

SHOIKI, Matsutaro (9)

(4)

(18)

SECRET

NAME: SHORIKI, Matsutaro.

PRESENT STATUS: Confined in Sugamo Prison.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

As proprietor of the *Youriuri Shimbun*, SUBJECT strongly backed the Axis and urged Japanese adherence to the Tri-Partite Alliance. He is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan. Made his newspaper the chief army organ and actively promoted militaristic propaganda immediately preceding Pearl Harbor. It was his newspaper which communicated with Honolulu the night before "Pearl Harbor", supposedly for the purpose of obtaining weather information. Received a silver cup from the Emperor for outstanding service to his country during the war. He was a member of the Preparatory Committee, IRAA, in 1940; Councilor, Cabinet Information Board in 1943; member of the Privy Council; Cabinet Advisor in 1944; Councilor, Board of Information in 1945.

REMARKS:

If SUBJECT was merely complying with censorship regulations, as is stated in his defense, it would not seem reasonable for a personal award to be made by the Emperor. SUBJECT's newspaper had a circulation of over 1,800,000 and wielded a tremendous influence in moulding the public opinion for aggressive war. No recommendations regarding the final disposition of SUBJECT have been received from CIS/G-2, FIC.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that SUBJECT be held for further investigation as a Class A war criminal suspect.

SECRET

Date: 20 May 1947

Report of Investigation Division, Legal Section, GHQ, SCAP.

Inv. Div. No.
9

CRD No.

Report by: Major B. R. Patterson

Title: Matsutaro SHORIKI

Synopsis of facts: SHORIKI born 1885 Toyama Prefecture. Graduate Tokyo Imperial University 1911. Chief Criminal Bureau of Metropolitan Police Bd. 1911-1924. Relieved disp. ord. Jan 7, 24. Sentenced 2 months Penal Servitude - 26 Dec 32 (susp. sentence). Member Preparatory Committee IRAA 1940. Councillor Cabinet Infor. Bd. 1943; Member Privy Council 1944; Council Bd. of Infor 1945; Cabinet Advisor 1944; Appre. req. CIS memo dtd 1 Dec 45. Interned Sugamo 12 Dec 45.

-P-

Reference: File No. 9 at the present time has been misplaced.

DETAILS:

At Tokyo:

This investigation is predicated upon the request of the Honorable Lord WRIGHT, President of the International War Crimes Commission.

CIS files reveal the following information regarding SHORIKI:

SHORIKI was a former chief of the Criminal Bureau of the Metropolitan Police Bureau and since 1924 President of Yomiuri Shimbun (this newspaper later amalgamated with the Hochi Shimbun which he also owned).

According to OSS report, SHORIKI became notorious for his activities when chief of the Secretariat of the Metropolitan Police, Tokyo, by his ruthless treatment of political thought cases and by ordering raids on universities and colleges. He was the first senior police official to institute such raids on educational institutions.

As proprietor of the Yomiuri Shimbun he strongly backed the Axis and urged Japanese adherence to the Tri-Partite Alliance. He is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and was known

Distribution:

1 Prosecution (Class A) ✓
1 CRD
1 Inv. Div (File 9)
1 Major B.R. Patterson

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to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan. He made of his newspaper the chief army organ and through its wide circulation he actively promoted militaristic propaganda in Japan immediately preceding Pearl Harbor. He victimized newspaper men who did not see eye to eye with his pro-Axis policies.

He was one of the most important journalists who actively propagated the axis cause before the war and energetically supported it through the war. With the large circulation which his newspaper enjoyed he ought to be regarded as one of the most evil influences in poisoning the public mind. He is now resisting efforts by junior staff to remove him from control of Yomiuri because of pro-military record. X

On 9 January 1946, the records of the Personnel Section, Cabinet Secretariat were examined at the Diet Building and revealed the following biographical history of Matsutaro SHORIKI:

Born	11 April 1885
Rank:	Commoner
1911 Jul	Graduated from German Law College of Imperial University.
1912 Jan 9	Appointed a clerk in the Cabinet: granted 6th Class Salary
1912 Nov 9	Passed the Higher Civil Service Examination.
1913 Jun 23	Appointed Police Inspector of the Metropolitan Police, 6th Class Salary.
1914 Jun 20	Appointed Police Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police, Commissioned the 7th Rank of Higher Civil Service Granted the 10th Rank Salary Appointed Chief of a Police Station at Horidome Nihonbashi-ward.
1914 Sep 1	Conferred the 7th Class Court Rank, Junior Grade.
1916 Jul 27	Promoted to the 6th Rank of the Higher Civil Service.
1915 Nov 10	Decorated with the metal in commemoration of the Imperial Enthronement.
1915 Aug 21	Conferred the 7th Class Court Rank, Senior grade.
1915 Nov 7	Granted a sum of ¥ 150 for his meritorious services in the 1914 to 1915 Affair.
1916 Dec 21	Granted the 9th Rank Salary.
1917 Feb 10	Appointed Chief of Kagurazaka Police Station at Ushigome.
1917 Sep 1	Appointed Inspector
1917 Dec 27	Granted the 8th Rank Salary.
1918 May 31	Granted the 7th Rank Salary.
1918 Dec 8	Promoted to the 5th Rank of the Higher Civil Service.
1918 Oct 30	Conferred the 6th Court Rank of the Junior Grade.
1918 Oct 30	Conferred the 6th Court Rank of the Junior Grade.
1918 Dec 25	Granted the 6th Rank Salary.
1919 Jun 21	Attached to the Police Affairs Department.
1919 Jun 30	Granted the 5th Rank Salary.
1920 Apr 30	Granted the 4th Rank Salary.
1920 Aug 18	The Higher Civil Service Salary Act was revised.
1921 Mar 31	Granted the 4th Rank Salary.
1920 Nov 1	Decorated with the 6th Order of Merit with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure for his meritorious service in the World War.
1921 Jun 3	Appointed Chief of Secretariat of the Metropolitan Police. The 4th Rank of the Higher Civil Service. Granted the 7th Class Salary.
1921 Jun 23	Appointed a Councillor for Health in the Metropolitan Police.

1921 Jul 11 Conferred the 6th Class Court Rank of the Senior Grade.
 1921 Dec 15 Granted the 6th Rank Salary.
 1922 Dec 15 Granted the 5th Rank Salary.
 1923 Sep 8 Assigned as an Administrative Official in the Temporary Earthquake Disaster Relief Bureau.
 The Post was abolished by the Imperial Edict Number 491 on November 30, 1923.
 1923 Oct 27 Appointed Chief of the Police Affairs Department of the Metropolitan Police.
 The 4th Rank of the Higher Civil Service.
 1923 Oct 27 Granted the 5th Rank Salary.
 1923 Nov 15 Promoted to the 3rd Rank of the Higher Civil Service.
 1923 Dec 15 Granted the 4th Rank Salary.
 1924 Jan 7 Relieved from his principal post by the Disciplinary Ordinance for Civil Service.
 1932 Dec 26 Sentenced to 2 months' penal servitude (the execution of the sentence had been suspended for two years) - A court of appeals in Tokyo.
 1936 Oct 20 Assigned as a member of the International Sight-Seeing Committee.
 1938 Dec 14 Assigned as a member of the International Sight-Seeing Committee.
 1943 Jun 23 Appointed a Councillor of the Information Bureau.
 1944 May 18 Appointed member of the House of Peers in accordance with Article 1, Paragraph 4 of the House of Peers Regulations.
 1944 Oct 28 Appointed a Councillor of Cabinet.
 1945 Apr 36 Relieved as a Councillor of Cabinet at his own request.
 1945 Jun 23 Appointed a Councillor of the Information Bureau.
 1945 Dec 13 Relieved as Councillor of the Information Bureau at his own request.

The CIS files also reveal the following additional information concerning SHORIKI, Matsutaro:

SHORIKI's position in Cabinet Advisory Group was to participate directly in the Council of State rather than to serve as merely a consultant. He was a Councillor in IRRA and IRAPS. On the last day of the GEA press conference he was named chairman of the organizing committee for drafting the regulations of the GEA Press Federation. He was present at a mass rally on 7 March 1944 at Hibiya Hall. Meeting was sponsored by Domei News Agency and Metropolitan Journal, and was of a propaganda nature. Furuno read the Imperial rescript of Japan's declaration of war on United States and Great Britain. Was appointed Imperial-Nominated member of the House of Peers. Was invited by the government to the official residence of the Premier on 3 Oct 1944 for a meeting. One of five former councillors of the Board of Information who will remain in office. Former Chief of Criminal Bureau of Tokyo Metropolitan Police Board, resigning in 1924. Has rendered distinguished services in propagandizing thoughts. Received a silver cup from the Emperor of Japan for outstanding service to his country in the war. Veteran Newspaperman and Committeeman, Central Liaison Hq; National movement to Arouse People to Action. It is noteworthy that he was appointed Cabinet Adviser to represent the Press.

SHORIKI, Chief of the Secretariat of the Metropolitan Police in Tokyo at the time of the rice riots and took a firm hand with this agitation. He particularly distinguished himself in his handling of the political thought problems by ordering the raids on universities and colleges

which had hitherto been as inviolable; was forced to take the blame for the Toranomon incident and retire from public office. Entered the field of journalism through Baron GO Seinosuke and through the generous loan of Count GOTO. He introduced a great many new features to Japanese journalism; promoted the visit of American Major League baseball players to Japan in 1931 and organized the Japanese "Giants". In 1918, following World War I, inflationary pressure soared the price of rice and a serious shortage resulted. A movement for cheaper rice, which assumed riot proportions overnight, got underway. SHORIKI by virtue of his official police position was responsible for subduing these riots and restoring law and order. The fact that SHORIKI, as shown by injuries suffered during a mob assault, endured personal physical danger while attempting to suppress the agitation should not be overlooked.

In 1918 Communism took form as a school of political philosophy simultaneously with the inauguration of the Third International. Three years later Communism was introduced into Japan. The movement in its early stages (during the period Shoriki held office in the Metropolitan Police Board) is generally described as follows: 1921, "The period of preparation", when the pioneer Communists, many of whom were arrested, worked for the establishment of a definite party. 1922 - "The Period of Infancy", when the First Japan Communist Party was inaugurated. 1923 - "The Period of Development when membership grew, although the leaders were arrested. It was during this period that Communism took hold in the universities and colleges and SHORIKI in his official police capacity had no other course but to order the raids. As a result of these raids 64 out of 70 communists arrested, were indicted.

SHORIKI was concerned with the financial management of the Yomiuri Shimbun and did not interfere with the policy of the newspaper. Policy was a matter to be decided by the Henshu Kyoku Cho (the chief editor of the paper). Any control the Cabinet Information Board had over the paper was handled through this official of the paper. Prior to 1940 the Yomiuri Shimbun was a partnership. Beginning in 1940 over a period of one year all the other partners were bought out and SHORIKI became the sole owner. In 1942, he incorporated the paper as a Yugen Kaisha with a paid up capitalization, all of which was owned by him. SHORIKI never received any money from the government nor are any incidents known where the reporters of the paper were bribed by the government. Some of the reporters may have been entertained by government officials, but this was not customarily done in the case of the big papers. So far as is known, SHORIKI received no moneys from politicians or capitalists, except the investments and loans, all of which have been repaid. That in financial matters, SHORIKI was a man of strict principles. SHORIKI, in private conversations, thought that the army moved too fast in China and that he was opposed to war with the United States. SHORIKI attended daily staff meetings of the heads of the paper departments but interfered very little with the operation of the paper. When he did, it was to say that an article was well done. Problems of the Board of Information complaint never came up to the SHORIKI level.

A letter addressed to the Civil Affairs Section, GHQ, reveal the following:

The Yomiuri was the personal agency of Matsutaro SHORIKI since its establishment, and at one time developed into a popular representative paper of the three leading firms, receiving full support of the public.

SHORIKI's policy was to always misuse the paper and plot for his own desires. For example, from the time of the China Incident through the Great Eastern War, SHORIKI was in collusion with the former Premier Hideki TOJO, and used the paper as a war instigator in this shameful war. And as compensation, he received the position of advisor to Premier TOJO's Cabinet and as an imperial nominee. In particular he oppressed the liberties of a news editor with a fair newspaper spirit and printed his thorough support of this shameful war.

Moreover those who cooperated fully with the firm were Yusai TAKAHASHI, Vice President, and the managing staff. That is, they became department heads. The writers who believed in fair play, which numbered several hundred, naturally left the firm. Such being the case, the ordinary course of the firm was not a representative organ of public opinion but was used as an instrument in benefiting SHORIKI personally and the employees, excluding the managing staff, were like robots who could not publicize individual freedom, and at present still maintain pressure even after the conclusion of the war.

The functions of even the branch offices established throughout the nation was to cooperate with the regional army official and instigate the people to war; and though the lack of paper has caused a stoppage in publication in the various prefectures after the War, even today, the branch officials chiefly are using their official powers conspiring with evill officials of the community, becoming large scale brokers in army material obtained with the dissolution of the army which are to be distributed to the war victims, and have fomented ill feeling in the community.

IPS File Number 181 reveal the following Analysis of Documentary Evidence:

"Document No. 597

28 February 1946

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

Title and Nature: Scrapbook, entitled "Before the Organization of the First Cooperation Conference".

Date: 8 June 1941.

Source of Original: GODO, Takuo

PERSONS IMPLICATED: SHORIKI, Matsutaro

Crimes to which Document Applicable: Instigation to Aggressive Warfare

Summary of Relevant Points:

Contains an address by SHORIKI at the opening of the conference, which was sponsored by YOMIURI. He states that so far the propaganda was inadequate and that, therefore, the people are losing their enthusiasm for the government, that the newspaper people are ready to help anybody who wants to encourage the people. "

"Document No. 595

28 February 1946

Title and Nature: Truth of the Controversy of the Yomiuri Shimbun.

Source of Original: SHORIKI, Matsutaro

Crimes to which Document Applicable: Instigation to aggressive warfare.

Summary of Relevant Points:

This booklet, written after V-J Day, contains on p.14 ff. statements regarding SHORIKI's war responsibility, which, according to it should be

carried jointly by the executives and the editorial staff. At the same time, he claims that he never adhered to the views of the army and cites instances of his opposition to Army control over newspapers."

Document 594.

28 February 1947

Source of Original: SHORIKI, Matsutaro
Persons Implicated: SHORIKI, Matsutaro
Crimes to which Document Applicable: Incitement to aggressive warfare
Summary of Relevant Points:

In his speech, SHORIKI recalls his connection with GOTO which dated from the time when he was Secretary of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Board. He also mentions the fact that GOTO gave him 100,000 yen to take over the YOMIURI Newspaper Company and put it back on its feet.

SHORIKI was also the one who wanted to have a hall for the semi-military sports of JUDO and fencing attached to the GOTO Memorial Hall. FUJIWARA, Ginjiro also spoke at the same occasion."

Document 593.

28 February 1947

Title and Nature: Booklet - "Manual of the Japanese Newspaper Assoc."
Persons Implicated: SHORIKI, Matsutaro.
Crimes to which Document applicable: Background material re. thought control, cooperation of press with military clique.

Summary of Relevant Points:

The Japanese Newspaper Association was a "voluntary control organization" whose heads were appointed by the Premier or House Minister. It participates in the allotment of paper to the various newspapers.

SHORIKI was a standing councillor, appointed by the Chairman who in turn was appointed by the Premier or House Minister.

The second part is a list of all newspaper men in Japan, including a short curriculum vitae."

A report on SHORIKI states that he is half owner of the YOMIURI Newspaper in Tokyo and until recently has been president of the company operating this newspaper. He was forced to give up the presidency of the company because of disputes with employees and editorial staff, and is not at the present time actively directing the affairs of the paper. Mr. SHORIKI in his interrogation confirms that the newspaper, beginning with the Manchurian Incident, was submitted to a certain degree of censorship. After the China Incident, the censorship increased and became strict with the approach of the war with the United States. The policy of his paper was determined by this censorship.

Conferences with Kato, Mitsu and Matsukata, Saburo, developed the fact that SHORIKI was governed entirely in the policies of his paper by the censorship of the Japanese Government, and that he personally was not in favor of aggression into China. This is also confirmed by the conference with TAKATA, Motosabari, formerly with the MANICHI Newspaper, who states that he believes Mr. SHORIKI was not in sympathy with aggression in China although he had close connections with General TOJO. Mr. Takata confirms Mr. SHORIKI's statement as to government control of newspapers in Japan and feels that not only Mr. SHORIKI's paper supported government policies, but all of the rest of the papers had to do the same thing. The only difference between Mr. SHORIKI's papers and the others was that Mr. SHORIKI was supposed to have this close connection with TOJO.

He stated there is no reason why Mr. SHORIKI should be in prison than the other newspaper men. If Mr. SHORIKI should be in prison, it was his feeling that all of the newspaper owners should be too.

In a conference held with Bunshiro SUZUKI, SUZUKI stated that SHORIKI's employees tried hard to make SHORIKI look like a war criminal but he did not believe that SHORIKI had any connection with TOJO's policies. Suzuki had known Shoriki since he purchased the Yomuri Shim-bun paper and he said when Shoriki was Chief of the Bureau of Police he was very efficient and was highly thought of by officials of the Home Ministry and Baron GOTO. He thought that SHORIKI gave 100% of his time as a business man to his paper and was not interested in foreign or other policies. He was unable to state definitely what SHORIKI's personal opinions were so far as aggression into China was concerned.

Following is a summary of evidentiary facts:

SHORIKI, Matsutaro was born April 11, 1885, a commoner, graduated from the German College of Law of the Imperial University in 1911. In 1913, he joined the Metropolitan Police and in 1923 was appointed Chief of Police Affairs Department of the Metropolitan Police. As a result of an attempt to shoot the Emperor, he was relieved from his principal post by the disciplinary ordinance for civil service. With the assistance of various friends, some of whom were connected with the ZABATSUI, he was able to purchase the YOMIURI Newspaper and remained President of this paper until 11 December 1945 when he was incarcerated. In connection with the operations of the paper, after his purchase, he was advised and counseled by Baron GO and FIJWARA, Ginjiro. During the period of his operation, he increased the newspaper circulation from approximately 50,000 to 1,800,000. As the paper became a financial success, he was able to pay off all advances which were made to him on account of the purchase of this paper which was eventually capitalized at 7,000,000 yen. He distributed half of this, to wit, 3,500,000 yen for the benefit of the employees of his newspaper.

SHORIKI confirms that his newspaper beginning with the Manchurian Incident was submitted to a certain degree of censorship and after the China Incident the censorship increased and became strict with the approach of the war with the United States. He claims that the policy of his paper was determined by this censorship. SHORIKI claims that he protested to TOJO and his Chief Secretary HOSHINO, that Japanese propaganda was not handled right in telling the people lies. Pamphlets written by SHORIKI submitted to us have been scanned and nothing of a propaganda nature has been discovered. Newspaper men who were interviewed and knew SHORIKI personally stated that he was against aggression in China.

