

CONFIDENTIAL

Security Information

30 May 1952

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief of Staff

SUBJECT: Possible 30 May Disorders

1. Reference is made to Memoranda to Chief of Staff dated 28, 29 and 30 May 52, subjects as above, concerning activities planned for 30 May.
2. CIC and Japanese police reports from throughout the Tokyo area indicate that during the morning and early afternoon of 30 May instances of apparent preparation for meetings and/or demonstrations were in evidence in widely scattered parts of the city, but that these have so far shown no overall pattern or signs of coordination. During the morning groups of Koreans have been reported passing out handbills urging participation in 30 May activities, nature unspecified. Handbills with similar content also reportedly passed out at Tokyo University. Several unconfirmed reports received from prefectures adjoining Tokyo allege that small groups of laborers are preparing to travel to Tokyo for possible participation in demonstrations.
3. Reports from confidential sources indicate a crowd of approximately 5,000 will probably assemble at Yotsuya Park and parade to Shinjuku RR station around 1600 hours.
4. A usually reliable confidential source reports that the chief doctor of the Japan Communist Party medical clinic (near JCP Headquarters at Yoyogi, Tokyo) has instructed his staff to be prepared for possible treatment of persons injured in demonstrations; further, that all members of the staff were dispatched with first aid kits to unknown locations throughout Tokyo.
5. A student demonstration conducted on the morning of 30 May in Sapporo City, Hokkaido, was concluded without incident.
6. CIC rendered negative reports on disorders from the following areas and locations at the time indicated:

Gunma and Nagano Prefectures	1400
Saitama and Tochigi Prefectures	1415
Shizuoka and Yamanashi Prefectures	1415
Miigata Prefecture	1430
Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Shimane, Tottori, Okayama Prefectures and all of Shikoku	1455
All of Kyushu	1400
7. Police report the following as of 1400 hours:

Nagoya: (a) 500 students holding meeting within University compound in protest of Anti-Subversive Bill. No trouble expected.

(b) Two groups of Communists, Koreans and students numbering 500 and 300 respectively are planning memorial service at two separate places within Nagoya. Minor difficulty expected.

Osaka: 300 Students of Osaka Municipal university are meeting within University grounds. No trouble anticipated.

R.F.E.

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30 May 1952

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MEMORANDUM TO: Chief of Staff

SUBJECT: Possible 30 May Disorders

1. Reference is made to Memorandums to Chief of Staff dated 28 and 29 May 52, subjects as above, concerning activities planned for 30 May.

2. The following additional information concerning activities in the Tokyo area on 30 May has been received from CIC and Japanese police:

a. A fairly reliable confidential source has reported that a gathering of students is scheduled to be held on the campus of Tokyo University from 1500 to 1620 hours, under the sponsorship of the National Students Self Government Federation (Zengakuren). Purpose of the meeting will be to express opposition to the Subversive Activities Prevention Bill. Approximately 8,000 students are expected to attend. At 1630 hours, following the meeting, the group is expected to march to Shinjuku RR Station, central Tokyo.

3. The following additional information has been obtained concerning plans for 30 May activities in other areas:

a. Kyogo: At least three major demonstrations are scheduled to be held, including one in Kobe City. Students, day laborers and Koreans are expected to form the bulk of the participants. Some disorder is anticipated.

b. Kyoto: A rally is scheduled to be held under Korean sponsorship, with possible demonstrations against police stations, and municipal offices.

c. Aichi: Three separate leftist demonstrations are scheduled to be held in Nagoya City, beginning at 1900 hours.

d. Small demonstrations also reportedly are planned for several cities in Ibaragi and Chiba Prefectures, under the sponsorship of leftist Japanese and Korean organizations.

4. Japanese police are fully alerted in Tokyo and all other places where meetings or demonstrations are scheduled.

5. As of 1000 hours, 30 May, no instances of disorder had been reported.

R.F.E.
R.F.E.

*H/c by K. P. ...
1,200 hrs. 30 May*

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CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION

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HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
 Assistant Chief of Staff, G2
 APO 500

SPOT INTELLIGENCE

REE/ECE/JAG/me

Hour: 1000

Date: 18 May 1952

SUBJECT: Possible 30 May Disorders, Tokyo (Spot Report No. 4)

TO: Chief of Staff

1. Information:

a. CIC learned from confidential source that on 12 May 52, the JCP Tokyo-to Committee Headquarters, 714, 4-chome, Sendagaya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo-to distributed a directive, dated 8 May 52, to all overt and covert JCP organizations in the Tokyo area. The directive called upon all patriots to participate in the anniversary celebration of 30 May 52 and to properly commemorate the anniversary death of Hashimoto, Kinji by assembling in the "People's Plaza."

b. The directive carries 14 slogans which can be used as guides for posters, placards, and leaflets, and urges that the National Students Self-Governing League (Zengakuren) and the Korean groups be again utilized for a successful Party struggle activity.

2. G2 Comment:

30 May is the anniversary of the death of HASHIMOTO Kinji, a union member who fell from a third floor window during a clash between police and demonstrators in Tokyo in 1949. The JCP made propaganda of the incident, charging that the police had murdered HASHIMOTO. On 30 May 50, during a demonstration in the Plaza on the occasion of the first anniversary of the incident, five uniformed U.S. soldiers were assaulted. Eight Communists were imprisoned for the attack and the incident led directly to the purge of the JCP Central Committee on 6 Jun 50.

Although 30 May 51 passed without incident, it is probable that the Communists will utilize any possibility to stir up disorders on this anniversary. Presently discussed strikes by SOHYO to protest the anti-subversives bill and revision of labor laws would provide the stage to develop these disorders but labor leaders appear aware of this fact and will probably avoid any labor demonstration on that date.

3. Action:

Following agencies notified: JLC; CG, Hq & Svc Command; CIC Liaison Officer, XVI Corps, Deputy Chief of Staff.

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Chronology of the Japan Communist Party
During the Occupation, 1945 - 1952.

C-2

Doc Res Sec

Sety Div/OPNS/LMF/gw
16 May 1952

1. Attached hereto are five (5) copies of Summary of Information dated 30 April 1952, Subject as above (Incl 1).

2. The attached chronology is not intended to be a continuous or an exhaustive history of JCP activities but is believed to be useful as a reference work covering the more important events affecting the JCP from Oct 45 to Apr 52.

1 Incl:
a/s

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-----R.F.E.-----

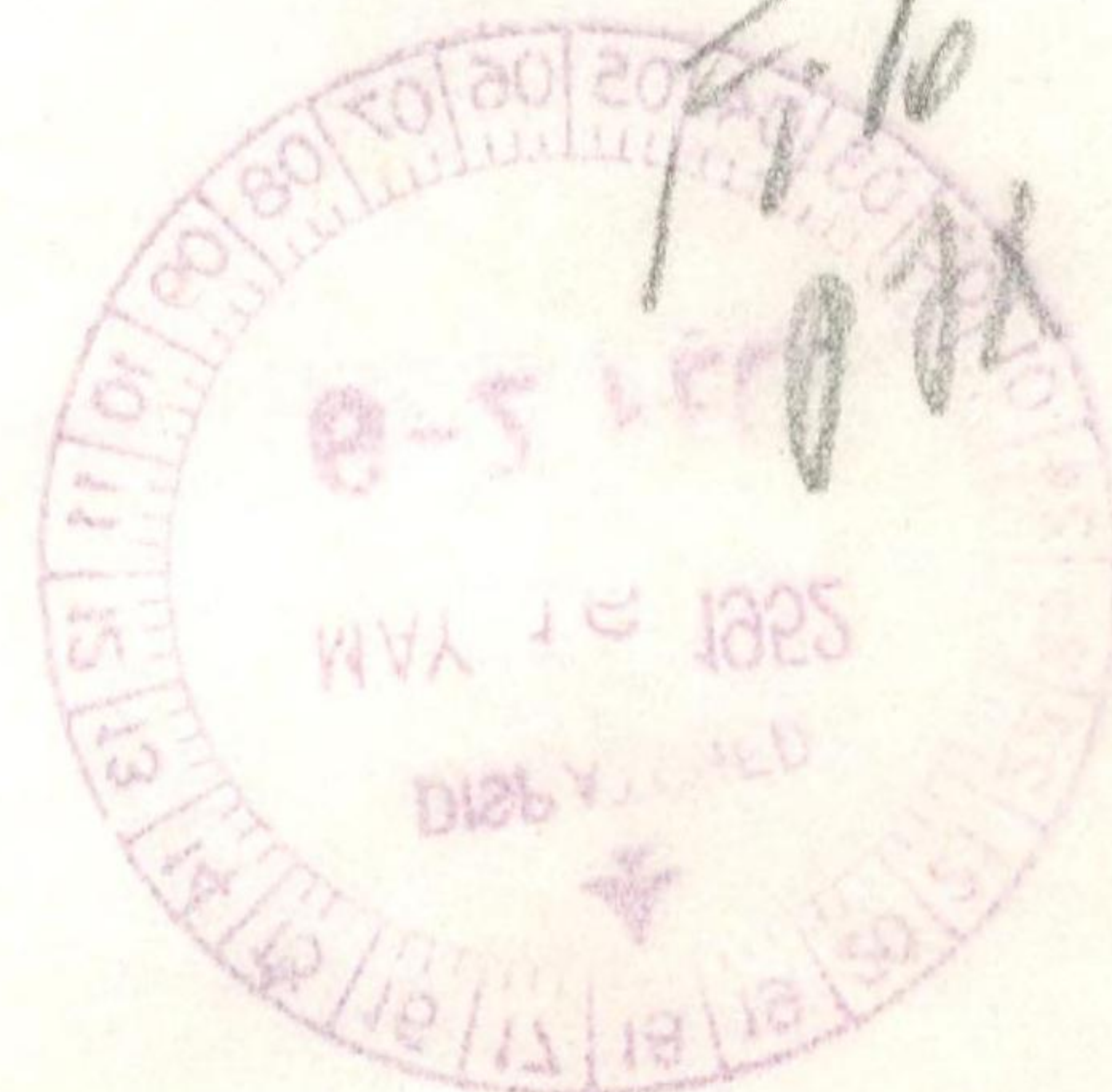
MEMO FOR RECORD:

Subj S/I fwded as of possible interest and value to Doc Res Sec. Copies have been fwded to G2 DA, CIC and Col Ryder, Amer Embassy.

