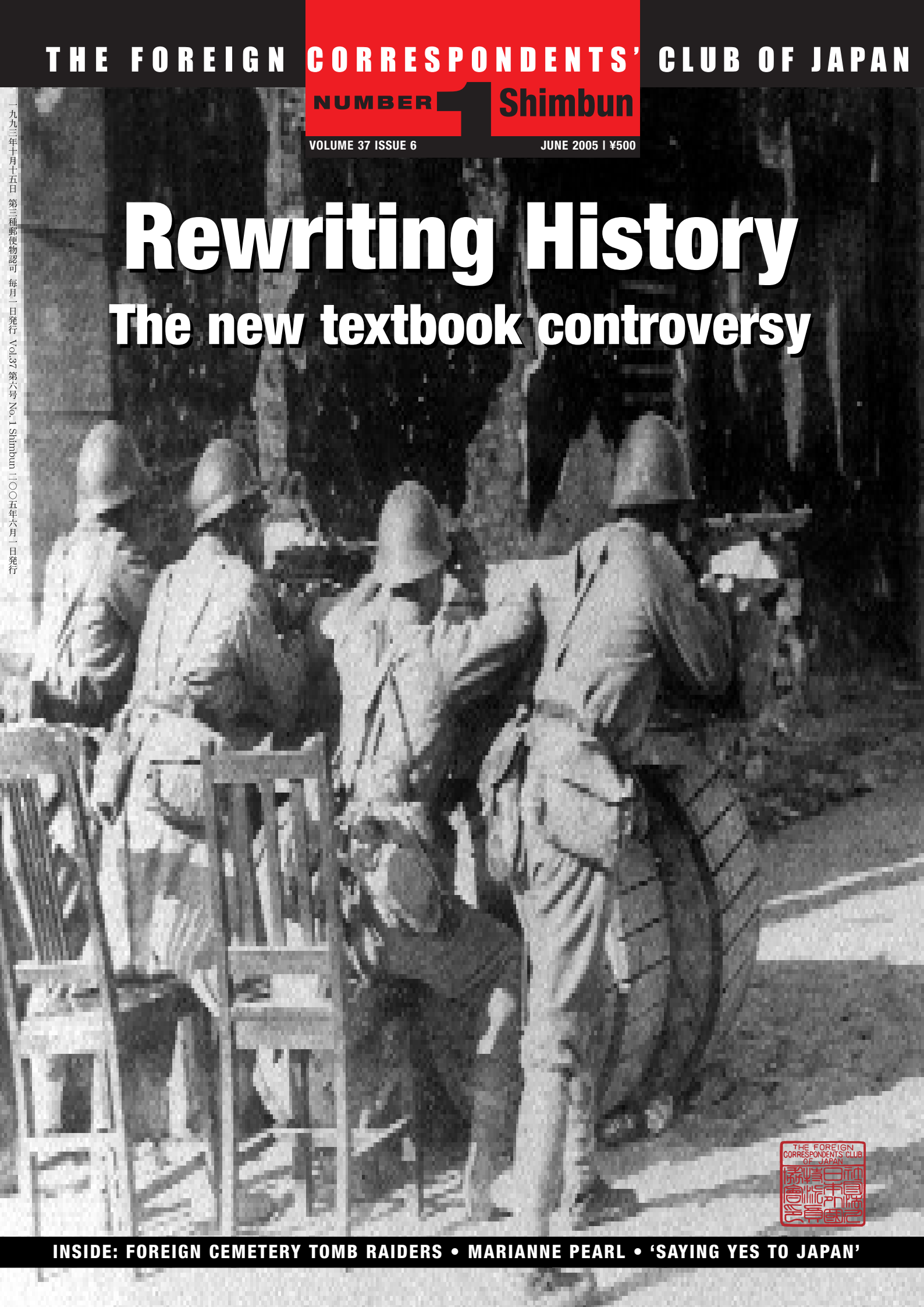
VOLUME 37 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2005 | ¥500

Rewriting History

The new textbook controversy

一九九三年十月十五日 第三種郵便物認可 毎月一日発行 Vol.37 第六号 No.1 Shimbun 二〇〇五年六月一日発行



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Opinions expressed by Number One Shimbun contributors are not necessarily those of the publisher. Please pitch and send articles, and address comments to shimbun@fccj.or.jp.

Published by: Alexandra Press, a division of Caroline Pover, Inc., Chuo Iikura Bldg 5F, 3-4-11 Azabudai, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0041, Japan. Tel: (03) 5549-2038 Fax: (03) 5549-2039 E-mail: info@alexandrapress.com
Publisher: Caroline Pover; Production Assistant: Josie Adams; Account Executive: Melanie Kamdar; Art Director: Anne Bergasse, Abinitio Design. Please contact the publisher for advertising enquiries.

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First of all, an apology. You will have noticed that there has been a slight delay getting the May and June issues out on time. After a week or two of upheaval at the Number One Shimbun, I am confident that we will be back on schedule by the time the new FCCJ board members are getting to grips with their portfolios.

The post of NOS editor has been described as a poisoned chalice, but it needn't be, provided everyone with an interest in producing a provocative, well-written magazine can agree on a few basics, the most important of which is editorial independence.

No editor can be expected to produce a quality publication on time if major decisions on style and content are made either by committee or by outside diktat. Editorial independence is the lifeblood of respected newspapers and magazines around the world; why should the NOS be any different?

If I am retained as editor from July 1, it will be on the understanding that those of us entrusted to write and edit the magazine are permitted to do so without interference from any member of the board. Story ideas will, of course, be welcome; no subject will be taboo. But the ultimate decision on what appears in the magazine must be left up to the editor, whomever that may be. I am sure that the vast majority of members, regular or otherwise, would expect nothing less.

Justin McCurry

CONTRIBUTORS | IN THIS ISSUE

CAMPBELL GRAY has over 20 years of experience in public relations, advertising and marketing communications. He has worked for prestigious organizations such as the Edwin O. Reischauer Foundation and completed numerous consulting projects for major ad agencies. He is also director of CGI, a strategic marketing consultancy. For the past ten years he has been writing for a number of US magazines, including *Multichannel News International*. He was also Japan correspondent for *AdWeek Asia*, and *Ad Age Global*. He currently freelances for *Media & Marketing Europe* and *Television Business International*. Campbell has an MA in Mass Communications (Journalism) from the University of Leicester, UK, and a BS in Mathematics from the University of Calgary, Canada (Journalism) from the University of Leicester, UK, and a BS in Mathematics from the University of Calgary, Canada.

PER BODNER was born in Sweden. Before becoming a professional photographer in 1997, he worked as a stage, film, television and radio actor. He moved to Japan in December 1999 and began working as a freelance photographer for DN (Sweden's biggest daily), Asahi Shimbun's AERA, and as photo-stringer for GPD (Netherlands Press Association) and Bloomberg News. Per has frequently contributed photos to the Number One Shimbun.

JACK RUSSELL is a veteran correspondent with decades of experience working in Asia. He began his career in Korea, before moving on to Indonesia and Hong Kong. As a correspondent for MBC News, he spent three years covering the Vietnam War, and later wrote about the Japanese economic miracle. Now a freelancer, Jack is a familiar figure at the FCCJ where he serves as head of the Library, Archives and Workroom Committee.

PETER VAN NUIJSEBURG studied history at Leiden University in the Netherlands. He worked in Amsterdam at the country's biggest daily, *de Telegraaf*, as a financial and political correspondent (1975-1984). After a stint at Holland's leading weekly magazine, *Elseviers*, as a political commentator and columnist, he switched to the Netherlands Press Association. He served at the NPA again (1986-88) as a political columnist, later becoming foreign editor. In 1989 he was sent to South Africa, where he reported on the end of apartheid, before returning to Germany in June 1994. From September 1 he will be freelancing from Tokyo for the NPA and the Dutch financial daily, the *Financieele Dagblad*.

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KEN BELSON is a New York Times business writer formerly based in Tokyo. He is also the co-author, with Brian Bremner, of "Hello Kitty: The Remarkable Story of Sanrio and the Billion Dollar Feline Phenomenon."

SUVENDRINI KAKUCHI has had a long career covering Japan and Asia for several media organizations in the region. She is currently a correspondent for Inter Press Service, a wire service focusing on issues particular to developing countries, and writes about Japan for several Western and Asian publications. Kakuchi, a law graduate, began her career in journalism in Sri Lanka before moving to Tokyo, where she graduated in Japanese language and culture. She was a recipient of the Nieman Fellowship in 1997 and was selected for the South Asia Journalism Fellowship by the Japanese foreign ministry in 1984.

HANS VAN DER LUGT is correspondent for the Dutch newspaper *NRC Handelsblad*. He spent several years in the Kansai region as a student of this country before coming to Tokyo as a correspondent in 1995. Van der Lugt is a former FCCJ president. He has written two books on Korea and Japan for a Dutch research institute, published in 2001 and 2003, respectively.

PIO D'EMILIA was born in Rome in 1954. As a law graduate, he first came to Japan in 1979 on an EC grant to study Japanese criminal procedure. After witnessing some of its more controversial features (police investigation, *daihyo kangoku* system, lack of privacy and of free access to legal counseling for suspects, etc.) he decided not to wait to complete his PhD dissertation and started writing for *l'Espresso*, a leading Italian news magazine. He consequently gave up his career as a lawyer and became a journalist, and has been covering Japan and the Far East for the last 20 years. He is currently the Far East Correspondent for the Italian daily, *Il Manifesto*, and contributes regularly to *l'Espresso* and several radio networks, including RAI and Radio Popolare.

