Proposed Readjustment Plan of Local Offices of National Government.

Government Section

Chief of Stafff

22 May 1948

- 1. I discussed the attached communication from the Prime Minister with General MacArthur last evening.
  - 2. General MacArthur feels that whereas the proposals of the government are in keeping with our general policy in the decentralization of the functions of government, interested section chiefs should be given an opportunity to hear the same and express any specific views they have thereon. He wishes to avoid, however, any protracted delay in giving the government the green light to go ahead or suggestions as to modifications. To such end he expressed a desire that a meeting of interested section chiefs be called before General Fox for the purpose of having the attached paper bogging down on working levels.

Incl: Ltr fm the Prime
Minister dtd
17 May 48

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SELLES SE

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS FAR RASE COMMAND OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER APO BOO HARDRANDUN TO: Departy Chief of Staff 27 MAY 1948 SOM PACE Proposed Readjustment Flam of Local Offices of Hational Government 1. In reviewing the attached proposed Readjustment Plan of Local offices of the Japanese Covernment, consideration was given to the apparent conflict of this plan with the proposed law concerning the Betablishment of the Ministry of Construction. Comments are presently being furnished the Covernment Section relative to this law. 2. The attached plan indicates that "Following offices will be abolished and their functions transferred to Frefectural Governores. the abolished offices include branch offices of the Construction Beard which the new Ministry of Construction will replace) which presently are charged with allocation of materials, equipment and approval of private and public construction. This appears to be in conflict with the law concerning the Establishment of the Ministry of Construction which centralizes centrel, supervision, inspection, approval, investigation and plenning of public construction in Japan. S. It is bolieved the intent of the attached plan is not to transfor construction control and responsibility to the Prefectural Governors as line one and two of paragraph 1 of the plan would imply) but to review the required number of the various offices from an everall point of view and to effect necessary consolidations and etresulining. This is also indicated in the last paragraph under "Remarks", that Ministers will forcefully direct and supervise Frefectural Governors after the transference of the siministrative functions. 4. Any plan of compolidation for administrative control of the many ministry offices throughout Japan is believed desirable to effect a roduction in governmental expense and duplication of effort. Frefectural representation would be accomplished by placing the Prefectural Governors in charge of certain administrative functions but matters of policy, and much of the approval authority will remain under the competent Hanaetry. 5. It is recommended that the attached plan be clarified to indicate clearly the relationship between the Prefectural Governors (believed to be the exercise of administrative control and supervisory functions) and the competent Ministries (believed to be the control of policy and approval authority). The proper implementation of paragraph 5, "Remarks" is essentist to the success of the plan. l lumit Flam outhis Fromosed HUGH J. GASHT Residiust.Flam of Local Hajor General, 63 Uffices of Mat. Gova. Bourt moder

May 17, 1948

# Proposed Readjustment Flom of Local Offices Of Mational Government

- 1. Following offices will be abolished and their functions transferred to
- a. Some of the Offices charged with the administration of Temperary Demand & Supply Adjustment Law.

Under jurisdiction of Frime Hinister's Office:

- Oharged with allocation of construction materials: granting permission for constructing buildings, equipments and facilities; construction of coal miner's houses; statistics & research.
- to Lecal Resident Officers of Construction Board.

  Charged with allocation of materials for public civil angineering works.

Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Maucation:

46 Resident Offices at Prefectures, Education Facilities Bureau.

Charged with allocation of materials for school and other facilities for social education, religion, cultural activities, etc.

Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry:

6 Resident Offices of Agricultural Administration Bureau.

Charged with allocation of fertilizer and supervision of fertilizer factories and Fertilizer Distribution Kedam.

Allocation business of the above offices in accordance with the Designated Production Material Allocation Regulation and Fertilizer Distribution Regulation based on the Temporary Demand & Supply Adjustment Law, will be transferred to Profestural Governore.

b. Others.

