Experts slam ministry's WWII videos

Written by Taipei Times Sunday, 12 July 2015 08:55 -

Government-funded videos marking the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II portrayed a "historically inaccurate" version of the transfer of Taiwanese sovereignty after the war and failed to review the history "from a Taiwan-centered perspective," a National Chengchi University professor of Taiwanese history said yesterday.

As part of the government's year-long plan to publicize the role of the Republic of China's (ROC) armed forces and government in World War II, five videos commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were posted on the "Trending Taiwan" YouTube channel, leading to debate among people who watched them.

The university's Graduate Institute of Taiwan History chair Hsueh Hua-yuan (□□□) said that the government reviewed history "through the lens of the ROC [as opposed to that of Taiwan]."

"I have no problem with that, except some parts of the videos were not historically accurate," Hsueh said.

"The problem is, with regard to the history of Taiwan, what was portrayed was completely wrong," Hsueh said.

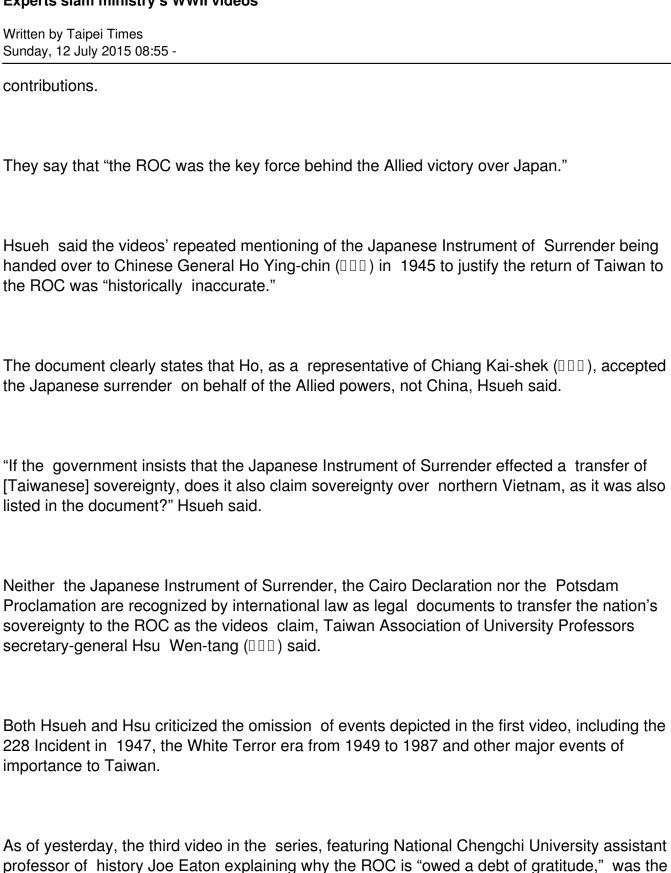
The series of five videos, each about five minutes long, begin in the first video, *Settlement, Colonialism and Modernity*

, with a timeline of Taiwanese history starting in the mid-17th century — when Han Chinese moved to Taiwan and the nation was incorporated into the Qing Dynasty empire — and spanning to the present.

The other four videos portray the ROC leading China to victory over Japan, saying that the ROC is owed a debt of gratitude for its "unequal contributions" to the defeat of the Axis powers and for supporting the end of foreign empires in Asia.

The videos say that World War II would have taken a different course without the ROC's

Experts slam ministry's WWII videos



The third video sparked heated debate among people on social media.

Wednesday.

most viewed at 3,536, with 115 comments, 110 likes and 91 dislikes since its release on

Experts slam ministry's WWII videos

Written by Taipei Times Sunday, 12 July 2015 08:55 -

Ministry spokesperson Anna Kao (\square \square) said the videos' scripts were written by the ministry after consultation with experts and academics.

The videos are to be officially launched at events that are to be attended by descendants of World War II heroes during their visits to Taiwan next month and in September, Kao said.

Source: Taipei Times - 2015/07/12