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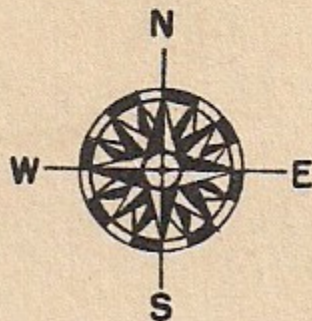
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# THE RYUKYU ISLANDS AT A GLANCE

JAPAN

AMAMI OSHIMA

CHINA



FORMOSA

OKINAWA GUNTO

OKINAWA

PACIFIC OCEAN

CHINA SEA

KITA DAITO

MINAMI DAITO

YAEYAMA GUNTO

MIYAKO GUNTO

MIYAKO

IRIOMOTE

ISHIGAKI

UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

APRIL 1954

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

S.A. Mick McClary [www.ClickOkinawa.com](http://www.ClickOkinawa.com) 2012

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Finance Department of United States Civil  
Administration of the Ryukyu Islands.

April 1954

## FOREWORD

The United States Government, after the capitulation of Japan at the close of World War II, took over the task of occupying and rehabilitating the Ryukyu Islands in accordance with the terms of surrender signed on board the battleship "U. S. S. Missouri" in Tokyo Bay.

The primary mission of the United States Forces was prevention of disease and unrest in a land that had been devastated. As this was accomplished, economic recovery to prewar level was added to the mission. Establishment of a workable, democratic government was also among the list of operations entrusted to the United States Forces.

It was recognized that the Ryukyuan economy would have to be rebuilt. War damage was staggering. Such export potential as existed before the war was destroyed. Repatriation, the uncertain political future of the Ryukyus, severance of economic ties with Japan, and the loss of Japanese business and government administrators added to the critical economic problems.

A determined effort has been made by the Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands to achieve for the native population a standard of living comparable to that prevailing before the war. The task for the future is to continue to improve this standard of living commensurate with that which the Ryukyuan economy can support.

In addition to the tremendous contribution to the dollar earnings and local purchasing power, the presence of the military base has created a large wage-earning class which did not exist before the war. The construction program and other United States Forces activities are contributing greatly to the upgrading of skills and the increase of technological knowledge among the native workers.

At this moment, it would be impossible to present in complete detail or even to predict the adjustments that have yet to be made before the Ryukyu Islands can become a democratic, self-supporting economy. That a multitude of such adjustments will be necessary, however, goes without question.

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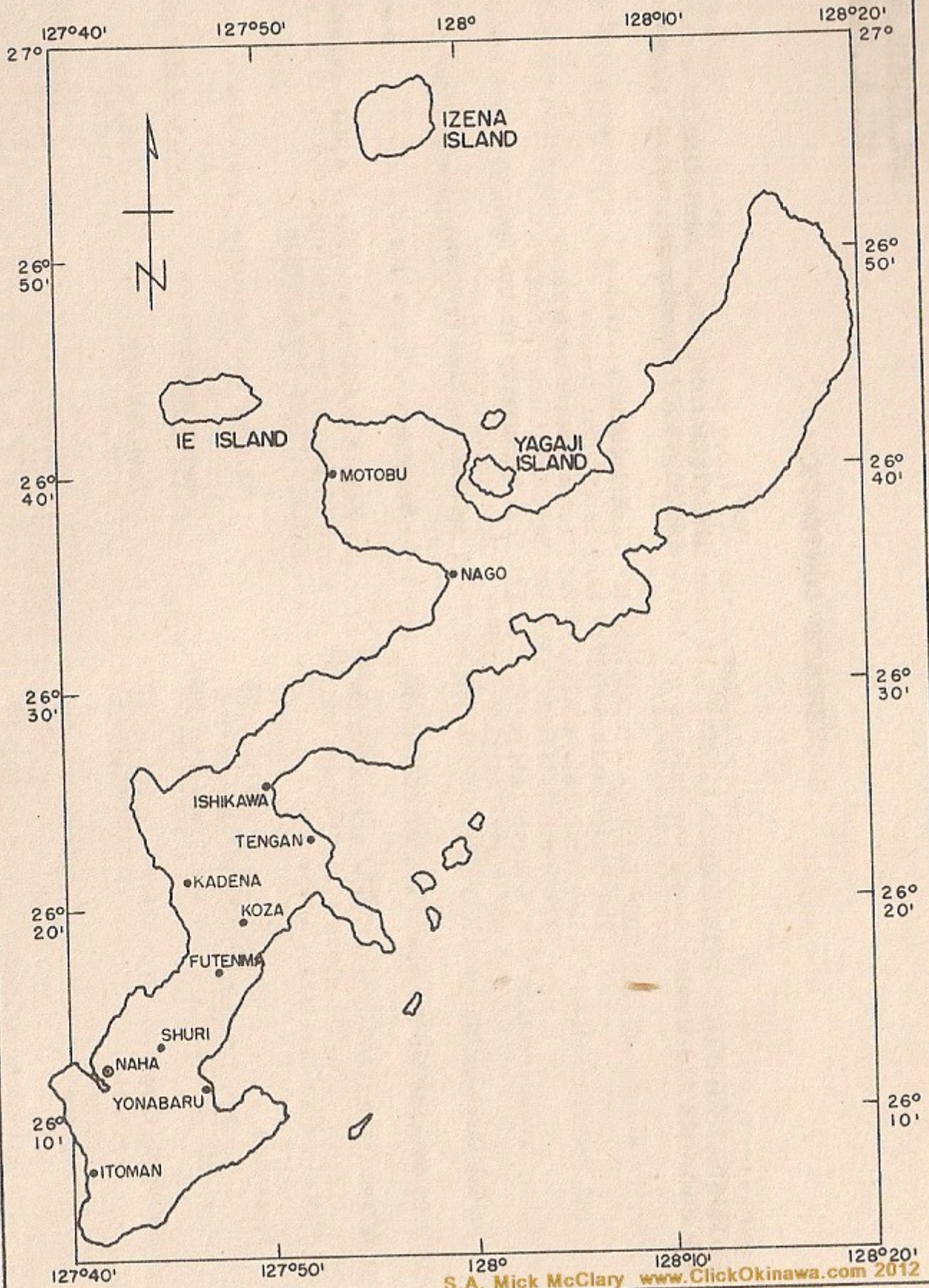
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# OKINAWA ISLAND

AT



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION. The Ryukyu Archipelago consists of three major island groups or "guntos" comprising approximately 63 islands or islets, and countless rocks and reefs. Stretching in a curvilinear chain about 374 miles long, the islands are located within the following geographic boundaries:

28° North Latitude, 124° 40' East Longitude; thence  
 24° North Latitude, 122° East Longitude; thence  
 24° North Latitude, 133° East Longitude; thence  
 27° North Latitude, 131° 50' East Longitude; thence  
 27° North Latitude, 128° 18' East Longitude; thence  
 28° North Latitude, 128° 18' East Longitude; thence  
 to the point of origin.

Only 25 islands in the chain are of sufficient size to be considered "important."

AREA AND POPULATION. Total land area amounts to approximately 542,632 acres (847.9 square miles). Of this figure, 474,737 acres (741.7 square miles) or about 87 percent are accounted for by five islands as indicated in the table below:

<u>Ryukyu Islands</u>	<u>Estimated Population December 1953</u>	<u>Approximate Area in Acres</u>	<u>Approximate Area in Square Miles</u>
Okinawa	600,663	296,206	462.82
Iriomote	9,160	70,424	110.04
Ishigaki	20,436	53,621	83.78
Miyako	75,859	39,907	62.35
Kume	16,205	14,579	22.78
All other islands	44,425	67,895	106.08

## THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

### AT A GLANCE

The first official census made by the Japanese Government in 1920 indicated a total population of 857,000. By 1950 the population by census count was 914,937. In December 1953 the population was estimated to be 766,748 after the reversion of Amami Gunto to Japan on 25 December 1953.

Seventy-eight percent of the total population of the Ryukyu Islands is located on Okinawa which covers 55 percent of the total land area.

In 1940 the population density was 588 per square mile as compared with 529 for Japan, and 44 for the United States. A rapidly growing population plus the return of nearly 200,000 repatriates have raised this figure to approximately 640 per square mile (December 1953).

The youthfulness of the population in total was revealed by the 1950 census. Over 65 percent of the inhabitants were less than 30 years of age -- with a median age of slightly under 20 years. The median age in the United States at this same time was 30 years. The 1950 census also showed a ratio of 113 female persons to 100 males.

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY. The islands of the Ryukyu archipelago are peaks of submerged mountain ranges, separated from the mainland of Asia by the East China Sea. Raised coral reefs are typically developed along the shores of many of the islands.

A continental shelf stretches into the sea from the mainland and then drops steeply to form an elongated, deeply depressed basin with depths of from 3,000 to 6,000 feet. To the east lies the Ryukyu Trench where over 29,000 feet of water weigh upon the earth. Into parts of this vast depression Mount Everest might be sunk without showing its peak above the water.

In Okinawa, Ishigaki, and Kobama are found beds of hard, compact limestone. Considerable quantity of low-grade coal from Iriomote has been found satisfactory for use in Ryukyuan industry. There are also deposits of phosphates, sulphur, andesite, granite, sand, and gravel. Small deposits of copper, iron, and gold have also been located.

Soils are varied in character; the richest soils are found in the mountain valleys of the larger



islands. The soils of the small low-lying islands are usually light clay loams of a reddish-brown color overlying Ryukyu limestone. They are generally thin, basic in test, and only moderately fertile.

**CLIMATE.** Although located within the temperate zone, the islands have a subtropical marine climate. This is due largely to the influence of the Japan Current (also known as Black Current) which ranges from 5 to 15 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than the other ocean water about it. In summer the heat and humidity of the sultry monsoon winds from the south are intensified by the Japan Current, and in winter the cold monsoon winds from the north are warmed and moistened by it. Extreme temperature variations are seldom experienced.

**HUMIDITY.** The mean annual moisture content of the air is extremely high, averaging 80 percent. This factor, together with the rather high year-around temperature, would make the climate quite oppressive were it not for the fresh monsoonal winds and breezes which blow steadily throughout the year.

**RAINFALL.** Rainfall is heavy in the Ryukyu Islands. There is, however, considerable variation in the amount of rainfall from place to place. At Ishigaki, Yaeyama, for example, the average annual precipitation reaches 91.6 inches. This is due primarily to the fact that Ishigaki Island lies more squarely in the path of the warm Japan Current than do any of the other islands, with the result that the winds blowing over this area contain considerably more moisture than is the case elsewhere in the archipelago. At Okino Daito, which lies well outside the path of the Black Current, the mean annual rainfall amounts to only 51.2 inches. Mean annual rainfall at Naha, the capital, is 84.4 inches.



Rainfall is heavy in the Ryukyus.

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WINDS. The prevailing winds are monsoonal in character. The winter monsoon usually sets in suddenly during September, when as a result of the rapid rise in pressure over north central China, northerly and northeasterly winds begin to blow off the mainland and over the islands with great steadiness and considerable force. Northerly winds prevail until March, when a period of extremely variable wind occurs and the mean wind direction gradually shifts toward the east and south. This transitional period continues until June, at which time the southerly winds of the summer monsoon become firmly established and continue to prevail until late August or early September.

STORMS. Thunderstorms occur occasionally, particularly in the southern islands. April through August are the months of greatest thunderstorm frequency.

The islands lie within the typhoon belt of the East China Sea. From 12 to 45 typhoons affect the Okinawa region each year. Of this number, from three to six can be expected to cross directly over the area. Such typhoons usually cause great property destruction. Most typhoons occur from May to October. It is comparatively rare for a typhoon to strike during the November to April period.

RYUKYU WEATHER BUREAU. There are four main weather stations located in Naha, Minami Daito, Ishigaki, and Miyako. Daily meteorological data is transmitted via a weather radio net to Naha Central Weather Station and the Central Meteorological Observatory in Tokyo. During the war, the weather station at Naha was destroyed and construction of a new Central Weather Station was completed December 1953.

WATER SUPPLY. An inadequate supply of water has been a major problem for many years. Natural sources are scarce and are limited for the most part in the larger islands. Only a few islands have sufficient water for both personal needs of the population and such general needs as crop irrigation. The quality of most water in the archipelago is poor. The widespread practice of using night soil for fertilizer results in the frequent contamination of water drawn from ponds, streams, and wells. Rain-water catchment, which provides the principal supply of potable water, has an unusually high chloride content.

RELIGION. Religion, as practiced today in the islands, consists of an indigenous animistic cult which has been influenced in varying degrees by Confucianism, Shintoism, Buddhism, and Christianity. It is

a naturalistic religion, a survival of the religion of nature which prevailed in Japan before the Shinto system was fully elaborated. The people pay homage to the natural objects surrounding them, and endow these with spirits. Priestesses, called "noro," figure prominently in the various annual festivals. They are also visited for advice and guidance. Noro derive their support from offerings and payments for their services, including gifts of land.

There are no regular religious services except the celebration of certain important festivals. These festivals are marked by obeisances to the gods by singing and dancing, by the recital of prayer formulas, and by sacrificial offerings. They are arranged in a ceremonial calendar, which differs from locality to locality.

CULTURE. Men and women dress in Japanese style, usually bareheaded. The women's hands, in times past, were tattooed, and evidences of intricate textile patterns, floral designs, or other elaborate tattoos are occasionally seen. The Japanese forbade the custom and it has now all but disappeared.

The Gregorian calendar of Western culture is generally followed. However, some Ryukyans, especially farmers, adhere to the lunar calendar. Most of the native festivals fall on lunar calendar dates.

Before the war, marriages were negotiated by parents. Betrothals were concluded through a go-between soon after birth or any time thereafter. Details of the proceedings vary in the different islands. In the years following the war, there has been a strong trend away from this tradition. More and more, young people are choosing their mates by personal selection.

Decorative art in the Ryukyu Islands is exemplified in temple and dwelling architecture, textile designs, and various articles of handicraft of traditional design, such as lacquerware and pottery. In some instances, the older designs have given way to modern ones introduced from Japan.

Music and dancing form an important part of the social life of most Ryukyans. In nearly every household, there is a dahisen, a three-stringed musical instrument which was introduced into the islands centuries ago from China. It is the prototype of the Japanese samisen, which it closely re-

## THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

### AT A GLANCE

sembles. Dancing and music are features of rural social gatherings, and form part of the ceremonies of most of the annual festivals. Many native dances are of classical origin and are distinctive in character from other oriental dances.

Baseball, volleyball, and track are popular in the schools, as is judo and basketball. Okinawa sumo (a type of heavyweight wrestling) and kendo are also popular. Games involving large numbers of contestants are played at the various annual festivals. One of these is the tug of war in which several hundred men pull on a large rope about 300 yards in length.

POLITICAL. The Ryukyu Islands (Loochoo Islands) were known to China and Japan as early as the seventh century.

In 1372 the islands lost their independence when they fell under the political influence of China. From that date, Chinese customs and ideas began to pour into the islands. Following the settling of Chinese traders at Naha, Okinawa, many native youths were sent to China to study.

The Japanese also exerted considerable political pressure upon the islands during this period. In 1451 the King of Okinawa began to pay an annual tribute to Japan as well as to China. A Japanese fleet and army subdued resistance in the major islands in 1609 and established a protectorate which remained in effect until 1871.

