1 Introduction

In FY2016, Streamgraph Inc. undertook a project for the “Research of Takeshima-related Documents and Compilation of such Documents” under commission from the Office of Policy Planning and Coordination on Territory and Sovereignty of the Cabinet Secretariat. The aim of the project was to research and organize Takeshima-related archive materials existing mainly in Shimane Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Tokyo and other areas, and then to create a catalogue of materials and digital image data that could be used for research and other purposes. A research team of specialists was launched and the project was conducted from July 2016 to March 2017 with advice from an expert research committee. This report is the summary of the outcome of the research.

It should be noted that this research is not necessarily comprehensive. Also, the content published in this report and the collection and selection of materials in this project have been produced and undertaken based on the decision of the research team, in line with advice from the research committee. They should not be construed as representing the views of the Government of Japan.

2 Subject Materials

With a view to contributing to the research on Takeshima, the research team researched and catalogued Takeshima-related materials mainly existing in Shimane Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Tokyo and other areas, focusing on the period between the Edo Period (the 17th century) and the 1950s. The research mainly targeted materials that show factual data. As well as identifying the locations of these materials, relevant image data was also collected and organized as much as possible.

The collected materials were categorized into official documents, press reports and other materials, then systematically organized with the addition of titles, authors/editors, excerpts, content summaries, accessibility and other details, and finally compiled as a catalogue of materials and digital image data. The main goal is to publish the collected materials on “the Takeshima Archives Portal”. 
3 Project Goals

So far, Takeshima-related materials have been identified and collected by the Takeshima Issue Research Group of the Shimane Prefectural Government, and by individual experts affiliated with the Group. In FY2014 and FY2015, materials were systematically organized in the project for Research on Takeshima-related Documents, conducted by a commission from the Office of Policy Planning and Coordination on Territory and Sovereignty of the Cabinet Secretariat. Some of that research has already been publicized online on the website of the Cabinet Secretariat, “the Takeshima Archives Portal”.

The aim of the project this fiscal year was to further enhance and systemize research materials related to Takeshima, by expanding the geographical scope from Shimane Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture and Tokyo to other prefectures such as Chiba and Yamaguchi. Also, based on the series of Takeshima-related events in each decade and past research outcomes, it was decided that extensive research of the related materials should be conducted.

Meanwhile, a research committee consisting of eminent experts was created to provide advice on the collected materials and on the research undertaken by the research team for this project.

(Reference) Takeshima-related Events

| 1904 | In the 17th century, fishing began around Utsuryo Island (Ullungdo) under the shogunate's authority, and Japanese fishermen used Takeshima as a navigational port en route to Utsuryo Island. Sea lion hunting began in Takeshima (mid-17th century).
| Yozaburo NAKAI requested that the Japanese government incorporate the region of Takeshima into its territory and to lease it (September 29, 1904). |

| 1905 - 1945 | The Government of Japan decided the incorporation of Takeshima and the name of the island, its belonging and its magistracy by a cabinet decision (January 28, 1905). The Governor of Shimane Prefecture announced the name and the magistracy of Takeshima (Shimane Prefectural Notification No. 40 on February 22, 1905). |

| 1945 - | Memorandum of order to suspend Governmental and Administrative authority (January 29, 1946). The San Francisco Peace Treaty was signed (September 8, 1951). The Republic of Korea incorporated Takeshima in the area surrounded by the Syngman Rhee Line, where the ROK unilaterally proclaimed fishery jurisdiction (January 18, 1952).
| The Government of Japan criticized this proclamation, as it was against the freedom of the high seas, and strongly protested the ROK’s claim (January 28, 1952). The San Francisco Peace Treaty became effective (April 28, 1952). The Government of Japan provided Takeshima as a bombing range for the U.S. Forces, in accordance with the Administrative Agreement of the Security Treaty between Japan and the United States of America (July 28, 1952). Takeshima was removed from the list of the U.S. bombing ranges (March 19, 1953).
| Shimane Prefecture granted common fishing rights for Takeshima’s adjacent waters to the Federation of Oki Island Fishery Cooperatives (June 18, 1953). (The Prefecture also granted sea lion hunting rights on June 10.) The Government of Japan proposed to refer the Takeshima dispute to the International Court of Justice (September 25, 1954). Since then, Japan made the same proposal in March 1962 and in August 2012, but ROK rejected both. |

