

In 1937, the year after the 2/26 Incident, Ms. White went back to the United States to take care of her sick father. She intended to make a short visit, but then her own failing health made it impossible for her to return to Japan. The escalation of military control in Japan prevented a successor being sent from America, and so Mr. Keizo Okabe, Kwassui's business manager who had been acting for Ms. White in her absence, became the first Japanese principal of Kwassui.

The increase in nationalistic tendencies seen in the National General Mobilization of 1938 and the beginning of conscription in the following year had a serious effect on school education. In 1941 a national service corps came into being at Kwassui Girls' High School, and at the Senmon Gakko Higher School the period of education was shortened and graduation brought forward so that the students could do labor service work. Then there was government notification that the schools should become independent of Mission Boards, and so in September Ms. Olive Curry who had remained as long as possible finally had to go back to the United States, and Kwassui was left without a single American missionary. When direct connection with the Mission Board was cut, financial support also came to an end; however, instead donations from the Parents' Association and help from the Alumnae Association saw Kwassui through.

Principal Mr. Okabe, who had devoted himself to the management of Kwassui during this period, resigned from his position in 1942 due to ill health, and Mr. Takeshi Muto became the fifth Kwassui principal.

As English was the language of enemy countries, in 1942 a Ministry of Education communication said that it should become an optional subject. Many Kwassui students still elected to study English, and the tradition of having the student representative make the graduation speech in English was maintained. However, in the following January the Middle Level School Order was promulgated, and "training for the Imperial Way" was advanced as an aim of the wartime education system. With the implementation of the new education system, the regulations of each school based on the system had to be approved by the Ministry of Education, and so it was necessary for Kwassui to reorganize in accordance with the law to receive approval.

In the application that Kwassui made for approval, at first in the section for stating the purpose of its education, as well as a statement that this was "training for the Imperial Way," as mentioned above, it was also made clear that Christianity would contribute to achieving this purpose. However, Kwassui was ordered to remove this part, and when the application was resubmitted without it, approval was granted. This approval was received in February 1944, and meant that the Kwassui Senmon Gakko Higher School (Foreign Language Department, Music Department, Health Department, Dressmaking Department) became a 4-year Girls' High School.

Nominally the Christian philosophy had disappeared, but somehow religious education continued, and it is also on record that Graduation Worship continued to take place throughout the rest of the war.