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Hidenori Nakahara

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THE JAPANESE POLICE

HIDENORI NAKAHARA

The author is an instructor at the Police College, Tokyo-To, Japan. In 1941 he graduated from Tokyo University School of Law and after serving as section chief in the former prefectural police departments was appointed to his present position in 1948. His paper brings up to date the Japanese police system by including the reforms of 1954.—EDITOR.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Japanese police system was established in 1871, when professional policemen were appointed in Tokyo for the first time. The system was based on the Continental police concept, as most of the administrative and judicial institutions of the (Meiji) government at that time were modelled after the German or French system.

The Major Police Authority of the Central Government was the Minister of Home Affairs, to whom the Chief of Police Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, was subordinate as one of several directorates of that Ministry. The Chief of Police Bureau was actually the key man of the nation-wide police administration, but he had no operative police force in his Bureau such corps as "Police Judiciare" or "Renseignements Generaux". The status of personnel of the Bureau was not police official but civilian administrator during their service in the Bureau, although they could be transferred to the Prefectural Police Departments as police officials. He could issue direction in the name of the Minister of Home Affairs, formulate general policies, and carry out the administrative and operational control over the Prefectural Police Departments; but his primary means of control was his authority to transfer and promote police officers in the rank of Police Superintendent or above.

On the prefectural level, the Governor appointed by the Central Government was the highest police authority (except in Tokyo, where the Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police Board held a similar status to "Le Préfet de Police" in the department of Seine). The Prefectural Police Department functioned as the executive office of the Governor in police administration. Police officers above the rank of Police Superintendents were appointed or dismissed by the Central Government; the Chief and several Superintendents in the Prefectural Department were appointed from "Corps Prefectural" as a rule. There was the trend that most of those who began their career in police administration remained in the police field, but they could be transferred to other branches of the Prefectural Government.

Therefore, it might be said that, in spite of central control, the routine management and most of the law enforcement duties were performed by the Prefectural Police, which was the traditional Japanese Police System. Japan had no police force maintained by a city, town, or village. The chief of the police station of a city or town came under control of the Prefectural Police Department and was subordinate to the Governor. In the rural areas, there were several police sub-stations or residential

police boxes which came under the police station having jurisdiction over the area concerned.

With regard to the financial arrangements, the entire expenditure of the Prefectural Police were to be defrayed by the Prefectural Government Fund with a certain portion of subsidy from the national fund—usually at the rate of 35%. Another characteristic point of the old system was the broad concept of the so-called administrative police, and police handled affairs pertaining to public sanitation, factory regulations, business licenses, and economic control. The chief of a police station could detain a suspect at the police station to protect and maintain public safety. He could also punish a minor offense with a penalty not exceeding 30 days of detention or a fine of 1,000 Yen.

TRANSITION AFTER WORLD WAR II

Japan accepted the Potsdam Declaration and signed the Instrument of Surrender on September 2, 1945. In due course of time, General Douglas MacArthur, the then Supreme Commander of the Allied powers, invited two groups of American police experts to Japan to survey the existing police system at that time and had them submit recommendations of police reform plans. The two groups were headed by L. J. Valentine and O. G. Olander, respectively. The final direction was given in Gen. MacArthur's letter dated September 16, 1947, to the Prime Minister of Japan. The former Police Law, which was the first enactment written particularly on the layout of the Japanese Police, came before the Diet as Law No. 196, 1947, and came into effect in March, 1948.

It was usually said that the main objects of the Police Law were to decentralize and democratize the police and to limit the exercising powers of the police. In order to democratize the police, the Public Safety Commission system was introduced. The National Public Safety Commission was established under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister. It was composed of five members appointed by the Prime Minister with the consent of both Houses of the Diet, and it took charge of the administrative control of the National Rural Police and maintenance of the central services such as criminal identification, police communications, and training facilities. The Headquarters of the National Rural Police was codified as the executive office of the National Public Safety Commission. The operational police forces of the National Rural Police were *To*, *Do*, and Prefectural Police headed by the Troop Commanders.¹ The operational control over those forces was exercised by the Public Safety Commission in each prefectural entity composed of three members who were appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Prefectural Assembly.

