GHQ/SCAP Records(RG 331)
Description of contents

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

(1) Box no. 2061

(2) Folder title/number: (112)
Hibonkaku

(3) Date: Dec. 1947

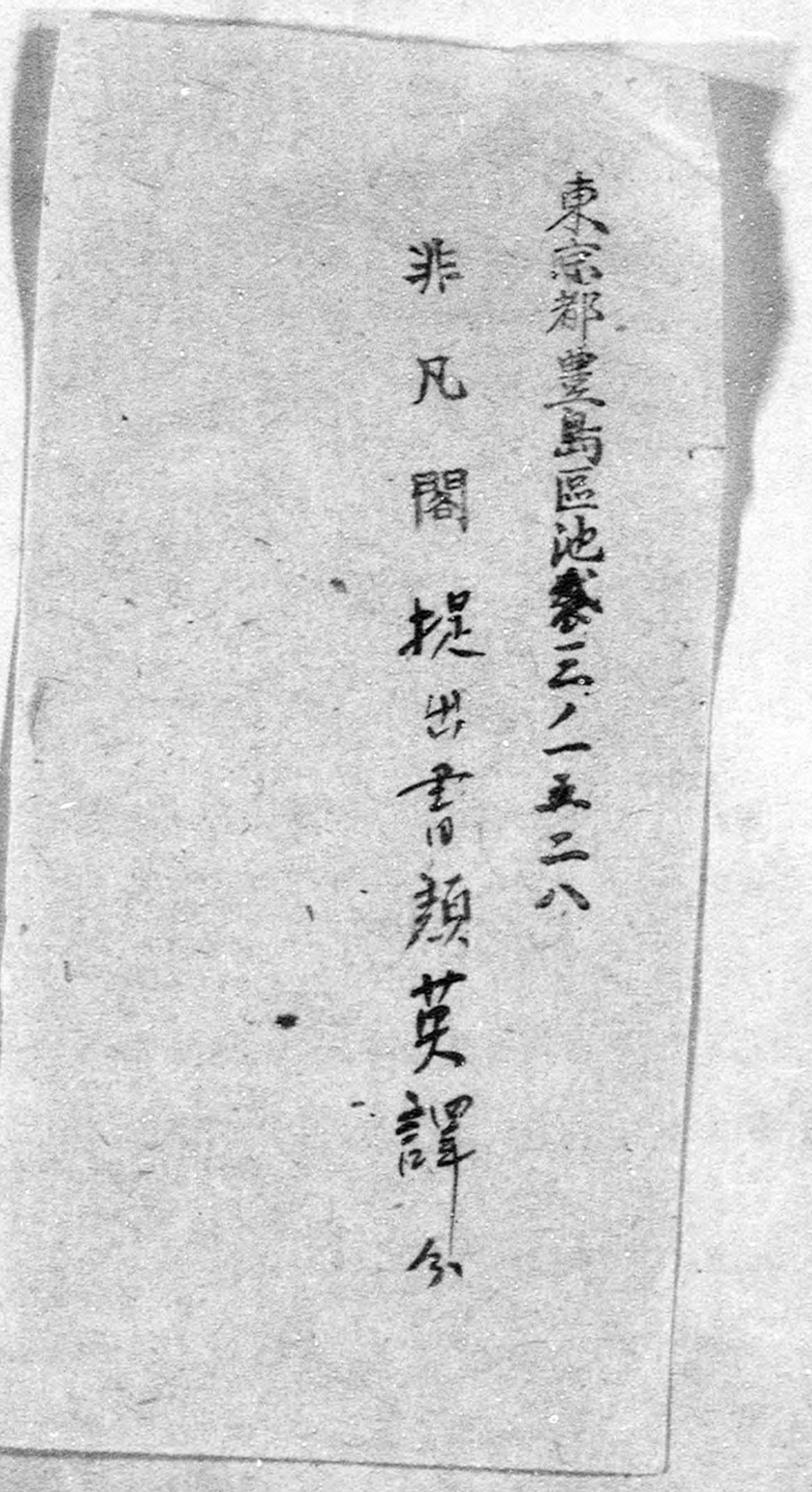
(4) Subject:

Classification	Type of record
340	c

(5) Item description and comment:

(6) Reproduction: (Yes) No

(7) Film no. Sheet no.


