JAPAN JOINS THE AXIS

An event which will undoubtedly go down in history as the most epoch-making alliance of the twentieth century was the signing of a military and economic alliance between Japan, Germany and Italy on September 27 in Berlin. The conclusion of this alliance follows the course of Japan's national policy ever since the outbreak of the China Incident and is the aftermath of the policy adopted by the so called Democracies towards Japan.

The alliance, which will remain in effect for ten years, contains military, political and economic provisos, designed to further the policies of the three signatories for the establishment of a new world order and the destruction of the old regime, of injustice, discrimination and repressive economic measures which have been stifling the natural growth and progress of the peoples of Japan, Germany and Italy.

The conclusion of the alliance has given added impetus to the movement for the establishment of the new world order, as well as united strength for the pursuance of the principles aimed at.

The text of the historic pact reads as follows:

The Governments of Germany, Italy, and Japan, considering it as a condition precedent of any lasting peace that all nations of the world be given, each its own proper place, have decided to stand together and co-operate with each other in regard to their efforts in Greater East Asia and regions of Europe, respectively; in which it is the prime purpose to establish and maintain a new order of things calculated to promote mutual prosperity and the welfare of the peoples concerned.

Furthermore, it is the desire of the three governments to extend co-operation to such nations in other spheres of the world as, may be inclined to put forth endeavors along lines similar to their own, in order that their ultimate aspirations for world peace may thus be realized.

Accordingly, the governments of Germany, Italy and Japan have agreed as follows:

Article One: Japan recognizes and respects the leadership of Germany and Italy in the establishment of a new order in Europe.

Article Two: Germany and Italy recognize and respect the leadership of Japan in the establishment of a new order in Greater East Asia.

Article Three: Germany, Italy and Japan agree to co-operate in their efforts on the aforesaid lines. They further undertake to assist one another with all political, economic and military means when one of the three contracting Powers is attacked by a Power at
present not involved in the European War or the Sino Japanese conflict.

Article Four: With a view to implementing the present pact, joint technical commissions, the members of which are to be appointed by the respective governments of Germany, Italy and Japan, will meet without delay.

Article Five: Germany, Italy and Japan affirm that the aforesaid terms do not in any way affect the political status which exists at present as between each of the three contracting parties and Soviet Russia.

Article Six: The present pact shall come into effect immediately upon signature and shall remain in force for ten years from the date of its coming into effect.

At the proper time before the expiration of the said term, the high contracting parties shall at the request of any of them enter into negotiations for its renewal.

In faith whereof, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective governments, have signed this pact and have affixed thereto their seals,

Done in triplicate at Berlin the 27th day of September, 1940, in the eighteenth year of the Fascist era.