

日本南極探検隊（1910-1912年）に関するオーストラリアの新聞記事

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Australian Newspaper Articles on the Japanese Antarctic Expedition in 1910-1912

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Abstract: In 1977 the present writer introduced 30 Australian and New Zealand newspaper articles on the Japanese Antarctic Expedition led by Nobu SHIRASE (Nankyoku Shiryô (Antarct. Rec.), 59, 177, 1977). Recently collected 14 Australian newspaper articles on the expedition, reported between February 1911 and April 1912, are presented; the articles mainly dealt with the behaviour of the expedition while staying in Sydney in 1911.

要旨: 日本南極探検隊（隊長白瀬瀧）の開南丸（船長野村直吉）は1910年11月から1912年6月までの南極航海中に、ニュージーランドのウェリントンに2回寄港し、オーストラリアのシドニーに長期滞在（1911年5月～11月）した。この間の日本隊に関する現地の新聞記事30篇を筆者が以前本誌に紹介した（南極資料, 59, 177, 1977）。最近これを補完する新聞記事14篇を入手した：1911年2月から翌年4月までに発行されたメルボルンの Argus 紙の11篇とシドニーの Sydney Morning Herald 紙の3篇で、記事の多くは日本隊のシドニー滞在中の消息を伝えたものである。

白瀬瀧（のぶ）を隊長とする日本南極探検隊は開南丸（204トン：船長野村直吉、近年本名は西東（さいとう）直吉と判明）で、1910年11月28日に東京芝浦を出港し、1912年6月20日に帰国した。この間ニュージーランドのウェリントンに2回寄港し（1911年2月8日～11日、1912年3月23日～4月2日）、オーストラリアのシドニーに長期滞在した（1911年5月1日～11月19日）。開南丸は最初ウェリントン出港後ロス海に向かったが、時期がおそく、シドニーに引き返して第2次南極航海までの長期滞在となった。第2次航海ではロス棚氷の Bay of Whales（鯨湾）に至り、ここから白瀬らの突進隊は1912年1月28日 80°05'S, 156°37'W に達した（付近を大和雪原（やまとゆきはら）と命名）。

筆者はさきに開南丸のウェリントンとシドニー寄港を中心とする現地の新聞記事30篇を本誌に紹介した（楠, 1977）。最近これを補完する現地新聞記事14篇を呉橋真人氏（くれはしまこと、株式会社アイテックトラベルセンター）の好意で入手することができたのでここに紹介する。その発端は1992年7月に白瀬の出身地秋田県金浦（このうら）町（ここに白瀬南極探検隊記念館がある）が、白瀬南極探検隊80周年記念行事の一つとして、オーストラリ

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ア・ニュージーランド視察研修団を送り、隊の足跡を訪ねたことにある（筆者も参加）。この研修団の準備に当たった呉橋氏はシドニーのニューサウスウェールズ州立図書館でここに示した新聞記事等の情報を入手した。筆者の入手した記事（マイクロフィルムのゼロックスコピー）のなかの判読不明な所は、筆者が本年3月シドニー訪問の際、同図書館で点検した。

ここに収録した14篇は1911年2月から翌年4月までの間のメルボルンの *Argus* 紙の11篇と、シドニーの *Sydney Morning* 紙の3篇で、記事の多くは日本隊のシドニー滞在中の消息である。上述の図書館には白瀬隊などの各国の探検隊の新聞記事検索システムができている。なお、*Argus* 紙の1911年11月20日付の記事 (No. 13) にある日本隊がシドニー大学の T. W. Edgeworth DAVID 教授に送った感謝の手紙実物（毛筆縦書きの候文）とその英訳はニューサウスウェールズ州立図書館に保管されている。また、同教授へ贈った日本刀（陸奥守包保（かねやす）作）はシドニーのオーストラリア博物館 (*Australian Museum*) に展示されている。

以下に収録記事を発行日順に示す。記事は原文のままとし、特に大きな誤りは丸括弧内に正確なものを示した。

文 献

楠 宏 (1977): 開南丸 (1910-1912 年) のウェリントン・シドニー寄港中の現地新聞記事. 南極資料, 59, 177-211.

