



MP-03  
"Kashiwa"  
May 5th, 2000

All three photos were taken on April 27th in Kashiwa. The first one (#218) was taken on my way to work, the second one (#235) was taken at work, and the third one (#239) was taken in front of Kashiwa Station just before I got on the Joban Line to go back to central Tokyo.

- 1) The plaza on the second floor level beside Kashiwa Station. The department store straight ahead is Sogo Department Store... a store that has lost so much money, that the man at the top recently committed suicide. Almost all of the department stores are not doing well, but overall it's probably a good thing for society in general, as people are able to buy things for much more reasonable prices at discount stores now.
- 2) This was taken in the office at the school I work at in Kashiwa. It's a small office, but this desk arrangement is quite common in Japan... with people all facing each other and working in one big open space. I don't usually go into the office at all, but there was a call from the head office for me... asking me if I could fill in for another teacher that evening (I couldn't).
- 3) On the same plaza as the first photo, but facing the other way - at the right side of the picture is the entrance to Kashiwa Station. Notice the high school girls with their mini-skirt uniforms.

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