

DRAFT

Fukushima's speech

14 October 1983

Thank you very much, Dr. Brekke, for your kind introduction.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is really a great pleasure and honour<sup>u</sup> for me to have this ceremony with you for presenting the commemorative medals from <sup>J</sup>Japan to the Nor<sup>r</sup>wegian Observatories for their excellent service to the world geophysical community through the supply of extremely useful observational data, after overcoming ~~sometimes~~ difficult logistic conditions, <sup>(in the arctic region, sometimes</sup>

The International Council of Scientific Unions recommended in 1980 to all its mem<sup>be</sup>ber countries to celebrate the anniversaries of the International Polar Years and Geophysical Year, which were the milestones for the effort of geophysicists to understand the earth and its natural environmental space. Norway had a commemorative symposium in Oslo on <sup>23-24</sup>~~22-23~~ February 1983, and a reception dinner <sup>(his majesty the</sup> with King Olav. In Japan we had a ceremony on the 15th of March 1983, because the hourly observation of geomagnetic field started in Tokyo on 15 March 1883, in connection with the First Polar Year.

As one of the commemorative plans in Japan, a special medal was issued (as you will see in the slide), and the golden medals were presented to only three senior scientists who worked for the Second International Polar Years just 50 years ago.

The silver medal is for the geophysicists ~~and their supporters~~ who worked for the International Polar Year 25 years ago.

You will recall that the octagon and the earth surrounded by a satellite is a common symbol mark for the International Geophysical Year. The earth is in the middle of the octagon, and the year 1957 is written on the left side, and 1958 on the right side. The French and English words for IGY were shown above and below the earth, and each participating country was allowed to replace either French or English word for IGY by the word in its native language. In Japan the French word was replaced by the Japanese word. The mark of the earth with a satellite was introduced in 1956 before the first Sputnik was launched. It was the symbol for the ~~unified~~ world cooperation of geophysicists towards the better understanding of our earth. The south polar region is illuminated in this symbol, and this means that the Antarctic expedition was encouraged during the IGY.

The design of the Japanese commemorative medal is a slight modification of the IGY mark. The arc-shaped region between the sun and the earth is the natural boundary between the spaces controlled by the sun and the earth respectively. The left-side line is the bow-shock front produced by the supersonic plasma stream from the sun (called solar wind) hitting the obstacle formed by the earth's magnetic field. The right-side line is the outer boundary of the earth's magnetosphere. Such a physical image for the space around the earth has become clear with in situ measurements by satellites in recent years. The comb-shaped figures on the night side of the earth are of course the aurora.

It was very lucky for me that I could collect donations in Japan to issue these medals. You will ~~see~~<sup>meet</sup> here two Japanese ladies, who helped me in such a management. When I showed this design to these ladies, they asked me how can they see the aurora. I suggested them: "If you can come to Tromsø in the middle of October while I am here, I can show you the aurora". These ladies planned really to visit me, and their wish was satisfied yesterday evening.

As I spoke in the beginning, I have been asked by my colleagues in Japan to present the medals to the Norwegian institutes or observatories which played important role in the International Polar Year and the International Geophysical Year. Japanese colleagues always admire the great efforts by the Norwegian people to obtain excellent data, after overcoming ~~difficult~~ logistic difficulties. ~~conditions.~~

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Now this is a golden medal for the Auroral Observatory for the contribution to the Second Polar Year. May I ask Dr. Ove Harang to receive this medal ~~for~~<sup>on behalf of</sup> the Observatory, at that time under the direction of your father?

This is a golden medal for Bear Island. May I ask Mr. Steiner Berger to receive this ~~for~~<sup>on behalf of</sup> the Bear Island Station?

I have to say here that I asked Mr. Berger last week to carry one golden medal to Jan Mayen ~~to~~<sup>during the Second Polar Year</sup> for the contribution to the geomagnetic observation when he had a chance to go there. May I ask Mr. Berger ~~also to report to us~~ your visit to Jan Mayen?

to give us a short ~~summary~~<sup>summary</sup> report on

These two medals are silver ones for the Auroral Observatory and Bear Island. May I ask Mr. Reidulv Larsen to receive these medal?

I learnt here that you have a plan to restore the Haldde Observatory Building, which was used by Professor Kristian Birkeland. I would also like to present a golden medal for this observatory, including our appreciation to Bossekop Observatory operated during the First and Second Polar Years. I would like to ask Dr. Asgeir Brekke to <sup>accept</sup> ~~keep~~ this medal <sup>on behalf of</sup> ~~for~~ the Haldde memorial building.

Thank you very much for your presence at this ceremony.