

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
AFO 500

AG 602 (4 Feb 48 )NR/A  
SCAPIN 1855

4 February 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

SUBJECT: Rural Land Reform

1. Reference is made to:

a. Memorandum for Japanese Government, file AG 602.6  
(9 Dec 45) CIE, (SCAPIN 411), subject as above, dated 9 December  
1945.

b. Owner-Farmer Establishment and Special Measures Law,  
Law No. 43, 21 October 1946.

c. Agricultural Land Adjustment Law, Law No. 67, 2 April  
1938, as revised by Law No. 64, 28 December 1945, and by Law No. 42,  
21 October 1946.

2. The Owner-Farmer Establishment and Special Measures Law  
and the Agricultural Land Adjustment Law were enacted in accordance  
with the reference memorandum, in order to eliminate the feudal  
system of land tenure and remove economic obstacles to the re-  
distribution of the land on an equitable and democratic basis.  
Since the enactment of these land reform laws, however, efforts  
have been made by certain adversely affected interests to ob-  
struct the accomplishment of the rural land reform program.

3. The firm implementation of the Land Reform Program is  
essential to the creation in Japan of a society which is truly  
free and democratic and, as a consequence, it has become one of  
the foremost objectives of the Japanese people as well as of the  
Allied occupation. Therefore, the strict, vigorous and fearless  
enforcement of the above-mentioned laws is both imperative and  
indispensable.

4. Accordingly, it is directed that:

a. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry will instruct  
prefectural and local agricultural land commissions to purchase  
without delay all land subject to Land Reform Law in accordance  
with existing procedures and without regard to unauthorized action  
by pressure organizations seeking to impede the objectives of the

c/s

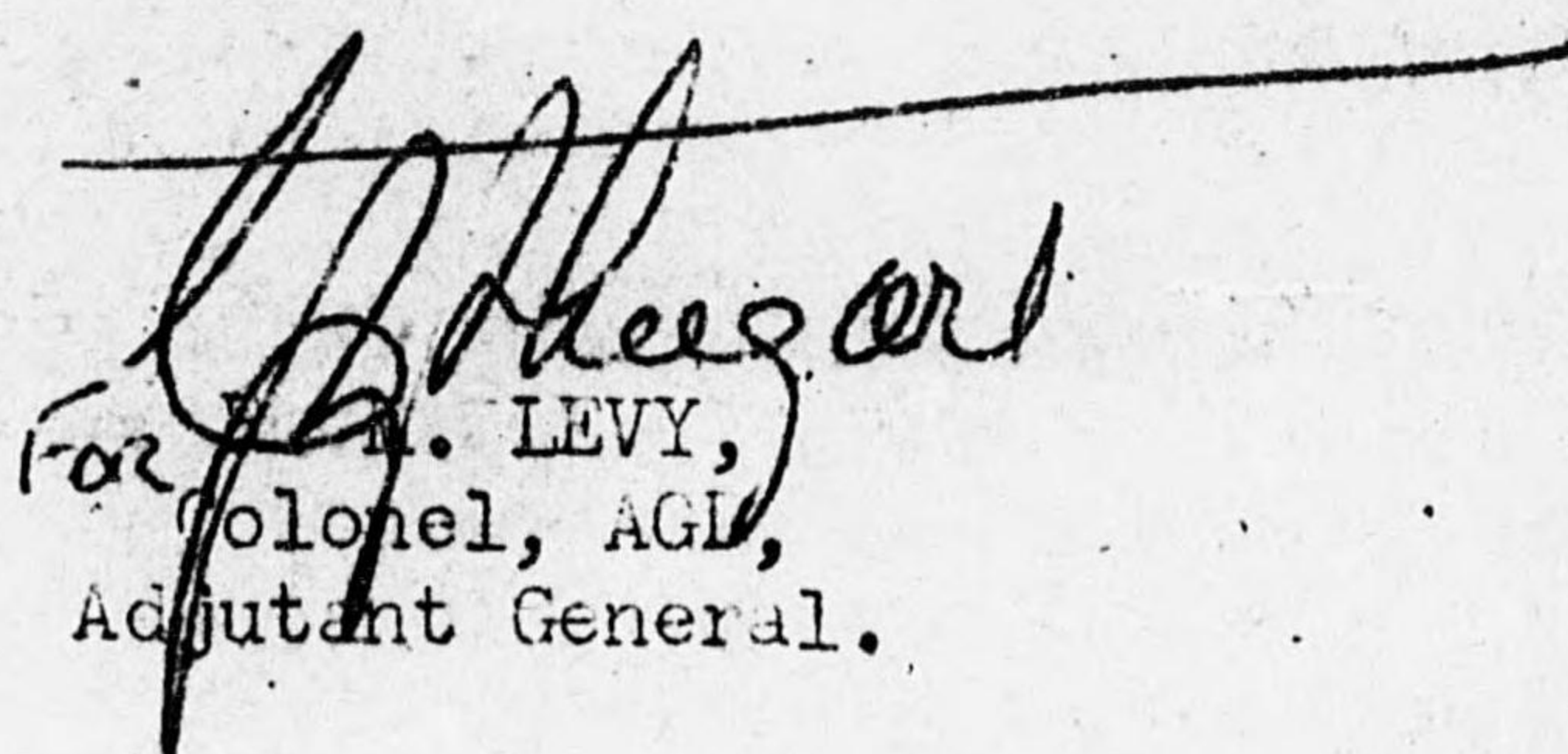


BASIC: Memo For JC, SCAPIN 1855

Land Reform Program.

b. The Japanese Government will take prompt and vigorous action against any and all persons who, by bribery, intimidation or other unlawful means, obstruct the implementation of land reform measures. Reports of such action will be submitted to this headquarters.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

  
For J. A. LEVY,  
Colonel, AGI,  
Adjutant General.