In the local public, there were Public Safety Commissions of cities, towns, or villages which exercised both the administrative and operational controls over their own forces and were formed on the same principles as their counterparts of the National Rural Police. In the local autonomous entities, cities, towns, and villages

¹ *To*, *Do*, *Fu*, and *Ken*, are the local governmental units in Japan under which the city, town, and village are established. Although their titles are different because of historical reasons, their status as the public entities are exactly the same, being equivalent to Prefectures in England. Japan is divided into forty-six prefectures, namely, 1 *To*, 1 *Do*, 2 *Fu* and 42 *Ken*.

with a population of 5,000 or more had to maintain their own police forces. The National Rural Police had jurisdiction over areas other than those covered by the above. In March, 1948, there were 1,605 communities maintaining their own police forces in Japan.

The relationship between the National Rural Police and the police of autonomous entities was stipulated by the Law which stated: "There shall be neither an administrative nor an operational control exercised by the National Rural Police over the police of cities, towns, and villages. They shall be obligated to cooperate with each other" (Article 54). In order to facilitate their cooperation and liaison, the Law referred, originally and in the revised articles inserted afterwards, to forwarding reports and exchanging information of criminal investigation and identification. The Law also established channels of cooperation to give road in coping with the demand of reinforcement from other police forces, and to have measures available in extending one's police power into another's jurisdiction in the event law enforcement must be exercised against crimes in an area less than 500 meters outside of the border lines, or against crimes and connected crimes originating in or extending into one's own jurisdiction. However, in view of the fact that the basic idea of the police system was to limit the nation-wide influence of the Central Government in Tokyo and to maintain local independent police, we were continuously facing the problem whether these channels of cooperation and liaison were adequate or not for law enforcement activities in the small islands of Japan.

The scope of the administrative police work was diminished a great deal; more precisely speaking, several functions previously undertaken by the regular police were transferred to other administrative agencies. The Police Law said the police activities, in connection with the definition of "operational control", should be confined to the following matters: (1) Maintenance of public peace and order, (2) Protection of life and property, (3) Prevention and suppression of crimes, (4) Detection of crimes and apprehension of suspects, (5) Control of traffic, and (6) Serving of warrants of arrest and of detention and other affairs ordered by the Court, Judge, or Public Procurator in accordance with the provisions of the laws (Article 1, 2).

The Code of Criminal Procedure was also revised and infringement of civil liberties and right of individuals guaranteed by the Constitution of Japan was strictly prohibited, although the police role in relation to the Public Procurator seemed to be more firmly established as far as the criminal investigation was concerned.

The foregoing police system was what Japan had had when she faced political, economical, and social unrest after the war. Japan is small and a densely populated country, and the population in the surrounding areas of the major cities has been rapidly increasing. Therefore, from the standpoint of efficient police administration, it was not feasible to have several independent police forces within such an area comparable to a prefecture both socially and economically. In addition to that, most of the local entities, particularly the middle-or-small sized, have been financially incapable to maintain their own modernized forces, because industrial and historical backgrounds of the entities were somewhat different from those in the European and American countries.

Even under the principles of local autonomy in the Constitution, people in those

TABLE I

	Special Wards	Cities	Towns or Villages	Total
March '48	1	218	1,386	1,605
Oct. '51	1	268	291	560
Sept. '53	1	276	139	416
Jan. '54	1	276	125	402

areas desired to have their forces absorbed into *To, Do*, or Prefectural Police of National Rural Police. The local entities may have had "police municipale" in the sense of a legislative power concerning police regulations at the Local Assemblies, but they could be allowed to select the type of policing forces by means of plebiscite. This idea resulted in the amendment of the Law in June, 1951, saying that cities including special wards (Tokyo Metropolitan Districts) were to maintain their own police, and towns and villages might or might not maintain their forces, depending on their choice. (Generally speaking, the autonomous entities having a population of 30,000 or more are regarded as cities at present.)

Following the aforementioned amendment to the Law, the number of towns and villages which had abolished police forces was increasing until the entire revision of the Police Law took place in July 1, 1954. The table I shows the number of public entities which have had their own forces during the period from March, 1948, to Jan., 1954.

The theory of jurisprudence was gradually diffused to a point that the Diet, not the entity itself, could decide whether a local entity should have its own police force or not in accordance with the law, due to the fact that its police duties were not involved in the so-called "Eignerer Wirkungsreis".

