

Germany and Japan in the Olympic Movement

Michael Krüger

Westfälische Wilhelm-Universität zu Münster/ Germany



Pierre de COUBERTIN um 1896 (IOC-Archiv)

13.12.2019



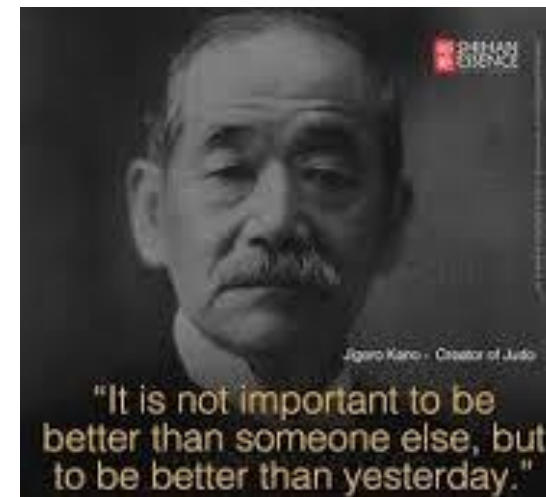
Michael Krüger



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Kano Jigiro (1860-1938), founder of the Olympic Movement in Japan,
first Japanese member of the International Olympic Committee (1909-1938)





13.12.2019



Michael Krüger

Kano in 1912

“I want martial arts and athletics to develop hand in hand. Despite their differences, both have the same aim of strengthening body and mind. Therefore, I support the inclusion of judo and kendo into the Olympic competitions of the west, and I will work for the idea of bringing bushido into the philosophy and practice of Olympic sport.”



Carl Diem and „Reichstrainer“ (athletics coach) Josef Waitzer with their hosts in Japan (1929)



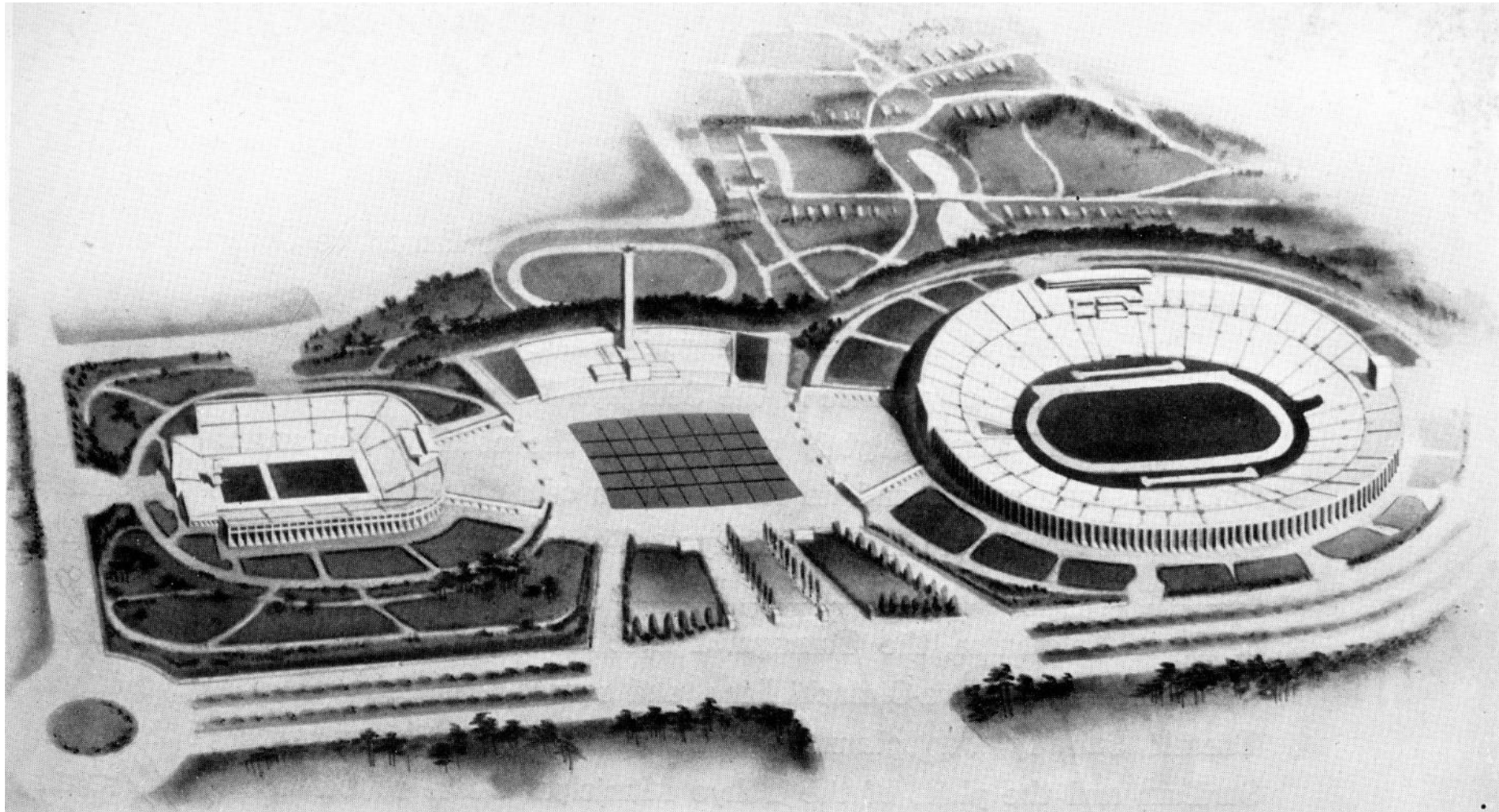
Carl Diem during his visit in Japan in 1955



