

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 一般重要案件(2)

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L.A.タイムズ特派員報道

報道課

北米局長
参事官
北米課長

「ロス」情 第314号
昭和42年3月23日

外務大臣殿

在ロス・アンゼルス
総領事
[Seal]

Los Angeles Times 紙 特派員 報道

L.A. Times 紙 Shannon 東京特派員は21日19日付の
の同紙に沖縄からの報告を以て「第二次世界大戦の
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米軍の基地として重要性を増大するにつれて米軍の施政が
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希望は沖縄人はもっているが、日本に復帰した場合
現在の経済的繁栄が犠牲になることを恐れている。

要処理	連絡
要研究	至 急
課長	
河内	
吉津	
吉田	
坂元	
川崎	
田中	
橋本	
黒須	

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外務省

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本土復帰が実現すれば半数の沖縄人が本土に帰る
を希望されると思っている人もいる」と報じ、
の現状と沖縄の現状につき報じている。
（南洋新聞）切抜とともに報告する。

別紙添附

GA-4

外務省

6 Sec. A—SUN, MAR. 19, 1967 Two Angles Times

Okinawa Enjoys Boom Under American Rule

Site of Huge U.S. Installations Was Scene of Bloody Fighting 22 Years Ago

BY DON SHANNON
Time Staff Writer

NANA, Okinawa — Twenty-two years ago this spring, the U.S. 10th Army and two marine divisions fought the last and bloodiest engagement of the Pacific war to conquer an island only 60 miles long and less than two miles wide at its narrowest point.

From the initial landing on Easter Sunday, 1945 until the island was declared secure June 30, 12,520 American soldiers, marines and sailors were killed and 110,000 Japanese died trying to halt the only invasion carried out on Japan's home territory. About half as many Okinawan civilians died in the fighting. An American civilian casualty was reported. E. R. Pyle, killed on the offshore islet of Ie Jima.

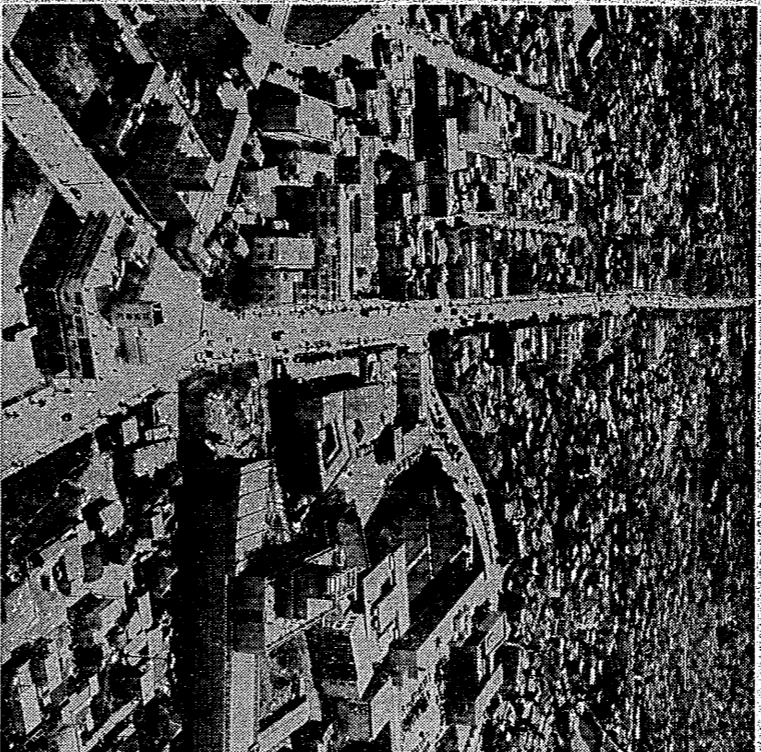
Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, commanding the 10th Army, was killed in the final stage of the battle June 18. Three days later, Gen. Mitsuru Ushijima and Lt. Gen. Isamu Cho, commander and chief of staff of the defending forces, committed harakiri in a cave overlooking the sea, a place now known as Suicide Cliff and covered with war memorials which draw a steady stream of pilgrims from Japan.

Before the war, Okinawa and the other 86 islands of the Ryukyuan chain comprised a prefecture of Japan, the poorest and most backward area of the home islands. Until 1879, the islands had been a semi-independent kingdom tributary to both Japan and China.

