

**Okuizumi Eizaburo at the University of Maryland Libraries,  
1974-1984<sup>1</sup>**

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*Note:* This article is based primarily on personal recollections and notes from my eight years of work with Okuizumi Eizaburo as his immediate supervisor, on the "Annual Reports" of the East Asia and Gordon W. Prange Collections in the University Archives of the University of Maryland Libraries, and on the administrative files of the East Asia Collection, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland at College Park. It also incorporates some information that first appeared in the article by Eizaburo Okuizumi and Frank Joseph Shulman entitled "A Binational Project for the Preservation of Censored Magazines from the Allied Occupation of Japan at the University of Maryland" (*Committee on East Asian Libraries Bulletin* no.70/71, February/June 1983. <https://ojs.lib.byu.edu/spc/index.php/JEAL/article/view/7746>).

Okuizumi Eizaburo (1940-2013) worked as the Japanese librarian and cataloger at the McKeldin Library of the University of Maryland at College Park between August 26, 1974, and January 7, 1984. It was during these years that he developed and refined his skills as a professional librarian for the field of Japanese Studies in the United States and developed an abiding interest in the Allied Occupation of Japan (1945-1952), its history and its publishing record. This short article is intended to recount a number of his responsibilities, activities and accomplishments while at Maryland that laid the foundation for his subsequent career as Japanese librarian and bibliographer at the Far Eastern Library of the University of Chicago and for many of the publications for which he was the author or the editor from 1984 onwards.

Accompanied by his wife Keiko and his five-year old, twin daughters Yuri and Kaoru, Okuizumi initially came to the United States with the expectation that he would spend just one year (1974-1975) at Maryland under the auspices of a trainee program between the University of Maryland Library and the School of Library and Information Science at Keio University in Tokyo, where he earned a master's degree in 1972 and then served as Assistant Head in the university library's Acquisitions Section. Established in 1965, this innovative program provided young Japanese librarians with a

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unique opportunity to take courses or audit classes at the University of Maryland's College of Library and Information Services, to obtain practical, in-service training in American library procedures and to gain new skills as well as valuable professional experience in an American academic library environment, to improve their language ability in English, to familiarize themselves firsthand with the daily operations of a research library, and to work with a vast array of publications and unpublished materials that had previously constituted the files of the Civil Censorship Detachment (CCD), Press, Pictorial and Broadcasting (PPB) Section of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP) in Tokyo. Containing literally tens of thousands of books (including children's books and textbooks), magazines, newspapers, newsletters, censored documents, pamphlets, news photographs, news service dispatches (*tsûshin*), maps and political posters dealing with virtually every conceivable subject area, this was the largest collection anywhere in the world -- despite some significant gaps in its holdings -- of whatever was being published in Japan between 1945 and 1949, an era of tremendous change. Subjected to systematic censorship examination, these materials were secured on behalf of the University of Maryland by Gordon W. Prange (1910-1980), who served first as the Chief Historian (1946-1949) of SCAP's G-2 Historical Section and then as the Chief (1949-1951) of its Historical Branch while on leave from his position as Professor of European History. It was his hope that they would serve as the "nucleus" for an in-depth research collection on twentieth-century Japan that would not only be used by individuals associated with his home institution but would also attract scholars from far and near.

Okuizumi followed in the footsteps of such earlier library interns as Morizono Shigeru, Terashima Taeko (presently known as Abe Taeko, her married name) and Ishimatsu Hisayuki, who had also come to Maryland on the Keio program for one or more years at a time. As a trainee, his primary responsibility was to "help in organizing and cataloging the large collection of Japanese-language materials dating from the early years of the Allied Occupation of Japan according to established procedures and the classification scheme used by American libraries". More specifically, his assignments included the cataloging of monographs in all subject fields, the processing of the magazines, the provision of reference service to faculty and students on East Asia-related subjects, and the preliminary selection and acquisition of new publications for the McKeldin Library's East Asia Collection. In June 1975, faced with significant budgetary problems, the university's need for a full-time, permanent Japanese bibliographer and cataloger, and the ever increasing workloads within the library that required more manpower, the University of Maryland terminated its special program with Keio University. Fascinated by the often unique and historically important materials with which he was working and wishing to stay on at Maryland for another year, Okuizumi extended his visa as a non-immigrant exchange visitor, the position that he occupied was converted from that of a library intern/trainee to that of a professional associate librarian, and eventually he became a permanent resident of the United States.