Count Michimasa Soyeshima
(IOC-member 1934-1948)



Dr. Matsuzo Nagai
(IOC-member 1939-1950)



Plan of the Olympic stadium and Olympic area in Tokyo 1940

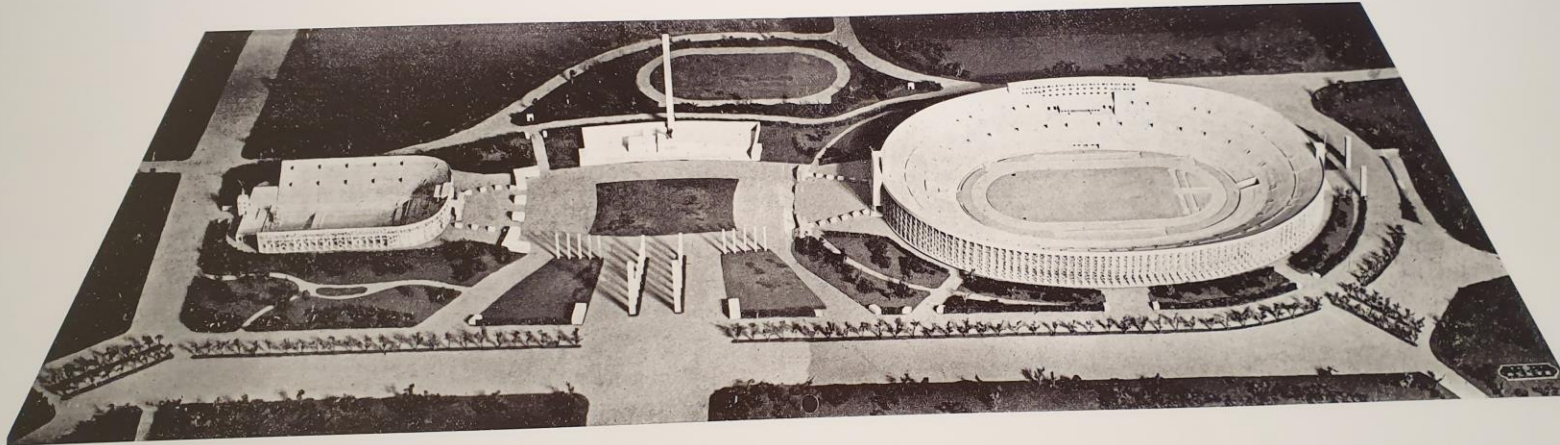
や開催準備の過程は報告書にまとめられ、後の1964年東京大会の追加計画に...

