INCONTOVERTIBLE EVIDENCE

Five pieces of documentary evidence attest to Chinese recognition of Japanese sovereignty over the Senkaku Islands

Since 1895 the Senkaku Islands have been recognized as Japanese territory (part of the Ryukyu Archipelago.) All of a sudden, in 1971, both the Republic of China and the People’s Republic of China claimed that the Senkaku Islands are Chinese territory, most likely because a survey conducted by the United Nations reported the existence of underwater deposits of natural gas and other resources in the vicinity of those islands. Until then no objection was raised to Japanese sovereignty over the Senkaku Islands by Qing-dynasty China, by the Republic of China, or by the People’s Republic of China. Needless to say, there were absolutely no claims of Chinese sovereignty over the islands. Why? Because the Chinese recognized the Senkaku Islands as Japanese territory. We list below five pieces of incontrovertible evidence that prove, once and for all, that the Chinese recognized Japanese sovereignty over the Senkaku Islands.

3. Letter of gratitude from the Chinese consul in Nagasaki (1920)
5. Article in *People’s Daily*, the organ of the Communist Party of China (January 8, 1953 edition)

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Note: The names are printed in their Japanese form as “Senkaku Gunto” and “Uotsuri Jima,” and the national boundary is drawn between Yonaguni Island and Taiwan.

Note: We can clearly understand the acknowledgment of Japanese Sovereignty over Senkaku Islands by the placements of the national boundary (the red line) and the usage of Japanese names.
In winter of the eighth year of the Chinese Republic [1919], Guo Heshun and 30 other fishermen of the county of Hui'an in Fujian province, adrift in a gale and in dire straits, washed ashore in the seas of Wayójima [another name for Uotsuri Jima] in the Senkaku in the Yaeyama district of Okinawa prefecture of the Empire of Japan. At this point, Mr. Tamayose Magatomo of Ishigaki village office and others of Yaeyama district, d Islands esperately came to their aid and the shipwrecked fishermen were safely repatriated. What must be noted in this document is the point where it says, “[Uotsuri Jima] in the [Senkaku] Islands in the Yaeyama district of Okinawa prefecture of the Empire of Japan.” It shows that the government of the Republic of China (today the People's Republic of China) recognized the Senkaku Islands — including Uotsuri Jima — as the domain of Japan within the waters of the Ryūkyū Islands.
A classified 1969 map produced by the People's Republic of China official map authority lists the "Senkaku Islands" as Japanese territory, underlining Beijing's more recent claims that the islands it calls the Daiyoutai Islands are Chinese territory. The map bolsters Tokyo's claims to the sovereignty.

By Bill Gertz
The People of the Ryukyu Islands Oppose and Will Fight Against US Occupation

The Ryukyu archipelago is a chain of islands located on the Pacific Ocean between northeast Taiwan and southwest Kyushu in Japan. It comprises seven groups of islands, including the Senkaku Islands, the Sakishima Islands, the Daito Islands, the Amami Islands, the Tokara Islands and the Osumi Islands. The chain, which contains both large and small islands (upwards of 50 have names; more than 400 are unnamed), covers a land area of 4,670 square kilometers.