

CABINET ORDERS ELECTION IN JAPAN JANUARY 20 TO 31

Tokyo Newspaper Urges People Be Trained for Democracy

The Japanese Cabinet decided yesterday a general election will be held January 20 to 31, and the Tokyo newspaper Yomiuri Hochi urged "spontaneous and vigorous action" toward forming a democratic government.

Tokyo radio broadcasts, heard by the FCC, reported the Cabinet's election decision. It said the government would summon the Diet to an extraordinary session early in December to revise Japan's election laws, and a nationwide census probably would start November 1.

Singapore Landings Due

The Yomiuri reported that the Nipponese people were "breathing a sigh of relief" because their fears of possible disturbances with the entry of Allied occupation forces "have thus far not materialized."

Allied occupation forces will start landing at Singapore soon after the formal signing of capitulation terms, Tokyo radio said.

A broadcast of a Japanese communique said the "United States 24th Army" would occupy the Keijo area of Korea on September 7. The reference apparently was intended to be to the 24th Army Corps, part of the U. S. 10th Army, which is scheduled under Allied plans to occupy southern Korea.

Adequate Training Urged

Yomiuri's editorial called upon the Nipponese to prepare themselves for democratic government, pointing out that the duration of Allied occupation of Japan will depend upon the speed of political rebirth.

"The basis of modern society is democracy," the paper said.

"Without a change in the people's spirit and adequate training, democracy cannot be established."

In a broadcast beamed to Asia, Tokyo radio said the Japan cultural Patriotic Association, one of the wartime organizations intended to tighten relations between Nippon and conquered territories, had decided to disband.

Food Problem Acute

The Tokyo newspaper Asahi urged the government to reorganize Japan's farming system as a step toward solving the nation's pressing problem of food supply.

Domei, the Japanese news agency, declared Nippon's heavily bombed railway system needed immediate reconstruction, and reported there were 13 times more accidents on the lines than in 1937.

Bomb hits destroyed 1600 kilometers of track, knocked out 10 vital bridges, wrecked 900 locomotives, 1800 passenger cars, 8000 freight cars and 570 trolley cars, Domei said.