



Biographical photoatlas

TOSITOMO KANAKUBO

Tokyo 2019

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1. Birth of Tositomo Kanakubo

I, Tositomo Kanakubo, was born in Nagoya city, Aichi prefecture on February 6, 1930. I hear that it was a heavy snowy day. My father Sadazi Kanakubo was an architect, non-regular employee of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry at the time and was dispatched temporarily for construction storehouses of grains in the city. His own house had been built at Matsubara town in Setagaya ward, Tokyo city, just after big disaster of the Kanto Earthquakes occurred on September 1, 1923.



Mother Haru, Tositomo, Sister Taka, Father Sadazi

2. Death of real mother Haru



Father Sadazi was dismissed from the post and came back to Tokyo in May 1930, then got a position in the Army Provisions Center. Sucking I was embraced by my grandmother Yao Nagae. Unfortunately, my mother Haru died suddenly on October 23 of the same year. Her illness was caused by typhoid fever.

3. Remarriage of father

Heartbroken father got married again to Miss Katsu Yamato in the next year to bring up two children, especially me who was a sucking baby. Then, my younger sister Hiro and two brothers Hidetoshi and Nobuaki were born successively. However, affection of Katsu had been given for every children without discrimination so that I did not know until grown up that she was the stepmother for me.

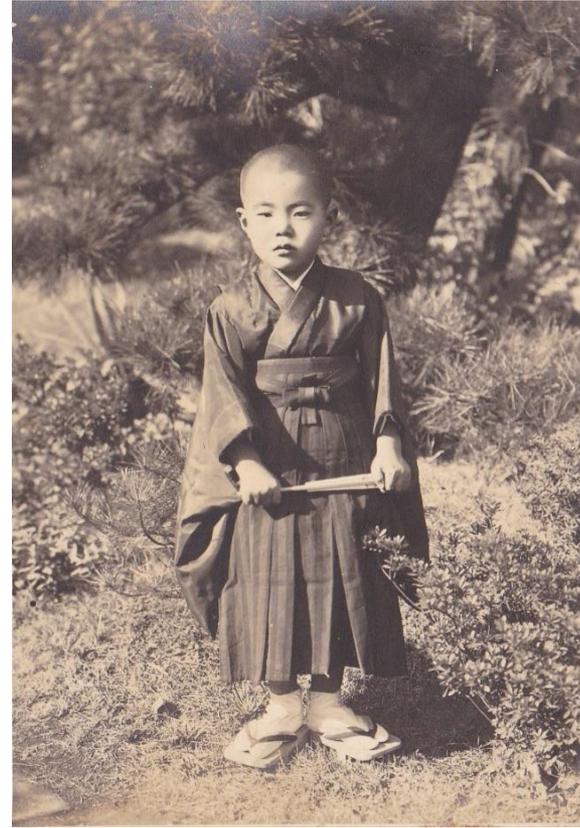


4. Entrance into the Matsuzawa Kindergarten



In 1933, I entered the Matsuzawa Kindergarten which had been established by famous Christian and social worker Mr. Toyohiko Kagawa.

5. Festive day for boys of third and fifth years



There is a custom, in Japan, of the celebration of a child's third, fifth and seventh years. I was celebrated of fifth years in full dress with kimono, in September 1935, too. It was the custom of my family to take photo in our garden. I was taken my picture when I was just in third and fifth years old.

6. Entrance into the Matsuzawa Primary School



I entered the Matsuzawa Primary School on April 1, 1936. My elder sister Taka also went on to a girls' high school.

7. Term of the second grade



When I was in the second grade of the primary school, my class went to the Noborito Park on a hike and also I enjoyed a short stay of a seaside school which was planned by the Matsuzawa Church. It was a nice memory for me that we made a picnic to the seashore of Cape Manazuru, Kanagawa Prefecture.

8. Young sister entered primary school and father transferred to Manchuria



When I was in the third grade of the primary school in 1938, my young sister Hiro entered the Matsuzawa Primary School too, so we took a picture together.



In the same year, my father Sadazi was employed as an architect by the Japanese Army and dispatched to Manchuria. He had ever stayed there for six years so that he was expected his experience and talents. It was the time in middle of the war against China. He departed in June. Relatives sent him off at the front door of my home.

9. Life in Manchuria



My family traveled Manchuria to join with father during the summer vacation in the same year. When I look back on my past, it was the beginning of my transfer to many schools. During our stay for three and half years in Manchuria, we removed five times. There were some international disputes of frontiers between Japan and Soviet Russia in those days. My father was very busy to improve military establishments such as barracks, warehouses, school, shooting gallery and so on.

While, I was interested in regional differences here and there and came to like geography. I worked for the weekly duty when I was in the fifth year grade class.

10. Winter in northern Manchuria



Winter season in northern Manchuria was very cold. Average temperature became often thirty degrees below zero in the city of Qiqihar. Nevertheless, children enjoyed skating on a simple rink of residence.

11. Homecoming and entrance into the Tama Lower Secondary School



At Kamakura



At Tadeshina



With my younger brother Hidetoshi

The war broke out against United States and United Kingdom on December 8, 1941. We came back to Japan in February of the next year. It was just the time for the entrance examination to lower secondary school for me. I failed twice but succeeded at last in the examination to the Tama Lower Secondary School (TLSS) which was newly established by Tokyo city. My campus life was very pleasant. In principle, schoolboys should live together in dormitory, though this plan was not realized. Actual trainings at an agricultural farm and excursions to suburbs were often carried out. A historical and geographical small trip to Kamakura city was one of them.