Mr L M Faust
26-8861

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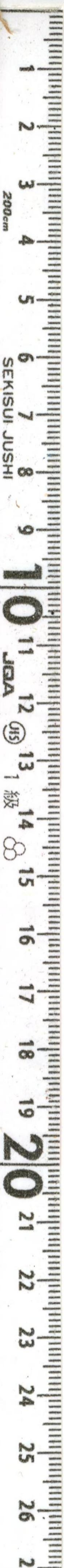


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Chronology of the Japan Communist Party
During the Occupation, 1945 - 1952.

scpt Div/OPNS/TWR/BM
16 May 1952

Doc Res Sec

C-2

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30 April 1952, subject as above (Incl 1).

2. The attached chronology is not intended to be a continuation or an
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to Apr 52.

I Incl:
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MEMO FOR RECORD:

Subj 2/1 fwded as of possible interest and value to Doc Res Sec.
Copies have been fwded to GS DA, CIC and Col Ryder, Amer Embassy.

Mr. I. M. Faust
26-8861

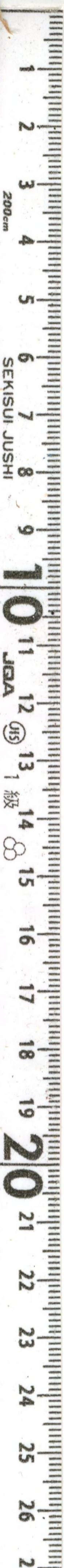
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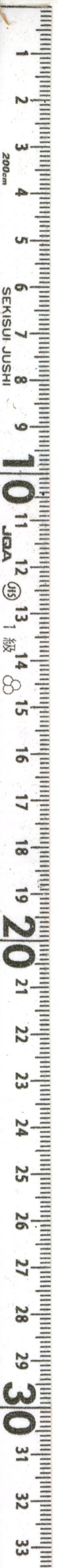
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Secret Security Information

CHRONOLOGY OF THE JAPANESE COMMUNIST PARTY DURING THE
OCCUPATION, 1945 - 1952.

Secret Security Information



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Scty Div/OPNS/HVC

30 April 1952

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

SUBJECT: Chronology of the Japan Communist Party During The Occupation, 1945 - 1952

INTRODUCTION

The following chronology is not intended to be either a continuous or an exhaustive history of the activities of the Japan Communist Party (JCP) during the Occupation period. It seeks to present as a reference work rather than as an analytical study a description of some of the more important events which occurred from the time of the issuance of the SCAP directive ordering the release of political prisoners in October 1945 until the end of the Occupation on 28 April 1952.

The JCP had, for all practical purposes, ceased to be a functioning organization from the time of the large scale round-up and imprisonment of its officials and leading members in 1928. With the release of the imprisoned leaders and the return from abroad of exiled Communists following the end of the war, the Party found itself once more in the position of an influence and force to be contended with in Japanese politics. Its policies, tactics, and strategy underwent frequent changes during the Occupation. The extent of its membership and support, its political power, and the scope and effectiveness of its propaganda media have also varied with the changing currents of post-war Japan. The following are some of the more significant events and occurrences which have marked the history of the JCP under the Occupation.

1945

4 Oct

SCAPIN No. 93, "Removal of Restrictions on Political, Civil, and Religious Liberties," was issued to the Japanese Government. It contained a provision directing that "all persons now detained, imprisoned, under 'protection or surveillance,' or whose freedom is restricted in any other manner...when the reason...was because of their thought, speech, religion, political beliefs, or assembly" should be released by 10 Oct 45. This directive resulted in the release from prison of all political prisoners, including all of the imprisoned pre-war JCP leaders.

8-9-10 Oct

TOKUDA Kyuichi, SHIGA Yoshio, MIYAMOTO Kenji, HIJIKATA Yoshi, KAMIYAMA Shigeo, TAKAKURA Teru, MATSUMOTO Kazumi, NISHIZAWA Ryuji, KIN Ien Kai, NAKANISHI Ko, HAKAMADA Satomi, ITO Nitsu, KASUGA Shoichi, KASUGA Shojiro, KONNO Yojiro, MIYAMOTO Kenji, and other leading pre-war JCP members were released from prison. A total of over 200 Communists were freed throughout Japan.

15 Oct

The JCP was formally reestablished when it was regis-

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tered as a legal political party with headquarters in Yoyogi, Tokyo.

20 Oct

The newspaper akahata ("red Flag") was republished for the first time since 1934 as the official organ of the JCP, with an initial issue of 10,000 copies. SHIGA Yoshio acted as Chief Editor. The newspaper's offices were opened in JCP Headquarters. Originally published as a weekly, it later became a daily in Oct 47.

1-3 Dec

The JCP Fourth National Congress was held at JCP Headquarters, attended by 500 representatives. This was the first national congress to meet since 1926. Many of the leading figures in the JCP addressed the Congress on such matters as the general situation and immediate tasks of the Party, the Party's program for action, and Party policy. The Articles of the Party and the rules and regulations were decided upon. A seven-man Central Committee headed by TOKUDA Kyuichi as Secretary General, and including KAMIYAMA Shigeo, SHIGA Yoshio, MIYAMOTO Kenji, HAKAMADA Satomi, KUROKI Shigenori, and KIN Ten Kai, was set up. The following platform was decided upon: abolition of the Emperor system, establishment of a People's Republican Government, formation of a Popular Front, and destruction of the military clique, the bureaucrats, the Zai-batsu, and the feudal system. The number of registered JCP members at the time the Congress met was approximately 1,000.

4 Dec

The Young Communist League was established at JCP Headquarters in Tokyo on the basis of plans laid in Nov 45. The establishment of the League so soon after the reactivation of the JCP was indicative of the importance which the Party attached to it. The League originally appeared to be merely a branch of the Party intended to acquaint Japanese youth with Marxist principles, but soon achieved nominal autonomy as a youth training ground for future participation in the Party's work. It sponsored athletic events, lectures, study clubs, and dramatic and social activities. Established on a national basis, it was organized prefecturally by regions and locally by districts and cells. Membership was composed mainly of factory and office workers, students, teachers, and laborers. The League lost its identity in Apr 49 when it was merged with several other youth groups into the Japan Democratic Youth Association.

11 Dec

TOKUDA Kyuichi took part in the settlement of the Yomiuri-Hochi Newspaper Employee Union Strike. This was the first important post-war strike, involving approximately 2,000 employees of the newspaper. The Yomiuri-Hochi Newspaper Employees Union was organized on 25 Oct, and it proceeded to enter on a collective struggle which sought to democratize the operation of the firm and to secure better working conditions. In these demands the Union had the backing of the Socialist Party, the JCP, and the Asahi and Mainichi Newspaper Company unions and certain cultural organizations. On 21 Nov a Metropolitan Mediation Committee was formed to settle the

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strike, but it never functioned because of opposition by the Union. On 4 Dec a Provisional Mediation Committee was set up which settled the strike on 11 Dec in favor of the Union. TOKUDA was a member of the Committee representing the Union. By the terms of the agreement, all of the former executives, including President SHORIKI Matsutaro, were forced to retire, and the management of the firm was placed in the hands of a management council. BABA Tsunego, the senior journalist, was appointed President of the Company.

1946

4 Jan

NOSAKA Sanzo returned to Japan for the first time since 1940. A leading pre-war figure in the Party, he spent the war years in exile in Yen-an and North China working with the Chinese Communists and organizing the Japanese People's Emancipation League. During the war NOSAKA expounded the policy of minimizing the Party's stand on abolition of the Emperor System, and he succeeded in persuading the JCP to adopt a more lenient attitude on this matter after his return. He was also responsible for the inauguration of the "popular front" tactic, in which the JCP cooperated with other political parties and groups to attain its ends. He advocated the theory of "peaceful revolution" by parliamentary procedure in an attempt to win support from less radical leftist groups. NOSAKA's theories dominated the JCP until he was reprimanded by the Cominform in Jan 50 for not pursuing more aggressive policies against the Occupation Forces.

24 Feb

The JCP Fifth National Congress was held at the Kyobashi Public Hall in Tokyo, attended by approximately 1,000 representatives. With SHIGA Yoshio presiding, TOKUDA Kyuichi addressed the meeting on the reactionary character of various Government measures and the class nature of various political parties. NOSAKA Sanzo read the draft of the Declaration of the Congress. It stated that the principal objective of the Communist Party of Japan was to accomplish the bourgeois democratic revolution, currently in progress, in a peaceful, democratic way, following which the Party would seek the establishment of a socialist structure. The Declaration listed the following objectives of the Party: abolition of the Emperor System, establishment of a popular republican Government, reduction of land rents and redistribution of land, nationalization of the property of war criminals and dissolution of finance capital, unification of banking institutions and freezing of funds of landowners and capitalists, institution of a minimum wage for workers, and liberation of women from feudalistic subordination.

A 13-man Central Committee was elected, composed of NOSAKA Sanzo, ITO Ritsu, ITO Kenichi, HASEGAWA Hiroshi, KASUGA Shochi, KASUGA Shojiro, KONNO Yojiro, NISHISAWA Takaji, MATSU-SAKI Kumaji, UCHINO Takechiyo, MIZUTANI Takashi, KUMAHARA Korendo, and OKADA Bunkichi. A 20-man Central Committee Candidate Pool also was appointed.

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One of the speakers stated that the actual number of Party members by this time had reached 6,000.

25 Feb

The first issue of Zenei ("Vanguard") was printed. This bi-monthly magazine, appearing on the first and 15th of each month, was the forerunner of numerous other JCP publications reflecting the Party line.

10 Apr

In general elections held for the Lower House of the Diet, the JCP won five seats, gaining 2,135,000 popular votes throughout Japan, or 3.85 percent of the total votes cast. The Diet seats were won by TOKUDA Kyuichi, NOSAKA Sanzo, SHIGA Yoshio, TAKAKURA Teru, and KAWASAWA Toshiko.

1 May

The first post-war May Day was celebrated throughout Japan. Some 300,000 laborers assembled in downtown Tokyo despite rainy weather and marched in orderly fashion. There were no incidents of trouble or disorder. Representatives of the marchers were accorded an interview with Premier SHIDEHARA. The resolutions drawn up by the demonstrators called for establishment of the right to strike and bargain collectively, opposition to dismissal of employees and lock-outs in factories, enactment of unemployment allowances and insurance, and establishment of a seven hour work day.