[上記文献の追加訂正. p. 178, 下から10行目, 新聞紙名(発行地), 13. *Lyttelton Times* (Christchurch): p. 179, 記事本文の上から3行目, 末尾の *expedition* と *by* の間に次を追加, 「on board is proof positive that, despite the ridicule poured on the expedition」: p. 179, 右欄下から11行目, *by* は「be」: p. 188, 右欄下から15行目の見出し, *POLE* の前に「*THE*」を入れる: p. 191, 左欄の見出し中, 「*FAREWELL TO WELLINGTON*」は別行とする: p. 192, 右欄の新聞紙名(発行地), 13. *Lyttelton Time* (Christchurch): p. 203, 左欄下から12行目, *night* は「*might*」]

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1. The Argus (Melbourne) Wednesday. February 8, 1911

THE SOUTH POLE.
JAPANESE EXPEDITION.

SYDNEY, Tuesday.—According to information received to-day in regard to the Japanese expedition to the Antarctic, Lieutenant Shirase left Yokohama on November 29 in the auxiliary steamer Kainan Maru, of 200 tons. The expedition includes an astronomer and geographer. A base will be established at Edward Seventh Land. The expedition is to be scientific rather than a race for the pole, and is expected to extend over two years. The cost is anticipated to be £10,000.

2. The Argus (Melbourne) Tuesday. February 14, 1911

JAPANESE EXPEDITION.

WELLINGTON, Sunday.—The s.s. Kainan Maru, in which the Japanese Antarctic expedition is being conducted, sailed at half-past 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

During the morning a large draft of money was received by cable from Count Okuma, Yokohama. This is believed to be for the purpose of refitting the ship at Sydney, whence she sails after landing Lieutenant Shirase and 10 companions on the ice about Bisco Bay. From this point they will make a dash for the Pole. The Kainan Maru will probably reach Sydney at about the end of April. After refitting she will return to the Antarctic coast, exploring the unknown portion while waiting for Lieutenant Shirase. The little vessel steamed slowly down the harbour. A fleet of yachts and harbour steamers accompanied, and cheers were exchanged at parting.

3. The Argus (Melbourne) Tuesday. May 2, 1911

THE FROZEN SOUTH.
JAPANESE TURN BACK.
COLD KILLS TEN DOGS.
FAILURE OF EXPEDITION.

SYDNEY, Monday.—The Japanese expedition, consisting of 60 men, which set out some months ago to establish a base between Edward VII. Land and M'Murdo Bay for a dash to the South Pole, has ended in failure.

The little schooner Kainan Maru, owned by Count Okuma, which carried the expedition,

came into Port Jackson to-day. It had sailed as far as Coulman Island, off Victoria Land, 47 deg. [sic] (74 deg.) south, on March 14, but it was impossible to get any further, as it was hemmed in with ice packs and bergs. The expedition therefore did not penetrate as far south as Sir Ernest Shackleton, Captain Scott, or Mr. C. E. Borchgrevink.

The vessel cruised round for some days without result, and in the extreme cold 10 of the Esquimaux dogs died. Commander Shirase then decided that it was impracticable to go forward. On March 18, on the way back, the expedition again experienced terrific weather until within three days of Sydney.

The expedition sailed from Shinagawa [sic] Bay, in the Gulf of Tokio [sic], on November 29, and coaled at Wellington. Leaving there, the vessel, on March 10, was off Coulman Island, in the Ross Sea, an islet lying near the coast of South Victoria Land. The weather was bad, and the ice was forming rapidly. For four days the vessel beat about, keeping clear of the pack, and dodging the icebergs. The officers describe the weather as bad nearly all the time since they left Wellington.

