It is disclosed in the current study that Censorship intercepts are particularly helpful in curtailing illegal activities in commodities having a high intrinsic value in that they provide information on private transactions. The diversion of commodities into the blackmarket is also often divulged in extracts which provide useful background and cross-sectional information.

In summation, the Industry Division states that in all its branches the CCD intercept, together with Japanese official data, is adjudged "the best source of information on general industrial activity, both in and out of legal boundaries."

3. "Provides a Yardstick," Reports Price & Distribution Division:

Censorship provided the Price and Distribution Division of ESS, during the period from 6 Aug 47 through 21 Aug 48, with information on illegal transactions involving critical commodities worth ¥30,762,624 at official prices. The blackmarket value of the merchandise would have been from two to five billion yen.

Valuable not only as a brake on infractions of price controls, the Price and Distribution Division advises:

" . . .Their use helps to keep the Japanese government aware of SCAP's continuous interest in uncovering, punishing and preventing violations of economic control laws and regulations. CCD intercepts are valuable also in keeping the personnel of ESS informed as to the effectiveness of economic control measures initiated within the Section in cooperation with the economic agencies of the Japanese government. They provide a yardstick for measuring the strength and weakness of such laws and regulations and a sampling of public opinion with respect to them."

4. Assist in Determining Policy, Foreign Trade Division States:

Censorship extracts provide the sole check available to Foreign Trade Division on attempted circumventions of extablished trade and contractual channels.

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> The Division reports that a typical action case, based on information disclosed in a CCD intercept, involved a Japanese agent reporting to his principal the purchase of a specific commodity for which there was no record of a validated contract. The Japanese Board of Trade (Boeki Cho) was directed to inform the agent that no purchase can be consummated unless a properly authenticated and validated contract is obtained and that his report of purchase to his principal implies deliberate misrepresentation and is in violation of existing controls.

It is emphasized by the Foreign Trade Division in the study made that at least half of the intercepts received by them prove of great assistance in determining the necessity for establishing or changing trade policy and also provide much constructive criticism of Boeki Cho's operation which is passed on to improve the Board's implementation of existing policies and procedures.

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5. CCD Provides Textile Division with 99 Percent of Their Leads:

"CCD comment sheets provide approximately 99 percent of the leads on blackmarket activities received by Textile Division," the Chief of the Division states, "and it is believed that the investigations of habitual blackmarket operators resulting from the action taken on such information serve to curb illegal operations."

In detailed report of the variety of useful information obtained from Censorship extracts, the following are emphasized:

"a. Violation of SCAP directives concerning textiles and raw materials used for the manufacture of finished products: Action is taken on all cases involving hoarding, blackmarketing and disposition of goods outside of allocation and distribution channels.

"b. Forming of new companies and/or mills or the reorganization or reconstruction of existing companies or mills: Such activity is scrutinized closely to determine whether or not it is in accordance with the rehabilitation program of the textile industry. We are especially interested in the new machinery purchased. In questionable cases an investigation is initiated to ascertain that the machinery is registered as required by SCAP directive.

"c. Production and inventory reports are often compared with the reports submitted by the industry as a check against falsification.

"d. New manufacture processes: The Textile Division is interested in all new developments in the industry and obtains full details whenever a CCD intercept indicates anything of that nature.

"e. The manufacture of non-essential goods: This Division initiates corrective measures whenever there is indication of non-essential goods being manufactured from raw materials in short supply. This is especially true with hard fibers which are often woven into cloth for work clothes. This fiber is sorely needed for the fishing in-

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"f. Protection of American cotton: The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers is charged with the responsibility of safeguarding American cotton and goods manufactured therefrom from theft and damage. We have obtained information from CCD reports on improper storage and neglect and have taken appropriate steps to rectify the situation."

6. Millions of Yen Uncovered by Intercepts Says Finance Division:

It is estimated by the Liquidation Branch of Finance Division that of the 6,000 Censorship intercepts routed to that section during the past year, five percent caused immediate action to be taken and more than six percent were productive of positive results. The type of results attained are detailed in a report from the Division which states, in part:

"The following examples are but a few of the investigations undertaken as a result of correspondence intercepted by Civil Censorship:

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"(a). Japan Raw Silk Control Association - this certified a completely liquidated organization was involved in negotiations regarding receivables to the extent of approximately ¥56 million. As a result of investigation, it was found that the organization still possessed millions of yen in remaining unliquidated assets. This organization was consequently declared a closed institution to be liquidated under the provisions of Ordinance No. 74.

"(b). Housing Corporation - CCD intercept disclosed payment of a claim amounting to about ¥500,000 and upon investigation it was brought out that a preferential claim had been made without previous knowledge or approval of the Liquidation branch. Criminal proceedings are currently underway. This was the forerunner of other illegal attempts to pay preferential claims which were thwarted by leads furnished by CCD intercepts.

"(c). Industrial Equipment Corporation - an investigation of correspondence intercepted revealed that certain members of the closed institution and prospective buyers, by the sealed bid methods of auction, were attempting to fix the bids to favor themselves in the disposal of assets. Prosecution was instigated."

The Liquidation Branch further claims that although extremely important, actual figures of positive results do not wholly reflect the overall surveillance results. The very fact that closed institutions and their associated Japanese elements are generally aware of Liquidation Branch's recourse to other sources of information than those submitted by Japanese agencies created a favorable psychological effect in retarding any tendencies to deviate from regular approved liquidation procedures.

The 1,500 or more Censorship extracts pertinent to Japanese Customs which have been examined by Finance Division over the period covered by the study, have yielded numerous apprehensions for blackmarket operations and have been useful in establishing measures to control such acts. The intercepts which have revealed requests for items to be sent in relief parcels have frequently been the basis for investigations which have had a salutary effect, the individuals involved having been warned of legal action against them if the items received are used illegally.

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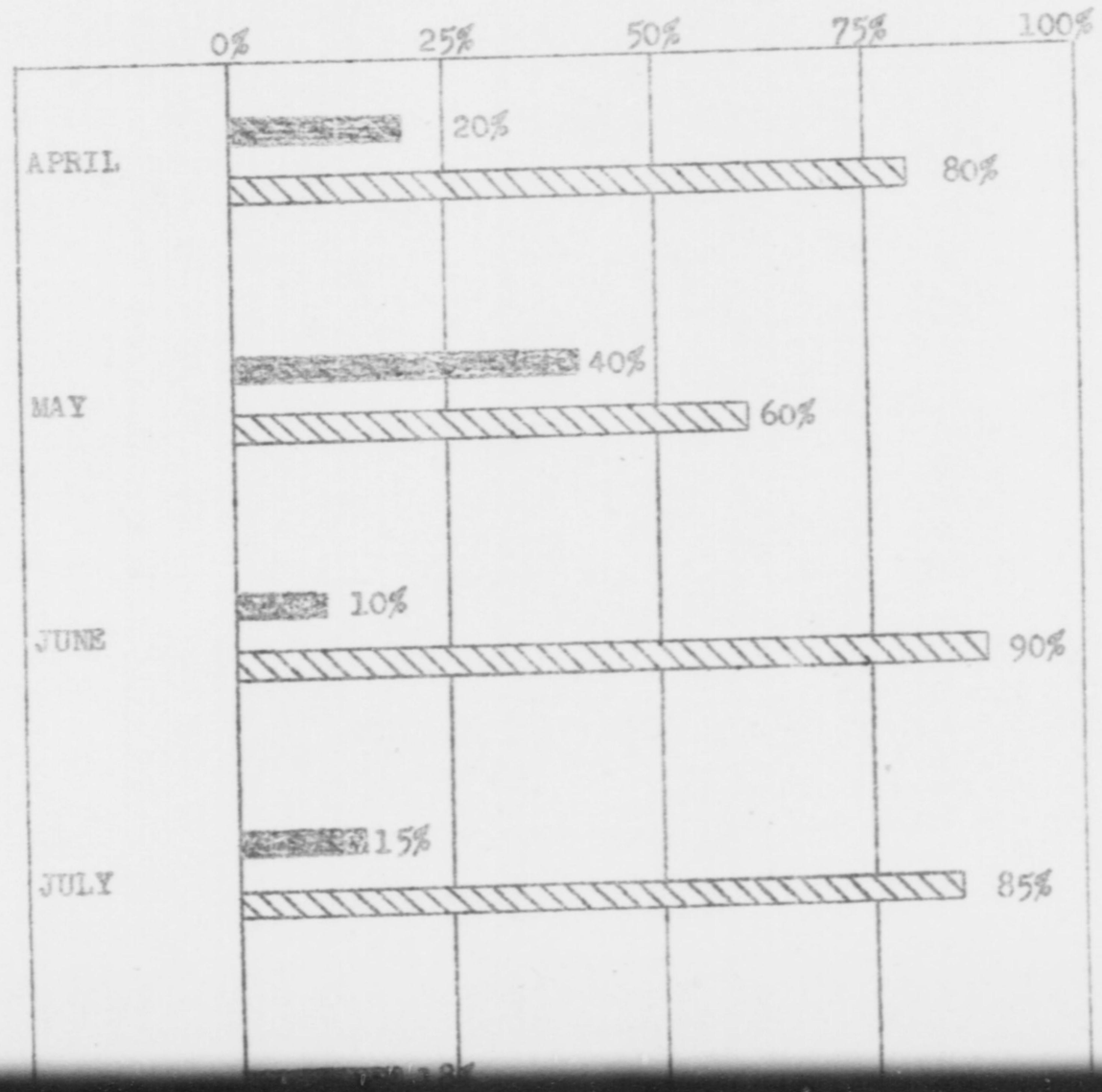
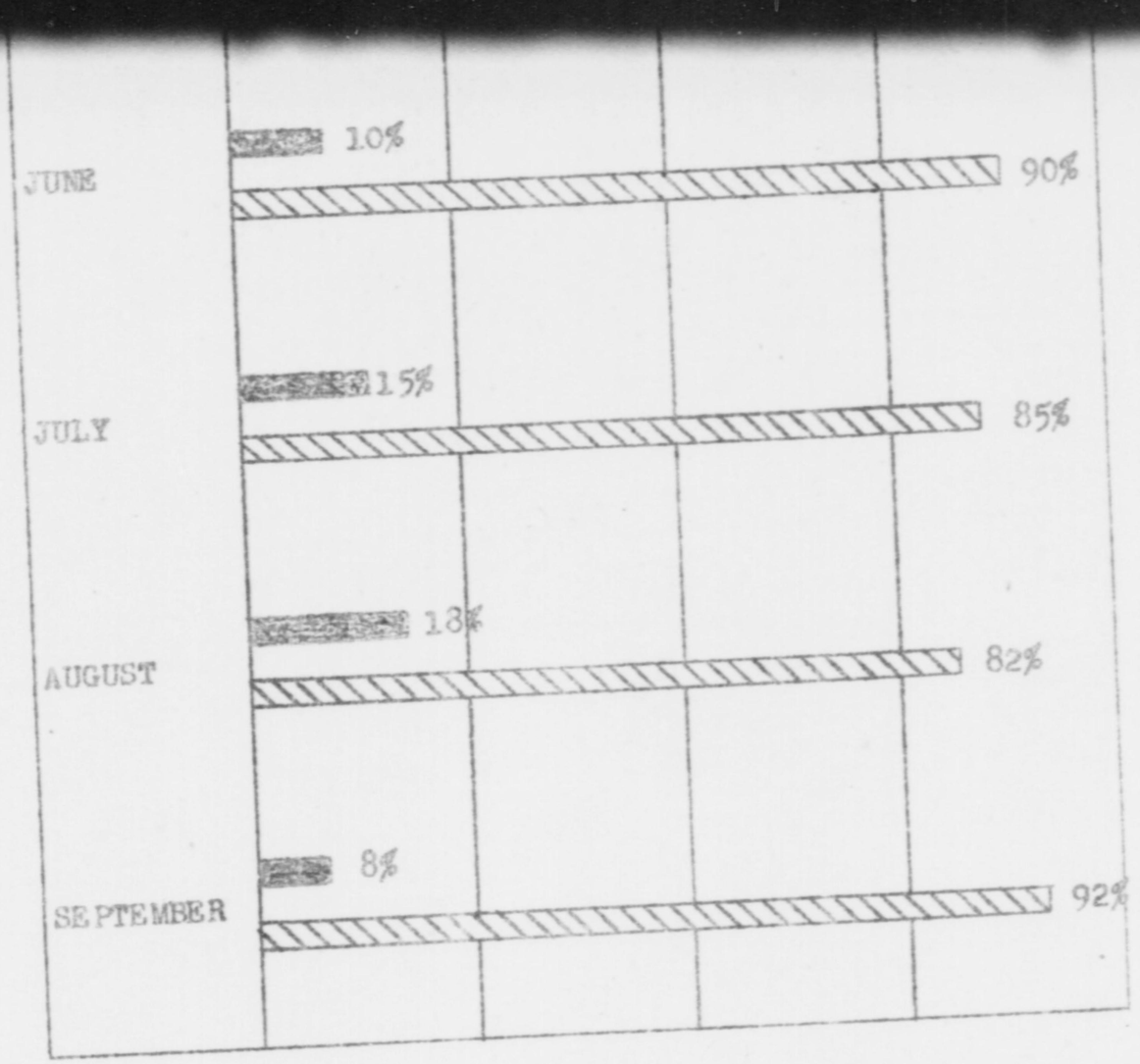
COMMENT ON THE ASHIDA CABINET DURING

THE SIX MONTH PERIOD APRIL 1948 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1948





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CON

Figures are percentages of the intercepts received on the subject during the indicated calendar period. A total of 49,604 comments on the Cabinet were examined during the six month period.

S E C R E T

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP No. 33

COMMENT ON THE CABINET

The downfall of the cabinet headed by Ashida Hitoshi, while not precipitated by loss of public support, was certainly forshadowed by the voters growing distrust. Unlike the government headed by Katayama Tetsu which at least started off with considerable approval and support*, critical comment has always outweighed favorable reaction to the Ashida Government. In Sep 48, only 12 percent of the current intercepts indicated approval of the cabinet and by Oct 48 support had dwindled to a scant eight percent. Much of the recent criticism has centered around charges of "government corruption," and the "inflationary effect of price increases."

Recent intercepts indicate a growing distrust of government officials on the part of the Japanese. This tendency is illustrated by public comment on the recent announcement of coming increases in the staple food ration. A move of this nature would normally boost the popularity of incumbent leaders tremendously. However, the net result was to bring forth hundreds of scornful statements that the additional food probably would never be received "because this is just another scheming move of dishonest officials," this in spite of the fact that the announcement was made jointly by ex-Premier Ashida and the former Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, neither of whom were then involved in scandals.

Such skepticism is found in most letters discussing Government plans and policies. Writers challenge the wisdom and motivation of top-echelon "bureaucrats" and in cases where official plans please the citizens, there is still much doubt that ministerial statements amount to more than "desk plans" or "vote catching promises." Some writers aver that their lack of confidence is the result of broken promises in the past. Others claim that the whole political scene is corrupt. This belief that the national leaders are basically dishonest has seemingly been heightened, rather than lessened, by the acquittal of Nishio Suehiro, former deputy premier at his first trial. Many persons are convinced that he was guilty of fraud in accepting campaign donations and they accuse the courts of releasing him mainly due to deference for his former position and influence.

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Raising of official prices has embittered thousands of writers. Over 95 percent of intercepts dealing with the measure attack it on the ground of being an inflation stimulant and an "unbearable" burden on householders. Most comentators discuss the matter in terms of its individual effect on daily living, some asserting that they are unable to buy even rationed goods due to the new price scale. Those Japanese who speak of the motivation of the Cabinet, ascribe the revision to weakness and stupidity of Government ministers or to a deliberate desire to promote further inflation.

New high costs of commodities have intensified the cries of workers that the Cabinet has upped the price of necessities with no consideration for low wage levels. Labor charges that present salaries are absurdly low and that ex-Premier Ashida Hitoshi struck a double blow by raising prices and taxes and at the same time "misinterpreting" the SCAP letter calling for

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* CIS Periodical Summary No. 23, 15 Dec 1947 P. CCD-12

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revision of the National Public Service Law. By enforcing restrictions on strikes and bargaining while refusing to consider the welfare of labor, workers assert, Ashida has applied the contents of the letter unilaterally to their disadvantage. Labelling the Democratic (Minshuto) Cabinet "traitorous", salaried men demanded that Ashida resign immediately.