東京都豊島區池袋二ノ一五ノ二八
非凡閣提出書類英譯分

EXPLANATION OF THE BUSINESS STRUCTURE OF HIBONKAKU

I. General Explanation.

Hibonkaku is a private publisher founded on a personal investment of Yusaku Kato, the proprieter. Then every detail of business and editing was being managed, planned and carried on according to the will and object of Yusaku Kato, the proprietor. Therefore, there was no such a distinction or a classification as a business department or an editorial department as in the case of ordinary publishers. The employees were working on every line of the business in accordance with the instruction of the proprieter. These circumstances were also true in the case of magazine business, but after the business had been started along right direction and no anxiety was felt about profit, there were cases where a part of business except important planning was entrusted with employees, and in consequence a title of a chief editor were sometimes used for the sake of convenience in the magazine business. That is why such a title was mentioned in the explanation of the business structure of Hibonkaku submitted formerly for the sake of convenience. There was no definite position or title as a chief editor, and it was especially much more true in the case of publication. As every edition of books affects seriously on business, all important matters such as planning and editing were being carried on by Yusaku Kato, the proprietor. Only such a simple matter as proof reading was left to the case of the employees. Consequently even such a title

as the head was not used. The above is the true nature of the business structure of Hibonkaku

II. Detailed Explanation,

1. Magazine,

A magazine, Jitsuwa Zasshi (True Story Magazine) was being planned and edited by Yusaku Kato, the proprietor, for the first 5 or 6 years. The employees were assigned only parts of the work according to his instruction, But after the business had been started along right direction with a definite editorial policy and no anxiety was felt about the profit, there were cases where a part of business except planning was entrusted to the employees. Consequently, it was not denied that a title of the chief editor (the head) was used for the sake of convenience. Then, this was the reason why this title was mentioned in the explanation of business structure of Hibonkaku submitted formerly.

2. Book

Books were all planned and edited by Yusaku Kato, the proprietor, without any exception, for in this business being different from that of magazine, every edition is in unique condition for the work and the sales and is very serious. Consequently, even a part of planning and editing was never entrusted to the imployees. Such details as the planning, asking for manuscripts and negotiation with noted writers were all carried on by the responsibility of Yusaku Kato, the proprietor. That means all the matters were exe-

cuted according to the proprietor's own will and object. Such being the case, such routine works as proof reading and adjustment of books were made by the employees who were not occupied by other work at the moments where the task was needed in accordance with the proprietor's instruction, thus appointing no head nor a special person in charge. In this respect, the attached explanations given by a representative of Hibonkaku and noted writers are to be refered as proof. Request for manuscripts were, then, all made by the will and object of Yusaku Kato, the proprietor. The fact that the authors of the specified books falling under the directive were also personel intimate friends is proof of the above.

非凡閣

Hibonkaku,

1528,3-chome,Ikebukuro

Toshima-ku,Tokyo.

Dated Dec. 7, 1947

(D)

Dec. 7.1947

Hibonkaku was a private publisher founded on a personal investment of Mr.Yusaku Kato,the proprietor. I had long been acquainted with Mr.Yusaku Kato as a personal friend and used to know all about the business condition and business structure from the very beginning of the establishment of the enterprize. As to Hibonkaku I know that all important works were executed according to the personal idea of Mr.Kato,the proprietor. Therefore,the explanation of the business structure submitted by Hibonkaku is nothing but true. I hereby testimony the fact as a close friend to the proprietor and also as a man who know the circumstances of the company quite well.

菊池寛

Kan Kikuchi

Dec. 7. 1947

(E)

Dec. 7. 1947

Hibonkaku is a private business organization based on the proprietor Mr. Kato's private fund. Accordingly, the management related to editing, publishing and sales was entirely autocratic and the business was being carried on according to his principle and aim. I, therefore, testify that the business condition and business structure mentioned in the attached report were entirely correct.

石井 [薫]

M. Ishii, the president of the Japan Publishers' Association.

T

(F)

Dec. 7, 1947

Shin Nipponsaishi (New History of Japan) By K.Kikuchi.

This book was published according to the planning of Mr.Yusaku Kato, the proprietor of Hibonkaku, whom I used to be in intimate term. It was written by me according to his long cherished request. All negatiations with Hibonkaku was made intirely between he and I, the author, having no concern to the employees.

I testify the above fact as an author of the book.

菊池 寛

K. Kikuchi

Dec. 7, 1947

Dokuritsu Kikanjûtai Imada Môshachû. (Indipendent Machine-gun Corps Still Firing Heavily) by Ichirô Sakaguchi,

As to this book, the author Ichirô Sakaguchi, asked me to read the manuscript and to use my good office for the publication. I then, talked matter to Mr. Yûsaku Katô of Hibonkaku, with whom I had been in intimate term. He accepted it actively and published it eventually.

