

# Acknowledgements

---

---

The publication of the English edition of my book on the break-up and privatization of Japanese National Railways would not have been successful without the support of many friends and helpers. In particular, I am deeply indebted to my esteemed friend George Olcott for his help in completing the present English edition. Mr Olcott, who, having been brought up in Japan, has an excellent command of both Japanese and English, was educated at Oxford University. Following a successful career in investment banking, he is currently participating in the doctoral programme at Cambridge University, where he is conducting research on the impact of foreign capital participation in Japanese corporations.

The rationale, character and process of JNR's break-up and privatization and the history of its implementation is a highly specialized subject even for most Japanese readers. Hence the conversion of the Japanese original edition into an English edition, which would be easily comprehensible for readers interested in the subject, required a substantial knowledge of organizational and structural aspects of the railway network both in the UK and Japan.

Mr Olcott's business experience and personal background made him the best person to take on this task, and I count myself extremely fortunate to have secured his assistance. Mr Olcott's dedication and professionalism were so central to the production of the English edition that I would even go as far as saying that this book bears his seal at least as much as it bears mine. Of course, all remaining errors are entirely my own. I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to him for his enormous contribution.

There are many other people who contributed to this project,

*Acknowledgements*

including those who assisted me in writing the original Japanese volume. I especially wish to thank Mr Nozomu Nakaoka and Dr Christopher P. Hood, who produced the first English translation, and Christian Bell, who helped me in managing the production of the English edition of this book.

YOSHIYUKI KASAI  
*Tokyo, March 2003*

EDITOR'S NOTE

Throughout the main text, Japanese names are quoted according to the Japanese convention of putting the family name first.

Central Japan Railway Company, the company operating the Tokaido Shinkansen and the former JNR network in the region surrounding Nagoya, is referred to as JR Central throughout the text, the name under which it is commonly known in Japan.

TRANSLATORS

**Nozomu Nakaoka**

Mr Nakaoka translated numerous materials on economic issues while serving as chief editor for several Japanese economic journals. He currently teaches a course on the Japanese and Asian economies at Washington University in Saint Louis (Missouri, United States of America).

**Dr Christopher P. Hood**

Dr Hood is the director of the Cardiff Japanese Studies Centre at Cardiff University. He is currently involved in research on the Shinkansen.