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WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION G-2  
WASHINGTON

UNDER SECRETARY  
*Ans 8/11/45*  
AUG 11 1945  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AUG 13 1945  
August 10, 1945  
*JMS*

*894.001 -*

Dear Mr. Grew,

Professor Homer Dubs of Columbia University is an outstanding scholar in the field of Chinese philosophy and religion. He is the translator of the works and life of Hsün Tzu and of the Dynastic History of the Han. He sent me, in the course of private manuscript circulation, a paper which I think you may wish to glance over and to refer to the experts, such as Mr. Dooman, in your Department.

Briefly, Professor Dubs takes up the problem of making sure that Japanese history for ages to come will reveal the genuine full defeat of a Shintoist people by a democratic people. He believes that this can be effected by two measures:

first, the present Emperor should be replaced by a successor removed by more than four degrees of kinship and older than himself, so that the faults of the Showa Emperor (in not resisting war against America) can be proved by Far Eastern religious standards;

second, the Three Sacred Treasures of Japan should be borrowed by us for display and examination, should be shown under conditions which make a symbolic demonstration of their inferiority to our symbols, such as the Tomb of the Unknown soldier, and then returned intact to the Japanese.

My own opinion (if you will forgive my expressing it?) is that the first proposal is too weighty to be considered for the reasons which Professor Dubs gives, but that the second proposal may be well-adapted to the psychological climate in which the Japanese live.

Allow me, Mr. Grew, on this happy day, to congratulate you on the coming of that victory to which your own untiring efforts have contributed so much. I wish that the public could know, as I myself know, how patiently you have accepted misunderstanding, ill-founded criticism, and even public obloquy when the prudence of government policy required that you expose yourself to attack without defense.

Very sincerely yours,

*Paul M. A. Linebarger*

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August 11, 1945

Dear Captain Linebarger:

Many thanks for your letter of August 10 and for the paper on the Japanese Emperor and his cult by Professor Homer Dubs, which will be given a careful reading in the Department. I appreciate more than I can tell you the very generous statement in the final paragraph of your letter.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Grew

Captain Paul M. A. Linebarger,  
Military Intelligence Division G-2,  
War Department General Staff,  
Washington, D. C.

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THE JAPANESE EMPEROR AND HIS CULT

by  
Professor Homer H. Dubs  
Department of Chinese  
Columbia, University

Of the two major enemies with whom the Allies must deal, Japan may prove the more difficult. Germany is a country fundamentally like ourselves. Fascist movements have existed even in the United States and Britain, so that we know how to devise ways of dealing with them. But Japan is quite different. It is not merely that the Japanese language is difficult, but that the sort of ideas and feelings current among the Japanese people are in important respects unlike those in occidental countries. Our real trouble is in understanding Japanese ideology.

The Japanese state is organized about a set of concepts that have never been current in Europe and which offer to the average patriotic Japanese a motivation fundamentally different from ours. Under the guidance of the clever Japanese ruling class, certain ideas have for a period of several generations been installed into this people in their schools and by government propaganda until they have become accepted as axioms by the average person. We cannot deal with Japan just as with other enemies.

The Japanese emperor or Mikado is not thought of by the Japanese people as an ordinary human being. He is the direct physical descendant of their highest god, Amaterasu Omikami, the Sun-goddess. Thus he is not merely a ruler over the people. He is the natural head of the Japanese family and nation by virtue of his descent. His person is sacred and inviolable. No one may even look down upon him, so that high buildings are not allowed near the Imperial Palace and upstairs blinds are pulled down wherever he passes. In schools, daily respect

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is paid to him. Heads of schools are expected to give their lives, if necessary, rather than allow any harm to occur to the picture of the Mikado, before which regular reverence is made. More than one school-teacher has lost his life in attempting to rescue this picture during a fire.