12. Entrance into the Sendai Military Cadet School



- I aspired to be a military officer. Then, I succeeded in the examination fortunately, so that entered the Sendai Military Cadet School (SMCS) as the forty eighth term student in April 1 1944. The school was located on Mikamine Hill, the southwestern suburbs of Sendai city, Miyagi Prefecture. While, the house of my mother Katsu's parents was in the central part of the city. The Second Higher School, to which I admitted after the Second World War, was also situated in the same part.
- The tide of the War had turned against us in those days. We worked hard at training every days, and yet most of our superintendent officers had gone to the front. Major General Tadasue Senda, who had been the principal of the SMCS, was dispatched to Iwo Island. He died in action there in February 1945. Many seniors of the SMCS also died in action, especially as members of suicide attack squads.
- Three-day holiday was given to us in March 1945. But we were prohibited to return to Tokyo, where suffered heavy war damage in the same month. So I visited a small town at where my elder sister worked as a teacher of a girls' high school. My mother came to meet me. She told me nothing but young sister Hiro was died from sickness just at the time. My mother was forbidden to speak it to me by father who was afraid of my fighting spirit would be demoralized.
- I was promoted to the second grade soon so that took a souvenir picture together with a few classmates.
- Sendai city was air-raided at the midnight on July 10, 1945. Almost of the central part of the city was burnt down. The house of my mother's parents too.

13. Demobilization and re-entrance into the Tama Lower Secondary School

- The War came to the end on August 15, 1945. Japanese army was abolished so that I was demobilized and came back home, then entered the TLSS again in the fourth grade.
- My two younger brothers had been evacuated to a small village in Niigata Prefecture in the late stage of the War. My parents wished to take back them to home after the end of the War. Traffic and food situation was extremely bad in those days. My mother and I were forced to get tickets all through the night, then traveled to the village by a freight train. We were very hungry in the return trip without food. It was in the middle October 1945. I still remember that apples had grown in clusters out of the window of the train.
- The TLSS was merged with another lower secondary school following the policy of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government in April 1946. I met Mr. Kin'ichi Kuronuma who was a teacher of geography in the newly unified Aoyama Lower Secondary School (ALSS). After completed the ALSS, I sometimes went on geographical field works with him and my younger generation of the Aoyama Senior High School (ASHS), which had been raised from the ALSS.



Geographic club of ASHS



Mr.kuronuma at Makinohara

14. Life in the Second Higher School

- There was a rumor that the Second Higher School (SHS), which had been burnt down by the air-raid on July 10, 1945, removed to Mikamine Hill looked for the school house of the former SMCS. Then, I wanted to be there again and succeeded in the examination.
- I enjoyed fully my spring of life in the SHS. For instance, I took care of the cooking section of our dormitory. In addition, I often enjoyed rowing boat at Matsushima Bay, and took part a cheering party for interscholastic match once in a while.





After three years of student life, I graduate the SHS in March 1950. Under the postwar system, the SHS was closed, therefore, we were the last graduates in the prewar system. Consequently, every my old schools disappeared except the Matsuzawa Primary School in which I entered at first.

15. Study in the Tohoku University

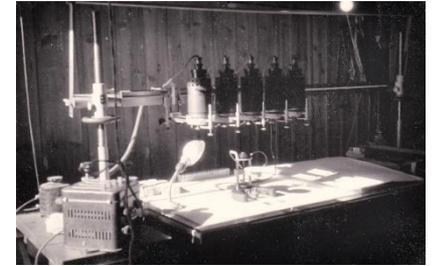
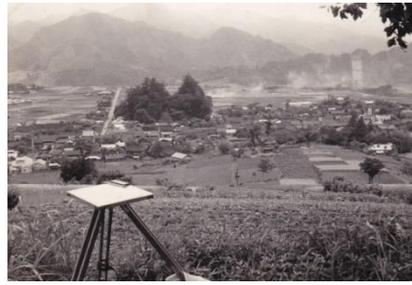


- I was admitted in the Geographical Institute, Faculty of Science of the Tohoku University. The institute was small and my classmates were only four. I specialized in natural and human geography under the direction of Prof. Yoshiro Tomita, and studied coastal and submarine geomorphology under the direction of Prof. Risaburo Tayama, who died accidentally later in September 1952 during the investigation on newly erupted submarine volcano Myojinn-sho.
- After three years, I graduated the university in the spring of 1953.

16. Admittance to the Geographical Survey Institute

- I was adopted in the Geographical Survey Institute (GSI), Ministry of Construction. The GSI was the successor of the former Army Land Survey, General Staff Office, which had been reorganized just after the end of the War. Its office was located in Chiba city, using the facilities of the former Military Tank School, because the original one had been burnt down in the War. Commutation from Tokyo to Chiba took me a great deal of time every day.
- I was assigned to the Cartographic Department of the GSI and pursued several kinds of thematic mapping surveys, such as landform classification, land use, lake charting, and so on.
- Three years later, I was transferred to the Topographic Department, where I acquired photogrammetric technologies and engaged to topographic mapping.