I wish to testify the above fact as a recommender of the manuscript.

菊池寛

K. Kikuchi

(H)

Dec. 7, 1947

Yûkoku Kaishin no Sho

(Book of Patoriotism and Reconstruction) by Yoshitarô Shimizu,

This book was written by the author according to the request made by Yûsaku Katô, the proprietor, who was a good friend of the former.

As both the author and the proprietor were dead and no testimony was avairable. But I remember the fact as mentioned above.

加藤キヨ

Kiyo Katô, the Representative
of Hibonkaku.
1526,3-chôme, Ikebukuro
Toshima-ku, Tôkyô.

(1)

Dec. 7, 1947

Eibei no Tainichi Inbô .

(A Plot by America and England for Japan) by Tôta Ishimaru.

This book was published by Yûsaku Katô, adopting a manuscript and editing based on it, according to the repeated request of publication made by the author, Tôta Ishimaru.

As the author is dead and no testimony was avairable, I remember the fact as above.

加藤キヨ

Kiyo Katô, the Representative
of Hibonkaku.
1528,3-chôme,Ikebukuro,
Toshima-ku,Tôkyô.

(J)

Dec. 7, 1947

Shinajihen Jikki (History of China Incident) edited by the Yomiuri.

The above book was edited according to the planning of Yûsaku Katô, the proprietor of Hibonkaku. All the materials (incruding photos) were öffered gratis by the editorial office of the Yomiuri to Hibonkaku.

The contents were newspaper account arranged in order of the date and collected for each month, comprising from volume 1 to volume 15.

As I was friendly with Mr. Yûsaku Katô, I became a nomind person of the business.

樺山寛二

Kanji Kabayama

HONIDEN, Junichi

HIBONKAKU

Manager Jan.10,'31-May 10,'42

IKEDA , Kisaku

HIBONKAKU

Editor Feb.22,'32-

TANI, Kaoru

HIBONKAKU

Editor

Oct.15,'33-Mar.15,'45

MATSUMOTO, Takeji

HIBONKAKU

Editor

Jul,20,'33-Jan.30,'33

HIRAYAMA, Seiro

HIBONKAKU

Editor

May 10,'36-Sept.10,'38

TAMAGAWA, Goro

HIBONKAKU

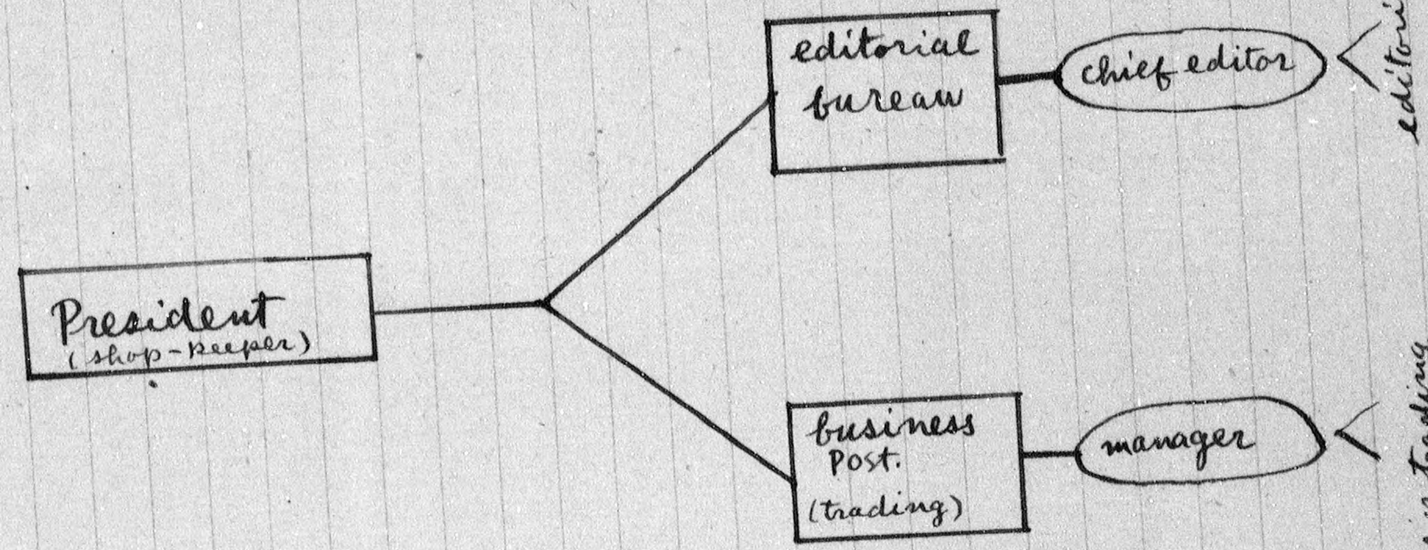
Editor

Oct.5,'36-Sept.10,'38

NAME OF COMPANY "Hibon Sha"

