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The following index lists the major topics in the audio recording and the approximate point when they occur in the recording according to an analog cassette recorder's tape counter. This tape counter index (TCI) has not been edited for accuracy by Archives and Special Collections.

Mansfield Oral History Collection
Ambassador's Responses to Questions Posed at Foreign
Correspondent's Club 5/22/80
OH # 22-272a

[SIDE A]

- 000-090 The announcer introduces MJM. The person mentions that MJM first visited Japan in 1922. The guy also mentions MJM's 34 years in Congress. He mentions that MJM is here with his daughter and son-in-law.
- 091-150 MJM comments that that the last three years that he has been here he has learned a lot. He's no longer the new boy on the block. MJM continues his speech stating that he wants to talk about the state of US-Japanese relations and comment on trends for US-Japanese relations in the future.
- 151-200 MJM says that the US and Japan are approaching a new stage in their relationship. MJM comments that when Prime Minister Fukuda visited Washington in 1977 they talked about color TVs, nuclear energy, and withdrawals of troops from Korea. MJM comments that in 1978 people moved from these 1977 issues to more severe issues like Japan's large current account surplus and the large bilateral trade imbalance.
- 201-250 MJM comments that because these serious issues weren't discussed in Prime Minister Ohira's visit with the President we have cleared up many of the problems. MJM says that although many of our problems have been cleared up there will always be more problems in an economic relationship as big as ours.
- 251-300 MJM says that although the economic relations between the US and Japan have gotten the biggest share of the news, there has been progress made in other areas also. MJM cites the enhancement of the mutual security plans between the US and Japan.
- 301-350 MJM says that each countries position on the mutual security treaty can now be addressed by the public of each country. MJM says that the US position about what it wants Japan to do is often misinterpreted. MJM comments on the new weapons systems that the Japanese are buying from the US. MJM says that the US is very happy with the amount of monetary support that the Japanese are giving to US personnel in Japan. MJM comments that the developments in the Japanese self defense force also aid in the defense of the US.
- 351-400 MJM comments that the US would like to see modernization in some of the Japanese defense forces but comments that any decision to make changes in Japan's defense force must be the decision of Japan and

Japan only. MJM comments that Japan's political and diplomatic reach in the world has not expanded as much as its economic interests. However, in the last couple of years this has begun to change. In southwest Asia Japanese relations with the AUSIAN countries no longer are just economic but they are giving aid to some of the these countries.

- 401-450 MJM comments that the Japanese have taken a better position in relations with Western Europe. This is because of their importance in the economic summits. MJM says that Japan's increasing political involvement around the world will strengthen the already great bilateral relationship between the two countries. It is necessary that the US and Japan in the future develop world policies that are very similar in nature.
- 451-500 MJM comments that the US-Japanese relationship will increase and this will provide greater benefits for the world. MJM talks about the Japanese involvement and support to the US concerning the Iran hostage crisis.
- 501-550 MJM says that Japan has worked with the US and other allies to impose penalties on the Soviet Union for its involvement in Afghanistan. MJM commends the actions of Japan for its involvement in world situations and the support that it has given the US.
- 551-600 MJM says that there is now a state of cooperation between the US and Japan that will be beneficial for both countries. MJM talks about the events in Iran and how they threaten the values of the international community as a whole.
- 601-650 MJM comments that Japan is a partner to be reckoned with on the international scene. MJM says that the US and Japan are friends and allies that are committed to supporting each other in good times and bad.
- 651-700 MJM talks about the fact that Japan has often exaggerated their weaknesses and minimized their strengths. MJM comments that Japan is not as awesome an economic machine as some international competitors like to think, however.
- 701-750 MJM states that Japan takes full advantage of the international system dealing with US allies. MJM says that Japan's weaknesses are no less than the other members of the US ally group of countries. Japan is no more powerful than these countries either. MJM comments that many changes on, similar to those in Japan, have taken place in the US.
- 751-800 MJM says that no matter how you look at the situation, Japan and the US are in the same boat. MJM says that

he is convinced, after recently visiting home, that Japan is seen in a different light. MJM comments that a recent public opinion poll in the US ranked Japan second behind Canada in importance to US international economic relations.

801-850 MJM comments that although the problems in the world have increased for the US and Japan, the US-Japanese relationship has grown stronger.

851-900 MJM comments that the US in the future will have to contend with new problems and recontending with old problems. In the future the US and Japan will continue to work together and make progress with any difficulties that both countries may encounter.

901-950 MJM stresses the point that the US and Japan must continue to rid problems that occur between the two countries. At the same time we must realize that we will always have problems between us but we can minimize the differences. We must also be prepared to differ on some views about the world. MJM ends his speech.

[END OF SIDE A]

[SIDE B]

000-045 The announcer says that they will now take questions and he explains how they are going to do it. John Roberts of Associated Press comments that a great deal of trouble is brewing in Korea and he wonders what is being done to take care of this trouble. MJM says that Korea is of great importance of the US and Japan but it also happens to be outside of his portfolio. MJM says that the US Ambassador to Korea is one of the best in the world and he is sure that he will take care of any difficulties.

046-085 A reporter from NBC comments that the Japanese have supported the US on issues in Iran but he notes that today a decision will be made whether to allow Japanese athletes to participate as individuals in the Olympics. He asks if this gesture will be only superficial on the part of the Japanese to supporting the US Olympic boycott. MJM comments that the final decision is left up to the countries Olympic committee. MJM says that he is against the Olympics anyway because they have become terrorist targets and political arenas.

