

ITEM 35 PATIENCE AND KINDNESS TO REPATRIATES (SUB-EDITORIAL)

(Full Translation)

644.1  
 ASAHI SHIMBUN, 6 Jul -- We are under the impression that the feelings of the repatriates from the Soviet Union are very confused. Although outwardly they sing one song, dance one dance, and act under a unified order like red dolls from the same mold, yet inwardly they seem to be suffering from severe mental confusion. Of course, there is reason for this since they have just emerged from the iron curtain.

A certain repatriate confessed in a note which he contributed to this paper that he had blindly sung, danced, or said "yes" as requested because to do so was his only hope of being able to return home. In a letter to the editor of YOMIURI, another repatriate said he has learned for the first time that there is another democracy under which he can freely express his opinions.

The repatriates oftentimes utter strange expressions such as "hanging up," one which seems to imply a certain terror of lynching or the like. In the aforementioned note, there is a passage which reads: "The prison camps were so democratized that prisoners were able to express their thoughts freely. However, as soon as leaders or 'activists' appeared, all talk stopped and mouths were clammed shut." The writer of the note further likens the camps to a "latticed paradise."

There are undoubtedly quite a number of repatriates who have been completely communized and even have some specific mission in mind. Yet there must be just as many who merely pretended to be Communists in order to get a chance at repatriation. Therefore, should we indiscriminately brand all repatriates as "red" and refuse to offer a helping hand to them, they would become radicals. It is a matter of regret that public sentiment toward the repatriates is getting cold. The people should be more patient and continue to be kind to them.

ITEM 20 OFFICIAL ADMONISHES REPATRIATES REFUSING TRAIN RIDES

(Full Translation)

644.1  
 JIJI SHIMPO, 6 Jul -- Since the operation of special trains for repatriates has been confused and arrangements at stations on each railway line upset because of repeated demonstrations by repatriates and reception parties affiliated with the Communist Party, the state railways yesterday issued an advisory statement in the form of a speech by Vice-President KAGAYAMA, gist of which follows:

Authorities' preparations for repatriation train operations are thorough. Nevertheless, repatriates left trains at Kyoto and Ueno, refused to get aboard the specified trains in spite of the advice of persons in charge, and suddenly demanded the operation of special trains. These moves by repatriates will not only disappoint their families and the people in general who are coming to welcome them at stations, but will also confuse the transportation function of the state railways and may well cause a vital railway accident at any time. Accordingly, since the state railways will not hereafter change the operation time of repatriation trains, those who do not take the specified trains will have to make their own arrangements for getting home.

As for the entrance into stations of those who come to meet repatriators, no one except those holding certificates authorized by the local government offices concerned will be permitted to enter the station area.

ITEM 7 KANAZAWA REPATRIATES JOIN RED PARTY

(Full Translation)

644.1  
 AKAHATA (Ishikawa dispatch), 5 Jul -- Repatriates from the Soviet Union originally from Ishikawa Prefecture who arrived at Kanazawa Shi on 1 July started for their respective homes after being received by their family members. Six of them, however, including FUJITA Masatoshi, visited the Ishikawa Prefectural Communist Committee in Kanazawa Shi, Izumino Machi, and all of these joined the party.



## ITEM 9 TOKYO VICE-GOVERNOR COMMENTS ON REPATRIATES

(Full Translation)

6441  
TOKYO NICHINICHI SHIMBUN, 2 Jul -- Vice-governor YAMADA of Tokyo who went to Maizuru to welcome repatriates returning on the Takasago Maru and the Eitoku Maru sent the following report of his impressions to this paper:

"It had been reported that these repatriates were indoctrinated with Communism to a considerable extent during their four years internment. Greeting them personally at Maizuru, I found that there was much truth in this report. As soon as they disembarked at Maizuru, they sang the Internationale and the song of the Youth Action Corps. Their morale was very high, and hardly anyone looked gloomy or abject. That these men appeared to be in extremely good health and looked well-nourished probably is evidence that they were given good treatment in the USSR. It can also probably be considered as a reflection of the regulated life that they led in which close attention was given to keep them in good health. They stated unanimously that they are determined to make utmost efforts to reconstruct the country. Their vigor, energy and fervor are truly admirable. Their aim to construct a democratic Japan is proper. However, they have an intolerant and unilateral conception of how to realize this aim. Probably because of the indoctrination carried out in accordance with the Soviet policy to sovietize the world, they firmly believe that they can accomplish this aim only by means of turning Japan into a Communist country. They do not seem to have sufficiently considered the relationship between Communism and democracy, and the position of the masses in Communist-led countries. As to actual conditions of the USSR, they have only incomplete information obtained from their Soviet leaders, and their limited personal experiences.

"They appear to have received distorted information about the present situation in Japan. I cannot as yet make any prognostication about how their ideas will change after they see with their own eyes Japan as she really is, and after they have lived here for awhile and have had time to criticize calmly and reconsider the Communist theory. The repatriates who have at long last returned to their fatherland are in no mood for long serious discussion with us who are welcoming them. It is rumored that about 50 percent of the repatriates who returned aboard the first transport announced that they would join the Communist Party. The rest, from the start, simply pretended to be Communists for conveniences' sake. These underwent a change of mind on board ship, or after disembarkation.

I heard that of 35 repatriates who returned aboard the first ship to a certain prefecture, two openly announced their entry into the Communist Party, two emphatically denied themselves to be Communists, and the others are pinkish sympathizers. I received the impression that, since the repatriates were prohibited from speaking their mind, or at least had to refrain from doing so while interned, they are not as yet in the mood to open up, and seem to be afraid to speak frankly. From their conversation I gathered that their greatest concern is whether they can make a living. I believe that the formulation of sound countermeasures for the expected unemployment problem will be the pivotal factor in the solution of the repatriation relief problem, and also in determining the ideological development of the repatriates.

"One repatriate said, 'We have at least gained enough confidence in ourselves to be certain that we can get by, no matter what circumstances we may live under.' Another repatriate said, 'We should discard the notion that we cannot live without rice. Man can live and work no matter what kind of food he may take.' At any rate, all of the recent repatriates are full of life and fervor. It will be the duty and responsibility of the nation's leaders to guide these men into steady cooperation for Japan's reconstruction."



ITEM 8 FORTY-SIX REPATRIATES PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO PARTY

(Full Translation)

644-1  
 AKAHATA, 3 Jul -- The first group of repatriates in 1949 presented a message to a reporter of the AKAHATA on the repatriates' train. Following is their message:

"As the first group of repatriates in 1949, we 2,000 repatriates, blessed with good health and having accurately grasped real conditions in the Soviet Union, on 27 June finally landed at the port of Maizuru in our dear fatherland, with the determination to be in the vanguard in the democratization of Japan. We 2,000 comrades sang and danced aboard the repatriation ship, in high spirits and full of the will to fight. We are now all back home without mishap.

"We are confident that true happiness for human beings can be found nowhere but in a communistic society like that of the Soviet Union. We also believe that the final victory of the people can never be achieved without close ties and friendship with the Soviet Union. Now that we have accurately grasped actual conditions in the Soviet Union, after four years of life there we pledge ourselves to form an international proletariate Red tie, linking the Soviet Union with Japan, to crush all false anti-Soviet and anti-Communist rumors, to join the line of battle of the Japan Communist Party of 1,000,000 comrades, and as the organizers of a democratic people's front, decisively to struggle for the independence of the nation.

"We report to the Japan Communist Party, Secretary-general TOKUDA of the party and to all working people in Japan that our compatriots still detained in the Soviet Union are now training themselves and enjoying good health, and are full of fighting spirit, preparing for the day when they also will sail across the sea to their home land, to become a Communist force 1,000,000 strong.

"We promise immediately to launch the struggle in our respective positions, to demonstrate the great power of the people in this final stage of the democratization movement in 1949, and also in the midst of the expanding labor offensive. This is the determination of all repatriates.

Hurrah for the Japan Communist Party! Hurrah for the friendship between the Japanese and the people of the Soviet Union! Hurrah for the Japanese working people fighting under the banner of the democratic people's front!" (Signed 27 Jul 49 "on behalf of the entire first group of repatriates in 1949," by SASAMORI Seizo and 45 others.)

ITEM 7 THE RED-EDUCATED REPATRIATES (Sub-editorial)

(Summary)

644-1  
 ASAHI SHIMBUN, 4 Jul -- Although they may not be all alike, the first group of repatriates, who seem to have left all semblance of tenderness in Siberia as they declare that they are firmly armed with Marxism and Leninism, arrived in Ueno Station. The reception scene enacted at the station substantiated their assertion.

School children greeted them, waving the rising-sun flags. The repatriates, however, ignored the bouquets extended to them by school girls. Those who took them hurled them to the ground immediately. To the male students who greeted them with cheers of "BANZAI", they shouted, "What's the use of 'banzai' now? Better sing labor songs!" Their violent attitude frightened the school children and dismayed the teachers.

In view of the fact that it is only a week since they arrived in Japan, and their knowledge of the country is limited to the repatriation camps at Maizuru and the scenes witnessed through train windows, their attitude of regarding their fellow countrymen with hostility and shutting themselves within Communist-built shells is impetuous. Their way of life and their political stand should be decided after investigating the actual situation in Japan carefully. They cannot get along with unilateral ideologies alone.

It is indeed a pity that they seem to have forgotten even tender feelings towards children. Far deeper must be the sorrow of their parents who must feel like the mother bird who hatched a strange egg she carefully warmed.



ITEM 2 COMMUNIZED REPATRIATES

(Summary)

644.1  
 NAIGAI TIMES, 3 Jul -- It seems that the general Japanese public is greatly shocked to find the majority of the recent repatriates are indoctrinated Communists. However, this trend is not necessarily restricted to them. Similar trends were found, though they might have varied in degree, among all repatriates during the past three years. This is amply witnessed by the fact that numerous repatriates last year joined the Communist Party en masse at Tokyo on their way home. The authorities concerned must be censured if they were alterly ignorant of such trends, in making preparations for welcoming and receiving repatriates. They should have been well aware of the fact that the Russians transferred the Japanese in Manchuria and Sakhalin to the interior for the purpose of using them for the reconstruction of their economy, while indoctrinating them with Communism. Crafty tactics underlie the Soviet action in which they have chosen to resume repatriation at this serious juncture when the labor offensive in Japan is becoming more and more fierce with the impending personnel cut. And it is because of this circumstance, together with the current social unrest, that the general Japanese public is specifically sensitive toward the repatriates indoctrinated in Communism. However, it is still questionable whether repatriates were not victims of forced indoctrination. It was only natural for the younger Japanese, who had been fostered in militarism during the war, to follow blindly Russian propaganda and education, because they are simple in nature, and have been isolated from the outside world for a long time. Therefore, it is no exaggeration to say that they have been communized by force, although some of them pretended conversion in order to return home as quickly as possible.

What is most earnestly desired of the general Japanese public is to be at all times prudent and sympathetic toward these repatriates. We must explain to them the actual situation of the nation, and that each and every Japanese at home is enduring privation to reconstruct our mother-country. Then we must leave the selection of their course to their own judgement. At the same time, we must render them a kind hand and thereby make them understand the true democratic life based on real freedom.

ITEM 10 FEELING OF UNREST AMONG REPATRIATES (Letter to the Editor)

(Summary)

644.1  
 YOMIURI SHIMBUN, 5 Jul -- I have been a detainee in Siberia since the war's end. During my detention, I could learn the state of Japan only through the "NIPPON SHIMBUN," and was led to believe that the Communist Party was enjoying the strong influence in Japan; and taught that I should join the Communist Party as soon as I reached Japan.

As the repatriation ship carrying me approached Maizuru, I was greatly impressed by the beauty of my homeland. But I was seized with a feeling of unrest: how am I to sustain myself from tomorrow? My fellow-soldiers also seemed to be seized with the same feeling. At just that moment, the chorus of the "Internationale" was heard. I joined it feverishly. While on the repatriation train, I pretended to be displeased with the people who welcomed me, lest they see through my feeling of unrest. But inside me, I wanted to seek their help. I caught a glimpse of a red flag from my window. I ran toward the flag with my comrades, and joined again in the chorus of the "Internationale". But the feeling of unrest only became greater and greater.

After that, I learned in a short time that there was another type of democracy which did not forbid anyone from speaking his own mind, that the Japanese Government has done and is doing its utmost to repatriate Soviet-held Japanese, and that my Japanese compatriots in the homeland were truly sympathetic toward us for our toilsome labor in Siberia.

I had regained my full presence of mind when my train reached Ueno. I forgot the "Internationale," and the red flag, the moment I clasped my mother's hand, after a ten year separation. However, I am now again gripped with a feeling of unrest; how long is this happiness going to last, what am I to do when I become unable to sustain myself? What course will my comrades pursue when they become unable to make a living? (A repatriate, Tokyo)



ITEM 27 DON'T BECOME SPECTATORS

(Full Translation)

644-1  
TOKYO NICHINICHI SHIMBUN, 8 Jul -- The words and actions of the repatriates are being watched. Some of the repatriates even go so far as to stare coldly at the members of the reception committees and make them feel ill at ease unless they come waving red flags.

Since things were different in the past, the reception committees have been quite embarrassed at this attitude of the repatriates. Because of this, the majority of the people are inclined to ignore the repatriates. However, this is a mistake. We should first realize why they were allowed to return to Japan. Some of them openly declare that "they have returned as the vanguard of democratization." It would be nearer the point to say that they have been sent into Japan for the realization of some special mission after being given special political education.

It seems, however, that the repatriates, after seeing the actual situation in this country, have gradually been brought to realize that they were given one-sided propaganda. They have come to know that the reasons given them for the delay of their repatriation and the report that "Japan is under the control of red flags" were erroneous.

According to our own observation, furthermore, it seems that their words and actions are explosive because of some invisible coercive power. This is clear from the fact that the expression, "silent treatment", is used among the repatriates. It is indisputable that the uneasiness caused by the threat of a silent treatment and the

one-sided propaganda have influenced the words and actions of the repatriates upon their landing in Japan. What we are trying to attain is a democracy where the silent treatment and one-sided propaganda do not work.

This is an unknown world to the majority of the repatriates. We think that the confusion of their feelings caused by the actual situation in this country was revealed when they deliberately tore up rising-sun flags in the hands of school children who gathered to greet them and refused to ride repatriation trains. We can witness a delicate change in their feelings. That the authorities concerned have placed no restrictions on how many members of the families of repatriates may go out on the platforms to rescue them from the "Reds" must be an allowance for capitalizing on this change in the repatriates' psychology.

The stereotyped reception programs of the past should be eliminated. Fundamentally speaking, it is necessary first and foremost to free them from the cares of employment and housing problems. This would be the most ideological countermeasure in the strict sense of the term. Difficult as it may be with the scant budgetary appropriation, all the funds earmarked for the stereotyped repatriation programs should be diverted to the aforementioned work. Should the repatriates come to depend on the "red flag" alone and remain idle spectators, the difficulties attending the reconstruction of Japan would be increased all the more.

ITEM 19 REPATRIATES EXHORT RR DISPUTANTS, VISIT RED HQ

(Full Translation)

644-1  
HOCHI SHIMBUN, 7 Jul -- About 500 repatriates who returned on the Eitoku Maru lodged Tuesday night at the public hall in Taito Ku. Fifty of them were persuaded by their families to start on their way home, yesterday. The remaining 450 left their lodgings at about 1000 hours.

Fifty of them made a representation to the Welfare Ministry, another 50 visited the Central Dispute Committee headquarters in the Transportation Ministry, 94 visited Communist Party headquarters, and 100 gathered at Tokyo Station. The remaining 156, together with the group that went to the Welfare Ministry, were expected to visit Communist Party headquarters at 1330 hours, after giving words of encouragement at workshops of key industries.

As of yesterday noon, the number of repatriates who visited workshops of the Japan State Railways to give words of encouragement to the struggle against discharges were as follows: 9 at Shomojujo elevated railway office, 10 at Tamachi elevated railway office, 10 at Ikebukuro elevated railway office, 10 at Kamata elevated railway office, and 4 at Shinagawa elevated railway office.



ITEM 22 DAITAKU MARU REPATRIATES RETURN HOME QUIETLY

(Full Translation)

644.1  
 YUKAN CHUGAI, 8 Jul -- Train 8022 carrying the third group of repatriates from Siberia (630 who returned on the Daitaku Maru) arrived at Odawara at 0859 hours yesterday. Two hundred and forty-one repatriates bound for Tokyo, Kanagawa, Chiba, Ibaragi, and Toyama detrained there. The rest of the group, all Tohoku bound, continued their journey direct to Fukushima on the freight line, without stopping at either Yokohama or Tokyo.

The men from Tokyo and vicinity who detrained at Odawara boarded special cars coupled on the 0935 hours regular train and arrived at Tokyo Station at 1118 hours. The train stopped enroute to drop off repatriates at their home stations.

The repatriation train from Kyoto pulled into Odawara Station at 0859 hours. The repatriates, guided by members of the Repatriates Relief Association, moved to the next platform through the underground passage in columns of fours. Compared with the first group who arrived last Saturday and the second group who reached Tokyo about eight hours late because of trouble at Kyoto, the third group was incredibly quiet and well-behaved.

When the special train left the platform, they waved their hands and shouted words of encouragement. About thirty of them began to sing a labor song but it soon died away.

OWADA Susumu, 42, of Chiba Ken, Chosei Gun, Daito Mura, made the following statement: "I have talked to the people and read the newspapers since my landing at Maizuru. I intend to form a definite plan for the future after thinking matters over for about a month. We have heard one-sided propoganda about the problems of repatriation ships and the livelihood situation in Japan. Quite a number of the younger repatriates harbor radical ideas. But time will solve all questions. As to entry into the Communist Party, I have not considered it as yet."

SUZUKI Saburo, 40, of Yokohama, Tsurumi Ku, Ichiba Machi, sitting with his young one on his lap, besides his wife who came to meet him, looked out of the train window with an air of relief after seven eventful years.

Most of the propoganda posters put up by the Communist Party in the stations were torn down. There was no "coercive reception with red flags."

Those who detrained at Shinagawa and Shimbashi went home directly. About fifty men returning to Miyagi Ken, who got off at Tokyo Station, went to the Communist Party headquarters.

ITEM 32 NO MORE REPATRIATION TRAINS TO STOP IN TOKYO

(Full Translation)

644.1  
 MAINICHI SHIMBUN, 7 Jul -- The Repatriation Relief Board conferred with the Welfare Ministry, the Tokyo Railway Division, and the chiefs of the livelihood sections of the prefectural offices concerned at 1600 hours yesterday on the reception of repatriates. In principle, it was decided not to have repatriation trains enter Tokyo. This decision will be applied from repatriation train No 8022 which left Maizuru at 1500 hours yesterday.

Repatriates returning to Tokyo, Kanagawa, Chiba, and Ibaragi and those returning to Fukushima Ken on the Joban line will detrain at Odawara Station. There they will be split up into groups of about 50 men each and come to Tokyo on regular trains.

Trains carrying repatriates returning to the Tohoku and Hokkaido districts will leave Odawara and go straight to Omiya without stopping in Tokyo. After a 15-minute layover in Omiya, they will proceed to Fukushima where the repatriates will detrain.

Families of repatriates may enter the platforms of Shinagawa, Tokyo, and Ueno stations as before. However, tea will not be served for repatriates at these stations. Families of repatriates may go to Odawara.



ITEM 22 TRAIN'S FAILURE TO STOP IN TOKYO ANGERS REPATS

(Full Translation)

694.1  
TOKYO SHIMBUN, 9 Jul -- Repatriation was resumed with the departure of the first repatriation ship, the TAKASAGO Maru, from Maizuru on 23 June. The arrival of the fourth ship, the SHINANO Maru, on 2 July, on the heels of the EITOKU Maru and the DAIICHI-DAITOKU Maru, completed with first phase of the repatriation. A total of 8,000 repatriates were brought back this time. Repatriation ships are now anchored in Maizuru harbor, ready for immediate departure, but no further notice has been received from the Soviet authorities.

The third and fourth groups left Maizuru on their homeward journey Thursday and Friday, respectively. Thanks to the program of splitting up these returnees into small groups to prevent congestion at the railway stations en route and get them to their homes as quickly as possible, the repatriates returning to Tokyo and vicinity, arriving here yesterday, were the best-behaved to date.

It was different with the Tohoku-bound repatriates. They broke off their homeward journey at Oniya and returned to Tokyo to stage a demonstration against the Repatriation Relief Board and other government offices. According to a report reaching the Metropolitan Office, they lodged at the public hall in Shitaya Ku and behaved in a disorderly manner.

Most of these in the fourth group of repatriates who returned yesterday got off the repatriation train at Odawara and came directly to Tokyo to visit Communist Party Headquarters. However, nearly all of those whose families had come to meet them (from Tokyo and vicinity) were dragged home.

As soon as the Aomori-bound special train 8022, carrying the fourth group of 650 repatriates, reached Odawara at 0859 hours, 200 bound for Tokyo, Kanagawa Ken, Chiba Ken, and Ibaragi Ken detrained. Then almost all of the Tohoku-bound repatriates followed suit. They all boarded the Tokyo-bound train 824, as a result, the special train from Maizuru, with nine Saitama Ken repatriates on board, was compelled to cut short its scheduled trip at Tabata, leaving 800 relatives at the station.



NEWSITEM 22 (Continued)

## Warned at Numazu

According to a repatriation official from Tokyo who was on the Aomori-bound special, the trip was comparatively quiet as they passed through Maibara and Nagoya, with no people's rallies or red flag receptions. However, when they reached Numazu, a man wearing a Communist armband cried out, "The previous group was taken directly to Omiya without stopping over in Tokyo. Don't let the authorities deceive you! Don't board train 8022!"

This incited the repatriates, who had hitherto been riding quietly, and they immediately adopted a resolution on the train to go to Tokyo no matter what happened.

## Sit-down Tactics at Tokyo Station

Tokyo Station yesterday witnessed relatives forming sings around their beloved ones and dragging them toward the exit, one by one. About 200 Aomori- and Akita-bound repatriates who had no one to meet them turned a deaf ear to the repatriation officials, Students' League members, and station officials, and sat down on the platform. After the others had been dragged home by their relatives, they left for Yoyogi.

## Back to Tokyo to Make a Scene

The train carrying the Tohoku-bound repatriates of the third group, who had returned on the Daiichi Daitoku Maru, reached Omiya about noon Thursday, without stopping in Tokyo. Angered by this action, more than 170 repatriates rode back to Tokyo on the elevated and filed a protest with the Repatriation Relief Board and the Welfare Ministry.

At 0030 hours yesterday they were taken on trucks, specially provided by the Welfare Ministry, to the ward office of Daito Ku, where they spent the night, on the third floor. The following is the gist of what the Daito ward officials had to say in connection with the behavior of the repatriates.

They made a lot of noise until about 0200 hours and got up about 0430 hours. Some of them went through the desks in the Culture and Welfare section rooms of the Ward office and scattered the contents all over the floor.

They split up into two groups, entraining at Ueno on the Tohoku Line at 0450 hours, and on the Joban Line at 0500 hours.

An investigation of these ransacked rooms yesterday morning revealed that a whisky bottle, in the Education Section, 650 yen, and ward-administration files in the General Affairs Office room on the ground floor were missing. Police authorities have decided to collect fingerprints and other evidence and start an investigation.

A four Go whisky bottle was found uncorked but otherwise intact in the Education section office.

ITEM 16 FIVE PREFECTURAL GOVERNORS DEMAND MORE AID FOR REPATRIATES

(Full Translation)

644-1  
TOKYO SHIMBUN, 12 Jul (Yokohama Dispatch) -- The governors and prefectural assembly speakers of Osaka, Kyoto, Hyogo, Aichi, and Kanagawa met in conference at 1000 hours yesterday at the Kanagawa Prefectural Office to discuss such urgent problems as strengthening relief measures for repatriates, reform of the police system, reform of the tax system, and unemployment relief.

Regarding the controversial question of relief for repatriates, they agreed to demand that the Government (1) apply the Unemployment Insurance Law to jobless repatriates on the same basis as it is applied to other unemployed; (2) increase the present 1,000 yen travel-home allowance; (3) place the reception establishments under state jurisdiction.



ITEM 11 SECOND REPATRIATION FLEET BEGINS OPERATION TOMORROW

(Full Translation)

644.1  
 TOKYO SHIMBUN, 11 Jul (Maizuru Dispatch) -- The second fleet of repatriation ships since repatriation from Soviet-controlled areas was resumed last month will leave Maizuru on 12 July for Nahodka, according to a recently-established repatriation ship schedule cabled to the Maizuru Repatriates Relief Bureau yesterday.

According to the schedule, the Daiiku Maru, the first ship in this fleet, will leave Maizuru on 12 July. The second repatriation fleet, consisting of nine repatriation vessels, each of which is expected to bring back 2,000 returnees will return with a total of 18,000 repatriates.

The schedule of the nine repatriation ships follows:

Ship	Leaving Maizuru	Arriving Nahodka	Arriving Maizuru
1. Daiiku Maru	12 July	15 July	18 July
2. Eihiko Maru	14 July	17 July	20 July
3. Enshu Maru	16 July	19 July	22 July
4. Keizan Maru	18 July	21 July	24 July
5. Shinyo Maru	20 July	23 July	26 July
6. Yamasumi Maru	22 July	25 July	28 July
7. Meiyu Maru	24 July	27 July	30 July
8. Eiho Maru	26 July	29 July	1 Aug.
9. Takasago Maru	29 July	31 July	2 Aug.

ITEM 3 SOME REPATS WANT TO RECONSIDER COMMUNIST TEACHING

(Full Translation)

644.1  
 ASAHI SHIMBUN, 7 Jul -- The Tokyo Brotherly Love Movement Council held a round-table conference on 6 July at the Taimei Elementary School near Sukiwabashi, in order to learn the true feelings of repatriates. Among the six repatriates' representatives were YOSHIDA Toshio, 31, Bunkyo Ku, Yushima Tenjin, Machi 3-2, who returned in the first repatriation ship, the Takasago Maru; also CHIYODA Shonosuke, 43, of Sumida Ku, Kikugawa Machi, 1-33, who returned in the Eitoku Maru. The following questions were asked them:

Question: What do you think of the Communist Party in Japan?

CHIYODA: All repatriates returning to Tokyo filled out Communist Party applications on the train. I may be betraying them, but I now believe that the Communist Party is utilizing repatriates to attain their objectives, and I have begun to dislike them.

YOSHIDA: After calmly considering matters, I find that there is a great difference between the theories taught us in Soviet Russia and the practices of the Japan Communist Party.

Question: What do you think of the attitude of repatriates?

