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UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER

FOR JAPAN
RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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1947 MAR 27 PM 2 Tokyo, March 14, 1947

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No. 910

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FACILITIES BRANCH

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
APR 3 - 1947
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUBJECT: Funerals, Memorial Services, and Monuments for War Dead, Militarists and Ultrationalists

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894.413/3-1447

The United States Political Adviser has the honor to forward copy of Operational Directive No. 21 dated March 1, 1947, from Headquarters, Eighth Army, Yokohama, to United States Military Government units throughout Japan. With the directive there are forwarded copies of communications from the Japanese Ministries of Home Affairs and Education to local police boards, prefectural governors, and officials of Japanese universities, colleges, and high schools, on the general subject of public funerals, disposition of monuments and statues, etc. In the Eighth Army operational directive there are outlined the various regulations concerning funerals, memorial services, disposition of war memorials, etc. Corps Commanders and Military Government officials are instructed to exercise necessary surveillance to insure compliance with the regulations outlined.

ACTION
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TO:
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Enclosure: *WT*

Copy of Operational Directive No. 21, March 1, 1947, with attachments.

Original and hectograph to Department

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 910 dated March 14, 1947 from the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, on the subject "Funerals, Memorial Services, and Monuments for War Dead, Militarists and Ultrationalists".

COPY

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH ARMY
United States Army
Office of the Commanding General
APO 343

OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVE)
)
NUMBER 21)

1 March 1947

FUNERALS, MEMORIAL SERVICES, AND MONUMENTS FOR WAR DEAD,
MILITARISTS AND ULTRANATIONALISTS

1. References:

a. Joint Notification No. 51, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs and Vice-Minister of Education, 1 November 1946, subject: "Public Funerals, etc.," to governors of prefectures and presidents and directors of universities, colleges and high schools. (Inclosure 1).

b. Notification A No. 73, Director of Police Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, 27 November 1946, subject: "Disposition of Monuments and Statues," to Director of Metropolitan Police Board, and governors of prefectures, (Inclosure 2).

2. Regulations concerning funerals, memorial services, and other ceremonies for the war dead, militarists, and ultrationalists are as follows:

a. The following practices are prohibited:

- (1) Sponsorship or support by local units of government or local public bodies of funerals, memorial services, and other ceremonies for the war dead, militarists, and ultrationalists.
- (2) Participation in private funerals, memorial services, and other ceremonies for the war dead, militarists, and ultrationalists by public officials acting in their official capacities.
- (3) Presentation of condolence money or wreaths for such ceremonies by or on behalf of local public bodies.
- (4) Use of public facilities such as school houses and public halls for such ceremonies.
- (5) Coercion by local units of government, local public bodies, or public officials designed to force people to attend or give financial support to such ceremonies.
- (6) Holding of public ceremonies at time of return of ashes to bereaved families.
- (7) Any governmental or official connection with funerals, memorial services, or other ceremonies for the war dead, militarists, and ultrationalists.

Encl. No. 1 to
Tokyo's 910
March 14, 1947.

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b. The following practices are permitted:

- (1) Individuals or groups not associated with the government may continue to hold such ceremonies, if there is no official sponsorship, support, or participation.
- (2) Local units of government and local public bodies may hold memorial services or other ceremonies for other than the war dead, militarists, and ultranationalists, provided such ceremonies contain no religious elements.

3. The following policies have been established concerning loyal spirit pagodas, war memorials, and other monuments and statues for war dead, militarists, and ultranationalists:

a. Erection of new loyal spirit pagodas, war memorials, and other monuments and statues for the war dead, militarists, and ultranationalists is prohibited.

b. Construction work now in progress on above structures is suspended.

c. The following existing loyal spirit pagodas, war memorials, and other monuments and statues for the war dead, militarists, and ultranationalists will be removed.

- (1) Those which are erected in schools and on school grounds.
- (2) Those obviously intended to propagate militaristic and ultranationalistic ideology which are erected in public buildings, their compounds, or on public grounds.

d. The following practices are permitted:

- (1) Local units of government and local public bodies as well as private individuals and groups may maintain monuments or statues for those who have died in the discharge of civilian duty or for those who have rendered distinguished civic service.
- (2) Bereaved families may erect and maintain private monuments or tombstones for the war dead, militarists, and ultranationalists.

4. The commanding general of each corps and the commanding officers of the Tokyo-Kanagawa Military Government District and the Chugoku and Military Government Regions will exercise necessary surveillance to insure compliance with the instructions contained in paragraphs 2 and 3 above. Care should be exercised to avoid the appearance of an iconoclastic campaign on the part of the occupation forces; no such campaign is intended. Particular care should be exercised in surveillance over the implementation of paragraph 3 c (2) above.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL EICHELBERGER:

CLOVIS E. BYERS
Major General, GSC
Chief of Staff

Encl. No. 1 to
Tokyo's 910
March 14, 1947

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OFFICIAL:
s/ SCHANZE
G-1

- 2 Incls: 1. Ministry of Home Affairs
Notification A No 73
2. Ministries of Home Affairs &
Education Joint Notification
No 51

DISTRIBUTION: "A" plus "Z" plus
2 copies to each Mil Govt Unit
20 copies to Mil Govt Sec, Hq 8th Army

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Tokyo's 910
March 14, 1947.

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COPY

COPY OF TRANSLATION BY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
NOTIFICATION A No. 73
(Public Safety Section, Police Bureau)
November 27, 1946

TO: Director of Metropolitan Police Board.
Governors of Prefectures.

FROM: Director of Police Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs.

SUBJECT: Disposition of Monuments and Statues.

Referring to Paragraph 4, Notification No. 51 (Religious Section), issued on November 1 in the name of the Vice-Ministers of Home Affairs and Education; subject: Public Funerals, etc., the disposition of monuments (chureito or chukonhi) and statues shall be carried out according to the following:

1. From the school buildings, grounds, and other places that should be regarded as virtually school grounds, these monuments and statues should be removed.

2. From the public buildings, grounds, and other public places, all monuments and statues that have the obvious aim of inspiring and propagating militarism or ultranationalism (as stated below) should be removed.

a. Doctrine which asserts the Japanese Emperor to be superior to the chief of other States because of his ancestors, family status, or special origin.

b. Doctrine which asserts the Japanese nation to be superior to the other nations because of their ancestors, family status, or special origin.

c. Doctrine which asserts the Japanese islands to be superior to the other nations' territories because of their special origin.

d. Doctrine which deceives the Japanese people and induces them to aggressive war or which exalts the use of arms as the means of settling international dispute.

As a rule, those monuments whose inscription indicates simply that they built for the war dead, for instance, chureito, chukonhi, or nichiro seneki kinenhi (Monument for the war dead in Russo-Japanese war), etc., need not be removed.

3. The ashes deposited in a monument to be removed shall be disposed of as indicated below:

a. The ashes shall be handed over to the bereaved families when these families can be identified.

b. In all other cases, the ashes shall be buried in public cemetery.

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Tokyo's 910
March 14, 1947.

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5. In case where families plan to erect a tombstone in common for their war dead, these families shall be advised to refrain from erecting unduly big or fine monument lest it should become an exaltation of militarism.

6. As for tombstones for the war dead built by the families, their inscription may indicate the rank of the dead in Army or Navy and their place of death, provided it does not exalt the military merit of the dead.

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Tokyo's 910
March 14, 1947

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COPY

COPY OF TRANSLATION BY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MINISTRIES OF HOME AFFAIRS AND EDUCATION
JOINT NOTIFICATION NO. 51
(Religious Section, Ministry of Education)
November 1, 1946

TO : Governors of Prefectures.
Presidents and Directors of Universities, Colleges, and
High Schools.

FROM : Vice-Minister of Home Affairs.
Vice-Minister of Education.

SUBJECT : Public Funerals, etc.

Concerning subject matter it is desired that the authorities concerned instruct every organization under their jurisdiction or concern to act in accordance with the following from the viewpoint of separating religion from the State:

1. The local agencies of the Government and local public bodies, such as Metropolis, Hokkaido, Prefecture, City, Town, or Village, shall not hold for any person funerals or other religious services or activities (appeasing ceremonies or memorial rites for the departed spirits, etc.). The following are allowed as maximum latitude of what may be done in the name of the local government agencies or local public bodies:

a. Holding ceremonies devoid of religious elements in honor of those who have died in discharge of civilian duty or of those who have rendered distinguished civic service. (Such ceremonies without priests or pastors as are held in schools or police stations for teachers or policemen died at their post of duty).

b. Having a holiday or hoisting flag to mourn for those who have died in discharge of civilian duty or for those who have rendered distinguished civic service. In case of hoisting national flag, previous understanding should be obtained from local occupation forces.

c. Presenting condolence money or wreaths, attendance of government officials in official capacity, or giving memorial addresses on behalf of the Government or public bodies at funerals or other ceremonies held by individuals or civilian bodies for those who have died in discharge of civilian duty or for those who have rendered distinguished civic service.

2. Individuals or civilian bodies may hold funerals or other religious services or activities for those who have died in discharge of civilian duty or for those who have rendered distinguished civic service. But, local public bodies or any public agencies shall, in principle, refrain from lending facilities even for these purposes. Only in exceptional cases where there is no other place, school houses or public halls may be made available on the same terms as for other non-public purposes.

3. Individuals or civilian bodies may hold funerals or other ceremonies for the war dead. The local agencies of the Government or local public bodies shall not sponsor or support these activities, nor

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March 14, 1947

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shall they extend thereto any courtesy in their name. In consequence, what are allowed in the preceding two paragraphs in honor of those who have died in discharge of civilian duty or those who have rendered distinguished civic service shall not be applicable to the war dead. The militarists or ultranationalists shall be treated in the same way.

The ashes of the war dead shall be handled with respect in transportation, storage, and handing over to families. As the handing over of ashes is to be done by the Government, public buildings or grounds (except school buildings or grounds) may be used for this purpose. However, the ceremony should not be attended by the public.

The authorities concerned should be careful lest such undesirable things happen as teachers taking pupils to, or the public being forced to attend, the funerals or other ceremonies be made an occasion of inspiring or propagating militaristic idea.

4. Loyal spirit pagodas, war memorials, and other monuments or statues for the war dead, as well as those for the militarists or ultranationalists shall not be erected in the future. The work of those which are now under construction shall immediately be suspended. Regarding existing ones, the following measures shall be taken:

a. Those which are erected in schools and their grounds shall be removed.

b. Those which are erected in public buildings, their compounds, or public grounds, with obvious aim to propagate and enhance militaristic or ultranationalistic idea shall be removed.

The above provisions do not imply the prohibition of erecting private monuments or tombstones for the war dead by their bereaved families.

5. There is no objection to erecting or maintaining monuments or bronze statues for those who have died in discharge of civilian duty or for those who have rendered distinguished civic service.

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No. 35

To the

Acting United States Political Adviser for Japan,
Tokyo.

The Secretary of State informs the Acting United States Political Adviser of the need in the Department for copies of reports of the Arts and Monuments Division, CIE, SCAP.

