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<td>Citation</td>
<td>言語文化学研究:言語情報編:第4巻:31-74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issue Date</td>
<td>2009-03-31</td>
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<td>URL</td>
<td><a href="http://repository.osakafu-u.ac.jp/dspace/">http://repository.osakafu-u.ac.jp/dspace/</a></td>
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Political and Criminal Discourses in Japanese and American Newspaper Articles: A Study of Representations in the News Media Based on Critical Discourse Analysis

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Journal of Language and Culture
Language and Information
Vol. 4 (2009)
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Political and Criminal Discourses in Japanese and American Newspaper Articles: A Study of Representations in the News Media Based on Critical Discourse Analysis

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1. Introduction

This article examines how the same event is dealt with in different newspapers and what is justified, defended or attacked. It is natural that a criminal case involving both Japanese and Americans becomes news in both countries and that it takes up a certain space in newspapers in each place. Then how is the news written and presented for Japanese and American readers? We will explore the media discourse from the perspective of newspaper production as well as linguistic analysis based on the framework of critical discourse analysis (CDA) put forward by Fairclough (1995a, 2003) and Richardson (2007).

2. Methodology

2.1 Fairclough’s and Richardson’s Framework

Discourse analysis is generally defined as “the analysis of relationships between concrete language use and the wider social cultural structures (Titscher et al., 2000:149). Using CDA, which is not separated from discourse analysis but applies knowledge and methodologies developed in discourse analysis, Fairclough (1995a) examines “text,” “discourse practice,” and “sociocultural practice” with “text” the core and the “sociocultural practice” the outermost frame and with “discourse practice” mediating between them (Fairclough, 1995a: 59).

Richardson (2007) regards Fairclough’s version of CDA as providing “a
more accessible method of doing CDA than alternative theoretical approaches” (Richardson 2007:37), and demonstrates concrete analyses of newspapers explaining the dialectical relationships among Fairclough’s factors (Figure 1).

On one hand, various social events and opinions determine the context of their production (→1) that influences texts (e.g. newspaper articles) (→3). At the same time, based on the convention of a newspaper article, the collection and presentation of information is shaped (←4). Such a presentation of information is the opinion of journalists toward the society (←2). On the other hand, newspaper articles influence society (→7) via determining opinions of people (→5) who read them and decode the meaning (←6). Moreover, such readers who try to influence society may get oppressed or supported in the process (←8).

Richardson’s framework shown in Figure 1 is based on Fairclough’s diagram, but the former is more detailed than the latter in separately showing text production (→3) and text interpretation (→5): that is, discourse practice by journalists and discourse practice by readers are both demonstrated. Richardson’s framework thus shows “society and culture are dialectically related to discourse” (Richardson 2007: 26) in a detailed way. Moreover, it points out that journalists as well as readers are the subjects in discourse practices who influence and are influenced by society and culture. Therefore, we find it meaningful in a study of CDA to compare different newspaper articles, which reflect how journalists affect and are affected by culture and society and how that results in shaping texts.

We will compare Japanese and American articles, focusing on the
influence of social practice (→1) on the newspaper articles through the conventions of article production (→3). We will also examine what presentation of information is shaped (←4) and what opinion is presented toward the society by the journalists (←2). Fairclough’s tools for analyzing texts and discourse practices will be utilized: they are word meanings, transitivity, discourses, news values and intertextuality.

2.2 Analytical Tools

2.2.1 Analysis of text

Text analysis includes “traditional forms of linguistic analysis” and “analysis of textual organization above the sentence” (Fairclough 1995a:57). It analyzes various levels of linguistic and interactional factors, assuming that they have been chosen for our use to represent our opinions, actions, and feelings, etc. We will examine the chosen wording and functions of process types “in relation to the systems of ideology and social power” (Richardson, 2007: 39).

2.2.2 Analysis of discourse practice

The practice of journalistic discourse is the process by which journalists produce texts following orders of discourse and by which readers interpret them by utilizing their knowledge of orders of discourse (Richardson 2007: 75).

