IDEOLOGY IN NEWSPAPER REPORTING: A CROSS-CULTURAL
ANALYSIS OF TRANSITIVITY CHOICES

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to my parents who have given me so much love and support for no matter where my heart goes. I also dedicate this thesis to my husband, who has served as a phenomenal English mentor and an irreplaceable support system throughout my academic career in the United States.
ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Ideology in Newspaper Reporting: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Transitivity Choices
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This thesis presents the findings of a linguistic analysis on newspaper reports from three different countries focusing on the different perspectives represented. The analysis employed is informed by systemic functional linguistics and utilizes the framework of transitivity analysis, which identifies ideational meanings realized by grammatical choices.

Newspaper reports are commonly believed to represent facts in a neutral way. However, previous studies have pointed out that events are always interpreted by the writers before being represented in texts. Because of their ability to influence public opinion, newspaper reports have been the focus of several studies. Previous studies on newspaper reports using systemic functional linguistics have considered the relationships between linguistic choices and the representation of events. Though many studies on ideational meanings in newspaper reports have considered different perspectives realized by linguistic choices, few studies have investigated newspaper reports from multiple countries written in more than one language. Thus, this thesis investigates newspaper reports published in Australia, the United States, and Japan, which include articles written in English and Japanese. These cross-linguistic sets of newspaper reports were written about a specific issue where we can assume that these three countries would maintain different stances. The aim of this study is to locate different perspectives expressed by grammatical choices in the newspaper reports and to identify the strategies that the writers employed in expressing their stances in the newspapers.

Based on the framework of transitivity analysis, process types and participants were identified in all the main clauses and subordinate clauses in the newspaper reports. Participants were further categorized according to their affiliations, institutions, and their human or non-human nature. In addition, material and verbal processes were further analyzed according to their verb types, and the participants who were involved in each type of processes were identified.

The findings of this analysis revealed linguistic strategies that may not be obvious to the readers, yet influence the news reports to reflect the writers’ perspectives on the events. Australian reports utilized Japanese actors in negative material processes and showed positive inclinations to their anti-whaling stance. The US news reports featured the anti-whaling groups as actors and goals, and these choices also seemed to imply their anti-whaling stance. In contrast, the Japanese reports featured the Japanese government as actors and the Japanese officials as sayers and favored their pro-whaling stance. These findings show that the grammatical choices in newspaper reports played a role to covertly express the writers’ perspectives toward the events and suggest that the readers could be affected by
those linguistic manipulations in their opinion making process if they continue receiving input from one specific source.
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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A number of studies in discourse analysis have examined how language is used to fulfill the purposes of texts. Some of these studies have employed frameworks drawn from systemic functional grammar (Lukin, 2005). Systemic functional grammar considers how meanings, namely experiential, interpersonal and textual meanings, are expressed in clause structure and, as such, provides useful tools for analyzing different world views expressed in texts by linguistic choices. Many researchers in discourse analysis have claimed that events presented in texts have been interpreted and processed by the writers, so there are always multiple ways to represent one event (Clark, 1992). Thus, language is a medium through which the writers’ perceptions of reality can be represented either in explicit or implicit ways.

Many previous studies have investigated texts of historical writings and news reports because of their ability to influence public opinion about reality (Archugar & Schleppegrell, 2005; Kuo & Nakamura, 2005; Martin, 2002; Oteiza & Pinto, 2008). The readers’ assumption that these texts only convey the truth is also one of the factors to have motivated the studies. Media texts, especially, often deal with political or cross-cultural polarizations on controversial issues. Different perspectives on a particular issue are likely to be conveyed through linguistic choices in news reports. Among the analytical frameworks in systemic functional grammar, transitivity analysis has been often employed in media text analysis to consider different perspectives realized by linguistic choices (Clark, 1992; Lukin, 2005). Transitivity analysis reveals the ideational meanings of texts; therefore, it is an appropriate method to investigate how reality is represented in news reports.

Among various topics in news reports, issues related to tensions between countries such as wars and political affairs have often been featured in discourse analysis (Butt, Lukin, & Matthiessen, 2004; Lukin, 2005; Seymour, 2007). For instance, Lukin (2005) analyzed two news reports on the Iraq war and found that one report was written in a US centered way and the other was written with a focus on the Iraqi civilians’ experiences. Lukin (2005)
purposefully chose one article written in a neutral tone and the other written in an evaluative tone for her analysis. Having two articles written in contrastive styles for her analysis, she concluded that there was no news report without bias.

Since bias in written texts is often due to different perspectives between groups or countries, news reports from different countries or written in different languages appear to be a useful set of data in discourse analysis aimed to reveal linguistic manipulations. However, only a few studies have been conducted on these types of media texts. One of the few studies is Murata (2007), where she analyzed two news reports from British and Japanese newspapers written on the whaling issue. She employed critical discourse analysis and examined the tone of language in which these articles were written. Murata (2007) concluded that the British article was one-sided and persuasive while the Japanese article was written in a neutral way. As Lukin (2005) pointed out, Murata’s (2007) conclusion differs from the assumption that many researchers have had: there is no news report that is free of bias. However, there has been little research conducted on cross-cultural and cross-linguistic news reports using transitivity analysis. Thus, it is the goal of this thesis to conduct linguistic analysis using transitivity analysis on news reports that are from multiple countries and written in more than one language and explore any differences in experiential meanings in the texts. For the analysis, I chose news reports written on the whaling issue, following Murata (2007)’s study, from three different countries. The newspapers from Australia, the United States, and Japan were selected for their various stances over the whaling issue. I will employ transitivity analysis on these texts to address the following questions:

1. What are the similarities and differences in the linguistic representations of events in newspaper reports from different countries?

2. Are there differences in the three sets of newspaper reports in terms of bias? If so, what strategies are used to express bias?

In this thesis, it is hoped that linguistic analysis will reveal the linguistic manipulations that create bias in texts and help us further understand the influences of linguistic choices on the representation of a particular event in texts.

The following chapter will review previous research that influenced this study. Chapter 3 will describe the methodology employed in this study. In this chapter, I will explain why I chose the three sets of newspaper reports and will discuss the analytical framework I employed in this study and the categorizations I created. Chapter 4 will discuss
the results of the analysis. Lastly, Chapter 5 will present a summary of results such as the similarities and differences in linguistic representations in the three sets of reports as well as the evaluations of each set of reports in terms of bias expressed in the texts. Also, suggestions for further research will be provided.
CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, I will discuss previous studies that have dealt with media bias and ideology expressed through linguistic choices. First, I will briefly describe the background of text analysis regarding media texts and the reasons why media texts have attracted linguists in the past. Next, previous research conducted using critical discourse analysis and transitivity analysis will be discussed.

MEDIA BIAS AND TEXT ANALYSIS

Media texts such as newspaper articles and editorials have been the focus of text analysis because of their influence on readers’ interpretations and construction of public opinion about reality. Many previous studies were conducted on media texts based on the assumption that all news reports are somehow ‘biased’. Clark (1992) mentioned that events presented in texts were always interpreted by the writers and subjectively written: therefore, the writers’ world-view is either overtly or covertly encoded through linguistic choices in news reports. In order to investigate the bias realized through language, previous research has employed analyses drawn from critical discourse analysis (CDA) and systemic functional grammar (SFG). CDA looks at macro features of texts such as organizations, visuals and content. In contrast, SFG considers macro features as well as micro features of texts such as participants and representations of events within clauses. In the following sections, I will discuss previous studies undertaken using CDA and SFG.

CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS ON MEDIA TEXTS

CDA mainly considers issues of power, ideology and domination in texts. In previous research, CDA has often been used to investigate group polarization realized by language. For example, Matu and Lubbe (2007) analyzed twenty editorials from three Kenyan newspapers regarding political issues using CDA. By focusing on the information that was emphasized or suppressed in the texts, the differences in the ways in which ingroup (i.e., where the writer shares the same stance) and outgroup (i.e., where the writer shares the
opposite stance) were represented became visible. The ingroup was included and emphasized by utilizing grammatical structures such as topicalizations and fronting. On the other hand, the outgroup was suppressed and de-emphasized by using passive structures. In addition, the ingroup was presented favorably by the use of positive evaluation while the outgroup was presented unfavorably by the use of negative evaluation. Taking these features of positive presentation of the self and negative presentation of the other into account, Matu and Lubbe (2007) concluded that two out of three newspapers were ideologically biased, and one newspaper was written in a neutral way. Also, they claimed that the analyses used in the study were relevant and applicable to various sociocultural contexts.

In a similar manner to Matu and Lubbe (2007)’s study, Kuo and Nakamura (2005) investigated original English newspaper reports and translated Chinese reports published in Taiwan and found some manipulations on ideological representations during the translating and editing processes. They selected two ideologically opposed newspapers in Taiwan (i.e., the pro-reunification United Daily News and the pro-independence Liberty Times) and analyzed two news reports that were translated from an identical English article using CDA. Their analysis included lexical choices, addition to and exclusion of the original information, and references to key participants. The findings showed that lexical choices such as the choices of verbs of saying (i.e., ‘to talk’ and ‘to propagate’) represent the newspapers’ ideological orientations. Also, they found that each newspaper added information to increase the news value and deleted information that were opposed to its political stance. Moreover, the choices of referring expressions such as the title ‘Madame’ as opposed to full names without title, which are considered disrespectful in Chinese, indicated the newspapers’ stances. Kuo and Nakamura (2005) confirmed through this study that the translation processes involved manipulations of linguistic choices that caused ideological representations in newspaper reports.

Representation of ideological orientations was also investigated in the study conducted by Moore (2002). In his study, two obituaries published in the influential journal The Economist were analyzed using CDA. He deliberately chose one typical subject, Jack Mann, and one atypical subject, General Aideed, after preliminary analyses. His detailed analyses of the two obituaries included text organization, pictures and their captions, and biographical content. The analysis pointed out that the typical subject of an obituary was
described as a patriotic hero for his work at battle fields and was smiling in the picture shown. On the other hand, the atypical subject was blamed for causing deaths in battle. Also, his tough appearance included in the obituary might help influence the readers to register a negative image of the subject. Moore (2002) considered these text feature differences and claimed that the typical subject was represented as ingroup and the atypical subject was represented as outgroup in a distanced way. In addition, the study revealed that the ideology of the influential journal was even expressed in obituaries, where ideology was not expected to be foregrounded.

CDA has also been used to investigate the influences of linguistic representations on newspaper reports published in two different countries. Murata (2007) compared and contrasted two articles, one from a British newspaper and the other from a Japanese newspaper, on the whaling issue using CDA. The two news reports were analyzed for their lexis, syntactic structures, rhetorical devices, and organization of information. Murata (2007) found that the British article included negative lexis such as ‘anger’ and ‘outrage’ as well as anti-whaling quotes. Also, the British news report emphasized the Japanese as an actor of negative actions and whales as the victims through the use of passive structures. In contrast, the Japanese article included neutral lexis and factual information to support objective judgments. Murata (2007) concluded that the British news report was one-sided and blamed the negative actions conducted by Japanese actors while the Japanese report was neutral and objective. In addition, she claimed that CDA was an appropriate tool to investigate the tones with which these articles were written.

**Transitivity Analysis on Media Bias**

The other analyses often employed in the studies regarding media texts have been drawn from SFG. Many studies have been conducted using transitivity analysis to investigate covert grammatical choices in media publication. For example, Lukin (2005) selected two news reports on the Iraq war, an article from *The Australian* and a report written by a well-known journalist Robert Fisk, and analyzed them using transitivity analysis. The two reports were chosen because of their contrasting styles. *The Australian* article was written in a neutral tone and sounded objective while the Fisk article included judgments and evaluations. Thus, the latter was considered to be an easy target of the term ‘biased’ in the CDA point of
view. However, Lukin (2005) has pointed out that CDA can only be used ‘to measure what is easily measured’. She also claimed that an event is always multidimensional, and there would never be only one way to represent it. By using transitivity analysis, Lukin (2005) found differences in grammatical choices and patterns across the two articles. More specifically, *The Australian* article included US actors whereas the Fisk article frequently included Iraqi civilians as an active agent of actions. Moreover, the most frequent goals or recipients of the actions were abstractions and technology in *The Australian* article while in the Fisk article the Iraqi civilians were. Also, *The Australian* article very often included the US government as sayers who signaled verbal events and excluded civilian voices. On the other hand, civilians were often given a voice in the Fisk article. The results of this study indicated that *The Australian* article featured the US officials and excluded civilians from the text. Also, negative actions conducted by the US (i.e., bombardments) were dehumanized by nominalizing the actions. In contrast, the Fisk article was Iraqi civilian centered, and the war was illustrated as an immoral act by describing the war as human acts on humans. Lukin (2005) concluded that both texts privileged a particular point of view through linguistic choices.

A similar analysis to Lukin (2005) has also been conducted on newspaper reports from two different countries. Li (2010) compared American and Chinese newspaper articles written with different ideological orientations using transitivity analysis. She chose news reports of the NATO bombing of the Chinese Embassy in 1999 written in English both in *The New York Times* and *China Daily* for the purpose of ensuring that she would have a clear difference between stances that the two newspapers may take. The analysis of the headlines showed that the US and NATO participants were frequently represented as actors and sayers in *The New York Times* while Chinese participants were very often depicted as playing active roles of the event in *China Daily*. Li (2010) argued that these linguistic choices played a role to foreground the presence of ‘*us*’ and background ‘*them*’ in the headlines. Also, the transitivity choices in the news texts suggested that *The New York Times* represented Chinese participants as “the causality of the conflicts threatens our values” utilizing active structures in material processes with Chinese actors (Li, 2010). In contrast, *China Daily* utilized Chinese sayers in verbal processes to highlight the importance of the voices of the Chinese. Li (2010) concluded that the transitivity choices in the news reports indicated the attempts of
the newspapers to justify the actions and words of ‘us’ and ascribe blame to ‘them’.
Moreover, this analysis confirmed that news reports are multidimensional and biased toward
the ideological orientations of the writers.

Also, transitivity analysis has been employed to find patterns of constructing blame in
crime reports. Clark (1992) analyzed 53 reports in a British newspaper The Sun reporting on
male violence on female. She found that the attackers or criminals in these kinds of reports
were often not presented as responsible for the crime, and instead the victims or other people
were blamed by the language used. For example, reference to the attacker was deleted by use
of passive constructions. By including information about what the victims or other people did
to cause the attacker to become a criminal or what they were doing at the time the attacker
committed the crime, for instance, the reports shifted the responsibility of the attack from the
attackers to others. Also, Clark (1992) found that the motivating factors behind these
linguistic manipulations were not the type of crime but the gender of participants (i.e., female
participants tended to be blamed for the crime). She claimed that the choice of language
indicated the style of this particular newspaper in which general interest in sex appeared to be
a strong influence on reporting events of male violence on females.

Transitivity analysis has also been employed for the analysis of other types of texts
than newspaper reports. Butt et al. (2004) employed transitivity analysis and investigated
political speeches. They chose two remarkable speeches for their analysis: one made by
President Bush right after September 11, 2001 and the other made by a British Lieutenant,
Colonel Tim Collins, before the engagement of the U.S. in the Iraq war in 2003. In Bush’s
speech, ‘enemy’ was often found as actors of material processes (i.e., actions). Moreover, the
‘enemy’ actors were frequently found in material processes in which negative or physical
actions over human beings were portrayed. On the other hand, the actions in which the US
responses were portrayed were often reported using indirect and abstract terms. In addition,
the actions of ‘enemies’ and ‘terrorists’ were often represented as habitual actions using
present tense while the US actions were often represented using future tense. These results
showed that the enemy in Bush’s speech was presented as a demonized entity by linguistic
manipulation. In contrast, Collins’ speech never included ‘enemy’ as actors of material
processes. Instead, ‘you’, referring to the troops, was often found as actors of the material
process. In these material processes, the actions of showing respect for casualties and Iraqi
people were represented. These results indicated that the speech by Collins did not demonize the enemies but represented the troops. The study conducted by Butt et al. (2004) showed multiple versions of the same event in the two texts.

Previous studies have not merely applied transitivity analysis but further proposed sub-categories of processes in transitivity analysis. Chen (2005) suggested neutral, positive, and negative verbal processes. According to her definitions, neutral verbal processes are represented by the verb ‘say’, which refers to a simple action of communication, or some other similar verbs such as ‘tell’ or ‘describe’. Positive and negative verbal processes on the other hand express attitude or tension in the saying actions. Chen’s (2005) positive verbal processes include ‘announce’ and ‘declare’, and negative verbal processes are ‘deny’ and ‘claim’, for example. She claimed that there was a degree of writers’ choice available for these ‘saying’ verbs, and the choice would influence a reader’s perception to be ‘pushed in a particular direction’ (Chen, 2005). In her study, she analyzed negative verbal processes and identified three sub-functions of negative verbal processes: material negative verbal processes, attitudinal negative verbal processes, and relational negative verbal processes. The first of these, material negative verbal processes, are used to represent particular verbal actions for which the writer had little choice over the verb they chose (i.e., a plea of guilt). For the other two functions, on the other hand, she found that writers had choice over the verbs (i.e., ‘say’ or ‘claim’). By analyzing the sayers of these verbal processes, Chen (2005) concluded that the choice of verbal process verbs consciously or unconsciously convey the writers’ attitude toward the sayers in texts. These results also indicated that the analysis of negative processes is a useful tool to reveal attitudinal media bias and the relationship between the writers and the participants.

**SUMMARY**

The review of the literature has shown that much research has been done on media texts; however, very little has been done to reveal cross-cultural perspectives reflected in media texts. Group polarization (i.e., representations of ingroup and outgroup) as well as cross-cultural perspectives in media texts have been investigated mainly using CDA, and positive inclination toward the ingroup expressed by linguistic choices were found in some texts. At the same time, some media texts were found by CDA to have been written in a
neutral way without bias. This conclusion differs from the assumption that some researchers have discussed, namely, that events presented in texts are interpreted by the writers; therefore, all media texts are subjectively written. Thus, media texts always reflect the writers’ perspectives on the events reported. In fact, the studies conducted with transitivity analysis have concluded that all the media texts studied were somehow manipulated linguistically, and multiple versions of the same event were represented through the media. However, these studies conducted with transitivity analysis have little to offer in revealing cross-cultural perspectives represented in cross-linguistic media texts. Thus, this study aims to investigate how cross-cultural perspectives can be realized by linguistic representations in cross-linguistic media texts using transitivity analysis.
CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

In this chapter, I will discuss the newspaper articles and the framework employed in analyzing these texts. First, I will provide a description of the texts and the reasons why I chose these specific texts for analysis. A brief background on whaling issues will be presented to support the choice of texts. Next, I will explain the analytical framework used in this study. The processes and participants in transitivity analysis will be discussed, and the categorizations of participants used in this study will be explained by considering the categorizations employed in previous studies.

DATA

In this study, twelve newspaper articles were analyzed. All of the articles were written on the issues and the tensions between Japanese whalers and the anti-whaling activist group ‘Sea Shepherd’ (SS). Specifically, two incidents were selected to be the topic of these texts to achieve consistency in content. The first incident was the collision of an anti-whaling vessel Ady Gil and a Japanese ship Shonan Maru 2 on January 6th, 2010. The second incident was the arrest of Peter Bethune, the skipper of the anti-whaling vessel, on February 15th, 2010. The articles were collected from major newspapers from three different countries: Australia (The Australian, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Daily Telegraph), the United States (The New York Times and Los Angeles Times), and Japan (Asahi-Shinbun, Sankei-Shinbun and Yomiuri-Shinbun) (see the Appendix). In this study, the acronyms AUS, US, and JPN will be used to refer to the article sets from Australia, the United States, and Japan respectively. These countries were selected because of their affiliations with the issue on whaling. Australia as a nation has expressed its anti-whaling stance. In one of the recent events regarding the whaling issue, Australia launched legal action against the Japanese whaling program in the International Court of Justice and showed the country’s strong stance against whaling. Also, Australia offers the conservation group Sea Shepherd home ports for their fleet. On the other hand, according to the International Whaling Commission (IWC),
Japan is one of a few countries which have been issued scientific permits to catch whales since a moratorium on commercial whaling was adopted by the IWC in 1986. Japan has been involved in whaling for centuries before the moratorium came into force, and continued whaling for scientific purposes after 1986. While Japan justifies their whaling as a legal activity for research purposes, there has been criticism that Japan uses their research whaling as a disguise for commercial whaling. In contrast with the extreme stances that Australia and Japan take on whaling issues, the US has shown its anti-whaling stance in a more modest manner. While animal right activists such as Sea Shepherd have attempted to stop Japanese whaling, the US has aimed to convince Japan and other pro-whaling countries to accept a compromise by reducing the number of whales caught. In addition, the US has not been directly involved with the incidents caused by the tension between Sea Shepherd and Japanese whalers. Therefore, the newspaper articles from these three countries were expected to provide a wide range of interpretations of the incidents and differing points of view on the whaling issues. Four articles were selected from each country’s newspapers, and two of the four articles were written on the same incident. AUS1&2, US1&2, and JPN1&2 were the reports on the incident on January 6th, 2010, and AUS3&4, US3&4, and JPN3&4 were the reports on the incident on February 15th, 2010. These newspaper articles were analyzed using the transitivity framework to explore how different linguistic choices construct different perspectives in the three sets of texts.

**Transitivity Analysis**

The system of transitivity identifies the experiential meaning expressed in texts and captures how reality is constructed in the texts represented by different linguistic choices. Thus, transitivity analysis is a useful tool to examine the newspaper articles from three different countries taking different stances on a particular issue. The transitivity system looks at the grammar of the clauses as representation and is concerned with three aspects of the clause: processes, participants, and circumstances (Eggins, 2004). The process choice is realized in the verbal group of the clause (e.g., Ady Gil dangled a rope in the water), and the participants are realized in the nominal groups of the clause (e.g., Ady Gil dangled a rope in the water) (Eggins, 2004). The circumstantial meanings include location, manner, and cause,
and are realized in adverbial groups or prepositional phrases (e.g., Ady Gil dangled a rope in the water). In this study, only the elements of processes and participants were analyzed.

**The Process Types**

The processes in the transitivity system are divided into six types: material (i.e., processes of doing), mental (i.e., processes of sensing), verbal (i.e., processes of saying), behavioral (i.e., ‘half-way house’ between material and mental), existential (i.e., being/existing), and relational (i.e., assigning attributes or identities). In the following sections, I will describe the six processes using examples from the Australian newspapers. The descriptions of the processes are drawn from Eggins (2004).

Material processes are processes of *doing*, which are usually concrete and tangible. These processes express affairs in which some entity does something or undertakes some actions. The most frequent participants involved in material processes are actors and goals. Actors are the entities which carry out the actions, and goals are the entities upon which the actions are acted.

(1) *The Ady Gil* deployed a rope from its stern to… *(AUS1)*

In example (1), *the Ady Gil* is the actor, and *a rope* is the goal of this material process clause determined by the action ‘deployed’.

Mental processes are processes of *sensing*. These processes express cognition (e.g., *know*), affection (e.g., *like*), and perception (e.g., *hear*). Mental processes require two participants: sensor and phenomenon. Sensors must be conscious human participants or active participants, and phenomena must be non-active participants.

(2) “*We* didn’t think too much of *them* at the time…” *(AUS2)*

In this mental process realized by the verb ‘think’, *We* is the sensor, and *them* (referring to some planes in this sentence from the previous context) is the phenomenon.

Verbal processes are processes of *saying*. These processes usually include three participants: sayer, receiver, and verbiage. Sayers are the entities which signal the processes, and they typically are conscious participants. Receivers are the entities to whom the verbal processes are directed, and verbiage is the statement of the verbal processes.

(3) *Two men aboard the flights* told *locals* they were “looking for people who were looking for whales.” *(AUS1)*
In example (3), the verbal process is realized by the verb ‘told’. The sayer is *Two men aboard the flights*, and the receiver is *locals*. The verbiage is the subordinate clause following *locals*. In this study, subordinate clauses as verbiage were analyzed for their own processes independently from the process types of their main clauses.

Behavioral processes are defined as being mid-way between material and mental processes. These processes are realized by actions which must be experienced by conscious participants. The actions which are considered behavioral processes are *cough*, *dream*, and *laugh*, for example. The behavioral processes typically contain one participant: behaver. Due to the nature of newspaper articles, behavioral processes were not found in any texts in my data.

While the processes explained above encode meanings about actions, existential and relational processes encode meanings about *states of being*. Existential processes are simply realized by the existence of some entities, and involve the use of the word ‘*there*’. The participants in existential processes are existents: the entities that exist.

(4) There is a big gaping hole, so… (*AUS2*)

In example (4), the existential process is marked by the word ‘there’, and the existent of the existential process is a big gaping hole.

Relational processes can be divided into two groups: attributive and identifying processes. Attributive processes assign classifications or descriptions to some entities. These attributive processes contain two participants: carriers and attributes. Carriers are the entities to whom the description was assigned, and attributes are the descriptions.

(5) “*We* first became aware of this on December 9 when....” (*AUS2*)

In example (5), the attributive process is realized by the verb ‘became’. The carrier is *We*, and the attribute is *aware*. The essential characteristic of attributive processes is that an attributive clause is not reversible. That is, the subject is always a carrier and can never be an attribute.

Identifying processes, in contrast to attributive processes, define some entities. The entities defined by the identifying processes are called tokens, and the entities which define tokens are called values.

(6) Bethune is the first member of the group to fall into their hands. (*AUS3*)
In example (6), the identifying process is realized by the verb ‘is’. The token is *Bethune*, and the noun clause *the first member of the group to fall into their hands* is the value. Unlike the attributive processes, identifying clauses are reversible. This reversibility raises a problem in determining the role of the participants grammatically (i.e., which side of the clause is the token and which is the value). However, these roles can be assigned semantically; the tokens are nominal groups that contain ‘names’, and the values are the entities that define the tokens.

Using the above definitions, the verbs that realize the processes as well as the participants involved in the processes were examined and analyzed in this study. First, the verbs in all the clauses in the newspaper articles were categorized into process types to examine patterns in the process types used in the newspaper articles. The participants of the common process types were categorized to see which entities were included or excluded from the realizations of the processes.

