

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 145, October 2005

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Database System for the Minutes of the Imperial Diet available on the NDL website

Minutes of the Imperial Diet (<http://teikokugikai-i.ndl.go.jp/>) are available on the NDL website (Top > Diet & Parliaments > The Database System for the Minutes of the Imperial Diet). As of July 2005, you can search in the image data and text data of the minutes of the 91st (Nov. 26 – Dec. 25, 1946) and 92nd (Dec. 28 – Mar. 31) Imperial Diet sessions, approximately 4,600 pages in total.



Top page of the Database System

The Imperial Diet and the minutes

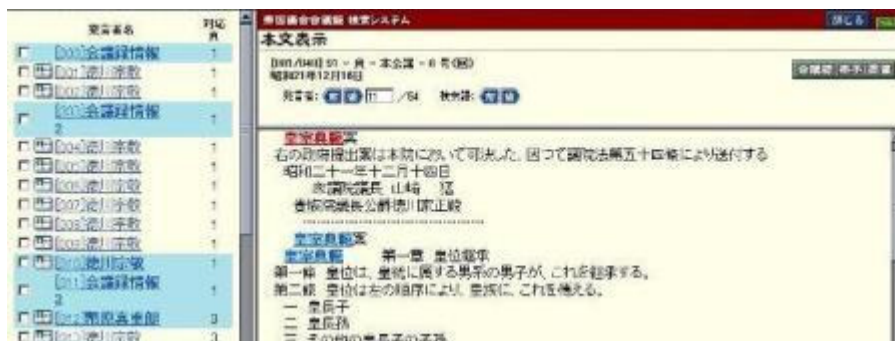
The Imperial Diet (Teikoku Gikai) was the bicameral national assembly established under the Meiji constitution of 1889. Its first session was opened on November 29, 1890, and it was dissolved after World War II by the 92nd session on March 31, 1947, to be succeeded by the National Diet (May 1947–).

The minutes of the Imperial Diet are important source materials for modern Japanese political history. Moreover, since the bills of the Constitution of Japan and some laws still in effect (eg. the Fundamental Law of Education and the Imperial Household Law) were deliberated in the Imperial Diet after the War, the minutes show the process of the establishment of the Constitution and laws of Japan.

The database

The National Diet Library has been working on the development of this database system since FY2004. By the end of FY2009 it will provide access to image data of 300 thousand

pages of minutes including supplements, tables of contents and indexes, covering all the sessions of the Imperial Diet. In addition to these image data, text data of the stenographic records and supplements of the 88th–92nd sessions will be provided.



Text of a Minute

The database can be searched by date, number of the session, and a speaker's name, title or affiliation. For the sessions after the War (88th–92nd), you can also conduct full-text search throughout the minutes except for the charts.

Original minutes of the 90th session and earlier are written in kanji and katakana. To improve readability, katakana in the minutes of the 88th to 90th sessions will be converted to hiragana in the text data. If you would like to see the original transcription of minutes, please see the image data.

Additionally, you can search through the minutes using the modern form of kanji while some kanji in the minutes are written in the old format. For instance, by entering “国” or “会” (modern form), “國” or “會” (old form) will also be searched automatically. Therefore if you enter “帝国議会,” “帝國議會” will be included in the search results.

Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet

The Minutes of the National Diet, the parliament of Japan established in 1947, is already available at <http://kokkai.ndl.go.jp/>. It covers the minutes of the National Diet from the first session in 1947 to the present.

* Related articles:

- Full-Text Database of the Minutes of the Diet: A vast source of information on Japan available on the Net
http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/publication/ndl_newsletter/108/0803.html
- The Minutes of the Diet of Japan are now available through the Internet
http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/publication/ndl_newsletter/108/0801.html

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NDL Website: additions of contents and data to the digital collections and the Asian Language Materials OPAC

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- [1. Digital Library from the Meiji Era □ Eabout 5,000 volumes added](#)
- [2. Digital Library of Children Literature – 875 titles added](#)
- [3. NDL Asian Language Materials OPAC □ EBooks in Indonesian and Malaysian languages are now searchable](#)

1. Digital Library from the Meiji Era – about 5,000 volumes added



[top page](#)

To [the Digital Library from the Meiji Era](#) (Japanese only)

On August 2, 2005, about 5,000 volumes were added to the digital image database of the books published in the Meiji era. The NDL received in April 2005 a compulsory license from the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs for authors whose copyright successors' addresses were still unknown. (For the details of this procedure, please refer to this article) Most of the books added this time have become available on the Internet with this compulsory license. With this addition, the number of volumes available amounts to 59,900.