Hail and farewell

By the time you read this (the last column of my presidential term), the June general membership meeting and the annual board elections will be upon us. The link between the two is the Blue Ribbon Panel on FCCJ governance reforms, whose recommendations could influence elections and the choice of candidates in future years. These will be debated at the GMM on June 8. Please do your best to attend because these really are critical issues for the future of our club.

The Blue Ribbon Panel or BRP is non-political in the sense that while it is chaired by the president it was set up at the direct request of the general membership and not at the behest of the current board. All of the members, with the exception of myself and Richard Hanson, are past presidents of the club. The timing of presenting recommendations at the June GMM is thus not designed to influence the outcome of this year's elections in any way.

Since this is my final column, I will allow myself to be blunt on one issue, which is that what some term the "poisonous politics" of the FCCJ may sometimes deter people capable of becoming good directors of the club from running for office. So too may the responsibility for taking care of house and property and human resource matters, which at present attach as of obligation to the respective positions of first and second vice president.

Why are FCCJ politics poisonous? Some wags say this is because of the "venomous" nature of journalists with their highly individual and often egotistical natures. There may be some truth in this but after a term as president, I believe it has to do more with shortcomings in our governance structures. Far from concentrating too much power in the hands of the president, these allow for too much squabbling between rival baronies or fiefdoms.

At least some candidates for the board put themselves forward (or are pressured into running) with little idea of what the duties of being a director of the club involves, while others may have an agenda to pursue without regard for the need to work toward common goals. Obviously, we do not have political parties whose leaders can enforce policy dialogue, and far less do we have the Westminster whip system to ensure voting discipline.

Divergent aims are not conducive to good policy-making, and while it can be argued that it is up to the president to enforce discipline, or forge consensus, the fact that some directors are given certain territory as of right almost guarantees a division of power within the board. The Blue Ribbon Panel will hopefully make recommendations to end this anomaly. The board could then offer neutral and wise counsel on recommendations of committees rather than being a collection of policy-formulating committees in itself.



Arguably, first and second vice presidents should be "understudying" the president and taking a broad view of policy, so that they can offer themselves as future presidential candidates, thereby enlarging the currently rather small pool from which we are able to draw at election time. Electing a treasurer from outside the ranks of regular members could also relieve journalists of a responsibility for which their professional training does not automatically qualify them. Regulars would still control the voting process, as they should in what must remain a club for correspondents.

We could usefully introduce some kind of orientation programme for board members, so that they get to know more about the responsibilities of governance, and how to exercise them. These suggestions could help to make our governance more professional, more responsible and even more fun. Everything still has to be debated by the Blue Ribbon Panel—and, of course by regular members (if only you turn up and debate the issues!).

Here endeth the last lesson. During my year of office, this board has tried to produce a positive legacy. Apart from the Blue Ribbon Panel (which we should credit to the initiative of Richard Hanson and Bob Neff), we have put in place a new membership marketing structure and set in motion a new human resources policy which aims to treat all of our staff in a more equitable manner. The finance committee has made progress in rationalizing our financial structure, and we have made progress toward integrating associates more closely into the life and running of the club, and we have re-launched the Number One Shimibun.

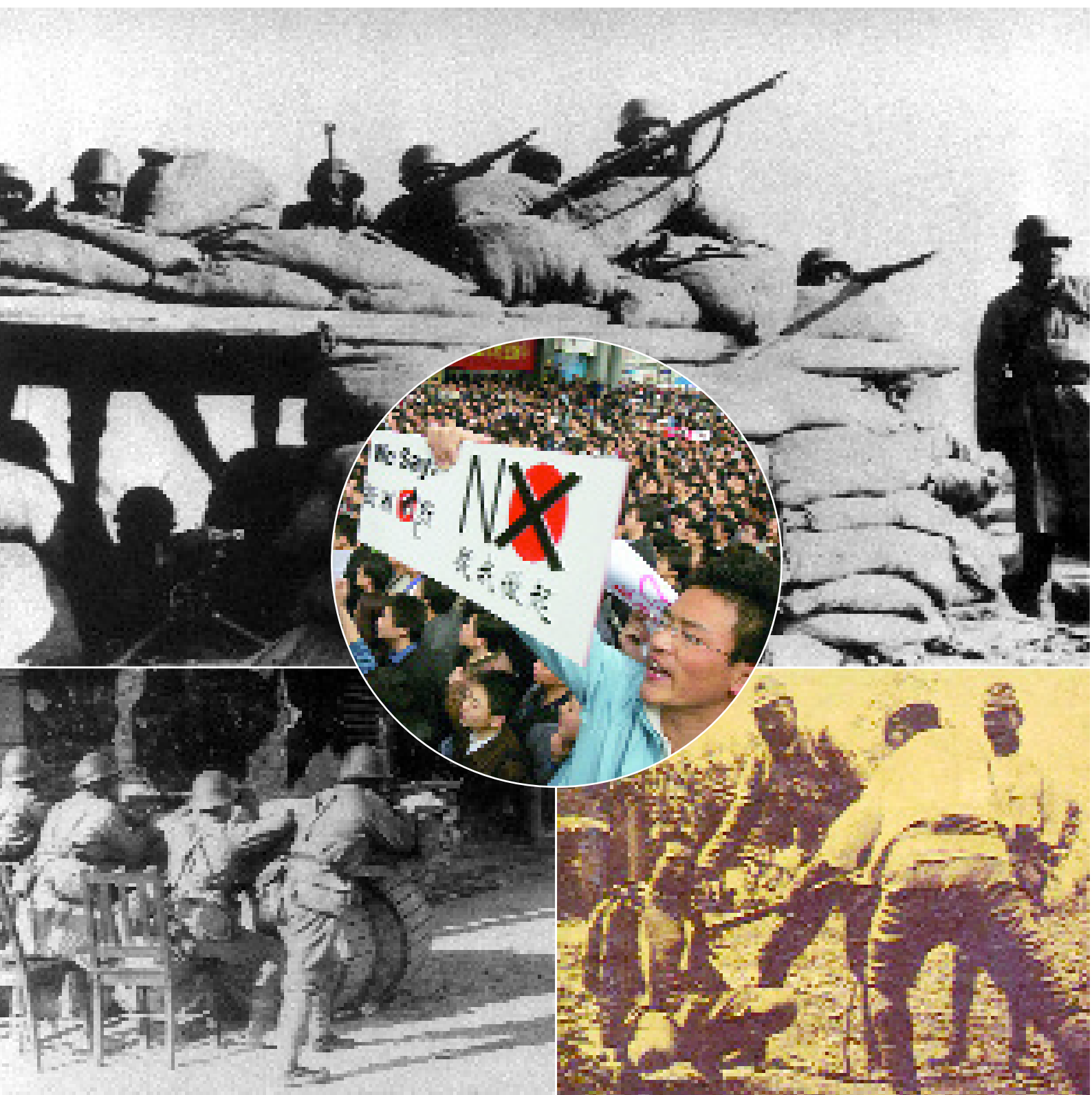
There are some loose ends that have not yet been tied up. The photography awards competition has yet to be launched, as has the idea for a FCCJ journalism awards scheme. Hopefully, the governance reforms which I refer to above will, if they materialize, help to clear the decks of certain administrative responsibilities, leaving future presidents and directors free to engage in a wide variety of initiatives that enhance the journalistic life of the FCCJ, instead of becoming bogged down in more trivial pursuits.

Lastly, I want to thank our excellent general manager, Seishi Yoda, for his support and wise counsel. It is sometimes said that presidents get too close to the general manager and are thus over-supportive of who happens to be doing that job. I beg to differ. It is only by being a president and being involved in the day to day running of the club that one comes to appreciate the enormous load that is placed upon the general manager. Yoda-san bears it well. I also want to thank all of the staff for their help and support. And last but not least I want to thank my board colleagues for their support. Bon voyage into the future!

Rewriting History

The new textbook controversy

BY HANS VAN DER LUGT



Before Japan and China can find common ground regarding history, the Japanese themselves will have to form a consensus. That promises to be no easy task, as some in this country still lack a clear vision. The left has fairly straightforward views on the war, but not so the right — at least not one that it is willing to share publicly.

During their recent press conference at the FCCJ, two senior figures from the Japanese Society for History Textbook Reform (Tsukurukai) — the organization responsible for the textbook that has caused such uproar in China — were asked to describe Japan's government in the years leading up to the country's defeat in 1945.

They were unable to provide a clear answer, although Professor Nobukatsu Fujioka, Tsukurukai's vice chairman, did attempt to reassure us that it was not totalitarian.

The issue arose because their textbook, in discussing the rise of totalitarian states, mentions only Nazi Germany and the Stalinist era in the Soviet Union, but not militarist Imperial Japan.

After the press conference I attempted to take up this matter with Fujioka and his colleague, Professor Hidetsugu Yagi, chairman of Tsukurukai. Even then, they were unable, or unwilling, to provide a clear answer.

Not wanting to give up, I suggested we discuss the matter again at a later date. Yagi agreed, and promised to consult his colleagues on the appropriate term for the system of government in prewar Japan before we met again.

In the meantime, the club provided a forum for Tsukurukai's opponents. The same question was put to them, and elicited an instant response. "Japan was a military dictatorship," Shinichi Arai, professor emeritus of Western history at the University of Ibaragi, told a press conference on May 13.

