DATE	EVENTS RELATING TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION OF JAPAN (October 1945 – February 1989)
<u>1945</u> : 10.4	General MacArthur suggests that Konoe Fumimaro (近衛文麿) lead the constitutional revision effort.
10.13	Japanese government decides to study constitutional revision by designating Matsumoto Jōji (松本烝治) as a minister of state in charge.
10.25	Japanese government establishes Constitutional Issue Investigation Committee (kenpō mondai chōsakai 憲法問題調查委員会 aka Matsumoto Committee 松本委員会), headed by Minister of State Matsumoto.
11.1	General Headquarters (GHQ) announcement denies that there has been any endorsement given to Konoe regarding the constitutional revision. The announcement also states that General MacArthur orders Shidehara Kijurō (幣原喜 重郎) cabinet to revise the constitution and that the revision draft will be proposed by the Japanese government.
<u>1946</u> : 1.1	Shōwa Emperor (昭和天皇) issues the Humanity Declaration ( <i>Ningen sengen</i> 人間宣言) implicitly denying the prewar and wartime notion that he is a divine being.
1.11	U.S. government, in its official guideline (SWNCC 288), urges General MacArthur not to be intrusive regarding the Japanese constitutional revision.
1.24	Prime Minister Shidehara and General MacArthur meet and agree on the continuation of the Imperial system and on the promotion of pacifism in Japan.
2.1	Mainichi Shinbun publishes a scoop on the constitutional revision draft of the Matsumoto Committee. Immediately translating the draft, GHQ comes to realize that the proposal from Japan will be so conservative that it will not be much different from the Meiji constitution.
2.3	General MacArthur orders the executives in Government Section (GS) of GHQ to draft the constitution.
2.13	GHQ delivers the draft constitution to the Japanese government.
2.22	After PM Shidehara meeting General MacArthur on the previous day, Shidehara cabinet decides to adopt the MacArthur draft, with some modifications, as an official draft constitution of the Japanese government.
3.6	Japanese government announces the Outline of Constitutional Revision Draft ( <i>Kenpō kaisei sōan yōkō</i> 憲法改正草案要綱).
11.3	Promulgation of <i>The Constitution of Japan (Nihonkoku Kenpō</i> 日本国憲法).
<u>1947</u> : 5.3	Promulgation of The Constitution of Japan (Nihonkoku Kenpō 日本国憲法).
<u>1950</u> : 1.1	General MacArthur, in his New Year's address, states that the <i>Constitution of Japan</i> does not deny the right of self-defense.
1.23	Prime Minister Yoshida Shigeru 吉田茂, in a policy speech, states that renouncing the right to war does not mean renouncing the right to self-defense.
<u>1951</u> : 9.8	Japan signs the Treaty of Peace with Japan (San Furanshisuko Kōwa Jōyaku サンフランシスコ講和条約) together with the U.SJapan Security Treaty (Nichibei Anpo Jōyaku 日米安保条約; effective 4.28.1952).

10.17	The Japanese government, in a meeting of the House of Councilors, rules that the
	concept of "military power" in the second clause of article 9 means the "power to
	engage in effective warfare in modern war".
1052, 1 0	Views Tales the 十郎 Minister CL views and his interesting to
<u>1952</u> : 1.9	Kimura Tokutarō 木村篤太郎, Minister of Justice, announces his intention to pursue
11.07	a sweeping revision of the Constitution.
11.25	The Cabinet Legislative Bureau (Naikaku Hōseikyoku 内閣法制局) issues the
	government's view that "military power" as expressed in article 9 is defined as the
	possession of the organizational infrastructure as well as the equipment capable of
	being used in modern warfare.
1052, 2.11	"Dill for a National Vating Law Deformation on Constitutional Devision" (Nikon
<u>1953</u> : 2.11	"Bill for a National Voting Law Referendum on Constitutional Revision" (Nihon
12.0	Koku Kenpō Kaisei Kokumin Tōhyō Hōan 日本国憲法改正国民投票法案) drafted.
12.9	The Liberal Party forms a Constitutional Research Group (Kenpō Chōsa Kai 憲法 調
	查会) headed by Kishi Nobusuke 岸信介 (inaugurated 3.12.1954).
