

UNCLASSIFIED

INDEX NO. D-II E-8

DOCUMENTS AND
INTELLIGENCE TARGETS

GAKUTO KAIYO KAI
SEA STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

U.S. NAVAL TECHNICAL MISSION TO JAPAN

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U. S. NAVAL TECHNICAL MISSION TO JAPAN
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NS/an

4 December 1945

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From: Chief, Naval Technical Mission to Japan.
To : Chief of Naval Operations.
Subject: Target Report - Gakuto Kaiyo Kai - Sea Students Association.
Reference: (a) "Intelligence Targets Japan" (DNI) of 4 Sept. 1945.

1. Subject report, covering Target D-II E-8, added to Fascicle D-1 of reference (a), is submitted herewith.
2. The report was prepared by Capt. P. Harrison, USNR, assisted by Lt.(jg) S.E. Sprague, USNR, who acted as interpreter.


C. G. GRIMES
Captain, USN

33470

THE NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE DEC 10 1945

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D-II E-8

**GAKUTO KAIYO KAI
SEA STUDENTS ASSOCIATION**

**"INTELLIGENCE TARGETS JAPAN" (DNI) OF 4 SEPT. 1945
FASCICLE D-1, TARGET D-II E-8**

DECEMBER 1945

U.S. NAVAL TECHNICAL MISSION TO JAPAN

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SUMMARY

DOCUMENTS AND INTELLIGENCE TARGETS

GAKUTO KAIYO KAI - SEA STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

This report covers the organization and activities of the Gakuto Kaiyo Kai (Sea Students Association) which corresponds in general to the "Sea Scouts" in the United States. Prior to the organization of the Gakuto Kaiyo Kai there existed the Kaiyo Shonen Dan which was in all respects similar except that the members were as a whole younger. However, the Kaiyo Shonen Dan was so loosely organized that its activities practically died during the war. The Gakuto Kaiyo Kai was started by older group of students interested in fostering a love of the sea and a universal interest in Maritime subjects among Japanese of Middle School and College ages. The Educational Ministry is now attempting to install new interest in the Gakuto Kaiyo Kai and encourage its activities along democratic lines. A draft of its proposed organization and aims as drawn up by the Department of Physical Education of the Educational Ministry is herewith appended.

REFERENCES

Personnel Interrogated and Background of Each:

Mr. Kiyoshi KITAZAWA, head of the Department of Physical Education in the Educational Ministry.

Mr. T. HIGURASHI, presently Vice-President of the Gakuto Kaiyo Kai.

Comdr. Kinju SATO, IJN.

LIST OF ENCLOSURES

(A) Draft for the Dispensation of the Sea Training Organization (Nov. 8, 1945).

THE REPORT

PLACE: FLTLOSCAP, TOKYO
DATE: 5 November 1945

Subject: Gakuto Kaiyo Kai (Sea student organization).

Personnel Interrogated and Background of Each:

Comdr. Kinju SATO, IJN; Mr. T. HIGURASHI, presently Vice-President of the Gakuto Kaiyo Kai, and Mr. Kiyoshi KITAZAWA, Head of Department of Physical Education in Educational Ministry.

Where Interrogated:

Office of the Fleet Liaison Officer with the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers

Interrogator:

Captain Peyton HARRISON, USNR.

Interpreters:

Lieut.(jg) S.E. SPRAGUE and T. ARIMA of Liaison Committee.

Summary:

The Gakuto Kaiyo Kai (Sea Students Organization) was organized in January 1942 at the instigation of a group of Middle School and College students, to encourage Japanese youth to become more familiar with Maritime matters. Their activities were very similar to the Kaiyo Shonen Dan (Sea Scouts). The only difference appears to be that the G.K.K. was composed of students of Middle School and College age.

(Note: The Kaiyo Shonen Dan has been covered in NavTechJap Report "Japanese Navy League", Target Number D-II E-3.)

The G.K.K. still exists but activities have practically ceased except at a few localities. It is controlled by the Educational Ministry, which formerly donated ¥100,000 annually to its activities. However, due to a program of economy in government expenditures this subsidy has been curtailed. It has been a very loosely organized institution without having lists of members. Mr. KITAZAWA of the Ministry of Education believes that the government should continue its subsidy and encourage its activities since he believes it will be very democratic, and encourage peace. Plans for its reorganization are now being developed and will be submitted to the Allied Authorities for approval.

Interrogation:

Q. When was the Gakuto Kaiyo Kai organized?
A. On the 17th January 1942.

Q. What was the purpose of the organization?

A. Since Japanese people don't know much about the sea, the chief purpose was to familiarize Japanese youth with maritime subjects. It was organized at the instigation of a group of students. JAPAN is surrounded by the sea and Japanese youths should have full knowledge of maritime matters. Japanese education had become too militarized which is not good. When they organized, the purpose was to take best features of American Boy Scouts, and incorporate and lay emphasis upon Maritime subjects.

Q. What sort of activities did they engage in?

A. They would organize squads in the schools and instruct them in boating, swimming, seamanship and rope-tying.

Q. Does this organization still exist?

A. Yes, but activities have nearly ceased, except at places where they can do a little boating. There is little direction from the top. It is now carried on at places by the local administration.

