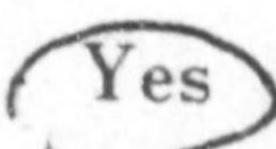
GHQ/SCAP Records(RG 331) Description of contents

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Para W. appendix A, Leapin 550

D. Persons Influential in the Activities of IRRA, IRAPS, and the Political Association of Great Japan.

Any person who has at any time:

- 1. Been a founder or national officer, a national director, national committee chairman, or a leading official of a prefectural or metropolitan subdivision of; or
 - 2. Been an editor of any publication or organ of:
 - The Imperial Rule Assistance Association (Taisei Yokusankai) and any of its affiliates.
 - b. The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society (Taisei Seijikai) and any of its affiliates or agencies.
 - c. The Political Association of Great Japan and any of its offiliates or agencies.

Pera It, appendix I, Robinst & Horng Ministry Ordinar a # 1, 1947

- IV. Persons Influential in the Activities of IRAA, IRAPS, and the (16)
 Political Associations of Great Japan:
 Any person who has at any time held any of the following or commensurate positions:
 - 1. The Imperial Rule Assistance Association
 Shintaisei Jumbi-IIn (Member of the New Political Order
 President (Sosai)

Vice-President (Fuku Sosai)

Standing Advisor (Jonin Komon)

advisor (Komen)

Standing Member of the Board of Directors (Jonin Somu)

Member of the Board of Directors (Somu)

Chairman of the National Cooperation Conference (Chuo Kyoryoku Kaigi Gicho)

Secretary-General of the National Headquarters (Chuo Honbu Jimu Socho)

Director of a Bureau of the National Headquarters or Principal of the Central Training Institute (Chuo Honbu Jimu-Kyoku Kaku Kyoku Cho Oyobi Kunran Shocho) Chief (Bucho) or influential Deputy Chief (Fuku Bucho) of a Section of the National Headquarters or of the Central Training Institute.

President (Sori) and Secretary*General (honbu Cho) of the Asia Development Headquarters (Koa So Honbu).

Chief of a bureau (Kyoku Cho) of the Asia Development Headquarters.

Chief (Bu Cho) or influential Deputy

Chief (Fuku Bu Cho) of the Asia Development Headquarters.

Chief (Shibucho), Secretary-General (Jimu Kycku Cho) or Chief of a section (Bucho) of a Prefectural Branch.

Chairman of a Prefectural Cooperation Conference (kyoryoku Kaigi Gicho)

Chief (Shibucho), Secretary-General (Jimu Kyoku Cho), or Chief of a Section (Bucho) of a Municipal Branch of Tokyo, Kyoto, Yokohama, Osaka, Kobe and Nagoya Cities (Called the six principal cities hereafter)

Chairman of a Municipal Cooperation Conference (Kyoryoku Kaigi Gicho) of the six principal cities.

Chief (Shibucho) or Secretary-General (Jimucho) of a Gun, City (excepting the six principal cities; ditto hereafter) or Ward Branch.

Chairman of a Gun, City or Ward Cooperation Conference,
Chief (shibucho) of a Town or Village Branch.
Chairman of a Town or Village Branch Cooperation Conference

2. Affiliates of the IRAA

A.Dainippon Yokusan Sonendan (The Imporial Rule Assistance
Youth Association of Great Japan)

President (Dan-cho)

Vico-President (Fuku Dancho)

Advisor (komon)

Hember of the Board of Directors (Somu)

Member of the Executive Committee (Riji)

Secretary (Kanji)

Director of the National Headquarters (Honbucho)

President (Dancho, Vice-President (Fuku Dancho), Member of the Board of Directors (Somu), Director (Honbucho), or Chief of a Section (Bucho of a Prefectural Branch.

Chief (Dancho), Deputy Chief (Fuku Dancho), Member of Board of Directors (Somu), Secretary-General (honbucho), Chief of a Section (Bucho) of a Municipal Headquarters of the six principal cities.

Chief (Dancho) of a Gum, City, Ward, Town or Village Branch.