Below are some examples of the added books:

- *Furandasu no inu* by Ouida. Published by Naigai Shuppan Kyokai, Meiji 41 [1908]
(Japanese translation of *Dog of Flanders*)
- *Tono monogatari* by Kunio YANAGITA. Published by Kunio YANAGITA, Meiji 43 [1910]
- *Shinyaku Genji monogatari* by Akiko YOSANO. Published by Kanao Bun'endo, Meiji 45 [1912]–Taisho 2 [1913]

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2. Digital Library of Children Literature – titles added



[top page design](#)

To [the Digital Library of Children's Literature](#) (Japanese only)

This digital library started in April 2003 with digital images of children's books published mainly before 1955 held by the International Library of Children's Literature. 1,197 titles with 42,240 images are available including 875 titles of books added in July 26, 2005, after having gone through necessary procedures concerning their copyright issues. Below are some examples of the added books:

- *Inago no dairiyoko* by Haruo SATO. Published by Shun'yodo, Showa 4 [1929]
- *Aka noppo ao noppo* by Takeo TAKEI. Published by Kodansha, Showa 23 [1948]

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3. NDL Asian Language Materials OPAC □ EBooks in Indonesian and Malaysian languages are now searchable



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[To the NDL Asian Language Materials](#)

[OPAC](#)

Since August 5, 2005, bibliographic data of the books written in Indonesian and Malaysian languages held in the Kansai-kan have been available on the NDL Asian Language Materials OPAC. This OPAC started service with data of books in Chinese and Korean in 2002, and those in Vietnamese and Mongolian were added respectively in March and June 2005. At present books in these six languages catalogued after 1986 and Chinese and Korean periodicals and newspapers are searchable.

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Survey report on long-term digital preservation and access published

Digital Library Division, Projects Department, Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library (NDL), published the results of its survey conducted in FY2004 as a report entitled "Survey on Methods for Ensuring Long-term Preservation and Access of Digital Information" and made it available on the NDL website (available in Japanese only). Preserving digital information and rendering it depends entirely on the technical environment. Thus digital information is said to be very fragile compared to paper-based materials. For example, every time a new version of OS or a new medium of preservation comes into use, software which depends on the older versions or media becomes obsolete and unavailable. In order to find a resolution for this technological obsolescence and other problems, the NDL has conducted various surveys since FY2002. In FY2004, the third year, a survey was done on the sample CD-ROMs (Windows/MS-DOS-based) which had been received up to FY1999 and have been kept under storage by the NDL to see how they could be fit for migration or emulation.*

*Migration is a method of overcoming technological obsolescence by transferring digital information resources from one hardware/software generation to the next. Emulation is another method of overcoming technological obsolescence by developing techniques for imitating obsolete systems on future generations of computer systems.

As a result of the survey it was found that migration could be done without major problems. However, emulation was valid for only about 30% of all samples. Also for some CD-ROMs we could not, by the usual method, obtain the programs which are necessary to render the digital data contained in them. From this survey it has become obvious that emulation, which had been deemed to be suitable for long-term preservation of digital materials, lacks a comprehensive validity at this point.

In this survey we tested only CD-ROMs. The NDL, however, also holds floppy disks, game machine cassettes, and so on. It is expected that keeping these kinds of materials permanently accessible would be much more difficult than CD-ROMs. Based on the result obtained so far, we will continue with the survey and examine more effective means to ensure long-term preservation of digital information.

Ref:

<http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/preservation.html> (Japanese)

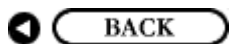
http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/pdf/report_2005.pdf (Japanese; 535KB)

For more information on the survey report, please contact:

Digital Library Division, Projects Department, Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library
fax: +81-774-94-9118

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First Activity Evaluation Report available on the website

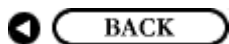
The NDL sets up specific objectives to be carried out within 1–3 years in order to improve our services in each of the priority objectives defined in the [NDL Vision 2004](#). We assess the progress in each objective and publish the results of the evaluation in the following fiscal year. FY2004 was the first year of this evaluation system. The result of the evaluation of FY2004 priority objectives can be seen at:

http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/vision_priority_fy2004_eva.html

The National Diet Library has also set out minimum standards for its services, aiming to keep up our service performances in an open and consistent manner. At the end of each fiscal year, we assess how we met the standards and make public the evaluation report. The result of the evaluation of FY2004 service standards shows that 31 out of 34 target standards were met. The report on FY2004 service standards can be seen at:

http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/vision_service_FY2004_eva.html

(Planning Division, Administrative Department)





Services for children in the International Library of Children's Literature: Sharing the pleasure of reading with children (part 2/2)

by Naoko Sato

Director, Children's Services Division, International Library of Children's Literature

This is a translation of the article of the same title in the NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 528 (March 2005).

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6. Services for children after the full opening (continued from the previous issue)

6-2. Storytelling

1) Story Hour for Children

"Story Hour for Children" is regularly held on Saturdays and Sundays in the *Story Hour Room*, which was newly established when the ILCL was fully opened. We have two sessions each day: one from two o'clock is for children aged from four to six years and another from

three o'clock targets children of seven or older (second grade of elementary school). In order to make children focus on listening to the story, we do not permit adults to enter the room during the story hour sessions. The event puts together storytelling, picture book reading, games using hand movements, poetry reciting, etc.

