

Ex 498

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Telegram
(Secret Cipher Process)

Tokyo, 8 September 1939
Arrival -----"-----

15.25 hours
9.45 hours

No. 417 of 8 September

*: RAM Reference No. 261 of 22 August. *)
For the State Secretary. Secret.

At the reception yesterday of the Foreign Minister ABE, I gave my personal opinion to the General, whom I know well, that the continued labours of Ambassador OSHIMA to foster German-Japanese friendship would certainly be very valuable; he had the full confidence of the German Government. The Foreign Minister declared he would examine the question favorably. The Army, on which I had repeatedly worked similarly, and leading quarters of the Foreign Ministry indicated that OSHIMA's position was secure for the present. The Ambassador in Moscow, SHIRATORI, will return from Rome, since at that time he had taken up the post of Ambassador, purely in the expectation that he would succeed in concluding an Italian-Japanese-German military alliance.

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TOP SECRET !

No 498

AFFIDAVIT

I, W. P. Cumming, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say:

1. That I am an Attache of the United States Department of State on the Staff of the United States Political Adviser on German Affairs, and as such I am a representative of the Office of Military Government for Germany (U.S.). That in my capacity as above set forth, I have in my possession, custody, and control at the Berlin Documents Center, Berlin, Germany, the original captured German Foreign Office files and archives.

2. That said original Foreign Office files and archives were captured and obtained by military forces under the command of the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Forces, and upon their seizure and capture were first assembled by said military forces at a Military Document Center at Marburg, Germany, and were later moved by authorized personnel of said Allied forces to said central documents center, above referred to, and known as the Berlin Documents Center.

3. That I was assigned to said document center at Marburg, Germany, on August 15, 1945; and said captured German Foreign Office files and archives first came into my possession and control while I was stationed at Marburg, Germany, and that thereafter the same have continued in my possession and custody and under my control.

4. That the document to which this affidavit is attached is a true and correct photostatic copy of an original German Foreign Office document which was captured from said Germany Foreign Office files and archives, and which came into my possession and custody and under my control in the manner above set forth.

5. That said original document, of which the attached is a photostatic copy, is being held and retained by me in order that it may be examined and inspected by various interested agencies, and a photostatic copy of said original is hereby furnished and certified to because of the unavailability of said original for the reasons above set forth.

s/ W. P. Cumming
W. P. CUMMING

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of April 1946.

s/ G. H. Garde
G. H. GARDE
Lt. Colonel, AGD
Acting Adjutant General

OFFICE OF MILITARY
GOVERNMENT FOR GERMANY (U.S.)