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MI-001/142

10 September 1948

FAR EASTERN COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM FOR INFORMATION NO. 001/142

ONE-HUNDRED FORTY-SECOND WEEKLY REPORT ON JAPAN FROM THE CIVIL AFFAIRS DIVISION OF UNITED STATES ARMY DEPARTMENT

Note by the Secretary General

The enclosure is the one-hundred forty-second weekly report on Japan to the Far Eastern Commission from the Civil Affairs Division of the United States Army Department, covering the period to 3 September 1948. These summaries are based on the daily operational reports from Supreme Headquarters in Tokyo.

NELSON T. JOHNSON
Secretary General

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Secretary General

E N C L O S U R E

ONE-HUNDRED FORTY-SECOND WEEKLY REPORT ON JAPAN FROM THE CIVIL AFFAIRS DIVISION OF UNITED STATES ARMY DEPARTMENT

3 September 1948

JAPAN

I. REPARATIONS and

II. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

SCAP announced the shipment to China on 4 August of 104 units of machine tools and secondary metalworking equipment, total weight 569 metric tons.

A. Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry

Imported foods released for the September ration included 21,600 metric tons of rice, 56,764 metric tons of sugar, and 293,605 metric tons of cereals, consisting principally of wheat and wheat flour. Also included in the September ration are 241,431 metric tons of indigenous foods, including wheat, barley and potatoes.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry reported the following intercoastal whaling catch for the weeks ending 24 July, 31 July and 7 August respectively:

Type	Amount		
	24 July	31 July	7 August
Catchfin	20 units	18 units	24 units
Sei	27	23	21
Sperm	31	2	3
Blue	1	1	0
Products	1,182-metric tons	1,136 M. T.	908 M. T.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Office reported fish receipts at the Tokyo Central Fish Market during the period 1-20 July, as follows:

Type Amount (in metric tons)

21,600 metric tons of rice, 56,764 metric tons of sugar, and 293,605 metric tons of cereals, consisting principally of wheat and wheat flour. Also included in the September ration are 241,431 metric tons of indigenous foods, including wheat, barley and potatoes.

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Blue	1	1	0
Products	1,182-metric tons	1,136 M. T.	908 M. T.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Office reported fish receipts at the Tokyo Central Fish Market during the period 1-20 July, as follows:

Type	Amount (in metric tons)
Fresh	2,740
Frozen	949
Shell	0
Salted & dried	566
Other	961

B. Industry

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry reported that 699,100 metric tons of coal (preliminary figure) were produced during the 7.5 working days of the period 11-20 August, and that 807,500 metric tons (final figure) were produced during the 8.1 working days of the period 1-10 August.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry reported the following production for June (revised figures) and July (preliminary figures):

Item	Amount June (revised)	Amount July (preliminary)
Small motor cars		300 units
Electric cars		107
Watches	47,840 units	46,537
Clocks		149,763
Industrial explosives	1,107 metric tons	1,158 metric tons
Soda ash		5,745
Sulfuric acid	165,750	71,365
Calcium carbide	27,722	30,621

During July 545,337 metric tons of limestone were produced and stocks of 303,397 metric tons were available.

C. Finance

The Ministry of Finance reported that proceeds from the sale of closed institutions amounted to 507,682,236 yen, 371,658,078 yen and 235,634,179 yen for the weeks ending 24 and 31 July and 7 August, respectively.

The following reports were received from the Bank of Japan for the ten-day periods ending 10 and 20 August.

Period ending 10 August:

Assets (In 1,000,000 yen)		Liabilities (In 1,000,000 yen)	
Cash and bullion	624	Notes issued	240,603
Government bonds and other securities	137,314	Government deposits	9,576
Advance to Gov't	74,295	Other deposits	17,045
Loans	55,589	Misc. accounts	6,148
Agencies accounts	1,510	Net profit for current period	3,589
Misc. accounts	2,412	Capital & reserves	253
Inter-office items on Gov't accounts	0	Inter-office items on Gov't accounts	45
Inter-office account	5,515	Inter-office account	0
Total Assets	277,259	Total Liabilities	277,259

The following reports were received from the Bank of Japan for the ten-day periods ending 10 and 20 August.

