

RI-118-PP-E-6

5 April 1946

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KOBUNSHA	168 Sumiyoshicho Sumiyoshiku Osakashi	Matsujiro Yukawa	B
KOGAKU SHUPPAN SHA	54-3 chome Kitahama Higashiku Osakashi	Kiyoji Tatsumi	B
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KOKUMIN ANZEN KYOKAI	14-1 chome Kamihonmachi Higashiku Osakashi	Kyugo Uno	M
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NIPPON BIJITSU KOGEI SHA	41 Tunodacho Kitaku Osakashi	Kinzaburo Yamauchi	M
NIPPON JYOSANPUGAKU SASSHISHA	18-3 chome Imabashi Higashiku Osakashi	Yusho Ogata	M
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OSAKA KYOIKU TOSHO KABUSHIKI KAISHA	60-3 chome Andojibashidori Minamiku Od Osakashi	Minoru Yokoyama	M
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OSAKA SHINFUN SHA	48-4 chome Sonezaki Ue Kitaku Osakashi	Kyukichi Maeda	M
OSAKA SHOKA DAI GAKU KEIZAI KENKYU SHO	Yamancuchi cho Sumiyoshi- ku Osakashi	Eijiro Honjo	M
RENGO TSUSHIN SHA	1 Munekoracho Kitaku Osakashi	Hisakichi Okuni	B
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<u>OTSUSHI</u>			
TOA TENMON GAKU KAI	13 Tamaya-cho Otsushi	Isei Yamamoto	M
<u>SAGA-SHI</u>			
SAGA KYO YU SHA	23 Shiraya-cho Saga-shi	Yonekuri Kai	M
<u>SAITAMA-KEN</u>			
AJIA SHA	401 Mineya Urawa -shi Saitama-ken	Ichiro Watanabe	M&B

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OHYU SHA	28 Yazuka-cho Kita Ada- chi-gun Saitama-ken	Katsujiro Yoshida	B
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<u>SENDAI-SHI</u>			
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TOHOKU SUPPAN KYOKAI	27-1 chome Kita Goban-cho Sendai-shi	Iwao Kobayashi	M&B
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MINSHU SENSEN SHA	1-464 chome Asahimechi Matsueshi Shimane-ken	Ichiro Kato	M

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DAI NIPPON HOTO- KUSHA	937 Kakegawacho Ogasa-gun Sizuoka-shi	Yahachi Kawanaka	M
<u>TOCHIGI-KEN</u>			
MATSUMOTO KOSEI DO	925 Teramuki Shikamuna-cho Tochigi-ken	Keitaro Matsunoto	B
<u>TOYAMA-SHI</u>			
FUJIKOSI KOZAI KOGIYO KABUSHIKI GAISHA	20 Ishigane Toyamashi	Araki Imura	M
HOKURIKU HAI DEN KABUSHIKI GAISHA	1 Sakurabashi-dori Toyama	Shiyosaku Yamada	M
KOSIJIN SHA	1 Sakurabashi Toyamashi	Kuin Okina	M
<u>TOYOHA-SHI</u>			
SEIBUN KAN SHOTEN	1-332 chome Matsuba-cho Toyohashi	Tamesaku Kiwada	
TAKASU SHOBO	21 Gofukumachi Toyohashi	Koji Takasu	B
<u>TSURUOKA-SHI</u>			
SYONAI SYOHAKUKAN	1-6 chome Yanaka shin- nachi Turuoka-shi	Cyutai Sakai	B&M
<u>WAKAYAMA-KEN</u>			
Hamayusha	1 Wakaura Takamatsu Wakayama-shi	Tomizo Iwane	M
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<u>YAMANASHI-KEN</u>			
CHUBUNUNGAKU SHA	4 Ichika wa daimoncho Nishi Yashiro-gun Yama- shi-ken	Kazushi Yamanuchi	M

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TENKOKYO	1248 Ta Fusemachi Yama- guchi-ken	Yoshiyuki Hanaoka	M



UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER  
FOR JAPAN

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No. 1463

Tokyo, December 19, 1947.

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The Acting Political Adviser has the honor to enclose five copies of a survey of Japanese news agencies dated November 28, 1947, prepared by the Civil Information and Education Section of this Headquarters.

The survey contains an outline of the development of news services in Japan, as well as a brief description of each of the more important Japanese news agencies. Among the latter are news agencies of a special character, such as those furnishing labor or business news. There is also contained in the survey a list of the names and addresses of all Japanese news agencies known to have been operating on March 1, 1947.

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"A Survey of Japanese News Agencies", November 28, 1947, (five copies).

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December 19, 1947 from the Office of the  
United States Political Advisor for  
Japan Tokyo entitled "Survey of  
Japanese News Agencies".*

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
Civil Information and Education Section  
Analysis and Research Division

A SURVEY OF  
JAPANESE NEWS AGENCIES

Special Report Prepared By  
Information Media Research

AR-295-IM-99-PP-A-22

28 November 1947



## FORWORD

News agencies play a prominent role in the dissemination of information in Japan. In addition to the two large national agencies, Kyodo and Jiji, which resemble the Associated Press and the United Press in the United States in many respects, there exist in Japan a great multitude of smaller agencies, some of which cannot be considered as news agencies in the American sense. Yet these smaller agencies appear to perform an important role in providing a specialized informational service to limited groups of subscribers, or in providing background or interpretative material which is not normally published in the reduced-size Japanese newspapers.

Although a number of reports on individual agencies have been prepared by the Information Media Research Unit, Civilian Information and Education Section, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, since November 1945, some of which have been published in mimeographed form, this is the first comprehensive report that has been prepared in the field of news agencies in Japan.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
 SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
 Civil Information and Education Section  
 Analysis and Research Division

SPECIAL REPORT

SERIAL NUMBER AR-295-IM-99-PP-A-22 28 November 1947  
 SUBJECT A Survey of Japanese News Agencies  
 PREPARED BY Information Media Research March 1947

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## Chapter 1

## PRE DOMEI

Before there can be news agencies, there must be newspapers. In America, the modern daily newspaper has a history of more than 150 years<sup>1</sup> and the news agency of over 100 years.<sup>2</sup> Japan, in its pre-Admiral Perry isolationism, was not exposed to the modern development of free and widespread news dissemination.<sup>3</sup> Its feudal rulers apparently neither could conceive nor imagine the necessity for informing the masses during the centuries in which Japan pursued its lonely course.

However, in 1864, not long after Perry opened the closed door of Japan, during the period immediately preceding the Meiji Restoration (1868), the first newspaper, Shimbunshi, appeared.<sup>4</sup> A quarter of a century later, news agencies appeared to gather and distribute news.<sup>5</sup> Thus, the history of modern journalism is only 83 years old in Japan, and news agencies only 58 years old.

In those early days, development of both newspapers and news agencies foreshadowed Domei and the recent wartime and prewar Japanese press. They served as mouthpieces of political factions rather than presenting factual and objective news.<sup>6</sup> News agencies were more advertising than

- 
1. "The Pennsylvania Packet and General Advertiser," started in September 1784. The Encyclopedia Britannica, Fourteenth Edition (1929), vol. 16, p. 355.
  2. "The Association of Morning Newspapers" (New York City), started in 1829, ibid., p. 328.
  3. HANAZONO, Kanesada, The Development of Japanese Journalism, "Introduction" by Sherard Vines, p. vii.
  4. Ibid., chapter II, p. 6.
  5. ITO, Masanori, Shimbun Gojunen Shi (History of 50 Years of the Press), chapter XV (translated by Information Media Research, CIE, SCAP), p. I.
  6. HANAZONO, Kanesada, The Development of Japanese Journalism, ch. XXV, p. 79.

"news" agencies; their news covering was largely collecting and distributing metropolitan news for provincial newspapers.<sup>7</sup>

Towards the end of the Meiji Era (1868-1911) and during the period of Japan's successful wars against China and Russia, there emerged two rival<sup>8</sup> domestic agencies, Teikoku (The Teikoku Tsushin Sha) and Dentsu (The Nippon Dempo Tsushin Sha). Both had head offices in Tokyo, and branches throughout the nation. Their interests did not extend beyond the frontiers of Japan, which still lacked free access to world news channels.

Dentsu, inaugurated in 1901, was the more important. It made mild overtures toward foreign coverage when it sent a correspondent to the Paris Peace Conference and later to the Washington Conference (1921).

Politically, Dentsu inclined towards the conservative Seiyukai (Political Friendship Party), Teikoku towards the liberal Kenseikai (Constitutional Government Party).<sup>9</sup>

Lack of a Japanese-controlled means to convey Japan's news to the rest of the world and to accumulate international news caused growing concern among Japanese newspapermen.<sup>10</sup> In the first decade of the present century, the international news field was divided by contractual arrangements among Reuters of Great Britain, Havas of France, Wolf of Germany, Stefani of Italy, Uestnik of Russia, and Associated Press of America, etc.<sup>11</sup> The pivotal position was occupied by Reuters, largely because most of the world's cables were under British control, and transmission of news depended upon cables. Japan, in the globe's far eastern corner, was entirely dependent for world news upon Reuters' omnibus service to the Far East, which was dropped all along the way from London at Athens, Singapore, Hong Kong, and

7. FURUNO, Inosuke, History of the News Agencies in Japan (Manuscript), ch. I, p. 2. (Mr. FURUNO was released in September 1946 from Sugano Prison, where he had been held on suspicion of being a war criminal. Ed. Note).

8. Ibid., p. 2.

9. HANAZONO, Kanesada, op. cit., ch. XXV, p. 79.

10. Ibid.

11. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., ch. II, p. 3.

Shanghai, and thence was partially relayed to Tokyo.<sup>12</sup>

Japan's increased stature in the world, due in part to its successful wars with Russia and China, as well as its increasing intercourse with the rest of the world, encouraged newsmen in Japan to think of forming an international press service.<sup>13</sup>

Anti-Japanese agitation on the west coast of America in the early years of the Taisho era (1912-1925) prompted a group of public-spirited business men, headed by Viscount Yeichi SHIBUSAWA, to establish Kokusai (The Kokusai Tsushin Sha) in February 1914.<sup>14</sup> Their purpose was, among other things, to bring about better understanding between the United States and Japan through exchange of news.<sup>15</sup> Kokusai acquired contracts with Reuters and the Associated Press.<sup>16</sup> J. R. Kennedy, who for many years had been Tokyo correspondent for the AP, was made general manager, with virtually dictatorial powers.<sup>17</sup>

The establishing of Kokusai the very year World War I broke out was timely. It meant that Japan could have its own coverage of the historic conflict. Kokusai's original purpose of fostering American-Japanese understanding became secondary in the light of the greater and more dramatic events then taking place.<sup>18</sup> Prompted by urgent requirements for war news, Kokusai opened up new routes of news service direct to Tokyo from New York, London, Paris, Petrograd, Rome, and other important world centers, thus bringing Japan into closer and direct contact with the world's leading powers.<sup>19</sup>

World War I, therefore, marked a new epoch in the history of Japanese news agencies by bringing about important changes in both their domestic and international

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12. Ibid.
  13. ITO, Masanori, op. cit., ch. XV, p. 1.
  14. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., ch. II, p. 3.
  15. Ibid.
  16. HANAZONO, Kanesada, op. cit., ch. XXV, p. 81.
  17. ITO, Masanori, op. cit., ch. XV, p. 1.
  18. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., ch. II, p. 3.
  19. Ibid., p. 4.

development.<sup>20</sup> In the domestic field, the two competing news and advertising agencies, Teikoku and Dentsu, were obliged to handle not only domestic but also foreign news in order to meet the demands of their provincial clients. Teikoku made arrangements with Reuters and the AP, through Kokusai; Dentsu made similar arrangements with the UP of America.<sup>21</sup> In the international news field, Kokusai, under Kennedy's management, was dominant.<sup>22</sup>

Another development was the establishment of Toho (The Toho Tsushin Sha), organized in 1917 by Japanese residents in China with the financial support of the Japanese Foreign Office.<sup>23</sup> It began operating in 1920. The original object of Toho was to bring Japanese news into China to compete with Reuters of Great Britain, Havas of France, Transocean of Germany, Rosta and later TASS of Russia, and the UP and INS of America.<sup>24</sup> A few years later, Toho moved from Shanghai to Tokyo and began to supply Chinese news to the Japanese press in competition with Kokusai and Dentsu.<sup>25</sup> It soon extended its service to handling news from Russia, for which it gained an excellent reputation.<sup>26</sup>

At the close of World War I, Kokusai began to lead a stormy, troubled existence. It suffered from the worldwide depression of 1920-21.<sup>27</sup> Kennedy's virtually dictatorial powers brought him into conflict with President Aisuke KABAYAMA of the board of directors.<sup>28</sup> Hostile criticism arose that Kokusai was unable to get foreign papers to carry its news, and that it was no more than a mere agent of Reuters.<sup>29</sup> The earthquake of 1923 also dealt a severe blow which necessitated reorganization. Kennedy was forced to retire in 1924, and was succeeded by Yukichi IWANAGA, a member of the board of directors.<sup>30</sup> The new

20. Ibid., ch. III, p. 5.

21. Ibid.

22. Ibid.

23. HANAZONO, Kanesada, op. cit., ch. XXV, p. 81.

24. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., ch. III, p. 5.

25. Ibid.

26. HANAZONO, Kanesada, op. cit., p. 81.

27. ITO, Masanori, op. cit., ch. XV, p. 1.

28. Ibid.

29. Ibid., p. 2.

30. Ibid.

director, availing himself of the expiration of the Reuters' contract in January 1924, gained a modification of terms in the new contract whereby Kokusai gathered foreign information on its own responsibility through every possible channel and exercised greater choice in the selection of Reuters' dispatches, which were sent out under the name of Kokusai instead of Reuters, as previously.<sup>31</sup> A branch of Kokusai was founded in London under the direction of Inosuke FURUNO, who later was to become president of Domei.

IWANAGA also engaged in an exhaustive study of the organization and workings of representative national news agencies throughout the world. As the result of the investigation, coupled with a careful survey of the country's own newspapers, IWANAGA and his associates concluded that what Japan needed was a national press association.<sup>32</sup> Accordingly, they set their sights on this as a goal, with the American AP as their model.<sup>33</sup>

IWANAGA contacted the following important newspapermen: Hiroshi SHIMOMURA (Asahi), Toshita TAKAGI (Mainichi), Kyujiro YANADA (Chugai Shogyo), Masataka OHTA (Hochi), Shinjiro YAMANE (Kokumin) and Shotoku ITO (Jiji), and in May 1926 he formed Rengo (Nippon Shimbun Rengo Sha, afterwards renamed Shimbun Rengo Sha).<sup>34</sup> Its principal original members were eight powerful Osaka and Tokyo newspapers, Hochi, Tokyo Nichinichi, Tokyo Asahi, Chugai Shogyo, Kokumin, Jiji, Osaka Asahi, and Osaka Mainichi.<sup>35</sup> Rengo took over from Kokusai its international and economic news services and from Toho its China news service. IWANAGA was elected managing director by the new board of directors.

Backed financially by the powerful Tokyo and Osaka press, Rengo was off to a propitious start. In 1927 it undertook the distribution of home news.<sup>36</sup> As a result, it signed contracts with 26 local newspapers and went

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31. HANAZONO, Kanesada, op. cit., p. 81.
  32. ITO, Masanori, op. cit., p. 2.
  33. Ibid., p. 3.
  34. Ibid.
  35. Ibid.
  36. Ibid.



## A SURVEY OF JAPANESE NEWS AGENCIES

into direct competition with the domestic agencies.<sup>37</sup>

In 1933, the long-felt ambition of Japanese newsmen to achieve equal rights of correspondence with other top-ranking news agencies throughout the world was realized. Kent Cooper, general manager of the AP, visited Japan in that year, and he and Inosuke FURUNO negotiated a mutually agreeable contract.<sup>38</sup> Their agreements were confirmed later when IWANAGA, after attending the Pan-Pacific Conference (1933) in Canada, visited Cooper in New York. Soon after, IWANAGA went to London and negotiated a favorable contract with Reuters.<sup>39</sup>

While Rengo thus was establishing its place, Dentsu, under the able management of H. MITSUNAGA, was so successful in driving poorly managed Teikoku<sup>40</sup> out of the field that Dentsu's rivalry shifted from Teikoku to Rengo, and a bitter struggle ensued.<sup>41</sup> Rengo helped the provincial papers, theretofore clients of Teikoku, to organize a press league to exchange news with Rengo and also to establish a subsidiary advertising agency.<sup>42</sup>

In the domestic field, rivalry between Rengo and Dentsu was a fight between a press association and a joint stock company. In the international field, it was a battle between the AP and the UP. In the Japanese Government alignment, it was a confrontation between the Foreign Office, which was behind Rengo, and the War Office, whose spokesman Dentsu appeared to be.<sup>43</sup>

Worthy of mention at this point are the various small specializing news agencies which flourished during the pre-World War II period without entering into the major rivalry between the two big agencies. They specialized in news of the Imperial Court, the theater, police activities, the arts, religion, business, and such.<sup>44</sup>

37. Ibid.

38. Ibid.

39. Ibid., p. 4.

40. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., p. 7.

41. Ibid.

42. Ibid.

43. Ibid., p. 8.

44. HANAZONO, Kanesada, op. cit., p. 82.

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In its contract with Rengo, the AP gave easy, generous terms in order to encourage its development as a cooperative news agency. Despite this, Rengo was unable to meet expenses.<sup>45</sup> Dentsu, likewise, was financially unsuccessful despite its arrangements with the UP.<sup>46</sup> Dentsu was headed by Seziko UEDA and Rengo by Inosuke FURUNO.

Rivalry between the two firms was short-lived. Japanese expansionism needed one single powerful news agency, and after the Manchurian Incident, the Japanese War and Navy Ministries and the Foreign Office decided in favor of such an agency.<sup>47</sup> Anxious to establish control over the press, the Government accepted a plan of Mr. FURUNO's to form a single Government-controlled agency, using the existing machinery of FURUNO's Rengo.<sup>48</sup>

In 1935 Foreign Minister HIROTA publicly declared his intention to support one powerful central organ of news service.<sup>49</sup>

On 19 April 1935, the Ministers of Communications and the Foreign Office invited representatives of the most important newspapers and agencies and from Nippon Hoso Kyokai (Japanese Radio Broadcasting Corporation) to a roundtable conference to make preparations to organize a single large news agency. The conference was 9 May, at the official residence of the Foreign Minister, and those present approved the plan.<sup>50</sup>

Consequently on 7 November, the Communications Ministry authorized the founding of Domei (Domei Tsushin Sha). Controlling financial interest was held by the Government.<sup>51</sup> At a general meeting on 17 December, 55 press units were

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45. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service Report #1, unpublished report, RI-1-PP-A-1, 30 November 1945, Annex 1, p. 8.

46. Ibid.

47. ITO, Masanori, op. cit., p. 4

48. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service Report #1, unpublished report, RI-1-PP-A-1, 30 November 1945, Annex 10, p. 43.

