

The Mita Campus

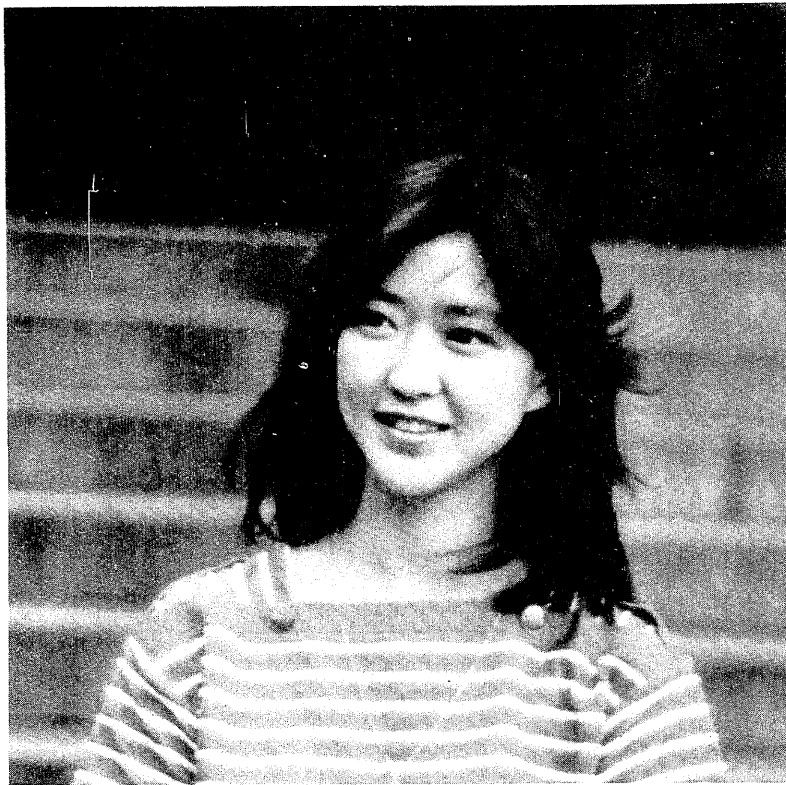
KEIO UNIVERSITY
1858

'calamus gladio fortior'

This year is the 125th Anniversary of KEIO UNIVERSITY.
We have the pleasure of editing a special edition to commemorate the occasion.

FINE CAMPUS PEOPLE

MISS MISAKO KONNO



a "Would-be sweet wife" actress

Could you imagine Keio's various fascinating students?

Miss Misako Konno, a senior majoring in Japanese Literature, is actually a well-known TV and film actress.

Let us introduce a little bit of her!

Q: What do you think of Keio University?

A: I think this university is a very good one because there is a close tie between the students even after we have graduated, through such things as Old Boys parties, club activities or the "Mita associations" held throughout Japan.

Q: As a working student would you tell us something?

A: Since Keio students are all very serious and smart, I would like them to develop their abilities by making the most of the excellent professors and surroundings here.

Q: What do you plan to study for your graduation thesis?

A: I would like to study one of the Japanese women poets of the Middle Ages. The reason why I became interested in the medieval literature is that I was becoming uneasy about my future after the age of twenty, since the present situation of women in Japan is still unstable, although women's independence is strongly sought after. So I became interested in the notion of "mujo (transience)" in the life of the Middle Ages.

Q: How about your work as an actress?

A: At first, I was scared and bewildered and I could only do my best, but gradually I got used to acting and no longer had stage fright. Now I can choose my own work, so I'm very happy.

Q: What would you like to do in the future?

A: I would like to be a pure actress forever, and above all I would like to be an actress whom people would desire to be their sons' wife.

Q: Recently what has impressed you most?

A: I cried when I saw the film "An Officer and a Gentleman". I was also quite impressed when I read a sad story in the newspaper, about a mother who saved her son in a train accident by killing herself. Nowadays, I feel that this kind of love between mother and child, brothers and sisters is very important.

Q: Will you say something to the foreign students of Keio?

A: When you return to your home countries, will you please say that Japan is a good country?

Miss Misako Konno is a very charming and lovely girl, whose favorite phrase is "sunao-na-kokoro (a gentle heart)" and who also likes the songs of Yumin.

Let us wish her a bright future!

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INTERVIEW WITH EC

★★ To link Europe and Japan ★★

A new Europe: EC

For most Japanese students, the name of EC may probably be closely associated with trade frictions or the regulation of VTR at Poitiers.

However, EC is not merely a commercial organization, but also the very dream of modern Europe. In order to know about this new Europe, we of the Mita Campus held an interview with Mr. Gilles Anouil, head of the press and information of the delegation of the commission of the European Communities in Japan.

He mentions such problems as Poitiers as "C'est la vie," a phrase which means there are things at times which can't be helped on earth; it is quite familiar to the French who love life, both in joyful and sad times. He appeals to us to give more attention to the new Europe, which, like Japan, is founded upon old traditions.

The following is the report of the interview.

"The Japanese also speak with hands."