A complete file of the MFA&A reports from the MTO and ETO, the SHEAF headquarters, and from the American Zone of Germany was received by the American Commission for the Protection and Salvage of Artistic and Historic Monuments in War Areas, and has been received by the Department of State from CAD, Department of the Army, since the Department assumed the functions of the American Commission July 1, 1946. This file of MFA&A reports presents a most valuable permanent record of MFA&A activities and information on loss and damage of monuments, on recovery of looted objects and restitution in the war areas of Europe.

No reports of the Arts and Monuments Division, SCAP, have ever been received in Washington except for brief paragraphs in the monthly SCAP Summation of Non-Military Activities in Japan.

The following information about A&M reports has been obtained from A&M officers who have served in Tokyo:

1. Weekly Reports of the A&M Division were prepared, as of June 1946, in a total of five typed copies, that it is a heavy file and producing extra copies might be difficult, but that file copies might be found. We have been informed that the "total reports" (which are assumed to be the Weekly Reports) never went above Chief of Section.
2. A Card Index on Sites and Monuments of Japan has been made. It is desirable to obtain a complete transcript of this master file on sites and monuments. This file is understood to be unclassified and handled by Japanese employees.

The Acting Political Adviser is requested to endeavor, if possible, to obtain copies of the reports referred to above, forwarding them to the Acquisition and Distribution Division of the Department with a reference to this instruction. It is presumed that no cost will be involved in obtaining this material.

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A copy of the original report...

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ACTION is assigned to

United States Political Adviser for Japan

Tokyo, June 1, 1948

No. 318

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~~SECRET~~
JUL 2 1948

File

DEPARTMENT OF WAR
ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION DIVISION
SEP 13 1948

Memo to Ado, Air - Insts. drafted Tokyo + Seoul - 9-14-48 - new

SUBJECT: Availability of Documents Regarding Japanese Arts and Monuments.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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CIVIL INFORMATION BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION DIVISION
OCCUPIED AREAS DIVISION (ADD)
AUG 24 1948

INSTRUCTIONS
Tokyo + Seoul
PROCUREMENT CONTROL

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 24 1948
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894.413/6-148

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

JUL 7 - 1948
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to unclassified instruction No. 35 to this Mission dated March 9, 1948, which concerns the department's desire to acquire certain information and materials pertaining to the work of Arts and Monuments Division of this Headquarters.

The Arts and Monuments Division of the Civil Information and Education Section ceased to exist as a separate unit on December 21, 1947, when it was amalgamated with the Religions Division to form the Religions and Cultural Resources Division. The files of the division contain four types of materials relating to the subject matter of the instruction under reference. The first is the Master Card Index on Sites and Monuments in Japan. The second consists of the Weekly Reports to the Chief, Civil Information and Education Section. The third consists of a List of Works and Collections, Sites and Installations Requiring Protection, which was prepared by the Education Ministry in May 1946. The fourth comprises the reports of Arts and Monuments field inspectors.

- 1/ The Master Card Index entries are in two parts: those concerning private collections and those pertaining to registered sites and/or objects. The information contained includes coverage of national parks and hotels as well as fine arts objects and survivals of ancient architecture. The cards measure one by five inches and number approximately 1500. Two sample cards are forwarded herewith, the one, enclosure No. 1, being a representative entry on a private collection, and the other, enclosure No. 2, representing a typical entry on a registered site. The Religions and Cultural Resources Division possesses only one copy of the entire Master Card Index.
- 2/

The Weekly Reports to the Chief, Civil Information and Education Section, which cover the period from June 29, 1946 to the present, are made in three copies, one of which goes to the Chief of section,

one to

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Tokyo's No. 318
June 1, 1948.

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one to the Chief of the Religions and Cultural Resources Division, and one to the Analysis and Research Division of the Section.

- These reports may run from two to five pages or slightly more. To some are attached lengthy reports from field inspectors, as in
- 3/ the case of the sample report for February 7, 1947, transmitted herewith as inclosure No. 3. Two separate outlines were used in preparing these documents, the first being in use during the period from June 29, 1946 to August 8, 1947, and the second in use from the latter date until the present. A sample copy of the second type of report
- 4/ is forwarded herewith as inclosure No. 4.

- The List of Works and Collections, Sites and Installations Requiring Protection, prepared by the Education Ministry, is not regarded by the Religions and Cultural Resources Division as either adequate or dependable. However, it was used by the Division, together with the reports of field inspectors, as the basis for the Master Card
- 5/ Index entries. A sample entry in the List is transmitted as enclosure No. 5. The entire List fills twenty-three volumes averaging one inch in thickness. It is subdivided into two parts like the master card index, one pertaining to private the other to registered public items. The Division has only one copy.

The reports of field inspectors appear to be sporadic, fairly voluminous and to be attached, in important cases, to the weekly reports mentioned above.

The Religions and Cultural Resources Division is currently engaged in the preparation of a report on war damage to cultural properties in the Far East, which it is expected, will be completed about September 1, 1948. Copies of this report, when available, will be sent to the Department.

The four types of documentary materials mentioned above may be copied for the information of the Department. It is estimated that it would require the time of one stenographer for about a month to copy the Master Card Index and the entire series of Weekly Reports. If, after perusal of the samples submitted herewith, the Department desires this copying work to be done, this Mission would appreciate an instruction to that effect. As the work would strain the stenographic resources of the Mission, it is not believed possible to begin it until the arrival of new personnel currently assigned here.

Respectfully yours,

W. J. Sebald
W. J. Sebald

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Enclosures:

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Tokyo's No. 318
June 1, 1948.

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Enclosures: ~~X~~

1. Sample of Master Card Index - Private Collection.
2. Sample of Master Card Index - Registered Site.
3. Sample Report dated February 7, 1947, following form used during period June 29, 1946 to August 8, 1947.
4. Sample Report dated September 26, 1947, following form used during period August 8, 1947 to present.
5. Sample Report 146, October 23, 1947, from List of Works and Collections, Sites and Installations.

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Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 313 dated June 1, 1948, from the Acting Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, entitled "Availability of Documents Regarding Japanese Arts and Monuments."

(COPY)

MUTO Collection

Sumiyoshi
Hyogo-ken
Kinki

38/1022-1303

Owner: Muto, KintaAddress: Kannonbayashi, Sumiyoshi-mura, Muko-gunBiography:

Collection: NT objects: 5 paintings (largely Buddhist); 1 writing; 8 mss.
IAO objects: 16 paintings; 1 Buddhist sculpture; 1 lacquer item.
Privately published catalogue of collections (2 vols.), one of Chinese & one of Japanese sculpture, the former containing many examples of fragments from Lung Mien, T'ien Lung Shan, Yun-kang, and Heiang T'ang-shan. None of this material is listed as NT or IAO. (NT 310, IO 480)

Inspection 18 Mar 46, R S Davis

Condition of housing adequate. No war or Occupation dmg. Owner's protection adequate. No risks. Inspected at Kitakamakura only.

Inspection 14 Mar 47, S E Lee (incl 1, WR 14 Mar 47)

Collection housed in godown on grounds of Japanese-style resident; carefully stored & adequately protected. Many Chinese sculptures. Cooperative attitude.

Inspection Nov 47, S E Lee (incl 1, WR 2 Jan 48)

NT: kakemonos, color on silk (Dainichi-nyorai, early Kamakura; Five Kongo Bodhisattvas, late 12th cent; Kanki-ten Reigen-ki; Priest Kanshin, Heian); Kannon Fuken Sutra (paper, fan shape, Fujiwara); Kuno-ji Sutra (makimono, Fujiwara). IAO kakemono, peauties, by Shunsho. All in good condition, well preserved.

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Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 318 dated June 1, 1948, from the Acting Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, entitled "Availability of Documents Regarding Japanese Arts and Monuments".

(COPY)

JINGU-JI

Onyu
Fukui-ken
Kinki

2 NT structures: Hondo (1553), single-story, yosemune roof; Niwomon (1385), Hakkyakumon type, kirizume roof. NT objects: 2 sculpture (wooden, Kamakura);

1 AA.

Lctn: Jingu-ji, Onyu-gun.

Protection rpt MinEd May 46, p. 83
No. war dmg.

Inspection 21 Jul 47, FE Fukui (rpt IV (48-52)
NT Niomon in very bad condition, as is Hondo, with broken roof & floor. Lacquered sutra box (Fujiwara) very beautiful, good condition. NT statues (Shinto god & goddess), chief value historical. Unregistered wooden 12 escorts of Yakushi, Kamakura period, in fair condition.

MinEd budget allocation, FY 48 (ltr GHQ to Eighth Army, 4 Dec 47; filed /2 ME: Repairs to NT)
¥700,000 for repairs to Hondo, ¥420,000 for Acala gate.

Special rpt FE Takata, 6 Feb 48 (filed /2 ME: Repairs to NT)
Both bldgs badly dmg'd, all pillars & timbers in bad condition. Roof of Niwomon recently repaired temporarily by temple to protect from rain. Temple has no funds. Estimate cost of repair for Hondo ¥2,000,000 for 3-4 yrs progra; for Niwomon, ¥300,000.

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Enclosure No. 3 to Despatch No. 318 dated June 1, 1948, from the Acting Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, entitled "Availability of Documents Regarding Japanese Arts and Monuments."

(COPY)

CIVIL INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SECTION
Arts and Monuments Division

APO 500
7 Feb 47

SUBJECT: Weekly Report of Arts and Monuments Division for
Week Ending 7 February 1947.

TO : Chief CI & E Section.

DEVELOPMENTS OF CIVIL AGENCIES (Project A)

1. Action Completed:

a. A report of the inaugural meeting of the Nara Kokuho Kyokai (Nara National Treasures Association) was submitted by a Field Examiner, who believes that the group is bureaucratic in nature. Its activities will be closely checked (ref: Weekly Report (24 Jan 47) par 1, a).

b. The CIE representative on the Executive Committee of the Hanshin Art Society reported on that committee's meeting of 16 January, giving a general resume of objects to be included in the April exhibition (see par 5, b).

c. A list of personnel in the Ministry of Education working for the preserving and cataloguing of works of art was submitted (ref: RC-A&M 5 Feb 47, subj: Weekly Conference with Mombusho).

2. Conferences:

a. The Ministry of Education reported that a plan had been formulated for the transfer of the Imperial Household Museum to the nation and that it would be beneficial to have a conference of interested parties in order to discuss the subject (ref: RC-A&M 5 Feb 47, subj: Transfer of Imperial Household Museum).

b. A copy of the Ministry of Education budget for 1947 was submitted with the information that, if further requests are necessary, they will be made in the fall. The budget has been translated and broken down by prefecture and site (ref: RC-A&M 31 Jan 47, subj: Weekly Conference with Mombusho).

c. Revisions in the National Treasures law, now being studied by this Division, were discussed with Professor Yashiro, noted scholar (ref: RC-A&M 3 Feb 47, subj: Transfer of Imperial Household Museum).

