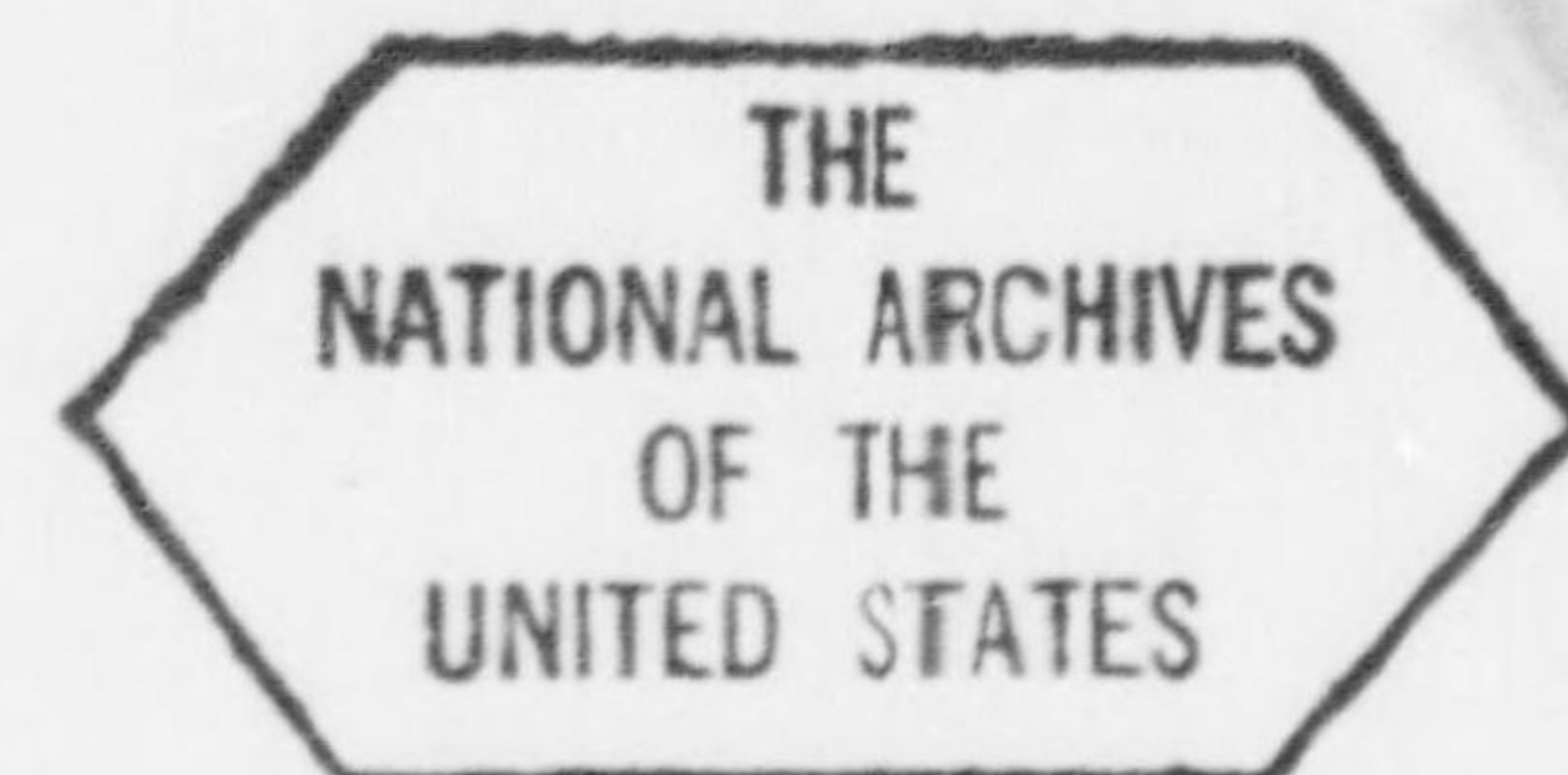


**GHQ/SCAP Records(RG 331)**  
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HEADQUARTERS  
OSAKA MILITARY GOVERNMENT TEAM  
APO 660

2 May 1947

PREFECTURAL REPORT ON SURVEILLANCE OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS  
"HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES"

I Osaka Prefecture

- 25 April 47*
- A. 1,798,392 Registered voters.
  - B. 1,185,039 Votes cast.
  - C. There were no people claiming franchise and not permitted to vote.

