

across the country on Sept. 1 for Korean victims of the "Great Kanto Earthquake" in the Tokyo area in 1923.

A survivor claimed in an interview with the paper that at least 5,000 Koreans were killed in connection with the disaster, not by the quake but by Japanese mobs and officials. No such memorial service has been held before.

A contributor to the letters-to-the-editor page asked the Korean government to cancel talks with Japan for a \$4 billion loan, while another reader called for building up national strength to prevent another possible Japanese invasion of the Korean Peninsula.

Anti-Japanese sentiment, which is widespread among Koreans, has school history textbooks with language that glosses over Japan's military and colonial behavior before and during the Pacific War.

Several nationally-known elderly Koreans called for a review of relations with Japan, stressing the need to take a tougher stance even at the risk of breaking off diplomatic relations with Tokyo.

Students Protest Text Distortions

HONG KONG (Kyodo) — A students association here handed over 310,000 signatures to the Japanese Consulate General Monday after nine days of a campaign against "distorted" Japanese school textbooks.

The campaign, started on Aug. 15, the 37th anniversary of Japan's surrender in World War II, will last until Friday, an association spokesman said.

The group also designated Sept. 18 as the day to boycott Japanese products in memory of the 1931 armed clash between Japan and China.

Commonly known as the Manchurian Incident, it was followed by the establishment of Japan's colonial state of Manchukuo in northeastern China in 1932.

argued that *shinryaku* is not an appropriate word to describe the history of our own nation in a school textbook, because of its extremely negative connotations.

principles."

The American Sinologist, however, gives special attention to the timing of Beijing's raising of the textbook issue. "The Chinese raised the textbook issue at a time when their claim of downgrading their relations with the U.S. over the arms sales to Taiwan was settled through a compromise."

"I think the Chinese have managed to use the textbook issue in way which allows them to show their strong principles, while at the same time compromising with the U.S. over the arms sales to Taiwan," said Sutter, who visited Japan at the invitation of a Tokyo-based private research organization.

"Now, they have a new target to focus nationalistic attention in China," he added.

On the basis of this observation, Sutter said, "Japan will be a focus for sometime of this nationalistic spur so that the Chinese can manage to transfer their attentions on the compromise with the U.S. over the arms sales to Taiwan, which is temporary and requires further discussion between the two sides."

Strategical Shift

Sutter observes that behind such a Chinese move, there is a change in China's foreign policy.

"The Chinese seem much less interested in close relationship with the West and particularly with the U.S. now than they seemed to be in 1979 or 1980," he said.

Although materialization of the four modernizations is still of top priority in China, Sutter went on, "The Chinese recognize now more than they did the material limitations of interchanges with the West and

In the face of the Education Ministry's increased intervention in the contents of school books, the nation's teachers and textbook authors have seemingly remained on

"The present screening system is definitely a product of political maneuvers — censorship," charged a veteran textbook editor who also asked to remain anonymous. (S. Ito)

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Chinese Drive 'Politically Motivated'

how they really cannot rely as much as they thought they could on Western technologies and assistance in helping them achieve the four modernizations."

"They recognize, because of their own poverty and technological shortcomings, that they will have to rely on themselves a lot more and Western inputs will be a lot less important.

"The Japanese should understand this more than anyone else because of the Baoshan Steel Mill case — a classic example of what caused this reassessment," Sutter said.

Mineo Nakajima, a professor of international relations at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, says that the present Sino-Japanese row over the textbook issue should be analyzed from a broader perspective.

Noting that the present Chinese leadership is composed of Deng, Hu Yaobang, Wan Li and other party cadres who were put out in the cold during the 1960s, Nakajima said: "A new policy of not depending on Japan as much as it used to has been prevailing in the leadership."

Nakajima does not even subscribe to a view that Japan

China relations were fundamentally amicable up to a few months ago.

He pointed out in a recent telephone interview that the foreign policy which led to China's rapprochement with the U.S. and Japan 10 years ago was basically formulated by the Mao Zedong-Zhou Enlai line, while what the present leadership was seeking was total de-Maoization.

In this context, the China expert said: "China has shifted its fundamental strategy from close alliance with the U.S. to alliance with the Third World and eventually to reconciliation with the Soviet Union."

He cited the rehabilitation of the late Marshal Peng Dehuai, re-emergence of Soviet experts within the party leadership and a "learn from the Soviets" campaign recently launched by a leftist Hong Kong magazine as signs of such a shift in Chinese strategy.

On such grounds, Nakajima said, "The Chinese criticism over the textbook issue was a reflection of this structural change. China will not bury the hatchet of anti-Japanese criticism even if Japan corrected the controversial accounts in its school textbooks."

Times Guide in Kansai Area

Kyoto/Osaka/Kobe/Hiroshima

TIMES GUIDE COLUMN

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