

NEWSLETTER Friends of WMU J A P A N

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SEPTEMBER 2006 No. 16

Donation of Training Ship to Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency



Mr. Haji Zahidin Haji Dor

Mr. Lee Chnua Yee

Mr. Yohei Sasakawa

Mr. Krishnan Balakrishnan

Mr. Leong Peng Loo

Capt. Yew Seng Lim

Capt. Bin Abdul Samad Zainal Akbar

Capt. Tze Kheong Lee

Mr. Yohei Sasakawa made mention of the concept of "sustainable development of maritime activities" in a lecture at the International Maritime Organization in 2005. The main idea of the concept is to promote the development of an international framework, including necessary cost-sharing schemes to share the burden of securing navigation safety in the Strait of Malacca.

Walking the talk, The Nippon Foundation lead by example by donating the training vessel "KM Marlin" to the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) on June 1, 2006. The training vessel was presented by The Nippon Foundation Chairman, Mr. Sasakawa, to the Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak in an official ceremony in Port Klang, Malaysia.

The Nippon Foundation has been supporting the cause of ensuring

navigation safety in the Strait of Malacca since 1968. Previous contributions include installing navigational aids such as lighthouses and buoys, conducting hydrographic surveys and donating a buoy tendering ship to the Malaysian and Indonesian governments.

Established in 2005, MMEA's main functions are to control and prevent maritime pollution, suppress piracy and illicit traffic in narcotic drugs. The availability of the training vessel could not have come at a better time, as it will be utilized as a practical training platform for the first intake of MMEA personnel and trainees this year.

The Malaysian Sasakawa Fellows were invited as guests of The Nippon Foundation to the handover ceremony. After the event, Mr. Sasakawa took time off his busy schedule to meet with the Sasakawa fellows. He was happy to know that they were still actively involved in the maritime industry and encouraged them to

further advance in their profession. Since the Sasakawa Fellows work in different parts of Malaysia, they took the opportunity to reestablish their friendships as well as exchanging notes on the developments in their respective fields.



Training vessel "KM Marlin"

Lim Yew Seng
(Malaysia 1997)
Malaysian Maritime Academy



The Shepherd Visits his Flock

Joseph B. Badajos
(Philippines, 1999)

On the afternoon of May 7, 2006, Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, the head of The Nippon Foundation, which is one of the world's largest philanthropic organizations, met with seventeen Filipino alumni of the World Maritime University at the scenic Diamond Hotel along Roxas Boulevard in Manila, Philippines. The seventeen alumni, who presently work for different Philippine Government agencies, e.g. Philippine Coast Guard, Maritime Industry Authority, Philippine Merchant Marine Academy, etc., are all direct beneficiaries of the benevolence of Mr. Sasakawa, whose foundation funded their attendance at different Master's Degree programs of WMU.

During the interaction, Mr. Sasakawa proudly displayed the Barong Tagalog he was wearing, though he also apologized for wearing the wrong undershirt. (The Barong Tagalog, which is the Philippines' national attire for men, is supposed to be worn with an undershirt called a kamiseta, not any ordinary shirt.) Nevertheless, the alumni gave Mr. Sasakawa their collective absolution and even went on to praise him for giving importance to such a trivial matter. Each of the alumni present then introduced themselves and briefly described to Mr. Sasakawa their present jobs and status in their respective organizations.

Hearing that Mr. Sasakawa had just joined the anniversary celebration of the Municipality of Culion, Palawan where the Tala Leprosarium was established for the confinement of people afflicted with leprosy in the Philippines, one of the alumni, Mr. Joseph Badajos (MSEP 99), narrated that after the Second World War his maternal grandfather was suspected of being afflicted

with leprosy and had to be forcibly evicted from his own hometown in the northern part of the country and shipped to Culion, Palawan. Although he was later given a clean bill of health, the stigma caused by his having been ostracized kept him from getting back to his family. He later died of natural causes in Culion, Palawan, but without the loving care and attendance of his own family.