12.19	Katayama Tetsu 片山哲 et al. form the Society of the Citizens' Union for the
	Protection of the Constitution (Kenpō Yōgo Kokumin Rengō 憲法擁護国民連合 or
	the Goken Rengō 護憲連合).
<u>1954</u> : 5.1	U.SJapan Mutual Defense Assistance Agreement (the Mutual Security Agreement)
	signed.
6.3	House of Councilors approves the passage of a resolution banning the overseas
	dispatch of the SDF.
7.1	The Defense Agency (Bōei Chō 防衛庁) is established. Inauguration of the SDF.
9.13	The Progressive Party (Kaishintō 改進党) Constitutional Research Group issues its
	"Outline of Problems with the Current Constitution."
11.5	The Liberal Party Constitutional Research Group issues its "Prospectus for the
	Revision Plan of the Japanese Constitution".
12.14	The Japanese Democratic Party advocates the establishment of a Constitution
	Deliberative Council.
12.21	The Cabinet Legislative Bureau revises its statement of 11.25.1952, issuing the view
	that the defense capabilities possessed by the SDF are presumed non- applicable to the
	definition of "military power".
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<u>1955</u> : 5.21	Nakasone Yasuhiro 中曽根康弘 proposes a resolution for the enactment of an
F 11	autonomous constitution.
7.11	Formation of the Alliance for an Autonomous Constitution (Jiyū Kenpō Kisei Dōmei
7.20	自由憲法期成同盟).
7.28	PM Hatoyama Ichirō 鳩山一郎 designates the points of amendment for constitutional
10.13	revision, emphasizing the drive for all-round reform.
10.13	The two Socialist Parties are united, thus creating a base capable of preventing
11 17	constitutional revision.
11.15	The "conservative merger" of the Liberal and Democratic Parties, and their
	unanimous passage of a proposal containing an outline for "Autonomous Revision of
12.12	the Current Constitution".
12.12	Inauguration of the LDP (Liberal Democratic Party) Constitutional Research Group
	(Kenpō Chōsa Kai 憲法調査会).

<u>1956</u> : 2.11	A group of LDP councilors, led by Kishi Nobusuke, submit a bill to the
	House of Representatives proposing that the Constitutional Research Group should be legislated by council members.
4.28	The LDP Constitutional Research Group publishes its "Interim Report on Problems
	with Constitutional Revision" (Chūkan Hōkoku – Kenpō Kaisei no Mondaiten 中間報
	告-憲法改正の問題点)
6.11	The cabinet proclaims a Constitutional Research Group law that establishes the (LDP)
10.10	Constitutional Research Group within the cabinet.
12.18	Japan joins the United Nations.
<u>1957</u> : 3.8	PM Kishi Nobusuke, at a meeting of the Budget Council for the House of
	Representatives, defends the statement that the Emperor continues to be the current
	Head of State (Tennō wa genzai mo Genshu de aru 天皇は現在でも元首 である).
4.8	The Union of Councilors for the Formation of an Autonomous Constitution (Jishu
	Kenpō Kisei Giin Dōmei 自主憲法規制議員同盟) publishes the Hirose Test Plan for
	Japanese Constitutional Revision (Nihon Koku kenpō kaisei Hirose shian 日本国憲法 改正広瀬試案).
8.13, 14	The LDP Constitutional Research Group holds its first general meeting. Takayanagi
,	Kenzō 高柳賢三 is elected President. (On 9.21, the Socialist Party's application to
	join the Group is refused.)
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<u>1958</u> : 6.8	Miyazawa Toshiyoshi 宮沢俊義 et al. inaugurate the Constitutional Problems
	Research Group (Kenpō Mondai Kenkyūkai 憲法問題研究会).
<u>1959</u> : 3.30	The Tokyo District Court rules that the American occupation forces in the Sunakawa
	Case contravene the banning of military power as expressed in article 9.
12.16	In the Sunakawa Case, the Supreme Court avoids passing judgment on the
	constitution's relation to the Security Agreement.
<u>1960</u> : 1.19	Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between Japan and the United States of
	America (Nichibei Anzen Hoshō Jōyaku 日米安全保障条約) signed.
5.3	The Constitutional Problems Research Group (Kenpō Mondai Kenkyūkai 憲法問題
	研究会) announces that they "hold many doubts on the basic points" (kihonteki na ten
	ni tsuite, sukunaranu gimon o idaku 基本的な点について、少ならぬ疑問を抱く)
	of the revised U.SJapan Security Treaty.
