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894.00/1-145 -- 12-3145



No. 56

SPECIAL WAR PROBLEMS DIVISION  
FEB 20 1945

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
THE UNITED STATES MISSION  
BUCHAREST, RUMANIA

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS  
FEB 16 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL POLICY  
SNF  
FEB 28 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FEB 8 1945

January 6, 1945

SECRET

SUBJECT: A Rumanian Traveler Describes Conditions  
In Japan Between July 1943 and December 1944

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FEB 22 1945

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

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LIAISON OFFICE  
FEB 3 1945

I have the honor to report the results of a recent interview by a member of my staff with Mr. Edmond Ciuntu, a Rumanian official who has just returned from Japan. Mr. Ciuntu is considered here to be a man of integrity, who steadfastly refused to accept a position of responsibility under the dictator regime of Marshal Antonescu.

This despatch should be read in connection with the report prepared by the local branch of the OSS, No. GR-122 of December 30, 1944, and entitled "Report of Rumanian Business Man on Japan". The despatch necessarily will overlap in some measure the contents of the above-mentioned report.

Mr. Ciuntu was caught by the war on December 7, 1941 in Hongkong, which he had reached in an attempt to go to the United States. He later went to Shanghai, and in July 1943 he proceeded to Japan where he stayed until his departure on November 28, 1944. Mr. Ciuntu was Rumania's first Minister to Soviet Russia; he was an intimate collaborator of the later well-known Rumanian Foreign Secretary, Mr. Titulescu, and has Russian contacts that may at some future date make him a logical Rumanian Ambassador at Moscow or possibly Foreign Minister. This background information is given for the purpose of illustrating that the information Mr. Ciuntu gave in the interview may be considered highly.

The information received by Mr. Ciuntu is not of an unusual nature but is rather confirmatory in showing that the trend of life in Japan is continuing the

SHIPPING DIVISION  
MAR 9 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT  
REPRODUCTION SECTION  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
JUN 4 1945

DIVISION OF WORLD TRADE  
MAR 28 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS  
MAR 16 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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downward spiral that began several years before the war with the United States and Great Britain. Living conditions are becoming increasingly drab, and economic shortages are becoming more acute, while the public vacuum regarding knowledge of external conditions and complete popular support for the war continues the same as ever.

As time goes by foreigners are more than ever isolated from the Japanese, and Mr. Ciuntu apologized for not having any striking information to give since, not possessing any official status and having refused to accept the post of Rumanian Minister offered by the Antonescu regime, he was certainly not in a position to attempt to learn anything unusual.

#### The War and Propaganda

Today in Japan there is no such thing as politics in the Western sense of the term for the entire nation is devoting itself to the supply of the war machine. The people maintain the same steadfast attitude with a belief in final victory, and there is no open grumbling. The Emperor continues to make his usual number of appearances at military celebrations and all the great national holidays.

Since the fall of the Tojo cabinet, however, Japanese public speakers and the press have constantly emphasized the growing difficulties of the war and the probable length of the struggle. The speeches of the former American Ambassador to Japan, Mr. Grew, are quoted by the Japanese press to show that the United States also realizes that the war will be long and hard. However, this office's source met no single well placed Japanese, outside of the military with which he did not have contact, who really believed in a clear cut victory for Japan. All of these people, although not certain how it would be brought about, expected some sort of a compromise peace of the type they felt followed the Russo-Japanese war.

It is interesting to note the observer's view that the Japanese public, at least until the American air raids began in the last few months, somehow considered the war a bit remote. The only outward signs of the war were declining living standards and the increased drabness of life. However, the first shock the Japanese public received was the loss of Saipan. Two Japanese police officials were sent to question the source, who was asked whether in his view this loss constituted a menace to Japan. In the press and in statements the civilian suicides upon Saipan were given

great



-3-

great prominence, but the Japanese expressed the view that these civilians had been forced to commit suicide by the military.

Propaganda against the Americans takes the form of always using the adjective "beasts" in referring to them. The press continues to state that Americans fight only for adventure and money, and, to prove this, various salaries and allowances of American airmen are published in the papers.

#### Air Raids and Treatment of Americans

The Japanese have been making preparations for American air raids for some time, and, when the super fortress raids began, the people were conditioned to the possibility of these raids, and their personal behavior was competent.

One of the means that the Japanese adopted to prepare for bombings and to avoid large scale fires was to tear down many of the flimsy residences around key industrial areas. The source thought this had been done in some of the important districts and had visual evidence of this being done in June 1944, when houses were torn down for a distance of from fifty to sixty yards on each side of the Tokyo-Yokohama Railway tracks.

Mr. Ciuntu had some talks with the Swiss in Tokyo and met a Swiss Attache in Korea while he was returning to Rumania via Russia, who gave him additional details. This latter person, Mr. Angst, is well and favorably known to Americans formerly in Japan, and he stated to Mr. Ciuntu that he considers the Japanese are treating interned Americans better than they first did and that their living conditions are improving. He proposed the question as one he was unable to decide: whether the Japanese attitude was changing toward the American prisoners because they were beginning to understand them better or because they considered that it was to become a long and serious war for Japan.

#### Industrial Mobilization and Economic Shortages

Women are being used more intensively in Japanese industry than ever before; so much so that conservative Japanese are afraid that the traditional family system and its concomitant, subjugation of women, will be disrupted by the women gaining their economic independence. This office's source admitted, however, that he had seen no outward signs himself of any such changes.

The mobilization of people for industry has proceeded to such an extent that in Tokyo during the

day



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day the streets are virtually empty because everyone is busy in some form of war activity. Japanese families are not permitted to have more than one servant since the others must go into war industry.

Economic shortages are most apparent. On the Ginza, for example, an estimate of 60 percent of the shops are closed and what stores are open sell such indigenous products as silk and porcelain. The quality of "sufu" fabrics is worse than ever. There is no soap, no sugar, and fish is but rarely available since fishing boats do not have fuel. Paper is extremely scarce, even writing paper, and the newspapers continue to reduce their pages. The NIPPON TIMES has four pages, and the English edition of the OSAKA MAINACHI has but one sheet. Tobacco is extremely difficult to find. There are but a few taxis available, and these are for foreigners at the Imperial Hotel, to transport luggage to and from the station, the foreigners themselves either walking or taking rickshas. No shoes are sold, and soles are of pressed paper. Japanese must bring their rice ration tickets to restaurants when they eat, and the quality of restaurant food has greatly deteriorated. Foreigners living at the Imperial Hotel are virtually obliged to eat there because the quality of the fixed-price meals in public restaurants is so bad. The food in the Imperial Hotel also is quite poor. As an extra treat a bottle of beer is made available once weekly on the hotel menu. A very small black market for commodities is reported which deals exclusively with foreigners since the Japanese penalties are so strict. On this market sugar could be secured at 100 Yen a kilo.

Prices are continuing to be strictly controlled. Inflation is successfully being avoided, and all inducements to excess spending are being rigidly supervised. There have been no movies for a year. The Takarazuka Theater has been closed, as has the Kabuki Theater. There are a few Japanese traveling theaters on tour throughout the Empire.

Fuel is a great problem, and at the beginning of this winter a small bag of charcoal was the ration for each family, with the Government announcing that in mid-winter another small ration would be issued. Last winter there was no heat in the Imperial Hotel and this office's informant was forced to wear his gloves and overcoat constantly.

#### Shipping

The informant is convinced that Japanese shipping losses are the direct cause of the growing economic shortages in the country. He considers that even the Japanese themselves realize that these losses have

been

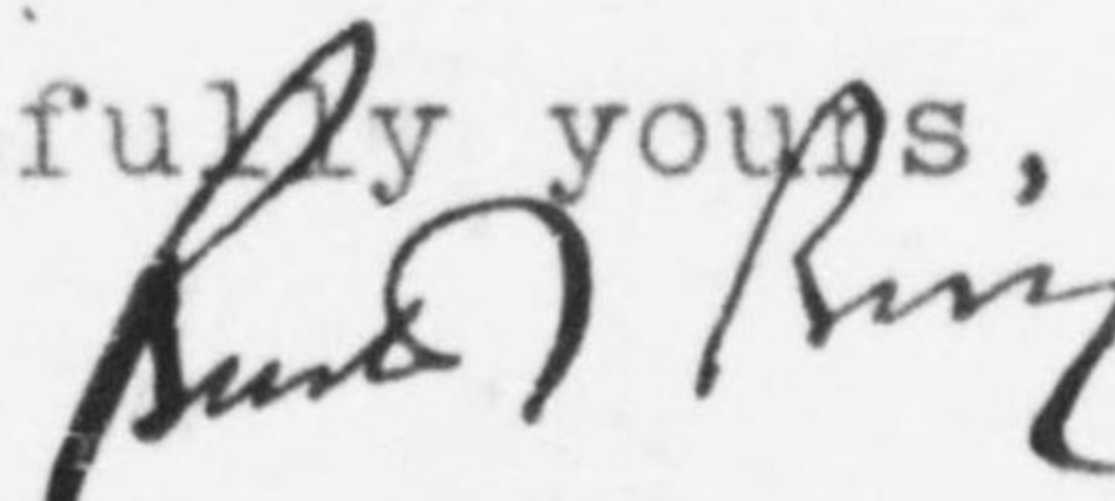


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been heavy. In the big ports virtually no ships are to be seen, but he considers that the principal traffic is concentrated at the Naval stations and the smaller Inland Sea ports. It is virtually impossible to secure passage on a ship going south, so consequently travel in that direction is done by plane. When this office's source left Japan for Fusan in Korea, the ships crossing the strait traveled only by day and took a zig-zag course. At the time he made the trip there were two ships crossing together accompanied by two small escort vessels and patrolling planes overhead.

As an example of Japanese shipping losses the informant cited the case of the requisitioned French vessels, which were leased to the Japanese with the agreement that in the event of loss the French would be repaid the value of the ships. At first, said French friends, the Japanese did pay for ships lost, but now they continue to pay rent for the remainder, even when the French know some of these have been lost, since it is a military secret to admit these losses and since it is cheaper to do so.

Respectfully yours,



Burton Y. Berry  
United States Representative  
in Rumania

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1. The fol... spent 1... be well
2. Civilia... people... defeats... authori... as great... ulation was very quiet during the Tokyo raids of 24 and 27 November with no hysteria.
3. Industrialists, professionals and others of the upper classes are not confident in the ultimate Japanese victory. They have given up hope of a separate peace between Germany and Russia, but believe that after Germany is defeated Russia may intervene for peace between the United States and Japan.
4. There is an absolute blackout in the cities. Theaters are closed and streets deserted after 9 o'clock in the evening. A few large air raid shelters exist in large Tokyo office buildings. The typical Japanese shelter is a small narrow trench, roofed over with planks and dirt.
5. During the raid of 24 November which lasted two and a half hours the population was completely calm. There was considerable Ack Ack and Japanese fighters were seen. The Japanese claimed five bombers destroyed. The raid of 27 November took place on a cloudy day and the planes could not be seen. No Ack Ack was heard by source and no claims were made by the press.
6. Source was informed of the following by an International Red Cross representative: The treatment of American prisoners and the food is much improved. Entertainment is now permitted and no cases of brutality are mentioned. The representative expressed the opinion that the improved treatment resulted from a better Japanese understanding of the American ways and habits. A large quantity of parcels from the United States was received in Japan and assurances were given that they would be distributed soon. As a result the morale of American prisoners has improved.

To:

*Mr. N. Lary*  
*335 State Dept.*

*The attached document is being forwarded per your request.*

*L.P. Truck*  
*OSS 15/2/45*

ion No. A-47298  
Report No. GR-122  
port 30 Dec. 1944  
F-3

RB-29746  
RB-025

Pages 2

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## OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

Secret

Distributed	1 January 1945	Dissemination No.	A-47298
Country	Rumania/Japan	Original Report No.	GR-122
Subject	A Rumanian's Observation of Conditions in Japan	Date of Report	30 Dec. 1944
Source	Z	Evaluation	F-3
Date of Information	28 November 1944	Reference	RB-29746 RB-025
Place of origin	Rumania	Number of Pages	2



1. The following information was received from a Rumanian civilian who spent 16 months in Japan up to 28 November 1944. Source appears to be well informed and a keenly intelligent reporter of fact.
2. Civilian morale of the majority of the Japanese is very high. The people are uninformed about the truth of the war and Japanese naval defeats, but appear to believe their leaders implicitly. Respect for authority and veneration of the Emperor and military commanders is as great as ever. The morale of the soldier is very high. The population was very quiet during the Tokyo raids of 24 and 27 November with no hysteria.
3. Industrialists, professionals and others of the upper classes are not confident in the ultimate Japanese victory. They have given up hope of a separate peace between Germany and Russia, but believe that after Germany is defeated Russia may intervene for peace between the United States and Japan.
4. There is an absolute blackout in the cities. Theaters are closed and streets deserted after 9 o'clock in the evening. A few large air raid shelters exist in large Tokyo office buildings. The typical Japanese shelter is a small narrow trench, roofed over with planks and dirt.
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## OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

- 2 -

A-47298

7. Civilian transport is curtailed and first class accommodations have been cancelled. A special authorization is necessary for train travel. Entry into and exit from Manchukuo is carefully controlled. Foreigners and civilians may enter on three days of each month only.
8. It is impossible for foreigners to ascertain who are the Japanese leaders. The Prime Minister is subordinate to the Army and Navy, and all important transactions are determined by representatives of the Army and Navy, together with a small group of business men and technician experts.
9. Individual officials are either unwilling or unable to act on their own authority, and all decisions are made by boards and committees.
10. All labor unions are suppressed, and only government-approved patriotic associations are permitted. There is no talk, ever, of strikes and the Japanese play up American labor difficulties as evidence of internal dissension in America.
11. The Russians hamper Japanese diplomatic travel, particularly in the case of couriers. Japanese diplomats are forced to wait for months for visas to pass through Russia. Source commented that the Japanese Diplomatic Staff in Rumania has not yet left for Japan because Russian permits have not yet been issued. The Japanese diplomats from Finland have reached Japan and were observed by source passing the Russian-Manchukuo border on 7 December.

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894.00/1-1045

CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

NOTE

SUBJECT Military defeats affecting Japanese political situation.

894.00/1-1045

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For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Memorandum  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Jan.10,1945 From State Department  
~~TCX~~ } Japanese Affairs  
~~xxxx~~ } (Kullgren)

File No. 740.0011 P.W./1-1045



894.00/1-1745

## CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

## SUBJECT

Memorandum entitled "The Japanese Communist Party" submitted.

894.00/1-1745

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See #  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)Dated Jan. 17, 1945 From China (Chungking)  
To (Davies)  
XXXFile No. 740.0011 P.W./1-1745

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1-1540

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magnolia, Arkansas  
January 29, 1945



Dear Mr. Dickener:

I appreciate to the fullest extent the thoughtfulness of Mr. Brew and yourself for telling me of the books on Japan which I thought had interesting titles. I am ordering two of the books which, to me I believe would be most interesting.

I have been studying speech in relation to world order. I like to learn speeches which pertain to the creation of a peaceful society, for only if we have a world of peace, can we attain a truly high civilization.

Sincerely yours,  
Joe Rice

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FEB 2 1945

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894.00/11-2945



*Jm*

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS  
 MAR 13 1945  
 OFFICE  
 DIVISION OF FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS  
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

February 16, 1945

MAR 13 1945  
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COMMUNISM AND THE FUTURE OF JAPAN

There can be little doubt that the Chinese Communists would like to see similar political processes occur in Japan and China. There is no concealment of the fact that their ultimate goal for both countries is a Communist state. The power and prestige of Russia at the end of the war make it even more likely that we may at some time in the future face a Communist Asia.

Russian policy has shown itself to be eminently realistic. Russia will probably not in the near future openly interfere in the governments of either China or Japan. If the Chinese Communists come into control of a large part of China, as they are likely to do, and if there is established in post-war Japan a form of "bourgeois democracy", Russian policy will for the moment have been satisfied.

Facing these probable developments in Asia, the United States must likewise be eminently realistic. If we adopt a negative, vacillating policy, we shall lose the respect and friendship of all Asiatics and by default shall lose our political influence among them.

In the case of Japan, we should not be afraid of Communism. For purposes of political warfare, we should use the Japanese Communists in and out of Japan. They are a group which can and will help us. However, politically they have been insignificant and it is unlikely that they will rise overnight to dominate a defeated Japan.

Americans cannot remake Japan. We shall incur only resentment and failure if we attempt forcibly to impose an American "way of life" on the Japanese. But we shall also fail, and tragically, if we do as some publicists have suggested, turn Japan over to the Chinese, or, to the Russians.

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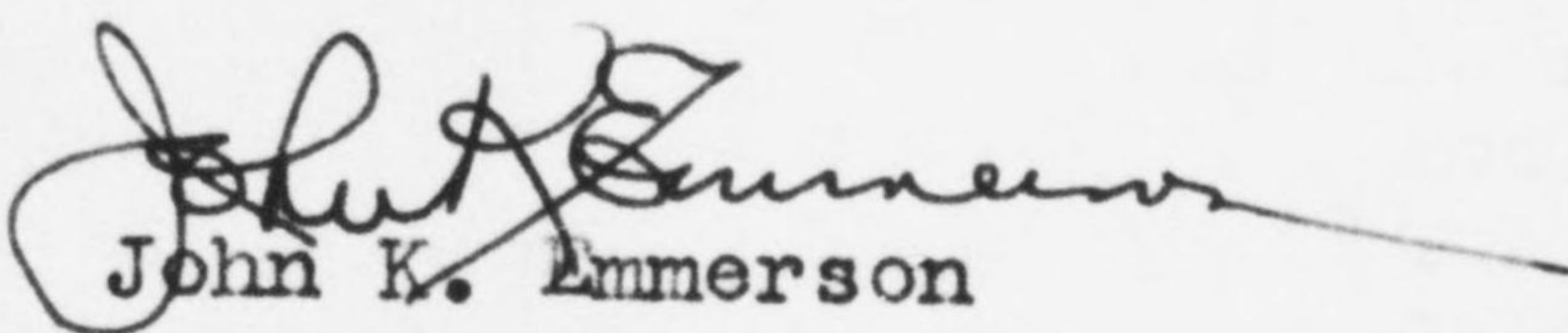
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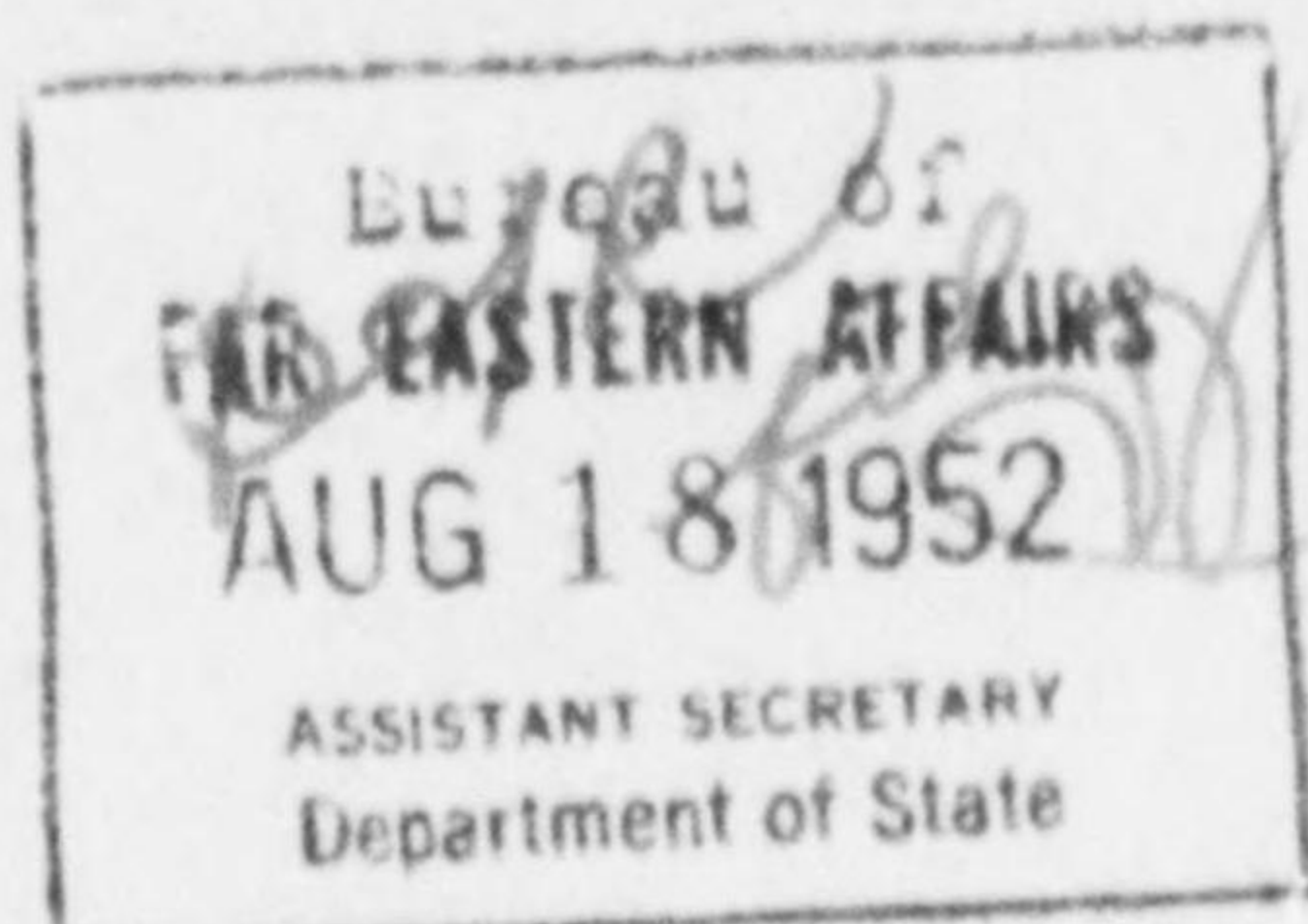
Once the military terms of surrender are satisfied, we should be fair but firm in our dealings with Japan. We should remember that, with a few changes, the Japanese Constitution is as democratic as we could wish. Bewaring of pseudo-moderates, we should encourage the widest representation of Japan's social strata in her organs of government. Beyond economic responsibilities, our most significant task may well be to let the fresh breeze of information into the stale, thought-controlled air of the country. We should no longer shudder at the word "propaganda" and we should not shirk our responsibility to influence Japan culturally.