SHORIKI's connection with TOJO and HOSHINO is set forth in his interrogation, IPS File 181, serial 13, pages 17, 18, and 19 as follows:

Q. Why were you appointed?

A. I content that the appointment was very late in coming to me as six other publishers were already members and as long as my paper was one of the leading papers I should have been a member long before this time.

Q. Why did it come at this time?

A. The reason for the delay in part was due to a mistake that occurred some 20 years ago when a man by the name of GOTO, Kunihoko, who was

vice-president of the Keisei Electric Lines Company was trying to get a franchise to run his street cars in Tokyo. At this time, through GO, I knew this man well and worked to get him the franchise and in doing so I acted as a go-between in giving some money to a man by the name of MIKI who was the political boss who had put the incumbent Mayor into office. When this case broke I was involved in it and received censure from the authorities, so that this was in a sense a blot on my record. Further I believe that TOJO intended to make use of me although this is only my personal opinion and I have only met TOJO personally once when I went to tell him that I did not believe Japanese propaganda was being handled right.

Q. When did you go to see TOJO?

A. I put in my bid to see him in February of 1943 but did not get to see him until some time in March. At this time I spoke to TOJO while his chief secretary HOSHINO was also present and I talked to them of Japanese propaganda and how wrong we were in telling the public lies and cited Northcliffe's book "Clue(Carew?)House", as an example of the mistakes that were made in England in the last war. I told him that the Yomiuri had succeeded because it has told the truth.

Q. You said you were appointed to the House of Peers because you felt that TOJO had some use for you. What use did you think TOJO was going to make of you?

A. Although he did not say anything to me after I became a member of the House of Peers I believe he had me in mind for some such job as Chief of the Cabinet Information Board. Prior to this he had approached me to take up a position as prefectural governor somewhere but I had refused. I have never taken any part in any political activity and although it is a custom in Japan for famous people to be employed by the government in one way or another I have constantly refused to do so.

Q. In October 1944 you were appointed a Cabinet advisor, were you not?

A. Yes.

Q. Were you ever consulted?

A. While we were known as advisors we were never asked for advice although we did demand and receive a weekly report on the doings of the government, and I brought up one point which was that Tokyo would eventually become a burnt-out plain and so we should speed up the evacuation of the populace.

Q. What kind of information were you given in these reports?

A. Specialists came and explained matters and about that time the Cabinet fell.

SHORIKI also testified that he first heard that Japan was going to war with the United States on the day war started.

Sources reveal that SHORIKI was a member of the DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI(Great Japan Speech and Publication Serve-the Country Assoc); the DAI NIPPON SEIJI KAI(Great Japan Political Association); SHIMBUN REMMEI(Newspaper Federation), and the Dai Nippon Tokyo Baseball Club.

SHORIKI held various positions in the official rosters of the TAISEI YOKUSAN KAI(Imperial Rule Assistance Association);

the YOKUSAN SEIJI KAI (Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society), and the DAI NIPPON SEIJI KAI (Great Japan Political Association) as well as serving as a member of the preparatory committees of both organizations. Appointments were motivated by his position in the newspaper world. In a study "War Politics in Japan", the opinion of these societies and men active in them were given. They were basically political and patriotic organizations whose part in the wartime life Japan was to gear the nation's politics and economy to the war effort."

An exhaustive search to substantiate the accusation that SHORIKI "strongly backed the Axis.. and is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and was known to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan".. has been made. No valid evidence of such activity has been found but reference is made to the accusation in the pamphlet "Matsutaro SHORIKI's Character and Career", written by his friends. According to TAKAHASHI, former vice president of the Yomiuri, this pamphlet was prepared by himself and friends of SHORIKI. These friends and newspaper associates of SHORIKI state that there is no foundation for a broadcast made by Captain Zacharias from San Francisco on 26 May 1945, upon which this accusation is apparently based. The lack of other evidence appears to substantiate this claim.

It is noteworthy that the official rosters of the Cabinet Board of Information do not list SHORIKI until July 1943 when he was appointed a Councillor.

In 1943 the Military Police arrested SHORIKI on the grounds that the Yomiuri possessed a short-wave radio but released him after questioning him about his relations with prominent businessmen and his employees. This action by the Kempei Tai suggests prejudice as all other newspapers were so equipped to pick up foreign news.

In view of the accusations made against SHORIKI, it is pertinent to note that before Pearl Harbor his name is not linked with any of Japan's political or military leaders, he was not active in political or nationalistic organizations, nor did he hold bureaucratic posts. SHORIKI became involved in the Cabinet Board of Information late in the war and was appointed a member of the Cabinet Advisory Council at the tail end during the KOISO Cabinet in July 1944 and the peace-making SUZUKI Cabinet in April 1945.

SUMMARY:

SHORIKI is 61 years old. In 1923 he was Chief of the Police Affairs Dept. of the Metropolitan Police, during which time it is reported he became notorious by his ruthless treatment of political thought cases and by ordering raids on universities and colleges. Since 1924 he has been president of the Yomiuri Newspaper, which is said to have been the chief army organ for the promotion of militaristic propaganda in Japan immediately preceding Pearl Harbor. However, it is not established that SHORIKI was sufficiently responsible for these policies, in view of the fact that all Japanese newspapers were required to support government policies and were subjected to strict censorship by the Cabinet Information Bureau. It is felt that the evidence is insufficient at this time to establish sufficient responsibility for the editorial policy of the YOMIURI. Accusations against SHORIKI appear to be exaggerated and unsubstantiated by any specific evidence.

All sources of information have been exhausted at this time.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

The Tokyo Office - At Tokyo - Will follow and report the disposition of Subject.

P E N D I N G

S E C R E T

NAME: SHORIKI, Matsutero.

PRESENT STATUS: Confined in Sugamo Prison.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

As proprietor of the Youriuri Shimbun, Subject strongly backed the Axis and urged Japanese adherence to the Tri-Partite Alliance; is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan; made his newspaper the chief army organ and actively promoted militaristic propaganda immediately preceding Pearl Harbor. It was his newspaper which communicated with Honolulu the night before "Pearl Harbor", supposedly for the purpose of obtaining weather information; received a silver cup from the Emperor for outstanding service to his country during the war; he was a member of the Preparatory Committee, IRAA, in 1940; Councilor, Cabinet Information Board in 1943; member of Privy Council; Cabinet Advisor in 1944; Councilor, Board of Information in 1945.

REMARKS:

If Subject was merely complying with censorship regulations, as is stated in his defense, it would not seem reasonable for a personal award to be made by the Emperor. Subject's newspaper had a circulation of over 1,800,000 and wielded a tremendous influence in moulding the public opinion for aggressive war.

No recommendation regarding the final disposition of Subject has been received from CIS/G-2, APPAC.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Subject be held for further investigation as a Class A war criminal suspect.

S E C R E T

88

List of Officials of Japanese Government
Project No. 1648
21 July 1945

MATSUTARO SHORIKI: Member Privy Council. Former Cabinet advisor.

1885 Born Toyama Prefecture. Son of Shojiro Shoriki. Married
Hama, sister of Seiji Yoshiwara.

1911 Graduated Law College Tokyo Imperial University.

1911 Entered Civil Service.

* Chief, Criminal Bureau of Metropolitan Police Board.

1924 Resigned above post.

* President Yomiuri Shimbun; Chairman, Hochi Shimbun.

* Director Imperial Rule Assistance Association; Director
Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society (now
dissolved) Dai Nippon Tokyo Baseball Club.

1943 Councilor, Cabinet Information Board.

1944 May Appointed member Privy Council.

1944 Oct. Appointed Cabinet Advisor.

1945 Apr. Resigned with Koiso Cabinet.

1945 June Appointed Councilor Board of Information.

Address: 1 of 2, Shikoku-machi, Shiba-ku, Tokyo.

Veteran newspaperman. Member of Preparatory Committee charged with working out details of organizing IRAA in 1940. Received Silver Cup from His Majesty on 12 September 1944 upon recommendation of War and Navy Ministries.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

213. V. 9, 正カホエ太印
Shoriki, Matsutaro

7. 体面.
答. 15歳8百目 199, 太印
8. 傷痕, 目標, 不具, 可免.
答. 頸 = 刀痕, 近眼鏡ヲ用ニ頭髮ヲ剃ル,
不具ナシ
9. 現住地.
答. 巢鴨拘留所
10. 住居地.
答. 神奈川県横浜市中区邊子町
11. 身分証明, 様式ト番号.
答. ナシ.
12. 會見者が捕ハルル特別ノ理由.
犯歴ヲ犯シタルコトアルヤ.
答. 昭和三年九月京成電車乗入事件.
関シ東京市会議員 = 社ニテ會社ヨリ,

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

2 B N. 9. 正カ松太郎
Shoriken, Yatushar

贈賄金ヲ仲介セリト、理由ニテ捕ハラレ四月
ノ刑ヲ宣告セリ、如モ情状ヲ酌量セリ刑ヲ執
行ヲユルサレ、三年後ニ刑ヲ宣告ヲ受ケザルモノ
ト看做サレタリ。

昭和九年五月、帝國人倶會社ノ事件ニ連坐シ
テ捕ハラレタリ九月間ニシテ罪ヲキムトシテ釈
放セラレタリ。

13. 會員者、現在迄、最高階級
ヲ授ケられ、昭和十九年十月、小磯内閣、内閣顧問ニ任命
セラレ、昭和十九年四月、勲二位ニ授ケラレタリ。

14. 會員者、軍務、軍代記録、會員者カ昭和六年十月
ヨリ現在迄、職務ヲ記入セヨ
前記記、中政府カ軍務、役員、夫レヲ記入スル中
會員者、地位ヲ記入セヨ。

昭和六年一月一日ヨリ、昭和七年十二月十日迄
議員出陣社長、昭和十三年五月ヨリ、昭和
七年十二月迄内閣情報ヲ参與、昭和十八
年五月ヨリ、昭和二十一年二月迄貴族院議員、昭和
十九年十月ヨリ、昭和二十一年四月迄内閣顧問

15. 會員者カ契機會、公會及地方會、東京支部會及七日
本政協會、會友、及創立者、組織者、其他各團體
支部組織及特別了事ノ編輯、如何ヲ之ヲ記入セヨ。

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

2 B. 119. 正力本太印.

答、翼賛会、発起人、一人=指及セラル翼賛会及大日本
政治会、總務=加へル、其他干保ナシ

16. 党、組合、協会、兄弟会、学生会、協会、学生会、政治学
会、軍学生会、愛国学生会、居士会、青年会、学生、兄弟、
学生、運動学生会、會員ナシ、之ヲ記スル也。前記
ノトガ秘密ニテモ明ナシ。

答、大日本政治会、翼賛会、日本工業会、日本工業会、日本工業会、

17. 会見者、宗族中ノ前記ノ所、及之ニ関連シタル職務ニタリ
カハリタリ又其地位及直接持利者又間接持利者
カ居リタルカ、在リタリ、其氏名及了該拓ケ地人カ
答ナシ。

18. 会見者、外務附(地代土地)ノ自発的又内密ニテ保連合ニテ
付ケルカ、其他市民又上長ナリ自発的又強制的ニテ保連合
答ナシ。

19. 会見者、前記干保連合カ階級、位、勲章、賞状又名譽ヲ得
ルタルカ、若シテハ、詳細ニ記スル也。
答ナシ。

20. 会見者、B、C、ノ答ノ例外トシテ会見者、昭和六年
一月一ヨリ干保、幹事干保(心査)公安刑罰会中
干保ナルカ、前記ノ年月日、干保会、及干保中ノ最
高階級、其シテ昭和六年、Bトシテ、Cトシテ、15ヨリ19迄、除キ、
答、何レモナシ。

21. 昭和六年一月一ヨリ命見者カ編輯(題名、氏名)
演説(聴集人員)、干保会カ了報ルテ演説、又編
輯ニタリ、其会又ヲ記スル可シ。

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

R.B.N.9. 正力 松太郎

答 1. ハロフレット 題名「米騒動及大震災ノ
^{7月15日}思出」正力 松太郎 此ハロフレット
ハ 警現總監ノ依頼ニヨリ 警手廳ニ
於テ 警部等500名ニ講演シタルモノハ
筆記ナリ

2. ハロフレット 題名「^心胆^力精神」正力
松太郎 此ハ 次々場所ニ於テ 演説
セルモノハ 要領ナリ
日比谷公會堂：於テ 聴衆2500 言論
報會ノ依頼 青島市教會及甲府
市公會堂 聖堂會ノ依頼 聴衆1000
京都市公會堂 本願寺ノ依頼 聴
衆1500

22. 會見者ニ 正力 松太郎 例外トシテ 昭和六年一月一
日ヨリ 職務トシテ 夫レガ 日本國內又國外ヲ
巡回 管理者及支配人 但令若 役員 年
月日 正力 松太郎 指ス

答 ナリ

Legal Section SHORIKI (9)

(4)

(48)

88
APO 500
30 January 1947
IPS FST/1b

MEMORANDUM TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF

I. THE PROBLEM:

Disposition of SHORIKI, Matsutaro, Internee.

II. FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM:

A. SHORIKI, Matsutaro, was ordered apprehended 1 December 1945 by CIS.

B. SHORIKI, Matsutaro, entered Sugamo Prison on 12 December 1945.

C. Personnel record of subject:

BORN: 11 April 1885.
RANK: Commoner
1911 Jul Graduated from the German Law College of the Imperial University.
1912 Jan 9 Appointed a clerk in the Cabinet; Granted 6th Class Salary.

1912 Nov 9 Passed the Higher Civil Service Examination.
1913 Jun 23 Appointed Police Inspector of the Metropolitan Police, 6th Class Salary.
1914 Jun 20 Appointed Police Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police; Commissioned the 7th Rank of the Higher Civil Service (Cabinet); Granted the 10th Rank Salary (H. M.); Appointed Chief of a Police Station at at Horidome Nihonbashi-ward (H. M.)
1914 Sep 1 Conferred the 7th Class Court Rank, Junior Grade.
1916 Jul 27 Promoted to the 6th Rank of the Higher Civil Service (Cabinet).
1915 Nov 10 Decorated with the Medal in Commemoration of the Imperial Enthronement (Cabinet).
1915 Aug 21 Conferred the 7th Class Court Rank, Senior Grade.
1915 Nov 7 Granted a sum of ¥150 for his meritorious services in the 1914 to 1915 Affair.
1916 Dec 21 Granted the 9th Rank Salary (Home Ministry).

1917 Feb 10 Appointed Chief of Kagurasaka Police Station at Ushigome.
 1917 Sep 1 Appointed Inspector.
 1917 Dec 27 Granted the 8th Rank Salary (H. M.)
 1918 May 31 Granted the 7th Rank Salary (H. M.)
 1918 Dec 8 Promoted to the 5th Rank of the Higher Civil Service (Cabinet)
 1918 Oct 30 Conferred the 6th Court Rank of the Junior Grade.
 1918 Dec 25 Granted the 6th Rank Salary (H. M.)
 1919 Jun 21 Attached to the Police Affairs Department (H. M.)
 1919 Jun 30 Granted the 5th Rank Salary (H. M.)
 1920 Apr 30 Granted the 4th Rank Salary (H. M.)
 1920 Aug 18 The Higher Civil Service Salary Act was revised.
 1921 Mar 31 Granted the 4th Rank Salary (H. M.)
 1920 Nov 1 Decorated with the 6th Order of Merit with the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure for his meritorious service in the World War.
 1921 Jun 3 Appointed Chief of Secretariat of the Metropolitan Police;
 The 4th Rank of the Higher Civil Service (Cabinet);
 Granted the 7th Class Salary (H.M.)
 1921 Jun 23 Appointed a Councillor for Health in the Metropolitan Police (Cabinet).
 1921 Jul 11 Conferred the 6th Class Court Rank of the Senior Grade.
 1921 Dec 15 Granted the 6th Rank Salary (H. M.)
 1922 Dec 15 Granted the 5th Rank Salary.
 1923 Sep 8 Assigned as an Administrative Official in the Temporary Earthquake Disaster Relief Bureau;
 The Post was abolished by the Imperial Edict Number 491 on November 30, 1923 (Cabinet).
 1923 Oct 27 Appointed Chief of the Police Affairs Department of the Metropolitan Police.
 The 4th Rank of the Higher Civil Service (Cabinet).
 1923 Oct 27 Granted the 5th Rank Salary (H. M.)
 1923 Nov 15 Promoted to the 3rd Rank of the Higher Civil Service (Cabinet).
 1923 Dec 15 Granted the 4th Rank Salary (H. M.)
 1924 Jan 7 Relieved from his principal post by the Disciplinary Ordinance for Civil Service (Cabinet)
 1932 Dec 26 Sentenced to 2 months' penal servitude (The execution of the sentence had been suspended for two years) -- a court of appeals in Tokyo.

1936 Oct 20 Assigned as a member of the International Sight-Seeing Committee (Cabinet).
 1938 Dec 14 Assigned as a member of the International Sight-Seeing Committee (Cabinet).
 1943 Jun 23 Appointed a Councillor of the Information Bureau (Cabinet).
 1944 May 18 Appointed member of the House of Peers in accordance with Article 1, Paragraph 4 of the House of Peers Regulations.
 1944 Oct 28 Appointed a Councillor of Cabinet (Cabinet).
 1945 Apr 36 Relieved as a Councillor of Cabinet at his own request.
 1945 Jun 23 Appointed a Councillor of the Information Bureau (Cabinet).
 1945 Dec 13 Relieved as Councillor of the Information Bureau at his own request (Cabinet).

D. Memorandum from Civil Information and Education Section reflects the following:

(1) SHORIKI, Matsutaro.

President of Yomiuri Shimbun. Also president of Sanin Shimbun, Shizuoka Shimpo, and Karafuto Shimbun.

Formerly: Chief of the Secretariat, Metropolitan Police Board; Chief of the Secret Service Section, Metropolitan Police Board; Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau, Metropolitan Police Board; Auditor of Japan Newsreel Co.; Director, Tokyo Baseball Club; Member of the Board of Directors, IRAA.

Born 1885. Studied German law at Tokyo Imperial University. Graduated in 1911. Holder of the sixth grade of the first court rank, and the sixth grade of the Order of Merit.

(2) Suppression of News Stories.

The president (TN: SHORIKI), the vice-president (TN: TAKAHASHI), and chief of the Editorial Bureau (TN: CHUMAN) belittled the story (written by SAKUMA of the Political Department on the Imperial Rule Assistance Association several times since April 1944, and banned the insertion of a similar article thereafter.

In 1944 SHORIKI reprimanded SAKUMA, a journalist of the Political Department for an article on the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

In Feb. 1944 the president, stating "This is beyond discussion," forcibly suppressed the article submitted by a journalist (SAKUMA) in charge of political parties and did not permit publication of it. The contents of this article criticized the power politics of the TOJO Cabinet circumlocutionally and demanded that the administration be carried out by a democratic party selected by the free will of the people.

