



Mr. Sasakawa talks about the Northern Sea Route

The following is an excerpt from a speech delivered by Mr. Yohei Sasakawa at an international forum on Resource Development and Environmental Protection in the Northern Seas. The forum was held at the Hotel Kaiyo in Tokyo, on November 6, 2003. This selection should give readers a glimpse of the wide-ranging contributions that the Chairman of "Friends" is making in the international maritime field.

INSROP (International Northern Sea Route Program) has its origins in a 1992 meeting I held with the Norwegian ambassador to Japan. The ambassador brought me a proposal for a joint research project into the viability of a commercial sea route that would pass through the Arctic Ocean. When I thought of the fact that the sea is becoming less and less a part of humankind's dreams and hopes, I decided that this was a project worth taking on.

Thus, I got involved as chairman of the INSROP Steering Committee of Sponsors. The international project began in 1993 and ran for six years: a cooperative effort between the Fridtjof Nansen Institute of Norway, Russia's Central Marine Research and Design Institute, and the Ship & Ocean Foundation. We studied the potential of a

northern sea route from every possible angle, including an experimental voyage to test our theories. Finally, in Oslo in 1999, the results were presented before a large audience of experts. Our conclusion was that such a route was definitely possible. (This project report, entitled *The Northern Sea Route - The Shortest Sea Route Linking East Asia and Europe* is available at the WMU library.)

I have strong expectations for this second phase of INSROP, which will study two things: the development of natural resources in the areas bordering the Arctic Ocean and Sea of Okhotsk, and the improvement of the lives of people living in such harsh arctic regions.



A message from the Chairman

"My Dear Sasakawa Fellows:

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the large number of Christmas cards and letters that you students and graduates have written to me. In 2003 I spent a total of 125 days traveling abroad, working on such projects as Friends of WMU. Your letters have continually buoyed my spirits.

Though my busy schedule does not permit me the time to respond to each of you individually, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you from my heart.

Yohei Sasakawa
Chair, Friends of WMU

Editor's Postscript

This is the 6th issue of the newsletter and, fortunately, we had no difficulty in finding main articles. It might be owing to the effort of the SOF staff, but I believe that it shows that the network of Sasakawa Fellows is growing and their activities have expanded.

Many Sasakawa Fellows from Southeast Asian countries gathered in Singapore to attend the Expert Meeting on Marine Safety and Marine Environment Protection in Southeast Asia, which will strengthen the cooperation among Sasakawa Fellows of those countries. Since it was the first attempt in the region, SOF organized the meeting, but I hope Sasakawa Fellows will make a plan,

possibly with the support of SOF, to operate such activities in the near future.

In early December, I visited Malmö in order to attend two meetings, one an IMO stability correspondence group meeting, and the other ISO/TC8/SC11 security working group meeting. It was my first trip to Malmö for me and I was impressed by the beautiful sights in the city. As everybody at WMU knows, it was the winter season and daytime was very brief. I hope to go there again in summer.

Ko Koiso
Chief Researcher, The Shipbuilding Research Association of Japan

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NEWSLETTER Friends of WMU JAPAN

The world is a family, and all humankind are brothers and sisters.

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Sasakawa Fellows Met in Singapore

Located within sight of the famous Marlin statue, Marina Mandarin Hotel in the Marina district of Singapore was the venue of "The Expert Meeting on Maritime Safety and Marine Environment Protection in Southeast Asia" - the first of its kind that invited WMU Sasakawa Fellows in neighboring countries to exchange expert views and information with each other on various maritime issues.

The meeting that took place on November 19-20, 2003 was organized and sponsored by the Shipbuilding Division of the JETRO Singapore Center, under financial support from SOF. Two representative Fellows each from four countries managed to squeeze time out of their busy routines to participate in the meeting.

Vietnam
Msc. Vu The Quang, Vietnam National Maritime Bureau
Mr. Nguyen Hai Nam, Hochiminh City Port Authority

Indonesia
Mr. Rusman Hoesein, Indonesia Maritime Institute
Mr. Roy Kasiono, Directorate General Sea Communications

The Philippines
Ms. Sonia B. Malaluan, Maritime Industry Authority
Mr. Joseph B. Badajos, Philippine Coast Guard

Thailand
Ms. Wanna Waiwingrob, Ministry of Transport
Mr. Narinsak Sattaprasit, Ministry of Transport



Sasakawa Fellows at the Expert Meeting held in Singapore, November 19-20, 2003

The first day - November 19, 2003 ture and Transport (MLIT).

Opening Session
The day's meeting was attended by Mr. H. Ishiwata and Mr. I. Teranishi, President and Vice-President, respectively, of The Cooperative Associations of Japanese Shipbuilders.

Mr. M. Uesono, Director of Shipbuilding Department of JETRO Singapore Center described the scope and purpose of the meeting. The meeting had two agendas:

- 1) Current regulations on ships engaged in domestic transportation in the participant countries
- 2) Promotion of information exchange on maritime safety and marine environment protection

Mr. Eisuke Kudo, Managing Director of SOF, made introductory remarks, followed by the keynote address of Mr. Ikuo Ishida, Director of Safety and Standards Division, Maritime Bureau, Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastruc-

Presentation of Country Reports
Concerning the first agenda, the participants gave a presentation of country reports, taking turns as chairperson.

Indonesia
Maritime safety (including marine pollution prevention and combating / response) is carried out by the Directorate General of Sea Communications.

As a flag state and port state, Indonesia has its own regulations for non-conventional ships in Indonesian waters, oriented to international standards.

Regarding the ISPS code, Indonesia has already issued Minister of Communication decree No. 33/2003 for its implementation, and it will be executed through the national maritime safety committee.