**The Participants**

The participants of material processes and verbal processes in the newspaper articles (i.e., actors and goals for material processes and sayers for verbal processes) were identified and categorized. The categorizations were created with reference to previous studies that analyzed news articles, and were strongly influenced by the study conducted by Lukin (2005). In Lukin (2005), which was about grammatical patterns in two news reports on the Iraq war, categorizations were created based on the participants: affiliations with the Iraq war such as countries (e.g., the US), institutions (e.g., government), specific groups of people (e.g., civilians), and abstractions (e.g., effect of the war). The results of the categorizations showed that the portrayal of an event can differ depending on the entities incorporated, and the affiliations of the entities to countries or specific groups affect the ways in which the event is depicted. In addition, Lukin’s (2005) categorizations for the actors include ‘act of war’ and ‘technology’. The ‘act of war’ and ‘technology’ categories include some entities such as ‘attacks’ and ‘bombardments’, which are both non-human entities. It is mentioned in her article that the ‘act of war’ was carried out by the US and ‘technology’ was deployed by the US; however, the writer chose to include non-human entities instead of ‘the US’ as a country or a group of people as participants. The use of non-human entities, as Lukin (2005)
found, is often observed in history textbooks. In Eggins, Wignell, & Martin (1993), it is stated that representations of history are often formed by removing people and using non-human or nominalized actions instead even though history is about “people who did things to each other in real time and space” (p. 96). Since newspaper articles are also about events that involve people and actions in real time, the use of non-human entities found in history textbooks in place of human entities for the purpose of ‘dehumanized’ representations of events is likely to be found in newspaper articles. Therefore, the categorization of entities as human or non-human allows us to identify the entities which are represented as dehumanized participants, and how the choices affect the representations of the event.

Considering how effective it was in previous studies to categorize participants according to their countries and as human or non-human, the participants of material processes (i.e., actors and goals) and verbal processes (i.e., sayers) in the newspaper articles were also categorized by these criteria. First, the participants were identified and grouped by their countries. Here, I treated a specific group, namely SS, Sea Shepherd, equally to countries such as Australia and Japan since the whaling issue portrayed in the corpus was mainly dealt with the tension between two countries but SS and Japan. Next, each country group was re-categorized into human or non-human groups. At this point of the categorizing process, there were groups which could be described in finer ways than merely by their countries or human/ non-human criteria. For example, among the actors of the material processes in the Australian articles, non-human SS actors consisted of Ady Gil, Bob Barker, and Steve Irwin, all of which were the names of SS ships. Thus, I named this specific category ‘SS ships’. Similarly, Japanese human actors in the Australian newspapers included Japanese whalers, Japanese authorities, and Coast guard officials. In this case, these three participants belong to two different institutions: the Japanese whaling crew and the Japanese government. Therefore, I divided the Japanese human actor group into two categories: ‘Japanese whalers’ and ‘Japanese government’. The categorizations varied across different participants (i.e., actors, goals, and sayers) depending on the choices the texts offered; however, the same or similar categorization procedures were applied for categorizations of participants for other processes.
TYPES OF VERBS

The types of verbs used in material and verbal processes were further categorized. The framework for categorizing the types of the verbs was borrowed and modified from Chen (2005), where she studied the functions of negative verbal process in media texts. In Chen (2005), it is argued that there is ‘a degree of choice’ available when the producer of a text chooses a verb to report a verbiage that someone uttered. Thus, the verb choice reflects the writer’s attitude toward the sayer of the verbiage reported. Moreover, the verb choice can be used to push the reader towards a certain view of the sayer (Chen, 2005). She proposed three sub-categories of verbal processes: neutral, positive, and negative verbal processes, depending on the verbs used. Negative verbal processes include ‘insist’, ‘claim’, and ‘deny’. The negative verbal verbs were defined as adding ‘an element of conflict or tension’ to the basic communication process realized by the verb ‘say’ (Chen, 2005). Chen (2005) describes her definitions of ‘neutral’ and ‘negative’ verbal processes by comparing these two possibilities in expressing the same verbal event:

(7) “Mr. Blair’s official spokesman insisted that the Prime Minister still had the highest regard for Mr. Brown.”

(8) “Mr. Blair’s official spokesman said that the Prime Minister still had the highest regard for Mr. Brown.”

Chen (2005) argues that the writer of example (7) had the option to substitute any other neutral verb such as say in example (8) for the verbal process insist; therefore, the use of alternatives such as insist indicates the attitude of the writer toward the sayer. Combining these definitions of sub-categories of the processes with the categorizations of sayers, it is possible to see, for example, which entity as sayer was included in a relationship with a negative verbal process. In this study, I applied Chen’s (2005) framework to material and verbal processes, and examined the participants that were involved in negative process types.

SUMMARY

Twelve newspaper reports from three countries on the events illustrating the tensions between Japanese whalers and the anti-whaling activist group SS will be analyzed in this study. The transitivity framework was used to analyze the process types used and the participants included in these newspaper articles. Also, the types of verbs used in material
and verbal processes will be categorized. By using the analysis described above, I hope to explore the similarities and differences in the linguistic representations of a particular issue in newspaper reports written from different perspectives.
CHAPTER 4

RESULTS

In this chapter, I will discuss the process types and participants that were frequently used in the newspaper articles. First, the distribution of process types used in the three sets of newspaper reports will be presented. Next, the participants in the material and verbal processes will be described using the categorizations given in the previous chapter. In addition, the types of verbs used in material and verbal processes will be examined in order to explore the participants that were represented in negative process types in the newspaper reports.

PROCESS TYPES

The distribution of process types provides us a broad picture of what kind of experiential meanings are more frequently used to construct reality in the newspaper articles. A total of 457 clauses (175, 185, and 97 clauses in the newspaper articles from Australia, the US, and Japan respectively) were labeled and grouped according to their process types: material, mental, behavioral, verbal, existential, and relational processes. The proportion of all the process types in each set of articles by country is shown in Figure 1.

Material processes were the most frequently used process types in all three sets of articles: 50.2%, 44.8%, and 55.6% in the newspaper reports from Australia, the US, and Japan respectively. This dominance of material processes in newspaper articles indicates that meaning in the newspaper articles was constructed mainly by delineating actions that were carried out in the past. Meanwhile, the use of verbal processes was more frequent in the newspaper articles from Australia and the US than in the ones from Japan. The Australian and the US articles each contained approximately twice as many verbal processes as the Japanese articles (28%, 34.5% and 14.4% respectively), indicating a certain degree of difference in realizing past events in the newspaper articles across countries. In addition, relational processes were found in the articles from all three countries with a roughly equal frequency. Lastly, the Japanese articles were found to include existential processes more than
Figure 1. Percentages of process types in the newspaper articles from Australia, the US, and Japan.

others (10.3% compared to 1.7% and 0.5% in the articles from Australia and the US respectively). In this study, I will focus on the two most frequently used process types, material and verbal processes, and examine the participants and verbs in these process types in the following sections.

MATERIAL PROCESSES

Material processes express the processes of actions, and the choice of participants affects the meaning of the texts. For example, the actor may be omitted in passive constructions, and that could hide the performer of the action from the context. Also, the use of non-human actors enables the writers of the texts to ‘dehumanize’ the actions being represented. Therefore, the categorization of participants allows us to explore how linguistic choices affect the representations of the event. In the following sections, the participants of material processes in the newspaper articles will be categorized to see if there were differences in the representations of the actions reported.

Actors in Material Processes

The categorization of actors by their properties (country, organization, and animate or inanimate) uncovers who was included or excluded as the active source of actions in the
representation of an event. The actors were grouped into seven categories on the basis of their affiliations and their representations as human or non-human. The categories are: Japanese vessels, Japanese whalers, Japanese governments, SS ships, SS activists, Australian or New Zealand’s governments, and others. The ellipsed actors in passive clauses were also counted. In order to review the frequency of these actors in each set of articles, the percentages were calculated by dividing the number of clauses which had each actor group by the total number of all material process clauses in each set. The proportion of the actors in each category is shown in Figure 2.

![Figure 2. Percentages of actors of material processes in the articles from Australia, the US, and Japan.](image)

Figure 2 shows differences in the frequency of Japanese whalers, SS ships, and SS activists used as actors among the three sets of newspaper reports. First, in the Australian articles, Japanese whalers (e.g., ‘Japanese whalers’, ‘they’) were employed as actors over three times as often as in the American or Japanese articles. The following is an example of the use of Japanese whalers as an actor in the Australian newspaper article:

(1) Anti-whaling group Sea Shepherd has confirmed their ship the Ady Gil has been rammed and cut it half by Japanese whalers. *(AUS2)*

It is important to note that here in example (1) the writer had an option to choose ‘a Japanese vessel’ as the actor of this particular material process. Nevertheless, ‘Japanese
was intentionally chosen to describe the incident. By utilizing the animate actor (e.g., *Japanese whalers*) instead of the inanimate actor (e.g., *a Japanese vessel*), the incident is being depicted as more humanly violent or intentional.

Next, the frequency of SS ships and SS activists as actors appears to be different between the US articles and other two sets of articles. Both Australian and Japanese articles include SS ships as the actors roughly three times as frequently as the US articles do. On the other hand, the US articles include SS activists as the actors approximately twice as often as the other sets of articles. These differences indicate that the US articles may have employed SS activists where the Australian and Japanese articles used SS ships to represent the same event. Example (2) and (3) display the use of SS ships, the Ady Gil, as the actor in the Australian and Japanese articles:

(2) The ICR said *the Ady Gil* came “within collision distance” directcly in front of the Nisshin Maru bow and repeatedly deployed a rope from its stern “to entangle the Japanese vessel’s rudder and propeller”. (*AUS1*)

(3) Douchou-ni-yoruto, *Ady-gou-wa* doujitsu gozen
The Ministry of AFF-P-according to *Ady Gil*-TOP same day in the morning
san-ji goro-kara, bosen-no Nisshin Maru (8044 ton)-no
three o’clock about from mother ship-P Nisshin Maru (8044 ton)-POS
shinro-ni ro-su-wo nageiru-nado-no bougaikou-wo
a course-P a rope-ACC throw in- and so forth-P interference activity-ACC
si-tei-ta.
do-PAST

“Accoding to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, on the same day around three o’clock, *Ady Gil* was interfering with Nisshin Maru by throwing a rope into its course and so forth.” (*JPN1*)

In contrast, example (4) illustrates the case of SS activists as the actors in the US articles:

(4) *The Ady Gil’s crew* lobbed small projectiles designed to release a foul smell, … (*USA2*)

Examples (2) to (4) all represent similar events where SS actors carried out some activities, which can be reasonablly labeled as negative actions. It should be noted here that
the writers could have used SS activists (e.g., *the Ady Gil’s crew*) instead of using SS ships (e.g., *the Ady Gil*) to report the same event in example (2) and (3). Likewise, the writer of example (4) had the option to choose SS ships in place of SS activists as the actor of the action. The use of SS ships as the actors helps to reduce the sense of animacy compared to having SS activists as the actors. It is interesting that animate actors were frequently used in the articles from the US, which could be considered as a neutral party regarding this whaling issue. On the other hand, the Australian and Japanese writers showed a preference for inanimate actors when describing the actions in which these two countries were involved. Moreover, it is also interesting that a preference for animate actors in the US newspaper reports is not seen in the use of Japanese vessels and Japanese whalers as actors but the SS personnel. In contrast, the Australian writers frequently included animate actors in describing the actions carried out by Japanese actors. Also, the Japanese writers used inanimate actors more frequently for both SS and Japanese actors.

In addition to the similarities and differences in the frequency of explicitly mentioned actors, the instances of ellipsed actors vary across the three sets of articles. As the ‘Ellipsed’ columns in Figure 2 indicates, the US and the Japanese articles include ellipsed actors more frequently than the Australian articles. The use of ellipsed actors in passive clauses can affect the representation of events by concealing who carried out the actions. Examples (5) and (6) illustrate the use of ellipsed actors (indicated by italics in parenthesis):

(5) The Shonan Maru 2 was directing a water cannon at the Ady Gil before and during the collision, which is clearly seen on the video, and the bow of the Ady Gil was sheared off (*by the Shonan Maru 2*). (*USA1*)

(6) 08-nen 3-gatu-niwa ishuu-wo hanatsu ekitai iri-no bin nado-ga
08 year 3 month-P foul smell-ACC release liquid contained-P bottle etc-ACC
Nisshin Maru-ni nagekomare, norikumiin-to kaijyouhoankan-no kei
Nisshin Maru-P thrown into crews-and the Maritime Safety agents-P total
3-nin-ga me-ni ekitai-ga hairu nado-no keishou-wo otte-iru.
3-people-SUB eye-P liquid-ACC get into etc-P mild injury-ACC suffer-PAST
‘In March 2008, the bottles with foul liquid inside were thrown into Nisshin Maru (*by SS actor*), and its crews and the Maritime Safety agents, total three people, got the liquid in their eyes and were mildly injured.’ (*JPN1*)
The high frequency of ellipsed actors in the Japanese articles may be due to the characteristics of the Japanese language. In Japanese, the actors are very often the topics of the clauses, which can be omitted when they are obvious. However, the use of ellipsed actors still gives the texts a certain degree of vagueness. In the US articles, on the other hand, the writers seem to have chosen to employ passive constructions in order to omit the actors. The US articles seem to prefer not to shed light on the actors as much as the Australian articles do.

In summary, the choices of the actors in material processes appeared to differ among the three sets of newspaper reports. More specifically, the Australian articles utilized animate actors such as *Japanese whalers* whereas the Japanese articles seemed more inclined to use inanimate actors such as *Ady Gil*. Moreover, the Australian articles included a high frequency of animate actors when they were Japanese but not when they were SS while the Japanese writers preferred to employ inanimate actors when referring to entities from both sides. In addition, the US articles, which we might expect to take a neutral stance on the whaling issue, included SS activists as actors more frequently than the other sets of articles do. Nevertheless, the US writers used ellipsed actors more often than others, especially compared to the Australian writers who wrote in the same language.

**Goals in Material Processes**

In contrast to the actors in material processes, the goals are the constituents at whom the process is directed (Eggins, 2004). Goals are only found in transitive clauses. Thus, the analysis of goal constituents identifies the material processes that represent actions involving two or more participants, and reveals the participants who are affected by the actions. The categorization of goals by their properties (country, organization, animate/inanimate) reveals what are included or excluded as the recipients of actions in the representation of an event. The goals were grouped into seven categories on the basis of their affiliations and their representations as human or non-human. The categories are: Japanese vessels, Japanese people, Japanese law and process, SS ships, SS activists, SS activities, and Australian aircraft. The goals that did not fit in any of the categories were counted as ‘*others*’. In order to examine the proportion of the goals in each set of articles, percentages of each goal group within all transitive material process clauses were calculated. The proportion of the goals in
each category is shown in Figure 3. It should be noted here that the number of material process clauses with goals was significantly smaller in the Japanese articles (29 goal constituents) compared to the Australian (58 goal constituents) and American (59 goal constituents) articles. Even so, the proportion of the goal participants indicates some interesting differences among the three sets of articles.

Figure 3 shows that the goal participants related to Sea Shepherd (e.g., SS ships, SS activists, SS activities) were used frequently compared to the goals participants related to Japan (e.g., Japanese vessels, Japanese people, Japanese law/process). Figure 3 also indicates notable differences in the frequency of Japanese law/process, SS ships, and Australian aircraft as the goals among the three sets of newspaper reports.

First, only the Japanese articles include Japanese law/process (e.g., *Japanese law*) as the goals of material processes. Example (7) shows the use of Japanese law/process as the goal:

(7) Jiken-wa nankyokukaijyou-de okita-ga, daini Shonan Maru-wa Incident-TOP Antarctic Ocean surface-at occur-PAST-but 2 Shonan Maru-TOP Nihon-seki-nanode nihon-no houritsu-ga tekiyou-sareru. Japan-registered-because Japan-POS law-ACC apply-PASS

‘The collision took place on the Antarctic Ocean; however, *Japanese law* will be
applied because Shonan Maru 2 is a Japanese-registered ship.’ (JPN3)  
Even though there were only a few instances of Japanese law/process as the goal in the Japanese articles, it is interesting that the other two sets of the articles did not include Japanese law/process at all as the goal. Aspects of Japanese law/process of this particular event were not included in the Australian and the US articles.

Next, SS ships were frequently used as goal in the Australian and the US articles whereas there are only a few instances in the Japanese articles. Example (8) and (9) illustrate the case of SS ships as the goal:

(8) *The high-tech stealth boat Ady Gil* was cut in half and sunk by a Japanese security vessel in Antarctic waters today, dramatically upping the stakes in the annual struggle between whalers and protesters. (*AUS1*)

(9) The society said *its vessel Ady Gil – a high-tech speedboat that resembles a stealth bomber* – was hit by the Japanese ship the Shonan Maru near Commonwealth Bay and had about 10 feet of its bow knocked off. (*USA2*)

It should be pointed out here that passive voice is used in both cases of Japanese law/process and SS ships as the goals (example 7-9 above). The use of passive voice foregrounds the goals and backgrounds the actors.

Third, the use of Australian aircraft as goal was unique to the Australian articles. The other two sets of articles did not include any entities that were the property of Australia as goals. Example (10) shows the use of the Australian aircraft as the goal:

(10) Captain Watson said whalers had hired *Australian aircraft* to find the protest vessels and pass their locations on. (*AUS2*)

It is noteworthy here that in all the instances of the Australian aircraft as the goal, the actors were all Japanese (e.g., *whalers, Institute of Cetacean Research representative*). Moreover, the verbs in these material processes were limited to ‘hire’ and ‘charter’. Therefore, the Australian aircraft as the goals were used to describe one specific event (e.g., *Japanese actor hired Australian aircraft*), and this information is absent in the US and the Japanese articles.

To summarize, the representations of the goals in material processes appear to greatly vary across the three sets of articles. The high frequency of SS goals is observed among all the sets of articles. In contrast, Japanese law/process and Australian aircraft are uniquely
found in the Japanese articles and the Australian articles respectively. Furthermore, SS ships as the goals are frequently included in the Australian and the US articles, but not frequently in the Japanese articles.

**Active and Passive Voice**

In material processes, active voice can be used to feature the actors whereas passive voice can be used to foreground the goals. Therefore, the writers’ choice of voice as well as the actor and goal constituents influences the representation of events. In order to examine the writers’ preferences in the use of voice and the actor constituents in material processes, all material processes were categorized by their voice and the properties of the actors. The actors were grouped into categories on the basis of their affiliations: SS, Japanese, and ‘Others’. Also, omitted actors were placed in the category labeled as ‘Omitted’. The frequency was calculated by dividing the number of instances in each group by the total number of material processes. The percentages of each group in the three sets of the articles are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Percentages of Active and Passive Voices in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>&lt;SS Actor&gt;</th>
<th>&lt;JPN Actor&gt;</th>
<th>&lt;Others&gt;</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Passive</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Passive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUS</td>
<td>29 (32.9%)</td>
<td>32 (36.3%)</td>
<td>9 (10.2%)</td>
<td>2 (2.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>26 (31.3%)</td>
<td>26 (31.3%)</td>
<td>9 (10.8%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
<td>18 (33.3%)</td>
<td>19 (35.1%)</td>
<td>3 (5.5%)</td>
<td>3 (5.5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As Table 1 indicates, the use of active voice is significantly higher than passive voice across the three sets of the articles. Also, the use of active voice did not differ between the two categories of actors, SS actor and Japanese actor, in each set of newspaper reports. In
addition, the US and Japanese newspaper articles utilized omitted actors more frequently than the Australian articles (the sum of the percentages of passive actor inclusions is 4.8% in the US and 7.3% in Japanese articles compared to 13.5% in the Australian articles). The use of active voice, therefore, was not different according to the actors or among the three sets of articles, but the use of omitted actors in passive material processes differed across the three sets of newspaper reports.

**Verbs in Material Processes**

In this section, the meanings or the ‘loads’ of the verbs used in material processes will be further examined. In the previous sections, the writers’ choice of the actors and the goals in material processes was shown to differ across the three sets of newspaper reports. However, the choice of the actor and the goal constituents is not the only factor that influences the representation of reality. The choice of verbs is also a meaningful component of material processes and affect the representation of events.

Chen (2005) proposes a refinement of Halliday’s verbal process category and defines negative verbal processes as “demonstrating a certain negativity of feeling on the part of the writer towards the person whose words the verbal process is being used to introduce” (p. 37). Using this definition, negative material processes in this study were defined as the actions that are harmful, offensive, or hostile to the goals. Negative material process verbs were extracted from the data and are listed in Table 2.

| Table 2. Negative Material Verbs in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| destroy | cut | ram | spray | tear off | refuse | hit | shadow |
| damage | hide | apart | charge | arrest | shake off | fail | kill |
| shear off | sink | harass | protest | strike | aim | clash |
| threaten | break | injure | restrict | invade | warn | collide |

Among the negative verbs in Table 2, some verbs appeared more frequently than others. The most frequent negative verbs in each set of newspaper articles were ‘cut’ and ‘arrest’ (4 instances each, 4.5% of the number of material processes) in the Australian articles, ‘damage’, ‘shear off’, ‘arrest’, and ‘charge’ (2 instances each, 2.4%) in the US
articles, and ‘collide’ (11 instances, 20.3%) in the Japanese articles. Based solely on the frequently used negative verbs in each set of the articles, the Japanese articles appear to represent the event differently from others. The most frequent negative verb in the Japanese articles (i.e., collide) was not found in the other two sets at all, and similar meaning was expressed by other verbs such as ‘damage’ and ‘cut’. Since ‘colliding’ involves two participants with equal responsibility while ‘damaging’ or ‘cutting’ blames one participant for the action, the Australian and US articles seemed to blame Japanese actors for the incident whereas the Japanese articles expressed it as a mutual responsibility.

In order to identify the entities which accompanied these negative material processes, the negative material processes were categorized by the actor groups: SS, Japanese, other, and omitted actors. The percentages of actor categories in these negative processes were calculated by dividing the number of instances in each group by the total number of negative material processes in each set of newspaper articles. The percentages are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Percentages of Actors of Negative Material Processes in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SS Actor</th>
<th>JPN Actor</th>
<th>Others</th>
<th>Omitted Actor</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUS</td>
<td>2 (8.3%)</td>
<td>18 (75%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4 (16.6%)</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>4 (20%)</td>
<td>10 (50%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6 (30%)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
<td>9 (45%)</td>
<td>10 (50%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 (5%)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total instances of negative material processes in each set of the articles were approximately equal. However, the Japanese article set includes significantly fewer material process clauses than the other two sets of the articles (54 clauses compared to 88 and 83 in the Australian and the US articles respectively). Therefore, the percentage of negative material processes in the Japanese articles is strikingly higher than those in the other two sets of the articles.

Although the number of instances of negative material processes were similar across the each set of articles, the most striking pattern in the frequency of certain actors associated with negative material processes was observed in the Australian and the US articles. The frequency of Japanese actors with negatively loaded verbs was higher than SS actors in negative processes in these two sets of articles. This means that the Japanese actors are
portrayed as the actors of negative actions more frequently than any other actor in the Australian and the US articles. This result shows the similar phenomenon as the observation of frequently used negative verbs indicated (i.e., the Australian and US articles frequently used negative verbs that blame one participant, namely Japanese actor, for the action). On the other hand, the Japanese articles include roughly equal percentages of SS and Japanese actors with negative material processes. Example (11) and (12) illustrate cases of Japanese actors in negative material processes:

(11) Anti-whaling group Sea Shepherd have confirmed their ship the Ady Gil has been rammed and cut in half by Japanese whalers. (AUS2)

(12) A conservation group’s boat had its bow sheared off and was taking on water Wednesday after it was struck by a Japanese whaling ship in the frigid waters off Antarctica, the group said. (USA2)

It should be noted here that in both examples (11) and (12), the material processes are represented in passive voice with the actors in a prepositional phrase (i.e., by Japanese whalers). That is, the writers had an option not to include the actors of these negative material processes. Also, the writers could have used active voice instead. By using passive voice with the actors presented in a prepositional phrase instead of using active voice, the actor of the negative action and the goal affected by the negative processes are emphasized. The frequent use of negative verbs with the Japanese actors in the Australian and the US newspaper reports shows the writers’ stances toward the incident, which hold the Japanese actors responsible for certain negative actions.

To briefly conclude, the use of negative loaded verbs in the representation of actions varies across the three sets of articles. First, the Australian and the US articles have Japanese actors associated with the negative actions more often than SS actors. On the other hand, the SS and Japanese actors were treated roughly equally in the Japanese articles in terms of their engagement in negative material processes. In addition, the Japanese articles report on the actions using negatively loaded verbs relatively frequently. Thus, the Australian and the US newspaper reports depicted the incidents as negative actions that the Japanese actors are responsible for, whereas the Japanese reports expressed the events as a mutual responsibility and a negative phenomenon without differentiating among the participants involved.
**VERBAL PROCESSES**

Verbal processes refer to processes of saying (Eggins, 2004). As Figure 1 indicated earlier in this chapter, verbal processes were used the second most frequently in the newspaper reports. The categorizations of sayers in verbal processes according to their affiliations with the issue can reveal whose voice was included or excluded in the texts. In the following sections, the participants of verbal processes in the newspaper articles and the ensuing differences in the representation of the verbal events will be discussed.

**Sayers in Verbal Processes**

The sayers were grouped into five categories on the basis of their affiliations with the issue. The categories are: Japanese officials, Japanese whalers, Japanese protesters, SS activists, and Australian or New Zealand’s governments. The entities that did not fit any of the categories above were placed in the category labeled as ‘Others’. Additionally, the ellipsed sayers in passive clauses were also counted. In order to review the frequency of these sayers in each set of articles, the percentages were calculated by dividing the number of clauses which had each sayer group by the total number of all verbal process clauses in each set. The proportion of the sayers in each category is shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4 shows that the Australian newspaper reports included a more extensive range of entities as sayers than the other sets. For example, Japanese protesters as sayers appeared only in the Australian articles. In contrast, the Japanese newspaper reports included a limited range of sayer categories; no sayer in the category of Japanese protester, the Australian or New Zealand government, or “Others” was found in the Japanese articles.