During his nine and a half years at Maryland, first under the direction of Jack A. Siggins (1974-1976) and then under my own direct supervision (1976-1984), Okuizumi was a key member of a coordinated team of librarians, clerical support staff, short-term

employees, and student assistants. Together we helped make both the East Asia Collection and the Gordon W. Prange Collection (as the body of materials from the Occupation period was formally named during an official dedication ceremony on May 6, 1979) into a major library resource for scholars and students engaged in the study of Japan as well as one that served an expanding academic community interested in the countries and civilizations of East Asia. Indeed, it would not be an exaggeration to say that Okuizumi's role in this endeavor was indispensable. What in particular, then, did he do?

First of all, during this period, the East Asia Collection expanded its holdings in the Chinese, Japanese and Korean languages to meet many of the university's teaching and research needs as well as to serve local scholars and the general public in the Washington, D.C. area and the state of Maryland. Its cataloged Japanese-language holdings, which included all of the *cataloged* books dating from the Occupation era (at that time, it was the library's policy to give the books item-level cataloging and to treat them as part of a regular library collection rather than as archival materials) grew substantially in the humanities, the social sciences and education. In June 1984, just a few months after Okuizumi left, the holdings in Japanese totaled 32,509 volumes. Of these, 25,085 volumes were monographs, 4,693 were bound periodical volumes, and 2,731 were reference works. While the majority of the cataloged Japanese books were imprints from the 1940s, through library-funded purchases, gifts both large and small, exchanges of publications with other institutions (especially the University of Chicago), and a \$10,000 grant from the Commemorative Association for the Japan World Exposition, the East Asia Collection made significant strides in its development of an up-to-date, academic collection of circulating books and journals on Japan and in its creation of the most substantial reference collection in the Washington, D.C. area (except for the Library of Congress) of encyclopedias, dictionaries, yearbooks, government white papers (*hakusho*), chronologies, and gazetteers.

With input from interested faculty members, especially Japanese history professor Marlene J. Mayo, individual books and major sets of works (*zenshû* and *taikei*) in history, literature and the fine arts were acquired. Special efforts were also made to purchase current and still in-print older monographs on postwar Japanese history in order to facilitate the further study of the Occupation period. Two of Okuizumi's major responsibilities, carried out on an ongoing basis throughout the decade that he was at Maryland, were to identify and recommend important publications for purchase, catalog many of these newly acquired books and serial publications -- at times they constituted as much as 50% of his cataloging workload -- and to process what was then an estimated 13,000 uncensored, Occupation period, magazine titles with the ultimate goal of bringing out a definitive bibliographical catalog of these publications through the Tokyo-based publisher Shuppan Nyûsusha under his co-editorship with Fukushima Jûrô and Kikuchi Katsuhiko. Many of his working hours were devoted to this second task, and because he felt a strong personal connection to the magazines, he continued working on the bibliographical catalog of magazines long after he left for the University of Chicago.

In his professional duties as a cataloger, Okuizumi was assisted by Connie Tomita Galmeijer, a library staff member since 1966 who was responsible for producing the final version of each catalog card, and by Fan Kuang-yao (the East Asia Collection's librarian and cataloger for Chinese publications since 1969), who trained him as a cataloger and reviewed much of his cataloging. Furthermore, under Mr. Fan's guidance, Okuizumi kept up-to-date on the momentous changes (most notably, the switch to AACR II, or Anglo-American Cataloging Rules Version II) that were then occurring in American library cataloging rules and procedures. In addition, Okuizumi worked with Ellen Anne Nollman, a librarian who was hired for three years (1977-1980) with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), to catalog books in the Prange Collection and who continued to work in the East Asia Collection for one more year after that.