As Figure 2 shows and as has already been shown in Figure 1, discourse practice is a two-way street: journalists as producers encode meaning by choosing words or stories but, at the same time, they are not free from the conventions of writing and presenting articles. Readers, as consumers with various background knowledge and perspectives, decode text, and, at the same time, texts determine the understanding of the readers and shape their belief (Richardson 2007: 39).
We will especially focus on 3 and 4 in Figure 2: how texts are encoded (→3) and what kind of conventions is applied to the texts (←4). We will see how texts are encoded in terms of news values and intertextuality. The different readers in the study (mainly Japanese readers or mainly American readers) are expected to show different criteria for news values, and their experience of similar incidents in the past is likely to be encoded in the texts. As for conventions, we will examine what discourses are used. Since our data is deeply related to political issues, we expect a political discourse to co-exist with a criminal discourse. We will analyze how such discourses are represented in the articles and what ideologies are conveyed in them. Before doing that, we will add some more explanations about news values, intertextuality and discourses.

News values are criteria made by journalists that decide whether an event is worthy of being reported as news. Their main factors are “frequency,” “unambiguity,” “meaningfulness,” “unexpectedness,” and so on (Richardson 2007:91-92). Richardson (2007) also considers “missing” some events or stories to be as significant as including them since not reporting them reflects the institutions’ ideology about news value. We will focus on this point and examine the phases to which the journalists attach importance in reporting the case.

As for intertextuality, Fairclough (1992a) distinguishes “manifest intertextuality” and “interdiscursivity” (“constitutive intertextuality”), defining the former as incorporating prior texts into a text, the latter as mixing and relating constituting elements of an order of discourse, such as genres, discourses, and styles (Fairclough 1992a: 101-105). “Manifest
intertextuality” is divided into “external intertextuality” and “internal intertextuality” by Richardson (2007). While external intertextuality reveals that the current text is connected to previously mentioned texts or events by using such words as “another” and “new,” internal intertextuality, which is divided into direct quotation, strategic quotation, indirect quotation, and transformed indirect quotation without verbal process, reproduces others’ comments or evaluations.\(^1\) Since we have found direct and indirect quotations in the data, we will concentrate on these two types.

Lastly, discourses are defined as “ways of representing aspects, such as processing, relating, and structuring of the material world, the mental world of thoughts, feelings, beliefs and the social world” (Fairclough 2003:124). Identifying, therefore, what discourses there are and how different discourses are entangled in the text means to clarify what perspectives are shown to readers which affect and help them to change society as well as what are constituted by social practices.\(^2\)

2.3 Literature Review

Among various studies that analyze news reports, we will highlight the following ones that compare representations of a certain event in different newspapers using an interpretative framework similar to that used in this article.

Murata (2007) is a cross-cultural study between Japan and England on their media representation of whaling and seeks to explore possible cultural values and assumptions that may influence biased perspectives or ideologies. Two Japanese articles (The Yomiuri Newspaper) and one British article (The Independent) were analyzed and compared in detail: the result is that while The Independent article indirectly shows its anti-whaling ideology in terms of choice of lexis, grammatical structures, rhetorical devices, overall organization, and control of information in the text (e.g. Japan is described as an agent of the “outrageous” action of whaling), the articles in The Yomiuri
Newspaper take the Japanese pro-whaling perspective for granted, and report the news in an objective tone. Thus the emotional tone of The Independent’s opposition to whaling and the rather neutral stance and reporting style of The Yomiuri Newspaper are shown in a detailed textual analysis on the pro- and anti-whaling discourses.