POSITION	NAME	DATE OF ASSUMPTION. RESIGNATION.	PRESENT PROFF
president (shop-keeper)	~~Yūsaku, Katō~~	~~(ASSUMPTED) 20th Nov. 1930~~	
		(RESIGNATED) 26th May. 1945	
manager	Junichi. Honiden ✓	(ASSUMPTED) 10th January 1931	member of Shuppan K
		(RESIGNATED) 10th May 1942	
chief editor	Masuzo. Kazama ✓	(ASSUMPTED) 10th April 1934	a shop-ke book
		(RESIGNATED) 30th May 1942	
editor.	Kisaku. Ikeda. ✓	(ASSUMPTED) 22nd Feb. 1932	editor of Hibon
"	Kaoru, Tani ✓	(RESIGNATED)	
"	~~Akira, Naito~~	(ASSUMPTED) 15th Oct. 1933	editor of Wakabu
		(RESIGNATED) 15th March 1945.	
"	Takeji. Matsumoto ✓	~~(ASSUMPTED) 20th April 1933~~	
		~~(RESIGNATED)~~	
"	Seiro. Hirayama ✓	(ASSUMPTED) 20th July 1933	editor of Banya
		(RESIGNATED) 30th January 1946	
"	Goro. Tamagawa ✓	(ASSUMPTED) 10th May 1936	
		(RESIGNATED) 10th Sept. 1938	
		(ASSUMPTED) 5th Oct. 1936	
		(RESIGNATED) 10th Sept. 1938.	
member of Trading post.	Asao. Suzuki	(ASSUMPTED) 5th Dec. 1934	member of Kayaba
		(RESIGNATED) 15th Feb. 1944	
"	Tetsu. Yoshizawa	(ASSUMPTED) 15th April 1931	a shop-keep Book
		(RESIGNATED) 15th April 1941	
"	Tetsuo Negishi	(ASSUMPTED) 25th March. 1935	member of Hibo
		(RESIGNATED)	
"	Chio. Kawamura	(ASSUMPTED) 25th Oct 1935	
		(RESIGNATED) 10th March 1945	
"	Taro. Sawairi	(ASSUMPTED) 30th March 1936	
		(RESIGNATED)	
"	Seimei Sakakibara	(ASSUMPTED) 1st. May 1941	member of Hibo
		(RESIGNATED)	

PTION. NATION.	PRESENT PROFFESSION	PRESENT ADRESS	REMARKS.
ov. 1930 ay. 1945	/	/	died in 26th May 1945
uary 1931 y 1942	member of Shuppan Kyodo Cō LT.D.	3chome 4136 Shiinamachi Toshimaku Tokyo	/
il 1934 y 1942	a shop-keeper of book store.	Kokubumachi Town Kagoshima prefecture.	/
32	editor of Hibonkaku	1182 Honjo-machi Saitama-prefecture.	
33	editor of Wakabungakusha	318. 3chome Zoshigaya Toshimaku Tokyo	
45. 33	/	/	died in May 1944.
33 1946	editor of Ranpukagakusha	41. minami Enokicho. Shinjukuku Tokyo.	
36 38	/	15. Komachi. Kamakura city.	
36 38.	/	/	
4 44	member of Kayaba-Seisakujo	2 chome 195 Komatsugawa Edogawaku Tokyo.	
31 41	a shop-keeper of Book store	1 chome 170 Tozukamachi Shinjukuku Tokyo	
35	member of Hibonkaku	1182 Honjo machi Saitama prefecture.	
35 45	/	1182 Honjo machi Saitama prefecture.	
36	/	/	
41	member of. Hibonkaku	c/o. 3chome. 1528. Ikebukuro Toshimaku Hibonkaku Tokyo.	not demobilized.

(NAME OF COMPANY) HIBONKAKU

LIST OF HIBONKAKU'S CONSTRUCTION