The 1951 peace treaty ending the U.S. occupation of Japan reserved the right of the United States to propose a U.N. trusteeship over the islands, meanwhile retaining all military and administrative powers of administration, legislation and jurisdiction over the territory and inhabitants of these islands.

In 1953, the United States returned to Japan the Amami islands, the northernmost group of the Ryukyus, leaving Okinawa and 71 others under U.S. rule today.

Okinawa proved to be of great value to the United States in the Korean war and it was then that the big air bases and supply storage areas began to take on a permanent look. Marine Corps units have been stationed on the



CAPITAL CITY — Aerial view of Naha, Okinawa, (International) Airport and city government and U.S. Civil Administration buildings are at right.

island since 1953 and since the heading up of the war in Vietnam. Army Rangers and Marines have established a big jungle training area in the mountainous north of Okinawa to prepare troops for Vietnam.

Aside from three battalions of Army artillery who man the island's Hawk and Nike Hercules anti-aircraft missile defenses, the other Army units are service troops engaged in a seven-day a week S.U.P.I.V. operation moving goods in and out of a 10-mile chain of warehouses between the military port at Naha and the big air base at Kadena just below the narrow neck of the island.

Boon to Economy

The extent to which the military use of Okinawa (there are radar stations and anti-aircraft missile units on some of the other islands, but the great concentration is on the main island) affects the current economy can be measured by the year-end report showing that U.S. expenditures put \$239.5 million into the Ryukyuan economy between July 1, 1965 and last June 30. This was a 22% increase over the \$195.5 million that came from the United States in the previous fiscal year.

Gross national product.

of the islands in fiscal 1966 was \$435.5 million, an 18% increase over fiscal 1965.

Highway 1, leading north from Naha, is jammed every morning and evening with civilian cars. There were 200 in all the islands before World War II. Now there are 47,000 of which 2,400 are taxis. The most welcome news to Okinawans so far this year was the announcement that the government is finally going to build another north-south highway to relieve the congestion.

Aside from Japanese signs, the Okinawa high way scene could be in the United States. Automobile agencies, junkyards, tire shops, bowling alleys and drive-in markets all testify to the arrival of the mobile society and it is not Americans alone who patronize the highway commerce. Okinawa has an additional and unique contribution in this field—the car pawn shop.

Drive your car while it is in pawn is the message emblazoned on a half dozen establishments near Naha's military port.

Behind the roadside fronts old Okinawan village survivors, although Western-style housing is taking over. The traditional huts are made of wooden planks and thatched with palm leaves, sometimes still topped by a thatch roof.

Increasingly sport televisions, air conditioning and the occupation aetials are likely to be working directly or indirectly for the Americans. There are fewer and fewer fields to till, so that vegetable production has dropped 34% in the last five years while food imports go steadily upward.

Life Changed
If the U.S. occupation has radically changed the life of the islands, the same process has been going on in Japan. The civil administration contends that the urbanization of Okinawa would have taken place anyway with the difference that it would have meant mass emigration to Japan.

On the credit side of the occupation, U.S. officials point to a life expectancy in the islands higher than in Japan proper. Later

this year, the World Health Organization is expected to list the Ryukyus as clear of malaria.

The number of classrooms in the public school system through high school was 6,721 at the beginning of this year, compared with a few hundred classes throughout the islands before World War II. Under U.S. rule, the University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa University, and Kokusai University have been established along with two junior colleges.

Teachers Protest

(Inevitably one of the groups which protests loudest against U.S. rule is the teachers' union. Teachers demonstrated violently against the legislature's attempt to pass an education bill which would make Okinawan education correspond closely to the Japanese system, but would also apply the Japanese principle of prohibiting political activity by the teachers.)

The gap between the Ryukyus which existed when they were only a backwater of the empire has been narrowed by a generation of U.S. government. Now that a return begins to look possible, the Okinawans can ask if they will fare better after they cease to be hostages under foreign rule and become again just the country cousins of the big islands.

Okinawans Still Debate Return to Japan Rule

Pragmatists Admit Major U.S. Role in Economic Health Which Could Be Lost

BY DON SHANNON

Times Staff Writer

NAHA, Okinawa—Until of Asia, and will be needed quite recently, no Okinawans—no matter how he really felt—could afford to take a public stand for anything but an immediate end of U.S. rule over the islands.

Times change, and the wisdom of an immediate reversion of the islands to Japan is openly questioned by many Okinawans. After 21 years, U.S. rule is relaxing and reversion to Japan no longer seems an impossibility. For the first time Ryukyans who, once asked only "When?" are now asking "How?" and "What?"

