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Titolo	Japanese Advance into the Pacific Ocean : The Albatross and the Great Bird Rush // by Akitoshi Hiraoka
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Nota di contenuto	The Albatross and the Territorial Expansion of the Japanese Empire -- From the Decrease of Bird Resources to the Advance into Uninhabited Islands -- The "Bird Rush" and Japanese Advance into the Pacific Ocean -- From Advance into Islands in the South Sea to Invasion: From the Albatross to Guano/Phosphate Ore Mining -- Conclusions.
Sommario/riassunto	This book asserts that the albatross was the reason for the advance of the Japanese into the isolated islands in the Pacific after the abolition of the Japanese "closed-door" policy that had been in effect from the seventeenth century to the latter part of the nineteenth century. The birds' plumage was of high quality and sold at quite a good price in Europe. The Japanese realized the advantage of this global trade, and their desire to capture albatross motivated them to advance into the

Pacific. The exploration of the uninhabited islands had become a fast-moving trend, defined by the author as the “Bird Rush”. As a consequence, the advance into the Pacific by the Japanese resulted in the expansion of Japanese territory. The author has interpreted this Japanese movement into the Pacific by making use of the framework of three distinct shifts: in the aim of their actions from birds to guano / phosphate ore, in the agents of action from individual speculators to commercial capital and then to monopolistic capital, and from the sea near Japan to the wider Pacific. This concept can be termed “a view of history centered on the albatross”.

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