The first step to incorporate the Ryukyu Islands as an integral part of Japan was taken in 1871 when Okinawa was attached to Kagoshima Prefecture. In 1872 the Japanese Foreign Office assumed responsibility for all foreign relations and treaties with the Ryukyu Islands and so notified the Western Powers. In 1874 the administration of the islands was transferred



Music and dancing form important part of social life.

to the Japan Home Office. Tribute to China was stopped in 1875 and the islands were garrisoned by Japanese troops. In 1876 the judicial system and police force were reorganized along Japanese lines. At this point the Ryukyus became a full-fledged prefecture of the "home islands" of Japan.

Following the defeat of Japan in 1945, all powers of the Japanese Imperial Government in the Ryukyus were suspended. Indigenous civil administrations for each of the major island groups were organized in 1946. These organizations were limited to performing advisory and administrative functions under the direction of Military Government (MG).

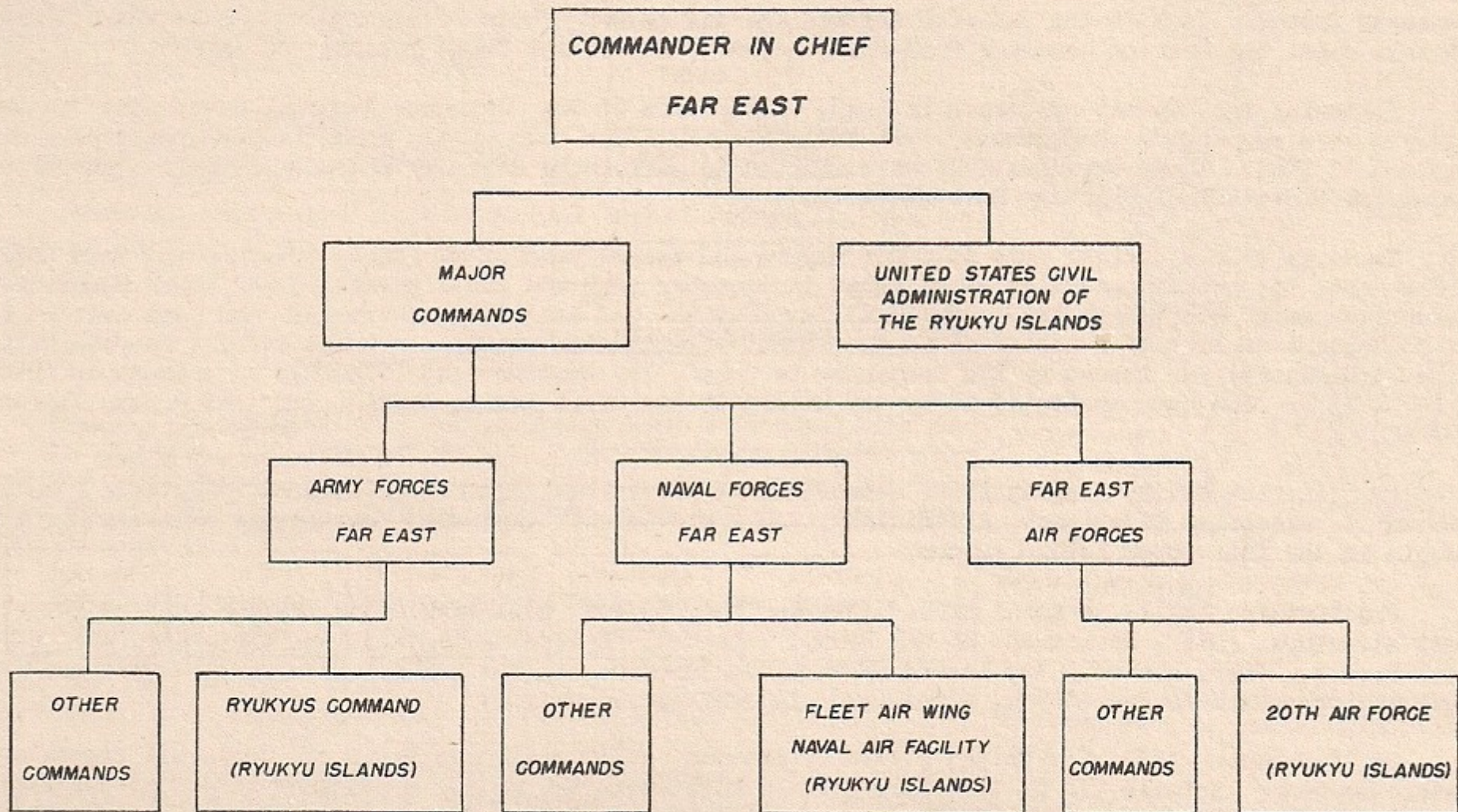
In early 1948 elections were held for mayors and assemblymen of municipal governments. Four local governments for gunto areas were established in December 1949 and gunto governors and their respective assemblies were elected in 1950. National legislative and executive activities had been carried on by MG because of lack of a native civil government organization to assume these overall responsibilities. A directive was issued by the Commander in Chief, Far East Command (CINCFE), on 5 December 1950, providing for the succession of MG by the United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands (USCAR).

Proclamation No. 3, 1 April 1951, established a provisional central government (PCG) with a chief executive, executive department, a judiciary, and a provisional appointed legislature representing the people in the four major island groups.

Proclamation No. 13, 1 April 1952, dissolved the PCG and established the present central government structure, (GRI - Government of the Ryukyu Islands), including legislative, executive, and judicial organs. There are only two levels of Ryukyuan government: the central government - GRI, and the municipal governments for cities, towns, and villages (shi-cho-son).

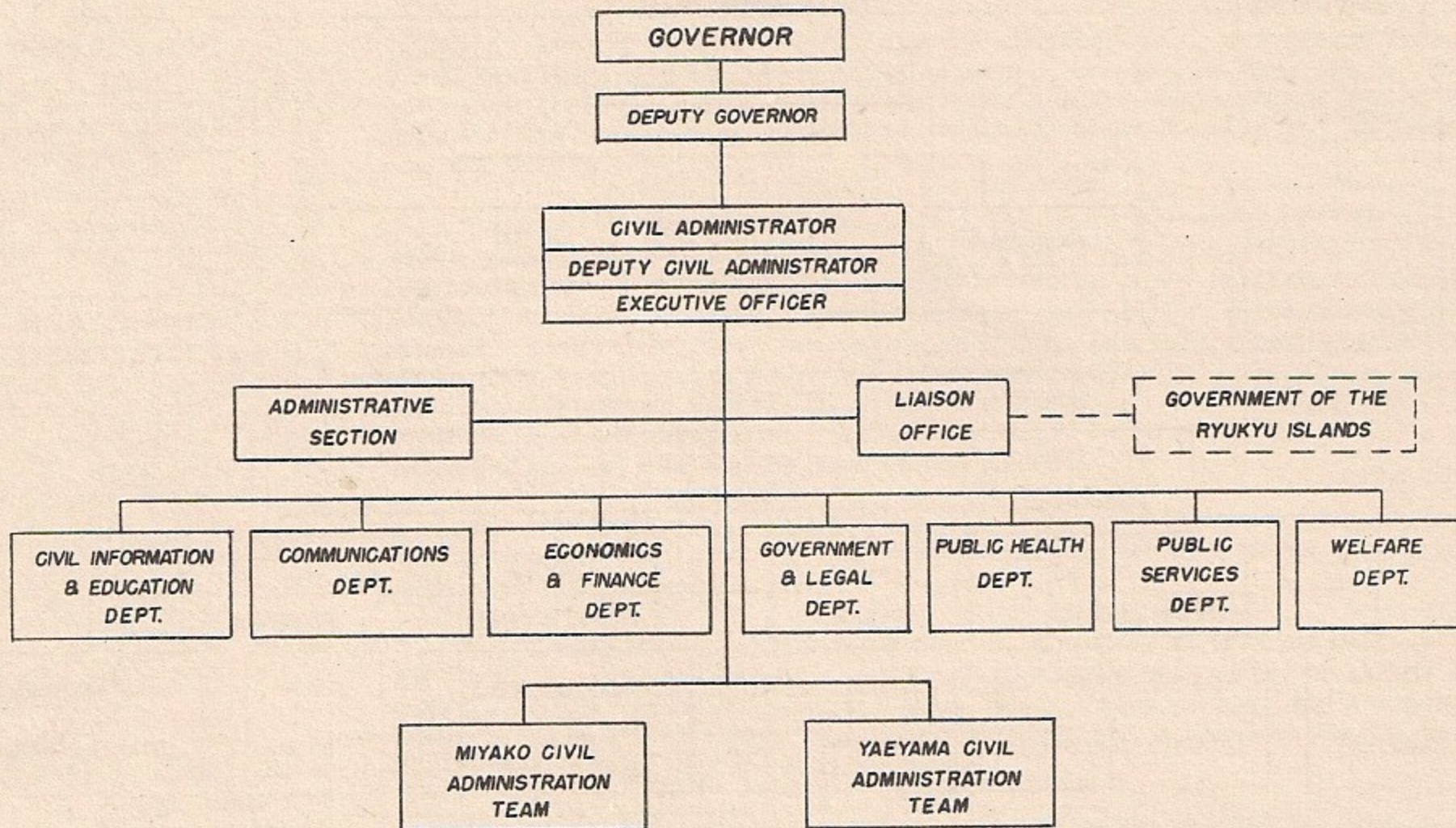
On 25 December 1953, The United States of America relinquished in favor of Japan all rights and interests under Article III of the Peace Treaty with Japan the group of islands known as the Amami Islands which are defined as all those islands, islets, atolls and rocks situated in an area bounded by 29° North Latitude on the north, 27° North Latitude on the south, 128° 18' East Longitude on the west, and 130° 13' East Longitude on the east.

COMMAND RELATIONSHIP



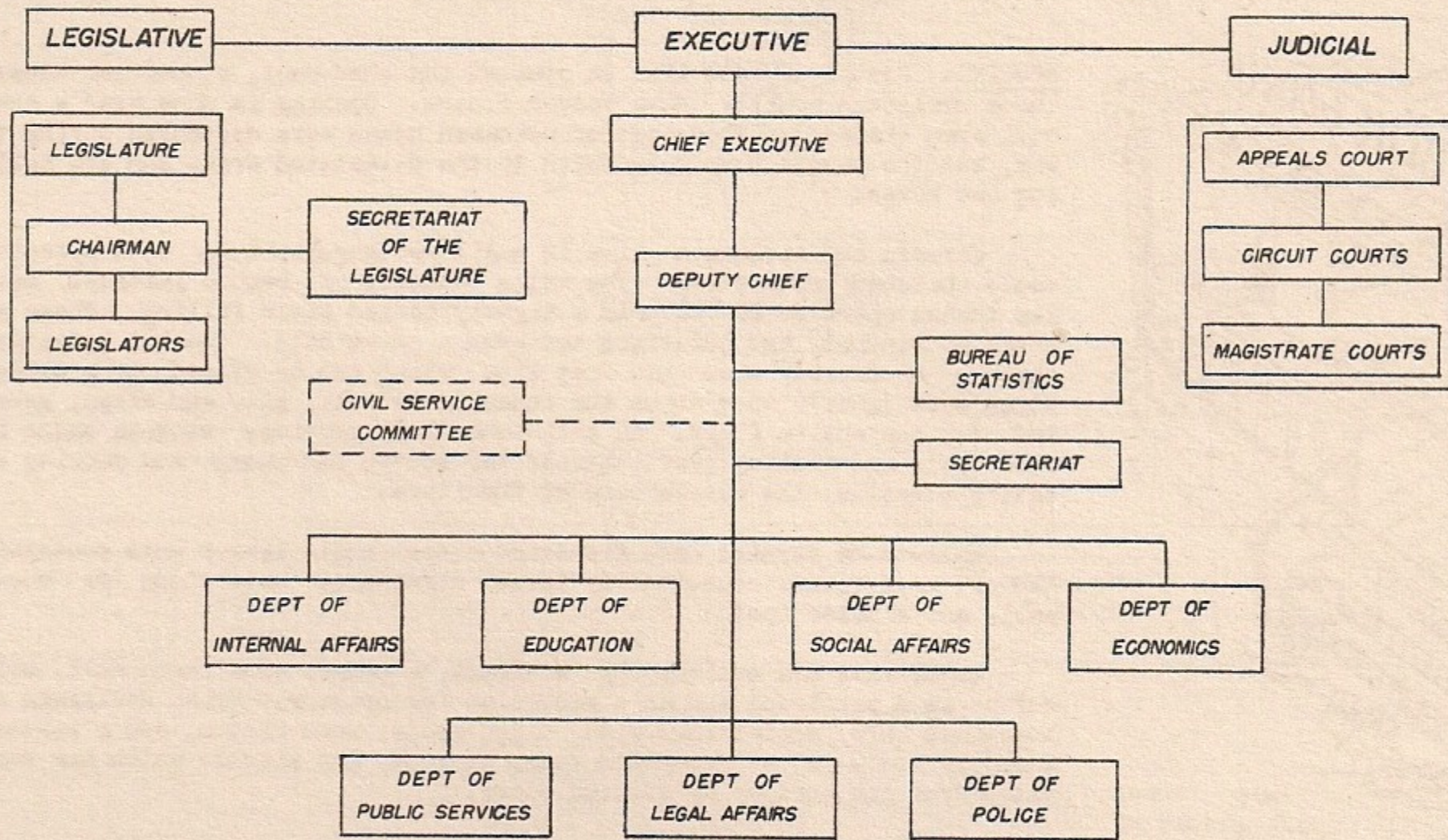
**UNITED STATES CIVIL ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS**

**ORGANIZATION CHART**



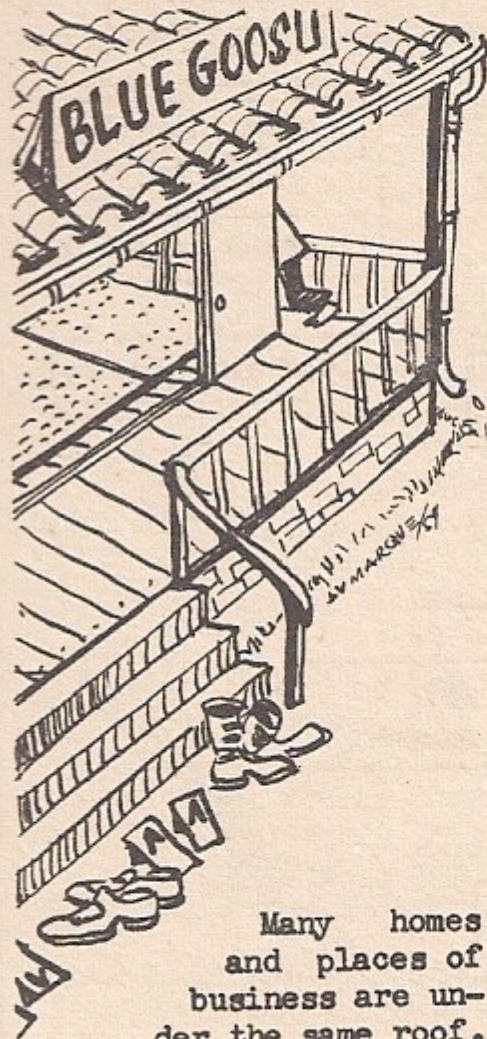
GOVERNMENT OF THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

ORGANIZATION CHART





## ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC UTILITIES, AND ECONOMICS



Many homes and places of business are under the same roof.

**HOUSING.** Most Ryukyans live in crowded thatched-roof, wood-frame houses. These dwellings usually have wooden floors. Cooking is done over a charcoal oven (kamado). Thousands of Okinawan homes were destroyed during the war, but the people have moved back to the devastated areas and are building new homes.