49. ITO, Masanori, op. cit., p. 4.

50. Ibid.

51. See footnote 48.

represented.<sup>52</sup>

Thus faced with a greatly strengthened competitor, Dentsu merged its domestic and overseas news branches with Domei on 31 May 1936,<sup>53</sup> and later its advertising department with Rengo's to form the new Nippon Dempo Advertising Agency. Mr. UEDA remained in charge of this company and Mr. FURUNO secured 50 percent of its stock.<sup>54</sup>

Thus was forged Japan's principal propaganda weapon for national expansion.

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52. ITO, Masanori, op. cit., p. 4.  
53. Ibid.  
54. Ibid.

## Chapter 2

## DOMEI

Incorporated in 1935 under the Public Service Association Articles of the Civil Law, Domei (The Domei Tsushin Sha) for 10 years was the dominating colossus of the news agency field, the force which welded together the press of a totalitarian Japan during what were probably the 10 most eventful years in Japanese history.

The establishment of Domei solved several problems, if problems they were. It ended the cut-throat rivalry between Rengo and Dentsu. It also ended the ruthless competition between metropolitan and provincial papers and the long controversy which had developed between the newspapers and the Japan Broadcasting Corporation over news broadcasting.<sup>1</sup>

Domei became the all-powerful means by which news was dispensed. On 1 July 1941 Domei had 141 member papers, including practically every daily newspaper in Japan.<sup>2</sup> Also a member was the Japan Broadcasting Corporation.<sup>3</sup>

Domei's objective was the collection and distribution of news, both foreign and domestic.<sup>4</sup> It exchanged news with all the provincial papers throughout the country as well as with all representative national press agencies of the leading powers, including the AP, the UP, Reuters, Havas, TASS, and DNB.<sup>5</sup> Maintaining the principle of free competition in collection of news, Domei competed freely with the leading Osaka and Tokyo papers in both domestic and foreign fields. In the distribution of news its facilities were open to all daily papers

1. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., ch. V, p. 9.

2. See footnote 48 on page 7.

3. FURUNO, Inosuke, The Domei Tsushin Sha (manuscript), p. 2.

4. See footnote 48 on page 7.

5. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., p. 10.

throughout Japan, including those big metropolitan dailies with which it competed in gathering information.<sup>6</sup> It became the greatest clearing house for news in the Far East.<sup>7</sup>

During the early stages of the China Incident (1937-39) and the pre-Pearl Harbor phase of the European War (1939-41), Domei, probably due to its Government control and sponsorship, fared fairly well at a time when various provincial papers were getting into serious trouble with the authorities, editors were being arrested by the police, and correspondents banished from the front.<sup>8</sup> The attempt of some young officers to set up a wholesale censorship over Domei proved futile.<sup>9</sup>

On the whole, Domei progressed satisfactorily and according to plans until the outbreak of the European War in 1939, on the eve of which its first president, Y. IWANAGA, died. The board of directors elected Inosuke FURUNO, one of the executive directors, to take charge.<sup>10</sup>

It was under FURUNO's leadership that Domei faced the stormy days of first, the European War, then the Pacific War, and finally the defeat and Occupation of Japan by the victorious Allied Powers.<sup>11</sup>

When Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor finally precipitated the Pacific War phase of World War II on 8 December 1941 (Japanese time), the whole nation and with it the entire press of the country were plunged into a vortex within a few days.<sup>12</sup> Rigorous censorship was put into effect over all incoming and outgoing news both at home and at the front.<sup>13</sup> During the earlier and successful stages of the conflict, there was a moderate amount of interference. However, as the situation retrogressed, censorship became crippling. During the war, Domei occupied the position for

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6. Ibid.
  7. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service Report #1, unpublished, RI-1-PP-A-1, 30 November 1945, Annex 10, p. 44.
  8. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., p. 11.
  9. Ibid.
  10. Ibid., p. 10.
  11. Ibid.
  12. Ibid., ch. VI, p. 11.
  13. Ibid.

## DOMEI

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which the Government had prepared it. At home, it was the only common organ for gathering and distributing news to the daily papers throughout the country. Abroad, it was the prime channel for hearing what was happening in the outside world and for telling the outside world what was occurring in Japan.<sup>14</sup>

Domei kept well-staffed overseas offices in the capitals of all Axis and neutral nations. Its foreign correspondents were instructed to work in close cooperation with the Japanese diplomatic staff.<sup>15</sup> Important copy sent back to Japan was transmitted via diplomatic channels and not through commercial wireless.<sup>16</sup> Other foreign news sources during the war were Nazi Germany's DNB and Fascist Italy's Stefani. Domei's short wave monitoring station also picked up dispatches from Reuters, the AP, and other Allied services for domestic propaganda purposes.<sup>17</sup>

On 20 October 1942, Domei was allotted control over the press of Malaya, Singapore, Sumatra, and North Borneo. This control included dictation of policy and receipt of profits.<sup>18</sup>

Thus it served an important and useful wartime function for the military Government. Since its establishment in 1935, it had had a virtual monopoly on foreign news. No newspaper was able to exist without its services. Threat of suspension from its facilities was a useful club to hold over the heads of independent-minded editors.

Although the Asahi and Mainichi might have obtained

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14. Ibid., p. 12.
  15. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service Report #1, unpublished, RI-1PP-A-1, 30 November 1945, Annex 10, p. 46.
  16. Ibid.
  17. Ibid. Other monitoring services of English language broadcasts were made by the Army, the Navy, and the Foreign Office. Information Media Research Special Reports on Radiopress (29 May 1946), and Nikkan Sekaitampa Jono (22 May 1946) contain additional information.
  18. See footnote 15 above.

adequate foreign coverage with their own staffs abroad, they needed Domei as a further protection against being scooped by Domei correspondents. Their participation in Domei was influenced further by the fact that a key man on each of these two largest Japanese papers, Shingoro TOKAISHI of the Mainichi and Taketoro OGATA of Asahi, had been instrumental in organizing Domei.<sup>19</sup>

Because it was a Government organ, Domei received political directives from the Board of Information, and through this board was directly responsible to the Prime Minister.<sup>20</sup> For distribution of news in China and in the southern Pacific areas during the war, the Domei board of directors provided special appropriations. Deficits from these special appropriations were covered by the Government. With the aggravation of inflation in these war areas, the deficits ranged from a few million yen a year to over ¥10 million.<sup>21</sup>

Domei's powers were therefore tremendous. Through Government direction, it not only decided what news member papers would print, but also supplied the exact text and specified the exact place in the papers where it would appear.<sup>22</sup> Like an octopus, it reached its long arms to the remotest corners of the far-flung, newly-won, and short-lived Japanese Empire. It had the organization, the administrative set-up, and the facilities to mold public opinion to the shape desired by Japan's military masters. Its charter provided for a purely cooperative organization with no stock capital, no profits, and no declared dividends.<sup>23</sup> Its main revenues were de-

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19. Statement of Masuo KATO, 28 August 1947. Mr. KATO further said that the Asahi and Mainichi maintained separate staffs from Domei for their bylines and features, as a matter of prestige.
  20. See footnote 15 page 11.
  21. Ibid.
  22. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #10, unpublished, p. 1., 11 December 1945.
  23. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #1, unpublished, RI-1-PP-A-1, 30 November 1945, Annex 10, p. 43.

rived from its members by assessments carefully prepared in proportion to each paper's circulation or to the number of subscribers to the Broadcasting Corporation.<sup>24</sup> Unlike its predecessors, it was self-supporting on the basis of these and additional revenues from its economic news, press photographs, and publishing services. Its annual revenues reached a total of ¥18 million.<sup>25</sup> Government subsidy accounted roughly for one-third of the annual income.<sup>26</sup>

A news volume equal to four full pages of the average newspaper was received and transmitted daily by Domei at each of its major offices. Inasmuch as the average newspaper, due to a paper shortage, printed only two pages during the war, this volume was three or four times greater than required.<sup>27</sup>

For Domei's home service, each member paper was responsible for news coverage in its immediate vicinity. For its foreign service, it had exchange contracts with the AP, Reuters, the Central News Agency of China, TASS, Havas, and others. Most of these contractual relations, however, were interrupted during the war.<sup>28</sup>

A board of directors, consisting of approximately 30 persons elected by the membership, governed Domei. Every three years, the board elected a president and an executive director to assist him. They had charge of the executive management of both news service and personnel.<sup>29</sup>

To carry out its program, Domei had a modern, efficiently developed network of leased telephone wire extending over 4,100 miles<sup>30</sup> from Nagasaki, Kyushu, in the

24. Ibid., p. 44.

25. Ibid. This figure was reached in 1942-1943, according to Masuo KATO, assistant manager of Kyodo Tsushin.

26. Statement by Masuo KATO to a representative of Information Media Research, 30 October 1946.

27. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service Report #1, unpublished, RI-1-PP-A-1, 30 November 1945.

28. Ibid.

29. Ibid.

30. FURUNO, Inosuke, The Domei Tsushin Sha, p. 3.



south to Sapporo, Hokkaido, in the north, and from Fukuoka, Kyushu, over Korea to Chungchun, Manchuria.<sup>31</sup> From various points along the trunk lines, news reports were sent to adjacent cities.<sup>32</sup> In addition to the leased telephone wires, Domei had its own leased wireless telegraph facilities to cover world news for every member paper.<sup>33</sup> At one time, Domei had 68 offices in Japan, 21 in China, 34 in the Pacific Islands and Asia south of China, 15 in Europe and America. During the war, this latter number was reduced to six in Europe and none in America.<sup>34</sup> Of its 5,000 employees, 1,500 were employed in the Tokyo home office, 1,500 in local offices throughout Japan, and 2,000 in overseas offices.<sup>35</sup> So strong were its dictatorial powers in Japan, that although it was purely a cooperative news agency, it actually appeared to own over 50 provincial newspapers.<sup>36</sup> And beyond the newspaper field, it had a direct voice in the management of the Broadcasting Corporation of Japan and the Japan Newsreel Corporation through its president, Mr. FURUNO, who was a director of both.<sup>37</sup>

The head office in Tokyo was divided into five bureaus, which in turn were subdivided into more than 30 sections. The five bureaus were Administration, Home News, Foreign News, Economic News, and Traffic. Each bureau was in charge of an executive director or manager, and each section, of a chief. In Tokyo and Osaka, Domei had new-gathering networks of its own, with an army of reporters detailed to more than 50 news sources in the metropolis and to more than 20 in Osaka.<sup>38</sup>

At its normal prewar peak, the volume of foreign news received by wireless and cable from abroad amounted to 100,000 words a day, in exchange for which Domei sent out

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31. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #1, unpublished, RI-1-PP-A-1, 30 November 1945, Annex 10, p. 45.
  32. Ibid.
  33. Ibid.
  34. Ibid.
  35. Ibid.
  36. Ibid., Annex 6, p. 21-22, Annex 10, p. 45.
  37. Ibid., Annex 10, p. 45.
  38. FURUNO, Inosuke, The Domei Tsushin Sha, p. 3.

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by wireless broadcast some 60,000 words daily in Japanese, Chinese, English, French, and Spanish.<sup>39</sup> During its 10 years of existence, its revenue and expenditure, based on the expense-sharing system, increased tenfold.<sup>40</sup>

Japan's surrender, however, forecast a gloomy future for Domei. The Allied Occupation force took over. On 14 September 1945 all news was subjected to 100 percent censorship. US Army representatives were stationed in Domei.<sup>41</sup> That same day all overseas broadcasts and then all domestic operations were suspended by order of General Douglas MacArthur.<sup>42</sup> Next day Domei was allowed to reopen, but purely as a thoroughly censored domestic agency. Communication with overseas correspondents was permitted, but use of news contained in incoming cables was limited to background purposes only.<sup>43</sup> Domei was allowed, however, to publish any material it picked up by monitoring Allied shortwave newscasts or which it received directly from Allied wire services.<sup>44</sup>

The establishment of US Army censorship over the output of Domei did not, at first, alter the character and handling of the news the agency tried to disseminate. A considerable amount of copy submitted to censorship was deleted or suppressed. Domei angled its news to stress the following propaganda lines: 1) Japan might have won the war but for the atomic bomb, a weapon too terrible to face, and one which only barbarians would use; 2) suicide is glorious and heroic; 3) American and Allied troops were committing atrocities; 4) Japan gained the right to negotiate with the Allies as an equal when it agreed to the Potsdam surrender terms; 5) Russia and other Allies were working against United States interests and vice versa; 6) crime was increasing since the arrival of Allied Occupation forces.<sup>45</sup>

39. Ibid., p. 4.

40. Ibid.

41. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #1, unpublished, RI-1-PP-A-1, 30 November 1945, Annex 10, p. 47.

42. Ibid.

43. Ibid.

44. Ibid.

45. Ibid., p. 48.

Publication of a Press Censorship Code for Japan on 21 September 1945, however, established a clear policy whereby each Domei editor knew exactly wherein his copy was a violation. This, coupled with a warning given to the editor-in-chief on 24 September, resulted in a complete reversal of Domei's policy of editorializing the news against the Occupation. After that, censorship became necessary only for minor violations.<sup>46</sup>

But Domei's days were numbered. In September FURUNO attempted to renew the Domei-AP contract. The AP checked with Occupation authorities and received the impression that SCAP looked upon Domei unfavorably.<sup>47</sup>

On 30 September, a meeting of the Domei board of directors was called and President FURUNO suggested the dissolution of the agency.<sup>48</sup> The board followed his suggestion and, on 12 October 1945 in a final vote by all member newspapers, Domei ceased to exist.<sup>49</sup>

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46. Ibid.

47. Ibid., Annex 1, p. 8.

48. Ibid., Annex 10, p. 48.

49. Ibid.

## Chapter 3

## SUCCESSORS TO DOMEI: KYODO AND JIJI

The date set for the dissolution of Domei was 31 October.<sup>1</sup> Cooperative news gathering, however, had proved a practical necessity to the easy, economical, and quick dispensation of news.<sup>2</sup> Unless the Japanese press was to be relegated back several decades in journalistic development, a new medium of news exchange had to be developed between 12 October and 31 October. So on 15 October 1945, the Domei board of directors met with representatives of Domei's associated newspapers to come to a decision about a successor to Domei.<sup>3</sup>

These newspapers, along with Radio Tokyo, organized themselves into a new agency, Kyodo (Kyodo Tsushin Sha).<sup>4</sup> Kyodo promptly announced its intention to step into the shoes of the outgoing Domei, and for a short while it appeared that, after dissolution of Domei, there would be only one news agency in Japan, and that one modeled exactly after Domei's pattern,<sup>5</sup> except that it was not to be subsidized by the Government.<sup>6</sup>

But some Domei staff members did not acquiesce in this plan.<sup>7</sup> They maintained that a news agency organized

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1. Information Media Research, Jiji Press, Ltd., Report #1, unpublished, RI-12-PP-A-9, 1 December 1945, Annex 9, p. 30.
  2. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #10, unpublished, 11 December 1945, p. 1.
  3. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #1, unpublished, RI-1-PP-A-1, 30 November 1945, Annex 10, p. 48.
  4. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., ch. VII, p. 13.
  5. See footnote 1 above.
  6. Statement of Mr. Masuo KATO to Information Media Research representative, 28 September 1946.
  7. See footnote 1 above.

on the basis of a membership association tended to be a monopolistic, "national" news agency like Domei.<sup>8</sup> Kyodo already had made it clear that it would operate on a membership association basis with the backing of the "Big Three" metropolitan dailies, Asahi, Mainichi, and Yomiuri.<sup>9</sup> However, Kyodo denied that it was monopolistic and pointed out that any qualified newspaper was eligible for membership.<sup>10</sup> Nevertheless, the insubordinate group began working for the formation of a second news agency, Jiji Press (Jiji Tsushin Sha).<sup>11</sup>

When it became inevitable that there would be two competitive news agencies following the dissolution of Domei, promoters of the rival groups concluded a "gentlemen's agreement" under which harsh competition would be avoided between them in the early days after their establishment.<sup>12</sup> Kyodo, the larger by far, was to take over Domei's news services to member newspapers; Jiji, considerably smaller, was to take over Domei's general news, economic news, news photo, and publishing services for private subscribers.<sup>13</sup> Both services were scheduled to commence operations 1 November 1945.<sup>14</sup>

In the specific division of properties and responsibilities, it was agreed that Kyodo would 1) inherit most of Domei's working facilities and equipment, 2) employ approximately half of Domei's staff, 3) operate on a membership basis, furnishing news to its associate newspapers and the Broadcasting Corporation of Japan only; whereas Jiji would 1) purchase the remaining equipment and facilities from Domei, 2) employ personnel working for Domei's departments servicing private subscribers, 3) incorporate to operate a news dissemination business entirely on a commercial basis for the public and for individual subscribers,

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8. Ibid.
  9. Ibid.
  10. Statement of Mr. Masuo KATO to a representative of Information Media Research, 15 October 1946.
  11. See footnote 1 on page 17.
  12. Ibid.
  13. FURUNO, Inosuke, op. cit., ch. VII, p. 31.
  14. Information Media Research, Jiji Press, Ltd., Report #1, unpublished, RI-12-PP-A-9, 1 December 1945, Annex 9, p. 31.

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and 4) be financed by sale of stock to its employees.<sup>15</sup>

## KYODO TSUSHIN SHA

Born of Japan's defeat in the war, Kyodo is Japanese newspaperdom's effort to tie in the physical assets and experiences of the past with the ideological demands that came from being defeated by a democracy. Biggest, broadest, and most extensive of the numerous agencies that have appeared or reappeared in Japan since the Occupation began, it is, because of its inheritance from Domei, most closely tied to the historic pattern that began with Dentsu and Teikoku, extended through Kokusai and Rengo, and ended with Domei.

