## In the 17th century, merchants in Yonago traveled to Takeshima to conduct business with the permission of the Edo Shogunate.

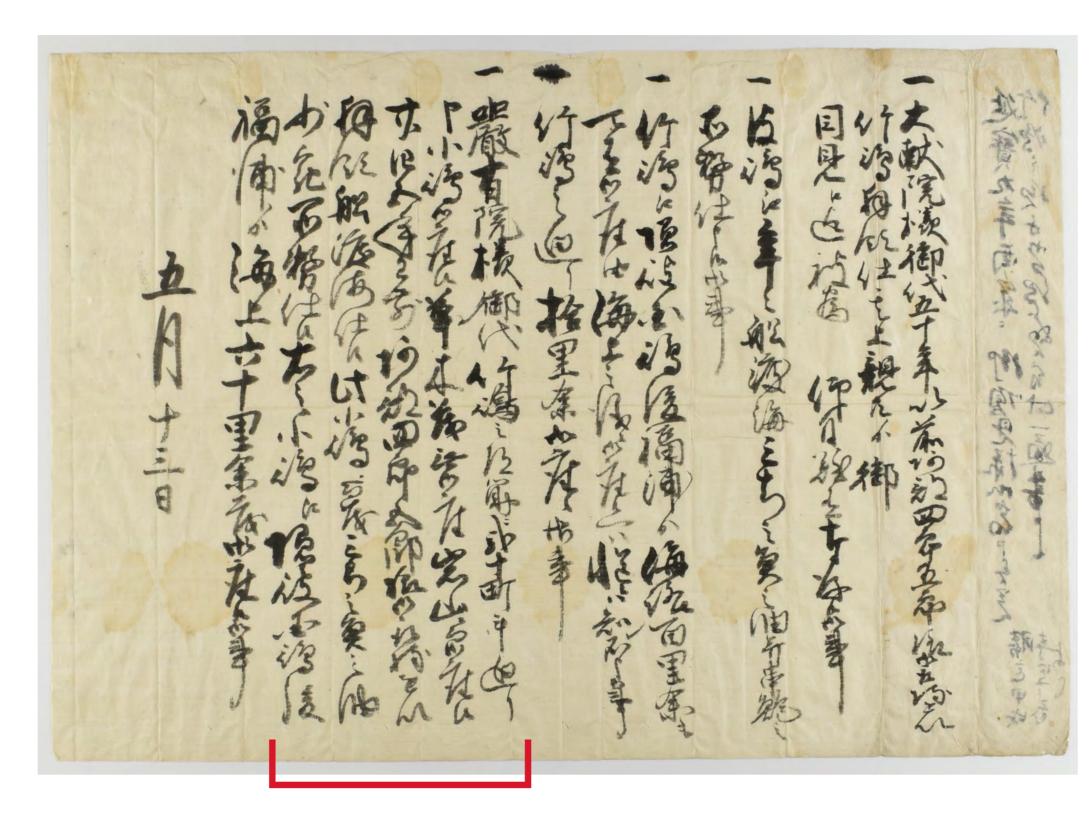
Oya Jinkichi and Murakawa Ichibee, merchants from Yonago who operated a shipping business, made a request to the Edo Shogunate for passage to Utsuryo Island, an uninhabited island abundant in lumber and marine products. With the Shogunate's permission, the families of Oya and Murakawa took turns travelling to Utsuryo Island each year and carried out their business. Takeshima, on the route from Oki to Utsuryo Island, came to be used as a navigational marker, a place to moor their ships and a rich fishing ground for sea lions and abalone. Takeshima was used under the permission of the Shogunate, as is recorded in the "Kameyama Letter" on display and in the following documents.

## Record of what I (Oya Kyuemon Katsunobu) said when a Shogunate inspector lodged at the Oya family residence in the 9th year of Enpou (1681)

This is a record of Kyuemon-Katsunobu's reply to the inquiries by the Shogunate inspector who lodged at the Oya family residence in May 1681 (the 9th year of Enpou era). According to this record, Takeshima was bestowed to the Oya family 24 or 25 years ago in the reign of Shogun Tokugawa letsuna, and the family caught sea lions there. The contents of this record match the contents of "A letter from Kameyama Shozaemon to Oya Kyuemon Katsuzane" in the display case.

### **Excerpt (Provisional Translation)**

There is a small island en route to Takeshima (current Utsuryo Island) that has a circumference of approximately 20 cho (2.2 km) and is rocky without vegetation. During the reign of Lord Gen-yu-in (i.e. the fourth Tokugawa Shogun, Ietsuna), this island was bestowed to us 24 or 25 years ago through the brokerage of Shiro-Goro Abe. We sail to the island and catch sea lions there for oil.



Oya Kyuemon-Katsunobu in 1681 (Enpou 9)
The picture is a copy made by Oya Shinkuro-Katsuoki in 1810 (Bunka 11)
[Repository] Shimane Prefecture Takeshima Reference Room

# The Japanese Government incorporated Takeshima into Shimane Prefecture in 1905 and openly and continuously exercised administrative rights over Takeshima.