Farmers and fishermen live in small rectangular huts with pyramidal roofs thatched with straw. The walls consist of bamboo lattices set a few inches apart so as to hold a tightly packed straw filling. There are often no windows, and sometimes not even a smoke hole. The hut is entered through a doorway about two feet wide which can be closed by a screen. Straw mats (goza), upon which the inhabitants walk, sit, and sleep, usually cover the entire floor. An unfinished loft provides storage space for farm tools and fishing gear. Except for wooden headrests and cooking and eating utensils, the hut is bare of furniture.

Well-to-do farmers and fishermen often build larger huts containing two or more rooms; occasionally these structures have stone or wooden walls and a tiled roof.

Rural huts are enclosed by a fence, a hedge, or a stone wall, which serves as a windbreak and as a provision for privacy. Urban dwellings are sometimes more pretentious with tiled roofs, wood floors, and a veranda. Commonly there is a reception room, bedroom, and kitchen which are separated from one another by sliding doors.

Ryukyuan stone masons and carpenters are among the specialists in the native community. When a house is to be built, the lumber is accurately

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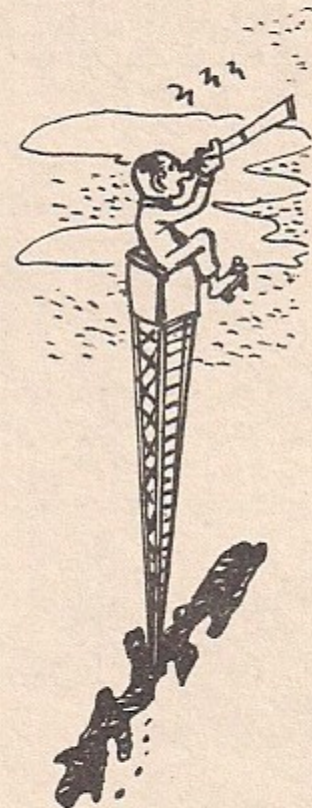
### AT A GLANCE

measured and cut to join according to an intricate pattern. Each major piece is numbered and laid aside until all are ready to be fitted together and the whole structure erected at once. Rafters, stringers, and other components are pegged and wedged almost entirely without the use of nails. The joining of the framework by means of wooden pins results in a typhoon-resistant structure of surprising strength. The entire house will yield slightly to the force of a gale, but springs back to its original position when the wind subsides. Even the thatching is substantial, for it is securely tied down to the roof structure. As of 31 March 1954, the Bank of the Ryukyus had approved over 6,000 loans totalling approximately ¥511,904,018 to Ryukyans for private dwellings. Ryukyus Reconstruction Finance Funds (RFFF) are used for this purpose.

The United States Government has spent many millions of dollars to provide housing in the Ryukyus for American military and civilian personnel. Some housing for Americans has been built by a public housing corporation through Government Aid and Relief in Occupied Areas (GARIOA) funds. These houses are owned by the native economy and profits on their rental are turned in to the treasury of the GRI.

MILITARY INSTALLATION. The strategic importance of Okinawa has been recognized for many years. In 1853, Commodore Matthew C. Perry of the United States Navy, on his way to Japan where he was to break the policy of seclusion, arrived at Naha and established a coaling station. Perry later recommended to Congress that a lease be negotiated for a site on the island to be used as a coaling station for U. S. Navy and commercial ships.

Near the end of World War II, approximately 30,000 engineer troops started building up Okinawa as a base. Their work was supplemented by Navy Seabees. The initial work was near completion by September 1945 when three typhoons struck in succession, destroying much of what had been done. Other typhoons in 1948 and 1949 also inflicted heavy damages on installations. But it was Typhoon Gloria, causing an estimated \$80,000,000 in damage, that finally proved that temporary



Strategic importance of Okinawa is recognized.

construction would not sustain the United States position on Okinawa without excessive annual loss. In 1949 Congress appropriated funds to finance typhoon-resistant structures.

Late in 1949, the Secretary of State announced the intention of the United States to retain bases in the Ryukyu Islands. Congress then approved a multimillion-dollar, integrated Army, Air Force, and GARIOA construction program to be accomplished by the Corps of Engineers, Far East Command, through the facilities of the Okinawa Engineer District. Subsequent appropriations have increased the total for the program by additional millions of dollars. Work on Okinawa today is being performed by a group of Japanese, Ryukyuan, Chinese, and American contractors holding contracts with the Okinawa Engineer District.

The program itself includes highway construction, the power generation plant and transmission system, harbor and water supply improvements referred to elsewhere in this report, as well as construction of military facilities, warehouses, troop and family housing, community centers, and erection of utilities and public buildings of typhoon-resistant construction.

Okinawa is being developed into one of the key American bases in the Pacific. Thousands of Ryukyuan are employed for this work. Many millions of dollars have already been obligated. By 1958, the projected date for completion of the program, the Ryukyu Islands will have, indeed, become a modern "Gibraltar of the Pacific."

FINANCE. Since U. S. Fiscal Year 1946, approximately \$177,000,000 have been appropriated for economic assistance to the Ryukyu Islands. This money has been used primarily to procure food, lumber, cement, petroleum products, fertilizers, mechanical equipment, and many other items. GARIOA funds have also been used for construction of roads, a power plant, port rehabilitation, and other capital construction. Prior to April 1951, governmental functions were financed almost entirely from funds made available through United States aid. In most cases, aid was granted with materials or goods in kind. In addition, proceeds from consumer goods sold to the public were credited to the yen budget accounts.

The Counterpart fund was established in April 1951. This fund is derived from selling GARIOA and other U. S. aid goods to Ryukyuan. The Counterpart Fund is used primarily for the following purposes:

# THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

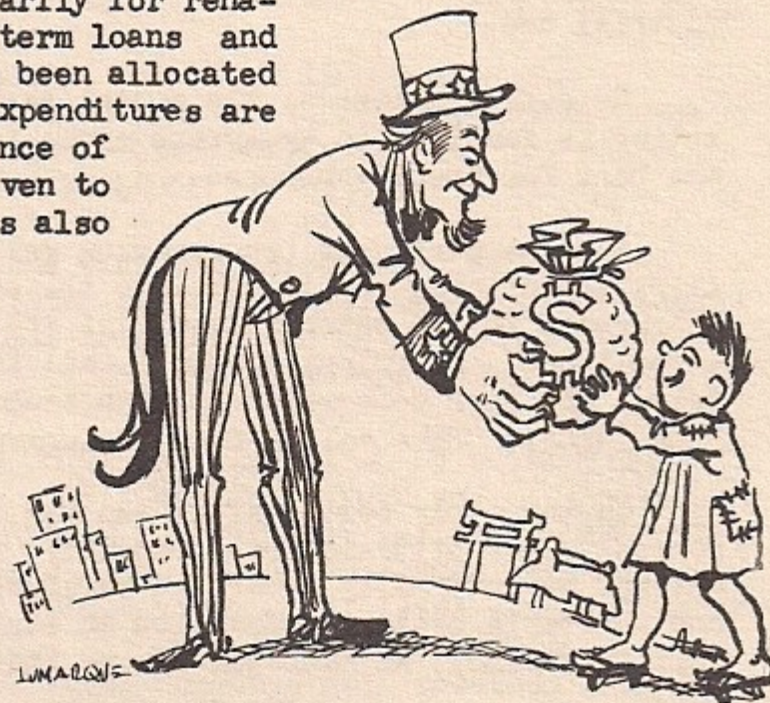
## AT A GLANCE

- a. Supplementation of the operation of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands pending the realization of sufficient governmental revenues from other sources.
- b. Local currency expenses of the United States Information and Education program.
- c. To promote economic rehabilitation, including the extension of long-term loans to agriculture and private enterprises which will increase domestic production and promote economic self-support.

Receipts from the Counterpart Fund have been used primarily for rehabilitation projects, some projects being financed by long-term loans and others by direct grant-in-aid. In addition, grant-in-aid has been allocated for the support of government services to the extent that expenditures are required in excess of normal requirements due to the presence of the United States Forces. Assistance of this character is given to support roads, public health, and police functions. Support is also given for information and education activities in which United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands has a special interest.

The trend has been toward financing an increasingly higher percentage of the governmental programs from internally generated revenues. All central government revenues and expenditures are incorporated in a single budget with grant-in-aid funds being made available to the central government for extraordinary expenditures and for the continuation of rehabilitation projects on a reduced basis. Other governmental expenditures are supported by revenue generated entirely from Ryukyuan sources.

An important finance facility established in the



Almost \$177,000,000 has been appropriated for Ryukyuan economics assistance.

postwar period is the Bank of the Ryukyus. This institution was created to conduct commercial and foreign exchange banking operations. There is a headquarters in Naha and 15 branches throughout the islands. The bank has a correspondent relationship with the Bank of Tokyo, and is a limited correspondent with the American Express Company, Okinawa, the Bank of America, and the Teikoku Bank, Ltd., Kagoshima, Japan.

In April 1950, the Ryukyus Reconstruction Finance Fund was created and over ¥1,200,000,000 from the Counterpart Fund to United States aid has been placed in it. This fund is administered by the Bank of the Ryukyus. Its purpose is to extend long-term loans for housing, utilities, commercial, and industrial use.

Re-establishment of the postal savings system was accomplished in May 1951. This savings institution is familiar to Ryukyuan since it existed prior to the war. Savings generated are available to the bank for credit purposes.

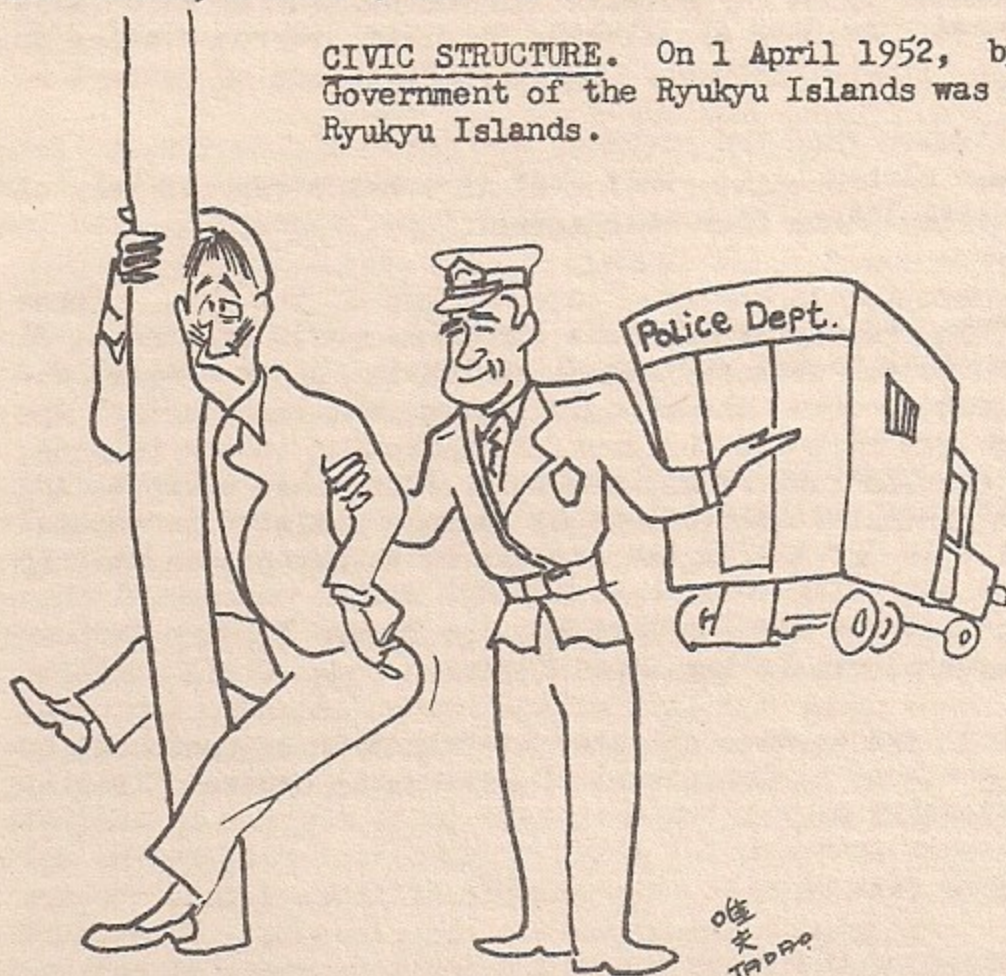
For the past year encouraging gains have been made in exports and the trend is still upward. Also, the pricing of imports into the economy at multiple rates of exchange which existed immediately subsequent to the establishment of the 120/1 rate in April 1950 has largely been corrected. With the exception of petroleum products, all imports are now being processed through normal commercial channels. All such commercial foreign exchange transactions revolve through the Ryukyu Foreign Exchange Fund (RFEF). This dollar fund is augmented by sale of yen to the Armed Forces.

In the early period after the war, little tax revenue was collected to help defray government expenses. This situation has gradually improved and now a large part of government expense is being covered by internally generated revenues. The objective of the tax structure is to provide an adequate and equitable system of taxation to support necessary governmental activities without recourse to deficit financing. As national income increases, more revenue will be available for government.

Income taxes are imposed against the net income of individuals and corporations earned from local sources. Individuals are allowed personal exemptions and exemptions for dependents accompanying them. Tax rates, beginning at 10 percent of the net income, are graduated by increment to a maximum rate of

65 percent. Corporations pay 35 percent of net income for each accounting period. Other significant amounts of revenue are derived from land travel, entertainment, alcoholic beverage, tobacco, sugar, soft drink, commodity and stamp taxes.

CIVIC STRUCTURE. On 1 April 1952, by Proclamation No. 13, the Provisional Central Government of the Ryukyu Islands was dissolved and replaced by the Government of the Ryukyu Islands.



The dignity of the individual is recognized.

Organization within the new government was not intended to be a copy of United States governmental structure. It was, rather, an attempt to create a democratic government that would meet the cultural, economic, and political needs of the Ryukyu Islands. Provision was made for three basic branches - executive, legislative, and judicial. The Chief Executive who heads the administration is appointed to office by the Deputy Governor.

The following principal administrative agencies of government have been established within the executive branch and comprise the departments of: Internal Affairs, Public Services, Economics, Social Affairs, Legal Affairs, Education, and Police. Department heads are appointed by the Chief Executive; these individuals comprise the principal advisory group for the Chief Executive. Other personnel hold office under a civil service law.

The first unicameral Ryukyuan-wide legislature consisting of 31 members was elected in March 1952. Due to a loss of over one-fourth of the membership by the return of Anami Gunto to Japan the remainder of the legislature was dissolved in December 1953. A new election was called for March 1954 to elect a twenty-nine-man-unicameral-lawmaking body. Members are elected by direct representation on a weight-population distribution basis each from a single district. The term of office of members so elected is two years.

Popularly elected mayors and assemblymen are the executive and legislative heads respectively of shi, cho, and son (cities, towns, and villages). They serve four-year terms.

The Ryukyuan Court Systems (native courts) are functions of the Judiciary of the GRI. These courts have civil jurisdiction over all persons in the Ryukyu Islands except members of the U. S. Forces establishment, and criminal jurisdiction over all persons except nationals of the United Nations. Components of this system are the Magistrate Courts, the Circuit Courts, and the Court of Appeals of the Ryukyus. Magistrate Courts are the courts of lowest original jurisdiction in the islands. They have legal authority to conduct preliminary examinations of all arrested or detained persons. If, at the time of preliminary examination, the judge finds that the charge or charges against the accused are misdemeanors and therefore within the jurisdiction of the Magistrate Court, he may proceed to try the case.

