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This winter issue begins and ends with thoughts of a valued and active, but lost, contributor to *The Ryukyuanist*. Readers of the newsletter will recognize the name of Jo N. Martin, who penned a book review published here only one year ago. Included in this issue also is the promised review of the German-language book announced in our previous issue. Following Herr Kogge's review, which is limited here to the chapters that deal more directly with Okinawa, we include information about The AAS Conference in Hawaii, again postponing a longer article because of pressing announcements. The newsletter, being a newsletter, always welcomes news, announcements, and contributions.

A Princess Lily of the Ryukyus by Jo Nobuko Martin (Tokyo: Shin Nippon Kyoiku Tosho, 1984)

A cause, if does not compromise one's identity, is probably a noble enough pursuit. Most of us adopt at least one significant cause during our lifetime, and as long as we believe in it, we stand solidly behind it. Possibly, though, life is about circumstances, inexorable circumstances which decide causes and shape destinies. The girls of Himeyuri were united in their resolve and commitment to the Emperor of Japan. This allegiance and dedication are sensitively described by Jo Nobuko MARTIN in *A Princess Lily of the Ryukyus*.

This book, developed in a five-part narrative, is considerably more than a war experience. Although the horrific and offending improprieties of war are indelibly detailed, an inspiring humanistic theme characterizes the integrity and compassion of the Okinawan people. Martin's writing, melancholy at times, but never sentimental, relates her experiences as a nurse during the battle of Okinawa. Feelings of patriotism and national pride were apparent as the girls of the Himeyuri school were inducted into the service of the Japanese 32nd Imperial Army.

Other writers have conveyed the simplicity and propriety of the Okinawan people. Though this distinctive image is also evident in Martin's book, there are moments when it is corrupted by the improprieties of war. In the beginning, war for many Okinawans was primarily devotion to a cause—a cause so infused with propaganda and fanaticism that for the Okinawans it was only a matter of time before Japan won the war. Victory was inevitable. However, as the American war machine advanced towards Shuri, the realization of the ultimate defeat became an impossible reality for most Okinawans. The devoted Himeyuri girls, along with retreating Japanese troops, attempted to avoid the inevitable confrontation with the American “devils” as they moved the hospitals farther south.

There is pathos in this writing. The evocative narrative carries the reader to a predictable conclusion. Martin has interposed ordinary events against an extraordinary background of intense pain and suffering, and possibly it is this particular dexterity which brings the characters to life. Her recollections are vivid. Her language is deliberate. Intermittent humor softens for a while the intensity of this war story. Finally, this is a revealing account of an enduring struggle to survive during Okinawa's blackest days.

Those beautiful words which Dr. Jo Nobuko Martin has written are a lasting epitaph for the girls of the Himeyuri school. Theirs was a tragic legacy, and as one of the Himeyuri girls who survived the terrible “Typhoon of Steel,” Jo Nobuko Martin was courageous enough to tell their story. *A Princess Lily of the Ryukyus* is a poignant narrative, and it will always be remembered as Jo Martin's testament to peace. Her abundant good work as an educator and as a humanitarian has made the world a better place for all of us.

Terry Trafton

Miscellanea, edited by Martin Hemmert and Ralph Lützelzer (Tokyo: Philipp Franz von Siebold Foundation German Institute for Japanese Studies, 1995)

In his foreword, Josef KREINER includes some basic facts of the history of Okinawa and points out that in recent years serious efforts have been made to consider the economic situation of the island, particularly with regard to the possibility of increased trade with neighboring regions, such as the coast areas of China, Taiwan, and Korea. For this undertaking, the inclusion of Kyushu is considered important.

Ralph LÜTZELER, in his introductory chapter “East Asian Economic Zone and Regional Development in Japan,” indicates that Japan as an economic superpower at one time caused concern in Germany, which as the number one export country in the world felt itself threatened. Since the collapse of the “bubble economy,” however, there has been a tendency in Germany—and elsewhere—to look down on Japan as an economic power on the wane. The contributed chapters in this volume attempt to address the problems that Japan is now encountering, taking the marginal, Southwest areas of Kyushu and Okinawa as examples.