The Olympic Games that never were, Tokyo 1940

Believing that "hosting the Games in Asia would transform the Olympic Games from a culture of the west into one of the world," Kano passionately promoted Japan's bid for the Games. His efforts bore fruit and in 1936, Tokyo was selected as the first host city in Asia. However, the Games were cancelled due to the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War, and Tokyo 1940 came to be known as the "missing Olympic Games." Despite these turn of events, the bid activities and hosting preparations were compiled into a report and later applied to Tokyo 1964.



Olympic Museum,
Tokyo 2019

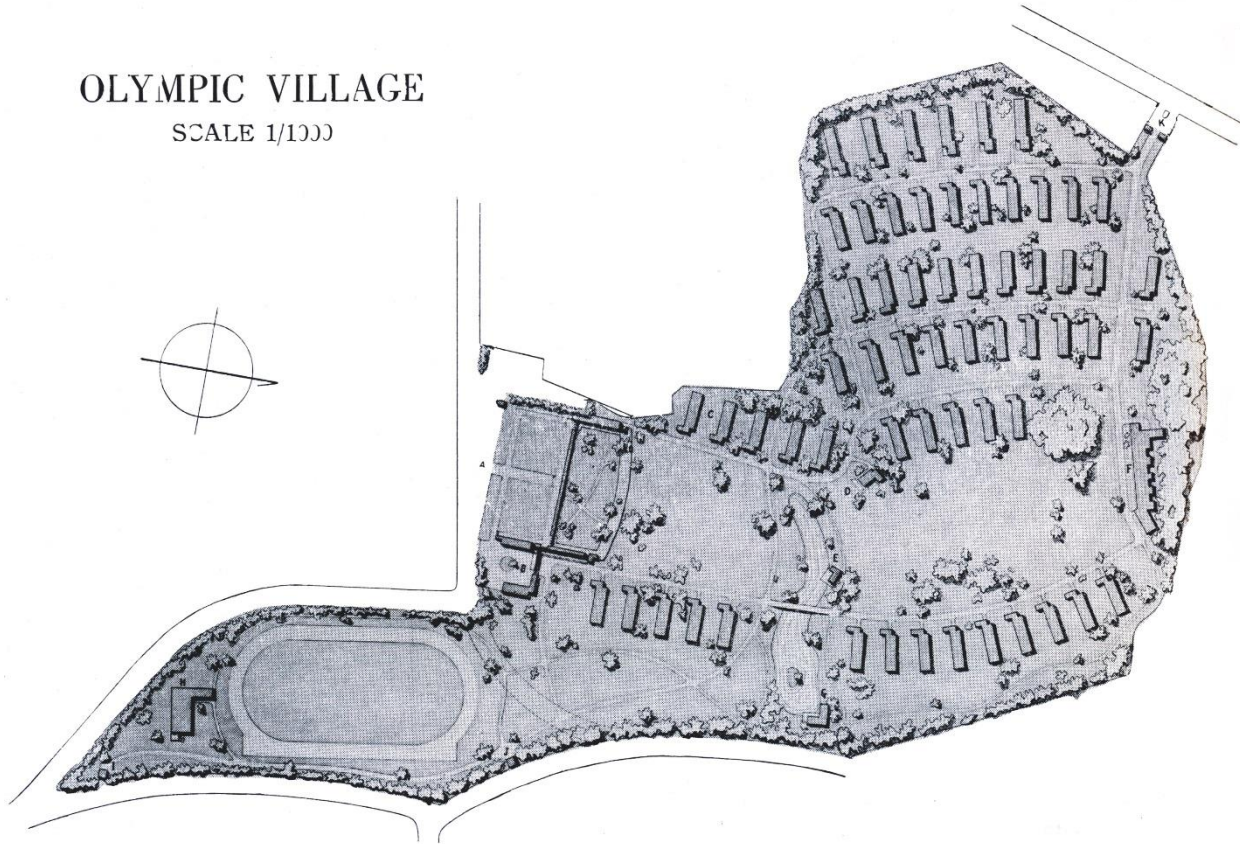


駒澤ゴルフ場に設計された幻の総合競技場

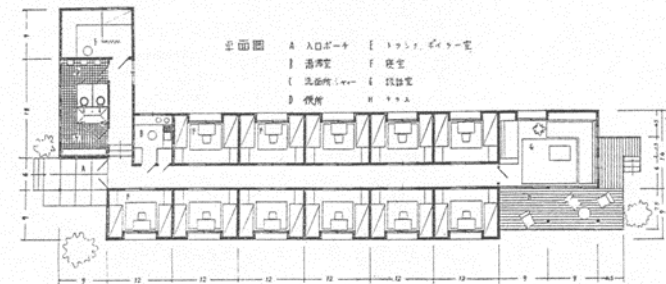
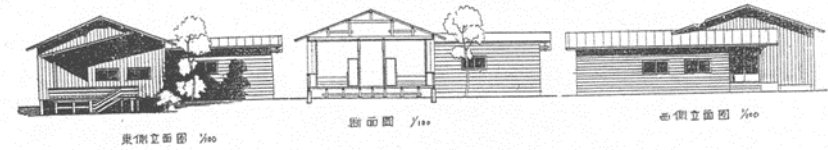
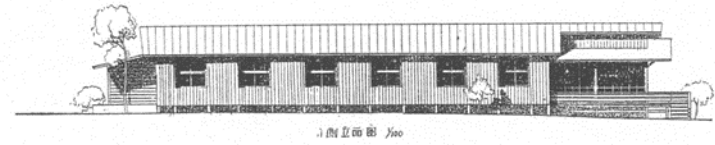
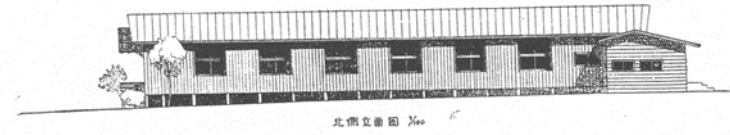
The sports stadium that was to be built at the Komazawa Golf Course