1. Public Skeptical that Increased Food Ration Will be Realized
2. Label Government Ministers Dishonest; Maintain Nishio Guilty
3. Storm of Protest Follows Upping of Official Price Structure
4. Raise Clamor Against NPSL Ordinance, Demand Ashida be Ousted

1. Public Skeptical that Increased Food Ration will be Realized:

Government announcement that the staple food ration would be increased in November of this year, from 2.5 go (1 go = 0.35 lbs) to 2.7 go is welcome news to the public but most Japanese are reluctant to count on any improvement until such time as actual delivery of more rice is demonstrated. A few letters speak hopefully of "bright prospects" for the future due to the promise of increased rations (a) and rare comment goes further to praise "the good policies of the Government which make this improvement possible." (b) However, the majority of the citizenry seems convinced that "the promise to boost the ration to 2.7 go is merely a political gesture." (c) They claim there "is no reason to place much weight on this Government announcement." (d) Some writers point out that the proposed addition to food allotments has been used as speech fodder in political stumping tours and feel that this is good reason to view the whole matter as a political move. (e) More frequently, the announcement is discredited on grounds that "the present government is unreliable" (f) and "the nation should know by now that it will do best to pay no attention to the Cabinet's policy pronouncements." (g)

2. Label Government Ministers Dishonest; Maintain Nishio Guilty:

Specific doubts as to the Government's sincerity in announcing an increase in the food ration are frequently accompanied by the blanket charge that Cabinet ministers "cannot be trusted in any way whatsoever." (h) In many cases, detractors base their distrust on "incompetence," "weakness," and "undue concern with political power." (i) More outspoken critics, however, state flatly that "everything the Government says is composed of lies" (j) and "therefore, we cannot depend on present leadership." (k)

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Although acquitted of some of the charges against him, Nishio Suehiro continues to stand in the minds of many Japanese as an emblem of corruption in Government. Almost without exception, letters commenting on his trial for alleged failure to report campaign donations speak derisively of the court decision. The courts are accused of "acquitting Nishio because of his former position as deputy premier" (l) and some correspondents reason that "the 'not guilty' verdict is evidence that influential men are immune from punishment regardless of what crimes they may commit." (m) The effect

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(a) IS/TOK/193204
IS/FUK/202803
IS/FUK/202805
(b) IS/TOK/194480
(c) IS/TOK/192618
(d) IS/TOK/193285
(e) IS/FUK/202053
(f) IS/TOK/191152
(g) IS/TOK/191146
IS/FUK/179734
(h) IS/NAG/14533
(i) IS/TOK/193207
IS/TOK/193932
(j) IS/TOK/191422
(k) IS/NAG/102356
(l) IS/FUK/202356
(m) IS/FUK/202354

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on confidence of some persons in the present Cabinet can be seen in the sweeping condemnation of a citizen from Miyazaki "The Chief Justice returned a verdict of 'Not Guilty' in spite of obvious proof of Nishio's guilt. It is possible that the decision was based on incompetency of the court. However, it may well be that the hushed-up crimes of the present Cabinet make Nishio's actions seem blameless by comparison." (n)

3. Storm of Protest Follows Upping of Official Price Structure:

Government revision of official prices has brought forth more criticism than any other recent issue. Most comments denounce the measure for its effect on cost of basic necessities, claiming "it was difficult" to make a living before but now "we are at a loss" as to how to meet costs. (o) They charge that "the net result has been to lower the living standard and raise public discontent." (p) A Tottori man, discussing the perplexities of keeping himself alive, says that "in view of the extreme hike in official prices, the best thing to do is to give the cemetary care-taker the last ¥500 for his coming trouble." (q) This national despondence (See CCD-15) is clear in letters that say "nothing can describe present Japan better than "The Tired Japanese.'"

Thousands of letters carry the lament that "the Government price revision will aggravate the inflation spiral, forcing up costs of non-controlled commodities as well as those of rationed goods." (r) Some assert that the effects can be seen already, with "all expenses rising day by day." (s) Commercial and industrial firms admit this to be the case but defend themselves by explaining that "prices of products must be boosted. The new official levels have caused sharp increases in wages and costs of materials." (t) Retail dealers fear that "people will be unable to buy at new price levels" (u) but maintain they are "forced to charge more due to the chain reaction set off by the Government policy." (v) Businessmen find this condition particularly discouraging because, they assert, "free trade has checked the rise in costs of some commodities and a few had started to decline, but the Cabinet's mark-up of official prices has counteracted this healthy condition." (w)

Believing that "the time was at hand for lowering of Government prices, rather than raising them," Japanese blast their national leaders as "stupid" and "dull-witted" for "failing to analyze" the economic situation correctly. (x) Workers aver

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Believing that "the time was at hand for lowering of Government prices, rather than raising them," Japanese blast their national leaders as "stupid" and "dull-witted" for "failing to analyze" the economic situation correctly. (x) Workers aver that they "have worked hard, in line with the Government's request" and therefore "hate the leaders who have destroyed our security and reduced us to poverty by boosting the cost of living." (y) Others go farther than merely placing blame for the "hard times" on the Cabinet and accuse Ashida and his ministers of mal-intent (z) and reproach them for "having no function other than boosting prices." (a)

A more frequently repeated accusation than "intentional stimulation of inflation" is that the Cabinet is composed of "men of little ability" who "pursue weak policies." (b) An editorial in People's Newspaper (Minshu Shimbun) corresponds

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(n) IS/FUK/202770
(o) IS/TOK/175616
IS/OSA/103946
(p) IS/TOK/175581
(q) IS/FUK/183843
(r) IS/TOK/175058
(s) IS/FUK/201974
(t) IS/FUK/201666
(u) IS/FUK/201658
(v) IS/FUK/202568
(w) IS/FUK/201651
(x) IS/OSA/103383
IS/OSA/103944
IS/FUK/201614
(y) IS/FUK/203833
(z) IS/FUK/183820
(a) IS/FUK/183814
(b) IS/TOK/193978
IS/TOK/193249

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closely to many individual criticisms appearing in mail extracts: "Because of the price revisions, cost of commodities have increased. The Government makes many desk-plans concerning economic stabilization, but few have been put in practice. We cannot help being despondent over a Cabinet showing so little political ability." (c)

The few letters approving price hikes come from retailers who hope to make a reasonable profit at legal prices and consumers who expect that blackmarketing will be reduced to a negligible level. (d) However, less than five percent express such opinions.

4. Raise Clamor Against NPSL Ordinance, Demand Ashida be Ousted:

Salaried men from all parts of the nation take issue with the Cabinet for raising commodity prices and failing to increase wages proportionately. (e) Most bitter outbursts come from government employees affected by the National Public Service Ordinance restricting their rights to strike or employ collective bargaining. Public workers bemoan "loss of the right to strike or bargain" and score the Cabinet for "taking away the only weapons by which they might have won a living wage." (f) They accuse Ashida of "taking advantage of the SCAP letter on revision of the NPSL to issue an unconstitutional ordinance." (g) As labor sees the situation, Ashida has interpreted the SCAP memorandum "unilaterally" and "ignored the basic rights of workers." (h) "The net result of all Ashida's politicies," laborers say, "will be to lead the people toward poverty and starvation." (i)

Economic Rehabilitation News (Keizai Fukko Shimbun) editorializes: "Implementing of the SCAP note should be carried out in a constitutional manner. We absolutely reject the Government's hasty, arbitrary interpretation of the letter. The Cabinet has proved it is utterly unfit to handle major problems and we now demand the immediate resignation of Ashida." (j) A labor union leader from Fukuoka hurls the same charges, rephrased to include such inflamatory expressions as "traitorous Ashida Cabinet" and "rise of facism and despotism," and demands that labor combat such a ruling "which leaves no possible solution for labor's need for higher wages and improved working conditions." (k) Hundreds of private letters are also filled with calls for Ashida's resignation."

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(c) FUK/PPB/203833
(d) IS/FUK/184317
201688
IS/TOK/191950
(e) IS/OSA/102363
IS/TOK/175018
IS/FUK/179692
IS/OSA/102371
(f) IS/NAG/14707
(g) IS/FUK/202357
(h) IS/FUK/180256
(i) IS/NAG/14739
(j) OSA/PPB/5779
(k) FUK/PPB/3978
(l) IS/FUK/179686
202569,202761

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COMMENT ON THE DIET

Popular support for Diet members is well below five percent. The principal sources of disaffection are no different now than during the past several months. Most writers seem to be convinced that parliamentarians are corrupt politicians who spend the majority of their time wrangling among themselves in efforts to score personal or party gains. Whether the attitude of the Japanese toward their representatives is just or unjust is not a matter for Censorship determination, but private citizens in all sections of Japan are certain that general and specific reports of misconduct warrant wholesale condemnation of Diet members.

In such a situation it might be assumed that the populace would insist on dissolution of the Diet and general elections. However, there is little evidence of such a reaction. The general tone of comments is a peculiar mixture of revulsion and lassitude. Even the number of persons offering guesses as to the life expectancy of the lawmaking body--popular pastime since the fall of the Social Democrat Cabinet--is on the decline. The chief factor in bringing about this situation seems to be the belief that dissolution and elections would only disrupt Government functions without producing new faces or new policies.

Those who still choose to speculate on dates and results of a break-up of the Diet set November as the most probable time and find possible formation of a new centrist political league the most interesting potentiality. Yoshida Shigeru, head of the Democratic-Liberal Party, continues to evoke some comment as a likely successor to Ashida if and when elections are held. However, having been through a complete cycle of the "big three" political parties, the public seems more curious about the chances of Narahashi Wataru leading the Democratic Party into a merger with Yoshida and other center-conservative elements.

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1. Brand Legislators Corrupt Profiteers, Trading on Positions
2. Voters Score Wrangling, Selfish Political Maneuvering
3. Split Reactions on Probability, Merits of Diet Dissolution

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One of the most popular designations for present members of the Diet is "disgusting, corrupt profiteers."(a) Press editorials accuse them of obtaining their positions "by force of money" and using the influence

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2. Voters Score Wrangling, Selfish Political Maneuvering:

Scores of Japanese make scathing attacks on legislators for "being so covetous of ministerial posts and interested in party politics that they sacrifice the national hopes for recovery." (i) An Aichi man claims that "during the last session, representatives spent 80 percent of their time in quarrelling, doing nothing for the people." (j) Other writers

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(a) IS/TOK/192655
(b) IS/OSA/PPB/5720
IS/OSA/PPB/5936
(c) IS/NAG/14588
IS/TOK/179048
(d) IS/TOK/180295
(e) IS/TOK/191210
(f) IS/TOK/180301
(g) IS/TOK/177301
(h) OSA/PPB/5912
(i) IS/TOK/184662
(j) IS/NAG/14701

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claim that so much time is spent in "ugly partisan struggles," "expanding of party influences," and "petty wrangling" (k) that the "best description for the present Diet is 'complexity and mystery," (l) because "speech making holds such a fascination for the members,"(m) government employees predict revision of the National Public Service Law and readjustment of wages will be delayed indefinitely. (n)

3. Split Reactions on Probability, Merits of Diet Dissolution:

Forecasts that the Diet will dissolve in the near future generally set November as the most likely time, probably a guess calculated to allow a period of debate on the proposed revision of the National Public Service Law. (o) Stock phrases such as "political chaos," "delicate power manipulations " and "confused party relationships" (p) are favorites of prognosticators who aver dissolution is "inevitable." (q) Some office-holders are so positive that a general election is at hand that they "have already prepared both finances and materials for campaigning." (r)

Those who believe the Diet will continue for some time yet argue that dissolution cannot, or will not, take place until drafting of legislation on issues, particularly the NPSL, is concluded. (s) A few hold "dissolution is unthinkable until effects of the American election are known." (t)

Merits and demerits of a general election are discussed only briefly. Voters who favor the move generally limit themselves to "hopes that hard times will be alleviated" (u) or "anticipation of a more truly representative body." (v) Opponents of dissolution say that nothing would result but a "waste of money," "waste of time" and the confusion of a "blank period in Government policy." (w) They appear to have resigned themselves to the thought that "no matter who wins the election the result would be as bad as the present situation." (x)

Yoshida Shigeru and his Democratic-Liberal Party (Minshu-Jiyuto) are mentioned often as most likely to win additional backing if the nation goes to the polls. (y)

Another possibility interesting the public is a joining of forces between the Democrat-Liberals and all or part of the Democratic Party (Minshuto). Many writers feel that this is a probable development and that the resultant "Central Party" would pick up a majority of seats in the Diet. (z) The man thought most likely to bring about such a merger is Ya-

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(k) IS/TOK/177303
FUK/PPB/3799
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(l) IS/TOK/177290
(m) IS/FUK/193672
(n) IS/FUK/193673
IS/TOK/180294
(o) IS/TOK/196375
IS/OSA/98369
(p) IS/TOK/191207
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(q) IS/TOK/177305
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IS/FUK/194282
(r) IS/NAG/14148
(s) IS/NAG/14127
IS/OSA/102303
IS/FUK/TLC/666
(t) IS/OSA/PPB/5907
(u) IS/TOK/176498
(v) IS/FUK/202322
(w) IS/TOK/180300
IS/TOK/179046
IS/TOK/192656
(x) IS/TOK/180298
(y) IS/TOK/194039
IS/TOK/179045
(z) IS/TOK/192653
IS/OSA/PPB/5839
(a) IS/TOK/176501
OSA/PPB/5792
(b) IS/TOK/193303
IS/TOK/192653
(c) IS/TOK/176501
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(d) IS/OSA/PPB/5792

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP No. 33

COMMENT ON JAPANESE MORALE

When the economic structure of any nation is pared to basic essentials, the quantity and cost of food is an elemental force in determining that nation's morale. This syllogism accounts for the fact that food - its cost, distribution and scarcity - is discussed to the exclusion of other topics in 80 percent of the current intercepts pertinent to the morale of the Japanese.

Pessimistic generalities which measure or forecast the effect of further inflation on the future of the nation or the moral fibre of the people continue to appear in many letters, but the major preoccupation at this time is the possible increase or decrease of daily food needs and the stabilization of the price-income ratio. Depressed and apprehensive, the Japanese dread the coming of cold weather with its attendant hardships, and the possibility of an even greater hiatus between income and living costs.

1. Substitution of Sugar for Rice Creates Grave Food Problem
2. Commodity Prices Outdistance Average Wage by Thirty Percent
3. Tight Money Market, Low Purchasing Power Depress Business
4. Moral Degeneration Keeps Pace With Nation's Economic Pressure
5. Reconstruction Efforts Lost in Struggle for Daily Existence

1. Substitution of Sugar for Rice Creates Grave Food Problem:

The Japanese, as a whole, agree with the Kyoto housewife who says "poor as the food ration is, I am thankful, knowing that we are far better off than any other defeated nation." (a) However, many thousands write of the problem posed by the substitution of brown sugar and cocoanut flour (sago) for the rice ration. Rice - the basis of every Japanese meal and the equivalent in the nation's diet of the bread, potatoes and other starchs found on Western tables - has even dictated the Japanese method of cookery. Few Japanese kitchens are equipped with ovens and food is either fried or boiled on an open fire. Bread in any form is an insignificant part of the daily diet and is obtained from bakeries. Circumscribed by primitive cooking equipment and knowledge of little other than the simplest cooking methods, Japanese housewives are inept

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> "Even though I have been taking only bread for breakfast, a cup of rice porridge with vegetables for lunch and irish potatoes cooked with other vegetables for supper for ten days now, I find myself in good health. I have learned that life can be well sustained without eating rice or wheat." (b)

Stating that the scantiness and irregularity of the rice ration precludes any possibility of making it stretch over the time when only sugar

(a) IS/OSA/64362

(b) IS/OSA/65191

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and dried fruits are issued, thousand ask "how can we live on sugar alone?" Those in the low income brackets are particularly distressed since "the price of 3.5 pounds (1 sho) of blackmarket rice is ¥240." (c)

2. Commodity Prices Outdistance Average Wage by Thirty Percent:

The Japanese wage-earner and laborer, in common with low-salaried men over the world, are hardest hit by inflation. Terming it a "race between price and wage" (e), workers claim their pay is "hardly enough to buy the official ration." (e) A Kyoto laborer declares that 97 percent of his income "goes for food" (f) and reports of deficits between income and essential expenditure which force the sale of "mats, clothes, furniture and other belongings" (g) are numerous. The contention of a Tokyo correspondent that wages have risen 40 percent while commodity prices have spiralled 70 percent is echoed in communications from other sectors. The comment that "the monthly expense of our family has multiplied eight times since March " (h) is exemplary of writers who declaim their "fright when they get a wage increase because it is inevitably followed by a price boost." (i)

An Osaka housewife presents a graphic description of the feelings to be elicited from thousands of intercepts: "Notes of any denomination less than ¥100 are worth no more than the dust in the bottom of my purse." (j)

3. Tight Money Market, Lower Purchasing Power Depress Business:

Owners of small businesses complain of "difficult collections and decreased purchasing power" and claim that "money markets are tighter than ever." Affected by "heavy taxes, the rapid rise in commodity prices since last March and increased unemployment," the plight of the independent businessmen is severe. (k) A Hyogo correspondent estimates that "the number of retail merchants has been reduced to one-tenth." (l) Those merchants who have thus far been able to keep their doors open express uncertainty and declare "we shall be forced to close shop if present conditions continue." (m) Manufacturers, harassed by insufficient operating funds with which to stockpile materials against future price rises, are dunning customers for outstanding accounts and requesting advance cash payments for freight and handling charges. (n) The anxiety of the manager of a wood-working company in Kyoto, who claims that "only short term loans (two to four months) are obtainable," is shared by other factory owners "at a loss to know how to continue operations." (o)

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> The depth to which purchasing power has sunk since March is gauged by a letter from Gifu: "Although the blackmarket price of rice has declined ~~to~~ ¥6,000 per hyo (2 bu.), most people must forego the saving of buying in that quantity and are purchasing it in lots of two sho (7 lbs.) because they haven't enough money." (p) A further commentary on the business slump is provided by an Osaka merchant who states "even the prices on much needed seasonal used-clothing have dropped one-half. There is no money and every business is depressed." (q)