Under juriediction of Prime Himister's Office:

Tachikawa Branch Lisison Office, one of the five Branch Lisison Offices of Local Lisison and Coordination Office.

Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Welfere:

Branch Lisison Office is mainly charged with procurement business and Disease Prevention Officers are conducting their work already under Governor's control, and it is deemed appropritate to transfer their functions to local Governors.

2. A part of the function of the following offices will be transferred to Prefectural Governors.

Under jurisdiction of Hinistry of Transportation:

52 Elehmy Transportation Control Offices.

Their present function includes, besides allocation of transpertation materials in accordance with relevant laws and
regulations, supervision and control of lightcart transportation, automobile business and other automobiles for private
use. The function with the exception of allocation of materials will be reviewed and transferred to Governors as much as

possible; for example, business connected with lightcart transportation.

3. Proposal to set up following Offices will be dropped.

Under Jurisdiction of Ministry of Welfaret

Mational Park Administration Office (not yet set up)

Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Labor:

S Local Labor Bureaus (not yet set up)

4. . As regards following Offices, readjustment will be made and their number decreased.

Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Commerce & Industry:

74 Branch Offices of Regional commerce & Industry Bureaus.

charged with Allocation of production materials, mining and power

industries, Government monopoly of alcohol and other commercial

and industrial administration in general.

The above Offices are not only situated at Profectural capitals but also at other places in Prefectures necessary for conducting specialized works such as mining administration and alcohol memopoly. It is now proposed to review the required number of the Offices from an overall point of view and at the same time make necessary consolidation and stream-liming.

5. As regards following Offices, present scale of organization will be revised and made smaller.

Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Finance:

40 Local Departments of Regional Finance Bursaus.

Charged with the enforcement of Company Account Energoncy Heasure

haw and Enterprise Reconstruction & Reorganization Law; enforcement of Financial Emergency Measure Order and Financial Institutions Reconstruction & Reorganization Law; research work of appropriation and settlement of account in connection with General and Special Accounts.

Now that the administrative business in connection with the Enterprise Reconstruction & Reorganization Law and the Financial Energency Reasure Order has virtually ended, their function of financial administration will be succeeded by Regional Finance Bureaus and he Bank of Japan, thus enabling the organization curtailment possible.

Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry:

47 Charcoal Offices.

Charged with demand and supply adjustment of charcoal and firewood such as examination, purchase, storage and transportation of same under Charcoal and Firewood Special Account.

In consideration of the gradual simplification of control on charcoal and firewood, it is proposed to curtail the present organization.

#### D. Romarks.

In view of the necessity for the competent Ministers to forcefully direct and supervise Prefectural Severnors after the transference of the administrative functions of the Matienal Severment in accordance with the above plan, necessary legislative steps will be taken.

Also, appropriate measures will be taken in connection with the increased financial burden caused to Prefectures by the above action.

Confidential

May 17, 1948

Dear General Whitney,

I believe the long outstanding question before the Government of readjusting the present setup of central agencies active in local field has already attracted your attention. After making careful scrutiny and choice, Ministers came to an agreement with me as to the advisability at this juncture of enforcing the "Proposed Readjustment Plan of Local Offices of National Government" which I am sending you herewith enclosed for your sympathetic con-

I hope I shall be given a chance of seeing you one of these days, when I wish to discuss the plan personally.

Yours faithfully,

Hitoshi Ashida, Prime Minister.

Brigadier-General Courtney Whitney,

sideration.

Chief, Government Section, General Headquarters,
Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

Governors in pursuant to the New Constitution, number of local offices of Ministries and Boards of National Government have been added and their activities in local field expanded. This tendency is particularly noticeable in the field of economic control. For instance, the allocation and distribution of essential materials and goods have been largely placed under the jurisdiction of competent Ministries and their local agencies and this arrangement has necessarily contributed much to the increased functions of National Government in the field.

