Abstract

The postwar Constitution of Japan is one of the foremost legacies of american occupation. The aim of this study is to describe the circumstances of its creation, to evaluate the roles and motivations of the parties and individuals concerned, and to answer the following question: To what extent was the constitution imposed on Japan and to what extent was its contents a compromise? The study tries to emphasize the role of interaction between the GHQ and the japanese government prior to the presentation of the draft to the Imperial Diet. The focus is put on the analysis of the events of March 4th and 5th, during which the american and the japanese visions of postwar Japan clashed most dramatically.