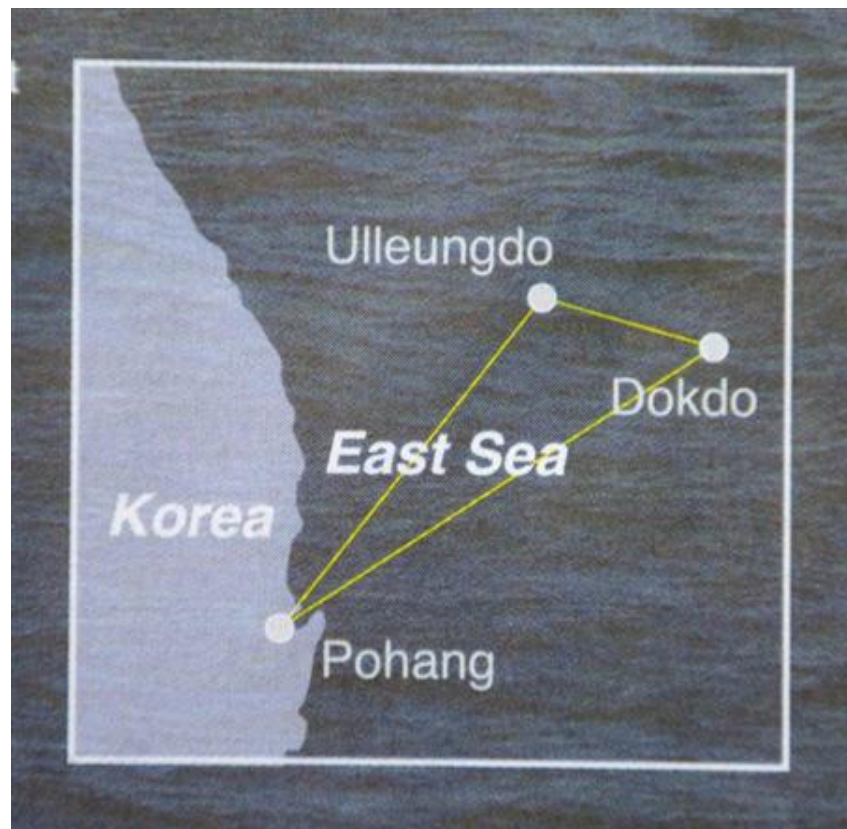


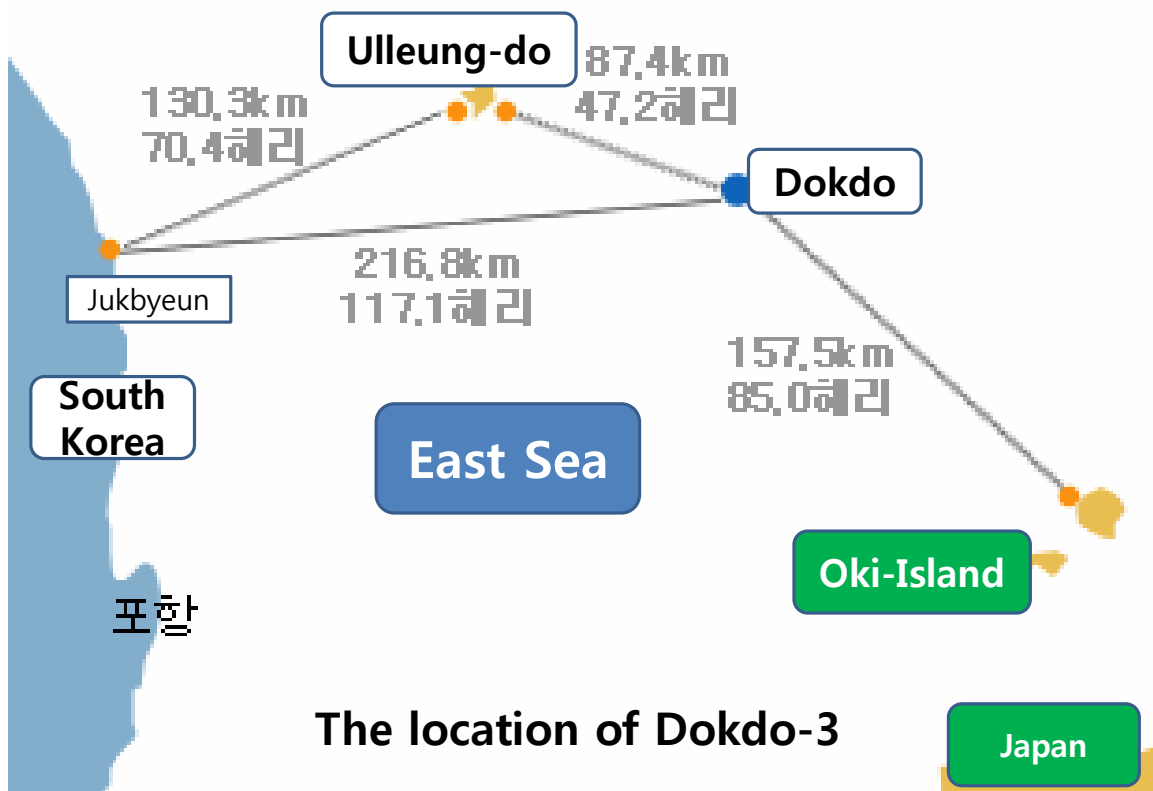
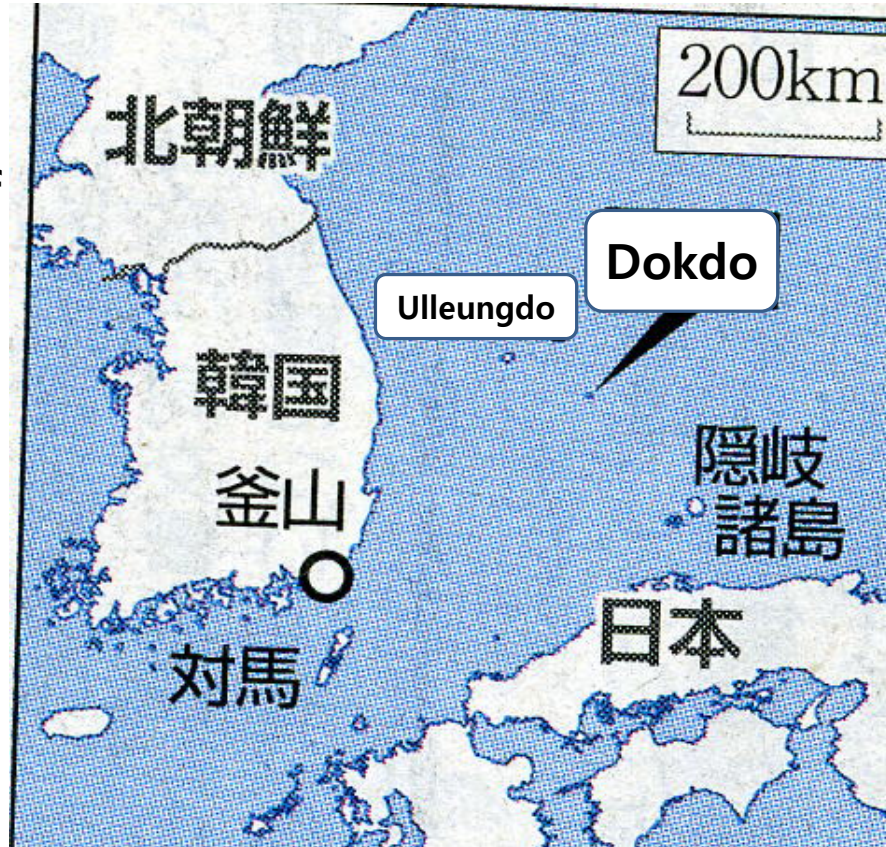
The Study of the Sovereignty over Dokdo Island