Storytelling is a way to link children with books by choosing a story from collections and telling it from memory. One staff member described her feelings when she narrated a story at a story hour as follows; "When I found children moved by my storytelling though I am not very good at it, I was touched and amazed to know that I have such power to impress children. Of course, it's the story itself that has the power."

The staff members of the Children's Services Division take turns to arrange a story hour. They prepare for the event by memorizing the lines of stories and choosing picture books best fit for the season for each session.

Depending on variables such as weather or other conditions, the number of participants varies from one to around thirty children. Usually, children of the neighboring prefectures in the Kanto area outnumber those who come from other areas, but sometimes children from some distant area also participate in the event during the summer vacation. Some children are, so to speak, "regular members" who participate in the event frequently, while many others have come to the library for the first time. But once "Story Hour for Children" starts, most children enjoy picture books concentrating on listening to stories with their entire body becoming "ears."

2) Reading picture books for smaller children

We held "Picture Book Hour for smaller children" eight times in total as a special event in October 2003. Based on this experience, since April 2004, we have had a program of reading books for infants or nursery rhymes targeting children of three years old or less together with their parents on a regular basis.

It is said that recently children who come to public libraries become obviously younger and younger, and there are also many infants are accompanied by parents at the ILCL. Some parents ask for help because they do not know how to read books for their children or even how to treat their children. Maybe this is because nursery rhymes or children's songs which used to be handed down naturally by grandparents and by playing in groups are now diminishing. I hope "Picture Book Hour" to be a help to convey a message how important and how interesting "words" is to small children as well as storytelling at "Story Hour."

6-3. Other various events

During the long school vacations, various events like "games with science" and "making mini picture books," and special programs such as puppet shows or panel theater* are held. Our aim is to lead children to books by different ways from the usual storytelling.

*Panel theater means a way of telling a story to children using a panel covered with cloth and picture characters which can be easily put on and removed from the panel.

6-4. Guided tour

The ILCL gives guided tours to about a thousand people a year, in fifty groups from kindergartens, nursery schools, elementary and junior high schools, schools for disabled children and international schools. To introduce them to the pleasure of reading, we hold a story hour in addition to the standard guided tour of the facilities of the ILCL. When we guide classes or groups of students in the higher grades of elementary school and junior or senior high school, we often help them with school research assignments or respond to questions about librarians' jobs when they have to find out about occupations.

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7. The basis of services for children – the importance of selection

Since the ILCL was opened, we have learned various things from offering services to children. The most important thing among them is that the basis of services for children is "selecting appropriate books."

The number of books which a child can read in his/her short childhood is limited. We hope children will meet the best possible books during that period and have many experiences of good reading as the nourishment to develop their mental maturity. The Children's Charter of Japan established in 1951 declares that "the child shall be raised in a good environment." Now as the environment surrounding children changes dramatically, libraries should guarantee opportunities for children to encounter books suitable to their stage of development and link children with books. This is the role that services for children should take.

At the ILCL, we mainly offer children materials which are purchased to put on the open shelves as duplicate copies of materials acquired via the legal deposit system. However, we concluded that it was appropriate to offer as many materials as possible that the ILCL possesses after discussions during the preparations for the full opening, considering the meaning of the ILCL's being a part of the NDL and the purpose of the "Convention on the Rights of the Child."

In the public services of the NDL with its role as the deposit library, the basic policy is to offer any materials requested by users. However, when providing services for children in the ILCL, especially children of lower ages, our policy is to offer materials which are selected according to fixed standards. At the counter of the Children's Room, the staff members find out what a child really needs and decide whether to substitute a similar book in the room for one requested, or offer something from the closed stacks.

A fundamental children's service like selecting books and offering them to children is one of the functions of the ILCL as a national center for children's literature. In the *Children's Room*, the books are provided on the open shelves as a result of our selection. When we decide which story to tell or which picture book to read from, we are also doing selection, and in the same way we might apply it to such services as "Book Set Lending service to School Libraries" and exhibitions. All these services are based on "selection."

The ILCL possesses the large amount of children's books published inside and outside of Japan. We would like to make it one of our duties and a pleasure to select a book from the

midst of the ocean of books to offer it to children.

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8. To put children's service into practice – personnel exchanges and training

To keep providing services for children as described above in the ILCL, it is necessary to nurture the staff's abilities.

Since the ILCL was fully opened, we have had regular personnel exchanges with Urayasu City Library (Chiba prefecture), Fukuoka Prefectural Library and Tokyo Children's Library. Providing services for children together with specialists who have rich experience, we have learned many things more than mere skills.

We continuously send out staff to participate in outside training courses, such as the training lecture series for librarians of children's services organized by the Japan Library Association (a comprehensive training course including both theory and practice for on-site leaders of services for children) and the storytelling workshop organized by the Tokyo Children's Library (sessions to learn and practice storytelling for the beginners).