If this American influence is skillfully exerted and, in the course of history, Communism still comes to Japan, we shall at least understand its coming and be prepared to meet it. The eventuality may be either a shock nor a menace. But if we have left the Japanese to "stew in their own juice", Asia may again present problems soluble only by force of arms.

  
John K. Emmerson

FE:JKE:EAB





March 21, 1945

Memorandum to Mr. Ballantine

From John K. Emmerson

Should the Staff Committee inquire (regarding the numbers of first generation Japanese in this country) from whom members of the organization might come, the following information may be of interest:

- 1) In 1940 there were 113,874 alien Japanese in the United States and territorial possessions. This includes 37,353 in the Hawaiian Islands.
- 2) At one time there were 38,100 first generation Japanese in relocation centers in this country. According to the War Relocation Authority there are now 33,150 still in the centers.
- 3) According to the Enemy Alien Control Unit of the Department of Justice there are approximately 514 alien Japanese who have been released from parole in the continental United States.
- 4) I have been supplied a list of more than 60 outstanding Japanese (mostly professional people) in the United States who might be approached regarding an organization. This list was supplied by a group of Japanese in New York whom Mr. Dooman and I interviewed.
- 5) According to the War Department, we now have in our hands approximately 5,000 Japanese prisoners of war, including 2500 in the United States and 2500 in Pacific theaters of war. This does not include Japanese held in Australia.

For your information, I discussed the subject of the organization and indoctrination of prisoners of war yesterday with the Assistant Secretary of War, Mr. McCloy and with Gen. Donovan. The Secretary is completely favorable to the project and is arranging for me to speak with Gen. Lerch and Gen. Osborne. Gen. Donovan is ready to set up a special project in OSS to handle the matter as far as that organization is concerned, once the project emerges from the State Department.

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FE: Emmerson

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
CENTRAL TRANSLATING DIVISION

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[TRANSLATION]  
APR 7 1945  
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Office of  
FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS  
MAR 31 1945  
DIRECTOR  
Department of State  
TC No. 9365

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS  
APR 4 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

From

Sonntagsblatt Staatszeitung und Herold

New York, February 18, 1945

Letter from the Federal Capital

Japanese Parliamentarianism

BY DIPLOMATICUS

(The author of this article gives his own views, which are not necessarily those of the publishers.)

It may take long, perhaps very long, until Japan will be ready for "unconditional surrender." The capture of Manila is certainly a long and extremely important step on the road to Tokyo, and the successful bombing of Japanese industrial plants and cities doubtless cannot be disposed of with a shrug of their shoulders by the Japanese military camarilla. But an infinite number of battles and heavy sacrifices in blood will probably have to precede the occupation of the Japanese insular empire proper. In addition, a large part of China has been conquered and occupied by Japanese troops which will not give up the country voluntarily.

The question whether there exists a Japanese "underground movement" and whether it will be possible to count upon the establishment, or rather re-establishment of a constitutional system in Japan, i.e. upon a parliamentary government in Japanese style - upon "democracy" in a word - can be answered only on the basis of the historical development of parliamentarianism in Japan. I myself have had opportunities

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APR 7 1945

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opportunities to make the acquaintance of many convinced Japanese democrats, Japanese parliamentarians, such as Jusuke Tsurumi, high officials such as the late Japanese Ambassador Saito, industrialists and journalists. All of them reverentially bowed before the picture of their "Ruler of Divine Origin", the "Tenno" (Mikado), but they were still just as reverential supporters of the parliamentary system and have, in my opinion, remained it.

If one reads the book <sup>1/</sup> of our best official expert on Japan, the present Under Secretary of State and former (from February 1932 to Pearl Harbor) Ambassador in Tokyo, Joseph Clark Grew, one cannot have any doubts about the fact that the parliamentary system did function within the framework of the Japanese constitution. It is worth while to delve a little in the history of Japanese parliamentary history. From the vast literature, I select as a basis an excellent study which C. Burnell Olds published some time ago <sup>2/</sup> in Foreign Affairs. <sup>3/</sup>

Japan received her first constitution in 1889. It could, of course, not be compared with "Western" constitutions. It should not be forgotten that the Japanese nation has an almost theocratic idea of its emperor, the Mikado, as being a descendant of the Sun. With this idea is connected the patriarchal order of state and society - an order fostered by Chinese Confucianism - according to which the Son of Heaven, sent to rule over the earth, is not only a descendant

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<sup>1/</sup> Ten Years in Japan, by Joseph Clark Grew. New York, 1944. Simon & Schuster, Publishers. 568 pages and 12 pages illustrations. \$3.75.

<sup>2/</sup> In April 1943.

<sup>3/</sup> Published by the Council on Foreign Relations, Inc.



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descendant of the goddess of the sun, but also a descendant of a divine father of a family, the members of which were the ancestors of all those who up to this day have belonged to the Japanese nation. On this idea are based the "ancestral sacrifices" as well - which are offered to the imperial ancestors before all important ceremonial actions of the state, as the family, which has the obligation of offering similar sacrifices; being in an intermediary position between the state and the individual, the family has in Japan the legal character of an almost official institution.

According to the constitution of 1889 government is divided between the Emperor and the parliament. This parliament consists of two chambers, the members of one of which - distinguished by inherited nobility, professional status, or taxable capacity - are determined partly by birth, partly by special selection, and partly called by the Emperor. All the members of the Second Chamber are elected by the people through equal, secret and direct voting procedures. The right to vote depends on the liability to taxation, so that in fact only a fraction of the population can exercise its franchise.

Although the constitution of 1889 can, of course, not be called an entirely democratic document, it was, however, a step toward democracy. The constitution explicitly declared "the person of the Emperor sacred and inviolable" and gave him all privileges of the empire, including the sanctioning of all laws, calling and dismissing of the Imperial Parliament, supreme command over the Army and Navy, the declaration of wars and the conclusion of treaties.

This



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This was a period of transition. The framework was not to be fashioned too different from the old military régime. The miracle was that at that time a constitution could be given the country at all. It explicitly guaranteed civic rights to the people - something entirely new - such as freedom of residence, guaranties against arrest, detention, investigation or punishment without legal procedure, the right to official court procedure by legally instituted judges, freedom of religion, speech, and press, and the right to public gatherings as well as that of petitioning. As to the parliament, it had to be called every year, and every proposed law had to have its approval; this includes also approval of the annual budget of all income and expenses of the state.

The first popular cabinet came to power in 1898, and the first popular party was formed in 1901. But this Social Democratic Party attempted too much and was suppressed almost immediately; the ideals for which it had fought remained, however, and continued to be a thorn in the flesh of those responsible to the government. At the same time also the old military party was at work. The Japanese embassies abroad reported the bellicose attitude of the Western nations, their armies and navies. The militarists shouted: "In this lies the secret of the power of the Western nations. It does not lie in their peaceful institutions and ideals, but in their superior military organization. If we want to be able to resist their encroachments, we must have an army and a navy which are a match for any other nation which might oppose us." Due to the influence of the military party Japan introduced general compulsory service instead of the small number of the previous "military specialists". Now every man became  
a soldier



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a soldier and education was entirely geared to this goal. Moreover, the belief in the celestial origin of the dynasty of Japanese emperors, a belief which had receded into the background, but by no means been forgotten, was again brought into daylight and brushed up, in order to supply the program with a kind of divine order, and even to make it a religion.

In 1909 already, i.e. only four years after the end of the Russo-Japanese war, the militarists succeeded in obtaining a law which made it possible for them to submit any problem of military importance directly to the Emperor, over the heads of the parliament, the cabinet, or the Premier Minister. But as soon as the Emperor had given his approval, any kind of opposition was made impossible. Thus a double government was superimposed on the state to the consternation of those who then already believed to recognize that such a policy would ruin the country.

The first World War brought the fulfilment of the greatest wish of the war party, viz. a foothold in China. But although the militarists were now firmly in the saddle, they had at that time seriously to take into account opposition by the students and intellectuals. Although this political trend was radically fought against by the militarists and punished by the police, it spread more and more. A new wave of democratic spirit developed in 1918 with the establishment of the first concentration cabinet under the leadership of Premier Minister Hara. Another important new factor was the increasing influence of the capitalistic businessmen, which greatly disturbed the militarists, because the military budget had now to be  
approved



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approved by the parliament, where this influence was very powerful.

The restrictions on immigration from Asiatic countries by the United States worked in favor of the military party. Foreign Minister Baron Shidehara succeeded in contributing much to the softening of the stirred-up passions of the people. In 1927 he was forced to resign, and Baron Tanaka became Foreign Minister. During his régime the well-known "Tanaka Memorandum" was promulgated which set forth Japan's program of world conquest in full detail and in expressions which were by no means vague. X

Hamaguchi came to power in 1930. But his agreement to the 5:5:3 formula of the London Naval Treaty enraged the Army and Navy. Never before had the civilian authority so unmistakably challenged the army and navy with regard to an important question of national defense. This action meant, according to the militarists, that the cabinet had the right to control Japanese foreign policy; it also encroached, according to them, upon the privilege of the Imperial Council to influence the Emperor in all his important decisions. Hamaguchi was assassinated in 1931. On September 18th of the same year the famous "Manchurian incident" occurred. Since then the militarists have firmly held the helm. Three abortive revolutions followed in 1931, a number of prominent liberal men were murdered the following year. In 1933 the Japanese Government left the League of Nations. The influence of the people vanished gradually, but continuously from 1933 to 1936.

But even then democratic idealism was by no means dead, which was shown by various events during the last ten years. One of them concerned a discussion which arose with regard  
to



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to Professor Minobe's theory on the emperor's relation to the state. The books of the former were banned, he himself was forced to resign from his position in the Upper House and to discontinue his lectures at three universities. In spite of this new victory the "militant patriots" were far from being contented, evidence of which was the famous "incident" of February 26, 1936. Assassinations and secret plots had become so numerous that the Emperor himself had to intervene by seriously reprimanding the army. This is proof of the fact that the Emperor was by no means of one mind with the military and would have kept them in check if he had had freedom of action.

The parliament convened again on January 21, 1937 and elected Hirota Premier Minister. The leaders of the Army were accused in a stormy session of having violated the constitution and the decrees promulgated by Emperor Meiji. This led to the resignation of the Minister of War, General Terauchi, and to the fall of the cabinet. General Ugaki's attempts to form a cabinet did not succeed, because no militarist wanted to stay with him in the cabinet, although the whole nation wanted him. Finally General Hayashi was appointed, who was considered persona grata with his military colleagues. But he had hardly entered upon his position, when his government was most violently attacked in the parliament by the veteran Ozaki, who very severely criticized the China policy and the illegal seizure of political power by the militarists. Ozaki's speech was received with very great applause, but enraged the Premier Minister to such an extent that he lost his temper and shouted: "In times like these the slightest move suffices to set off the explosion." As a matter of fact, this explosion happened soon.

Naotake



-8-

Naotake Sato, who had just returned as an Ambassador from France, entered the cabinet as a Foreign Minister and immediately took charge of a new conciliatory policy toward China which, as he said, he wanted to pursue "with the support of public opinion." At the same time he criticized the attitude of his chief, whose policy drifted toward war, by saying that "if the Japanese nation decided not to go to war, there would not be any war." A short time afterwards the parliament was dissolved in a summary way, which caused a storm in the whole country.

The replacement elections of April 30 were surprising inasmuch as the number of votes was smaller than the year before. The Proletarian Party, "<sup>of</sup>Shakei Taishuto", achieved surprising successes. Half of the electorate in Kobe voted for this party. It won 36 seats altogether. The elections showed that the nation was obviously opposed to the cabinet Hayashi, and that its resignation was therefore to be expected.

Hayashi resigned one month after the elections and was replaced by Prince Konoye who had no difficulties in forming a cabinet entirely subservient to the wishes of the Army. Events were now driving toward the climax, although all newspapers of the country strongly protested against the governmental policy in Manchuria which undoubtedly was bound to lead to war.

On September 4, 1937 the Emperor appeared in the opening session of the parliament. With regard to conducting a war against China he said in his speech from the throne; "The war against China is being conducted for the sole purpose of making that country revise its attitude, so that peace in Eastern Asia may be re-established as soon as possible."

He



-9-

He continued: "In view of this situation I expect all my subjects faithfully and in unity to serve the common weal, so that this goal can be attained." Nobody dared to make any objection. The Emperor had spoken: God wanted it so.

In the same year a general suppression of all political parties set in. The Proletarian and Farmers' Parties were dissolved and their leaders imprisoned. A huge budget of 7500 million yen was approved. There was no hope after all these events that a general war could be avoided. The date chosen was December 7, 1941.

In order to obtain a new system in Japan, the Allies will have to make the following demands:

The present government, which is under complete control of the militarists, must definitely disappear.

The continuous maintenance of the Emperor's sovereignty is indispensable to the establishment of a real popular government. Veneration of the Emperor and readiness completely to submit to his will are rooted in the Japanese character. There can hardly be any doubt - this is also stressed by Ambassador Grew - that the interests of his people lie at the Emperor's heart. If he abolishes the military dictatorship by an imperial decree and proclaims that he re-assumes total sovereignty, the people will willingly follow him.

In addition to the complete military defeat of Japan and the re-investment of the Emperor with his absolute power, the victorious Allies must insist on complete disarmament of Japan and the return of all conquered territories. Amendments to the constitution would have to make it impossible that the military pursue their policy without its being known and approved by the public. Many of our American experts on Japan believe that the attack on Pearl Harbor  
took



-10-

took place without the government's approval. This opinion is shared by Ambassador Grew, who thinks that even Foreign Minister Togo did not know that war was imminent.

It will undoubtedly be objected - here I am following C. Burnell Olds - that the Japanese character, as shown by the recent terrible events, is so bloodthirsty and cruel that it will be impossible in the future to trust the Japanese in any respect. The only answer to this is that one is not justified by cruelties to make indiscriminate accusations. One must lay the blame on those who are guilty: on the militarists, therefore, and not the entire nation.

The Japanese must be freed of their slavish subservience to the military ideology by military defeat, so that they will always abhor conducting war altogether. Then one will be in a position to hope that the true Japan will rise from the ashes.



THEATER — FILM — MUSIK  
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# Sonntags

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# Staats

New York, Sonntag, den 18. Febr

Staats-Zeitung 97. Jahrgang No. 7 Section B

## Schwindler halten im ganzen Land eine grosse Ernte

(Meldung der "Associated Press")  
WASHINGTON. — Heute blüht im Land das Schwindlerwesen wie selten zuvor. Der Schwindler stellt nicht nur den heimkehrenden Soldaten seine Fallen, sondern auch seiner Familie. Der Schwindler weiß, daß heute in den Banken \$130.000.000.000 Spargelder liegen, ein guter Teil davon im Namen von Veteranen. Depositen und Sekuritaten sind in diese Riesensumme eingeschlossen.

Sieben Prozent der Manner, die unter den Fahnen stehen, hoffen, ein Geschaft grunden zu konnen. Das Handelsamt meint, da vier weitere Prozent geneigt sind, dasselbe zu versuchen.

Das Better Business Bureau (BBB) hat mitgeteilt, da die Summe, um die die Leute jahrlich beschwindelt werden, von \$400.000.000 nach dem letzten Krieg auf zwei Milliarden gestiegen ist. Das Buro ist mit 800 Planchen bekannt geworden, mit denen es die Schwindler auf das Geld der Harmlosen abgesehen haben. Und taglich werden neue Planchen ausgeklugelt. Sie umfassen kooperative Unternehmungen, um Nusse oder Fruchte zu produzieren oder Vieh zu zuchten und gehen bis zur Veroffentlichung von Liedern, die ein Soldat in einem Loch an der Front zusammengedichtet hat.

Farbige Soldaten im Pazifik haben von einem Racketeer aus Philadelphia Briefe erhalten, in welchen er sie fur die Grundung einer Neger-Kolonie in New Jersey zu interessieren suchte. Die Sache wurde untersucht, und das Land, das dabei in Frage kam, war von den Dschungeln, in welchen die Soldaten kampfen, nicht sehr verschieden.

Ein geriebener Bursche hat fur \$100 Mitgliedskarten in einem "Besitze dein Heim-Klub" verkauft. Auch hat er von Soldaten Anzahlungen fur die Anschaffung fabrikmaig hergestellter Hauser erhalten. Als Handler hat er "Freibriefe" fur \$300 abgesetzt, an andere fur \$1000. Er zeigte in Zeitungen an, da er Geld fur den Umbau bestehender Hauser

## Das beruhmte itte



(Photo: Staats-Herold-Archiv)

## Breslau war Deutschlan



Nebenstehendes Bild zeigt das Breslauer Rathaus 14. bis 16. Jahrhundert. Obwohl 200 Jahre darafurliche Wirkung erzielt worden. Die Turmhaube der beruhmte Schweidnitzer Keller. Rechts oben grunde rechts die Staupsaule, das alte Wahrzeichen wurde. Hier fanden im Mittelalter die Hinrichtungen 1771. Auf dem oberen Bilde ist die Dominsel bischoflichen Palaste in der Mitte und dem doppel-eigenartiger fruhgotisch-herber und kraftvoller Bau benutzten die Schweden die Grufkapelle der Pias-tall. Daruber liegt die Oberkirche mit dem Dom begann nach dem Mongolensturm und zog sich 1244 bis 1272, das Langhaus wurde viel spater Jahr

## Brief aus der Bundeshauptstadt

JAPANISCHER PARLAMENTARISMUS

Von DIPLOMATICUS

(Der Verfasser dieses Artikels gibt seine eigenen Ansichten wieder, mit denen sich der Verlag nicht notwendigerweise identifiziert.)

Es mag noch lange, vielleicht noch sehr lange dauern, bis Japan sich zum "unconditional surrender" bereit findet. Die Einnahme von Manila ist wohl ein groer, ein auerordentlich bedeutsamer Schritt auf dem Wege nach Tokio, die erfolgreichen Bombardements japanischer Industrieanlagen und Stadte konnen zweifellos von der japanischen Militar-Kamarilla nicht mit Achselzucken abgetan werden. Aber der Besetzung des eigentlichen japanischen Inselreiches durften noch unendliche Kampfe, schwere Blutopfer vorangehen mussen. Dazu kommt noch, da ein groer Teil des chinesischen Reiches von japanischen Truppen erobert und besetzt worden ist, die das Land

## Finland hat sich wieder gefunden

STOCKHOLM. — Vier Monate, nachdem Finnland sich seinem alten Feinde, dem "Roten Ruland", gebeugt hat, rustet es sich, unter voller Beteiligung der Kommunistischen Partei, fur neue Parlamentswahlen.

Und dennoch — wenn man nach den Berichten gehen darf, die Stockholm erreichen, erwarten wenige Finnen, da es dabei dem Marxismus ausgeliefert sein wird.