For the past several years, the president proscribed publication of an article concerning Mr. GINJIRO FUJIWARA's political activities in the Yomiuri capitalistic net, permitting complimentary articles advantageous to FUJIWARA to be printed and banning uncomplimentary articles. Frequently the Chief of the Political Department was reprimanded by the president at the Department Chief's conference because of a similar matter. Due to such suppression and concomitant fear of dismissal, such plans and attempts had to be abandoned.

* * * * *

Early in October 1945, bigwigs of the company -- the president, the vice-president, and Chief of the Editorial Bureau -- scratched a contribution written by MANABU SATO (a leader of the former Japan Communist Party). The theme of the article was the establishment of a democratic government in Japan. The reason was that newspapers in Japan must not become too free as yet.

* * * * *

At a Department Chiefs Meeting on 26 September 1945, SHORIKI, the president, reprimanded BANNO, Chief of the Economic Department stating: "Dissolution of the Zaibatsu, etc. is too radical and improper." This referred to an article entitled "Dissolution of Japan's Huge Industries,

Mitsubishi, Mitsui, etc." giving the views expressed by Mr. EDWIN PAULEY, American representative of the Allied Reparations Commission and printed in YOMIURI 22 September 1945.

In regard to an article stressing the withdrawal of those who were war leaders taken from a story entitled "Young Men - Save the Country," describing an interview between the Chief of Staff, Gen. Sutherland, and YOSHIO KODAMA, and adviser to the former Prince HIGASHI-KUNI's Cabinet, SHORIKI, reprimanded CHUMAN, Chief of the Editorial Bureau, saying, "I was criticized by my friends for this article". CHUMAN reprimanded the author in turn. (Story appeared on page 2, Yomiuri 22 September 1945.)

* * * * *

OGAWA, Chief of the Society Department, was warned in the latter part of September 1945 not to select as a subject one exposing TOJO's military clique inasmuch as this was the policy of the main office, hence it was in effect impossible for the Society Department to print such an article.

E. (1) CIS files reflect the following information concerning the subject as of 4 December 1945:

A former chief of the Criminal Bureau of the Metropolitan Police Bureau and since 1924 President of Yomiuri Shimbun (this newspaper later amalgamated with the Hochi Shimbun which he also owned).

According to OSS report SHORIKI became notorious for his activities when chief of the secretariat of the Metropolitan Police, Tokyo, by his ruthless treatment of political thought cases and by ordering raids on universities and colleges. He was the first senior police official to institute such raids on educational institutions.

As proprietor of the Yomiuri Shimbun he strongly backed the Axis and urged Japanese adherence to the Tri-Partite Alliance. He is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and was known to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan. He made of his newspaper the chief Army organ and through its wide circulation he actively promoted militaristic propaganda in Japan immediately preceding Pearl Harbor. He victimized newspaper men who did not see eye to eye

with his pro-Axis policies.

He was one of the most important journalists who actively propagated the Axis cause before the war and energetically supported it through the war. With the large circulation which his newspaper enjoyed he ought to be regarded as one of the most evil influences in poisoning the public mind. He is now resisting efforts by junior staff to remove him from control of Yomiuri because of pro-military record.

(2) A review of the CIS files by William A. Hardy, Special Agent, on 12 January 1946, revealed the following additional information concerning the subject:

Position in Cabinet Advisory Group was to participate directly in the Council of State rather than to serve as merely a consultant. He was a Councillor in IRRA and IRAPS. (Information Bureau of IRRA). On the last day of the GEA press conference he was named chairman of the organizing committee for drafting the regulations of the GEA Press Federation. Was present at a Mass rally on 7 March 1944 at Hibiya Hall. Meeting was sponsored by Domei News Agency and Metropolitan Journals, and was of a propaganda nature. FURUNO read the Imperial Rescript of Japan's declaration of war on United States and Great Britain. Was appointed Imperial-Nominated member of the House of Peers. Was invited by the government to the official residence of the Premier on 3 October 1944 for a meeting. (Source: OSS File.) One of five former councillors of the Board of Information who will remain in office. (Source: FCC Daily Report dated 8 June 1945.) Former Chief of Criminal Bureau of Tokyo Metropolitan Police Board, resigning 1924. (Source: Who's Who List, MOI, New Delhi, 15 May 1944.) Has rendered distinguished services in propagandizing thoughts. (Source: FCC Daily Report dated 19 May 1944.) Received a silver cup from the Emperor of Japan for outstanding service to his country in the war. (Source FCC Daily Report dated 13 September 1944.) Veteran Newspaperman and Committeeman, Central Liaison Hq.; National movement to Arouse People to Action. (Source F, 29 March 1944.) It is noteworthy that he has been appointed Cabinet Adviser to represent the Press. (Source: RT 28 October 1944.)

Chief of the Secretariat of the Metropolitan Police in Tokyo at the time of the rice riots and took a firm hand with this agitation; particularly distinguished himself in his handling of the political thought problems by ordering the raids on Universities and Colleges which had hitherto been regarded as inviolable; was forced to take the blame for the Toranomon incident and retire from public office. Entered the field of journalism through Baron GO Seinosuke and through the generous loan of Count GOTO and introduced a great many new features to Japanese journalism; promoted the visit of American Major League baseball players to Japan in 1931 and organized the Japanese 'Giants', the first professional baseball team in Japan; built the lawn tennis stadium in Tokyo and invited aces such as Tilden and Vines to give exhibition games there. (Source: Goto Kunihiro in Contemporary Japan, October 1940, p. 1275.)

F. OTHER FACTS REFLECTED IN THE FILE:

- (1) HIROSHI, Hosoda, of the Editorial Staff of the Yomiuri newspaper office, in a letter addressed to Civil Affairs Bureau, Investigation Section, General Headquarters, Allied Forces, charged that the subject, in collusion with TOJO, used the newspaper for instigation war and restricted the editorial freedom of the editors. A copy of this letter is attached and is marked "Tab-A".
- (2) On 24 January 1946 Mr. Solis Horwitz and Mr. Henry A. Hauxhurst, Assistant Counsel, IPS, interviewed TAKAHASHI, Yusai, former vice president of the Yomiuri-Hochi Shimbun. TAKAHASHI advised that the subject was concerned with the financial management of the business of the newspaper and did not interfere with the policy of the newspaper. He said that any control that the Cabinet Information Board had over the newspaper was handled through the Chief Editor (Henshu Kyoku Cho). He contended that the newspaper generally followed the government policy, though it was critical of the government in minor matters. Articles written by free thinkers were published until they were made to stop by the government. SHORIKI, in his private conversations, he said, expressed the view that the army moved too fast in China, and that he was opposed to war with the United States. TAKAHASHI further stated that although the subject attended the daily staff meetings of the heads of departments, he interfered very little with the operation of the paper, and that such problems as complaints by the Board of Information never came up to the SHORIKI level. A report of this interview is attached marked "Tab-B."

(3) The subject was interrogated by Mr. H. A. Hauxhurst and Solis Horwitz, Assistant Counsel, IPS, on 21 January 1946 and 23 January 1946. In the course of his interrogation SHORIKI, Matsutaro, said, relative to news reports regarding the Manchurian Incident, that he wrote as the Military Intelligence and the Home Office told him to write. At first, he declared, the government did not care much about what was written, but gradually it became very strict, and the papers were told to write propaganda with respect to China. These matters he said, were handled through his military editor and not through him. He contended that he did not approve of the government's position toward the China Incident, but that his newspaper published what it was directed to publish.

(4) In an interview with TAKATA, Motosaburi, formerly with the Manichi newspaper, the subject was pictured as a person not in sympathy with aggression in China, although it was admitted that he had close connection with TOJO. The subject's statement as to governmental control of newspapers in Japan was confirmed. A copy of this interview is attached marked "Tab-C".

(5) Conferences with KATO, Mitsu, and MATSUKATA, Saburo, developed the fact that subject was governed entirely in the policies of his paper by the censorship of the Japanese Government, and that he personally was not in favor of aggression in China.

(6) A conference was held with SUZUKI, Tomin, present Chief Editor of the Yomiuri, from which it appeared that he was among the employees who insisted upon SHORIKI's retirement from the management and as president of the paper because of the differences arising between him and the employees over labor disputes. SUZUKI was unable to state definitely what SHORIKI's personal opinions were so far as aggression into China was concerned. He stated further that SHORIKI's men tried hard to make him look like a war criminal, but that he did not believe the subject had any connection with TOJO's policies.

(7) In an analysis of IPS Document 597, a scrapbook entitled, "Before the Organization of the First Cooperative Conference," of 8 June 1941, the subject is reported to have made an address in which he said that so far the propaganda had been inadequate and therefore the people were losing their enthusiasm for the government, and that the newspapers were ready to help anybody who wanted to encourage the people.

(8) In an analysis of IPS Document No. 595, entitled, "Truth of the Controversy of the Yomiuri Shimbun," published after VJ Day, appears a statement that SHORIKI's war responsibility should be carried jointly by the executives and the editorial staff. It also contains a statement by SHORIKI that he had not advocated the views of the army and cited instances of his opposition to army control over newspapers.

(9) The subject submitted written statements in which he attempted to answer the charges made by the employees of his newspaper, and in which he described the labor strife on the part of the employees of his newspaper. A copy of these statements is attached hereto marked "Tab-D".

(10) An additional argument in defense of SHORIKI was filed by his attorney in December 1946. A copy is attached hereto marked "Tab-E".

III. DISCUSSION.

The investigation of the subject was occasioned principally by the complaint made by employees of the subject's newspaper, which at the time was involved in a serious strike. Although Hiroshi NOSODA, of the Editorial Staff of the newspaper, in general terms, charged misuse of the newspaper throughout the China Incident in collusion with Prime Minister Hideki TOJO, the remaining charges relate to matters arising in 1944 and 1945, most of which were related to labor difficulties.

It is true that during the war, at all times after 1937, this subject's newspaper carried propaganda, but the same is true of other important newspapers in Japan, and particularly, in Tokyo. It is obvious that no newspaper could continue to operate during the period from 1937 until the end of the war without submitting to rigid censorship and passing out required propaganda.

The subject unquestionably performed valuable services for his government during the war time period, but the evidence now available does not appear to warrant the conclusion that there is a reasonable possibility of his being tried as a major war criminal by the International Tribunal.

From the character of the investigation conducted it is not believed that additional evidence of a substantial nature will be obtained which would alter the recommendation hereinafter made.

IV. RECOMMENDATION.

On the basis of the evidence now available, it is recommended that the subject be released at once from custody, with the understanding that it will not prejudice future prosecutive action should additional evidence be obtained.

WILLIS E. MAHONEY
Executive Assistant to the Chief
of Counsel

TAB-A--Copy of letter from "Biographies
of Prominent Japanese" in file at CIS,
from Hiroshi Hosoda.

TAB-B--Copy of report by Mr. Solis Horwitz.

TAB-C--Copy of report by Mr. Henry A. Hauxhurst.

TAB-D--Copy of "Brief Autobiography of Matsutaro SHORIKI",
and copy of "My Resignation from Presidency of the
Yomiuri", by Matsutaro SHORIKI.

TAB-E--Copy of argument in defense of SHORIKI
filed by his attorney in December 1946.

TO : Civil Affairs Bureau, Investigation Section
General Headquarters, Allied Forces
Dai Ichi Building, Youraku-cho
Kojimiachi-ku, Tokyo.

FROM : Hiroshi Hosoda
Connection Office, Editorial Staff
Yomiuri Newspaper Office

SUBJECT: Investigation of the Firm and Proposals in its Charge.

TAB
A

With the rise of a clear public opinion, the establishment of a new born Japan has become strongly entrenched in an awakened public, however, in taking this opportunity, I believe we should investigate the internal conditions of newspaper firms which are purveyors of public opinion and if there is any semblance of the old order, we should endeavor to reform immediately.

Leaving out the smaller newspaper firms of this area in this problem, the state of the Yomiuri, which is the most popular firm of the three self-appointed leaders, the Asahi, Mainichi, and the Yomiuri, in the news world of Japan, will be completely given. More than a quick investigation, we wish to reform quickly and replace the Yomiuri with the public.

The Yomiuri was the personal agency of Matsutaro SHORIKI since its establishment, and at one time developed into a popular representative paper of the three leading firms, receiving full support of the public. SHORIKI's policy was to always misuse the paper and plot for his own desires. For example, from the time of the China Incident through the Great Eastern War, SHORIKI was in collusion with the former Premier Hideki TOJO, and used the paper as a War instigator in this shameful war. And as compensation, he received the position of adviser to Premier TOJO's Cabinet and as an Imperial nominee. In particular he oppressed the liberties of a news editor with a fair newspaper spirit and printed his thorough support of this shameful war.

Moreover, those who cooperated fully with the firm were Yusai Takahashi, vice-president, and the managing staff. That is, they became department heads. The writers who believed in fair play, naturally left the firm which numbered several hundred. Such being the case, the ordinary course of the firm was not a representative organ of public opinion but was used as an instrument in benefiting SHORIKI personally and the employees, excluding the managing staff, were like robots who could not publicize individual freedom and at present still maintains pressure even after the conclusion of the War.

In reference, the salary of the employees was forty to fifty percent less in comparison with the Asahi and the Mainichi, and even more so, was less than that of other small newspapers. The majority of the employees were near starvation, though they worked eagerly for the day of free press to open.

The functions of even the branch offices established throughout the nation was to cooperate with the regional army officials and instigate the people to war; and though the lack of paper has caused a stoppage in publication in the various prefectures after the War, even today, the branch officials chiefly are using their official powers, conspiring with evil officials of the community, becoming large scale brokers in army material obtained with the dissolution of the army which are to be distributed to the war victims, and have fomented ill feeling in the community. In one particular example, I know for a fact that the former "thought-control" official of Yamanashi Prefecture took five sacks of sugar (I asked for an investigation) at a certain place, and those branch officials who aided in the matter received some of the sugar, the evidence becoming lost in the division.

Thus, I believe that leaving things in their present state is detrimental to a new Japan. Moreover, the person who took part in the affair became a member of the Yomiuri editorial staff.

I desire the following action to be taken after an investigation:

1. Punishment of Matsutaro SHORIKI, (general manager of the Yomiuri Firm) and also the branch managers, as war criminals.
2. Reformation of the firm's personnel.
3. Appointment of competent young journalists with the change to a free press in the editing.
4. Dismissal of branch managers.
5. To change the staff with the appointment of competent young journalists as branch managers.
6. To strengthen the firm by restoring competent reporters who were retired.
7. With the reform, to revive the various regional firms.
8. To change the salary so that the employees can live in security.

FILE NO.: 181 REPORT BY: Solis Horwitz
 RE : SHORIKI, Matsutaro STATUS :
 DATE : 25 January 1946

On Thursday, 24 January 1946, TAKAHASHI, Yusai, former vice-president of the Yomiuri-Hochi Shimbun, was interviewed by Messrs. Hauxhurst and Horwitz. TAKAHASHI came to the office at our request to pick up a list which had been prepared by SHORIKI, Matsutaro, of the pamphlets written by him. A translation of this list appears in the interrogation of SHORIKI of 23 January 1946. TAB B

TAKAHASHI was connected with the Yomiuri Shimbun, and the later consolidated Yomiuri-Hochi Shimbun for a period of thirteen years, leaving its employ late in 1945 at the time of SHORIKI's resignation as president. For the first two and one-half years of his employment he worked in the foreign news department, but switched over to the editorial department, becoming the chief editorial writer for the last seven years of his employment. In 1942, upon the incorporation of the paper, TAKAHASHI became vice-president of the corporation but retained his position as chief editorial writer.

In order to determine what editorials should be written and published in the paper, TAKAHASHI held daily morning conferences with the other editorial writers to determine what issues of the day required comment. If it was on a matter requiring special knowledge, the matter was turned over to the specialist in that field. However, the editorial policy of the paper was restricted by the control of the Cabinet Information Board. This Board sometimes issued orders as to policy but in other matters, where no direct orders had been issued, when the matter was deemed of importance, it was submitted in advance to the Board for censorship. This Board came into existence after the China Incident.

SHORIKI himself was concerned with the financial management of the business and did not interfere with the policy of the newspaper. Policy was a matter to be decided by the Henshu Kyoku Cho (the chief editor of the paper.) Any control the Cabinet Information Board had over the paper was handled through this official of the paper. This office was held by the following persons: SHIKATA, Katsue, now living in Masada; MIYAZAKI, Mitsuo, now living in Kamakura; NAKAMITSU, Yoshichika, now living in Tokyo. The present incumbent is SUZUKI, Tomin.

The complaints of the Cabinet Board of Information were not made to SHORIKI or to TAKAHASHI, but were handled in one of the four following matters:

(1) The most common method used was for the Board of Information to complain to the reporters at the daily newspaper conferences. These were reported back to the Henshukyokucho by the reporters either by telephone or in personal reports.

(2) Weekly conferences of the Henshukyokucho of all newspapers were held by the Board of Information.

(3) Occasional conferences were held by the Board of Information with the heads of the political news divisions of all newspapers; who in turn reported complaints to the Henshukyokucho.

(4) In cases of vital importance, the Board of Information would call the Henshukyokucho directly on the telephone.

The Head of the Board of Information prior to the second Konoye Cabinet was YOKOMIGO. During the second and third Konoye Cabinets, it was ITO Nobusumi (Jusshi); and during the TOJO Cabinet, the head was TANI, Masayuki.

Prior to 1940 the Yomiuri Shimbun was a partnership. Beginning in 1940 over a period of one year all the other partners were bought out and SHORIKI became the sole owner. In 1942, he incorporated the paper as a Yugen Kaisha with a paid-up capitalization 7,000,000 yen, all of which was owned by him. Of this amount, approximately 3,500,000 was retained by SHORIKI. The remaining 3,515,000 yen were distributed as follows:

(1) 2,000,000 Yen were put in the name of TAKAHASHI as head of the SHORIKI Foundation for the welfare and benefit of the employees of the paper.

(2) 1,000,000 Yen were divided up among employees, then employed or formerly employed, with ten years' service or special service. Of this amount TAKAHASHI personally received 90,000 Yen.

(3) 150,000 Yen was divided subsequently among employees who later qualified.

(4) 365,000 Yen is held in the name of TAKAHASHI for distribution to other qualified employees that SHORIKI may designate.

When SHORIKI took over the paper in 1924, the circulation was not in excess of 50,000 and he had built it up to 1,800,000. TAKAHASHI will obtain profit and loss statements of paper for us. SHORIKI never received any money from the government nor does TAKAHASHI know of any incidents where the reporters of the paper were bribed by the government. Some of the reporters may have been

entertained by government officials, but this was not customarily done in the case of the big papers. So far as TAKAHASHI knows, SHORIKI received no moneys from politicians or capitalists except the investments and loans all of which has been repaid. That SHORIKI when he left office as Chief of the Uniformed Police Force of the Metropolitan Police of Tokyo in 1924 had no money of his own and borrowed 100,000 Yen from Count Goto to get started. This was repaid. That in financial matters, SHORIKI was a man of strict principles.

