

**OT (45) Eng.Version 11.27,2017 (Monday) Essay by Teiko Tursi:
"Shows an Excellent Results, The Waza and Soul from the birth place"**

The Karate Delegation arrived in Washington DC on 16th of November. On 17th the group toured the Smithsonian Museum very briefly, moved to the Capital then to the Japanese Embassy. At the Japanese Embassy, the director of the Karate Promotion Division of the OPG, Tetsuo Yamakawa made a clear announcement in a dignified manner about "The Birth Place of Karate, Okinawa."



Photo caption: from the top left the five Masters are: Naonobu Ahagon, Meitatsu Yagi, Harukichi Shimabukuro, Masanari Kikukawa and Minoru Nakazato; Washington DC, the day before the seminar.

The scheduled seminar was on the 18th and the 19th. The daily schedule was tight for the delegation, but the itinerary seemed to fit them significantly. The Masters made some comments unanimously, "We were able to

recognize the participants' karate-fever by some words and attitudes." I accompanied them for 3 days as a translator; I would like to go over some of the participants' feedback regarding the seminar.

Ganesh Krishnamoorthy from Virginia wrote, " I loved it. I would come again. Awesome venue and perfectly organized. Masters were great. They not only shared valuable karate knowledge, but they also shared wonderful life principles."

Master Buzz Durkin, 10th Dan of Uechi-Ryū, flew from New Hampshire. He has developed 17 dōjōs and currently there are 3,000 karatekas. His reaction was: “The spirit of the teachers was contagious, and a beautiful cultural exchange took place. Traditional martial artists from all over the Country gathered to learn from and enjoy the skills and personalities of the visiting Masters. The comradery between teacher and student could not have been better or of a higher caliber. The students learned so much about karate techniques while absorbing the Okinawan culture. The weekend was truly a fabulous exchange of learning and cultural harmony. Sensei Nestor Folta (eighth degree – Uechi-ryu) and his wife Mayumi were most gracious hosts and made all who attended feel welcomed. My students and I were so happy to attend and look forward to another gathering of this type.”

The feedback by Sean Schroeder from Virginia began with “Okinawa Training! I was very impressed by the quality of training that each of the Okinawan Senseis gave as well as the insight into their art. I enjoyed the fact that each Sensei had a 3-hour training window. This far exceeded what other camps do and allowed the students to receive. It was a significant amount of practice and training time, so that the students can retain more. The entertainment and dancing were very well done. I would attend this again.

“There is room for improvement however. The main thing was that the reading of a brochure in both Japanese and English was very taxing. I would also suggest that the warm ups not be so drawn out.”

The following testimony was sent by Mr. Tsuyoshi Takemori of Maryland. “I appreciate that you accepted me to attend. I do not practice Okinawa style karate, but I learned a lot of things from great teachers. Also, I met many other karate practitioners. This is karate! ”

At last, there is a reason why Ahagon Sensei is rubbing the nose of Einstein in the photo. I heard a tourist from another state say that it brings good fortune if you rub Einstein’s nose. Well, as it was said, the seminar event turned out to be great and good fortune was had.

(Reporting monthly on every Monday)

(Translation: By Teiko)