Dokdo Research Institute
of Sejong University(Seoul, Korea)

The
location of
Dokdo-1

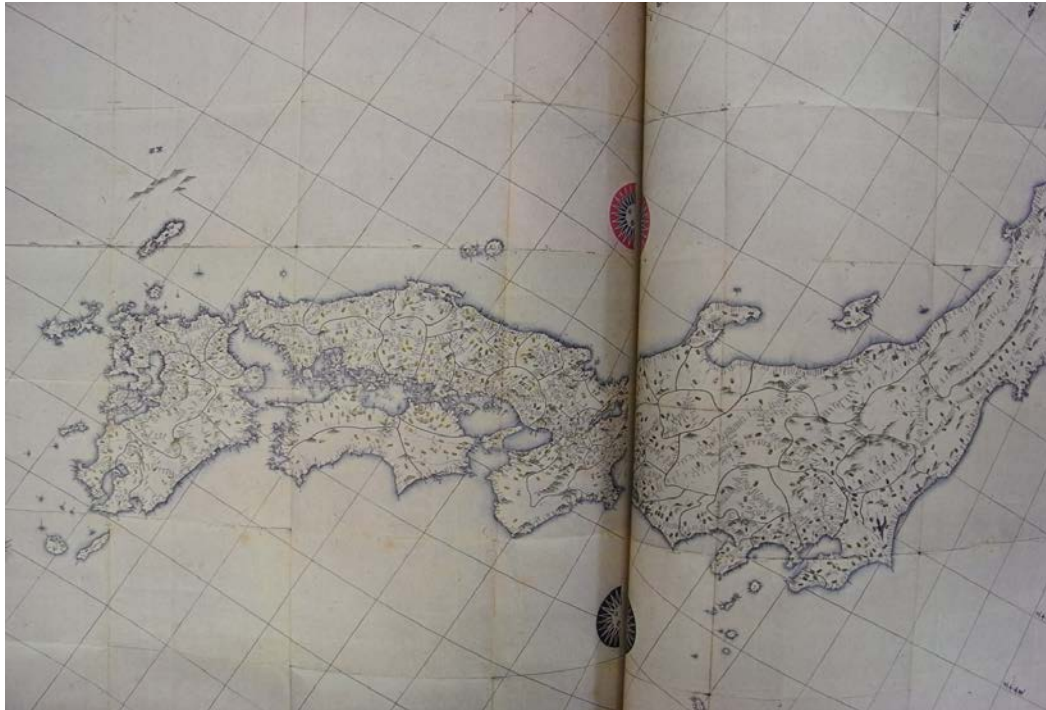


The location of Dokdo-2

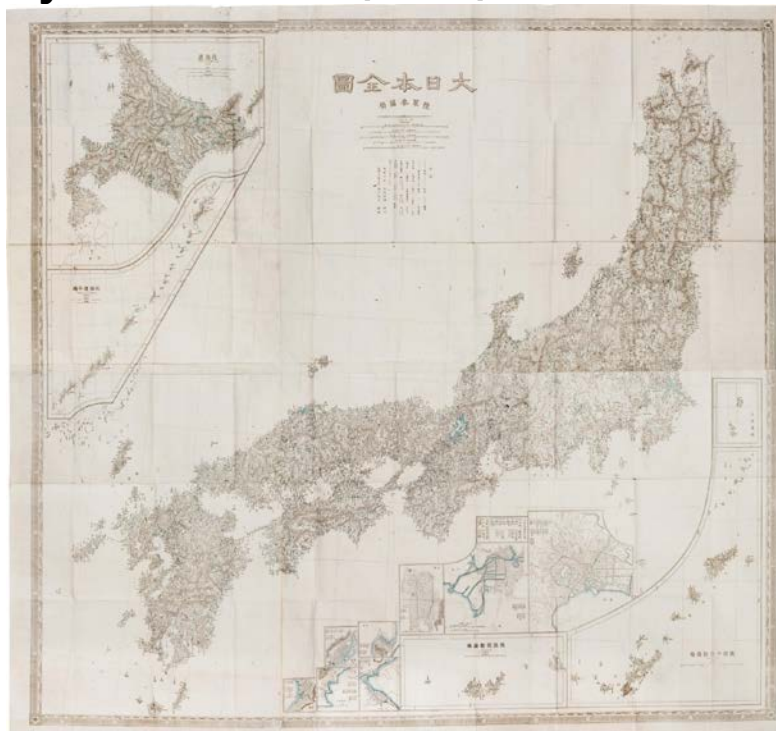


The location of Dokdo-3

**The official map of Japan by
Edo-Shogunate(1821): There is no Dokdo.**



**The official map of Japan by
Meiji Government(1877): There is no Dokdo.**



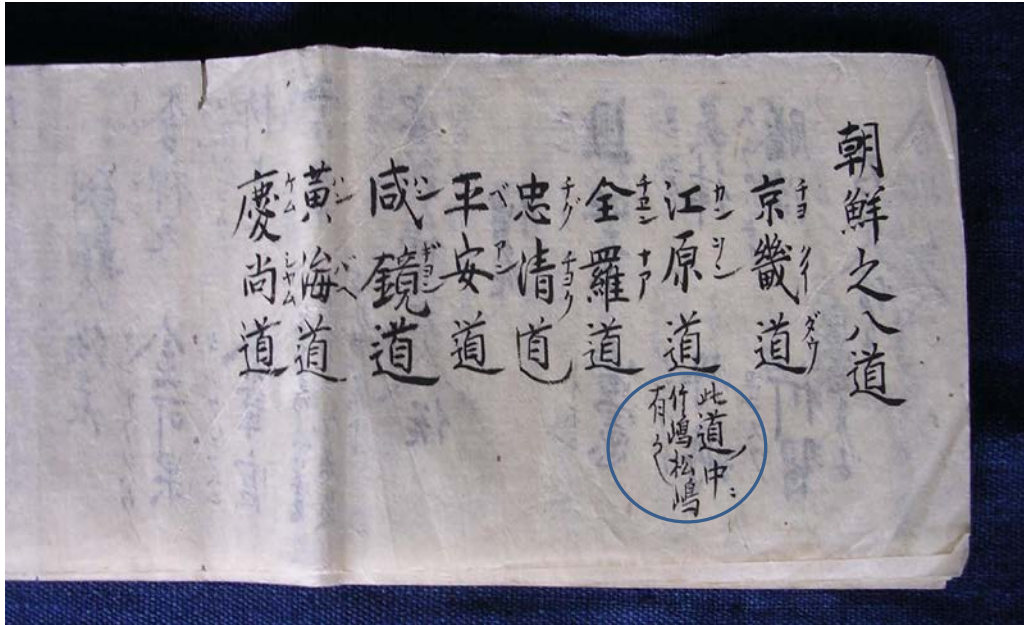


The map of Korea, made in Japan(1894), with Dokdo and Ulleung-do.



Dokdo can be seen from Ulleung Island.

- Oki local Japanese government reported to Edo-syogunate that Ulleung-do and Dokdo belonged to Gwanwon-Province of Joseon(Korea) in 1696.



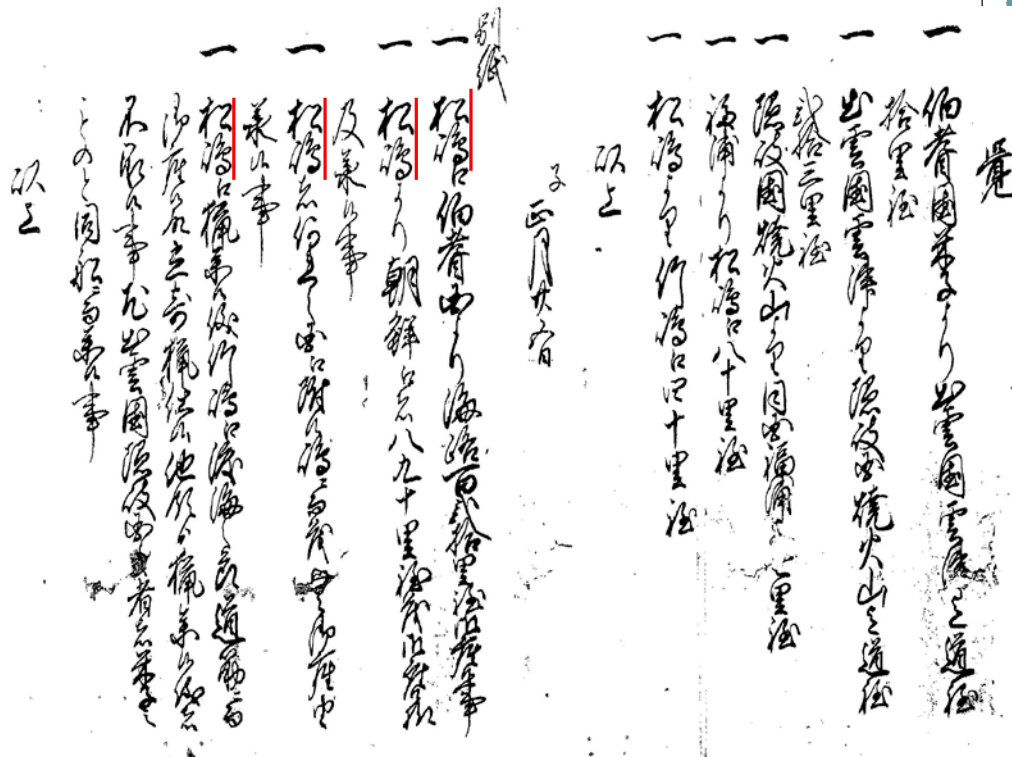
- Japanese former Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda explained to the Japanese National Diet **three key points why Dokdo is Japanese territory** on August 24th, 2012.
- This event was **broadcast live worldwide** for the purpose of **maximizing the propaganda effects**.

1) The first reason for the Japanese claim over Dokdo : Japan asserts that it had established **its ownership of Dokdo** in the mid-17th century.

- (1) This assertion is based on the facts that fishermen of **Tottori-han** (present day Tottori Prefecture) had visited **Ulleungdo**, the main island of Dokdo, and **Dokdo** often for 70 years from around 1625 to 1693.
- (2) There are several records that those fishermen **stayed on Dokdo** and **fished in the waters near by Dokdo**.
- (3) In accordance with such facts, Japan argues for **it's the first practical sovereignty**, alleging that there is no counter evidence for Korea.



