



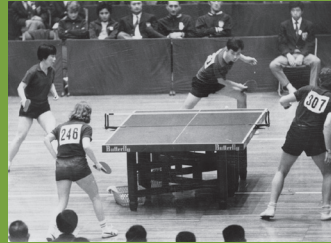
Japan Table Tennis Association Chairman Koji Goto shaking hands with Premier Zhou Enlai while visiting Beijing to negotiate China's participation



Table tennis players Zhuang Zedong and Glenn Cowan



Opening ceremony of the 31st World Table Tennis Championships



Mixed doubles final won by China



Women's final between Japan and China



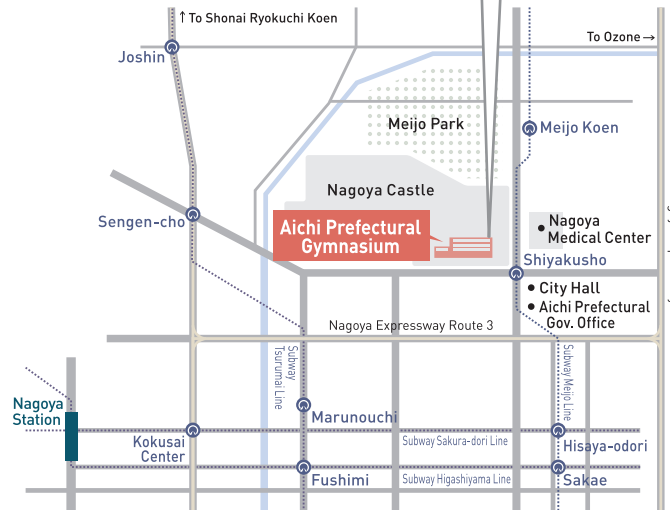
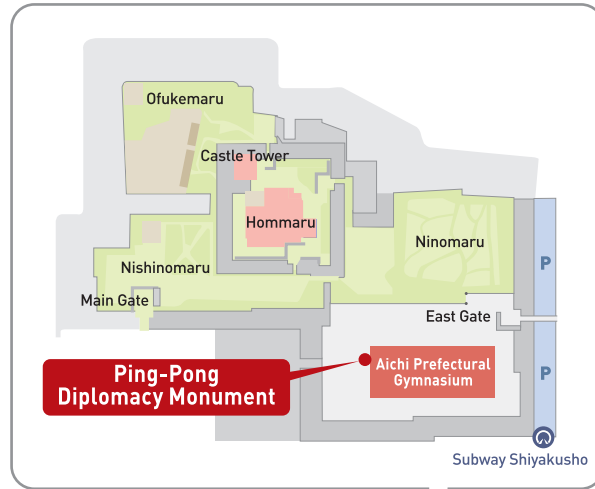
U.S. team leaving Haneda Airport for China