In order to share the knowledge obtained from these outside training sessions among the staff members, we hold each month a storytelling study session and a meeting for reading basic children's books.

In addition, the ILCL staff members deepen their interaction with public librarians which offer services to children by participating in meetings such as the Japan Library Association's workshops on services to children and young adults in public libraries.

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9. Changing environment of reading and the role of the *Children's Room*

On the occasion of the "National Year of Reading for Children in 2000," various activities related to children's reading have started all over Japan. In 2001, the "Law on the Promotion of Reading Activities for Children" was enacted. Since then, there has been a big movement related to the reading activities of children; "Basic Plan for the Promotion of Reading Activities for Children" was laid down by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; local governments established their plans to promote reading activities for children; school libraries are now required to have teacher-librarians and so on.

Teachers who are newly in charge of school libraries or parents who want to read picture books to their children come to the *Children's Room* in the ILCL, and we are often asked how to select books and arrange them for school libraries or which book is good to read to children.

So far, we have managed the *Children's Room* considering mainly children who come to the library. However, we gradually began to realize the importance of our role to support those who provide activities related to children and books in their own community by introducing materials on the open shelves to them or answering these guests about what is important in the services for children or how to manage children's libraries effectively.

Conclusion – With children’s librarians all over Japan

As I described above, the ILCL started handing books to children and continue to do so with the guidance of outside specialists. From these experiences, we have learned much about the importance of reading for children and the significance of services for children in a library and what we should respect in those services.

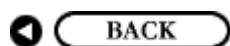
The number of public libraries which at present offer services for children amounts to 58 prefecture libraries and 2,571 municipal libraries*, but it is still difficult to provide experienced librarians to offer services for children.

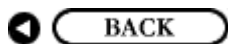
* This is based on “Report of investigations into actual condition of children’s services on public libraries in 2003” published by the Conference of JLA’s committee on Children and Young Adults.

From discussions with and questionnaires for public librarians who participated in the “ILCL Lecture Series on Children’s Literature” held by the ILCL in October last year, we have learned about the difficulty of maintaining the expertise in this field, which is caused by reduction of the budget for acquisition of library materials, the introduction of the designated administrative system, personnel cuts and relations with library volunteers.

One of the important roles of the ILCL is to contribute to the professional improvement of librarians in Japan through its activities. The “ILCL Lecture Series on Children’s Literature” can be regarded as one attempt as that. We also intend to organize seminars and lecture meetings continuously utilizing the abundant collection that the ILCL possesses.

In addition to this, we, as children’s literature specialists, we are trying to exchange information and views with children’s librarians all over Japan who have the mission of sharing the pleasure of reading with children just like us, learn from this exchange, and develop our own forms of services for children. I believe this is our role as a national center.





Modern Japanese Political History Materials – Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room of the National Diet Library –

Hiroo Horiuchi

Assistant Director

Modern Japanese Political Documents Division

Reference and Special Collections Department

National Diet Library

This is a short summary of the paper presented at the 16th Annual Conference of the European Association of Japan Resource Specialists (EAJRS) in September 2005.

[1. Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room](#)

1.1 History

1.2 Collections

1.3 Reader service

[2. "Modern Japanese political history materials"](#)

2.1 Acquisitions

2.2 Cataloging

2.3 Bibliographic access

2.4 Storage

2.5 Reformatting

2.6 NDL Gallery

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1. Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room

1.1 History

The room was established in 1949 at the end of the acquisitions activities for the historiographic project on the history of the Japanese constitution that had been undertaken in 1938 in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Meiji Constitution.

Since then the room has been collecting and cataloging documents relating to modern Japanese political history.

1.2 Collections

1) Modern Japanese political history materials

A collection of private papers owned by those who had been involved in the Japanese politics of modern times. They comprise mainly letters, diaries, memos, and other unofficial business documents. They also include some official documents. The acquisition has been centered on the papers that belonged to the politicians, government officials, diplomats, military personnel and others who had been deeply engaged in parliamentary politics. The papers amount to more than 250,000 items which are divided into over 300 groups.

2) Materials on the Allied Occupation of Japan

A microfilm collection of documents and records containing various administrative information concerning the Allied Occupation of Japan in the post WW II period. The originals are held by overseas institutions including the U.S. About 13,000 rolls of microfilm and 470,000 sheets of microfiche are now provided for readers.

3) Materials on Japanese emigration

A collection of documents relating to Japanese emigrants acquired by the NDL from Central and South America, North America, Hawaii, etc.

[related article](#)

1.3 Reader service

Readers can use the materials in the room in the almost same way as they use the library's general collection such as books in the other reading rooms. However, considering the nature of the collections and for the purpose of the protection of privacy and human rights, users are required to submit an application form in advance to obtain permission to use the collections.

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2. "Modern Japanese political history materials"

2.1 Acquisitions

Early stage (up to the early 1950s)

Amidst the turmoil during the period right after WW II, many of the historical documents were in danger of being scattered and lost. Thanks to the cooperation of Mr. Okubo Toshiaki, the well-known historian, the NDL purchased a total of 50,000 documents owned by veteran statesmen who had been active during the time period from the last days of the Tokugawa regime through the Meiji era.

