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ASSAULTS AND SABOTAGE AGAINST ALLIED FORCES DURING THE OCCUPATION OF JAPAN

15 August 1945–31 December 1960 (Okinawa: 1945–1972 *)

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[Very provisional, comments are welcome]

We hope that these notes will enable us to get in touch with Japanese scholars; needless to say, this is an essential condition for the success of this project. Please, if you happen to know people who have a working interest in this kind of historiography do not hesitate to send them a copy of the present draft.

The following list of incidents is a sample not a complete list. It is based on intelligence reports for *specific* months rather than on systematic coverage. For instance, the “Eighth Army G-2 Periodic Reports” which is one of the most useful sources has been exploited for April-July 1946 but, for some reason, the other volumes could not be located. According to a report published by the “Public Safety Division” of GHQ-SCAP, the numbers of offenses against occupation forces for the 8 months April - November 1946 were as follows: 3800, 3200, 2700, 2600, 2700, 2400, 2100, 1700 (see long write-up at <http://www.lpthe.jussieu.fr/roehner/occupation>, chapter on quantitative evidence). However, such figures are not very helpful because they do not give any information about the nature of the offenses. It is the purpose of this section to give examples of specific events.

The incidents reported below mostly belong to the following classes.

- Brawls and fights between soldiers and Japanese men. Many of these disputes were triggered by the fraternization of American servicemen with Japanese girls and women. Punitive actions were also directed against the latter. It is of interest to observe that there were similar reactions against occupation troops in the Australian, German and Icelandic populations.

- Another documented class of retaliation acts was due to Japanese house owners whose homes were requisitioned for the accommodation of Allied officers.

- There are few recognized acts of arson in the list below but one would need to know the conclusions of the fire investigations in order to identify the causes of the numerous fires which occurred in buildings occupied by occupation troops. Unfortunately, these reports do not seem to be accessible so far.

- Acts such as putting military aircraft afire or damaging telecommunication hardware on airports obviously had no other objective than what is commonly called sabotage. It is often stated that telephone wires were stolen because the Japanese wanted to sell the copper on the black market. This argument may apply in some cases but there were also many cases where the wires were just cut without being taken away.

- Attacks on occupation trains were a fairly common occurrence. They ranged from stones thrown through windows to shots fired at carriages. Probably a number of derailments were due to sabotage, but here again as with fires one would need to read the reports of the investigators before drawing definite conclusions.

It can be noted that there were similar attacks on trains in Germany especially in the British zone of occupation.

- The chronology mentions a few instances of Japanese organizations set up for the purpose of resistance to occupation. Unfortunately the sources do not tell us what kind of acts of resistance these organizations perpetrated before being discovered and dismantled. Nor do we know the sentences inflicted on the people who were arrested.

- Demonstrators asking for the resignation of the government supported by the occupation authorities were frequently dispersed by US military police.

The following incidents are excerpted from a broader chronology of the relations between occupation forces and the Japanese population that is available on the same website:

<http://www.lpthe.jussieu.fr/~roehner/occupation.html>

For newspaper excerpts the dates given below are the dates of the newspapers whereas for other sources the dates are the dates of the events.

1945

Sep 1-30, 1945: After the occupation began there was a concerted resistance to American troops in the community of Yamata located between Tokyo and Yokohama. Unarmed GIs were set upon and assaulted. The climax came when two Americans returning to their barracks were seized and beaten. A show of force was made by American forces. Members of the mob were discovered, tried and sentenced to long confinement terms (Eichelberger p. 273).

Oct 11, 1945: A demonstration of 800 students was broken up by military and Japanese police (NYT p. 22).

Nov 19, 1945: A GI and his girlfriend were murdered in Japan. The bodies of an American soldier and a Japanese girl evidently beaten to death with a club have been found near Osaka. A public relations officer of the Sixth Army described the deaths as a double murder. (NYT p. 3).

Nov 22, 1945: Seven Japanese civilians were seized for carrying grenades and other arms (NYT p. 16).

Dec 19, 1945: Bayoneting to death of Private Robert C. Young who caught Japanese looting a warehouse. One of the Japanese, Katsunori Tamura, was sentenced to death and hanged on May 18 1946. His two accomplices, Sadatsugo Saito (17) and Tatsugo Shimizu (16) were sentenced to 30-year prison terms, but were freed in December 1949 because of their young age. (NYT 26 Jan. 1946 p. 6, 18 May 1946 p. 4, 27 Dec. 1949 p. 12).

1946

Feb. 13, 1946: The "Daily Express" reports that the Black Dragon organization has tried to set up a plot against General Headquarters. American armored cars and

troops patrol the streets of Tokyo (GL).

