

琉球大学学術リポジトリ

米国管理下の南西諸島状況雑件 在沖米側要人記者
会見・講演

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昭和四十年

アメリカ局長
参事官
北米課長

総南連第74号

昭和40年1月11日

寫

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

高等弁務官の記者会見における「自治」論
について

1月7日行なわれた記者会見の席上、高等弁務官は沖縄の自治の問題に関し、要旨次のような発言を行なった。

すなわち

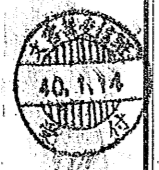
- (1) 主席公選なくして自治はありえないというのは危弁である。
- (2) 100パーセント自治がないと自治でないと思えることはまちがいである。
- (3) 琉政に次々に権限委譲がなされて沖縄は現に日本の県よりも多くの機能を有している。
- (4) キヤラウエー前任者がいつた「自治神話説」は100%の自治というのは神話という意味だと思う。

(5) 日本復帰すればむしろ自治のめち失なわれるものが多い。
(発言内容は別添のとおり)

これに関連して、沖縄タイムスおよび琉球新報両紙に記載されているので参考までに別添する。

(本信写送付先) 外務省アメリカ局長

要加	連絡
要研究	至
課長	上
校村	河
齊藤	吉
馬山	山
渡辺	平
大崎	吉
中田	藤
後藤	



アメリカ局長
11.1.11
参事官

総 理 府

UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

Naha, Okinawa
January 7, 1965

PRESS CONFERENCE OF

HIGH COMMISSIONER ALBERT WATSON, II

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Konnichi-wa

Please be seated.

Good Afternoon:

I want to wish you and all the people of the Ryukyu Islands a very happy New Year. With the advent of the New Year, I like to take a minute or two to express some of my personal philosophy and to take a look ahead to some of our objectives for this coming twelve-month period. This does not mean that I do not have a great respect for history, since I believe history to be a great teacher and a harbinger of future events. However, looking toward the future in this first week of 1965, I do wish to express the hope that as individuals and as members of the Ryukyuan community all of us can live in peace and understanding, and that we all will rededicate ourselves to the effort of fostering peace.

In achieving the objectives of peace for the Free World, it is of paramount importance that the dignity of the individual be recognized and maintained as the single major objective. To achieve this desire, we must create an atmosphere of harmony and respect, working together with full understanding of the goals of a free society. I feel that during this next year we must bend every effort to achieve personal and individual harmony and unity to the fullest extent possible. We must renew our efforts to further mutual understanding, since without such understanding human dignity cannot survive and the mutuality of interest and goals of a free people will be submerged to those who peddle the theme of willful and purposeful misunderstanding.

I have gained a lot during the past five months through my association with the inhabitants of the Ryukyus. I have had the great good fortune to visit with the people throughout Okinawa as well as those on other islands of the Ryukyus. I have read much of what has been written by you gentlemen of the press and I have heard the varied opinions of many different people. This experience has increased tremendously my appreciation for the objectives and desires of the inhabitants of these islands. It is my hope that, in the time I have been here, the people of the Ryukyu Islands have achieved equally as great an appreciation for the desires and objectives of the United States. It is with this in mind that I set before you the primary philosophy that all of us, for the next twelve-month period and beyond, should work for the common good, maintain the dignity of the individual, uphold the role and rule of law, and achieve our objectives through our own self-help, accepting together a true partnership and mutual responsibility for the development of the Ryukyu Islands.

Thank you for patiently allowing me to express some random thoughts. I do hope that these will find true meaning with you and bring us all into closer harmony one with another.

Now you know that the Chief Executive works very closely with the Civil Administrator, and, of course, I am brought into matters of such cooperation from time to time. I have an announcement to make which indicates further such close relationship. It is with regard to the transfer of functional authority from USCAR to GRI, and it relates to the appointment of GRI department directors. I do not know what changes the Chief Executive plans to make in the departmental setup, if any. However, I do believe that he should have a free hand to accomplish work for which he has overall responsibility. Therefore, to free the hand of the Chief Executive, I have issued this date a proclamation, which is number 24, to amend proclamation 13 by deleting provisions providing for the approval of department directors by the High Commissioner.

High Commissioner's Press Conference (January 7, 1965 cont'd)

I have great confidence in the Chief Executive and I feel sure that, if he desires to make any changes, he will select individuals with the necessary qualifications who will work for the welfare and well-being of the Ryukyuan people.

I should also like to note that the Legislative Bill Screening Committee held its first meeting yesterday morning. This committee was created through an agreement between the High Commissioner and the Chief Executive and was announced during my meeting with you gentlemen last month.

The purpose of this committee is to receive executive department draft bills including those of budgetary nature for review and coordination; to screen draft bills rapidly for content and intent, and to provide appropriate review of bills which fall under the provisions of this Executive Order.

I have great hope the committee will expedite the adjustment of legislative bills and that the staffs of both GRI and USCAR will mutually assist in insuring expeditious handling of all proposed draft bills.

I am happy to report that the representatives of the GRI and USCAR at the meeting yesterday worked closely and readied 19 bills being considered by the GRI for introduction into the Legislature. This morning they cleared two more. There are no bills now on the docket awaiting action by that committee.

Now we are ready for questions.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) On behalf of all the people present here, although belatedly, we would like to extend to you our wishes for a happy New Year and also the wish you would continue your good health for the sake of your nation.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Thank you. I hope it is also for the sake of your nation.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) Now I like to ask you a question.

On the 12th of this month the two heads of the United States and Japan are expected to have a meeting in which it is reported that Okinawa programs are to be taken up. I would like to ask you as the High Commissioner if you are prepared to render advice for this meeting.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, thank you very much for the compliment that is implied in your question. I am a very lowly man when you consider the heads of the two governments of Japan and United States getting together for a meeting. On the other hand, I am the senior representative of the United States here, and I am sure that nothing but good will come from any such meeting, as for any predictions of details, specifics -- anything of that sort -- I really should not make them -- because I think it would be presumptuous of me to do so. If you have a specific question I would try to answer it however.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I would like to ask you a specific question in connection with the previous question. In connection with the proposed conference involving the heads of the United States and Japan, I believe the High Commissioner has been asked by Washington to furnish information. I would like to know if the High Commissioner has complied with such a request.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: When Washington speaks I listen--when they ask I answer. I endeavor to keep Washington informed at all times, and you can be sure that I have not failed to do so on this occasion.

High Commissioner's Press Conference (January 7, 1965 cont'd)

I know that Washington is well aware of the desires of the people of the Ryukyu Islands. I should add also that Washington listens to the quiet and silent voices, as well as to the loud voices.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) The talking papers used during the conference between Prime Minister Sato and the High Commissioner would be useful during the proposed conference in Washington, specifically on the questions of public election of the Chief Executive, expansion of autonomy, and the increase of aid from the Japanese Government. I would like to hear the comments of the High Commissioner on these matters.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: They are all very interesting and I am sure of top level importance at any time, in these days. These subjects are all of great interest. I understand of course -- I am sure you understand -- that for me to prejudge or to forecast what will be discussed or what will be said about the various subjects discussed would be in very bad taste for me at this time. After the conference is over and the announcements are made, I am sure we'll all have a great deal of information. But I can assure you I don't know what they are going to talk about. I have seen considerable information in the Tokyo press about this subject and find it very interesting. I am sure that maybe some of the gentlemen here from Tokyo, some of the directors here from Tokyo, can probably give us more information than we have.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) Too late for the press circles.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Oh, then you are not going to publish anything that comes out from the meeting at all? I don't think you'd make that mistake. I am sure you'll publish a great deal about it when it comes. I don't have your answer. I don't know what they are talking about. I don't have the information. I really don't know.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) It is frequently stated that Prime Minister Sato of Japan wishes to visit personally to see Okinawa for himself. I would like to know if the High Commissioner is going to invite him sometime this year -- to have the Prime Minister come over here.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: At last you have succeeded! I know the answer to this one. He mentioned that he would like to come. I responded that I would be delighted if he came. I am sure each of us was speaking the truth. I would be most happy to welcome him; however, the timing, of course, would have to be arranged later, and as of this day no formal arrangements have been completed.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I would like to make reference to Proclamation 24, which was stated earlier. I would like to know that if there is a discussion going on about the possible change of the directive at this time. I would like to know if this change was brought about at the direct request submitted by the Chief Executive.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: No, it was not. On the other hand, we wanted to free his hand in case he desires to make such changes. Even if he wanted to do it now, we wouldn't have to tell me because it is an internal matter within his own government. As I have explained, I feel that this is his responsibility and, therefore, I would not want to interfere, and I don't intend to. It just happens that it's a new administration with a new year -- a new situation here. It was a good time to give him a free hand.

REPORTER: I have four questions concerning the construction projects on the island. I think they are pretty important. I understand a multi-million dollar port facility is being planned for the mouth of the Aja River in Naha and will you please give me more details concerning this project?

(QAG)

High Commissioner's Press Conference (January 7, 1965 cont'd)

Also I understand an unsuccessful attempt was made to finance this project through the World Bank and, if this is true, will that lack of financing force cancellation of the project or will financing be attempted through other sources. Second question? I understand a major expansion of Naha Port is planned and would you please give me more details concerning this project? Could you also tell me what progress has been made in the Ryukyuan Water Development Corporation's island-wide integrated water system, and I understand two major dams are included in this project. Could you enlarge on these points? And will the facilities in this system be extended to Naha City in time to prevent water rationing during the summer? And can any information be released at this time concerning the city regional planning study conducted by the Engineer District, and if so, can you tell me what recommendations were included concerning the future expansion of road facilities around Okinawa?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I think Major Sankey would be very appreciative if you could give him a chance to do this beforehand. I know you just got this the last minute -- oops, I won't mention the date, -- but anyway, we don't have the answers right here for these and we'll get them. And then we can get them to you. I don't know of any reason why we shouldn't have quite a bit of coverage on this. It happens that I don't attempt to keep these projects in my head, and my backup material doesn't cover them. You really surprised us. I had no idea that something like this would come up.

REPORTER: We sent a copy of that letter to OPA and I thought you would have it in time for this press conference.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: OPA, office of Personnel Administration? -- No, Public Affairs. Unfortunately it didn't get to Major Sankey. Don't be embarrassed about it, but I just don't have the answers -- we'll get them though. Then we can give them to you. May we keep this for reference or do you want it back?

Don't be embarrassed about it -- it's gotten lost somewhere in the machinery here and we are going to find it -- anyway we'll find some answers for you.

REPORTER: Thank you.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) What the High Commissioner refers to as a "dynamic" Chief Executive has come up with a system of "brain trust" in order to review various USCAR laws such as ordinances, proclamations and directives, and, at the same time, to review all Japanese laws in addition to U.S. laws and the new legislative laws by the Ryukyu Legislature. I would like to know if the High Commissioner is going to assist him by such acts as abolishing ordinances, proclamations and directives, and their replacement by new legislative GRI bills.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I am very anxious to cancel every ordinance, proclamation and directive possible. You may recall that some time last -- Oh, I think it was the 17th of August -- sometime about then -- I spoke to the Civil Administrator asking that a study be commenced of all proclamations, directives, ordinances issued by either High Commissioner or Civil Administrator -- a review of all of these with the idea of eliminating everyone possible. Now as you may recall -- and I think it was in the October conference -- I reported to you that we had issued one -- I think it was a proclamation or an ordinance -- which cancelled some 39 already. This is a part of the same continuing study -- it is a very complicated study because there are so many aspects in some of these directive documents. Consequently, they can't be done just as quickly. But at the time the study was started, very wisely, Mr. Warner's people -- the Civil Administrator's people -- went through and divided them into three groups.

High Commissioner's Press Conference (January 7, 1965 cont'd)

The first group: those which were no longer effective or of almost no use. Those were the 39 that we threw out. Then there was another group which included those which obviously were of major importance to the military base, and therefore would have to be retained. Then there was a third group. I think all together there were 152 -- I forget the number, does anyone remember the number? -- there are approximately 150 -- all the ordinances -- all of these documents, about 150. In this last group, which is what is left of the 150 group after we took the 39 out, after we took those out which were of military base necessity, then these remaining documents were those in which we realized the necessity of discussion with the GRI in order to determine whether or not existing laws were really adequate to take their place -- or whether existing laws needed to be modified in some way to take their place -- or whether a new law was necessary in order to take the place of these documents. This is a very long and complicated study, it is step by step toward progress. Now, you have to ask the Chief Executive -- the dynamic Chief Executive -- about his brain trust, but any agency which he appoints to assist in this matter will be of great value to the increase of autonomy of the GRI.

I should like to repeat something that I have said before here in connection with the study of the documents which are being made in order to increase autonomy of the GRI. I did say before in another meeting that this study -- that these analyses were being made by USCAR and GRI -- in other words officials of the GRI have already been involved with its study over a period of time, and it might well be that this brain trust which the Chief Executive is establishing might provide a means of expediting this study of such documents within the GRI itself. Now, if codification of laws is involved in the duties of this brain trust, if this be included, I should say I definitely am in favor of that project -- also it's very important that these three sets of laws be codified -- the Japanese law; U.S. ordinances, proclamations and directives; and the GRI laws; all be codified so as to integrate the legal system here. It's most desirable and it is a goal of GRI and USCAR.

I now have the figures on the total number of documents involved. There were 147. Thirty-nine were rescinded, and therefore 108 remain a part of which is in this area of possible replacement by GRI law.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) After the joining of IMF it has been permitted for the tourists from Japan to go to Taiwan, Hong Kong, and other areas on a 72-hour intransit visa basis, whereas these personnel are not permitted to stop over in Naha, and this fact was taken up with the Chief Executive by a tourist group this morning. I understand the Chief Executive is to have a talk with the High Commissioner to take up this matter. I would like to ask your comment.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I am aware of the desirability of expeditious entries of tourists in order to improve the tourist development program.

As you know, shortly after I arrived here, the USCAR staff analyzed means by which procedures for travel -- entry and so on -- could be simplified. As a result, we actually decreased markedly the time required for approving visas. This simplified procedure has been in effect since September and includes the use of a military teletype circuit between Tokyo and Naha, and a greater authority for the Ryukyu Travel Unit in Tokyo in handling entry applications. Also, working arrangements were made with the U.S. Army, Pacific, to grant approval to certain categories of travelers from Hawaii.

I have asked the USCAR staff to re-examine the matter of a 72-hour stopover in conjunction with the security agencies of the military services here. It is under study.

High Commissioner's Press Conference (January 7, 1965 cont'd)

REPORTER: There have been frequent interruptions of the flight service to Sakishima area by Air America. I would like to know if the High Commissioner himself or his staff have had a talk with officials of AA in order to discuss what could be done in order to improve this situation?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Yes. Want me to tell you a little about it? First, I don't like it. I think the service should be better. The only thing good I have to say about the service so far is that there have been no accidents. There have been no accidents in which there has been mechanical failure to the extent that there has been injury or loss of life to human beings. You probably don't have the American superstition -- whenever we say something which sounds like bragging we knock on wood for luck. Now it isn't all luck that there have been no accidents to human beings. It isn't all luck because this company is observing very strict safety regulations. The company is operating under very strict safety regulations, far stricter than those which the preceding company had to observe. And the importance of adequate, safe air service to Sakishima is recognized by the High Commissioner, and, not more than one hour ago, I was discussing this subject with some of my advisors. Incidentally, your question has made a prediction which I made come true. Domo arigato. Thank you.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I would like to ask you a specific question concerning the air service. An application by the China Air Lines has been filed to seek operation in the Ryukyus. This application was submitted in October -- or three months ago -- without answer ever being furnished as yet. However, in the case of Air America the application which was submitted on 15 May was acted upon favorably on 29 May. I would just like to know why such a time difference between these two applications.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: The new High Commissioner isn't as efficient as the old one. I think you know the answer. I am requiring higher standards of safety than were required before. The China Airlines application has been sent to Washington for review by experts of the CAB and the FAA, and it is still in Washington. Does that answer the question, all right?

REPORTER: (Interpreted) Is the jurisdiction over such matters in the hands of Washington, or I would like to know, who did the authorization in the case of Air America?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I wasn't here.

REPORTER: Sugar is the greatest problem existing in Okinawa today. In December last year a decision was reached by GOJ on the price of sugar from Okinawa, giving cause of worry among farmers. I would like to know if the High Commissioner has any specific plan in order to cope with the situation.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, I understand the first question. I do recognize the importance of the problem. There was an unfortunate combination of circumstances, one of which was the drought and the other was the change of trade policy by the Government of Japan, which is within its authority, of course. The other was the tremendous over-expansion of sugar production here in the Ryukyu Islands. The first one, the drought, we couldn't prevent. But we attempted to prevent it by improvement of the water system. On the second one, I am not going to criticize the actions of the Government of Japan. Even if I wanted to do so, it would be most inappropriate. So I will not do it. Now on the third matter, the people in the Ryukyus can help themselves, not at this moment perhaps any more than they already have done for this year, but certainly in the future. The farmers, the hardworking people, who spend long hours and hard physical labor to grow their crops -- ought to think very carefully about whether or not they should continue to grow sugar or to

High Commissioner's Press Conference (January 7, 1965 cont'd)

diversify their planting -- so that they can have other crops besides something which is so dependent upon actions outside of the control of the Ryukyus.

The sugar problem is more severe now than it need be in the future, provided the processors and cane growers increase their efforts to lower costs of production. To illustrate, cane price in Taiwan is \$4.50 per ton -- in Louisiana and the Virgin Islands, \$7.75 per ton. -- in the Ryukyu Islands, according to GRI, it is about \$14 per ton. Now if these costs can't be reduced significantly in a short time, there is all the more reason for expediting diversification of agriculture and decreasing reliance on a one-crop economy.

I, as High Commissioner, and USCAR have great interest in the problems of the farmer, and I have noticed from conversations that I have had and also from what I have read that the GRI is very much interested in the farmer's problems. Now I think we have about time for one more question. I have run over a little bit. I know you want to get to press; and, before we actually separate, I would like to make one or two closing remarks that will take a few minutes. Shall I close it?

First, I want to congratulate the Ryukyu Shimpo which has just moved into its new building. I hope that your officials will invite me over to view it because I understand it is very fine indeed. I repeat here, the growing need and the trend of modern newspapers to be responsible to the society which they serve by not only printing the news as accurately and speedily as possible, but also by documenting the truth behind the facts. Society needs a truthful, comprehensive, and intelligent account of the day's events in a context which gives them meaning. It is no longer enough to report the fact truthfully -- it's now necessary to report the truth about the facts.

I am sure the Shimpo, beginning a new year in a new plant, and the Okinawa Times and the English-language and electronic media as well, will continue to strive during 1965 to elevate their news coverage from the raising of conflict to the higher plane of serving as a recorder and a forum of rational discussion.

The days when the news media served only the interests of certain political or social groupings are gone. Today's mass communication media must serve the community in which they exist by reflecting the total image of that community and provide it with important local, national, and international news of major significance. The media must inform and alert the people -- make sure the people possess all the facts they need and understand them -- the perils, the prospects, the purposes and programs they face, and the choices open to them. I have complete confidence in the responses and dedication of the people when they are correctly informed.

Let me also say that to the news media I look for strength and assistance. I am confident that, with your help, men here in the Ryukyus will always be what they are and were born to be....free and independent.

While we are on the subject of freedom of the press I would like to point out again the news media responsibility. News media has the duty not to confuse but to clarify.

A few days ago I read in an editorial that "it may not be an exaggeration to state that there can be no expansion of autonomy without the public election of the Chief Executive." I believe that such a statement confuses its readers because it is not based upon any reasonable definition of the word autonomy. We ought to try to agree on what this mysterious word autonomy really is.

Now I want to make clear right in the middle of this statement that I am not preaching to you at all, I am simply trying to help you by some observations that I made over many years. I think perhaps I am older than anybody in this room except one or two of my American associates; therefore, I hope you forgive an old man if he wishes to make a few comments upon something

High Commissioner's Press Conference (January 7, 1965 cont'd)

that he has learned over many years of observation. All of a sudden I feel much older because I have had a birthday already this week. O. K., now I resume.

Before 1 August 1964, the Government of the Ryukyu Islands enjoyed far more autonomy than the prefectures of Japan. Since 1 August, there has been a large transfer of functional authority to the Government of the Ryukyu Islands. There will be additional grants of functional authority in the future. Every additional grant of functional authority of itself increases the autonomy of the Government of the GRI. It is sophistry to say that there can be "no expansion of autonomy without public election of the Chief Executive" because it is obvious that the GRI has been granted greater autonomy, is currently being granted greater autonomy, and it will be granted even more autonomy.

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We clearly need a better understanding of just what autonomy is, what the circumstances are under which it may exist. The fact is that there can be 92 per cent of autonomy, 67 percent or 39 percent or any given percent of autonomy. Please do not confuse your public by saying that unless there is 100 per cent autonomy, there can be no autonomy. In the future -- and this is a request I make of you -- when additional functions are transferred to the GRI, I suggest that you report the fact that such transfer has taken place and autonomy has been increased thereby. If you desire, I would be glad to discuss this subject with your representatives and with others because I am sure we need to be sure of what we are talking about when we use the word autonomy.

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The rain has stopped, the sun is trying to shine, and we have one short question.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I have a question in the way of clarifying one point, -- I believe reference was made that the autonomy in the Ryukyus has been greater than that of prefectures in Japan, did you mean that it is greater now compared to the prefectural period -- that is Okinawa as a prefectural period?

Autonomy &
authority の
比較

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I mean both -- each -- there is much authority here now than ever existed before the war. Also, at the present time there are many areas of activity in which the GRI has far more authority than the prefectures of Japan -- the homeland prefectures. I have a list of all of these activities, which would take too much time today, but I can bring them to the next meeting and I can give to you these many functions which do not exist in the prefectures of the homeland.

It might be a better idea to use the words "Kengen Joto" rather than "Jichi". Perhaps that's a better solution.

REPORTER: First of all, thank you very much for the compliments given on the occasion of Shimo's new building. I will convey your desire that you would like to tour the building. Now on the matter of the word "Jichi", there seemed to be a difference in the interpretation of the word, such as the interpretation by your predecessor General Caraway who stated that autonomy is a myth. Now in regard to your suggestion about having a need for getting together to understand the concept of the word "Jichi" -- autonomy -- we would like to take advantage of your offer and we would like to have a meeting about this.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Good, that's good. You know I wouldn't spend all this time talking about mythology, so I don't think "Kengen Joto" is mythology. There is one belief that autonomy is either one hundred percent or nothing. I don't believe this, and I think that's probably what the previous High Commissioner meant. He thought that some people were insisting that unless all autonomy was held, there was no autonomy. And what he probably was saying was that under conditions of the Executive Order and of the necessity of the U.S. base here, there will never be 100 percent autonomy by the GRI. So, therefore, I think that's what he meant when he said that it is a myth. I believe that is what he was supposed to have said. I should point out to you that when that great day comes and the Ryukyus comes under the control of the homeland government and the American military base is no longer needed and

High Commissioner's Press Conference (January 7, 1965 cont'd)

we have gone home to our relatives and friends...other friends...when that great day comes, there will not be a 100 percent autonomy in the Ryukyus. So that really 100 percent autonomy for any country -- really at least for the Ryukyus -- 100 percent autonomy is really a myth when you consider that after reversion you will not have 100 percent autonomy. So you see in that way it does have some meaning, but I think that it is a very important thing because I intend that you have some autonomy here, and I intend that you have more autonomy than you now have. In fact, you have more now than you had before I came, and you are going to get still more. So, all autonomy is not the myth, but the belief that the GRI now under the U.S. or later under GOJ will have 100 percent autonomy is a myth because it is impossible. When you come under the control of the Japanese Government after reversion, this prefecture will not be permitted to have complete say in what it does. You'll be paying taxes to the GOJ. You don't pay them to the GOJ now nor do you pay them to the United States now. So, there is a piece of autonomy that will be lost after reversion. These are good things to think about. Now I have said these things to you out of deep friendship for you and all of those of the Ryukyus. I say it not in criticism. I say it not in a selfish way. I say it not in a punishing way. I say it only in a friendly way. All that I have said today -- about telling the truth and explaining the truth in truthful terms and understanding autonomy as being partial as well as the mythical complete autonomy -- now I say all that with great friendship and a very sincere hope that these things are clear to you so that you can make them clear to your readers and thereby help them to a happier, more successful life. I hope all your days in this year and the years to come will be filled with sunshine and much friendly help.

(END)

NEWS RELEASE

PLEASE NOTE DATE



UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION
OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
NAHA, OKINAWA
(APO SAN FRANCISCO 96248)
TEL: 72941 EXT 32
72153

NEWS RELEASE: 65-105

March 26, 1965

To Editors: This unofficial Japanese translation of attached news release is provided to assist you.