Asked to comment during our second meeting, Yagi said simply: "The view that Japan was under a military dictatorship is held by communists.

"But there was no dictatorship. Power was spread among four different institutions — the army, the government, parliament and the judiciary. None held

sway over the other.

"Only the emperor was above those four, but his position was mostly symbolic."

Yagi was dismissive of the well-known postwar political scientist Masao Maruyama, who coined the term "Japanese fascism."

"We've moved away from that," Yagi said. "Right now there's no agreement on a specific term for the system during that period."



(above) Cho Soo-Yoong and Kim Moogwi's press conference at the FCCJ, May 20 2005.

(page 8) Top and bottom left: Chinese forces defend the city of Nanjing during street battles with Japanese soldiers in December 1937. PHOTO: © MAINICHI PHOTO. Center: Chinese protestors chant anti-Japanese slogans as they march in Beijing's Haidian district Saturday April 9, 2005. More than 6,000 Chinese protesters held a rally Saturday demanding a boycott of Japanese goods to oppose new textbooks that critics say gloss over Tokyo's wartime atrocities. PHOTO: AP PHOTO/GREG BAKER Bottom right: From Hora Tomio's book *The Great Nanjing Massacre and the Kill All, Loot All, Burn All War*. This photo is stamped by military censors as: 'Not allowed to be published'. PHOTO: HUMANUM.ARTS.CUHK.EDU.HK

AFTER THE WAR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE SIGNED A PETITION ASKING TO VIEW THE CONVICTED WAR CRIMINALS AS 'CRIMINALS' NO LONGER.

The American Occupation, in Yagi's view, artificially attempted to separate the rulers from the ruled. The guilty rulers were convicted as war criminals and hanged or imprisoned, while the people were treated as victims of their wicked belligerence.

"But for the Japanese there was never any distance between rulers and ruled," Yagi said, "so after the war millions of people signed a petition asking to view the convicted war criminals as 'criminals' no longer. Parliament unanimously adopted a motion to this end, and in the end the surviving kin of convicted and

executed 'war criminals' received pension payments like others."

Yagi readily agreed with the proposition that there was no break between Japan's prewar and postwar leadership.

"A class A war criminal became prime minister after the war," he said in reference to Nobusuke Kishi, prime minister from 1957-60 and one of the US's staunchest allies during those formative Cold War years.

Professor Arai would prefer to see Japan as a country that has broken completely with the prewar years, but says: "There is a lot to be said for the view that postwar Japan is a continuation of prewar (Japan), especially when you look at it from the outside."

Arai's comments were interesting, because the conservatives' habit of dismissing all of their opponents as "communists" and "Marxists" echoes their prewar allergy to even remotely leftwing views.

Arai believes the comments by Tsukurukai activists can be seen as a "continuation of the prewar allergy."

Where does this leave the issue of the war? Perhaps the most interesting aspect of Tsukurukai's textbook is that it leaves the war in limbo.

Japan's invasion and occupation of China in the 1930s was akin to wandering into a swamp with no clear sense of direction, the book says. As a result, it goes on, relations with the US quickly worsened and, suddenly, Japan was fighting a war of self-defence.

Japan's next goal was to "liberate" Asia.

"Liberating Asia was a goal that was added halfway through the war to motivate the population," Yagi said.

Amid the chaos, it is possible to learn at least one lesson from the conservative view of history. The sectionalism that dogged the government during the war, according to Yagi, is the same as the sectionalism and the lack of leadership that blights Japanese governments of today.

"There was a common goal during the Meiji period — that of preventing the country being colonized, like China, by the major powers," Yagi said. "But after that there never was a major objective. There isn't one today, either."

Fight Club

BY PIO D'EMILIA

It may not have been a good year for the Professional Activities Committee — we have only ourselves to blame for the poor attendance at several events — but as far as the textbook issue is concerned, the FCCJ has excelled.

Including appetizers, such as rebel teachers putting their case for refusing to honour the national anthem and flag, the FCCJ hosted about ten events revolving around the issue of Japan, war and history.

Just about every aspect of the issue has been covered, drawing very healthy attendances.

The club has played host to foreign ministry spokesman Hatsuhsa Takashima (though the foreign minister, Nobutaka Machimura, would have been better for such an important issue), as well as historical revisionists, grassroots citizen movements and concerned young Koreans. All were given the opportunity to air their views.

As a follow-up, the FCCJ is planning to hold a public debate involving prominent figures from all of the different schools of thought.

The debaters will include representatives of Tsukurukai, the South Korean Youth Association (Seinenkai), the pressure group Children and Textbooks Japan Network 21, and, possibly, the Chinese scholar Zhu Jianrong, a Toyo Gakuen University professor who has discussed this issue during numerous appearances on the Japanese media. The live TV debate will be broadcast on Sakura TV, a satellite television station with close links to Tsukurukai.

One of Seinenkai's reporters, Akihiko Iwata, approached me after I moderated the youth association's press conference to protest a FCCJ member's "biased" introduction at another event.

He objected to the description of Tsukurukai's views as "revisionist," as most people, including journalists, would consider them. After what can best be described as a "very frank"



PHOTO: AKIKO MIYAKE

Tsukurukai's press conference at the FCCJ, May 10 2005.

exchange of views, we came to an understanding. Indeed, Iwata immediately accepted an invitation to join the FCCJ by PAC Chairman Roger Schreffler.

Iwata's first contribution was to propose a public debate on the textbook issue, which we were trying to organize as the Number One Shimbun went to press.

Besides members of Tsukurukai, who came to the club to defend their controversial textbook, the club was fortunate to have arranged an appear-

SEINENKAI BELIEVES THAT TSUKURUKAI IS MOTIVATED BY AN EXTREME RIGHTWING AGENDA AND THAT IT IS SUPPORTED BEHIND THE SCENES BY SENIOR GOVERNMENT FIGURES.

ance, on May 20, by two leading members of Seinenkai, the youth wing of the Korean Residents' Union in Japan (Mindan).

Seinenkai believes that Tsukurukai is motivated by an extreme rightwing agenda and that it is supported behind the scenes by senior government figures.

Kim Moogwi, a Seinenkai project leader, made an outstanding presentation in English and dealt adroitly with several questions. A European colleague who is a regular at PAC events commented that he had found the event "very useful" — surely there is no better compliment from a working journalist. "That

is exactly the kind of service that we expect — and very often get — from our club," he said.

Shinichi Arai, Hisao Ishiyama and Yoshifumi Tawara of the Children and Textbooks Japan Network 21 were just as interesting, though less polemical, during their press conference on the textbook issue.

The group grew out of the network that long supported Professor Saburo Ienaga who fought a 32-year battle against the education ministry over the censorship of school history textbooks.

The series of events ended on a happy note following a misunderstanding with Xinhua, China's official news agency.

In a report on Tsukurukai's press conference at the club, Xinhua claimed that Chinese and Korean journalists had not been invited.

Given that the FCCJ is a staunch defender of freedom of access to information for all members of the press, regardless of whether or not they belong to the FCCJ, the club's president, Anthony Rowley, asked Xinhua to correct the report.

A Xinhua reporter, who had attended the press conference, promptly apologized and agreed to run a short statement confirming the FCCJ's absolute commitment to freedom of access to all media. Once the misunderstanding had been resolved, quietly and with minimum fuss, a Xinhua reporter signed up to become a member of the FCCJ. Welcome.



AOYAMA CEMETERY PHOTO: SOICHIRO KORIYAMA

Metro government tomb raiders

BY CAMPBELL GRAY

Would you plunk down ¥10 million at 40-to-1 odds for a couple of square meters of land in a cemetery? Well, that's what the Tokyo metropolitan government invited the public to do two years ago.

It caused a mini land rush in central Tokyo, but it wasn't the sort of headline-grabbing story that made the six o'clock news. This short-lived mini-boom was for 50 grave plots put on sale in Aoyama Cemetery, a nice open place with a spiffy central Tokyo address.

The 132-year-old cemetery, famous for its three-kilometer-long avenue of cherry blossoms and extensive variety of cherry and other trees and shrubs, received more than 40 applications for every grave plot that was put on the block, with prices for some sites going for up to ¥10.34 million.

While it is well known that the Tokyo metropolitan government is in a perennial cash crunch, and has announced gambling will be made legal in Tokyo to help generate more revenue for its coffers, it is amazing that it has stooped to re-selling cemetery plots.

But, since the first re-sale was such a resounding success, it has now marked another 100 or so plots to be put up for sale if no one claims ancestral ownership by this October.

What is disconcerting this time is that the government has chosen 78 plots located in the approximately 2,000-

square-meter Gaijin Bochi, or Foreigner's Cemetery, to be auctioned off.

Anyone who has ever stopped by that part of the cemetery knows that it is the final resting place of a number of foreigners who came to Japan at the behest of the Japanese government to teach and to introduce foreign technologies and know-how during the Meiji Restoration.

There is even a signboard that lists 42 foreign nationals, with a map showing the location of their graves, their names in katakana and English, their

WHILE IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT THE TOKYO METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT IS IN A PERENNIAL CASH CRUNCH ... IT IS AMAZING THAT IT HAS STOOPED TO RE-SELLING CEMETERY PLOTS.

countries of origin, the dates of their births and deaths, their occupations and their contributions to Japan. There are many more foreigners and Japanese buried in this area than those noted on the sign. A number of them have very ornate gravestones. Notable, too, are the crypts of some of the many Tokyo churches that hold the remains of their brethren.