086-150 A reporter from West Germany comments that more people in the US have stated that the US would go to the defense of the French and Great Britain before they would defend Japan. With this in mind, the reporter asks MJM what other evidence he has to support the

allegation that Japan is the most important bilateral relationship partner to the US. MJM states that the figure the reporter used is correct but he says that the US has paid too much attention to the Atlantic and Western Europe. MJM comments that most of the people feel the way they do because that is where many Americans came from. MJM comments that this is the most important strategic area in the world with the PRC, the US, the USSR and Japan all coming together in this area.

151-215 MJM comments that the relationship to Europe has been much longer for the US than that with Japan so this also has to be taken into account. A reporter from Asian Business asks MJM what would happen if the Japanese government were to change which party was in control after the next election. How would this affect some of the policies toward the US if a new party that didn't have the same views as the old took over. MJM comments that you can never tell what is going to happen in politics and he doesn't want to get involved in Japanese politics anyway. MJM says that no matter what happens, the US-Japanese relationship will become stronger in the years ahead.

216-255 Another reporter comments that MJM said the US needs to stop reacting in the Iranian situation and start acting. He wants MJM to comment on what actions the US should take. MJM says that the action that advocates is patience.

256-270 Background noise.

271-310 Another reporter comments that Reuben Askew was disappointed about the lack of progress in the negotiations about the procurement of MTT. The reporter asks where the negotiations stand. MJM is optimistic. The agreement has until December to run so it is hoped that a new agreement can be achieved before then. MJM says that Governor Askew made a lot of progress while he was here in Tokyo.

311-380 A reporter asks MJM whether he sees the relationship between the US and Japan in military equipment to progress well or will there be disagreement to the recent Japanese objection to the proposal that Japan build two aircraft carriers. MJM says that the US can't take the opinion of one citizen, in this case George Ball. MJM believes that the Japanese shouldn't get too involved because as it is right now the US can't man its own carriers adequately. MJM says that the Japanese are doing well because they had to get around Article 9 of the constitution. MJM says that he would like the Japanese to continue to modernize their anti-submarine defenses and their air defense systems.

- 381-400 MJM says that the Japanese have been increasing their defense forces at the right speed, about 8% of the past decade, and they should keep on doing this. The US in the same decade decreased defense expenditures by 2%.
- 401-430 The reporter asks what the outcome might be on the US Presidential elections. MJM says that Reagan and Carter will get the nominations and John Anderson will be a strong independent candidate. Anderson is likely to draw votes away from the Democrats.
- 431-500 A reporter asks how much of a gap there is on the question of defense. MJM says that there really isn't any gap. The Japanese have to make their own determinations since they are a sovereign nation. The reporter asks what the chances are of the US imposing restrictions on Japanese imports into the US. MJM says that import restrictions will not be recommended by any members of the administration or key members of Congress. If restrictions were imposed then it could create a highly inflationary situation that would not solve the problem of unemployment.
- 501-550 MJM comments that he proposed to the Japanese auto manufacturers that they use American auto parts. The Japanese auto makers wrote back saying that the American auto manufacturers weren't set up to help them. MJM comments on the Japanese auto plants that are being built in the US. In the last year, however, Japanese companies have started using more American auto parts in their cars.
- 551-580 MJM returns to the question of the Japanese defense expenditures. He says that if the Japanese calculates the defense budget the same way the US and NATO does then they would be spending 1.1-1.2%.
- 581-650 A reporter asks whether it is good that the US has Japanese auto manufacturers making cars in the US when they can be made in Japan cheaper. MJM says that it is a good idea. MJM comments that Volkswagon came into the US and the quality of their cars are better than the ones that are made in Germany. Because of the success of the first plant Volkswagon is going to build a second plant. MJM comments that the quality and service that the Japanese companies provide is so good that they could be successful anywhere.
- 651-740 A reporter asks MJM how long the US can support South Korea when it lacks solid internal support. MJM says as long as necessary. Another reporter notes that import duties on Japanese trucks were to be set at 25% but the President is likely to lower the duties. The reporter wants to know how low the duties will be and

how much effect this question has on the Japanese building auto factories in the US. MJM says that there is no connection between the US trying to get Japanese auto companies into the US and the proposed duties on trucks. MJM says that they haven't received anything in the way of an official dispatch so he doesn't know how low the duties will go.

741-815 The reporter asks MJM whether he has seen a movie about the new industrialized Japanese boy as portrayed in the new Japanese image. MJM says, no. A reporter asks if the people in Washington know what is going on with respect to what MJM has said on the adequate development of Japanese defenses. MJM says that he has told the people in Washington many times and if they don't know what's going on by now then it's their own fault.

816-910 A reporter comments that some of the Americans and officials that he has talked to have said that the US doesn't need to keep the US ground forces in Korea. He wants to know whether MJM feels that US ground forces should be kept in Korea. MJM says that he approved of the President's decision not to withdraw the 2nd Division from South Korea. MJM says that postponement will probably remain for a long time to come. MJM says that he would like to see the Koreans upgrade their equipment and defend themselves. He also hopes that something substantial will develop in the talks that are going on between North and South Korea.

911-950 A reporter comment that he thinks the only trick working for the Japanese auto manufacturers was that their cars were getting good gas mileage. The reporter doesn't finish his question.

[END OF TAPE]