B. Dainippon Koa Domei (The Asia Development League of Great Japan)

President (Sosai)

Chancellor (Tori)

Vice-President (Fuku Sosai)

Standing Advisor (Jonin Komon)

Chairman of the Board of Director (Riji-cho)

Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors (Fuku Riji-cho)

Standing member of the Board of Directors (Jomu Riji)

Member of the Board of Directors (Riji)

Secretary-General (Jimu Socho)

Assistant Secretary-General (Jimu Jicho)

Director of a Bureau of the Secretariat (Jimukyoku Kaku Kyoku-cho)

Chief (Shibu-cho) of a Profectural Branch

C. Other Affiliates
DAI NIPPON SANGYO HOKOKUKAI (Great Japan Industrial Patriotic
Association)

NIPPON KAIUN HOKOKUKAI (Japan Navigation Patriotic Assoc.)

DAI NIPPON SEISHONEN DAN (Great Japan Youth Association)

DAI NIPPON FUJIN KAI - (Great Japan Women's Association)

DAI NIPPON ROMU HOKOKUKAI (Great Japan Laborer's Patriotic

Association)

NOGYO HOKOKU REMEEL (Agricultural Patriotic Association)

SHOGYO HOKOKU KAI (Commercial Patriotic Association)

KOKUBO KIKAIKA KYOKAI (National Defense Novement for Mechani-

cal Forces Association)

President (Sosai, Kaicho or Dancho)

Vice-President (Fuku Sosai, Fuku Kaicho, Fuku Dancho)
Chairman of Board of Directors (Riji Cho)
Vice Chairman of Board of Directors (Fuku Riji Cho)
Active member of Board of Directors
Active Advisor

3. Yokusan Seiji Kai (The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society)

Yokusan Seiji Kosshu Jumbikai lin (Member of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Consolidation Preparation Committee)

President (Sosai)

Advisor (Komon)

Standing Member of the Board of Directors (Jonin Somu)

Member of the Board of Directors (Somu)

Chairman of the Committee for Investigation of Political
Affairs (Seimu Chosakai-cho)

Chairman of the Association of Member of the House of Representatives (Daigishikai-cho)

Secretary General (Jimukyoku-cho)

Auditor (Kaikei Kantoku)

Chief of a Section of the Secretariat (Jimukyoku Kaku Bucho)

Any person who took part in the planning of the foundation of the Association.

President (Sosai)

Advisor (Komon)

Member of the Board of Directors (Somu)

Chief Secretary (Kenjicho)

Chairman of the Committee for Investigation of Political Affairs (Seimu Chosakai-cho)

Chairman of the Association of Member of the House of Representatives (Daigishigai-cho)

Auditor (Kaikei Kantoku)

Chief of a Section (Kaku Bucho)

Chief of a Profectural Branch (To-Do-Fu-Ken Shibu-cho)

- 5. Member of Yokusen Saiji Taisei Kakuritsu Kyogikai (Council for Establishing the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Structure, including the local branches thereof).
- 6. Editor of any publication or organ of any of the organizations mentioned in Items 1-5 above.
- Note: In those cases where there have been any changes in the names of the above-mentioned organizations or offices due to the changes made in the rules relating thereto the present Paragraph will apply also to such organizations or offices corresponding to those mentioned in the paragraph.

Sulmille 1 by
HIRAMATSU on 28 July Major Depier's Policy
File

Explanation of the fact that Local Branch (Chiho Shibu) of the Council for establishing the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Structure (for short, C.f.e.I.R.A. P.S. Yokusan Seiji Taisei Kyōgikai) does not comprise Monicipal Imperial Rule Assistance Political Structure Council (for short, M.J.R.A.P.S.C; Shi Yokusan Seiji Taisei Tyōgikai).

(a) Local Branch (Prefectural Branch) of the C.f.e. I. R.A.P.S.

of the

- (1) Local Branches of the C.f.e.I.R.A.P.S. were established in mid-March, 1942 all at once in every Prefecture, and were reported officially as political organization. Therefore, Local Branches mean in this case Prefectural Branches.
- on March 20 of the same year at a time by ABE, Nobuyuki, President of the Central C.f.e.I.R.A.P.S., for
 all Prefectural Branches.
- The object of the said Branches consisted in the recommendation of the candidates for the Membership of the House of Representatives in the general election to be held in April of the same year.

 Recommended condidates fall naturally under Category G of the Purge Memorandum Accordingly, with good reason, the members of the Local Branches as recommendation

organ for the recommended members of the House fall under the provisions of the Directive.