4 Research Team Members

The research team researched, organized, verified and digitized Takeshima-related archive materials. The members of the team were as follows:

**Please note that Fumie UCHIDA, Kumiko KITAMURA, Miyuki WADA, Namiko IIDA, Reiko OYA and Kumiko OKAMOTO cooperated with us to reprint old documents and translate into modern language, and supported to proofread them.**

Members

Research Supervisor
Kenji FUJII
Advisor, Takeshima Issue Research, Shimane Prefecture (also a member of this project’s research committee)

Senior Researcher
Yoshiko YAMASAKI
Member, Takeshima Issue Research Group of Shimane Prefectural Government (Terms II and III)

Researcher
Teruko UCHIDA
Temporary Staff, Shimane Prefectural Takeshima Reference Room

Project Manager
Hiroyuki OSAKI
Executive, Streamgraph Inc.
5 Research Outcome (Summary)

(1) Outcome Overview

Approximately 340 Takeshima-related materials in Shimane Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Tokyo and other prefectures were identified, and the materials were catalogued and digitized.

The main contents of the materials were as follows:

(a) Materials which show the peaceful and continuous exercise of sovereignty by Japan

As materials showing Japanese people using Takeshima since the Edo Period were introduced in our previous year’s report, materials on Takeshima’s incorporation into Shimane Prefecture in 1905 and the peaceful and continuous exercise of sovereignty by the Government of Japan afterward were recorded this year.

(See Exemplar Document 1)

(b) Materials on Korea’s recognition of Takeshima and its territorial claims

The “Introduction to the Dokdo Issue,” which was published around 1955 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK, was reported. This is a summary of the ROK’s “reasoning” after the two diplomatic exchanges between the two countries during 1953 and 1954 to claim ownership of Takeshima.

(See Exemplar Document 2)

(c) Materials on Takeshima’s position after World War II and the process leading to unlawful occupation by the ROK

Materials on measures taken by the General Headquarters, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (GHQ/SCAP) and the U.S. Forces; corresponding measures taken by Shimane Prefecture; the San Francisco Peace Treaty which determined that Takeshima should remain a territory of Japan; and the “Syngman Rhee Line,” in which the ROK unilaterally established “water-zone” where the ROK claimed its fishery jurisdiction and incorporated Takeshima within the “zone” in January 1952, and the protest against the “Syngman Rhee Line” by the Government of Japan are reported.

(See Exemplar Document 3-5)

(2) Research Process

Research Schedule

2016
July - September
- Conducted preliminary research and established research schedule.
- Held the first research committee meeting on July 5, and confirmed the research schedule.
- Began research in various locations, mainly in Shimane, Tottori, Yamaguchi and Chiba Prefectures and Tokyo.
- Conducted research on Oki Island (Dozen and Dogo Areas).
- Created digital images of the materials from the library of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Institute of Developing Economies.

October - November
- Continued material research with institutions and private individuals, and sorted out the confirmed materials.
- Conducted research by expanding the geographical scope to other prefectures, such as Ibaraki, Gifu and Fukui.
- Held the second research committee meeting (November 11) and discussed the research outcome. Confirmed research progress and reconsidered the issues. Discussed the goals of additional research.
- Created digital images of the materials from the library of Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology and the Yamaguchi Prefectural Archives.
- Created digital images of the privately owned materials of Oki Island (Dozen Area).

December
- Conducted additional research.
- Created the catalogue inventory of the confirmed materials.

2017
January - February
- Created the catalogue inventory and a draft of this report.
- Created digital images of the materials from the Yamaguchi Prefectural Archives and Matsue History Museum.
- Held the third research committee meeting (January 29). Confirmed the outcome of additional research and discussed the draft of this report. Summarized the research outcome.

