Launched in 1955, The Japan News is an English-language daily published by The Yomiuri Shimbun, a leading Japanese newspaper with one of the largest circulations in the world. Known by several different names during its history (Japan News, Yomiuri Japan News, The Yomiuri, The Daily Yomiuri), The Japan News adopted its current name in 2013 as part of a major revamp of the newspaper’s layout and content.

The newspaper’s mission is to promote international understanding of Japan by offering the latest and most reliable news about the country to a worldwide audience. The Japan News also prides itself on its high-quality translations of articles from The Yomiuri Shimbun as they give foreign readers a window into the Japanese world.

Drawing on The Yomiuri Shimbun’s extensive news coverage network, The Japan News is an excellent source of both domestic and foreign news in various genres, including politics, economy, sports and culture.

Established a decade after the end of World War II, The Japan News has witnessed and recorded dramatic changes in Japanese society during the Showa, Heisei and Reiwa eras. Over the years, Japan has undergone several major transformations, including rapid economic growth, the bubble economy and its collapse, and lingering recessions—all of which have been captured in the pages of The Japan News.
Bcon, an English-language daily for British Commonwealth troops stationed in Japan after World War II, is launched in Osaka.

After being purchased by an Australian publisher who also served as editor, Bcon changes its name to Japan News. The newspaper’s head office is moved to Tokyo.

The Yomiuri Shimbun acquires the Japan News, launching its English-language sister paper as an eight-page, community-oriented tabloid.

The Japan News is renamed the Yomiuri Japan News, and its size doubles to 16 pages.

The Yomiuri Japan News changes its name to The Yomiuri, and the newspaper becomes a broadsheet.

On the opening of the World Exposition in Osaka Prefecture, The Yomiuri is renamed The Daily Yomiuri to enhance its name recognition.

New page layout and design are introduced for The Daily Yomiuri, and the font size is increased from seven points to eight points.

Computerized typesetting system machines are introduced, enabling page makers to place stories directly on paper without the casting of metal.

The Daily Yomiuri is expanded to 12 pages.

The Daily Yomiuri marks its 35th anniversary. Color pages are published for the first time.

Computerized full-pagination production starts. The Daily Yomiuri is designated the official newspaper of the third World Championships in Athletics held in Tokyo. A news service called Yomiuri Report from Japan begins. The first supplement section, Los Angeles Times World Report, is carried.

Database service containing stories from The Daily Yomiuri published after September 1986, becomes available to the public. The Daily Yomiuri advertisement department is created. The paper’s Osaka office is opened.

The Daily Yomiuri printing function is moved to The Yomiuri Shimbun head office in Otemachi, Tokyo.

Daily Yomiuri Online is launched.

The number of pages is increased to 24 on a regular basis, and page layout is again completely redesigned.

A one-page daily supplement of articles from The Washington Post specially chosen for republication appears.

The Daily Yomiuri celebrates its 50th anniversary.

The Daily Yomiuri issues the 20,000th issue on May 11.

The Daily Yomiuri is renamed The Japan News, the original name used when The Yomiuri Shimbun launched its English-language sister paper.

The Japan News marks its 60th anniversary.

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The Japan News Digital Archive features an innovative and user-friendly interface that allows users to discover a wealth of Japanese and world history. With over 300,000 pages of newsprint, researchers can browse, search and view content from this valuable resource, including thousands of articles, photos, illustrations, and advertisements.

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