TAKAHASHI stated that while the paper generally followed the government policy, it was critical of the government in minor matters. That even up to the very end they published articles written by free thinkers like BABA, the present president until they were made to stop doing so by the government.

That SHORIKI, in their private conversations, thought that the army moved too fast in China and that he was opposed to war with the United States.

That SHORIKI attended the daily staff meeting of the heads of departments but interfered very little with the operation of the paper. When he did, it was to say that an article was well done. Problems of Board of Information complaint never came up to the SHORIKI level.

The SHORIKI note was then handed to TAKAHASHI and he agreed to bring the items listed immediately and if all were not immediately available to bring such parts as were available at once and the rest when it became available.

(Signed) Solis Horwitz

SOLIS HORWITZ
Trial and Legal Staff.

FILE NO. 181

REPORT BY: Henry A. Hauxhurst

SUBJECT: SHORIKI, Matsutaro

DATE : 25 February 1946

Conference with TAKATA, Motosaburi, formerly with Manichi Newspaper, now retired and planning to write translations of American paper news items.

Knows SHORIKI former President YOMIURI-HOCHI Newspaper in Japan. TAKATA believes SHORIKI was not in sympathy with aggression in China, although he had close connections with TOJO. He confirms SHORIKI statement as to Governmental control of newspapers in Japan and feels that not only SHORIKI's papers supported the Government Policies but all of the rest of the papers had to do the same thing. Did not and does not believe the report that SHORIKI was getting money from the German Embassy. The only difference between SHORIKI's papers and the others was that SHORIKI was supposed to have a close connection with TOJO. No reason why he should be in prison than the other newspaper men. If SHORIKI picked out for prison all others should be too. Believes SHORIKI was personally opposed to going into China and was against aggression.

(Signed) Henry A. Hauxhurst Atty

BRIEF AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MATSUTARO SHORIKI
AND
HIS DEFENSE

I am 61 years old, being born in 1885.

I am a graduate from the Law Department of the Tokyo Imperial University in 1911.

I entered newspaper profession in February, 1924, becoming president of the Yomiuri Shimbun of Tokyo, and continuing in that capacity until December, 1945, when I resigned after my arrest as a war criminal by the SCAP authorities.

The Yomiuri has now a daily circulation of 1,600,000 copies, which is what I have built up mainly through my personal effort from a daily which had a circulation of 56,000 copies in 1924 when I took charge of the publication. The paper has grown up into one of the three leading newspapers in Tokyo, the others being the Asahi and the Mainichi.

The Yomiuri was, and is even now, an independent newspaper, never having been an organ of any political party, not speaking of a mouthpiece for the military clique at any time, but always having stood in bad terms with them. Nor have I myself ever been in politics. Only in 1940 did I become a director of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, and this was done merely to allow my name to appear with those of other prominent persons, thinking that it was for the best interest of my paper.

I never had any relation with any of the thought movements which were prevalent in the pre-war days and even after. But, to tell you the truth, I was a born student and confirmed advocate of liberalism, and consequently the military never liked me, particularly I had to stand in a bad light with Army Information Bureau. In fact, it was this latter office that tried in every possible way to make me retire from the newspaper during the war, but in vain. In this I can produce any number of evidence to prove that I fought my hardest against the militarism and ultra-nationalism.

As an illustration, the Army's gesture to oust me from the newspaper business was reflected in a citation which took me in custody filed against me by the Tokyo Gendarmerie in 1943 for my paper's having in possession a short-wave radio receiver. They claimed it was in violation of the Government ban while they knew the other newspapers, like the Asahi and the Mainichi, installed a set of short-wave receiver. As I anticipated, during the course of my examination the Gendarmerie Chief told me that the case against me would be dropped if I resigned from the Yomiuri presidency, which I flatly refused to comply with.

To show you how anxious I was to advance the cause of internationalism, the Yomiuri entered into an agreement with the Hearst Newspaper Organization in January, 1933, for the exchange of news, both national and international. This continued until December 8, 1941, when the Pacific war broke out.

The Yomiuri was opposed to Japan's joining hands with Germany. This was evidenced from the fact that soon after the signing of the German-Japanese anti-communistic pact in November, 1936, the following comment appeared in the November 26 issue of the Yomiuri evening edition:

"Why was it necessary for Japan to cooperate with Germany alone? It is indeed a shame for Japan to sink to the standing of Czecho-Slovakia or Rumania. What a foolish policy to place her between Scylla and Charybdis! The step she took does not stand to reason because, while she advocates the parliamentary system, her travelling companion is now Fascism."

Let me briefly dwell here on how the military tried to stragulate the newspapers. With the outbreak of China Incident the Government clamped down on our life-line, namely on newsprint, as the quickest way to strangle the freedom of the press. On the claim of paper shortage, the Government set up its Paper Control Committee, with the understanding that the newsprint was actually to be distributed to the military. The result was that all those newspapers which did not comply with the wish of the Army authorities were restricted or suspended altogether of their newsprint ration. Furthermore, just prior to the Pacific war the Government submitted to the newspapers a plan for a merge of their capital, a plan tyrannical to say the least.

The aim was to set up newspapers in various localities operating under a sort of subsidiary and taking orders from the military, as it was done in Germany under the Nazi system. Against this control I said I will fight to death, and I succeeded in having the plan of control shelved. The general impression at this time held among the military and bureaucrats was that I was the main obstacle standing directly in the path to newspaper control.

Along November, 1945, after the close of the war, a possible suspicion was perceived as falling on me as a war suspect for the Yomiuri's having made a radiophone call to Hawaii on the eve of the Pearl Harbor raid. In this connection three SCAP officers called on me at that time and questioned me thus:

"The Yomiuri Shimbun made a radiophone call to Hawaii on December 6, 1941, (on the eve of the Pearl Harbor attack) and had a conversation to find out about the Hawaiian situation, particularly about military affairs there at that time. Why did the Yomiuri make that call? Was it at the request of the military?"

My explanation was that when the question was asked I was rather surprised for I never remembered such a call to Hawaii. However, upon investigation I soon found out that the call was made at the suggestion of the Social Department of the paper as a part of the routine and without my knowledge, like other papers were doing in those days of tension.

As to the military request for making such a call, there was none at all. If there was any report to that effect, it was absolutely false for, to start with, I had no intimate friends in the Army, and moreover I stood in bad terms with the military leaders as stated above. It stands to reason that preparations for the Pearl Harbor raid were guarded with utmost secrecy and that no Army or Navy could have been foolish enough to request the newspaper---most sensitive about such matters---to make radio-calls to Hawaii or to Manila.

It is common knowledge that the Yomiuri strikers are making slanderous charges against me. Instead of trying here to clear myself of charges against my personal affairs, let me refute the allegations that I have exploited or enslaved the employees. As a token of my appreciation of their work I donated one-half of the Yomiuri Shimbun Company capital stocks in 1942 for the benefit of the employees. In other words, where I used to possess all of the stocks up to that time, totaling 70,000 shares at 100 Yen per share, I donated 20,000 of them with a total value of 2,000,000 Yen to the Employees' Welfare Foundation. And in addition to this, I gave 15,000 shares out of the remainder, amounting to 1,500,000 Yen, as a gift to those who have rendered particularly valuable service to the firm among the employees having more than 10 years of service records. Thus, I have reserved for myself one-half of the stocks or 35,000 shares. This ought to tell the whole story whether I have mistreated my employees or not.

Now above are the true facts which can be proven with any number of witnesses and evidence, and in addition thereto your Investigation Section has the record of what transpired at my investigation and examination. If any further investigation was needed, I would welcome for it. But on the whole, I am perfectly satisfied that I am absolutely clear of any war crime charge.

Lastly, it is my earnest appeal that the SCAP authorities concerned will immediately dismiss my case for I am badly needed to look into the strike situation at the Yomiuri, which, as you are aware, is getting aggravated. The way the things stand and are drifting at the publication is indeed a disgrace to our profession and community, which should be corrected without any delay. In fact, the life of the Yomiuri Shimbun itself is at stake.

If the case against me could not yet be dismissed, I would request you to permit me to a bail for which I can assure you that my substantial friends will go on the security.

This is not only my own appeal but also that of my employees and friends who are most anxious to see me freed, so that I can attend to the affairs of the publication, looking towards the part it may play in the reconstruction of our country on democratic basis.

In conclusion, your magnanimous and favorable consideration of my appeal is earnestly sought by all concerned, including my family.

Dated June 28, 1946.

MY RESIGNATION FROM PRESIDENCY OF THE YOMIURI

By Matsutaro Shoriki

I resigned from presidency of the Yomiuri Shimbun in December, 1945. It was a result of the dispute which arose in October, 1945, between our disgruntled employees on one hand and myself and my official staff on the other that forced me to quit the paper. The newspaper in question was what I had built up mainly through my personal devotion from a daily circulation of 65,000 copies in 1924 when I took charge of it to a 1,600,000 daily in December, 1945, when I resigned.

As to the dispute, those dissatisfied men stood for democratization of the paper's policy as an essential post-war condition, but openly claimed that because the paper had failed to acquaint the public with true facts concerning the war I and my official staff should forthwith withdraw from it out of responsibility. This was their presumptuous charge notwithstanding the fact that however we may have tried to report the truth we were heavily censored by the Government at the instance of the military.

Of these charges, however, as far as the democratization of the paper's policy was concerned, I could perfectly agree with them; but anything like my quitting of the presidency was quite a different matter. For one thing there was a big reconstruction work being under plan of our main building and shops which were destroyed in the air raids of May, 1945. So it was entirely out of the question that I could consider my resignation, let alone that of my staff, until the rebuilding was completed. In the meantime, an idea came upon me for a fair settlement agreeable to all the parties concerned, I decided to leave the whole matter with the Arbitration Committee of Tokyo Metropolis, which body I understood was created for this very purpose.

As to the motive of those dissatisfied employees, I could perceive what was working behind the strike. They were backed up by the Communist Party of Japan with the latter's hope to wrench away from us the management of the paper, so as to put the whole publication under its control as a powerful political weapon. Of course some radical writers were to be put on our editorial staff. Their sinister motive, as I saw it, was reflected in what they did after eventually they took possession of the paper---in their editorial policy, in the organization of an employees' union inside the publication, and in the meddling of employees' personal affairs.

What could I do when I perceived this unsavory tendency but to stress my view at the meeting of the Arbitration Committee. I said: "Under no circumstances will I permit their intrigue to seize our paper's managerial right." So on this assumption yet in the spirit of compromise, I recommended at the meeting the appointment of Mr. Tsunego Baba as my successor. It was common knowledge that

Mr. Baba was a foremost liberal newspaper man in Japan. And to assist him I kept intact a portion of my official staff. Under this arrangement, which was acceptable to the union, the managerial right was retained and held by the president's side. In addition to this, I approved the creation of an Operation Council at the publication as an organ to work in the adjustment of capital and labor differences. Thus attaining the settlement of the dispute, I resigned from the paper in December, 1945.

Besides this concession I submitted to the Arbitration Committee some other propositions, all looking towards an amicable settlement of any possible dispute of the present kind. In doing this I looked for a judgment by the general public passed on what I was doing towards my former employees.

But in spite of all this, the strike situation became very much aggravated, especially so after I was taken to Sugamo as a war crime suspect. This was seen, as stated above, in their undue interference with our publication policy and also even in the meddling of employees' personal affairs against the president's order.

As the situation became unbearable, president Baba was finally forced to take a determined step to end the whole mess. He discharged six leading writers including Tomio SUZUKI. These men were the leaders in strike from the beginning of the trouble, and some of them belonged to the Communist Party. The ousting of these men necessitated us to ask for police protection because the discharged would not peacefully stay away but daring to return to their old jobs caused the management a considerable trouble.

It is absurd to think that these discharged and their old followers would rest without bringing on further troubles against the paper for most of them are radicals, being members of the Communist Party and also of the All-Japan Reporters and Radio-Workers Union. It was indeed this latter body raising a hue and cry against the paper, rather against president Baba for his act of discharging these men. As it is, the fight is between the Yomiuri Shimbun and the All-Japan Reporters and Radio-Workers Union.

There is no question that these trouble-makers are taking advantage of my incarceration at Sugamo. They know that I am incapacitated although I am the biggest stockholder of the company, and they would not care if they should wreck the whole publication through continuation of this unsettled situation. And for its clarification and satisfactory settlement my presence is badly needed, and the sooner it is attained the better will it be all around. For my influence, though not being actually connected with the paper, as I am the holder of the largest financial interest and the one who had built up the publication into the present size, will

undoubtedly go a long way to attain that end. In a larger sense, a clarified and sound situation will tend to help promote the democratic reconstruction of our country through the paper's free, untrammelled and constructive endeavours.

Against my fervent prayer, as everybody knows, our men went on strike again, starting from July 13, 1946. From this the publication of the paper has been stopped since then, to the great inconvenience of our subscribers and the public in general.

It is my sincere hope and wish that the SCAP authorities concerned with my legal case will see the strike situation as it is and as it most likely will be and act for the best interest of the community in which the paper plays an important part. For this my release will be a great help and deeply appreciated by the stockholders and friends of the concern and over a majority of the 2,000 employees of the publication.

Dated July 15, 1946.

RE SHORIKI CASE

Let us explain why and how Mr. Shoriki was criticized by his own newspaper, the Yomiuri Shimbun of Tokyo. This was rather an unusual thing.

He was unjustly criticized, and in some instances falsely accused with malice, by his editorial staff. This took place continuously during the first Yomiuri strike which lasted from the middle of October to the latter part of November, 1945.

Why then his editors were sore at him, their chief, the then president of the Yomiuri Shimbun, Ltd.? The cause lay in the difference of ideologies. The disgruntled claimed their chief was too "bossy," being too dictatorial which was incompatible with the times when the country was in the thick of democratization. But Shoriki stood on his ground for the simple reason that the newspaper was his own, which he had built up through his grit and sheer effort within less than two decades from an insignificant publication into the leading metropolitan daily. Like Mr. William R. Hearst, he wanted to be his own boss. This plunged the paper into a nasty strike in which his editorial staff led by Tomin Suzuki, a German-bred Communist who was married to a German wife, went to an extended tirade against him.

During the strike Shoriki was powerless to muzzle his editorial staff or control their pen because they took possession of the editorial department by force. The strike was more like a revolution on a small scale.

As an instance of false accusation, Shoriki was pictured as being very friendly with German Ambassador Ott and even accepting money from the Embassy. To rebut this, Shoriki says that he knew Ott in the same way as the other newspaper men knew him, and no more. His acquaintance with him was not personal but purely in a professional way. As to Shoriki's acceptance of money from the German Embassy, it was a fabrication, pure and simple, for he had a glowing business and did not need any such money.

Another instance of malicious accusation was that Shoriki was made a member of the House of Peers during the war-time because he had bowed down to the militarists. This was not true, says Shoriki. His membership in the upper house was created solely on the ground of his professional merits. At the time this was created, as to another reason, was that Mr. Murayama of the Asahi and Mr. Motoyama of the Mainichi, both old members of the House of Peers, had died and there was

vacancy to be filled by a veteran newspaper man. Shoriki never bowed down to the militarists, but on the contrary, to show his true self, it was Shoriki who fought single-handed against the merge of the leading metropolitan newspapers during the war-time, and this at the risk of his life. The merge was what was proposed by the militarists for their propaganda purpose. When the other leading papers were about to bow down, Shoriki would not budge an inch; but succeeding in lining up the others to his views, he was able finally to defeat the militarists' proposition. This is indicative of his true attitude towards the militarists during the war.

The strike was ended in the latter part of November when Shoriki reluctantly stepped out of the Yomiuri and appointed his friend Baba, the present president, as his successor, while his accusers were left intact. This Shoriki did mainly for business reason and out of his inborn magnanimity. At that, however, he never compromised with Communism. If he could anticipate that this settlement would eventually lead to the second strike, which lasted from June to October, 1946, he may possibly have acted differently.

It must be remembered that after the settlement of the first strike Shoriki was never criticized by his former accusers, although it might have been possible that he was arrested for war crimes on the ground of these accusations---the accusations which continuously ran for a month, airing about falsely and maliciously his professional and personal conducts.

What became of his former accusers? All of them numbering five were discharged at the settlement of the second strike. At this settlement, besides those five, thirty one of their followers were also discharged from the Yomiuri employment, while about four hundred strikers were re-instated. All those who were discharged received a sort of retiring allowance, thus ending amicably a long standing newspaper strike.

End

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

~~UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC~~
FAR EAST COMMAND

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File No:

Subject: SHORIKI Matsutaro, Internee in Sugamo Prison

Note
No.

From: G-2

To: Legal Section, Inves Div Date: 9 MAY 1947

Info Copy To: IPS, Investigation Div

GB/CIS/OD:TPD/FAF/mk

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1. Curriculum Vitae of SHORIKI Matsutaro (TAB A) indicates that he was a man of undistinguished ancestors whose promising civil service career was terminated over the Namba Incident in 1923. Subsequently, he entered the newspaper field as a business, achieved phenomenal success, and eventually became involved in the Imperial Rule Assistance organizations and the Cabinet Information Board.

2. "Japanese Government Officials - 1937-1945", published by Military Intelligence Division, War Department, Washington, D.C., 21 July 1945, evaluates SHORIKI as per TAB B.

3. Evaluation of SHORIKI at the time of his arrest in December 1945 reads as per TAB C.

4. Direct and implied accusations embodied in these documents (TABs B and C) are as follows:

a. "Member of Preparatory Committee charged with working out details of organizing IRAA in 1940."

b. "According to OSS report SHORIKI became notorious for his activities when chief of the secretariat of the Metropolitan Police, Tokyo, by his ruthless treatment of political thought cases and by ordering raids on universities and colleges. He was the first senior police official to institute such raids on educational institutions."

c. "As proprietor of the Yomiuri Shimbun he strongly backed the Axis and urged Japanese adherence to the Tri-Partite Alliance. He is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and was known to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan. He made of his newspaper the chief Army organ and through its wide circulation he actively promoted militaristic propaganda in Japan immediately preceding Pearl Harbor. He victimized newspaper men who did not see eye to eye with his pro-Axis policies."

d. "He was one of the most important journalists who actively propagated the Axis cause before the war and energetically supported it through the war. With the large circulation which his newspaper enjoyed he ought to be regarded as one of the most evil influences in poisoning the public mind."

e. "He is now resisting efforts by junior staff to remove him from control of Yomiuri because of pro-military record."

5. SHORIKI is listed as having been a member of the DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI (Great Japan Speech and Publication Serve-the-Country Association),

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the DAI NIPPON SEIJI KAI (Great Japan Political Association), SHIMBUN REMMEI (Newspaper Federation), and the Dai Nippon Tokyo Baseball Club.

6. In addition, SHORIKI sponsored exhibition of art masterpieces, shown publicly for the first time; tours of American Major League baseball teams, American lawn tennis aces and French boxing champions. He is reputed to have built the most imposing lawn tennis stadium in the Far East.

