YAMASHITA Eiji, Ph.D. Professor Emeritus, Osaka City University

## A Huge Brainwashing Cage Engineered by the General Headquarters (the Occupation Military) in Japan, 1945-1952

タイトルの邦訳;「GHQ が戦後日本に仕掛けた巨大な洗脳の檻 一小野田寛郎さんを除いて日本人は全員洗脳された!!」

The GHQ (the Occupation Military) commenced systematic brainwashing of the Japanese public soon after the end of World War II. It was almost as if they turned the Japanese Archipelago "a huge brainwashing cage" during their stay in Japan for nearly seven years.

They built their huge brainwashing cage with four measures. First of all, they completely banned the teaching of Japanese traditional history and moral education, and replaced these with the Fundamental Law of Education and School Education Law in March 1947. Moreover, they established the Constitution of Japan in May 1947. It is very likely that the imposition of these laws upon an occupied country is a violation of the Hague Convention Respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land which was in effect since January 1910.

Secondly, War Guilt Information Program (WGIP) which is very massive and comprehensive brainwashing propaganda campaign targeting specifically at the Japanese public was enforced by Civil Information and Education Section (CIE) in the GHQ since September 1945.

Thirdly, the Civil Censorship Detachment (CCD) of the Civil Intelligence Section (CIS) in the GHQ completely restricted freedom of expression in Japan. Every piece of media, including newspapers, radio, publications, movies, songs and even sealed private letters, was subject to censorship by the GHQ since September 1945.

Fourthly, the "Tokyo Trial" was not only a major means of brainwashing the Japanese public, but also a very large-scale international spectacle which highlighted the victor nations' historical views to the rest of the world.

Although the Japanese governance by the occupation military was indirectly

delivered in principle, as far as brainwashing, this was delivered directly by CIE and CCD in the GHQ in order to implant masochistic historical views within the Japanese people. The mind of every Japanese was very thoroughly brainwashed, as if carpet bombed.

CIE's Planning Unit, led by Bradford Smith, wrote a pamphlet titled Historical Articles on the Pacific War in 1945. This is really a bible of their WGIP in Japan. The Japanese translation of his pamphlet of 158 pages was published in April 1946. CIE forced the five major Japanese newspapers to publish all of the pamphlet's contents for ten consecutive days, commencing on December 8 in 1945. These five newspapers published the contents of this pamphlet, using two full pages each day. It should be noticed that for the start of this campaign they sarcastically chose the 8th of December which is the day of Pearl Harbor in Japan Standard Time.

The stories contained in this pamphlet started to broadcast by NHK's weekly radio program "This Is the Truth" for 30 minutes on December 9 (Sunday) in 1945. The program was repeatedly broadcasted twice during weekdays for business men and school students. Moreover, a hundred thousand copies of this pamphlet were printed and delivered to schools. Thus, all the Japanese people who were old enough at the time to understand were completely brainwashed by WGIP. That is why many Japanese still embrace masochistic historical views.

In a manner of speaking, all Japanese have been brainwashed by WGIP except for one person, ONODA Hiroo. Second lieutenant ONODA Hiroo, an army intelligence officer, finally appeared from jungles in Lubang Island of the Philippines in March 1974, 29 years after the end of WWII. He escaped the occupation's WGIP and, like a human time capsule, returned to Japan. His moral sense and historical views were still those of pre-WWII Japan when he came back to Japan which became affluent after a period of miraculously rapid growth. However, after only six months in Japan, he emigrated to Brazil.

Why did he leave Japan so soon? I think that this is an extremely interesting question, and it points out very important implications of the Japanese people's historical awareness. In fact, I did not understand why he left Japan so soon, because I was still filled with GHQ's historical views at that time. But now I can well understand why he left Japan so soon, as I am completely free from GHQ's historical views. Presumably Mr. Onoda was deeply disappointed with Japan's circumstances in 1974 as almost all Japanese, including his family, were infused with masochistic historical views imposed by WGIP. Therefore, he could not stay in modern Japan which was completely different from the past.