Period ending 10 August:

Assets (In 1,000,000 yen)	
Cash and bullion	624
Government bonds and other securities	137,314
Advance to Gov't	74,295
Loans	55,589
Agencies accounts	1,510
Misc. accounts	2,412
Inter-office items on Gov't accounts	0
Inter-office account	5,515
Total Assets	277,259

Liabilities (In 1,000,000 yen)	
Notes issued	240,603
Government deposits	9,576
Other deposits	17,045
Misc. accounts	6,148
Net profit for current period	3,589
Capital & reserves	253
Inter-office items on Gov't accounts	45
Inter-office account	0
Total Liabilities	277,259

Period ending 20 August:

Cash and bullion	635
Government bonds and other securities	138,620
Advance to Gov't	76,406
Loans	54,892
Agencies accounts	893
Misc. accounts	2,639
Inter-office items on Gov't accounts	0
Inter-office account	6,682
Total Assets	280,767

Notes issued	244,997
Government deposits	9,311
Other deposits	16,388
Misc. accounts	5,838
Net profit for current period	3,854
Capital & reserves	252
Inter-office items on Gov't accounts	127
Inter-office account	0
Total Liabilities	280,767

D. Foreign Trade

E. Public Health and Welfare

The Ministry of Welfare reported the following stockpiles of DDT and typhus vaccine for the weeks ending 14 and 21 August:

Week ending 14 August:

Item	Amount In Wholesale Houses	Amount In Factories
10% DDT dust	893,321 pounds	401,900 pounds
5% DDT residual effect spray	288,603 gallons	134,684 gallons
Typhus vaccine	49,331 vials	0

Week ending 21 August:

10% DDT dust	777,856 pounds	401,900 pounds
5% DDT residual effect spray	207,363 gallons	96,984 gallons
Typhus vaccine	147,940 vials	0

Production of DDT dusting and spraying equipment during the weeks ending 14 and 21 August was reported as follows:

Item	Amount (in units) Wk Ending 14 Aug.	Wk Ending 21 Aug
DDT dusters	1,400	1,400
Sprayer, knapsack type, 3-gal cap.	2,560	2,160
Sprayer, pump type, semi-automatic	490	570
Sprayer, hand type, ½gal cap.	1,350	1,550
Engine sprayers	0	0

The following incidence of communicable disease was reported for the week ending 14 August:

Disease	No. of cases for Wk Ending 14 Aug.	Changes from Wk Ending 7 Aug.
Diphtheria	136	- 13
Typhoid	338	+ 44
Dysentery	962	- 62
Paratyphoid	78	- 32
Epidemic Meningitis	70	- 2
Typhus Fever	0	no change
Smallpox	0	no change
Scarlet Fever	38	- 1
Malaria	248	+ 95
Japanese B encephalitis (Suspects)	1,444	+1,104

Sprayer, pump type, semi-automatic	490	570
Sprayer, hand type, ½gal cap.	1,350	1,550
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Scarlet Fever	38	- 1
Malaria	248	+ 95
Japanese B-encephalitis (Suspects)	1,444	+1,104
Measles	728	- 97
Whooping Cough	1,919	+ 165
Pneumonia	637	- 10
Tuberculosis	8,160	- 190
Influenza	21	+ 12
Chancroid	457	+ 31
Gonorrhea	3,186	- 108
Syphilis	3,337	- 155

As of 28 August, 4,496 suspected cases of Japanese B-encephalitis were reported throughout Japan; 90% of this total was found in the Tokyo-Yokohama area and neighboring prefectures.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry reported 652 positive cases of equine encephalomyelitis, 149 suspects, 480 deaths and 42 sacrifices as of 27 August.

The Welfare Ministry announced that during July, 29,812 square meters of X-ray film were produced. The following production of rubber sanitary goods, instruments and biologicals was also reported:

Item	No. of pieces	Yen Value
Rubber sanitary goods	12,328,679	26,244,660
Dental instruments	677,866	16,431,310
Dental materials		6,244,970
Controlled medicines		384,918,964
Non-controlled medicines		11,172,542
Patent medicines		444,327,144
Surgical dressings		125,610,107
Medical instruments		28,093,540

Sales of medicines and surgical instruments and appliances during July were reported as follows:

Item	Sales In Units	Sales Yen value
Surgical instruments and appliances	2,249,281	28,732,220
Former Japanese Army & Navy medical supplies		1,178,105
Home remedies		261,077,855
Controlled medicines		223,907,876

F. Communications

The Japanese Government was notified that SCAP considers the present time appropriate for Japan's accession, if it so desires, to the International Telecommunications Union and associated protocols and radio regulations, adopted by the International Radio Conference at Atlantic City in 1947.

III. CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL REFORM and

IV. STRENGTHENING OF DEMOCRATIC TENDENCIES

A. Politics and Government

Wataru Narahashi, Democratic Party Advisor, declared on 30 August that he could not support the "middle-of-the-road" political league as advocated by Prime Minister Ashida and Ken Inukai. Such a league, he said, lacked appeal to the people, who would come to feel that it was an attempt to strengthen the Ashida Administration or to save the Peoples Cooperative Party.

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Narahashi advocated a nationwide "new life movement" to reframe the life of every Japanese in accordance with a new democratic Japan. He said this movement should form "the nucleus of a 'National Salvation Government', which, I believe, is urgently needed." Narahashi said the Democratic Liberal Party should not continue as an opposition party but should be merged into the proposed movement.

On 28 August Minister of Labor Kanju Kato and Minister of State Masaru Nomizo agreed that the Social Democratic Party should reserve decision concerning Diet dissolution. Chairman Katayama warned on 27 August that any further split among the three government parties would lead to the collapse of the present administration. Repeating that dissolution of the Diet was inevitable, Katayama indicated that he would strive to avert such a move and that he would not press for the withdrawal of Social Democratic Members of the cabinet until compelled to do so.

Minister of Transportation Seiichi Okada, People Cooperative, predicted on 29 August that the Diet would not be dissolved this fall, expressing confidence that the "political confusion" can be settled without Diet dissolution "as long as the three government parties are tightly bound." On 27 August former Deputy Prime Minister Suehiro Nishio was acquitted by the Tokyo District Court on charges of perjury and violation of the government ordinance concerning donations to political parties.

Comments on Nishio's acquittal varied, with most Social Democrats feeling that because the Nishio faction opposes Diet dissolution the verdict will restrain elements in the party who have been clamoring for dissolution. Party Chairman Tetsu Katayama told the press it was unlikely that Nishio would be reinstated in the Ashida Cabinet. Jiro Hoshijima, a leader of the Democratic Liberal Party, said that with Nishio's acquittal the government ordinance regulating party funds "is now a scrap of paper." The Tokyo newspaper Mainichi, on 28 August, criticized Prime Minister Ashida and other Democratic members of the cabinet for having given assurances that Nishio would be restored to his former cabinet post if acquitted. "The trial has made us feel keenly the necessity of severing relations between politicians and evil money," the editorial concluded.

Ikutaro Nakasone, former Liberal Party Diet member, was sentenced on 31 August by the Tokyo District Court to 4 years imprisonment on charges of participating in the embezzlement of 6,450,000 yen from the Agricultural and Workers Association in the sale of non-existent military uniforms.

B. Labor

C. Education

The Fourteenth SCAP Civil Information and Education Information Center for Japanese opened at Yokohama on 31 August.

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APPENDIX "A"

On 2 September, the third anniversary of Japan's surrender, the Supreme Commander issued the following statement: "Three years have now passed since in Tokyo Bay on the quarterdeck of the Missouri the major nations of the world entered into solemn covenants to erect upon Japanese soil a bastion to the democratic concept. They were actuated by a singleness of purpose to see restored to their respective peoples, exhausted by the trial of war, the blessings of a secure peace.

"That bastion to the democratic concept is now in the advanced stages of erection but the singleness of purpose among the nations there represented no longer exists, and the universal longing for world tranquility has not been translated into effective actuality. All peoples without exception desire peace but the mutual misunderstandings, the blind misconceptions, the general frailties and inadequacies of the human being have made it impossible as yet for him to devise the mechanical processes to achieve his noble purpose. The council tables of the world have failed to produce a just resolution of vital issues among nations and men, and fear grips the peoples of many lands as the specter of war yet hovers over the earth.

