

# 2026

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section,  
Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that  
the document hereto attached in Japanese consisting  
of 5 pages<sup>s</sup> and entitled "Interview between  
Idoriuchi, Vice-minister for Foreign Affairs,  
and the newly appointed English Ambassador  
to China, September 8, 1936."

is an exact and true copy of an official document of the  
Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,

on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1946<sup>7</sup>.

K. Hayashi  
Signature of Official

Witness : Nagaharu Odo

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SUBJECT: Conversation Between Vice-Minister HORINOUCHI and the  
New British Ambassador to China

(Sept. 8, 1936 -- Notes by Shimazu)

On Sept. 8, Vice-Minister Horinouchi, acting for the Minister (due to a slight illness), held a conversation with the new British Ambassador to China, Sir Hugh M. Knatchbull-Hugessen (Ambassador Clive also present).

1. The Vice-Minister first explained that although there are some people disposed against CHIANG KAI-SHEK in Japan, the Government has no intention of rejecting him, its policy being to conduct necessary negotiations with the Nanking Government; that unfortunately, the CHENGTU incident occurred at the moment Ambassador Kawagoe was preparing to open negotiations for the improvement of Sino-Japanese relations; that it is clear that this incident is one manifestation of the underlying anti-Japanese current, and there is no question but that the Nanking Government should be held responsible for it; that it is the policy of the Japanese Government for the settlement of this incident, in order to rectify the underlying cause of the incident, to make the Nanking Government adopt with sincerity effective measures voluntarily for the total suppression of anti-Japanese activities; that it is his hope that, with this as a turning point, negotiations concerning other problems will progress more speedily.

2. Secondly, with regard to ~~the~~ North China, he explained: it goes without saying that the Government wishes to see the situation

improved, and in this connection, since WANG KEH-MIN has recently gone north to participate in the Hopei-Chahar regime, the Japanese are hoping that he will contribute greatly to the improvement of the situation, serving as a connecting link hereafter between Nanking and North China.

3. He said that the Japanese Government are for greater Anglo-Japanese cooperation in China and are confident that it is possible to discover means of adjusting the interests of Great Britain and Japan in China, and accordingly our agencies in China will endeavor to cooperate with him (the new Ambassador) hereafter along these lines; that the Japanese Government welcome him to his new post with great expectations.

4. Ambassador Knatchbull-Hugessen expressed his satisfaction to learn that the Japanese Government are willing to deal with CHIANG KAI-SHEK in their attempt to adjust Sino-Japanese relations, since as far as he knew, there was no one among the Chinese who could with responsibility handle the difficult situation other than CHIANG. He was of the opinion that an improvement of the situation through friendly talks between Japan and China would be a matter of gratification not only for the two countries but also for other nations having interests in China.

5. The Ambassador next assured of the willingness on the part of the British to cooperate with the Japanese in China. In this connection he said he talked with Leith-Ross prior to his departure, who was most gratified over the result of his second visit to 255  
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which helped to bring about an even closer mutual understanding and effectuating of the matters he desired, and was especially satisfied that on the question of Maritime Customs personnel almost complete understanding had been reached between Great Britain and Japan. He wished to confirm his understanding referred to an understanding between Leith-Ross and the Vice-Minister to the effect that a British national will succeed Maze, Kishimoto will be made D.I.G. (Deputy Inspector-General) in the near future, a British national will succeed him as C.S., and at the same time Japanese personnel will be increased, but that since this is, of course, a Chinese administrative matter, it would remain as an understanding between Great Britain and Japan.

To the question of the Vice-Minister whether this understanding had already been submitted to the British Foreign Office by Leith-Ross, the Ambassador replied that the British Government had already approved it.

To the Vice-Minister's suggestion to put the purport of the above understanding into writing, Ambassador Knatchbull-Hugessen replied that the above understanding should be sufficient and that putting it formally into writing may invite suspicion by the Chinese.

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文書ノ出所並ニ成立ニ關スル證明書

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自分林 馨ハ外務省文書課長ノ職ニ居ル者ナル處、茲ニ添附セラレタ  
ル日本語ニ依ツテ書カレ 五頁ヨリ成ル 一九三九年九月八日堀内外務省官  
ト題スル書類ハ日本政府ハ外務省一ノ保管ニ係ル公文書ノ抄録  
ノ正確ニシテ眞實ナル寫シナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年一月七日 於東京

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同日於同所

立會人

尾 久 長春



同了件ハ排日運動ノ一表現トシテ南京政府ニ於テ之  
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 明ニ  
 (昭和二十八年八月九日 電報)

三、日本政府前大藏省が其の要領を要領として同国に於

(十二行) ヤング印

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又此下第一日訪問言リ積立前二層ヨク多解合ト新得同凡  
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