

Editor's Introduction

This year's *Japanese Journal of American Studies* features "America and the World" as its special topic, a topic selected by the journal's editorial committee in 2015. Most of the articles published in the *Japanese Journal of American Studies*, including those from back issues, are freely available on the Internet (<http://www.jaas.gr.jp>).

The first part of this issue concerns American identity in the world. Takashi Aso in "Ethics of the Transpacific: Dinh Q. Lê, Sàn Art, and Memories of War" addresses the question of transculture in the context of the transpacific by focusing on one of today's best-known Vietnamese American artists, Dinh Q. Lê. Aso analyzes Lê's commitment to the international and Vietnamese contemporary art scenes and seeks to clarify the ways in which he introduces new perspectives from which to view the relationship between the United States and Vietnam. Katsuyuki Murata in "Solidarity Based Not on Sameness: Aspects of the Black-Palestinian Connection" not only examines how Black-Palestinian solidarity developed but also addresses the monolithic image of the global connection between the two groups. Kazuteru Omori argues in "'Little America' in Africa: Liberia as a Touchstone for African Americans" that Americo-Liberians did everything they could to be Americans in Africa but failed to realize an African American dream of fairness and affluence in Liberia and America because of their excessive faith in the American Creed and its applicability in Africa. Michael Gorman argues in "Rural Cosmopolitanism and Cultural Imperialism in Willa Cather's *One of Ours*" that Cather's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel reflects America's international involvement and cosmopolitan identity in isolated communities.

The second part of this issue concerns American involvement in the world. In "The United States and the British Withdrawal from South Arabia, 1962–1967," Toru Onozawa analyzes why US officials acquiesced to the British withdrawal from Aden and South Arabia. Naoki Kamimura in

“‘Liberal’ America and Bolivia’s Revolutionary Challenge, 1952–1960: An Interpretation in a Comparative Framework” analyzes the reasons behind and the consequences of US foreign policy toward Bolivia’s revolutionary regime, a policy that was in stark contrast to the usual American tendency during the Cold War to equate Third World revolutionary regimes with Communism and Soviet expansionism. Finally, Akiyo Yamamoto in “US Hungarian Refugee Policy, 1956–1957” analyzes the roles and motives of various institutions and citizens in the US private sector in accepting and supporting Hungarian refugees between 1956 and 1957, a national policy that the Eisenhower administration carried out through private institutions and individuals.

We hope that the journal will continue to make intellectual contributions in the field of American Studies.

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Editor