"During these three years the Japanese people have done their part, and, in the existing circumstances, done it well. This despite the austerity of life in the wake of the tragedy of war and disaster and the ideological clash which infringes upon all mankind. For they have here, in a confused and bewildered world, a calm and well ordered society dedicated to the sanctity of peace. Flanked by the newly born Korean Republic and that stalwart land of the Filipino patriot, Japan now forms a sturdy pillar in a triangular buttress exemplifying before all of the peoples of the east the wisdom of the democratic concept.

"There need be no fear concerning the future pattern of Japanese life for the Japanese people have fully demonstrated both their will and their capacity to absorb into their own culture sound ideas, well tested in the crucible of western experience, in lieu of those concepts responsive to the myths and legends which have so handicapped their past. And today those practical weapons needed to repel the totalitarian advance-liberty, dignity and opportunity-now safely rest in every Japanese hand, and the nation has thereby become an asset upon which the free world may confident-

earth.

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"Progress of the past three years thus offers striking proof that the impelling need of modern society lies in the moral recrudescence of the peoples of the earth, as to whom, regardless of racial derivation, nationalistic individuality, origeographic location, there exists no dissimilarity whatsoever in hopes and aspirations and ultimate human objectives. It demonstrates that the peoples of the east and the peoples of the west are motivated by these identical basic instincts, and that their interests lie in the attainment of that cultural blend, as between east and west, best calculated to advance the human welfare. It points with unmistakable clarity to the fallacy of the oft-expressed dogma that the east and west are separated by such impenetrable social, cultural and racial distinctions as to render impossible the absorption by the one of the ideas and concepts of the other. It emphasized again the immutable truism that sound ideas cannot be stopped."

MI-001/143

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15 September 1948

FAR EASTERN COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM FOR INFORMATION NO. 001/143

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The enclosure is the one-hundred forty-third weekly report on Japan to the Far Eastern Commission from the Civil Affairs Division of the United States Army Department, covering the period to 10 September 1948. These summaries are based on the daily operational reports from Supreme Headquarters in Tokyo.

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ENCLOSURE

ONE-HUNDRED FORTY-THIRD WEEKLY REPORT ON JAPAN FROM THE CIVIL AFFAIRS DIVISION OF UNITED STATES ARMY DEPARTMENT

JAPAN

10 September 1948

I. REPARATIONS and

II. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

A. Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry reported the 1948 rice crop estimate as of 1 September at 60,400,000 koku (or approximately 9,060,000 metric tons). The Ministry also reported that as of 20 August 789,000 metric tons of wheat and barleys 1/ and 570,000 metric tons of potatoes, both 1948 summer crops, had been collected.

During the period 25-28 August SCAP authorized the release of the following items for the purposes indicated:

14 metric tons of soybean meal for experimental manufacture of powdered shoyu.

733 metric tons of soybeans for processing of baby food.

5 metric tons of canned candy as incentive goods in conducting a national nutrition survey.

11,316 metric tons of groundnuts for processing into refined oil.

On 30 August SCAP authorized the release of the following imported foods:

Item	Amount (in metric tons)

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5 metric tons of canned candy as incentive goods in conducting a national nutrition survey.

11,316 metric tons of groundnuts for processing into refined oil.

On 30 August SCAP authorized the release of the following imported foods:

Item	Amount (in metric tons)
Candy	9.8
Powdered whole milk	160.7
Sugar	800
Edible oil	150
Cocoa caramels	742.5

The Tokyo Metropolitan Office report fish receipts at the Tokyo Central Fish Market during the period 21-30 July as follows:

Type	Amount (in metric tons)
Fresh	3,756
Frozen	1,126
Shell	0
Salted and dried	823
Others	1,061

B. Industry

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry stated that coal deliveries to industry amounted to 2,873,000 metric tons (final figure) in June and 2,669,000 metric tons (preliminary figure) in July. As of 31 July, 182,100 metric tons of coal were stock-piled ready for current shipments, and 492,700 metric tons were in transit.