The Kainan Maru is a fore-and-aft schooner of 204 tons, with auxiliary engines capable of driving her at about five knots, but the power was little used. It would have availed little in the teeth of the wind experienced. As the temperature fell the weather grew colder, and the gales seemed to increase in fierceness. Seas broke continually over the schooner's deck, burying everything in the freezing cold water. One sea carried away the jibboom, but that was the only serious damage sustained. The vessel beat along the coast of South Victoria Land until latitude 74 deg. south, longitude 171 deg. east was reached.

"Ice and snow all the time," said the chief officer, Mr. Tanno, to-night, in describing in fairly good English the expedition's experiences. "We were going to land a party, but could not. We tried to land at Coulman Island, but it was impossible." (This with an expressive uplifting of the hands.) "We saw only icebergs and snow and penguins."

After four days buffeting the schooner was turned northwards. The ice was closing in, and landing was not to be made. The bad weather followed them relentlessly, and no sail was

sighted from the time they left Coulman Island until the schooner was nearing Sydney on Sunday night.

The Kainan Maru will be docked shortly in order to be cleaned and painted. She is a new vessel, having been built about ten months ago, but is a small, insignificant-looking craft for such a venture. Lying this evening in Double Bay, she was absolutely silent, for all hands appeared to be asleep.

4. The Argus (Melbourne) Monday. May 15, 1911

**JAPANESE NEAR FORTS.
CAMP AT SOUTH HEAD.
PICKETED BY SOLDIERS.**

SYDNEY, Sunday.—The scientists attached to the Japanese Antarctic expedition, who have been compelled to make Sydney their headquarters for some months while their ship is being refitted, have been the subject of much discussion at Vacluse.

The Japanese recently obtained permission to erect a camp on the Wentworth Estate, but several residents have entered a protest against their presence. The military authorities also, it is said, do not view the formation of a Japanese camp close to the South Head forts with satisfaction, and have deemed it necessary to take certain precautions. Pickets have been posted at night right round them. The ship that brought the party here was suddenly ordered to remove her quarters on Saturday afternoon. She no longer lies at an anchor in Vacluse Bay, but is now at her old moorings in Double Bay.

AUTHORITIES NOT ADVISED.

Inquiry of the defence authorities in Melbourne last night elicited the reply that they had no official knowledge of the existence of the Japanese camp at South Head, nor had they been advised of the steps taken to prevent its inmates securing information about the defences of Sydney.

5. The Argus (Melbourne) Tuesday. May 16, 1911

**JAPANESE NEAR PORTS.
SENTRIES' CONSTANT GUARD.
OFFICERS VISIT CAMP.**

SYDNEY, Monday.—Several military officers yesterday paid a visit to Watson's Bay, in

connection with the complaints made by residents regarding the camp of Japanese scientists. It is understood that a report is to be sent to the Defence department in Melbourne. Sentries were on duty throughout yesterday and to-night guarding the approaches to the forts.

6. The Argus (Melbourne) Wednesday. May 17, 1911

**WATCHING SYDNEY'S GATE.
JAPANESE HARBOUR TRIPS.
THE SOUTH HEAD CAMP.**

SYDNEY, Tuesday.—The residents of Vacluse are still disquieted by the fact that the Japanese scientists have camped in their suburb, within sight of the South Head fort. When asked questions which they are not anxious to answer the members of the party disclaim a knowledge of English, but at other times speak it fairly well. Their house, or hut—for it has only one room—was, in the first place, so they say, built in Japan for the use of the expedition at their base of operations. It certainly was part of the ship's cargo, but after the description of the kind of hut used by Shackleton's, Scott's and other Polar expeditions it hardly seems the sort of structures that would tend to comfort in icy regions. It appears hardly able to withstand the full force of a Sydney westerly.

The camp is in a picturesque spot, from which there is an excellent view of the entrance to the harbour, the whole of the forts, and the channel marks. The Japanese seem to be interested to a marked degree in the beauties of the harbour. Going to and from Sydney in Watson's Bay steamers, they take full notes of all interesting points on the journey, and freely ask questions regarding the shipping. They seem courteous and anxious to make friends, and have been freely entertained by their countrymen in Sydney. The party consists of a doctor, a chemist, a naturalist, a photographer, a botanist, and several men-servants, and there is no tangible evidence to contradict their statement that they are a party of Japanese explorers waiting for money and supplies to come from their own land, and tired of living in the close confines of the ship.

