Brief Remarks at Various Locations

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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CENTENNIAL PROCLAMATION LUNCHEON

On the 100th Anniversary
of Japanese Immigration to Hawaii

January 6, 1985
Sheraton-Waikiki Hotel
Honolulu, Hawaii

REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE MICHAEL J. MANSFIELD
UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN

Mr. Kono; Your Excellency, The Foreign Minister of Japan, and Mrs. Abe; Governor and Mrs. Ariyoshi; Your Excellency, the Ambassador of Japan to the United States and Mrs. Okawara; my fellow Americans.

I am delighted to have the honor to participate with you in the celebration of this 100th anniversary of Japan coming to Hawaii.

In 1868, the first year of Meiji, 150 Japanese men came to the Kingdom of Hawaii. They came from the cities of Japan. They were known as "One Year Men."

In 1885, 948 Japanese came to Hawaii, among them 200 ladies and children. They did not find things easy. They had to work, and work hard. Sometimes they worked under difficult "lunas" or foremen. But no matter what the obstacle, they overcame it and they contributed to the making eventually of this great state.
In 1885 as has been stated, the average wage of a Japanese worker in the cane field was $9 a month. In 1984 values, that amounted to about $90.

In 1910, the average monthly wage was about $31, and that in terms of 1984 dollars, amounted to something a little in excess of $300.

In 1910 the percentage of the population in Hawaii was 42 percent. Today, it is about one-quarter of the one million total.

There isn't anything I can add to what Senator Inouye has said to you about your contributions, your ideals, and what you have done to make this state and our country what they are. But I would like to talk about the present briefly--about the relationship between the country from which you came and the relationship of that country to the country which you have adopted and which has adopted you.

I think without question that the most important bilateral relationship in the world today is that between Japan and the United States.
That relationship has not been easy to achieve because discrimination has marked our relations. Unfair legislation in the past has happened on occasion. We had a tragic war which divided us temporarily, but out of it over the last 40 years has come the abolition of discrimination, the development of trust, and a recognition that each of us in his or her own way has to make a contribution not only to our country, but through that, to the rest of the world as well.

You sit here in Hawaii, the centerpiece of the Pacific Basin, and many of you are going to live to see the next century become the "Century of the Pacific." And the center of that development is going to be to a large extent right here in this equidistant state—equidistant between four continents—North and South America, Australia, and Asia.

The development of that Basin in which more than half the world's population lives, which has tremendous natural resources, great potential markets, and on the whole, friendly governments, is going to depend to a large extent upon the durability, the reliability, the relationship between Japan and the United States. And I make this statement without any equivocation. I make it knowing that it is going to come to pass, because the next century, mark my words, will be the "Century of the Pacific."
It is in that Basin where it all is, what it's all about, and where our future lies. It is up to us--all of us--to see that that development takes place on the basis of equality for all, that it helps to bring us closer together, and that we continue to have, in the words of Senator Inouye, "a continuation of the values which have made us what we are today, spiritually and practically."

We are a people who have come to a new world from both directions. My father and mother were immigrants from Ireland, so I am just as much an immigrant as anyone in this room.

You may recall that when Columbus started out on his voyage, he was not looking for the new world, but he was looking for Cathay, Chipango, and the Indies. But what he found was new continents which have given us from all parts of the world new opportunities.

It has not been easy, but it has been worth it. And I congratulate you on the many contributions you have made. We are very, very proud of all our American citizens of Japanese descent. You have earned that pride.

Thank you very much.
January 24, 1985

The Honorable Michael J. Mansfield
United States Ambassador to Japan
U.S. Embassy, Tokyo
10-5, Akasaka, 1-chome
Minato-ku
Tokyo, Japan 107

Dear Ambassador Mansfield:

Our office, the International Services Branch of the State government of Hawaii, serves as the staff agency for the Governor's Coordinating Committee for the 1985 Japanese 100th Anniversary Celebration.

It was a pleasure for us to assist Governor Ariyoshi in planning the Centennial Proclamation Luncheon on January 6, 1985, in Honolulu. Your presence on the program, and your inspiring remarks contributed much to the success of the luncheon.

As you requested, I am enclosing the transcript of your remarks. If you would like to make any corrections to the text, please feel free to do so.

Sincerely,

Kenneth H. S. Kwak
Project Director
and Acting Administrator,
International Services
I am particularly pleased to give my heartiest congratulations this year to Aoi-Kai for their constructive help in a major project of utmost importance to the Mission's Japanese employees.

I speak, of course, of the wage and classification survey which, in large measure, recognized the important responsibilities fulfilled by our Japanese colleagues.

