

AiShinKai Just for Fun

November 20, 2010

Japanese Quality

They're still laughing about this at IBM. In the 1990s, IBM decided to have some of their parts manufactured in Japan in a trial project. In the specifications, they set out that they would accept three defective parts per 10,000. When the delivery came, there was an accompanying letter.

"We, Japanese people, had a hard time understanding North American business practices. But the three defective parts per 10,000 have been separately manufactured and have been included in the consignment. Hope this pleases you."



"I just can't seem to get this chiburi right!"



Ah, thanks, but I couldn't possibly . . . I'm just too full.



Hero of the Week

George Washington (1732-1799)

The dominant military and political leader of the new United States of America from 1775 to 1797, leading the American victory over Britain in the American Revolutionary War as commander in chief of the Continental Army, 1775–1783, and presiding over the writing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787. As the unanimous choice to serve as the first President of the United States (1789–1797), he developed the forms and rituals of government that have been used ever since, such as using a cabinet system and delivering an inaugural address. The president built a strong, well-financed national government that avoided war, suppressed rebellion and won acceptance among Americans of all types. Acclaimed ever since as the "Father of his country", Washington, along with Abraham Lincoln, has become a central icon of republican values, self sacrifice in the name of the nation, American nationalism and the ideal union of civic and military leadership.

Washington's experience, his military bearing, his leadership of the Patriot cause in Virginia, and his political base in the largest colony made him the obvious choice of the Second Continental Congress in 1775 as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army to fight the British in the American Revolution. He forced the British out of Boston in 1776, but was defeated and nearly captured later that year when he lost New York City. After crossing the Delaware River in the dead of winter he defeated the British in two battles and retaking New Jersey. Because of his strategy, Revolutionary forces captured two major British armies at Saratoga in 1777 and Yorktown in 1781. Negotiating with Congress, governors, and French allies, he held together a tenuous army and a fragile nation amid the threats of disintegration and invasion. Historians give the commander in chief high marks for his selection and supervision of his generals, his encouragement of morale, his coordination with the state governors and state militia units, his relations with Congress, and his attention to supplies, logistics, and training. Washington is given full credit for the strategies that forced the British evacuation of Boston in 1776 and the surrender at Yorktown in 1781. After victory was finalized in 1783 by the Treaty of Paris, Washington resigned his commission as commander-in-chief rather than seize power and returned to his plantation at Mount Vernon; this stunned aristocratic Europe and prompted his erstwhile enemy King George III to call him "the greatest character of the age". Historian Gordon Wood concluded that Washington's resignation at that critical moment in the new nation's history was the greatest act of his life.

Washington presided over the Constitutional Convention that drafted the United States Constitution in 1787 because of his dissatisfaction with the weaknesses of Articles of Confederation that had time and again impeded the war effort. Washington became President of

the United States in 1789. Once President, he attempted to bring rival factions together in order to create a more unified nation. He supported Alexander Hamilton's programs to pay off all the state and national debts, implement an effective tax system, and create a national bank, despite opposition from Thomas Jefferson. Washington proclaimed the U.S. neutral in the wars raging in Europe after 1793. He avoided war with Britain and guaranteed a decade of peace and profitable trade by securing the Jay Treaty in 1795, despite intense opposition from the Jeffersonians. Although never officially joining the Federalist Party, he supported its programs. Washington's farewell address was a primer on republican virtue and a stern warning against partisanship, sectionalism, and involvement in foreign wars. Washington had a vision of a great and powerful nation that would be built on republican lines using federal power. He sought to use the national government to improve the infrastructure, open the western lands, create a national university, promote commerce, found a capital city (later named Washington, D.C.), reduce regional tensions and promote a spirit of nationalism. "The name of AMERICAN," he said, must override any local attachments." At his death Washington was hailed as "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen". The Federalists made him the symbol of their party, but for many years the Jeffersonians continued to distrust him and delayed building the Washington Monument. As the leader of the first successful revolution against a colonial empire in world history, Washington became an international icon for liberation and nationalism. His symbolism especially resonated in France and Latin America. Historical scholars consistently rank him as one of the two or three greatest presidents. Washington was the embodiment of the American colonies' armed resistance to the Crown—the representative man of the Revolution. His enormous stature and political skills kept Congress, the army, the French, the militias, and the states all pointed toward a common goal. By voluntarily stepping down and disbanding his army when the war was won, he permanently established the principle of civilian supremacy in military affairs. And yet his constant reiteration of the point that well-disciplined professional soldiers counted for twice as much as erratic amateurs helped overcome the ideological distrust of a standing army.

