

**GHQ/SCAP Records(RG 331)**  
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Chiba Prefecture National Elections

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Sheet no.

PREFECTURAL REPORT ON SURVEILLANCE OF NATIONAL  
ELECTIONS

House of Representatives

*25 April 47*

1. Name of prefecture: CHIBA PREFECTURE
2. Number of registered voters
 

|             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| (Men.....   | 529,600   |
| (Women....  | 594,656   |
| (Total..... | 1,124,256 |
3. Persons actually voting for House of Representatives candidates
 

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| (Men.....  | 377,696 |
| (Women.... | 304,250 |
| (Total.... | 681,946 |
4. Persons actually voting for House of Councillors candidates. Previously reported.
5. Number of persons claiming franchise but not permitted to vote
 

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| (Men.....  | 19 |
| (Women.... | 7  |
| (Total.... | 26 |
6. Number of surveillance teams on election day. 15
7. Number of polling places 803
8. Number of polling places visited 383
9. Number of ballot counting stations 309
10. Number of ballot counting stations visited 112
11. Were candidates' purge questionnaires available at Election Administration Committee's offices and at Screening Committee's offices in all cases? Yes
12. Comment on publicity given by press, radio and at political gatherings to the fact that candidates purge questionnaires are available at Election Administration Committee's offices and at Screening Committee's offices.

Very little publicity was given to the effect that questionnaires were available, however articles did appear in the newspapers concerning the fact and most of the candidates during their course of campaign speeches mentioned it.

*Incl 1*

13. Comment on the extent public used privilege of examining candidates' questionnaires.

The public did not examine the candidates' questionnaires with any degree of interest, as only four (4) people presented themselves to the Prefecture Election Committee Offices for that purpose.

14. Number of seats in House of Representatives from this Prefecture.

13

Number of candidates by parties:

Liberal.....13  
 Democrats.....15  
 Social Democrats..... 4  
 Communists..... 3  
 Minor Parties..... 2  
 Independents..... 7

Number actually elected by parties:

Liberals..... 8  
 Democrats..... 3  
 Social Democrats..... 1  
 Independents..... 1

Total number of votes cast for each party:

Liberals.....317,243  
 Democrats.....218,587  
 Social Democrats..... 81,698  
 Communists..... 14,322  
 Minor Parties..... 2,033  
 Independents..... 37,321

15. Number of seats in House of Representatives.

Previously reported.

|                          |            |           |               |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| 16. Any women elected:   | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Number</u> |
| House of Representatives | <u>x</u>   | <u>—</u>  | <u>1</u>      |

17. Number of pre-election campaign meetings held throughout prefecture by each party:

| <u>Party</u>     | <u>Number of Meetings</u> | <u>Total Attendance</u> |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Liberals         | 525                       | 70,000                  |
| Democrats        | 600                       | 90,000                  |
| Social Democrats | 120                       | 18,000                  |
| Communists       | 140                       | 15,000                  |
| Minor Parties    | 40                        | 5,000                   |
| Independents     | 275                       | 40,000                  |

2 1760

18. Were there an adequate number of polling places? Yes
19. Are four election bulletins inclosed with this report? Yes

Four (4) copies from each of the three (3) Electoral Districts.

|   |          | <u>Total Att.</u> |
|---|----------|-------------------|
| 20. Number of pre-election meetings held by M. G. Team: | <u>8</u> |                   |
| With Election Administration Committee                  | <u>5</u> | <u>855</u>        |
| With Officials  | <u>5</u> | <u>42</u>         |

21. Report generally on extent of local publicity given to election (e.g. newspapers stories, advertisements, radio time, placards, postcards, handbills). How did M.G. contribute to publicizing elections?

Local publicity was excellent. All Mayors and Headmen gave wide publicity to the election and attempted to stimulate interest in the matter. The Prefectural Election Committee and Local Election Administration Committee utilized the newspapers, placards and handbills to stimulate interest. School children throughout the Prefecture were instructed to advise their parents of the election and request them to vote. Fire trucks were utilized on election day in the seven (7) cities and many of the towns of the Prefecture. Union Officials, Fisheries and Farmers Associations and other heads of groups cooperated in urging the members to exercise their voting franchise. Military Government contributed to the publicity by giving instructions to all of the major newspapers serving the Prefecture, in which the importance of the election was stressed and individual voters were invited to the polls.

22. Number of violations reported to you:

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Coorcion, violance or threats                           | <u>0</u> |
| Soliciting votes  | <u>0</u> |
| Interference with free and secret voting                | <u>0</u> |
| Interference with access to polls                       | <u>0</u> |
| Privileges granted favored candidates                   | <u>0</u> |
| Dishonest tabulation in reporting of votes              | <u>0</u> |
| Buying of votes   | <u>0</u> |
| Excessive expenditures                                  | <u>0</u> |
| Police or government officials interference of any type | <u>0</u> |
| Riots or other disorders                                | <u>0</u> |
| Illegal disqualification of voters                      | <u>0</u> |
| Violations of purge directives                          | <u>0</u> |
| Use of school children in campaign                      | <u>0</u> |
| Others  | <u>0</u> |

## 23. Disposition by you of above violations:

Reported to Japanese Officials only: 0Reported to SCAP: 0

## 24. Military Government Team's comments and evaluations:

a. Was any criticism voiced in regard to activities of occupation forces? If so, explain in detail. No

b. Your comments on activities of local election administration committees.

The Local Election Administration Committee chose efficient and competent personnel for the election functions.

c. How may election laws be improved? No commentd. Other suggestion in regard to elections. None

PREFECTURAL REPORT ON SURVEILLANCE OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS  
House of Councillors

*28 April 47*

1. Name of prefecture: CHIBA PREFECTURE
2. Number of registered voters
 

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| (Men.....  | 530,999   |
| (Women.... | 594,893   |
| (Total.... | 1,125,892 |
3. Persons actually voting for House of Representatives candidates
 

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| (Men.....  | None |
| (Women.... | None |
| (Total.... | None |
4. Persons actually voting for House of Councillors candidates.
 

