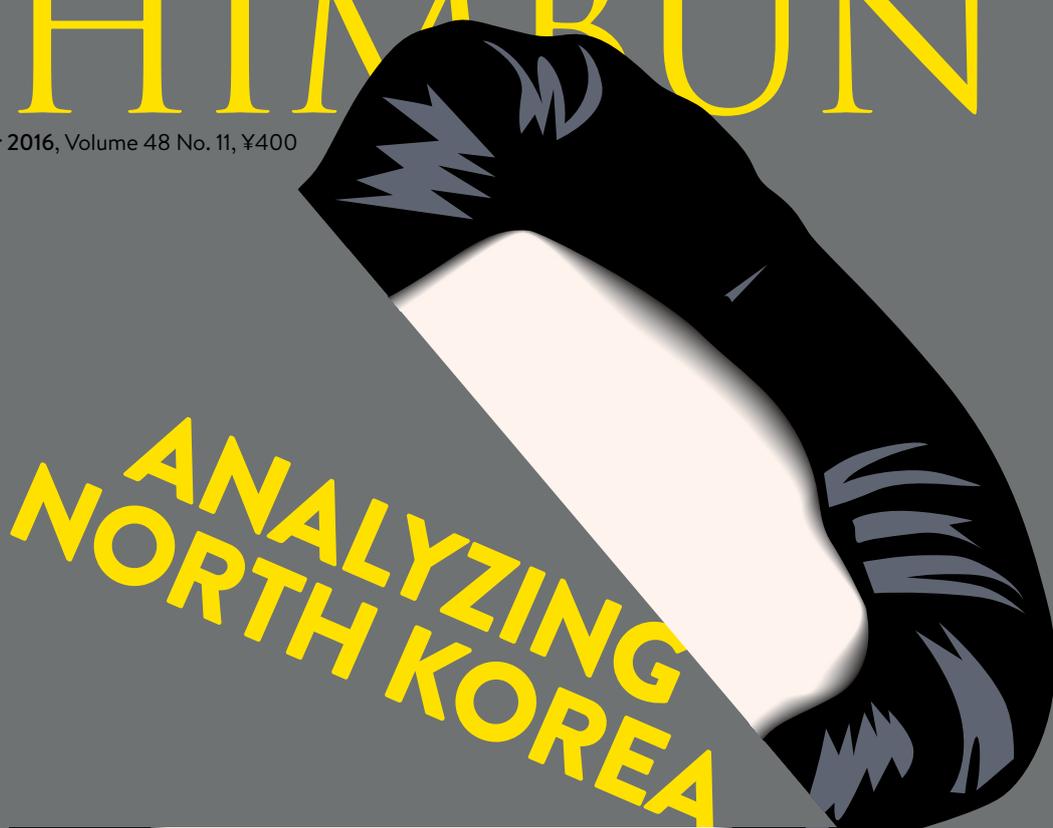


The magazine of The Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan



NUMBER 1 SHIMBUN

November 2016, Volume 48 No. 11, ¥400



**ANALYZING
NORTH KOREA**



**How foreign correspondents report
from the peninsula — and from Japan**

Profile:
The new *New York Times*
Bureau Chief Motoko Rich

Sexy pages:
Yoshiwara hosts
unique book store

Waiting for Putin:
A history of deals on
the northern isles



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The Kyoto Prize ... and other awards

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Cover illustration: Andrew Pothearcy



From the President

WITHIN THE FIRST FEW days of my being elected by the Board of Directors as the new president of the FCCJ (after Peter Langan resigned to take up a new post in Hong Kong), I was faced with a major decision over what to do about the Club's proposed move to new premises in October 2018. I received what I regard as expert opinion that showed there could be problems with the move.

I decided that I must act with responsibility to all concerned, not least to all of our Members who have a financial (and in the case of Regular Members, professional) stake in the welfare of the Club. I also wanted to act with responsibility toward our landlord and toward our staff.

Around the time I assumed the presidency, our two Kanjis (Statutory Auditors) Iinuma-san and Honjo-san issued a report to the Board that had the tone of an alert. They suggested that, "the FCCJ would need to give notice to MEC (Mitsubishi Estate), the company handling the FCCJ move project, to temporarily halt (not terminate or postpone indefinitely) any work on FCCJ facilities at the new site" until the FCCJ could "sort out" its position on the move.

They came to this conclusion after recognizing the fact that the decision on this most important project in the recent history of FCCJ was made (a) under an agreement with our landlord Mitsubishi Estate of March 2015, and we were under legal obligation to move from the Denki Building to newly constructed premises at Marunouchi 3-2 (aka the New Fuji Building), and (b) we took this decision because the cost to maintain and overhaul our current premises was beyond our means. The Kanjis, however, felt that the financial projection made to justify the size of the new premises was optimistic and short on specifics.

As president, I felt I had to take heed of warnings from some in the Club that the move could involve financial risks – and that the new premises might not match the Club's requirements in terms of the standard of facilities we need to operate at least at our current level. While not necessarily accepting these arguments, I had an obligation at least to heed them.

(The agreement with MEC is confidential so I would not describe it too much in detail to the general membership, although this runs counter to the spirit of transparency I believe in.)

But that was just the start. In an email to me on Oct. 18, Bob Whiting, our Treasurer and the Finance Committee chair, basically agreed with all the Kanjis' observations. Leaving a space for optimism however, our Treasurer said, "a new Food & Beverage contract starting Sept. 1, 2018 may help get us in the black, and a special F&B Search Task Force has been busy interviewing F&B candidates."

Looking at the glass as "half full" was last month's issue of the *Number 1 Shimbun*, which presented images of how the FCCJ could look if and when it moves to shiny new premises in the New Fuji Building. There's no denying that these images contrasted favorably, at first glance at least, with the rather down-at-the-heel appearance of our current premises at the Yurakucho Denki Building.

So, if you have heard, and things "get around" very quickly in our Club, that the "new" Board is taking a long, hard look at the proposed move, you may think that we are "spoilors."

The reality is rather different. The board that was in place in March 2015 signed a contract, with General Membership Meeting approval, that committed the Club to larger premises and an amount of rent which some suggest we cannot afford, and also to a penalty in the event FCCJ wishes unilaterally to withdraw from the contract.

I personally am supportive of the Club moving from its current premises, and in fact see real advantages to making our home in new premises that are better equipped to meet the needs of a modern press club.

So, I have approached the issue of the move with an open and, I hope, careful and positive, attitude. I have seen and heard enough, however, during my first two months in office that gave me some doubts about the ability of FCCJ to pay the rent of the new premises, and issues regarding the capability of the new premises to provide us with catering and other facilities equal to those we enjoy at present.

With this in mind, I quickly launched an inquiry into the pros and cons of the move, with input both from those who favor going ahead "as is" and those who have different views. By doing this, I wanted to be sure that we act with responsibility to all parties but with the interest of you our members as our first priority.

I decided to call for a pause in contract negotiations so that all sides of the case could be rapidly reassessed and presented to the Board. We are busily examining every possible option to make sure that the FCCJ gets the best possible deal regarding the terms of the move and – more importantly – that it does not land itself in difficulty (or worse) by embarking upon a move that is not viable, financially or logistically. As president, I feel this responsibility keenly. I also feel a duty to keep members fully informed of what is happening, and why. This is your Club.

I have little desire to apportion blame to previous Boards, but it is only fair to say that if the question of what kind and size of Club we wished to become had been asked of the membership before the move was agreed, we might not have found ourselves in the difficulty we face now. The financial aspects and the "affordability" of the move were not properly examined, and neither was the "cost" we might have to pay by drafting new members simply to boost revenues when some of those new members might have little interest in the role of a press club.