Organized, owned, and controlled by the daily Japanese newspapers, Kyodo is directed by an executive board.<sup>16</sup> Three of the six seats on this all-important board are occupied by representatives of the "Big Three" of Japanese daily newspapers--Mainichi, Asahi, and Yomiuri--which have resources, strength, and experience, and which among them sell over half of the newspapers bought daily by the Japanese.<sup>17</sup> The other three seats are allotted to provincial papers.<sup>18</sup> This board meets weekly with the general manager for the day-by-day control of Kyodo. At periodical meetings of the board of directors, executive board actions are reviewed and either approved or changed. Annually, all member newspapers, each having a single vote, meet for an overall review and to appoint every third year a new board of directors and a board of auditors.<sup>19</sup>

According to Kyodo's association agreements, any newspaper can become a member of the Kyodo Association by applying for membership and, after receiving approval

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15. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #1, unpublished, RI-1-PP-A-1, 30 November 1945, Annex 10, pp. 48, 49.
16. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #10, unpublished, 11 December 1946, p. 1.
17. Ibid.
18. Ibid.
19. Ibid., pp. 1-2.

from the board of directors, paying an entrance fee of ¥5,000<sup>20</sup> and assuming the obligation of paying monthly dues on a per ratio circulation basis.<sup>21</sup> Any newspaper can withdraw from Kyodo provided that it serves notice three months in advance and pays its dues for the three months.<sup>22</sup>

Key positions on Kyodo's staff are held by veteran newspapermen of wide experience. Most of them are in their forties in age, are graduates of Japanese or American universities, have had both reporting and administrative newspaper experience over a period of about 20 years, and have represented former Japanese agencies in various parts of the world. During the war, these professional newspapermen conformed to the restrictive policies of Domei in order to hold their jobs. Now, by equal necessity, they must conform to the broader policies of the Occupation and the American news services in order to maintain their contacts and to get news.<sup>23</sup> They now declare that they disliked the restrictions of wartime reporting and like the comparative freedom and liberalism of the present policies.<sup>24</sup> These men maintain that they have selected from the former personnel of Domei only those who, after close association for many years, have proved themselves to believe primarily in freedom of news.<sup>25</sup>

Heading the entire organization as general manager is Masanori ITO, an experienced professional journalist of good reputation in Japan.<sup>26</sup> The assistant managing editor, Masuo KATO, was educated at the Universities of Wisconsin and Chicago and formerly served as chief editor for the Domei Washington Bureau.<sup>27</sup> He is the author of The Lost

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20. Statement of Mr. Masuo KATO to Information Media Research representative, 28 October 1946.
  21. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #10, unpublished, 11 December 1946, p. 2.
  22. Ibid.
  23. Ibid.
  24. Ibid.
  25. Ibid., p. 3.
  26. Ibid.
  27. Profile: Masuo KATO, Information Media Research files.

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War,<sup>28</sup> which describes Japan's prewar and wartime position.<sup>29</sup> Editor-in-chief Yoshisaburo MATSUKATA likewise spent some time in the United States.<sup>30</sup>

Working under the direction of these policy-making key men is a staff of 1,260 employees, 620 in the head office in Tokyo.<sup>31</sup> The remainder are employed in about 50 provincial offices throughout Japan, for the most part in offices of member newspapers.<sup>32</sup> The chart on page 23 diagrams the organization of the Tokyo office. The Traffic Bureau listed thereon maintains constant communication with the provincial offices.

Of the 132<sup>33</sup> daily newspapers in Japan, 100 are associated with Kyodo, according to Masuo KATO. These papers have a combined circulation of 15.5 million.<sup>34</sup>

Three main channels serve Kyodo in the domestic field: 1) under its association agreements, Kyodo has access to the news of its member newspapers, in addition to the news gathered by its own field correspondents and branch offices; 2) the Tokyo office, which, besides being the chief source of news of national significance, also originates important interpretive feature articles of current events; 3) news emanating from General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, whose releases are translated and distributed either in full or in condensed version.<sup>35</sup>

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28. Published by Alfred Knopf and Co., New York, 1946.
  29. Gerald W. Johnson, "Books and Things," in The New York Herald Tribune, 3 October 1946.
  30. Profile: Yoshisaburo MATSUKATA, Information Media Research files.
  31. Statement of Masuo KATO to a representative of Information Media Research, 17 October 1946.
  32. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #10, unpublished, 11 December 1946, p. 3.
  33. This is the complete total number of daily newspapers throughout Japan on record with Information Media Research as of 1 November 1946.
  34. Statement of Masuo KATO to a representative of Information Media Research, 20 October 1946.
  35. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #10, unpublished, 11 December 1945, pp. 4-5.



For foreign news, Kyodo at present must depend entirely upon non-Japanese sources. Use of the huge Domei network of foreign correspondents is not permitted.<sup>36</sup> Therefore, Kyodo has reached agreements with the AP, UP, and Reuters and is negotiating with Agence France Presse, whose news it has been using without a contract.<sup>37</sup> It depends heavily upon the AP and UP and pays a nominal sum each year to these services, plus transmission costs from San Francisco to Japan.<sup>38</sup> Under the terms of these agreements, both sides have complete and immediate access to and use of all the available news supplied by the other service.<sup>39</sup> Sixty percent of the foreign news processed and distributed by Kyodo comes from the two American agencies; 25 percent is from Reuters; six percent from Agence France Presse.<sup>40</sup> It also monitors broadcasts from China's Central News Agency Service and TASS for additional foreign news. These services, according to Masuo KATO, are free to Kyodo by oral agreement. The Chinese agency accounts for six percent of its foreign news, and the Russian, three percent. When permitted to do so, it intends to establish its own foreign correspondents abroad.<sup>41</sup> For interpretive articles and editorial comments from American newspapers, for which there is a great demand by the Japanese public, Kyodo makes considerable use of United States Information Service facilities.<sup>42</sup>

At present, all foreign news comes to Kyodo by radio, none by cable. The AP and UP send copyright broadcasts via San Francisco, from which selections are made and immediately translated into Japanese.<sup>43</sup> In all, Kyodo receives 80,000 words daily from its various sources of for-

36. Ibid., p. 3.

37. Statement of Masuo KATO to a representative of Information Media Research, 23 October 1946.

38. Cost to Kyodo for the use of AP, UP, and Reuters averages about ¥270,000 monthly, according to Mr. KATO.

39. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #10, unpublished, 11 December 1945, p. 3.

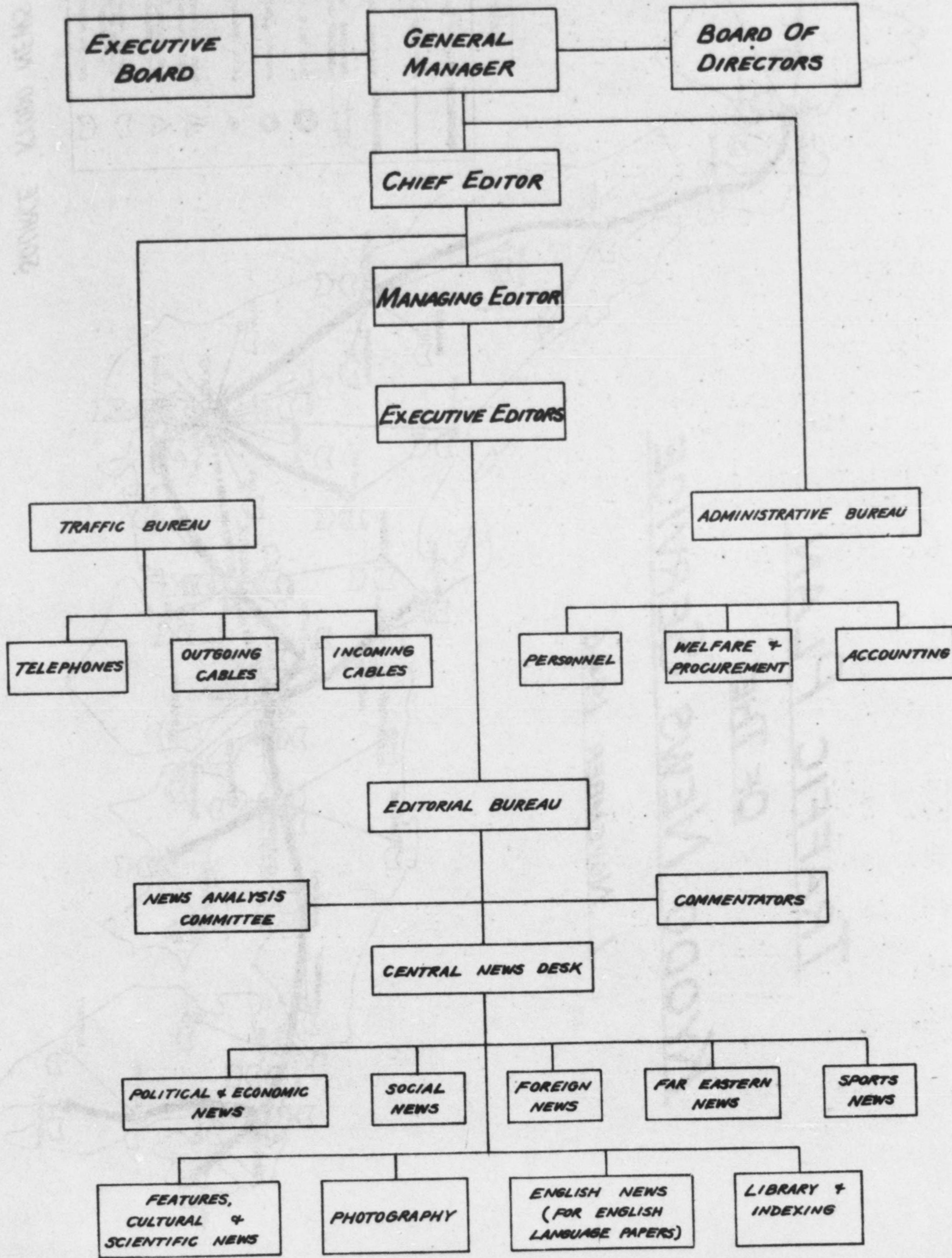
40. Statement by Masuo KATO to a representative of Information Media Research, 30 October 1946.

41. Ibid.

42. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #10, unpublished, 11 December 1945, p. 4.

43. Ibid., pp. 5-6.

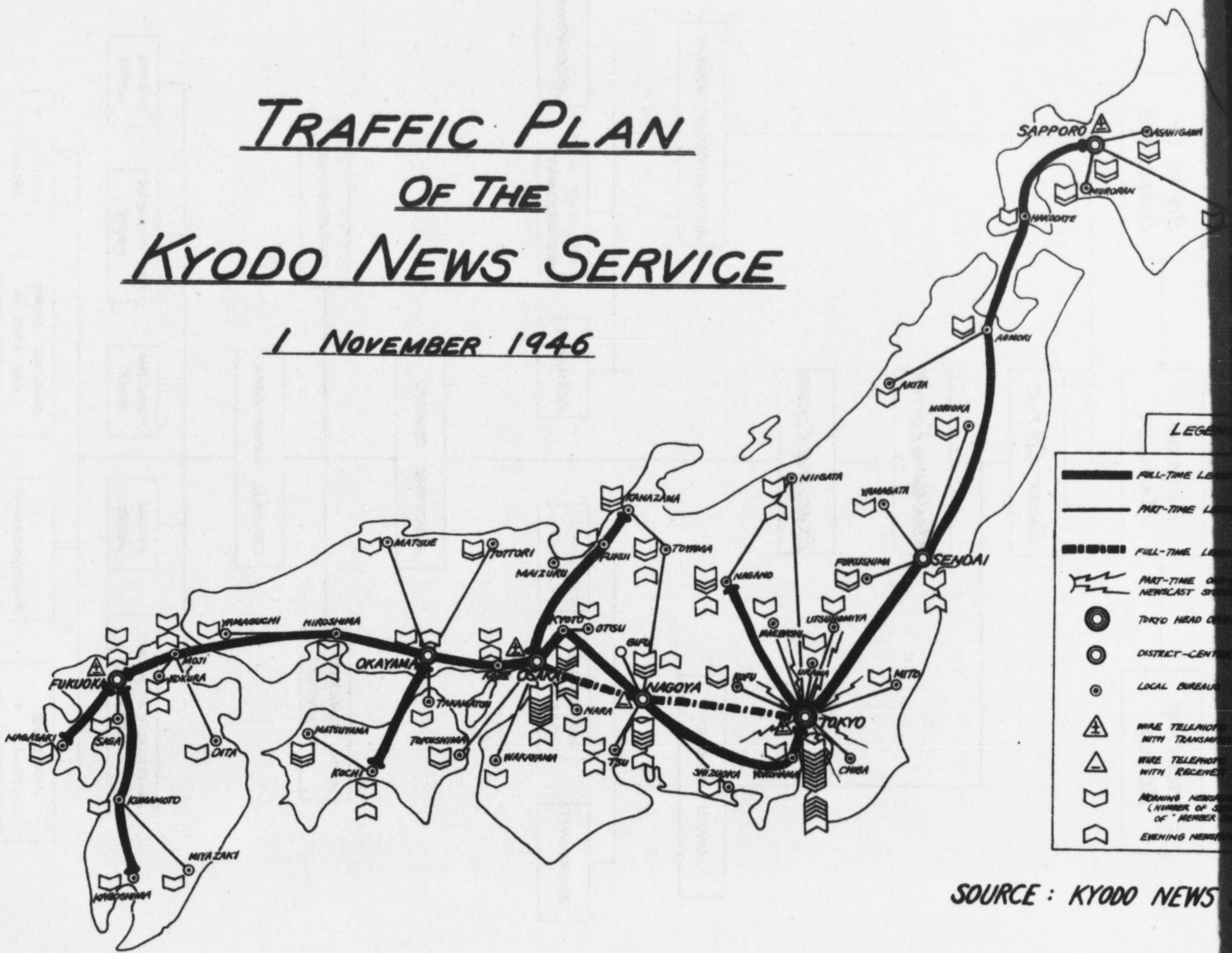
### ORGANIZATION CHART TOKYO OFFICE, KYODO TSUSHIN SHA



# TRAFFIC PLAN OF THE KYODO NEWS SERVICE

1 NOVEMBER 1946

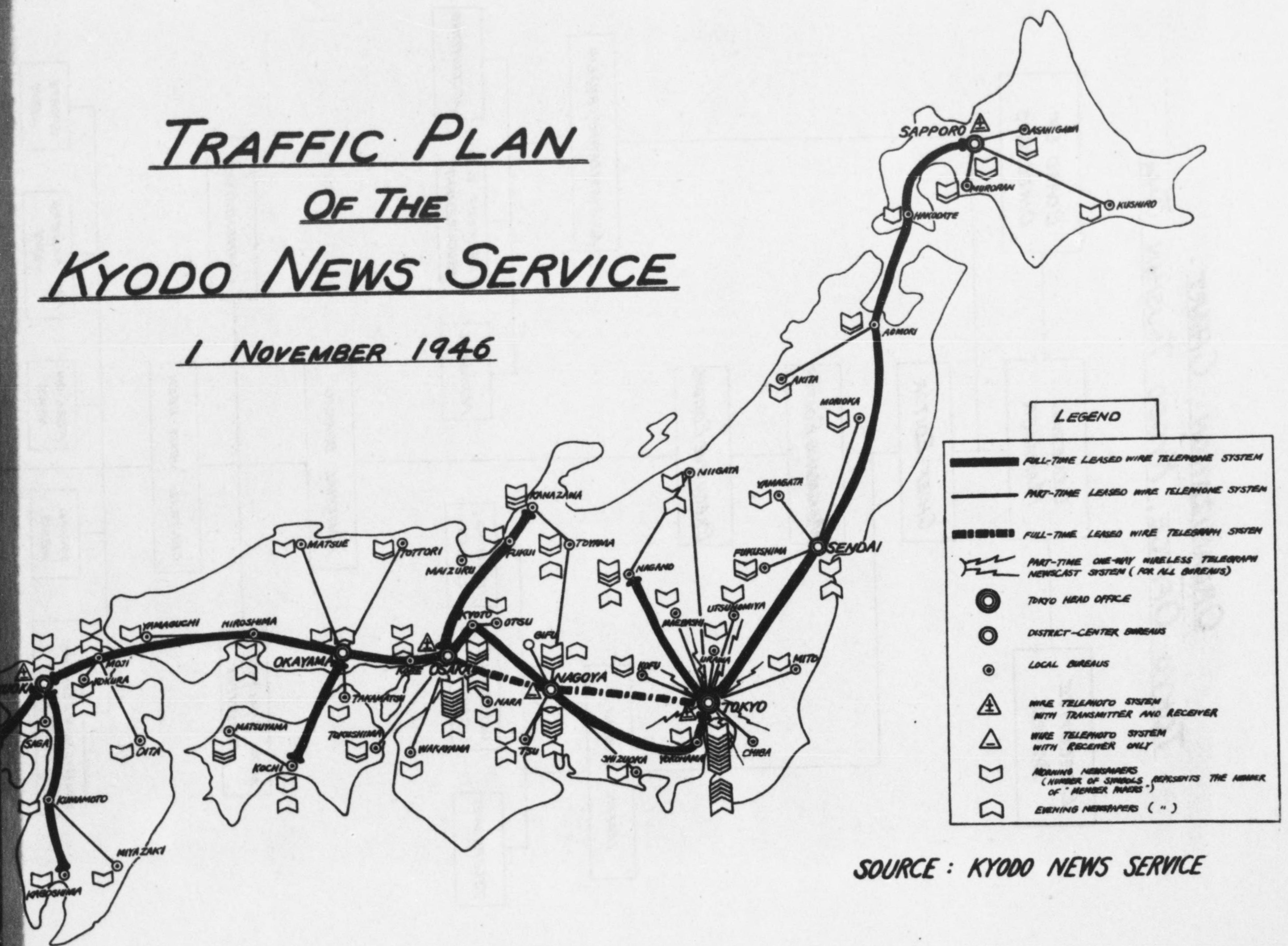
24



SOURCE: KYODO NEWS

# TRAFFIC PLAN OF THE KYODO NEWS SERVICE

1 NOVEMBER 1946



SOURCE : KYODO NEWS SERVICE

eign news.<sup>44</sup>

To transmit both its foreign and domestic news to its subscribing members, Kyodo has 5,500 miles of leased telephone lines, of which 3,250 miles are leased on a limited time basis, and the remainder on a full time basis; and since September 1946, 370 miles of telegraph lines.<sup>45</sup> It also still uses wireless because the existing telephone circuits in Japan are not in top condition.<sup>46</sup> (See map illustrating traffic plan on page 24.)