Lützelzer points out that economic regionalism has advantages but also creates problems. Increasingly, within the past 20 years productive activities have moved to agrarian areas, whereas the relevant decision-making has been centralized, particularly in the metropolis of Kanto (Tokyo). Though the concentration of economic activities in a limited number of areas may have contributed to the growth of the Japanese economy, the problems of such unbalanced regional development have become increasingly visible. As for Kyushu and Okinawa, unemployment is one of the most visible of such regional problems. Lützelzer points out that in regions such as Hokkaido

and Okinawa the difference between what is claimed or desired in contrast to the reality of the situation has changed comparatively little since the sixties and seventies.

Though the Fifth Plan for National Development takes into account the changes occurring in the neighboring coastal areas of the continent, and considers how regions in the periphery of the country can participate in associated development, Lützelers appears to be somewhat skeptical of the extent of benefits to be obtained because Taiwan and South Korea are also in a very good position to participate in such regional development. Thus the question of whether or not Kyushu and Okinawa, by having a more southern geographic position, may be in a more favorable position with regard to development is a topic considered by a number of the chapters. In this regard, the chapter by Axel RHEIN is contributory because it reminds the German readers of similar regional developments within the European Union.

KIYONARI Tadao, in his chapter "Globalization and Regional Transformation—east Asia and Kyushu-Okinawa," points out that increasingly globalization is effecting regional changes.

Driven by increased competitiveness, Japan is becoming less and less a location for industrial production, which is shifting increasingly towards Japan's neighbors. As the car industry also spreads into the region outside Japan there are concerns that Japan may replicate the decay of the USA and Britain if counter-measures are not initiated.

Kiyonari advises that as the process of globalization effects not only the slippage of economic sections in some countries but also the expansion of opportunities in others, it is necessary for economic development to be determined not only by local concerns but by regionally determined initiatives, which themselves should be the outcome of a network of

local initiatives. Kiyonari further suggests that regional viability necessitates the development of products indigenous to the region, be they areas of technology, management expertise, medical systems, or culture. Towards that end, he notes that central power structures have become atavistic in this global age, and suggests that Japan may need to transform its centralistic structures just as France found it necessary to do so in the Eighties.

Kiyonari envisions for Okinawa the development of technological know-how, particularly in the employment of biological resources. He suggests that a reduction in the scale necessary for effective manufacture of products from sugar cane could result in significantly increased trade with neighboring East Asian countries, particularly with production of paper from sugar cane. In addition to increased specialization in agricultural areas, he suggests greater diversity in Okinawa's tourism, and a movement towards production of highly-finished products as an output of highly-developed assembly lines.

ITO Zen'ichi, in his chapter "Economic Development and Perspectives for Okinawa," begins by noting that Okinawa's geographic location is favorable for trade with the countries of East Asia, and that this has been reflected in Okinawa's history, including the period of U.S. administration. Ito then moves on to question Okinawa's success in having realized its three pre-reversion wishes: (1) elimination of economic dependence on existent military bases, (2) reduction of economic difference between mainland Japan and Okinawa, and (3) reduction of Okinawan emigration.

Apparently Ito sees the population growth of Okinawa as a positive sign, noting that it has accompanied a growth in the industries of flower cultivation and tourism. He also mentions the existence of universities in Okinawa as providing good opportunities for further

development of human capital.

As for technological development, Ito draws attention to the significance of mangroves, particularly in Iriomote and Ginoza, and the favorable relocation of the International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems to Japan, which led to the foundation of the Okinawa Kokusai Mangurobu Kyōkai. He suggests benefits could be found in the development of a close cooperation with the University of Florida, which has a center for mangrove research, and mentions the Okinawan research accomplishment of eradication of the fruitfly *urimibae*.

