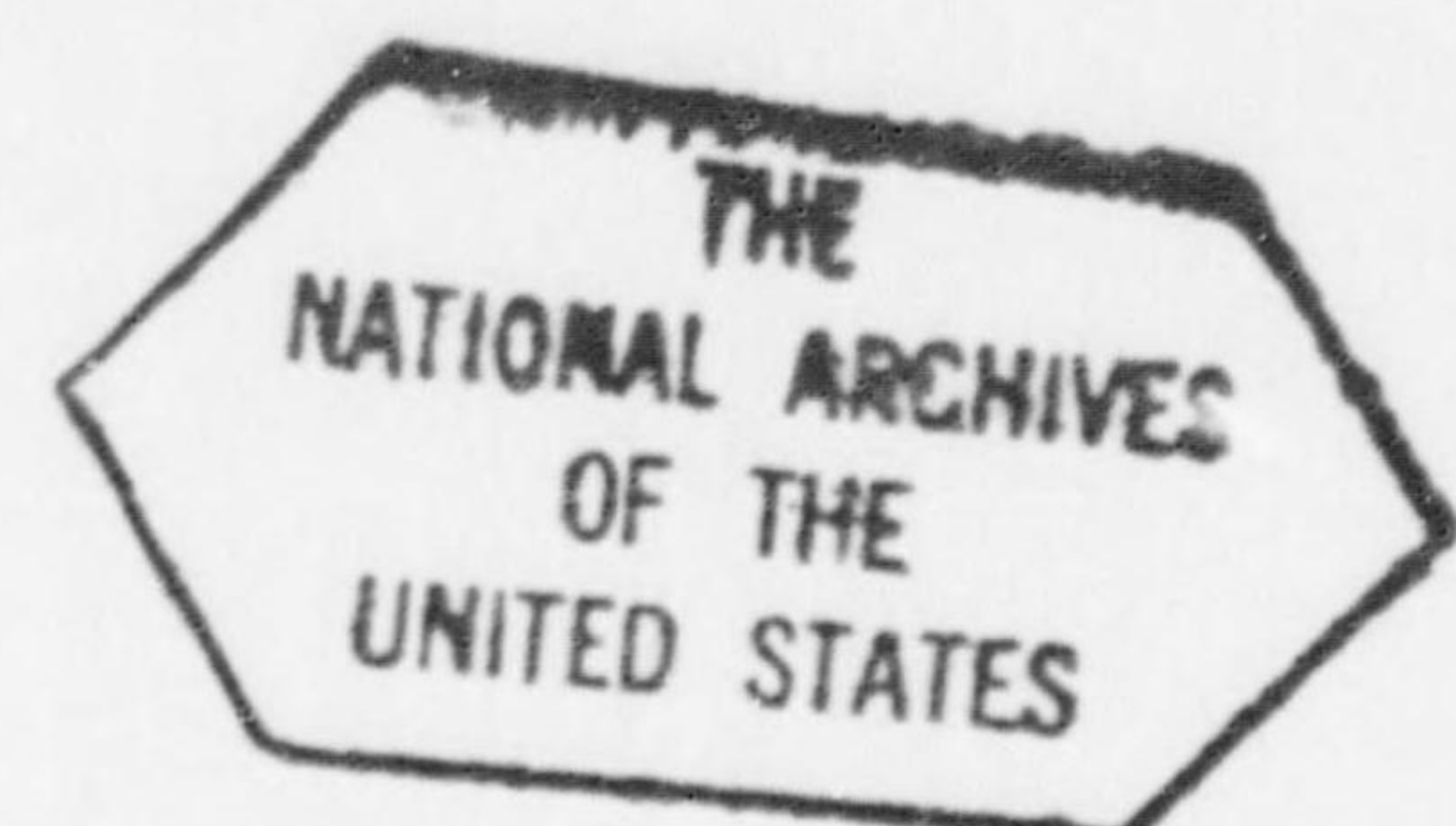


GHQ/SCAP Records(RG 331)  
Description of contents



- (1) Box no 2032
- (2) Folder title/number: (14)  
Gifu Prefecture National Elections

(3) Date: Apr. 1947

(4) Subject:

Classification	Type of record
331	d

(5) Item description and comment:

(6) Reproduction:  Yes  No

(7) Film no.