Among the 42 foreigners listed is the Italian Eduardo Chiossone (1832-1898), who introduced to Japan then state-of-the-art printing technology for stamps,

banknotes, stocks and bonds to produce Japan's first paper money and government bonds.

Then there is Anna Whitney (1834-1883), an American woman, who founded Akasaka Hospital, which treats patients to this day.

There is also a gravesite for the Eastlakes. William C. Eastlake (1834-1887), an American, introduced modern dentistry to Japan. Also interred in the same site are his son, Frank W. (1858-1905) and grandson, Pasal L. Eastlake (1888-1954).

Notable, too, is Edwin Dunn (1848-1931). A former US Ambassador to Japan, Dunn introduced cattle farming to Hokkaido and oil-drilling know-how to Niigata.

Other foreigners include a number of American, Italian and German professors who taught at Tokyo, Keio and Meiji-Gakuin universities, as well as American, Canadian and Italian teachers and missionaries.

Although the respect for one's ancestors is slowly weakening with each passing generation, the Obon spirit is still strong in Japan and has not yet been co-opted by commercialism. Even so, the Tokyo metropolitan government's media-shy move shows a willingness to further undermine these traditions in a land-for-money grab.

The most likely reason for picking foreigners' graves at this time is that this



AOYAMA CEMETERY, PHOTOS: ANDRONIKI CHRISTODOULOU

particular area of land is very attractive (thereby assuring each plot will fetch a good price) and, the developers think, no one is likely to file a claim to prevent it.

It should be pointed out that there are Japanese gravesites scattered throughout the cemetery grounds that are also being put up for re-sale. There are also a number of gravesites that are so decrepit and overrun with underbrush that it is impossible to make out who is buried there. Oddly enough, not one of those plots has been marked with a re-sale sign. So the choice of which grave plots will go next appears to be a purely commercial decision.

While legally it is a non-issue, the re-selling foreign grave sites still needs to be raised if only out of respect for those early expats from America, Canada, England, France, Germany, and Italy, who left a positive mark on the modernization of Japan. This is not only to acknowledge the significance of their achievements, and preservation of an aspect of Japan's heritage, but also to respect fundamental values of Japanese culture.

As it stands, without some resistance, the re-sale of these grave plots looks pretty much like a done deal and will be chalked up as another instance of the metropolitan government's insensitivity and questionable re-sale of land to generate funds for the bureaucracy.

A phone call to the number on the

signs pounded into the ground in front of sites selected for re-sale, revealed that it was the number for the Aoyama cemetery office. They did not want to talk about the Gaijin Bochi and referred all inquiries to the Tokyo metropolitan office's cemetery division. When asked about the Foreigner's Cemetery and the exceptionally large number of "For Re-sale" signs there, they merely said the October deadline on the sign was the end of the announcement that they were looking for relatives or family of the deceased,

IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE JAPANESE GRAVESITES SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE CEMETERY GROUNDS THAT ARE ALSO BEING PUT UP FOR RE-SALE.

and, no, they did not publish this in newspapers or announce it to other media.

Never mind that the signs were only in Japanese, the office said that to claim descent you must present a certificate or papers showing a next-of-kin relationship.

Interestingly, they said that they do not plan to clean up the graves immediately, adding that it would take a few more years to do so. They also said an advertisement will be placed in Tokyo newspapers sometime in the future to announce the auction, and only people

who have lived in Tokyo for more than five years will be able to participate.

It was also discovered that the annual caretaker's fee starts at a mere ¥2,300 and increases, according to the size of the plot, to ¥5,000. This means that whoever is buried there, or their relatives, must have already paid to take care of these graves well into the future.

According to a Tokyo metropolitan government spokesperson, they plan to make a commemorative marker with the names of all the people who were moved. Apparently this was done after the last auction, but there is no notice or indication of where that first marker is located.

Now, after the first round's success in 2003, and the publicity it generated, many more people are ready to pay ¥10 million or more for a currently occupied grave plot in Aoyama Cemetery. This issue would never have arisen if was not possible to remove the deceased from graves they had already paid for in the first place.

But, then, why should one be surprised? After all, this is the age of money, greed, a lack of respect for the rights of others, and loss of a sense of history.

If the people behind the cemetery plot re-sale business knew their history, they would remember the famous Japanese ghost stories of the past, and would know better than to disturb the dead.

Marianne Pearl: A widow's plea

BY SUVENDRINI KAKUCHI

Marianne Pearl, whose husband, Daniel Pearl, was killed by Islamic militants in Pakistan three years ago, says that terrorism should be countered not with more violence but with dialogue.

"I was confronting darkness," she said of the moment she learned that her husband, then the South Asia bureau chief for The Wall Street Journal, was beheaded while on assignment on Jan. 23, 2002.

"The only way of meeting the darkness of terrorism was through light — the light of humanism," Pearl, who was pregnant with the couple's first child when she heard the news, said in an impassioned speech at the FCCJ.

"It was three o'clock in the morning and the team of investigators were crying while they waited to inform me of Daniel's death. Instinctively, I walked out of the room into the cold night where the guards were standing with their Ak-47 rifles. The urge for revenge at that time was very powerful and I could have easily used those guns to kill somebody."

But then came what she describes as the most important moment of her life.

"I realized the only real victory was the opposite, to put the gun down and promote dialogue. The only way to resist what the terrorists want," she said. "In this way, they may have killed Daniel, but could not get our spirit."

In her book, "A Mighty Heart: The Brave Life and Death of My Husband, Danny Pearl," Marianne does just that. Dedicated to Daniel, whom she met in Paris, the book's prologue expresses her respect and admiration for the courage her husband showed during his captivity.

She recalled in her speech that Daniel had refused to bow to the terrorists. In the photographs sent to her, he appeared smiling and flashing the victory sign, even as his captors held guns to his head.

"The photos symbolized his unshak-



Marianne Pearl at her Professional Luncheon at the club, April 25.

PHOTO: AKIKO MIYAKE

able courage against the terrorists," she said, adding that Daniel's commitment to his values, even in the face of death, "gave me, in turn, the strength to face life."

Marianne's fight against terrorism has turned her into a critic of the television media, which she accuses of unashamedly skewing coverage and ignoring the real issues behind terrorism. She describes how her decision to grant CNN an interview while she waited for news of Daniel turned out to be a typical example of the media's indifference to her message.

"I was chided for not looking sorrowful and being covered in a scarf that did not show my pregnancy enough — all the wrong statements to the abductors, who wanted to see me weak," she said.

She was put through another ordeal when CBS News decided to air portions of a videotape of the murder of her husband, two days before she was due to give birth.

"I called the television station and demanded to know why, but they had no answer and did not even promise to

consider my request to not show the tape," she said.

Her disappointment with her husband's employer, The Wall Street Journal, is well known. "The way I see it, the newspaper failed Daniel," she said, accusing the management of blatantly putting the interests of the organization above those of its journalists.

As proof, she quotes the newspaper's refusal, despite her request, to represent Daniel in Pakistani courts after his death.

Marianne also said her experience had shown her that newspapers do not train their journalists to deal with terrorism, pointing out that the media continues to hire freelancers to cover global hot-spots that full-time correspondents prefer to avoid.

She lives in New York with her son, Adam, and devotes her time to writing on such issues as terrorism and international migration. Her book about Daniel, which has won several prestigious awards, has been translated into 14 languages. The Japanese version was released in April.

Rebel from the past

BY JACK RUSSELL

John Holland served six months in prison for forgery in his home country, Australia, before becoming a journalist covering Asia and eventually joining the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan, of which he was an occasionally controversial member for 17 years. Loreley A. Morling narrates the tale of her uncle's extraordinary life in her biography "A Very Different Type" without glossing over the rough edges of his character or his questionable behavior.

First off, it would not quite be fair to say that crime ran in his family, even though his great grandfather was convicted of stealing a watch in London in 1821 and transported to Australia as a convict. John grew up in a very proper environment as the son of a prominent doctor in an upper middle-class family. As the author points out, it was his zest for adventure which took him to China in 1937 as fighting broke out between Japan and China. But it was his penchant for rebellion that got him into trouble in so many ways and so many times. During a short stay in Singapore, he joined the Royal Air Force Reserve as a pilot but was discharged for making anti-British comments in bars.

After engaging in several unsuccessful businesses in Shanghai, Holland began broadcasting commentaries for a German-owned radio company after Pearl Harbor. He also became involved with the Independent Australia League, which called for Australia to withdraw from the war and become an independent nation in Japanese-occupied Shanghai. In 1942 he went to Japan where he broadcasted for Radio Tokyo. When Holland refused to broadcast any longer, asking to be sent back to Shanghai, he was arrested and accused of being a Russian spy. After beatings, he was sent to Hokkaido. Eventually he was sentenced to five years imprisonment as a spy after the judge became infuriated at seeing a book of his in which he had pasted monkey faces on Japan's wartime leaders.

After suffering from beatings, sickness

and near starvation, he was freed after Japan's surrender in 1945 only to face charges of treason raised by Australia. He was incarcerated in Sugamo Prison in Tokyo, used to detain war criminals, where for the first time he met Tokyo Rose, Mrs. Iva Toguri — a Japanese American. He did not know her at Radio Tokyo when she was broadcasting wartime propaganda. In one of his many story-telling times in the press club bar, Holland said that Tokyo Rose, and a Swiss woman prisoner, called him their "butler" because he delivered their meals daily in prison.