	Katayama Tetsu 片山哲 et al., after leaving the Union for Defense of the
	Constitution (Goken Rengō 護憲連合), form the New Citizens' Congress for
	Constitutional Defense (Kenpō Yōgo Shin Kokumin Kaigi 憲法擁護新国民会議)
	with members of the Citizens' Society Group and National Workers Group
	(minsha-zenrō kei 民社全労系).
5.19	The LDP, at a session of the House of Representatives, passes in separate
	ratifications the Revised Agreement on the U.SJapan Security Treaty and the
	U.SJapan Status of Forces Agreement (Nichibei Chii Kyōtei 日米地位協定).
	These are concluded on 6.19 without the substantive deliberation in the House of
9.22	Councilors; effective 6.23.  The Socialist Party Constitutional Research Group (Kenpō Chōsa Kai 憲法調査会)
7.22	publishes its "On the Recent Trends of the LDP Constitutional Research Group"
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	(Kenpō Chōsa Kai no saikin no dōkō ni tsuite 憲法調査会の最近の動向について), which holds that the LDP Constitutional Research Group aims to corrupt the Constitution.
10.4	The LDP Constitutional Research Group begins concrete deliberation on the pros and cons of constitutional revision.
<u>1962</u> : 2.1	The Budget Committee of the House of Representatives holds a debate over which body has the authority to draft proposals concerning constitutional revision.
5.30	The Society of Christians Protecting the Constitution (Kenpō o Mamoru Kirisutosha no Kai 憲法を守るキリスト者の会) is formed.
<u>1963</u> : 6.19	Takayanagi Kenzō, president of the LDP Constitutional Research Group, submits a report to the Group General Assembly holding that constitutional revision is unnecessary.
9.4	Within the LDP Constitutional Research Group, a statement tabled by 18 members is submitted, "The Direction of Constitutional Revision" (Kenpō Kaisei no Hōkō 憲法改正の方向).
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<u>1964</u> : 2.28	Nakasone Yasuhiro et al. issue a statement agreeing with the conclusion of a report by the LDP Constitutional Research Group Subcommittee holding that the constitution did not come from the free will of Japan's citizens (kenpō seitei wa kokumin no jiyū ishi ni wa yoranai 憲法制定は国民の自由意志には寄らない).
2.5	
3.5	PM Ikeda Hayato 池田勇人 announces at a meeting of the Budget Council of the House of Representatives that the cabinet also has the right to make proposals concerning constitutional revision.
5.3	The Constitutional Problems Research Group (Kenpō Mondai Kenkyūkai 憲法問題研究会) and the LDP Constitutional Research Group announce their opposition to constitutional revision.
7.3	The LDP Constitutional Research Group submits its final report.
11.19	The Union for Defense of the Constitution (Goken Rengō 護憲連合) hosts a
	citizens' convention against constitutional revision (kenpō kaiaku hantai no kokumin taikai 憲法改悪反対の国民会議).
<u>1965</u> : 3.6	The Liaison Congress of Groups for the Prevention of Constitutional Revision (Kenpō Kaiaku Soshi Kakukai Renraku Kaigi 憲法改悪阻止各会連絡会議; otherwise known as the Kenpō Kaigi 憲法会議) is formed.
4.25	
4.25	The National Constitutional Research Group (Zenkoku Kenpō Kenkyūkai 全国憲 法研究会; otherwise known as Zenkokuken 全国憲) is inaugurated.
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<u>1966</u> : 3.4	Minister of Foreign Affairs Shiina Etsusaburō 椎名悦三郎 and Defense Agency Director-General Matsuno Raizō 松野頼三, in a meeting of the Budget Council of the House of Representatives, announce the unified government view that the overseas dispatch (kaigai hahei 海外派兵) of the SDF for any reason is a violation of the constitution. The next day, however, Minister Shiina states that the dispatch of troops (hahei 派兵) is premised on the exercise of military force and that deployment (haken 派遣) does not fall under this definition, thus implying that this pertains to the overseas deployment of the SDF.

<u>1969</u> : 9.24	The LDP Constitutional Research Group determines to begin consideration of plans for constitutional revision.