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ハワイ時間で1965年4月14日の晩までこのメッ
セージの全文又はその一部を発表或いは放送しないこと。
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編集者へ：これは1965年4月14日にハワイホノルルでハ
ワイ沖繩人連合会主催のレセプションに於ける琉球列
島高等弁務官アルバート ワツソン中将の挨拶全文
である。

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ハワイ時間で1965年4月14日の晩までこのメッセ
ージの全文又は一部を発表したり或いは放送しないこと。
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在ハワイ人連合会会員に対する琉球列島高等弁務官
アルバート ワツソン陸軍中将の演説本文
(1965年4月14日ハワイのホノルルにて)

外間会長及び沖繩人連合会の皆様：

○ 昨年の7月、私は琉球列島米國高等弁務官としての新しい職務に就任す
○ る途中、ホノルルに立寄りました。その際に私は幸いにも皆様方とお会
○ いする機会を得まして多くの助言を得たのでありますが、これらの助言は
○ 非常に建設的で計り知れない程価値あるものであつたと、今、皆様方には
○ つきりと申し上げることが出来るのであります。

○ 高等弁務官に任命されて以来、初めての帰国に際し、私は、再度ホノル
○ ルに立寄り、今までの私の沖繩勤務期間中に、皆様方の祖先の地において
○ 起つた事柄につきまして皆様方といろいろお話し合いしようと決心したの
○ であります。

○ 過去8ヶ月の間に、私は多くの琉球の方々にお会いすることが出来まし
○ たが、これらの方々には農民、都市労働者、教師、医師、弁護士、実業家、
○ 政府職員や政治家などであります。私はこれらの方々の友情や、健全な
○ 見解、卒直さ、そしてこれらの方々自身及びその子供さん達が平和に生活し
○ 幸福と繁栄を享受することができるより良い社会を建設しようという確固
○ たる意志に深く感銘致しております。

○ 琉球の方々が非常に繁栄していることを皆様方に御報告申し上げることは、
○ 私の喜びとするところであります。過去二、三年におきましても、琉
○ 球の経済は年平均10パーセントの割合で成長して参りました。1964
○ 年6月30日に終つた会計年度の国民総生産高はその前の^前会計年度に比較
○ して10.4パーセントの増となつております。国民所得及び一人当り
○ の所得に於きましてもこれに比例する増加が見られました。統計によ
○ りますと、琉球の住民は琉球の歴史上いまだかつて達成したことの無い最
○ 高の生活水準を現在享受していることがつきりとしております。

○ 第二次世界大戦前、琉球には60万足らずの人々が住んでいましたが、
○ 現在琉球に住んでおられる90万人以上の住民の生活水準は、これら戦前

の人々の生活水準の少くとも三倍の水準に達しているのであります。上にあげました統計が果して正しいかどうかにつきましては、産業の発達、教育、公衆衛生、その他琉球社会のあらゆる分野に於ける新しい成果を見れば十分納得できるのであります。

アメリカ合衆国政府及び日本政府は、このめざましい成長の達成に物質的にも援助の手を差し伸べて参りました。日本政府からの援助交付金の額は増大しつつあります。日本は琉球を他の方法でも援助しており、特に琉球産砂糖及びパイナップルに対して関税及びその他の特惠措置をとっているのであります。

高等弁務官としまして、私は三つの使命を持つております。即ち、
(1) 責任ある能率的で且つ民主的な現地政府の確立を促進すること；
(2) 成長力のある経済発展を図るため、琉球住民を援助すること；
(3) 琉球の人達を手助けして、その生活水準を高めること。 などであります。これらの使命は、私が生み出したものではなく、ワシントン政府が私に委任したものであります。これらの使命を達成することは、私の義務であります。しかしこのことは、ただ単なる義務にとどまらず、私個人としまして、私の権限内にあるあらゆる手段と私自身及び琉球列島米国民政府職員^(を)の懸命な努力によつて達成し得る最大限の程度に琉球の人達の福祉安寧を高める職務にまい進しているのであります。私は、これら三つのすべての使命が達成されつつあるということを皆様方に御報告申し上げることが出来るのであります。事実、私は沖縄戦終結後の20年間の成果に驚いております。私は沖縄において一大戦闘が行われている間にも、又、その終結後も、沖縄にいたことがありました。私が最後に沖縄を見たのは1945年でありましたが、その時、そこにはほとんど何も残っておりませんでした。元の形をとどめた建物も、住宅も殆んどなく、電気、水道などの公益事業は絶無でした。この島は荒地と化し、日本に逃避できる人達は日本に逃避していたのであります。今日では戦争の傷痕は沖縄の南部にある記念碑にのみ残っております。琉球は比較的原始的な農業社会から比較的近代的な商工業社会に変つております。

人口の76パーセントは10年ばかり前までは農業によつて生計を立てていましたが、現在では農業従事者の数は38パーセントに減少しております。琉球は実際のところまさに商工業技術革命とも言うべき大きな変化を経て来たのであります。10年位間を置いて琉球を訪れた連合会の人達の多くはその変りように驚きの言葉を述べております。戦後いまだこの祖先の地を訪問する機会に恵まれていない方々は、この島の成長と、この成長を促すに当つて果たした合衆国の役割に深く感銘を覚え、喜ばれることと思ひます。ハワイ州の人達の琉球列島の経済及び技術向上に対する大きな貢献は特筆しなければならないのであります。

皆さんは貴重な助言を与え、琉球の人達が甘庶、パイナップル、家畜、家^(を)きん及び野菜類の飼育、栽培に関する進歩した方法と技術を習得するのを援助するために、多くの専門家から成る代表団を琉球に送つてまいりました。皆さんは又、多くの価値ある計画や事業に財政的に貢献して下さいました。琉球におられる皆様の親せきや友人達の福利増進に時間と能力をおし気なく、しかも献身的にさいて下さつた沖縄人連合会^(を)員の皆様方の御功績は特に賞讃されるべきであります。先に私は、私達の主要目的の一つは、能率的で民主的な責任ある政府を作ることであると申し上げましたが、実際に、合衆国はこのような政府の樹立に助力して参りました。この政府は、琉球政府と呼ばれています。琉球政府は今年の4月1日に創立13周年を祝つたのであります。琉球の人達が戦後20年間に自治政治の能力を相当伸長させ、これらの人達の政府は更に多くの職務を引き受ける能力があるというのが沖縄に到着してからの私の評価でありました。このような判断は政治を行う能力は他の能力と同様に経験の所産であるという私の人生観と結びついていました。

沖縄に着任してから私が最初にとつた処置の一つは、合衆国政府から琉球政府への職務権限の移譲を促進することでありました。私達は琉球への出入域の監督をゆるめ、合理的な手続方法を探り入れたのであります。この結果はるかに能率的で満足すべき出入域業務を行うことが出来るよう

になりました。民政府裁判所から更に多くの事件を移譲することによって、琉球政府裁判所の司法権を拡大しました。私達は一挙に全布令の4分の1以上にあたる39の布令を廃止しました。行政主席は琉球政府の局長を選定する全権限を与えております。琉球政府と民政府間の立法案の調整は、この面に何ら問題点が生ずることが無い処まで、合理化されました。

○ 出入域及び琉球船舶の管理に関する全権限を実質的に琉球政府に移譲したのはごく最近のことです。これらは琉球政府に移譲した多くの責任のほんの一部に過ぎないのであります。私の在職中この権限移譲は引続き今後も行われるものと予想しております。合衆国が自由世界の軍事使命を達成する上で保持する必要のないような職務は全て除々に琉球政府に移譲することになることでしょう。政治を安定させることも確かにこのような伸展と同じく重要なことであつたのであります。

○ 去年の夏、私が琉球に参りました時には、沖縄自由民主党と呼ばれていた多数政党は相対立する二つの派に分裂しており、立法院には、過半数を占める多数党も存在せず、行政主席はすでに辞表を提出していました。

○ その結果、住民の利益は無視されつつあつたのであります。10月までには以前の多数政党の二派が結集し、主席を指名することの出来る所までこぎつけました。そして12月には、民主党という新しい党名のもとに再び党を結成したのであります。現在立法院には、過半数政党があり、1965年度の立法院議会は、琉球住民の福祉安寧という点で、みより多きものとなる見通しであります。

○ 私達は、一方では、軍事上の使命に支障をきたさないようにし、又、琉球政府の權威を支え、政局の安定に力を貸しながらも他方では、琉球に関する諸問題処理の点で日本政府との関係を改善することができました。

○ 琉球はかつて日本の一県でありましたし、故ケネディ大統領の声明にもありまじたように現在でも日本国土の一部であります。ですから日本国民及び政府は琉球の問題に対して理解があり、且つ当然の感興を示しているのであります。

○ ちなみに最近数ヶ月来日本政府に対して琉球政府への経済援助に更に強力に参画するよう要請して参りました。米国民政府は琉球政府の予算規

模とその効率的な消化能力に見合った最大限度の経済援助を与えるべく日本政府と協力しているのであります。私達は単に経済援助の問題だけに止まらず、合衆国と日本が琉球住民の福祉と安寧を増進するため相携えて解決にあたることの出来る他のすべての問題に関しましても日本政府と最大限に協力しているのであります。

○ 合衆国と日本の協力は数ヶ月前に活動を開始した二つの委員会を通して実を結びつつあるのであります。那覇に置かれている日米琉技術委員会は琉球に対する日本の経済援助の管理や執行面において生ずる諸問題を検討しております。東京に置かれている日米協議委員会は琉球に対する日本政府の経済援助や技術援助を行うための日米両国の政策を調整するのであります。ジョンソン大統領と佐藤総理大臣は今年の一月に同協議委員会の機能を経済援助以外の問題にまで拡大することに意見の一致を見たのであります。これら二つの委員会の仕事によつて緊密で効果的な協力のもとに琉球に対する日本の援助を円滑且つ効率的に運用出来るようになりました。

○ 私達が琉球において二十世紀のユートピアを建設することが出来たという印象を皆さんに与えようとするのが私の意図ではありません。将来のためになすべき仕事はまだ多く残されております。しかしながら私はこれらの仕事を達成することが不可能だとは考えていません。

○ 将来私達は農民や漁民の便宜を改善し、農業を発展させ、穀類を多様化し、従来より少い費用で単収を増やし、更に販路拡大に努力する決意であります。

○ 私達は過去十年間において商品の輸出高を六倍以上も増加することが出来ましたが、まだまだこの成果に安閑としていることは出来ません。琉球の主要資源は限られていますので、外国貿易をなお一層促進しなければならないのであります。琉球には商業用に振り向けることの出来る金属も燃料もありませんし、農業の拡大にも限界があります。琉球の人達が売らなければならない最も重要な商品は職業的技術であります。琉球の人達は原料や燃料を輸入し、これらの人達の技能を生かして外国の市場で販売できる商品を造り出すことが出来るのであります。

製造の面に於いては、私達は生産コストを下げ、経営技術を高め、国内市場に出す商品の生産を拡大する必要があります。

電力は以前に予想されなかつた程の規模で琉球住民に供給されておりますが、供給増大の必要性はまだ残っております。水道設備はまだ完全でなく、下水設備開発工事もその緒についたばかりであります。教室の数は戦前の数に比較して二倍以上になっておりますが、現在私達が十分な教育備品の支給に当たっているのが現状であり、この状態は向う数年間続くであります。琉球住民の平均寿命は1945年以来約20年も伸びております。とは言え、訓練された医療担当職員は不足しております。

私達は失業保険や労働者災害保障保険の制度を設けることが出来ました。しかし私達はまだ医療保険や養老、遺族及び身体障害者年金などの制度を設けておりません。これらは現在私達がとりかかっている仕事であります。私がこれらの仕事を将来達成されると申し上げる場合、向う数年内という意味であります。

私達はこれまで多くの問題を解決し、現在も他の諸問題を解決しつつありますが、そうだからといって、琉球のすべての人達が米国施政のもとで幸福になつていくことを主張するとすれば、これはおかしなことになるであります。言語を異にし、対照的な文化をもち、評価の仕方を異にする他の国家の人達に統治される場合は、必然的に問題が生じるのであります。このような状態には故ケネディ大統領が述べたように「すべての関係ある人達の忍耐と相互理解の精神で」対処しなければならぬのであります。

合衆国は単に琉球に駐留したいがために琉球にとどまつているのではなく、また、何等かの方法で琉球列島を食い物にして利益を得ようなどという意図を持っていないということは記憶すべき重要なことでもあります。

第二次大戦 終結以来20年間にわたり、又、現在も尚極東に脅威と緊張の重大状態が醸成しているが故に私達は琉球に軍事基地を保有しているのであります。脅威や緊張状態がなければ、合衆国はその軍隊を琉球から撤退するものと私は確信しております。合衆国が第二次大戦直後極東か

ら撤退していたら、極東全域はずつと以前に自由世界に敵対する軍隊に依つて蹂躪されてしまつたであろうことは疑問の余地がないものと思われま

す。合衆国が今その軍隊を極東から引き揚げることにでもなれば極東地

域が蹂躪されることに私は疑いをはさみません。極東に於いて力の均衡

による平和を維持するだけの軍事力を有しているのは米国のみであります。

琉球に私達が駐留することに依つて合衆国は勿論、琉球や日本を始め、他の極東諸国を防衛しているのであります。事実私達は楯となつてい

るのでありまして、この楯によつて今までも日本や琉球を始め他の極東諸国は

自国の生活水準や経済制度、社会制度の発展を促すことが出来たのであり

ます。日本政府は日米両国相互の利益と安全に対して脅威が存在してい

るという点で合衆国と意見が一致しております。今年一月にジョンソン

大統領と佐藤総理大臣が署名した共同コミュニケには大統領と総理大臣は

「極東の安全を図るため琉球と小笠原諸島にある合衆国の軍事施設の

重要性を認めている」と述べています。

琉球の大部分の人達は自分達自身の安全や経済的福祉のために合衆国の

軍事基地の重要性をよく納得しており、軍事基地の撤去を望んでいるのは

少数の人達だと思われま

す。見聞の広い、或る新聞記者は全住民の1パーセント

足らずの人達が基地の撤去を望んでいるものと推定しております。

基地は琉球経済に不可欠の部分

を占めており、しばしば「第一位の作物」と呼ばれてい

ます。この基地はかんばつや台風に関係なく年中収穫をも

たらす作物であり、この基地からの収入は国民所得の40パーセントから

45パーセントに相当し、この所得額の率に比例して雇用の面でも琉球経

済に貢献しております

琉球や日本には「琉球の施政権と基地を分離せよ」と唱える人達が相当数おります。これらの人達は、基地は現状通りにしたまま、行政権を日本に返還すべきだと主張しているのです。沖縄を使用して条約で定められた任務を遂行するために合衆国の能力を大きく損わずに、このようなことを如何にして成し遂げるかについて満足すべき納得のいく説明を私はいまだかつて耳にしたことがありません。私達は日本、韓国、中華民国、フィリピン、及び東南アジア諸国の防衛に助力すべき任務をおびております。この任務を立派に成し遂げることが出来る準備態勢をととのえるためには、私達は西太平洋全域を侵略から防衛するのを援助するために必要な軍隊を維持することが出来、いかなる事態にも対処して軍隊、艦船、飛行機を発進できるような基地が必要なのであります。条約に定められた合衆国の任務に従って命令される如何なる行動や条約の定める任務や、その必要な行動に直接まき込まれないような場合でも、その主権国家と協議せずして必要な措置を遅滞なくとり得る態勢をととのえておく必要があるのであります。行政権の喪失はわが国の軍隊の行動の自由を減ずるか或いは失わせるようなことになりましようし、又、自由世界の防衛基地としての沖縄の使用価値をいちぢるしく損うことになるものと思われます。

合衆国の政策は琉球の行政権を日本に返還することに反対しているわけではありません。今年の一月に大統領は日本政府及び日本国民の琉球返還の願望が達成される日を待望すると述べました。琉球の祖国復帰はタイミングの問題ではありますが、まだその時期ではないのであります。琉球を一大軍事基地として使用することによつて琉球住民の側にも犠牲を強いています。私達はこの犠牲に対し感謝すべきであり、また自由世界の防衛に果たした役割に対して琉球の人達を賞讃すべきであります。然しながら琉球の人達の犠牲は彼等自身の安全と彼らの祖国の安全を期するためであるということも知らなければなりません。

本日は皆さんとお会いしまして非常に楽しい思いを致しました。皆さんの祖先の地の経済的、技術的發展に皆さんが援助の手を差し伸べて下さったことに対して重ねてお礼申し上げます。琉球の尚一層の發展を期すために、米国民政府を手助けするよう皆さんにお願いするのに何らちゅうちよするものではありません。と申しますのは皆人又は皆さんのお父さん方は琉球からハワイに移住して来られたので、皆さんすべてが琉球に住み続けておられる人達の福祉に熱烈な関心を抱いておられることを私は知つてゐるからであります。どうぞ機会があり次第、私達を訪問して下さいようお願い申し上げます。

完

NEWS RELEASE

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UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION
OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
NAHA, OKINAWA

(APO SAN FRANCISCO 96248)

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参事官

NEWS RELEASE: 65-105
March 26, 1965

北米課長

EMBARGO EMBARGO EMBARGO

NOT FOR PUBLICATION OR BROADCAST, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, UNTIL THE
EVENING OF APRIL 14, 1965, HAWAII TIME

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Attached is the text of an address prepared for delivery
by the United States High Commissioner of the Ryukyu
Islands, Lt. Gen. Albert Watson, II, at a reception
sponsored by the United Okinawan Federation of Hawaii,
in Honolulu, Hawaii, on April 14, 1965.

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ADDRESS

BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS
LIEUTENANT GENERAL ALBERT WATSON, II
TO MEMBERS
OF THE UNITED OKINAWAN FEDERATION OF HAWAII

14 April 1965
Honolulu, Hawaii



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LIEUTENANT GENERAL ALBERT WATSON, II

TO MEMBERS

OF THE UNITED OKINAWAN FEDERATION OF HAWAII

14 April 1965
Honolulu, Hawaii

MR. HOKAMA AND DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE UNITED OKINAWA FEDERATION:

In July of last year I stopped over in Honolulu on my way to a new job--that of United States High Commissioner of the Ryukyu Islands. On that occasion I had the pleasure of meeting with you, and the privilege of receiving from you much advice which, I can now assure you, was eminently sound and invaluable to me.

On my first visit to the United States since my assignment as High Commissioner, I decided to stop again in Honolulu to discuss with you what has taken place in your ancestral homeland during the period I have served in Okinawa.

During the past eight months I have been able to meet a great many of the people of the Ryukyu Islands: farmers, urban workers, teachers, doctors, lawyers, businessmen, government officials and politicians. I have been deeply impressed with the basic friendliness of the people, with their soundness of outlook, their frankness, and their firm intention to create an even better society in which they and their children can live in peace and enjoy happiness and prosperity.

I am happy to report to you that the Ryukyuan people are doing very well. Over the past few years the economy has grown at an average annual rate of 10 percent.

In the fiscal year

In the fiscal year ending on 30 June 1964, the Gross National Product increased by 10.4 percent over that of the previous fiscal year; and there were proportionate increases in national and per capita income.

Statistics show very clearly that the Ryukyuan people are presently enjoying the highest standard of living they have ever attained in their entire history. The level of living of the more than 900,000 people now residing in the Ryukyu Islands is at least three times that of the fewer than 600,000 who lived there before World War II. The statistics can be verified by visual observation of new achievements in industrial growth, education, public health, and all other sectors of Ryukyuan society.

The Governments of the United States and Japan have assisted materially in this spectacular growth. Grants-in-aid from the Government of Japan also are rising. Japan has assisted the Ryukyu Islands in other ways, especially by providing tariff and other preferences for Ryukyuan sugar and pineapple.

As High Commissioner I have three missions: (1) to promote responsible, effective democratic local government; (2) to assist the Ryukyuan people in developing a viable economy; and (3) to assist the people in enhancing their standard of living. I did not originate these missions; they were assigned to me by Washington.

Achieving the necessary duty.

Achieving them is my duty, but it is more than that--I am personally dedicated to the job of insuring that the welfare and well-being of the Ryukyuan people are enhanced to the maximum extent that can be achieved with the resources at my command and by hard work by myself and the staff of the United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands. I can report that all three missions are being attained.

In fact, I am amazed at what has been achieved in the two decades since the end of the Battle of Okinawa. I was in Okinawa during and after the great battle there, and when I last saw the island in 1945, there was very little left standing. There were few intact buildings, few houses and no utilities. The island was a wasteland. Those inhabitants who could do so had fled to Japan homeland. Today the traces of war exist only in the monuments in southern Okinawa. The islands have been transformed from a relatively primitive agricultural society to a relatively modern industrial and commercial society. The 76 percent of the population who made their living by farming little more than a decade ago have now diminished to 38 percent. The Ryukyu Islands have in fact, gone through what can only be called an industrial-commercial-technological revolution. Many visitors from the federation who have visited Okinawa after ten years or so of absence have expressed amazement at the change.

I am sure that

I am sure that those of you who have not yet had the opportunity to visit your ancestral homeland since the war would be pleased and impressed with the growth of the islands and with the role of the United States in that growth.

The people of the State of Hawaii deserve great credit for the economic and technological upgrading of the Ryukyu Islands. You have sent many delegations of specialists to the islands to advise and assist the Ryukyuan people in learning improved methods and techniques in producing sugar cane, pineapple, livestock, poultry and vegetables. You have contributed financially to many worthy programs and projects. Credit is especially due to you members of the United Okinawan Federation who have given unstintingly and unselfishly of your time and talents to furtherance of the welfare of your relatives and friends in the Ryukyus.

I have mentioned that one of our major objectives is the development of a responsible, effective democratic government. The United States has assisted in the creation of such a government, called the Government of the Ryukyu Islands, which celebrated its 13th birthday on April 1 of this year. My assessment of the situation after my arrival in Okinawa was that the Ryukyuan people had, during the two decades since the war, developed a considerable capacity for self-government; and that their government was capable of assuming many additional functions.

This tied in with my

This tied in with my philosophy that the capacity to govern, like any other ability, is in part the product of experience. One of my first actions after my arrival was to accelerate the process of transfer of functional authority from the United States administration to the local government. We have reduced our surveillance over entries and exits, and have adopted streamlined procedures which have resulted in a much more efficient and satisfactory immigration service. The jurisdiction of the courts of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands has been enhanced by transferring to them additional categories of cases from the USCAR courts. At one stroke we abolished 39 ordinances or more than one-fourth of the total. The Chief Executive has been given full authority to select his department directors. The coordination of draft legislation between the Government of the Ryukyu Islands and the Civil Administration has been streamlined to the point where there is no remaining problem in this area. Only recently we transferred to the Government of the Ryukyu Islands substantially full responsibility for the entry, exit and control of Ryukyuan vessels.

These are only examples of what constitutes in total a massive transfer of responsibility to the Government of the Ryukyu Islands. I expect that throughout my tenure in office this process will continue. Over a period of time we will transfer to the Government of the Ryukyu Islands all functions which the United States does not need to retain in the interest of accomplishing the essential free world military mission.

Certainly as important as these developments has been the restoration of political stability. When I arrived in the Ryukyu Islands last summer, the majority political party, called the Okinawa Liberal Democratic Party, was split into two warring groups. There was no working majority in the legislature; the Chief Executive had submitted his resignation; and the interests of the people were being neglected. By October the two factions of the former majority party were able to get together to nominate a new Chief Executive; and in December they reunited under the new designation, Democratic Party. We now have a working majority in the legislature and it would appear that the 1965 session of this body will be productive in terms of the welfare and well-being of the Ryukyuan people.

While protecting the military mission, bolstering the authority of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands and assisting in restoring political stability, we have been able to improve relationships with the Government of Japan in matters relating to the Ryukyus. The people and Government of Japan have an understandable and justifiable interest in the Ryukyus, since the area was once a prefecture of Japan and even now is, in the words of the late President Kennedy, "a part of the Japanese homeland".

In recent months the Government of Japan has been invited to participate more fully in the provision of economic assistance to the Government of the Ryukyu Islands.

The United States Civil Administration is cooperating with the Government of Japan in the provision of economic assistance in the maximum quantity that meets the standards of need and the capability of efficient absorption.

We are cooperating to the fullest degree with the Government of Japan, not only on matters of economic aid, but on all other matters with which the United States and Japan can work together to promote the welfare and well-being of the inhabitants of the Ryukyu Islands.

United States-Japan cooperation is being implemented through two committees, which began functioning a few months ago. The U. S. - Japan-Ryukyus Technical Committee in Naha considers problems arising in the administration and implementation of Japan's economic assistance to the Ryukyu Islands. The U. S. -Japan Consultative Committee in Tokyo coordinates the policies of the United States and Japan for making economic and technical assistance available to the Ryukyus from the Government of Japan. President Johnson and Prime Minister Sato agreed in January of this year to expand the functions of the Consultative Committee to matters other than economic aid. The work of these committees has resulted in smooth and efficient handling of Japan's aid to the Ryukyus, on the basis of close and effectual cooperation.