March
- Created the catalogue inventory and Takeshima-related materials (draft).
- Created this report and completed the project.
(3) Material Sources and Collected Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material Sources</th>
<th>Collected Materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shimane Prefecture (Department of General Affairs)</td>
<td>The Shimane Prefecture Statistical Report in 1904 which contained information on Takeshima, and notification of leased common fishing rights in Takeshima after World War II.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shimane Prefecture Public Records Center</td>
<td>Application form to Shimane Prefecture for the use of diving gear by individuals, such as Takeshima NARA, who were involved in the development of Takeshima, materials related to the cadastral compilation at the beginning of the Meiji Period, materials related to the right to use fishing zones in the sea, and amendments to fisheries regulations during the Taisho Period (1912 - 1920).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shimane Prefecture Takeshima Reference Room</td>
<td>Material which include the letter from the U.S. Embassy in the ROK to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK to reaffirm the &quot;Rusk Letter&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shimane Prefectural Fishery Technology Center</td>
<td>Reports on trials of long-line mackerel fishing by the Fisheries Research Institute of the Government-General of Chosen (Korea).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shimane Prefectural Library</td>
<td>Press materials to show the stories and details of Takeshima’s incorporation into Shimane Prefecture (by Shoyo Shimpo newspaper), official gazette and press materials, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shimane University Library</td>
<td>Copies of Oki-kokishu [Ancient records of Oki], the topography in the Edo Period, which shows the distance to Takeshima.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matue History Museum</td>
<td>Materials related to the cadastral compilation at the beginning of the Meiji Period, which contain details of Takeshima (such as &quot;Okino-kuni Chishi no Shishigaki [Records of Oki County]&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nishinoshima Town</td>
<td>Notices for Fishermen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sain-in Chuo Shimpō Newspaper Co., Ltd.</td>
<td>Photographs of the “Shimane-maru,” the ship owned by the Shimane Prefecture Fisheries Research Institute, when it landed in Takeshima (1954), and photographs of the fishing research done in Takeshima by the Kumi Fishermen’s Association of Goka Village of Oki Island (1954).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material Sources</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tottori Prefectural Archives</td>
<td>Materials on the first Guncho (district headman) of Oki Island and materials on the Records of Oki.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Diet Library (Tokyo Main Library and Kansai-kan)</td>
<td>Press materials on Takeshima’s incorporation into Shimane Prefecture, various Oki-related statistics which contain descriptions of Takeshima (1907 - ), commerce and industry information from Shimane Prefecture (1910), Shimane-ken kanshi (Shimane Prefectural journals) (1923), Takeshima-related GHQ orders after World War II, the U.S. responses to Korea’s requests regarding the draft of the peace treaty with Japan (&quot;the Rusk Letter&quot;), the ROK press materials, and western maps in the early Meiji Period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology Library (Shinagawa Campus)</td>
<td>Reports from the Fisheries Research Institute of the Government-General of Chosen (Korea) (1937) and the attached map of the Shimane Prefecture Fisheries Overview (1933).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Developing Economies Library, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)</td>
<td>Korean government official gazette, the &quot;Introduction to the Dokdo Island&quot;, other articles which the ROK claims sovereignty over Takeshima.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kobe Chuo Municipal Library</td>
<td>Press materials reporting the name change of Takeshima and sea lion hunting (1905), a map of Matsushima (present-day Takeshima) in Edo period, Korean maps of Uzan Island (Usan-do).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kobe University Library of Social Sciences</td>
<td>Press materials containing flight records over Takeshima (1954).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yamaguchi Prefectural Archives</td>
<td>Pictures/maps, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Collections</td>
<td>The copies of Oki-kokishu [Ancient records of Oki] related to Takeshima, and photographs of Utsuryo Island (Utsungo-do).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6 Research Committee Meetings

The research committee has held meetings three times during the project period. The members and contents of each meeting were as follows:

Meetings  | Contents  |
--- | --- |
1st Research Committee Meeting (July 5, 2016) | Confirmed the purpose of the project and its implementation goals, and exchanged opinions in order to determine which materials should be analyzed, research plans and the implementation schedule for research goals. |
2nd Research Committee Meeting (November 11, 2016) | Confirmed the progress of research and content of collected materials, and exchanged opinions in order to give advice on summarizing and how to present the materials. |
3rd Research Committee Meeting (January 29, 2017) | Confirmed the final results, organized future issues, and summarized the project. |

Members (Committee Members)  |  |
--- | --- |
Takashi TSUKAMOTO | Professor, School of Law, Tokai University |
Susumu TAKAI | Special Research Fellow, Center for Island Studies, The Ocean Policy Research Institute, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) |
Tetsuya NAKANO | Professor, Faculty of Law, Kansai University |
Yuki ASABA | Professor, Graduate School of International Studies and Regional Development, University of Niigata Prefecture |
Takashi SUGIHARA | Special Advisor, Shimane Prefectural Takeshima Reference Room |
Kenji FUJII | Advisor, Takeshima Issue Research, Shimane Prefecture |

In no particular order.
Materials on Takeshima’s incorporation into Shimane Prefecture and the peaceful and continuous exercise of sovereignty by Japan afterward

In the early 1900s, responding to the growing demand for stable sea lion hunting business from the residents of Oki Island, Shimane Prefecture, the Government of Japan decided, through a Cabinet Decision, to incorporate Takeshima into Shimane Prefecture in January 1905 and reaffirmed its intention to keep the island as a territory of Japan. The Government of Japan exercised its sovereignty over the island -- such as adding Takeshima to the State Land Register, introducing a license system for hunting sea lions, and collecting fees for the use of state-owned land -- peacefully and continuously without receiving any objection from foreign countries. This allowed Japan to clearly and unequivocally claim its territorial rights over Takeshima, which Japan has long established, to other countries under modern international law.

The news of incorporation of Takeshima into Shimane Prefecture in 1905 was reported in newspapers, and the name Takeshima became widely known.
Sea lion hides

Production State: There are so many sea lions living around Takeshima in this prefecture, but only a small number of them have been caught. Yozaburo NAKAI of Saigo-cho, Oki District, began his sea lion hunting business last year (1902). Since Takeshima officially came under the jurisdiction of the Oki Islands Branch Office in February of this year (1905), sea lion hides are being introduced to the public as a product of this prefecture. In June of this year (1905), “Takeshima Gyoryo Goshi-Kaisha” was established. While the major role of this company is hunting sea lions, a tanner was employed from Himeji City to do processing. This prefecture established rules in order to protect sea lion breeding, and the number of fishermen who are allowed to capture sea lions is controlled by the rules in this prefecture.

Place of Production: Surrounding Areas of Takeshima, Oki District

Market: Not much time has passed since the company’s establishment, and the amount of production is still low, but it appears that the business is growing. The main markets of the products are Osaka and Hokkaido.
There are a great number of black-tailed gulls living in Takeshima; therefore, guano has accumulated over the years and has formed guano phosphate rocks. In June 1934, an application for prospecting phosphate in Takeshima was submitted to the Osaka Mining Inspection Bureau, and permission was given to the applicants on June 6, 1939.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry announced this in the “Kampo” (official gazette) dated September 19.

Overview

Mining Matter: The measures in accordance with the Mining Act are as follows:
- Permission for prospecting Registration No.: Shimane 2,143
- Location of mining area: Takeshima, Oki and the surface of the surrounding sea area
- Kind of mineral: Phosphate
- Area: 83,800 tsubo (0.28 sq. km)
- Right holder and address: Tottori Prefecture (text omitted)
- Date of permission and registration: June 6, (Showa) 14 (1939)

Introduction to the Dokdo Issue

"Introduction to the Dokdo Issue" (Takeshima is called "Dokdo" in Korea) is a book written by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK, which illegally occupied Takeshima against international laws after World War II, and the ROK claims the sovereignty over Takeshima in the book.