Fang (2001) examines the discourse strategies of news stories on civil unrest in two Chinese language newspapers, People’s Daily (mainland China) and Central Daily (Taiwan). Based on the analytic method used by van Dijk, Fang examines the textual and contextual components of a news discourse on the students’ protests in South Africa in 1985 and the unrest in Argentina in 1989. After analyzing headlines, thematic structures, and lexical and grammatical factors, Fang (2001) found that there were many differences in representing the South African case but not in the case of Argentina. For example, People’s Daily calls the event “black demonstrations” and an “anti-Apartheid struggle” emphasizing inequality and showing sympathy to the black people, whereas Central Daily calls it a “riot” and considers the actions by the police as a “matter-of-fact.” Moreover, while the dominating topics and themes of People’s Daily are suppressing of the blacks by the police, those of Central Daily are the unrest and chaos that have been caused by one individual, not by the government. However, compared with the case in South Africa, the unrest in Argentina was shown to be dealt with in a similar way by the two newspapers. The difference in representing the South African case indicates the difference in ideologies of the two newspapers: whether they justify the policies of the South African government or not. And it was clarified that People’s Daily condemns it while Central Daily admires it. This was a study which clarifies how political views of news reports are interpreted.

These studies demonstrate how textual features such as lexical choices and transitivity are manipulated in representing an event to be interpreted by different readerships. We will analyze the data in this article by utilizing a
similar framework. Besides, we will examine discourse practice in news reporting: how texts are encoded in terms of news values and intertextuality and how a political discourse co-exists with a criminal discourse in the data. It is assumed that clarifying discourse practice will show the complexity of ideologies in this case.

3. Data

This paper analyzes American and Japanese newspaper articles on an alleged rape case in Okinawa. A U.S. marine named Tyrone Hadnott was arrested on suspicion of raping a junior high school girl in Okinawa Prefecture in Japan on February 11, 2008. He denied raping her and the case was eventually dropped because the girl withdrew the suit. Both the Japanese government and people in Japan expressed strong anger over the case. Prime Minister Fukuda as well as the Japanese Foreign Minister and Defense Minister stated the case was very serious and unforgivable, and people in Okinawa staged demonstrations in protest.

This paper compares reports on this case in two newspapers, *The Japan Times* and *The New York Times*, both dated February 13, 2008. By then the condition of the suspect, the testimony of the victim, and public reactions toward the case had been brought to light.3)

4. Analysis of the Newspaper Articles

4.1 Analysis of the Headlines

The two headlines show the slightly different focus of the reports. Both represent the process as an action, but *The Japan Times* emphasizes the case itself, while *The New York Times* puts focus on the governments.

(Data 1)

Okinawa rape case sparks resentment (*JT*)
(Data2)
Japan focuses anger on U.S. in rape arrest of a Marine (NYT)

In The Japan Times’s headline, “Okinawa rape case” as the actor is focused. In this material process, both the case and the resentment are highlighted as participants. Besides, the definite nominalization “Okinawa rape case” presupposes that it is a rape, which makes the major discourse in this headline a criminal one. The headline of The New York Times on the other hand emphasizes how the Japanese government has felt after the incident occurred. The U.S. military and the incident are also in the headline as the circumstances. Therefore, this headline has a political discourse and a criminal discourse proceeding at the same time.

4.2 Analysis of the Leads
(Data 3)
A U.S. Marine who allegedly raped a 14-year-old Okinawa girl was turned over to prosecutors Tuesday in a case that has prompted government officials to voice outrage and warn the incident could affect the Japan-U.S. alliance and the reorganization of U.S. bases in the prefecture. (JT)

The Japan Times lead describes how the suspect is being dealt with by the Japanese police. “A U.S. Marine” is the goal and focused in the material process. The circumstance includes the fact that the case made Japanese government officials angry and the anticipation that political influence could be observed with regard to the Japan-U.S. alliance. In other words, this lead summarizes that the details of the case and the Japanese government’s measures to deal with the situation are the issues in this article. Since we see vocabulary specific to criminal incidents such as “allegedly raped,” “case,” and “prosecutors,” in the former part of the lead and then political vocabulary like “government officials,” “the Japan-U.S. alliance,” and “U.S.
bases in the prefecture” in the latter, a criminal discourse and then a political discourse is proceeding in the lead.

(Data 4)

TOKYO — Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda of Japan voiced anger on Tuesday over accusations that a United States marine had raped a 14-year-old girl in Okinawa, calling the episode “unforgivable.”

