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HEADQUARTERS
CHUGOKU CIVIL AFFAIRS REGION
APO 182

ANNEX A
LEGAL AND GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES
March 1951

By Mr. U. S. Grant Bauguess

1. JAPANESE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION:

a. Activities of Governors: All governors were primarily concerned with budget estimates and search for revenues. Decrease in local taxes naturally called for increased reliance on equalization grants and extension on framework for local loans. In order to meet March-end deadlines provisional budgets were finally adopted as shown in Tables 1 and 2. Governor Ohara of Hiroshima, elected on 22 January, on a platform of administrative renovation of the Ken Government and strict discipline of government officials, made his first attempt at reorganization by combining the Agricultural Production Section and Agricultural Extension Service Section to establish the Agricultural Technical Section in the Economics Department. The Material Section of that department was abolished and the functions distributed to other sections. The branch offices for agricultural extension service were abolished and functions amalgamated with economics sections of district offices. The Sericultural Supervision Offices were abolished. With this reorganization, nine departments, forty-seven sections, one special section and one committee will be maintained. Forty-one high ranking officials were shifted to new positions. Mr. Sato, Director of General Affairs Department of Chiba Ken succeeded the former director Kono, who was appointed vice-governor. Further changes in reorganization and shifts in personnel are expected to be made in April. In spite of the fact that Governor Ohara campaigned against Wakuda, former vice-governor under Kusunose, to a great extent, on the corruption of Kusunose's administration and a ¥3,000,000 loan from the community chest fund (later repaid), introduced a bill to pay retirement allowances to Kusunose amounting to ¥2,000,000 and Wakuda ¥1,200,000. The bill was passed on 25 February.

b. Activities of Prefectural Assemblies: All assemblies met in regular sessions to adopt 1951-52 budgets as shown in Tables 1 and 2. All prefectures except Okayama approved 1950-51 supplementary budgets to bring the final totals to that shown in Table 1. The assemblies approved the amalgamations of towns and villages as shown in par. 5 hereunder. Yamaguchi and Shimane approved an increase in number of ken assemblymen by 2 in each ken. Other enactments concerned personnel and implementing by-laws for the Local Public Service Law.

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c. Activities of Mayors: Budget preparation, completion and evaluations of fixed assets for assessment of property tax and municipal tax collections were priorities for the mayors throughout the region in March. All 25 city assemblies of the region approved 1951-52 budgets. Mayor Hamai of Hiroshima City resigned on 31 March to run as candidate for mayor. Mr. Irie, an independent candidate, was elected mayor of Tottori on 11 March, and promised to clean up the corrupted city administration. The opinion was expressed by Mayor Hamai, chairman of the Chugoku Block City Mayors Association, that on an average the number of assemblymen was too great, and requested that SCAP issue a directive to reduce the number.

d. Law Enforcement Agencies: Regional NRP Headquarters reported that from the outbreak of hostilities in Korea to the end of February approximately 21.2 tons of gun-powder and 29 tons of shells have been confiscated by police and Maritime Safety Commission.

In March, 9 Chinese nationals in 4 offenses were arrested in the region. 6 of these have been tried and fined ¥1,000 each. The most flagrant case was that of an assault by about 40 Chinese in a restaurant in Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture. The ringleader and 6 others were arrested by city police in accordance with SCAPIN 2127.

On 20 March, at a retrial in Military Occupation Court in Kokura, Murashige Kimura, ex-mayor of Kibe Village, Shimane Ken, was found guilty and sentenced to 5 years at hard labor and fine of $1,200.

During March, 12 arrests, involving 15 persons, were made in the region for violations of Cabinet Order #325. 2 persons have been indicted. The police in Hiroshima City are still searching for persons who, taking advantage of unguarded moments of policemen, distributed leaflets urging policemen to refuse to carry out their official responsibilities. The highlight of the leaflets is:

> "For this you should immediately refuse the orders of foreign imperialists and of the treacherous government. The very positive participation in the struggle for independence of the nation by able sabotage is a duty at present imposed upon you."

On 27 March, six Communist Party organ papers, such as "Working Citizens," "Hear the Sound of the Waves," were banned by the Chugoku Branch of Special Investigation Bureau, Attorney General's Office.

During March, 27 Korean stowaways in 4 instances were arrested by Japanese authorities.

The Hiroshima Postal Service Bureau discharged two postal employees, CP members, in Shimane Ken and Okayama Ken, under Article 78 of the National Public Service Law. This brings the total of such discharges in the region to 8.

e. Courts and Administration of Justice:

(1) At the end of March, all cases under the old procedure had been disposed of in all District Courts except those in which the accused could not be found. Five cases remained in the Hiroshima High Court. Critical illness prevented the attendance of two of the accused, and the other three cases will be concluded by the end of April. The Hiroshima District Court was pleased with the results of one continuous trial, which was completed in one hearing in three hours. Comparison of rate of trials in February over that of January is shown in Tables 4 to 6.

(2) A survey of the activities of the Inquest of Prosecution Committee in the region for the year of 1950 reveals that fifty applications were made to the twenty-three committees pursuant to Article 2 par. 1 of the law. Upon investigation the committees decided that in eleven instances the procurators erred in non-prosecution action, and sustained procurators in twenty instances. In ten ex-officio investigations the committees decided none against the procurator and two in favor. Advice was given to procurators in twelve instances in accordance with Art. 2 par. 2, and Art. 42 of the law.

