

GHQ/SCAP Records (RG 331, National Archives and Records Service)

Description of contents

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- (2) Folder title/number: **(34)**
010: Laws and Legal Matters

(3) Date: **Aug. 1949**

(4) Subject:

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Wakayama

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HEADQUARTERS
WAKAYAMA CIVIL AFFAIRS TEAM
APO 25

GMM/ey

010

37 August 1949

SUBJECT: Violation of Price Control Law and Illegal Use of Money Collected

TO: Chief
Kinki Civil Affairs Region
APO 25

1. At the beginning of the collection of 1947 rice crop, Wakayama Prefecture consumers of rice wished to express their appreciation to the farmers so they decided to contribute 10 yen per head and present it to the farmers, with special consideration being given those farmers who had crop damage from insects, weather, etc.

2. The Food Distribution Office collected the additional 10 yen from the consumers at the time of distribution. The amount collected was 3,360,522 yen with 3,002,568 yen being distributed to the districts and cities of this prefecture. The districts and city offices were ordered to distribute this yen to the farmers but to date very few farmers have received the money.

3. The investigation agencies of this prefecture sent 270 pieces of mail to representative farmers in Kaiso District inquiring about the money. At present 107 replies have been received, 45 stated they had received the money while 62 had not. The reply on some of the cards indicated that the village or town heads contacted the farmers who received the letters and told those farmers when answering to state the money had been received by them, when actually it had not.

4. The Kaiso District Office received 586,564 yen as their share to be distributed to the farmers. However, only 300,340 yen was sent out to the towns and villages. The investigation agency has proven that some of the money was spent for other than what it was intended.

5. In Naga District a car was purchased costing 600,000 yen. This 600,000 yen was to be distributed to the farmers of that district as appreciation money.

6. Information obtained by this headquarters indicates that the collecting of money above the legal price is in violation of the "Price Control Law", and the spending of this money for other purposes than intended appears to be

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Ltr. Hq Wakayama Civil Affairs Team, subj: "Violation of Price Control Law and Illegal Use of Money Collected", dtd 27 Aug 49, continued.

a violation of the law or embezzlement on the part of the officials.

7. The investigation is being continued in all districts and cities within the prefecture. It has been recommended that violators be turned over to the procurator for prosecution. No prosecution have taken place to date.

HAROLD G. DOTY
Lt Col, Inf
Chief