The President of the Friends of WMU-Japan Sasakawa Fellows Network – Philippines Chapter, Incorporated, Mr. Luis M. Tuason, Jr. of the Philippine Coast Guard, expressed the group's heartfelt gratitude and praise to Mr. Sasakawa for taking time out of his hectic scheduled visit to the Philippines to meet with the WMU-Sasakawa alumni. He then presented to Mr. Sasakawa a small token of the group's appreciation, a charcoal painting portraying Mr. Sasakawa as a ship Captain leading the WMU-Sasakawa alumni to greater heights of achievement.

Truly, the visit of Mr. Sasakawa can be best summarized as an occasion where "the shepherd has visited his flock no matter where they may have been scattered in the vastness of the world."

(The author is a Sasakawa Fellow who graduated with a Master of Science Degree in Maritime Safety and Environmental Protection from the World Maritime University in Malmö, Sweden in 1999. He presently holds the rank of Commander in the Philippine Coast Guard and holds the position of Assistant Chief of Staff for Maritime Safety Affairs.)

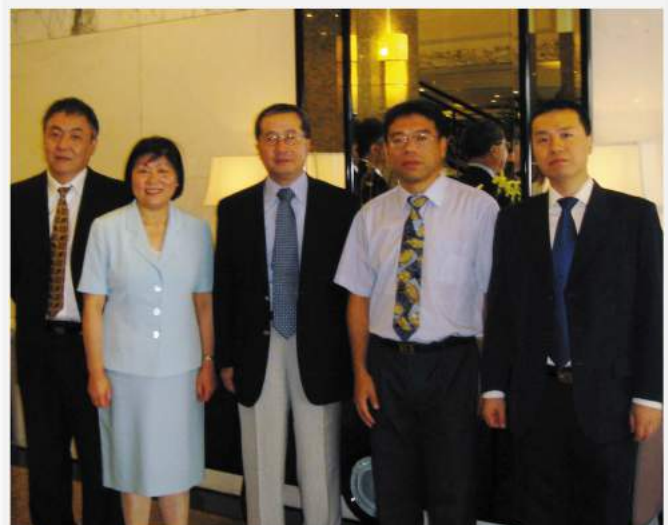
Breakfast in Beijing

Xu Cuiming
(China, 1996)

Mr. Takeju Ogata, who succeeded Mr. Sasakawa as President of The Nippon Foundation, visited Beijing, China from June 16th, 2006. During his stay in Beijing, four Chinese Sasakawa Fellows, Ms. Xu Cuiming, Mr. Xu Qingyue, Mr. Li Hongyin and Mr. Sun Dabin were kindly invited to have breakfast with him on the 16th at the Beijing New Otani Chang Fu Gong Hotel.

Mr. Ogata seemed so pleased to talk with us openly even for such a short time, satisfied with the warm, welcoming atmosphere, and also satisfied with the important (leading) posts that we (Chinese Sasakawa Fellows) have taken in the Ministry of Communications of China and our achievements in the maritime field since graduating from WMU.

It is Mr. Ogata's hope that we continue to keep a good relationship between The Nippon Foundation and Chinese Sasakawa Fellows, supporting each other and contributing to further maritime development in the world.



Mr. Xu Qingyue Mr. Takeju Ogata Mr. Sun Dabin
Ms. Xu Cuiming Mr. Li Hongyin



Seiji Saeki (Former Editorial Staff)

In May of 2006, I spent almost two weeks in Africa and visited Tanzania, Kenya, and Ghana to see several WMU Sasakawa Fellows.

The very first country I went to was the United Republic of Tanzania. I saw Dar-Es-Salaam, the biggest city with a major port in Tanzania, and was able to meet with two Sasakawa Fellows, Mr. Edward Sylvester Mabula (Tanzania Ports Authority, class of 2003) and Ms. Stella Joshua Katondo (Tanzania Ports Authority, class of 2001), at a restaurant in the Kilimanjaro Hotel.

Then, I went on to Mombasa in the Republic of Kenya, the largest port in Eastern Africa, on the 19th of May, where Mr. Musa Hassan Musa (Kenya Ports Authority, class of 2000) and Mr. Samwel Kipkosgei Kiptoo (Kenya Ports Authority, class of 2003) kindly welcomed me.