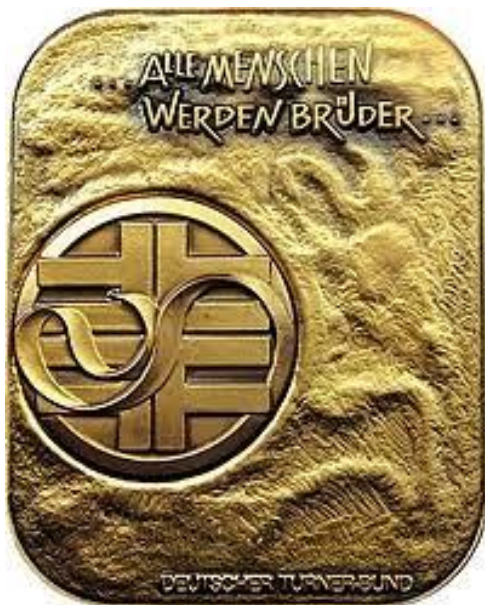


OLYMPIC VILLAGE
SCALE 1/1000



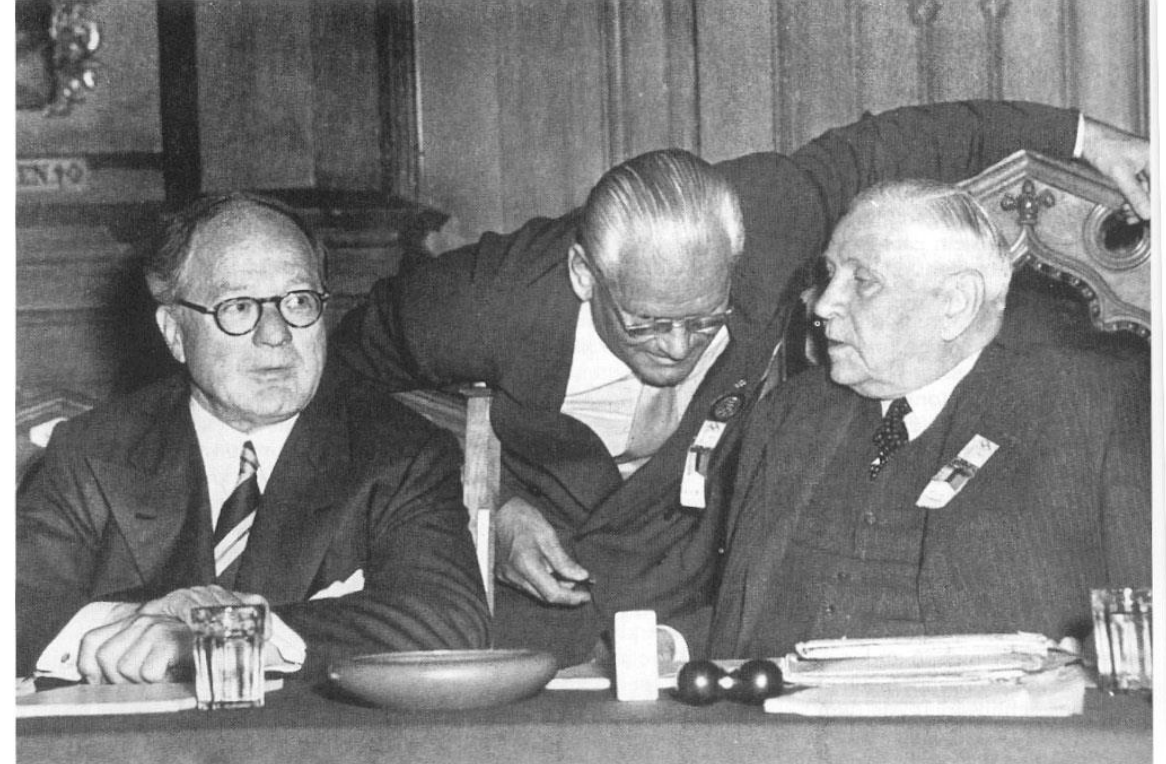
合宿建階一







Lord Burghley (Marquis of Exeter) (left), Vice president of the IOC and chief of the OK of the London Games of 1948, with King George VI, at the opening of the Olympic Games in London 1948, lacking Germany and Japan



IOC president Avery Brundage with Karl Ritter von Halt, IOC member of Germany, and Sigfrid Edström, former IOC president



General MacArthur und Kaiser Hirohito

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
Office of the supreme commander.

10th March 1949

Dear Mr. Garland,

Your letter of 21st February 1949 regarding the possibility of Japan participating in the Olympic Games to be held in Helsinki in 1952 has been received and is deeply appreciated.

The Japanese people, especially those prominent in athletic circles, are extremely interested in being admitted to Olympic competition and are confident of their ability to organise creditable teams. However, the question of actual participation in 1952, apart from its desirability, is one that cannot be answered with any assurance at this time.

It is my personal hope that conditions will make it possible for Japan to be a competitor with the other nations of the world in 1952. Performances in swimming during the Occupation indicate that, in this sport particularly, the Japanese may be expected to make outstanding records. Participation in the Games at Helsinki should contribute greatly to a deeply felt and desirable goal of the Japanese people to join again with other nations in peaceful and cultural pursuits.

