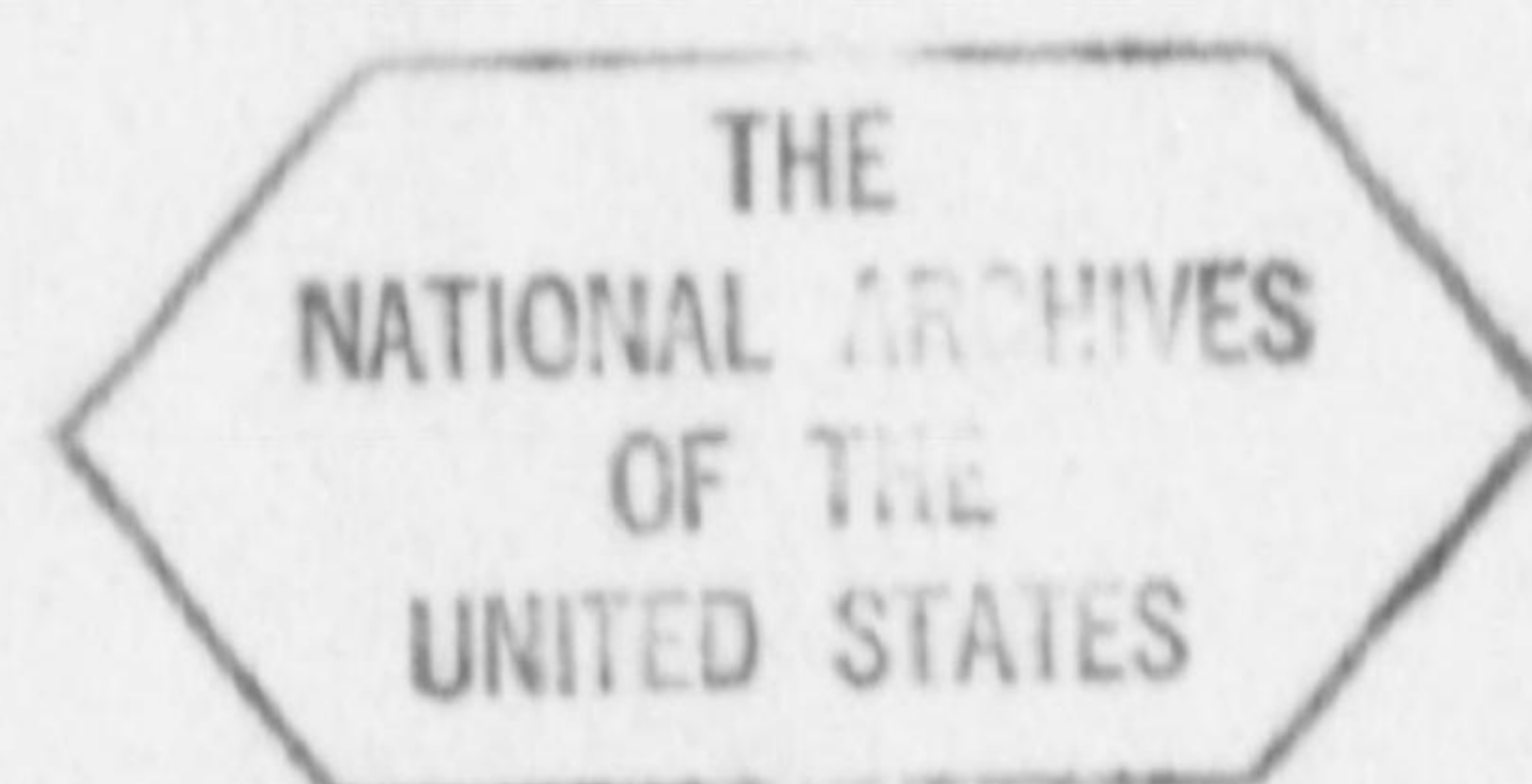


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Hokkaido Civil Affairs Region

ANNEX A

Political and Government Activities

Report for April, 1951

Prepared by: Orren L. Hays
GS-12 DAC

1. Japanese Government Administration

a. Activities of the Chiefs of Local Entities: During the major portion of April, practically all local entities in this region had interim chiefs at their helms; deputies who assumed office when their respective principal resigned or fully completed the term of his office. Generally only routine and non-controversial matters were officially considered as election matters and campaigning were the subjects of primary interest. Governor Tanaka, a candidate for reelection, whose term of office was to expire on 16 April, tendered his resignation as Governor, to the Chairman of the Prefectural Assembly on 3 April. The Assembly approved the Governor's resignation without comments in their brief session held on 7 April. Vice-Governor Noguchi was designated as acting governor for the remainder of April. Vice-Mayor Harada filled in as the interim mayor of Sapporo, while Mayor Takata, whose term of office expired on 5 April, campaigned for his own reelection and for the election of Mr. Kurosawa as Governor. In the future should the date for the election of chiefs of the local entities be again set on a date subsequent to the expiration of the current terms of office, a repetition of this "coasting along period" can be expected.

b. Activities of the Assemblies: The Prefectural Assembly in addition to approving Governor Tanaka's resignation, also passed some 15 routine measures during the 1 hour-50 minute session. (An hour and a half on this time was spent in recess). Sapporo City's Assembly was the only city assembly in session during April. This assembly established a scholarship fund; approved a plan to provide 25 days of work a month (at ¥300 a day) for day-laborers; defeated a bill which would have required the Mayor's approval on all organized solicitations for donations; and accepted the resignation of Mr. Nakayama (See Par 1d, March, MAR) and three other assemblymen. Mr. Nakayama ran for reelection and was successful; the other three became candidates for election to the prefectural assembly. (Two of the three were successful). The assembly also passed a retirement allowance of ¥1,500,000 for Mayor Takada, who finally accepted only ¥500,000 of that amount.

c. Police Activities: For some time now several of the autonomous police forces and the NRP have been engaged in campaigns of education in "good traffic manners". Reports indicate that especially good results have been obtained in Muroran and Otaru; and some improvements have been noticed in Sapporo. Public Safety Commissioners and police authorities from Otaru, Sapporo, Chitose and Muroran held conferences with prefectural and health authorities on matters of sanita-

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tion and venereal disease controls. Personnel of the Sapporo Police Force spent several weeks in Tokyo and Yokohama, observing activities in handling these matters there. As usual the police were required to make numerous investigations of extensive activities for possible election violations. Most discussed of these possible violations include the activities of school teacher groups and prefectural employees; the poll of votes for Governor published by the Hokkai Times; and the distribution of Liberal Party organ publications inside the regular issues of the Hokkai Times. (The party publication charged Mr. Tanaka with affiliations with the Communist Party). The investigations of activities of the school teacher groups may extend to as many as 400 canvassers scattered throughout the island. An election official in Asahigawa was detected writing in the name of an unwanted candidate on the unwitnessed ballot of an illiterate female voter. The fraud was discovered before the ballot was placed in the box by the illiterate voter and she was given another ballot.

d. The Courts: The program for the excelleration of court cases continues to progress in a satisfactory manner. Court officials feel that the monthly conferences of judges, procurators and lawyers have contributed greatly in affecting marked reductions in the number of postponements. Only 99 old criminal code cases remain in this jurisdiction; 22 before the High Court and 77 before the District Courts. (Actually in the latter group, defendants cannot be located in 56 cases and hearings have already been initiated in the remaining 21 cases). During the past month the High Court and the 4 District Courts handled a total of 338 civil cases and 446 new criminal code cases. The Summary Courts handled 87 civil cases and 1,105 criminal cases. Generally the backlog of cases have been reduced during this period, despite the fact that 3 judges from the Sapporo High Court are absent on 3 months temporary duty with the Sendai Courts. As a result of the two recent raids against the CP organ publications (28 March and 2 April), cases of violations of Cabinet Order #325 now pending before the courts of this region, have increased from 20 to 48 cases. Three such cases were consummated during April with sentences ranging from 8 months to 1-1/2 years imprisonment.