YOSHIDA: Three comrades mentioned that the demonstration at Ueno Station was too radical. We regret that we tore up and threw away the Japanese flags carried by the welcoming people.

CHIYODA: We repatriates are criticising ourselves for disregarding the welcome extended us. Our tears welled up in spite of ourselves when we saw those naive children who came to welcome us.

Question: What are your future plans?

CHIYODA: The most serious concern of repatriates is the early rehabilitation of Japan; and while we were in the Soviet, Communism was taught us as the means toward that end. However, after returning home and hearing the facts from our families and relatives, we wish to reflect more deeply on the matter.

ITEM 5 REPATRIATES' TRAIN SCHEDULE IS CHANGED

(Full Translation)

644.1  
 ASAHI SHIMBUN, 7 Jul -- The schedule for repatriation trains leaving Higashi Maizuru on 6 and 7 July has been altered in order to forestall disturbances at stations and to speed up the journey home.

The new schedule makes no change as far as Oiso station, but the trains' terminal is changed from Ueno to Fukushima. Trains will go straight from Oiso to Omiya and, after Omiya, will stop at every station.



ITEM 9 RESUMPTION OF REPATRIATION: WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?

(Summary)

644-1  
SHIMBUN KYOKAI HO, 29 Jun -- The 21 May edition of all newspapers carried the Soviet Government announcement that the repatriation of 95,000 Japanese still held in Soviet territories will be completed during the period from May to November this year, thus allaying the anxiety of many people. Editorially, however, these papers tackled and discussed vigorously the question of how to interpret the discrepancy of more than 300,000 between the figures revealed by the Soviet Government and the Japanese Government.

While most of the editorials published in June directed their full attention to the repatriation of Japanese nationals held in Soviet territory, it is notable that those of SHIN HOKKAI, NANSHIN NICHINICHI and MINAMI NIPPON warned the Government to establish as soon as possible measures for the repatriation of Japanese nationals yet held in Communist-controlled China. NIIGATA NIPPO took up the issue of the welcome arches to be erected in local cities, and branded such measures as trivial in view of the over-all tragic situation, while the MAINICHI, more explicit than any other paper, urged the Government to accelerate the repatriation program by doing more to confirm the fates of all the Japanese internees.

Quoting SCAP's statement which was issued on 13 June refuting the protest of Soviet representative DEREVYANKO against the control of labor demonstrations, such papers as the AKITA SAKIGAKE, TOYAMA, NOBI, JIJI, TOKAI TIMES, SEIJI and NIPPON TIMES urged that the repatriation program would be completed as early as possible, arguing that it violates international codes and precepts of humanity to delay the resumption of repatriation, to ill-treat detainees, to report falsely the number of detainees and to neglect to make public information on the detainees' movements.

After the announcement on 21 June of the date for the resumption of repatriation, there was a sudden increase in the number of editorials tackling the repatriation problems. Such newspapers as FUKUI, SHINANO MAINICHI, TOKYO NICHINICHI, KYOTO NICHINICHI, MARA NICHINICHI and SAGA stressed the necessity of establishing a permanent repatriation relief structure through the co-operation of all people, while the CHUGAI, CHUNICHI and SANYO advised the authorities to take appropriate steps to settle quickly the issue of the discrepancy between the figures revealed by the Soviet Government and our Government.

During the first part of June, most editorials were more or less limited to complaints against Soviet Russia and to requests to SCAP authorities concerning the repatriation; but in the latter part of the month, when the date for the re-opening of repatriation was announced, they began to seize upon and argue such concrete issues as vocational guidance, housing, and other immediate problems. In the field of planning, public attention was keenly attracted to SHIN HOKKAI's specially-edited column carrying a wide collection of repatriation news; to the information column of the TOKAI TIMES regarding undeliverable correspondence from Soviet Russia; to YUKAN HIROSHIMA's interviews with families eagerly awaiting the return of their loved ones; and to SHIN ENIME's description of the movement among school-children to contribute class-room craft as gifts to the repatriates.

All newspapers have been most active in reporting introductory news as to the state of affairs in Russia and information concerning the repatriation, but public attention must have been most keenly attracted to the item reported by both the JIJI and YOMIURI that a Soviet representative declared at a press conference that "the repatriation of Japanese civilians left out of this year's repatriation program rests with their will." In the light of this statement, it is hoped that each newspaper will do everything within its power to collect as large a volume of informative material as possible to contradict the figure announced by the Soviet Government and to complete the repatriation program at the earliest date.

ITEM 1 SHIKOKU REPATRIATES JOIN THE RED PARTY

(Full Translation)

644-1  
AKAHATA, 7 Jul -- The first group of 89 repatriates hailing from SHIKOKU arrived at the Takamatsu pier at 0515 hours on 2 July, on board a Uno-Takamatsu ferry boat.

Moved by an encouraging address made by Chairman MATSUMOTO of the Communist Party's Shikoku District Committee, who welcomed them on the platform, the repatriates all pledged to fight for Japan's independence by joining the Communist Party.



ITEM 28 ATTITUDE ON REPATRIATES

(Full Translation)

644.1  
TOKYO SHIMBUN, 12 Jul -- The second phase of repatriation from the Soviet Union will begin shortly. On account of the delay this year, the repatriates' families have worried greatly, and the people have shown unusual concern for them.

The people have, naturally, shown a great interest in welcoming the first group of repatriates. Public school boys and girls welcomed them by waving the national flag. Most of the returned repatriates responded with a cool attitude, and some of them were indifferent, even to their relatives, refusing to go along with them. It was only natural that the latter felt as if they had been slapped on the cheek or had had cold water poured over them by the relatives they had gone to welcome. This was also a great shock to the general public. The repatriates' issue has become a matter of social and political significance.

The first contingent of repatriates included those who boasted that they were steeled by Marxism and Leninism, and those who launched demonstrations similar to those of Communists. It is not at all strange that they were initiated into Communism and were stained red by the education they received during their confinement in the POW camps. Not only were they ideologically stained, but they came home demanding action.

The repatriates are trained to obey their squad commanders, and it was discovered that upon reaching the fatherland they acted in compliance with the Communists' orders. However, since Secretary-general TOKUDA admits the failure of this Communistic manner of welcome, a different method may possibly be adopted for the second phase and thereafter. But, how should the people welcome the returning repatriates, many of whom, we must anticipate, are steeled with Communist doctrines?

It is not proper for the people suddenly to become reactionary and to look askance at the returned repatriates simply because those of the first group, so to speak, "slapped" those who welcomed them. We should welcome them, just the same, with loving hearts.

It is useless, however, to try to preach or to teach them, since many of them have become reds. Those who felt as if their sincerity were betrayed might act in this manner, but they would thus be preaching to deaf ears, for the repatriates are being encouraged by those behind them and they are now greatly excited at seeing once more, after so many years, the mountains and rivers of their fatherland.

If they want to know the actual conditions here, it would be best to give them the desired information. Preaching will only bring about a reverse effect. We should take a broad view of them. However, we do not, of course, mean that we should leave them unpunished if they should violate laws, collectively, because of temporary excitement traceable to incitement by others.

Summed up, we had better welcome them naturally. Frankly speaking, if they consider the Soviet Union to be their fatherland, there are some who are probably inclined to wish that they return there. A good many people, also, will want to launch campaigns for their ideological education, fearing that the repatriates will only serve to swell the Communist ranks. However, the key to a solution of the issue should be a reality which evidences the people's enthusiasm for their country's reconstruction along democratic lines, and manifest power directed against organized subversive actions. This is what we meant by "naturally." The closed eyes of those who have received a one-sided education will thus gradually open and see things as they really are.

ITEM 17 REPATRIATES' CONDUCT MAY BRING RECEPTION POLICY CHANGE

(Full Translation)

644.1  
TOKYO SHIMBUN, 12 Jul -- The Upper House Special Repatriation Committee met at 1300 hours yesterday, soliciting the presence of Director-general SAITO of the National Rural Police Headquarters and government officials concerned with the state railways. The committee listened to explanations given by these officials on the recent actions of the first group of repatriates at Kyoto and Tokyo. The conferees exchanged opinions in order to re-examine the outlook for welcoming future repatriates in the light of these developments.



ITEM 11 HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESS INTERVIEWS WITH REPATRIATES

(Extracts)

6449  
ASAHI SHIMBUN (Aomori edition), 7 Jul -- AKIYAMA Yoetsuro, 33, said on his return from Siberia after an absence of six years:  
"In our Mahodka camp we were divided into squads of 20, the leaders of which were selected by ourselves. Communist teaching was first conducted once a week, but it was gradually increased to one hour a day, two hours a day, etc. Whenever someone pointed out the defects in Communism, he was criticized by the entire squad; and if even then he remained unsatisfied, he was berated with such words, as 'Why can't you understand such just and logical dialectics?', and was subjected to criticism by the entire camp. Further opposition meant losing one's chance of being repatriated. AKTIV organizers of the squads were decided by popular discussion, and the superior ones were trained for three months at the camp training course. The active ones among the recent repatriates are usually those who have undergone this training course.

"(The idea of) going to the Communist Party headquarters was the scheme of a certain group, and we had nothing to do with it. We merely accompanied them, thinking that we were to participate in a people's rally or a demonstration. I signed a declaration that I would join the party, but didn't submit it. Back on board the train, we were asked by the AKTIV to raise our hands if we hadn't submitted declarations, but I didn't raise mine. Even among the AKTIV there were some who did not submit their declarations."

ASAHI SHIMBUN (Saitama edition), 7 Jul -- MIYAMOTO Masayoshi, 27, of Kumagaya Shi, Kamino, said: "The question of repatriates joining the Communist Party deserves careful consideration. Since I've been away for several years, I want to study the question thoroughly. To decide one's attitude without reflection, merely by listening to others' criticisms, is not right."

YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Shizuoka edition), 7 Jul -- SUZUKI Kazuma, 29, of Hamamatsu Shi, Tenjincho, who was repatriated from the Soviet, on 5 July visited the Welfare Section of the municipal office to submit his demobilization report. He expressed regret for the behavior of the repatriates at the time of their arrival, saying:



SOCIALITEM 11 (Continued)

"I regret very much having participated in a disturbance that caused so much suspicion. Now that I have regained my peace of mind, I have much to reflect upon."

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Saitama edition), 7 Jul -- The following repatriates participated in a roundtable conference sponsored by the municipal office of Kawaguchi Shi: USHIYAMA Kanzo, 29, of Hatogaya Machi, Shimo Ku, 630; ODAGIRI Takeshi, 34, of Rokugo Machi, 3-945; MOTOHASHI Hideo, 42, of Maekawa Cho, 4-623; YAHAGI Kihei, 26, of Hatogaya Machi, Miwa, 849; TAGAWA Tamekichi, 28, of Sakae Machi, 1-51; KASAHARA Kumetaro, 34, of Kamiaki, 4-1623; and OGAWA Aizo, 30, of Kotobuki Cho, 157. They severely criticized the false propaganda of the Soviet authorities and the Communist Party-sponsored welcoming rallies, and pledged themselves to fight the fascistic Japanese Communist Party. They declared:

"Dancing, singing--everything we did on board ship--was compulsory; and when we were forced to conceal our joy at returning home, it was then that we commenced to entertain doubts. Whenever our homebound train passed through a station, we found, without being aware of how they got there, secret instructions shoved into our pockets. We were thus informed beforehand of the various events, people's rallies, etc."

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Niigata edition), 7 Jul -- NAKAYAMA, chief of the planning section of the prefectural office, went to Itoigawa Station to meet NONOYAMA Yoshiharu, 37, one of the recent repatriates. NAKAYAMA said: "When our train crossed into Niigata Prefecture, local Communists boarded it and commenced a strict watch over those who were to detrain enroute. At Naoetsu Station the leaders on board the train formed a scrummage to prevent NONOYAMA from alighting and forced him to fill out an application for membership in the Communist Party. He managed to escape, however, and returned home wearing my clothes."

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Niigata edition), 7 Jul -- NONOYAMA Yoshiharu, 37, brother of the chief of the National Rural Police Niigata Prefectural Headquarters, said: "They the AKTIV made us promise to join the Communist Party, saying the goal was a membership of one million. They also claimed that the movements of those who have been labelled reactionary would be closely watched in Japan.

"Such incidents as the 'dawn prayer' were to be seen in all camps. As for the food situation, although they told us to write in our letters that we were getting 3,500 calories, actually it was far below that.

"In the train returning home, we were handed Communist Party membership applications by Communists who had boarded the train, and we were asked to contribute 100 yen each to the party fund. I believe two thirds of the repatriates will join the party."



ITEM 5 THE RED-INDOCTRINATED REPATRIATES (Sub-editorial)

(Full Translation)

644.1  
SEIJI SHIMBUN, 5 Jul -- The repatriation of Japanese nationals from Soviet territories is likely to be interrupted with only the return of the EITOKU Maru, DAIICHI DAITAKU Maru and SHINANO Maru to the port of Maizuru, following the return of the first repatriation ship, TAKASAGO Maru. Although we believe that the interruption will be only temporary, we cannot rid ourselves of apprehension.

At any rate, the ex-soldiers who returned on the four repatriation ships seem to harbor a common feeling. As soon as they arrived in their mother country, they attended Communists-held meetings without paying regard to their waiting families. Some of them refused to take the trains specially prepared for them, and visited the Communists' Party Headquarters at Yoyogi. Premier YOSHIDA stated that he believes the repatriates will cease to adhere to the Communist doctrine if they live among their kind countrymen. We cannot, however, rely upon this optimistic statement.

In the past, the Government tried to prevent the spread of Communism among students by encouraging baseball games, or to convert Red-inclined students by fostering family sentiment. It cannot be expected, however, that the recent repatriates will change their way of thinking only through the love of their family. Japan's unique family system, which today cannot rescue even juvenile vagrants, can hardly be relied upon as a panacea to convert the Communist-indoctrinated repatriates. Such a means to "cure" them of their Communist doctrine may on the contrary cause them to stick to their doctrine even more firmly.

The recent repatriates have doubtlessly been schooled in Communism. They were schooled, however, not as citizens of the USSR, but as prisoners of war held in a communistic society. They received "communistic education", but their experiences in "communistic life", it seems, were limited to those within concentration camps.

Be that as it may, we cannot but be impressed by the strength of education. At the same time, we are driven to reflect upon the unique Japanese character which is so heavily influenced by one-sided education. It is recalled that the Japanese were trained under the cruel principle of BUSHIDO that death is the true glory of morality. The repatriates will make a martyr of themselves, if the Government takes only a strong hand to "cure" them of their doctrine.

ITEM 4 TO REPATRIATES (Letter to the Editor)

(Summary)

644.1  
JIJI SHIMPO; 7 Jul -- First of all, I offer my heart-felt welcome to you repatriates. Your healthy appearance and high-spirited actions have relieved our anxious minds. However, your extremely radical behavior since your arrival has been too heavy a dose for us. To speak honestly, your conduct borders on irrationality. Your attitude toward the primary school children who met you at the station was frankly insolent.

There must be some who heard with anxiety and regret their fellow repatriates' declaration they would join the Communist Party. When considered from a wider point of view, the fact that you came back thoroughly communized may benefit Japan. I should like; however, to ask you to reconsider whether you have not been too reckless. Your hearts may be burning with indignation at old Japan, but if you truly have a thorough understanding of Communist ideology, and profess to be champions for the reconstruction of a new Japan, should you not have behaved more modestly and gently? Since you claim to be armed with Soviet ideology, there is much that I expect from you, and therefore I ask for greater prudence.

(By KAWAGUCHI Shizuo, an office clerk in Kamakura)



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION, GENERAL STAFF  
ALLIED TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRETER SECTION

PUBLICATIONS ANALYSIS

NO: 277

DATE: 5 July 49

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REPATRIATION AND REPATRIATES

Although the return of former Japanese soldiers and civilians still detained abroad by the Soviet Union has been a subject of considerable popular interest, repatriation and the problems of providing adequately for returned repatriates have attracted but little attention in recent issues of Japanese magazines and periodicals. This is perhaps attributable in part to the fact that mechanical delays involved in magazine publication make it difficult for periodicals to remain accurately abreast of current developments with up-to-date presentations. The most recent developments in the field of repatriation have been but barely reflected thus far in articles in the most recent magazine issues. Writers in articles noted discuss the outlook in regard to future repatriation and debate the motives of the Soviet Union in delaying the resumption of repatriation this year. The Japanese people are called upon to exert strenuous efforts to make known their feelings in the matter, and at the same time the public and government are urged to make adequate provisions for the welfare of returnees. It is argued by many writers, other than those of extreme leftist inclination, that considerable pressure has been brought to bear upon war prisoners, prior to their departure from Soviet areas, to cause them to embrace Communist principles. Commentators also analyze the tactics of the Japan Communist Party in regard to the repatriation question and aver that the party is doing its best to capitalize on the situation, seeking concurrently to strengthen its position as best it can by violent condemnations of other political parties for unsatisfactory conditions prevailing in this country for returnees. The Communist Party itself maintains that it is the only political group which is sincerely concerning itself with the repatriation problem. Several writers stress that those Japanese still remaining in areas under the control of the Chinese Communists must not be overlooked in perusal of the overall repatriation question.

(The majority of the articles cited here, it is to be noted, are from comparatively small circulation magazines, several of which are specialized organs reaching only specific minority groups of readers. Little space has been given to repatriation and repatriates in larger, general-type magazines. This report also purposely omits discussions of the notorious "Yoshimura incident," many of which ponder the basic origins of brutality in Japanese society rather than issues of repatriation and internment.)

REPATRIATION THIS YEAR

An article entitled "When Will Repatriation Be Completed?," credited to the Repatriation Relief Board, Welfare Ministry, appears in a mid-May issue of NIPPON SHUHO. It explains that, with the "friendly assistance" of the Occupation Forces, repatriation of Japanese nationals from areas controlled by the United States, the Chinese Nationalist government, the British Commonwealth, and the Netherlands has been completed; only those in areas under the control of the Soviet Union and the Chinese Communists remain to be returned to their homeland. It is estimated that a total of 469,043 persons still are detained in these areas, the writer declares; the figures are broken down to show 84,136 in Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands, 60,314 in Manchuria, and 324,593 in Siberia. "With four years already having passed since the termination of the war, it now has become the fervent desire not only of their families, but of all the Japanese people, to have these internees repatriated at the earliest possible opportunity. We sincerely hope that this year will see all matters related to repatriation brought to an end."

Repatriation of Japanese from Soviet areas began after the conclusion of an agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union in December 1946. Ever since a brief period of several months at the commencement of the program, however, the Soviet Union has failed to live up to the terms of the agreement, which provided for the return of 50,000 persons monthly; and now (at the time of



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writing), the author explains, repatriation actually is suspended completely on the pretext of bad weather and ice-bound ports. Thus the "unhappy compatriots" have been forced to spend their fourth winter in the coldest regions of Russia and China. The writer expresses particular concern over the situation of Japanese in Chinese Communist-held areas, where "60,000 compatriots are detained without any prospect at present of returning home. The chief cause of this is that under present circumstances we cannot officially establish liaison with the Chinese Communists concerning evacuation of the Japanese. At present it appears that so long as peace talks between the Nationalist government and the Communist fail to bear fruit, there can be no means to hastening the repatriation of these internees."

The writer then elaborates in some detail the preparations that have been made to receive returnees. "The delay in repatriation from Soviet regions is attributed in some quarters to scarcity of shipping. This is a very incorrect assumption. It is disproved by the fact that at Maizuru port twelve repatriation ships, with the Takasago Maru heading the list, have finished all necessary preparations for the voyage and are impatiently awaiting the order to sail. Concurrently, in Hakodate and Otaru ports the Tokuju Maru and ten other repatriation vessels are awaiting orders in similar manner. If all these ships are put to work at one time, it will be quite possible to transport 160,000 repatriates per month."

#### Services Provided at the Repatriation Center

The services provided for returnees at the repatriation center in the port of arrival are listed. First comes a medical examination and inspection of belongings at the quarantine station. The repatriates then, the writer explains, are disinfected with DDT and receive medical immunizations. They also are examined for syphilis and tuberculosis. If it is found necessary, they receive emergency medical treatment; and those who require hospitalization are cared for at government expense.

Next they are taken to a billet, where they go through various processing procedures. Each receives a certificate which identifies him as a repatriate. Bonds and currencies in his possession are placed in custody of the government and a receipt is given in exchange. Each receives ¥ 1,000 in currency, and is outfitted with clothing according to a specified point system. Among other things that are given to the repatriate are soap, candy, toilet paper, tooth powder, a tooth brush, a pencil, a ration of sake, cigarettes and matches, a free telegram to his home, packaged lunches for his train trip home, and a free ticket to cover the transportation.

A hot bath and thorough cleaning precedes the donning of the new clothing. In individual rooms maintained by each prefecture, the returnees can obtain information regarding their home districts. A Consultation Room offers the opportunity to seek counsel on personal matters. In a Recreation Room are radio, phonograph, newspapers and magazines. Informational material about conditions in Japan is distributed to all. Motion pictures also are shown by the center.

Careful provisions also are made for the homeward train trip, the writer continues. Trains which carry many repatriates have special attendants, and at principal stations along the way refreshments are served, medical treatment given, and temporary lodgings provided. Those returnees who have no homes are accommodated with special housing facilities, it is asserted.

#### Japanese Efforts to Hasten Repatriation

An editorial in the April-May issue of the magazine SUISHIN, published by the Central Association for Promoting Welfare Work for Repatriates, calls for strenuous efforts by all the people to speed the return of Japanese nationals from abroad, declaring that internees must be saved from spending a fifth winter in Siberia. The editor criticizes the "listless" attitude of the Japanese public, who have, he states, simply relied upon the efforts of SCAP; he stresses that "it is time for us to initiate such vigorous campaigns as will arouse national enthusiasm, to present more petitions with greater eagerness and perseverance to the proper Occupation authorities, and to spur the Government and the Diet so that more positive effort may be made to expedite repatriation. Because time is so valuable and failure to make use of it will be so fatal from the seasonal point of view, we should push these significant campaigns right now."

Some current opinion holds, the writer notes, that the delay in the



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PUBLICATIONS ANALYSIS (Continued)

resumption of repatriation has been attributable to utilization of Japanese labor power by the Russians. If this is the case, he states, it is especially urgent that there be widespread interest aroused in the cause of speeding the completion of repatriation. "Such interest," the writer adds, "should not be confined to the plight of those held in Siberia alone, but should extend also to those held in the Chinese Communist areas. Our fervent hope is that our fellow countrymen who are constrained by the destructive Chinese civil war shall be repatriated and greeted by their motherland even before those in Siberia."

Repatriation and Russian International Tactics

In an article in the 1 June issue of SEKAI SHUHO, world news magazine of Jiji Publishing Company, SATO Tsuyoshi, head of the Jiji Liaison Office, links the Soviet 20 May announcement of the resumption of repatriation with the general trend of recent Russian international policies, passing lightly, however, over the discrepancy between the Soviet figure of 95,000 persons remaining to be returned, and the very much larger calculations of SCAP and the Japanese government. "Of course," states Sato, "all Japanese circles promptly reacted to this happy news jubilantly, and at the same time they are grateful to SCAP Headquarters for its efforts. Although there still remain a few points to be ironed out, such as the disparity between Soviet and Japanese figures on the number of Japanese remaining in Soviet territories, these probably will not be settled right away." Sato avers that the "chaotic conditions" which immediately followed the war's end now are subsiding somewhat, and sees increasingly hopeful evidence that world peace can be maintained. "The United States policy for Japan is in line with world peace," he states. "The suggestions that reparations removals be suspended and that unlimited peacetime industry be permitted, are manifestations of this peaceable policy. \* \* \* Vanquished Japan is pushed forward upon the world stage, whether she likes it or not," the writer declares. Russia's proposal that Japan be allowed unlimited peacetime industry, made in September last year, and the current expression of her desire to settle the repatriation question, Sato argues, "imply Russia's wish to strengthen her hand in future international negotiations in the light of world trends."

THE RECEPTION OF REPATRIATES

Several writers stress the importance of receiving returnees hospitably and extending to them all possible assistance to enable them again to take their normal places in the Japanese society. "Let Us Greet the Repatriates -- Our Former Comrades," an editorial in the mid-June issue of the non-communistic newspaper for repatriates KIKANSHA SHIMBUN, is a message of welcome to returnees. "Today," writes editor SEKIURA Shinichi, "four years after the end of the war, our comrades who have endured the extreme cold of the far north through four winters, are coming home." The atonement forced upon those interned in foreign lands has been severe, Sekiura protests. "For whom and for what were we alone made to bear this atonement? Moreover, in their dear homeland those returning find only a people who are striving desperately to recover from postwar exhaustion, with no time to provide for the repatriates. \* \* \* The repatriates, thrown into a society of confusion and unrest . . . must challenge housing difficulties, lack of funds, and employment problems from the very day of their return."

"Returning comrades, we earlier repatriates will greet you and tell you of our experiences, give you news of our companions in Japan, and help you to construct a new life. We believe there is much we can give you in the lessons we have learned through our experiences and trials. During the long period of detention, we -- as did you -- formed many concepts which impede an understanding of the real situation of Japan. We do not say that you are entirely wrong in this regard, but we believe that you, standing on the soil of your native land, must see well the objective situation for yourself." The editorialist reminds "our friends" that "we have stood with you on the wide plain in the remote foreign land," and makes an appeal for cooperation, liaison, and mutual encouragement.

"Are We Democratic Toward Repatriates?"

"Are We Democratic Toward Our Repatriates?" asks SUZUKI Katsuhiko, a



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 secretary of the National YMCA of Japan, in the Christian magazine KAITAKUSHA. His article urges cordial welcome of the repatriates and continued kind and friendly treatment. Russian propaganda is effective, he warns. "The number of repatriates who publicly announce that they have the mission of accomplishing a Japanese revolution as quickly as possible is growing steadily. This indicates the effectiveness of the Russian propaganda. When repatriates board the vessel for their return, they are bade farewell as follows: 'You had better observe social conditions for two or three years after your arrival in Japan. We do not use persuasion to convert you to communism. During this time you will find through your own experience the truth of what you have been taught in the Soviet Union.' If this is correct information, we had best be careful. In other words, whether half a million repatriates will rush into the Communist camp or will return to normal society with the exercise of sound judgment depends largely upon the attitude which society will take toward them in the coming two or three years."

"Although we cannot give them economic assurances," Suzuki declares, "there is no reason why we should ignore them. Japanese society should do its best in overcoming their every difficulty." The writer asks his readers "whether we actually are feeling moral responsibility in regard to them?" He tells a story of a repatriate in Kobe who was unable to obtain a job because he had no reliable guarantor, stresses once more that "we have a moral responsibility toward repatriates," and insists that such an instance "never should occur again."

