

Period III

(2)-i. Preliminary negotiations with the relevant countries concerned on the “Seven Points” Proposal proposal on Japanese Peace Treaty Made made By by U.S .

The United States communicated to Australia its understanding that Takeshima is included in Japan’s territory. Australia shared this American point of view with England

No.37

FY2018/P18

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ARISING OUT OF THE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES REGARDING A JAPANESE TREATY PREPARED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. THESE ANSWERS ARE INFORMAL AND WITHOUT COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

October 1950

Overview

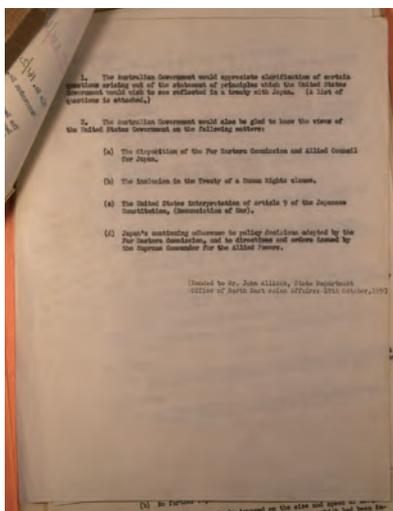
In September 1950, the United States presented to the respective member countries of the Far Eastern Commission what was known as the “Seven Points” Proposal on the Japanese Peace Treaty” (*1), which summarized the key points of the U.S. peace treaty draft, and commenced unofficial discussions toward an early completion of the Treaty draft (refer to p.64). Among these Points, (3) Territory stated only briefly that “Japan, (a) recognizing the independence of Korea ...” and did not mention the minor islands in the Sea of Japan ((b) was related to Ryukyu and Ogasawara and (c) to Formosa, the Pescadores, South Sakhalin, and the Kurile Islands).

With regard to this lack of reference to some of minor islands, the Department of Foreign Affairs of Australia requested more detailed information. In response, the United States Department of State explained that Takeshima had long been recognized as Japanese territory, and would continue to be retained as one of Japan’s islands (*2). It is also known that Australia shared a copy of this response with the United Kingdom.

After the summer of 1950, the draft Treaty drawn up by the United States was simplified, and its simple structure was maintained in the final adopted text. For this reason, the Treaty does not contain any provisions that refer directly to the affiliation of Takeshima (refer to p.64 for the background of events). However, in this structure, since December 1949 when the United States Department of States made a draft Treaty (refer to p.66), the United States’ policy that Japan should retain the ownership of Takeshima remained unchanged, as this document shows.

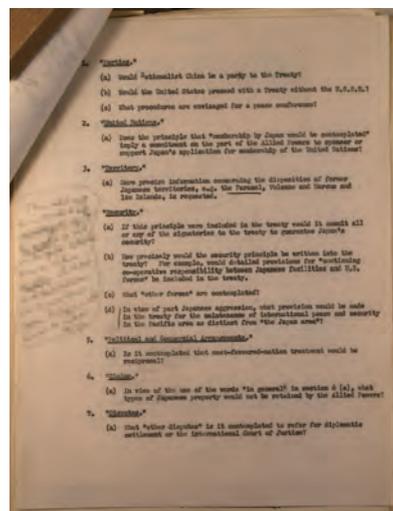
- *1 Issued by the United States Department of State on November 24 the same year. It presented the key points relating to the drawing up of the draft treaty by the United States: (1) Parties; (2) United Nations; (3) Territory; (4) Security; (5) Political and Commercial Arrangements; (6) Claims; and, (7) Disputes. The original title was the “SEVEN POINTS” PROPOSAL ON JAPANESE PEACE TREATY MADE BY U.S.” The Japanese title is taken from the one in the “Nihon Gaiko Bunsho San Francisco Heiwa Joyaku Taibei Kosho” [Japan Diplomatic Documents: San Francisco Peace Treaty, Negotiations with the U.S.] (pp.94-98). This can be accessed through the Digital Collection of the Documents on the Japanese Foreign Policy website of the Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.
- *2 RG59, Decimal File 1950-54, Box 3007, 694.001/10-2650 (U.S. National Archives and Records Administration), Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS) 1950 edition (Volume.VI, p.1327-) (Website of the United States Department of State)