It is not my intention to try to convey to you the impression that, in the Ryukyu Islands, we have been able to create a 20th Century Utopia.

There are many

There are many remaining tasks for the future. I do not consider any of the tasks impossible of accomplishment, however.

In the future we shall endeavor to improve the opportunities of farmers and fishermen, upgrade agriculture, diversify crops, produce more per unit of area at less cost, and promote additional markets.

While we have been able to increase commodity exports by more than six times in the past decade, we cannot rest on our accomplishments. Foreign trade must be further increased, because the basic resources of the Ryukyu Islands are limited. There are no commercially exploitable metals or fuels and there are limits to the expansion of agriculture. The most important commodity the Ryukyuan people have to sell is their work skills. The islanders can import raw materials and fuels, and with their skills fashion products which can be sold on foreign markets.

In the area of manufacturing, we need to lower costs, increase management skills, and expand production both for the domestic market and the foreign market.

Electric power has been provided to the Ryukyuan people on a scale formerly not contemplated, but the need for further expansion remains. The water system is not yet complete and we are only at the beginning of sewerage development. The number of classrooms has been more than doubled over the prewar figure, but presently we are engaged and for the next few years will be engaged in providing adequate educational equipment.

Length of life

Length of life for the average Ryukyuan person has been increased by about 20 years since 1945; yet trained medical personnel are in short supply. We have been able to establish systems of unemployment insurance and workmen's accident compensation insurance; but we do not yet have medical insurance or old-age, survivors and disability benefits.

These are tasks in which we are now engaged. When I say that they will be accomplished in the future, I mean the next few years.

While we have solved many problems and are solving others, it would be ridiculous to claim that all of the Ryukyuan people are happy under United States administration. Problems inevitably arise when one group of people is ruled by people of another nation, a different language, and contrasting cultures and sets of values. The situation must be met, as the late President Kennedy phrased it, and I quote, "in a spirit of forbearance and mutual understanding by all concerned."

It is important to remember that the United States is not in the Ryukyu Islands out of any desire to be there, or any intention to exploit the islands in any way. We maintain military bases in the Ryukyus because now, as for the two decades since the end of World War II, there are serious conditions of threat and tension in the Far East. I am sure that, if there were no threats nor any state of tension, the United States would withdraw its military forces from the islands.

There appears to be no question that, if the United States had withdrawn from the Far East immediately after World War II, the entire Far East would long since have been overrun by forces hostile to the Free World. I have no doubt that, if the United States should move its forces out of the Far East today, the area would be overrun. We are the only nation in the Far East with the strength to maintain a relative peace. Our presence in the Ryukyu Islands protects the Ryukyus, Japan and other Far East nations, as well as the United States. In effect we are providing a shield behind which the people of Japan and the Ryukyus and other nations have been able to develop their standard of living and their economic and social institutions.

The Government of Japan agrees with the United States on the existence of a threat to our mutual interests and our safety. In the joint communique signed by President Johnson and Prime Minister Sato in January of this year, the President and the Prime Minister said that they (and I quote) "recognized the importance of United States military installations on the Ryukyus and Bonin Islands for the security of the Far East."

Most of the Ryukyuan people are convinced of the importance of the United States military bases to their own security and economic welfare, and few would want them withdrawn. A well-informed Ryukyuan newspaperman estimates that fewer than one percent of the people would want the bases removed.

The bases are a vital part of the economy, sometimes called "the No. 1 crop". This is a crop that bears a harvest the year around regardless of drought or typhoon. The bases account for from 40 to 45 percent of the national income, and for a proportionate percentage of employment.

There are considerable numbers of people in the Ryukyus and in Japan who advocate the slogan: "Separate the administration of the islands from the bases". By this, they mean that the bases should remain, but administrative authority should be returned to Japan. I must say that I have never heard a plausible or convincing explanation of just how this could be accomplished without serious impairment of the ability of the United States to utilize Okinawa in pursuance of its treaty commitments. We are committed to assist in the defense of Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of China, the Philippine Islands and various nations of Southeast Asia. In order that we may be prepared to honor our commitments, we need a base where we can maintain the forces necessary to help defend the entire Western Pacific area from aggression, and from which we can dispatch troops, ships and planes to meet any needs that may arise. We need to be able to take without delay whatever action is ordered in pursuance of the treaty commitments of the United States, and without consultation with a sovereign nation which might not be involved in the commitment or the necessary action.

Loss of administrative rights would reduce or destroy the freedom of our military forces to act, and would seriously impair the usability of Okinawa as a base in defense of the Free World.

United States policy is not opposed to the return of administration of the Ryukyu Islands to Japan. In January of this year the President said that he looked forward to the day when the desire of the Government of Japan and the Japanese people for return of the islands could be fulfilled. The return of the Ryukyus to their fatherland is a matter of timing; and the time is not yet.

The utilization of their islands as a great military base entails sacrifice on the part of the Ryukyuan people. We should appreciate this sacrifice and commend the people of the islands for the part they have played in the defense of the Free World. However, it must be realized that their sacrifice is in part for their own security, and for the security of their fatherland.

I have very much enjoyed meeting with you today. I again thank you for the assistance you have provided in the economic and technological development of your ancestral homeland. I have no hesitation in asking you to assist the United States Civil Administration in the further development of the Ryukyus, because I know that all of you retain a fervent interest in the welfare of the people who continue to live in the land from which you or your fathers emigrated to Hawaii. Please visit us at your first opportunity.

外務省アメリカ局長

アメリカ局長

参事官

北米課長

総南連第992号

昭和40年4月20日

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

ワトソン高等弁務官の4月16日嘉手納空港着帰任の際の
ステートメントの送付について

往電第90号に関し、ワトソン高等弁務官の4月16日嘉手納
空港着帰任の際のステートメントご参考までに1部別添送付する。

本信写送付先 外務省アメリカ局長

(付属物1部)



総 理 府

局長
市官
北米課長

UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS
Naha, Okinawa
April 19, 1965

MEMORANDUM TO NEWS MEDIA: 65-40

Public Affairs Department
Tel: 72153
72941 ext 32

NEWS CONFERENCE BY HIGH COMMISSIONER
ALBERT WATSON, II, UPON HIS RETURN
FROM THE UNITED STATES APR. 16, 1965,
AT KADENA AIR BASE

How are you? I have just returned from my trip to Washington, and while I was there, as you know, I testified in defense of the request for U.S. aid funds for Okinawa for the next fiscal year -- \$12 million plus additional expense money. It's too soon to say what action the Congress will take on the request that we have made. So, I'm optimistic, but I have no exact information yet. We'll have to wait until the Congress meets and views it as a complete organization.

You see, I testified only before a committee -- a small committee of the Congress. As for the Pre-Peace Treaty Claims -- as of the time I left there -- the committee had not called yet for witnesses to testify on those claims. So, I have no late information. You may have had some information here since I left for Washington. Mr. Warner tells me that you had nothing recently here, so that's still waiting for the committee's readiness to hear the witnesses and we are prepared for it.

On my way back, I stopped in Hawaii to make a talk to the United Okinawa Federation of Hawaii and, also, the club, Hui Makaala. It was a dinner meeting last night and there must have been more than 500 people present at that meeting. It was a very friendly gathering. We met many friends whom we had met before when we came through in July and there was great interest in what we are doing here in Okinawa. I was very happy to have that opportunity to talk to those people who are such good friends of ours and to tell them of the progress we are making here.

I have time for some questions if you wish to ask.

QUESTION: (Interpreted) It is reported that the meeting of the U.S.-Japan Consultative Committee will take place in order to discuss the expansion of the function after General Watson's return here. Was there any instruction for you while you were in Washington in regard to this?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: No, there was not.

Long range program

QUESTION: (Interpreted) Were you called upon to explain on the Long-Range Plan formulated jointly by USCAR and GRI, while in Washington?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Yes, I answered some questions in connection with the Long-Range Plan at the hearing in the Congressional Committee.

QUESTION: (Interpreted) During the hearing in the Congressional Committee, what points did you particularly emphasize and what points did the committee seem to have interest in?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, I think the best way to find out what I emphasized is to read the statement that was made. I had an opening statement which I made before the committee. Has that been released here?

(ASIDE): Not yet. We're waiting for the committee to officially release it. The committee hasn't authorized the release.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Yes, yes. Well, the committee has to authorize the release of this statement and they have not yet done it, I am told now. So, we'll have to wait until that time comes so that we can give it to you. Generally, my emphasis was on the most important matters that we have to take care of here and that really, I think, is to be found in my statement to the Legislature at the opening session held in February this year.

QUESTION: (Interpreted) What was your impression on the possibility of lifting the ceiling on the Price Act during the course of your testimony before the committee?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, this will have to come out when you see the release of the information as to what we said during the committee meeting. There was not any attempt made at the time of my visit to Washington during my testimony to request an increase in that ceiling.

Two more questions.

QUESTION: (Interpreted) A request at the hearing was for \$14.5 million in excess of the ceiling of the Price Act. How do you explain this?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I know what it is. What I asked the committee for was a sum which was greater than \$12 million, yes. And this excess amount above \$12 million is for the operation of the civil administration here. In other words, the expenses of administering that aid money. That's something for the future. Does somebody else have another question?

QUESTION: (Interpreted) It is reported in Okinawa that the High Commissioner made a statement in Hawaii to the effect that only a minority of the people here are opposed to the military bases in Okinawa. I would like to know your true feelings in connection with the statement.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: My true feeling is that nobody wants to be overrun by communists here in the Ryukyu Islands, and I think almost everybody here except a small radical minority realizes that if these bases are removed, there's a strong possibility of being overrun by communists. I may have been wrong on the 1% as being the number of communists and communist sympathizers here, maybe that's a little too high a figure.

QUESTION: (Interpreted) Does the High Commissioner mean then -- by 1% -- he means communists and their sympathizers?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Finish the question.

QUESTION: (Interpreted) Does the High Commissioner mean by 1% -- does he mean 1% refers to the communists and their sympathizers?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: What I'm trying to say is I believe that all realize there is a dangerous force in the world today which wants to overrun the Free World. They have said they would do it and they plan to do it when they think they can succeed.

Here in the Ryukyu Islands, if we are not defended, if there is no defense capability here, we are an open invitation to the communists to take over these fair islands and our fine people here in the Ryukyu Islands. If we don't have the defense base, this could well happen. I don't believe that there is more than 1% of the people here in the Ryukyu Islands who want to come

under communist domination. In fact, that may be a little bit too high a figure for the number of communists and communist sympathizers in the Ryukyu Islands.

Now, I would like to thank all of you for coming down here to greet me this evening. I hope you are in good health and I hope we continue to have our successful associations we had in the past -- during the eight months I've been here. I think now it's probably a good time to break up our meeting.

As you know, there is five hours difference of time between here and Honolulu and that means it is now 3 o'clock in the morning for me. Also, I noticed the aircraft is loading and I think we should clear the ramp area here so they can finish their work and take the troops away. Also, we'll meet again on Thursday of next week.

(END)

アメリカ局長
参事官
北米課長
外務省アメリカ局長



総南連第1035号

昭和40年4月23日

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

ワトソン高等弁務官の記者会見テキスト送付について

4月22日米国民政府において行なわれたワトソン高等弁務官の記者会見テキスト1部別添送付する。

本信写送付先 外務省アメリカ局長(付属物1部)



総理府

UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

Naha, Okinawa

April 22, 1965

PRESS CONFERENCE OF

HIGH COMMISSIONER ALBERT WATSON, II

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Please be seated. Well, it's nice to be back home and meet with you again. In Washington, I completed what I consider to be one of the most important tasks that I have and that's to appear before a Congressional committee on behalf of the Ryukyuan people's welfare....in this case, specifically to testify in support of the President's budget request for economic aid to the Ryukyu Islands.

As you know, the subcommittee on foreign operations appropriations headed by Congressman Passman of Louisiana --- his group is part of the House of Representative's Committee on Appropriations -- annually considers the economic aid bill for the Ryukyus. This year, as last, the President has requested \$12 million in aid for the Ryukyu Islands. As you recall, that's the limit set by the Price Act.

An additional sum of approximately \$2 million was requested for administrative expenses. I was most reassured and this feeling goes not only for my meetings with the congressmen, but also in connection with the various meetings I held with officials in the Department of Defense. Without exception, I might say, they demonstrated a deep and knowledgeable interest in programs designed to further the welfare and well-being of the Ryukyuan people.

As I informed some of you upon my arrival at Kadena Air Base, I am not in a position to provide details of my testimony, because, under congressional rules, each committee holds the release authority. So we'll just have to wait for the committee's permission.

With the annual rise in electric power consumption each summer, I know there is interest in the current status of the Kin Power Plant construction, and here's the latest information I have:

The lights you see above us right now are receiving --- and have been receiving --- power from one of the generator units at the plant since a week ago.

The first of the big 22,000 kilowatt units --- after a long period of tests --- was found to meet all requirements and the Ryukyu Electric Power Corporation accepted it from the contractor on the night of 15-16 April for operation in the Integrated Island Power System.

Two other units --- each of 22,000 kilowatts --- are being tested, and tests on the fourth are expected to start soon.

Present plans are to have a dedication ceremony of the new \$14.7 million plant in Kin on 1 July.

This is the same date scheduled for the transfer of the operation and maintenance of the Island Power System from the military to the Ryukyu Electric Power Corp.

Preparations for the transfer are progressing smoothly and on schedule. Biweekly meetings are held by representatives of USCAR, the REPC and USARYIS to review progress and to insure coordinated action. After 1 July, the REPC will sell electric power to all United States Forces as well as to local power distributors and large industrial users.

Incidentally, it certainly appears that the REPC must be the fastest growing corporation --- public or otherwise --- in terms of producing service to the public. Power consumption in the Ryukyuan economy has increased more than 2,000 percent in the last 10 years.

High Commissioner's Press Conference (April 22, 1965 cont'd)

With this additional power generating capacity of the Kin Plant, engineers forecast that we should have fewer brownouts this summer.

Obviously, as the Ryukyuan standard of living continues to improve --- and as the people's power consumption increases --- we will need more electric power capacity. The civil administration is studying plans for building a new 240,000 kilowatt plant. These plans include engineering designs, fund sources and the final location.

You may be interested to know also that we are studying the feasibility of turning over operation of the water system to the Ryukyu Domestic Water Corporation.

Do we have questions? --- You must have had a very quiet time while I was away.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I would like to ask you two questions in connection with a speech made in Hawaii by the High Commissioner. In his speech in Hawaii, the High Commissioner stated that the present position of Okinawa in relation to the defense of Free Asia is such that many sacrifices have been undergone by Okinawans. The High Commissioner further stated that the sacrifices on the part of Okinawans should be recognized and appreciation be extended to these people. My question is --- we understand this statement --- my question is one step should go beyond the stage of appreciation. I feel that a compensation should be rendered in a certain form in order to give the satisfaction to Okinawans.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: You made a statement. What's the question?

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I feel I understand your statement, but I feel there should be some sort of compensation in order to pay for their efforts and sacrifices. What are your comments?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I agree that there should be compensations -- compensations have been made and will continue to be made. As you know, we have, for example, the Pre-Peace Treaty Claims proposal which this administration has supported and which has been sent to Washington for approval. This, of itself, is a tremendous sum of money. It's almost double the annual United States aid contribution. Whether it will pass or not -- it's not for me to predict because I don't foresee what the Congress will do when it's presented with these bills for consideration -- I should say when it considers these bills -- they've already been presented.

Furthermore, as you know, I have encouraged and recommended support of the desire of the Government of Japan to increase its aid and, in fact, this year shows a very large increase over the aid provided by GOJ last year. Many of the actions which we take here are compensation not only in terms of money and aid in that sort, but in recognizing from a personal viewpoint a great part which Ryukyans play in the defense of the Free World. You probably have noted I have acknowledged this on many occasions during the time I have been here as High Commissioner.

As you recall, my talk was made to people who are friends and relatives of many of our residents here in the Ryukyu Islands, particularly Okinawa, and -- in part -- my purpose of including that statement in my talk was to encourage those people who are now living in Hawaii to, themselves, recognize this sacrifice and in their letters -- and so on -- encourage the Ryukyans in this contribution which they have made and are making. Another point that I made during that talk -- and it was in the same paragraph that you referred to -- was that the sacrifice is made in part for themselves, the Okinawans -- the Ryukyans -- are helping to protect their own security by the sacrifices -- by the efforts -- by the assistance which they are giving to the American defense mission here.

2
(More)

High Commissioner's Press Conference (April 22, 1965 cont'd)

And, finally, their efforts contribute to the security of the homeland -- in Japan itself.

You and I recognize the close relationship between people who live here and who live in the home islands of Japan. Is there another part to your question?

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I understand your statement in general, but I would just like to ask you specifically -- did you mean by your statement the people in Japan as a whole should extend their appreciation for the sacrifice made to Okinawans more expressly?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: The principal point I was making is those who live in Hawaii now and who have close ties of either blood relationship or friendship with people who live here should express their appreciation to their friends and relatives here for this contribution.

Now your question raises broader consideration as to whether or not residents of the home islands of Japan should also participate in this expression of appreciation. I think it is quite appropriate that they do so. I think they recognize as you do that there is always a possibility for a greater expression than we have experienced here in the past.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) First of all, I'd like to say if my question is considered difficult, you don't have to furnish me with a reply.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Many of the questions here are very difficult.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) A question was asked yesterday in the Japanese national Diet by an opposition member to which an answer was furnished by the Foreign Minister. The question was -- would it be possible for the people of Okinawa to get involved actively in view of the escalation of the Viet-Nam situation? The answer furnished by the Foreign Minister was -- never -- not likely -- no, change it this way -- absolutely not, was the answer. Now, I would like to ask you -- as the High Commissioner is also a man responsible for the four sister services as the CINCPACREP -- can we obtain from you a similar answer like the one furnished by the Foreign Minister?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: This is my first question that I've had to answer here as representative of the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific. I think it is always possible to worry about anything. When things are going quietly, some people worry because they are going so well. When nothing is happening, some people are apprehensive because they think it's just a matter of time before something difficult would take place.

Okinawa is a military base -- an essential military base. It is not the only military base which supports Viet-Nam, but it is a very, very important one. People who live on this island live on and in the base. I'm not worrying.

My home is here and I see no cause for anyone else to worry. If destiny has it that we are to become involved because we are a base or if per chance we cease to become a base, that's the way it will be. My feeling is that there is far greater danger of this island being overcome by communist forces if there is no base here than if the base continues here as it will for the foreseeable future.

Therefore, there's a question of what one considers a greater danger. In some ways -- one could look at it this way -- and to me I hate to think of the people here being overrun by communists. I have formed a great respect and a high regard for residents of this island and of the other islands of the Ryukyus, and I can imagine no fate worse than for them to be overrun by communist forces.

3
(Over)

High Commissioner's Press Conference (April 22, 1965 cont'd)

I can assure you that there is no communist power in the world that will provide the measures and support in every way that the United States administration has provided here. And my final sentence then on this is that I congratulate the people here for the opportunity to participate in the defense of freedom, which includes the defense of their own freedom, and I have no intention of leaving here because somebody asked the question in the Diet as to whether or not it's dangerous to live in Okinawa. I don't think anyone else will leave here for any such reason as that.

I'd like to finish my statement by saying to you that nothing I have said or that I am about to say is critical of the gentleman of the Diet who asked that question or of any other member of the Diet.

I would point out to you that there are those elements in any group -- in any society -- which depend upon issues which they can criticize for their own living -- for their own activity. In a way, I am sure that those elements must be thankful for Viet-Nam for the use of this island as a part of the Free World's efforts to assist our brothers in South Viet-Nam to maintain their freedom.

This great effort gives those who thrive -- who depend on -- issues to criticize -- may be thankful that they have such an issue at this time on which to base such criticism. They do it freely, knowing that no one will allow them to be overrun by communists nor allow their freedom to criticize such defense of freedom to be prohibited by a communist government in their own land.

You may recall a famous statement by a great French philosopher whose name was Voltaire. As I recall correctly, he said, "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." He was talking about one of the great freedoms -- the freedom of speech.

In communism, there is no freedom of speech. We are freed of that limitation which is placed on those in communist countries. We may speak freely and we are defending that great freedom with the other freedoms. I might say in closing that most of you here in this room would lose your jobs under communism or you'd certainly have to change the way you write.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) In connection with the deliberation of the change in the election law being considered in the Legislature -- I would like to ask you a question pertaining to the status of Amami-Oshimans in Okinawa. These people are denied the right to vote in Okinawa because of an ordinance or ordinances. I would like to hear the High Commissioner's comment on this matter. As a matter of information, I would like to add that when Okinawans go to Japan homeland, after establishing residence requirements, they, too, become eligible to vote.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I understand that the GRI and the Legislators are concerned with this matter and are studying it. It should be understood, however, that Amamians can become permanent voting residents of the Ryukyus quite simply by following the proper procedures. As a matter of fact, at the present time, according to my information, there are some 337 Amamians over 20 years of age who have become permanent voting residents here in the Ryukyus.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) This proposal was submitted to the Legislature in 1962. My understanding is that it requires \$25 to \$30 to have records of domicile changed because the fees for the required change is \$25 to \$30, but this involves 6,000 to 7,000 Amami-Oshimans. This voting right is considered absolutely the minimum in democracy. This is not something that they should acquire, but this is something they should be given, too. I would like to hear your comments.

(Over)

High Commissioner's Press Conference (April 22, 1965 cont'd)

HIGH COMMISSIONER: My figure is that there are about 5,700 Amamians here who have not applied but have their residence transferred. My information also is that the cost is about -- is less than half of the figure you have given.

I might point out one thought that may be in the back of your mind -- that is, that it is quite important that people who come here from any other part of the world to establish a residence should be able to support themselves in some way rather than become wards of the GRI. In other words, charity cases. I think most anyone who is able to support himself in any fashion whatsoever would be able to afford the very nominal fee that is charged for the transfer of records.

Of course, I'm unable to answer the question as to whether or not the GRI is willing to pay the expenses for such a transfer. This is a matter of the individual having an obligation toward government assisting in the process of transfer of records. GRI may be willing to do it for nothing. I have no knowledge of this. I don't know.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) Reference was made by the High Commissioner in his opening statement to the effect that there will be a new 240,000 kilowatt plant. This altogether separate from the one located in Kin?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Yes. The location has not even been decided yet.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) Is this going to be a USCAR project?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I certainly don't believe that the GRI could be able to pay the bill for such an enormous plant, but the source of funds is now under consideration. As you recall, the Kin plant has cost about \$15 million. This new plant would be almost three times as large -- 3 times 15 is \$45 million. That's a very, very large sum of money. It may not cost that much. I don't know. I don't have a good figure for that yet.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) Not satisfied with the pay proposal submitted in March 1965, military employees union has solicited the support of the High Commissioner in order to satisfy their request. I would like to know what kind of solution the High Commissioner has in mind.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I'd like to go back a little bit and remind you of some of the facts about how these wages are determined by the wage board in Washington. In the first place, this board in Washington establishes the wage schedules for many thousands of direct-hire local national employees throughout the world.

In the case of Okinawa, the wages of Ryukyuan employees of the United States Forces are established in Washington, based upon surveys of the wages paid to Ryukyuan on the local economy. The wage rates paid the Ryukyuan employees of U.S. Forces here are determined by studying wages paid by the more progressive and higher paying private firms on Okinawa.

I'm sure the authorities concerned with the establishment of these schedules will consider any time the merits of reasonable requests. I would assure myself that the rates of basic pay to Ryukyuan employees of the U.S. Forces are as consistent as possible with the rates of pay of the more progressive and higher paying firms on the local economy.

As previously announced, the United States Forces plan to conduct locality wage surveys in Okinawa on an annual basis beginning in 1966. Therefore, I would suggest that if employees are truly dissatisfied that they gather their proposals and assure that they are factual and reasonable for consideration at the time of the 1966 wage survey.

(Over)

High Commissioner's Press Conference (April 22, 1965 cont'd)

Substantial progress in wages and fringe benefits of the Ryukyuan employees has been made during the recent survey. There have been increases in basic wages, increases in bonus payments from 200 to 300 percent and, most important of all, a plan evolved to conduct the survey of the economy once each year as I mentioned earlier. I would think that all is not bad in this picture, but there has been this improvement in wages and benefits and that should be acknowledged and any additional request to be made should be submitted to the next survey.