He got out of prison but was pursued by Australian officialdom, which was trying to build a case of treason against him. They never succeeded, but many Australians at home and in the club never forgave him. The author mentions his "love" for Japanese women and in 1957 he married Kitty (Keiko), who was often at the press club.

Holland was best known in Tokyo for his columns in local newspapers, the

**IN THOSE DAYS,
CORRESPONDENTS WERE
ON THE WHOLE, A HARD-
DRINKING BUNCH.**

Beach Comber in Shipping and Trade News, for example. Without doubt, almost everyone considered him an excellent writer, but he really stared in sessions at the press club bar. His niece said he was "virtually an alcoholic," and he died after an unsuccessful liver operation in 1972. In those days, correspondents were on the whole, a hard-drinking bunch. John did on occasion over indulge, and he could be indiscreet to say the least. At times the rebel in him came to the fore.

He once called a member's wife "the best excuse for adultery I have ever seen," for which he was suspended from the club for a month. During a club membership meeting, the president asked for a minute's silence in tribute to



A Very Different Type: The true story of a recalcitrant journalist, by Loreley A. Morling. Swan View, 2000. \$22.50

a correspondent killed in Vietnam. John stuck his head in the door and delivered a tirade against American involvement in Vietnam, ending the minute of silence somewhat prematurely.

But John Holland could engage in heroics and compassion when forced by circumstances to do so. One night he came into the bar wearing a dirty shirt and torn trousers. He explained that a drunken Japanese had fallen on the railway tracks at a station and he had jumped down and pulled him to safety in front of an incoming train. "Couldn't let the poor bastard die just because he was drunk," he explained.

Holland was also a prankster. He wrote a front page story in The Japan Times reporting the emergency landing of a Soviet bomber at Haneda airport which sent a number of military attaches driving furiously to the airport. They had neglected to read the last two words of the story, "April Fool." The Japan Times was not amused, and fired him.

The author suggests that Holland "was perhaps a man out of his time," and that the protest years of the 1960s and 1970s might have suited him better. Holland was a harsher critic of himself. He once wrote "despite my horrible temper, rudeness and general dislike of people individually or collectively, I can get things done."

Saying Yes to Japan

BY KEN BELSON

Like many foreigners living in a far-away land, I often scratched my head trying to figure out the local business practices during my years living and working in Japan. Brought up to believe in the preeminence of the bottom line, I was confounded by what often appeared to be the lack of a profit motive at many Japanese shops and companies.

While the many factories I visited appeared to be models of efficiency, everywhere else I looked — offices, construction sites, hospitals, hotels — seemed to be filled with a lot of people doing very little. Worse, the services were often expensive, inflexible and sometimes shockingly unfriendly.

I have my own pet theories about this state of affairs: a workforce unable or unwilling to think creatively, excessive government regulations that favor companies over consumers, and plain old inertia. A new book, "Saying Yes to Japan: How Outsiders Are Reviving a Trillion Dollar Services Market" written by long-time Japan hands Tim Clark and Carl Kay, also takes a crack and unlocks the puzzle.

In fact, it is one of the better and more systematic attempts to explain how service industries in Japan work — and don't work. I knew Clark and Kay during my Tokyo days. Both are credible commentators on Japan's arcane and underdeveloped service economy because both of them built, ran and sold successful companies, and profited handsomely in the process.

With a journalist's eye for detail, they show how Japan's service industries operate based on hidebound principles that have calcified over decades. They provide countless examples of baffling rules governing everything from loan collecting to real estate to health care. They pepper their text with real examples of consumers who hit regulatory walls, were ripped off by a rigged system or simply received sub-par service.

At the same time, they tell compelling stories of how foreigners, unshackled by social constraints, spotted inefficiencies in these industries and turned them into opportunities by building businesses

that filled real needs. In doing so, Clark and Kay have created a set of signposts for others to follow in search of opportunity in Japan.

This is not, however, a how-to book for would-be millionaires. There are no instructions, per se. People looking for quick hints on where to go and whom to speak to will be left wanting. There is no directory at the end with addresses, phone numbers and websites.

But there is enough material to allow an earnest entrepreneur to read between the lines. Take the real estate market. We learn that real estate agents represent both buyers and sellers. "That's a clear conflict of interest: if an agent knows both the buyer's maximum offer and the seller's lowest acceptable price, how can he act in the best interests of both?" they write.

The answer, of course, is they can't. But consumers, of course, are the last to know.

Yet some foreigners have taken advantage of this system. Ken Curtis, whom Clark and Kay call a successful

**THIS IS NOT, HOWEVER, A
HOW-TO BOOK FOR
WOULD-BE MILLIONAIRES.**

broker of commercial property, imported the Western concept of valuing buildings based not on the land where they sit, but the amount of money they generate in rent and leases.

Sounds like basic stuff, right? In Japan, the idea was so novel that, in the ultimate form of flattery, the Japanese quickly tried to master the technique.

There are plenty of other examples: entrepreneurs who introduced software as a stand-alone and valuable product, others who found new ways to collect loans and still others who have made inroads into Japan's archaic healthcare system.

The thread running through these stories, Clark and Kay write, is a predisposition in Japanese law and practice towards corporations, not consumers. More command economy than capital-



Saying Yes to Japan:
How Outsiders Are Reviving a Trillion Dollar Services Market
by Tim Clark and Carl Kay. Vertical, 2005. \$14.95

ism, Japan is full of examples of heavy-handed government regulators meddling in the "free" market.

What's more, Japanese companies, like Japanese families, tend to view the world in a set of "in" and "out" relationships that determine who gets served first and with the best care.

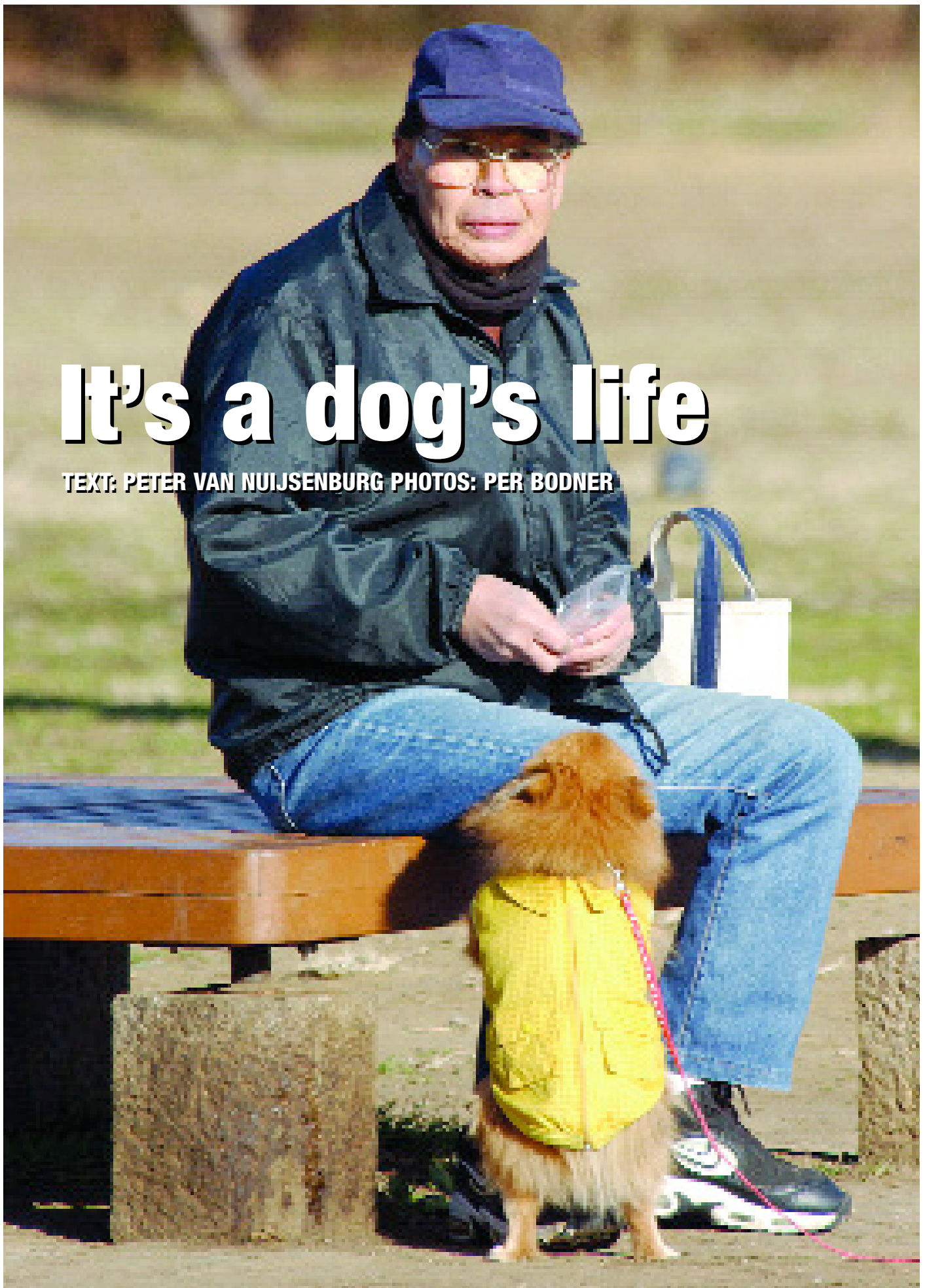
"Contrary to the popular image of outstanding Japanese service, many Japanese companies tend to focus more on the needs of uchi, or in-house groups: employees, affiliates and suppliers — than on customers," they conclude. "They treat customers politely, of course, and deal attentively with complaints, but this surface treatment can mask a lack of strategies for delivering breakthrough levels of value and customer satisfaction."