Circuit Courts have original civil and criminal jurisdiction over all cases under Civil Administration proclamations, ordinances, and directives and under the laws of the Ryukyu Islands, including the adjudication of controversies involving title to real estate and the determination of condemnation proceedings. They also have jurisdiction over appeals of judgments and decisions or orders of Magistrate Courts located within their respective judicial districts.

The Court of Appeals is the Ryukyuan court of last resort. It consists of five judges who are nominated by the Deputy Governor and appointed by the Governor to serve at his pleasure. This court has the power to hear appeals of sentences, findings, and orders of the Circuit Courts. It can reverse, mitigate, remand for new trial, or otherwise revise or correct the findings and judgments of lower courts in cases on appeal.

## THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

### AT A GLANCE

In addition to the native courts, Civil Administration Courts (Provost Courts) under the supervision of the United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands (USCAR) have been established. Such courts are presided over by Americans appointed by USCAR, and proceedings are conducted through interpreters. These courts hear criminal cases where the security or interests of the United States are involved. Felonies are tried by the Superior Civil Administration Courts, however, this court is limited in its power to mete imprisonment to terms not exceeding ten years. When necessary, Military Commissions may be established for the purpose of trying cases wherein the punishment exceeds the limitations of the Superior Civil Administration Courts; Summary Civil Administration Courts try misdemeanors. In a recently inaugurated program, many of the minor Summary Court cases and all traffic violations involving Ryukyans are being referred to the Magistrate Courts.

PUBLIC SAFETY. The Department of Police is charged with the responsibility for maintaining law and order, protecting the lives and property of the people, detecting and apprehending criminals, traffic control, controlling the movement of individuals who are not members of the U. S. Forces into and from the Ryukyu Islands, and such other functions as may be delegated to it by law. Powers of the police are strictly limited so as not to interfere with the rights of individuals.

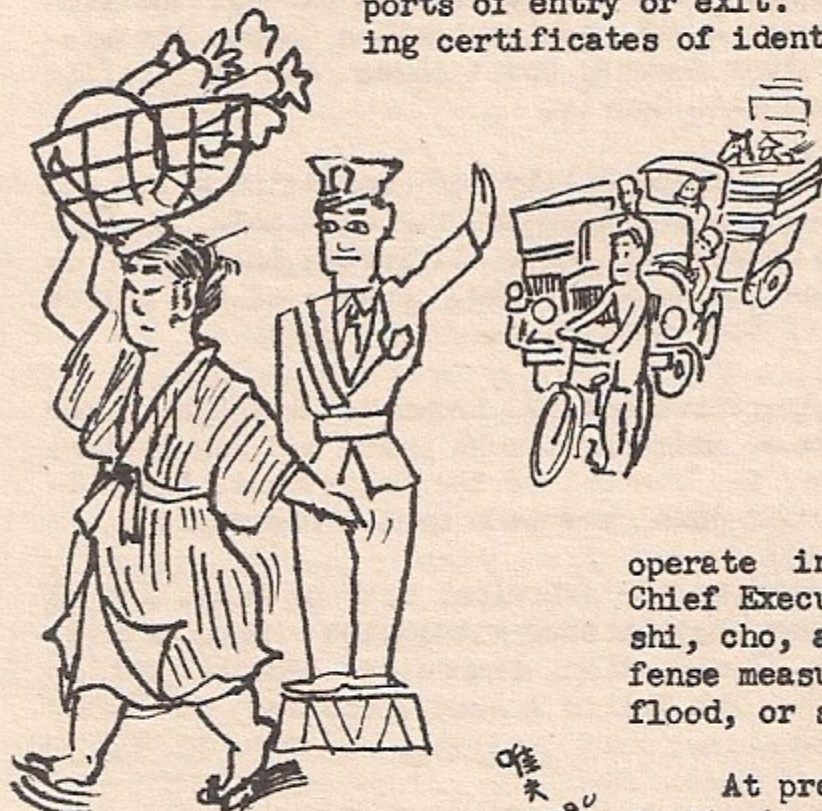
The head of the department is appointed by the Chief Executive and is known as Director of the Police Department. He may, subject to the approval of the Chief Executive, make rules and regulations governing such matters as organization, operation, discipline, and control of the department. Appointments, promotions, assignments, transfers, and dismissals of personnel are made by the director.

The Police Department consists of a headquarters, located in the principal city of Naha, and 13 district police stations. Seven sections or bureaus have been established within the headquarters, namely: Police Affairs, Criminal Affairs, Traffic Affairs, Immigration, Inspector General, Public Safety, and Police Academy (includes education and training). The Police Academy, located in Naha, conducts preservice and inservice courses for police personnel.

The maximum strength of the Department of Police may not exceed 1,043 officers of all rank and 88 service personnel such as mechanics and technicians. The personnel ceiling was set by the Chief Executive subject to budget limitations.



Present immigration procedures were established by Civil Administration ordinance as an integral part of the Department of Police. The Immigration Section operates under the direction and supervision of the Public Safety Division, USCAR, and the Director of Police furnishes such supplies, equipment, and Ryukyuan personnel as may be required for efficient functioning. There are two branches or units: the Immigration Control Branch and the Immigration Clearance Branch. The Immigration Control Branch is responsible for inspection of passports, travel documents, and other routine papers at authorized ports of entry or exit. The Immigration Clearance Branch is responsible for issuing certificates of identity, entry and exit visas (permits), entry clearances to foreign countries, the preparation of all correspondence to outside agencies or foreign countries, arrangement for the deportation of illegal entrants, and maintenance of permanent files and records of the section.



The police perform many functions.

Fire protection services have been established by Civil Administration ordinance. Both paid and volunteer workers are utilized to protect life and property from fire and to alleviate human suffering from fire, flood, typhoon, or similar disaster. Firefighting units are maintained by all cities, towns, and villages.

The police and fire defense services mutually cooperate in protecting the lives and property of the people. The Chief Executive, Director of Police, chiefs of police, and mayors of shi, cho, and son have working agreements concerning disaster defense measures to be taken during times of earthquake, typhoon, fire, flood, or similar emergencies.

At present, the Ryukyuan prison system consists of three penitentiaries and one boys' reformatory. There are approximately 1,000 persons, adults and juveniles, confined in these facilities, the largest of which is located in Naha.

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Prewar prison facilities received extensive damage during World War II, necessitating a large prison rehabilitation and reconstruction program. Brick manufactured within the main prison at Naha is being utilized in this work. Except at the Naha institution, rehabilitation of all other prison facilities has now been completed.

A new two-story brick and concrete reformatory for boys under 18 years of age is in use at Naha. This structure is located just outside the Naha adult penitentiary and allows juveniles to be separated from other prisoners. Boys detained at this institution are required to attend standard school classes four hours per day. The classes are conducted by accredited school teachers at the reformatory. Another four hours per day is devoted to vocational training and sports.

Adult prisoners are gainfully employed in various prison industries and one objective is that the prison system may eventually become self-supporting. Adult prisoners engaged in prison reconstruction and other work are receiving on-the-job training in construction skills. The Okinawa prison operates an eleven-acre farm, and from this source comes a large percentage of the prison food.

LABOR. The Labor Section of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands is charged with the responsibility of enforcing and administering the Labor Standards, Labor Relations Adjustment, and Trade Unions laws. These laws generally follow Japanese labor laws bearing the same titles.

The Labor Division of the U. S. Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands is responsible for administering a Civil Administration Labor Ordinance applicable to the U. S. Forces, its agencies, and contractors connected with the U. S. Forces. The Ordinance and Ryukyu laws contain similar provisions but vary to the extent necessary to give due recognition to pertinent U. S. legislation and military security of the United States in the Ryukyu Islands.

The preamble of the Civil Administration Labor Ordinance states the following "Bill of Rights of Labor:"

1. Every worker shall have the right to associate himself with other workers in labor organizations.

2. No person shall be denied the right to work because of race, nationality, creed, or social status.
3. Every worker shall have the right to select representatives of his own choosing to represent his interests to his employer.
4. Every worker shall have the right to rest and leisure.
5. Every worker shall have the right to payment for his services in accordance with their quantity and quality.
6. No person shall be required to work against his will.
7. Child labor is prohibited so that children may be educated and their labor not exploited.
8. Every worker shall have the right to safe, healthful working conditions.
9. No worker or applicant for work shall be required to pay any other person anything of value as a condition for employment.
10. No worker may prevent another, against his will, from engaging in lawful employment.

The Labor Ordinance is in three divisions. The first, concerning labor organizations, is an adaptation of the U. S. National Labor Relations Act as amended through 1951 and parallels the Ryukyuan Trade Union Act; the second, relative to conciliation and mediation, is patterned after the U. S. Labor Management Relations Act as amended through 1951 and is comparable to the Ryukyuan Labor Relations Adjustment Act; and the third, establishing minimum labor standards, is a modified reiteration of standards set by the Ryukyuan Labor Standards Act. The Labor Section of GRI operates and administers seven employment offices patterned after the U. S. Employment Service. This organization is responsible for recruitment and placement of the unemployed and selection of qualified applicants to fill the employers' needs.

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In 1945 there were approximately 300 to 400 semiskilled and skilled Ryukyans. Today, through training by USCAR, the Army, and Air Force, there are an estimated 100,000 Ryukyans who are either semiskilled or skilled in the various clerical and trades positions that are or have been utilized on Okinawa. This program is still considered an important mission in furnishing the U. S. Forces indigenous personnel as may be required. The use of indigenous labor by the U. S. Forces is a major factor in the local economy today.

Workmen's Accident Compensation. Ryukyuan employees are accorded workmen's accident compensation benefits under several programs. Employees paid from U. S. Government appropriated funds are protected by the U. S. Employees' Compensation Act. Employees of contractors with the U. S. Government are covered by a Civil Administration Ordinance of 1951 under which program 2,080 claims were filed in 1953 with a total payment of ¥11,936,395.43. Employees of Ryukyuan employers in the local economy are covered by workmen's compensation provisions of Ryukyuan labor legislation enacted in 1953.

Civil Service. A commission of three persons appointed by the Chief Executive of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands and approved by the Legislature is responsible for administering and enforcing civil service and government employees compensation laws. These laws are consistent with democratic practices and are designed to provide the government with employees to perform public duties with a maximum efficiency. The civil service is divided into two classes of employees: a "regular" service which includes most positions and requires competitive examinations, and a "special" service for high executive positions and elected officials. Selection of regular service employees are made from the highest qualified applicants who have competed in an open public examination. Salary and position titles are based on position responsibilities, preponderance of duties, and hazards.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES. Before the war, public utilities throughout the Ryukyu Islands were reasonably satisfactory insofar as local requirements were concerned. Electricity was available in very limited quantities in Naha, Shuri, Kadena, Nago, Itoman, and in some of the other smaller municipalities in Okinawa. Electricity was also available in a few of the larger cities in the islands of Miyako and Ishigaki (Yaeyama Gunto). Prewar Naha had a modern water supply and distribution system. Public water supply systems existed in several other towns and villages throughout the Ryukyus. However, in most cases, with the exception of Naha, these facilities consisted of central water points

from which the local population obtained water in individual containers. It was conveyed to the homes by persons, bicycles, carts, or other means.

A water-borne sewerage system served a part of the city of Naha. "Benjos," a type of outdoor privy used throughout the rural areas of the Ryukyus, were and are used as receptacles for human waste in nearly all other towns and villages. Human waste deposited in these receptacles is removed from time to time and generally used for fertilizer except for ground used for approved farming.

In Okinawa, and to a lesser extent throughout the island chain, numerous dikes or sea walls had been constructed to reclaim or protect land and highways along the seacoast. Much of the soil so protected was part of the best agricultural land in the Ryukyus.

Roads and trails provided land communication between the various towns and villages. These facilities were reasonably satisfactory to serve local needs. Some main streets in Naha and in Shuri, as well as a few other highways on Okinawa, were paved. In general, the roads were coral surfaced and required extensive maintenance when subjected to heavy traffic. Many roads were narrow, crooked, and suitable only for footpaths or horse-drawn carts. Only on Okinawa was there what could be called an island-wide system of all-weather roads capable of supporting motor vehicle traffic. A considerable number of villages in the northern part of Okinawa and in other islands of the Ryukyus group were accessible only by cart trails or, if on the seacoast, by water. Storage and warehousing facilities were reasonably sufficient for local requirements except that there was no refrigerated storage. The only prewar airfield was located in the outskirts of Naha; however, numerous airfields were built by the Japanese Government during the war. There were few public parks.

During World War II public utilities suffered extensive damages, particularly in the densely populated southernmost part of Okinawa where there was almost complete destruction. This is exemplified by the fact that, at the end of hostilities, there were only a few dozen habitable buildings in the area where approximately 300,000 people had lived.

Sea walls, roads, and bridges were extensively damaged by shellfire and bombing; harbor and dock facilities and navigational aids in Okinawa were severely impaired, and almost all local shipping was destroyed as a result of military action. Direct war damage and delayed maintenance brought about a

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sizable requirement for building rehabilitation and replacement. Sea walls, lands formerly protected by sea walls, and coastal roads also sustained damage from typhoons which in many years has amounted to well over ¥10,000,000. Restoration of sea walls for protection of land along the coasts of Okinawa has lagged due to greater demand for the improvement and restoration of other facilities. Although material progress has been made during the past years on restoration of these facilities, much work remains to be done. It is anticipated that complete restoration will require several years due to limited availability of funds.

Many highways in Okinawa have been improved under the direction of the District Engineer. The GARIOA-financed Highway Improvement program which involved approximately \$8,900,000 has been completed. A sizable amount of funds from military appropriations has also been expended for the paving and improving of highways connecting many major towns and U. S. military installations in the southern and central sections of Okinawa. Work is being continued on roads which are of primary interest to the U. S. Forces. There are now approximately 130 miles of paved highways in Okinawa and a sizable extension of paved roads is anticipated.

Roads throughout the Ryukyu Islands have been materially improved by local government agencies assisted by appreciable contributions from Counterpart Funds. Substantial progress is also being made on the replacement of temporary bridges with permanent structures. Usable roads in Okinawa are now adequate for present requirements although some bridges lack permanency. In outlying islands, where there was little military action, most of the roads have been restored to prewar condition, with the exception of a few bridges which were bombed during the war, and in a few locations, the roads have been materially improved. However, considerable improvement and extension of the existing road system is yet required to render roads in outlying islands adequate. The current fiscal year program provides for a substantial extension of the road system in Ishigaki and Iriomote Islands.

The new Executive Building, initially for use by both USCAR and the Executive Branch of the GRI, and Port Terminal Building have been built as a part of the District Engineer construction program. Located adjacent to the Executive Building, the new Legislature Building financed chiefly with Counterpart funds is now under construction with completion scheduled for July 1954. Other government buildings have been or are being repaired or replaced throughout the Ryukyus.

Little was accomplished by way of rehabilitation and restoration of public utilities until 1949; the main impetus was received in 1950 when large GARIOA appropriations were made available for this purpose. A large portion of the construction and reconstruction, financed with GARIOA funds, was assigned to the District Engineer, Okinawa Engineer District, for accomplishment. All GARIOA-financed portion of the program has been completed though part of the original GARIOA projects, particularly the port developments, are being augmented through military appropriations.