- (b) (M.L.R.A.P.S.C. as compared with the Local Branch of the C.f.e.I.R.A.P.S.
 - in Cities at their own accord for the election of the members of the Municipal Assemblies, so the dates of formation vary owing to the different dates of election in each City. Many of the cities did not have the M.I. R.A.P.S.C. Moreover, they had nothing to do with the Central C.f.e.I.R.A.P.S. and the Local (Prefectureal) Branches of the C.f.e.I.R.A.P.S.
 - of the Central C.f.e. I.R.A.P.S., but the selection of the members was taken up spontaneously by Mayors and others according to the circumstances of each city.
 - candidates for the members of the Municipal Assemblies, as elections took place in each City days May to December of the same year. The candidates recommended in this case are not enumerated as falling under Category G. (The candidates did not receive subsidy from the Government, unlike those with the so-called "Imperial Rule Assistance Election" (Yokusan Senkyot

by Premier Tojo. The interperence of election by the Government and Municipal Authorities, the oppression by them, etc., did not happen.)

Therefore, the opinion that their recommendation body falls under the provisions of the Purge Directive is quite unreasonable.

(c) The comparative examination of (a) and (b) Shows that the Local Branches of the C.f.e.I.H.A.P.S. do not comprise the M.I.R.A.P.S.C.

3 May 17 68t of Rungs MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief Purge Officer Branch Chiefs of IRAA, Imperial Rule Assistance SUBJECT Youth Association of Great Japan, and Imperial Ex-Servicemen's Association, status of. 1. A decision is required with respect to the term "Chief of a Town or Village Branch", a mandatory position for removal in: a. IRAA, Imperial Rule Assistance Youth Association of Great Japan (Paragraph IV of Appendix 1 to Cabinet and Home Ministry Ordinance No. 1 of 1947). b. Imperial Ex-Servicemen's Association (Paragraph 9 of Japanese Government's Interpretation of Category "G"). 2. Problems have arisen due to the fact that the same Japanese word and character means both:

a. "Town" in the sense of an administrative unit

geographically separate from a city: (Machi, Cho)

b. "Town" within a ward or city, which is composed of a group of city blocks: @ (Machi, Cho).

- 3. With regard to the organizations concerned, the question is raised: Should the chief of a "Town" branch within a ward or city be considered as falling under the Memorandum?
- 4. The following arguments are advanced for and against inclusion under the Memorandum:

FOR

- a. Subject chiefs, inasmuch as they accepted their positions on a voluntary basis, are a great deal more culpable than branch chiefs of towns or villages within a county, for the latter were often ordered to accept their positions from above, and acceptance was occasionally involuntary.
- b. Subject chiefs, although in charge of relatively small areas compared to branch chiefs of towns or villages within a county, were invcharge of areas of greater and denser population.

 Meny cases in
- c. If we would draw a distinction between branch chiefs of towns within a ward or city on the one hand, and branch chiefs of towns or villages within a county on the other, we technically would not be justified (as shown in the accompanying charts, these positions are at the foundation of the organizations) in making the latter mandatory positions for removal,

level

while not treating the former in like manner. Conversely, if the position of branch chiefs of towns or villages within a county is included, then we would be more than justified the inc)usion of in including branch chiefs of towns within a ward or city among the positions for mandatory removal, would appear and justifiable. d. Acceptance by the Imperial Japanese Government of the same principle for the Imperial Ex-Servicemen's Association has already been made a matter of record. in pertinent provisions of the Ordinance, a. As the word "town" is mentioned in the same breathphrase with the word "village" it is elear that no type of town is thought of other than one geographically separate from a city. b. Subject chiefs were not included within the administrative setup of the organizations in question.

c. Subject chiefs were not appointed by the hierarchy of the organizations, but volunteered for the positions,

d. If the chiefs in question are to be included, justice requires that branch chiefs of comparable units within a ward or city, not suffixed by either Machi or Cho, also be included.

5. It is recommended that:

- a. The decision be to regard the chief of a town (or a comparable unit not suffixed by either Machi or Cho) branch within a ward or city as falling under the Memorandum.
- b. The Japanese Government be requested accordingly to consider a change in the wording of the terms:
 - 1. "Chief (Shibucho) of a Town or Village Branch" and "Chief (Dancho) of a Town or Village Branch" (Paragraph IV of Appendix 1 of Cabinet and Home Ministry Ordinance No. 1 of 1947), and
 - 2. "....Chief of a....Town or Village Branch of the Imperial Ex-Servicemen's Association" (Paragraph 9 of the Japanese Government's Interpretation of Category se Gm) .