Last, I visited the Republic of Ghana on the 22nd of May. Capt. Hannah Aba Aggrey (class of 2000) and Ms. Catherine Haizel (class of 2002) from Regional Maritime Academy (RMA) in Accra welcomed me at the airport. The next day, they took me to the RMA campus and introduced me to Ms. Felicity Ankoma-Sey (also a WMU Sasakawa Fellow, class of 2001).



Through my meetings and conversations with these Sasakawa Fellows, I was able to get a very good understanding about the way in which these Fellows contribute to the maritime activities of their country by applying what they experienced at WMU in their work.

The WMU Scholarship Program, which the Ocean Policy Research Foundation conducts with support from The Nippon Foundation, has been in operation since 1987. Sasakawa Fellows who graduated from WMU as of June 2006 number 253 and hail from 40 countries all over the world (317 from 45 countries including the current students). In Africa, there are 22 Sasakawa Fellows (graduates) in eight countries. However, taking into account that there are a total of 750 WMU graduates in total in Africa, this is only a very small fraction.

Due to geographical reasons, Japan's interest has tended to lean

toward the Asian region in the past. However, as maritime activities demonstrate development on a global scale, I feel that we need to expand our field of interest to countries in regions remote from Japan, and this was how my visit to Africa came about.

Based on the list of the graduates compiled by WMU, I attempted to organize WMU graduates from Africa (750 up to 2005) by country of origin and organization to which they belonged. In Africa overall, there are WMU graduates in 45 countries. Of these, we managed to compile the attached list for the main 14 countries.

The criteria for selecting these 14 countries were, in principle, that (1) there were at least 20 graduates of WMU from that country or (2) there were Sasakawa Fellows resident in that country.

However, we excluded Somalia, where the whereabouts of all WMU graduates is unknown at present.

In terms of characteristics, countries where a relatively large number of graduates belong to administrative organizations are: Cameroon, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Tunisia. Countries where a relatively large number of graduates belong to educational and training organizations are: Egypt, Ghana, and Nigeria. And countries where a relatively large number of graduates belong to port authorities are: Kenya and Tanzania.

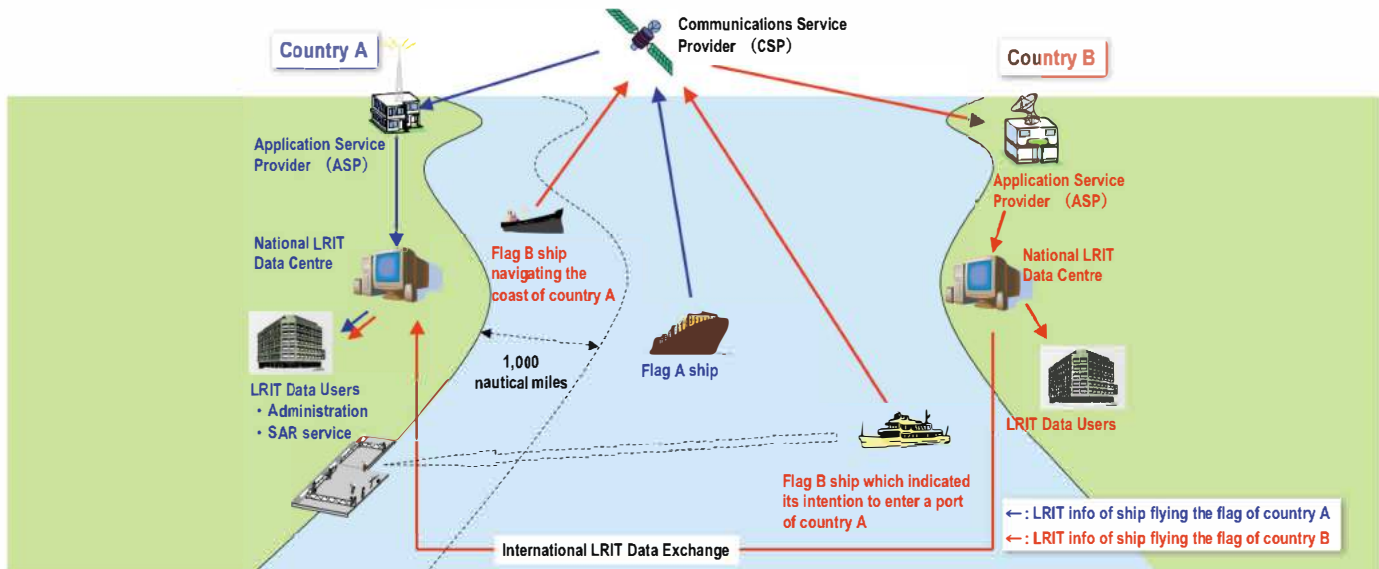
The organizations which produced more than one Sasakawa Fellow are: RMA in Ghana, KPA in Kenya, TPA and DMI in Tanzania, and AASTMT in Egypt. You can also clearly see from this table that these organizations produced many WMU graduates in addition to Sasakawa Fellows.