Q. Who is the head of this organization?

A. The Minister of Education.

Q. Was this organization opposed to Military Education?

A. No, it did not oppose military education, but it did not agree with the extreme military policy which was being carried on.

Q. What was the difference between the Gakuto Kaiyo Kai (Sea Students Organization) and the Kaiyo Shonen Dan (Sea Scouts)?

A. The difference was only in matter of age. The G.K.K. was composed of older students - those attending middle school and colleges. The K.S.D. (Sea Scouts) was composed of students in primary schools. Fifteen was usually the dividing age.

Q. Does the G.K.K. have study courses?

A. They do not have regular study courses, but are encouraged to read up on Maritime subjects. They have maritime exhibits at school, and they attend exhibits and lectures at various fishery schools and merchant marine schools.

Q. What is the membership of this organization?

A. They do not have regular fixed membership. Whenever activities take place anyone in school who so desires may attend. There is no regular list of members. It would be better if we did have a tighter organization.

(Note: Mr. KITAZAWA of the Educational Ministry answered the following questions.)

Q. How is the Organization financed?

A. There have never been any regular dues, but the Educational Ministry formerly donated ¥100,000 annually. This year the donation was ¥50,000, but next year they'll get nothing because the Ministry must economize. Then I think they'll begin having regular dues. Under those conditions only those really interested will continue. I also think it will be democratic organization and should continue and be encouraged.

Q. Please explain just what you mean by a "democratic organization"?

A. An organization controlled by its members. It should be encouraged as a peace time organ for developing Freedom of the Seas. I would like to see financial aid by the Government continued. Plans for re-organization are under discussion and these plans will be submitted to the Allied Authorities for their approval.

(Note: All those interrogated were very co-operative. Mr. KITAZAWA appeared to be very keen and discerning individual.)

ENCLOSURE (A)DRAFT FOR THE DISPENSATION OF THE
SEA TRAINING ORGANIZATION
(November 8, 1945)

1. The JAPAN Students' Marine Association which was organized in January 1942 as a sea training organization for students under the supervision of the Ministry of Education to be disbanded with the termination of the war. Inspired by the innate love for the sea, a new student organization comprised of both sexes to be set up with the purposes of acquiring knowledge of the sea; fostering the spirit of international friendship; promotion of sea culture; study of marine transportation; marine products, and etc.; the operation and its mastery of pulling sailing and motor boating. The development of this new organization founded upon democratic principles to be facilitated and accelerated. This organization shall be known as the JAPAN Marine Association (temporary name).
2. The new association shall have nine district organization to be set up in HAKKAIDO (HAKODATE), TOHOKU (SENDAI), KANTO (TOKYO), TOKAI (NAGOYA), HOKURIKU (NIIGATA), KINKI (OSAKA), CHUGOKU (HIROSHIMA), SHIKOKU (TAKAMATSU), and KYUSHU (FUKUOKA). Local organizations, in turn, shall be organized each prefecture (ken) and urban prefecture (fu).
3. The various above organizations shall become the member organizations to form the central association of which the President, Vice-President, Directors, and other officers are to be elected by the representatives of the member organizations.
4. The membership of the respective organizations is open to students of both sexes.
5. The program of the new Association shall consist of a course of study, practical training, inspection, and contests. The program is to be conducted chiefly in the Sea House established in the respective prefecture and urban prefecture but ships, harbors, marine schools, and etc., are also to be utilized.

ENCLOSURE (A), continued

6. The outline of the program to be pursued is to be as follows:

COURSE OF STUDY	Elementary Schools	Secondary Schools	Universities, Colleges, and Normal Schools
Marine Products	None	Provincial and Domestic Products	Universal Products
Navigation	Astronomy (simplified)	Navigation (Outline) Astronomy (Outline)	Maritime Law (Outline) General Shipbuilding (Outline) Law of Collision Prevention
Seamanship	None	Seamanship (Outline) Yachting Rowing	Seamanship (General) Motor Boating
Shipping	None	Provincial and Domestic	Universal
Oceanology and Meteorology	Provincial	Provincial and Domestic	Provincial and Domestic
Marine Culture (music, movies, arts, and literature)	Provincial	Provincial Domestic Universal	Provincial Domestic Universal
PRACTICAL TRAINING	("A" denotes weight)		
Pulling	A	AA Race Boat included	A Race Boat included
Sailing	None	A	AA
Motor Boat	None	None	A
Hand Signal	A	AA	None
Knotting	A	A	None
INSPECTION and COMPETITION	To be carried out when occasion calls for or arises		

7. In view of the nature of the association, the support of the Government (Ministries of Education, Transportation and Agriculture), as well as the co-operation of the professors of universities, colleges, nautical colleges, and fisheries' schools, and those connected with merchant ships, shipbuilding, marine products, lighthouse, marine transportation and communication, meteorological observations, and life-saving to be sought.

8. The new association to function in close co-operation with the JAPAN Amateur Yacht Association, JAPAN Amateur Rowing Association, JAPAN Amateur Swimming Federation, JAPAN Motor Boating Association, and other bodies, especially in the conduction of their seagoing contests.