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INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

AIRGRAM

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Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-350, December 9, 1949.

Following news item released December 6, 1949, by Public Information Office, General Headquarters, (U.S.) Far East Command, Tokyo, under heading "Rapeseed Collection Program Revised:"

"Japanese farmers will be authorized to retain a portion of their crops under a new collection program for rapeseed which has been revised to take effect with the 1950 crop, according to Mr. J.C. Dodson, Food Collection Specialist of the Production Branch, Agriculture Division, in SCAP's Natural Resources Section.

"The chronic shortage of edible oils in Japan, of which rapeseed is the most important, has made it necessary to import a substantial quantity of such oils annually, Dodson said. Aim of the collection program, as revised by the Japanese government with the support of NRS and Economic and Scientific Section, is to encourage farmers to increase indigenous production of rapeseed.

"In the past, government policy on rapeseed has been to collect from farmers all of the crop produced, allowing farmers to buy back a specified quantity of rapeseed oil. This system entailed unnecessary handling of the oil, and was not popular with the farmers who preferred to retain a part of their rapeseed production, as with other crops. This will be possible under the revised system, some features of which are:

- 1) Farmers will be authorized to retain a portion of the rapeseed produced. Production, retention and

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delivery amounts, by prefecture, will be assigned by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

2) After a farmer's rapeseed quota is filled, he may deliver rapeseed as a substitute for wheat and barley. The rate of substitution will be 60 kilograms of rapeseed for 97 kilograms (brown rice equivalents) of wheat and barley.

3) Rapeseed meal, to correspond with the amount of seed delivered, will be returned to the farmer.

4) The producing farmer will receive no return ration of rapeseed oil."

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