19 May

"Food May Day" was celebrated throughout Japan. Over 150,000 persons assembled in the Imperial Palace Plaza demanding "more food on which to live." Over 500 labor unions were represented. Leading a march to Premier-designate YOSHIDA's official residence, TOKUDA Kyuichi, Secretary General of the JCP, presented demands to Government representatives. The slogans utilized on this occasion called for opposition to compulsory measures for rice delivery, immediate release of the rice stored by landowners, establishment of priorities for additional rice rations to heavy industry laborers, stamping out of black market restaurants, immediate distribution of stored rice, overthrow of the YOSHIDA Cabinet, and immediate organization of a democratic people's front.

20 May

A statement issued by SCAP contained a strong admonition against mob violence. The statement read: "I find it necessary to caution the Japanese people that the growing tendency towards mass violence and physical processes of intimidation, under organized leadership, present a grave menace to the future development of Japan...the physical violence which undisciplined elements are now beginning to practice will not be permitted to continue...If minor elements of Japanese society are unable to exercise such self-restraint and self-respect as the situation and conditions require, I shall be forced to take the necessary steps to control and remedy such a deplorable

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situation." In answer to this obvious warning to the Communists, the JCP replied: "The statement on the maintenance of social order is a secret plot to oppress wholly the general democratic movement to cope with the hunger and bankruptcy of the life of the people."

12 Jul

Six hundred members of the Yomiuri Newspaper Chapter of the Communist-dominated All Japan Newspaper and Radio Workers Union went on strike in protest against President BABA Tsunego's refusal to reconsider the dismissal of JCP member SUZUKI Tomin and five other editors. This was the climax of long standing friction between BABA and SUZUKI over the latter's repeated violation of Occupation censorship. BABA had the backing of an executive group known as the Yomiuri Newspaper Reconstruction Council. The AJNRWU was one of the influential members of the projected National Congress of Industrial Unions. A dispute developed within the Yomiuri Chapter itself over the legitimacy of the strike, with some employees continuing on their jobs. On 15 Jul President BABA announced the dismissal of 32 employees on the striking committee. The non-striking faction later withdrew from the Union, and the Yomiuri was able to resume partial publication on 20 Jun, though the strike continued for some time thereafter.

4 Aug

The theme of "colonialization" of Japan by the United States first achieved prominence in the JCP propaganda line. ITO Ritsui, prominent Communist from pre-war days, made a statement on this date charging that the importation of foreign capital would mean a "semi-colonial" status for Japan. The Yomiuri strikers had carried banners inscribed with the words "colonialized Japan" on 26 Jul, and on 1 Aug a Yomiuri striker stated, "America's objective is to colonize Japan. The actions of capitalists of both countries point to that objective." This theme was later revitalized and intensified by Party policy-makers in connection with the Japanese Peace Treaty and the U.S. - Japan Security Pact.

21 Aug

The National Congress of Industrial Unions (Sanbetsu), organized as a Japanese counterpart of the American CIO, held its inaugural meeting in Tokyo. Embracing 18 national unions and over 1,000,000 members, the NCIU was Communist-dominated from its inception and assumed the position of the stronghold of the JCP in the labor movement. Its adherence to the JCP line was accomplished through a majority of Party members in its executive organs, despite the fact that actual JCP members among the total membership of the unions affiliated with it probably did not exceed 5%. The NCIU had as its first chairman KIKUNAMI Katsumi, concurrently Chairman of the All-Japan Newspaper and Radio Workers Union. KIKUNAMI was not known to be a Communist Party member at the time, but later publicly announced his JCP affiliation on 10 September 1947.

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3 Sep

Following a clash between pro and anti-strike groups at a meeting of the All Japan Seamen's Union in Kobe, a resolution was adopted to hold a shipping strike on 10 Sep. This was the first large strike directed by the NCIU, and tie-ups in shipping occurred in the port areas of Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, and Kyushu. The strike was settled at a meeting on 19 Sep between representatives of the Union, the Ship Operators Association (CMMC), and the Ministry of Transportation, and formally called off on 20 Sep.

13-15 Sep

On 13 Sep the Government Railway Workers Union, under moderate leadership, reached a compromise agreement in a rail dispute with the Government. The JCP, working through the NCIU, planned to call a rail strike on 15 Sep which would have been the signal for setting off wide-spread strikes in other industries. The Party's attempts to upset the agreement failed, and only relatively minor local strikes developed. The failure to bring about the strike was a definite set-back to the JCP which had hoped to make a bid for power and to gain an opportunity to embarrass the Occupation Forces.

10 Oct

The period from 10 Oct on into November embraced the so-called "October Strike Offensive." Strike activity during October was planned by the NCIU for the avowed purpose of undermining the political position of the YOSHIDA Cabinet, and followed on the attempted instigation of a wave of strikes in Sep. The Newspaper and Radio Workers Union launched a strike on 5 Oct. Thirteen newspapers suspended publication and several stations of the Japan Broadcasting Company shut down their activities. On 10 Oct 50,000 members of the Hokkaido Chapter of the All Japan Coal Miners Union (Zen Sekitan) went on strike, causing suspension of operations at 36 of the 50 mines in Hokkaido. The strike cut national coal production by approximately 100,000 tons. The All Japan Electric Industry Workers Union (Densan) went on strike on 14 Oct and on 19 Oct began to stage a five minute blackout each night in defiance of the orders of the Central Labor Relations Committee. The Motion Picture and Theatrical Workers Union, including the Toho, Shochiku, and Daiei Companies, went on strike on 15 Oct. Motion picture theaters operated by these companies were closed by the employees, and production of films was suspended. In addition to these strikes, several local chapters of the Marine Products Workers Union, the Chemical Workers Union, the Publishers and Printers Union, and the Machine Tool Industry Workers Union went on strike during Oct. Many of the disputes were settled by the end of the month, but some continued on into Nov.

17 Dec

Labor demonstrations reached a new peak at a huge rally in Tokyo which demanded the dissolution of the Diet. This demonstration showed that leftist and Communist leaders were capable

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of organizing large masses of individuals. Many other demonstrations were held on this date, with an estimated 200,000 individuals attending those in Tokyo and surrounding prefectures.

1947

31 Jan

A Communist-promoted general strike scheduled to be held on 1 Feb and to be participated in by the All Japan Government and Public Workers Union (Zen Kanko), the National Congress of Industrial Unions, and the General Federation of Trade Unions, was called off by the Central Struggle Committee in Tokyo as a result of the Strike Prohibition Order issued by SCAP on 31 Jan. Aimed at paralyzing the nation's economy in an effort to overthrow the YOSHIDA Government, the strike, if carried out, would have suspended communications, transportation, and other Government services. The ban on the strike was greeted with relief by the general public and by workers in many unions who had expressed bitterness at their leaders' persistence in participating therein.

10 Mar

The National Liaison Council of Labor Unions (Zenroren) was organized through the consolidation of a number of Communist-dominated unions and labor groups with the entire National Congress of Industrial Unions as its nucleus. This organization became the liaison organ between pro-Communist labor elements in Japan and the WFTU. It also, acted as an agency for dispersing pro-Soviet and Communist propaganda, and organized mass meetings and demonstrations among Communist-directed unions. The NLCLU was officially recognized by the WFTU as its Japanese affiliate in Jan 49, at which time it represented upwards of 5,000,000 workers. The organization was ordered dissolved by the Japanese Government on 30 Aug 50, by which time its membership had decreased to less than 700,000.

17-23 Mar

Representatives of the World Federation of Trade Unions arrived in Japan. They included W. F. Townsend of the U.S.A., Ernest Bell of Great Britain, Louis Saillant of France, Mikhail Tarasov of the U.S.S.R., and Interpreter-Secretaries Patrick Waldberg and Nelly Lakhani. The Federation was organized in Paris in Oct 45 and comprised the principal unions and central labor bodies of various countries, with the chief exception of the American Federation of Labor. Of the representatives, only Townsend and Bell were not pro-Communist, and the radical leftist element in the group usually dominated it. Japanese Communist and leftist labor leaders attempted to utilize the visit of the WFTU delegates to protest against the SCAP order banning the 1 Feb strike and to promote the movement to admit Japanese labor unions into the WFTU. The delegation toured Japan until 29 March, visited Korea from 30 Mar until 2 Apr, and conferred with labor leaders in Tokyo from 3 to 7 Apr. The visit of this group gave impetus to the leftist labor movement in Japan, especially to the activities of the National Liaison Council of Labor Unions (Zenroren).

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20 Apr

In elections for the newly established Upper House (formerly House of Peers), the Communists won four seats, polling 706,000 popular votes, or 3.08 percent of the total cast. The successful candidates were NAKANO Shigeharu, NAKANISHI Ko, HOSOKAWA Karoku, and ITANO Katsuji.

25 Apr

In elections for the Lower House, the Communists also won four seats, but this number was less than they had won in 1946. They received a total popular vote of 1,002,800, or 3.6 percent of the total votes cast. In one serious set-back, SHIGA Yoshio was defeated in Osaka. The successful candidates were NOSAKA Sanzo, TOKUDA Kyuichi, HAYASHI Hyakuro, and KIMURA Sakae.

1 May

At a May Day celebration in Tokyo participated in by 300,000 persons, resolutions were adopted calling for participation in the International Labor Organization and establishment of a minimum wage system. Slogans utilized on the occasion called for opposition to Government oppression of the right to strike, freedom of speech, publication, meeting and demonstration, opposition to compulsory rice delivery, promotion of Japanese repatriation and supplying of sufficient food, clothing, and housing to repatriates and war victims.

23 Oct

OYAMA Ikuo, pre-war leftist leader, returned to Japan after a 15 year exile in the United States. A voluminous writer for the leftist press prior to his departure from Japan, OYAMA accepted the Chair of Political Science at Waseda University after his return, asserting that he had no intention of entering into active politics. He has, however, consistently acted as a proponent of the JCP Party line. In 1948 he was a leading promoter of the JCP-sponsored Democracy Protection League (Min'yodo), and has acted as a sponsor of the Communist-front Japan-Soviet Friendship Society. Elected to the House of Councillors as an Independent in Jun 50, OYAMA used his influence to promote the best interests of the Party there, advocating an over-all Peace Treaty and the early withdrawal of Occupation Forces. In Aug 50 he fathered the Japan Peace Protection Committee, a new JCP "peace" front formed to consolidate Soviet-line "peace" activities in Japan. Recognition of his service to the cause of Communism came in Nov 50 when, at the Second World Congress of the Partisans of Peace in Warsaw, he was appointed (in absentia) an executive member of the World Peace Council which was formed at that time; later in Dec 51, he was awarded a Stalin Peace Prize. OYAMA's lack of any official connection with the JCP has accorded his statements and activities more propaganda value than they would have had if he were a known Communist. OYAMA was refused a passport by the Japanese Government when he applied to attend the formal presentation of the Stalin Peace Prizes in Moscow in Apr 52.

