

II. HISTORY OF THE 441ST COUNTERINTELLIGENCE CORPS DETACHMENT DURING THE OCCUPATION OF JAPAN

At the end of World War II, the 441st Counterintelligence Corps (CIC) Detachment was assigned to Japan. Along with the 319th MI Company, the 441st proved to be the most important operating agency of the Civil Intelligence Section. These two organizations formed the major investigating agencies in the field. The missions included: covering foreign espionage, treason, sabotage, sedition, subversive actions, security violations, and any act inimical to the policies of the occupation forces.



Comments

[Updated October 3, 2001]

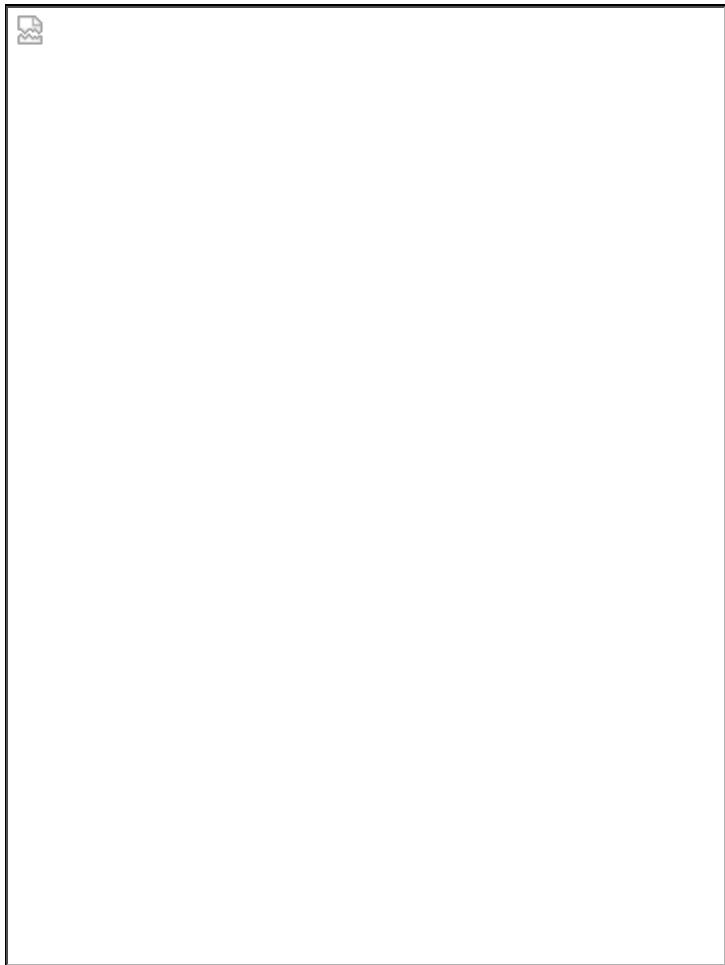
Early occupation problems were caused by the wide, pendulumlike swings which occurred in the power of CIC. When an incident took place, extremely restrictive directives were issued on a case by case basis. Finally, the organization was able to compile and publish a policy guide which enabled the lower echelons of the CIC to become thoroughly knowledgeable in official policies on a wide variety of subjects.



441st Headquarters, Norton Hall, Tokyo, 1946

In the interests of efficiency, and to prevent overlapping with other agencies, activities of CIC were limited to: surveillance of subversive activities, individuals, or ideological movements, national or foreign, that had an adverse effect on the purposes and objectives of the occupation; and to intensify security surveillance under the general intent of counter espionage. This clarification of the mission eliminated an unaccountable number of criminal investigations and other irregularities, not of a counterintelligence nature, with which CIC had found itself involved. While the basic plan of having a CIC unit in each prefecture had remained constant, administrative control of such units was maintained at Corps level. When I and IX Corps were

located in Kyoto and Sendai, CIC had its regional headquarters in the same cities.



Area 25, Tokyo, 1946 photo

The reorganization of the CIC from a combat support unit to an occupation agency took considerable time since frequent rotation of personnel caused by demobilization reduced the overall continuity of the unit's effort. Such personnel turmoil necessitated extensive procurement and training of inexperienced personnel.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND

CIRCULAR)

NO. 2)

6 January 1950

Counter Intelligence Corps
1. a. Rescission. GHQ-FEC Circular 72, 20 June 1947.
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9. OPERATIONS. a. Counter Intelligence Corps personnel will be encouraged to exercise initiative within the policies and directives issued by higher headquarters. In the performance of their duties they will be permitted to operate with minimum restrictions of movement. When consistent with the policies of the appropriate command, Counter Intelligence Corps personnel will not be delayed in the execution of their assigned duties by the observance of standard military customs or prohibitions, nor by the Military Police or other military agencies. Counter Intelligence Corps badges and credentials will be honored at all times.

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BY COMMAND OF GENERAL MacARTHUR:

OFFICIAL:

K. B. BUSH
Brigadier General, AGD
Adjutant General

EDWARD M. ALMOND
Major General, General Staff Corps
Chief of Staff

Graphic of historic Counter Intelligence Corps Orders provided by CW4 Ty Tamishige Yoshitake, USA, Ret (Feb. 23, 2003)

Major problems included the standardization of operating procedures and centralization of operational control. Based on long personal contact with individual tactical commanders and G2s', the CIC had considerable difficulty in interpreting directives from higher and more remote commands. With the planned deactivation of the two corps' headquarters, the CIC regional headquarters were eliminated and liaison officers temporarily placed at corps headquarters pending the deactivation. The existing CIC districts, formed during the major reorganization of September 1948, evolved as major subordinate headquarters. At first there were seven districts. First District included the island of Kyushu and part of southern Honshu, an area which roughly comprised the area of operations of the 24th Infantry Division. Second District included part of southern Honshu and the island of Shikoku, an area generally under the control of British Commonwealth occupation forces. Third District covered south-central Honshu in another area controlled by the 24th Infantry Division. Fourth District took in that area of Central Honshu controlled by the 1st Cavalry Division, less the Tokyo metropolitan area and Kanagawa (Yokohama) prefecture. Fifth District controlled northern Honshu while Sixth District supervised the island of Hokkaido; both of these areas were under the control of the 7th Infantry Division. The 7th, known as Tokyo-Kanagawa District, operated in close conjunction with Headquarters, 441st, until September 1949 when the District was split into two areas. Later these two areas became the 7th and 8th Districts, respectively. Under each of the first five districts, there was one counterintelligence corps area, corresponding to each prefecture in the district.



7th CIC District, 2nd Tokyo Arsenal, 1951