The District Engineer has completed construction of a 46,000 KVA thermal power plant at Machinato, Okinawa, and a transmission system which serves the southern section of the Island. This project which has cost about \$7,400,000 to date provides electricity for the U. S. Forces and native economy. The latter is receiving power through a local distributor in the Naha area; local distribution companies have been franchised to furnish power from the same source in the Machinato-Futema and Sukiran-Tengan areas in the central section of Okinawa. Temporary army distribution facilities augment power in the native economy.

The prewar water system for the city of Naha has been restored and improved by the District Engineer at a cost of approximately \$1,575,000 from GARIOA funds. This project now provides Naha with an adequate supply of potable water.

Materials purchased with GARIOA funds were furnished for the reconstruction of the water distribution system within Naha and for the construction of new public water supply systems for the cities of Hirara (Miyako Gunto) and Ishigaki (Yaeyama Gunto). These latter two projects were completed in 1953 and now provide these cities with an adequate supply of water for domestic use. GARIOA and Counterpart funds have also been provided for restoration and improvements of numerous water supply systems for smaller towns and villages.

LAND TRANSPORTATION. Prewar land transportation equipment (self-propelled) in the Ryukyus consisted of less than 300 motor vehicles and, on Okinawa only, limited public railroad facilities. The railroads were narrow gauge; power was by coal-burning engines and by horses. One rail line ran from Naha north to Kadena and south from Naha to Itoman via Yonabaru on the west side. Another line ran from Naha east to Yonabaru.

World War II brought about complete destruction of rail lines. The only motor vehicles that remained were a few military-type Japanese units, and U. S. Army military vehicles. About 800 U. S. military vehicles were made available by U. S. Military Government to provide land transportation for the Ryukyuan people. These vehicles were in service until midyear 1950 with the U. S. Government burdened with the major expense for operation and maintenance.

During the period from December 1949 through June 1950, these military-type vehicles were retired. After July 1950, many were shipped to Japan, rebuilt, and sent to Korea for the United Nations war effort. With the retirement of U. S. military vehicles, the development of essential land transportation facilities with GARIOA funds was undertaken and Ryukyuan bus and truck companies were established by private enterprise using commercial-type equipment. Rehabilitation of the prewar rail lines was not attempted due to the more economical and modern method of utilizing motor vehicles for short-haul transportation.

Today over 4,127 motor vehicles, primarily of Japanese and American manufacture and owned and operated by Ryukyuan, are providing land transportation services. Ryukyuan commercial buses have assumed the business of daily transporting approximately 10,000 Ryukyuan employed by the U. S. Forces who were previously transported by military vehicles at U. S. Government expense. Through the inauguration of this service, a reduction in cost of approximately \$1,000,000 a year to the U. S. Government was possible. Another point of interest is the fact that Ryukyuan commercial bus lines operated by 10 individual companies transported over 43,000,000 fare-paying passengers during 1953 for a total gross revenue exceeding ¥365,000,000. Some passenger carrying vehicles are operated by women drivers. Sufficient companies are now operating in the bus, truck, and taxi fields to provide healthy competition, and carriers are alert for business with U. S. military installations, foreign construction contractors, and U. S. Forces personnel. Truck companies are earning approximately \$100,000 in foreign exchange annually, while foreign exchange from taxi operations amounts to over \$2,000,000 a year at the present time.

Basic legislative acts and regulations for the further rehabilitation of transportation are currently being proposed for GRI legislation. Regulations are being developed to protect the highways and the public, provide for the safety of persons and goods, improve efficiency of operation and business



procedures, and to protect the established carriers from unfair or destructive practices. Advice and guidance for this program are being furnished by the United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands.

WATER TRANSPORTATION. Before the war, the Ryukyu Islands were served by cargo and passenger vessels flying the Japanese flag. Adequate service existed interisland via these vessels and equally satisfactory surface transportation was available between Ryukyu Island ports and foreign ports. This service was made possible by subsidies paid to Japanese shipping companies by the Japanese Government.

The almost total destruction of Japanese shipping in World War II left the Ryukyus without vessels of a size suitable to handle the interisland traffic. In this emergency the U. S. Government made available war-surplus, military-type cargo ships and landing craft (LC). Costly-to-operate Freight-Supply ships (FS), Landing Ship Tanks (LST's), and smaller landing-craft-type vessels were utilized by U. S. Military Government, at U. S. expense, as was the case with land transportation in the Ryukyus during the first postwar years. The islands were served in this manner until early 1951. Military Government during this period also supervised and supported stevedoring operations necessary for loading and discharging at all ports, as well as shore-to-ship supply and maintenance activities.

In 1950, with the assistance of GARIOA funds, contracts were made for the purchase in Japan of ocean-going vessels. Private interests in the Ryukyus organized and raised capital to establish shipping companies. Dry cargo vessels, combination passenger and cargo, and tanker-type vessels were ordered to supply the needs for interisland service and, to a limited extent, participate in foreign trade. Early in 1951, these vessels made their initial voyages to Ryukyuan waters. The military-type vessels were transferred to the Far East Command reserve fleet in Japan.

In addition to vessel operation, native enterprisers have become established in other allied water transportation activities. The changeover of stevedoring services to privately owned and operated companies from operations supervised by governmental agencies has been accompanied by a remarkable increase in labor efficiency. At present several independent stevedoring and terminal operating companies are functioning. Tonnage per man now profitably handled by stevedores under private enterprise is more than double the early postwar figure under governmental operation.

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Ryukyuan shipping companies now act as agents for many regularly scheduled commercial vessels calling at the Naha Commercial Port. Arrangements are being finalized for these agents to represent several American shipping companies whose vessels call in the Ryukyus. Native entrepreneurs are also engaged in cargo forwarding and ship chandler activities.

Port services have recently been expanded by the acquisition of two diesel-powered steel tugs for ship berthing and general service. In addition, a Ryukyuan harbor pilot service sponsored by the GRI is now provided.

Port and harbor facilities have been adequately rehabilitated to meet about 75 percent of normal requirements. The present construction program provides facilities for handling vessels of 20 to 32-foot drafts at Tomari Port and at Naha Commercial Port, respectively. At Hirara, vessels of 15-foot draft will be able to berth upon completion of present pier construction. For approximately 30 other small ports, rehabilitation and improvement work now under way will provide berthing facilities for vessels with drafts from 3 to 12 feet. A pier and channel to accommodate vessels with a 20-foot draft have been completed by the District Engineer in the Machinato area in conjunction with the construction of the power plant and aggregate facilities.

At Naha Commercial Port and Tomari Port, a combined average of 38,288 tons of cargo is handled monthly. The ports of Hirara and Ishigaki are also foreign-trade ports handling lesser amounts of cargo.



Navigational aids have been procured.

Naha Commercial Port is administered and operated by the GRI, while other ports, including Tomari Port, are administered and operated by the respective municipalities; the objective for each port is to become self-supporting. For Naha Commercial Port, the GRI is acquiring land, zoning, and effecting construction according to a master plan for port development.

Most navigational aids were destroyed or became inoperative during the war. Further damage later developed from typhoons. Through GARIOA and Counterpart funds, a modern system of navigational aids, including eight 30-foot steel reinforced concrete lighthouse towers, has been established throughout the Ryukyu Islands. Aids also include channel marker buoys, pier lights, automatic lights in lighthouses, etc. The United States Coast Guard completed this rehabilitation program on a reimbursable basis through the use of over \$47,000 in GARIOA funds.

In addition to substantial intra- and interisland shipping, trade routes have been established between Japan and Formosa by Ryukyuan vessels operating on a nonscheduled basis. Creation of the Transportation Section of the Department of Public Services, GRI, has provided much-needed governmental interest and support for Ryukyuan maritime affairs.

POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS. Before World War II, postal operations were conducted in conjunction with telecommunications activities under the jurisdiction of the Japanese Ministry of Communications. All branches of the service, including savings, life insurance, postal checking accounts, postal transfer, domestic and international money order service, and collection of taxes for the government, were under the strict control of Japan, and all key positions were held by Japanese.

Re-establishment of the postal system with Ryukyuan in all positions has been a difficult undertaking. Continuous on-the-job training programs have been initiated, and are being carried on by USCAR and GRI. These programs are providing technical instruction at the job-site for Ryukyuan personnel employed in the 71 post offices scattered throughout the islands.

Due to the devastation of war, it was necessary to design new stamps and to purchase new equipment for all post offices. This equipment included scales, safes, seals, postmarking equipment, pouches, trucks, trimobiles, bicycles, distribution cases, post office boxes, office equipment, and miscellaneous necessities.

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Since all but two post offices on Okinawa were destroyed and offices damaged on other islands during the war, an extensive construction program was necessary. Many new offices have been built and others rehabilitated. The new Naha Central Post Office Building was completed in January 1953 and is now occupied by the Department of Public Services, GRI, the Naha Central Post Office, and domestic and international telecommunications facilities.

Ordinary domestic mail service was established in 1946. Domestic money order service was established 1 September 1950, registry service 1 March 1951, and Postal Savings 1 May 1951. It was deemed inadvisable to re-establish postal checking accounts and postal transfer since transmission of money could be adequately made through the money order service and these activities would prove expensive to the government. The absence of actuarial and mortality tables for the Ryukyu Islands and the lack of capable insurance personnel precluded the re-establishment of the life insurance sales through the postal system.

International mail services, including airmail, were established in 1950. International parcel post service, including insurance and air parcel post, was inaugurated between the Ryukyu Islands, the United States, and Japan on 1 May 1951. International parcel post agreements are being negotiated with other foreign countries.

International money order service to Japan was inaugurated 2 February 1953. Agreements with other foreign countries are pending. Until the Legislature was formed in the Government of the Ryukyu Islands, postal service was authorized by USCAR. However, the Money Order Law was passed by the Legislature and became effective 29 September 1953. The Postal Law was passed and became effective 2 December 1953.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS. At the present time all international telecommunications, radiotelephone, and radiotelegraph are owned by the Government of the Ryukyu Islands. The Ryukyus International Telecommunications Service (RITS) is manned and operated by Radio Corporation of America, under a service contract, which went into effect on 1 June 1952. RCA is training GRI personnel in management and operation, thus giving GRI a nucleus of trained personnel to "take over" when the RCA-GRI contract terminates.

RITS operates radiotelephone and radiotelegraph circuits between Naha, San Francisco, Manila, and Japan. International telegraph messages and telephone calls to and from all parts of the world are possible by relaying through the San Francisco and Manila terminals.

Modern, single sideband transmitting and receiving equipment was installed at Naha during 1952 and since being placed in operation has materially improved the operation of the Naha-San Francisco and Naha-Osaka, Japan, telephone circuits.

Domestic radiotelegraph service had been re-established between Okinawa and 19 other islands, from Iheya Island in the north to Yonaguni Island in the south. Plans are being formulated for the addition of several radiotelegraph stations on the smaller islands. Automatic tape transmission and reception is now in regular use on the Naha-Fukuoka, Japan, and Naha-Naze, Amami Oshima, circuits.

Transmitting and receiving equipment have been procured for the development of a very high frequency (VHF) police radio network connecting Naha, Motobu, and Itoman, as well as various vessels and vehicles, as required. It is contemplated that the police network will consist of 3 fixed stations and 10 mobile stations. Among other advantages, this network will provide direct radiotelephone services to police patrol vessels operating in Okinawan waters.

Construction of a new, modern broadcasting station for the Ryukyuan people was completed and inaugurated 1 February 1953. This station was assigned the call sign of KSAR with an authorized power of 3,000 watts, operating on a frequency of 740 kcs. KSAR has extended broadcasting to 18 hours per day. Programs are of cultural, entertainment, and educational type, directed primarily toward the Ryukyuan populace.

Thirty-eight Group-Listener Systems have been installed throughout the Ryukyu Islands. Each system consists of a radio receiver, audioamplifier, and 300 speakers, which are installed in homes, public business houses, etc. These speakers are connected to the amplifier by a distribution system similar to open-wire telephone lines.

To date there are in excess of 2,000 telephones in the Ryukyuan civil system. This number is increasing monthly and compares favorably with the highest prewar total of 2,350. Rehabilitation of war

damaged facilities is continuing. Improvement and extension of telephone service are under way. Installation of a 1600-line, common battery, multiple-type switchboard, in the new Naha Post Office Building, and modernization of local telephone plant and switchboards, are now being accomplished.

A survey has shown the feasibility of using VHF carrier system for telephone and telegraph service to Miyako and Yaeyama. Further effort will be made to provide this badly needed service.

Other contemplated telecommunications programs include new equipment for the radio installations for meteorological services and establishment of a fisheries ship-to-shore radio network. Some 30 fishing vessels were formerly supplied with necessary equipment for this project. It has been contemplated that, in the future, a ship-to-shore transmitting station may be set up and that fishing vessels may be contacted by radio. This will provide an additional margin of safety for vessels and for the fishermen. It will also encourage fishing in more distant waters. Due to current financial problems, however, this project has been postponed for an indefinite period. At the present time, the vessels that are equipped with radio stations route their messages through the Naha Coastal Station.

Fifteen Japanese telecommunications experts were in the Ryukyus on a one-year contract which went into effect early in 1952. These men conducted a formal and on-the-job training of Ryukyuan telecommunications personnel. Formal classes were conducted in the Japanese language on the same basis as an American radio engineering course, supplemented by various Japanese technical publications. These instructors partially trained the Ryukyuan in engineering planning, construction, maintenance, and operation of all types of telecommunications equipment. Further training is desirable.

AGRICULTURE. The crowding of many people on a small area of cultivated land is a dominant feature of the Ryukyu Islands. Okinawa, the largest island, is 67 miles long and 2 to 20 miles wide with a total land area of 296,206 acres (462.8 square miles). Over 600,000 people live in this area.

Total land area of the Ryukyu Islands is 542,632 acres (847.9 square miles) of which about 19 per cent or 103,650 acres (162 square miles) is farmed. The cultivated land is divided into two classes: 13,043 acres in paddy (land used for the production of irrigated rice) and 90,607 acres in upland (land used for dry land crops). In addition, there are 22,011 acres of arable land not cultivated. Field borders cover approximately 28,750 acres, rock outcrops and grass occupy 47,198 acres, 287,798

acres of forest land, and 53,225 acres in miscellaneous categories including military reservations, residential, roads, etc.

Due to removal of villages from military reservations, land in adjacent areas that was formerly cultivated, is now used for home sites. A large labor requirement in southern Okinawa has resulted in a concentration of people in areas surrounding military reservations thus creating a further increase in housing requirements and a decrease in land available for cultivation.

