DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

Nat. Res. Division
File No. A-12-Y

FIELD TRIP REPORT

H.G.Keisel

14 June 1950
Tokuyama,
Yamaguchi, Prefecture

1. Purpose:

A joint conference with officials of Agri-coop., Agriculture Mutual Aid Association and Municipal Office Agriculture Administration Section.

2. Background:

Surveillance in accordance with O.D. 51.

3. Discussion:

a. The main factor of the financial distress of the Agri-coop is considered to be the tight money situation of the farmers who complaint of the low rice price in comparison with other commodity prices.

The farmers stressed, it is said, the price of rice, like other commodity prices, should be decided on according to its production cost and that, otherwise, the farmers should not be taxed at the same rate as other people. They requested this headquarters to take proper action to revise the price of rice.

This headquarters recommended them to lay this problem before the Japanese Government on the ground that this sort of problem should be handled by this Japanese Government itself.

It is reported that a complaint was voiced by a farmers regarding the delivery of retention rice and he felt puzzled over the discrepancy between the price purchase price and its official price - the farmers have to pay much more for the rationed rice than the price at which rice they cropped was delivered to the Government.

b. It is desired by the farmers that the control over fertilizers by removed so as to enable farmers to purchase any kinds of fertilizers they wish at cheaper price.

c. The farmers considering that disaster is rare in Tokuyama area they stress the unnecessity of the crop insurance. It is considered a loss of money to pay for the premium under such condition. Moreover, it is beyond the farmer's comprehension that the premiumu is 120 yen per tan in Tokuyama area as against 80 yen per tan in the rural area, when the fact taken into consideration that disasters occur more in rural area.

Officials attending the conference confirmed that CCAR issued no order to the farmers forcing them to effect the crop insurance though it was highly recommended.

File Index
No. 8

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

Nat. Res. Division File No. 04-12-Y

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME O'Brien, D. G. (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL Jeep

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 7 September TIME 1100 (5) RETURN DATE 8 September TIME 1800

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Otake	7 September	1400	Mayor Chief, Land Commission	Crop Collection, Land Consolidation
b.	Iwakuni	7 September	1530	Mayor Chief, Land Commission	Crop Collection, Land Consolidation
c.	Takamori	8 September	1000	Mayor Chief, Land Commission	Crop Collection Land Consolidation
d.	Kuga	8 September	1300	Mayor Chief, Land Commission	Crop Collection Land Consolidation
e.					
f.					

(7) REMARKS:

Douglas G. O'Brien
Signature

(Instructions on reverse side)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDS NO

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Personnel going on field trips will complete Sections (1) through (6), inclusive, of this form, in triplicate. The original will be forwarded to the Deputy Chief, 24 hours before departure.

2. Upon return from field trip, Section (7), of duplicate copy will be completed and forwarded to Deputy Chief. Section (7) should include: estimate of success of meeting, conference or inspection, any changes from original schedule and reason thereof, any further remarks person preparing report desires to include.

3. Third copy will be retained in the Section for file.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. _____

HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

14 September 1950

SUBJECT: Field Trip to Otake, Iwakuni, Takamori and Kuga
7 - 8 September 1950

TO : Chief
Economics Section

1. Purpose:

Purpose of trip was to expedite crop collection and encourage land consolidation as a possible solution to present economic difficulties among rural groups.

2. Background:

None.

3. Discussion:

Meeting were held as per attached schedule. At each locality the following points were stressed by the undersigned.

1 a. The present unfavorable financial condition of farmers results from the fact that it costs more to produce one koku of rice than the government pays for it and rice production, in most cases, is the farmers soul enterprise.

2 b. The government cannot raise the purchase price of rice much more without throwing the entire economy out of gear. Should a substantial increase in the price of rice to farmers be granted by the government it would ultimately affect the farmer adversely in the form of much higher prices for consumer goods.

3 c. Subsidies for farmers are very unlikely as the granting of same is contrary to existing policies and plans for economic recovery in Japan.

d. Therefore the solution for the farmer seems to lie in reducing the cost of production of rice and at the same time begin operations in other money earning enterprises, the latter of which is presently impossible because of the time factor.

e. One important reason for high production cost is the inefficiency with which the average farm is operated. The wide

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

dispersal of paddy fields owned by individual farmers requires 2 to 3 times the labor, use of draft animals and vehicles, and time which would be required if they were consolidated into one area. The time alone required to work several fields located at different points over a wide area precludes any chances for farmers to engage in other projects such as livestock, poultry etc. which would earn money.

f. The obvious solution to the present problem is rationalization of farm operation through a land separation, exchange and consolidation program.

g. It is part of the land commissions job to explain the program and encourage its universal application.

STOP

This was the first attempt to sell this program as a solution to the present agrarian economic difficulty and reaction was unexpectedly favorable. Previous conferences and trips have been marked by a subtly inferred resistance to the program. Whereas in the past the objection was based on ancestral obligation to work the same land and a traditional attachment to certain fields, the problem now uppermost in the farmers mind is how to bear the cost of registration which would be necessary when the land is exchanged. The government bore the cost of registration in the basic land reform program.

Crop collections in all areas visited were proceeding at a rate for in excess of target goals set early in the season. Kuga village had already reached 120% of the mugi quota. The area visited is a big rice producing basin and it was encouraging to hear local officials responsible for collections state that this is the best crop in eight years.

4. Conclusions:

Land consolidation would be a reality much earlier if the government could again assume the responsibility for registering the transfer of land which would take place.

5. Recommendations:

Close watch should be kept on the current rice crop toward a possible revision of quotas upward.

DOUGLAS, G. O'BRIEN, DAC
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section, CCAR

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

Recommendations self explanatory.

GEORGE K. BLACKWOOD, DAC
Chief, Natural Resources Div.
Economics Section, CCAR

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME Mr. Colehour (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL Boat-Shenango #2

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 15 August 1950 TIME 2230 (5) RETURN DATE 19 August 1950 TIME 0900

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Higashi-Agenocho Oshima-island	16 Aug.	1300	Yamaguchi Pref. Fruit Exper. Station officials.	To inspect Oshima Island Pref. Fruit Station
b.	Kaminoseki Nagashima Island	17 Aug.	0930	Ken-cho and Municipal Forestry Dept. officials	To inspect forests damaged by Pine Bark Beetles.
c.	Yanai	17 Aug.	1400	Municipal Extension advisor.	To Discuss current progress in Ag. Extension in Yanai Area.
d.	Iwakuni	18 Aug.	0900	Gun and Municipal Forestry Department officials.	To inspect forests damaged by Pine Bark Beetles.
e.					
f.					