(c) IS/FUK/48569 IS/OSA/52484 IS/TOK/97556 (o) IS/OSA/63054
(d) IS/TOK/98894 (h) IS/OSA/61370 (l) IS/OSA/50505 IS/TOK/96305
(e) IS/FUK/48933 (i) IS/OSA/48921 (m) IS/OSA/50510 98711
(f) IS/TOK/97503 (j) IS/TOK/92494 IS/NAG/11122 (p) IS/OSA/65862
(g) IS/NAG/10944 (k) IS/OSA/50456 (n) IS/OSA/63055 (q) IS/OSA/61628
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4. Moral Degeneration Keeps Pace With Nation's Economic Pressure:

Declaring that "moral degeneration is inevitable as living becomes more difficult" (r), civic-minded Japanese nonetheless deplore the increasing crime and lawlessness. Averring that "a high moral standard is dependent upon reasonable economic security" (s), most correspondents appear to feel that little can be done to combat or turn the tide of immorality until Japan is stabilized economically. A Nagoya writer succinctly states the general feeling: "It is natural for those who live in a society in which wages cannot cover living costs to turn to crime." (t)

> The flood of erotic and grotesque magazines is the target of much public vituperation. (See CIS Periodical Summary No. 31, p. CCD-39) Many share the umbrage of a Gifu repatriate at "streets filled with jazz, eroticism and terrorism" (u) and agree with the statement in a book-publisher's advertisement that "erotic and grotesque publications are playing a large part in the decay of public morals and have contributed greatly to the outbreak of bizarre crimes." (v)

Resentment against those who are "well-fed, well-clad and amusement seeking" is expressed in a number of letters written by salaried people who claim "they are working only to eat." (w)

5. Reconstruction Efforts Lost in Struggle for Daily Existence:

An old Japanese proverb "Poverty makes greed and selfishness" is frequently alluded to in letters which claim national reconstruction hopeless as long as the struggle of the individual is all-engrossing. The mayor of a village in Mie prefecture terms "talk of reconstruction 'lip service' only" (x) while a priest declares "devotion to national reconstruction impossible as long as the people hold valueless currency and have insufficient food and clothing." (y)

> Claiming that little cognizance of their duty to the nation can be expected of a people engaged in a struggle for personal survival, a number of writers call the "burden too heavy." (z) Detractors of this stand express concern that the Japanese "will place too much reliance on American help and fail to make a concerted effort, to the end that further aid may be withdrawn." (a)

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(r) IS/OSA/48873 (v) IS/OSA/65955 IS/OSA/50497 IS/OSA/65932
(s) IS/NAG/11195 (w) IS/TOK/72115 (x) IS/NAG/11184 IS/TOK/72115
(t) IS/NAG/11059 IS/NAG/11216 (y) IS/TOK/65583 (a) IS/OSA/61632
(u) IS/NAG/11202 11202 (z) IS/NAG/11059

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CIVIL CENSORSHIP No. 33

COMMENT ON EDUCATION

Current intercepts dealing with the aims of the educational reform are evenly divided between criticism and favorable comment. Most of the complaints are directed at what writers describe as the "serious financial situation" in which thousands of the nation's schools are finding themselves. In assessing causes for the financial straits of the Japanese schools, correspondents mention the lack of funds at local governmental levels and insufficient monetary support from the national government. Additional evidence of this state of affairs comes in petitions from town and village headmen urging Government officials and Education Ministry personnel to seek central government aid for education. Parents of school-age children complain bitterly of "assessments" which are apparently leveled to meet rising educational expense. Many writers insist these assessments are too high for the already-strained finances of the average Japanese family. It is important to note that most Japanese are not critical of the educational reform, but rather are resentful of the additional financial burden which these changes entail. However, this opposition seems to be consistent, particularly throughout the non-urban areas and there is every indication that it is mounting rapidly.

Present wage levels bring expressions of disapproval from teachers who say they cannot meet the cost of living with their salaries. Apparently, the merging of high schools to make buildings available for new schools at lower levels has given rise to rumors of personnel retrenchment. A number of junior high school teachers seem to fear loss of their jobs as a result of the overflow of teachers from high schools closed under the merger plan.

The textbook shortage shows little improvement. Students write of the scarcity and prohibitive prices of school books. Teachers, and PTA members join newspapers in attacking the Education Ministry for delays in approving textbooks for publication. Publishers object to the posting of a bond with the Ministry, amounting to three precent of estimated publishing costs for the text under consideration, as a guarantee against the possible misuse of allotted paper.

A sizeable number of teachers express inability or unwillingness to accept new ideas and methods of teaching. A few, unable to adjust themselves to the initiative and individuality of

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A sizeable number of teachers express inability or unwillingness to accept new ideas and methods of teaching. A few, unable to adjust themselves to the initiative and individuality of a democratic educational system, announce retirement. A number of teachers reveal their recalcitrant nationalism in letters which allude to "the basic incompatibility of Japanese culture and western democracy."

A growing resentment against the activities of Communist cells in Japanese universities and colleges is apparent in current comment. Degrees of antipathy toward leftist influences range from student's individual disagreements with Marxist ideology to outspoken denunciations of Communism, by anti-communist student organizations.

Co-education continues to meet with public disapproval. Female students are particularly unethusiastic while male students object that "girls are slower to learn than boys and will lower the scholastic standings of classes." Parents, together with a surprising number of teachers, expect "grave sex problems" will arise in co-educational schools.

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1. Claim Changes in Educational System too Great a Financial Burden
2. Shortages of all Kinds - Textbooks, Competent Teachers, Facilities
3. Teachers, Students Oppose Merger, District System, Retrenchment
4. Forced Contributions, Graft, Bribes Seen in High Schools, Colleges
5. Claim Reactionary Influences in Schools; Say New Texts Distort Truth
6. Reds Active-Spread Anti-US Propaganda, Foment Strikes, Demonstrations
7. Younger Students, Parents, Teachers Oppose Shift to Co-education

1. Claim Changes in Educational System Too Great a Financial Burden:

While the aims of the educational reform program come in for only a certain amount of criticism, much of the comment from rural areas is filled with complaint about the cost of implementing the changes. This is particularly true of writers who mention the situation at the primary and secondary school levels. The assessment of necessary construction funds on a per capita basis and the subsequent levy on private citizens in local areas (where existing facilities cannot accomodate students under the expanded program) draws criticism from all quarters. (a) Especially critical are childless Japanese. (b) Typical of the common reaction is the following from a Yamaguchi housewife: "The junior high school authorities have informed us that our quota for the construction costs of the new school is over ¥1,000. It is entirely beyond our means." (c) Scores of petitions from town and village headmen throughout Japan are present in current comment - demanding partial or complete support of the new compulsory program from national budget allocations. (d) The following from Hokkaido is an illustration: "In view of the great mission of reconstruction facing our young people, realization of a working 6-3 educational system is imperative. However, as the majority of the villages are incapable of bearing the expenditures, it is their ardent wish that the national treasury pay all expenses for its execution." (e) An Ishikawa school inspector, writing in a local scholastic journal, contends that "it is ridiculous to extend the compulsory education period to nine years in a country whose critical economy can barely maintain a six-year system." (f)

2. Shortages of all Kinds; Textbooks, Competent Teachers, Facilities:

A diversity of shortages is impeding the educational reform in primary, middle and high schools. Hundreds of students complain of the scarcity of textbooks, laboratory equipment and even such basic items as pen-

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2. Shortages of all Kinds: Textbooks, Competent Teachers, Facilities:

A diversity of shortages is impeding the educational reform in primary, middle and high schools. Hundreds of students complain of the scarcity of textbooks, laboratory equipment and even such basic items as pencils and notebooks. (g) The textbook shortage has aroused caustic comment from parents and teachers. As might be expected, the Education Ministry is a target for a large portion of this criticism. From an Aomori high school teacher: "The Education Ministry has permitted the reproduction by private concerns of a text on biology. The volumes are clumsily printed on coarse paper and are high in price but since the Ministry's supply of this text would have provided only one copy for each thousand students, these reprints will offer some relief. It is incredible that bookstores should be flooded with newly published material while textbooks remain in such dire scarcity. This is an example of the Ministry's lack of sincerity." (h) A number of newspapers throughout Japan, among them the leftist Tokyo Mimpo, attack the Education Ministry for delaying manuscripts submitted for approval for use as texts in Japanese schools. The Mimpo's editorials infer that the government is reluctant to relinquish control over scholastic media and demand that the number of books approved by the Ministry's boards of review be made public at regular intervals in progress reports. (i) A Tokyo magazine attacks that stipulation of the recently approved

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(a) IS/TOK/193675
FUK/203668
202125
(b) IS/OSA/91970
(c) IS/FUK/203030
(d) TOK/78518
79216
(e) TOK/82212
(f) OSA/PPB/5357
(g) IS/OSA/101867
IS/FUK/202479
IS/FUK/202477
IS/FUK/190823
(h) IS/TOK/190823
(i) CCD/IRS/1366

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temporary textbook laws which compels independent publishers to post bonds with government agencies when seeking clearance for printing school texts. The stipulation is apparently to prevent illegal paper usages but the article contends that it merely effects a financial hardship on prospective textbook publishers. (j)

Teachers are bitter over low salary levels. Dependent upon what finances can be amassed at prefectural level or what can be solicited independently by individual school boards, educators in institutions of high school level or lower are apt to fall in line with the reasoning of the Tochigi teacher who claims: "We teachers cannot get along with the present salaries. Because of prejudices toward a society which does not guarantee a minimum standard of living, my sincerity in furthering the educational reform is lost." (k) A former Tokyo teacher states: "Since I resigned from the tiresome teaching profession, I am free from the harassing of government officials and the constant problem of how to live on the pitiful salary." (l) Apparently a disaffection with the teaching profession as a career is spreading to the normal schools. Discussing salaries offered teachers, another Japanese writes: "It seems to me that in the normal schools the enthusiasm towards new education is cooling down. Minimizing any technical reformations in our schools, a basic prerequisite is left unimproved - material incentives for teachers." (m) Many students remark about the lack of interest shown by their teachers, discribing class periods in which teachers offer no more than "an oral repetition of the printed text." (n) Discrediting the supposition that the dissatisfaction with present wage scales for teachers emanates from malcontents are letters from teachers who say they are "interested in education despite the low wages connected with it." (o) Virtually no teacher expresses any hope for a rectification of their economic problems. The general opinion of instructors throughout Japan is closely allied to that of the Shizuoka educator who feels that "no improvement can be expected as long as educational finances are dependent upon depleted prefectural treasuries." (p)

3. Teachers, Students Oppose Mergers, District System, Retrenchment Rumor

The conversion of many high schools throughout Japan - to facilitate the formation of junior high schools in financially pinched communities

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3. Teachers, Students Oppose Mergers, District System, Retrenchment Rumor

The conversion of many high schools throughout Japan - to facilitate the formation of junior high schools in financially pinched communities and the completion of the school district plan - is followed by reports and rumors of reduction in teaching staffs. Typical of these is the following from a Toyama teacher: "The high school merger program is the subject of much discussion in educational circles. Out of 45 former secondary schools in our prefecture, 18 are to be retained. Teachers in the remaining 32 are apt to be dismissed or absorbed by lower schools, consequently forcing others out. The state of affairs promises to grow worse. Teacher's unions are hotly contending this issue but any action that may be taken will be automatically negated by the SCAP letter of 22 July." (q) An Aichi junior high school teacher, who admits to a fragmentary background in her profession, fears that "although the proposed merger will benefit the school system, it will be a menace to those teachers without regular qualifications. We will be forced out by the overflow of teachers from the high schools." (r) High school students of both sexes resent the merger program for reasons closely allied to the stand of a Gifu student who complains that "despite our pride in the finest school-house in

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(j) TOK/PPB/1693 (m) IS/NAG/14719 (p) IS/TOK/192596
(k) IS/TOK/193663 (n) IS/FUK/203665 (q) IS/OSA/91921
(l) IS/TOK/193660 (o) IS/TOK/192999 (r) IS/NAG/13640

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this district, our school falls under the amalgamation program. According to this plan, we shall be crowded into a building of the Daiichi primary school." (s) Some students regard Military Government's insistence on the merger as merely "another example of the misery of a defeated nation." (t)

4. Forced Contributions; Graft, Bribes Seen in High Schools, Colleges:

Current comment is studded with reports of coercion of students to deliver "contributions" to school authorities under threat of suspension: "back door entrance bribes" to facilitate entrance to universities and colleges; and diverse evidence of graft and mischanelling of appropriated school funds. A Chiba high school student writes: "As I did not make a donation to our senior high school, I was called by our teacher and forced to contribute. I can afford to pay if I choose, but what annoys me is that the money is apparently pocketed by the teachers. They are reportedly taking the lion's share. My classmates who were delinquent in meeting the "contribution" requests were kept after school and coerced to pay." (u) Apparently, many high school students whose families can provide the necessary financial means are able to "breeze through" their required courses with a minimum of effort. From a Tokyo high school girl: "My average for this semester was only 84 percent. I had asked the teacher to adjust the examination papers so that I would be credited with an above 90 average. I am sorry to trouble you but will you please "visit" the teacher again? I have already spent ¥3,000 but the results are far from satisfactory." (v) A college entrance is reportedly assured by a monetary gift to the right people. A prospective university entrant from Tokyo gloomily observes: It is a matter of great regret that few pass the entrance examination of practically any university without offering a bribe. I, for one, lack the necessary capital to do so." (w) A petition from the students of the Osaka University of Commerce, submitted to the faculty of that school, reads in part: "We are shocked by the recent disclosure of the scandalous practices in connection with admission to this university." (x)

5. Claim Reactionary Influences in Schools; Say New Texts Distort Truth:

A sizeable number of writers in educational fields display attitudes toward post-war reforms which indicate either an inability or an unwillingness to accept new ideas. A Gifu teacher promises to retire as "the acceptance of the Potsdam Declaration means abandonment of the spirit of the Japanese education." (y) A Tokyo educator writes the following: "History contradicts itself in the new texts. Formerly the books were imbued

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6. Reds Active; Spread Anti-US Propaganda, Foment Strikes, Demonstrations

Apparently the Cominform's attack on proposed American aid for Japan (See CIS Per. Sum, 28 P. CCD-33) has been adopted by the Kyosanto as a dictum for Youth League members. Strikes against the so-called "American capital offensive," which will supposedly affect universities by indebtedness and the sacrifice of school autonomy, are fomented by leftist students. Tokyo: "The students of government and private universities in various parts of the country are striking against the introduction of American aid. America is planning to make Japan another Philippines.

(s) IS/NAG/12531 (u) TOK/81818 (x) IS/OSA/67642 (a) TOK/80840
(t) IS/NAG/12520 (v) TOK/83804 (y) IS/NAG/14579
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Through the admission of Americans to boards of trustees and the introduction of American funds, we shall lose control." (b) Reports of the activities of Communist cells in universities in widespread areas are frequently found among current comment. (c)

> The Communist offensive in schools throughout Japan is evidently meeting more than passing opposition from a large portion of the students affected. Intercepts expressing disaffection with Red influences in student bodies are more frequent than those asserting alliance. Statements of disapproval of cell activities range in intensity from the observation of an Osaka women's college student that "the social study seminary is unpopular here because its leaders are Communists" (d) to reports of "sharp antagonism between factions of the left and right." (e) Taking an outspoken anti-Communist stand, the students of Kyoto Prefectural Medical University have circulated a mimeographed bulletin which states: "We students of the Kyoto Prefectural Medical University, who are acting on the fundamental principles of democracy, notice with regret that the activities of the Communist cell in this school have given rise to the incorrect popular opinion that the majority of the students of this school are in sympathy with its ideals. We hereby publicly declare that this is not the case." (f)

7. Younger Students, Parents, Teachers Oppose Shift to Co-education:

As in the past, (CIS Per. Sum. 28, P. CCD-6) a large portion of the critical comment concerning co-education is penned by school girls who fear that "as girl students are inferior to boys in literary ability, we shall have a hard time keeping pace with them" (g) or that "since boys are inclined to be messy and dirty, our school buildings will be spoiled." (h) A more valid argument against the system, however, is presented by students who claim they are handicapped by overcrowded classrooms and double shift classes as a result of it. (i) As might be expected, the sex stigma is a major basis for objection by parents. From a Gifu high school teacher comes the following report: "Co-education in our school is meeting strong opposition from the local Parent Teachers' Association. A member of the city assembly recently made a speech to the organization - predicting that virginity would soon be a thing of the past, as co-education continues to spread through the schools." (j) Hearsay concerning sexual scandals in the schools is frequently touched upon in letters from parents and students alike. (k) The need for an enlighten-

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(b) TOK/80790
(c) OSA/67655
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(d) OSA/68912
(e) IS/FUK/17734
(f) OSA/67396
(g) IS/NAG/14745
(h) IS/OSA/91435
(i) IS/NAG/14450
(j) IS/NAG/14559
(k) IS/FUK/202490
IS/TOK/192997
(l) IS/OSA/91819
(m) IS/OSA/99684
(n) IS/NAG/14490

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COMMENT ON COMMUNISM

Censorship material indicates that the lines of public opinion on Communism are becoming more clearly defined. In late spring, 56 percent of the writers took no definite stand on the issue (See CIS Periodical Summary No. 28, 15 May 48, P. CCD-24) and intercepts during the summer continued to show approximately 50 percent in the undecided category. (See CIS Periodical Summary No. 31, 15 Aug 48 P. CCD-5) Recent findings contrast sharply with this picture, over 75 percent of the citizenry seemingly having formed distinct opinions on the subject.