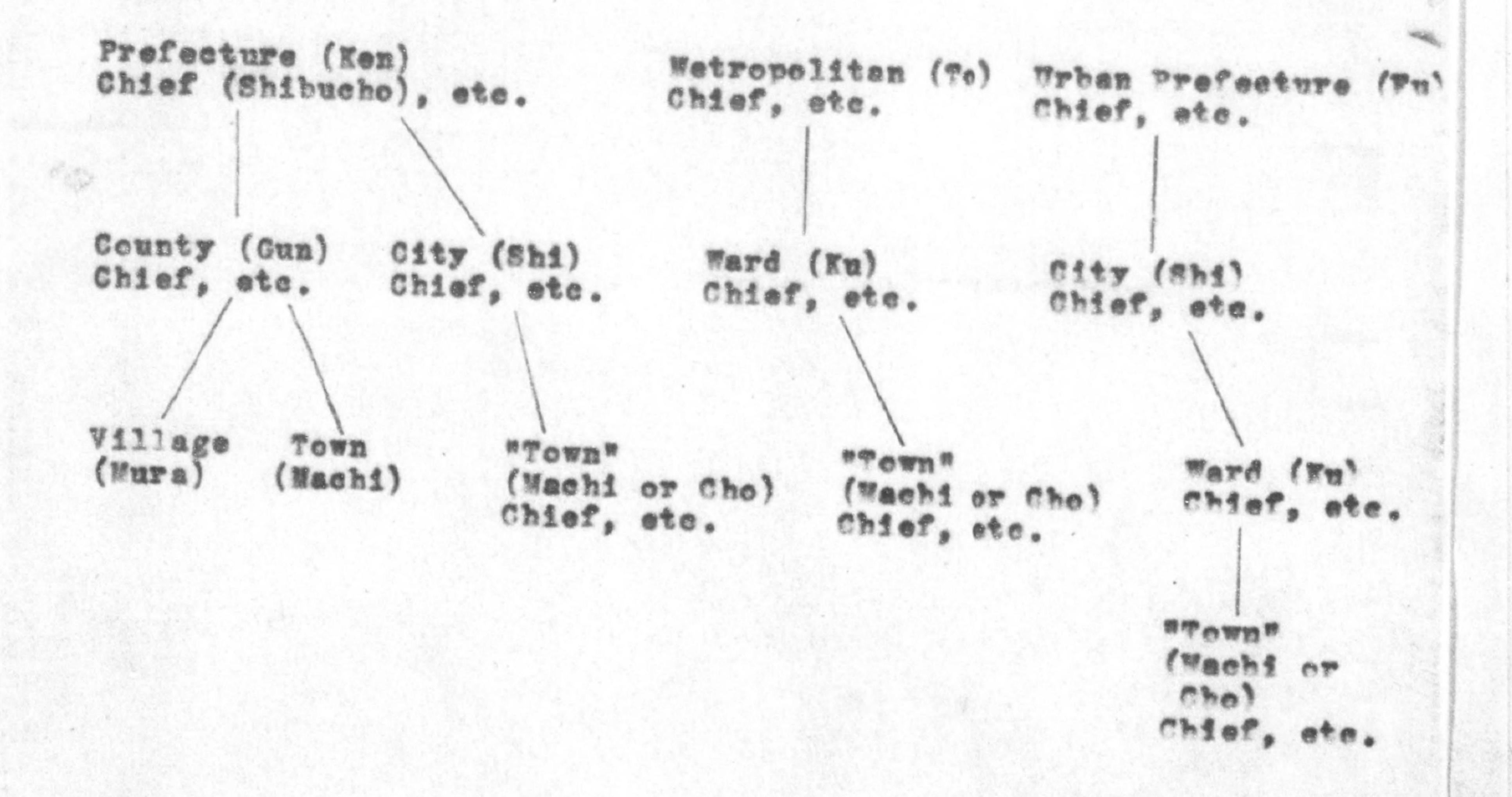
JOHN BRADY

- X Lee Enclose For the second Encl: Chart

A) though there are na similarities in certainly administrative towns inquestion e. A "town" within a city or ward constitutes a social entity comparable in all respects to a town within a county. This "town" subdivision of a ward or city provided the means by which activities of the populace were unified, and a medium through which all propaganda was disseminated. In view of this, it is evident that a branch chief of the organizations in question was in a position to exert considerable influence the their behalf. comprehe to that of the chief of a found or village Changes suggested as underlined: 1. Section 1, Paragraph IV of Appendix I of Cabinet and Home Ministry Ordinance No. 1 of 1947: "Chief (Shibucho) or Secretary-General (Jimucho) of a Gun, City, (excepting the six principal cities: ditto hereafter) or Ward Branch, or Chief (Shibucho) of a MACHI or CHO (or other similar unit within a city or ward) Branch". Section of the same: "Chief (Dancho) of a Gun, City, Ward, MACHI or CHO (or other similar unit within a city or ward), Town or Village Branch." 2. Paragraph 9 of the Japanese Government's Interpretation of Category "G": "Chief of a Metropolitan, city, ward, town or village federation of branches or chief of a city, ward, MACHI or CHO (or other similar unit within a city or ward), town or village branch of the Imperial Ex-Servicemen's Association." JOHN BRADY f. Though the smallest conal breakdown on the map of any city is a word, the organization of the social stratiche goes through MACHIOTCHO to several neighborhood groups within each MACHI or CHO. The neighbolhood group chiefs had no corporate positions, but the chiefe of a MACHI be CHO held a number of corporate littes, introcognition of their post of influence. The chief of a MACHLOR COHO was the alderinistrator of foodol distribution, as well as representative of a rebuilder of civilean deflerie organizations, and as such was an a position of considerable ind hence over the members thereof.

TRAA, etc.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION



Note: In case of Imperial Rule Assistance Youth Association "chief" becomes Dancho.

Encl #/

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIES POWERS
GOVERNMENT Section

2 April 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR PAD:

CURTICLE Numbers of the Prefectural and Local Council for

SUBJECT: Members of the Prefectural and Local Council for Establishment of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