(7) REMARKS: See Attached Reports.

Morris S. Colehour

MORRIS. S. COLHOUR

Signature

(Instructions on reverse side)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Personnel going on field trips will complete Sections (1) through (6), inclusive, of this form, in triplicate. The original will be forwarded to the Deputy Chief, 24 hours before departure.

2. Upon return from field trip, Section (7), of duplicate copy will be completed and forwarded to Deputy Chief. Section (7) should include: estimate of success of meeting, conference or inspection, any changes from original schedule and reason thereof, any further remarks person preparing report desires to include.

3. Third copy will be retained in the Section for file.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NNDS NO.

HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

A-12-X

21 August 1950

SUBJECT: Field Trip Report of Mr. Colehour - Natural Resources Division to Yamaguchi Prefecture, 16 - 18 August 1950

TO : Chief, Economics Section

1. Purpose:

a. To inspect the Prefecture Branch Citrus Fruit Experimental Station at Agenosho-Machi, Oshima Island.

b. To inspect forest lands in Nagashima Island and neighboring Islands and the Iwakuni area which are damaged or are threatened with early damage by Pine Bark Beetles.

c. To evaluate current progress in the Agricultural Extension program in the Yanai area.

2. Background:

a. (1) Ken-cho officials reported to this officer recently that some forest areas in Nagashima Island have been heavily infested by Pine Bark Beetles and other destructive insects. This is the area of heaviest infestation at present in the Ken.

(2) Forests in the Iwakuni area are also heavily damaged from the pests and are the second heaviest - infested timber lands in the Ken as of 1 August 1950 (Applicable O.D. #14)

b. Applicable O.D. #12 for Agricultural Program surveillance.

3. Discussion:

a. Agricultural Fruit Production

Conference held at 1100 on 16 August 1950 at the Hirai-Mura Village Office. Those present included Mayor Hamamoto of Hirai who is chairman of the Island's Citrus fruit promotional committee, Mr. Ogawa, representing the Hirai Agricultural Cooperative, Mr. Ogasawara, chief of the Agenosho Station, Mr. Kawamoto, district chief of the Oshima Gun Office.

File Index
No

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NNDS NO.

Citrus fruit growers on Oshima Island expect a normal crop of approximately 2,000,000 kan of tangerines and oranges this fall unless severe weather and other unexpected factors develop. If this occurs, it will equal the 1948 yield. Last year's crop was very poor because of typhoon damage.

Cultivation of citrus fruit is one of the Island's biggest industries. The acreage devoted to growing of tangerines and oranges was 1,000 cho before World War II but was reduced approximately 30 per cent during the war to provide increased staple food production.

Efforts are being made by the Island's promotional committee and the Experimental Station to again reach the mark of 1,000 cho of fruit trees. Fruit grown on Oshima Island is shipped annually to southern Honshu and Kyushu and about 10,000 kan will be exported to the west coast of the United States and Canada if marketing arrangements are completed by the Ken Federation of Sales Cooperatives.

Research at the Agenosho Station since 1948 when it was established to aid the thriving citrus fruit industry on the Island has included cultivation of superior varieties of Summer oranges, breeding through grafts of mixed citrus, and use of 2,4-D weed killer in the orchards to eliminate heavy growth of weeds and grasses.

Future experiments will include cultivation of strain of early-flowering tangerines (Unshu variety), testing tangerine seeds for drought-resistant damage, reclamation of farm or waste land for growing fruit and advantages of using Nitrogenous fertilizer in orchards.

The Agricultural Products Section of the Ken-cho is sending Mr. Kobayashi to the Island soon to investigate the Citrus industry and possibly assist them in developing new markets in Japan and abroad.

Before the war, growers of fruit on the Island exported about 10% of their annual crop (200,000kan) to the British Isles and North America. Although citrus fruit was grown on the Island as early as 1850, extensive cultivation of tangerines and oranges did not occur there until approximately 25 years ago.

Repatriates and new arrivals on the Island in recent years are taking up farming when they can find suitable land and some of them are being encouraged to cultivate fruit trees.

b. Agricultural Research:

Conference held at 1300 at Agenosho-Machi Village Office on 16 August 1950. Present were the Mayors of Hirai and Agenosho, Mr. Hoshida and Mr. Yasumoto, members of the Agenosho Extension Committee, Mr. Ogawa, chairman of the Agenosho Extension Committee, Mr. Akimoto,

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDS NO.

chairman of the Agenosho 4-H Fruit Project club, and Vice Mayor Omato.

Citrus fruit, especially tangerines, grown on Oshima Island was awarded first prize at the 1949 Tokyo Agricultural Fair. The fruit was designated as having superior quality and excellent taste. Approximately half of the tangerines grown on the island are of this same prize-winning variety.

Marketing of the tangerines and oranges in foreign countries is again being considered after the war prevented shipments. The Island's promotional committee is working closely with the Ken Federation of Sales Cooperatives and hopes to send the choicest type of fruit in 1-kan boxes to markets in London, Seattle, Tacoma and Vancouver, B.C.

Conference held at Agenosho Experimental Station at 1430 on 16 August 1950. Those present included most of the officials who attended the other conferences earlier the same day which were held by this officer.

The station chief explained that the station's research projects chiefly are concerned with perfecting high-quality varieties of tangerines as 90 per cent of the island's fruit crop is devoted to this type of fruit. The Washington Navel Orange and the Summer Orange are also being grown on the Island but in very small quantities.

The station received grapefruit seedlings from New Zealand and Australia and hopes to develop a strain of this fruit which will thrive in the Ohsima Climate. Several more years will be required before the grapefruit tree will begin to bear a reasonable quantity of fruit.

No disease or noxious insect has damaged the grapefruit trees so far at the station.

An extensive survey of all citrus trees growing on Oshima Island was completed in 1948 by the staff of the station. It has enabled the station's horticulturists to expedite research on the superior varieties being grown there.

The station has several olive trees which will not bear fruit for few years. Olive seedlings are being cultivated in a nursery bed but generally, they are not thriving.