2. POLITICAL PARTIES:

At this time it appears that the major contests in the April elections will be between the Liberals and Socialists. Although the Socialists are making gains and are carrying on a strong campaign, it is believed that they will not be able to overcome the Liberal strength in the region as a whole. The parties had almost completed selections of candidates for local chiefs and prefectural assemblymen by the end of March.

All prefectures of the region will have gubernatorial elections except Hiroshima. All present governors will be candidates. In Okayama, Governor Nishioka, a Liberal, will run as an independent, but with Liberal and some Democratic support. He will have strong opposition from Mr. Miki, a Socialist, with some Democratic support. He is a former director of Public Health Bureau of the Ministry of Welfare. At this time Nishioka seems to have the edge on Miki, but it is close. Okayama will also have a CP candidate, Hideo Toyota, a candidate for the House of Councillors last June. He is not expected to make much of a

showing. ~~Restricted~~

In Shimane, Governor Hara, a Liberal, will have strong opposition from Mr. Tsunematsu, the present speaker of the Ken Assembly, and supported by Democratic Party.

In Yamaguchi, Governor Tanaka is expected to be elected with little opposition. He is a Liberal, but prefers to run as an independent. Toshi Kubota, chairman of the Ken CP Committee, is expected to oppose the governor, but he has no chance to overcome the governor's popularity, and obviously is to be a candidate only for propaganda purposes.

In Tottori, Governor Nishio will win with little opposition with support from Liberals. Some members of the Prefectural Federation of Japan Farmers Party and the Socialist Party are trying to draft Yoshiki Yamamoto, a former governor of Kyoto Fu and a depurgee. However, his acceptance is still uncertain.

Mayors of 21 of the 25 cities of the region will be elected. All present mayors will be candidates except those of Iwakuni, Shimonoseki and Bofu cities. The keenest rivalry will be shown in Hiroshima, Kure, Matsue and Kudamatsu cities, while Mihara, Yonago and Yamaguchi cities will return their incumbents with little opposition.

For prefectural assemblymen, the Socialists are showing determination to select strong candidates, while the Liberals now appear to be over-crowding their tickets. CP candidates will be few for propaganda purposes. Their slogans are in the main for overall peace treaty, and opposition to war and rearmament. The slogans for CP candidates in Onomichi area are as follows:

(1) Protect the overall peace treaty and our racial independence.

(2) Absolute opposition to separate peace treaty and rearmament.

(3) Let us elect our own town chief who favors overall peace treaty and opposes to war.

(4) Opposition to rearmament; Support overall peace treaty.

(5) For racial independence and against rearmament.

(6) Let us chase out intoxication and racketeers from town assembly.

(7) Let us elect one from working class in the country side.

(8) Let us elect patriots who favor racial independence to town assembly.

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(9) Don't send a man who is captivated with greedy ideas and selfish interest to a town assembly.

(10) Don't elect any assembly member who dozes at the town assembly.

(11) Never elect any assembly member who is shy and dozes while meeting goes on.

3. ELECTIONS:

The only election of consequence in the region in March was that of mayor of Tottori City, Tottori Ken. In the Kessen Tohyo, 78% of the eligible voters turned out to give Ei Irie, Independent, a substantial majority. He was supported by the teachers' unions, labor unions and the progressive elements of the city. His opponent Yoshimura was supported by Communists and Socialists. There were only a few elections and by-elections throughout the region and none had any political significance.

4. ELECTION VIOLATIONS:

None reported.

5. OTHER IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT, LEGAL OR POLITICAL MATTERS:

The following amalgamations of towns and villages were completed in March:

	Hiroshima	Yamaguchi	Okayama	Shimane	Tottori
Number	4	3	4	12	1
No. of decrease in local bodies	4	2	4	22	1

By a vote of 25 to 22 the Hiroshima Ken Assembly rejected the desire of one village to amalgamate with Mihara City after the people had voted in a referendum, at assembly's suggestion, with a substantial majority for the amalgamation. In response to the assembly's action the mayor of Mihara City stated:

"It is regrettable to see this amalgamation rejected by the prefectural assembly, and that this act surely conflicts with the true spirit of the Local Autonomy Law. If ever the wishes of the people were to be rejected like that in the future, resolution of the local public bodies would have no meaning, and also if the prefectural assembly were working politically, we should protest against it by bringing administrative litigation."

An interesting suggestion was made by tax officials, on visits to each prefecture, for a law prohibiting delinquent tax payers from voting in any election during the time of delinquency.

On 27 March, the Ogori Town Election Administration Committee ruled that signatures collected for recall of the town assembly were invalid. (Ref. par. 3b, Annex A, February Activities Report.)

