

- **The 1951 US-Japan Security Treaty, and the revision crisis of 1960 [日米安全保障条約] (ANPO)**
- **Life goes on: the Tokyo Olympics and Tora-san**



1. THE US-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY was concluded in September 1951 at San Francisco, with effect from April 1952. The Treaty was unpopular in Japan, especially on the issue of rearmament, but it was ratified.

KEY TERMS: The Treaty gave the US the right to station troops in Japan to protect Japan and quell domestic disturbances. No

other country could have bases there without US permission.

IN THE LATE 1950S, many in Japan wished to rewrite the Treaty. During negotiations held under Japanese Prime Minister Kishi, the Left organised protests and the signing of the revised treaty in 1960 set off a political crisis in January 1960.

THE NEW TREATY removed the clause allowing US troops to intervene in internal disturbances in Japan, and that requiring US permission for other countries' bases to be set up in Japan, but the treaty still made Japan an important base for US security in East Asia. This placed China in an antagonistic position: China was 'the enemy'. In early June, the pending visit of US President Eisenhower renewed protests. On June 10, Eisenhower's press secretary barely escaped by helicopter from a mob of students at Haneda airport.



IN JUNE, the struggle for ratification in the Diet set off another wave of protests, strikes and demonstrations [デモ] by Socialists, students and workers.

On June 15 there was a violent clash between riot police and students who had invaded the Diet. Hundreds of students and police were hurt and Kanba Michiko, a Tokyo University student who was crushed to death, became a martyr to the cause. Eisenhower's visit was cancelled.

Here is an account of a the ratification of the Treaty by Yoshio Fukushima: "The revised Japan-U.S. Security Treaty was decided on and passed solely by the Liberal-Democratic Party at 12:06 in the morning of May 20, 1960. The "anti-Security Treaty" movement, which had begun a year earlier, rose up into a nationwide mass civil movement as a result of this event.

On May 20, led chiefly by the National Federation of Students Self-Government Association and the National Federation of Labor, 100,000 people rushed to the prime minister's official residence. In order to defend the official residence from the daily demonstrations, a barbed wire fence was constructed around the periphery on the 23rd.

The representatives of the Social Democratic Party, including Chairman Inejiro Asanuma, proceeded to the American Embassy on the 24th, demanding that "a telegraph requesting the postponement of President Eisenhower's visit to Japan be sent to the United States." On the 26th, the National Assembly for Stopping the Security Treaty Revisions organized the 16th united action, with 170,000 demonstrators encircling the National Diet Building. On June 4, 5.6 million people from throughout the country participated in the anti-treaty strike, led chiefly by the National Railway Worker's Union and the Nihon National Railway Motive Power Union. As a result, 2,200 trains were out of service that day.

The Foreign Relations Committee of the American Senate approved the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between Japan and the United States of America on the 14th. On the 15th, to stop the Security Treaty Revisions, people power was used for the second time, with 5.8 million people from throughout the country participating in this event.

Demonstrators from the National Federation of Students Self-Government Association rushed into the Diet and fought against police officers and the right wing. Michiko Kanba, a student at the University of Tokyo, died from traumatic asphyxia in the disorder. A total of 182 people were arrested before dawn, and 100 people or more were injured. The Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between Japan and the United States of America was approved at twelve o'clock in the morning of June 19 without the resolution of the House of Councilors."

[From: http://www.tomiyamaharuo.com/essay_fukushima.htm]



権 美智子 1937.11.08 ~
1960.06.15: 警官隊との
衝突が繰返される中で圧
死-蠍座

READING 2: THE 1964 TOKYO OLYMPICS



明るい生活 THE BRIGHT NEW LIFE For many Japanese, the 1960s were the beginning of brighter days, with nearly full employment, better housing, improved education prospects and improved roles for women at work and in the home. Many Japanese moved out of their old *shitemachi* (downtown) Tokyo homes to spacious modern houses in the western suburbs and further out in Saitama and Chiba, with a refrigerator and a television and an automatic bath. There was space for a car, spare cash for family holidays. Industry was

hungry for graduate trainees and more women went to university. The bright new days indeed.