7. Careful study of SHORIKI's case, with respect to the charges, direct and implied, made against him, shows the following:

a. SHORIKI held various positions in the official rosters of the TAISEI YOKUSAN KAI (Imperial Rule Assistance Association), the YOKUSAN SEIJI KAI (Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society), and the DAI NIPPON SEIJI KAI (Great Japan Political Association) as well as serving as a member of the preparatory committees of both organizations. Appointments were motivated by his position in the newspaper world. Validity of such activity as basis of war crimes charges depends upon the ultimate evaluation of the Imperial Rule Assistance organizations. In its study "War Politics in Japan", of which LS and IPS have copies, CIS has already given its opinion of these societies and of the men active in them:

"These societies were neither secret nor terroristic. Nor did they disband for the purpose of avoiding detection. They were basically political and patriotic organizations whose part in the wartime life Japan was to gear the nation's politics and economy to the war effort."

"Activity in one or more of these societies should not in itself be considered prime evidence of war responsibility but should be weighed carefully as to the extent of that activity as well as in the light of the individual's actions in other fields."

b. Regarding SHORIKI's police activities, referred to in 4b above, a report from the Office of Strategic Services is quoted:

"SHORIKI Matsutaro. Chief of the Secretariat of the Metropolitan Police in Tokyo at the time of the rice riots and took a firm hand with this agitation; particularly distinguished himself in his handling of the political thought problems by ordering the raids on universities and colleges which had hitherto been as inviolable; was forced to take the blame for the Toranomon incident and retire from public office / entered the field of journalism through Baron GO Seinosuke and through the generous loan of Count GOTO and introduced a great many new features to Japanese journalism; promoted the visit of American Major League baseball players to Japan in 1931 and organized the Japanese 'Giants', the first professional baseball team in Japan; built the lawn tennis stadium in Tokyo and invited aces such as Tilden and Vines

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to give exhibition games there; for much further information see source Goto Kunihiko in Contemporary Japan, October 1940, p. 1275".

The Contemporary Japan article by GOTO Kunihiko, "Matsutaro Shoriki, A Rising Figure in Japanese Journalism", which the OSS report has briefed with a prejudice that should not be allowed to influence a court, is quoted verbatim in TAB D. Other sources verify GOTO's opinion of SHORIKI and his activities.

In 1918, following World War I, inflationary pressures soared the price of rice and a serious shortage resulted. A movement for cheaper rice, which assumed riot proportions over night, got underway. SHORIKI by virtue of his official police position was responsible for subduing these riots and restoring law and order. The fact that SHORIKI as shown by injuries suffered during a mob assault endured personal physical danger while attempting to suppress the agitation should not be overlooked.

Also, in 1918, Communism took form as a school of political philosophy simultaneously with the inauguration of the Third International. Three years later Communism was introduced into Japan. The movement in its early stages (during the period SHORIKI held office in the Metropolitan Police Board) is generally described as follows: 1921, "The Period of Preparation", when the pioneer Communists, many of whom were arrested, worked for the establishment of a definite party. 1922, "The Period of Infancy", when the First Japan Communist Party was inaugurated. 1923, "The Period of Development", when membership grew, although the leaders were arrested. It was during this period that Communism took hold in the universities and colleges and SHORIKI in his official police capacity had no other course but to order the raids. As a result of these raids 64, out of 70 Communists arrested, were indicted.

c. An exhaustive search to substantiate the accusation (4c and d) that SHORIKI "strongly backed the Axis... and is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and was known to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan..." has been made. No valid evidence of such activity has been found but reference is made to the accusation in the pamphlet "Matsutaro SHORIKI's Character and Career", written by his friends, of which LS and IPS have copies. According to TAKAHASHI Yusai, former vice president of the Yomiuri, this pamphlet was prepared by himself and the following close friends of SHORIKI: SHIMIZU Yonichiro (Yomiuri-Hocni staff), SHIMIZU Iku (lawyer), SHINAGAWA Kazuo (industrialist), and KINOSHITA Kenjiro. These friends and newspaper associates of SHORIKI state that there is no foundation for a broadcast made by Captain Zacharias from San Francisco on 26 May 1945 (TAB E), upon which this accusation is apparently based. The lack of other evidence appears to substantiate this claim.

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In 1923 Daisuke NAMBA, anarchist, fired at the Emperor. The premier and the cabinet, accepting responsibility for the incident, resigned and SHORIKI was dismissed from his position with the Metropolitan Police. Count Shimpei GOTO, Home Minister, offered SHORIKI financial assistance to carry him over. GOTO noticed SHORIKI's administrative ability at the time of the Great Earthquake when he was Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau. In 1924, when SHORIKI was looking for financial assistance to enter the newspaper business, it was to GOTO he turned. GOTO raised 100,000 yen and SHORIKI assumed the presidency of the 50-year-old, bankrupt Yomiuri Shimbun. SHORIKI's constant efforts and special promotion schemes soon bore fruit. Circulation was upped from a bare 56,000 to over half a million copies by the end of ten years and to approximately two million copies by the end of twenty years. It is significant to note that the 1933 Edition of the Japan Yearbook states: "One of the significant phenomena in newspaper circles of recent years is the business management of large daily newspapers by those who are regarded as 'amateurs'. For example, Mr. Matsutaro Shoriki, formerly Chief Secretary of the Metropolitan Police Board, assumed presidency of the Yomiuri." And, again, in the 1937 Edition: "Of numerous papers, the Asahi and the Mainichi are the most widely circulated and the most popular with our intellectuals...Recently the Yomiuri has come to run a close second in the race for press leadership."

SHORIKI is credited with having introduced many promotional ideas (copies from American newspapers) into Japanese journalism. The Yomiuri was first in publishing Sunday and evening editions; sports, radio and graphic pages; "Go" and Chess columns; children's sections, etc. SHORIKI's paper was the first to remove advertisements from its front page, and to publish two evening editions. As time passed and the Yomiuri made money, bigger promotional schemes were undertaken. The paper sponsored tours of American baseball teams, American tennis aces, French champion boxers, art exhibitions, etc. The 1935 Edition of the Japan Yearbook states: "The development of baseball in Japan owes much to the visits of American professional players... Marking as one of the biggest events in the history of the Japanese baseball, 15 star baseball players of the American major leagues, made a barnstorming tour to Japan in the fall of 1934, at the invitation of the Yomiuri Shimbun. They arrived in Yokohama on November 2 and stayed for a month during which they made a clean sweep in winning 18 games against the All Japan nine in leading cities of this country. Mr. Connie Mack, the veteran baseball coach and manager of the Philadelphia Athletics Club, was the leader of the Team. The American team, including such famous players as Babe Ruth, homerun King, Louis Gehrig, Jimmy Foxx and Charles Gehringer, were given a tremendous welcome by the Japanese baseball fans in every city they visited..."

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Thus, the Yomiuri became a phenomenally successful business venture, one practically unparalleled in modern newspaper history, and Count GOTO, before his death in 1928, was well repaid.

In the early part of 1935, during the controversy over the Organic Theory of the Emperor, advocated by Professor MINOBE of Tokyo Imperial University, "The Editor of the Yomiuri ventured to take the Doctor's part" and on 22 February, SHORIKI "was promptly the victim of a murderous attack by a patriotic ruffian", NAGASAKI Katsusuke of the BUSHIN KAI (Samurai Gods Society). It is significant to note that the owner rather than the editor was attacked. This was probably due to the fact that most newspaper owners are also editors but SHORIKI's activities remained within management limits. His name, either as an editor or an author, is not to be found in newspaper and literary archives.

d. The present disagreement which developed between the head of the Yomiuri and his employees following the occupation, is a labor-management problem and invalid as a basis for war crimes charges.

e. The DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI (Great Japan Speech and Publication Serve-the-Country Association) (TAB E) was founded in December 1942 after the election forced a second functional and organizational upheaval in the IRAA. Association for the mobilization of national life which had been supervised or administered by the various ministries were transferred to the IRAA and thus became the associations to supervise production and cultural activities. The DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI replaced the HYORON ZUIHITSUKA KYOKAI (Critics and Essayists Association) founded in 1926, and its membership was about 1,000 composed of representatives from literary, social, bureaucratic and other fields. SHORIKI was a patron member by virtue of his prominence in the newspaper field.

f. It is noteworthy that the official rosters of the Cabinet Board of Information do not list SHORIKI until July 1943 when he was appointed a Councillor. Councillors were chosen from among newspaper, motion picture, theatre and radio executives and such prominent news names as OGATA Taketora of the Asahi, TAKAISHI Shingoro of the Mainichi and FURUNO Inosuke of the Domei appeared as Councillors in 1938 shortly after the New Cabinet Information Board was formed.

g. In 1943 the Military Police arrested SHORIKI on the grounds that the Yomiuri possessed a short-wave radio but released him after questioning him about his relations with prominent business men and his employees. This action by the KEMPEI TAI suggests prejudice as all other newspapers were so equipped to pick up foreign news.

h. In lieu of the accusations made against SHORIKI, it is pertinent to note that before Pearl Harbor his name is not linked with any of Japan's

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
~~UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC~~
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File No.: Subject: SHORIKI Matsutaro, internee in Sugamo Prison

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No.

From: G-2

To: Legal Section

Date:

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political or military leaders, he was not active in political or nationalistic organizations, nor did he hold bureaucratic posts. SHORIKI became involved in the Cabinet Board of Information late in the war and was appointed a member of the Cabinet Advisory Council at the tail end during the KOISO Cabinet in July 1944 and the peace-making SUZUKI Cabinet in April 1945.

8. In summary, accusations against SHORIKI appear to be of an ideological and political nature, exaggerated by wartime propaganda and unsubstantiated by any specific evidence other than SHORIKI was a prominent newspaper manager who eventually had to fill bureaucratic posts and "go along" to stay in business.

9. Unless it is decided as a matter of policy that activity in the Imperial Rule Assistance organizations and/or success in the newspaper business (without consideration of motivating circumstances) are bases for indictment, G-2 recommends release of SHORIKI from internment without preference of charges.

TAB A - Curriculum Vitae of SHORIKI Matsutaro
TAB B - Extract from "Japanese Government Officials, 1937 - 1945"
TAB C - Evaluation of SHORIKI Matsutaro at time of arrest
TAB D - Matsutaro Shoriki, A Rising Figure in Japanese Journalism
TAB E - Excerpt from "Matsutaro Shoriki's Character and Career"
TAB F - DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI.

for PSB
C.A.W.

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SHORIKI Matsutaro, Internee in Sugamo Prison

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1. Curriculum Vitae of SHORIKI Matsutaro (TAB A) indicates that he was a man of undistinguished ancestors whose promising civil service career was terminated over the Namba Incident in 1923. Subsequently, he entered the newspaper field as a business, achieved phenomenal success, and eventually became involved in the Imperial Rule Assistance organizations and the Cabinet Information Board.

2. "Japanese Government Officials - 1937-1945", published by Military Intelligence Division, War Department, Washington, D.C., 21 July 1945, evaluates SHORIKI as per TAB B.

3. Evaluation of SHORIKI at the time of his arrest in December 1945 reads as per TAB C.

4. Direct and implied accusations embodied in these documents (TABs B and C) are as follows:

a. "Member of Preparatory Committee charged with working out details of organizing IRAA in 1940."

b. "According to OSS report SHORIKI became notorious for his activities when chief of the secretariat of the Metropolitan Police, Tokyo, by his ruthless treatment of political thought cases and by ordering raids on universities and colleges. He was the first senior police official to institute such raids on educational institutions."

c. "As proprietor of the Yomiuri Shinbun he strongly backed the Axis and urged Japanese adherence to the Tri-Partite Alliance. He is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and was known to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan. He made of his newspaper the chief Army organ and through its wide circulation he actively promoted militaristic propaganda in Japan immediately preceding Pearl Harbor. He victimized newspaper men who did not see eye to eye with his pro-Axis policies."

d. "He was one of the most important journalists who actively propagated the Axis cause before the war and energetically supported it through the war. With the large circulation which his newspaper enjoyed he ought to be regarded as one of the most evil influences in poisoning the public mind."

e. "He is now resisting efforts by junior staff to remove him from control of Yomiuri because of pre-military record."

5. SHORIKI is listed as having been a member of the DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI (Great Japan Speech and Publication Serve-the-Country Association).

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the DAI NIPPON SEIJI KAI (Great Japan Political Association), SHIMBUN RENMEI (Newspaper Federation), and the Dai Nippon Tokyo Baseball Club.

6. In addition, SHORIKI sponsored exhibition of art masterpieces, shown publicly for the first time; tours of American Major League baseball teams, American lawn tennis aces and French boxing champions. He is reputed to have built the most imposing lawn tennis stadium in the Far East.

7. Careful study of SHORIKI's case, with respect to the charges, direct and implied, made against him, shows the following:

a. SHORIKI held various positions in the official rosters of the TAISEI YOKUSAN KAI (Imperial Rule Assistance Association), the YOKUSAN SEIJI KAI (Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society), and the DAI NIPPON SEIJI KAI (Great Japan Political Association) as well as serving as a member of the preparatory committees of both organizations. Appointments were motivated by his position in the newspaper world. Validity of such activity as basis of war crimes charges depends upon the ultimate evaluation of the Imperial Rule Assistance organizations. In its study "War Politics in Japan", of which LS and IPS have copies, CIS has already given its opinion of these societies and of the men active in them:

"These societies were neither secret nor terroristic. Nor did they disband for the purpose of avoiding detection. They were basically political and patriotic organizations whose part in the wartime life Japan was to gear the nation's politics and economy to the war effort."

"Activity in one or more of these societies should not in itself be considered prime evidence of war responsibility but should be weighed carefully as to the extent of that activity as well as in the light of the individual's actions in other fields."

b. Regarding SHORIKI's police activities, referred to in 4b above, a report from the Office of Strategic Services is quoted:

"SHORIKI Matsutaro, Chief of the Secretariat of the Metropolitan Police in Tokyo at the time of the rice riots and took a firm hand with this agitation; particularly distinguished himself in his handling of the political thought problems by ordering the raids on universities and colleges which had hitherto been as inviolable; was forced to take the blame for the Toranomon incident and retire from public office / entered the field of journalism through Baron GO Seinosuke and through the generous loan of Count GOTO and introduced a great many new features to Japanese journalism; promoted the visit of American Major League baseball players to Japan in 1931 and organized the Japanese 'Giants', the first professional baseball team in Japan; built the lawn tennis stadium in Tokyo and invited aces such as Tilden and Vines

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to give exhibition games there; for much further information see source Goto Kunihiro in Contemporary Japan, October 1940, p. 1275".

The Contemporary Japan article by GOTO Kunihiro, "Matsutaro Shoriki, A Rising Figure in Japanese Journalism", which the OSS report has briefed with a prejudice that should not be allowed to influence a court, is quoted verbatim in TAB D. Other sources verify GOTO's opinion of SHORIKI and his activities.

In 1918, following World War I, inflationary pressures soared the price of rice and a serious shortage resulted. A movement for cheaper rice which assumed riot proportions over night, got underway. SHORIKI by virtue of his official police position was responsible for subduing these riots and restoring law and order. The fact that SHORIKI as shown by injuries suffered during a mob assault endured personal physical danger while attempting to surpress the agitation should not be overlooked.

Also, in 1918, Communism took form as a school of political philosophy simultaneously with the inauguration of the Third International. Three years later Communism was introduced into Japan. The movement in its early stages (during the period SHORIKI held office in the Metropolitan Police Board) is generally described as follows: 1921, "The Period of Preparation", when the pioneer Communists, many of whom were arrested, worked for the establishment of a definite party. 1922, "The Period of Infancy", when the First Japan Communist Party was inaugurated. 1923, "The Period of Development", when membership grew, although the leaders were arrested. It was during this period that Communism took hold in the universities and colleges and SHORIKI in his official police capacity had no other course but to order the raids. As a result of these raids 64, out of 70 Communists arrested, were indicted.

c. An exhaustive search to substantiate the accusation (4c and d) that SHORIKI "strongly backed the Axis... and is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and was known to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan..." has been made. No valid evidence of such activity has been found but reference is made to the accusation in the pamphlet "Matsutaro SHORIKI's Character and Career", written by his friends, of which LS and IPS have copies. According to TAKAHASHI Yusai, former vice president of the Yomiuri, this pamphlet was prepared by himself and the following close friends of SHORIKI: SHIMIZU Yohichiro (Yomiuri-Mechi staff), SHIMIZU Iku (lawyer), SHINAGAWA Kasuo (industrialist), and KINOSHITA Kenjiro. These friends and newspaper associates of SHORIKI state that there is no foundation for a broadcast made by Captain Zacharias from San Francisco on 26 May 1945 (TAB E), upon which this accusation is apparently based. The lack of other evidence appears to substantiate this claim.

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In 1923 Daisuke NAMBA, anarchist, fired at the Emperor. The premier and the cabinet, accepting responsibility for the incident, resigned and SHORIKI was dismissed from his position with the Metropolitan Police. Count Shimpei GOTO, Home Minister, offered SHORIKI financial assistance to carry him over. GOTO noticed SHORIKI's administrative ability at the time of the Great Earthquake when he was Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau. In 1924, when SHORIKI was looking for financial assistance to enter the newspaper business, it was to GOTO he turned. GOTO raised 100,000 yen and SHORIKI assumed the presidency of the 50-year-old, bankrupt Yomiuri Shimbun. SHORIKI's constant efforts and special promotion schemes soon bore fruit. Circulation was upped from a bare 56,000 to over half a million copies by the end of ten years and to approximately two million copies by the end of twenty years. It is significant to note that the 1933 Edition of the Japan Yearbook states: "One of the significant phenomena in newspaper circles of recent years is the business management of large daily newspapers by those who are regarded as 'amateurs'. For example, Mr. Matsutaro Shoriki, formerly Chief Secretary of the Metropolitan Police Board, assumed presidency of the Yomiuri." And, again, in the 1937 Edition: "Of numerous papers, the Asahi and the Mainichi are the most widely circulated and the most popular with our intellectuals...Recently the Yomiuri has come to run a close second in the race for press leadership."

SHORIKI is credited with having introduced many promotional ideas (copies from American newspapers) into Japanese journalism. The Yomiuri was first in publishing Sunday and evening editions; sports, radio and graphic pages; "Go" and Chess columns; children's sections, etc. SHORIKI's paper was the first to remove advertisements from its front page, and to publish two evening editions. As time passed and the Yomiuri made money, bigger promotional schemes were undertaken. The paper sponsored tours of American baseball teams, American tennis aces, French champion boxers, art exhibitions, etc. The 1935 Edition of the Japan Yearbook states: "The development of baseball in Japan owes much to the visits of American professional players... Marking as one of the biggest events in the history of the Japanese baseball, 15 star baseball players of the American major leagues, made a barnstorming tour to Japan in the fall of 1934, at the invitation of the Yomiuri Shimbun. They arrived in Yokohama on November 2 and stayed for a month during which they made a clean sweep in winning 18 games against the All Japan line in leading cities of this country. Mr. Connie Mack, the veteran baseball coach and manager of the Philadelphia Athletics Club, was the leader of the Team. The American team, including such famous players as Babe Ruth, homerun King, Louis Gehrig, Jimmy Foxx and Charles Gehringer, were given a tremendous welcome by the Japanese baseball fans in every city they visited..."