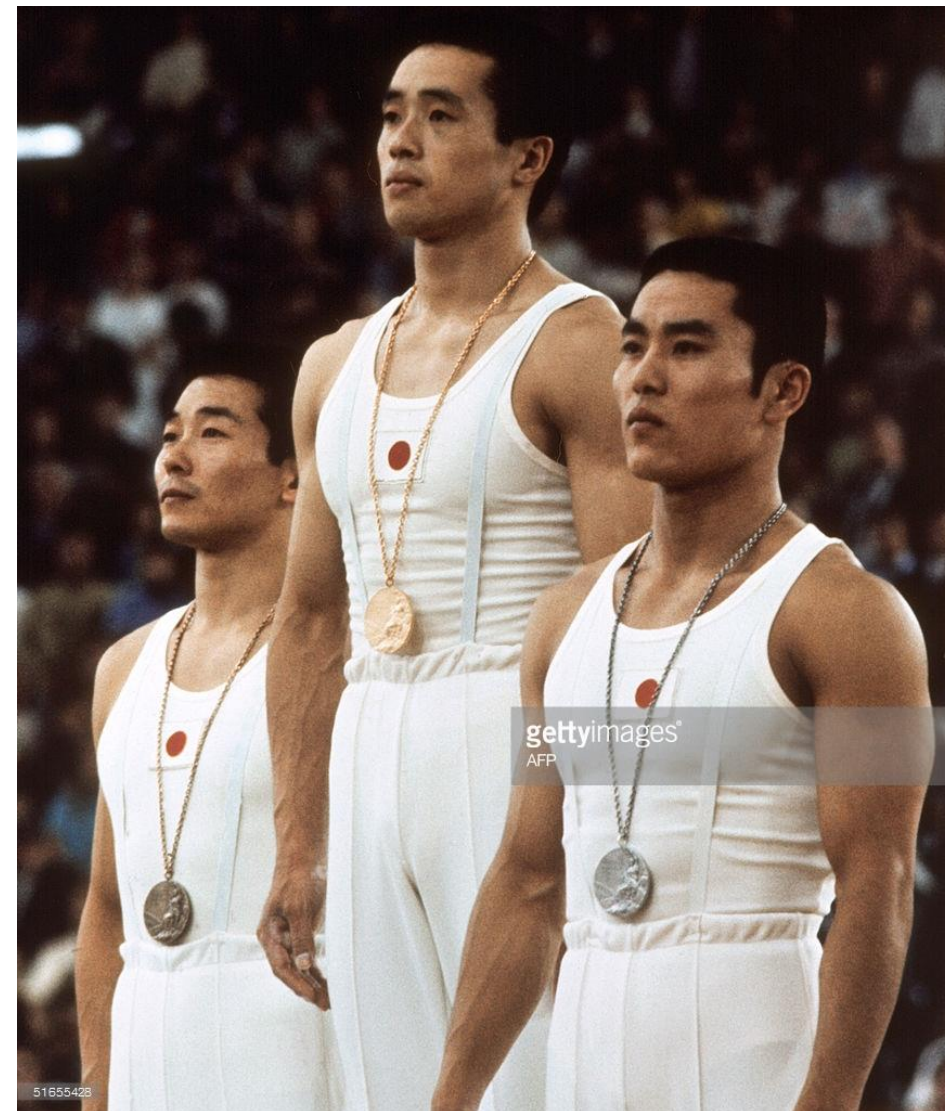
I am grateful for your interest in this matter and your kind personal remarks. You may feel free to use my personal views regarding participation by Japan in the Olympic Games of 1952 as you deem advisable.

I knew your father well and admired him greatly.

Most cordially,

DOUGLAS MacARTHUR

Mr. John Jewett Garland,
Member International Olympic Committee
for the United States of America,
Los Angeles, Calif.



Japanese Olympic gymnasts at the Games of Munich 1972



Welcome Tokyo 2020