

Tab 2

Postwar period

The Old Public Hall escaped damage during an air raid on Hakodate in July 1945 that left many other buildings in ruins. It hosted various entities after World War II, when available buildings were scarce. In 1955, it was the headquarters of an official inquiry into the Toya Maru ship incident, when the nearby sinking of a train ferry the previous year resulted in the loss of 1,155 passengers and crew.