Also, Figure 4 shows that the SS activists as sayers were included most frequently in the Australian and the US newspaper reports. In contrast, Japanese officials were the most frequent sayers in the Japanese articles. Utilizing Japanese officials as the sayers may add
Figure 4. Percentages of sayers of verbal processes in the articles from Australia, the US, and Japan.

authoritative credibility to the verbiage in the texts. The sentences in (13) and (14) display examples of Japanese officials as sayer:

(13) Nourinsuisanshou-wa ‘norikumiin-no inochi-wo obiyakasu kiwamete
The Ministry of AFF-TOP crew-POS life-ACC threaten extremely
kiken-na koui-de yurus-areru mono-de-wa nai’ to SS-no
dangerous behavior-P forgive-PASS thing-P-TOP NEG COMP SS-POS
bougai-koui-wo hihan (shita).
Interference activity-ACC criticize-PAST
‘The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries criticized the interference
activities by SS as ‘the extremely dangerous and unforgivable actions that
threatened the crews’ lives.’’ (JPN1)

(14) Spokesman Toshinori Uoya said there were no injuries on the Japanese side.
(USA2)

In examples (13) and (14), Japanese officials as sayers were represented as a group
and an individual respectively. These examples indicate that one category of sayer (e.g.,
Japanese officials) can be instantiated in two ways as a group or as an individual. Table 4
below shows the frequency of sayers as groups and individuals according to their affiliations
(i.e., SS, Japan, Australia) in each set of newspaper articles.
Table 4. Percentages of Group and Individual Sayers in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>&lt;SS&gt;</th>
<th></th>
<th>&lt;JPN&gt;</th>
<th></th>
<th>&lt;AUS&gt;</th>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUS</td>
<td>4 (9.5%)</td>
<td>25 (59.5%)</td>
<td>6 (14.2%)</td>
<td>3 (7.1%)</td>
<td>2 (4.7%)</td>
<td>2 (4.7%)</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>9 (15.7%)</td>
<td>17 (29.8%)</td>
<td>16 (28%)</td>
<td>9 (15.7%)</td>
<td>1 (1.7%)</td>
<td>5 (8.7%)</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
<td>2 (14.2%)</td>
<td>2 (14.2%)</td>
<td>10 (71.4%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 shows that most Japanese sayers were represented as groups in all the three sets of articles. In Japanese newspaper reports, Japanese sayers always appeared as groups. On the other hand, SS sayers were included as individuals more often than as groups. In the Australian and the US newspaper reports, SS individual sayers appeared more frequently than SS group sayers. Examples (15) and (16) show the uses of SS individuals and groups as sayers respectively:

(15) Captain Watson said the Ady Gil was idling in waters near Commonwealth Bay, south of Hobert, when it was suddenly approached and rammed by the Japanese ship Shonan Maru, which had been detailed to provide security to the fleet. (AUS1)

(16) SS-wa ‘Gil gou-wa teishi-shite-ita-ga totsuzen shoutotsu-sare-ta. SS-TOP Gil-TOP stop-PROG-PAST-NEG suddenly ram-PASS-PAST Nihon-gawa-wa kyuujyo-mo shite-kure-na-katta’ to hihan (shita). Japanese side-TOP rescue-even do-PASS-NEG-PAST COMP criticize-PAST ‘SS criticized that ‘Ady Gil was idling but was suddenly rammed. The Japanese side didn’t even rescue us.’’ (JPN2)

It should be noted here that the verbal processes in examples (15) and (16) refer to the same event. Yet, one employed a group SS as sayer and the other an individual, Captain Watson. Using individual sayers over group sayers may provide more authenticity to the verbiage, and the responsibility of the verbiage would be borne by one individual rather than the whole group the sayer belongs to.

In summary, the categorizations of sayers in verbal processes showed the frequent use of SS activists in the Australian newspaper reports and of Japanese officials in the Japanese texts as sayers. In addition, the representations of these sayers differed among the three sets.
of texts. SS sayers were frequently included as individuals in the Australian and the US newspaper reports while Japanese sayers only appeared as groups in the Japanese articles. The English reports tended to ascribe verbiage to an individual while the Japanese reports ascribed verbiage to groups, perhaps reflecting the individualist and collectivist nature of each society.

**Verbs in Verbal Processes**

In this section, the verbs of ‘saying’ categorized as negative and neutral will be further examined. Similar to the previous section on the verbs in material processes, negative verbal process verbs were extracted from the data and are listed in Table 5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verbs in Verbal Processes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>accuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blame</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order to analyze the entities which accompanied these negative verbal processes, the instances of negative verbal processes were counted and categorized by the major sayer groups: SS, Japanese, and other sayers. The percentages are shown in Table 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 6. Percentages of Sayers of Negative Verbal Processes in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SS Sayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due to the low occurrences of negative verbal processes (a total of 17 instances out of 127 verbal processes), it is difficult to draw generalizations here. However, it is interesting that the negative verbal processes appeared in the Japanese newspaper reports accompanied
mostly by Japanese sayers. Example (17) (same as 13) shows a Japanese sayer in a negative verbal process:

(17) *Nourinsuisanshou*-wa ‘norikumiin-no inochi-wo obiyakasu kiwamete
The Ministry of AFF-TOP crew-POS life-ACC threaten extremely
kiken-na koui-de yurus-areru mono-de-wa nai’ to SS-no
dangerous behavior-P forgive-PASS thing-P-TOP NEG COMP SS-POS
bougai-koui-wo hihan (shita).
Interference activity-ACC criticize-PAST

‘*The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries* criticized the interference
activities by SS as ‘extremely dangerous and unforgivable actions that
threatened the crews’ lives.’ *(JPN1)*

Since negative verbal processes were not used very frequently, sayers of neutral verbal processes were examined next. Neutral verbal processes are defined here as the verbal processes that are variations of the verb ‘say’, which do not include or encode negative connotations. Neutral verbal process verbs were extracted from the data and are listed in Table 7.

**Table 7. Neutral Verbal Verbs in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>say</th>
<th>tell</th>
<th>speak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>report</td>
<td>call</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order to determine the entities which accompanied these neutral verbal processes, the instances of neutral verbal processes were counted and categorized by the sayer groups: SS, Japanese, and other sayers. The percentages were calculated by dividing the number of instances in each group by the number of all verbal processes. The percentages are shown in Table 8.

**Table 8. Percentages of Sayers of Neutral Verbal Processes in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SS Sayer</th>
<th>JPN Sayer</th>
<th>Others</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUS</td>
<td>25 (80.6%)</td>
<td>4 (12.9%)</td>
<td>2(6.4%)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 8 shows that neutral verbal processes were used dominantly with SS sayers in the Australian articles. On the other hand, Japanese sayers appeared relatively frequently in neutral verbal processes in the Japanese texts. Also, it is interesting that the frequency of neutral verbal processes with SS sayers and Japanese sayers was roughly equal in the US articles. Examples of neutral verbal processes with SS and Japanese sayers are shown in (18) and (19):

(18) *Sea Shepherd* said in a statement posted on its website that the boat was “believed to be sinking and chances of salvage are very grim.” (USA2)

(19) *The Institute of Cetacean Research* said the Ady Gil came “within collision distance” of the Nisshin Maru’s bow and repeatedly dangled a rope in the water that could have entangled the ship’s rudder and propeller. (USA2)

It should be noted here that the writer of examples (18) and (19) had the option to choose different verbs, ‘insist’ or ‘claim’ for example, to express the same verbiage. However, the writer chose the verb ‘say’ to report what each sayer had uttered. These choices represent the verbalizations in the US texts in a rather neutral fashion and appear less influenced by the writers’ perspectives toward the sayers.

The categorizations of verbal processes into negative and neutral verbal processes showed the dominant use of neutral verbal processes in the newspaper reports. Moreover, the Australian articles included neutral verbal processes with SS sayers more frequently than with others while the Japanese texts used them with Japanese sayers more often than with others. In addition, the use of neutral verbal processes with SS sayers and Japanese sayers in a roughly equal frequency in the US articles may have caused the US texts to represent the event as a neutral position on the issue discussed.

**SUMMARY**

The results of the analyses on process types and their participants as well as choice of voice and verb types indicated some similarities and differences in linguistic representations of two specific events in the three sets of newspapers. Based on the assumption that media texts are always interpreted by the writers and tend to reflect the writers’ perspectives on the
events reported, it was assumed that the Australian reports might support the anti-whaling stance and the SS anti-whaling activities while the Japanese reports might show their support for the pro-whaling stance either implicitly or explicitly. Also, it was predicted that the US reports would show their neutral stance. Transitivity analysis on these three sets of news reports revealed some common tendencies and interesting differences that broadly support these assumptions.

First of all, there are some similarities in the three sets of the news articles. Among all the sets of articles, material processes were dominantly used to report the events. This was not surprising since news texts mainly report actions. Also, the dominant appearance of SS goals (i.e., SS ships, SS activists, SS activities) was common in the three sets. This phenomenon may be explained by the nature of the events: two of the four reports in each set were written on the arrest of the skipper of the SS ship. Therefore, it is reasonable to have the SS goals appear more often than others in the texts. In addition, the active voice was mainly used in the reports, and the passive voice was not frequently used to hide the participants (e.g., omitted actors) in all the sets of the reports. This was fairly surprising since the use of the passive voice may be a useful strategy to conceal the actors and foreground the goals, which could be interpreted as victims in negative material processes. In fact, Seymour (2007) analyzed the representations of dominant groups and racioethnic minorities in newspapers and found the use of non-agentive passive mainly to hide dominant group members as actors of negative actions and to shield them from accusations. In this study, ellipsed actors were found in the US and the Japanese news reports more than in the Australian reports. However, the frequency of the ellipsed actors was considerably low compared to the expressed actors. Lastly, the dominant use of neutral verbal processes was common in all the sets of the reports. This means that the ‘loads’ of the verbal process verbs were not used to represent each writer’s perspective toward the event in those articles.

In addition to these similarities, transitivity analysis indicated some deep grammatical differences across the three sets of the newspaper reports. The elements that appeared as actors, goals, and sayers as well as their representations (i.e., animate or inanimate) seem to reflect the stances that each country took toward the whaling issue. In the Australian articles, Japanese whalers as the actors were used more frequently than in the other two sets. The Japanese whalers as the actors appeared in the context where other inanimate elements (e.g.,
Japanese ships) could be used instead to convey the same meaning. This means that the writers had the option to choose inanimate actors but might have intentionally selected animate actors. Also, negative material processes were used very often with the Japanese actors in the Australian reports. These linguistic choices seem to foreground the Japanese actors as responsible for the damage SS ships suffered in the Australian reports. Also, the SS sayers appeared as individuals more frequently than as groups while the Japanese sayers appeared more often as groups in the Australian articles than in other sets. This choice of individual sayers in the Australian reports may have given more responsibility to the SS sayers than the other sayers. By these linguistic choices, the Australian reports seem to present Japanese people as perpetrators of the incidents reported, and the voices of individual Japanese people were backgrounded.

Similar to the frequent use of Japanese whalers rather than Japanese ships as the actors in the Australian articles, the SS activists as actors appeared very frequently in the US reports. SS activists could be replaced with SS ships in the same material process representations. In fact, SS ships instead of SS activists were used very often as actors in the Australian and Japanese reports. However, the US writers seemed to prefer animate actors to inanimate actors in realizing the material processes carried out by SS actors. This phenomenon appeared interesting since the US reports were expected to show a neutral stance toward the whaling issue. By utilizing animate actors, the US news reports may have given SS actors more responsibility for their actions compared with the other two sets of the reports. In addition, the SS sayers were included as individuals more frequently than as groups in the US reports. These linguistic choices in the US reports result in foregrounding the actions and verbiage of the SS participants rather than those of the Japanese participants.

In contrast to the other two sets of reports, the Japanese reports used inanimate actors more frequently than animate actors both for the SS and Japanese actors. This tendency by itself appeared to indicate that the Japanese news reports were written in a neutral way since they did not seem to blame one side or the other side of the issue by utilizing animate and inanimate actors differently. However, the elements included in the Japanese reports as goals in material processes and as sayers in verbal processes were different from those in the other two sets. First, the use of Japanese law/process as goals was unique to the Japanese news reports. Also, the Japanese officials were sayers very frequently in the verbal processes. In
essence the Japanese reports included some aspects of the events that the other sets of the reports excluded. At the same time, it is reasonable to suggest here that the Japanese reports may have excluded what was included in the other two sets of reports since the total number of clauses in the Japanese reports was smaller than the other two. In addition, the SS sayers were included as individuals and as groups with equal frequency while the Japanese sayers were always groups. These findings show some similarities to the study by Lukin (2005). In her study where she compared two newspaper articles written on the Iraq war, she found an article from the Australian offering an official interpretation of the reported event by utilizing inanimate actors and official voices and excluding the experiences of civilians. Also, Li (2010) pointed out the use of “institutional agents” (i.e., participants in generic terms) in a Chinese newspaper and its effects of supporting the government’s position. Likewise, the Japanese articles appear to foreground the bureaucratic interpretation of the event by their linguistic choices.

To conclude, the Australian news reports showed some linguistic manipulation of participants and their representations in material and verbal processes. More specifically, the Australian writers utilized animate Japanese participants (e.g., Japanese whalers) as the actors of negative material processes and individual SS participants (e.g., Captain Watson) as prominent sayers to ascribe the blame to the Japanese actors. Meanwhile, the Japanese news reports showed some manipulation of the texts through what was included and excluded. The Japanese reports seemed to include Japanese actions and verbiages that were excluded in the other two sets of newspaper reports. These findings present a different picture of Japanese newspaper reports from Murata (2007)’s finding that the Japanese news reports were written in a neutral way without bias. Also, the findings of this study show that linguistic analysis focusing on superficial features of texts such as lexis and content can overlook covert linguistic manipulations. Lastly, the US reports seemed to give more responsibility to the SS participants by utilizing SS animate actors and SS individual sayers very often. Overall, as Lukin (2005) argued, all the newspaper articles analyzed here employed linguistic choices that reflect the perspectives of the writers on the specific issue.
CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

A linguistic analysis of the newspaper articles from three different countries revealed some similarities and differences of linguistic choices by which the same events were represented. The similarities were rather unsurprising since the nature of newspaper reports and the specific events seemed to cause these similarities. Meanwhile, the differences were striking in a way that they clearly reflect the writers’ perspectives on the issues. In this chapter, the three sets of newspaper articles will be evaluated in terms of bias regarding the differences in their linguistic representations of the events. In addition, limitations of this study and suggestions for future research will be discussed.

EVALUATION OF THE NEWSPAPER REPORTS

Regarding the assumption that newspaper articles are written in a neutral way to represent ‘facts’, the newspaper reports from three different countries which maintain different stances toward a specific issue can be evaluated in terms of bias according to the results of transitivity analysis. In this section, the three sets of newspaper reports will be discussed and evaluated in turn.

Newspaper Reports from Australia

Transitivity analysis on the Australian reports revealed the linguistic manipulation of event representations that reflect the Australian stance toward the whaling issue. Australian reports utilized Japanese animate actors in negative material processes very often while frequently including SS ships as a goal. These phenomena show the writers’ interpretations of the events as “Japanese people negatively acted upon SS ships”. The linguistic choices resulted in texts which ascribed blame on Japanese people and displayed SS ships as victims. In addition, the Australian reports frequently included verbiage produced by SS individual sayers. This means that Japanese sayers were not given much space to express their point of view in the Australian texts. The Australian reports were dominated by SS individuals’ point of view of the events. Therefore, the Australian news reports can be evaluated as biased
toward the Australian stand point by displaying SS participants as victims and excluding Japanese sayers from the texts. The Australian reports clearly reflect the writers’ perspectives on the issue: an anti-whaling stance.

**Newspaper Reports from the United States**

The linguistic choices in the US reports showed an anti-whaling stance in different ways from the Australian reports. The US reports included SS entities as actors, goals, and sayers very frequently throughout the reports. Also, the SS actors were very often animate, and SS sayers were very often individuals. In contrast, the Japanese entities were not included as frequently. Thus, the US reports were centered on SS entities resulting in a representation of the events which was SS focused.

**Newspaper Reports from Japan**

Transitivity analysis on the Japanese newspaper reports revealed implicit ways in which the Japanese reports express their stance toward the whaling issue. In contrast to the Australian reports, where the linguistic choices were used to impose blame, the Japanese reports included inanimate elements for both SS and Japanese actors and individual and group entities for SS sayers. Also, the Japanese reports used ellipsed actors more frequently than the Australian reports. These linguistic choices may have caused the Japanese texts to appear more neutral than the Australian and US reports. However, the Japanese reports also included what other sets of reports did not include, namely, Japanese law and process as goals and Japanese officials as sayers. These exclusive aspects of the events caused the Japanese texts to lean toward the Japanese view and to support the pro-whaling stance that Japan takes. Japanese officials and Japanese law and process as participants in the Japanese texts may indicate the influence of cultural values on Japanese newspaper reports. Reflecting the collectivist nature of its culture, Japanese writers and readers may value information from official institutions and personnel rather than from individuals.

**LIMITATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH**

Some limitations of this study should be mentioned. First, the newspaper reports analyzed here were written on two related but separate events. My original intention was to
obtain newspaper reports on one event, but I used two instead due to the difficulty in retrieving a large enough number of reports on one event. It would be interesting to examine newspaper reports on one event from multiple countries. Also, the data set for this study consisted of a total of twelve reports and was fairly small. It would be interesting to investigate a larger set of data to confirm the findings of this study.

This study solely focused on the two most frequently used processes: material and verbal processes. Thus, this study did not analyze all the linguistic features by which the writers’ perspectives would be reflected in texts. There were mental, existential, and relational processes in the three sets of reports, and relational processes were in fact used fairly frequently. Therefore, it would be useful to expand this study by investigating other processes.

Despite the limitations mentioned above, this study clearly suggests that different ideational meanings are realized by grammatical choices in various newspapers, especially across cross-cultural sets of newspaper reports. The findings of this study would lead to further study of ways in which linguistic choices manipulate representations of meanings in different genres in different disciplines ranging from medicine to politics.
REFERENCES


APPENDIX

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES IN THE DATA SETS
Japanese ship destroys whale protest boat Ady Gil (AUSI)

*The Sydney Morning Herald*

The high-tech stealth boat Ady Gil was cut in half and sunk by a Japanese security vessel in Antarctic waters today, dramatically upping the stakes in the annual struggle between whalers and protesters.

Sea Shepherd group leader Paul Watson told Fairfax Media the $1.5 million Ady Gil was sinking, but its six-man crew had been rescued and was uninjured. Captain Watson said the Ady Gil was idling in waters near Commonwealth Bay, south of Hobart, when it was suddenly approached and rammed by the Japanese ship Shonan Maru, which has been detailed to provide security to the fleet.

Earlier today, the fleet was contacted for the first time by the Ady Gil and Sea Shepherd's "secret" third vessel, the Bob Barker. Captain Watson, aboard the Steve Irwin, said he was still 500 nautical miles from the scene.

"This seriously escalates the whole situation," Captain Watson said of the collision.

Video footage released by the Institute of Cetacean Research shows the Ady Gil stalking the Japanese ship, towing ropes from its stern. The ICR said the Ady Gil came "within collision distance" directly in front of the Nisshin Maru bow and repeatedly deployed a rope from its stern "to entangle the Japanese vessel's rudder and propeller". The statement accused the activists of shining a laser device at the Nisshin Maru crew and launching acid-filled projectiles, one of which landed on the vessel's deck. After broadcasting a warning message, the Nisshin Maru sprayed the Ady Gil with water cannons to prevent it from coming closer, the ICR said.

Captain Watson told Fairfax in November the Ady Gil would be used to intercept the whaling fleet's chaser boats."What I think we can do is latch onto at least one of the three harpoon vessels and keep them out of the picture," he said. Looking more like Batman's spacecraft than a boat, the biodiesel-powered trimaran Ady Gil arrived at the Southern Ocean stand-off between Japanese whalers and activists yesterday. It was reported this morning to be about 50 nautical miles away from the whaling fleet.

Japan's Fisheries Minister Hirotaka Akamatsu had earlier warned two security ships would be used to protect the whaling fleet, intervening when Sea Shepherd tried to block the transfer of harpooned whales to the factory ship Nisshin Maru.

Captain Watson this morning announced the existence of a secret third ship in the Sea Shepherd flotilla. He said he was confident that with three ships, Sea Shepherd would be able to cause maximum disruption to the whaling, which has been underway for around a month.

Japanese whalers have stepped up security this year, sending spy flights from Australian airports to track protest ships. The Hobart flights were paid for by Wellington-based Omeka Communications, air industry sources told Fairfax. Omeka is a public relations firm retained by Japan's Institute of Cetacean Research. The Hobart flights carried Omeka's principal, Glenn Inwood, who is an institute spokesman, and another man, the sources said. The operation started in December when the Steve Irwin left Fremantle to intercept the whaling fleet, which this year is targeting 935 minke whales and 50 fin whales.

WA pilots said surveillance flights continued out of Albany for some days, costing a "truckload" of money. Two men aboard the flights told locals they were "looking for people who were looking for whales".
The Rudd Government has repeatedly called for caution by both sides in the wilds of the Antarctic. "We have reminded the masters of protest vessels of their obligations under international law to take all steps to ensure safety of life at sea, particularly in the inhospitable conditions of the Southern Ocean," Environment Minister Peter Garrett said recently.

"We are also passing the same message to the government of Japan."

**Japanese cut in half anti-whaling ship Ady Gil (AUS2)**

*The Daily Telegraph*

ANTI-WHALING group Sea Shepherd have confirmed their ship the Ady Gil has been rammed and cut in half by Japanese whalers.

According to Captain of the Steve Irwin, Paul Watson, the Ady Gil - a $1.5 million carbon-fibre stealth boat - was rammed by one of the Japanese security ships. Mr Watson, who is in charge of one of the three Sea Shepherd vessels trying to interfere with the Japanese whale hunt, told The Daily Telegraph the Japanese vessel Shonan Maru No. 2 rammed the Ady Gil and tore off its bow.

"The vessel is taking on water," he said.

"The captain is still trying to salvage what he can and save his boat. The other five crew members have been rescued."

The crew were rescued by fellow Sea Shepherd ship the Bob Barker.

Capt Watson said the Japanese refused to respond to mayday calls and fled the scene.

The Federal Government is investigating the reports.

The lightweight 24-metre (79-foot) boat went under after being rammed off Antarctica by Shonan Maru, a ship detailed to provide security to the rest of the whaling fleet.

"Our priority is making sure the crew are safe," a Sea Shepherd spokesman told NewsCore. The ship is one of three Sea Shepherd Conservation Society vessels battling Japanese whalers in the Southern Ocean. The protesters say they were trying to get out of the way of the Japanese vessel, while the Japanese have accused the protesters of causing the collision.

Jeff Hansen, Australian director of the Sea Shepherd organisation which is involved in the anti-whaling protest, said the Ady Gill had come to a stop in front of the Shonan Maru 2 vessel. Mr Hansen said the Ady Gill, a small vessel built for speed, was trying to get out of the way. "The Shonan Maru 2 had it in its direct line of sight, coming straight for it," Mr Hansen told AAP.

"It came through and took a section off the fuselage. It's put a big hole in it."

All six crew members had been rescued by a fellow protest ship, the Bob Barker.
The *Ady Gil* was shadowing Japanese ship the *Shonan Maru* when it suddenly started its engines and hit the Sea Shepherd vessel. Paul Watson, the captain of Sea Shepherd flagship the *MV Steve Irwin*, said the $2 million *Ady Gil* was paralysed and probably unsalvageable.

"It cut eight feet off the front of the vessel. There is a big gaping hole, so it can't go anywhere or it would fill up with water," he said.

Earlier today, anti-whaling crusaders were revealed as having secretly launched a third ship in their fight against Japanese whalers. Crusaders from the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society revealed the new vessel, a former harpoon ship amid controversy over 'spy flights' conducted from Australian airports on behalf of the Institute of Cetacean Research.

*MV Steve Irwin* Captain Paul Watson said protest vessels currently had the whaling fleet on the run. The 1200-tonne Norwegian built Antarctic harpoon vessel *MV Bob Barker* arrived off Commonwealth Bay at 3am today with 30 crew aboard. The ship was bought in Ghana with a $5 million donation by US television celebrity Bob Barker and sailed from Mauritius on December 18. It joined the *MV Steve Irwin* and the *Ady Gil*.

"I'm surprised we kept it a secret as long as we did, considering how many people we had involved," Captain Watson said. "It has the speed and it's ice strengthened and it's the perfect vessel to go after the whaling fleet.

"We kept it quiet until this morning at 3 o'clock when they found the Japanese fleet.

"The security vessels were so busy chasing up 500 miles north of the fleet that they had no idea the Bob Barker was moving in on them."

"They haven't killed any whales today and hopefully they won't be killing any whales in the near future. They're on the run at full speed.

Captain Watson said whalers had hired Australian aircraft to find the protest vessels and pass their locations on.

"We first became aware of this on December 9 when we saw some planes after we left Freemantle. We didn't think too much of them at the time but then about six hours after the Japanese surveillance vessel Shonan Maru was on our tail."

Some further inquiries found out the planes were chartered out of Albany by (Institute of Cetacean Research) PR representative Glenn Inwood.

"He also chartered planes out of Melbourne and Hobart when we were there on December 21st. They spent $20,000 for 15 hours in three planes in total. It's interesting the amount of money they're spending trying to keep up away from the fleet this year and they have failed."

Before today's incident, Captain Watson accused the Japanese of chartering planes from Australia to pinpoint Sea Shepherd's locations.

"We didn't think anything of it at the time, we thought they were Australian government planes, routine," he said. "And then about six hours later the *Shonan Maru* was on our tail so we figured out that the planes had given the location so that the Japanese could tail us."
He said the *Steve Irwin* only shook off the ship - after skirmishes involving a water cannon, a laser-type device and a military-style sonar weapon - when he returned to port and then left under low cloud cover, making air surveillance impossible.

"I think they spent about 20,000 dollars on that search, about 12 hours in total, and they didn't find us and we were able to slip past," Watson said.

