Exhibit	#
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Defense Document 2154

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING CLOSING ACCOUNTS AT THE 67TH SESSION OF THE IMPERIAL DIET.

1 MARCH 1935.

## Answer of the Minister of State. Minister of State Hirota.

With regard to the view that the relation between China and Japan is on gradual improvement the questioner seems to be afraid that the Foreign Office is over-confident, at least as far as I am concerned, I believe and do not doubt that the relation is absolutely becoming better. The problem of the relation between Japan and China is a very old one and it has sometimes been good and sometimes bad, but, on the whole it was generally thought that the relation was progressing for the worse. Recently, China has become fully awakened to her past errors and is inclined to change her attitude. Such is the attitude, I am quite confident, of Chiang Kai Shek, Wang Ching Wei and other leaders of the Chinese Government. Even if this is true, I think there are many among the masses who have been disposed hostile towards Japan for many years. As to how the prominent men in the Chinese Government will make their mind reflect in the whole of China, we Japanese ought to be patient and hope that improved conditions will be realized as early as possible.

Again, as you say, between China and Japan there remain many unsettled questions. The fact of the past relations is every one of these unsettled questions having arisen from uncontrollable bad relations between the two countries, even when we tried to settle it, the actual situation has been that, up to this day, they would not reciprocate. However, from the middle of or the beginning of last year China herself has shown a desire somehow to improve the existing relations and they have tried to sound my view as to what problem could first be settled. I suggested in reply that, as it would be difficult to settle vital questions between the two countries, I thought that questions related to the peoples of the two countries should first be attacked. Moreover, as it would be difficult in present conditions in China to promise special privileges to Japan, I suggested that China should treat Japan in the same manner as other countries, i.e., to take an impartial attitude and extend the same privileges to Japan as extended to other nations.

I think that during the past few months China has been approaching the questions of fulfilment of obligations, reparations, the payment of money, etc. with good faith. Moreover, as to the question of wireless between China and foreign countries, China's attitude has been such that if foreign countries were allowed to set up wireless communication, Japan, too, was allowed this privilege.

Regarding other pending questions, although they have not yet reached the suitable stage for settlement, taking advantage of this favorable condition, we have both decided to endeavor to settle the most difficult problems and I am hoping that this may be realized at an early date.

## CERTIFICATE OF SOURCE AND AUTHENTICITY

I, KONDO, Hideaki, who occupy the post of a Secretary of the Hourse of Peers, hereby certify that the document hereto attached, written in Japanese, consisting of 3 pages and entitled "Minutes of The Proceedings of The Committee of the House Of Representatives Regarding Closing Accounts At The 67th Session of The Imperial Diet" is an exact and authorized excerpt from an official document in the custody of Japanese Government (The House of Peers).

certified at Tokyo, on this 18th day of March, 1947

KONDO, Hideaki (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

at the same place, on this same date

Witness:

ONODERA, Goichi (se