

SHIKOKU MILITARY GOVERNMENT REGION  
HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT  
APO 317

Takamatsu, Shikoku  
7 November 1946

CORRECTED COPY

SUBJECT: Semi-Monthly Military Occupational Activities Report  
for the period ending 2400 hours 31 October 1946

TO : Commanding General, Eighth Army, APO 343  
Attention: Military Government Section

1. In compliance with radio cite D 99984, Headquarters Eighth Army, dated 17 August 1946, subject report for period 16 October 1946 to 31 October 1946 is submitted herewith:

a. Status of Civil Administration:

(1) Upon assumption of duties as SMGO of the Island of Shikoku, official calls were received from the governors of the four prefectures of the island. All governors stated they attended a conference in Tokyo prior to promulgation of the new Japanese Constitution and each one assured me that he would faithfully carry out its terms. All governors expressed fears of Communism and asked for a free hand in dealing with Communistic inspired labor disorders.

(2) The fall harvest of the Island of Shikoku is completed and appears to be above normal. This is especially true for rice and sweet potatoes. Complete reports are being tabulated and will be submitted at a later date. Inclosure 1 shows the delivery quota of farm products to the Japanese Government from each of the four prefectures of Shikoku for the year 1945-46, while inclosure 2 shows the delivery quota expected for the year 1946-47. It will be noted that the latter quotas are greatly increased over that of former year.

Estimates made by the four prefectural governments indicate an ample supply of food is being produced on Shikoku to meet all needs even though the caloric value of the ration has been increased, and a number of persons repatriated to this island. However a study is now in progress to determine the exact situation. Reports of this study will be submitted at a later date.

(3) Road conditions over all rural areas of Shikoku are bad. This is especially true on military supply roads which are in a deplorable condition.

This state of affairs has been brought to the attention of prefectural governors and some improvement may be expected. However the need of road machinery is imperative. Road surfacing materials such as tar are not obtainable anywhere on this island and there is an urgent need for this material at this time. This is true for about 100 miles of concrete roads which have formerly been surfaced with tar and now are a mass of chuck holes. If ten power operated road graders and 500 barrels of tar could be supplied from engineer stocks, main supply roads could be placed in greatly improved condition and thus reduce Allied motor vehicle maintenance.

(4) The fish catch for the four prefectures on Shikoku is far below average. However the prefectures of Kochi, Tokushima and Ehime are producing sufficient fish for their own need. In the Kagawa prefecture it is necessary to import about 600 tons of fish monthly from Kochi prefecture. Kagawa prefecture would be made self-sufficient if the black market in fish could be controlled. In order to assist the Kagawa prefectural police in intercepting the black marketeers one high speed P.T. Japanese Navy boat is being loaned by this headquarters to the police.

b. Political Parties and Political Activities:

(1) This Headquarters distributed through Japanese Police channels a number of personal history questionnaires to be filled out by various prominent persons. Many members of the Communist Party who received them were hesitant to complete the questionnaires, stating as their reason a fear that the police were initiating their own political dossiers.

c. Degree of compliance by the Japanese authorities and people with orders and instructions of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers and the Imperial Japanese Government:

(1) Satisfactory

d. Relation between Occupation Forces and the Japanese Population:

(1) Legal Government:

(a) The "British Provost Court", held in Takamatsu 30 October 1946, tried six cases involving eight defendants all of whom were Japanese Nationals. One case involving a single defendant was withdrawn by the prosecution and the remaining defendants were found guilty as charged.

(b) Thirty-two Chinese Nationals in Shikoku Military Government Region are in restraint or arrest awaiting trial by the Allied Military Commission. Some of these Chinese have been under restraint for as much as 90 days.

(c) It has been noted that in many criminal cases tried by Japanese courts, the presiding Japanese judge is inclined to give excessive consideration to extenuating circumstances which have no bearing on the case at issue. It was particularly noted in cases where a death occurred due to drinking methyl alcohol.

(2) Public Safety:

(a) Many Japanese army and navy cap insignia and other items of service insignia have been removed by Japanese Police in a widespread drive to secure compliance with SC FIN -192. There is no evidence of any organization among wearers or of specific locality where the forbidden insignia are being used in quantity.

(3) Public Health:

(a) Compliance with Japanese Governmental directives is, on the whole, good. Minor violations occur as a result of lack of information from higher officials or due to lack of technical knowledge and equipment. These defects are remedied where found and where possible.