Roman DITZER, in his chapter "Starting Points for the Promotion of Export Trade in the Politics of Regionalism for Okinawa," draws attention to the merely moderate success of regional development for Okinawa, which so far has been able to effect a per capita income for Okinawa of only 68% that of the national average (1991). Though the third 10-year plan is supposed to narrow the gap, he sees Japan's direct investment in the neighboring countries of East Asia as reducing expectations that regional development within Japan will be the ticket to Okinawa's economic development.

Ditzer provides an analysis of Okinawa's trade, treating Okinawa as an economic entity separate from mainland Japan, and notes that import figures exceed export figures, with importation being predominantly merchandise trade, principally with mainland Japan. Whereas Okinawa has a strikingly high non-merchandise export figure, of which tourism claims the lion's share, only 6% of tourists come from outside Japan.

Ditzer also reviews various measures that have been implemented for the development of Okinawa, with particular reference to opportunities for education and trade as represented by the establishment of Okinawa's International Center (a JICA training cen-

ter), infrastructure improvements such as the Naha airport expansion and Nakagusuku Bay development, sales strategies and international trade fairs, and the proposed establishment of an international exchange information center. He notes that great interest has been shown in regard to products of pest control, particularly as regards mangrove, and emphasizes the desire both on the part of scientists and manufacturing industry representatives to see further development of opportunities for education and research, particularly that which could be provided by the establishment of a university of science and technology, which is currently in planning.

On the down side, however, Ditzer draws attention to differing perspectives and attitudes of persons in the central government and local organizations in Okinawa. He sees that Okinawans are generally wholeheartedly and optimistically behind the development of a Kokusai Kōryū Jōhō Sentā and increased educational and research opportunities, as through establishment of a new university, whereas the central government, which would have to provide much of the financial support, takes a less enthusiastic stance. Ditzer notes that Okinawans base their optimism on Okinawa's geographic location and past history, and on that basis also ask for special treatment in recognition of Okinawa's unique characteristics. By contrast, the central government gives preference to regional development within standardized procedures appropriate for all areas of Japan. The resolution of such differences may be critical for the future of Okinawa, determining whether Okinawa can become an important point for trade with coastal areas of the continent or whether Okinawa will be merely a branch location for mainland production activities.

Hans Kogge

Ryukyuanists to convene in Hawaii

Okinawa will be represented in three panel sessions at the upcoming Association for Asian Studies annual meeting, to be held in the Hilton Hawaiian Village, April 11-14. The first two are a two-part session organized by Michael MOLASKY, "Okinawa as Critical Space: Perspectives on Japan from its Periphery." Part I, chaired by Molasky, meets Saturday the 13th, 1:30-3:30 with three papers, "Incipient Nationalism? Two Ryukyuan Responses to Japanese Domination." by Gregory SMITS, "Tottering on the Edge: Okinawa as Prefecture and Colony" by Alan S. CHRISTY, and "Becoming Japanese" by Ichiro TOMIYAMA; the discussant is Takashi FUJITANI. Part II, chaired by Gregory Smits, meets the same day, 4:00-6:00, with three papers, "Challenging and Accommodating Gendered Nationalism: Roles, Representations, and Meanings of Himeyuri, 1945-1995" by Linda ANGST, "The Reversion Debate and Critiques of Japanese Nationalism" by Michael MOLASKY, and "Historical Authenticity and Present Creativity: Two Contested Narratives on 'Okinawan Culture' in the Mass Media" by Yoshinobu OTA; the discussant is Marilyn IVY. Sunday the 14th, from 11:00-1:00, provides a three-paper panel "At the Interface Between Objects and Humanistic Enquiry: The Material Culture of Ryukyu," organized by Amanda Mayer STINCHECUM and chaired by Koji TAIRA, with the first two presenters being from Okinawa. "The System of East Asian Trade and the Formation of the Ryukyu Kingdom" by ASATO Susumu, "Changes in Sovereign Power and the Royal Cult as Revealed in Posthumous Portraits of Ryukyuan Kings" by TOMIYAMA Kazuyuki, and "Ryukyuan Dress as Icon: Yukata of Tokugawa Ieyasu, Robes of the Shuri Nobility, and the Transmission of Cultural Forms" by Stinchecum. The discussants are Josef KREINER and Laurel KENDALL.