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20-24 Dec

The Sixth National Congress of the JCP was held at Kyobashi Hall in Tokyo. The Congress centered its discussion around adoption of NOSAKA's plan for "peaceful revolution," which it decided to follow as its official course of action. The central Party structure was reorganized, with an expansion of the Central Committee, a reduction in the membership of the Central Committee Candidate Pool to 10 members, and other minor changes in committees and councils. The following 25 persons were elected to membership in the Central Committee: KIN Ten Kai, MIYAMOTO Kenji, HAKAMADA Satomi, TOKUDA Kyuichi, KAMIYAMA Shigeo, ITO Ritsu, SHIGA Yoshio, NOSAKA Sanzo, ITO Kenichi, KASUGA Shoichi, MATSUMOTO Kazumi, SHIDA Shigeo, SHIKAKAWA Haruichi, MATSUMOTO Saneki, NOZAKA Ryu, KASUGA Shojiro, KURAHARA Koreto, TAKENAKA Tsunesaburo, TAKAKURA Teru, KAMEYAMA Kozo, KONNO Yojiro, HASEGAWA Hiroshi, KISHIMOTO Shigeo, TOSAKA Kan, and SAITO Satoji. TOKUDA Kyuichi was reelected Secretary General of the Party at the post-convention meeting of the Central Committee on 25 Dec. This was the last official National Congress held by the JCP.

1948

11 Jan

The JCP Central Committee issued a declaration calling for a "democratic racial front." Appealing to "all the people and all democratic powers," the Party served official notice that it stood ready to enter into joint action with all parties and groups which would cooperate with it in establishing a "people's government to save the race from destruction." This policy has since been followed by the JCP without deviation, and was intensified after the San Francisco Peace Conference, when the Party actively sought the cooperation of both leftist and nationalistic groups in opposing both the Peace Treaty and the U.S.-Japan Security Pact.

19 Mar - 19 Apr

Commencing with a demonstration by some 45,000 persons representing 19 labor unions in the Imperial Plaza on 19 Mar, during which speeches were made by Communists NOSAKA Sanzo, KIKUNAMI Katsumi, DOBASHI Kazuyoshi, and KAN Makoto, this period was characterized by many strikes and disputes involving the Council of Government and Public Workers Unions (Zenkanko) and including coal miners, teachers, and electrical and communications workers. Such strikes were usually regional in scope and of 24 hour duration. On 3 Apr the SCAP order which banned the projected 1 Feb 47 general strike was officially interpreted by the Japanese Government to include regional as well as nation-wide strikes, and this served to check the wave of regional strikes, although 24 hour strikes continued sporadically in most industries. The strikes abated after 19 Apr when a Government mediation plan was accepted by the Council.

1 May

Orderly May Day celebrations were held throughout Japan. In Tokyo an estimated 350,000 persons participated in rallies.

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TOKUDA Kyuichi, Secretary General of the JCP, ASANUMA Inejiro, Executive Secretary of the Socialist Party, as well as numerous labor union representatives, made speeches. The resolutions adopted by demonstrators called for opposition to unfavorable changes in labor laws, opposition to war and the safeguarding of world peace, and opposition to unjust intervention in the autonomous education of Koreans. An estimated 7,000 members of the Korean Federation participated in the demonstration.

22 Jul

SCAP in a letter to Prime Minister ASHIDA called for sweeping revisions of the National Public Service Law to the end that Government employees be permitted neither to strike nor to bargain collectively with the Government. The ASHIDA Cabinet announced its interpretation of this letter as an order calling for immediate action and issued a "Potsdam Ordinance" - a measure based upon the provisions of the Potsdam Declaration, by which the orders of SCAP could be made law immediately, without waiting for the Diet to act. The ordinance became effective on 31 Jul. Known as Cabinet Ordinance No. 201, its enactment resulted in greatly reducing the effectiveness of the Communist potential to incite strikes. It specifically provided that "no public employee may resort to strikes or engage in delaying or other dispute tactics which tend to impair the efficiency of operations of national government or local public entities. Provisions of this Ordinance were subsequently enacted by the Diet into the National Public Service Law.

11 Aug

Major General A.P. Kislenko, U.S.S.R. Representative on the Allied Council for Japan, addressed a letter of protest to SCAP in which he stated: "I hereby insist that your directive concerning the public servants law, dated 22 July 1948, the actions taken by the Japanese Government based thereon, and the by-law of the Osaka Police Force should be revoked on the grounds that it is contrary to the definite policy of the Far East Commission and the Potsdam Declaration." This letter was given great prominence in the Communist press and set off fresh JCP attacks on the Government.

15 Aug

In a nine-point peace plan issued by the JCP Politburo, the Party for the first time stated its detailed views on the question of a peace treaty. The declaration specified the following fundamental principles for a fair peace treaty: eradication of militaristic and fascist powers, complete recovery of sovereignty, return of former possessions which should belong to Japan from the racial and historical point of view, complete withdrawal of troops from Japan and her territories, opposition to any condition which would draw Japan into international disputes, establishment of equal economic relations with various countries of the world, assurance that reparations would not interfere with the development of peacetime industries, participation in the United Nations, World Labor Union Congress, and other international organs, and finally, opposition to a separate peace treaty and conclusion of a general peace treaty with

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the former Allied Nations as early as possible. The policies announced in the declaration remained the basis of the JCP's attitude toward the conclusion of a peace treaty.

27 Aug

The JCP-directed Democracy Protection League (Min'yodo) was inaugurated at a preparatory meeting attended by 150 delegates from 44 labor unions and leftist organizations which was held in the House of Councillors, Tokyo. Also present were high-ranking JCP leaders such as TOKUDA Kyuichi and NOSAKA Sanzo. One of the main objectives of the League was to oppose Cabinet Ordinance No. 201 which banned strikes by Government workers. Its elected officers were all known JCP members or sympathizers, and directives were issued by JCP Headquarters urging prefectural area committees to persuade labor unions and other "democratic" organizations to join. Organized as a loose federation of some 80-odd labor unions and leftist organizations, the DPL developed into one of the main JCP front organizations for directing the Party's popular agitation movements.

6 Sep

Lt Gen Kuzma Derevyanko issued a statement in a press conference in which he repeated Gen. Kislenko's charges made on 11 Aug, and further stated that "a large wave" of protest strikes by Japanese workers would "appear to be natural." This statement provided the necessary impetus to an intensification of illegal strike tactics already in process of being conducted by Communist-dominated chapters of Government workers unions.

11 Oct

Under the sponsorship of the NCIU, the All Japan Metal Workers Union (Kinzoku) was inaugurated at a mass meeting held in Osaka attended by about 500 delegates and 500 spectators. This union was formed through the amalgamation of the All Japan Machine and Tool Workers Union (Zenkiki), the All Japan Iron and Steel Workers Union (Zen Tetsuro) and the All Japan Rolling Stock Industry Workers Union (Zen Sharyo). The establishment of the AJMWU was the result of months of effort and propaganda on the part of JCP and NCIU leaders. Immediately after its formation, JCP headquarters in Osaka circulated a directive ordering widespread struggles to be staged by it. With a total membership of 180,000, the AJMWU represented the best example of a labor union completely controlled by the JCP to come into existence in Japan up to this time.

10 Dec

The second national convention of the NCIU Democratization League (Mindō) was held at the Central Labor Hall in Tokyo to establish a unified labor front independent of Communist control. Following a bitter attack by speakers on the tactics and policies of the JCP and the Communist elements in the NCIU, the convention passed a resolution to cooperate with the Japan Federation of Labor Unions, a non-Communist labor organization sponsored by the Social Democratic Party. This step by the Democratization League marked increasing union opposition to the JCP and Communist-dominated labor organizations.

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23 Jan

In elections for the Lower House, the Communists won 35 seats out of 466. They received a total of 2,985,000 votes, or almost 10 percent of the total popular vote. With Communist candidates gaining in almost every section of Japan, this election marked the height of JCP political power. At this time the registered membership of the Party was 38,700 and the estimated total membership about 150,000. The JCP-dominated labor unions embraced approximately 2,000,000 of the 6,700,000 organized workers in Japan, and exercised some influence over approximately another million. Among the JCP candidates elected were prominent JCP leaders such as NOSAKA Sanzo, TOKUDA Kyuichi, KAZAHAYA Yasoji, KIKUNAMI Katsumi, KARASAWA Toshiko, KAMIYAMA Shigeo, DOBASHI Kazuyoshi, KASUGA Shoichi, HAYASHI Hyakuro, KAWADA Kenji, SHIGA Yoshio, KAWAKAMI Kanichi, INOBUCHI Masao, and TANAKA Gyohei.

22 Apr

The inaugural convention of the Japan-Soviet Friendship Society was held in Tokyo with over 500 JCP members and sympathizers in attendance. A Soviet Mission representative and NOSAKA Sanzo made speeches praising the U.S.S.R. The convention elected an entire slate of Communists as officials with KAN Makoto as Chairman and HIJIKATA Yoshi and HORIE Muraichi as Vice-Chairmen. With a claimed membership of over 10,000 within two years after its inauguration, the JSFS soon developed into one of the leading JCP front organizations. The Society engages in the promotion of Soviet movies, music, literature, Russian language courses, and pro-Soviet propaganda in general. It has established branches throughout Japan.

1 May

From 275,000 to 300,000 persons demonstrated in Tokyo calling for the overthrow of the YOSHIDA Cabinet. A formal protest was addressed to Premier YOSHIDA, the Presidents of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors, and the Supreme Public Prosecutor over the Government's "high-handed and anti-democratic conduct." The slogans carried by the demonstrators called for opposition to unfavorable revision of labor laws and regulations, opposition to administrative retrenchment and dismissal of employees, opposition to planned destruction of industries in line with the Nine Fundamental Economic Principles of SCAP Economic Advisor Dodge, and promotion of repatriation from the Soviet Union.

