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Japan Screen Topics

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GINZA PARADE

100 feet 2 min. 47 sec.

1. (GINZA, MAJORETTES) The Ginza Tokyo's famous shopping district and well known thoroughfare:From October 3rd to the 11th, the Ginza district was the site of a huge festival. The main event on opening night: the Sound and Light Parade.
2. (DRUMMER CLOSE-UP) It was a chilly wet evening, with a typhoon offshore, but that didn't keep some 700,000 people from coming to watch the show.
3. (AWA-ODORI DANCERS) The dancers of the Awa-odori lead off the festivities.
4. (LION DANCERS) The traditional lion dance. The lion's antics are supposed to bring good luck and ward off evil spirits.
5. (BAMBOO POLE ON ARM) A balancing act, the epitome of perfect physical coordination.
6. (DRUMMERS) And some fancy drum-beating techniques.
7. (SHRINE, LONG) Objects sacred to the Shinto gods are placed in these portable shrines.

8. (FLOAT, LONG SHOT) Floats date far back into Japanese history and continue to play an important role in Japanese cultural life. This devil-mask float is from a rural district in northern Japan.
9. (DANCING GIRLS) Of course, no parade would be complete without its share of pretty girls.
10. (GEISHA, CLOSE-UP) The Ginza parade featured 13 large floats of many shapes and styles, modern and classic. The floats are sponsored by stores belonging to the Ginza Business Association.
11. (GO-GO DANCING) Originally staged in 1968 for the 100th anniversary of the start of modern Japan, the Ginza parade has now become an annual event.

TOKYO PACKAGING FAIR

89 feet 2 min. 29 sec.

1. (HARUMI FAIRGROUNDS, CONVEYOR BELT) The Tokyo Packaging Fair, showcase for a wide range of new ideas in containers, packaging and wrapping.
2. (TETRA-PAK BOXES,) The emphasis this year is on practicality. The machines and packaging on display represent the state-of-the-art in speed and efficiency.
3. (BOX ON CONVEYOR) This machine can strap on strong packing bands in the twinkling of an eye..... Watch the box's right side.
4. (CEMENT BAGS, CELLOPHANE) Bulky objects like these cement bags can be wrapped in cellophane in a matter of seconds.

5. (CANDY ON ROTATING MACHINE) And small things like these candy kisses are ready for the store in flash.
6. (DOUGH, PLASTIC BOXES) Instant packaging... plastic boxes are made right before your eyes out of polyurethane dough.
It may look like the ingredients for puff pastry, but this new material conforms to any shape, and in 15 seconds hardens to make a tough, durable container.
7. (PLASTIC BOX CLOSE-UP) Not only the magic of chemistry, but the wizardry of electronics has its role in packaging as well. Robots are stepping in to help transport and handle new containers.
8. (ROBOTS, LONG SHOT) This was the 9th edition of the packaging show, held every other year in Tokyo since 1966. It's the third largest show of its kind in the world, and this year attracted some 466 companies from 18 countries.
9. (OVERHEAD CRANE) The Tokyo Packaging Fair, all in the name of getting the product to you with speed and efficiency.

PHYSICAL FITNESS DAY

72 feet 2 min.

1. (FAMILIES) October 10th is Physical Fitness Day in Japan... a national holiday held to recapture the magic of the 1964 Tokyo Olympics.
2. (BROAD JUMPERS) All over Japan, physical fitness tests take place with much enthusiasm and at times amusement.
Each participant is given a record of his performance.

3. (PUSH-UPS, SIT-UPS) According to an Education Ministry survey, last year Japanese over 40 were in better all-round physical shape...in fact, 5 years younger in terms of physical strength and endurance than people tested 14 years ago.

Over 61,000 people between the ages of 10 and 59 were tested this year.

4. (LAP RACE) In this test, kids and their parents try to see how many trips they can make back and forth across the mat. In all of the tests, sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, strive to do their best.

5. (CHILD IN ROLLOVER) Age was no object, judging from the small-fry who got into the act. In a way, the annual Physical Fitness celebration outdoes the Olympics held nearly 20 years ago... because whole families, the young and the old can join in and have a "field day".

DUAL MODE BUS SYSTEM

87 feet 2 min. 25 sec.

1. (BUS UP) There's a new way to get from here to there: the Dual Mode Bus System. It's called that because it uses a new kind of bus that can be driven either by a driver on ordinary streets... or switched over to automatic control by computer through a network of special rails along the roadside.

2. (PARKED BUS) On the surface of the rails are guideway antennas to help control and monitor the bus. There's a guide wheel to steer the bus, power rails to supply the bus with electricity, and a communication device to transmit data between the bus and the computer control center.

3. (STEERING WHEEL) There is a driver's seat, but it only has to be filled when the bus is operating in an area not equipped with the guide rails. The driver gets off at a station called a mode interchange where the automatic system begins.

4. (TECHNICIANS, CIRCUIT) The computer center is where the buses are controlled. Technicians at the center monitor the buses' movements at all times to ensure safe operation.

Instructions from the center are relayed to the buses in a three-step procedure: first, to the guide wheel that projects out from the bus, then to the guideway antenna under the bus, and then to the control mechanism on the bus itself.

This three-step system determines the speed of the bus, makes it stop and start, and open and closes the doors.

5. (EMPTY DRIVER'S SEAT) It's safe way to travel because it doesn't compete with regular traffic. In areas between residential neighborhoods and commercial centers, the speed and efficiency of such a system could make a difference.