2. Elections

a. On 23 and 30 April the electorate of Hokkaido turned out enmasse to participate in well managed elections and to compile a splendid record in percentage of participation. (For statistics see Incl 1 and 2 of this annex) The campaign to lessen "abstention" so emphatically stressed in the 1950 House of Councillor election was not so apparent or necessary in this election since the electorate turned out in good crowds to hear the some 9,000 candidates campaign for the various offices of governor, prefectural assembly, mayor and assemblymen of city, town and village. They evidenced a desire to vote for or against one candidate or another. (However, the invalid votes even in the two man governor's race totaled 43,330). The highlight of the election was total of the 914,764 votes received by Governor Tanaka, (Socialist Candidate), in his race for reelection against the coalition candidate of the Farmers Cooperative, Democratic and Liberal Parties,

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Mr. Kurosawa. Even in this race, campaign emphasis was directed generally along local lines. Both candidates stressed the Hokkaido overall development plan, better housing and better living conditions. Mr. Kurosawa and speakers for the coalition group, (Minister of Construction and Agriculture, 3 House of Councillors, one each from the three parties, 16 members of the House of Representatives, and Supreme Chairman Tomabechi, (Dem.)), all stressed Mr. Kurosawa's ability to cooperate with central government officials and to procure private capital for the Hokkaido overall development plan. (The Minister, a former governor of Hokkaido, went so far as to say that "collective development of Hokkaido can be realized only in case that I am the Minister of Construction and Mr. Kurosawa is the governor of Hokkaido".) All speakers criticized the weakness of the "Peace Policy" of the Socialist Party. National Party Leaders of the Socialist Party, Messrs. Suzuki and Asanuma, also participated in the Hokkaido campaign. Mr. Tanaka limited his advocacy of national policies to the following: (a) Restoration of the Kuriles, complete repatriation, and the destruction of reactionary conservatism, a threat to local autonomy. Mr. Tanaka received some 500,000 more votes than did all of the candidates of the three left wing parties in the prefectural assembly races. (These three parties had candidates in all except 3 of the 29 electoral districts.) Explanation of Mr. Tanaka's decisive victory is explained by the fact that his youthful and vigorous personality enabled him, as a strongly supported socialist candidate, to entice approximately 500,000 votes from voters, who in another race voted for conservative candidates. (At one time or another he visited all 277 local entities in Hokkaido; he personally spoke at all of the 32 competitive speakings arranged by EAC; and he strongly appealed to such neutral voting groups, as salaried employees, medium and small businessmen, women, and youths. Support from the conservative democratic assemblymen (prefectural), sizable groups inside the Farmers Cooperative Party, and active school teacher organization all added many votes to Mr. Tanaka's totals. He also received a sizable resentment vote from those opposed to the pressures of the central government in behalf of Mr. Kurosawa.

b. Out of an actual membership of 77 in the prefectural assembly, 72 ran for reelection. 28 incumbents were defeated. Net gains in the membership of the prefectural assembly are 11 for the progressives and 5 for the conservatives (See Column #5 par b Incl 1 to this annex). These gains when considered in light of total votes received (Column #2 par c) allows no interpretation, but that the Socialist and Farmers Labor Parties again had the better spacing of candidates. It is interesting to note that the overall vote of the Communist Party suffered a reduction of nearly 53,000. (See Column #4 and 5, par c Incl #1 to this Annex). The Socialist Party also suffered a reduction of 18,000 votes; while Liberal Party gained 75,000, the Democratic Party 43,000, and the Farmers Cooperative Party 42,000.

c. Practically all incumbent mayors ran for reelection and with few exceptions, their candidacies were successful. Mayor Suhara of Otaru City did not run for reelection on account of his age. Mayor Maeno, (Independent-Conservative) of Asahigawa was the only city mayor defeated for reelection. His successful opponent was also an

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Independent-Conservative. Mayor Takata, Independent Conservative, candidate for reelection as mayor, Sapporo City, was successful over his opposition, (C.P. candidate Suginochara), with a vote of 109,661 to 17,482. Mr. Suginochara's vote too was some 16,000 greater than the combined vote of the four C.P. candidates for the Sapporo City Assembly (These four candidates received a total of 1,467 votes.)

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Statistics on the Elections:

a. For Governor of Hokkaido: (81.1% of participation)

Mr. Tanaka (Soc.)	914,764
Mr. Kurosawa (Ind.) (Farm. Coop. - Lib. & Dem.)	<u>777,421</u>
(Difference)	137,343
Total	1,692,185
Invalid votes	43,330

Gov. Tanaka received 507,340 more votes than did candidates of 3 Leftist Parties in Prefectural Assembly race. (See d below)

b. Fore Prefectural Assembly

Former authorized membership	81
Present authorized membership	93

1 Candidates	2 Reelected	3 Elected New Mbrs	4 Total	5 Mbr. Gains	6 Incumbents defeated
45 Liberals	13	11	24	+ 1	9
20 Democrats	7	4	11	- 2	6
36 Socialists	9	12	21	+ 7	3
38 Farmers Coop.	11	10	21	0	7
7 Farmers Lbr.	1	4 (1 Con.)	5	+ 4 (1 Con.)	0
6 Communists	0	0	0	0	
50 Independents	<u>3 (Con.)</u>	<u>8 (5 Con.)</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>+ 6 (5 Con.)</u>	<u>3</u>
202	44	49	93	+16	28

c. Prefectural Assembly Ballots (82% of participation)

1 Candidates	2 Ballots Rec'd	3 Candidate Average	4 1950 House of Counc. by Party	5 Column 2 - 4
45 Liberals	395,549 (1)	8,789 (5)	320,974 (2)	+ 75 ---
20 Democrats	180,712 (5)	9,036 (3)	137,518 (4)	+ 43 ---
36 Socialists	336,826 (3)	9,546 (1)	354,117 (1)	- 18 ---
38 Farmers Coop	358,447 (2)	9,170 (2)	316,830 (3)	+ 42 ---
7 Farmers Lbr.	63,131 (6)	9,019 (4)	63,473 (6)	-
6 Communists	7,467 (7)	1,244 (7)	60,268 (7)	- 53 ---
50 Independents	<u>319,659 (4)</u>	<u>6,393 (6)</u>	<u>85,874 (5)</u>	<u>+234 ---</u>
202	1,661,791		1,346,254 <u>315,537</u> 1,661,791	+315

d. Votes of Leftist Parties

	Votes
Socialists	336,826
Farmer Lbr.	63,131
Communist	<u>7,467</u>
Total	407,424
	914,764 (Gov. Tanaka's)
	<u>407,424</u> (3 Leftist Parties)
	507,340

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Statistics on Election of Mayors and Municipal Assembly

a. Election of Mayors (91.1% of participation)

	<u>City</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Village</u>	<u>Total</u>
Elections (Voting)	13	42	85	140
Elections (No Voting)	1 (Ind)	30 (Ind)	70 (1 Soc)	101 (100 Inc)
No Election	1	13	22	36
	<u>15</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>277</u>

Mayor (City)

<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Incumbents</u>	<u>Reelected</u>	<u>Elected</u>
24 Ind	12 (10 Con)	11 (9 Con)	2 (1 Con & 1 Neutral)
2 Liberal	1	1 (Run-off)	0
2 Communists	0	0	0
	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>

Mayor (Town and Villages)

<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Incumbents</u>	<u>Reelected</u>	<u>Elected</u>	<u>Total</u>
380 Independ.	199	183	37	220
8 Socialists	4	4	0	4
5 Farmers Coop	3	3	0	3
2 Liberals	0	0	0	0
2 Communists	0	0	0	0
0 Democrat	0	0	0	0
<u>397</u>	<u>206</u>	<u>190</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>227</u>

b. Party affiliation of the 955 candidates for assemblies in the 15 cities. Number of successful candidates shown in ().

