



Japan Screen Topics

ISSUE No. 78-12

MIYAZAKI--JAPAN'S RIVIERA

152 feet 4 min. 20 sec.

1. (PLANE) The city of Miyazaki on the eastern coast of Kyushu is only 90 minutes by jet airliner from Tokyo. This is Japan's Riviera, a sunny tourist center favored by honeymooners. The climate is as close to tropical as can be found in the main Japanese islands. Flowers flourish here that are not seen elsewhere in the country. Even palm trees thrive.
2. (TALL BUILDINGS) Miyazaki City with a population of 240,000 is the capital of Miyazaki Prefecture... a modern city famous for the unique and delicious sea food cuisine offered by its restaurants.
3. (EARTH MOUNDS) Saitobaru district... just north of Miyazaki... is famous for its ancient burial mounds... known in Japan as kofun. These are graves of nobles who lived in the Miyazaki area some 14 centuries ago. About 380 of these kofun have been found in the area.
4. (METAL FIGURE) In old days, guardian dolls called haniwa were buried with Japanese dignitaries. These are exact replicas. Because of their great rarity, original haniwa now are found only in museums.
5. (WAVES) Nichinan Kaigan, meaning "sunny south coast", stretches for nearly 100 kilometers along Miyazaki Prefecture's Pacific shoreline.

(ISLAND) At the palm-studded island of Aoshima, low tide reveals unusual ridges of sand and rock, known in Japan as "the devil's washboard"... a hiking route popular with tourists.

6. (FLOWERS) Poinsettias decorate the countryside around Horikiri Pass, and the tropical vegetation makes a memorable backdrop for honeymoon album pictures.

7. (CACTUS) 500,000 square meter Shaboten Park has a desert garden featuring 2,000 varieties of cactus imported from the southwestern United States and Mexico.

8. (ELEPHANT) Safari Park, north of Miyazaki City, was established in 1975... the first cage-less animal park in Japan. Due to the mild climate, animals from warm weather countries live comfortably on the one million square meter site.

The park has an animal population of 1,600, representing 60 different species.

(BUS) Motorists can tour the animal park in their own cars... but bus excursions also are available.

(TIGER) Nobody is tempted to stop for a picnic when this fellow is around. They might end up being a picnic for him.

(LIONS) The park's lions are used to cars now, and just a little bored by them.

(ELEPHANTS) ... And no motorist argues with elephants about the right of way.

The attractions of the Miyazaki coast seem endless, making this warm prefecture one of the most popular vacation areas in Japan.

CARS FROM ABROAD

69 feet 1 min. 57 sec.

1. (STREET) Imported automobiles are now seen in the streets of Japanese cities in greater numbers than even before. Japan

has abolished its import tariff on foreign cars. The high value of the Japanese yen against other currencies has made it possible for importers to lower prices, enhancing the interest of motorists in cars from abroad.

2. (SHOW ROOM) Foreign car dealers are enlarging their sales places, like this showroom for West Germany's Mercedes Benz automobiles.

(FORD SHOWROOM) America's Ford also carries on a brisk sales effort in Japan. Sales of foreign cars this year are expected to surpass the 50,000 mark for the first time.

3. (EXHIBITION) The 1979 imported automobile show was held early in November at the Harumi International Fair Grounds in Tokyo.

This Cadillac was one of 150 automobiles from the United States and five European countries that were on display.

(CITROEN) A French Citroen drew the attention of this young Japanese, who obviously liked what he saw.

Many of the spectators visited the auto show with their families, evidence that car buying in Japan nowadays is a decision for the whole family.

(PORSCHE) Here's a Porsche from West Germany...

(PANTHER) Britain's Panther, with its classic lines.

A memorable auto show stimulates the keen interest Japanese are already showing in imported automobiles.

TAMING THE SUNFISH

47 feet 1 min. 19 sec.

1. (FISH) The sunfish... known in Japan as the mambo... is one of the oddities of the sea. It's almost all head and no body. In the past, sunfish were seldom seen in aquariums, as it was

impossible to keep them alive very long in captivity.

Now that may change. Kamogawa Sea World, a commercial aquarium near Tokyo, has tamed a sunfish and has had it as a guest for a record of more than eight months.

2. (FISH FOOD) This fish was netted accidentally by a fishing boat off Chiba in March. It's a youngster, only 75 centimeters long. At maturity its length may reach three meters.

Feeding a captured mambo is a problem... the fish has a delicate digestive tract. It thrives on shiba ebi, a small shrimp found in Japanese waters.

3. (KEEPER ENTERS POOL) In the past, captured sunfish have seriously injured themselves bumping into the walls of their tanks. This aquarium built a tank with soft, plastic walls for its mambo, thus preventing self-inflicted injuries. Frightened at first of people, the young mambo now seems at ease with them. It even accepts food from the hands of keepers who enter its tank. The patient efforts of the aquarium have opened the way for scientists to study this peculiar fish more closely than ever before.

SUPERTRAIN

55 feet 1 min. 32 sec.

1. (STORAGE SHED) A train moving at speeds never before achieved on land may be in use late in this century or early in the 21st. Unlike present day trains, it will be virtually silent, smokeless and non-polluting.

The Japan National Railways... better known as JNR... has been operating a prototype of this new train since July on a test track on Japan's southern island of Kyushu.

2. (CONTROL CENTER) This train of tomorrow glides along without friction... suspended by magnetic force above a single rail, and propelled by a linear electric motor.

JNR's famous Shinkansen trains already cruise at speeds greater than 200 kilometers an hour. Scientists theorize that trains with wheels have a top hourly speed limit of 300 kilometers. The new train already has been timed at 347 kilometers an hour. Its four kilometer test track is being extended to seven kilometers, so that experiments at speeds of 500 kilometers an hour can be carried out. Scientist say there is no reason why speeds up to 1,000 kilometers an hour cannot be achieved.

3. (ORDINARY TRAIN) Here's an ordinary 80-kilometer-an-hour express train, whose route parallels that of JNR's new super-train... JNR engineers say that for practical purposes, they will be ready to start building these magnetic trains in 1985. However, no target date has yet been set for commercial production. But the train of the future is on its way... bringing with it a revolution in land transport.

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