4 May

A meeting of the organizing committee established the Peace Preservation Society (Heiwa O Mamoru Kai) under JCP and Democracy Protection League (Min'yodo) guidance. The Society had 205 individuals and 94 organizations as affiliates. Its purpose was to further the "peace preservation movement" through propaganda, canvassing, and rallies. This movement was an outgrowth of the Communist-directed Stockholm Peace Appeal Campaign. The PPS developed into a major Communist front organization.

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30 May

The Liaison Council of All Metropolitan Government Workers Unions (Tororen) staged a demonstration before the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly in protest against further strengthening of control over large-scale demonstrations and parades which was due to materialize in the form of enactment of legislation extending the advance notice required for demonstrations or gatherings from 48 to 72 hours. A crowd of about 1000 demonstrators clashed with the police, resulting in the injury of 16 policemen and the death of a member of the Tokyo Transport Workers Union, HASHIMOTO Kinji, who fell to the ground from the third floor of the Assembly Hall. The JCP made propaganda capital out of this incident, charging that HASHIMOTO had been "murdered" by the police and designated the occasion of his death as a "memorial day." A second demonstration was held the following day at the same location.

27 Jun

The first repatriates to return to Japan in 1949, 2,000 in number, landed at Maizuru. This group showed the highest degree of Communist indoctrination to date and shocked waiting relatives and officials by voicing pro-Communist sentiments such as "We are entering enemy territory. Don't lower your defenses!" The repatriates also sang Communist songs. Obviously rejecting the sympathetic welcome extended them, the group exhibited a surly attitude and staged demonstrations en route to their homes. There were evidences of rigid control by group leaders and of Soviet direction of their conduct during the debarkation period. Another group of 18,000 repatriates landed at Maizuru on 20 Jul and exhibited the same evidences of Soviet indoctrination as the 27 Jun group.

28 Jun

In protest against a police order to remove a JCP bulletin board in front of the Taira railway Station in Fukushima Prefecture, 700 Party members and Koreans stormed and occupied the Taira Police Station, tried to halt a train carrying police reinforcements, and committed other acts of violence. Five policemen and three demonstrators were injured. On 25 Jul the Lower House Judicial Affairs Committee, which had been investigating the incident, attributed the violence to the JCP, this being the first case in which the National Diet had openly blamed a specific political party for committing social unrest. Over the period of a year following the incident a total of 156 persons, mostly Communists and including 16 women, were apprehended for complicity. They were finally brought to trial at the Taira Branch of the Fukushima District Court on 25 Jun 51. At their own request, 27 of the defendants who claimed they had broken with the JCP were granted a separate trial on 9 Jul 51. Decisions are still pending in both cases.

4-20 Jul

The first wave of dismissals by the National railway Corporation, as part of the Government's Personnel retrenchment Policy under the Economic Stabilization Program, initially affected

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30,700 workers, resulting in threats of strikes and mass resignations. The JCP, the National Railway Workers Union Central Struggle Committee, and many local Union branches ordered workers to refuse to accept dismissal notices. Despite their efforts, however, only three percent of the 95,000 workers dismissed from 1 to 20 Jul refused notices of dismissal. Resignations from the Union reached 8,000 by 20 Jul. Another Communist-inspired tactic, which had commenced in Jun before the retrenchment program actually went into effect, was a wave of sabotage attempts against national railways property. Hundreds of cases involved the placing of stones, boards, and other obstructions on tracks, in many cases by children. These attempts sometimes resulted in the derailling of trains, causing serious damage and loss of life. Rocks, boards, and other objects were frequently hurled through train windows.

A notorious incident accompanying this wave of violence was the death of President SHIMOYAMA Sadanori of the National Railway Corporation under circumstances suggesting murder rather than suicide. His dismembered body, obviously mangled by a train, was found under a railroad bridge north of Ueno Station on 6 Jul. SHIMOYAMA had last been seen entering the Mitsukoshi Department Store by his chauffeur the day previous. It was never established definitely whether he was alive or dead at the time the train passed over his body, but the Metropolitan Police issued a statement that the result of the autopsy indicated murder. Both the JCP and the National Railway Workers Union disclaimed any responsibility in the case, but the immediate public reaction was to accuse the Communists of having committed the murder.

Another incident of violence occurred on 13 Jul when some 100 discharged workers in Toky seized control of the management office of the Shinagawa roundhouse, breaking windows and creating general disorder. On 15 Jul a seven car train which had been standing empty slid out of the car barn in the direction of Mitaka Station in Tokyo. The track itself was a dead end with a bumper at the station. The first three cars ploughed through the bumper, ran through the station staircase crowded with people, and smashed into several houses and a police box. Six persons were killed and 15 injured. Since the track on which the train moved was not graded it would have been impossible for the car to have rolled out of the barn by itself. Twelve defendants, 11 of them Communists, were indicted for complicity in the incident. Of this group, only one, self-confessed TAKEUCHI Keisuke, was found guilty. He was sentenced to life imprisonment on 11 Aug 50 by the Tokyo District Court, but appealed his case to the Tokyo Higher Court, which on 30 Mar 51 changed the sentence to death. Another appeal to the Supreme Court is still pending.

A serious setback for the leftist element in the National Railway Workers Union occurred on 19 Jul when the National Railway Corporation announced the discharge of 11 Communists on the Union's Central Struggle Committee for threatening violent tactics on 13 Jul. This step rendered the Central Struggle Committee officially inoperative, since the remaining 18 members did not constitute a quorum. On 19 Jul the Corporation in a further move announced the discharge of 41 leftists on the

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Union's Central Committee. This put the moderate Democratization League (Mindo) faction in control of the Committee. The result of these two moves was to break JCP control of the National Railway Workers Union.

11 Aug

The Government promulgated Cabinet Order No. 300 prohibiting interference with repatriates until they reached their destination and were officially demobilized. This seriously hampered the JCP's attempts to propagandize on the return of the repatriates by holding rowdy welcomes and scheduling stopovers for them in Tokyo to visit JCP Headquarters and the Soviet Mission.

17 Aug

A train derailment occurred at a point north of Matsukawa Station, Fukushima Prefecture, resulting in the deaths of three crewmen. That the derailment was deliberate was adjudged from the finding of 28 spikes together with the tools with which they had apparently been pulled from the rails. By 4 Oct, 20 suspects had been rounded up. Of this number, 19 were known members of the JCP; the other admitted to being a Communist sympathizer. On 6 Dec 50, after a year long trial by the Fukushima Court, five of the accused were sentenced to death, five to life imprisonment, and 10 to prison terms ranging from three and one half to 15 years. The JCP conducted an active propaganda campaign on behalf of the defendants and attempted to link the case to its peace campaign. Signatures on behalf of the accused were collected, and Communist broadcasts from China and the U.S.S.R. devoted much attention to the "unjust" trial. Considerable international support materialized in the form of cables and letters to Japanese Government offices from Communist organizations throughout the world. In many cases the messages were of an intimidating nature. One Chinese Communist Party organ allegedly contributed the equivalent of 10,000 U.S. dollars for the defendants. The presiding judge at the trial finally suffered a nervous breakdown as a result of the intimidation campaign launched against him. On 20 Dec 51 the Sendai Superior Court decided to reexamine the facts of the case and to hand down an independent verdict. Despite the fact that this was done in accordance with Japanese law, the JCP immediately propagandized this "retrial" as a major victory for its campaign. The Superior Court's decision is still pending.

8 Sep

The Attorney General ordered the dissolution of the League of Koreans residing in Japan (Choren) and its youth affiliate, the Korean Democratic Youth League (Minsei) for terroristic and anti-Occupation activities. Choren was organized in Sep 45 as a result of the consolidation of some 90 miscellaneous Korean groups and quickly came under the control of Communist members. At the time of its dissolution, the Attorney General estimated its membership at 365,000. Minsei had a membership of approximately 60,000. In the months immediately prior to its dissolution, Choren activities were marked by clashes with police,

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riots, Communist political activities, and crimes of violence. Sixty leaders of the organization were purged at the time of its dissolution, and its properties were confiscated. Despite these steps, however, former members of the organization continued to engage in illegal and pro-Communist activities.

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7 Jan

The Cominform Journal in Bucharest in a sensational article accused NOSAKA Sanzo of being guilty of a "bourgeois attitude" and of being a servant of Japan's "imperialist occupiers." The occasion for the attack was NOSAKA's report to the Central Committee of the JCP that it was possible to establish a people's democratic regime in Japan even though the country was in an occupied status. The Journal accused Nosaka's theory of "misleading" the Japanese people. It stated: "The leaders of the people and the people's patriots in Japan should realize that Japan can arise and become a great independent power only if it renounces imperialism and imperialist alliances - only if it takes the path of democracy and socialism." This attack on NOSAKA, whose policy of "peaceful revolution" had dominated the course of action pursued by the JCP since it was adopted at the Fifth JCP Congress in Feb 46, came as a distinct surprise to both Communists and non-Communists alike. Because of NOSAKA's long period of residence in the U.S.S.R. and Communist China, he was generally regarded as the JCP leader in closest personal and ideological touch with the Kremlin, and the sudden Cominform blast was completely unexpected. The first immediate reaction by the Communists was to drop a wall of silence on the matter until confirmation of the authenticity of the report could be secured.

10 Jan

NAKANISHI Ko, former espionage agent in China, was expelled from the JCP for "factional activities." NAKANISHI, who was often at odds with Party leaders, had been quick to express approval of the Cominform criticism of NOSAKA. The JCP stated that NAKANISHI constantly had defied Party leadership and had violated Party rules, that recently he had engaged in activities designed to split the Party into factions, and that such activities led him consciously to take internal Party problems outside, to link them with reactionary information networks, and to start positive action to destroy the Party. NAKANISHI's power was centered in the JCP cell of the Labor Research Institute's Administrative Bureau in Tokyo, and this cell was dissolved at the time of his expulsion. On 25 Jan NAKANISHI resigned from the Upper House, stating that after a period of self-criticism he had decided that he had been "precipitate" in attacking the JCP and that he would continue to devote himself to working with the masses.