During my visit to Africa this time, I was able to visit the offices of KPA and RMA. In Africa, where we are only able to provide support through a limited number of scholarships, I believe that our relationships with the organizations which send out the students are important. As the Secretariat of the Sasakawa Fellows, in addition to maintaining ongoing exchanges with individual Sasakawa Fellows, we hope to promote more exchanges with the organizations which send out the Fellows. I hope that the readers of this article will also try to visit our Sasakawa Fellows if they have the opportunity to visit Africa. It is my belief that the continuous exchanges which take place among individuals promote links between organizations and lead to a stronger, more global network.



Name of Countries	Number of Graduates	Number of Sasakawa Fellows	Breakdown by Categories							
			Government Organizations	Educational Organizations	Port Authorities	Shipping Co. (Government)	Shipping Co. (Private)	Other Maritime Organizations	International Organizations	Others
Algeria	28	0	3	9	0	0	0	3	0	13
Cameroon	25	0	11	1	1	0	1	1	0	10
Egypt	39	4	1	32(4)	0	0	0	2	0	4
Ethiopia	24	1	3	0	0	9(1)	0	2	0	10
Ghana	61	5	4	14(3)	14	5	4(2)	11	0	15
Kenya	50	4	5	0	20(3)	1	0	3	3	18(1)
Liberia	24	1	5(1)	0	10	0	0	0	1	8
Malawi	21	0	13	2	0	0	0	4	0	2
Morocco	14	1	7(1)	0	1	0	0	2	0	4
Mozambique	29	0	12	6	4	0	0	1	0	6
Nigeria	73	2	24	17(2)	5	3	0	11	0	13
Senegal	22	0	5	3	2	0	0	2	1	9
Tanzania	57	4	19	4(1)	13(2)	6(1)	0	0	0	15
Tunisia	20	0	7	0	0	0	0	2	0	11
Subtotal (14 Countries)	487	22	119(2)	88(10)	70(5)	24(2)	5(2)	44	9	128(1)
Total (46 Countries)	750	22	202(2)	96(10)	108(5)	32(2)	11(2)	73	10	218(1)

The figures in parentheses show the number of Sasakawa Fellow graduates.



One of the hottest issues at the May 2006 MSC81 meeting and perhaps interesting for those who are studying or engaged in international law as well, was the decision on Long-range Identification and Tracking of ships (LRIT).

MSC had been discussing this issue since 2002, and throughout extensive discussions at the plenary and the Working Group of MSC81, it finally adopted new regulations for the LRIT together with associated performance standards and functional requirements.

It establishes a multilateral agreement for sharing LRIT information for security and search and rescue purposes among SOLAS Contracting Governments, in order to meet the maritime security needs and other concerns of such Governments.

Under the agreed requirements,

- ships shall automatically transmit the ship's identity, location and date and time of position;
- data derived through LRIT will be available only to recipients who are entitled to receive such information, and safeguards

concerning the confidentiality of the data have been built into the regulatory provisions;

- SOLAS Contracting Governments shall be entitled to receive information about ships navigating within a distance not exceeding 1000 nautical miles off their coast; and
- the right of flag States to protect information about the ships entitled to fly their flag is maintained, where appropriate, while allowing coastal States access to information about ships navigating off their coasts.

These provisions concerning LRIT were developed so as not to create or affirm any new rights of States over ships beyond those existing in international law, particularly, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), nor to alter or affect the rights, jurisdiction, duties and obligations of States in connection with UNCLOS.