<u>1970</u> : 5.3	Kishi Nobusuke, in a meeting of the Congress of Citizens for the Enactment of an Autonomous Constitution, announces that "The constitution is the root of all evil" (shoaku no kongen wa kenpō 諸悪の根源は憲法). It is resolved to enact an
10.20	autonomous constitution.  The Japanese government determines to issue its first Defense White Paper (Bōei Hakusho 防衛白書).
11.25	Mishima Yukio and members of the "Shield Society" (Tate no Kai 楯の会) storm the Ichigaya headquarters of the SDF, demanding constitutional revision and a coup d'état by the SDF. The attempt ends in their suicide.
<u>1972</u> : 4.24	Yamanaka Sadanori, Director-General of the Office of the Prime Minister says, in a session of the Budget Council of the House of Councilors, that the constitution was imposed upon Japan. (He retracts this statement on the same day.)
6.16	The LDP Constitutional Research Group, headed by its president, Inaba Osamu, approves a schematic draft of constitutional revision centering on the stipulations for the maintenance of Japan's self-defense capabilities.
9.29	Normalization of Sino-Japan relations.
<u>1973</u> : 7.17	Ishihara Shintarō and other LDP young hawks form the Seirankai 青嵐会 championing the enactment of an autonomous constitution.
9.7	The Sapporo District Court, in the Naganuma Incident (Naganuma jiken 長沼事件), rules that the existence of the SDF is unconstitutional. (On 10.1, the LDP issues a statement criticizing this first trial ruling of the case.)
<u>1974</u> : 3.14	PM Tanaka Kakuei 田中角栄, at a session of the Budget Council of the House of Representatives, announces that "Because almost thirty years have passed since the end of the war, the time has come to officially enact by law the Hinomaru 日の丸 and the Kimigayo 君が世 as the national flag and the national anthem." (A similar announcement is made on 3.28 at a general session of the House of Representatives.)
4.12	The LDP, during a session of the cabinet and the House of Representatives, forces a ratification of the Yasukuni Shrine Bill (Yasukuni Jinja Hōan 靖国神社法案) that is later rejected due to termination of the session.
<u>1975</u> : 5.3	Minister of Justice Inaba attends the General Meeting of the Society of Citizens for the Enactment of an Autonomous Constitution (Jishu Kenpō Seitei Kokumin Kaigi 自主憲法制定国民会議) as an incumbent cabinet minister. (On 5.7, in a session of the Budget Council of the House of Councilors, he announces that "There are many defects within the present constitution (Genkō kenpō ni wa kekkan ga ōi 現行憲法 には欠陥が多い)." On the 12th, in response to this, the Union for Defense of the Constitution (Goken Rengō 護憲連合) calls for Inaba's dismissal.
5.14	The government, using Inaba's announcement as an opportunity, issues a unified statement that the cabinet is not considering constitutional revision and that cabinet ministers will henceforth not be attending meetings that promote constitutional revision.

5.21	PM Miki Takeo 三木武夫, at a session of the House of Representatives, makes clear his basic position that he will not take up the leadership of movements promoting constitutional revision.
8.15	PM Miki visits the Yasukuni Shrine as incumbent Prime Minister for the first time after World War II.
<u>1976</u> : 4.22	The dissolution of the Constitutional Problems Research Group (Kenpō Mondai Kenkyūkai 憲法問題研究会) is announced.
5.3	The Constitution Ceremony (Kenpō kinen shikiten 憲法記念式典) sponsored by the government is held after 24 years at the Constitutional Government Commemoration Hall (Kensei kinen kan 憲政記念館). It is no longer held after this year.
10.29	The government decides on the "Outline of the Defense Project" (Bōei keikaku no taikō 防衛計画の大綱).
<u>1977</u> : 1.12	The Keidanren Defense Production Council 経団連防衛生産委員会 issues a report to the LDP government: "On the State of Our Country's Security Guarantees and Defense Infrastructure".
7.23	The Ministry of Education (Monbushō 文部省) revises its elementary school teaching guidelines requiring the incorporation of <i>Kimigayo</i> as the national anthem.
<u>1978</u> : 4.22	Nakasone Yasuhiro, Secretary-General of the LDP (Jimintō Sōmu Kaichō 自民党 総務会長), announces that constitutional revision is necessary in order for the SDF to have its right to warfare recognized.