4. Work

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Tokyo's No. 318
June 1, 1948

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4. Work in Progress: Since repair expenses at Chishakuin (ref: Weekly Report (24 Jan 47) GENERAL, par 2, a) are higher than originally estimated and new funds are needed, work will not be completed until May.

5. Future Plans:

a. Plans for the transfer of the Imperial Household Museum to the nation will be discussed with high officials of the Ministry of Education, the Imperial Household Ministry, the National Treasures Committee, and the museum (ref par 2, a).

b. The tentative selection of objects to be included in the Hanshin exhibition in April (par 1, b) is considered unsatisfactory, as it specializes rather than giving a general sampling of holdings in the Kobe-Osaka area (see Weekly Report (17 Jan 47) incl 1, PROBLEMS, par 2). The Advisor on Collections has, therefore, drawn up an alternate list to be presented to the meeting of the committee on 15 February. Two members of this Division will attend the meeting, as its outcome is thought to be most important.

ORGANIZATION OF FIELD EXAMINERS (Project B)

1. Action Completed: Emergency Report No. 3 (on earthquake damage in Nara prefecture) was forwarded by a Kinki Field Examiner. The most serious items were reported to the Ministry of Education.

2. Conferences:

a. Verbal report from the CIE officer, Tokai-Hokuriku Military Government, revealed that the Examiner who had been hired there for a short period had returned home because of unsatisfactory living conditions (ref: RC-A&M 4 Feb 47, subj: Field Examiner).

b. A prospective examiner for this summer in Hokkaido was interviewed and found satisfactory, but final decision will not be reached until spring (see RC-A&M 3 Feb 47, subj: Hiring of Field Examiner).

4. Work in Progress: Canvassing of further possibilities for Field Examiner positions continues.

5. Future Plans: It was arranged that the CIE officer of Tokai-Hokuriku Military Government would arrange for prospective candidates to be interviewed by the Field Inspector at the end of this month.

PROTECTION

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Encl.No. 3 to
Tokyo's No.318
June 1, 1948

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PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION IN KOREA

1. Action Completed: Letter was received from Chief, Restitution Branch, MFA&A Section, OMGUS, advising of destruction of Central Asian frescoes in Germany, which makes the Otani Collection in Korea of unique importance.

4. Work in Progress: The Ministry of Education reports that dealers are being continually contacted with regard to missing objects from Japanese collections in Korea.

GENERAL

1. Action Completed:

a. The Field Inspector returned from an inspection of Shizuoka prefecture. A report of his findings and recommendations is attached as Incl 1.

b. The Ministry of Education was informed that Miyato Island had been placed off limits for excavations (ref: Weekly Report (31 Jan 47) GENERAL, par 1, b).

c. Request was received by telecon for paintings by Matisse in the Ohara Collection to be lent to an exhibition at the Philadelphia Museum in May (see par 4, b).

4. Work in Progress:

a. A petition submitted by the CLO for standardization of procedure to be used in opening or inspecting the Shosoin is being favorably considered.

b. It is thought that paintings referred to in par 1, c, are to be included in an exhibition sponsored by the New Osaka Press in Osaka in the near future. Inquiry has been made and no recommendation will be drawn up with regard to the Philadelphia request until a reply has been received.

5. Future Plans:

a. The matter of inventories of art objects in the hands of dealers will be discussed with higher officials of the Ministry of Education (ref: RC-A&M 5 Feb 47, subj: Inventories of Objects of Art).

b. The Advisor on Collections and the Field Inspector will visit Osaka from 13 February for three days to attend the meeting of the collectors' society in that city and to inspect collections.

HOWARD C. HOLLIS
Chief, Arts and Monuments Division

Incl

1. Memo to Chief, A&M, dtd 5 Feb 47, subj: "Report of Inspection of Shizuoka Prefecture".

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Encl.No.3 to
Tokyo's No.318
June 1, 1948

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CIVIL INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SECTION
Arts and Monuments Division

APC 500
5 Feb 47

MEMORANDUM TO CHIEF, ARTS AND MONUMENTS DIVISION:

SUBJECT: Report on Inspection of Shizuoka Prefecture

PURPOSE

To observe and report on the state of preservation and protection of cultural, artistic and historic sites and objects located in Shizuoka prefecture.

DISCUSSION

1. Tuesday, 28 January 1947.

a. Toshogu, Nekoya, Shizuoka city. The shrine, dedicated to the second Tokugawa Shogun, is linked historically with and is architecturally of the same period as those of Nikko, but surpasses the latter in attractiveness through greater simplicity. Six of the structures (Shaden, Karamon, Higashimon, Byomon, Toro, and Wall) are NT, and it is understood that the entire site has been designated as a whole, but the certification has not yet arrived.

The excellent condition of all structures reflects the prosperous financial state of Shinto Shrines even today. The last repair work was carried out in 1938. The water supply is scant and the location highly inaccessible to fire fighters, but smoking is rigorously prohibited and greater fire care than usual appeared to be taken.

Other NT include 14 swords, all intact and in good condition.

b. Hodai-in, Shizuoka City. Temple was completely burnt in raid 20 June 1945, but the wood sculpture Amida Nyorai (Kamakura, NT) was saved, although some damage was incurred. The sculpture is now stored at Jutokuin, Marito 5-chome, Shizuoka. The extent of the damage could not be clearly described by the attendant at Hodaiin, and consequently the Shizuoka MG CIE officer will go to Jutokuin in the near future and take photographs of the sculpture.

c. Tesshuji

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c. Tesshufi, Shimizu City. The NT manuscript Lotus Sutras were removed during the war to Shojuan, Iiyama machi, Kaminouchi-gun, Nagano prefecture, and have not been returned. The other NT is a late Fujiwara (1142) walking stick. Grounds and buildings, while of no importance, are badly kept up, if at all. (See PROBLEMS, 1).

d. Asamajinja (Sengenjinja), Fujinomiya City. This shrine, of the late Muromachi style combining haiden and honden into one structure with the Ishinoma in between (NT), is perfectly taken care of. It possesses two NT swords, and the spring on the grounds, fed by waters from Mt. Fuji, is a Historic Site. The shrine received ¥700 or 800 a year for upkeep before the war, but although this sum is no longer forthcoming no deterioration is apparent.

e. Inazaki Collection, Sudomura. The collection, while small, is of good quality and includes a dozen Chinese bronzes (some Shang period), gilt bronzes, Chinese pottery, T'ang figures, tea ceremony objects, and incidental applied arts. The collection is well housed in small glass cases in a western style house, and danger of fire is small. The collection was checked for registered objects with the Ministry of Education and was reported to have none.

2. Wednesday, 29 January 1947.

a. Heijinja, Numazu City. The head priest of this shrine, Uchiuni Taizo, in violation of all his responsibilities had gone off to Gotemba and left the shrine in the custody of his son. This individual confessed that he was uncertain where the NT Kamakura period painting, Sanno Reigenki, was, that he thought it was in the warehouse, but that he had no key. He was told in the sternest language of the possible grave consequences of this negligence, in case of fire (the warehouse being wooden), and was directed to tell his father (1) that he must never again leave the shrine without leaving the key in safe hands, and (2) to bring the painting at once to the Shizuoka MG CIE office, to attest its existence and condition.

b. Mishima Jinja, Mishima City. The shrine architecture is very late Tokugawa, unpainted buildings, no attention needed. Groups are extensive and well taken care of, with pools of sacred carp in front of the entrance. The NT objects, three swords and a gold-lacquer casket, are in good condition, except that the swords show signs of rust in a few places and recommendation was made that they should be more thickly oiled.

c. Myohokkeji

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c. Myohokkaji, Mishima City. The head priest of this institution is a member of the Diet and plans to run for the post of Prefectural Governor this fall, and consequently finds little time to attend to the temple. On this particular day, being unapprised of the visit of the undersigned (see RECOMMENDATIONS, 5) he was in Tokyo and had left the godown locked. Consequently the two NT paintings could not be inspected, though copies of them were hung inside the hondo. The godown is concrete and there is no fire or theft risk. Grounds are undistinguished, but well cared for.

d. Ganjojuin, Nirayamamura, Tagata-gun. Kamakura period Amida Nyorai (wood) is NT. Another sculpture of same period and of surpassing quality is, however, not registered (see RECOMMENDATIONS, 4). Condition of both is good. They have both been kept in the priests' living quarters since the hall housing them burnt prior to the war. Fire risks are still great.

3. Thursday, 30 January 1947.

a. Hannyain, Atami City. All the objects of this temple, with one exception, are stored at Izasanjinja, Atami city, a wise move in consideration of the fact that Izasanjinja has a fire-proof concrete godown while the Hannyain has no such equipment. The exception is the wood sculpture Izayama Gongen (NT) now loaned to the Imperial Household Museum. It will be returned in September.

b. Izasanjinja, Atami City. Also stored in the godown (see 3, a) with the Hannyain objects are the treasures of Izasanjinja itself, several bronze mirrors, palanquins and applied art in good condition. The NT sutra (late Fujiwara) scroll is in very bad condition, however, and should be backed to prevent its falling apart, even at the cost of obscuring its back.

c. Tenjinjinia, Inozawa-mura. No buildings of the shrine remain. The NT Dainichi Nyorai is kept in small concrete godown, but with tin-plate wooden doors. Consequently, small fire risks, but no theft risk. No caretaker is in attendance, but an itinerant priest visits the site occasionally. Since no one gains any benefit from the sculpture, which is not used in the services in any event, it would probably be wiser to remove it to a museum for display.

4. Friday, 31 January 1947.

a. Shufuku-ji, Chikuma mura, Kamo-gun. The temple is badly run down, but of no architectural importance (rebuilt since the Restoration). Dai Hannyasutra in 500 volumes, late Fujiwara, is NT and is badly worm-eaten throughout. Priest stated that the sutras were aired three times a year. The use of naphthalene or similar preventive substance was recommended.

b. Chokokuji

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b. Chokokuji (Hasedera), Asahimura, Tanshi. Contains superb wood sculpture Amida Nyorai (NT) which, according to attendants, is of the Tempyo period. The undersigned pointed out that it could not be earlier than late Fujiwara and they admitted that the Tempyo attribution was mere legend. The sculpture is in excellent condition and is an outstanding piece. The temple and grounds are unprepossessing and of no value. Fire risk prevails.

c. Gyokusenji, Shimoda City. Although a small and architecturally unimportant temple, Gyokusenji has limitless historical value and significance for Americans as the site of the grave of Townsend Harris, first Consul to Japan, and contains two rooms showing his personal items and work equipment. It is also the spot where the first foreign consular flag was raised on Japanese soil. It also contains the graves of five American sailors who died enroute to this country. There is no permanent caretaker, and the site is extremely ill-kept. A jug was lying askew the Harris grave, while orangepeels and other rubbish littered the nearby grounds. One citizen of the city, a Mr. Sawamura, has been trying vainly to have these conditions remedied (see RECOMMENDATIONS, 5).

d. Final Conference with Shizuoka MG CIE officer. A final conversation was held with the CIE officer in which all the undersigned's views, as expressed in this report, were conveyed and agreement on all points was reached.