Now I know you want to file your stories before it's too late to make your deadlines, but if there's another question, we can take it now.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I would like to ask you two questions. The first question pertains to the questionnaire submitted to the High Commissioner by the OSMP. I would like to ask the High Commissioner if he's going to answer this request. My second question pertains to the request by GRI to the Japanese Government seeking a larger amount of educational costs. It was reported that during the meeting of the Chief Executive with the High Commissioner, the Chief Executive was informed by the High Commissioner that the matter of this nature should go through diplomatic channels. Does this mean if this matter on the educational bill is discussed and approved through diplomatic channels by the Japanese Government and the United States Government, the High Commissioner is willing to accept it?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Excuse me for laughing, but that's very easy to answer. My Government tells me that we do something here -- I'll accept it or lose my job. I know who's boss.

Secondly, as you know, requests for aid from either the United States Government or the GOJ does go through diplomatic channels. All such requests do go through these channels. They go from the Technical Committee here to the Consultative Committee in Tokyo. The United States Ambassador in Tokyo, Mr. Reischauer, is a representative of the President of the United States and he is our member of the Consultative Committee, so such matters are discussed, they're properly there; they will, of course, have my recommendations. They haven't been completed as yet.

On the question of whether I will answer a series of questions from any place, I would say -- first, I haven't seen such questions that you refer to. I would say, also, that since I don't know what is in them I can make some remarks without criticizing them.

Sometimes questions are asked when the answers are already known, and I don't propose to engage in a battle of questions and answers with anybody. I'll be glad to discuss any subject at any time with anyone, but we are not going into a great battle in the press about "one percent" or anything else. I'll be happy to hear legitimate questions and will give the best answers that I can.

I would add one further remark about aid to education and that is this -- that I hope no one will make any proposals which would interfere with the requests which I have just recently made in Washington to the Congress for a large amount of money from the United States Treasury for use in furthering the education here in the Ryukyu Islands.

I wish you good health until we meet again. Sayonara.

(END)

外務省北米局長宛

北米局長

参事官

北米課長



総南連第1380号

昭和40年5月29日

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

ワトソン高等弁務官の定例記者会見の様様について

ワトソン高等弁務官は27日午後2時半から米国民政府会議室で

定例記者会見を行なった。

高等弁務官は、質疑にはいる前、「今期の砂糖生産は記録的な増産で糖価の下落という暗い面もあつたが、日本政府の特恵措置などで農家の手取りは昨年より約500万ドルふえる。

観光事業は急激に発展しており、さきに当地で行なわれた第1回観光セミナーも成功だつた。

米国民政府は観光事業振興を援助する用意がある」と述べ、記者団の質問に答え、

沖縄人軍雇用者のヴェトナム行きについては危険地域派遣はしない。

砂糖やパイン産業のコスト低減をはかるため、日本からの低利長期資金の融資を望んでいる。」と答えた。

本件に関する米国民政府新聞発表文1部別添送付するにつき委細はこれによりご承知ありたい。

本信写送付先

外務省北米局長(付属物1部)

総 理 府



UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

Naha, Okinawa

May 27, 1965

PRESS CONFERENCE OF

HIGH COMMISSIONER ALBERT WATSON, II

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Please be seated. Before we start the questions, I have some remarks I'd like to make about one or two matters.

Now that the sugar processing season is almost over I'd like to talk about it for a few minutes. The latest statistical review based on GRI information of sugar production this season reveals a significant development.

The Ryukyuan farmers have put into practice a tried and true economic lesson so successfully learned in the United States. That is, that mass production at lower per unit prices can offset lower per unit profits and the results here are that the farmers' total receipts from the sale of sugar cane should exceed that of last year by perhaps \$5 million, according to the best available information gathered by USCAR statisticians and economic analysts. Last year, the farmers received about \$29 million.

One might even say that the farmers and the sugar mill companies have turned the trick of the century by recovering spectacularly from the drought of 1963, the worst in more than 70 years.

Latest Ryukyuan government estimates for the current '64-'65 season harvest are 2.4 million metric tons of sugar cane, more than double that of last year. This season it is estimated that the total centrifugal sugar production from the mills will be about 275,000 metric tons. Add another 25,000 metric tons of black sugar and you have a grand total of 300,000 metric tons -- the most ever produced in the Ryukyus, close to double the previous high of 170,000 metric tons in the '62-'63 season. Last season's production was only 140,000 metric tons because of the drought of '63.

What all this means is that the farmers will get more money -- about \$5 million more than last year -- and total exports of both centrifugal and black sugar at the Japanese Government support price and the current market prices should reach an unprecedented \$50 million. Last year, total exports of sugar were valued at \$40 million.

These spectacular results could not have been reached without Japanese price supports and the huge Japanese domestic demand for sugar.

On the dark side of the picture, world sugar prices have fallen badly and are still fluctuating. At the same time, Ryukyuan sugar production costs are high, because of: too rapid expansion of cane land, indiscriminate use of poor land for initial cultivation of cane, and sugar mill companies paying off debts at high interest rates.

In conclusion, I hope the farmers and processors will aggressively attack the problem of high production costs and thus lessen the adverse effects of fluctuation of world market prices.

I would now like to make a few comments on the first Okinawa tourism seminar which I read about with great interest last week. The success of this seminar was obvious from the enthusiasm of the large number of participants and the excellent cooperation exhibited between government and private business -- Americans, Okinawans, and Japanese alike, and both Japanese and English-language news media gave this meeting and its participants a great deal of fine coverage.

High Commissioner's Press Conference (May 27, 1965 cont'd)

With such widespread interest underway in an industry that is probably the fastest growing in the Ryukyus, we will need:

New sources of funds, new and better techniques in serving visitors, and new and better hotel, food, and entertainment facilities for visitors, while maintaining and expanding the cultural, shopping and scenic attractions already existing, as noted by the visiting tourism experts who spoke at the seminar. The USCAR staff is available for help in carrying out sound plans.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I would like to ask you a question pertaining to a statement made by Vice Minister Hattori on 25 May this year during his trip to Miyako and Yaeyama. He specifically mentioned that consideration has been made in regard to the programming aspect of radio and television stations to be established there. What I would like to know is -- has USCAR already established its own policy in regard to the establishment of these stations in Sakishima or has USCAR ever been consulted on these matters?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, we have been consulted, of course, on the matter of conducting a survey in Sakishima with the idea of determining the feasibility of establishing broadcasting facilities there which do not now exist. I am aware of the presence of the team in Sakishima.

I understand that Vice Minister Hattori has returned to the homeland, but his team remains and is still working. It is apparent, of course, that this has many technical complications, and this first survey will not be sufficient to determine the technical feasibility or even cost estimates.

As to the policy of control or as to whether USCAR has been asked as to its policy, we have not established a policy at this time nor have we been asked for one. I think it's obvious that such a matter is under consideration in USCAR even though it hasn't been officially presented.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I would like to ask a question pertaining to a statement made by Ambassador Reischauer during his meeting in the recent U.S.-Japan Consultative Committee, to which he welcomes loans to be used in the Ryukyus for the purpose of rationalizing the sugar industry. I would like to know if such loans mean this type of loans are to come from the Japanese Government, as desired by the local sugar enterprises?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I'm not informed as to just what Ambassador Reischauer said on this point at the Con Com meeting which was just recently held. I am aware of the fact, as you are, that one of the principal problems that the sugar mill operators have at this time is that they have a large number of short-term high-interest rate loans which are causing the costs of production to be at a higher level than is necessary. We have agreed here -- we have proposed -- that one of the means of rationalization of the sugar industry is to refund such loans on a longer term, lower interest basis. We would welcome participation by financial institutions in the homeland in the changing of the funding basis which is now so expensive to the mill operators.

I would ask if any member of my staff has anything he wishes to add to my response.

(ASIDE): Sir, also as we have mentioned, locally RDIC can assist in the same type of loans.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) In regard to your statement that USCAR has proposed refunding with longer term and lower interest loans -- could you tell me when and to which and where such proposal was made?

High Commissioner's Press Conference, (May 27, 1965 cont'd)

HIGH COMMISSIONER: We will look and see if we can find other sources for you to which you may refer. We will inform you.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) I was just trying to find out if this proposal was made at the Consultative Committee meeting.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Do you want information on such as places and dates or does the answer that I gave you meet your requirement? Is that sufficient?

REPORTER: (Interpreted) This is fine.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I am looking now in my talk to the Legislature in February, and I believe this matter was covered there, but I'm checking it to find it and I -- on a quick search I don't locate the place in that talk where it was covered.

Any other questions?

REPORTER: (Interpreted) In regard to the matter pertaining to sending overseas of Okinawan crew members of the LT, I feel that through your meeting with the legislative Democratic members on Tuesday this matter has been settled -- but I would like to know if the High Commissioner would like to repeat his statement in which he guaranteed that Okinawan crews will not be sent to war zones.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: We sent your paper a press release which included that statement. It was sent to all news media. I'll be glad to make it again if you'd like to hear it. I still believe it. Maybe if I suggest it, people will read the press releases I send to them. Please do it; I work very hard over these papers. I make them for you -- if you don't read them, then I should stop doing it, I guess.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) It has been reported that USCAR has urged the GRI to establish a sewerage corporation. I would like to know if you have come up with anything concrete or specific.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, yes. We have, to a certain degree, arrived at a conclusion that Okinawa needs a unified, modern sewerage system serving the municipalities which are so closely situated geographically here on the island of Okinawa. So, studies and discussions are underway with the GRI and the municipalities to insure that the best possible system will be built and effectively managed and operated. Now the status of the plan is as follows:

A master plan for sewerage collection and treatment covering the area from Kadena - Koza to Naha was approved by the High Commissioner in 1962 and budget requests were then initiated in Washington. Preliminary construction began in Koza in Fiscal Year '64 with \$250,000 in U.S. funds, and for Fiscal Year '65 an additional \$500,000 was given by the U.S. -- for a total of \$750,000 to date. For Fiscal Year '66 we have requested the Congress to appropriate \$3 million.

We are starting designs on a treatment plant with construction to begin in '66 to be completed in '68. USCAR will assist by arranging training programs for operators and key personnel in time to start operation of the system in '68.

It is proposed that a GRI non-profit corporation, similar to the present telephone system be set up under a unified Okinawa Sanitary District. We should avoid having a fragmented system of several, small, separate sewerage systems.

High Commissioner's Press Conference (May 27, 1965 cont'd)

REPORTER: (Interpreted) Would this be a form of public corporation?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Yes, similar to the present GRI non-profit corporation which operates the telephone system.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) It is reported that USCAR has signed a contract with a civilian firm to carry out the survey of the coastal areas in Okinawa. I would like to know the status of this survey and I would like to know -- what would be the effect of the survey on a long-range plan?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, the plan is underway now, but not yet completed. That is, the study is underway but not yet completed. So, we don't know what kind of a plan USCAR and GRI may establish -- nor yet do we know what financial sources will be used.

Through this study, we intend to get a comprehensive plan for the use and development of coastal areas around Okinawa, technical and economic feasibility of reclaiming areas, priorities of development and estimates of costs for reclamation and site improvements. The study will project needs through the year 1980 including a proposed program of expenditures during the fiscal years 1967 and 1973.

The purpose of the study is to see how we can provide additional land for the ever-expanding population and the economy of Okinawa.

Obviously, any plan such as this would have to be incorporated into the long-range plan for a number of reasons. One, it will have a very important impact upon society here. Furthermore, it will require a large amount of funds and if it is not integrated with the long-range plan, it won't have any money applied to it because it is by the long-range plan that we hope eventually to be able to coordinate all requirements for funds with all sources of funds for the fiscal years covered in the plan in any given period of time.

I would like to congratulate you on the importance of the subjects which you have selected for questions this afternoon -- sugar, sewerage, and land reclamation are all very, very important matters for the future development of the society here in the Ryukyus. I think they are extremely important. They have very far-reaching implications.

I would say in the matter of sugar that if the mill operators are able to put their funding on a more efficient basis and the growers make their production of sugar more efficient that the situation we find ourselves in now would soon improve radically. Therefore, I would say that the sugar problem is rather short-range rather than a long-range permanent type of problem.

The impact of the sewerage plan and the necessity for a non-profit corporation to operate it and the importance of land reclamation are really not only short-range, but long-range and have a very important implication in the long-range time frame as well as now.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) A person that came from Bangkok today told me that he attempted to obtain a 72-hour visa to visit Okinawa and he went to an American Consulate service unit in Bangkok, where he was told that the office there is not familiar with it. So, subsequently, he went to the Japanese Embassy in Bangkok, which made an inquiry to the American Embassy there in order to get confirmation on such matter on the 72-hour visa basis, which seemed to indicate that this information has not penetrated into the lower level of the American foreign services. It is quite possible that because of many factors, such as the language barrier, a person may come to the conclusion

(over)

High Commissioner's Press Conference (May 27, 1965 cont'd)

that this 72-hour visa information is not true. He expressed a very pessimistic view in regard to this. The High Commissioner recently went to Baguio and through his trip such as this, the High Commissioner himself and other people could disseminate this information thoroughly to the American foreign services located in other areas. What I mean to say is that closer liaison with foreign services may be in order. I understand only 125 tourists came here during the month of April on the transit visa basis.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, we'll certainly look into it. We have a saying in my country -- at the time of a very serious naval battle when my country was very young, the battle had been long and heavy and many men had been shot during the battle and there was one Marine lying on the deck, who had been shot and he was in his last moments of life. The captain of the ship said 'we have not yet begun to fight', and the Marine said 'there is always somebody that doesn't get the word'.

The point of this is simply -- that here many, many men have been dying but the captain of the ship didn't even know the fight had commenced. And here we are in Okinawa where many, many men can get transit visas and yet the Consulate doesn't even know that it has the ability to give them.

I regret very much that this traveler suffered such inconvenience. I would also tell you that this information has been passed to our consulates and we will communicate directly with our consulate in Bangkok -- we'll communicate directly there and find out what the problem is and tell them to -- please, in the future -- if they don't understand the Japanese language to get somebody in there who can interpret for them.

I would say that during the tourism seminar which was held here one speaker actually made a misstatement; he later was informed of this and he acknowledged that it was a mistake. He said that two signatures are required on one of these 72-hour intransit visas. He was incorrect. Only one is required. This is simply a signature by the carrier, that the individual has onward reservations for his trip from Okinawa forward, beyond Okinawa.

REPORTER: (Interpreted) Would an airplane ticket suffice?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I should think an airplane ticket would suffice, but at the time the man has to get a ticket he can get his signature on a piece of paper saying that we have given Mr. so-and-so onward reservations from Okinawa.

The point is only one guarantee is needed on this thing. It doesn't take a travel bureau's added signature in order to make this function -- that's the point I'm making.

However, we will pass the word on as I said. We'll get in touch with Bangkok.

REPORTER: The thing I mentioned about Baguio is I thought you attended the conference.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Yes, I did attend it there.

REPORTER: So that's what I meant. You probably talked to the top people at the Embassy and maybe the lower-level people.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Yes. I didn't mention this subject at that conference. We took care of it by electrically-transmitted message so that we would be sure that everybody got it. You see, at the other end they must receipt for the message. At the conference I get no receipts.

High Commissioner's Press Conference (May 27, 1965 cont'd)

Sometimes when you only rely upon the oral communication, someone says -- nobody ever told me. But if you have a receipt for the printed message, then it's covered. We have time for one more, then I have to go make an inspection.

REPORTER: I think it was early in April -- there was an announcement by USARYIS to remove the American Legion, the VFW, and the Okinawa Yacht Club from their present premises because they are not authorized to occupy military land. I wonder if any action has been taken on this or what the latest information you have on this subject.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: We had a highly productive meeting, as you know from the press release which we made with the officials of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on the 11th of May. The VFW Commander-in-Chief, Mr. John A. "Buck" Jenkins, was here and he said in a release at that time that the meeting was highly productive and he assured me that the VFW national organization, one of the local posts, operated in accordance with policies and mission of the High Commissioner. I explained to Mr. Jenkins that the review of private organizations receiving military support in Okinawa is in accordance with pertinent regulations and law.

I'll be meeting in the near future with representatives of the American Legion, and it is to be hoped that similar mutual understanding will be achieved in this forthcoming meeting.

Sayonara.

(END)

外務省北米局長殿

総南連第2556号

昭和40年9月29日

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

ワトソン高等弁務官の記者会見テキスト送付について
往電第212号に関し、ワトソン高等弁務官の那覇空港出発
の際の記者会見テキスト参考までに1部別添送付する。

本信写送付先 外務省北米局長(付属物1部)

総 理 府

UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

Naha, Okinawa

September 27, 1965

MEMORANDUM TO NEWS MEDIA: 65-91

Public Affairs Department

Tel: 72153

72941 Ext 32

NEWS CONFERENCE OF HIGH COMMISSIONER ALBERT WATSON,

II, UPON HIS DEPARTURE FOR TOKYO FROM

THE NAHA CIVIL AIR TERMINAL,

AT 3:50 P.M., SEPT. 27, 1965

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, I see you gentlemen are out here at the airport. As you know I'm on my way to Tokyo. I hope to pay a call on the Prime Minister to repay his visit here, and also I expect to have an opportunity to consult with the United States Ambassador, Mr. Edwin Reischauer, on various matters which have arisen from the Consultative Committee meeting held between representatives of the United States and Japan on 20 September. Do you have any questions? I think we have a few minutes left.

REPORTER: (interpreted) During your meeting with Ambassador Reischauer will you talk about the public election of the Chief Executive?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I'm sure we'll talk about all subjects of interest to the position which I have here and the position which he has there.

REPORTER: (interpreted) What do you think of the recommendation made by the five prominent Okinawans in regard to the public election of the Chief Executive?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, the proposal itself is under study. I am sure it will give considerable opportunity for much more newsprint. It will certainly provide more material for the newspapers. Furthermore, I believe you might want to think about the possibility that public election of the Chief Executive is a matter which has implications -- which is of importance -- to the GRI and the Civil Administration here. In other words, it's really a local matter, is it not?

REPORTER: General, Are you visiting Tokyo by your own plans or at the request of Mr. Reischauer?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, I'm visiting as part of a plan which he and I established over a year ago where we decided that we would exchange visits between his office and mine -- not only visits by ourselves -- each of the two of us, that is -- but by members of our staffs, as well, and this plan -- this program -- is continuing.

REPORTER: (interpreted) In connection with the proposal made at the U.S.-Japan Consultative Committee, a proposal was submitted by the American side to have each of the three governments bear one-third of the educational funds. Can you elaborate on this proposal?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I didn't know that the proceedings of the Consultative Committee had been made public yet. (from aside) I am informed that some of the matters which were discussed there have been made public and I'd like to ask you to repeat your question again.

INTERPRETER: The question was: Can you elaborate on the proposal made by the American side about each of the three governments sharing one-third of the education funds, as submitted to the Consultative Committee.

1

(Over)

HIGH COMMISSIONER: The proposal made by the United States representatives at the Consultative Committee meeting was one which was worked up here between the Civil Administration and CRI. That proposed that one-third of the salaries of all teachers -- not just those in compulsory schools -- but one-third of the pay of all teachers be paid by each of the three governments.

I am informed that I must leave you now for boarding. Is there one more question? Perhaps you know, while you're thinking of your question, that I'm going to give an after-lunch address to the members of the Foreign Correspondents Club in Tokyo on the 29th of September and I have made appointments for television interviews on the 30th. Were you able to hear all of that? Question? Thank-you, Sayonara.

2

(END)

M. N. Kashenia

William Henry Bruns
First Secretary of Embassy of the United States of America

Room 512
Secretary, Foreign Affairs

THE UNITED STATES IN THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

(An address by the United States High Commissioner of the Ryukyu Islands, Lt General Albert Watson, II, to the Foreign Correspondents Club of Tokyo, Wednesday, 29 September 1965.)

MR. RODERICK AND MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

CLUB OF TOKYO:

I thank you for your longstanding invitation to address your club,

and thereafter to subject myself to your tender mercies during the

question-and-answer grilling. From the day you invited me, I have

intended to accept but the past 14 months have found me heavily involved

in the duties of my three jobs. You may be aware that, in addition to

being United States High Commissioner of the Ryukyu Islands, I have

duties as Commanding General of United States Army, Ryukyu Islands/IX

Corps and as Representative of the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific. Today

I shall be wearing my High Commissioner's hat most of the time.

I have been

I have been asked to speak about the situation in the Ryukyu Islands,

and United States policies relating to that area. I will cover as many aspects of the situation as I can in the time allotted.

WHY WE ARE IN THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

It may be useful for me to start with the situation that requires the presence of the United States, with military forces, in the Ryukyu Islands.

I use the word "require," because the United States is in these islands not by choice but by reason of necessity.

The American people emerged from World War II with a hope amounting sometimes to a belief, that it was possible at that point in history for the nations and peoples of the world to create structures and conditions that would guarantee a lasting peace. Confidence abounded that, within a few years, the situation in the Western Pacific would be sufficiently stable that we could remove our military forces from the entire area without danger either to ourselves or to our friends in that area.

As a hope

As a hope or a long-range goal this was laudable; as a belief, it was in

retrospect, impractical.

A series of developments from 1948 to the early 1950's erased the early optimism. In the Western Pacific, the two most significant of these events were the rise to power on the China Mainland by Communist forces in 1949, and the invasion of the Republic of Korea by Communist forces in 1950.

These events dictated a drastic re-evaluation of the strategic situation. It became abundantly clear at this point, if it had not been clear before, that the Communist forces were pursuing their master plan for the conquest of Asia. The United States had to be interested, because in this present-day world of ours, greatly shrunken by technology, all nations and peoples are close neighbors and a danger to one nation is a possible danger to all.

As of the

As of the beginning of the 1950's, the United States was the only Free World nation with sufficient military capability and potential to prevent the Western Pacific from being over-run by forces hostile to the Free World. Although we, in hope of a lasting peace, had drastically and unwisely reduced our military strength after 1945, we fortunately possessed industrial capacity and manpower resources which could quickly provide us with the men and weapons necessary to help our friends and allies. Our strength to help prevent the over-running of the Western Pacific by forces hostile to the Free World and to free men imposed upon us the obligation to do so. Our approach to the problem was to join with our friends in the construction of a mutual security system. Over the past 15 years the United States has signed a number of bilateral and multilateral mutual security agreements with many nations, including Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of China, the Philippine Republic and a number of nations of Southeast Asia.

These treaties all

These treaties all provide that the United States will come to the aid of these nations if they are attacked or are threatened by aggressors. It is United States policy to deter aggression where possible, rather than to wait until it occurs before taking action. Let none of us doubt that the United States will hold firm to the commitments it has made. But if United States assistance is to be effective, we must remain in the Western Pacific area with military forces sufficiently strong to do the job, and so positioned as to be able to act promptly in the event of actions by aggressors which threaten their neighbors. These forces, of course, require bases from which to operate.

In concert with allies, the United States has in the past 15 years erected a chain of bases reaching from Japan through Okinawa to Taiwan and the Philippines and into Southeast Asia. Okinawa is a supremely important link in this chain.

United States forces

United States forces are stationed there to prevent aggression and to act quickly and decisively under any one of our mutual security treaties or arrangements. Okinawa, as the location of major United States bases, meets these requirements. Many Americans refer to Okinawa as "the Keystone of the Pacific." This term describes the role of Okinawa with reasonable accuracy. The conditions of threat and tension which necessitated the creation of the mutual security structure, the stationing of United States forces in the Western Pacific, the creation of a chain of bases along the eastern rim of Asia, and the use of Okinawa as the most important of these bases have not, to our great regret, diminished. Indeed, the threats are more ominous, the tensions are stronger, and the danger greater. Threats of aggression have been continued by Communist China against Taiwan and most recently, India.

In Southeast Asia,

In Southeast Asia, the threats have been followed by actual aggression, the invasion of the Republic of Vietnam and Laos by North Vietnam. The security of all free people and nations throughout the Western Pacific and Southeast Asia is threatened. Thus, the reasons for the presence of United States military forces in the Western Pacific, valid in 1950, are more persuasive today. It appears to me that, if the United States were to remove its forces from the Western Pacific at this time, the entire area could and would be over-run by forces hostile to the institutions and the ways of life of the free nations and peoples of the area.

We are all aware that there are people who see no danger at all to the populations of Free Asia from predatory aggressors. If their lack of concern were valid, then of course it might be argued there is no basis at all for the presence of United States forces in Okinawa or anywhere else in the Western Pacific.

In my view,

In my view, history will demonstrate that these were false prophets who, with perhaps the best and most honest of motives, endeavored to lull their people into a false sense of security.