Also earlier today, anti-whalers threw rancid butter-filled Christmas tree baubles "like baseballs" at the Japanese ships to make their decks too foul to work.

"They can't work on the deck with these stinkbombs and it makes life very unpleasant on board," he said.

"In East Africa they shoot elephant poachers, down here we just throw stinkbombs."

Captain Watson said the Sea Shepherd activists latched on to the Japanese ships just before dawn, about a month after setting out from Australia on their annual bid to stop the slaughter of hundreds of minke and fin whales.

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**Japanese authorities arrest Sea Shepherd anti-whaling protester**

**Peter Bethune** (*AUS3*)

*The Australian*

**SEA Shepherd activist Peter Bethune was arrested by Japanese authorities today when the whaling patrol boat returning him in custody from the Antarctic berthed in Tokyo.**

Bethune, a New Zealand citizen who jumped aboard the patrol boat Shonan Maru No. 2 on February 15, has been charged with trespass. After taking him off the vessel, Coast Guard officials began questioning him about earlier clashes with the Japanese whaling vessel with an eye to laying further charges.

Bethune, skipper of the Sea Shepherd powerboat Ady Gil, which was run down and destroyed by Shonan Maru 2 on January 6, faces maximum penalties of three years’ prison or a ¥100,000 fine.

Japanese authorities have arrest warrants out for three other Sea Shepherd activists over Southern Ocean clashes in February 2007, but Bethune is the first member of the group to fall into their hands.

Bethune leapt aboard Shonan Maru from a jet ski before dawn on February 15 seeking to make a “citizens arrest” of its master for attempted murder of the Ady Gil crew and presenting a demand for $US3 compensation for the advanced carbon fibre-Kevlar powerboat.

Some experts have suggested the payment demand could lay Bethune open to a piracy charge, an accusation the Japanese have made frequently over Sea Shepherd’s attempts to sabotage the fleet’s Southern ocean whale-hunting.

Coast Guard officials are understood to be questioning Bethune over alleged injuries to crewmen from bottles of weak butyric acid thrown onto Japanese vessels.
The fleet is now returning home, understood to have killed about 700 minke whales over the summer under the cover of scientific whaling, allowing Japan to side-step the 26-year-old moratorium on commercial whaling.

Kevin Rudd has threatened that Australia will take Japan to the International Court of Justice unless the government agrees before November to phase-out all Antarctic whaling activities.

Sea Shepherd anti-whaling activist arrested in Japan (*AUS4*)

*The Sydney Morning Herald*

A New Zealand anti-whaling activist was arrested in Japan Friday after a harpoon ship he boarded in Antarctic waters last month docked in Tokyo, greeted by police and nationalist protesters.

Peter Bethune, of the militant Sea Shepherd Conservation Society (SSCS), was engaged in months of high-seas clashes with the Japanese whaling fleet but has been in custody since mid-February when he boarded the Shonan Maru II.

About 20 angry nationalist protesters with Rising Sun flags, watched over by riot police, lined the pier and shouted through megaphones:

"Step forward Pete Bethune! Apologise to the Japanese people! We will tear you apart!"

The harpoon ship docked alongside a vessel of the Japan Coast Guard, whose officers served him with an arrest warrant for trespass on a ship, a charge that can carry up to three years' jail.

It is the latest chapter in a long-running battle between environmentalists and Japanese whalers, who hunt the ocean giants in the name of scientific research, a loophole to a moratorium on whaling.

Japan maintains that whaling has been part of the island-nation's culture for centuries, and it does not hide the fact that whale meat from its expeditions ends up in shops and restaurants.

As TV helicopters buzzed overhead, the protesters -- watched by riot police and plain-clothed officers with video cameras -- also expressed their fury with Australia, which has threatened to take Japan to an international court unless it commits to ending its annual whale hunts.

Japan's Fisheries Minister Hirotaka Akamatsu told a press conference that the nation would maintain a "resolute stance" but said he did not see a diplomatic row brewing.

Bethune, 44, was the captain of the Sea Shepherds' high-tech powerboat that was sliced in two in a collision with the Shonan Maru II in January. He climbed aboard the Japanese ship before dawn on February 15 from a jet ski with the stated intention of making a citizen's arrest of captain Hiroyuki Komiya for what he said was the attempted murder of his six crew.

Bethune also presented the Japanese whalers with a three-million-dollar bill for the futuristic carbon-and-kevlar trimaran Ady Gil, which sank in the icy waters a day after the collision on January 6. Instead, the Japanese whalers took Bethune into custody and sailed for Japan.
They reported he was in good health and being treated well, unrestrained but under watch in a private cabin with three meals a day.

The SSCS, which has called Bethune the first New Zealander taken as a "prisoner of war" to Japan since World War II, said on its website it was preparing legal representation for the skipper. The group declared an end to this season's pursuit of Japanese harpoon ships in Antarctic waters on February 27, saying it had been the most successful campaign so far, saving many whales.

If Bethune faces trial in Japan, it would be the second court case there centred on whaling, besides the ongoing proceedings against two Japanese Greenpeace activists now in the dock in the northern city of Aomori.

The so-called "Tokyo Two" face up to 10 years in prison for theft and trespassing after they took a box of salted whale meat, which they said was proof of embezzlement in Japan's state-funded annual whaling expeditions.

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**Anti-Whaling Vessel Damaged in a Collision at Sea (USA1)**

_by Mark McDonald_

Published: January 6, 2010

HONG KONG — An anti-whaling group’s high-speed boat and a Japanese whaler reported colliding at sea on Wednesday, with each blaming the other.

Video taken from the deck of the Japanese ship, Shonan Maru 2, showed the collision with the Ady Gil, a sleek black trimaran belonging to a group that aggressively confronts the Japanese whaling fleet each year as it plies the waters south of Australia and New Zealand.

The video shows a frothy wake coming from the stern of the Ady Gil, although it is unclear whether the trimaran was moving. The Shonan Maru 2 was directing a water cannon at the Ady Gil before and during the collision, which is clearly seen on the video, and the bow of the Ady Gil was sheared off.

The Institute of Cetacean Research, which oversees Japan’s whaling program, said that the Ady Gil had rapidly approached the Shonan Maru despite repeated warnings to keep away, and that it suddenly slowed down in the Japanese ship’s path. The Shonan Maru could not avoid hitting the front of the Ady Gil, the institute said in a statement.

But the group that owns the Ady Gil, the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, said the strike was deliberate. Its Australian director, Jeff Hansen, said in a telephone interview that the trimaran “was pretty much at a full stop” and that the Japanese ship had deliberately run into it. He said the trimaran had not sunk, “but it’s in two pieces, and we’re trying to salvage what we can.” One crew member was reported injured.
A companion vessel, the Bob Barker, was used to rescue the crew, Mr. Hansen said. That ship, a former Norwegian whaler, was named after the former American game show host who donated $5 million to the group.

The Ady Gil, a former racing boat capable of speeds up to 57 miles an hour, was added to the Sea Shepherd fleet in October. At the time, the group’s founder, Paul Watson, said he would use the boat “to intercept and physically block the harpoon ships from illegally slaughtering whales.”

The Japanese Whaling Association calls Sea Shepherd “a terrorist group.”

The Japanese institute, which released photographs and video of the clash, said that those aboard the Ady Gil had earlier harassed the Shonan Maru by flashing laser beams at its crew, hurling acid onto its deck and throwing ropes into its propellers.

The institute “strongly protests these violent acts, which threaten the safety of the research boats” and their crew members, its statement said.

Japan is one of the few nations that still permit whaling. Its vessels operate in the Antarctic under a loophole in an international whaling ban that allows the taking of whales for research purposes and the sale of the surplus meat.

The small Japanese fleet has a goal of about 1,000 whales this season, most of them minke whales. The Japanese vessels, which are escorted by a refueling and support ship, are expected to hunt whales until mid-March.

In recent years the Sea Shepherd group has been the only one to stalk the whaling fleet in an attempt to interfere with its operations and limit its catch.

“They’ve really upped the ante this year,” said Mr. Hansen of the Japanese whalers. “But we definitely won’t be leaving.”

Clash between Sea Shepherd and Japanese whaling ship leaves anti-whaling vessel badly damaged  

Los Angeles Times

January 6, 2010 | 11:38 am

A conservation group's boat had its bow sheared off and was taking on water Wednesday after it was struck by a Japanese whaling ship in the frigid waters off Antarctica, the group said.

The boat's six crew members were safely transferred to another of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society's vessels, the newly commissioned Bob Barker. The boat is named for the American game show host who donated $5 million to buy it.
The clash was the most serious in the past several years, during which the Sea Shepherd has sent vessels into far-southern waters to try to harass the Japanese fleet into ceasing its annual whale hunt.

Clashes using hand-thrown stink bombs, ropes meant to tangle propellers and high-tech sound equipment have been common in recent years, and collisions between ships have sometimes occurred.

The society said its vessel Ady Gil -- a high-tech speedboat that resembles a stealth bomber -- was hit by the Japanese ship the Shonan Maru near Commonwealth Bay and had about 10 feet (three meters) of its bow knocked off.

Locky Maclean, the first mate of the society's lead ship, said one crewman from New Zealand appeared to have suffered two cracked ribs, but the others were uninjured. The crew members were safely transferred to the group's third vessel, though the Ady Gil's captain remained on board to see what could be salvaged, he said.

The group accused the Japanese ship of deliberately ramming the Ady Gil.

"They were stopped dead in the water when the incident occurred," Maclean told the Associated Press of the Ady Gil. He spoke by satellite phone from the ship, the Steve Irwin.

"When they realized that the Shonan Maru was aiming right for them, they tried to go into reverse to get the bow out of the way but it was too late. The Shonan Maru made a course correction and plowed directly into the front end of the boat," he said.

Glenn Inwood, a New Zealand-based spokesman for the Institute of Cetacean Research, the Japanese government-linked body that carries out the hunt, disputed Sea Shepherd's account, saying video shot from the whaler showed the conservationists' boat moving toward the whaler just before the collision.

"The Shonan Maru steams to port to avoid a collision. I guess they, the Ady Gil, miscalculated," Inwood told the Associated Press. "Sea Shepherd claims that the Shonan Maru has rammed the Ady Gil and cut it in half -- its claim is just not vindicated by the video."

Japan's Fisheries Agency said it was still checking details about the clash. Spokesman Toshinori Uoya said there were no injuries on the Japanese side.

It was not immediately clear what would happen to the Ady Gil. Sea Shepherd said in a statement posted on its website that the boat was "believed to be sinking and chances of salvage are very grim."

Sea Shepherd sends boats to Antarctic waters each southern summer to try to stop the Japanese whaling fleet from killing whales under what it calls a scientific whaling program. Conservationists and many countries say the program is a front for commercial whaling.

Each side routinely accuses the other of dangerous activity during what has become a cat-and-mouse chase in one of the world's most remote regions.

Australia and New Zealand -- which both have Antarctic territories and are among the closest nations to the waters where the hunt goes on -- have urged both sides to show restraint, warning that they are far away from rescue if anything goes wrong.
"Our strongest condemnation applies to any violent or dangerous activity that takes place in these remote and inhospitable waters," Australian Environment Minister Peter Garrett said Wednesday. He said he could confirm the collision, but that details were still unclear.

Wednesday's confrontation with whalers marked the first for the 1,200-ton Bob Barker, which rescued the crew. Sea Shepherd only recently bought the ship after its namesake, the former host of the "The Price Is Right" game show and a longtime animal rights activist, donated the money. Barker met Sea Shepherd founder Paul Watson through a fellow activist and said he was instantly impressed.

"He said he thought he could put the Japanese whaling fleet out of business if he had $5 million," Barker recalled. "I said, 'I think you do have the skills to do that, and I have $5 million, so let's get it on,' so that's what we did."

Barker, 86, said he was "genuinely proud" to be associated with Sea Shepherd.

The Ady Gil, meanwhile, clashed earlier Wednesday with another Japanese ship, the whaling fleet's mothership, the Nisshin Maru.

The Institute of Cetacean Research said the Ady Gil came "within collision distance" of the Nisshin Maru's bow and repeatedly dangled a rope in the water that could have entangled the ship's rudder and propeller.

The Ady Gil's crew lobbed small projectiles designed to release a foul smell, and the whalers responded by firing high-powered hoses to keep the Sea Shepherd vessels away, the institute said in a statement.

"The obstructionist activities of the Sea Shepherd threaten the lives and property of those involved in our research, are very dangerous and cannot be forgiven," it said.

Maclean confirmed the earlier clash.

Japan's whaling fleet left in November for its annual hunt in Antarctic waters. Uoya said that for security reasons, details of the fleet's composition, the number of whales it hopes to take and the number of crew members are not being released to the public.

The Ady Gil is a 78-foot (24-meter) black-painted trimaran made of carbon fiber and Kevlar in a design meant to pierce waves. It was built to challenge the record for the quickest circumnavigation of the globe and can travel faster than 46 mph (75 kph).

Sea Shepherd unveiled the Ady Gil last October saying a California millionaire with the same name had donated most of the money for it. At the time, the group said the boat would be used to intercept and physically block Japanese harpoon vessels.

**Japanese Coast Guard Arrests Anti-Whaling Skipper (USA3)**

The New York Times

By MARTIN FACKLER and MARK McDONALD

Published: March 12, 2010
TOKYO — The Japanese Coast Guard on Friday arrested an anti-whaling activist from New Zealand who had boarded a whaling ship in the southern Antarctic last month.

A Metropolitan Police Department boat, foreground, escorted the Shonan Maru No. 2 to Harumi pier in Tokyo on Friday.

Peter Bethune, a member of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, was brought back to Tokyo by the whaling ship, the Shonan Maru 2, after he boarded it without permission on Feb. 15. Coast Guard officials were waiting for him at the docks in Tokyo, along with a throng of Japanese reporters and television crews.

Mr. Bethune, 44, was being held in Coast Guard custody in Tokyo, said a guard spokesman, Tomoyuki Suzuki, who added that Mr. Bethune had been formally charged with “vessel invasion.” A Coast Guard investigation was under way, he said, and it was expected that Mr. Bethune would be transferred to police custody on Sunday.

Japanese media reports suggested that Tokyo intends to use Mr. Bethune’s arrest as a warning to Sea Shepherd to end its confrontations on the high seas with Japan’s whaling fleet.

Hirotaka Akamatsu, the Japanese fisheries minister, told reporters that Mr. Bethune’s actions were “outrageously illegal behavior.”

“We want to deal with it strictly,” he said.

Mr. Bethune’s arrest was top news in Japan, where Sea Shepherd’s efforts to obstruct whaling ships receive wide publicity, none of it positive. While few Japanese eat whale, public opinion is generally sympathetic to the government’s claims that whaling is part of Japanese culture.

Japan kills about 1,000 whales a year — primarily minke whales — as part of a government-financed program that Tokyo says is for scientific purposes. Activists call the program a cover for commercial whaling, which was globally banned in 1986.

Japan’s program has run into opposition from not only activists but also from the governments of Australia and New Zealand, two staunchly anti-whaling nations that are near the waters where the annual Japanese hunt takes place. Last month, Australia’s prime minister threatened international legal action against Japan if it did not end its whaling.

Sea Shepherd has tried to disrupt Japan’s Antarctic hunts by blocking its ships, using ropes to clog their propellers and throwing bottles of rancid butter onto their decks to make them slippery.

On Jan. 6, a Sea Shepherd vessel, the Ady Gil, captained by Mr. Bethune, was damaged in a collision at sea with the Shonan Maru 2. Video taken from the deck of the whaler showed its collision with the Ady Gil, a sleek black trimaran. Each ship blamed the other for the incident.

On the night of Feb. 15, Mr. Bethune reportedly used a motorized water scooter to approach the Shonan Maru 2, then climbed onto its deck after cutting through an anti-boarding net that was draped around the hull. He presented the captain of the whaler with a bill for $3 million for damages that the Ady Gil had suffered.
Mr. Bethune was put into custody by the crew, who held him for a month as the whaling ship returned to Japan.

Coast Guard officials said Mr. Bethune would be able to meet with a lawyer and a New Zealand diplomat after his arrest. The head of Sea Shepherd, Paul Watson, told Japan’s Kyodo News agency that Mr. Bethune boarded the ship to draw more attention to the Japanese hunt.

“We are rallying a lot of support in New Zealand and Australia for Pete,” Mr. Watson was reported as saying. “He may be considered a criminal in Japan, but he’s a hero in Australia and New Zealand.”

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**Sea Shepherd activist faces charges in Japan for secretly boarding whaling ship**  *(USA4)*

*Los Angeles Times*

February 16, 2010 | 7:22 pm

An anti-whaling activist from New Zealand is in custody on a Japanese vessel and will be taken to Japan to face charges after secretly boarding the ship as part of a protest, officials said Tuesday.

Peter Bethune, a member of the U.S.-based Sea Shepherd activist group, jumped aboard the Shonan Maru 2 from a Jet Ski on Monday with the stated goal of making a citizen's arrest of the ship's captain and presenting him with a $3-million bill for the destruction of a protest ship last month.

The Japanese government has decided to bring Bethune to Japan for questioning, Fisheries Agency official Osamu Ishikawa said. He will be charged with trespassing and assault and tried under Japanese law, Ishikawa said.

He said officials were working out the details of how to transport Bethune to Japan -- whether to keep him on the vessel, which will be at sea for a few more weeks, or to drop him off in a port call and fly him back.

The brazen boarding was the latest escalation of a campaign by Sea Shepherd to hamper Japanese whaling activities.

Japan's Institute of Cetacean Research, which sponsors the whale hunt, said that Bethune used a knife to cut the vessel's protective net to enable him to board and that he told whalers he then threw the knife into the sea. The crew treated him for a cut on his thumb he received while boarding, the institute said.

Under Japanese law, intruding on a Japanese vessel without legitimate reasons can bring a prison term of up to three years and a fine up to 100,000 yen (US$1,100).

Bethune was being held in a room by himself with guards posted outside, Fisheries Ministry official Toshinori Uoya said.
New Zealand Foreign Minister Murray McCully said it seemed that Bethune's intention was to be detained aboard the whaling ship, but his country nevertheless had an obligation to try to help him and it was seeking cooperation from Japanese diplomats.

McCully met Japan's ambassador Tuesday, and New Zealand's top diplomat in Japan met senior officials there Monday.

Sea Shepherd said Bethune demanded the cost of replacing the Ady Gil, an activist ship he captained that was destroyed in a collision with the Shonan Maru 2 last month, and the surrender of the whaling ship's captain on attempted murder charges.

The Ady Gil sank after the collision, though there were only minor injuries.

Japan has six whaling ships in Antarctic waters under its scientific whaling program, an allowed exception to the International Whaling Commission's 1986 ban on commercial whaling. It hunts hundreds of mostly minke whales, which are not an endangered species. Whale meat not used for study is sold for consumption in Japan, which critics say is the real reason for the hunts.

The Sea Shepherd sends vessels to confront the fleet each year, trying to block the whalers from firing harpoons and dangling ropes in the water to try to snarl the Japanese ships' propellers. The whalers have responded by firing water cannons and sonar devices meant to disorient the activists.
ホバートを出港し、調査捕鯨船団に緑色の光線を照射するなどの妨害行為を繰り返していた。捕鯨船団とSSの船は昨年2月にも衝突している。この時は第3勇新丸の後方に、SSの船がぶつかり、双方の船体が損傷した。08年3月には異臭を放つ液体入りの瓶などが日新丸に投げ込まれ、乗組員と海上保安官の計3人が目に液体が入るなどの軽傷を負っている。

シー・シェパードの捕鯨抗議船 日本の監視船と衝突 (JPN2)

米環境保護団体「シー・シェパード」は6日、同団体の捕鯨抗議船アディ・ギル号が南極海で日本の調査捕鯨船の監視船、第2昭南丸と衝突、航行不能になったことを明らかにした。乗組員の1人が肋骨（ろっこつ）にひびが入るけがを負ったという。水産庁は、第2昭南丸の船体に大きな被害はなく、乗組員けがはないとしている。

シー・シェパードによると、ギル号は抗議活動中に第2昭南丸に衝突され、船体が半分以上沈んだ状態になった。シー・シェパードは「（事故発生時）ギル号は静止していたが、突然衝突された。（日本側は）救助もしてくれなかった」と批判。

調査捕鯨を行う日本鯨類研究所は、ギル号が衝突してきたとしている。

水産庁によると、ギル号は6日午前、調査捕鯨船団の母船に薬品入りのボールのようなものをぶつけたり、船団に異常接近するなどの妨害行為を行った。事故当時、第2昭南丸は近づくギル号に放水などで警告したが、ギル号が急に減速するなどしたため衝突したと説明している。

調査捕鯨船に侵入容疑 シー・シェパードのメンバー逮捕 (JPN3)

米国の反捕鯨団体シー・シェパード（SS）のメンバーが南極海で日本の調査捕鯨船・第2昭南丸に乗り込んできた事件で、海上保安庁は12日、ピーター・ペンソー容疑者（44）＝ニュージーランド国籍＝を艦船侵入容疑で逮捕し、発表した。

ペンソー容疑者は2月、南極会場で第2昭南丸に侵入し、船員法に基づいて保護されていた。第2昭南丸は12日午前、東京湾に入港。すでに艦船侵入容疑で逮捕状をとっていて同庁東京海上保安部の海上保安官が船内に立ち入って逮捕した。
水産庁によると、日本の調査捕鯨への妨害行為で逮捕者が出たのは初めて。東京海上保安部などによると、ベスーン容疑者は1月6日に南極海上で第2昭南丸に衝突して大破した小型高速船アディ・ギル号（26トン）の船長で、日本時間の2月15日午前9時ごろ、水上バイクで第2昭南丸に近づき、防護ネットをナイフで切って乗り込んだ疑いが持たれている。同容疑者がニュージーランド国籍で日本に住居がなく、逃亡の恐れがあるとして、同保安部は任意ではなく、逮捕して調べる必要があると判断した。

艦船侵入罪は、刑法の住居侵入罪と同じ条文で定められている。正当な理由なく人が寝泊りできる大型の艦船に侵入した場合に適用され、3年以下の懲役か10万円以下の罰金。事件は南極海上で起きたが、第2昭南丸は日本籍なので日本の法律が適用される。

ベスーン容疑者は第2昭南丸に乗込み、同船長に対し、持っていた書簡を手渡していた。「衝突の責任は第2昭南丸にある。3億円を請求する」などと書かれているとみられる。

SSの妨害行為では、2月に第2昭南丸に小型ボートから撃ち込まれた瓶が割れ、中に入っていた薬品が第2昭南丸の乗組員3人の顔にかかり、軽いけがをしている。ベスーン容疑者は、この行為にも関与しているとの情報があり、同保安部が調べる。

SSに対しては、日本政府の要請を受けた豪州連邦警察も、抗議船スティーブ・アーウィン号が豪南部タスマニア州ホバートに寄港した際に捜索している。また2007年2月には、南極海で調査捕鯨をしていた日本鯨類研究所の海幸丸がSSの船から発煙筒を投げられた事件があり、警視庁公安部がメンバーとみられる別の米国籍の男ら4人を、威力業務妨害の疑いで逮捕状をとって国際手配している。同保安部は今後、豪州当局や警視庁とも連絡を取り、SSの一連の妨害活動について捜査を進める。

＜シー・シェパード＝SS＞
クジラやアザラシなどの生物種と生態系の保護を訴えて船で抗議活動を繰り広げている団体。
国際的な環境保護団体グリーンピースのメンバーが脱退して1977年に設立した。名前は「海の保護者」という意味で本部は米国にある。資金は寄付などでまかない年間予算は約500万ドル（約4億5千万円）。80年にリスボンで捕鯨船を爆薬で沈没させるなど破壊活動をしており、「エコテロリスト」とも呼ばれる。

東京入港のシー・シェパード元船長を逮捕…海保（JPN4）

YOMIURI ONLINE │ 読売新聞

南極海で調査捕鯨をしていた捕鯨船団の監視船「第2昭南丸」（712トン、全長約65メートル）に侵入したとして、昭南丸に高速されていた反捕鯨団体シー・シェパードの活動家の男について、海上保安庁は12日、東京・晴海ふ頭に入港した昭南丸から身柄の引渡しを受け、刑法の艦船侵入容疑で逮捕した。調査捕鯨への妨害を繰り返しているシー・シェパードのメンバーを、日本の捜査当局が逮捕するのは初めて。海保は、小型船を昭南丸に衝突させるなどした他の妨害活動についても威力業務妨害容疑などで調べる方針。
逮捕されたのは、シー・シェパードの小型高速船「アディ・ギル（AG）号」の元船長で、ニュージーランド人のピーター・ベスーン容疑者（44）。逮捕状は同日午前11時16分、昭南丸内で執行された。

発表によると、ベスーン容疑者は先月15日、南極海上で昭南丸に水上バイクで近づき、侵入防止用の網をナイフで切って、船体を数メートルよじ登り無断で船に乗り込んだ疑い。昭南丸は、船員法に基づく船長の権限でベスーン容疑者を拘束、調査捕鯨を妨害する船舶がないか監視する任務を中断して単独で1万キロ超を航海し、日本に戻っていた。

調査捕鯨を所管する農林水産省によると、ベスーン容疑者の乗ったAG号は今年1月6日、昭南丸に衝突して大破した。同容疑者は昭南丸に侵入した後、大破したAG号の損害賠償を求めるため「船内に入った」と語り、昭南丸に接近したボートから、強い臭気を放つ「酪酸」入りの瓶が投げ込まれた行為についても、自分がやったと認めているという。海保は、傷害や威力業務妨害の疑いでも同容疑者を取り調べる方針。

艦船侵入罪は刑法の建造物侵入罪と同じ条文で規定され、人が寝泊りできる大きさの船に侵入した場合、3年以下の懲役または10万円以下の罰金が科される。

シー・シェパード＝環境保護団体「グリーンピース」のメンバーだったカナダ出身のポール・ワトソン代表が、海洋生物の保護を掲げて1977年に設立。2005年から南極海での調査捕鯨の妨害活動を始め、これまでに日本側の計8人が負傷している。豪州の港が南極に向かう拠点になっており、日本政府は豪州政府に繰り返し取り締まりを要請している。
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Nozomi Liao
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DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to my parents who have given me so much love and support for no matter where my heart goes. I also dedicate this thesis to my husband, who has served as a phenomenal English mentor and an irreplaceable support system throughout my academic career in the United States.
ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Ideology in Newspaper Reporting: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Transitivity Choices
by
Nozomi Liao
Master of Arts in Linguistics
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This thesis presents the findings of a linguistic analysis on newspaper reports from three different countries focusing on the different perspectives represented. The analysis employed is informed by systemic functional linguistics and utilizes the framework of transitivity analysis, which identifies ideational meanings realized by grammatical choices.