12 Jan

Following verification of the Cominform attack on the JCP in general and on NOSAKA in particular, ITO Ritsu, the official Party spokesman, issued a statement apologizing for the Party's

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defects and NOSAKA's aberration. This action resulted in almost universal press comment denouncing the JCP as a tool of its Soviet masters, faithful to the U.S.S.R. rather than to Japan. The consequent popular reaction against the Party was definitely unfavorable.

18-20 Jan

At the 18th Expanded JCP Central Committee Meeting in Tokyo the main issues discussed were the attitude to be taken in regard to the Cominform blast against NOSAKA, changes to be made in Party policies, and a Japanese peace treaty. Several members, including MIYAMOTO Kenji, defended NOSAKA's position, arguing that it was impossible for the JCP to change its plans immediately. Great differences of opinion were evident, and heated arguments developed over the Cominform blast. Things were brought to a head when NOSAKA stated: "I admit that I was a traitor to the international proletariat forces by issuing the report. I pledge that I will make every effort and take all the responsibilities to correct the report." Following this official recantation, Secretary General TOKUDA took the floor and stated that since a drastic change of policy might lose the confidence of the masses, the change should be made piecemeal.

21 Feb

"Anti-Colonialization Day" was first observed in Japan. This date was so designated by the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the international Communist youth organization which claims over 50,000 members in 60 countries, in commemoration of the anti-British revolt which occurred in India on 21 Feb 46. The Japanese agency sponsoring the observance was the JCP backed Japan Democratic Youth Association, an affiliate of the WFDY. TOKUDA Kyuichi addressed a crowd of some 2,500 persons at a rally in Tokyo. Slogans were displayed calling for an over-all peace and opposition to military bases in Japan. This campaign by the JCP indicated a more severe anti-Occupation policy and reflected the Party's attempt to meet the Jan Cominform criticism which had attacked NOSAKA for his hesitancy to stand up against the "foreign imperialists" in Japan.

On this same date JCP Lower House Member SUNAMA Ichiro delivered an anti-U.S. talk before the Lower House Construction Committee concerning the damage caused by U.S. Army maneuvers. SUNAMA was summoned before Occupation officials and reminded that such remarks were "in direct violation of a long-standing Occupation directive with which you and your fellow Party members are fully familiar." This action was considered a warning to the entire JCP.

28 Feb

The JCP reached a peak post-war registered membership of 108,500. Its estimated total membership at this time was approximately 150,000. From this time on both its registered and total membership commenced to decline.

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16 Mar

Summoned before the Upper House Overseas Japanese Repatriation Special Committee probing an alleged request made by him to Soviet officials not to repatriate "reactionary" or "undemocratic" Japanese POW's, but only to those who were "100 percent Communists," JCP Secretary General TOKUDA Kyuichi vehemently denied that he had made such a statement. The inquest was undertaken following the petition by representatives of the anti-Communist Rising Sun repatriates groups to the Diet and Government officials to hold an investigation of this matter. The importance attached by the Kremlin to the unfavorable reaction to the alleged request on the part of the Japanese people may be seen in the fact that the Soviet Government issued an official statement denying all charges against TOKUDA. After summoning witnesses, the Committee reached the conclusion that TOKUDA had actually made the request. Popular reaction, especially among families of unrepatriated Japanese, was strongly unfavorable to the JCP.

1 May

From 70,000 to 100,000 persons joined in May Day rallies in the Imperial Plaza. The crowd had the appearance of being the best fed and best dressed since the end of the war, and included many young people. Demonstrators carried banners inscribed with slogans calling for a speed-up in the over-all peace treaty and the establishment of peace and independence. There were some mildly anti-U.S. posters, and many attacking the YOSHIDA Cabinet on various domestic issues. The demonstrations were orderly, and participation by non-Communists was evident. A sizeable group of local Chinese carrying MAO Tse Tung's picture were seen, as well as many Koreans.

2 May

Members of the National Students Self-Government Federation (Zen Gakuren) at Tohoku University forced Dr. Walter Eells, Advisor on Higher Education with the Civil Information and Education Section, GHQ, SCAP, to cancel his scheduled speech entitled "Academic Freedom and Communism." Dr. Eells was currently delivering this address in an official capacity at selected Japanese universities. Immediately after the meeting was called to order, some members of the audience began to shout and cat-call, and a half dozen students stood up on their chairs and demanded that Dr. Eells answer certain questions before he be allowed to speak. Each time that he started to commence his address the shouting began anew. Both Premier YOSHIDA and Education Minister AMANO issued statements denouncing the action, and several students were arrested for their part in the disturbance. Student rallies were held to seek the release of the arrested students, and the JCP unleashed a tirade of anti-American propaganda denouncing what it termed undue interference in the autonomy of universities. This incident had the effect of bringing to the fore the question of restricting political activities of teachers and students. Dr. Eells was again interrupted during a speech at Hokkaido University on 15 May and the slogan "No More Eells" began to be widely utilized in Communist propaganda. As a result of the Hokkaido University incident four student agitators

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were dismissed, four were suspended, and two others were given reprimands.

3 May

On the third anniversary of the Japanese Constitution, SCAP issued a statement to the Japanese Government in which he attacked the JCP as an undemocratic political party and indicated that strong action should be taken against it. Denouncing the JCP as a minority "without even the pretense of service to legitimate national ends, but under foreign dictation to establish a domestic basis favorable to the ultimate subjugation of Japan to the political control of others," SCAP stated: "The Japan Communist Party...has assumed the role of an avowed satellite of an international predatory force...That it has done so at once brings into question its right to the further benefits and protection of the country and laws it would subvert and raises doubts as to whether it should longer be regarded as a constitutionally recognized political movement." From this point on the question of outlawing the JCP began to receive consideration by the Japanese Government.

30 May

A demonstration was held in the Imperial Plaza to protest "suppression of the JCP" on the occasion of the first anniversary of the death of HASHIMOTO Kinji. It was attended by about 9,000 representatives of 33 leftist organizations under the sponsorship of the Tokyo Preparatory Committee of the Democratic racial Front. During the demonstration Communists attacked five uniformed American soldiers, none of whom was injured seriously. The incident occurred when a demonstrator seized the notebook of an Occupation interpreter. Eight Communists were arrested, tried, and found guilty by a military court, and on 3 Jun one was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, one to five years, and the other six were given seven years. This incident led directly to the purge of the JCP Central Committee on 6 Jun 50.

4 Jun

In elections held for 132 seats in the Upper House, three JCP candidates were elected. They were TAKAKUNA Teru, SUDO Goro, and HOSOKAWA Karoku. Also elected were KIMUNA Kihachiro, a JCP-backed United Front candidate, and fellow travellers HANI Goro, HORI Makoto, OYAMA Ikuo, and MORIZAKI Takashi. The JCP received a total popular vote of 1,637,000, or 5.6 percent of the total votes cast. The election gave the JCP a total of five Party members and five fellow travellers in the Upper House.

6 Jun

Following the acts of violence against Occupation personnel on 30 May and subsequent flagrant anti-American propaganda by the JCP, SCAP dispatched a letter to Prime Minister YOSHIDA directing him to purge the entire JCP Central Committee from public service on the basis of SCAPIN Nos 548 and 550, dated 4 Jun 46, directed against militarists and ultra-nationalists. The order affected the following 24 top JCP leaders: HAKAMADA

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Satomi, HASEGAWA Hiroshi, ITO Ritsu, KAMEYAMA Kozo, KASUGA Shojiro, KISHIMOTO Shigeo, KONNO Yojiro, KURAHARA Koreto, MATSUMOTO Kazumi, MATSUMOTO Saneki, MIYAMOTO Kenji, NOSAKA Ryu, SATO Satoji, SHIDA Shigeo, SHIRAKAWA Seiichi, TAKENAKA Tsunesaburo, TOSAKA Hiroshi, ITO Kenichi, KAMIYAMA Shigeo, KASUGA Shoichi, NOSAKA Sanzo, SHIGA Yoshio, TAKAKURA Teru, and TOKUDA Kyuichi. Of this group, the last seven were Diet members. The 25th member of the Central Committee, KIN Ten Kai, had already been purged in connection with the dissolution of the League of Koreans residing in Japan (Choren) on 8 Sep 49.

This move caused a serious set-back to the machinery of the Party's overt organization. The following month nine purged Central Committee members went underground when summoned to report to the Attorney General's Office. These members were: TOKUDA Kyuichi, NOSAKA Sanzo, ITO Ritsu, KONNO Yojiro, TAKENAKA Tsunesaburo, HASEGAWA Hiroshi, KASUGA Shoichi, MATSUMOTO Saneki, and SHIDA Shigeo. To date only one of this group has been apprehended. KASUGA Shoichi was picked up by the Japanese police in Nagoya on 7 Oct 50.

7 Jun

Seven top Akahata staff members were purged as a result of a SCAP order to the Japanese Government. Twenty days later the paper was suspended for 30 days by SCAP order for inflammatory reporting of the Korean War, and on 18 Jul SCAP announced an indefinite extension of the 27 Jun ban. These three steps effectively eliminated the paper as the official organ of the JCP.

On 7 Jun also an eight-man Provisional Central Guidance Department was formed to take the place of the Central Committee as the top policy-making organ of the JCP by SHIINO Etsuro, chief of the Control Committee of JCP Headquarters. The members were: SHIINO Etsuro, TADA Tomeji, KAWATA Kenji, TANIGUCHI Zentarou, SUGIMOTO Fumio, WADA Ichizo, SUZUKI Ichizo, and KIKUNAMI Katsumi. Of this group, KIKUNAMI was purged on the same day as an Akahata official, and TANIGUCHI was purged on 28 Jun for making an inflammatory speech in connection with the Akahata ban. TADA was expelled from the JCP in Aug 50, leaving only five men in the Department.

12 Aug

The publication Heiwa to Dokuritsu ("Peace and Independence") appeared as a clandestine newspaper. Published as a weekly with a circulation of 3,000, it was originally intended for the JCP leaders alone. As other Party organs came to be banned, however, the publication was adapted for members and sympathizers and ultimately served as a successor to the banned Akahata. It began to be published every five days, then every three days, and on 12 Feb 52 it was issued as a daily.