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| (Men.....  | 315,018 |
| (Women.... | 222,776 |
| (Total.... | 535,794 |
5. Number persons claiming franchise but not permitted to vote.
 

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| (Men.....  | 42 |
| (Women.... | 29 |
| (Total.... | 71 |
6. Number of surveillance teams on election day.
 

|    |
|----|
| 14 |
|----|
7. Number of polling places
 

|     |
|-----|
| 803 |
|-----|
8. Number of polling places visited
 

|     |
|-----|
| 340 |
|-----|
9. Number of ballot counting stations
 

|     |
|-----|
| 310 |
|-----|
10. Number of ballot counting stations visited
 

|     |
|-----|
| 109 |
|-----|
11. Were candidates' purge questionnaires available at Election Administration Committee's offices and at Screening Committee's offices in all cases?
 

|            |
|------------|
| <u>Yes</u> |
|------------|
12. Comment on publicity given by press, radio and at political gatherings to the fact that candidates purge questionnaires are available at Election Administration Committee's offices and at Screening Committee's offices.

Very little publicity was given to the effect that questionnaires were available, however articles did appear in the newspapers concerning the fact and most of the candidates during their course of campaign speeches mentioned it.

*Incl 1*

13. Comment on the extent public used privilege of examining candidates' questionnaires.

The public in general did not seem too interested in the examination of candidates' questionnaires. Only eighteen (18) people examined questionnaires. Practically all of these were newspaper reporters.

14. Number of seats in House of Representatives from this Prefecture None

Number of candidates by parties None

Number of independents None

Number actually elected by parties None

Number of Independents elected None

Total number of votes cast for each party None

Total number of votes cast for Independents None

15. Number of seats in House of Councillors from this prefecture (Excl. of National Constitu-  
tutency seats) 4

a. Number of candidates by parties:

Democrats.....2  
 Liberals.....2  
 Social Democrats.....2  
 Communists.....1  
 Independents.....3

b. Number actually elected by parties:

Democrats.....1  
 Liberals.....1  
 Independents.....2

c. Total number of votes cast for each party:

Democrats.....55,347  
 Liberals.....77,260  
 Social Democrats.....70,839  
 Communists.....14,392  
 Independents.....274,255

| 16. Any women elected:                                    | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Number</u> |
|---|------------|-----------|---------------|
| House of Representatives                                  | —          | —         | —             |
| House of Councillors<br>(Excl. of National Constitutency) | —          | <u>x</u>  | —             |

17. Number of pre-election campaign meetings held throughout prefecture by each party:

| <u>Party</u>     | <u>Number of Meetings</u> | <u>Total Attendance</u> |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Liberals         | 28                        | 4,800                   |
| Social Democrats | 42                        | 6,200                   |
| Democrats        | 21                        | 2,800                   |
| Communists       | 20                        | 3,000                   |
| Independents     | 60                        | 9,000                   |

18. Were there an adequate number of polling places? Yes

19. Are four election bulletins enclosed with this report? Yes

Three (3) candidates filed too late to secure a position on the Biographical Bulletin, however their names appeared on the bulletin containing the complete list of names of candidates which is also inclosed.

|  |   | <u>Total Att.</u> |
|--|---|-------------------|
| 20. Number of pre-election meetings held by MG Team: | 8 |                   |
| With Election Administration Committee               | 4 | 850               |
| With Officials                                       | 4 | 38                |

21. Report generally on extent of local publicity given to election (e.g. newspapers stories, advertisements, radio time, placards, postcards, handbills). How did MG Teams contribute to publicizing elections?

Local publicity was excellent. All Mayors and Headmen gave wide publicity to the election and attempted to stimulate interest in the matter. The Prefectural Election Administration Committee and Local Election Administration Committee utilized the newspapers, placards and handbills to stimulate interest. School children throughout the Prefecture were instructed to advise their parents of the election and request them to vote. Fire trucks were utilized on election day in the seven (7) cities and many of the towns of the Prefecture. Military Government contributed to the publicity by inviting all of the voters in the Prefecture to exercise their rights on election day.

22. Number of violations reported to you:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Coercion, violence or threats              | 0 |
| Soliciting votes                           | 0 |
| Interference with free and secret voting   | 0 |
| Interference with access to polls          | 0 |
| Privileges granted favored candidates      | 0 |
| Dishonest tabulation in reporting of votes | 0 |
| Buying of votes                            | 0 |



## 22. (Continued)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Excessive expenditures                                  | 0 |
| Police or government officials interference of any type | 0 |
| Riots or other disorders                                | 0 |
| Illegal disqualification of voters                      | 0 |
| Violations of purge directives                          | 0 |
| Use of school children in campaign                      | 0 |
| Others  | 0 |

## 23. Disposition by you of above violations:

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Reported to Japanese officials only | 0 |
| Reported to SCAP                    | 0 |

## 24. Military Government Team's comments and evaluations:

- a. Was any criticism voiced in regard to activities of occupation forces? If so, explain in detail. No
- b. Your comments on activities of local election administration committees.

Generally local election administration committees chose competent superintendency, clerical and administrative personnel for the election functions.

## c. How may election laws be improved?

- (1) Election laws may be improved by utilizing printed ballots. This is substantiated by the fact that 9% of the ballots cast in this election were invalid.
- (2) National and Local elections should be combined and held on the same day. This is necessary as most of the interest is centered around the candidate for the City, Town and Village.

## d. Other suggestions in regard to elections: None