#### Accomplishments of the Diet

HORIKIRI Hideo, member of the secretariat of the Diet Members' League for the Relief of Compatriots and a leader in the Repatriation Measures Deliberative Council, recounts in SUISHIN the activities and accomplishments of the National Diet in repatriates' affairs to date, observing that "despite many difficult circumstances, the Diet, both within and without the formal legislative body, conducted campaigns to accelerate repatriation . . . and solved not a few questions in the matter of providing for repatriates."

Diet activities concerning repatriation are divided into three periods by Horikiri. During the first period, prior to December 1946, "there was little satisfactory progress in measures pertaining to repatriation" because of restless political, economic, and social conditions. In consequence, the Diet Members' League for the Relief of Compatriots (Doho Kyugo Giin Renmei) was organized to stimulate repatriation programs. During the second period, from May 1947 through December 1948, there was "swift development" of repatriation measures, the result, Horikiri maintains, of an increase in public interest, the election of some repatriates to the Diet, and the formation of special committees on repatriation in both the Upper and Lower Houses. "The greatest fruits of this period were the Repatriation Measures Resolution and the establishment of a Repatriation Measures Deliberative Council (consisting of Welfare Minister and the vice-ministers of other government departments concerned). Up to this time, Horikiri explains, some people had felt that it was not important to extend aid to repatriates, "because they had been agents of Japanese imperialism" who had gambled and lost. "During the second period, however, the efforts of the Diet succeeded in sweeping away such prejudiced opinion."

In the third period, from January 1949 through the time of writing, the Diet has been concerned mainly with solving economic problems of repatriates, the writer states. Among the major questions which remain are those of providing relief funds for the destitute, arranging repayment for money which the repatriates had loaned to Japanese legations abroad, and making settlements regarding their property abroad. "Complete settlement" of the latter "is difficult unless a peace treaty can be concluded." "Tax remission for repatriates" is recognized in principle by Diet members, Horikiri continues, "but there still exist some difficulties in putting this into actual practice." It also is planned to increase the amounts of "enterprise fund" loans available to repatriates through the National Finance Bank (which provides services specially for repatriates and war sufferers) from ¥7,000 per family to ¥15,000, says the Diet member.

Another problem is that of encouraging repatriates in projects for development of uncultivated land, which, Horikiri asserts, may require revisions in the Farm Land Law. It also is necessary, he writes, to revise the laws which govern payments made to returned soldiers in order that such payments may be adjusted to present price levels; and the payments, now limited to those



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## PUBLICATIONS ANALYSIS (Continued)

repatriated from Soviet areas, should be extended to include men returning from Chinese Communist-held territory. The writer stresses the necessity of making the Unemployment Insurance Law applicable to repatriates, and finally considers the question of housing returnees. An estimated one million of the total six million repatriates will be unable to secure permanent residences. "Solution of the housing problem is extremely difficult," he asserts. "Mass production of quarters for rent, and loans for construction funds through the Housing Finance Bank will not be effected easily because of the retrenched budget. Repairs for repatriates' community housing are about the most that can be expected. There is little favorable prospect for the housing situation for the present."

PRISONERS IN SIBERIA

NAKAGAWA Masakazu, a repatriate from Siberia, tells his experiences in simple style in WAKAKUSA, a literary magazine for young people. In a camp at Bikin (in eastern Siberia) "we led a happy life and had no unpleasantness to speak of" until June 1948. Departing this area by train for the south, "we felt sure we would go home directly." However, after crossing into the province of Primorskaya, "the train stopped, to our surprise, at a terminal station. We were set down at a railroad siding. Our Soviet transportation commander spoke to us as follows: 'Nahodka port is crowded now with repatriates. Moreover, the Japanese repatriation ships are slow in coming. Until the port is emptied, you must wait for one or two weeks here. During that time I want you to work according to the iron-bound rule of "No labor, no food."'" The very next day, with inadequate equipment and shelter, the prisoners were put to work constructing a road through a mountain forest, being assigned extremely difficult work quotas, Nakagawa says. "Five months passed. When the earth froze and the road work came to a halt, the Soviet officer in charge ordered us to descend the mountain. We reached Sergevka (the point from which the road had been started) after walking two full days; this indicates with what speed the road construction had been pushed forward. We boarded the train at one o'clock in the morning, shivering with cold, for we were wearing summer clothes despite it's being November, and they were in tatters as a result of our mountain life of the previous five months. Suddenly we arrived in Nahodka. There the members of the Peoples' Democratic Group were prepared for our arrival. We had been told that those who spoke ill of the Soviet Union or used reactionary language would be sent back by them to inner regions."

"Although the Soviet authorities had detained us on the pretext of shortage of ships," Nakagawa remarks, "less than the full number of repatriates were on hand to board the vessels." He concludes quickly with an account of how the group passed rapidly through the camp, boarded the ship, and returned to Japan.

Conditions in Siberian Camps

SEMPU, vehement anti-Communist publication, presents in its June issue information it claims to have obtained from repatriates concerning the Democratic (Minshu) Groups in Siberia and the Nippon Shimbun, Japanese-language newspaper published for the war prisoners. The Democratic Group, declares the writer, consists of Japanese Communists "and other Communist-inspired Japanese prisoners of war." Its headquarters is located in the Nippon Shimbun establishment at Khabarovsk, where from 50 to 100 leaders are stationed, with about 10 subordinates in each of the individual prison camps. In conferences held at this headquarters the Group's policies are determined by the central leaders and representatives from the prisons. "At each prison a member of the Group superintends the prisoners of war. Members of the Democratic Group conduct the so-called People's Trial which makes the final decision on who will return to Japan." Prisoners thus fear the Democratic Group because of its power to select the returnees. The People's Trials are held at Nahodka, the writer explains. Decisions on those to be sent back to Japan are made on the basis of the individual's labor record during his internment and his attitude toward Communism, it is asserted. Decisions are arbitrary, and the prisoner has no power to defend himself. "The Democratic Group is a group of people who live on the prisoners of war. They annoy the prisoners just like the ticks."

The Nippon Shimbun is published by Japanese Communists at Khabarovsk, the commentary continues, and is said to have a circulation of more than 200,000



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 copies. Its contents consist of Japanese domestic items, news from prisons within Soviet areas, communistic materials, and articles designed to stimulate the prisoners' will to work. "This newspaper, it is believed, plays an important role in matters affecting internees. But, because every copy is taken away from returnees at Nahodka or other points of embarkation for Japan, copies of the journal itself cannot be found in this country." The Democratic Group is, the writer charges, "a movement to propagate communism, and the Nippon Shimbun is taking the lead in the Communist movement. It is more than a simple medium for presenting information."

Accompanying the article are several cartoons, including one which pictures a group of repatriates as a package being sent from the Democratic Group to Tokuda Kyuichi, Japanese Communist leader. The accompanying comment cites testimony reportedly given by a repatriate before a special Diet committee that the Democratic Group had told returnees: "We are sending you back to Tokuda, acknowledging that you are democratic -- that is, communistic."

#### The "People's Trials"

The People's Trials are treated more favorably in a roundtable discussion printed by the leftist journal SEKAI HYORON. One of the participants is TSUMURA Kenji, former chairman of the People's Trial and currently secretary-general of the League for the Protection of Repatriates from the Soviet Union, who explains that the origin of this court was the holding of a soldiers' mass meeting in June of 1947 at Nahodka "to expose the outrages of a group of gangsters" who had dominated an internment camp in central Asia. The People's Trial, he insists, was not "a solemn trial" as many people believe, but "a mass meeting of released war prisoners" upon their arrival at the repatriation port. It has been in existence because the returning prisoners "wished to bare the truth of everything that happened during their long, trying detention in the camps before their departure from the Soviet Union. \* \* \* The Trial had no ideological background, nor had it any idea of inflicting punishment on those accused." The accused, in fact, were released if only they repented of their misdeeds before reaching the trial, Tsumura explains. It was mistakenly thought, he points out, that "the trial represented a barrier gate to regulate repatriation" and that those who failed to embrace communism would never be able to see their families again. This misconception, he declares, threw the town of Nahodka into uproar, with returnees frantically waving red flags and shouting the Internationale. "Rash jumping to conclusions" by Japanese in charge of detention camps was responsible for such misinformation, the speaker continues.

Another participant, OWATARI Yoshio, author of an article on the People's Trial printed some time earlier in the magazine Bungei Shunju, supports Tsumura, explaining that the true purpose of the Democratic Group was the overthrow of the old Japanese military order which was still being maintained in the prison camps. The groups varied in character according to the nature of their leadership. That at Nahodka, Tsumura continues, "had a unique character" in that its chief objective was "to handle matters pertaining to repatriation" through the agency of "a group of volunteers who postponed their own return by their own accord. \* \* \* It was a groundless report that nobody could return home unless he went on trial presided over by the Democratic Group there."

However, Tsumura admits, there were "bogus democratic groups" which committed outrages "under the cover of the Soviet authority" or by using the pretext of such authority. "While it was easy to bring to light the outrages of former officers," he asserts, "those committed by bogus democratic groups were extremely difficult to lay bare. Anyone who revealed the wrongful acts of bogus democratic groups was branded 'a reactionary' and deprived of his opportunity to return home. So he said no word about it, and boarded the repatriation ship discontented and upset." This, according to the former trial head, was the cause of subsequent "outrages and murders on repatriation ships and in ports of arrival." Owatari agrees, commenting that "feelings of suppression thus accumulated in the men's minds burst out when they reach Japan again. Complaints voiced at this time can be said to be the exaggeration of these resentments."

"The mass entry of returnees into Japan Communist Party is a matter which keenly interests the public," Tsumura states, "and in this connection it is interesting that among the joiners of the Party we see few who were leaders in the Democratic Groups. It is indeed strange that the majority are persons who had nothing to do with the Democratic Groups while they were in the Soviet Union. This will indicate clearly the essence of the democratic movement in Siberia."



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## PUBLICATIONS ANALYSIS (Continued)

Attack on Russian Motives

HEIMIN SHIMBUN, weekly organ of the Japan Anarchist League, attacks Russian repatriation policies and treatment of war prisoners in two May articles. The writer of the first article, which appeared on 23 May, criticizes the People's Trial, declaring: "Cruel men and the victims of their cruelty -- all are slaves of a bigger, stronger man. Just before these slaves return to the longed-for motherland, freed from chains after a period of years, a servant, directed by his master, judges some of the slaves whom he dislikes in the name of the master and making use of his master's influence." The persons who are thus subjected to judgment pretend to be Communists lest they be forced to remain longer in detention. "If those Japanese who today advocate people's liberation should come into power, the Japanese people -- who do not know how to resist authority -- would unconcernedly show the same attitude as do these persons tried at the People's Trial at Nahodka. I shudder at the thought of it. \* \* \* The nation which professes the liberation of all the world," the unnamed commentator concludes, "still detains millions of men of world nations as prisoners, even though four years have passed since the war ended."

The second article, which appeared a week later, notes the announcement made by the Soviet that the total number of Japanese to be repatriated is 95,000 and that their return will be accomplished in the May-November period this year. However, according to SCAP and Japanese government figures, he observes, the total number remaining to be returned from Soviet areas is more than 408,000. The Soviet authorities have dismissed the latter figure, he explains, with declarations that they are not responsible for SCAP and Japanese statistics, and the Japan Communist Party immediately rebuked the government, demanding an explanation of the grounds for its calculations. "It is not clear at present what is responsible for this tremendous discrepancy in figures," the writer remarks, "but it is a fact that the Soviet Union does not wish to repatriate prisoners of war immediately. In imperialistic war it is customary that prisoners be used as slaves. \* \* \* When the slaves are superior to the victor nation intellectually and technically, it is profitable to retain them as long as possible. If the United States did not press the Soviet Union for the return of Japanese prisoners of war, whether this is done from a humanistic standpoint or not, no one can tell what would be their fate, not to speak of their repatriation." Some returnees who always had been accustomed to low standards say that the treatment of prisoners was good. However, the writer argues, "treatment of slaves cannot be good. If it was good, it must have been for greater exploitation of Japanese labor."

REPATRIATION AND THE JAPAN COMMUNIST PARTY

Non-Communist writers charge that the Japan Communist Party is exerting itself to the utmost to capitalize on the repatriation situation and draw returnees into its ranks, while the Party insists that only it is concerned over the problems of repatriates, who are being neglected and abused by all other major political groups.

KOKUBU Moritada discusses "The Repatriation Problem and the Japanese Communists" in an April issue of the monthly NIPPON KYOSANTO KAIBO (Analysis of the Japanese Communists), published by Kyoyusha (Cooperative Friends Company). This writer is of the opinion that the repatriation situation at present poses a perplexing and embarrassing problem to the Japan Communist Party. "They know that the matter will stimulate anti-Russian and anti-Communist feeling," and therefore "they do their best to bypass the major issues of the question, shirking their responsibility by the magic use of the expressions 'reactionary' and 'bosses'" against those engaged in welfare work for repatriates. Kokubu ridicules Communist contentions that repatriation delays have been the result of "incompleteness of government preparations to receive returnees." The foolishness of such accusations is proven, he remarks, by the quantity of shipping assembled by the government and the completeness of the reception facilities at Hakodate, Maizuru, and Sasebo. The real cause of delays, he declares, "is not any inadequacy of receiving facilities, but the fact that the Soviet Union, for one reason or another, does not intend to permit repatriation of detainees." Kokubu also ridicules the argument that repatriation is halted during winter months out of the Soviet's "thoughtful consideration" for the safety of returnees



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during bad weather, commenting that this too actually is the result of "necessity arising from internal conditions within the Soviet Union."

Why do the Japanese Communists dare to distort the truth and defend the Soviet position, Kokubu asks. Only because they believe in the eventual establishment of a Utopian Communist society through revolution, he writes, "and unpopularity of their fatherland, the Soviet Union certainly will severely affect their party's influence." Seeing that the situation is unfavorable to them, they seek desperately to turn the tables and "as a last resort" are relying on the utilization of Bolshvised returnees. Thus the Party has propaganda teams of Communist repatriates touring the country and singing the praises of the Soviet. "It may be true," admits the writer, "that these Communized repatriates were treated kindly in the Soviet Union just as they proclaim. But what about the non-Communists? How does the Party explain the cases of Communist returnees being attacked or murdered by non-Communist repatriates on the ships or at the ports of arrival, the resolutions adopted by non-Communist returnees labelling those who have become Communists 'the enemies of compatriots,' and the complaints of those who have come back that Russian socialism is nothing but absolutist and authoritarian administration by Communist Party members." Because of these matters, the Communists have sought to counterattack by protesting "scandal cases" on repatriation ships and reception centers. In this, Kokubu believes, they simply exploit rare instances to make charges of habitually prevailing conditions. They also charge that movements by any other groups aimed at hastening repatriation are "reactionary," "of a boss nature," "anti-Communist," and "anti-Russian."

What lies behind all these tactics, according to the writer, is the aim solely of utilizing repatriates to the best advantage of the cause of the Communist Party. If it is borne in mind that the basic aim of the Soviet and Japanese Communists is the realization of global revolution, it is plain "that the object of the Russian Communists is to send back to Japan the maximum number of 'crack troops of ideological strife,' and the task of the Japanese Communists is to station them strategically along the most advantageous lines of battle. \* \* \* Whether this Machiavellism of the Communists will bear fruit or not will depend solely upon the ability of the Japanese people to see through the character and strategy of the Communists."

The previously-cited SEMPUR article calls attention to statements made by Communist Hosokawa Karoku of the House of Councillors charging an act of violence in the Maizuru Repatriation Center, a charge which was denied however by persons present on the scene. The writer declares that the intention of the Communist member was "to employ such demagoguery" in an effort to gain political advantage and as a means of accusing the Japanese government and SCAP of negligence. Hosokawa also is reported to have stated, in the Upper House, that in view of poor food and employment conditions in Japan it would be better for repatriates not to have been returned. This stand too is attacked by the author.

"The Japanese people's interest in repatriation," he concludes, "has turned to resentment against the Japan Communist Party. I do not know if it was to dispel this ill-feeling toward them that the Communists requested the Soviet authorities to resume repatriation. But at any rate, I am sure that it was not from sympathy with the repatriates' families."

#### The Communist Stand

In an article in NIPPON SHUHO, TACHIBANA Toshio, Communist member of the House of Representatives, contends that "it is only the Japan Communist Party which is really anxious over the sad plight of repatriates and their families, and is earnestly concerned with improving their conditions. This can be realized if you remember that the Communists were the only party which stubbornly opposed the hateful aggressive wars. It is clear that these wars were the fundamental causes of the present painful position of these unlucky compatriots. The iron-willed Communist leaders," during their years in prison, Tachibana asserts, "foresaw and worried over the fortunes of these unlucky fellow-countrymen."

Tachibana attacks the 26 April Diet resolution for the expedition of repatriation, calling it "nothing but a fuss of the reactionary parties." It was drawn up too late, he charges, because it followed by ten days the passage of the national budget for 1949-50, which had drastically reduced planned appropriations for expenditures for repatriates. Therefore, the repatriation resolution was "only a camouflage for the 'against-the-people' budget," plotted



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PUBLICATIONS ANALYSIS (Continued)

cunningly by the Democratic Liberal Party. "The reason why the Communists supported such a resolution was simply their absolute agreement with its purport. \* \* \* How arrogant it was to present such a resolution after having obtained approval of the budget which represents the joker in the game! It is an evidence of blunt abuse of the people." Government programs concerned with repatriation, Tachibana argues, are simply trickeries designed "to save face or to curry favor with voters. \* \* \* Is there any leader of any political party other than Tokuda Kyuichi, secretary-general of the Japan Communist Party, who has visited the Russian Embassy to work toward settlement of the repatriation problem?"

Tachibana then turns to an attack on "injustices" committed on repatriation ships and in dormitories for repatriates. He decries the "frightful spectacle" of five families sharing a 10-mat room and seven families living in a 15-mat room. "As they cannot find houses to live in, they are compelled to remain in these dormitories for as long as one or two years. To make the matter still worse, so long as they are confined there they are permitted no rights of citizenship nor franchise nor are they granted the right to receive the food ration independently. Do human beings deserve such treatment?" Tachibana also stresses inadequate housing construction programs, deprivation of returnees' job retention rights and discrimination against them in hiring, and the miserable life of the families of those still detained abroad, for whom, he contends, the government makes only the scantiest provisions. He predicts that by July or August, "the streets will be flooded with unemployed, consisting of hundreds of thousands of repatriates as well as the victims of insolvent small enterprises, administrative reform, and enterprise rationalization."

Repatriation and Communist Election Tactics

A January issue of SHAKAI UNDO TSUSHIN contained a staff article on the Communist stand on the repatriation question during the election campaign that month. Each Communist speaker, the writer declares, was provided with an information sheet which gave probable audience questions on repatriation matters and approved Communist answers to each question. These answers, citing some specific instances, stressed bad weather which makes winter suspension of repatriation necessary, and earnest Soviet desire to return prisoners as rapidly as possible. Speakers also were advised to make charges of insufficient rations on shipboard to permit full loading of ships and inadequacy of accommodations and transportation for returnees after their reaching Japan. They were instructed to emphasize inaccuracy of Japanese government figures on the number of detainees, which "do not make allowances for such uncertain matters as deserters, deaths, and illicit repatriates," and to accuse the government of "propagating larger figures than the actual number. This," the information sheet maintained, "is the basis of the false charges made by the government which wishes to shift responsibility onto the Soviet authorities when the repatriation program is concluded."

JAPANESE WOMEN IN COMMUNIST CHINA

A staff article in a February issue of the women's journal NIPPON FUJIN SHIMBUN calls attention to the plight of "about 100,000 men and women remaining in the broad Manchurian plain, subject to aimless destiny and not knowing when they can return home." About 20,000 are women, and their situation is not hopeful, "for as nurses they are charged with duties absolutely necessary to the Chinese Communist armies. About 10 percent came from the Red Cross organization, but the greater number are daughters of good families who were drafted as special nurses during the war, were left behind by the military authorities at the war's end, and were turned over by the Soviet to the Chinese Communist Army. The Chinese Communist Army, because it respects the Japanese women, who far surpass the Chinese in sanitary knowledge and ability, is treating them with care. However, it is no easy thing to roam over hill and dale in the midst of a civil war." How anxious they must be to return home, the writer exclaims. Sometimes they attempt to escape but always are caught; some also have initiated petitions, but consequently are placed in a special category as "non-cooperators." The writer observes that "people in Japan are apt to think only of Soviet areas and the forced detention of men only; if they do, they lack proper knowledge of the real situation. \* \* \* I hope that national enthusiasm will rise to save these women who are undergoing many sufferings."



alone and are leading a sorrowful existence behind the Iron Curtain."



ITEM 9 HIGHLIGHT OF PRESS INTERVIEWS WITH REPATRIATES

(Extracts)

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Kanagawa Edition), 12 Jul -- NISHIYAMA Yukichi, 34, repatriated from the Soviet Union aboard the Takasago Maru, stated when interviewed at his home at Kamakura Shi, Omachi 101: "...On the way home, I was not told that prior to my repatriation members of my family had received three invitations to join the Japan Communist Party. After repatriation, another invitation arrived, but we declined."

YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Miyagi Edition), 12 Jul -- WATANABE Sachio, 25, repatriated from the Soviet Union, stated at his home in Sendai Shi, Honzaimoku Cho 87: "Though I have joined the Communist Party, I intend to reconsider my decision. At present I plan neither to bolt the party nor to take an active role in party activities. I want to find a job, and to continue study of communism in order to determine whether it is right or wrong."

MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Miyagi Edition), 12 Jul -- The only Miyagi Ken repatriate to return from Sakhalin aboard the Tokuju Maru, MIYAMOTO Eizo, 46, stated when interviewed at the home of his in-laws at Motoyoshi Gun, Shikaori Mura: "I was astonished at the vigor of the activities of the Japan Communist Party. A number of Communists and union men were waiting for us at Aomori, standing in formation and waving red flags. As the leader of a 36-repatriate group, I felt it improper to lead the unstable repatriates into such a politically-tinged atmosphere, so I ordered the members of my group to remain in the train. All of us were thus able to reach our homes without a hitch. I have no definite opinion as to whether Communism is right or wrong. Experience during the period of my detention, however, has taught me that a Communist society, where everything goes according to the rule, lacks humanity."

MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Miyagi Edition), 12 Jul -- Repatriated aboard the Tokuju Maru from Sakhalin, HANNA Yoko, 19, now living at the Dainohara Dormitory, completed the primary school course under the Soviet occupation. Questioned about the school, she said: "...Since the school was seized by the Soviet occupation, the number of teachers decreased, and instruction was limited to three hours daily. The elementary course extended over a period of six years, and the higher primary course, three years. After reaching 16 years of age, one must go to work. I was not given any political instruction..."

YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Saitama Edition), 12 Jul -- TAKAMIZU Yoshio, 27, of Mishitama Gun, Mizuko Machi, Hakonegasaki, repatriated from the Soviet Union aboard the Takasago Maru, said about the duplicity of the Japan Communist Party: "...When I returned home on 2 July, I was visited by five Communists from the Fussa district, and was urged to join the party. I flatly refused, giving as a reason that the AKAHATA had failed to report on our repatriation, though the story was given ample space in such papers as the YOMIURI, ASAHI, and MAINICHI. This is quite contrary to the information given the internees on the differences between the AKAHATA and the three major papers. The five Communists soon left, giving up further attempts to persuade me. ...There are 12 or 13 natives of this town awaiting repatriation. The later they return, the more will they be imbued with Communism. I have therefore decided to travel as far as Tokyo to meet these repatriates, and to endeavor to redirect their eyes to actual conditions, and seek their understanding."



**ITEM 5 REPATRIATES SPEAK ON LIFE IN RUSSIA (Part Two)**

(Full Translation)

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AKAHATA, 13 Jul -- (The following is the second installment of a round table discussion on conditions in Russia as commented on by recent repatriates --Ed.)

Reporter: What is your impression of the Soviet people?

MUROI: In a word, they have no feeling of racial discrimination, and their idea of human beings is based on class and is very definite. For instance, the chief cook in one interment camp was a woman whose father had died in Manchuria fighting the Japanese in the Russo-Japanese war. Yet, she was always concerned about our health and came round asking, "How are you? How is your appetite? Does the food taste all right?" Thus, she was entirely like one of the same race.

YAMAZAKI: We used to be advised to return home in good health and not to be deceived again by the bourgeoisie, whose tool we had become in fighting the Russians. They said what they hated was fascism.

KUNI: Once I had typhoid and was on the brink of death. While plagued with high fever, I often heard the doctor calling my name from the corridor. He took great care of me, and in my convalescence he even bought me food with his own money. One of my friends was also ill in bed for four years. Even our own flesh and blood would not have taken care of us as patiently and as well as our doctor did.



POLITICAL

ITFM 5 (Continued)

(Continued)

FUKUSHIMA: When we were loading goods at a railway station, a wire broke and we were nearly caught by the falling goods. I was not injured badly, but the internment camp officer came, the ambulance car came, and there was much ado. Then our supervisor said to me, "Take care of yourself. Broken goods can be re-made, but human beings cannot, once they're dead."

KIMURA: Yes, I had a similar experience. We were felling trees in the mountains. There was considerable danger involved when felling trees 30 or 40 meters tall. In such a case, our supervisor, himself, used to come up with an axe and say, "If you died, your families would weep. If they asked me where and how you died, I wouldn't know how to answer. It is better that I be injured myself, if anybody must be." We were struck by this human love which transcended racial difference.

Reporter: Some repatriates say the medical facilities and technique in the back country are extremely poor. Is this true?

MUROI: Well, that depends upon the locality. Some work camps have army medics and aides instead of professional doctors. This might have caused the misunderstanding over the alleged poor medical technique.

Reporter: I understand that preventative medicine is more advanced than curative medicine.

FUKUSHIMA: If too many illnesses and deaths occur within a district, it reflects upon the responsibility of the head of the hospital of that district. Therefore, there is much stress on preventative medicine.

MUROI: Speaking of medical technique, we don't know which is superior, America or the Soviet. However, this much can be said: most Soviet doctors truly rate high on the point of humanism. As has been brought out, we take off our hats to their self-sacrificing devotion. Here is the main point: however superior the technique may be in the US, the majority cannot enjoy the benefits because a capitalistic society is basically commercial. The humanity in the Soviet Union, I am sure, is not merely on the part of individuals but on the part of society. Therefore, it is basically a spirit of respect for man, transcending racial difference.

OIWA: Public health and sanitation are truly advanced, and not like our former ideas of Russia. Not once did we get lice after entering Russia. Even in the ill-equipped camps in the back-country, there were no lice since the year before last. Disinfection was by live steam, and DDT was not used. Clothes were changed often, and infection could not spread.