- **TRUTH :** However, in 1696 the Samurai-led **Edo shogunate**, asked the **Tottori governor** who frequented Ulleungdo and Dokdo **if there was any island** related to Tottori-han **except Ulleungdo**.
- This fact reveals that the **Edo Shogunate** was **not even aware of Dokdo's existence**.
- The governor was quoted as saying, "There is **Matsushima** (the Japanese name of **Dokdo** at that time), which is **not our territory**. And Matsushima does not belong to any province of Japan."
- This meant that **Dokdo did not belong to Japan**.



- **Official documents** of Japan, published in **1870 and 1877** based on **reviews of late 17th century** records, concluded that **Ulleungdo and Dokdo Islands are part of Korea**, thus acknowledging Korea's sovereignty over these islands at that time.
- Japan has claimed its established sovereignty from the mid-17th century, but **at the end of the century**, it actually **admitted that Korea (Joseon) was entitled to Dokdo**.

2) In 1870, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported to the Japanese Government that Ulleungdo (Takeshima : 竹島) and Dokdo (Matsushima : 松島=独島) were Korean(Joseon's : 朝鮮) territory

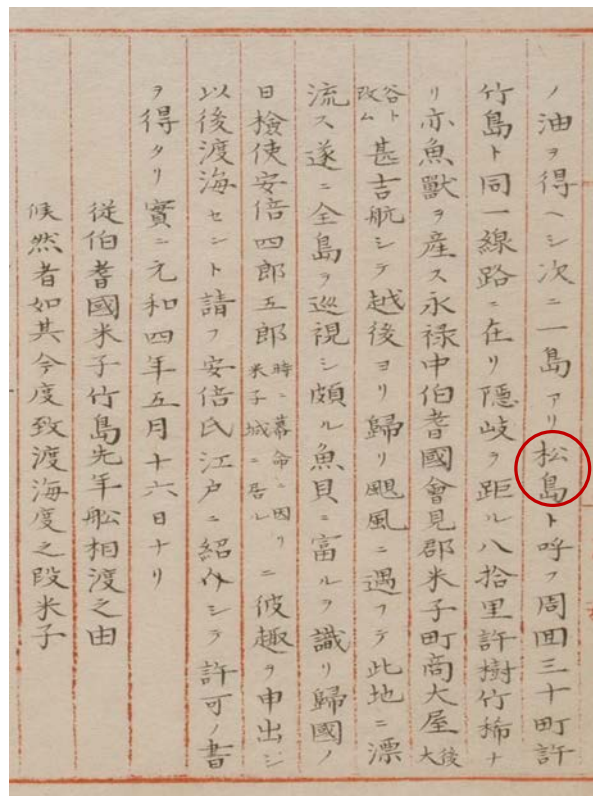
This is a handwritten Japanese document from 1870. The text is written in cursive (sōsho) and is organized into columns. At the top right, there is a date '丁卯年' (1870). The main body of the text discusses the status of Takeshima (竹島) and Dokdo (松島). A red line is drawn under the word '朝鮮' (Joseon/Korea) in the text. At the bottom left, there are several names and titles, including '外務省出仕' (Official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and '佐田白茅' (Sato Hakemaru).