It has exclusive lines between Tokyo and Nagano, between Osaka, Kanazawa, and Fukuoka, between Okayama and Kochi City, between Fukuoka, Kumamoto, and Kagoshima, and between Fukuoka and Nagasaki. It also has a Western Exclusive Line and a Northern Exclusive Line. The Western starts from Tokyo, ends at Fukuoka City, and has connections with Yokohama, Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, Okayama, Hiroshima, and Moji. The Northern starts at Tokyo, ends at Sapporo City, and is utilized by Kyodo branches at Sendai, Aomori, and Hakodate.<sup>47</sup>

Some 50,000 words in Kana are sent out daily from Kyodo to its members.<sup>48</sup> With duplication of releases, this is more than 60 percent of the total space, including advertising space, of the present dailies.<sup>49</sup>

To finance this extensive setup, Kyodo depends upon an annual revenue of ¥30 million.<sup>50</sup> A nonprofit cooperative association with no fixed capital, Kyodo has assets of ¥3.5 million and liabilities of ¥3.5 million.<sup>51</sup> The annual revenue, which is absorbed into operating expenses, is derived mostly from assessments of its member papers.<sup>52</sup> The assessment rate is a percentage of the monthly sub-

44. Statement by Masuo KATO to a representative of Information Media Research, 28 September 1946.

45. Ibid.

46. Statement of Masuo KATO to a representative of Information Media Research, 30 October 1946.

47. Ibid.

48. See footnote 44 above.

49. Ibid.

50. Ibid.

51. See footnote 46 above.

52. Ibid.

scription price multiplied by the average net daily sales for the month;<sup>53</sup>

Net Daily Sales		% of Monthly Income Charged
Circulation below	20,000	1.5%
Circulation from	20,000 to 50,000	2.0%
Circulation from	50,000 to 500,000	2.5%
Circulation from	500,000 to 1,000,000	2.0%
Circulation above	1,000,000	1.5%

Kyodo, thus, is the biggest and most extensive news agency in Japan at present. The destruction and restrictions wrought by war have limited its scope. Its restricted coverage of foreign news, for example, and the physical destruction to transportation, communication, and raw materials have hindered it.<sup>54</sup>

It has, however, an asset that was not too apparent in its parent organization, Domei. That is its stated editorial policy: "Objective reporting of news on a non-partisan basis."<sup>55</sup>

#### JIJI TSUSHIN SHA

The Domei "rebels" who were unwilling to go along with the formation of Kyodo had ideas of their own about how a news agency should be run. Although retaining a part of Domei's personnel, equipment, and facilities, Jiji Press, according to prospectus, is "completely free from Government control and big business," and by upholding freedom of the press it has devoted itself "to the cause of rebuilding Japan along democratic lines."<sup>56</sup>

To assure carrying out these aims free from outside control and influence, Jiji Press has organized itself in a manner which represents an entirely new attempt in Japan's

53. See footnote 44 on page 25.

54. Information Media Research, Kyodo News Service, Report #10, unpublished, 11 December 1945, p. 8.

55. See footnote 44 page 25.

56. Information Media Research, Jiji Press, Ltd., Report #1, unpublished, RI-12-PP-A-9, 1 December 1945, Annex 5, p. 15.

SUCCESSOR TO DOMEI: KYODO AND JIJI

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pressdom.<sup>57</sup> Incorporated as a joint-stock company in accordance with provisions of the Japanese Commercial Law, each principal employee is compelled to own two shares, no more and no less, of stock in the company.<sup>58</sup> These shares are not transferable to any other than employees of Jiji.<sup>59</sup> Each share is valued at ¥50 and the entire company is capitalized at ¥100,000.<sup>60</sup> The excess shares beyond those held by employees are held by Jiji Rodo Kumiai Shibu (Jiji Trade Union Branch), which is made up entirely of Jiji employees.<sup>61</sup> This is only a temporary measure, according to Mr. HASEGAWA, Jiji's general manager, a measure employed until all overseas Domei members are heard from as to whether they desire membership in the corporation. In the future, it is possible that the compulsory amount of stock for each employee will be three shares.<sup>62</sup>

This arrangement theoretically not only safeguards Jiji from outside capitalistic control; it actually brings about unity between capital and labor.<sup>63</sup> Under this setup, a trade union meeting, a staff meeting, and a shareholders' meeting are practically the same thing. Only executives are denied membership in the trade union and only apprentices and minor office workers do not hold shares of stock in the corporation.<sup>64</sup>

The company is governed by a board of directors elected for three-year terms and two auditors elected for two years.<sup>65</sup> In addition to the board, a working committee elected through the trade union by all employees except the directors and based on divisional proportionate representation acts in behalf of the company employees

57. Ibid., Annex 9, p. 31.

58. Ibid.

59. Ibid., Annex 7, p. 26.

60. Ibid.

61. Statement of Mr. Saiji HASEGAWA to a representative of Information Media Research, 24 October 1946.

62. Ibid.

63. Information Media Research, Jiji Press, Ltd., Report #1, unpublished, RI-12-PP-4-9, 1 December 1945, Annex 8, p. 28.

64. Statement by Mr. Saiji HASEGAWA to a representative of Information Media Research, 28 October 1946.

65. Ibid.

for the avowed purpose of realizing democratic principles in management and operations. In case the board and the committee cannot come to agreement, a general meeting of all employees is called to make the final decision with everyone voting except members of the board and the committee.<sup>66</sup>

Jiji has no president. Instead, it is managed by one of the six directors, who represents the news agency as general manager. Present general manager is Saiji HASEGAWA, 42-year-old newspaperman, chief of Domei's London Bureau from 1937 to 1941, later chief of Domei's foreign desk, and from September 1945--half a month after the war ended--editor-in-chief. Most of the other key men are comparatively young, professional newspapermen who have had experience abroad. The directors, in addition to HASEGAWA, are Tokichi KAMIMURA, Isamu INOUE, Yutaka ASANO, Isamu TAKAHASHI, and Tamejiro MURATA.<sup>67</sup>

The staff consists of 750 persons, of whom 400 are stationed in the Tokyo headquarters and the other 350 are scattered throughout the 40 branch offices at key points in Japan.

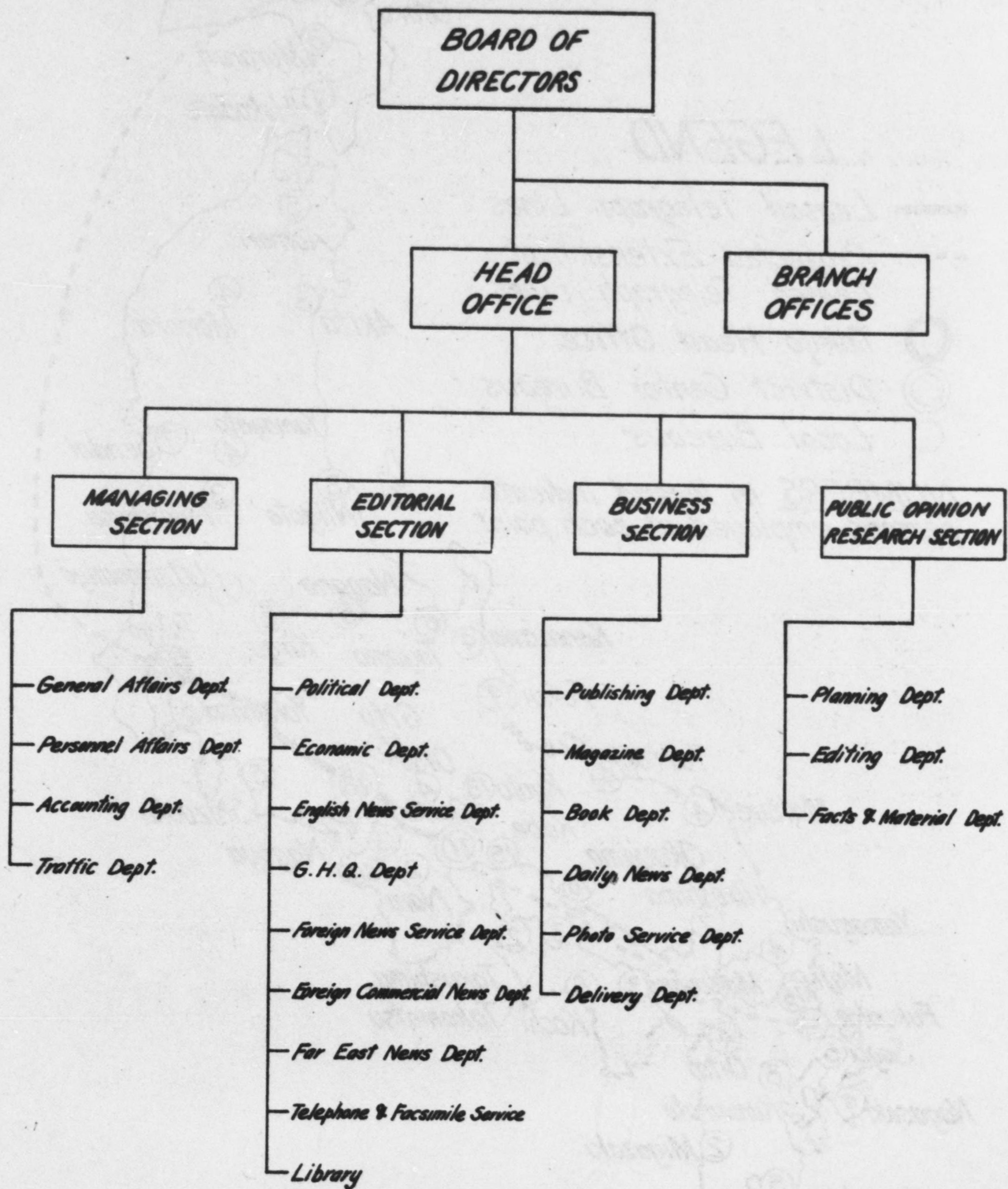
The organizational chart on page 29 explains the functioning of the Tokyo office.

With this organization, Jiji Press furnishes a wide variety of specialized services, including various types of specialty news, backgrounding, interpretations, tip services, and other similar materials. While Jiji Press subscribes to the Kyodo News Service and would be weakened without it, it still has its own staff of reporters stationed at all key points. (See map showing Jiji's traffic plan on page 30.) Its foreign news is obtained from Kyodo, which in turn obtains it from United States and Allied news services. It does, however, have its own contract with the UP for commercial services such as mar-

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66. Information Media Research, Jiji Press, Ltd., Report #1, unpublished, RI-12-PP-A-9, 1 December 1945, pp. 10, 31.
67. Ibid., pp. 31-37. See also statement of Saiji HASEGAWA, Jiji's general manager, to a representative of Information Media Research, 28 October 1946.



# ORGANIZATION CHART OF JIJI PRESS 1 November 1946





ket reports.<sup>68</sup>

The gentleman's agreement not to invade each others fields<sup>69</sup> concluded between Kyodo and Jiji when they first organized still is in effect. In October 1946, a year after Jiji was founded, Mr. HASEGAWA approached Kyodo with the idea of broadening it so Jiji could release its own competing news service.<sup>70</sup> He was told that if Jiji carried out the project, it could expect no help from Kyodo.<sup>71</sup> Inasmuch as Jiji is dependent upon Kyodo for some of its vital facilities, HASEGAWA, after consulting further with Kyodo executives and his own colleagues, withdrew his proposal. All agreed that any change would involve the danger of undermining financially both organizations with cut-throat competition.

Subscribers to Jiji are mostly individuals, business firms, banks, Government agencies, schools, political parties, and trade unions. Jiji distributes its services throughout the Tokyo area by courier, and elsewhere chiefly by mail. It has its own leased telegraph wires between Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka on Honshu, which it plans to extend to Fukuoka, Kyushu, and Sapporo, Hokkaido. Within a short time, it expects to operate a facsimile service.<sup>72</sup>

Among Jiji Press's services is its daily news commentary, which goes to 7,000 individual subscribers for ¥500 per year. This is a more detailed service than is available in the limited space allotted to daily newspapers. Other services are the Foreign News Edition with 3,000 subscribers paying ¥1,000 annually; Far Eastern News Edition, 1,500 subscribers, ¥1,000 annually; Political News Edition, 1,300 subscribers, ¥500 annually; World News Service (in English), 150 subscribers, ¥500 monthly; Home News Service (in English), 100 subscribers, ¥1,000 monthly; Foreign Economic News Edition, 1,000 subscribers,

68. Ibid., p. 2 and passim; also statement by HASEGAWA, cited.

69. Ibid.

70. Statement by HASEGAWA, cited.

71. Statement by Masuo KATO, Assistant Managing Editor of Kyodo, to a representative of Information Media Research, 23 October 1946.

72. Ibid.

¥1,000 annually; Banking and Financial News Edition, 1,500 subscribers, ¥500 annually; Industrial News Edition, 3,000 subscribers, ¥500 annually; Communication and Transportation News Edition, 2,100 subscribers, ¥300 annually; Occupation News Edition (in English for General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers), 1,000 subscribers, ¥2,000 annually; Education Edition (weekly), 500 subscribers, ¥300 annually; Commercial Service Edition (in English), 100 subscribers, ¥1,000 monthly. In addition, the agency has 130 large subscribers who pay ¥2,000 per year for a telephone protection service on important news developments such as cabinet changes.<sup>73</sup>

One of Jiji's more recently established services is the Public Opinion Poll, which is similar to the public opinion surveys conducted in the United States. This was started experimentally in April 1946, but was not released to the public until the following August. It has 10 subscribers paying ¥1,000 each month, plus a newspaper outlet through Kyodo. Subscribers get full reports, and in turn they can ask Jiji to conduct a poll on anything they want to know. For this, they must pay expenses in addition to regular subscription rates.

Publishing is another field of Jiji activities. It publishes Sekai Shuho (World Weekly) with a circulation of 100,000 copies; Jiji Higo Tsushin (World News Survey), a mixed English and Japanese language fortnightly, 50,000 copies; Taihei (Age of Peace), a monthly, 10,000 copies; and an annual Jiji Year Book. Moreover, it has published, since its inauguration, 15 books, including a Japanese translation of Edgar Snow's Pattern of Soviet Power and annotated editions of the United Nations Charter and the Bretton Woods Agreement.

Total annual revenue for Jiji Press is ¥15 million. Until August 1946, the concern was running at a loss. However, in September, it started showing a profit.<sup>74</sup>

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73. Information Media Research report, Jiji Press, Ltd., Report #1, unpublished, RI-12-PP-A-9, 1 December 1945, p. 2.

74. Statement of HASEGAWA to a representative of Information Media Research, 24 October 1946.

## Chapter 4

## GENERAL DISCUSSION OF NEWS AGENCIES IN JAPAN

Besides the major genealogical line that began with Teikoku and Dentsu and finds its present day representation in Kyodo and Jiji, the news agency family in Japan has many other smaller and less important branches. Only by the most generous stretch of the imagination, however, could many of these qualify as news agencies in the American sense.<sup>1</sup>

Many of these secondary Japanese news agencies lack the institutional quality of the AP, UP, Reuters, TASS, and in Japan, Kyodo. Instead, some are similar to American "information letters," "private information services," and "tip services"; while others in a sense resemble such popular American columns as Drew Pearson's, Westbrook Pegler's and Louella Parsons'.

Apparently, the role of these agencies in providing a specialized type of information to a limited group of subscribers is highly important in contemporary Japan. For instance, such agencies as those which specialize in labor (e.g., Nippon Rono Tsushin), and number many trade union leaders among their clientele, are far more influential than their circulations indicate. Others, such as the well-known Okayama Service, provide a translation service for correspondents and Occupation authorities.

Except for the highly specialized agencies, the primary function of most of the smaller services is to furnish background material, interpretations, or confidential information which is not normally in the press. Such agencies may appeal to certain special elements or interested groups.<sup>2</sup> There are those (e.g., Tairiku Joho Tsushin) which are easily comparable to publicity agen-

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1. Information Media Research, News Services, unpublished report, 6 November 1945, p. 1.
  2. Ibid., passim.

cies in the United States; and others (e.g., Godo Tsushin) which are similar to American trade journals and fan publications.

Only in a very limited sense can any of them be classified as competitors to Kyodo. But the smallness of these agencies should not exclude them as important factors in the contemporary Japanese scene. An agency with a cause to advocate is a tool to put over its own ideas or the ideas of the group it represents. By hammering away at an interested but inactive minority, it may forge leaders and inspire action.

The fact that tens of thousands of Japanese are willing to support 50-odd agencies by paying prices ranging as high as ¥1,000 monthly merely to acquire more information than their fellow citizens have access to in the daily press is an interesting phenomenon in itself. It is reminiscent of pre-Eighteenth Century Europe, where rulers and other powerful men spent sizeable sums to have special couriers bring them news from afar. In part, the paper shortage accounts for this. Daily newspapers in Japan are limited to two pages each issue. This means that detailed news and special news are generally unavailable except through news agencies. It also implies that the subscriber to a news service is a person of influence, i.e., a trade union leader, politician, educator, banker, Government official, industrialist, or such. The information he purchases from news agencies may be part of his stock-in-trade.

Most of the current crop of smaller agencies sprang up as a result of Japan's defeat, after which limiting the number of periodicals in each field by arbitrary Government action was discontinued.<sup>3</sup> Some of today's agencies have a prewar history. Of these, a few had been suspended during the war by the Government, others had continued without interruption.

That there are so many of these minor and specializing agencies in Japan now does not mean that this is a

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3. Under National Mobilization Law of 1940, amalgamation was effected in virtually all branches of the publishing field.

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GENERAL DISCUSSION OF NEWS AGENCIES IN JAPAN

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recent phenomenon. In pre-Japanese expansionist days there were likewise a number of agencies specializing in a variety of subjects, ranging from Imperial Court news to religion, music, and other topics.<sup>4</sup>

It is not likely that all of these new agencies will survive. In the wake of Japan's defeat, new voices, which hitherto have been silenced by autocracy and by public disinterest, now are straining to make themselves heard. These smaller agencies, in several cases, represent these new voices.

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4. HANAZONO, Kanesada, op. cit., ch. XXV, p. 82.

## Chapter 5

## GENERAL AGENCIES

The 12 agencies treated below either handle a broad type of general news exclusively (e.g., Maiyu Tsushin), foreign news exclusively (e.g., Nichibei Tsushin), or combine the two types (e.g., Kokusai Tokushin). Certain of these agencies are adequate enough in their field to have as subscribers Kyodo itself, as well as such papers as Asahi, Mainichi, and Yomiuri.

The following list is by no means complete; it includes, however, the chief agencies in this field on record with Information Media Research Unit.

## RADIOPRESS 1

Before it was a news agency, Radiopress was a little-known but important cog in the machinery of the Japanese Foreign Office. During the war when Japan was fairly well shut off from access to world news, the Foreign Office employed approximately 35 American-born Japanese to monitor world-wide shortwave broadcasts. This small group, working on a 24-hour schedule, produced a compact mimeographed news pamphlet which was circulated among members of the Foreign Office and the Imperial Family. The covers of every issue were stamped "strictly secret."

With cessation of hostilities, the Foreign Office was anxious to continue the service. There was also a widespread interest on the part of other Japanese for news from the outside world. The same Nisei, using equipment borrowed from the Foreign Office, continued the service as an independent news agency when 30 of them formed Radiopress on a

- 1. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Radiopress News Service, Report #2, unpublished report, 29 May 1946.



## GENERAL AGENCIES

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cooperative basis, each holding equal shares. Initial capitalization was ¥50,000 obtained from advance subscriptions.<sup>2</sup> Because of the American background of its personnel, American business methods are employed. The first issue of a Radiopress release appeared on 1 December 1945.

Radiopress releases are published in English and distributed to 43 subscribers who take 150 separate issues. These subscribers include Japan's leading newspapers, Radio Tokyo, Kyodo News Agency, Japanese Government and foreign military mission offices, and important civilian units such as the Bank of Japan.

Several editions are published daily in two categories: Speed Service and Ordinary Service. Speed Service is typewritten and goes to subscribers immediately after copy is cleared by censorship. Ordinary Service is slower because of the time involved in mimeographing. Speed Service costs from ¥3,000 to ¥5,000 per month, depending upon the size of the subscribing newspaper's circulation. The Ordinary Service costs ¥1,000 per month for each issue.

