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## Ikeda Will Make Trip To Niigata Tomorrow

Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda will make a one day trip to stricken Niigata Sunday to express sympathy to the victims of Tuesday's devastating earthquake.

Ikeda is scheduled to leave Tokyo Station at 7:55 a.m. Sunday by express and arrive in Niitsu at 12:30 p.m. He will take a car to Niigata from Niitsu.

A fairly strong earthquake, believed to be an aftershock of the Niigata Earthquake, rocked northern Japan and Kanto area at around 7:05 p.m. Friday. The Meteorological Agency placed the epicenter of the coast of Niigata and estimated the depth of the epicenter to be about 40 kilometers. The magnitude, on a scale of seven, was 4 at Sakata, Yamagata Prefecture, 3 in Niigata, 2 in Akita, Yamagata and 1 in Yokohama and parts of northern Japan. No casualties were reported.

He will leave Niitsu at 4:15 p.m. by express for Tokyo after inspecting conditions in Niigata.

Ikeda will be accompanied by Takeo Noda, director of Administrative Affairs in the Prime Minister's Office.

This was decided as a result of a meeting among Ikeda, Secretary General Shigesaburo Maeo of the Liberal-Democratic Party, and Chief Cabinet Secretary Yasuni Kurogane.

The Government, at a Cabinet meeting Friday, heard reports from various Cabinet Ministers for relief and reconstruction of ravaged Niigata.

The explosion of the tanks of the Showa Oil Co. was mainly discussed at the meeting.

As a result, the Government decided to hold a meeting of the Government's Disaster Prevention Council in a few days to discuss basic measures to prevent such disasters.

## Trans-Pacific Telephone Hookup LBJ, Ikeda Inaugurate Cable Line



Prime Minister Ikeda

Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda and American President Lyndon B. Johnson inaugurated a trans-Pacific underwater telephone cable Friday with an exchange of messages.

Work to lay the undersea cable between Ninomiya, Kanagawa Prefecture, on Japan's main island of Honshu, and Oahu, Hawaii, via Guam, Wake and Midway—a distance of 9,900 kilometers—was begun on Feb. 3 and completed May 15.

In his message, President Johnson expressed sympathy to the victims of last Tuesday's Niigata earthquake on behalf of the American people.

Prime Minister Ikeda expressed the belief that the newly laid cable would contribute greatly not only toward promoting U.S.-Japan relations but also world peace and prosperity.

The two leaders made the exchange of messages.



U.S. President Johnson

## Socialist Offer Defense Ministry Bill Shelved by Government

The Government has given up on submission to the Diet its bill to promote the Defense Agency's status to that of a full-fledged ministry, it became certain Friday.

The Government has abandoned its plan to seek passage of this bill in the face of a Socialist offer to cooperate with the ruling forces in the enactment of two other defense measures in case they desist from carrying through the ministry bill during this Diet session.

## Defense Chief, U.S. Officials To Confer

Tokuyasu Fukuda, chief of the Defense Agency, will leave Tokyo for Washington June 27 for an exchange of views with top U.S. leaders on the Far East situation.

He will stop over the same day at U.S. Pacific Command Headquarters in Honolulu and arrive in Washington on June 28.

## Communist Party Expels 8 Members

The Japan Communist Party Friday announced the expulsion of eight party members for their schismatic activities.

Their ousting came in the wake of expulsion a month ago of two Dietmen, Yoshio Shiga and Ichizo Suzuki, from the party because they had voted for the partial nuclear test ban treaty in violation of the party line opposing it.

The eight expelled include Mrs. Taeko Watanabe, wife of Shiga. The others belonged to the party headquarters cell and to the party's Diet Policy Committee.

The party charged that the eight had conducted anti-party activities with Shiga and Suzuki.

## Phouma Says Bombings of

## Lower House Passes Bill To Increase Its Number

The Public Elections Law Amendment Bill which raises the quota for the House of Representatives from 467 to 486 members was passed by the Lower House Friday.

The bill also has a good chance of being passed by the House of Councillors before the current Diet session closes next Friday.

The bill increases the quota for 12 electorates by 19 persons. When it is passed, Tokyo's sixth district will be represented by eight Dietmen instead of the present five.

Tokyo's first and fifth, Aichi's first, and Osaka's first districts will have six Dietmen each.

Prospects for the passage of the bill in the current Diet session were once regarded as remote, because Liberal-Democrats, Japan Socialists and Democratic Socialists differed sharply on how to divide the six-man and eight-man electorates.

The Tories and Socialists reached agreement Thursday to split the constituencies according to the Home Affairs Ministry's formula.

The bill has an attached resolution calling for a further study on the revised quorum to be made in accordance with the results of the next national census.

This amendment proposal, jointly sponsored by the Liberal-Democratic and the Japan Socialist parties and approved at the House of Representatives Public Elections Law Special Committee Friday is aimed at partitioning the electoral constituencies in a form of an amendment in line with the passage of the original bill worked out by the Home Affairs Ministry.

