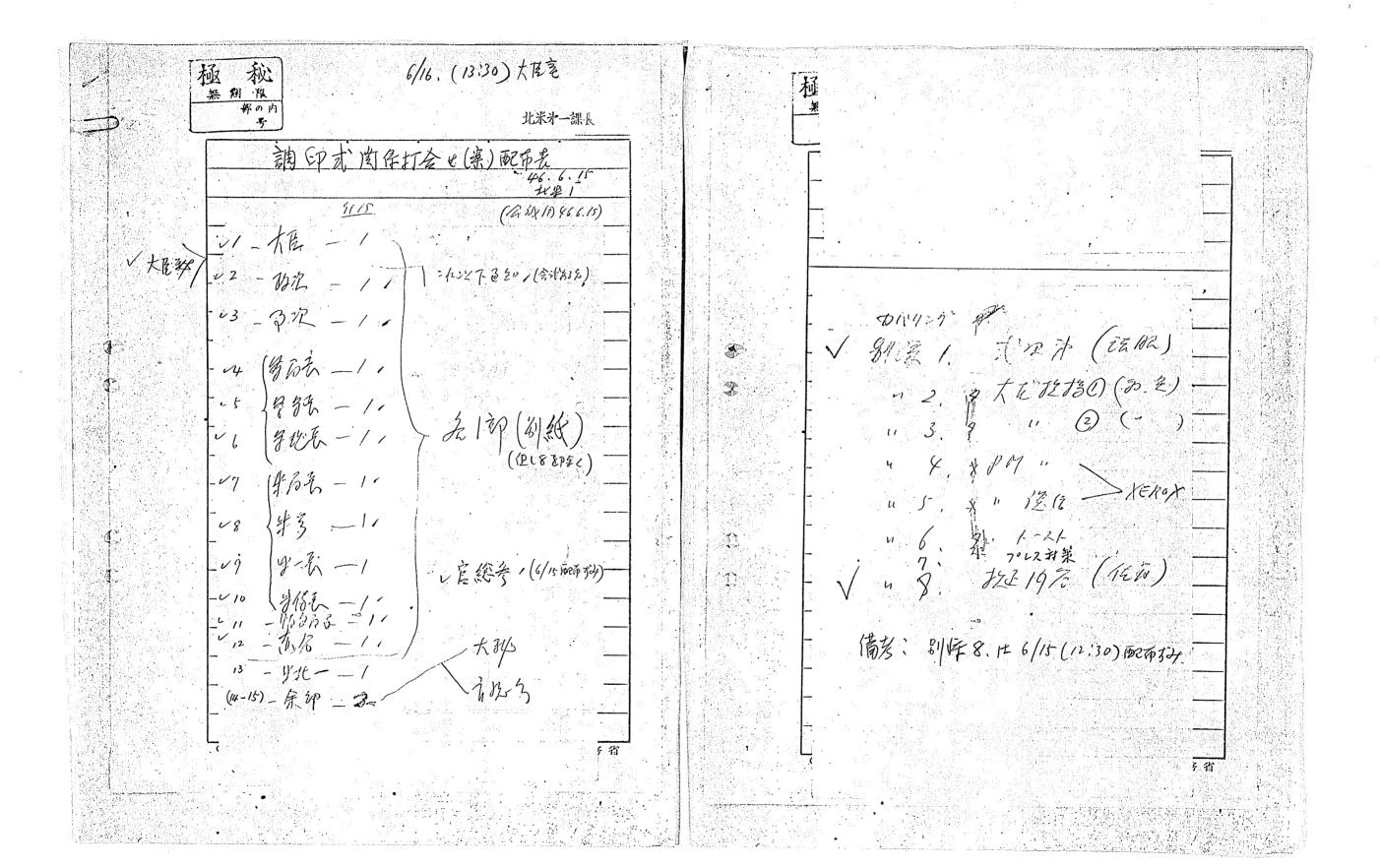
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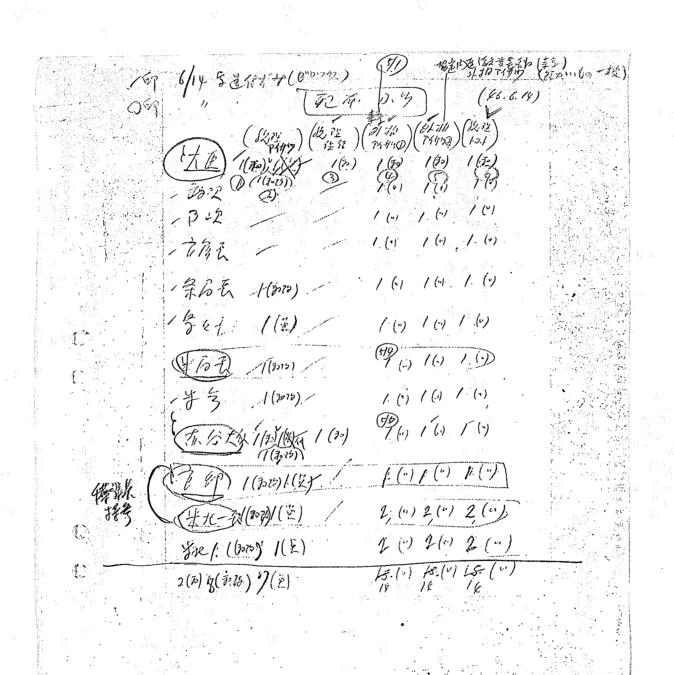
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# 調印式における総理あいさつ

昭和四十六年六月十七日

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## Address by Prime Minister Sato at the Signing Ceremony

June 17, 1971

Secretary Rogers, Ambassador Meyer and distinguished participants,

9.