<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Lib.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Farm Coop.</u>	<u>Soc.</u>	<u>Lab-F</u>	<u>C.P.</u>	<u>Minor</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total Elec.</u>
141 Sapporo	13(2)	33(16)		14(5)	3(1)	4(0)	2	72(24)	(48)
102 Hakodate	17(7)	1		13(5)	1	4(0)	12(9)	54(23)	(44)
70 Otaru	32(25)	10(6)		11(4)		3(0)	1	13(5)	(40)
82 Asahigawa	19(9)	3(2)				4(0)		56(25)	(36)
54 Muroran	15(9)			7(5)		3(0)		29(22)	(36)
53 Obihiro	2(2)	5(3)		5(2)		1(0)		40(23)	(30)
49 Kitami	3(1)			4(2)		2(0)		40(27)	(30)
89 Yubari	3(1)		2	16(8)	5(1)	3(0)		60(26)	(36)
42 Iwamizawa				5(2)	1	2(0)		32(28)	(30)
43 Abashiri	6(5)	3(3)		6(5)		1(0)		27(17)	(30)
38 Rumoi				3(3)		1(0)		34(27)	(30)
51 Tomakomai	9(1)			4(2)				38(27)	(30)
78 Bibai	1			5(1)	3	1(0)		68(35)	(36)
60 Wakkanai	5(3)		1	1(1)	1(1)			52(25)	(30)
3 Kushiro	1	1		1(1)					(1)
<u>955 Total</u>	<u>128(65)</u>	<u>56(30)</u>	<u>3(0)</u>	<u>95(46)</u>	<u>14(3)</u>	<u>29(0)</u>	<u>15(9)</u>	<u>615(334)</u>	<u>(487)</u>

c. Vote of 29 C.P. assembly candidates

6,532 (Cities)
6,229 (Towns and Villages)
<u>12,761</u>

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Hokkaido Civil Affairs Region

ANNEX A

Political and Government Activities

Report for February, 1951

Prepared by: Orren L. Hays
GS-12 DAC

1. Japanese Government Administration

a. Activities of the Governor: En route to Hakodate to attend the Restoration of the Kurile Islands Ensuring Movement Convention, scheduled for 3 February, Governor Tanaka visited 6 towns and villages in Oshima Sub-prefecture. Before fair-sized assemblies at each stop, he discussed matters relating to the preparation of the prefectural budget; the Hokkaido Overall Development Plan; and his attitude toward the democratization of the administration of the prefectural government. At the convention in Hakodate with 1,500 representatives in attendance, a formal petition, requesting assistance in securing the restoration of the Kurile and Habomai Islands, was prepared for submission to central government authorities and to the Dulles Mission. Governor Tanaka, Mr. Takakura (professor at Hokkaido University) and the Mayors of Nemuro and Hakodate were selected as members of a committee charged with the responsibility of submitting these petitions in person. In detailing an account of his activities in this connection, the Governor indicated that he was particularly pleased with the outcome of his brief discussions with Mr. Dulles; and that he was grateful to Major General Shepard for courtesies and assistance extended the Hokkaido delegation. On 17 February Governor Tanaka visited the Takadomari Dam site to participate in ceremonial dedication exercises in connection with initial construction activities. Before returning to Sapporo, the Governor visited twelve cities, towns and villages to publicly praise those areas for excellent cooperation in the food collection program. On 23 February the Governor, along with the Chief, HCAR, and many others, participated in the ceremonies commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly and the opening of the new Assembly Chamber.

b. Activities of the Vice-Governor:

- (1) Vice-Governor Fukuda's energies were, as usual, directed toward solving agricultural problems. On a trip to Tokyo he conferred with officials in NRS and in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, on financial matters pertaining to long range agricultural funds and expenses for agricultural land commissioners. He too, participated in ceremonies to commend sub-prefectures and local entities for excellent results in deliveries of staple foods.

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(2) Vice-Governor Noguchi, in a meeting of the Hokkaido Development Council of the Prefectural Government, discussed budgetary problems and present conditions of power development, transportation facilities, increased food production and the exploitation of underground resources. At a regular meeting of the HPO Department Chiefs, Vice-Governor Noguchi announced plans for holding an exhibition to illustrate the fifty-year history of local autonomy in Hokkaido. With Councillor Gengo Kinoshita (Chairman of the Personnel Committee of the House of Councillors), Mr. Utsumi (Chief of the HPO Personnel Section), directors of central and local government agencies, and officers of governmental agencies labor unions in Sapporo, Vice-Governor Noguchi discussed the provisions of Law 299 (Law for the Partial Amendment to the Law Concerning Compensation of Employees in Regular Government Service - 27 December 1950). They invited Mr. Kinoshita's attention to the fact that the area allowance for Hokkaido had been reduced from 10% to 5% and urged him, in light of the special conditions in Hokkaido, to take the necessary steps to effect the restoration of the area allowance to the former amount. In the absence of Governor Tanaka, Vice-Governor Noguchi discussed the general financial situation of the prefecture and the local entities with Mr. Porter, Chief, Legal Government Section, CAS, during his February visit to Hokkaido. The Vice-Governor explained that the new tax law had effected reductions in tax revenues of ¥733,184,800 for the prefecture and of ¥1,391,126,000 for its local entities. He complained that the coefficients used in computing the equalization grants for both the prefecture and the local entities are too low for Hokkaido. (The prefecture and the local entities expected grants in the amount of ¥4,900,000,000 and ¥4,487,805,000 respectively; but that present official computations fix these grants at ¥4,522,025,000 and ¥2,223,322,000). The Vice-Governor and the Chief, HCAR, participated in the official opening ceremonies of the new ¥29,000,000 Hokkaido Towns and Villages Association Hall.

(3) Vice-Governor Sakuma spent most of the month in Tokyo negotiating with central government agencies on measures for the relief of the December disaster; on plans for financing fishing activities, especially the herring catch; on financial matters pertaining to the Five-Year Plan for Overall Development of Hokkaido; and in reference to the necessity for additional construction for the Iwamizawa Railway Station.