The 1st United States Congress voted to pay Washington a salary of \$25,000 a year—a large sum in 1789. Washington, already wealthy, declined the salary, since he valued his image as a selfless public servant. At the urging of Congress, however, he ultimately accepted the payment, to avoid setting a precedent whereby the presidency would be perceived as limited only to independently wealthy individuals who could serve without any salary. The president, aware that everything he did set a precedent, attended carefully to the pomp and ceremony of office, making sure that the titles and trappings were suitably republican and never emulated European royal courts. To that end, he preferred the title "Mr. President" to the more majestic names suggested. Washington proved an able administrator. An excellent delegator and judge of talent and character, he talked regularly with department heads and listened to their advice before making a final decision. In handling routine tasks, he was "systematic, orderly, energetic, solicitous of the opinion of others but decisive, intent upon general goals and the consistency of particular actions with them." Washington reluctantly served a second term as president. He refused to run for a third, establishing the customary policy of a maximum of two terms for a president.

As president Washington made a point of attending services at numerous churches, including Presbyterian, Quaker and Catholic, to show his general support for religion. Washington was known for his generosity. Highly gregarious, he attended many charity events and donated money to colleges, schools and to the poor. As Philadelphia's leading citizen, President Washington took the lead in providing charity to widows and orphans hit by the yellow fever

epidemic that devastated the capital city in 1793. Washington died at his Mount Vernon home in Virginia on Saturday December 14, 1799, aged 67. His last words were "'Tis well." Throughout the world, men and women were saddened by Washington's death. Napoleon ordered ten days of mourning throughout France; in the United States, thousands wore mourning clothing for months. Representative Henry "Light-Horse Harry" Lee, a Revolutionary War comrade and father of the Civil War general Robert E. Lee, famously eulogized Washington as follows:

First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen, he was second to none in humble and enduring scenes of private life. Pious, just, humane, temperate, and sincere; uniform, dignified, and commanding; his example was as edifying to all around him as were the effects of that example lasting...Correct throughout, vice shuddered in his presence and virtue always felt his fostering hand. The purity of his private character gave effulgence to his public virtues...Such was the man for whom our nation mourns.

Lee's words set the standard by which Washington's overwhelming reputation was impressed upon the American memory. Washington set many precedents for the national government and the presidency in particular, and was called the "Father of His Country" as early as 1778. During the United States Bicentennial year, George Washington was posthumously appointed to the grade of General of the Armies of the United States by congressional joint resolution Public Law 94-479 passed on January 19, 1976. With an effective appointment date of July 4, 1976., this law restored Washington's position as the highest-ranking military officer in U.S. history.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Washington



"He shouldn't feel so badly about losing his key. I'm sure he can have another one made."

Puzzle of the Week

AiShinRyu Aikido *Word Search*

I C N E T B A A I I I I T H I
L H G I O E B S A I H R B A G
K A S O H I N K D I C O H K O
N O K E H S N K M B U D O A S
Z E K S A I N I A A N N Z M I
N O E Y H G R A I N E A M A M
B U R S U I E K Z O M R U I T
E Y I I O N I T B Y O I N O S
T A N T O D A N O K H A E Y U
S H I H O N A G E K S A T T K
K A I K I D O B E I N M S O I
A T A K O R I H S U S H U R C
Q I H C U N E M O K O Y K I C
I Y I G O K I E K T A Z I E S
B V L B U M M X S R S A K A S

AIKIDO
AIKIDOKA
AISHINKAI
BOOKEN
BUDO
HAKAMA
IKKYO
IRIMI
KATA
KEIKOGI
KOKYUNAGE
KOTEGAESHI
MAAI
MISOGI
MUNETSUKI
NAGE
RANDORI
SEIZA
SHIHONAGE
SHOMENUCHI
TANTO
TENKAN
TORI
TSUKI
UESHIBA
UKE
USHIRO
YOKOMENUCHI
ZANSHIN
ZORI

Answers to last weeks quizzes (11/13/2010):

Children

1. What style of Aikido we practice called? **AiShinRyu**
2. Who was the original Founder of Aikido? **Ueshiba Morihei**
3. What does the term "kokyu" mean? **Timing**

Adults

1. What does the word Aikido mean? **Harmonious Spirit Way**
2. What is Shin-Soe-Tai? **Heaven-Earth-Man**
3. Who was Bannister Sensei's first Aikido teacher? **Ikeda Hiroshi**
4. What philosophy gave rise to the Gojo (Toku no Gojo) Bushido
5. What Japanese word means strong? **Suyoi**
6. The word Zori means? **Footwear**
7. Ichi-Byoshi-no-Uchi means? **Hit in one time**
8. Shihan means? **Head instructor**
9. Iaido traces its roots to whom? **Hayashizaki Jinsuke (Minamoto no) Shigenobu**
10. Why are parties so important in martial arts? **Make friends**