The ancestors of the present emperor have moreover reigned over Japan from time immemorial. The Japanese imperial dynasty has never been overthrown. Japan has moreover never been successfully invaded or conquered. It is the only modern country, aside from our own, whose soil has never felt the tread of a foreign conqueror. By governmental order, every Japanese citizen is furthermore required, whenever called upon, to attend and show respect at the temples where are enshrined the Imperial Ancestors, including the first ancestor, the Sun-goddess. These are the State Shinto shrines. The people stand at attention while a set form of words, called a norito, is read and certain other reverences are performed by their leaders.

Whether the ideas underlying these practices are true or false is not important. The average Japanese has no means of determining their correctness. He believes them because no one presumes to contradict them. Ordinary, people, even in our country, do not moreover usually worry about the scientific truth of their beliefs, providing those beliefs produce results that are desired. The common American belief in the inferiority of every negro, in spite of outstanding negro achievements in many fields, shows that Americans and Japanese are fundamentally alike in their willingness to accept what they consider will benefit them. Religious beliefs are indeed usually accepted, not because of their proof or lack of proof, but because they work. If they do work, they are often believed, regardless of their truth or falsity. There is moreover enough truth in these Japanese beliefs to make them plausible to the average person.



It is a fact that Japan has never been successfully invaded. The largest empire the world has ever known was that of the Mongol ruler, Kublai Khan. It covered practically the whole of Asia except India, also including much of eastern Europe. He was the first foreigner to conquer the whole of China. Mongol horsemen defeated European chivalry at the gates of Vienna and were only prevented from conquering the rest of Europe by the necessity of returning to Mongolia in order to choose a new Khan. Yet two attempts to invade Japan in 1274 and 1281 were checked by the Japanese until storms destroyed the Mongol fleet. Japan was the only country that successfully resisted Mongol invasion. Japanese histories naturally make much of this military feat.

It is also true that the Japanese throne has been continued in the same clan since the beginning of Japanese authentic history. Before the ninth century there were however several usurpations. Since then, until 1868, the imperial line has been respected. Most of the emperors however did not actually rule, but merely reigned. Assassinations, exile, and deposition of emperors occurred at intervals. The country was ruled by another clan, whose head held some title such as regent, Shogun, etc. The continuity of the Japanese imperial line has been preserved because that clan was willing to give up the imperial power and retain only the imperial title. Emperors have been made and unmade by the actual rulers of the country and civil wars between contestants for this rule have at intervals laid the country waste. Since 1868, the Mikado has ruled directly and no individual has emerged to challenge his power. Crucial decisions have however been made by a small group within the government and the imperial ratification has nearly always been a mere formality. The Japanese claim of imperial continuity is correct only with reservations and the imperial person has been far from inviolate. But violations are ancient, so are easily passed over and neglected.



As for the divine ancestry of the Mikado, this is no more than was claimed by many ancient noble houses in Europe and elsewhere in the antique world. Japanese authentic history moreover begins only in the fifth century A.D., so that there can be no disproof for the divine imperial ancestry. Governmentally approved textbooks teach this dogma. It is accepted by all Japanese except a sophisticated few. Teaching anything else is lese-majesty.

To the average unthinking Japanese, these facts add up to the conclusion that their emperor is not a mere human being, but an actual living god. This doctrine has been widely preached by various important Japanese publicists. The Japanese government is not then a merely human institution, but a real theocracy, government by a god. The Shinto shrines are places where the ancient Japanese gods are really present. Attendance and reverence there constitutes worship of these gods, who are the imperial ancestors. The existence and power of these divine ancestors is proved, to the average Japanese, by the continued existence of the Japanese imperial line. This unbroken lineage indicates a powerful divine guardianship over that line. The failure of all attempts to invade Japan proves, even more strongly, the actual divine nature and power of these gods. Then Japan is itself a divine country, under the special protection of the greatest gods. Its people are a divinely cared for race. They are superior to all other peoples in the world, because of that supreme divine providence. Japan is a unique country. No other place has, like it, had such secure divine protection. The Shinto Sun-goddess, who lights up the world, is the highest of all gods, the natural ruler, not merely of Japan, but of the world. Hence the Japanese emperor is the natural ruler of the world. The Japanese are, accordingly, the god's chosen people to conquer and rule the whole world. These religious ideas underly Japan's recent attempt at conquest and expansion.