Am besten vielleicht werden die Aussichten von dem fruher deutschfreundlichen "Aftonbladet"

## Bresla Jahre

Die Umzingelung der Rote Armee, die in absehbarer Zeit die kulturgeschichtliche Stadt Nieder-Schlesien Thema maen die in Betrachtung einzu-erwahnten Bescha-den erlitten bekannt; es ist da die Verteilung der Rucksicht auf die Niederlegung z. Ann. d. Red. Schones Breslau einer fruheren die Leute wo-sichter, denn denschafflich-sche Herz S-schmutzige G-der polnische



ausleihe und Veteranen bei ihm Hypotheken für den Bau von neuen Häusern aufnehmen können. Washington untersuchte die Sache und nahm den Gauner fest.

#### Stellungen versprochen

In Florida suchte eine Schwindler-Gesellschaft die Soldaten für die Anlage von Tung-Öland zu gewinnen. Und da gibt es Leichengelder, die den Angehörigen von Gefallenen Geld für Blumen, Bibel oder Land abnahmen.

Andere Schwindler sind auf die Idee verfallen, Korrespondenzschulen für die Leute im Dienst einzurichten und den Kandidaten gute Stellungen zu versprechen. Um die Sache noch schmackhafter zu machen, versprechen sie dem Mann, daß er sein Geld zurückerhalten werde, wenn er die Stelle nicht erhält. Washington hat an die Veteranen folgende Warnung gerichtet:

"Es gibt heute mehr und mehr Leute, die von ihrer Schlaueit leben. Überall versuchen sie sich in das Vertrauen der Leute einzuschleichen, die Geld haben. Rechnet nicht mit dem goldenen Topf ohne Arbeit."

Die FBI sagt, es erscheine in vielen Fällen fast unmöglich zu sein, daß ein vernünftiger Mensch auf diese Pläne der Schwindler hereinfällt, aber es treffe doch zu. Die meisten dieser Opfer glauben, daß sie an einer Art Geheimlotterie teilnehmen können, um schnell reich zu werden. Sie führt zwei Gründe an, warum diese Opfer selten Anklagen erheben:

Das Opfer würde sich selbst als Dummkopf hinstellen und sich dem Spott preisgeben. Hat das Opfer aber gar eine größere Summe eingebüßt, so rechne es mit dem Verlust seines ganzen Kredits, wenn die Sache bekannt werde.

#### Gegenmaßnahmen

Verschiedene private und Regierungsagenturen bemühen sich bereits im ganzen Land, um den Schwindlern einen Riegel vorzuschieben und besonders die Soldaten und ihre Familien vor diesen Gaunern zu schützen. BBB, die Veteranen-Administration, der Aushebungsdienst, FBI, die Sekretärinnen Kommission, das Handelsamt, das Schatzamt und die Veteranen-Verbände unterstützen sich gegenseitig in diesen Bemühungen. BBB hat eine Kampagne eingeleitet, um das Volk aufzuklären und zu warnen. Es hat Büchlein und Broschüren zur Belehrung ausgegeben, die den Titel führen: "Was Veteranen wissen sollten, wenn sie ein Geschäft anfangen" und "Tatsachen in bezug auf Pläne der Schwindler". Dazu die Warnung:

"Es genügt nicht zu wissen, was die Pläne der Schwindler sind und wie sie ins Werk gesetzt werden. Man muß auch die menschlichen Schwächen verstehen, welche die Schwindler begünstigen. Der Schwindler versucht, seinen

(Fortsetzung auf Seite B-2)

auch nicht freiwillig räumen werden.

Die Frage, ob es eine japanische "Untergrundbewegung" gibt, ob man mit der Aufrichtung, oder besser gesagt, Wiederaufrichtung eines konstitutionellen Systems in Japan, mit einer parlamentarischen Regierung japanischen Stils wird rechnen können, mit einem Wort "Demokratie", läßt sich nur beantworten auf Grund der historischen Entwicklung des Parlamentarismus in Japan. Ich selbst habe viele überzeugte japanische Demokraten kennen zu lernen Gelegenheit gehabt. Japanische Parlamentarier wie Jusuke Tsurumi, hohe Beamte, wie den verstorbenen japanischen Botschafter Saito, Industrielle und Journalisten. Sie alle haben sich vor dem Bilde ihres "Herrschers göttlicher Abstammung", dem "Tenno" (Mikado) ehrfürchtig verneigt — aber sie sind doch ebenso ehrfürchtige Verfechter des parlamentarischen Systems gewesen — und meiner Ansicht nach geblieben.

Wenn man das Buch\*) unseres besten amtlichen Japankenners, des jetzigen Unterstaatssekretärs und früheren (vom Februar 1932 bis Pearl Harbor) Botschafters in Tokio, Joseph Clark Grew, studiert, so kann man keine Zweifel

\*) "Ten Years in Japan" by Joseph Clark Grew, New York 1944, Verlag Simon & Schuster, 568 Seiten und 12 Seiten Illustrationen. Preis \$3.75.

### VOR ZEHN JAHREN

18. Februar. — In 1000 Gebäuden Manhattans ist ein Streik der Fahrstuhlführer ausgebrochen.

19. Februar. — Zwei adlige Spioninnen, Baronin Benita von Falkenhayn und Frau Renate von Natzmer werden in Berlin durch das Richtbeil hingerichtet.

20. Februar. — Nachdem die Moskauer Verhandlungen mit Amerika abgebrochen worden sind, will jetzt Berlin den Sowjets neue Kredite gewähren.

21. Februar. — Die diplomatische Gleichberechtigung Berlins ist sichergestellt, aber England ist gegen einen bedingungslosen Luftpakt mit dem Reiche.

22. Februar. — Das Reich beginnt das gesamte flüssige Vermögen des Volkes im In- und Auslande zur Finanzierung der "internen Arbeitsschlacht" zu mobilisieren.

23. Februar. — Die Abstoßung großer Kunstschätze und anderer Vermögenswerte des internationalen Finanziers J. P. Morgan gibt zu dem Gerücht Anlaß, daß er "nach Europa auswandern will".

24. Februar. — Ein amerikanischer Tanker erregt in Tokio Verdacht, und japanische Offiziere stellen eine Untersuchung an, ob die Festungswerke an der Bai von Tokio photographiert wurden.

daran haben, daß das parlamentarische System im Rahmen der japanischen Verfassung funktioniert hat. Es lohnt sich, ein wenig in die Geschichte des japanischen Parlamentarismus hineinzusteigen. Aus der umfangreichen Literatur wähle ich als Grundlage eine ausgezeichnete Studie, die C. Burnell Olds vor längerer Zeit\*\* in "Foreign Affairs"\*\*\* veröffentlicht hat.

Die erste Verfassung erhielt Japan im Jahre 1889. Mit "westlichen" Verfassungen ließ sie sich natürlich nicht vergleichen. Man darf nicht vergessen, daß das japanische Volk eine fast theokratische Vorstellung von seinem Kaiser, dem Mikado, hat, als dem Nachkommen der Sonne. Verbunden mit dieser Vorstellung ist die durch den chinesischen Konfuzianismus geförderte patriarchalische Staats- und Gesellschaftsordnung, wonach der zur Erdbeherrschung entsandte Himmelsproß über die Sonnengöttin hinaus Nachkomme eines göttlichen Familienvaters ist, dessen Familienmitglieder die Vorväter aller Angehörigen des japanischen Volkes bis auf die heutige Zeit gewesen sind. Auf dieser Anschauung beruhen auch die "Ahnennopfer", die vor allen wichtigen Staatsakten den kaiserlichen Ahnen dargebracht werden, sowie die zu ebensolchen Opfern verpflichtete, zwischen dem Staat und der Einzelperson stehende Familie, die daher in Japan einen fast staatsrechtlichen Charakter hat.

Die Verfassung von 1889 teilt die Regierungsgewalt zwischen Kaiser und Parlament. Dieses Parlament besteht aus zwei Kammern, deren eine durch Geburtsadel, Berufsstellung oder Steuerkraft ausgezeichnete, teils durch Geburt, teils durch eigene Auswahl, teils durch kaiserliche Berufung bestimmte Mitglieder hat. Die Mitglieder der zweiten Kammer werden nur vom Volk in gleichem, geheimen, direkten Verfahren gewählt. Das Wahlrecht hängt von der Steuerpflicht ab, so daß allerdings nur ein Bruchteil der Bevölkerung das Wahlrecht ausüben kann.

Ein gänzlich demokratisches Dokument kann man natürlich diese Verfassung von 1889 nicht nennen, aber sie war immerhin ein Schritt in der Richtung zur Demokratie. Die Verfassung erklärte ausdrücklich "die Person des Kaisers heilig und unverletzlich" und verlieh ihm alle Rechte des Imperiums, einschließlich der Sanktionierung aller Gesetze, der Einberufung und Verabschiedung des Kaiserlichen Parlamentes, der höchsten Gewalt über Armee und Marine, der Erklärung von Krieg und des Abschlusses von Verträgen.

Dies war eine Übergangsperiode. Der Rahmen der neuen Ordnung

\*\*) im April 1943.  
\*\*\*) Herausgegeben vom Council on Foreign Relations, Inc.

(Fortsetzung auf Seite B-3)

ausgedrückt, das Iranen vergeblich, als Finnland die Waffenstillstandsbedingungen mit Rußland unterzeichnete. In einem Leitartikel erklärt das Blatt jetzt folgendes:

"Man kann heute sagen, daß Finnland sich wieder selbst gefunden hat. Bald nach dem Waffenstillstand waren die Leute ruhelos. Große Massenversammlungen wurden abgehalten, neue Zeitungen erschienen, allerhand Zeug wurde geschwätzt, und man erwartete, daß etwas Ungewöhnliches passieren würde. Aber, es hat sich nichts Besonderes ereignet."

Allem Anschein nach kommt Finnland mit der russischen Waffenstillstands-Kommission bemerkenswert gut aus. Die Bedingungen sind schwer und werden strikt durchgeführt, aber Rußland hat einige Konzessionen gemacht.

Die Wahlen für ein aus 200 Mitgliedern bestehendes Parlament werden am 17. und 18. März stattfinden. Das größte Fragezeichen bildet die neu gegründete Demokratische Volksfront, in der sich Kommunisten und radikale Sozialisten befinden. Mit wenig Erfolg ist versucht worden, eine Koalition mit der herrschenden Sozialdemokratischen Partei zu bilden. Die gegenwärtige Zusammensetzung des Parlaments sieht wie folgt aus: Sozialdemokraten 85; Agrarier 56; Progressive 8; Schwedische Volkspartei 18; Koalitionisten (finnische Konservative) 25 und IKL (Faschisten) 8.

(Fortsetzung auf Seite B-3)

## Kanadas Deserteure ruft eine politische Krise

MONTREAL, 17. Feb. — Während die 1. kanadische Armee in der Siegfried-Linie an der Westfront kämpft, halten sich hier Hunderte von kanadischen Soldaten in den Bergen und in abgelegenen Gegenden verborgen und rotten sich sogar zu bewaffnetem Widerstand gegen die Verschickung über das Meer zusammen. Im ganzen Land ist eine Jagd auf Tausende von Deserteuren im Gang. Obwohl das Parlament die Aushebungspolitik des Premiers Mackenzie King gebilligt hat, hat die Frage der Aushebung für den Überseedienst das Land gespalten.

Viele Kanadier halten an dem Grundsatz fest, daß nur Freiwillige für den Überseedienst genommen werden sollten, und viele Männer, die ursprünglich für den Dienst im Land ausgehoben wurden, haben es vorgezogen, zu desertieren statt Übersee zu gehen. Es wird zugegeben, daß die Lage gefährlich ist. In Quebec sind bereits Hunderte von Deserteuren vor die Kriegsgerichte gekommen, aber das ist durchaus nicht auf diese Provinz beschränkt. Viele dieser Leute sind nach den Ver-

de, und "man auskam".

Ja, Breslau was sondern Deuts Großstadt. Das an, als würde voll genommen. Kenner Breslau sollen sich ruhig ungefähr an de

Eine Wonne das türmerische "die Patina ura Grau gehäufte ausgebreitet la Größe und reg wart mischten s berischen, unve bild. Wo fanden einer deutschen 620.000 Einwohn Straßen, weiter und Parke voll tigallen, bienen keit neben stil schiger Winkelro wanderte man ü tige Reichpromie begleitet vom E alten Schicksal deutsche Großs einer Lieblichshöhe, gekrönt Baumwerk, mit wirt rühmen, v nach der maler Dominsel wande Erde Breslaus" lingshaften C Deutschlands je dorn so süß b wie auf dem Ta

Mittelpunkte d

einigten Staaten werden jetzt dor Kings Gegner tario, daß diese de Provinz jetz Leute für den stellt als Quebe wirft man King zosisch-Kanada, tel des Landes a habe.

Politisc Bei der komm diese Frage o große Rolle spiel läuft der Tern Parlaments aus erklärt, daß er Neuwahlen anse Unter seinem stem hat Kanada stet und kann damit neben d dern sehen las stem, das Queb führt wurde, v des Krieges in etwa 11.500.000 lende Land hat gestellt, von de letzten Herbst

(Fortsetzung



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

6751

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

MES-1547  
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (SECRET)

Moscow

Dated March 21, 1945

Rec'd, 5 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

842, March 21, 4 p.m.

Article referred to in Department's 646, March 19, 9 p.m. appeared in RED STAR issue of February 4, not in PRAVDA. Full summary of this article is being transmitted in my immediately following telegram.

HARRIMAN

WTD



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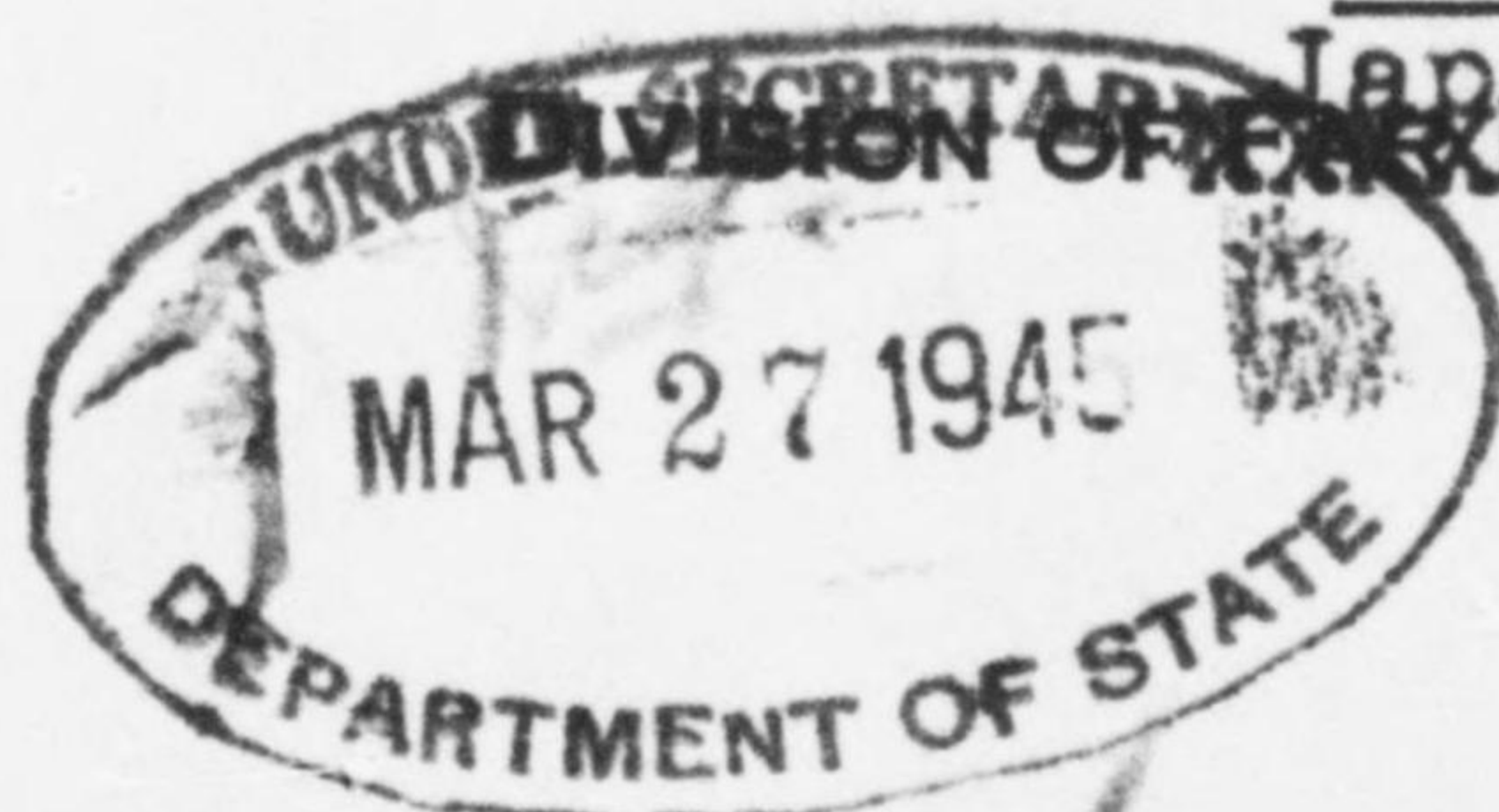


WW:

I think you will be particularly interested in Enclosure 7 of Jan 6, 1945 dealing with gaining the views of the Chinese Communists on Philippine politics and relations with the U.S. C.T.W.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

74



March 26, 1945

U - Mr. Grew

If you have the time you may wish to glance over the attached tag regarding a major article in Red Star of February 4 devoted to an analysis of the internal political situation in Japan. Moscow's 843 of March 21 gives a full summary of the article and is also attached hereto.

894.00/3-2145

JA:BRJohansen:MP

JUB



STANDARD FORM, NO. 64

75

*Office Memorandum* · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTDATE: March 26,  
1945

TO :

FROM :

SUBJECT: Japan, Internal Political Situation, as analyzed in major article in February 4 issue of Red Star (Summarized in Moscow's 843, March 21.)

1. Gist of the article: The fall of the Tojo Cabinet in July, 1944 "showed that the idea of military-Fascist dictatorship enjoyed no support even in highest Japanese circles". Inclusion of prominent members of former political parties in Koiso's Cabinet kindled hopes for revival of the parties, disbanded in 1940 in favor of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association which failed of itself and through its affiliates to reach the masses. Disappointment over the course of the war has been reflected in increased attention to the Diet as an organ capable of reflecting public opinion even in a limited degree. Recent criticism of the Koiso Government in the Diet and press is due not only to military setbacks but also the Government's lack of strength "to make a full break with former reactionary political trends". The war is ceasing to be popular with the Japanese people who are no longer impressed by grandiose war slogans; Japanese leaders are reflecting, in utterances regarding Japan's being forced into war, a "natural desire to disclaim responsibility for a war in which Japan will not be victorious".

2. Comment: There can be little doubt that the article is correct in its thesis that,

894.0013-2145



STANDARD FORM NO. 64

*Office Memorandum* · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE:

TO :

FROM :

SUBJECT :

- 2 -

since the fall of Tojo, there has been an increase in the influence of the elements who favor less totalitarian procedures than he advocated. However, this change was almost certainly caused by the resistance of powerful industrial, business and financial elements who feared, as well as doubted the effectiveness of, excessive government encroachment on the operation of the national economy, rather than by pressure from the general public, as the article seems to imply. It may be added that, with the present sharp deterioration of Japan's military position, the pendulum seems to be swinging back toward greater regimentation by the Government of all activities within Japan.

JA:BRJohansen:MP



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MFD-141

INCOMING

TELEGRAM

8610

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS  
MAR 24 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PLAIN

Moscow

76

Dated March 21, 1945 ✓

Rec'd 9 a.m., 23rd.

FA  
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Secretary of State,  
Washington.

843, Twenty-first.

