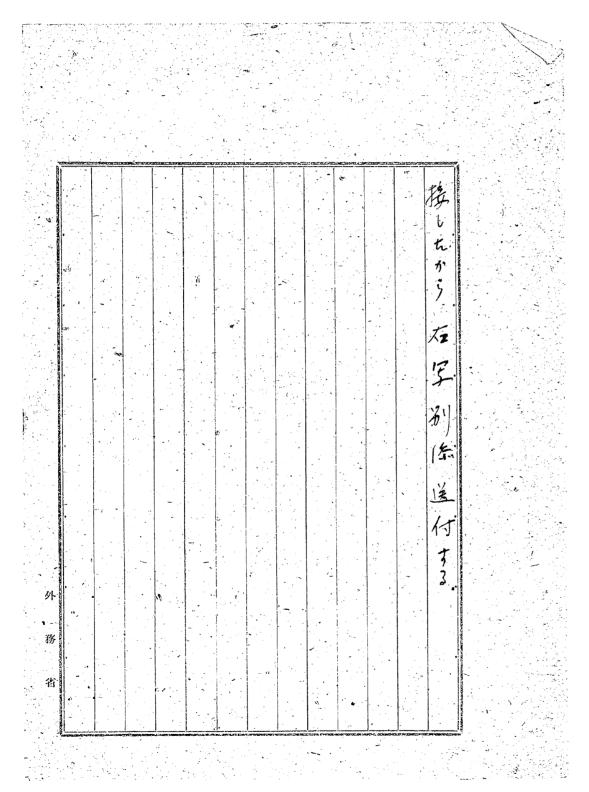
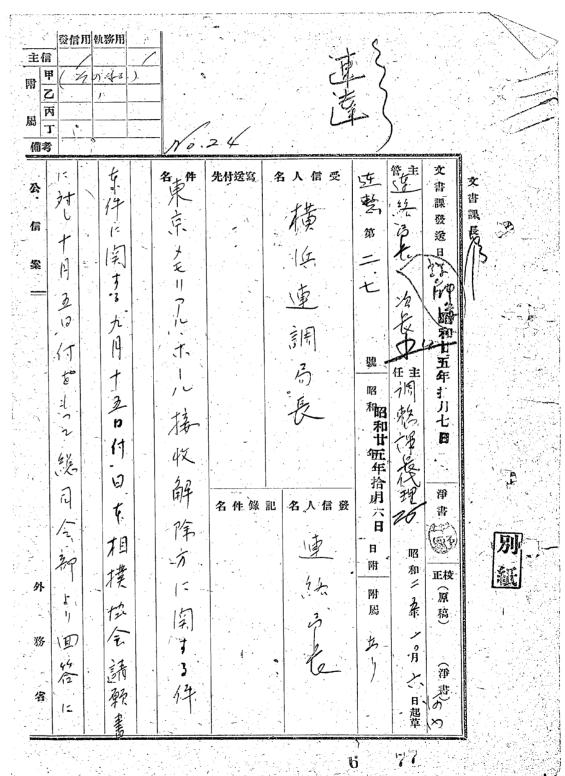
(6) 大日本相撲協力東京西国メモリア 水 - 陳情のル接牧解除

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外交史料館

September 15th, 1950.

To:

General Headquarters,

Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers,

Tokyo.

From:

Japan "Sumo" Association

Subject: Petition for Release of Tokyo Memorial Hall

(re JPNR - 2837)

Dear Sirs :-

The "Sumo" has been one of our national sports from time immemorial. Professional Sumo wrestlers are quite popular with the Japanese people and there are millions of Sumo fans throughout the country. The amphitheater of the Japan Sumo Association, Inc. (known as the Kokugikan), built on other side of the River Sumida with contributions from many fans, has a seating capacity of about 15,000. The regular seasons are Junuary and May, each season lasting 15 days, and the Memorial Hall (the amphithearter mentioned above) used to attract 225,000 persons. While, off season, wrestlers were making tours of Sumo games throughout the country, the memorial Hall was used for various shows and entertainments, such as summer-evening fairs, exhibitions of chrysanthemum figures and so forth, and thus this sport center was at the same time a center of gatherings of Tokyo populace.

Since the Memorial Hall was requisitioned wrestlers have each season built a temporary amphitheater either at Hamacho Park or Kuramae. But such a temporary amphitheater has seated 7,300, one half of the Memorial Hall's seating capasity. Besides, the temporary building has been considered dangerous from a point of view of public safety and fire-prevention, and as the Japan Sumo Association has to build and pull down the temporary building each season, it suffers a big loss (¥1,300,000 for the May 1949 season, and ¥2,000,000 for the January 1950 season).