Mar 20-31, 1946: At Sapporo an altercation between three American soldiers and two Japanese resulted in the killing of one of the Japanese who, armed with a bottle, attempted to assault one of the enlisted men (NARA 3).

Mar 20-31, 1946: In Sapporo the appearance of anti-fraternization posters was reported; prepared by unknown persons, the hand-written posters warned Japanese girls against fraternizing with the troops and complained of bad behavior in the part of the US forces occupying the town (NARA 3).

Mar 26, 1946: At Sendai, two Japanese attacked an American soldier inflicting minor injuries (NARA 3).

Apr 3, 1946: Three enlisted men were attacked by an unidentified assailant at 2100 hours near the area of 519 Battalion at Yokohama. Two of the men were admitted to the hospital and were found to be suffering from wounds and shock. The wounds were inflicted by a cutting weapon. In a search of the area a Military Police patrol apprehended a Japanese who is circumstantially implicated as the assailant. (GHQ8a, No 223)

Apr 8, 1946: At 2200 hours, three Japanese attempted to crowd two American soldiers off the street. One Japanese pulled a gun and fired a shot in the air and two shots at one of the soldiers. The incident occurred near a cabaret in Osaka. Two of the Japanese were taken to the police station, the third escaped. (GHQ8a, No 230)

Apr 11, 1946: BCOF reports that during the period 16 February 1946 to 11 April 1946, the railway signal system in the Iwakuni area (southwest of Hiroshima) had been tempered with on 10 occasions. (GHQ8a, No 250)

Apr 17, 1946: In Tokyo some 200,000 people demonstrated against the Shidehara government. SCAP sent 12 armored cars and jeeps and the US soldiers dispersed the demonstrators (Fifty years 1975, p. 217).

Apr 17, 1946: BCOF reports that during the night 7 Japanese were observed attempting to cut signal wires. Four were arrested and three escaped. An additional 10 men were taken into custody subsequently and charged with interfering with the signal system. Nine of these men are demobilized soldiers. Thus far, it appears to be a group whose motive was theft rather than sabotage. (GHQ8a, No 250)

Apr 22, 1946: BCOF reports that a locomotive was partially derailed 25 km southwest of Hiroshima. One vehicle and three soldiers were aboard the train but there were no casualties. Investigation revealed that a trolley had been placed across the track. (GHQ8a, No 253)

Apr 26, 1946: Four fire pumps located at Hiro (5 kilometers east of Kure) were damaged during the night by unknown persons. Hoses were slashed and a nozzle was removed. On the same night military telephone wires were cut in the same vicinity. (GHQ8a, No 243)

Apr. 30, 1946: An attempted plot by a group of Japanese under Hideo Tokayama to assassinate General MacArthur was discovered (NYT p. 1).

May, 1946: A fire extinguisher on a truck was found to contain petrol when it was about to be used to quench a fire in another truck. (BCOF MIR number 1, p. 5)
[No more precisions (date and location) are given about this incident which occurred in the BCOF area.]

May, 1946: There is evidence of increasing antagonism against the Occupation Forces in the American area. On 2 May a Japanese civilian interpreter was fired on in Fushinobe, 20 km NW of Yokohama. On 3 May a US Marine was shot in the shoulder at Yokosuka and on 28 April two US soldiers were attacked by Japanese in Tokyo. Resentment has been expressed in the past few weeks over the requisitioning of Japanese homes to house the families of service personnel. (BCOF MIR number 1, p. 12)

May 1, 1946: A Japanese organization named “Iwate Prefecture Reclamation Unit” is being investigated in the 75th Counter Intelligence Corps area. The unit is composed of ex-Army and Navy personnel, war sufferers and unemployed. Ex-Army officers are in command. (GHQ8a, No 243)

May 1, 1946: A report from I Corps states that 20 large boulders were placed on a road near Kurayoshi, 40 km west of Tottori City, Tottori Prefecture. These boulders were placed so as to impede vehicular traffic. Subsequently, four Japanese were apprehended and confessed to the act. In addition to this incident, patrols operating in the area reported that civilians encountered in the vicinity were uncooperative. (GHQ8a, No 254)

May 2, 1946: Two U.S. soldiers were beaten by a Japanese mob. The two soldiers were walking down a street in Kamata between Tokyo and Yokohama. They were approached by 4 Japanese one of whom said he had been through the Okinawa campaign, then he whistled and other Japanese swarmed around and beat the Americans (NYT p. 4). Moreover, a US Marine was shot in the shoulder (see below at end of May 1946, BCOF MIR number 1 p. 12).