In a tour of the station, the station chief called the attention of this officer to the principal diseases and noxious insect damaging citrus fruit on the Island.

The arrow-point-shaped worm is the No. 1 enemy of tangerines with the Ruby Scale worm being next in damaging the fruit. Station officials believe that in some orchards on the Island, as much as 40% of the fruit trees are damaged by this pest. However, few of these trees have

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDS NO.

more than scattered cases of infestation and if prompt control measures are taken, a considerable amount of the damaged fruit may be satisfactory at harvest time.

Very powerful insecticides such as cyanide gas and sulphuric acid are used about once a year to control the pests. Scab disease is the principal bacteria-type damaging the fruit trees. Bordeaux Mixture has greatly reduced loss from the disease.

The station has a rather compact, and light power sprayer which is carried regularly to most of the other wise in accessible orchards on the Island. It cost ¥70,000 and includes 70 feet of hose with special attachments for reaching the top of trees.

Station officials estimate that farmers should be able to spray 3 tan of fruit trees (approximately 240 trees) in a single day.

The station cultivates peanuts to check soil erosion in orchards and is conducting intensive experiments with 2-4D to eliminate weeds and grasses which are growing in heavy abondance in many of the Island's Orchards.

Some research is also conducted on sweet potatoes since they comprise are of the larger staple food crop on the Island.

The station has an annual budget of ¥896,900 of which ¥536,900 is used for opeations including ¥250,000 for insect control. If funds can be obtained, the station will ask for an additional ¥400,000 next year to adjust and improve the plats where experiments are now conducted.

c. Agricultural Extension

Conference held at Yanai-Machi Mayor's Office at 0930 on 18 August 1950.

Those present included Mr. WAKISAKA, chairman of the Yanai Extension Committee, Mr. Iwamoto, Economic Chief, Yanai-Machi Mr. Kaita, Agricultural Adjustment Chief Yanai, and Mr. Yoshimura, Yanai Extension Advisor.

The outlook for the 1950 rice crop in Yanai is good. However, 32 cho of paddy fields are damaged in whole or partially by rice blast with approximately 23 cho of paddy land having varying infestations of leaf hopper.

A drouth may threaten the rice crop also. Other threats to the rice crop are "autumn fall" and block spot disease which may damage as much as 25 cho of rice plants, especially those growing at the foot of hills, near river banks and in sandy loam.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDS NO.

The Yanai Extension Committee and the Town Extension advisor are closely watching these threats to the rice crop. Bordeaux mixture has been used in both power and hand sprayers to counteract rice blast. BHC - 1% solution has been quite effective in controlling the leaf hoppers.

Solid fertilizer containing ammonium sulphate - Lime and potassium is being used to check the black spot disease. Yanai Extension leaders are getting experimental developments on staple crop diseases to implement their control program.

The Yanai Extension Committee which serves both Yanai and Naruto farmers receives a combined budget of ¥120,000 from these communities, all of it from taxes.

There are 1,440 farm households served by the Yanai Extension advisor.

d. Forestry - Insect Control

Conference held in Mayor Shinozue's office at Kamoseki-Mura Office, Nagashima Island, at 0930 on 17 August 1950. Those present included Mr. Kurimoto, chief of the Kumage Forestry District Office, Mr. Kawano, technician in charge of Insect Control in the Ken-cho Forestry Affairs Section, and representatives of the Nagashima Island Forestry Association.

District Forestry officials showed this officer a map of Nagashima Island and neighboring islands in the Inland Sea (all in Yamaguchi Prefecture) which traced the spread of Pine Bark Beetles in the area since the pests were first discovered in 1945.

Prefectural, district and village officials are not certain how the beetles reached the island which is separated from the mainland at Murotsu by a narrow bay which is about 600 meters wide. The Imperial Government operated a military petroleum plant on Nagashima Island from 1941 until V-J day. It is possible that the pests may have been brought to the island in boats which made frequent deliveries of cargo at the wartime installation.

By 1946 when the first survey of the island's Pine stands was undertaken, 36 cho of land containing 11,370 trees were found partially or heavily damaged. A year later, the pests had spread to new areas of the island, possibly through the aid of strong winds during the typhoon season, and 155 cho of land, involving 35,195 trees were infested.

Ken-cho and District Forestry officials aided the Island Forestry association and private forest owners to check the spread of the pests once they were discovered in 1945. However, even extensive

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNSG NO.

cutting of damaged trees and strict control measures such as burning the damaged bark at the spot and transporting the infested trees to an sawmill or to locations where the beetles could not again infest the pine stands, failed to halt the voracious pests.

By 1948, 2,022 cho of forest land involving 213,174 trees of varying sizes and ages had to be cleared of the pests. The epidemic was so severe by that time that the entire island, with the aid of the Ken-cho, cooperated in greatly reducing the pine stands which were potential targets for the aggressive pests.

The excellent control program produced splendid results the following year (1949) when only 374 cho of timber including 51,645 trees were cut because of new infestations. Although the 1950 estimate of infestation on the island is not completed yet, Ken-cho officials believe that it will not be any worse than last year.

Ken-cho officials stated that no appeals had been received from forest owners on Nagashima Island since the new MAF-type of insect control reports were started several months ago. As a result, the Governor has signed orders directing all forest owners who have any infestation in pine stands to clear their forests of the pests as soon as possible.

Two adjacent islands, Sago Jima, about 600 meters north of Nagashima, and Uma Shima, approximately the same distance northwest of the principal island, have had varying infestations from beetles which have been attributed to the damaged forests on Nagashima. The pests have also infested forests in Murotsu, directly across the narrow bay from Kamoneseki. However, in Murotsu, the control program has been effective and the problem appears to have been licked.

The infestation on Sago Jima has been principally on the southwestern coast. The most recent survey showed that 693 trees were partially or heavily damaged from the pests.

The Central Government has allocated approximately ¥6,500,000 as compensation to forest owners for infested trees which they are cutting down annually. The Ken-cho Forestry Affairs Section has a budget of ¥13,000,000 for the insect control program including the MAF grant to aid forest owners. Additional funds are needed for the project but the prospects for getting more money are very slim for 1951.

A conference is scheduled for 23-24 August in Tokyo to discuss the MAF's policy on Insect Control for Forests.