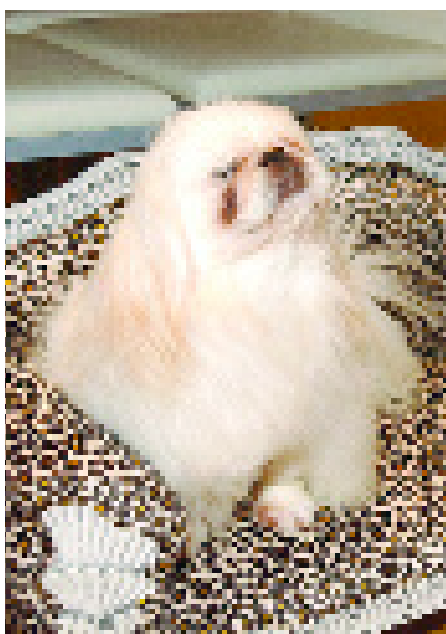
Not surprisingly, given their backgrounds, they suggest that Japan needs more entrepreneurs who can think "out of the box." This, of course, is not new. The Japanese themselves made the same plea during the fleeting internet bubble five years ago. The drive, however, disappeared once the economy plunged into recession afterwards.

Still, if the examples in this book are any guide, Japan is changing. The cost and hassle of starting companies has fallen, a growing number of Japanese workers are willing to take a chance working at a start up and the government has unraveled some red tape. The opportunities to jump in have never been greater.

It's a dog's life

TEXT: PETER VAN NUIJSEBURG PHOTOS: PER BODNER





If some people are to be believed, in Japan there are now more dogs than there are children. Sometimes they are even seen as substitutes for children.

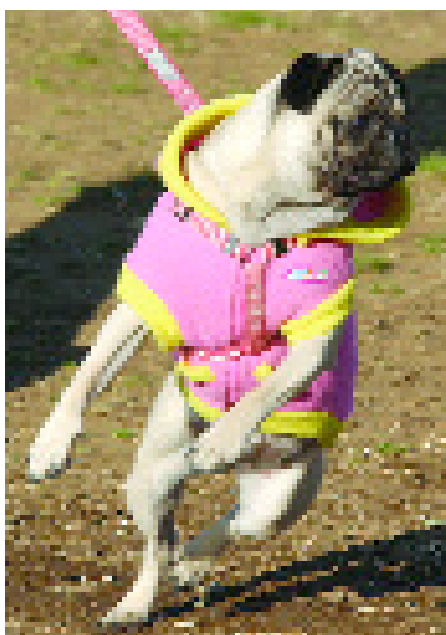
Take Yuko Matsumoto, the proud “mother” of a male bulldog named Pippy. She and her husband have no children — Pippy is their child. And Pippy is more spoiled than most children.

For a start he wears designer clothes, is fed the best food money can buy, and, every two weeks, visits a manicurist. When he dies, a Buddhist priest will conduct his funeral service.

There are millions of people like Matsumoto.

When I tell my foreign friends that Japan has special pet psychotherapists, they look at me as if I am pulling their leg. They don't believe me when I tell them there are pet cafés and hotels.

Last year a friend from Europe who was visiting Tokyo said he had never seen so many people carrying their dogs, rather than taking them for a walk in the conventional sense. He reckoned a new breed would be developed here: the first dog without legs.



Paul Tidwell and the World War II submarine, I-52

It has taken ten years of delicate negotiations, but Paul Tidwell has finally won the Japanese government over. At a press conference at the club, he announced he has been granted permission to raise a World War II submarine containing two tons of gold from some three miles below the surface of the Atlantic Ocean.

It may also settle a riddle over secret negotiations that might have brought the conflict to an end sooner.

“Everyone is really happy with the outcome because it’s more valuable than just the money that is involved,” said Tidwell, a salvage expert based in New Orleans who found the I-52 in 1995, more than 1,000 miles from land. “If we can recover it, we will make history. There is no other Japanese submarine on display anywhere in the world.

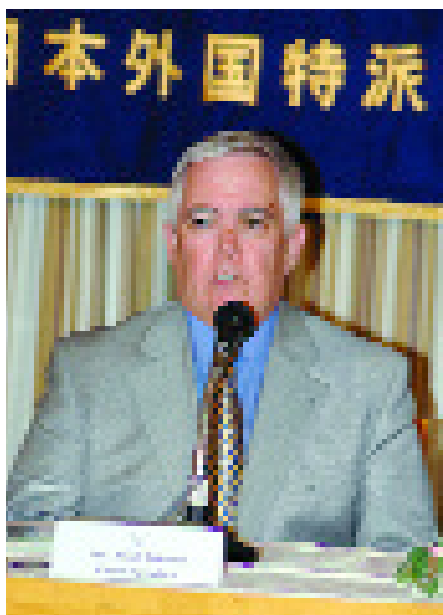
“I also hope that returning the vessel to Kure, its home port, might bring a sense of closure to those families who lost a relative when the I-52 was sunk.”

When it was launched in December 1943, the I-52 was the largest submarine to ever put to sea. With a displacement of 3,000 tons and a length of 108 meters, it was a masterpiece of underwater technology designed specifically to make the long journey between Imperial Japan and Nazi Germany because surface vessels were too vulnerable to the Allies’ air and naval superiority.

Commanded by Kameo Uno, the I-52 left Japan on its maiden operational voyage in March 1944 with a crew of 94, and 14 passengers. After docking in Singapore, it had a cargo of nearly three tons of opium, for medical use, as well as rubber, tin, tungsten and 146 bars of gold bullion.

Unfortunately for its crew, decoded radio messages to arrange a rendezvous with a German U-boat in the Atlantic enabled a US Navy battle group to determine its location and get Avenger torpedo bombers airborne.

As the I-52 began to prepare for its approach to the French port of Lorient on Jun. 23 1944, it was spotted by an Avenger piloted by Lt. Cmmdr. Jesse



VIDEO FOOTAGE TAKEN FROM TWO SMALL SUBMARINES ... SHOWED SOME OF THE CREWS’ PERSONAL EFFECTS, INCLUDING SHOES AND CLOTHING

Taylor, who dropped depth charges and an acoustic torpedo. Monitored aboard the aircraft, Taylor heard the torpedo detonate and metal grinding against metal as the I-52 fell 17,000 feet to the seabed.

“My journey started in 1990 when I began researching newly declassified documents from the National Security Agency in Washington,” said Tidwell. “I was the first person to see the declassified documents on the I-52 and it was quickly clear that it was important in some way.”

In 1995, he chartered a former Soviet spy ship and scoured 1,000 square miles of the Atlantic until the scanner located the I-52. With an estimated \$30 million in gold within reach, Tidwell’s attitude suddenly altered.

“There was a lot of money at stake, but actually locating the submarine changed things for me,” he said. “It was not just about the salvage operation any more; I felt it was my responsibility to protect the vessel.”

He traveled to Japan and contacted as many relatives of the crew as possi-

ble, who gave their personal blessing to his project. He also opened negotiations with Japanese government officials, who were concerned about human remains that may still be aboard. Video footage taken from two small submarines sent down in 1998 to explore the wreck showed some of the crews’ personal effects, including shoes and clothing, while Tidwell also believes they have identified one set of human remains that can be seen through a hole in the pressure hull.

The vessel is instantly recognizable, with the sides of the conning tower still bearing large images of the rising sun and the anti-aircraft guns aiming skyward. Damage is more serious in the bow area, where the torpedo may have struck. It would have also the brunt of the impact with the seabed.

“We are going to try to lift the submarine and bring it back to Japan,” Tidwell said. “Technically, 17,000 feet — which is a mile deeper than the Titanic, is a challenge, but the technology is there and we want to embrace relationships with Japanese companies to achieve this. I would like nothing more than to see the I-52, which was built by Mitsubishi, return home aboard a Mitsubishi ship.”

After it is lifted to the surface, it will need to be treated to protect it from the elements before it goes on permanent display. Any human remains still within the vessel will be retrieved, along with the gold, while Mr Tidwell is also hopeful that diplomatic pouches will shed light on suggestions that Japan was trying to broker a peace settlement with the United States via Yoshiro Fujimura, the assistant naval attaché in Switzerland.

An unusual flurry of coded messages between Berlin and Tokyo followed the I-52’s disappearance, and the Allies also learned that Fujimura had been waiting for the submarine to arrive. A patriot who feared the devastation that could befall his homeland unless the war was stopped, Fujimura was in negotiations with American officials in Switzerland in an effort to halt the war.

“The Japanese emperor thanked Fujimura for his efforts in a letter and the US State Department has told me that it wants to see the diplomatic pouches because it’s possible they contain the peace offer,” said Tidwell. “Messages like that could not go by radio because they were so secret. And maybe there are other things in there, like Japanese and German work on atomic weapons.”