Expansion of acquisition target (up to 1970s)

The research done for the exhibition to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Diet in 1961 stimulated the acquisition of historic political materials on a wider scale. The target area was expanded to include materials produced in the Taisho and Showa eras. The NDL

also acquired materials owned by the former officials of the Cabinet Legislation Bureau who got involved in the drafting of the new constitution after WWII.

Increase of materials of Showa era (from the 1980s)

Later acquisitions have included materials owned by former prime ministers, politicians and staff of political parties, Diet staff, military personnel, journalists, economic analysts, specialists in education and culture, etc. They came to light and became a part of the NDL's collections as a result of a call for hitherto hidden historical materials for the Diet Centenary Exhibition in 1990.

Even today the NDL collects materials introduced by related institutions and researchers or found in the second-hand book market by means of donation, deposit, and purchase.

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2.2 Cataloging

The collected materials are divided into groups under the names of their previous owners, such as "Ito Hirobumi Papers*" and "Mutsu Munemitsu Papers." Catalogs are made for each group of papers. The structure of the classification scheme is different for each group of papers according to its state and nature.

[*related article](#)

2.3 Bibliographic access

Catalogs for the public are made first. For some papers, more detailed printed catalogs have been published. The profile of each group of papers has been made available on the NDL website. Creation of a database of printed catalogs has just begun and no details have been decided on how the database should be open to the public.

2.4 Storage

Originals are stored individually in permanent-paper envelopes. In the cases of materials which have already been microfilmed, the originals are kept in the rare-book stacks (wooden shelves).

2.5 Reformatting

Microfilming has been undertaken for deteriorated and well-used materials. Up to now about 90,000 items of original materials have been already microfilmed.

2.6 NDL Gallery (electronic exhibitions)

NDL Gallery on the NDL website offers the following contents:

"Modern Japanese political history materials" from "Nippon in the World"

<http://www.ndl.go.jp/site/nippon/kensei/index.html> (Japanese)

<http://www.ndl.go.jp/site/nippon/kenseie/index.html> (English)

70 items of the most important documents from the modern Japanese political history materials collection were presented, organized by period and theme in the exhibition. A

part of the collection catalog has been digitized and can be searched on the Gallery home page as an experiment.

Birth of the Constitution of Japan

<http://www.ndl.go.jp/constitution/index.html> (Japanese)

<http://www.ndl.go.jp/constitution/e/index.html> (English)

The exhibition presents 180 important documents involved in the framing and enactment of Japan's constitution with images, bibliographic information, commentaries, and texts.

Portraits of Modern Japanese Historical Figures

<http://www.ndl.go.jp/portrait/index.html> (Japanese)

<http://www.ndl.go.jp/portrait/e/index.html> (English)

This exhibition presents portrait photographs of statesmen, government officials, military officers, businessmen, and others carried in books or found in the Modern Japanese political history materials collection. The photographs accompany the biography and images of the works of the persons portrayed.

The next exhibition we are now working on is "Japan of Modern Era Shown in Historical Documents (tentative name)" to be open to the public in FY2006.

3. Related institutions

Major institutions that store and provide historical documents other than the NDL are:

- [National Archives of Japan](#) (Kokuritsu Kobunshokan)
- [Diplomatic Record Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan](#) (Gaimusho Gaiko Shiryokan)
- [National Institute for Defense Studies](#) (Boeicho Boei Kenkyujo)
- [Archives and Mausolea Department of the Imperial Household Agency](#) (Kunaicho Shoryobu)

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Selection from the NDL collections

Records of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey held by the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room

by Kosaku Oshima

Modern Japanese Political Documents Division
Reference and Special Collections Department

*This is a translation of the article of in the Library Journal (Toshokan zasshi)
Vol. 99, No. 7 (July 2005).*

1. [Background of the Records of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey](#)
2. [Contents of the Pacific Survey](#)
 1. Materials directly related to the bombing operations
 2. Regional information materials used for selecting target objective areas
 3. Materials acquired in the course of preparing the final reports
 4. Final Reports of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey
3. [How to use the USSBS materials in the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room](#)

1. Background of the Records of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey

During World War Two, the United States conducted massive aerial attacks against cities and industrial areas in Europe and Pacific Theater to destroy military forces and also the will to fight of the Germans and the Japanese.

The United States Strategic Bombing Survey (USSBS) was organized in November 1944 to study the effects of the bombing, to establish a basis for evaluating the importance and potential of air power as an instrument of military strategy, and to plan the future development of the armed forces. The survey was originally conducted in Europe; the Pacific survey was added after the surrender of Japan on August 15, 1945 by the order of President Harry S. Truman.

