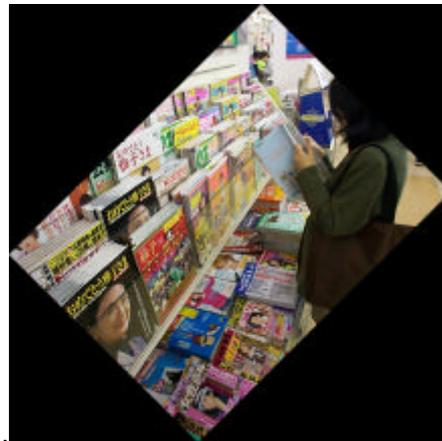


MP-27 "Beige" May 2nd, 2001



A new subway station. The back of a subway train just before it left the station, and one of the new stations with the walled in platforms. (The double exposure effect of the middle photo is due to shooting through the barrier glass.)



Over a road on a pedestrian overpass - under and beside the tracks in Oji. Next, looking out the back of one of the last streetcars in Tokyo (that I rode from Oji to Otsuka).

Now- take a close look at the third picture. It might be a little hard to tell, but several of the women's magazines have photos of Princess Masako on their covers, with titles like "Omedeto Masako-sama" ("Congratulations, Princess Masako"). It's a big deal that she's pregnant - she's 37 and people were getting worried about future Emperors.....



Out on the afternoon trains on the edge of Tokyo. They are fairly empty due to its being the middle of "Golden Week" now. The picture on the far right is an aerial view (obviously!) of Shinjuku Station and the surrounding area. I scanned it off of the cover of a pamphlet from "Tokyo Kokudo"... the... um... "Highway Department" maybe?



Bottom part of one of the bank envelopes that I mentioned before - this one for the newly formed "Mitsui-Sumitomo Ginko" or "SMBC - Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation".

The heading from the Yomiuri Shinbun (I don't agree with the "Shimbun" spelling!) I'm putting in here to go along with the front page newspaper scan below:



The recently announced group of politicians that are in Prime Minister Koizumi's government.

In the middle photo, notice how that regular house and yard are smashed in there among the much taller surrounding buildings... I don't think they get a lot of direct sun in that house!

..... and the junk continues to pile up in the stairwell! I like the way the upside-down chair in the middle is on top of an old Apple monitor which is on top of a working, but not very good Compaq which in turn is on a gutted Dell OptiPlex GXa - (little more than an empty box). Below that... well, never mind! One my e-pals expressed concern about the situation - "What if there's a fire?", etc., which reminded me that this sort of thing would be more difficult for a company to get away with in some other countries. Actually, it is possible to just squeeze by that pile of junk and get down the stairs (which I often do to escape overtime!), but if it fell during an earthquake... I guess I could still climb over it.... Space constraints being what they are in Tokyo, if the fire department were to strictly enforce fire escape laws, they would make more enemies than it would be tenable to deal with! So - it's a case of "shogana!" ("It can't be helped.") Well - so much for this one. Sore dewa! Lyle (PS There is "Beige" in only one photo - the diagonal platform view... but it seems to be very popular this spring.)

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