Tidwell has already invested \$6 mil-

lion of his own money into the project and expects it will cost another \$10 million to raise the I-52. The Japanese government has agreed to reimburse him and give him a ten percent cut of the gold.

As for the suggestion that all of the gold should be handed over to Japan because the vessel is Japanese, Tidwell emphasized that the government had relinquished rights to the wreck by declaring it abandoned and making no

effort to locate it, let alone recover its cargo. Pointing out that the gold was probably war booty anyway and, therefore any claim by Tokyo might be fairly weak, he added that had no desire to “start a fight” over the wreck and repeated that he is going to share the gold with Japan.

Work to raise the I-52 could start as early as November, Tidwell said, with the operation likely to take about 30 days.

The Okinawa Program and the Okinawa Diet Plan

Amere three years after revealing why the people of Okinawa live longer than anyone else in the rest of the world, a new book by the authors of “The Okinawa Program” say the islanders’ golden era of longevity could be coming to an end.

At the club for a recent Book Break, Dr. Makoto Suzuki and Craig Wilcox said that while Okinawa is still per capita home to more centenarians and super-centenarians — those over 110 years old — than anywhere else in the world, the shift in the younger generation to fast food and less exercise, coupled with the erosion of the traditional way of life, threatens the Longevity Island’s reputation.

“There has been only one intervention that has been shown to extend the lifespan of all animals studied so far, and that’s calorie restriction,” said Craig Wilcox, a Canadian gerontologist and assistant professor at Okinawa Prefectural University College of Nursing. “If you feed a nutritiously dense and calorie-low diet to one group of mice and the usual diet to another, every time, the low calorie group lives 30 percent longer.”

Wilcox jointly authored the follow-up to their New York Times bestseller, titled “The Okinawa Diet Plan,” with his brother Bradley, a geriatrics fellow at Harvard Medical School, and Dr. Suzuki, head of the Okinawa Research Centre for Longevity Science at Okinawa International University.

After studying the lifestyles of Okinawans for more than a quarter of a



Craig Wilcox (left), Dr. Makoto Suzuki (right)

century, the researchers define a nutritiously dense diet as one that is rich in antioxidants found in vegetables, seaweed and pulses that neutralise cell-damaging free radicals released during metabolism.

“If you look at what Okinawans eat, they have had this kind of diet all their lives,” Wilcox said, adding that islanders eat more tofu than anyone he has ever seen.

Combined with a physical fitness that results from their outdoor lifestyle and psycho-spiritual well-being — thanks to stress-relief in the form of traditional dances and music, and a laid-back attitude to life that is not found in Tokyo, for example, Okinawans on average can expect to live to the age of 81.2.

But the statistics for their children are more worrying.

“Young Okinawans — between the ages of 30 and 50 — are the fattest in Japan and have the highest incidence of

diabetes,” Wilcox says. They are unlikely to remain healthy into old age if they continue to eat high-calorie takeaway foods with minimal physical exercise, he adds.

“It is hard to change powerful social forces,” says Wilcox. “We now have a car society here and I would say that people in Tokyo take more steps every day going to work and coming home again than the average Okinawan.”

“The Okinawa Diet Plan” includes more than 150 recipes from around the islands that have contributed to their residents’ long lives, ranging from Buddhist temple tofu to gumbo a la Okinawa and tapioca sweet potato dessert.

And while the book is aimed at a Western market, younger generations of Okinawans should perhaps be trying out some of the recipes.

“I’m afraid that in as little as a decade, Okinawans’ fame for their longevity will be a thing of the past,” said Wilcox.

Cho Soo-Yoong, Kim Moogwi

South Korean Youth Association in Japan
Press Conference
May 20

Cho Soo-Yoong and Kim Moogwi offered their views on the textbook issue and what they describe as Tsukurukai's extreme rightwing agenda.



Yasuyuki Nambu

President & CEO, PASONA Inc.
Professional Luncheon
May 20

While many people are keen to diagnose Japan's economic stagnation, Yasuyuki Nambu is one of the very few who has a cure for it: a sweeping reform of the schooling system and of the relations between society and individuals.



Japan's bid for 2011 Rugby World Cup

Professional Luncheon
May 17

Yoshiro Mori, Former Prime Minister, President of the Rugby World Cup 2011 Bid Committee, Seiji Hirao, Former Japan Captain, Coach and General Manager of the Bid Management Committee, and World Cup winners Matt Cockbain and Toutai Kefu, hope for a victorious bid in November.

Hidetsugu Yagi and Nobukatsu Fujioka

President and Vice President of Tsukurukai
Press Conference
May 10

Principal authors of the controversial text "Atarashii Rekishi Kyokasho" (The New History Textbook), argued that there was considerable misunderstanding both about Japan's role in the war and the content of their book.

Katsuya Okada

President of the Democratic Party of Japan
Professional Luncheon
May 24

Katsuya Okada, president of the Democratic Party of Japan, presented his vision of Japan's place in the world in ten years' time, and his prescription for a peaceful and wealthy Asia.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY AKIKO MIYAKE

Saturday Night Live

May 14

Tim Hoffman and Abdur Rahman offered members a rare opportunity to hear some very unique Japanese-Indian crossover music.



PHOTOS BY KURYU MASAO

Book Break

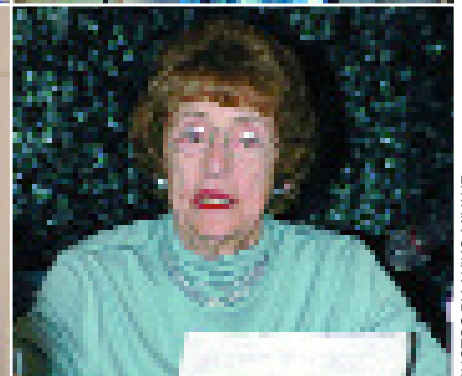
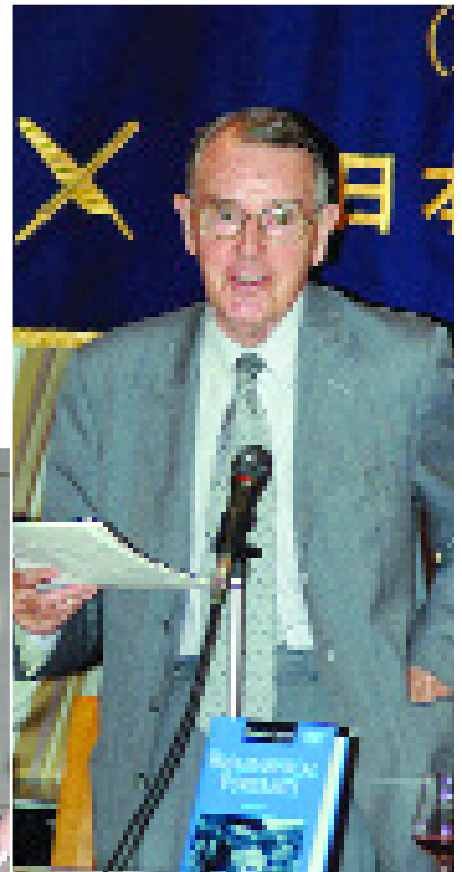
May 24

“Britain and Japan: Biographical Portraits, Volume V”

Edited by Hugh Cortazzi, former British Ambassador to Japan

This is the fifth volume of pen-portraits by distinguished scholars and researchers of the leading names in the history of Anglo-Japanese relations. This volume features over 40 entries on people on both sides of the relationship, from the period following the re-opening of Japan in the mid-nineteenth century into the early part of the twentieth century.

(clockwise) Ian Nish and Justin McCurry, Ian Nish, Lady Dorothy Bouchier, Jerry Matsumura, Prof. John Hatcher



PHOTOS BY AKIKO MIYAKE

UPCOMING EVENTS

VISIT THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS' CLUB OF JAPAN WEB SITE FOR FURTHER UPDATES ON UPCOMING EVENTS AT WWW.FCCJ.OR.JP.

BOOK BREAKS

Monday, June 13, 18:30 – 20:30 pm,
Loreley A. Morling
Author of "A Very Different Type"

June 20, 2005 18:30
Richard Lloyd Parry
Author of "In the Time of Madness"

ENTERTAINMENT

- June 03 Fri. Concert
- 14 Tue. Coffee Event
- 16 Wed. Yale Concert
- 24 Fri. Indonesia Night
- 26 Sun. Sunday Buffet
- 30 Thu. Joint Event

June 6, 18:30 – 20:30, Buffet

Mark Halperin
ABC News Political Director

June 7, 18:30 – 20:30, Buffet

Hidenori Sakanaka
Former Director of the Tokyo Immigration Bureau

June 10, 12:00 – 14:00, Lunch

Takeru "The Tsunami" Kobayashi
Nathan's Famous Fourth of July International Hot Dog Eating Contest Champion

June 14, 12:00 – 13:30, Lunch

Haruhiko Kuroda
President, Asian Development Bank

June 15, 12:00 – 13:30, Lunch

Lanny Davis
Former Special White House Counsel for President Clinton, Political and Legal Analyst on MSNBC

July 8, 12:00 – 13:30, Lunch

Thierry Porte, Shinsei Bank, Limited
Director, Representative Statutory Executive Officer and Vice Chairman (incoming President & CEO)

July 28, 12:00 – 13:30, Lunch

Jennifer M. Granholm
47th Governor of Michigan

All information correct at the time of publishing.