No MG inspections of cultural property had yet been made in the Prefecture, owing to lack of working material. The CIE office possesses only the list of Historically Noted Places and Monuments compiled by the Social Education Department of the Prefecture. They were promised the Ministry of Education's list of cultural sites from this Division.

Efforts of this trip were successful in large part owing to the helpful cooperation in every way of the CIE officer and his staff.

PROBLEMS

1. Availability and safety of valuable items. It was brought clearly to the attention of the undersigned at many points of this trip that important and valuable works of art are being kept in either dangerous circumstances or under circumstances in which they are absolutely useless (see DISCUSSION, 1, c; 3, c; 4, c).

The Lotus Sutras (see DISCUSSION 1, c) are works of art comparable in quality to and older than the famous Itsukushima

Sutras

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Sutras. They are kept by a temple which, through dire impoverishment, has been forced to allow its possessions and property to deteriorate greatly. Although the sutras are read from time to time for religious purposes, copies are available, and it is seriously to be questioned whether such valuable properties should be returned to the owners under present circumstances. They would be shown to better advantage and receive better attention on loan to a museum.

At Tenjinjinja (see DISCUSSION 3, c), the Dainichinyorai (NT), while not in danger, serves no purpose, confined as it is in a go-down, remote and unvisited. Nor, as a Buddhist work in the remains of a Shinto shrine where no service is held, can it be said to have any religious significance in situ.

The case of the Chokokuji (see DISCUSSION 4, b) Amida Nyorai is similar to that of the Sutras, an outstanding work of art in inferior surroundings with high risks.

2. Establishment of Gyokusenji as an international monument. According to press reports, confirmed by the Ministry of Education, a bill is to be introduced in the Diet recommending the establishment of a so-called "international monument" at Gyokusenji (see DISCUSSION 4, c). It is the undersigned's strong belief that such a project should be backed by this Division.

The conditions at Gyokusenji, mentioned in DISCUSSION, could be easily remedied with a small sum of money and a small permanent staff.

Before the war an annual observance was held at the grave, participated in by high officials headed by Ambassador Grew. This practice ceased during the war, but it is the intention of officials at Shimoda to revive the ceremony this April in conjunction with the Shimoda festival, 5 and 6 April. The deplorable conditions now prevailing will, at that time, reflect on American prestige in this country, and it is difficult to find another example in which a similar site in a foreign country, upon which formal attention had been continuously bestowed, has been allowed to become so neglected.

3. Care of National Treasures. Many instances were brought to the attention of this inspector in which the priests or caretakers of sites containing national treasures were not caring for these objects in the proper manner, either through ignorance or negligence.

At the time of registration of any object, the Ministry of Education should send out with the certificate instructions on the importance of caring for the designated item. If these instructions are

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then disregarded, positive steps should be taken (see RECOMMENDATIONS, 3).

4. This trip was greatly hindered and made more difficult by the inefficiency and cupidity of the CLO representative, Okimoto, who attempted to turn the inspection trip into a personal pleasure excursion, after having originally neglected to forward to Shizuoka prefectural officials a copy of the itinerary for the trip given him several weeks in advance, a circumstance which rendered several objects unable to be viewed through lack of forewarning to custodians.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That, if an authority from Hie Jinja does not produce the NT painting in its possession forthwith to the MG CIE officer at Shizuoka, in compliance with instructions from the undersigned, the shrine be declared incompetent to care for the NT and it be removed from its permanent custody (see DISCUSSION, 2, a).

2. That the Ministry of Education be directed to remind all owners of registered objects in Shizuoka prefecture that protection has been found to be inadequate in many cases and that owners should without fail guard against negligence in caring for them.

3. That conferences be held with the Ministry of Education to devise ways of informing custodians of registered objects of the duties and responsibilities they have as possessors of these objects, and that such notifications be made as soon as possible.

4. That the wood sculpture Amida Nyorai at Ganjojuin, Nirayama Mura, Tagata-gun, be registered as a national treasure.

5. That this Division support actively and inform the Ministry of Education that work should be begun at once on the restoration and rehabilitation of Gyokusenji. The Division should insist that adequate monies be allotted for this purpose and check to insure that it is carried out without delay.

The Ministry should also be informed that this Division favors the establishment of some sort of international monument at Gyokusenji, under whatever name may be used, and approves of the proposed plan to that end now in the Diet in general and, further, that conferences on the subject between the Ministry, local proponents of the idea, and members of this Division would be welcomed.

6. That consideration be given to seeking another representative from the CLO for dealings with this office in the future.

C. F. GALLAGHER
Field Inspector

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Enclosure No. 4 to Despatch No. 318 dated June 1, 1948, from the Acting Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, entitled "Availability of Documents Regarding Japanese Arts and Monuments."

(COPY)

CIVIL INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SECTION
Arts and Monuments Division

APO 500
26 Sep 47

SUBJECT: Weekly Report of Arts and Monuments Division for
Week Ending 26 September 1947.

TO: Chief CIE.

I. LIAISON WITH JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

A. Ministry of Education.

1. Action Completed: Ministry officials have inspected objects involved in the contract between Yamanaka & Co. and Otto Gerda Co., New York, and have stated no objections to the exportation of any of these objects.

2. Work in Progress: Conferences were held, in collaboration with Analysis and Research Division, with representatives of the Ministry interested in a projected National Archives. It is planned to establish a large preliminary committee to work out organization of the archives. Documents from the National Archives in Washington, D. C., were lent to the Ministry officials.

C. National Treasures Preservation Society.

1. Action Completed: A representative of this Division attended a meeting of the National Treasure Preservation Society as an observer. The general tenor of the meeting was that rather than cutting down on the number of registered objects, they should be increased, and that more stringent regulations are necessary to enforce the law. There was no mention of financial problems involved in such a program. The position of this Division was that of an observer with regard to this problem. No suggestions or advice on registered objects policies will be given beyond answers to direct questions.

2. Work in Progress: Informal liaison between this Division and the Imperial Household committee for the Shosoin continues on attendance of Allied personnel to the opening of the Shosoin 14 and 18-19-20 October 1947. This Division has contacted Eighth Army, GHQ and diplomatic units, from whom lists of personnel were received for transmission to the Imperial Household for invitational purposes.

II. LIAISON WITH ART AND ART EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

A. National Museum.

1. Action

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1. Action Completed:

a. Exhibition of Cambodian sculptures opened at the central hall of the Museum 21 September. This is the first time since the war that a major gallery of the Museum has been devoted to non-Japanese art.

b. Technical photographs and data on modern exhibition techniques from the Museum of Modern Art in New York were lent to the Museum for their study and consideration.

c. A budget of ¥600,000 to cover costs of the exhibition of European masterpieces at the National Museum has been approved by the Finance Ministry.

d. Technical Advice on a painting of the Dutch school, 17th century, and a painting by Georges Rouault, modern French school, was requested by the Museum and given by this Division.

e. First issue of the Museum News dated 1 September 1947 was received. The bulletin is a popular, informal publication of past, present and future activities at the National Museum and should attract much interest among the general public.

2. Work in Progress:

a. The new director of the Nara Branch Museum, Mr. Kuroda, was introduced to this Division and a discussion was held on improvements in exhibition facilities in that Museum.

b. A list of newly designated Important Art Objects was received and is now being translated by the Cultural Resources Research Unit, Analysis and Research Division.

c. This Division was informed of a plan for exchange of archaeological materials between the Smithsonian Institution and the Museum after the peace treaty. No objection was made to discussions between the two concerned institutions with regard to preliminary arrangements and technical considerations.

B. Municipal Museums.

1. Action Completed: The special exhibition requested by this Division at the Science Museum was inspected and found to be a satisfactory demonstration of the Museum's ability to properly display exhibits. The Museum plans to extend methods used in this exhibition to other galleries.

C. Private Museums.

1. Action

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1. Action Completed: The Okura Museum was inspected and was found to be still functioning, although the lower half of the Museum is now used as an office for an art crafts organization. The Museum was forced to this arrangement for financial reasons. The second floor of the Museum remains unchanged and is open to the public.

III. PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION.

A. Structures.

1. Action Completed: Budget for the Itsukushima project was given final approval by ESB, in accordance with the deadline issued by this Division to the Ministry of Education. It will be handled as a public works project, rather than by Mombusho, with 2/3 of the ¥3,500,000 appropriation to be given by the central government, the balance to be furnished by the prefecture and the shrine.

B. Objects.

1. Action Completed: The Okana collection, Tokyo, was inspected.

3. Plans for the Future: The Ministry of Education is to submit a list of 32 registered swords reputedly taken by Occupation forces during the early days of the Occupation. This list will be studied and checked for possible action.

E. National Parks.

1. Action Completed: The Budget for U.S. National Parks, 1948, General Administration of the National Park System, 1948, and House Resolution on Appropriation of Funds to the Department of the Interior, 1948, were lent to the Ministry of Public Welfare for their consideration.

2. Work in Progress: The budget for National Parks is now in the Diet and should be acted on by mid-October.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Liaison with CPC.

1. Action Completed: CPC has approved the sale of non-japanese art objects included in the contract between Yamanaka & Co. and Otto Gerdau Co., New York.

2. Work in Progress: This Division is maintaining close liaison with CPC, the National Museum and the Ministry of Education with regard to inventories requested by the CPC directive.

3. Plans for the Future:

a. A meeting will be held with the above-mentioned parties (par 2) at CPC on or about 1 October to discuss final plans for obtaining such inventories.

b. A representative of this Division will inspect the Shosoin

14 October

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14 October 1947 for possible looted property. CPC has stated that this inspection will satisfy their requirements.

B. Liaison with ESS.

2. Work in Progress:

a. ESS/Foreign Trade has requested dimensions, weight and value of proposed shipment of Matisse paintings to the Philadelphia Museum.

b. This Division was requested by ESS/Foreign Trade to appraise objects in the Yamanaka & Co. contract in order to determine fair prices. The request was declined by this Division, as it is considered completely beyond the scope of CIE.

C. Liaison with U. S. Personnel.

2. Work in Progress: Two conferences were held, one with a Signal Corps officer of Eighth Army personally interested in exchange of contemporary art exhibitions between the United States and Japan, and one with a representative of a foreign trader interested in the same project.

3. Plans for the Future: The problem of such exhibitions will be carefully studied in view of their controversial nature and of the difficulties of finance and transportation arrangements.

SHERMAN E. LEE
Acting Chief, Arts and Monuments Division

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Report 146

OKURAJI (Daizoji)

23 October 1947

Location: Kurino, Ouda-cho, Uda-gun, Nara Prefecture (Kami-Ryumonji-mura, Yoshino-gun, was annexed to Ouda-cho).
About 6 miles S. of Haibara-cho.

Date: 21 October 1947

Inspected Objects:

1. Hondo (main hall), 5 spans by 5, front one span in an open colonnade, single-storied, shichu roof of kokera-buki (shingled). Late Kamakura. It had been seriously damaged before the repair which was carried out largely in 1928-29. Now in good condition. A layer of thin copper plates beneath each shingle is effective for the preservation. (NT).