Sheet no.

GIFU  
 MILITARY GOVERNMENT TEAM  
 APO 25 (Gifu, Honshu)

*25 April 47*  
*House of Representatives*

30 April 1947

SURVEILLANCE OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS

1. Name of Prefecture. Gifu Ken
2. Number of registered voters
 

Men	381,881
Women	412,205
Total	794,086
3. Persons actually voting for House of Representatives candidates  
 (6,511 void votes)
 

Men	296,081	77.6%
Women	254,836	61.9%
Total	550,917	69.4%
4. Not applicable
5. Number of persons claiming franchise but not permitted to vote
 

Men	0
Women	0
Total	0
6. Number of surveillance teams on election day 32
7. Number of polling places 905
8. Number of polling places visited 469 51.8%
9. Number of ballot counting stations 326
10. Number of ballot counting stations visited 121 37.1%
11. Were candidates' purge questionnaires available at Election Administrations 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.

4 speeches by Pref. Officials. 20,000 handbills previously circulated to voters. 4 news releases.

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

Comparatively few people examined these questionnaires. 780 people are known to have examined purge questionnaires.

14. Number of seats in House of Representatives from Gifu Prefecture. 9

- a. Number of candidates by parties:

(1) Liberal	<u>6</u>
(2) Communist	<u>2</u>
(3) Farmers' Party	<u>1</u>
(4) Socialist	<u>5</u>
(5) Democrat	<u>5</u>
(6) Peoples' Co-operative	<u>2</u>
(7) Constitutional Preservation	<u>1</u>
(8) Citizen Democratic	<u>1</u>

- b. Number of Independents: 2

- c. Number actually elected by parties:

(1) Liberal	<u>4</u>
(2) Democrat	<u>3</u>
(3) Socialist	<u>2</u>

- d. Number of Independents elected: 0

- e. Total number of votes cast for each party:

(1) Liberal	<u>187,450</u>
(2) Communist	<u>8,920</u>
(3) Farmers' Party	<u>3,682</u>
(4) Socialist	<u>140,029</u>
(5) Democrat	<u>146,221</u>
(6) Peoples' Co-operative	<u>18,612</u>
(7) Constitutional Preservation	<u>2,757</u>
(8) Citizen Democrat	<u>12,530</u>

15. Not applicable

16. Any women elected: None

17. Number of pre-election meeting held throughout the prefecture by each party:

<u>Party</u>	<u>Number of Meetings</u>	<u>Total Attendance</u>
Liberal	261	Not known
Communist	70	" "
Socialist	509	" "
Democrat	243	" "
Citizen's Democratic	251	" "
People's Co-operative	72	" "
Constitutional Preservation	34	" "
Farmer's Party	2	" "

Independents campaign meetings:

<u>Number of Meetings</u>	<u>Total Attendance</u>
80	Not known

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

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

20. Number of pre-election meetings held by MG team: 12 Att: 63  
 With Elections Administration Committee 7 34  
 With Officials 4 11  
 With Candidates 1 18

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

7 News releases by MG  
 4 News releases direct from SCAP

22. Number of violations reported to you:

Police or government official interference of any type 1  
 Use of school children in campaign 1

23. Disposition by you of above violations:  
 Reported to Japanese officials only 2  
 Reported to SCAP 0

24. Military Government team's comments and evaluations:

a. Was any criticism voiced in regard to activities of occupation forces? No

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

Despite publicity, the public still does not fully recognize that this committee is the organization to take alleged election law violations.

c. How may election laws be improved?

Consolidate elections

d. Other suggestions in regard to elections.

.57% of ballots were cast for wrong candidate.  
.25% of names of candidates on ballots were illegible.

