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Description of contents

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CHOBUN KAKU

July 25, 1947.

TO: The Central Screening Committee

FROM: Masae Takashima,
The Chobunkaku Publishing Co.,
126, Taishido-machi, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo.

SUBJECT: Contrary Evidence of this Company for Falling under Sweeping Purge of Book Publications; Protest against Great Misunderstanding; and Request for Re-examination.

(Ex) No. 2.

1. Our company, The Chobunkaku Publishing Co., was out of business during the period of September 1944-February 1946 due to publishing control. furthermore as a result of war disasters which the company had to go through twice, all necessary materials having been completely destroyed by fire, we have been driven into great difficulty in preparation of full report as to dates of issue, number of pages, number of circulations.

2. Especially our "Complete Works of War Literature" had been under "strict observation" of government authorities as a series of anti-war or divulging nature. Unprecedented in the publishing world, majority of this fifteen-volume-series was subject to sales prohibition and repeated punishment in the form of deletion prior to and after the sale. Confiscation by government authorities of books, loss of them through deletion, concealment of these books either by book-stores or by readers----these factors mounted to such a degree that collection of materials for this report has been felt exceedingly difficult.

3. The said "Complete Works of War Literature" has been published in 15 volumes after buying the copyright of, and on the original paper-mould of, the 15 volumes of "Notable Literary Works of Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese Wars". They are, so to speak, a generation old, published in or about 1927 by the Notable War Literature Publishing Society located at Misaki-cho, Kanda-ku, Tokyo(original copies of these books are attached herewith for reference). In addition to above, our works in 15 bolumes contained, in new arrangement, ten or more of the most hackneyed publications out of thousands of them already in existence. In those days, several years had already elapsed since the China Incident broke out, and the so-called War Literature had been enjoying sweeping popularity in the publishing world, and innumerable books both big and small had been published. Officials in charge of the Central Liaison Office in their conversation stated that works of such nature would not fall under the Purge Directive. It can be said that in point of quantity, 70 to 80 percent of our works belongs to the "Literary Works of Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese Wars" mentioned above.

It was entirely our fault for having failed in the report or presentation of materials even though we had been governed by such difficult circumstances described in Paragraph 1. However,, we are firmly convinced that the designation of our works as falling under the Purge Directive is entirely due to great misunderstanding. As for "Nikudan"(Human Bullet) of Chuon Sakurai among the said complete works, there is even a praising preface made by the late President of the U.S.A., Theodore Roosevelt. "Kono Issen"(This One Battle) by Kotoku Mizuno, which was translated into more than ten different foreign languages like "Human Bullet", was read and won the admiration of the world-wide readers as one of the best master-pieces of war literature. Among the

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additionel re-publications, i.e. the literary works of China Incident, "Koku Butai"(Air Corps), "Haiso Senri" (2,440 Mile Retreat), "Tokusentai"(Supervising Army), etc. are also pure war literature. "Wakizaka Butai"(Wakizaka Corps), "Corps of Higashikuni" and "Seiya Ninen"(Two Years' Fighting" are likewise pure literary pieces describing battle-fields; and "Shanhai Sensen"(Shanghai Front) is but a series of spot-report of a man of letters. Above all, the volume containing "Two Years Fighting" was even prohibited of sale.

4. The main current running through all the volumes of this "Complete Works of War Literature" is utterly nothing more than war literature describing the truth of battle-fields. In the light of the facts that most of its fifteeen volumes had been prohibited of sale and punished with deletions; we cannot possibly take it to fall under the purge of books. None of the works of over thirty years old such as war histories written on Sino-Japanese or Russo-Japanese Wars would not be sought. From this standpoint, the announcement made on June 28, 1947, designating our company as one to come under the general framework of the purge was equally unexpected and surprising to us. In the course of a discussion-meeting held the same day, staff members of the Central Liaison Office was of the same opinion as ours. On the same day, however, we were informed, with great regret, that the examination could not be possible with our works owing to our failure in submitting reports on the books of war literature and others of similar nature, and also to our failure in presenting books to the Central Screening Committee for examining purposes. All these had been entirely due to our fault and negligence caused through extremely difficult circumstances as mentioned in Paragraph 1 and 11. Ever since, mobilizing all employes of our company as well as hands of our acquaintances, we have been seeking after those books in printing houses, book-binders' and second-hand book-dealers' in Tokyo area, and also the second-book stores in neighbouring cities and towns that survived the war damages. Fortunately, having discovered, at last, some copies of our "Complete Works of War Literature" and others that had not been previously reported, we now take the liberty of presenting this counter-evidence for re-examination of our case.

A. A series like "Air Corps", "Supervising Army", "Two Years' Fighting", "2,440 Mile Retreat", "Choku Kyoko 500Kilo"(Forced Drive of 500 Kilometers) etc. were made up either by utilizing part of the paper-mould for the complete works of war literature or by rebinding the returned copies of them.

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B. "Sekai Judai Senso o Kaerimiru"(Reflection on Ten World Wars) is a publication devoted in the description of historical facts of ten modern major wars on the basis of a mere historical events starting from the so-called "modern war", the American Independence War, to World War I. The first and original edition of this issue was written and published about twenty years ago and our present one is its second edition made up of old-purchased paper-mould, contents being simply historical events.

C. "Toyo wa Chino Nioi ga Suru"(Orient Smells Bloody) was firstly published by the Isshin-sha Publishing Co., Misaki-cho, Kanda-ku, Tokyo, about 14 years ago. After buying both its copyright and paper-mould, we re-published it. It deals with the international position of Japan in those days, making special reference to the opinion of Major Eliot of the U.S. Army and others.

D. Both "Kokusei Nichiren"(National Saint Nichiren) and Hitler Hito Oyobi Sono Jigyo"(Hitler as a Man and His Enterprise) are nothing but biography of Nichiren and Hitler, candidly describing their personal being and their undertakings.

E. On the colophon page of the "Complete Works of War Literature" are printed the letters to show that the same are of some hundredth edition. This is one of many means of propaganda by which publishers of this kind could enjoy sweeping popularity in those days. Actually, it was entirely up to the publishers to decide the unit of one edition - some treated ten copies as one edition and some one hundred as one. It is, therefore, quite imaginable that such wording as "so many hundred edition" is printed at a single issue. However, the actual number of circulation is as mentioned on the report.(Circulation certificate attached to the original application).

5. In conclusion of the above commentary, so much were we surprised at the unexpected announcement made on June 28 that we had a series of talks with officials of the Central Liaison Office from which we got the following convictions:-

That is to say, as most of the books covered by purge directive were of war literature, front-title of our books might have given too strong an impression. Or, to make the matter worse, as we could neither make any proper report due to necessary materials having been unavailable for us, nor present the original books for official examination in time, a great misunderstanding might have befallen us. As is already mentioned, however, in point

of fact our books do not imply any specific thought of their own nor do they contain any element to lead the readers in their thought. They are nothing but literary works depicting battle-fields or battles, or merely pure stories written on the themes derived from battle-fields. They are a series widely different from any publications with thought of aggressiveness or ultra-nationalistic ideas within. They are lofty literature, since cruelty of war and brutal scenes of battle-fields, portrayed throughout the pages of the series, enable the readers to visualize real state of devilish warfares. It is on account of this that most of the volumes published was either deleted or prohibited of sale in such a degree as no publishing world had ever experienced before. The reason for it may be that the authorities concerned in those days kept strict watch on our works saying that they were anti-war or a series of devulging nature when they described cruel facts in battle-fields, real state of the defeat of the Japanese Army and some other facts and truths. The Japanese military Police at the time, in particular, even confiscated volume No. 7 of our complete works by sheer force without having recourse to legal procedures or on no authoritative orders whatever, though they had no controlling power on publication.

In defiance of such merciless treatment inflicted upon us, we, firmly believing in the loftiness of literary truth, could pull through the publication of entire volumes of this work. It is far beyond our expectation that we have thus been called to account for aggressive or ultra-nationalistic publications.

We now beg to present herewith contrary evidences, and request most sincerely that our case be re-examined.

P.S. Major Imboden, Chief of Press and Publication Div., CI&E Section, SCAP, in his address in Saga City on July 16, 1947, stated in purport as follows:

"In all things, complete information is a great guarantee to democracy." (Of Shimbun-no-Shimbun, Newspaper of the Newspapers, July 16, 1947).

In spirit, our "Complete Works of War Literature" or Biographies of Nichiren and Hitler all concur with the principle of Maj. Imbodens address. These books are nothing more than a means by which to inform the public freely and faithfully the record of truths completely aloof of subjectivism, and should rather be regarded as books for guaranteeing democracy.

Battle-fields with slavish hardship, barbarism and cruelties--soldiers' joy and big talks--these are genuine reports of men of letters at the risk of their lives. They are valuable literary documents enabling us to know as we read them the devilish reality of war. In them, no

particular "ism" or none of specific thought-trend or nothing like instigator's idea could be found. In them are fully described the facts---violent passion of naive authors in the battle-fields, unberable slavish hardships, barbarism, cruelty, etc. Making the public completely informed of such sins of war is the supreme mission of such literature, and could even be a guarantee of peace. When we think of the great truth that dominates the entire volume of the works, specific phrases or words that are noticed here and there in the works such as prefaces or front-titles, are merely "Don-Quixote-like" existence.