The rise to power of the Communist regime on the China Mainland and the invasion of the Republic of Korea by Communist forces from North Korea and subsequently from Communist China preceded the discussions in San Francisco in the fall of 1951 which led to the signing of the Treaty of Peace with Japan and its ratification in the spring of 1952. It was clear at that time that United States forces should remain in the Ryukyu Islands for the protection of Japan, the United States, the Ryukyu Islands themselves, and the Western Pacific in general. Japan admittedly did not possess the strength to help protect the Western Pacific from the dangers that threatened. The consequence was that the Treaty of Peace provided, in Article 3, for the administration of the Ryukyu Islands by the United States.

It was the

It was the existence of ominous threats that caused the United States to remain in the Ryukyu Islands after 1952. It is this same danger, now intensified, that causes us to remain there. The reasons are military only. We neither expect nor receive any material gain from the Ryukyu Islands. On the contrary, our bases are maintained there at very great cost to the American taxpayer. The American people gain from their large investment precisely what is gained by the people of the Western Pacific area: a relative security in which they can pursue their economic and social goals.

WHY IS OKINAWA IMPORTANT

I frequently am asked why Okinawa is so important to the United States as a base, in comparison with other possible sites, the implication being that perhaps we can get out of Okinawa and move to some other location. The best answer is that circumstances of geography have placed Okinawa in a highly strategic location in the Western Pacific.

Okinawa is the

Okinawa is the pivot of our chain of bases along the eastern rim of Asia, reaching from Japan through Okinawa to Taiwan and the Philippines and into Southeast Asia. In Okinawa the United States has a forward base where we can maintain the strength necessary to deter aggression, and from which we can move this strength to threatened areas.

If I may for a moment replace my High Commissioner hat with my military hat, I will say that in my judgment and that of many other military specialists, bases in Okinawa help defend the southern and western approaches to Japan. From Okinawa we can help protect the Republic of Korea, as we demonstrated from 1950 to 1953. The presence of powerful United States forces in Okinawa in 1958 clearly was a factor in preventing aggression in the Taiwan Straits. Our forces in Okinawa can and do provide general protection for the Philippines. In Okinawa we maintain ready forces, prepared and equipped to go wherever needed.

From Okinawa we

From Okinawa we provide logistical support to our forces in an arc reaching from Korea to Thailand. And of even more importance, we maintain in the Ryukyu Islands forces of sufficient potency to place on notice the perpetrators of wars of enslavement, falsely called wars of national liberation, that they can realize their ambitions for territory and for control of free people only at a cost too high for them to pay.

Despite all the talk about "push-button" warfare, the United States continues to require a close-up support base in the Western Pacific. While the capabilities for push-button warfare exist, it must be realized that it means all-out, general warfare involving the most sophisticated weapons that have been developed. The conflicts now going on in Asia employ both conventional and primitive weapons. The problem still is to have men and weapons in a forward position, from which they can move quickly to prevent threatened aggression or to stem actual invasion of free nations.

I firmly believe

I firmly believe that the presence of United States bases in the Ryukyus has, for many years, protected this entire area from invasion. It continues to perform this valuable protective function for most of the area, and where aggression is occurring, as in Vietnam, these bases contribute to the defense.

I conclude and summarize this portion of my remarks by citing statements from two Presidents of the United States. On 19 March 1962 the late President Kennedy said (and I quote): "The armed strength deployed at these bases is of the greatest importance in maintaining our deterrent power in the face of threats to the peace in the Far East. Our bases in the Ryukyu Islands help us assure our allies in the great arc from Japan through Southeast Asia not only of our willingness but also of our ability to come to their assistance in case of need" (end quote).

A similar statement

A similar statement is contained in a communique issued on 23 January 1965 in Washington following the conclusion of talks between President Johnson and Prime Minister Sato (again I quote): "The President and the Prime Minister recognized the importance of United States military installations on the Ryukyu and Bonin Islands for the security of the Far East" (end quote).

WHEN WILL THE RYUKYUS REVERT TO JAPAN

There is naturally great interest in Okinawa and in Japan as to how long the situation that requires United States forces to remain in Okinawa will continue. We have received suggestions from time to time that we establish a timetable for reversion.

The attitude of the United States is that it will be necessary to keep strong military forces in the Ryukyu Islands for so long as conditions of threat and tension continue to exist in the Far East.

This policy was

This policy was announced for the United States by the late John Foster Dulles in 1953, at the time the Amami Oshima group of islands was returned to Japan. It was reiterated at various times by Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy, and it remains United States policy under President Johnson's administration.

That the United States recognizes the Ryukyu Islands to be a part of the Japanese homeland and plans ultimately to return the administration of the islands to Japan has been made clear by two Presidents. On 19 March 1962 the late President Kennedy said (and I quote): "I recognize the Ryukyus to be a part of the Japanese homeland, and look forward to the day when the security interests of the Free World will permit their restoration to full Japanese sovereignty"(end quote). A similar statement is contained in the communique issued in Washington on 23 January 1965 after the conclusion of the meetings between President Johnson and Prime Minister Sato.

The communique stated

The communique stated in part (quote): "Appreciating the desire of the Government and people of Japan for the restoration of administration to Japan, the President stated that he looks forward to the day when the security interest of the Free World in the Far East will permit realization of that desire" (end quote).

As to a timetable for reversion, I do not see how this is possible, if it means setting a specific date for the return of administration. I do not know when the existing threats and tensions will subside to the point where United States forces could be removed without danger to Japan, the United States and other nations. The threats and tensions, and the current conflict did not originate in Washington, Tokyo or Naha, but in Peking, Hanoi and Pyongyang.

A reliable and

A reliable and enforceable agreement with the perpetrators of the present situation under which they cease their present aggression and give up all future plans for aggression on a specified date would enable the United States to begin to reduce its bases at that time. In the absence of such an agreement the United States has no alternative but to use its strength to help stop aggression where it has occurred and to help keep the peace elsewhere.

SEPARATION OF ADMINISTRATION FROM THE MILITARY BASE

My discussion to this point has left an important and frequently asked question unanswered: "Why does the United States need to administer the Ryukyu Islands in order to maintain and operate its bases there? Why doesn't the United States let Japan administer the islands, but keep its bases there, just as it does in Japan?"

The United States

The United States administers the Ryukyu Islands because it must be able to act quickly and effectively to meet its obligations for the defense of Japan and the other Free World countries in the Far East. Our ability to meet our obligations requires that we have available for our forces a base in which and from which we have freedom to act. The requirements include:

- Freedom to move troops and equipment to the base without delay.
- Freedom to stockpile equipment which may be necessary to deter aggression and to help stem actual invasion.
- Freedom to dispatch troops, equipment, aircraft and ships to any area which the United States has pledged to assist in preserving its national integrity.
- Freedom to provide logistical support to United States forces, wherever they may be required to operate in pursuance of our treaties.

The Ryukyu Islands

The Ryukyu Islands meet all these requirements, so long as they are administered by the United States. Loss of administrative rights would reduce or destroy the freedom of our military forces to act, and would seriously impair the usability of Okinawa as a base in defense of freedom of world interests, including those of Japan.

THE ROLE OF THE RYUKYUAN PEOPLE

The use of their islands as a great military base for defense of the Free World has not been easy for the Ryukyuan people. They have had to sacrifice for the good of all, including the people of their homeland as well as themselves. I feel that the people of the United States, Japan and many other nations of the Western Pacific should be grateful to the Ryukyuan people for their contribution to the cause of peace. The Ryukyuan people look forward, quite naturally and understandably, to the day when their islands will again become an integral part of Japan.

For the most

For the most part they have been patient in this situation, recognizing that their islands are now playing a most important role in the history of this century.

I would be less than frank if I did not say that there are some problems between the Ryukyuan people and the American administration. Problems always arise when one group of people is administered by people of a foreign nation, a different language, and contrasting cultures and sets of values. This situation must be met, as the late President Kennedy said (quote): "in a spirit of forbearance and mutual understanding by all concerned" (end quote).

There is no problem between the United States and the Ryukyuan people or the Japanese people on whether reversion should take place. The problem lies in the impossibility at this time of deciding "When?"

We recognize that

We recognize that there is a close cultural affinity between the people of the Ryukyu Islands and those of Japan proper. Under the circumstances it would be strange if there were not a desire to return to what the Ryukyuan people consider and the United States recognizes as their homeland.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND THE CIVIL ADMINISTRATION

I have noted that the reasons for the presence of United States forces in the Ryukyu Islands and for United States administration are strictly military. However, while maintaining our bases in the islands, we have undertaken an obligation to assist the Ryukyuan people in their efforts to build a better society.

While I have responsibilities for military operations as Commanding General of U. S. Army, Ryukyu Islands/IX Corps and as Representative of the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific, I have none as High Commissioner.

In my job

In my job as High Commissioner I have three missions, all in the field of civil affairs assigned to me by Washington.

(1) To encourage the development of an effective and responsible government, based on democratic principles and supported by a sound financial structure.

(2) To make every effort to improve the welfare and well-being of the inhabitants of the Ryukyu Islands.

(3) To promote the economic and cultural advancement of the inhabitants.

The record shows very clearly that we made great progress toward the achievement of these missions.

EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

We began the task of establishing local civil government in the Ryukyu Islands as early as 1948, three years after the end of the Battle of Okinawa.

In that year

In that year the residents of cities, towns and villages elected their mayors.

The next step was the establishment of four regional (or gunto) governments in Okinawa, Yaeyama, Miyako and Amami. In 1952 the regional governments were supplanted by a central government, called the Government of the Ryukyu Islands, now almost 14 years old.

The Government of the Ryukyu Islands consists of an elected legislature; an executive branch headed by a Chief Executive who is nominated by the Legislature and approved and appointed by the High Commissioner; and an independent Ryukyuan judiciary.

The United States does not administer the Ryukyu Islands directly. The day-to-day functions of government are performed by the Government of the Ryukyu Islands, under the general guidance and with advice and assistance of the United States Civil Administration.

The Government of

The Government of the Ryukyu Islands operates the schools, the police, government hospitals and public health centers, the immigration system, its own courts, the welfare institutions and the tax system. The executive branch performs almost all of the internal functions normally performed by a national government. The legislature enacts laws on all matters of domestic application. Practically all court cases involving Ryukyuan are tried in Ryukyuan courts.

The policy of the United States Government is to transfer or delegate to the government of the Ryukyu Islands all functions that need not be reserved to the United States as administering authority, and to eliminate all controls which are not essential to the maintenance of the security of the United States military installations in the Ryukyus or of the islands themselves. These policies were announced by the late President Kennedy on 19 March 1962.

There has been

There has been a steady growth in the functions of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands during its 14 years; and this process has been accelerated during the past 14 months. In that period alone we have reduced United States surveillance over entries and exits, and have adopted streamlined procedures which have resulted in a much more efficient and satisfactory immigration service. The jurisdiction of the courts of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands has been increased by transferring to them from Civil Administration courts additional categories of cases. At one stroke I abolished 39 Civil Administration ordinances, or more than one-fourth of the total, and have since rescinded many more. The Chief Executive now has the authority to select his department directors. The coordination of draft legislation between the Civil Administration and the Government of the Ryukyu Islands has been streamlined to the point where it is no longer a problem.

We have transferred

We have transferred to GRI almost full responsibility for the entry, exit and control of Ryukyuan vessels; for processing applications for foreign investment; for controlling the import and use of all drugs except narcotics; for all construction work not involving external aid funds; and for approval of employment of non-Ryukyuan.

These are only examples of functions transferred in the past 14 months. This is a continuing program which will be executed until we have transferred to the Government of the Ryukyu Islands all functions which the United States does not need to retain in the interest of accomplishing the free world defense mission. The rate of transfer is determined largely by the capability of the local government to absorb new functions. It should be understood that each transfer involves the preliminary training of personnel to perform the new responsibilities.

Transfers in some

Transfers in some cases must await the enactment of legislation, and in some cases the creation of new government agencies to handle the added responsibilities.

A. VIABLE ECONOMY

The mission of developing a viable economy has been difficult, though much has been accomplished. The difficulty lies in the fact that the Ryukyu Islands are deficient in most of the natural resources considered essential for the development of industry. There are no commercially exploitable metals or fossil fuels. There is a serious shortage of arable land for the dense and growing population. Resources are limited to an inadequate amount of average land, a fairly extensive range and quantity of marine products, and the actual and potential skills of more than 900,000 people.

Despite the obstacles, there has been impressive economic growth.

In the fiscal year ending 30 June 1965, the Gross National Product increased by 12.2 percent over that of the previous year. This is not a temporary phenomenon. For the past six years the Gross National Product has increased at an average rate of 13.2 percent per year. I doubt if you can find a higher growth rate, or as high, anywhere else in Asia.

Per capita income has increased from \$121 in U. S. Fiscal Year 1953 to \$355 in U. S. Fiscal Year 1965. The FY 1964 figure was \$322. I predict continued rapid growth in the future.

The nature of the Ryukyuan economy has changed greatly in the past decade. New manufacturing plants, standing on former crop and pasture land, produce such commodities as canned pineapple, flour, plywood, soft drinks, beer, transistor radios and particle boards.

The past year has seen especially rapid development of Ryukyuan industry.

We have new

We have new cement plant near Nago which meets about 55 percent of the total requirements. A new heat temper sheet glass manufacturing plant has a maximum daily capacity of 2,000 square feet. Another new plant manufactures construction machinery parts and steel frames, and assembles aluminum and steel window sashes. Just last month plants for spinning and weaving cotton textile products went into operation.

The top industry of the Ryukyus remains the production of centrifugal sugar. Production of cane during the 1964-65 season reached a new high of 2.5 million metric tons, as compared with less than half a million tons six years ago. This year's crop processed into 274,107 metric tons of centrifugal sugar as compared with about 57,000 tons only four years ago. Ryukyuan farmers increased their receipts from this year's sugar crop by about \$7 million over last year's income from this source.

Improved and Improving

IMPROVED AND IMPROVING STANDARD OF LIVING

The steady and rapid growth of the economy has naturally been accompanied by a rise in the standard of living of the Ryukyuan people.

Our estimate is that the level of living of more than 900,000 people who reside in the islands is at least three times that of the 568,000 who lived here just before World War II. The Ryukyuan people are far better off, materially speaking, than they have ever been before in their history.

There is a new and greatly improved school system, with more than three times the number of classrooms that existed before the battle in 1945.

We are especially proud of the new University of the Ryukyus, which is now an effective institution, and potentially a truly great university.

Extraordinary changes have occurred in public health and life expectancy. Life expectancy at birth has increased 20 years since the war and now compares almost exactly with figures in the United States.

Epidemic diseases are

Epidemic diseases are unknown; malaria has been eliminated; and the remaining diseases are succumbing before the attack of modern medicine.

The rapid economic growth that has occurred in the Ryukyus is attributable to the hard work of the Ryukyuan people, who are assisted by an effective local government; by economic aid received from the United States and Japan; by the spending of United States military forces; and by the investment of foreign capital. United States appropriated economic assistance has amounted to about \$245 million since the end of the war, while spending of United States military forces which has a direct effect on the Ryukyuan economy amounts to about \$120 million per year.

The Ryukyuan economy is not yet truly viable, because approximately 45 percent of the national income is derived from external aid and the spending of United States military forces.

One important fact

One important fact that must be faced is that the internal resources of the Ryukyu Islands are not sufficient to maintain the population at its present level of living, much less to increase that level, and external assistance will be required during the foreseeable future.

We receive varied reactions from visitors to the islands as to how much has been achieved. Those who visit the islands after long periods of absence are amazed at the change. Young people from Tokyo and Osaka fresh from the delights of modern city life in Japan, tend to be unimpressed. I was tremendously impressed when I arrived on 1 August 1964, because I had last seen the islands during and just after the great battle of 1945. I can assure you that Okinawa was then a wasteland, with practically nothing remaining above ground. From that perspective, Okinawa of 1965 appears to be almost a miracle.

The Challenge of

THE CHALLENGE OF THE FUTURE

I hope I have not left with you the impression that I believe the Ryukyu Islands to be a paradise in all respects. We do have some remaining problems; but what area of the world does not? The tasks ahead are large, but I believe they will be accomplished.

We need to improve the opportunities of farmers, who have not shared fully in the advancing prosperity. This can be done only by further rationalizing the industry, upgrading it scientifically, learning to produce more per unit area at less cost, and expanding markets. This is especially important in the case of Ryukyuan sugar, which because of high production costs cannot compete on the world market, and which exists only because it is heavily subsidized in the Japanese market.

We must continue to expand manufacturing, making maximum use of the limited resources.

However, many new

However, many new industries will have to import raw materials and fuels and produce commodities, using the skill of Ryukyuan workers, that will sell at a markup.

We have met the present needs of Okinawa for electric power, but must devise means to meet the expanding needs of the future. We are already designing a large new electric power plant. In the meantime, we are systematically making electric power available to the population of the other islands.

We have tripled the number of school classrooms over the prewar figure, but we have not yet completed the formidable task of providing enough classrooms or equipping all classrooms properly.

We have vastly expanded medical facilities, but we still suffer from a shortage of trained and qualified medical personnel.

We have completed

We have completed the unemployment insurance, workmen's compensation and government employee retirement portions of a comprehensive social security system and have made a good beginning on medical insurance. We must complete the medical insurance program and provide retirement, survivors and old age assistance benefits for the entire population.

I have no doubt that these and other challenges will be met through the cooperation of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands and the Governments of the United States and Japan.

LONG RANGE PLAN

United States policy is to raise the levels of public health, educational and welfare services to reach those of comparable areas of Japan. Our approach to this task has been to develop a Joint USCAR-GRI Long Range Plan, which we are now implementing.

This is a

This is a comprehensive development plan for the period Fiscal Year 1965 through Fiscal Year 1971, prepared by the Government of the Ryukyu Islands and the U. S. Civil Administration. In its present form, the plan predicts an acceleration in the present rate of expansion of the gross national product, the national income and per capita income. The plan anticipates that the Gross National Product will, by the end of FY 1971, approximately double the figure of Fiscal Year 1964, and that national income and per capita income will rise at proportionate rates. The plan assumes that there will be comparable annual increase in revenues from all sources, including those derived by the Government of the Ryukyu Islands from domestic sources and from external grants-in-aid by the United States and the Government of Japan.

The long range

The long range plan covers eleven major areas of development:

agriculture, forestry and fisheries; trade and industry; transportation;

land conservation; public utilities; labor and welfare; health and medical

services; government services; education; assistance to municipalities;

and other government operations.

The education program includes measures for accelerating the

building of schools; for the provision of modern school equipment, textbooks,

library books and supplies; and for improving the quality of teaching. The

plan provides for the completion of a comprehensive social insurance

system covering all of the Ryukyuan people. Measures are included for

the rapid expansion of agriculture, trade and industry. The external aid

funds necessary for the completion of this plan will be requested annually

from the Governments of the United States and Japan.

Carrying out the

Carrying out the long range plan will require a lifting of the

ceiling on U.S. appropriated economic assistance to the Ryukyus presently

imposed by the Price Act. In July of this year I requested that the Price

Act be appropriately amended; and a bill to accomplish this is presently

before the Congress.

U.S.-JAPAN COOPERATION

We are working very closely with the Government of Japan on

matters relating to the Ryukyus. The Government of Japan has been

invited to participate in the provision of economic assistance to the

Government of the Ryukyu Islands in the maximum quantity that meets

the standards of need and the capability of efficient absorption. We are

cooperating with Japan not only on matters of economic aid, but on all

other matters with which the United States and Japan can work together to

promote the welfare and well-being of the inhabitants of the Ryukyu Islands.

Our work with

Our work with the Government of Japan on aid and other matters is accomplished in great part through two committees established last year. The U. S. - Japan-Ryukyus Technical Committee in Naha considers all matters arising in the administration and implementation of Japan's economic assistance to the Ryukyu Islands. The U. S. - Japan Consultative Committee, which had a meeting in Tokyo on 20 September, coordinates the policies of the United States and Japan for making economic and technical assistance available to the Ryukyus from the Government of Japan, and conducts consultations on other matters on which the two countries can cooperate in continuing to promote the well-being of the inhabitants of the islands. The establishment of these committees has resulted in smooth and efficient handling of Japan's aid to the Ryukyus through close cooperation.

We have had

We have had cordial relationships with the Government of Japan, and we expect this to continue. We were especially glad to welcome Prime Minister Sato to Okinawa last month. I feel that this visit enhanced the friendly relationship already existing between our two Governments, and contributed materially to strengthening U. S. -Japan cooperation.

CONCLUSION

I want to thank you again for your having invited me to be with you today. I am now at the disposal of your chairman, who has indicated that he will open the meeting for your questions.

外務省北米局長殿



総南連第 2642 号

昭和 40 年 10 月 5 日

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

ワトソン高等弁務官の記者会見テキスト送付について
往電第 222 号に関し、ワトソン高等弁務官の 10 月 1 日那
覇空港着帰任の際の記者会見テキスト参考まで 1 部別添送付
する。

本信写送付先 外務省北米局長

総 理 府

UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS
Naha, Okinawa
October 1, 1965

MEMORANDUM TO NEWS MEDIA: 65-94

Public Affairs Department
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NEWS CONFERENCE OF HIGH COMMISSIONER ALBERT WATSON,
II, UPON HIS ARRIVAL FROM TOKYO AT
THE NAHA CIVIL AIR TERMINAL,
AT 11:30 A.M., OCT. 1, 1965

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, I'm back again. I see you still have the weather under control. Congratulations for such a beautiful day. We had nice weather in Japan while I was there -- Tokyo and vicinity. There were many people there -- seemed to be more than ever and more traffic. Do you have any questions?

REPORTER: (interpreted) It was reported in one of the dispatches coming from Tokyo that the High Commissioner would like to study the question of the public election of the Chief Executive with the GRI Executive Branch, GRI Legislative Branch and USC&R. On the other hand, in his appearance on the NHK telecast it is reported that the High Commissioner has stated that he has no authority on the question of the public election of the Chief Executive. There seems to be a contradiction between the two reports. Could you elaborate on this?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: There is no contradiction. The matter of the public election of the Chief Executive has been and is under continuous study. I still have no authority to make any change, however.

REPORTER: (interpreted) I would like to ask you a question in connection with this, the phrase that the matter of the public election of the Chief Executive is still under consideration. Does that mean it is being studied with a view towards arriving at a conclusion sometime in the future?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Yes, it is being studied and I think the word 'consideration' might be not a good word. It is under study now, and we may arrive at a conclusion in the future that something should be done about it or that nothing should be done about it. In any event, we will come out with some conclusion.

REPORTER: (interpreted) Would you say it would be in the near future?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: It depends how long ^{my} braintrust takes to complete its study. After the braintrust is finished then I have to start in. Actually, I've already started a little bit -- fourteen months ago.

REPORTER: (interpreted) The Vice Minister of the Ministry of Autonomy, Mr. Kanemaru, is here visiting Okinawa in lieu of or on behalf of Minister Nagayama. It is reported that the High Commissioner had something to do with the restricted schedule imposed on Mr. Kanemaru. I would like to know if this is true?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I am responsible for all visitors who come here for whatever purpose. It is part of the High Commissioner's duties. I don't know what you mean by his 'restricted' schedule. He is following the schedule of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. As previously scheduled, I understand they're up at Nago right now.

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(Over)

REPORTER: (interpreted) During the High Commissioner's meeting with the Prime Minister it was reported that the High Commissioner thoroughly understood the proposal made by the Prime Minister on GOJ sharing one half of education costs. I would like to know if the phrase 'thoroughly understood' means he has -- he is inclined -- to accept the proposal as proposed by the GOJ or is there something which must be ironed out in the future?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: It doesn't mean that I propose or favor any particular solution. It simply means that I was given an explanation and I fully understood or comprehended what was said to me. This matter is something that will be taken up, I feel certain, at the CONCOM meeting -- the next one which, I believe, will take place this month. Before I take any action -- either up or down or right or left or backwards or forwards -- the matter must be discussed in the Consultative Committee -- if it is to be discussed at all. I have no official proposal from the Japanese Government on this matter.

REPORTER: (interpreted) Should the public election of the Chief Executive become impossible, would there be a method whereby the Chief Executive is -- whereby instead of appointing the Chief Executive would there be a method of selecting the Chief Executive by means of the indirect election by the Legislature -- as reportedly hinted or stated by the High Commissioner during his meeting with the foreign correspondents -- in other words, would it be possible, are you hinting that it might be possible to make such a change?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: The word 'possible' always seems to confuse us who use it. One of the questions I was asked by the foreign correspondents was, would it be possible to move the base entirely away from here and put it, say, at Guam, for example. And in answer to that question, I said all things are 'possible'.

I don't know whether the Japanese language recognizes the difference that we have between the English words 'possible' and 'probable'. There is quite a big difference, and I think we would have to say that a lot of things are 'possible'. They may or may not be 'probable', which is really, I think, what you are interested in if I understand correctly.