- New office of the GSI was built in Meguro ward, Tokyo, so the institute moved there in 1958 at long last. After that, I taught a Cambodian student how to operate Stereo-top, newly imported photogrammetric instrument.
- The Nagoya district was visited by the heavy Ise-wan Typhoon and suffered great damage in September 1959. Therefore, the GSI began a new project of the land condition survey for flood prevention and I was nominated for the chief in charge. The survey started from Tokyo at first, then spread all over Japan. A new type of thematic map named “the land condition map” was developed by us.

17. Marriage Yoshiko



I married Miss Yoshiko Miyashita on October 1, 1960. Her father was a surgeon and my senior of the SHS, coincidentally. I asked Prof. Tomita to be our matchmaker.



Two daughters, Mahoko in 1963 and Mihoko in 1965, were born. The birthday of Mahoko was March 25, that is, the same day on which my young sister Hiro died 18 years ago, as if rebirth. My parents were very pleased the birth of their granddaughter.

18. Deaths of Parents and transfer to Sendai

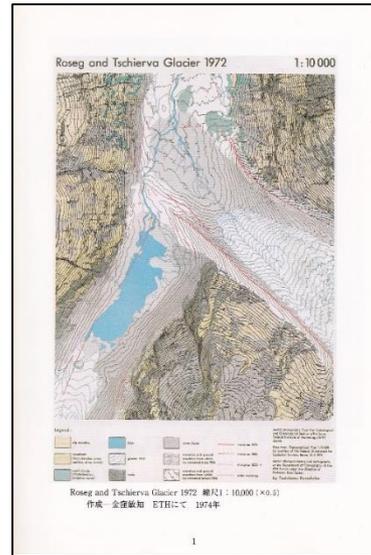


My loved mother died in 1966 and father in 1970, successively. I was transferred to the head of the Tohoku Regional Surveying Department of the GSI in July 1970. It was my third time life in Sendai city, so the city became my second home. I travelled Tohoku (northeastern) area both officially and privately. After two years duty, I came back to Tokyo again.

19. Researcher abroad

A chance to study cartography came to me in 1974. I was appointed a researcher abroad on thematic maps and atlas cartography by the Science and Technology Agency. I made a tour of various countries, mainly in Western Europe for five months.

During the tour I visited many institutions, universities, companies, such as IHB, ITC, IfAG, OS, IGN, COB, Zeiss, Wild, Bartholomew, Esselte, CARTOGRAPHIA and so on. I drew a topographic map of a confluent glacier tongue in the Alps using photogrammetric and scribing methods under the direction of Prof. E. Spiess in the ETH, Zurich. I was given lecture on national atlas from Prof. H. Bobek in Wien. I participated in the 7th ICA Conference held in Madrid, Spain and read my paper on the land condition survey of the coastal area. I also enjoyed several excursions go to, such as, Napoli and Firenze, the Rhine, Languedoc, Segovia, Bordeaux, Wiener Basin, Salzburg, Donau, Lake Balaton and others. I got not only the latest knowledge of cartography but also many friends in this tour. It was a very fruitful days in my life.



- The GSI was reorganized in May 1972. Cartographic Department was changed to Geographical Survey Department and Printing Department to Map Management Department. In addition, the Japan Map Center (JMC) was newly established. I was changed to the Geographical Survey Department and became to charge the Basic Survey of the Coastal Area, as a part of the Ocean Development Plan which was promoted by the Ministry of the Construction. I created a new thematic map named “the land condition map of the coastal area” connected with inland seas in Japan.
- Besides my usual works, an unexpected duty came to me. I was chosen as a member of the reconnaissance survey group for the crossing over the Jamuna River, Bangladesh. I took care of the surveying matters and stayed there for three weeks. It was my first travel abroad for technological cooperation services for developing countries.



20. Remove to Tsukuba and technological cooperation with foreign countries



On coming back to Japan, I was moved to the Map Management Department. After a while, the office of the GSI moved to Tsukuba in 1979 with other institutions to constitute a new big science city. It was the third time of removal of the institute.

- I had several chance to work for technological cooperation with foreign countries. Some funny topics happened. I wore a mustache during stay in Saudi Arabia according to the custom of the spot. When I came back to Japan, mustache became a fashion in my department in a while.
- After that, when I visited Peru to contract a technological cooperation project in 1982, I met Brigadier General A. Delgado Velasco, Director General of the Instituto Geografico Nacional, which was our counterpart organization. I told him in joke that I had ever been a military cadet, therefore I would like to put on his military cap. He gave me it immediately and said that “A cap knows its owner’ thought, so you can hear what is my thought from my cap”. It was my real surprise to hear his word. We became close friend. I got the cap and presented him with a helmet for the Boy’s Festival in return later.