7.19	Kurusu Hiro-omi 来栖弘臣, Chairman of the Joint Staff Council (Tōbaku Gicho 統幕議長), announces that in an emergency it is possible for the SDF to take extralegal actions. On the 25th, he is dismissed for having "violated civilian control" (bunmin tōsei ni hansuru 文民統制に反する).
8.7	The Defense Agency, with the approval of PM Fukuda Takeo 福田赳夫, starts <u>Defense Research</u> 「Bōei Kenkyū 防衛研究」, a publication to conduct research into emergency legislation.
8.15	PM Fukuda signs the shrine register at the Yasukuni Shrine with his official title of Prime Minister of the cabinet.
10.27	The Yasukuni Shrine enshrines Tōjō Hideki 東条英機 and other A-class WWII criminals.
11.27	The U.SJapan Security Cooperation Committee establishes "Guidelines for U.SJapan Defense Cooperation"「Nichibei Bōei Kyōryoku no Hōshin 日米防衛協力の指針」(later known as the "Old Guidelines").
<u>1979</u> : 3.16	PM Ōhira Masayoshi 大平正芳, in a session of the House of Councilors, states that nuclear weapons may be maintained under the Constitution.
6.6	The Japanese Reign Name Law (Gengō hō 元号法) is passed in a general session of the House of Councilors. (Effective from the 12th of the same month).
11.27	The Kōmeitō 公明党 issues a policy report recognizing the U.SJapan Security Treaty and the SDF.
<u>1980</u> : 6.22	The House of Councilors and the House of Representatives hold general elections

	on the same day. The LDP receives a landslide victory for both Houses.
8.15	PM Suzuki Zenkō 鈴木善行 and 18 cabinet members visit the Yasukuni Shrine.
	On the same day, the government adopts the position that conscription is
	unconstitutional.
8.19	Minister of Foreign Affairs Itō Masayoshi 伊東正義, in a session of the Foreign
	Affairs Council of the House of Representatives, states that "Going by the contents
	of the constitution, nuclear weapons, no matter if they are large-scale or smallscale,
	cannot be held." This statement reaffirmed a similar view expressed by
	Minister of Foreign Affairs Sonoda Sunao 園田直 in 2.1972.
8.27	Minister of Justice Okuno Seisuke 奥野誠亮, in a session of the Legislative
	Council of the House of Representatives, emphasizes the necessity of enacting an
	autonomous constitution.「jishu kenpō seitei 自主憲法制定」
9.7	PM Suzuki, in a session of the LDP's National Training Workshop (Zenkoku
	Kenshū Kai 全国研修会), states that "In the Suzuki cabinet, constitutional revision
	is not being considered in the least."
9.24	The LDP Constitutional Research Group, in a session of its Chair and Vice-Chair,
	confirm the received view that the current constitution has not taken root amongst
	Japanese citizens, and that it is necessary to enact an autonomous constitution on
	the basis of unified national opinion.
	The Alliance for an Autonomous Constitution (Jiyū Kenpō Kisei Dōmei 自由憲法
	期成同盟) submits a written request to the LDP district representatives to raise a
	resolution for constitutional revision.
10.9	PM Suzuki, in a session of the Budget Council of the House of Representatives,
	repudiates Minister of Justice Okuno Seisuke's repeated calls for constitutional
	revision by saying that as long as public opinion remains "immature" (kokumin
	yoron ga jukusanai kagiri 国民世論が熟さない限り), a proposition for
	constitutional revision will not be raised. He thereby advocates preserving the
10.22	constitution.
10.22	PM Suzuki states that it has become necessary for the cabinet both to respect and
	uphold the current constitution on the one hand, and to enact an autonomous constitution on the other. This statement is his first endorsement of the LDP's
	faction for the enactment of an autonomous constitution.
10.28	The government, in a session of the cabinet, prepares a documented defense in
-V•=U	response to Socialist Party member Inaba Seiichi's 稲葉誠一 question about the
	Yasukuni Shrine problem. Inaba's position is that public support of the Yasukuni
	Shrine in its present status as a religious corporation is unconstitutional.
	Furthermore, civil servants visiting the shrine do so in their official capacity. (On
	11.5, Okuno Seisuke refutes this view.)