Japanese Government attempting to prove that the members of the Yokusan Seiji Taisei Kokuritsu Kyogikai (Council for the Yokusan Seiji Taisei Kokuritsu Kyogikai (Council for Establishment of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association) Establishment of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association) at the prefectural and local level should not be made mandatory at the purge cases, whereas the members of the same Council at the purge cases, whereas the members of the same Council at the mulgation of SCAPIN 550. The information presented by the mulgation of SCAPIN 550. The information presented by the mulgation of SCAPIN 550. The information presented by the field of recommending candidates, whereof the Council in the field of recommending candidates, whereas, the Council actually engaged in other activities.

It was felt, therefore, that the information presented was not sufficient to disprove that the Prefectural and Local Council on their respective levels exercised commensurate influence as the National Council on its level.

Whe extension of the purge to Local level are to be carried out, the decision was made, that the members of the Prefectural and Local Councils for Establishment of the IRAA are to be mandatory purge cases.

3. In conjunction with the above, Col. Marcum made the decision that all candidates recommended by the IRAA, regardless of whether they were recommended by the Prefectural and less of whether they were recommended by the Prefectural and Local or by the National Council were to be mandatory purge Local or by the National Council were to be mandatory purge cases in the Category of "any person who was recommended in the general election of 1942".

HANS H. BAERWALD

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INFO TION SUBMITTED BY THE IMP AL JAPANESE GOVERNMENT - 27 MARCH 1947.

Re: Member of Local "Yokusan Seiji Taisei Kakuritsu Kyogi Kai" (Council for the Establishment of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association)

27 Mar. 1947.

- 1. In mapping out the present Imperial Ordinance, we were contemplating the Council in the meaning of the Central Council in concord with "Recommended" candidate for member of the Diet who was to be recommended by the Central Council.
- 2. Judging by the activities conducted by Local Council, we are unable to agree on the opinion that it should be treated same as Central for the following reasons.
 - (a) In prefectures, Local Council was not an exclusive organ in advising Central Council to recommend candidates. As some outsiders of Local Council participated, it is understood, in advise to Central Council, it has been ambiguous who was actually in power to advise Central Council in recommendation.
 - (b) The recommendation initiated by Local Council a fair and just candidate while rejecting a local "boss" with clear distinction against the tendency of Central Council to select candidates connected with Tojo or military clique.
 - (c) The activities of Local Council were of temporary nature, not permanent. Nor it was an embryo of a local branch of IRAA.
- 3. With the reasons above, we are of an opinion that member of Local Council for the Establishment of IRAA should not reasonably be included in D Clause.

MEMORANDUM FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

SUBJECT: Chief of town within a ward branch of the Imperial Rule Assistance Assocation.