At ATKAR in Moscow

21. International Cartographic Conference



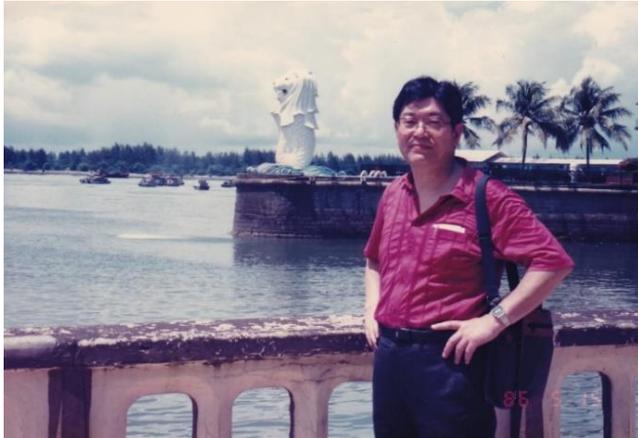
- The 10th International Cartographic Conference was held in Tokyo in August 1980. The organizing committee was established and I worked as one of its member, especially in charge of the conference program.
- In addition, there were some international conferences in those days. I travelled abroad to attend the UN Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, and others.

22. Promotion to director general of the GSI and the Science Exhibition in Tsukuba

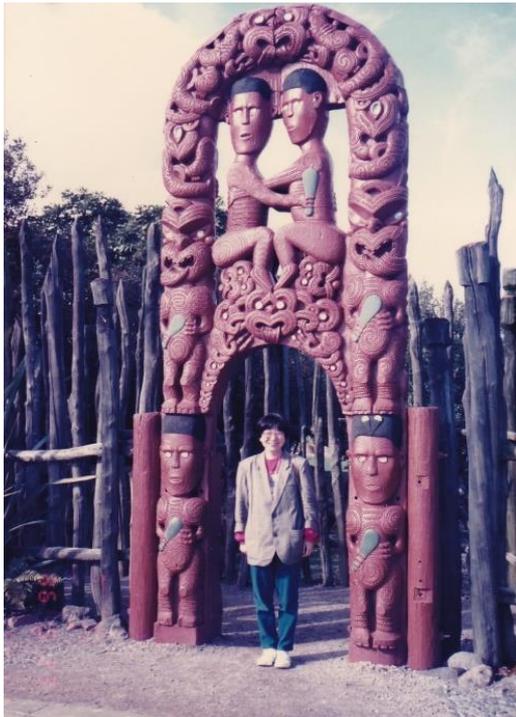


- I was appointed to the post of director general of the GSI in November 1, 1984.
- The Scientific Exhibition in Tsukuba was held from March till September in 1985. Mr. Masaru Nagae, my cousin exhibited a big replica model of the ancient water clock in the room of the Exhibition. Just then, I was given my great honor for the explainer to His Majesty the contemporary situation of surveying in Japan.

23. Retirement, memorial travel and doctorate



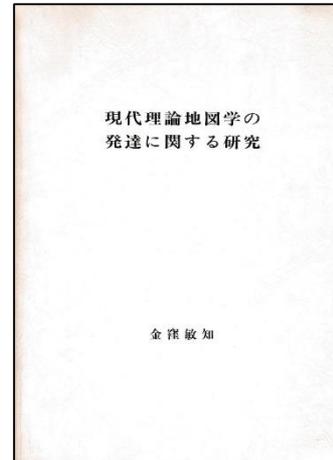
I resigned the GSI on April 1, 1986, and made a memorial travel abroad with my wife Yoshiko in this opportunity to Singapore, New Zealand and Fiji. After then, I moved to the JMC as the standing director.



I was celebrated my sixtieth birthday in 1990.



In the Tohoku University



Visit to Prof. H. Shitara

It was my long-cherished wish to investigate theoretical cartography. I wrote a treatise on the contemporary development of theoretical cartography and received the degree of Doctor of Science from the Tohoku University in 1989.

24. Technological cooperation of topographic mapping



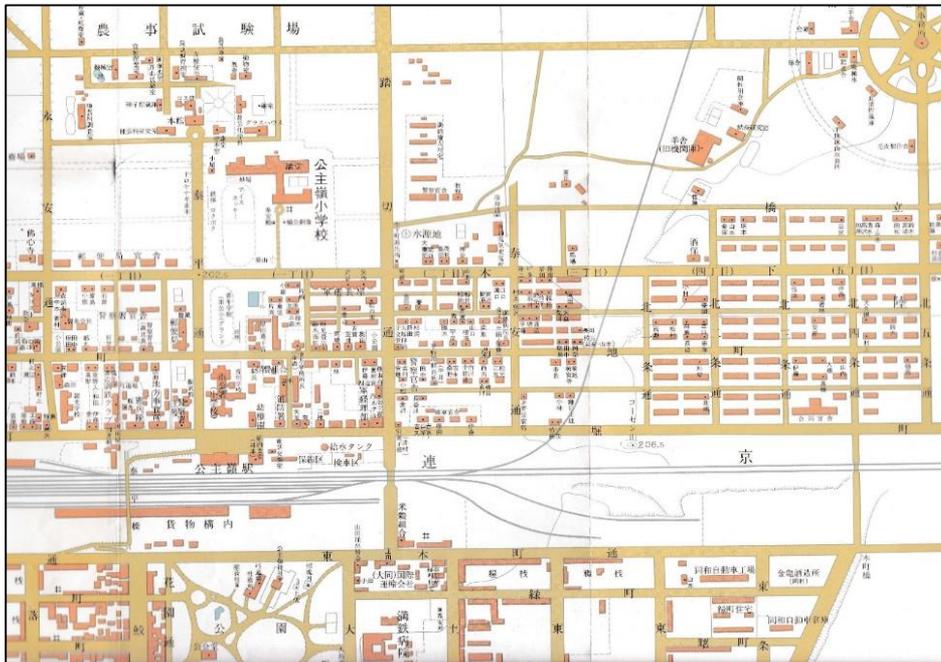
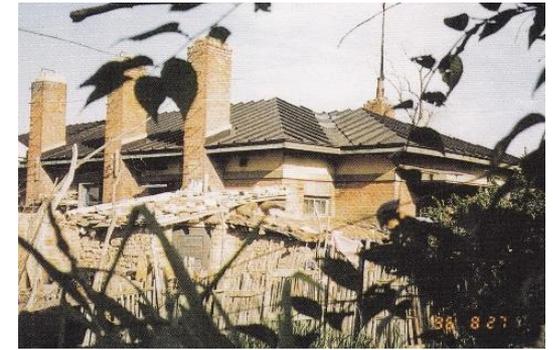
During the service for the JMC since 1986, I had been often dispatched by the JICA for the technological cooperation of topographic mapping and worked as the leader of the survey teams in Thai, Morocco and Laos, respectively.

