IYEYASU & the
TOKUGAWA “Crown”

Continues from issue #3 & TOKUGAWA’S KAI-GO YOSHIHIRO

IYEYASU had gained TOTOMI in his alliance with SHINGEN but in joining the ODA block of the planned TAKEDA march and supply line to SHOGUNAL, KYOTO, he created the collision course with SHINGEN at HAMAMATSU and the eventual TOKUGAWA rise from his vassal’s fateful shot through those syrupy tones of NODA Castle’s hypnotic flute. After SHINGEN’s son, the impetuous KATSUYORI, died under hoof with the last ragged remnants of his father’s great clan, swinging his father’s great sword, the KAInoKUNI GO YOSHIHIRO, TOKUGAWA gained the rich TAKEDA spoils and spears. KAI and SHINANO bore SHINGEN’s bountiful resources and the great TAKEDA retainers - long held and loyal Samurai families, established under SHINGEN’s stable administration. These were added to TOKUGAWA’S SURUGA, TOTOMI and MIKAWA to become the “Five Great Provinces” and new power belt across central Japan. This and SHINGEN’s “KAI-no-KUNI” GO YOSHIHIRO sword banded the TOKUGAWA achievement, body and soul.

IYEYASU’S DAIOKU “Crown” of the SHOGUNATE would come through his NAGAKUTE dream along the Destiny of Star-Crossed Paths that started with NOBUNAGA and a country at war...

NOBUNAGA SHI-TEN  “The Four Princes” or 4 generals of NOBUNAGA
SHIBATA KATSUIYE TAKIGAWA KAZUMASU
NIWA NAGAHIDE AKECHI MITSUHIDE

A walk to NAGAKUTE...

Forever the up-start - of low birth, HIDEYOSHI had snuck into ODA service with a fiction of name and trappings, purchased with stolen coin. His bravado fascinated NOBUNAGA, who favored him with fise reins and earned reward. Advancing quickly, to list and family, he had distinguished himself with the ASAI and ASAKURA and was now NOBUNAGA’s right arm and fist, leading the whole of the efforts down the SANYODO, to the lands of the MORI...

HIDEYOSHI, laying the MORI SEIBATSU, or siege, at TAKAMATSU Castle in BITCHU, asked his Lord and leader, ODA NOBUNAGA, - who had set up a KYOTO residence at HONNO-JI - for re-enforcements. Dealing with the MORI was the “on-deck” focus for the very nearly completed ODA unification drive. These were the shining warriors, the successful team, and all knew the long division, that had plagued the country for so long, finally at an end. The whole of the powers, and those who would have it, had been clearly decided.

AKECHI MITSUHIDE got the re-enforcement assignment so his mustering of 30,000 was completely expected. [continue on next page over]