May 2, 1946: At 2015 hours an enlisted man of the 5th Cavalry and a Japanese civilian interpreter employed by the US Army were fired on twice in Fuchinobe (20 km northwest of Yokohama). Neither was hit. A search patrol was dispatched to the

area. At 2045 hours the patrol challenged 3 Japanese and shot one of them when they attempted to run. These Japanese are not believed involved in the original shooting. (GHQ8a, No 245)

May 3, 1946: A US Marine was shot in the shoulder by a Japanese at 2020 hours. The incident occurred at Yokosuka when 2 Marines, escorting a Japanese girl, were approached and challenged by 2 Japanese males armed with pistols. A struggle followed in the course of which the Marine was wounded. The assailants escaped. (GHQ8a, No 246)

May 3, 1946: Wire crews found the lines cut at the entrance of Uraga Port Detachment, 24 km south of Yokohama. A 5 meter section was removed. (GHQ8a, No 253)

May 3, 1946: An American soldier was slightly injured by a stone hurled through the window of an Army railroad coach in the vicinity of Gomen, 10 km east of Kochi City, Kochi prefecture. (GHQ8a, No 254)

May 4, 1946: An American soldier was assaulted by four Koreans in the vicinity of Tsunashima station (near Yokohama). The soldier was waiting in the station for a Japanese girl. When the girl alighted from the train and joined the soldier both were accosted by the Koreans. The Koreans were apprehended and are being held for the Provost Court. (GHQ8a, No 252)

May 6, 1946: The investigation of the assault by Japanese people on two US soldiers on the night of 28 April in the southern part of Tokyo disclosed the following facts:

- The two soldiers enroute to their billet were stopped and challenged by several Japanese at 2130 hours. They were berated and then beaten by a crowd that reached an estimate of 20 at the peak of the incident. The Japanese were armed with clubs and sticks. The soldiers were released after incurring cuts and bruises.
- The attack was premeditated and accomplished by an organized so-called "Vigilante" group. It was not the result of any immediate acts committed by the two soldiers but rather the result of a feeling of resentment toward the Occupation Forces which has been growing in this area for a considerable length of time as the result of soldier crimes, fraternization with Japanese girls and general misconduct by US personnel. US soldiers are reported to participate in black market activities and some of their methods have increased Japanese resentment. One such method has been selling cigarette cartoons from which the cigarettes have been removed, a substance of similar weight substituted and the carton carefully resealed. Another has been to employ particularly desirable items as a means of attracting prospective buyers with

cash which has then been taken by force.

- The leader of this group has been identified and apprehended [his name is not given]. Furthermore action has been initiated to punish the Japanese who participated in the assault.

(GHQ8a, No 247)

May 6, 1946: A stone was thrown through the window of a military train on the outskirts of Matsushida, 25 km northeast of Sendai. A Red Cross Director was struck on the head by the stone and knocked unconscious. (GHQ8a, No 249)

May 9, 1946: Six trucks parked in Camp Schimmelpfenning were disabled by the removal of distributor caps, coil wires and radiator caps during the evening while the occupants were attending a USO [i.e. recreational] performance. One vehicle which had been stolen was found later at the Camp Schimmelpfenning Post Stockade with the wiring torn out. (GHQ8a, No 254)

May 14, 1946: At 1600 an enlisted man was attacked by a Japanese in the Kawata Ward area of Tokyo. He was walking with a Japanese girl. A brief fight ensued and when 6 more Japanese approached the man picked up an iron pipe to defend himself. The Japanese moved off. One Japanese who has been identified as one of the assailants is in custody. (GHQ8a, No 255)

May 15, 1946: The I Corps has received a letter from an informant claiming that three detectives of the Kyoto police were implicated in the beating two months ago of a US MP in the Inary Station area and of recruiting 200 ex-soldiers into an organization whose purpose is not known. (GHQ8a, No 255)

May 21, 1946: A US soldier was struck on the head with a club by an unknown assailant at 2200 hours in the vicinity of the Omiya station, 25 km north of Tokyo. (GHQ8b, No 261)

May 22, 1946: At 2130 hours 5 US soldiers were attacked by 3 or 4 Japanese armed with knives and broken glass. The assailants attacked without warning, wounding one soldier. One of them was apprehended and turned over to the Military Police. (GHQ8b, No 261)

May 22, 1946: At 2400 hours, several Japanese stoned three US soldiers in Yokohama. Two of the Japanese were apprehended. (GHQ8b, No 261)

May 25, 1946: An explosion occurred in the ante-room of an Officers Mess in Kure (BCOF zone) in which an officer was injured. The officer was butting his cigarette into a porcelain bowl when he heard a fizzing sound like a fire cracker; within 3-4 seconds there was a violent explosion; a portion of the ceiling was blown away,

pieces of the bowl were found embedded in the walls 15 meters away. (BCOF MIR number 1)