25. Marriages of daughters and travel to Gongzhuling



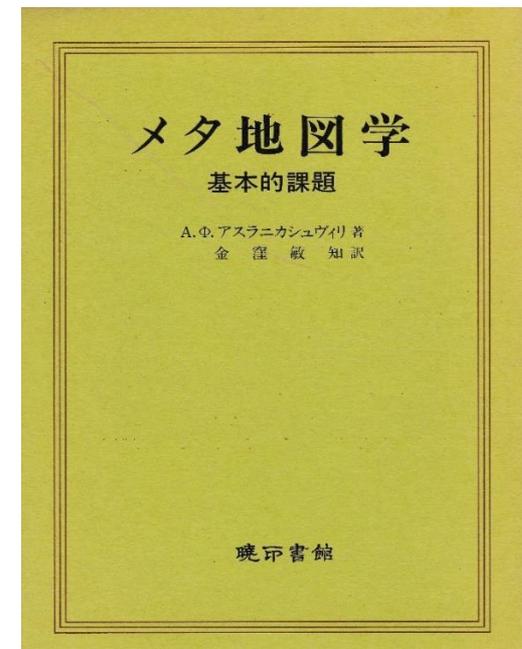
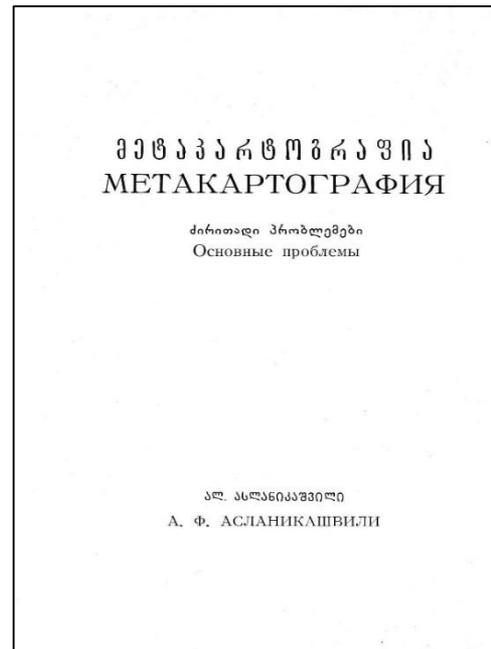
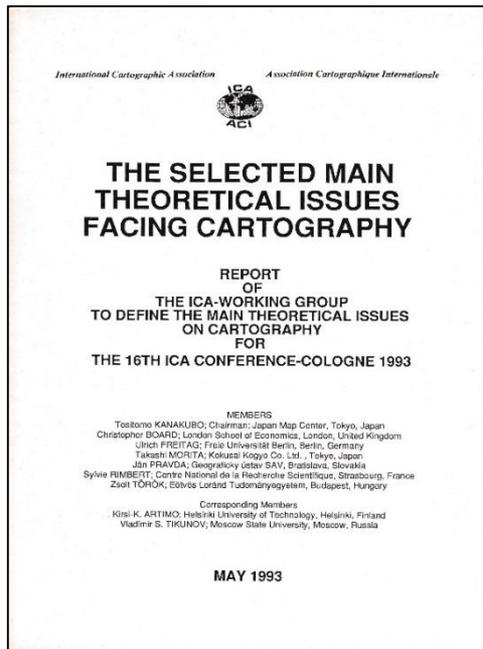
In my private life, my two daughters married. Mahoko got married to Mr. Nobuhiko Fukuchi in 1989, and Mihoko to Toshiya Kijima in 1991.

I was elected to be Chief Director of the JMC since 1994 until 1998, and after that became an adviser.



As stated above, every my old schools disappeared except the Matsuzawa Primary School in which I entered at first. On the contrary, alumni associations of my old schools often come together to renew old friendship. The alumni association of the primary school of Gongzhuling city, Manchuria made a plan to compile a book recording the history of the school and the city. In this plan, I took charge of compilation of the map of the city, but I was forced almost to retrace my memory. Fortunately, I got a chance to visit the city in August 1996 and was able to check satisfactorily the contents and accuracy of the map.

