1. Those built within the zone designated temporarily by Construction Minister out of sheer necessity".

Fire Branch had interpreted this to mean an area designated for the erection of temporary shelter following an earthquake, conflagration, or similar catastrophe, but the building bureau has operated on the interpretation that the erection of temporary buildings in an area is permissible whether "--out of sheer necessity" or not. In order to clarify this and other misunderstandings, a conference will be arranged during the week of 9 January 1950 with representatives of the Ministry of Construction, Building Bureau, Construction Bureau and Fire Branch in attendance.

10. Asked if he, himself, would have approved the erection of this wood frame metal clad building within a Fire Zone A, even as a temporary structure, Chief Shieno replied that he would not. He did not believe that Inspector Nakagawa should have approved and he will be given an official reprimand and probably will be transferred to a different district. It was agreed, also, that in the future, no employee of the Fire Prevention Section of the Tokyo Fire Department will approve any permit to erect a temporary building within a Fire Zone A, but will referesuch requests directly to Chief Shigeno's office.

one involved at Ueno Market has been enlightening and educational to officials of the Building Bureau. That they will co-operate more fully with the Tokyo Fire Department in the approval and issuing of building permits was demonstrated when, on 6 January 1950, three officials called at Fire Branch office to advise that a second group of shops had been erected without permits in the Shinjuku area, and Building Bureau had already issued the orders for removal.

GEORGE W. ANGELL Chief Fire Administrator

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CIVIL INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SECTION

PSES

1 January 1950

INTRASECTION MEMORANDUM

FROM: OIC, Policy and Programs Branch

TO: All Branches, Information Division

SUBJECT: February Themes for Fire Prevention

- 1. The following theme for fire prevention information programs for February has been submitted by the Fire Administrator, Public Safety Division, G-2. At the first indications of earthquake, Japanese should carry their hibachis out of the house and put out all other fires in the house. (Following the Fukui Earthquake in June 1948 many fires broke out and the National Fire Defense Board cautioned people to remove hibachi from homes when the first shock of an earthquake was felt. This advice was followed in Imaichi 26 December 1949 and even though many houses collapsed no large fires resulted. This advice was not followed in at least one instance in Tokyo, where a hibachi was tipped over by the shock and the building in which it had stood was destroyed by fire.)
- 2. Other themes have been promised by the Fire Administrator, Public Safety Division, G-2. They will be forwarded as soon as they are received.
- 3. Media branches should deal directly with Public Safety Division, G-2, or with the Japanese Government agencies concerned for elaboration or for answers to questions regarding the above themes. Basic information policy decisions may be referred to OIC, Policy and Programs.

J. F. S. 7.1