The subtitle of the book is "Foreign Affairs Series No. 11," and according to the preface of this book, the "Foreign Affairs Series" articles were published for the purpose of reviewing and analyzing important diplomatic issues the ROK had and for relevant authorities to use them as reference later on. The preface also says that the "Introduction to the Dokdo Issue" is a book “to help each Korean ambassador overseas acquire appropriate understanding of this issue and to prepare for unreasonable propaganda from the Japanese.” In this way, this book shows that the ROK considered the Takeshima-issue as an extremely important diplomatic issue.

The book contains Takeshima-related diplomatic letters (English) at the end of volume. However, the documents sent by the United States Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs Dean Rusk ("the Rusk Letter") dated August 10, 1951, in which he clearly denied Korean territorial rights over Takeshima, is not included.
Commissioned Research Report on the Takeshima-related Documents

Section 1 of the “Introduction to the Dokdo Issue” focuses on the history of Utsuryo Island (Ulleungdo) and Takeshima (Dokdo) between the late 19th century and early 20th century. In “6. Dokdo and Development of Ulleungdo” of this section, it states that Koreans began moving to Ulleungdo after the order of Development of Ulleungdo, that, in accordance with the “Imperial Edict” in 1901 (this was an error, and should be 1900), Ulleungdo was promoted to a county and the island’s administrator was changed to a county magistrate. Regarding Takeshima, it also clearly states that “there is no official record which shows the island being incorporated into the administrative district of Ulleungdo prior to [its incorporation into Shimane Prefecture in 1905], no one can deny that Dokdo was under the administration of the county magistrate of Ulleungdo.”

* From the context, there is a possibility that this reference/example in the book is incorrect.

In Section 1 of the “Introduction to the Dokdo Issue,” it states that incorporation of Takeshima (Dokdo) into Shimane Prefecture in 1905 was an invasion by Japan, and that Japan considered Dokdo as a territory of Korea even while Korea was under Japanese rule, taking as an example, in “5 Dokdo under the Rule of the Empire of Japan and Documents proving Korea’s Territorial Rights,” a paragraph from “Ryotei to Hiyou-gaisan (Itinerary and Cost Estimation)” (by the Japan Tourist-Bureau), reading “the eastern end of Korea is Ulleungdo, ” (Text omitted) 5. “Ryotei to Hiyou-gaisan (Itinerary and Cost Estimation)” Page 930 of the Korean part of the travel guide (Version 16, issued on December 1, 1938, edited and published by the Japan Tourist-Bureau, 1-1 Marunouchi-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo) refers to the eastern end of Korea as “Ulleungdo, Takeshima of North Gyeongsang Province” at 37° 31' 44'' N, 130° 56' 30'' E, as the “four edges of Korea and the area” in its description.
Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers Memorandum (SCAPIN)

After World War II, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP) ordered the Government of Japan to cease exerting political and administrative power and the areas where it was restricted from engaging in fishing or whaling, which included Takeshima (Dokdo) (SCAPIN-677 & 1033). The Korean side insists that these orders proved that Takeshima was eliminated from Japan's territory. However, it clearly states in both orders which were issued -- the foundation of Korea's claim -- that these orders should not be construed as an indication of Allied policy relating to the ultimate determination of Japanese sovereign territory. Therefore, Korea's claims cannot be substantiated at all.

It is the San Francisco Peace Treaty (effective in 1952) that decided the territory of Japan after World War II. Therefore it is clear that the treatment of Takeshima by SCAP before that the treaty came into force has no effect on sovereignty over Takeshima.

Governmental and Administrative Separation of Certain Outlying Areas from Japan (SCAPIN-677)

Overview

The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP) ordered the Government of Japan to cease exerting political and administrative authority over certain areas, and they included Takeshima (SCAPIN-677). However, it clearly states in paragraph 6 of the Note that: “Nothing in this directive shall be construed as an indication of Allied policy relating to the ultimate determination of the minor islands referred to in Article 8 of the Potsdam Declaration.”