2. Taishido (Hall of Priest Kukai), 3 spans by 2, single-storied, Hogyo roof of Kokera-buki (shingled). Mid Kamakura. Nice-shaped kaerumata, typical of the Kamakura period, of which one on the facade and two on each three other side; two on the back side being original. Repaired largely in 1928-29. Well-preserved. (NT).

3. Yakushi (Bhaisajyaguru), colored wooden standing, nt. 9'10". Early Fujiwara. The R. hand in abhaya-mudra and the L. holding a medicine pot. Amembrane between each finger is slightly carved, - membrane which is one of 32 laksanas (physical characteristics) of the Buddha. Of ichiboku technique, only both arms being attached. The belly is too large. The carving of the face is deep and sharp, that of eyes reminds us of a Gandaharan sculpture. Retains some traits of the Jogan style. Colors almost come off. Not so good workmanship. Some fingers damaged a little. No pedestal. Halo is plain - later restoration (?). Kept in the zushi which is usually unopened to the public. Principal image of the Hondo. (NT).

4. Jizo (Ksitigarbha) colored wooden, standing, ht. 5'2". Early Fujiwara (?) Of somewhat local and simple but good workmanship. Of ichiboku. Both arms lost, both feet restored later. Pedestal and halo lost. A little worm-eaten. Installed in the Hondo. (Not registered).

5. A Deity, colored wooden, standing, ht. 5'6". Early Fujiwara (?) The temple tradition attributes this to Yematen (Yama-deva), but also it is possible to be Taishakuten (Indra). Of big eyes. Wears an octagonal plane crown. Both hands lost, both feet restored later. A little damaged. Proportion is not so good. Some traces of coloring. Deposited in the Hondo (NT).

6. waniguchi

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6. Waniguchi (a kind of Gong), bronze, dia. c. 6". Has an inscription: "(Dedicated to) Temmangu, Yanagimoto; on auspicious day, the 12th month, the 3rd year of Myoo (1494)." Deposited in the treasury. Well preserved. (IAO).

Note: According to the temple tradition, it was founded originally by Crown Prince Shotoku in the Asuka period, and then in early 9th Century Priest Kukai had come here to find out the spot to build the central temple of the Shingon sect, before he founded the Koyasan group. It seems likely that a temple was built in the Jogan period, and prospered through the medieval period, having many accessory temples in the precinct, but now there are only the Hondo, the Taishido, and the Kuri, surrounded by vast forests on a mountain. Precinct covers c. 900 tsubo, forests: c. 130 acres, field: c. 2.5. acres. No parishioners. Belongs to the Buzan school of the Shingon sect.

The temple has a treasury. During the war Miroku of Chuguji and many other NT in Nara Prefecture were temporarily deposited in it for the evacuation.

/s/

Osamu TAKATA
Field Examiner
Kinki MG Region

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OCT 19 1948

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No. 169

To the

Acting United States Political Adviser for Japan ,
Tokyo.

The Acting Secretary of State refers to despatch No. 318 dated June 1, 1948 from the Office of the Political Adviser regarding the availability for copying of certain documents regarding Japanese Arts and Monuments.

All four types of documentary material referred to in despatch No. 318 would be of great interest to the Department and eventually to American scholars. Since the Weekly Reports to the Chief, Civil Information and Education Section would be of immediate value to the Department, the Acting Political Adviser is requested to arrange to have copies of the Weekly Reports to the Chief, with attached important reports of field inspectors made in duplicate and forwarded to the Department, marked for the attention of the Acquisition and Distribution Division, and with reference to this instruction. If any reports can be obtained without being copied, one copy would be sufficient.

For the other three types of documents: The Master Card Index on Sites and Monuments in Japan; the List of Works and Collections, Sites and Installations Requiring Protection; and the Reports of the Arts and Monuments Field Inspectors, any means of reproduction which may be available, such as microfilming, would be satisfactory. It is appreciated that because of a shortage of stenographic help and amount of material to be reproduced, considerable time may be required for the completion of this project.

It is further requested that there be forwarded to the Department, addressed as indicated above, any available photographs showing cultural loss and damage and reconstruction of historic property and structures in Japan and Korea. It is suggested that the Signal Corps photographs may furnish an excellent source for this material, since over fifty per cent of the photographs of this type covering Europe come from that source.

An appropriate instruction on this subject is also being addressed to the Special Representative of the President of the United States at Seoul.

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No. *43*

To the

Special Representative of the
President of the United States,
Seoul.

The Secretary of State refers to the Special Representative's undated despatch No. 68 which was received in the Department April 9, 1948, transmitting lists of Korean National Treasures compiled by Miss Helen Chapin of the Department of Education, USAMOIK.

The Special Representative is informed that, in addition to the lists referred to above, any available photographs showing cultural loss as a result of damage to and reconstruction of historic property and structures in Korea would be useful to the Department. It is requested that any such photographs which may be available be forwarded for the attention of the Acquisition and Distribution Division of the Department, with a reference to this instruction. It is suggested that Signal Corps photographs may furnish an excellent source for this material.

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UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER FOR JAPAN

Tokyo, December 17, 1948

No. 789

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Subject: Availability of documents regarding Japanese arts and monuments

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The Acting United States Political Adviser has the honor to refer to the Department's instruction No. 169 of October 19, 1948, regarding the reproduction for the Department of certain documentary materials pertaining to Japanese arts and monuments, and to report that microfilming of The Master Card Index on Sites and Monuments in Japan and The List of Works and Collections, Sites and Installations Requiring Protection is expected to begin on or about January 3 and to be completed in about six weeks.

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On further investigation it appears that the Reports of the Arts and Monuments Field Inspectors are entirely embodied in the Weekly Reports to the Chief, Civil Information and Education Section. As the earlier decision to permit reproduction of these latter reports has now been withdrawn by the Civil Information Section, it will consequently be impossible to comply with the Department's instruction in this regard.

This Mission is still endeavoring to obtain photographs showing cultural loss and damage and reconstruction of historic property and structures in Japan and Korea. These will be forwarded to the Department if they become available.

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ILI - Miss Ardelia R. Hall

January 5, 1949

IAD - T. M. Nordbeck

Request for Documents regarding Japanese Arts and Monuments.

With reference to the requests contained in your memoranda of July 20, 1948 and September 22, 1948, there is enclosed despatch No. 789 dated December 17, 1948 from Tokyo on this subject.

Upon the receipt of any of this material in this Division, it will be forwarded to you.

Enclosure:

Despatch No. 789 dated
December 17, 1948 from
Tokyo (indexed original).

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*Not Mr. Cole any more
Mr. Connell
Ext. 2538*



THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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United States Political Adviser for Japan

Tokyo, February 5, 1949

No. 78

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Subject: Forwarding Materials Regarding Japanese Arts and Monuments

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The Acting United States Political Adviser has the honor to refer to his despatch no. 789 of December 17, 1948 on the availability of documents regarding Japanese arts and monuments, and to forward under separate cover (marked for the attention of the Acquisition and Distribution Division) three spools of microfilm which constitute a complete microfilm copy of this Headquarters' Master Card Index on Sites and Monuments in Japan.

The List of Works and Collections, Sites and Installations Requiring Protection is now being processed and the microfilm copy thereof will be forwarded as soon as completed.

As reported in the despatch under reference, permission to reproduce the Weekly Reports to the Chief, Civil Information and Education Section was denied. It is believed possible, however, that if a new request is made, permission may now be forthcoming. It would be preferable for such a request to be initiated in the form of another instruction from the Department to this Mission briefly setting forth the reasons such material is desired and the use to which it would be put, together with appropriate comments concerning the need of such material and comments to meet the objection that it is confidential and informal material intended only for use within the Civil Information and Education Section.

894.412/2-549

In original and hectograph to Department.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION DIVISION DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION DIVISION

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No. 79

To the

Acting United States Political Adviser for Japan,
Tokyo.

894.413/2-5

The Secretary of State refers to the United States Political Adviser's despatches No. 222 of April 17, 1949, and No. 78 of February 5, 1949, on the subject of forwarding materials regarding Japanese arts and monuments.

The complete microfilm copy of the List of Works, Collections, Sites and Installations Requiring Protection has now been received by the Department. It is realized that the microfilming of this list has been a long and difficult procedure, and the Department desires to commend the United States Political Adviser for his energy in completing this project.

The United States Political Adviser stated in despatch No 78 that permission to reproduce the Weekly Reports to the Chief, Civil Information and Education Section, had been denied. The Department now requests that the United States Political Adviser renew his representations to the appropriate military government authorities, in the hope that the matter may be favorably considered.

The basis of this request is that the Department is engaged in a continuing program of collecting information on the political, economic, social, and -- to a lesser extent, perhaps -- cultural life of Japan. The material contained in the Weekly Reports to the Chief clearly falls within the scope of this program, and it is felt that this should be explained to the appropriate military government officials.

If military government authorities raise the objection that the Weekly Reports to the Chief include confidential and informal material intended only for use within the Civil Information and Education Section, it is requested that the United States Political

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Adviser indicate that the Department will appreciate receiving this material none the less and will take into account its announced limitations. The United States Political Adviser is also authorized to state, with respect to the classified nature of the Weekly Reports to the Chief, that the Department will, of course, handle the documents in a manner commensurate to their stated security classification.

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7-16-46

OUTGOING AIRGRAM

CLASSIFICATION:

Department of State

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Washington

NO. _____

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USPOLAD,

TOKYO.

A-29, Feb. 24, 1949

Request full report on extent of damage to Horyuji, Kondo
(Golden Hall) and wall frescoes, with photographs if available.
Numerous inquiries on damage being received by DEPT.

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894.413/2-2449

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RECORDS & DISTRIBUTION SECTION

From: USFOLD, Tokyo

Date of mailing: March 8, 1949

rec'd:

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Secretary of State,

Washington.

A-51, March 5, 1949.

Reference A-29, February 24, 1949.

Civil Information and Education Section, General Headquarters, now assembling complete report on Horyu temple fire, mainly translating from comprehensive Japanese reports. CIAE hopes to make available their report by end of next week or mid-March at latest.

Complete set of photographs of damage taken by Japanese authorities have been ordered and will be transmitted immediately on receipt.

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DIVISION OF LIBRARIES AND INSTITUTES
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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United States Political Adviser
for Japan

Tokyo, March 19, 1949.