Another controversial point was the responsibility of the Central Government for police administration—above all, maintenance of peace and order relating to the existence of the country itself. To understand this situation, we have to pay attention to the activities of the Communist Party members and the like of post-war Japan, who were released from the long prison life just after the termination of the War and aided by the policy of freedom in political activities and especially of freedom of speech. The writer is not informed of details of their tactics which appear to be influenced and encouraged by foreign sources. However, the contents of Communist booklets and Communist led disturbances have awakened most of the Japanese to the need for controlling radicals. And at the same time, we must be aware of the fact that much needs to be improved in Japan both politically and economically, and that that is apt to make the radicals believe in the revolutionary changes at the cost of peace. Anyhow under these circumstances, the Yoshida Cabinet tried to seek measures to enable it to have the right to opine on police administration, though it always denies the intention to restore a Police State.

There have been two developments which indicate the aforesaid trend. The first was the establishment of the National Police Reserve consisting of 75,000 men in August 1950, following the outbreak of the Korean Incident in July of the same year. This was also established in conformity to Gen. MacArthur's directive and was to be

kept under the Prime Minister's direct control. Its strength was later increased, and the name was changed to Self Defence Force. Being equipped with American weapons and trained army fashion, it was generally recognized as an embryo of a ground force in the beginning, but the Japanese Government carefully refrained from referring to it as a military force.

At any rate, as the daily activities of the above force have been entirely separate from the regular police, we should cast our eyes on the other development in the indigenous police administration. The Police Law had originally no more provisions than the proclamation of a state of national emergency and, during the proclamation, temporary assumption of control over the entire police by the Prime Minister. However, later in 1952, the new article was inserted which stated that the Prime Minister might, upon the recommendations of the National Public Safety Commission, issue an instruction with respect to the affairs having a direct bearing on the maintenance of peace and order to a Public Safety Commission of a *To, Do, Prefecture, City, Town, or Village*, when he deemed it particularly necessary.

According to the Law, the Director-General, Headquarters of the National Rural Police, was to be appointed or dismissed by the National Public Safety Commission in accordance with the provisions of the National Public Service Law; the Chief of Police of Special Wards by the Special Ward Public Safety Commission. In these two cases, the above mentioned Commissions must ask for the opinion of the Prime Minister, under the amended articles.

REFORMS IN 1954, OUTLINE OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM

After a 6 year experience, the Yoshida Cabinet submitted a bill to the Diet on February 15, 1954, although they had previously proposed another bill in February, 1953, which did not pass the Diet because of its dissolution.² In explaining the reasons for presentation of a new bill (1954) before the Diet, Mr. Ken Inukai, State Minister in charge of the National Rural Police at that time, said, "In revising some defects of the present system, we must, of course, guarantee the democratic management of the police; in other words, there should be the participation of the people in the police management. The main idea of this bill is to resolve the two pending problems, i.e., to increase efficiency in performing duties to maintain peace and order and to clearly define the responsibility of the police, basing them on the democratic guarantee." The bill provoked much controversy both in and outside of the Diet and the big cities, and both the Left and Right Socialist Parties opposed strongly the Government's proposal. However, as the result of compromise among the Conservative Parties, it was enacted in the prolonged Diet session as Law No. 162, 1954, in June and put into effect from July 1, 1954.

National Public Safety Commission. The new Law still maintains the Public Safety Commission system both on national and prefectural levels. Under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister, the National Public Safety Commission is again composed of five members, having five years term, appointed by the Prime Minister with the consent of both Houses of the Diet. But the chairmanship is to be assumed

² Dr. H. E. Wildes presented the interesting article on "The Postwar Japanese Police", and he referred summarily to the former attempt. This Journal, vol. 43, no. 5 (Jan.-Feb. 1953) pp. 655-671.

by a State Minister, who convenes, represents the Commission and presides over its affairs, though not a member. However, it was explained that the chairman could not exercise undue influence over the Commission, because the proceedings should be decided by the majority of the attending members, and he, without having the voting right, might make a decision only in case of a tie.

With regard to the duties of the National Public Safety Commission, the Law says it will take charge of police operation in matters affecting the national public safety, preside over the affairs concerning police training, police communications, criminal identification, criminal statistics, and police equipment and perform adjustment of police administration. In other words, the Commission has the controlling power over the National Police Agency with respects to police operations as well as administrative coordination in certain cases, which the Law prescribes as follows:

- a. Matters relating to large natural disasters creating public unrest.
- b. Matters relating to civil disturbances disrupting peace in the local areas.

