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Japan Screen Topics

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THE COMPUTERIZED EXPO

132 feet, 3 min. 40 sec.

1. CROWDS (3 feet - 9 feet)

Okinawa's Expo 75 is the world's first fair of the sea. It also is the most computerized exposition ever held.

The safety and comfort of more than two million visitors are guarded by banks of computers and display machines in the Expo information center.

2. COMPUTER ROOM (9 - 31)

Let's visit the computer room of the Expo information center and see how it works.

(Crowds entering) Electronic devices count the visitors entering and leaving the Expo 75 grounds.

Similar counts of entries and exits are made at each major pavilion.

(Operator at machine) Simply by punching a keyboard, employees at the information center can get the facts on crowds from any part of the exposition site, and read the data on a television screen.

3. MOBILE PANELS (31 - 38)

The latest information on the less-crowded pavilions reaches the public via electronic display panels mounted on trunks ... along with up-to-the-minute weather forecasts.

4. TRAIN (38 - 51)

Another computer is the driver and dispatcher of this automated train, which carries visitors around the northern half of the Expo site.

Starts, stops and speeds are programed into the computer. Thickets are sold by machines. Not even a conductor or a station agent is needed.

5. WEATHER (51 - 83)

When it comes to predicting weather, computers have never quite been able to replace people.

Located in a semi-tropical zone off the Asian mainland, Okinawa has some of the world's most fickle weather.

Showers ... a nuisance to crowds at the fair ... can occur at any time.

Weather instruments all over Okinawa measure changes in wind, air pressure and humidity. This news is fed into Expo's own weather bureau, staffed by employes of the Japanese government's weather agency.

So far, the weathermen claim 99 per cent accuracy in forecasting showers on the Expo site at least 10 minutes ahead of time.

(Panel with writing) Bus and airline schedule changes are flashed to crowds, along with the weather forecast.

6. SECURITY (83 - 101)

Television cameras like this one monitor every main thoroughfare and public square on the Expo 75 grounds.

Receivers in the information center display the pictures, and are monitored by police for signs of accidents or disturbances.

(Aquapolis) Even the roof deck of Expo 75's offshore city of Aquapolis can be watched.

(CVS) so can the fair's computerized railway.

7. FIELD GLASSED (101 - 132)

Okinawa's international ocean exposition even has its own little Navy.

Besides helping in cases of illness and accident, these seagoing policemen must guard the fair against intruders ... in an era when international violence unfortunately is all too common.

Working closely with police on shore, the sea police patrol Expo's shoreline, and also guard Aquapolis, the futuristic sea city located 600 feet off shore.

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Computer science and efficient but unobtrusive security measures insure the safety of millions of visitors, and their enjoyment of the world's first fair of the sea.

THE ROMANCE OF SILK

103 feet, 2 min. 52 sec.

1. YOKOHAMA (3 feet - 39 feet)

Yokohama is Japan's largest seaport ... and also the home of one of the world's most unusual museums.

The Yokohama Silk Museum tells the romantic story of silk ... man's first luxury textile fabric.

The museum was opened in 1959 for the centennial of Yokohama port, for many years the center of Japan's silk trade. Today, about 40 per cent of its visitors are foreigners.

(Moth) More than 2,000 years ago, Chinese made the discovery that eggs of a certain type of moth hatched into tiny caterpillars. It was found that the caterpillars ate mulberry leaves, and generated silk threads through their own body chemistry. They used the threads to build body shelters known as cocoons.

The Chinese also found the threads could easily be unreeled from the silkworms, and spun into cloth.

Thus the silk industry was born. Early in the Christian era it spread to Japan.

2. DOLLS (39 - 57)

A Japanese silk court dress of the Heian period ... 900 years ago.

(Edo kimono) This kimono style was popular about 200 years ago in the Edo era.

(Wheel) Crude wheels like these were used to spin silk in Japan before the advent of modern machines. Silk worm culture was a cottage industry carried on by hand labor. Worms were placed in hot water basins to make removal of the thread easier.

3. SPINNING MACHINES (57 - 79)

Nowdays, silk spinning and reeling are automated. A typical machine is displayed at the museum, located in the international trade and tourism building of the Yokohama silk center.

Silk is one of the most flexible natural fibers. A silk thread will stretch about 20 per cent of its length without breaking.

Silk played a large role in Japan's modernization, starting about 100 years ago. Until the 1940s it was the world's most popular material for women's stockings and underclothing.

Profits earned with Japan's silk exports in those days were used to buy her first industrial machinery.

4. BATCH OF EGGS (79 - 103)

This package in the silk museum contains 10,000 cocoons --- the number required for a woman's silk kimono.

(Hem) Some modern kimono styles ...

(Bride) Japanese brides wear red orange kimonos like this in wedding ceremonies of the old Shinto religion.

Even in the era of artificial fibers, silk remains a popular fabric for women's wear. A 2,000 year old industry looks to the future with confidence.

FUN WITH ELECTRONICS

82 feet, 2 min. 17 sec.

1. BUILDING (3 feet - 17 feet)

Here's another unusual Japanese museum.

The Telecommunications Science Hall of the Japan Telephone and Telegraph Corporation opened in Tokyo in July. Already it has become a popular attraction for children.

A table model of Japan illustrates the country's web of telecommunications.

2. TREE OF LIGHT (17 - 28)

Behold the tree of light ... designed to show the relationship between the human ear and the brain.

A clap of the hands sends light impulses climbing the tree. When they reach the top, a set of chimes is activated.

A sharp, loud clap produces green light. When the hands are clapped softly, the light that appears is red.

3. ELECTRONIC TURTLES (28 - 43)

Sound translated into action ... demonstrated by a herd of electronic turtles in the new telecommunications museum.

The noise of a boy's handclap switches on a light at the edge of the table near him.

The light sensitive toys respond immediately, and rush at full turtle speed toward the newly lighted lamp.

4. SCOPE (43 - 55)

The oscilloscope ... a basic tool of electronics ... teaches children the relationship between their voices and sound waves.

5. HAND (55 - 82)

Many people don't realize that their body movements generate electricity. This electronic hand apes the movements of a real one, responding to electrical signals from the boy's own wrist.

(Push button phone) Television will be an accessory to the telephones of tomorrow.

Young visitors to the Japan Telephone and Telegraph Corporation museum already are learning about the telephones of the future.

Besides seeing the party on the other end of the line, you can show him printed material like pages from a magazine.

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A museum of electronic science ... designed to excite the minds of Japan's next generation of electrical engineers.