Newspaper reports are commonly believed to represent facts in a neutral way. However, previous studies have pointed out that events are always interpreted by the writers before being represented in texts. Because of their ability to influence public opinion, newspaper reports have been the focus of several studies. Previous studies on newspaper reports using systemic functional linguistics have considered the relationships between linguistic choices and the representation of events. Though many studies on ideational meanings in newspaper reports have considered different perspectives realized by linguistic choices, few studies have investigated newspaper reports from multiple countries written in more than one language. Thus, this thesis investigates newspaper reports published in Australia, the United States, and Japan, which include articles written in English and Japanese. These cross-linguistic sets of newspaper reports were written about a specific issue where we can assume that these three countries would maintain different stances. The aim of this study is to locate different perspectives expressed by grammatical choices in the newspaper reports and to identify the strategies that the writers employed in expressing their stances in the newspapers.

Based on the framework of transitivity analysis, process types and participants were identified in all the main clauses and subordinate clauses in the newspaper reports. Participants were further categorized with according to their affiliations, institutions, and their human or non-human nature. In addition, material and verbal processes were further analyzed according to their verb types, and the participants who were involved in each type of processes were identified.

The findings of this analysis revealed linguistic strategies that may not be obvious to the readers, yet influence the news reports to reflect the writers’ perspectives on the events. Australian reports utilized Japanese actors in negative material processes and showed positive inclinations to their anti-whaling stance. The US news reports featured the anti-whaling groups as actors and goals, and these choices also seemed to imply their anti-whaling stance. In contrast, the Japanese reports featured the Japanese government as actors and the Japanese officials as sayers and favored their pro-whaling stance. These findings show that the grammatical choices in newspaper reports played a role to covertly express the writers’ perspectives toward the events and suggest that the readers could be affected by
those linguistic manipulations in their opinion making process if they continue receiving input from one specific source.
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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A number of studies in discourse analysis have examined how language is used to fulfill the purposes of texts. Some of these studies have employed frameworks drawn from systemic functional grammar (Lukin, 2005). Systemic functional grammar considers how meanings, namely experiential, interpersonal and textual meanings, are expressed in clause structure and, as such, provides useful tools for analyzing different world views expressed in texts by linguistic choices. Many researchers in discourse analysis have claimed that events presented in texts have been interpreted and processed by the writers, so there are always multiple ways to represent one event (Clark, 1992). Thus, language is a medium through which the writers’ perceptions of reality can be represented either in explicit or implicit ways.

Many previous studies have investigated texts of historical writings and news reports because of their ability to influence public opinion about reality (Archugar & Schleppegrell, 2005; Kuo & Nakamura, 2005; Martin, 2002; Oteiza & Pinto, 2008). The readers’ assumption that these texts only convey the truth is also one of the factors to have motivated the studies. Media texts, especially, often deal with political or cross-cultural polarizations on controversial issues. Different perspectives on a particular issue are likely to be conveyed through linguistic choices in news reports. Among the analytical frameworks in systemic functional grammar, transitivity analysis has been often employed in media text analysis to consider different perspectives realized by linguistic choices (Clark, 1992; Lukin, 2005). Transitivity analysis reveals the ideational meanings of texts; therefore, it is an appropriate method to investigate how reality is represented in news reports.

Among various topics in news reports, issues related to tensions between countries such as wars and political affairs have often been featured in discourse analysis (Butt, Lukin, & Matthiessen, 2004; Lukin, 2005; Seymour, 2007). For instance, Lukin (2005) analyzed two news reports on the Iraq war and found that one report was written in a US centered way and the other was written with a focus on the Iraqi civilians’ experiences. Lukin (2005)
purposefully chose one article written in a neutral tone and the other written in an evaluative tone for her analysis. Having two articles written in contrastive styles for her analysis, she concluded that there was no news report without bias.

Since bias in written texts is often due to different perspectives between groups or countries, news reports from different countries or written in different languages appear to be a useful set of data in discourse analysis aimed to reveal linguistic manipulations. However, only a few studies have been conducted on these types of media texts. One of the few studies is Murata (2007), where she analyzed two news reports from British and Japanese newspapers written on the whaling issue. She employed critical discourse analysis and examined the tone of language in which these articles were written. Murata (2007) concluded that the British article was one-sided and persuasive while the Japanese article was written in a neutral way. As Lukin (2005) pointed out, Murata’s (2007) conclusion differs from the assumption that many researchers have had: there is no news report that is free of bias. However, there has been little research conducted on cross-cultural and cross-linguistic news reports using transitivity analysis. Thus, it is the goal of this thesis to conduct linguistic analysis using transitivity analysis on news reports that are from multiple countries and written in more than one language and explore any differences in experiential meanings in the texts. For the analysis, I chose news reports written on the whaling issue, following Murata (2007)’s study, from three different countries. The newspapers from Australia, the United States, and Japan were selected for their various stances over the whaling issue. I will employ transitivity analysis on these texts to address the following questions:

1. What are the similarities and differences in the linguistic representations of events in newspaper reports from different countries?

2. Are there differences in the three sets of newspaper reports in terms of bias? If so, what strategies are used to express bias?

In this thesis, it is hoped that linguistic analysis will reveal the linguistic manipulations that create bias in texts and help us further understand the influences of linguistic choices on the representation of a particular event in texts.

The following chapter will review previous research that influenced this study. Chapter 3 will describe the methodology employed in this study. In this chapter, I will explain why I chose the three sets of newspaper reports and will discuss the analytical framework I employed in this study and the categorizations I created. Chapter 4 will discuss
the results of the analysis. Lastly, Chapter 5 will present a summary of results such as the similarities and differences in linguistic representations in the three sets of reports as well as the evaluations of each set of reports in terms of bias expressed in the texts. Also, suggestions for further research will be provided.
CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, I will discuss previous studies that have dealt with media bias and ideology expressed through linguistic choices. First, I will briefly describe the background of text analysis regarding media texts and the reasons why media texts have attracted linguists in the past. Next, previous research conducted using critical discourse analysis and transitivity analysis will be discussed.

MEDIA BIAS AND TEXT ANALYSIS

Media texts such as newspaper articles and editorials have been the focus of text analysis because of their influence on readers’ interpretations and construction of public opinion about reality. Many previous studies were conducted on media texts based on the assumption that all news reports are somehow ‘biased’. Clark (1992) mentioned that events presented in texts were always interpreted by the writers and subjectively written: therefore, the writers’ world-view is either overtly or covertly encoded through linguistic choices in news reports. In order to investigate the bias realized through language, previous research has employed analyses drawn from critical discourse analysis (CDA) and systemic functional grammar (SFG). CDA looks at macro features of texts such as organizations, visuals and content. In contrast, SFG considers macro features as well as micro features of texts such as participants and representations of events within clauses. In the following sections, I will discuss previous studies undertaken using CDA and SFG.

CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS ON MEDIA TEXTS

CDA mainly considers issues of power, ideology and domination in texts. In previous research, CDA has often been used to investigate group polarization realized by language. For example, Matu and Lubbe (2007) analyzed twenty editorials from three Kenyan newspapers regarding political issues using CDA. By focusing on the information that was emphasized or suppressed in the texts, the differences in the ways in which ingroup (i.e., where the writer shares the same stance) and outgroup (i.e., where the writer shares the
opposite stance) were represented became visible. The ingroup was included and emphasized by utilizing grammatical structures such as topicalizations and fronting. On the other hand, the outgroup was suppressed and de-emphasized by using passive structures. In addition, the ingroup was presented favorably by the use of positive evaluation while the outgroup was presented unfavorably by the use of negative evaluation. Taking these features of positive presentation of the self and negative presentation of the other into account, Matu and Lubbe (2007) concluded that two out of three newspapers were ideologically biased, and one newspaper was written in a neutral way. Also, they claimed that the analyses used in the study were relevant and applicable to various sociocultural contexts.

In a similar manner to Matu and Lubbe (2007)’s study, Kuo and Nakamura (2005) investigated original English newspaper reports and translated Chinese reports published in Taiwan and found some manipulations on ideological representations during the translating and editing processes. They selected two ideologically opposed newspapers in Taiwan (i.e., the pro-reunification United Daily News and the pro-independence Liberty Times) and analyzed two news reports that were translated from an identical English article using CDA. Their analysis included lexical choices, addition to and exclusion of the original information, and references to key participants. The findings showed that lexical choices such as the choices of verbs of saying (i.e., ‘to talk’ and ‘to propagate’) represent the newspapers’ ideological orientations. Also, they found that each newspaper added information to increase the news value and deleted information that were opposed to its political stance. Moreover, the choices of referring expressions such as the title ‘Madame’ as opposed to full names without title, which are considered disrespectful in Chinese, indicated the newspapers’ stances. Kuo and Nakamura (2005) confirmed through this study that the translation processes involved manipulations of linguistic choices that caused ideological representations in newspaper reports.

Representation of ideological orientations was also investigated in the study conducted by Moore (2002). In his study, two obituaries published in the influential journal The Economist were analyzed using CDA. He deliberately chose one typical subject, Jack Mann, and one atypical subject, General Aideed, after preliminary analyses. His detailed analyses of the two obituaries included text organization, pictures and their captions, and biographical content. The analysis pointed out that the typical subject of an obituary was
described as a patriotic hero for his work at battle fields and was smiling in the picture shown. On the other hand, the atypical subject was blamed for causing deaths in battle. Also, his tough appearance included in the obituary might help influence the readers to register a negative image of the subject. Moore (2002) considered these text feature differences and claimed that the typical subject was represented as ingroup and the atypical subject was represented as outgroup in a distanced way. In addition, the study revealed that the ideology of the influential journal was even expressed in obituaries, where ideology was not expected to be foregrounded.

CDA has also been used to investigate the influences of linguistic representations on newspaper reports published in two different countries. Murata (2007) compared and contrasted two articles, one from a British newspaper and the other from a Japanese newspaper, on the whaling issue using CDA. The two news reports were analyzed for their lexis, syntactic structures, rhetorical devices, and organization of information. Murata (2007) found that the British article included negative lexis such as ‘anger’ and ‘outrage’ as well as anti-whaling quotes. Also, the British news report emphasized the Japanese as an actor of negative actions and whales as the victims through the use of passive structures. In contrast, the Japanese article included neutral lexis and factual information to support objective judgments. Murata (2007) concluded that the British news report was one-sided and blamed the negative actions conducted by Japanese actors while the Japanese report was neutral and objective. In addition, she claimed that CDA was an appropriate tool to investigate the tones with which these articles were written.

**Transitivity Analysis on Media Bias**

The other analyses often employed in the studies regarding media texts have been drawn from SFG. Many studies have been conducted using transitivity analysis to investigate covert grammatical choices in media publication. For example, Lukin (2005) selected two news reports on the Iraq war, an article from *The Australian* and a report written by a well-known journalist Robert Fisk, and analyzed them using transitivity analysis. The two reports were chosen because of their contrasting styles. *The Australian* article was written in a neutral tone and sounded objective while the Fisk article included judgments and evaluations. Thus, the latter was considered to be an easy target of the term ‘biased’ in the CDA point of
view. However, Lukin (2005) has pointed out that CDA can only be used ‘to measure what is easily measured’. She also claimed that an event is always multidimensional, and there would never be only one way to represent it. By using transitivity analysis, Lukin (2005) found differences in grammatical choices and patterns across the two articles. More specifically, *The Australian* article included US actors whereas the Fisk article frequently included Iraqi civilians as an active agent of actions. Moreover, the most frequent goals or recipients of the actions were abstractions and technology in *The Australian* article while in the Fisk article the Iraqi civilians were. Also, *The Australian* article very often included the US government as sayers who signaled verbal events and excluded civilian voices. On the other hand, civilians were often given a voice in the Fisk article. The results of this study indicated that *The Australian* article featured the US officials and excluded civilians from the text. Also, negative actions conducted by the US (i.e., bombardments) were dehumanized by nominalizing the actions. In contrast, the Fisk article was Iraqi civilian centered, and the war was illustrated as an immoral act by describing the war as human acts on humans. Lukin (2005) concluded that both texts privileged a particular point of view through linguistic choices.

A similar analysis to Lukin (2005) has also been conducted on newspaper reports from two different countries. Li (2010) compared American and Chinese newspaper articles written with different ideological orientations using transitivity analysis. She chose news reports of the NATO bombing of the Chinese Embassy in 1999 written in English both in *The New York Times* and *China Daily* for the purpose of ensuring that she would have a clear difference between stances that the two newspapers may take. The analysis of the headlines showed that the US and NATO participants were frequently represented as actors and sayers in *The New York Times* while Chinese participants were very often depicted as playing active roles of the event in *China Daily*. Li (2010) argued that these linguistic choices played a role to foreground the presence of ‘us’ and background ‘them’ in the headlines. Also, the transitivity choices in the news texts suggested that *The New York Times* represented Chinese participants as “the causality of the conflicts threatens our values” utilizing active structures in material processes with Chinese actors (Li, 2010). In contrast, *China Daily* utilized Chinese sayers in verbal processes to highlight the importance of the voices of the Chinese. Li (2010) concluded that the transitivity choices in the news reports indicated the attempts of
the newspapers to justify the actions and words of ‘us’ and ascribe blame to ‘them’.

Moreover, this analysis confirmed that news reports are multidimensional and biased toward the ideological orientations of the writers.

Also, transitivity analysis has been employed to find patterns of constructing blame in crime reports. Clark (1992) analyzed 53 reports in a British newspaper *The Sun* reporting on male violence on female. She found that the attackers or criminals in these kinds of reports were often not presented as responsible for the crime, and instead the victims or other people were blamed by the language used. For example, reference to the attacker was deleted by use of passive constructions. By including information about what the victims or other people did to cause the attacker to become a criminal or what they were doing at the time the attacker committed the crime, for instance, the reports shifted the responsibility of the attack from the attackers to others. Also, Clark (1992) found that the motivating factors behind these linguistic manipulations were not the type of crime but the gender of participants (i.e., female participants tended to be blamed for the crime). She claimed that the choice of language indicated the style of this particular newspaper in which general interest in sex appeared to be a strong influence on reporting events of male violence on females.

Transitivity analysis has also been employed for the analysis of other types of texts than newspaper reports. Butt et al. (2004) employed transitivity analysis and investigated political speeches. They chose two remarkable speeches for their analysis: one made by President Bush right after September 11, 2001 and the other made by a British Lieutenant, Colonel Tim Collins, before the engagement of the U.S. in the Iraq war in 2003. In Bush’s speech, ‘enemy’ was often found as actors of material processes (i.e., actions). Moreover, the ‘enemy’ actors were frequently found in material processes in which negative or physical actions over human beings were portrayed. On the other hand, the actions in which the US responses were portrayed were often reported using indirect and abstract terms. In addition, the actions of ‘enemies’ and ‘terrorists’ were often represented as habitual actions using present tense while the US actions were often represented using future tense. These results showed that the enemy in Bush’s speech was presented as a demonized entity by linguistic manipulation. In contrast, Collins’ speech never included ‘enemy’ as actors of material processes. Instead, ‘you’, referring to the troops, was often found as actors of the material process. In these material processes, the actions of showing respect for casualties and Iraqi
people were represented. These results indicated that the speech by Collins did not demonize the enemies but represented the troops. The study conducted by Butt et al. (2004) showed multiple versions of the same event in the two texts.

Previous studies have not merely applied transitivity analysis but further proposed sub-categories of processes in transitivity analysis. Chen (2005) suggested neutral, positive, and negative verbal processes. According to her definitions, neutral verbal processes are represented by the verb ‘say’, which refers to a simple action of communication, or some other similar verbs such as ‘tell’ or ‘describe’. Positive and negative verbal processes on the other hand express attitude or tension in the saying actions. Chen’s (2005) positive verbal processes include ‘announce’ and ‘declare’, and negative verbal processes are ‘deny’ and ‘claim’, for example. She claimed that there was a degree of writers’ choice available for these ‘saying’ verbs, and the choice would influence a reader’s perception to be ‘pushed in a particular direction’ (Chen, 2005). In her study, she analyzed negative verbal processes and identified three sub-functions of negative verbal processes: material negative verbal processes, attitudinal negative verbal processes, and relational negative verbal processes. The first of these, material negative verbal processes, are used to represent particular verbal actions for which the writer had little choice over the verb they chose (i.e., a plea of guilt). For the other two functions, on the other hand, she found that writers had choice over the verbs (i.e., ‘say’ or ‘claim’). By analyzing the sayers of these verbal processes, Chen (2005) concluded that the choice of verbal process verbs consciously or unconsciously convey the writers’ attitude toward the sayers in texts. These results also indicated that the analysis of negative processes is a useful tool to reveal attitudinal media bias and the relationship between the writers and the participants.

**SUMMARY**

The review of the literature has shown that much research has been done on media texts; however, very little has been done to reveal cross-cultural perspectives reflected in media texts. Group polarization (i.e., representations of ingroup and outgroup) as well as cross-cultural perspectives in media texts have been investigated mainly using CDA, and positive inclination toward the ingroup expressed by linguistic choices were found in some texts. At the same time, some media texts were found by CDA to have been written in a
neutral way without bias. This conclusion differs from the assumption that some researchers have discussed, namely, that events presented in texts are interpreted by the writers; therefore, all media texts are subjectively written. Thus, media texts always reflect the writers’ perspectives on the events reported. In fact, the studies conducted with transitivity analysis have concluded that all the media texts studied were somehow manipulated linguistically, and multiple versions of the same event were represented through the media. However, these studies conducted with transitivity analysis have little to offer in revealing cross-cultural perspectives represented in cross-linguistic media texts. Thus, this study aims to investigate how cross-cultural perspectives can be realized by linguistic representations in cross-linguistic media texts using transitivity analysis.
CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

In this chapter, I will discuss the newspaper articles and the framework employed in analyzing these texts. First, I will provide a description of the texts and the reasons why I chose these specific texts for analysis. A brief background on whaling issues will be presented to support the choice of texts. Next, I will explain the analytical framework used in this study. The processes and participants in transitivity analysis will be discussed, and the categorizations of participants used in this study will be explained by considering the categorizations employed in previous studies.

DATA

In this study, twelve newspaper articles were analyzed. All of the articles were written on the issues and the tensions between Japanese whalers and the anti-whaling activist group ‘Sea Shepherd’ (SS). Specifically, two incidents were selected to be the topic of these texts to achieve consistency in content. The first incident was the collision of an anti-whaling vessel Ady Gil and a Japanese ship Shonan Maru 2 on January 6th, 2010. The second incident was the arrest of Peter Bethune, the skipper of the anti-whaling vessel, on February 15th, 2010. The articles were collected from major newspapers from three different countries: Australia (The Australian, The Sydney Morning Herald and The Daily Telegraph), the United States (The New York Times and Los Angeles Times), and Japan (Asahi-Shinbun, Sankei-Shinbun and Yomiuri-Shinbun) (see the Appendix). In this study, the acronyms AUS, US, and JPN will be used to refer to the article sets from Australia, the United States, and Japan respectively. These countries were selected because of their affiliations with the issue on whaling. Australia as a nation has expressed its anti-whaling stance. In one of the recent events regarding the whaling issue, Australia launched legal action against the Japanese whaling program in the International Court of Justice and showed the country’s strong stance against whaling. Also, Australia offers the conservation group Sea Shepherd home ports for their fleet. On the other hand, according to the International Whaling Commission (IWC),
Japan is one of a few countries which have been issued scientific permits to catch whales since a moratorium on commercial whaling was adopted by the IWC in 1986. Japan has been involved in whaling for centuries before the moratorium came into force, and continued whaling for scientific purposes after 1986. While Japan justifies their whaling as a legal activity for research purposes, there has been criticism that Japan uses their research whaling as a disguise for commercial whaling. In contrast with the extreme stances that Australia and Japan take on whaling issues, the US has shown its anti-whaling stance in a more modest manner. While animal right activists such as Sea Shepherd have attempted to stop Japanese whaling, the US has aimed to convince Japan and other pro-whaling countries to accept a compromise by reducing the number of whales caught. In addition, the US has not been directly involved with the incidents caused by the tension between Sea Shepherd and Japanese whalers. Therefore, the newspaper articles from these three countries were expected to provide a wide range of interpretations of the incidents and differing points of view on the whaling issues. Four articles were selected from each country’s newspapers, and two of the four articles were written on the same incident. AUS1&2, US1&2, and JPN1&2 were the reports on the incident on January 6th, 2010, and AUS3&4, US3&4, and JPN3&4 were the reports on the incident on February 15th, 2010. These newspaper articles were analyzed using the transitivity framework to explore how different linguistic choices construct different perspectives in the three sets of texts.

**Transitivity Analysis**

The system of transitivity identifies the experiential meaning expressed in texts and captures how reality is constructed in the texts represented by different linguistic choices. Thus, transitivity analysis is a useful tool to examine the newspaper articles from three different countries taking different stances on a particular issue. The transitivity system looks at the grammar of the clauses as representation and is concerned with three aspects of the clause: processes, participants, and circumstances (Eggins, 2004). The process choice is realized in the verbal group of the clause (e.g., Ady Gil dangled a rope in the water), and the participants are realized in the nominal groups of the clause (e.g., Ady Gil dangled a rope in the water) (Eggins, 2004). The circumstantial meanings include location, manner, and cause,
and are realized in adverbial groups or prepositional phrases (e.g., Ady Gil dangled a rope in the water). In this study, only the elements of processes and participants were analyzed.

The Process Types

The processes in the transitivity system are divided into six types: material (i.e., processes of doing), mental (i.e., processes of sensing), verbal (i.e., processes of saying), behavioral (i.e., ‘half-way house’ between material and mental), existential (i.e., being/existing), and relational (i.e., assigning attributes or identities). In the following sections, I will describe the six processes using examples from the Australian newspapers. The descriptions of the processes are drawn from Eggins (2004).

Material processes are processes of doing, which are usually concrete and tangible. These processes express affairs in which some entity does something or undertakes some actions. The most frequent participants involved in material processes are actors and goals. Actors are the entities which carry out the actions, and goals are the entities upon which the actions are acted.

(1) The Ady Gil deployed a rope from its stern to… (AUS1)

In example (1), the Ady Gil is the actor, and a rope is the goal of this material process clause determined by the action ‘deployed’.

Mental processes are processes of sensing. These processes express cognition (e.g., know), affection (e.g., like), and perception (e.g., hear). Mental processes require two participants: sensor and phenomenon. Sensors must be conscious human participants or active participants, and phenomena must be non-active participants.

(2) “We didn’t think too much of them at the time… “ (AUS2)

In this mental process realized by the verb ‘think’, We is the sensor, and them (referring to some planes in this sentence from the previous context) is the phenomenon.

Verbal processes are processes of saying. These processes usually include three participants: sayer, receiver, and verbiage. Sayers are the entities which signal the processes, and they typically are conscious participants. Receivers are the entities to whom the verbal processes are directed, and verbiage is the statement of the verbal processes.

(3) Two men aboard the flights told locals they were “looking for people who were looking for whales.” (AUS1)
In example (3), the verbal process is realized by the verb ‘told’. The sayer is *Two men aboard the flights*, and the receiver is *locals*. The verbiage is the subordinate clause following *locals*. In this study, subordinate clauses as verbiage were analyzed for their own processes independently from the process types of their main clauses.

Behavioral processes are defined as being mid-way between material and mental processes. These processes are realized by actions which must be experienced by conscious participants. The actions which are considered behavioral processes are *cough*, *dream*, and *laugh*, for example. The behavioral processes typically contain one participant: behaver. Due to the nature of newspaper articles, behavioral processes were not found in any texts in my data.

While the processes explained above encode meanings about actions, existential and relational processes encode meanings about *states of being*. Existential processes are simply realized by the existence of some entities, and involve the use of the word ‘*there*’. The participants in existential processes are existents: the entities that exist.

(4) There is *a big gaping hole*, so… (*AUS2*)

In example (4), the existential process is marked by the word ‘there’, and the existent of the existential process is *a big gaping hole*.

Relational processes can be divided into two groups: attributive and identifying processes. Attributive processes assign classifications or descriptions to some entities. These attributive processes contain two participants: carriers and attributes. Carriers are the entities to whom the description was assigned, and attributes are the descriptions.

(5) “*We* first became *aware* of this on December 9 when....” (*AUS2*)

In example (5), the attributive process is realized by the verb ‘became’. The carrier is *We*, and the attribute is *aware*. The essential characteristic of attributive processes is that an attributive clause is not reversible. That is, the subject is always a carrier and can never be an attribute.

Identifying processes, in contrast to attributive processes, define some entities. The entities defined by the identifying processes are called tokens, and the entities which define tokens are called values.

(6) Bethune is *the first member of the group to fall into their hands*. (*AUS3*)
In example (6), the identifying process is realized by the verb ‘is’. The token is *Bethune*, and the noun clause *the first member of the group to fall into their hands* is the value. Unlike the attributive processes, identifying clauses are reversible. This reversibility raises a problem in determining the role of the participants grammatically (i.e., which side of the clause is the token and which is the value). However, these roles can be assigned semantically; the tokens are nominal groups that contain ‘names’, and the values are the entities that define the tokens.

Using the above definitions, the verbs that realize the processes as well as the participants involved in the processes were examined and analyzed in this study. First, the verbs in all the clauses in the newspaper articles were categorized into process types to examine patterns in the process types used in the newspaper articles. The participants of the common process types were categorized to see which entities were included or excluded from the realizations of the processes.