Headed by Chairman Franklin D'Olier, president of an insurance company, the USSBS summoned over 1,000 military, official and private sector experts. The survey in Japan was conducted from September to December 1945 and a vast quantity of reports was submitted up to the following July. These materials and the final reports of the survey were collectively called the Records of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey.

2. Contents of the Pacific Survey

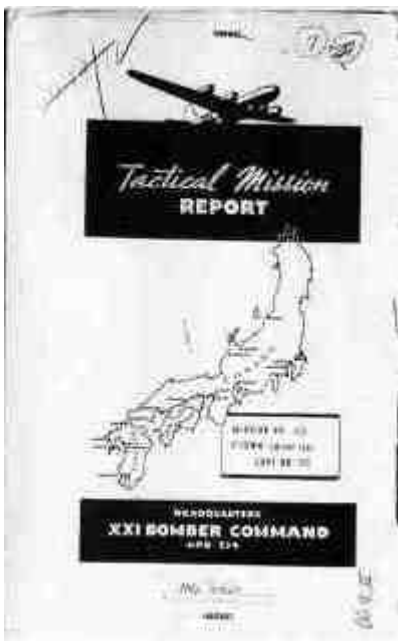
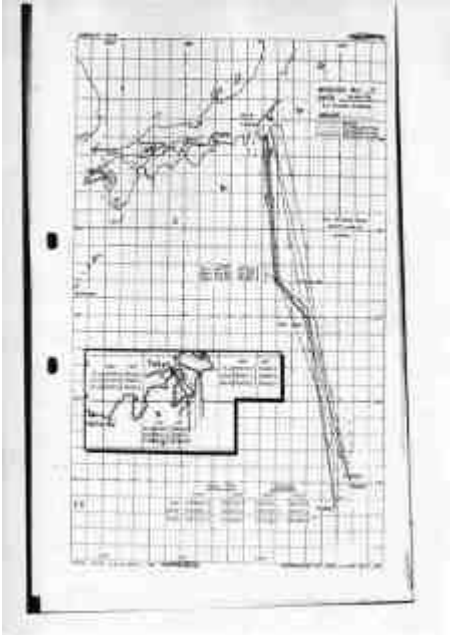
The Records are divided into two parts, European and Pacific Survey, and the Modern Japanese Political History Room holds the copies of the latter in microfilm form (the final reports include European Survey). The survey was not limited to B-29 the air-raids against cities and industrial areas, but also covered mine laying campaigns, attacks by carrier-based aircraft, industries and air-raid protection, and interrogations of Japanese officials and military personnel. For titles of the respective records, please see "Guide for Search by Theme—Materials on the Allied Occupation of Japan" on the NDL website (Japanese only) (<http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/data/theme/constitutional/occupation/usb.html>). This is a brief introduction of the major materials.

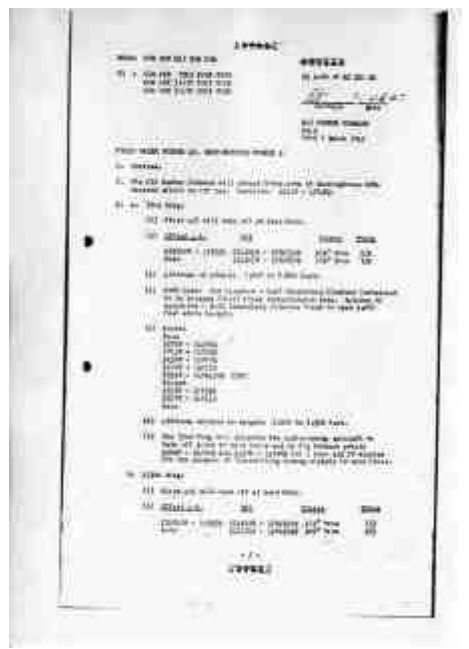
(1) Materials directly related to the bombing operations

- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 53: Security-Classified Tactical Mission Reports of the 20th & 21st Bomber Commands, 1945 \(call no: USB-05\)](#)

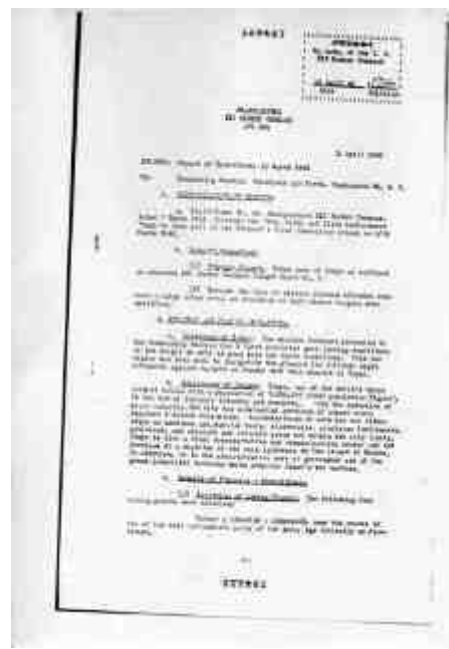
Based in the Mariana Islands and Chengdu, China, the 20th & 21st Bomber Commands consisting of B-29 planes conducted strategic bombing against the Japanese home islands. The reports of several tens of pages written after the completion of the missions appear in order of mission number. Each report consists of the tactical details including information on targets, attack route, mission planning, actual situation of attacks, effect and execution of mission, and an Annex including mission operations, weather, communications, intelligence, consolidated statistical summary, and field orders.

