

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
APO 500

AG 014.331 (14 Apr 47) GA  
SCAPIN 1609/1

25 August 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

SUBJECT: Issuance of Passports or Certificates of Identity or  
Nationality to Japanese Nationals

1. Reference is made to:

a. Memorandum from the Japanese Government, C.L.C.O. No. 2866(1G), dated 14 August 1948, subject as above.

b. Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers memorandum, file AG 000.74 (14 Apr 47) GA, SCAPIN 1609, dated 14 April 1947, subject, "Travel Documents for Japanese Nationals Traveling Abroad."

2. It is considered neither desirable nor necessary that Japanese nationals be issued passports except upon specific directive from the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers on a case by case basis. Issuance of such passports will be directed only in connection with the current programs for travel of Japanese nationals outside of Japan. These passports will as in the past be valid only for a specific purpose and for travel to specific countries, and will have a specific period of validity.

3. In order to avoid undue hardship in cases similar to that cited in paragraph 2a of reference 1a above, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers will consider directing the Japanese Government to issue a certificate of nationality. Applications for issuance of such certificates should be directed to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers by the country acting as protecting power for Japanese interests in the country concerned, or by the country of residence. If such requests are approved, the Japanese Government will be directed to accomplish the necessary certificate and forward it to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers for transmission to the individual requesting it, utilizing the same diplomatic channels through which the request came to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers' attention.

4. In cases such as are cited in paragraph 2b of reference 1a above, it is the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers' policy that when Japanese nationals are granted clearance to travel to a foreign country for the purpose of residing permanently in that country, it is the responsibility of the country which issues the entry visa to also issue to the Japanese national a certificate of identity or similar travel document which will


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serve in lieu of a passport. \* If in any case this policy is not acceptable to the country of ultimate destination, clearance will not be granted for the individual in question to depart Japan.

5. The cases of individuals cited in paragraph 2c of reference 1a above will be handled in exactly the same manner as set forth in paragraph 3 above.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

*for*   
R. M. LEVY,  
Colonel, AGD,  
Assistant General.