

## After summit with Obama, Abe has little to boast about

### 日米首脳会談、TPP大筋合意は見送る

安倍晋三首相は4月24日、来日したバラク・オバマ米大統領と首脳会談を行なった。TPP交渉をめぐる首脳会談後の担当閣僚による協議も行なわれたが大筋合意には至らなかった。

For Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, his summit April 24 with U.S. President Barack Obama should have been a big moment to trumpet the strength of the Japan-U.S. alliance, which he claimed has greatly improved after relations soured under the Democratic Party of Japan-led administration that preceded his.

But the diplomatic drama that unfolded from that evening to early the next day instead underscored that bilateral relations are shaky, despite Abe's insistence that he and Obama made "historic" achieve-

ments. The key problem is the failure of both nations to reach a broad accord on the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact.

On April 25, Japan and the United States barely managed to release a joint statement following the Abe-Obama summit in Tokyo, an unprecedented and embarrassing delay for Japanese diplomats.

Indeed, at one point, U.S. officials reportedly took the statement "hostage" for more concessions on TPP issues during the overnight negotiations. (The Japan Times)



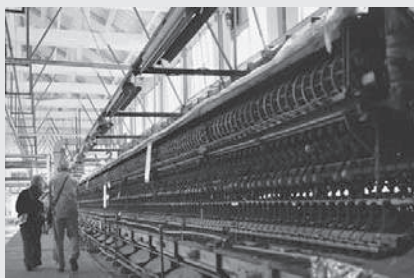
Akira Amari, minister in charge of the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations, speaks to reporters early April 25 after the U.S. and Japan failed to reach an agreement on trade. KYODO

安倍晋三首相にとって、4月24日のバラク・オバマ米大統領との会談は日米同盟の強さを宣伝する大事な機会になるはずだった。安倍首相は、日米同盟の強さは前の民主党政権下で日米関係が悪化してから大きく改善していると主張していた。しかし、その夜から翌日未明にかけて展開した外交劇では2国間関係の不安定さが浮き彫りになった。「歴史的な」成果を上げたという安倍首相の断言とは裏腹のことだ。TPP交渉の大筋合意に至らなかったことが主要な問題となっている。/両国は安倍首相とオバマ大統領のサミットを受けて4月25日に共同声明を何とか発表した。日本の外交団にとってこの遅れは異例でばつが悪い事態だった。/実際アメリカ側は、徹夜で行なわれた交渉の中でTPP問題に関してさらに譲歩させるためにこの声明を「人質」にしてきたと報じられている。

## Silk mill endorsed for World Heritage status

富岡製糸場、世界遺産へ

文化庁は4月26日、国連教育科学文化機関 (UNESCO) の諮問機関が、群馬県にある富岡製糸場を世界遺産に登録することを勧告したと発表した。



Tomioka Silk Mill in Gunma Prefecture KYODO

A UNESCO advisory panel has recommended giving World Heritage status to the Tomioka Silk Mill, a historic factory building in Gunma Prefecture symbolizing Japan's industrialization

from the 19th century, the Agency for Cultural Affairs said April 26.

The World Heritage Committee will likely agree with the recommendation when it meets in June in Qatar.

That would make the mill the 18th World Heritage property in Japan including natural heritage sites, and the 14th if limited to cultural properties. (Kyodo)

mill 工場。endorsed 承認される。World Heritage 世界遺産。advisory panel 諮問機関。

## Up to 310,000 homes blacked out in Tokyo

八王子市などで一時約30万軒が停電

東京の八王子市などで4月27日夜、大規模な停電が発生した。最大で約30万世帯が停電し、信号機の停止や電車の運転見合わせなどの影響が出た。



Up to 310,000 homes and stores in suburban Tokyo were hit by a power outage. KYODO

Up to 310,000 homes in suburban Tokyo were hit by a power outage late April 27, Tokyo Electric Power Co. said.

The utility said it is still investigating the cause of the blackout

that affected the cities of Hachioji, Hino, Machida and Tama from around 8:30 p.m.

Keio Corp. said its rail services were suspended in Hachioji and other areas for about 35 minutes due to the power outage.

Tokyo police said some traffic signals in the areas were without power and officers were sent to conduct traffic. (Kyodo)

The utility 東京電力のこと。black-out 停電。were suspended 停止した。conduct ~を案内する。

## Nishikori beats Giraldo to win Barcelona Open

錦織、バルセロナ・オープン優勝

男子テニスのバルセロナ・オープンで4月27日、錦織圭選手(24)がコロンビアのサンティアゴ・ヒラルド選手を破り、同大会初優勝した。



Kei Nishikori celebrates winning the Barcelona Open title. KYODO

Kei Nishikori beat Colombia's Santiago Giraldo 6-2, 6-2 to win the Barcelona Open on April 27 for his first career title on clay.

Giraldo started well with an early break but an argument with

the chair umpire about a line call seemed to rattle the unseeded player. He lost serve, giving the fourth-seeded Nishikori the opening to claim the first set and take control of the match.

"This title and (my showing in) Miami helped my confidence," said the 24-year-old Nishikori. "My next goal is to get to the top 10." (AP)

clay クレーコート。rattle ~の平静さを失わせる。unseeded シード権のない。giving ~the opening ~にチャンスを与えて。

## LDP's Kaneko wins Kagoshima by-election

衆院鹿児島2区補選、金子氏が当選

消費税率引き上げ後初の選挙となった衆議院鹿児島2区補欠選挙は4月27日に投票が行われ、自民党の新人で公明党が推薦する金子万寿夫氏が当選した。



Former Kagoshima Prefectural Assembly chief Masuo Kaneko (center) cheers his win. KYODO

Former Kagoshima Prefectural Assembly chief Masuo Kaneko won a seat in the House of Representatives in a by-election April 27, defeating five other contestants in a race fought partly over

the impact of the consumption tax hike of April 1.

A member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, Kaneko, 67, was also backed by the LDP's junior coalition partner, New Komeito.

The win in the first election since the sales tax hike is widely seen as good news for Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. (Kyodo)

by-election 補欠選挙。partly 一つには。consumption tax hike 消費税増税。coalition 連立の。