THE TOKYO OLYMPICS OF OCTOBER 10-24 was the first ever Olympic Games held in an Asian country. The games had originally been planned for Tokyo in 1940, but were postponed because of the Japan-China war. Ninety-four countries 5,500 athletes took part. Forty-seven world records were broken. Preparing for the games, Japan completed huge infrastructure and construction projects: hotels, highways, sports facilities,



and best known of all, the Tokyo-Osaka Shinkansen, built between 1959-1961 for the Tokyo Olympics, with service beginning on October 1, only nine days before the start of the Tokyo Olympics.

THE TOKYO OLYMPICS WAS ALL ABOUT SYMBOLS the Yoyogi sports complex, the Nippon Budokan, main gym for the games, and the Shinkansen all symbolized Japan's recovery from the ashes of defeat, her extraordinary modernization, and her welcome back into the community of nations and the world economy.

NOT ALL THE SYMBOLS WERE FORWARD LOOKING. The original (1940) Tokyo Olympics, canceled because of the war, haunted the 1964 Games. Memories of the Asia-Pacific War also weighed heavily on the events in Tokyo. The Olympics were held in the area formerly called Washington Heights, the housing area used for U.S. military members. Some building contractors in charge of the construction projects for the 1964 Olympics even used the term *gyokusai* – 'shattered jewel', a wartime metaphor for mass suicide in battle - to describe the huge Olympic project.

THEN THERE WAS ATOM BOY. The last torch carrier in the long journey from Athens, who ignited the Olympic fire in the opening ceremony of the 1964 Tokyo Olympics bore the special identification of "atom boy," as he was born in Hiroshima prefecture on August 6 1945, the day of the atomic attack on that city. With Atom Boy, Japan showed that she had not completely succumbed to the West's historical interpretation of the last thirty years.

'Bullet Train' is the best known English translation of the Japanese 弾丸列車 [dangan ressha], the name given to Japan's fast train project in the 1940s. Shinkansen means 'New Trunk Line', and thus should refer to the lines and not the trains, which are officially referred to as 'Super Express'.

READING 3: TORA-SAN



FROM 1969-1996 KIYOSHI ATSUMI (-1996) WAS TORA-SAN, star of the longest -running movie series in the world. Directed by Yamada Yoji, *Otoko wa Tsuraiyo* (It's Tough Being a Man) ran for



twenty-seven years and was seen by about eighty million people.

TORA-SAN BEGAN AS IT MEANT TO GO ON. The plot of the first film went like this: Born and raised in a poor family and he has come to make his living as a racketeer. One day he returned to his old neighborhood in Shibamata and found that Sakura, his younger sister, has grown into a lovely young woman living with their uncle's family. She married to Hiroshi, a factory hand. Tora-san himself is in love with Fuyuko, daughter of a priest from a nearby temple. Unfortunately, she tells him that she is engaged to another man and Tora-san leaves his old neighborhood.

WHY WAS THE SERIES SO POPULAR? Tora-san was an itinerant peddler, traveling across Japan in pursuit of riches through a various doomed schemes. Neither successful nor entirely unsuccessful, Tora-san has something of the *naniwabushi*: the sort of middle-aged man to be found trying to impress the *karaoke* hostesses, but he is more than that. Tora-san is always in character, always in his sports jacket, trademark hat and *zori*. Every movie follows the same plot lines: Tora-san arrives in a remote Japanese town, chasing his latest hare-brained scheme. There he meets a local beauty and falls in love. On the eve of marriage he gets cold feet and heads back to his sister's house in Shibamata, Tokyo, to drink sake and have a rethink.

READING 4: TORA-SAN SPINACH



This is Tora-san spinach, now on sale in Britain and the US. As anybody can see, Tora-san is a quick growing hybrid, with light green juicy, tender stems and dark green glossy leaves. Like Tora-san, Tora-san spinach is highly 'cold tolerant' and ideal for autumn, winter and spring growth. **And here is Tora-san** It's not difficult to see why they named the spinach after him.