The behavior of Prime Minister Fukuda is the focus in The New York Times lead. This is a verbal process where Fukuda’s anger and opinion about the incident are demonstrated. This paragraph shows the word “anger,” which is the “verbiage” in the verbal process and the interpretation of his statement by the media, and then another verbiage in a direct quotation (“unforgivable”). The “sayer” of these two verbiages with strong meaning is the politically influential Prime Minister, which reflects the U.S. government’s concern about future relations with Japan as well as Mr. Fukuda’s outrage over the incident. Here, too, a criminal discourse and a political discourse are proceeding.

4.3 Analysis of Criminal Discourses

The paragraphs of the following “bodies” have been found to consist of mainly either a criminal discourse or a political discourse. We will examine each discourse to identify what kind of discourse practice is included.

First we will compare and analyze criminal discourses represented in both articles by utilizing the factors explained above: intertextuality, word meanings, quotations, and news values.

4.3.1 Memories of the past rape case in Okinawa: intertextuality

(Data 5)

The arrest Monday of Staff Sgt. Tyrone Hadnott, 38, for the suspected rape
of a local junior high school girl Sunday night has rekindled memories of the 1995 gang rape of a 12-year-old Okinawa girl by three U.S. servicemen, an incident that triggered mass resentment against the U.S. military presence in Okinawa. (JT 2nd paragraph)

We find a reference to the past rape case in Okinawa in 1995, when a 12-year-old girl was victimized. The New York Times also refers to the same case, saying, “In 1995, three American servicemen gang-raped a 12-year-old girl in Okinawa,” only in the seventh paragraph and there is no additional information about this past case. That is, the mention of “mass resentment” against the U.S. base in Okinawa is in The Japan Times, but not in The New York Times. This inclusion makes it clear that The Japan Times emphasizes the message that the U.S. did not learn from the incident. Besides, the words “rekindled memories” indicate the recurrence of the U.S. soldiers’ crimes, which emphasizes their lack of reflection on past conduct and apparent failure in promoting organizational improvement in discipline.

Moreover, “The arrest . . . has rekindled memories” is a material process, which causes the psychological behavior of people in Okinawa. On the other hand, the comment of Prime Minister Fukuda “Even though this has occurred several times in the past, it has happened again,” in The New York Times (2nd paragraph) also consists of a material process but it demonstrates that an event has happened. Although the remark “I take this very seriously” functions to convey his attitude, it does not express the Japanese government’s or people’s indignation as The Japan Times does.

4.3.2 The situation of the suspect: news values

The New York Times gives detailed information on the condition of the suspect, which The Japan Times does not.
(Data 6)
The marine, Staff Sgt. Tyrone Luther Hadnott, 38, from Camp Courtney in Okinawa, was arrested after being accused of attacking the girl in his car on Sunday night. Sergeant Hadnott, who has denied raping the girl, has not yet been formally charged. (NYT 3rd paragraph)

The expression “has not yet been formally charged.” is not found in The Japan Times, where the suspect is described as “turned over to prosecutors” in the lead. Both “has not yet been formally charged” and “turned over to prosecutors” may reflect the same situation; however, the former description makes it clear that the suspect has not been formally charged, while the latter does not. We believe such strictness in reporting is needed for the American readership because charging the suspect would annoy both his acquaintances and the U.S. government and might affect diplomatic relations with Japan.

4. 3. 3 The suspect’s encounter with the girl: word meaning

The description of the suspect’s encounter with the girl differs between the two newspapers.