So, please bear with us as we seek to reexamine, as quickly as possible, the options that are open to the Club as we approach the move. We will keep you fully informed at every step of the way.

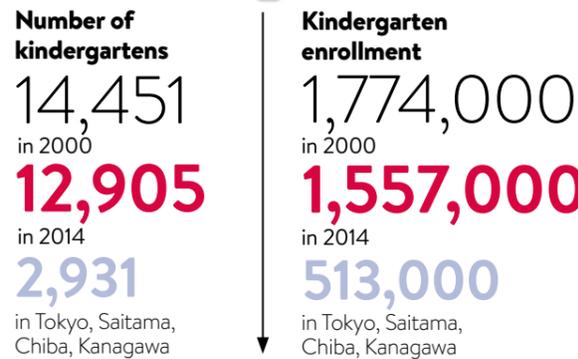
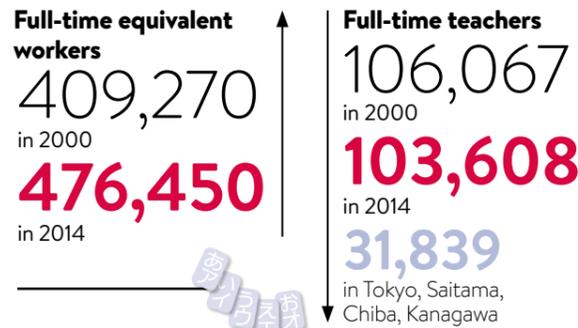
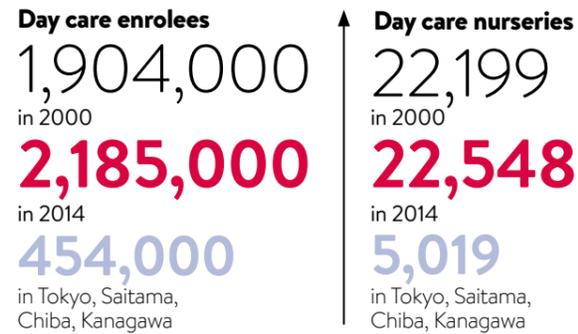
In the meantime, the House & Properties committee is following up with Mitsubishi Estate on the overall building project's construction schedule needs, but advised the Board that a swift decision should be made. Also, the Board's F&B Search Task Force has completed an English language version of a request for proposals from prospective F&B outsourcing partners.

Myself and the Board are working hard to find solutions to these and other related issues, and we welcome any suggestions.

– Khaldon Azhari

COLLECTIONS

CHILDCARE NUMBERS



Sources: Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Labor and Welfare Ministry

FROM THE ARCHIVES

"LE BULLDOZER" VISITS THE CLUB



Jacques Chirac, then mayor of Paris and former French prime minister, expressed his views at the FCCJ on Sept. 20, 1984. Seated to his left is FCCJ board member Naoaki Usui (McGraw-Hill), who became FCCJ president for the 1987-88 administrative term. The elbow of FCCJ president Mary Ann Maskery (ABC News) is visible on Chirac's right. Chirac went on to become France's president from 1995 to 2007.

Jacques Chirac much admired Japan, a country he visited many times over his 40-year career to meet with political leaders and celebrities, including sumo wrestlers Akebono and Asashoryu. It was rumored, too, that he fathered a son with a Japanese consort on one of his early visits. And he even developed a connection with Japan's Noh drama as a result of a likeness between his facial expressions and certain Noh masks, three of which were shown in a Paris museum in June of this year. (www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jun/20/japanese-kyogen-masks-jacques-chirac-museum-quai-branly-paris)

Born in 1932, Jacques Chirac joined France's civil service in the 1950s. He vaulted into a long political career with his election to the National Assembly in 1967 following five years on the staff of Georges Pompidou, who had dubbed him "Le Bulldozer" for his ability to get things done. That epithet remained throughout Chirac's long career in which he held many high positions, including prime minister twice and mayor of Paris for 18 years prior to his election as president in 1995. He retired from the presidency in 2007 after a minor stroke.

In evaluating his presidency, pundits were quick to point out many questionable decisions, but they also lauded him for opposing the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003. Respect for him in Japan declined following his decision in 1995 to resume nuclear tests in a French-controlled area of the Pacific, 50 years after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Accused of corruption during his 18 years as the mayor of Paris, Chirac's presidential immunity prevented indictment until after his retirement in 2007. He was convicted in 2011 of abusing taxpayer funds, but the sentence of two years in prison was suspended in view of his past service to the country and ill health. Despite these hits to his reputation, polls in France show that he is still held in high esteem.

Interestingly, both Kakuei Tanaka and Jacques Chirac were known as "bulldozers," and the careers of both ended with convictions for corruption.

– Charles Pomeroy

Correction: In the caption for this space in the October issue, the man seated was incorrectly identified. He is Sam Jones.



ANDY SHARP

The troublesome task of covering Kim

The groans in the newsroom are palpable. Kim Jong Un has just rattled off yet another missile or detonated another nuclear device. Often before the morning's first cup of coffee, reporters must scrap their plans for the day and try to make sense of North Korea's latest provocation.

This scene doesn't just take place in Seoul, but across Asia – including Japan, where many correspondents are tasked with covering events on the Korean Peninsula. It's a task that comes in addition to their main job of relaying to the world the latest shenanigans in Nagatacho, making sense of the latest Bank of Japan policy shift or knocking out a yarn on a weird Japanese TV commercial.

This presents numerous challenges. Reporters based here are immersed in Japanese culture, speak the language (to various degrees) and can quickly jump on a train to meet officials, conduct interviews, or simply discuss current affairs at the local izakaya with Japanese friends or colleagues. When news breaks across the Sea of Japan, however, it becomes a question of scouring media reports, calling experts on the peninsula and haggling with editors to fork out for a trip to Seoul. Even so, from the moment they hit the ground, they are playing catch up.

"I covered the 2014 Sewol ferry sinking from Tokyo," says the *Guardian's* Justin McCurry, who has been covering the Koreas for about a decade. "I had to rely on wires, the South Korean English-language media, social media, plus occasional phone calls to English-speaking South Koreans. Reporting from Japan didn't necessarily prevent me from grasping the details and significance of the story, but I think my reports

While some media are opening bureaus in Pyongyang, journalists are still faced with crucial challenges when it comes to reporting on Japan's reclusive neighbor.

by ANDY SHARP

would have gained something from my being able to witness firsthand the mood of the country, the despair of the children's parents and friends and the political repercussions in Seoul."

But sometimes being on site is imperative. McCurry

says he jumped on a flight to Seoul in March 2013 when Kim Jong Un was threatening to nuke the U.S. and declared a "state of war" against the South to see how scared ordinary South Koreans were (turns out they weren't). "It was a great time to be in Seoul, despite the utter lack of preparation and inability to secure reasonably priced fixers at short notice," he says. "The situation quickly deteriorated with the withdrawal of South Korean workers from the Kaesong joint industrial complex, North Korean threats to strike frontline islands and restart its main nuclear facility, not to mention speculation of nuclear tests and missile launches. At times it was a struggle to keep on top of everything."

McCurry adds that he ended up staying in South Korea for two weeks, and filed articles ranging from how islanders near the North Korean coast were preparing for artillery attacks to a color piece about Psy's follow-up single to "Gangnam Style."

WHEN EXPERIENCE MATTERS

Anna Fifield, the *Washington Post's* Tokyo bureau chief since 2014, is at a bit of an advantage, having previously spent four years in Seoul covering the Koreas for the *Financial Times* and speaking "workable" Korean. She's visited Pyongyang seven times and travels to the South Korean capital about once a month – taking the flight from Haneda to Gimpo more often, she jokes, than she rides the Yamanote Line.