Because the two-page Japanese dailies are unable to cover all important events, Radiopress attempts to complement their coverage by issuing supplements called Special Editions. These are published on special events and contain such items as verbatim reports of Allied press conferences, full-recorded Allied speeches, and full-length commentaries on current special events.

Radiopress has no stated editorial policy other than "objective reporting." Its coverage is world-wide. It listens in on the Melbourne and Sydney stations, Australia; Armed Forces Radio; Voice of America (beamed at Far East), New York; San Francisco's United Network (beamed at Latin America); Chungking and Shanghai, China; Radio Moscow; Britain's BBC; New Delhi, India; Ankara, Turkey; Saigon, French Indo-China; Brazzaville, Africa; and the Allied station at Frankfurt, Germany. It also makes use of available American periodicals, including Time, Newsweek, Readers' Digest, and the New York Times' Overseas Edition.

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2. Statement by George KYOTOW, first vice-president and member of executive board of Radiopress, to a representative of Information Media Research, 20 May 1946.

Material thus procured is passed by military censorship before being used.

#### NIKKAN SEKAITAMPA JOHO<sup>3</sup>

Nikkan Sekaitampa Joho (Shortwave World News) is another monitoring service. It is published by Nippon Tsushin Sha (Japanese News Agency Company). This agency began publishing as a daily on 15 January 1946 and, like Radiopress, is a direct result of wartime activity. The Imperial Japanese Navy had maintained a short-wave monitoring system during the war. Upon termination of hostilities, one of its translators, Stephen M. NAKATA, persuaded a group of Japanese business people and personal friends to help him finance and establish Nikkan Sekaitampa Joho.

NAKATA, Canadian educated and widely traveled Methodist minister, is the editor-in-chief.

With the exception of its coverage of General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers' press conferences and releases, Nikkan Sekaitampa Joho is exclusively a foreign news service. It claims to be the only service in Japan that systematically monitors Russian broadcasts.<sup>4</sup>

It consistently monitors KGEI and KWIX, San Francisco; KRHO, Honolulu; Melbourne and Sydney, Australia; New Delhi, India; Chungking, Nanking, and Yenan, China; Hebarovsk and Moscow, Russia; BBC, London; Brazzaville, Africa; Saigon, French Indo-China; Ankhara, Turkey; and USIS (Morse Code), US. Of its 145 employees, 13 are English language monitors, 10 Russian, and five Chinese. It has only one regular issue, which is delivered by messenger at 10 o'clock each morning except Sundays and holidays to Tokyo subscribers and mailed to outlying regions. If news of unusual interest is received, special deliveries are made to news-

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3. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research Special Report, Nikkan Sekaitampa Joho, RI-233-PP-A-18, 22 June 1946.
  4. Kyoko Tsushin Monitors TASS broadcasts by special arrangement on what is probably a more limited scale.

## GENERAL AGENCIES

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paper subscribers beyond the regular edition.

Before being printed, the monitored news is translated into Japanese. The service averages about 50 small-sized pages daily and is divided into four sections: one of English translations, one of Russian, one of Chinese, and one of General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers' releases. Of the 310 regular subscriptions, 24 go to individual subscribers, 60 go to 17 Government offices, and 226 go to 186 newspapers, political parties, cultural leagues, banks, commercial houses, and other organizations. Subscription rates are ¥300 per month. In addition, four subscribers--all newspapers (including the Big Three, Asahi, Mainichi, and Yomiuri)--pay from ¥1,500 to ¥3,000 extra monthly for copies of the original Russian language monitored service after the translations have been censored.

The announced policy of Nikkan Sekaitampa Joho is "to present America and democracy to the Japanese people."<sup>5</sup> NAKATA claims to be Christian and anticommunist.

In addition to Nikkan Sekaitampa Joho, the parent company, Nippon Tsushin Sha, also publishes a semi-monthly magazine entitled Sekai Keizaiho (World Economic Journal), which has a circulation of 30,000 and prints much the same sort of material as the news service.

The company is incorporated and capitalized at ¥150,000.

NICHIBEI TSUSHIN<sup>6</sup>

Nichibei Tsushin (America-Japan News Agency), like Radiopress and Nikkan Sekaitampa Joho, deals exclusively with foreign and Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers' news. It is not a monitoring service. UP is its sole

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5. Statement of Stephen NAKATA to a representative of Information Media Research, 5 June 1946.
  6. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, America--Japan Press Service, also known as Nichibei Tsushin, unpublished report, 15 June 1946.

source of foreign news, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers' releases its only sources of local news. It translates news into Japanese, selects enough items to fill an eight-page paper, and makes deliveries daily, except Sundays, to 335 paying subscribers, by messenger in Tokyo and by mail elsewhere.

Nichibei is capitalized at ¥180,000 and is owned by a partnership of eight. Its first issue was dated 26 March 1946.

Motosaburo TAKATA, chief stockholder, founder, and manager, was formerly executive director and managing editor of Mainichi Shimbun. He is alleged to have been forced out of Mainichi by rebellious employees on charges of actively and enthusiastically backing Japan's war effort. His wartime background is nationalistic.

In addition to its 335 paying subscribers, Nichibei Tsushin also distributes approximately 500 copies of each issue free for promotional purposes. Most subscribers are Government offices, newspapers and agencies, and commercial, industrial and banking concerns. Asahi, Mainichi, and Yomiuri are among its subscribers, as is every Government agency of importance. It circulates all over Japan but has a natural concentration in the Tokyo area.

#### KOKUSAI TSUSHIN<sup>7</sup>

Kokusai Tsushin (International Special News Service) is another agency that specializes largely in foreign news, although it also has a staff of reporters who collect domestic news. Its news sources include short-wave broadcasts, which it monitors, foreign newspapers, foreign magazines, other Japanese periodicals, and General Headquarters' releases. It claims a circulation of 860, mostly in Tokyo. Its rates are ¥500 annually or ¥300 semi-annually. It is published daily and delivered by mail. Its subscribers are mostly individuals who feel that newspapers do too much editorializing and want to form their own conclusions about world events; very few newspapers are subscribers.

7. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research Special Report, The International Special News Service, RI-173-PP-17, 13 May 1946.

## GENERAL AGENCIES

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Kokusai was started in December 1945 by Yutaka NODA, an economic specialist, and Kenichi SUZUKI, a linguist. These two, with Tatsuo MITARAI and Masanori WADA, are owners of the concern, which is capitalized at ¥100,000. Claiming to have no connections with any political party, Kokusai Tsushin is particularly interested in news releases put out by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

TEIKOKU CHUYA TSUSHIN<sup>8</sup>

Teikoku Chuya Tsushin (Imperial Day and Night News Agency) was started in 1920 by its present owner, Kasaburo UEMURA, and apparently flourished before the war. Bombings destroyed its plant, killing a number of employees. It operated throughout the war, but now has only 20 subscribers.

MAIYU TSUSHIN<sup>9</sup>

Established in 1901, Maiyu Tsushin (Every Evening News Agency) is a daily Japanese language news agency with approximately 200 subscribers, the majority businessmen, government officials, and other individuals, with about 60 newspapers, daily and weekly, provincial and metropolitan.

It is capitalized at ¥50,000 and is owned by Mr. Torakichi TANNO, chief editor. Its news coverage is primarily political, with special emphasis upon Diet news. News is gathered by a staff of 30--27 in Tokyo and three in Sendai. It is probable that some of its news sources are paid tipsters within various Government agencies. The editorial policy is "to comment upon and criticize the Government administration." Subscribers pay from ¥400 to ¥500 a month, depending upon the amount of news used.

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8. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Teikoku Chuya Tsushin-Report #1, unpublished report, 4 December 1945.
  9. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Maiyu Tsushin, unpublished report, RI-14-PP-A-10, 3 December 1945.

## 42 A SURVEY OF JAPANESE NEWS AGENCIES

NAIGAI TSUSHIN<sup>10</sup>

Naigai Tsushin (Domestic and Foreign News Service) was established 2 October 1892. It is a joint-stock company capitalized at ¥700,000 with 70 percent of the stock owned by Huonopu and Huomasa SEGI, sons of the founder. The other 28 shareholders are former employees. Approximately 80 persons are employed.

Its news coverage is general and domestic, with special emphasis on political and economic news and the activities of all Government ministries, especially Agriculture and Forestry for rural subscribers.

Before the war, Naigai Tsushin serviced over 50 rural newspapers and a large number of magazines. Its service now goes to 38 newspapers and two magazines; it also sends copies to several Government offices. Each daily issue consists of from 20 to 25 printed pages.

JIYU TSUSHIN<sup>11</sup>

Jiyu Tsushin (Liberal News Agency), founded in 1898, is one of the oldest of Japanese agencies. Originally it was the organ of the conservative Seiyukai party. While today it disclaims having had any political connections for 15 years, its owner for the past 10 years, Choyabura ODOKA, is a member of the Nippon Shimpo (Progressive) Party, the party of conservative elements. The present owner is Chosaburo KOZAKA, a former leader of the Liberal Party in the Diet under TOJO.

Published daily by mimeograph, Jiyu Tsushin has 150 subscribers, mostly small newspapers, private concerns, and Government offices, most of the latter Tokyo-to municipal offices rather than national offices. It prints one edition daily of from eight to 10 pages.

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10. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Naigai Press Service, unpublished report, RI-13-PP-A-12, 1 December 1945.
  11. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Jiyu Tsushin, unpublished report, RI-5-PP-A-5, 2 December 1945.

## GENERAL AGENCIES

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Its news coverage is primarily on political and economic subjects, derived mainly from General Headquarters and Government and municipal agencies, as well as large industrial plants.

The regular staff has 18 persons, and a number of free lance reporters are paid space rates.

Jiyu Tsushin is capitalized at ¥50,000.

DOKURITSU TSUSHIN<sup>12</sup>

Dokuritsu Tsushin (Independent News Service) is another of the old, long-established news agencies. It was founded in 1913 and has changed ownership several times since then. At present it is capitalized at ¥100,000 and Teruo TOKUSHO is president and chief editor.

Up to 1941, Jyuichi ITO, member of the KONOYE Cabinet and chief of the Information Bureau, was owner of Dokuritsu Tsushin. He used it in an effort to promote unity between the United States and Japan. When the KONOYE Cabinet fell and TOJO took over (16 October 1941), ITO came under the surveillance of the Kempei (Thought Police). Mr. Tokeda YASUYI, who had worked as a civil service employee under ITO and also on Dokuritsu, then took over. YASUYI claims he was sympathetic with ITO's policies but was unable to carry them out during the war.

Like Jiyu Tsushin, Dokuritsu's news coverage is mainly devoted to subjects of political and economic significance, with a special emphasis on the Diet and on important personages. The stated editorial policy is to analyze and evaluate political elements "without which (analysis) Japan cannot become a true democracy...and to report dispassionately."<sup>13</sup> It claims no political affiliations but claims a liberal outlook.

Dokuritsu has a small staff but gathers a great deal of its news through free lance employees. It has 200 sub-

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12. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Dokuritsu Tsushin, unpublished report, FI-11-PP-A-8, 3 December 1945.

13. Ibid.

scribers, 50 of them daily newspapers outside of Tokyo, and the other 150 private subscribers, mostly Government officials.

#### NIPPON GODO TSUSHIN<sup>14</sup>

Nippon Godo Tsushin (Japanese United News Agency) was founded in 1926 by the late Mr. Ando GENSETSU. Today, 90 percent of its stock is owned by Katsutaro JITSUGAWA, an industrialist, with most of the remainder owned by Heikichi ITO, chief editor. In 1940, under the National Mobilization Law, the Government began ordering the amalgamation of the numerous small, independent agencies operating in Japan at that time. In general, this amalgamation was carried out by the buying up of four or five small agencies by one company large enough to finance the operation. Nippon Godo Tsushin is the result of such a merger, the firm having bought out four other small companies at that time.

Nippon Godo Tsushin employs a staff of about 30, including five or six of its own reporters. It also buys from free lance reporters. Its stories are general and purely domestic, with many exclusive features. Published daily and circulated to 60 newspapers as well as to a few individual subscribers such as bankers and officials, it is primarily concerned with household, agricultural, and industrial affairs.

A fee of ¥100 per month is charged for the 10 page daily service.

#### RENGO JOHO SHA TSUSHIN<sup>15</sup>

Rengo Joho Sha Tsushin (Associated Information News Agency Company), a daily news service, is about 15 years old. It was burned out of its Marunouchi office during

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14. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Nippon Godo Tsushin, unpublished report, RI-3-PP-A-3, 4 December 1946.
  15. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Rengo Joho Sha Tsushin, unpublished report, RI-6-PP-A-6, 5 December 1945.



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the war and is now located in the home of its owner, Asakichi TANAKA. At its peak, it employed 10 persons and had 1,500 subscribers. At present, it employs only four and serves 750 subscribers who pay ¥600 annually for the service. It is mimeographed and distributed entirely by mail. Its subscribers are mainly politicians, bankers, and businessmen, but include 15 provincial newspapers. Many of these subscribers also furnish Rengo with news, although there is no contract to this effect. It specializes somewhat in political and economic news, including background articles, interpretative matter, and features, as well as in movie and theater items.

OKUYAMA SERVICE<sup>16</sup>

The Okuyama Service is one influential Japanese news agency without a single Japanese subscriber. Long before the war, Seihei OKUYAMA, its owner and chief editor, worked on the Japan Advertiser, an English language daily owned by an American, B. W. Fleisher. He also worked as a New York Times Tokyo correspondent and for Rengo's English news service.

Through his contacts, OKUYAMA understood the needs of foreign correspondents in Tokyo, and on 24 October 1933 he started his own translation service--the Okuyama Service--which has continued with only one interruption to this day.

He would get the morning editions of Tokyo newspapers at about 0430, translate leading articles into English, and put them in the hands of his clients by 0900. His service operated successfully between 1933 and 1941 with 50 subscribers at ¥30 a month, a rather high price for those preinflation days. OKUYAMA included Ambassador Grew among his readers.

After Pearl Harbor, in December 1941, OKUYAMA was arrested as a spy suspect and held incommunicado. In

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16. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Okuyama Service, Report #1, unpublished, RI-10-PP-A-7, 12 December 1945. This service is now known as the Tokyo News.

January 1942, his agency, which was being published by his assistants, was ordered closed. However, neutral correspondents still in Tokyo requested the Board of Information to permit continuation of the service. This request was granted and publication was resumed in February. OKUYAMA was released in March and continued to head his agency, which has published without further interruption to this day.

Asahi, Mainichi, Yomiuri, Tokyo Shimbun, and Nippon Sangyo Keizai are the morning papers currently translated. Fifteen persons are employed to put out Okuyama Service, which is delivered daily by messengers. Subscription rates are ¥300 per month. Of the 120 subscriptions, 97 go to General Headquarters, two to Eighth Army Headquarters, one to the Siamese Consulate, and 20 to foreign correspondents, including reporters for practically all the important American and British services.

## Chapter 6

## LABOR AGENCIES

To act as spokesman for the postwar union labor movement and to give it direction, several small news agencies either were formed or revived from prewar days, while other agencies with similar intent readjusted their policies to meet the new situation. On the political level, two are definitely leftist; two may be termed liberal, with the distinction, however, that one is mildly friendly to the Communists, while the other is strongly anti-Communist; the remaining two are nonpartisan.

Some of the key personalities in these prolabor news agencies, by maintaining an easy "adjustability," managed to ride through the war almost unscathed; others, by maintaining a discreet silence and inactivity, preserved their strength for the future. The most militant ones, on the other hand, suffered, but finally emerged as the ideological spokesmen of militant labor groups.

NIPPON RONO TSUSHIN<sup>1</sup>

Among the most militant is Nippon Rono Tsushin (Japan Labor and Agricultural News Agency), a left-wing press service. It is published twice each week and sells for ¥50 per month to 5,952 paying subscribers. In addition, almost as many copies go to potential subscribers gratis to interest them in becoming subscribers. There is a 50 percent discount to labor unions. Approximately 70 percent of the subscribers are labor unions, with the other 30 percent divided among Government offices, newspapers, labor sections of industrial and business concerns, prefectural offices which are doing work in connection with labor and agriculture, and other interested elements.

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1. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Nippon Rono Tsushin, unpublished report, 11 February 1947.

There are 23 persons on the staff, including 15 reporters and editors.

The company is organized on a rather informal basis. Owner and chief editor is Kenji ASAKAWA. However, a managing committee, elected by the employees, makes decisions on policy, salaries, working conditions, and other pertinent matters. These decisions are complied with by Mr. ASAKAWA.

Nearly half the staff were political prisoners before and during the war. Kenji ASAKAWA himself was arrested in 1940 and served a three-year jail sentence because of his "thought tendencies."

Nippon Rono Tsushin is meant to be a medium of news exchange for labor unions and farmers' unions. It prints detailed accounts of successful methods employed by various unions and agricultural societies.

Mr. ASAKAWA denies any political connections, but admits that he frequently supports Communist Party policies. Principal news sources are labor and agricultural unions. Reporters, covering regular beats, bring in the news, and approximately 40 correspondents, paid on a space-rate basis, submit additional items. This agency also gets news from the Labor Division, Economic and Scientific Section of SCAP.

Nippon Rono Tsushin was started by Mr. ASAKAWA on 1 November 1945 as a daily service to supply newspapers with labor news. Mr. ASAKAWA did all the writing, editing, and clerical work himself. Because the newspapers were disinterested, he reorganized his service in January of 1946 as a semiweekly appealing to unions themselves rather than to the press.

#### RODO TSUSHIN<sup>2</sup>

Rodo Tsushin (Labor News Agency), a weekly news agency published in Nagoya, is similar to Nippon Rono Tsushin

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2. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Rodo Tsushin, unpublished report, 3 September 1946.

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in purpose and policy. Practically all of its 1,300 paying subscribers are trade unions who pay ¥500 a year for the service. In addition, approximately 700 other copies are mailed free each week for promotional purposes.

In 1939, Matsuo KAMIYA, its present publisher and chief editor, founded Rodo Tsushin. It crusaded for democracy and the emancipation of labor from feudal shackles. While his agency was pro-labor, it was not necessarily pro-union. It was anti-war, was interested in news of social movements, and attempted to inspire a feeling for democracy in the Japanese people.

When the war situation developed, KAMIYA was asked by civilian police to cooperate with the Government's war policies. After Pearl Harbor, the pressure became greater. KAMIYA claims that he insisted he had his own policies to follow, which were contrary to the Government's. He continued according to his own principles, he says, with intermittent and growing opposition from the militarists until 1943. During this period he was arrested eight times. Each time he was kept in jail from two or three days to two or three weeks. The first three times he was released after being pressured to change his editorial policies. During all this period he was compelled to print Government-released propaganda. However, he countered by printing alongside it editorials attacking it. He claims that he objected particularly to impressing labor for war purposes, and finally was forced to discontinue publication in March 1943. At that time, Rodo Tsushin was printed weekly and had 8,000 subscribers throughout Japan.