KUNII: Kitchens were kept clean. Pot-lids shone, and even the floors were polished. Before, I used to think the Japanese liked cleanliness, but they're no comparison to the Russians now. Public health and sanitation were impressive. There were no tubercular patients; and clubs and cultural palaces were all kept clean. Lawns and gardens were green, and the people's wellbeing was guaranteed.

OIWA: The Russians have a strong sense of responsibility and are a good people. For instance, when we were working at a generator plant, my barracks-mate SATO was so sleepy that he threw a big piece of coal into the furnace, contrary to instructions. Unfortunately the



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coal struck a steam pipe. The pipe burst, live steam shot forth, and at the same time the generator stopped. The plant foreman, with others, rushed over to the spot, and the first thing he asked was, "Are you all right, SATO?" The foreman assumed the responsibility for the accident himself and was fined 1,000 rubles. SATO was scared, expecting to be thrown into confinement any moment. The foreman, however, did not say anything, and SATO was put on the same job the next day. SATO was very much impressed and had a great respect for the foreman.

YAMAZAKI: I was assigned to mixing cement in a certain proportion. Once, I did it a little haphazardly. At once, the results betrayed what I had done. Then the supervisor of that construction works said, "Our duty to the nation is to construct firm structures. I am responsible for this result." He at once reported it to his superiors as negligence on his part. This proved that he had a clear and conscientious sense of responsibility. I was deeply humiliated at my own capitalist selfishness.

FUKUSHIMA: Even we prisoners could protest to the authorities against anything unjust. If the supervising officer did not accede, a Russian laborer could express his criticism and say, "The Japanese is right. You should do as the Japanese asserts." If it is judged that something is wrong, it is immediately corrected.

KIMURA: In the USSR, what is wrong is wrong, and what is right is right. The distinction is made very definitely. Nothing is twisted or ignored out of selfish interests. No issue is hushed up. As a result, there is no bad person or good person, but only what is good and what is bad. A bad thing is criticized immediately and corrected. On this, no distinction is made, be the person involved a general or a gate-keeper.



ITEM 6 REPATRIATES FROM SOVIET SHOULD BE RE-EDUCATED

(Summary)

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SHIN-NIPPON SHIMBUN (Osaka), 4 Jul -- It is reported that most of the repatriates from Soviet territories are those who received courses in democracy of the Soviet type, and who passed examinations in the same course. This was a foregone conclusion. Why, then, is it that the Government authorities, though fully cognizant that these repatriates have been indoctrinated with Communism, let them fly to all parts of the nation without re-educating them? It is most regrettable that the Government lacks preparations for these "mental patients" while it takes every means for the treatment of those physically ill. In this respect, the Government greatly underestimated the thoroughness of Soviet education by hastily believing that the repatriates would regain proper reasoning on returning home.

While held in Soviet territories, the Japanese there became agitated with the defeat of their mother country. The Russians lost no time in educating them, utilizing this mental gap. To begin with, these people had originally an inclination to be indoctrinated with Communism; that is to say, these people having been taught totalitarianism in Japan before the war, were regimented to obey orders, irrespective of the nature of the order. If they were ordered to obey Communism, they automatically became Communists.

Japan adopted democracy as the national policy after the war, but the Japanese held in Soviet territories did not know of it, nor did they know that the totalitarianism taught by the Russians was irreconcilable with Japan's democracy. This is quite natural, for they could not possibly believe that democracy, which was formerly rejected as detrimental to Japan's growth, was now the basic principle of their mother country, nor could they believe the good will of America toward Japan, who was once her enemy. It is quite reasonable that they suspected there must be some hidden design--an American imperialistic design, as the Soviet authorities branded it.

Freedom of thought is one of the basic principles of democracy. However, should we be lenient to those who run counter to this principle? In view of our past bitter experiences when we were utilized by the militarists, this type of leniency should not be permitted any longer. However, by so saying, we do not mean that the red-indoctrinated repatriates should be suppressed by force, but we advocate that they should be re-educated so that they can behave as true postwar Japanese. Some may say that democracy has no fascination to attract these repatriates, but the lack of fascination is due to the lack of conviction on the part of the people. In this sense, it can be said that the people are now facing a national trial.

ITEM 9 HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESS INTERVIEWS WITH REPATRIATES

(Extracts)

644-1  
MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Gumma Edition), 13 Jul -- Former schoolteacher KAWADA Seitaro, 38, of Gumma Ken, Tone Gun, Tenami Mura, who was repatriated from the Soviet Union, stated: "...I had not heard of the 'dawn prayer' incident until after I had returned to Japan. I was surprised to learn of such a unit. There were almost no deaths in my unit..."

MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Nagano Edition), 13 Jul -- One of the repatriates from the Soviet Union stated at a get-together sponsored by the Kami Ina Gun Repatriation Acceleration league said: "...We are fed up with war. If another war should break out, we will hide in the recesses of Mt Nishikoma."

MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Fukushima Edition), 13 Jul -- KANDA Tsunekichi, 46, of Niigata Ken, and UENO Taihei, 27, of Ishikawa Ken, repatriated from Sakhalin, said: "...Japanese internees were separated from other nationals, and were engaged in farming. Children were educated at schools using old textbooks, and were able to study English after hours. The Russians hardly ever interfered with us. You are frightened of Communism, but to us it is nothing but propaganda. Russians are in reality quite egoistic. They would not lend us trucks for farming even when those allocated for the fishing industry were not in use..."



ITEM 5 AN OPEN LETTER TO REPATRIATES by HARA Yuzo

(Summary)

694  
SHIN HOKKAU (Sapporo), 4 Jul -- Major metropolitan papers have unanimously reported that the recent repatriation from the Soviet Union was characterized by the majority of the repatriates being deeply indoctrinated with Communism. Some of them showed complete indifference toward the Japanese national emblem, while manifesting great respect for red flags. Some others answered the warm greetings of welcome by singing the "Internationale," and heckled the welcome speech of the mayor of Maizuru, saying that they are faithful believers in the principles of MARX and LENIN. The so-called "democratization" of the recent repatriates as evidenced by this conduct is being discussed by various quarters from different angles. It is reported that even the United States government authorities are also interested in the problem. Some people ascribe the reason for the "democratization" to the persistent education by the Soviet Union, while others say that the repatriates will reflect upon their radical activities when they acquire true knowledge of the real situation of Japan. Some others have pleaded for the repatriates, saying that their indoctrination, whether sincere or merely superficial, is only a natural result of their long detention under the pressure of Soviet Union. Some others allege that the instigations by the so-called "democratic group" are chiefly responsible for the radical behavior of the recent repatriates. Some ascribe the reason for the delay in repatriation, and the numerical discrepancy between the computation of the Japanese Government and that of the Soviet Government, to the political education of Japanese internees by the Soviet Union. It is natural that apprehensions have been expressed by major Tokyo papers for the future of repatriates.

I want you, repatriates, to return to your native places as quickly as possible and try to look straight at the actual situation of Japan, thereby to form a correct judgment about your country. It is true that we are guaranteed freedom of thought and political activities. However, it is our duty as well as responsibility to base our thought and political activities on accurate knowledge. It cannot be denied that the political education you have received is one-sided, and therefore, you have only a biased opinion about Japan. We do not hesitate to express our deep sympathy to you for your long suffering in foreign lands. It is our desire that you will endeavor to form your judgment on the basis of unbiased knowledge. If you refuse to do so, we shall be compelled to point out to you that you are wrong because your present knowledge about Japan has been furnished exclusively by the "Nippon Shimbun," which is not a very authentic paper. You should realize that we, your fellow countrymen, have been endeavoring for national reconstruction for these past four years. The considerable improvement in the nation's economic situation has been attained through our efforts.

It is reported that you call the Soviet Union your ally, and advocate a pro-Soviet policy to prevent another war. However, it is a preposterous conclusion in view of the current international situation that peace can be guaranteed for Japan by allying with the Soviet Union. Peace must be attained by maintaining peace within the nation. It is our desire that you will reorientate yourselves to the correct recognition of present day Japan and the international situation.



ITEM 11 SHOW REPATRIATES JAPAN'S ACTUAL CONDITIONS

(Summary)

644.1  
 NICHIBEI WEEKLY (Weekly newspaper), 10 Jul -- The people who were repatriated from Soviet Russia this year have been away from Japan for a period of four to over 10 years. Serving in the army and then taken prisoners, they were informed of nothing concerning the outside world, and were taught an ideology as the supreme precept.

The Japanese radio broadcast which they were permitted to hear was extremely one-sided, emphasizing the food shortage in Japan, successive strikes, oppression by the authorities, MacARTHUR's rejection of DEREVYANKO's democratic demand, etc. Furthermore, by exposing the secrets of the Japanese military and financial cliques, the broadcasts impressed the prisoners that they had been misled by them.

Consequently, to return to such a place as Japan was regarded as landing on enemy territory.

Their one weapon in landing on enemy territory was the ideology taught them. It appears that they attempted to zealously guard this ideology when they ignored the kindly words of nurses and sailors on board the repatriation ships at Nakhodka.

All the repatriates believed the explanation of the Soviet authorities, who attributed the delay in repatriation to the negligence of the Japanese authorities in sending ships. This is just another example of the unilateral information which they obtained in the camps. The repatriates did not know, and those Japanese still in Soviet Russia do not know, that Japanese ships in Maizuru and Otaru were waiting for approval to sail from the Soviet authorities for over a month.

In order to uncover the veiled facts, repatriates must consider all matters calmly. Only in Japan can one find repatriates joining the Communist Party en masse as soon as they land in their home country. Such a phenomenon would be understandable if they had first observed and understood the actual conditions of Japan. However, their act, attributable to mob spirit, must be blamed on the repression of human individuality and the lack of self-consciousness.

ITEM 21 RAILWAY TIGHTENS RULES FOR TRAVEL ON REPAT TRAINS

(Full Translation)

644.1  
 YOMIURI SHIMBUN, 20 Jul -- From experience gained during the first round of repatriation, the state railways has decided to make a change in regard to the special trains to be run from 24 July to convey the second group of repatriates, expected to put into Maizuru port today. Consequently, no one can board these trains except those who have, in addition to tickets, certificates issued by mayors or town and village headmen to prove that the persons identified by the certificates are members of a returning repatriate's household.

Train No 8022 (for those returning to parts of Fukushima and Tochigi)--To leave Higashimaizuru at 1540 hours and to reach Ueno at 1118 hours the following day.

Train No 90 (for those returning to Akita, Aomori, Yamagata, and Hokkaido)--To leave Higashimaizuru at 1307 hours and to reach Aomori at 1422 hours the following day.

The train for those returning to the remaining parts of Fukushima, Miyagi, and Iwate is to leave Higashimaizuru at 1135 hours and reach Fukuchiyama at 1255 hours, to change for Osaka at Fukuchiyama, and to change to No 12 express train leaving Osaka at 1330 hours and arrive at Tokyo at 0615 hours the following morning.

Six Civilians to Return

(Maizuru)--The first repatriate ship, Taiiku Maru, carrying repatriates of the second group home, dispatched to the Maizuru Branch of the Shipping Association at 1156 hours yesterday this report on the repatriates aboard:

Former army officers, eight; former army warrant officers, two; former army noncommissioned officers, and other ranks, 1962; former army civilian employees, 18; former sailors, four; and civilians, six--totaling 2,000. Among these, 330 invalids are included.



ITEM 9 HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESS INTERVIEWS WITH REPATRIATES

(Extracts)

644.1  
NIPPON SUNKA TIMES (Saitama), 10 Jul -- MIYAMOTO Masayuki, 27, of Kumagaya Shi, Ueno, 211, who returned from the Soviet Union aboard the Takasago Maru, said: "...It is true that all repatriates were indoctrinated in Communism, but I doubt whether the results desired by the Soviets will be realized in Japan, though there might be a different picture, depending upon future social developments."

KOKUSAI SHIMBUN (Osaka), 14 Jul -- KAWAGUCHI Toshio, 25, of Osaka Shi, Yodogawa Ku, Kami Shinjo 501, repatriated aboard the Daitaku Maru from the Soviet Union, was born and raised in Manchuria. While studying economics at a Changchun university, he was inducted into the army; and with the surrender, was transported to the Soviet Union. Commenting on conditions in the Soviet Union, he stated: "...It is less than ten days since my return, but I have already noted with surprise the vast difference between Japanese and Soviet culture. In a word, the former is estranged from the people, whereas the latter is based on the people. In the Soviets, culture is directly related to work, and work produces culture... To the Soviet people songs are a part of their lives, so any gathering of people results in singing. Not only singing, but culture itself is to the Soviet citizen something created by himself; it originates in his daily life and work... As far as I know, the norm and the schedule systems were being operated smoothly, with not a single Russian trying to shirk his duty. After the eight-hour work day, they dress smartly and spend the evening dancing... At the time we arrived, there was an acute food shortage caused by war-exhaustion and the drought in the Ukraine. As a result many of our comrades died of malnutrition. However, that the selfishness of the Japanese army officers was largely responsible for this, as in the Ikeda Unit incident, must not be overlooked. At that time Russians as well as Japanese were having a hard time of it. It is this Soviet Union which was described in reports written by those who had returned to Japan earlier than we. But in the three years that have elapsed since then, the Soviet planned economy achieved notable results... Dwelling houses for workers, which were being constructed at Iman, were quite imposing. Each had a capacity of several families. We must mind the fact that in only two or three years the Soviet people have become the recipients of such a quantity of material benefits. I must say in conclusion that all accounts of the rapid strides toward perfection of a socialist state are true, though I admit the truth of the squalor reported by early repatriates, who witnessed earlier conditions in that country."

ITEM 8 REPATS FEARING RADICALS TO BE PROTECTED

(Full Translation)

644.1  
ASAHI SHIMBUN, 19 Jul (Maizuru dispatch) -- The Maizuru repatriation relief office, on the basis of its experience with the first group of repatriates, has modified its plans for the reception and aid of the second group soon to arrive. The following changes have been made: (1) repatriates will be accurately informed of political, economic and living conditions in Japan. (2) Upon request, special protection will be provided repatriates who are seized with a fear complex because of the influence of some radicals among them.

ITEM 19 SECOND GROUP REPATRIATES REFUSE CLOTHING ISSUE

(Full Translation)

644.1  
JIJI SHIMPO, 22 Jul (Maizuru Dispatch) -- Repatriates returning aboard the Oiku Maru and Eihoku Maru, who passed their first night in Japan at reception centers here, yesterday rejected the distribution of clothing and other rations and acted perversely, thus creating a heavy atmosphere. They seem aware of the Kyoto incident and other local occurrences and apparently have agreed to take orderly collective actions until they reach their own homes. Unlike the first group of repatriates, who conducted heated debates, they are outwardly calm but remain expressionless and tight-lipped while breathing the scent of their native provinces in their "own" rooms.



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Repatriation

644-1 AKAHATA, stepping up its campaign to bring the repatriates into the Communist Party, charged the Government with launching orientation programs at debarking points to "deprive the repatriates of their fighting spirit as well as their organized co-operativeness." It urged party members to bolster the anti-Yoshida offensive by recruiting the repatriates, "who have returned inspired by the lofty ideals of peace, freedom, and independence." The problems facing the repatriates, the Communist daily stressed, are exactly the ones that all workers must solve.

Because of the shortage of housing and jobs, repatriates imbued with communism "cannot remain inactive," TOKYO SHIMBUN believed. But it asked them to think twice before committing themselves to militant leftist policies "Should a dictatorship be established through revolution by force," the paper said, "the Allied Powers would certainly suspend their economic assistance. And since both Russia and Communist China have nothing to spare for Japan, a miserable situation would follow."

644-1 Today's YOMIURI told the public livelihood commissioners to exert all-out efforts to find employment for repatriates; otherwise the repatriates' "belief in communism will take firm root." MAINICHI today also stressed the need for employment measures and called for the co-operation of central and local governments. Relatives and friends were advised to treat repatriates with a "warm heart" to make them a part of the nation's democratic reconstruction.

REPATRIATES

644-1 Nine Hundred repatriates staged a sitdown strike in Kyoto yesterday, refusing to transfer to homebound trains until two arrested trade unionists were released. The two union men were members of a labor delegation that tried to lead 119 Hokkaido repatriates through a police line to a welcome rally at the station plaza. Repatriates arriving later--bound for the Chugoku, Kyushu, and Tokai areas--joined their Hokkaido colleagues in protesting the arrests. Letting their trains leave without them, they demonstrated against the presence of station police and demanded that "democratic organizations" be given free access to the station platform. Police released the two unionists first taken into custody but rounded up others. (a) Though offered special trains, the striking repatriates refused to budge until the release of all arrested unrested union members, including the 10 who participated in an invasion of the station master's office. (f)

5 JUL. Of the 2,000 repatriates who debarked from the Eitoku Maru on 30 June, 1,827 joined the Communist Party prior to their departure from the Maizuru reception center yesterday. (g)

REPATRIATION

644-1 Chief Cabinet Secretary MASUDA yesterday warned repatriates to beware of intimidation by a minority group. (d) Elsewhere, confusion at train stations due to Communist welcome demonstrations prompted an admonishment from railway officials yesterday and a ban on future demonstrations in Osaka. (b)

Miscellaneous

644-1 TOKYO TIMES deplored the fact that the repatriates were so thoroughly indoctrinated with communism that they disregarded the truth behind the repatriation efforts of the Japanese people. Believing that they will gradually realize the difference between democracy and communism, the daily urged both the nation and the Government to tell these repatriates all the facts as soon as possible to facilitate their understanding.

ASAHI, in its subeditorial, regretted that public sentiment toward the repatriates is getting cold, stating that indiscriminately branding all repatriates as "red" and refusing to help them will only make them more radical.

Miscellaneous

644-1 NIHON KEIZAI's first editorial attributed the revolutionary inclination of the repatriates to their long denial of personal freedom. Observing that the Japanese people have only recently begun to appreciate freedom after the war, the daily urged that the repatriates be helped to understand the value of democracy and freedom. "Freedom gained at the price of a great war should not be left to the mercy of the brutal force and despotism of communism," the daily concluded.

Repatriation

644-1 TOKYO NICHINICHI suggested that freeing repatriates from the cares of employment and housing problems would provide the best ideological countermeasure to their Communist indoctrination. All the funds earmarked for the stereotyped reception programs should be diverted to this plan, the journal believed. Should the repatriates come to depend on the "red flags" alone and remain idle spectators, the difficulties attending the reconstruction of Japan would be increased all the more, the paper concluded.



ITEM 1 REPARATIONS AND JAPAN'S POSITION

(Summary)

644.1

ASAHI HYORON (Monthly magazine), July 49 -- On 12 May, the US Government announced that reparations would be halted, and that after October Japan would be permitted an unrestricted expansion of her peaceful industries. Simultaneously Major-general McCOY, US representative on the Far Eastern Commission, issued a lengthy statement further clarifying the announcement. Once this news was widely disseminated, many Japanese papers and magazines viewed the issue as if reparations had already come to an end, and many capitalists and Government officials began vigorously to express mistaken, premature, and prejudiced views.

NODA, vice-director of the ESB, stated; "The machinery to be released from reparations may be unfit for direct use, but we will be able to export it, since it is expected that a demand will arise in the Oriental market."

Finance Ministry officials expressed the more equitable view that the equipments designated should be returned to their former owners after formal acceptance of this decision by the FEC. Most economic magazines stated that companies designated would quickly improve operation as the result of the sudden increase in assets.

It is difficult to judge the exact reaction of monopolistic capital to the situation, but it seems that most monopoly capitalists consider it better to abide their time, in view of present development of the situation, which they believe cannot turn to their disadvantage. Some powerful capitalists of the ex-Zaibatsu group are quietly returning to the scene. For instance, in the case of the designated Hirohata plant of the Japan Iron and Steel Company, the best and newest foundry, it is rumored that monopoly capital's vigorous secret activities are centering around its management and the introduction of foreign capital; this move will accelerate in step with today's developments. This example illustrates the desire of monopolistic capital and the government to return to power by taking advantage of every opportunity.

But even if the new US reparation policy is carried through, matters will not be as simple as they believe. This can be understood from the statement by WASHIO, vice-president of the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, that "In Germany, when reparations removal was halted half a year ago, the companies concerned were not permitted to take over the material as their property." Moreover, as far as the McCOY statement is concerned, we can find nothing in it but cancellation of the interim directive.

The halt of reparation removals from Japan has become a serious international issue, and in that regard also, the Government and monopolistic capital are giving it grave consideration. Nevertheless, our working class seems to be unexpectedly indifferent to this issue, which is neither a matter of the remote future nor unrelated to them. If removals are actually halted, production and the number of workers may increase in the case of a few factories with superior equipment.



ECONOMICITEM 1 (Continued)

But under the present situation, where demand is beginning to decline, beginning the operation of such superior equipment will not always mean the increase in production as a whole. Rather, will some weak enterprises be compelled to cease operation.

HORIKOSHI, the former vice-director of the ESB, has stated: "Some of the factories built after the war may collapse if higher class reparations plants are fully operated." He added that, if the Government ceases to pay expenses for the preservation of those plants designated for reparations, it is feared that some enterprisers will dispose of their equipment as scrap. In short, the halt of reparations removals will promote concentrated production and the adjustment of enterprises, while on the other hand, increasing the number of dismissals and unemployed.

It goes without saying that no one gladly pays reparations, but as long as he recognizes his past errors he should be determined to meet the fair demands for reparations from the countries in question; and this is a matter of international credit as far as a new Japan is concerned. With such credit and the friendly relationship based on it, Japan will be able to pave the way toward her social reconstruction and prosperity. On the other hand, as correctly pointed out by the leader of the Philippine Mission on Japanese Reparations, plants which would be useful if taken to countries devastated by Japan are now lying idle and useless.

Even if we consider the expansion of Japanese economy in the future, Japan has still surplus equipments which could be sent abroad. In addition, speaking from the current trend in the domestic economy, there are some phases in the payment of reparations which bring in not a little profit to Japan. It is earnestly hoped that the Allied Powers, taking these points into full consideration, will arrive at a moderate decision in regard to the reparation issue. At the same time, it is the duty of the Japanese to solve as their own issue the problem of how to sweep away the discredit in which the Japanese Government authorities of today are held by every country.

ITEM 3 REPAT WHO REJECTED RED PARTY SEEKS PROTECTION

(Full Translation)

64421  
JIJI SHIMPO, 8 Jul (Maizuru) -- It is learned that the Communist Party staged a fund-raising campaign, along with a compulsory membership drive, at the supply office of the Maizuru Repatriates Relief Bureau. One repatriate, who refused to cooperate, asked the protection of the Relief Bureau, being aware of the danger which threatened him.

SETO Tsutomu (42), who was born in Niigata Ken, Nakakambara Gun, Niizeki Mura, was repatriated, together with 2,000 of his compatriots, on 2 July on board the Daitaku Maru No 1, and has been staying at the fourth dormitory since he landed. On 5 July, while he was out, the Communist Party carried out a fund-raising campaign, and each repatriate was forced to contribute 50 yen. Although one comrade paid for him, SETO refused to refund the sum, saying that what his comrade had done did not represent his own will. He also refused to sign as a member of the party.

Aware that his personal safety was threatened, he came to the Relief Bureau to ask for help. Although the repatriates who returned on board the Daitaku Maru No 1 left for home on 7 July, he still remains under the protection of the Relief Bureau.



ITEM 3 REPATRIATE TILLS OF INTERNMENT LIFE IN RUSSIA

(Full Translation)

644-1  
 MAINICHI SHI BUN (Saitama edition), 6 Jul -- Under the auspices of the Narita Young Men's Association of Kumagaya Shi, a discussion meeting was held on 4 July with the participation of MIYAMOTO Masayoshi, who was recently repatriated from the Soviet Union. In November of 1945, following the cessation of hostilities, MIYAMOTO had been shipped to Russia, where all his belongings were confiscated; and in the subsequent four years, he was transferred about to six different internment camps. The following is a gist of his story of internment life:

The toughest time we had was after we were transferred to railroad work in 1946. We were compelled to work under the system of "those who do not work do not eat" and had to meet a daily work norm in order to get our rations. We finally began to feel the hardships of life in Siberia. In 1947, we could no longer endure the work norm, and there was no recourse but to join the democratic movement.

We were sent to an internment camp for Japanese officers, where they led an easy life. Antagonism subsequently developed between the officers and the enlisted men in the camp. However, a split also developed among the officers themselves. Some of them still read the Imperial Rescript to Soldiers, while the enlisted men sang the "Internationale"; they regarded each other with hostility. I think this was a deliberate policy on the part of the Soviet authorities.

When I arrived at Nahodka in June last year, I thought that I would finally be returned home, but we were left behind. At Nahodka, there was a hot struggle for leadership among the Japanese internees. People's courts were held repeatedly, and physical punishment of dissidents went on all the time. Our group was known as reactionary, and we did not get along with the group of internees who came from Khabarovsk and Chita.

Those who came from Chita were the most radical. They held anywhere from 30 to 100 meetings a day from morning till night. They often overruled our group's decisions through their assembly tactics. A reactionary would be hauled before the assembly and made to stand alone before the 1,000 Japanese internees while all the radicals denounced him.

The radicals took up such minor matters as the singing of a popular song or talking about one's sweetheart, and denounced the person as being a tool of the Yoshida Cabinet and an admirer of the United States. Therefore, my greatest fear were these assemblies. It was such that one person even hanged himself while some others tried to run away from the camp. The Soviet authorities finally had to issue an order suspending assemblies.

Sixty of us were tagged as dissidents and were put in a small room and given political education. The radicals would link arms and form a ring around us in the middle and jostle and push us in all directions until we nearly collapse. This was one form of punishment.

The only thing we thought of was to return to Japan as soon as possible, because once we return we would make out some way or another. Fearing a recurrence of last year's Maizuru incident, the radicals sought to escape our vengeance on the home-bound ship and made frantic efforts to further educate us so we would not cause such an incident again. They should be severely punished for their acts which caused their fellow countrymen to even commit suicide.

We were compelled to work until one hour before our embarkation. Those who returned on the T.K. SAGO Maru and saw the red and white sun flag on the mast and were finally welcomed at Maizuru but did not shed a tear are not human beings. The extreme leftists were disappointed when they heard from the ship's crew and nurses that conditions in Japan was quite contrary to their malicious propaganda. However, they regained their spirits after they debarked at Maizuru and boarded the train.



