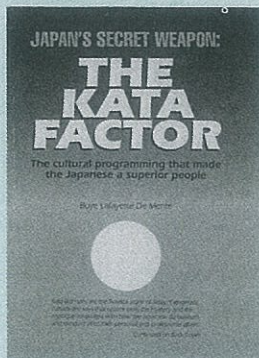


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JAPAN'S SECRET WEAPON: THE KATA FACTOR

The Cultural programming that Made the Japanese a Superior People

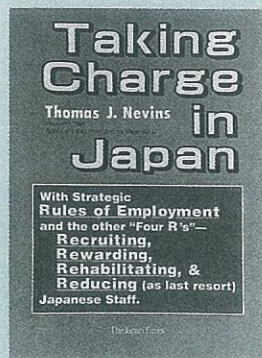
By Boye Lafayette De Mente Phoenix Books

Drawing on more than 40 years of first-hand experience, Boye De Mente is one of a rare breed of Japanologists whose eminently readable works provide truly useful insights into Japan's society and business culture without digressing into platitudes or dangerous generalizations. De Mente's previous books "Japanese Etiquette and Ethics in Business" (1960) and "How to Do Business With the Japanese" (1962) are classics in the genre still unsurpassed by the recent flood of 'business in Japan' guidebooks. The author's latest contribution, "JAPAN'S SECRET WEAPON: THE KATA FACTOR", goes beyond the 'how' of dealing with the Japanese to a discussion of the 'why' of Japanese behavior. Describing 'kata' as "the cultural molds which have traditionally shaped and defined the attitude, behavior, and character of the Japanese", De Mente explains their most important forms, providing information fundamental to relations with the Japanese. Although the author cautions that foreigners will require years of experience to use the 'kata' effectively, careful study of THE KATA FACTOR is sure to improve the reader's understanding of Japanese behavior and to be a valuable reference in years to come.

TAKING CHARGE IN JAPAN

By Thomas J. Nevins
The Japan Times

One of the most difficult aspects of an expatriate manager's job in running a Japanese operation is the management of human resources. Simply superimposing policies from the home office over Japanese staff usually leads to constant headaches if not to outright disasters. Thomas J. Nevins, with nearly 20 years of experience in Japan, has been a leading consultant and commentator on foreign management of Japanese personnel and his latest book, TAKING CHARGE IN JAPAN, brings together many of his previously published articles in a single work. Nevins's book focuses mainly on recruiting and retaining management-level personnel and in this regard, provides useful advice for companies grappling with the increasingly severe problem of hiring key managers. TAKING CHARGE IN JAPAN covers the breadth of human resources management and in so doing, offers the reader a solid overview of Japan-oriented personnel strategies as well as a wide array of thought provoking ideas and advice.



OUT OF TIME

R.E.M.
Warner Bros.

R.E.M. have produced an album that is an extension of their classic style. Kate Pierson of the B-52's sings on three tracks one of them being "Shiny Happy People". The album is full of emotion and this is reflected in the lyrics chosen by singer Michael Stipe. The album ends on a folk country combination with

Stipe and Pierson performing "Me In Honey". R.E.M. have created OUT OF TIME with the use of some new instruments (such as the Harpsichord and Organ), moving away from the guitar-bass-drum influence but still maintaining R.E.M. characteristics.



THE WHITE ROOM

The KLF
Coma.

The KLF have produced this album with various songs from 1987 to 1991, mainly those used in The KLF Motion Picture, "THE WHITE ROOM". Maxine Harvey is the leading back-up vocalist in the album. The album includes the live version of "3 A.M. Eternal" and "What Time is

Love". The mixing in the album uses material from U2, The Doors, and some of The KLF's previous material such as songs from the album CHILL OUT. The mixing is excellent, resulting in a combination of what is one of The KLF's best works.



KILL UNCLE

Morrissey
Sire.

Since Morrissey's days in The Smiths his albums have contemplated certain aspects of life and KILL UNCLE follows this theme. With the assistance of producers Clive Langer and Alan Wistanley he has managed to produce a mellow and emotional album. In "The Harsh Truth of the

Camera Eye" he has mixed chords and words perfectly. KILL UNCLE speaks the truth about the "supposed" glamour of life from Morrissey's perspective, thus expressing his individuality as a performer.



NIGHT RIDE HOME

Joni Mitchell
Geffen.

This is Joni Mitchell's 17th album and with the assistance of her husband Larry Klein she has produced songs sketched out on basses, keyboards and guitars. Her vocabulary is soft and subtle, still influenced by her ever present romantic touches. She has been able to adapt a W.B. Yeates poem to produce "Slouching Towards Bethlehem". The introduction in "Two Grey Rooms" leaves the listener with a beautiful piano piece. Joni Mitchell has managed to produce a masterpiece with NIGHT RIDE HOME.

CDs are kindly donated by HMV Record Stores.