SRF-JRMC、退職式で貢献した日本従業員への敬意を表す

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12月17日、艦船修理廠及び日本地区造修統括本部（SRF-JRMC）に於いて日本人従業員の定年退職式が行われ、6名が式典に出席した。

退職者の長年の功労を祝うためSRF-JRMCの司令官スティーブン・スタンシー大佐を始め、退職者の監督者と同僚が一同に集った。

スタンシー大佐は退職者への感謝の言葉を次の様に述べた。「長年にわたる誠実で献身的な勤務を通して、日米、そして太平洋全域の安全保障に大きく貢献されてきた退職者の皆さんに、今日ここに米海軍並びに、横須賀艦船修理廠及び日本地区造修統括本部を代表して、お礼の言葉を述べる機会を得ましたことを嬉しく思います。」

12月に退職する20名の中6名の退職者が式に出席し、スタンシー大佐はスピーチの中で、SRF-JRMCが長い間に得た成功と名声に退職者が計り知れないくらい貢献してきたと続けた。

スタンシー大佐は6名の退職者の一人一人が、在職中に築き上げてきた経歴とSRF-JRMCや第７艦隊への素晴らしい貢献を披露し、式の参加者と別れを惜しんだ。

吉田利春さんは1982年2月にエンジニアリング専門職としてＳＲＦに入廠し、その後機械工場の工場長を経て機械工場グループのグループマスターに昇格し、11年間勤め合計28年と10ヶ月勤務された。

Capt. Steven Stancy, the six Japanese retirees, leaders of SRF-JRMC, retirees' supervisors and co-workers gather to celebrate during their retirement ceremony.
退職を祝いSRF-JRMC司令官スティーブン・スタンシー大佐、リーダー、退職者の監督者と同僚が一同に集った。

石川芳美さんは1984年2月にドック工として入廠し、フォアマン職を勤め後塗装工場の工場長に昇格して以来今日まで、SRFに26年10ヶ月間勤務された。

佐藤隆一さんは1976年に器材管理職員として入廠し、退職時には産業専門職として工場管理部に合計34年3ヶ月間勤務された。

磯部秀行さんは1979年5月に船舶内燃機関機械工としてSRFに入廠、31年7ヶ月の勤務期間中23年5ヶ月を船舶内燃機関機械工フォアマンの職にあった。

退職者の誰もがSRF-JRMCの成功に欠くことが出来ないが、門脇勝雄さんと木村広雄さんはSRF-JRMCの使命達成を担う典型的な日本人従業員と言える。

門脇さんは1976年9月に事務員として入廠し、合計34年と3ヶ月間勤務した。ショップスケジューラーの業務を全うし、退職時には艦船電子修理企画員である。

特にCNO定期工事期間中に艦船に設置するギガバイト・イーサーネット・LAN（GIG-E LAN）システムや艦船信電波分析装置などの大規模な改造工事を行う前には、数百・数千の材料手配を手がけてきた。門脇さんの献身的な努力無しには全ての作業は成功裏に完了しなかった。

「バージの改造はとても困難でした。その理由は我々の工場、企画見積部、他の工場との資材調整が容易ではなかったからです。私が思うには、緊密なコミュニケーションと協力が安全かつ成功裏にSRF-JRMCの業務を履行する上で大変重要です。私を支えてきてくれた皆さんに感謝し、SRF-JRMCの栄えある発展を心から願います」と門脇さん。

木村さんは1981年4月に船舶板金工として入廠、後に船舶板金工フォアマンに昇格し合計29年8ヵ月間勤務した。

彼は入廠以来常に向上心がおう盛であり、当初板金工場ではあまり頻繁に行われていない金庫のカギの修理を独自で研究し、ケンタッキー州レキシントンでのトレーニングにSRFから毎年参加者を送るようになった先駆けの人材であった。また、USSジョージワシントンを除く第七艦隊各艦船で重要なパーツであるエリソン社製ドアー修理手順を、知識維持トレーニングを活用し従業員へ教育するなど多くの功績を残した。

「入廠した頃、板金工場はでは板金資材管理とその加工業務がほとんどでしたが、現在では我が工場従業員の誰もがさまざまなカギの修理や整備ができます。若い後輩が困難に直面した時に前向きに対処し解決する姿を見るのが嬉しいです」と木村さんは述べた。

スタンシー大佐はスピーチを終えるにあたり、感謝を込め労いの言葉を送った。「退職者の皆さんには今後も我々と連絡を密にとり合い、お気軽にSRF-JRMCを訪ねていただきたいと思います。長年の誠意ある皆さんの勤務態度に心から敬意を表します。それゆえ、皆さんの退職は残される我々にとって、大きな挑戦になります。SRF-JRMCのモットー『何でもできます』のお手本となり、皆さんのような熟練した献身的な後任従業員を見つけることは容易ではありません。長年にわたり優れた業績を示し、誠意をもって勤務されてきた退職者に対し、アメリカ合衆国海軍を代表して、退職者の皆さんの献身的な勤務に感謝をするとともに、末永く、幸福で、健康で実り多き第２の人生を迎えられますことをお祈りしております。」

SRF-JRMC celebrates retiring Japanese employees during ceremony

Story and photos by Keiichi Adachi, CFAY Public Affairs

The U.S. Naval Ship Repair Facility and Japan Regional Maintenance Center (SRF-JRMC) bid farewell to six dedicated Japanese Master Labor Contract (MLC) employees during a retirement ceremony held at SRF-JRMC headquarters Dec. 17.