Nagashima Forestry officials pointed out that because fishing is a major industry on the island, a large quantity of quickly-combustible firewood is needed throughout the year for fishermen

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDS NO.

to process their catches, mostly sardines. Pine wood, both healthy and damaged types, have been used in the past for processing the fish. Damaged pine trees seldom are sold for pulp because of the great demand for firewood among the fishermen.

Since pine is needed principally for firewood and because it is very susceptible to the Bark Beetles, this officer suggested that future artificial plantings (seedlings) be mostly in a hardier type of timber.

Forestry officials stated that Kumage, a hardwood species of tree, is already growing in small quantities on the island and while it does not make as suitable a fire as pine does, it will serve the purpose for the fishermen. Cedar will also be stressed in the reforestation program, once the island is able to eliminate the Pine Bark Beetles.

District forestry officials reported that Chestnut trees in Onomura, Kumage Gun, were quite heavily infected by the gall fly.

Nagashima Forestry officials reported they have reforested 145 cho of timber on the island since 1946, with an average of 3,000 trees being cho. The program for 1950 calls for approximately 45 cho of trees to be planted. School children are assisting in the project.

Conference held at Iwakuni Mayor's office on 18 August 1950 at 1445. Those present included Mr. Kondo, Mr. Suzuki and Mr. Uemura of the Iwakuni Municipal Agriculture & Forestry Section; Mr. Yamazuki, Iwakuni chairman of the Agricultural Adjustment Committee, Mr. Kashimoto, a member of the Iwakuni Agricultural Improvement Committee; Mr. Okamoto, chief of the Ken Forestry Affairs Section; Mr. Ito, of the Ken Forestry Affairs Section, Mr. Yiagi and Mr. Sugihara of the Kuga District Forestry office, and Mr. Kasai of the Iwakuni Liaison Office.

Municipal and District Forestry officials displayed a control map of the Iwakuni area, showing varying stages of Pine Bark Beetle damage in forests.

The pests were discovered in Iwakuni City proper in 1943 and then spread to the forest areas beyond the Municipality until today, this area is the second heaviest infestation of beetles in the Ken. The 1950 forecast of infestation in the Iwakuni area is expected to be completed very soon.

However, district forestry officials estimate that approximately 46 cho of forest lands are partially or heavily infested. If this is substantiated when the MAF report is tabulated about 1 September 1950, it will represent a decrease of nearly 66% from last fall's damage.

Control measures, slow in getting underway in the Iwakuni area because of indifference by forest owners, are now quite effective. The pests are damaging the older trees, mostly those 50 years old and older.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDS NO.

While the owners, most of whom are full-time farmers since their forests never comprise much more than 1 cho of timber, are cooperative in eliminating the beetles, they also are like the majority of Japanese in the Region, too busy to do extensive cutting of damaged trees until later this year.

This officer suggested that casual labor be employed to cut down the damaged trees as Mr. Blackwood had pointed out in a similar conference with Okayama Forestry officials. Ken officials said they would support this officer's plan to use high school or college students until classes are resumed but felt that the lack of skill of these youths may not prove satisfactory to forest owners.

Forest owners have been receiving approximately ¥360-400 per koku of pine, delivered to the Iwakuni saw mill. As in other prefectures, a considerable amount of the damaged timber can be sold for pulpwood and the remainder is used for firewood.

Damage by gall flies to chestnut stands, both virgin and cultivated forests, has been very heavy in the Iwakuni area. Shigeno Village which is very near to Iwakuni has 1500 chestnut trees partially or heavily damaged and in SO village, also near Iwakuni, the entire chestnut forests are heavily damaged by this voracious pest.

The gall fly was not discovered in the Iwakuni area until 1948 and within two years, it has become just as serious a menace to chestnut stands as the beetles are to pine trees. Ken-cho officials believe that 40% of the chestnut crop will be lost this year because of the pest.

The Ken-cho Forestry Affairs chief asked this officer to assist the Ken in combatting the Gall Fly. He believes that the MAF should allocate funds immediately to check the spread of the pest as the Ken has no money available for this project at present.

4. <u>Conclusions</u>:

a. <u>Agriculture</u>

(1) Outlook is very good for normal crop of approximately 2,000,000 kan of tangerines and oranges on Oshima Island in November, 1950.

(2) Exporting of citrus fruit is expected to be resumed by the Yamaguchi Federation of Sales Co-Ops this year after a 10-year lapse because of the war.

(3) Research on citrus fruit at the Agenosho Prefectural Branch Experimental Station is still too new. The establishment was not located there until October, 1949.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

(4) Chemicals are being used effectively on rice plant diseases and insects in the Yanai area.

b. Forestry - Insect Control

(1) Forest owners on Nagashima Island in the Inland Sea (south of Murotsu) are using damaged pine trees from pine bark beetle infestations mostly for firewood.

(2) The infestation on Nagashima Island should be brought under control by February 1951 as the Governor has issued orders as of 20 August 1950, directing affected owners that they must clear their forests of damaged trees as soon as possible.

(3) Hereafter, seedlings of Kumage, a hardwood species of tree, will be planted on the Island and neighboring islands to provide the firewood needed for fishermen in processing fish. Natural pine stands will probably continue to grow in some of the island's areas but their chances of reaching a 25-year maturity are quite slim because of the heavy infestation of the beetles.

(4) Iwakuni forest-owners are interested in getting prompt control of their forests from the beetles but no suitable plan has yet been devised to provide the casual labor for this project.

(5) Chestnut trees are also heavily-infested in the Iwakuni area with the village of SO reported to have all of its trees of this type quite heavily damaged. Ken-cho officials state that the gall fly will reduce the Ken's chestnut crop this year by 40%.

5. Recommendations:

a. Agriculture

(1) The Ken-cho Information Department should disseminate information over a fairly-wide area of the world, advertising the high-quality tangerines which are grown in the prefecture.

b. Forestry - Insect Control

(1) Nagashima Island and Kumage Gun Forestry district officials should demand that forest owners on the island comply wholeheartedly with the Ken's order to cut damaged pine trees. They also should discourage any artificial plantings of pine seedlings on

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. _____

the island as this timber is used principally for firewood. Kumage, a species of hardwood tree, now grows on the island and can be used satisfactorily for firewood to help fishermen process their catches.

(2) Casual labor can be used to expedite the cutting of damaged pine trees in the Iwakuni area. High school or college students will be available for this project until classes are resumed. The logs will bring approximately 400 per koku, delivered to the Iwakuni lumber mill anytime during the year.