Anti-Communist forces have apparently made by far the largest numerical gains. At present, 53 percent of mail extracts dealing with Communism carry expressions of strong opposition. This figure is approximately double that reported earlier. Compared to previous periods during which the pro and con statements were divided about evenly, anti-Red feeling now carries a margin of better than two to one. The JCP has as many supporters as in previous months. However, evidence at hand indicates that while many Japanese have moved from indecision to opposition, the numerical strength of party members and sympathizers has remained fairly static.

Letters examined recently offer possible explanations for this shift. Now, as in the past, many persons who have not taken definite sides as yet in the conflict of ideologies, nevertheless suggest an almost instinctive shying away from Communism. Some references in these letters draw attention to background and "Japanese traditions" as factors in this attitude. Regardless of the causes of such an outlook, its influence can be seen in numbers of statements from enemies of Communism who base their convictions on the premise that Red theories and methods are largely "incompatible" with Japanese ideals.

The pressure of worldwide American-Soviet conflict is affecting the speed with which Japanese are taking sides on Communism. A growing recognition of the connection between Soviet Russia and disciples of Marxism in Japan is discerni-

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The pressure of worldwide American-Soviet conflict is affecting the speed with which Japanese are taking sides on Communism. A growing recognition of the connection between Soviet Russia and disciples of Marxism in Japan is discernible. This has apparently convinced many individuals that the basic questions are whether Japan is to fall under Soviet-directed leadership and whether, in the event of war, Japanese prefer to be aligned with the US or the USSR. Influence of press coverage of the war of words is shown in a large portion of correspondence on the subject, further supporting the probability that an increasing number of writers are weighing Japanese Communism in terms of happenings outside the nation's borders.

Among those intercepts discussing Communism on the basis of it's intra-Japan effects, the most wrathful expressions accuse Japan Communist Party members of "violence" and strong arm tactics, and score them for deliberately attempting to strangle national recovery efforts by fomenting unnecessary labor-management strife. However, Communists have also gained some followers by their program. A sizeable number of workers proclaim that JCP leaders are their true friends.

In attempts to increase such backing, Reds are continuing their drive for tightly organized, Communist-controlled unions. At the same time, they are putting much emphasis on youth movements, "welfare activities" and development of previously reported leftist influences in the theater. (See CIS Periodical Summary No. 27, 15 Apr 48, P. CCD-33)

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1. Letters Intoned with Non-Analytic Dislike for Communism
2. International Aspects of Communism Heighten Opposition
3. JCP Blasted for Strong Arm Tactics, Attempts to Halt Recovery
4. Ask Government to Ban Reds from Office, Rid Japan of Communism
5. Scattered Evidence of Loss in Appeal of Communist Theories
6. Supporters of Communism Call Party True Friend of Workers
7. Communists Maintain Determination to Continue their Struggle
8. Japan Communist Party Continues Drive for Youth, Labor Support
9. Reds Publicize Attempt on Tokuda's Life, Implicate Government
10. Hot-blooded Youths Crave Issue to Arouse Fighting Spirits
11. Battle Over Communism Seen As Danger to Civil Rights

1. Letters Intoned with Non-Analytic Dislike for Communism:

Almost instinctive revulsion towards Communism appears in many letters. Some of the writers point out facets of "background" and "tradition" which make them reluctant to take part in this postwar political movement, but others find themselves unable to analyze their reactions and admit as much. A repatriate from Siberia says he is discouraged by the "weakness of will" which keeps many intelligent men out of leftist activity, but he admits that, in his own case, he "is surprised to find an unconscious tendency to criticize the Communistic ideals which seemed so attractive while in the USSR." (a) A Tokyo woman is "aware of a desire to move into the world of Communism" but is "hesitant to carry out the plan because it is alien to the Japanese way of living." (b) A young student states plainly: "I don't understand Communism and do not say that its principles are wrong." Nevertheless, he vows that he will "never be a communist." (c) Others offer similar statements of "sympathy with leftist ideals" or "find truth in Red ideas" but feel that it would be "impossible" to bring themselves to participate. (d) These beliefs that "tradition," "psychology," and other less definite qualities make Communism unsuitable for Japan are the basis of a few predictions that the nation "will never turn to the extreme left." (e)

2. International Aspects of Communism Heighten Opposition:

Many Japanese oppose Communism because of their belief that the Japan Communist Party (Kyosanto) is merely a tool of the Soviets in a drive for world domination. The thought of Russian control over Japan is apparently repulsive from the standpoint of loss of independence and even more objectionable because writers are convinced that conditions

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(a) IS/FUK/202662
(b) IS/TOK/195331
(c) IS/TOK/194326
(d) IS/TOK/198254
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(e) IS/TOK/196656
IS/FUK/202109
(f) IS/TOK/192349
(g) IS/NAG/14606

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states are not granted in the Soviet Union." (h) "Even though Marxism may be a splendid theory, I will have no part of modern Soviet-inspired Communism." (i) "Though I cannot understand Marxism, the situation in the USSR is enough to make me reluctant to support the leftists." (j) "The dictatorial set-up apparent while we were prisoners in Soviet territory proves the undesirability of Communism." (k)

Soviet expansion in Europe and tense US-USSR relations underscores the "danger to our homeland" and is convincing evidence that a decision on Communism in Japan must be made soon. A Kanagawa man says that Japanese must consider world politics and the position of the home islands in political geography and reject Communism. He says that "Japan is on the verge of a grave crisis which is so pressing that we cannot postpone action." (l) Other writers point to the "revelations of the Kosekina case" (m) and the "fall of Czechoslovakia and Finland and the threat to Greece, France, Italy and the rest of Europe." (n) Some assert that "the Soviet action in delaying the peace treaty and hampering international trade is only part of the larger scheme to embarrass America." (o)

3. JCP Blasted for Strong Arm Tactics, Attempts to Halt Recovery:

Hundreds of Japanese accuse Japan Communist Party members of using their influence to hold back the nation's efforts toward reconstruction. A significant portion of these accusations include the additional charge that the party is using force and "terrorist" tactics. (p, q, r) The change in feelings of some of the populace can be seen from such statements as that of a prosecuting attorney in Hyogo: "Although I was sympathetic to Communism in the past, I have found recently that the JCP is the greatest obstacle in reconstructing Japan. At present I am exerting my utmost efforts to annihilate Communism in our country." (s) Others aver that "the key to recovery is expulsion of the Reds," (t) and express "hatred" and "disgust" for the JCP "which is attempting to destroy Japan." (u) Source of most of this acrimony is activity of the "Communist agitators" in stirring up bad feeling between labor and management, using control of utility unions to disrupt homes and industry. (v) Japanese also resent the "JCP's attempts to gain power by taking advantage of any trouble which arises in the cities and villages." (w) This has been a standard Communist tactic in Japan, as elsewhere. Individuals who are in sympathy with "some points" of Marxism are nevertheless angered by "the terrorists' organization which masquerades under the name of Japan Communist Party." (x)

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4. Ask Government to Ban Reds from Office, Rid Japan of Communism:

Numerous demands that Reds be subdued are not surprising in view of the indignation at "these Soviet agents" who use "disorderly" tactics to "hold back recovery". (See above) Demands fall into two types; those which ask that Reds be banned from public office and those which hope to see an end to Communist activity of any kind in Japan. Some Japanese feel complacent because they are "sure that as long as Japan is under the American Occupation there is no danger of our nation becoming communistic." (y) Connecting labor problems directly to Communist domination of major unions, writers are cheered to find that the SCAP letter of 22 Jul and

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(i) IS/FUK/202527
(j) IS/NAG/14615
(k) IS/FUK/202898
(l) IS/TOK/192898
(m) IS/TOK/196662
(n) IS/TOK/196654
(o) IS/TOK/195322
(p) IS/TOK/194735
(q) IS/TOK/194745
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IS/FUK/204640
IS/TOK/197278
IS/TOK/194738
(r) IS/NAG/14517
(s) IS/FUK/20105
(t) IS/TOK/196658
(u) IS/TOK/197273
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(v) IS/FUK/204068
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(w) IS/TOK/95338
(x) IS/FUK/204073
(y) IS/TOK/194740

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the resultant Cabinet ordinance on National Public Service "have gradually alleviated the situation." (z) The few commentators who lay full blame for the "leftists' power" on "Allied oppression of Japanese rightists immediately following the war" (a) are particularly grateful for the SCAP memorandum.

Nevertheless, many letters ask the Japanese Government to take further steps and decry the "dull supervision of our leaders in such matters." (b) They demand that "Communists must be banned from public office" (c) and, in some cases, carry the hopeful thought that "a purge of all JCP members in from public office should serve to awaken the Reds to the wrongness of their ideas." (d) Reports that legislation is being considered to oust Reds from the Government have been received favorably: "When economic recovery is jeopardized by Communist activities such as sedition and strikes, it is timely and appropriate that premier encourage legislative action to rid the public service of Reds and check the destructive activities of communists." (e)

Other Japanese apparently would not be satisfied by legislation which merely barred JCP members from official positions. They fear that "there is danger of Communism taking over Japan unless strong measures are taken" (f) and call for "a program to drive all Reds out of the home islands." (g)

5. Scattered Evidence of Loss in Appeal of Communist Theories:

Letters pointing out "contradictions between theory and practice of Communism," (h) or approving "the principles of Marxism but opposing Red tactics" (i) are common now (j) as they have been in the past. (See CIS Periodical Summary No. 31, P. CCD-5) A slight increase in the number of comments rejecting Communism on purely theoretical grounds is apparent in early fall Censorship material, indicating a possible decline in the appeal of Marxism to Japanese. Part of this reaction is seemingly due to weariness of hearing and reading Red harangues. A Toyama student says he has "become completely disgusted with the pedantry of Marxists and pseudo-Marxists, all of whom are conscious moral philosophers." (k) The chief of a factory Youth Labor Department declares: "I joined the Communists some time ago but I am growing weary of the idea because I can find no mental food in it." (l) Others comment that "Communists are anachronistic and are unable even to keep phraseology of their dogma abreast the times." (m)

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Emphasis on class struggle is also alienating some citizens. These correspondents admit "there may be some truth in the class struggle, but history shows us that brotherhood of humans is more effective than hostility between the classes." (n) A few letter-senders acidly describe Communism as "Red Fascism." (o)

6. Supporters of Communism Call Party True Friend of Workers:

Backers of the JCP continue to refer to themselves as the friends of labor and farmers, and part of the populace has subscribed to this idea. A factory hand states openly that he "cannot understand the profound theory of Communism" but asserts his "belief that only the Communist Party can make any real contribution toward the emancipation of the working people." (p) University students proclaim that they

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(z) IS/TOK/195325 (f) IS/TOK/197260 IS/NAG/14636 (o) IS/NAG/14673
(a) IS/TOK/197253 (g) IS/TOK/195334 IS/FUK/204861 IS/TOK/192376
(b) IS/TOK/190300 (h) IS/TOK/196042 (k) IS/TOK/196659 (p) IS/OSA/103754
(c) IS/TOK/197256 (i) IS/TOK/197257 (l) IS/FUK/205069
(d) IS/TOK/106660 (j) IS/TOK/197271 (m) IS/TOK/197272
(e) IS/TOK/197248 IS/OSA/104070 (n) IS/TOK/191560

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"have joined the JCP to fight for the good and sincere common people in their battle against the monopolistic economic structure." (q) Other students, less decided in attitude say they are "inclined to neither the right or left" but go on to say that Communism, after all, offers the working people a reward and if the matter were put to a test, most young people would favor the left." (r)

Effects of Red propaganda can be seen in many mail extracts. References to "American capitalism," the "bourgeois class which subscribes to US ideas," "Japanese society, which is composed of 98% proletarians" "corruption of present society," "inconsistencies of capitalism," and other bits of leftist dogma are numerous. (s)

7. Communists Maintain Determination to Continue their Struggle:

Reds declare that they will pursue their efforts to communize Japan and the world despite evidence of "temporary setbacks." Some JCP backers grant that their "force is not so strong within the limits of the home islands" but find "hope in a promising international situation." (t) A common reassurance is the assertion that "the proletarian revolution will not be accomplished in a day, but patient efforts will achieve this goal." (u) More hopeful opinion manages to twist anti-Communism developments into encouragement by claiming "the recent increase in oppression of our party is concrete proof that the 'democratic front' has gained strength while the ruling classes are losing their power." (v) Again turning to the world conflict, Reds predict that "the future world will be governed by Communism. The United States will gradually fail in its efforts to put pressure on the world." (w)

8. Japan Communist Party Continues Drive for Youth, Labor Support:

Scores of intercepts indicate that major emphasis is being placed on campaigns to win the backing of labor and youth groups. Already in control of many major unions, Communists are attempting to strengthen their group and expand influence among all units of organized labor. (x)

Youth support is solicited through social functions, political discussion groups and organization of additional chapters of the Japan Youth Communist League (Nippon Seinen Kyosan Domei). (y) The program to win over students in higher schools and universities is apparently still centering on social gatherings and the movement against increased tuition fees. (z) Appeals to children appear to be largely in the form of

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Scores of intercepts indicate that major emphasis is being placed on campaigns to win the backing of labor and youth groups. Already in control of many major unions, Communists are attempting to strengthen their group and expand influence among all units of organized labor. (x)

Youth support is solicited through social functions, political discussion groups and organization of additional chapters of the Japan Youth Communist League (Nippon Seinen Kyosan Domei). (y) The program to win over students in higher schools and universities is apparently still centering on social gatherings and the movement against increased tuition fees. (z) Appeals to children appear to be largely in the form of entertainment. Reds are organizing a Children's Puppet Society, numerous Kamishibai (paper theater), and extensive tours of theatrical troupes throughout the nation. (a) The pattern followed is much the same as that reported previously. (See CIS Periodical Summary No. 27, 15 Apr 48, P. CCD- 33)

9. Reds Publicize Attempt on Tokuda's Life, Implicate Government:

The unsuccessful attempt on the life of Tokuda Kyuichi, Secretary-General of the Japan Communist Party, is being well utilized by communists as a springboard for additional propaganda and attacks against the Ashida Government. Although the attempted assasination was staged in mid-summer, Party organizations continue to call for "giant protest movements," against

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(q) IS/OSA/103768
(r) IS/TOK/195324
(s) IS/TOK/197265
IS/TOK/197269
IS/FUK/204639
IS/TOK/197297
(t) IS/TOK/194742
(u) IS/TOK/197258
(v) IS/TOK/197267
(w) IS/OSA/103882
(x) FUK/TOS/1486
OSA/TOS/1613
FUK/TOS/1411
FUK/TOS/1436
(y) FUK/TOS/1319
FUK/TOS/1409
OSA/TOS/155
FUK/TOS/1417
(z) OSA/TOS/1595
TOK/83291
(a) FUK/TOS/1484
FUK/TOS/1462
TOK/TOS/3254
OSA/68413
FUK/TOS/1320

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such "terrorism." (b) The event has also been used as a convenient occasion to exchange cabled sympathies and encouragement with Communist leaders in other nations. (c)

> A more pointed and ambitious plan is indirectly to implicate the Government. A printed statement issued by the Central Committee of JCP (Nippon Kyosanto Chuo Iinkai) reads, in part: "The plot against the life of Tokuda is an outrageous violence against the democratic revolution front. This crude type of terrorism is directed at the general proletariat and is the result of reactionary policies of the Government. We shall lodge a strong protest against the Government for violating the Potsdam Declaration by accelerating the revival of reactionary influences. On these grounds we will demand the immediate resignation of the Ashida Cabinet." (d)

10. Hot-blooded Youths Crave Issue to Arouse Fighting Spirits:

Young Japanese on both sides of the struggle over Communism seem to find a satisfaction in arousing themselves to "fighting spirits." A student from Tokyo remarking about this tendency says: "I am too much a skeptic to join the Red movement but I envy those Communists who have become intoxicated in their battle for leftist beliefs." (e) Similar views are expressed by a young woman from Ibaragi: "A friend of mine has joined the JCP and is finding firm beliefs and a real happiness. Aside from the issue of whether Communism is right or wrong, I cannot help envying women like her who are fighting undauntedly for an ideal." (f) Others, equally undecided on the merits of Marxism credit Reds with "attaining a spiritual awakening through battling for the ideals which burn in their hearts." (g) Anti-communists claim that this is the main appeal of the JCP and remark caustically that "the only persons who believe in Communism are those who have been carried away by a sort of 'dime novel' excitement." (h) A few opponents of the JCP are apparently subject to similar desires for emotional stimulation: "As an idealist and romanticist, I want to fling myself passionately into the fray, fight to tear down the Red symbol and hoist the Japanese flag." (i)

11. Battle Over Communism Seen As Danger To Civil Rights:

A few Japanese fear that a danger worse than Communism faces their country. Looking about them and seeing heightening prejudices on both sides of the encounter, these citizens are fearful that the end result will be a loss of their still new freedoms of speech and thought. On