Not all Japanese take the foregoing attitude in the full sense. But the pressure of Japanese public opinion has in recent decades been so great that few persons have been willing to contradict this view. There are atheists in Japan as in all civilized countries. Buddhist philosophy, when carried to its logical extreme, is monistic or atheistic, with no place for special gods of special countries. Confucianism, in the form current in Japan, is also monistic. Protestant and Catholic Christians of course deny the Shinto gods. But the government has provided opportunity for equivocation and accommodation to Japanese nationalistic Shinto ideas. For the benefit of sceptics, the Japanese government has officially declared that this State Shinto is not a religion. Shinto performances are said not to be worship, but only reverence. This pronouncement has been accepted by the Catholic Church, by Japanese Protestant Christians, and even by many American Protestant Christians in Japan.

Shinto has however been the religion of the Japanese rulers and people from time immemorial. Shinto shrines and performances were not changed from their ancient forms when they were declared to be non-religious. The people know that they are just what they anciently were. The persons who officiate at these ceremonies hold the same positions as those who anciently officiated, and the norito read at these performances are the same as the prayers that have always been used. To the average unsophisticated Japanese, Shinto is a religion. Only sophisticated persons think differently.

One who understands the differences between various types of religions can easily understand why so many Buddhists and Christians have accepted the dogma that Shinto worship is not religious. Shinto is a nature religion and not an advanced religion. The Shinto gods are personified powers of nature: the sun, the storm, etc. Such nature gods are thought of as divine rulers, fundamentally like human beings. They require from their worshippers no more than human rulers do -- outward attitudes of respect, the proper amounts of flattery and adoration,



and their traditional tribute in the form of sacrifices. Advanced religions such as Buddhism or Christianity however require more -- for them religion is not merely an outward ceremony, but also an inward attitude of the heart. To the Christian, mere standing at attention at a ceremony before the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is not religious. The worship of nature gods consists however in precisely such outward performances. The ancient Romans, who had a similar nature religion, demanded that every person must, when required, worship the Roman gods in this manner. They did not require their people to have any particular inward belief or feeling towards the gods. Christian martyrs died because they refused to cast a handful of incense upon the altar of the gods, not because they did not believe in those gods. Nature gods do not require belief, but only their due worship. No beliefs are required of State Shinto devotees.

Many Japanese Christians and Buddhists, who know that their own personal religion is fundamentally inward, accordingly feel that it is not a religious performance to attend Shinto shrines and maintain respectful attention while the traditional formulas are read. Similar performances before the American Tomb of the Unknown Soldier are indeed non-religious. Such Japanese have grown up in an advanced religion, and mistakenly think that any religion must be like their personal faith. But the average Japanese, who has not had such training, recognizes these performances as religion. Thus two different persons, with different religious training, can consider the same performance differently: one recognizing it to be religious and the other declaring it is not religious. Consequently sincere Christians, including the present head of the Japanese Protestant Churches, have agreed with the Japanese government that Shinto is no religion, and have attended Shinto performances with good consciences, declaring that they have been profoundly moved thereby.



