1950年代における日米安全保障関係の形成と発展

The Formation and Fostering of the US-Japan Security Relationship in the 1950s

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This research will reexamine the Eisenhower administration's decision to revise the Security Treaty between the United States and Japan by first considering US aims toward enhancing regional security in East Asia. Previous studies have shown that the US and Japanese government maintained the status quo in the period after the Second World War. In fact, through a series of discussions held behind closed doors, both countries tried to improve their bilateral relationship, on mutual terms in, through their perceptions toward the Western Bloc.

In the 1950s, the US and Japan constructed multidirectional frameworks of security and policy that would enable a revision of their shared the Security Treaty of Japan and the United States of America. Indeed, there has been a great deal of empirical research about this process of revision – much of it based on the official documents released by the United States. However, these studies have yet to pay specific attention to the political relations within East Asia – those shared with the Philippines, the Korean Peninsula, and China, for example – which respectively influenced the revision of the US-Japanese security treaty.

Previous research has pointed out the United States' prioritization of Japan's economic recovery and political stability due to the rising threat of China based on the Indochina problem and the Taiwan Strait Crisis in 1954. With the fear of Japan adopting a neutral stance and becoming estranged, the United States reconsidered the existence of the US bases in Japan and their peaceful use as a military contribution and agreed to the revision of the Treaty in 1958. Therefore, considering the recently released Japanese documents related to the revision of the Treaty, it is both essential and possible to reexamine the intentions behind the United States' security policy.

研究目的

This research argues that it is not enough to answer why the US began a reexamination of its security arrangements with Japan at the outbreak of the Second Taiwan Strait Crisis in 1958. This Crisis itself became also, not only a top priority for the US Ministry of Defense, but

a moment in which the US government realized the importance of the maintenance of US bases in Japan. By adopting this perspective, it will be revealed that the Crisis was in fact a major turning point for Washington in its willingness to accept the revision of its Security Treaty with Japan.

概 要

This project will discuss the United States' policy toward Japan and its policy toward East Asia with particular attention to the Taiwan Strait Crisis and talks held by Japanese and US officials which concluded the official process of negotiating the US-Japan Security Treaty through diplomatic channels. In 1951, under the circumstances of the Treaty, Japan was obliged to provide bases to the United States. However, the United States' obligation to defend Japan remained only vaguely defined.

Existing research has examined the influence of such a crisis on the relations between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China as well as the factors influencing Chinese Communist Party's reasoning behind its decision to bomb Taiwan, but Washington's reappraisal of its foreign security policy in East Asia remains neglected in the sense that connections and effects in each policy. US officials who reviewed security arrangements with Japan during formal negotiations have cited Japan's growing neutralization as the primary factor.

However, this is not enough to answer why, despite its preexisting concerns about Japan's neutralization in the 1950s, the US agreed to start to reexamine the security arrangements with Japan at the outbreak of this East Asian crisis. By considering only US attempts to avoid the Japanese government's tendencies toward neutrality during this period, we cannot thoroughly analyze nor understand the influence of the Taiwan Strait Crisis on the revision of the Treaty, which happened around the same time in 1958. An in-depth analysis of this type stands

to show that the United States government was concerned with Japan taking a neutral stance even before the Crisis.

Here, it will be revealed that the Second Taiwan Crisis was a turning point for the US government to accept the revision of its Security Treaty with Japan by way of its policy toward East Asia. United States' consent to the security arrangements with Japan meant achieving a stable supply to US bases in Japan, while preventing Japanese neutralism that might attempt a break with the US on the political and military questions in East Asia. The US acceptance of Japanese neutralization perceived as a threat by Communist China and the Soviet Union, and it was the reason behind the escalation of tension in East Asia that leads to the Taiwan Strait Crisis.

The second Taiwan crisis caused the US government to converge the recognition for the security treaty revision while paying attention to trends of the international public opinion. In 1960, the security treaty became a mutual one without having to revise the constitution, the security treaty and the constitution could now coexist more easily, and this revision likely to establish the acceptance of both the security treaty and the constitution by the Japanese public.

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