Even so, Fifield says, North Korea is the biggest challenge because it's so difficult to get information and paint a real picture of what's happening. "This involves talking to a wide range of people," the New Zealander says. "North Koreans who have escaped to South Korea; North Koreans living in China, both legally and illegally; aid workers and diplomats who live in or travel to North Korea; and analysts who speak Korean."

Fifield says about three quarters of the stories on Korea she writes are about the North. "The continuing survival of North Korea is the biggest story for me," she says. "How are they doing it, even after a decade of sanctions and the transition to a young, third-generation leader? The South Korean reaction is also increasingly important to cover because the Park administration is taking a really tough stance against the North. The sunshine policy days are well and truly over."

In the South, Fifield says, after an "incredible" economic transformation, there are real concerns about inequality and the loss of optimism among young people. "The story I wrote about South Korea that resonated most locally was about 'Hell Chosun' – the idea that ordinary young people can't get ahead in South Korea, that you must be born into a wealthy or influential family."

THE BUREAU CHIEF

Even closer to the story is Alastair Gale, the *Wall Street Journal's* Seoul bureau chief who will be returning to Japan this year after a five-year stint on the peninsula.

Gale, who leads a handful of reporters in Seoul, says that coverage of Korea from outside the country varies by publication, but it is weaker – since reporters miss out on interaction with news sources such as business and government people. "It is by definition harder since there's a lot you absorb just by being here and being surrounded by events."

Gale says that while stories such as the Samsung Galaxy Note 7 phone debacle gain international traction, often the big local stories are about political or celebrity scandals that don't have much

of an audience outside the country. "The leader of the ruling party went on hunger strike recently but I don't think it got much coverage in the foreign press."

On covering the North, he proceeds with caution. "Often there's a herd mentality on North Korea coverage because everyone is working from the same minimal source material and the sexiest story is the one that gets the most attention," Gale says. "You can write several very different stories by speaking to different analysts who speculate in different ways. That's a major frustration if you're trying to deliver a reliable story."

Such examples include the false reports about Kim's uncle being fed to a pack of dogs, or his ex appearing in porn films, and other such rumors.

Even being in Pyongyang doesn't help sometimes. A few years ago, an official trip for a group of overseas reporters to North Korea happened to coincide with a rocket launch. They were unable to report from the scene because they had no idea what was happening, while correspondents elsewhere had access to South Korean media and other sources.

OUR MAN IN PYONGYANG

Eric Talmadge is possibly closer to the story than any journalist with an address in Tokyo – he's the Pyongyang bureau chief for the Associated Press and is based there, on average, for about 10 days a month. (AFP also opened a bureau there in September to join a handful of international media outlets including Kyodo News.)

After more than a decade of reporting on Japan – and Asian-Pacific security – Talmadge accepted his new role in Pyongyang in 2013 (the bureau opened in 2012) due to it being a "unique challenge professionally."

Talmadge has a staff of two local reporters and a driver, and usually travels to Pyongyang with Singapore-based photographer Maye-e Wong. He says the restrictions he faces – especially as an American – are primarily related to access.

Even so, he says, he's managed to pull off exclusive interviews with the head of the Foreign Ministry's U.S. division, a senior official at the nation's space agency, and a two-hour interview with the foreign minister – a meeting that took place in New York as the result of "groundwork done in Pyongyang."

"Our stories about daily life in the capital and the provinces provide a window into the North that I think is a very important aspect of our being there," Talmadge says. "Every foreign correspondent in Japan would agree that having actually been, or being, here informs their work in a similar way and makes their work better."

Though *NKNews.org*, a website focused on the country, published a roughly 4,000-word report in 2014 that alleged the U.S. news agency pulls its punches, Talmadge says there's a reason for AP being in Pyongyang, and it isn't

that they are just waiting for the country to someday open up.

"Every story that we write, every day that we go out and talk to people on the street, every time we sit down and complain or debate with officials there about how we wrote a story or why we took a certain photo is part of that effort," he says. "The most important thing is to produce the best journalism that I can, right now, and tenaciously build on each success, big or small. It may sound corny, and I know not all agree, but I honestly believe we are fighting the good fight – for everybody." ●

Andy Sharp is Bloomberg's Tokyo-based editor for Japan and Korea government news.

"Often there's a herd mentality on North Korea coverage because everyone is working from the same minimal source material"



Crossing borders With an accompanying interpreter, Anna Fifield interviews people on the street in Pyongyang for a *Washington Post* video, above. Main photo, an elite South Korean soldier on the demarcation line between the two Koreas.

Treaty



Behind the negotiations for the Kuril Islands

by GREGORY CLARK

Japan's struggle to regain what it calls its "Northern Territories" is complicated by conflicting political realities in the days following WWII.

The U.S. has had an impressive record of changing policies to fit its Cold War strategies. It has helped keep Tokyo and Moscow at loggerheads for over sixty years.

When is a Kuril Island not a Kuril island? When Tokyo so insists. And with Russian President Vladimir Putin due to arrive here in December, and serious negotiations on territory promised, the issue of "what's in a name" could become important.

Article 2(c) of the 1951 San Francisco Peace Treaty includes the phrase: "Japan renounces all right, title and claim to the Kuril Islands." The Japanese government insists that the definition of the "Kuril Islands" in that document did not include the southern Kuril islands of Etorofu and Kunashiri or the smaller neighboring islands of Shikotan and the Habomais. Tokyo says these islands make up what it calls its "Northern Territories," and that since they have been illegally occupied by Moscow since 1945, the long-postponed WWII peace treaty with Moscow can only be signed when their return is promised.

But on Oct. 19, 1951, speaking before the Special Diet Committee on ratification of the San Francisco Treaty, Kumao Nishimura, the Director of the Treaties Bureau of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, said: "[B]oth Northern and Southern Kurils were included in the scope of the 'Chishima Retto' [Kuril Archipelago] named in the San Francisco Peace Treaty. . ."

So how did the Southern Kurils that Japan renounced in 1951 come to be replaced by something called the Northern Territories that include Etorofu and Kunashiri, which Japan claims never to have renounced?

Ask Foreign Ministry officials about that Nishimura statement and they will tell you it was a mistake. But could the head of the elite ministry's Treaty Bureau make such a mistake immediately after the signing of the San Francisco peace treaty?

The ministry also insists the matter was all decided back in the 19th century.

In the 1855 Shimoda Treaty between the Tokugawa regime and Czarist Russia, Japan gained ownership of the southern Kuril Islands of Etorofu and Kunashiri. All the other islands further north went to Russia. Then, in the Treaty of St. Petersburg in 1875, Japan negotiated another deal with the transfer of ownership of all "the Kurils" north of Etorofu to Japan in exchange for all of Sakhalin going to Russia. From that it is supposed to

follow that since the word "Kurils" was used to describe the islands north of Etorofu, the term Southern Kurils (Minami Chishima) can only refer to islands included in the 1875 handover and north of Etorofu - i.e. to the north of Japan's self-proclaimed Northern Territories. Therefore they could not have been renounced in that San Francisco Peace Treaty.

SOPHISTRY? UNDOUBTEDLY. IN ADDITION to the Nishimura statement, there is also the well-known fact that when Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida signed the San Francisco treaty he complained bitterly about the fact that he was being forced to sign away Minami Chishima. Indeed, he was so unhappy that Tokyo to this day refuses to release the documents sent to the U.S. in protest. If released they would undermine Tokyo's argument that it never renounced Etorofu and Kunashiri. (A ministry of foreign affairs map at the time showed the two islands clearly included in territory lost under San Francisco.)