Table 1

Prefecture	Original Budget for 1950-51	%	Original Budget for 1951-52	% over 1950-51	Final Budget for 1950-51	% over original
Hiroshima	5,947,940,062	100%	5,993,610,075	100%	7,456,952,940	125%
Yamaguchi	4,380,846,864	100%	3,898,696,585	89%	6,173,337,455	141%
Okayama	4,311,861,655	100%	3,790,138,274	88%	4,969,351,060	115%
Shimane	2,698,477,307	100%	2,949,064,712	109%	3,568,387,079	132%
Tottori	2,081,300,000	100%	2,049,000,000	98%	2,654,450,033	127%

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Table 2

Percentage of Revenues and Expenditures of 1951-52 Budget for each Prefecture in Chugoku Region is as follows:

Revenues	Hiroshima		Yamaguchi		Okayama		Shimane		Tottori	
	50-51	51-52	50-51	51-52	50-51	51-52	50-51	51-52	50-51	51-52
Taxes	36.9	22.2	24.1	26.2	39.9	22.5	34.6	11.0	34.3	13.2
Equalization grants	-	34.2	14.2	45.2	-	43.6	-	41.1	-	38.4
Charges and shares	1.2	1.4	0.5	0.9	1.8	1.2	-	-	0.3	0.1
Rents and fees	4.3	4.4	5.7	6.4	4.5	5.3	4.4	3.7	4.2	3.7
National subsidies	43.6	22.8	37.4	13.0	42.7	19.0	44.8	32.9	41.9	31.9
Contribution	0.7	0.3	2.8	1.5	1.5	0.6	1.4	1.8	1.2	1.5
Account transferred	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.1	1.9	1.1	0.2	0.2	2.2	-
Account brought forward	2.4	0.2	1.5	0.1	0.1	-	1.3	-	-	-
Public enterprise & property incomes	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.2	0.1	0.1
Miscellaneous incomes	3.2	4.7	4.0	3.0	2.5	1.6	2.4	3.0	3.1	2.3
Prefectural loans	7.2	8.3	9.3	3.5	5.0	5.1	10.9	6.1	12.7	8.8
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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Expenditures	Hiroshima Prefecture		Yamaguchi Prefecture		Okayama Prefecture		Shimane Prefecture		Tottori Prefecture	
	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52
Assembly expenses	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.5
Prefectural office expenses	9.4	10.5	12.0	16.4	9.9	12.5	13.0	14.5	12.2	9.7
Police & fire defense expenses	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Public works expenses	20.2	18.8	22.1	10.3	21.5	12.0	22.5	25.5	23.3	26.9
Educational expenses	29.8	39.7	36.6	49.7	30.5	40.6	29.0	35.0	29.6	35.6
Social & Labor facilities expenses	7.4	5.1	4.6	4.8	6.5	6.5	4.5	4.0	5.9	4.1
Public health & sanitation expenses	3.3	2.3	2.6	1.1	4.7	4.8	2.0	2.5	2.1	2.5
Industrial & economics expenses	20.8	16.3	13.1	7.5	10.2	13.7	21.0	12.1	19.1	15.8
Property expenses	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1
Statistics & investigation expenses	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.1	1.0	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.8	0.3
Election expenses	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4

Annex A

Expenditures	Hiroshima Prefecture		Yamaguchi Prefecture		Okayama Prefecture		Shimane Prefecture		Tottori Prefecture	
	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52
Prefectural loan expenses	3.7	3.5	4.3	6.3	2.0	1.5	2.3	2.2	3.7	2.8
Miscellaneous expenses	3.1	2.3	2.1	2.4	3.7	6.6	3.2	3.0	2.0	1.1
Reserve fund	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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Table 3

Cases handled by Police, Procurators in January 1951

Name of Prefecture	Police Authorities M.P. & N.R.P.		Public Procurators' Office			
	Arrest	Sent to Proc. Office	Classification of Office	Acceptance	Non-Indictment transfer etc.	Indictment
Hiroshima	3794	3819	Local	2764	1445	657
	3350	3478	District	1222	770	109
Yamaguchi	1889	1816	Local	1084	544	392
	1300	1227	District	399	332	42
Okayama	2356	1903	Local	1656	1543	612
	1782	1741	District	152	458	141
Shimane (Matsue	713	685	Local	453	279	125
	596	579	District	251	198	27
Tottori	709	676	Local	613	286	167
	657	625	District	152	73	19
Total	9461	8899		8746	5928	2291
	7685	7650				

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Table 4

Cases handled by Courts in January 1951

Name of Prefecture	Court						
	Classification of Court	Jurisdiction	Acceptance	Disposed		Pending	
				New Procedure	Old Procedure	New Procedure	Old Procedure
Hiroshima	Summary		632	844	0	373	0
	District	1st instance	124	192	2	939	49
		Appellate instance	0		1		4
Yamaguchi	Summary		427	461	0	216	4
	District	1st instance	103	77	0	611	21
		Appellate instance	0		0		5
Okayama	Summary		635	627	0	267	2
	District	1st instance	151	150	7	1301	71
		Appellate instance	0		9		13
Tottori	Summary		180	242	0	112	1
	District	1st instance	37	24	0	224	7
		Appellate instance	0		0		0
Shimane (Matsue)	Summary		125	171	0	87	0
	District	1st instance	25	27	1	236	11
		Appellate instance	0		0		2
Total			2439	2815	20	4366	190

Table 5

Cases handled by Police, Procurators in February 1951

Name of Prefecture	Police Authorities M.P. & N.R.P,		Public Procurators' Office			
	Arrest	Sent to Proc Office	Classification of office	Acceptance	Non-Indictment transfer etc.	Indictment
Hiroshima	4928	4055	Local	2817	1785	791
	4093	3698	District	1069	833	161
Yamaguchi	2128	2094	Local	1243	667	486
	1284	1250	District	424	395	75
Okayama	2837	2175	Local	1488	654	801
	2589	2491	District	238	182	65
Tottori	643	606	Local	344	166	106
	564	528	District	128	79	26
Shimane (Matsue)	1127	1116	Local	459	210	140
	776	762	District	367	263	41
Total	11663 9306	10046 8729		8577	5234	2692