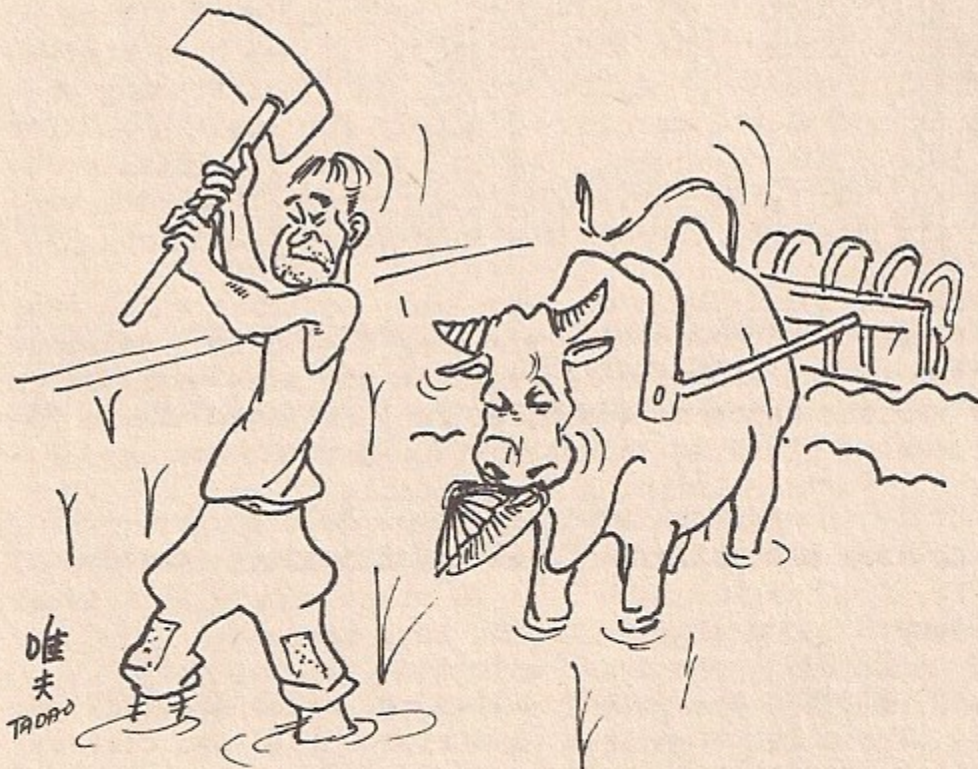
Farm families account for approximately 65 percent of the total population. Ryukyuan farms are small; agriculture in the islands is gardening rather than farming. Individual fields can be compared to experiment station plots; many are not more than a few square meters in extent.

Most of the farm work is done by hand labor with primitive tools usually well suited to their use. Because of unlimited labor supply, little regard is given to the amount of labor expended in growing crops. Figuratively speaking, each plant receives individual attention; consequently, production per unit area is fair but production per man is low.

A large proportion of the cultivated land produces two or more crops a year. This practice adds greatly to the annual production per unit area, but it results in a limited diversification of farming.

Systematic rotation of crops to maintain

Farming is somewhat primitive.



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soil fertility is not a common practice, chiefly because of the ever-present demand on agriculture for the production of food crops for human consumption. Most of the farmers practice a system of crop succession in which one crop follows immediately upon the other.

Estimated planted area and yield of principal food crops for 1953 are shown below. Acreage may be excessive due to the fact that some cultivated lands produce two crops a year.

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Metric Tons</u>
Rice	24,788	18,574
Sweet potatoes	53,828	211,884
White potatoes	880	4,703
Small grain	5,526	1,370
Soybeans	10,054	3,780
Vegetables	6,097	31,258
Sugar cane	9,878	177,301

Fenced areas of grassland for livestock grazing are rare, however, some pastures are found in Yaeyama Gunto. Generally, the wild grass areas are on hilly and rocky land unsuited to cultivation. In some communities, animals are taken to these areas to graze, but more often, the vegetation is cut and taken to the animals.

Livestock production is of secondary importance in the agricultural program. Some horses, draft, beef, and dairy cattle, hogs, goats, rabbits, and poultry are raised. Estimated livestock population for 1953 are as follows:

Horses . . . 17,379	Hogs . . . 102,079	Rabbits . . . 7,254
Cattle . . . 11,739	Goats . . . 84,358	Poultry . . . 236,093

The first agricultural experiment station was established in 1880 at Mawashi on the island of Okinawa and is now known as the Central Agricultural Institute (Yogi). Nago Agricultural Experiment



Station was established in 1915 and Miyako Agricultural Experiment Station began operations in 1916. Koza and Yaeyama Agricultural Experiment Stations were established in the past four years. These five agricultural institutes aid Ryukyuan farmers in increasing crop yields, improving livestock, and developing a more efficient agricultural enterprise through better farm management practices. The agricultural extension service of 65 farm advisors, 7 extension supervisors, and 19 home advisors stationed throughout the Ryukyu Islands, disseminates farm and home information to the public by means of demonstrations, personal contacts, publications, and other media.

The entire agricultural program is planned to increase production thereby minimizing dependency upon food imports and, at the same time, developing cash crops such as sugar, sericulture, fresh vegetables, beef, ramie, and tobacco. Action to improve Ryukyuan agriculture has been implemented as follows:

- a. Establishment of Department of Economics within the Executive Branch of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands which administers agriculture, fisheries, food, and forestry programs.
- b. Rehabilitation of agricultural research, importation of vegetables, fruits, and field crop seeds and planting materials from areas of similar climatic environment for adaptation trials and propagation of superior varieties, and establishment of agriculture and home economics extension services to improve farm-home living conditions.
- c. Establishment of agricultural co-operatives, credit co-operatives, and a central bank for co-operatives.
- d. Increased area under irrigation by constructing reservoirs and irrigation canals -- nine small projects have been completed, one is under construction and several other projects are under survey and design. Completed projects will provide 762 acres of new paddy land and produce 1,143 metric tons rice. Promulgation of Land Improvement Law permitting farmers to form districts in order to simplify the financing of new irrigation projects.

- e. Importation of improved breeding stock, cattle, hogs, and chickens; establishment of livestock hygienic laboratory for serum and vaccine manufacture; livestock disease control, improvement of livestock management and livestock quarantines.
- f. Promulgation and enforcement of Plant Quarantine Law.
- g. Importation of adequate inorganic fertilizer and increased production of compost.
- h. Promulgation of Sericulture Law and rehabilitation of the sericulture industry by construction of new cocooneries and exportation of eggs to Japan.
- i. Initiation of a program to control plant diseases and insects, with experiments in the use of new fungicides and insecticides.
- j. Development of arable land not in cultivation, and encouragement of emigration from crowded areas to those that are sparsely settled.
- k. Construction of five 10-ton and thirty 15-ton improved black-sugar mills.
- l. Production of fresh vegetables for sale to Rycom Quartermaster and U. S. Forces personnel.
- m. Reconstruction and rehabilitation of existing slaughterhouses and construction of three slaughterhouses approved for sale of beef and pork to Rycom Quartermaster and U. S. Forces personnel.
- n. Through the co-operation of United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands, Department of Army, Department of Agriculture, International Farm Youth Exchange Program, and University of Hawaii, seven young Ryukyuan farmers were assigned to Hawaii for six months on-the-job training in tropical agriculture. Four young fishermen, also, were dispatched to Hawaii for one year to learn "flag-line fishing."

FOOD. In modern times the standard of living of the Ryukyuan people has been at a subsistence level. Even at this low standard, it has been necessary to import from 20 to 35 percent of the basic food requirements. The sharp decrease in this already inadequate domestic production caused by wartime devastation and dislocation together with a 25-percent increase in population, primarily by the repatriation of Ryukyans abroad, left the Ryukyus with a very critical food situation. As indicated elsewhere in this report, postwar production of many essential items, such as rice, now equals or exceeds prewar levels.

Until Fiscal Year 1953, approximately, 75,000 metric tons of rice, soybeans, flour, lard, and dried skimmed milk were imported each year under the GARIOA program for ration distribution. In accordance with the policy of developing a self-supporting economy based on the system of competitive free enterprise, food imported on the official program during Fiscal Year 1954 will be limited to 40,000 tons of rice, which will be purchased with dollars earned from commercial transactions and not with GARIOA funds. Since the Government of the Ryukyu Islands can purchase rice on a government-to-government basis at prices considerably below those which are possible by private procurement, it is anticipated that this official rice-import program will be continued indefinitely. It is also essential that the Government maintain a minimum stock pile at all times for distribution in the event of disaster, scarcity, or inflated prices.

The total available food from both domestic and import sources is equivalent to approximately 2,200 calories per capita per day. Imported rice is the only food distributed on ration or at controlled prices. Since this rice is also offered for free sale, the ration actually restricts only the amount which a customer may purchase at the controlled retail price of ¥23.50 per kilogram.

The development of food processing and related industries is an essential part of the entire food program. The local soybean processing industry is adequate to meet domestic requirements for soy sauce and other bean products which has resulted in a saving of \$500,000 per year previously spent to import these items and also created a local industry. It has also provided an incentive to farmers to increase production of soybeans. Import requirements for soybeans, which previously amounted to 14,000 metric tons per year, have been reduced to 3,000 metric tons per year. In a similar manner, the same effect is being obtained in the case of other products. At present, approximately \$12,000,000 per

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year are spent for the private import of foodstuffs in addition to the \$6,000,000 used for rice procurement.

The processing of other basic agricultural and marine materials into edible and industrial products both for domestic use and export has met with some success. Among the processing plants which have been established are rice milling, small flour mills, potato starch, bakery products, confections, vegetable-oil processing and extracting, fish-liver oil, katsuobushi, kamaboko, and other marine products. Awamori, the native alcoholic beverage and a promising export, is being produced from sweet potatoes, molasses, low-grade broken rice, and other carbohydrate materials. In the prewar era it was produced chiefly from rice. A large refrigeration plant resulting from GARIOA appropriation has been put into operation for quick freezing and storage of fish. This will give an impetus to the fishing industry. It will also increase the availability of much needed protein foods and will subsequently contribute to Ryukyuan export trade. Two clean, efficiently operated slaughterhouses and four retail meat markets built with private capital, with guidance and advice from USCAR, are now providing indigenous meats for U. S. Forces personnel and local use.

The present salt industry output is adequate to meet minimum household requirements. However, its inefficiency has not only resulted in high prices for salt but has impeded other industries for which salt is required. With the completion of the large salt plant now under construction, lower priced salt will be available for all industrial as well as consumer needs.

The progress made in developing food industries and other production enterprises, though encouraging, is short of that needed to approach a natural balance in external payments. At present, total import expenditures are at the rate of approximately \$80,000,000 per year, and are increasing. Dollar receipts now equal this rate, however, only about \$5,000,000 of this total is generated by commodity exports.

FISHERIES. In common with the rest of the Orient, the people of the Ryukyus depend upon fish for a large part of their food requirements as well as their major source of animal protein. However, the considerable GARIOA assistance which the fishing industry has received was provided to meet not only these needs but to modernize and expand an essentially subsistence fishery into a commercial operation with the objective of establishing a marine export industry.

From a geographical standpoint, almost unlimited expansion of the Ryukyuan fishing industry is possible. Fisheries management, research, conservation of marine resources, and international fisheries relations are matters not well understood or popularly accepted by Ryukyuan. A program of education that will also develop leaders in the industry is beginning to show results.

Four companies staffed by Japanese technicians are engaged in culturing pearls in indigenous mollusks. Several specialists, together with boats and gear, have come from Japan to engage in fishing for mackerel and precious coral under joint-operational contracts with local fishermen. A Japanese fishing expert is employed by the Ryukyu Fisheries Co., Ltd. to teach crews the techniques of offshore fishing in adjacent waters not previously exploited by local fishermen, although Japanese vessels have fished them profitably for several decades.

Offshore operations require financial backing entirely beyond the means of individuals or small groups working in the traditional manner. Fishing companies did not exist prior to the formation of this company which is owned by all of the fisheries co-operatives in the islands and administered through a Board of Directors for the benefit and advancement of the entire Ryukyuan fishing industry. The company now operates, under charter, two 150-gross ton refrigerated fishing vessels which were put into the deep-sea long-line fishery in 1953. Under the tutelage of an imported fishing master, their catches for trips averaging a month increased from 25,000 pounds of tuna and swordfish to a record of more than 120,000 pounds landed by one vessel in March 1954.

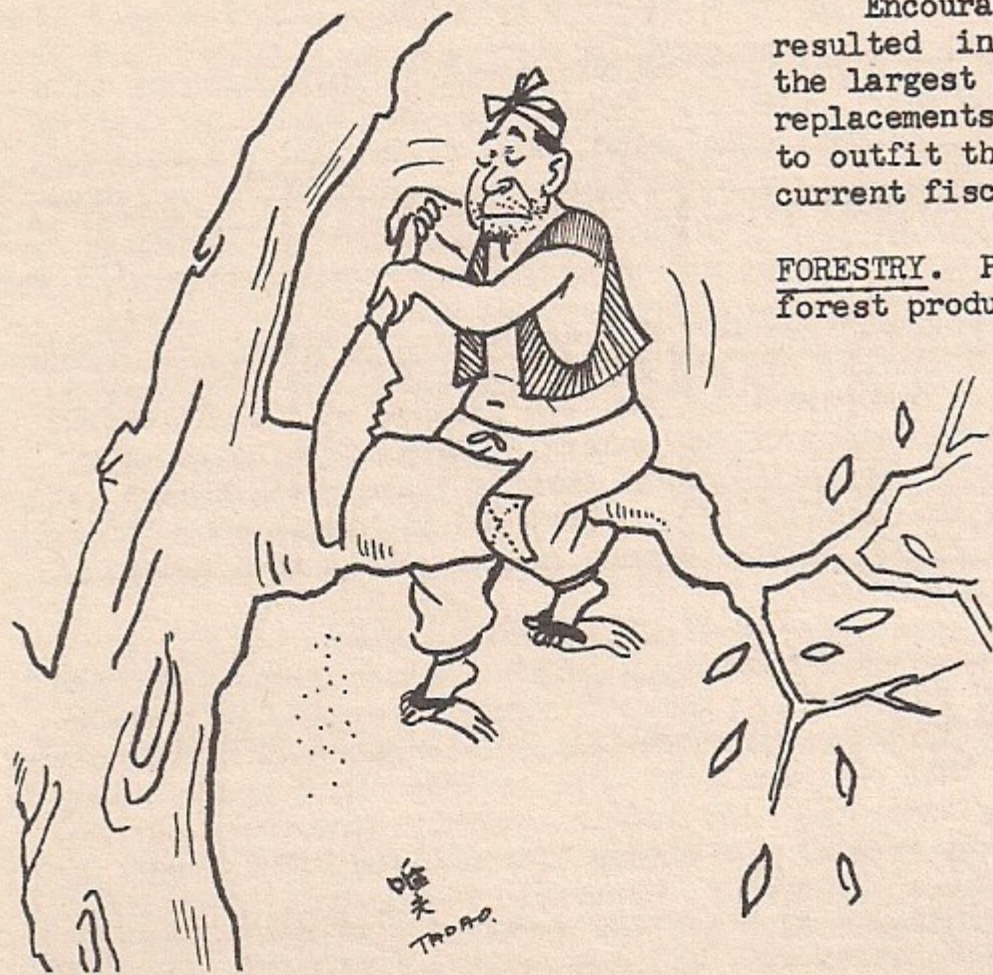
Ice plants with a daily capacity of 15 tons each are located at Miyako and Yaeyama, and four fishing ports on Okinawa have a combined capacity of 120 tons per day. The refrigerated storage warehouse in Naha Port with a quick-freeze capacity of 30 tons of fish and storage space for 800 tons is operated by the Ryukyu Fisheries Company. Since this plant was put into service in February 1953, a revolution has been taking place in the fishing industry. No longer entirely dependent on the fresh fish market, fishermen can sell to their company catches in excess of immediate local needs, or store the fish themselves for future sale when landings are small. Wholesale and retail fish prices no longer fluctuate wildly according to the daily landings. Fish auction markets give the fishermen a fairer share of the take, and improved marketing methods have lowered the retail price to the consumer.

Culture of carp, eels, and seaweed is becoming established. Fresh-water fishes raised in ponds and rice paddies provide farm families with expensive animal protein food as well as additional cash.

Encouragement given to shipbuilding and repair yards has resulted in facilities capable of dry-docking and repairing the largest fishing craft, and constructing necessary fleet replacements. Fishing gear is on hand in sufficient quantity to outfit the fleet at a reasonably high level during the current fiscal year.