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(b) FUK/TOS/1414
TOK/TOS/3187
OSA/TOS/1564
(c) TOS/3224
TOS/3186
(d) NAG/30187
(e) IS/TOK/196059
(f) IS/TOK/196649
(g) IS/FUK/204287
(h) IS/TOK/194737
(i) IS/FUK/202105
(j) IS/OSA/104076
(k) IS/TOK/194751
(l) IS/TOK/197263
(m) IS/FUK/204862

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REACTIONS TO THE OCCUPATION

1. Occupation Policy

Of the more than 6,700 Japanese addressors who comment specifically on the Occupation, 72 percent register approval of SCAP policy and amazement over American munificence. A preponderant number of correspondents acclaim the US for providing "indispensable assistance and guidance" and hastening Japan's economic recuperation. Rather than diminishing as national reconstruction moves closer to reality, consternation over the prospect of an Allied withdrawal seems to be increasing. Maintenance of public order during the post-defeat years is credited to the Occupation Forces, without whose stabilizing influence internal strife is felt to be inevitable. The largest measure of adverse comment centers around the requisitioning of quarters and office space for Occupation needs and the theme that SCAP is steadily extending and intensifying its supervision over all phases of Japanese life. Less prevalent, abusive letters questioning America's motives and reflecting deep-rooted antagonism toward the Allied Powers comprise about one-fourth of the unfavorable material and come largely from recalcitrant ex-servicemen and individuals who have suffered loss of position or property as a result of the war's outcome, the purge and the breakup of monopolistic interests.

a.	Pro:	US Altruism Has Enabled Japan to Recover Her Equilibrium
b.		Japanese Extol General MacArthur, Rank Him Above Emperor
c.		Discuss European Dilemma, Consider Themselves Fortunate
d.		Declare Early Allied Withdrawal Would Spell Doom for Japan
e.		Army Disaster Area Relief Work, Service to Public Praised
f.	Con:	Say Policy Shows Lack of Insight; Control Too Stringent
g.		Allies Accused of Duplicity, Attempting to Colonize Japan
h.		Occupation Expense Impossible Burden On Japanese Taxpayer
i.		Outraged by Eviction Notices, Usurpation of Parks, Beaches

a. Pro: US Altruism Has Enabled Japan to Recover Her Equilibrium:

That Japan has emerged from the wreckage and made sweeping strides towards economic readjustment is affirmed in hundreds of intercepts which point to an easing of critical shortages and a recent upswing in business activity. (a) For these accomplishments, writers feel that full credit is due the Occupation Forces and the US Government in particular. Few

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The deepest impression is made upon Japanese internees lately returned from the USSR. The initial reaction of repatriates from Soviet PW centers is astonishment over the

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(a) IS/NAG/14646 IS/OSA/103607 IS/OSA/95833 (c) IS/FUK/202618
IS/FUK/188097 (b) IS/TOK/190071 IS/FUK/202110 (d) IS/TOK/176575
IS/OSA/101765 196415, 196413 201022 (e) IS/OSA/103603

country's relative well-being. (f) The misinformation which they received during their imprisonment depicting the homeland as hopelessly impoverished and oppressed has, in most instances, served to enhance their appreciation of Occupation policy. Many of this group also speak warmly of the Allies' efforts to expedite their repatriation and the consideration shown them upon their debarkation in Japan. (g)

The reopening of foreign trade is heralded as an epic development, the beneficial effects of which have already been felt by the nation at large. (h) Living conditions are said to have improved noticeably during the past 12 months and consumers give thanks to Occupation administrators for having succeeded to some extent in alleviating inflation. Increased imports are expected to bring further price reduction. Reports from various part of the country that "we are living quite comfortably now;" "the struggle for existence has become less intense;" "Japan has almost been restored to prewar normalcy" (i) show a shift in national morale. Correspondents are similarly optimistic about the progress of Japan's conversion, claim that she will soon be eligible for recognition as "a truly democratic nation." (j)

b. Pro: Japanese Extol General MacArthur, Rank Him Above Emperor:

The exalted position which the Supreme Commander holds in the eyes of the Japanese public as a whole is emphasized in thousands of letters (k) stating that "we admire and respect General MacArthur more than the Emperor." (l) Such statements as "All Japanese, with the exception of a few Communists, revere him and love him as their father" (m) give some indication of the eulogistic tone of a large quantity of these references. Policy moves which incur the disfavor of sizeable segments of the population seem to have little effect upon his personal popularity; it is not uncommon for a writer to append a bitter attack on a SCAP-sponsored measure or program with praise of the Occupation Commander. Many Japanese, as a result of the publicized announcement of General MacArthur's political candidacy, have taken a personal interest in US presidential election preliminaries and express grief over his failure to receive the Republican Party nomination. A Fukuoka onlooker reports that he "felt keen disappointment when it became clear that the General had withdrawn from the presidential contest;" (n) another commentator in Ehime believes that "while it would have been a severe blow for Japan to lose a leader with such profound knowledge and under-

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(f) IS/OSA/99796
IS/TOK/18522
(g) IS/FUK/178847
IS/TOK/193381
(h) IS/OSA/101277
92752
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(i) IS/FUK/204267
IS/OSA/95853
IS/TOK/193364
(j) IS/TOK/186236
IS/FUK/202888
(k) IS/FUK/188705
IS/TOK/174256
(l) IS/TOK/178142
(m) IS/TOK/181428
(n) IS/TOK/190529
(o) IS/FUK/198353
(p) IS/TOK/192044
194102
(q) IS/FUK/202890
(r) IS/TOK/198553
(s) FUK/PPB/2719
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Kyoto lauds MacArthur for his "judicious advice to Japanese Government leaders" and for pointing the way for the establishment of a more efficient civil service system. (t) Revision of the government workers' statute is labeled urgently necessary by the Fukuoka publication New Kyushu (Shin Kyushu). "The proposed amendment," it adds, "is sanctioned by the people as a whole." (u)

c. Pro: Discuss European Dilemma, Consider Themselves Fortunate:

The attention focussed on the Berlin crisis and reports of discord and economic disruption elsewhere in the European Occupation zone have caused serious reflection among the Japanese. A comparison of their own plight with that of the German populace provokes such exclamations as "We are without doubt the luckiest of the vanquished countries." (v) "Thank God that we have not been as ill-fated as the other defeated peoples!" (w) Others rejoice their "good fortune at being spared dismemberment by "ideologically incompatible powers" (x) or speak highly of the "wisdom" and "unity of purpose" shown by the Allied staff for the Far East. (y) These are matched in quantity by intercepts citing the drawbacks of being a Soviet protectorate. By most Japanese, domination by the USSR seems to be regarded as a fate once removed from perdition. Dispatches dealing with this contingency fall into two categories: (1) those which speculate as to what the consequences would have been had the Soviet Forces headed the invasion of Japan, usually concluding with such phrases as "it is quite terrifying even to think of it;" (z) and, (2) those which declare with conviction that under a Soviet occupation "Japan would have had absolutely no hope of recovery." (a) "We would be unbelievably miserable." (b) "Not one grain of rice would be provided though we were threatened with starvation." (c)

d. Pro: Declare Early Allied Withdrawal Would Spell Doom for Japan:

The conjecture "What would become of us if the American forces were to withdraw?" (d) has become a familiar refrain in communications referring to SCAP administration. Nearly one-sixth of the material on this subject is comprised of arguments and entreaties for continued US protection and leadership. The Occupation's main selling point, so far as most Japanese are concerned, is that, under SCAP's watchful eye, unruly factions have been held down and order enforced in the home islands. (e) Writers dwell upon the fact that "Japan is completely defenseless" (f) and are convinced that once the Allies depart, dissension will develop, civil war may ensue. (g)

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(t) OSA/PPB/5096 (z) IS/OSA/97687 194542,171178 100533, 96200
(u) FUK/PPB/2838 (a) IS/TOK/192068 IS/OSA/97503 (h) IS/TOK/103195
(v) IS/OSA/97492 (b) IS/OSA/102616 97541, 97481 (i) IS/OSA/103195
(w) IS/TOK/192694 (c) IS/TOK/192068 IS/FUK/202409 (j) IS/TOK/163739
(x) IS/FUK/185772 (d) IS/FUK/202444 202411 IS/OSA/103970
(y) IS/OSA/93371 IS/NAG/14752 (f) IS/TOK/96406 93372
93559, 929908 (e) IS/TOK/192054 (g) IS/OSA/94777

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to ratify a plan turning Japan into a permanent dependency of the US." (k) The change in viewpoint represented by this trend of reaction is underlined in a Kochi newspaper extract: "When the Occupation Forces advanced into Japan three years ago, the entire population swore to do everything in its power to hasten their departure, but today they admit that their evacuation would drive Japan into uncontrollable confusion." (l)

e. Pro: Army Disaster Area Relief Work, Service to Public Praised:

Postal channels continue to be flooded with letters praising Occupation Forces' relief activities in the Fukui earthquake sector. (m) Emergency measures taken to prevent additional devastation and the speed and efficiency shown by military units in administering aid to disaster victims has aroused a chorus of acclamation. The alacrity with which tank trucks were dispatched to supply the stricken area with water (n), the erection of tents to shelter the sufferers (o) and the contribution of money and provisions by Allied military and civilian personnel (p) are mentioned repeatedly by Fukui inhabitants as reflecting "unparalleled kindness and humanitarianism." Adding their thanks, others report that due to the US Army's assistance, the work of clearing and rebuilding the ruins is proceeding far more rapidly than expected. (q)

Medical attention provided by the Fukuoka Military Government Team at the scene of the Katsuda Coal Mine explosion (r) and service rendered by chemically-equipped fire fighting squads on various occasions when Japanese apparatus proved inadequate have also won the Occupation admirers. (s) Farmers and rural dwellers are enthusiastic about the insect control campaign being carried on by Army extermination corps and the "remarkable results achieved with DDT." (t) The decrease during the past year in cases of typhoid and dysentery is attributed to SCAP's Public Health division "which has done much to improve sanitary conditions and the health of the Japanese people." (u) Support of the Japanese Government and police in their anti-blackmarket drive is still being applauded by correspondents who note that "since the Occupation authorities stepped in, blackmarket dealers have become surprisingly scarce." (v) Another large quota of favorable comment alludes to the Army's road rehabilitation and maintenance activities which are recognized as being of direct benefit to the public. (w)

f. Con: Say Policy Shows Lack of Insight; Control Too Stringent:

One of the salient weaknesses of SCAP's reform program, as singled

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One of the salient weaknesses of SCAP's reform program, as singled out by Japanese critics, is the tendency of Occupation agents to rely upon western precedent, overlooking fundamental disparities in American and Japanese psychology. This failure to adapt teachings and technique to the pupil's temperament is alleged to have delayed democratization by creating confusion and misconceptions.(x) Exempting the Supreme Commander from censure, a Kanagawa observer contends that the trouble lies in the fact that "General MacArthur's subordinates are impractical theorists and bureaucrats who have no comprehension of the actual needs and conditions of the country." (y) In the same vein, a Saitama writer maintains that

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(k) IS/TOK/163738
(l) OSA/PPB/5816
(m) IS/OSA/96676
83583, 83975
83750, 92596
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193414
(n) IS/OSA/83646
(o) IS/OSA/103555
IS/FUK/201014
IS/OSA/99761
(p) IS/TOK/180362
IS/OSA/83652
IS/TOK/186235
(q) IS/OSA/92903
99797
(r) IS/TOK/185323
164679
IRS/1313
(s) IS/OSA/93145
(t) IS/OSA/86246
99225, 99565
IS/TOK/181433
IS/FUK/179850
(u) IS/TOK/183809
(v) IS/OSA/103971
93397
(w) IS/NAG/13476
IS/OSA/103434
(x) IS/TOK/189548
192053
(y) IS/TOK/197036

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a more thorough understanding of Japanese traditions by Allied administrative and operative personnel would lead to better assimilation of Occupation principles. Blaming "labor's currently mutinous attitude" on a lack of adroitness in dealing with the Japanese people, he asserts that by "imprudently granting the working class full rights and privileges at the outset of the Occupation, Allied policy-makers bred a spirit of rebellion." (z)

Although still outweighed more than fourfold by sympathetic comment, letters accusing the Occupation of dictatorial tendencies and of strengthening rather than relaxing its hold over Japan have multiplied during the past three months. This rise in intercepts decrying SCAP's "manipulation of the Diet" and prominence in economic matters gives evidence of a growing desire for greater independence in the management of domestic affairs. It may also be an indication that restlessness has set in as a reaction to prolonged Allied tutelage.

g. Con: Allies Accused of Duplicity, Attempting to Colonize Japan:

The most virulent assaults upon the Occupation are found in correspondence from union members and ex-Siberia internees. Communist-coached antagonists label the US "hypocritical," (a) "mammonistic" (b) and charge the Allies with collusion in a plot to debilitate Japan and reduce her to the status of a colony. (c) Workers assert that "the rights bestowed so liberally three years ago are being withdrawn through artifice and excuses." (d) Some suspect America of duplicity, claim that "they are attempting to disarm us by distributing food and special delicacies like sugar." (e) This distrust is also well illustrated in a letter in which a Kyoto teacher reports having recently attended a free showing of an educational film by the local military government. Reasoning that production and transportation of the picture must have cost a great deal of money, he concludes that "there must be some cunning scheme behind this cloak of kindness." (f) Resistance is further manifest in a handful of nationalistic-toned comments expressing such sentiments as: "Since the surrender, democracy has been loudly advocated, but it holds no appeal for me. We are living like slaves. I far prefer the old Japan under the reign of the Emperor." (g)

h. Con: Occupation Expense Impossible Burden on Japanese Taxpayer:

The monetary outlay required to support the Occupation is a source of irritation to the impoverished Japanese, many of whom have exaggerated ideas of how much is being allocated for this purpose. A Hokkaido farmer is under the impression that the Japanese Government is paying ¥100 mil-

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(z) IS/TOK/197036 OSA/67579
(a) IS/NAG/13461 OSA/TOS/1624
(b) IS/OSA/92721 IS/TOK/171167
(c) TOK/806222 (d) IS/OSA/92721
(e) TOK/806222 TOK/84470
(f) OSA/66023
(g) OSA/66002
(h) IS/OSA/100923
(i) IS/NAG/14565
(j) IS/OSA/98744 IS/FUK/203448

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3/402/ NNDC NO. 775009

i. Con: Outraged by Eviction Notices, Usurpation of Parks, Beaches:

Outcries against requisitioning of Japanese buildings and residences are as resounding as ever and account for nearly one-third of the references adverse to the Occupation. Property owners who have received eviction notices are distraught, report bitterly that they have no place to go (k) or that their families will have to separate for lack of housing. (l) Those who have not been personally affected are envious of the "fine houses of the Americans" (m) or incensed over the fact that "foreigners have monopolized practically every habitable structure in Japan." (n) The seizure of recreation areas is also loudly scored--i.e., "even the playgrounds where our children used to gather are surrounded by wire fences." (o) "The Hakuunro Hotel has been commandeered by the US Forces." (p) "We have no place to swim now that the beach has been restricted for their use." (q) Sharpest detraction is penned by a Hyogo citizen who wants to know "For what reason must we vacate our houses for them? Is our right to exist already in their hands? The Americans pretend to be philanthropists, verbally advocate liberty and equality and then deprive us of the very roofs over our heads." (r) Taking a brighter view of the situation, a fellow townsman writes that he "is looking forward to the day when they return my house to me with all sorts of improvements and in much better condition than when I relinquished it." (s)

2. Occupation Personnel

The current ratio of pro-con comment on Occupation Personnel coincides with the trend noted in March of this year when favorable reactions took a sharp upward swing. Since that time, critical intercepts have been consisently in the minority. (See CIS Periodical Summaries, 26, P. 16; 27, P. 22; 30, P. 12) Approbation is sounded in 67 percent of the writings reviewed during the present period. The fear and animosity dominant in references to the Allied Forces during the early part of the Occupation seem to have been superseded by a feeling of friendliness. Writers show an alert interest in the behavior and living habits of the Americans and many are of the belief that "there is much in their philosophy that we would do well to adopt." The characteristic most foreign to their own reserve--"the GIs' buoyancy and great good humor"--appears to have the greatest appeal for the Japanese. Some adjectives as "gay" and "jovial" are popular terminology in letters appraising western temperament. Fraternization is one of the main causes of contention. Ill-will is also strongly manifested in intercepts comparing Allied living conditions with those of the native populace. Reports of traffic acci-

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a. Pro: Association with Allied Personnel Turns Apprehension to Esteem
b. Japanese Occupation Employees Enthusiastic about Americanism
c. Commend SCAP Field-Workers, Regret Eichelberger Departure
d. Con: Declare Fraternization Disgraceful, Harmful to Public Morals
e. Resent Invaders, Register Antipathy, Harbor Misgivings

(k) IS/FUK/162563
182968 (m) IS/OSA/97179
IS/TOK/173383 (n) IS/FUK/178849
(l) IS/OSA/95647
IS/TOK/175086
IS/OSA/93979 (o) TOS/1599
IS/NAG/13413 (p) IS/OSA/97684
(q) IS/FUK/202234
IS/TOK/177052
(r) OSA/66303
(s) IS/OSA/101848
(t) TOK/79382 -
IS/TOK/150617
165744

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3/402/ NNDC NO. 775009

a. Pro: Association with Allied Personnel Turns Apprehension to Esteem:

Prolonged contact with members of the Occupation has done much to lessen the constraint which the Japanese felt toward the victorious forces at the time of the first landings and for a long period thereafter. That the association has been both profitable and enlightening is acknowledged in such declarations as "since the foreign troops arrived here, the flow of new ideas has changed our entire mental outlook and brought about many valuable reforms." (u) American servicemen are praised for having "set an example in democracy" (v) and "won the understanding and trust of the Japanese." (w) In so doing, they have overcome deep misgivings implanted by pre-surrender tales of the brutality of the enemy regiments, rumors that they would commit atrocities and "seek terrible retribution." (x) Almost as numerous as letters describing Allied military personnel as well-diciplined (y) are those contrasting their conduct with the overbearing and degenerate behavior of Japanese soldiers during the war. (z) Accusing his compatriots of having defiled the Japanese race, a Kyoto resident notes that the deportment of the US troops "is a far cry from that of our servicemen in Manchuria." (a) Another writer avers that "compared with the Japanese fighters, those stationed in Japan are gentlemen." (b) Possibly the highest tribute is that paid by a Kagawa shop-keeper who displays greater confidence in the Occupation Forces than in the probity of his own countrymen. "If I encounter a Japanese in the streets after dark," he writes, "I must be on my guard lest I be robbed or molested, but if the stranger is a member of the Occupation, I know that such a precaution is quite unnecessary." (c)

The impressions set forth in several hundred letter excerpts are epitomized in a Fukuoka correspondent's observation that "the Americans whom I have met struck me as engaging, humane, naive and efficient." (d) Those who do not dissertate at length on the westerners' affability (e) comment on their competence or "the speed and technical skill which they display in their daily work." (f) The fact that the Allies have not capitalized upon their triumph or played the role of conquerors with a heavy hand is looked upon by the Japanese as deserving of the highest commendation. Writers marvel that "they have made no harsh demands upon us" (g) and have "set aside their past hostility in the interest of Japan's rehibilitation." (h) Gratitude is also pronounced in averments that "they are neither braggartly nor pretentious." (i)

b. Pro: Japanese Occupation Employees Enthusiastic About Americanism:

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3/402/ NNDC NO. 775009

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b. Pro: Japanese Occupation Employees Enthusiastic About Americanism:

The most avid exponents of Americanism are found among Japanese employed by the Occupation. Exposure to American social concepts and family conventions have convinced those in a position to observe the merits of the western way of life. Correspondence from individuals serving in Allied offices and residences tells of the valuable experience they are gaining and the advantages of working under "kindly auspices." (j) Incidents reflecting the warm-heartedness of their employers and stories of favors bestowed upon them are recounted in glowing detail. (k) Members of this group are particularly energetic in exhorting their kinsmen to study the habits of "our foreign benefactors" and assimilate their superior points so that they may be absorbed into the Japanese cultural

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(u) IS/TOK/190074 FUK/PPB/3690
(v) IS/TOK/190060
(w) OSA/PPB/5279
(x) IS/OSA/103974 101572
IS/NAG/14691 12812
IS/TOK/193362
(y) IS/TOK/187245 16762, 188233 189552
(z) IS/TOK/190534
IS/FUK/202087
IS/OSA/99201
(a) IS/OSA/97480
(b) IS/FUK/190002
(c) IS/TOK/197041
(d) IS/FUK/190001
(e) IS/TOK/197041
(f) IS/TOK/171174 194535
IS/OSA/101346
(g) IS/OSA/96289
(h) IS/OSA/98022
(i) IS/TOK/186234 19410
(j) IS/TOK/184685
IS/FUK/200748
(k) IS/FUK/189998
IS/OSA/101335 103845

scheme. (l) Japanese women in the hire of Occupation families are impressed by "their scientific methods of housekeeping" and the convenience of US homes (m), exclaim over the "artistic beauty of western dwellings" or conclude, after taking inventory of the household facilities and furnishings, that "everything Japanese is inferior." (n)

c. Pro: Commend SCAP Field-Workers, Regret Eichelberger Departure:

Acquaintance with SCAP fieldworkers has been a source of inspiration to many Japanese. A considerable volume of the monthly data on Allied Forces deals with the personalities of Army representatives--inspectors, advisors, lecturers--who are in direct contact with the people. Especially in the rural areas, their endeavors attract widespread attention. To the country dweller, these Army and Civilian workers are the personifications of the Occupation and their words and actions are carefully weighed and dissected. By exercising tact in their dealings with various groups, they have succeeded in building goodwill--village officials are appreciative of the interest shown in local affairs and the encouragement given by Occupation authorities. (o) Contrasting the "mild manner and unassuming attitude" of a visiting American consultant to the pompousness of the local bureaucrats, a Nagano government employee ponders, "I wonder when Japanese officialdom will become thus democratized?" (p) A Fukuoka businessman reports that he learned a great deal from US army officers whom he accompanied on a recent inspection trip and was "touched by their solicitude" (q) and women in various parts of the country express admiration for the Public Health and Welfare lecturers who have addressed them on various occasions, characterizing them as "gracious," "intellectual" and "truly democratic." (r)

Lt Gen R. L. Eichelberger's departure from Japan is marked in scores of letters conveying a deep sense of loss. Japanese who looked upon the Eighth Army commander as a personal friend and champion tell of their reluctance to see him leave, declaring that they "shall never forget his untiring efforts on behalf of Japan's rehabilitation." (s) Those who visited the dock to witness his sailing describe his geniality and the emotion they felt upon hearing his parting words. (t) Some inkling of the affectionate tone of these writings may be gathered from a Fukuoka writer's plaintive comment that "Since General Eichelberger left, I feel somewhat lonely," (u) and the affirmation by a Nagano worker that "we shall love and respect him to the end of our days." (v)

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d. Con: Declare Fraternization Disgraceful, Harmful to Public Morals:

The reaction of the average Japanese to the sight of his countrywomen mingling with the Occupation troops is instantaneous and vituperative. (w) Writers condemn fraternization both on moral and racial grounds. Their objections are enumerated in well over one-third of the communications antagonistic to Occupation Personnel. In railing against such alliances, they protest that they have an unwholesome effect upon the younger generation and have contributed to the decline in public morals. (x) A housewife in Kanagawa complains that she cannot prevent her children from taking

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(l) IS/TOK/190532, IS/TOK/197048, IS/FUK/202619
(m) IS/TOK/193375
(n) IS/TOK/194116, 189542, 181422, 183819
(o) IS/OSA/97013, IS/FUK/204607
(p) IS/NAG/13689
(q) IS/FUK/202235
(r) IS/TOK/165682, IS/FUK/187080
(s) IS/TOK/168856, IS/OSA/94005
(t) IS/TOK/637755, 171173
(u) IS/FUK/178844
(v) IS/NAG/14367
(w) IS/NAG/14367
(x) IS/OSA/92662, IS/TOK/169853, 185327, IS/NAG/137786, IS/TOK/175731, 168855

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3/402/ NNDC NO. 775009

notice of "the antics of the street-girls and GIs who parade in front of our house" (y) and another irate mother considers it "lamentable that they should make such spectacles of themselves in front of decent women and young girls." (z) The disapproval registered in letters from masculine commentators is even more severe and runs to indictments of fraternization as "disgraceful" and "shocking" (a) and such observations as "it is indeed regrettable that so many Japanese women have fallen into debasement." (b) Judging from the liberal application of the term "pan pan girl," almost any female seen in the presence of a member of the Allied Forces runs the risk of being accused of moral laxity. Japanese women are warned that it is dangerous to set foot in the street at night or to glance in the direction of foreign soldiers lest they be mistaken for a prostitute. (c) A girl in Gifu states that "even in daylight it is not safe to venture out alone for Occupation servicemen lurk everywhere." (d) Intercepts from a half dozen other addressors report that houses in thier neighborhoods have become headquarters for GIs and Japanese women and that they "are kept awake all night by noisy celebrations." (e)

c. Con: Resent Invaders, Register Antipathy, Harbor Misgivings:

Dispatches calling US personnel "stupid," "swaggering," "arrogant" (f) and betraying an inborn hostility make up about 20 percent of the caustic material under this heading. One explanation for the recurrence of this type of comment is that the Allies' look of prosperity acts as an irritant. Their appearance in expensive automobiles (g) and special train coaches (h) serves as a constant reminder of the defeat, causing the Japanese to give vent to such detraction as "it is unjust that they should be treated better than we in every respect" (i) "It is intolerable that we should have to put up with the Americans who act as if they own everything in the country." (j)

Annoyance also stems from the inflationary effect which their presence reportedly has upon local living costs. Householders declare resentfully that "the minute the Occupation Forces take up residence in an area, prices shoot out of the range of the Japanese inhabitants." (k) According to an Osaka laborer, "all commodity costs have gone up 50 to 60 percent due to the fact that members of the Occupation are stationed here." (l) Recent price jumps in Yokohama are also blamed on the higher purchasing power of the Americans by a resident of that city. (m) Another factor which bolsters the volume of unfavorable intercepts is distrust. There are still a considerable number of Japanese who remain unconvinced of the good intentions of the Occupation Forces. Intimidated by accounts, many of them fictitious, of transgressions by Allied servicemen or influenced

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(y) IS/TOK/167545
(z) IS/TOK/180547
(a) IS/OSA/99156
10154
IS/TOK/193373
193378, 179084
180373
(b) IS/NAG/14006
IS/TOK/20464
(c) IS/OSA/96604
IS/TOK/180358
181438
(d) IS/NAG/14624
(e) TOK/79946
79496
IS/TOK/165681
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(f) IS/OSA/101609
IS/TOK/196046
(g) IS/OSA/99550
96234
IS/TOK/192692
(h) IS/OSA/99832
(i) IS/TOK/168857
(j) IS/TOK/174247
(k) IS/TOK/186228
187256
(l) IS/OSA/102121
(m) IS/TOK/179076
(n) IS/TOK/166838
165740,184695
(o) IS/TOK/166838
165740,184695
(p) IS/TOK/167801

SECRET

ANALYSIS OF FOREIGN MAIL TO AND FROM JAPAN

Japanese letters to friends and relatives in other parts of the world are filled with longing to escape the over-crowded home islands. Writers petition expatriates to find means for their entry and urge them to exert every effort to promote good relationships so that Japanese migration will be favored. Probably because of Brazil's pre-war open-door policy and the concentration of Issei there and in Peru, Argentina and Mexico, most domestic letters express a desire to settle in one of these countries.

> Much of the comment expressing the desire to emigrate comes from younger men who have found the adjustment to peace-time conditions in Japan difficult. The economic difficulties at home apparently lend an utopian aura to foreign lands, even those with particularly low standards of living.

Nostalgia for places of former residence is much in evidence. Firm admonitions to those contemplating a return to Japan are backed by details of cramped and difficult living conditions.

> The ranks of the "Victory-Believers" in Brazil (See CIS Periodical Summary No. 29, p. CCD-5) are thinning but large numbers of this die-hard group remain adamant in their belief that Japan won the war. Homeland Japanese and those residing in other parts of the world join in severe condemnation of this group and claim their behavior and demonstration in Brazil the primary cause for the defeat of the proposed bill to reopen Brazil to Japanese migration. It is also feared that the continued existence of this benighted group will have an adverse effect on other governments who might contemplate opening immigration.

> Freedom from racial prejudice is reported by Japanese residents of Brazil, Peru, Canada, Siam and China. Letters from the United States ascribe the almost complete lack of postwar prejudice to the valor of the Nisei soldiers who served with the American army. Many express the hope that the democratization of Japan under the leadership of the American Occupation and the mutual understanding thus engendered will lead to Japanese eligibility for citizenship in the US.

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Foreign and domestic mail is rife with conjectures as to the outcome of the present Russo-US-Allied tension and with predictions of the effect of any eventuality on Japan. Some deplore the resultant delay in peace negotiations while others contend that Japan will benefit from the rift between the two great powers. Many war-weary Japanese appear to take comfort from their new Constitution's renunciation of armed force.

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1. Many Japanese Desire to Emigrate From Crowded Home Islands
2. "Victory-Believers" Hinder Re-Issue of Immigration Permit
3. Immigrants Report Little or no Race Prejudice Encountered
4. Possibility of Third World War Subject of Much Discussion

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1. Many Japanese Desire to Emigrate From Crowded Home Islands:

Thousands of letters emanating from Japan repeat "we urgently desire to leave these over-populated islands." There is little evidence that these writers intend to emulate the pre-war Japanese who stayed away from

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their homeland for only a sufficient time to accumulate a pre-determined sum of money, or, for the purpose of alleviating their financial difficulties. The repatriation of many thousands to the home islands and the continually rising birth rate has brought many Japanese to the belief that "free entry into other countries or migration to sparsely inhabited areas is the only solution for the Japanese over-population problem." (a) Many echo the feeling of a Kumamoto man - "I wish to settle in Canada for the rest of my life, and if I am unable to go, I shall find a way to send my children." (b) This new impulse to sever any but sentimental ties with the Japanese homeland is further manifested in a letter from Sao Paulo, Brazil: "The Japanese here have changed since the war. Instead of working toward the day when they could return to Japan, they are permanently settled and now consider Brazil their adopted homeland." (c)

Pleas to relatives or friends to facilitate their passage and entry into another country are frequent. Such phrases as "if steps and taken from your side" and "if permission can be secured" appear in letters from Japan. The president of the Japanese Association in Buenos Aires, Argentina asks that permission be requested of the proper Occupation authorities, stating "many Japanese here want to send for their families," and claims "The Argentina Foreign Ministry and Immigration Bureau will have no objection and permits of entry can easily be obtained." (d) Both foreign and domestic letters express hope of an early signing of the peace treaty so that travel restrictions will be negated.

2. "Victory-Believers" Hinder Re-Issue of Immigration Permit:

Current intercepts indicate, conclusively, that at least half of the Japanese residing in Sao Paulo, Brazil and environs persist in their belief that Japan won the war. (See CIS Periodical Summary No. 29, P. CCD-5 for a detailed account of this postwar phenomenon). Enlightened Isei continue to plead that some famous personage, well known to all Japanese, be sent to Sao Paulo to "disperse the nightmare of those who still believe that Japan was victorious." (e)

Informed writers claim that the confidence built by Japanese settlers during the forty years of Brazil's open door policy has been severely shaken by the rioting and terrorist tactics of the "Victory-Believers." The defeat of

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Informed writers claim that the confidence built by Japanese settlers during the forty years of Brazil's open door policy has been severely shaken by the rioting and terrorist tactics of the "Victory-Believers." The defeat of the recent proposal to reopen Brazil for Japanese migration is termed "a lasting stain on the long history of Brazilian-Japanese relations" (f) and is the basis for the fear of many Nisei-Brazilians that "it may be years before the Japanese will be permitted to enter this country, if permission is ever again granted." (g) Others contend that the continued existence of the "Victory-Believers" and proponent groups in other parts of the world, however small numerically, will mar the present rapport between the US and the Japanese people (h) and constitute a threat to an "early conclusion of the peace treaty." (i)

(a) IS/TOK/164018 172761,142239 (b) IS/TOK/171601 (e) IS/OSA/96770 (g) IS/TOK/178190
IS/TOK/194218 IS/TOK/177484 (h) IS/TOK/177470
166053,142303 (c) IS/TOK/142284 159365,159351 (i) IS/TOK/178190
142261,142279 (d) IS/TOK/180554 (f) IS/TOK/162530

SECRET

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In spite of the constant effort of many first and second generation Japanese-Brazilians to disseminate factual information, a letter written in late Jul 48 from Sao Paulo to Shiga Prefecture, Japan, is exemplary:

> "Though it is not likely that Japan is defeated, we are too far from our fatherland and there is too much propaganda, so if it is clearly true that Japan is defeated, please send a photograph of your family in which none will wear a hat. If Japan was victorious, then send a photo of the elder boy only and have his picture taken wearing a hat." (j)

3. Immigrants Report Little or no Race Prejudice Encountered:

The decision in favor of a Japanese appellant, recently handed down by the Supreme Court of the United States, in a case involving the California Anti-Japanese landownership Act is the source of much jubilance among Japanese-Americans. The enactment of the bill allowing indemnity for those Japanese who were evacuated from coastal areas during the war is considered an omen of future relaxation of pre-war and wartime antagonisms.

Impressed by their post-war treatment, Japanese in the States write that "Americans do not desire to molest the weak" (k) and aver that "the defeat has brought about a far better feeling toward the Japanese here." (l) Many claim that "Policy of the USA, based on democratic justice and tolerance, will influence other countries and benefit will accrue not only to the Japanese abroad but to the Japanese nation." (m) The outstanding war service rendered by Nisei-Americans, many claim, is the determinative factor in the postwar change in discrimination in the US. Correspondents from Canada, China, Brazil, Siam and Peru likewise report little or no intolerance extant.

4. Possibility of Third World War Subject of Much Discussion:

In common with the rest of the world, Japanese attention is riveted on the international tension and mail to and from the home islands is filled with conjecture and predictions of the effect of a world conflict on Japan. Indignant at the "obstruction by Russia" of peace negotiations between Japan and the Allied Powers, numerous writers declare themselves ready to "do anything possible for the sake of the US against the wily Soviet." (n)

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is considered an omen of future retaliation of pre-war and wartime antagonisms.

