

The “Kido Incident” : The Reality of Internal Factional Conflict at the *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun*

The Osaka Mainichi Shimbun, Motosuke Kido, Internal factional conflict, Shinbun Naihō (Insider press journals), Hijōji (emergency)

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This paper examines the 1933 “Kido Incident,” an internal feud at the *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun*. While previous studies frame it as a clash between the Army and Zaibatsu, I redefine it as an internal factional struggle. Rooted in a power vacuum following President Motoyama’s death, the conflict pitted Motosuke Kido’s “Kumamoto faction” against Shingoro Takaishi’s group. Kido’s personal scandals, idiosyncratic journalistic views, and factional aggression eventually forced his resignation. Post-incident propaganda reframed this internal dispute as a battle of “Militarism vs. Liberalism.” Ultimately, this media conflict was politically exploited to symbolize the suppression of “anti-military” thought during Japan’s national emergency.