1/ In brown rice equivalents

Pyrite data for the period 1-10 July and 11-20 July were given as follows:

Item	Amount (in metric tons) Period 1-10 Jul	Period 11-20 Jul
Production	33,236	28,442
Shipments	33,545	35,548
Stocks	131,755	124,744

C. Finance

D. Foreign Trade

E. Public Health and Welfare

The Ministry of Welfare reported the following July production of disinfectants and sanitary goods:

Item	Amount
Nekoirazu, Messo and Yoku Byo	16,204 kilograms
DDT concentrate	7,477
Pure mapharsen	150.2
Sulfathiazone	6,292
Bismuth Subsalicylate	565.3 liters
Gauze	197,622 pounds
Bandage cloth	176,972
Absorbent Cotton	342,150
5% DDT spray	235,179 gallons
X-ray film	299 units
Ultrashort wave	98
Ultraviolet ray	107
Infrared ray	1
Luminous screens	100
Intensifying screens	200
Electrosurgical	8
Hexylresorcinol crystals	211.40 kilograms
Pills or tablets	12,309 units
Penicillin	25,418,800,000 oxford units
Glass syringes	411,920 units

Availability of laboratory animals in July was reported as follows:

Bismuth Subsalicylate	565.3 liters
Gauze	197,622 pounds
Bandage cloth	176,972
Absorbent Cotton	342,150
5% DDT spray	235,179 gallons
X-ray film	299 units
Ultrashort wave	98
Ultraviolet ray	107
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Luminous screens	100
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Hexylresorcinol crystals	211.40 kilograms
Pills or tablets	12,309 units
Penicillin	25,418,800,000 oxford units
Glass syringes	411,920 units

Availability of laboratory animals in July was reported as follows:

Item	Number
Guinea pigs	3,905
Rats	982
Rabbits	1,928
White mice	45,353

In July 642,705 pounds of 10% DDT dust, 189,186 gallons of 5% DDT residual-effect spray and 39,295 vials of typhus vaccine were released to prefectures and ministries.

The following incidence of communicable disease was reported for week ending 21 August:

Disease	No. of Cases for Wk Ending 21 Aug.	Changes from Wk Ending 14 Aug.
Diphtheria	148	+ 12
Typhoid	289	- 49
Dysentery	1,015	+ 53
Paratyphoid	91	+ 13
Epidemic Meningitis	78	+ 8
Typhus Fever	0	no change
Smallpox	0	no change
Scarlet Fever	41	+ 3
Malaria	159	- 89
Japanese B-encephalitis	1,437	- 7

Disease (Cont'd)	No. of cases for Wk Ending 21 Aug.	Changes from Wk Ending 14 Aug.
Measles	496	- 232
Whooping Cough	1,551	- 368
Pneumonia	594	- 43
Tuberculosis	7,746	- 414
Influenza	11	- 10
Chancroid	499	+ 42
Gonorrhea	3,233	+ 47
Syphilis	3,245	- 92

As of 4 September, 5,684 suspected cases of Japanese B-encephalitis have been reported throughout Japan.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry reported 1,909 positive cases of equine encephalomyelitis, 214 suspects, 530 deaths and 56 sacrifices as of 1 September.

F. Communications and Transportation

On 2 September, the Japanese Government was directed to return to private shipowners the responsibility for manning, supplying, maintaining and repairing their vessels. However the vessels will remain on a time charter basis to the Japanese Civilian Merchant Marine Committee, and vessel utilization, including assignment and issuance of sailing orders, will remain under control of the occupation forces.

III. CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL REFORM and

IV. STRENGTHENING OF DEMOCRATIC TENDENCIES

A. Politics and Government

The Democratic Liberal Party, on 7 September, rejected a request by Chief Cabinet Secretary Gizo Tomabechi that the party cooperate in seeking postponement of the special Diet session beyond 1 October. The party secretary general at the same time issued a statement demanding early convocation of the special session and accused the government of clinging to political power by seeking postponement.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Gizo Tomabechi told the press on 4 September, after a conference with Chairman Tetsu Katayama of the Social Democratic Party and Chairman Takeo Miki of the Peoples Cooperative Party, that a policy conference of top leaders of the three

Merchant Marine Committee, and vessel utilization, including assignment and issuance of sailing orders, will remain under control of the occupation forces.

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Chief Cabinet Secretary Gizo Tomabechi told the press on 4 September, after a conference with Chairman Tetsu Katayama of the Social Democratic Party and Chairman Takeo Miki of the Peoples Cooperative Party, that a policy conference of top leaders of the three government parties would be held on 14 September. Tomabechi also said he had explained to Secretary-General Takeshi Yamazaki of the opposition Democratic Liberal Party the circumstances which necessitated postponing the special Diet session until October.