Annex A

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Table 6

Cases handled by Courts in February 1951

Name of Prefecture	Court						
	Classification of Court	Jurisdiction	Acceptance	Disposed		Pending	
				New Procedure	Old Procedure	New Procedure	Old Procedure
Hiroshima	Summary		849	814	0	408	0
	District	1st instance	170	243	2	866	47
		Appellate instance	0		0		4
Yamaguchi	Summary		504	495	0	225	4
	District	1st instance	120	154	0	577	21
		Appellate instance	0		0		5
Okayama	Summary		828	804	0	291	2
	District	1st instance	229	284	17	1256	24
		Appellate instance	1		1		13
Tottori	Summary		127	136	0	103	1
	District	1st instance	41	34	0	231	7
		Appellate instance	0		0		0
Shimane (Matsue)	Summary		149	147	0	88	1
	District	1st instance	40	42	0	223	11
		Appellate instance	0		0		2
Total			3058	3153	20	4268	142

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APO 182

ANNEX A
LEGAL AND GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES
February 1951

By Mr. U. S. Grant Bauguess

1. JAPANESE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

a. Activities of Governors: Top priorities of prefectural governments in the region, during February, were 1951-52 budget estimates and preparation of ordinances for enforcement of the Local Public Service Law. Governors are having difficulties in their search for sources of revenue to meet the estimates of departments and sections, which are generally 100% in excess of foreseeable revenue including equalization grants and national subsidies. For example, Hiroshima requests approximately 10 billion yen while prospects of revenues from all sources are only 5.5 billion yen. It was the general complaint from governors that the Local Tax Law adds hardships to the Ken governments in that they are given only unstable taxes, such as amusement and admission taxes. They are requesting more stable and reliable sources of revenue such as inhabitant surtax and tax on depreciable assets. All governors were concerned with ordinances for enforcement of the Local Public Service Law. Conferences were held with prefectural officials and with city, town, and village representatives for study of the law and drafting local ordinances. While the governors were engaged in their official duties, they were also looking toward the coming gubernatorial elections. It is reported that the governors of Okayama, Yamaguchi, Tottori and Shimane will be candidates for reelection.

At the Region Governors' Conference held in Hiroshima on 12 February and attended by Deputy Chief, CCAR, and Legal and Government Section Chief, the following were some of the important items on the agenda:

(1) Reorganization of the Chugoku Region Governors' Council.

(2) Election of Governor Ohara, Hiroshima, as chairman of the council.

(3) Establishment of the council for General Exploitation of Chugoku Region.

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(4) Measures for securing sources of local finance for 1951-52 fiscal year.

(5) Increase of subsidies for government officials, paid partially by national subsidies, as a result of revision of salary scale.

(6) Obtaining national subsidies for common facilities installed by fishing cooperative associations.

(7) Increase of subsidies from the National Treasury for contagious disease prevention, for unemployment relief work and for approval of local loan flotation to cover the total expenses to be borne by local governments.

The Deputy Chief, on behalf of the Chief, stressed that Japan must prepare to assume the responsibilities of a democratic nation and demonstrate the willingness to work for her own salvation. It was further stressed that local governments must emphasize economy and efficiency. The Legal and Government Chief discussed the necessity of local financial integrity for sound local autonomy, amalgamation of towns and villages to secure financial independence, reduction in number of assemblymen and elimination of unnecessary frequent visits of governors to Tokyo. The second day of the conference was attended by chiefs of National Agencies, Region NRF, Procurators, Maritime Safety Commission, Tax officials, Finance Bureau officials, Maritime Bureau officials, Chief CCAR and personnel from IRD. The primary problems considered at this session were:

(1) Problems concerning fishing controls.

(2) Control measures for distribution of important materials.

(3) Status of electric enterprises.

(4) Problems concerning unemployment relief measures.

(5) Representatives of IRD discussed the Local Tax Law.

Yamaguchi Prefectural Government suffered a ten million yen fire loss on the night of 20 February when a wing of the prefectural buildings housing the Public Welfare Department and 5 other sections was burned.

Careless handling of stoves by employees working overtime was the cause. Other facilities are available for the continuous function of the offices involved.

Tottori's Governor Nishio returned from a two-months' tour, attending the Moral Rearmament Conference in Switzerland, followed by visits to France, Germany, England, USA and Hawaii. He speaks enthusiastically of his observations, and is planning to tell his people about his visits.

Hiroshima Prefectural Assembly approved Governor Ohara's selection of Mr. Kono, a financial expert, as Vice-Governor. Mr. Kono appears to have popular approval because of his sincerity and honesty.

b. Prefectural Assemblies: A conference by speakers and assistant speakers of the region was held in Miyajima, Hiroshima Ken, on 9 February for discussions on:

(1) Local finance equalization grants.

(2) 1951-52 fiscal budgets and local tax system.

(3) Redistribution of local administration and establishment of local autonomy.

(4) National subsidies for expenses to carry out increased food production movement.

(5) National subsidies for expenses to expand small and medium enterprisers' consultation offices and establishment of commercial and industrial extension service.