Question: How long have you been in Japan? Where were you and what were you doing before coming here?

Answer: I've been living in Japan for a year and a half as an officer of the EC, but I had visited Japan five times before as a journalist, which was my profession for fifteen years in France.

Q: What was your impression of Japan on coming here? Did your image of Japan change when you came here? If so, how?

A: From the very beginning, I've been very enthusiastic about Japan: its literature (a fascinating novel "Narayamabushiko" which I had read in Paris, was one of my first contacts with Japan,) its history, its culture, its beautiful landscape, its highly attractive and interesting people, whom one of my ancestors Saint François Xavier also admired a lot. The Japanese people are still keeping the familiar solidarity spirit, are hardworking, by which I mean working persistently, seriously

and with great care, and at the same time, they are sometimes much more relaxed than the foreigners usually think, singing, dancing, and even speaking with hands just like a Frenchman or an Italian. Well, on coming to Tokyo, my first impressions were a fascination with so many "denshas (trains)" and the sounds of "booming". However, this was just a general impression, and frankly speaking, I found the Japanese and the life in Japan exactly as I hoped them to be.

"EC can overrule the nations."

Q: What is your task in Tokyo?

A: My task is to inform the Japanese of the reality of the EC by meeting officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the MITI, journalists and so on, giving lectures, organizing seminars, publishing magazines in Japanese, etc. What I want to make known first of all is that the EC is not only a commercial organization, but also a political one. To establish an economic link between the nations is just a mean, the aim lies in the will to live with all the Europeans together in peace: it intends especially to overcome the hostile relation of more than a century between France and Germany. EC is a regional organization with the Treaty of Rome as its constitution: a unique new institution which has never existed at the international level before. For example, the European Parliament at Strasbourg is not merely an assembly, which cannot work when decisions are not wholly accepted, but a real parliament made up of members elected directly by the grass-root. In addition, the decisions of the EC are not just recommendations, but bind all member nations, all business firms, all private citizens, and are upheld by the EC Court of Justice. For instance, there was a Belgian stewardess who realized that she was getting less pay than the steward for doing exactly the same job. So she accused the air line company she belonged to of violating an article of the Treaty of Rome which states that there

should be no discrimination between men and women. Consequently, the Court of Justice justified her right, and condemned the company. As long as the regulation of VTR at Poitiers lasts, the French Government could be condemned as well. The EC can overrule the member nations to a certain extent.

Q: Nowadays the authority between the commission of EC and the member states is coming into question: what is your opinion on the ideal and the reality of the EC?

A: Since the Poitiers problem, it seems that the member state sometimes doesn't follow the EC's decision, but as long as the member state has many advantages by belonging to the Community, it surely won't leave the Community and after all, there is little choice but to follow the EC. It goes without saying that the Japanese are not happy with Poitiers, which is also an obstacle to free-trade inside the EC, as well.

"More similarities than differences"

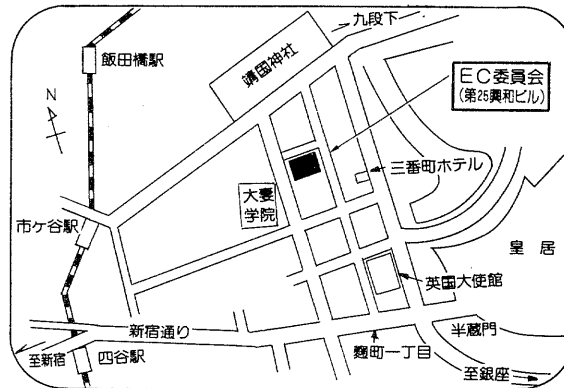
Q: As regards personal value judgement, geography, history or anything else, what do you think is the greatest difference between Japan and Europe or France?

A: I think there are fewer differences than most people usually think. Both our countries were basically farmers until the War, so we tend to attach more importance to personal relations founded on confidence than to a merely written contract. Both of us have an ancient culture and a long history. However, the greatest difference may be that Japan, which is isolated as an island, is not used to having an intimate contact with foreigners, while the European countries have had mutual exchanges for a long time.

Q: How do you think is difference can be overcome? Is it possible?

A: Of course, we do not demand Japan to westernize. You should retain your civilization, culture, and economic structure as they are, and I think it is possible to overcome the difference by multiplying exchanges. Actually, the French and Germans have made a great effort to exchange people, by forming many sister cities relations, exchanging their children, and sometimes through marriage, in order to get rid of the sentiment of mutual hereditary enmity after WWII. Thus, the French and the Germans came to know each other very well. I think we should do the same between Japan and Europe

Continued on Page 5



Whoever has got some interest in the EC, or wants to know more about the EC, the data room of the EC bureau at

Tokyo is open to all; KOWA 25 Bldg., 8-7, Sanbanchō, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102, Phone: 03-239-0441.

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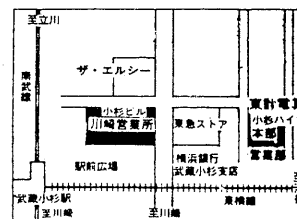
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Review of Current Issue

Financial Innovation

What will happen?

