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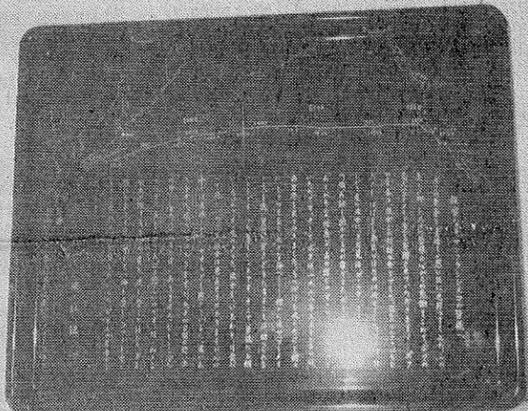
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MONDAY, JULY 15, 1966

From Intrepid Sailor Kenichi Horie

A Love Note to Marine Museum



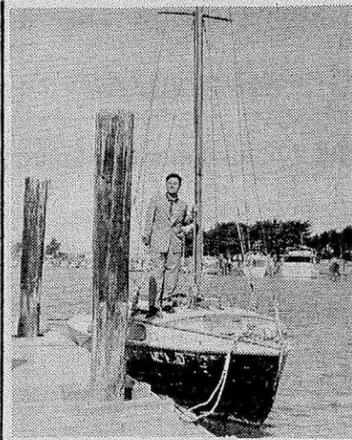
It's been almost six years since a young Japanese sailor named Kenichi Horie from Osaka brought his 19-foot sloop into the San Francisco Bay after crossing 5,300 miles of the Pacific Ocean in 94 days.

The sloop named "Mermaid" was donated to the city of San Francisco and it is being displayed at the San Francisco Maritime Museum at the foot of Van Ness Ave. near the Fishermens Pier.

Karl Kortum, director of the museum, received a large lacquer tray (shown above) last Wednesday from Horie, now reported to be working as assistant to his father, who operates an auto repair shop in Osaka.

The tray was presented to Kortum by Jilchiro Yonemoto of Sunnyvale, who returned from a visit to Japan recently. Horie, who met Yonemoto in Osaka, had asked Yonemoto to take it back to San Francisco.

On this tray is inscribed with gold brush work a note from



Kenichi Horie
and his "Mermaid"
in August, 1962
at SF Yacht Harbor

side of the sloop at the San Francisco Maritime Museum

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On this tray is inscribed with gold brush work a note from Horie asking the people of San Francisco to "be kind to my lover, The Mermaid."

Horie had the assistance of the Rotary Club of Kanan City to prepare this inscription and the tray. It is now on display along



Kenichi Horie and his "Mermaid" in August, 1962 at SF Yacht Harbor

side of the sloop at the San Francisco Maritime Museum.

The sloop left Japan on May 12, 1962, and arrived in San Francisco Aug. 12, Sunday, 1962.

Horie's note in Japanese, its Romaji transliteration and English translation follow:

親愛なる、サンフランシスコの皆様へ

ボクの青春を、素晴らしい思い出に色彩つてくれたこの美しい町、シスコの皆様は心からの感謝をこめて、ボクの恋人（マーメイド號）を寄贈させていたゞきます。……ボクの青春は、彼女との對話が全てでした。弱氣になりがちなボクを、はげまし勇氣づけたのは彼女でした。ボクは、淋しがり屋の彼女にまだ見ぬ、ゴールデン・ゲート・ブリッジ（金門橋）の話、聞かせるのが常でした。ボク達は若い恋人にありがちな、性急な、あの信じやすさで、強く結ばれていたのです。そして、ボクは一九六二年五月十二日夜、西宮港を出て行きました。ちつぽけな彼女だけを頼りに、とてつもなく、大きな海へ……確かに彼女（マーメイド號）を異國に置きざりにすることは、耐へられないことです。つらい苦しいことです。そこで皆様に、お願いしたいのです。疲れきつた、彼女を、いたわり、可愛がつて欲しいのです。彼女は色あせてはおりますが、心の中では、名状しがたい、やすらぎを感じているに、違いありません。ひとりぼちの彼女に、聲をかけて欲しいのです。話し好きな彼女が語る、大平洋の、星と、波と、空との話にも、耳を傾けて欲しいのです。海を愛し、ヨットを愛し、大きな國、アメリカを愛した一人の日本人の若者がしたことを……

堀江 謙

Shin-ai naru San Francisco no Minasama e . . .

Boku no seishun o subarashii omoide ni irodotte kureta kono utsukushii Shisuko no minasama ni kokoro kara no kansha o komete Boku no koibito "Mermaid Goh" o kisoo sasete itadaki masu . . . Boku no seishun wa kanojo to no taiwa ga subete deshita. Yowaki ni narigachi na Boku o hagemashite yuuki-zuketa no wa kanojo deshita.

Boku wa sabishi-gariya no kanojo ni mada minu Golden Gate Bridge (Kinmonkyoo) no hanashi o kikaseru no ga tsune deshita. Bokutachi wa wakai koibito ni arigachina kyouseina ano shinjiyasusa de tsuyoku musubarete ita no desu. Soshite Boku wa 1962-nen 5-gatsu 12-nichi yoru Nishinomiya-koo o dete yukimashita. Chippokena kanojo dake o tayori ni totetsumonaku ookii umi e . . .

Tashika ni kanojo "Mermaid Goh" o tooi ikoku ni okizari ni suru koto wa taerarenai koto desu. Tsurai kurushii koto desu. Sokode minasama ni onegai shitai no desu. Tsukarekitta kanojo o itawari kawaiatte hoshii no desu. Kanojo wa iro-asete wa orimasu ga, kokoro no naka de wa meijoo shi gatai yasuragi o kanjite iru ni chigai arimasen. Kizutsuite wa orimasu ga 94-nichikan no omoide no naka ni hittate iru ni chigai arimasen. Hitoribotchi no kanojo ni koe o kakete ategete hoshii no desu.

Hanashizukina kanojo ga kataru Taiheiyoo no hoshi to, nami to, sora to, no hanashi nimo mimi o katamukete agete hoshii no desu. Umi o aishi, yotto o aishi, ookina kuni, America o aishta hitori no Nihonjin no wakamono ga shita koto o . . .

Horie Kenichi

To My Dear Friends in San Francisco . . .

I would like for you — the people of this beautiful City of San Francisco, the City that I shall remember as the one that made my youth such a colorful event — to accept my most loved one, "The Mermaid." My entire youth was spent in carrying on a conversation with her. She was the one who gave me courage when I was lonely and weak.

She is a lonely heart, too. I tried to encourage her when she was depressed by talking to her about the Golden Gate Bridge that she had longed to see. Both of us were tied together strongly by trusting each other with the impatience of young lovers. The two of us left Nishinomiya Port on the night of May 12, 1962. Putting entire confidence in the strength of this little lover of mine, we set sail into the vast ocean ahead of us . . .

It is unbearable for me, now, to leave her behind in a foreign country. It pains my heart terribly to think that she is left behind alone. You will please be kind to her. Please be kind to my tired lover; please be good to her. Although she may look a bit unpainted and pale, I don't doubt that she is most serenely contented inside. She is injured all over, but she is immersed in the memories of her 94 days on high seas.

Will you please speak to her, this lonely heart, when you are moved to do so. And will you please listen to her talk about the stars, the waves and the skies over the Pacific Ocean. And recall for a short moment, if you will, the deed of a young Japanese, who loved the yacht and the United States of America.

Kenichi Horie