Tokyo has more arguments, some slightly more sophisticated. One of them is that the San Francisco treaty does not stipulate to whom Japan is renouncing the Kurils, meaning they do not necessarily belong to Russia. Another is that since Moscow never signed the treaty (it walked out of negotiations), it has no right to claim any of the Kurils anyway.

More logical-minded Japanese, both on the communist left and conservative right, realize the contradictions and insist that Japan should blame the U.S. and claim all the Kurils.

Japan has a better position when it quotes the Allied wartime Cairo and Potsdam Declarations on which Japan based its 1945 surrender. Both stated that Japan should only be stripped of territories its had gained from greed and aggression. So supporters of this argument say that since Tokyo gained the Kurils through peaceful negotiations in 1855 and 1875 it should not have been forced to give them up. But Tokyo would then have to explain why it took southern Sakhalin as the prize for its aggressive 1904 war against Russia.

There is another way for Japan to argue its case, but it means having to criticize the U.S. by asking the following questions: Why did Washington take such a hard line in forcing Yoshida to sign away the Southern Kurils? And why did U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles include all the territory Tokyo now describes as its Northern Territories in the definition of the Kurils to be renounced? The only territory he agreed to exclude was the Habomais, proximate to Hokkaido.

TODAY THE U.S. GOES out of its way to insist on the exact reverse of Dulles' stance; it supports Tokyo's assertion that Tokyo never renounced the southern Kurils and insists that the Northern Territories claim is totally valid. While the U.S. has had an impressive record of changing policies to fit its Cold War strategies, this one has to be the daddy of them all. It has helped keep Tokyo and Moscow at loggerheads for over sixty years.

It gets even more Machiavellian. Tokyo began talks with Moscow in 1955 with the simple aim of gaining the return of Shikotan and the Habomais - islands usually excluded from the definition of the Kurils. But when Moscow finally agreed, Tokyo, under U.S. pressure, immediately upped its demand to include Etorofu and Kunashiri, a move that Moscow quickly shut down. Of the San Francisco principals, only the U.S. endorsed Japan's action; both France and the UK said it was against the rules ("curious and naive" was the comment of the UK embassy in Tokyo).

But Tokyo was not deterred. When full-scale talks for a peace treaty began in August 1956, Tokyo's representative, Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu at first insisted on the return of all disputed territory. When at one stage it seemed

ready to drop its claim on Etorofu and Kunashiri, Dulles is reported to have intervened to warn that if Tokyo did not maintain its claim to all the Southern Kurils the U.S. might be entitled to hold Okinawa forever. Shigemitsu quickly reversed course. Now, of course, France and the UK are roped in regularly to support that course change.

And so the stalemate continues, with Moscow continuing to insist that at best it will only agree to the return of Shikotan and Habomais, and Tokyo insisting it has to be all the disputed islands or nothing. Under the much under-estimated Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori, there was a 2001 attempt at compromise when MOFA officials Kazuhiko Togo and Masaru Sato, together with Diet parliamentarian Muneo Suzuki, tried to work out with then Russian Ambassador Alexander Panov, what they called the "two islands plus alpha solution": Japan would accept Shikotan and the Habomais, sign a peace treaty, and then aim for an ambiguous alpha - economic aid, perhaps, or more territory. But with the change of government that year, hardline foreign ministry conservatives were able to step in. Rightwing media accused the negotiators of traitorous behavior. Suzuki and Sato were prosecuted on unrelated flimsy charges (with Suzuki spending a year in jail) and Togo was forced into what he calls exile. Panov gave up in despair.

PRIME MINISTER SHINZO ABE clings to the hope that large promises of economic aid and investment will soften Moscow's stance. After all, did not Putin once say he sought a judo *hikiwake* (draw) solution? Maybe that means a 50-50 carve up of the territory, or residual sovereignty over the two main islands of Etorofu and Kunashiri. But as anyone who knows Moscow can tell you, Shikotan and the Habomais are the most any Russian leader, even Putin, could possibly concede. Etorofu and Kunashiri have strategic value, Moscow is spending much on their development and their return would create a dangerous precedent for other territory Moscow gained in 1945. For reasons of saving face, Abe has to insist he will get all the islands in the dispute. But Muneo Suzuki, who is close both to Abe and the Russians on this issue, appeared at the FCCJ on Oct. 3 to repeat in effect the failed 2001 proposal. So if Abe agrees will he also be called a traitor?

Ironically, if the U.S. were to admit that it compelled Yoshida to accept Article 2(c) in the San Francisco Treaty, Japan's position would be much stronger, particularly if Tokyo lifted its ban on releasing documents of that era. It could claim that it was forced to renounce the Kurils and is now entitled to a renegotiation of what in effect was an unequal treaty.

The question is why the U.S. was so determined to pressure Yoshida. One researcher has discovered that a Japan-fearful Australia was insistent that Japan be stripped of all disputed territories, clearly defined, to prevent a revived militarism in the future. Others see a U.S. plot: force total renunciation but leave a loophole so Tokyo and Moscow would argue for infinity. In her book *Cold War Frontiers in the Asia-Pacific*, a diligent researcher, Kimie Hara, has given yet another possible reason.

It seems that in 1947 Washington secretly promised Moscow it would follow up on its Yalta promise to have Japan hand over the Kurils provided Moscow accepted U.S. trusteeship over Micronesia in the UN Security Council. But rather than disclose these important facts, Tokyo battles on with its weak, contradictory arguments, clutching at every vague hint of a possible shift in Moscow's position, and - so far - getting nowhere. ●

Gregory Clark is a former Moscow-based Australian diplomat who first came to Japan as bureau chief for the *Australian*, and writes a regular opinion column in the *Japan Times*. More information can be found at www.gregoryclark.net.



Motoko Rich

by TIM HORNYAK

In midsummer this year, Motoko Rich arrived in Japan to reconnoiter before officially taking up her post as the *New York Times*' Tokyo bureau chief. Two days before she was going to return to the Big Apple, she found herself rushing out to Sagami-hara to cover Japan's worst mass killing since World War II.

The slayings of 19 handicapped people at the Tsukui Yamayurien care facility, allegedly carried out by former employee Satoshi Uematsu, led Rich to write about one of those wounded, Kazuya Ono, a 43-year-old autistic man with severe mental disabilities who survived grievous knife wounds to his throat and abdomen. In her Sept. 8 article, Rich wrote about his parents' desire that the world learn not only what happened to him, but his name as well. That flew in the face of a policy by Kanagawa Prefecture police, Japanese media and other victims' families to keep them anonymous because they were handicapped.

"The Onos are the only family that has come forward to speak out," says Rich. "Clearly Kazuya was a very challenging child to raise, and yet their love for him is so strong."

Covering the massacre was her first time dealing with Japan's media cartels – the *kisha* clubs. She was denied access to a press conference after the massacre, and describes the police attitude as "astoundingly non-transparent." It was a learning experience about Japan for the veteran reporter, who began her new job in August and now oversees a group consisting of correspondent Jonathan Soble and two researchers.

"I'm so excited. I feel really, really lucky," Rich says. "Every correspondent comes and does it in their own style. They have a new way of looking at the country and the story and they have their own interests and that informs their coverage. The editors knew that one of the frames I would bring was my background."

BORN IN LOS ANGELES to a mother from Hokkaido and a father from New Jersey, Rich lived in Japan twice: once from second to fourth grades at the American School in Japan, and then during a summer internship with the *Daily Yomiuri*. Her résumé also includes education at Yale and Cambridge, and reporting at the *Financial Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*. She joined the *New York Times* in 2003, covering the economy, real estate, publishing and education. Tokyo is her first foreign assignment.