As a result of this, functions and activities of local Governors are naturally restricted and, in some cases, unnecessary
overlapping of activities arose. Public opinion seems to favor
the discontinuation of such practice and it is incumbent upon
the Government to review the whole system with a view to readjusting
and stream-lining it and at the same time to economising administrative expenses.

The matter has been made a political issue of late and the

came to a decision on the highest level to proceed with the proposals herewith attached. Readjustment such as proposed is considered to be the absolute minimum to meet the generally expressed opinions, while the execution of economic controls and other activities will not be hampered in any way by the transfer of the task to Governors or stream-lining the existing offices as proposed in the plan.

It is hoped that the Supreme Commander for the Allied

Powers will be good enough to approve the action the Government
is going to take in consideration of the political import and
complications this long outstanding question involves.

## Proposed Readjustment Plan of Local Offices of National Government

- 1. Following offices will be abolished and their functions transferred to Prefectural Governors.
  - a. Some of the offices charged with the administration of Temporary Demand & Supply Adjustment Law.

Under jurisdiction of Prime Minister's Office

- 46 Branch Building Offices, Construction Board.

  Charged with allocation of construction materials;

  granting permission for constructing buildings,

  equipments and facilities; construction of coal

  miner's houses; statistics & research.
- 46 Local Resident Officers of Construction Board.

  Charged with allocation of materials for public civil engineering works.

Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Education

46 Resident Officers at Prefectures, Education Facilities Bureau,

Charged with allocation of materials for school and other facilities for social education, religion, cultural activities, etc.

Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry
6 Resident Officers of Agricultural Administration
Bureau.

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Under jurisdiction of Ministry of Labor

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#### Remarks:

In view of the necessity for the competent Ministers to forcefully direct and supervise Prefectural Governors after the transferance of the administrative functions of the National

Government in accordance with the above plan, necessary legislative steps will be taken.

Also appropriate measures will be taken in connection with the increased financial burden caused to Prefectures by the above action. FILE UNDER: JAPAN AFFAIRS

INDEXSHEET

DATE: 28 May, 1948

FROM: ENGINEERS

TO: GOV'T MECTION

SUBJECT: DRAFT LEGISLATION LAW CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER:

CLASSIFIED FILE:

JAPAN AFFAIRS

Proposed Readjustment Plan of Local Offices of Mational Government Government Section Chief of Staff 22 May 1948 1. I discussed the attached communication from the Prime Minister with General MacArthur last evening. 2. General MacArthur feels that whereas the proposals of the government are in keeping with our general policy in the decentralization of the functions of government, interested section chiefs should be given an opportunity to hear the same and express any specific views they have thereon. He wishes to avoid, however, any protracted delay in giving the government the green light to go ahead or suggestions as to modifications. To such end he expressed a desire that a meeting of interested section chiefs be called before General Fox for the purpose of having the attached communication read to them and discussed, thus avoiding the risk of the paper bogging down on working levels.

Incl: Ltr fm the Prime Minister dtd 17 May 48.

-C.W.

GS FIL

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Proposed Readjustment Plan of Local Offices of National Government

Government Section

Chief of Staff

22 May 1948

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Incl: Ltr fm the Prime Minister dtd 17 May 48.

### GENERAL BEADQUARTERS

L'ARLEIN STAKLES AKRADA XEORCES XEACHEO SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

CHECK SHEET

(De not remove from attached sheets)

File No .:

Subject: Cabinet Ordinance: Flag of Maritime Safety Board

12699

CIS/PSD/HEP/sm MAY 1948 Date: Note From: To: GS No. ATTN: Legislative Div

1. Reference request for comment or concurrence to proposed Japanese Cabinet Ordinance creating flag for Maritime Safety Board.

2. The specifications and design of proposed flag have been discussed with CTS, DS, CI&E and ComNavFe who offer no objection.

3. G-2 concurs in the proposed Cabinet Ordinance creating a Maritime Safety Board Flag.

AFPAC AGO Form No. 37

CABINET ORDINANCE NO.