That is, whether or not it would be 'probable' that if a popular election were not to be held would it be or is it 'probable' that we would have indirect election by the Legislature. The answer is, I won't say it's 'probable' at all -- I have no way to predict what is going to happen or what needs to happen. I can't say now whether we are likely to do this or whether we are not likely to do it because again it is one of those matters which is under study. It falls in the same category as the popular election of the Chief Executive question -- in that what we are doing is talking about the method of selecting the Chief Executive.

There is one method that is prescribed now by the Executive Order -- which is my -- which is the authority which I must adhere to. There are other possible solutions. One is to have the man who can sing the best song be the Chief Executive. We would have a board of judges who would determine who has the best voice. That's a possible solution -- it's very improbable, however, very unlikely that we would use such a solution. There's another one -- we could say the man who has traveled the farthest in the world could be selected. Another solution might be to pick the man who has never traveled at all -- who has never left, say, the city of Naha or Nago or one of the other cities here, Koza, for example.

There are so many possibilities, but at this moment I would say that there is no 'probable' method -- one that's probably to be selected over any of the others -- including the one which is now in effect, of course. I understand the reason for your interest in this subject and I share your interest.

REPORTER: General, according to the reports we have received today, Mr. Sato is going to invite you to Tokyo again sometime in November. Will you accept it?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: As I look over your shoulder, I see a fisherman working out here in the water, and I wonder if perhaps your question is not that sort of an activity. Actually, no invitation was extended to me except in general terms -- very. It went something like this -- I hope you can come again -- but there was no specific invitation. I'll have to wait and see what the situation is at any time that I am extended an invitation to see whether I can leave or not. (Noise of passing jet). You know, I don't like war and I don't like noise, but I think we have to have both to keep our freedom. It's a pleasure. Thank you very much. I'll see you soon again.

外務省北米局長殿

総南連第3049号

昭和40年11月11日

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

マーティン高等弁務官政治顧問の演説テキスト送付について

11月10日、琉球東急ホテルで開催された那覇西ロータリークラブの会合における「ベトナム情勢の変化」と題するマーティン高等弁務官政治顧問の演説テキスト1部別添送付する。

本信写送付先 外務省北米局長 (附属物1部)

総 理 府

NEWS RELEASE

PLEASE NOTE DATE



UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT NAHA, OKINAWA

(APO SAN FRANCISCO 96248)

TEL: 72941 EXT. 32 72153

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November 9, 1965

To Editors: This unofficial Japanese translation of attached news release is provided to assist you.

1965年11月10日(水曜)午後1時から琉球東急ホテルで開催された那覇西ロータリークラブの会合に於けるジェイムス マーチン高等弁務官政治顧問の挨拶。

「ベトナム情勢の変化」

中山会長、来賓並びに那覇西ロータリークラブの会員の皆様。

私は皆様の御招待にあづかつて、本日、皆様の前でお話しのできることを光榮に存じております。又、特に演題はベトナム問題にしてくれと頼まれたことを喜んでおります。

ベトナム問題については多くの人たちが確実な情報よりも寧ろスローガンに基づいて判断しているように思われるのであります。沖縄が現在、このベトナム事変に参加しているアメリカ軍の主なる兵站並びに輸送集合基地であるために、ベトナム問題は沖縄の住民にとつても^{大きな}関心の的であります。ベトナムについての基本的な事実はこの機会に私が立証しようと考えている次の4つの命題に要約することができますと思ひます。

1、ベトコンは国家主義的なチャンピオン(花形闘士)ではなくて、北ベトナムによる侵略の代行者であつて、南ベトナム住民の大多数はベトコンに対して反感をもっている。

2、アメリカの目的は単に南ベトナムを援助することであつて、戦争を拡大することではない。従つてアメリカは北ベトナムが侵略をやめると同時に戦闘を中止する。

3、南ベトナムの住民や政府は増強されたアメリカの軍事力に支持されて、ベトコンとの戦闘で形勢は一変している。

4、ハノイ政府が侵略的野望を棄てないので、この戦争は将来も永く続くものと思われるが、しかし、世界大戦や沖縄を危険におとし入れるような情勢に発展する可能性は少ない。

ではこれら4つの命題について順を追つて検討しましょう。まづ最初にベトコンについて。

1、ベトコン

日本や沖縄ではベトナムの真の国家主義者たちはベトコンの味方であり、大多数の住民がベトコンを支持していると一般に考えられております。このような誤解はマスコミのかたよつた報道にも原因していると思ひます。

事実は南ベトナムの国民はすべて国家主義者であつて、その大半はベトコンに

断乎として反対しているのです。

フランス撤退後の南ベトナムの政界で活躍している指導者のうち、ごく少数を例外として、そのすべてがかつて反フランス活動に参加した経歴をもっているし、過去の植民地時代への反発は依然として旺盛である。ゴ・ジン・ジエムの欠陥はともかく、彼は国民の支持を求めた英雄的ナショナリストであつて、祖国を外国の支配から解放しようと思つたのであつた。ジエムの失脚以来、南ベトナムの政治は不安定な状態を続けているが、しかし南ベトナムの有力な政治家のうち、ベトコンに対する戦闘に反対したものは一人としていないし、またベトコンの側には、名の通つた指導的ナショナリストが、ただの一人もいないのである。南ベトナム人は、指導権や政略や国内の政治問題をめぐつて論争してきたけれども、南ベトナムの征服をねらう共産主義者の動きに抵抗するという点においては、終始一つにまとまつてきたのである。いまフランスの大統領は、南ベトナムの敗北を意味しかねないような中立化の実現を図つてゐるが、そのフランスに対して、ベトナムのナショナリストたちが強力を抵抗を示している事実は、つぎのことを物語つてゐる。すなわち、これらナショナリストは、共産主義者やその他のいかなる外国勢力に対しても、その独立を放棄するものではないという不動の決意をもつてゐる、ということである。

南ベトナムについて、もつと注目すべきことなか、同国の政府が実に幅広い国民の支持を得てゐる、という事がある。もしも、これが事実でないとなれば、南ベトナム政府側が人口の7割を擁する地域を掌握しているのに対し、ベトコンの支配下にあるといわれる地域は、新聞が好んでのせる地図の上ではひじょうに広大のように見えるが、実際には、それらの地域はうつそうとしたジャングルや険しい山岳地帯などのように、軍事行動の上で自分を守るのに都合がよいとしても、ごく僅かの人だけが住んでいない地域に限られてゐるという事実は、どのように説明できるであろうか。ベトコンは、自分たちは人海のなかを泳いで行動できるのだと高言してはばからないが、これはまったく事実に反する。ここで、いかに数多くの避難民が、共産主義者から南ベトナムの政府側の方に逃れてきたかを思い起してみよう。1954年のベトナムの分割後、約100万の避難民が北から逃れた。これは、南から北へ行つたものの約9倍にもなるのである。もつと最近、とくにこの一年間、ベトコンのテロや抑圧を恐れて、政府軍の掌握下にある地域に逃げてくる避難民の数が多くなつてゐる。こうして現在では、これらの避難民の収容施設に入つてゐるものの数は常時40万近くになつてゐる。また、ベトコンの3倍にのぼつてゐる南ベトナム政府軍の大部分が志願兵から成つていて、ひじょうに困難な条件のもとで多くの死傷者を

出しながら、なおも戦意を失うことなく、7年間にわたつてよく戦つてゐるという事実は注目されてよい。このような事実は、決して傭兵にみられるものではなく、みずからの信念のために戦つてゐる国民の軍隊であるからこそみられるものである。このほかにも、具体的な事実をかぞえ上げることはできるが、こゝに述べたことから、つぎの点が明らかになると思う。すなわち、南ベトナム国民の圧倒的多数は、ベトコンに反対して政府側についており、また彼らは熱烈なナショナリストとして自分の自由を守るために懸命の戦いを行つてゐるというのがそれである。

つぎに、目をベトコンに転じて、その実態を眺めてみよう。1954年、ベトナムが事実上分割された当時、南ベトナムで行動してゐたベトミン軍のうち共産側の指揮下にあつたものの大部分は、南ベトナムから17度線(分割線)の北に移動するよう北から命令されたが、残る3分の1は、ジュネーブ協定の規定に反して、南にとどまつて地下に潜入し、つぎの指令を待つよう命令されたのである。南ベトナムは1950年以来、多くの国々によつてその独立が認められて来たが、分割後、南ベトナムは北ベトナムとの統一の望みを次第に失つた。

それは1954年の分割後、南北ベトナムの統一のために国連管理による自由選挙が計画されてゐたにも拘らず、その真の自由選挙を北ベトナムが拒否したからである。南ベトナムは、多くの問題をかかえてゐたにもかかわらず、かなりの社会的、経済的な進歩を遂げはじめた。これに反して、北ベトナムは、鬼力のない状況にあつた。たとえば、1954年から59年にかけて、南ベトナムの米の生産高は二割の増加を示したのに比べて、北ベトナムでは実に一割の減産をみたのである。これに加えてハノイ政権は、その指導者がみずから認めてゐるように、各地の強制的な収用に応じない農民に対して、大規模な弾圧恐怖政治を行つた。南ベトナムが一人に崩壊しないことが明らかになったことを知つたハノイ政権の指導者は、1957年に指令を出して、まさにこのような目的に備えておらかじめ南ベトナム内に残しておいた旧ベトミン軍事要員に対して、ゲリラ戦を再開するよう命じたのであつた。いかなるゲリラ戦でも防衛に立つた側が、いちじるしく不利になるものであるが、南ベトナム政府は、当時はまだ比較的小規模であつたゲリラ活動を相手にして、しばしばよくこれを制圧していつたのである。ところが、南ベトナムが容易に屈服しないと見てとつたハノイ政権は、その攻勢を強化していつた。同政権は1959年に、はじめは徐々に攻勢に転じていつたが、1960年になつて、いわゆる「民族解放戦線」の結成とともに急激な攻勢にでて、非常に大規模な浸透作戦を開始し、訓練を受けた幹部や物資ばかりか、ついに北ベトナムの正規軍部隊を南に送り込んだのである。つまり、ベトナムの事態については、まず北が南に対する侵略の規模を拡大していつたの

であつて、その結果、とにかく一國が他の國による大規模の侵略を受けているという状況が生れた、ということになる。このようにベトナムの情勢を眺めてみると、ベトコンはナショナリストの反乱分子ではなくてむしろ外部の勢力によつてあやつられている組織化された破壊活動と侵略行為の手先であることが、はつきりするのである。

II. アメリカの目的

ところで沖繩には、ベトナムの戦争を拡大した責任はアメリカにある、と考える人が少なくない。しかしながら、これは事実とはおよそ程遠いものである。

ベトナムの情勢の発端と、これまでの経過をよく吟味すれば、南ベトナムが終始、防衛する側に立つてきたことは明らかである。南ベトナムはいまだかつて北の政權を転覆しようとか、あるいはその領土を奪取しようなどとしたことはなく、
①だ自衛のために必要で適切な手段を講じてきたにすぎない。同じように、
②アメリカのベトナムとの関係もまた、北によつて戦闘が拡大され、南ベトナムが自由を維持するための援助を必要とする度合に応じて行われて来たのである。

1954年にベトナムが分割された直後、南ベトナム政府の援助をはじめたとき、アメリカの援助のほとんど全部が経済援助であつた。当時の軍事援助は、きわめて小規模のもので、その目的は南ベトナムの経済と社会の発達を助けるため、
③まず国内の平和と安全を確立するというところに置かれていた。けれども、共産側がその攻撃を激化するにつれて、アメリカは、次第に多くの援助を軍事上の目的に振り向けなければならなくなつた。北ベトナムの爆撃や、アメリカ軍のベトナム派兵の増強などは、この見地から考えられなければならないと思う。

④これらのアメリカ側の行動以前において、北ベトナムは1964年にその正規軍を戦場に投入することによつて、ベトナムの戦いをついには公然たる侵略戦争に化してしまつたのであつた。ゲリラ戦では一人のテロがおれば、多くの人たちが長い月日をかけてようやく築き上げたものを、一瞬のうちに破壊してしまうことができるわけで、守る側に立つた方が不利な立場に置かれるものであるが、
⑤こういう不利を考えてみれば、私たちがハノイ政權の戦争拡大に対してとつている行動は、適切であり、慎重であり、自制的なものである。私たちは、戦争を拡大するものではなく、戦争を阻止しようとしているのである。これまでアメリカがくり返し言明しているように、もしも北ベトナム側が、南ベトナムの平和な将来の建設に干渉しないのであれば、アメリカとしては北の爆撃はもちろ
⑥ん、その他のすべての軍事行動を停止する用意がある。アメリカは北ベトナムとの話し合いに無条件で応ずる旨たびたび申し入れて来たし、この申し入れは今でも有効である。

III. 形勢の変化

去る5月にアメリカはハノイ政府に戦闘を中止して、交渉をもつ機会を与えるために一時、北ベトナムの爆撃を中止したのであるが、ハノイ側が、この提案を激しい侮蔑的な態度で拒絶したので、アメリカは爆撃を再び続行し、南ベトナムに於ける軍事力を強力に増強し始めた。

現在、南ベトナムに於けるアメリカの軍事力が強化されたために戦闘の形勢は一変し、南ベトナム政府軍はアメリカ軍の応援で、ベトコンに対して守勢から攻勢に転じている。御承知の通り、アメリカは1954年に始めて、サイゴン政府の要請に応じて南ベトナムへ軍事顧問を送つた。その数は南ベトナム政府が
①1961年に援助の拡大をアメリカに要請するまでは極めて少なかつたのである。その後次第に増加して、今年の1月に北ベトナムの物資補給ルートを爆撃し始めた頃には1万6千人になり、正規の戦闘部隊を投入するようになった3月頃までには2万4千に達したのである。7月以降、その数は大幅に増加して7万5千
②から現在は15万になつている。アメリカの軍事力はその後も増強されており、最終目標は発表されていないが、アメリカが目的を達成するために十分な兵員と資材を送ることは明らかである。

③アメリカはその占領地域と広範囲に展開している南ベトナム政府軍に物資を補給するためにベトナム沿岸に新たに港湾施設を整備している。又、中部の高地における地上作戦を有利に展開するために、奥地のアン・クエにヘリコプター基地を建設した。アメリカの飛行機やヘリコプターは現在4つの大きな空軍基地から発進しており、その他の空軍基地は現在建設中である。

戦闘は主として60万の南ベトナム陸軍がやつているが、アメリカの援助で、
④の勇敢な遊軍の作戦能率は著しく向上している。ベトコンが夏季攻勢を始め頃、南ベトナム政府軍の戦死者とベトコンの戦死者の数は同じ位であつたが、8月までにはベトコンの戦死者の数は政府軍の戦死者の三倍になつている。政府軍がベトコンに対して攻勢に転ずるようになってから、政府軍の損害は7月の1,300人から8月には800人、9月には567人と大幅に減少している。

南ベトナム政府軍はベトコンの夏季攻勢を喰ひ止めただけでなく、アメリカ軍の応援でベトコンが数年来支配していた地域に侵攻し始めたのである。ジャングルの中にあるベトコンの要塞をB52爆撃機が高度から爆撃したためにベトコンは嘗つて休養と新たな攻撃準備のために利用していた安全地帯を失つたのである。征服の第三段階、つまり総攻撃によつて夏季攻勢を有利に展開しようと考えていたベトコンは後退しなければならないようになってきている。アメリカの援助とグーエン・カオ・キ首相の指導力によつて政府軍が非常に勢を盛り返したために、多くのベトコンは戦闘を止めて降服するようになってきたし、また、政府軍の方でも脱走兵が事実上なくなつたのである。

かようにして、戦争の暗い雲の間から希望の光が再びかがやき出して形勢は一変したのである。

IV、将来の見通し

形勢は一変したとはいうものの永い間、生活の手段として戦争に参加しているベトコンはこれまで度々敗北したことがあるし、又、彼等の指導者たちは北ベトナムの支持が十分につく限り戦争を止めようとしなない狂信的な共産主義者である。北ベトナムは現在、兵員や物資を浸透させるために非常な犠牲を払っているが、これらの浸透は^{なかなか}止みそうにない。北ベトナムから毎月、千名位の兵隊がベトコンに合流している。

しかし、いくら狂信的な共産主義者でも、急速に増強されつつある南ベトナム軍やアメリカやその他の国の連合軍に支持されているベトナムの国民の希望を無視して勝利を得ることはできない。結局、戦闘の停止は避けられないのである。戦闘は今後、数年間つづくかもしれないが、南ベトナム政府の支配下にある平和的繁栄地域が今後益々広がってゆくことも予想されることである。最も狂信的な者をのぞいて、すべてのベトコンが自分たちが間違っていたことを認めて、一般民衆と共に法律の規定に従うようになるであろう。そして、ついに、ハノイ政府も光明を見出すであろう。

ハノイ側には勿論、戦争を直ちに終結させるための選択権がある。交渉のための門戸は常に開かれている。われわれは当然、ハノイ側が近いうちに交渉を求めるとを希望しているが、しかし、これはハノイ側が、以前にも妥協しようとしなかつたことから考えて、望みがないように思われる。

又、一方アメリカは、戦争の規模を拡大しないように最大の注意を払うであろう。われわれは世界大戦を望んでいるのではなく、又、このような戦争でわれわれと反対の立場に立つ人たちがそれを望んではいないと確信している。

沖縄は現在、戦争地域の全く外にある。ハノイやその他の国が沖縄を攻撃することをたくらんでいることは到底考えられない。われわれはとに角、如何なる方面からの不意の空襲に対してもこれを撃退する準備ができています。

沖縄は重要な役割を果たしているが、決して危険な状況にはないので、安心してよい。沖縄がその役割を果たすことによつて、太平洋地域における真の安全と沖縄の日本復帰が早く到来することにもなるのである。

完

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UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION
OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
NAHA, OKINAWA

(APO SAN FRANCISCO 96248)

TEL: 72941 EXT: 32
72153

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NEWS RELEASE: 65-416
November 9, 1965

TEXT OF REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY MR. JAMES V. MARTIN, JR.,
POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER,
AT A MEETING OF THE N.H. WEST ROTARY CLUB
AT THE RYUKYU TOKYU HOTEL,
1 P.M., WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10, 1965

"THE TURNING TIDE IN VIET-NAM"

President Nakayama, guests, and members of the Rotary Club of Naha

West:

I am honored to have been invited to speak to you and I am especially pleased that the topic requested was Viet-Nam.

This subject is one on which a great many people appear willing to form judgments on the basis of slogans rather than solid information. It is also a subject of real concern to the people of Okinawa, because Okinawa is a primary logistic and staging base for the American forces now participating in the conflict.

The cardinal facts about Viet-Nam can be stated in four propositions which it is my intention to substantiate on this occasion.

First: The Viet-Cong are not nationalistic champions, but rather are agents of aggression by North Viet-Nam, and they are opposed by the bulk of the people of South Viet-Nam.

Second: The purpose of the United States is only to help South Viet-Nam, not to enlarge the war; and the United States will stop fighting as soon as North Viet-Nam stops its aggression.

Third: The American military build-up in South Viet-Nam is already helping the people and their government to turn the tide against the Viet-Cong.

Fourth: While there is still likely to be a long fight ahead because Hanoi is reluctant to abandon its aggressive ambitions, the danger of the conflict growing into big world war or of endangering Okinawa is very slim. Now then, let us examine each of these four propositions in the order I have stated them, starting with the Viet-Cong.

(Over)

I. THE VIET-CONG

It is commonly assumed in both Japan and Okinawa that the real nationalists in Viet-Nam are on the side of the Viet-Cong and that the Viet-Cong have the support of most of the people. These misapprehensions have been encouraged by slanted reporting in the mass communications media. The fact is that virtually all of the people of South Viet-Nam are nationalists, and the great bulk of them are determinedly opposed to the Viet-Cong.

With few exceptions, those who have been active in politics in South Viet-Nam since the withdrawal of France all participated in anti-French activities, and reaction against the colonial past remains high. Ngo Dinh Diem, whatever his faults may have been, was a popular nationalist hero who strove to free his country from alien control. Despite continued political instability since the overthrow of Diem, no major South Vietnamese political figure has opposed the fight against the Viet-Cong, and there is not a single well-known nationalist leader on the Viet-Cong side. The South Vietnamese have quarreled among themselves over leadership, over tactics, and over internal political matters, but they have been united in opposing the Communist effort to conquer South Viet-Nam. The strong reaction against France, whose President has been attempting to bring about a version of neutralization that would amount to a defeat for South Viet-Nam, indicates the unshakable determination of the nationalists in South Viet-Nam not to lose their independence to Communists or any other outsiders.

One of the most remarkable things about South Viet-Nam is the extent to which the Government does indeed command wide support among the people. How else can you explain the fact that the Government controls the areas of the country which contain over 70 per cent of the population while the Viet-Cong, whose area of alleged control appears to be so very large on the maps newspapers like to publish, are confined primarily to areas of dense forest and rugged terrain offering natural protection for their operations but containing very few people. The Viet-Cong boast of swimming in the sea of people is entirely false. Again consider the massive flow of refugees away from the Communists and to the side of South Viet-Nam. Following the 1954 partition, almost a million refugees fled from the North, some nine

times as many as went the other way. More recently -- particularly in the past year -- large numbers of refugees have been fleeing from the terror and repression of the Viet-Cong to the areas under the firm control of government forces. Today there are, at any one time in the special camps established for their benefit, close to 400,000 of these recent refugees. Note also that the government troops, who outnumber the Viet-Cong by some three to one, are made up overwhelmingly of volunteers, and they have fought for seven years under extremely difficult conditions, suffering tremendous casualties, but without losing their morale. This is not the behavior of a mercenary army but of popular troops fighting for a cause they believe in. I could continue to pile up facts, but I believe what I have said will indicate that the people of South Viet-Nam are overwhelmingly on the side of the government and against the Viet-Cong and, as ardent nationalists, are putting up a tremendous battle to retain their freedom.

Now let's look at the Viet-Cong and try to see just who they are.

At the time of the de facto partition of Viet-Nam in 1954, the majority of those Viet-Minh forces which were under Communist control, but were operating in what was to become South Viet-Nam, were ordered north across the demarcation line. The remaining Communist troops, approximately a third of the total, were, contrary to the Geneva agreements, ordered to stay in the South to go underground and await further orders. In the years following the partition, South Viet-Nam, which since 1950 had been recognized as independent by many countries, gradually lost hope of reunification with North Viet-Nam because North Viet-Nam refused to permit the genuine free elections supervised by the U. N. which had been planned to unify the two halves of Viet-Nam. South Viet-Nam, despite innumerable difficulties, began to make considerable social and economic progress. By contrast the North presented an unattractive picture. While the rice harvest of South Viet-Nam increased 20 per cent between 1954 and 1959, that of the North actually declined by 10 per cent. In addition, the Hanoi regime, by admission of its own leaders, carried out a wide campaign of terror and repression among its own peasants who were not happy to be forcibly deprived of their land.

When the rulers of Hanoi saw that the South was clearly not going to collapse of its own accord, in 1957 they ordered the recommencement of guerrilla operations by the old Communist-controlled Viet-Minh troops which had been deliberately left behind in South Viet-Nam just for such a purpose. Despite the serious handicaps of the defensive side in any guerrilla war, the Government of South Viet-Nam was able for a while to do an adequate job of containing what were still fairly minor-scale guerrilla actions. Seeing that the South was not going to buckle easily, Hanoi then stepped up the pace, gradually at first in 1959 and then drastically in 1960 when it formed the so-called "National Liberation Front" and began very large-scale infiltration from the North of trained cadres, supplies and finally regular North Vietnamese army units. In other words, the story in Viet-Nam is one of the North escalating the scale of its aggression against South Viet-Nam until today we have what is in fact a large-scale invasion of one country by another. This brief recapitulation makes it clear that the Viet-Cong are not nationalist rebels but rather a tool for organized subversion and aggression manipulated by an outside power.

II. U. S. OBJECTIVES

Many people in Okinawa think of the United States as being responsible for the escalation of the war in South Viet-Nam, but this is hardly the case. If one looks carefully at the record of the origin and development of the present situation, it is clear that the South has throughout been on the defensive. It has not been trying to destroy the government of the North or seize its territories. It has merely taken the necessary and appropriate measures required for self-defense. In the same way, American involvement in Viet-Nam has been proportional to the escalation of the struggle by the North and to the growing need of the South for aid to maintain its freedom. When we originally began to help the South Vietnamese Government immediately following partition, the great bulk of our aid was economic. What little military aid we gave was directed only at insuring adequate conditions of peace and security within South Viet-Nam so that economic and social progress could take place. But as the Communists increased their attack, the United

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(More)

States was forced to divert an increasing amount of its aid to military purposes. The bombing of the North and the increasing commitment of our own forces to the battlefield in Viet-Nam should be considered in this light. When, prior to these American actions, the North committed its own troops to the fighting in 1964, it took the final step in making this an open war of aggression. Considering the handicaps faced by the defensive forces, and I would like you to remember that in a few minutes one terrorist with a bomb can undo long months of work by many men, our response to the escalation of the war by Hanoi has been appropriate, measured and restrained. We do not seek to expand the scale of the war but to stop the war. The United States has repeatedly declared that it is prepared to stop the bombing of the North, and in fact all military actions, provided only that North Viet-Nam leave South Viet-Nam alone to work out its destiny in peace. The United States has repeatedly offered unconditionally to parley with North Viet-Nam, and the offer still stands.