"It was true 40 years ago and it's still true today that Japanese view me as gaijin," she says. "They look at my face and are surprised to see the name on my *meishi*, whereas in the



United States people regard me as more Asian. So I'm kind of betwixt and between, and that will inevitably inform my coverage."

Rich says her love of journalism stems from a passion for hearing people's stories and noticing little details – like how children in Japan bow to a soccer field after a successful and safe practice, a phenomenon she noted in a recent piece about how her family is adjusting to Tokyo. But like many journalists, she's deeply concerned about the state of the industry. As smaller newspapers continue to fold across the U.S., the *Times* has been offering staff buy-outs for the past three years.

"The role of the press as a watchdog is being lost as a result of the decimation of the regional newspaper industry and it's very sad, but there are a lot of new things that are happening that are incredibly effective," she says, pointing to articles by her Asian-

American colleague Michael Luo on *Medium* and the *Times* about how a woman in Manhattan told him to "Go back to China!" After going viral on social media, the story turned into a series of video vignettes about the issue, as well as a *Times* live chat.

"This became a front-page story. And there were so many other ways in which it could reach around the world digitally – that's so new and exciting," says Rich. "While feeling this profound sadness about what we're losing, we must also look ahead to what we're gaining and how we can take advantage of it."

SOME OF THE THEMES and topics that Rich is paying particular attention to in Tokyo include gender and its relationship to culture and the economy (more and more *Times* bureau chiefs are women and mothers, she says), climate change, the regional military buildup and the 2020 Olympics, as well as first-person and quirky features. She notes how Martin Fackler, chief until last year, did a story on Japan's love of fax machines that made the front page.

"Japan is a wonderful, marvelous place," says Rich. "There are things that are odd and weird and the great thing about being a foreign correspondent is to be able to write about things that locals may dismiss as 'Oh, everyone knows that.' But we don't want people in Asia to think we're writing about them as exoticized beings."

"Our mission here given that our office is so small is not to be part of pack journalism, but to try to do something different. Our audience now is truly global.

So we're trying to think about how do you write a story that appeals to people in Asia and other parts of the world, and not just Americans." ●

Tim Hornyak is a freelance writer who has worked for IDG News, CNET News, Lonely Planet and other media. He is the author of *Loving the Machine: The Art and Science of Japanese Robots*.

On Monday, Oct. 3, news headlines datelined Stockholm reported that Japanese biologist Yoshinori Ohsumi, 71, a professor at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, had won the Nobel Prize in medicine for discoveries on how cells break down and recycle content, a garbage disposal system that scientists hope to harness in the fight against cancer, Alzheimer's and other diseases.

He was the 25th Japanese Nobel Prize winner since 1949, when Dr. Hideki Yukawa, a physicist, received the first Nobel Prize to be awarded to a Japanese citizen, "for his prediction of the existence of mesons (a subatomic particle) on the basis of theoretical work on nuclear forces."

The greater part of the Japanese public was not even aware of the prize at the time – though citizens were not prohibited to receive it, unlike in Hitler's Germany. But coming so soon after their disastrous defeat in World War II, Yukawa's international recognition gave the Japanese particular pride and encouragement.

Now Japan is not only in the top league of Nobel Prize recipients (in the field of natural science, the number of winners has been second behind the U.S.), but it also issues a number of international prizes which offer major incentives for the world's most talented scholars and researchers. In fact, where Japanese awards and Nobel Prizes cover the same categories, it is often the case that outstanding merit is recognized first in the awarding of a Japanese prize. (In 2012, for example, Professor Ohsumi won the Kyoto Prize, one of Japan's top private awards for global achievement.)

Out of a total of some 600 science and technology prizes, there are four at the top based on financial value. This does not necessarily mean that they have the greatest significance, let alone that the amount of prize money or the order represents the degree of importance or recognition. As with Nobel Prizes, nominations are sought from around the world.

THE KYOTO PRIZE WAS started in 1985 by the Inamori Foundation in Kyoto, founded in the previous year by Kazuo Inamori, the founder and Chairman Emeritus of Kyocera Corporation, with his personal funds. Three annual prizes of ¥50 million are awarded to outstanding individuals or groups in the categories of Advanced Technology, Basic Sciences, and Arts and Philosophy. Particularly characteristic of The Kyoto Prize is the Arts and Philosophy category, indicating the importance Inamori attaches to the enrichment and elevation of the human spirit that is lagging very much behind the progress in science and technology.

Nine of the past Kyoto Prize recipients have gone on to receive the Nobel Prize, including South Africa's Dr. Sydney Brenner, who made significant contributions to work on the genetic code and Dr. Jack Kilby of the U.S., the co-inventor of the integrated circuit.

The Japan Prize has been awarded annually since 1985 by the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan (renamed as the Japan Prize Foundation in 2010). The foundation was created in response to the government's wish for a prestigious international prize of the Nobel Prize class to be issued locally. It was largely funded from a personal donation from the late Konosuke Matsushita, the founder of the Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. (now the Panasonic Corporation) "to honor scientists who have made original and outstanding accomplishments in science and technology with significant contributions made to peace and prosperity of mankind." A cash prize of ¥50 million is awarded to individuals in two fields each year. Since its launch, the Emperor and Empress have associated themselves with the award through their presence at the Prize Presentation Ceremony.

Six of the Japan Prize awardees have subsequently been awarded the Nobel Prize, including Dr. Gerhard Ertl of Germany, whose research laid the foundation of modern surface chemistry, paving the way for the development of cleaner energy sources. He was awarded the Japan Prize in 1992 and the Nobel Prize in 2007.

The Blue Planet Prize is an annual prize established in 1992, the year of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, by the Asahi Glass Foun-

ation. Each of the two recipients (individuals or organizations) who have made outstanding scientific contributions to promoting solutions to global environmental problems receives a monetary award of ¥50 million.

The International Cosmos Prize is an annual prize with a monetary value of ¥40 million. It was created in 1993 by the Expo '90 Foundation to commemorate the 1990 Osaka International Garden and Greenery Exposition, whose theme was "The Harmonious Coexistence between Nature and Mankind." It rewards an individual or an entity making an outstanding contribution to environmental science and research as well as to other fields promoting this goal.

THE FIRST TWO PRIZES – the Kyoto Prize and Japan Prize – share a number of features in common. Each was founded with the personal funds of the industrialists concerned. And, in both cases, the founder had built up his business from modest beginnings, suggesting they both shared a desire to repay society.

Inamori, who founded the Kyoto Prize, is a dynamic, charismatic entrepreneur who founded a small ceramics company and built it into the Kyocera Corporation, the world's leading high-tech ceramic and electronic products company. He is also the founder of DDI, the first long-distance telephone company to challenge Japan's telecommunications monopoly, and in 2010 was appointed chairman of the then bankrupt Japan Airlines at the pleading of the Japanese government.

Born in 1932, Inamori battled disease and various family problems as a youth. In 1955, immediately after graduating from Kagoshima University, where he majored in applied chemistry, he joined a small insulator company in Kyoto after being rejected by other larger companies. In 1959, he left this company to start up a tiny operation of his own, enduring all manner of hardships before eventually building up a large personal fortune.

He reportedly regards his hard-won wealth as something entrusted to him to administer for the benefit of humanity. Of the Kyoto Prize he wrote: "I first conceived the idea of the Kyoto Prize in 1984, when Kyocera celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its foundation. At the time I was fifty-two years old. I wanted to bring to life the concept that a human being has no higher calling than to strive for the greater good of humanity and the world. . . ."