ITEM 9 REPATRIATES BRING DEMANDS TO RELIEF BOARD

(Full Translation)

644.1  
YOMIURI SHIMBUN, 8 Jul -- Aboard train No 8022, a special from Higashi Maizuru which passed Odawara Station at 0905 hours on 7 July, were 386 repatriates who had returned on the No 1 DAITAKU Maru. They were bound for Tochigi, Saitama, Iwate, Akita, Fukushima, Yamagata and Aomori prefectures. The train arrived at Omiya Station at 1234 hours, having run non-stop on the freight track from Hiratsuka.

Most of the repatriates were met by their families and proceeded to their homes. However, 178, composing two groups for Omiya and Tokyo, called at the Repatriates Relief Board at 1830 hours, where they met Chief DAZAI of the general affairs section. They submitted an eight-point written demand, asking among other things that he assume responsibility for the change in the repatriates' train schedule. Later they went to the Shitaya Public Hall, where they passed the night.

ITEM 11 HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESS INTERVIEWS WITH REPATRIATES

(Extracts)

644.1  
MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Yamanashi Edition), 8 Jul -- TSURUTA Isao, 36, of Yamanashi Ken, Kofu Shi, Aomuma Machi, repatriated from the Soviet Union aboard the Takasago Maru, and induced to join the Communist Party while at Kyoto Station, stated: "I intend to announce my withdrawal to party headquarters within a few days, because I have reached the conclusion that a party linked with terrorism is in no way a friend of the masses. Henceforth I intend to exert my utmost as a Japanese citizen, while working for a company operated by my elder brother."

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Chukyo Edition), 8 Jul -- UMEMURA Kiyooki, 42, Nagoya Shi, Showa Ku, Yamamoto Cho, former president of the Chukyo Commercial College, repatriated aboard the Daitaku Maru from the Soviet Union, said: "Because of false propaganda about Japan that we heard while in the Soviet Union, we felt as though all Japanese who greeted us were our enemies. This is the reason why those who returned aboard the first and second repatriation ships created the disturbances at Kyoto, I suppose. Those of us who first learned the truth at Maizuru decided to ask the Communist Party of Japan to send our written resolution to the Soviet Union demanding an end to such propaganda activities...Soviet education has its strong points. For example, students are achieving good results in a comparatively short time (four hours daily) through teachers' lectures, experiments, practical training, debates, etc. As an educator I wish to utilize these merits."

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Yamanashi Edition), 8 Jul -- Twenty seven of the 32 natives of Yamanashi Ken, repatriated aboard the Daitaku Maru from the Soviet Union, attended a welcome meeting in front of Kofu Station upon their arrival on 7 July. KIYOSHIMA Keijiro, Kofu Shi, Ise Cho, representing the group, stated in an address: "At Maizuru we were given only 1000 yen each. How can this small amount guarantee our livelihood? We demand that the Government here, in response to a resolution by the entire body of repatriates, (1) grant a 10,000 yen per person livelihood fund, (2) guarantee our livelihood for three months, and (3) purge the war criminals from the Maizuru Repatriation Relief Bureau."



ITEM 4 THOSE WHO IMPEDE REPATRIATION (Letter to the Editor)

(Summary)

644.1  
TOKYO TIMES, 3 Jul -- The long awaited repatriation has been resumed. Although no mention has been made of repatriation from Dairen, I suppose that the 2,000 Japanese who are still being detained there were equally excited upon hearing the news that repatriation has been resumed. I was repatriated from Dairen with my family almost a year ago. I frequently recall the various events during my stay in Dairen. I discovered that my mother country, which I yearned for even in my dreams, was quite different from the one which was described to me in Dairen, and that the statements of the Communists in Dairen were false in many respects.

While interned in Dairen, we petitioned the Soviet Army to promote repatriation through the Japanese workers union. (The staff is all Communist) We were told, however, that the Soviet Army could do nothing because the Japanese government did not offer repatriation ships. At this reply, we all denounced the Japanese government, forgetting that we had been offered only one-sided information.

In due time, however, repatriation became a reality, and the Soviet Army announced that all Japanese would be permitted to repatriate or remain in Dairen if they so chose. At this announcement of democratic repatriation, we were greatly rejoiced, and felt grateful to the Soviet Army. But just when we were to be notified of the repatriation schedule, the Soviet Army broke its promise, and announced that those who were necessary for the democratic reconstruction of Dairen and Port Arthur would be required to remain, and only those who are not needed would be repatriated. At that point, we realized what was meant by democratic repatriation. Almost all of the Japanese technicians desired repatriation and only the merchants and the women who were married to foreigners wanted to remain. Their wishes, however, were ignored. Most of the technicians were compelled to remain in Dairen, while ordinary citizens and women, some of whom were very eager to remain, were put aboard repatriation ships by force.

When I was preparing for repatriation, my eldest son, who attended the second year class of a primary school, informed me that he was unwilling to return to Japan. He told me that his teacher had said that Japanese children were all clothed in rags, and beaten by American soldiers. My daughter, then attending the fifth year class, also showed reluctance toward repatriation, because of a similar story by her teacher. They now laugh at the lies told by their former teacher -- disproved by their actual experiences in Japan.

In Dairen, we were told that Japanese cities and ports were overflowing with paupers, and repatriates would be stripped of all their possessions by the paupers. I would just like to show the perfect accommodations provided for the repatriates at the port of Higashi-Maizuru to the Communist leaders of the Japanese Workers Union in Dairen. At the same time, I hope that the Japanese, who still hesitate to return to Japan because of false informations, will be made aware of actual conditions in their mother country.

(ARIMA Yoshiharu, official, Kitatama)

ITEM 2 REPATRIATES PLEDGE TO FIGHT AGAINST CAPITALISTS

(Full Translation)

644.1  
AKAHATA, 3 Jul - Forty-one repatriates, the first contingent returning to Fukushima Ken via the Northeastern Main Line, attended on 2 July the convention to organize the League to Safeguard Democracy. These men who had detrained at Ueno Station the same day entered the convention hall waving red flags and were received with a thunderous standing ovation. The 41 mounted the stage and presented a picture of vigor and determination.

Representing the group, ISHIDO Zensuke (29) from Wakamatsu Shi made the following pledge which won vigorous applause: "We have just returned. The Government's business with us since disembarkation four days ago has had nothing to do with demobilization. All it wants is information from us that will be useful to monopoly capitalists who want a third world war. But we have dumbfounded the Government authorities. There are 2,000 of us dispersed through the whole country. Our objective is simply to fight to overthrow our foes who oppose peace, democracy and independence. The longer the repatriates who are to be returned are delayed, the greater will be their determination to accomplish this aim."



ITEM 1 LIVELIHOOD STABILIZATION MEASURES FOR REPATRIATES

(Summary)

644/1  
 AKITA SAKIGAKE SHIMPO (Akita), 30 Jun -- With the return of repatriation ships, thousands of Japanese repatriates have come home after a long absence. This is, of course, a matter of great joy for the repatriates and their relatives, but at the same time, serious consideration must be given to the living problem now confronting the repatriates. While some may not have any difficulties in rehabilitating themselves, many will be unable to sustain themselves unless measures to guarantee their livelihood are established immediately by the authorities concerned.

Although the social situation has greatly improved when compared with that in the days immediately after the surrender, it cannot be said that the livelihood of the repatriates has improved in proportion. The very fact that society is on the road to stabilization is leaving little room for financially powerless repatriates to make a decent living. To make matters worse, a large number of workers are losing their jobs because of the enforcement of the administrative readjustment and the industrial rationalization programs. Such being the case, it is almost impossible for the repatriates, who are ill-informed of domestic conditions, to sustain themselves independently without some form of outside help.

As organizations to aid repatriates there are the Peoples' Rehabilitation Bank and the Peoples Finance Bank. But even if the repatriates could borrow a maximum total of 65,000 yen from the two banks, the sum would be too small to become any vocational working capital. Furthermore, it is not the desire of the repatriates who are unable sustain themselves to be subsidized by the Government. All in all, as long as basic repatriation relief measures remain incomplete in this manner, the future of the repatriates is gloomy and hopeless. Those repatriates who returned home immediately after the surrender, particularly those who become farm settlers, have managed to stabilize their livelihood to some extent and seem to have a bright future; but those who returned to urban areas and are without fixed jobs are leading a hard life. In this light, it is imperative that the authorities lead those who returned to urban areas to choose a practical country life rather than a city life. By so doing, even the small PRB and PFB loans can be used more constructively. In promoting the design of their living lies the true significance of welcoming the repatriates.

ITEM 7 FAMILIES TO MEET REPATRIATES AT MAIZURU

(Full Translation)

644/1  
 MAINICHI SHIMBUN, 10 Jul -- Many complications have attended the transportation of repatriates since the first repatriation train. As the plan to pass through Tokyo station without stopping ended in failure, the Metropolitan Government proposed to the Welfare Ministry on 9 July that repatriates be divided into groups of 60 or 70 according to prefecture, and returned home on regular trains.

The authorities will confer with the chiefs of public welfare bureaus in each prefecture in the Kanto and Tohoku districts to work out plans for the smooth transport of repatriates. Since the families of repatriates who come to meet the returnees see them taken over by the unions and the Communist Party, the metropolitan authorities have decided to have the repatriates be met by their families at Maizuru. Not more than two members of each family that has received a telegram from a returnee, and the contingent from a given district accompanied by someone from the public welfare bureau, will go to Maizuru to return on the same train with their repatriated relatives. It is planned that a part of expenses will be borne by the Metropolitan authorities.



ITEM 11 HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESS INTERVIEWS WITH REPATRIATES

(Extracts)

644-1  
MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Osaka), 3 Jul -- (The following is a study of the opinions of repatriates from Mahodka, drawn up by MAINICHI reporters at a round table conference.)

Questioned aboard a train on their impressions of Japan, 26 percent of the 335 repatriates who offered answers felt that Communist ideas were gaining ground, 22 percent stated that they had anticipated hard living conditions, and 17 percent averred they had returned to see that Japan's prospects remain as bright as they are. Asked which political party they would support, 84 percent favored the Communist Party of Japan, the degree of support showing a proportion inverse to age. Of those under 25 years of age, 95 percent favored the Communist Party. In the 26 to 30 age group, and among those over 40 years of age, preference for the Communist Party was respectively 89 and 71 percent. Of those favoring the Communists, 125 had only elementary school educations. The reason for their support was invariably that a communist society is heaven for the working masses.

They appeared quite confident in their knowledge of true conditions in Japan, based apparently on information obtained from the Japanese newspaper published in Khabarovsk and their political education in Siberia. Since it is at least four or five years since repatriates under 25 last saw Japan, they have no knowledge of the country as it now is. Therefore, as a 42-year old repatriate stated, they are not qualified to judge. He added that these youths are playing with fire, and that they may cause a big conflagration.



SOCIALITEM 11 (Continued)

When asked about their plans, 32 percent of the 335 repatriates said they would join a political party, 29 percent wished to work, 13 percent to please their parents, and three percent to get married. Their replies noticeably lacked emotional tenderness. Four years of detention and thorough political indoctrination seemed to have crushed their human sentiments. It was also noticed that, despite what they had to say, their actual behavior was conditioned by emotion.

Sixty five percent (80 percent of those under 25) stated that their major reason for wanting to be repatriated was to participate in the reconstruction of Japan, and 13 percent wished mostly to see their families. Fifty percent wished to return to their former occupations, 26 percent felt they would seek new jobs, and the remainder offered no answer. It is noteworthy that almost all repatriates are seriously concerned about job-seeking. They are fully aware of the gravity of the impending unemployment problem.

Repatriates state that the activities of "democratic groups" are most intense in the area from Khabarovsk to Nahodka. Activity is comparatively mild in remote areas, notably in middle Asia and the districts west of the Urals.

YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Toyama edition), 9 Jul -- MIZUSHIMA Kan, 25, repatriated aboard the Takasago Maru from the Soviet, at his home in Uotsu Machi, Takata Cho, said: "I feel that I cannot rely on government measures for the relief of repatriates, especially in employment matters. The Government should be more conscious of public welfare even though it finds itself under the Occupation." YONEZAWA Satsuki, 25, at his home in Takaoka Shi, Sakashita Machi, said: "Upon returning, I sometimes feel that what we were told over there was true. .. At any rate, I want you to hear what we have to say."

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ASAHI SHIMBUN (Tokyo Suburban edition), 10 Jul -- ARANO Kiyoshi, 35, of Tokyo To, Minami Tama Gun, Kazumi Mura, Takiyama, returned from the Soviet aboard the Takasago Maru. He is already working hard on his farm. He related as follows: "When I remember that I was put to forced labor in the Soviet, I almost feel as though I could undertake all the work in the village by myself. Even Soviet thinking is dominated by a feeling of irresponsibility and selfishness. Four days of experience since my return home tells me that this village is also contaminated with egoism. Although I have a position in a factory nearby, I think I will succeed my father as a farmer in order to make this village richer. I studied special cultivation methods in the Soviet, but I do not think that they are applicable to Japanese farmland."

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Iwate edition), 9 Jul -- KIKUCHI Tadashi, 38, of Iwayado Machi, Oki, returned aboard the Takasago Maru from the Soviet. He is now with his family and is already engaged in weeding chores. He expressed himself as follows: "On 2 July, we visited the headquarters of the Japan Communist Party in Yoyogi and joined the party. This does not mean that I believed in or understood the party. I only shared actions and behaviours with my comrades as has been our custom while on the Asiatic continent. Although



SOCIALITEM 11 (Continued)

I was taught something about communism over there, I failed to grasp it. I also doubt its applicability to Japan. After this long absence, I cannot understand various affairs in Japan. However, I am very happy to be back in my native place. For the present, I think I will do my utmost as a farmer, aiding my aged parents."

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Fukushima edition), 10 Jul -- OKADA Masaji, 26, of Fukushima Ken, Shirakawa Machi, Nengu Cho, who returned from the Soviet aboard the Takasago Maru commented as follows: "We were told at Nahodka to be Communists loved by the people. Therefore, upon returning to Japan, I was amazed to see the isolation of the Communist Party from the masses. ... During the war, we could not refuse compulsory visits to the Yasukuni Shrine for worship prior to our departure from the country. I think that it was a similar sentiment that brought us to the headquarters of the Communist Party. ... There may be some good points in the Japan Communist Party, but I think that the tactics portrayed in the recent incidents will bring about opposite effects. Since there is too wide a gap between what I was taught in the Soviet and what I am now perceiving from my surroundings, I hope to find the truth of the matter and on that basis, work for the recovery of our fatherland."

Soviet repatriate ONO Tatsuo, 38, of Fukushima Shi, Sakae Cho, 30, who also returned aboard the Takasago Maru, made the following comment: "We were Bolshevized not because we thought the Soviet was good, but because we thought that Japan was bad. Therefore, when repatriates learn of the farmland reform, the campaign for accelerating repatriation, etc, which were concealed from us while we were in the Soviet, they will eventually be freed from that ideology."

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Akita edition), 10 Jul -- VATANABE Ginkichi, 26, of Akita Ken, Yuzawa Machi, Goichi Cho, returned from the Soviet aboard the Takasago Maru after having been reported missing six years ago. He commented as follows: "Prior to repatriation, all of us pledged to join the Japan Communist Party. However, after landing at Maizuru, our resolutions weakened somewhat, and many desisted from joining the party. We were never forced to join the party. It appears to me that people are very nervous about the 'Internationale' being sung by repatriates. But we always sang this type of song over there. Most of us only sang these songs as we did martial airs during the war. Since I had pictured more dismal social conditions and ways of living in Japan, I am most amazed at finding conditions otherwise."

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Saitama edition), 10 Jul -- Soviet repatriate ARANO Kiyoshi, 35, who returned aboard the Takasago Maru, at his home in Tokyo To, Minami Tama Gun, Kazumi Mura, Takiyama, commented on communism: "I was surprised at the extent of the democratization of Japan when I found that farmland reform had been extended to this traditionally conservative village. ... I believe that communism, when pushed drastically, tends toward despotism. I believe that capitalism also has its merits. The Japan Communist Party at the present time is not as perfect as that in the Soviet. Moreover, any aspirant seems to be admitted into the party. Hence, even though most persons join the party only for immediate aims, few do so for the cause of their father-



SOCIALITEM 11 (Continued)

land. ... Perhaps because there are many party members who lack the intelligence and judgement to grasp directives from the headquarters and are apt to resort to violence, only the destructive side of the party impresses me. ..."

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Hokkaido edition), 11 Jul -- The following are reviews of trends by repatriates revealed at a Yomiuri reporters' conference.

The delay in the reopening of the current repatriation, which was originally expected in April, is being attributed by some repatriates to the fact that Soviet authorities intentionally delayed them for the spring planting of crops. ... As a characteristic of this year's group of repatriates, it is noted that farmers comprised 85 percent of the total; they were apparently kept behind in order to maintain an adequate supply of food. ... As a motive for joining the Communist Party, many emphasized that there was no racial prejudice in the Soviet. ... According to the repatriates, their living standards during the detention period were much higher than those after sailing from Nahodka. There are hardly any repatriates entertaining antipathy toward the Soviet. ... There were five repatriates who professed not to join the Japan Communist Party. One of them stated that in the light of present conditions in Japan, it was far more advisable as far as party activities were concerned to remain outside the party.



ITEM 6 USSR'S ABUSES OF REPATRIATION by OKAMOTO Yoshindo

(Summary)

644.1  
 YUKAN SHIN-KYUSHU (Moji), 1 Jul -- Regarding the numerical discrepancy between the Soviet's and Japanese Government's estimates of Japanese internees in Soviet territories, I emphatically pointed out, through SHIN-KYUSHU a few days ago, that the Soviet-announced figure was a pure Soviet invention. The Japanese Communist Party, however, has unconditionally accepted the Soviet announcement to the effect that, "The number of Japanese nationals taken into custody total 594,000 persons; and those yet detained, excepting war crime suspects, total 95,000 persons," to show their loyalty to the Soviet Union. At this juncture, I would like again to call the attention of the Communists to the fact that immediately after the surrender the Soviet Government officially announced through international radio that the number of Japanese surrenders totalled 594,000. Two specific counts were: 143 general officers, and 20,000 wounded. Furthermore, what is utterly incomprehensible is the glaring fact that the Soviet Union has taken prisoner a large number of Japanese military personnel and even civilians after 8 Sep 45, in violation of the Potsdam Declaration. She has kept these prisoners at forced labor even to this day in violation of the Provisions Concerning the Treatment of Prisoners of War.

With reference to the Yoshimura Case, the Communists stressed in the AKAHATA that the cause of death of the victims is solely attributable to the lynchings carried out among the Japanese internees. They went so far as to say that my supporters and I were attempting to make YOSHIMURA a hero. This is obviously an attempt to shift the responsibility for the deaths among the detainees, the number of which is yet undisclosed.

Although we Japanese believe that the 95,000 Japanese detainees will all return home within the year, we cannot help taking great interest in the fact that far more Japanese are still detained in Soviet territories. We must bear in mind that the delay of repatriation has vital connection with the signing of the Peace Treaty and with the independence of Japan. It is my sincere hope that not only the 95,000 persons contained in the Soviet announcement but also all remaining will return safe to their loved ones within this year.

(The author is a member of the House of Councillors).

ITEM 2 REPATS FORCE TOKYO SHIMBUN TO APOLOGIZE

(Summary)

644.1  
 AKAHATA, 12 Jul -- Eleven repatriates returning to Tokyo and the north, who were in the group of repatriate prefectural representatives detained at Maizuru for a "thought survey", arrived in Tokyo on 9 July and were highly incensed by a misleading article in the Tokyo Shimbun. Thirteen hours of protest from the repatriates, from representatives of the Japan Communist Party and the League for Protection of the Livelihood of Repatriates from the Soviet Union, finally led the Tokyo Shimbun to admit its error; and on 12 July the paper retracted its statement, and made a public apology.

The article in question had hinted a connection between the coincidence of a theft from the Daito Ward Office and the presence there of the first group of repatriates from the Daitoku Maru, who spent the night of 7 Jul in the ward office auditorium. The paper had thus connected two absolutely unrelated incidents. Chief NAGANUMA of the Ueno police station stated that the police had not decided finally that a repatriate was the culprit and had as yet been able to reach no conclusion. The Tokyo Shimbun promised the repatriates that (1) a correction and apology would be given a large write-up on the general news page; (2) care would be exercised in future selection of materials; and (3) the expenses of repatriates' stay in Tokyo and that required for formal negotiations would be borne by the Tokyo Shimbun.



ITEM 16 HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESS INTERVIEWS WITH REPATRIATES

(Extracts)

644.1

SANYO SHIMBUN (Okayama), 2 Jul -- NOGUCHI Setsuo, Okayama Ken, Kawakami Gun, Uji Machi, who returned from the Soviet Union aboard the Takasago Maru, stated: "There are no special differences between what we learned conditions in Japan to be like from vernacular papers in the Soviet, and the impressions we are now getting. Conditions seem to be at a standstill. None of the Japanese newspapers carry true expressions of public opinion. It appears to me that they represent specific classes of people only."

NIICATA NIPPO (Niigata), 1 Jul -- SATO Tsunesaku, 40, of Niigata Ken, Minami Kambara Gun, Niigata Mura, repatriated from the Soviet Union aboard the Takasago Maru, stated in an interview at his home:



SOCIALITEM 16 (Continued)

"The problem of 'red repatriates' is a rather delicate one. I, myself, do not wish to join the Communist Party immediately. There is apparently something to be learned from that system which, despite the expression, 'iron curtain,' is actually keeping the Soviet Union in good order, with no existing unemployment."

TOYAMA SHIMBUN (Toyama), 4 Jul -- When asked to confirm a rumor that some Japanese internees had preferred to remain at Nahodka, HAYASHI Yoshiji, 27, of Toyama Shi, Koizumi, repatriated from the Soviet Union aboard the Takasago Maru, stated: "It is true that an unknown number wished to remain there, having neither families nor relatives awaiting their repatriation. This, however, was not permitted by the Soviet authorities."

FUKUSHIMA MIMPO (Fukushima), 7 Jul -- Ex-sergeant NAKAMURA Kyoichi, formerly in the service of the Kotoku Newspaper Company in Manchuria, returned from the Soviet Union aboard the Maizuru Maru, and is now with his aunt KAWANISHI in Fukushima Ken, Soma Gun, Nakamura Machi, Mukai Cho. He stated: "Prior to repatriation, we were told to organize committees to defend ourselves against the terrorism and oppression awaiting us in Japan. We therefore returned to Japan in formations with a chairman and both a propaganda and culture committee for each prefecture. Repatriation was so conducted that weaker persons were returned earlier, and the young and vigorous were left to the last."

DAILY TOHOKU (Hachinoe), 4 Jul -- Checked by Communist barriers, only three of the 61, repatriated from the Soviet Union aboard the Takasago Maru, were on the repatriation train leaving Ueno Station for Aomori Ken. Commenting on repatriation figures, OSANAI Takeichi, Kitagori, stated: "The Soviet authorities did not permit us to mention the names of others in our detention camps when writing letters."

NARITA Ginji, Ikarigaseki, said: "All future repatriates will perhaps pledge to join the Communist Party. Detainees from Aomori Ken were especially enthusiastic about Communism, and were in fact classed together in this respect with the traditionally progressive Nagano Ken natives. We will refrain from rash actions; the solution of all problems lie in the future."

HOKKOKU MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Kanazawa), 2 Jul -- Ishikawa Ken repatriates, returned from the Soviet Union on the Takasago Maru, stated unanimously while aboard the train taking them to their homes: "While in the Soviet Union, we were overwhelmingly of the opinion that our sentiments then would not change after repatriation. We are moved to tears of joy when school children and old folks greet us; when received by officials who greet us involuntarily, we are disgusted. Newspapers, we have noticed, fail to report our remarks accurately, but tend to exaggerate them."

AOKI Saburo, 29, Kanazawa Machi, Sennichi Machi, stated: "Newspapers exaggerate our statements. They discuss our movements with



SOCIALITEM 16 (Continued)

statements such as 'their stubborn thoughts have become unraveled.'"

ISHIKAWA Minoru, 27, Kanazawa Shi, Chanoki Machi, said: "Upon returning to Japan, I was amazed at the gaiety of women's dresses. They should be simpler. There are also floods of erotic magazines. As things are now, establishment of a democratic regime can never be hoped for."

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NIIGATA NIPPO (Niigata), 3 Jul -- One of the 9th Niigata Ken repatriates returned from the Soviet Union aboard the Takasago Maru, NEZU Sentaro, 30, of Naka Uonuma Gun, Akinari Machi, stated: "It was after a great mental struggle that I came to believe in Communism. At present I am convinced of its correctness in the light of my experiences."

SEKIKAWA Shinichi, 32, Naka Kambara Gun, Muramatsu Machi, said: "Socialist ideology, which I accepted while in the Soviet Union, is quite excellent. It may be difficult to apply them to present-day Japan, but I will try."

HANYU Kishichiro, 32, Nishi Kambara Gun, Maki Machi, stated: "Politics and economics, as well as other matters, in the Soviet Union have hitherto been misrepresented. The standard of living for the working people there is far above that of Japan's middle class."



ITEM 10 AN OPEN LETTER TO REPATRIATES by GOTO Takeo

(Summary)

6/4.)  
 IBARAKI (Mito), 6 Jul -- Recent repatriates from Siberia, you were sent to Manchuria for the purpose of defending our nation. Now that the war is over, it is of no avail to discuss the past. During the period while you were first in Manchuria and then in Siberia, Japan has undergone an epochmaking change. A democratic Constitution has been promulgated, which places special importance upon respecting fundamental human rights and the dignity of each individual. Japan has renounced war forever. We have the most advanced Constitution in the world. We are now on the road to achieve a bloodless revolution by faithfully adhering to this democratic Constitution.

Abroad, the United States and the Soviet Union, in ideological opposition, are engaged in a cold war and competing in arms for an actual one. Inasmuch as Japan is still under the occupation, we have no right to comment on the attitudes of these two countries toward Japan since the latter half of the war. However, I, as a student of diplomatic history, can state the following with a firm conviction:

The attitude of the Soviet Union has always been unfair toward Japan. We cannot forget that the Soviet Union betrayed our trust in suddenly declaring war against us. The Red troops, upon entering Manchuria, have enslaved Japanese soldiers, out of whose number about 400,000 are missing. The Soviet Union has confiscated Japanese properties in Manchuria amounting to several hundred billion yen, when there was no official agreement to designate these properties as reparations. The Soviet Union has been sabotaging the Soviet-American agreement to send back 50,000 Japanese prisoners of war monthly. The Soviet Union has given little heed to the repeated entreaties of SCAP to expedite their repatriation.

On the opposite side, each one of us is deeply appreciative of the kind policy adopted by the United States toward Japan since the end of the war. Such great humanitarianism has never been manifested by the victorious toward the defeated in all history.