26. The ICA and activities on theoretical cartography



- In connection with the ICA, I continued to attend at the ICA conferences since the 12th Conference in Pearce in 1985 till the 20th Conference in Beijing in 2001. In those days, I served the ICA as one of the Vice Presidents and supervised commissions and working groups related to theoretical cartography. Above all, a report “The Selected Main Theoretical Issues facing Cartography” which submitted to the 16th Conference in Cologne 1993 was a splendid fruit of the working group.
- And after five years, I translated the book “Meta-cartography” written by Georgian cartographer Aslanikashvili, from Russian into Japanese in 1998.



International Cartographic Association
Association Cartographique Internationale

The Executive Committee
of the International Cartographic Association,
by virtue of the power vested in it
by the statutes and by-laws,

hereby elects

Tositomo KANAKUBO

as an Honorary Fellow

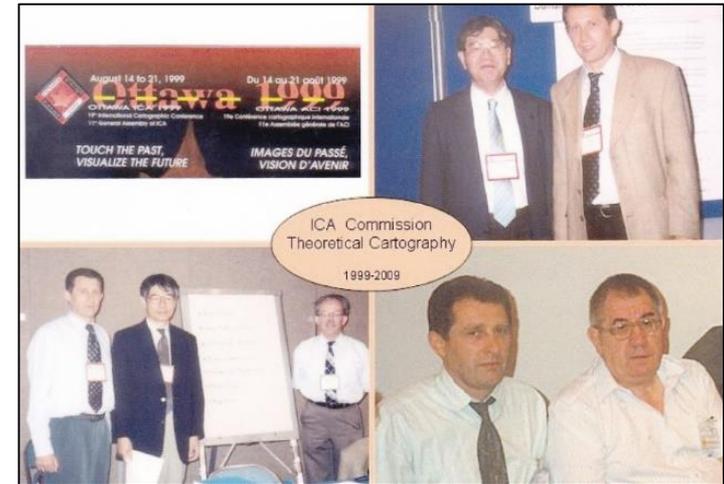
in recognition of his many outstanding contributions
to cartography through his Executive Committee service
and his work as a Commission Chair,
and for his international service to ICA

Jean-Philippe Grelot Michael Wood

J. Grelot *M. Wood*

Secretary General President

11th General Assembly of ICA
and 19th International Cartographic Conference
Ottawa, Canada - 15 - 21 August 1999



After my service as one of the Vice Presidents for eight years, I was elected as an honorary fellow in the 11th General Assembly of the ICA and the 19th International Cartographic Conference held in Ottawa, Canada in August 1999. I committed the managing of the Commission on Theoretical Cartography to Prof. A. Wolodtschenko at the same time.

27. The Hokkaido Chizu Co. Ltd.

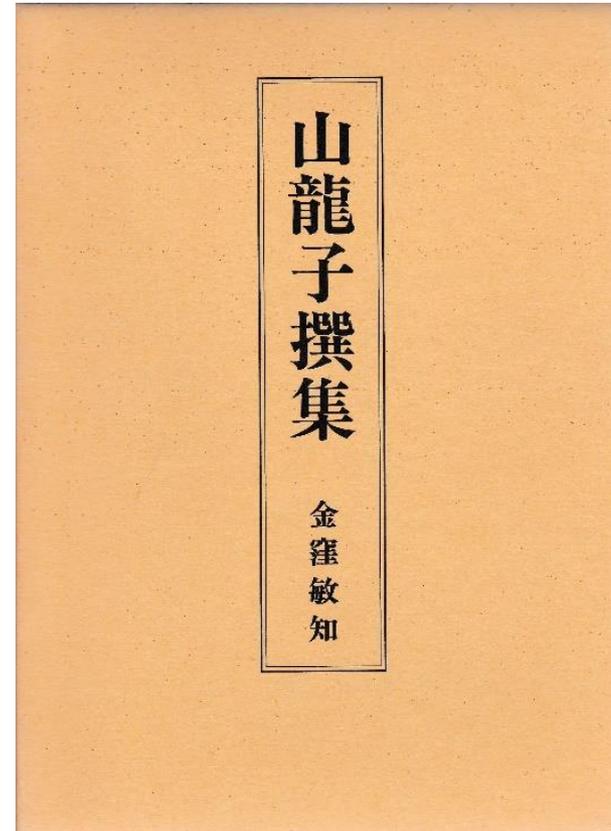


After service in the JMC, I was employed as a counselor of the Hokkaido Chizu Co. Ltd (HMC). Then I became a pensioner in 1991 and the Advisory Colleague of the HMC at the same time.

