CODE FOR JAPANESE PRESS

Issued 21 September 1945

In accordance with the Supreme Allied Commander's objective of establishing freedom of the press in Japan, a Press Code for Japan has been issued. This PRESS CODE, rather than being one of restrictions of the Press, is one which is designed to educate the press of the Japanese in the responsibilities and meaning of free press. Emphasis is placed on the truth of news and the elimination of propaganda. This Press Code will cover, in addition, all publications printed in Japan.

This is the Press Code for Japan;

1. News must adhere strictly to the truth.

2. Nothing should be printed which might, directly or indirectly, disturb the public tranquility.

3. There shall be no false or destructive criticism of the Allied Powers.

4. There shall be no destructive criticism of the Allied Occupation and nothing which might invite mistrust or resentment of those troops.

5. There shall be no mention or discussion of Allied troops movements unless such movements have been officially released.

6. News stories must be factually written and completely devoid of editorial opinion.

7. New stories shall not be colored to conform with any propaganda line.

8. Minor details of a news story must not be over-emphasized to stress or develop any propaganda line.

9. No news story shall be distorted by the omission of pertinent facts or details.

10. In the make-up of the newspaper no news story shall be given undue prominence for the purpose of establishing or developing any propaganda line.