I am indeed happy beyond words to express my congratulations on the signing of this historic Agreement on the reversion of Okinawa.

President Nixon showed the highest degree of statesmanship when he made the decisions embodied in our Joint Communique of November, 1969. Since then the negotiators on both sides have hammered out an agreement which is mutually satisfactory to both Governments. It is my sincere wish that the legislative branches of both Governments will give the necessary support to the Agreement and make possible its ratification, thus opening the way for reversion which I hope will take place at the earliest opportunity in 1972.

This document will not only place the relationship of mutual trust and amity between the two countries on a much firmer and more solid basis than at any time in the past; it will mark the birth of a new era where Japan and

the United States will cooperate in order to contribute to the peace and prosperity of the Asian-Pacific region and hence to the entire world. This, I believe, is the historic significance of the Agreement signed today.

In recent years, economic interflow between our two countries has developed at a pace unprecedented in the annals of history, giving rise at times to problems needing adjustment. However, this is a process symbolizing the dynamism of such a relationship. I am entirely confident that with the spirit of mutual accommodation, the problems currently facing us will be solved, as will all problems succeeding them.

I wish to pay sincere tribute to the generosity and humanism shown by President Nixon and the American people in the reversion of Okinawa and pray for the prosperity of the United States of America.

To the people of Okinawa, I wish to say: you have indeed endured for a long time and the day when we will welcome you to the motherland is fast approaching.

Let us now strive to build tomorrow's Okinawa Prefecture hand in hand with the people of Mainland Japan.

Thank you.

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Statement by the Prime Minister on the Signing of the Agreement on the Ryukyu Islands and the Daito Islands between Japan and the United States

June 17, 1971

I am indeed gratified that the Agreement on the reversion of Okinawa, so long awaited for by our people has been signed between the Governments of Japan and the United States.

I am deeply moved when I consider how the people of Okinawa must feel about this great event and I wish to commend the wisdom of the peoples of our two countries which has brought about this great accomplishment.

On the reversion of Okinawa which had remained for many years as an important issue pending between Japan and the United States, fundamental agreement was reached in the Joint Communique issued in the fall of 1969 which called for the reversion of Okinawa during 1972, free of nuclear weapons on the same level as mainland Japan. Since then every effort was made by both Governments to implement this Agreement, as a result of which, pending the coming into force of the present Agreement the path has been set for the return of this territory to the motherland.

The reversion Agreement I believe is the starting point of the new Okinawa Prefecture.

The Government has already embarked upon preparations to institute numerous domestic measures to promote the economy of Okinawa and to secure the welfare of its people. It is our intention to do our utmost, pending ratification procedures for the Agreement and deliberations in the Diet to implement these measures without delay in the making of a prosperous Okinawa Prefecture. With respect to the problem of claims of the people of Okinawa vis à vis the United States, we intend to take, after reversion, appropriate domestic measures.

"I had once stated that the post-war period will not have ended for Japan so long as Okinawa had not been returned to the motherland".

I am confident that the time has now arrived when, with the signing of the Reversion Agreement, Japan can truly be said to have emerged from the post-war period and is ready to move forward to face the new era of the 1970s, particularly the new Pacific Age.

When I consider the future of our country in the face of these new challenges, I feel bound to renew my resolve to do my utmost in seeking solutions to the problems of our people both at home and abroad and it is in this connection that I call upon my people for their understanding and cooperation.

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**叙** 歷史的式典 る 沖繩県民の ア昭スメ 和ト

Prime Minister Sato's Toast

June 17, 1971

At the conclusion of this historic ceremony,

I would like to propose a toast to everlasting
friendship between the peoples of Japan and the
United States and to the bright future of the people
of Okinawa who are being welcomed back to their
motherland.

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調印式における愛知外務大臣は

昭和四十六年六月十七日

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### Address of Foreign Minister Aichi at the Signing Ceremony

June 17, 1971

I would like to say a few words on the occasion of the signing of the Agreement between Japan and the United States of America on the Ryukyu Islands and the Daito Islands.

Since the issuance of the historic Joint Communique between Prime Minister Sato and President Nixon in November 1969, steady efforts made over a year and a half by the negotiators of the two Governments to draft the reversion agreement have culminated in final agreement being reached between Secretary Rogers and myself in Paris on June 9th. On that occasion, I promised Secretary Rogers that I would be meeting with him again over television. It gives me great pleasure to fulfil this promise by taking part in the unprecedented simultaneous signing of this agreement through the relay satellite. I am confident that this event will respond to the fervent wish of the one million inhabitants of Okinawa and of the entire Japanese people and that it will place the relations of friendship and amity between Japan and the United States of America on a firm and lasting foundation. It is my earnest hope that the present agreement will come into effect at the earliest possible date and thus pave the way for the return of Okinawa to the motherland.

和大 臣挨

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### Address by Foreign Minister Aichi After Signing of Related Documents

June 17, 1971

The signing of all the documents relating to the reversion of Okinawa has just been completed.

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I would like to take this occasion to express my heartfelt appreciation to Ambassador Meyer for his untiring endeavors in the negotiations on reversion since his assumption of office two years ago and to Minister Sneider, as well as to Under Secretary Johnson and other officials concerned in Washington for all their efforts in bringing these negotiations to a successful conclusion.