A draft bill of revisions to the National Public Service Law was approved on 5 September by the 5-Minister Committee appointed to study the measure and was sent to the Temporary National Personnel Authority for further study.

On 6 September, representatives of 13 trade unions filed a complaint with the Procurator General against Prime Minister Hitoshi Ashida and all members of his cabinet, charging abuse of authority in connection with the enactment of ordinance number 201 which prohibits strikes and collective bargaining by government employees. They charged that the ordinance is contrary to article 193 of the criminal code and articles 27 and 28 of the Constitution.

Procurator General Seita Fukui and the Attorney General's Office decided on 3 September to demand a retrial of former Deputy Prime Minister Suehiro Nishio who was acquitted by the Tokyo District Court on 27 August of perjury charges and violation of a government ordinance concerning political party funds.

Vice President Jiichiro Matsumoto of the House of Councillors was questioned on 4 September at the Attorney General's office in connection with his public office qualifications. It is alleged that Matsumoto held an executive post in the Daiwa National Service Movement Headquarters, an organization affiliated with the Japan-Asia Development League which was ordered disbanded in July. All chief officers of such organizations are automatically subject to the purge.

The Illegal Transactions Investigation Committee of The House of Representatives has begun investigating alleged bribery of Diet members by coal mine operators during the Diet's deliberation last December on the Emergency State Coal Control Bill. Testifying before the Committee on 3 September, Reizo Takeuchi, President of the North Kyushu Mining Company, said that approximately 3,250 yen was collected from Kyushu coal mine operators to oppose passage of the Coal Control Bill and between 6,000,000 yen and 7,000,000 yen was collected from other sources.

The Government announced on 7 September that an ordinance will be promulgated soon providing for a screening board to examine qualifications of procuratorial personnel at three year intervals, as required by the Public Procurators Office Law. The board, functioning under the jurisdiction of the cabinet, will consist of 5 representatives, 2 councillors, the Procurator General, 1 Supreme Court Judge and 1 representative each from the Bar Association and the Japan Academy.

B. Labor

On 30 June trade unions numbered 33,940 with a membership of 6,636,710. During June 1,483 new unions were formed and 237 dissolved.

The Japanese Government was directed on 24 August to put adequate mine safety codes into effect immediately and designate a Government agency to administer them.

C. Education

The 15th SCAP Civil Information Center for Japanese was opened at Hakodate on 4 September.

D. Report on Overseas Travel of Japanese Authorized by SCAP.

Name

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Name			
Yukimasa (Robert) Nishiyama	United States	To pursue college Course	4 yrs, commencing September 1948
Taiichiro Fujii	" "	To pursue religious education	1 yr. commencing Oct 48
Rev. Yoshimitsu Endo	" "	To pursue religious education	1 yr.commencing Oct. 48
(Miss) Yoshiko Kinugi	" "	To study education	1 yr. commencing Sep.48
Toshikatsu Kuroki	" "	To study public welfare	6 mos. commencing Sep.48
Fujio Tashiro	" "	To study public welfare	6 mos. commencing Sep. 48

MI-001/143 - END

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22 September 1948

FAR EASTERN COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM FOR INFORMATION NO. 001/144

ONE-HUNDRED FORTY-FOURTH WEEKLY REPORT ON JAPAN FROM THE CIVIL AFFAIRS DIVISION OF UNITED STATES ARMY DEPARTMENT

Note by the Secretary General

The enclosure is the one-hundred forty-fourth weekly report on Japan to the Far Eastern Commission from the Civil Affairs Division of the United States Army Department, covering the period to 17 September 1948. These summaries are based on the daily operational reports from Supreme Headquarters in Tokyo.

NELSON T. JOHNSON
Secretary General

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ENCLOSURE

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17 September 1948

JAPAN

I. REPARATIONS and

II. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

A. Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry reported that as of 31 August, 838,000 metric tons of wheat and barleys 1/ and 606,000 metric tons of potatoes, both 1948 summer crops, had been collected.