Publications (XVIII)

We gratefully acknowledge the gift of the following publications:

HIGA Minoru, ed. 1995. *Kowan-aza shi* (Ethnography of Kowan Hamlet). Urasoe: Kowan-aza Shi Henshu Iinkai. 826 pp. A monumental volume, of large format, 21 cm x 30 cm, reconstructing every conceivable aspect of life, culture, history, geography and memories of a hamlet of some 500 people that was destroyed in the Battle of Okinawa. Contains numerous maps, illustrations and photographs. It has resulted from the collaboration of two working groups: one at the Hosei University Institute for Okinawan Studies, and another in Urasoe, Okinawa, under the leadership of Professor Minoru Higa. Chapter 1: The hamlet and buildings, reconstructed. 2: Society of the hamlet. 3: Life cycles of the people. 4: Life in the hamlet. 5: Annual events. 6: The War. 7: Literature and arts. Two appendices.

Kowan was located on the coast of the East China Sea on the north bank of the Kowan river, 3 km north of Naha. Direction: coming from Naha, cross the Aja River, go 200 m and turn left; then go on the road by the shore about 1 km; voila! This hamlet no longer exists except in the hearts and memories of people whose original home it was. The hamlet was retrieved from memories by scientifically approved methods and transcribed faithfully on paper. Stories were written down in the original languages of the tellers (Japanese and dialect). Findings reported in the book look and sound as if they had come from an on-going hamlet.

HIGA Minoru, ed. 1995. *Urasoe Kowan hōgen jiten* (A dictionary of Urasoe Kowan Dialect). Urasoe: Kowan-aza Shi Henshu

Iinkai. 327 pp. A third dictionary of a language spoken on the island of Okinawa, following *Okinawago jiten*, which is mainly the Shuri dialect, and *Nakijin hōgen jiten*. The late NAKAMOTO Masachie, Ryukyuan authority, supplied the initial impetus for research into the Kowan dialect. The research was conducted as part of a larger study which resulted in the reconstructed ethnography of Kowan, mentioned above. Words are recorded in both Japanese and phonetic symbols. Examples of usage in complete sentences are also given. This would be useful for acquiring Kowan speaking capability.

HIGA Noboru. 1993. *Higa Noboru kabunshu*. Poems and Letters of Higa Noboru. Edited by HIGA Jiro and HIGA Minoru. Urasoe. 305 pp. A posthumous collection of poems (in Japanese and Ryukyuan) and speeches of Higa Noboru (1935-1992). Many gems of artistic expression among them. One of the editors, who also contributes an essay in memoriam, is Professor Minoru Higa, Noboru's younger brother and current Director of the Hosei University Institute for Okinawan Studies.

A 1960 graduate of Ryudai Law, Higa Noboru was a clerk in various Ryukyu courts and practiced law before he was elected to the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly. Then he ran for and became mayor of Urasoe for three consecutive terms. He died suddenly shortly after his election for the fourth term.

Higa Noboru was an outstanding mayor with overwhelming support of the Urasoe citizens. Under his leadership, Urasoe became a vibrant cultural center of Okinawa, completely erasing its old reputation as an unexciting dormitory town of Naha. His unexpected death was a great loss not only to Urasoe but to entire Ryukyu.

Kusa no kanmuri (The Crown of Grass). 1995. The bulletin of the Association for the Study of Gods and Woods of Miyako Island (Miyakojima no kami to mori wo kangaeru kai).

Nos. 1-3. An association promoted and brought into being by Professor Kenichi TANIKAWA, foremost authority on Miyakojima ethnology. It was born of a sense of crisis about the fast disappearing woodlands of Miyakojima, traditional abodes of indigenous deities. The main factors behind the crisis are economic development, urbanization, lifestyle changes, etc., which have all encroached upon the commons and wilds. The bulletin reports on the activities of the Association as well as illuminating short essays on ethnological topics.

