

# Japan Communists Use Tiny Island To Embarrass U.S. at Okinawa Base

Tokyo - (AP) - The Japanese Communist party is using a tiny island south of Japan, Amami Oshima, as a springboard to penetrate the Okinawan political scene and embarrass the United States administration of the powerful island military bastion.

Pro-Communist elements came to power four years ago. They suffered later setbacks, but today these forces feel the time is ripe to strike again.

Stimulus for the new attack came in the wake of a leftist reception for President Eisenhower during his June 19 visit to Naha, Okinawa's capital.

Election of six Japanese Communist party candidates - the entire slate - to the Nazi city assembly in the tiny Amami island south of Kyushu Aug. 26 is an indication of the JCP activity in that area. Radio Peiping proudly took note of the fact that the Communists now "occupy first place" in the assembly.

Communists Gain Two - Actually 20 seats in the 30-

seat house went to independents. Socialists won three and the liberal Democratic party one seat.

What is significant is that the Communist party gained two seats and won 15.5 percent of the popular vote in an island administered by the United States until the end of 1954.

Reversion of administrative authority to Japan was the popular rallying cry of Naze politicians on Amami just as it is on Okinawa today. Perhaps no one was more surprised than the Amami islanders when the United

States said, in effect, you asked for it. Now you can go back to Japan.

Prior to Amami's return to Japan, it had been administered as part of the Ryukyu island group which the United States retained for one of its key military links in the Far East defense chain. Okinawa is the largest of the Ryukyu islands.

Many Smuggled - Ryukyu government immigration figures indicated at least 10,000 Amami islanders have immigrated to Okinawa in the past five years. Another 20,000 more may have

smuggled themselves in to Okinawa via the midnight fishing boat route.

Amami remains a desperately poor island with an annual per capita income far below the Japan-wide average of \$285 and even drops below the Okinawa average of \$210.

The Japanese Communist party is well aware of this and it has organized a strong core of diehard supporters on Amami.

Okinawa's top leftist leader, former Naha Mayor Kamejiro Senaga, was largely discredited after he tied up de-

liberations in the Naha city assembly for 10 months in 1957.

Major Issue Solved - The major issue on Okinawa, low rental payments for land held by the U.S. Army, was solved after U.S.-Okinawan talks in Washington.

Senaga went into self-proclaimed political retirement following the settlement. Barred from holding public office, he resigned from leadership of the leftist Coalition Party, Minren (Democracy Protection Council), but remained on as head of the Peoples party.

The bushy haired Okinawan leftist has five Minren followers in the legislature today. Conservative, liberal Democrats hold 14 seats with middle-of-the-road socialist masses in second place with 10.

Senaga wants to install at least 10 leftists in the Ryukyu legislature election Nov. 13. To do so he will call on assistance from leftist leaders in Amami Oshima, asking them to influence relatives living on Okinawa.

Issues Not Clear Cut - The issues in this election will not be as clear cut as

previously. The Army doubled the rent payments, satisfying virtually all the landowners.

Leftist forces have gained some advances in the U.S.-financed University of the Ryukyus. Many anti-Eisenhower demonstrators were students. It is difficult to link Senaga's Okinawa People's party to student discontent, but the proclaimed rallying cries are carbon copies of Senaga's old demands, including immediate reversion of Okinawa to Japan and opposition to arms buildup on Okinawa.

**Butte Home Wrecked By Lightning Jump**

Butte, Mont. - When Mrs. Harold Stero returned home from a trip, her house was a wreck. Windows were knocked out. Screens were torn. Planks were ripped loose.

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## In the Days News

By FRANK JENKINS

Last week the 88th congress, after adjourning for the political conventions and then coming back for a post-conventions rump session, adjourned for good.

The rump session was a PURELY POLITICAL session, and it ended in a mess. The mess was highly displeasing to Mr. Kennedy, the Democratic nominee for President. He blames it on the Republicans. A few minutes before adjournment he told a news conference that Republicans were responsible for blocking education, minimum wage and health bills. He accused them of playing politics with civil rights.

He made it pretty clear that he will base his campaign on the failure of the wicked Republicans to do the things he wanted done.

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HMMMMMMMMM.

His charges fall a little flat in view of the overwhelming Democratic control of both houses of the congress that has just adjourned. In the senate, the Democrats had 65 members to the Republicans' 35. In the house, Democrats numbered 280 to the Republicans' 152, with five vacancies.

What happened was that the conservative Democrats teamed up with the Republicans to defeat the measures upon which Candidate Kennedy was planning to base his campaign.

That's the long and the short of it.

THE whole situation illustrates accurately what has happened to our party system. Our parties are now split two ways, instead of one, as the two-party system ideally contemplates. They are split up and down by tradition. They are split CROSS-WISE in practice. There is a "liberal" element in the Republican party. There is a conservative element in the Democratic party. "Liberal" Republicans and "liberal" Democrats tend to flock together. Conservative Republicans and conservative Democrats tend to flock together.

So our political parties are really made up of FOUR segments instead of only two. That results in the kind of confusion we have in our politics and our lawmaking.

IT IS little wonder that our governmental affairs tend to get into a mess. It is little short of a miracle that the mess isn't worse than it is. The mess will probably continue to get worse until the time comes when common sense will dictate a return to a REAL two-party system in which there is a clear-cut cleavage between the principles and the policies of the two parties.

If and when that time comes, we will have a party system that makes sense. But not until then.

## Earlier Fair Date Possible Next Year

Salem - (UP) - The 1961 State Fair may be one week earlier than usual, the Oregon Fair Commission indicated today.

The group plans to set the dates for next year's fair at a session this Friday.

Dr. Rex Putnam, superintendent of public instruction, wrote the commission that the present dates are in conflict with opening of schools. The Labor Day week end would be a good closing period for the fair, Putnam indicated.

## Rip Van Winkle Couldn't Sleep with Nagging Backache

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