Aoi-Kai played a vital role during this survey for it represented the 420 Japanese employees of the U.S. Diplomatic Missions in Japan. I feel the effectiveness of their work can be measured by the results obtained which, on the whole, were most gratifying.

While the wage and classification project was undoubtedly the event that directly affected the well-being of our Japanese colleagues, I do not want to leave unmentioned the other important accomplishments that our Japanese associates performed to maintain the outstanding diplomatic relations between the United States and Japan. Foremost was the vital support given to the Japan-U.S. trade negotiations. You did a superb job in handling the many high level officials
from Washington, gathering and translating documents and publicizing the U.S. Government's viewpoint to your fellow citizens.

You continued your splendid work in contributing to the efficiency of the American staff. Without your help, many American staff-hours would have to be devoted to necessary but not work-related functions, such as obtaining drivers' licenses, obtaining accommodation exchange, and finding housing.

Aoi-Kai is a most important organization to both the Japanese and the American employees of this Mission for it is the principal bridge between our two different cultures. I salute Aoi-Kai on a magnificent year and look forward to continued cooperation and goodwill that has been a hallmark of this organization.
ADDRESS BY AMBASSADOR MIKE MANSFIELD
AT THE DEDICATION CEREMONY FOR
THE MASAYOSHI OHIRA MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
JUNE 12, 1985

Thank you for your kind invitation to speak today.

They say that the true mark of a great leader is his ability to look beyond the short-term profits and gains, and instead look far into the future, to look to the long-term benefits. I have come here to pay tribute to one such leader and to his dream -- a Pacific Basin community.

The late Prime Minister, Masayoshi Ohira, was a man to whom patriotism, steadfastness and commitment were by the bywords of life. He was a Prime Minister who looked beyond the national boundaries of Japan and concerned himself with the welfare of the world. The coming "Century of the Pacific" -- as I have frequently called it -- will be the actualization of Mr. Ohira's vision. In this Pacific Basin -- where the peoples of North, South and Central America, Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands, and all of East Asia interact; where trade and investment figures increase every year; where cultural and educational exchange have taken root and blossomed -- this is where our joint futures lie. And the development of this Basin during the next 100 years will not only mark a turning point in world history; it will also serve as a monument
to the vision and foresight of a world statesman, my friend and your late leader, Masayoshi Ohira.

Each of us in this room must feel a special responsibility to the future, a responsibility without time limitations, and without the consideration of whether or not we will be here to see the results of our efforts. The peaceful and productive development of the Pacific Basin will depend to a large extent on the durability and reliability of the U.S.-Japan bilateral relationship.

Eight years of service as Ambassador to Japan have solidified my conviction -- indeed my credo -- that the Japanese-American relationship is the most important bilateral relationship in the world, bar none. It was established by remarkable statesmen of Japan and the United States and has been nurtured and carefully tended by dedicated people on both sides of the Pacific ever since. Prime Minister Ohira was one of those people, a great friend of the United States, a true Japanese and world statesman. For my part, I will do everything possible to make the Century of the Pacific a reality — the Ohira dream come true.
REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR MIKE MANSFIELD
ON THE ROLE OF EWC ALUMNI IN THE EMERGING PACIFIC AREA

VIDEO TAPE ROLL-IN FOR INCLUSION
IN EAST-WEST CENTER EANET
JUNE 29, 1985

Thank you very much. It is a pleasure and honor to be among such distinguished company today.

The East-West Center is a remarkable institution with a remarkable history. It was far from fashionable 25 years ago to be concerned about better understanding and intercultural communication in the Pacific region. Most people -- if they thought about East Asia and the Pacific at all -- thought about the region in inadequate steriotypical terms. The unique potential of the Pacific had not been perceived or given voice, let alone tested. Yet a group of visionary pioneers forged ahead and established the East-West Center. I have only the profoundest admiration and respect for their foresight and determined efforts.
And their legacy is abundantly clear in whichever country of this region we may happen to be at the moment. The approximately 4500 Japanese East-West Center participants were drawn from all sectors of their society -- from government and politics, from academe and business, from the media and the arts. Like their East-West Center colleagues from the rest of the Pacific region, the Japanese participants represent some of the best their country has to offer. Their experiences at the East-West Center have made them part of a vast human network, a chain of understanding, cooperation, and peace throughout the region.

Naturally the immediate experience in Hawaii was important for each participant. But in personal relationships, shared experiences transcend immediate time and place boundaries and become the basis for long-term linkages.

Many Americans tend to think about U.S.-Japan relations simply in trade and defense terms. Indeed,
perhaps trade and defense are the flesh and bones of our relationship. But we should not forget for a moment that the heart of our relationship -- indeed the heart of all international relationships -- has always been and will continue to be the vitality and dynamism of that wonderful phenomenon we call the human being.