DIVISION OF WORLD TRADE INTELLIGENCE  
APR 1 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

D/L/R

There follows summary of major article on internal political situation of Japan by E. Zhudov which appeared in RED STAR for February 4, 1945. Activation of military operations on Pacific Ocean and approach of war to shores of Japanese Islands have sharpened attention to internal political situation of Japan on part of observers of international life. In summer of 1944 there was shift in Japanese Government. This event exercised considerable influence on political attitudes in Japan. Forced resignation of General Tojo, acknowledged leader of militarist circles, showed that idea of military--Fascist dictatorship enjoyed no support even in highest Japanese circles. General Tojo in many ways copied hapless European Fascist rulers. There is no doubt but that Tojo's closest circles were really imbued with pro--Hitler "ideas" all people who in any degree independent and

894.00/3-2145

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known for their liberal or merely temperate views were relentlessly driven from state machinery. Parliamentary circles in Japan placed greatest hopes in Tojo's resignation. Japanese parliament formally exists and functions just as in pre-war period. However, relative importance of parliament greatly decreased during years when Tojo and his circle were in power. Authority of parliament was always in past based upon its ability, even in limited degree, to reflect public opinion. In 1940 parliamentary political parties in Japan were disbanded. Attempt was made to unify Japanese political life by creating "single" organization known as "association for assistance to throne." However, fearing activity of popular masses and lacking sufficient flexibility to "lower itself" to level of ordinary voters, this organization was unable to replace former political parties. Heads of association soon turned out to be generals without armies. But Parliament, transformed into voiceless gathering of people deprived of opportunity to criticize actions of government, ceased to play active political role. Initiators of "new political structure," as notion of reorganization on new Fascist basis was called, soon became convinced that

prohibition



-3-#843, Twenty-first, from Moscow

prohibition of political parties and formation of unified association for assistance to throne had not attained its goal. Deputies to Parliament grouped themselves as formerly according to their affiliation with this or that political party. Association for assistance to throne proved powerless to prevent this. On May 15, 1942 a new organization entitled "political association for assistance to throne" was formed. It was to unite all parliamentary deputies and disbanded political parties on basis of a certain compromise. Parliamentary groups were granted facade of organizational independence within framework of allegiance to united war program. This showed that even General Tojo recognized impossibility of realizing original plan of absolute Fascist unification of all political life of Japan. Bankruptcy of Tojo's military political course and formation in summer of 1944 of new governmental combination which included prominent representatives of former parliamentary groups kindled hopes of leaders of old Bourgeois--landowner parties for full legalization of these parties. In distinction from Tojo Government Koiso Cabinet cannot be called openly pro--Fascist. Directly plans of "reviving" parliamentary parties  
and new



-4-#843, Twenty-first, from Moscow

and new cabinet made number of gestures which were given corresponding interpretation. Competence of association for assistance to throne was narrowed. General Abei resigned as president of political association for assistance to throne and was replaced by Admiral Kobayasi. In Japan there is a tradition according to which naval men are supposed to be distinguished by greater "liberalism" than army men. In connection with this general trend there was aggravation in crisis of such a plainly Quasi-- Fascist organization as the "youth federation" of Japan. Appointment of a new civilian head of this organization showed that influence of parliamentary circles had somewhat increased. Course of Pacific war is undoubtedly intensifying disappointment of Japanese population in policy of aggression and related promises so generously made in their time by Fascist minded politicians of Tojo's type. Undoubtedly this has been reflected in increased attention to Parliament as constitutional organ capable of reflecting to certain degree attitudes of certain social groups. Present 86th. session of Japanese Parliament reflects increasing anxiety over sharp deterioration of military political situation of Japan. Long speech delivered



-5-#843, Twenty-first, from Moscow

delivered by Koiso at this session abounds in quite candid acknowledgments of the seriousness of Japan's situation. Japanese Government has submitted to 86th session over 30 draft laws concerned with efforts to resolve urgent wartime tasks. Parliamentary session has not permitted itself openly to criticize government. This is explained by war situation. However, there have appeared in Japanese press quite definite symptoms of mixed alarm and disappointment, and even dissatisfaction, over activity of Koiso Cabinet. Source of this dissatisfaction lies not only in Japan's strategic setbacks but also in fact that Koiso's Government, although it differs from predecessor, has not found strength to make full break with former reactionary political trend. Parliamentary circles are disappointed with constant maneuvering of Koiso Government, which has not decided to legalize main Bourgeois--landowners political parties. As appears from reports in Japanese press, parliamentary circles are particularly dissatisfied with parallel existence of "political association for assistance to throne", "association for assistance to throne". Even with contracted functions and notorious "youth federation" with its pro--Hitler characteristics.

Conflict



-6-#843, Twenty-first, from Moscow

Conflict among these three organizations has even evoked project for merging them in one federation to be entitled "all Japanese political society". It is doubtful however whether any one new organization which might be formed on basis of three heterogeneous organizations now in existence could actually control or "dissolve" without trace the reactionary forces which continue to exercise strongest influence on internal political life in Japan. Japan has been waging war for all long time. But right up to 1941 Japan's aggressive actions, with small exception, did not require overly strenuous efforts on her part. Only comparatively recently did Japan gradually begin to experience bitterness of defeat. Now this knowledge of weakness in face of growing superiority of enemy forces must inevitably exercise and already is exercising influence on Japanese psychology. Former Chauvinistic propaganda with its declarations of "superiority of Samurai spirit" is losing its influence. Frequent raids of American bombers on Japanese capital are naturally influencing attitudes of population. Logic of development of military events and, in particular, economic consequences of protracted



-7-#843, Twenty-first, from Moscow

protracted war are being reflected in attitudes of population. Food difficulties are making themselves felt. Recent call-up of 17-years olds into Japanese Army witnesses to considerable tenseness in Japanese manpower situation. There is no doubt that war is ceasing to be popular among Japanese. Grandiose phrases about "Holy War" et cetera, have lost their magnetism. Unpopularity of war in Japan is already so apparent that Japanese state officials are now arguing that this war was, as it were, forced upon Japan and has purely defensive character. Course of military events on Pacific Ocean shows eloquently that this is merely result of altered balance of forces and natural desire to disclaim responsibility for a war in which Japan will not be victorious.

HARRIMAN

WFS



894.00/3-2945

## CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

## NOTE

## SUBJECT

Reporting press reports from Moscow relative to replies of  
Koiso to questions raised in Parliament on March 22.

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See Tel.#959  
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Mar.29,1945 From Moscow  
~~To~~

File No. 740.0011 PW/3-2945  
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894.00/3-2945





DIVISION OF PHILIPPINE AFFAIRS  
APR 20 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Chungking, China, March 31, 1945

RESTRICTED

No. 264.

Subject: Translations of Articles from Chinese Communist Publications on Political and Economic Developments in Japan and Occupied Areas.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
LIAISON OFFICE  
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APR 10 1945

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DC/H  
WORDS BRANCH

APR 23 1945

The Charge d'Affaires, a.i., has the honor to refer to the Embassy's despatch no. 259, March 27, 1945, transmitting translations of articles from Japanese periodicals on Japan's war economy and other subjects, and to enclose additional translations prepared by the American Coordinated Translation Center, Chungking, of articles on political and economic developments in Japan and occupied areas which appeared in Chinese Communist periodicals published at Yen-an, Shensi Province. Following is a list of titles of articles, names of publications and dates of issuance:

1. "Defeatism in Japan", Giefang Rhbao, March 27, 1944.
2. "The Two Big Treaties Recently Signed between the Soviet Union and Japan", Giefang Rhbao, May 10, 1944.
3. "Round Table Conference on the Living Conditions of the Japanese People", Kaiho Renmei, October 1944.
4. "Various Phases of the Apathy of the Japanese People", Giefang Rhbao, November 8, 1944.
5. "The 'Prosperity' of the 'Independent' Philippines", Giefang Rhbao, November 15, 1944.
6. "Enemy Situation--Half Monthly Talk", Giefang Rhbao, November 15, 1944.
7. "The Independence and Emancipation of the Philippines", Giefang Rhbao, November 15, 1944.
8. "The Battle for the Philippines and the 'Outlet' for Japanese Economy", Giefang Rhbao, November 15, 1944.
9. "The American Landing on Luzon and the Koisso Cabinet", Giefang Rhbao, January 31, 1945.

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL POLICY  
APR 28 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
APR 24 1945  
Division of Foreign Economic Development

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-2-

## AIR MAIL

10. "Sketches of Enemy Leaders: Yoshida Shigeru and Ando Riki", Giefang Rhbao, January 31, 1945.
11. "Sketches of Wartime Japanese Society", Giefang Rhbao, January 31, 1945.

## Enclosures:

11 translations, as listed above.

Original and hectograph to the Department.

850 Jap

CHB/mcl

G.A.



(Enclosure no. 1 to despatch no. 264, March 31,  
 (1945 from American Embassy, Chungking, China.)

TR 244

CO-ORDINATED TRANSLATION CENTER  
CHUNGKING

13 JAN. 1945

TRANSLATION: C.W.I./GUO DA

ACTION: C.W.I.  
- 4 copies.  
INFO: OSS, Major  
Stevens.  
Embassy. -  
- file*U.S. use only!*

FROM: "ENEMY'S SITUATION" No. 48  
 Supplement to GIMFANG RHBAO (The Emancipation Daily)  
 Published in YENAN, SHENSI, 27 March 1944.

DEFEATISM IN JAPAN. (By Fu Mi)

The collapse of the Italian Fascists and the glorious victories scored by the Soviet Red Army on the European Continent and by American forces in the PACIFIC during the past seven or eight months have spurred the growth of war-weariness and the anti-war sentiment as well as the anti-war struggle of the Japanese people. The war structure of the Japanese Fascists has been weakened by the sabotage of the workers, the hiding of foodstuffs by the peasants, and the violation of the government economic control law by the petty citizens. The intelligentsia, on the other hand, under the various guises of liberalism, democracy and the principle of culture-for-culture, are making use of every chance of public speech to express their dissatisfaction with and opposition to the policy of war of the Japanese militarists. The emergence of this defeatism and anti-war sentiment has compelled the militarists to mobilize their sycophant Fascist "scholars", "critics" and social democrats to write articles for numerous newspapers and magazines, shouting madly such slogans as "psychological warfare", the "annihilation of the thought of defeatism", and the like. They are shamelessly chanting the old tune of "reverence for the Emperor and expulsion of foreigners", and of the "SHOWA Renovation". A furious campaign of criticism has been launched against a great many famous literary men of the upper stratum and anyone who has expressed the least dissatisfaction with the Army. The principal fort from which this domestic ideological offensive has been launched by the Japanese Fascists has been the KOKON (公論), or "Public Opinion", Magazine. From the last issues for the past year of this magazine, we can give the following list of names of literary men of the upper stratum who have been attacked:

INAGARI Inosuke (稲垣 伊之助), who has been advocating the abolition of Chinese characters in the



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Japanese language; ISHIGURO Osamu (石黒 修), who has been a famous linguist and an Esperantist; and Dr. NISHIDA Naojiro (西田 直二郎), professor of the Peers' School of the Japanese Nobility, have all been rebuked as people of "refractory thought". TAKATA Namiyoshi (高田 浪吉), poet and composer of short songs, has been regarded as the "BACCHIO of the Japanese literary circle". Works of YAMAMOTO Arizo (山本 有三), famous dramatist and commissioner of the Ministry of Education, have been called the "literature of the barbarians". Even such an imposing figure as the director of the department of culture of the Great Imperial Rule Assistance Association, the literary man KISHIDA Kokushi (岸田 國士) has been regarded as a "defeatist under the banner of the 'supporting culture'". Moreover, the stately member of the Japanese House of Peers and Doctor of Laws SHIMOMURA Hiroshi (下村 弘) has been told to "reflect deeply upon his slavish instinct in esteeming everything foreign while despising everything Japanese" as a result of the publication of his book "The Future World and the Future JAPAN", written for children, in which he has talked too much about the shortcomings of JAPAN. Because of the lack of space which prevents us from giving a detailed presentation, we are taking only the writings of KISHIDA and YAMAMOTO to show the general trend in the following:

In his book called the "Culture of Strength", KISHIDA says that "youth is the preparatory stage of human life during which one should be truly pure and free and be saturated with a bright future and filled with joy. One should cherish an ideal aspiration and march on resolutely." He said that "the youth should lead only such a life as is desired in his inner heart". KISHIDA is among the governing body of the Great Imperial Rule Assistance Association, yet at a time when the Japanese militarists are driving all the youths to the battlefield, factories and mine pits, and when they are turning all the schools into labor concentration camps, his opinions are apparently against the policy of war of the Japanese militarists.

In his drama called "Hyaku Hyo Mai" (百俵米), or the "Hundred Bags of Rice", YAMAMOTO uttered the powerful cry of the people. He took as the subject of his drama the historical facts of the poverty-stricken life of the knights of the clan of NAGAOKA in the decline of the Shogunate and their resorting to force and swords at the time of asking



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for the granting of relief-rice. These were used to satirize the suffering of the Japanese people at present and to hint, at the same time, the road they should take for their own emancipation. This drama was once adopted by the Japanese Bureau of Intelligence as a "people's play" and was put on the stage at various places in JAPAN. When the Japanese audience heard such speeches of the players as: "There is even not enough rice-bran and salt!" "The daily ration of unhulled rice is less than half a bowl!" "Ah! We are pitifully poor! This can't continue! This can't continue!" "Drop! Drop! No matter whether it is rain or bullets from rifles! Just drop! Since we can't get our rice, it makes no difference to us!" and so forth and so on, and when they saw the scene in which the knights were angrily brandishing their swords, naturally their complaints and the anger within their hearts could not be restrained. No wonder that the Fascist critics furiously abuse YAMAMOTO as being "rebellious".

These are only one or two examples, but anti-war speeches disguised in like manner must certainly be numerous. The Japanese Fascists studied the lesson of the defeat of ITALY, and as a result they concluded that the surrender of BADOGLIO was due to defeatism. At a time when the thought of defeatism is spreading rapidly all over JAPAN, the Japanese militarists are obliged to take new, drastic measures. That is, in addition to suppression, arrests and other measures of force, they must conduct widespread psychological warfare. The above list of names is but one portion of the sacrifice for the "psychological warfare" expedition of the Japanese militarists.

But the Japanese militarists are very pessimistic about this "psychological warfare". Let us read the confession of OKABE (岡部), the Japanese Minister of Education:

"The so-called problem of thought is something very delicate and subtle. As it is superficially invisible it can permeate drop by drop when people are not paying attention to it. And, in this concern, JAPAN still lacks sufficient painful experience and the people as a whole are taking a nonchalant interest in this problem. . . . But the seriousness of the problem of thought at this final stage of the present war is dreadful. . . . Especially, judging from the most recent developments in the psychological warfare, in nearly all cases, such figures usually appear first as model persons and then gradually climb up to leading



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positions, when they issue instructions in their own interest".  
-- Cf. SEIKAI ORAI (政界往来), or the "Comings and Goings of the Political World", November, 1943.

Although the "model persons" mentioned by OKABE are only persons of the ruling classes, including those among the list cited above, he speaks likewise of the revolutionary elements. A typical example of the last group was the "incident of OZAKI Hidemi (尾崎 秀實)". OZAKI is a comparatively progressive writer who had served as the director of the EAST ASIA Section of the ASAHI SHIMBUN and had written a lot about the CHINA problem. In September of the year before last he was suddenly arrested by the Japanese Government, accused of the crime of being an international spy. They accused him of maintaining relations with the Communists. His name is now mentioned by the Japanese Fascist bandits together with the name of KAJI Wataru (鹿地 亘), our international friend. They are both being called "national traitors" and "rebels".

From the fury of the mobilization for "psychological warfare" by the Japanese militarists, the following can be proved:

The defeatism and the anti-Fascist and anti-militarist strength, as well as such potential strength, of the Japanese people is growing at an unprecedented speed. The same defeatism is simultaneously spreading within the inner circle of the Japanese ruling classes. The significant condition for the building up of a united front organization against the Fascists by the Japanese people, that is, the internal political condition within JAPAN, is ripening.

Typist: Szetu, Cheh

For C.T.C.

T.H.B.



(Enclosure no. 2 to despatch no. 264, March 31,  
 (1945 from American Embassy, Chungking, China.)

TR 245

CO-ORDINATED TRANSLATION CENTER  
CHUNGKING

15 JAN. 1945

TRANSLATION: O.W.I./GUC DA

ACTION: O.W.I.

- 4 copies

INFO: OSS, Major  
Stevens

W.A.

Embassy. —

- file

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FROM: "ENEMY'S SITUATION" No. 50

Supplement to GIEFANG KHBAO (The Emancipation Daily)  
Published in YENAN, SHENSI, 10 May 1944.

THE TWO BIG TREATIES RECENTLY SIGNED BETWEEN THE SOVIET  
 UNION AND JAPAN.

The two treaties recently signed between the SOVIET UNION and JAPAN for the abolition of the Japanese lease of petroleum fields and coal mines in ~~the~~ Northern SAKHALIN and the extension of fishing rights for another five years mark a glorious victory of Soviet diplomacy and a most shameful defeat of the Japanese militarists. This can be clearly seen from the signed treaties themselves.

The treaty for the lease of petroleum fields and coal mines on ~~the~~ Northern SAKHALIN was signed in 1925. On the basis of this treaty, JAPAN was allowed to operate the three important coal mines along the west coast of ~~the~~ Northern SAKHALIN, a total area of 5,500 odd hectares, as well as the already exploited petroleum fields and experimental new petroleum fields along the coast for 320 kilometres, from the Soviet Port KHABOROVSK to Southern SAKHALIN in an area several kilometres wide from west to east. The oil deposit within this area is estimated to be 350,000,000 tons. After JAPAN had acquired the lease, she could extract an average of 120,000 or 130,000 tons of coal and more than 200,000 tons of oil every year. It should be noted that the total yearly output of oil in JAPAN PROPER and FORMOSA is no more than 200,000 or 300,000 tons.

But the importance attached by the Japanese to the problem of "interest" in Northern SAKHALIN is not restricted to its economic value; for its military significance is far greater. Northern SAKHALIN is joined to the Japanese Southern KARAFUTO (i.e., Southern SAKHALIN) which is closely connected with JAPAN PROPER. If it were turned into a naval base, the threat to JAPAN would be very great. Should JAPAN be able to occupy this territory, she would not only



Doc. no. 2 to document no. 54, (pp. 27)  
(1945 from Japanese Embassy, Tokyo, Japan, China)

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be able to exploit the resources in this region (in addition, there are forestry and agriculture), but would also be able to turn it into a strategic base both for attack and defense. Consequently, not only did the radical Japanese adventurers repeatedly shout for the purchase of Northern SAKHALIN from the SOVIET UNION, but even prominent officials of the Japanese Government boldly made informal proposals to the SOVIET UNION before and after 1936. From these we can see the degree of madness of the Japanese militarists at that time. In accordance with the recently signed treaty, however, it is not the Japanese militarists who have been enabled to purchase Northern SAKHALIN, but the SOVIET UNION which has cancelled the Japanese right of lease 26 years before the expiration of the lease treaty.

The next problem is that of the fishing treaty. By the fishing treaty signed in 1928, JAPAN was allowed to fish within the territorial waters of the SOVIET UNION where she had been able to acquire such a huge amount of profit as 40,000,000 or 50,000,000 yen yearly, which was half the total profit from the Japanese "fishing in the Northern Seas". There were a total of 20,000 to 30,000 fishermen, and together with their families, there were 200,000 or 300,000 men in HOKKAIDO in JAPAN who were dependent on the fishing within Soviet territorial waters for their livelihood.

In the past, although the SOVIET UNION had tried her best to abide strictly by the treaty, as a result of the arrogance and unreasonableness on the part of the Japanese, there were disputes almost every year. What dissatisfied the Japanese most was the appraisal system of the fishing areas to be leased. Especially after the fulfillment of the Soviet Five Year Plan, the economic development of the FAR EAST resulted in the expansion of the Soviet fishery which tended to surpercede that of the Japanese. Thus the Japanese was still more dissatisfied. They thought that the system of appraisal would crowd out Japanese fishing. Then they proposed the so-called problem of "stabilization of the fishing areas" and demanded that the fishing areas operated by the Japanese be exempted from appraisal and leased directly to the Japanese for use for a certain period. They further demanded that limits should be imposed on the expansion of the fishing operated by the Soviet State as well as on that operated by Soviet civilian organizations and individuals. At the same time, the problem of the amount of rent and the problem of the exchange



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rate of Soviet roubles were all points of dispute. In the signing of the "supplementary articles" of the treaty of 1932, the Soviet Government made concessions on all these points.

The old treaty expired in 1936. The Japanese negotiated on the one hand with the Soviet Government for the conclusion of a new treaty; while on the other hand, they were plotting clandestinely with the Nazi bandits for the preparation of the criminal war. When the negotiation for the conclusion of a new treaty ended and the new treaty was about to be signed, (it was decided that the new treaty was to be signed on 20th November 1936), the conclusion of the "Anti-Communist Pact" between GERMANY and JAPAN was announced in BERLIN. Accordingly the SOVIET UNION refused to sign the new fishery treaty. During this threatening crisis, as the Japanese still lacked the courage to start an invasion of the SOVIET UNION immediately, the old treaty was extended year by year, although there was always a tense deadlock threatening an instantaneous outburst each year at the time of the expiration of the treaty.