Inamori, who has shown genuine interest in the spiritual dimension from his youth has now moved beyond the business world to become, as it were, a public philosopher of modern Japan, teaching his people-centered philosophy of management to groups of young business managers and entrepreneurs in various regions of the country, and writing books on management and on the meaning of life. In one of his books, *A Compass to Fulfillment: Passion and Spirituality in Life and Business*, he stresses that man's soul is immortal and that the enrichment and elevation of the human spirit, or "the care and improvement of our soul" in Socratic terms, is the most important task in one's life. His company's motto is: "Respect the Divine and Love People."

JAPAN'S TOP PRIZES

Kyoto Prize: www.inamori-f.or.jp

Japan Prize: www.japanprize.jp

Blue Planet Prize: www.af-info.or.jp

International Cosmos Prize: www.expo-cosmos.or.jp

THE LATE KONOSUKE MATSUSHITA (1894-1989), who founded The Japan Prize, was Japan's most successful postwar businessman and one of the most inspirational role models of all time, particularly during Japan's high-growth period. Born into a poor farming family, Matsushita worked at various manual jobs from the age of nine before opening a small one-room electrical-parts factory in Osaka in 1918.

Always in search of innovation, he developed a series of home electrical appliances and pushed his company to the forefront of the industry. His accomplishments as leader, author, educator, philanthropist and management innovator are astonishing, and his philanthropy accelerated as he aged. In 1979 he established the Matsushita Institute of Government and Management (MIGM), designed to develop and promote leadership for the 21st century. Yoshihiko Noda, the former prime minister, was among the first of its graduates.

The Japan Prize, which was established four years before Matsushita's death at 94, was "intended to honor scientists, of whatever nationality, whose research has made a substan-



Beyond the Nobels

Japan has a number of coveted international prizes in science and technology, some of them created by well-known business figures.

by JERRY MATSUMURA



AP PHOTO/SHIZUO KAMBAYASHI



Highly prized

Opposite, the Kyoto Prize medal; left, Yoshinori Ohsumi at a press conference after winning the Nobel Prize in medicine this year (and who won a Kyoto Prize in 2012); above, the 2016 ceremony for the Japan Prize winners attended by the imperial couple

tial contribution to the attainment of a greater degree of prosperity for mankind." His philosophy, however, was not a science-centered one, but envisioned peace, happiness and prosperity coming from open-minded people with humanistic values who had the courage to tackle society's most intractable problems. The Showa period came to a definitive end in 1989, as it marked the deaths of both Emperor Hirohito and Matsushita.

While the Nobel Prizes, of course, remain the most coveted of the world's awards in the scientific and other fields, Japan's prizes are attracting growing interest from researchers all over the world. And these prizes not only benefit the winners, but also draw attention to Japan's commitment to great advances in science and technology. ❶

Kosuke "Jerry" Matsumura is a freelance journalist based in Tokyo, formerly affiliated with Hugo Publications in London.

This city's brothel quarters now hosts a bookstore dedicated to its long history.

Red-light reading matter

by MARK SCHREIBER



Left, a photo of an old brothel by Gou Watanabe, above

TWO YEARS FROM NOW, Tokyo's former licensed brothel quarters, the Yoshiwara Yukaku, will observe its 400th anniversary. Since its opening in 1618, it has survived fires, earthquakes, air raids and a change of location, as well as the Anti-Prostitution Law, which took effect from April 1, 1958.

Despite its studied history, Yoshiwara hasn't had much to offer in terms of sightseeing or commercial attractions, and even less in terms of culture. With the opening of the Kasutori Shobo bookstore on Sept. 3, however, that may change.

The bespectacled proprietor, Gou Watanabe, age 39, has previously spent over a decade as a salaryman in the IT field. In his free time he began assembling an extensive library of old and rare books on the nation's sex industry, from which he learned, among other things, that over 500 *yukaku* existed throughout Japan, or an average of about 10 per prefecture.

As he became aware that such books are no longer in print and difficult to find, Watanabe decided to obtain the rights to issue facsimile reproductions and set up his own specialty publishing firm, Kasutori Shuppan. ("Kasutori means low-class pulp magazines," says Watanabe.) After a year of such endeavors, he felt ready to try his hand at retailing, and decided to locate a bookshop in the heart of the Yoshiwara (kastoripub.blogspot.jp).

Mark Schreiber currently writes the "Big in Japan" and "Bilingual" columns for the *Japan Times*.

Nestled on a back street adjacent to the area's ubiquitous soaplands, Kasutori Shobo is a "hybrid" bookstore in that it is a retail outlet mostly for its own publications. The store area is only about six tatami mats, or 10 square meters, half of which is taken up by the books. While more will be forthcoming – Watanabe is also undertaking the printing of original manuscripts – his shop currently only offers about 20 titles for sale. They are not arranged on shelves, but displayed in stacks in the style of Edo-era bookstores.

Those in pursuit of "pink" materials appealing to prurient interests will be disappointed: none of the works carry nudity or could be described as even remotely titillating. One work titled *Zenkoku Yukaku Annai* (Nationwide Guide to Yukaku, price ¥2,500), published anonymously in 1930, included a complete listing of hundreds of brothels in Japan and such prewar overseas possessions as Karafuto (Sakhalin), Korea, Manchuria and Taiwan. (It is also offered by Amazon Japan in a Kindle-compatible ebook version.) Watanabe, in what was clearly a labor of love, manually typed in all 543 pages of rather fine print.

ANOTHER ITEM OF INTEREST is a set of four reports, bearing a "Secret" stamp on their covers, compiled by the Interior Ministry in 1933-34 and the Health Ministry in 1938-39. They contain surveys of the prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases among unlicensed prostitutes. In 1937, the

government arranged for 607,772 such women to undergo health inspections – of them, 28,942 were found to be infected with "flower and willow disease." Watanabe supplemented the ¥2,916 four-volume set with his own one-page explanatory summary describing the government's efforts to eradicate the problem.

He's already had customers dropping in from as far away as Osaka. "About half the customers have been women, mostly in their 20s and 30s," he said. "Several told me that their grandmother or grandfather had ties to a *yukaku*. One woman told me she was formerly a geisha."

Photography is another of Watanabe's labors of love. Whenever time permitted he travelled about the country, using old reference materials to track down and photograph whatever remained of former *yukaku* buildings. In a sense he was following in the footsteps of authors of earlier travelogues, such as Hiroshi Watanabe and Satoshi Kimura, whose works he also sells.

He brandishes a copy of his magnum opus, a hefty work titled *Yukaku: Koto no gaiku* (Yukaku: Red-light districts) containing 386 pages of color photographs of ornate old former brothels all over Japan. The coffee table-sized edition is available for a cool ¥100,000, but a smaller postcard sized edition is only ¥25,000. His favorite photograph, which adorns the book's cover, is that of a former house in Aichi Prefecture. "After the Anti-Prostitution Law went into effect it was first used as a ryokan (Japanese inn), but now it's a private home," he says.

In addition to books, Kasutori Shobo offers a few boutique items, such as cakes of "Yoshiwara soap" (short for soapland) and a set of reproductions of the metal "in bounds" tags that registered sex businesses were once obliged to display above their entrances.

He claims not to be concerned that the police will embark on a massive cleanup campaign and drive Yoshiwara's soaplands out of business in the run-up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. "That's not going to happen," he asserts, confident that the despite its proximity to Tokyo Sky Tree and other tourist traps, as far as the world's oldest profession is concerned, Japan still clings tenaciously to certain traditions. And Yoshiwara has proved to be anything if not resilient. ❶

GOU WATANABE; MARK SCHREIBER

There are some bright spots in a bleak report on the effects of climate change.