(Data 7)
He reportedly approached the girl at around 8:30 p.m. when she was with two friends in a downtown area of the city of Okinawa and rode off with her on his motorbike after offering her a ride home. (JT 4th paragraph)

(Data 8)
The Japanese police said Sergeant Hadnott met the teenager on Sunday and offered to take her home on his motorcycle. (NYT 7th paragraph)

In The Japan Times, the encounter is depicted as a material process with the suspect an actor and the process “approached” conveying the meaning of
his deliberateness. Besides the act “rode off with her on his motorbike” increases the readers’ suspicion of his malicious purpose of separating the girl from her friends. The New York Times, on the other hand, describes their encounter as rather accidental. Although describing the same material process as in data 7, the processes “met” and “offered” do not show any of his deliberateness or malice. For “met the teenager on Sunday” includes contingency and “offered to take her home on his motorcycle” does not imply force on his side.

4.3.4 The statement of the case: who says so?

The quotations in The New York Times make it clear that it is the Japanese police who claim Sergeant Hadnott committed rape and that the suspect only admits kissing the girl.

(Data 9)

In 1995, three American servicemen gang-raped a 12-year-old girl in Okinawa. The Japanese police said Sergeant Hadnott met the teenager on Sunday and offered to take her home on his motorcycle. Instead, he took her to his home and tried to kiss her, the police said. When she cried, he said he would take her home in his car, where he raped her, the police said. They said the sergeant had acknowledged pressing her down and kissing her. (NYT 7th paragraph)

(Data 10)

He is suspected of raping the girl in his car while parked on a street in Chatan at around 10:30 p.m. Sunday. He reportedly approached the girl at around 8:30 p.m. when she was with two friends in a downtown area of the city of Okinawa and rode off with her on his motorbike after offering her a ride home. (JT 4th paragraph)

Hadnott allegedly took her to his home instead and tried to rape her. The
The report in Data 9 repeatedly makes clear who is the sayer of the verbal process, with such phrases as “the Japanese police said,” “the police said,” and “they said,” and distinguishes between the Japanese police’s insistence and the suspect’s account. On the other hand, The Japan Times includes only one quote by the police (“…saying he would drive her home, police said.”). They suggest the possibility that the suspect raped the girl by using such expressions as “is suspected of raping,” “reportedly,” and “allegedly,” without using a conclusive way of writing. Moreover, no senser or actor is clarified in these suggestions; who suspects him of raping the girl, who reported that he approached the girl, and who alleged that he took her to his home? Uncertainty about the senser/actor makes it possible to imagine that some witnesses in addition to the police are the senser/actor, which leads to Hadnott being more likely to be suspected of committing the rape crime.

The examination of this quotation is applicable to the analysis of the suspect’s encounter with the girl in 4.3.3. The Japan Times says “He reportedly approached the girl at around 8:30 p.m. when she was with two friends in a downtown area of the city of Okinawa and rode off with her on his motorbike.” Here is no reference to the police as the sayer (i.e. there is no “the police said”), which leaves the possibility that “approached” and “rode off with her on his motorbike” are the suspect’s words. This makes the suspect’s act seem more suspicious and intentional.

4.3.5 The statement of the girl’s friends: news values
(Data 11)

The girl's friends, who were present when Hadnott rode off with her on his motorcycle, reportedly called her mobile phone several times out of concern. They called police at 10:20 p.m. after the girl answered one of their calls and
said, “help me” before hanging up, Okinawa police said. (*JT* 6th paragraph)

The report of *The Japan Times* includes testimony of the girl’s friends: the fact that her friends called her “several times out of concern” shows they already sensed Hadnott’s suspiciousness. Moreover, the callback from the victim saying “help me” indicates her dangerous situation. Thus their testimony is effective in worsening the readers’ impression of Hadnott and his motive for taking the victim away. On the other hand, *The New York Times* does not have any description of the victim’s friends, and does not offer the readers the information that the girl was separated from her friends after meeting the suspect.

4.4 Analysis of Political Discourses

4.4.1 Okinawa’s disapproval of the U.S. military camps: news values

The nine-paragraph report of *The New York Times* is composed of political discourses except for the 3rd and 7th paragraphs. The 8th and 9th paragraphs below describe Okinawa’s disapproval of U.S. military camps.