If we look at it from this perspective, the opportunity offered by the East-West Center takes on even more importance. The opportunity for professionals from various countries to meet informally; to approach a question or problem together; to discuss it and work toward a solution together. Let me repeat: working toward a solution together -- something indispensable in today's world.

There is no doubt in my mind that the next century will be the Century of the Pacific. The peaceful development of that vast basin -- where the peoples of
North, South and Central America, Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands, and all of East Asia interact; where trade and investment figures increase every year; where, thanks largely to the efforts of the East-West Center, cultural and educational exchanges have taken root and blossomed -- this is where our joint future lies.

Yet we must ask ourselves: Will that century be marked by cooperation and steady progress toward equitable development and security for all? World history teaches us that nothing can or should be taken for granted, but it is toward that extraordinarily important goal of peaceful prosperity that the East-West Center and all of us must continue to work.

We have already seen much that gives us reason to be optimistic about the future. Japan has lead with the first comprehensive plan, offered in 1980 during the administration of the late Prime Minister
Masayoshi Ohira, for a Pacific Basin Community. The institutional arrangements for further progress are firmly in place in private sector groups -- such as the Pacific Basin Economic Council and the Pacific Trade and Development Conference.

America welcomes these developments. Despite the fact that many of our cities today have begun to reflect a distinctly Asian sensibility, it took us a long time to really understand that we, too, are a Pacific nation. We continued to look back over our shoulders, back to Europe where many of us had roots. But at the same time we kept moving toward our Pacific Coast, toward what we all -- perhaps intuitively -- realized was the future. And we now look toward Asia and the Pacific. We come with interest and enthusiasm, and in friendship.
For us, for Americans, the East-West Center symbolizes our involvement in and our commitment to the Century of the Pacific. Its alumni will continue to play pivotal roles in their own societies and act as bridges between the nations of the region as we move toward the 21st Century. You have our respect. You have our gratitude. And you have our prayers.
Below are remarks you may wish to make at the reception July 12 at 11 a.m. honoring Shinichiro TAKAZAWA, the chief priest of Meiji Shrine, on the occasion of his being named a choro.

Although you will have to leave the reception in time to get to your Press Club speech by 12 noon, Robin Berrington will remain at the party to represent the Embassy after you leave.
Reverend Takazawa, Mr. Tokugawa, Representative Kujiraoka, Mr. Shikanai, your excellencies, esteemed guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is a very real pleasure for me to be here today to help celebrate the special title that has been bestowed upon Takazawa-san. As I look around this room at the number of distinguished community leaders who have joined us today to pay respects to our friend, I am honored to be invited to say a few words about one of the great gentlemen of contemporary Japan, Shinichiro TAKAZAWA.

Because the Meiji Shrine is well known to foreigners who live in Tokyo as a beautiful and peaceful sanctuary in the center of this large bustling city, many American visitors are urged to schedule a visit to the Shrine and its lovely gardens. Through these visitors, I have come to know Takazawa-san and his excellent staff. During my time in Tokyo alone two Presidents, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan, have visited the Shrine. Their visits were the highlights of their stay in Tokyo. Especially noteworthy was the hospitality Meiji Shrine provided President and Mrs. Reagan. The yabusame or archery on horseback demonstration added an extra cultural dimension to the Reagan's visit to Japan and was an event few of us will ever forget.

And speaking of culture, thanks to Takazawa-san my own understanding of the rich Japanese cultural heritage has been considerably enhanced. Just last week, for example, he graciously came to the Embassy to present to me a beautiful book that featured the outstanding
paintings of Mt. Fuji of the late lamented Ogetsu Yamamoto, the poetry of Emperor Meiji and those same poems brushed in the calligraphy of Takazawa-san himself. Seldom have the painted image and the written word been combined in so elegant an artistic expression. This book will become a treasured part of my library and I know I will return to its beauties again and again for inspiration and relaxation.

1985 is a special year for Takazawa-san. Not only has he been honored with the title of choro, but also he is enjoying his 77th birthday, or kiju. I extend my very best congratulations to him for both of these. As one who celebrated his own kiju a few years back, I can truthfully say, Takazawa-san, my friend, you can count on enjoying many pleasant and rewarding years ahead of you.

Let me quote from one of the poems in Takazawa-san's book: "This morning my heart feels so light that I can see Mt. Fuji clearly." Takazawa-san, my heart feels light knowing that I can rely on your good advice, your wise counsel and your warm friendship in the years ahead. Together we will have many more mornings to see Mt. Fuji clearly.