In the same way, during the Pacific War the Japanese Government had kept on deceiving its eighty mission people till the last moment of its defeat continually declaring that Japan was going to win the war. On the contrary, it only worked towards creating counter-effect upon the thoughtful readers.

We beg to repeatedly state in summary some of the characteristics and merit of our "Complete Works of War Literature" as follows:

This series of ours is the literary works dealing in the description of truth and facts of battles and battle-fields, which are completely free of fabrication or containing stories and fictions based upon these themes featuring in cruelties of war and brutalities of battle-fields. This series with all the information as to real state of the defeated Japanese Army, brutal scenes of battle-fields, and atrocious conducts of the Japanese troops as witnessed by foreigners, were issued without undergoing any editorial deletion.

Under these circumstances, the works were subject to sales prohibition, compulsory confiscation and frequent official deletion; the authorities concerned regarded them as anti-war, devulging series inadaptable to the current situation. The books, therefore, are nothing but literary works of free expressions and descriptions, quite different from books of thought and guidance such as those of ultra-nationalistic, aggressive, totalitarian and shintoistic characteristics of of "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" principles. The background being battles or battle-fields, there are naturally a few lines or phrases in these books that sound somewhat too violent, but, after all, they are free description of facts.

Judging from the general characteristics of this work, we can never consider it to fall under the category of the present purge directive. On the contrary, confidence and conviction of the publishers at the time of publication that it is a fine literary work to convey the fact of battles and battle-fields, are now freshly recalled to our memory.

Your generosity is sincerely solicited in re-examining our case.

LIST OF MATERIALS

FOR COUNTER-EVIDENCE

1. "Complete Works of War Literature" (12 volumes)

Out of total 15 volumes, 3 including those of sales-prohibition are missing and so far undiscovered. Contents, however, are practically similar on main points with one another.

2. Printed Number Certificate(1 copy)

Attached to original.

3. "Two Years' Fighting"

Contained in prohibited volume of the same works. Revised edition yet undiscovered. Gist thereof mentioned in the attached Application.

4. "Wakizaka Corps"

Contained in Vol. 14 of the same works.

5. "Diary of AirrBase Ground Crew"
"Shanghai Front"
"Last One Blooming Flower"
"Forced Drive of 500 Kilometers"

Aboves contained in Vol. 2.

6. "Air Corps"

Contained in Vol. 12.

7. "National Saint Nichiren" (1 copy)

8. "Hitler as a Man and His Enterprise" (1 copy)

9. "Reflection on Ten World Wars"
"Orient Smells Bloody"

Originals undiscovered. Gists explained in Application.

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10. "Supervising Army" (1 copy)

11. "2,440 Mile Retreat" (1 copy)

12. "Notable War History Selection" (1 copy)

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13. Book review on books for counter-evidence by persons

Re-statement against Screening Directive

Item No. 4: Catalog of Publications

Prepared by The Chobunkaku

Publishing Co.

Names of Pubs.	Names of Authors	Pages	Circ.	Issue Date
Wash Off the Dirt of Heart	Totsuzo Kato	370	3,000	10-10-38
Chemistry	Joei Yamakawa	300	2,000	7-12-37
Lady Writers' Poem Selection	Shinobu Takagi	280	3,000	5-6-38
Tsurezure-gusa Jottings Explained	Matasaku Hashimote	280	3,000	5-4-40
Modern Language Popular Dictionary	Mankichi Wada	500	5,000	5-1-40
Pocket Popular Dic.	Utahiko Sakai	220	5,000	15-12-40
English Composition for 1st & 2nd Year's Students	Katsumi Mazaki	320	2,000	10-9-39
English Grammar for 1st & 2nd Year's Students	Yoshimatsu Suzuki	210	2,000	10-9-39
English Translation of Japanese for 1st and 2nd Year's Students	Kitanosuke Kagaya	230	2,000	5-10-39
Translation of English into Japanese for 1st & 2nd Years Students	-"-	210	2,000	5-10-39
-"-	-"-	220	2,000	5-10-39
From ABC to Practice of Conversation	Kozo Kuritsu	230	2,000	10-12-39
Useful Japanese English Dictionary	Toshikazu Takanashi	370	5,000	15-2-41

- more -

Primary English Dic.	-"-	520	5,000	1-3-40
Concise Chinese Japanese Dic.	Mankichi Wada	600	5,000	1-3-40
New Revised Chinese Japanese Dic.	Utahiko Sakai	930	5,000	5-9-39
National Japanese-Chinese Dic.	-"-	800	5,000	1-3-41
Crown English Dic.	Toshikazu Takenashi	400	5,000	1-3-41
Pocket English-Japanese Dic.	-"-	500	5,000	5-3-41
Small Business Dic.	Mankichi Wada	500	5,000	5-9-41
Concise Students' Dic.	Toshikazu Takenashi	240	5,000	5-9-41
Daily Use Dic.	Utahiko Sakai	330	5,000	10-9-40
Modern New Terms Dic.	Mankichi Wada	400	5,000	10-9-40
Handy Eng-Jap. Dic.	Toshikazu Takenashi	220	5,000	15-3-40
Handy Japanese Lang. Dic.	-"-	300	5,000	15-3-40
Handy Chinese-Jap.Dic.	-"-	300	5,000	15-3-40
Pocket Letter-Writing Grammar	Utahiko Sakai	200	5,000	1-9-39
Letter-Writing	-"-	300	2,000	10-9-39
Dictionary of New Terms	Hanjiro Ono	200	2,000	10-9-39
"Kokugo Soyo Jiten" (Japanese Kana & Chinese Characters Dic.)	Mankichi Wada	800	5,000	25-8-38
Modern Encyclopedia	Toshikazu Takenashi	570	5,000	10-9-38
Ultra-Modern Culture Dic.	-"-	350	5,000	1-6-40

Modern Dictionary	Otahiko Sakai	220	5,000	1-9-37
Baby Dictionary	-"-	320	5,000	15-12-40
Lotus and Religion	Benkyo Shio	380	2,000	18-12-39
Buddhism & Science	Shinjuro Jizai	250	2,000	14-12-39
Buddha's Life & Thought	Shigenobu Suzuki	210	2,000	17-12-39
Platonic Philosophy	Mitsutsuchi Harada	300	2,000	12-12-39
Introduction to Philosophy	Ryujo Otsuki	248	2,000	10-10-38
Beginner's Study in Tanka Poem	Shigeru Miyazaki	220	2,000	10-12-38
New Writing Text (1st vol.)	Toshio Matsudaira	330	2,000	25-9-41
(2nd vol.)	-"-	340	2,000	25-9-41
(3rd vol.)	-"-	350	2,000	25-9-41
Pocket Jap.Lang.Dic.	Mankichi Wada	300	5,000	1-9-37
Pocket Chinese-Jap. Dictionary	-"-	270	5,000	1-9-37

Supplement to Omission

"2,440 Mile Retreat"	Togen Chin	----	3,000	15-6-40
"Hitler as a Man & His Enterprise"	Tsunejiro Hamada	323	3,000	1-11-41
"Supervising Army"	Ichiro Betsuin	351	3,000	15-6-40
"Two Years' Fighting"	Toshimichi Matsuda	374	3,000	10-6-40
"National Saint Nichiren"	Takanobu Murobushi	347	5,000	5-12-41
"Jinsei Tokuhon"(Life Studying Readers)	Keiun Maebashi	419	3,000	10-5-39
"Study of Human Life"	Seika Yamazaki	316	3,000	15-10-39
"Be Broad-minded"	Soen Shaku	374	3,000	7-12-39
"One Million Men's Religion"	Benkyo Shiio	375	3,000	5-4-40
"Reflection on Ten World Wars"	Mineo Yabashi	400	1,600	------
"Orient Smells Blood"	Rokuzo Adachi	300	1,500	------

Series of the Complete Works of War Literature

Vol. 1	"Human Bullet" with Other Stories	Chuon Sakurai	577	3,000	18-4-40
Vol. 2	"Forced Drive of 500 Kilometers" with Others	Minoru Nishida & three others	693	7,000	18-10-39
Vol. 3	"Marine Blockade" with Others	Kiteuseda Sato & Others	----	-----	------ (Deleted)
Vol. 4	"White Tiger Corps" with Others	Kensuke Hata & Others	----	-----	------

Vol. 5	"Artillery Corps" with 2 stories	Sohiro Goto & 2 writers	575	1,500	10-11-40
Vol. 6	"Supervising Army" with 2 stories	Ichiro Betsuin & 2 writers	709	4,000	15-3-40 (deleted)
Vol. 7	"2,440 Mile Retreat" with 4 stories	Ichiro Betsuin & 4 writers	709	8,000	10-9-39
	(As is mentioned in Paragraph V, this volume was practically prohibited of sale due to compulsory confiscation by the Japanese Military Police.)				
Vol. 8	"Two Years' Fighting" with others	Toshimichi Matsuda and others	----	8,000	------
	(Sales prohibited)				
Vol. 9	"Sen-ei"(Figure of War) with 2 others	Kotoku Mizuno	674	6,000	10-12-39 (deleted)
Vol.10	"680 Mile Mire... Way with 2 others	Kenji Maeyama & 2 writers	595	2,500	18-7-40 (deleted)
Vol.11	"Nishizumi Tank Unit Commander" with other stories	Syenobu Yamaguchi and 2 writers	650	3,000	15-10-40
Vol.12	"Air Corps" & 2 stories	Jiro Tsukushi & 2 writers	728	2,000	15-6-40
Vol.13	"Campaign in South China" with 3 other stories	Hidekazu Kobayashi & 3 writers	658	4,000	15-5-40 (deleted)
Vol.14	"Corps of Higashikuni" with 2 stories	Shiho Yamazaki & 2 writers	694	5,000	10-1-40 (deleted)

Vol. 15	"Foot of War" with other stories	Masao Nakayama & 4 writers	720	5,000	10-11-39 (deleted)

P.S. The deletion was mostly made after putting on sale of the books, but no second edition has been issued. As regards the deleted passages, we tried to be as accurate as possible by taking great pains, but we fear that there might be some mistakes as we had to call to mind the deleted passages.