The original bill only stipulates the increase in number of the quorum but fails to touch on the question of the partition of the existing constituencies.

Under the amendment, the Tokyo No. 1 Electoral District will be divided into two districts, the

# Malaysia Summit To Open Today; Lopez Sees Hope



AP Radiophoto

Two Thai observers pass by a Malaysian border post as they inspect the first checkpoint for the withdrawal of Indonesian guerrillas from Malaysian Borneo at Tebedu Thursday.

## Macapagal Asking for Afro-Asian Conciliation Panel

By United Press International  
Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines agreed Friday to open a summit conference of their leaders today in an attempt to solve their dispute over former British territory.

Chief ministers of the three Southeast Asian nations met for 19 minutes Friday afternoon and agreed to convene a

**KUALA LUMPUR (Kyodo-Reuters)**—Indonesian guerrillas Friday attacked a Gurkha security forces patrol in Sabah, the Defense Ministry announced here Friday night. The ministry's announcement said: "An unknown number of Indonesian guerrillas attacked a patrol of 2/7 Gurkha Rifles, southwest of Pensiangan, within Malaysian territory, near the border between Sabah and Indonesian Borneo at 7:45 a.m. today (Friday). One Gurkha soldier was wounded." The headquarters of Britain's unified Far East command in Singapore could give no further details. The Sabah clash took place about 75 minutes after 32 Indonesian guerrillas passed through the Thai checkpoint at Tebedu, Sarawak.

conference among Indonesian President Sukarno, Malaysian

## Rusk Makes Plea

# Senate Okay Asked For Foreign Aid Bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Dean Rusk asked the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Thursday to approve the House-passed \$3,500 million foreign aid authorization bill in the interest of "the survival of freedom."

Rusk, opening the Administration's drive to win Senate passage of the measure, called it a basic figure below which he said cuts would be dangerous.

Rusk testified at a closed session but excerpts of his testimony were made public. The bill would provide



## Cable Line

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change of messages in the course of the opening ceremony, which was held from 10:50 a.m. in Japan at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo.

Similar ceremonies were held simultaneously at the White House in Washington and the Iolani Palace in Honolulu.

The newly laid cable was connected with the existing cable between Oahu and San Francisco.

The cable, which will considerably improve telecommunication service between Japan and the United States, was formally opened in ceremonies held Friday morning in Tokyo, Honolulu and Washington.

During the ceremonies, messages were also exchanged between Postal Services Minister Shinzo Koike and Rosel H. Hyde, vice chairman of the U.S. Federal Communications Commission.

This was followed by a conversation between Governor Ryotaro Azuma of Tokyo and Governor John A. Burns of Hawaii, and a three-way conversation among Katsuzo Ono, president of the Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co. (KDD), Board Chairman Frederic R. Kappel of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. and President Douglas S. Guild of the Hawaiian Telephone Co.

The general public will be allowed to book calls through the trans-Pacific cable from 2 p.m. Friday.

The rates will be much lower than the present radiotelephone charges.

The rates for station-to-station calls will be ¥3,240 for the first three minutes and ¥1,080 for every additional minute, compared with the ¥4,320 and ¥1,440 by radiophone on weekdays.

The rates for person-to-person calls will be ¥4,320 for the first three minutes with the charge for every additional minute remaining the same as that for station-to-station calls.

The waiting time will be reduced considerably to less than 10 minutes from the 30 minutes required in the past.

Meanwhile, the Postal Services Ministry issued commemorative stamps Friday to mark the opening of the new cable.

## Ikeda

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vent accidents in the heavy and chemical industries.

The revision of the Fire Law will also be discussed.

Tokuyasu Fukuda, the director of the Defense Agency, reported to the Cabinet meeting Friday on countermeasures for natural calamities worked out by the agency following the Niigata quake.

The countermeasures explained by Fukuda included the reinforcement of helicopters, building and maintenance of local heliports and the strengthening of the Maritime Self-Defense Forces and its ships stationed along the Japan Sea coast.

The MSDF station in Niigata will, for instance, be promoted to the status of a local base under the newly-devised countermeasures programs so that relief goods may be stored in it against any sudden national disaster.

The Cabinet meeting approved the Defense Agency's programs.

Eisaku Sato, director of the Science and Technology Agency, said at a press conference Friday that studies to predict earthquakes are important, but it is more important at present to prepare various measures to be immediately carried out in time of need against earthquake damage.

He said that he planned to send a technological survey team comprised of high officials from early ministry to the earthquake-stricken areas at the end of the month and to institute a preventive study on earthquakes as a start of a series of studies on natural disaster prevention methods.

He continued that although there is an opinion favoring the establishment of a large seismic study program entailing a large amount of money, there would be numerous difficult problems to be solved before the plan could be realized.

He concluded that it was most important at the moment to study measures to precisely estimate the scale of an earthquake in its initial stage and to properly counteract it by using past seismic records as reference.