

Part 4
The third stage of my life as business consultant
(6)
33-day Investigation trip to the States
Owner-Operator System
(18 stories)

I left Narita airport by the Northwest for Detroit on October 18, 1993. It was right after I received the copy of the newspaper in which the first edition of my article “Suggestions for the owner-operator system” was published. It was the beginning of the series of eight in all. It occupied one whole page to invite so attractive and eye catching to the readers. I put it into my bag with me.

The trip took 33-day including a week family trip to Hawaii in New Year three holidays. My additional trip to Hawaii was not a holiday tour for me. I visited Hawaii Transportation Associations, Inc. and some trucking companies.

After returning home, I began to write a series of articles for the newspaper on my investigation trip to the States, which was published in a series of fifteen editions in all. One of the university professors well-known in the trucking industry, Professor Nakata, wrote in the newspaper, “I have been reading Mr. Yoshida’s article with much interest and good understanding about the American Owner-Operator system. More interesting thing about his article is that he writes about people and places making me feel as if I am reading the travelogues full of culture and humane stories in the anthropological aspect...” He even wrote me saying, “I am enjoying reading your article. Not only as the report of the owner-operator system but also as ‘a personal history of a man of youth’

The article of my US investigation trip would be as good a volume as a book to be published. It consists of eighteen stories. Here is the summary of the stories.