As is mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this Application, our company suffered war-disasters twice, moved our office four times from one place to another, and furthermore since 1944 business had to be suspended for two years owing to publishing control, with the result that the employes working with us in those days have left us. Under a series of destruction of our office, hardships and confusion we experienced, which is beyond the imagination of the third party, necessary materials have been completely reduced to ashes or lost. Besides those books reported herewith, there seems to be some more that are practically unavailable at present, but they shall be reported as soon as they are discovered. In those days dictionaries occupied 70 to 80 percent proportion of the total volumes of our publication, and the remaining 20 to 30 percent was composed mainly of books on religion, etc., including "Complete Works of War Literature".

We are fully convinced, therefore, that apart from those reported for the counter-evidences there is none of the books that might fall under the category of the Purge Directive.

We now plead for your leniency for our case.

July 25, 1947

TO: The Central Screening Committee

We herewith affirm the above to be true and correct in every detail.

The Chobunkaku Publishing Company,

(Masae Takashima)
Manager.

On Reading the Complete Works of War Literature

July 16th, 1947.

By Katsutaro Kamiya,
Vice-Chief of Liaison Section,
Broadcasting Corporation of
Japan.

I perused "Senso Bungaku Zenshu"(Complete Works of War Literature),"Kokusei Nichiren(National Saint Nichiren) and "Hitler: sono hito oyobi sono jigyo"(Hitler: as a man and his enterprise), all published by the Chobunsha Publishing Company.

These books were published while the China Incident was on and when the Pacific War was yet to break out, and I read some of the series at the time of their publication. The reading again of the serials just nearly two years after Japan's surrender was quite intresting to me in various senses.

"Senso Bungaku Zenshu"(Complete Works of War Literature) contains works of the Meiji Era(those on the Sino-Japanese War and Russo-Japanese War) in more than the half of the series, and although they are interesting in point of materials and documents, yet they are not of a sort as inspire aggressionism or militarism into the reader. The rest consist of simple war records by unknown soldiers who served in the China Incident, reports and popular fictions with battlefields as their backgrounds by war correspondents and professional writers.

In these I cannot see any intention on the part of the authors of spurring up war-mindedness among the Japanese. On the contrary, the present reading led me to conclude that unreserved description of battle scenes and pains of the wounded might have implanted war hatred into our minds before we were aware of it.

To pieces by anonymous soldier-writers in this Series are affixed, without exception, prefatory remarks given by unit commanders under whom the soldier-writers worked. These introductory eulogies, however, merely present a sample of that uniformity principle as peculiar to the military, and do not altogether serve as either introduction or certification for which these remarks are intended.

I found considerably large numbers of deletions in each volume of the entire series, which is, I think, testimony to the fact that the publishers were not always willing to blindly accept the military's wishes.

It was during the China Incident, as I said before, that this series announced themselves to the reading public of this country - when the so-called "war literature" was in full swing in our newspapers, magazines and other publications, so much so that even periodicals specifically intended for "war literature"(for instance, "Genchi Hokoku," [illegible]pot Reports) by the Bungei Shunju-sha Publishing Company) [illegible] published. Consequently, the public read over one [illegible] after another, expecting in them only a little more [illegible] accounts than newspaper reports. In this light

I can assert with veracity that this series had never exercised influences in any way upon the reader's mind. A book of any high literary value might have done otherwise, but in this respect any one of these serials is not above a mere record or a report.

Even such noted works as "Nikudan"(Human Bullet) and "Jyugo"(Behind the Guns) are as Ogai Mori, a great man of letters, pointed out, far objective when compared with Tolstoi's "War and Peace."

In the serials can I also see some works which manifest a tendency towards negating war in a way of reading - it is troublesome for me to cite instances, but "Zanka Ichirin"(The Last One Blooming Flower) or part of Fusao Hayashi's "Shanghai Sensen"(Shanghai Front) can be mentioned as such. On top of that, some of alien writers went so far as to profane what was called "sacredness" of the Imperial Forces.

"Nishizumi Sensha-sho"(Nishizumi Tank Corps Commander), and "Nango Shosa"(Lieutenant-Commander Nango), being biographies, but not war records, naturally place prime stress on portraying the heroes as a man, with no sentiment of hero-worship or military-officer-worship interwoven throughout the texture.

The majority of the "Meiji" works are written in an antiquated literary style, and the reading of them gives me the feeling not unlike that produced in reading "Taihei-ki"(Taihei Chronicle) or "Gempei Seisui-ki"(The Rise and Fall of the Genji and Heike Clans).

As for "Kokusei Nichiren"(National Saint Nichiren), and "Hitler' hito oyobi sono jigyo"(Hitler as a man and his enterprise), they, common biographies, have no passage particularly emphasizing ultra-nationalism or totalitarianism.

In "Nichiren" the author holds that the Saint was no super-nationalist, but that he endeavoured to purify his motherland in the cause of upholding truth, unyielding to wealth, rank, authority or force.

In "Hitler" the author offers a very objective introduction of the one-time German leader, highly critical throughout the book; for instance, Hitler's attitude towards the China Incident, and a statement that Hitler designed to secure Japan's assistance to contain America by concluding the Tripartite Alliance Pact, etc.

I can perceive a difference toto caelo on this point between this book and similar publications which were published after the start of the Pacific War.

In short, my belief is that if "Senso Bungaku Zenshu" (Complete Works of War Literature, "Kokusei Nichiren"(National Saint Nichiren), and "Hitler" are to be classified as those infusing ultra-nationalism, totalitalianism, aggressionism or militarism, the decision will do injustice to the authors and the books, unless the titles of these books naturally deserve such a category.

My Impressions After Reading the Complete Works of War Literature and Others.

July 23, 1947

By: Soji Wakai, Lawyer.

No.6, Kanda Kajicho, 3-chome,
Chiyodaku, Tokyo.

The Complete Works of War Literature:

Vol. 1. "Nikuden" (Human bullets)

"Fuge" (Behind the guns)

"Juken Wa Tagayasu" (Bayonet tills the ground)

These books are war documents about the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-5 written by Mr. Chuon Sakurai and their merit in the nation's publishing circle is well known and fully established to prove that they are not for encouraging militarism or the like.

Vol. 2. a) "[redacted] 500 Kilo" (500 kilometer forced march)

b) "Shanghai Sensen" (Shanghai Battle Front)

c) "Zanka Ichirin" (The last one blooming flower)

d) "Hikoki[redacted]" (A Diary of an Air Base Guard)

a) is a war report on the China Incident, b) is a report from the spot by a writer, c) is a war literature in which, however, even anti-war sentiments can be found, d) is a fragmental, yet frank report of a common soldier, on the war front. In all these works, no idea of militarism nor aggressiveness can be found. Good or bad, such reports of war feats should not be banned in the light of freedom of press and speech.

Vol. 3. "Hoheibuntai" (An Artillery Unit)

"Shin Shina No Hikari" (A light over New China)

"Tokutei Hawa" (An evening story of a cavalier)

These works vividly describe war scenes in China Incident and the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-5 and have not militaristic or aggressive color.

Vol. 6. "Tokusen Tai" (A Supervising Army)
"Junkokuki" (Stories of Martyrs)
"Haisen" (War Defeat)

"Tokusentai" is only a novel dealing with the China Incident. The other two are translations of the works by a Russian, depicting the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-5, devoid of any tint of militarism or aggressiveness but rather full of disclosures about the barbarism of the Japanese Army.

Vol. 7. "Hyakuri Sakuri" (1,000 Ri Retreat)
"Tekketsu" (Iron Blood)
"Kaisen Nichiroku" (A Diary of a Naval Battle)
"Nankin Kushu" (Air Raids On Nanking)
"Yasen Yubinkyoku" (Field Post Office)

This volume was confiscated by the gendarmerie out of the scope of the Publication Regulations on account of its illustrations, which was tantamount to prohibition of the sale, despite the harmless nature of the content like other works in this series are so.

