

# National Diet Library Newsletter

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*No. 148, April 2006*

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## **Pre-conference of the IFLA World Library and Information Congress at the National Diet Library : Preservation and conservation in Asia**

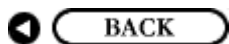
Pre-conference of the World Library and Information Congress (72nd IFLA General Conference and Council) will be held at the National Diet Library.

- Theme: Preservation and conservation in Asia
- Dates and duration: August 16–17, 2006 (1.5 days)
- Location: National Diet Library, Tokyo, Japan
- IFLA Sponsors: Preservation and Conservation Section, Asia and Oceania Section, and IFLA/PAC Core Activity
- Co-sponsor: National Diet Library, Tokyo, Japan.

General Information, Program Schedule & Registration can be seen at  
<http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/iflapac/preconference/index.html>

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## Recent NDL events with experts from abroad

January 26, 2006

### Symposium "Library reformation in digital era - challenges and prospects"

The NDL held a symposium titled "Library reformation in digital era – challenges and prospects" on January 26, 2006, inviting distinguished lecturers in the library field from both inside and outside Japan.



Mr. Abid at the Symposium

Three lecturers gave insightful speeches relating to the roles of libraries in the digital society: Mr. Abdelaziz Abid (Program Specialist of the Information Society Division, UNESCO) made a presentation titled "Preserving our Digital Heritage: A New Preservation Paradigm," giving an outline of UNESCO's activities focusing on its role in creating "knowledge societies" utilizing information communication technology. Prof. Tamiko Matsumura (Professor emeritus, University of Library and Information Science) spoke about the trends of the information society and the changes in library services. Ms. Lynne Brindley (CEO, The British Library) presented the challenges that the British Library faces in the new information environment focusing on how it has developed its strategy and what initiatives it is undertaking as part of the strategy.



Ms.Brindley at the Symposium

After the lectures, the progress and future tasks of NDL's digital library project were reported by Mr. Kenji Uetsuki (Director, Digital Information Planning Office, NDL) and five panelists discussed information dissemination and access, followed by questions and comments from the audience. This event attracted 280 people, an audience that is nearly the maximum capacity of the Auditorium of the NDL.

**February 16, 2006**

### **Symposium "New phase of the Gordon W. Prange Collection: Succession and development of Japanese publications issued during the period of the Occupation by the Allied Powers"**

On February 16, 2006, a symposium "New phase of the Gordon W. Prange Collection: Succession and development of Japanese publications issued during the period of the Occupation by the Allied Powers" was held in the Tokyo Main Library of the NDL. The symposium was held in commemoration of the outset of the joint project between the University of Maryland Libraries and the NDL for Prange book microfilming.

After a brief introduction of the joint project by Mr. Mitsuo Okada (Director General, Reference and Special Collections Department, NDL), Dr. Desider L. Viktor (Director of Collection Management & Special Collections, University of Maryland Libraries) made a presentation titled "Access and Use of the Gordon W. Prange Collection," centering on

various access tools to identify the bibliographic data of the collections and efforts undertaken to provide access to the content. Prof. Taketoshi Yamamoto (Waseda University) made a speech on the creation of the periodical index database of the Gordon W. Prange Collection followed by a demonstration of the database. Prof. Eiko Tani (Hokusei Gakuen University) gave a lecture mainly on the compilation of a catalog of children's books in the Gordon W. Prange Collection and the censorship of children's books



Dr. Vikor at the Symposium

by the Civil Censorship Detachment (CCD) and the Press, Pictorial and Broadcast Division (PPB) during the post-WWII period.

**March 2, 2006**

### **Director of the National Library of Finland invited to the NDL**

Dr. Kai Ekholm (Director of Helsinki University Library – The National Library of Finland) was invited to the NDL and gave a lecture titled “Way to a Digital Nation: Framework for sharing our skills” for the NDL staff members. The National Library of Finland has been taking a forward-looking approach to digital library services including web archiving, long-term digital preservation, providing access to e-journals for the general public. It has been building up close cooperation with other Scandinavian national libraries in that field.

Dr. Ekholm explained the National Library of Finland’s “digital value chain” strategy, in which acquisition, digitization, delivery of content and archiving are recognized as a consecutive process and not a single element can be omitted. At the National Library of Finland, he says, acquisition and digitization at the library is at a satisfactory level, but delivery of content requires improvement and building its infrastructure building will be pushed forward in the next 5–6 years. In terms of archiving, the National Library of Finland is now preparing for a law for long-term preservation.