MSC also agreed that the SOLAS regulations on LRIT should start to become effective, with respect to the transmission of LRIT information by ships, as of December 31, 2008.

14th Port State Control Officers Seminar in the Asia Pacific Region June 20-21, 2006



I had an opportunity to attend the 14th PSCO Seminar in the Asia Pacific Region last June 20-21, 2006. The seminar was held in Tokyo, Japan under the auspices of the Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Japan, and the Tokyo MOU Secretariat. It was also sponsored by The Nippon Foundation.

The seminar focused on Maritime Security issues and was divided into two parts. The first part (June 20, 2006) was an open forum for PSC on Maritime Security. Several speakers, among them Mr. Frank Wall, ex-Chairman of MSC Maritime Security Working Group at the IMO and LCDR Malcolm Mclellan of the USCG, talked about maritime security issues from the viewpoint of their own organizations. The open forum was capped by a panel discussion in the afternoon. Participants in this forum were PSCOs from the Tokyo MOU member countries as well as representatives from

other MOUs (Black Sea MOU, Caribbean MOU, GCC MOU and Indian Ocean MOU) and from the private maritime sector in Japan.

The second part (June 21, 2006) was devoted to a seminar for PSC on Maritime Security which was attended by PSCO's from the different MOUs. Speakers, led by Mr. Hiroshi Sano of the Hokuriku Shin'etsu Transport Bureau, shared their knowledge about conducting PSC inspection for Maritime Security, the SOLAS provisions for Maritime Security and the ISPS Code. The seminar was capped by a case study session where participants were divided into three groups and discussed several situations that a PSC officer might face when conducting PSC inspection.

The organizers also scheduled social activities so that the participants could see interesting parts of Tokyo. These activities included a tour around the Roppongi District and Tokyo Bay.

On a lighter note, attending the seminar brought back memories of WMU as if I were back inside the classroom full of "students" (some of the participants were WMU graduates) coming from different countries and discussing maritime related issues. Moreover, the trip also gave me the opportunity to visit the Offices of the Ocean Policy Research Foundation (OPRF) and meet once again the staff. It was indeed a pleasure to renew our acquaintances and update each other on our respective work.

News from Alumni

WMU Sasakawa Fellows and the Port of Colombo

Gopalapillai SRIHARAN
(Sri Lanka, 2003)



It is obvious from the WMU Sasakawa records that among the ten WMU Sasakawa Fellows from Sri Lanka five are working at the Operations and Logistics Division of the Colombo Port in key positions and supporting the growth of the Port business.

Containers were first introduced to the Port of Colombo in December 1973. However, through the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA), a master plan to build a modern container terminal was established in 1980 with the help of the Government of Japan, and the first modern container terminal was opened in 1985. In 1980 throughput was over 40,000 TEU's and the port was ranked 139th among container ports of the world as assessed in the World Container Port Traffic League, but with continuous development Colombo reached the 30th position and handled 2.45 million TEU's in 2005.

At present the Colombo Port gives service to shipping lines and other customers through Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) and the South Asian Gateway Terminal (SAGT). Container throughput is expected to increase further at the end of 2006.

Out of the total throughput nearly 75% are transshipment containers and others are local import and export containers. Other port services include bulk cargo operations, break bulk operations, Container Freight Stations, Bonded Warehouses, etc. Also, the new South Harbor project studies have shown that if the project is implemented the port of Colombo could be able to accommodate the mega vessels which carry more than 8000 TEUs in the future.

Managing and operating the port business is very complex, competitive and challenging. However, these challenges are effectively managed by the WMU Fellows who obtained comprehensive knowledge at WMU, as well as the exposure we received at international ports during our field visits, including Japan.

Mr. Yohei Sasakawa and his organization greatly support Port employees by offering tremendous experience at WMU, especially for Port management studies, which are limited in international universities. I wish to maintain this wonderful relationship with Friends of WMU forever.