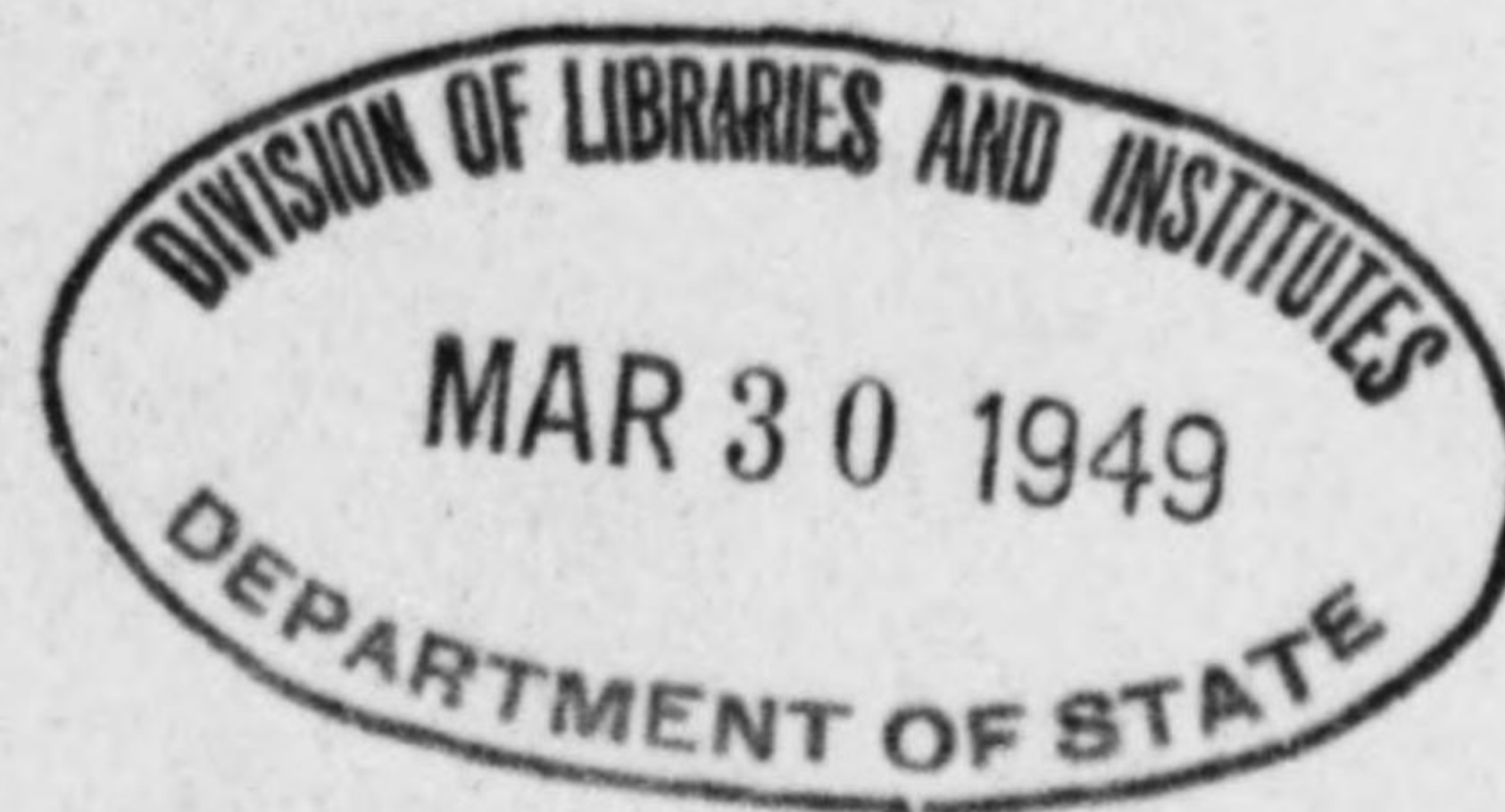
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No. 162.

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Subject: Fire Damage to Horyu Temple.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Mission's A-51 of March 5, 1949 in reply to the Department's A-29 of February 24, 1949 and to transmit herewith the official version of the fire damage sustained by the Golden Hall and the frescoes of Horyuji, Nara, Japan. The report was prepared by the Ministry of Education and the present translation was supplied the Mission by Civil Information and Education Section, General Headquarters, which stated that details of the report have been verified by an official of that section.

Photographs requested by the Department have been ordered and will be transmitted as soon as they are received.

Respectfully yours,

For the Acting Political Adviser:

Cloyce K. Huston
Cloyce K. Huston
Counselor of Mission

Enclosure: *att*

Translation of Report by
Ministry of Education on
Fire Damage of the Horyuji
Kondo.

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Enclosure to Despatch No. 162 of
March 19, 1949 from United States
Political Adviser, Tokyo, subject:
"Fire Damage to Horyu Temple."

Translation of Report by Ministry of Education on Fire Damage of
the Horyuji Kondo:

COPY

February 10, 1949.

Cultural Section, School Education Bureau, Education Ministry

Damage of the Horyuji Kondo and Measures Taken

Around 7:15 on January 26, 1949, a fire broke out inside the kondo (central hall) and destroyed the hall's interior before being extinguished. The circumstances are outlined as follows:

A. Situation before the Fire:

The Horyuji, under preservation and repair since 1934, was dismantled in 1944 for the purpose of wartime evacuation. Under the evacuation plan, the whole upper section of the twofold roof, part of the lower section, the ceiling and cloud-shaped consoles were moved to safer places for custody while the hall's 10-odd statues of Buddha, "Tamamushinozushi" (a kind of miniature shrine), canopies and 20-odd smaller murals were moved to the temple's treasure storehouse, lecture hall and other places for temporary custody. Thus, the central hall was emptied except for its inside furnishing such as large pillars, beams, twelve murals, one-pannel door and outside staircase. Then, logs were crossed and a makeshift roof built for repair purposes. For the reproduction of the murals within the hall, painting easels were set up with paint brushes, pigments, fluorescent lights, 60-watt electric heaters and electric cushions together with curtains before the murals.

B. Fire Situation:

The fire was not noticed until about 7:15 a.m. and by that time the hall inside was all afire with flames flaring out from under the pent-roof of galvanized iron. It took about one hour to subdue the fire which charred all wooden parts and carbonized the inside to the depth of one inch or so. The fire destroyed most of the beautiful colorings and the murals only retained their outlines. Still worse, the water dented the murals and washed away their pigments while the heat and moisture caused peeling from the endosomal stratum of some murals. In the outer part of the hall, however, only a part of the tessellated ceiling was burned and the staircase remained safe. The upper part of the roof, the Buddhist statues and their fittings, previously dismantled and safeguarded at other places, all escaped the fire.

C. Extinguishment

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Enclosure to Tokyo's Despatch
No. 162 of March 19, 1949.

-2-

C. Extinguishment of the Fire:

As fire-fighting facilities, there were a reservoir behind the temple and hydrants which had sufficient water pressure to reach the top of the fire story pagoda. But there was no sprinkler. Fire-fighting was started in about ten minutes and the fire was comparatively small.

D. Damage of the Murals:

The fire damage of the Horyuji murals will soon be examined by experts concerned. Temporary investigations made so far are as follows:

Mural No. 1: Perhaps due to the use of color hardening, the Buddhist image was least discolored among the twelve murals, with only one fifth of the lower section peeled off.

No. 2, small wall, "Miroku Bosatsu": This had the most beautiful coloring, but it is now completely discolored with several places peeled off from former cracks.

No. 3, small wall, "Kannon Image": Miserably peeled from the waist of Kannon downward, exposing the yellowish wall plaster. There are big holes in the head and breast of the image, and the general outline of the image is scarcely recognizable because of the under-coating of chalk. There are spots of vermilion red from the dress crest around the waist still remaining.

No. 4, small wall, "Seishi Bosatsu": There are big peelings on the face and breast, but the dark brown color of the lotus petal is still clear.

No. 5, small wall, "Miroku Bosatsu": The old crack on the upper part of the back is peeled anew and a new hole is visible on the breast also. The face is worn off so much as to make it indiscernible, but thickest coloring still remains in a part of the lotus petal.

No. 6, large wall, "Amida Jodo": With holes punched through the entire face, the lower part of the lotus seat and the right side corner, this wall that was most beautiful does not show any vestige of olden times. The beauty of Kannon images on the side is also worn off now, retaining only the vermilion lines of olden times. The vermilion is now discolored into reddish brown. The principal image is turned into thin yellow all over the body, showing scant corner colorings. Part of the pigment on the lotus petals is changed and looks like a coat of glaze on porcelain.

No. 7,

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Enclosure to Tokyo's Despatch
No. 162 of March 19, 1949.

-3-

No. 7, small wall, "Kannon Image": Upper half of the body -- big peeling in the middle of the face. Also a pale pink color remains in one part of the dress.

No. 8, small wall, "Monju Bosatsu": This is in the most miserable condition among the small walls. The old cracks are expanded and there are large holes in the lower half of the body. Even the face is in a state scarcely visible because of the under-coating of chalks.

No. 9, large wall, "Miroku Jodo": Originally, this wall was the most faded. Naturally the picture on this wall was most discolored among the twelve wall pictures. The entire face of this wall is turned into the color of brick leaving slight picture lines only.

No. 10, large wall, "Yakushi Jodo": There is a very large peeling sideways across the center of the picture. The coloring remains in general, but every one of them is discolored.

No. 11, small wall, "Fuken Bosatsu": Comparatively few cracks. The line of white elephant is clearly recognizable, and is a reddish brown color. There remains reddish block coloring on the part thought to be the lips of the elephant. Besides, the red brown and brownish black colors are clearly visible.

Mural No. 12: This painting which was not clear before the fire has on the contrary come to show its outline clearly. However, its color has changed.

E. Extent of Damage in Reproductions

Reproduction of mural paintings which had been progressing since 1940 -- many painters as Gakuryo Nakamura, Kampo Arai, Hako Irie and Meiji Hashimoto and their pupils -- is expected to be finished by March this year. However, reproductions at the scene of the fire were destroyed.

Progress at that time and the extent of damages in reproductions, destroyed by the fire are:

Mural No. 1: Both sides of the upper part of the mural, part has been copied and the rest is left untouched. (Team headed by Gakuryo Nakamura in charge).

Mural No. 2

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Enclosure to Tokyo's Despatch
No. 162 of March 19, 1949.

-4-

Mural No. 2: Two thirds of the lower part of the mural has been copied. However, the face was destroyed by the fire. (Team headed by Kampo Arai in charge).

Mural No. 3: This is left untouched.

Mural No. 4: This is left untouched.

Mural No. 5: This has almost been copied. However, a part of the lower part of the right is not yet reproduced. (Team headed by Nakamura in charge).

Mural No. 6: Reproduction has been completed but a part of the lower part was destroyed by the fire. (Team headed by Hako Irie).

Mural No. 7: This was left untouched.

Mural No. 8: Reproduction has been finished. However, the lower part was destroyed by the fire. (Team headed by Hako Irie in charge).

Mural No. 9: Two thirds of the mural has been copied. However, half of the reproduction being copied was destroyed. (Team headed by Meiji in charge).

Mural No. 10: Reproduction has almost been completed leaving a little part of the upper part untouched. (Team headed by Kampo Arai in charge).

Mural No. 11: Two thirds of this mural had been copied, however head and a foot of Fuken were destroyed. (Team headed by Meiji Hashimoto in charge).

Mural No. 12: This was left untouched.

F. Cause of Fire and Operation:

1. The regular operation rules of the construction office are that the first one arriving at the office switch on the electricity and when all painters leave the office, the person on duty switched off the electricity to clean the office. On that day, when the fire broke out, Oyama (assistant painter) left the kondo and switched off the electricity.

