# Three-nation test planned of phone translation system

OSAKA — Researchers from Japan, the United States and Germany will carry out an automatic telephone translation experiment Jan. 28.

The experiment will be jointly carried out by Japan's Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International with another project being developed by Carnegie-Mellon University of the U.S. and Siemens AG of Germany, officials of the Japanese institution said.

The system is reportedly designed for a computer to automatically translate conversations in one language to another on international telephone lines.

The researchers in the three countries will also test the capabilities of the systems they have developed separately, the officials said.

Calls of about 30 minutes each will be placed between Japan and the U.S., Japan and Germany, and Germany and the U.S., using some 700 conversational expressions that are to be translated, they said.

"We want to help so that everyone will be able to communicate with foreigners just as easily as with Japanese. We hope this experiment will become a milestone in the research," an official said.