Excerpt

1. The Imperial Japanese Government is directed to cease exercising, or attempting to exercise, governmental or administrative authority over any area outside of Japan (text omitted)

2. For the purpose of this directive, Japan is defined to include the four main islands of Japan (Hokkaido, Honshu, Kyushu and Shikoku) and the approximately 1,000 smaller adjacent islands, including the Tsushima Islands and the Ryukyu (Nansei) Islands north of 30° North Latitude (excluding Kurushima Island) and excluding (a) Utsuryo (Ullung) Island, Liancourt Rocks (Take Island) and Quelpart (Saishu or Cheju) Island (text omitted)

6. Nothing in this directive shall be construed as an indication of Allied policy relating to the ultimate determination of the minor islands referred to in Article 8 of the Potsdam Declaration.

DECLASSIFIED Authority NND:775008

This image is taken from the original reposited in NARA.
The "Hydrographic Book" contains detailed information about maritime meteorology, hydrographic phenomena, course determining methods, and the conditions of ports and coastlines. It should be used with nautical charts and act as a supplemental resource.

Takeshima designated as a bombing range for the U.S. Forces stationed in Japan

In September 1947, while Japan was under Allied occupation, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers Directive designated Takeshima as a bombing range by SCAPIN-1778. In July 1951, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers Directive redesignated Takeshima as a bombing range by SCAPIN-2160.

In July 1952, immediately after the San Francisco Peace Treaty became effective, in response to the desire of the U.S. Forces to continue to use Takeshima as a training area, the Japan-U.S. Joint Committee, established as the consultative body for the implementation of the Japan-U.S. Administrative Agreement (later, succeeded by the current "Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement"), designated Takeshima as one of the bombing ranges for the U.S. Forces stationed in Japan. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs published this fact in its official gazette.

However, strong requests from local residents (mainly in Oki Islands) who wished to resume hunting sea lion and fishing abalones and seaweed in the waters around Takeshima, in addition to the inactivity of the U.S. Forces on Takeshima as of the winter of 1952, led to the decision to release the island from the designation of a bombing range for the U.S. Forces by the Japan-U.S. Joint Committee in March 1953.

After this, Shimane Prefecture gave common fishery rights to the Oki Islands Federation of Fisheries Co-operative Association to fish for seaweed, abalones and turban shells in the seas around Takeshima.

Takeshima, Northwest of the Oki Islands, Designated as a Bombing Range

One of the orders issued by the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers, to designate Takeshima as a bombing range and to notify the public prior to its usage.

No. 22 Liancourt Rocks Bombing Range [*Takeshima, Northwest of Oki Islands, Designated as a Bombing Range*] [September 16, 1947] [Issued by the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers]

No. 22 Liancourt Rocks Bombing Range
1. The islands of Liancourt Rocks (or Take Shima [sic]), located 37°15′ North, 131°50′ East, are designated as a bombing range.
2. The inhabitants of Oki-Rettō (Oki Gunto) and the inhabitants of all the ports on the west coast of the island of Honshu north to the 38th parallel, north latitude, will be notified prior to each actual use of this range. This information will be disseminated through Military Government units to local Japanese civil authority.

* The "Hydrographic Book" contains detailed information about maritime meteorology, hydrographic phenomena, course determining methods, and the conditions of ports and coastlines. It should be used with nautical charts and act as a supplemental resource.
### Notification on Hydrographic No. 38

*(Designation of Takeshima, on the northwestern coast of Honshu and northwest of the Oki Islands, as a bombing range)*

This material states that Takeshima was designated as a bombing range and that the general public would be notified before each use of the range.

#### Overview

> (161) Designation of Takeshima, on the northwestern coast of Honshu and northwest of the Oki Islands, as a bombing range.