Communicable diseases of primary importance continue to be tuberculosis and the venereal diseases. Tuberculosis control continues in full force, as previously reported. Venereal disease control is being greatly stimulated by the increasing SC and Welfare Ministry emphasis on the subject and by the recent venereal disease questionnaire sent to the prefectures to obtain detailed data on the subject. Additional control has been promised by all prefectural governors.

(b) Typographical errors in the last report from this headquarters caused a confusing train of statements. They concerned medical supply, and should read as follows: The apparent ignorance of most of the health authorities of the island as to what medical supplies are available and how to obtain them causes local shortages of some materials, particularly vaccines, X-ray film, chlorine for city water supply, and microscopes and accessories for venereal disease control work.

(c) Chlorine supplies for purifying the water systems at the four larger cities of Shikoku have been exhausted. A study of water supply and decontamination has been initiated and requests for chlorine will be made within a short time.

(4) Welfare:

(a) Members of the Welfare Section made an inspection of two repatriate housing projects. Both projects are located upon former Japanese Army property. Last Spring the Welfare authorities of Kagawa Ken secured a number of barracks as temporary housing for repatriates.

Some renovation was made at that time, but now the tenants are requesting additional work on the structures to make them suitable for the winter months.

Japanese Welfare officials concerned with the project met with Military Government officers to discuss possibilities further improvement to the housing projects, repair to windows, walls and ceilings, the possibility of a better water supply and added fire protection. In the event that funds cannot be found to improve the housing projects, the Japanese propose to launch an additional campaign to secure rooms from persons owning homes and buildings not fully occupied. The officials plan to investigate more thoroughly the owners of large homes who have neglected or failed to report available space for the homeless. It was suggested by one provincial governor that "It is the moral duty of all Japanese to assist one another just as the people of the United States are opening their storehouses to share with the unfortunate nations of the world, even our former enemies."

(5) Ration and Price Control:

(a) The long awaited increase of staple food ration is to be realized in the Shikoku Region on the 21st of November.

There is no suspended ration in any of the four prefectures of Shikoku. The people have indicated concern over the delayed date of distribution and the need of additional ration for laborers. Satisfaction has been expressed in several instances that the increased ration would not be in sweet potatoes, but in rice and barley. There is some feeling that a compromise measure was forced upon the people because the demand was for a ration of three go. Information shows that probably most of the people in this area during the past year have consumed a daily ration of at least three go.

(b) Due to a delay in the delivery of the 60 tons of Class F (sweets) imported canned goods allotted this area, the local authorities will not have completed the October distribution before the 10th of November.

(c) Regarding the supplementary ration of rice to heavy workers, a complaint was received from a group of fishermen. They were requesting that their supplementary ration be not based upon the "Link System" only. They claimed that the catch depends upon the weather, tides and other conditions; that they serve long hours of physical labor often with small reward. Previous to rationing, they report, 6 or 7 go was required by a fisherman to fulfill the desires of hunger, and in order to do their work now it is necessary to peddle fish to "dark-dealers" to secure funds for rice, vegetables and equipment.

(d) Local police are maintaining close surveillance over black-marketing of food and clothing. The police superintendent reported that since announcement of the ration increase the number of instances of violation of price control laws has materially decreased.

*F. B. Porter*  
F. B. PORTER  
Colonel, FA  
Commanding

Distribution:  
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SHIKOKU MILITARY GOVERNMENT REGION  
HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT  
(Takanabe, Shikoku)

APO 317  
23 October 1946

AG 319.1 (U)

SUBJECT: Semi-Monthly Military Occupational Activities Report

TO : Commanding General, Eighth Army, APO 343  
Attn: Military Government Section

1. Compliance with Radio cite D 99984, Headquarters Eighth Army, dated 17 August 1946, subject report for period 1 to 15 October 1946 is submitted herewith:

a. Status of Civilian Administration:

(1) Satisfactory

b. Political Parties and Political Activities:

(1) A recent attempt of a Communist Party member to address a meeting of school teachers without their permission was reported. There is no indication that this incident reflected the Communist Party Policy.

c. Degree of compliance by the Japanese authorities and people with orders and instructions of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers and the Imperial Japanese Government:

(1) Satisfactory

d. Relation between Occupation Forces and the Japanese Population:

(1) Satisfactory

e. Other significant Matters:

(1) Legal Government:

(a) Largely due to lack of explicit instructions to the Japanese courts from the Imperial Japanese Government, attempts are being made to evade the intent of the Japanese laws promulgated to implement SCAPIN 642 and dealing with the prohibition of licensed prostitution. It is anticipated that this shall be the subject of a special report to your Headquarters in near future.

subj: Semi-Monthly Military Occupational Activities Report (Cont'd)

(b) This Headquarters is currently investigating the existence of certain police funds that are being raised by popular subscription from private citizens. It is believed that the practice of having police maintain funds of such a nature is prejudicial to the intent of the occupation. This matter will also be a subject of a special report to your Headquarters.