2. Night

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Enclosure to Tokyo's Despatch
No. 162 of March 19, 1949.

-5-

2. Night watch duty was performed as in ordinary days.

3. With regard to the cause of the fire, there are such arguments as to ascribe the fire to an electric heating cushion, a leakage of electricity or to arson. As a result of investigation, the Nara Local District Procurator's Office announced on February 1 that the fire of the Kondo was due to overheating of electric cushions. In addition, on this point, the Education Ministry authorities are also examining the cause of the Horyuji fire through its investigation committee. There were many who hold that the fire can be ascribed to coarsely made electric heating cushions.

G. Emergency Measures:

At a conference held immediately after the fire at the scene, the following were decided as emergency measures:

1. In order to prevent damage by rain, to construct small roofs.
2. To take any measures to prevent the wall paintings from peeling further than the present degree.
3. To keep strict watch.

Every necessary measure was taken by February 4.

G. Restoration Countermeasures:

With regard to restoration measures, at the Horyuji national treasure preservation conference held by the wall painting preservation research committee on February 5 and 6 in the Horyuji with representative from the Education Ministry, Finance Ministry and the Horyuji authorities, the following were decided.

1. The dismantling of the first story of the Kondo.
2. To plaster with resin, on the occasion of dismantling, in order not to impair burned wooden materials.
3. Provisional removal of the mural paintings after measures to prevent the wall paintings from peeling have been taken.

4. In case

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Enclosure to Tokyo's Despatch
No. 162 of March 19, 1949.

-6-

4. In case the Kondo is reconstructed, the mural paintings must be restored to their former places.

5. As to whether the burned wooden materials should be re-used or not, to make decisions based upon researches after the dismantling of the Kondo.

6. Reproduction measures:

a. In regard to parts of the mural paintings destroyed by the fire, the reproduction of which was completed, it is necessary to finish reproduction while the wall paintings are fresh in painters' memories. However, a sharp line must be drawn between reproduction and later reproductions.

b. In regard to unfinished parts, in case painters' memories still remain good, to continue the work of reproduction. If not, to keep them as they are in the unfinished state.

c. In regard to murals that were not under reproduction, to keep them as they are without attempting reproduction must be finished within two years to come.

d. Subsidiary reproduction must be finished within two years to come.

7. Construction period for the Kondo and the five-storied pagoda:

The deadline for construction works on the Kondo is 1951 and that of the five-storied pagoda is 1950.

8. The Government is responsible for providing construction expenses necessary for said project.

9. Appropriation for emergency measures:

An outlay of 5 million yen from the emergency fund was recognized for emergency measures.

10. Structure of entity undertaking the preservation of the Horyuji national treasure.

a. Governmental measures for the Horyuji.

(1) Designation

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Enclosure to Tokyo's Despatch
No. 162 of March 19, 1949.

-7-

(1) Designation of the Horyuji as a national treasure under the Law for Preservation of National Treasures.

(2) Grant of subsidies in connection with its repairs and preservation since 1934 under article 14 of the National Treasures Preservation Law.

b. Responsibility for administration and repairs of Horyuji national treasures.

(1) The Horyuji.

(a) Under Articles 12 and 18 of the National Treasures Preservation Law, Horyuji authorities, the proprietor, are responsible for its administration.

(b) Under Articles 4 and 14, Horyuji authorities, the administrator, are responsible for its repairs.

(2) The Government.

The Government has the power to supervise matters concerning the use of state subsidies under Article 14 of the National Treasures Preservation Law and Article 3 of the Government Enforcement Ordinance.

c. Progress concerning the enforcement of repair work.

In 1934, the Government granted state subsidies to the Horyuji to be used as part of the funds for its repairs under the National Treasures Preservation Law. The Horyuji authorities informed the Education Minister of their desire to ask some proper organ to take charge of the repair project of the Horyuji from the viewpoint that the project is an extremely important one to be achieved on a national scale and that it requires mobilization as well as the cooperation of authorities on various fields, and that therefore, it is not proper to leave the matter to the efforts of the Horyuji alone. The Education Minister instituted "Enforcement points for preservation work of the Horyuji national treasures by Na Shu No. 21, Ministerial Ordinance dated April 9, 1934," and thereby ordered the establishment of the Horyuji national treasures preservation department to be charged with the task of enforcing the preservation work of the Horyuji national treasures as requested by the Horyuji.

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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United States Political Adviser
for Japan

APR 6
(Hall)

Tokyo, March 26, 1949.

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APR. 4

No. 178.

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Subject: Transmitting Photographs of Fire Damage to
Horyu Temple, Nara, Japan.

This Document Must Be Returned To
DC/R
Central
Files
894.413/3-2649

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

894.413/3-1949

I have the honor to refer to the Mission's despatch
no. 162 of March 19, 1949 transmitting the official report
of fire damage sustained by the frescoes of Horyu Temple
at Nara, Japan, and to transmit herewith photographs of the
damage to the twelve walls of the Golden Hall. The photo-
graphs were made by the official photographer of the National
Museum and were supplied to the Mission without charge.
Suitable acknowledgment has been made to the National Museum.

Respectfully yours,

For the Acting Political Adviser:

Cloyce K. Huston
Counselor of Mission

Enclosures: *AK*

✓ Twelve photographs
of Horyu Temple
Murals.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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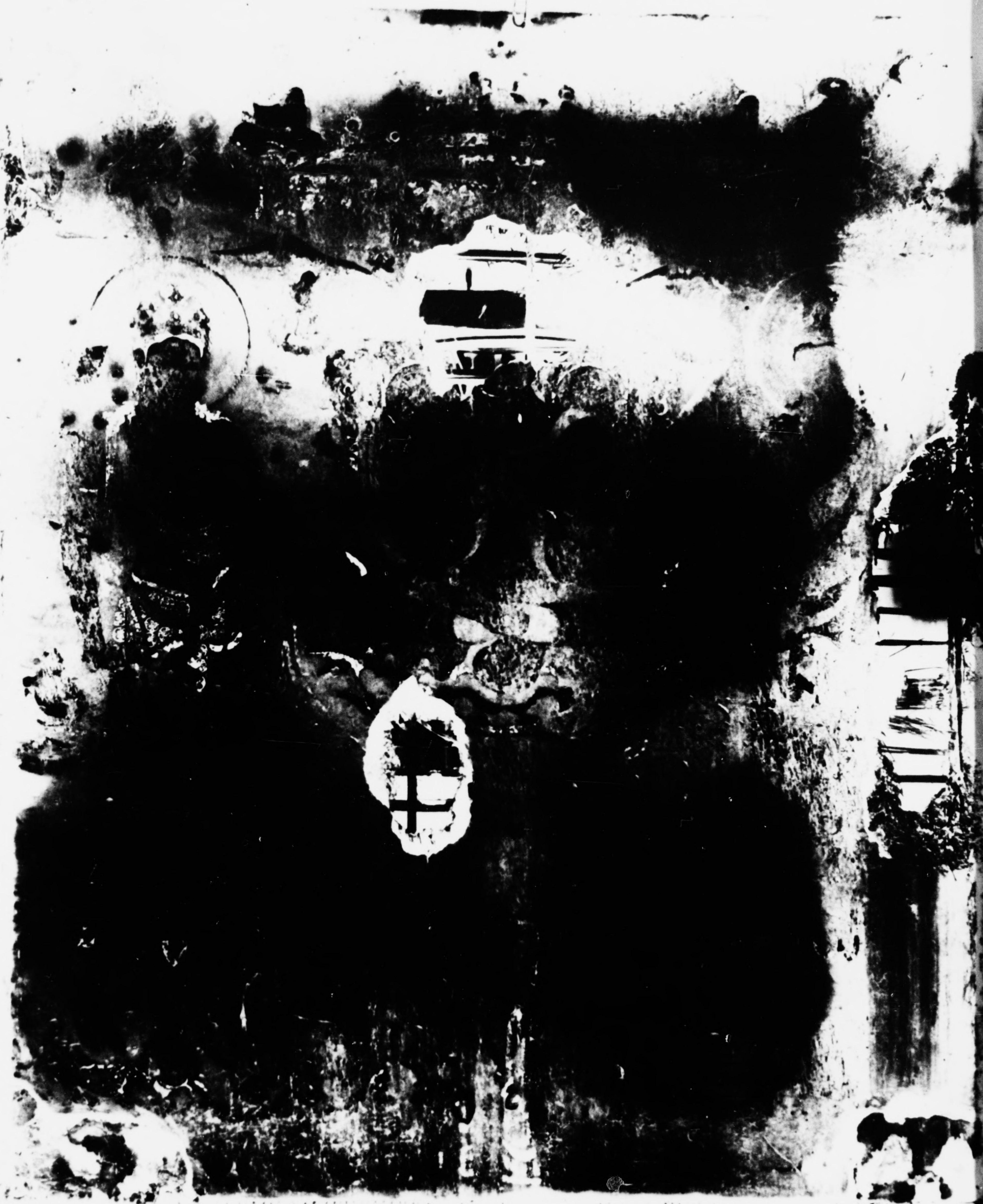


















THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

United States Political Adviser
for Japan

Tokyo, April 17, 1949.

No. 222

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Subject: Forwarding Materials Regarding Japanese Arts and Monuments.

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The Acting Political Adviser has the honor to refer to despatch no. 78 of February 5, 1949, which reported the forwarding of certain materials regarding Japanese arts and monuments, and to forward under separate cover (marked for the attention of the Acquisition and Distribution Division) eight spools of film which constitute a complete microfilm copy of the List of Works, Collections, Sites and Installations Requiring Protection prepared by the Japanese Ministry of Education in May 1946. A copy of this despatch is being included in the package for identification purposes.

894.413/4-1349

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION
DIVISION

Microfilm Spools
APR 27 1949
Sent to Miss Hall, 141
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Accompaniment:

Eight spools of film, complete microfilm copy of the List of Works, Collections, Sites and Installations Requiring Protection.

Action Assigned to *Cornell*
Action Taken *inst. to*

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION
DIVISION

APR 27 1949

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inst. to Tokyo
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Tokyo:
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Action Office Symbol *1AD*
Name of Officer *Cornell*

Direction to DC/R *file*

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MAY 6 1949
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FORM DS-323
7-18-46

OUTGOING AIRGRAM

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NO DISTRIBUTION

Department of State

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NO. _____

Washington, 1867 1867

USPOLAD,

TOKYO.

A-118, July 19, 1949

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1. The Department of State would appreciate receiving the complete file of the Arts and Monuments Weekly Reports to Chief, CI & E Section, for retention in Arts and Monuments Unit of DEPT. DEPT aware they are confidential and contain informal material prepared only for use in CI & E Section. However, only limited information available in Washington concerning (1) cultural losses in the Far East; (2) claims for cultural objects from Far Eastern countries; (3) progress of restitution of cultural property; and (4) activities of the A & M officers in the protection of national monuments and national treasures of Japan, and in the recovery and restitution of looted cultural objects. It is believed this material would be valuable to DEPT as background information for realistic approach to these problems in Far East and in order to determine need for further action. For example, the US, UK, and France approved a post-war program for the recovery of cultural articles looted during the war in Europe and still missing, under the International Agreement of July 8, 1946, in which the participating countries circulate lists of missing objects and take appropriate measures to recover and return looted and dispersed art. The desirability of recommending the extension of this post-war international program to Far Eastern countries is now being studied by the DEPT.