FORESTRY. Part-time and full time work in the production of forest products is an important source of income in most of the islands. Due to understocking, poor utilization, and destructive forest practices, the forest lands are growing only a fraction of the production potential. To the extent that this productivity can be raised, employment can be increased and lumber imports decreased.

After the war the Ryukyus were completely deprived of customary import sources for construction timber, throwing the full brunt on the indigenous resource. No substantial imports were received until 1949, and the amounts imported were far less than the civilian requirement. Resultant deficits made enforcement of conservation an impossible task. The problem was further complicated by the absence of an effective government forest administration organization and applicable laws to direct and control cutting. Under these conditions, pro-



Unwise cutting practices are disastrous.

duction of indigenous forest products continued in quantity greatly in excess of the sustained yield capacity of the resource, the most accessible forest lands receiving the greatest abuse.

The present situation with respect to forest resources is as follows:

RYUKYU ISLANDS: FOREST AREA AND VOLUME, BY CLASS OF OWNERSHIP

	Area		Volume	
	Thousands of Acres	Percent of Total	Thousands of Cubic Meters	Percent of Total
Total	288	100	7,124	100
Government*	94	33	5,381	75
Government Afforestation**	7	2	57	1
Community	137	48	1,348	19
Private	50	17	338	5

\*Japanese state and prefectural forests.

\*\*Community-owned lands afforested by Japanese Government

Area: The forest area of the Ryukyu Islands comprises 287,798 acres, or nearly 53 percent of the gross area of the island chain.

Volume: Current estimates place total volume at 7,123,900 cubic meters.

Composition: Approximately 15 percent of total volume is softwood, almost all of which is Ryukyu pine (*Pinus luchuensis*). The remaining 85 percent is comprised of subtropical evergreen broadleaf species.

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Current Growth: Estimated to be 513,633 cubic meters of standing timber volume annually.

Current Drain: Estimated to be 287,916 cubic meters of standing timber volume annually.

"Allowable" Annual Cut: Estimated to be 350,100 cubic meters of standing timber volume annually.

Little emphasis was placed on forestry aspects until 1949. Since that time, a centralized Ryukyu Forestry Bureau has been organized and staffed with the best available forester personnel. Administrative responsibility over 93,623 acres of Japanese state and prefectural forest lands amounting to 33 percent of the total forest area has been assigned to the Bureau.

A program of economic development and rehabilitation has been underway since 1950. This program, which is now being planned and implemented by the Ryukyu Forestry Bureau, has thus far included: (1) reforestation projects to restore depleted growing stock; (2) an access road program, the dual objective of which is to increase production from inaccessible lands and to relieve pressure of overcutting on accessible lands; (3) operation of forest nurseries; (4) a program of public education designed to improve cutting practices on private and community lands; (5) a program of forest research which places emphasis on improvement of nursery and planting practices and the improvement of forest composition through the introduction of species of high economic value; and (6) a program of vocational and professional forestry training and education designed to fill the void of trained foresters created by postwar repatriation of Japanese technicians.

COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, AND TRADE. In prewar days all direct trade with foreign countries passed exclusively through Naha, the only open port in the Ryukyu Islands. The bulk of this trade was with Japan; however, considerable trade with Formosa also took place. Foreign commerce showed a marked preponderance of imports over exports. Several Japanese authorities, possibly on the basis of reliable statistics not now available, report an adverse balance of trade over a long period of years.

One indication of progress in domestic industry, foreign trade, and foreign investment is reflected in the commodity exports.



Prewar 1940	\$14,000,000
Postwar 1950	463,923
Postwar 1951	1,145,589
Postwar 1952	2,609,350
Postwar 1953	4,599,158

The prewar year 1940 showing exports of \$14,000,000 was chosen in order to have a reference point. In that year the imports were also \$14,000,000; thus, a balanced trade totaling \$28,000,000. The year 1940 is not in all respects truly representative because during the "30's" imports usually exceeded the value of exports by approximately 35 percent. 1940 does illustrate a maximum of trade potential even though it was under the favorable conditions when Japan was girding for World War II.

The principal industry of these islands is black sugar, which, during the year 1953, amounted to 36 percent of the exports. Other items of importance in the export picture are scrap metal (second to black sugar), button shells, kaijinso, jofu cloth, live cattle, and hides. Prewar, there were five large centrifugal sugar plants, eight medium-sized black sugar plants, and 2,500 small black sugar mills. It was the farmers' only significant cash crop with an annual production of 125,000 short tons. All of this production was destroyed by the war and to revive it the Deputy Governor authorized bank loans to re-establish the industry. One sugar plant of 250-ton capacity on the island of Minami Daito, another larger plant of 750-ton capacity near Naha, and one large black sugar plant of 200 tons at Miyako are now in operation. Approximately 75 small black sugar mills have been constructed and many others improved. Other industries are being developed. A button plant, a pineapple canning factory, pearl and sponge culture beds, and two cigarette factories have been put into operation.

As a further means of attaining a balanced economy, the establishment of productive activities in the Ryukyus by foreign investment is encouraged. The policy governing foreign investment is set forth in CA Ordinance No. 90. As stated in this ordinance, all applications for foreign investment should be addressed to the Joint Foreign Investment Board, USCAR, APO 719.

To date, licenses have been issued to permit foreign investment in sugar, pearl culture, cement, forestry products, handicraft, cigarettes, furniture, fish-liver oil, soft drinks industries, mining,

# THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

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vehicle and equipment repair, hotel and restaurant businesses. In addition, special licenses were issued to approximately 50 commercial companies which have been supplying goods and services to the United States Forces in the Ryukyu Islands during the past four years.

Heretofore investment interest has been primarily on commercial activities, principally the sale of imported consumer goods. With the establishment of adequate public utilities, land and water transportation facilities, and normal import-export trade, it is believed that there will be greater interest in manufacturing, export processing, and other productive activities.

EDUCATION. The public education system in the Ryukyus has been reorganized to conform to the postwar Japanese coeducation program of six years of elementary school, three years of junior high, and three years of senior high school. Attendance is compulsory through the ninth grade.

Because of the extensive wartime destruction of school buildings, it has been necessary to focus attention upon building reconstruction. By the close of FY 1954, approximately 67 percent of all classrooms will have been re-established on a permanent basis. USCAR has assisted in this building program with grants of funds and materials. Some equipment, textbooks, and supplies for the schools have also been provided.

The war destroyed most of the school buildings on Okinawa and many in the outlying islands. In 1949 the first permanent-type buildings were constructed but buildings were largely limited to lumber during the first two years and these buildings are rapidly succumbing to the ravages of termites and lumber rot. Beginning in 1951 cement blocks were obtainable and now most of the schools are constructed of reinforced concrete blocks with slab roofs which are secure from typhoon damage. As of 1 April 1954, the Department of Education, GRI, reports 2,293 permanent classrooms in use. During FY 1954, 663 additional classrooms are scheduled for completion. This will leave approximately 1,600 classrooms to be constructed to meet the emergency standard based on the present population figures. Through United States aid, it is expected that these additional classrooms will be completed within FY 1955 and FY 1956.

There are 188 elementary, 68 combined elementary and junior high, 151 junior high, and 18 senior high schools in operation, all of which operate on a coeducational basis, and in addition, there are

three agricultural and one commercial high schools which accept both sexes, one girls' high school for vocational homemaking, and two agricultural, two fishery, and one industrial high schools accepting only male students.

Textbooks now in use are those authorized by the Ministry of Education of Japan for use in Japanese schools. The curriculum is also similar to that in Japan. Education laws, teacher certification, and school regulations follow very closely the pattern of postwar Japanese education laws and regulations.

Finance for local schools is a major problem. Present economic conditions make it impossible to raise sufficient funds locally to meet educational needs. For a long time to come, assistance from GRI will be necessary. Shortage of funds is reflected in teachers' salaries which are low in scale when compared with the social position teachers have traditionally held in the Orient.

The first election of local district school boards was held in May 1952. At the present time, there are 66 local district boards, 15 union high school district boards, and 12 unified district boards. Local school districts conform to the geographical boundaries of the shi-cho-son. Members of school boards are functioning in positions which are relatively new to them. They are completely lacking in experience and must have intensive training and guidance before they will be capable of properly discharging their responsibilities.

Of the total number of teachers in the schools, very few would meet accepted American standards of preparation. However, training programs are being carried on under the auspices of the University of the Ryukyus to provide upgrading courses so that within the next three or four years most of the teachers will have had an opportunity to acquire the equivalent of at least two years of college training.

Schools for the handicapped are provided by law. One school for the blind is operated under the auspices of the Social Affairs Department, GRI. A special reformatory is located on the grounds of the Okinawa Prison and another school for delinquents is operated as a welfare project. Special schools also exist at leprosaria on Okinawa and Miyako.

THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

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SCHOOL STATISTICS

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Area	Elementary		Junior High		Senior High		Vocational High		Special	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
All Ryukyus	47,879	45,442	26,970	25,165	6,121	5,252	2,863	1,286	135	42
Okinawa	40,084	38,178	23,026	21,579	5,515	4,883	2,361	855	112	34
Miyako	5,149	4,738	2,525	2,275	343	200	354	341	23	8
Yaeyama	2,646	2,526	1,419	1,311	263	169	148	90	0	0

NUMBER OF TEACHERS

Area	Elementary		Junior High		Senior High		Vocational High		Special	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
All Ryukyus	863	1,526	1,167	473	340	49	211	26	17	2
Okinawa	681	1,310	947	414	313	45	159	18	10	2
Miyako	110	139	133	25	17	2	36	5	4	0
Yaeyama	72	77	87	34	10	2	16	3	3	0

NUMBER OF CLASSES

Area	Elementary	Junior High	Senior High	Vocational High	Special
All Ryukyus	2,272	1,181	233	96	11
Okinawa	1,909	988	213	70	7
Miyako	230	115	11	19	4
Yaeyama	133	78	9	7	0

USCAR conducts an On-The-Job Training Program (OJT) for indigenous personnel employed by the United States Forces or for contractors engaged in U. S. Forces projects. Using regular installation facilities, courses are given in personnel supervision, basic and advanced English, typing, fork-lift operation, electricity, auto and heavy equipment, etc. Training is also provided for mess hall and domestic personnel. A total of approximately 110 persons graduate from such courses each month.

Facilities and personnel for libraries and school health services are practically nil in the elementary schools and are meager in the junior and senior high schools. Regulations have been passed requiring physical examinations but lack of funds have prevented their implementation. Most elementary schools, particularly those in the urban areas, have attached kindergartens which are supported by the Parent-Teacher Associations.

Parent-Teacher Associations, 4-H Clubs, homemaking clubs, and Seinen-dan (youth clubs) have been activated. The Seinen-dan is well known in the Ryukyus and in Japan. They are organized in most villages and sponsor moving pictures, adult education programs, lectures, and other activities. Most of these programs are of a social character and involve working with Ryukyuan people through their leaders.

EXCHANGE OF PERSONS. The Exchange of Persons Program is conducted for the dual purpose of giving selected Ryukyuan advanced technical training not available in the islands, and to provide firsthand information about the United States. The program is divided into several projects:

Students to the U. S. Each year approximately 60 students are given full scholarships to study for one year at American colleges and universities. The purpose is to acquaint Ryukyuan with American ways of life and to teach them American processes and techniques in their selected fields. A few graduate students carry on advanced studies. For some students, this training period is extended for additional years.

National Leaders. At intervals of a few months, small groups of prominent Ryukyuan, men and women, are sent to the United States for 90-day tours of American institutions. These tours are primarily orientational, and are arranged to meet the interests and needs of the individual participants.

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Students to Japan. Ryukyuan in prewar years have had to go to Japan for a college education and, although a university has been established locally, many students still go to Japanese schools of higher education. Each year 30 to 60 individuals are selected to enter colleges in Japan with scholarship support.

Special Missions to Japan. In addition to regular students, specialists are sent to Japan for refresher courses or for specialized training. Included in this program are the teachers who are sent to Japan in groups of 20 to 25 as part of the Ryukyu teacher-training program. Judges, mayors, and other civic leaders have also received the benefit of this special training.

UNIVERSITY OF THE RYUKYUS. Over 1,200 men and women are studying at the four-year-old University of the Ryukyus, located on the site of old Shuri Castle which was destroyed during the war.

The physical structures at the time the University opened consisted of the administration building, including offices, and an auditorium, eight classroom buildings -- two rooms to a building -- and ten faculty houses. During 1952 a concrete structure was built and equipped for modern laboratory classes. In addition, a permanent mess hall was constructed. Two new dormitories have replaced the temporary quonset buildings and plans for the Shikiya Library have been drafted.

Courses were offered in seven departments at the time the University opened. A four-year course of study was later developed and placed into effect at the start of the 1952-53 school year in April. At the beginning of the April 1954 school year, the University is operating under a three major division system: (1) Education, (2) Science, and (3) Agriculture and Home Economics.

The University has adopted integrated educational techniques from Japan and America. The general plan calls for a broad basic education the first two years with an opportunity to specialize during the last two. Bachelors degrees are offered to students completing the four-year programs of study. Special two-year training programs are offered in the fields of education and business administration. A suitable certificate is provided for each student satisfactorily completing these programs. Interest in extracurricular activities is developing. There are departmental clubs, a student council, a student newspaper, and intramural athletics.

The general plan includes the concept of educational service to the people throughout the Ryukyus. To aid in developing the University along these Land Grant College lines, the Department of Army requested that a university or college in the United States of this type be selected by the American Council of Education to adopt the University of the Ryukyus. Michigan State College was chosen and five staff members have been assisting in the broad fields of administration, research, extension, and teaching during the past three years. The University of the Ryukyus has the opportunity to become the first land-grant type of college in the Orient. Rapid progress has been made by this University, in fact, much more rapid than many United States universities in their first four years. The University is striving to meet the requirements of the Japanese University Accrediting Association.

The University of Ryukyus Foundation was established by Civil Administration ordinance and is managed by a board of eight directors. In November 1952, regulations for granting scholarships was established and scholarships were given to 12 students. Since that time, many students have received scholarships.

INFORMATION PROGRAMS. There are 11 daily newspapers printed in the Ryukyus, the four largest being in Naha. The Ryukyu Shimpō, an established newspaper, started publishing from its new, completely equipped two-story ferroconcrete plant on February 25, 1954. Both the Ryukyu Shimpō and the Okinawa Times are equipped with rotary presses and photoengraving facilities. The newspapers are equipped to do job printing, and there are also commercial printing firms equipped to set copy in English as well as Japanese and to handle offset or photoengraving. The Ryukyu Shimbun, another Naha daily, has photoengraving facilities. Fourth Naha daily is the Okinawa Asahi Shimbun. All four receive their international news via radio teletype from Kyodo News Service, Japan, and maintain bureaus in Japan. The Okinawa Times and Ryukyu Shimpō are publishing morning and afternoon editions, and the Ryukyu Shimbun and Okinawa Asahi Shimbun are publishing morning editions only. Total circulation of the Naha dailies is 65,000. The newspaper with the largest circulation is the Ryukyu Koho, a semimonthly of 107,000, sponsored by USCAR and circulated throughout the Ryukyus free of charge. In all, there are some 90 publications of all sorts, including dailies, weeklies, semimonthlies, and organ magazines.