Takeshima, located 86 nautical miles (157km) northwest of Oki-Rettō (Oki Islands) at approximately 37°15′ North, 131°50′ East, was designated as a bombing range. The inhabitants of Oki-Rettō (Oki Islands) and the inhabitants of all the ports on the northwestern coast of Honshu, at latitude 38° or lower, will be notified prior to each use of this range. The notification will be disseminated to the general public through local Japanese offices. (See Nautical Chart No. 162)

### Shimane Prefecture Notification No. 352

**Grants of common fishery rights**

This material states that Takeshima was designated as a bombing range and that the general public would be notified before each use of the range.

#### Overview

> Following the release of Takeshima from the designation of a bombing range by the Japan-U.S. Joint Committee, Shimane Prefecture gave common fishery rights to the Oki Islands Federation of Fisheries Co-operative Association to fish for seaweed, abalones and turban shells in the seas around Takeshima.

#### Excerpt [English translation]

> Shimane Prefecture Notice No. 352

Pursuant to the provision of Article 10 of the Fishery Act (Act No. 267 of 1949), common fishery permission in the seas were granted on June 18, 1953 as follows:

- **June 19, 1953**
  - License No.: Kyo. No. 344
  - Name & address of the person holding fishery rights: Oki Islands Federation of Fisheries Co-operative Association, 3, Yabi-no-1, O-aza, Saigo-cho, Suki-gun, Shimane Prefecture

(text omitted)
Korea’s Illegal Occupation of Takeshima (Unilateral Establishment of the “Syngman Rhee Line”)

The San Francisco Peace Treaty, signed in September 1951, stipulated that Japan shall recognize the independence of Korea, and that Japan should renounce all rights, titles and claims to “Korea, including the islands of Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet.”

Upon knowing of the draft of the treaty, the Republic of Korea submitted a letter to Dean G. Acheson, the U.S. Secretary of State, from Yang Yu Chan, the ROK Ambassador to the United States in July. This letter contained the following statement: “My Government requests this part to be replaced with ‘(Japan) should confirm that it renounces all rights, titles and claims to Korea and the islands ... including ... Dokdo and Parangdo’. (“Dokdo is a Korean name of Takeshima and Parangdo is a non-existing island)

In response to this request of modifying the draft of the Treaty from the ROK, in August of the same year the United States submitted an official diplomatic correspondence (The “Rusk Letter”) from Dean Rusk, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, to Ambassador Yang, which clearly denied the claims regarding the sovereignty over Takeshima by the ROK. Based on this correspondence, in the San Francisco Peace Treaty, it is obvious that Takeshima was affirmed as a territory of Japan.

However, on January 18, 1952 before the treaty came into effect (the treaty had not become effective until April of the same year), the President of the ROK, Syngman Rhee, unilaterally established the “Syngman Rhee Line” in contravention of international law. He unilaterally declared Korea’s fisheries jurisdiction over the vast body of water inside the line, encompassing Takeshima.

In response to this, Japan launched a protest against Korea on January 28, 1952. The establishment of the Syngman Rhee Line constitutes an illegal delineation of the high seas, and the occupation of Takeshima by the ROK constitutes an illegal occupation undertaken without any basis in international law.
Letter sent from the U.S. Government to the Korean Government on August 10, 1951

(Letter from Dean Rusk, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, to Yang Yu Chan, the ROK Ambassador to the United States [The “Rusk Letter”])

Overview

This is the letter from Dean Rusk, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, to Yang Yu Chan, the ROK Ambassador to the United States, which clearly denied the claims of the ROK in response to ROK’s Takeshima-related requests (in two separate letters written on July 19 and August 2, 1951) regarding the draft of the San Francisco Peace Treaty.

When drafting the treaty, the ROK requested to include Takeshima as an area that Japan should renounce, but the U.S. Government clearly rejected the ROK’s claim, stating that “Takeshima ... was ... never treated as part of Korea and ... does not ever appear before to have been claimed by Korea.”

Accordingly, this solidifies the Japanese claims of that Takeshima is a territory of Japan in the San Francisco Peace Treaty, and proves the Japanese claim to be rightful.

