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EXHIBIT No. 3253

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(Translation)

Telegram sent by Mr. Hirota, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on August 5th, 1935, and addressed to Japanese Ambassador to China, Japanese Charge d'Affaires at Peiping, Japanese Consuls-General at Tientsin and Nanking.

Code telegram Go No. 556 (Confidential).
With regard to the Policy towards China.

In view of the recent change of the situation I directed the Bureau concerned since some time past to conduct, in strict secrecy and together with the Army and the Navy authorities, a fundamental reinvestigation with regard to our policy towards China. I instructed to present without delay a tentative plan made by the Bureau of the East Asiatic Affairs (dated July 2nd) which I am forwarding to you by my separate telegram Go No. 555. On the part of the Army and the Navy there seems to be no objection substantially to the purport of the plan and it is expected that it will be decided upon in the near future. You shall be informed as soon as a decision is arrived at. In the meanwhile you are requested to keep the matter strictly confidential and for your personal information. The present telegram, together with the separate telegram, are addressed to - - - (the rest is omitted).

Separate telegram in Code Go No. 555 (Confidential).

It is the essential point of our foreign policy to secure stabilization in East Asia by means of cooperation and mutual assistance of Japan, Manchoukuo and China and it is most important that the three countries should, with this end in view, enter into friendly relations and make necessary cooperation. Herein lies the foundation of our policy towards China. Therefore we are resolved to attain the above object in accordance with the following general principles and in a way best suited to circumstances.

(1) China should carry out strict control over all anti-Japanese speeches and activities. At the same time Japan and China, based upon their special responsibility with regard to the securing of peace in East Asia, should make efforts to establish and promote the relations of friendship and cooperation on the basis of the principles of mutual respect of independence and cooperation and mutual assistance (such efforts to establish and promote the relations of friendship and cooperation are to be started from the economic and cultural directions), and, making a step further, the two countries should work for the development of the relations between Manchoukuo and China.

(2) Such development of the relations between Manchoukuo and China makes it its ultimate aim that China will give formal recognition to Manchoukuo and that, parallel to this, Japan, Manchoukuo and China will conclude a necessary agreement to regulate the new relations between the three countries in accordance with the principles of mutual respect of independence and of cooperation and mutual assistance. However, for the time being, China is to agree not to deny the fact of Manchoukuo's existence at least in North China and the Chahar district which border on the Manchoukuo territory and to stop anti-Manchoukuo policy, and, going a step further, to enter into actual relations of interdependence and cooperation in the economic and cultural fields with Manchoukuo.

(3) In view of the fact that the Bolshevik menace coming from Outer Mongolia and others in a common menace to Japan, Manchoukuo and China, cooperation at least between Japan and China should be worked out in Chahar and other districts bordering on Outer Mongolia with a view to removing such menace.

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document attached in Japanese consisting of 5 pages and entitled "TELEGRAM DESPATCHED FROM FOREIGN MINISTER, HIROTA, 5 AUGUST, 1935" is an exact and true copy of an official document of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo, 19 November, 1946.

K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness: Nagaharu Odo