1. Interest rates will be freed from government regulation.

Japan's interest rates cannot be higher than a certain level because of government regulation. The purpose of the regulations are:

- (1) to induce investment demand (demand for durable assets) (if interest rates are low, producers can borrow money to buy more machines to increase production, and consumers can borrow money to buy houses), and
- (2) to keep interest rates from fluctuating greatly.

However, interest rates are being freed from regulation these days. If interest rates are determined in free market, there will be two consequences.

- (1) the interest rates will rise generally, and
- (2) the interest rates will fluctuate frequently.

This means, for example, that the interest rate of your time deposit will change every day and the average rate will be higher than today's fixed rate.

2. There will be no distinction between banks, securities companies, or insurance companies, but only 'financial companies,' which will handle all kinds of financial services, such as banking, securities brokerage, insurance, etc.

Today you can't buy stocks at banks, nor can you deposit your money at securities companies, because stock brokerage is permitted only at securities companies and banking is permitted only at banks. However, these restrictions on financial business will be abolished in the future (the reason will be stated later). This goes along with the abolition of interest rate regulations.

All of these things will make the competition between the various kinds of financial companies very steep. Eventually, some strong banks will take over weak banks or securities companies. And strong securities companies will purchase other financial companies. Thus a big financial conglomerate will be formed. With this formation, you will be able to get many kinds of financial services at a branch of a financial conglomerate. Additionally, you will no longer need to carry any money, because you can buy anything with your cash card from the financial conglomerate.

3. There will be no legal restrictions on international financial trade.

Today you can't freely buy foreign securities or open an account with foreign banks abroad. However, in the future you may be able to get American national bonds or British companies' shares, or borrow from German banks freely. There will be no legal restrictions on these international financial trades.

4. All kinds of financial services will be computerized.

Today some parts of financial services have already been computerized. In the future, office automation will be completed in financial conglomerates. Then all you have to do is to push the buttons of a computer when you open a bank account, buy stocks, or receive any other financial services.

Who wants it?

1. Abolition of regulations on interest rates and

2. abolition of restrictions on financial business will profit 1) depositors, 2) the government, and 3) large financial companies.

3. Internationalization depends on governments all over the World and has so many merits and demerits that it is very difficult to tell who wants it.

4. Computerization is, of course, good for everyone.

We'll analyse 1. and 2. in detail.

1. Depositors

Abolition of interest rate regulations will generally raise interest rates. Depositors will be clearly profited by this. And also the formation of financial conglomerates will add to their convenience

2. The government

The government must raise a great amount of national bonds to finance huge deficits. To do this, the government must

- (1) increase the number of national bond brokers and
- (2) raise the national bond coupons above the regulation.

Therefore, the government

- (1) approved the sales of long-term national bonds at bank counters this April and
- (2) is planning to approve the sales of mid-term national bonds at bank counters and

- (3) is considering whether or not to determine the national bond coupons in the free market.

All these lead to the abolition of regulations. To conclude, the government has both the authority and motivation to promote the free money market.

3. Large financial companies

Without any legal restrictions, large banks or securities companies would perform all kinds of financial services and thus make a larger profit. Smaller companies would be tied up in a larger conglomerate in order to survive in free competition.

When will it happen?

When it will happen depends on who has the authority and motivation to make it happen.

In this sense, abolition of regulations depends on the depositors, the government, and financial companies. Above all, the government is the most important, because it has not only the motivation but also the authority.

In 1985, a great sum of long-term national bonds will be due, and the government must refinance these debts in addition to huge deficits which appear every year. There are three ways to finance these debts and deficits, (1) increasing taxes, (2) obtaining direct credit from Bank of Japan, and (3) collecting national debts.

- (1) A tax increase is impossible, because tax payers (voters) will oppose it very strongly. As a result politicians who support an increase may not be re-elected.
- (2) Direct credit from the Bank of Japan will increase the money supply and cause inflation. If this occurs, the value of people's savings will decrease. This is called inflation tax, which is only another form of a tax increase. This is prohibited by law because it will confuse the economic order greatly.

So, the only alternative left for the government is to collect national debts. However,

- (3) Collecting a large amount of national debts is impossible if national bond coupon is regulated.

Thus, it is very likely that the government will hasten the abolition of regulations towards 1985.

Today I deposited my first salary in the automatic investing account and checked how my money was invested. And I found out 17.4% was invested in Japan Computer Co.'s share, 9.75% in Korea's national bonds, 7.06% in American Biotechnology Co.'s share, 4.89% in gold, 1.52% in a 5 year time deposit, and 59.37% in others.

But the investing structure changes every hour according to the data which come from all over the world every moment.

Oh, did you? I don't like computers. I still rely on human insight. I trust all my savings to Mr. Kubota, the old, reliable consultant of Japan Financial Co. I bet he is, at least, as good as a computer!