May 7, 1946: BCOF reports that on 30 April, 6 May and 7 May sections of the track near Iwakuni (southwest of Hiroshima) were removed causing three train derailments. (GHQ8a, No 250)

May 27, 1946: A Japanese seen near a Kure camp area with a package, subsequently found to be blankets, was shot and killed by a sentry. Some 20 to 30 Japanese began throwing stones when the shooting commenced, the sentry stated. (GHQ8b, No 273)

Jun 2, 1946: While walking guard at Schimmelpfenning Camp near Sendai, a sentry was injured by stepping on some concealed explosive material thought to be fulminate of mercury. (GHQ8b, No 270)

Jun 4, 1946: In violation of SCAP directives the Niimi Agricultural and Forestry School, Okayama prefecture withheld 4 light machine guns, 105 bayonets, and 65 rifle barrels and 31 wooden rifles for bayonet training. The investigation revealed that the principal (a former army officer) together with teachers (who had past military training) and military personnel residing in Niimi had formed a clandestine organization whose aims were the continuation of military training. The investigation undertaken by 36th Military Government is still under way to determine the responsible members of the faculty to be prosecuted. (GHQ8b, No 272)

Jun 9, 1946: A jeep containing three military personnel was stopped and held up in West Iwakuni by a party of Japanese. The police tried to apprehend the individuals and a struggle ensued during which one corporal was struck on the head and another received hand injuries. Fifteen Japanese were arrested for interrogation. (GHQ8b, No 282)

Jun 10, 1946: A telephone wire leading to the control tower was severed at Iwakuni Airfield (BCOE area). Three meters of wire were removed and were found later on in a nearby canal. (GHQ8b, No 286)

Jun 17, 1946: There were three incidents in Kumamoto City, Kumamoto Prefecture, in which Japanese had thrown rocks at American soldiers. It is believed that fraternization between soldiers and Japanese women was the cause of the attacks. (GHQ8c, No 293)

Jun 21, 1946: A small arm round penetrated a window of the "Yankee Flyer" at 2200 hours. The train was in the area between Matsudo and Fumiabashi north of Tokyo. There were no casualties. This is the 5th incident involving harassment of

trains carrying Occupation Force personnel.

- On 3 May a stone was hurled through a US military coach window at Gomen, near Kochi City.
- On 6 May a stone was thrown through a window of a US military car near Matsushima, 25 kilometers northeast of Sendai.
- On 13 June at Shirasama (16 km east of Sendai), stones were thrown at a gondola car carrying US vehicles striking a US guard.
- On 15 June, 32 kilometers east of Kumagaya, a stone was thrown through the window of a US military coach. (GHQ8b, No 288)

Jun 23, 1946: An American soldier was attacked by a Japanese in Moji City, Fukuoka Prefecture. It is believed that the attack was prompted by resentment of fraternization because the soldier escorted a Japanese girl to a dance earlier the same evening. (GHQ8c, No 295)

Jun 27, 1946: A heavy underwater cable connecting Eta Jima with Kure was damaged and rendered inoperable. There are 260 Japanese laborers working in the area and each of them had the opportunity to damage the cable. Precautionary steps are being taken by BCOF to prevent recurrence of similar damage. (GHQ8c, No 300)

Jun 30, 1946: At 2100 hours two enlisted men of the 25th Division were walking along a street in Gifu City. They were accompanied by two Japanese girls. They were assaulted by a group of 15 Japanese and ran for help, dodging rocks which were thrown at them by the Japanese. The girls had disappeared by this time. Finding more men in downtown Gifu they came back but were not able to apprehend the Japanese. This appears to be another case of resentment by Japanese youths towards fraternization of Japanese girls with Allied soldiers. (GHQ8c, No 315)

Jul 12, 1946: At 2110 hours in Chori Park, Fukuoka City an enlisted man was attacked by a Japanese who attempted to strike the soldier with a club. The blow landed on the shoulder. The Japanese disappeared in the bushes and could not be found. It is believed that resentment of fraternization was the cause of the attack. (GHQ8c No 313)

Jul 17, 1946: A bamboo spear was thrown through the living room window of the house of J.G. Gelder who lives with his family in the Navy Housing Area in Kanakura. This act may be overt manifestation of resentment felt by the Japanese against the requisitioning of houses. Gelder's home was robbed on 11 July by unidentified burglars. (GHQ8c No 318)

Jul 18, 1946: A large rock was thrown through the window of a US military coach in Fujisawa, 10 miles southwest of Yokohama injuring one enlisted man of the BCOF.