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c. The Prefectural Assembly: On 23 February, with appropriate ceremonies, the Prefectural Assembly formally dedicated their new magnificent assembly chamber and paid honor to some thirty-five members and former members for lengthy service. Member Kitabayashi and Chairman Bando were honored for thirty-six and thirty years of assembly service, respectively. Mr. Sawada, Hokkaido's oldest living ex-Governor, was also honored. The ¥80,000,000 Prefectural Assembly, (which contains the new chamber) is not yet completed. The day following the ceremonies, the assembly convened in its first plenary session of 1951. The forty-five bills submitted pertained to the budget, floating loans; an increase in authorized number of school teachers; the change in classification of midget vehicles for tax purposes; the reappointment of a public safety commissioner; control laws for licensing fish peddlers and vendors of ice-candy and fireworks; the establishment of a council to advise on the management of the Prefectural Library; an enforcement by-law for the Building Standard Law; and the acquisition of additional land for the prefectural forests. Governor Tanaka explained that the budget took into consideration Hokkaido's need for increased agricultural production; improved transportation facilities; encouragement of fisheries and small industries; and increased educational opportunities. Summaries were as follows:

General Account for the 1951 Fiscal Year

<u>Revenue</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Tax	¥3,385,231,500	Assembly	¥64,250,100
Equalization Grant	4,532,600,000	HPO	1,459,981,700
Public Enterprise	34,228,300	Fire Defense	15,941,900
Alloted Charges	1,140,500	Civil Engineering	250,078,600
Fees & Charges	380,044,600	Education	5,492,805,700
State Subsidy	817,512,800	Social & Labor	507,662,100
Transfer of Funds	44,750,400	Health & Sanitation	411,622,000
Trans fr Other Accts	27,433,900	Industry & Economics	861,243,200
Carried Over	100,000	Property	35,562,400
Miscellaneous	604,005,000	Statistics & Inves	31,044,200
Loan	25,000,000	Election	70,513,300
		Miscellaneous	513,426,000
		Public Bond	134,915,800
		Reserve	3,000,000
TOTALS	<u>¥9,852,047,000</u>		<u>¥9,852,047,000</u>

Bills #2 to 16 covered Special Accounts totaling ¥1,947,468,300, making the total budget read ¥11,799,533,300, or approximately ¥1,320,000,000 less than last year's budget. Following the Governor's explanation of the budget, the Fact Finding Committee reported that they were not yet ready to report on the "Bicycle Tag Scandal Case". The Assembly then adjourned until 6 March.

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2. Police

a. In a conference with autonomous police officials, Chief Komatsu of the Sapporo Municipal Police, reported upon matters discussed in the recent Tokyo meetings of the Federation of All Japan Local Entities Public Safety Commissioners and of the Police Chiefs from the ten largest cities in Japan. Chief Komatsu is of the opinion that the proposed revision of the police law is a one-sided idea of the NRP, and that it is contrary to the spirit of the Constitution in that it reverses the program of decentralization and democratization of the police. He reported that the conclusions reached in both of the meetings mentioned above were practically unanimous in respect to the following:

- (1) Even small-sized autonomous police forces should be maintained;
- (2) The extension of NRP jurisdiction into the areas of local entities having autonomous forces, for search and seizure in such crimes as riots, counterfeiting and acts prejudicial to the objectives of the Occupation Forces, should be opposed;
- (3) The confirmation of the NRP area commander on requests from one autonomous force to a neighboring autonomous force for assistance is neither practicable nor necessary;
- (4) Opposition should be directed to the mandatory provisions of the draft (Art 60) which requires that the autonomous forces submit periodic reports to the NRP.

On 18 February the Hokkaido Associations of Public Safety Commissioners and the Autonomous Police Chiefs both held meetings and voted to support these same policies. Opinions rendered in response to extensive questioning indicate that officials and citizens appreciate the contribution made to the Local Autonomy Movement through the municipal police forces. Generally they are of the opinion that as an overall system the autonomous police forces are preferable; and advocate that any change in the police law in that respect be limited to permitting a local entity to choose for itself the type of police they shall have. Public Safety Commissioners are aware of the superior technical efficiency on the part of the NRP, but believe that a majority of the crimes committed in their areas, are best solved by an intimate knowledge of the characteristics of the local individuals. In this the local police excel. The prospects of presently relieving the municipality of a financial burden makes this proposed change an attractive proposition to some.

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b. On 4 February, the police forces, with the assistance of the Sapporo High Procurator's Office and the Special Investigation Bureau of the Attorney General's Office, conducted simultaneous raids on forty-seven Communist dens throughout Hokkaido. These raids were well planned and coordinated and are among the most successful actions of this nature yet initiated. Warrants of arrests, searches, and seizures were issued by the local courts based upon suspicion of violation of the Organization Control Order (4 April 1949) and Cabinet Order No. 325 (1 Nov 50). Twenty-eight out of forty-two suspects were apprehended. Others were arrested for interfering with the performance of official duties. In Shizunai Town, Hidaka Sub-prefecture, thirty sticks of dynamite, eleven percussion caps, and fourteen feet of blasting fuse were discovered at a Korean Communist's home. In Wakkanai City, two shot guns, bullets and powder and one Japanese sword were discovered. In Hakodate City and Mikasa Town, a total of seven copies of "Peace and Independence" (HEIWA TO DOKURITSU), were found. Total number of confiscated illegal printings are as follows:

AKAHATA (Red Flag)	2,403 copies
SHIMBUNKA (New Culture)	148 copies
MINSHU NIPPON (Democratic Japan)	1,609 copies
JIYU (Freedom)	928 copies
HEIWA NO TOMO (Friend of Peace)	2,153 copies
HEIWA NO KOE (Voice of Peace)	3,291 copies

Subsequently several other arrests were effected on basis of evidence found; and on 14 February, procurators and representatives of the police met in the procurator's office to discuss evidence and standards for prosecution of violations of Cabinet Order No. 325. A decision was made to prosecute all thirty-nine suspects presently held. Mr. Moriseki, in whose home the dynamite was found, is also being charged with having embezzled ¥35,623 as Chairman of the Kami-nokuni Pioneers League.

3. The Courts

a. Discussions with judges, procurators, and lawyers indicate that the speed-up program for court operations is progressing very satisfactorily in Hokkaido. Statistics show that old criminal code cases (except those where the authorities are unable to locate the defendants), have been cleared from all the courts except the Sapporo District and the High Court: and that the number of cases handled during November and December greatly exceeded the averages for previous months. (See Inclosures 1 and 2 to this Annex). Chief Justice Shimoizaka explained that the increases in the number of cases handled were due to greater effort on the part of the judges; the fact that during those two months all simple cases were picked out for quick decisions; and an increased efficiency in operations. He attributed this increase in efficiency to better cooperation between the judges, procurators, and lawyers, partially developed in

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the numerous conferences held in November and to strict adherence to the rules laid down by the Supreme Court. Cooperation from the lawyers in Hokkaido has been especially good. Postponements have been necessary in a considerable number of cases, but generally limited to ten days. The Chief Justice believes that all old criminal code cases (except those in which the defendants cannot be located), will be cleared from the docket before the end of April. Procurators are of the opinion that the disposition of those exceptional cases should be effected by law or official ruling and not at the request of the individual procurator. Presently three Hokkaido judges are on duty in other High Court jurisdictions. Present plans call for additional local judges to be assigned to the Sapporo District Court for duty to enable that Court to reduce its back-log of cases.

b. Immediately following the court room disturbances by Communists during the Zenshinza tax evasion case before the Kitami Branch of the Kushiro District Court, a conference of representatives from the judiciary, the procurator's office, the NRP and the Hokkaido Autonomous Police Chief's Association was requested. Representatives from all agencies pledged full cooperation in preventing the spread of such disruptive tactics to other court rooms in Hokkaido. Judges were urged to take clear and forceful attitude in regard to the maintenance of order in and near the court room and to request police assistance whenever they deem it advisable. Cautions advanced to prevent a repetition of Communist disturbances in court rooms were as follows:

- (1) Joint hearings should be avoided in cases where disturbances are expected;
- (2) Special defense counsels should be limited;
- (3) That plans for guarding court premises be formulated in pre-conferences by the court, the procurator, and the police and that those plans be strictly adhered to;
- (4) That the admittance of spectators to the court room be strictly controlled;
- (5) That violations of the order against "the disturbance of performance of official business" be vigorously prosecuted;
- (6) That each agency pass the details of these discussions down to the lowest echelons and that they be warned of the importance of maintenance of dignity in the court room. Reports on several recent court hearings, in which communists were involved, indicate that the authorities have the situation in hand.

