

FILE NO. 250

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RE: Patriotic Organizations

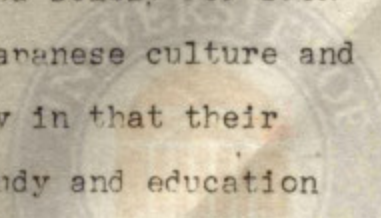
TO: ALL ATTORNEYS

The Investigations Division, IPS, has recently acquired a copy of a publication prepared by CIS, G-2, SCAP entitled "The Brocade Banner" which is a study of Japanese Nationalism from its inception in 1877. The following report is a compilation of the names of Japanese associations broken down into Ultra-Nationalistic, Nationalistic, and Conservative groupings. It is hoped that this report may be of use in screening Defense witnesses for affiliation with such organizations.

A copy of "The Brocade Banner" is available in the Investigations Division, room 300, where it may be examined. It contains much information not only about some of the witnesses but about some of the defendants which has heretofore been unavailable.

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It must be remembered that there is a Japanese proverb which goes to the effect that "One Japanese means a smile, two Japanese a lengthy conversation, and three Japanese a society." Japanese have long been affected with "societyitis" and at one time there were more than 400 nationalistic societies operating in the country. Not all of these organizations can be considered as dangerous or ultra-nationalistic, and many were no more harmful than Rotary or Kiwanis Clubs. Many of them were formed solely for such innocent diversion as the study of Chinese and Japanese culture and can therefore be considered as nationalistic only in that their members were interested in the enhancement by study and education



of their nation's prestige. Such groups have not been included in the listing which follows.

Japanese Nationalism began in the last part of the 19th century with the formation of the three societies from which most of the later ones descended. In 1877 TOYAMA Mitsuru, who may be called "the father of Japanese Nationalism, founded the GENYO SHA (DARK SEA SOCIETY). IOGI Ryocho and INOUE Enryo founded the SEIKYO SHA (POLITICS AND RELIGION SOCIETY) in 1888 and 11 years later the most widely publicized of all the societies was established by UCHIDA Ryohei. This was the KOKURYU KAI commonly known as THE BLACK DRAGON SOCIETY although a more correct interpretation would be the AMUR RIVER SOCIETY as it was founded by a group of patriots who expounded the theory of extending Japan's borders as far as the Amur River in China. A similarity of Kanji characters gave rise to the Black Dragon translation which was found more favorable for use by propagandists of nations opposing Japan's expansion.

The great wave of nationalism which broke over Japan in the early twenties gave rise to a mushroom growth of societies of varying degrees of nationalism extending from associations of scholars to the violently radical assassination leagues. There follows a listing of these ultra-nationalistic societies, membership in which would indicate that the person at one time had strong tendencies toward a furtherance of the imperialistic aims of Japan's military radicals. Of course there was friction between the various societies in many cases as there were divergent opinions as to how best the Imperial Rule might be extended.

#### ULTRA-NATIONALISTIC SOCIETIES

DAIGAKU RYO (Daigaku School) founded by OKAWA Shumei, YASUOKA Masaatsu and OBI Harutoshi.

SAKURA KAI (Cherry Blossom Society)

KOZAKURA KAI (Little Cherry Blossom Society)

TENKEN TO (Swords of Heaven Society)

SEIYO KAI (Stars and Sea Society)

(The Navy equivalent to the Army's SAKURA KAI and the KOZAKURA KAI which were associations of young officers who favored direct action to extend Japan's control in Asia)

KINKI KYOSAN TO (Brocade Flag Communist Party)

OSHI KAI (Imperial Precepts Society)

TOSEIHA (Control Group)

KODOHA (Imperial Way Group)

DAIJO KAI (Mahayama Society)

GENSHUKU HANTAI KAI (Anti-Reduction of Armament Association)

AIKOKU SHA (Patriots' Society)

JIMMU KAI (Jimmu Society) - Another organization founded by OKAWA SHUMEI in 1932

SHIMPEI TAI (God's Troops)

DAI NIPPON SEISAN TO (Great Japan Production Party)

AIKOKU KINRO TO (Love-Country Labor Party)

(It was from this party and the DAI NIPPON SEISAN TO that many of the active participants in the SHIMPEI TAI plot of July 1933 were drawn. For details of the incident see "The Brocade Banner.")