Second, the East Asia Collection provided in-depth reference service not only to University of Maryland faculty and students but also to a growing national and international audience. Along with Fan Kuang-yao and me, Okuizumi assisted many individuals in obtaining the information which they needed on a wide range of subjects relating to China, Japan and Korea, and at times he even helped members of the university in their Japanese-language correspondence with government officials and scholars in Japan. Among Okuizumi's particular strengths were his familiarity with the contemporary Japanese library world, his extensive knowledge of resources in Japan, and his professional connections there. Throughout his years at Maryland, Okuizumi remained in contact with Japanese library circles, and during his six-week long stay in Tokyo in July-August 1982, for example, he lectured at Nihon Joshi Daigaku (Japan Women's University) on interlibrary activities in the United States and at the Gloria Club (Bookman's Club) on trends in Japanese Studies in the U.S.

Third, members of the East Asia Collection staff participated in and promoted the development of Japanese Studies outside of the library. Together with me as well as on his own, Okuizumi attended local and national meetings, workshops and seminars, and symposia and conferences (the latter on the Occupation of Japan), and he offered valuable ideas for strengthening the study of Japan in the United States at a time when there was particularly widespread interest in Japan's economy, modern history, education, literature and culture. He was a member of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), its Committee on East Asian Libraries (CEAL), the Mid-Atlantic Region of the AAS, and the American Society for Information Science (ASIS) as well as of such Japanese associations as the Nihon Toshokan Kyôkai (Japan Library Association), Nihon Toshokan Gakkai (Japan Society of Library Science), and Mita Toshokan Jôhō Gakkai (Mita Society for Library and Information Science). In addition, on numerous occasions, he took the initiative to publish brief articles, short essays and reports in Japanese academic and library journals. Among them were a series of articles entitled "Merirando Daigaku tsûshin" [News from the University of Maryland] in the bulletin *Chikuji Kankôbutsu Bunkakai Hôkoku* [Bulletin of the Serials Working Group, Association of Private University Libraries of Japan], an article coauthored with Furukawa Atsushi entitled "Nihon senryôki no Kyokutô Beigun jôhō shûshû katsudô to soshiki" [The Organization and Activities of the Far East Command's Civil

Information/Intelligence Services within Occupied Japan] in issue no.109/110 (December 1978) of *Tôkyô Keizai Daigaku Kaishi* [Journal of the Tokyo College of Economics], one entitled "Senryôka no manga 'Tokyo Joe' ni tsuite" ["Tokyo Joe": A Cartoon under the Allied Occupation of Japan] in the February 1980 issue (volume 74, no.2) of *Toshokan zasshi* [Library Journal] and a second article in that same journal entitled "*Warera no Kagaku to Warera no Sekai* shishi: Minshu Shugi Kagakusha Kyôkai henshû shi ni miru Beigun ken'etsu no jittai" [*Our Science and Our World: Censored Journals of the Association of Democratic Scientists in Japan*] (*Toshokan zasshi* volume 75, no.8, August 1981), and a piece entitled "GHQ ken'etsu shiryô(sho)" [About Censored Documents from GHQ/SCAP] (*Shokun* volume 14, no.2, February 1982). And he was invited to provide Clio Press (Oxford, England) with bibliographic data about historical journals published in Japan for inclusion in a second edition of its reference work, *Historical Periodicals: An Annotated World List of Historical and Related Serial Publications*.