(GHQ8c, No 314)

Jul 22, 1946: BCOF reports that a sentry on duty at Kure observed a small rowing boat being pulled toward an old Japanese destroyer. When the boat failed to stop the sentry fired. Two Japanese women in the boat were hit. They were sent to hospital. (GHQ8c, No 318)

Jul 22, 1946: A Japanese male dressed in a kaki uniform (not US Army) was beaten by 3 unidentified US soldiers near Tsukishima police station, Tokyo. A group of approximately 50 Japanese civilians gathered in the vicinity and began throwing stones at any and all soldiers seen. A soldier from the 71st Signal Battalion was struck on the chin by a stone. Members of the battalion attempted to catch some of the mob and in so doing beat one Japanese believed to be a member of the gang. The Military Police patrol did not arrive in time to disperse the participants. G-2 comment: This type of reaction may be expected if our soldiers continue assaulting Japanese. (GHQ8c, No 313)

Aug 1, 1946: Three Australians personnel were attacked by 16 Koreans at Kaidaichi in the BCOF zone. Preliminary enquiries reveal that the blame for the assault lies with the soldiers who apparently tried to rob them. They were pursued by the Koreans before they reached their unit lines where the unit piquet dispersed the pursuers. (BCOF DIR number 120)

Aug 5, 1946: A BCOF soldier was threatened by a Japanese on a civilian train between Miyhoshi and Hiroshima; the Japanese threatened to push the soldier from the train. (BCOF DIR number 120)

Aug 14, 1946: An Indian soldier was killed by a Japanese. Signalman Paul of the Indian Signal Corps had posed as a military policeman to get access to a house. He tried to rape the lady of the house. A friend of the family named Suzukawa Chuji restrained him with a judo grip and broke his neck. (Date: Commonwealth War Graves Commission; story: Bates p. 107, Carter p. 196)

Aug 20, 1946: A map appended as Appendix C to the BCOF Monthly Occupation Intelligence Review 4 which was issued on 20 Aug. gives the locations of various incidents: fires, train derailments, sabotage actions, crimes against occupation forces, violations of SCAP directives. The 7 sabotage actions mainly took place in Kure, Iwakuni and Hiro. (AWM 114 423/11/4)

Aug 30, 1946: A Japanese man attempted to stab an Australian soldier at Jigozen in the BCOF zone. The man attacked the soldier because he saw him in the company of his wife. (BCOF DIR number 149, 174).

Sep 24, 1946: A sentry at a unit vehicle park of BCOF at Okayama was attacked by two Japanese. The guard noticed two intruders but before he could use his rifle the Japanese snatched it and escaped. Subsequent search of the area failed to locate the intruders (BCOF DIR number 170)

Oct 8, 1946: Throwing stones at trains or firing pistols at them occurred fairly frequently. A survey of three months of intelligence records reveals 5 incidents of this kind in the BCOF zone. For instance, on Oct 8 a rock was thrown at an occupation forces train which broke a window, on Oct 9 a pistol was fired from near the tracks at a train near Seta (BCOF DIR number 185 and 188).

Oct 31, 1946: Repeated sabotage of telephone and VHF (very high frequency) wires. The cutting or damaging of transmission wires of BCOF troops was recurrent; it is mentioned in BCOF Daily Intelligence Reports of August - October 1946 almost every week (BCOF DIR number 141, 143, 149, 169, 171, 190, 196, 197, 202).

1947

Jan 11, 1947: According to a statement made by Eighth Army Headquarters, anti-allied acts are on the decrease in Japan. According to officers in a position to know, the cases of violence between the Japanese population and 200,000 Allied personnel generally averaged about a dozen monthly. The majority of the fights between United States or British soldiers and Japanese were caused by the association of Japanese girls with foreign soldiers. One of the most frequent crimes recently has been the cutting and removing of Allied military telephone lines. In December 1946 there were two cases of throwing rocks through windows of Allied railroad cars. (NYT p. 4)

Jan 21, 1947: A Japanese was arrested in Kyoto on arson charges. He allegedly tried to set fire to a U.S. Army counter-intelligence office at Saga. The Army said the incident was one of the first cases of such action against Allied forces since the beginning of the occupation (NYT p. 12).

Apr 4, 1947: A barrack building was burnt down by Japanese arsonists at Yamaguchi in the New Zealand zone of occupation (Brocklebank p. 77).

Aug 12 1947: At 22:35 at the British base of Kure, Hiroshima prefecture, an unknown person made an attempt to set fire to a wooden building with a mixture of kerosene and petrol. Only the prompt action of service personnel prevented a serious fire from developing. But on 15 August at 2:50 a fire broke out in a hangar at an

occupation unit in Fukuyama, Hiroshima prefecture. (GHQ8e, No 639)

Aug 14, 1947: A Japanese, Kumano Mitsuji, was arrested by New Zealand troops and tried on the charge of arson of occupation forces barracks (NARNZ: call number WA-J 76/1, case 799).