(Data 12)

Officials in Okinawa have long complained of the presence of United States soldiers. Most of the 40,000 American troops stationed in Japan are in Okinawa. (*NYT* 8th paragraph)

Even as Tokyo has lobbied Okinawa to accept the relocation of the Marines’ Futenma air station now in Ginowan City, the United States is scheduled to transfer 8,000 troops from Okinawa to Guam over several years. (*NYT* 9th paragraph)

These political discourses emphasize complaints of officials in Okinawa and their disapproval of the relocation of Futenma air station. The expression “Even as Tokyo has lobbied Okinawa to accept” represents America’s good
relationship with the Japanese government, which simultaneously shows Okinawa’s inflexibility and obstinacy. In fact the 10th paragraph of *The Japan Times* article explains that 1995’s rape of an Okinawa teenage girl by three U.S. servicemen led to huge protests in Okinawa, causing a relocation of the U.S. bases in Okinawa including Futenma Air Station. The inclusion of this fact makes the strong opposition of officials in Okinawa seem reasonable in *The Japan Times*. However, the lack of this information in *The New York Times* thus conveys a different ideology that Okinawa dares to not follow the policy of the Japanese government to accept the U.S. bases.

4. 4. 2 Ishiba’s remarks: quotation and news values

(Data 13)

“This is not just a crime (allegedly) involving an American soldier. This is an issue that will affect the basis of the Japan-U.S. alliance,” Defense Minister Shigeru Ishiba told reporters. (*JT* 8th paragraph)

“I think it will require more than just asking the U.S. to reinforce discipline (in the military) and prevent a recurrence,” Ishiba said. (*JT* 9th paragraph)

In 1995, a 12-year-old girl was raped by three U.S. servicemen, triggering strong protests in Okinawa, which eventually led to the 1996 agreement by both countries on a large-scale relocation of the U.S. bases in Okinawa, including the transfer of the Marine Corps Futenma Air Station within the prefecture. (*JT* 10th paragraph)

Ishiba stressed the need for greater involvement by the Japanese government in efforts to ensure the effectiveness of preventive steps taken by the U.S. military. (*JT* 11th paragraph)

Paragraphs 8 to 13 in *The Japan Times* report are all composed of political discourses, and all of them except the 10th and 11th are direct quotations of Defense Minister Ishiba. The 10th paragraph describes 1995’s rape case by the U.S. servicemen, which is the background to the move of Futenma Air
Base out of Okinawa, and the 11th paragraph summarizes Ishiba’s strong claim for the Japanese government to meddle in discipline in the U.S. military. Thus, the 10th and the 11th paragraphs make the gist and context of Ishiba’s direct quotations, and thanks to them a sequence of direct quotations by the so-called elite has gained stronger and clearer news values. (The 10th paragraph tells how such an incident caused by an American soldier is to be considered and negotiated in a wider historical and political domain and how this may develop into a serious diplomatic problem, and in the 11th paragraph the verbal process demonstrates Ishiba’s clear attitude on this issue.) These translated phrases in particular (“require more than just asking the U.S. to reinforce discipline” (9th paragraph), “I will watch them with indignation” (12th paragraph), and “raises the question of what the U.S. has done in the past” (13th paragraph)) express Ishiba’s strong anger and complaint against the present order in the U.S. military and their dealing with the past incidents.

4. 4. 3 Differences in diplomatic remarks between Japan and the U.S.: news values and cohesion

One of the key words in Ishiba’s quotation “discipline” is also found in the quotation of other elite officials following Ishiba’s remark.

(Data 14)

“I think it will require more than just asking the U.S. to reinforce discipline (in the military) and prevent a recurrence,” Ishiba said. (JT 9th paragraph)

“I think we’ve had enough of these incidents,” he said. “The issue of discipline in the U.S. military will remain important wherever the U.S. bases are relocated. They should follow strict discipline.” (JT 15th paragraph)

On Monday, Shinichi Nishimiya, the director general of the North American affairs bureau at the Foreign Ministry, communicated with Joseph
Donovan, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy, and asked the U.S. to strengthen discipline of its military to prevent a recurrence. (*JT* 16th paragraph)