Vol. 9. "Sen Ei" (War Shadow)
"Konoissen" (This One Battle)
"Kushuku No Teito" (Capital Under Air Raid)

The first two works are stories of the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-5 with a considerable amount of deletion of the parts of anti- militarism, hence they are far from being militaristic or aggressive literature. Rather some prediction is contained about the present miserable plight of Japan.

Vol.10. "Dainei 280 Ri" (280 Ri March on muddy roads)
"Kaeru Heitai" (Returning Soldiers)
"Gunpukuno Seija" (A Saint in Khaki)

The first two pieces are war reports concerning the China Incident, while the last one is that of the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-5 with the parts narrating a big Japanese debacle being deleted and contains no war-mongering idea.

Vol. 11. "Nishizumi Senshacho" (Nishizumi Tank Unit Commander)

"Nango Shosa" (Lieutenant Commander Nago)

"Senjo Hiwa" (Secret Stories of the Front)

This volume contains stories of human interest dealing with individual soldiers and no trace of militarism or aggressiveness is found. Rather descriptions in each work are so vivid about the human side of soldiers or ephemeral phases of man's life on the battle front that readers may be led to abhor a war.

Vol.12. " KŌKUBUTAI" (Air Corps)

"Ikaiei Kaisen" (The Naval Battle off Weihaiwei)

"Seisei Shiretsuden" (Stories of noble and heroic actions)

The first one is a fiction in which an urge for air-mindedness is the theme and contains no encouragement for militarism or aggressive idea. The remaining two works deal with the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-5 and the Sino-Japanese War in 1894-5 respectively.

Vol.13. "Nanshi o Yuku" (The Expeditionary March in South China)

" Sen'iya Ni Inoru" (Pray on the Battle Front)

"Chinto Senki" (A War Report of the Tingtao Front)

"Hokusei Kansenki" (An Observation Report of The Hokusei Front)

All of these works are reports on the battle fronts with no militaristic or aggressive intentions. Readers may be taught fully how disagreeable a war itself is.

Vol.14. "Higashi Kuni No Miya Butai" (Unit Under Command of Prince Higashikuni)

"Wakisaka Butai" (Wakisaka Unit)

"Jinchu Dayori" (Letters from the War Front)

"Wakisaka Unit" is written with a touch of mastership but seems short for the reader to form any after-reading impressions mentionable. After all it does not exceed beyond a mere front line report. The other three are mere front line reportages or war documents telling the mysery of a war.

Vol. 15. "Senso No Ashi" (Foot of War)

"Hio Haku Chokoho" (Fire Blown Changkufeng)

" Sekko" (Scouts)

"Senjin No Kage" (Waylaid Stories of War)

"Akai Yuhi " (Red Setting Sun)

The first fourworks are war documents of the front lines while "Akaiyuhi" is a translation of a story which exposes unreservedly barbarous actions of the Japanese Military.

The conclusion after reading through this series of war literature is " A war is undesirable". Consequently, it can safely be contended that there is absolutely no ground to justify the purge of this series.

"Kokusei Nichiren" (National Saint Nichiren)

This book is an biographical schetch of Nichiren depicting his personality and his conception, in highly realistic pen. Hence no militaristic or aggressive idea can be found among the pages.

"Hitler, Hito Oyobi Jigyo" (Hitler, his man and his enterprise)

Similar with the foregoing work, the narrative is utterly objective and no support of Nazism or totalisterinism can be found. A clever reader must have sensed his wild-cat personality hidden among the lines.

Book Review on the Complete Works of War Literature and Others

By: Totaro Hosoiri,

Professor at the Rikkyo University, Director of Juridical Person, American Research Institute, and Director of the Twentieth Research Institute.

1. On the "Complete Works of War Literature":

This works, which was published during the China Incident, may be called from its contents war literary pieces, stories or reports. In other words, this series contains various literary works on war, among them are "Nikudan"(Human Bullet), "Jugo"(Behind the Guns) and "Kono Issen"(This One Battle) which are famous pieces and may be called literature. These are read world-wide, and recognized by foreigners that they are not aggressive literary pieces.

Several pieces including "Tekketsu"(Iron and Blood), which belong to the Meiji Era, are in the low level of literature, putting stress on the readers' interest. As they are written, however, on the basis of the current thought in those days, which was advocating humanism and liberalism, they did not forget to criticize things calmly and describe objectively. The words of the "war literature written for mere purpose of interest" give us an impression that they may have been written full of agitation and in subjectivity, but these pieces are free of them. The themes of the other books are derived from the China Incident except the ones describing foreigners. As you see the works are all reports or of similar nature, and are lacking excellent pieces. They might be the gatherings of spot-reports which were carried in various newspapers and magazines in a short period.

What I felt after reading this Complete Works of War Literature is that the current thought prevailing in this country at the time of the publication or in the China Incident is quite different from that after Japan waged war against America and Britain. In other words, the militarist's education on thought was still in the childhood at that time and the people were taking a cool view of things. The reports carried in this complete works well proves of the fact, free from any subjective, warliking attitude and from ultra-nationalistic idea. Of course, we cannot trace any quibble of aggressiveness in them, but strongly feel a longing for peace between the lines.

- more -

Needless to say, literary pieces written by foreigners are either describing Japanese militarism as the enemy of the human beings or taking anti-war standing.

In short, in the all volumes of this complete works is felt the publisher's commercial policy. This wise publisher, fully realizing the unpopularity of the ultra-nationalistic and preaching books which were recommended by the military clique in those days, gathered in his complete works such literary pieces as reporting truth. This publishing method adopted by him was quite an interesting one at the time, and it was unavoidable that his publications were subject to the censoring authorities' terrible interference.

2. On the "National Saint Nichiren":

This is a brief biography of Nichiren and explanatory book of his thought. This book is directed to less intelligent readers, and accordingly, Nichiren's thought is explained clearly. Apart from the right or wrong and deep or shallow of his thought, we can easily find in any passage of this book that he was a true pacifist and middle-road thinker as well as a patriot, which even foreign people can recognize. To talk rubbish, the title "National Saint" is not a synonym of the ultra-nationalist.

3. On the "Hitler as a Man and His Enterprise":

This is a simple biography of Hitler. As regards the thought, on which this book is written, I think I can safely say that even this book is written by Mr. Shidehara, the greatest advocator of peaceful foreign policy at that time, it may be to such a degree as the present book, in which Hitler is respected for his talent and the power of spirit as a self-made man. Nevertheless, nothing is written in this book in favor of his thought-trend, while it is clearly mentioned that Japan should keep sharp watch on him. If the military clique at that time should have read this book carefully, they might not have been made use of by Hitler so ingeniously as that.

Book Review

By: Koi Hashizume, (signed)

Chief Editor of the "Nihon Yakugakkai"(the Japan Pharmaceutical Society), juridical person, in the Pharmaceutical Department of the Tokyo State University, and a member of the Editorial Dept.of the Nihon Yakuhosha(Japan Pharmaceutical News)

1."The Complete Works of War Literature"

This series ranks the low level of literature, which is inevitable as the domentary literature. This is, however, a pure documentary literature implying no specific thought nor any element to lead the readers, and is devoted to depicting exclusively the real state of the battle-fields and battles. This works serves to make known to the readers how the war, greatest blunder which the human beings committed, is brutal, and at the same time, to cause a fear complex of war among the readers.

Such a documentary literature as this, describing the real state of affairs, well proves how the people feared to receive a calling-out paper to the colors, whatever big talk they might utter. This is the human justice taught by the documentary literature.

Although there exists some phrases or words in them, which trends to stiffen the morale, they are nothing before the truth which is running through the literature. Such phrases or words in the literature rather give a counter-effect, as in the case of many receivers of the calling-out paper to the colors, who bluff what they did not mean.

I may say convincingly that the Complete Works of War Literature are anti-war documentary literature which makes known the truth of war, the enemy of the human beings.

2. "The Biographies of Nichiren and Hitler".

These two books contain nothing of the author's idea nor intention, but are mere biographies.

Nichiren is rather an anti-war religionist, advocating love and faith on the basis of Buddhism.

- more -

In the biography of Hitler, no praise and no exaggeration about him is mentioned in the book except the description of what Hitler was. It is Nazism advocated by Hitler that should be criticized.

Impression of the Complete Works of War Literature of which I was a reader, but my books were reduced to ashes in the airraids during the war

July 18th, 1947.

By Ioshiji Kabasawa, Patent Attorney,
3256, Itabashi 6-chome,
Itabashi-ku, Tokyo.

IMPRESSION

On again skimming through the "Senso Bungaku Zenshu" (the Complete Works of War Literature) I got an impression that the reading was like seeing "thrillers" or American "wild West" films, and that these books can never be rated as books of thought or of guidance.

They are records of brutal and cruel aspects of war that the authors themselves experienced at the battlefields. The books drove me even into the hate of war.

Introductory and prefatory advertisements contributed to the books by the one-time men of note, however well-directed, are nothing but laughing-stocks before grim realities the books present. I am rather inclined to think that more publications such as these will doubtless contribute much towards deportation of war from the surface of the globe.