(6) Increase of national subsidies for rehabilitation of disasters.

(7) Increase of national subsidies for national health insurance.

Four of the five prefectural assemblies met in regular session during month of February. In each instance, supplementary budgets were approved and various ordinances for enforcement of the Local Public Service Law were enacted. The Hiroshima prefectural assembly enacted an ordinance concerning the Hiroshima Prefectural General Exploitation Council, and approved of the abolition of Fukada village and its amalgamation to Onomichi and Mihara Cities. Newly elected Governor Ohara made his first appearance in the assembly and apparently won popular approval for the skillful manner in which he explained bills to the full assembly and approximately 1,000 spectators.

Shimane Assembly approved the amalgamation of four villages into two villages.

A Tottori ordinance fixed the number of prefectural assemblymen at 40, reducing previous number by one.

c. Activities of Mayors: The prime interest of the mayors of 25 cities in Chugoku Region in February was concentrated on the enforcement of the Local Public Service Law, selection of property assessors and evaluation of fixed assets in accordance with the Local Tax Law, and preparation of new budget for the fiscal year 1951-52. All the cities, probably with the exception of Mihara and Ube, have been suffering from dire financial predicaments and the adjustment of their expenditures with limited revenues for new budgets was the matter of serious consideration.

Matsue City approved the Matsue Tourist and Cultural City Reconstruction Law by an overwhelming majority, in a referendum in which 83% of eligible voters gave 21,486 votes in favor of the law and 6,804 against the law.

Most of mayors have been giving considerable attention to enactment of ordinances for enforcement of the Local Public Service Law. However, it was found that the hitherto considered progressive mayor of Onomichi had not read the law and had little conception of its importance. Incidentally, he narrowly escaped a vote of non-confidence by his assembly because of his lack of political integrity.

d. Activities of City Assemblies: Most of the city assemblies met for final supplementary budgets and preparation of ordinances for implementing the Local Public Service Law. The cities appear to be in favor of reduction in number of assemblymen, but to date no reports have been received of final action. Mayors argue that there are too many, but that it is too early to make the reduction. A number of town assemblies have made substantial reductions. In Hiroshima Ken alone nine towns approved reductions ranging from 4 to 10 members.

e. Activities of Local Branches of National Government: As redistribution of administrative work is receiving increased attention, amalgamation or abolition of some national agencies into prefectural units is receiving some consideration.

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Hiroshima Ken has already taken over the Hiroshima District Repatriates Consultation Office, Hiroshima Construction Branch Office, Hiroshima Branch of Hiroshima Trade and Industry Bureau, Hiroshima Material Adjustment Office, and a part of Hiroshima Land Transportation Bureau. It desires to take over the Public Employment Security Office, Entire Land Transportation Bureau and Labor Standard Supervision Office, and desires to abolish the Economic Investigation Bureau and Statistics and Research Office. It is desired that the Social Insurance Section of Public Welfare Department be taken over by the National Government. In the other four prefectures in the region the situation is about the same as in Hiroshima Ken.

f. Courts and Administration of Justice: The 12th conference of all Public Safety Commissioners of Hiroshima Ken was held 10 February. Among the items discussed the following are most important:

(1) Limitation of brightness of bicycle lights.

(2) Execution of control over possession of guns and swords.

(3) Adjustment of wages at the time of changing basic wage scales.

(4) Conducting publicity programs in March each year to commemorate the enforcement of the New Police Law.

(5) Control over restaurant business.

(6) The conference adopted a resolution to the Central Government protesting any change in the Police Law that will weaken the municipal police.

At a conference of municipal plice chiefs' council and municipal public safety commissioners' council of Yamaguchi Ken, a resolution was adopted protesting any attempt to make NRP superior to MP by increasing search authority of NRP and abolition of small MP, in towns and villages having a population of less than 50,000.

The well coordinated efforts of procurators and police in the raids on "Voice of Peace" resulted in 48 arrests in the region. 28,935 papers and other CP materials were seized, including 11 unauthorized swords, a hunting gun and some ammunition. The following is a breakdown of party standing of those arrested:

Chairman Ken CP Committee	1
Chairman District CP Committee	2
Member Ken Committee	2
Executive member Ken Committee	1
Member District Committee	16
Executive member District Committee	3
Cell member	12
Others	11
Total	48

The courts are making some progress in expediting trials. Two district courts have completed all cases under old Criminal Code except for a few cases where the accused cannot be found. In the other courts, it is expected that all the old cases will be disposed of by June. Plans are being made for continuous trials but, in reality, none has been practiced as yet. The time between hearings has been shortened to about one week. Judges eventually admit that continuous trials are not favorable to the lawyers. They also admit that the delaying tactics of lawyers such as being 30 minutes late for opening court, or their absence from court, is much of the cause for congested dockets.

2. POLITICAL PARTIES:

a. The major parties are conspicuously planning their strategy for elections of governors and prefectural assemblymen. Committee meetings, at all levels, are being held for planning campaigns and selection of candidates. The Socialists, being inspired by their gains in the Hiroshima Governor's election and the election of a Socialist in Yanai town, another Liberal stronghold, are conspicuous in their increased activity. The Liberal's defeat in Hiroshima has called for top party planning and shifts in ranking committee men. Finance Minister Ikeda relinquished prefectural chairmanship to House of Councillor Iwasawa, and newly elected House of Councillor Kusunose became the chairman of the Hiroshima City Committee. Teachers' unions, labor unions and town and village mayors' associations are showing considerable interest in local elections. Teachers' unions tend to support the Socialist party, and town and village mayors' association support the conservative party. The Democratic Party is showing little activity. It lost 10 of its members in Okayama Ken Assembly to the Liberal Party to bring the latter's strength to 44 against 7 Socialists and 1 Independent.