Impressed by their post-war treatment, Japanese in the States write that "Americans do not desire to molest the weak" (k) and aver that "the defeat has brought about a far better feeling toward the Japanese here." (l) Many claim that "Policy of the USA, based on democratic justice and tolerance, will influence other countries and benefit will accrue not only to the Japanese abroad but to the Japanese nation." (m) The outstanding war service rendered by Nisei-Americans, many claim, is the determinative factor in the postwar change in discrimination in the US. Correspondents from Canada, China, Brazil, Siam and Peru likewise report little or no intolerance extant.

4. Possibility of Third World War Subject of Much Discussion:

In common with the rest of the world, Japanese attention is riveted on the international tension and mail to and from the home islands is filled with conjecture and predictions of the effect of a world conflict on Japan. Indignant at the "obstruction by Russia" of peace negotiations between Japan and the Allied Powers, numerous writers declare themselves ready to "do anything possible for the sake of the US against the wily Soviet." (n)

A number of Japanese appraise the situation as beneficial to Japan. The theory advanced by this group is exemplified in a letter from Iguala, Mexico. "America will assist Japan as much as possible because she has made up her mind to make Japan a bulwark against the Communism in North Korea and China." (o) War-weary Japanese ask "what will happen to us?" and appear to extract a meager portion of comfort from the clause in their new constitution renouncing armed force. There are few dissenters to the belief that war is inevitable. (p)

(j) IS/TOK/155772
(k) IS/TOK/143346
(l) IS/TOK/176753
IS/TOK/154740
IS/TOK/154737
(m) IS/TOK/168198
IS/TOK/168198
IS/TOK/162536
IS/TOK/142228
(n) IS/TOK/169150
(o) IS/TOK/170124
IS/TOK/173611
IS/TOK/174554
IS/TOK/173604
IS/TOK/159332
IS/TOK/161384
IS/TOK/163985
IS/TOK/155735
(p) IS/TOK/170163
IS/TOK/170125
IS/TOK/161323
IS/TOK/165125
IS/TOK/170135

SECRET

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SURVEY OF POW MAIL

Unlike previous Censorship analyses of mail from Japanese detained in the USSR, this summation is based to a large extent upon comments of recent repatriates.

> Approximately 20 percent of the 4,537 current intercepts are from former prisoners. Free from the restrictions of Soviet censorship, the majority of such letters paint a picture of Communist interment which contrasts with the thousands of postcards from Japanese still detained.

These indigenous communications confirm to some extent the reports of improved living conditions which began to appear in intercepts of November and December of last year. In addition, however, returnees point out that in many camps conditions remain unchanged. Many ex-POWs claim that an interest in the Communist indoctrination programs, either sincere or affected had a direct bearing upon personal comfort during internment. Some tell of instances in which prisoners who showed reluctance to accept the prescribed doctrines or who lacked enthusiasm in participation were assigned heavier work loads or sent to other camps. It seems apparent that the Soviet camp system maintains these more severe installations to discourage Marxist detractors among the Japanese.

A redoubling of the anti-US phase of POW indoctrination is reflected in recent internee postcards. Prisoners write, seeking confirmation of such reports as the annexation by the US of Hokkaido and Kyushu or the mass stockpiling of atomic bombs throughout Japan. Repeated usage of the indoctrination machine's catch phrases is evident. The "dignity of labor" and the "emancipation of the proletariat" through support of the "class struggle" and the determination to "overthrow the Emperor system" are repeatedly mentioned. At least 50 percent of the current shipment of POW postcards contain one or more of these phrases. In a large portion of this 50 percent, the authors write of "America's oppression policy" which is aggravating "unemployment, starvation and inflation."

The majority of the intercepts from repatriated Japanese claim that most prisoners remain uninfluenced by indoctrination - mentally rejecting the precepts of Stalinism and largely discrediting the news reports which appear in the specially prepared Japanese papers distributed in the camps. However, it cannot be denied that many have accepted Communism as the re-

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> Prisoner mail serves indirectly to disseminate leftist propaganda. Because they have accepted Communism or are attempting to curry favor with their captors, many internees urge relatives and friends to join the Party. Although there is no concrete evidence in current material to support the supposition, it is reasonable to assume that a certain percentage will accept the invitation.

Complaints of repatriation delays, heretofore a minor subject of discussion, are increasing in quantity. Apparently, the Soviets continue to place the blame for prolonged internment upon the Japanese Government, claiming, as in the past, that there are no ships available. The USSR's

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repatriation policy is outlined in the types of prisoners that have been released. From shortly after the surrender to the latter part of 1947, the major portion of the Japanese returnees were those who had been declared physically unfit for efficient labor, or those who were supposedly devoted Stalinist converts. In recent months, comment gives the impression that being an unskilled or semi-skilled laborer may often amount to a ticket home for prisoners, providing they are able to pass the written examination on Communist doctrine given at the point of embarkation. Skilled tradesmen, technicians and medical practitioners are still detained. Former high ranking officers, intelligence officers of all ranks and other key personnel remain segregated and detained.

It is doubtful whether all or a major part of the Japanese who claim that "considering the presently chaotic condition of Japan, I feel I am better off in the USSR" are rendering much more that lip service to the Soviet censors. Nevertheless, approximately five percent of the POWs currently writing make this claim, alluding in some cases to "the grave mission of reconstruction for which we are preparing." Such attitudes are, undoubtedly, encouraged by the dismal news picture the Red-directed papers present and the obvious play-up of repatriate hardships upon return to Japan.

Meanwhile, parents and relatives clamor for the return of detainees. Petitions are circulated and the activities of "repatriation furtherance movements" are intensified.

It is interesting to note that in its efforts to divert public interest from SCAP's repeated offers of shipping space for war prisoners, the JCP and its fellow-travelers have become entangled in their own counter-accusations. A recent article in the Party organ, Vanguard (Zonei), claimed that although the social problem of dependents of POWs could not be ignored, the press emphasis on repatriation delays was unjustified. Furthermore, such emphasis was merely a rush to create anti-Communist sentiment, the article asserted.

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2. Anti-US Offensive Intensified; Aggression Rumors Circulated
3. Majority of Repatriates Reject Communism - Doubt Practicality
4. JCP Recruits Ex-POWs - Repatriate Party Members Numerous, Active
5. POWs Complain of Repatriation Delays; Soviets Blame Lack of Shipping
6. Akahata Blasts Press Emphasis on Repatriation Delays as Unjustified

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1. Improved Camps Seen as Red Inducement; Converts Well-Treated:

Most of the current comment from Japanese still detained in the USSR concerning living and working conditions afforded POWs is laudatory. Describing the standard prisoner diet as "better than that of the average Japanese in the homeland," (a) many prisoners give a detailed account of their treatment: "We thank the Soviet Union for their excellent care. Our daily food supply totals a minimum of 2,800 calories a day. Meat, butter and vegetables are in adequate supply. We have laundry facilities and are allowed to take a bath at least once a week. The health facilities leave nothing to be desired. We have a movie twice a week and a regular wage and work week. (c) Their currency is apparently a simulated yen and its circulation is generally limited to camp commissaries which deal in

(a) OSA/65111 (b) OSA/65088 (c) OSA/65286

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supplementary food items, toilet articles and tobacco. (d) A large number of those prisoners currently writing from the Soviet Union mention "the abolition of the ticket system and the transfer of commodities to open sale." (e) This, they point out, illustrates the rapid rate of recovery achieved in the USSR and the "abundant life under Communism." (f)

Much of the comment from repatriates supports these claims: "The food supplies were adequate. We worked an eight-hour day and were allowed Sundays off. Life in the prison camps was not as difficult as had been imagined by Japanese at home." (g) However, many Japanese, once free of the control of Soviet censorship, present an entirely different picture: "My camp life was the most miserable period I have ever endured. In spite of the sufficient supply of food issued by the Soviet Government, embezzlement by the Red leaders and officers kept us on the border of starvation." (h) Other ex-prisoners tell of the constant surveillance of detainees branded "reactionaries" by Soviet-employed Japanese informers. (i) Coupling such reports with those of the repatriate group which describe unfavorable treatment leads to the conclusion that the Soviet camp system maintains a number of near-penal institutions to deal with recalcitrants among its Japanese charges. One returnee claims he was segregated and made to work in shackles because of his "rightist leanings." (j) Many others make clear upon return that their interest in and cooperation with the Stalinists during their stay in the USSR was merely an expedient. (k) The following, from a relative of a recently repatriated Japanese, is a typical example: "Our Tamotsu was at first working as a company commander in Voroshilov. For one reason or another the Soviets branded him ideologically offensive. Some of the prisoners gave unfavorable testimony concerning his political leanings and he was put into confinement. He tried his best to relieve his plight by behaving as a socialist." (l)

> The following bit of cynicism, apparently form the father of the prisoner-addressee, is an interesting sidelight, as it further exemplifies the attitude of passive submission toward the captors: "Please study hard - obeying what the Soviet authorities say. Try to let them repatriate you as soon as possible. Hurray Soviet Union!" (m)

2. Anti-US Offensive Intensified; Aggression Rumors Circulated:

POW postcards reflect a wider Soviet use of fear psychology and rumor campaigns than has ever been noted in the past. The Stalinists continue

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2. Anti-US Offensive Intensified; Aggression Rumors Circulated:

POW postcards reflect a wider Soviet use of fear psychology and rumor campaigns than has ever been noted in the past. The Stalinists continue to hammer away at what they term "America's colonization plans." (n) One prisoner recently penned the following query to relatives in the homeland: "We have two Japanese language newspapers supplied in our camp which report the state of post-war Japan. Has it really been decided that Kyushu and Hokkaido should be leased to America?" (o) Playing upon race consciousness, the Reds proclaim that 70 percent of all the women in Japan are suffering from venereal disease brought by American troops, acccrding to some reporters. (p) A particularly inflamatory rumor is reflected in the following POW comment: "I hear that an agreement has been reached concerning Japan's peace treaty. This is clear proof of America's ambition to dominate the world. She is going to drive the Japanese to another war, using them as a shield against bullets." (q)

(d) OSA/65024
(e) OSA/61511
(f) TOK/76295
(g) OSA/65668
(h) NAG/29813
(i) FUK/25363
(j) FUK/26027
(k) OSA/67061
OSA/67005
(l) OSA/67039
(m) OSA/67911
(n) OSA/65539
(o) OSA/65602
(p) OSA/67011
(q) OSA/65097

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Apparently because of the propaganda policy shift to create disaffection with US foreign policy and Occupation personnel, references to the abolition of the Emperor system are often linked with allusions to American control: "We must overthrow the feudalistic Emperor system and drive away the reactionary forces of America and the present Japanese Government." (r)

At least 50 percent of the recent comment from Soviet zones shows some usage of the leftist's vocabulary. Such phrases as "the dignity of labor" or "fortress of labor" appear consistently. The following excerpt from a POW postcard which was sent to the JCP (Kyosanto) illustrates this usage and offers some inkling of the success of the four-year indoctrination offensive: "We wish to express our whole-hearted thanks to those who are pushing a strenuous fight for the benefit of honest workers. We Japanese in the Soviet Union want to send you our best wishes. We hear that you are active in political and economic fields for the sake of Japan's independence and autonomy. Let the people realize that the Cabinet is a traitor who sells Japan and her people into bondage. Good luck to you, who are leaders of the class struggle for liberation." (s)

Many prisoners write urging friends and relatives to join the JCP and "participate in the class struggle." Typical of this "long range election campaigning" is the following from a prisoner to his family: "I think that the Ashida cabinet will end in failure. It is only driving Japan into greater poverty. You must not be misled by it. The only way to tide over the present crisis is to establish a democratic popular government. Workers, farmers, middle-class and small merchants and industrialists must support the JCP and establish a government of workers. Then we shall be able to maintain the independence of our country, reconstruct our industry and secure an adequate living." (t)

Each of these POW cards bears the stamp of Russian Military Censorship. It is not improbable that the censors order Japanese detainees to write such material, or that it is done voluntarily by prisoners to curry favor with their captors. Regardless, the potential value of these cards as propaganda dissemination media cannot be denied.

3. Majority of Repatriates Reject Communism - Doubt Practicality:

The fervor for Communism reflected in internee mail cools consider-

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3. Majority of Repatriates Reject Communism - Doubt Practicality:

The fervor for Communism reflected in internee mail cools considerably when prisoners are repatriated. An ex-POW from Niigata writes: "I was forced to take courses in Communism while in Siberia. At present, I have forgotten most of it. I know there are some good points in Communism but I am not in sympathy with the Party. I shall never forget the hard life I experienced in the USSR." (u) A Fukuoka repatriate reports: "Prisoners in the USSR are forcibly receiving Communist indoctrination. This education seems to be effective as time goes by. After one year of training, I, too, took an active part in the propagation of communism. Upon return, however, I relinquished my ideas, because I became aware of the Soviet's aggressiveness." (v)

> A number of repatriates express distrust of leftist precepts because of their reported failure to work when applied in the Soviet. One recent repatriate writes: "The Russians living near our camp were friendly to us. The older people

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(r) OSA/65087
OSA/65529

(s) OSA/65577
(t) OSA/67780

(u) OSA/67777
(v) FUK/206077

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hated Communism and young people were predominantly hero worshippers. Many Russian women had become prostitutes as a means of supporting themselves." (w) Another ex-prisoner evaluates freedom in the Soviet in one sentence: "Theirs is a near-animal existence in which the only luxury permitted is the smoking of bad tobacco and the only freedom is the freedom of love." (x)

4. JCP Recruits Ex-POWs - Repatriate Party Members Numerous, Active:

The USSR's indoctrination program is beginning to achieve tangible results. Recent intercepts report JCP recruiting campaigns aimed at returnees. (y) An ex-POW and Communist Party member from Osaka writes: "It is my heartfelt desire that the repatriates from the Soviet area will sacrifice one day to participate in a mass demonstration. Some of you may say that your hands are full and you cannot spare the time. The fact that you must devote all of your time to maintaining a meager existence clearly exposes the hunger tactics of the reactionary government. Are you getting anything out of their ideology? Don't you realize that it is only enriching the capitalists? Do you prefer to kneel before the oppressors like tired dogs? Do you want to be driven to starvation? Give this one day to the furtherance of our ideals!" (z) The official news organ of the JCP Red Flag (Akahata), recently reported the inclusion of 130 repatriates in the Party ranks. (a) A Kumamoto resident avers that "most of the exprisoners of war from the Soviet zone are propagating bolshevism." (b)

Apparently very little time is wasted by the JCP in gathering returnees to the fold. A Kanazawa correspondent reports the following occurrence: "A few days ago, I was at Gifu station when a special repatriation train pulled in. The train was met by a crowd of Communist Party members who were loudly singing the Song of the Red Flag. The ex-servicemen joined enthusiastically in the song." (c)

5. POWs Complain of Repatriation Delays; Soviets Blame lack of Shipping:

About three percent of current comment from the Soviet Union includes queries concerning repatriation delays. In none of these is there any evidence to suggest that prisoners are aware of the repeated offers of shipping on the part of SCAP and the Japanese Government. Nearly all of them are similar to the following: "One year has passed since any large group has left our camp. At present there seems to be no prospect of repatriation and I am irritated considerably. I wish you people at home

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Comment from repatriates claims that officers of field grand rank and higher, former intelligence officers of all ranks, technicians and medical practitioners are not being repatriated. (e) Evidently the officer personnel is being exposed to an intensive softening-up program, either to effect a conversion to leftist ideology or to at least negate the possibility of an intelligently led POW anti-Communist front in Japan. Physicians are retained to care for prisoners. Apparently Japanese technicians, former engineers, mechanics, machinists, etc., are highly respected by their Russian captors. (f)

(x) OSA/63866 (y) NAG/30392 OSA/TOS/1494 (z) OSA/TOS/1536 (a) CCD/IRS/1339 (b) IS/TOK/194329 (c) NAG/30275 (d) OSA/65303 (e) TOK/76016 (f) FUK/24684 OSA/67555 OSA/67602

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Four of the recent POW postcards claim that "due to the currently unstable conditions in the homeland, I prefer to remain in the Soviet, studying to rebuild Japan upon return." (g) It is doubtful, however, that such communications represent more than lip service to the Soviet censors.

6. Akahata Blasts Press Emphasis on Repatriation Delays as Unjustified:

In an effort to prevent the spread of anti-Communist sentiment throughout Japan which is resulting from Soviet delays, JCP organs blast the rest of the Japanese press for "its undue emphasis on the problems of repatriation. Playing upon the public sympathy and the anxiety of waiting families, reactionary newspapers are attempting to stir up a certain evil." (h) The leftist press points up "problems of unemployment and housing" to give the impression that POWs are being detained through the good graces of the Soviet Union, until Japan is able to absorb them into her economy.