III. TURNING THE TIDE

Having already once (last May) suspended its bombing of North Viet-Nam to give Hanoi a chance to quit or negotiate and having had its overture vehemently and contemptuously rejected by Hanoi, the United States resumed the bombing and has been proceeding vigorously with its military build-up in South Viet-Nam.

The current American military build-up in South Viet-Nam has already changed the odds in the conflict, and the South Vietnamese government forces with American help are shifting from defensive to offensive action against the Viet-Cong.

As you may know, the United States began sending military advisers to South Viet-Nam at Saigon's request in 1954. Their number was quite small, however, until 1961 when the Government of South Viet-Nam called upon the United States to increase its help. The number grew gradually. It was 16,000 when the United States began to bomb infiltration supply routes in North Viet-Nam in January of this year. It had reached 24,000 by March, when the United States began moving in regular combat units. The greatest increase has

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(Over)

come since July, rising from 75,000 to the present 150,000. The build-up is continuing at the same fast rate, and although the ultimate goal has not been announced, the obvious fact is that the United States will send enough men and material to do the job.

The Americans are building new port facilities along the Vietnamese coast to supply their own enclaves and the widely deployed government forces. The Americans have built a helicopter port inland at An Khe from which ground operations in the central highlands can be supported. American planes and helicopters operate out of four major air bases, and other air bases are under construction.

The South Vietnamese army of 600,000 men continues to carry the main burden of fighting, but American assistance has sharply increased the effectiveness of this brave army. When the Viet-Cong started their summer offensive they were killing as many government troops as they themselves were losing, but by August the Viet-Cong were losing three times as many as the government. At the same time that government operations against the Viet-Cong have been stepped up, government losses have been going down dramatically from 1,300 in July to 800 in August and 567 in September.

Not only did the government forces stop the Viet-Cong summer offensive cold, but allied Vietnamese and American forces have now begun invading areas where the Viet-Cong have been masters for several years. High altitude bombing of Viet-Cong jungle strongholds by B-52s has deprived the Viet-Cong of once completely reliable, safe havens where they could rest and prepare new attacks. The Viet-Cong who were hoping to have their summer offensive successfully launch Phase III of their conquest -- the mass assault phase -- are having to back-track. The remarkable resurgence of government strength, attributable to the leadership of Premier Nguyen Cao Ky as well as to American help, has caused many Viet-Cong to accept amnesty and quit fighting. It has also virtually ended desertion among government soldiers.

Thus, amid the dark clouds of war the light of hope has begun to shine again. The tide has turned.

IV. LOOKING FORWARD

Although the tide has turned, the Viet-Cong, who have followed warfare as a way of life for years, have encountered reverses before and their leaders are fanatical Communists who are not going to stop fighting so long as North Viet-Nam continues to support them adequately. There has been no let-up in infiltration of North Vietnamese fighters and materiel, though North Viet-Nam is now paying heavily to maintain that flow. About one thousand fighting men from the North join the Viet-Cong every month.

However, even fanaticism will not prevail against the desires of the people of Viet-Nam backed up by a rapidly growing South Vietnamese army and American and other allies. The end is inevitable. The fight may well go on for several years, but all the time the peaceful and prosperous area under government control will continue to grow. All but the most fanatic Viet-Cong will recognize their mistake and rejoin the common people under the rule of law. Eventually even Hanoi will see the light.

Hanoi, of course, has the option of ending the war immediately. The door to negotiation is always open. Naturally we would like to see Hanoi seek negotiation soon, but in view of Hanoi's previous intransigence this does not seem likely.

Meanwhile, the United States will exercise the greatest care not to enlarge the scale of the war. We do not want a big world war, and we are reasonably sure that those who would be on the other side in such a war do not want it either.

Okinawa itself is well outside the present war zone. It is hard to imagine Hanoi or anyone else planning an attack on these islands. We are, at all events, well equipped to turn aside any sneak air attack from whatever quarter.

Rest assured that Okinawa is playing an important, but not dangerous, role. The impact of Okinawa's role will be to hasten the coming of genuine security in the Pacific and the reversion of these islands to the Japanese homeland.

Thank you.

外務省北米局長殿

北米局長

参事官

北米課長

総南連第319号

昭和40年11月16日

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

琉球立法院議員総選挙についてのワトソン高等弁務官のステートメントについて

米国民政府は、11月15日、ワトソン高等弁務官の標記についてのステートメントを発表したので、同1部別添送付する。

要処理	連絡
要研究	急
課長	村
枝村	河内
齊藤	吉田
有馬	山田
渡辺	平川
大崎	吉津
中田	
後藤	

総理府

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UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION
OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
NAHA, OKINAWA

(APO SAN FRANCISCO 96248)

TEL: 72941 EXT: 32
72153

NEWS RELEASE: 65-424

November 15, 1965

To Editors: This unofficial Japanese translation of attached news release is provided to assist you.
高等弁務官のステートメント

- 沖縄、那覇11月15日 --米国民政府は今日、アルバート ワトソン高等弁務官の次のようなステートメントを発表した。
- 11月14日の日曜日琉球の住民は最も重要な政治的行事、即ち、三年目毎に行われる立法院議員選挙に参加したのであります。
- 民主的社会の住民が享受している選挙権はあらゆる政治的権利のうちで最も貴重なものであります。琉球の住民は、今後、三カ年間、立法院で住民の代表として活動する人たちを選ぶために去る日曜日に改めて多数の住民が投票することによつて、この貴重な特権と義務を非常に尊重していることを改めて立証しました。
- 私は住民の代表として選ばれたすべての方に対し祝意を表すると共に、すべての議員が住民のために有能に、かつ一生懸命奉仕されることを希望します。民主的社会においては、選挙が終つた後は選挙期間中の緊張や遺憾は忘れて、すべての党派が一体となつて住民の福祉のために協力すると言う伝統があります。これは心から民主的方法を信じているすべての人たちが是認し、実行している伝統であります。今や、私たちに残された仕事にとりかかるべき時であります。琉球の住民と選ばれた代表者選が現在当面している最も重要な仕事は、近いうちに琉球行政府の主席を選ぶことであります。最近行われた立法院議員選挙運動以前、並びにその期間中に主席を選ぶ方法を変えることについて種々論議されました。私が以前にも申しました通り、主席を選ぶ方法を明示している行政命令の改正は可能であり、このことは現在、慎重に検討されております。改正がどういふふうに行われるにしても、それには規則正しい方法によつてなされるのであります。いかなる

民主的社会においても、その基本的 概念の一つは、すべての人が、法律に従
わなければならないということであり、如何なる人、若しくは団体も法律を無
視し得るほど偉大ではなく、又、如何なる人間も法律の保護を否定されるほど
不幸ではなく、そして行政上の変更は規則正しく、正当な方法でなされると言
うことでもあります。 主席を越える方法を認めるための法的手続きについては殆
んど検討しつくされております。 私は現時点ではつきり申し上げることはで
きませんが、主席を越える可能な方法についての公開の論議が選挙期間中になさ
れたよりも、もつと広い見解に立つてなされることを希望するのであります。
最後に、今度、当選された32名の議員が今後三カ年間、90万以上の琉球
住民のために一生懸命、無私的な立派な仕事をなされることを希望致します。

完

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72153

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NEWS RELEASE: 65-424
November 15, 1965

STATEMENT FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

Naha, Okinawa, Nov. 15 -- The United States Civil Administration
of the Ryukyu Islands issued the following statement from High Commissioner

Albert Watson, II, today:

The people of the Ryukyu Islands on Sunday, November 14, were engaged
in the most important political event which occurs in these islands; the
triennial election for members of the Legislature of the Government of the
Ryukyu Islands.

The right of franchise enjoyed by people in democratic societies is the
most valuable of all political rights. The people of the Ryukyus have again
demonstrated the high value they place on this precious privilege and duty by
turning out in very large numbers last Sunday to choose the people they want
to represent them in their legislature for the next three years.

I congratulate all of those who have been chosen as representatives of
the people, and express the hope that all will serve the people ably and well.

There is a tradition in democratic societies that, once the people
have made their choice, the stresses and rancors of the campaign are for-
gotten and all parties work together thereafter for the welfare of the people.
This is a tradition that all those who genuinely believe in democratic pro-
cesses will now indorse and practice.

It is now time for all to settle down to the tasks remaining before us.
The greatest immediate task facing the people of the Ryukyus and their chosen
representatives is to proceed, in due time, to select the head of the Exe-
cutive Branch of the Government.

Before and during the recent election campaign, much was said about
changing the method of selecting the chief executive. As I have indicated
before a change in the law which designates the method of choosing the chief
executive is possible, and the matter is under serious study.

Whatever changes are made will be accomplished through orderly pro-
cesses. One of the very basic concepts of any democratic society is that all
must obey the law; that no man or group is so great as to be above the law; t
that no man is so poor as to be denied the protection of the law; and that

changes in government are effected in an orderly manner and through legal methods.

The legal processes which may lead to a change in the method of selecting the chief executive are nearing their culmination. I have no definite announcement to make at this time, but I hope that public discussion of the various possible methods of choosing the chief executive will proceed on a broader basis than was achieved during the campaign.

In conclusion, I wish for the 32 members of the new legislature three years of hard, constructive, and successful work for the benefit of the more than 90,000 people of the Ryukyu Islands.

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北米局長 参事
外務省北米局長殿



北米課長 参事
総南連第3195号

昭和40年11月25日

才流教マートン口金リ感心ゾマナ

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

ワトソン高等弁務官の演説テキスト送付について

11月23日、金門クラブで開催された会合における「琉球における民主主義」と題するワトソン高等弁務官の演説テキスト1部別添送付する。

本信写送付先 外務省北米局長

(付属物 1 部)

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金門クラブに対する高等弁務官の挨拶

(1965年11月23日)

琉球に於ける民主主義

名城会長、並びに金門クラブ会員の皆様。

このクラブの会員の皆様とお会いすることは私にとりまして常に喜ばしいことと申します。と申しますのは、皆様は進歩的のアイデアを持つているばかりでなく、これまでに懸命に勉強したおかげで、多くの分野に於ける学究の徒としての資格を備えておられるからであります。

私は皆様に対して、今晚、民主主義として知られている政治制度の実態とそのいくつかの基本原理について簡単に講義したいと思いますので、皆様は学生として、しばらくの間、私をワットソン教授と仮定して下さい。そして皆様はガリオア資金または米経軍省の資金による米留学生として米国で大学のカタログに登録されている政治学Iの最初の講義を聞いてゐるものと仮定します。そして、私は民主主義の基本そのものを構成している三つ或いは四つの原理についてお話しすることになります。

この講義を実際的でかつ有意義なものにするために、私はりつばな教授法に従い、かつ例をあげて講義を行います。それでは琉球住民の最近の政治経験、すなわち去る11月14日に行われた立法院議員選挙前の運動、選挙それ自体、及び選挙後の出来事から例をとつてお話しします。

選挙権と言う特権

去る11月14日の日曜日に、琉球住民は人間が有する最も重要な政治上の権利、すなわち、彼等を保護するための法律を制定する人達を選ぶための権利を行使したのであります。多くの有権者の方々が悪天候にもかかわらず、この貴重な権利を行使して、投票したことはまことに喜ばしいことと申します。勿論、皆様も全員投票したであらうでしょう。

自由世界のその他の地域で行われている選挙と比較して、当然琉球の選挙も確かに自由選挙の水準に達していると認められるのであります。

教育された選挙民

自由選挙の基本的原理に反するような行動があつたのは選挙運動期間中、及び選挙直後であつたのであります。

もし、選挙民が知的な投票を行うことを望むならば、いかなる民主主義に於いても、有権者は選挙運動の各階級の両面について知らされていなくてはならないのであります。最近終つたばかりの選挙運動に於いては、有権者はその両面についてバランスのとれた内容は知らされておらず、しかも、幾つかの階級については、ひどく誤つて知らされていたと私は思うのであります。

選挙運動でとりあげられた重要問題の一つは、琉球に米国の軍事基地が存在しているということでありました。この問題について有権者に真実を知らせるためには大体次のように話すべきであつたと思うのであります。

(それでは、私はここで仮りに候補者としての立場からお話します。)

「X地区の有権者の皆様、皆様がよく御存知の通り、米国は私達の島琉球に20年間も軍事基地を維持して来たのであります。この時に当り、私達はこれらの軍事基地が私達の生命や生活にどのような影響を及ぼすかと言うことを決定すべきであります。皆様はその事実を知る権利があり、そしてまた、私は候補者として、その事実を皆様に明らかにする義務があります。

まず、第一に私は安全の問題について申し上げたいと思います。私達のすべては平和を望んでいるのであります。事実、自由世界のすべての国民は平和を望んでおり、勿論、その中にはアメリカ国民、並びに米國政府も含まれているのであります。しかしながら、世界には平和を望んでいない国々もあり、そのうちの一つは沖縄から僅か400マイルしか離れていない所に位置しているのであります。事実、その国は終極的に全アジアを征服する意図があることを宣言しているのであります。私達の島、琉球は将来あり得ると思われる侵略の直接の進路に位置しているのであります。

私達の多くの者は戦争、軍隊そして武器を嫌つております。しかし、琉球に米国の軍隊が駐留していなかつたならば、私達の生活を破壊したであろうところの軍隊によつて私達はずっと以前に侵略されていたであろうということは明らかであります。将来の侵略の進路にあるのは私達が住んでいる琉球だけでなく、私達の祖国もその脅威にさらされているのであります。

私達は過去20年間、自由世界の軍隊が私達の島、琉球に駐留することを必要としないように情勢が変化し、侵略の脅威がなくなり、米國がその軍事基地と軍隊を引き揚げ、そして、すべての人達がその時間とエネルギーをもつぱら平和の^{為の}仕事に利用出来るようになることを望んできたのであります。そして私達は今もなおそのようになることを希望しているのでありますが、しかもまだそのような時期は到来していないという事実を私達は認識せねばならないのであります。事実、もし米國が西太平洋からその軍隊を撤退させたならば、私達の島並びに私達の祖国は非常に危険にさらされるのであります。日本政府が平和条約第三条の協定を引き続き支持している理由は勿論そのためであります。

現在ベトナムに於いては公然と侵略が行われているのであります。もしベトナム共和国が侵略者によつて征服されたならば、東南アジア全体が降服する恐れがあるということを私達は深刻に考えなければならぬのであります。これは、私達や私達の祖国を切迫した危険にさらすことになるのであります。

私達は、本土に住んでいようと或いは琉球に住んでいようと、日本国民として、私達の経済、生活及び社会制度の面で発展を続けてきたのであります。これは偏りに、私達が20年間も米國軍隊による保護の下にあつたからこそ出来たのであります。

私達は、時々米國の軍事基地を批判することもあります。しかし、私達はこれまで何年もの間、そして今もなお、私達の生活の相当の部分が、これらの軍事基地に依存しているということを認識しなければならぬのであります。

私達はこれまで軍事基地に依存しない経済の発展を圖るために努力してまいりましたが、その実現の爲めに、私達はこれまで米國の援助を受けて来たのであります。しかしながら、現在のところ、私達だけで、95万の琉球住民の現在の生活水準を維持し、かつ更に進んだ生活水準を維持するための方法は見い出されていないのであります。米國の支出や援助がなくなつても、私達の祖國からの援助は十分にそれを補うことができるという人も何名かはいるのであります。しかし私にはどうしてそんなことができるかわからないのであります。1965米國會計年度において、米國は当地で1億9千6百30万ドルを費したのであります。日本政府がこれだけの金額を当地で喜んで費すことはないということを知っております。

私達は皆、沖縄の敵が日本に返還されることを待望しているのであります。そして究極において軍隊や武器の要らないような世界が訪れることを願っているのであります。私達は皆、私達の夢を実現するよう努力し続けなければならないのであります。それと同時に、私達は米軍基地は危機の脅威が除去された時のみ、撤退され得るという事実、並びに私達は日米両政府間の關係というワケ外で、復歸を実現しようとするものでは決してないと言ふ事実に直面しなければならないのであります。皆様方有権者に対して、その逆のことを言う人々は皆様がおとぎ話を信づるものと期待して、皆様を子供扱いしているのであります。”

私は選挙運動期間中、注意深く選挙演説を聞きましたが、このような演説をした候補者は一人もいなかったためであります。しかし、有権者はあらゆる問題に関して事実を知る権利を有するものであるという原則が守られていたならば、このような演説がなされたであらうでしょう。

選挙運動期間中に取りあげられたものの一つの問題は、主席の直接公選というものであつたのであります。この場合、私がすでに述べたことと同様にすべての事実が有権者に知らされていなかったためであります。或る候補者は、この問題の解決はあたかも唯一つしかないというふうに振舞つたのであります。事実、主席の選任については、その必要性や正当な政治制度の水

準に見合う多くの可能な方法があるのであります。もう一度、選挙運動期間中に、誰かがやつたような選挙演説を試みましよう。今度は私は別の候補者としての立場からお話しします。候補者曰く

善良なる選挙区の皆様。私は皆様には知識人として、あらゆる問題について真実を知る権利があるという原則に基づいて選挙運動をすることに決めました。

本日、私は私達の主席を如何に選ぶかという問題について皆様にお話ししたいと思います。御承知の通り、現在のところ立法院は行政主席となる人を指名するのであります。しかしながら、彼は指名されると直ちにその職務につくというわけにはいかないのであります。何故なら、彼は高等弁務官によつて承認され、そして任命されなければならないからであります。

実際に、この制度はかなりうまく行われてきたのであります。この制度に従つて私は立派な資格を有する行政主席を選んで来たのであります。しかしながら、私達は一層広い民主主義を目指して前進を続けなければならないのであります。それ故に今や私達は更にすぐれた制度を作り上げるべく努力しなければならないのであります。

現在の制度を改替するためにはいろいろな方法があります。その一つの方法は私達がこれまでいつも耳にしたことではありますが、これは選挙民による直接選挙であります。これは実にすばらしい方法であるように思われます。しかしながら、その方法について私は一つの疑問を持つております。

私達の琉球には一つの政府があります。この政府は小規模ではあります。本土の日本政府と同様に実に多くの機能を果しております。琉球政府は事実上一國の政府とほとんど同じであります。琉球政府は本土の^{県の}県庁よりもはるかに大きな機能を果しているのであります。もちろん、私達は再び県庁が設置される日が訪れることを待ち望んでおります。しかしながら、琉球政府は県庁ではなく、又、現時点に於いては県庁であるはずはないという事実を認めなければなりません。それにも拘らず、琉球政府

が本土の県庁以上に多くの機能を果しているその能力及び私達が施政を分離されている限り、琉球政府は別々に琉球に於いてその機能を今後も果さなければならぬという点を私は勝りに思うのであります。もちろん、私達はこれらの事務が東京で取り扱われることを望んでおりましたが、しかし、私達は現実主義者として当分の間、これらの事務は琉球で行なわれなければならないことを知っているのであります。これらの事務を琉球政府に委ねるか、或いは直接米国の手に委ねるかについては私たちに選択権があります。私個人の立場から申し上げますと、琉球政府が現在の機能を引き続き果すばかりでなく、米民政府から琉球政府に対して今後も更に多くの権限が移譲されることを望んでいるのであります。

一つの案は琉球政府の責任を日本本土の県庁なみに引き下げて、知事を選らび、一つの県としての機能を果し、そしてすべての国家水準の機能、つまり内閣、国会及び裁判所を米国に委ねると言うことのであります。米国がこの案を認めるかどうかは知りませんが、私はこの案に賛成出来ないのであります。琉球政府は現在の権限を維持し、かつ、可能な時はいつでもその権限を拡大すべきであると私は思うのであります。ともかく、琉球には、現在ほとんど国家水準で運営されている政府があるが、この政府は予知出来る将来まで続くものと期待出来るのであります。本土で行われている政治形態について、私は興味ある事実気づいたのであります。すなわち、日本の総理大臣は間接的方法、つまり国会に於ける選挙によつて選ばれたのであります。さらに興味ある事実は、本土において国家の行政首班を選ぶにはこれが民主的方法であると考えられているという点であります。

私はおしくも反対の立場にある人達の言い分を聞きますと、この方法は日本では民主的であるかもしれないが、琉球では民主的でないというのであります。この言い分は何かしら私を困惑させるものであり、有権者の皆様の中にも困惑された方もいるであらう。私がおし皆様代表に選ばれたならば、私は現実的で可能性があり、かつ、現在の制度よりはるかに民主主義の理想に近いものであればいかなる制度でも支持することを約束します。他の地域に於けると同様に、沖縄に於いても、政治は可能性の問題であります。

皆様の代表として私はあらゆる角度から可能なことを実施し、かつ夢と現実の混同を避けるつもりであります。

高等弁務官の立場から申し上げますと、私はこのような演説を聞くために注意深く耳をすましたのであります。一度もこのような演説を聞いたことがないのであります。

高等弁務官として、私は近い将来に主席を選任する方法の何等かの変更の可能性あることをくり返し申し上げます。この主席選任方の改正は、あらゆる可能な選任方法をもれなく一般に知らしめるために特に報道関係者を含めたすべての責任ある人達による努力によつて促進され、かつ援助されるのであります。私は去る10月21日の記者会見で、この問題に関する十分にバランスのとれた論議がなされることを希望していると述べましたが、まだそのようなことは聞いていないのであります。

民主主義と法

私は今晚、皆様ともう一つのことについて話し合いたいと思つてます。皆様は民主的政治の方法は明確な法手続きを基礎として存在し、適用されるものであるということを学んだのであります。それではこゝで投票を例にあげてお話ししましょう。

一度、有権者が候補者を自分達の代表として選べば、例へば差があつてもこの候補者は選ばれたと宣言され、その後はその地区の老若男女の代表者に見えられ、彼等の福祉のために働かなければなりません。民主制度の社会は暴力を用いて候補者をその地位につけることは許されません。代表者を選ぶためにもし肉体的な手段が用いられるならば、選挙の代りに各選挙区ですもうや空手の試合が行われたはずで。

民主的社会の問題は力では解決できませんし、また石を投げて解決する事もできません。この^{よう}な方法は私達の先祖が洞窟に住んでいた原始時代に使われたものであります。今日では問題は広い政治学の知識を基礎として理性で解決されなければなりません。なかんずく、問題は法律の枠内で解決されなければなりません。

理性的な人は誰でもそうでなければならないように、私は法は守るべきであるという琉球政府の主張を公然と支持するものであります。琉球の大多数の住民は秩序ある社会に住むことを望んでいるのであり、生活の手段として、若しくは政府機構、或いは政治制度を改変する手段として暴力を支持するようなすべての人々に反撃を加えるであろうと私は確信するものであります。

一方、私は必ずしも現状を支持するものでもないものであります。成長を望むならば、変化がなければならないのであります。何故なら成長は変化の課程であるからであります。私は、人間の理性が、利用し得る最上の知識に基づき、1965年11月現在の世界の現状に基づいてつくり出すことのできる最良の解決策に基づいた変化を支持するものであります。

変化を唱える人々には、事実と法の正当な手段の概念に基づく道理にかなった要求を唱えさせようではありませんか。米国は混乱又は混乱の恐れのある改革は行わないと言う事を皆は信じて下さい。琉球に於ける行政機構の如何なる改革も責任ある人々の正当な勧告に基づいてなされるであります。

結 論

結論と致しまして、私が金門クラブ会員の寄稿に知つていただきたいことは、皆様が私の直接目に見える聴衆ではありませんが、私の今晚のスピーチは皆様だけを対象としているのではないと言うことであります。皆様の殆んどが去つた選挙で投票なさつた事と私は確信します。私はまたこの会場にお集りの皆様は全員、投票による決定を認め、それに従うものと信じております。皆様の中には暴力によつてそれを変えようと主張する者は一人もいないと確信しています。率直にいつて、私は今晚金門クラブを公開討論会として用います。この講演の幾らかは広い外部の世界にまで届くのを知つています。言い換えれば私は皆さんを惹いて私の言葉の届く限り多くの友達、即ち琉球の住民に講演しているのであります。

私並びに家内を楽しい夕食会に招待して下さいまして有難うございます。皆様の親切なもてなしで心から楽しく廻ることができました。

完

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS TO THE GOLDEN GATE CLUB
(23 November 1965)

"DEMOCRACY IN THE RYUKYUS"

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Nashiro, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Golden Gate Club:

I always enjoy meeting members of this club, because I think of you as young people with forward-looking ideas. Moreover, by diligent study, you have qualified as students in many fields.