3) In 1877, the **Dajokan** (the Imperial Japanese Council of State) conveyed their opinion to the Ministry of Home Affairs that **Takeshima (Ulleundo) and Matsushima (Dokdo) were not Japanese territory.** - The first page of the document states that Takeshima (Ulleundo) and ist outer island (Dokdo) have **no relation with our country (Japan).**"

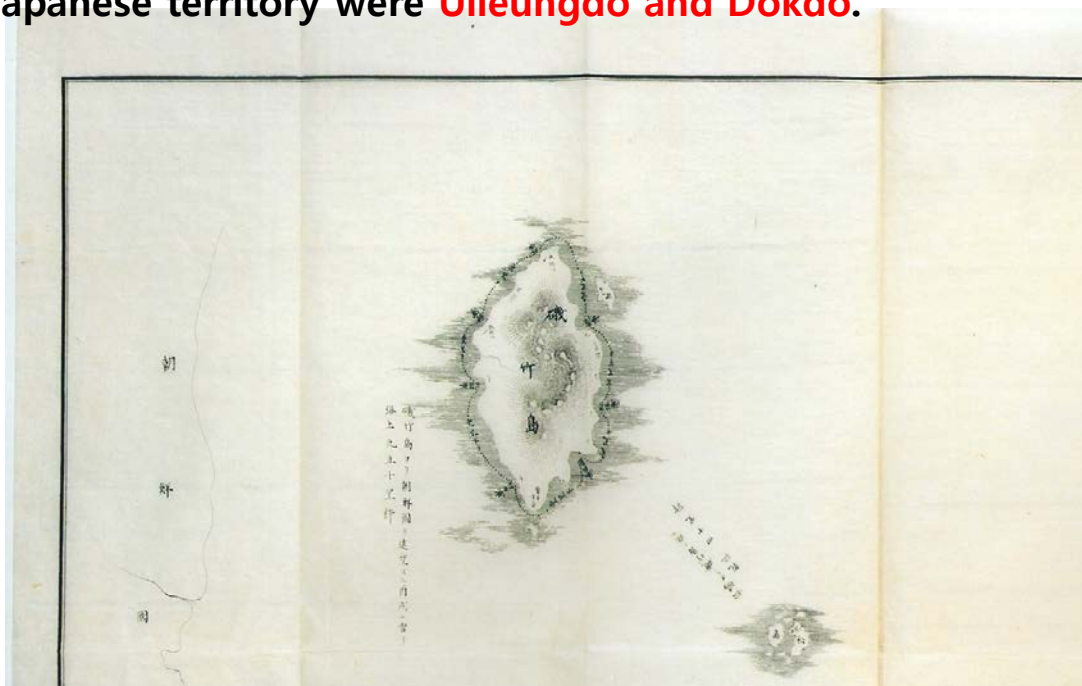
This is a handwritten Japanese document from 1877. The text is written in cursive (sōsho) and is organized into columns. At the top right, there is a date '明治十年三月廿日' (March 20, 1877). The main body of the text discusses the status of Takeshima (竹島) and Dokdo (松島). A red line is drawn under the word '朝鮮' (Joseon/Korea) in the text. At the bottom left, there are several names and titles, including '外務省出仕' (Official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and '佐田白茅' (Sato Hakemaru).

Also the 5th page of the same document states, "The outer land is Matsushima (松島=Dokdo)."

However, Japanese scholars refute that "the outer island of Takeshima (Ulleungdo) should not be regarded as Dokdo."



However, the annexed Dajokan Directive map provides the definite evidence that the two islands which were not Japanese territory were Ulleungdo and Dokdo.