You repatriates have lived in isolation for a long time. Did you study the history of the Russian Revolution while you were in the PW camp? Did you enjoy so much freedom in your camp that you could unrestrainedly criticize the Marxist theory? Have you really analyzed the industrial and agricultural framework and the livelihood conditions of the masses in the Soviet Union? Have you read the Stalin Constitution? Have you an ample knowledge of the purge methods within the Soviet Union? If your knowledge about her is limited only to what you have seen from the windows of your camps, you cannot call it authentic information.

If you insist on Bolshevism, I will advocate real democracy. It cannot be helped, if, as a result, two worlds are created within Japan. Even if you really believe that Bolshevism is necessary for national reconstruction, you should advocate it within the bounds of the Constitution.

If you insist that Bolshevism must be carried out by force, your activities will probably be placed under severe restrictions by the decision of the people. Then we shall be forced to fight against you for the defense of Japan and democracy. We will initiate a movement to send Japanese Bolsheviks back to Siberia, the land of their dreams.

You have come back completely communized. Some of you tore the sun flags which children waved to welcome you. Some of you declared that you have come back to revolutionize Japan.

You had better try to regain your presence of mind, by quietly living with your families for some time. You should reflect once more upon the problem of national reconstruction from a new angle, and root out the philosophy of force from within yourselves. You should study the Constitution.

We are all imposed with ten heavy duty of constructing a peaceful and cultural Japan. You must become Japanese once again. You should compare the cultures of the Soviet and of West Europe. Let us all endeavor to create a really fine Japanese culture by adopting the quintessence of Western European culture.



ITEM 1 OSAKA REPATRIATE TO STAY OUT OF COMMUNIST PARTY

(Extracts)

644-1  
 OSAKA SHIMBUN (Osaka), 3 Jul -- UJIHARA Bunkichi (41), of Nishishintachi Mura, Sennan Gun, Osaka Prefecture, a new repatriate, declared on the day after his arrival at his home that he would not join the Communist Party. In answer to a worried query from his brother, Bunjiro (68), he said:

"I was thinking of joining the Communist Party upon my return to Japan. However, I was repelled by the lack of human feeling displayed by the Communists when they tried to pull me away from petting a lovely child at Osaka Station. Moreover, I have been amazed by the degree of democratization of Japan, especially in farm-villages. After sleeping on the question, I have given up the idea of joining the Communist Party."

ITEM 6 SOCIAL PARTY WELCOMES REPATRIATES

(Full Translation)

644-1  
 SHAKAI SHIMBUN, 7 Jul -- (The following is a statement to the recent repatriates from the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party -- Ed)

To you repatriates, who after a long internment life are again setting foot on your native land, the Japan Socialist Party sends its welcome from the bottom of its heart. The physical and mental suffering you endured while toiling at arduous labor under severe natural conditions for four years since the war's end is without doubt beyond description. To doubt during your internment when you turned your thoughts to the rehabilitation of war-defeated Japan and when seeing the development of the Soviet Union before your eyes, images of native scenes and the faces of your loved ones must have warmed your hearts.

The Japan which greets you is still on trial. We, who are struggling to overcome the unprecedented hardships of defeat in war and to effect a democratic rehabilitation of Japan, are still weak. We still are not necessarily fully ready to receive you properly. Twenty percent of the staple food necessary for our livelihood is supplied through the kind aid of America. Moreover, the necessary means for our economic rehabilitation is also provided through the kind co-operation of various foreign nations.

Our vital task is to overcome inflation; but in this, too, a path exacting great sacrifices from the working masses is about to be taken.

What we have gained through our hard struggles since the defeat in war is the appreciation of the value of peace and democratic freedoms. The military clique and the ZAIBATSU which drove you to the battle fields have been dissolved, and the greater part of the undemocratic forces of militaristic Japan have been expelled.

Japan has started a new life. However, the violent postwar changes have again given rise to the reaction of the bourgeoisie. The conservative parties, which control the majority in the Diet, are now even threatening to abandon partially democracy.

Furthermore, the Communist Party's ultraleftist tactics, on one hand, only keeps repeating the folly of maliciously provoking reaction. They are leading the struggles of laborers, citizens, and farmers into extreme difficulties; and the tendency toward fascism through ultrarightists and ultraleftists is threatening to subject Japan again to the dark sway of violent dictatorship and invite a crisis to democratic freedom.

However, the way you reportedly debarked on native soil, "as if making a landing in the face of the enemy," and coldly ignored the people who welcomed you with their hearts saddens us. Although the power of the reactionary force in Japan is admittedly strong, we also know from our four years of hard struggle that the basis of democratic freedom acquired through the defeat in war will not grow under such cold callousness. If such an attitude is what you learned in the USSR, through you, we cannot but doubt the kind of democracy in the USSR. That had warmed the hearts of each of you during the long months and days in the distant land has not disappeared from Japan. We believe, however, that with your homecoming your understanding of true freedom and humanism will grow stronger than ever. We hope that as you fight side by side with us against every obstacle, you will again come to see daily life in the homeland with an unbiased eye and that your 'second life' will bear you rich fruits. We hope that you will, first of all, acquire the basis for your new life and a free, unbiased eye. At the same time, we, the entire Socialist Party, are prepared to give you our greatest assistance for your new start.



ITEM 12 COMMENTS FROM REPATRIATES

(Extracts)

6441  
ASAHI SHIMBUN (Miyagi edition), 5 Jul - Former superior private HASHIMOTO Shinzo, 30, repatriated from the Soviet after six years abroad, stated to a reporter interviewing him at his home in Ishinomaki Shi, Nagaminatoda Machi, 13: "Communism has its good and bad points. I intend to apply the good points to the construction of a new Japan."

ASAHI SHIMBUN (Gumma edition), 5 Jul - KAMASUGA Tetsuya, 40, of Oita Shi, Osoya, graduate of Chuo University, and an instructor at the Taira Commercial School until he was inducted into the army, claims: "Only 20 percent of the internees in the Soviet Union were completely Bolshevized, and even of this number a majority can be swayed, depending on the treatment accorded them after they return."

ASAHI SHIMBUN (Hokkaido edition), 5 Jul - UCHIYAMA Yoshio, 38, who returned in the Tohju Maru from Sakhalin, said, when interviewed along with other repatriates on the whereabouts of unrepatriated fellow-countrymen: "SATO Kazuko of Ichikawa Shi was working in a paper factory in Shiska. Because of a mistake in the calculation of finished products she was sentenced to a prison in Kamikushunnai for five years. It is said, however, that all those serving prison sentences of less than 25 years will be allowed to return, so I think she will come back on the next ship."

YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Akita edition), 5 Jul - TAKEUCHI Tetsuji, a member of the Akita league for accelerating repatriation, said, after accompanying the repatriates from Maizuru: "Because there were repatriates who joined the Communist Party after reaching Tokyo, we were forced to change our train schedule. In a frank talk with the repatriates, I discovered that there were some who regretted having joined the party. I firmly believe that as the repatriates became reaccustomed to family life, and as they learn more of the situation in Japan, their way of thinking will change even more."

YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Yamanashi edition), 5 Jul - Former second lieutenant NARASAKA Katsue, 28, of Kita Tsuru Gun, Saruhoshi Machi, Fujisaki, who returned on the Takasago Maru, severely criticized his fellow repatriates for their cold behavior toward the people who had come to welcome them, saying: "There are many Japanese waiting at the port in Siberia. I was told that repatriation is being delayed because no ships were sent, but upon arriving in Japan, I saw many ships ready and waiting. I'm still puzzled as to what to believe....I hear there is a rumor that the present repatriates were given secret instructions by the Soviet Communist Party before their departure, but this is absolutely false."



SOCIALITEM 12 (Continued)

YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Akita edition), 5 Jul -- NAKAMURA Isamu, 32, of Muwa Mura related his first impressions of Japan, after returning from the Soviet: "I thought that economic affairs would be more chaotic, and I was pleasantly surprised. Nevertheless, I think the cultural level of Japan is still low."

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Iwate edition), 5 Jul -- Soviet repatriate KIKUCHI Tadashi, 38, of Iwayado Machi, Oki Buraku, expressed his intention to devote himself to farming: "I intend to discard all ideological matters, and endeavor only to increase production."

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Gunma edition), 5 Jul -- SAMUKAZAWA Tadashi, 35, of Ara Gun, Tatebayashi Machi, said; "I was in Nahodka from April of last year, but in the fall of 1948, just before my turn, repatriation was discontinued. Soviet authorities told us it was because 'Japanese ships were not protected against the cold weather.'"

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YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Gunma edition), 5 Jul -- Soviet repatriate NAKAZATO Eichi, 37 of Kitakanraku Gun, Fukushima Machi, said; "Even if we were unable to complete the allocated amount of work, our food rations were not decreased. If we exceeded our quota, however, we were given extra rations. All those remaining, therefore, are in good health, and there is no fear of their being overcome by exhaustion from overwork."

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Hokkaido edition), 5 Jul -- ISHIDA Hajime, 34, former assistant station master of Tei Station of the Maoka Railways, said: "Those who were imprisoned on charges of spying were not freed, even after completing their sentences. The prosecution would appeal for a new sentence. These prisoners will probably be held for a long time."

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Hokkaido edition), 5 Jul -- MAEDA Toshinaga (45 years old) was engaged in farming in Maoba Gun, Kantomari Mura. He returned with his family (10 members), and expressing hope for the future said: "Since a majority of our group are farmers, all we talked about on shipboard was whether there would be new lands left to cultivate when we returned."

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Akita edition), 5 Jul -- ISHIDA Saburo, 29, of Mutsu Mura, commented after reaching Yokote Station: "I had heard that Japan was democratized, but actually I find this is far from the truth. The councillors who came to welcome us stepped up into our matted sleeping quarters with their shoes on. That was enough to convince me."



SOCIALITEM 12 (Continued)

MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Akita edition), 5 Jul -- ONO Yasugo, 37, of Tanemori Mura said: "I made temporary arrangements to join the Communist Party, but I should like to make a definite decision only after I study conditions in Japan."

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Iwate edition), 5 Jul -- KON Seichi, 31, of Yamoda Machi said: "I had the impression after reaching Maizuru that certain parties were trying to keep us from mingling with the people. I cannot understand what the government is afraid of. Our wages during internment were sufficient, and we were able to lead a civilized life."

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Iwate edition), 5 Jul -- MIYANO Konjiro, 36, of Morioka Shi said: "I always thought that when I returned I would be so happy that I'd be overcome by tears. But now that I have come back, I can't experience such a feeling. What I'm worried about is-- what now?"

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Tochigi edition), 5 Jul -- SAITO Keiji, 25, of Shioya Gun, Akutsu Mura, Kami Akutsu, returned aboard the Takasago Maru, and reached home on the 2nd. On the 4th he appeared at the Utsunomiya Public Employment Security Office to look for a job. His comments were: "While we were over there, we were told that once we returned, we wouldn't be able to find even a grain of rice to eat; but I find that what I heard and what I see are two different things. I am heartened to know that everyone is managing some way or other. My relatives and neighbors treat me so kindly, and everything is so different from what I expected, that my feelings are all mixed up."

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MAINICHI SHIMBUN (Tochigi edition), 5 Jul -- FUJINUMA Tosaku, 39, of Tochigi Shi, Horyucho, said: "What the internees were most anxious to know about was their families. According to members of my family, they sent me four letters, but I received only one. I was able to learn about the Diet, and the political and economic situation of Japan through the activities of the Japanese Communist Party--they even supplied us with movies. Since we were told that repatriation was being delayed because the Japanese Government lacked sincerity and would not send ships, we were overcome by doubts, and began to rely only on the Communist Party. When, however, I recognized our welcome home as a heartfelt one from fellow-countrymen, I was completely overjoyed. Later, to be sure, I saw some homeless waifs, and could not help but think, 'Is the Government neglecting the victims of the war? Are we to share the same fate?' and I could feel resentment growing in me. I should like to decide my future only after looking into the truth."

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OSAKA SHIMBUN (Osaka), 3 Jul -- UJIHARA Bunkichi, 41, of Sennan Gun, Nishishentachi Mura, back again with his family, and already



SOCIALITEM 12 (Continued)

engaged in weeding chores, had the following to say: "I thought that when I returned I would join the Communist Party, but when at Osaka Station I tried to embrace my child and had my hands forcibly removed by the 'compulsion of democratic movements,' I realized their utter lack of feeling. After thinking it over all night long that night, I decided not to join the Communist Party."



ITEM 7 SPECIAL TREATMENT

(Summary)

644-1  
 MAINICHI SHIMBUN, 5 Jul -- The repatriates from the Soviet areas who recently landed at Maizuru Port are reported to have been thoroughly indoctrinated. They locked their arms together and sang the Internationale, putting the welcome party utterly at a loss.

In September last year, I returned home from the Ukrainian district, but the treatment I got there was nothing like that claimed by Soviet propaganda. For three years following the surrender I was sent to various prison camps in the Ukraine, and was exposed to Soviet deceptions and ill-treatment.

I do not hesitate to say that the recent repatriates know nothing of the real state of affairs in the Soviet Union. They had a biased Soviet education in Siberia. We groaned under the burden of hard labor every day, and had no time for such things as a "democratic education" and "cultural campaigns." Soviet regulations decree an eight-hour work day, but actually we were forced to work about fifteen hours every day. We were fed barley, corn-flour, rotten potatoes, and spoiled fishes and meats. We were required to produce what the work norm demanded, but were not treated as human beings.

It is natural for the recent repatriate, to be indoctrinated in Soviet ideology. However, as long as they have returned home, we want them to do their best towards rehabilitating the nation, with their eyes wide open to true conditions. When they realize that they were given special treatment by the Soviets for propaganda purposes, all problems will eventually be solved.

(KATAYORI Zensaku, A repatriate from Soviet territory Toshima-Ku, Tokyo)

ITEM 2 REPATS INFLAMMABLE IN GROUPS, CALMER ALONE

(Full Translation)

644-1  
 JIJI SHIMPO, 6 Jul -- Members of the Tokyo Students League, who went as far as Shizuoka to welcome arriving repatriates, described the returnees as follows: "As repatriates neared their native places, their feelings seemed to soften. When we spoke to them individually, we found many who were understanding. They seemed to become radical when gathered in a group, but to cool down when left to themselves."

A train guard assigned to the train related, "The welcome at Numazu was terrific. Ten odd repatriates hailing from Kanagawa got off the train at Yugawara and said they would take the next train to avoid the Communists. Their nervous air made us feel sorry for them. Whenever several repatriates came together, they became excited and shouted as if they were intoxicated. However, I don't think all of them are Communized."

KAWANO Goro, 41, a repatriate of Daito Ku, Tokyo, stated: "Soon after leaving Higashi Maizuru, we got an order for everyone to leave the train at Kyoto, because advance parties aboard the first and second repatriation trains had left their trains there and were standing fast. Not knowing what had happened, we became involved in that disturbance. It is certain that a few young people took the lead in that incident."

MIYAKAWA Mosataro, 30, a repatriate of Tokyo To, Kitatama Gun, Fuchu Machi, stated: "When the repatriates were surrounded by approximately 2,000 police at Kyoto, even those who had hitherto been wavering in their beliefs joined the radical ranks. Of those hailing from the Tokyo area, 14 or 15 on the night of 5 July declared that they would immediately join the Japan Communist Party. The rest said that they would think it over that night before deciding whether or not they would join the party. The blame for radical sentiment is also to be shared by the receiving parties: for example, a Commander HIROSE's portrait was still hanging on the wall of the temporary camp for repatriates at MAIZURU, and this aroused only antipathy on the part of the repatriates."



ITEM 3 DISPUTE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ARRESTED

(Full Translation)

644.1  
TOKYO TIMES, 6 Jul (Toyama dispatch) -- After a welcome meeting held in front of Toyama Station at 1950 hours on 4 July in honor of repatriates, scores of representatives of democratic organizations, such as the All Japan Communications Workers Union, the All Japan Electric Industry Workers Union and the State Railway Workers Union, submitted to the station master a protest against the State Railway personnel cut program, and put on a demonstration. As a result, the police ordered them to disperse, and as they did not obey the order, NAKAGAWA Rikimatsu, chairman of the struggle committee of the Toyama chapter of the All Japan Communications Workers Union, JOHO Hachiro, engineer of the Toyama engine-shed of the State Railways and six others were arrested.

ITEM 1 SECOND TRAINLOAD OF REPATRIATES REACHES TOKYO

(Full Translation)

644.1  
ASAHI SHIMBUN, 6 Jul -- The second repatriation train, carrying approximately 800 repatriates who returned on board the Eitoku Maru, arrived at Ueno Station at 2044 hours, about two hours later than had been scheduled.

The repatriates left the platform with their tanned arms linked together and, surrounded by approximately 1,000 members of labor unions and other organizations, the majority proceeded to the Shitaya Public Hall, where they attended a people's rally. Only about 100 repatriates, who had been taken in possession by their immediate families, boarded the 2115 hours Sendai-bound train and other trains reserved exclusively for repatriates.

Confusion started when 793 repatriates, led by station officials to another platform to change trains, suddenly attempted to rush out of the station, swerving from the Tohoku Line platform where their close relatives were waiting for them. After 108 repatriates were led one by one by station employees to the platform, the remaining 700 rushed out of the station and, amidst a crowd of people bearing red flags, proceeded to the Shitaya Public Hall, where a people's rally was to be held.

The people's rally was opened at 2100 hours, and adopted an 11-point resolution including the demand to withdraw State Railways discharge plan and to guarantee livelihood of demobilized soldiers. The rally was closed at 2240 hours. Six hundred and eighty-five repatriates present at the rally spent the night at the hall and got up at 0830 hours on 6 July. They all declared their intentions to visit the premier's official residence with the 11-point resolution.

Some 400 representatives of cities, towns and villages in local districts, who had come to Tokyo to welcome the repatriates, sat on nearby street curbs until midnight, awaiting the repatriates return from the public hall. Families deserted at the station met repatriates in little groups of four or five from 2300 hours, either at the public hall or out on the streets, and, through the good offices of the Japan Travel Bureau, were put up at 50 yen-inns and passed a sleepless night.

The same train arrived at Shinagawa Station at 2015 hours. Forty-three repatriates alighted from the train amidst a burst of cheers by waiting families and the singing of the "Internationale" by Communists. Some, surrounded by family members, burst into tears, while others tried to tear themselves away from their families, crying, "Let me go with my comrades."

The ninety-two year old grandmother of KITAGAWA Takeo of Shinjuku Ka, Yocho Machi, cried with happiness when she met her grandson again. The grandson then asked for his son. As the grandmother mumbled out a reply, he said, "So he died." After seven years of separation, they clung to each other and cried.

Some complained of the Kyoto Station Incident. Some soothed them, saying, "They will understand in a few days." Others dodged the crowd through a back exit from the station and quietly hastened home. Excitement at the station continued past 2100 hours.



644.1

# Diet Repatriation Group Given Ex-POW Testimony

## Mortality Rate About 30 Per Cent in Soviet Territory, Says Witness

An ex-POW witness testifying before the Diet committee on repatriation Friday placed the number of Japanese prisoners-of-war who entered the Soviet territory after the Surrender at 867,000 as against the Tass report made in May giving the figure as 594,000.

Yoshio Kato, 34, formerly Special Sergeant Major in the Japanese Army, told the Repatriation Committee of the House of Councillors that the mortality rate of Japanese POW's after entering the Soviet territory was estimated at 30 per cent. He added that during the period immediately before and after the Surrender, an estimated 8,000 Soviet and 80,000 Japanese soldiers were killed in action.

Mr. Kato based his figure on the Japanese POW population on a pamphlet he borrowed from a Soviet army guard. He also quoted a Soviet officer, who was transport director in the Maritime Provinces as saying that the Japanese taken to the USSR numbered about 980,000.

He also revealed the fact that during the winter of

1946, 200 men died of malnutrition out of the 1,000 members of a labor battalion he commanded.

Mr. Kato was one of the 10 witnesses summoned by the Repatriation Committee for a two-day hearing on POW conditions. The nine persons represent widely-separated areas in Siberia and other Soviet areas where Japanese POW camps were or are located.

Hideo Takayama, another witness, who was formerly a member of the editorial staff of the "Nihon Shimbun," a newspaper published for Japanese prisoners in Soviet area, said that he believed there were from 60,000 to 70,000 Japanese POW's in the Khabarovsk area in October, 1946, when he surveyed the sector for the POW journal.

When he departed for Japan on October 21, this year, there were 55,000 Japanese in Khabarovsk, 1,300 in Komsomolsk, and about 1,500 in Raichihai, 700 to 800 of whom had arrived from Central Asia. He added that ex-General Otozo Yamada, ex-Commander of the Kwantung Army, was detained in a Khabarovsk camp.

NIPPON TIMES 24 DEC 1949

# U.S. WILL CONTACT USSR ON CHECK-UP FOR NIPPON POW'S

## Issue Seen Headed for U.N. Since Soviet Refusal of Probe Likely

International News Service WASHINGTON, Dec. 23—The United States planned Thursday to take direct action on Gen. MacArthur's plea for investigation into the "dreadful fate" of hundred of thousands of Japanese war prisoners in Russian hands.

However, before action is taken, it is anticipated a note will be sent to Moscow reiterating United States interest in the problem.

Thus far, notes sent to Russia asking repatriation of all war prisoners have been fruitless although Soviet pledges have been received to return them home by a given date.

# Soviet Refusal Seen By PIERRE J. HUSS, INS Staff Correspondent

LAKE SUCCESS, N.Y., Dec. 23—Top United Nations sources expressed the conviction Thursday that Russia will flatly refuse an entry permit to any individual or committee charged with probing the fate of Japanese war prisoners held in the Soviet Union.

In the opinion of veteran delegates and officials at Lake Success, the Soviet Union would promptly open a counter-attack against such a move at the United Nations and charge the Western Powers with camouflaged maneuvers to get spies into Russia.

The issue apparently is heading for the United Nations on the strength of an appeal by Gen. Douglas MacArthur for a "neutral observer" to investigate on Soviet soil the fate of 376,000 "missing" Japanese war captives. Any member nation can place the question on the United Nations agenda by formally raising it with the Secretary-General.

Assuming that the United States government raises the issue with Secretary-General Trygve Lie, the latter most

likely will refer it for consideration to the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minority Groups. The group meets in Lake Success on Jan. 9.

This body makes recommendations to the 18-nation Human Rights Commission, headed by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt which meets March 27.

The subsidiary commission consists of A. P. Borisov of Russia, C. F. Chang of China, Jonathan Daniels of the United States, Erik Ekstrand of Sweden, M. R. Masani of India, W. M. J. McNamara of Australia, Elizabeth Monrow of Britain, Joseph Nisot of Belgium, Arturo Pallares of Ecuador, Herald Roy of Haiti, Rezarada Chafaz of Iran and Samuel Spanien of France.

United Nations sources pointed out that even though Russia may block an on the spot investigation into the fate of Japanese war prisoners, the resultant focusing of public attention on the issue at the United Nations may help to speed the ratification next January of the Genocide Convention by the United States Senate.

The convention making mass destruction of people through imprisonment or massacre an international crime punishable by law was adopted by the United Nations and already bears the signatories of delegates of 37 countries.

The issue of the missing Japanese prisoners of war in the opinion of United Nations experts falls clearly within the category of the Genocide Convention if proved even by circumstantial evidence that thousands of Japanese captives found a "dreadful" end in Russian hands.

24 DEC 1949 NIPPON TIMES

# Repatriation Ends

MAIZURU, Dec. 5.—The repatriation of the Japanese from Siberia by ship is now believed to have come to an end, with a total of 94,973 so far repatriated since the resumption.

It is recalled that the Tass News Agency announced in June that a total of 95,000 Japanese would be repatriated during the year.

MAINICHI 7 DEC 1949

# Soviet Repatriates Donate

Kyodo MAIZURU, Dec. 8.—Some 870 repatriates from Soviet Russia who returned aboard the Eiho Maru and the Shinyo Maru, donated ¥12,611 as "rice cake" money for the families of Japanese nationals who are still detained in the Soviet territory.

MAINICHI 9 DEC 1949

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644.1

## SOVIET BRUTALITY IS TOLD DIET BODY

644.1  
**Indoctrination Refusers Stripped, Immersed in Water, POW Relates**

Unrepatriated Japanese who refused to undergo Communist political education in Soviet prison camps were stripped naked and immersed in water and subjected to other brutalities, witnesses among the repatriates from the areas in question testified before the Overseas Compatriots Committee of the House of Councillors Saturday.

Following revelations the previous day, such as that the Soviet Government had published in its survey of the results of the Soviet-Japanese War that there were 867,000 Japanese prisoners of war, the committee continued its probe into the state of the Japanese still held in Soviet territory.

Satoshi Abe, 36, formerly a special sergeant-major in the Japanese Army, said that the 2,400 Japanese held at the Alchom camp since June last year were former gendarmes, special service agents, policemen and "reactionaries" and were stigmatized as "bad men, all fascists" by the Soviets.

They were put to labor in coal pits and if they refused the dangerous work they were beaten up, kicked around and subjected to every conceivable brutality. One time there was a gas explosion in a pit and the Soviets blamed it on the Japanese, who, they said, were smoking. The place was filled with gas to a high rate of 4-6 per cent. Weakened men numbering 400 had been sent from Alchom to Mutankiang in December, 1945 and more to North Korea in May, 1946. Kokichi Arita, son of the former Foreign Minister, was stripped naked and immersed in ice-cold water in the severe weather for refusing to be indoctrinated. Those who tried to escape such tortures were shot dead. Some were dragged by wire behind an automobile and their arms were torn off.

During the year, 800 persons died among the 2,000 interned, with the first ones dying off as a result of malnutrition, jaundice, malaria, and eruptive typhus. The next group who died were the ones who ate poisonous mushrooms and poisonous weeds from want of fresh vegetables and the third group died as a result of tuberculosis and low blood pressure. The last group to die were the so-called reactionaries who were subjected to severe labor, Yamamoto disclosed.

NIPPON TIMES 25 DEC 1949

## SWISS WON'T ACT ON POW PROBLEM WITHOUT USSR OK

644.1  
**Will Not Consider Matter Unless All Concerned Agree on Probe**

By The United Press  
 SCAP's diplomatic chief Saturday announced that the U.S. State Department had been formally notified of Gen. MacArthur's desire to have a neutral representative investigate the fate of Japanese prisoners still in Russian hands.

William J. Sebald, U.S. chairman of the Allied Council for Japan, said Gen. MacArthur has asked the U.S. Government "to give urgent consideration to the proposal with a view to determining what action may appropriately be taken under the Geneva Convention or other international agreement."

AFP  
 BERN, Dec. 24—The Swiss Government will not consider the question of its eventual participation in an investigation of the fate of Japanese prisoners of war in Russia unless all parties concerned agree to such an investigation, a spokesman of the Swiss Federal Government declared.