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Curriculum Vitae of SHORIKI Matsutaro

1894 Apr. High School Graduate

1901 Graduate, Tokyo Imperial University (Law)

1901 Bureau of Statistics of the Cabinet

1902-1904 Metropolitan Police Board
 Chief of Secretariat
 Chief of Criminal Bureau
 Chief of Police Affairs Bureau

1904 Graduate, Tokyo Metropolitan Police Board (1904 Incident)

1904 President, TOKYO SHIMIN KA

1905 Director, National Affairs Foundation

1905-1907 Member, Public Exhibitions of Art, Westport, 1905 and
 the first time in Japan

1907 - 1908 Special, Year of American Professional Baseball Team

1908 - 1909 Japanese with Secret Service Candidate

1908 - 1909 Student, Year of French Baseball Team, France, Japan
 All Japan

1911 Special, Year of American Professional Baseball Team

Curriculum Vitae of SHORIKI Matsutaro

1911 - 1912 Member, Year of Secret Service Candidate

1912 - 1913 Chairman, Cabinet Information Board

1913 - 1914 Police Board, 1st DIVISION, SECRET SERVICE 1st (Secret Japan Police
 and Political Administration Association)

1914 Member, House of Peers

1914-1915 TOKYO SHIMIN KA (Imperial Rule Assistance Association)
 Director, TOKYO SHIMIN KA 1st DIVISION (New Structure Department
 Committee) 1914 Apr.
 Director 1914 Jul-1914 Apr.
 Director 1914-1915, Int'l.

1914-1915 TOKYO SHIMIN KA (Imperial Rule Assistance Association) National
 House, TOKYO SHIMIN KA 1st DIVISION (New Structure Department
 Committee)
 Chairman 1914 Apr.
 Director 1914, 1915

1915 - 1916 President, 1st DIVISION, TOKYO SHIMIN KA (Secret Japan Political Association
 Int'l)

1916-1917

1917 Apr. Member, Cabinet Advisory Council, TOKYO SHIMIN KA

1917 Apr.

1917 Apr. Member, Legislative Council, TOKYO SHIMIN KA
 Director, TOKYO SHIMIN KA (Newspaper Federation)
 Member, 1st DIVISION, TOKYO SHIMIN KA

1917 Apr. 15 - Member of House of Peers as a life member

Curriculum Vitae of SHORIKI Matsutaro

1885 Apr Born, Toyama Prefecture
1911 Graduated, Tokyo Imperial University (Law)
1911 Bureau of Statistics of the Cabinet
1913-1924 Metropolitan Police Board
 Chief of Secretariat
 Chief of Criminal Bureau
 Chief of Police Affairs Bureau
1924 Dismissed from Metropolitan Police Board over NAMBA Incident
1924 President, YOMIURI SHIMBUN SHA
 president, Yomiuri Welfare Foundation
1929-1930 Sponsored, Public Exhibitions of Art Masterpieces, shown for
 the first time in Japan
1931 Sponsored, Tour of American Professional Baseball Team
1933 Agreement with Hearst Newspaper Syndicate
1933 Sponsored, Tour of French Champion Boxers, Pradner, Lapbel
 and Hague
1934 Sponsored, Tour of American Major League Baseball Teams
1936 Sponsored, Tour of American Lawn Tennis Aces, Tilden and Vines
1943 President, YOMIURI-HOCHI SHIMBUN, formed by merger of
 YOMIURI SHIMBUN and HOCHI SHIMBUN
1943 Member, Privy Council
1943 Councillor, Cabinet Information Board
1943 Patron Member, DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI (Great Japan Speech
 and Publication Serve-the-Country Association)
1944 Member, House of Peers
1940-1945 TAISEI YOKUSAN KAI (Imperial Rule Assistance Association)
 Member, SHIN TAISEI JUMBI IIN KAI (New Structure Preparatory
 Committee) 1940 Aug
 Advisor 1944 Oct-1945 Apr
 Director 1940-1944, incl.
1942-1944 YOKUSAN SEIJI KAI (Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society)
 Member, YOKUSAN SEIJI RYOKU KESSHU JUMBI KAI (Preparatory
 Committee)
 Consultant 1942 Aug
 Director 1943, 1944
1943 Director, DAI NIPPON SEIJI KAI (Great Japan Political Associa-
 tion)
1944 Jul-
1945 Apr Member, Cabinet Advisory Council, KOISO Cabinet
1945 Apr-
1945 Aug Member, Cabinet Advisory Council, SUZUKI Cabinet
 Director, SHIMBUN REMMEI (Newspaper Federation)
 Member, DAI NIPPON TOKYO BASEBALL CLUB
1945 Dec 12 Interned at Sugamo Prison as a war crimes suspect

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Extract from "Japanese Government Officials, 1937-1945", published by
Military Intelligence Division, War Department, Washington, D. C.
in 1945.

Minister of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo

- 1937 - 1945 - Minister of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1931 - 1937 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1928 - 1931 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1925 - 1928 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1922 - 1925 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1919 - 1922 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1916 - 1919 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1913 - 1916 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1910 - 1913 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1907 - 1910 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1904 - 1907 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1901 - 1904 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1898 - 1901 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1895 - 1898 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1892 - 1895 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo
- 1889 - 1892 - Director of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo

Extract from "Japanese Government Officials, 1937-1945"

Minister of Education, Imperial University, Tokyo

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Extract from "Japanese Government Officials - 1937-1945", published by
Military Intelligence Division, War Department, Washington, D. C.,
21 July 1945

"Matsutaro SHORIKI: Member Privy Council. Former Cabinet advisor.

1885	Born Toyama Prefecture. Son of Shojiro Shoriki. Married Hama, sister of Seiji Yoshiwara.
1911	Graduated Law College Tokyo Imperial University.
1911	Entered Civil Service.
*	Chief, Criminal Bureau of Metropolitan Police Board.
1924	Resigned above post.
*	President Yomiuri Shimbun; Chairman, Hochi Shimbun Director Imperial Rule Assistance Association; Director Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society (now dissolved) Dai Nippon Tokyo Baseball Club.
1943	Councillor, Cabinet Information Board.
1944 May	Appointed member Privy Council.
1944 Oct.	Appointed Cabinet Advisor.
1945 Apr.	Resigned with Koiso Cabinet.
1945 June	Appointed Councilor Board of Information.

Address: 1 of 2, Shikoku-machi, Shiba-ku, Tokyo.

"Veteran newspaperman. Member of Preparatory Committee charged with working out details of organizing IRAA in 1940. Received Silver Cup from His Majesty on 12 September 1944 upon recommendation of War and Navy Ministries."

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Evaluation of SHORIKI Matsutaro at time of arrest, 12 December 1945

SHORIKI Matsutaro

As a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun, SHORIKI Matsutaro was one of the leading figures of the Japanese press. He was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun, and was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun.

SHORIKI Matsutaro was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun, and was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun. He was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun, and was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun.

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SHORIKI Matsutaro was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun, and was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun. He was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun, and was a member of the editorial board of the Asahi Shimbun.

Approved 12 December 1945, signed [Name]

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Evaluation of SHORIKI Matsutaro at the time of arrest, 12 December 1945

"SHORIKI Matsutaro

"A former chief of the Criminal Bureau of the Metropolitan Police Bureau and since 1924 President of Yomiuri Shimbun (this newspaper later amalgamated with the Hochi Shimbun which ne also owned).

"According to OSS report SHORIKI became notorious for his activities when chief of the secretariat of the Metropolitan Police, Tokyo, by his ruthless treatment of political thought cases and by ordering raids on universities and colleges. He was the first senior police official to institute such raids on educational institutions.

"As proprietor of the Yomiuri Shimbun he strongly backed the Axis and urged Japanese adherence to the Tri-Partite Alliance. He is known to have had very close connections with the German Embassy and was known to be one of their chief propaganda outlets in Japan. He made his newspaper the chief Army organ and through its wide circulation he actively promoted militaristic propaganda in Japan immediately preceding Pearl Harbor. He victimized newspaper men who did not see eye to eye with his pro-Axis policies.

"He was one of the most important journalists who actively propagated the Axis cause before the war and energetically supported it through the war. With the large circulation which his newspaper enjoyed he ought to be regarded as one of the most evil influences in poisoning the public mind. He is now resisting efforts by junior staff to remove him from control of Yomiuri because of pro-military record."

Arrested 12 December 1945, Sugamo Prison.

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MATSUTARO SHORIKI, A RISING FIGURE IN JAPANESE JOURNALISM

Matsutaro Shoriki was born in the prefecture of the... (faded text)

... (faded text)

Matsutaro Shoriki, A Rising Figure in Japanese Journalism

... (faded text)

... (faded text)

... (faded text)

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MATSUTARO SHORIKI, A RISING
FIGURE IN JAPANESE JOURNALISM

By Kuniniko GOTO

"Matsutaro Shoriki was chief of the secretariate of the Metropolitan Police when I first became really well acquainted with him. Then, as later, he always proved capable of any situation that arose and had a remarkable ability as an originator of ideas and a leader of men. It is possible that he developed those qualities even when a young schoolboy, although he was not the sort of student who ground his way from cover to cover through school books. We were not in the same college, but if I remember correctly he stood out at that time as captain of the jujitsu team, when he used to floor man after man in the inter-collegiate contests.

"Graduating from university he successfully passed the civil service examinations, but was not so fortunate in finding employment, beginning in the Cabinet Bureau of Statistics for the simple reason that there was no better place open for him. Later he transferred to the Metropolitan Police Board and in turn became superintendent, chief of the criminal section, and finally chief of the secretariate, thus making himself one of the most useful men in the organization. A man of keen and quick perception, he is capable of coming straight to the point and seldom errs in the conclusions he draws. No figures are too complicated for him, and without any trace of mental effort, he calculates rapidly. These abilities, combined with a wonderfully retentive memory, have made him an exceptional man.

"It was when he was chief of the secretariate in the Metropolitan Police that I first came across him in public life since our casual acquaintance in earlier days. His work in the secretariate won him such a reputation that whenever that department was mentioned his name was immediately associated with it. Mr. Shoriki first won public recognition through the so-called rice riots of August, 1918. These popular uprising took place when, as a result of inflation, the rice prices soared. In anticipation of higher prices, those who held rice stocks were reluctant to sell and there emerged a serious shortage. The first to protest was a number of fisherman's wives in a small community in Toyama Prefecture, incidentally Mr. Shoriki's birth place. The movement for cheaper rice thus started spread like wildfire. Then inspector of police, Mr. Shoriki was literally thrown against the popular movement, he and other officers going out to suppress the agitation. In the neighbourhood of the rice exchange at Kakigara-cho, the officers were assaulted by a mob. All fled but Mr. Shoriki, who, with his back to a telegraph pole, held his ground until he became insensible and fell. The next day, however, he was back at work, his face bandaged, but otherwise little the worse. Dealing with the agitation with unabated vigour, he finally succeeded in subduing it in Tokyo. The man who thus proved himself capable of such courage and determination

"deserved the attention he received. Those who only heard of him at the time know and remember him as a man who would shrink from nothing.

"After he entered the secretariate which dealt with various affairs, including certain aspects of politics, Mr. Shoriki was brought into contact with the leading men of political circles, including both Houses of the Diet. His character and abilities won many friends and confidence in many quarters. He particularly distinguished himself in dealing with political thought movements. The liberal movement was then at its height with an increasing tendency to assume a communistic colour. There was no question as to the course to be taken by the police, and Mr. Shoriki had no doubt about the way he would solve the problem. It was he who ordered raids in universities and colleges which had hitherto been held as 'inviolably sacred.'

"Mr. Shoriki's official career, however, was brought to a sudden end in 1923, by what is known as the Toranomon incident. Then chief of the police administration section, he had to take the blame and retire from office, together with Kurahei Yuasa who was then chief of the Metropolitan Police Board. After an Imperial decree of amnesty was issued later, Mr. Shoriki might have returned to civil service, and in fact he was once offered the position of a prefectural governor, but he was not to retrace his steps over the old ground. Had it not been for this unfortunate incident, he would have been promoted early the following year to the position of chief of the Police Bureau of the Home Office by Count Shimpei Goto, its Minister, who placed deep confidence in him. In view of his abilities, it is quite possible that he would have climbed the official ladder still higher into the field of party politics had he resumed his official career.

"It happened about this time that two newspapers were on the market, one of which was the Yomiuri. Sometime in February, 1924, I met Mr. Shoriki at a club and was told that he planned to enter the field of journalism. I advised him that if he were to take over either of the two papers, the Yomiuri would be better, and explained to him its financial condition. I then offered to introduce him to Baron Seinosuke Go, who had been one of the strongest financial supporters of the paper. Baron Go was at once impressed and was ready to enter into a full discussion of the proposed deal. An understanding was soon reached, but Mr. Shoriki found that before he could make a definite settlement, he would have to provide himself with ready cash to the amount of one hundred thousand yen.

"The about-to-be publisher had little idea where or how he could raise this fund. There was only a remote possibility. He remembered that, when he had retired from civil service under the unusual circumstances mentioned above, he was offered by Count Goto a sum of ten thousand yen with which to carry himself on for the time being and how he had declined the kind offer. The man who could be so generous at that time, might be no less so again.

"The unexpected caller from Tokyo was at once received by the statesman who had just returned from a visit to Prince Saionji. The purpose of the call was briefly explained. For a minute, or so Count Goto remained silent. 'You shall have the money', was his final and brief reply. As the visitor was about to go, however, the Count called him back. 'This newspaper game is something new for me. The only thing I know about it is that everyone says it's difficult to run a newspaper. If by any chance you don't find things going as they should, let no thought of the money you take from me keep you there. Just wash your hands of the whole business.' The meeting had lasted little more than three minutes and well shows what confidence the late statesman placed in Mr. Shoriki.

"It was not known until after he died just how Count Goto raised the money for Mr. Shoriki. But it was later revealed that he returned to Tokyo and mortgaged his estate. First, only seventy thousand yen was forthcoming, but the Count succeeded in raising the balance the following day. Needless to say, Mr. Shoriki always remained a loyal supporter of the Count, and his one ambition was to see him rise to the Premiership. After the death of Count Goto, Mr. Shoriki confined his attention to journalism, and it is not improbably that through the loss of the statesman whom he always thought should lead his country, he lost all interest in political affairs.

"One of the distinct characteristics of Mr. Shoriki is his unique power of persuasion. His method is simple and never studied, but it never fails. I know no instance of his failing where he set forth to convince anyone. Except for this characteristic, he could hardly have tided himself over the difficulties he encountered after taking over the Yomiuri. There are instances even nearer at hand. One of the most outstanding 'hits' in journalism in recent years was 'The Story of Taiko', run serially in the Yomiuri, which was made possible only through the understanding which Mr. Shoriki himself reached with its author, Yeiji Yoshikawa. No less spectacular success was achieved when Mr. Shoriki got Kikugoro, the first luminary of the Kabuki stage, to agree to the presentation of this story on the boards, he himself taking the leading role. Entrenched firmly in the stage tradition that he guards with a will that few can bend, Kikugoro is not usually open to any new proposition except from his intimate theatrical circle. But he met Mr. Shoriki for the first time and was so favourably impressed that he gave his ready assent to the proposition laid before him. Their mutual appreciation so deepened that when the Yomiuri's new building was completed, Kikugoro, whom no promise of reward could have moved, was only too glad to present his dance performance at the special celebration programme.

"The situation that Mr. Shoriki had to face immediately after he took over the Yomiuri perhaps brought out the best that was in him. It showed how equal he was to all situations and how far and deeply he could trust others when they merited his confidence. With the fund provided by Count Goto, he went into the newspaper office and allotted allowances for the proprietor and staff members who were retiring. But he soon realized that others would retire also. In fact, the whole organization was opposed to

the man who had come from quarters for which they had no love to lose. Chujiro Matsuyama, the retiring proprietor, knew that the whole staff would resign the day the new proprietor assumed office, but had taken no pains to reason with them. It was clear beyond any doubt that there would be no issue to the paper the day after Mr. Shoriki took it over. Against such a contingency a few of his friends, including myself, held themselves ready at a club not far away. If the worst had happened, this group would at least have turned out an abridged edition of the paper. Mr. Shoriki then saw each one of those whom he hoped to retain in service, but he was invariably unsuccessful. Finally, he decided to see Kameo Chiba, who has been chief of the social section of the editorial staff and was also one of those determined to resign. It was half an hour past midnight when he made this decision and he set out to look for the man he had never seen or known. It was only known that he was trustworthy and held in high esteem by those who had worked with him, and that he lived somewhere out in Ohmori, the southwestern suburb of Tokyo. After an hour's search the house was found, and the interview began at half past one in the morning. By half past four Chiba had agreed to withdraw his resignation. He had been moved by the whole-hearted confidence that had been placed in him with all force of sincerity. That this confidence was not misplaced was shown by the fact that once he had decided to stay, the whole atmosphere changed. Where Mr. Shoriki had found only a spirit of opposition and hostility, he now found support and co-operation.

"With the reins of the whole establishment in his hands, Mr. Shoriki drove it at full speed. He put his heart and soul into the business and was determined to rebuild the paper from the very foundation. Two distinct aspects received his foremost attention. One of them was the improvement of the paper itself. He himself was responsible for a succession of renovations and new features. Always alive to the movements and currents of the times, he planned to cater to the demands of the public. He was the first to give a whole page each day to radio news and broadcasting programmes. The Yomiuri alone issued an evening edition on Sundays. It was the first paper to give prominence to Japanese chess and go, daily sparing a goodly space to accounts of the game between the go title holder and his challenger. It was also the first to introduce a cartoon page, a sport news section, and columns for scientific and religious activities. On Sunday a children's paper in colour was added as a supplement. When the Sino-Japanese hostilities broke out, a noontime edition was introduced as a regular feature. The foreign news section was extended by the purchase or releases from the International News Service which had hitherto been excluded from the Japanese press. It would be no exaggeration to say that there has been no original news set-up or novel features in Japanese journalism in the past decade that is not traceable to Mr. Shoriki's resources and originality. He has always been setting a pace for all other metropolitan papers.

"Parallel with the continuous improvement of his paper, Mr. Shoriki sponsored many exhibitions and other public undertakings. The first was the exhibition of national treasures of fine arts which was held in 1929 with His Imperial Highness Prince Kan-in as honorary president. At the

"second exhibition held next year there was an exceedingly large collection of art objects designated as national treasures and owned by former feudal lords and houses of honoured ancestry. In the following year a group of professional baseball players of the American Major League was invited to Japan to give a series of exhibition games. Such an undertaking had never been attempted before and involved considerable risks but was highly successful, stimulating baseball in Japan and raising the paper's prestige skyward. It was not by accident that Mr. Shoriki shortly afterwards organized the first professional baseball team in the country, the 'Giants', which was followed by other teams to make the professional games as popular as they are now. The American professional baseball players who were invited a second time a few years later included Babe Ruth and was as successful as the first venture.