"Kokusei Nichiren"(National Saint Nichiren):
Being a mere biography of Nichiren, a Buddhist, the book gives me no more knowledge than of the life and religious faith of the holy man.

"Hitler: hito oyobi sono jigyo"(Hitler as a man and his enterprise):
The same comment with the preceding is applicable. A biography of Hitler as plain as plain-soda and no more relish.

My Impressions of the Complete Works of War Literature Published by the Chobunsha

July 22, 1947

By: Koitchi Watanabe,

Professor of Chuo University.

No.1934, Motogomachi,
Kawaguchi City, Saitama Prefecture.

I remember it was one Summer day two or three years after the outbreak of the China Incident, when I happened to meet with lawyer Uhn Takeuchi, a friend of mine in a car of the government electric line. Then he told me about the publication of the Complete Works of War Literature and advised me to read the books in my spare time. Although termed as an 'Incident' the war between Japan and China was, actually it was a war itself without mistake, with the entire nation being mobilized for the war purpose. Under such circumstances, I was inclined to read the books the lawyer recommended and asked him to subscribe ones for me.

But to my great astonishment, the content was far from being called as war literature. The works in the series were generally those historic ones only dealing with persons and incidents in the past. Really I was disappointed to find this, as my original expectation was the works as becoming to the title of the series, 'War Literature' which ostensibly should be the one that justifies Japan's war efforts. I concluded thereupon that it was ashamed commercialism which attempted to earn an fortune out of such timely publication in appearance.

On one day early in July this year, I again encountered Mr. Takeuchi in the similar environment as before - in a government electric train - when he told me that the Complete Works of War Literature was an suspected by the authorities of propagating ultra-nationalism or militarism. I thought it was indeed cynical enough that the books which I first thought as mere historical literature, have now become to be brought to light to be criticized as regards the ideological value. Recalling with my memories about the books, I can hardly consider that the books belong to the category of literature of which ideological value is in any way worth to be questioned.

I have lost these books in a fire when I was burned out in an air raid at No.35, Inatsukemachi, 4-chome, Ojiku, Tokyo. Although my memory is not so clear concerning the books, I remember at least that they were nothing but mere descriptions of bare facts of war or otherwise things in the past.

Probably many other critics coincide with my view with regard to the books. I hear Mr. Takeuchi, lawyer is adviser to the Chobunkaku Publishing Company. I hereby state my candid impressions of the books in return for the kind labor Mr. Takeuchi took for me in my coming into possession of the books as well as thereby for contributing in any way for the general reading public.

My Impressions After Reading The Complete Works Of War Literature

By: Takatomo Tanaka,

Vice Chief of Purchasing Dept.,
Japan Publications Distribution
Co., Ltd.

Home Address:

No.184, Shimorenjaku, Mitakamachi,
Tokyo.

Soon after the outbreak of the China Incident, I was called to the colors as a superior private and participated in military operations from the battle in Shanghai up till the capture of Nanking. My experiences in the engagements drove me to read "Shanghai Sensen" (Shanghai Front) of the 2nd Volume, "Wakisaka Butai" (Wakisaka Unit) of the 5th Volume and "Nishizumi Shanshatai" (Nishizumi Tank Unit), the volume number of which latter I do not remember. I read the books comparing with my own diary written during my military service. Years have elapsed ever since but according to my memory, the impressions which I gained after the reading were as follows:

1) These works vividly tell us how aspheremeral is a life on the battle front and also teach us a cold reality that how inexorably many human lives are lost in a war.

2) These works are but fragmental records about happenings on the war front and they can rather be classified as a historical document dotted here and there with episodes of human nature than a literature purposefully intending propagation of militarism.

3) Throughout the entire works contained in this series of war literature, about 80 per cent are written on the basis of war records of the Sino-Japanese War in 1894-5 as well as the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-5, while only 20 per cent deals with the China Incident. My personal experience in participating in the battle of Shanghai for several months, was the direct motive by which I was attracted with special interest to bending on these books, otherwise I might have known no opportunity to read any kind of war literature.

4) The very title "Senso Bungaku Zenshu" or the Complete Works of War Literature appears to any eyes that the works contained unmistakably may be the kind which positively justify aggressiveness. But in fact, the title itself is only due to conventionality in order to catering for the reading public at the time of the publication and it has nothing to do with the nature of the works contained which are nothing other than candid descriptions of the community of the military including hardships on the battle front unimaginable in peace time, or beautiful flows of comradeship or else inexorable exposition of crude human nature in starvation etc.

Reading through this series of war literature, I had no occasion that any literary flavor impressed me. Considering this wise, I do not think that this publication was successful as might be expected.

My Impressions After Reading

July 18, 1947

By: Akira Kato,
Professor of Hosei University.

No.128, Yoyogi Sanyacho,
Shibuyaku, Tokyo.

Reading through the Complete Works of War Literature published by the Chibunkaku, one may easily realize that despite the showy titles of the books in the series, the contents are mostly either plain descriptions of soldiers' life or ficticious narratives with little philosophy dealing with the ordinary life of soldiers or else the friendship existing among the rank and file which are quite human in nature. For those adherents of ultra-nationalism or the cult of aggressiveness who read this series of war literature in expectation to find something to gratify their belief, must have been disappointed. All they could learn , must have been disconragingly cold facts which tell a soldier is also a common human being who feels lonesome o on the bloody battle field and is apt to fall victim of nihilism, only to the sheer disillusionment for such reader.

On the part of the publishing compnay itself, it is quite understandable that there was no alternative under the ruthless wartime control by a militaristic government than compromising itself with the trend of the times. But comparing with the fanatic playing-up of Mars or sheer cajolery to the dominating military which used to be a common trend among the wartime publishing circle, this series of war literature may be taken as noncommital and even too peace-loving under the circumstances with the majority of works being too outmoded for the swift days of the Pacific War.

In short, these works are nothing but mere descriptive literature with backdrops of war which itself amount to nothing in the light of true name of literature.

Really blamable are those publications which framed up super-mysticism only to justify the reckless war efforts which served only to protract the sufferings inf a defeating war and to pave the ground for militarists' propaganda. This series of war literature in comparision with these archenemy of conscientious publishers, is indeed too trivial to be called to account.

The biographies of National Saint Nichiren and Hitler are only pure biographical sketches and I do not think the book belongs to the category of militaristic and aggressive literature.

My Impression After Reading the Complete Works of War Literature

July 22, 1947

By: Tadashi Takeuchi,

Lawyer & Bachelor of Laws,
Advisor to the Kenkyusha Publishing Company, the Kanda Tosho Kabushiki Kaisha, and the Chobunkaku Publishing Company.

It was at the time of the China Incident that my old friend, Mr. Masae Takashima, had under contemplation the publication of war literature.

In explaining the purpose of the publication at my inquiry, he said he would gather those worthy of pure literature. I supported his idea, and soon after that, he published the books one after another, giving me each copy which I looked through. To my regret, however, I am also a war sufferer, and lost all of these books.

However, calling to mind what I read in those days, and also looking through the twelve books which I just received, I wish to comment on them.

Although the books were published under the title of the "Complete Works of War Literature", we see nothing in them, when read, that inspires militarism, propoganda of aggressiveness or ultra-nationalism. On the contrary, this series teaches the readers the real state of the disasters of war and the true aspect of war and battle-fields.

After reading this "Complete Works of War Literature", I was impressed that it stirs up an anti-war feeling among the readers, though some scenes are exaggerated in order that the readers will not be tired of. Nevertheless, every reader will realize that the said exaggeration is not such one as instilling totalitarianism, ultra-nationalism or militarism as the authorities declared.

After reading this works, I have found that nothing has left in my mind but the real state of war and folly of waging war. It being a simple description of a blunt truth of war, no originality and literal attraction can be traced in this series, with the result that nothing of thought can be found in it. Frankly speaking, this works gives us no benefit nor harm.

In spite of the fact that I have read through all the volumes of this complete works, nothing particular is left in my memory. If this works should have ultra-nationalistic and militaristic coloring, I think something should be left in my mind, but reverse was the fact, I presume.

This Complete Works of War Literature, if classified,

- more -

should belong to war history, and I think I can say positively that this works contains no thought-trend in it.

Lastly, the two books, "National Saint Nichiren" and "Hitler as a Man and His Enterprise" contain nothing that leads the readers in their thought as the Government authorities say it is. These two books depict faithfully the real life of them, and I think I can find nothing in the books, which inspires either militarism, aggressiveness or Nazism. The life, character and thought, cherished by Nichiren will rather serve to instil an anti-war sentiment based on the religious benevolence.

That is the outline of my impression after reading the Complete Works of War Literature.

Mr. Takashima has been a friend of mine over twenty years. At first he mainly engaged in the publication of dictionaries and documentary books by excluding such books which contain thought. Such being the case, it was beyong our expectation that this Publishing Company has been designated as falling under the Purge Directive.

I now beg you to review the case carefully, and give leniency.