(2) Public Safety

(a) Three hundred and nineteen violations of Article II Imperial Ordinance number 311 have been reported in the Shikoku Area.

(3) Public Health

(a) Epidemic diseases are at a minimum on Shikoku, but preparations are being made for control of the expected cases of winter epidemic diseases. Typhus control materials are being requisitioned and an educational program has been inaugurated. Small pox vaccinations are being given to those who for some reason were not vaccinated last spring. Diphtheria inoculations of all children between the ages of 9 months and 10 years is being carried out by all prefectural health authorities and will soon be completed. Widespread interest is evidenced in tuberculosis control. All prefectures are conducting mass X-ray examinations, tuberculin testing, and BCG vaccination programs, principally with children and adolescents. However there is much need for better isolation and treatment procedures. There are essentially no charity tuberculosis patients in the hospitals on Shikoku and the lack of charity sanitariums hampers the control of tuberculosis because the poorer people, who have the highest rate of the disease, cannot afford to pay for prolonged hospitalization. Therefore they must remain in the home and spread the bacillus to other members of their household. In addition, there is great concern expressed by all practitioners over the lack of a sufficiently high caloric diet to provide the nourishment necessary for speedy and complete recovery. Japanese physicians have made many requests for special rations for patients suffering from diseases for which proper diet is a major part of the recognized treatment. This Headquarters recommends that consideration be given to increased rations in the above cases.

(b) Venereal diseases continue at an average rate which has remained the same as for the last several months. This is much lower than that of the crowded urban sections of Japan and the health authorities are only beginning to realize that complete eradication and not a lower rate is the aim of the venereal disease control program. Therefore they are only gradually improving their examination techniques and increasing the number of examinees until in the near future they hope to actually keep check on all persons subject to the hazard of contracting venereal disease. It appears that the Japanese Government has not in the past sufficiently emphasized this problem to the rural prefectures. It is also evident that various

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interpretations as to who must be examined have been made by Japanese officials. This causes localized shortages of microscopes and accessories for venereal disease control work, vaccines, X-ray film, and chlorine for city water supply purification.

(c) There is the possibility that the higher Japanese authorities, in their enthusiasm for improving the health and sanitation of the large cities, have overlooked the far-flung rural populations in the more outlying sections of the country by not keeping them properly informed as to the present availability of medical supplies and future possibilities.

(4) Commerce and Industry

(a) Reparations:

Supplementary factory inspections were made to determine the degree of compliance with SCAPIN 1219 in regard to preservation and care of reparations items. General compliance is being carried out, but as a result of some discrepancies noted in protecting machinery from weather and corrosion, a conference was held with the chief of Finance Bureau for Shikoku, who is responsible for reparations items that are national property, and the chief of the Commerce and Industry Bureau for Shikoku, who is responsible for reparations items from private industries. It was determined as a result of the conferences the provisions of SCAPIN 1219 are understood, and that a system of checking reparations item locations would be established.

(b) Manufacturing:

Observance of manufacturing trends has raised the question as to what types and volumes of production are in keeping with SCAP directives concerning production of "essential consumer goods." Many types of production seem spontaneous, uncontrolled and uncoordinated.

(c) Import and Export:

All important landings are being immediately checked and observed and proper receipts forwarded promptly.

(5) Natural Resources:

(a) Agriculture:

Established quotas for rice turn-in to the Japanese Government in the Shikoku Area are 10 to 15 percent below present estimates of what the actual harvest will be. It is indicated that the establishing of the low quotas was intentional.

(b) Land Reform:

Lack of law in final form is slowing up the Land Reform Program. In addition, many tenants do not desire to purchase land.



subj: Semi-Monthly Military Occupational Activities Report (Cont'd)

(6) Allied and Enemy Property

(a) Recapitulation of all previous releases of **Military Installations** throughout Shikoku in accordance with the provisions of Operational Directive 28/12 are being carried out as rapidly as possible, along with the release of any unneeded installations not released prior to this time.

(7) Engineer Construction and Utilities.

(a) Rehabilitation of bombed out areas is being aggressively carried forward in all areas of Shikoku with joint meetings of the Prefectural Governors and their staffs coordinating and expediting the work.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

*Charles H. Back*  
CHARLES H. BACK  
Captain, AC  
Adjutant

Distribution:

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