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UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER ASIAN AFFAIRS  
FOR JAPAN

DIVISION OF

DEC 22 1947

Tokyo DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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No. 1436

UNCLASSIFIED

Subject: New Year's Message from Chairman, Allied Council for Japan.

THE HONORABLE  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,  
WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to enclose, in accordance with relevant Foreign Service Regulations, copy of a New Year's message from myself, as Deputy for the Supreme Commander, Chairman, and Member for the United States, Allied Council for Japan, to the Japanese people to be published in the January issue of the vernacular magazine "New Japan". It is understood that this message will be published in both English and Japanese, the translation into Japanese having been prepared in this Mission.

*note 123*  
*Sebald,*  
*W. J.*

Respectfully yours,

*W. J. Sebald*  
W. J. Sebald  
Acting Political Adviser

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Enclosure: *att.*  
Copy of New Year's Message.  
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*L.R.P.*

Enclosure to Despatch No. 1436 dated December 6, 1947 from the Office of the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, entitled "New Year's Message from Chairman, Allied Council for Japan".

COPY

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM MR. WILLIAM J. SEBALD,  
DEPUTY FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER, CHAIRMAN,  
AND MEMBER FOR THE UNITED STATES, ALLIED COUNCIL  
FOR JAPAN

As a New Year's message to the Japanese people, I can best repeat the words of President Truman, that the United States seeks "a peaceful world, a prosperous world, a world of good neighbors, living on terms of equality and mutual respect." The Japanese people would do well to ponder these words which might well also become the objectives of a peaceful and democratic Japan. The purport of President Truman's words has already, since the inception of the Occupation, formed a part of the aims of the United States in its share of responsibility in the Occupation of Japan. Under the magnificent leadership of General MacArthur, great strides have been made in effecting these aims as well as many fundamental reforms, reforms which have reached to the depths of Japanese political, social, and economic life. But by the very nature of reform, many grave problems have raised challenges to the new Japanese leadership chosen by democratic process by the people of Japan; for a break with the past must necessarily bring in its train many things which are new and untried. It is nevertheless my firm conviction, based upon close observation of the Japanese people over many years, that with forthrightness, dignity, and adherence to the great principles which are exemplified in Japan's Constitution, these challenges will be met and successfully overcome, and that, with the advent of peace, Japan will stand prepared to assume its place in the family of nations.