Little communistic activity has been noticed since the 4 February raids on "Voice of Peace", resulting in 48 arrests and 32 indictments to date.

Red purges by private industries have also influenced party activities. The trial of communist mayor of Kibe-mura, Shimane Ken, has had a marked effect on CP activities in that vicinity. To fill the vacancy caused by his resignation, a conservative was elected by a substantial majority over the CP candidate. Communist leaders' influence over casual laborers and in anti-tax movements is on the decline.

b. Other Important Political, Government or Legal Matters: The Local Affairs Sections of the Prefectural Governments are giving advice and assistance to towns and villages in the amalgamation movement. In Shimane Ken, they are planning to reduce 247 towns and villages to 105, which will result in considerable saving of administrative cost and increased efficiency. 16 towns and villages have already completed reorganization into 6 towns and villages. Tottori has plans to reduce 167 towns and villages to 106, with an estimated decrease in expenditures per person from ¥2,203 to ¥1,934. This plan met general popular approval until the equalization grants were granted last year. Then, the towns and villages feeling it much easier to receive the grants to make up their deficits, lost their enthusiasm for amalgamation.

3. ELECTIONS:

a. There were no major elections in the region in February. The Tottori City election for mayor failed to give any of the 6 candidates a plurality with 80% of the eligible voters turning out. Another election will be held 11 March between the two top candidates. Four elections of town or village assemblymen were held, and five village mayors were elected. No election law violations were reported.

b. Recalls: The required number of signatures were obtained for request of dissolution of Ogori Town Assembly, in Yamaguchi Ken, on grounds of ambiguous expenditures by the assembly. The assemblymen protested that signatures were collected by unauthorized persons and that the charge of ambiguous expenditures was groundless. Eleven assemblymen resigned after the signatures were submitted for review, and a by-election for these vacancies will be held 7 March.

4. IMPORTANT VISITS AND CONFERENCES OF LEGAL AND GOVERNMENT SECTION PERSONNEL:

a. Two visits to each Ken for conferences with governors, mayors, and tax officials on finance and taxes; two visits to each Ken for conferences with police, procurators and judges; and two conferences with personnel officials and local affairs sections.

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b. Attended governors' conference.

c. Seven cities, towns and villages were visited for conferences with municipal police and mayors.

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ANNEX A
LEGAL AND GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES
January 1951

By Mr. U. S. Grant Bauguess

1. JAPANESE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

a. Activities of Governors: The primary interest of the prefectural government offices, during the month of January, was study and planning for the enforcement of the new local public service law. All concerned officials received copies of the law and are working in cooperation with city, town and village offices in planning ordinances under this law. More detailed report of this activity was made in a special report dated 1 February. Hiroo Ohara, independent, was elected Governor of Hiroshima Prefecture on 22 January 1951, to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of former governor, who was elected to the House of Councillors, and the ex-vice-governor, who resigned to become a candidate for governor. Mr. Kono, director of general affairs department, acted as governor until the election, and it is anticipated that he will become the vice-governor.

b. Prefectural Assemblies: The Okayama Prefecture assembly, in an extraordinary session on 13 January 1951, adopted supplementary budget for ¥126,785,430 to bring the total annual budget to ¥4,921,302,114, and also revised ordinances concerning the salaries of officials, members of the prefectural assembly, members of the board of education, the superintendent of education, and prefectural public safety commissioners. The assembly also appointed five members to the prefectural building review board. There were no other assemblies during the month of January.

c. Activities of Mayors: A conference of mayors of all towns and villages in Okayama Prefecture was held on 24 January, for discussions and resolutions on (1) increase of equalization grants to local public bodies; (2) revision of basis for wage scale for town and village officials; (3) acceleration of rice quota delivery and increase of food production; (4) new measures for the development of rural communities.

A conference of chairmen of the five prefectural federations of town and village mayors' associations was held in Hiroshima City, with a member of this headquarters and a representative of IRD present

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for discussions on local taxes and the collection of taxes. Primarily the following were discussed:

(1) Commissions for the collection of gas and electric taxes are contrary to the local tax law.

(2) Tax savings associations cannot be subsidized by local governments and if permitted should be strictly voluntary. Local governments should adjust their finances in anticipation of decreased equalization grants.

(3) Cooperation with local finance committee in planning for local taxation.

Conferences were held by the mayors of cities and towns of Yamaguchi Prefecture on 22 January, for discussions on the rumors of possible revision of police law. In this connection, it is reported that municipal police personnel are becoming alarmed at reported statements of Attorney General Ohashi and Director General of NRP, Saito, to the effect that the law will be revised to transfer the police jurisdiction of smaller towns and villages to NRP Troop Commanders. The Municipal Police Chiefs, however, are urging police personnel not to be alarmed over these reported declarations.

The mayor of Tottori City, who is now under indictment for alleged bribery in connection with the designation of city fund depository, resigned on 6 January and the deputy mayor will act as mayor until the election, to be held in February.