The National Public Safety Commission will appoint or dismiss the Director-General of the National Police Agency with the approval of the Prime Minister. Appointments and dismissals of Chiefs of Prefectural Police Headquarters will also be done by the National Public Safety Commission with the consent of the Prefectural Public Safety Commission. And the Superintendent-General of the *To* Police will be appointed or dismissed by the National Public Safety Commission with the consent of the *To* Public Safety Commission and thereafter with the approval of the Prime Minister. *To*, *Do*, or Prefectural Public Safety Commission may submit necessary recommendations to the National Public Safety Commission with respect to dismissal or disciplinary punishment of the Superintendent-General or the Chief of the Prefectural Police Headquarters.

National Police Agency. The National Police Agency is established under the control of the National Public Safety Commission not merely as its executive office but as a kind of the governmental agencies headed by the Director-General. The duties of the Agency cover just those of the National Public Safety Commission. The Director-General directs and supervises the Prefectural Police concerning the duties of the National Police Agency.

In the Agency, there are the Director-General's Secretariat and four divisions, namely, Police Affairs, Criminal Investigation, Police Guard, and Police Communications. The Director-General's Secretariat consists of Secretariat, Planning, and Accounting Sections. The Police Affairs Division takes charge of personnel, welfare, training and inspection, and police equipment. As the auxiliary institutions attached to the Agency, we find the Police College, the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, and the Headquarters of the Imperial Guard.

There are seven Regional Police Bureaus established as the local offices of the National Police Agency. They are Tohoku (Sendai), Kanto (Tokyo), Chubu (Nagoya), Kinki (Osaka), Chugoku (Hiroshima), Shikoku (Takamatsu), and Kyushu (Fukuoka), Regional Police Bureaus. (The name of the city shows the location of the Bureau office in each Region.) In the Bureau, there are General Affairs, Public Safety, and Police Communications Divisions. The General Affairs Division is to perform the combined work of the Secretariat and Police Affairs, in other words,

the internal administration; the Public Safety Division covers police operations which include the Criminal Investigation and Police Guard. And the Regional Police Training School for a general and specialized in-service training of the middle class police officers is attached to each Bureau.

The personnel of the National Police Agency including the Regional Bureaus are police officials, Imperial Guardians, civilian clerks, technicians, and others. The ranks of the police officials (except the Director-General) are Superintendent-General, Superintendent-Supervisor, Chief Superintendent, Senior Superintendent, Superintendent, Inspector, Assistant Inspector, Sergeant, and Patrolman. The authorized strength of the police officials in the Agency is 955, out of which 236 have the rank of Superintendent or above; the number of the Imperial Guardians is 822 in total.

Hence the new National Police Agency has been staffed with the regular police officials. However, it is not the headquarters of the nationalized police force in the true sense of the word, because its functions are mainly to fix the standards and to coordinate police administration as distinguished from police operations, and because there is no permanent active law enforcing force in Tokyo Headquarters or in the Regional Bureaus.

Prefectural Police. One of the main purposes of the new legislation is to absorb the municipal police and the former prefectural police of the National Rural Police (having its jurisdiction only outside of the municipal police) into a new prefectural police. According to the Law, the Prefectural Police (precisely *To*, *Do*, *Fu*, or *Ken* Police) means the prefectural police organization and the Prefectural Public Safety Commission as the controlling organ.

The Prefectural Public Safety Commissions are established under the jurisdiction of the Governors. They shall usually be composed of three members, but five members in case of *To* or a Prefecture with a designated city, whose appointments shall be made by the Governor with the consent of the Prefectural Assembly. Two members out of five in a designated prefecture shall be recommended by the mayor with the consent of the City Assembly of the designated city. All Prefectural Police Headquarters including the Metropolitan Police Department come under the aforesaid Commissions. But there are four different types in the new Prefectural Police system.

Firstly, Tokyo-*To* has "the Metropolitan Police Department" and "the Superintendent-General" as its Chief, and it does not come under the Regional Bureau of the National Police Agency, because of it being the capital of the country. Secondly, there are five prefectures each having a City designated by the Local Government Law. They are Osaka-*Fu* (Osaka), Kyoto-*Fu* (Kyoto), Aichi-*Ken* (Nagoya), Kanagawa-*Ken* (Yokohama), and Hyogo-*Ken* (Kobe). (The names in parentheses are the designated cities.) Strictly speaking, no city police can exist under the new Police Law, but as the result of a compromise reached among the political parties by virtue of the political campaigns of the major cities, the article has been inserted saying that there shall be a City Police Department in a designated city. The City Police Department in the Law is somewhat nominal from the viewpoint of local autonomy, because the Chief of the City Police Department is to perform his duties under the direction of the Chief of the Prefectural Police Headquarters.