"To mention but a few more examples of these numerous enterprising schemes, it was Mr. Shoriki who built in Tokyo the most imposing lawn tennis stadium in the Far East and invited world aces like Tilden and Vines to give exhibition matches there. The public support now given to boxing also owes not a little to the paper that invited a star boxer from France and otherwise spared much space to popularize this sport. More recently, the Yomiuri has begun plans for a training platform for parachutists and an airport for gliders near Tokyo, both being the first undertakings of the kind in this country.

"A new building worthy of housing the growing business of the Yomiuri was begun in June, 1935, and completed last November. On the occasion of celebrating its completion, Baron Go, speaking before the invited guests, stated that he could pledge his honour to say that the Yomiuri had achieved a circulation of more than 1,320,000 daily. This is a circulation above those which have always been regarded as the two largest newspapers in Tokyo, and close to the figure for the two major papers of Osaka, the Asahi and the Mainichi, which boast the largest circulations in Japan. When Mr. Shoriki took over the Yomiuri its circulation was given at modest figure of 50,000 daily. Few achievements in journalism can compare with this. Lord Northcliffe had to give thirty years before he made the Daily Mail what it was in his lifetime. The Yomiuri today represents an achievement made in half that time.

"This remarkable success is due mainly to Mr. Shoriki's energy and inexhaustible ideas. His business instinct enables him to grasp new trends and to seize new opportunities. He makes up his mind in an instant and a new scheme is quickly under way. Other papers, often as enterprising, must take counsel and consume time in adjusting themselves for any new departure. With the Yomiuri action at once follows decision. Its success, in the last analysis, is due to the personal and mental make-up of the man at its helm; it is essentially a one-man show and a highly successful one at that.

"The employees of the Yomiuri are nowadays well paid. But for some years their salary level was far lower as compared with those working for papers like the Asahi and the Nichi Nichi. But even when reward was small, I doubt if any other paper had a staff as hard working and as loyal. Wherever they may be, Yomiuri men always stand out, as they do now, from all others because of their hard work and consistent effort to do better than others. This attitude of the whole organization reflects that faith it places in its director. Even when the paper's fortune was low and its budget had to be rigidly controlled, the men were content because they knew their chief was sharing their lot and because they knew that he would share all good fortune if the paper rose. It is known that in those days Mr. Shoriki drew a modest salary of three hundred yen monthly from the paper. At the time there were probably some employees whose salaries were even higher. It was whispered among his men one winter that their chief was going without an overcoat, and they all knew why.

"Hardworking as they are, no Yomiuri men work harder than the chief. He used to come to the office at seven in the morning and work from ten to twelve or thirteen hours a day. For several years he never took a day off, his only holiday in the year being New Year's Day. He made himself familiar with every aspect of newspaper work. From the editorial desk to printing and advertising, there is nothing with which he is not well conversant. He knows the whole distributing system from one end to the other, and no country sales agent is in too out-of-the-way place to escape his attention. He knows how many copies they are selling this month and how many they sold last month. Local sales agents have discovered this when they happened to meet the owner, and they naturally feel encouraged when they learn that he takes such a close and personal interest in their business.

"The Yomiuri has achieved a topnotch place among all Tokyo dailies and holds it. Its business still continues to grow. But it is hardly possible that its energetic owner will forever confine his activity to journalism. His eyes probably sweep wider horizons even if he knows how to bide his time. And those who know him well hope that his organizing and enterprising abilities and his untiring energy will be given still greater scope and still higher planes of work. He is rich in experience and ripe in wisdom; but he is still only fifty-six years old, a man, as we say, with many springs and autumns on the right side of life's book."

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Excerpt from "Matsutaro Shoriki's Character and Career"
Pages 20, 21 and 22.

(10) During 1915 Captain Imperia, member of the U.S.A. Navy, while aboard the USS Dolphin and while

visiting Japan, observed the spread of German influence through the media of public opinion. For instance, it was in 1915 that the United States representative of the German Propaganda Ministry was sent to Japan to the House of Representatives. The United States representative was connected with the military, very much so.

In this connection, however, the following fact may be noted:

There was apparently no connection between the above fact and the fact that the United States representative was connected with the military.

Excerpt from "Matsutaro Shoriki's Character and Career"

The following fact may be noted: The United States representative was connected with the military, very much so.

It is noted that special arrangements in Europe and U.S.A. were made through the House of Representatives. The United States representative was connected with the military, very much so.

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Excerpt from "Matsutaro Shoriki's Character and Career"
Pages 23, 24 and 25.

"(3) On May 26th, 1945 Captain Zacharias, spokesman of the U.S.A. Navy, made a broadcast from San Francisco and said:

"When a cultural convention was signed in 1938 between Japan and Germany, pro-nazi leaders in Japan made the spread of German influence possible through the medium of public opinion. For instance, it was an easy matter for Ehrich Wickert, representative of the German Propaganda Ministry who had his office in the German Embassy, to handle the Yomiuri Shimbun run by Shoriki. The Hochi Shimbun and even the Kokumin Shimbun, which was closely connected with the military, were under his control.'

"In this connection, however, the following facts may be pointed out.

- "1. There was absolutely no foundation for the above report because the Yomiuri nothing to do with Ehrich Wickert. The Yomiuri at that time obtained information from the German Embassy through Councilor Milbach and Tsunashima, Japanese and a member of the embassy staff, in the same manner as other vernacular papers. The governing body of the Yomiuri Shimbun, and even the chief of the Europe and America department, did not know the name, Ehrich Wickert. How Captain Zacharias came to make such a broadcast was, in fact, quite beyond the comprehension of Shoriki and the Yomiuri people.
- "2. Dispatches from special correspondents in Europe and D.N.B. news received through the Domei Tsushin were the whole information on Germany printed in the Yomiuri Shimbun because it had discontinued to report Trans-Ocean news in 1940, a year before the outbreak of the Pacific War. Thus, there was absolutely no truth in the statement that the Yomiuri had special relations with the German Propaganda Ministry.
- "3. As clearly shown by the news and comments appearing in the Yomiuri Shimbun at that time, the paper followed national policies already decided upon and was never under the influence of Germany.

"As stated above, Captain Zacharias's broadcast was absolutely unfounded. If the broadcast was not a war-time trick but a speech by Captain Zacharias in his capacity as spokesman of the U.S.A. Navy it can not be left without correction.

"(4) The Yomiuri Shimbun was rather opposed to Japan's joining hands with Germany, and therefore soon after the signing of the German-Japanese anti-communistic pact in November, 1936 the following brief comment appeared in the 26th November issue of its evening edition.

"Why was it necessary for Japan to cooperate with Germany alone. It

Excerpt from "Matsutaro Shoriki's Character and Career"

is a shame for her to sink to the standing of Czecho-Slovakia or Rumania. What a foolish policy to place her between Scylla and Charybdis. What she has done does not stand to reason, because while she advocates the parliamentary system her travelling companion is now Fascism.'

The evening edition issued the following day, i.e., November 27th 1936, contained a brief comment:

'China says she will resist communism by herself. China is very old and infirm but her statesmen are not. It is impossible to resist communism unless a nation's indomitable spirit is unbroken under any circumstances.'

"It seemed upon the surface of things that other newspapers welcomed the anti-communistic pact between Japan and Germany, but they backbit and made cynical comments in their sleeves. Thus, the straight forward comments in the Yomiuri aroused a great deal of interest and other papers were branded as cowards."

DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI

DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI
(Great Japan Speech and Publication Serve-the-Country Association)

A. Establishment of the Society.

The DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI (Great Japan Speech and Publication Serve-the-Country Association) was founded as a SHUDAN HOJIN (corporate juridical person) in December 1942, one year after the declaration of the Pacific War. The ASAHI SHIMBUN of 24 December 1942 reported that this society, promoted by the Board of Information of the Cabinet, had held its inaugural meeting on the previous day, attended by about 500 members including OKUMURA Kiwao, Vice-Chief of the Board of Information, Lieutenant Colonel SASAKI of the Information Section of the War Ministry, Commander TASHIRO of the Information Section of the Navy Ministry, YANAGI Renichi of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, MIYAKE Yujiro (Satsurei) the writer on philosophy, OGATA Taketora the editor of the ASAHI SHIMBUN, SUGIMORI Kojiro Professor at Waseda University and HASEGAWA Manjiro (Myozekan) the writer and commentator. It was organized to replace the HYORON ZUIHITSUKU KYOKAI (Critics and Essayists Association) founded in 1926, and had a membership of about 1,000 people from all manner of literary, social, bureaucratic and other fields.

The most complete record of the organization is contained in a pamphlet KAIIN MEIHO (Register of Society Members) printed by the association itself in June 1943, which contains the organization's constitution and shows the officers at time of inauguration, the aims of the organization, the officers on 1 May 1943 and the roster of members on 1 May 1943. This can be considered an unusually complete record since the 2 and 3 year terms of officers carried them throughout the life of the society.

B. The Constitution of the Society.

The constitution of the Society reads as follows:

CHAPTER I. General Provisions.

Article I. This organization shall be called the SHUDAN HOJIN DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI (Great Japan Speech and Publication Serve-the-Country Association).

Article II. The office of the organization shall be located in Tokyo. The organization shall set up branches or liaison stations within and outside the Empire whenever necessary. Rules and regulations for branches or liaison stations will be set forth separately.

CHAPTER II. Aims and Undertakings.

Article III. This organization embodies the ideals of the Empire, and in order to complete the Holy War, has been designed for the mutual

DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI

training of its members, for the establishment of a Japanese World Concept, for the clarification of the concepts and principles of the New Order in Greater East Asia and for the coordination of all efforts to promote the internal and external ideas of the Empire.

Article IV. This organization, in order to accomplish the aims outlined in Article III., shall be guided by the JOHO KYOKU (Board of Information) in such undertakings as:

1. The mutual training of its members.
2. Cooperative research with regard to the concepts and principals of a New Order in Greater East Asia.
3. Research and investigation with regard to thought trends inside and outside the Empire.
4. Active proselytizing of the Empire and of the outside world.
5. Training and guidance in public speaking and general publication.
6. Compilation and improvement of propaganda material for internal and external consumption.
7. Coordination of propaganda policies in all parts of Greater East Asia.
8. Liaison with governmental offices concerned and with various other organizations.
9. Any other work which may be deemed necessary for achieving the aims of the organization.

This organization will ask the advice of the government with regard to its work when necessary.

CHAPTER III. Membership.

Article V. This organization shall have the following types of members:

1. SEI KAIIN (Regular members)
2. MEIYO KAIIN (Honorary members)
3. SANJO KAIIN (Patron members)

Article VI. A regular member shall be any person who shall strive for the achievement of the aims of the organization, and who has been recommended by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) and approved by the chairman.

Article VII. An honorary member shall be any reputable patriotic speaker or writer recommended by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) and approved by the chairman.

Article VIII. A patron member shall be one who sympathizes with the aims of the organization, who will help in the work and who has been recommended by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) and approved by the Chairman.

Article IX. Regular members shall pay dues as otherwise stated.

Article X. For any person to join this organization as a regular member or to resign from this organization, it shall be necessary to file proper application as specified elsewhere and to receive the approval of the chairman.

DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI

Article XI. Any member of this organization classified under any one of the following categories shall by a ruling of the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) be disqualified by the chairman.

1. Anyone who disgraces the name or integrity of this organization.
2. Anyone who disgraces the honor of being a member.
3. Anyone who causes disturbances or by speech obstructs the attainment of the aims of the organization.
4. Anyone who has unpaid back dues of more than 6 months.

CHAPTER IV. General Meetings.

Article XII. Regular general meetings shall be held once yearly. Extraordinary general meetings will convene when deemed necessary by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) or when requested by a majority of members. It shall be required to post notices at least 10 days before such general meetings are held, stating the purpose, aims, place and date of such meetings.

Article XIII. Regardless of specifications as stated elsewhere in this constitution, the following will be considered at general meetings:

1. Budget and statement of accounts.
2. Activities and business reports.
3. Amendments of the constitution.
4. Proposal for dissolution of the organization.
5. Any other matters deemed necessary by the chairman.

Article XIV. Resolution of the general meeting will be carried by a majority of the members present. In case of a tie on any issue the presiding officer will have the deciding vote. Each member shall have the right to cast one vote. Votes by proxy shall not be recognized.

The last two sentences of the above clause shall also apply to issues relative to amendments of the constitution or dissolution of the organization.

Article XV. Resolutions adopted at a general meeting shall not be effective without government authorization.

CHAPTER V. Officers.

Article XVI. This organization shall have the following officers:

1. KAI CHO (Chairman) 1
2. RIJI (Directors) Numbers unspecified
3. KANJI (Inspectors) 5 or less

Article XVII. The Chairman shall be recommended by the President of the Board of Information (JOHO KYOKU SOSAI). As director, the chairman shall represent this organization and guide its activities. The chairman shall call and preside over general meetings, (RIJI KAI) Directors Meetings and HYOGIIN KAI (Consultants Meetings).

Article XVIII. The chairman shall select the RIJI (Directors) and KANJI (Inspectors) from the membership.

Article XIX. The chairman shall select one SEMMU RIJI (Managing Director) and three JOMU RIJI (Standing Directors).

DAI NIPPON GINRON HOKOKU KAI

Article XX. The SEMMU RIJI (Managing Director) shall assist the chairman in guiding the organization's activities and shall preside at meetings in the absence of the chairman. The SEMMU RIJI (Managing Director) will act in the capacity of JIMU KYOKU CHO (Chief of the Business Bureau).

Article XXI. The JOMU RIJI (Standing Directors) shall help the SEMMU RIJI (Managing Director) in the management of the organization's business and may represent the SEMMU RIJI in his absence. The JOMU RIJI (Standing Directors) will act in the capacity of BUCHO (Section Chiefs) of various operational departments.

Article XXII. Officers' terms shall be three years, after which they may be re-elected. In case RIJI (Directors) or KANJI (Inspectors) are appointed to fill vacancies, their terms will be for the remainder of the terms of the men whom they replace.

Article XXIII. The sanction of the chief of the JOHO KYOKU (Board of Information) must be obtained for the appointment or retirement of RIJI (Directors) or KANJI (Inspectors) as well as replacement or resignation of the JIMU KYOKU CHO (Chief of the Business Bureau) or JIMU KYOKU BUCHO (Section Chief of the Business Bureau).

Article XXIV. The RIJI (Directors) shall form a RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) and shall decide upon all important business of the organization.

Article XXV. The chairman shall call the RIJI KAI (Directors' Meeting) when necessary. Such meetings shall be convened at the request of three or more RIJI (Directors) or of a KANJI (Inspector).

Article XXVI. A RIJI KAI (Directors' Meeting) shall be dispersed until 5 or more RIJI (Directors) are present. Resolutions of a RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) shall be carried by a majority vote of those present. In case of a tie the presiding officer will have the deciding vote.

Article XXVII. The following matters shall be taken up at a RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) as well as other specifications as stated elsewhere in this constitution:

1. Matters pertaining to business plans and methods of execution.
2. Matters pertaining to the setting up, changing or closing of branch offices or liaison offices.
3. The appointment of officers or key personnel.
4. Budget and statement of accounts.
5. Administration of the organization's property or any other important business. Any decisions relative to Nos. 2 and 4 preceding must have the sanction of the Chief of the JOHO KYOKU (Board of Information Bureau).

Article XXVIII. KANJI (Inspector) shall undertake the duties stated in article 59 of the Civil Code.

CHAPTER VI. KOMON (Advisors), SANYO RIJI (Councillor-Directors), SANYO (Councillors), HYOGIIN (Consultant), IIN (Committee Member).

Article XXIX. This organization shall have KOMON (Advisors), SANYO

DAI NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI

RIJI (Councillor-Directors), SANYO (Councillors), HYOGIIN (Consultants) and IIN (Committee Members).

Article XXX. KOMON (Advisors) shall be chosen from among the officers of various related organizations or reputed scholars after recommended by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) and approved by the Chairman. The duty of a KOMON (Advisor) shall be to advise the Chairman with regard to all important business of the organization.

Article XXXI. SANYO RIJI (Councillor-Directors) are appointed from BUCHO (Chiefs of Departments) and KACHO (Chiefs of Sections) of the JOHO KIKU (Board of Information) by the Chairman. SANYO RIJI (Councillor-Directors) may attend a RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) and express their opinions.

Article XXXII. SANYO (Councillors) are selected from officials of related government offices and officers of related organizations, after recommended by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) and approved by the Chairman. SANYO (Councillors) are consulted with regard to important organizational business.

Article XXXIII. HYOGIIN (Consultants) are selected from the members by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) after approved by the Chairman. HYOGIIN (Consultants) shall form a HYOGIIN KAI (Consultants Meeting) to investigate questionnaires.

Article XXXIV. The terms of SANYO (Councillors) and HYOGIIN (Consultants) shall be two years, but they may be re-elected. In case of appointments to fill vacancies, their terms will be for the remainder of the terms of the men whom they replace.

Article XXXV. In case of appointments of SANYO RIJI (Councillor-Directors) or SANYO (Councillors) by reason of their official positions, their terms shall be duration of their official appointments.

Article XXXVI. IIN (Committee Members) shall be chosen from the officers and members of this organization, officials of related government offices and men of reputed scholarship, after recommended by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) and approved by the Chairman. Formation, organization and duties of IIN KAI (Committee Meetings) shall be decided by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) when necessary.

CHAPTER VII. Employees.

Article XXXVII. The organization shall have KYOKU CHO (Bureau Chiefs) BUCHO (Section Chiefs) SHUJI (Superintendent) SHOKI (Secretary) and other SHOKUIN (Employees).

CHAPTER VIII. Property and accounts.

Article XXXVIII. The property of this organization will be derived from dues, donations, subsidies and other income.

Article XXXIX. The accounting period of this organization will begin on 1 April of every year and end on 31 March of the following year.

Article XL. The disposal of the property of this organization in case of dissolution of the organization shall be decided according to

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decisions of a general meeting.

CHAPTER IX. Appendix.

Article XLI. The necessary details relative to the execution of this Constitution shall be decided by the RIJI KAI (Directors Meeting) and sanctioned by the JOHO KYOKU SOSAI (Chief of the Board of Information).