My Impressions After Reading the Complete Works of War Literature and Others

July 17, 1947

By: Goro Fujita, B.A., Prof. of
the Foreign Languages
School of Tokyo

Since during the war, I have been in a great doubt as to whether the so-called war literature is worthy of the name of "literature", and I have never read such books without being convinced that these literary pieces are destined to live a moment when compared with such classics as "Genji Monogatari" or "Faust" which enjoys an everlasting life.

This Complete Works of War Literature is also typical of such literary pieces which are worthless and only time-serving ones. Also we cannot find any trace in this Complete Works that efforts were made to justify the Pacific War or to give reasons for the sake of the aggressive war. Should such a publication as this come under the purge directive, no publications issued in those days would be able to escape the purge. Moreover, the authors of these literary pieces are composed of junior officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and unknown newspaper men, having only low literary culture. It is of course impossible for them to furnish their books with any theoretical basis. They have written their reports on battle-fields at random with their childish thought and with a narrow field of vision. Anyone who has undergone any literary and ideological training must have felt contempt and pity for such books even during the war.

For instance, the foolishness of the military life described in the "Wakizaka Corps" will give nothing but a counter-effect.

In my opinion, this Complete Works will not exert so much evil influence on society when compared with other publications. I think the reason why the publication in question has been designated as falling under the purge directive may be due to the fact that the publisher engaged in a showy propaganda from his commercial policy, and was regarded as praising militarism and aggressiveness.

As regards the "Hitler as a Man and His Enterprise" and the "National Saint Nichiren", they are nothing but biographies of Hitler and Nichiren, with full of dry in spite of their front-titles. No intelligent people will be influenced or inspired by Nazism even when they read this biography of Hitler. Also "National Saint Nichiren" is a biography writeen objectively, having no interest nor any power of influence.

...SHIMA, Masae

CHOBUNKAKU

~~President~~

代表社員

無限責任社員

—July 7, '37 - Dec. 7, '41

REPORT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DECREE "Kakushi No.419"

July 21, 1947

Reported by: The CHŌBUNKAKU Publishing Company (unlimited partnership)

1. List of principal officials and employes in office during the period from July, 1937 throughout December, 1941.

POSITION	NAME	DATE OF ASSUMPTION: RETIREMENT:	PRESENT POSITION:	PRESENT ADDRESS:	REMARKS:	N.B.
Representative liability staff	TAKASHIMA, Masao.	Ever since the establishment of the company. Still in office.	As proprietor, both editorial	No.126, Tabata, Setagaya Ward, Tokyo.	The company is virtually a private manage- ment of TAKASHIMA, Masao.	

a)

b)

DECREE "Kokushi No.419"

July 21, 1947

ing Company (unlimited partnership)

ployes in office during the December, 1941.

ARKS:	N.B.

The company is virtually a private manufacturing company.

a) In addition to Mr. Takashima, the company has two more members of the staff as in accordance with the Company Law; TAKASHIMA, Tetsuzo, unlimited liability staff and TAKASHIMA, Matao, representing director, TAKASHIMA, Yataro, limited liability staff. But the several boys as employes. former has been opening a book retail store under the name of "Bunshodo Shoten" at 4-chome, Tomeicho, Gifu City for these 17 years, while the latter has been engaged in a dry-goods store in Nagoya City for these 20 years. Hence they are only nominal members of the staff.

b) The company had formally employed four to five boys as well as girl shopkeepers, but they were discharged in 1944 when the business was closed complying with the government control of publishers.

CRIME "Kokushi No.419"

July 21, 1947

Company (unlimited partnership)

oyes in office during the
ember, 1941.

S: N.B.

2. Office Regulations (Gyōmu Bunshō Kitei) in effect during the period from July, 1937 throughout December, 1941.

The company is virtually a private management of TAKASHIMA, Masae, representative staff of the company with several boys as employes. Hence there is no need of any official regulations to specify individual duty.

3. List of the Organization of Enterprise in effect during the period from July, 1937 throughout December, 1941.

As aforementioned, the company is a sole private management of TAKASHIMA, Masae who supervises the entire business in both editorial and administrative matters by himself. Consequently, no specific organization is necessary.

REPORT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DECREE "Kakuchi No.419

July 21, 1947

Reported by: The chÔBUNKAKU Publishing Company (unlimited

1. List of principal officials and employes in office durin
period from July, 1937 throughout December, 1941.

POSITION	NAME	TAKASHIMA, Masae. ✓
	DATE OF ASSUMPTION: RETIREMENT:	Ever since the establishment of the company. Still in office.
	PRESENT POSITION:	As proprietor, supervises the entire b both editorial and administration.
	PRESENT ADDRESS:	No.126, Taishido, Setagaya Ward, Tokyo.
	REMARKS:	The company is virtually a private manage- ment of TAKASHIMA, Masae.
	N.B.	a) In addition to [illegible] members of [illegible] Law; TAKA [illegible] TAKASHIMA [illegible] former [illegible] name of [illegible] for these [illegible] a dry-goods [illegible] Hence they [illegible] b) The company [illegible] as well as [illegible] in 1944 when [illegible] the Governor

CHOBUN KAKU

Maj. Napier

Gov. Section

G. H. Q.

Tom

Will you

please

give this

to Napier

Thank you

From

Masae Takashima

(Chobun-Kaku)

I am Masae Takashima, former owner of the "Chobunkaku," a publishing company, who was purged from the publishing world on October 13, 1947, under the SCAP's purge directive.

Please permit me to state frankly that I cannot see any reason why I should have been purged, except that all this was because of misunderstanding.

For the past 21 years I, as a honest citizen, have been engaged in publication business, with a full awareness that it is my only real vocation. I feel competent to state that for these long years I have had nothing to do with any political or ideological group of militaristic Japan, or the military. For the war days I have morethan once been requested by the military and other officials close to the Army to cooperate with them through publication, but each time I was asked I strongly rejected such proposals, on the ground that I was not the right man for the job. I do not remember having utilized their previleged power for the benefit of my own business at any time during the war. On the contrary I was forced to close my shop in 1943 under the pressure of the Government's control over publication. (For this, please refer to attached paper.)

I quite fail to understand why I should have been purged now, when I think my faithfulness to my principle made those war years a hell to me.

I should have liked it much better if you would kindly investigate into my case from the standpoint of humanity. What I should like to request you to do is to judge me as a human being, not as regards my works nor my business. It is quite a pity that I should have devoted my long twenty-one years to publication culture only to find myself purged now on an apparent misunderstanding.

On this occasion I should like to state honestly everything that comes back to my mind:

1) Difficulties encountered during the necessary procedure taken.

I was asked by the Central Liaison Office and the Japan Publication Association to submit full report within a very limited period on 1) name of books, 2) name of authors, 3) number of pages, 4) circulation, 5) dates of publication. It was next to impossible for me to meet these requirements within the allocated time. I had many difficulties in preparing my report. I had lost all records of my business either through missing or destruction. I received war damages twice, and moreover I was forced to move four times under the forced evacuation orders. To top it all off, when I was forced to end my business in 1943 under the Government Publication Control, my employees left me and I did not know their whereabouts. I had to prepare my report practically

I had practically nothing to help me in preparing my report, except my memory, plus some of my friends and what little material available from second-hand book stores. I can honestly say that I have done everything in my power to making the report of the War Literature Series of 15 volumes, although various difficulties made it impossible for me to submit that report in time. This time lag I regret from the bottom of my heart. I feel I must hold myself responsible for the errors committed in my precedure, although they were committed under insurmountable difficulties.

2) Regarding the War Literature Series.

This was originally not my planning. II was incidentally brought to a position to publish these series, only using the paper mould possessed by Mr. ~~Otani,~~ my friend and director of the War Literature Publication Society, which he ran for the purpose of publsihing books written on the Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese Wars.

Mr. Otani gave me the publication right and all relative paper mould as a compensation, because I had some money to be paid back from him. I happened to be badly off at that time, so I accepted his offer.

As the situation of China Incident aggravated with increasingly clear signs of its developing into another world war, the military and the government tightened their controls over press and publications to the point where any private publication plans were made completely out of the question. I should like to call your attention particularly to the fact that I, having been a publisher of English dictionaries, was always suspected and kept under constant watch by the Army.

About 70 percent of this series was devoted to the Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese Wars. Among others, Mr. Chuon Sakurai's "Nikudan," or "Human Bullets" and Mr. Kotoku Mizuno's "Konoissen," or "This Battle" are both very popular all over the world, translated into many foreign languages. The former was even praised by Theodore Roosevelt, late United States President.

The rest is factual sketch literature written by unfamed soldiers at the front. "Haiso Senri," or "One Thousand Miles' Retreat" of Volume 7 is a work authored by Mr. Chen Teng Yuan, a Chinese novelist, which was prohibited to be put on sale in Japan. "Seiya Ninen," or "Two Years At the Front" of Volume 8, too, was prohibited of its sale, because it uncovered hidden and dark aspects of the Japanese Army activity on the Chinese continent. I wish to point out that itcwasuvery rare that such strong action was taken against books dealing with the war stories at that time. Neverheless, I was one of the rare cases. I was forced to cut and cancel many parts of almost all volumes besides, and was kept

under strengthened surveillance by the authorities. I was even several times called to police.