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4. Political Party Activities

a. The Liberal Party: At a special joint meeting of party members of the prefectural assembly and the Election Planning Committee on 3 February, decision was made to send three representatives to Tokyo to inquire of the Central Headquarters their reason for insisting upon a recommendation for the candidacy of Mr. Kurosawa, without regard for the feelings of the Hokkaido Chapter. (See Par 3a, January M.A.R.). On 10 February the Election Planning Committee announced another list of authorized candidates for the prefectural assembly. Several days later, before the group which attended the 3 February meeting, Chapter Chairman Tomabechi reported on the progress of the negotiations with Central Headquarters. During this report Mr. Okada suddenly walked in on the meeting. He was immediately given the floor and explained that apart from his personal interest or face, and in view of the Liberal Party's mission to cope with the present grave international situation, he deemed it advisable to withdraw as a candidate for Governor of Hokkaido. The group, evidently relieved, accepted his withdrawal and promptly moved to have the Chapter follow to Central Headquarters lead in recommending Mr. Kurosawa. A few of those present offered objections but agreed to go along with the others, provided there is an agreement of policies before the campaign begins and provided Mr. Kurosawa continues as an independent candidate. Special emphasis was placed upon the fact that Mr. Kurosawa, with recommendations from the Liberal, People's Democratic, and Farmer's Cooperative Parties, would surely be a successful candidate. A conference between representatives of the three above-mentioned parties to discuss strategies and harmonious election campaigns is rumored to have been held on 28 February. (To date this has not been confirmed.) One Liberal Party member believes that approximately 1,600,000 votes will be cast in Hokkaido in the coming election; and that both candidates will receive around 800,000 votes, with a difference of less than 100,000.

b. The Peoples Democratic Party: No formal meetings of the Party were held during February. Party members on the Assembly's Fact Finding Committee were active and outspoken in urging that disciplinary action be taken against Socialist Party members for actions in connection with the "Bicycle Number Plate Scandal Case". Observers are of the opinion that this indicates that the Democratic Party members in the assembly intend to go along with the chapter's recommendation to support Mr. Kurosawa for Governor.

c. The Socialist Party: Twice during the month the Party made announcements of newly selected candidates for the Prefectural Assembly, increasing the party's official list of candidates from eighteen to thirty-three. At a meeting of the Eighth session of the Hokkaido Chapter of the Party on 5 February, Chief Secretary Yokomichi reported on recent discussions held with Mr. Yamada and other representatives of the Labor Farmer Party, on the latter organization's proposal for a joint struggle campaign in the coming elections.

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Mr. Yokomichi reported that he informed the representatives of the Labor Farmer Party that there could be no cooperation between their parties if they (the Labor Farmer Party) expected to have the Communist Party participate in the joint struggle. Cooperative plans were discussed based on that understanding. Seventy-eight party representatives attended the 6th regular convention of the Hokkaido Chapter held on 16-18 February. Reports on the following were made: (1) Central Headquarters Activities by Councillor Kinoshita and Diet Member Inamura; (2) Hokkaido Chapter's Activities by Mr. Yokomichi; (3) The Prefectural Government Administration by Governor Tanaka; and (4) various committee activities. Explanations were given as to the party's present policies on (1) organization; (2) labor; (3) medium and small enterprises; (4) farm villages; (5) fishing villages; and (6) young men and women. Staff members were all re-elected. Diet member Inamura, in a speaking tour in the Tokachi area, spoke before youth groups of the Farmers League on the international situation, peace problems, and the present political situation.

d. The Farmers Cooperative Party: Three representatives of the Hokkaido District Headquarters attended the 2nd National Convention of the Party, held in Tokyo on 5-6 February. Discussions at this convention covered the formation of urgent agricultural policies, and the Party's stand on the peace treaty and military bases. A party spokesman explained that on principle they advocated an over-all peace treaty but that in view of the international situation, common sense dictates that an early restoration of sovereignty be secured through separate treaties. He further explained that the party is opposed to continued international management; favors affiliation with the United Nations; favors reliance upon the UN for mass peace security; and believes that the forces of the National Police Reserve and the Maritime Safety Authority can be relied upon for internal self defense. Following a meeting of the Party's Prefectural Assemblymen Candidate Selection and Control Committee on 17 February, sixteen authorized candidates for the Prefectural Assembly were announced.

e. The Communist Party: During February the Hokkaido Regional Committee of the JCP announced the names of eight party candidates for the prefectural assembly. The Committee also recommended party support for two Farmer-Labor candidates and one Socialist candidate. In addition to the activities in connection with court room disturbance tactics and the publication and distribution of banned publications, individual Communists were also involved in an instance of attempted disturbance of a session of the Biei Assembly and in several trespass violations of coal mine and railway properties. (Arrests were made in all cases.) Reports indicate that the CP organization is using the Farmer Labor Party as a front for a movement to oppose separate peace. During February the Provost Court gave sentences of two years at hard labor to two Communists charged with violation of Cabinet Order No. 325.

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5. Field Trip: During the period 12-17 February, Mr. Porter, Chief Legal Government Division, CAS, and a representative of this section visited Rumoi, Wakkanai, Nayoro, Horonobe, and Mombetsu for scheduled full day conferences. In each entity the Mayor, Chairman of the Assembly, Chief of Municipal Police, and the Commissioners of Public Safety, Election Administration and Inspection, were contacted. Chiefs of the respective sub-prefectures and their staffs participated in conferences held in Rumoi and Wakkanai. Central government officials, (the judges, the assistant procurators and NRP representatives), stationed in those municipalities were also contacted. Extensive discussions were held upon the following subjects:

a. The results of the new tax law, equalization grants and percentage of tax collections; (All entities reported a marked decrease in tax revenue. Allocations of equalization grants were much less than the amount of the decrease in tax revenue. Announcement of these amounts should be made before the local budgets are prepared. Financial condition generally bad. Activities in the public works are suffering most. Tax collections average between 50 and 60%).

b. The use of private agencies for tax collection purposes; (All entities prepare individual tax statements. Several instances of payments made through voluntary formed tax paying associations. No payments made to any associations for services rendered.)

c. The new Local Public Service Law; (Officials not too well informed as to the provisions of the law. Very little, if any, action has been taken toward the preparation of the required by-law. They will probably rework a "model by-law" to suit their local circumstances.)

d. The question of bonuses for retiring assembly members; (No such action contemplated.)

e. Duties of the Inspection Committee and instances of non-routine investigations by that body; (No instances of investigation other than routine have occurred.)

f. Instances of graft among public officials;

g. The feasibility of reduction of number of assemblymen; (The assemblies of the entities visited range in membership from 22-30. Questions asked indicated an interest in the possibility. Generally the mayor, or the chairman, pointed out that the area of the entity is extensive and is composed of several scattered settlements in addition to the main body and sizable assemblies were required to insure representation for isolated groups.)

h. The proposed changes in the police law; (See Par 2a above.)

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i. The prevalence of Political trends; (No marked increases or decreases in party influences observed.)

j. Possible candidates for the local mayoralty; (Most of the mayors contacted will be candidates to succeed themselves and are likely to be successful. One will probably choose to be a candidate for the prefectural assembly.)

k. Law enforcement problems; (Law enforcement problems are minor.)

l. The prevalence of violent crimes; (Crimes of this nature are limited in these areas.)

m. The general reputation of local officials as to honesty and good government; (Generally the procurators were of the opinion that municipal officials were honest and sincere individuals. One reported that he was conducting an investigation that would probably result in prosecution of a mayor in his area.)

n. Explanation as to why records of branch procurators show a high percentage of procuratorial dismissals; (Procurators in this area habitually use procuratorial dismissals in case of first offense individuals in minor crimes.)

