

# The Jewish Society in wartime Shanghai as reported in *Tairiku Shinpo*

(Part III: September 1939- February 1940)

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## Abstract

This series of papers is based on a thorough search of articles in *Tairiku Shinpo* identifying those that mention Jewish residents in Shanghai under the Japanese military control. The present third part covers the period September 1939-February 1940, a period characterised by the after-effect of the outbreak of the WWII in Europe, inducing the reconsideration by the Japanese defense sector, the International Settlement and the French Concession of their respective restrictive policy concerning the landing of Jewish refugees.

Through this contemporaneous press information, we learn that: (1) more than sixty Shanghailanders Jews of German-Austrian origin applied to join the French Foreign Legion with a view to combatting Hitler's army, (2) the Japanese Consulate-General exploited the issuance of entry permits to the Japanese defense sector, intending to attract the Jewish casting vote in favor of Japanese candidates for the election of nine members of the Shanghai Municipal Council, and (3) the Naval captain Koreshige Inuzuka (1890-1965), as well, authorized the establishment of *Jüdische Gemeinde* in March 1940 in condition that its co-founders would take voting behavior advantageously for Japanese side and invite their comrades to do the same.