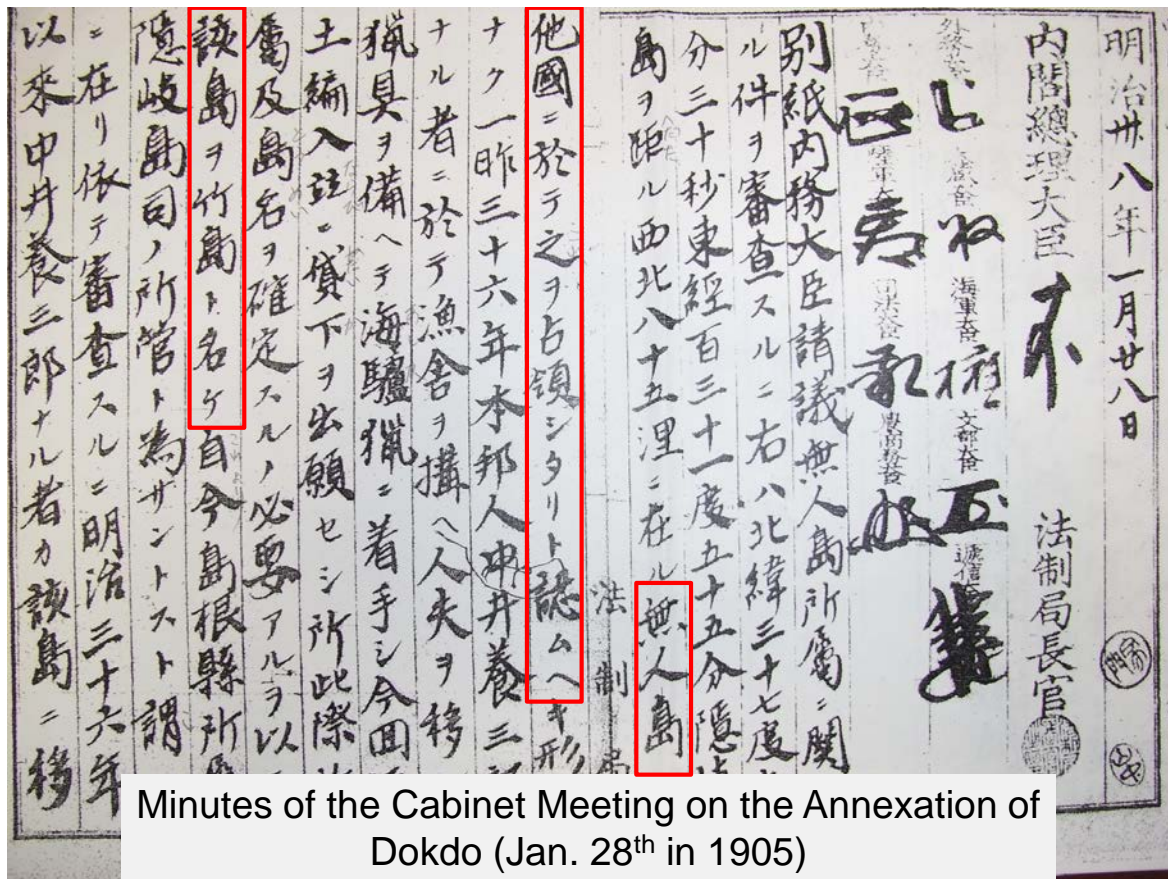


The island located below Ulleungdo was **Matsushima (Dokdo)**. The Japanese Government concluded that **the two islands were not Japanese territory but Joseon's, reflecting a historical truth.**



- As admitted in old Japanese documents, Dokdo belongs to Joseon (Korea).
- It is an absolute fabrication that Dokdo is indigenous Japanese land.

- (2) The second reason presented by the former Prime Minister : Dokdo was officially consolidated into Oki islands, Shimane Prefecture in 1905.
- Dokdo at that time was said by Japan to be **terra nullius** (land belonging to no one), and was **incorporated within Shimane Prefecture** based upon occupation.
- **But**, the Japanese **Ministry of Domestic Affairs** at that time **was opposed to the incorporation** saying that the country did not need to **alert the world Powers** that Japan could swallow up the entire Korean Empire by **taking up the rocky outcrop**, which was **possibly Korean territory**.
- **However**, the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, urgently **persuaded other government organizations** to include Dokdo in Japanese territory **at the cabinet meeting in January 1905**.



- **The islets** were declared **terra nullius** on January 28th 1905 and thus incorporated into Shimane prefecture on February 22nd under the name **Takeshima** which was the former Japanese name of Ulleungdo.
- The Japanese government had referred to Dokdo by the name **Matsushima** in their history, but pretended to **forget the historical fact**.
- **The claim** of terra nullius cannot be valid as **Japan had already presented** related official documents in 1870, stating that **Matsushima (Dokdo) was Joseon territory** and in 1877, that **it was not Japanese territory**.
- The Japanese government was **deceptive** in suggesting that Dokdo was a **newly discovered island in order** to separate **Dokdo's incorporation** from the **official documents**. In 1905 the Japan government pretended that Dokdo had no name.

- In 1900, the Korean Empire issued **Imperial Edict No. 41** that **Dokdo**, marked as Seok-do (石島), meaning the stone (石) island (島), **belonged to Ulleung County**.
- **Main content** of Imperial Edict No. 41. :
"Ulleung County should govern the entire areas of Ulleungdo, Jukdo, and Seok-do (Dokdo)".

勅令第四十號

外國語學校及醫學校及中學校卒業人を該學校に收用する官制

第一條 外國語學校及醫學校及中學校に卒業人は該校教官を叙任在案を以て該校教官に有闕を以て填補する時は卒業生教官叙任を以て特別試験を経るに依りて施行す

第二條 本令を頒布日に從ひて施行す

光武四年十月二十五日

御押 御璽 奉

勅令第四十一號

議政府議政臨時署理贊政內部大臣 李乾夏

第一條 鬱陵島を鬱陵郡に改稱し島監を郡守に改正す

第二條 鬱陵島を鬱陵郡に改稱し江原道に附屬し島監を郡守に改正す官制中に編入し郡等は五等として

第二條 郡廳立眞に台體洞として定むる區域は鬱陵全島及び竹島石島を管轄す

第三條 開國五百四年八月十六日官報中官廳事項欄に鬱陵島以下十九字を刪去し開國五百五年 勅令第三十六號

第五條 江原道二十六郡の六字を七字に改正し安峽郡下

附則

第四條 經費は五等郡として磨鍊すに現今間もなく吏額が未備

第五條 未盡の諸條は本島開拓を隨て次第磨鍊す

第六條 本令を頒布日より施行す

光武四年十月二十五日

御押 御璽 奉

勅 議政府議政臨時署理贊政內部大臣 李乾夏



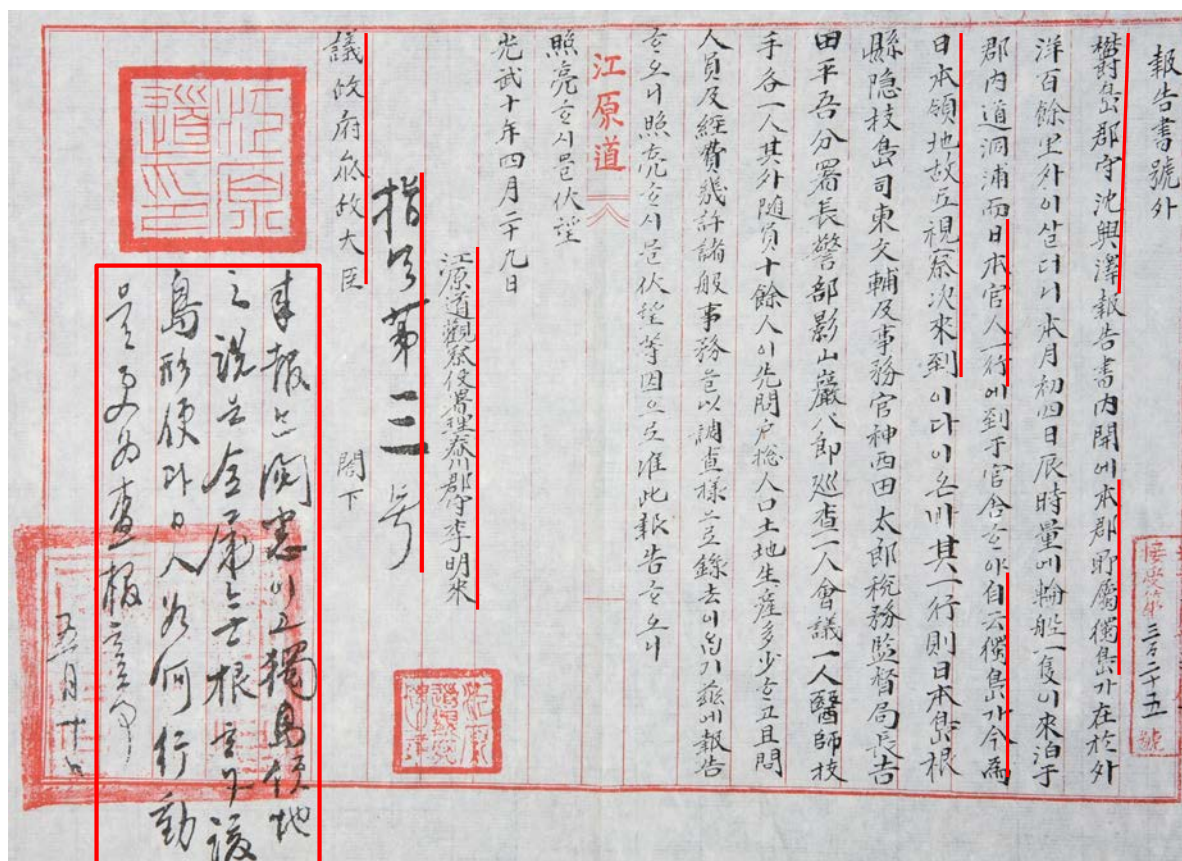
- **Japan contends that Seokdo is not Dokdo, however, but rather that it is Gwaneum-do (觀音島).**
- As Gwaneum-do has alternative names Kkaksae-seom and Dohang (島項), **it had no reason to be called Seokdo.** Dokdo is the only island matching the name Seokdo, which means "Stone Island".
- **According to 'the True Record of Joseon Dynasty',** in 1882 King Gojong **wanted to change the name of Usan-do, Dokdo's old name, because the name of Usan-do was one of old Ulleungdo's names.**
- He suggested **temporarily** using the name **Song-do** instead of Usan-do.