2 Incls:

1. Statistics on Number of Criminal and Civil Cases before the Hokkaido Courts.
2. Cases Handled by the Courts during the Periods Indicated

ANNEX "A"

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Statistics on Number of Criminal and Civil Cases
Before the Hokkaido Courts

(a) Criminal Cases

<u>The High Court</u>		1		2		3		4	
Sapporo	(a)	(87)	345	(13)	290	(45)	301	(55)	334
	(b)	(23)		(16)		(16)		(23)	
Hakodate Br	(a)	(5)	64	(0)	43	(5)	69	(0)	38
Total Cases	(a)	(92)	409	(13)	333	(50)	370	(55)	372
	(b)	(23)		(16)		(16)		(23)	

The District Courts

Sapporo	(c)	(145)	916	(0)	722	(46)	788	(99)**	850
	(a)	(50)		(0)		(31)		(19)	
Hakodate	(c)	(4)	150	(0)	155	(1)	122	(3)*	183
	(a)	(1)		(2)		(3)		(0)	
Asahigawa	(c)	(3)	253	(0)	238	(2)	237	(1)*	254
Kushiro	(c)	(3)	159	(0)	193	(3)	285	(0)	67
Total for District Courts	(c)	(155)	1478	(0)	1308	(52)	1432	(103)	1355
	(a)	(51)		(2)		(34)		(19)	

Summary Courts

Sapporo	(d)	(10)	175	(0)	405	(5)	409	(5)*	171
	(e)		65		2055		3075		45
Hakodate	(d)	(2)	58	(0)	138	(0)	128	(2)*	68
	(e)		3		645		647		1
Asahigawa	(d)		113		164		206		70
	(e)		60		1115		1156		19
Kushiro	(d)		96		165		215		46
	(e)		37		909		915		31
Total	(d)	(12)	442	(0)	872	(5)	958	(7)*	355
	(e)		165		4724		4793		96

Column 1 shows number of cases pending as of 1 November 1950.
Column 2 shows number of cases received during period covered.
Column 3 shows number of cases handled during period covered.
Column 4 shows number of cases pending as of 20 February 1951.

- () indicates old criminal code cases.
- (a) indicates Koso Appeal Cases.
- (b) indicates Jokoku Appeal Cases.
- (c) indicates Case of 1st Instance.
- (d) indicates Ordinary Case.
- (e) indicates Summary Order Case.
- ()* indicates cases in which the defendant cannot be located.
- ()** indicates that 64% of these defendants cannot be found.

Incl 1 to ANNEX "A"

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Cases Handled by the Courts During the Periods Indicated:

Criminal

	<u>Monthly Ave. for 1st 10 months 1950</u>	<u>Nov 1950</u>	<u>Dec 1950</u>	<u>Jan 1951</u>
High Court	103	106	131	92
Dist. Court				
Sapporo	124	188	383	164
Hakodate	36	34	43	23
Asahigawa	55	60	95	52
Kushiro	<u>55</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>62</u>
TOTAL	270	339	639	301

Civil Cases

High Court	14	32	32	15
Dist. Court				
Sapporo	79	102	229	108
Hakodate	58	27	80	49
Asahigawa	38	69	50	53
Kushiro	<u>27</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>34</u>
TOTAL	202	227	400	244

Cases of Violation of Imperial Ordinance 311 (C.O. 325)

High Court 1 appeal case pending as of 1 March 1951
Dist. Courts 6 cases pending as of 1 February 1951
 3 cases received during February 1951
 1 case consummated during February 1951
 8 cases pending as of 1 March 1951

Incl 2 to ANNEX "A"

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Hokkaido Civil Affairs Region

ANNEX A

Political and Government Activities

Report for January 1951

Prepared by: Orren L. Hays
GS-12 DAC

I. Japanese Government Administration

a. Activities of the Governor: Governor Tanaka began his 1951 activities with a New Year radio broadcast message to the people of Hokkaido. He conducted an extensive administration inspection tour into Tokachi Sub-Prefecture, where he visited Obihiro City and twenty-four towns in that area. In talks at all municipalities visited, he emphasized the overall development to improve and to guarantee the cultural living in Hokkaido, through the improvement of the individual Hokkaidoan. He participated in meetings of the Hokkaido Overall Development Committee and of the Standing Committee of the Development Council of the Hokkaido Prefectural Committee. Governor Tanaka, as a representative of the Kuriles Restoration Movement, plans a trip early in February to Tokyo to confer with Mr. Dulles.

b. Activities of the Vice-Governor:

- (1) Vice-Governor Fukuda spent the first few days of January in visiting areas in an effort to insure the completion of all crop quotas. On the 16-17 January he represented Governor Tanaka at the Tohoku-Hokkaido Governors' Conference held in Yamagata City. Discussions there included those on electrical industries, local finances, and equalization grants. The remainder of the month he spent in Tokyo conferring with the officials in the Ministry of Agriculture on matters pertaining to the amount of the 1951 fiscal year budget to be used as long range loans to agriculture, forestry and fisheries. He again urged that deliveries of sundry cereals in lieu of rice quota be authorized for Hokkaido.
- (2) Vice-Governor Noguchi discussed with the concerned department chiefs on (a) preparation of administrative reports; (b) the 1951 fiscal year budget for development; (c) reporting on fulfilled food deliveries; (d) diversion of a part of the Governor's social expense money to the Fisheries Fund; and (e) the facts in connection with the charges of graft against Chief Sumagai of Prefectural Construction Department. In trips to Tokyo he consulted with the Local Autonomy Agency, the Local Finance Commission and the Hokkaido Development Board in trying to arrive at a final determination as to the amount of the local equalization fund for the remainder of the 1950 fiscal year.
- (3) Vice-Governor Sakuma participated in the activities of the initial meeting of the Aquarium and Fisheries Museum Establishment Preparatory Committee. At a special meeting at the Hokkaido Colonial

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Bank, the Vice-Governor addressed representatives from all of the fourteen sub-prefectures. On 30 January, at a meeting of the Hokkaido Overall Development Committee Secretariat, he explained and discussed the first five-year plan for overall development.

c. **First Plenary Session of the Sapporo City Assembly:** In a meeting held 29-31 January, deliberations were held on fourteen bills, nine petitions and one opinion. Bills #1-2-3-4 and 5 provided supplementary budgets enactments concerning the 1950 fiscal year's general account (¥96,755,500), and the special accounts for transportation affairs (¥21,239,000), the hospital (¥6,798,500), the water-supply business (¥1,538,400), and the foundation (¥144,600). Generally these budget increases were wage increases and year-end loans to employees. Bill #6 was an amendment to the By-law for the Amount and Paying Method of Reward and Compensation to the members of the Sapporo City Assembly, to provide the following monthly pay scales:

Member of the City Assembly	¥6,000
Duty Pay for the Speaker	6,000
Duty Pay for the Vice-Speaker	3,000
Chairman of the Public Safety Commission	8,500
Members of the Public Safety Commission	6,000
Auditor Selected from the Assembly	6,000
Chairman of the Election Management Commission	8,000
Member of the Election Management Commission	2,500
Voting and Ballot Counting Overseers	400 (@ each election)
Election Meeting Chairman	1,000 (@ each election)
Others	400 (daily)

Bill #8, a partial amendment to the Sapporo City Employees Payment By-Law, provided monthly pay bases as follows:

Mayor	¥40,000 to ¥60,000
Deputy Mayors	25,000 to 40,000
Treasurer	20,000 to 30,000
Fixed Assets Assessor	20,000 to 30,000
75 grades of employees	3,000 to 25,000

Bill #10 titled the Sapporo City Public Moral Control By-law, defined prostitution and provided penalties for those convicted of solicitation or of profiting from the same. (Cited as similar to the Boppu City By-law.)