In March 1946, three years after the suppression of his news agency, KAMIYA revived it in the same city of Nagoya and with the same principles and the same name. While before the war Rodo Tsushin was free of partisan political bias, at the present time it is mildly pro-Communist. The prospectus for the agency reads, "The true democratization of Japan must be done by the voluntary action of the Japanese themselves."

This agency has branch offices in Tokyo and Osaka. Its regular news sources are various government offices --especially the Labor and Welfare Ministries--in Tokyo; the offices of the Communist and Social Democratic parties; and the big labor union and farmers' and women's

association offices.

### SHAKAI UNDO TSUSHIN<sup>3</sup>

The forerunner of Shakai Undo Tsushin (Social Movement News Agency) was Shin Keizai Sha (New Economics Company), a publishing house established in November 1940 by Isamu MIYAUCHI. This company's first and only publishing venture, until Shakai Undo Tsushin was started in December 1945, was the publication of Shin Keizai (The New Economist), a magazine devoted to economic problems.<sup>4</sup>

Shakai Undo Tsushin makes its greatest appeal to labor and liberal elements. Politically it supports the Minshu Jimmin Remmei (Democratic People's League), which was officially launched on 21 July 1946 and which aims to function as a propaganda and educational body advocating a "People's Front" between Social Democrats, Liberals, and Communists. Shakai Undo Tsushin is giving full publicity to this new movement and is supporting it editorially. The stated purposes of both the League and Shakai Undo Tsushin are: 1) a People's Front, 2) abolition of feudalism, militarism, bureaucracy, and despotism from every field of Japanese society, 3) economic reconstruction based on demo-

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3. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research Special Report; Shakai Undo Tsushin, AR-259-IM-88-PP-A-20, 30 July 1946.
  4. At the time of Pearl Harbor, there were approximately 120 publishing companies in Japan in the economics sphere. Later, when the Government began a forced amalgamation of all publishing houses (under the National Mobilization Law, 1940), this number was reduced to 10. During the emergency, private ownership of Shin Keizai Sha was replaced by corporate ownership, and consequently it was reorganized as a holding company. During the course of the war, the number of publishing firms specializing in the field of economics was further reduced to five, among which Shin Keizai Sha still survived. After the conclusion of the war, when the field opened up again, the company began publishing its weekly news service under the name of Shakai Undo Tsushin, in addition to continuing the publication of the magazine, Shin Keizai.

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cratic control, 4) protection of labor and establishment of industrial democracy, 5) democratization of education, 6) elevation of living standards in farming villages, and 7) cooperation in establishment of international peace and justice.

Emphasis of news is therefore upon cultural, social, labor, and agricultural activities. Most of its news is obtained by covering Government offices, labor unions, and industrial concerns.

The company is capitalized at ¥195,000, with 15 stockholders owning 3,900 shares of stock. The stockholders (Mr. MIYAUCHI is majority stockholder) control the board of directors (Mr. MIYAUCHI is chairman), which runs Shin Keizai Sha (Mr. MIYAUCHI is managing director), which in turn runs Shakai Undo Tsushin (Mr. MIYAUCHI is editorial policy maker).

Isamu MIYAUCHI, formerly a Communist, still has some sympathy for the movement but claims that his strongest ideological sympathies are with the left-wing Social Democrats.

The subscription rate for Shakai Undo Tsushin is ¥500 per year. The average weekly circulation is 700 copies, of which 394 go to paying subscribers and the others to potential subscribers, gratis, to attract their interest. Approximately half the copies go either to labor unions or to labor sections of industrial and business concerns.

SHAKAI TSUSHIN<sup>5</sup>

Shakai Tsushin (Labor Communications News Service) is a daily press service with special appeal to labor. It officially began publication on 1 April 1946. Its genesis occurred when the editors and reporters of two

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5. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Shakai Tsushin, unpublished report, 12 July 1946. At the time of preparation of this report, this agency had suspended because of labor and contract difficulties.

labor weeklies, Sanyo Kosei Jiho (Japanese Labor Correspondence) and Rodo Shuho (Labor Weekly), held a conference and decided to start a daily news agency devoted to the problems of labor and free from editorial control by publishers. Their avowed reasons for starting the company were threefold: 1) there was no previous daily news service devoted to the subject of labor, news of which was increasingly in demand, 2) if democracy was to develop soundly, an impartial service presenting the views of both capital and labor was essential, 3) there was need for an agency wherein capital and business management were entirely separated from the editorial department. The group interested two capitalists, Kiichiro YUMANISHI and Kishiro SEKINE--the latter owner of Rodo Shuho, with which several of the founders were originally affiliated--in advancing ¥100,000 to finance the new agency. To realize their original intention of preserving the agency's freedom from capitalist control, the founders adopted an interesting and original legal structure. The capital was divided into three nearly equal portions, with ¥34,000 allotted to the two capitalist-managers (each of whom supplied ¥50,000 to the founding of the company and each of whom now controls ¥17,000 worth of stock), ¥33,000 to the editorial department, and ¥33,000 to the business section. Within each of the last two divisions, the allotted amount of stock was to be divided among the employees. This distribution was fixed so that each section might have an equal voice in the affairs of the company. Since 60 persons are employed in the business and editorial departments, there are 62 stockholders, including the manager-capitalists. The whole company is governed by an eight man board of directors, elected from all sections. This board concerns itself only with business and company matters; editorial policy is determined at weekly meetings of the entire editorial personnel.

The announced editorial policy is to steer a middle course between capital and labor, and to cover both sides in any controversy. Hence, Shakai Tsushin is affiliated with no political party. Its reporters cover important events in the Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya areas. In addition, they have fixed beats, including Government and labor union offices.

There are 4,890 names on the agency's subscription rolls, of which 60 percent get gratis promotional copies.



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The service sells for ¥600 yearly and circulates primarily to labor unions and commercial and industrial concerns, although a sizeable number of Governmental agencies and official organizations also are included.

SHIN NIPPON SEIJI TSUSHIN<sup>6</sup>

Shin Nippon Seiji Tsushin (New Japan Policy News Service) is a daily news agency with ambitions to become a daily newspaper as soon as ink and paper are readily available. It is strictly a postwar product, established 10 October 1945, and having no previous connections with any other organization. One of the agency's owners, Hisashi SUDO, was formerly with Domei as a political staff reporter. He later joined the staff of Kokumin Press, a reactionary, nationalist wartime newspaper. Michio KIHARA, the owner and chief editor, also worked for Kokumin Press. Both were dismissed during the war, later arrested on suspicion of conspiring for peace.

Shin Nippon Seiji Tsushin subscribes to Jiji, Kyodo, and Radiopress services. It also used Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers' releases. Furthermore, the past connections of KIHARA and SUDO afford the agency access to additional news channels through officials and other reporters. The agency specializes in news of trade unions, government, and political affairs and is anti-Communist, according to KIHARA. However, it is nonpartisan and moderately leftist, and both KIHARA and SUDO deny connections with any political parties.

Most of the agency's 249 subscribers are Tokyo businessmen and private subscribers, although 12 newspapers, magazines, publishers, and news agencies, three political parties, 12 Government offices, and seven commercial houses also are listed as subscribers. The subscription rate is ¥55 per month.

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6. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Shin Nippon Seiji Tsushin, unpublished report, 6 June 1946.

SEISAN RODO JUMPO<sup>7</sup>

Seisan Rodo Jumbo (Production Labor Trimonthly) is published by the Osaka branch of Rodo Kagaku Kenkyusho (Labor Science Research Institute) to popularize the research works of the institute among Japan's general populace. The parent company, which subsidizes the news agency, is in turn subsidized by the Government through the Ministry of Education. A sum of ¥1,200,000 was allotted Rodo Kagaku Kenkyusho for the current year to conduct its research and to be used for educational work. This sum, however, was reduced 30 percent because the budget of the Government was slashed.

The purpose of Rodo Kagaku Kenkyusho is primarily to improve the efficiency and the welfare of workers. It conducts research into working conditions, labor efficiency, cost of living, labor psychology, and kindred subjects. On its staff are medical doctors, sociologists, economists, psychologists, and various other specialists, 70 in all. They take turns writing articles for the agency on their special fields of interest. Social, economic, and labor trends and problems are featured.

Gito TERUOKA founded the Institute in 1920 and is sole owner of the agency, its policy maker, co-editor, and general director. He spent about six months each in Germany, England, France, and the United States between 1921 and 1924. He is president of the Japanese Association of Industrial Hygiene, and a member of the Research Board of Science, the Japanese Physiological Society, and the Japanese Society of Statistics.

Eight hundred copies of the agency's news releases are circulated, half to paying subscribers and the other half for promotional purposes. Most of the paying subscribers are factory department heads, labor union officials, farmers' association officials, and small factory owners, scattered all over Japan. They pay ¥500 yearly.

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7. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research Special Report Seisan Rodo Jumbo, AR-260-IM-89-PP-E-20, 25 September 1946.

## Chapter 7

## BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL AGENCIES

Business-news agencies in Japan fall into various overlapping categories. Some of them specialize in general news that has a particular appeal to business men. Others are definitely technical, mainly devoted to some particular phase of industrial or commercial production. A third type is interpretative: it attempts to analyze statistics for the enlightenment of business men.

KEIZAI TOKUHO TSUSHIN<sup>1</sup>

Keizai Tokuhō Tsushin (Economics Special News Service), also known as Dotai Keizai Tokuhō, began as an independent institution in December 1930. Its founder and present owner, T. KATSUDA, had studied economics (specializing in financial and business cycles) at Columbia University, New York, and in Berlin. In Germany he wrote a book, Industrial Rationalization, which so impressed the editors of the Japanese daily newspaper, Jiji Shimpō, that he was hired to organize a research department in business forecasting and industrial research for Jiji Shimpō in December 1929. One year later, the newspaper failed. Then Mr. KATSUDA began the publication of his own independent news service.

The project grew to a fairly prosperous daily news service of 10,000 circulation. This pace was maintained until October 1943, when Mr. KATSUDA published a story which predicted Japan's defeat and the end of the war in 1945. KATSUDA was arrested and given a five months suspended sentence.

KATSUDA claims he opposed the war from the beginning for two reasons: the first was that he knew Japan's industrial production was too poor to enable his country to be

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1. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Keizai Tokuhō Tsushin, unpublished report, 18 June 1946.

victorious; the second was that he thought the war was unjust and contrary to the inner will of the Japanese common people.

In August 1944, military and civil police joined and completely dissolved his agency. However, 650 of his 10,000 subscribers had such faith in his views that they continued to ask for his opinions. So he secretly began publishing a sometimes printed, sometimes hand-written continuation of his service for them. He predicted defeat for Japan and advised against a last ditch struggle. Police raided his place shortly before the war ended and took away whatever paper and supplies they could find.

On 1 September 1945, 10 days after cessation of hostilities, he started publishing openly again. Now he is publishing twice each week and has 4,309 subscribers. Mr. KATSUDA's service might be likened to those of Babson or Kiplinger in the United States. He writes his opinions and interpretations of economic events and trends, which make up the entire paper. His staff of 13 takes care of clerical and business details. KATSUDA himself collects tips from friends on newspapers and magazines as well as through normal news channels. He specializes entirely in commercial, economic, and business news interpretations and trends. Subscription rates are ¥150 yearly, and copies go only to business concerns and individuals, no newspapers, political parties, or Government agencies.

#### SANGYO TSUSHIN<sup>2</sup>

Sangyo Tsushin (Industrial News Agency) is a daily news service selling for ¥550 a year. It was founded in March 1946 by Shinsuke KUWABARA, city councilman of Tokyo and reputedly quite wealthy. Mr. KUWABARA, an elderly man, selected a staff of younger men to run the service for him. Sangyo Tsushin strives for impartiality, asserts itself as spokesman for small industries, shopkeepers, storekeepers, and other members of the middle class. It does not handle political news to any extent, but it is against the Communist and Progressive parties as extremist, and manifests Social Democratic

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2. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Sangyo Tsushin, unpublished report, 7 August 1946.

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tendencies without being a supporter of the Party.

There are 182 subscribers, mostly in Tokyo, approximately one quarter municipal and central Governmental offices, the others are individuals and business concerns.

NIPPON KEIZAI TSUSHIN SHA<sup>3</sup>

Nippon Keizai Tsushin Sha (Japan Economic News Agency), a daily service, was established in 1908 with a capital of ¥200,000 by Mr. Kiyoshi YUZAWA, president and owner of the Kokaku Advertising Agency. Shortly after the beginning of the war, Kokaku and a number of other advertising concerns were amalgamated by Government action. Nippon Keizai Tsushin Sha became an independent company under Mr. YUZAWA. It was ordered by the Government to buy four other small agencies. Its offices and equipment were destroyed by fire in the bombings of 25 May 1945. Its releases still are stenciled by hand, and its capitalization is now only ¥100,000. Its Osaka office also was bombed out during the war and is not functioning.

The managing editor is Ryogi OOKA; he sets the agency's policy. News coverage is concerned specifically with commercial, business, and political affairs insofar as they in turn relate to current trade and business trends.

Paying subscribers total 308, mostly commercial concerns, Government offices, and newspapers. In addition, more than 600 copies are sent free, or for whatever stipend the traffic will bear, to old customers so badly disorganized by the war that they are unable to pay for the service and yet still desire to get it. One hundred yen is the regular subscription rate.

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3. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Nippon Keizai Tsushin Sha, unpublished report, 18 June 1946.

NODA KEIZAI KENKYUSHO NIPPO<sup>4</sup>

Noda Keizai Kenkyusho Nippo (Journal of Noda Economic Research Institute) was started in 1934 to report research in financial and economic conditions in Japan. Yutake NODA, founder, claims it has maintained throughout an independent attitude, with no connection with the zaibatsu except as subscribers.

Before the war, this agency took the side of big business against the militarists and was compelled to suspend publication several times, once in 1937, when NODA editorialized against undue control of business by the military Government, again in 1939, when news about factionalism among the military cliques was printed, and again in 1940 when NODA and his vice-president were arrested, later released.

During the war, the branch offices in Osaka and Nagoya were destroyed. Publication ceased with the destruction of printing equipment in Tokyo. NODA had been foresighted enough, however, to cache supplementary equipment elsewhere and was able to recommence small scale publication within a week.

At present, this agency is a mouthpiece of big business. It is opposed to radical unions and industrial reconstruction, and is anti-Communist. News is edited and arranged (i.e., slanted) to reflect its point of view.

Distribution is by mail daily, except on Sundays and holidays. The agency claims 5,000 subscribers, mostly among commercial, industrial, and business concerns, although some are newspapers and Government agencies. There are three editions, each independent of the others. The first is the "Social and Labor Movement Edition," issued daily to 1,500 subscribers and specializing in reporting on labor and capital and the Government attitude towards them. The second, also daily, with a circulation of 1,000, is the "Economic Edition," which specializes in financial, industrial, marketing, and commercial news. The third, called "Popular Economics Edition," comes out two or three times a month and has a circulation of 2,000.

4. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research Special Report, Noda Keizai Kenkyusho Nippo, Serial Number AR-234-PP-E-15, 16 July 1946.

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BOSHOKU TSUSHIN<sup>5</sup>

Boshoku Tsushin (Textile News Agency) was founded in Osaka in 1926 by Kichi SAKATA to supply the textile (especially woolens) industry with specialized information and to help tie the industry together.<sup>5</sup>

During the war, Boshoku Tsushin had an accumulation of paper and therefore was permitted to continue publication even though other organs in the field were discontinued. On 7 June 1945, the plant with much of its equipment was destroyed in the Osaka bombings. SAKATA had no hopes of recovery and finally managed to sell the agency to a three-man partnership headed by Koji NAKAMURA, a Japanese newspaperman who had been working in Shanghai. He owns 50 percent of the stock. His partners are Taisuke NAGAWA, who owns 30 percent, and Iwao IIDA, who owns 20 percent.

Boshoku Tsushin claims to be the only textile news agency in Japan. It follows the original principles laid down by Mr. SAKATA. It endeavors to remain aloof from politics and to take no sides in labor-capital disputes. Its purposes are to foster the fiber industry in Japan, to improve living conditions of labor in this field, to help develop technical knowledge and proficiency, and to democratize the industry.

Over 100 persons are employed. Besides the main office in Osaka, there are four main branch offices and six sub-branches. Every important textile center is covered. For foreign news, Boshoku Tsushin subscribes to Jiji Tsushin and Kyodo Tsushin.

Boshoku Tsushin has 2,000 daily subscribers, mostly in the textile industry, at a subscription price of ¥30 monthly.

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5. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research Special Report, Boshoku Tsushin, Serial Number AR-269-IM-93-PP-A-21, 4 September 1946.
6. Statement of Koji NAKAMURA, president and chief editor of Boshoku Tsushin, to a representative of Information Media Research, in Osaka, 12 August 1946.

KYODO KUMIAI SHIMPO<sup>7</sup>

Kyodo Kumiai Shimpo (Cooperative Union News Report) began publication in 1937, under the name Kyodo Shimpo, to help advance the cooperative movement in Japan. The founder-owner, Akira KITSUKI, ran the agency until 1938, when ill health compelled him to relinquish it. Because of poor business management, the agency soon collapsed under the new owner.

During the war the cooperatives were used by the militarists as instruments of totalitarian control and propaganda in farming and fishing villages. At the end of the war, the cooperatives resumed their function as bona fide producer and consumer agencies, and Mr. KITSUKI revived his organization on 11 January 1946 in order to aid them.

At first the agency was named Kyodo Kumiai Tsushin, later Kyodo Kumiai Shimpo. Because of the paper shortage and communication difficulties which prevented freshness of news, KITSUKI changed from a daily to a thrice-weekly service.

The announced primary aim of Kyodo Kumiai Shimpo is to promote the cooperative movement among farmers and fishermen and to aid in the revival of cooperatives in Japan. Issues of 4, 7, 9, 11 and 14 October 1946 confirm this policy. It also gives editorial support to political movements that favor the cooperative movement, which means that it frequently supports the Social-Democratic, Cooperative, and Communist parties.

The agency has 456 subscribers, paying ¥300 yearly for subscriptions. The vast majority are combined cooperative unions; most of the others are companies or agencies dealing with cooperatives, such as fertilizer companies and seed companies. Circulation is distributed fairly equally throughout Japan.

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7. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Kyodo Kumiai Shimpo, unpublished report, 15 November 1946.



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SHOGYO TSUSHIN<sup>8</sup>

Shogyo Tsushin (Commercial News Agency) is a small organization which mimeographs two 10-page editions of general commercial news a day for five Tokyo subscribers and 30 in the rest of Japan.

- 8. Detailed information on this news agency is available in the Press and Publications Agencies file of Information Media Research.

## Chapter 8

## CULTURAL AGENCIES

The cultural field covered by news agencies ranges from classic kabuki and Noh drama to movies, and includes music, newspapers, and other intellectual and entertainment activities. These agencies vary in circulation from the "highbrow" to "fan" types.