(3) The MAF should assist, if funds are available, Yamaguchi Prefecture as well as Hiroshima and Okayama Kens, to take emergency measures in controlling the rapid spread of the chestnut gall fly. The Ken's chestnut crop will drop 40% this year because of the pest.

MORRIS S. COLEHOUR, GS-9
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

Res. Division
File No.

A-12-Y

HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
ECONOMICS SECTION

Noted
HLK

5 August 1950

SUBJECT: Report of Field Trip to Oshima Island and Yanai, Yamaguchi Prefecture, 1 - 2 August 1950

TO : Chief, Chugoku Civil Affairs Region

1. Purpose: Purpose was to conduct routine surveillance of Agricultural activities with particular emphasis on written rental agreements, crop collection, and agricultural co-operative amalgamation.

2. Background: None

3. Discussion:

Meetings were held with Agricultural Cooperative officials, Local Land Commissions, Economics Chiefs and the mayors in Kuga village on Oshima Island and Yanai Town , both in Yamaguchi Prefecture. Conferences with Co-op officials were centered around the need for unit co-ops to act collectively to bring about amalgamation of co-op federations if they thought the move would benefit them financially. One significant development noted was an "I-told-you-so" attitude among co-op officials when discussing the apparent inability of federations to operate independently of one another. A unit co-op official who is concurrently a director of a federation stated that the federations were organized separately because of a GHQ recommendation and against the better judgement of experienced Japanese. He was promptly informed that the present condition of the federations results from mismanagement, corruption, and chicanery on the part of officials and not from the principal of separate federations. This is reported here because it represents a typical thought process when a failure occurs: "i.e."Who can we blame?"

Although some unit co-op officials indicate a hesitancy to vote for amalgamation of federations while the latter are in such poor financial condition, they generally agree that amalgamation is the solution to many of their own economic ills. Both co-ops visited on this trip were in sound financial condition.

For some unknown reason co-ops in Yamaguchi are pessimistic over the prospects of the new fertilizer distribution system whereas in all other prefectures co-ops are organizing their efforts with marked enthusiasm.

File Index
No. #5

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

This defeatism at unit level ~~is~~ probably results from a complete lack of faith in the Purchase Federation to conduct any operation at a profit.

As in other areas, progress in the execution of written rental contracts is very slow. Both tenants and owners are reluctant to make committments on paper. The need for and the benefits of written contracts were explained to Local Land Commissions in an efforts to expedite the program. All land still under tenancy is supposed to be covered by a written contract by the end of this year. However, areas visited on this trip have completed only 4 to 10% which is a representative figure.

Mugi crop collections have slowed down in anticipation of a down revision of quotas. Officials in the areas visited report the rice crop as average or better to date. If no disease strikes it should be a good crop.

4. Conclusion:

Unit Co-ops are going to have to force federations into amalgamation. When they fully realize the financial burden they are carrying to support many federations they will probably take the necessary action.

With the year past the middle and less than 10% of rental land covered by contracts, the program will have to be pushed pretty hard if the goal of 100% coverage is to be reached by the end of the year.

At the present time, prospects for quota fulfillment in both rice and mugi looks good.

5. Recommendations: None

Douglas G. O'Brien

DOUGLAS G O'BRIEN, DAC
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

Nat. Res. Division
File No. A-12-Y

file

HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

13 July 1950

SUBJECT: Report of Field Trip to Yamaguchi
11-12 July 1950

TO : Chief, Economics Section

1. Purpose:

a. Ascertain what was being done by Co-op Federations toward amalgamation authorized by new co-op law.

b. Encourage personnel adjustments in Co-ops to make for more efficient management.

c. Discuss problems in fertilizer distribution with appropriate officials.

2. Background: None

3. Discussion:

Conferences were held with the chief of the Economic Department and his Section chief responsible for the Co-op program. Subject: Amalgamation of Federations of Co-operatives. Amalgamation of the federations in Yamaguchi will not be possible until they crawl a little further out of the red. The purchase federation, especially, is in such dire financial straits that it would pull the other federations down with it if amalgamation were undertaken at this time. Feeble efforts are being made to rectify the situation but much more has to be done. Prefectural officials are not pushing amalgamation and have generally adopted a hands-off policy. This information was given to the undersigned probably because they assumed it was what he wanted to hear after warnings given earlier in the conference on the dangers of centralized control. Nevertheless, there were no indications of pressure to move toward verticle control and nothing which hints of empire building.

A conference on fertilizer distribution with Economics personnel at the Ken cho revealed an unexpected confidence among prefectural officials that distribution will be normal, smooth and adequate during the fall, despite decontrol and removal of subsidies. When the undersigned expressed concern over a possible drop in food production resulting from the farmers

File Index
No. 4

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

financial incapacity to pay rising fertilizer prices, the chief of the Economic section opined that the price will not rise or rise only a negligable amount. He bases this on the trend that prices took when fish and other commodities were decontrolled. He further stated that competition will keep prices down and that manufacturers will be forced to rationalize production in order bring production costs down. It sounded very much like Mr. Dodge talking. The above opinions are those of a few officials in one prefecture and although they have merit they do not reflect the general opinion throughout the region.

The better part of one day was spent in conferences with the top officers of each of the major federations (except credit) in Yamaguchi prefecture. These conferences were held separately in each of the federation offices and were for the purpose of feeling out attitudes toward amalgamation as well as procedures to be employed and advisability of action at this time. As a professional group the Federation Officers are an apathetic uninspired insipid crew who seem to be floundering around looking for excuses and justification for their present financial plight instead of trying to muster the necessary courage for the drastic action which they know they must take. Perhaps the fault lies in the system and not in the people. A federation of Co-operatives is a business and a big business. However, there is no profit motive or cash incentive similar to the ones which drive private industry officials to operate their organization efficiently and profitably. Co-op officials just won't fire the hordes of parasites and needless employees who make of the Co-op Federation a veritable free-loaders paradise. These deficiencies and the need for correction were emphasised as strongly as possible within the limits of "advice and guidance". Until such time as competant, interested and able leadership is available for large Federations, maybe they better remain as they are. Although amalgamation would be the real solution to the co-op problem and although Federation officials express a desire to amalgamate, they are not making any concrete moves toward consolidation. They all want to be officials and they know such is impossible if amalgamation is effected properly. However, if there is any possible way this can be done, they'll find it.

