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# A Study on the Formation of the Sport Organization Act of December 20, 1940, ch. 2498 in France

By *Kenji Saito*\*

The purpose of this study was to survey the law making process of Sport Organization Act 1940 of France, to analyze the content of this act and to clarify the background of this legislation.

The findings of this study were summarized as follows:

In 1940, Sport organization Act was established by the Vichy Government. The head Philippe Pétain of France attached importance to youth education of sports and organized General Commissariat of General Education and Sports. The commissary Jean Borotra drew up sports laws of 1940. Borotra thought that sport was a modern chivalry, and hoped to improve the professionalization of sports and the *électoratisme* of sports federations directors in France. Sports federations hoped that sport card, sport assurance and medical checkup of their members were institutionarized. The german government delayed the publication of Sport Organization Act, because it had a doubt about the establishment.

Sport Organization Act provided *association sportive*, *fédération sportive*, national committee of sports, sport card, sport license, sport competition or meeting and sanctions. Particularly *association sportive* and *fédération sportive* were provided as special civil groups. They were restricted in their activities, but, on the other hand, they were privileged. Hereby the act institutionarized the vertical arrangement of sport organization and enforced the government control. The act was the first comprehensive legislation of sports organization in France and influenced sports organizations or sports laws in France after the Second World War.

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