The mayor of Matsue City is now enthusiastically campaigning for the approval of the National Law designating Matsue as an International Tourist and Cultural City. It appears that the bill will be approved in a referendum on 10 February. Fear is expressed by some of the prefectural officials that the mayor is taking advantage of this referendum to further his own political advancement in the next mayor's election.

d. Activities of City Assemblies: A conference, of speakers of five city assemblies in Hiroshima-ken was held on 6 January, for discussion of plans to promote the construction of dwelling houses, and a resolution to ban house-to-house visits in local election campaigns. On 6 January Tottori City elected a new city assembly, following the resignation of the assemblymen involved in the bribery case with the mayor.

At their first meeting, the seating of one assemblyman was challenged because he was a government railway employee. However, the election administration committee approved his candidacy and he was seated in the assembly. The new assembly accepted the resignation of the mayor.

Speakers of all city assemblies in the region held a conference at Hamada City on 10 January, for discussion and resolution of the following important items:

(1) Request for increased national subsidies for housing projects.

(2) Request for partial revision of local election law.

(3) Request for partial revision of local tax law in regards to bicycle and cart taxes.

(4) Request for reduction of fixed number of assemblymen.

(5) Request for partial revision of local autonomy law.

(6) Request for increase of equalization grants to local governments.

In Tojo Town, Hiroshima-ken, the assembly had been dormant for ten months because only seven members of the assembly remained in office during an appeal to the Supreme Court on recall of the assembly. However, on 22 January, fifteen new members were elected to the assembly so that the assembly could function in preparation of the new fiscal budget.

Twelve of the twenty-five city assemblies in the region met in regular session during the month of January. However, the sessions were generally routine and no significant ordinances or by-laws were adopted.

e. Courts and Administration of Justice:

(1) Municipal police chiefs' council in Okayama-ken met on 27 January, for discussion of possible revision of the police law. There was strong opposition to the proposed revision on the ground that it would contradict the spirit of local autonomy and defeat the purpose of the police system,

and further would be an attempt to make the municipal police inferior to NRP. This subject was discussed at the Region Public Safety Commission Council on 19 January, and it was agreed at this conference that revision of the police law was a very delicate subject and further public discussion should be suspended. Additional subjects discussed at the council meeting were reports on criminal offence occurrences and apprehensions during last year, problems created by the revision of the juvenile law, to wit, the increased age of juveniles under said law, and training of police forces at the Otake Police School and Hiroshima Advanced Police School.

(2) After his return from the Tokyo conference of Regional NRP Chiefs, Mr. Yamaguchi, Chief of Hiroshima Regional NRP, instructed NRP personnel under his headquarters that one of the most important tasks of the police during 1951 would be to attempt the apprehension of the missing purged members of the Nippon Communist Party; and that stern discipline would be exercised over any policeman, under his command, who is involved in any incident if found to be under the influence of liquor.

(3) A survey of the apprehension and trials of offenses under Imperial Ordinance #9, violation of Labor Standards Law and violation of Juvenile Welfare Law concerning prostitution and white slavery reveals that in the region during 1950 there were two convictions under Imperial Ordinance #9, one conviction under Labor Standards Law, five convictions under Juvenile Welfare Law, twelve convictions under both Ordinance #9 and Juvenile Welfare Law, and one conviction under the three laws. For these convictions, only one sentence of imprisonment was imposed and that is now on appeal to High Court. In all other cases, there were only negligible fines or short suspended sentences. It appears to be the feeling of the courts that these cases are of little consequence and are not considered serious offenses by the courts, and even though convictions are obtained, the courts are not inclined to mete out any serious punishment as a deterrence for future violations.

(4) The police and Maritime Safety Commission reported twenty-one instances of illegal possession of ammunition in the Hiroshima area during the month of January; of these nine arrests were made. It is reported that forty-one tons of live ammunition and brass were smuggled into Hiroshima from Okinawa.

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Three suspects were arrested and referred to the procurators office and the case is being further investigated by police, the Maritime Safety Office and Customs Officials.

(5) There were only two violations of Imperial Ordinance #311 reported in the region during the month of January, and three arrests were made. The conviction and sentence of Mayor Kimura of Kibe-mura, Shimane Prefecture, as reported in the activities report for December, paragraph 1 (f)(2), was returned by the reviewing authority for new trial. This conviction and sentence has had a marked effect upon communist activities in Shimane Prefecture; and police reported that it has been a decided deterrent for distribution of anti-occupation literature, and has also influenced local elections in that vicinity.

2. POLITICAL PARTIES:

A phenomenal comeback of the socialists in Hiroshima-ken, a liberal stronghold, was clearly demonstrated in the December by-election for House of Coucillors when ex-Governor Kusunose, a Liberal, was elected by a small majority over his Socialist contender, and in January when the former vice-Governor Wakuda, a Liberal, was defeated by Dr. Ohara, a Socialist, by an overwhelming majority of more than 180,000 votes. This gain, however, may not be of a permanent nature. Ohara had the support of the Socialists, teachers' union, medical association, and apparently a majority of the communists, while on the other hand, Wakuda did not go into the campaign with solid backing from the Liberals. Also, the fallacies of Kusunose's administration were played up strongly against him. It is rumored that Finance Minister Ikeda will return to Hiroshima to take over the party leadership, and major changes will be made in party positions to regain the leadership in the April elections. In other sections of the region, especially in Tottori and Shimane, the Socialists are aware of their increased strength and looking forward for the April elections. The Democratic Party, though little activity has been shown, is steadily working to increase its party power for the April elections.