The FCCJ Library stocks a wide variety of resources on Japan and Asia including video discs, books, newspapers, periodicals and reference materials in English and Japanese. Wire services from Reuters, Bridge News, Nikkei and online databases are available.

Along with the Narain workroom, available 24 hours a day to regular members and guests, the library is well stocked with tools to help you make the news.

The library is open Monday to Friday, 10:30–19:00 and on Saturdays 13:00–17:00. It is closed on Sundays and Japanese national holidays.

Journey to a War
W. H. Auden
Faber & Faber

The Very Small Home
Azby Brown
Kodansha International
Gift from Kodansha International



Saying Yes to Japan
Tim Clark
Vertical, Inc.
Gift from Carl Kay



The Last Kingdom
Bernard Cornwell
Harper Collins



Collapse
Jared Diamond
Viking



Chronicles
Bob Dylan
Simon & Schuster



Senjo no Jyosei Tokuhain
Julia Edwards
Heibon-sha
Gift from Akiko Ohta

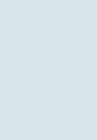


China, Inc.
Ted C. Fishman
Scribner



The Broker
John Grisham
Doubleday

Keisatsu Naibu Kokuhatsusha
Kouji Harada
Kodansha
Gift from Kouji Harada



Indo no Software Sangyou
Makoto Kojima
Toyokeizai Shimposha
Gift from Makoto Kojima

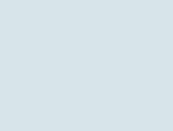
Port Mungo
Patrick McGrath
Bloomsbury
Gift from George Deutsch

Voices of Asia
Greg Mettam, ed.
Asian Development Bank Institute
Gift from Asian Development Bank Institute

Timebends
Arthur Miller
Penguin Books

Hoki
Hiroshi Morris
Kinyobi
Gift from Kinyobi

Kafka on the Shore
Haruki Murakami
Alfred A. Knopf



The Genius of Mr. Punch
Jozef Rogala, compiled
Yurindo Co., Ltd.
Gift from Jozef Rogala



Gunji Soshiki to Gender
Fumika Sato
Keio Gijyuku Daigaku Shuppankai
Gift from Fumika Sato

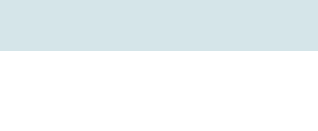
Collecting Japanese Antiques
Alistair Seton
Tuttle
Gift from Tuttle



Karhu@77
Mary Tolman
Abe Publishing Ltd.
Gift from Mary Tolman

Empire
James Whitlow Delano
5 Continents

The Okinawa Diet Plan
Bradley J. Willcox
Clarkson Potter
Gift from Dr. Craig Willcox



NEW MEMBERS



Andrew McGovern has spent the last few years working as a freelance editorial photographer in Tokyo, covering sports and news for foreign magazines and agencies in Europe and the US.

Originally from Boston, he worked briefly in the UK and Korea before moving to Japan.



Yuko Fuse has worked as a reporter and producer for NTV (Nippon Television Network Corp.) since 1982.

Her first foreign assignment was covering the aftermath of the assassination of Ninoy Aquino while he was running for president of the Philippines.

She has also worked in the city news section, covering politics, health and welfare, and produced a nightly news programme.

From 1995 to 1999, she was NTV's Washington correspondent, but her toughest assignment was outside the US, covering the hostage crisis at the Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima, Peru.

While in Washington, she was kept busy by personal scandals involving the then president, Bill Clinton, and made numerous trips to Clinton's home state of Arkansas.

She has been chief editor of NTV's foreign news section since 2003. She finds herself doing more administrative work than before, but tries to stay true

to her reporting roots, covering as many stories as she can.

During last year's US presidential elections, she appeared several times on NTV's 24-hour news channel (NNN24), offering commentary and analysis.

Her interests include movies, books, golf, going to the gym and spending time with friends.



Piotr Bernardyn was born in Gdansk, Poland, in March 1970. He studied economics at universities in Poland and Germany, and holds a Masters degree in economics from the University of Gdansk.

He has been living in Japan for six years, spending the first year studying Japanese at Keio University before completing two years' research into Japanese politics and international relations in East Asia at Keio University graduate school.

He is currently working on his PhD thesis, which examines Japan's foreign policy after the end of the Cold War.

Piotr has been working as a freelance journalist for the Polish press for the past five years, writing mostly for Tygodnik Powszechny, one of the oldest and most respected weekly magazines in Poland.

He has written extensively on such topics as Japanese and East Asian politics, culture, history and international relations.

He is also involved in translating, business consulting and language teaching. His interests include traveling around Japan and Asia, reading and film.

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Robert Kirschenbaum

BY GABRIELLE KENNEDY

Early evenings at the FCCJ wouldn't be the same without catching sight of the comforting figure of Bob Kirschenbaum. His routine begins with a purposeful stride into the main bar, where he sits down with a carafe of white wine and a bowl of cheese cubes dusted with celery salt. He is never short of an anecdote and always willing to listen. "That's correct," is his familiar refrain — one that keeps him out of trouble and well away from messy club politics.

As president of Pacific Press Service a — stock photo agency that licenses the copyright to photographs taken by its member artists — his reputation precedes him.

But not nearly as much is known about the colourful beginnings to his career, the larrikin years he spent traveling around the world in search of opportunities.

Robert Kirschenbaum grew up in Manhattan, attended the Bronx High School of Science and Mathematics, entered university, dropped out, was picked up for vagrancy and entered the US Air Force. Based in Mississippi, he was trained in the security services division, where he learned Russian and specialized in the military's Soviet Union policy. That stint went well, but he had little time for Mississippi politics. "In 1957 I got into trouble for sitting in the back of the bus," he says. "I didn't see any problem with it."

His individualism also caused him strife during his time on base when, for example, he went AWOL to see his classmate, the singer Bobby Darin, perform in the Catskill Mountains.

Later he took issue with an anti-Semitic army major who invented misdemeanors to prevent Kirschenbaum from being promoted and earning stripes on his uniform. But thanks to a favour from a sympathetic superior, he was transferred to Japan, an environment he found much more to his liking.

"Within three months of arriving at the Tachikawa base, I was made editor of the

Tachikawa Marauder Newspaper," he says. Getting the paper out gave him a solid grounding in page design, reporting and editing, and set him up for what would be an illustrious career in journalism. "By the time I had ended my service, I had two stripes and a good conduct medal."

Back in the US, a more focused Kirschenbaum went to Columbia University to complete a Japanese stud-



Bob Kirschenbaum and Hiroshi Hamaya

PHOTO: HIROSHI HAMAYA/PPS

OTHER TOP NAMES HE CAN COUNT AS IMPORTANT COLLEAGUES AND GOOD FRIENDS ARE HENRI CARTIER-BRESSON, EUGENE SMITH, HERB RITTS, MARC RIBOUD AND KAZUYOSHI NOMACHI.

ies course he had started with the University of Maryland's Overseas Program. Fusing his language skills and newspaper experience, he returned to Tokyo to work for The Japan Times, a job he held until moving to Korea to help set up The Korean Republic (now The Korea Herald).

By 1965, after a stint with The Japan Times in Tokyo, Kirschenbaum had grown tired of newspapers and decided to move into marketing and PR after finding himself unexpectedly promoting the Miss Universe beauty pageant in Japan. The gig led Kirschenbaum and his business partner, Al Cullison, to start up PPS.

By 1974, PPS was attracting attention for its high-quality exhibitions. Kirschenbaum points to his relationship with the doyenne of Japanese photography, Hiroshi Hamaya, as being pivotal to that success.

"Through his association with us, we were able to really develop credibility in the Japanese photography scene," he

says. Other top names he can count as important colleagues and good friends are Henri Cartier-Bresson, Eugene Smith, Herb Ritts, Marc Riboud and Kazuyoshi Nomachi. Hanging on his apartment walls are photographs given as personal gifts from such luminaries as Sarah Moon and Ansel Adams.

Eugene Smith, whom Kirschenbaum describes as a "great essayist," heard about the victims of Minamata disease — arguably his most famous subjects — while visiting Japan to see an exhibition. Smith's two years in Minamata resulted in an exhibition at Seibu Department Store in Ikebukuro. Kirschenbaum recalls a close personal relationship with Smith, which whom he bonded after conducting a generous rescue mission for the photographer.

"He was in a bit of trouble with Magnum Photos for reneging on a deal," Kirschenbaum says, "so he asked me to negotiate on his behalf and have them distribute his photographs, which I did. It took a lot for him to ask for my help."

A member of the FCCJ since 1963, Kirschenbaum remembers the "good old days" that so many members recall with nostalgia. Back then the club had a bar exclusively for men. "It was decorated in Korean War helmets and a topless image of Marilyn Monroe. It was a different era," he says with a laugh, before explaining that a female club member from UPI campaigned successfully to bring an end to the gender-specific watering hole.

For the 50th anniversary of the FCCJ, he put together a collection of photographs depicting major events covered by correspondents over the previous half a century. One image, by UPI photographer Sawada Kyoichi, of a mother fleeing the water with her family, is an iconic image of the Vietnam War.

Looking back over his career to date, Kirschenbaum sounds satisfied. "Sure, I made some mistakes," he says of letting several good photographers slip through his hands. "But I have no regrets." He derives greatest satisfaction from creating opportunities for artists to survive financially. "There is nothing in the taking," he says. "It is all in the giving, and if it works both ways, then that is wonderful."