The third exceptional type is seen in the case of Hokkaido. Although it forms a prefectural unit, its area is such from the standpoint of administration. *Do*, under the control of the *Do* Public Safety Commission, is divided into five Areas (Homen), each headed by a Chief. The Chief of the Area Police Headquarters will be appointed or dismissed under the same procedure as in the case of the Chief of the Prefectural Police Headquarters. The Law stipulates that "the Chief of the Area Police Headquarters shall be subject to control of the Area Public Safety Commission, shall preside over the affairs of the Area Police Headquarters and, under the direction of the Chief of the *Do* Police Headquarters." At any rate, *Do* Police does not come under the Regional Police Bureau, but, in order to carry out the affairs concerning Police Communications, the National Police Agency maintains the Hokkaido Local Police Communications Division.

The fourth is the case of the ordinary Prefectural Police which are thirty-nine *Ken* Police in total. In the ordinary prefecture, there is one Prefectural Public Safety Commission and Prefectural Police Headquarters headed by a Chief, to which the Police Stations belong. But the character and principles to be mentioned in the following part are applicable to every kind of the Prefectural Police.

The character of the Prefectural Police from the legal standpoint is explained by the fact that they are autonomous police maintained by the respective public entity which is called *To*, *Do*, *Fu* or Prefecture (*Ken*). The new Public Safety Commission is empowered with both the operational and administrative controlling power. According to an authentic interpretation, the source of police execution is believed to come from the supreme power of the State. In as much as the nature of law enforcement is national as well as local, the State may select the Public Entity under which the police force will come, and delegate the police duties to it with the minimum requirement of control of the State.

We have already referred to the functions of the National Public Safety Commission and the National Police Agency. Coordination of police administration, which the aforesaid Commission and Agency are to handle, covers the affairs concerning the National Budget of police administration and standards of the recruitment, services, and activities of the police personnel as well as planning and research of the police systems. With regard to the personnel arrangement of the police officers of the prefectural level, those who are in the higher rank than the Senior-Superintendent will be called "the Local Senior Police Officials" and will hold the status of the National Public Officials. The said Local Senior Police Officials will be appointed or dismissed by the National Public Safety Commission with the consent of the Prefectural Public Safety Commission, and their salaries and allowances will be paid by the National Fund. The total number of such senior officials is fixed as 260. All other personnel will be appointed or dismissed by the Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police Department or by the respective Chiefs of the Prefectural Police Headquarters upon hearing the opinion of the Prefectural Public Safety Commissions concerned.

The authorized strength of the prefectural personnel shall be fixed by a Prefectural Ordinance, but the authorized strength of the prefectural police officers shall follow the standards fixed by the Cabinet Order. And the conditions with respect to

TABLE III
DISTRIBUTION OF LOCAL POLICE OFFICERS

Authorized Strength	Number of Police Dept.	Name of Prefecture
Over 22,000	1	Tokyo (<i>To</i>)
9,000-10,000	1	Osaka (<i>Fu</i>)
5,001- 6,000	3	Hyogo, Hokkaido, Aichi
4,001- 5,000	2	Kanagawa, Fukuoka
3,001- 4,000	1	Kyoto (<i>Fu</i>)
2,001- 3,000	5	Shizuoka, Hiroshima, Niigata Saitama, Nagasaki
1,501- 2,000	9	Chiba, Yamaguchi, Nagano, Kagoshima, Miyagi, Okayama, Ibaragi, Fukushima, Kumamoto
1,001- 1,500	14	Gumma, Tochigi, Mie, Gifu, Ehime, Oita, Aomori, Yamagata, Miyazaki, Akita, Toyama, Ishikawa, Wakayama, Iwate
801- 1,000	7	Saga, Kagawa, Kochi, Shiga, Shimane, Tokushima Fukui
600- 800	3	Yamanashi, Nara and Tottori Prefecture

their services will be regulated by a Prefectural By-Laws or regulations of the National Personnel Commission in accordance with the Local Public Service Law. According to the Cabinet Order (the Police Law Enforcement Order), the total strength of the local police personnel shall be 113,500 at the end of March, 1957. The actual total at present is slightly higher, but it is expected to be reduced to the above mentioned number in accordance with the retrenchment program of the number of governmental officers.³

Taking a glance at the table of the authorized strength, Table III, we can say that the largest is, of course, Tokyo-*To* (Metropolitan Police Department) with 22,300 and the smallest is Tottori Prefecture with 610. Between them, we may show the general distribution to be fixed in the near future.