Under these circumstances, the Japan Sumo Association and all Sumo fans are very anxious to have the Memorial Hall released and therefore it would be highly appreciated if the sections concerned at GHQ SCAP would kindly give favorable consideration to the matter.

Respectfully yours,

Kanichi Yamanobe)
President, Japan Sumo
Association.



September 15th, 1950.

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Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers,

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(Kanichi Yamanobe)

President, Japan Sumo Association.

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外交史料館

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JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS LIAISON BUREAU

: GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS.

: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SUBJECT: Petition for Release of Tokyo Memorial Hall.

FOM No. 2019(L)

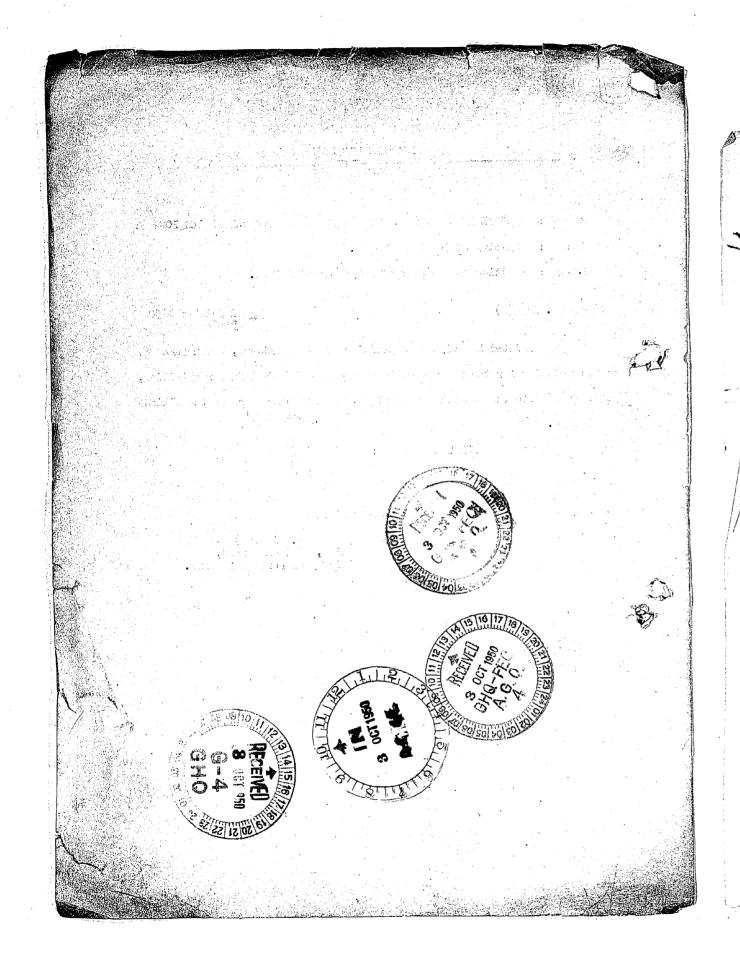
2 October 1950

Transmitted herewith is a petition of the President, Japan Sumo Association for the release of the Tokyo Memorial Hall from requisition, addressed to the General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

FOR THE MINISTER:

(S. Kimura)
Chief, Liaison Bureau,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

1 Incl Petition as stated above in triplicate.



Lt col Hiller 26-6043

Petition for Release of Tokyo Memorial Hall

G-2 (Japanese Liaison)

1. References. a. Ltr. JG, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. FOM No. 2019
(L), subj: Petition for Release of Tokyo Nemorial Hall, 2 October 1950.

b. C/N, G-4 to G-2 (Japanese Limison), subj. Application for Release of Memorial Hall, 22 June 1949.

2. Request your section direct the JG to inform the Japan Sumo Association that the occupation forces have a continuing requirement for Hemorial Hall referred to in reference a. Assordingly, the release thereof is not favorably considered at this time.

3. The conditions governing the part-time use of Memorial Hall by the Japan Sumo Association outlined in reference b remains unchanged.

l Inel Ltr. Jo. Min of For Affairs, FOM No. 2019 (L), subj as above, 2 Oct 50 w/l inel thereto

Certified a True Copy of Signed Original: What Go Japanese Liaison, G-2, CHQ SCAP

Rec: + Cet. 4.20 pm. Shukan: LCO Copy: C.f.L., C.f.P, LCO, MA.

25.10.0

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