Petition #56, calling for the holding of a Children's Cultural Fair, (expenses to be borne by the city) was not favorably considered.

d. **Police Affairs:** Numerous local newspapers carried accounts of the request from the local entities of Fukuoka Prefecture to the Local Autonomy Agency: **proposing** the transfer of personnel from the smaller autonomous police forces to the National Rural Police for administrative and financial reasons. Attorney General Ohashi's recent comments on revision on the Police Law also received widespread publicity. Several newspaper editorialized on the practicability of the revision of the Police Law to empower the National Rural Police to investigate special crimes within the jurisdiction of the local entities. At a meeting of the All Hokkaido Public Safety Commissioners Association on 13 January, many commis-

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sioners voiced their personal opposition to the extension of any such powers to the N.R.P., but no resolutions were forthcoming from the association. On 20 January, the Hokkaido Autonomous Police Association held its regular meeting and gave full discussions to the above-mentioned matters, saying that the records show that the autonomous police have been able to preserve law and order; that these revisions would represent a marked deviation from the movement to true local autonomy; and that in any event the people pay for police services whether local or national. The Chief of Police, Bebei City, was the only outspoken advocate of centralization among those present. Several chiefs complained that their police budgets would be limited to the barest minimums during the "revision talk period". On 29 January in response to an announced examination for Police Sergeant, 799 candidates reported to N.R.P. headquarters; 598 of these reporting were from autonomous organizations. Reactions to extensive questioning on the subject of revision, indicate that practically all of the smaller entities favor relief from the burden of supplying police services within the areas of their jurisdiction. In Hokkaido the limits of the villages, towns and cities are generally extensive. An area of over 255 sq. Km. is common; several municipalities have an area of over 700 sq. Km.; and one town, Shinotoku, has an area of 1062 sq. Km.

2. The Courts and Procurators:

a. On 31 January, the Kushiro District Court announced a finding of guilty for all twelve defendants (including Noboro A. Saki, a Prefectural Assemblyman and Chief Accountant of receipts and disbursements of election campaign of Councillor Matsuura), in the House of Councillor election fraud case. (See Par 2 g, July M.A.R.). This announcement followed the thirteenth hearing of this case, initially heard in August 1950, on charges of violation of provisions of the Public Office Election (Law #100, 1 May 1950). Specific charges included false financial report to the Prefectural Election Management Committee; unlawful diversion of the Farmers Cooperative Party's "Expense Fund" to an election campaign fund; and several instances of giving and accepting bribes during the last election of House of Councillors. Five of the sentences were limited to fines ranging from ¥5,000 to ¥50,000, but included provisions of suspension for one year; six of the sentences provided for imprisonment without hard labor for terms of three to six months; these sentences were also suspended. Vice-Mayor Seiji Ogawa, of Nemuro Town, was sentenced to six months imprisonment at hard labor and a forfeiture of ¥20,000. Ogawa immediately filed notice of appeal to the Sapporo High Court. Several of the other defendants expressed their intention to appeal. The procurators are studying the feasibility of an appeal also. Those interested in discussing the case have raised the question as to who will file suit to void Matsuura's election certificate (Art 212 - Law #100, 1 May 1950); and expressed opinions that final decisions on the appeals and suit could not be reached within three years. Several were of the opinion that these mild sentences would contribute to an increase in election violations in the future.

b. On 16 January 1951, Judge Inomata, of the Sapporo High Court, pronounced guilty seven out of fifteen defendants, charged with violations of the Electrical Enterprise Law (Art 33, Law #61), in that they cut off the electrical power in Abashiri City during the Electrical Union Strike in October 1948. The defendants were all members of the Abashiri Branch of the Hokkaido Electrical Labor Union. This case was before the High Court on a procuratorial appeal from

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the Kushiro District Court. The seven found guilty immediately filed an appeal to the Supreme Court. The High Procurator's Office of Sapporo is seriously considering an appeal of the case of the eight defendants found not guilty. The initial hearing of this case on 21 January 1949 was before the Abashiri Branch of the Kushiro District Court. Throughout that trial before the lower court, the defendants contended that they had the right to strike and that their acts were not violations of the Electrical Enterprise Law; and all, after many delays and drawn out hearings, were adjudged not guilty. The High Court in its rulings stated in effect that the defendants had a right to strike, but that the seven defendants found guilty had abused those rights. Members of the Procurator's staff are of the opinion that the Sapporo High Court's ruling of a right to strike in this case will be found to be in error on appeal.

c. On 17 January the Sapporo High Court rejected a Hokoku appeal presented by Lawyer Suginozawa, on behalf of his clients, (nine red-purged employees of the Hokkaido Shimbun Co.) from a decision against them in the Sapporo District Court. (See par 2 b, October M.A.R.). The High Court found that the evidence presented by the Shimbun was sufficient for the court to affirm that the appealing parties were Communists or Communist sympathizers. The court ruled that the actions of the CP's in trying to stir up social disturbances, by means of false agitations so as to foment such social unrest as to produce a means of upsetting constitutional government by violence, had justified the "rule of practical law" established by General MacArthur's July letters. The Court said too, that the "rule of practical law" was linked with the duties of "removing all obstacles to the revival and strengthening of Democratic tendencies among the Japanese people, which the Japanese owe to the Potsdam Declaration"; that the rule in no way goes counter to any fundamental human right; and that it has precedence over any of Japan's domestic laws, including its constitution.

d. On 13 January the Supreme Court rendered a judgement on a Jokoku appeal from the Hakodate Branch of the Sapporo High Court, quashing the original finding of not guilty in the case of Keisuke Sakata, Hakodate, charged with murder and knowingly purchasing stolen goods, and remanded the case to the Sapporo High Court. This case came before the Supreme Court on appeals filed by both the defendants and the procurator. In arriving at their decision, the Supreme Court said, "Any person like the accused of this case, who has qualities of causing harm to others, when under the influence of alcohol, is obliged to take care to prevent himself from endangering others, by controlling his drinking. Although this murder was committed in the status of his mental derangement, he cannot avoid his responsibility for homicide, because he knew his own physical predisposition, yet failed to exercise the proper caution. The original court did not consider these illegalities". The Procurators were particularly pleased with this new announcement of responsibility on individuals of this type under the influence of alcohol; since this type of case has been both frequent and troublesome heretofore.

e. A bribery case originating in January 1943, and one of the few old criminal code cases yet remaining under the jurisdiction of the Sapporo High Court was, on 26 January 1951, finally adjudicated. In view of the unusual aspects involved over an eight-year period, a brief of this case is outlined herewith:

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In January 1943, Akira Nakao, age 47, Bekkai Village Assemblyman, was arrested for and accused of bribing two prefectural assemblymen.

In September 1943, the accused was referred to the Asahigawa District Court for trial.

The first hearing, scheduled for 21 August 1944, was not held because of claimed illness on the part of the accused. He was placed in custody of his lawyer.

In August 1945, the District Court stopped proceedings until the accused notified the court that he was able to travel in spite of his illness.

In April 1947, the accused was elected Mayor of Bekkai Village. (A fact not known to the court authorities until 22 December 1950).

Thereafter, each six months the court sent written requests to the accused, asking if he was able to stand trial. To each such inquiry, the accused attached a bona fide doctor's certificate requesting further delay.

On 22 December, based upon Articles 4, 5 and 6 of Regulation #27, (Supreme Court), dated 20 December 1950, the Asahigawa District Court sent a representative to Bekkai Village to personally investigate whether the accused was able to stand trial or not. The court representative, when he discovered that Nakao was up and about, performing the normal duties of the Mayor's Office, promptly advised the accused that his trial would be held in Bekkai Village. Mayor Nakao, pleading that he not be tried in his own village, promised to appear in Asahigawa for trial on 25 December 1950.