Sep 3, 1947: The IX Corps reports that at 20:30, 3 shots were fired at a military coach at Mejiro Station, Tokyo. Shots went through windows and one shot through the body of the coach. There was no injuries. (GHQ8e, No 653)

Oct 1947: During the month of October [the exact date is not given] a number of sticks of gelignite to which was attached a burnt out fuze were discovered in the Bomb Dump at 81 Wing RAAF [Royal Australian Air Force] in Bofu, indicating attempted sabotage directed against the Occupation Forces. (BCOF GHQ 2, p. 2)

Oct 25, 1947: Report of BCOF Commander-in-Chief [excerpt]. Investigations are under way for three cases of arson. (BCOF GHQ 2, p. 20)

1948

Feb, 1948 : During the month of February the GHQ of the First U.S. Corp lists 15 violences against American troops, four of which involved fire arms. (Eichelberger Papers, volume 33, p. 2008, communicated by Eddy Dufourmont).

Feb 7, 1948: At 1900hrs an Australian soldier who was walking along the street was attacked by four Japanese; an Australian sergeant who was nearby came to his assistance. (BCOF PRSI)

March 21, 1948: Between Feb 2 and March 21 there were 5 cases of shots being fired at BCOF personel. The first four shootings occurred at the New Zealand Field Security Section (an intelligence unit) [no further detail is given]. On Feb 26 a New Zealand soldier was shot in the leg. On March 21 a shot was fired upon a provost patrol jeep but nobody was injured. (BCOF PRSI)

Jan 7, 1948: A gang of 6 Japanese armed with knives attacked 4 Australian soldiers. The soldiers managed to catch one the assaillants who is now being held in custody. (BCOF PRSI)

Feb 7, 1948: At 1900 hours an Australian soldier who was walking along the street was attacked by four Japanese; an Australian sergeant who was nearby came to his assistance. (BCOF PRSI)

Mar 21, 1948: Between February 2 and March 21 there were 5 cases of shots being

fired at BCOF personel. The first four shootings occurred at the New Zealand Field Security Section (an intelligence unit) [no further detail is given]. On Feb 26 a New Zealand soldier was shot in the leg. On March 21 a shot was fired upon a provost patrol jeep but nobody was injured. (BCOF PRSI)

Apr 24-25, 1948: During the night three fires occurred in the Headquarters of the British troops in Kure. The first fire started at 11:40 pm in the furniture shed and resulted in its complete destruction. At about 1am the Orderly Officer discovered burning mattresses on the top floor of a two storey building; at the same level, five fire extinguishers had been knocked down and were oozing over the floor. Prompt action saved this fire from becoming serious. The third fire was noticed at 3 am when a box of burning papers were found beneath a staircase. Arson was suspected. (Australian War Memorial archives, AWM52 18/1/11, Jan-Dec 1948)

Aug 1, 1948: Shortly after midnight a BCOF soldier was assaulted by several Japanese; he was later admitted to hospital with a fractured arm and lacerations to head. Three Japanese have been arrested. (BCOF PRSI)

Aug 16, 1948: Iwakuni. Whilst walking along a road near the Kotobuki bridge two Australian soldiers were assaulted by a gang of some 30 Japanese. They had to be sent for medical treatment. (Australian War Memorial archives, AWM52 18/1/11, Jan-Dec 1948)

Aug 29, 1948: Iwakuni. An airman of the Royal New Zealand Air Force reported that he had been assaulted and robbed of approximately 1,000 yens by 3 Japanese posing as member of the Japanese Civil Police. (Provost monthly resume of serious incidents in BCOF area, Australian War Memorial archives, AWM52 18/1/11, Jan-Dec 1948)

Aug 31, 1948: Iwakuni. An airman of the Royal Australian Air Force reported that whilst riding on his bicycle back to his unit, he was attacked by a number of Japanese. In spite of important efforts made to locate these persons, they are still at large. (Provost monthly resume of serious incidents in BCOF area, Australian War Memorial archives, AWM52 18/1/11, Jan-Dec 1948)

Sep 5, 1948: Kure. During the night, three Australian soldiers were attacked by a party of 4 Japanese armed with wooden shutters. (Provost monthly resume of serious incidents in BCOF area, Australian War Memorial archives, AWM52 18/1/11, Jan-Dec 1948)

Oct. 10, 1948: A Corsair aircraft of squadron number 14 was set ablaze at Bofu airport in the occupation zone of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (Brocklebank, photograph).

1949

Jul 10, 1949: A mob attacked occupation cars; a GI was hurt (NYT p. 22).