"Such does not seem to be the case, according to reports from Tokyo," he added.

He said that the Swiss Government does not know of any demarche by the American Government to the Federal Council or the International Red Cross in connection with the question of an investigation of the Japanese prisoners issue. The Swiss Government had learnt about that matter only through press reports he said.

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 NIPPON TIMES

## FORMAL U.S. NOTE TO RUSSIA LIKELY

**Direct Query on Japanese POW's to Be Made—SCAP Approval Awaited**

644.1  
 Kyodo-UP  
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 26—The United States, in a formal diplomatic note to Moscow early this week, will ask what happened to 376,000 Japanese prisoners of war who never have been returned to their homeland, according to authoritative sources.

644.1  
**'Mass Murder in Asia'**

AFP  
 NEW YORK, Dec. 24—  
 "Mass Murder in Asia" is the title of the editorial of the New York Herald Tribune Friday morning which refers to the demonstrations held in front of the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo for the release of Japanese prisoners. Noting the opinions of many who were subjected to labor in Russian prisons, the editorial adds that it is almost incredible that the Soviet Union killed hundreds of thousands of Japanese in this fashion.

No other reasons for the disappearance of so many Japanese prisoners, however, can be advanced, the paper continued.

Stating that Gen. Douglas MacArthur is now planning to ask Washington to seek the help of a nation which was neutral in World War II, such as Switzerland, in an attempt to get further information, the paper concluded that unless such information is provided by Moscow, many thousands of Japanese women never will know what has happened to their husbands or sons, except that the men they loved fell into the hands of the Communist Army and would never be seen again.

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American officials have decided on this step as a prelude to any request for an international investigation of the situation.

Gen. MacArthur, earlier this week, asked the United States Government to request "some neutral nation such as Switzerland" or the International Red Cross to undertake a probe to find out what happened to the Japanese who never returned from the Soviet Union.

These sources said that the United States felt it could not embarrass any neutral with such a request until the American government itself had asked for such information from the Soviet Union.

For that reason American officials decided to approach Moscow directly first and then go into the international sphere if necessary.

Therefore a telegram was sent to Gen. MacArthur asking him to concur in the State Department's attitude on the question and an answer was expected momentarily.

Officials said they had no doubt Gen. MacArthur would agree and thus clear the decks for another approach.

NIPPON TIMES 27 DEC 1949

644.1



# SCAP To Ask US To Seek Aid Of Neutral Nation Re Repatriation Issue

## Decision Made On Suggestion Of British Allied Council Delegate To Get Details Of POW's, MacArthur Says In Statement

United Press

TOKYO, Dec. 22.—General MacArthur today challenged Russia to let "neutral" Switzerland or the International Red Cross investigate "the tragic fate of the 376,000 missing Japanese prisoners" in Russian hands.

Following is the text of his statement:

I have accepted the wise recommendation of the British Commonwealth member made at yesterday's meeting of the Allied Council to seek the help of a neutral nation such as Switzerland, or of the International Red Cross, to gather the fullest possible details of the tragic fate of the 376,000 missing Japanese prisoners.

To this end I am requesting the United States Government to attempt to negotiate the necessary arrangements.

I can well understand the reluctance of the Soviet member yesterday to listen to so gruesome and savage a story in all its harrowing barbarity.

It could well chill and sicken even a hardened old soldier.

The Soviet member has now given to the press a letter containing charges have been so often made by the Soviets and so often irreducibly shown to be completely prejudiced, if not actually false, that their continued repetition could well be ignored under normal circumstances as merely blatant propagandas.

But when, as that this moment,

they are again taken from the shelf and freshly dusted off to act as a smoke screen to distract attention from the investigation of the dreadful fate of hundreds of thousands of Japanese prisoners probably dead on Soviet soil, they represent a callousness of hypocrisy I cannot fail to denounce.

MAINICHI 23 DEC 19 49

## Sebald Defines Russian Charges As 'Pure Twaddle'

By Earnest Hoberecht  
United Press Manager For Japan

TOKYO, Dec. 22.—General MacArthur's Diplomatic Chief today said the latest Russian charges against the Americans in Japan were nothing but "unadulterated twaddle."

William J. Sebald was referring to a letter addressed to General Douglas MacArthur which the Russian delegate to the Allied Council for Japan released yesterday.

Lt-Gen. Kuzma Derevyanko's letter accused General MacArthur's Headquarters of encouraging the Japanese Government to carry on "anti-democratic" actions.

Sebald's comments were contained in a press release.

"I have been asked for comment upon a letter dispatched by the Soviet member of the Allied Council to General MacArthur," Sebald said. "I wish to make two observations:

"1. The first intimation which General MacArthur had with respect to this letter was when he read about it in the press. This would appear to be, to say the least, a rather unusual method for the representative of a foreign Government to communicate with the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

"2. As for the contents of the letter, I can only say that it consists of unadulterated twaddle in its use of the extravagant Communist jargon to which we have long become accustomed. The letter clearly represents an endeavor on the part of the Soviet member to throw a smoke screen around his lack of courage, in fact, inability, to face the searchlight of public scrutiny of the problem of Japanese repatriation.

"For sheer misrepresentation and distortion of facts, the Soviet letter goes so far beyond the bounds of decency that it does not even merit consideration."

Sebald's statement put an end to speculation as to whether or not General MacArthur would react to the Russian charges.

It was obvious that Sebald's remarks had the Supreme Commander's approval.

Since General MacArthur had not personally replied to the charges contained in the Russian letter, it was not considered likely that he would comment on Lt-Gen. Kuzma Derevyanko's "walk out" that the Russian delegate pulled at yesterday's session of the Allied Council.

MAINICHI 23 DEC 19 49

1. Whether the Soviet Union has any intention to continue repatriation of Japanese nationals still in Russian areas.
2. Names of those held and the localities where detained.
3. Names of those dead and the causes.
4. Nature of the war crimes for which 10,000 nationals are reportedly still held.

24 DEC 19 49

MAINICHI

Diet committee left shortly before 8 p.m. pledging to do everything possible for the speedy repatriation of Japanese nationals.

Committeemen Jitsuzo Tokuyasu and Hyosi Kujiraoka finally succeeded in prevailing on the fiery younger elements to abandon the sitdown strike and return on December 28. When this decision was reached, the demonstrators borrowed brooms offered by the Soviet guards, swept up the place and left close to 10 p.m. They said the Russians had promised to reply to four questions as follows:

al adviser, and another Soviet official, and had been told to return on December 28 because the Embassy was seeking information from Moscow.

The sitdown strikers said they did not want to be "tricked" again and would continue their sitdown tactics until they obtained a satisfactory reply from the Embassy. They stressed that when they called at the Embassy on December 15, they had been told to come on December 23.

Two Diet members asked the demonstrators to return home lest they fall ill sitting there in the cold but were told to "mind their own business" and leave.

Scolded by the demonstrators, the

## 400 Stage Sitdown Strike In Front Of Soviet Embassy

By Leslie Nakashima, United Press Staff Correspondent

TOKYO, Dec. 23.—Four hundred Japanese, the majority of them women, staged a five-hour sitdown strike before the Soviet Embassy Thursday night as they denounced the Russians as "liars" for alleged failure to keep a promise to reply on repatriation statistics.

The Japanese broke up their sitdown strike at 10 p.m. after the leaders finally succeeded in prevailing

ing on the younger elements to quit for sake of the aged women and children—lest they become ill—after the Embassy had reportedly promised to give a reply on December 28.

A little after 6 p.m. the Embassy admitted six Diet members and two leaders of the sitdown strikers into the grounds. They remained inside for about 20 minutes. On their return, they reported that they had seen Anatoli F. Kotelnikov, a politic-

779



644.1

## NIPPON GENERALS DETAINED BY USSR

Over 100 Captured in War  
and Only 13 Reportedly  
Returned to Japan

By TOM LAMBERT  
AP Staff Correspondent

What are the Russians doing with the Japanese generals they captured in Manchuria?

As repatriation this year draws to a close, possibly to an end, the absence of high-ranking Japanese ex-officers among those Nipponese returning home becomes more obvious.

The Soviets captured well over 100 Japanese generals in their brief war in the Far East. As far as is known, they have brought back only 13, whom they flew in here early this year.

Most of the remaining generals are believed to be in a prison camp at Khabarovsk. Japanese here put forth several reasons the Russians might be holding their ex-generals: (1) The Soviets want to return all enlisted men and lower grade officers first; (2) The Soviets do not want the ex-generals back because they might form a nucleus for an army if Japan ever went on the war path again; and (3) The Soviet do not want the ex-generals back because they know too much about Russian warfare and might tell what they know to the Americans.

DEC 3 1949

NIPPON TIMES

## Anti-Red Repatriates Wear Unique Emblem To Show Patriotism

By The Associated Press  
Anti-Communist Japanese returning from Russian prison camps have developed a way of showing their love for Japan, reports reaching here from the repatriation center of Maizuru indicated. To set themselves off from the minority of heavily indoctrinated pro-Russian returnees, some of the Japanese wear a tiny duplicate of Japan's flag—a white field with a red sun in the center—on their jackets. And the tiny symbol is made in typical Japanese fashion. The returning ex-prisoners of war put a few drops of their blood in the center of a small square of cloth.

DEC 4 1949

NIPPON TIMES

**Expediting Repatriation**  
Kita Nihon Shimbun, Toyama  
About 10,000-odd Japanese were sent back by the Soviet authorities in November and according to them, repatriation from the Soviet areas will end with the return of a total of 95,000. The Japanese Foreign Ministry estimates, however, that many former residents of Manchuria have been taken into Soviet territory. The people want more definite and exact figures.

The discrepancy in figures aside, the Soviets have announced that there are 10,000 war crimes suspects being held in Soviet territory beside the 95,000 prisoners. The Japanese people earnestly pray that the Soviet authorities will deal leniently with them, too, since the Pacific War, so far as the hostilities between the Soviet Union and Japan were concerned, lasted only a few days and were never once carried on in Soviet territory. Taking these things into consideration, the figure 10,000 as the number of war criminals seems excessively large to the Japanese mind. We must petition for a more detailed information on the fate of the Japanese remaining in Soviet territory and release of the war crimes suspects.

DEC 12 1949

NIPPON TIMES

## SEBALD DIRECTED TO BRING UP TALK ON REPATRIATION

Placed on Allied Council  
Agenda—Premier Make  
Appeal to SCAP

By EARNEST HOBERECHT  
UP Manager for Japan

Gen. MacArthur has ordered his representative on the Allied Council for Japan to take up with the Russians at next Wednesday's meeting the question of Japanese still held in Soviet areas.

Gen. MacArthur's headquarters insists that there still are about 316,617 Japanese held by the Russians. The Russians claim they hold far less. In mid-year the Russians said they had about 95,000 and since then they repatriated about that number.

An official SCAP statement said Prime Minister Yoshida called on William J. Sebald, General MacArthur's diplomatic chief, Thursday afternoon and presented a letter to Gen. MacArthur asking his assistance in getting the Japanese back. Most are held in Siberia.

It was officially announced that "during the interview, Mr. Sebald revealed that Gen. MacArthur had on several recent occasions discussed with him at length the problem of repatriation, which has occasioned the Supreme Commander great concern.

"Sebald also told the Prime Minister that the Supreme Commander considers this question of such vital importance that he had last week directed that this subject be taken up at the next regular meeting of the Allied Council for Japan.

"Sebald said he had accordingly filed the subject of repatriation with the Secretary General of the Allied Council for discussion at the meeting to be held Wednesday, December 21."

Mr. Sebald is Gen. MacArthur's representative on the four-power Council, which also includes representatives from the United Kingdom, China and Russia.

The announcement said Prime Minister Yoshida presented Mr. Sebald with copies of a resolution adopted by a unanimous vote of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors of the National Diet urging action in getting the Japanese home.

Thus far there have been 618,382 Japanese repatriated. They are almost all home except those held by the Russians.

The Yoshida letter to Gen. MacArthur appealed to "world public opinion in the name of justice and humanity" to force the Russians to live up to their obligations to send the Japanese home.

The text of Prime Minister Yoshida's letter to General MacArthur, presented through Mr. Sebald, follows:

"The resolution on the acceleration of repatriation, which was passed unanimously by the House of Councillors on November 30, and by the House of Representatives on December 2, is enclosed herewith.

"The debate in both Houses placed special emphasis on the need of mobilizing world public opinion in order to bring about a speedy completion of the repatriation.

"It is a painful situation for the Japanese people to contemplate that large numbers of their fellow nationals are being still held in bondage in Siberia, Manchuria and elsewhere, and made to face for the fifth time the ordeal of winter in those frigid countries.

"It is a tragic irony that they should be detained in servitude and subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment when the Universal Declaration of Human Rights issued by the General Assembly of the United Nations in December last year is almost universally endorsed and upheld.

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"Acting on the fervent sentiments of the nation, I once more turn to you for assistance and request you to explore the possibility of effecting the return of the unfortunate detainees and prisoners of war through an appeal to world public opinion in the name of justice and humanity."

17 DEC 1949

NIPPON TIMES

### An Appeal to Humanity

The fate of 300,000 Japanese remains hidden behind the Iron Curtain. Are they still alive? Are they dead? What has become of them? Only the Soviets know, and despite all efforts by SCAP authorities and by the Japanese themselves, there is no indication that the Soviets are willing to give the answers.

In May this year, a brief Associated Press dispatch from Moscow disclosed that the Soviet repatriation authority announced the repatriation of "all remaining Japanese war prisoners in Russia" during the course of the year. The figure announced by the Soviets was 95,000. A close check of figures by SCAP and Japanese authorities, however, placed the number of those still unaccounted for at more than 400,000.

The mystery of the missing 300,000 has not been solved. To the contrary, it has deepened. Requests to the Soviet authorities in Tokyo for further information—at least the names of the dead—by the Japanese have been met with terse statements of "If you don't believe us, there's no use in discussing the matter." As the last ship requested by the Soviets docked at Maizuru early this month, records showed that 94,973 Japanese had been repatriated from ports in Siberia, Manchuria and Saghalien. Yet, the latest returnees revealed that they knew personally that tens of thousands of their fellow countrymen are still being held in unwilling bondage. Bewildered families have besieged the Japanese repatriation offices with letter received this year from their loved ones—loved ones who failed to return on any of the repatriation ships dispatched since June. It seems conclusive that numerous Japanese are still being held by the Soviets—and yet, the Soviet announcement had said "all remaining Japanese prisoners in Russia" will be returned this year. Something is definitely odorous, and it comes from behind the Iron Curtain.

To cite some figures, the Soviets at the end of the war announced they had taken 594,000 prisoners. The Japanese figure is more than two million. Taking the Soviet figure as a base, the startling revelation is made that not a single Japanese has died after four cold winters in the Siberian and European Russian hinterlands. The Soviets claim that 70,880 Japanese were freed on the spot of their capture and that 9,954 are being held for war and other crimes. Records show that 513,139 Japanese have been repatriated. The total accounted for is thus 593,973—only 27 short of the Soviet claim of the total prisoners taken. And yet, every repatriate has come back with the story of death as a daily occurrence in the Soviet prison camps. Moreover, a trial is being held now to judge a repatriate who has been accused of causing the death of a number of his fellow prisoners through overwork.

Furthermore, it is unbelievable that almost 10,000 Japanese should be held as criminals when the total number of those held for war crimes committed in all other areas of the past war is less than 3,000. The war in Manchuria lasted less than a week as compared to other theaters. If the cause for the imprisonment is other than war crimes, it speaks of the subhuman struggle for bare existence as hostages of the Soviets.

It is thus highly apropos

that the Japanese Government through the Prime Minister has addressed an "appeal to world public opinion in the name of justice and humanity." The deep interest of the Supreme Commander in this matter has been demonstrated time and again. Abiding fully with the provisions of the Potsdam instrument of the Surrender, General MacArthur has repeatedly urged the Soviets to live up to its stipulation that all former Japanese soldiers be returned to their homeland as soon as possible. He has made the shipping available in every instance, and as a result the repatriation program has been completed in all theaters of the late war with the sole exception of the Soviet and Communist-held area. As disclosed by William J. Sebald, chief of SCAP's Diplomatic Section and chairman of the Allied Council for Japan, the General has expressed "great concern" and has directed the Allied Council to take up this issue at its next session.

The Japanese people are highly appreciative of all that SCAP has done and is doing to enable their compatriots to return from the Soviet prison camps. The reports brought back by the repatriates from Siberia and other Communist-dominated areas reveal the horrible, inhuman conditions which the prisoners are forced to endure. In utter violation of all international and moral laws, the Japanese prisoners are being kept as slaves. Indeed, as the Prime Minister's letter to Mr. Sebald stated: "It is a tragic irony that they should be detained in servitude and subjected to cruel inhuman and degrading treatment when the Universal Declaration of Human Rights issued by the General Assembly of the United Nations in December, last year, is almost universally endorsed and upheld." Significantly enough, the Soviets and their satellites did not adhere to this world declaration mentioned by the Prime Minister.

In the name of decency, justice, and humanity, we ask that an account be made for the 300,000 Japanese who were taken behind the Iron Curtain. Indeed, we appeal to "world public opinion."

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17 DEC 1949

NIPPON TIMES

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# Japanese in Red Clutch

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## Reasons Behind Russian Unwillingness to Free POW's Revealed by Returnee

The USSR is not only violating international law but ignoring every fundamental concept of humanitarianism in detaining thousands of Japanese prisoners of war in slave-labor conditions, stated 33 year-old former sub-lieutenant Ryozo Yamamoto, in a special plea presented to the Nippon Times.

Yamamoto, holder of an unofficial record of having lived in a total of 24 different POW camps in eastern Siberia, returned on the last repatriation ship, the Shinyo Maru, on December 2.

He stated that luke-warm pleas to the Soviet Mission were no longer of any use in moving the USSR to return the rest of the Japanese in Siberia.

"Something more drastic must be done to stir up world opinion against the violation of the Potsdam Declaration, which specifically promised Japanese soldiers a speedy return to their homes after the surrender," he said.

Yamamoto pointed out that from his personal experiences he noticed that the category of war criminals and war crimes suspects included, former police, gendarmes, "Special Service Mission" members, and men in other information branches.

Yamamoto cited the case of a young civilian no more than 18 years of age who had served as a "boy" for less than one month with the "Special Service Mission" being given a prison term of 20 years on espionage charges.

The young ex-officer could not give any figures for the number still remaining, but stated: "Even in the Khabarovsk District, there were

more than 3,000 Japanese in ordinary POW camps when I left. That would give a good idea of the thousands scattered throughout Siberia in slave-labor camps, in prisons and in penal colonies, still waiting for a chance to return to their homeland."

He bitterly criticized the so-called "aktiv," the Communist leaders among the Japanese prisoners of war, who in their effort to please the Soviet authorities, had betrayed their fellow countrymen by false charges and spying activities.

He cited one case after another of Japanese prisoners being prevented from returning or sentenced to prison terms on the false charges of these "aktiv."

"In fact," he emphasized, "the last year in Siberia was a year of terror for the POW with the Soviet authorities deliberately encouraging the Japanese to accuse their comrades of reactionary ideas or to expose alleged compromising pasts."

All these things, he stated in his plea, had given him the impression that the USSR was intent on keeping as many Japanese in their hands as possible.

"The obvious reason for this," he stated, is because, firstly, the Soviet Union believes that she will have a bigger voice in the coming peace conference if she has a large number of Japanese in her hands; secondly, since she seeks to utilize the labor power of these prisoners of war and thirdly, since she hopes to use these Japanese as soldiers in case of a third World War."

NIPPON TIMES

17 DEC 1949

# 400 Japanese Start 'Sitdown'; Red Troops Guarding Mission

The Soviet Mission in Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo was besieged by an estimated 400 Russian Japanese protesting against the failure of Mission authorities to answer their petitions for an early return of their prisoner-of-war kins while two squads of Russian soldiers were detailed to guard the Mission premises.

The incident occurred after repeated pleas of the POW families remained unanswered by the Russian diplomatic authorities.

The Japanese went on a "sitdown demonstration" at 3:20 p.m. and as the paper went to press, the Mission gate remained tightly closed.

## Russians Rebuff Delegates

Five representatives of the 400 Tokyo families of unrepatriated prisoners-of-war still held in Soviet territory were rebuffed before the locked gate of Soviet Mission at Azabu, Minato-ku, Thursday afternoon.

The five delegates headed by Chairman Tokuyasu of the Tokyo Repatriation Acceleration Committee visited the Soviet Mission in the hope that a "formal reply" to their

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# Repatriation Completed Declares Soviet Official

## Remainder in Russia Are War Criminals Japanese Told at USSR Mission

A competent official of the Soviet Mission has made the first admission that repatriation of Japanese prisoners of war has been completed, revealed Chairman Seiritsu Tsujimoto of the Nara Prefectural Assembly.

This statement, he disclosed was made when a group of Japanese visited the Soviet Mission on December 15 to ask for the expediting of the repatriation of remaining Japanese in the Soviet Union.

Mr. Tsujimoto said: "The competent officer of the Mission made a statement to the effect that 95,000 persons were repatriated this year and that with this, repatriation had been completed."

"We therefore stated that we believed that there were

still a considerable number of unrepatriated personnel that we had proof of this such as communications of actual persons."

Asked as to what he thought about this, the Soviet official stated that all those remaining in the Soviet Union were war criminals.

Mr. Tsujimoto then pointed out to the Soviet official that the delegation published by the Tass Agency was 9,945, and the number of unrepatriated personnel exceeded this figure.

"We asked as to the presence in these figures, the reply given was that beyond the comprehension of the Soviet official."—Continued Mr. Tsujimoto.

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## PRESS COMMENTS

### Thursday, December 22 REPATRIATION OF JAPANESE NATIONALS

MAINICHI—On December 21 Soviet Premier Josef Stalin welcomed his 70th birthday and received congratulatory messages both from his own people and from foreign nations. As a neighbor nation just across the sea we also offer him our hearty congratulations on the auspicious occasion.

On the same day in Japan the Allied Council for Japan sat in session to discuss the question of Japanese nationals still remaining in the Soviet territory. The statement made by Chairman William J. Sebald before the session

could not fail to be heard by the Japanese. Many of the facts pointed out in Mr. Sebald's statement have been fragmentarily from the lips of those Japanese nationals already repatriated or read in the press. However, we have been in doubt whether we should believe these stories as told by a matter of fact, or in doubt. At least they were untrue.

None but the Soviet Union is in a position to clear up this mystery. We know that in the year that the War was terminated in the Soviet Union from being satisfied that not only the war prisoners but Soviet people had had a hard life. However, we help but wonder whether the Soviet Union does not us with information names of the war prisoners still detained in the territory, their whereabouts and a list of those in the Soviet territory.

The desire of the Japanese people to receive the repatriation is not at all a matter of mere humanitarianism. For the worries and of the families of those detained in the Soviet Union as much as possible from the viewpoint of we cannot help but sympathize with the Soviet Union on this question. On the occasion of the 70th of Premier Josef Stalin we make this appeal to the families of the Japanese nationals still kept in the Soviet Union.



# Repatriation Completed, Soviet Official

## Russians Are War Criminals, Told at USSR Mission

644.1

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Mr. Tsujimoto then stated that the delegation pointed out to the Soviet official that the number of war criminals published by the Tass News Agency was 9,945, and that the number of unrepatriated personnel exceeded this figure.

"We asked as to the difference in these figures," the reply given was that "as beyond the comprehension of the Soviet official."—Concluded Mr. Tsujimoto.

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could not fail to touch the hearts of the Japanese people. Many of the facts pointed out in Mr. Sebald's statement have been fragmentarily heard from the lips of those Japanese nationals already repatriated or read in their works. However, we have always been in doubt whether we should believe the miserable stories as told by them. As a matter of fact, we are still in doubt. At least we wish they were untrue.

None but the Soviet Union is in a position to clarify the mystery. We know full well that in the year the Pacific War was terminated conditions in the Soviet Union were far from being satisfactory and that not only the Japanese war prisoners but also the Soviet people had to lead a hard life. However, we cannot help but wonder why the Soviet Union does not furnish us with information as to the names of the war prisoners still detained in the Soviet territory, their whereabouts and a list of those who died in the Soviet territory.

The desire of the Japanese people to receive the information is not at all a political matter but is motivated by humanism. For mitigating the worries and miseries of the families of those still detained in the Soviet Union as much as possible and from the viewpoint of humanism we cannot help but soliciting the Soviet Union to take sympathetic measures on this question. On the auspicious occasion of the 70th birthday of Premier Josef Stalin we make this appeal on behalf of the families of the Japanese nationals still kept in the Soviet Union.

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# At 'Sitdown' Scene

## Priest Chants, Tears Flow, Russian Guards Tramp on Toes of Anxious Women

By TOM LAMBERT  
AP Staff Correspondent

644.1

A somber stillness hung over the Russian Embassy Friday, the site on the day before of a tearful, jostling demonstration against Soviet detention of Japanese war-prisoners.

The demonstration ended late Thursday night when the Japanese who had bedded down on the cold sidewalk and driveway before the big white building folded their straw mats, doused their small fire and departed.

Before leaving, several of them took brooms proffered by a great-coated Russian soldier and swept away the traces of their stay.

A number of the demonstrators however indicated they will return December 28, the date on which the Russians reportedly promised them an answer to such questions as how many Japanese still are being held by the USSR, how many have died, how many are under detention as war criminals.

The demonstration Thursday combined elements which probably could be found only in Nippon.

At one point a heavily robed Buddhist priest joined the demonstrators and chanted a few prayers for their success.

At another, Russian guards inside the heavy ironbarred gates before the embassy tramped on the toes of Japanese women trying to push inside for a talk with Soviet officials. At least two American correspondents likewise were jostled by USSR Embassy attaches.

While the crowd was at its height Russian Lt. Gen. Kuzma

Derevyanko drove up to the embassy gates in a late model Russian sedan. The car stalled. Gen. Derevyanko sat stiffly at the wheel, refusing solicitous American reporters' offer of a shove, until repairs were made and he could drive inside the embassy compound.

### Reply Promised Dec. 23

By The United Press

The Japanese broke up their sitdown strike at 10 p.m. after the leaders finally succeeded in prevailing on the younger elements to quit for sake of the aged women and children lest they become ill.

A little after 6 p.m., the embassy admitted six Diet members and two leaders of the sitdown strikers into the grounds. They remained inside for about 20 minutes. On their return, they reported that they had seen Anatoli F. Kotelnikov, a political adviser, and another Soviet official and had been told to return on December 28 because the embassy was seeking information from Moscow.

