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## *Japan Screen Topics*

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### SDF HOLDS ANNUAL MANEUVERS

91feet 3min. 31sec.

1. (SDF ACTIVITIES) The annual maneuvers of Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force are held at a maneuver area in the foothills of Mt.Fuji. Various components of the GSDF engage in practical training and live weapons firing, both to demonstrate and improve on skills which have been acquired over the years.

The GSDF is one of the three services of the Self-Defense Forces, the others being the Maritime Self-Defense Force and the Air Self-Defense Force. The Self-Defense Forces operate within the framework of the Constitution by which Japan has renounced war as an instrument of national policy. There is no way by which the SDF can be sent abroad.

All SDF activities are under the administrative direction of the Defense Agency which is headed by a Minister of State acting as Director General. The Director General is under the supervision of the Prime Minister.

The SDF is being built as "an efficient defensive force capable of dealing most effectively with aggression on a scale not greater than localized conventional conflict" as stipulated in the government's 1976 National Defense Program Outline.

Japan's mountainous topography and its position as an island nation require that the SDF be adequately prepared to engage in various types of conventional warfare in the event of external or internal aggression in conjunction with the Japan-U.S. security arrangements.

In order to maintain high levels of training and familiarity with the defense equipment, the SDF annually conducts maneuvers designed to advance overall training levels.

Training and practice involved in these annual maneuvers range from the basic marksmanship of individual members of the GSDF, to large-scale unit maneuvers which test the overall command-and-control capabilities of the GSDF and its ability to respond effectively to aggression.

GSDF maneuvers generally include some 1,500 personnel, 200 armored and other vehicles and about 25 aircraft, including ASDF support fighters, transports and assault helicopters.

Each year, thousands of invited guests observe the maneuvers, which demonstrate Japan's firm commitment to preserving its own national security while comprising no threat whatsoever to other nations.



## UNUSUAL "IDEA CONTEST"

73feet 2min. 01sec.

1. (VARIOUS IDEA CONTEST ENTRIES) An unusual activity of one of Japan's top auto makers is its Original Idea Contest. This event encourages its employees to work in teams to design and build mechanical contraptions of great originality and display them to other employees and to the general public.
2. (REVOLVING RIDE, POGO-STICK SWING) This year marked the seventh annual Idea Contest, and, as usual, many of the entries provoked great amusement among those who came to watch.
3. (KIDS' + ADULTS' FACES, KIDS ON BACK OF DUMMY) As could perhaps be expected, the majority of the 'Ideas' focused on transportation vehicles of some strange sort or another. But there were also a number of other entries which involved games in which the rules had been completely changed around.
4. (WOBBLY GO-KART, TRACTOR ON FOOT-SHAPED WHEELS) Some of the contraptions looked comical if not absurd . They didn't look particularly practical, but the "inventors" seemed to set a lot of fun by trying to be original.
5. (BUGGIES, GO-KARTS, HUGE STEERING-WHEEL) Still, there were a number of ingenious 'Ideas' submitted, several of which were thought to have real, practical potential. One new feature added in this year's Idea Contest was that instead of gathering all the entries in one spot, several different locations throughout Japan played host to different phases of the overall affair.
6. (COCKROACH RACER, WATER GO-KARTS, AQUATIC SEE-SAW)  
Each team spent an average of 400,000 Yen in creating its 'Idea', but contributed far more in time and hard work to bring it to reality. The results, both entertaining and interesting, appear to be well worth the investment.

## MASS TRANSPORT VEHICLE

85feet 2min. 21sec.

1. (DOLLY, MANEUVERING) A new form of self-propelled dolly has been developed by Japanese and West German firms for the efficient, safe transportation of large-scale pre-fabricated factories.

Designed for operation by a single 'driver', these giant dollies are capable of handling loads of up to 360 tons, with a maximum capacity of 1,800 tons for a train composed of five dollies. The vehicle is not especially fast, operating at just five kilometers per hour with a full load on a flat surface. But it can safely carry enormous loads, such as modular factory sections, and is extremely maneuverable.

2. (LOADED) The dolly is capable of turning in a complete circle of its own length, since each axle is independently driven and steered. Even in the crowded confines of Japan, huge loads such as this factory can be safely and easily carried to port.

A computerized control center allows full synchronization of steering, and keeps the load deck completely level on uneven terrain.

A electronic monitoring system insures that the load is kept level and centered, for stable transport.

3. (AT PORT) Here, the dolly is transporting a large desalinization plant, already fully equipped, to the harbor where it will be loaded on to barges and towed all the way to Saudi Arabia.

With this newly designed dolly system, complete factories can be constructed away from crowded port areas, and later transported to the port in complete safety. This will contribute to easing some of the difficulties in transporting advanced industrial technology to developing lands.



## SCHOOL ATHLETIC MEETS

71feet 1min. 58sec.

1. (CHILDREN AT MEET) Every year on October 10, commemorating the opening day of the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, Japan celebrates National Physical Fitness Day. Each year, schools all over the nation organize athletic meets for the students to celebrate the day.
2. (BOY CHEERLEADER, TEAMS LINE UP, STARTING GUN) At this elementary school, children are divided into two rival groups under Red and White banners. They then compete in a great number of contests and events that test their physical capabilities and provide a great deal of fun.
3. (RACERS, OBSTACLE COURSE, ENDURANCE TESTS) School athletic meets are a popular event in Japan, providing entertainment for parents and children alike. Often, special contests are arranged between teams of parents, while the children cheer them on.
4. (CHICKEN FIGHTS, SIGN, CHEERING KIDS) Similar meets are held at junior and senior high schools, universities, companies and by various other groups. They provide an enjoyable and healthy day for the participants, and serve to remind everyone of the importance of staying in good physical condition.
5. (MEDICINE BALL RELAY, RED AND WHITE TEAMS) But for young children such as these, the main purpose of the school athletic meet is to have fun; and in addition to the expected athletic events, a great number of unusual contests are held in which everyone, no matter how 'Athletic' he or she may be, can participate.