II Sixty two surveillance teams covered the elections.

- Master-ful record*
- A. 1061 polling places in Osaka Prefecture.
    - 1. 1058 polling places visited by surveillance teams.
  - B. 192 ballot counting stations in Osaka Prefecture.
    - 1. 192 ballot counting stations visited by surveillance teams.

III Several inspections proved availability of candidates purge questionnaires at Election Administration Committees Offices and at Screening Committees Offices.

IV Publicity that candidates purge questionnaires are available at the offices of the Election Administration Committees and at the Screening Committees offices was released to twenty three newspapers and to radio station "JOBK" in Osaka. In addition each political party and all candidates were well informed of the same and the information was used in campaign speeches.

V The general public seemed little interested in examining candidates questionnaires, however most candidates visited screening committees or the election administration committees offices to examine questionnaires of opponents.

VI There are nineteen seats in the House of Representatives from this prefecture. The number of candidates by parties is as follows:



A. Liberal	<u>18</u>
B. Democrat	<u>8</u>
C. Socialist	<u>9</u>
D. Peoples Cooperative	<u>4</u>
E. Communist	<u>5</u>
F. Mixed small parties	<u>15</u>
G. Independents	<u>15</u>

VII Number elected by each party.

A. Liberal	<u>4</u>
B. Democrat	<u>5</u>
C. Socialist	<u>9</u>
D. Independents	<u>1</u>

VIII Total number of votes cast for each party and for independents.

A. Liberal	<u>248,190</u>
B. Democrat	<u>258,333</u>
C. Socialist	<u>369,932</u>
D. Peoples Cooperative	<u>33,655</u>
E. Communist	<u>70,020</u>
F. Mixed small parties	<u>76,104</u>
G. Independents	<u>107,664</u>

IX There was one woman elected to the House of Representatives - Masa Nakayama.

X Total number of pre-election campaign meetings held throughout Prefecture by each party.

A. Liberal	<u>4,115</u>
B. Democrat	<u>1,715</u>
C. Socialist	<u>3,172</u>
D. Communist	<u>1,686</u>
E. Peoples Cooperative	<u>2,536</u>
F. Small parties and Independents	<u>6,158</u>

XI There were an adequate number of polling places in Osaka Prefecture in the opinion of Military Government observers.

XII Four election bullitens are included with this report.

XIII Total number of pre-election meetings held by M.G. Team.

A. With election administration committee	<u>One</u>
B. With officials	<u>Three</u>



XIV As in the previous election local publicity was released to the masses in every possible way. The program carried out saw new and better means of disseminating information to the public with each of the four elections. The original program called for the display of hanging banners, the exhibition of large bill boards, over 46,000 posters affixed in prominent places, slides distributed to moving picture theater to show on the screen, and circulars handed out to make the public voting conscious. When 59% of the people turned out for the first election, and only slightly more for the second one, the election committee searched for additional means of providing election information for the public. Large suspension stripes were hung from the top of all high buildings in Osaka City, and banners were extended over main thoroughfares. Additional large posters were placed in prominent places, and show-windows of 9 large department stores were utilized. New slides were used by the theaters. Taking advantage of intermission periods at play houses, girl announcers publicized the elections and urged the people to vote. Sixty five thousand additional circulars emphasizing the significance and importance of the elections were distributed throughout the prefecture. Broadcasting was carried out by enlisting the co-operation of the electric railway companies and department stores to use their property and facilities to broadcast election information to the general public. The announcing bus of the Asahi and broadcasting car of Radio Station JOBK were utilized both in and outside the city of Osaka to encourage the people to vote. Radio broadcasts and open air speeches were given by election officials, and eight hundred forty thousand copies of official lists of candidates were distributed to families in Osaka Prefecture. Discussions and lectures to school children who were urged to encourage their parents to vote helped provide election information to the people. Additional means, too numerous to mention, were used to encourage voting. As a result of this additional publicity 65.8% of the people voted for the House of Representatives election.

XV Number of violations reported to Military Government.

- A. Campaign posters placed on walls of polling place. Two cases.
- B. Two voters allowed in the same booth at the same time. One case.

XVI Above violations were reported to Japanese officials.

XVII No additional comments by Military Government.