The naval and military authorities view the camp with a certain amount of suspicion, and would be better satisfied were the Japanese further away from the fortifications. They are

about three-quarters of a mile away, and so as a precaution the South Head forts are strictly guarded at night, and pickets are posted at all entrances, while soldiers occasionally parade in the vicinity of the camp.

7. The Argus (Melbourne) Friday, October 6, 1911

**RACE FOR THE POLE.
THE JAPANESE DASH.
SUCCESS OR DEATH.**

SYDNEY, Thursday.—The members of the Japanese expedition for the South Pole, which has been encamped at Vacluse, in Sydney Harbour, for some time, hope to be able to sail from Sydney about the end of this month. The expedition will not take ponies or dogs, but reliance will be placed on what the science leader, Professor Takeda, calls "Japanese horses," which is the equivalent of shank's poney. Nearly all the members of the expedition have taken an oath not return to Japan till they have reached the South Pole. The sum made available for this expedition was £15,000, and this sum was expected to last for three years, as from December, 1910. £4,000 was paid for the ship *Kainan Maru*, and the rest has to be provided out of £11,000. The bulk of the money was subscribed by Count Okuma, and the rest by other patriotic Japanese.

8. The Sydney Morning Herald. Thursday, October 19, 1911

**TO THE POLE.
JAPANESE EXPEDITION.
TO SAIL NEXT MONTH.
MORE SCIENTISTS COMING.**

"He has got nothing to tell you."

A reporter sought an interview with Captain Nomura, commander of the Japanese exploring ship *Kainan Maru* who was a passenger by the *Nikko Maru*, which arrived from Japan yesterday, and a little brown man, evidently his private secretary or his aid-de-camp, smiled a welcome to him, and did his best to dismiss him without vouchsafing any information himself or putting him in the way of getting it.

The Japanese mind is full of these ostentatious reticences, and the pressman, who could see no reason for the extraordinary secrecy that has all along been maintained with regard to this expedition, was insistent, and the smile gradually

faded away, and in its place came a look and a tone of annoyance.

Captain Nomura's young man, whose duty it seemed, was to keep inquisitive pressmen off, was asked to tell his chief that the public wanted to know how much longer the Japanese party was going to stay at Vacluse Bay and what were their plans.

"I tell you he got nothing to say. You see him next day."

After a little more parleying the pressman's card was taken in, and presently Captain Nomura and some of his friends emerged from the cabin. Full of authority and the immutable repose of the Oriental, he was quietly courteous in demeanour. He is a little old man with a greyish moustache and a wizened face. But he is keen-eyed and seems to be possessed of immense resolution and capable of enduring great hardships.

Through an interpreter it was explained that the expedition would leave about the middle of next month for the great continent in the ice-bound fastnesses of which lies the South Pole. It would comprise about 30 members, of whom the majority would be scientists. He had gone home to raise more funds for the expedition, and had succeeded in his mission, the amount required for the successful carrying out of their plans having been readily subscribed. The scope of the expedition had been enlarged, and three or four more scientists would arrive by the next boat from Japan, and as soon after their arrival as possible the *Kainan Maru* would set sail.

Was he disheartened by his previous failure? No. The Japanese were not built that way. Failures only made them more determined. And if he had been a reader of Browning he would probably have quoted the line, "We fall to rise, are baffled to fight better."

That was all he had to say, but a little further information was elicited from other sources. One gentleman in close touch with the Japanese said that their reticence was due to shyness on account of their imperfect knowledge of the English language. They had nothing to hide, but did not care about talking of their plans lest it should seem like boasting, "but you bet your life they'll get to the Pole all right," he said.