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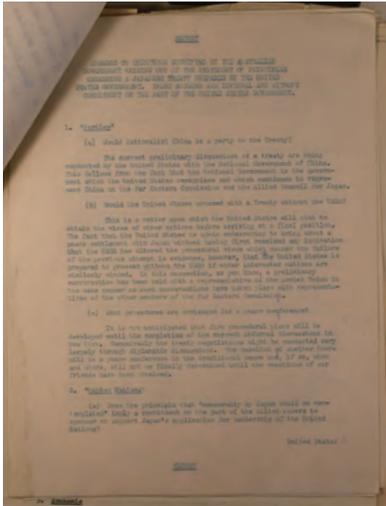
The Australian Government would appreciate clarification of certain questions arising out of the statement of principles which the United States Government would wish to see reflected in a treaty with Japan.

(Handed to Mr. John Allison, State Department Office of North East Asian Affairs: 19th October 1950)



3. “Territory”

(a) More precise information concerning the disposition of former Japanese territories, e.g. the Parcel, Volcano and Marcus and Izu Islands, is requested.

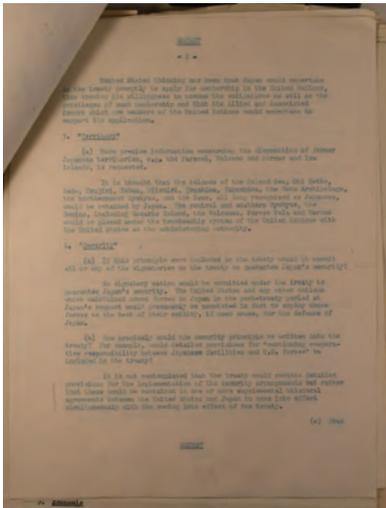


*Previously "SECRET" but now available to the public

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Title



3. "Territory"

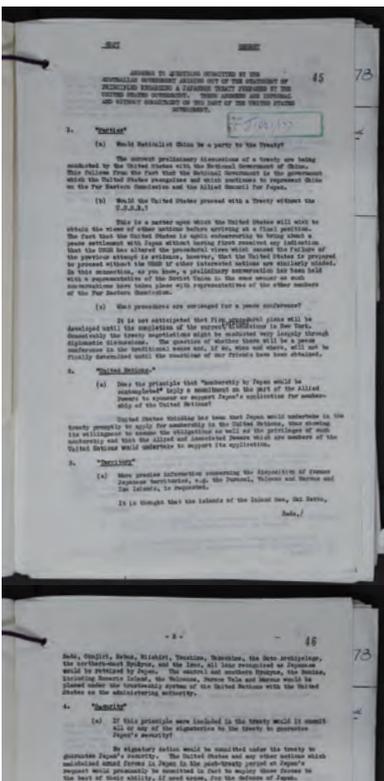
More precise information concerning the disposition of former Japanese territories, e.g. the Paracel, Volcano and Marcus and Izu Islands, is requested.

Question submitted by the Australian Government

It is thought that ..., Takeshima, ..., all long recognized as Japanese, would be retained by Japan. ...

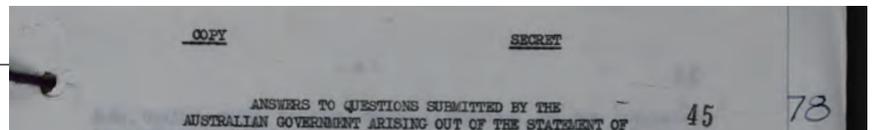
Answer by the United States

Repository: National Archives of Australia
(Image provided by the Japan Institute of International Affairs)



[Reference] Copy shared with the United Kingdom (Questions submitted by the Department of Foreign Affairs of Australia and answers from the United States Department of State in response to those questions)

Documents believed to have been provided by the Australian embassy in the United States to the British embassy in the United States on November 2, 1950



*Previously "SECRET" but now available to the public

Indicated as "COPY"

This section contains the same contents as the abovementioned "3. Territory" spread across two pages.

Japanese peace treaty: United States policy: declaration of terminating a formal state of war with Japan: formation of a Commonwealth working party: record of London meeting between Mr Bevin and Mr Acheson. Code FJ file 1021 (papers 168-197) (FO371/83835)

Repository: The National Archives (United Kingdom)
(Image provided by the Japan Institute of International Affairs)