With the dirty cooperation of the Hitlerite bandits, the Japanese aggressors became all the more fantastic when they were about to invade the territory of others, they would protest against the Soviet withdrawal of those fishing areas which were connected with the militarily strategic regions. Many fishing boats intentionally invaded the prohibited waters to "hunt for fish". They opposed the system of appraisal and would not participate in the appraisal. The issue before and after the CHANG-KUFENG and NORMANHAN border incidents in 1938 and 1939 had come to such a pass that an irrevocable situation was possible at any moment. The Japanese aggressors went so far as to advocate "armed protection" of their "free fishing". The arrogance and pride of the Japanese were really unprecedentedly monstrous. After the outbreak of the Soviet-German war, the crisis became all the more imperative. By the new treaty signed recently, however, the SOVIET UNION not only withdrew a great many fishing areas where the fishing by the Japanese has since been banned, but went on further to prohibit the Japanese from fishing in the Soviet waters along the PACIFIC coast until the conclusion of the present PACIFIC war. It turned out not to be the "stabilization of the fishing areas" of the Japanese; on the contrary, the fisheries operated by the Soviet State and the Soviet citizens has been empowered to lease back during



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the auction held each year 10% of the fishing areas now being operated by the Japanese. Moreover, all the restrictions formerly laid on the fisheries operated by the Soviet State and by organizations and individual Soviet citizens were abolished. The issue of rent turned out not to be a decrease, but an increase of 6% of payment in gold. In this way all those factors which were causes for the unreasonable arrogance and disputes have now been rectified rationally.

From the above facts we can see very clearly how the Japanese militarists are bowing now before the triumphant Soviet Red Army.

Typist: Szetu, Cheh

For C.T.C.

T.H.B.



(Enclosure no. 3 to despatch no. 264, March 31,  
(1945 from American Embassy, Chungking, China.)

TR 258

CO-ORDINATE TRANSLATION CENTER  
CHUNGKING

25 JAN. 1945

TRANSLATION: O.W.I./M.L.CHIAN

ACTION: O.W.I.  
(2 copies)  
INFO: P.E.A.  
OSS, Major  
Stevens.  
Embassy --  
- fileFROM: KAIHO RENMEI (Liberation Alliance, YENAN)  
Published in YENAN, October 1944.

ROUND-TABLE CONFERENCE ON THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE  
JAPANESE PEOPLE.

(1) On Food Stuffs.

Question: What are the conditions on the ration of rice?

MATSUHABA (松原): The ration on rice is the same as that of last year. The workmen and the farmers receive 4 go, (1 go is equivalent to 0.001 of a Japanese picul) per man per day. Those above 60 years of age receive 2 go 5 shaku (1 shaku is equivalent to 0.0001 of a Japanese picul) and under 2 years 8 shaku. The maximum a woman is entitled to as a daily laborer or a farm hand is 3 go and 7 shaku.

TAYAMA (山田): I was a coal miner. Those who worked underground got 4 go with no discrimination between men and women. Others got 3 go generally.

KOTAKE (小竹): Earth diggers, coal burners, and miners had 4 go, while the trackmen, the clerks and go-down men all receive but 3 go. In the NAGANO (長野) prefecture up to last fall, the ration had been 3 go per head for everybody, but since then it has been 1 go for 1 to 3 yearolds; 2 go, 7 shaku for 3 to 15 yearolds; 4 go for 16 to 21 yearolds; and 2 go, 8 shaku for 21 to 60 yearolds.

SHIBAGAKI (柴垣): We too received 4 go.

OIGAWA (及川): In our locality it was 3 go 5 shaku for the farming families and 3 go for light laborers. Women received the same amount.



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Question: What about fish and meat?

SHIBAGAKI: There was no rationing on meat. If there should be meat allotted by the authorities, those who got there first bought whatever amount they wished. The groceries got about 150 kin (1 Japanese picul is equivalent to 100 kin) of meat each. Fish was bought at the fish shop whenever there was rationing.

TAYAMA: In my place about 100 momme (1 momme equals 3.75 grams) of meat was rationed once every month. There was no beef; we had it twice last year, but only once this year. Whatever ration of fish was available was bought at will.

BATSUHARA: We had meat only once every two months and for every group of ten people it was 50 cents for three pieces. Fish was bought with tickets once a week. Sardinians were rationed at 40 momme per head. When sardines were not available, then the same amount of boiled fish paste would be distributed in its place.

SAWA (澤): Salted salmon was rationed twice a month at 20 momme each. Horse meat was available at about 100 momme per head.

NOTAKE: Tickets amounting to 100 momme were given to 14 families. For every family, horse meat once every half year at 100 momme each was available, and even at that, those who got there too late were liable to be disappointed.

GIGAWA: We had no meat rationing in our locality but there was in MORIOKA (森岡).

SHIBAGAKI: My home town is near the sea and so we were well supplied with live fish, but since last year the amount of catch has been decreased.

Question: What were the conditions regarding vegetables?

TAYAMA: In our mines, vegetables of the season were rationed out twice a week. For instance, onions or vegetables would be supplied if they happened to be on the market. But sometimes we would find stale portions among them. Sweet potatoes, when rationed, could be had at about one



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kan (equivalent to 3.75 kilograme) each time. As we were farmers, we did not find much difficulty in obtaining other things. We sometimes bought them for the employees of commercial firms in our vicinity.

Question: What about the supply of salt and bean paste?

Sauce at 3 go bean paste at 19 momme, salt at 90 grams and sugar at 50 momme could be obtained per head per month. However, since June this year, the sugar ration has been restricted to children and sick patients only; and no sugar for children old enough to feed on rice.

SHIBAGAKI: Salt needed for making pickling was rationed separately.

Question: How about the cakes and fruits for the children?

ROTAKI: 30 cents worth per head per month was allowed.

OIGAWA: In my place it was 20 cents.

SHIBAGAKI: Tickets exchangeable for 50 cents worth were distributed twice a year to every family.

MATSUHARA: Biscuits to the amount of 15 cents worth bought for the children. No crackers and candies were obtainable.

ROTAKI: Sometimes a kind of food made of bamboo shoots with some resemblance to bread was rationed out. This took the place of cakes as they had a sweet taste.

SHIBAGAKI: We made candies ourselves.

ROTAKI: Oranges were rationed for the New Year. Apples were not available to anyone except the sick. Even in the districts producing apples, no one was entitled to buy them without a prescription from the doctor.

SHIBAGAKI: Did the buying of oranges require the doctor's prescription the same as apples?



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SAWA: Oranges were produced in large quantities in our district, so we ate a lot of them.

TAYAMA: In the mines cakes to the value of six cents per month were rationed to the children, while adults got nothing. When fruits were rationed we might be able to purchase them if we got there fast enough.

Question: What about the ration on wine?

TAYAMA: Roughly 5 go in a week, but only those who did not absent themselves were entitled.

In our place it was 5 go monthly. But since April of this year the system of rationing has been changed to 1st class, 1 sho (equal to 10 go, or 0.40 standard gallon); 2 class, 7 go; and 3rd class, 5 go.

KOTAKE: In the villages, 5 go was supplied to every man per month. When the supply was found in abundance, a special ration of 1 sho was distributed. But during insufficient periods there would be a prevalence of black markets. During New Year holidays there was a special ration of 5 go. The neighbourhood organizations managed the rationing quite smoothly in accordance with the following three standards: (a) 7 go for drinkers; (b) 5 go for the normals; (c) 2 go for abstainers. The wines rationed were of two kinds: the ordinary wine and the mixed wine extracted from dregs. The latter variety gave a bad headache if one got drunk with it.

SHIBAGAKI: During last year, the ration on beer was half a bottle per man.

MATSUMURA: In my home we made candy drops by ourselves.

OIGAWA: But if you get caught by the policemen, they would give you plenty of trouble. And the customs people also kept a close watch on this.

Question: If you had to buy from the black market to supplement the rations, how high a price would you have to pay? And what kinds of articles were generally available in the black market?



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KOTAKE: Rice, beans, potatoes, and sweet potatoes could usually be had in large quantities.

MATSUBARA: Foodstuffs and clothing were plenty, and business was done through bartering. Rice was 50 cents per kin (1 picul is equivalent to 100 kin) in the open, but in the black market the corresponding price would be from 2 to 3 yen. The price of vegetables would be twice as much in the black market.

SHIBAGAKI: At KOGURA (小倉) the black market price for beans was 20 yen per kin; for sweet potatoes it was 3.50 yen and for broad beans about 3 yen per kin.

KOTAKE: Beans might be brought to the restaurants to exchange for sugar. The official price for wine was 2.5 yen last year, but it has been raised up to 3.5 yen. The black market supplied it for about 10 yen.

TAYAMA: In our coal mine, when working suits were rationed out about twice a year, they were exchanged for rice. They could be bought at 8.5 yen. (sic) A suit of working clothes would be exchanged for 1.5 byo (俵) (equivalent to 150 kin). The farmers brought in the rice by hiding it in the manure pots. It was safe to put vegetables or anything in these pots as the economic policemen did not suspect them.

SHIBAGAKI: Sometimes the knots of MOSO (孟宗) bamboos were knocked through and rice transported in them.

SAWA: I have exchanged clothing coupons for rice.

OIGAWA: Our family usually bought extra portions of vegetables and rice for the clerks in the neighbourhood, but they always over-paid us by two or three times. Although we let the buyers themselves fix the prices, they were inclined to pay more than it was necessary lest we would refuse to sell to them next time if they did not keep us satisfied.

TAYAMA: I have had the experience of going out after mid-night to buy things from the black market.



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Once I got caught in the act and had to implore on behalf of the children before I was pardoned. They really clamped down on this very hard.

Question: What about the supply of tobacco?

There were no cheap cigars. Bat sold for 23 cents; Asahi 75 cents; Shikijima 1 yen; and Hibiki 45 cents. Asahi could be bought but was very dear. Now they all smoke cut-up tobacco with Japanese pipes.

SAWA: Matches were rationed at two small boxes every month, the same as last year. If we smoked pipe tobacco, these would hardly answer the needs, no matter how we might economize.

Question: Were the rationed amounts sufficient or otherwise?

SAWA: Besides rice, we could have flour. Sweet potatoes also came on the ration list later. We had these with a corresponding decrease in the rice ration. Gradually we found most of our rice rations were replaced by miscellaneous cereals such as taros.

TAYAMA: A ten day ration was actually sufficient for seven days only. The gap could not be filled from the black market on account of prohibitive prices. Cases had been known where the whole family slept the periods out in bed in order to keep their stomachs from getting too empty.

MATSUHARA: Up to last year, rice was plentiful. But now wheat and barley are rationed together with the rice.

KOTAKE: The majority of the rice <sup>was</sup> were imported.

MATSUO (松野): I had rice in SENDAI (仙台) in February this year. It was boiled with onions and cabbage, flavored with sauce and salt, and did not taste good. The rice was mixed up with wheat and one could have no more than a small bowlful. I got my stomach full only by visiting two or three places in succession.

In restaurants at other localities, fine noodles



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were mixed up with the rice. In HOKKAIDO (北海道) the eating houses served rice with all kinds of things mixed up in it. There were very few vegetable. Most of the time we had boiled indian corn and taro in place of rice.

I often stopped my work and walked long distances for the purpose of eating dumplings. Even if we stopped at an hotel, if we should fail to get back before 8 p.m., no dinner would be served. Usually, no more than a small bowlful of rice could be had, and I had to go to the restaurants in the neighbourhood to cure my hunger -- a very uneconomical way of eating. For lunch I had only two or three slices of what looked like a substitute for bread. Coffee, too, was of the fake kind with no sweetness in it. No meals were served outside of fixed hours, and the only alternative was to go to the cheap eating houses to wait for my turn. It was indeed terrible.

When I was in OYUBARI (大 夕 張), we had three meals a day, but no more than 1 go every time. If I should choose to lay off, I would be severely dealt with by my superiors.

(2) On Clothing.

Question: Would you tell us something about the clothing coupons?

KOTAKE: Clothing coupon amounted <sup>ing</sup> to 80 units were supplied last year, but since this year, it has become 50 and 40 units for those below and above 30 years of age respectively. The ration of towels was two pieces per year last year, but beginning from this year it has been cut down to half. Socks were also reduced from 4 pairs to 2.

MATUSHARA: Soap was half a cake per man at 10 cents and really insufficient. The size was about 2 inches square.

TAYAMA: In our mine we made soap and rationed it to those with full attendance records or those whose working efficiency had been improved. Of course they had to pay for it, but the quality was rather bad and the



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sand grains contained in them made washing unpleasant.

AWA: Shoes made of shark's skin could be had but no leather ones.

TAYAMA: These shoes went on the ration list last year and a pair could be had every two months. But the wooden clogs for the children were hard to get.

MATSUBARA: Since last year umbrellas were also rationed at about one piece for every family.

KOTAKE: An overcoat was rated 50 units on the clothing coupons.

TAYAMA: In the commercial firms working clothes were rationed at about two suits per year. The higher people cheated and sold the suits for 200 yen each with the result that only one third of the workmen got their share.

MATSUBARA: The farmers worried a great deal about their clothing.

AWA: In the big cities artificial silk and cloth were rationed and one would be called a traitor for going around with clothes of fine material on.

TAYAMA: We used to wear a kind of clothes made of sea weeds (wakame) when going out.

SHIBAGAKI: The farmers exchanged their food stuffs for clothing made of paper cotton (Trans. Note -- or "paper and cotton") in the black market.

MATSUNO: I was home up to February last year. Towels and caps were cheap as far as units were concerned. Towels were 2 units; socks 2 units; bundle wrappers 5 units; caps 5 units; national defense uniforms 35 units. Working suits, coats, pants were all 15 units each and a suit of clothes 20 units.

TANIMURA: Cloth was 1 unit per foot and 30 units for a roll (about 12 yards). Small waist belt (heiko obi) was 8 units for two and half rounds. Silk threads were 2 units for 5 momme. Shirts for both summer and winter



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were 12 units.

SAWA: We have had occasion to bring these clothing coupons into the country and have them exchanged for rice.

(3) On Living Quarters.

Question: How much were the rents?

SHIBAGAKI: I stayed in (?), where a two-storeyed house with four rooms and occupying 30 tsubo (1 tsubo 36 Japanese square feet) charged 75 yen for rent.

SAWA: At the place where I stayed, there were two rooms of three and 8 jo (1 jo is 3' by 6' in Japanese measure) sizes at a total rent of 30 yen.

KOTAKE: In the cheapest places the rent was 2 yen for a space of 1 jo.

TAYAMA: I lived in the Company's dormitory. We had two rooms of 4 and 6 jo size and no rent was charged. Electricity had to be paid by us and we bought our own charcoal and coal. The sanitary charge was two yen.

Question: What about electric light and gas?

SAWA: Gas was available for one hour each in the morning, at noon and in the evening. That is three hours every day.

KOTAKE: All street lights were put out. Lights on house portals were also gone.

SAWA: The lamps were also different from before; they were of large size but dark. It was said that short-sightedness had been thus enhanced. As before the light was spoken in terms of watt instead of candle power. 40 watt lamps had about the same brightness as the previous 16 watt ones.

SHIBAGAKI: Safety fuses were connected to the electric supply for all houses. In case that lamps of greater power than the specified limit were turned on, the current was liable to be cut off. The cost for a 40 watt lamp was 60 cents.



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Question: What were the conditions on charcoal rationing?

MATSUHARA: In a year we got 3 byo (俵) weighing 8 kan (貫). But these included the amount required for raising silk-worms.

SHIBAGAKI: In my place we got two byo of 6 kan in a year.

TAYAMA: In the coal mines we had a share of half a byo weighing 4 kan every month. This amount was kept up throughout the year. This was a large ration but still insufficient.

SAWA: In my place about 5 kan of coke were distributed to us every month, and we had to pay for them.

MATSUHARA: The official price for 8 kan was 5 yen and would cost twice as much in the black market. Besides in our place there were 200 families out of the total of 800 which were not supplied with electricity and so received a gasoline ration of 4 or 5 go per month, the cost of which was 50 cents per kin, but not enough.

MATSURO: In OYUBARI (大夕張), HOKKAIDO where we lived, the rooms directly managed by the company were divided into living quarters and mess halls. In the living rooms, four or five persons usually stayed in one room. There were altogether 20 rooms and a proctor was in charge of it. The occupants were of two kinds: families and singles. The mess hall was converted into a big bed room where a large number of people slept. This looked something like a prison room, although real prisons were much worse.

MATSUHARA: Even in our districts, we had to give up our houses to those who evacuated to the country from the cities.

TANIMURA: In our place too, we shared houses where we used to live separately. In this way, houses were vacated for renting to those who came from the cities. We were told to do so by the village authorities and the newcomers were from TOKYO. Also houses had to be given up for the



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extension of roads which appeared to be one of the measures for air raid precaution.

(4) On Air Raid Precautions.

Question: What were some of the measures taken for air raid precautions?

SAWA: Shelters were built for pedestrians and dugouts for neighbourhood organizations. There were about three shelters for every block, each holding about 20 people. As these shelters were constructed by the residents in the block, they merely served the purpose of setting their minds at ease.

SHIBAHARA: A certain amount of expense was required, and the shelters were constructed merely to the extent required to appease the government.

Question: Were there any air raid drills?

SAWA: Drills were held about once or twice every week. We got tired of practicing on extinguishing incendiary bombs. It was interesting at first, but the novelty soon wore off. As water meter readings shot up as a result, there were always some requests for holding fewer drills.

OIGAWA: We were enthusiastic up to the outbreak of the Pacific War, but since then the heat has cooled off.

KOTAKE: In our place we held the drills in the farming season. During air raid drills, if a house light is seen, the members of the garrison defense corps would beat the violators. This was permitted by regulations.

SHIBAGAKI: If we went out on business, we would be commandeered without any ceremony to assist in the drills.

SAWA: In our factory, both the men and women employees spread water on the incendiary bombs. The best among them were selected from the different sections and competitions held. Further we organized our own special defense and protection corps in the factory in which everybody had to take part. All working units cooperated in



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the task. We had three shelters each capable of accommodating 50 people. No drills on the actual dropping of bombs were held. Recently a squad of soldiers have been stationed in the works to look after air defense operations. There was one anti-aircraft machine gun which appeared in good condition. The buildings in the factory were all camouflaged in black and all lights were shut off.

MATSUNO: By February this year, air raid shelters have been dug in TOKYO at the electric car stations. They were built under the pavement about 1 meter deep, 3.5 meters wide and 6 meters long and could take in 15 men at most. Besides, we made private dugouts in our own yards. I did not see any shelters of big scale in the city.

(5) On the Living Conditions of the Workmen.

What were the recent wage scales for workmen?

TAYAMA: In the JOBAN (常 備) colliery where I stayed, the highest pay for working 14 or 15 hours was about 10 yen. For ordinary people it was 7 or 8 yen. Of course, these were the wages for dangerous underground work. On the surface 4 or 5 yen were good pay and for women 2 or 3 yen.

Compared with the old days these rates have been doubled. Besides, if they worked hard, they would receive 10 or 7 yen as bonus. In all as much as 200 yen could be received.

SAWA: In my locality the daily wages were 1.75 to start with for both the skilled labour as well as the apprentices. However, there was promotion after six months and the wages of the skilled labour would be increased according to their abilities. After all the payments for savings and bonds were taken care of, there would be only 60 yen left per month.

KOTAKE: I worked in a transportation company but from 1941 to 1943 we did not have any promotion. As a way of allowance we got paid for 30 days if we worked 29, and paid for 34 days if we worked 30. For satisfactory service there was a 5 yen allowance. Family allowance was



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2 yen.

Question: To what extent did you have to contribute to the savings account and the buying of bonds?

SAWA: I earned 80 yen out of which from 20 to 25 were taken off for the patriotic savings fund. Besides I had to buy 20 yen worth of bonds with the result that practically nothing was left over.

TAYAMA: In our case 25 yen were set aside every month. This was for paying up various savings funds. Then there were the bonds to be bought once every two months. This was compulsory and alternated with 20 and 50 yen. Even if we sent our clothes to the pawn shops, we had to buy those bonds. Therefore, there would be very little balance left on hand. We could have our savings reimbursed to us if we should quit the company, but no use could be made of them otherwise.

SAWA: If there should be a misfortune in the family, the savings might be refunded. In any case, the reasons would be carefully considered.

Question: What were the working hours and other conditions?

TAYAMA: In our place there was one Japanese to every Korean. If they were doing the same kind of work, the Japanese and the Koreans would be treated in the same way, but the latter were usually paid less.