After explaining the systems used for digital information delivery and a project for raising public awareness of the importance of preserving original materials, he concluded that there has been a shift in the roles of national libraries from preserving library resources to delivering information, and that they must provide quality information for posterity overcoming existing obstacles.

[Handouts distributed at the lecture:](#)

“Way to a digital nation: Framework for sharing our skills”

“Digitization of the cultural heritage at the National Library”



Dr. Ekholm with the staff of the Branch Libraries and Cooperation Division and interpreter

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## 67,000 volumes added to the Digital Library from the Meiji Era

Digital Library Division, Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library

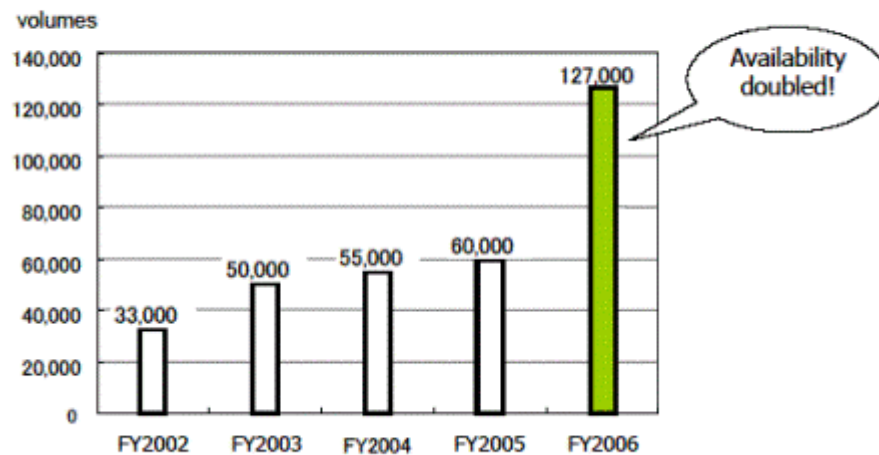
*This is a translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 540 (April 2006).*

Digital images of 50,000 titles (approximately 67,000 volumes) of books published in the Meiji era (1868–1911) were added to the Digital Library from the Meiji Era (<http://kindai.ndl.go.jp/>) on April 4, 2006. The main part of this addition is the books for which we obtained compulsory copyright release from the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs in January 2006 because their copyright status was uncertain.



As a result, 89,000 titles (approximately 127,000 volumes) are available, accounting for 75% of the 170,000 volumes published in the Meiji era and held by the National Diet Library.

## Number of volumes opened to the public



At the same time, we changed the page design, image format, and image viewer to enhance usability.

Please visit the new Digital Library from the Meiji Era site and use it!

[related article](#)

### <Major works>

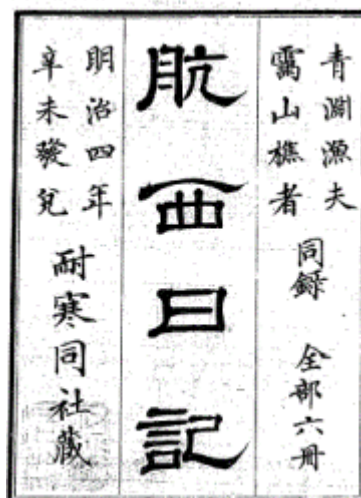
*\*Underline are the authors for which we have obtained compulsory copyright release from the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs this time.*

**Kosai nikki (Diary written during the journey to the West)**

**Author: Eiichi Shibusawa, Aito Sugiura**

**Date: 1871**

**NDL call no: YDM68819**



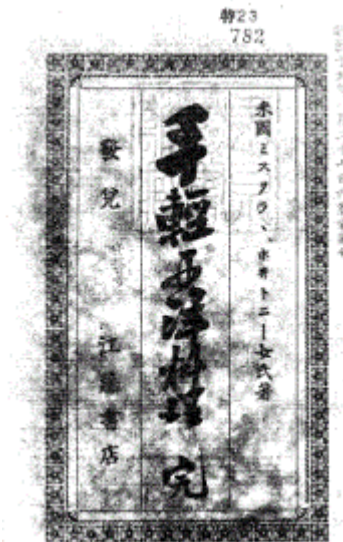
**Tegaru seiyo ryori (Easy cooking book of western dishes)**

