



1 ABSTRACT

The Public Records and Archives Management Act was enforced on April 1, 2011 in Japan. The outstanding issue of the act is how to preserve congressional records. The National Diet of Japan shall, in consultation with the Prime Minister, take necessary measures for the appropriate preservation of Historical Public Records and Archives in accordance with Article 14. That is, record management in the Diet is the exclusion from application of the act.

Both the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors in the Diet amended and laid down their document management regulations under the provisions of the act. The term "Record" as used in these regulations shall mean a document that, having been prepared or obtained by an employee of the Houses in the course of his or her duties is held by the Houses concerned for organizational use by its employees. A picture and an electromagnetic record are included in that document.

My study was conducted with electromagnetic records as the subject, especially video records of congressional consideration. The minutes of the Diet are up to the web site of the National Diet Library. But the comment which is spoken by the Member is removed from the minutes frequently. On the other hand, videos is recorded the comment of the Member as facts. But videos are removed from the web site about a year later.

With that in mind, I surveyed and compared the current situation of preservation of video records of the majority of countries in the world.

2 INTRODUCTION

2-1 BACKGROUND

In Japanese case

The limitations of minutes.

The comment which is spoken by the Member is removed from the minutes frequently.

The meaning or potential of video of the proceedings.
Videos is recorded the comment of the Member as facts.

2-2 OBJECTIVE

Clarify the Japanese current conditions or the circumstances about preservation and use of video of the proceedings.

Understand the reality of management of video of the proceedings as a non-paper materials in each country.

2-3 METHODOLOGY

1 Obtain the information about the contents of the minutes of parliament.

Access to the information of concerning video material management via web site of parliament.
Interviews to the person in charge of parliament using e-mail.

2 Comparison between Japan and another country

2-4 SUBJECT

5 countries



3 FINDINGS

3-1 MINUTES

1 In Japan, USA and France, when someone makes an irrelevant remark like to wound to the House's dignity or insult another Member, the chairman can exercise the powers of elimination.

	Japan	USA	France
Handling	Speech which the chairman orders to rescind is deleted from the minutes. However, it is described on the original material of the minutes.	An irrelevant remark isn't described in shorthand report.	The chairman can rescind the floor. In that case, he/she can order not to describe in the minutes.
Legal grounds	• The Diet Law, Article 116. • The Rules of the House of Representatives, Article 206. • The Rules of the House of Councillors, Article 161.	precedent	The standing orders of the National Assembly, Article 54.

Table 1: Handling and legal grounds of an indiscreet comment

2 In almost all countries except Japan, an unofficial comment (jeering, booing, catcalling, heckling, hooting, interruption, etc.) is described in the minutes alike an official comment as much as possible.

	Japan	Germany	France	UK
Handling	An unofficial remark isn't described in shorthand report as much as possible.	It is included not only comment which the chairman permit to speak but also an unofficial comment.	An unofficial remark is described in the minutes as much as possible. It is described likewise official comment.	It is often that an unofficial remark is treated alike an official comment.
Thinking	"Proceedings" means not all comments but only an official comment (The concepts of "proceedings" is smaller than Europe)	It is a part of contents or context of proceedings, because it has something to do with the procedural, and help to describe the situation of the deliberation.	A cry which answered an official comment on the floor is included in the proceedings.	Even for just unofficial remark, a speaker responds.

Table 2: Handling and thinking of an unofficial comment

3-2 VIDEOS

In many countries, video of the proceedings are streamed live and archived at own web site.



Figure 1. Japan



Figure 2. USA



Figure 3. Germany



Figure 4. UK

However, in Japan, it is removed after one from the end of the session because many Japanese Members are unwilling to keep opening in the web site.

	Japan	USA	Germany
Organization	The House of Representatives and the House of Councillors	The Library of Congress	The German Bundestag, The Media Library
How to access	Search and watch videos through the web site of the each House.	Contact the Motion Picture and Television Reference Desk at Tel, Fax, or mail.	Search, watch and download through the web site of the German Bundestag.
Open period	1 session and a year (It is provided in units of a session and removed one year after from the end of the session).	No restrictions.	No restrictions.
Preservation	Japan doesn't have parliamentary archives. The video-records is preserved in each House (After it is removed from the web site, it isn't open to the general public).	The National Archives has the originals tapes and the preservation copies..	The Parliamentary Archives holds the original records.

Table 3: Access to video-on-demand for the general user

4 CONCLUSIONS

4-1 CONCLUSIONS

1

Minutes

- The minutes have played an important part in the functions of a right to know and surveillance to parliament.
- But the minutes can't describe an indiscreet and unofficial comment in detail. It is the limitations of minutes in a society in which the information level has been highly developed just like today.

2

Videos

- Many countries as it is, paper medium is a formal record, on the other hand video is not considered an official record. In spite of this, video of the proceedings are not only streamed live but also archived at own web site and provided for the general user in many countries.
- In Japan, these video records are removed from web site after about several years. Most Member of Parliament in Japan has objected to the public video for a long time. Because videos have been published indefinitely, the difference between speech content in the proceedings is outstanding. So many Japanese Members are unwilling to keep opening in the web site for a long time.

4-2 FUTURE ISSUES

Add countries surveyed to understand the conditions or the circumstances of preservation and use.

Research relationships between political systems and existence of parliamentary archives.

Consider the meaning or potential about video of the proceedings as an archival material and the role of parliamentary archives..

5 REFERENCE

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House of Parliament, "Welcome to Parliament's Video and Audio"
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