Fourth, from 1976 through 1983, the East Asia Collection welcomed, and on occasion hosted for extended periods of time, researchers who used both the cataloged and still uncataloged holdings from the Occupation period. Okuizumi and I worked closely with noted scholars, doctoral degree candidates, librarians and journalists from around the world. Among them -- to name just a small number of the many whose names fill the guest book from those years -- were Amakawa Akira (Yokohama National University), Monica Braw (Stockholm, Sweden), James R. Brooke, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, John Brownlee (University of Toronto in Canada), Victor Carpenter (Stanford University), Peter Duus (Stanford University), Etô Jun (Tokyo Institute of Technology), Fujita Sonoko (National Institute of Education in Tokyo), Furukawa Atsushi (Tokyo College of Economics), Haruhara Akihiko (Sophia University), Hata Ikuhiko (Tokyo), Michael Hayes (Sheffield University in England), K. V. Kesavan (Jawaharlal Nehru University in India), Hosoya Masahiro (Yale University), Igarashi Takeshi (Tsukuba University), Antonia Levi (Stanford University), Marlene J. Mayo (University of Maryland), Mohri Ryoichi (Nihon Fukushi University), Joe Moore (Australian National University), Ray A. Moore (Amherst College), Nishi Osamu (Komazawa University), Ôta Masahide (University of the Ryukyus), Donald Roden (Rutgers University), Jay Rubin (University of Washington), Yoshiko Samuel (Wesleyan University), Satô Hideo (National Institute for Educational Research), Satô Isao (Sophia University), Michael Schaller (University of Arizona), Seki Hiroharu (University of Tokyo), Shindô Eiichi (Tsukuba University), Sodei Rinjirô (Hosei University), Takemae Eiji (Tokyo College of Economics), and Yoda Seiichi (University of Vienna in Austria). For these and for many other individuals, the Prange Collection was a treasure trove of materials that they could not find elsewhere, and they often acknowledged Okuizumi's assistance as well as mine in the published books and articles that resulted from their research.

Furthermore, throughout those particular years, ongoing efforts were made to increase the visibility of the East Asia and Gordon W. Prange Collections and to publicize their holdings in both Japan and the United States. Visitors who came to Washington, D.C., to attend conferences or to do research at the Library of Congress were invited to come out to College Park, Maryland, during their stay downtown, and several articles in both English and Japanese about Maryland's special library holdings appeared in print. Among these were "Rengokoku Nihon senryôki no kankôbutsu to mikankô shiryô" [Publications and Unpublished Materials from the Allied Occupation of Japan] (by Frank Joseph Shulman, translated by Okuizumi Eizaburo, with a postscript by Kumata Atsumi. *Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan geppô* [National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin] no.204, March 1978); "Shûsen chokugo no Nihon kiroku hozon o" [Preserving Immediate Postwar Japanese Documents] (*Yomiuri shimbun*, December 21, 1979); "A Binational Project for the Preservation of Censored Magazines from the Allied Occupation of Japan at the University of Maryland" (by Eizaburo Okuizumi and Frank Joseph Shulman, *Committee on East Asian Libraries Bulletin* no.70/71, February/June 1983); and "Amerika de 'Nihon senryô' o kangaeru" [Thinking about the Allied Occupation of Japan in the United States] (coauthored by Frank Joseph Shulman, Mohri Ryoichi and Okuizumi Eizaburo. *Fukushi Daigaku hyôron* [Nihon Fukushi University Review] no.34, April 1984). Local exhibitions of materials selected by Okuizumi, Yayoi Kobayashi Cooke (another member of the library staff) and me were held from time to time -- most notably in connection with the formal dedication of the Gordon W. Prange Collection in May 1979 and the visit in April 1981 of a distinguished delegation from Kanagawa Prefecture led by Governor Nagasu Kazuji -- and in 1983, Okuizumi and Yayoi Cooke selected a variety of informative magazines, newspapers, books, posters and photographs for inclusion in an exhibition organized by Chûnichi Shimbunsha [Chûnichi Newspaper Company] in Nagoya, Japan, that attracted considerable public attention.