I feel quite competent to state that on balance, the eventual purport of this series is to make its readers fully realize the horrible aspects of war. The series contains many reports and literature bringing to light cruelties and atrocities committed by the Japanese soldiers and which are dealt with by famous war reporters, writers prisoners of war of the United States, Britain, Soviet Russia and China. This is the kind of publication that was least expected in those days. In other parts, the series is largely devoted to factual reportage on Army life authored by nameless Japanese soldiers. Taken all together, the publication may be termed as highly liberal-minded.

3) "Nichiren, the National Saint."

This is a work by Mr. Takanobu Murobushi, a noted Japanese liberalist writer. In this book the author represents Saint Nichiren as a unique character who always struggled with past traditional influences for the benefit of the people at large as well as for the interest of national security with his buddhist zeal.

The Nichiren spirit, as chronicled in this book, I believe, must have had precious warning to the Japanese people, who foolishly and mistakenly worsened the China Incident into the Pacific War. Saint Nichiren advocated Buddhist love against the warlike Hojo Family who attempted to resort to force in time of national crisis.

4) "Hitler and His Work."

This book represents Hitler as a speculative and eccentric character and gives a clue to the true personality of this man, as a man with whome we Japanese must deal cautiously. It also warns its readers not to give Hitler a blind credit and faith. The book called some attention from the authorities under the relations there existed between Japan and Germany at that time.

I should highly appreciate it if you would pay proper attention to what I stated above.

Please find enclosed two copies of certificates.

signed by Masae Takashima,
126 Taishido, Setagaya Ward, Tokyo.

Certificate No. 1. (duplicate) 26 Nov., 1947.

We hereby certify that Chobunkaku Publishing Company was merged into Kogakusha Publishing Company owned by Mr. Shinzo Ozawa when the then Government enforced its control over press and publication in 1943. Later, in January, 1946 it resumed business as a result of the abolition of publication controls ordered by the Allied authorities.

Signed by
Nippon Publication Association.

Certificate No. 2. (duplicate) 26 Nov., 1947.

The paper mould as well as the publishing right pertaining to the battle reports and records of the Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese Wars, which comprised about 70 percent of the War Literature Series were orginally belonged to the War Literature Publication Society at Tokyo.

Earlier, Chobunkan had extended some financial aid to the Society, and it had some account to be paid back by the Society. Later, due to business failure, the Society gave up the publication of the Series, and the whole job was transferred to the Chobunkan, which happened to be in financial difficulty and did not see any other way out except accepting the paper mould and publicating right offered as a compensation. I, as a friend who had a hand in this trouble, hereby certify the above statement to be true.

Signed by
Yasuji Kamiya, owner of Daikyodo Bookshop, No.11, 2-chome, Kanda-awajicho, Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo.

A) Throughout the pages of our War Literature Series, it is documentary literature based on facts, and nothing but facts, with no purport of deceiving the people in any way.

B) Naturally, many battleline scenes of misery, austerity and atrocity, such as described by Allied reporters and writers, are not overlooked in the works compiled in this series. We ventured to publish these works from the standpoint of free press and speech, despite wartime military censorship.

C) About 70 percent of the whole Series is devoted to war records of the Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese Wars, which are now events of distant past. It has nothing to do with the recent Pacific War.
"Nikudan" and "Kono-issen" are both great factual and historic literature, appreciated all over the world as the highest level of world literature.

D) Please understand that it was solely because of my financial difficulty that we accepted the paper mould and the publication right of the 15-volume War Literature Series offered as a compensation for my credit.
If only I had not been badly off, all that would not have taken place.

E) Our War Literature Series was largely that based upon the abovementioned paper mould, and we incoporated into the series many commonplace war reportages which daily appeared in newspapers and monthlies at the earlier stage of China Incident. About 40 percent of this new addition was composed of anti-Japanese, anti-war works done by Chinese writers. I feel you will now begin to see the publication was compiled largely on the liberal lines.

Akira. Kanefuji

2-31, Kitazawa, Setagaya, Tokyo.
Tel. Setagaya 2252

前略

一昨日はお忙しかったにもかかわらず、
健康を害しまして、
誠に申し訳ありません。
さて実は七田氏（前アナウンスター係）が
御懇意を受けた御文章（お悔状）の返礼
作っています。七田
氏の親類で、
慰めなことのので、
届けられる由。
に依って次第で
一応御目を
塚原太郎様

金井進

СНОВИ КАКА

私は、昭和二十二年十一月十三日付を以つて言論出版界の追放令を受けた元潮文閣の高島政衛であります。

如何なる理由に於て私は追放を受けねばならなかつたかを私自身に於て反省するならば全く誤解に基く問題である事を、私は卒直に申上げたいと思ひます。

私は出版事業に従事して二十一年全く忠實な一市民として出版文化に努力して來たものであり、侵略日本の政治團体、思想團体、又は軍部とのレンケイの片鱗だになく、出版事業を唯一の天職として働いて來たのであります。

日華事變或ひは、大東亜戰爭中も軍官關係より、再三出版事業を通じて協力を命ぜられましたが私は、その身分にあらずとして斷り、唯天職にのみ働いて來たのです。又戰爭中軍官の力を借りて、自分の事業の有利を圖つた事は全然なく、かへつて昭和十八年出版統制と言ふ軍官の壓迫で營業を停止せねばならず、解散に至つた次第です。（別紙證明書の通り）

而し私は、戰爭中齒をくひしばつて耐へて來たこの氣持が今回の追放を受けてその犧牲となる事は、實に意外であります。

充分な調査の上、私自身を人間として審判して頂きたく思ひます。書物としての私ではなく、潮文閣と言ふ會社としての私ではなく、人間高島を裁いて頂きたいと存じます。二十一年來出版事業と言ふ天職に、忠實に働いて來た私は、全くの誤解に基く無實の罪に於て、追放されねばならぬと言ふ事は、耐へられない事で

あり心から公正な審判を願ふ次第であります。私は自分の反省する諸點について眞實を述べたいと思ひます。

㈠手續上の手違い、、、移轉連絡中央事務局及出版協會より出版リストの提出を要求された際完全なリストとして、書名三、著者名三、頁數四、發行部數五、發行月日の提示は（限られた期日内に）當時の私としては不可能な困難でありました。二度の戰災、四度の疎開移轉で營業資料は全く燒失し、加ふるに前記の出版統制で廢業の爲當時の店員は四散し一人も居らず、私自身の記憶が唯一の頼りで完全なリストの作成は不可能であり、先ず出來るものから古本屋を漁り、友人達を訪ね整理して提示したものであります。

戰爭文學全集全十五卷も、時間的に提出が遲れましたが私としては、最善の努力に於て提出した次第です。

而し例へ、不可能な困難であらうと手續上に於て、手違ひをした事は私の責任で深く反省してゐます。

㈡戰爭文學全集に就て、、、本全集は、全く私の發案に基くものではなく、友人大谷氏が戰記名著刊行會を經營し、日清日露兩戰の文學作品を中心に發刊した紙型を利用したもので、大谷が營業的に失敗し、友人として私も彼の財政整理に當り、私の貸金の代償として止むを得ず押しつけられたものであり、潮文閣もその當時非常に困難な實情にあつた爲出版したものです。

（別紙證明書の通り）

當時に於ては既に、日華事變も、世界戰爭への様が強まりつゝあつた時であり、軍官の言論出版の指導は強化され、自由な企劃は許されなかつたものであり、特に私は英語辭典の出版を主としていた爲特に壓迫は強かつたのであります。

本全集は、その内容の點に於て七割は、日淸日露兩戰の戰記であり、特に櫻井忠溫氏の肉彈、水野廣德の此一戰などは、世界各國語に譯され名著として、愛讀されているものであります。

前書には、元米國大統領セオルド・ルーズベルト氏も、賞讚の言葉を寄せて序文としていまます。

その他の各卷は全く、無名の兵士達が前線に於て、卒直に感じた儘書いた眞の寫實文學であり、生活記錄であります。第七卷敗走千里は中國人陳登元の著書で發賣禁止になつたもの、第八卷征野二年も又日本軍の大陸に於ける、かくされた反面を爆露した爲、發賣禁止の罰を受けたものであります。當時の出版界として、こうした戰爭に少しでも關係ある著書の出版によつて處罰をうけると言ふ事は、極めて靜い事例であります。

その他殆んど各卷共削除處分を受け特に二卷まで發賣禁止をうけた爲、檢閲は難しく、私自身再三官憲の調べを受けねばならぬ仕末までになつたのであります。

本全集は今日の連合四大國米、英、ソ聯、中國の各國の著名は從軍記者、作家、俘虜等に依つて書かれた日本側の非行の暴露に滿ちた多數の作品も收錄され、當時の出版物には例のない事で、その他は全くの無名の兵士の前線生活記錄で極めて自由主