GIFU  
MILITARY GOVERNMENT TEAM  
APO 25 (Gifu, Honshu)

*20 April 1947*  
25 April 1947  
*House of Councillors*

## SURVEILLANCE OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS

- |   |                 |  |
|---|-----------------|--|
| 1. Name of prefecture   | <u>Gifu Ken</u> |  |
| 2. Number of registered voters  |                 | Men <u>382,044</u><br>Women <u>412,366</u><br>Total <u>794,410</u>                   |
| 3. Not applicable.  |                 |  |
| 4. Persons actually voting for House of Councillors candidates.<br>(Including 26,544 void ballots)  |                 | Men <u>227,921</u> 59.7%<br>Women <u>172,980</u> 42.0%<br>Total <u>400,901</u> 50.5% |
| 5. Number of persons claiming franchise but not permitted to vote   |                 | Men <u>0</u><br>Women <u>0</u><br>Total <u>0</u>                                     |
| 6. Number of surveillance teams on election day   |                 | <u>32</u>  |
| 7. Number of polling places   |                 | <u>905</u>   |
| 8. Number of polling places visited   |                 | <u>404 (44.65%)</u>  |
| 9. Number of ballot counting stations   |                 | <u>326</u>   |
| 10. Number of ballot counting stations visited  |                 | <u>141 (43.1%)</u>   |
| 11. Were candidates' purge questionnaires available at Election Administrations Committee's offices in all cases?<br>(If not, explain)  |                 | <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. |                 |  |

2 newspaper releases by Mil Gov't.

3 newspaper releases from 20th to 24th by Japanese.

1830

20,000 pamphlets had been previously distributed publicising above information.

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

There were very few people who used this privilege during this election. As a general rule, the House of Councillors seems very far removed from the ordinary citizen.

Approximately 500 were recorded as having examined candidates' questionnaires.

14. Not applicable.

15. Number of seats in House of Councillors from Gifu Prefecture (exclusive of National Constituency seats) 2

- a. Number of candidates by parties (exclusive of National Constituency seats)

Socialist 1

- b. Number of independent candidates (Exclusive of National Constituency seats) 1

- c. Number of independents elected (Exclusive of National Constituency seats) 1 (Zinkichi Watanabe)

- d. Number actually elected by parties  
Socialist 1 (Shyu Ito)

- e. Number of Independents elected (Exclusive of National Constituency seats) 1

- f. Total number of votes cast for each party (Exclusive of National Constituency seats)

As there were but two candidates, the posts were automatically filled.

- g. Total number of votes case for independents

As there were but two candidates, the posts were automatically filled.

16. Any women elected: None
17. Number of pre-election Meetings held throughout the prefecture by each party:

<u>Party</u>	<u>Number of Meetings</u>	<u>Total Attendance</u>
Nippon Socialist	154	Not known
Communist	30	
Liberal	74	

Independents' campaign meetings:

<u>Number of Meetings</u>	<u>Total Attendance</u>
57	Not known

18. Were there an adequate number of polling places? Yes  
(If not, explain)

19. Are four election bulletins enclosed with this report? (Four are required from each prefecture. If not enclosed, explain) Yes

		Total
20. Number of pre-election meetings held by MG team:	8	Att: 130
With Elections Administration Committee	4	111
With Officials	3	17
With Candidates	1	2

21. Report generally on extent of local publicity given to election (e.g. newspaper stories, advertisement, radio time, placards, postcards, handbills). How did MG teams contribute to publicising elections?

52 signboard, 26 flags, 3,500 posters, 31,100 post cards, 26 news releases (for House of Councillor Election only) (6 Newspaper releases by Mil Govt)

22. Number of violations reported to you:

Coercion, violence or threats	0
Soliciting votes	0
Interference with free & secret voting	0
Privileges granted favored candidates	0
Dishonest tabulation in reporting of votes	0
Buying of votes	0
Excessive expenditures	0



Police or government official 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	<u>0</u>
Reported to <b>SCAP</b>	<u>0</u>

24. Military Government team's comments and evaluations:

a. Was any criticism voiced in regard to activities of occupation forces? No

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

Prefectural Election Administration Committee tends to let subordinates do actual work.

c. How may election laws be improved?

1. Consolidate elections.
2. Suggest all House of Councillors be elected on a prefectural basis.
3. Don't hold election on Sunday.

d. Other suggestion in regard to elections.

Reference is made to Par. 4

15,980 (60.5%) inserted wrong name on ballots  
 6,472 (24.4%) were unable to recognize name of candidate  
 1,740 ( 6.6%) short miscellaneous remarks on the ballot  
 such as:  
 "Don't know the candidate"  
 "None are worthy"  
 "We need food, not votes"