12.13	The Prefectural Assembly of Nara Prefecture, hometown of Minister of Justice
	Okuno Seisuke, resolves to submit a document to the government requesting
	"constitutional preservation"「kenpō junshū 憲法遵守」Its contents can be read as
	a criticism of Okuno's repeated calls for constitutional revision.
<u>1981</u> : 1.6	The heads of the four major financial groups (zaikai yondantai 財界四団体), at a
	press conference, call for the strengthening of Japan's defense and military powers.
2.	Minister of Justice Okuno Seisuke, in an interview with a weekly magazine,
	emphasizes the necessity of constitutional revision, and suggests debating the pros
	and cons of constitutional revision in the 1983 elections for the House of

	Councilors. (On 2.9, in a session of the Budget Council for the House of
	Representatives, PM Suzuki declares a sweeping rejection of Minister Okuno's statements.)
3.11	PM Suzuki, in a session of the Budget Council for the House of Councilors, states
	that article 9 should be adhered to for the foreseeable future.
4.22	The Defense Agency makes an interim report on its research into emergency legislation.
	197 members of "The Society of Diet Members Visiting the Yasukuni Shrine Together" 「Minna de Yasukuni Jinja ni Sanpai Suru Kokkai Giin no Kai みんなで靖国神社に参拝する国会議員の会」, headed by Takeshita Noboru 竹下登, make a group visit to the Yasukuni Shrine.
5.8	PM Suzuki and President Reagan announce the U.SJapan Mutual Declaration.  This is the first time it is stipulated that the U.S. and Japan are in a relationship of alliance. Hereafter, within the government, the definition of "alliance" becomes complicated as it may have acquired a military significance.
6.15	The Kōmeitō Head Councilor, Takeiri Yoshikatsu 竹入義勝, states that his party will fundamentally revise its basic policy to recognize the necessity of making the SDF constitutional under civilian control by the time of the December party convention.
8.15	PM Suzuki makes repeated visits to the Yasukuni Shrine with 18 cabinet ministers.
10.21	The Alliance of Members for an Autonomous Constitution (Jiyū Kenpō Kisei Dōmei 自由憲法期成同盟) publishes its "First Draft of Constitutional Revision"
	「Dai Ichiji Kenpō Kaisei sōan shian 第一次憲法改正草案試案」.
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<u>1982</u> : 1.21	At its 40th annual party convention, the LDP incorporates the enactment of an autonomous constitution into its official policy. On the same day, Setoyama Mitsuo 瀬戸山三男, President of the LDP Constitutional Research Group, explains and receives PM Suzuki's approval for a specific plan for constitutional revision drafted by the Group.
3.24	The LDP Constitutional Research Group and the Alliance for an Autonomous Constitution hold their first executive member get-together. They affirm their commitment to working for the enactment of an autonomous constitution and to strengthening cooperation between the groups.
7.28	The First Subcommittee of the LDP Constitutional Research Group resolves to submit a plan for constitutional revision titled "A Report on the Emperor and the Cabinet" 「Tennō, Naikaku ni Kansuru hōkoku 天皇・内閣に関する報告」 proposing broadening the scope of the Emperor's rights.
7.30	The Third Subcommittee of the LDP Constitutional Research Group resolves to submit a plan for constitutional revision titled "A Report on the Rights and Duties of Citizens" (kokumin no kenri, gimu, shihō ni kansuru hōkokusho 国民の権利、義務、司法に関する報告書).
12.1	The Alliance for an Autonomous Constitution publishes their "Follow-up Plan to the First Draft of Constitutional Revision"「Dai Ichiji Kenpō Kaisei sōan shian tsuikaan 第一次憲法改正草案試案追加案」incorporating new human rights such as the "Right to Know"「shiru kenri 知る権利」.
	The Alliance also resolves to pursue a policy of requesting PM Nakasone, in his capacity as president of the LDP, to promote a plan for constitutional revision.

12.9	PM Nakasone makes a general policy speech addressed to representatives of the various political parties held during a general session of the House of Representatives, asserting that, based on its political program, it is only natural that the LDP should research the problem of constitutional revision. Following this, on the 13th he unambiguously states his advocacy of constitutional revision in a session of the Budget Council of the House of Representatives.
<u>1983</u> : 1.22	At the LDP 42nd annual convention, the party ratified a convention resolution calling for an "autonomous constitution" (jishu kenpō 自主憲法) for the first time, reflecting PM Nakasone's advocacy of debate on constitutional revision.