SRF-JRMC Commanding Officer Capt. Steven Stancy, with other SRF-JRMC leaders and the retirees' supervisors, co-workers and family members, gathered to celebrate the many years of invaluable service of the retiring MLC employees.

"I am very proud to represent the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Naval Ship Repair Facility Yokosuka and Japan Regional Maintenance Center in commending these retirees for their many years of service that has so significantly contributed to the security of both Japan and the United States as well as the entire Western Pacific," said Stancy.

According to Stancy, each of the retirees has made a significant contribution to the outstanding success achieved by SRF-JRMC and the subsequent reputation earned over the years, helping shape the command history through their noteworthy efforts. The six retirees represented a total of 20 dedicated MLC professionals that retired from SRF-JRMC in December.

Stancy shared some of the highlights from each of the retiree's dedicated careers and their contributions to SRF-JRMC and 7th Fleet with those attending the ceremony.

Toshiharu Yoshida started as an engineering technician in February 1982. He worked his way up to become the shop head of the Inside Machine Shop (X31) before finishing his 28 years and 10 months at SRF as the Machinery Shops group master (C310M), serving in that position for 11 years.

Katsuo Kadowaki is tossed into the air by members of the SRF-JRMC Electric and Electronics Shop Group during his farewell celebration.
板金工場の従業員が退職を祝い木村広雄さんを胴上げする。

Yoshimi Ishikawa started as a dock front man in February 1984, then serving in a number of foreman positions before completing his service as the paint shop head. He worked at SRF for 26 years and 10 months.

Ryuuichi Sato started as an equipment control clerk in September 1976. He worked at SRF for 34 years and three months in a number of equipment and engineering positions, before retiring as an industrial specialist in the Shop Division.

Hideyuki Isobe started as a marine internal combustion engine (M.I.C.E.) mechanic in May 1979. Of the 31 years and seven months he worked at SRF, Isobe served more than 23 years as a M.I.C.E. mechanic foreman in X38E/R.

While each of the retiring SRF employees were key to SRF-JRMC success, Katsuo Kadowaki and Hiroo Kimura have been two employees that embodied a typical SRF MLC worker's crucial role in mission support.

Katsuo Kadowaki started his 34-year three-month journey at SRF as a shop clerk in September 1976. He successively served as a shop scheduler before retiring as a ship repair planner (electronics).

To execute large Ship Alterations (SHIPALTs), such as GIG-E LAN (Gigabyte Ethernet LAN) Systems and Ships Signal Exploitation Equipment (SSEE), installed during various ships' Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) availabilities, Kadowaki processed thousands of material transactions for each CNO Availability. His dedication and untiring effort ensured all work could be successfully accomplished.

"We had a difficult time in altering barges, because material coordination among our shop, the Engineering and Planning Department, and other shops was not always easy," said Kadowaki. "I think close cooperation and communication are very important to successfully and safely conduct our business. I thank everyone for supporting me and hope SRF-JRMC will have a prosperous future."

Hiroo Kimura started working at SRF in April 1981, serving as a sheetmetal worker and foreman during his 29 years and 8 months of service.

Members of the SRF-JRMC Sheet Metal Shop gather around Hiroo Kimura to show their appreciation with many colorful streamers after his retirement ceremony.
電気・電子工場グループの従業員が門脇勝雄さんの周りを囲み多数の色鮮やかのリボンで感謝の念を表した。

His aspiration for self-improvement never changed from the time he joined SRF. Kimura was a pioneer who had studied locksmithing and safe repair, which was rarely conducted in the Steelmetal Shop at that time. Now, SRF-JRMC routinely performs locksmith work and participates in annual locksmith training in Lexington, Ky. He also made significant contributions in many other areas. Kimura taught other workers how to repair Ellison Doors, which are critical in 7th Fleet ships, by effectively applying knowledge retention training.

"When I entered SRF, our shop mostly took care of sheet metal materials and their work," Kimura said. "All employees of our shop can now work on various locksmith repairs and maintenance. I am always delighted when young workers faced with challenges are proactive to resolve and accomplish them."

Stancy concluded his speech by thanking each of the retirees.

"We would like each of you to remain close to SRF-JRMC and visit often. To each of today's retirees, we salute you for your long and faithful service to SRF-JRMC," said Stancy. "Your departure will be a great challenge for those you leave behind. It will be very difficult to replace your skills and dedication. You have personified SRF-JRMCs motto, 'Nandemo Dekimasu.' Each of you, our retirees, has served skillfully and faithfully for many years. On behalf of the United States Navy, I am honored to thank you for your dedicated service and wish you a long, happy, healthy and prosperous future."