In 1882, King Gojong decided to allow Ulleungdo to be populated.

- In 1403 King Taejong declared that Ulleungdo could not be inhabited because many Joseon people did not want to serve in the army of Joseon, so they escaped from the mainland and hid on Ulleungdo.
- From 1403 to 1882 Ulleungdo was uninhabited. However, King Gojong decided to change the policy in order to protect it from Japanese occupation.
- As a result, the first migrants to Ulleungdo amounted to about 120 people.
- About 90% of them came from Jeolla province, the southwest region of the Korean peninsula.
- They called Dokdo Dol-seom. 'Dol' means stone (石) and 'seom' means island (島) in original Korean.
- The name of Seok-do (石島) in Imperial Edict No. 41 is an expression of the Chinese characters for Dol-seom.
- The words 'Dol' and 'seom' are original Korean so they don't have the Chinese characters.

- 'Dol' changed to 'dok' because of the Jeolla province dialect, so Dol-seom changed to Dok-seom.
- 'Seom' also changed to 'do' which means island in the Korean pronunciation of the Chinese character '島'.
- Because of that Dol-seom changed to Seokdo in the Chinese character, and changed to Dok-seom, Dokdo.
- The Japanese warship, Niidaka, wrote the first record of the name of Dokdo in 1904.
- The warship Niidaka recorded in its voyage log on September 25th, 1904 that, "Korean people write the name of these islets as Dokdo (独島), and our (Japanese) fishermen call them as Lianco-do, the shortend form of Liancort Rocks, a French name of these islets." (韓人之を独島と書し、本邦漁夫等略してリアンコ島と称せり)
- One year before the Japanese incorporation of Dokdo in 1905, we can recognize that Korea had created the name of Dokdo.
- At that time Japanese people had forgotten the name Matsushima, because they didn't visit Dokdo regularly for over 200 years. They didn't think of Dokdo as their territory after the late 17th Century.

- It is noteworthy that the incorporation was secretly pursued.
- After that, Japan, having silenced all the superpowers, was able to force the Eulsa Treaty upon Korea in November 1905, depriving the country of all its diplomatic powers.
- After concluding the Eulsa Treaty, public servants of Shimane Prefecture visited Governor Shim Heungtaek of Ulleung County and informed him of Japan's newly established sovereignty over Dokdo as there was no longer any need for the Japanese government to hide what it had done.
- Shim Heung-Taek submitted a report to Gangwon-do Province stating "our county's territory Dokdo (独島) was annexed to Japan."
- This demonstrates that Ulleung county governor Shim Heung-Taek himself wrote the phrase 'our county's territory Dokdo (独島)'.
- After that the Korean government proclaimed that the incorporation of 'Dokdo' into Japan would never be true and ordered the governor to pay attention to the Japan's future actions, making it clear that Dokdo was a part of Korea.



- **The Japanese government** insisted that Korea tacitly accepted Japan's incorporation of Dokdo because they **did not react with any protest against Japan's declaration.**
- However Korea, being militarily-annexed by Japan in 1904, was not in a position to protest the claim.
- **Korean Emperor Gojong sent emissaries** around the world to plead for assistance in Japan's annexation of Korea.
- In March 1907, Emperor **Gojong sent emissaries to the Hague Peace Conference** to protest Japan's annexation of Korea.

- **At that time**, Emperor Gojong was unable to protest directly against Japan.
- Emperor Gojong sent a secret letter to the Hague Peace Conference stating, “**Korean Emperor never has yielded his independent right to foreign intervention.**”
- **In July 1907**, Imperial Japan forced Emperor Gojong to **abdicate the throne** and **disbanded the Korean Military**. At the same time, Japan forced Korea to sign the unfair and biased “Jeongmi 7-Point Treaty” to control Korea **in terms of diplomatic power and even domestic affairs**.
- **The Cairo Declaration** in 1943 made it clear that **territorial acquisitions by invasion** were **invalid**.
- **As for** Noda’s second point, evidence suggests that **Korea had practically ruled Dokdo before 1905**.
- For example, the two countries signed **a fisheries agreement in 1889** and agreed to impose taxes on /ships of either country in coastal waters of the other.
- **In accordance with** the agreement, **the Japanese Consulate in Busan paid tax to the Joseon government after collecting taxes from Japanese ships which fished near Ulleungdo**.
- The ships then got fishing licenses for their activities in the region.
- Their operation at the end of the 19th century in Ulleungdo mainly **focused on catching shellfish and harvesting seaweed**.

- There are also a record (1902) of the Japanese Consulate in Busan that Japanese fishermen went to Dokdo to catch shellfish due to a lack of shellfish around Ulleungdo, and another record in Japan wrote that sea lions disturbed their fishing near Dokdo.
- Japanese fishermen brought shellfish from Dokdo to Ulleungdo and exported them to Japan.
- The governor of Ulleungdo levied taxes on the exports, demonstrating a strong evidence that Ulleungdo and Dokdo were under Korea's jurisdiction in the late 19th century since imposing tax is a sovereign power of a country.
- Thus, Dokdo was not terra nullius before 1905 because it had an owner -- namely Korea.
- This completely annuls Japan's claim of sovereignty over Dokdo based upon its 1905's occupation of terra nullius.

