

program can thus be said to play a part in widening international contacts.

Candidates are recommended for the course by the prefecture's representatives overseas, the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, Kanagawa Kenjinkai (associations of Kanagawan

emigrants), international academic and research organizations, etc.; selection is based on such factors as the candidates' sphere of influence in their home country, and whether their occupations are suited for training in Kanagawa Prefecture.

Two Perspectives

The following is the second of the two-series essay by Mr. Toku Morita, who has spent one year in the state of Maryland, U.S.A., as the first exchange

staff from Kanagawa Prefectural Government. He writes what he felt living in Maryland, away from Japan.

Hiroshima and Pearl Harbor

Every year, with the coming of summer, the Japanese press carries features on "Hiroshima" and "Nagasaki", while in the U.S. the Christmas season brings articles about "Pearl Harbor". It is undeniably important to keep the memories fresh like this every year, for these events marked the beginning and the end of a war, and they must never be repeated. Yet while living in America I've noticed how few articles deal with Hiroshima, and when I look out for mentions of the attack on Pearl Harbor in the Japanese press I am struck by their absence, also. I get the feeling that, after forty years, the treatment of these subjects by the two countries' newspapers has become fixed; each side dwells on its cruel suffering at

the other's hands, and neither learns of the sentiments of people in the other country.

I don't mean to quarrel with Japan's reporting of Hiroshima, or America's reporting of Pearl Harbor. Nor do I have a particular rationale for coupling these two events here. My point is that the facts of Pearl Harbor must be told more often in Japan, and those of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the U.S. Viewing the situation from something of a distance, I have the impression that the forty-year-old dividing lines between "us" and "them" still persist in the minds of both Japanese and Americans, and that both are determined never to forget those atrocities committed by the "enemy".

Fortunately, Japan-U.S. relations today are good and we are able to contemplate each other calmly. Surely the time has long since passed when we felt the weight of our nationalities as a painful problem between us. This doesn't mean that we are no longer taking sides, whether as enemies or allies. These days, though, many Japanese live and work in the U.S. and vice versa, and a number have become permanent residents and even nationals of the other country. Individuals are moving and acting with a new dynamism, and this is gradually weakening the relevance of nationality.

In downtown Baltimore, I came across a large stone wall engraved with the word "Holocaust". It seemed an unlikely place to find such a memorial. But my friend's explanation opened my eyes: "It's here to remind people over the years that a shameful crime against humanity took place on this earth".

Don't misunderstand me: I don't wish to criticize the treatment of "Hiroshima" and "Nagasaki" in Japan or of "Pearl Harbor" in the U.S. We should continue to write about these, but also about what was done to the other country. For these two are "shameful crimes against humanity".



The students received certificates of completion and commemorative gifts from Governor Nagasu.



A joint farewell party was held, attended by about seventy people.