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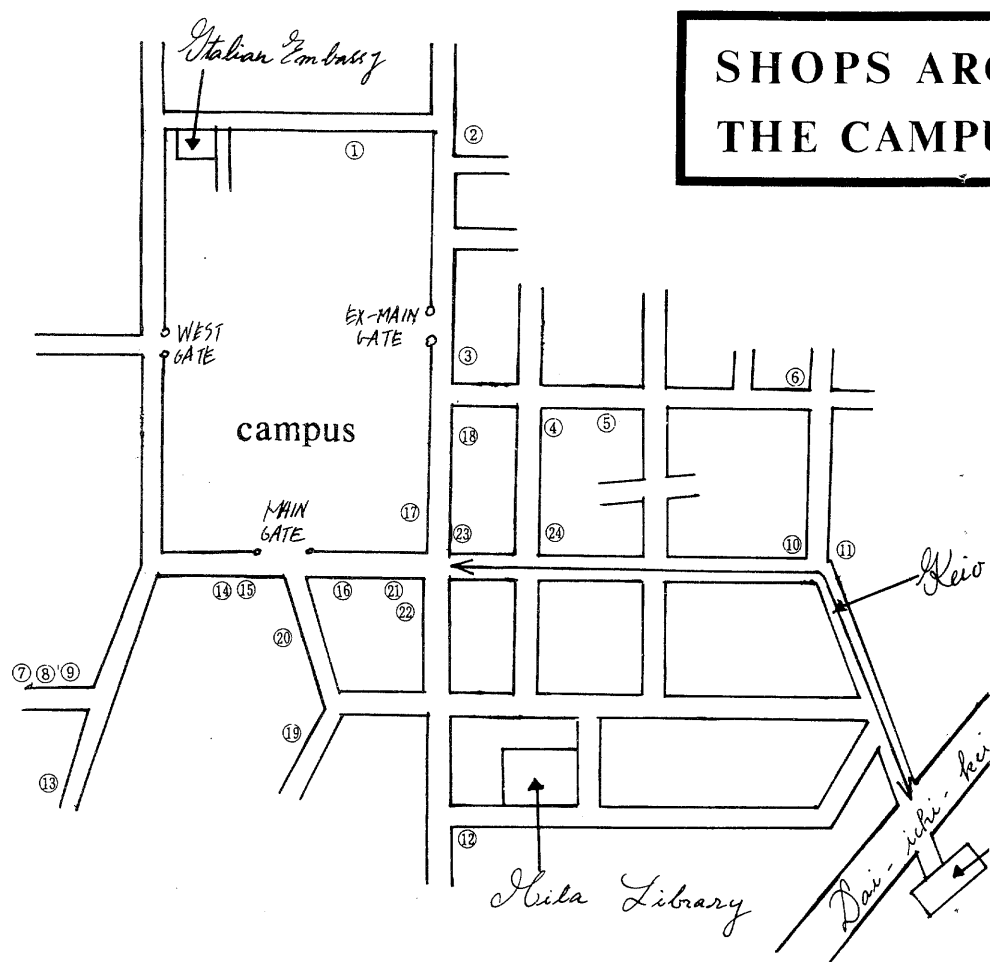







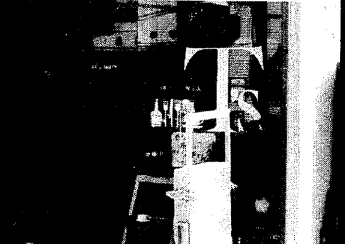


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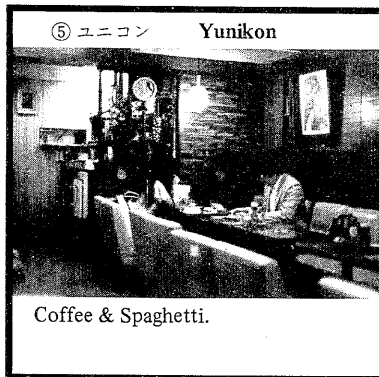
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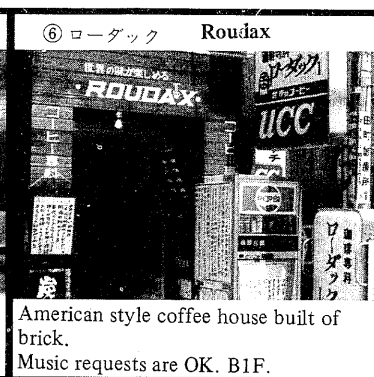
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⑮ ラブリン Lovelyn

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⑯ ダンコーヒー Dan

Various bread dishes. Good quality and quantity at a reasonable price.

Continued from Page 2

to get rid of the prejudice as much as possible. As an example, we are organizing a longstay in Japan by the young business executives from the EC.

Q: An executive of the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of Japan reportedly said, "Japan had a bitter historical experience of war with the U.S. This has caused an effort of mutual understanding after the war. On the other hand, although Japan has no such experience with Europe, there is no intimacy, either." How do you think Japan-Europe relations should be?

A: I think this is very, very true. You probably did with the Americans to some extent what the French and the Germans did. However, we are very similar, not only in character, but also internationally. We both are short in raw materials, are not military Giants, must aid the Southern nations, etc. So we have many reasons for getting together and working together in spite of 13 thousands kms between us.

