

## 2. Conditional Requisition is Decided

### (3) 〈Growing Unease as the Weapons Testing Commences〉 (January-March, 1953)

As January—the deadline to begin the testing range operations—approached, there was still no indication that the testing would start soon. Next month, on February 7th, the construction of barbed wire fences, gun platforms, barracks, steel roads, and other military infrastructure finally began. Then, on March 18th, weapons testing officially began as well. By this point, two and a half months had passed of the four months of planned land usage.

In reality, once the weapons testing started, in addition to not being allowed to fish, residents were troubled by the thunderous sounds of the bombardments, which were so prolific that they even reached neighboring Kanazawa and Kahoku (known at that time as Unoke Town and Nanazuka Town). What's more, whispers of permanent requisition began to surface. Because of this, many local residents—beginning with Uchinada—levied their complaints against the American military and the Japanese government, further fueling the land requisition protest movement.