Sep 8, 1949: Gun-cotton explosions in Tokyo [gun-cotton is a general name for explosive nitric ethers of cellulose obtained by steeping cotton in nitric and sulfuric acids] (Times p. 3, column 5)

1950

May 31, 1950: Five American soldiers who were taking pictures and notes during a demonstration were assaulted and injured. Seven people were arrested and tried by a provost court: one was sentenced to 10 year hard labor and the other six to 7 years. The seven defendants who were defended by two American and three Japanese lawyers pleaded not guilty. (NYT p. 6 and 28; Finn; ST May 31 page 3, June 3 p. 3, June 5 p. 3).

1951

Nov. 9, 1951: Leftist students demonstrators in Kyoto attacked a U.S. missionary (NYT p. 9).

1952

May 31, 1952: Rioting broke out last night in four large Japanese cities (Kobe, Nagoya, Osaka and Tokyo) and smaller communities throughout the country on the anniversary of the attack two years ago on United States soldiers celebrating Memorial Day in the Imperial Palace plaza in Tokyo. Three people were shot dead, 80 were injured (among them are 3 US newspaper men) and 150 were arrested. (NYT p. 1, NT p. 1)

Jun 25, 1952: Acid was thrown at a U.S. General. The second anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean war was marked by a revival of incidents in which crowds of Koreans and students demonstrated violently against the war and American policy. Outside Osaka, a crowd of 1,000 people gathered last night, made speeches round camp fires. Early this morning, one group moved in the direction of the U.S. Air Force base at Itami shouting slogans such as "Stop the air raids in Korea". They were stopped several miles from Itami by a strong force of armed Japanese police. Brigadier-General Carter Clarke, the American commander in the south west area of

Japan was attacked on the road outside Osaka while driving to work. The windows of his car were broken and acid was flung inside burning his face severely. Moreover, the rioters also threw flaming Molotov cocktails on a compound housing American women and children in Osaka (NYT Jun. 25 p. 1, Times Jun. 26 p. 7).

Jul. 8, 1952: Anti-U.S. riots by 1,500 demonstrators; 17 are injured (NYT p. 8).

Aug 7, 1952: Stones and “Molotov cocktails” were thrown at US forces in Urawa district (see below mention of the trial at the date of July 19, 1953)

Dec 23, 1952: An American seaman, L.J. Wills, was beaten up in Yokosuka by two Japanese vagrants; they also took his wrist watch (NT p. 3).

1953

Mar 22, 1953: A 45-caliber bullet was shot through the window of Economic Councillor Frank Waring at the US embassy while he was at his desk; he was not injured (NT p. 1).

Jul 31, 1953: During a quarrel with a Japanese girl Private Richard Walker of the Tokyo Ordnance Depot was stabbed in the back by a Japanese man who was arrested (NT p. 3).

Aug 19, 1953: An American soldier, Alfred Palmer, was cut on the face by a young Japanese man as he was coming out of a restaurant in Tokyo. It is alleged that Palmer and two other US soldiers had taken too much drink and were teasing a waitress of the restaurant (NT p. 3).

1954

1955

1956

1957

1958

1959

Nov 28, 1959: 500 people are hurt in an anti-US riot in Tokyo. More than 20,000 Leftist-led unionists and university students broke through police lines and stormed into the Diet (Parliament) grounds to demand an end of Japan's security alliance with the United States.

1960

May 20, 1960: In an attempt to prevent the ratification of the security treaty, demonstrators staged a massive sit-down in front of the office belonging to the Speaker of the Diet. They were forcibly removed by the police; in protest the Socialists boycotted the session at which the treaty was approved. The treaty was passed by default in the upper house on June 19 when it failed to vote on the issue within the required thirty days after approval by the lower house (Sarantakes 1999, Wikipedia)

Okinawa

Oki, Aug 20, 1945: In Okinawa an American officer was killed by two shots from Japanese rifles as he searched a cave today for enemy souvenirs. Troops with him tossed a hand grenade into the Japanese hide-out, then fired shots into the cave. When they entered however they found that the Japanese had escaped through a rear exit. (NYT p. 2)

Oki, Jun 10, 1960: In protest against the pending visit of President Eisenhower demonstrators stopped the car of the White House Press Secretary James Hagerty on the road between Haneda airport and Tokyo. Chanting in English "Go Home Hagerty" and "Go Home Yankee" the demonstrators smashed the windows of the car and rocked it. Hagerty was delivered by police about 15 minutes later and flown by an helicopter to the U.S. Embassy. (Sarantakes 1999)