4. <u>Conclusions</u>:

a. Amalgamation in Yamaguchi is not feasable until Federations are in better financial condition.

b. Federation officers are not doing all they can to expedite recovery. Selfish motives and apathy will delay recovery.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO. _____

5. **Recommendations:**

Some plan which makes one of the requirements to hold office in a Federation the ownership of a large block of stock should be considered. There must be some incentive for Co-op officers to produce results.

Douglas G. O'Brien

Douglas G. O'Brien
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

Nat. Res. Division
File No.

File Index
No. 3

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME Richard A. Neis (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL Rail (Blyth #4)

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 24 Apr 50 TIME 2151 (5) RETURN DATE 28 Apr 50 TIME 2344

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Onoda	25 Apr 50	0800	City Ag & Forestry Officials	Status of all Ag & Forestry programs.
b.	Onoda	25 Apr 50	1300	Ag Coop Officials	Financial status of Ag Coops.
c.	Yamaguchi	26 Apr 50	0800	Prefectural Ag & Forestry Officials	Status of all Ag & Forestry programs.
d.	Ogori	27 Apr 50	0800	Ag Coop Federation officials	Financial status of Ag Coops.
e.	Tokuyama	28 Apr 50	0800	City Ag & Forestry officials	Status of all Ag & Forestry programs.
f.	Tokuyama	28 Apr 50	1300	Ag Coop Officials	Financial status of Ag Coops.

(7) REMARKS: All inspections and conferences were very successful. Conference with Ag Coop Officials in Tokuyama was cancelled because trip schedule was advanced one day. Breakdown of 1950 rice quota in Yamaguchi Pref is 100% completed to village level and 81% completed to farmer level. More definite corrective action was recommended since they did not meet the target date of 31 Mar. which was set by them.

Generally, Ag Coops in Yamaguchi are breaking even in financial standing 2 Coops in Onoda made profits of ¥17,106 and ¥12,294 respectively for the 1949 JFY. The 1 coop in Yamaguchi inspected was in the red ¥545,394 however, according to Ken Credit Federation officials, this is a very rare

Richard A. Neis
Signature

(Instructions on reverse side)

(OVER)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNG NO.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Personnel going on field trips will complete Sections (1) through (6), inclusive, of this form, in triplicate. The original will be forwarded to the Deputy Chief, 24 hours before departure.

2. Upon return from field trip, Section (7), of duplicate copy will be completed and forwarded to Deputy Chief. Section (7) should include: estimate of success of meeting, conference or inspection, any changes from original schedule and reason thereof, any further remarks person preparing report desires to include.

3. Third copy will be retained in the Section for file.

case in Yamaguchi ken. Some coops took rather large losses on incentive goods. Results obtained in increasing capital stock and farmer's deposits are very encouraging. The home demonstration program continues to lack vitality however, some efforts are evident. Fertilizer Kodan has received 75% of the allocation for Jan to July and approx 43% is in farmer's hands. Remainder of the 75% is in coop warehouses to be purchased when rice planting begins (20 May). Officials are encouraging farmers to purchase fertilizer before 1 July when the price will increase. There are very few cases where farmers are refusing their fertilizer ration because of high prices. "Green Week" programs were moderately successful. Entire lack of coordination between Govt officials, Forestry Assns and otherinterested groups in the furtherance of forestry programs was extremely noticeable.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NNDS NO.

Nat. Res. Division
File No. A-12-4

HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 248 (Kure, Honshu)

28 April 1950

SUBJECT: Field Trip to Yamaguchi Prefecture
25-27 April 1950

TO : Chief, Economics Section

1. Purpose: To ascertain progress in all Agriculture and Forestry programs with particular emphasis on financial conditions of Agricultural Cooperative Associations and breakdown of the 1950 pre-planting rice quota.

2. Background: Discussed with Mr O'Brien current status of all programs and received general outline of particular items to check.

3. Discussions:

a. Financial conditions of Agricultural Coops - Conferences were held with heads of the Prefectural Credit Federation (Ogori), Onoda Agricultural Coop (Onoda), Takachiho Agricultural Coop (Onoda) and Yamaguchi Agricultural Coop (Yamaguchi). Financial condition of each institution are as follows:

(1) Prefectural Credit Federation

	31 Mar 50	31 Mar 49
Deposits -	¥960,529,802.25	¥998,833,688.87
Loans -	¥416,907,753,02	¥217,900,558.14
Capital Stock - (Each share - ¥10,000)	¥ 10,100,000.00	¥ 3,930,000.00

Fixed Assets - ¥ 6,463,306.00 (approx 15 million yen of ex Nogyo-Kai assets have not been transferred as yet)

(2) Onoda Agricultural Coop.Assn.

	31 Mar 50	31 Mar 49
Deposits -	¥21,591,010.99	¥13,600,000.00
Loans -	¥ 9,485,077.71	¥ 3,251,251.10

Capital Stock - ¥ 325,800.00 (Each share - ¥300.)

File Index
No. 3

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDS NO.

Fixed Assets - ¥2,486,051.90

Net Profit for 1949 JFY - ¥17,106.82

(3) Takachiho Agricultural Coop. Assn.

	31 Mar 50	31 Mar 49
Deposits -	¥26,825,364.00	¥19,110,641.00
Loans -	¥ 7,431,296.00	¥ 3,542,000.00

Capital Stock - ¥ 625,000.00 (Each share - ¥500.)

Fixed Assets - ¥ 1,112,397.00

Net Profit for 1949 JFY - ¥12,294

(4) Yamaguchi Agricultural Coop. Assn.