Excerpt

As regards the island of Dokto, otherwise known as Takeshima or Liancourt Rocks, this normally uninhabited rock formation was according to our information never treated as part of Korea and, since about 1905, has been under the jurisdiction of the Oki Islands Branch Office of Shimane Prefecture of Japan. The island does not appear ever before to have been claimed by Korea. (text omitted)

* These images are taken from the original reposited in the NARA.

Reference & Information

To follow the instruction at the National Diet Library to see microfilm (Request Code LOT reel 9, Microfilm number: 00994-00997) (Or, to follow the instruction at the NARA to see microfilm)
A note verbale of protest from the Government of Japan to the Government of the ROK on January 28, 1952, in response to a declaration concerning maritime sovereignty by the President of the ROK, Syngman Rhee.

On January 18, 1952, the ROK unilaterally established the “Syngman Rhee Line”, and claimed Korean fisheries jurisdiction over the vast body of water inside the line encompassing Takeshima. In response to this, Japan protested by a note verbale sent to the Government of the ROK on January 28. In the note, the Government of Japan strongly protested against the Government of the ROK stating “in the proclamation the Republic of Korea appears to assume territorial rights over the islets in the Japan Sea known as Takeshima (otherwise known as Liancourt Rocks). The Japanese Government does not recognize any such assumption or claim by the Republic of Korea concerning these islets which are without question Japanese territory.”

Furthermore, in the proclamation the Republic of Korea appears to assume territorial rights over the islets in the Japan Sea known as Takeshima (otherwise known as Liancourt Rocks). The Japanese Government does not recognize any such assumption or claim by the Republic of Korea concerning these islets which are without question Japanese territory.

Overview

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Furthermore, in the proclamation the Republic of Korea appears to assume territorial rights over the islets in the Japan Sea known as Takeshima (otherwise known as Liancourt Rocks). The Japanese Government does not recognize any such assumption or claim by the Republic of Korea concerning these islets which are without question Japanese territory.
- After the abolishment of the MacArthur Line in 1952 and the release of Takeshima from the U.S. bombing range in 1953, Shimane Prefecture gave permission to the Oki fishermen to resume fishing around Takeshima.

- After the abolishment of the MacArthur Line, the Fisheries Research Institute of Shimane and Tottori Prefectures conducted surveys in the adjoining seas of Takeshima for offshore fisheries development.

For the documents in Korean, the following documents were collected and sorted:

- A press report about a bombing incident by a military aircraft of the U.S. in 1948, right before the establishment of the Republic of Korea.

- Documents, beginning in 1953, showing the ROK's "reasons" for its sovereignty over Takeshima while exchanging note verbals with Japan.

Lastly, for documents in English, the following documents were collected and sorted:

- The famous letter sent from the U.S. Government to the Korean Government on August 10, 1951 (from Dean Rusk, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, to Yang Yu Chan, the ROK Ambassador to the United States)

In 1951, the Government of the ROK requested that the U.S. Government designates Takeshima a Korean territory when the San Francisco Peace Treaty was drafted, but this request was rejected. It has become common knowledge that there was no change in Takeshima's status as a Japanese territory under the Treaty.

Although the Government of the ROK knew that the San Francisco Peace Treaty affirms Japanese territorial sovereignty over Takeshima, the President of the ROK, Syngman Rhee, declared the "maritime sovereignty" and unilaterally established the "Syngman Rhee Line" in contravention of international law, encompassing Takeshima into the water zone. In July 1953, August and November 1954, a Korean side shot and fired a Japanese patrol vessels. Further, starting in the summer of 1954, the ROK stationed the Korean Coast Guard police on Takeshima. This year's research results have reaffirmed such troubling actions by the ROK.

The research results and content summaries, including research reports, are now translated into English and are available at the Cabinet Secretariat's portal site. I hope that not only researchers, but also many other people, will access the research results and enhance their understanding of the Takeshima issue.

Finally, as well as acknowledging the tremendous cooperation received from the following institutions and individuals in undertaking this project, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to them.

Research team supervisor  Kenji FUJII