Article XLII. Officers at the inauguration of this organization are as follows:

KAICHO (Chairman): TOKUTOMI Iichiro
SEMMU RIJI (Managing Director): KANOKOGI Kazunobu
JOMU RIJI (Standing Directors): IZAWA Hiromu
NOMURA Shigeomi
TSUKUI Tatsuo

RIJI (Directors): AKIYAMA Kenzo OKUMA Nobuyuki
FUJITA Tokutaro ONO Seiichiro
FURUKAWA Takeshi OSAKA Seiken
HANAMI Ttsuji OSHIMA Yutaka
HASHIZUME Akio SAITO Kiyoshi
HOZUMI Shichiro SAITO Ko
ICHIKAWA Fusae SAITO Tadashi
INAHARA Katsuji SATO Michitsugu
KADA Tetsuji SHIMIZU Masamichi
KOMAKI Saneshige TAKAYAMA Iwao
NAKANO Tomio TOMIZUKA Kiyoshi
OGUSHI Toyoo YAMAZAKI Seijun

KANJI (Inspectors): FUNADA Chu
MORISITA Kunio
SUMITA Shoichi

C. Officials of the Society

Consolidation of the list of the officials at time of establishment of the Society in December 1942 and the list of officials on 1 May 1943 shows that the officials throughout the life of the society were:

KAICHO (Chairman):	TOKUTOMI Iichiro	Dec 1942
KOMON (Advisors):	ABE Genki	May 1943
	CHIKUSHI Kumashichi	May 1943
	HASEGAWA Manjiro	May 1943
	IMAIZUMI Teisuke	May 1943
	INOUE Tetsujiro	May 1943
	KAKEHI Katsuhiko	May 1943
	KUMAKI Genyoku	May 1943
	MATSUI Iwane	May 1943
	MIYAKE Yujiro	May 1943
	NISHI Shinichiro	May 1943
	OKAWA Shumei	May 1943
	OKUMURA Kiwao	May 1943
	OTANI Kozui	May 1943
	SAKURA Soichi	May 1943

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KOMON (Advisors):

SASAKI Yukitada	May 1943
SHIRATORI Toshio	May 1943
SUETSUGU Nobumasa	May 1943
SUGIMORI Kojiro	May 1943
TANAKA Kokichi	May 1943
YAMADA Takao	May 1943

SEMMU RIJI (Managing Director): KANOKOGI Kazunobu Dec 1942

JOMU RIJI (Standing Directors):

IZAMA Hiromu	Dec 1942
NOMURA Shigeomi	Dec 1942
SAITO Tadashi	Aug 1943
TSUKUI Tatsuo	Dec 1942

RIJI (Directors):

AKIYAMA Kenzo	Dec 1942
FUJITA Tokutaro	Dec 1942
FURUKAWA Takeshi	Dec 1942
HASHIZUME Akio	Dec 1942
HOZUMI Shichiro	Dec 1942
ICHIKAWA Fusae	Dec 1942
INAHARA Katsuji	Dec 1942
ITO Choji	May 1943
KADA Tetsuji	Dec 1942
KOMAKI Sanoshige	Dec 1942
KOSAKA Seiken	Dec 1942
KURAUCHI Kazuta	May 1943
NAKANO Tomio	Dec 1942
OGUSHI Toyoo	Dec 1942
OKUMA Nobuyuki	Dec 1942
ONO Seiichiro	Dec 1942
OSHIMA Yutaka	Dec 1942
SAITO Kiyoshi	Dec 1942
SAITO Ko	Dec 1942
SAITO Tadashi	Dec 1942
SATO Michitsugu	Dec 1942
SHIMMEI Masamichi	Dec 1942
SOSA Tanetsugu	Dec 1942
TAKAHASHI Seijun	Dec 1942
TAKAYAMA Iwao	Dec 1942
TOMIZUKA Kiyoshi	Dec 1942
TSUKUI Tatsuo	Aug 1943
YAMAZAKI Seijun	Dec 1942

SANYO RIJI (Councillor-Directors):

HASHIMOTO Masazane	May 1943
HAYASHI Kaoru	May 1943
HORI Koichi	May 1943
INOUE Shiro	May 1943
MIYAMOTO Yoshio	May 1943
MIZUTANI Shiro	May 1943

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SANYO RIJI (Councillor-Directors):	MURATA Goro	May 1943
	MUTO Tomio	May 1943
	TAJEMOTO Magoichi	May 1943
KANJI (Inspectors):	FUNADA Chu	Dec 1942
	SUMIDA Shoichi	Dec 1942
	MORISHITA Kunio	Dec 1942
SANYO KAIIN (Patron Members):	AKAO Yoshio	May 1943
	ISHIBASHI Tanzan	May 1943
	ISHIKAWA Takemi	May 1943
	ISHIYAMA Kenkichi	May 1943
	MSUDA Giichi	May 1943
	MURAYAMA Chokyo	May 1943
	NOMA Shoichi	May 1943
	OHASHI Shinichi	May 1943
	SHIMONAKA Yusaku	May 1943
	SHIMONAKA Yasaburo	May 1943
	SHORIKI Matsutaro	May 1943
	TAKAISHI Shingoro	May 1943
	YAMAMOTO Sanehiko	May 1943
	SANYO (Councillors):	ABE Kenichi
AIKAWA Katsureku		May 1943
AKAMATSU Katsumaro		May 1943
ASAHIN Sakutaro		May 1943
AZUMI Suehiko		May 1943
HASHIMOTO Kingoro		May 1943
HAYASHI Kazuo		May 1943
HIGASHIUCHI Shimpei		May 1943
HIRAIZUMI Cho		May 1943
HISATOMI Tatsuo		May 1943
IKEDA Hiromu		May 1943
INOBE Shigeo		May 1943
ITO Masanori		May 1943
KATO Kanji		May 1943
KAWADA Retsu		May 1943
KAWANISHI Jitsuze		May 1943
KIDO Motosuke		May 1943
KIMURA Kinji		May 1943
KITA Soichiro		May 1943
KOMURA Shoji		May 1943
KONO Shozo		May 1943
KOSAKA Masayasu		May 1943
KOZUKI Tamotsu		May 1943
KUME Masao		May 1943
MATSUMOTO Shigeharu		May 1943
MATSUNAGA Tai		May 1943
MINODA Muneyoshi		May 1943

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S.NYO (Councillors):	MITSUI Koshi	May 1943
	MIYATA Mitsuo	May 1943
	MIYAZAKI Mitsuo	May 1943
	NAGAOKA Katsuaki	May 1943
	NAKAMITSU Yoshichika	May 1943
	NAKAMURA Sannojo	May 1943
	NAKASHIBA Suezumi	May 1943
	NISHINA Yoshio	May 1943
	OHAMA Toshie	May 1943
	ORITA Churyu	May 1943
	OGATA Taketora	May 1943
	OKAMURA Jiichi	May 1943
	ONO Shunichi	May 1943
	OTA Masataka	May 1943
	SENGE Takatake	May 1943
	SENGE Takanobu	May 1943
	SHIOTEN Nobutaka	May 1943
	SHIOZAWA Genji	May 1943
	TAKEDA Gensaburo	May 1943
	TANABE Tadao	May 1943
	TANAKA Kazumaro	May 1943
	TANAKA Nagashige	May 1943
	TOMOEDA Takahiko	May 1943

HYOGIIN (Consultants):	ABE Einzo
	ARAKI Shumma
	ASANO Akira
	ASHIZU Nobuhiko
	FUJISAWA Chikae
	FURUSAWA Isojiro
	FURUYA Yoshio
	FURUYA Yoshisada
	HANAMI Tatsuji
	HARADA Minoru
	HIDA Takube
	HIGO Kazuo
	HIRANO Tennoyuke
	HONMA Kenichiro
	ISHIMUR Chuji
	KATO Fumiteru
	KOBAYASHI Goro
	KOJIMA Shigeo
	KONNO Gempachiro
	KONO Tatsuzo
	KUMURA Teshio
	KURODA Satoru
	MEDA Ryuichi
MASUDA Masao	
MITSUMOTO Tokumei	
MIYAMA Iwao	

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HYOGIIN (Consultants): MISHIMA Yazuo
MURAI Tojuro
MURAMATSU Hisayoshi
NAGATA Kiyoshi
NAGAYAMA Tadanori
NAKAGAWA Yoichi
NAKAGAWA Yonosuke
NAKAKOJI Akira
NAKIMURA Yoshinosuke
NISHITANI Teiji
NISHITANI Yahei
NISHIGUCHI Masaru
NIWA Goro
NODO Chusuke
OIGAMI Yasushi
OKUMA Takeo
OTA Yoshio
OTSUKA Ichiro
OZAKI Shiro
SABUSA Shigetomo
SAITO Ryutaro
SAKAGUCHI Saburo
SANO Kazuhiko
SATO Yoshio
SATSUMI Yuji
SEGAMA Jiro
SHIMADA Haruo
SHIMURA Rikujo
SHIRANE Takayuki
SUGAMORI Saburo
SUGIMURA Heiji
SUGI Yasusaburo
SUGINO Tadao
SUGIYAMA Kenji
SUZUKI Shigetaka
TAKASE Kensuke
TAKEMUCHI Shigeo
TERADA Yakichi
TONEGAWA Toyo
TSUNEOKA Takio
UEHARA Torashige
YANAGIDA Kenjuro
YASUDA Tetsumatsu
YOSHIDA Saburo
YOSHIMURA Tadashi

D. Analysis of the Society's Officers and Personnel.

1. KICHO (Chairman):

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According to Article XVII of the Constitution, the Chairman was recommended by the Chief of the Cabinet Board of Information. TANI Masayuki selected TOKUTOMI Ichiro, veteran 79 year old nationalist in the field of journalism.

2. SEIJI RIJI (Managing Director) and JUNI RIJI (Standing Directors):
According to Article XIX of the Constitution the Managing Director and the Standing Directors were selected by the chairman. TOKUTOMI Ichiro chose as Managing Director the extremely active ultra-nationalist journalist KANONOGI Kazunobu and as Standing Directors IZUMI Hiromu, NOMURA Shigeomi and TSUKUI Tatsuo who were likewise prolific writers in the field of Nationalism. In May 1943 TSUKUI's place was filled by SAITO Tadashi, who had published NOMURA's hand-book of Nationalism in 1941.

3. KOUN (Advisors):
According to Article XXIX of the Constitution the Advisors were chosen from among the officers of various related organizations or reputed scholars by recommendation of the Directors and approval of the chairman. Consequently this body of 20 men was comprised of a heterogeneous group of prominent officials, newspaper officials, professors and other scholars. Whereas the group included such well-known nationalists as HIRAZUMI Teisuke, MATSUI Iwano, OKADA Shumei, SHIMIZU Toshio and SUETSUGU Nobumasa, it likewise contained such liberals as HASEGAWA Manjiro and SUGIMORI Kojiro. HASEGAWA Manjiro, better known by his pen-name NYOZEKIN (The Easy Going Fellow) has been known as a liberal writer since the days following World War I when he was a member of the editorial staff of the ASAHI. It was because of the writings of NYOZEKIN and his associates that MURAYAMA Ryuei, the paper's president, was tied to a telegraph pole by members of the KOKURYU K.I (Amur River Society). In 1935 he was a member of the YUIBUTSU RON KENKYU K.I (Materialism Study Society) with HIRANO Yoshitaro and others who were regarded by the police as Communist sympathizers. SUGIMORI was a professor at Waseda University well-known for his liberal views.

4. RIJI (Directors):
According to Article XVIII of the Constitution, Directors were selected by the Chairman from among the members. TOKUTOMI selected a varied group of 27 individuals from various walks of the intellectual life of the nation. Whereas the group included such well-known nationalists as HOZUMI Shiichiro, SAITO Kiyoshi and SOSA Tanetsugu, it likewise included liberals like ICHIKAWA Fusae, the suffragette who had fought for women's rights for 20 years, ONO Seiichiro, professor of law at Tokyo Imperial University, authority on criminal law and author of such books as "Safeguarding of Honor in Criminal Law" and "Development of Japanese Jurisprudence", and SHIMIZU Masamichi, well-known figure in Japanese Christian circles and professor of law at Tohoku Imperial University.

5. SANYO RIJI (Councillor-Directors):
According to Article XXXI of the Constitution, Councillor-

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Directors were appointed by the Chairman from the Department and Section Chiefs of the Cabinet Board of Information. In actual fact, the Chiefs of all departments of the Information Board plus the heads of sections vitally concerned with publicity such as broadcasting and the press became SANYO RIJI.

6. SANJO KAIIN (Patron Members):

According to Article VIII of the Constitution, patron members were people who sympathized with the aims of the organization; who would help in the work and who had been recommended by the Directors Meeting and had been approved by the Chairman. To a man, the individuals recommended and approved were the presidents of the large publishing houses, presidents and chairman of the big newspapers, the most prominent men in their field:

KURO Yoshio, President of OBUN SHA (Publishing House)

ISHIBASHI Tanzan, President of TOYO KEIZAI SHIMPO SHA (Oriental Economist)

ISHIKAWA Takemi, of SHUFU NO TOMO (Wousewives' Companion)

ISHIYAMA Kenkichi, Publisher of the "Diamond" (Economic Magazine)

MASUDA Giichi, Publisher of JITSUGYO NO NIHON (Business World of Japan)

MURAMATSU Chokyo, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the ASAHI SHIMBUN (Asahi Newspaper)

NOMURA Shoichi, President of KODAN SHA (Publishing House)

OHLSHII Shinichi, President of HAKUBUN KAN (Publishing House)

SHIMIZUKA Yusaku, President of CHUO KORON SHA (Publishing House)

SHIMONAKA Yasaburo, President of HEIBON SHA (Publishing House)

SHOIKI Matsutaro, President of the YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Yomiuri Newspaper)

TAKAISHI Shingoro, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the ASAHI MAINICHI (Osaka Daily)

TAKENAKA Osamu, Director of the YOMIURI SHIMBUN (Yomiuri Newspaper)

YAMAMOTO Sanehiko, President of the KAIZO SHA (Publishing House)

Of this group, the only individual who may be unqualifiedly called a nationalist is SHIMONAKA Yasaburo.

7. SANYO (Councillors):

According to Article XXXII, Councillors were selected from among the officials of related government agencies and officials of related organizations by recommendation of the Directors Meeting and by approval of the Chairman. The individuals selected came from various organizations such as newspapers, press associations, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation, societies etc.

8. HYOGIIN (Consultants):

According to Article XXXIII of the Constitution, Consultants were chosen by the Directors Meeting with the approval of the Chairman,

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from among the members of the society. This body of men selected as Consultant apparently because of their ideologies and not because of professional, intellectual or official connections, was the most consistently questionable group in the organization, including in its number such ideological nationalists as FUJISAWA Chikao and FURUYA Yoshisada, such ideological fundamentalists as ASHIZU Nobuhiko and such "direct action" ultra-nationalists as NOMMI Kenichiro of the 7.5 Incident, YASUDA Tetsunosuke of the SHIMPEI TAI Incident, and SHIMURA Rikizo and SUGANAMI Saburo of the 2.26 Incident. 1,000 individuals from various political, official, intellectual and social circles. It is impossible to classify this large group into categories. However, the following list is representative of the many liberals who joined the society because it was either fashionable or necessary to do so in the first and second year of the war:

NAKAYAMA Ichiro, Professor of Economics at Tokyo University of Commerce, at one time associated with the RONDO HA (Labor-Farmer Group) "Professor Group".
GONDA Yasunosuke, Director of the OHARA Social Problems Research Institute.
SUEKIWA Hiroshi, President of RITSUMEI KAN University, once ousted from Kyoto Imperial University for his liberalism.
TERUOKA Yoshito, President of the Institute of Labor Science.
ROYAMA Masamichi, Chief Editor of the CHUO KORON (Central Review).
TOBITA Seiichi, Professor at Tokyo Imperial University.
ISA Hidoo, private secretary to OZAKI Yukio.
OGURA Kinnosuke, president of the MINSHU KAG. KUSHA KYOKKI (Association of Democratic Social Science).

F. Publications.

The society's organ, the GENRON HOKOKU (Save the Country by Speech and publication), of which the first issue was published in September 1943 and which lasted through the war, was rapidly patriotic during the first year, with such men as TOKUTOMI Iichiro, TSUKUI Tatsuo, NOMURA Shigeomi, SOS. Tanetsugu, SAITO Kiyoshi and SHIRATORI Toshio among the most consistent contributors. As the war progressed, more general subjects dealing with public welfare and social problems entered the table of contents. In 1945 the paper shortage reduced the magazine to a flimsy pamphlet of 14 or 15 pages. The April 1945 issue contained two articles NISSHIN NICHIRO-DAI TOU SENKA NO GENRON JIN (Sino-Japanese; Russo-Japanese; Commentators during the Great East Asia War), a discussion between TOKUTOMI Iichiro and IZAWA Hiromu and SEISAN SEN ZAKKI (Miscellaneous Notes on the War of Production) by MORIYASU Shinjiro.

G. Activities:

Study of the GENRON HOKOKU Magazine leaves no doubt that the organi-

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zation was very active during the first years of the war, holding frequent meetings of the Directors and the Consultants, sponsoring debates, discussions and committee meetings. TOKUTOMI Iichiro remained a sort of figure-head of the organization except for his contributions to the GENRON HOKOKU, for KAKOOGI Kazunobu or TSUKUI Tatsuo invariably presided at meetings. Attendance at meetings was small. For example the 4th Directors Meeting held on 26 April 1943 was attended by only 13 of the 28 Directors plus 2 of the 3 Inspectors and 5 men from the Board of Information. At the 1st meeting of the SHISO SEN T. ISAKU IIN KAI (Thought War Planning Committee) on 25 June 1943 only 31 of the 62 committee members appointed, put in an appearance. A series of lectures, KAIIN KENKYU KAI (Member's Study Society) held in June 1943 attracted an attendance of only 32. As time went on meetings were less frequent and attendance smaller.

H. Evaluation:

The D.I. NIPPON GENRON HOKOKU KAI (Great Japan Speech and Publication Serve-The-Country Association) was a patriotic organization formed a year after the outbreak of the Great East Asia War as a psychological influence in war-time Japanese life. It was an extremely undemocratic institution in that the Chairman, appointed by the Chief of the Cabinet Information Board, selected the Managing Directors, the Standing Directors and the Directors who in turn selected the other officers and members with the Chairman's approval. Indicative of the autocratic control exercised by the Managing Director and the Standing Directors was their concurrent occupancy of other key positions:

KAKOOGI Kazunobu, Managing Director
JIMU KYOKU CHO (Chief of Business Affairs Bureau)
TSUKUI Tatsuo, Standing Director
SOMU KYOKU CHO (Chief of General Affairs Bureau)
IZAMA Hiromu, Standing Director
KIKAKU BU CHO (Chief of Planning Section)
NOMURA Shigeomi, Standing Director
CHOSA BU CHO (Chief of Investigation Section)

It is apparent that the activities of this large, country-wide organization were closely directed by its leaders. It is recommended that association with this organization per se be not considered evidence of militarism, expansionism or ultra-nationalism because the society was semi-official, because the holding of office and membership were contingent upon official, professional social, and intellectual position, because many well-known liberals became members and indeed officers because participation was patriotic and fashionable. It is recommended that officers and members be judged on their individual merits because the nationalists in the group show their colors plainly in their various activities in other fields.