MIYAZATO Etsu. 1989. *Tomoni iki, tomoni yorokobi* (Living together, enjoying [it] together). Naha. 279 pp. + photos. In commemoration of having attained 85 years of age, Etsu Sensei, one of the most influential feminist leaders, edited some of her papers and put them together with contributions from her friends and former pupils as well as members of her own family. OSHIRO Tatsuhiro contributes the lead essay. Her own essays range widely over topics such as the United Nations, war, peace, women, education, emigration, cuisine. Her speech at the United Nations in May 1978 was roughly as follows (p.28):

I am from Okinawa, which is a potential target for nuclear attacks. There is one way to stop the arms race: international public opinion. Let's do everything we can to strengthen that opinion. On returning home, we should first draw into a peace movement our dearest ones—spouse, parents, brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts, friends. We'll make them the nucleus of the movement. Then we'll organize neighborhoods. Then we'll expand the organizations. Delegates, let's do it.

Etsu sensei wo shinobu (In memory of Etsu Sensei). 1994. Naha: Etsuyu-kai. 123 pp. + photos. MIYAZATO Etsu died in January 1994. She was almost 89 years old. The

- members of the Etsuyu-kai (Society of Friends of Etsu) pay tribute to her memory. Also included are some of Etsu Sensei's anti-war, pro-peace essays and several photocopies of obituaries and newspaper reports.
- MORIGUCHI Kenzo. 1995. "Book Resurrects Lost Okinawan Village," *The Japan Times*, June 22:4. Reports on the origins of *Kowan-aza shi*, mentioned above.
- Nichibunken Newsletter*. 1995. A publication of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies, Kyoto. No. 21 (June). 19 pp.
- Okinawa Society. 1995. *The Okinawa* (Monthly). Nos. 216-218 (February/March, April/May, June/July). 4 pp. each.
- PEARSON, Richard. 1995. "Exotic Ceramics and Modes of Exchange in Okinawan State Development from 1100 to 1600," a paper presented at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies (April). 7 pp. + photos and drawings. Presents types of trade ceramics recovered from archaeological sites in the Ryukyu Islands by local archaeologists, and interprets their patterns of distribution in terms of local social and political change and developments in overseas trade.
- SIDDLE, Richard. 1995. "With Shining Eyes: Ainu Social and Political Movements, 1918-1937," *Asian Cultural Studies* (International Christian University Publication III-A), March: 1-20. A reprint. Considers how some educated young Ainu created a shared sense of identity and purpose among their scattered communities. The movement produced the first all-Ainu organization, the Ainu Kyōkai, in 1930. The increased communication among like-minded Ainu laid the foundations of a new sense of unity and identity. This paper restores respectability of the Ainu as a vibrant modern ethnic group, seeking to unify and strengthen itself against heavy odds under Japanese domination.
- SULLIVAN, Gordon R. 1995. *Ryukyus*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Army Center of Military History. 31 pp. A brochure in the series "The U.S. Army Campaigns of World War II." A concise history of the Battle of Okinawa prepared by Arnold G. FISCH, Jr.
- Tokyo Okinawa Keizai Kenkyukai. 1994-1995. *Bunka Tsūshin*. Nos. 49-54 (December-September). 4 pp. each.
- Gorgeous color photos of events for cultural exchange (No. 49). YAMAGUCHI Eitetsu reports on the Harvard ISRS conference (No. 50). IWAHASHI Kazunori, survivor/veteran of the Battle of Okinawa, reminisces on the victimization of Okinawan civilians during the Battle (No. 31). TAMAGUSUKU Seibun and FUKUMURA Chobin (chairman and vice-chairman of the Nomura-ryū Conservatory) talk about the "Sanshin Boom" (No. 54).
- United Okinawan Association of Hawaii. 1995. *Uchinanchu*. A Newsletter. Vols. 48 & 49 (April, July/August). 12 pp. each. New president Michael Kazuo ABE adopts a theme for his presidency: "Peace, Harmony, and the Okinawan Spirit" (vol. 48).
- University of New South Wales Center for South Pacific Studies. 1955. *Newsletter*, vol. 9, nos. 2-4 (June, September, December). 37 pp, 39 pp, 39 pp.
- Urban Economic Research Institute. 1994. *Okinawa kokusai toshi keisei seibi kōsō chōsa hōkokusho* (Report on the investigation into visions of formation and organization of an international city on Okinawa). Tokyo. 142 pp. Maps, tables, illustrations, flow charts. An exploration of a new international role expected of Okinawa and its correlates in terms of urban structure on Okinawa Island.
- WEINER, Michael. 1995. "Discourses of Race, Nation, and Empire in Pre-1945 Japan," *Ethnic and Racial Studies* (London), No. 3 (July): 433-456. A reprint. Examines the interrelationship between nationalist, "racial" and imperial discourses during the period