	31 Mar 50	31 Mar 49
Deposits -	¥5,615,786.04	¥3,797,374.35
Loans -	¥ 631,300.00	¥ 195,000.00

Capital Stock -	¥ 251,730.00	paid
	828,300.00	unpaid
	¥1,080,030.00	total

Fixed Assets - ¥1,767,613.20

Net Loss for 1949 JFY - ¥545,394.82
(Rough Breakdown is as follows)

Tax on Office Bldg.	- ¥112,000
Additional Bldg. Cost	- 24,000
Devaluation of Furniture etc.	- 25,000
Loss on Commodities	- 50,000
Interest on deposits	- 12,000
Overhead	- 96,000
Loss on sales of ex Nogyo Kai commodities	- 250,000

The Prefectural Credit Federation intends to increase their capital stock to ¥40,000,000 within the coming year. All of the coops visited have plans to increase their capital stock also e.g. Onoda coop plans to increase to ¥2,500,000 by subscribing additional shares; the Takachiho Coop will increase face value of each share as a starter to reach ¥4,000,000 and the Yamaguchi Coop has already started by calling a general meeting and arriving at an agreement that members will purchase 1 share for each 8 se of land they possess. This is also the reason for a large amount

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDS NO.

of unpaid shares mentioned in par. 3 a(4) above. Losses sustained on incentive goods vary - Onoda Coop has a stock of ¥133,000 which they cannot sell at prevailing prices, the Takachiho Coop claims ¥60,000 loss while the Yamaguchi Coop lost nothing on incentive goods. According to the Prefectural Credit Federation, the huge loss at the Yamaguchi Coop is an extremely rare and isolated case. No petitions of backruptcy have been filed in Yamaguchi prefecture and Credit Federation officials do not fear any such instances.

b. Breakdown of 1950 pre-planting rice quota - Conferences with prefectural and city officials of Onoda and Tokuyama revealed that quotas were broken down to cities and "guns" on 24 Mar., are 100% completed to the village level and 61% to farmer level in Yamaguchi prefecture. Tardiness for the prefecture is due to Mine-gun and Nanagata-son (Mine-gun) especially which is allegedly being hampered by communist agitation. Onoda city completed the breakdown to farmers on 18 April and was verified by spot-checks with farmers. Tokuyama city has completed 95% of the breakdown to farmer level. They received the quota on 2 Mar 50 but was disrupted by a mis-count in farm population making it necessary to revise retention and delivery quotas. Officials stated that it would be completed by 1 or 2 May. More definite action was recommended to prefectural officials in expediting quota breakdowns especially since they did not even meet the target date of 31 Mar which they themselves set.

c. Home Improvement service - The prefectural government currently hires 8 home demonstration agents and 1 specialist with only 5 of the agents actually in the field. The 5 field agents were hired in Jan 1950 and have since been assigned to areas to study customs, traditions, conditions, etc peculiar to those areas with no actual work being accomplished. Checks in Onoda and Tokuyama reveal that personnel from the prefecture office have conducted very successful meetings in these areas. Tokuyama city officials have established a model home which is open for inspection to women's groups and organizations. Also noted that the prefectural office has not distributed any information material with which to promote meetings locally.

d. Fertilizer distribution - The Fertilizer Kodan has received and distributed to cooperatives 75% of the Jan - July allocation. An estimated 43% of the allocation has already been purchased by farmers with the remainder still in coop warehouses. Operating officials were certain this fertilizer will all be sold at planting time (about 20 May) as farmers were not purchasing fertilizer because they do not have sufficient storage space to store until planting time. Very few farmers are refusing the fertilizer because of high cost. Those farmers in hard

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDS NO.

financial straits are utilizing the Agricultural Bill System. All officials interviewed are urging farmers to purchase fertilizer before 1 July when prices increase and they are sure this will definitely result in a high rate of ration refusals. This is a topic of much discussion in agricultural circles at the present time.

e. Green Week - Prefectural Green Week programs consisted merely of those initiated on the national level and virtually directed to be carried out at the prefectural level. These were, the selling of green feathers by school children (similar to the Community Chest red feather) and holding appropriate ceremonies at which the Governor and vice-Governor planted trees. Forestry associations reportedly instituted information programs.

f. Pine Bark Beetle Program - According to a report compiled by the Prefectural Forestry Section as of 31 Mar 50, there remained only 4 cho of pine trees where the beetles have not been eliminated. This is difficult to believe but the section chief is certain of its accuracy. Current surveillance is being done by 2 men in the prefectural government and 1 man in each district office plus Pine Bark Beetle Elimination Committees in each city, town and village.

g. Special Problem - Assistant Chief of the Prefectural Credit Federation reported that the Government instituted a program this year whereby upon decision that farmers turned in some of their retention rice to meet quotas, the Government will return this amount to the farmers. Since the farmers have already received payment for this rice, they must pay for the rice returned. Most of the farmers can not pay for the rice immediately nor can village coops. Therefore, the burden has fell on the Credit Federation which cannot withstand it either. In the case of Yamaguchi-ken, it amounts to 60,000 koku or about ¥300,000,000. According to the plaintiff, this problem is currently being discussed in the MAF.

4. <u>Conclusions</u>:

a. Generally, Agricultural Coops are balancing their budgets fairly well in Yamaguchi prefecture at the present time. At the village coop level deposits and loans are both increasing steadily but so far, deposits have increased at a higher rate. Deposits at the Prefectural Credit Federation remained rather steady while loans nearly doubled those of last year. This was because other prefectural federations borrowed large amounts to purchase ex Nogyo-kai property. No sharp decrease in deposits is noticeable throught the year except at tax payment time in March.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

b. Lack of initiative and outward fear of Communists seems to be the only detriment to the breakdown of 1950 pre-planting rice quotas to farmers.

c. The home improvement program continues to be lacking in resourcefulness and vitality however, some indication of effort was noted in Tokuyama.

d. Fertilizers, as soon as received by the Kodan, are distributed for purchase by farmers and prefectural and local officials are encouraging farmers to purchase their fertilizer prior to 1 July.

e. Green Week programs were definitely lacking. Entire lack of coordination of forestry programs between the prefectural government and local forestry associations is certain.

f. According to the prefectural Forestry Section Chief, the pine bark beetle program is well under control.

5. Recommendations:

a. That concentrated efforts be placed on the home improvement program by this headquarters in order to foster in Japanese official's minds the importance and necessity of the program.

b. That recommendations be made to Japanese forestry officials to coordinate their programs with Forestry Assns. and other interested groups so that maximum results can be obtained in national programs and prefectural programs such as "Green Week".

c. That the special problem mentioned in par. 3 g. above be brought to the attention of SCAP officials at the forthcoming Natural Resources Conference in Tokyo as a solution is definitely needed in the very near future. Presumably other prefectures are in the same position.

