

The Japanese Army's 'Imperial Lineage Protection Operations' at the End of the Asia-Pacific War: Focusing on the Preparations for the '*Kitashirakawa-no-miya* Operations'.

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This article explores the efforts undertaken by army intelligence officers to protect the imperial lineage at the end of the Pacific War, with a particular focus on the operation known as the "Kitashirakawanomiya Operation." While there were planned initiatives to secure the imperial family and its lineage after Japan accepted the ceasefire on August 15, 1945, this operation was unique in that it was executed prior to Japan's acceptance of the Potsdam Declaration. This article also examines the testimonies of individuals involved in the operation, detailing how it unfolded in the context of the coup plan orchestrated by the central military figures following the decision to accept the Potsdam Declaration on August 10.