"You had better export gradually."

Q: We have read in the newspapers that many people in Europe, especially in France, think that Japan is one of the most protectionist countries. What do you think makes people think so?

A: To be frank with you, I think there is some psychological element which sometimes exaggerates the difficulty to export to Japan. However, it is not only the EC, but also the U.S. and Australia which insist on the difficulty. Besides, I would like to point out that the Japanese Government's attitude is also one of the reasons behind the Europeans' attitude. Though the Japanese Government had insisted for a long time that non-tariff-barriers never existed, one day they recognized them. This could possibly mean that they were lying. However, today, owing to the Japanese Government's effort, I think we are on the right path.

Q: Today's trade frictions are only those of non-tariff-barriers. These barriers between Japan and Europe might be more obstructive than those between the U.S. and Europe, because Europe and the U.S. share the same value judgments, culture, traditions, customs, etc. On the other hand, the Japanese have made a great effort to understand the Western way of life during this century. So I should say that the Europeans

should do as well. What do you think about my opinion?

A: It is true. So we too are making an effort, such as the long stay and study by the young business executives from the EC.

Q: It is also often said that the Japanese way of exporting is unfair or somehow too aggressive. Would you tell us your personal opinion on this statement?

A: The Japanese way of exporting is often very quick. For example, motorbikes. Though the high quality and the cheap price is indisputable, you had better export them more gradually. Otherwise, it may be possible to say that Japan is inviting of itself a situation in which the European unemployed can say that Japan is the cause of their unemployment.

Q: What do you think the economic relations between Europe and Japan should be?

A: First of all, we must level off our trade unbalance, to make it more like the balanced trade between the U.S. and the EC. Next, we must broaden our economic relations positively through a cooperation on technology, aid for the Southern countries, a concerted operation against the lack of stability of the U.S. Dollar, etc.

"More international feeling"

Q: Lastly, if you have something to say specially to the Japanese Students, would you kindly tell us?

A: Above all, let's multiply exchanges. For this sake, I would like to give the Japanese students some advice, which may probably sound a little too severe. First, I would like you to know more about your own history or culture which are your own roots and background. Next, please have a more international feeling not only on goods, fashion, music, but also on the point of view. Please don't think of Europe as something of the past, and have more interest in Europe. Don't be shy and be more outward looking as regards the aid for the Southern or the exchange with the developed countries. And, at last, please never think that we will never understand because we are so different, for it is not true because we are all human beings, and also this attitude is not positive at all, but only counterproductive.

Q: Thank you very much for today.

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Pidgin English

Language interests us deeply in two ways (1) as a means to grasp our whole world, and (2) as the only way to express and convey our ideas in detail. It is amazing how we use language every minute without any difficulty, despite its complicated and precise construction.

Asari and her Uncle Thomas show (1) how languages work in our daily life and (2) what kind of problems the linguists have pointed out and explained. Now, various themes are inviting us. Here you will find a few of them. Will you come with them to look into 'the world of linguistics'?

A Strange Letter from New Guinea

T: Hey, you have a beautiful card.

A: Yes, my New Guinean pen pal sent it to me. She writes in funny English.

T: Let me see.

Sick he down im me.

That's pidgin English.

A: Pidgin? Is it something like slang?

T: No. Pidgins are means of communication between people who have no common language. They were created for practical and immediate purposes, such as trade. People mixed up two or more existing languages and created a new variety, pidgin.

A: I'm afraid I cannot catch your meaning so well.

T: You can catch it right now. You know, for example: "Me don't know." "Indian no fight. Indian no kill."

A: And "Indian no lie"! Sure, I know, Indians speak in this way in the Western films. Is that pidgin, too?

T: Yes. The grammar is confused, but the meaning is clear. So perhaps you can guess the meaning of "Sick he down im me," can't you?

A: I think it means "I'm sick."

T: That's it. The sentence is something like "Sick(ness) is in me." It uses English words, but its structure is unlike English. I think this is Beach-la-mar, one kind of pidgin used in the West Pacific Islands, because of its grammatical characteristics.

A: Beach-la-mar?

Beach-la-mar means a trepang, *namako* in Japanese.

A: What does it mean?

T: Guess what.

A: Well, let me see... "Beach" is English, and "la" is the definite article of French, and "mar" is... maybe it is "mer" in French, which means the sea.

T: That's right.

A: So it means "seashore" or something like that.

T: No. It means a trepang (*NAMAKO* in Japanese), an ocean creature which looks like a big slug. At first, pidgin was called "bicho-do-mar (slug of the sea)" in Portuguese, next "bech-de-mar (shovel of the sea)" in French, and now "Beach-la-mar." All these mean a trepang.

A: Why a trepang?

T: Because trepangs used to be the main commercial products of the West Pacific Islands and now they symbolize the characteristics of an international-mixed language.

A: I love sashimi of trepang, you know, it's tough and hard to bite.