TAYAMA: In our locality we worked two shifts a day (formerly in three shifts) and it amounted to 14 or 15 hours taking in the waiting time. In the morning there was a roll call and the men and women workers had to stand in line by turns. As the workmen stayed in the company's dormitory, it would be hard to try to lay off for just one day. The superintendent would come immediately with the doctor, and if nothing wrong was found with the workman, he was dragged again to work. We worked from 5 in the morning until 7 in the evening and only 30 minutes were taken off at noon for rest. We got very tired. However, if we quit working we were liable to be railroaded in to the military service, so we were afraid to stop



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working. There was one overseer for ten workmen. To make the Koreans work, we did not hesitate to beat them. If one laid off without permission for three days, he would be forced into the Army and sent to the SOUTH SEAS.

SAWA: In my case we worked from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m.; overtime was forced by the company when necessary. They would ask you "Which is more important, the family or the company?" The highest record for work was 35 days in a month; generally we worked 20 days. We also kept on working for fear of being dragged to military service. Conscripted labor was indeed a sore spot for the workers.

TAYAMA: Recently women have also gone to work underground in the mines. They were mostly around 20 years of age and worked without any clothes on. Their wages were half of what the men got. This started since the Pacific War. Koreans now work on the "eating place" system. They are watched when going out. In the case of individuals he must produce a certificate from the headman of the "eating place" in order to get a pass. In the old days if a man got hurt and became disabled in the mines, he was given a thousand yen and transferred to some other work. But they do not have this practice now. It is now a common occurrence for somebody to have his limb broken. I do not know how far this situation will be aggravated, but the present casualties are many.

SAWA: In my place too, we had only one hour's rest during the daytime. When working overtime we did not take our meals at the mess hall, but at the place of work. We worked two shifts and had overtime about four days in the week.

KOTAKE: I worked from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. Night work was only about three hours; it was easier now than used to be. This was due to the fact that many of the industries had been merged.

Question: How about the morale of the workers?

They were worrying about their food. The work was long and tedious. They only hoped to return to their peacetime life if the war could be finished soon. Their bodies were getting thinner.



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TAYAMA: We were worrying about what should we do if we were defeated. Could we get any rations during the space before the set-up of the new government. Although we were not clear as to the results of the war, TOJO said in April this year that if SAIPAN were lost, one third of JAPAN's chance would be gone. The people are all clamouring with the following questions: "What is the Navy doing?" "What is the united fleet doing?" "Where are they hiding? Are they not fighting this war only with airplanes?"

KOTAKE: The airplane manufacturing works where my brother worked has had some of its forced laborers run away three times.

SAWA: When we were in the factories, we would <sup>asked</sup> request to return to our former lives. If this war was <sup>etc</sup> won, rich resources could be brought from the South, but this would take two or three years. We thought if we should be sent to CHINA, we would be able to get back in no time. We thought GERMANY could never be defeated

TAYAMA: We worked two days and rested one day. In a month we worked only twenty days. The life was miserable. We thought perhaps we should join the Army again, because a soldier's life is easy-going. Many disliked the overseers; they said that the overseers oppressed them. The average people did not care even if they should lose the war as long as they could get it over with quickly. My comrades joined voices in saying "We do not care whether the war ends up in victory or defeat, so long as it will end up soon. Life in MANCHURIA is really awful." But if we got too lazy, we were liable to be dragged into the suicide squad and so we were afraid to take it easy.

Question: Were there any strikes or sabotage going on?

SAWA: No strike had taken place. Some people have suggested that we should have a sit-down strike, but as we were afraid of being forced into military service, we did not dare.

TAYAMA: There were some instances of breaking up the machinery of the company. The rule was that if any tools or machinery were broken, the perpetrator was made to pay half the cost. Because the work was strenuous, we threw tools around and mislaid them. The question of



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demanding an improvement on living conditions was not raised. Loafers were called traitors. We demanded <sup>that</sup> ~~to~~ have the company provide us with some rice balls for the night shift, but were told to drink water. For New Year there were officially three holidays but we rested for five days. There were no cakes or other things to eat so we had to ~~lay~~ <sup>lie</sup> in bed. Then, we were scolded by the company's officers, "Are not you the Japanese who are supposed to guide the Koreans?" They did not care one way or the other if Koreans were involved. In March this year there was a strike among the Koreans. It started out with the beating up of a few Koreans by the Japanese. The enraged Koreans pressed forward with rods and poles in hand and killed five or six Japanese. Then soldiers arrived and fired on the Koreans to disperse them, but it was not until two or three days later before the matter was settled. Two persons were sentenced to death as a result. This happened at the colliery in the vicinity of HIRA ( 平 ) (?).

SAWA: Many declined to work overtime or asked to work for shorter periods. But the company refused on the ground that ~~they~~ <sup>we</sup> were the government's orders. Leaving early would forfeit the day's wages. They would say that it went against the government's orders and became a matter for the police. We did not break any machinery but took out accessories and sold them. When sold for a good price, we realized more than our wages.

Question: What about the conscription of labor?

If forced into the military service they would be put into the dormitories. About 3,000 of the conscripted labor were made to drill on building an airstrip in YOKOHAMA. The conscripted laborers who were going to be sent to the South would say to their families: "If you find our remittances from the South stopped off, you might as well consider us dead." They were considered civilians in the military service and yen 175 were sent monthly to their families. No letters from the laborers were permitted, neither did we know where they were. The names of the islands were arranged in alphabetic order and only the Navy knew.

SAWA: If one grumbled and quitted, he was sure to



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be conscripted right away. In the mines if one laid off for three days, one was automatically conscripted. A friend of mine was taken to work in YOKOSUKA (横須賀). It was said that they were fed on dregs of beans and other awful food. Rest was allowed after two or three months, but he was soon taken sick. If conscripted, one felt that he was about to be sent to the South to die gloriously.

MATSUNO: I was in OYUBARI and found rock mining rather easy work. A gang of four or five people cut into a space, 8 feet high, 7 feet wide and 1 meter deep and got yen 75 for the work. But out of this sum the gang leader as well as the explosive powder had to be paid with the result that there was only 3 to 6 yen left over. Women laborers also worked as coal washers, but their wages were less than half the amount for men. We had a gang leader looking after us. The company deducted yen 7.50 from our pay which included bachelor tax and other things. If we could manage to maintain a balance on hand of 3 or 4 yen we would be lucky.

(6) On the Living Conditions of the Farmers.

Question: How was the supply of manure?

OIGAWA: Up to the year before last we mixed our own manure. Last year we were rationed 2 kan of ammonium sulphate, but now only half of the amount is available. The soy bean dregs we get has also been decreased in half since the year before last. The lime and nitrate remained the same. For every tan (about 0.245 acres), the manure has decreased by about forty percent.

MATSUHARA: We had a few of different kinds of manure last year, but they were hardly sufficient. This year we received ammonium sulphate only, amounting to 400 momme (斤) (equivalent to 3.75 grams) per tan of field; nothing except nitrogen. The rationing of manure was limited to rice and wheat fields only. Since the Pacific War, mulberry fields were no longer entitled to any manure rations. However, the allocation of silk worms according to the number of people in the family is still being practiced. We had a ration on potatoes, but not the manure for the potato fields.

SHIGAKI (柴垣): We received 13 kan of manure



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for the rice fields the year before last. But only 11 kan last year and mixed with hay-rope bags. Mulberry fields had a ration of 12 kan of ammonium sulphate to every tan in area.

SAWADA (澤田): This was because the kinds of crops to be raised were controlled.

SHIGAKI: Rice, wheat, Ranmi ( ? > > 三 ), and beans were planted. But beans were raised in between the rice crops. Potatoes must be fed with the same kind of manure as that of rice.

Question: How much crop was produced?

We contributed 5 byo (俵) and 2 go (合) to every tan (反) of land last year. All of this was given up to the government with only two and half byo left to each family for its own consumption. In our place some of the people objected to this, because they said that their land was poor and could not produce so much. After strong protests were made to the Agricultural Industrial Association, the contributions from eleven farmers were reduced to 35% of the specified amount. Again the quota for wheat was set at 800 byo for the village and trouble rose as the total produce fell short of this amount. Some of the settlements in the village devoted their time in making hay ropes and neglected to attend to the wheat fields. A portion of their deficiency was made good by excess contributions from others.

OIGAWA: Last year each family had one picul (石) left, but as that was not sufficient, 7 to and 5 sho (升) of supplementary rice was added to the ration. At that time a certain official from the prefecture came for a visit. We asked him whether a ration of 2 go (合) and 5 shaku (勺) of rice would be enough for him, and his answer was "no". Then we pressed our point by saying that if he should find it insufficient, it ought to be even more so with us farmers.

MATUSHARA: The farmers have to give out all the crop they raised with the exception of a small quantity just enough to feed themselves. This is indeed miserable. We had to practice rotation farming and made to contribute specific quantities of things that were hard to grow, to



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the amount of 6 byo per tan.

SHIGAKI: In our locality it was only 5 byo and 2 go. Last year we had a lot of trouble. It seemed that we farmers were not going to produce anything.

Question: What is the attitude of the farmers towards the war?

SHIGAKI: The old people are worrying about the danger that is confronting JAPAN.

MATSUHARA: They hoped that this war would soon be finished. Farm hands are getting scarce and the crops are dwindling -- conditions are really going from bad to worse. In my village there was one sailor who survived the sinking of his destroyer. He said that the Japanese Navy has been struck and is facing defeat. Also, men are being forced to volunteer for the Naval service and the parents do not like it.

OIGAWA: TOJO has been pushed out of office. We thought that something must have gone wrong.

MATSUHARA: We thought TOJO was a great man in the world. However, now in TOKYO they do not think well of him or of his gang. They are asking "why did he start this war and not finish it".

Question: How were the tenancy disputes settled?

SHIGAKI: As discussed before, the farmers could not produce the quota assigned to them. And complaints sometimes arose when this point was pressed.

OIGAWA: At the time of collection of the produce, things did not run smoothly, but nothing was very serious.

Question: Were there any shortage of labor?

SHIGAKI: In my village there were only two or three people between the ages of 20 and 30. All the rest were women. Horses were used for work. Those who were discharged after serving their term in the Army could not be depended upon to help as they might be called up again any time.



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TANIMURA: In our village physical examinations were conducted for the 19 as well as the 20 yearolds at the same time this year. There were only three people at the age of 17 or 18. All the rest were over 40.

MATSUBARA: I raised silkworms as a sideline. The mulberry trees grew only about one foot long on account of the lack of manure and labor. The crop amounted only to one third of that of the pre-war period. The cocoons sold at about 10 yen per kan, and hardly enough to cover the cost. Because of the insufficiency of labor, if we attended to the spring silkworms, the wheat went rot; on the other hand, if we looked after the wheat, the silkworms would not go smoothly. As a result I was told by the authorities to quit mulberry raising and devote the entire time to the wheat crop.

TANIMURA: The manure used was a kind of mixed stuff and which we had 20 kan per tan in pre-war days, we are rationed to 20 kan of mixed manure consisting of ammonium sulphate and other things for 5 tan of field.

MATSUBARA: Heap manure, too, was no longer practiced on account of labor shortage.

Question: What price did you get for the farm produce contributed?

MATSUBARA: We got 18 yen and 50 cents per byo and the rent for the land was paid along with the presentation of the produce receipts. On the average, 3 byo was paid as rental out of a total harvest of 6 byo. The tenant farmers were hard up.

Question: What were the entertainments on the farms?

TANIMURA: Mostly chess playing.

MATSUBARA: There were no theatres. Last year during the June celebration, some dancing was held but was later tabooed by the police. We enjoyed our feasts at the holiday celebrations. The athletic meets at the primary schools were no longer in evidence. No hiking was arranged. The only thing still permitted were the literary exhibitions. Some one suggested that the playground in the schools



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might as well be converted into fields to plant potatoes in.

(7) On Middle Class and Retail Merchants.

Question: Was business good?

IIJIMA (飯島): My business was the wholesaling of woolen cloth. But business with capital less than five million yen was not recognized as an enterprise. We pooled interests with eight people to reach a capitalization of ten million yen, but the business turned out to be bad. I drew a salary of yen 360 per month. In the long run, I think it would be better for workers to change over to other jobs. I do not know what they did in the other fields, but we adopted ten million as the unit and started business on that basis in August 1942. Because of the government control, the production costs and the selling prices were clearly shown and taxes were levied. According to these we earned just enough to cover our running costs. There are only 20 companies out of the former 600 in our line of business.

KOTAKE: In my vicinity there were two bicycle stores. The younger owner was ordered to shift into other work. Also some of my friends who ran bakeries were made to merge themselves. Each share was worth Yen 1,000 and all fuel and raw materials were rationed on the basis of the shares. The number of shares in a prefecture or a subprefecture were fixed. The result was that the little fellows could not get any rations and were forced to go into other business. They either went to making charcoal or worked in the factories.

KOTAKE: Foreign dress tailor shops were also cut down to one third or one fourth. The rest received orders to shut down. Also there was no ration on cloth.

NISHINO (西野): I ran a bicycle shop which was closed down last year. The business was not prosperous. We made applications for tires but failed to receive any rations. The quality of the supplies had greatly deteriorated.

Question: What about the living conditions of those that have shifted to other businesses. Were there any guarantees required?



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IIJIMA: About 80% of the middle class and small merchants went to the munitions factories. These people generally received a monthly pay of yen 120. They were treated as workman transferred from their original business. But we lived in a small way with our former capital near the factory. Others also did the same way. The standard of living was very much lower than before.

Question: How did you feel when you were being forced to transfer your business?

IIJIMA: At the time of our transfer, we were told the sooner we acted in accordance with the instructions of the government, the surer we would be of winning the war. I, therefore, made the transfer without any lingering. But those who were carrying on a business many generations old were sorry to leave them. The few who were allowed to remain were under government control and could not work for private gains.

Typist: Ssetu, Chen

For C.T.C.

T. H. B.



(Enclosure no. 4 to despatch no. 264, March 31,  
 (1945 from American Embassy, Chungking, China.)

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TR 246

CO-ORDINATED TRANSLATION CENTER  
 CHUNGKING

15 JAN. 1945

TRANSLATION: O.W.I./GUO DA

ACTION: O.W.I.

- 4 copies

INFO: OSS, Major

Stevens.

Embassy -

- file

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FROM: GIEFANG RHBAO (The Emancipation Daily)  
 Published in YENAN, CHINA, 8 November 1944.

VARIOUS PHASES OF THE APATHY OF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE.

On August 21st, the ASAHI SHIMBUN (the ASAHI Newspaper) of TOKYO published an editorial praising on the one hand the committing of suicide of the Japanese population in SAIPAN as "the expression of their loyal allegiance which should move the hundred million behind the lines", while on the other hand, criticizing bitterly the "demoralized" morality in the form of luxurious enjoyment, black markets, sabotage, and so forth, now prevailing in JAPAN Proper. The editorial was written with the intention to fire the narrow-minded sense of patriotism of the Japanese people, yet it exposed quite unconsciously the eruptions of the Japanese aggressors themselves.

The paper directed its criticism first against Japanese women of the upper class, accusing them "of still dreaming of vanity and luxuries, of relying on the countless paper-notes in their purses to buy secretly all kinds of silk or satin whose manufacture has been banned by the Government, and of not grudging to pay 1,000 yen for one foot of silk or satin with designs of birds and flowers." The paper called those brokers who sought only for personal gain most "despicable." "Under the prevailing instigation of women of the highest class, these brokers are collaborating clandestinely with the proprietors of the factories to manufacture all kinds of banned goods. They can gain several thousand yen through the mere change of hands." The black market in rice and fish in JAPAN is also very active. The paper confessed: "It would be pardonable for those families where there are youngsters and children who are just at the age of physical growth to buy food from the black market to make up for the shortage of rice rationed by the Government. But recently there have been people who are willing to pay several hundred yen to buy one hyo (72 litres) of rice. At the same time, people are taking pride in vying with each other: 'I paid so

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much for this catty of sugar.' 'No. I paid much more for the catty I have got.' It seems that the more they have paid the more glorious they are."

Moreover, with regard to the attitude of the Japanese people towards air defense practice, the paper complained: "In the practice of all measures of air defense, the common defect is that there is not the least positiveness coming out from the inner hearts of the people. When there is some one supervising, the housewives do something for a show; otherwise, they do nothing. Thus, when air defense training is carried out conscientiously by the households themselves, there is usually a large crowd of bystanders doing nothing."

With regard to the condition of sabotages of Japanese workers, the paper confessed quite unreservedly: "There are even a great number of proprietors and employees of various factories who do not understand the real meaning of 'the decisive battle of production'. They bring out privately the 'specially rationed goods' for the workers to their own home, or to houses of their concubines, or even to small restaurants for their personal use. Although these seem to be of trivial significance, they prick very delicately the susceptible feelings of the workers and have come to be responsible for the asking for long term leaves and for the decrease of working efficiency on the part of the workers. According to investigation made by the Labor Service Section of the Metropolitan Police Headquarters, in most of the factories you cannot find any worker or any employee just a little after the regular working hours. Even the old workers, to say nothing of the section heads or the foremen, are absent without giving any excuse. The only exceptions are the apprentices and members of the volunteer corps who doze while turning the machinery. The laziness and sabotages of the worker cadets directly affect the shifting workers and are responsible for the unpleasant atmosphere of the factories."

Even the child workers are passive and negative. The paper recounted: "The incompetent leaders of the factories are even unable to supervise the child workers who need the least leadership. The veteran workers tell them all the mismanagement and rubbish that have taken place in factories and make them play tricks in the battle of production. For instance, there were child workers who had

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just finished their primary school education and had come to the Capital to participate in the production who fabricate lies to keep themselves from being sent home."

The working system of women volunteers and "recruits" has not been carried on satisfactorily. The paper pointed out: "There are still a great many people who intentionally disobey the Government order to organize the volunteer corps or to report for conscription. The number of women who reported for the second conscription was less than one half of the number of the summonses sent out by the Government. Cases of avoiding conscription or being called up for the volunteer corps are by no means stopped. As a result, the Metropolitan Police Headquarters is compelled to inaugurate an "Investigation Section". The numerous occurrences of "provisional employment", of "double employment", and of other violations of the 'Labor Service Adjustment Law' have added further difficulties to the already difficult mobilization of labor service."

The above is only a part of what the Japanese aggressors have openly confessed, while the actual situation must be far worse than what has been narrated. From this series of facts, we can readily see that not all the Japanese people are being profoundly cheated by the Fascists or are willing to "present their loyalty to the cause of the Empire". Quite on the contrary, a large majority of the Japanese people are making use of various methods to obstruct the establishment of the "war-time system" of the Japanese aggressors. Not only is part of Japanese workers, child workers, women volunteers, and "conscripted workers" resorting to sabotage to reply to the appeal for "increase of production" of the Japanese aggressors, but even the proprietors and employees of a certain number of factories also feel not at all interested in the "increase of production" for which the Japanese authorities are clamouring loudly.

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Typist: Szetu, Cheh

For C.T.C.

T.A.B



(Enclosure no. 5264 to despatch no. 264, March 31,  
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TR 231

6 JAN. 1945

TRANSLATION: C.W.I./GUO DA

ACTION: C.W.I.

- 4 copies.

INFO: OSS, Major  
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- file -*U.S. use only!*

FROM: "ENEMY SITUATION" No. 63

Supplement to GIBFANG RHBAO (The Emancipation Daily)  
Published in YENAN, CHINA, 15 November 1944.THE "PROSPERITY" OF THE "INDEPENDENT" PHILIPPINES. (By Fu MI)

The Japanese invaders have said: "We are coming to emancipate the PHILIPPINES. Now, the American devils have been driven away from the EAST ASIA. It is the time for the PHILIPPINES to return to EAST ASIA as one of the eastern nations. The PHILIPPINES must become the PHILIPPINES of the Philippines."

The Japanese invaders took pride in being the "emancipators" and asked all the Philippines to learn the Japanese language. In primary and middle schools Japanese has been taken as the required subject. Many street-names in MANILA have been changed to Japanese names. There are Japanese slogans on street cars. Prevailing Japanese war songs are broadcast so often over the radio that they have become a bore. As early as at the very beginning of the occupation, there were groups of two or three Japanese officers of lower rank distributing candies to Philippine children in the MANILA Garden while showing a chart of Japanese characters to teach some of the youngsters and children who were stirred by curiosity to learn the Japanese language. The first two phrases they were teaching at the very beginning were "HIPPON" and "DAI-TOA", or "JAPAN" and "Greater EAST ASIA".