Reunion on Board

Wai Lynn Htut
(Myanmar, 2004)



"COSMIC CHALLENGER"



From left, Mr. Rogelio Estrada VILLANUEVA, Jr., Capt. Wai Lynn Htut, Mr. Joeven Libreja FABUL, Mr. Allan Victor T. DELA VEGA

Dear comrades of the class of 2004,

After my graduation from WMU, my mother unit assigned me as Master of the motor vessel "COSMIC CHALLENGER", chartered by the well-known Japanese Company, Eastern Car Liner, Ltd., Tokyo. I started my duties in Feb. 2005 from Yokohama on the ship, which is Ro-Ro / General Cargo, operating from Japanese ports to Southeast Asian ports.

Even though it was just a short time after our graduation, I really missed my comrades and also our sponsor, The Nippon Foundation. While my ship was docked at the Sanwa dockyard in Hiroshima for repairs, I was surprised to come across the Emblem of The Nippon Foundation at both the hotel and dockyard, which made me think even more of



our sponsor and you all. Also, at Kijang, Indonesia, my ship passed through the buoy tender "JADAYAT" which was donated by The Nippon Foundation. When my ship was in Manila, Sasakawa Fellows (Mr. Allan Victor T. DELA VEGA, Mr. Joeven Libreja FABUL (non-Sasakawa Fellow), Mr. Rogelio Estrada VILLANUEVA Jr., all from Philippine Coast Guard) visited me and entertained me with a grand dinner for old time's sake.

We send our gratitude to our benefactor. Now, I am on vacation, enjoying my time with my beloved family and also waiting for a new assignment from Headquarters (Myanmar Five Star Line, Ministry of Transport).

Wishing you best of luck and happiness.

Life in Malmö

The Mid-Summer's Eve Festival

Today, June 23, 2006, about 145 WMU students accompanied by their families enjoyed a trip to Kaseberga and Backåkra to celebrate this year's mid-summer's eve, the longest day of the year.

The excursion departed from Henrik Smith Hostel at 9:30 with three buses on a sunny day. They sang the 'frog song' during the bus ride to the first destination, a song that is not so difficult to sing as it was very familiar in our childhood, a funny song.

The first place we visited was Ales Stenar in Kaseberga on the hill. No one really knows for sure why these stones were erected there. They were set in a ship form, but indeed, it is believed that they were set as a calendar at that time. To see how it works, you can arrange your own trip there.



After about two hours at Ales Stenar, the buses proceeded to Backåkra, a place where Dag Hammerskjöld planned to retire after his service as UN Secretary General.

Here, people did not come to commemorate Dag Hammerskjöld personally, but to gather and dance to celebrate the mid-summer's eve. People danced hand in hand, no distance between them, and sang together. How beautiful togetherness is.

The pictures show the soul of the festival. Thanks Ms. Lundahl for organizing this event, and see you next mid-summer excursion!!



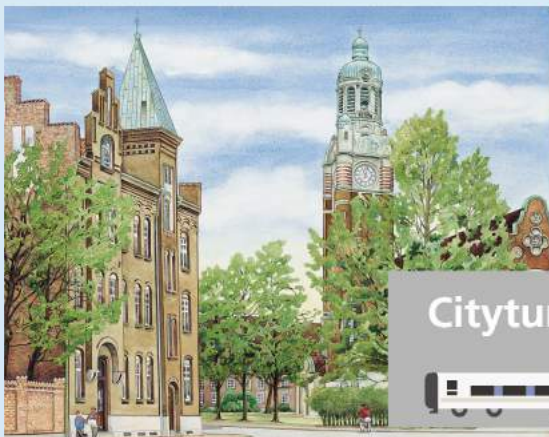
Mugen Suprihatin SARTOTO
(Indonesia, 2007)

Små Grodorna, små grodorna Small frogs, small frogs
Är lustiga att se Are funny to look at
Små Grodorna, små grodorna Small frogs, small frogs
Är lustiga att se Are funny to look at
Ej öron, ej öron No ears, no ears
Ej svansar havar de They don't have any tail
Ej öron, ej öron No ears, no ears
Ej svansar havar de They don't have any tail

Kouack ack-ack, Kouack ack ack
Kouack ack ack ack ack
Kouack ack ack, Kouack ack ack
Kouack ack ack ack ack

* Free translation from Lyndell Lundahl's trip guidance sheet, June 23, 2006.

People dance hand in hand at Backåkra.