Jinshiro Miyagi, president of the Ryukyuan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, recently pointed out that the islands' exports of \$80 million and imports of \$230 million were balanced only by a single factor—U.S. direct and indirect military spending on its bases here.

Miyagi noted that the heavily subsidized production of pineapple and sugar cannot be substantially increased. Cement is the only other significant national resource. The islands' attraction for Japanese tourists is the low cost luxury items available here which would disappear if the islands return to Japanese rule—and tariffs.

Income Acknowledged

"Regrettably all commercial and industrial activities—and the livelihood of those directly employed by U.S. forces—are supported by the purchasing power generated by the \$150 million income from U.S. forces," Miyagi said.

More trenchantly, he suggested that anyone in favor of quick reversion to Japan should also advance a plan showing how the island economy can survive when reversion comes.

The Japanese government has never come up with a plan to salvage the economy after reversion, he said. Miyagi said he feels that the U.S. bases will stay a long time, but he feels that both the United States and Japan should be preparing to ease the shock of reversion when it eventually comes. Miyagi urges a buildup of tourism, but said it will need U.S. capital for major hotels.

Needed for Defense

Akio Nagamine, speaker of the 32-man legislature in which his Democratic Party holds 18 seats, in general backs Miyagi's position.

"Our people are Japanese and the territory is Japanese, but there are different opinions on how to achieve reversion," Nagamine believes, the majority of Okinawans realize that U.S. bases here are needed for the defense of the free nations

a long time. He thinks, too, that the people here are much more aware of the economic importance of the bases nowadays. He doubts that the Japanese military will ever take over the bases.

Despite this, the Democratic Party supports reversion to Japan. No political party could support continued U.S. rule openly. Nagamine even said it may be necessary for the Democratic Party to attack the U.S. military rule in the next elections to counter the popular appeal of left-wing and cases of immediate reversion to Japan.

Tamuchiro Asato, leader of the Okinawa Socialist Masses Party, argues opposition faction with seven legislative seats is uncompromising in demanding the return to Japan, just as he is unswervingly critical of U.S. policy. "The United States," he says, "creates the tensions in Asia as an excuse for maintaining bases here."

Adman's Stand

He rejects any discussion of economic issues calling for reversion, "the sooner the better."

The economy of any nation will adjust itself to any condition," Asato insists. "The economic issue is used as a threat by the United States, but it is an irresponsible attitude."

Kamejuro Senaga, 60 chairman of the Communist front Okinawa Peoples Party, is also adamant for withdrawal. He asserts the United States has turned bases advertised as defensive into offensive bases for escalation of the Vietnam war.

Senaga calmly agrees that probably half of the Ryukyuan population would be forced to emigrate by economic necessity. If the islands reverted to Japanese rule, this bolters him not at all. "It is up to the Japanese government to take care of the Ryukyans," he says.

Aside from those who decline to face economic realities, many Okinawans are having second thoughts about reversion. For instance, Okinawans were upset when U.S. officials offered to let islanders regulate and license foreign shipping touching ports here. They

asked the United States to retain control because (a) they did not want Japanese shipping to have unrestricted access to the islands; (b) they would be embarrassed by refusing access to the mother country's vessels.

Sentimentally, they said they would like reunion with Japan, but practically the majority is reluctant to sacrifice the prosperity they have achieved under the U.S. administration.

The English language Morning Star newspaper notes: "Sentiment would have to take a back seat when pragmatists began talking about the consumption gap. That's the difference between what Okinawa is capable of producing with assistance of the American presence and what it would be able to produce if the Americans were to leave."

"There's a considerable difference between the difference between eating and not eating."

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Ex-L.A. Student Knows Problems of Ryukyu

BY DON SHANNON
Times Staff Writer

NAHA, Okinawa — A onetime Los Angeles Polytechnic High School student and Azusa orange picker is the chief executive of the civilian government of the Ryukyu Islands.

Seiho Matsuoka, 69, has come a long way since he left Okinawa more than half a century ago as a penniless emigrant. In addition to his post at the top of the civilian side of the government, he is owner of one of the five power companies that serve the main island and leader of the conservative Democratic Party which dominates the Legislature.

As a conservative businessman (and, some critics might add, an appointee of the American general who actually governs the islands), Matsuoka is quick to point out that although he favors ultimate reversion of the Ryukyus to Japanese administration, the move will require careful preparation and perhaps 10 or 20 years.

"If the bases left suddenly," he said in an interview, "it would be disastrous."