26 Aug

Dismissal notices were mailed to 2,137 employees of ten major electric power companies to remove the threat of Communist-inspired labor unrest in the industry. The discharged workers consisted almost exclusively of leading Communists and Communist sympathizers of the All Japan Electric Industry Workers

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Union (Densan). With 126,000 members, this Union was formerly one of the most militant JCP-dominated unions in Japan until the anti-Communist Democratization League (Mindō) faction ousted Party members from control. The affected workers were not dismissed outright, but were urged to submit voluntary resignations by 30 Aug in order to be eligible for retirement allowances. Brief suspensions of power supply occurred the following morning in Tokyo as a result of Communist activity, but by and large the discharges were effected without any serious incidents or disorders. The successful completion of this retrenchment program broke the back of Communist influence in the electric power industry and heralded the carrying out of similar purges in the coal mining and iron and steel industries.

1951

21 Feb

In contrast to the successful demonstration on the first Anti-Colonialization Day in 1950, the meetings held this year were a definite failure. Minor demonstrations were held in Tokyo despite an all-station police alert. These included meetings of the Metropolitan Federation of Student Self-Government Associations at Meiji University and a "culture festival" by the Young Women's Council of All Public Corporations. Five Meiji University students who attempted to distribute anti-colonialization handbills were arrested on the charge of blocking traffic, but by and large the day passed uneventfully.

23-28 Feb

The Fourth National Representatives Conference was held secretly in Tokyo attended by members of the Provisional Central Guidance Committee and allegedly by purged members of the former Central Committee headed by TOKUDA Kyuichi. At this conference it was decided to establish Regional Bureaus to function along with the Regional Committees and to strengthen the underground organization of the Party. In this connection it was decided that the overt PCGD would tend to act more in a liaison capacity for the covert Politburo composed of former members of the Central Committee. Another important achievement of the Conference was the adoption of a draft of Party rules. This was intended to effect more rigid Party discipline, and was directed against the Internationalist Faction of the Party which had been under attack by the Centrist Faction since the policies of the latter were vindicated by the Cominform blast of Jan 50. Article IV of the rules stated: "The Party shall unite into one body under iron discipline. The will and action of the Party shall be united through democratic centralism. All members of the Party will act in the interest of the Party, the minority will submit to the will of the majority, the lower to the higher, the whole Party to the Central authority. The Party will not permit any form of factionalism." Article XIII further states: "Party activities of an organization or a member shall be improved through leaders' criticisms and its or his own self-criticism...Those members who are suspected by a special organ of some misconduct will be deprived of their posts, and, upon investigation, shall be subjected either to suspension of membership, expulsion, dismissal from the organ, activity restriction, reprimand or warning."

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These provisions were in effect an ultimatum to the Internationalists, many of whom had thus far refused to submit self-criticisms and were still attempting to oppose the Centrists, to retract their views or face expulsion from the Party. While many had already been expelled, the justification for such action was now firmly contained in the by-laws of the Party and represented a major victory for the Centrist Faction.

23-30 Apr

In elections for mayors and local officials held on 23 Apr, not a single JCP candidate was elected, and the Party received only .8 percent of the total votes cast. A similarly dismal showing was made in the prefectural elections held on 30 Apr, when JCP candidates captured just .86 percent of the total vote. Only six JCP candidates were elected to seats in the prefectural assemblies, and none were successful as candidates for governorships. The returns from these elections definitely indicated that JCP popularity with the electorate was on the wane.

1 May

Because of the SCAP-backed Japanese Government ban on the use of the Imperial Plaza by May Day demonstrators, the Japan General Council of Labor Unions (Sohyo) refused to hold any rallies in Tokyo, and the largest single demonstration was a gathering of about 10,000 demonstrators sponsored by Communist-dominated unions in Shiba Park. Approximately 185,000 persons attended rallies in eight other major cities, and a total of 780,000 persons participated in 436 separate rallies throughout Japan. Most of the larger demonstrations were sponsored by predominantly non-Communist labor groups. There were no untoward incidents or demonstrations. The principal slogans utilized by both Communist and moderate groups called for peace and independence, opposition to war, and the overthrow of the YOSHIDA Cabinet. Communist speakers stressed the necessity for the conclusion of an over-all peace and immediate withdrawal of the Occupation Forces, but generally avoided direct criticism of the Occupation. This was the first May Day since the end of the war which did not witness a major rally in Tokyo.

12 Jul

The Japanese Government banned the Rengo News Agency in an effort to block illegal Communist propaganda activity. Police raided its offices, confiscated all copies of its editions, and sealed up its headquarters. The agency, founded on 1 Sep 48, supplied some 300 leftist and Communist publications with releases from the Soviet news agency Tass, the Chinese Communist New China News, and the leftist British Telepress. It served as one of the most prolific sources of red propaganda in Japan.

14 Aug

Twenty newspapers were indefinitely suspended by the Japanese Government for being similar in character to Akahata. They were specifically cited as having been published with the objective of spreading "false, agitative, and destructive propagandistic Communist activities." Among the publications affected were Taishu no Nakae ("Among The Masses"), Toho ("Party News"), and Chosen Gakusei Shimbun ("Korean Students News").

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25 Aug

The Provisional Central Guidance Department issued to all Regional and Prefectural Bureaus a secret draft entitled "Immediate Demands" which was later adopted as the JCP 1951 Thesis. It was drawn up at the 20th Meeting of the Expanded Central Committee allegedly held in Tokyo in mid-August. The document had an openly anti-American tone and stressed the fact that stepped-up activities leading to unification of the masses were necessary to liberate Japan from U.S. domination. Laying emphasis on the contention that the U.S. Occupation was working great hardship on the Japanese and that the YOSHIDA Government was the spiritual and political pillar of the Occupation, the document called for a "racial liberation democratic front" representing all strata of society. It also emphasized free development of peaceful industries and freedom of enterprise. Obviously designed to appeal to Japanese nationalistic sentiments and to call for collaboration from non-Communist elements in achieving its goals, the document employed the term "kokumin" (citizens, the nation) in place of the word "jimin" (people, the populace) which the Party had formerly employed in its official documents. The word "kokumin" had a definitely nationalistic connotation in contrast to the leftist association of "jimin." The "Immediate Demands" also called for an over-all peace treaty, withdrawal of Occupation troops, economic cooperation with all nations of the world, abolition of the Emperor system, and increased benefits to farmers and laborers.

4 Sep

Warrants of arrest were issued for 18 JCP leaders, including all members of the Provisional Central Guidance Department, the JCP Control Committee, some Diet members, and other high Party leaders. The warrants were based on charges of violation of Cabinet Order No. 325, prohibiting anti-Occupation activities, and the Organization Control Ordinance. These charges arose from the publishing by the Party of inflammatory and anti-American directives during Jul 51. On 6 Sep the Japanese Government issued a purge order barring all 18 men from holding any political or public office. Eight arrests were made under the order of 4 Sep, but six were later released for lack of evidence. The remainder of those on the list went into hiding. Since there was an overlapping of the positions held by some of the persons named - for example, some were concurrently both members of the PCGD and the Control Committee - the purge actually affected all five members of the PCGD, all six members of the Control Committee, eight of the 10 members of the Organization Bureau, three of the eight members of the Secretariat, and three of the four members of the former Central Committee Candidate Pool. Also affected were the Chiefs of the following Administrative Departments: Finance, Personnel Affairs, Labor Union, Investigation, Publication, Urban People's Affairs, Party School, Organizations Guidance, Enterprise, and Courier Guidance. In the Diet Members Group, one member of the House of Councillors and three House of Representatives members were on the list. The names of the 18 purgees were as follows: SHIINO Etsuro, KAWADA Kenji, SUZUKI Ichizo, WADA Ichizo, SUGIMOTO Fumio, HOSOKAWA Karoku, SUNAMA Ichiro, KAMIMURA Susumu, FUKUMOTO Kazuo, YAMABE Kentaro, IWAMOTO Iwao, OKADA Bunkichi, NISHIZAWA Ryuji,

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IWATA Eiichi, HORIE Muraichi, KAWAKAMI Kanichi, HOSAKA Hiroaki, and KIMURA Saburo. This action by the Japanese Government in effect destroyed the Party's overt leadership.

On 4 Sep also the publication To Katsudo Shishin ("Party Activity Guide"), an official guide for propaganda and agitation activities published for Party members by the JCP Propaganda and Education Department, was banned by the Japanese Government because of the subversive nature of its contents. Since the banning of Akahata, the "Party Activity Guide" had ostensibly replaced it as the official organ of JCP Headquarters.

10 Oct.

ABE Yoshimi was registered by the JCP as Supervisor of JCP Headquarters, to replace IWATA Eiichi, who was purged on 6 Sep 51. On 19 Oct ABE appointed a provisional Control Committee, and on 22 Oct the Party registered KOMATSU Yuichiro and TSUKADA Taigan as members of a reorganized Provisional Central Guidance Department to replace the purged former PCGD members who had been missing since warrants were issued for their arrest on 4 Sep. On 7 Nov KAJITA Shigeo was added to the list. By these steps the Party restored the framework of its overt structure. Although all of these persons were Communists of long standing, none had ever been a top-level national leader of the Party, indicating that the real leadership remained in the underground organization.

13-15 Oct

The Fifth National representatives Conference of the JCP was held secretly in Tokyo attended by approximately 50 ranking JCP delegates, among them TOKUDA Kyuichi, NOSAKA Sanzo, and several missing Central Committee members. At this convention the "Immediate Demands" drawn up by the Expanded Central Committee in mid-August 51 was adopted as the Party's 1951 Thesis. At the conclusion of the Conference a copy of the proceedings and decisions was distributed to the higher ranking delegates. The most important section of this document was a General report covering the domestic and international situations and trends within the various Japanese political parties. Applauding the reunification of the JCP as a result of the submission of self-criticisms by deviationists following the Fourth National Representatives Conference in Feb 51, the report called for further strengthening of the Party to secure the overthrow of the YOSHIDA Cabinet and bring about an end to the Occupation. It especially denounced the separate Peace Treaty and the U.S. - Japan Security Pact. By adopting the "Immediate Demands" as the 1951 JCP Thesis, the Conference gave official sanction to a document which has remained the basis of JCP policy to the present time.

