Kanji "created too much work"

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From today's Asahi Shimbun:

"The Social Insurance Agency failed to enter names for more than 10 percent of the 50 million public pension accounts whose rightful owners are now unknown apparently because the kanji characters created too much work.

Of those 5.24 million nameless accounts, 3,809 are also missing data for dates of birth and sex, the agency said Monday.

The 5.24 million accounts were mostly created before 1985, when the agency completed its online storage of pension accounts. Of those accounts, 296,000 lack entries for names and dates of birth, while 3,900 were missing the account holders' names and sex.

The agency said employees had failed to enter the names likely because figuring out the proper kanji for account holders' names was too enormous a task. "

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