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(g) OSA/63850
OSA/68505
OSA/65599
OSA/65859

(h) TOK/PSB/11755

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PUBLIC OPINION TALLY

1 - 30 September

Number of letters:

0 500 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000

COMMENTS ON:

THE CABINET: 972

11,184

Total: 12,156

DIET: 114

672

Total: 780

COMMUNISM: 775

2,595

Total: 3,370

OCCUPATION POLICIES: 347

135

Total: 482

OCCUPATION PERSONNEL: 356

175

Total: 531

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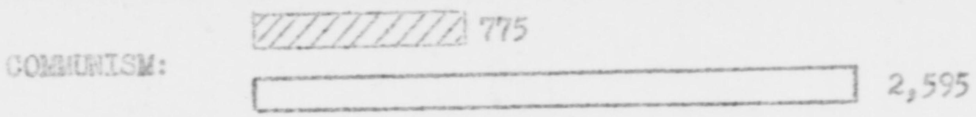
Total: 780



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ATIS

LETTERS TO SCAP

ANALYSIS
OF
OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN LETTERS TO THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF
AND TO
OTHER OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES

ATIS

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EDITORIAL NOTE:

Evaluation of trends indicated by this analysis should be made with the following reservations. Most opinion-bearing letters are written by a vocal minority whose suggestions fall into the "letter to the editor" category. The type and force of opinions expressed are tempered by their direction to Occupation authorities. A large proportion of letters are personal requests for aid and do not express a direct opinion. A pressure group may often cover one subject with a flood of letters disproportionate to actual public opinion.

Number of communications in this analysis exclusive of petitions .. 3,493

Total number of letters since September 1946 374,253

1. POLITICAL - 2,824

"The [Japanese] Government has taken arbitrary and oppressive measures against the government employees by denying them the right to strike and bargain collectively", so wrote approximately 75 per cent of the month's correspondents. "...the new government ordinance relative to the National Public Service Law distorts the true significance of General MacArthur's recent letter." "The government fails to take any measures which will actually improve labor conditions and living standards" seemed to sum up the general attitude. However, two lone voices were raised in appreciation of General MacArthur's letter to Prime Minister Ashida, saying that it prevented the dictatorial communist minority from gaining control of the governmental labor unions. The Economic Deconcentration Law came in for a share of discussion with writers favoring"....converting the electric industry into a national enterprise and setting up electric power generation and transmission under a unitary system throughout Japan." Deep concern over the rumored abdication of the Emperor was evident.

2. SOCIAL - 444

Appeals for the guarantee of a minimum standard of living for government employees came from approximately 320 writers. One apologist, a member of the National Communications Workers' Union, stated that he believed the "ordinance prohibiting strikes by government workers is the inevitable consequence of the communist control over this union...the government workers now realize the error of their ways, and are now trying their best to free themselves from the control of these communistic leaders. A small Korean contingent continued to inveigh against the Japanese Government's action in closing Korean schools. Usually they coupled their complaints with requests for the release of those held responsible for the Osaka-Kobe

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3. ECONOMIC - 47

Letters on farm problems dealt mainly with the heavy delivery quotas which, according to one farmer, "made them victims of cruel injustices because of excessive prices of rationed goods and the long working hours" in comparison with the "base wages and short hours of government employees." Another favorite complaint revolved around the "feudalistic boss system" of the Prefectural Farmland Section Chief and Black Chiefs on the basis of the Farmland Reform Law whereby land released for sale to the block residents was "grabbed off by the bosses themselves". From the financial standpoint, one of the most repeated requests was that the "Communications Ministry be authorized to resume loans with funds of the Postal Life Insurance and Postal Annuity systems to expedite the recovery of local public organizations". Another writer expressed his thanks for the recent issue of Army field rations he received but looked the gift horse in the mouth by requesting that "jam be issued along with flour rations".

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4. PERSONAL - 88

Requests for the prompt repatriation of Japanese nationals continued to arrive in quantity. The outstanding feature of clemency petitions was that the majority were for Dr. TORISU, Taro, whose "participation" in the Kyushu University vivisection case "is undoubtedly due to the military and feudal atmosphere that surrounded the school at that time". One enthusiastic, penny-wise missionary, after expressing thanks for the interview General MacArthur granted him recently, reports that his bicycle, "which is his only means of transportation in spreading the gospel has broken down and that because of exorbitant blackmarket prices, he cannot obtain a replacement". He therefore requests General MacARTHUR's aid in obtaining another bicycle, at the "government set price". A twenty year-old railway employee requests that General MacARTHUR "have an artificial finger made and sent to him to replace his right index finger lost in a war plant as people make so much fun of his physical loss that he even thinks of suicide in despair".

5. OCCUPATION - 12

The majority of letters on occupation policies insisted upon the release of the "unduly repressed" Koreans who had been "imperialistically" incarcerated in connection with the riots in the Osaka-Kobe area. Expatiating, they enclosed resolutions opposing the establishment of separate governments in North and South Korea and favoring the withdrawal of the Occupation Forces. In a leaflet distributed by the Korean Democratic Youth League, "capitalism and the American Occupation policies in Japan and Korea" were caustically denounced. Another writer expressed opposition to the "middle-of-the road occupation policy" of General MacArthur, labelling it "most unreasonable".

6. MISCELLANEOUS - 78

Granted the interest of Occupation authorities in all phases of Japanese life, many writers have endowed them with omniscience as well. Anonymous correspondents requested employment in occupation agencies, and an anxious young woman inquired as to the whereabouts of an interpreter supposedly working in GHQ. The potpourri of requests and suggestions yielded the following ingredients: suggestions "that an American Military Governor be appointed above the Premier in order to establish a true democratic government", and that Military Government supervise PTA's "to prevent the influence of bosses and to encourage attendance of fathers"; that 30 August be honored as General MacARTHUR Day; and that the services of former Japanese strategists, such as the man being tried by the International Military Tribunal, be sought in the event of a war with the

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7. PETITIONS

One petition with 18 signatures objecting to the National Public Service Law prohibiting strikes.

Four petitions with a total of 1,008 signatures requesting the adoption of the Electric Industry Workers plan for the electric power industry.

Two petitions with a total of 5,784 signatures requesting the immediate repatriation of Japanese Nationals in Soviet-occupied areas and of war criminals serving sentences abroad.

Three petitions with a total of 2,694 signatures asking clemency for the condemned war criminal, Dr. TORISU, Taro.

Nine petitions with a total of 60,750 signatures requesting that support be given to the retention of the Emperor.

RESTRICTED

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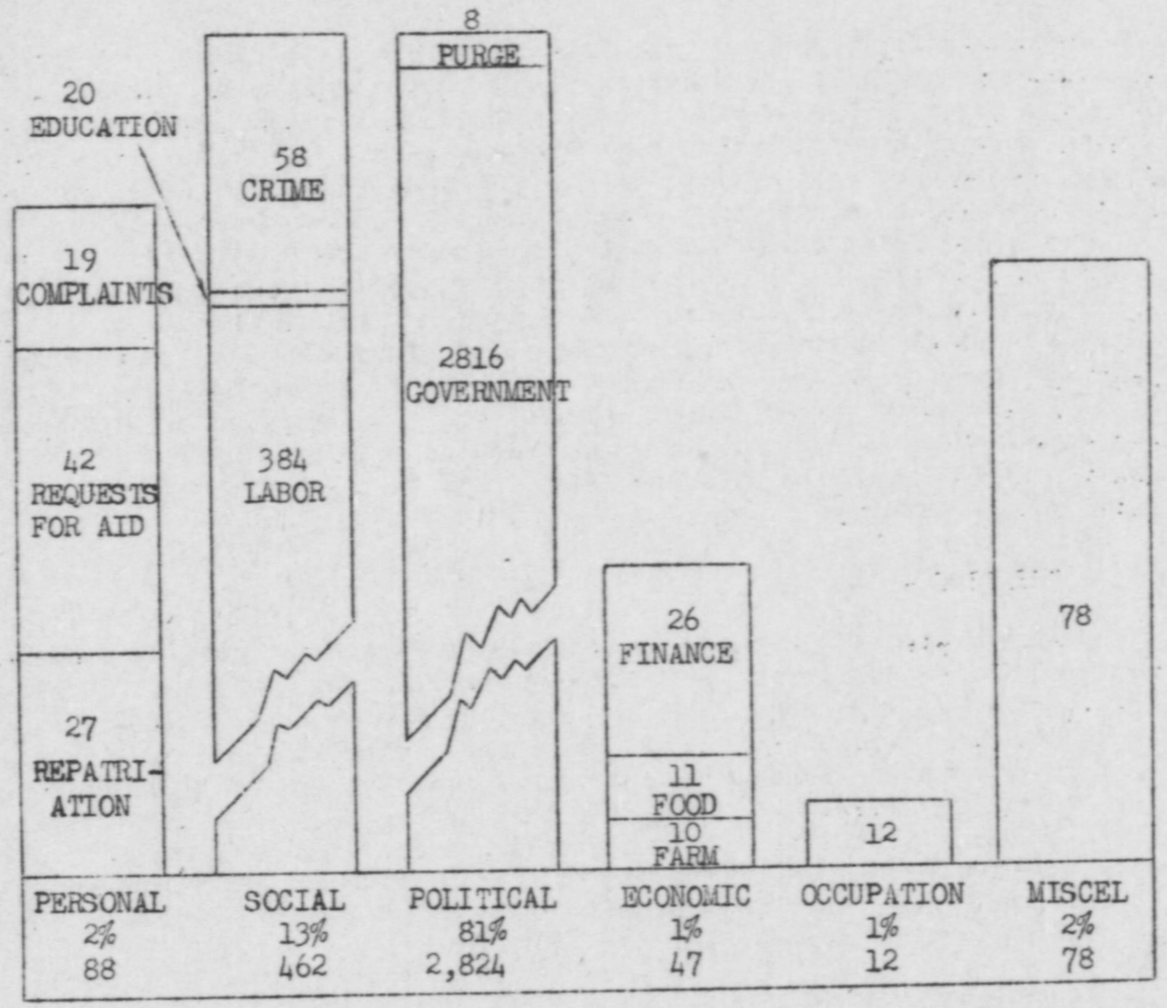
LETTERS TO SCAP - SEPTEMBER 1948



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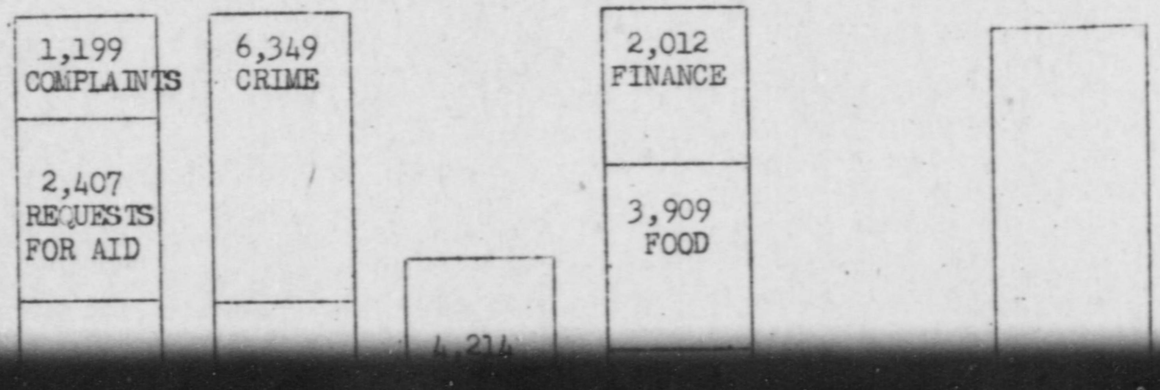

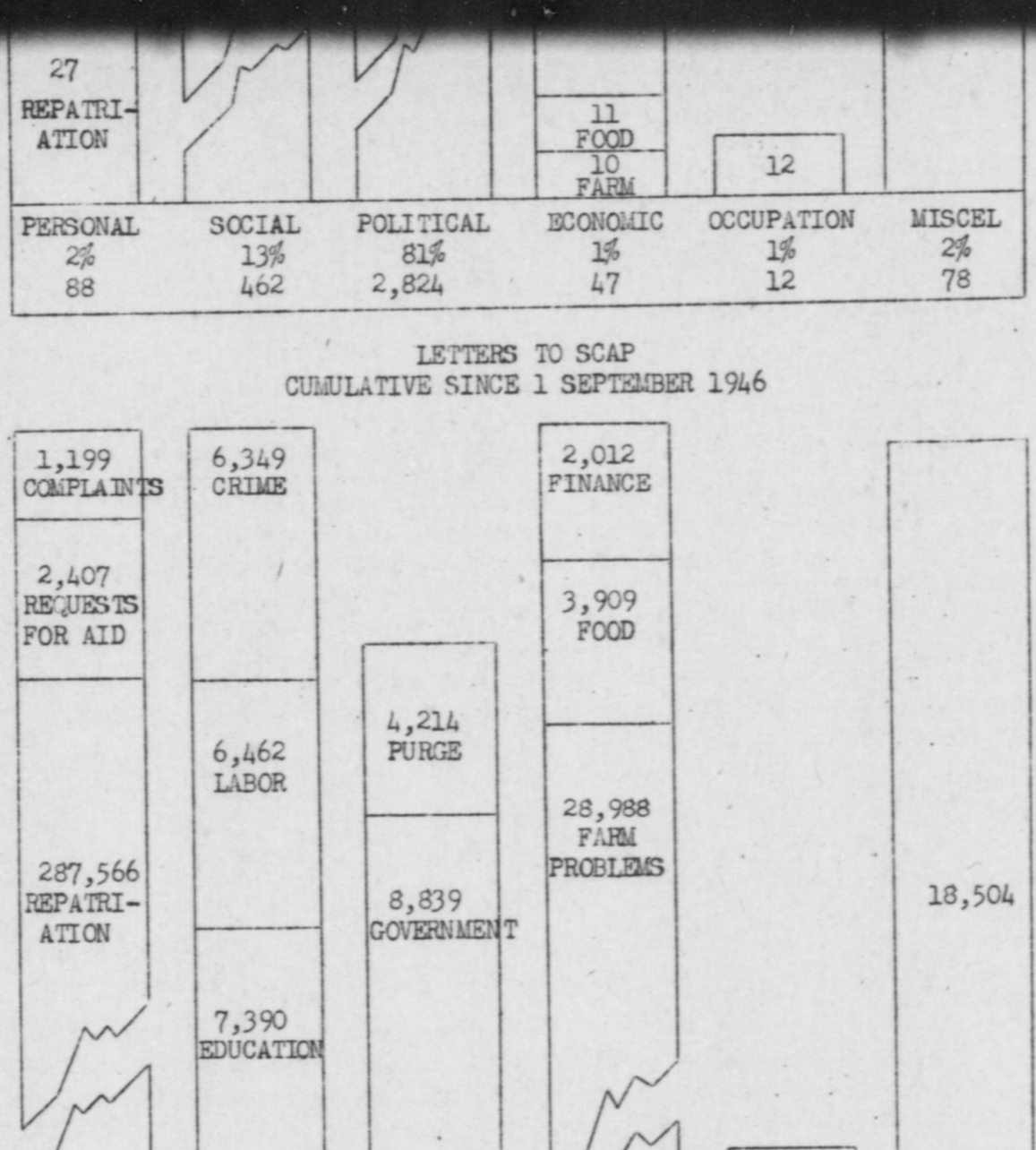

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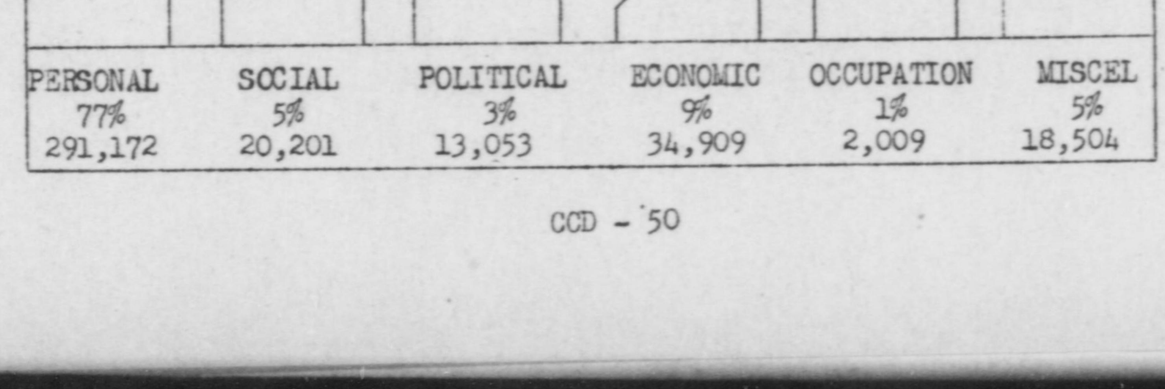

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II COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

HIGHLIGHTS

15 Oct 48

SABOTAGE: Telephone communications interrupted in Inchon when 450 yards of telephone line was removed.

ESPIONAGE: NK Labor Party espionage agents dispatched to South Korea.

SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY: JCP and its subsidiary espionage organization hold secret joint liaison meeting. Existence of a branch of the notorious MGB is discovered. Slave labor thrives north of 38th parallel. Pretender to Indo-China throne plots return to power. Guerrilla forces in SK reportedly are spending much time training for uprising.

SOCIAL AND CIVIL CONDITIONS: Kyoto station master bans members of the Young Communist League from railway station when repatriate trains arrive. Ultra-Nationalists meet in Ehime Prefecture to discuss plans for the next general election. Tokuda claims there is no ideological difference between himself and Nosaka. Too much emphasis on wage demands is blamed for dispute failures in Kyushu. Young Communists directed to take more interest in children's education. In Kumamoto Prefecture JCP Secretary General states that future struggles are to be based on agitation alone; no logic or reason is necessary - only a constant driving demand, until Government after Government falls and the JCP takes over. Party plans 70 percent activity underground and 30 per-

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