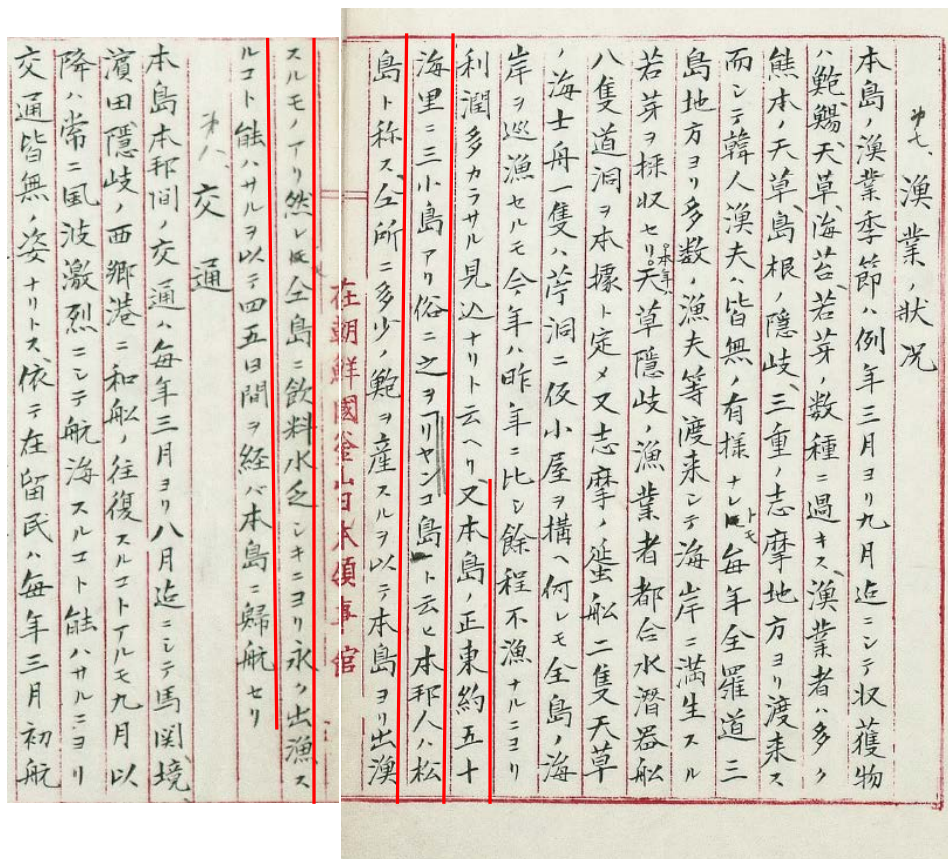
金山領事館報告書
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輸出税ノ件

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- (3) Noda put forth as the third reason for Japanese sovereignty over Dokdo the **refusal by the US** Department of State of Korea's request to **include Dokdo** within the articles relating to **Korea's territorial sovereignty** when the **San Francisco Peace Treaty** was being drafted in July 1951.
- Noda is quoted as saying "Korea has illegally occupied Dokdo up to now by declaring the **Syngman Rhee Line** which Koreans called the **Peace Line**".
- This remark should not be overlooked as it is the **essence of Japan's theory** of unlawful occupation of Dokdo by Korea.

SECRET

-2-

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in full sovereignty.

Article 3

The Allied and Associated Powers agree that there shall be transferred in full sovereignty to the Republic of Korea all rights and titles to the Korean mainland territory and all offshore Korean islands, including Quelpart (Saishu To), the Nan How group (San To, or Komun Do) which forms Port Hamilton (Tonaikai), Dagelet Island (Utsuryo To, or Matsu Shima), Liancourt Rocks (Takeshima), and all other islands and islets to which Japan had acquired title lying outside . . . and to the east of the meridian 124° 15' E. longitude, north of the parallel 33° N. latitude, and west of a line from the seaward terminus of the boundary approximately three nautical miles from the mouth of the Tumen River to a point in 37° 30' N. latitude, 132° 40' E. longitude.

This line is indicated on the map attached to the present Agreement.

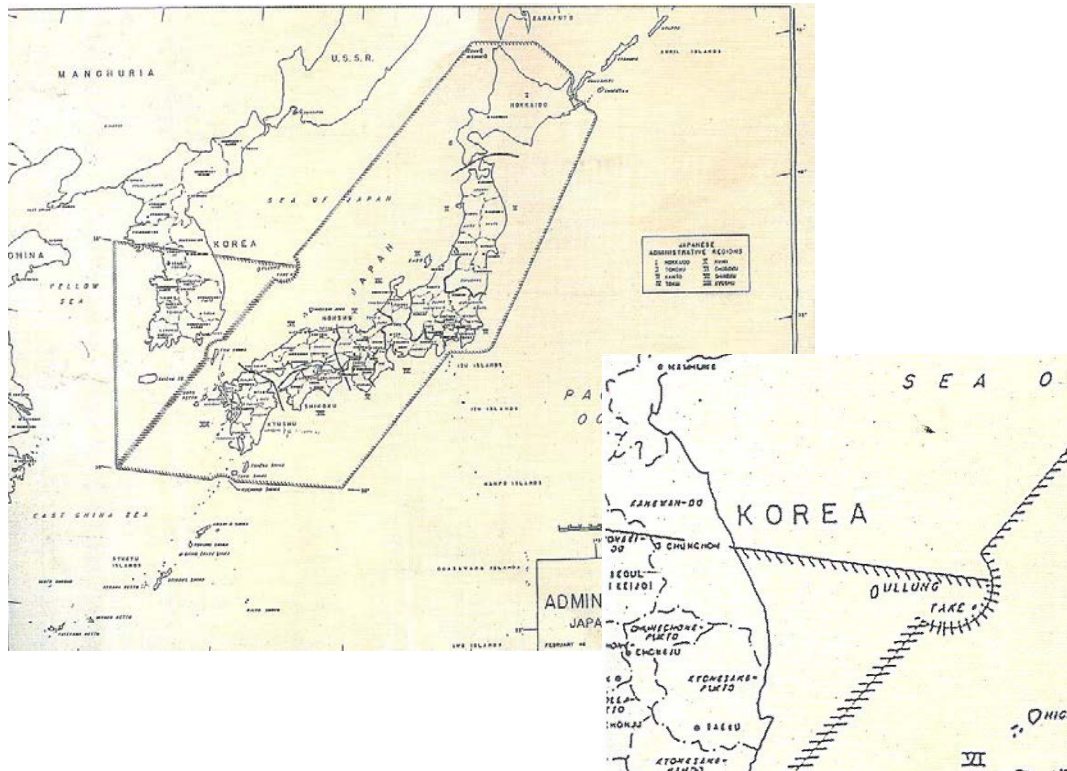
Article 4

(The Allied Powers agreed that Dokdo<Takeshima> belonged to Korea on Des. 1949.)