**Author: Clara Whitney, Sen Tsuda, Kin Sarashiro**



Date: 1885

NDL call no: YDM300269

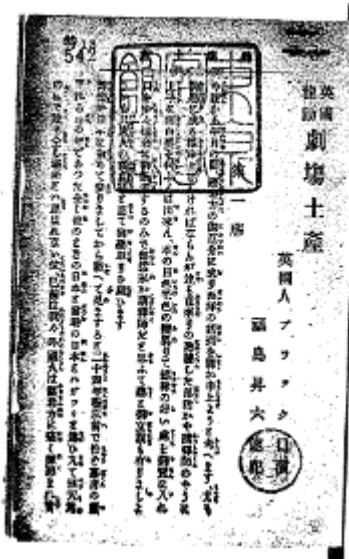


Eikoku rondon gekijo miyage (Souvenirs of theaters in London)

Author: Kairakutei Burakku, Fukushima Shoroku

Date: 1891

NDL call no: YDM97953



Kawakami Otojiro Sadayakko man-yu ki (Kawakami Otojiro & Sadayakko's travels)

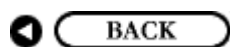
Author: Kanao Tanejiro, Shuho

Date: 1901

NDL call no: YDM74805







## Political First-person Recordings

The Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room of the National Diet Library (NDL) collects documents related to modern Japanese political history, which includes a series of recordings made by well-known statespersons and former military officers. This series started from a suggestion made by the late novelist, Yuzo Yamamoto, who also served as a member of House of Councillors, and others. In 1961 the first recording was made by Takema Machino. Since then, a total of ten persons have been recorded. The original purpose of producing this series of recordings was to investigate the actual role played by the military before and during World War II and to reveal the inside stories of Japanese political history during that period. As the work progressed, however, the target was widened to include people who had played leading roles in Japanese politics or who had been involved in significant historic incidents during the period. The interviews with those people aimed to gather comments on the behind-the-scenes facts, and stories that had been unrevealed before.

The recordings have been made open to the public 30 years after the recording, except for some recordings that were released earlier in accordance with agreements with the interviewees. In the Room, users have access to cassette tapes and transcription notes made from the recordings. Copying the recordings from cassette tapes is not available, but copying the notes is permitted (except that copying the whole note needs permission from the copyright holder).

The following are the details of recordings made so far:

Interviewee	Recording date	Profile	Subject	Time length
Takema Machino	May 1961	Army Colonel; Adviser to Chang Tso-lin	Assassination of Chang Tso-lin	6 hours
Ren'ya Mutaguchi	Apr. 1963	Army Lieutenant General; Commander, 15th Army	Marco Polo Bridge Incident	2.5 hours
	Feb. 1965		Operation Imphal	2 hours
Hitoshi Imamura	Dec. 1964, Jan. 1965	Army General; Army Ministry's Military Affairs Bureau Chief; Commander, 16th Army	Military organization of Japanese Army	3.5 hours

Mosaburo Suzuki	Dec. 1966	Member, House of Representatives; Secretary General, Japan Proletarian Party; Chairperson, Japan Socialist Party	Socialists movement in Japan before World War II, etc.	12 hours
Koichi Kido	Feb. to May 1967	Home Minister	Inside stories related to "Kido Nikki (Kido's diary)"	17 hours
Hisatsune Sakomizu	Nov. 1969	Secretary to Prime Minister Keisuke Okada; Chief Secretary, Kantaro Suzuki Cabinet	Inside stories related to the end of the World War II	3 hours
	Oct. 1972		February 26 Incident	1.5 hours
Okinori Kaya	Nov. to Dec. 1975	Finance Minister, 1st Konoe Cabinet and Tojo Cabinet	Pre-war financial policy, etc.	11 hours
Fusae Ichikawa	Mar. and May 1978	Member, House of Councillors	Suffragette movement; women and politics, etc.	6 hours
Aiichiro Fujiyama*	Nov. and Dec. 1981	Director, Tokyo Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Foreign Minister, Kishi Cabinet; Chief, Economic Planning Agency of the 2nd Ikeda Cabinet and the 1st Sato Cabinet	Overthrow of the Tojo Cabinet; Japan-China relations, etc.	6 hours (will be available in 2011)
Seiichi Katsumata	Nov. 1987	Chairperson, Japan Socialist Party; Vice-Speaker, House of Representatives	Planning Board Incident; Partition and reunion of Japan Socialist Party	9 hours

\*not yet open to the public

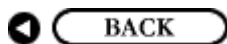
Much of the content of these recordings can be found in the interviewees' published memoirs. However, hearing them actually speak gives us a feeling of immediacy as if the scenes they are talking about in the recordings are actually happening before our eyes.