**The Participants**

The participants of material processes and verbal processes in the newspaper articles (i.e., actors and goals for material processes and sayers for verbal processes) were identified and categorized. The categorizations were created with reference to previous studies that analyzed news articles, and were strongly influenced by the study conducted by Lukin (2005). In Lukin (2005), which was about grammatical patterns in two news reports on the Iraq war, categorizations were created based on the participants: affiliations with the Iraq war such as countries (e.g., the US), institutions (e.g., government), specific groups of people (e.g., civilians), and abstractions (e.g., effect of the war). The results of the categorizations showed that the portrayal of an event can differ depending on the entities incorporated, and the affiliations of the entities to countries or specific groups affect the ways in which the event is depicted. In addition, Lukin’s (2005) categorizations for the actors include ‘act of war’ and ‘technology’. The ‘act of war’ and ‘technology’ categories include some entities such as ‘attacks’ and ‘bombardments’, which are both non-human entities. It is mentioned in her article that the ‘act of war’ was carried out by the US and ‘technology’ was deployed by the US; however, the writer chose to include non-human entities instead of ‘the US’ as a country or a group of people as participants. The use of non-human entities, as Lukin (2005)
found, is often observed in history textbooks. In Eggins, Wignell, & Martin (1993), it is stated that representations of history are often formed by removing people and using non-human or nominalized actions instead even though history is about “people who did things to each other in real time and space” (p. 96). Since newspaper articles are also about events that involve people and actions in real time, the use of non-human entities found in history textbooks in place of human entities for the purpose of ‘dehumanized’ representations of events is likely to be found in newspaper articles. Therefore, the categorization of entities as human or non-human allows us to identify the entities which are represented as dehumanized participants, and how the choices affect the representations of the event.

Considering how effective it was in previous studies to categorize participants according to their countries and as human or non-human, the participants of material processes (i.e., actors and goals) and verbal processes (i.e., sayers) in the newspaper articles were also categorized by these criteria. First, the participants were identified and grouped by their countries. Here, I treated a specific group, namely SS, *Sea Shepherd*, equally to countries such as Australia and Japan since the whaling issue portrayed in the corpus was mainly dealt with the tension between two countries but SS and Japan. Next, each country group was re-categorized into human or non-human groups. At this point of the categorizing process, there were groups which could be described in finer ways than merely by their countries or human/ non-human criteria. For example, among the actors of the material processes in the Australian articles, non-human SS actors consisted of *Ady Gil*, *Bob Barker*, and *Steve Irwin*, all of which were the names of SS ships. Thus, I named this specific category ‘SS ships’. Similarly, Japanese human actors in the Australian newspapers included *Japanese whalers*, *Japanese authorities*, and *Coast guard officials*. In this case, these three participants belong to two different institutions: the Japanese whaling crew and the Japanese government. Therefore, I divided the Japanese human actor group into two categories: ‘Japanese whalers’ and ‘Japanese government’. The categorizations varied across different participants (i.e., actors, goals, and sayers) depending on the choices the texts offered; however, the same or similar categorization procedures were applied for categorizations of participants for other processes.
TYPES OF VERBS

The types of verbs used in material and verbal processes were further categorized. The framework for categorizing the types of the verbs was borrowed and modified from Chen (2005), where she studied the functions of negative verbal process in media texts. In Chen (2005), it is argued that there is ‘a degree of choice’ available when the producer of a text chooses a verb to report a verbiage that someone uttered. Thus, the verb choice reflects the writer’s attitude toward the sayer of the verbiage reported. Moreover, the verb choice can be used to push the reader towards a certain view of the sayer (Chen, 2005). She proposed three sub-categories of verbal processes: neutral, positive, and negative verbal processes, depending on the verbs used. Negative verbal processes include ‘insist’, ‘claim’, and ‘deny’. The negative verbal verbs were defined as adding ‘an element of conflict or tension’ to the basic communication process realized by the verb ‘say’ (Chen, 2005). Chen (2005) describes her definitions of ‘neutral’ and ‘negative’ verbal processes by comparing these two possibilities in expressing the same verbal event:

(7) “Mr. Blair’s official spokesman insisted that the Prime Minister still had the highest regard for Mr. Brown.”

(8) “Mr. Blair’s official spokesman said that the Prime Minister still had the highest regard for Mr. Brown.”

Chen (2005) argues that the writer of example (7) had the option to substitute any other neutral verb such as say in example (8) for the verbal process insist; therefore, the use of alternatives such as insist indicates the attitude of the writer toward the sayer. Combining these definitions of sub-categories of the processes with the categorizations of sayers, it is possible to see, for example, which entity as sayer was included in a relationship with a negative verbal process. In this study, I applied Chen’s (2005) framework to material and verbal processes, and examined the participants that were involved in negative process types.

SUMMARY

Twelve newspaper reports from three countries on the events illustrating the tensions between Japanese whalers and the anti-whaling activist group SS will be analyzed in this study. The transitivity framework was used to analyze the process types used and the participants included in these newspaper articles. Also, the types of verbs used in material
and verbal processes will be categorized. By using the analysis described above, I hope to explore the similarities and differences in the linguistic representations of a particular issue in newspaper reports written from different perspectives.
CHAPTER 4

RESULTS

In this chapter, I will discuss the process types and participants that were frequently used in the newspaper articles. First, the distribution of process types used in the three sets of newspaper reports will be presented. Next, the participants in the material and verbal processes will be described using the categorizations given in the previous chapter. In addition, the types of verbs used in material and verbal processes will be examined in order to explore the participants that were represented in negative process types in the newspaper reports.

PROCESS TYPES

The distribution of process types provides us a broad picture of what kind of experiential meanings are more frequently used to construct reality in the newspaper articles. A total of 457 clauses (175, 185, and 97 clauses in the newspaper articles from Australia, the US, and Japan respectively) were labeled and grouped according to their process types: material, mental, behavioral, verbal, existential, and relational processes. The proportion of all the process types in each set of articles by country is shown in Figure 1.

Material processes were the most frequently used process types in all three sets of articles: 50.2%, 44.8%, and 55.6% in the newspaper reports from Australia, the US, and Japan respectively. This dominance of material processes in newspaper articles indicates that meaning in the newspaper articles was constructed mainly by delineating actions that were carried out in the past. Meanwhile, the use of verbal processes was more frequent in the newspaper articles from Australia and the US than in the ones from Japan. The Australian and the US articles each contained approximately twice as many verbal processes as the Japanese articles (28%, 34.5% and 14.4% respectively), indicating a certain degree of difference in realizing past events in the newspaper articles across countries. In addition, relational processes were found in the articles from all three countries with a roughly equal frequency. Lastly, the Japanese articles were found to include existential processes more than
Figure 1. Percentages of process types in the newspaper articles from Australia, the US, and Japan.

others (10.3% compared to 1.7% and 0.5% in the articles from Australia and the US respectively). In this study, I will focus on the two most frequently used process types, material and verbal processes, and examine the participants and verbs in these process types in the following sections.

**Material Processes**

Material processes express the processes of actions, and the choice of participants affects the meaning of the texts. For example, the actor may be omitted in passive constructions, and that could hide the performer of the action from the context. Also, the use of non-human actors enables the writers of the texts to ‘dehumanize’ the actions being represented. Therefore, the categorization of participants allows us to explore how linguistic choices affect the representations of the event. In the following sections, the participants of material processes in the newspaper articles will be categorized to see if there were differences in the representations of the actions reported.

**Actors in Material Processes**

The categorization of actors by their properties (country, organization, and animate or inanimate) uncovers who was included or excluded as the active source of actions in the
representation of an event. The actors were grouped into seven categories on the basis of their affiliations and their representations as human or non-human. The categories are: Japanese vessels, Japanese whalers, Japanese governments, SS ships, SS activists, Australian or New Zealand’s governments, and others. The ellipsed actors in passive clauses were also counted. In order to review the frequency of these actors in each set of articles, the percentages were calculated by dividing the number of clauses which had each actor group by the total number of all material process clauses in each set. The proportion of the actors in each category is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Percentages of actors of material processes in the articles from Australia, the US, and Japan.

Figure 2 shows differences in the frequency of Japanese whalers, SS ships, and SS activists used as actors among the three sets of newspaper reports. First, in the Australian articles, Japanese whalers (e.g., ‘Japanese whalers’, ‘they’) were employed as actors over three times as often as in the American or Japanese articles. The following is an example of the use of Japanese whalers as an actor in the Australian newspaper article:

(1) Anti-whaling group Sea Shepherd has confirmed their ship the Ady Gil has been rammed and cut it half by Japanese whalers. *(AUS)*

It is important to note that here in example (1) the writer had an option to choose ‘a Japanese vessel’ as the actor of this particular material process. Nevertheless, ‘Japanese
whalers’ was intentionally chosen to describe the incident. By utilizing the animate actor (e.g., *Japanese whalers*) instead of the inanimate actor (e.g., *a Japanese vessel*), the incident is being depicted as more humanly violent or intentional.

Next, the frequency of SS ships and SS activists as actors appears to be different between the US articles and other two sets of articles. Both Australian and Japanese articles include SS ships as the actors roughly three times as frequently as the US articles do. On the other hand, the US articles include SS activists as the actors approximately twice as often as the other sets of articles. These differences indicate that the US articles may have employed SS activists where the Australian and Japanese articles used SS ships to represent the same event. Example (2) and (3) display the use of SS ships, the Ady Gil, as the actor in the Australian and Japanese articles:

(2) The ICR said *the Ady Gil* came “within collision distance” directly in front of the Nisshin Maru bow and repeatedly deployed a rope from its stern “to entangle the Japanese vessel’s rudder and propeller”. *(AUS1)*

(3) Douchou-ni-yoruto, *Ady-gou* doujitsu gozen
The Ministry of AFF-P-according to *Ady Gil* TOP same day in the morning
san-ji goro-kara, bosen-no Nisshin Maru (8044 ton)-no
three o’clock about from mother ship-P Nisshin Maru (8044 ton)-POS
shinro-ni ro-pu-wo nageireru-nado-no bougaikou-wo
a course-P a rope-ACC throw in- and so forth-P interference activity-ACC
si-tei-ta.
do-PAST
“According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, on the same day around three o’clock, *Ady Gil* was interfering with Nisshin Maru by throwing a rope into its course and so forth.” *(JPN1)*

In contrast, example (4) illustrates the case of SS activists as the actors in the US articles:

(4) *The Ady Gil’s crew* lobbed small projectiles designed to release a foul smell, … *(USA2)*

Examples (2) to (4) all represent similar events where SS actors carried out some activities, which can be reasonablly labled as negative actions. It should be noted here that
the writers could have used SS activists (e.g., *the Ady Gil’s crew*) instead of using SS ships (e.g., *the Ady Gil*) to report the same event in example (2) and (3). Likewise, the writer of example (4) had the option to choose SS ships in place of SS activists as the actor of the action. The use of SS ships as the actors helps to reduce the sense of animacy compared to having SS activists as the actors. It is interesting that animate actors were frequently used in the articles from the US, which could be considered as a neutral party regarding this whaling issue. On the other hand, the Australian and Japanese writers showed a preference for inanimate actors when describing the actions in which these two countries were involved. Moreover, it is also interesting that a preference for animate actors in the US newspaper reports is not seen in the use of Japanese vessels and Japanese whalers as actors but the SS personnel. In contrast, the Australian writers frequently included animate actors in describing the actions carried out by Japanese actors. Also, the Japanese writers used inanimate actors more frequently for both SS and Japanese actors.

In addition to the similarities and differences in the frequency of explicitly mentioned actors, the instances of ellipsed actors vary across the three sets of articles. As the ‘Ellipsed’ columns in Figure 2 indicates, the US and the Japanese articles include ellipsed actors more frequently than the Australian articles. The use of ellipsed actors in passive clauses can affect the representation of events by concealing who carried out the actions. Examples (5) and (6) illustrate the use of ellipsed actors (indicated by italics in parenthesis):

(5) The Shonan Maru 2 was directing a water cannon at the Ady Gil before and during the collision, which is clearly seen on the video, and the bow of the Ady Gil was sheared off (*by the Shonan Maru 2*). (*USA1*)

(6) 08-nen 3-gatu-niwa ishuu-wo hanatsu ekitai iri-no bin nado-ga 08 year 3 month-P foul smell-ACC release liquid contained-P bottle etc-ACC Nisshin Maru-ni nagekomare, norikumiin-to kaijyouoankan-no kei Nisshin Maru-P thrown into crews-and the Maritime Safety agents-P total 3-nin-ga me-ni ekitai-ga hairu nado-no keishou-wo otte-iru. 3-people-SUB eye-P liquid-ACC get into etc-P mild injury-ACC suffer-PAST ‘In March 2008, the bottles with foul liquid inside were thrown into Nisshin Maru (*by SS actor*), and its crews and the Maritime Safety agents, total three people, got the liquid in their eyes and were mildly injured.’ (*JPN1*)
The high frequency of ellipsed actors in the Japanese articles may be due to the characteristics of the Japanese language. In Japanese, the actors are very often the topics of the clauses, which can be omitted when they are obvious. However, the use of ellipsed actors still gives the texts a certain degree of vagueness. In the US articles, on the other hand, the writers seem to have chosen to employ passive constructions in order to omit the actors. The US articles seem to prefer not to shed light on the actors as much as the Australian articles do.

In summary, the choices of the actors in material processes appeared to differ among the three sets of newspaper reports. More specifically, the Australian articles utilized animate actors such as Japanese whalers whereas the Japanese articles seemed more inclined to use inanimate actors such as Ady Gil. Moreover, the Australian articles included a high frequency of animate actors when they were Japanese but not when they were SS while the Japanese writers preferred to employ inanimate actors when referring to entities from both sides. In addition, the US articles, which we might expect to take a neutral stance on the whaling issue, included SS activists as actors more frequently than the other sets of articles do. Nevertheless, the US writers used ellipsed actors more often than others, especially compared to the Australian writers who wrote in the same language.

**Goals in Material Processes**

In contrast to the actors in material processes, the goals are the constituents at whom the process is directed (Eggins, 2004). Goals are only found in transitive clauses. Thus, the analysis of goal constituents identifies the material processes that represent actions involving two or more participants, and reveals the participants who are affected by the actions. The categorization of goals by their properties (country, organization, animate/inanimate) reveals what are included or excluded as the recipients of actions in the representation of an event. The goals were grouped into seven categories on the basis of their affiliations and their representations as human or non-human. The categories are: Japanese vessels, Japanese people, Japanese law and process, SS ships, SS activists, SS activities, and Australian aircraft. The goals that did not fit in any of the categories were counted as 'others'. In order to examine the proportion of the goals in each set of articles, percentages of each goal group within all transitive material process clauses were calculated. The proportion of the goals in
each category is shown in Figure 3. It should be noted here that the number of material process clauses with goals was significantly smaller in the Japanese articles (29 goal constituents) compared to the Australian (58 goal constituents) and American (59 goal constituents) articles. Even so, the proportion of the goal participants indicates some interesting differences among the three sets of articles.

Figure 3 shows that the goal participants related to Sea Shepherd (e.g., SS ships, SS activists, SS activities) were used frequently compared to the goals participants related to Japan (e.g., Japanese vessels, Japanese people, Japanese law/process). Figure 3 also indicates notable differences in the frequency of Japanese law/process, SS ships, and Australian aircraft as the goals among the three sets of newspaper reports.

First, only the Japanese articles include Japanese law/process (e.g., *Japanese law*) as the goals of material processes. Example (7) shows the use of Japanese law/process as the goal:

(7) Jiken-wa nankyokukaijyou-de okita-ga, daini Shonan Maru-wa Incident-TOP Antarctic Ocean surface-at occur-PAST-but 2 Shonan Maru-TOP Nihon-seki-nanode nihon-no houritsu-ga tekiyou-sareru. Japan-registered-because Japan-POS law-ACC apply-PASS

‘The collision took place on the Antarctic Ocean; however, *Japanese law* will be
applied because Shonan Maru 2 is a Japanese-registered ship.’ *(JPN3)*

Even though there were only a few instances of Japanese law/process as the goal in the Japanese articles, it is interesting that the other two sets of the articles did not include Japanese law/process at all as the goal. Aspects of Japanese law/process of this particular event were not included in the Australian and the US articles.

Next, SS ships were frequently used as goal in the Australian and the US articles whereas there are only a few instances in the Japanese articles. Example (8) and (9) illustrate the case of SS ships as the goal:

(8) *The high-tech stealth boat Ady Gil was cut in half and sunk by a Japanese security vessel in Antarctic waters today, dramatically upping the stakes in the annual struggle between whalers and protesters.* *(AUS1)*

(9) The society said *its vessel Ady Gil – a high-tech speedboat that resembles a stealth bomber* – was hit by the Japanese ship the Shonan Maru near Commonwealth Bay and had about 10 feet of its bow knocked off. *(USA2)*

It should be pointed out here that passive voice is used in both cases of Japanese law/process and SS ships as the goals (example 7-9 above). The use of passive voice foregrounds the goals and backgrounds the actors.

Third, the use of Australian aircraft as goal was unique to the Australian articles. The other two sets of articles did not include any entities that were the property of Australia as goals. Example (10) shows the use of the Australian aircraft as the goal:

(10) Captain Watson said whalers had hired *Australian aircraft* to find the protest vessels and pass their locations on. *(AUS2)*

It is noteworthy here that in all the instances of the Australian aircraft as the goal, the actors were all Japanese (e.g., whalers, *Institute of Cetacean Research representative*). Moreover, the verbs in these material processes were limited to ‘hire’ and ‘charter’. Therefore, the Australian aircraft as the goals were used to describe one specific event (e.g., *Japanese actor hired Australian aircraft*), and this information is absent in the US and the Japanese articles.

To summarize, the representations of the goals in material processes appear to greatly vary across the three sets of articles. The high frequency of SS goals is observed among all the sets of articles. In contrast, Japanese law/process and Australian aircraft are uniquely
found in the Japanese articles and the Australian articles respectively. Furthermore, SS ships as the goals are frequently included in the Australian and the US articles, but not frequently in the Japanese articles.

**Active and Passive Voice**

In material processes, active voice can be used to feature the actors whereas passive voice can be used to foreground the goals. Therefore, the writers’ choice of voice as well as the actor and goal constituents influences the representation of events. In order to examine the writers’ preferences in the use of voice and the actor constituents in material processes, all material processes were categorized by their voice and the properties of the actors. The actors were grouped into categories on the basis of their affiliations: SS, Japanese, and ‘Others’. Also, omitted actors were placed in the category labeled as ‘Omitted’. The frequency was calculated by dividing the number of instances in each group by the total number of material processes. The percentages of each group in the three sets of the articles are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Percentages of Active and Passive Voices in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>&lt;SS Actor&gt;</th>
<th>&lt;JPN Actor&gt;</th>
<th>&lt;Others&gt;</th>
<th>&lt;Omitted&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Passive</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Passive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUS</td>
<td>29 (32.9%)</td>
<td>4 (4.5%)</td>
<td>32 (36.3%)</td>
<td>6 (6.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>26 (31.3%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>26 (31.3%)</td>
<td>4 (4.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
<td>18 (33.3%)</td>
<td>1 (1.8%)</td>
<td>19 (35.1%)</td>
<td>3 (5.5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As Table 1 indicates, the use of active voice is significantly higher than passive voice across the three sets of the articles. Also, the use of active voice did not differ between the two categories of actors, SS actor and Japanese actor, in each set of newspaper reports. In addition, the US and Japanese newspaper articles utilized omitted actors more frequently than the Australian articles (the sum of the percentages of passive actor inclusions is 4.8% in the US and 7.3% in Japanese articles compared to 13.5% in the Australian articles). The use
of active voice, therefore, was not different according to the actors or among the three sets of articles, but the use of omitted actors in passive material processes differed across the three sets of newspaper reports.

**Verbs in Material Processes**

In this section, the meanings or the ‘loads’ of the verbs used in material processes will be further examined. In the previous sections, the writers’ choice of the actors and the goals in material processes was shown to differ across the three sets of newspaper reports. However, the choice of the actor and the goal constituents is not the only factor that influences the representation of reality. The choice of verbs is also a meaningful component of material processes and affect the representation of events.

Chen (2005) proposes a refinement of Halliday’s verbal process category and defines negative verbal processes as “demonstrating a certain negativity of feeling on the part of the writer towards the person whose words the verbal process is being used to introduce” (p. 37). Using this definition, negative material processes in this study were defined as the actions that are harmful, offensive, or hostile to the goals. Negative material process verbs were extracted from the data and are listed in Table 2.

**Table 2. Negative Material Verbs in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>destroy</th>
<th>cut</th>
<th>ram</th>
<th>spray</th>
<th>tear off</th>
<th>refuse</th>
<th>hit</th>
<th>shadow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>damage</td>
<td>hide</td>
<td>Tear apart</td>
<td>charge</td>
<td>arrest</td>
<td>shake off</td>
<td>fail</td>
<td>kill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shear off</td>
<td>sink</td>
<td>harass</td>
<td>protest</td>
<td>strike</td>
<td>aim</td>
<td>clash</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>threaten</td>
<td>break</td>
<td>injure</td>
<td>restrict</td>
<td>invade</td>
<td>warn</td>
<td>collide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Among the negative verbs in Table 2, some verbs appeared more frequently than others. The most frequent negative verbs in each set of newspaper articles were ‘cut’ and ‘arrest’ (4 instances each, 4.5% of the number of material processes) in the Australian articles, ‘damage’, ‘shear off’, ‘arrest’, and ‘charge’ (2 instances each, 2.4%) in the US articles, and ‘collide’ (11 instances, 20.3%) in the Japanese articles. Based solely on the frequently used negative verbs in each set of the articles, the Japanese articles appear to represent the event differently from others. The most frequent negative verb in the Japanese articles (i.e., collide) was not found in the other two sets at all, and similar meaning was
expressed by other verbs such as ‘damage’ and ‘cut’. Since ‘colliding’ involves two participants with equal responsibility while ‘damaging’ or ‘cutting’ blames one participant for the action, the Australian and US articles seemed to blame Japanese actors for the incident whereas the Japanese articles expressed it as a mutual responsibility.

In order to identify the entities which accompanied these negative material processes, the negative material processes were categorized by the actor groups: SS, Japanese, other, and omitted actors. The percentages of actor categories in these negative processes were calculated by dividing the number of instances in each group by the total number of negative material processes in each set of newspaper articles. The percentages are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Percentages of Actors of Negative Material Processes in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SS Actor</th>
<th>JPN Actor</th>
<th>Others</th>
<th>Omitted Actor</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUS</td>
<td>2 (8.3%)</td>
<td>18 (75%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4 (16.6%)</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>4 (20%)</td>
<td>10 (50%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6 (30%)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
<td>9 (45%)</td>
<td>10 (50%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 (5%)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total instances of negative material processes in each set of the articles were approximately equal. However, the Japanese article set includes significantly fewer material process clauses than the other two sets of the articles (54 clauses compared to 88 and 83 in the Australian and the US articles respectively). Therefore, the percentage of negative material processes in the Japanese articles is strikingly higher than those in the other two sets of the articles.

Although the number of instances of negative material processes were similar across the each set of articles, the most striking pattern in the frequency of certain actors associated with negative material processes was observed in the Australian and the US articles. The frequency of Japanese actors with negatively loaded verbs was higher than SS actors in negative processes in these two sets of articles. This means that the Japanese actors are portrayed as the actors of negative actions more frequently than any other actor in the Australian and the US articles. This result shows the similar phenomenon as the observation of frequently used negative verbs indicated (i.e., the Australian and US articles frequently used negative verbs that blame one participant, namely Japanese actor, for the action). On the
other hand, the Japanese articles include roughly equal percentages of SS and Japanese actors with negative material processes. Example (11) and (12) illustrate cases of Japanese actors in negative material processes:

(11) Anti-whaling group Sea Shepherd have confirmed their ship the Ady Gil has been *rammed* and *cut* in half *by Japanese whalers*. *(AUS2)*

(12) A conservation group’s boat had its bow *sheared off* and was taking on water Wednesday after it was *struck* by *a Japanese whaling ship* in the frigid waters off Antarctica, the group said. *(USA2)*

It should be noted here that in both examples (11) and (12), the material processes are represented in passive voice with the actors in a prepositional phrase (i.e., *by Japanese whalers*). That is, the writers had an option not to include the actors of these negative material processes. Also, the writers could have used active voice instead. By using passive voice with the actors presented in a prepositional phrase instead of using active voice, the actor of the negative action and the goal affected by the negative processes are emphasized. The frequent use of negative verbs with the Japanese actors in the Australian and the US newspaper reports shows the writers’ stances toward the incident, which hold the Japanese actors responsible for certain negative actions.

To briefly conclude, the use of negative loaded verbs in the representation of actions varies across the three sets of articles. First, the Australian and the US articles have Japanese actors associated with the negative actions more often than SS actors. On the other hand, the SS and Japanese actors were treated roughly equally in the Japanese articles in terms of their engagement in negative material processes. In addition, the Japanese articles report on the actions using negatively loaded verbs relatively frequently. Thus, the Australian and the US newspaper reports depicted the incidents as negative actions that the Japanese actors are responsible for, whereas the Japanese reports expressed the events as a mutual responsibility and a negative phenomenon without differentiating among the participants involved.

**VERBAL PROCESSES**

Verbal processes refer to processes of saying (Eggins, 2004). As Figure 1 indicated earlier in this chapter, verbal processes were used the second most frequently in the newspaper reports. The categorizations of sayers in verbal processes according to their
affiliations with the issue can reveal whose voice was included or excluded in the texts. In the following sections, the participants of verbal processes in the newspaper articles and the ensuing differences in the representation of the verbal events will be discussed.

**Sayers in Verbal Processes**

The sayers were grouped into five categories on the basis of their affiliations with the issue. The categories are: Japanese officials, Japanese whalers, Japanese protesters, SS activists, and Australian or New Zealand’s governments. The entities that did not fit any of the categories above were placed in the category labeled as ‘Others’. Additionally, the ellipsed sayers in passive clauses were also counted. In order to review the frequency of these sayers in each set of articles, the percentages were calculated by dividing the number of clauses which had each sayer group by the total number of all verbal process clauses in each set. The proportion of the sayers in each category is shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4 shows that the Australian newspaper reports included a more extensive range of entities as sayers than the other sets. For example, Japanese protesters as sayers appeared only in the Australian articles. In contrast, the Japanese newspaper reports included a limited range of sayer categories; no sayer in the category of Japanese protester, the Australian or New Zealand government, or “Others” was found in the Japanese articles.