義的なものであります。戰爭に對する反省と言ふ問題が讀者が得る効果がこの全集の中心になつている事を明らかに申上げ得ると存じます。

(三)國聖「日蓮」、、、この著書は自由主義人として廣く日本の知識人に知られている室伏高信氏が書いたものであります。室伏氏は日蓮上人が時の權力者に反抗して國を憂ひ、民を救ふと言ふ佛教愛に基く日蓮上人の生涯を忠實に書いたものです。國難の時武力を以て戰ふ北條一族に對して日蓮上人は、佛の加護を祈るその精神こそ日華事變より、大東亞戰爭に焦　する日本人にとつて反省すべき警告を持つ著書ではなかつたかと存じます。

(四)ヒツトラーとその事業、、、この著書はヒツトラーをして、山師的な事業を通じてその非常識な構想から、人としての判斷を與へ、日本に取つても十分警戒す可き人物である點もハツキリ指摘し、ヒツトラーを人間として理解するに決して盲目ではあり得ない點を指摘している著書で、當時日獨關係團体から注意をさへ受けたものであります。

以上の諸點について簡單な說明ではありますが心から人間として、私を審判して下さるための參考として申上げたいと存じます。

記

添附　證明書二通

東京都世田谷區太子堂一一二六
高島政衞

證明書（寫）

潮文閣は昭和十八年の戦時政府の出版統制で小澤新藏經營の弘學社へ合併吸收され廢業敗戦後連合軍の出版統制厳正命令に依り昭和二十一年一月侵詔業務開始せる事を證明す

昭和二十三年十一月廿六日

印刷

右證明人

昭和弐貳年十一月廿六日

社團法人日本出版協會 印

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昭和二十二年十一月廿六日

登録

右證明人

社団法人日本出版協會

印

證明書（寫）

潮文閣發行の戦爭文學全集十五
巻の量的に約七割をしめる日清、日露
戦文學の部は、昭和八年頃神田辺諸
二十九戦記名著刊行會に対し、友情に
基き、巨額の金融を爲し、その後、右
會が營業的に全く行づまり、その會發
行の戦記名著全集全十五巻の紙型
及發行權を右貸金の見返りとして押
付けられ遂に文閣もこの紙型を利用するに
あらざれば低度の外ます事情にあり事
を右トラブルに仲介の勞を取った友人
との小生明かに證候也

昭和十三年十一月二十八日

東京都千代田区神田淡路町二ノ十
大東堂書店
電話神田(25)二四三一番
神谷泰治 ㊞

證明書（寫）

潮文閣發行の戦争文學全集十五巻の量的に約七割をしめる日清、日露戦文學の部は、昭和八年頃神田区錦町一ノ九戦記者刊行會に対し、友情に基き、巨額の金融を為し、その後、右會が營業的に全く行づまり、その會集全十五巻の紙型及發行權を右貸金の見返りとして押付けられ遂に文閣もこの紙型を利用するにあらざれば假度の外なき事情にあり事を右トラブルに仲介の勞を取った友人と一ニ小生明上證候也

昭和十二年十一月二十六日

東京都千代田区神田淡路町二ノ大三木堂書店
電話神田(25)二四三一番
神谷泰治 印

して働いて來たのであります。

日華事變或ひは、大東亞戰爭中も軍官關係より、再三出版事業を通じて協力を命ぜられましたが私は、その身分にあらずとして斷り、唯天職にのみ働いて來たのです。又戰爭中軍官の力を借りて、自分の事業の有利を圖つた事は全然なく、かへつて昭和十八年出版統制と言ふ軍官の壓迫で營業を停止せねばならず、解散に至つた次第です。（別紙證明書の通り）

而し私は、戰爭中齒をくひしばつて耐へて來たこの氣持が今回の追放を受けてその犧牲となる事は、實に意外であります。

充分な調査の上、私自身を人間として審判して頂きたく思ひます。書物としての私ではなく、潮文閣と言ふ會社としての私ではなく、人間高島を裁いて頂きたいと存じます。二十一年來出版事業と言ふ天職に、忠實に働いて來た私は、全くの誤解に基く無實の罪に於て、追放されねばならぬと言ふ事は、耐へられない事であります。

私は、昭和二十二年十一月十三日付を以つて言論出版界の追放令を受けた元潮文閣の高島政衞であります。

如何なる理由に於て私は追放を受けねばならなかつたかを私自身に於て反省するならば全く誤解に基く問題である事を、私は卒直に申上げたいと思ひます。

私は出版事業に従事して二十一年全く忠實な一市民として出版文化に努力して來たものであり、侵略日本の政治團体、思想團体、又は軍部とのレンケイの片鱗だにもなく、出版事業を唯一の天職として働いて來たのであります。

日華事變或ひは、大東亞戰爭中も軍官關係より、再三出版事業を通じて協力を命ぜられましたが私は、その身分にあらずとして断り、唯天職にのみ働いて來たのです。又戰爭中軍官の力を借りて、自分の事業の有利を圖つた事は全然なく、かへつて昭和十八

ものから古本屋を漁り、友人達を訪ね整理して提示したものであります。

戰爭文學全集全十五卷も、時間的に提出が遲れましたが私としては、最善の努力に於て提出した次第です。

而し例へ、不可能な困難であらうと手續上に於て、手違ひをした事は私の責任で深く反省してゐます。

(二)戰爭文學全集は、全く私の發案に基くもので本全集は、友人大谷氏が戰記名著刊行會を經營し、日清日露兩戰の文學作品を中心に發刊した紙型を利用したもので、大谷が營業的に失敗し、友人として私も彼の財政整理に當り、私の金の代償として止むを得ず押しつけられたものであり、潮文閣もその當時非常に困難な實情にあつた爲出版したものです。

(別紙證明書の通り)

あり心から公正な審判を願ふ次第であります。私は自分の反省する諸點について眞實を述べたいと思ひます。

㈠手續上の手違い、、、終戰連絡中央事務局及出版協會よりリストの提出を要求された際完全なリストとして一、書名三、著者名三、頁數四、發行部數五、發行月日の提示は限られた期日内に（）當時の私としては不可能な困難でありました。二度の戰災、四度の疎開移轉で營業資料は全く燒失し、加ふるに前記の出版統制で廢業の爲當時の店員は四散し一人も居らず、私自身の記憶が唯一の賴りで完全なリストの作成は不可能であり、先ず出來るものから古本屋を漁り、友人達を訪ね整理して提示したものであります。

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而し例へ、不可能な困難であらうと手續上に於て、手落ひをし

その他の各巻は全く、無名の兵士達が前線に於て、卒直に感じた儘書いた眞の寫實文學であり、生活記錄であります。第七巻

敗走千里は中國人陳登元の著書で發賣禁止になつたもの、第八巻征野二年も又日本軍の大陸に於ける、かくされた反面を爆露した爲、發賣禁止の罰を受けたものであります。當時の出版界として、こうした戰爭に少しでも關係ある著書の出版によつて處罰をうけると言ふ事は、極めて尠い事例であります。その他殆んど各巻共削除處分を受け特に二巻まで發賣禁止をうけた爲、檢閲は難しく、私自身再三官憲の調べを受けねばならぬ仕末までになつたのであります。

本全集は今日の連合四大國米、英、ソ聯、中國の各國の著名な從軍記者、作家、俘虜等に依つて書かれた日本側の非行の暴露で、その他は全くの無名の兵士の前線生活記錄で極めて自由主義に滿ちた多數の作品も收錄されて、當時の出版物には例のない事

當時に於ては既に、日華事變も、世界戰爭への様が強まりつゝあつた時であり、軍官の言論出版の指導は強化され、自由な企劃は許されなかつたものであり、特に私は英語辭典の出版を主としていた爲特に壓迫は強かつたのであります。

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本人にとつて反省すべき警告を持つ著書ではなかつたかと存じます。

以上ヒットラーとその事業、この著書はヒットラーをして、山師的な事業を通じてその非常識な構想から、人としての判断を與へ、日本に取つても十分警戒す可き人物である點もハッキリ指摘し、ヒットラーを人間として理解するに決して盲目ではあり得ない點を指摘している著書で、當時日獨關係團体から注意をさへ受けたものであります。以上の諸點については簡單な說明ではありますが心から人間として、私を審判して下さるための參考として申上げたいと存じます。

記

添附　證明書二通

東京都世田谷區太子堂一二六
高島政衞

義的なものであります。戰爭に對する反省と言ふ問題が讀者が得る効果がこの全集の中心になつている事を明らかに申上げ得ると存じます。

(三)國聖「日蓮」、、、この著書は自由主義人として廣く日本の知識人に知られている室伏高信氏が書いたものであります。室伏氏は日蓮上人が時の權力者に反抗して國を憂ひ、民を救ふと言ふ佛教愛に基く、日蓮上人の生涯を忠實に書いたものです。國難の時武力を以て戰ふ北條一族に對して日蓮上人は、佛の加護を祈るその精神こそ日華事變より、大東亞戰爭に焦點する日本人にとつて反省すべき警告を持つ著書ではなかつたかと存じます。

(四)ヒツトラーとその事業、、、この著書はヒツトラーをして師的な事業を通じてその非常識な構想から、人としての判斷を與へ、日本に取つても十分警戒す可き人物である點もハツキリ