(DRAFT)

The flag of the Maritime Safety Board as provided for in Paragraph 3. Article 4 of the Maritime Safety Authorities Law (Law No. 28 of 1948) is illustrated in an attached sheet.

Supplementary Provision.

This Cabinet Order shall some into force as from the date of the enforcement of the Maritime Safety Authorities Law.

Reason:

The flag of the Maritime Safety Poard is the symbal of the said Board and is important to distinguish it from other offices.

REQUEST G	-2	APPROVAL
	(	CIS
APPROVED.		G-2

The Filag of the Maritime Safety Board 1. Tolowry cloth reary blue 2 Compans white but diagonals and edge-lines are of the same colour q The cloth

Maritime Safety Board and edge-lines.

海上程、法源 Management of the second secon The same of the sa 

ON/CIE/FEE/wh Application of Japanese Government to Hoist National Flag and Maritime Safety Board Flag. Covernment Section Cal 6 May 1948 Concur with recommendations of G-2 in Checknote No. 2 above; however, there should be no restriction against flying the national ensign on Maritime Safety Authority vessels on dates for flying the Japanese National flag Section authorized by SCAPIN 1867 of 1 March 1948. l Incl. n/c

9-4-2

Application of Japanese Government to Hoist Nat'l Flag & Maritime Safety Board Flag Date: 29 April 48 To: G-2, Public Safety From: G-1 Request comments and recommendations with respect to the attached request, especially with regard to the necessity for flying both the "Board Flag" and the national flag on vessels of the Maritime Safety Board. Incla Ltr fr Japanese Govt dtd 27 April 48, w/l incl. Date: 4 May 1948 To: G-1 From: G-2 1. Reference is made to CMB No. 200 (I), inclosure to CLCO No. 1499 (2P). 2. Reference paragraph 1 (a): The Maritime Safety Authorities Law provides, as does International Law, that coast guard vessels should fly national colors. However, in view of existing SCAP policy it is not considered advisable to authorize hoisting of the Japanese National flag on the vessels of the Maritime Safety Board at this time. 3. Reference paragraph 1 (b): In keeping with SCAP policy to authorize flying of the national flag on special Japanese occasions, it is recommended that the Maritime Safety Board be authorized to hoist the national flag on the building for the inaugural ceremony on 5 May 1948. 4. Reference paragraph 2: International Law and established customs require that coast guard vessels fly a distinguishing flag as an emblem of authority. In this respect the flag of the Maritime Safety Board is comparable to the "sunburst" emblem of the Japanese police. It is recommended that the Maritime Safety Board be authorized to hoist the flag of the Board at any time subsequent to approval of the flag design. l Incl: n/c C. A. W. Date 5 May 1948 Govt. Section Froms G-1 Maj. Wilderman/26-5927 Request comment and recommendation. lilnel. n/c W. A. B.

Resolution to Probibit Former Judges and CE/CLE/wh Froduzetors from Practicing Law

Govt. Section

23 March 1948

- 1. The basic communication calls attention to a resolution of the Lunyers Association to prohibit former judges and produrators from prooticing les in Engoshima for one year.
- 2. Although the resolution referred to in the basic communication may be challenged as an infringement of the individual's freedom of choice of occupation, as guaranteed by Article 22 of the Constitution of Japan, bur groups justify! their setion in the concluding words of that Article: ".... to the extent that it does not interfere with the public welfare." However, the matter does not warrant direct action or interference by this Headquarters since a remedy is available to any aggrieved judge or procurator adversely affected by the rule by contesting the constitutionality of such resolution in the Japanese Courts.
- 3. Furthermore, it should be noted that the resolution was adopted in anticipation of the authority of a proposed bill not yet enacted as a law by the Diet.
  - 4. Recommend approval and dispatch of the proposed 6th indorsament, Tab A.