Around 1900, sea lion hunting became active around Takeshima and soon excessive competition became a concern. To stabilize the sea lion hunting business, Nakai Yozaburo, a resident of the Oki Islands in Shimane Prefecture, submitted a request in 1904 to lease Takeshima. Upon the request from Nakai, the Japanese Government incorporated Takeshima into Shimane Prefecture by a Cabinet decision in January 1905.

Thereafter, the Japanese Government, including Shimane Prefecture, openly and continuously exercised administrative rights over Takeshima for the purpose of regulating and taxing business on Takeshima.



## Attached map in the request for lease of "Lyanko Islands" (copy)

The map left was included in the request that Nakai Yozaburo submitted to the Government to lease Takeshima in 1904. Nakai pointed out that the number of fishermen hunting sea lions was increasing, while a decline in the number of sea lions in the area was being observed and explained that the purpose of the requested lease was to avert competition and introduce catch limits, among other reasons. The map indicates sea lion landing areas.

Yozaburo Nakai in 1904 (Meiji 37) [Repository] Shimane Prefecture Public Records Center

# Japan continues to have sovereignty over Takeshima under the San Francisco Peace Treaty but it has been illegally occupied by the Republic of Korea (ROK).

Japan's territory after WWII was legally defined under the San Francisco Peace Treaty. In May 1951, the United States and the United Kingdom, which led the drafting of the treaty, agreed that the islands of Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet should be included as part of "Korea," which was to be renounced by Japan, in order to clearly define the boundary between the territories of Japan and Korea in the draft. Takeshima was not included as part of "Korea."

Upon learning of the text drafted by the United States and the United Kingdom, in July 1951, the ROK requested to add Takeshima as part of "Korea," which Japan would renounce. However, the US rejected the ROK's request, stating the island had been "never treated as part of Korea." As shown by the drafting history above, it is obvous that Japan continues to have sovereignty over Takeshima under the San Francisco Peace Treaty as it had before WWII.

In January 1952, shortly before the San Francisco Peace Treaty entered into force, the ROK issued a declaration concerning maritime sovereignty, with which it unilaterally established the "Syngman Rhee Line," encompassing Takeshima in contravention of international law. Despite protests from the international community, the ROK did not withdraw the declaration. From 1953 to 1954, the ROK illegally occupied Takeshima using physical force, including firing on Japan's patrol vessels.

The Japanese have been using Takeshima since the Edo period under the permission of the Edo Shogunate! In 1905, Takeshima was incorporated into Shimane Prefecture, and activities such as sea lion hunting were conducted under government control! In light of these circumstances, It is obvious that Japan continues to have sovereignty over Takeshima under the San Francisco Peace Treaty! However, it was illegally occupied by the ROK in the 1950s, and the illegal occupation continues until the present day.

### Agreement in the US-UK consultations

The US and UK had intensive consultations in Washington, DC, from April 25 to May 4, 1951. At the 7th meeting of the consultations, both delegations agreed that it would be preferable "to specify only the territory over which Japan was renouncing sovereignty," and confirmed that "the insertion of the three islands: Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet" was required for the provision on the renunciation of Korea in the US draft.

#### UNITED STATES CHAPTER II

Mr. Fitzmaurice suggested that the United States Article 2 might well be omitted, since it might be taken to imply that Japan's sovereignty depended upon the present treaty, which was not the case. Mr. Allison said he would consider this point.

#### UNITED STATES CHAPTER III

Both Delegations agreed that it would be preferable to specify only the territory over which Japan was renouncing sovereignty. In this connection, United States Article 3 would require the insertion of the three islands: Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet. It was left undecided whether the sentence in British Article 2 requiring Japan to recognise whatever settlement the United Nations might make in Korea should be maintained or not. It was agreed that further consideration should be given to the drafting of the sentence dealing with Japan's renunciation of her mandates.

Mr. Johnston circulated a re-draft of United States Article 4, which Mr. Allison undertook to consider. He added that the United States was still doubtful whether it was wise for Japan to renounce sovereignty over the Ryukyus and Bonin Islands. In the first place, such renunciation would have an adverse effect on Japanese opinion, which was much exercised over the fate of the Ryukyus; secondly, it might be that the United States would, at some future date, wish to renounce its control over these islands, in which case if Japan had already renounced sovereignty, their status would be undetermined and would have to be the subject of international discussion. It might be simpler if, in such circumstances, the islands reverted legally to Japan.

### Anglo-American Meetings on Japanese Peace Treaty (Excerpt)

Both delegations agreed that it would be preferable to specify only the territory over which Japan was renouncing sovereignty. In this connection, United States Article 3 would require the insertion of the three islands: Quelpart, Port Hamilton and Dagelet.

May 2, 1951 (Showa 26) [Repository] The National Archives (UK)