Also, Figure 4 shows that the SS activists as sayers were included most frequently in the Australian and the US newspaper reports. In contrast, Japanese officials were the most frequent sayers in the Japanese articles. Utilizing Japanese officials as the sayers may add
The sentences in (13) and (14) display examples of Japanese officials as sayer:

(13) *Nourinsuisanshou*-wa ‘norikumiin-no inochi-wo obiyakasu kiwamete

The Ministry of AFF-TOP crew-POS life-ACC threaten extremely kiken-na koui-de yurus-areru mono-de-wa nai’ to SS-no dangerous behavior-P forgive-PASS thing-P-TOP NEG COMP SS-POS bougai-koui-wo hihan (shita).

Interference activity-ACC criticize-PAST

‘The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries criticized the interference activities by SS as ‘the extremely dangerous and unforgivable actions that threatened the crews’ lives.’’ (*JPN1*)

(14) *Spokesman Toshinori Uoya* said there were no injuries on the Japanese side.

(*USA2*)

In examples (13) and (14), Japanese officials as sayers were represented as a group and an individual respectively. These examples indicate that one category of sayer (e.g., Japanese officials) can be instantiated in two ways as a group or as an individual. Table 4 below shows the frequency of sayers as groups and individuals according to their affiliations (i.e., SS, Japan, Australia) in each set of newspaper articles.
Table 4. Percentages of Group and Individual Sayers in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>&lt;SS&gt;</th>
<th></th>
<th>&lt;JPN&gt;</th>
<th></th>
<th>&lt;AUS&gt;</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>Individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUS</td>
<td>4 (9.5%)</td>
<td>25 (59.5%)</td>
<td>6 (14.2%)</td>
<td>3 (7.1%)</td>
<td>2 (4.7%)</td>
<td>2 (4.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>9 (15.7%)</td>
<td>17 (29.8%)</td>
<td>16 (28%)</td>
<td>9 (15.7%)</td>
<td>1 (1.7%)</td>
<td>5 (8.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
<td>2 (14.2%)</td>
<td>2 (14.2%)</td>
<td>10(71.4%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 shows that most Japanese sayers were represented as groups in all the three sets of articles. In Japanese newspaper reports, Japanese sayers always appeared as groups. On the other hand, SS sayers were included as individuals more often than as groups. In the Australian and the US newspaper reports, SS individual sayers appeared more frequently than SS group sayers. Examples (15) and (16) show the uses of SS individuals and groups as sayers respectively:

(15) Captain Watson said the Ady Gil was idling in waters near Commonwealth Bay, south of Hobert, when it was suddenly approached and rammed by the Japanese ship Shonan Maru, which has been detailed to provide security to the fleet. (*AUS1*)

(16) SS-wa ‘Gil gou-wa teishi-shite-ita-ga totsuzen shoutotsu-sare-ta. SS-TOP Gil-TOP stop-PROG-PAST-NEG suddenly ram-PASS-PAST Nihon-gawa-wa kyuujuyo-mo shite-kure-na-katta’ to hihan (shita). Japanese side-TOP rescue-even do-PASS-NEG-PAST COMP criticize-PAST ‘SS criticized that ‘Ady Gil was idling but was suddenly rammed. The Japanese side didn’t even rescue us.’’ (*JPN2*)

It should be noted here that the verbal processes in examples (15) and (16) refer to the same event. Yet, one employed a group SS as sayer and the other an individual, Captain Watson. Using individual sayers over group sayers may provide more authenticity to the verbiage, and the responsibility of the verbiage would be borne by one individual rather than the whole group the sayer belongs to.

In summary, the categorizations of sayers in verbal processes showed the frequent use of SS activists in the Australian newspaper reports and of Japanese officials in the Japanese texts as sayers. In addition, the representations of these sayers differed among the three sets of texts. SS sayers were frequently included as individuals in the Australian and the US
newspaper reports while Japanese sayers only appeared as groups in the Japanese articles. The English reports tended to ascribe verbiage to an individual while the Japanese reports ascribed verbiage to groups, perhaps reflecting the individualist and collectivist nature of each society.

**Verbs in Verbal Processes**

In this section, the verbs of ‘saying’ categorized as negative and neutral will be further examined. Similar to the previous section on the verbs in material processes, negative verbal process verbs were extracted from the data and are listed in Table 5.

| Table 5. Negative Verbal Verbs in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| accuse                         | warn        | threaten    |
| shout                          | dispute     | criticize   |
| blame                          | demand      |

In order to analyze the entities which accompanied these negative verbal processes, the instances of negative verbal processes were counted and categorized by the major sayer groups: SS, Japanese, and other sayers. The percentages are shown in Table 6.

| Table 6. Percentages of Sayers of Negative Verbal Processes in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| SS Sayer                                        | JPN Sayer   | Others      | Total   |
| AUS 1 (20%)                                     | 3 (60%)     | 1 (20%)     | 5       |
| USA 4 (44.4%)                                    | 3 (33.3%)   | 2 (22.2%)   | 9       |
| JPN 1 (33.3%)                                    | 2 (66.6%)   | 0           | 3       |

Due to the low occurrences of negative verbal processes (a total of 17 instances out of 127 verbal processes), it is difficult to draw generalizations here. However, it is interesting that the negative verbal processes appeared in the Japanese newspaper reports accompanied mostly by Japanese sayers. Example (17) (same as 13) shows a Japanese sayer in a negative verbal process:
The Ministry of AFF-TOP crew-POS life-ACC threaten extremely kiken-na koui-de yurus-areru mono-de-wa nai’ to SS-no dangerous behavior-P forgive-PASS thing-P-TOP NEG COMP SS-POS bougai-koui-wo hihan (shita).

‘The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries criticized the interference activities by SS as ‘extremely dangerous and unforgivable actions that threatened the crews’ lives.’ (JPN1)

Since negative verbal processes were not used very frequently, sayers of neutral verbal processes were examined next. Neutral verbal processes are defined here as the verbal processes that are variations of the verb ‘say’, which do not include or encode negative connotations. Neutral verbal process verbs were extracted from the data and are listed in Table 7.

Table 7. Neutral Verbal Verbs in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Say</th>
<th>Tell</th>
<th>Speak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>report</td>
<td>call</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order to determine the entities which accompanied these neutral verbal processes, the instances of neutral verbal processes were counted and categorized by the sayer groups: SS, Japanese, and other sayers. The percentages were calculated by dividing the number of instances in each group by the number of all verbal processes. The percentages are shown in Table 8.

Table 8. Percentages of Sayers of Neutral Verbal Processes in the Articles from Australia, the US, and Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SS Sayer</th>
<th>JPN Sayer</th>
<th>Others</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUS</td>
<td>25 (80.6%)</td>
<td>4 (12.9%)</td>
<td>2 (6.4%)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>20 (42.5%)</td>
<td>23 (48.9%)</td>
<td>4 (8.5%)</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
<td>1 (16.6%)</td>
<td>5 (83.3%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 8 shows that neutral verbal processes were used dominantly with SS sayers in the Australian articles. On the other hand, Japanese sayers appeared relatively frequently in neutral verbal processes in the Japanese texts. Also, it is interesting that the frequency of neutral verbal processes with SS sayers and Japanese sayers was roughly equal in the US articles. Examples of neutral verbal processes with SS and Japanese sayers are shown in (18) and (19):

(18) *Sea Shepherd* said in a statement posted on its website that the boat was “believed to be sinking and chances of salvage are very grim.” (*USA2*)

(19) *The Institute of Cetacean Research* said the Ady Gil came “within collision distance” of the Nisshin Maru’s bow and repeatedly dangled a rope in the water that could have entangled the ship’s rudder and propeller. (*USA2*)

It should be noted here that the writer of examples (18) and (19) had the option to choose different verbs, ‘*insist*’ or ‘*claim*’ for example, to express the same verbiage. However, the writer chose the verb ‘*say*’ to report what each sayer had uttered. These choices represent the verbalizations in the US texts in a rather neutral fashion and appear less influenced by the writers’ perspectives toward the sayers.

The categorizations of verbal processes into negative and neutral verbal processes showed the dominant use of neutral verbal processes in the newspaper reports. Moreover, the Australian articles included neutral verbal processes with SS sayers more frequently than with others while the Japanese texts used them with Japanese sayers more often than with others. In addition, the use of neutral verbal processes with SS sayers and Japanese sayers in a roughly equal frequency in the US articles may have caused the US texts to represent the event as a neutral position on the issue discussed.

**SUMMARY**

The results of the analyses on process types and their participants as well as choice of voice and verb types indicated some similarities and differences in linguistic representations of two specific events in the three sets of newspapers. Based on the assumption that media texts are always interpreted by the writers and tend to reflect the writers’ perspectives on the events reported, it was assumed that the Australian reports might support the anti-whaling stance and the SS anti-whaling activities while the Japanese reports might show their support
for the pro-whaling stance either implicitly or explicitly. Also, it was predicted that the US reports would show their neutral stance. Transitivity analysis on these three sets of news reports revealed some common tendencies and interesting differences that broadly support these assumptions.

First of all, there are some similarities in the three sets of the news articles. Among all the sets of articles, material processes were dominantly used to report the events. This was not surprising since news texts mainly report actions. Also, the dominant appearance of SS goals (i.e., SS ships, SS activists, SS activities) was common in the three sets. This phenomenon may be explained by the nature of the events: two of the four reports in each set were written on the arrest of the skipper of the SS ship. Therefore, it is reasonable to have the SS goals appear more often than others in the texts. In addition, the active voice was mainly used in the reports, and the passive voice was not frequently used to hide the participants (e.g., omitted actors) in all the sets of the reports. This was fairly surprising since the use of the passive voice may be a useful strategy to conceal the actors and foreground the goals, which could be interpreted as victims in negative material processes. In fact, Seymour (2007) analyzed the representations of dominant groups and racioethnic minorities in newspapers and found the use of non-agentive passive mainly to hide dominant group members as actors of negative actions and to shield them from accusations. In this study, ellipsed actors were found in the US and the Japanese news reports more than in the Australian reports. However, the frequency of the ellipsed actors was considerably low compared to the expressed actors. Lastly, the dominant use of neutral verbal processes was common in all the sets of the reports. This means that the ‘loads’ of the verbal process verbs were not used to represent each writer’s perspective toward the event in those articles.

In addition to these similarities, transitivity analysis indicated some deep grammatical differences across the three sets of the newspaper reports. The elements that appeared as actors, goals, and sayers as well as their representations (i.e., animate or inanimate) seem to reflect the stances that each country took toward the whaling issue. In the Australian articles, Japanese whalers as the actors were used more frequently than in the other two sets. The Japanese whalers as the actors appeared in the context where other inanimate elements (e.g., Japanese ships) could be used instead to convey the same meaning. This means that the writers had the option to choose inanimate actors but might have intentionally selected
animate actors. Also, negative material processes were used very often with the Japanese actors in the Australian reports. These linguistic choices seem to foreground the Japanese actors as responsible for the damage SS ships suffered in the Australian reports. Also, the SS sayers appeared as individuals more frequently than as groups while the Japanese sayers appeared more often as groups in the Australian articles than in other sets. This choice of individual sayers in the Australian reports may have given more responsibility to the SS sayers than the other sayers. By these linguistic choices, the Australian reports seem to present Japanese people as perpetrators of the incidents reported, and the voices of individual Japanese people were backgrounded.

Similar to the frequent use of Japanese whalers rather than Japanese ships as the actors in the Australian articles, the SS activists as actors appeared very frequently in the US reports. SS activists could be replaced with SS ships in the same material process representations. In fact, SS ships instead of SS activists were used very often as actors in the Australian and Japanese reports. However, the US writers seemed to prefer animate actors to inanimate actors in realizing the material processes carried out by SS actors. This phenomenon appeared interesting since the US reports were expected to show a neutral stance toward the whaling issue. By utilizing animate actors, the US news reports may have given SS actors more responsibility for their actions compared with the other two sets of the reports. In addition, the SS sayers were included as individuals more frequently than as groups in the US reports. These linguistic choices in the US reports result in foregrounding the actions and verbiage of the SS participants rather than those of the Japanese participants.

In contrast to the other two sets of reports, the Japanese reports used inanimate actors more frequently than animate actors both for the SS and Japanese actors. This tendency by itself appeared to indicate that the Japanese news reports were written in a neutral way since they did not seem to blame one side or the other side of the issue by utilizing animate and inanimate actors differently. However, the elements included in the Japanese reports as goals in material processes and as sayers in verbal processes were different from those in the other two sets. First, the use of Japanese law/process as goals was unique to the Japanese news reports. Also, the Japanese officials were sayers very frequently in the verbal processes. In essence the Japanese reports included some aspects of the events that the other sets of the reports excluded. At the same time, it is reasonable to suggest here that the Japanese reports
may have excluded what was included in the other two sets of reports since the total number of clauses in the Japanese reports was smaller than the other two. In addition, the SS sayers were included as individuals and as groups with equal frequency while the Japanese sayers were always groups. These findings show some similarities to the study by Lukin (2005). In her study where she compared two newspaper articles written on the Iraq war, she found an article from *the Australian* offering an official interpretation of the reported event by utilizing inanimate actors and official voices and excluding the experiences of civilians. Also, Li (2010) pointed out the use of “institutional agents” (i.e., participants in generic terms) in a Chinese newspaper and its effects of supporting the government’s position. Likewise, the Japanese articles appear to foreground the bureaucratic interpretation of the event by their linguistic choices.

To conclude, the Australian news reports showed some linguistic manipulation of participants and their representations in material and verbal processes. More specifically, the Australian writers utilized animate Japanese participants (e.g., *Japanese whalers*) as the actors of negative material processes and individual SS participants (e.g., *Captain Watson*) as prominent sayers to ascribe the blame to the Japanese actors. Meanwhile, the Japanese news reports showed some manipulation of the texts through what was included and excluded. The Japanese reports seemed to include Japanese actions and verbiages that were excluded in the other two sets of newspaper reports. These findings present a different picture of Japanese newspaper reports from Murata (2007)’s finding that the Japanese newsreports were written in a neutral way without bias. Also, the findings of this study show that linguistic analysis focusing on superficial features of texts such as lexis and content can overlook covert linguistic manipulations. Lastly, the US reports seemed to give more responsibility to the SS participants by utilizing SS animate actors and SS individual sayers very often. Overall, as Lukin (2005) argued, all the newspaper articles analyzed here employed linguistic choices that reflect the perspectives of the writers on the specific issue.
CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

A linguistic analysis of the newspaper articles from three different countries revealed some similarities and differences of linguistic choices by which the same events were represented. The similarities were rather unsurprising since the nature of newspaper reports and the specific events seemed to cause these similarities. Meanwhile, the differences were striking in a way that they clearly reflect the writers’ perspectives on the issues. In this chapter, the three sets of newspaper articles will be evaluated in terms of bias regarding the differences in their linguistic representations of the events. In addition, limitations of this study and suggestions for future research will be discussed.

EVALUATION OF THE NEWSPAPER REPORTS

Regarding the assumption that newspaper articles are written in a neutral way to represent ‘facts’, the newspaper reports from three different countries which maintain different stances toward a specific issue can be evaluated in terms of bias according to the results of transitivity analysis. In this section, the three sets of newspaper reports will be discussed and evaluated in turn.

Newspaper Reports from Australia

Transitivity analysis on the Australian reports revealed the linguistic manipulation of event representations that reflect the Australian stance toward the whaling issue. Australian reports utilized Japanese animate actors in negative material processes very often while frequently including SS ships as a goal. These phenomena show the writers’ interpretations of the events as “Japanese people negatively acted upon SS ships”. The linguistic choices resulted in texts which ascribed blame on Japanese people and displayed SS ships as victims. In addition, the Australian reports frequently included verbiage produced by SS individual sayers. This means that Japanese sayers were not given much space to express their point of view in the Australian texts. The Australian reports were dominated by SS individuals’ point of view of the events. Therefore, the Australian news reports can be evaluated as biased
toward the Australian standpoint by displaying SS participants as victims and excluding Japanese sayers from the texts. The Australian reports clearly reflect the writers’ perspectives on the issue: an anti-whaling stance.

**Newspaper Reports from the United States**

The linguistic choices in the US reports showed an anti-whaling stance in different ways from the Australian reports. The US reports included SS entities as actors, goals, and sayers very frequently throughout the reports. Also, the SS actors were very often animate, and SS sayers were very often individuals. In contrast, the Japanese entities were not included as frequently. Thus, the US reports were centered on SS entities resulting in a representation of the events which was SS focused.

**Newspaper Reports from Japan**

Transitivity analysis on the Japanese newspaper reports revealed implicit ways in which the Japanese reports express their stance toward the whaling issue. In contrast to the Australian reports, where the linguistic choices were used to impose blame, the Japanese reports included inanimate elements for both SS and Japanese actors and individual and group entities for SS sayers. Also, the Japanese reports used ellipsed actors more frequently than the Australian reports. These linguistic choices may have caused the Japanese texts to appear more neutral than the Australian and US reports. However, the Japanese reports also included what other sets of reports did not include, namely, Japanese law and process as goals and Japanese officials as sayers. These exclusive aspects of the events caused the Japanese texts to lean toward the Japanese view and to support the pro-whaling stance that Japan takes. Japanese officials and Japanese law and process as participants in the Japanese texts may indicate the influence of cultural values on Japanese newspaper reports. Reflecting the collectivist nature of its culture, Japanese writers and readers may value information from official institutions and personnel rather than from individuals.

**Limitations and Suggestions for Future Research**

Some limitations of this study should be mentioned. First, the newspaper reports analyzed here were written on two related but separate events. My original intention was to
obtain newspaper reports on one event, but I used two instead due to the difficulty in retrieving a large enough number of reports on one event. It would be interesting to examine newspaper reports on one event from multiple countries. Also, the data set for this study consisted of a total of twelve reports and was fairly small. It would be interesting to investigate a larger set of data to confirm the findings of this study.

This study solely focused on the two most frequently used processes: material and verbal processes. Thus, this study did not analyze all the linguistic features by which the writers’ perspectives would be reflected in texts. There were mental, existential, and relational processes in the three sets of reports, and relational processes were in fact used fairly frequently. Therefore, it would be useful to expand this study by investigating other processes.

Despite the limitations mentioned above, this study clearly suggests that different ideational meanings are realized by grammatical choices in various newspapers, especially across cross-cultural sets of newspaper reports. The findings of this study would lead to further study of ways in which linguistic choices manipulate representations of meanings in different genres in different disciplines ranging from medicine to politics.
REFERENCES


APPENDIX

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES IN THE DATA SETS
Japanese ship destroys whale protest boat Ady Gil (AUSI)

The Sydney Morning Herald

The high-tech stealth boat Ady Gil was cut in half and sunk by a Japanese security vessel in Antarctic waters today, dramatically upping the stakes in the annual struggle between whalers and protesters.

Sea Shepherd group leader Paul Watson told Fairfax Media the $1.5 million Ady Gil was sinking, but its six-man crew had been rescued and was uninjured. Captain Watson said the Ady Gil was idling in waters near Commonwealth Bay, south of Hobart, when it was suddenly approached and rammed by the Japanese ship Shonan Maru, which has been detailed to provide security to the fleet.

Earlier today, the fleet was contacted for the first time by the Ady Gil and Sea Shepherd's "secret" third vessel, the Bob Barker. Captain Watson, aboard the Steve Irwin, said he was still 500 nautical miles from the scene.

"This seriously escalates the whole situation," Captain Watson said of the collision.

Video footage released by the Institute of Cetacean Research shows the Ady Gil stalking the Japanese ship, towing ropes from its stern. The ICR said the Ady Gil came "within collision distance" directly in front of the Nisshin Maru bow and repeatedly deployed a rope from its stern "to entangle the Japanese vessel's rudder and propeller". The statement accused the activists of shining a laser device at the Nisshin Maru crew and launching acid-filled projectiles, one of which landed on the vessel's deck. After broadcasting a warning message, the Nisshin Maru sprayed the Ady Gil with water cannons to prevent it from coming closer, the ICR said.

Captain Watson told Fairfax in November the Ady Gil would be used to intercept the whaling fleet's chaser boats."What I think we can do is latch onto at least one of the three harpoon vessels and keep them out of the picture," he said. Looking more like Batman's spacecraft than a boat, the biodiesel-powered trimaran Ady Gil arrived at the Southern Ocean stand-off between Japanese whalers and activists yesterday. It was reported this morning to be about 50 nautical miles away from the whaling fleet.

Japan's Fisheries Minister Hirotaka Akamatsu had earlier warned two security ships would be used to protect the whaling fleet, intervening when Sea Shepherd tried to block the transfer of harpooned whales to the factory ship Nisshin Maru.

Captain Watson this morning announced the existence of a secret third ship in the Sea Shepherd flotilla. He said he was confident that with three ships, Sea Shepherd would be able to cause maximum disruption to the whaling, which has been underway for around a month.

Japanese whalers have stepped up security this year, sending spy flights from Australian airports to track protest ships. The Hobart flights were paid for by Wellington-based Omeka Communications, air industry sources told Fairfax. Omeka is a public relations firm retained by Japan's Institute of Cetacean Research. The Hobart flights carried Omeka's principal, Glenn Inwood, who is an institute spokesman, and another man, the sources said. The operation started in December when the Steve Irwin left Fremantle to intercept the whaling fleet, which this year is targeting 935 minke whales and 50 fin whales.

WA pilots said surveillance flights continued out of Albany for some days, costing a "truckload" of money. Two men aboard the flights told locals they were "looking for people who were looking for whales".
The Rudd Government has repeatedly called for caution by both sides in the wilds of the Antarctic. "We have reminded the masters of protest vessels of their obligations under international law to take all steps to ensure safety of life at sea, particularly in the inhospitable conditions of the Southern Ocean," Environment Minister Peter Garrett said recently.

"We are also passing the same message to the government of Japan."

**Japanese cut in half anti-whaling ship Ady Gil (AUS2)**

*The Daily Telegraph*

ANTI-WHALING group Sea Shepherd have confirmed their ship the Ady Gil has been rammed and cut in half by Japanese whalers.

According to Captain of the Steve Irwin, Paul Watson, the Ady Gil - a $1.5 million carbon-fibre stealth boat - was rammed by one of the Japanese security ships. Mr Watson, who is in charge of one of the three Sea Shepherd vessels trying to interfere with the Japanese whale hunt, told The Daily Telegraph the Japanese vessel Shonan Maru No. 2 rammed the Ady Gil and tore off its bow.

"The vessel is taking on water," he said.

"The captain is still trying to salvage what he can and save his boat. The other five crew members have been rescued."

The crew were rescued by fellow Sea Shepherd ship the Bob Barker.

Capt Watson said the Japanese refused to respond to mayday calls and fled the scene.

The Federal Government is investigating the reports.

The lightweight 24-metre (79-foot) boat went under after being rammed off Antarctica by Shonan Maru, a ship detailed to provide security to the rest of the whaling fleet.

"Our priority is making sure the crew are safe," a Sea Shepherd spokesman told NewsCore. The ship is one of three Sea Shepherd Conservation Society vessels battling Japanese whalers in the Southern Ocean. The protesters say they were trying to get out of the way of the Japanese vessel, while the Japanese have accused the protesters of causing the collision.

Jeff Hansen, Australian director of the Sea Shepherd organisation which is involved in the anti-whaling protest, said the Ady Gill had come to a stop in front of the Shonan Maru 2 vessel. Mr Hansen said the Ady Gill, a small vessel built for speed, was trying to get out of the way. "The Shonan Maru 2 had it in its direct line of sight, coming straight for it," Mr Hansen told AAP.

"It came through and took a section off the fuselage. It's put a big hole in it."

All six crew members had been rescued by a fellow protest ship, the Bob Barker.
The *Ady Gil* was shadowing Japanese ship the *Shonan Maru* when it suddenly started its engines and hit the Sea Shepherd vessel. Paul Watson, the captain of Sea Shepherd flagship the *MV Steve Irwin*, said the $2 million *Ady Gil* was paralysed and probably unsalvageable.

"It cut eight feet off the front of the vessel. There is a big gaping hole, so it can't go anywhere or it would fill up with water," he said.

Earlier today, anti-whaling crusaders were revealed as having secretly launched a third ship in their fight against Japanese whalers. Crusaders from the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society revealed the new vessel, a former harpoon ship amid controversy over 'spy flights' conducted from Australian airports on behalf of the Institute of Cetacean Research.

MV Steve Irwin Captain Paul Watson said protest vessels currently had the whaling fleet on the run. The 1200-tonne Norwegian built Antarctic harpoon vessel MV Bob Barker arrived off Commonwealth Bay at 3am today with 30 crew aboard. The ship was bought in Ghana with a $5 million donation by US television celebrity Bob Barker and sailed from Mauritius on December 18. It joined the MV Steve Irwin and the Ady Gil.

"I'm surprised we kept it a secret as long as we did, considering how many people we had involved," Captain Watson said. "It has the speed and it's ice strengthened and it's the perfect vessel to go after the whaling fleet."

"We kept it quiet until this morning at 3 o'clock when they found the Japanese fleet."

"The security vessels were so busy chasing up 500 miles north of the fleet that they had no idea the Bob Barker was moving in on them."

"They haven't killed any whales today and hopefully they won't be killing any whales in the near future. They're on the run at full speed."

Captain Watson said whalers had hired Australian aircraft to find the protest vessels and pass their locations on.

"We first became aware of this on December 9 when we saw some planes after we left Freemantle. We didn't think too much of them at the time but then about six hours after the Japanese surveillance vessel Shonan Maru was on our tail."

Some further inquiries found out the planes were chartered out of Albany by (Institute of Cetacean Research) PR representative Glenn Inwood.

"He also chartered planes out of Melbourne and Hobart when we were there on December 21st. They spent $20,000 for 15 hours in three planes in total. It's interesting the amount of money they're spending trying to keep up away from the fleet this year and they have failed."