Sixth Zadorsensht
Basis Communication

BASIC: Ltr. Hq I Corps. APO 301. dtd h Nov. 47. file AC 013.2-EA. subjs Responsion to Frohibit Former Judges and Procurators from Practicing Law in Hagoshima for One Year.

AG 013.2 (4 Nov. 47) (6

6th Ind.

AG 013.2 (4 How. 47) GS

6th Ind.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, SUFREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS APO 500, 23 Merch 1948

To: Commending Ceneral, Mighth Army, APO 343

- 1. Recommendations in paragraph 3 of basic communication not favorably considered.
- 2. The problem is domestic and within the final competence of Japanese authorities. Aggrieved individuals have adequate remedies in the Japanese courts and the Japanese Diet. No Occupation objective is involved.

BY COMMAND OF CENTRAL MEGAFIFFIRS

Marchel 1330 Mar 27, 1948



BASIC: Ltr, Hq I Corps, APO 301, dtd 4 Nov 47, file AG 013.2-BA, subj: Resolution to Prohibit Former Judges and Procurators from Practicing Law in Kagoshima for One Year.

AG 091(Japan)(MG-L)

5th Ind.

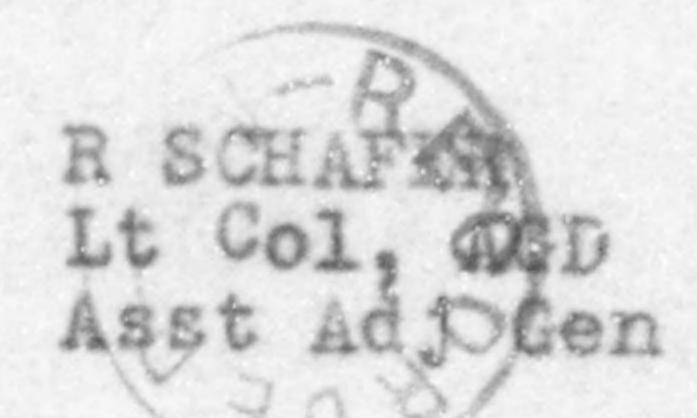
Headquarters Eighth Army, APO 343

15 DEC 1847

To: Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, APO 500

- l. The lawyers association in Kagoshima passed a resolution barring former judges and procurators from practicing law for one year after leaving office.
- 2. The association states that Article 12 of the proposed Lawyers Law revision bill authorized this type of resolution.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:



and the second

Memo for Record: The procurement demand for the Yokohama procurator buildings was approved on the basis of an assurance by Mr. Hartmett, 8th Army that adequate space would be provided for the procurators. Mr. Yoshiro reported that they had been unable to complete negotiations with 8th Army for one of the floors in the building but that they would be satisfied if they received adequate space. Since GPA waspressed for a decision in the matter the above action was taken. Mr. Blakemore states that on the basis of past experience, 8th Army will more than compensate the procurators for the space they have lost since it is to the interest of the 8th army not to hamper their work.

W. E. Monagan

10/1

Frem: G-4

To: Govt Section

Car HH/JFP/re Date: 15 Her 48

For comments and recommendations as indicated in C/N No. 1 of 4 Merch 1948.

l Inol: n/a

Fram: Govt. Section

To: G-4

Date 17 March 1948

1. No objection.

l Incl:

4

3

ASSIGNMENTS OF STATE MINISTERS (ASHIDA CABINET) Takeo Kurusu President of Economic Stabilization Board and Director General of Price Board. Sadayoshi Hitotsumatsu President of Construction Board. Kyooji Funada President of Administrative Investigation Department and Director General of Reparation Board. Katsu Nomizo Member of Local Finance Committee. H.L.

FILE UNDER: Japan Affairs

## INDEX SHEET

DATE: 20 February 1948

FROM: CI&E

TO:

SUBJECT: Eta in Public Office & Local Land Commissions

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER:
Misc Memos

CLASSIFIED FILE:

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