According to Japanese papers, however, the party is not so keen now about trying to reach the Pole, because it is fairly certain that Scott or

Amundsen will, 'ere they arrive in the Antarctic regions, have secured the Polar laurels, and the glory of penetrating farthest into the white loneliness will therefore not belong to them. So that more attention will be paid to scientific pursuits now than was provided in the former programme.

9. The Argus (Melbourne) Monday. November 13, 1911

**POLAR RESEARCH.
JAPANESE EXPEDITION.**

BRISBANE, Sunday.—On the Kumano Maru, which arrived here to-day from the East, are three Japanese who are going to Sydney to join Lieutenant Shirase, leader of the Japanese party which intends to make an attempt to discover the South Pole. They are M. Ikeda (scientist), K. Tada (secretary), and T. Taidzmi (cinematographer). There are also on board 29 dogs.

10. The Sydney Morning Herald. Thursday. November 16, 1911

**BOUND FOR ANTARCTICA.
(Photograph of a dog)**

(Caption)—The Japanese mail steamer Kumano Maru, which arrived from Yokohama yesterday, brought 29 dogs for the Japanese Antarctic Expedition, and they created a good deal of interest. They were secured in Saghalien, the island taken from Russia during the Russo-Japanese war. The dogs are to be used for sledge work, and Mr. Tada, the secretary of the expedition, says that great care was taken in picking them, each being of high pedigree. They were kept in huge cases on the after part of the main deck, and all arrived in excellent condition.

11. The Argus (Melbourne) Friday. November 17, 1911

**ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION.
JAPANESE PARTY'S PREPARATIONS.
PROVISIONING IN SYDNEY.**

SYDNEY, Thursday.—The Japanese explorers struck camp to-day at Parsley Bay, in preparation for their approaching trip to Antarctica. Stores are being put on board their vessel, which is anchored at Double Bay. The date of departure from Sydney has been fixed for November 20, four days after the arrival of the Japanese mail steamer, which is expected to have on

board several scientific men, a number of dogs, and replenishment of stores. The explorers have been in camp in Parsley Bay since May last, and resided in one of their portable houses.

12. The Argus (Melbourne) Monday. November 20, 1911

**POLAR RESEARCH.
JAPANESE VENTURE.**

KAINAN MARU LEAVES SYDNEY.

SYDNEY, Sunday.—The Japanese Antarctic expedition, which has been camped at Parsley Bay since May last, having in its first attempt failed to get beyond Colamon [sic] (Coulman) Island, started off again for the South Pole from Sydney yesterday afternoon. It has been reinforced with scientists, dogs, and stores.

Lieutenant Shirase, who is in charge, did not make any boast before leaving of an intention to compete against Captain Scott of Captain Amundsen [sic] in the race for the Pole, but he let it be understood that, so far as scientific exploration was concerned, he had hopes of bringing back (probably next year) a large collection of valuable data.

The Kainan Maru, a three-masted auxiliary schooner, which carried the expedition, was the centre of much interest, as under her own steam she passed out through the Heads, and was wished "Good luck" by much flag-signalling and sounding of whistles.

13. The Argus (Melbourne) Monday. November 20, 1911

**JAPAN AND THE POLE.
THE KAINAN SAILS.
SWORD PRESENTED TO PROF. DAVID.
HEARTY SEND-OFF.**

Amid much banzaing on the part of their compatriots resident in Sydney, the Japanese Antarctic expedition on Saturday afternoon set out from Sydney for their journey south. And those aboard the Kainan Maru received a hearty send-off from the various boat crews who witnessed their departure from the harbour.

As the Japanese boat was picking her way through a cheering flotilla the national flag depicting the Rising Sun was fluttering conspicuously at several points, and a young lady on a yacht sailing in the vicinity signalled that she would like one. A Japanese tar spontaneously reached for a little flag, and clambered with it in

his hand down the side of the *Kainan Maru*, while the yacht, sweeping closely past like an albatross, enabled the pretty little memento to be gracefully handed over, to the great delight of the recipient and the amusement of the members of the expedition.