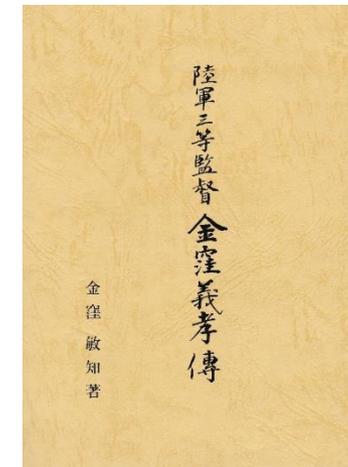
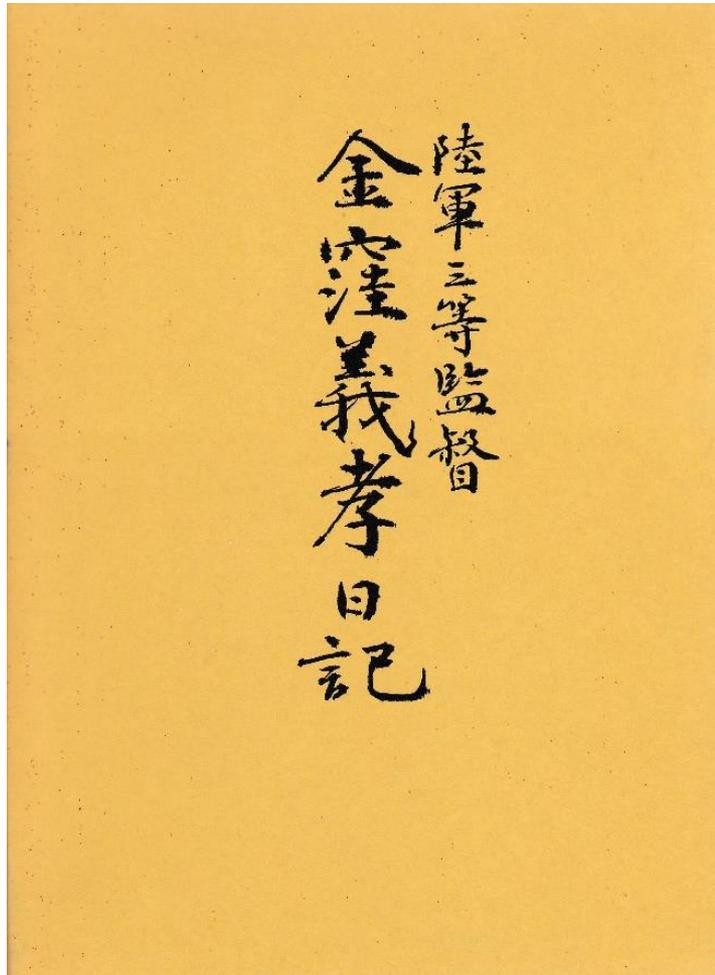


- Prof. Milan Konečný, my friend of thirty years' standing came from Czech to Japan in November 2000. He visited Hiroshima and Miyajima.
- And, executive of the HMC carried out a tour around east part of Hokkaido at the suggestion of the President Mr. Katsumi Tsuda in 2001.

28. Conferment of decoration and publication of grandfather's biography

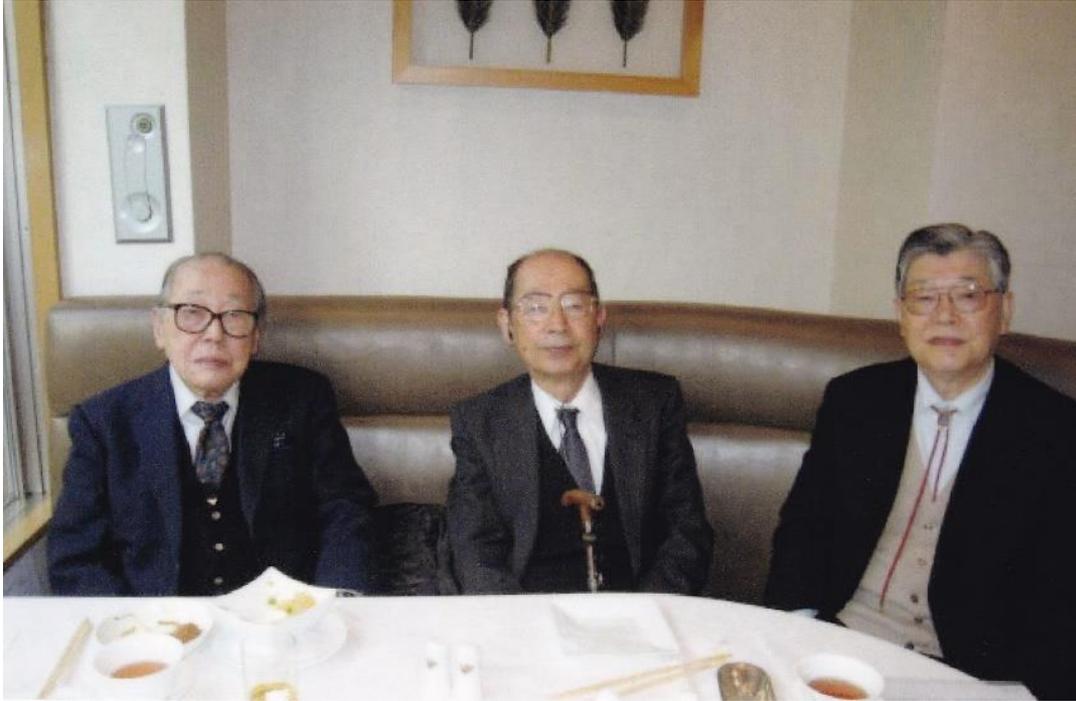


It was my great honor that I was conferred on the Third Order of the Sacred Treasure in 2000. I celebrated 70 years old birthday in the same year, so I published a collection of my essays as memorials.