Faces All the Facts

Matsuoka faces all the facts of Okinawa's economic life that his political opponents ignore. He needs no reminders that the current import-export figures are \$340 million to \$80 million, with the spending of the U.S. Defense Department and servicemen and their families making up the huge deficit.

He readily admits that the islands' chief export, sugar, earns \$50 million a year only because Japan buys it at a price nearly seven times the world average as a favor to the orphans of the south. And he also knows, thanks to his plantation days in Hawaii and subsequent employment in the sugar industry here, that agricultural output can't be increased much.

Irrigation Expensive

"Where we are growing sugar cane, the rough topography makes irrigation too expensive even at our prices," Matsuoka said.

"Pineapple wouldn't benefit from irrigation anyway," he said, and last year's crop almost met the entire Japanese market for canned pineapple—1.8 million cases out of the 2 million imported. Here again, it is only tariff preference that enables the Okinawan product to sell against lower-priced fruit from Taiwan and elsewhere.

"We make \$5 million a year from our tuna fleet—almost as much as from pineapple," the chief executive said. "We have 80 boats, mostly in the South Indian Ocean and in the Atlantic. That's why we wanted to have the Japanese flag on our shipping—they needed the protection of a national flag." The right to fly the Japanese flag was recently granted by the United States.

Import Demand

Matsuoka pointed out that much of the import imbalance in Ryukyuan trade figures is attributable to the industries which exist to serve U.S. troops and their families. If the foreigners left, a lot of import demand would depart also but it would mean a drastic drop in living standards as well for the Okinawans.

"One way to fill the vacuum would be expansion of tourism, the Okinawan believe."

"I'd like to see the Okinawa Hilton here," he said, gesturing with his cigar. "We need tourist facilities and we need American investment to get them."

Others also think that the tourist business may be the answer for the day when the U.S. military no longer supports the economy. Okinawa has drawn increasing numbers of visitors—from 30,303 in 1961 to 64,278 in 1965 and the number was believed to be around 70,000 last year. Tourist spending in 1965 was \$15,313,000, the se-

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places where their relatives died in the terrible three-month battle of Okinawa in 1945. It is questionable whether, as time passes, relatives will continue to make the pilgrimage.

Another Hawaii the islands are not, although warmer than Japan in winter. Three to four months of hot, humid, summer weather are no great attraction, while the spring can be rainy and

the fall a time for typhoons. The main island of Okinawa has relatively few beaches and despite the long existence of civilization here, little of interest to see.

Matsuoka likes to recall his life as an emigrant in Hawaii and in Southern California, particularly in contrast with what he saw when he went to the United States on a visit in 1959.

"I was amazed at the

change in attitude in California," he said. "There used to be big discrimination against us—we couldn't go into a restaurant or a barber shop operated by white people. So World War II made a big improvement for the Japanese people in the United States."

Matsuoka is critical of some phases of the military government which has ruled his homeland for the

last 21 years, more of American ideas on instant democracy than for harshness.

"American democracy can't be that quickly digested," he said. "Before the war, we were tightly compressed by the government and then all the pressure was off. Everybody thought they should have everything they wanted—not the freedom of responsibility but just freedom for themselves."

Part I—FRI, MAR. 24, 1967 Los Angeles Times ★

U.S. Envoy Sees No Big Okinawa Problem

Islanders Shocked to Hear That Asia Feeding, Modernization Has Priority

BY DON SHANNON
Times Staff Writer

NAHA, Okinawa — There was disappointment and a shock when U.S. Ambassador to Japan U. Alexis Johnson told a news conference here that Okinawa is not a serious problem.

On his first visit to these southern Japanese islands ruled by the United States, the ambassador repeated a statement he had made on his arrival in Tokyo last November to take up his post—that the major problems for Japan and the United States are the feeding and modernization of underdeveloped Asia rather than the backward dispute about Okinawa.

"There is a close cooperative working relationship between the United States and Japanese governments in dealing with questions that arise with respect to Okinawa and thus I don't feel that it is a major question between the two governments," the ambassador said.

Johnson warned that the future of Okinawa must be decided on factors other than simply the wishes of the people here, the relations of the islands and the United States, their relations with Japan, the role of the islands in fulfilling the U.S. commitment to defend Japan and the importance of the islands to U.S. ability to contribute to peace and security elsewhere in east Asia.

War Is Factor

The last factor has made it clear to all concerned that as long as the war continues in Vietnam, return of the Ryukyus to Japanese administration is out of the question.

