



KYUSHU-OKINAWA SUMMIT 2000

Reference Materials

Social Event: Welcome Reception

OUTLINE

Name of Event: Social Event of the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit 2000
"Welcome Reception for Summit Leaders"

Hosting Organization: Okinawa G8 Summit Host Preparation Council

Date: July 22, 2000 (Saturday)

Time: 18:45 - 20:15

Venue: Hotel Nikko Naha Grand Castle, "Shuri Hall"
Address: 1-132-1 Shuri Yamagawa-cho, Naha, Okinawa

Participants: Summit leaders
Invited guests from the public (300 people)

Welcome Reception

Turning the Eyes of the World on Okinawa, Sending the Spirit of Okinawa to the World

The Okinawa G8 Summit Host Preparation Council will host a welcome reception for the Summit leaders visiting Okinawa for the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit Meeting.

From the days of old, Okinawa has been known to the world as the "land of courtesy and cordiality."

The people of Okinawa will warmly welcome the Summit leaders in this reception, which features Okinawa's unique culture and regal traditional performing arts that were developed in the age of the Ryukyu Kingdom through trade and interaction with various Asian cultures. The Summit theme song, "NEVER END," which reflects contemporary Okinawa will also be performed.

RECEPTION PROGRAM

1. Welcome

Traditional Okinawan dress

The Summit leaders will be welcomed by two high school students dressed in the traditional attire of the Ryukyu Kingdom of old. The clothing is made of *bingata* fabric whose bright color reminds of Okinawa.

Welcomers: Yukino Matsuda and Takashi Toma, students of the Okinawa Prefectural Urasoe High School

Traditional Okinawan music

The reception features traditional Okinawan music performed with typical Okinawan instruments: the *sanshin* (three-stringed plucked lute), *koto* (13-string zither), *fue* (Japanese-style flute), *taiko* (Japanese-style drums), and *kokyū* (three-stringed bowed lute). Ryukyuan music, with its unique melodies and vocalization techniques, covers a broad spectrum of expressions ranging from the pensive and melancholic to the up-tempo rhythms of celebration. Five pieces will be played, including "*Kajade Fu-Bushi*," a celebration song from the main island of Okinawa and the Yaeyama Islands.

Performers:

Yaeyama Association of Traditional Folk Music
Okinawa Prefectural Association for the Preservation of the Nomura School of Traditional Music
Association for the Preservation of Traditional Okinawan Music for the Koto

2. Signing of Guest Book

Signing of the guest book by Summit leaders

3. Presentation of Cultural Works and Bouquets

To commemorate the Okinawa Summit, the "Students' Cultural Exhibition" was held for students at the elementary, junior high, and high schools in Okinawa.

Special classes were organized in the schools for the children to learn about the significance of the Summit and about the participating countries. The students also participated in the "G8 Cultural Festa," a Summit pre-event. The children then expressed their feelings and impressions in drawings, sculptures, and essays. Recipients of the "Summit Award for Outstanding Works of Art" will present the Summit leaders with their works of art. Recipients of the "Summit Award for Outstanding Essays" will present the Summit leaders with bouquets of flowers.

Recipients of the Summit Awards in the "Students' Cultural Exhibition"

Summit Awards for Outstanding Works of Art

• Shoji Nishihira, 7th grade, Awase Junior High School for the Handicapped

Present to Japanese Prime Minister

• Tomoaki Kudaka, 12th grade, Konan High School

Present to EU Commissioner

• Soki Miyagi, 5th grade, Itoman Elementary School

Present to Italian Prime Minister

• Hiromi Machida, 11th grade, Koza High School

Present to German Chancellor

• Mai Ikehara, 4th grade, Higashi Elementary School

Present to British Prime Minister

• Yu Yonemori, 8th grade, Kamihara Junior High School

Present to Canadian Prime Minister

• Yukino Sunagawa, 11th grade, Urasoe High School

Present to Russian President

• Momoko Nakijin, 12th grade, Shuri High School

Present to French President

• Fumihito Ikeda, 9th grade, Taira Junior High School

Present to U.S. President

4. Welcoming Address

Welcoming address on behalf of the organizers

Speaker: Keiichi Inamine, Governor of Okinawa Prefecture and Chairman of the Okinawa G8 Summit Host Preparation Council

RECEPTION PROGRAM

5. Toast

Toast for the success of the Summit Meeting joined by Summit leaders

Toastmaster: Kokichi Iramina, Chairman of the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly
and Vice-Chairman of the Okinawa G8 Summit Host Preparation
Council

< Drink for the Toast >

The toast will be made with *awamori*, the traditional liquor of Okinawa produced using distillation techniques which traveled over long distances in space and time to be introduced into these islands.

-- *Awamori*: The traditional liquor of Okinawa --

Awamori is a distilled liquor, like whiskey or brandy. It is said that the making of distilled drinks first began in 3000 B.C. in what is now Iraq. Historians tell us that this technology arrived in China in the 13th century and in Ryukyu in the 15th century. Traveling west, the first distilleries appeared in Ireland in the 12th century and in France in the 16th century, and traveling north, they sprouted up in Russia.

6. Welcoming Performance

"Tradition and the Future," a combination of music and Okinawa's
traditional performing arts

The welcoming performance is produced by Mr. Tetsuya Komuro.