GUN (county) KU (ward) - Shibu Level

Village Town Town Town - Bunkai Level

The question was raised at a recent conference with Mr. OHTA, Chief of the Secretariat of the Central Screening Committee, whether or not chiefs of towns within a ward branch of IRAA were mandatory purge positions. Inasmuch as village and town within a Gun Branch Chief of IRAA are mandatory purge positions and inasmuch as the position of town within a Ku Branch chief is on the same level as the former, (the BUNKAI

level), the position of chief of a town within a Ku branch of

TRAA will also be a mandatory purge position.

HANS H. BAERWALD

2nd Lt. INF.

Public Administration Division

sprond by CP

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS Government Section

25 March 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Public Administration Division

SUBJECT: Record of Conference with Officials of the Central Public Office Qualifications Examination Committee with Regard to Proposed Purge Cases.

The following case is to be held in obeyance until the Japanese Government submits required information: IKEDA, Tomoichi, member Shiba Prefectural Branch, Council for establishing Imperial Rule Assistance Political Structure (Yokusan Seiji Taisei Kyogikai). The representative of the Central Screening Committee and Mr. Murai from the Central Liaison Office balked at this interpretation of the ordinances because Ikeda was a member of the Prefectural and not a member of the National Council. It was decided that the case would be held in obeyance until Monday, 24 March, at which time, unless specific information was presented proving that only members of the National and not members of the Frefectural Council should be purged this provision of the ordinance would be interpreted that all members regardless of whether the Prefectural or National level would be found to fall within the scope of its meaning (the ordinances are not specific on this provision Paragraph 5 of Category 4 of Appendix II of Cabinet and Home Ministry Ordinance No. 1 of 1947, which reads: "member of Yokusan Seiji Taisei Kakuriksu Kyogikai - Council for Establishing the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Structure).

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HANS H BEARWALD,

2nd Lt Inf

Public Administration Division

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS Government Section

25 March 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Fublic Administration Division

SUBJECT: Record of Conference with Officials of the Central Public Office Qualifications Examination Committee with Regard to Proposed Purge Cases.

NAKAYAMA Torao, Chief, Toyokawa Mura Branch Imperial Rule Assistance Youth Association (subject has a possible appeal case as he held position for only one month.

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HANS H BEARWALD,

2nd Lt Inf.

Public Administration Division

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
Government Section

25 March 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Public Administration Division

SUBJECT: Record of Conference with Officials of the Central Public Office Qualifications Examination Committee with Regard to Proposed Purge Cases

SHINOHARA Nichio was to be purged for having served as Chief of the Fukuyama City Branch Imperial Rule Assistance Youth Association. His position in that organization was "Honbucho", which translates literally "Chief of Headquarters". However, in the organization chart of city branches of Imperial Rule Assistance Youth Association it was shown that directly underneath the chief and deputy chief of the branch was a person acting as a combination executive and administrative officer whose official title was "Honbucho". Shinohara held this position in the Fukuyama Branch of the Imperial Rule Assistance Youth Association and as such, not purgeable within the purview of the ordinances.

HANS H. BEARWALD,

2nd Lt Inf

Public Administration Division

- 1. I have carefully reviewed "The Flan for Application of the Purge Directive to Local Elective and Eppointive Posts" submitted as C.L.O. No. 5564 (PP) designed to implement throughout the lower echelons of government the directive of the Supreme Commander dated 4 January 1946 concerning the "Removal and Exclusion of Undesirable Personnel
 - 2. The above mentioned plan reflects commendable effort on the part of those officials who participated in its formulation; demonstrating in general an excellent approach to the problem presented by the pendency of the elections required by the Local Government Reform Laws. It fails, however, to apply certain fundamental principles ... which are essential if the lower echelons of government are to be so reformed as to afford the people a free and untrammelled opportunity to select public officers of their choice. These principles are as follows
 - a. That persons deemed undesirable for any public offica shall be barred from all public service. The plan is deficient in this respect because it does not bar from the national government all persons removed or excluded from local government.
 - b. That local government and quasi-government officeholders shall not be permitted to perpetuate themselves in office. The plan is deficient in this respect because it does not make automatically ineligible for re-election the mayors of cities and their deputies, town and village headmen and their deputies, and block heads (chonaikai-cho and burakukai-cho) who through tenure of office, particularly during the past period of regimented controls, have tended to perpetuate entrenched authority. In this connection it would seem that none of such office-holders whose incumbency ante-dates September 2, 1945 should be eligible to succeed themselves.
 - c. That all persons holding local governmental or quasigovernmental positions shall be elected by universal adult suffrage of the inhabitants of the community involved. The plan is deficient in this respect because it does not provide for the replacement of all block heads (chonaikai-cho and burakukai-cho) by persons nominated and elected at a free and untrammelled election of all electors of the community they serve.