The following intercoastal whaling catch was reported for the weeks ending 14 and 21 August, respectively:

Type	Amount	
	Wk Ending 14 Aug.	Wk Ending 21 Aug.
Fin	10 units	57 units
Sei	9	21
Sperm	28	7
By products	898 metric tons	548 metric tons

B. Industry

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry stated that 697,500 metric tons of coal (final figure) were produced during the 7.3 working days of the period 11-20 August and that 1,016,100 metric tons (preliminary figure) were produced during the 9.4 working days of the period 21-31 August.

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Pyrite data for the periods 21-31 July and 1-10 and 11-20 August, respectively were given as follows:

Item	Amount (in metric tons) Period 21-31 Jul.	Period 1-10 Aug.	Period 11-20 Aug.
Production	40,347	33,306	28,731
Shipments	37,311	31,744	30,734
Stocks	128,154	131,371	128,040

C. Finance

The SCAP Deconcentration Review Board met on 11 September for the first time with the Japanese Holding Company Liquidation Commission to discuss problems concerning implementation of Public Law Number 207. Principles of deconcentration and the basic elements of antimonopoly legislation, as internationally recognized, were discussed. It was emphasized that no change has been made in the basic policy of deconcentration in Japan.

1/ In brown rice equivalents

D. Foreign Trade

SCAP's Economic and Scientific Section has opened a branch office in Osaka to accommodate traders in the Kansai area. A SCAP announcement said that the purpose of this action was to facilitate activities of traders outside Tokyo, in keeping with the liberalized trade program, which now includes direct buyer-supplier contracts and simplified export procedure. (A summary of changes in export procedure, effective 15 August, was given in the corresponding section of the 141st weekly report, dated 27 August 1948.)

The Board of Trade announced that effective 7 September, export prices on cotton, rayon and woolen piece goods and yarn will be negotiated directly by Japanese sellers and foreign buyers. Official control will be limited to maintaining prices which will not be unfavorable to major competing countries.

Due to increased imports of raw materials, approximately 95,000 tons of steel have been made available for manufacture of export goods from October through December.

E. Public Health and Welfare

(Note: The following substitution based upon later information received from GHQ SCAP should be made for the first sentence of the corresponding section of the 141st weekly report: LARA Shipments 87 through 91 received during 9-24 August consisted of 67 tons of food, clothing and miscellaneous items, and 208 tons of raw cotton).

A one-week refresher course in hospital administration, the first of its kind held in Japan, opened at the First National Hospital in Tokyo on 13 September. Directors from 35 national hospitals and sanitariums throughout the nation are enrolled.

Production of DDT dusting and spraying equipment during the weeks ending 28 August and 4 September was reported as follows:

Item	Amount (in units) Wk Ending 28 Aug.	Wk Ending 4 Sep.
DDT dusters	1,400	1,400

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Item	Amount (in units) Wk Ending 28 Aug.	Wk Ending 4 Sep.
DDT dusters	1,400	1,400
Sprayer, knapsack type, 3-gal cap.	2,360	2,360
Sprayer, pump type, semi-automatic	540	935
Sprayer, hand type, ½-gal cap.	1,550	1,400
Engine sprayers	0	0

The following stocks of DDT and typhus vaccine were reported for the weeks ending 28 August and 4 September:

1. Week Ending 28 August

Item	Amount In Wholesale Houses	In Factories
10% DDT dust	834,264 pounds	401,900 pounds
5% residual effect spray	255,298 gal.	99,980 gal.
Typhus vaccine	45,710 vials	0

2. Week Ending 4 September

10% DDT dust	824,986 pounds	45,400 pounds
5% residual effect spray	190,173 gal.	72,080 gal.
Typhus vaccine	53,046 vials	0

The following incidence of communicable disease was reported for the week ending 28 August:

Disease	No. of cases for Wk Ending 28 Aug.	Changes from Wk Ending 21 Aug
Diphtheria	153	↗ 5
Typhoid	310	↗ 21
Dysentery	894	- 121
Paratyphoid	118	↗ 27
Epidemic Meningitis	71	- 7
Typhus Fever	2	↗ 2
Smallpox	0	no change
Scarlet Fever	36	- 5
Malaria	138	- 21
Japanese B-encephalitis	1,507	↗ 70
Measles	384	- 112
Whooping	1,467	- 84
Pneumonia	589	- 5
Tuberculosis	7,818	↗ 72
Influenza	26	↗ 15
Chancroid	532	↗ 33
Gonorrhea	3,494	↗ 261
Syphilis	3,270	↗ 25

III. CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL REFORM and

IV. STRENGTHENING OF DEMOCRATIC TENDENCIES

A. Politics and Government

Heads of the three government parties agreed at a meeting on 14 September to make preparations to open the special Diet session on 1 October and limit its length to 30 days. However, Chairman Takeo Miki of the Peoples Cooperatives Party told the press after the meeting that the conferees believed that convocation on 1 October would be difficult because of lack of time to complete drafting of bills to be presented. It was also understood that the Democratic Party would insist on a delay to 10 October to allow sufficient time for revision of the National Public Service Law. Cabinet officials had announced on 13 September that all major bills scheduled for presentation

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Social Democrats, interpreting results of a 10 September party conference, said leaders are now trying to retreat from Chairman Tetsu Katayama's demand for early Diet dissolution. While the group agreed to "approve in principle" of Katayama's stand, they also agreed to concentrate on anti-inflation and other policies advocated by the party.

The "approval in principle" of Katayama's demand came after Political Affairs Research Committee Chairman Mosaburo Suzuki and other left-wing leaders agreed to withdraw their original demand for withdrawal of Social Democratic members of the cabinet as a preliminary to a demand for Diet dissolution. Both right-wing and left-wing leaders agreed to withhold final decision until they know how far Prime Minister Hitoshi Ashida is prepared to go in accepting Social Democratic policies.

The Osaka District Procurators Office on 9 September arrested former Lieutenant General Kihachiro Soma, wartime Commandant of the Osaka Army Arsenal, on charges of being implicated in the illegal disposal, shortly after the surrender, of leather and other goods valued at 150,000,000 yen.

Tadeo Fukuda, Chief of the Accounts Bureau of the Ministry of Finance, was arrested on 14 September on charges of bribery. It was charged that Fukuda, as a member of the Fund Recommendation Committee of the Reconstruction Finance Bank, accepted a bribe for his recommendation that a loan be made to the Showa Electric Industry Company.

The right of the prosecution, under Japanese law, to appeal a decision to a higher court resulted in the scheduling of a retrial of former Deputy Prime Minister Suehiro Nishio who was acquitted on 27 August on charges of perjury and violation of the government ordinance regulating party funds. The retrial is scheduled to begin 22 September at the Tokyo District Higher Court.

During the past six weeks three persons have been fined and given jail sentences ranging from 2 months to 1 year for income-tax evasion. These are the first jail sentences for such offenses in Japan's history.

B. Labor

The Central Struggle Committee of the Government Railway Workers Union, on 8 September, directed all chapters throughout Japan to make every effort to prevent work stoppages by union members in defiance of Government Ordinance Number 201 banning strikes and collective bargaining by Government workers.

Minister of Labor Kanju Kato, who had been trying to persuade the Railway Union to consent to mediation by the Central Labor Relations Board, abandoned the plan on 8 September, when union representatives refused to accept mediation. A spokesman for the union maintained that settlement of the dispute should be sought through "responsible" collective bargaining with participation by some Government representative, preferably Minister of Commerce and Industry Chozaburo Mizutani.

On 11 September, Chief Cabinet Secretary Gizo Tomabechi said that the strike activities of electric industry workers are contrary to public welfare and as such "fall under the statement issued by the Supreme Commander during the threatened general strike on 1 February 1947." He declared further that "if labor strikes continue in the electric or coal industries, both of vital importance to the nation's economy and to the welfare of the people, it may be necessary to adopt a law similar to the National Public Service Law to restrict their

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D. Report on Overseas Travel of Japanese Authorized by SCAP.

Name	Destination	Purpose	Period
Tsugumitsu Tango	United States	For educational purposes	5 yrs, commencing Sep 48
Minoru Saku	" "	"	4 yrs, commencing Sep 48
Nagahide Kuroda	" "	"	2 yrs, commencing Sep 48
Masaaki Hotta	" "	"	1 yr, commencing Sep 48
Rev. Tai Akagi	" "	"	2 yrs, commencing Sep 48
Hisako Ito	" "	"	2 yrs, commencing Sep 48
Shinya Inoue	" "	"	4 yrs, commencing Sep 48

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