Turning down the heat

by JULIAN RYALL

GLOBAL TEMPERATURES ARE WRITING new highs, the polar ice caps are melting, sea levels are rising and deforestation continues, albeit at a reduced rate. The outlook for our planet and mankind would appear pretty bleak. Yet in the face of even more alarming predictions, such as a surge in global sea levels of as much as eight meters, Sir David King, the UK Foreign Secretary's Special Representative for Climate Change, remains remarkably upbeat.

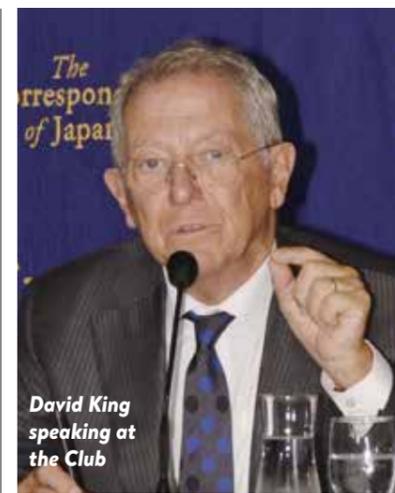
The nations of the world are faced with a crisis, he said at a press conference at the FCCJ on Oct. 5, but they have recognized it as such and have made plans and commitments to halting emissions that are harmful to the planet. If those promises are kept, he said, then we should avoid a global climate catastrophe.

But there is not, he emphasized, a lot of room for error nor a moment to lose. "The last 14 months have each been the hottest month for that time of the year for the whole planet, while the hottest years on record have all been in the last 20 years," King said. "What this demonstrates, of course, is that the trend is upwards and will go on inexorably upwards unless global actions are taken."

The Paris Agreement, signed by 195 countries at the 21st Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2015, is designed to ensure that measures are taken on a global scale, with a commitment to limit global temperature rise to 2 degrees centigrade above the pre-industrial age. An increase of 1.5 degrees would obviously be preferable, King added.

In addition, the nations gathered in Paris provided nationally determined voluntary contributions to reversing climate change. Unfortunately, when all the promises were added up and extrapolated out to 2030 and incorporating the loss of forested land, our world is on a pathway of a temperature

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



David King speaking at the Club

increase of as much as 4 degrees.

"Four degrees is potentially calamitous," King said. "If we have a temperature exceeding 41 or 42 with high humidity over three days, even people who are in the shade will die. They cannot get rid of their body heat fast enough. People will survive in air conditioning, but of course the risk is that air conditioning will fail under those conditions as well.

"So in parts of the world where there is not much air conditioning available, fatality rates would be extremely high once temperatures gets to that level," he said. "And the challenge of climate change is not just temperature rise but it's also sea level rise, changes in rainfall patterns, monsoon patterns and so on."

King pointed to flooding as another great challenge. "Britain, like Japan, is an island nation and as sea levels rise, storms at sea mean the water incursion is further and further inland and more and more people are at risk from flooding," he said. "When, for example, we looked at China, we learned that even under a medium-level future emissions scenario, we were looking at half a billion people in South-East China being at risk from flooding in a given year."

Then there is the problem that was identified by King as "the biggest challenge" – that of ocean warming, which happens more

slowly than atmospheric warming and consequently will continue for many years after emissions have been brought under control.

If action is not taken urgently, then an increase in sea levels by one meter by the end of the century is likely, meaning that cities such as Calcutta, Shanghai, New York, London and Tokyo are at risk of inundation. The worst-case scenario is if it becomes impossible to reverse the melting of the Greenland ice sheet and sea levels rise fully eight meters.

The Paris Agreement included a reviewability clause, King pointed out. It is now clear that the measures that have been promised by the signatory nations still fall short of what is required, and that governments need to deliver more.

King believes that is possible. "Not only is it doable," he said. "But we have to do it because the alternatives are so dire for mankind."

The UK, for example, passed the Climate Change Act in 2008, under which the government vowed to reduce emissions by 80 percent by 2050. It also created an international climate fund to the tune of \$13.5 billion – larger than the UN's commitment of \$10.3 billion – to fight the problem, primarily by helping developing countries transition to a low-carbon future and by developing their resistance against the effects of climate change.

UK emissions – which only account for 2 percent of the global total – are already down by 30 percent from 1990 figures and Britain is on course to cut emissions by 57 percent by 2030. And King was keen to emphasize that Britain's vote to leave the European Union will have no impact on those commitments.

King also suggested that the climate crisis could also be seen as an opportunity. "The falling costs of energy installation are dramatic, but we also need new technologies, in the areas of energy storage, smart grids and so on," he said.

Japan and the UK are among 22 countries that have signed up to the Mission Innovation scheme unveiled in Paris, providing \$30 billion each year to companies to carry out research and development of the clean energy sector. "The mission is to allow every country to have 100 percent clean energy, on the grid or off-grid, for all purposes by between 2025 and 2030," he said. "This investment will allow these technologies to emerge from what is a collaborative program." ❶

FCCJ EXHIBITION



The People and the Forest: photographs by Yasuo Ota

“WHERE DO WE COME from? What are we? Where are we going?” This was not only the title of a painting by Paul Gauguin, it is also the theme of Gauguin’s whole life as an artist. For the greater part of our history as a species, man has been a hunter-gatherer. We recognized life in the forests, the trees, the rivers and beyond, and held respect and gratitude for its existence. However, since the industrial revolution, we have fallen for the illusion that we can control nature. Damaging and destroying nature for our own

greed, we have come to a moment when our planet is no longer capable of resisting the strains of our devastating activity.

As we look for a path to guide us toward tomorrow, we may find clues by looking at the way people of the forest have coexisted with nature. For this exhibition, I selected photos from five different countries and regions: Canada, the Chilean Andes Mountains, the island of Borneo, Tasmania, and the Amazon rainforest. ●



Yasuo Ota previously worked for Kyodo News, *Sports Nippon* and the *Mainichi Shimbun*. He has published a couple of books and had several exhibitions, including “Life of the Tropical Forest” (1995) and portraits of mentally disabled gold-medal winners of the Special Olympics (2010, New York).

SPECIAL CAMPAIGN OFFER FOR NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



The FCCJ is offering a special deal for new Associate Members. From the beginning of September to the end of the year, those joining are eligible for a **¥100,000 DISCOUNT** off of the regular fee of ¥300,000.

If successfully approved, the applicants will be able to enjoy all the member benefits: attendance at all the major press conferences and professional and social events; dining services at the Main Bar, Pen & Quill Executive Dining area and the Masukomi Sushi Bar; special discounts on sports, arts and cultural events; free wi-fi, half-price parking, the Club’s monthly magazine; and access to reciprocal press clubs around the world. Present members can also benefit. A ¥20,000 restaurant voucher will be given to those who introduce successfully approved new Associates. For more information, or to pick up an application form, go to the front desk.

JOIN THE FILM COMMITTEE ...



... at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 21 for an unusual look at the phenomenon of professional wrestling — *puroresu* on these shores — with this sneak peek of *DDT: We Are Japanese Wrestlers* . The screening will be preceded by a live PowerPoint presentation (you read that right) by *DDT* star Super Sasadango Machine, custom-created for his FCCJ appearance. From its beginnings with the great Rikidozan and now generating over \$100 million a year, pro wrestling is very serious business indeed. But thanks to the Dramatic Dream Team (DDT), it is also sometimes very silly business, with matches that strike a perfect balance of the hair-raising and the hilarious. The team’s

astounding athleticism, creative costuming and dazzling choreography have made it one of the top names in indie wrestling, with ardent fans spanning the globe. Co-directed by wrestler Muscle Sakai and acclaimed documentarian Tetsuaki Matsue (*Live Tape* , *Flashback Memories 3D*), both of whom will be on hand for the Q&A afterward, the film is a fittingly scruffy tribute to *DDT* ’s tough boys with soft underbellies, as they approach their 20th anniversary. (*Japan, 2016; 74 minutes; Japanese with English subtitles.*) — **Karen Severns**

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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.