Finally, most notable of his accomplishments were Okuizumi's contributions to the long-term efforts to process and preserve the library's Japanese-language holdings from the early years of the Allied Occupation of Japan. This work had begun in 1963 under the direction first of Kaneko Hideo (1963-1968), then Fukuda Naomi, (1968-1969) and after that Jack A. Siggins (1970-1976). It also involved other professional librarians such as Thomas Hosuck Kang (a native of Korea who was fluent in Japanese) and Yayoi Cooke, whose long-term responsibilities (begun in 1969 and aided by a number of assistants) centered on sorting, chronologically arranging, shelving in acid-free envelopes, processing and cataloging the extensive holdings of daily and non-daily, local and national, printed and mimeographed newspapers (then estimated at 16,500 *titles*) and editing very large files of newspaper holdings cards. Through their efforts, much was accomplished by the time of Okuizumi's arrival in August 1974. And much more was to be done during the nearly ten years that followed. Space here permits me to describe briefly only the single most important achievement of that era: the microfilming of the censored periodical holdings and the associated censorship documents in both English and Japanese -- this included the censors' summaries or translations into English of articles and comments relating to examination of Japanese magazine articles -- by the Bell and Howell Micro Photo Division in Wooster, Ohio, and the publication of a comprehensive, book-length catalog of these holdings entitled

*User's Guide to the Gordon W. Prange Collection, East Asia Collection, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland at College Park. Part 1: Microfilm Edition of Censored Periodicals, 1945-1949 = Maikurofirmu-ban Senryôgun ken'etsu zasshi mokuroku, kaidai: Shôwa 20-nen—Shôwa-24 nen* (compiled and edited by Eizaburo Okuizumi. Tokyo: Yushodo Booksellers, 1982. xviii, 531p. Merirando Daigaku Karejji Pakuko Makkeruden Toshokan Tôa Toshobu Godon W. Purange Bunko kaidai, dai 1-shu).

Negotiations were initiated in 1978 with representatives of Bell and Howell to film the magazines which showed signs of actual censorship and to preserve their contents in that format for archival purposes as well as to increase scholarly access to them. Specific plans contingent on Bell and Howell's ability to market the films were drawn up, but it was not until Nitta Mitsuo, the president of Yûshôdô Shoten (Yushodo Booksellers) in Tokyo, responded to my article in the December 21, 1979, issue of the *Yomiuri shimbun* appealing for Japanese cooperation in this microfilming venture, however, that the project became commercially feasible. With Okuizumi's participation, negotiations were successfully concluded for the filming of these periodical materials and the preparation of the aforementioned user's guide. Most of the labor-intensive work for this project was undertaken between 1978 and 1983. Again, Okuizumi played a central role. Assisted by Yayoi Cooke, such Japanese-speaking, temporary employees as Sally Abernethy and Megumi Lincoln, a number of hard-working student assistants, and Yatabe Nobuharu (a librarian from Osaka Gakuin University), he devoted most of his work time to this undertaking.

The work itself proceeded in stages. The first stage was to finish identifying and separating out from among a very large body of some 13,000 periodical *titles* all of the individual magazine issues which incurred pre-publication censorship, together with the related working papers of the Civil Censorship Detachment (CCD). All of the censored magazine titles (i.e., those bearing signs that they had violated the censorship codes) were then arranged letter by letter in alphabetical order. While seemingly routine in nature, the alphabetization of the titles frequently necessitated difficult decisions centering on the proper romanization of place names and unusual *kanji* for which Okuizumi had to do extra research. All of the issues for each title were then arranged in chronological order by date of publication. Duplicate items and censored materials deemed too insignificant for microfilming were set aside. Since many of the issues were accompanied by galley proofs, page proofs, and/or CCD working papers (in English) which described and translated objectionable passages and which specified the actions taken by the censors, it was necessary to arrange those materials in some logical order and to insert them among the pages of the magazines that were to be filmed. A total of 9,546 magazine *issues* -- 3,839 pre-censored issues and 5,707 post-censored issues -- comprising nearly 160,000 pages of materials were ultimately selected for filming. At the same time as this was being done, holdings cards for the 3,481 magazine *titles* that were to be filmed were prepared along with many hundreds of cross-reference cards. The holdings cards contained basic bibliographical data (the title in *romaji* and *kanji*, the place of publication, and the publisher's name) together with detailed information about each one of the issues being filmed.