The Citytunnel is a railway project that will create a fast and efficient connection track between Malmö Central Station and the Oresund Bridge. In order to increase the capacity for railway traffic which became significant after the construction of the Oresund Bridge, the Citytunnel project started in March 2005. The constructions are planned to be completed in 2011 with an estimated total budget of 9.45 billion Swedish crowns (SEK).

A six-kilometre-long tunnel under central Malmö and eleven kilometres of

Citytunnel – New Transportation in Malmö



YAKABE Fumi
(Japan, 2003)

railway above ground is planned in the Citytunnel project. Malmö Central Station will be added with an underground section. New stations will be built at Triangeln and in Hyllie in the south of Malmö.

Impacting the surroundings is unavoidable in the Citytunnel project, which demands extensive construction. In addition to geologic and geohydrologic research, a number of environmental examinations have been conducted to survey the environment and minimize inconvenience for local people. Such preparations are compulsory under the strict environmental legislation in Sweden, and also voluntary studies are carried out to reduce the impact on the environment.

The Citytunnel Exhibition has opened with a relaxing café near Gustav Adolfs Torg. Admission is free. It seems to succeed in involving people in the project by providing a casual occasion to find out more about the background, scope and implementation of the Citytunnel.

For more information, please visit the website: <http://www.citytunneln.se/>
English version is available by clicking on the flag below.

WMU, OUR BELOVED SCHOOL Initial Melody by Larry Muller Refined Melody, Music & Lyrics by Ambrose Wong Another Story on the WMU School Song

Prof. Kenji Ishida
(Former WMU Associate Professor 1993-96)

Newsletter No. 13 of the Friends of WMU, Japan has an article by Mr. Ambrose C.H. Wong (PSA93) on how the WMU song came into existence.

The newsletter does not indicate how the composer, Mr. Muller and the lyricist, Mr. Wong came to know each other, and I would like to write a supplementary explanation of the encounter.

My arrival at Malmö in my new post in charge of the students of MET(E)93 was January 11th, 1993. At that time students without families were living in Henrik Smith Residence and had meals in the dining hall in the basement. On Friday and Saturday evenings, gatherings were hosted by various circles, home town countries and classes. It was a usual practice that from around nine o'clock, the sound of loud go-go and dance music shook the building until midnight. Cassette tapes were used.



The students were talented musicians and played songs of their own countries. My two children, Mona and Tatsuro also played "Sakura, Sakura" on the keyboard as shown in the picture. Incidentally, Tatsuro is now 180cm tall and is going through On-Board-Training as a Cadet aiming to become a Ship Engineer. He will become a 3rd Engineer this October.

Towards the end of the party, I made a request to Muller and others to compose a song that could be sung at parties hosted by the Asian Pacific Society, just like school songs we have in Japan. Wong wrote in the 13th issue how it was developed.

If my recollection is correct, the song was played on IMO Day, September 23rd, 1993, in the old city hall, sang by students dressed in their national costumes. I remember the participating students practicing often in the room next to the dining hall. I do not know who asked the conductor of the Fire Brigade Band to arrange this piece, but I hope to be able to report on this in the Newsletter in the near future.

Although Wong wrote that it was on WMU's 10th anniversary, the ceremony was held on June 22nd with the music played in light marching style by the Fire Brigade Band and sung by the chorus. The graduation ceremony took place on Sunday, December 5th, as shown in the picture, at Malmö Concert Hall. The students who sang at IMO day came up on stage and the Fire Brigade Band played the WMU song for the first time. I was sitting then in the first row in the hall. When the music began playing, there was a stir the first 20 seconds or so but the audience settled down to listen. In contrast to the cold and grey weather in Malmö in December, the high tempo, Polynesian style music brought much warmth in the room as if bright flowers bloomed all at once in the hall. After the performance there was big applause, as the smiling conductor introduced Muller, the composer and Wong, the lyricist. I have a feeling that if the party hosted by the Asian Pacific Society on June 12th had not been held, the WMU song would never have come into existence.



The inauguration ceremony of 94 classes took place on March 22nd and 7 Japanese scholarship students also attended.