As students, imagine for a moment that I am Professor Watson, because I am going to give a brief lecture on some of the fundamental principles and practices of the political system known as democracy.

You can imagine that you are back in the United States on your scholarship, listening to the first lectures in a course listed in the college catalog as Political Science I. I shall talk about three or four principles which constitute the very foundation of democracy.

To make the

To make the course practical and interesting, I shall follow good teaching principles and use examples. The examples are taken from a recent political experience of the people of the Ryukyus: the campaign preceding the legislative election of 14 November, the election itself and subsequent events.

THE PRIVILEGE OF THE FRANCHISE

On Sunday, November 14, the people of the Ryukyus exercised the most important political right that man possesses -- the right to choose those who will enact the laws under which they will live. It is gratifying that a very large percentage of the registered voters exercised this precious right and voted in spite of the inclement weather. Surely all of you voted.

Certainly, in comparison with elections held in other areas of the Free World, our local elections meet the standards of free elections.

It was during

AN INFORMED ELECTORATE

It was during the campaign preceding the election, and the

immediate post-election period, that some of the fundamental principles of a free election were violated.

In any democracy the voters must be informed on both sides of each issue of the campaign, if they are to vote intelligently. It is my opinion that the voters were not, in the campaign just concluded, given balanced coverage of the issues, and were even grossly misinformed on some.

One prominent issue which was injected into the campaign was the presence of United States bases in the Ryukyu Islands. On the basis of the proposition that the voters deserve to be told the truth about issues, this issue should have been presented somewhat as follows (and here I will quote a hypothetical or imaginary candidate).

He would say: (PAUSE)

He would say: (PAUSE)

"Voters of District X. As you well realize, the United States has maintained bases in our islands for 20 years. At this time we should determine just how these bases affect our lives and our livelihood. You are entitled to the facts, and it is my responsibility, as a candidate, to insure that you have access to the facts.

First I will mention the matter of security. All of us want peace.

In fact, all of the people of the Free World want peace, and this certainly includes the people of America and the Government of the United States. However, it appears that there are countries in this world, one of them located only some 400 miles from Okinawa, which do not stand for peace -- which, in fact, have declared their intention of ultimately conquering all of Asia. Our islands stand directly in the path of possible invasion.

Much as we

Much as we dislike war, armies and armament, it is clear that, except for the presence of United States military forces in our islands, we would long since have been over-run by forces which would have destroyed our way of life. It is not merely our islands which lie in the path of future invasion, but our fatherland is threatened.

"We have hoped for twenty years that the situation which requires the presence of Free World forces in our islands would change, that the menace of aggression would disappear, that the United States could remove its bases and forces, and all men could devote their full time and energies to the arts of peace. We still hope that this will happen, but we must face the fact that it has not happened. The fact is that, if the United States were to remove its military forces from the Western Pacific, our islands and the fatherland would be in dire peril.

This is the

This is the reason, of course, why the Government of Japan continues to support the arrangement effected by Article III of the Treaty of Peace.

"In Viet-Nam naked aggression has occurred. We must think seriously about the fact that, if the Republic of Viet-Nam should be conquered by the aggressors, there is danger that all of Southeast Asia would capitulate. This would place us and our fatherland, in imminent peril.

"We as Japanese people, whether living in the main islands or in the Ryukyus, have been able to proceed with the development of our economy, our livelihood and our social institutions only because, for 20 years, we have been behind the protective screen provided by United States forces.

"We also must realize that, much as we sometimes criticize the United States bases, we have for some years been and still are dependent on these bases for a considerable portion of our livelihood.

Despite all our

Despite all our efforts to develop a non-base economy--an effort in which, by the way, we have been assisted by the United States--we have not yet found the means to independently sustain our 950,000 people at their present standard of living, much less at an advancing standard of living.

There are some who say that aid from our fatherland would compensate entirely for the loss of United States spending and assistance. I for one do not see how. In U. S. fiscal year 1965 the U. S. spent \$196.3 million here. I know of no indication that the Government of Japan is willing to spend any such sum here.

"We all are in favor of reversion of the administration of our islands to Japan, and ultimately we would like to see the world develop to the point where we can do without armies and weapons.

We must all

We must all continue to work for the realization of our dreams, but in the meantime we must face the fact that U. S. bases can be removed only when the threat of danger is removed; and the fact that we are never going to achieve reversion except within the framework of relationships between the Governments of Japan and the United States. Those who inform you voters to the contrary are treating you like children expecting that you will believe their fairy tales."

I was listening carefully during the campaign, but I did not hear such a speech by any candidate. Yet, the principle that the voters are entitled to the facts on all issues, if observed, would have brought forth such a speech.

Another issue introduced into the campaign was that of direct public election of the Chief Executive. In this case, as in the one I have already mentioned, all of the facts were not made available to the voters.

Some candidates acted

Some candidates acted as if this solution were the only one. The fact is, there is a number of possible methods of selecting the chief executive which would meet the needs, and the standards of an equitable political system. Once again I am going to make the kind of campaign address that someone should have made during the campaign. This time I will be another candidate. He would say: (PAUSE)

"Good people of my District. I have decided that I will base my campaign on the principle that you as intelligent people are entitled to hear the whole truth about every issue.

"Today I will speak to you about how we select our chief executive. As you know, the legislature now nominates a person to be chief executive.

However, he does not immediately take office, because he must be approved by the high commissioner and then be appointed by the high commissioner.

Actually, this system

"Actually, this system has worked reasonably well. By this method we have had well qualified chief executives. However, we must continue to advance in the direction of even greater democracy, so now we have to try to work out an even better system.

"There are various methods by which the present system could be improved.

"One method that we have heard much about is direct public election by the voters. This sounds like a very fine method. However, I do have a question.

"We have a government in the Ryukyu Islands that performs, on a smaller scale, a great many of the functions performed by the Government of Japan in the main islands. The Government of the Ryukyu Islands, is, in effect, almost the equivalent of a national government.

It performs functions

It performs functions far above and beyond those performed by any prefecture in the fatherland.

"We look forward, of course, to the day when we will again have a prefectural government. However, we have to face the fact that the Government of the Ryukyu Islands is not a prefectural government and cannot be one at this time. Nonetheless I take great pride in the ability of the government to perform the many functions that are over and above those performed by the prefectural governments in the fatherland and that it must continue to perform in the Ryukyus separately, so long as we are administratively separated. Of course we would like these matters to be performed by Tokyo, but as realists we know that, for the time being, they have to be performed in the Ryukyus. We have a choice between having them taken care of by the Government of the Ryukyu Islands, or directly by the United States.

I personally prefer

I personally prefer that the Government of the Ryukyu Islands not only continue to perform its present functions, but that the process of transferring even more functions from the U. S. Civil Administration to the Government of the Ryukyu Islands continue.

"One scheme would be for us to reduce the responsibilities of the local government to those of a prefecture in Japan proper, elect a governor, act like a prefecture, and let the United States handle all of the national level functions -- the Cabinet, the Diet and the Courts.

I do not know whether this scheme would be approved by the United States, but I am not in favor of it. I believe the Government of the

Ryukyu Islands should retain its present power and increase it whenever possible.

"In any event we now have, and can expect to continue to have during the foreseeable future, a government that operates almost at the national level.

In looking into

In looking into the way government is conducted in the fatherland, I wish to recall an interesting fact: The Prime Minister of Japan is selected by an indirect method, namely, election by the National Diet. Even more interesting, is the fact that, in the fatherland, this is considered a democratic method of choosing the chief executive official of the nation.

"In listening to some of my worthy opponents, I hear that, while this method may be democratic in Japan, it is not democratic in the Ryukyus. This has confused me somewhat, and it may have confused some of you voters.

"I promise that, if you choose me to be your representative I will support any system that is practical, possible; and approaches the democratic ideal even more closely than the present system. In Okinawa, as everywhere else, politics is the art of the possible. As your representative, I will practice, on every issue, the art of the possible, and will avoid confusing dreams with reality."

(PAUSE)

Resuming my normal

(14/15)

Resuming my normal identity as high commissioner, I will say that I listened carefully for such a speech, but I heard none like it.

As high commissioner I repeat that some change in the method of choosing the chief executive is possible in the near future. This change would be expedited and assisted by an effort on the part of all responsible persons, especially including the information media, to acquaint the public with all of the possible methods. I announced in my press conference on 21 October that I hoped for a balance discussion of the subject, and I have not heard one yet.

DEMOCRACY AND LAW

There is another matter I would like to discuss with you tonight. You have learned that democratic methods of government exist and operate on the basis of defined legal procedures. Let us take voting for an example.

Once the voters

Once the voters have chosen a candidate as their representative, even if by only a small margin, and this candidate is declared elected; henceforth he must be regarded as the representative of all the men, women, and children in the district and must work for their welfare. The democratic system does not permit the use of violence to place a candidate in office. If physical methods were to be used, then, instead of elections we could have a sumo or karate match in each legislative district, to determine its representative.

The problems of a democratic society cannot be solved by force.

They cannot be solved by throwing stones. This was the method used in

primordial days when our ancestors lived in caves. Today problems

must be solved by reason, using as its basis a large store of knowledge

of political science. Above all, problems must be solved within the

framework of the law.

I hope there

I hope there is no secret about the fact that I support, as any reasonable man must, the Government of the Ryukyu Islands in its insistence that the law must be obeyed. I am convinced that the vast majority of the people of these islands wish to live in an orderly society, and will rebuff all those who advocate violence as a way of life or as an instrument of change in governmental or political systems.

On the other hand, I do not necessarily support the status quo. If there is to be growth, there must be change, because growth is a process of change. I will support any changes that are based upon the best solutions that human reason can devise on the basis of the best knowledge available, and on the realities of the world situation as of November, 1965.

Let those who advocate change advance reasonable proposals based on facts and the concept of due process of law.

You may rest

You may rest assured that the United States will not undertake any change that is based upon disorder or the threat of disorder. Any change in the governmental system in these islands will be made on the basis of reasonable recommendations by responsible people.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I want you members of the Golden Gate Club to know, if you do not already realize this, that my remarks tonight have not been addressed to you alone, even though you are the immediate and visible audience. I am sure that most of you voted in the recent election. I am sure also that all of you who are present in this room have accepted the decisions made at the polls and will abide by them. I am confident that none of you would advocate the achievement of change by methods of violence.

Frankly, I use

Frankly, I use your club tonight as a "forum." I am aware that some of my remarks may reach the great outside world. In other words, through you I am addressing as many of my friends -- the people of the Ryukyu Islands -- as my words may reach.

Thank you for having invited Mrs. Watson and me to your delightful dinner. I assure you that we have thoroughly enjoyed your hospitality.

北米局長

参事官

外務省北米局長殿

北米課長



総南連第3243号

昭和40年11月30日

総理府特別地域連絡局長 殿

那覇日本政府南方連絡事務所長

高等弁務官の定例記者会見テキスト送付について

11月26日、米国民政府会議室で行なわれた高等弁務官の定例記者会見のテキスト1部別添送付する。

本信写送付先 外務省北米局長

(付属物1部)

要	処理	要	連絡
至	研究	至	急
森	長	上	村
枝	村	河	内
齊	藤	吉	田
有	馬	山	田
渡	辺	平	川
大	崎	吉	澤
中	田		
後	藤		



総 理 府

UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS
Naha, Okinawa
November 26, 1965

MEMORANDUM TO NEWS MEDIA: 65-111

Public Affairs Department

Tel: 72153

72941 Ext 32

PRESS CONFERENCE OF

HIGH COMMISSIONER ALBERT WATSON, II

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Please be seated.

The No. 1 subject of the day -- in the headlines -- is politics. But before we talk of such subjects, I'm sure you'll bring something up about it. I'd like to report to you the results of an important study I requested, made by USCAR staff, and this report deserves headlines of its own.

As you know, when there is talk of 'U.S. Aid' -- the immediate common -- uninformed -- reaction is the total amount set by the Price Act -- only 12 million dollars. Occasionally, someone may add various types of aid from the Title IV, Public Law 480 commodity sales, the Title III of Public Law 480 relief foods, and sums of money included in U.S. land rentals, and so forth. But I've never seen an overall report disclosing the actual total financial effect of the U.S. presence on Okinawa. I now have this report, and I can give you the highlights of how much the U.S. spent and distributed here directly and indirectly -- by government agencies, individuals, and private capital. This overall total was 196.3 million dollars, for fiscal year 1965 which ended the 30th of June just passed.

I could give you the major breakdowns as follows:

Expenditure by U.S. Government and personnel here: 121.5 million dollars.

U.S. direct aid	:	12.7 "
Capital transactions (both public and private)	:	44. "
Exports and goods and services to the United States:	:	18.1 "

How does this compare with Fiscal '64? Available data shows that the overall U.S. financial input into the local economy in Fiscal '64 was one and a half percent less than that of Fiscal '65 which I have just given you. The major factors included large U.S. public and commercial loans in Fiscal '64 which is 50.6 million dollars in that year as against 44 million dollars in Fiscal '65.

As for the forecast for the current fiscal year -- 1966 -- based on presently known data, the U.S. overall input is expected to increase by approximately 12 percent. However, if anticipated additional U.S. projects materialize, spending during Fiscal '66 should increase substantially more than the currently estimated 12 percent.

Fuller details on the '65 report are available from the Public Affairs Department, but I'd like to make some personal comments on this information, which has never been compiled in this all-inclusive form before:

What counts in getting a full understanding of the economy is compilation of all possible elements -- total expenditures, total input of money, goods and services, and the extent of circulation of money and the goods and services in the economy. One does not get an accurate analysis if, for example, only direct aid under the Price Act is considered. The

(Over)

overall input of money -- resulting from the total presence of the United States Government and Americans as individuals -- both military and civilian -- official and private -- must be considered in order to analyze accurately and completely just what the U.S. is actually contributing to the Ryukyuan economy.

O.K. -- so much for that. Now we're ready for questions.

REPORTER: In his speech to the Golden Gate Club members on 23rd of this month, the high commissioner stated as follows -- if he were a candidate running for the legislative seat he would tell the voters the following -- there are many methods of selecting the chief executive -- the prime minister of Japan, who is elected indirectly by the Diet, is one example which he considers to be democratic. My question is, may I understand this statement to mean that the high commissioner is in support of such an indirect election of the chief executive?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Why, I should say so. It's in the executive order. Of course I'm in support of it. I'm required to support the executive order. I must support it until the executive order is changed. If you're asking, is that going to be the final and irrevocable method of selecting the chief executive from now until you and I are long dead, I'd say no, that's not the only possibility. There are many others. I mentioned at least -- I guess -- two others in that same speech that you refer to.

REPORTER: I would like to add that I asked this question because the indirect selection is of utmost interest to myself personally.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I'm glad to hear that there is someone from the news media who's interested in a method other than direct popular election of the chief executive. Up until now I've gathered by following your items in the newspapers and in the other news media that you've only had one in mind -- that you haven't even thought of others. And I'm delighted to hear that you've done some contemplation on this subject. I am, as you know, very much in favor of balanced reporting.

REPORTER: May I further pursue on the detail of the indirect election?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Oh, of course, please do -- yes. Dozo.

REPORTER: It is reported that during the meeting with the high commissioner the Democratic Party delegates were told that the high commissioner is willing to support a change in the Section 8, Paragraph B-1 of the executive order if the word 'appointed' is changed to read 'agreed'. Whereas the Democratic Party delegates insisted that the chief executive shall be elected by the legislature. May we understand that the high commissioner is willing to support a change in the executive order if the wording is changed to read 'to agree' in lieu of 'to appoint'?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I'm afraid you didn't read that press statement very clearly -- an announcement of what we talked about at that meeting. We came to no conclusive decisions. We simply discussed the various methods of public election of the chief executive or of other methods of electing the chief -- other ways of selecting the chief executive.

And I would like to suggest that perhaps instead of waiting for me to enumerate all of the various possible methods that you gentlemen might like to task yourselves with this little project -- sit down and write out -- see how many different ways you can figure of selecting the chief executive. See how many different ways you can think of, and then decide which one you think would be the best one. I haven't decided yet. When you find out, let me know. Maybe it will save me some hard work.

2

(More)

The Democratic Party before the election announced its platform -- announced its views on the subject of the method of selecting the chief executive. When I find out what the Washington administration's studies have concluded you will be among the first to know, but you won't be the first -- I will. In other words, it's still under consideration.

REPORTER: In the current political circles, especially among the opposition members, there is a belief that the chief executive appointed in accordance with the provisions of the executive order will have his term expire prior to 1 December. I would like to ask the high commissioner what is his thinking on this matter?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: The term of office of the current chief executive does not expire until another one has been selected. That's according to the law, it's under the executive order, yes. That's a matter of law, that's in writing, that's not policy, that's by the law itself. I think there must be a misunderstanding because I can't conceive of anybody who has taken the trouble to study this who doesn't know that already.

Takahashi-san, I have the report of the meeting with the leaders of the Democratic Party here, and it says the purpose of the meeting was to restate the desires of the Democratic Party for a change in the executive order which would permit direct public election of the chief executive of the GRI. The high commissioner reemphasized to the Democratic Party members that there are direct and indirect means available for selection of chief executive and expressed hope that they were studying the alternate methods. He said that he would continue to do everything possible in talks with Washington authorities on this matter.

The Democratic Party leaders expressed hope that advancement in the method of selecting the chief executive could be realized in the near future. The meeting in substance was exploratory and no final conclusions were reached.

REPORTER: In connection with the matter of direct and indirect methods of selecting the chief executive -- indirect means of selecting the chief executive has become of interest to us recently. I understand that there is one method which is known as the agreement system in which the chief executive is selected and another method known as the indirect method in which the chief executive is elected by the legislature. Can the high commissioner think of means other than those two mentioned for the selection of the chief executive?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Yes -- a number. The one we have right now. It actually is a form -- it's one form of those that you've already mentioned. How many do you have on your list?

REPORTER: Futatsu. (two)

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Is that all? How about direct appointment? Don't you have direct appointment?

REPORTER: Not in my list.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: It's on the list of possible methods. In fact it's included in the executive order as one method. Have you read the executive order on this subject?

REPORTER: I was referring to your statement on intermediate approaches. And among intermediate approaches are only two.

REPORTER: The high commissioner stated during his speech in the Golden Gate Club and again he made a statement today to the effect that the selection -- the method of selecting the chief executive is currently under study in Washington. The executive order states that -- at least on the surface --

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(Over)

the term of office for the chief executive expires with the expiration of the term of office of the legislature that selected him, notwithstanding the fact that he is to continue in the office until his successor is selected. We feel that the time for -- the time has come for the selection of the next chief executive. We would like to know when will Washington conclude such a study and when will -- when do you anticipate an announcement on this will be made?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: I will read you from the executive order. I will read it for you. 'The chief executive shall serve for the remainder of the term of the legislative body which nominated him and for such reasonable period thereafter as may be necessary for the appointment of a successor pursuant to this paragraph, or, failing such an appointment, pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection' -- which has to do with another method of appointment.

Now if you feel the time has come to select the next chief executive I congratulate you -- I think you're right, and I would venture to say that it would probably take place within the next six months. And in the long span of time, that's only a mere moment.

I would point out to you that until he is selected that you have all of this period in which you can conjecture upon the various methods to be used and the time of the selection and thereby you will have more material for your news media to use in its news announcements. In other words, what will we talk about after the next chief executive has been selected? What is there left for the newspapers or the radio or TV?

Actually, to be specific as to the timing, all I can say is that I think this thing will probably be solved within the near future -- and that's about as exact as I can answer you at this time.

REPORTER: Since I don't seem to be able to draw a desired answer from the high commissioner on the question of the chief executive, I would like to ask you another question. This was answered during his speech or during his meeting before the Golden Gate Club but I would like to ask the high commissioner to come out with an answer different from what he gave the other night. My question concerns the result of the legislative election. It is reported that the conservative camp had relatively an easy fight when they faced the last election; however, when returns were counted they found they increased their seats only by one in spite of the fact that there was an increase of three. In other words, they won a total of 19 -- an increase of one from the previous number of seats. To this question -- when we asked the high commissioner what do you think of the result of the election, the high commissioner replied that he is very much satisfied. We would like to know how the high commissioner evaluates the result of the legislative election.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, Mr. Makiya, I'd like to say, first, that I regret that I haven't been able to give you the answers, so far, that you want. Maybe I'm not sure what answers you're after. I call the shots the way I see them -- I'm being honest with you. Now, as to the evaluation of the results of the election I still think that the most important aspect of this is not who won the horse race but the fact that as a result of this election we will continue, here, political stability for another period of time.

As you will recall, only a year ago the political situation here in the Ryukyu Islands was very unstable. It has had really -- the present government party -- has really had less than a year to stabilize all the little changes that take place with a change of administration -- and, once having stabilized all those small changes in personnel, in policies and procedures that come with the new administration, they have been able to get along with the matter of planning for and working toward continued development of the Ryukyu Islands. Now, this to me is the big game, and I believe it's in every way to the advantage of the people who live in

these islands that the current administration will be able to continue the progress which it started less than a year ago.

I think the people here -- your people here in these islands -- deserve to have a period of political quiet and stability so that progress can be made for future development. As you know, the five-year -- the long range plan, we call it -- has already been the basis for many important decisions affecting further development here.

This plan must be reviewed constantly to have any value whatsoever. It is being reviewed constantly, but it's still so new that in order for us to continue progress in that direction it's most desirable that the people who are familiar with it can apply their knowledge to it and continue progress.

That is not to say that I'm permanently against change -- that is certainly untrue. What I'm really saying simply, I believe, is we've had a lot of change here lately, politically, and I think it's time that there be a quiet period, politically speaking, for the next two or three years.

Perhaps by the time the next election comes it will be more beneficial to the people to have a change in the government. I don't know. It's too far ahead to predict. But I'm not saying now that I'm against ever having a new government here in these islands. That would be a foolish statement, and I don't make that statement.

I simply say that I think at this time it was most favorable for the good of all the people here that the present administration be allowed to continue in office.

Now if you want to get to a matter of who won the horse race and whether somebody got 59.4% of the seats in the legislature or 51.6% of the votes -- now we could do that, really, all the way through the day.

I have figures here which indicate by reasonable analysis of the votes in those districts which were unopposed that actually a statement made by Mr. Yasui, who is director-general of the prime minister's office, that the Democratic Party won the majority of votes -- popular votes -- is a relatively accurate statement. In fact, we went through by some arithmetic and came up with the figure of 51.6% of the popular vote going to the Democratic Party. However, that could be continued for an indefinite time, as I say.

As I stated the day after the election, I feel it's now time for all to settle down to the tasks remaining before us. And I believe that the leaders of Okinawa can now demonstrate their willingness to provide for the people of the Ryukyu Islands at this time the best possible course for continued development of their society.

I believe that the people of all these islands have demonstrated through their vote that they favor peace and honor. I look forward to joining with their leaders in a constructive and cooperative course of progress that the voters have chosen, and not the course which a few might seek to achieve through force and violence.

REPORTER: It is reported in the Stars and Stripes that a supply unit similar in size to a division has arrived in the Ryukyu from the U.S. mainland. I would like to know the purpose of this unit and, in addition, I would like to ask in connection with the conflict in Viet-Nam if the U.S. forces in the Ryukyu will be expanded in the future.

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, it was an official announcement that a new logistic supply unit has arrived here. It's called the 2nd Logistical Command, under

General Haug. We announced it late last month. It is here. Normally, we popularly call it the 2nd Log Command. It's a major subordinate part of my overall military command here -- the United States Army, Ryukyu Islands. It's responsible for the logistical support of U.S. Army forces in Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific and here on Okinawa for the operation of Naha military port; the Army depot; another part of the 2nd Logistical Command was formerly known as the Supply and Maintenance Command and their various other supply organizations and the petroleum tank farms under 2nd Log Command.

As to the question about future expansion of military forces here or in South Viet-Nam -- I cannot answer you on a matter of readiness or movement status of military units -- so I hope you will excuse me on that matter.

REPORTER: At present the United States immigration law is of importance to the people of Okinawa; also I would like to know if there is a possibility of allocating a certain quota for the people of Okinawa emigrating to the United States?

HIGH COMMISSIONER: Well, I have looked into this matter and I really don't have the answer yet. The State Department is responsible for implementing all U.S. immigration laws and locally, of course, that will be done by the American Consular Unit here in Naha. This unit is awaiting implementing instructions from Washington, and it will announce how the law applies here in the Ryukyus when those instructions are received.

Well, I wish you a pleasant time until we meet again.