1868-1945 which contributed to the construction of a Japanese national identity and Japan's transformation into a world power. A related theme is the creation of a powerful polity in the notion of the *kazoku kokka* (family state). A corollary of the construction of a Japanese "race" was the simultaneous categorization of subordinate populations in Japan proper and the empire, aided by social-Darwinism imported from Europe.

In Memoriam: Jo Nobuko Martin

A remarkable life and career ended in 1994 with the passing of Jo Nobuko MARTIN—writer, teacher, and Himeyuri survivor. Born and raised in Okinawa, Martin was drafted with other school girls into the Himeyuri Nurses Brigade that treated combat casualties under primitive and often desperate conditions during the Battle of Okinawa. Shortly after World War II, she married an American and moved to the United States where, despite personal hardships, she raised three children and earned three university degrees, a B.A. in Russian, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Japanese literature. She finished her doctorate on late-Edo writer SANTŌ Kyōden at the University of Michigan in 1979, and began a teaching career that included appointments at Eastern Michigan, Oregon State, and Brown universities. And, as if this astonishing record of accomplishment weren't enough, she became best-known to the world as an acclaimed writer of fiction.

At Michigan she won the coveted Hopwood Prize that has launched numerous famous writers on their careers with her first novel, *A Princess Lily of the Ryukyus*, published in 1984 by Shin Nippon Kyoiku Tosho, which issued a Japanese version, *Purinsesu Riri*, the following year. Criticized by some for characters that too closely resemble real people, the work remains the most compelling account in English of the Himeyuri girls' incredible ordeal, which most did not survive. Motivated by tragically sacrificial loyalty—to country, to school, and to each other—they faced constant deprivations, frequent shelling, hopelessly untreatable wounds, and long-distance evacuations under heavy fire. Martin's frankly autobiographical work probes aspects of this tragedy ignored by other accounts, such as the disension and rivalry which, at times, make the girls seem less than heroic. Her novel also offers important information on Okinawan customs and culture, presented mostly in flashback memories of the protagonist's childhood.

Martin also published "Bitter Brew" in *Ethnic Reflection: Literary Journey Through America* (University of Michigan, 1980) and, in the literary magazine *The Jason*, three other short stories, "A Crane's Journey" (1980), "Bone Washing and the Magic Lady" (1981), and "The Nocturnal Visits of Lieutenant Tanaka" (1982). At the time of her death she was completing a second novel based on her experience after the war in Okinawa and the United States.

Steve Rabson

The Ryukyuanist is a quarterly newsletter on developments in Ryukyuan/Okinawan studies. Editors: Koji Taira and Karen Lupardus. Publisher: Shinichi Kyan, Okinawa Labor and Economic Research Institute. Annual subscriptions: institutions, US \$20 (Japan ¥2,000); individuals, US \$10 (Japan ¥1,000); special rate for students, US \$5 (Japan ¥500). Subscriptions are payable to Shinichi Kyan, Okinawa Labor and Economic Research Institute, 1-1 Higashimachi, Naha, Okinawa, Japan 900; or to Koji Taira, Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Illinois, 504 E. Armory Ave., Champaign, IL 61820.