On 25 December 1950, the accused filed another petition requesting another delay due to illness.

Finally on 12 January 1951, he appeared before the court to stand trial.

On 26 January 1951, the Asahigawa District Court found Nakao guilty and sentenced him to one year imprisonment, with two years suspended sentence.

3. Political Parties Activities

a. Liberal Party: On 7 January Tokeshi Yamazaki, Minister of Transportation, arrived in Hakodate to begin an inspection tour of railroads, ports and other transportation facilities in Hokkaido. Local newspapers lauded Yamazaki for coming to Hokkaido during the severe winter season. Yamazaki refused the Hokkaido Chapter's invitation to attend a Liberal Party conference at Noboribetsu. He limited his political comments to a statement that "a conservative governor for Hokkaido was desirable". Political observers were warm in their praise of Yamazaki's political astuteness. They said that the Liberal Party had benefited greatly from the resulting publicity and from a boost in morale. The Chapter's Staff meeting in Noboribetsu on 10 January centered discussion upon whether to support Kurosawa or Okada in the coming election. Adverse criticism of the two possibilities were (1) Okada was unpopular among the farmers because he had used the police in forcing the farmers to contribute rice quotas during his short tenure as Governor in 1947; and (2) Kurosawa is only a dairy farmer, that he does not appeal to the fisherman,

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and that his speeches and actions indicate that he does not care for the small and middle class businessman. Some members demanded that Construction Minister Masuda be nominated. Final decision was that the Chapter should continue to support Okada. On 15 January Tomabechi, member of the House of Representatives, and leader of the Hokkaido Chapter, explained the results of the "oboribetsu Conference to party headquarters in Tokyo. Several days later at a general meeting of the party in Tokyo, Prime Minister Yoshida is reported to have jokingly told Hokkaido's representative to stop the fuss, to forget about Okada, and to support Kurosawa. On 24 January, the central party headquarters wired the Hokkaido Chapter that Kurosawa was the man but that they should continue to ostensibly support Okada. This, the local chapter agreed to do, but demanded that the Central Party Headquarters do something "to save face" for Okada. Central Party Headquarters agreed to take full responsibility. Okada continues to say, "I am determined to run for Governor. The Hokkaido Chapter recommended me."

b. The Social Democratic Party: Early in January local newspapers gave extensive publicity to the activities of one Seiji Hoyashi, acting in behalf of Tetsutaro Watanabe, a broker in Asahigawa City. Hayashi initiated a "sit-down hunger strike" at a busy street intersection in Sapporo. In signs plainly visible to all passers-by, Hayashi demanded that Tokeo Homma pay in full the amount, which he (Homma) owes Watanabe for sea weeds sold the prefectural government. (See Part I c, Nov. M.A.R.). Homma is a member of the prefectural assembly, a prominent Socialist and a leader of the local chapter of that party. He is alleged to be involved in both the "Bicycle Number Plate Case" and the "Seaweed Case". (Both cases are still being investigated by the Fact Finding Committee of the Prefectural Assembly). Several days after Hayashi started his strike, Yokomichi, Chief Secretary of the Hokkaido Chapter of the Socialist Party, contacted the hunger striker to urge him to see Homma the next day at party headquarters. Hiroshi Yamamoto, Hokkaido's outstanding militant anti-Communist, attached himself to Hayashi for the meeting with Homma. As might have been expected the conference ended with feelings further aggravated, when Yamamoto began lambasting the Socialist Party for unscrupulous actions in the prefectural assembly. His challenges for a public debate on the subject went unheeded. Furious party officials accused the Liberal Party of utilizing an anti-Communist in an effort to embarrass and discredit the Socialist Party for the coming election. During the reported period, the Socialist Party was the first to announce to the newspapers, the selection of party candidates for the prefectural assembly. Various labor groups throughout Hokkaido, such as the teachers unions, railroad unions and miners union, announced their support of Governor Tanaka. It was also reported that, during this period, some Communists offered to support Governor Tanaka provided the Socialist Party withdraws its support from the Restoration of the Kuriles Movement. The Farmer Labor Party, it is reported, has conditionally pledged support for Governor Tanaka. Rumors are prevalent that various leaders of the Socialist Party are spending much time in the farming areas of Kamikawa and Tokachi Sub-Prefectures in an effort to split the strength of the Farmers' Cooperative Party. At party headquarters in Tokyo, Chief Secretary Yokomichi and seven other representatives from Hokkaido voted for the "no armament of Japan".

c. The People's Democratic Party: At a general meeting of party held in Sapporo on 13 January, leaders discussed the feasibility of supporting Kurosawa in the coming gubernatorial election. Despite the fact that the majority of those

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present evidently favored party support of Kurosawa, several influential prefectural assemblymen were able to prevent any formal pronouncement to that effect. The pointed out that Governor Tanaka is easy to deal with and at times sympathizes with the policies of the party, despite his Socialist tendencies. Discussions on this subject were ended when it was suggested that party headquarters in Tokyo be consulted. At this meeting the chapter renominated all fourteen of the party's present membership in the prefectural assembly for re-election, with the reservation that if the future political situation warrants, six additional candidates will be selected. Following receipt of the Tokyo headquarters confirmation of party support for Mr. Kurosawa, the leaders of the Hokkaido chapter met again to unanimously endorse Mr. Kurosawa as their candidate for Governor in the coming election. Political observers commented that this action may well sound the death knell for the People's Democratic Party in Hokkaido, in the event many career assemblymen give their behind-the-screen support to Governor Tanaka and thereby further weaken the already weakened party.

d. The Farmer's Cooperative Party: A letter from Mr. Kurosawa, stating that he would run for Governor of Hokkaido as a neutral candidate if sufficiently supported, was read to an extraordinary meeting of party held in Sapporo on 16 January. In the heated discussions which followed, some insisted that Mr. Kurosawa must join the party as a gesture of sincerity, and to insure party harmony since many of the young farmers have a tendency to be pro-Tanaka. Decision was finally determined by vote that party support would be given to Mr. Kurosawa irrespective of the wishes of the groups of younger farmers. The meeting also voted to nominate party candidates for forty-two seats in the prefectural assembly. (Presently they hold only twenty-one seats). On the 24th of January Mr. Kurosawa, just prior to his departure for Denmark, publicly announced his intentions to run for Governor of Hokkaido as an Independent candidate. Immediately following that announcement the Election Planning Committee of the party met and reaffirmed support for Mr. Kurosawa.

e. The Farmer Labor Party: An election planning conference for the party, held in Sapporo on 4 January, was attended by 15 members, including Councillor Chiba and Representative Okada. They limited their activities to the nomination of six party candidates for the Prefectural Assembly.

f. The Communist Party: Apparently the activities of the individual Communists have continued along routine patterns. They took active leadership of the Hakodate day-laborers group which insistently demanded of the Mayor that the Hakodate day-laborers be increased from 1200 to 1500 laborers and that their daily wages be increased from ¥218 to ¥250. They participated in a hand-clapping disturbance at the trial of one of their colleagues in Kushiro. The flow of their leaflets is markedly reduced. The arrests from the above, and other activities produced demands to the police for release of the apprehended brethren, whose civil rights were being abused. Frequently these demands led to the arrest of the demanders. Prevailing slogans were, (1) "Let the invasion in Korea fail; (2) "Sino"-Japanese Amity through overall peace treaty; (3) "Objection to permanent military bases which destroy racial independence; (4) "Thoroughly disclose illegality, corruption and cooperation with war by mighty but reactionary political parties; and (5) "Especially assault the viciously camouflaged Socialist Party".

Restricted