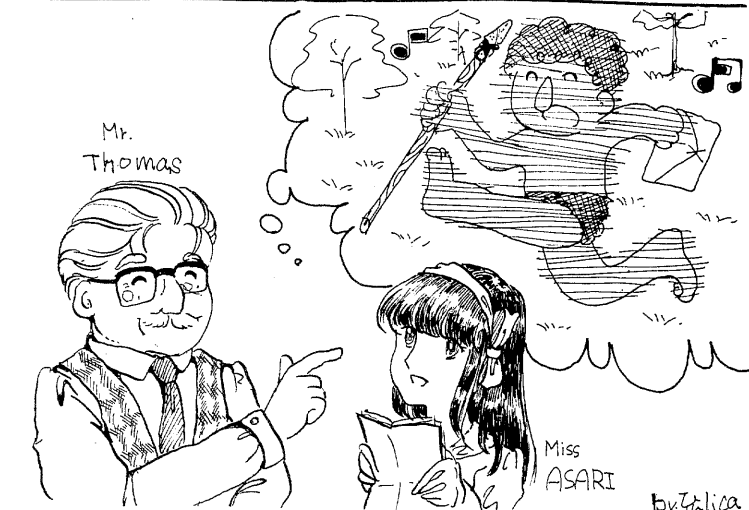
T: — Well, I'll try it some day. Now let's read her letter again.

Leg belong me he-all-right gain by and by.

I feel "gain" is "again." "Belong" is "Beach-la-mar." They use it for "of," and "by and by" represents the future tense.

A: Aha, I don't know exactly what it means, but I think I can sense it. "My leg will get well again." My pen pal seems to be in trouble.

T: Indeed.



Pidgins also exist in Japan

A: In which region are pidgins spoken?

T: In China, the Pacific Islands, the West Indies, South America, and West Africa. Pidgin is "business" in Chinese pronunciation, and so you can see, pidgins were often used for trade. When a pidgin is used not only on business but also in everyday life and acquired as one's mother tongue, it becomes a "creole." Creoles are much more systematic than pidgin.

A: We have few chances to encounter pidgins or creoles in Japan.

T: Takusan years ago, *sukoshi* Cinderella-san lived in hoochie with sisters.

A: ?!

T: It's an example of Japanese-pidgin in a book named "Language in Behavior." It means, "Many years ago, little Cinderella lived in a house with her sisters."

A: That sounds really strange.

T: However strange it may sound, pidgins or creoles are a perfect language. The process of learning or creating pidgins is just the same as

the process of a baby learning its mother tongue. At first, a baby learns words, then it composes a sentence in its own way. So, how to compose a sentence differs a little according to the individual. In the process of learning a pidgin, at first, people learn foreign words, then compose a sentence according to the rules of their own language. So structure and grammar are completely different from the original language.

A: But each of them has a unique and perfect language system; therefore, it is regarded as a perfect language.

T: You got it! You are smart. Why don't you study linguistics? I'm free Thursday evenings and if you wanna...

A: I think I can understand what you've told me today. Well then, I'd like you to be my teacher, but don't be too hard on me, please.

T: Of course. If I can explain and make you understand, I feel I'll be able to gain confidence in myself.

A: Boy! Many thanks for flattering me.

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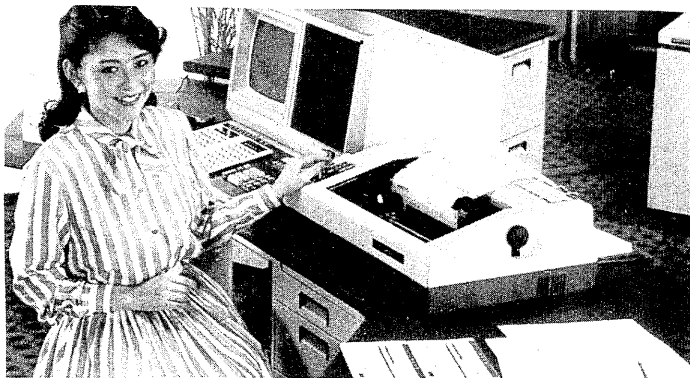
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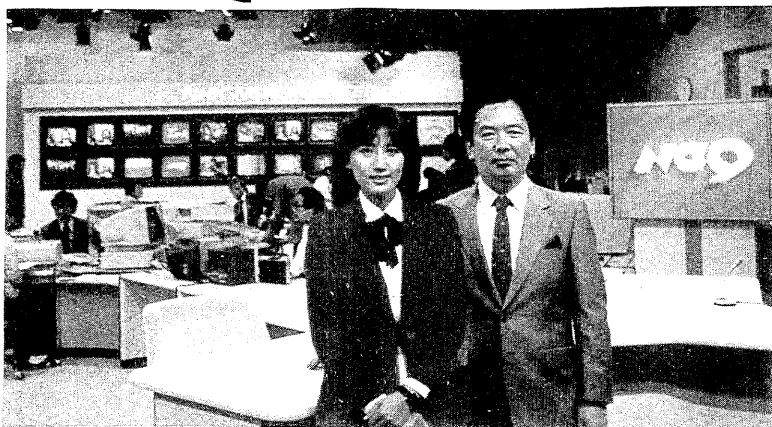


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Alumni Column



Miss Midori Miyazaki, News Caster of the «NC9»

This time we asked Miss Midori Miyazaki, the familiar news caster of the "NC9" of NHK to be interviewed for our Alumni Column. She graduated this spring from the master's course in international politics of Keio University and is held as the first full-scale woman news caster of the news program, because of her womanly attractiveness and her good sense as a journalist.