Oki, Jun 19, 1960: President Eisenhower appearing glum and dejected emerged from the office of the Chief Executive Seisa Ota. Outside, hundreds snake-dancing Okinawans were shouting "Yankee go home". A line of Ryukyu police held back the crowd. Combat ready US Marines stood between the police and the Capitol bayonets fixed. Fifteen minutes earlier the president had entered Naha and waved to a crowd estimated at 200,000 Ryukyuns and American personnel. In the two blocks before

the Capitol red flags and anti-American slogans became more frequent. There were shouts of “No U2 [a spy plane flying at high altitude] on Okinawa”, “Ike return to the motherland”. Concerned with the President’s safety, officials took him to Naha Air Base, three miles away by a back road so that he would not have to pass by the shouting crowds. The road was badly rutted and full of holes so that the motorcade had to proceed slowly. (NYT p. 23)

Oki, Aug 17, 1964: A US Marine was killed and another was injured in a fight with 4 Okinawans near Camp Sukivan (NYT p. 2).

11

Abbreviations

ACJ: Allied Council for Japan

ARC: Archival Research Catalog (online research engine for US National archives (NARA))

AWM: Australian War Memorial (holds most of the Australian archives regarding the Second World War)

BCOF: British Commonwealth Occupation Forces

BCOF DIR: British Commonwealth Occupation Forces, Daily Intelligence Reports (see below)

BCOF MIR: British Commonwealth Occupation Forces, Monthly Intelligence Review (see below)

BCOF PRSI: BCOF Provost Monthly [or Weekly] Resume of Serious Incidents (see below)

CCD: Civil Censorship Detachment

CIC: Counter Intelligence Corps

CIS: Civil Intelligence Section (comprised CCD and CIC)

NDL: National Diet Library, Tokyo

FEC: Far East Command

G-2: Ground [i.e. Army, as opposed to Navy or Air] Intelligence

GHQ: General Headquarters

JSOB: Japan Special Operations Branch

MG: Military Government

MP: Military Police

NARA: National Archives and Records Administration (College Park, Maryland)

NARA 1,2,...: see below

NARNZ: National Archives of New Zealand

POW: Prisoner of war

SCAP: Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers; it designates General MacArthur but most often it refers to the headquarters of the military government in Tokyo (which was distinct from the headquarters of the Eighth Army in Yokohama)

SCAPIN: Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers Instruction

SWNCC: State, War, Navy, Coordinating Committee

USCAR: United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyuan Islands

12

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BCOF GHQ 1: Reports by Commander-in-Chief to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. January-December 1946, Part 1 of 6, AWM 114, 130/1/11 [It is a fairly poor source in the sense that none of the incidents described in GHQ8a,b,c are mentioned in this report;

BCOF GHQ 1: Reports by Commander-in-Chief to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. January-December 1947, Part 2 of 6, AWM 114, 130/1/11

BCOF MIR: British Commonwealth Occupation Forces, Monthly Intelligence Review: Australian War Memorial, series AWM 114, 423/11/1

BCOF PRSI: BCOF Provost Monthly [or Weekly] Resume of Serious Incidents: Australian War Memorial, series AWM 114, 213/4/7 (Dec 1947-Jul 1948)

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NARA 2: U.S. National Archives at College Park Title: Monthly occupation court statistical reports (21 Oct 1949-20 December 1949) [This series consists of statistical reports of criminal cases heard in military occupation courts; the report gives date of trials, name of defendants, charge, sentence; the charge is often very sketchy, for instance “Violation of SCAP directive number 1” which can designate almost any violation of SCAP orders] Creator: Eighth U.S. Army. Office of the Judge Advocate Record group: 338, Box: 1522 Stack area: 290, Row: 67, Compartment: 25, Shelf 2.

NARA 3: U.S. National Archives at College Park Title: Supplement March 1946, G-2 History - “Blacklist” operation, 22 April 1946. Record Group 407, Box 2863, Folder 108-109 [1 page]

NARA 4: U.S. National Archives at College Park Anti-occupation activities, SCAP, Record Group 331, Box 279, File # 17

NARA 5: U.S. National Archives at College Park Spot intelligence reports G-2, January 1947, SCAP, Record Group 331, Box 290.

NARA 6: U.S. National Archives at College Park, Record Group 331, SCAP Civil Intelligence Section, Box 290, Folder: Annual file, offenses by the occupation forces against Japanese, September 1945–July 1948.

NZNA: New Zealand National Archives

Newspapers

GL: “Gazette de Lausanne”, Swiss newspaper, Lausanne

LM: “Le Monde”, French newspaper, Paris

NT: “Nippon Times”, Japanese newspaper, Tokyo

NYT: “New York Times”, American newspaper, New York

NYTI: Index of the “New York Times”, available on the NYT’s website

PSS: “Pacific Stars and Stripes”, newspaper read by US troops

ST: “Straits Times”, Malaysian newspaper, Singapore

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