Before today's incident, Captain Watson accused the Japanese of chartering planes from Australia to pinpoint Sea Shepherd's locations.

"We didn't think anything of it at the time, we thought they were Australian government planes, routine," he said. "And then about six hours later the *Shonan Maru* was on our tail so we figured out that the planes had given the location so that the Japanese could tail us."
He said the *Steve Irwin* only shook off the ship - after skirmishes involving a water cannon, a laser-type device and a military-style sonar weapon - when he returned to port and then left under low cloud cover, making air surveillance impossible.

"I think they spent about 20,000 dollars on that search, about 12 hours in total, and they didn't find us and we were able to slip past," Watson said.

Also earlier today, anti-whalers threw rancid butter-filled Christmas tree baubles "like baseballs" at the Japanese ships to make their decks too foul to work.

"They can't work on the deck with these stinkbombs and it makes life very unpleasant on board," he said.

"In East Africa they shoot elephant poachers, down here we just throw stinkbombs."

Captain Watson said the Sea Shepherd activists latched on to the Japanese ships just before dawn, about a month after setting out from Australia on their annual bid to stop the slaughter of hundreds of minke and fin whales.

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**Japanese authorities arrest Sea Shepherd anti-whaling protester**

**Peter Bethune (AUS3)**

*The Australian*

**SEA Shepherd activist Peter Bethune was arrested by Japanese authorities today when the whaling patrol boat returning him in custody from the Antarctic berthed in Tokyo.**

Bethune, a New Zealand citizen who jumped aboard the patrol boat Shonan Maru No. 2 on February 15, has been charged with trespass. After taking him off the vessel, Coast Guard officials began questioning him about earlier clashes with the Japanese whaling vessel with an eye to laying further charges.

Bethune, skipper of the Sea Shepherd powerboat Ady Gil, which was run down and destroyed by Shonan Maru 2 on January 6, faces maximum penalties of three years’ prison or a Y100,000 fine.

Japanese authorities have arrest warrants out for three other Sea Shepherd activists over Southern Ocean clashes in February 2007, but Bethune is the first member of the group to fall into their hands.

Bethune leapt aboard Shonan Maru from a jet ski before dawn on February 15 seeking to make a “citizens arrest” of its master for attempted murder of the Ady Gil crew and presenting a demand for $US3 compensation for the advanced carbon fibre-Kevlar powerboat.

Some experts have suggested the payment demand could lay Bethune open to a piracy charge, an accusation the Japanese have made frequently over Sea Shepherd’s attempts to sabotage the fleet’s Southern ocean whale-hunting.

Coast Guard officials are understood to be questioning Bethune over alleged injuries to crewmen from bottles of weak butyric acid thrown onto Japanese vessels.
The fleet is now returning home, understood to have killed about 700 minke whales over the summer under the cover of scientific whaling, allowing Japan to side-step the 26-year-old moratorium on commercial whaling.

Kevin Rudd has threatened that Australia will take Japan to the International Court of Justice unless the government agrees before November to phase-out all Antarctic whaling activities.

**Sea Shepherd anti-whaling activist arrested in Japan (AUS4)**

*The Sydney Morning Herald*

A New Zealand anti-whaling activist was arrested in Japan Friday after a harpoon ship he boarded in Antarctic waters last month docked in Tokyo, greeted by police and nationalist protesters.

Peter Bethune, of the militant Sea Shepherd Conservation Society (SSCS), was engaged in months of high-seas clashes with the Japanese whaling fleet but has been in custody since mid-February when he boarded the Shonan Maru II.

About 20 angry nationalist protesters with Rising Sun flags, watched over by riot police, lined the pier and shouted through megaphones:

"Step forward Pete Bethune! Apologise to the Japanese people! We will tear you apart!"

The harpoon ship docked alongside a vessel of the Japan Coast Guard, whose officers served him with an arrest warrant for trespass on a ship, a charge that can carry up to three years' jail.

It is the latest chapter in a long-running battle between environmentalists and Japanese whalers, who hunt the ocean giants in the name of scientific research, a loophole to a moratorium on whaling.

Japan maintains that whaling has been part of the island-nation's culture for centuries, and it does not hide the fact that whale meat from its expeditions ends up in shops and restaurants.

As TV helicopters buzzed overhead, the protesters -- watched by riot police and plain-clothed officers with video cameras -- also expressed their fury with Australia, which has threatened to take Japan to an international court unless it commits to ending its annual whale hunts.

Japan's Fisheries Minister Hirotaka Akamatsu told a press conference that the nation would maintain a "resolute stance" but said he did not see a diplomatic row brewing.

Bethune, 44, was the captain of the Sea Shepherds' high-tech powerboat that was sliced in two in a collision with the Shonan Maru II in January. He climbed aboard the Japanese ship before dawn on February 15 from a jet ski with the stated intention of making a citizen's arrest of captain Hiroyuki Komiya for what he said was the attempted murder of his six crew.

Bethune also presented the Japanese whalers with a three-million-dollar bill for the futuristic carbon-and-kevlar trimaran Ady Gil, which sank in the icy waters a day after the collision on January 6. Instead, the Japanese whalers took Bethune into custody and sailed for Japan.
They reported he was in good health and being treated well, unrestrained but under watch in a private cabin with three meals a day.

The SSCS, which has called Bethune the first New Zealander taken as a "prisoner of war" to Japan since World War II, said on its website it was preparing legal representation for the skipper. The group declared an end to this season's pursuit of Japanese harpoon ships in Antarctic waters on February 27, saying it had been the most successful campaign so far, saving many whales.

If Bethune faces trial in Japan, it would be the second court case there centred on whaling, besides the ongoing proceedings against two Japanese Greenpeace activists now in the dock in the northern city of Aomori.

The so-called "Tokyo Two" face up to 10 years in prison for theft and trespassing after they took a box of salted whale meat, which they said was proof of embezzlement in Japan's state-funded annual whaling expeditions.

**Anti-Whaling Vessel Damaged in a Collision at Sea (USA1)**

*The New York Times*

By MARK McDONALD

Published: January 6, 2010

HONG KONG — An anti-whaling group’s high-speed boat and a Japanese whaler reported colliding at sea on Wednesday, with each blaming the other.

Video taken from the deck of the Japanese ship, Shonan Maru 2, showed the collision with the Ady Gil, a sleek black trimaran belonging to a group that aggressively confronts the Japanese whaling fleet each year as it plies the waters south of Australia and New Zealand.

The video shows a frothy wake coming from the stern of the Ady Gil, although it is unclear whether the trimaran was moving. The Shonan Maru 2 was directing a water cannon at the Ady Gil before and during the collision, which is clearly seen on the video, and the bow of the Ady Gil was sheared off.

The Institute of Cetacean Research, which oversees Japan’s whaling program, said that the Ady Gil had rapidly approached the Shonan Maru despite repeated warnings to keep away, and that it suddenly slowed down in the Japanese ship’s path. The Shonan Maru could not avoid hitting the front of the Ady Gil, the institute said in a statement.

But the group that owns the Ady Gil, the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, said the strike was deliberate. Its Australian director, Jeff Hansen, said in a telephone interview that the trimaran “was pretty much at a full stop” and that the Japanese ship had deliberately run into it. He said the trimaran had not sunk, “but it’s in two pieces, and we’re trying to salvage what we can.” One crew member was reported injured.
A companion vessel, the Bob Barker, was used to rescue the crew, Mr. Hansen said. That ship, a former Norwegian whaler, was named after the former American game show host who donated $5 million to the group.

The Ady Gil, a former racing boat capable of speeds up to 57 miles an hour, was added to the Sea Shepherd fleet in October. At the time, the group’s founder, Paul Watson, said he would use the boat “to intercept and physically block the harpoon ships from illegally slaughtering whales.”

The Japanese Whaling Association calls Sea Shepherd “a terrorist group.”

The Japanese institute, which released photographs and video of the clash, said that those aboard the Ady Gil had earlier harassed the Shonan Maru by flashing laser beams at its crew, hurling acid onto its deck and throwing ropes into its propellers.

The institute “strongly protests these violent acts, which threaten the safety of the research boats” and their crew members, its statement said.

Japan is one of the few nations that still permit whaling. Its vessels operate in the Antarctic under a loophole in an international whaling ban that allows the taking of whales for research purposes and the sale of the surplus meat.

The small Japanese fleet has a goal of about 1,000 whales this season, most of them minke whales. The Japanese vessels, which are escorted by a refueling and support ship, are expected to hunt whales until mid-March.

In recent years the Sea Shepherd group has been the only one to stalk the whaling fleet in an attempt to interfere with its operations and limit its catch.

“They’ve really upped the ante this year,” said Mr. Hansen of the Japanese whalers. “But we definitely won’t be leaving.”

Clash between Sea Shepherd and Japanese whaling ship leaves anti-whaling vessel badly damaged  

Los Angeles Times

January 6, 2010 | 11:38 am

A conservation group's boat had its bow sheared off and was taking on water Wednesday after it was struck by a Japanese whaling ship in the frigid waters off Antarctica, the group said.

The boat's six crew members were safely transferred to another of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society's vessels, the newly commissioned Bob Barker. The boat is named for the American game show host who donated $5 million to buy it.
The clash was the most serious in the past several years, during which the Sea Shepherd has sent vessels into far-southern waters to try to harass the Japanese fleet into ceasing its annual whale hunt.

Clashes using hand-thrown stink bombs, ropes meant to tangle propellers and high-tech sound equipment have been common in recent years, and collisions between ships have sometimes occurred.

The society said its vessel Ady Gil -- a high-tech speedboat that resembles a stealth bomber -- was hit by the Japanese ship the Shonan Maru near Commonwealth Bay and had about 10 feet (three meters) of its bow knocked off.

Locky Maclean, the first mate of the society's lead ship, said one crewman from New Zealand appeared to have suffered two cracked ribs, but the others were uninjured. The crew members were safely transferred to the group's third vessel, though the Ady Gil's captain remained on board to see what could be salvaged, he said.

The group accused the Japanese ship of deliberately ramming the Ady Gil.

"They were stopped dead in the water when the incident occurred," Maclean told the Associated Press of the Ady Gil. He spoke by satellite phone from the ship, the Steve Irwin.

"When they realized that the Shonan Maru was aiming right for them, they tried to go into reverse to get the bow out of the way but it was too late. The Shonan Maru made a course correction and plowed directly into the front end of the boat," he said.

Glenn Inwood, a New Zealand-based spokesman for the Institute of Cetacean Research, the Japanese government-linked body that carries out the hunt, disputed Sea Shepherd's account, saying video shot from the whaler showed the conservationists' boat moving toward the whaler just before the collision.

"The Shonan Maru steams to port to avoid a collision. I guess they, the Ady Gil, miscalculated," Inwood told the Associated Press. "Sea Shepherd claims that the Shonan Maru has rammed the Ady Gil and cut it in half -- its claim is just not vindicated by the video."

Japan's Fisheries Agency said it was still checking details about the clash. Spokesman Toshinori Uoya said there were no injuries on the Japanese side.

It was not immediately clear what would happen to the Ady Gil. Sea Shepherd said in a statement posted on its website that the boat was "believed to be sinking and chances of salvage are very grim."

Sea Shepherd sends boats to Antarctic waters each southern summer to try to stop the Japanese whaling fleet from killing whales under what it calls a scientific whaling program. Conservationists and many countries say the program is a front for commercial whaling.

Each side routinely accuses the other of dangerous activity during what has become a cat-and-mouse chase in one of the world's most remote regions.

Australia and New Zealand -- which both have Antarctic territories and are among the closest nations to the waters where the hunt goes on -- have urged both sides to show restraint, warning that they are far away from rescue if anything goes wrong.
"Our strongest condemnation applies to any violent or dangerous activity that takes place in these remote and inhospitable waters," Australian Environment Minister Peter Garrett said Wednesday. He said he could confirm the collision, but that details were still unclear.

Wednesday's confrontation with whalers marked the first for the 1,200-ton Bob Barker, which rescued the crew. Sea Shepherd only recently bought the ship after its namesake, the former host of the "The Price Is Right" game show and a longtime animal rights activist, donated the money. Barker met Sea Shepherd founder Paul Watson through a fellow activist and said he was instantly impressed.

"He said he thought he could put the Japanese whaling fleet out of business if he had $5 million," Barker recalled. "I said, 'I think you do have the skills to do that, and I have $5 million, so let's get it on,' so that's what we did."

Barker, 86, said he was "genuinely proud" to be associated with Sea Shepherd.

The Ady Gil, meanwhile, clashed earlier Wednesday with another Japanese ship, the whaling fleet's mothership, the Nisshin Maru.

The Institute of Cetacean Research said the Ady Gil came "within collision distance" of the Nisshin Maru's bow and repeatedly dangled a rope in the water that could have entangled the ship's rudder and propeller.

The Ady Gil's crew lobbed small projectiles designed to release a foul smell, and the whalers responded by firing high-powered hoses to keep the Sea Shepherd vessels away, the institute said in a statement.

"The obstructionist activities of the Sea Shepherd threaten the lives and property of those involved in our research, are very dangerous and cannot be forgiven," it said.

Maclean confirmed the earlier clash.

Japan's whaling fleet left in November for its annual hunt in Antarctic waters. Uoya said that for security reasons, details of the fleet's composition, the number of whales it hopes to take and the number of crew members are not being released to the public.

The Ady Gil is a 78-foot (24-meter) black-painted trimaran made of carbon fiber and Kevlar in a design meant to pierce waves. It was built to challenge the record for the quickest circumnavigation of the globe and can travel faster than 46 mph (75 kph).

Sea Shepherd unveiled the Ady Gil last October saying a California millionaire with the same name had donated most of the money for it. At the time, the group said the boat would be used to intercept and physically block Japanese harpoon vessels.

**Japanese Coast Guard Arrests Anti-Whaling Skipper (USA3)**

**The New York Times**

By MARTIN FACKLER and MARK McDONALD

Published: March 12, 2010
TOKYO — The Japanese Coast Guard on Friday arrested an anti-whaling activist from New Zealand who had boarded a whaling ship in the southern Antarctic last month.

A Metropolitan Police Department boat, foreground, escorted the Shonan Maru No. 2 to Harumi pier in Tokyo on Friday.

Peter Bethune, a member of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, was brought back to Tokyo by the whaling ship, the Shonan Maru 2, after he boarded it without permission on Feb. 15. Coast Guard officials were waiting for him at the docks in Tokyo, along with a throng of Japanese reporters and television crews.

Mr. Bethune, 44, was being held in Coast Guard custody in Tokyo, said a guard spokesman, Tomoyuki Suzuki, who added that Mr. Bethune had been formally charged with “vessel invasion.” A Coast Guard investigation was under way, he said, and it was expected that Mr. Bethune would be transferred to police custody on Sunday.

Japanese media reports suggested that Tokyo intends to use Mr. Bethune’s arrest as a warning to Sea Shepherd to end its confrontations on the high seas with Japan’s whaling fleet.

Hirotaka Akamatsu, the Japanese fisheries minister, told reporters that Mr. Bethune’s actions were “outrageously illegal behavior.”

“We want to deal with it strictly,” he said.

Mr. Bethune’s arrest was top news in Japan, where Sea Shepherd’s efforts to obstruct whaling ships receive wide publicity, none of it positive. While few Japanese eat whale, public opinion is generally sympathetic to the government’s claims that whaling is part of Japanese culture.

Japan kills about 1,000 whales a year — primarily minke whales — as part of a government-financed program that Tokyo says is for scientific purposes. Activists call the program a cover for commercial whaling, which was globally banned in 1986.

Japan’s program has run into opposition from not only activists but also from the governments of Australia and New Zealand, two staunchly anti-whaling nations that are near the waters where the annual Japanese hunt takes place. Last month, Australia’s prime minister threatened international legal action against Japan if it did not end its whaling.

Sea Shepherd has tried to disrupt Japan’s Antarctic hunts by blocking its ships, using ropes to clog their propellers and throwing bottles of rancid butter onto their decks to make them slippery.

On Jan. 6, a Sea Shepherd vessel, the Ady Gil, captained by Mr. Bethune, was damaged in a collision at sea with the Shonan Maru 2. Video taken from the deck of the whaler showed its collision with the Ady Gil, a sleek black trimaran. Each ship blamed the other for the incident.

On the night of Feb. 15, Mr. Bethune reportedly used a motorized water scooter to approach the Shonan Maru 2, then climbed onto its deck after cutting through an anti-boarding net that was draped around the hull. He presented the captain of the whaler with a bill for $3 million for damages that the Ady Gil had suffered.
Mr. Bethune was put into custody by the crew, who held him for a month as the whaling ship returned to Japan.

Coast Guard officials said Mr. Bethune would be able to meet with a lawyer and a New Zealand diplomat after his arrest. The head of Sea Shepherd, Paul Watson, told Japan’s Kyodo News agency that Mr. Bethune boarded the ship to draw more attention to the Japanese hunt.

“We are rallying a lot of support in New Zealand and Australia for Pete,” Mr. Watson was reported as saying. “He may be considered a criminal in Japan, but he’s a hero in Australia and New Zealand.”

Sea Shepherd activist faces charges in Japan for secretly boarding whaling ship (USA4)

Los Angeles Times

February 16, 2010 | 7:22 pm

An anti-whaling activist from New Zealand is in custody on a Japanese vessel and will be taken to Japan to face charges after secretly boarding the ship as part of a protest, officials said Tuesday.

Peter Bethune, a member of the U.S.-based Sea Shepherd activist group, jumped aboard the Shonan Maru 2 from a Jet Ski on Monday with the stated goal of making a citizen's arrest of the ship's captain and presenting him with a $3-million bill for the destruction of a protest ship last month.

The Japanese government has decided to bring Bethune to Japan for questioning, Fisheries Agency official Osamu Ishikawa said. He will be charged with trespassing and assault and tried under Japanese law, Ishikawa said.

He said officials were working out the details of how to transport Bethune to Japan -- whether to keep him on the vessel, which will be at sea for a few more weeks, or to drop him off in a port call and fly him back.

The brazen boarding was the latest escalation of a campaign by Sea Shepherd to hamper Japanese whaling activities.

Japan's Institute of Cetacean Research, which sponsors the whale hunt, said that Bethune used a knife to cut the vessel's protective net to enable him to board and that he told whalers he then threw the knife into the sea. The crew treated him for a cut on his thumb he received while boarding, the institute said.

Under Japanese law, intruding on a Japanese vessel without legitimate reasons can bring a prison term of up to three years and a fine up to 100,000 yen (US$1,100).

Bethune was being held in a room by himself with guards posted outside, Fisheries Ministry official Toshinori Uoya said.
New Zealand Foreign Minister Murray McCully said it seemed that Bethune's intention was to be detained aboard the whaling ship, but his country nevertheless had an obligation to try to help him and it was seeking cooperation from Japanese diplomats.

McCully met Japan's ambassador Tuesday, and New Zealand's top diplomat in Japan met senior officials there Monday.

Sea Shepherd said Bethune demanded the cost of replacing the Ady Gil, an activist ship he captained that was destroyed in a collision with the Shonan Maru 2 last month, and the surrender of the whaling ship's captain on attempted murder charges.

The Ady Gil sank after the collision, though there were only minor injuries.

Japan has six whaling ships in Antarctic waters under its scientific whaling program, an allowed exception to the International Whaling Commission's 1986 ban on commercial whaling. It hunts hundreds of mostly minke whales, which are not an endangered species. Whale meat not used for study is sold for consumption in Japan, which critics say is the real reason for the hunts.

The Sea Shepherd sends vessels to confront the fleet each year, trying to block the whalers from firing harpoons and dangling ropes in the water to try to snarl the Japanese ships' propellers. The whalers have responded by firing water cannons and sonar devices meant to disorient the activists.
ホバートを出港し、調査捕鯨船団に緑色の光線を照射するなどの妨害行為を繰り返していた。捕鯨船団とS Sの船は昨年2月にも衝突している。この時は第3勇新丸の後方に、S Sの船がぶつかり、双方の船体が損傷した。08年3月には異臭を放つ液体入りの瓶などが日新丸に投げ込まれ、乗組員と海上保安官の計3人が目に液体が入るなどの軽傷を負っている。

シー・シェパードの捕鯨抗議船 日本の監視船と衝突 (JPN2)

産経ニュース

米環境保護団体「シー・シェパード」は6日、同団体の捕鯨抗議船アディ・ギル号が南極海で日本の調査捕鯨船団の監視船、第2昭南丸と衝突、航行不能になったことを明らかにした。乗組員の1人が肋骨（ろっこつ）にひびが入るけがを負ったという。水産庁は、第2昭南丸の船体に大きな被害はなく、乗組員けがはないとしている。

シー・シェパードによると、ギル号は抗議活動中に第2昭南丸に衝突され、船体が半分以上沈んだ状態になった。シー・シェパードは「（事故発生時）ギル号は静止していたが、突然衝突された。（日本側は）救助もしてくれなかった」と批判。

調査捕鯨を行う日本鯨類研究所は、ギル号が衝突してきたとしている。

水産庁によると、ギル号は6日午前、調査捕鯨船団の母船に薬品入りのボールのようなものをぶつけたり、船団に異常接近するなどの妨害行為を行った。事故当時、第2昭南丸は近づくギル号に放水などで警告したが、ギル号が急に減速するなどしたため衝突したと説明している。

調査捕鯨船に侵入容疑 シー・シェパードのメンバー逮捕 (JPN3)

米国の反捕鯨団体シー・シェパード（SS）のメンバーが南極海で日本の調査捕鯨船・第2昭南丸に乗り込んできた事件で、海上保安庁は12日、ピーター・ベースーン容疑者（44）＝ニュージーランド国籍＝を艦船侵入容疑で逮捕し、発表した。

ベースーン容疑者は2月、南極会場で第2昭南丸に侵入し、船員法に基づいて保護されていた。第2昭南丸は12日午前、東京湾に入港。すでに艦船侵入容疑で逮捕状をとっていて同庁東京海上保安部の海上保安官が船内に立ち入って逮捕した。
水産庁によると、日本の調査捕鯨への妨害行為で逮捕者が出たのは初めて。東京海上保安部などによると、ベスーン容疑者は1月6日に南極海上で第2昭南丸に衝突して大破した小型高速船アディ・ギル号（26トン）の船長で、日本時間の2月15日午前9時ごろ、水上バイクで第2昭南丸に近づき、防護ネットをナイフで切って乗り込んだ疑いが持たれている。同容疑者がニュージーランド国籍で日本に住居がなく、逃亡の恐れがあるとして、同保安部は任意ではなく逮捕して調べる必要があると判断した。

艦船侵入罪は、刑法の住居侵入罪と同じ条文で定められている。正当な理由なく人が寝泊りができる大型の艦船に侵入した場合に適用され、3年以下の懲役10万円以下の罰金。事件は南極海上で起きたが、第2昭南丸は日本籍なので日本の法律が適用される。

ベスーン容疑者は第2昭南丸に乗り込み、同船長に対し、持っていた書簡を手渡していた。「衝突の責任は第2昭南丸にある。3億円を請求する」などと書かれているとみられる。

SSの妨害行為では、2月に第2昭南丸に小型ボートから撃ち込まれた瓶が割れ、中に入っていた薬品が第2昭南丸の乗組員3人の顔にかかわり、軽いけがをしている。ベスーン容疑者は、この行為にも関与しているとの情報があり、同保安部が調べる。

SSに対しては、日本政府の要請を受けた豪州連邦警察も、抗議船スティーブ・アーウィン号が豪南部タスマニア州ホバートに寄港した際に捜索している。また2007年2月には、南極海で調査捕鯨をしていた日本鯨類研究所の海幸丸がSSの船から発煙筒を投げられた事件があり、警視庁公安部がメンバーとみられる別の米国籍の男ら4人を、威力業務妨害の疑いで逮捕状をとって国際手配している。同保安部は今後、豪州当局や警視庁とも連絡を取り、SSの一連の妨害活動について捜査を進める。

＜シー・シェパード＝SS＞
クジラやアザラシなどの生物種と生態系の保護を訴えて船で抗議活動を繰り広げている団体。国際的な環境保護団体グリーンピースのメンバーが脱退して1977年に設立した。名前は「海の保護者」という意味で本部は米国にある。資金は寄付などでまかない年間予算は約500万ドル（約4億5千万円）。80年にリスボンで捕鯨船を爆薬で沈没させるなど破壊活動をしており、「エコテロリスト」とも呼ばれる。

東京入港のシー・シェパード元船長を逮捕…海保 (JPN4)
逮捕されたのは、シー・シェパードの小型高速船「アディ・ギル（AG）号」の元船長で、ニュージーランド人のピーター・ベスーン容疑者（44）。逮捕状は同日午前11時16分、昭南丸内で執行された。

発表によると、ベスーン容疑者は先月15日、南極海で昭南丸に水上バイクで近づき、侵入防止用の網をナイフで切って、船体を数メートルよじ登り無断で船に乗り込んだ疑い。昭南丸は、船員法に基づく船長の権限でベスーン容疑者を拘束、調査捕鯨を妨害する船舶がないか監視する任務を中断して単独で1万キロ超を航行し、日本に戻っていた。

調査捕鯨を所管する農林水産省によると、ベスーン容疑者の乗ったAG号は今年1月6日、昭南丸に衝突して大破した。同容疑者は昭南丸に侵入した後、大破したAG号の損害賠償を求めるために「船内に入った」と語り、昭南丸に接近したボートから、強い臭気を放つ「酪酸」入りの瓶が投げ込まれた行為についても、自分がやったと認めているという。海保は、傷害や威力業務妨害の疑いでも同容疑者を取り調べる方針。

艦船侵入罪は刑法の建造物侵入罪と同じ条文で規定され、人が寝泊りできる大きさの船に侵入した場合、3年以下の懲役または10万円以下の罰金が科される。

シー・シェパード＝環境保護団体「グリーンピース」のメンバーだったカナダ出身のポール・ワトソン代表が、海洋生物の保護を掲げて1977年に設立。2005年から南極海での調査捕鯨の妨害活動を始め、これまでに日本側の計8人が負傷している。豪州の港が南極海に向かう拠点になっており、日本政府は豪州政府に繰り返し取り締まりを要請している。