There was a flurry of political interest before the Japanese parliamentary elections last January in a possible compromise when Prime Minister Eisaku Sato briefly held out the prospect that Japan might take over the school system and perhaps other administrative functions while leaving to the Americans the military bases that occupy more than a sixth of Okinawa's crowded surface.

A Japanese foreign ministry spokesman later had to caution enthusiasts that a return of even partial Japanese administration over the Ryukyus could have grave consequences. Because the MacArthur constitution renounced war and pledged that "land, sea and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained," U.S. bases on a Japanese administered Okinawa would have to be reduced to the "defensive" nature of U.S. bases on Japan's home islands—specifically, there could be no nuclear weapons on Okinawa. Otherwise, Japan would have to reverse its entire defense policy, granting free use of bases and accepting the consequences, an action which would probably torpedo the conservative Liberal Democratic party that has governed since the end of the occupation.

No Interest in Bases

At the same time, the United States has privately made it clear that it is not interested in bases in Okinawa unless they can be freely used as at present. With this information in hand, the Sato government could contemplate not only the loss of U.S. military strength

close at hand but also sudden responsibility for nearly 1 million new Japanese citizens.

The Japanese have now made known their decision—they are not interested in recovery of administration rights alone over the Ryukyus.

From the best that can be determined from both sides, a further occupation period of from 10 to 20 years can be expected. This will carry beyond the hoped-for settlement in Vietnam and into a technologically advanced age in which forward military bases will no longer be required.

In the interim, both nations will seek to improve the economic base of the islands and remove as many irritants as possible between the occupiers and the occupied. Japanese economic aid will continue to increase.

In a move similar to permitting Okinawa shipping to fly the Rising Sun flag as a symbolic protection in foreign waters, the Japanese government has quietly agreed to take over the Ryukyu emigration program. A U.S. agency established to promote emigration of the surplus population was embarrassed by the task of inviting islanders to leave their homes. For Japan, which will have to move as much as half of the population off Okinawa when the U.S. bases are gone, it is something which might as well be initiated now. (The island of Okinawa has a population density of more than 2,000 inhabitants per square mile, a statistic topped only by Hong Kong.)

Pledged Aids

Japan has pledged nearly \$30 million in aid to the islands in fiscal 1968, the highest amount yet, and also subsidizes the sugar and pineapple crops which are the Ryukyus' chief exports. But Japan supplies 73% of the goods imported by the islands—\$196 million worth last year. This important dollar source for Japan would vanish overnight if the Americans left, becoming instead a financial drag on the mother country.

For both the Tokyo government and the islands, the return to the good old days loses appeal as it becomes clearer that the Americans are not going to stay forever.

The realization that reversion may bring a lot of bad news with the good is making relations easier for the occupiers. Despite Japanese press reports of conflicts between U.S. servicemen and the local population, and protests by farmers against the

taking of more land for military use, the atmosphere on Okinawa cannot be described as bad. It is in fact surprisingly good.

Five years ago, Okinawa was being run as a tight ship with curfews on military personnel, irksome inspections of bars and restaurants and warnings on the military radio station against drinking the local water. Lt. Gen. Albert Watson, high commissioner who took over four years ago, inaugurated a new and more relaxed administration. He never used his veto power and is credited with reforms giving the Ryukyuan government more powers and restricting his own.

Degree of Leniency

The degree of leniency these days even permits some gentle kidding of the military establishment. A civilian-owned radio station which broadcasts in English parodies the Army recruiting appeals which are a staple of the official armed services network.

"Surprise your friends by joining the French Foreign Legion and going to Djibouti," the announcer solemnly intones. For a chance, not a choice, see you in the French Foreign Legion recruiting office today.

Such lightheartedness would have been good for a one-way ticket off the island a few years ago. There was some stir recently over one of the perennial orders that military wives raise their stan-

dards of dress but the protest drowned the controversy.

The new high commissioner, Lt. Gen. Frederick T. Unger, has restricted his public pronouncements to a declaration that he will maintain the effectiveness of the military bases and promote the welfare of the people of the islands.

These dual objectives are not only complementary but mutually supporting, Unger said. "The presence of the United States in the Ryukyus has brought extensive economic benefits to the islands and in turn, the continuing growth of a stable, democratic, economically viable Ryukyuan society has reinforced the free world position in the entire area."

Translated, these words appear to both Okinawans and the 80,000 U.S. military, civilians and dependents here to promise a continuation of the new island watchword: "No sweat."