Period II (1) - i. Report of the investigation on the Senkaku Islands conducted by Okinawa Prefecture in 1885

A report by the captain of the Izumo Maru, the chartered ship used for the investigation on the Senkaku Islands by Okinawa Prefecture



"[A Copy] Report on a voyage around Uotsuri, Kuba, and FY2015/P7 Kumeaka Islands" November 2, 1885

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Overview

This material is a copy of a report by Tsurumatsu Hayashi, the captain of the steam-liner Izumo Maru, of the ship's voyage to the Senkaku Islands. The Izumo Maru was owned by the Japan Mail Steamship Company and leased to Okinawa Prefecture. The report includes a description of an on-site investigation conducted by Okinawa Prefecture, ten years prior to the incorporation of the Senkaku Islands into Japan's territory in 1895. It states that the islands had often been observed by foreign ships, and various sailing directions include detailed descriptions of the islands. Besides descriptions of the Senkaku Islands in those directions, the report also records the captain's own findings through the on-site investigation. Written on the lined paper of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Excerpt [English translation]

Report on a voyage around Uotsuri, Kuba, and Kumeaka Islands

(Text omitted) First, the ship landed on the west coast of Uotsuri Island and attempted to cast sounding leads several times in an area three to four "cables" (*1 cable = 185.2m) away from the coast, but the sea bed was extremely deep (text omitted)

Date Created	November 2, 1885					
Author(s) & Editor(s)	Tsurumatsu HAYASHI, captain of the Izumo Maru, Japan Mail Steamship Company					
Publisher	-					
Name of Publication	"On the matter of erecting territorial markers on uninhabited islands scattered between Okinawa Prefecture and Fuzhou in the Qing Dynasty," <i>Kobun Betsuroku</i> (*), Ministry of Home Affairs, 1882 – 1885, Vol. 4, 1885.(*) <i>The Kobun Betsuroku</i> is a compilation of administrative documents. The documents are classified on a Ministry or incident basis.					
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