

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 沖縄関係
軍用地問題（法律問題）

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Individual Contract Setup OK'd for Okinawa Land Use

The Sato Government has decided to provide the U.S. forces in the post-reversion Ryukyus with the land they need by concluding new lease contracts with individual landowners, Government sources disclosed Tuesday.

U.S. Ordinance No. 20, which currently provides the legal basis for use of privately-owned land by the U.S. military, will become invalid when administrative rights over the islands are returned to Japan.

The Japanese Government was initially inclined to adopt a formula to acquire the right of use of land for U.S. military purposes "en masse" from landowners through special legislation.

This was because the Sato Government feared that trouble might arise under the individual contract formula, with some landowners refusing to sign contracts, and the time left until actual reversion is not sufficient to conclude individual contracts with all landowners numbering about 38,000.

But the following argument prevailed in the subsequent talks among the Foreign Ministry, the Defense Agency and the Defense Facilities Administration Agency:

(1) If the reversion formula is to make conditions in the Ryukyus the same as those in the homeland, it would be better to provide the U.S. military with the necessary land under the same procedure as in the mainland; and (2) The "en

masse" lease formula, which would deprive landowners of the chance to assert their individual rights, might provoke them and touch off new land struggles, as pointed out by the association of landowners.

In giving up the "en masse" formula, the Government also took into account Ryukyu Chief Executive Chobyo Yara's call for the individual contract formula.

As in the agreements covering the return of the Amami Islands and the Bonin Islands, the Government intends to include in the Okinawa return pact a provision guaranteeing the U.S. military continued use of land which cannot be provided under the normal procedure for a certain period of time.

If landowners involved continue to refuse signing lease contracts during this period, the land will be seized.