1.28	The LDP Constitutional Research Group agrees to incorporate the LDP's basic stance on constitutional revision at the level of national elections into their manifesto.
2.22	Chief Cabinet Legislative Bureau Secretary Tsunoda Reijirō 角田禮次郎, in a session of the Budget Council of the House of Representatives, argues that the right to collective self-defense cannot be exercised unless the constitution is revised.
March	The Alliance for an Autonomous Constitution publishes a booklet titled "What to Alter in the Present Constitution and How to Alter It" 「Gen Kenpō no Doko o, Dō Aratameru 現憲法のどこを、どう改める」.
3.2	Minister of Education Setoyama Mitsuo 瀬戸山三男, in a session of the Education Council of the House of Representatives, affirms enactment of an autonomous constitution and revision of article 9. (But on the 7th he changes his views, saying that article 9 is fine as it is.)
7.20	PM Nakasone instructs the LDP to develop a rationale for making the Prime Minister's and cabinet's official visits to the Yasukuni Shrine constitutional.
11.24	The LDP Yasukuni Shrine Problem Subcommission (Jimintō Yasukuni Jinja Mondai Shō Iinkai 自民党靖国神社問題小委員会) states their view that the official visits made to the shrine by the PM and the cabinet do not constitute religious activity prohibited by the constitution. (In 4.13.1984, the General Commission of the LDP officially approves this as the LDP's stance.)
12.21	Socialist Party President Ishibashi Masashi 石橋政嗣 directs his party to investigate the debate over the constitutionality or non-constitutionality of the SDF.
<u>1984</u> : 5.3	Inaba Osamu 稲葉修, President of the LDP Constitutional Research Group, at a national convention of the Alliance for an Autonomous Constitution (Jishu Kenpō Seitei Kokumin Kaigi 自主憲法制定国民会議), states his intention to persuade the Kōmeitō and Socialist Parties to support constitutional revision with the prospect as a means to put a brake on military power.
7.13	The government, in a cabinet meeting, resolves to issue a defense of the Yasukuni Shrine problem. They affirm the view that although the official visits to the shrine by cabinet ministers cannot be conclusively seen as constitutional or nonconstitutional, the latter possibility cannot be denied.
8.3	The private advisory body of Chief Cabinet Secretary Fujinami Takao 藤波孝生 issues a report on "Official Visits by Cabinet Ministers to the Yasukuni Shrine" 「Kakuryō no Yasukuni Jinja Kōshiki Sanpai ni Kansuru Kondaikai 閣僚の靖国 神社公式参拝に関する懇談会」. The organization starts to formulate a review of the government stance about the possibility of official visits being non-constitutional.
8.15	PM Nakasone, together with 14 cabinet ministers, visits the Yasukuni Shrine.

<u>1985</u> : 8.9	At an informal discussion of the problem of official visits to the Yasukuni Shrine, a report is issued concerning the visits holding that an examination should be conducted into the practical methods of making the visits acceptable to the majority of citizens in a form that prevents the visits from violating the constitutional principle of the separation of religion and state.
8.15	For the first time in the post-war period, Nakasone visits the Yasukuni Shrine in his official capacity as Prime Minister of the cabinet. On the same day, Chief Cabinet Secretary Fujinami Takao, in an official conversation based on the informal discussion on the 9th, changes the government stance regarding the official visit to the Yasukuni Shrine of 11.1980, stating that official visits to the shrine will henceforth be regarded as constitutional.
<u>1988</u> : 3.15	Chief Cabinet Legislative Bureau Secretary Mimura Osamu 味村治, in a session of the Budget Council of the House of Councilors, defends the stance that in terms of customary law (shūkan hō jō 慣習法上) that the Hinomaru is the national flag and the Kimigayo is the national anthem.
5.2	The Alliance of Members for an Autonomous Constitution draw up a plan, based on their 1981 "First Draft of Constitutional Revision" 「Dai Ichiji Kenpō Kaisei sōan shian 第一次憲法改正草案試案」 Its proposals include the restriction of private ownership except in the case of land, the confirmation of the Emperor as Head of State, and the retaining of military power for the purpose of self-defense.
<u>1989</u> : 2.24	The funeral ceremonies for the Shōwa Emperor are held in the Shinjuku Imperial Gardens.