STUDY TOUR TO JAXA



FCCJ REGULAR MEMBERS MET with a life-size model of the 50 meter-long real H-II Launch Vehicle on Oct. 20 at the Tsukuba Space Center of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA.)

After a short briefing, the participants toured the Space Dome, the exhibition hall, and learned about the earth observation satellites and the International Space Station activities. The tour also featured the Japanese “Kounotori” space station cargo transfer vehicle that is making a significant contribution to international space research.

Koichi Wakata, the veteran astronaut and International Space Station Manager, received the members at the space station mission control room and talked about JAXA objectives and his own experiences in space.

JAXA receives 300,000 visitors annually.

- Haruko Watanabe



Nationalism in Asia: A History Since 1945

Jeff Kingston
Wiley-Blackwell
Gift from Jeff Kingston

Tales from Victoria Park: Short Stories of Indonesian Women in Hong Kong

Todd Crowell
Blacksmith Books
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Kamikaze, Cherry Blossoms, and Nationalisms: The Militarization of Aesthetics in Japanese History

Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney
The University of Chicago Press
Gift from Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney

Kamikaze Diaries: Reflections of Japanese Student Soldiers

Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney
The University of Chicago Press
Gift from Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney

Daihyoteki nihonjin

Kanzo Uchimura; Hiroyuki Fujita (trans.)
I-BAS Shuppan
Gift from Hiroyuki Fujita

The First Modern Japanese: The Life of Ishikawa Takuboku

Donald Keene
Columbia University Press

The Long Defeat: Cultural Trauma, Memory, and Identity in Japan

Akiko Hashimoto
Oxford University Press

For Dignity, Justice, and Revolution: An Anthology of Japanese Proletarian Literature

Heather Bowen-Struyk (ed.); Norma Field (ed.)
The University of Chicago Press

True Crime Japan: Thieves, Rascals, Killers and Dope Heads: True Stories From a Japanese Courtroom

Paul Murphy
Tuttle Publishing

Okinawa: The History of an Island People

George H. Kerr; Mitsugu Sakihara (afterword)
Tuttle Publishing

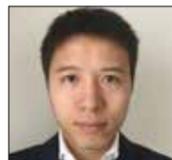
Japan Company Handbook (Autumn 2016)

Toyo Keizai Inc.



REGULAR MEMBER

TONG PEI is the Chief Reporter of the Tokyo branch of the *Beijing Daily*. He graduated from Nanchang University with a major in Japanese in 2008, and joined the *Beijing Daily* in October that same year. He has served as a journalist in the economic department and the international department. After MH370 disappeared in March, 2014, the focus of Tong's reporting was on the search and rescue situation of the Chinese government and living conditions of the victims' families. Tong assumed his present position in Japan in December 2014, where he reports on politics, technology, medicine, urban management and other issues.



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Horace White,
USA Tech Weekly

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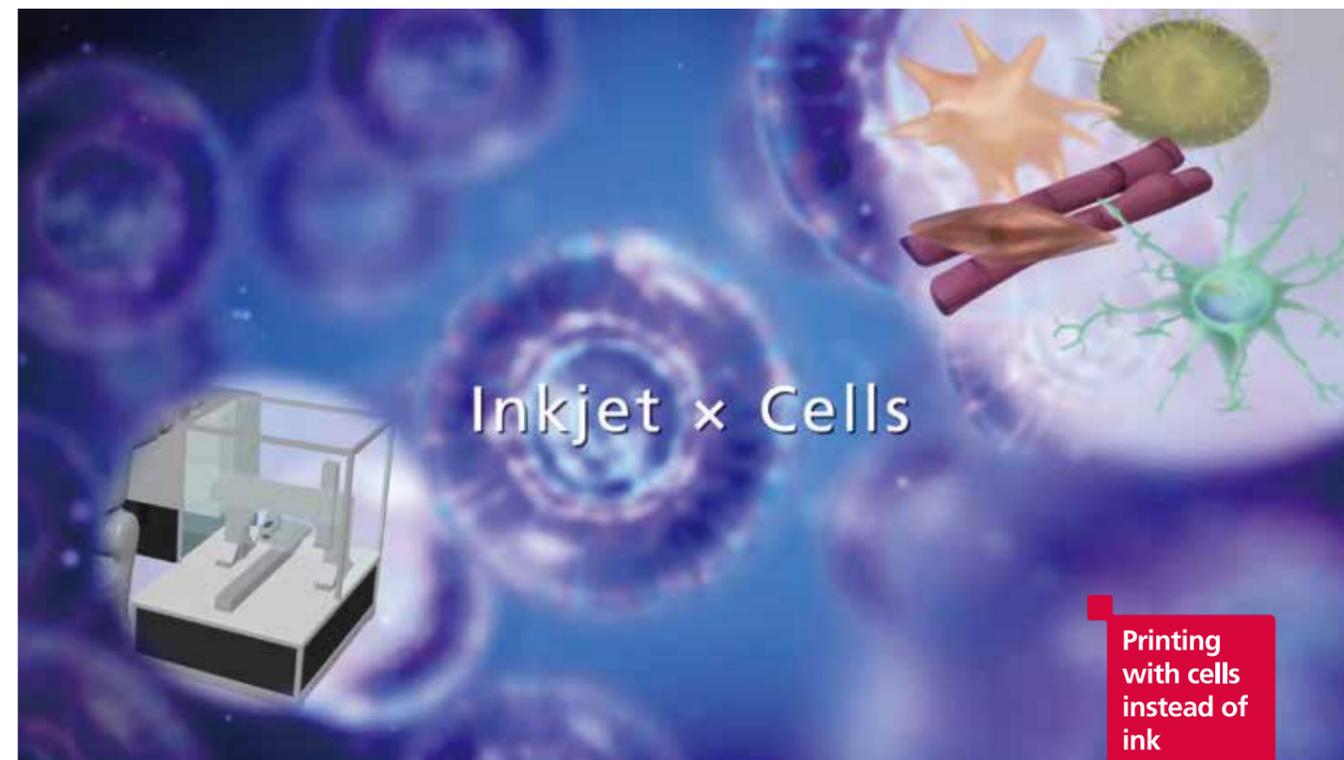
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Exciting progress in 3D Bioprinting



Researchers at Ricoh are working to adapt existing inkjet technology to precisely print animal and human cells in three-dimensional biologically functioning forms. Known as 3D-bioprinting, this emerging field has near-term potential to revolutionize laboratory testing and, some day, to enable the crafting of artificial organs.

The door to this stunning advance in medical science is opening in step with progress in iPS: induced pluripotent stem cell technology – which should make it possible to fabricate complex cellular structures. But to do that will require tools able to deposit individual cells in precisely the right place.

Here's where Ricoh's ink-jet printing expertise comes in. Accurately applying minute amounts of ink to paper is only a few steps away from precisely depositing different types of cells in the three-dimensional patterns needed to construct functional tissue structures.

Ricoh's 3D bioprinting system now in development has four functions: cell ink preparation, precision 3D printing and cultivation and inspection of cellular constructs. The critical task in this work is perfecting an inkjet head able to precisely deposit individual cells.

The first commercial application of this technology is expected to be new in-vitro testing methods to support the development of pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. But the ultimate goal is regenerative medicine: fabricating complete organs or parts like cardiac valves.

At Ricoh, we are excited by the prospects of this miraculous new technology and committed to perfecting it with all possible speed.

To learn more about Ricoh's 3D-Bioprinter:

www.ricoh.com/technology/institute/research/tech_3d_bio_printer.html

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