Producer: Tetsuya Komuro

Born in 1958 in Tokyo. Debuted in 1984 as a member of the music band, TM Network. In 1990, in addition to the activities of his own band, Mr. Komuro launched a highly successful career as a music producer and has produced a number of million-selling CDs featuring young artists. He was named UN Goodwill Ambassador in 1996 in recognition of his activities in anti-drug campaigns. In recent years, Mr. Komuro has been collaborating extensively with foreign artists, especially Asian musicians, and also others including French and American musicians.

< Traditional Okinawan Dance Performances >

~ Kashikaki ~

One of the classic "women's dances," *Kashikaki* is a well-loved program known for its gentleness and beauty. *Kashikaki* depicts the process of spinning, weaving, and sewing clothes, an activity performed in the past by women of all social ranks. The dance provides a beautiful portrayal of women's emotions of longing for loved ones as they engage in their work.

~ Nuchibana ~

The creation of this dance dates back about a century to the Meiji Era. The dancers are decked in garlands of red and white flowers expressive of the joyous spirit of young women in love. With its visual and musical charms, this is a colorful and festive dance.

Dancers: Association for the Preservation of Traditional Okinawan Dances

Musical Accompaniment: Association for the Preservation of the Afuso School of
Traditional Okinawan Music

< Theme Song of the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit >

"NEVER END"

Mr. Komuro produced "NEVER END," the theme song of the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit. The theme song will be featured in this performance.

Performing artist: Namie Amuro

Born in 1977 in Okinawa. Debuted in 1992 as a member of the music group, Super Monkeys, and later turned to solo activities with Mr. Komuro as producer. Won the Japan Record Award in 1996 and 1997, and was awarded the Japan Gold Disk Award in 1997. Ms. Amuro is a leading Japanese female singer with a total of more than 25 million CDs sold.

Co-performers: Sadao China(sanshin) and Keiko Higa(taiko)

From Hong Kong: Cerina and Zoie

From the U.S.: Nadia Turner, Daniella Guzman, Iris Duran, Jocelyn Duran,
and Denise Duran

Urasoe City Boys and Girls Choir



THEME SONG OF THE KYUSHU-OKINAWA SUMMIT

The theme song of the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit originated in an idea that the late Prime Minister Obuchi conveyed to the noted music producer, Tetsuya Komuro, in the following words: "I want you to write a song that will be loved by many people, a song that gives us a vision of harmony and interaction in the world in the 21st century." Having accepted this challenge, Mr. Komuro made frequent visits to Okinawa to experience the Ryukyuan folk music and traditional performing arts, and to interact with local musicians. The theme song, "NEVER END," was born out of these experiences. The title conveys the precious value of love, warmth, and consideration.

The orchestration includes the *sanshin*, the traditional three-stringed plucked lute of Okinawa. Mr. Sadao China, a noted musician residing in Okinawa, participated in the CD recording. The theme song is featured in the welcome reception and will be played by Mr. Komuro, Mr. China, and others and sung by Ms. Namie Amuro, an Okinawa-born singer, accompanied by local elementary school children and special guests from overseas. A portion of the proceeds from the CD sales will be contributed to UNICEF Japan.

"NEVER END"

Written and Composed by Tetsuya Komuro

[1]

A distant future
A distant land
A distant thought
A distant memory

You and I, brought together today
Bound by a distant pledge of love.
Let us talk of all that has passed.
Let us talk of all that lies ahead.

Never end
Never end
Our future together shall never end.
Our tomorrow shall be a dream of fantasy.
For, everyone dreams
For, everyone finds strength in warmth
That no words can suffice to tell.

[2]

It was always a miracle
What I always imagined.
Finally, I see it before my eyes
The most precious of all things.

We have to live on
Even through the days of tears.
We must grow strong even if it's hard.
For, nothing can stay the march of time.
Hold back the urge to run
And keep walking steadily.

Never end
Never end
Our future together shall never end.
Our tomorrow will find strength in warmth
That no words can suffice to tell.
The breeze carries memories
Which shall never be forgotten.

[3]

Never end
Never end
Our future together shall never end.
Our tomorrow shall be a dream of fantasy.
For, everyone dreams
For, everyone finds strength in warmth
That no words can suffice to tell.

Never end
Never end
Our future together shall never end.
Never end
Never end
Our tomorrow shall never end, never end.

7. Farewell

Demonstration of Okinawan karate

~ Heiku (The Black Tiger) ~

The Ryuei style of karate has its roots in Chinese martial arts. This form features bold and aggressive actions reminiscent of a powerful black tiger.

~ Tensho ~

This form is aimed at disciplining one's mind, breath, and body by harmonizing the rigid and the flexible. This is to be achieved by concentrating one's energy in the pit of the stomach and through proper posture and breathing. This form is used in practicing defensive and offensive techniques.

~ A-nan ~

This form comes from the Ryuei style of karate and features a complete integration of defensive and offensive moves which are linked together and "spring forth as from a fountain." This form features attacks using the palm and a special breathing technique.

~ Passai ~

This style originates in Sokon Matsumura and is also known as the "Matsumura *passai*." Matsumura was a master of Shuri karate in the early modern period and trained many noted martial artists. *Passai* is one of the best-known forms and includes a broad range of moves, including *komata sukui* and *saguri-te*. This is a representative form of the Okinawa Shorin School.

~ Sanchin ~

This is one of the most basic forms of the Uechi style of karate. It requires a high level of training and focuses on the basic stance and the development of sharp perception and physical resilience. *Sanchin* is the starting point of the Uechi style.

Martial Artists: The Naha School, Shuri School, Uechi School, and Ryuei School of
Okinawan karate

* All of the performers at this reception are appearing on a volunteer basis.