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# Japan Screen Topics

ISSUE No. 78-2

#### SAPPORO--CITY OF THE SNOWS

121 feet 3 min. 22 sec.

- 1. (SKYLINE) Cold winter weather and a pioneer tradition influence the lives of the one million three hundred thousand people of Sapporo, the capital of Hokkaido and former host to the 1972 Winter Olympics.
- 2. (MONUMENT) Monuments salute the pioneers who settled Hokkaido island in the 19th Century.

(PAINTING) The area's unusual history is depicted in paintings at the Hokkaido Development Museum near Sapporo.

(MINIATURE HOUSE) The museum recalls the culture of the Ainu people who have lived in Hokkaido since ancient times, and the dairy industry built by the pioneers.

(TRAIN) Railway coaches looked like this in Hokkaido's early days.

3. (SUBWAY) Today, metropolitan Sapporo ... Japan's northern most big city... has a modern subway system. It's near-noiseless trains run on rubber tires.

(SUBWAY INTERIOR) Because of the heavy winter snow, above ground tracks of the transit system are covered with roofs.

4. (BUSINESS DISTRICT) Sapporo is located at about the same latitude as Rome, but in winter the temperature can fall to minus 20 degrees centigrade.

(CLOCK TOWER) The 19th Century clock tower of a school survives as one of downtown Sapporo's best loved landmarks.

5. (UNDERGROUND SHOPPING CENTER) Because of the harsh winter weather, Sapporo people favor the city's well heated underground shopping centers.

- 6. (SKI ROOTS) Heavy snow makes skiing a popular sport. Maiwa Citizens Ski Slope is one of many fine skiing areas close to the city.
- 7. (SNOW SCULPTURES) Sapporo's snow is the medium of the famous statues seen at its annual snow festival. Some of these short-lived art works depict characters in Japanese legends.

(CHURCH SCULPTURE) Others are more elaborate... like this 19th Century Russian church.

(GOVERNMENT BUILDING SCULPTURE) Here's Australia's Victorian House of Parliament.

8. (STREET LIGHTS) Lighted at night, the statues symbolize Sapporo... Japan's city of the north... cold on the outside but warm and friendly within.

#### FORESTS IN MINIATURE

47 feet 1 min. 18 sec.

1. (EXHIBITION HALL INTERIOR) Bonsai... the art of raising dwarf trees... today is a hobby of people in many countries. A winter bonsai show in Tokyo presents some of Japan's finest specimens... including this mini pyracenthis with bright berries and dull green leaves.

(TRUNKS) The artist who shaped this 70 centimeter miniature zelkova tree captured perfectly the shape of natural zelkova.
 (PINE) This bonsai of a black pine was awarded the Prime Minister's Prize, one of the show's top honours.
 (GUESTS) A skillful bonsai artist can create the illusion of a whole grove to trees in a single tray. These trees are 80 centimeters tall.

5. (CU OF GUEST'S FACE) Another miniature forest... of Japanese <a href="himeshara">himeshara</a> trees. It won the chairman's prize, another of the show's high honours.

Bonsai... one of Japan's oldest arts... gains new popularity as the years go by.

#### NEW HEART INSTITUTE

87 feet 2 min. 25 sec.

1. (HOSPITAL EXTERIOR) One third of all deaths in Japan result from heart and circulatory disorders. A new hospital in Tokyo specializes in the ultra-modern treatment of heart ailments.

(PATIENT'S STOMACH) Low frequency sound waves probe a patient's heart like radar beams and the findings are displayed on TV screens.

Dr. Shigeru Sakakibara... the man on the right... has won an international reputation as a cardiac specialist while teaching at Tokyo Women's Medical College. He raised the money to establish and build the Sakakibara Heart Institute.

2. (FLASK) After heart surgery, patients recover in the hospital's intensive care unit. The surgical team attaches a variety of electronic measuring devices to the patient's body.

(INSTRUMENT PANEL) These relay signals to a television display panel, enabling the hospital staff to detect at once any change in the patient's condition.

3. (HALL) Electronic monitoring of the patient doesn't stop when he leaves the intensive care unit. Notice the antennas mounted on the ceilings of the hospital's corridors and lavatories... in fact in every area where a patient goes. Small radio transmitters attached to the patient's body broadcast news of his heart's performance.

(NURSING STATION) Their signals are relayed... via the antennas... to the institute's nursing stations. The nurse can keep watch on any patient in her ward even when he is out of his room.

The Sakakibara Heart Institute explores the frontiers for the treatment of cardiac ailments... and draws attention from heart specialists all over the world.

#### FUN WITH HOVERCRAFTS

82 feet 2 min. 17 sec.

1. (CRAFT ON RIVER) Hovercrafts have been developed in many countries for mass transportation. In Japan, they are also gaining popularity as a leisure vehicle. A few people like Mr. Kazumi Koyanagi have even built their own.

Mr. Koyanagi works in a shop that sells model airplanes and cars. One day he decided that a hovercraft could be built at home for no more than the cost of a radio-controlled model plane.

2. (MOTOR) Mr. Koyanagi and his friends meet often to try out their hovercrafts. The vehicles run on land just as well as on water. Mr. Koyanagi's has a plywood body. The forward engine, which lifts the hovercraft from the water, is an old engine from a motor scooter. Propulsion comes from a car engine mounted at the rear.

(TWO CRAFTS ON LAND) One strong point of the hovercraft is versatility. It can run on any flat surface--earth, water, ice or snow. The highly maneuverable crafts can reach speeds of up to 45 kilometers an hour on land and slightly less on water.

(MOTOR) Japanese firms recently have also caught onto the new fad and have started commercial production of hovercrafts for leisure use.

(YELLOW CRAFT) One thrill for Mr. Koyanagi and his friends are hovercraft races... a test of their building skills.

Hovercrafts find a new future in the recreation field.