Press releases are prepared in English and Japanese by USCAR. They include articles exposing Communist aggression and the benefits to be derived through association with the Free World, such

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articles being based on copy locally produced as well as on copy supplied by the United States Department of State. Information is also released on GARIOA imports, U. S. Forces expenditures, American contributions to relief projects, security measures to protect the mutual interests of Americans and Ryukyans, and other subjects.

Press summaries are prepared in English for dissemination throughout the Command, and are based on items selected, edited, and translated from the four Naha dailies. Emphasis is given to editorials and news articles that show Ryukyuan trends and reactions to the United States Forces.

Five Ryukyuan-American Cultural Centers are maintained by USCAR to provide cultural facilities for the Ryukyuan people. Three of these Centers are located on Okinawa at Naha, Ishikawa, and Nago, and the other two are located on the southern islands of Ishigaki and Miyako. Each of the Centers has an auditorium, music and conference room, and a library-reading room. They serve not only as libraries but as community centers where classes, lectures, movies, and meetings are held. Center activities are aimed at establishing good relations between Ryukyans and Americans by disseminating information which assists in raising the standard of living, fostering Democracy, counteracting Communist propaganda and explaining the aims of the United States and its Civil Administration in the Ryukyus. The Centers are financed with GARIOA and counterpart yen funds. Each Center is under the supervision of a Ryukyuan director assisted by a staff of 14 Ryukyans. An American information specialist acts as a program and administrative advisor to all Centers.

Most of the new material being added is in the Japanese language inasmuch as few of the patrons are conversant in English. Books translated from English during the past few years are well represented as well as recent Japanese publications which are particularly useful to the Ryukyuan people. Numerous Japanese-language periodicals also are received regularly. Among the English-language materials are texts useful in learning English, books which describe the American way of life, picture books, and a basic collection of reference books.

In addition to reading matter, the Centers are supplied with hundreds of film strips, maps, pictures, and phonograph records. They are also equipped with motion-picture and film-strip projectors, public-address systems and playbacks. All of the material and equipment is available for loan.



English classes are held regularly at all Centers as well as educational motion-picture programs. Lectures, round-table discussions, and demonstrations are held frequently. Exhibits are changed regularly. Many of the Centers' activities are cosponsored by agencies such as the women's, farmers', and young people's associations. Close liaison is maintained with educational and governmental agencies.

More and more of the Centers' activities are being aimed at serving communities outside of the cities where the Centers are located. Movie programs, story hours, and talks are popular everywhere. As the Centers' book collections are increased, more and more deposits are being set up to serve the outlying areas. Service has been extended further following the arrival of three station wagons purchased for use by the three Centers on Okinawa. The Centers have been well received and the attendance is constantly increasing. It is not infrequent to have overflow crowds of hundreds of people who cannot be accommodated in the auditoriums and who crowd outside the Centers to listen to programs over a public-address system. School children are the greatest users but adults, too, support very well the serious programs arranged for them.

Distribution of informational and educational motion pictures has been in effect for over five years; during which time, more than 500 titles from a wide variety of United States sources have been added to the film library. Each month, from 275 to 375 films are loaned to and exhibited by schools, University, cultural centers, and various public and private institutions to a combined audience averaging 220,000.

Documentary films produced by the U. S. Department of State and other outside agencies are received, reviewed, and screened in co-operation with a Ryukyuan screening board after which adaptation with Japanese-language sound track is effected on those films deemed suitable for use in the Ryukyus. Newsreels of exclusively Ryukyuan news, local documentary-type pictures, and 16-mm prints are produced locally. Recently several prewar motion pictures showing various phases of Ryukyuan culture, Okinawan scenery and products, and of Naha were found in caves where they had been hidden for years. These old prints have been reprocessed into new English and Japanese dialogue plus augmented music.

In the Ryukyus, one generally available-to-the-public medium for entertainment and information is the motion picture. Prior to the war, there were only 20 motion-picture theaters with programs consisting mainly of Japanese-produced pictures. Today, there are 94 commercial motion-picture theaters

## THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

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showing Japanese, American, and various other films and having a weekly attendance of some 572,930. Distribution of standard commercial 35-mm pictures is made by three independent Ryukyuan companies.

Posters, pamphlets, cartoons, a Japanese-language magazine, and mounted photographic displays are utilized in information programs. A large quantity of such material is received mainly from State Department and United Nations sources to be screened for use in the Ryukyus by USCAR. All exhibit subject matter is selected and adapted for maximum identification of interests and understandability by Ryukyuan. A Ryukyuan art staff is trained in the techniques of multicolored-silk-screen processes, hand lettering, political cartooning, and pamphlet illustrating. Effective assistance has been rendered to the Exhibits and Publications program by the Department of State Regional Production Center in Manila. Material especially prepared there for Far East distribution is readapted for use in this area by translation into the Japanese language and substitution of pictures and captions of special local interest. All large-scale printing jobs are done in Manila and airshipped by Military Air Transport Service to USCAR where distribution is effected through the Ryukyuan-American Cultural Centers, GRI Education Department, and other facilities.

Radio Station KSAR, "Voice of the Ryukyus," is the only indigenous radio station operated within these islands. Built with United States-appropriated funds under the GARIOA program, it is now owned and operated by the University of the Ryukyus Foundation with technical advice and assistance provided by Civil Information & Education Department and Communications Department, USCAR.

The station was completed on 1 February 1953 and began broadcasting on that date from its new studios located on the campus of the University at Shuri, Okinawa. Transmitting on 740 kilocycles with 3,000 watts of power, KSAR is now on the air eighteen hours daily (from 6:00 a.m. to midnight), broadcasting programs in the Japanese language to a Ryukyuan-listening audience estimated at nearly 125,000 persons. Many of these listeners hear KSAR programs through the facilities of group-reception systems also provided by United States-appropriated funds.

On 1 April 1954, when KSAR was transferred to the University Foundation, the station also began commercial broadcasting. Profits from such operation, over and above expenses, will be utilized by the Foundation for furtherance of Ryukyuan higher education.

WELFARE. Public Welfare programs include public assistance, disaster relief, child welfare, juvenile delinquency, and institutional care. Until July 1951, public assistance was largely subsidized by grants-in-aid. The program has now become a responsibility of the GRI, with considerable help being furnished by Armed Forces donations.

Officially reported crimes by juveniles have increased alarmingly since the end of the war. This unfortunate situation is attributed to a multiplicity of interrelated factors such as weakening of family and community ties, changing and conflicting values, high mobility rate from low economy areas to urban and developing areas -- particularly on Okinawa, and lack of sound recreation and youth programs. The GRI is handicapped in dealing with this and other social problems by lack of competent personnel and limitation of funds.

The most interesting development in 1953 was the awakening of a sense of social responsibility on the part of the Ryukyans themselves. More and more, they are beginning to participate in fund-raising projects for their own welfare. They have participated in the Red Feather Drive for the Community Chest raising ¥1,600,000, in the White Feather Drive for the Charity Hospital raising ¥1,215,579; and they also raised ¥584,704 in the Yellow Feather Drive for school construction. They have supported the "Pencils of Love" drive for benefit of the blind and worked on many local drives for local charities. They participated in the Christmas Seals drives in 1952 and 1953. Such interest is worthwhile and of considerable social significance.

Welfare institutions now in operation include two orphanages, a home for the aged, two vocational training schools for delinquent boys and girls, and a special school for the blind and deaf which was opened in 1951. A privately operated orphanage is in operation at Yonabaru.

The Ryukyuan-American Welfare Council aids in the co-ordination of welfare programs. This group provides guidance and assistance for welfare activities, but does not have the direct responsibility of supervision for such activities.

During 1953, Americans residing or stationed in the Ryukyus, Hawaii, and the United States have made a very substantial contribution to the well-being of the Ryukyuan people. In money and materials

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in kind, they have raised and expended \$384,147.80 for the support of welfare activities, the construction of churches and other religious activities, the education of Ryukyuan young people, and the purchase of medicines, supplies and equipment. These contributions are as follows:

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Educational purposes	\$ 2,739.45	\$ 5,531.62
Construction, equipment, and supplies	18,557.07	31,251.65 (USA 23,905.00)
Religious activities	35,859.84	34,612.53 (USA 2,471.56)
LARA-RIVAC (USA)	90,000.00	166,346.15
Welfare activities	42,417.47	116,699.34 (USA 61,958.15)
Christmas activities	6,941.68	15,334.86 (USA 2,300.00)
Miscellaneous	Not itemized	14,371.65 (USA 12,300.00)
	<hr/>	
Total	\$196,515.51	\$384,147.80
From the United States	\$ 90,000.00	\$269,280.86
From the Ryukyu Islands	\$106,515.51	\$114,866.94

CARE has contributed food, clothing, and book packages as in previous years.

LARA (Licensed Agencies for Relief in Asia) was reorganized during the year. Since LARA no longer exists, a local organization to be known as RIVAC (Ryukyu Islands Volunteer Agencies Committee) was set up and operates as the local outlet of CWS (Church Work Services) in New York City. Their efforts on behalf of the Ryukyuan people have continued without interruption. Total value of their aid for the year was \$211,485.90.

Religious activities are numerous in the Ryukyus and are well supported by Americans, both here and elsewhere in the United States and the Hawaiian Islands. The Church of Christ of Okinawa, the Seventh Day Adventists, the Episcopal Church, and the Roman Catholic Church maintain substantial mission stations, nurseries, dispensaries, schools, and churches in the islands. Most of their support comes from the United States but an appreciable contribution is added by individuals and religious groups on Okinawa. The Methodist Church in the United States, for example, has a budget of \$60,000 for 1954 to support the United Church of Christ of Okinawa.

PUBLIC HEALTH. The Department of Social Affairs, Government of the Ryukyu Islands, is directly responsible for the administration and supervision of all health and medical activities in the Ryukyus with the Public Health Department, USCAR, serving as its guiding and advisory agency. The greatest possible co-ordination and co-operation is constantly maintained by these two departments.

There are five health centers, two hospitals, three tuberculosis sanatoria, and two Hansenaria (leper colonies) in operation for the benefit of the people of the Ryukyus. Three of the health centers are located on Okinawa; at Naha, Nago, and Koza. Two are in the southern islands of Ishigaki and Miyako; one in the city of Ishigaki, the other at Hirara. The two "open staff" hospitals are located on Okinawa; one at Naha and the other at Nago. Two of the tuberculosis sanatoria are located on Okinawa; one at Kin (150-bed quonset-type building), the other at Itoman (60-bed quonset-type building), and is designated as the Tuberculosis Scientific Center. There is one other TB hospital located in Miyako, the only one in the southern islands. The two Hansenaria have a combined capacity of some 1,400 patients. The larger one, Airaku-en, is located on the island of Yagaji, just off the west coast of Okinawa. The other institution, Nansei-en, is located on the island of Miyako. In addition, there is a "national" laboratory located in Naha.

As of 1 January 1954, there were 254 registered medical practitioners in the Ryukyus. However, only 157 of these are medical school trained. The others are listed as "medical servicemen" -- these are practitioners who are either self-trained through study, or have served an apprenticeship under a practicing physician. The Department of Social Affairs has continued to make determined efforts to raise the standards of practice among this latter group. Thus, from the information that is available, there is one medical school-trained doctor for every 4,800 persons.

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Admittedly, one of the more serious problems in the islands from the medical and health points of view is the shortage of trained personnel. Continuous efforts are being made to stimulate interest in the advance of modern medical science. Periodic conferences are held on subjects dealing with the important endemic diseases on these islands, such as leprosy, tuberculosis, and intestinal parasitic diseases.

In September 1953 and for the first time in the history of the islands, a three-day conference on leprosy was held. During this conference the medical and nursing staffs of the institutions concerned attended the sessions and participated actively in the discussions.

In December 1953, a five-day conference on tuberculosis was held. Among the 700 persons who attended were representatives from the Armed Forces stationed on Okinawa, Japan, and Korea; two tuberculosis specialists from Japan, and three Korean officers who presented papers for discussion.

There is now in effect a regular program in medicine and surgery established at the U. S. Army Hospital for the benefit of Ryukyuan physicians. One medical and one surgical residency (each of six months duration) is supported by the joint co-operation of the Public Health Department and Civil Information & Education Department, USCAR.

An integral part of the training program is the periodic refresher courses for GRI sanitation and food inspectors. These courses are held in conjunction with the staffs of the health centers. Noteworthy is the fact that since November 1953, a total of 24 native-eating establishments have been approved for patronage by Armed Forces personnel. These eating places conform to sanitary standard and regulations and have passed the sanitary inspections. It is expected that this program will continue.



Linear Measure

	1 rin	=	0.012	inch
10 rin	= 1 bu	=	0.12	inch
10 bu	= 1 sun	=	1.2	inches
10 sun	= 1 shaku	=	0.994	foot
6 shaku	= 1 ken	=	1.99	yards
6 shaku	= 1 hiro	=	0.994	fathom
10 shaku	= 1 jō	=	3.31	yards
60 ken	= 1 chō	=	119	yards
36 chō	= 1 ri	=	2.44	miles

Cloth Measure

	1 rin	=	0.015	inch
10 rin	= 1 bu	=	0.15	inch
10 bu	= 1 sun	=	1.5	inches
10 sun	= 1 shaku	=	1.243	feet
10 shaku	= 1 jō	=	4.14	yards
1 tan (piece)		=	25 to 30	shaku
1 tan		=	1	hiki

Square Measure (for land)

1 square ken	= 1 bu	=	3.95	square yards
	(1 tsubo)			
30 bu	= 1 se	=	119	square yards
10 se	= 1 tan	=	0.245	acre
10 tan	= 1 cho	=	2.45	acres

The tsubo is used for town lots; the bu and other units for agricultural land.

Capacity

	1 shaku	=	0.0381	pint
10 shaku	= 1 go	=	0.381	pint
10 go	= 1 sho	=	3.81	pints
10 sho	= 1 to	=	4.765	gallons
4 to	= 1 hyo	=	1.99	bushels
10 to	= 1 koku	=	4.96	bushels

Weight

10 rin	=	1 fun	=	0.01323	ounce
10 fun	=	1 momme	=	0.1323	ounce
160 momme	=	1 kin	=	1.32	pounds
1,000 momme	=	1 kan	=	8.27	pounds
100 kin	=	1 picul	=	132	pounds
241.92 kan	=	1 short ton	=	(2,000 pounds)	
120 momme	=	1 pound	=	(approximately)	

Radio Frequencies

KSAR	Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands	740 kilocycles
JOHC (NHK)	Kagoshima, Japan	1350 kilocycles
FEN	Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands	810 kilocycles
JOFR	Fukuoka, Japan	1290 kilocycles
JOKR	Tokyo, Japan	1130 kilocycles
JONR	Osaka, Japan	1010 kilocycles
JOAR	Nagoya, Japan	1090 kilocycles

Dial

Voice of America -- short wave 11890 or 6075 kilocycles.

# THE RYUKYU ISLANDS

## AT A GLANCE

## TIME FACTORS



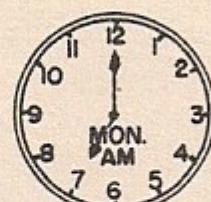
NAHA



TOKYO



MANILA



HONOLULU



SAN FRANCISCO



DENVER



CHICAGO



NEW YORK



LONDON



PARIS



ROME



BERLIN



MOSCOW



SINGAPORE



SHANGHAI



SYDNEY

Except for the islands west of Miyako which fall in the minus 8 zone G.M.C.T., time in the Ryukyu archipelago is computed for 135 degrees E. longitude, or exactly nine hours in advance of mean time at Greenwich (minus 9 zone G.M.C.T.).