Party friction has been the most noticeable feature of the Communist Party during the past month. There has been some effort made by the nationalist faction to unite the party. The internal friction was climaxed in the election for governor in Hiroshima when Murakami, a nationalist, preferred charges against Masaru Nakashita, the Communist candidate for governor, for misrepresentation of his party affiliation and violence committed against natipnalist party leaders. Nakashita was charged with having used the name of the Communist Party after he had been expelled from the party. Internal dissension is also shown in the fact that in the June 1950 election,

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the party polled more than 46,000 votes, and in the gubernatorial election only 16,000 votes. While the Communists are absorbed in international affairs their outward activities appear to be slight. Their activities in conjunction with North Korean elements were slight in January except for some activities in opposition to proposed deportation of North Koreans, and in distribution of leaflets. They are also endeavoring to get as many Koreans as possible in the casual labor unions for agitation in labor. This is particularly true in the Shimonoseki area where there is a large concentration of Koreans.

3. ELECTIONS:

Election Contests: The most noteworthy election in the region in January was the election for governor in Hiroshima Prefecture (as above reported under Political Parties). In spite of unfavorable weather, 81.2% of the 1,139,094 voters went to the polls. Ohara, Socialist, running as an independent, received 544,166 votes, Wakuda, Liberal, running as an independent, 358,886 votes, Nakashita, Communist, 16,739. Public interest in the election was further shown in the fact that a large number of outstanding politicians, party leaders, ministers and ex-ministers came to the prefecture in support of the campaign in both major political parties. The following is a summary of the platforms of each of the candidates:

Hiroo Ohara, Independent:

(1) Establishment of democratic administration in the prefectural government.

(2) Prefectural finances must be managed in impartial, constructive and calculated manner.

(3) To complete democratization of education.

(4) Improvement of women's life.

(5) Reforms of labor administration.

(6) Improvement of mountains and rivers.

(7) Industrialization of agricultural and fishing villages.

(8) Aid development of small and medium sized business and enterprises.

(9) Development of the network of roads and highways.

(10) Promotion of housing construction projects and social facilities for the public.

(11) Promotion of social security system.

Tetsuo Wakuda, Indopendent:

(1) General development of farming and fishing industries.

(2) Aiding of small and medium sized business and enterprises, and promotion and invitation of big industries.

(3) Development of disaster counter measures.

(4) Renovation of education.

(5) Improvement of transportation.

(6) Improvement of public health and sanitation.

(7) Thorough enforcement of economic stabilization measures.

(8) Strengthening of unemployment relief measures and aiding of healthy development of labor movement.

(9) Improvement of women's livelihood and elevation of their positions.

Masaru Nakashita, Communist:

(1) Immediate conclusion of over-all peace treaty and establishment of complete independence. Immediate evacuation of Occupation Forces after the conclusion of peace treaty, and establishment of racial democratic government.

(2) Conclusion of peace pact with America, England, Soviet Russia and China and establishment of world peace. Security guarantee of Japan based on United Nations charter, and fair settlement of the territorial problems of Japan.

(3) Opposition of making a military base of Japan and immediate end of war propaganda. Outlaw use of "A Bomb". Opposition to restoration of Japanese militarism and participation in Korean War.

(4) Unlimited expansion of peace time industries and immediate opening of fair and free international trades.

(5) Opposition to enslavement of Japanese industries by foreign capital.

(6) Opposition to intervention in oppression against local autonomous bodies and establishment of democratic prefectural government administration.

Throughout the region nine other elections consisted mainly of elections or by-elections for town mayors and assemblymen.

b. Violation of Election Laws: In the Tottori City election for city assemblymen, forty-one violations involving eighty-three persons were reported. It is significant to note that thirteen bribery cases involving forty-one persons, including some of the successful candidates, were reported. The old assembly had resigned en masse, because they had been involved in the bribery case in connection with the designation of the city fund depository. All violations have been referred to the procurator's office.

c. Recalls: Request for dissolution of the town assembly of Ogori-machi, Yamaguchi-ken, was made on 12 January on the grounds that the town assembly was not operating in accordance with the wishes of the people and, furthermore was defying the wishes of the people. It appears that sufficient signatures will be obtained for this recall.

4. IMPORTANT VISITS AND CONFERENCES OF LEGAL AND GOVERNMENT SECTION PERSONNEL:

a. Conferences in each prefecture with the governor and/or the vice-governor, prefectural tax officials, mayors and tax officials of the prefectural capital cities, and town and village mayors association chairmen concerning finances, taxes, tax collection and tax savings associations.

b. Visits to each prefecture for conferences with police, NRP, judges and procurators on police affairs and administration of justice.

c. Investigation of four national TB Hospitals in the region to check on activities of Patients' League.

d. Visit to Shimonoseki Police Station to check on police, Koreans and communists activities.

e. Conferences with each prefectural government and capital city governments, to check on program made in the enforcement of the local public service law.

f. Conferences with local government officials in each prefecture concerning amalgamation of national agencies by local governments and amalgamation of cities, towns and villages.