Lieutenant Shirase, the commander of the expedition, and his company were farewelled by the Japanese residents, and Professor David and Mr. J. H. Maiden, president of the Royal Society, joined in the valediction. The Vice-Consul (Mr. Miho), the Chancellor of the Consulate (Mr. Hayashi), and the English secretary (Mr. E. W. Foxall) were present.

The commander of the expedition handed an interesting letter to Professor David, reading:—

“As you are aware, we are leaving Sydney to-morrow on our journey to Antarctica: but we cannot go without expressing our heartfelt thanks to you for your many kindnesses and courtesies to us during our enforced stay in this port.

“When we first arrived at Sydney we were in a state of considerable disappointment, in consequence of the partial and temporary failure of our endeavour. To add to this we found ourselves, in some quarters, subjected to a degree of suspicion as to our bona-fides, which was as unexpected as it was unworthy.

“At this juncture you, dear Sir, came forward, and, after satisfying yourself by independent inquiry and investigation of the true nature of our enterprise—which no one in the world at the present day is better able to do—you were good enough to set the seal of your magnificent reputation upon our bona-fides, and to treat us as brothers in the realm of science.

“That we did not accept all of your kind offers to bring us into public notice was not from any lack of appreciation of the honour you desired to do us. But we felt there was a danger that your generosity and magnanimity might unwittingly place us in a position to which we could only regard ourselves as entitled when our efforts should have been crowned with success.

“Whatever may be the fate of our enterprise, we shall never forget you.

“We are, Dear Sir, yours most sincerely.

“NOBU SHIRASE, Commander: NAOKI-CHI NOMURA, captain of *Kainan Maru*: TERUTARO TAKEDA, scientist: MASA-KICHI IKEDA, scientist: SEIZO MIISHO,

physician.

Professor David was made the recipient of a unique trophy at the hands Lieutenant Shirase in the shape of a very old Japanese sword, suitably inscribed. “Success to the Expedition” was proposed by Professor David, and supported by Mr. Maiden, the text of the speeches being the cosmopolitanism of science.

The commander of the *Kainan Maru* has forwarded the following letter of courtesy to Captain Scott, commander of the British Antarctic expedition:—

“Dear Sir.—I do myself the honour to notify you that I am in charge of a Japanese Antarctic exploration expedition, and am leaving Sydney to-morrow by the *Kainan Maru*.

“We propose to land near Amundsen’s winter quarters, and then to proceed southwards, exploring any land to the south-east, and making scientific investigations.

“I trust that, should it be our fortune to meet, we shall do so in the friendly spirit which is characteristic of the cordial relations subsisting between the two great nations which we represent.

“Yours very truly,

“NOBU SHIRASE.”

14. The Sydney Morning Herald. Friday. April 5, 1912

JAPANESE EXPLORERS.

RETURN TO SYDNEY.

PURELY SCIENTIFIC WORK.

Seven members of the Japanese Antarctic expedition arrived from Wellington by the *Aorangi* yesterday, the party including Commander Shirase and Professor Takeda.

Commander Shirase was graciously amiable and deferentially polite when asked as to the work accomplished, but his only reply to the several questions put to him was a sweet smile. He professed not to be able to understand. One or two other members of the expedition, however, talked a little, and it was gathered that valuable scientific work had been done, but of what character was not explained. As they had planned, they had proceeded direct from Sydney to Whales Inlet, 79 deg. 20 min. south. There they landed a number of their party, which proceeded further south-eastward, meeting Amundsen’s exploring ship *Fram*. Thence the *Kainan Maru* sailed south-eastward along the

coast, and reached King Edward VII. Land, where they landed a coast exploring party. The Kainan Maru continued on her voyage south-eastward and explored unknown parts of the sea. The vessel returned to King Edward VII. Land and Whales Inlet, and picked up the two shore exploring parties, thence steering a course homeward-bound, the ice being left on February

4. Many scientific specimens were collected, which they would have for the present to keep secret. The point furthest south reached by the expedition was 80 deg. 5 min.

The Kainan Maru, with the rest of the expedition aboard, will proceed direct to Japan from New Zealand.