894.413/7-1949

This file of A & M Weekly Reports would also complete the historical record in Washington of activities for the protection of monuments and recuperation of cultural objects in all war areas by the U. S. GOVT during and after World War II. The A & M Unit of the DEPT has received from DEPT of Army the complete file of MFA & A reports with all duplicates from MTO, ETO, USFA and OMGUS, the confidential file of MFA & A documents of SHAEF and the Art Looting Investigation Unit and the files of the American Commission for the Protection and Salvage of Artistic and Historic Monuments in War Areas.

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7-18-46

OUTGOING AIRGRAM

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Department of State

NOA-118, Tokyo

Washington,

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CONFIDENTIAL

2. Any other documents which USPOLAD may be able to procure on cultural property in Japan and Korea such as any revision or amendments of the Japanese National Treasure Laws and the Korean National Treasure Laws in Japanese and Korean or in English, are needed.

3. The microfilming by the CI & E Section of the master card index of the "List of Works, Collections, Sites, and Installations Requiring Protection Prepared by the Education Ministry Imperial Japanese Government" and already received through the good offices of USPOLAD is regarded as an important contribution to DEPT records and to American scholarship.

4. The prompt response of USPOLAD to the DEPT'S request in forwarding the English translation of the official Japanese report and photographs of the fire damage to Horyuji was also greatly appreciated. The report was used as the basis for a paper read by the Arts and Monuments Officer of DEPT on April 5, 1949, before a joint annual meeting of the Far Eastern Association and the American Oriental Society at Yale University and served to counteract the earlier reports in the press that the building and its contents were a total loss. The material has since been requested for publication by the Far Eastern Quarterly (Cornell University) and Oriental Art (Oxford University).

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INCOMING AIRGRAM

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DIVISION OF LIBRARIES AND INSTITUTES

AIRGRAM

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File 97 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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FROM: USPOLAD, Tokyo.

Date of mailing: October 8, 1949.

Red'd: Oct. 13, 1949, 4:16 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

A-257, October 7, 1949.

Reference Department's A-118, July 19, 1949, requesting Arts and Monuments Weekly Reports to Chief, CI&E, GHC, SCAP.

Despite repeated endeavors on the part of USPOLAD to obtain the foregoing reports, CI&E Section has refused to release them on the grounds that they are fragmentary and too informal for use outside of the Section itself. However, CI&E as an alternative has indicated that USPOLAD may photograph or copy material in the files of its Religions and Cultural Resources Division for forwarding to the Department. In this connection, USPOLAD will survey existing files in this Division and endeavor to copy and forward to the Department such material as might be of interest.

CI&E has also informed this office that some work has been done in preparation for a brochure on war damage to cultural property in Japan and that at such time as this document may be published copies will be made available to the Department of State. However, since at the present time there is no Arts and Monuments officer on duty with CI&E, it is doubtful whether any further work on this project can be carried out until the arrival of a fine arts advisor recently recruited in the United States.

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OCT 21 1949

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No. 185

THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

UNCLASSIFIED

Yokohama Branch, Office of the U. S. Political Adviser, Yokohama, Japan, October 20, 1949.

NOV 4 1949

Post

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File W

REC'D OCT 28

ACTION POS ENC INFO DCR FE OLI

Subject: Unveiling of Monument to Dr. James Curtis HEPBURN, First Protestant Missionary to Japan.

file no action
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OVERSEAS PROGRAM STAFF
Japan Branch
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THE HONORABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith clippings of a self-explanatory item and editorial from the NIPPON TIMES for October 18, 1949, concerning the unveiling of a monument with plaque to the memory of Dr. James Curtis HEPBURN, first Protestant missionary to Japan and founder of the Hepburn System of Romanization of Japanese writing, to commemorate the 90th anniversary of Dr. Hepburn's arrival in this country.

Formal unveiling ceremonies were held at the site of Dr. Hepburn's residence in Yokohama, where there is now a larger building used as a fire-prevention school (Shobo Gakko). The ceremonies were arranged by the Hepburn Memorial Committee of which Premier Shigeru Yoshida is President; Kyoichi Ishikawa, Mayor of Yokohama, Vice President, and the Reverend Shiro Murata, President of Meiji University, Second Vice President.

Consul Charles H. Stephan attended the ceremonies as official representative of this office. Among other prominent persons present and who delivered addresses were the following: Dr. Murata of Meiji University (who spoke in excellent English which was briefly translated); two prominent Japanese Christian church leaders; a member of the Romaji Diffusion Association; a speaker representing the Prime Minister; a speaker representing the Minister of Education; and the Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture; all of whom spoke in Japanese. A letter from the President of Princeton University, of which Dr. Hepburn was an alumnus, was read by Colonel R. T. Chaplin of GHQ; and Dr. Schaefer, representing Protestant Mission Bodies in Japan, also delivered an address. The addresses all eulogized Dr. Hepburn and told of his work here, and stressed some of the following facts: That October 18, 1949 marked the ninety-tieth anniversary of the historic arrival of Dr. Hepburn

in Japan

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No. 185
Yokohama, Japan
October 20, 1949
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in Japan as the first Protestant missionary; that, while he labored as a man of mercy administering to the sick, he helped promote the people of Japan to a world cultural and spiritual awareness; and he was declared to have been a true Apostle of Peace, and one of the greatest personalities Japan has ever received from America.

The unique granite monument, with a circular hole in the upper center behind which the bronze plaque of a sculptured head of Dr. Hepburn is erected, was unveiled by a Miss Edythe Barbara Hepburn, a secretary in SCAP's Signal Section Administrative Office, who is believed to be a distant relative of Dr. Hepburn. The monument bears the following engraved inscription in Japanese and English:

"A pioneer Presbyterian medical missionary, who lived in Yokohama 1859-1892, compiler of the first Japanese-English dictionary, originator of the Romaji system, leading member of the Bible Translation Committee, and founder of Shiloh Church and Meiji Gakuin."

It is estimated that about 100 persons attended the unveiling ceremonies.

Respectfully yours,

James B. Pilcher
American Consul General

Enclosures: *att*
Newspaper clippings (as stated).

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HEPBURN PLAQUE TO BE UNVEILED

Noted Christian Doctor's
Arrival in Japan
Commemorated

By TAMOTSU MURAYAMA

Miss F. F. Hepburn, a member of SCAP's GHQ, who is distantly related to Dr. James Curtis Hepburn, will unveil at 2 p.m. today, the metal plaque of the monument erected at the site of the former residence of the famous Christian doctor at 36, Yamashita-cho, Naka-ku, Yokohama, in memory of the founder of the Hepburn system of Romanization in Japan.

The Hepburn Memorial Society observes this ceremony in connection with the 90th anniversary of the arrival of Dr. Hepburn as well as the introduction of the Protestant religion to this country.

Dr. Hepburn arrived in Japan 90 years ago with a group of a few Americans and one Japanese, Joseph Heco, who became the founder of journalism in Japan. Heco was an active assistant of Dr. Hepburn for the creation of the Romaji as well as in the translation of the bible into the Japanese language.

The first translation of the Bible into Japanese will be read by Dr. Michio Takaya, professor of Meiji Gakuin.

Dr. Hepburn's ancestors can be traced back to John Hepburn who was famed as one of the most fearless figures in the Thirty Years War. The renowned soldier was born 1598 in Athelstaneford near Haddington, Scotland. He died in 1636 in France and was buried in the Cathedral of Toul in France. Members of the Hepburn family in Scotland began to migrate to America at the turn of the 17th century, and two brothers were known to have settled in Maryland in 1668.

Peter Hepburn arrived at Stratford, Conn., early in 1700 and died in 1742. Two other Hepburns settled in the Susquehanna Valley of Pennsylvania about 1773. The famous Christian doctor was a descendant of this group.

Dr. Hepburn, called Hebon-san by the Japanese, lived in Milton, Pa., in his early years after his grandfather moved there from the Valley.

In 1917, Baron Hepburn donated \$50,000 to the Tokyo Imperial University through the late Baron Eichi Shibusawa for the purpose of the establishment of the Hepburn Lecture Course in memory of this great medical missionary. Barton Hepburn was the descendant of the Hepburns of Stratford, Conn. It is understood that Dr. Hepburn told him that the Japanese are good people, and said: "I want you always to be their sincere friend."

Miss Katharine Hepburn, movie actress, is also believed to be one of the descendants of the famous Hepburn family of Connecticut.

Admiral Arthur Japy Hepburn wrote to the Hepburn Memorial Society very recently and revealed that he is one of the relatives of Dr. Hepburn through the Hepburn family of Pennsylvania. Admiral Hepburn extended his congratulations on the occasion, it was learned.

HEPBURN HONORED



This plaque, executed in metal, will be set in the monument commemorating the arrival of Dr. James Hepburn in Japan.

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TOKYO, TUESDAY, OCT. 10, 1940

Hepburn Anniversary

It was just ninety years ago today that James Curtis Hepburn, missionary, scholar, and doctor, arrived in this country where he was to spend the remaining active years of his life for the welfare of the Japanese people. It is thus altogether fitting that he should be honored on this day with an appropriate ceremony at Yokohama, his home for more than thirty years.

Dr. Hepburn's arrival here is generally accepted as the date of the coming of Protestant Christianity to Japan. And it is a tribute to Dr. Hepburn that Christianity was able to take such firm roots here despite the pressure and abuse from ultranationalists and militarists during the years preceding the Surrender. The great missionary is also remembered for his contributions as a practising doctor, as the founder of the Hepburn Romaji system, as the first translator of the Bible into Japanese, as the compiler of the first Japanese-English dictionary, and as one of the founders of the present Meiji University. His contributions to the Meiji era of far-reaching reforms which was comparable in many respects to the present were immense.

The commemoration of the ninetieth anniversary of Dr. Hepburn's arrival in Japan should serve as a new reminder to the Japanese people that Christianity has a definite place in the nation's new democratic structure. This is not to say that all Japanese should become Christians. But it is important that the Japanese people fully understand the moving spirit of human love which is the essence of the Christian religion. This understanding is important because democracy owes so much to Christianity. The democratic principles of freedom and justice for all tempered by the concepts of brotherly love and the fellowship of all mankind found in Christianity have made democracy what it is today. These high ideals belong to all humanity, and the Japanese people in their pursuit of democracy would do well to orient themselves with the high tenets of the Christian faith.

The Christian way of living and the democratic way of living have become synonymous in the democratic nations of the world. It is also the peaceful way of living. The Japanese, whether Christians or non-Christians, cannot remain indifferent and they must understand fully the significance of this great movement.