DAI NIPPON SEIMEN DOMEI (Great Japan Youth League)

KETSUMEIDAN (Blood Brotherhood)

(This group of fanatics planned the wholesale killings of government figures which was to take place in February 1932. Although two murders were carried through, the arrest of the assassins nipped the plot. A detailed discussion may be found in "The Brocade Banner.")

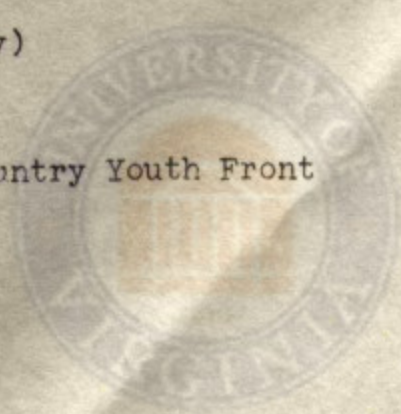
TENKO KAI (Heavenly Action Society)

KOKUSUI TAISHU TO (National Essence Masses Party)

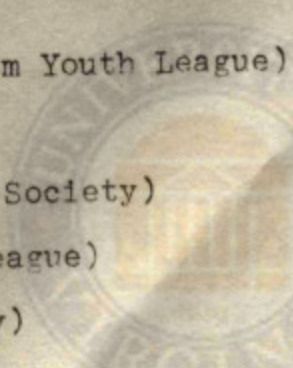
AIKOKU SEININ REMMEI (Patriotic Youth League)

KYUKOKU SAITAMA SEIMEN TEISHIN TAI (Save-the-Country Youth Front  
Line Volunteers of Saitama Prefecture)

TOTEN JUKU (Heavenly Rule Academy)



KOKOKU GIYUTAI (Imperial Volunteers)  
KOKOKU TOKYO SINMEI TO (Imperial Gods' Command Society of Tokyo)  
ZEN NIPPON GOKOKU DOMEI (All Japan National Defense Society)  
AIKOKU SEIJI DOMEI (Patriotic Political Union)  
HOKUTO KURABU (Dipper Club)  
DAI NIPPON GOKOKU GUN (Great Japan Defense Army)  
KODO JICHI KAI (Imperial Way Self-Government Society)  
TENSUO GI DAN (Gleam of Amaterasu Justice Group)  
AIKOKU RODO NOMIN KAI (Love-Country Agricultural Labor Union)  
JIKOKU KYOGI KAI (Current Affairs Council)  
KOKUMIN SEISHIN SODAIN CHU REMMEI (National Spirit Mobilization Central League)  
(This organization, founded at the beginning of the China Incident, was the forerunner of the IPAA (Imperial Rule Assistance Association) which became the Japanese counterpart during the war of the German National Socialistic Society and to which every Japanese had to belong.)  
TAIEI DOSHI KAI (Anti-British Fellowship)  
SEISEN KANTETSU DOMEI (Holy War Accomplishment League)  
KAKUMEI SO (Cry of the Crane Villa)  
ISHIN ZENNEI TAI (Restoration Forerunners)  
KINNO MAKOTO MASUBI KAI UNDO (Work for the Emperor Sincerity Knot Movement)  
KOA SEINEN UNDO (Rise Asia Youth Movement)  
TOA DOSHI KAI (East Asia Comrades Society)  
AJIA SEINEN TAI (Asia Youth League)  
SHICHI SEI SHA (Seven Lives Society)  
JUNSEI NIPPON SHUGI SEINEN DOSHI KAI (Pure Japanism Youth League)  
TOHO KAI (Eastern Society)  
DAI NIPPON SEKISEI KAI (Great Japan Red Sincerity Society)  
TOA KENSETSU DOSHI KAI (East Asia Establishment League)  
MITO GAKU KENKYU KAI (Mito Doctrinal Study Society)



TENCHU GUMI (Avengers of Heaven)

DAI NIPPON ISSHIN KA (Great Japan Renovation Society)  
(This organization was an outgrowth of the DAI NIPPON SEISAN TO  
--Great Japan Production Party--)

DAI NIPPON KOA DOMEI (Great Japan Rise Asia League)  
(Founded in March 1941, this league incorporated some 60  
societies which henceforward ceased to exist under their  
original name.)

