

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
APO 500

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SCAPII 2077

6 February 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

SUBJECT: Disposal of Explosives and Explosive Ordnance
Resulting from Wartime Operations

1. Reference is made to:
 - a. Directive Number 1 to the Japanese Government, 2 September 1945.
 - b. Directive Number 2 to the Japanese Government, 3 September 1945.
2. Under the provisions of referenced directives, the Japanese Government is responsible for the destruction and/or other authorized disposition of all explosives, explosive ordnance and components thereof, which were generated during or prior to the war and existing in Japan proper, Japanese territorial waters and sea lane approaches to Japan at the termination of hostilities. (JAPAN proper is defined as the four main islands of JAPAN--HOKKAIDO, HONSHU, KYUSHU and SHIKOKU, and the approximately 1000 smaller adjacent islands including the TSUSHIMA ISLANDS, the IZU ISLANDS including SOFU GAN (LOT'S WIFE) and the RYUKYU (NANSEI) ISLANDS north of 30 degrees North Latitude excluding KUCHINO and excluding the KURIL ISLANDS, LIANCOURT ROCKS, QUELPART ISLANDS and all other more distant Pacific Islands.)
3. The foregoing responsibility is not limited to explosives and related materials generated by the operation of former Japanese Armed Forces, but extends to all such materials regardless of origin.
4. In order to assist the Japanese Government in accomplishing the disposition of subject materials, as directed by referenced directives, the occupation forces assumed the responsibility for furnishing advice, guidance, technical assistance, and, when available, necessary supplies and equipment. The occupation forces will continue to assist the Japanese Government in the manner stated above.
5. It is mandatory that the disposal of subject materials be expedited. In order to accelerate disposal, it is desired that the Japanese Government take the following action:

a. Report to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers the location and a brief description of all known subject materials, broken down into areas as follows:

- (1) Those located at sea, in harbors, channels, and on beaches below the high water mark;
- (2) Those located on all land areas and beach areas above the high water mark.

b. Determine the specific types of subject material suitable for destruction with indigenous explosives; compute explosive requirements and take steps necessary to obtain an allocation of the required quantities.

c. Compute requirements for "plastic" or other types of explosives necessary to destroy the remainder of subject materials not suitable for destruction by indigenous explosives and report these requirements to the Commanding General, Eighth Army.

d. Upon receiving proper clearance, initiate immediately an accelerated program, the objective of which is to complete disposal of all known subject materials at the earliest practicable date.

6. In implementing the above program, it is desired that the Japanese Government take all possible precautions to protect life and property. Demilitarization will be conducted in accordance with such safety regulations as may be issued by Commanding General, Eighth Army and Commander, United States Naval Forces, Far East. In order to facilitate the institution of measures to protect occupation force personnel and property, it is desired that disposal activity in a particular area be coordinated with local occupation force commander of the affected area.

7. The uncovering of additional explosives, explosive ordnance and components thereof, subsequent to submission of the report, as directed in sub-paragraph 5a above, will be reported by the Japanese Government. Materials uncovered in areas designated by sub-paragraph 5a(1) above will be reported to the Commander, United States Naval Forces, Far East; materials uncovered in areas designated by sub-paragraph 5a(2) above, will be reported to the Commanding General, Eighth Army. Upon receiving proper clearance of the items reported, the Japanese Government will take prompt disposal action.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:



K. B. RUSH
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Adjutant General.