- **We can find** that Japan distorted facts here, too.
- The Japanese government **exaggerated the sole view of the U.S.** as if **all the Allied Forces had reached an agreement.**
- It is true that the **U.S. tried strategically to make Dokdo Japanese territory** at that time.
- However, many countries among the Allied Powers **maintained that Dokdo belonged to Korea**, and the **sole view of the U.S. does not constitute the conclusion of the San Francisco Peace Treaty.**

- **Furthermore**, the U.S. rejection letter, **'Letter by Rusk'** of Korea's request related to the Treaty articles was **secretly sent to Korea without the consent of the Allied Powers**, and thus the San Francisco Peace Treaty **did not define Dokdo as a part of Japan**.
- **In this sense**, Japan has made a false case, too. The **Allied Powers' viewpoint** of Dokdo was clearly illustrated in SCAPIN 677 issued by the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for Allied Powers in 1946, which **stated that Dokdo was under Korea's jurisdiction**.

The SCAPIN-677 Directive stated that Dokdo was Korean territory in 1946.



- The joint UK and US draft of the San Francisco Peace Treaty with Japan (July 1951) excluded the name of Dokdo.
- The Korean government therefore requested the U.S. Department of State to include it in the Korean territory clause.
- The U.S. Department of State, led by John Foster Dulles, reviewed Korea's request and sent the 'Letter by Rusk' to the Korean Government.
- The following is the key point in the 'Letter by Rusk'.

“As regards the island of Dokdo, otherwise known as Takeshima or Liancourt Rocks, this normally uninhabited rock formation was **according to our information** never treated as part of Korea and, **since about 1905, has been under jurisdiction of Oki Islands Branch Office of Shimane prefecture of Japan.** The island does not appear ever before to have been claimed by Korea”

This is the original text of the key message from **'Letter by Rusk'**. Japanese government have offered this document **to establish that Dokdo is Japanese territory.**

Letter by Rusk

or final renunciation of sovereignty by Japan over the areas dealt with in the Declaration: As regards the island of Dokdo, otherwise known as Takeshima or Liancourt Rocks, this normally uninhabited rock formation was according to our information never treated as part of Korea and, since about 1905, has been under the jurisdiction of the Oki Islands Branch Office of Shimane Prefecture of Japan. The island does not appear ever before to have been claimed by Korea. It is understood that

the Korean Government's request that "Parangdo" be included among the islands named in the treaty as having been renounced by Japan has been withdrawn.

- **However**, many American documents, refer to the '**Letter by Rusk**' as a **confidential document** transferred **in secret only** to the Korean Government.
- **James Alward Van Fleet**, Presidential envoy under Dwight D. Eisenhower mentioned in his Asian tour report (August 1953):
- "The Republic of Korea has been **confidentially informed** of the United State position regarding the Islands but our position **has not been made public.**"

James Alward Van Fleet, Presidential envoy under Dwight D. Eisenhower mentioned in his Asian tour report on August in 1953 that the U.S position for Dokdo has not been made public.

4. Ownership of Dokto Island

The Island of Dokto (otherwise called Liancourt and Take Shima) is in the Sea of Japan approximately midway between Korea and Honshu (131.80E, 36.20N). This Island is, in fact, only a group of barren, uninhabited rocks. When the Treaty of Peace with Japan was being drafted, the Republic of Korea asserted its claims to Dokto but the United States concluded that they remained under Japanese sovereignty and the Island was not included among the Islands that Japan released from its ownership under the Peace Treaty. The Republic of Korea has been confidentially informed of the United States position regarding the islands but our position has not been made public. Though the United States considers that the islands are Japanese territory, we have declined to interfere in the dispute. Our position has been that the dispute might properly be referred to the International Court of Justice and this suggestion has been informally conveyed to the Republic of Korea.

- **The Letter by Rusk** was the document sent to Korean government **only confidentially** and even **the U.S. Embassy** in Korea was unaware of it, thus their proclamation that **they regarded Dokdo to be Korean territory**. (from a letter sent to the Department of State from the U.S. Embassy in Korea, Nov. 1952)
- **John Foster Dulles** served as the U.S. special envoy to the Peace Treaty with Japan, and later became U.S. Secretary of State. He acknowledged in an address that the 'Letter by Rusk' represented only the view of the U.S.
- **"The US view re Takeshima is simply that of one of many signatories to the treaty."** (from a document recorded by U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles in 1954)

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☐ CHARGE TO

Department of State

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 Classification

SENT TO: AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1387
 RPTD INFO/SEOUL 497

Tokyo's 1306 repeated Seoul 129.

Department aware of peace treaty determinations and US administrative decisions which would lead Japanese ^{expect us} ~~to~~ act in their favor on dispute with ROK over sovereignty Takeshima. However to best our knowledge formal statement US position to ROK in Rusk note August 10, 1951 has not been communicated to Japanese. Department believes may be advisable or necessary at some time inform Japanese Government US position on Takeshima. Difficulty this point is question of timing as we do not wish add another issue to already difficult ROK-Japan negotiations or involve ourselves further than necessary in their controversies, especially in light many current issues pending with ROK.

Despite US view peace treaty a determination under terms Potsdam declaration and that treaty leaves Takeshima to Japan, and despite our participation in Potsdam and Treaty and action under Administrative Agreement, it does not necessarily follow US automatically responsible for settling or intervening in Japan's international disputes, territorial or otherwise, arising from Peace Treaty. US view re Takeshima simply that of one of many signatories to Treaty. Article 22 was framed for purpose settling Treaty disputes. New element / mentioned

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SECRET FILE

dispute with ROK over sovereignty Takeshima. However to best our knowledge formal statement US position to ROK in Rusk note August 10, 1951 has not been communicated to Japanese. Department believes may be advisable or necessary at some time inform Japanese Government US position on Takeshima.

Japan's international disputes, territorial or otherwise, arising from Peace Treaty. US view re Takeshima simply that of one of many signatories to Treaty. Article 22 was framed for purpose settling Treaty disputes. New element / mentioned

- **In the meantime**, no country demanded that Korea had to depart from Dokdo when Korea announced the Declaration of Sovereignty over Neighboring Seas in 1952 asserting that the islets were its territory.
- It was because the Allied Powers **had no choice but to admit** that **Dokdo had been ruled by the Republic of Korea** since it **had be established 1948**, and they tacitly agreed on Korea's action even though the San Francisco Peace Treaty had not yet taken effect.
- **The Declaration was** legitimate self-defence made in a peaceful way at a time when Japan could overrun Korea's fishing grounds based on the fact that the two countries had not signed any treaties.
- **As Japan's claim of sovereignty over Dokdo is wrong** and Dokdo is **not a disputed island**, Korea has **no basis to assent to Japan's referral of the Dokdo issue to the International Court of Justice.**

**An image of Korean peninsula appears
on the East Islet of Dokdo.**