During the war, many were forced to discontinue or amalgamate.

GODO TSUSHIN<sup>1</sup>

Oldest in continuous service of any of the cultural news agencies here listed, Godo Tsushin (United News Service) was founded in September 1933 by Kichiya TAKAHASHI at Kyoto, with a semi-autonomous branch office in Tokyo which now surpasses the home office in importance.

In 1940 Mr. TAKAHASHI retired in favor of a three-man corporation now capitalized at ¥53,000, with Kenzo INOUE owning 40 percent of the stock, and Eikichi IKEZAWA and Kazuyoshi NAGANO 30 percent each.

Soon afterward, as a result of the Government's wartime centralization, Godo Tsushin was the sole survivor in the field of entertainment and movie news in the Kyoto-Osaka area. Though Domei had been granted exclusive rights to handle cultural news in the Tokyo area, Godo Tsushin nevertheless maintained its Tokyo office throughout the war.

Godo Tsushin publishes a daily report of theatrical

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1. Detailed information on this agency is available in the Press and Publication Agencies file of Information Media Research.

## CULTURAL AGENCIES

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and movie news, with a special weekly edition, and has about 800 subscribers--mostly movie companies, theaters, associated industries, and newspapers--who pay ¥30 to ¥100 monthly.

BUNKA TSUSHIN<sup>2</sup>

Bunka Tsushin (Cultural News Service) is Japan's "newspapermen's newspaper," a revival of Shimbun Orai, which Yoshio SHIGEDA established at Nagoya in 1937 in imitation of America's Editor and Publisher, but was forced to close during the war. In May 1946 he revived it, changed the name to Bunka Tsushin to widen his field to embrace the cinema, stage, and radio.

Published three times a month, Bunka Tsushin has about 1,500 subscribers among newspapers, reporters, and advertising agencies all over Japan. Subscriptions are ¥10 monthly.

RENGO TSUSHIN<sup>3</sup>

Rengo Tsushin (Associated News Agency) covers the music, motion picture, and drama fields and is published seven days a week, with the Sunday edition being slightly smaller than the others. It also publishes occasional special editions. Founded on 26 November 1945, it is now a partnership and capitalized at ¥30,000. It has 700 week day subscribers and 1,000 on Sundays. All the most important Tokyo newspapers are subscribers.

Rengo Tsushin's announced policy is to encourage artistic and cultural development in Japanese life, to instill democratic ideals, and to bring about an understanding of business economics in the movies, drama, and music. Its circulation is mostly in areas which support cultural activities on a substantial scale.

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2. Material for this section is derived from notes gathered for Information Media Research unpublished report, Bunka Tsushin, during August 1946.
  3. Detailed information on this news agency is available in the Press and Publication Agencies file of Information Media.

## Chapter 9

## MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES

The first two described in this chapter are interested primarily in problems of repatriation from Manchuria and Mongolia. At present, they are particularly interested in helping to speed repatriation, but their future plans, when the problem of repatriation is settled, offer interesting conjecture. Already, however, they are serving as propaganda vehicles for cooperative relief and welfare groups which are emerging throughout Japan.

The third and fourth are strictly news-photo services.

The fifth is Chinese owned and deals primarily with news about China.

TAIRIKU JOHO TSUSHIN<sup>1</sup>

Tairiku Joho Tsushin (Continental Information News Service) owes its existence to the Allied conquest of Manchuria. Kanichi ITO, its managing director, was formerly head of the Tokyo branch office of the Manchu Nippo (Manchuria Daily), a Japanese-owned Manchurian newspaper. He had been in Manchuria in 1938-43.

When the Russian armies overran Manchuria, the Manchu Nippo ceased to exist, leaving its well-organized Tokyo staff intact and potentially jobless. ITO took charge of the situation with a double purpose in mind: 1) to maintain employment for himself and the staff, and 2) to make use of the setup to aid Japanese war sufferers in Manchuria. On 9 December 1945, the former branch of the Manchu Nippo became the Tairiku Joho Tsushin.

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1. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Tairiku Joho Tsushin, unpublished report, 18 November 1946.

## MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES

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The initial issue was published 22 December 1945. ITO was unable to bear the financial burden, and in June 1946, it became a corporation with eight owners and a capital of ¥100,000. Chief sponsor was Dairoku NAKANO, who was formerly on the staff of the Information Division of the Japanese embassy in Manchuria. He is now the main shareholder and president of this company. Practically all the others had been identified at one time or another with Manchurian affairs.

At first, ITO desired merely to publicize the problems of Manchurian repatriates and to elicit aid for them. Since repatriation began, such problems as housing, employment, and relocation have become prime issues. The agency is trying to organize the repatriates into cooperative associations for mutual aid. Tairiku Joho Tsushin gathers news concerning these small and isolated cooperative groups which are being formed all over Japan and encourages their efforts editorially.

Besides the main office in Tokyo, reporters are stationed in Hakata, Moji, Osaka, Niigata, and Sapporo, all debarkation points from Manchuria. In addition, Osaka is somewhat of a relocation center. Reporters also cover the Tokyo railroad station to interview returnees.

The service is published weekly, charges ¥10 monthly to subscribers, and prints 10,000 copies each issue, most of them distributed free to interested societies. There are 1,196 paying subscribers, including many newspapers and official and semiofficial repatriation services. Most private subscribers are Japanese living in various parts of Japan who have relatives in Manchuria, or who are repatriates themselves.

MAN-MO JOHO TSUSHIN<sup>2</sup>

Man-Mo Joho Tsushin (Manchurian-Mongolian Information News Service) in Osaka is an offshoot of Tairiku Joho Tsushin in Tokyo. Kataro SAKAI, editor and publisher,

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2. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research Special Report Man-Mo Joho Tsushin, AR-256-IM-85-PP-A-19, 15 November 1946.

was formerly Osaka correspondent for Tairiku Joho Tsushin. Like other staff members of Tairiku Joho Tsushin, he was, before the Russians overran Manchuria, Osaka correspondent of the Japanese newspaper in Manchuria, the Manchu Nippo.

Unofficially, this agency serves as the organ of a welfare service, Man-Mo Doho Engokai (Manchuria-Mongolia Brethren Welfare Society), a repatriation organization started by Juzo EMURA, formerly Manchukuo Government consul in Osaka. Both the organization and the news agency plan to dissolve as soon as repatriation is completed.

Man-Mo Joho Tsushin was financed by SAKAI out of his own pocket. Initial investment was about ¥2,000. Besides helping speed repatriation, the agency also seeks news on the condition of those still stranded in reoccupied territory for their friends and relatives in Japan.

SAKAI goes to the Osaka railroad station and interviews repatriates as they come in for firsthand news from Manchuria and Mongolia and also for news about new arrivals. The repatriation relief societies in Osaka are a fertile source of news, as Osaka is a relocation center for all of Japan, and returnees go there for help from the various societies and agencies. A third news source is Tairiku Joho Tsushin in Tokyo. Tairiku Joho Tsushin and Man-Mo Joho Tsushin have a mutual exchange agreement on news.

Of the agency's 400 subscribers, half pay ¥10 monthly for the weekly service. The others get gratis copies for promotional purposes. Subscribers are almost entirely friends and relatives of Manchuria and Mongolia Japanese.

### SUN NEWS PHOTO AGENCY<sup>3</sup>

Sun News Photo is a photo agency that resulted from the combination of two companies--Sun Photo News and Graphic Times-Sun--both owned by Mr. S. YAMAHATA, owner and president of Sun News Photo Agency.

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3. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research Special Report Sun News Photo Agency, RI-122-PP-A-14, 30 March 1946.

## MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES

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The first company, Graphic Times-Sun, began operating in 1925. During the next 20 years it specialized in pictorial advertising. The second company, Sun Photo Service, was established in 1938. Prior to the war, it served as a news photo agency with some international ramifications; but it ceased to operate when international communications were suspended.

During the war, however, because Graphic Times-Sun was equipped with the only revolving printing machine in Japan, it was literally deluged with orders for photo prints. At the beginning of the war it had changed its policy from one of specialization to one of expansion. Besides making prints of Japanese landscape photographs and picture postcards for the Japanese Tourist Bureau and other commercial firms, it also filled large orders for the Japanese Government. As part of its wartime activities, Graphic Times-Sun sent six cameramen to three theaters of operations.

The building which was used by both companies was bombed and gutted 27 January 1945. This, combined with the acute shortage of paper, drove Graphic Times-Sun to the wall.

The two agencies, Sun Photo Service and Graphic Times-Sun, were revived 1 September 1945, as the single Sun News Photo Agency, which combines the work of its two predecessors.

Twelve magazines and 20 newspapers and commercial firms in the Tokyo area receive prints from Sun News. These 32 subscribers pay about ¥42,000 monthly for the service. In addition, 11 other publications outside the Tokyo area are subscribers, and the most important newspapers in Japan. Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers' General Headquarters is one of the agency's biggest customers. In February 1946, Sun Photo made 5,462 prints for General Headquarters, at a total cost of ¥60,612.90. The American Magazine, Life, and Acme News Photo Service in America are also its clients. Sun Photo rivals Kyodo in the field of news photographs.<sup>4</sup>

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4. Kyodo Tsushin and Jiji Press both have important news photo departments.

NIKKAN SHASHIN TSUSHIN<sup>5</sup>

Nikkan Shashin Tsushin (The Daily News Photo Agency) has furnished photographs to Japanese newspapers and magazines since 1905; it has an experienced staff, sufficient technical equipment, sound backing, and a large newspaper clientele. Its income is principally from the execution of specific commissions for newspapers. Although most of these commissions are for portraits of political figures, other subjects are science, industry, the arts, famous places, and sports events; but the agency does not now attempt spot news coverage.

The firm's sponsor is Teikoku Chiho Gyosei Kofubai (Imperial Local Administrative News Distribution Company, Ltd.), a concern commanding a capital of ¥5 million with paid assets of ¥1.25 million. Established in 1891, this corporation also publishes magazines dealing with new laws and taxes, political news, and other miscellaneous subjects.

CHUGOKU TSUJINSHA<sup>6</sup>

Chugoku Tsujinsha (China News Agency) was founded 10 October 1946 by TSENG Yung An, a native of Formosa, for Chinese residing in Japan. TSENG left Formosa for Japan in 1929, when he was 15, and was graduated from Waseda University in 1941. He claims Chinese citizenship.

Chugoku Tsujinsha's original prospectus outlined the following program:

We wish to publish fair and reliable news  
....about the political, economic, cultural, and  
social situation in China, and to elevate the na-  
tional consciousness of Chinese in Japan, at the  
same time giving reliable information to Japanese  
and Koreans about China.

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5. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research Special Report Daily News Photo Co., Ltd. (Nikkan Shashin Tsushin), RI-103-PP-A-13, 15 March 1946.
  6. Material in this section is derived from Information Media Research, Chugoku Tsujinsha, unpublished report, 13 February 1947.



## MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES

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His main news source is Chuosa (The Chinese Central News).

While about 20 percent of the column space of the service is devoted to items from the Chinese Central News, the other 80 percent is generally taken up by articles reprinted from Nanking dailies and procured through the Chinese Mission. Three pro-Kuomin-tang newspapers are the main sources: Da Kung Pau, Shin Wen Pau, and Sun Pau. The Chinese Mission is frequently a source for information.

Three all-wave monitoring radio sets are kept tuned in on Nanking, Chungking, and Yen-an 24 hours every day.

Mr. TSENG claims he is unable to procure newspapers from the Red Chinese government at Yen-an. He says his agency monitors news from the Yen-an radio, but that it "is not clear or reliable."

TSENG is sole owner of Chugoku Tsujinsha, which is capitalized at ¥500,000. On matters of editorial importance, he consults with his chief editor, LI Te Fu, another Formosan Chinese. About half of the 38 employees are Chinese, the others are Japanese. The head office in Tokyo has 27 employees, the Osaka branch five, the Kobe and Nagoya branches three each. The branches are concerned solely with business matters and circulation, in communities with large Chinese colonies.

There are two different services. The first is a daily, except for holidays and Sundays, and averages four or five pages. It is meant for Japanese, but half of its 800 subscribers are Chinese. Subscribers to this daily service pay ¥100 a month. The other service is meant primarily for Chinese residents of Japan. It is a weekly of from 10 to 16 pages, and includes the most important stories from the daily editions plus additional stories with a special appeal to Chinese. Its 2,000 subscribers pay ¥50 quarterly. Both editions are printed in Japanese, except for quotations from leading Chinese officials, which are generally in Chinese.

As far as is known, this is the only news agency in Japan which caters to Chinese and those interested in China.

## Appendix 1.

## NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF JAPANESE NEWS AGENCIES

(Note: This list is based upon information on file in Information Media Research and contains the names and addresses of all Japanese news agencies known to be operating on 1 March 1947. Page references are given for agencies which are included in this report.)

	<u>Pages</u>
Boshoku Tsushin 18-5, Nishi 2-chome, Tezukayama, Sumiyoshi-ku, Osaka	59
Bunka Tsushin 1-chome 50 Sagashita-machi, Chigusu-ku, Nagoya	63
Chubu Sangyo Tsushin 15 Kami, Kitaseko, Handa City, Aichi Prefecture (Nagoya area)	
Chugoku Tsujinsha 2 Nishikanda 2-chome, Kanda-ku, Tokyo, c/o former Nikka Gakkai Building	68-69
Dokuritsu Tsushin Setagaya-ku, Soshigaya 2-461, Tokyo	43-44
Dotai Keizai Tokuhō, same as Keizai Tokuhō Tsushin	
Geino Tsushin 6-14, Oike-cho, Naka-ku, Nagoya	
Godo Tsushin Ginza Nishi 8-3 Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo; (Main office) Tsushin Godosha, 4-jo, Kawahamachi Shijo-Sagara, Shimokyo-ku, Kyoto	62-63
Insho Tsushin Nagase Daigaku-dori, Fuse City (Osaka area)	

Jiji Tsushin Sha Nigi-chi, Hibiya Park, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo	26-32
Jiyu Tsushin 3-1 Ginza Nishi, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo	42-43
Kankai Tsushin Shisei Kaikan, 3rd floor, Tokyo	
Keizai Tokuhō Tsushin 8-4-chome, Ginza, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo	55-56
Kokusai Tsushin (International Special News Service) c/o Gyosei Gakkai Bldg, 7-chome, Ginza, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo	40-41
Kyodo Kumiai Shimpō #12, 2-chome, Ogawa-machi, Kanda-ku, Tokyo	60
Kyodo Tsushin Sha 2 Hibiya Koen, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo	17-26
Maiyu Tsushin 3-chome, Sugumo, Toshima-ku, Tokyo	41
Man-Mo Joho Tsushin c/o Man-Mo Doho Engokai, Dajima Bldg., Kita- ku, Osaka	65-66
Naigai Tsushin 22-3-chome, Nishikicho, Kanda-ku, Tokyo	42
Nichibei Tsushin (American-Japan News Agency) Mainichi Bldg. (2nd floor), Tokyo	39-40
Nikkan Honyaku Tsushin 1-11 Mainichi Kaikan, Yuraku-cho, Kojimachi- ku, Tokyo	
Nikkan Nippon Jiyu Tsushin Shitaya-ku, Tokyo	
Nikkan Sekaitampa Joho (Nippon Tsushin) Nihonbashi-ku, 1-3-chome, Muro-machi	38-39

<u>NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF JAPANESE NEWS AGENCIES</u>		73
Nikkan Shashin Tsushin		68
Kyobashi-ku, Ginza Nishi 7-1 Shishin Tsushin, Tokyo		
Nippon Godo Tsushin		44
4-1-chome, Ginza, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo		
Nippon Jiyu Tsushin		
26-1-chome, Kanasugi, Shitaya-ku, Tokyo		
Nippon Keizai Tsushin		57
75 Ginza Nishi, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo		
Nippon Rono Tsushin		47-48
Kyobashi-ku, Ginza Nishi, 2-3, Tokyo		
Nippon Sangyo Rodo Tsushin		
c/o Kitahama Bldg., 2-chome, Kitahama Higashi-ku, Osaka		
Nippon Shakai Tsushin		
135 Minami 2-chome, Kamifukushima, Fukushima-ku, Osaka		
Nippon Shakai Undo Tsushin		
c/o Nippa Shakai Undo Chosa Kai, 20 Higashi 2-chome, Mandai-cho, Sumeyashi-ku, Osaka		
Noda Keizai Kenkyusho Nippo		58
Nihombashi-ku, Gofukubashi, 3-5 % Makimachi Bldg., Tokyo		
Okuyama Service		45-46
Matsumura Bldg., #1-1-chome Uchiyamashita-cho Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo		
Radiopress		
Foreign Office Compound (next to Finance building)		36-38
Rengo Joho Sha Tsushin		44-45
Marunouchi, Kotoku Kaiken (Bldg.), Tokyo		
Rengo Tsushin		63
Shisei Kaikan, 3rd floor, Hibiya Hall Bldg., Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo; Soze-cho, Kita-ku, Osaka Bldg., Osaka		

Rodo Sangyo Tsushin-Sha Ekimae, Fujiidera-cho, Minamigawachi-gun, Osaka Prefecture	
Rodo Tsushin 2-55 Higashitachibana-cho, Naka-ku, Nagoya	48-50
Sangyo Tsushin #1, 2-chome, Surugadai, Kanda-ku, Tokyo	56-57
Seiji Rodo Tsushin Higashigama-ku, Yameshima Ueno Terai-machi, Kyoto	
Seisan Rodo Jumbo Senpoku-gun, Takaishi-machi, c/o Hagoromo Kaikan, Osaka	54
Shakai Tsushin 8-3-chome, Tsukiji, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo	51-53
Shakai Undo Tsushin Kyobashi-ku, Tsukiji 4-2, Tokyo	50-51
Shakeito Tsushin 55 Nipponbashi 3-chome, Minami-ku, Osaka	
Shin Nippon Feiji Tsushin Dentsu Bldg., #7 Nishi Ginza, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo	53
Shogyo Tsushin Nihon Odori, Naka-ku, Yokohama	61
Shokuryo Tsushin c/o Shokuryo Keizai Kenkyu-sho, Hozon Shakuhin Bldg., 2-33, Imbashi, Higashi-ku, Osaka	
Sun News Photo Mainichi kan, Yuraku-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo	66-67
Tairiku Joho Tsushin Marunouchi, 3-chome, Tokyo	64-65
Teikoku Chuya Tsushin 8-1-chome, Ginza, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo	41

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF JAPANESE NEWS AGENCIES 75

Tokyo Doken Tsushin  
496-2-chome, Amanuma, Suginami-ku, Tokyo

Tokyo Tsushin  
c/o Miyuki Bldg., 5, 6-chome, Ginza Nishi,  
Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo

Yoron Tsushin  
Omiya-cho 8-66 Asahi-ku, Osaka

## Appendix 2.

## ENGLISH NAME INDEX OF JAPANESE NEWS AGENCIES

(Note: This index lists all Japanese news agencies that are discussed in this report.)