In addition, I compiled and published a book entitled “The Diary of Yoshitaka Kanakubo, the third class paymaster” in 2002. He was my grandfather and an officer of Japanese army in the Meiji era. This book is the successor of a book “The Biography of Yoshitaka Kanakubo, the third class paymaster”, which I had published in 1982.

29. Encounter with Mr. Tadashi Watanabe and travel to Qiqihar



It is my fortune that I met Mr. Tadashi Watanabe in early summer of 2003. He had ever been a staff officer of the General Staff Office during the War. He was a leading player who reorganized the Army Land Survey to the Geographical Survey Institute just after the War in August 1945. I assisted him to arrange the records which reserved by him for a long time and to compile a book entitled “A confidential document by decision of an intelligence staff officer”.



- In February 2008, I was elected as an honorary fellow in the general assembly of the Japan Cartographers Association (JCA).
- In June of 2009, I visited Qiqihar city, Manchuria and longed for my past days in the Miyamae Primary School.



Meeting with friends of TLSS



With Mr.Saito and Mr.Kato, my old friend

In addition, I had often meetings and sometimes short trips with my friends of the TLSS and the SMCS. It was my deep regret that Mr. Siro Saito who was my respected educator of the SMCS passed away in 2009.

30. Golden wedding, death of wife and celebration of 88th years birthday



We celebrated our golden wedding on October 1, 2010. However, it was a very sad incident that my dearest wife Yoshiko died on October 16, 2013 after the fight against cancer for three years, leaving her last drawing of thanks. In addition, Mr. Tadashi Watanabe passed away also on November 5, 2013.



- I had the honor to win the Nomura Shoshichi Prize which was newly made by the JCA in February 2015.
- I was celebrated my 88th birthday in February 6, 2018. Two daughters and their husbands, five grandchildren, elder sister, young brother, and the other relatives gave me a grand celebration party.



With My family



**This is my personal history with photographs.
Thank you very much!**

On the Tositomo Kanakubo Photo-atlas

This atlas is my personal history, which is compiled using many photographs.

I, Tositomo Kanakubo, was born in Nagoya city, Aichi Prefecture on Feb. 6, 1930. Soon moving to Tokyo, I grew up at home in Matsubara town, Setagaya Ward, and have lived here until third grade of the Matsuzawa elementary School..

I went over to Manchuria with my family in the summer of 1938 and changing schools five times there. We met the outbreak of the war against US and UK on Dec. 8, 1941, so we came back to Tokyo in spring of the next year. Then, I entered the Tama Lower Secondary School (TLSS). I aspired to be a military officer and entered the Sendai Military Cadet School (SMCS) in 1944. The War came to end on Aug. 15, 1945. Japanese army was abolished so that I was demobilized and came back home.

I have experienced school life of the TLSS again and its successor Aoyama Lower Secondary School, then the Second Higher School in Sendai city and Tohoku University. I investigated mainly geography in the university.

After graduated the university, in the spring of 1953, I was adopted in the Geographical Survey Institute (GSI), Ministry of Construction. I was devoted to the cartographic work in the institute for 33 years. I married Yoshiko Miyashita in 1960 and got two daughters, Mahoko and Mihoko. During the duties in the GSI, I dispatched to Europe as a researcher abroad for five months in 1974.

After resigned from the director general of the GSI on Apr. 1, 1986, I worked in the Japan Map Center, the Asahi Koyo Surveying Company and the Hokkaido Chizu Mapping Company successively, in addition to overseas cooperation works for several developing countries. And, after resigning from every official works of about fifty years, I have gone into pension life.

As a scientist I am belonging to the Japan Cartographers Association (JCA) and to the International Cartographic Association (ICA) as foreign relations.

I worked as one of the Vice Presidents and supervised commissions and working groups related to theoretical cartography in the ICA. I received the degree of Doctor of Science from the Tohoku University in 1989.

Furthermore, I got a title of an Honorary Fellow of ICA in 1999 and of JCA in 2008, respectively.

I was decorated for my service to the state in the spring of 2000.

We celebrated our golden wedding on Oct. 1, 2010, and enjoyed a small trip to the northern foot of Mt. Fuji with our family. However, it was very regret to say, my dearest wife Yoshiko was passed away on Oct. 16, 2013 after three years fight against cancer. I became a widower, but fortunately, my relatives celebrated my 88 years birthday on Feb. 6, 2018.

Now, I am 89 years old. This atlas is compiled following the advice of Prof. Dr. Alexander Wolodtschenko, my friend in Germany and of the ICA Commission on theoretical cartography. Mr. Hirohiko Fukuchi, my grandson cooperated to compile using his special ability.

Photographs in this atlas are quoted almost from my old album or I took recently. Old pictures are, according my memory, those of Umeda Photo Studio, which existed at Higashi-gokencho in Koishikawa Ward, Tokyo, before World War II. And those pictures in Sendai city were taken by Nitto Photo Studio at Aramachi Street in Sendai.

On the background picture of cover page of this atlas: twigs of a cherry tree with flowers. The tree has grown up from a young tree which my daughter was ever given in her primary school and planted outside window of my study. I enjoy its bloom in every spring.

At last but not least, I express my heartfelt thanks to everybody who have been related in my life.