Images from the Tactical Mission Reports

	
Front cover	Track chart of the 21st Bomber Command for the Great Tokyo Air Raid (March 10, 1945)



Field order of the Great Tokyo Air
Raid



Report of Operations

- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 59: Security-Classified Damage Assessment Reports, 1945 \(call no: USB-15\)](#)

The mission summary or mission resume that summarizes the tactical mission reports mentioned above in one page, damage assessment reports and target information sheets that describe damage to targets in Japan from aerial attacks, and related materials such as photographs taken before and after aerial attacks are included. Reports are filed by target objective areas.

- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 55: Security-Classified Carrier-Based Navy and Marine Corps Aircraft Action Reports, 1944-1945 \(call no: USB-06\)](#)

Aircraft action reports prepared by aircraft squadrons of the Navy and Marine Corps units and action reports by units of aircraft carriers or each aircraft carrier are included. Aircraft action reports, a large share of these materials, were made when each mission was concluded and range from a few to several tens of pages comprising numbers of participating aircraft, bombs and torpedoes carried, enemy aircraft destroyed, damage, attack on enemy ships or ground objectives, photographs, and charts.

- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 54: Security-Classified Land-Based Navy and Marine Corps Aircraft Action Reports, 1944-1945 \(call no: USB-14\)](#)

These reports were made by land-based Navy and Marine Corps squadrons. The format is almost the same as the aircraft action reports mentioned above.

These materials provide detailed information of bombing missions against the Japanese

home islands by B-29 bombers and other aircraft.

(2) Regional information materials used for selecting target objective areas

- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 49: Security-Classified Joint Army-Navy Intelligence Studies \(JANIS\), 1944-1945 \(call no: USB-01\)](#)
- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 50: Japanese Resources Reference Notebooks, 1945 \(call no: USB-02\)](#)
- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 47: Security-Classified Joint Target Group Air Target Analyses, 1944-1945 \(call no: USB-11\)](#)
- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 48: Security-Classified Air Objective Folders, 1942-1944 \(call no: USB-11\)](#)
- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 72: Aerial Photographs of Japanese Targets, 1944-1945 \(call no: USB-11\)](#)

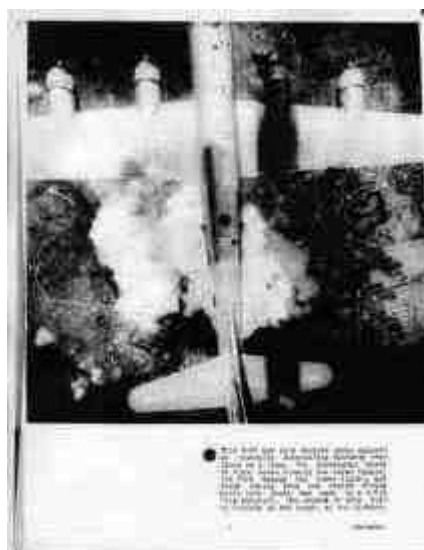
These materials are divided by objective area* or objective area number (JTG Objective Area Numbers) and consist of outline of industry, information of objective area, and photographs.

* For example, Japan is indicated by number 90 and divided into 39 areas from 90: 1 (Karafuto =Sakhalin) to 90: 39 (Tsushima), arranged in numerical order with other areas such as China (83) and Korea (84).

(3) Materials acquired in the course of preparing the final reports

- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 46: Security-Classified Intelligence Library, 1932-1947 \(call no: USB-10\)](#)

Includes materials such as reports of the Japanese Imperial Government, reports of the US Army and Navy on the organization and equipment of the Japanese Army, the Civil Affairs Handbooks published by the War Department, the Army Service Forces, and the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.



Air Intelligence Report
Photo was taken on June 1 1945 in Osaka

- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 41: Security-Classified Pacific Survey Reports and Supporting Records 1928-1947 \(call no: USB-13\)](#)

Various materials are included as follows: publications (Japanese maps etc.), Japanese reports and instructions relating to air defense and fire protection, interrogations and interviews of Japanese citizens, and bomb plots and damage reports.

(4) Final Reports of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey

- [Records of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Entry 2: Final Reports of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey 1945-1947 \(call no: YD-208\)](#)

The final reports were submitted using the above-mentioned materials. The Pacific Survey consists of 108 reports including general analysis, the effects of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, field reports covering air-raid protection and allied subjects, analysis of aircraft industry and other industries, effects of air attack, interrogations of Japanese officials, and analysis of naval bombardment.