The second stage took the form of preparing detailed instruction sheets for the Bell and Howell camera operator and insuring that everything was in precise order. One sheet was prepared for each of the 9,546 magazine issues awaiting filming, and it typically specified which materials and pages were to be filmed, their arrangement, and the total number of exposures required. Not everything was straight-forward. In certain cases, some of the materials were unavailable either because they had never been submitted to the CCD in the first place or because they had subsequently been lost: there were galley proofs, for example, that were not accompanied by worksheets containing translations of corresponding passages, or only the published version of an article containing CCD censorship marks. In the case of magazine articles that were totally suppressed, of course, there were no final versions released for public distribution that could be filmed.

Stage three of the project consisted of shipping the censored materials to Wooster, Ohio, from College Park, Maryland, and back in sturdy wooden crates. The last shipment of magazines to Bell and Howell took place in mid-April 1983; in particular, it contained 3,040 pages of the well-known communist periodical *Zenei*. The filming itself required over one full year (eight times longer than normal for the quantity of materials involved) because the censored materials varied so greatly in their nature. They were printed on a wide range of sizes and kinds of paper, the handwriting on them appeared in a variety of colored inks and penciling, and the magazines in general varied drastically in their legibility. When the camera operator finished producing a set of microfilm reels, other staff members at Bell and Howell examined them and prepared positive copies for Okuizumi and other members of the East Asia Collection staff in turn to review in order to insure that the microfilming was properly done in accordance with previously agreed upon standards. Whenever mistakes were discovered, Bell and Howell quickly rectified them; only then were the master negatives air mailed to Tokyo for Yushodo Booksellers to edit for eventual reproduction and commercial distribution in a set of positive 35mm silver halide microfilms.

Finally, the completion and publication of the bilingual user's guide to the microfilmed materials was undertaken. The volume included not only a complete listing of the microfilmed issues but also articles that Okuizumi and I wrote about the Gordon W. Prange Collection and about the activities of the CCD, a list identifying the reel number on which each magazine title appears, and three appendices. It was designed in part to serve as a useful reference work in its own right.

The censored magazine microfilming project was one of the first instances in which a large body of Japanese-language materials outside of Japan was microfilmed on a binational basis for preservation purposes. This undertaking represented an important, cooperative step to insure that a part of Japan's postwar cultural and historical heritage would be available for generations to come. It was an accomplishment that Okuizumi and others could be immensely proud of.

Not only during the microfilming project itself but also throughout the years that he worked at the University of Maryland, Okuizumi Eizaburo distinguished himself as a



conscientious, persevering, and hard-working librarian and team-player. He was generally enthusiastic about whatever he did; performed both routine duties and special assignments in a praiseworthy manner; responded to one demand after another under pressures of time; diligently sought to answer the wide range of reference questions that were directed to him; repeatedly was praised by visiting scholars, journalists and librarians for providing excellent tours of and valuable assistance with the Prange Collection's unique holdings; time and again adjusted his work schedule to accommodate the needs of the library; and in spite of family obligations, worked extra hours to meet impending deadlines. Furthermore, his impressive publications record from those years demonstrated both a personal interest and a commitment to library-oriented research and scholarship, particularly in the areas of Japanese librarianship and the study of the period of the Allied Occupation of Japan. In this regard, he stood head and shoulders over many of his library colleagues and was able to contribute to the literature in ways that benefited both Americans and Japanese. Together with the training that he received, his experience in an academic research library setting, and his personal dedication to his career as a professional librarian, this was to serve him well throughout the nearly thirty years that followed after he left Maryland.