Defense Document 3010-A

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SAIONJI-HARADA MEMOIRS

Chapter 100 (9 October 1933)

On the 4, ---- I met Foreign Minister Hirota, he stated:

"I desire to hear the opinions of the Army and Navy from an official standpoint through the War and Navy Ministers. --- Both the Army and the Navy authorities, especially those of the Navy, fear that the circumstances will inevitably reach their worst in 1936. Such being the case, our present task is to determine how to avoid this crisis. There is no alternative but to meet this problem by diplomacy. --- My opinion is that since we feel, as the result of the Manchurian affair, the effects of international reactions, it is necessary to conduct our response to those effects peacefully. First of all we must improve rublic opinion so as to deal with the Japanese-American problem peacefully. We must set up a basis for this atmosphere. By hearing both Ministers' (War and Navy) intentions and also by speaking to the Finance Minister, I want to exert my efforts to get an agreement between us on this problem. The views of the Finance Minister and myself are in complete agreement."

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