

Maureen and Mike

# Mansfield Library

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

## **Archives and Special Collections**

Mansfield Library, University of Montana

Missoula MT 59812-9936

Email: [library.archives@umontana.edu](mailto:library.archives@umontana.edu)

Telephone: (406) 243-2053

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 with Yomiuri Team 2/28/84  
OH #22-448b

[SIDE A]

- 000-050 MJM gets them some coffee before they sit down to talk. They give a few general comments before beginning the interview.
- 051-100 There is intermittent speaking of Japanese and translation. The Japanese team explains about their upcoming project. The project is focused at reaching the roots of the problems between Japan and the US.
- 101-150 They introduce the members of the Japanese team and explain that the team is leaving for the US in a couple of days to examine different parts of the US for three or four months. They explain that they are going to talk to as many Americans as possible to get views on bilateral trade issues. They state the different types of areas they will be visiting in the US. They ask MJM to give his advice and ideas about where to visit etc..
- 151-200 MJM says that he will give them every cooperation he can. He suggests that they visit governor Schwinden. He makes another suggestion for a person to visit in the State Department. They talk about the possibility of talking with Doug Fraser.
- 201-250 One of the reporters also wants to live with an American farming family for a week or two to learn about the American way of life and what such Americans think about Japan. MJM makes a few suggestions about staying with a farming family in Montana.
- 251-300 The team leader talks a little more about what they hope to accomplish is the next year. The also want to do a story on how the US policy toward Japan is being formulated. They ask MJM whether he can give them any other ideas about what areas they should be taking a look at.
- 301-350 MJM tells them that they are doing the right thing about looking into the auto industry and the beef problem. MJM comments that they might want to consider doing something in the high tech field. They could do such a project in California or Boston.
- 351-400 MJM says that they could consider doing something in the southeastern part of the US where there is the best acceptance for Japanese investments. MJM talks about the big Nissan plant in Tennessee that they could visit and see how US workers are dealing with Japanese working procedures.

- 401-450 The one member of the group doesn't know whether he should be concerned about going to Detroit or not. He heard that there is a lot of anti-Japanese feelings in Detroit. MJM says that he has a reason to be a little concerned but the strong feelings against Japan have probably subsided to some extent because the US auto industry is now making a large profit. MJM says that they could visit the mayor of Detroit.
- 451-500 MJM makes a comment that the entire auto industry is not in Detroit and they should keep that in mind. MJM notes that GM is going to recall about 7,500 of its workers so the climate in the US should be better in the way of anti-Japanese sentiment.
- 501-550 They talk a little more about Doug Fraser and his new position since he is no longer the head of the UAW. They feel that the farmers in the US are more understanding of the Japanese position. MJM says that the US farmers ought to be understanding because they sell more products to Japan than they do to any other country in the world. MJM notes that the beef problem is the only real problem that there is in agriculture at the present time. Even the beef question is more political than anything else because the Japanese bought 63% of all of the beef that the US shipped overseas last year.
- 551-600 MJM says that the beef question is important even if it is more political than economic because the Congress could pass local content legislation in the near future. MJM notes that this is an election year and the legislators could very well pass protectionist legislation as the pressure mounts.
- 601-700 MJM notes that the orange and beef problems really need to be solved because they could lead to protectionist legislation which will not help either country. They talk about unitary taxes. MJM doesn't like the idea but states, and not the Federal government, are proposing these unitary taxes to make up for losses that the Federal government has cut from state allocations. MJM again notes that this is an election year and pressures mount to give the people whatever they are asking for at the time.
- 701-800 One of the group asks MJM what type of farm they should be looking to stay at. MJM says that they could find a cattle ranch and possibly a cattle ranch that is also a wheat ranch. MJM comments that the reason he mentioned wheat was because Japan has been buying 25% of Montana's wheat crop. MJM talks about cowboys and the fact that there aren't many now because many of the ranches are becoming mechanized.

801-950 MJM talks about Montana and the fact that it is 4,000 square miles bigger than Japan but has only 787,000 people whereas Japan has 120 million people. MJM talks about all of the natural resources that Montana has. They talk about cowboys again. MJM says that they should talk to Governor Schwinden because he has a wheat ranch and could put them in touch with a cowboy type ranch. MJM notes that the cowboy is often over publicized.

[END OF SIDE A]

[SIDE B]

000-120 MJM talks about the Charlie Russell paintings that he has reprints of. MJM talks about Russell as being a cowboy artist. The Japanese group talks about a novelist from Japan who plans on making an extensive tour of the US. One of the group also wants to live near where they grow rice. MJM tells them that they will probably have to go to California, Arkansas, and Louisiana to see rice growing. MJM comments that the US does sell a lot of rice to Asian nations but their is no reason for the US to sell rice to Japan since it has a surplus of rice at the present time.

121-222 One of the Japanese group talks about American studies of Japan. He feels that the emphasis has changed in recent years on how the US has proceeded with studying the Japanese. He notes that a lot of US students now want to learn how to sell products to Japan and many studies have focused around this. MJM talks about several authors in the US who the group can talk to to get a feeling of how the US studies the Japanese and how they feel about the Japanese. The Japanese group thanks MJM for his time. MJM shows them out.

[END OF TAPE]