

*Japan Screen Topics*

ISSUE No. 76-1

EMPEROR GREETES THE NEW YEAR

85 feet 2 min. 22 sec.

1. STROLLING (3 feet - 15 feet)

New Years Day, 1976 ...

In unusually warm January weather, Their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress of Japan, stroll the grounds of the Imperial Palace in Tokyo.

For the Emperor ... who still enjoys excellent health at the age of 74 ... this will be an important year. December 25th marks the 50th anniversary of his reign.

2. OLD TURRET (15 - 39)

The palace grounds, originally the site of a feudal castle built almost four centuries ago, bustles with activity on the morning of January 2nd.

From early morning, crowds stream in via the famous Nijubashi ... or double bridge... to pay their respects to the Imperial Family.

The Emperor and Empress greet the public twice annually... at New Years and on the Emperor's birthday in April.

(Gaijin) Foreigners in Tokyo join the throngs of Japanese gathering in front of the Chowaden Hall for the Emperor's appearance.

3. WAVING FLAGS (39 - 65)

The crowd of well-wishers this year numbered 140,000, up 40 per cent over 1975. Many were young people. The Imperial Family made eight appearances during the day on the veranda of the Chowaden Hall.

The Emperor and Empress play an important role in Japan's relations with other countries. In 1975, they made a precedent-setting tour of the United States. In Japan, they entertained Britain's Queen Elizabeth and Romanian President Nicolai Ceausescu.

4. PICTURES (Ford etc.) (65 - 85)

The Emperor and Empress' scrap book of their American tour is the conversation piece for the Imperial Family's New Year's gathering.

(Princess Nori) The Empress entertains her youngest grandchild, Princess Nori...

(Crown Princess)... and her mother, the Crown Princess.

Nori's brother, Prince Aya, joins them.

Prince Hitachi, the Emperor's younger son, his wife, and Prince Hiro, eldest son of the Crown Prince.

The Crown Prince and the Emperor... Japan's Imperial Family looks forward to another active year.

ONE MINUTE TO NEW YORK

67 feet 1 min. 52 sec.

1. MACHINE IN FACTORY (3 feet - 32 feet)

A new copying machine that can send a page of figures or business drawings thousands of miles in only a minute is making a powerful impact on business communications in Japan.

The transmitter developed by a leading Japanese electronics company is so simple it can be operated by ordinary clerical workers with no special skills.

The sender merely places a document on the machine, dials a number, and pushes a button.

The transmitter hurriedly scans the paper, and sends it by ordinary telephone channels to its proper destination... in Japan or overseas.

One minute later, an office worker at the receiving end of the line picks up an exact copy of the document from a receiving machine.

2. KOMATSU BIDG. (32 - 67)

Many banks and large industries that do business nation-wide in Japan are adopting the system.

(Office) One such industry is a baker of bread and confections with outlets all over Japan.

Every business day, shop girls at the company's branches use the high-speed transmitter to order next day's merchandise.

Their instructions go to a regional office, and are passed on to the baking plants.

Transmitting the written order costs less than sending it over the telephone. And it takes less time.

One of Japan's big international trading houses uses the new copying system to communicate with its branches overseas.

This secretary is starting a message on its way to New York merely by pushing a button. Then she picks up a telephone... an auxiliary to the system... and tells New York the message is on the way.

Japanese ingenuity... removing another bottleneck in the flow of business information.

FIREMEN ON PARADE

60 feet 1 min. 40 sec.

1. FIRE ENGINES (3 feet - 15 feet)

The 17,839 men and women of Tokyo's fire department put their skills and equipment on display for the annual New Year's Fire Review at Harumi Pier.

(Firewomen) In recent years, women have joined the ranks of Tokyo's fire-fighters. Many of them are fire-safety inspectors for Tokyo's public buildings.

The fire department in the Japanese capital has more than 1,400 fire-fighting vehicles, ranging from ordinary fire engines to fire-boats and helicopters.

2. BUILDING AFIRE (15 - 28)

A fire staged in a temporary building put up on Harumi pier gives Tokyo's firemen a chance to display their rescue skills.

(Wall climber) Here's a wall-climbing machine, carrying a rescue cable to the top of a building.

(Chute) Playground slides were the inspiration for this nylon escape chute, and nowadays inflated cushions have outmoded the old fire-safety net.

3. AERIAL LADDERS (28 - 60)

Known in old days for its low skyline, Tokyo now is becoming a city of tall buildings. The fire department has adopted new tools... ladder trucks and high pressure pumpers.

The platform carrying this fireman to his work is guided from the ground electrically by remote control.

(Break open bag) However, this fire-fighter is riding to the top of his ladder on a pleasant mission. He frees a cloud of paper decorations that give the show a colorful finale.

Tokyo's firemen greet the New Year with renewed determination to protect the homes and lives of their city's 11 million people.