

3. The Struggle Goes Nationwide

(3) 〈The Formation of the Village Executive Committee and its Efforts to Oppose the Permanent Land Requisition〉 (May, 1953)

After the brief cessation of the weapons testing, talks of resuming testing with additional compensation were raised by the federal government, and the Uchinada Village Authorities, along with other groups that also supported the protest movement, raised objections on both the floor of the National Diet and at the Prime Minister's residence itself. Additionally, the Village Authorities won a major victory when they successfully appealed to the government to return the right to resume fishing operations to the residents of Uchinada.

Then, on May 15th, the Uchinada Villagers' Association (with the backing of the Village Authorities) decided to hold fast to their stance of "absolute opposition to the land requisition," while at the same time the Village Executive Committee was formed and chaired by Mayor Nakayama. Following the actions of these groups, many others also grew more vocal about their absolute opposition to the land requisition, including the Ishikawa Prefectural Assembly, which issued public declarations against the permanent use of the land, and the Ishikawa Prefectural Governor, who became a key player in the protest lobbyist group.