

Le Clair Admits Guilt As Japanese Agent; Faces 12-Year Term

By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Sept. 9. ~~John S.~~
Le Clair, 41, former instructor in
New York and New Jersey colleges,
pleaded guilty yesterday to a Fed-
eral grand jury indictment charging
him with action as an unregistered

agent of the Japanese government.
Federal Judge J. W. Waring released
Le Clair in \$5,000 bail pending im-
position of sentence September 22.
Assistant United States Attorney
Max D. Novak said the maximum
penalty fixed by law was 12 years'
imprisonment and \$30,000 fine.

The indictment charged Le Clair
conspired with Shintaro Fukishima,
press attache of the Japanese Em-
bassy in Washington; Kyuskike
Hoshide, assistant to the TREASURER
of the Japanese consulate here, and
Shinichi Kondo, vice consul in New
York. The Japanese government
representatives were not named as
defendants in the indictment.

As part of the conspiracy, the
indictment charged Le Clair wrote
pro-Japanese articles and procured
publication of them in magazines.
Le Clair was employed from July,
1938, to March, 1941, by the Jap-
anese, E. E. Conroy, head of the
New York FBI office, said.

Le Clair was paid \$500 a month
by the Japanese Consulate in New
York from July, 1938, to December,
1939, for writing a syndicated col-
umn entitled "Comments and Fore-
casts," which contained two pro-
Japanese articles a month, Mr. Con-
roy charged. The column was dis-
tributed to more than 200 newspa-
pers in the United States, Mr. Con-
roy said.

Mr. Conroy also said that from
April, 1938, to March, 1941, Le Clair
wrote special articles at the request
of the Japanese and his activity as
a propaganda agent netted him
more than \$12,000.