The sitdown strikers said they did not want to be "tricked" again and would continue their sitdown tactics until they obtained a satisfactory reply from the embassy. They stressed that when they called at the embassy on December 15 they had been told to come on December 22.

Committeemen Jitsuzo Tokuyasu and Hyeoi Kujiraoka finally succeeded in prevailing on the fiery younger elements to abandon the sitdown strike and return on December 28.

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24 DEC 1949

# Strong US Action On Repatriation?

By Earnest Hoberrecht  
United Press Manager For Japan

644.1

TOKYO, Dec. 15.—American officials in Japan will take some strong action on the Japanese repatriation question in the near future, it was learned tonight.

Today a delegation of top Japanese called on William J. Sebald, American member of the Allied Council for Japan. Their mission was to urge the quick return of Japanese still held in Russian areas.

The Japanese Diet has passed a resolution calling for the Japanese still held as prisoners to be sent home. Diplomatic observers believed the expected action by the Americans might lead to another flareup in Cold War propaganda here.

The question of Japanese repatriation has been a touchy one so far as the Russians are concerned. The figures they give for the number of Japanese still in Red hands are far below what the Japanese and American claim.

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23 DEC 1949

# HODGSON IS HAPPY OVER SCAP ACTION

## Hopes Russia Will Accept His Plan to Clear Up Whole Situation

By The United Press

644.1

The British Commonwealth member of the Allied Council for Japan, W. R. Hodgson, Thursday, expressed gratification over General MacArthur's announced plan to ask for neutral investigation of the fate of 376,000 Japanese prisoners missing in Soviet and Manchurian areas.

"I only hope now that the Soviet government will accept and that we will be able to clear up the whole situation and obtain the true facts," Mr. Hodgson declared.

He recalled in his statement before the Allied Council Wednesday that "in the early stages of the second World War the Soviet Union accepted my country, Australia, as the protecting power for the Poles who had been removed from Eastern Poland.

"Unfortunately," the veteran Australian diplomat added, "we were not very successful in ascertaining the whereabouts of tens of thousands of Poles who had been reported missing. We were supplied with little information and we were not allowed to visit places of internment as we were entitled to do under the convention.

"Still, the Soviet Union did accept the principle of a protecting power and did supply some limited information."

Mr. Hodgson noted that Russia has responsibilities under the Red Cross conventions signed at Geneva this year and other international agreements which require Soviet action in furnishing information on prisoners held as well as proper treatment of them.

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# 1,500 JAPANESE SAID IN SAKHALIN

## Former Radio Announcer at Khabarovsk Speaks Before Upper House Committee

Some 1,500 Japanese still remain in southern Sakhalin, said Keiichi Kimura, formerly in charge of the Japanese broadcast in Khabarovsk, in the afternoon session of the Upper House Special Committee on Overseas Repatriation Saturday.

He said that in January this year, he heard from a Russian colonel in Toyohara City, Sakhalin, that there were 6,000 Japanese in southern Sakhalin. About 1,500 remain since 4,900 have been repatriated since.

Substantiating reports of those who completed serving their prison terms, Mr. Kimura said he believed there were still about 400 serving penal sentences in southern Sakhalin.

While serving as an announcer in the Khabarovsk broadcasting station, Mr. Kimura said he broadcasted about 20 to 30 per cent of the names and addresses of Japanese interned in prison camps.

Satoshi Abe, quoting the words of an ex-major, said several hundred prisoners of the Nomonhan Incident were in Ulan Bator camp in Mongolia. He said a Mongolian reported seeing the officers and some of the non-commissioned officers facing the firing squad on grounds that they had planned a revolt in the camp.

Yoshiaki Sato, formerly stationmaster in Sakhalin, told the committee that he received a two-year sentence as a result of a railroad accident and was sent to prison in Siberia in June 1946. He said about 200 of the 2,000 prisoners were Japanese.

Hajime Munakata, former editor of the Nihon Shimbun, said the news were compiled from translations of Russian articles and reports of the Democratic Movement in various prison camps. The editing was done by Haruki Aikawa and about a dozen others, he added.

The second and last day hearings ended at 10:35 p.m.

27 DEC 1949

NIPPON TIMES

# Majority Of Japanese Left In Red Areas Of Manchuria Feel Bitter Against Nozaka

By Takeshi Ito, Staff Writer

MOJI, Dec. 8.—A great majority of the 200,000 Japanese, still marooned in Communist-occupied Manchuria, feel bitter against Sanzo Nozaka, top Japan Communist Party leader, because they think "Nozaka sold them out to the Chinese Communists," a recent repatriate from Manchuria disclosed.

In an interview, Dr. Shigeo Matsuura stated that Nozaka is believed by most of the Japanese residents in Manchuria as having presump-

tuously assured Mao Tse-tung before he came back to Japan that the Chinese Communists are "free to make the utmost use of the Japanese residents in Manchuria and North China for the Chinese Communist cause."

"They are indignant because they all think that it was this absurd assurance which Nozaka allegedly gave the Chinese Communist chief that virtually sealed their fate—unwarrantedly long detention and subjection to forced labor in Manchuria," he said.

Dr. Matsuura, who used to be the personal physician of Mrs. Angus Ward, wife of the American Consul-General in Mukden, before he came back to Japan a couple of weeks ago, is now visiting his old friend in Moji.

The repatriate physician opined that, considering the keynote of the foreign policy of the Peking regime, the recent unfortunate incidents involving American Consul William Stokes in Mukden are but a foregone conclusion.

"As personal physician to Mrs. Ward, I know both Consul-General Ward and Vice-Consul Stokes, and the Japanese residents in Manchuria feel grateful to them because it was their kind assistance that was instrumental in accelerating the repatriation of marooned Japanese from that area," Dr. Matsuura concluded.

large numbers of their fellow nationals are being still held in bondage in Siberia, Manchuria and elsewhere, and made to face for the fifth time the ordeal of winter in those frigid countries.

"It is a tragic irony that they should be detained in servitude and subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment when the universal declaration of human rights issued by the General Assembly of the United Nations in December last year is almost universally endorsed and upheld.

"Acting on the fervent sentiments of the nation, I once more turn to you for assistance and request you to explore the possibility of effecting the return of the unfortunate detainees and prisoners of war through an appeal to world public opinion in the name of justice and humanity."

The Yoshida letter to General MacArthur appealed to "world public opinion in the name of justice and humanity" to force the Russians to live up to their obligations to send the Japanese home.

The text of Premier Yoshida's letter to General MacArthur, presented through Sebald, follows:

"The resolution on the acceleration of repatriation, which was passed unanimously by the House of Councilors on November 30, and by the House of Representatives on December 2, is enclosed herewith.

"The debate in both Houses placed special emphasis on the need of mobilizing world public opinion in order to bring about a speedy completion of the repatriation.

"It is a painful situation for the Japanese people to contemplate that

"Sebald said he had accordingly filled the subject of repatriation with the Secretary General of the Allied Council for discussion at the meeting to be held Wednesday, December 21."

Sebald is General MacArthur's representative on the Four-Power Council, which also includes representatives from the United Kingdom, China and Russia.

The announcement said Premier Yoshida presented Sebald with copies of a resolution adopted by a unanimous vote of the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors of the National Diet urging action in getting the Japanese home.

Thus far there have been 618,982 Japanese repatriated. They are almost all home except those held by the Russians.

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# Gen. MacArthur Orders Allied Council Debate On Repatriation Problem

## Discussion To Take Place Wednesday; Premier Yoshida Asks Sebald To Assist In Getting Soviet-Held Japanese Back

By Earnest Hobericht, United Press Manager for Japan

TOKYO, Dec. 15.—General MacArthur has ordered his representative on the Allied Council for Japan to take up with the Russians at next Wednesday's meeting the question of Japanese still held in Soviet areas.

General MacArthur's Headquarters insists that there still are about 316,617 Japanese held by the Russians.

The Russians claim they hold far less.

In mid-year the Russians said they had about 95,000.

An official SCAP statement said Premier Yoshida called on William J. Sebald, General MacArthur's Diplomatic Chief, this afternoon and presented a letter to General MacArthur asking his assistance in getting Japanese back.

Most are held in Siberia. It was officially announced that during the interview, Sebald revealed that General MacArthur had on

several recent occasions discussed with him at length the problem of repatriation, which has occasioned the Supreme Commander great concern.

"Sebald also told the Prime Minister that the Supreme Commander considers this question of such vital importance that he had last week directed that subject be taken up at the next regular meeting of the Allied Council for Japan.

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# Russian Delegates Walk Out Of Allied Council For Japan

## Exit Made Before Sebald Could Charge USSR Govt. With Delay In Repatriation Of Japanese 6441



Acme photo shows a tense moment at the Allied Council session. Seen on the left are Soviet delegates.

By Earnest Hoberecht, United Press Manager for Japan

TOKYO, Dec. 21.—The Russians walked out of the Allied Council for Japan today before American member William J. Sebald could charge the Soviet Union with allowing a possible 374,041 Japanese to die in Soviet concentration camps.

Sebald said that 376,929 Japanese prisoners of war and civilian internees still are "unaccounted for" in Soviet and Manchurian areas where they were caught at the end of World War II.

He said there was a strong possibility that "only 2,000 or 3,000 remain alive."

Sebald made his charges after Russia's Lt.-Gen. Kuzma Derevyanko and seven staff members stalked out of the council chambers in the sharpest U.S.-Soviet break of the Japanese Occupation.

Derevyanko had taken the floor before Sebald began his lengthy indictment to charge that "American imperialists" in cooperation with Japanese "fascists" are using the repatriation issue as a weapon in a propaganda offensive sponsored by General MacArthur.

Its aim, he said, is to build Japanese hatred of Russia and prepare for using the Japanese masses as "cannon fodder" in a third world war.

Asked whether his walkout meant that Russia would not participate in future Allied Council sessions, Derevyanko replied to the United Press, "We'll see."

Sebald told the remaining representatives of the British Commonwealth countries and Nationalist China that according to "the best available statistics" 376,929 Japanese prisoners of war and internees in Soviet territories and Manchuria are "still unaccounted for today."

### Death Toll High

He charged that Russia, in addition to delaying repatriation, had subjected Japanese prisoners to killing labor and unsanitary conditions which resulted in a terrific toll of lives.

Sebald presented a theoretical chart of deaths which estimated that 374,041 Japanese have died during four years in Soviet hands.

"Thus, if we were to accept in all their gruesomeness the full implications of these ghastly accounts of disease, malnutrition, inadequate housing, physical abuse, and all the callous cruelties of slave labor conditions, combined with an apparent lack of even elementary medical care and facilities—if all these unbelievable accounts disregarded for

humanity are indeed true—we can arrive at the heart-rending conclusion that 374,041 Japanese formerly in Soviet hands are now dead and will never return to Japan," Sebald said.

"Can this be true? Are we to believe that of the 376,929 Japanese still unaccounted for only two or three thousand remain alive?"

Sebald continued, "we can only guess at what may have happened behind the curtain of silence that

has shut off these helpless Japanese from their homeland and their people for the past four years.

"We can only surmise the motives of the Soviet Union on refusing to fulfill the pledge given in the Potsdam Declaration and in failing to release repatriates to fill the abundant ships that the Supreme Commander has held ready and waiting at all times to bring them back to Japan.

### No Justification

"But even surmise and conjecture fails us in seeking to discover any possible justification for the Soviet failure—or refusal, or inability—to provide even the most meager information regarding the names and location of the prisoners held, or any form of vital statistics to show losses by death.

"Can it be," Sebald asked, "that the Soviet authorities did not know how many of these unfortunate Japanese were in their hands, or where they were located, or what was happening to them?"

"Does the Government of the Soviet Union wish us to believe that it maintained no records in its prison camps, no rosters of internees, no lists, no records of deaths?"

Sebald called on the absent Soviet delegate to explain to the Japanese people and to "the entire civilized world."

He also urged the British Commonwealth Governments and the Chinese Nationalists to help General (Continued On Page 2)

MacArthur "tear" the veil from the ugly countenance of the repatriation problem that should have been resolved long since, and of discovering the secrets which have been hidden from us for so long, to the end that we may know the number and names of the Japanese prisoners of war and civilians who have died during their captivity in Soviet-controlled territory and thus be enabled to hasten the return of those who still remain."

Soviet member Lt.-Gen. Kuzma Derevyanko took the floor before Sebald began reading his 5,000-word prepared statement.

He charged that "American imperialists," in cooperation with Japanese "fascists," are carrying out a propaganda offensive sponsored by SCAP to build up hatred of Russia in Japan and indoctrinate the Japanese people.

He angrily declared that American and Japanese leaders plan to use the Japanese masses as "cannon fodder" in the "war now being prepared by them."

Derevyanko charged Sebald, as Chairman of the Council with "deliberately attempting" to prevent the Council from discussing anti-democratic actions of the Japanese Government.

Derevyanko said that on November 14 he had asked that an item be placed on the agenda calling for Four-Power discussion of "certain undemocratic actions" by the Japanese Government but said Sebald had failed to put it on the agenda.

Derevyanko at that point walked out of the session, after being twice called to order by Sebald. He asserted as he rose to leave, "I do not deem it possible for me to take part in this discussion."

British Commonwealth representative W.R. Hodgson blasted the Soviet refusal to discuss Japanese repatriation as a violation of the Potsdam declaration, the Geneva convention of 1929, and the 1948 UN declaration of human rights.

He recommended that the Swiss government or the International Red Cross be designed to go into Soviet areas and ascertain the correct figures regarding prisoners held.

He expressed hope that a new agreement clarifying the situation might be negotiated between SCAP and the Soviet Union.

Hodgson noted that Russia had ignored an April 25 memorandum from General MacArthur's Headquarters asking for figures on prisoners of war. "That was only a reasonable request," he said.

When the repatriation issue first came before the Allied Council two years ago, Hodgson said, it was estimated that there were 800,000 Japanese in Russian hands. "That figure had never been challenged by the Soviets" Hodgson added "the only conclusion we can arrive at was that the figure was accepted as such."

"The other day the Soviet mission spokesman said that with the return of 97,000 this year, the repatriation program had been completed.

"It is possible that the figures can be reconciled, but only on the tragic and awful assumption that 370,000 Japanese died in the hands of the retaining power."

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**EDITORIAL**

**Repatriation Problem**

General Douglas MacArthur, on December 15, ordered William J. Sebald, Chief of SCAP's Diplomatic Section and U.S. representative in the Allied Council for Japan, to discuss with Lt.-Gen. K.N. Derevyanko, Russian chief delegate in the Allied Council, the question of the Japanese still being held in bondage in Soviet territories, at the next Council meeting on December 21.

This action on the part of SCAP followed Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida's visit to Chairman Sebald of the Allied Council earlier on December 15 in conformity with the resolution on the acceleration of repatriation unanimously passed by the House of Councillors on November 30 and by the House of Representatives on December 2.

Prime Minister Yoshida, on this occasion, also presented his letter addressed to General MacArthur asking the latter's assistance to have Japanese detainees repatriated from Siberia, Manchuria and elsewhere in the U.S.S.R.

We, being hardly convinced that all the Japanese able and willing to return home have already been repatriated from Russia and deeply moved by the misfortune of our compatriots who are made to face for the fifth time the ordeal of winter on frigid alien soil, feel exceedingly grateful to SCAP for his immediate response to our sincere appeal and look with great expectation to what will follow the coming American-Soviet conversations.

The Moscow Government announced in May that 95,000 Soviet-held Japanese would be sent home within this year, therewith terminating the repatriation of the Japanese from Russia. Those approximating this total have been returned so far.

General MacArthur's Headquarters, however, believes that there are an estimated 316,617 Japanese still being detained in Russian hands. The House of Representatives' resolution also declares with regret that the repatriation of Japanese prisoners of war and civil detainees provided for in Article 9 of the Potsdam Declaration is yet to be finished in part and that the names of some of those who died while under internment, as well as those under detention for war crimes, etc., remain unannounced.

It is beyond our means to ascertain on this side how many Japanese in Manchuria, Saghalien and the Kuriles were taken to Russia after Japan's surrender but, once they were in Soviet territories, death and whatever happened to them must be on record on the Russian side.

If the Soviet authorities, therefore, announce all the known details of the Japanese still unrepatriated due either to death, war crimes or to their unwillingness to return home, it will certainly help to disarm our suspicion

and reconcile not a small number of bereft families to destiny, without awaiting the return of their loved ones in vain.

We are, of course, not unreasonably suspicious toward the Soviets, nor do we stand pat on our own figures and estimates which may not be fully complete and accurate. But the repatriates themselves tell us stories of many more Japanese who, though able and willing to be repatriated, are still being forced to labor.

There can be no falsehood in these stories seen with their own eyes. And it is our wish that at least these people without reasons to be under continued detention and bondage are enabled to return and join their family in their motherland. It is our hope that the Soviet will announce the details as far as are known about the Japanese still being denied repatriation to their homeland for some reason or other.

We firmly believe that such will go a long way toward convincing us of the situation as it actually is.

**'No Comment'—Wash.**

United Press  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The State Department said it had "no comment" on the walkout by Soviet member Lt.-Gen. Kuzma Derevyanko from the Allied Council for Japan until a formal report of the incident has been received.

A spokesman said "But we assume the Council will try to carry on its work with or without the Russians."

Diplomatic sources said there was no question in Washington that the Japanese repatriation was a "perfectly proper" matter for the Council to consider.

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the stand taken by Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters—that the Russians are illegally holding thousands of Japanese and forcing them to work practically as slave laborers.

Next Wednesday's meeting of the Allied Council for Japan also is likely to be extremely interesting, from the international point of view, because it will be the first session that there has been anything on the agenda since Russia recognized the Chinese Red regime in China.

Some quarters believe there is a possibility that Soviet member Lt.-Gen. K. N. Derevyanko may refuse to recognize the right of the National China representative, Lt.-Gen. Chu Shun-ming, to sit along with the American, United Kingdom and Russian members.

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**Yoshida To Thank Ward**

TOKYO, Dec. 18.—Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida on Monday will visit home-bound American Consul General Angus Ward at Yokohama aboard the Lakeland Victory to convey the nation's gratitude for his pertinent procedure for repatriation of the Japanese in Manchuria.

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**Major US-Soviet Clash  
On Repatriation Expected  
At Next 4-Power Parley**

**Japan Red Party Says American Claims  
Re POW's In Russian Hands 'Groundless'  
In Boldest Attack Yet Made On SCAP**

By Earnest Hoberrecht, United Press Manager For Japan  
TOKYO, Dec. 16.—A major clash between Russia and the United States at next Wednesday's meeting of the Allied Council for Japan appeared to be shaping up today.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters has announced that the Supreme Commander had ordered his representative on the Council to take up with the Russians at the next four-power meeting the question of Japanese still in Soviet areas.

The Americans claim that there still are about 316,617 Japanese prisoners in Russian hands, although practically none are held elsewhere. An indication of the Russian stand at next Wednesday's session came today when Japanese Communist Party members of the Diet issued a statement saying that the American claims were "groundless."

The Communists charged that Premier Yoshida's letter to Gen. MacArthur calling for quick repatriation was part of a "political conspiracy." Claiming that Prime Minister Yoshida was purposely twisting the facts, the Japanese Reds made one of their boldest attacks to date on



<sup>644.1</sup>  
**Maizuru Standing By To Repatriate POW's**

WITH EIGHTH ARMY IN KYOTO, Dec. 17.—The once proud city of Maizuru, important Japanese wartime industrial center and seaport, is peopled largely by anxious wives and relatives of former Japanese soldiers imprisoned in Russia. The one-time bustling metropolis, now maintained as a Repatriation Center for Japanese prisoners of the Soviet, upholds a somber dignity against a backdrop of towering purple mountains which slope precipitously to an excellent harbor. An air of strained expectancy seems to pervade this forlorn city as hope-

ful Nipponese move through the streets, occasionally glancing seaward as though in anticipation of a ship from Siberia.

In the harbor wisps of smoke drift idly from funnels of anchored ships ready at an hour's notice to sail for Russia to repatriate the hundreds of thousands of Japanese still in Soviet hands.

Vice-Director of the Maizuru Repatriates' Relief Center, Sugiro Uno, a determined, intelligent-looking man, had this to say about the future of his organization: "We will stay—waiting, hoping that the estimated 816,617 Japanese now held in Soviet controlled areas will be permitted to return to their homes. Our facilities will continue to be in readiness for them.

"The Repatriation Center is set up to process 50,000 per month, and if the Russian Government would accede to our requests, we could return these men and women to their homes in about six months." As he talked, the official gestured in direction of the harbor, where Japanese transports lay at anchor.

"Eleven ships are in readiness to proceed to Russian controlled ports to embark these Japanese Nationals at a moment's notice," he continued. "If only Russian permission were given...."

"Each day many saddened people come to the Repatriation Center to inquire of those who have returned if they know of missing sons, husbands or brothers. The frequent lists of names posted on the bulletin board at the office are of intense interest to these people, who scan them eagerly for news of loved ones. Too often hopeful relatives are spared the suspense of further waiting by the notation 'died in prison' appearing after the name of a husband, brother, or father."

The last of 3,259 repatriates left the camp for their homes December 15, and the center is now depopulated of repatriates. The financially hard pressed Japanese Government still maintains a staff of nearly a thousand employees, including four doctors and 130 nurses at the Maizuru installation. Idle now, these employees stand waiting, in the hope the Soviet Government will eventually relent and release those still imprisoned.

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# Japan Repatriation Issue Slated For Discussion By Allied Council Today

**Subject Placed On Agenda By America; Heated Session Expected As US Claims Russians Failed To Live Up To Promise** <sup>644.1</sup>

TOKYO, Dec. 20.—The Four-Power Allied Council for Japan will meet Wednesday morning to take up the question of Japanese repatriation. The subject has been placed on the agenda by American member of the Council William J. Sebald at the direction of General Douglas MacArthur.

The session is expected to be one of the most heated in several months.

It was learned that Sebald has prepared a formal statement to the council members who include representatives from the United Kingdom, China and Russia.

The Americans claim that the Russians have failed to live up to their promise to repatriate all the Japanese held in Soviet areas at the end of the last world war.

According to figures revealed by General MacArthur's Headquarters, there still are more than 300,000 Japanese in Russian hands.

Practically all Japanese from other areas were returned long ago.

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## Swiss Govt. Attitude <sup>644.1</sup>

BERN, Dec. 23.—The Swiss Government will not consider the question of its eventual participation in an investigation of the fate of Japanese prisoners of war in Russia unless all parties concerned agree to such an investigation, a spokesman of the Swiss Federal Government declared today.

"Such does not seem to be the case, according to reports from Tokyo," he added.

He said that the Swiss Government does not know of any demarche by the American Government to the Federal Council or the International Red Cross in connection with the question of an investigation of the Japanese prisoners issue. The Swiss Government had learnt about that matter only through press reports, he said.

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## SCAP Note To US Govt. On Repatriation Issue

United Press TOKYO, Dec. 24.—SCAP's Diplomatic Chief today announced that the U.S. State Department had been formally notified of General MacArthur's desire to have a neutral representative investigate the fate of Japanese prisoners still in Russian hands.

William J. Sebald, U.S. Chairman of the Allied Council for Japan, said he had formally conveyed to the Department SCAP's acceptance of the British Commonwealth member's recommendation made at last Wednesday's session of the Council.

General MacArthur, Sebald said, has asked the United States Government "to give urgent consideration to the proposal with a view to determining what action may appropriately be taken under the Geneva convention or other international agreements."

Sebald said that while he was unable at this time to state how the State Department would handle the recommendation and request for assistance, he had no doubt that they would receive careful consideration.

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**Deserters Killed Like Flies, Says Repatriate**

United Press  
 TOKYO, Dec. 25.—A witness told a Diet Committee that deserters from Japanese prisoners of war camps in the Soviet Union were "killed like flies" by Red army guards pouring machinegun bullets into them.

A former Lieutenant in the Japanese army, Ryozo Okamoto, told the committee that a group of 20 Japanese prisoners who fled from a camp in Chita was discovered while resting near a Russian airdrome. A unit of Soviet soldiers leveled their submachineguns at the runaways, the witness said, and "instantly 17 of them were killed in a stream of fire."

The testimony was given before a committee of the national legislature investigation "unreturned" Japanese known to have been captured by the Russians following Russia's brief entry into the Pacific war. The committee heard nine witnesses Christmas eve and continued its hearing late into the night.

The Diet hearings opened last week to give the world a firsthand account of the Russian methods in dealing with Japanese prisoners as:

1. The issue of Russia's delay in repatriating Japanese war prisoners from Soviet territories became a lively topic before the four-power Allied Council for Japan, causing the Russian delegation to walk out of that body.

2. The relatives and friends of prisoners staged openly anti-Soviet demonstrations near the Russian Embassy in Tokyo accompanied by press editorials accusing Russia of ignoring basic principles of humanity in dealing with prisoners.

3. Russia's obvious answer Saturday by reopening the old case of Japanese war criminal suspects accused of conducting germ warfare against the U.S.S.R.

Another witness testified that according to his estimate 800 out of 1,000 Japanese prisoners held at one Russian camp died as the result of mistreatment and undernourishment. He said the dead were stripped of their clothing and buried together in groups.

Witness Satoshi Abe said he had recently been repatriated from Russia.

A third witness, Yorimasa Masuzaki, said infractions of prison rules were "sometimes" followed by a Soviet trial. "At other times," he said, "They were just taken away. These men never returned."

Another witness, Noboru Yamamoto, a former army doctor and repatriate from Blakan concentration camp, said the death rate among the Japanese there ran as high as 40 per cent during the period of late 1945 to 1946.

He estimated about 800 prisoners died at the camp out of a total 2,000 men.

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**US Will Formally Ask Moscow Regarding Fate Of 376,000 Japanese** 644.1

**Step Prelude To Any Investigation Through International Mediation; Telegram Sent SCAP On Situation**

United Press  
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The United States in a formal diplomatic note to Moscow early next week will ask what happened to 376,000 Japanese prisoners of war who have never been returned to their homeland, authoritative sources said yesterday.

These sources said American officials had decided on this step as prelude to any request for international investigation of the situation.

General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Allied Commander in Japan, earlier this week asked the United States Government to request some neutral nation such as Switzerland or the International Red Cross to undertake a probe to find out what happened to Japanese prisoners who never returned from the Soviet Union.

These sources said, however, the United States felt it could not embarrass any neutral with such a request until the American Government

itself had asked for such information from the Soviet Union.

For that reason American officials decided to approach Moscow directly first and then go into the international sphere if necessary.

Therefore, a telegram was sent to Gen. MacArthur asking him to concur in the State Department's attitude on the question and an answer is expected momentarily.

Officials said they had no doubt General MacArthur would agree and thus clear the decks for another approach.

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