HEADQUARTERS  
 OSAKA MILITARY GOVERNMENT TEAM  
 APO 660

29 April 1947

2264  
PREFECTURAL REPORT ON SURVEILLANCE OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS

"HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS"  
 28 April 1947

- I Osaka Prefecture
- A. 1,800,145 Registered voters
  - B. 1,068,631 Votes cast
  - C. Two people claiming franchise but not permitted to vote.
- II Sixty two surveillance teams covered the elections.
- A. 1061 polling places in Osaka Prefecture.
    1. 1057 polling places visited by surveillance teams.
  - B. 192 ballot counting stations in Osaka Prefecture.
    1. 192 ballot counting stations visited by surveillance teams.
- III Several inspections proved availability of candidates purge questionnaires at Election Administration Committees Offices and at Screening Committees offices.
- IV Publicity that candidates purge questionnaires are available at the offices of the Election Administration Committees' and at the Screening Committees offices was released to twenty three newspapers and to radio station "JOBK" in Osaka. In addition each political party and all candidates were well informed of the same and the information was used in campaign speeches.
- V The general public seemed little interested in examining candidates questionnaires, however most candidates visited screening committees or the election administration committees offices to examine questionnaires of opponents.
- VI There are six seats in the House of Councillors from this Prefecture (excluding National Constituency seats). The number of candidates by party is as follows:
- A. Democrat Two
  - B. Liberal Two



- |  |    |              |              |
|--|----|--------------|--------------|
|  | C. | Socialist    | <u>Three</u> |
|  | D. | Communist    | <u>One</u>   |
|  | E. | Reformative  | <u>One</u>   |
|  | F. | Independents | <u>Five</u>  |
- VII Number elected by each party (excluding National Constituency)
- |  |    |           |            |
|--|----|-----------|------------|
|  | A. | Democrat  | <u>Two</u> |
|  | B. | Liberal   | <u>Two</u> |
|  | C. | Socialist | <u>Two</u> |
- VIII Total number of votes cast for each party and for independents.
- |  |    |              |                |
|--|----|--------------|----------------|
|  | A. | Democrat     | <u>386,565</u> |
|  | B. | Liberal      | <u>163,773</u> |
|  | C. | Socialist    | <u>265,434</u> |
|  | D. | Communist    | <u>42,474</u>  |
|  | E. | Reform       | <u>24,131</u>  |
|  | F. | Independents | <u>58,460</u>  |
- IX There were no women elected to the House of Councillors from Osaka Prefecture.
- X Total number of pre-election campaign meetings held throughout Prefecture by each party.
- |  |    |              |              |
|--|----|--------------|--------------|
|  | A. | Democrat     | <u>2,108</u> |
|  | B. | Liberal      | <u>716</u>   |
|  | C. | Socialist    | <u>1,863</u> |
|  | D. | Communist    | <u>838</u>   |
|  | E. | Reform       | <u>1,225</u> |
|  | F. | Independents | <u>1,992</u> |
- XI There were an adequate number of polling places in Osaka Prefecture in the opinion of Military Government observers.
- XII Four election bullitens are included with this report.
- XIII Total number of pre-election meetings held by M.G. Team.
- |  |    |  |             |
|--|----|--|-------------|
|  | A. | With election administration committee | <u>Four</u> |
|  | B. | With officials                         | <u>Two</u>  |
- XIV As in the previous election local publicity was released to the masses in every possible way. In addition to posters, bill boards and circulars. The election committee utilized show windows of nine department stores, intermission periods at all play houses and regular periods at motion picture theatres to enlighten the public on voting procedures and facts. Twelve large suspension banners bearing election slogans were extended from high buildings and across main thoroughfares.



Broadcasting was carried on in many department stores, at railroad stations and from moving vehicles.

Military Government helped to contribute to publicizing the elections by numerous press, and radio releases and close coordination with the election committees. In addition Military Government personnel initiated an extensive plan of questioning early in the campaign to gain information as to the best and most efficient means of releasing election information to the general public.

XV Number of violations reported to Military Government.

- A. Candidate attempting to buy votes with gifts and parties, case is now under investigation.

XVI Military Government Comment

- A. The percentage of women voters would be greatly increased if election laws provided for at least two women among the official voting witnesses. It is still very hard for a Japanese woman to walk down an aisle in front of 8 to 10 stern faced men in order to cast her vote. In only one case did a Military Government observer see as many as two women voting witnesses and more than 90% of the polls had no woman.
- B. Suggest all polls be required to have an official clock to prevent any injustices or misunderstanding as to closing time.