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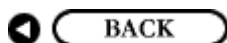
## Publications from NDL

Here we introduce publications from NDL (except regular publications such as catalogs and bibliographies):

Egakareta dobutsu, shokubutsu : Edo jidai no hakubutsushi (Fauna and Flora in illustrations : Natural History of the Edo era) / edited by National Diet Library. Tokyo : Kinokuniya Shoten, 2005. 105 p ; 30 cm. ISBN: 4-87582-622-2  
(text in Japanese)  
Available from Kinokuniya Shoten: 2,000yen

Dejitaru kankyoka ni okeru ILL, Dokyumento deribari to sono unyo kiban (ILL, document delivery and infrastructure for operating them in the digital environment ) / edited by National Diet Library. Tokyo : Nihon Toshokan Kyokai, 2005. 213 p ; 30 cm. ISBN: 4-8204-0524-1  
(text in Japanese)  
Available from Nihon Toshokan Kyokai: 2,100yen

The above publications are available from: Kinokuniya Shoten  
3-13-11 Higashi, Shibuyaku,  
Tokyo 150-8513 JAPAN  
Tel: +81-3-5469-5918 Nihon Toshokan Kyokai (Japan Library Association)  
1-11-14 Shinkawa, Chuo-ku,  
Tokyo 104-0033 JAPAN  
Tel: +81-3-3523-0812



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Selected list of articles from NDL periodicals (Text in Japanese)

## National Diet Library Monthly Bulletin

(Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan Geppo)

If you click the volume number of each issue, you can read the full-text of NDL Monthly Bulletin (no.517-). The text is provided in PDF format\* (Japanese only).

\*To see the full-text (PDF), you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader (free download). Click [here](#) to download. ([Adobe Website](#))

[No. 541, April 2006](#) [PDF Format, 2.36MB]

- To be more accessible and helpful: NDL's efforts for improvement of services
- Meeting of Directors of the IFLA/PAC Regional Centres in Asia and others and the open seminar
  - Open seminar on the documentary heritage damaged by the Indian Ocean Tsunami  
[related article](#)
  - Meeting of Directors of the IFLA/PAC Regional Centres in Asia and others
- 46th meeting of the Council on Organization of Materials on Science and Technology
  - 1st liaison meeting with staff of university libraries
  - Report of the 13th forum for libraries participating in the National Union Catalog Network
    - Training program on reference FY2005
- Open lecture on statutes, parliamentary documents and official publications FY2005
  - Invitation of Dr. Kai Ekholm, Director of the National Library of Finland  
[related article](#)
  - NDL budget for fiscal 2006
- Opening of the Nara Prefectural Library & Information Center: giving shape to our concept
  - <Announcement>
  - About 67,000 books printed in the Meiji era added to the Digital Library from the Meiji Era [related article](#)
  - Topographic maps now searchable on the NDL-OPAC

[No. 540, March 2006](#) [PDF Format, 2.80MB]

- Third mutual visit program with the National Assembly Library of Korea: For better services to parliaments [related article](#)
  - NDL viewed by on-site users: report of user questionnaire survey FY2005 [related article](#)
  - Training program for information specialists for Japanese studies in FY 2005 [related article](#)
    - Practical workshop for librarians on early Japanese books FY2005
      - <Announcement>
        - Announcement of the employment examinations for fiscal 2006
        - Special event for children on Children's Day
      - Exhibition at the International Library of Children's Literature: Struwwelpeter and other German children's books
      - Data added to the Database System for the Minutes of the Imperial Diet
- Prewar period viewed in economic magazines : the Great Kanto Earthquake, Showa Depression, February 26th Incident □ EGuide to regular exhibition, 18) [related webpage \(Japanese only\)](#)