The first welcome party for the new students was held on Saturday, June 12th, under the auspices of the Asian Pacific Society, organized by Zainorin (Malaysia), Escolano (The Philippines), Lee (Malaysia), Muller (Marshall Island), Wong (Malaysia), Yang (Korea), Sutichai (Thailand), and Yu Jian (China).

The students wore their national costumes and each student brought home-cooked food. It took a great deal of time and effort. Usually a radio cassette was used for background music but on this particular night, the music was played by Muller on his keyboard and Wong on his guitar, maracas and tambourine.

A Day Inside the Orphanage



Maria Teresa Daguio-Mamisao
(Philippines, 2006)

For several years, I have been a donor at one of the Orphanages in my country and as a gift on my birthday I decided to give myself a treat by way of working in the orphanage for a day. I coordinated with the Management to allow me to do so and they happily accepted.

Nobody knew about this so I've decided to share my experience inside the orphanage. It was on a Wednesday morning at 7am that I came to the place. At that time, I didn't know how I would feel (serious, curious, excited, among others). I waited for Emily (the lady I coordinated with) to show me where I'd be assigned and they decided to put me in the Nursery Section.

My heart cried out for the children when I saw them sleeping in the cribs alone with nobody watching them except two young ladies. I was introduced to them and the three of us started the day working with the

children. These children were abandoned by their families and left in the orphanage from ages 6 months to 3 years.

We fed the children one by one after which we bathed them and put the kids ages 2 and 3 in the playpen. I played with them for several hours while the young ladies prepared lunch. At lunch time, I helped the ladies to feed the children again and this time put them to bed for their afternoon nap while the rest were playing in the pen. Well, it's hard work playing with those kids because they all wanted our attention, however, it ended well! I stayed in the orphanage and helped the ladies put the children in their bed at 8pm and kissed all of them before I left.

That day was the most wonderful birthday gift I have ever had in my whole life. Nobody knew! But now I can openly say it was worth it!

Get-together - WMU Sasakawa Fellowship, Class of 2006 & 2007

Altaf-Ur Rehman
(Pakistan, 2007)

It was a very pleasant evening when the WMU Sasakawa Fellowship, class of 2006 & 2007 got together on May 31st in honor of Mr. Yohei Sasakawa of The Nippon Foundation, who graced the occasion.

This get-together was also attended by the following dignitaries: Mr. Terashima, Mr. Hara, Professor Nakazawa, Professor Linden.

This was the first formal introduction and welcome gathering of the WMU Sasakawa Fellowship, class of 2006 & 2007. All students introduced themselves to the guests and offered to uphold the mission of The Nippon Foundation and Mr. Yohei Sasakawa.

Mr. Emi then introduced the guests and asked them for a few words of advice for the newcomers.

All guests talked about the mission, aim and dedication of the Foundation and Mr. Sasakawa's personal interest in maritime affairs as well as in humanity.

They also impressed upon the students the hard work and high quality of performance necessary to work more efficiently in their own countries and spread the light of education and



humanity throughout the world.

All students also thanked the Foundation and Mr. Sasakawa for this opportunity and their support.

This wonderful and memorable evening ended with refreshments as well as smiles on the faces of the newcomers. Everyone was looking forward to working hard with zeal.

Editor's Postscript

HELLO, friends of WMU! I am a new member of the editorial board and this is the first edition for me to work on it. Developing this newsletter and reading over the back numbers, I realized the importance and the benefit of the widespread global network of the Sasakawa Fellowship. It is a great opportunity and pleasure for me to have a connection with you through this newsletter.

Since I started my current job this year, I have been engaged in developing regulations on maritime safety and environmental protection, and attending most of the IMO meetings as a Japanese Delegate. At the same time, from now on as an editor of this newsletter, I will be preparing reports on issues of the IMO

as well as searching for hot news for "Friends of WMU". Whether or not you have hot news, please contact me if you see me somewhere in the world, perhaps at IMO.

Regarding our website, "Friends of WMU, Japan" (<http://www.wmu.sof.or.jp/>), we are pleased to announce that the number of hits already exceed 1,000 in July since its establishment in February this year. We are looking forward to having more of you access the site and hearing your updates!

Shin IMAI
Japan Ship Technology Research Association



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