RAN

Richard A. Neis, DAC
Natural Resources Division
Economics Section

Nat. Res. Division
File No. A-12-Y

File Index No. 2

FIELD TRIP REPORT

(1) NAME Mr. Colehour (2) SECTION Economics (3) MODE OF TRAVEL Rail and Jeep

(4) DEPARTURE DATE 19 Apr 50 TIME 1421 (5) RETURN DATE 21 Apr 50 TIME 2400

(6) CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, INSPECTIONS:

	Location	Date	Time	Participants	Purpose
a.	Yamaguchi shi	19 Apr	2000	Mr Colehour officials of Agri Improvement Branch, Agri & Forestry Div., Yamaguchi Ken-cho.	To discuss consolidation of exp Station in Yamaguchi ken. (Reference Ltr Eighth Army 19 Mar 49, and 2nd Ind, dated 22 Apr 49)
b.					
b.	Ouchi-mura	20 Apr	0900	Mr Colehour and officials of all Yamaguchi ken Agri Exp Stations(main and Branch chiefs)	Same as above.
d.					
e.	Yamaguchi-shi	21 Apr	0900	Mr Colehour and officials of Economic & Agri & Forestry Div of Yamaguchi ken-cho.	Same as above. (applicable OD #47)
f.					

(7) REMARKS: Highly-satisfactory conference. Comprehensive reports on administration and research program submitted by Pref and MAF Experimental Stations. Consolidation plan effected about year ago. Only exception from GHQ MAP recommendations resulted in the Bofu Exper Farm which was slated to be continued as a branch of the Ouchi Main Pref Station, being transferred to the MAF in 1947, and is now operated as a special MAF Exper Station conducting research for the entire country on drought damage to staple food crops.
Two of the Pref Branch stations, Tokush and Tonomi, as listed in the original consolidation plan, have been discontinued as of 31 Mar '49. Agri Improvement Section officials at Yamaguchi ken-cho reported that

(over)

(Instructions on reverse side)

Marvin S. Colehour
Signature

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3-402/NNDG NO.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Personnel going on field trips will complete Sections (1) through (6), inclusive, of this form, in triplicate. The original will be forwarded to the Deputy Chief, 24 hours before departure.

2. Upon return from field trip, Section (7), of duplicate copy will be completed and forwarded to Deputy Chief. Section (7) should include: estimate of success of meeting, conference or inspection, any changes from original schedule and reason thereof, any further remarks person preparing report desires to include.

3. Third copy will be retained in the Section for file.

following institutions are maintained as supplementary establishments by the Ken-cho Section to the Ouchi Main Station and the Oshima Citrus Branch Station:

a. Pref Agricultural Training Institution at Ouchi which utilizes some of the facilities of the Main Pref Station and has its headquarters at the same location.

b. Tokusa Service Station, located at the site of the former Pref Branch Station - and operated as a high altitude experimental farm for the Prefecture.

c. Pref Management and Training Agricultural Station at Bofu - primarily a 4-H school which stresses fundamental of farming and breeding of livestock for Japanese youths who are high school graduate and are actively engaged in agriculture with their parents.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NNDS NO.

A-12-1

Subject: Report of Field Trip to Yamaguchi 5-8 December

To : Chief, Economic Section

1. Purpose of Trip: The sole purpose of the trip was to expedite delivery of rice.

2. Background: Collection figures for Yamaguchi for 1949 have been consistently below those for 1948.

3. Discussion: The following individuals, agencies, and committees were contacted and matters discussed are noted under each.

A. Director, Economics Department
Chief, Food Section
Chief, Crop Collection Branch

(1) The vital necessity for completing delivery.
(2) Civil Affairs interest in the program.
(3) Reasons why immediate breakdown of revised quota is mandatory.
(4) Need for setting temporary goals which are realistic and how they should be used.
(5) The importance of organizing collection Teams.
(6) Assignment of personnel to crop collection work as the situation demands.
(7) Coordination and cooperation with E.I.A., NRP and local law enforcement agencies in order to make transportation control an effective and functional operation.
(8)

B. City, Gun and village chiefs

(1) through (6) above plus:

The need for a graphic system of "keeping score" in the collection program.

C. Prefectural Agricultural Adjustment Committee

(1) Importance of eliminating all obstacles to delivery.
(2) Failure to break down revised quota was delaying delivery.
(3) Since revised quota will not be changed nothing can be gained by delay.
(4) Clarification by MAF of policy on collection has little or no bearing on quota breakdown.
(5) The over all importance of the crop collection program doesn't leave any room for bickering and delay at this time.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NNDS NO.

D. Economic Investigation Agency

(1) Need for close and continuing Liaison with Prefecture, MAF food office, and police.
(2) Importance of crop collection warrants assignment of more personnel to field work.
(3) Traffic controls must be intense and continuous to be effective.

E. Troop Commander NRP
Office in Charge of Traffic Control
(1) and (3) under D above

Police should have a confiscation quota similar to the farmers delivery quota and work assiducusly to meet it. One difference: no retention.

F. Chief, Food Office (MAF)
Chief, Inspection and Purchasing Div.
Chief, Crop Reporting Office

(1) Primary responsibility for Inspection and Purchase of Rice is Ministry Representatives.
(2) Everything possible must be done to eliminate bottlenecks in inspection and purchase.
(3) Time lag between threshing and purchase should be reduced to a minimum.
(4) Close and continuing Liaison with Prefectural food officials must be maintained.

4. Conclusions:

A. Antipathy and negativism toward the entire program is ubiquitous and vociferous. This grows in intensity at each successive lower echelon of government. Although this resistance is loud it is not organized. It is, nevertheless a deterrent to the collection program and could be catastrophic if organized and intelligently directed.

B. Liaison between the several individuals and agencies concerned with crop collection is good but there is still duplication of effort.

C. Lack of Inspectors is not a problem. They are working overtime but the rice is being inspected and purchased as it is delivered.

D. The first impression of the EIA is not good, They are weak and disorganized and very late getting started.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12065 SECTION 3 402/NNDS NO.

E. The ability and determination of the chief of the Prefectural Economics Dept, chief of the Prefectural Food Section and the man directly responsible for the collection are very much in our favor.

F. The yield is actually much poorer than originally estimated (This is based on conversations with 12 disinterested individuals who did not know the undersigned was interested in crop collection).

G. The quota will be met but its going to be tough.

5. Recommendation: None.

Douglas G. O'Brien
Douglas G. O'Brien
DAC GAF-9