In so doing the Japanese invaders were seeking to dispel the influence of American democracy in the daily life of the people of the PHILIPPINES. They were trying to make the Philippines recognize that JAPAN is the "Dominator of the EAST ASIA". They banned American movies from being showed in the PHILIPPINES while introducing instead movies inspiring a passion for war. They have made a special movie about the detention house for prisoners in which the life of the prisoners was depicted as being most "happy". This was intended to display a mask of "civilization" before the Philippines, while in reality, the said concentration camp never allowed any

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visitors, for in it were imprisoned people who were being given most cruel treatment and being put to the most merciless hard labor.

The overwhelming majority of the people of the PHILIPPINES is taking a suspicious attitude toward these "dignified arrogant" "invaders". In the very beginning, however, it seemed that there were a few people who believed that the "prosperity" of the "independent" PHILIPPINES would be soon realized. Yet, it was not long before facts told them to hate the Japanese most bitterly.

Among a population of 18,000,000 in the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, three eighths engaged in the sugar and coconut industries. But what the Japanese need are ores of copper, iron, chrome, manganese, and the like, to feed their own munitions industries. Thus, the production of sugar and coconuts has had to be decreased by 80% and 50% respectively. As a result, three or four million of the Philipinos are threatened with unemployment and starvation.

Before the outbreak of the war, the PHILIPPINES were dependent for their food on the importation of a portion of rice from FRENCH INDO-CHINA and THAILAND. But now the Japanese are taking under their control the shipping transportation. To make things worse, the two hundred thousand odd Japanese soldiers stationed in the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS will take nothing but rice for their food. Thus, the poor Philippine peasants are compelled to take "sand-unhulled rice" and potato-powder cakes to keep them from starvation. But the "sand-unhulled rice" contains certain poisonous elements which are harmful to the health of human beings.

Moreover, the Japanese are too poor to supply the PHILIPPINES with cotton cloth, while the output of the textile plants that originally existed in the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS can only meet some 10% of the demand. Although the Japanese have brought some textile machinery to the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS from JAPAN, the output from these new machines can only meet the demand of the local Japanese troops. Cloth is more difficult to get now in the PHILIPPINES. You can not buy any cloth, even if you have ration tickets. The half-naked Philippine peasants are cursing the Japanese.

As a result of the unusual scarcity of daily necessities and the excessive inflation of peso paper notes, commodity prices are soaring. An examination of the commodity prices

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in MANILA shows an increase of 20 times for soap and 15 times for rice in comparison with the prices before the war. The price of sugar, which was most abundant before the war, has gone up 26 times as a result of the restrictions laid on its production and the monopoly of the market by the Japanese invaders.

The fact that the living conditions of the people are becoming worse and worse has exposed the cheatings of the Japanese "emancipators". Even though the Philippine traitor, LAUREL, made a series of pledges to "improve the living conditions of the people, increase wages, raise the salaries of lower officials", and the like, in September of the year before (1943) when he was shamelessly performing the show of "independence", the citizens of MANILA were exceedingly cool in the ceremony in celebration of the "independence". When the Japanese invaders are defeated again and again, while the DOWEI News Agency has been putting out all the same the usual reports of "glorious war success", the newspaper boys in MANILA shout loudly: "Please read the news on the other side!"

Typist: Szetu, Cheh

For C.T.C.

T.H.B.

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(Enclosure no. 6 to despatch 264, March 31, )  
 (1945 from American Embassy, Chungking, China)

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TR 248

16 JAN. 1945

TRANSLATION: O.W.I./GUO DA

ACTION: O.W.I.

- 4 copies

INFO: OSS, Major  
 Stevens.

Embassy —  
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FROM: "ENEMY SITUATION" No. 63

Supplement to GIEFANG KHBAG (The Emancipation Daily)  
 Published in YENAN, CHINA, 15 November 1944.

HALF-MONTHLY TALK. (An Editorial)

After the conclusion of the QUEBEC Conference a new development has apparently taken place in the American offensive in the PACIFIC. In a short period of two weeks from the 10th to the 26th of last month, two great naval battles were started, one after the other, off FORMOSA and the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS in which glorious war successes were reaped. Especially in the naval battle off the PHILIPPINES, the defeat was tragically great for the Japanese. A small part of the Japanese Combined Fleet, which has been regarded as the "national treasure" of JAPAN, was sunk, while the greater part of it was damaged. Judging by the present production of the Japanese, it would be difficult for them to restore the fleet to its original strength within a period of a few months or even half a year. Thus, after these two naval battles, naval supremacy in the western part of the PACIFIC OCEAN, as well as in the coastal seas of the ASIATIC Continent, is held more tightly than ever in the hands of Admiral NIMITZ. Although the only marine route connecting JAPAN Proper with the SOUTH SEAS has not yet been completely cut off, it is, nevertheless, being seriously threatened. The time is approaching for American troops to land on the CHINA Coast and FORMOSA. This undoubtedly is a fatal threat to the Japanese aggressors. To meet this situation, future Japanese military action, in the first place, will be to resist stubbornly to the utmost, principally by means of the Army, to fight for time to strengthen the defense works in JAPAN Proper, FORMOSA and on the seacoast of occupied territories in CHINA. Secondly, the Japanese will invade more energetically than ever ~~along~~ the communications line from KWILIN to LUNGCHOW (龍州) in an effort to succeed eventually in their attempt to open by force a communications line through the Continent. Thirdly, the

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"mopping-up" operations against the Chinese Eighth Route Army and the New Fourth Army, which have been maintaining persistently the war of resistance behind the enemy lines, especially along the seacoast, will be much more cruel and desperate. According to recent information, the movements of the enemy along the seacoast in SHAN-TUNG have been very frequent. This shows that the enemy is likely to launch for the second time another large-scale "mopping-up" operation.

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For the Japanese people, the sad Japanese defeat in the PHILIPPINES is another proof to discredit the boast of the so-called "glorious war success" of the Japanese militarists. Fear of the war and pessimistic and wavering sentiments are growing rapidly. Premier KOISO pointed out openly before the Congress of Citizens in OSAKA on the 30th of October that "the present war does not allow any half-way compromise. If there is any one who thinks such a compromise is possible, he is a dreaming fool." From this we can tell that a voice expressing the unwillingness to continue the war must have been developed among the Japanese people to such an extent that it is worth special notice. Fear of the war and the pessimistic psychology on the part of most of the Japanese people today, however, are being utilized by the militarists to make propaganda for war. Before the Congress of Citizens in OSAKA, KOISO shamelessly threatened his people with the following discourse: "If we were defeated in the war, the whole Japanese nation would perish. . . . The enemy post-war disposal of JAPAN would be to put JAPAN under the complete control of a certain form of international organization. All kinds of military equipment would be prohibited. Nor would the existence of industries be allowed. . . . The enemy would take under their control the full police power and would issue various orders to the Japanese people and exterminate all kinds of Japanese national consciousness." It is quite possible that part of the Japanese people will be fooled by his cheating tricks for some time. Consequently, it is imperative henceforth that we should make use of every possible chance to expose before the Japanese people the maliciously fabricated rumours and the viperous intrigues of the Japanese militarists so as to accelerate the anti-war

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struggle of the Japanese people.

As a result of the present sad defeat, the awareness of compromise of a certain group among the inner circle of the Japanese ruling classes is gaining influence. The sentiment of dissatisfaction with KOISO's failure is also growing. In this matter, the steps adopted by KOISO were to suppress, on the one hand, the rising of the awareness of compromise, which he rebuked as "the dream of a fool", and on the other hand, to seek fantastically to improve the work of the Cabinet by employing specialists and to invite people from different cliques to exercise jointly the administrative power so as to share in common the responsibility of the war. This fact explains the rapid inauguration of the Cabinet advisory system.

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In the past, Japanese Cabinet advisors handled economic problems exclusively. The present Cabinet advisors, however, not only handle economic problems but also interfere with the administrative affairs of the Premier and the various ministers. Their power is by far larger than it was in the past. Among the newly invited advisors, there are General ONO (尾野), Admiral SUMATSU (末次), Admiral TOYODA (豊田), munitions-industry capitalist AYUKAWA (魚川), marine-transportation plutocrat YAMASHITA (山下), important figure of the SUMITOMO plutocrats YOSHIDA (吉田), diplomatic bureaucrat ARITA (有田), financial plutocrat YUKI (結城), the defunct SEIYUKAI member KOIZUMI Matajiro (小泉又一郎), agriculture expert ANDO (安藤), President of the YOMIURI News Agency SHORIKI (正力) and President of KEIO University KOIZUMI Shinsan (小泉信三). Among these, some represent the influence of a certain clique of the Japanese ruling class. For instance, a man like SUMATSU is one of the famous leaders of the "radicals". AYUKAWA represents the KUHARA clique (久原派) the largest capitalist of the Japanese munitions industry now cooperating clandestinely with militarists of the KWANTUNG Army. KOIZUMI Matajiro represents the conservatives. Others are much more in a capacity of technical experts; for instance, YUKI is an expert in public

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16 JAN. 1945

finance, YOSHIDA is an expert in mining and metallurgy, YAMASHITA is an expert in marine transportation and ANDO is an expert in agriculture. These people incline more or less to the "medium faction" or to the "conservatives" politically. Therefore, they are to compose another organization "comprising all kinds of variegated particles" which inherits weak points at its very birth. As they all represent interests of different groups, divergencies of opinion are inevitable when they treat various concrete problems jointly with the governing body, the Cabinet. Therefore, although the Cabinet advisory system can share a part of the responsibility of KOISO at the present, with the daily worsening development of the war situation, it will most likely become an inherent factor hastening a crisis in the KOISO Cabinet.

Typist: Szetu, Cheh

For C.T.C.

T.H.B.

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(Enclosure no. 7 to despatch no. 264, March 31,)  
 (1945 from American Embassy, Chungking, China.)

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TR 230

6 JAN. 1945

TRANSLATION: O.W.I./GUO DA

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*U.S. use only!*

FROM: "ENEMY SITUATION" No. 63  
 Supplement to GIEFANG RHBAO (The Emancipation Daily)  
 Published in YENAN, CHINA, 15 November 1944.

THE INDEPENDENCE AND EMANCIPATION OF THE PHILIPPINES.  
 (By Yu Lu)

With their superiority of military force the American troops have fought into the PHILIPPINES and have established strong bases for the emancipation of the PHILIPPINES as well as for the further object of invading JAPAN PROPER. Moreover, on the very day when the American troops landed on the LEYTE ISLAND, the WHITE HOUSE announced its guarantee for giving independence to the Philippines immediately after the war. The American President said: "When the Japanese invaders have been completely driven away, the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS will become an independent and free republic." This is what is being eagerly hoped for by the 18,000,000 Filipinos. It is what they should get after having struggled painfully under the occupation of the Japanese invaders.

As early as before the outbreak of the PACIFIC war, the people of the PHILIPPINES had been struggling for the defence of the security of the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS and the peace of the world. Under the influence of the movement of independence and democracy in the PHILIPPINES as well as of the anti-Fascist strength of the world, the autonomous government under President QUEZON gradually adopted a series of progressive measures, restored to the people their democratic rights, and accorded a legal standing to the Communist Party of the PHILIPPINES. Immediately following that, the Socialist Party of the PHILIPPINES proclaimed its abandonment of its own political programme, its acceptance of the political programme of the Communist Party, and the amalgamation of the two parties. This signified the imperative demand for unity of the Philippines and their desire to place all the democratic forces in the PHILIPPINES on a much wider and more consolidated basis. Thus, immediately after the outbreak of the PACIFIC war, the masses of the people of the PHILIPPINES organized themselves voluntarily to cooperate with the American and Philippine

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troops to fight against the invaders. They started a guerilla warfare behind the enemy lines to attack and embarrass the Japanese and have made the Japanese admit even today, after two years' occupation, that "there are still remnants of enemy soldiers" on the PHILIPPINES. "These guerillas even made their appearance on the outskirts of MANILA." "The situation is even worse in the hills in Central LUZON north of BAGUIO. There are too many small islands. It has been very difficult to suppress them." (Cf. Japanese "JIKYOKU JOHO", or "Intelligence on Current Situation", 25 May 1944.) According to reports published in the "American Diplomatic Gazette" of 11 August 1944 (?), the larger part of MISANYAS (?) and MINDANAO is not in Japanese hands. The number of Japanese troops is very small. They are, moreover, scattered and limited to the various ports and harbors. The guerillas are very active on islands in the South. There are some provinces where free local governments have been established. As is happening in emancipated Chinese areas behind the enemy lines, the Philippino patriots are capable of providing first aid and protection for parachuting American air force crews in areas where they will probably land. In the past, ROOSEVELT, the American President, more than once praised the heroism and fighting ability of the Philipinos. During the recent American landing on LEYTE ISLAND, the contribution rendered by the Philippino guerillas was very great. General MACARTHUR has especially expressed his gratitude to the Philipinos who helped the American troops in their landing operations. The emancipation of the Philipinos has now been closely linked with the security and peace of the whole world. The heroic anti-Japanese struggle made by the people of the PHILIPPINES has advanced one step forward the war for the emancipation of their own country. It has, at the same time, shortened the time for crushing the Japanese aggressors by the joint effort of the UNITED NATIONS.

The granting of independence to the PHILIPPINES is the pre-determined policy of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. The TYDINGS Independence Act was ratified by President ROOSEVELT and was passed and accepted by the Congress of the PHILIPPINES ten years ago. It was stipulated that the Independent Republic of the PHILIPPINES should be established on July 14th, 1946. But this Act was formulated by those American members of the Houses who represented the interest of agricultural groups and capitalists of the sugar industry with a view to obstructing the importation of low-price sugar and coconut oil from the PHILIPPINES. The principal objects of the drafters of this Act were to stop the free trade between the UNITED

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STATES and the PHILIPPINES, to erect tariff barriers, and to restrict the free immigration of Philipinos into the UNITED STATES. It is quite obvious that should the Philipinos obtain their independence under such an Act, a most severe blow would be given to the economic life of the PHILIPPINES whose population would sink into a state of poverty and unemployment (for there are 4,000,000 people in the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS dependent on the coconut industry for their livelihood and 2,000,000 people dependent on the sugar industry.) But now the situation is quite different. In the face of the menace of German and Japanese Fascists, the interests of the Americans and the Philipinos are identical. With a view to defeating their common enemy these two peoples have been fighting hand in hand for three years already. The problem of independence for the Philipinos must not be considered from the angle of the private interests of a few of American capitalists. Nor should it be considered from the angle of interests of a few of the Philipino sugar capitalists who have lost their national consciousness. The problem should be considered from the angle of granting independence and liberty to all nations with the general object of the democracy and peace of the whole world, so as to destroy the false independence granted to the PHILIPPINES by the Japanese aggressors. This is in conformity with the principles clearly laid down in the ATLANTIC Charter and in the Declaration of the MOSCOW Conference. Problems of relief, recovery and economic readjustment of the PHILIPPINES after the war will need the help of the UNITED STATES who, however, can not make use of these problems as pretexts to delay the granting of independence. All these problems can be solved justly and properly with the PHILIPPINES as an independent state. Now President ROOSEVELT has been elected for the fourth term. This should give a further guarantee of the proper solution of the advancement of Philippine independence as well as the solution of inherent post-war problems.

With regard to the domestic political trend of the PHILIPPINES, the influence of the Nationalists, speaking generally, has been on the decline since the death of President QUEZON. The theory of one-party administration of the government advocated by QUEZON no longer exists. The influence of the Philippine Communist Party is increasing. New political parties are in the process of formation and old, defunct parties which were dissolved by force are reviving. All parties and cliques have been active in winning the political authority of an independent republic. But the impending obligations of the people of the PHILIPPINES at the present moment are the strengthening of

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the fighting power and the mobilization of many more people to cooperate with the American troops in the fighting so as to drive away the Japanese invaders and to emancipate the national territories as early as possible. It is those who have contributed most in the war of emancipation who will acquire the most confidence and support of the wide masses of the people, who will have most say after the war, and who will command the leading positions in the country.

Typist: Szetu, Cheh

For C.T.G.

T.H.B.

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(Enclosure no. 8 to despatch no. 264, March 31,  
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TR 275

30 JAN. 1945

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FROM: "EMBASSY SITUATION" No. 63  
 Supplement to GIBFANG RENBAO (The Emancipation Daily)  
 Published in YENAN, CHINA, 15 November 1944.

THE BATTLE FOR THE PHILIPPINES AND THE "OUTLET" FOR  
 JAPANESE ECONOMY. (By Yi Kwang)

Heroes of the BATAN Peninsula are coming back. Notwithstanding the fact that troops under MACARTHUR have landed only on LEYTE ISLAND and SAMAR ISLAND, the conclusion of the battle for the attack and defense of the PHILIPPINES is already drawn with the eventual victory on the side of the allies. Such being the case, what consequences will this development bring to the Japanese war economy?

Let us first look at the role played by the PHILIPPINES during the past two years in the Japanese economic system of war. At the time when JAPAN was intoxicated with victory in the initial stage of the war in the PACIFIC, she cherished a lot of fancies about the so-called "Greater East Asiatic Co-prosperity Sphere". In the Greater East ASIA Construction Council convened at WARUNOUCHI in TOKYO in the spring of 1942, the PHILIPPINES were assigned the duty of serving as the "central base" of colonial light industry. In the eyes of Japanese plutocrats, the rich raw material producing region in the Southeast ASIA at the time was already at their arbitrary disposal. In order to squeeze the labor and raw materials in this region, the PHILIPPINES should not only play for them the role of a "channel" to connect JAPAN PROPER and Southeast ASIA, but should also serve as a producing center of a small quantity of industrial goods to be used in a trade of unequal values between the Japanese and peoples in the SOUTH SEAS. After the passing of this project, the Japanese immediately shifted one part of the ready wealth, to the value of 2, 000, 000, 000 pesos (U.S. \$1, 000, 000, 000) which they had plundered from the PHILIPPINES, to replenish and strengthen the transportation facilities of ports and harbors of the PHILIPPINES. Moreover, out of this sum, plant equipment

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at the value of 150,000,000 pesos was appropriated to resume the production of daily consumers' goods (while the larger part of the plant equipment in other occupied territories in the SOUTH SEAS has been transferred to be used in connection with the exploitation of natural resources.) At the same time, several light industry plants in OSAKA (with a total capitalization of over 40,000,000 yen) have been moved to the PHILIPPINES. Of course, this does not show the least intention on the part of JAPAN to industrialize the PHILIPPINES; on the contrary, it is just by means of these industries that their function as a source of supply of raw materials is consolidated. (For instance, to furnish locally the raw materials needed for the textile industry, which is just one of such industries, the Philippines have been compelled to convert their sugar plantations to cotton.) But, today, this attempt to colonize the PHILIPPINES has been crushed under the offensive of the Allies. Not only its function as a "channel" connecting JAPAN PROPER at the one end, and French INDO-CHINA, THAILAND, BURMA, MALAY, and the DUTCH EAST-INDIES at the other was nullified, but the amount of Japanese capital invested in light industries there will also be lost.

Secondly, although the important resources deposited in the PHILIPPINES are less than those in other parts of Southeast ASIA, they affect considerably the Japanese war industries in FORMOSA. Bits of news that have leaked out from JAPAN prove that the principal source of supply of raw materials for the metallurgical industries in the newly developed industrial region of TAKAO (高雄) and OKAYAMA (岡山) in Southwest FORMOSA is the iron mines on the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS which are producing 712,000 tons annually. Moreover, the gold mines, which are producing 1,030,000 ounces (consisting of only a small portion of the deposit) of gold yearly, once aroused JAPAN to dream of the establishment of a world of brown monetary system. Besides, there is the chrome mine in the PHILIPPINE ISLANDS whose products have been shipped to supply the Japanese munitions industry in FORMOSA.

In the plundering of resources in the PHILIPPINES to enlarge the production of military supplies the Japanese plutocrats are becoming all the more fattened. The yearly copper output of 250,000 tons is now completely under the control of the Japanese SUMITOMO financial clique. The

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manganese mine, whose maximum yearly output once reached 600,000 tons, is also under the control of SUMITOMO, with the exception of a part which is held by MITSUI. In the pursuit of profits from the colonial PHILIPPINES, there was a conflict between MITSUI and SUMITOMO. At the time when the "Branch Treasury" of the "Treasury of Exploitation in the SOUTHERN REGION" was to be established in MANILA in August, 1942, MITSUI was trying to make use of their old influence in the PHILIPPINES (MITSUI has invested, over a period of ten years, more than 12,000,000 pesos in the PHILIPPINES) to monopolize this "Branch Treasury" so as to make it more favorable to their own investment. But the President of the "Treasury of Exploitation in the SOUTHERN REGION", SASAKI (佐佐木), was on very intimate terms with SUMITOMO, and the principal policy of TOJO at the time was cooperating clandestinely with MITSUBISHI and SUMITOMO, so the influence of MITSUI was eventually overwhelmed by SUMITOMO. Even the hemp market in MANILA which had been ever under the monopoly of MITSUI was invaded by SUMITOMO and other financial cliques. If we take this point into consideration, it will not be difficult for us to understand the inside stories that the post of Japanese Ambassador to the PHILIPPINES had to be given to MURADA (村田), a plutocrat of the SUMITOMO system, at the time when the Philippine traitors were performing the shameless drama of the so-called "Independence".