(Data 15)

Joseph R. Donovan, the deputy chief of mission at the United States Embassy in Japan, told reporters that this “is an extremely regrettable case and that we take this very, very seriously.” (*NYT* 5th paragraph)

“I pledged our complete cooperation with the ongoing investigation of the Japanese authorities,” Mr. Donovan said. (*NYT* 6th paragraph)

The repetition of the word “discipline” in a series of remarks by high-level government officials in Japan (Defense Minister Ishiba (9th), Foreign Minister Komura (15th) and Nishimiya, the director general of the North American affairs bureau at the Foreign Ministry (16th)) makes the demand more severe. Moreover, that the word “discipline” accompanies emphatic expressions in these remarks (“reinforce,” “will remain important,” “strict,” “strengthen”) represents how strongly and seriously the Japanese government officials demand an improvement in the U.S. military’s manners. By contrast, the word “discipline” is not found in the report of *The New York Times*. The U.S. counterpart expresses his “regrettable” feelings toward the case and will “take this very, very seriously” and “pledged their (our) complete cooperation with the ongoing investigation.” This attitude does not show lack in sincerity; however, no concrete strategies or improvements for the U.S. military camps in Okinawa are presented. Besides, Mr. Donogan’s comments are uttered in relational process (this “is an extremely regrettable case”) and mental process that shows the senser’s cognition (“we take this very, very seriously,” and “I pledged our complete cooperation”). This also contrasts with the remarks of the Japanese high-level officials that convey their messages with material process and show their strong intentions (“it
will require more than just asking,” “They should follow strict discipline” and “asked the U.S. to strengthen discipline.”) Such comparison indicates the difference in the level of concern for this case between Japan and the U.S.

5. Conclusion
This article has compared Japanese and American newspaper articles by examining how texts are linguistically constructed based on the influence of social situations. It was expected that these articles on the case about a girl in Okinawa and a U.S. marine were written in a criminal discourse and a political discourse because U.S. military bases have been one of the crucial diplomatic problems between Japan and America. We have found out, however, that not only do these two kinds of discourses exist in both the articles but also what is represented in each discourse is different. In its criminal discourse, The Japan Times represents the resentment of Japanese people and government officials toward the case together with their concrete demand toward the U.S. (e.g. discipline). Their anger, especially the government officials’ anger, is conveyed mostly in direct quotations, which create news values. However, The New York Times article does not include such representations. They seem to treat this matter more warily than The Japan Times article. Besides they mind the anger of the Japanese government and people, trying to deal with the situation in a diplomatic way.

These differences are part of the representations in newspaper articles and in the process of producing these articles, which are to be presented toward society by the journalists and by the readers’ activities. As Richardson (2007) says, it is very hard to analyze the whole dialectical relations among a text, the media, the readers and the society; however, examining a focused part of them has now clarified that different ideologies are seen in the newspapers in Japan and the U.S.
Notes

*This study is a revised version of the paper presented at the JACES (Japan Association for Current English Studies) Summer Seminar held on August 2, 2008.

1. Direct quotations have various verbs like “say” and “claim” to introduce a quotation, which affect the readers’ interpretation of the news. Strategic quotations use scare quotes which show possible contention toward the topic. Indirect quotations use various verbal processes such as “gave a warning” and “renewed its threats,” so they color and evaluate the actors’ feelings or attitudes. Lastly transformed indirect quotations often change process types, like from a verbal process “said” to a mental process “wanted.” Since transitivity “describes the relationships between participants and the roles they play in the processes described in reporting” (Richardson 2007), such changes in process types by transformed indirect quotation lead to a different understanding of reported events.

2. For more details about “discourses,” please refer to Takagi (2007).

3. We have found that The International Herald Tribune, which also deals with this criminal case among American newspapers, carries the same news articles produced by The New York Times. As for English newspapers in Japan, it was The Japan Times that carried similar coverage of the case on the same day.

References


**Data**


“Okinawa Rape Case Sparks Resentment” *The Japan Times*. dated February