With regard to the financial arrangement besides the salaries and allowances for the Senior Officials, the items for which payment must be made by the National Fund are as follows:

1. Expenses for maintenance of police training facilities and for training activities in the Police Schools;
2. Expenses for police communication activities and for maintenance of the police communication facilities;
3. Expenses for criminal identification activities and for maintenance of the criminal identification facilities;
4. Expenses for activities related to criminal statistics;
5. Expenses for maintenance of police vehicles, patrol boats, and equipment for police guard activities;

³ Population per one regular policeman is often discussed as an index figure in a comparative study of a police system. In Japan, it should be about 753, for the latest estimated population is 87,033,000 (Oct. 1, 1953) against the total authorized strength of the Japanese Police officers, 115,537, including the Local Senior Police Officials, Police Officials of the National Police Agency, and the Imperial Guardians, which the Police Law anticipates.

6. Expenses for escort and police guard activities;
7. Expenses for investigating crimes affecting the national public safety as well as crimes of special nature.

Expenses other than those stated above shall be covered by the Prefectural Funds. However, according to the Law, a part (actually one half of the amount considered necessary and approved by the Ministry of Finance) shall be subsidized by the National Budget in accordance with the Cabinet Order.

There are several articles in the Law which refer to the mutual relations of the Prefectural Police. Article 59 stipulates the general principle and says that a "To, Do, and Prefectural Police shall be obligated to cooperate with each other." In exercising police power outside of jurisdiction, the Law says that a police officer may exercise police power in any area, provided that the offender is caught in the act as is prescribed in Article 212 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. A Mobile Police in the transportation facilities which covers two or more To, Do, Fu, or Prefectural Police jurisdictions may exercise its authority within a specified Prefectural Police jurisdiction as decided upon by consultations with the To, Do, Fu, or Prefectural Police concerned.

The new Law has abolished the old principle of a 500 meter zone along the boundry of the jurisdiction. Instead, the new Law allows a To, Do, Fu, or Prefectural Police to extend their power to an area outside of the jurisdiction, provided that it is done at minimum requirement in suppressing and investigating crimes, in apprehending suspects and in maintaining public safety, within their own area. In such a case, the To, Do, Fu, or Prefectural Police must maintain close liaison with other Police which has jurisdiction over the area concerned.

A Prefectural Public Safety Commission may request aid from the National Police Agency or other Prefectural Police. In such a case, the police officers dispatched in response to the request of aid, may exercise power in the area within the jurisdiction of the requesting prefecture, under the control of the Public Safety Commission of the said Prefecture.

Special Measures in a State of Emergency. Although there has never been an actual case since the beginning of the old Police Law, the Law had established measures to be taken in a state of national emergency. The new Police Law has changed the wording as well as the names of the agencies, but the idea remained to be almost the same as before.

In a case where a large natural disaster, civil disturbances, or the like happens, and when it is deemed especially necessary in view of maintaining public peace and order, the Prime Minister may, upon the recommendation of the National Public Safety Commission, proclaim a state of emergency throughout the country or in the affected area on a local basis. When the proclamation is issued, the Prime Minister will temporarily control the police. In such a case he will directly command and control the Director-General of the National Police Agency at the minimum requirement for restoring peace and order. When the proclamation is issued, the Director-General will give necessary order to or direct the Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police Department or the Chief of the Prefectural Police concerned;

the Chief of the Regional Police Bureau may do likewise toward the Prefectural Chiefs.

The proclamation of a state of emergency by the Prime Minister must be ratified by the Diet within 20 days from the date of the action. If the Diet is closed or the House of Representatives is dissolved, such ratification should be obtained at the first following session. The Prime Minister shall cancel the proclamation if the Diet disapproves or abolishes it, or if the need no longer exists. During the proclamation, the National Public Safety Commission shall always give the necessary advice to the Prime Minister with respect to exercising his power stipulated by the Law.

The Law may be entitled as the Law of Police Organization, and little is referred to procedure and operational phases. Conditions and limitations with respect to operations imposed on police after the War have remained untouched, although several new statutes have been enacted in order to deal with new types of offenses.

It was reported that State Minister, concurrently Chairman of National Public Safety Commission, Mr. Zentarō Kosaka, and Director-General of National Police Agency, Mr. Noboru Saito, emphasized in the press briefing session held just before the enforcement of the Police Law, that the autonomy of the Prefectural Police would be respected and the reorganized police system would still be democratic in nature and operation. (The Nippon Times, June 23, 1954)