3. How to use the USSBS materials in the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room

The NDL acquired the final reports of the European and Pacific Survey in FY1979 and the other materials in the Pacific Survey in 1992 in 788 microfilms from the holder of the original materials (Record Group 243), the U. S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). These microfilms can be viewed in the Modern Japanese Political History Materials Room. The final reports were republished in book form as "The United States Strategic Bombing Survey" (call no: GB531-A70) and are available on open shelves in the Room. The Air Staff College of the Japan Air Self Defense Force and others translated major parts of the final reports into Japanese.

<How to search>

The bibliographic data of the materials can be searched from the "Search for the Materials on the Allied Occupation of Japan" menu of OPAC terminals in the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan of the NDL (excluding USB-13, as of September 2005). The data can be searched by entering prefecture or area names in the "title" column. The database is not available via the Internet. Book catalogs such as the "Index to Records of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey" and the "Catalog for Microfilm Version of the Records of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey (RG243): Entry No.55 The Records of the Carriers Based Navy and Marine Corps Aircraft Action Reports, 1944-1945" are on open shelves in the Room.

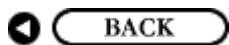
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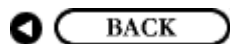
- To use the Room for the first time, application is required.
- Specify materials by the above-mentioned OPAC and indexes, fill in call number and

microfilm number on call-slip and hand it to staff at the counter.

- Microreaders are installed in the Room.
- Copying service is available. For details, see [here](#)
- International copying service and reference service are available. For details, see [here](#)
- Materials of the Room cannot be lent out via Interlibrary Loan Service.

[up](#)





<Announcement> Open seminar on the documentary heritage damaged by the Indian Ocean Tsunami

An open seminar on the documentary heritage damaged by the Indian Ocean Tsunami will be held on **December 6, 2005**. It will be a good opportunity to figure out how Japan and other countries will be able to support the recovery from the damage through their cooperation with the IFLA relief program as well as to raise awareness of disaster prevention.

Program:

- **Keynote address: The Disaster Program of the IFLA PAC***
Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff, Director, IFLA PAC International Focal Point
- ***Report of a country damaged by the Indian Ocean Tsunami I: Indonesia***
Dady P. Rachmananta, Director of the National Library of Indonesia
- ***Report of a country damaged by the Indian Ocean Tsunami II: Sri Lanka***
Upali Amarasiri, Director General of the National Library and Documentation Centre of Sri Lanka
- ***Restoration of soaked and muddy land ledgers in Banda Aceh, Indonesia***
Isamu Sakamoto, Paper Conservator, Director of the Tokyo Restoration and Conservation Center
- ***Recent activities of the IFLA PAC Regional Centre for Asia***
Masaki Nasu, Director of the IFLA PAC Regional Centre for Asia, National Diet Library

(* IFLA PAC: IFLA Core Activity on Preservation and Conservation)

Date and hour:	December 6, 2005. 13:00-17:00
Venue:	National Diet Library 1-10-1, Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 100-8924 Japan
Main language:	English (with interpretation)
Registration fee:	free (reservations are required)

For more information and reservation:

**please contact Masaki Nasu, Director of the IFLA PAC
Regional Centre for Asia
E-mail: pacasia@ndl.go.jp**

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NEXT 

National Diet Library Newsletter

No. 145, October 2005



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. 535, October 2005](#) [PDF Format, 2.13MB]

- Five years of the Constitution Research Office
 - Bibliographical data and personal information
- Completion of microfilming of the books published in the Taisho era and discontinuance of reader service of books and periodicals to be microfilmed
 - Training program on digitization FY2005
 - <Announcement>
 - Fauna and Flora in Illustrations – Natural History of the Edo era
 - NDL will take part in the Library Fair & Forum 2005
 - Exhibition at the International Library of Children's Literature: Palette of Dream Colours II – Noma Concours for Picture Book Illustrations from Asia, Africa and Latin America
 - <Invitation>
 - Open seminar on the documentary heritage damaged by the Indian Ocean Tsunami [related article](#)
- Excerpts from the Annual Report of the NDL, FY2004: statistics(2) [related article](#)

[No. 534, September 2005](#) [PDF Format, 1.63MB]

- Present states of the national libraries and children's services in Japan and in Korea: Report of the 9th mutual visit program with the National Library of Korea [related article](#)

- Legal Deposit System Council 14th meeting
 - <Announcement>
- Exhibition at the International Library of Children's Literature: Palette of Dream Colours II – Noma Concours for Picture Book Illustrations from Asia, Africa and Latin America
- Special Exhibition at the Tokyo Main Library and Kansai-kan: Fauna and Flora in Illustrations – Natural History of the Edo era
 - <Invitation>
- Training program on Asian information FY2005
- Excerpts from the Annual Report of the NDL, FY2004: statistics(1) [related article](#)
- World Expositions –Japanese encounter with the world through the Expos (Enchanting world of books –Guide to regular exhibition, 15) [related webpage \(Japanese only\)](#)