President Nixon and President Mao Zedong



Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and Premier Zhou Enlai



5 min walk from "Shiyakusho (City Hall)" or M07 stop of the Meiji Line

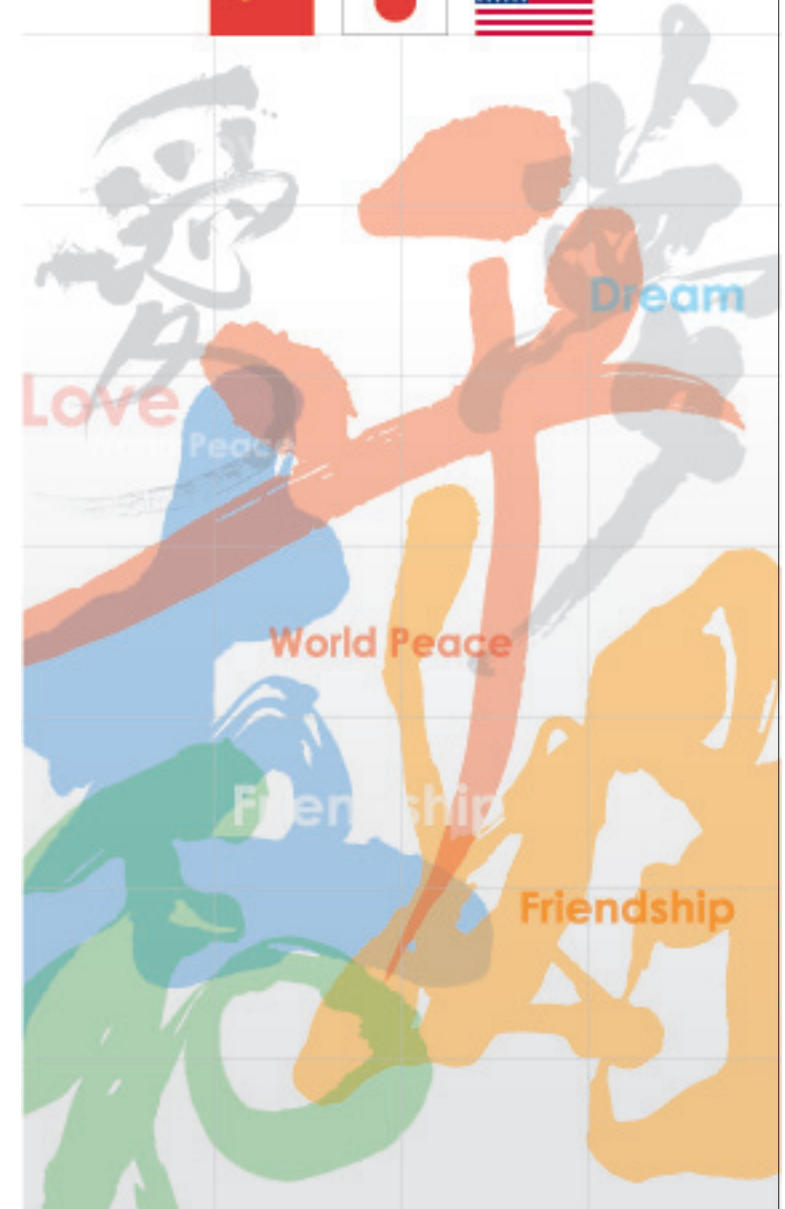
### Aichi Prefectural Gymnasium

1-1 Ninomaru, Naka-ku, Nagoya City, Aichi 460-0032  
<http://www.aichi-kentai.com/>



3-1-2 Sannomaru, Naka-ku, Nagoya City, Aichi 460-8501  
<http://www.pref.aichi.jp/>

# Ping-Pong Diplomacy Monument





*Hideaki Ohmura*  
Governor of Aichi Prefecture

Since its establishment in October 1964, the Aichi Prefectural Gymnasium has hosted a number of historic sport and cultural events, playing a major role in promoting the Aichi-Nagoya region's sports and culture over the past 50 years.

Looking back on the history of the Gymnasium, one of its most significant events was the 31st World Table Tennis Championships which took place from March 28 through April 7, 1971. Participating in the match were 54 countries from around the world including Japan and the United States, with special mention going to the Chinese national team which joined the championships for the first time in six years. The interaction between American and Chinese teams initiated at the tournament led to the immediate realization of the American team's visit to China. This series of exchange surrounding table tennis paved the way for President Nixon's visit in 1972 and the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China in 1979, as well as Prime Minister Tanaka's visit to China in 1972 which was followed by the normalization of diplomatic relationship between Japan and China.

It is against this background that the championships go beyond the boundaries of a mere international sport event, taking on exceptional significance in the diplomatic history of Japan, the United States, and China. Coined as "Ping-Pong Diplomacy," it still remains in the hearts of many people who admire it as "the small ball propelling the big ball (globe)."

We pay our respects to those who worked to realize the Chinese national team's participation in the championships and thus accomplished a great achievement, opening the doors to a history of friendship among Japan, the United States, and China. We are proud that the Aichi-Nagoya region served as the stage for this dramatic turning point in history. We hereby honor anew the historic significance of "Ping-Pong Diplomacy" which originated at the Aichi Prefectural Gymnasium, pass the legacy on to future generations, and now express our sincere hope for friendship and peace among Japan, the United States, China, and the rest of the world.

## Ping-Pong Diplomacy Monument



### ●Design Concept

This monument was created in a Japanese/Chinese traditional ink wash painting style with the characters for peace (平和), friendship (友好), love (愛), and dream (夢). Written by contemporary Japanese and Chinese calligraphers, the monument is instilled with the wish for it to become the cornerstone for friendship and peace.

The image of ping-pong balls bouncing into the air with motifs of each country's flag expresses multinational dialogue. The monument also carries the message of hope for worldwide friendship and peace from Hideaki Ohmura, Governor of Aichi Prefecture, as well as an explanation, related pictures, and a chronology of Ping-Pong Diplomacy.