During the interview which was held at the NC9 studio (photograph), we lost no time in asking her some questions while she was handling a computer set on the general weather conditions.

Q: Why do you handle a computer?

A: I have many hobbies and the computer is one of them. I have a computer set at home. So far, many of my computer programs have been put on the air and I am also par-

ticipating in the computer operations of the entire NHK system.

Q: What is your daily routine like?

A: I set out at 9 AM when I have to collect data. After 5 PM, I am often so busy preparing the news draft that I have to skip dinner.

Q: How were your schooldays?

A: Professor Fuji Kamiya's seminar which I belonged to was a very strict one, and we had to prepare theses on themes every week. During those days it seemed as if everyday life was moving around the seminar as a satellite orbiting around the earth. I participated in many club activities as well.

Q: What was your graduation thesis?

A: I wrote "The nuclear energy as strategy" for my bachelor's thesis. It was a study on the impact which the peaceful use of nuclear energy exerts upon the international politics

from the strategical point of view. I wrote "The potential nuclear capacity" as my master's thesis. It was an analysis of the possibility of potential capacity for military use of nuclear energy concealed in the peaceful use, by the method of politechtonics (using mathematical disposal). As I have some confidence, I will probably introduce this thesis at an academy meeting.

Q: How is your work?

A: Though it is very difficult, I hope I'll be able to link the theory of international politics which I learned at school with the actual news of international politics that moves dynamically. Anyway, the work as a news reporter is very pleasant and worthwhile. Now that I have experienced working for a year, I'm even trusted at times with the

study, you can strive as much as you want and if you want to play you can do this as well, can't you?

Q: Will you please give some advice to your juniors?

A: What you have gained during your school days will help you afterwards. So I wish you to live fruitful life, whatever you may be doing. For this reason, always do your best.

Q: Will you please say something to the foreign students?

A: One of my friends, Miss Suzan Brown, who was a well-known boat crew of Oxford University, is actually teaching at Keio junior high school. She once said to me that she didn't go through any culture shock, but sometimes communication gaps occur. Thus, as Japan has a homogenous culture compared with Western or some Asian countries, you

**'May you live
a fruitful
life, whatever
you may be
doing.'**



whole process of planning and researching to broadcast, therefore I can reveal my personality on the programs and so I am very happy.

Q: What do you think of Keio University?

A: I think it is a very good one with a free atmosphere. Here if we want to do something of our own free will, we probably can do it easily, partly because of the excellent professors and students. If you want to

may probably find some difficulties to penetrate the Japanese society. However, Keio students are friendly with foreign students and it is very rewarding to work hard together, so don't hesitate to come forward and I am sure everything will go smoothly afterwards.

Q: We deeply appreciate your good will to meet us despite your busy schedule.

Cinema Periscope



SUPERMAN III

Superman is driven to the wall by the heavy attack of the "Fortress of an Electron"!! What is the third enemy against Superman? The chosen enemy is the most modern and heaviest one—the greatest computer in the world which is programed by omniscient and omnipotent data! Yes, the enemy has a thorough knowledge about Superman's weak points and also sees through his thinking patterns and his fights! The most able brain created by human beings may be the haviest enemy when it ignores commands (made) by human beings. Superman's weak points in-

putted in the computer will become important points. Well first, he can't see through lead. Second, he becomes an ordinary man in the light of the "Red Sun" over the planet Crypton. Third, he has a very kind human-like mind. This time, it is interesting that his human aspect appears. In "Superman III", Annet Otoole is starring as his lover instead of Lois Lane. She is the woman of his first love. Other new faces are Richard Pryor, Robert Vaughn, Annie Ross, and Pamela Stephenson as a wicked foxy woman.



Legend of Plumeria

In Hawaii, clear sky and sea, under dazzling sunshine, a young man and woman are getting something sweet from each other. They are Emiko (called Emi), a Japanese-American college student and Shinji who is working in a dockyard as a special worker, who has his heart in surfing.

One day, on the sea, Shinji is giving his very passion to practice of surfing to win "the Pan-am World Cup in Hawaii," and on the shore, Emi is watching him with her sweet eyes. Happy little youngs. But unfortunately their love is doomed to unforeseen things even from the time they first meet. ... How would story, which is

titled "Legend of Plumeria," go on?

Now, we have a new born combination on the screen "Sei-ki," with Seiko Matsuda and Kiichi Nakai! As for Seiko, this movie is her second starring as a heroine. On the other hand, Kiichi Nakai, who is starring in "The Combined Fleet," "Father and Son" and getting high-rated appraisings for freshness and steady playing except for his dark image, is playing in his first youthful movie. But in "Legend of Plumeria," Seiko and Kiichi, perhaps because they are the same age, play smoothly, and they beautifully blow off the nervousness from their first combination.