Such being the case, it should be perfectly clear to KOISO today what a blow it will be when the PHILIPPINES are recaptured by the Allies. By that time, not only will the sea route between JAPAN and the SOUTH SEAS be completely cut by the Allies, who will thus obtain the nearest and most convenient spring board to approach the CHINA Continent; but the Japanese munitions industries in FORMOSA will also be directly affected by the loss of the resources from the PHILIPPINES. Increasing the production of the munitions industry in JAPAN PROPER will be impossible as a result of the shortage of resources caused by the severance of JAPAN from the SOUTH SEAS. Those financial cliques who have lost their interests in the PHILIPPINES and SOUTH SEAS will voice their dissatisfaction and direct their criticisms against KOISO, so that cracks will take place within the KOISO Cabinet which has been trying to recruit various cliques of the Japanese ruling classes within itself. From this we can be perfectly sure that KOISO certainly will not

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give up the PHILIPPINES without putting up a stiff and stubborn resistance.

But should the Japanese struggle turn out to be in vain, should the PHILIPPINES be eventually recaptured by the Allies and the resources from the SOUTH be eventually cut off, what would the Japanese invaders do about their economic affairs?

As early as at the beginning of the Allied offensive in the Battle of the MIDWAY in the year before last, the Japanese began to intensify the exploitation of coal, iron and aluminium shale rocks in MANCHURIA and NORTH CHINA, and they have enlarged the extraction and refining of artificial petroleum with a view of establishing an economically self-sufficient JAPAN-MANCHURIA-CHINA Block. At the same time, a project of large-quantity storage of such resources as petroleum, tin, lead, manganese, chrome, nickel, and rubber, which were usually imported from the SOUTH SEAS and of which there is only a small output in occupied Chinese territories, has been undertaken. According to estimates made in the March issue of "ASERASIA" of this year, the total quantity of such resources stored up will probably maintain the present scale of Japanese production for a period of one year.

In reality, the so-called JAPAN-MANCHURIA-CHINA Block had not only been advertized since 1940 when KONOYE Fumimaru was Premier for the second time but had long been under execution as a "national policy already decided upon". Since then, about 25% of the total Japanese munitions industry has been established in, or shifted to, MANCHURIA, NORTH CHINA, KOREA and FORMOSA with a view to turning the occupied Chinese territories into sources for Japanese industries of raw materials which can be consumed on the spot. But this fanciful project for self-sufficiency, as has been admitted by the Japanese Army organ, the YOMIURI HOCHI SHIMBUN, has not been realized, because of the heroic resistance put up by the Chinese Eighth Route Army, the New Fourth Army, and the Chinese people of the emancipated territories. Therefore, even today, JAPAN is still dependent on the SOUTH SEAS for a considerable quantity of indispensable industrial resources. To say nothing of petroleum and rubber, which are obtainable only from the SOUTH SEAS, most of the colored metals, such as tin, nickel, or manganese, are supplied 70% or 75% from the SOUTH SEAS. Even for iron ore and lime for the steel.

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and iron industry, JAPAN depends on the SOUTH SEAS for approximately 15% to 20% of the total quantity needed.

Today, when JAPAN is trying hard to defend the PHILIPPINES, she has attacked and occupied KWEILIN and LIUCHOW at the same time. This simply shows the inevitable Japanese attempt to seek another channel leading to the sources of resources in the SOUTH SEAS in anticipation of the fall of the PHILIPPINES to the Allies. The Japanese aggressors are contemplating the opening by force of a continental line of communication to transport the resources from the SOUTH SEAS at the time when the Government of CHIANG Kai-shek and the KUOMINTANG is corrupt and impotent.

Typist: Szetu, Cheh

For C.T.C.

T.H.B.

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(Enclosure no. 9 to despatch no. 264, March 31,  
 (1945 from American Embassy, Chungking, China.)

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17 FEB 1945

TRANSLATION: O.W.I./GUO DA

ACTION: O.W.I.  
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FROM: "ENEMY INTELLIGENCE" No. 64,  
 Supplement to GIEFANG RHBAO (The Emancipation Daily),  
 Published in YENAN, 31 January 1945.

THE AMERICAN LANDING ON LUZON AND THE KOISO CABINET. (By Yu LU)

On the 9th of this month, American troops landed victoriously on the Island of LUZON with a big and powerful force. Up to the 14th of the same month, they succeeded in taking under control a seacoast of 45 miles in length and in thrusting into the inland 28 miles. They are now only several scores of miles from MANILA. In accordance with the news received, it seems that the American troops have not yet received any kind of large-scale and stubborn resistance from the Japanese. This does not mean, however, that the Japanese are not willing, or are not capable of putting up a resistance; for they understand quite clearly the importance of LUZON in the defence of the Continent and JAPAN Proper. They will certainly not give up the island without fighting hard. We can easily predict that the battle for LUZON will be far more fierce than that for LEYTE Island. The Japanese will resist the American troops with all their forces and will make use of the weakness of the long-distance lines of communication of the American troops to exhaust their strength, so that they may be able to "find a golden chance" to come out to fight a battle of decision with the Americans. But facts show clearly that irrespective of the stubbornness of the Japanese, as long as the fighting power based on physical conditions is the last deciding factor, the spirit of the "special attacking squads" of the Japanese invaders will not be able to cope with the superiority in boats and ships, airplanes, tanks and guns of the American troops. Moreover, the present operation of the Americans is not necessarily aimed at the complete occupation of the LUZON Island. As soon as they can secure a more or less stable stand on the island which will enable them to provide protection to their lines of communications, they will leap for a new stepping stone. The next landing will probably be FORMOSA or the southeast seacoast of CHINA.

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The American landing on LUZON is a big blow to the KOISO Cabinet. With the support of the moderates the KOISO Cabinet was brought into being, and, after an elapse of less than half

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a year, it has come to be known as a "feeble Cabinet". For instance, in political structure, there is outside of the Cabinet the "Highest Directing Council of War" vested with the power to decide the fundamental policy for the execution of the war. Within the Cabinet there are the Cabinet Advisory Committee, the Composite Planning Board, and the "Composite Promotion Council for the Execution of Principal Policies" which is aimed at supplementing and accelerating the work of the Composite Planning Board. All these organizations overlap one another and override and restrain authorities and responsibilities among themselves. In the realm of the production of munitions aiming at strengthening the war efforts, the opinion of the Army contradicts with that of the financial cliques. With a view to producing large number of aeroplanes, the Army demands that all the best machinery and resources, together with all the skilful workers, should be concentrated in the production of airplanes. This method of draining the pool to catch all the fish, however, is being opposed by the financial cliques who are seeking to ensure their own profit and to look at the general situation circumspectly. This struggle between the Army and the financial cliques resulted in the defeat of the latter. On the 19th of last month, the Minister of Munitions, Mr. FUJIMURA Ginjiro (藤原 銀次郎), who represents the MUTSUI financial clique, resigned; and the bureaucrat YOSHIDA Shigeru (吉田 茂) who is capable of better executing the policy of the Army was given the power of controlling the production of munitions. As to the weakness of the production of munitions itself, the lack of sufficient labor forces, the difficulties in transportation, the lack of working tools on the one hand while on the other hand the lying idle of a part of the working tools of principal munitions factories due to the lack of skilled workers, the soaring of commodity prices, the prevalence of black markets, the gradual decrease in the quantity of rationed foodstuffs, and the drop in the enthusiasm for war on the part of the workers--all these have been problems and headaches for KOISO. By now the American troops have fought their way into the PHILIPPINES and the "Co-prosperity Sphere of Greater East ASIA" is being destroyed. The series of tricks which KOISO had been playing in the past are incapable of coping with the far more serious crisis of the present moment. What measures will the Japanese ruling classes take hereafter to escape from this crisis?

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Judging by the present condition of various circles concerned, there is little possibility for the extreme radicals

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to rise and seize control of the administrative power once again, for their policy had already proved to be ineffective in the TOJO Cabinet and could not obtain the support of the ruling classes. There is likewise little possibility for the emergence of elements more moderate than KOISO and his company to organize a new Cabinet, for now it is not the time for that as yet. The most likely possibility at the present moment is the further continuance of the existing joint Cabinet of the radicals and the moderates. Although the KOISO Cabinet has its weak side, yet it has its strong side as well. Contrary to the TOJO Cabinet, the KOISO Cabinet does not have many oppositionists outside of the Cabinet. It has the support of the majority of the Japanese ruling classes. With a view to overcoming the internal disunification and the administrative impotence to effect reforms, KOISO will form henceforth a small governing group within the Cabinet centering around himself to strengthen the efficiency of his government. He will on the one hand tighten his control over economic affairs with a view to strengthening the war efforts while on the other hand he will recruit more effectively his support from among the people.

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On the 19th of last month, at the time when the Minister of Military Supplies was changed, the President of the Assistance Political Association, KOBAYASHI Sizo (小林, 躋造) entered the Cabinet as Minister Without Portfolio. This explains the attempt of KOISO to call in the Assistance Political Association to strengthen the political power of the government. It likewise explains why President KOBAYASHI, who belongs to the faction of moderates, is willing to give full support to the KOISO Cabinet. Lately the Assistance Political Association has been very active. It has petitioned to the government to strengthen its organization, to set up district branches and to be regarded as the only political organization for unifying the strength of the people. On the other hand, the government demands that the Assistance Political Association will cooperate with the government in setting up the so-called "powerful political constitution". It was resolved on the 19th of this month that the Assistance Political Association is to be dissolved to form another powerful new political party. This resolution was presented formally to the Diet. KOISO has also expressed his opinion that there is the necessity to form such a new political party. There is, at the present, the possibility of consolidating the Assistance Political Association, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association and the Youth Brigade of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association into one single political party to form a nazi

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party of the Japanese style. As we know, the Assistance Political Association is an organization with head but without tail. It has no followers in the lower stratum. The Youth Brigade of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association has some activities among the masses of the lower stratum while the Imperial Rule Assistance Association itself is a ghost without a skeleton. The consolidation of the three might perhaps form an organization integrated from the top to the bottom to try to win over the masses. Even if such an organization could be formed, it will not, however, possess any strength; for no Fascist organization in JAPAN is capable of sharing one common faith and of taking one common programme. There are the radicals, the moderates, and elements of defunct political parties within the interior of various organizations who are after their own respective interests and intentions. If they are to insist on copying the German Nazis then the result of their depicting a tiger will turn out to resemble a dog. Or it will be like the "movement for a new political party" during the time of the KONOYE Cabinet which was alternately set up and then dissolved, dissolved and then set up again. It is just a change in the ways of driving and poisoning the Japanese people.

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In his speech before the Diet session on the 21st, in addition to his praise of and encouragement to the spirit of the "special attacking squads", KOISO concentrated on the "strengthening of the war efforts" and the "defense of the native land" which are no new policy at all. These slogans have long been proclaimed ever since the formation of his Cabinet and the speech which he made before the 85th Session of the Diet. Nevertheless, because of the weakness of the national strength, the so-called "constitution of the war of decision" could not be set up till the present moment when the invasion of the American troops is directed towards JAPAN Proper. Thus, he is compelled to make desperate and urgent exploitation of the man-power and material resources within JAPAN which are already on the brink of exhaustion. At the same time, he will go one step forward to accelerate the increase of production in the colonies, occupied territories and especially in NORTH CHINA. The administrative power of the central government over the various districts governments will also be strengthened with a view to driving his people to die for the "Imperial Empire".

(Written on 25 January 1945.)

Typist: Sætu, Cheh

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For C.T.C.

T.H.B.



(Enclosure no. 10 to despatch no. 264, March 31,  
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FROM: "ENEMY SITUATION" No. 64,  
 Supplement to GIEFANG REBAO (The Emancipation Daily),  
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SKETCHES OF ENEMY LEADERS: YOSHIDA SHIGERU AND ANDO MIKI.  
 (By: Chuang Tao)

Since the landing on the PHILIPPINES by American troops, the security of JAPAN Proper has been seriously threatened. With a view to relieving the impending crisis, two important changes in personnel took place not very long ago.

The first is the forced resignation of FUJIWARA Ginjiro (藤原, 銀次郎) of the financial clique of MITSUI who was succeeded by the pro-military bureaucrat YOSHIDA Shigeru (吉田, 茂) as the Minister of Military Supplies.

The 61 year old YOSHIDA joined the Ministry of Domestic Affairs in 1911 when he graduated from the College of Law of the TOKYO Imperial University. He worked there until 1927, when he was sent abroad to ENGLAND and AMERICA to make investigations and do research. Upon his return to the home country he was appointed head of the Bureau of Social Affairs of the Ministry of Domestic Affairs. At that time, he inaugurated the KOKUJIBAI (國維會), or the National Foundations Society, which was a Fascist organization, propagating energetically "Greater Japanism" on behalf of the militarists. In 1936, through the recommendation of GOTO Fumio (後藤, 文夫), who came from the same town as he, he was appointed Cabinet Secretary-General for the OKADA Cabinet. Soon the Japanese inaugurated the Cabinet Investigation Bureau (which was the predecessor of the Cabinet Planning Board) and he was appointed the first head for the newly started Bureau which was to investigate specially the economic and political conditions of the whole country and to draw plans for the production of military supplies and foodstuffs. At that time, he had made friends with a group of Fascist young officers and engaged himself in anti-party-politics activities. Since then he has become one of the big heads of the group of pro-military bureaucrats. When YONAI Mitsumasa (米内, 光政) was organizing his Cabinet in January 1940, he was chosen as

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Minister of Social Welfare. He left this post in July of the same year when YONAI sent in his resignation. Since then, he has become an active member of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, together with GOTO Fumio and many others. He was once brigadier-general of the Youth Brigade of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association of TOKYO Metropolitan Prefecture. Later, he was elected President of the NIPPON Labor Service Patriotic Association (日本勞務報國會). Beginning with July, 1943, he was governor of the FUKUOKA Prefecture and concurrently President of the Local Administrative Council of KYUSHU. He held these two posts for a year and worked out during that time quite a number of methods for the adjustment of the administration of military supplies, and especially, the adjustment of labor power, in the industrial region of KYUSHU. It will be seen from all the above that YOSHIDA is not only a bureaucrat led by the nose by the militarists, but is also an experienced administrator of production. Since his appointment as Minister of Military Supplies last December, under the instruction of the militarists, he has already shifted a portion of the skilled workers from many industrial plants to aeroplane factories, in an attempt at solving the shortage of skilled workers there.

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The second change in personnel was the dismissal of Admiral HASEGAWA Kiyoshi (長谷川, 清), the Governor-General of FORMOSA. He was succeeded by General ANDO Rikichi (安藤, 利吉), the present Commander-in-chief of Japanese Garrison Troops in FORMOSA, who took the post concurrently.

Within the camp of the Japanese invaders, ANDO has been famous for his great familiarity with conditions in SOUTH CHINA and FORMOSA. As early as 1905, at the time of the Russo-Japanese War, he was once stationed in FORMOSA. In 1919, he was sent to ENGLAND to investigate and do research on military science. Since his return to the home country, he has been an instructor at the Army Military Academy, and Military Attache Stationed in INDIA. In 1927, he was Commander of an Artillery Brigade and led his troops to invade TSINAN. He was one of the murderers responsible for the fabricating of the "TSINAN Tragedy". In 1932, he was a military attache stationed in ENGLAND. After the outbreak of the aggressive war against CHINA on 7 July 1937, he was acting Inspector-General of the Department of Military Training for a while. Ever since May, 1938, he has been in CHINA. With the exception of one return to the home country, he has been active in SOUTH CHINA and FORMOSA. He was one of the

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plotters of the Japanese offensive operations against HANKOW and CANTON in the autumn of 1938. In November of the same year, he succeeded FURUSHO Motoo (古庄 幹郎) as Supreme Commander of Japanese Expeditionary Forces in SOUTH CHINA. Then he invaded and occupied NANNING in KWANGSI. In September, 1940, he led his troops to invade French INDO-CHINA and concluded with the puppet VICHY French Government the "Franco-Japanese Pact" which accorded the Japanese the right of stationing troops in French INDO-CHINA. In April, 1942, he was appointed Commander-in-chief of Japanese Garrison Troops in FORMOSA, which post he has held up to the present. Thus, it is quite apparent, that the appointment of ANDO Rikichi as concurrently Governor-General of FORMOSA shows the Japanese intention of relying on him to strengthen the land defences on the Island of FORMOSA with the view to preparing for the forthcoming landing operations of the American troops who are to arrive soon.

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Typist: Szetu, Chen

For C.T.C.

P.H.B.



(Enclosure no. 11 to despatch no. 264, March 31,  
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FROM: "ENEMY SITUATION" No. 64,  
 Supplement to GIEFANG REBAO (The Emancipation Daily),  
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SKETCHES OF WAR-TIME JAPANESE SOCIETY. (By: Min Ching)

The Decline of the Passion for War.

The unfavorable turn of the war situation and the unbearable privations in living conditions have brought a change in the passion for war on the part of the Japanese people. As KOMURO (小室), President of the Japanese Diplomacy Research Society, said in the TOYO KEIZAI SHINPO (東洋經濟新報), of September 1944: "The morale of the people based on faith in inevitable victory is really regrettable lately. The nation as a whole must reconsider anew, with a view towards directing and strengthening the spirit of struggle and the spirit of annihilating the enemy on the part of the people. . . . Otherwise, should the development of the war become unfavorable, pessimistic and disheartening ideas will prey upon the people."

The Victory-Doubting Intelligentsia.

One part of the intelligentsia is especially opposing the war of aggression. In the September 1944 issue of GENDAI (現代), NOMURA (野村), Director of the Public Speech Patriotic Association, made the following remark: "At the present time, when we are fighting with ENGLAND and AMERICA, we even accord complete freedom to such thinking of the ANGLO-SAXON system as 'democracy', 'liberalism' and 'individualism'. Public speech ideologically contradictory to the war aim of the Imperial Empire of JAPAN, or speech re-echoing that of ENGLAND and AMERICA, is still prevailing arrogantly in JAPAN today." He went on to say: "There is a part of the intelligentsia among the Japanese people who harbor great doubts as to eventual victory in the war. Little harm would be caused if these people would only keep their doubts within themselves. But the point is that they will influence others and seek their support. Thus, a serious problem is created."

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RESTRICTED "Wicked" Behavior of "Wicked" Youth.

The people of JAPAN are resorting to various measures to undermine the "war-time constitution" and the "system of labor conscription" of the Japanese militarists. Thus, the number of the so-called "wicked" laborers and "wicked" students, as they are regarded by the Japanese militarists, have been greatly increased. As was reported by the ASAHI SHIMBUN on 7 October 1944: "The results of the police of the Metropolitan Police Headquarters in conducting a round-up for ten days in the TOKYO Municipality revealed that there were 3,925 people guilty of wicked behavior, 6,559 of sabotage, and 8,033 of other criminal acts." We do not know the concrete definitions of these "wicked behavior" and "criminal acts" as pointed out here, yet we can tell that these at least are things unfavorable for the Japanese militarists. Moreover, the number of cases given here are restricted to those which have been detected by the police, while the actual number of cases of such "wicked behavior" and "criminal acts" must be far more surprising.

Even Daily Necessities Are Of "Miserable" Quality.

Under the system of rationing, the daily necessities of the people are quantitatively restricted to the minimum while qualitatively they are even worse. The TOYO KEISAI SHIMPO, reported in July last year: "A certain dining house in TOKYO recently received a ration of three boxes of whale meat which all turned out to be rotten. Again, a certain gentleman versed in penmanship said that lately all brushes are useless for writing. The official prices for brushes do not take into consideration whether the brushes can write or not. They only stipulate that the prices for clusters of hairs attached to bamboo sticks are so much and so much."

Likewise, the ASAHI SHIMBUN of 27 September 1944 reported: "How coarse and poor are the toys manufacturely lately. They are broken immediately after they have come into the hands of the children."

Bad Luck for the Pupils Too!

War has brought misfortune to the students and pupils. The ASAHI SHIMBUN reported on 11 July 1944 that: "Recently the number of under-nourished children reached 60% while 30% of them were suffering from dysentery. Averagely speaking, there are daily in every class one student vomiting and two suffering from dizziness, who are obliged to ask for leave to go home." The reason for such illness is the insufficiency

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