8 Nov

An article entitled "We Must Prepare to Arm and Initiate Action" appearing in Issue No. 31 of "Foreign and Domestic Review" keynoted a new JCP policy of aggressive military action. Stating that the only way to oppose the "American imperialists" and the "treacherous" YOSHIDA Government was to establish military organizations to resist the enemy's armed force, the article called for the organization of laborers and farmers into

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"nuclear self-defense units." It described the functions of one of these units as follows: "The nuclear self-defense unit has the responsibility of producing, acquiring, maintaining, and distributing weapons necessary for arming people in factories and farm villages. It must also study military tactics and employ them for developing struggles in accordance with the present conditions. Furthermore, through this practical application, activities to spread the knowledge of military tactics among the masses must also be carried out." The article concluded by stating that the decision to prepare to arm was a logical outgrowth of the resolutions adopted at the Fourth National Representatives Conference. The policy of military action outlined in it, while at no point indicated to be precipitate in nature, was apparently misinterpreted by some lower Party echelons as calling for the inauguration of acts of terrorism, especially against the police.

12 Nov

The Kyoto University Students Association unsuccessfully attempted to present an "Open Letter" to the Emperor on the occasion of his visit to Kyoto University. The letter called for the abdication of the Emperor and the abolition of the Emperor System. When the student representatives were refused permission to meet with him, the Communist-front National Federation of Student Self-Government Associations reportedly acting on orders of the Kyoto Prefectural Committee of the JCP, proceeded to stage a demonstration in the course of which students surrounded the Emperor's car and sang leftist songs. Policemen entered the campus and forcibly pushed back the students so that the Emperor could depart. This event became known as the Kyoto University Incident and was widely utilized by the JCP for propaganda purposes. The "Open Letter" itself subsequently was reproduced into handbills and posters and distributed at various universities throughout Japan. The Central Executive Committee of the NFSSGA issued an official statement attacking the Emperor and denouncing the forcible entry of police onto the campus. While there is no direct evidence that the demonstration was staged by the JCP, it follows the anti-Emperor principle laid down in the 1951 Thesis and the call for aggressive action sounded in the article "We Must Prepare to Arm and Initiate Action" appearing in the 8 Nov issue of "Foreign and Domestic Review."

On 14 November the publication Naigai Hyoron ("Foreign and Domestic review") was officially suspended by the Japanese Government on the grounds that it was a successor and affiliate of Akahata. First issued in Aug 50, it was devoted to propagandizing the Party's anti-American and "anti-imperialist" policies, and after the banning of "Party Activity Guide" on 4 Sep 51, it became the leading JCP policy guide. Despite its suspension by the Government, Naigai Hyoron has continued to appear under disguised titles.

24 Nov

A Japanese language broadcast over radio Moscow contained a summary of the "Immediate Demands," reportedly drawn up by the underground leaders of the JCP in Aug 51 and adopted as the

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JCP 1951 "Thesis" at the Fifth Representatives Conference in Oct 51. The text of this document was published on 23 Nov in Issue No. 47 of the Cominform journal "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy." The appearance of the "Immediate Demands" both on the Moscow broadcast and in the Cominform journal were indicative of the importance attached to the document by the Kremlin, and considerably elevated the prestige of the JCP in the world Communist movement.

2 Dec

Seven Communists who were members of a so-called "Military Bases Countermeasures Committee" were arrested by the Japanese police and charged with violating Government Ordinance No. 325 which prohibited acts inimical to the Occupation Forces. They were specifically accused of collecting information on the NPHJ and U.S. military installations with the intention of using this information in a manner inimical to the Occupation. On 19 Dec the seven were taken into custody by the Occupation Forces and on 31 Dec were turned over to the Tokyo Provost Court and arraigned. Their trial commenced on 18 Feb 52 and lasted 25 days. It was marked by several disturbances such as when the defendants tried to walk out of the court room, resulting in their being cited with contempt of court and sentenced to 30 days confinement and \$100 fine. On another occasion the wife of one of the accused tried to oust a photographer bodily. The ringleader MARUYAMA Ichiro, who was also Chairman of the Kanto Region Military Affairs Committee, was sentenced to seven years imprisonment at hard labor and fined \$1,500. The others received sentences ranging from three years hard labor with no fine to six years hard labor and a \$1,000 fine. The trial was significant in that it marked the first conviction of known JCP members for espionage and exposed the activities being carried on by the Party's military affairs committees in implementation of the policies contained in the document "We Must Prepare to Arm and Initiate Action." The number of documents and other materials on the disposition, facilities, and location of the U.S. armed forces in Japan in the possession of the defendants at the time of their arrest totaled over 100.

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2 Jan

In reply to a request by Kyodo News Service to the heads of 18 leading nations of the world for New Year greetings to the Japanese people, Stalin sent the following message:

"I have received your request for me to send New Year greetings to the Japanese people. Soviet politicians have no such traditions as sending their wishes to foreign peoples. But, because the Soviet people are in deep sympathy with the Japanese people made unhappy under foreign occupation, I will break the precedent and comply with your request.

"I wish you to convey to the Japanese people that I hope for their freedom and happiness and for their complete success in their courageous struggle to achieve their independence.

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"The Soviet people have in the past experienced a foreign occupation in which the Japanese imperialists took part. Therefore, the Soviet people are paying deep sympathy to them and believe the Japanese people will attain independence of their country just as the Soviet people had done."

Stalin concluded with the hope that the entire Japanese people and the intellectuals would succeed in their struggle for a complete victory by the Japanese democratic forces.

This message, the full text of which appeared in the New Year's edition of "Pravda", came less than two weeks after the award of the Stalin Peace Prize to OYAMA Ikuo, and was given prominent display in the Japanese press. It was exploited by the JCP in its anti-rearmament campaign and its drive to promote close economic relations between Japan and the U.S.S.R. The message also was generally considered to represent a reiteration and further confirmation of the basic principles in the JCP's New Platform (1951 Thesis).

21 Jan

Police Inspector SHIRATORI Kazuo, Chief of the Guard Section of the Sapporo Municipal Police, was shot and killed by an unidentified assailant en route home from his office on a bicycle. An autopsy conducted at Hokkaido University Hospital disclosed that he had been shot from behind with a single .32 caliber bullet. All indications pointed to the fact that the murder was an outgrowth of a labor disturbance at Sapporo City Hall on 27 Dec 51 on the occasion of which SHIRATORI had arrested several demonstrators. On 29 Dec unidentified persons stoned the home of the Sapporo District Procurator and put up handbills on his door demanding the release of those arrested on 27 Dec. The Mayor of Sapporo received letters at New Year's threatening him with bodily harm if he refused their release, and on 4 Jan SHIRATORI's brother-in-law was attacked by unidentified persons while he was attempting to observe the distribution of anti-police handbills in the area. The following day the Sapporo Metropolitan Police Department received threatening letters warning it not to take any action against the JCP, and citing the case of a Tokyo policeman who was beaten to death in Dec 51.

While there is no actual proof that the JCP was responsible for the murder of SHIRATORI, the Party distributed agitation leaflets in the Sapporo area warning that the same fate as that which befell SHIRATORI awaited other officials who "oppressed" the working class. Following the murder there occurred a wave of violence against the police, which possibly was precipitated by hot-headed lower echelon JCP members who may have misinterpreted the call for aggressive action sounded in the publication "We Must Prepare to Arm and Initiate Action." These incidents produced unfavorable reaction on the part of the general public, and responsibility for them was officially denied by the JCP, although references to the deaths of policemen continued to be made by the Party in individual posters and handbills.

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15 Feb

An article by TOKUDA Kyuichi on the new platform (1951 Thesis) of the JCP appeared in the 15 Feb issue of the Cominform Journal "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy." This article, originally written on 20 Dec 51, was broadcast in the Japanese language over Radio Moscow on 22 Feb 52. In it, TOKUDA emphasized the difference between the revolution in "imperialist" countries where the oppressor of the masses is the bourgeoisie, and the revolution in "colonies and dependent countries", where the force to be countered is foreign imperialism and where all elements, including the capitalists, must unite in opposition to it. TOKUDA called upon "small businessmen and other capitalists" to unite with the "proletariat, the farmers, and the intellectuals" in a common struggle "under the banner of peace and democracy." This statement by TOKUDA was a further reflection of the Party's drive to unite all elements opposing the Peace and Security Pacts. This was the second occasion on which the Kremlin had given publicity to the JCP's New Platform - the first having been in its 7 Nov 51 broadcast of the platform's text - indicating the increasing importance being placed by Moscow on the strategy and tactics of the JCP.

21 Feb

On the third "Anti-Colonialization Struggle Day" over 6,000 leftists held demonstrations in 26 localities throughout Japan. The chief sponsors were the Communist-front Japan Democratic Youth Association and the Japan Youth Fatherland Front, both of which were affiliated with the Communist-directed World Federation of Democratic Youth. The propaganda employed on this occasion stressed anti-rearmament and anti-conscription. Nearly 5,000 policemen were called out to maintain order, and there were many disturbances in which both police and demonstrators were injured. A total of 75 persons were arrested. The more notable disorders involved an attack by students on four plainclothesmen witnessing a Communist dramatic performance at Tokyo University, an attack on a policebox by about 100 laborers in the Kamata section of Tokyo, the throwing of six homemade tear gas bombs from the platform of a train at Narimasu Station by a group of demonstrators, a clash between police and 200 marching students at Ritsumeikan University, and several other Communist-inspired outbreaks of violence.

28 Mar

The Japanese Government banned the JCP publication "Peace and Independence" ("Heiwa to Dokuritsu") which had succeeded Akahata as the Party's official organ. On the same day the police conducted nation-wide raids on approximately 2,000 printing places and distribution points of the newspaper, arresting over 200 persons, and confiscating 24,000 copies of "Peace and Independence" and 47,000 copies of other JCP publications. This was the largest single raid ever conducted against Party installations by Japanese police.

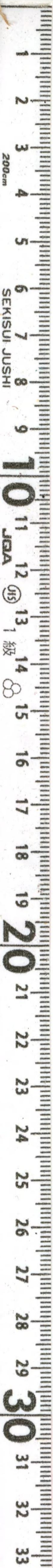
28 Apr

With the coming into effect of the Japanese Peace Treaty, Occupation-directed controls over the JCP went out of existence.

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Among the measures which expired were the ban on Akahata and other Party publications and the purge of JCP leaders. Since no laws or administrative ordinances were enacted by the Japanese Government to replace the SCAP regulations, as of this date there were no impediments to the revival of the Party's banned publications, and purged JCP leaders were free to resume political activity. Until such a time as it might be repressed or banned by the Japanese Government, the Party was free to operate virtually without restriction.



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