Now get ready to open it!

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Readers' Forum



A love affair

My relationship with her began six or seven months ago. I think of her as a lover but I doubt if she feels the same way about me. Actually, I think she probably feels that I'm not worth the trouble. In spite of this indifference I have fallen deeply in love.

As with all relationships I didn't know much about her at first except what others had told me but there definitely was something about her that intrigued me. It's something so subconscious that I can't explain it to you. Besides it's all too personal and you'd probably find it boring. Anyway, this intrigue grew with each passing days and suddenly I found myself in love.

Those first few months were wonderful. If you've ever fallen in love you'd know what I mean. Everything about her was right; she could do nothing wrong. But slowly, things began to appear which bothered me. I won't call them faults but I guess as another separate entity she was bound to have traits which I didn't like. But as I said those days were wonderful. Sometimes I think that those good old days are the only truly happy ones I've ever had with her and ever will. You could say I lived in ignorance, but ignorance is bliss, you know.

Maybe I'm being too pessimistic. I'd like to think that I'm almost as happy as I ever was with her. I could say that those first few months were just an infatuation: the real loving begins from now. Tempered by a little bit more experience, my love has developed some intelligence in its approach, some caution. This means no more of those days of signing in contentment, but then again no more of those days of seething in contempt.

During the past few months I think I have matured and so has my love for her. But getting to know someone, I mean really getting to know someone, takes as much time as you have days to

live—and even then that's not enough.

Jon Tamio Tanaka
from Harvard University, U.S.A.



Assimilation to a different society

"Why does the milk taste funny?" "Why do Japanese piss in public?" "Why do Japanese face the mirror when they dance?" "Those Keio students, they come to school only to socialize!" These are just some of the typical dissatisfactions and criticism that one hears so often from newly arrived Gaijin Ryugakusei.

In assimilating into a new society, one will unavoidably encounter various difficulties in adjustment. To facilitate this intermediary process, one should begin his association with an open mind and an attitude of willing to compromise and to be subservient. One should first try to accept the way things are rather than making hasty judgements. A hard headed attitude will not be helpful, but, on the contrary, worsen one's frustration.

Often American Ryugakusei come to Japan with a stubborn attitude that things are done right only in according to the American way. Thus, they begin to evaluate Japanese society in relation to American standards. For example, many Ryugakusei detest the relationship of "senpai and kouhai" between students. They feel that respect for other people should be developed naturally rather than a mere observation of rule; it should be a respect of one's true ability and leadership rather than of mere difference in age.

Many Ryugakusei also complain about Japanese people's unsincerity in their compliments. Often, although they are able to speak only a few fragmented phrases, Japanese people even go out of their way and lie through their teeth just to praise ability to speak Japanese. At times, because they are frustrated with the difficulty of Japanese language, the Ryugakusei takes

these compliments in a cynical attitude concerning their ability to learn Japanese. Small problem compounded by small problem, small frustration compounded by small frustration, the Ryugakusei fall even deeper into the abyss of incomprehension and misunderstanding.

Peter Chung-Tao Ho
from Tufts University, U.S.A.



A better way to know Japan

The Keio University Students' Discussion Society frequently hosts lectures and discussions at both the Hiyoshi and Mita Campuses. While most of the lectures are conducted in Japanese, some have also been conducted in English.

Since coming to Keio, I have had the opportunity to listen to lectures given by distinguished speakers such as Professor Masao Kunihiro, who is a TV newscaster in addition to his many other roles, and Professor Muramatsu, a famous simultaneous interpreter. The Club recently sponsored a panel discussion entitled, "A Look at Living in Japan." An American, a Bulgarian, and an Egyptian all discussed their impressions about life in Japan as a foreigner. Two of the three speakers have been living in Japan for a number of years.

I found the lectures and this panel discussion to be very interesting and informative. I highly recommend these lectures to those students studying Japanese at the International Center of Keio University. In addition to their being very informative, I find attending these lectures as a good way to improve listening comprehension in Japanese, and also a good way to meet and talk with other Keio students.

It has been suggested that announcements of subsequent lectures be posted in the International Center.

Laura Rauchwarg
from Georgetown University, U.S.A.

Readers' Forum

Please Give Your Voices to
"the Mita Campus"!

"The Mita Campus" is the only English student news press published within Keio University. It is one of our most important task to promote international communication by mutual understanding.

Thus, we have made a reader's column to make the intercourse between foreign and Japanese students somehow more active. So please write a letter to "the Mita Campus", if you have something to say, whatever it may be. For example:

- (A) What you want to say or ask the Japanese or foreign students
 - (B) What you expect from "the Mita Campus": any advice, even severe critics are very welcome!
 - (C) Any essays, short-shorts, etc.
- The Reader's Forum is your own!
(Letters in English, French or Japanese are accepted)
Please contact Toshio Wada, Editor of the Mita Campus
Phone: (03) 781-0672