	<u>Pages</u>
America-Japan News Agency (Nichibei Tsushin)	38-39
Associated Information News Agency Co. (Rengo Sha Tsushin)	44-45
Associated News Agency (Rengo Tsushin)	63
China News Agency (Chugoku Tsujinsha)	68-69
Commercial News Agency (Shogyo Tsushin)	61
Continental Information News Service (Tairiku Joho Tsushin)	64-65
Cooperative News Agency Co. (see Kyodo)	
Cooperative Union News Report (Kyodo Kumiai Shimpo)	60
Cultural News Service (Bunka Tsushin)	63
Daily News Photo Agency (Nikken Shashin Tsushin)	68
Dentsu (Japan Telegraph News Agency Co.) (Nippon Dempo Tsushin Sha)	2- 9
Domei News Agency Co. (Domei Tsushin Sha)	7-16
Domestic and Foreign News Service (Naigai Tsushin)	42
Economics Special News Service (Keizai Tokuhō Tsushin)	55-56
Every Evening News Agency (Maiyu Tsushin)	41
Graphic Times-Sun (now Sun News Photo Agency)	
Imperial Day and Night News Agency (Teikoku Chuya Tsushin)	41
Imperial News Agency Co. (Teikoku Tsushin Sha)	2- 6
Independent News Service (Dokuritsu Tsushin)	43-44
Industrial News Agency (Sangyo Tsushin)	56-57
International Special News Service (Kokusai Tsushin)	40-41

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Japan Economics News Agency (Nippon Keizai Tsushin)	57
Japan Labor and Agricultural News Agency (Nippon Rono Tsushin)	47-48
Japanese United News Agency (Nippon Godo Tsushin)	44
Jiji Press (Jiji Tsushin Sha)	26-32
Journal of Noda Economic Research Institute (Noda Keizai Kenkyusho Nippo)	58
Kokusai (see International Special News Service)	
Kokusai Tsushin Sha	3-5
Kyodo News Agency Co. (Kyodo Tsushin Sha)	17-26
Labor Communications News Service (Shakai Tsushin)	51-53
Labor News Agency (Rodo Tsushin)	48-50
Liberal News Agency (Jiyu Tsushin)	42-43
Manchurian-Mongolian Information News Service (Man-Mo Joho Tsushin)	65-66
New Japan Policy News Service (Shin Nippon Seiji Tsushin)	53
Okuyama Service	45-46
Production Labor Trimonthly (Seisan Rodo Jumbo)	54
Radiopress	36-38
Rengo (Japan Newspaper Alliance) (Nippon Shimbun Rengo Sha)	5-9
Shortwave World News (Nikkan Sekaitampa Joho)	38-39
Social Movement News Agency (Shakai Undo Tsushin)	50-51
Sun News Photo Agency	66-67
Sun Photo News (now Sun News Photo Agency)	
Teikoku (see Imperial News Agency Co.)	
Textile News Agency (Boshoku Tsushin)	59
Toho News Agency Co. (Toho Tsushin Sha)	41
United News Service (Godo Tsushin)	62-63



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Walter Leifer  
(21a) Dringenberg  
Brakel-Land

OFFICE OF Dringenberg, 30.7.48  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS  
MESSAGE CENTER

ACTION  
is assigned to

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To  
U.S. Department of Foreign Affairs DIVISION OF  
Washington. NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SEP 10 3 13 PM 1948  
SEP 7 1948

Dear Sir,

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*File - DCR*

I am a German journalist and at the same time a contributor to English written newspapers. May I request you to send me some informations on the press or journalism of Japan? You know we German journalists and publishers have no possibility to write to that Country. We can do it only with the help of allied offices.

Could you please inform me about the number of Japanese newspapers, reviews, and publications of all kinds. What is the circulation of these newspapers? How many newspapers are written in the Romaji-writing, in Roman letters ordered in 1945 by General Mc Arthur? I am on the opinion this is a cultural fact of highest value. Is there in Japan the same system of licences as here in Germany? Are all the newspapers published since 1945 under new titles as in Germany? Please give me all these details and, at the same time, if it is possible for you, a good history of the press in Japan. I need these informations for our German newspapers of the journalists association. May I once again take the liberty of asking you to send me some copies of Japanese newspapers or reviews. Please translate all the Japanese titles of newspapers ect. into the English language. I would be very obliged to you receiving these informations and copies of Japanese newspapers. May I suggest that you write to my Japanese Friend to inquire

Rev. Leopold H. Jibeser  
Catholic Chapel 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Mitsukoshi Building  
Ginza and Z Sts.  
Tokyo Japan

*Referred to  
SEP-8 1948  
CAD  
appropriate  
reply.  
FAS.  
MC*

Yours faithfully

*Walter Leifer*

(Walter Leifer)

894.91/7-3048

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : 0 - Mr. Saltzman

DATE: August 17, 1948

FROM : OFD - Hubert F. Havlik *JFH*

SUBJECT: Charges for Press Wire News Services in Japan

It is understood that in analogy to the procedures maintained by OMGUS Mr. Draper, Undersecretary of the Department of the Army, is prepared to recommend that the press wire news services operating in Japan be required to pay 25 percent in U.S. dollars and the balance in Japanese currency of the Japanese share of such services affecting inward- and outward-bound news. By contrast SCAP has recommended that 100 percent of such services be payable in Japanese yen instead of the present arrangements whereby 100 percent of these services are payable in U.S. dollars.

OFD does not believe that the matter is of great importance to the Department, and in the absence of any other views is prepared to concur with the action proposed by the Undersecretary of the Army. It should be clearly understood that this decision is taken without prejudice to any possible future policy judgment which the Department may be called upon to make relative to the compensation of the press wire news services for the cost or value of news supplied by them to Japan.

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Jelly Allison  
(NS)*

*8/23/48*

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

United States Political Adviser for Japan

Tokyo, January 13, 1949.

No. 21

RESTRICTED

DIVISION OF NORTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION is assigned to

FE

DCR

Subject: Anticipated Reorganization in Japanese Newspaper Field.

RECEIVED DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JAN 17 1949

The Honorable The Secretary of State, Washington.

DC/ASIAN BRANCH FACILITIES

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RECEIVED DEPARTMENT OF STATE

I have the honor to report a number of significant readjustments which are taking place in Japanese newspaper publishing.

Relations of Kyodo News Agency with Big Newspapers

It is understood that Kyodo News Agency may lose, at a date so far undetermined, the patronage of Japan's two newspapers of largest circulation: Mainichi and Asahi. As the Department is aware, these two newspapers are published simultaneously daily in Tokyo, Osaka and Kyushu, the total circulation of each of the two chains being between three and one half and three and three quarter millions daily. These two newspapers thus print one third of Japan's national daily total of between nineteen and twenty million copies.

It is also understood that Mainichi and Asahi have recently reviewed their relationship with Kyodo and have found that they use approximately three per cent of the material supplied them by Kyodo. This news agency is a service organization, its operational expenses being defrayed by member papers in proportion to circulation. Asahi and Mainichi are therefore in the position of paying between one third and one half of Kyodo's expenses. The managements of both these newspapers are understood to feel that their support of Kyodo in effect finances a service of direct benefit not to themselves but to their competitors.

Asahi is the principal outlet in Japan for the Associated Press and Mainichi is the principal outlet for the United Press. Both newspapers buy a number of supplementary services.

Merger of Small Newspapers in Tokyo

The three large metropolitan Tokyo newspapers have in the past few months been reaching into the afternoon field. Since the

surrender

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Tokyo's Despatch No. 21,  
January 13, 1949.

-2-

surrender, Yomiuri (circulation 1,750,000) has had a hand in the afternoon field through Shin Hochi Shimbun. A recent merger of Shin Hochi and Yukan Miyako to form Hochi Shimbun has practically doubled the availability of rationed paper to this Yomiuri subsidiary.

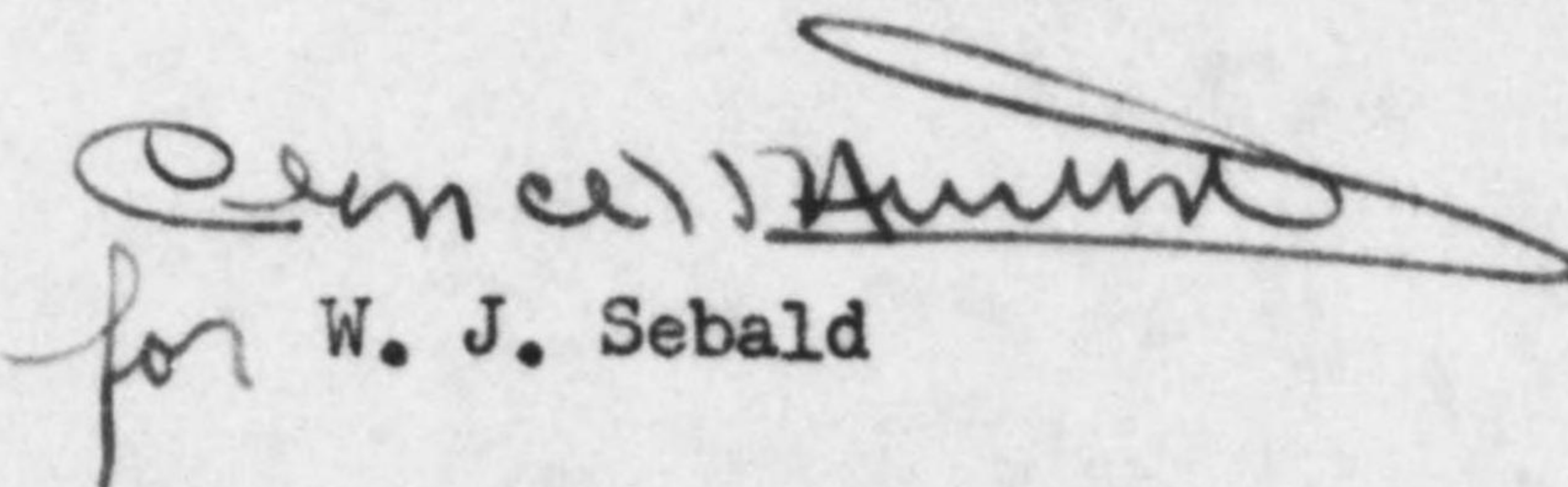
Asahi has long been known to have a working arrangement with Tokyo Shimbun and thus through this satellite to be in the afternoon field.

Mainichi has now caught up with its two largest competitors in Tokyo in this respect. A combination of financial and personnel difficulties in Tokyo Mimpo forced it to sell out for a reported ¥7,000,000, of which Mainichi is understood to have supplied nearly half. Mimpo had no assets worth mentioning except its paper ration. The Mimpo staff has been dismissed and Mainichi's venture in the afternoon field, called Tokyo Nichi Nichi, is produced in the Mainichi editorial rooms and plant.

Shimbun Kyokai Ho, the house organ of the Japan Newspaper Publishers' and Editors' Association (Nippon Shimbun Kyokai), in a recent staff article ascribed these mergers and reorganizations to financial difficulties among the small papers founded after the surrender.

The legality of the organization of Tokyo Nichi Nichi is questioned by Shimbun No Shimbun ("Newspaper of Newspapers"), a trade paper of small circulation in Tokyo. Shimbun No Shimbun considers that Mainichi's reach into the afternoon field constitutes a violation of the Anti-Monopoly Law.

Respectfully yours,

  
for W. J. Sebald

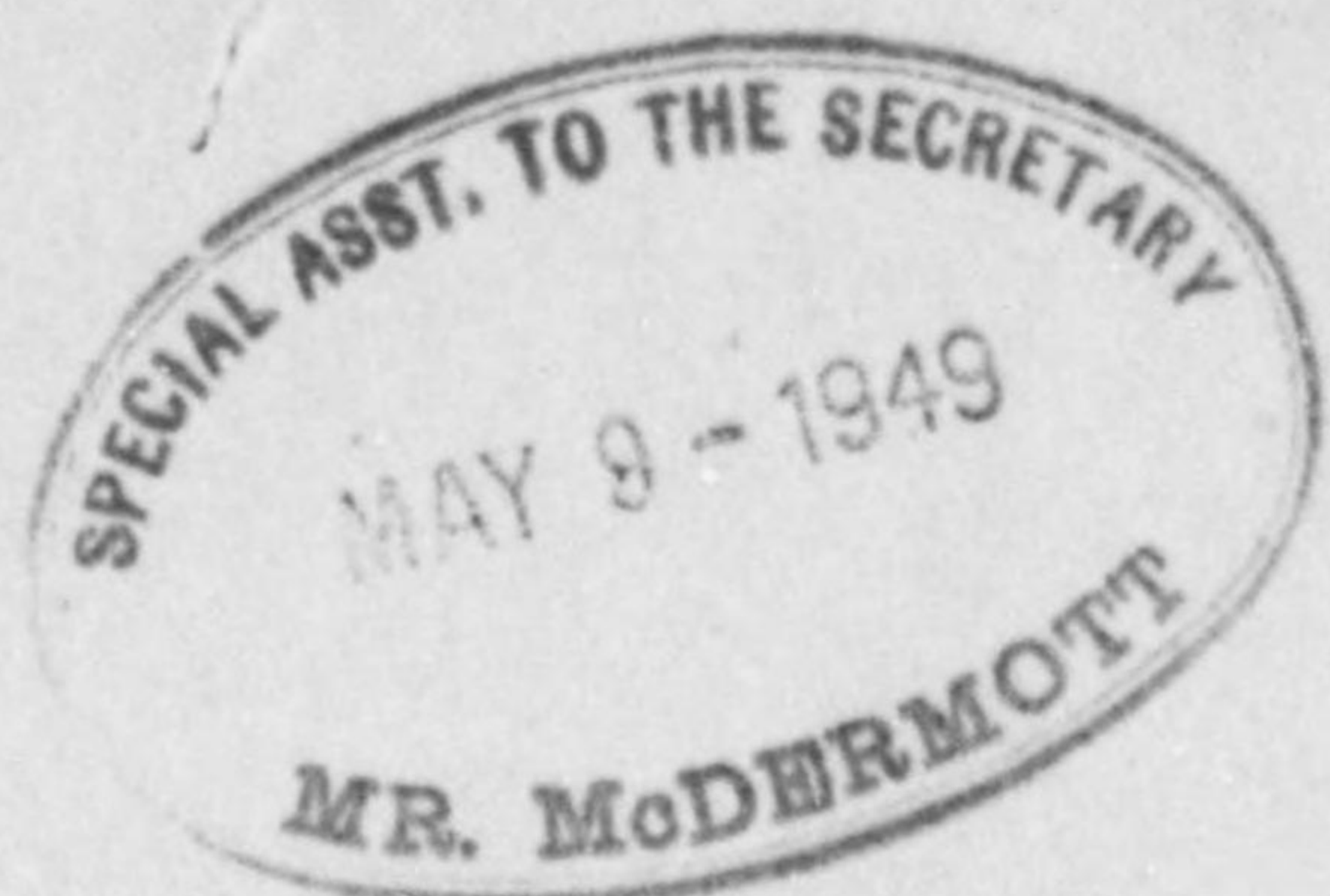
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# INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH



AIRGRAM

249

FROM: USPOLAD, Tokyo

Date of mailing: May 3, 1949

Date rec'd: May 6, 1949, 10:47 am

ACTION: SA/M

INFO

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Action Assigned to SA/M

Action Taken None

Copy retained in file

The Secretary of State of Action

Washington Action Office Symbol SA/M

A-103, April 30, 1949. Name of Officer W. Duke

Direction to DC/R File

According to a memorandum dated April 23, 1949, sent to the Japanese Government by General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, Tokyo, effective May 1, 1949, press messages from Japan to the United States, Hawaii and Manila may be sent from Japan on a prepaid, or on a receiver-to-pay basis at the option of the sender. Concurrence of the administration of destination is requisite to the transmission of press messages with charges payable at destination.

This memorandum, designated as SCAPIN 1998, further states that press messages incoming to Japan, originating in the United States, Hawaii or Manila, must be prepaid at the point of origin.

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PERMANENT RECORD COPY.—This copy must be returned to DC/R central files with notation of action taken.

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# INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

AIRGRAM

227

Office of  
NORTH EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS  
OCT 3 - 1949  
Department of State

Action Assigned to NA

Action Taken wa chun

DIVISION OF  
NORTH EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS

USPOLAD, Tokyo.

Date of Action Oct 3, '49

OCT - 1949

September 26, 1949.

Action Office Symbol NA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

mailing: Unknown

SECRET (State Department Use Only)

Received: Oct. 3, 1949; 9:00 am

Direction to DC/R file

Secretary of State,

Washington.

A-246, September 26, 1949.

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As Department is aware, there has been recently series of trials in United States Army provost courts of Japanese charged with violation of Press Code. Press Code, set forth in SCAPIN 33 of September 19, 1945, inter alia provides that news reports "must adhere strictly to the truth" and must not be colored or distorted to serve propaganda lines; and that "there shall be no false or destructive criticisms of the Allied Powers" and "nothing which might invite mistrust or resentment" of Allied forces of occupation.

Mission has learned that recent emphasis on enforcement of Press Code follows upon high-level decision, in connection with current campaign to discredit leftist activities, to check flagrant violations that heretofore have gone without prosecution. Communists and Communist sympathizers are most frequently involved in such violations. Legal enforcement of Press Code has been under guidance of informal working committee consisting of representatives of G-2, Civil Information and Education Section, and Legal Section. Committee meets on call of G-2 to consider specific cases and to recommend prosecution of those considered most flagrant.

These legal actions are understood to have had desired effect of securing closer observance of Press Code. Presumably working committee will recommend further legal actions should observance of code fail to measure up to standards desired. Some members of committee are understood to favor consideration of possible court action against Communist Party organ Akahata, although matter is apparently not now under active study.

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OCT 11 1949

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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OCT 11 1948

United States Political Adviser  
for Japan

Tokyo, October 1, 1949.

No. 684

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ON INTERNATIONAL PRESS AND  
POLITICS DIVISION  
OCT 1 1949  
Department of State

ACTION  
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Subject: Transmitting copies of General MacArthur's  
Statement on National Newspaper Week in Japan.

894.91/10-149

The Acting Political Adviser has the honor to trans-  
mit herewith five copies of a release issued by the Public  
Information Office of General Headquarters giving the text  
of a statement by General MacARTHUR on the occasion of  
National Newspaper Week in Japan.

Action Assigned to \_\_\_\_\_  
Action Taken \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Action Office Symbol \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Officer \_\_\_\_\_  
Direction to DC/R \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosure: *att'*

Five copies of release  
issued by the Public  
Information Office of  
General Headquarters.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OVERSEAS PROGRAM STAFF  
Japan Branch  
OCT 13 1949  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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ACTION COPY

RETURN TO DC/R FILES WITHIN 14 DAYS, WITH A NOTATION OF ACTION TAKEN.

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