\*\*\*\*\*The following nine societies are on record as having  
publicly urged war on the United States during the  
latter part of 1941\*\*\*\*\*

SEISEN MEICHI KOKUMIN UNDO TOKYO HONBU (Holy War Clarification  
National Movement Tokyo Headquarters)

SONNO IJI SEINFEN YUSHI (Uphold Reverence for the Emperor Youth League)

KOMIN DAN (Imperial Subjects Group)

NIPPON GOKOKU TO (Japan National Defense Party)

NANPO KAI (Southern Society)

TENKAN DAKAI KISEI KAI (Strike Open the Heavenly Barriers Society)

SEIKO SHA (Holy Empire Society)

DAIDO KAI (Great Unity Society)

AIKOKU RENGO KAI (Love-Country League)

The Imperial Rule Assistance Society (IRAA) and its  
subsidiaries: The Imperial Rule Assistance Political  
Society (IRAPS) and the Imperial Rule Assistance  
Manhood Group, the youth movement, formed in 1940,  
must be considered nationalistic and, after the war  
began, ultra-nationalistic. However as this was the  
government-sponsored "party to end all parties" with  
its organizational control extending down to neighbor-  
hood groups as in the Nazi system, membership was  
practically compulsory and membership alone in the  
society can not be used to construe a suspect as a  
protagonist of imperialistic aims. If, however, the  
person was in high enough position in the organization  
to form policy, he may be considered ultra-nationalis-  
tic.

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There follows a group of organizations of special interest  
in that it was from these societies that the most actively  
reactionary figures emerged to participate in the bloody  
assassination plots of the 30's:

FONIN KAI (Ronin Society)

(This was a temporary union of the GENYOSHA and the KOKURYU KAI, the two original ultra-nationalistic organizations.)

ROSO KAI (Old-Young Society)

YUZON SHA (Nevertheless Exists Society)

TAIKA KAI (Great Change Society)

AIKOKU KINRO TO (Patriotic Labor Party)

KYUSHIN AIKOKU TO (Forward Patriots' Party)

DAIGYO SHA (Great Act Society)

GYOCHI SHA (Act on Earth Society)

SANGO KAI (35 Society)

DOKURITSU SEINEN SHA (Independent Youth League)

BUSHIN KAI (Samurai Gods Society)

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NATIONALISTIC GROUPS - Mostly devoted to war on communism, to be considered conservative in nature.

DAI NIPPON KOKUSUI KAI (Great Japan National Purity Society)

KOKUFON SHA (National Foundation Society)

SEKKA BOSHI DAN (Defense Against the Reds Group)

KENKOKU KAI (National Construction Society)

YAMATO MINRO KAI (Yamato People's Labor Society)

KEIRIN GAKUMEI (Statecraft Scholars' League)

KOKUSHIKAN DAIGAKU (Patriots' College)

SEISPIN KAGAKU KENKYO (Spiritual Science Research Institute)

GENRI NIPPON SHA (Fundamental Japan Society)

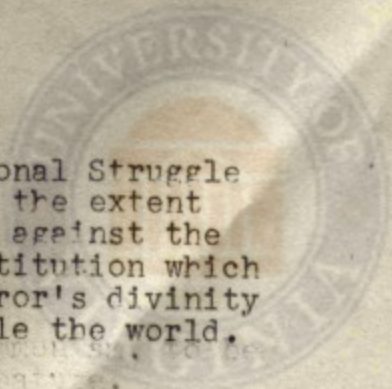
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NATIONALIST-GROUPS - Formed during the Constitutional Struggle in 1935 and nationalistic to the extent that they fought desperately against the proposed changes in the constitution which would have lessened the Emperor's divinity and his divine mission to rule the world.

NATIONALISTIC GROUPS - Mostly devoted to war on communism, to be considered conservative in nature.

DAI NIPPON KOKUSUI KAI (Great Japan National Purity Society)

KOKUFON SHA (National Foundation Society)



TEIKOKU ZAIGO GUNJIN KA (Imperial Reservists Association)  
(This organization was founded earlier than 1935 but came to  
the fore during the constitutional battle . It was made up  
of reserve Army and Navy officers.)

JIKISHIN DOJO (Sincere Heart School)

36 Club

MEIRIN KAI (Enlightened Way Society)

KOKUTAI YOGO BENGU KAI (National Constitution Protection League)

KIKAN SETSU BOKUMITSU DOMEI (Organic Theory of the Emperor Exter-  
mination League)

(This league was a coalition of the five societies above.)

KEMPO KENKYU KAI (Constitutional Study Society)

TEIKOKU KEMPO GAKU KAI (Imperial Constitution Study Society)

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