LEGACY OF THE PORTSMOUTH PEACE TREATY

ポーツマス条約が残していったもの

For one hundred years, the Treaty of Portsmouth has left its imprint on the political and historical landscape of Russia, Japan, the United States, and indeed, the world. Changing world politics and the balance of power in the Far East, the treaty would continue to affect the international community for decades to come.

For 30 days in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, an uncommon commitment to peace became a common virtue. The peace process of formal negotiations between Russian and Japanese delegates, the behind the scenes back channel diplomacy of Roosevelt, the hosting of the negotiations by the State of New Hampshire and the U.S. Navy, and the informal encouragement and activities of the local people provides a unique example of a multi-track diplomacy process for peace.

Today, following the footsteps of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty, the most advanced and effective diplomacy between nations uses a combination of formal, back channel and non-governmental multi-track diplomacy to create a web of relationships that build trust and confidence between hostile nations.

1905年に結ばれたポーツマス条約は、以後100年間、ロシア、日本、アメリカ、さらに世界の政治情勢に影響を与える大きな足跡を残した。ニューハンプシャー州ポーツマスにおけるこの稀有な平和への取り組みには、交渉が行われたおよそひと月の間に、一般市民も含めてたくさんの人々が参加するところとなった。今日、国際紛争の解決手段として、国家間の一元的な交渉に限界があることは明らかである。日露両政府代表団による公式会談に加えて、ローズベルト大統領による舞台裏での外交努力、ニューハンプシャー州およびアメリカ海軍による講和会議の運営、そして地元市民による励ましと数々の社交行事の催しなど、100年前にポーツマスで繰り広げられたこの一連の平和への取り組みは、国際紛争の平和解決に向けた多元外交(Multi-Track Diplomacy)の模範例であったということができよう。

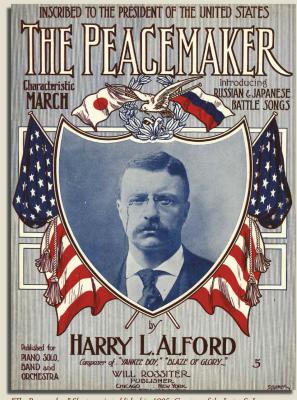


Postcard showing Portsmouth as the baptismal font of peace. Courtesy of Portsmouth Athenaeum.

The Participants after the Treaty - 条約、その後

ROOSEVELT - ローズベルト大統領

In the October 1905 *The American Monthly Review of Reviews*, Louis Van Norman wrote, "The American people and Theodore Roosevelt should be grateful to the Russo-Japanese war for one thing at least. It has furnished us as a nation, and our President as a chief magistrate, an opportunity to demonstrate that we are an intensely peace-loving nation, and that the man with the 'big stick,' the man who has been accused of ostentatious bluster, — who, we have been told, was fairly aching to embroil us with the rest of the world, — is really a peacemaker. It is probable that Theodore Roosevelt will be known in history, not for his charge up San Juan Hill, but for his brave and high-principled efforts in bringing about the peace between Russia and Japan." In 1906, Roosevelt became the first American to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for his peace efforts.



"The Peacemaker." Sheet music published in 1905. Courtesy of the Lester S. Levy Collection of sheet music of the Johns Hopkins University.