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Physical Education and Sports in China Under Administration of Chinese Communist Party (1931-1945)

by *Kohsuke Sasajima**

The Chinese Communist Party was established on November 1921. The first agreement on Nationalist-Communist cooperation on 1924. The Communist Party which terminated the first agreement on Nationalist-Communist cooperation in July 1927 by Anti-Communist coup d'état of Nationalist Party and organized an army and came to have Soviet political powers in various areas, and finally the Party, by unifying such political powers, established an Emergency China-Soviet Republic Government at Juichin in Chianghsi Province in November 1931. The Nationalist Party had been attacking the areas under the Soviet control, and the Communist Party, unable to stand attacks, abandoned Juichin in November 1934 and began movement and established a government in northern Shanhsi Province in October 1945.

With the occurrence of Japan-China War, a cooperative agreement was concluded for the 2nd time between the Nationalist Party and the Communist Party, and the areas under Soviet control became remote areas, and in such a remote area government was established. The development of the Communist Party's power put the Nationalist Party in uneasiness and the party placed the remote areas under its siege. The Japanese army's attacks inflicted a great damage on the communist areas, however, the Communist Party, by overcoming difficulties, expanded its control.

The Emergency China-Soviet Republic Government poured efforts into eradication of illiteracy and established many schools. An educational system was established

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in January 1934. Lessons were given for physical education, however, equipment and tools were not available fully as areas were under the siege of the Nationalist Party's army. Encouragement was given to sporting, however, due to scant data, details are not known. According to the existing data, athletic meets of various kinds were held on May 1933 such as soccer, volleyball and others.

While as to the educational policy in the remote areas, the policy which had been adopted by the Soviets was first used with no change, however, a School Law was enacted afterward, by which educational policies were established.

According to the School Laws enacted by remote governments, physical education was to be given at schools. In the remote areas sports were played actively as recreation. It is known from the existing materials that track and field and basketball meets and others were held in Yen'an on 1 September 1942.

After the end of the Pacific War, battles between the Nationalist Party and the Communist Party, and in 1947 the Nationalist Party's army occupied Yen'an, many data were losted this time.