- That all holders of important executive and policymaking positions in local government shall be screened to determine whether they are undesirable personnel within the purview of the basic purge directive and as such to be excluded from all positions in the government service. The plan is deficient in this respect by its failure to include such important local public offices as chiefs of departments, bureaus, sections, and units of cities, towns and villages, and other officials such
- e. That all influential members of local branches of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association be removed from all local public office and excluded from all government service. The plan is deficient in this respect because it does not extend the principle of the purge directive (SCATIN 550, dated 4 January 1946) to embrace influential members of local branches of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association. It is considered that failure to so extend this principle would confirm and perpetuate the power and control of those officials who exercised a most direct and dominant influence upon the people in the welding of the totalitarian state which led to and prose-
- After full consideration of the "Explanation Concerning Flan for Application of Furge Directive to Local Elective and Appointive Fosts" which you have submitted, and despite the points raised therein, it is my firm belief that, in order to provide the Japanese people with adequate opportunity to select new leaders of their own choice, it is of the utmost importance that the above principles be scrupulously adhered to and widely publicized for the information of all the people. Indeed, it cannot be controverted that in many respects the extension of the purge to the lower levels of government is more essential to the establishment of a thoroughly democratic society than is its application to the higher levels, as it was on the lowest level that direct pressure in the shaping of the thoughts and actions and daily lives of the people was to be found in the gearing of the country for war.
- 4. The possibility pointed out by the "Explanation" that the people may choose in a free and democratic election, in replacement of purged leaders, even more undesirable persons is a risk inherent in a free and democratic society. Unless the roots of society be cleansed of those local influences which directly moulded each individual and facily into the regimented whole, it can hardly be presumed that the people can exercise in full those individual liberties now reserved to them by constitutional guarantee.
- In view of the urgency of paving the way for a free expression of the people's will in the forthcoming local government elections, it is imperative that the plan meet the basic principles

COURTNEY WHITNEY Brigadier General U.Section EXPLANATIONS ON THE IMPERIAL RULE ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION. THE IMPERIAL RULE ASSISTANCE POLITICAL SOCIETY AND THE POLITICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT JAPAN

1. The Imperial Rule Assistance Association (TAISEI YOKUSANKAI)

The association was organized in September 1940 in the time of Second Konoye Cabinet and was intended to be a nuclus to realize a national organization of the entire people to undertake to assist the rule of the Emperor. As it was regarded preferable that the organization should be purely a public organization strictly on non-partisan basis excluding the idea of forming a fascistic political party for the nation, the chairmanship of the Prefectural committee was filled exofficio by the governor of each Prefecture instead of civilian appointment. Consequently most of the fascistic elements were obliged to leave the association, and the Prefectural chairman became to be assigned to act in most cases to prevent the local leading officials from being influenced by the advocates of fascistic movements.

When Premier Suzuki was requested to accept the presidency as required by its constitution in the last days of association, he refused it. He accepted it later only to dissolve the organization in several days after the assumption of the office finding that it is only the president who has the power to do so.

2. The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society (YOKUSAN SEIJIKAI)

The society was formed immediately after the general election in 1942 under the presidency of General Nobuyuki Abe,

including almost all the members of the Diet as its members, to complement the functions of the Government. However, after the fall of Saipan in June 1944, a change in the nature of organization became apparent as it began to assume a critical attitude and not to remain subservient towards the Government under the presidency of Admiral Seizo Kobayashi who took the office in July of the same year.

The Prefectural branches of the society were never organized an the idea was consistently opposed by the military as impolitic against their interests.

The Political Association of Great Japan (DAI NIPPON SEIJIKAI)

The association was newly formed in April 1945 as the culmination of growing antagonism against the dictatorial rule of military and bureaucratic factions which began to rise among the political circle towards the end of 1944. Though it did not favor the idea of one party for one nation, it tried to enlist the nation-wide membership, and distinguished itself from its predecessor, the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society, by its anti-militaristic tendency.