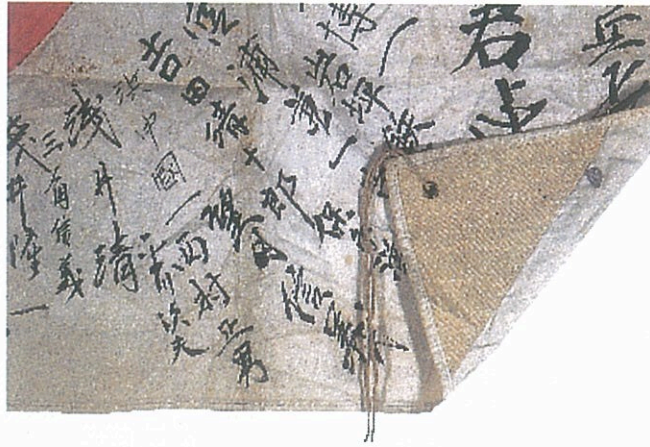


Some of the reinforcing tabs will be seen to have holes punched into the material in order to accommodate tie strings. Often the strings will be missing due to age, but many are still in place. At times, these holes may have zig-zag stitches that run around the opening for strength. In other examples, the tie string holes were reinforced with small brass or metal grommets. Flag tie strings run the gamut from thin, silk thread to thicker cotton or silk string. Strings allowed for the ready hanging or attachment of the flag to rifles or virtually anything else.

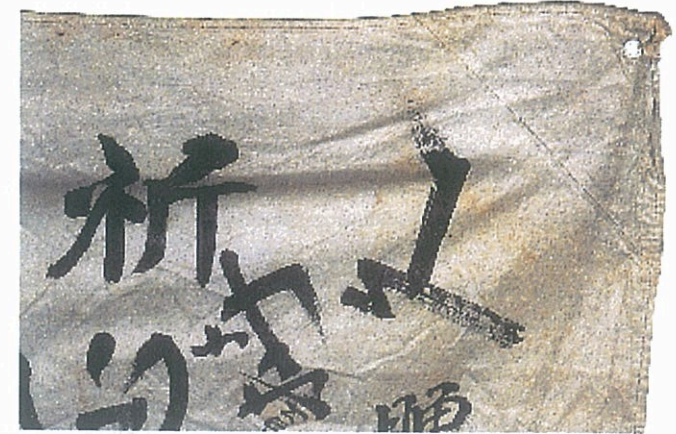
A few *yosegaki hinomaru* will have *kanji* characters either pressed or ink printed onto one or both of the corner tabs. When translated, these characters normally represent the name of the flag's manufacture, an advertiser, or in some instances make reference to The Emperor. On flags covered with heavy amounts of writing, the corner tabs may be written upon in order to finish a name or a message that first began on the material. Characters on the reinforcing corner tabs are rarely seen, so it may be assumed that this was an un-common practice.



White cotton canvas corner tab sewn into place. A brass reinforcing grommet may be seen in place. Grommets added further strength and prevented the tie string from tearing the cloth at the corner.



Double white cotton reinforced corner tab with brass grommet in place.



Double white cotton reinforced corner tab with white grommet in place.



These two orange/brown oil cloth-type corner tabs have been stitched into place. The tie strings are made from silk. Printed onto the corner tabs are the characters *ware no kimi*. This literally means "Our Lord." In the context of World War II, the words mean "Our Emperor." This phrase is seen at times on flags and corner tabs and indicated the belief that the Nation and The Emperor were one.