Japanese militarists, who are interested in unifying their whole people behind the Emperor and the attempt to conquer Asia, have thus taken advantage of a natural confusion of ideas among religious people. The government declaration that State Shinto is non-religious has enabled it to require the people all to attend Shinto patriotic worship, no matter to what religion those people belong. Freedom of worship is guaranteed in the Japanese constitution, and is not theoretically abrogated by such a requirement. The purpose of this requirement is of course to unify the people, to inculcate implicit obedience to the government's commands, to excite a truly religious patriotic fervor, and to secure the people's support for the government's imperialistic warlike designs. The average unsophisticated Japanese willingly attends these religious ceremonies. The enlightened devotee of an advanced religion also attends them, believing them to be non-religious. All are of course affected by the solemnity of these performances and their appeal to patriotic feelings. Thus State Shinto has been used to further Japanese militarism. The people are thereby worked into a martial fervor of patriotism, so that they are willing to be martyred in the service of their country and gods or to sacrifice their own true interests for the benefit of their government and its masters.

The Shinto gods are moreover special gods of Japan, who favor that country rather than other countries. The trouble with advanced religions, for military purposes, is that the gods of advanced religions are universal gods, who cannot properly favor any one country over others. This fact has not prevented even Christians from praying that the God of the whole earth should favor their own country in war and destroy its enemies. But, after the excitement has died down, peoples' good sense has generally prevailed and Christians have usually realized **their God must love other countries just as much as he loves that/their own country.** Thoughtful persons moreover recognize this fact even



during a war. So the gods of advanced religions are unreliable for the purpose of whipping up militaristic fervor. Ludendorff recognized this fact when he attempted to revive the worship of the old German pagan gods, Wotan, Thor, and others. A sincere worship of such nature gods, who love their own people and hate others, would indeed constitute a wonderfully appropriate motivation for any warlike enterprise. Universal gods however make into pacifists those devotees who do not accept the war aims of the nation. Fortunately the good sense of the German people has prevented the wide popularity of a pagan religion.

One important feature of the Christian and Jewish religion has been that its God is superior to all nations, so that the purposes of all nations must be criticized by the moral law incarnated in this universal God. Consequently, occidental rulers have often been checked, when they went too far, by the moral sense of their own people, because their religion requires criticism of the government. The power of religious and moral criticism has however depended upon the vitality and social sensitivity of religion in particular countries.

The advantage of a nature religion, like Shinto, for militaristic activities, is that its gods are themselves the divine rulers of the state and that the existing government merely carries out the will of these gods, so that there is no possibility of criticizing the government by any higher standard. Nature gods are moral, but mildly so, as every gentleman conforms to the code of his class, whatever that code is for his time and place. Since the Japanese ruling class has been warlike and swashbuckling, the Shinto gods are naturally warlike. At the Yasukuni Shrine, these gods deify even the worst criminal who dies fighting for his country. Torture, rape, murder of unresisting prisoners -- any deed whatever in war is approved by these gods. German war criminals can plead only expediency as a justification for their crimes. The Japanese have in addition



the consent of their own gods. These deities favor the conquest of alien nations, because the gods thereby secure greater revenues. Nature religions induce a people to obey their rulers implicitly, whereas advanced religions are likely to make a people criticize their rulers.

Japan has, in Shinto, a religion ideally organized to support an attempt to conquer its neighbors. Because of Buddhism's willingness to appease and tolerate other gods and because Christianity has arrived in Japan only very recently, there has been preserved in Japan, as in no other civilized country, a nature religion, with special gods who care for this country above all other places. By 1868, Shinto had nevertheless been almost completely absorbed by Buddhism. When, at that time, there was an upsurge of Japanese nationalism, ancient Shinto was deliberately revived, purged of most of its Buddhist accretions, and strengthened by imperial support. Japanese leaders realized that such a religion would aid their government against other peoples. Hitler must be envying greatly his ally's religious advantage. The Japanese die for their country with a religious zeal that is unmatched in other more rationalistic countries. No wonder the Japanese warlords believed they could conquer the world!

The divinity of the Mikado is of a piece with the rest of Shinto. To understand this phenomenon, we must go far back into occidental history, even before Greek or Roman times. Although Alexander the Great was deified in Babylonia and Egypt, the Greeks would not admit his divinity, for among them a sharp distinction had been drawn between the human and the divine. When the Roman empire tried to deify its emperors, for the same reason the Roman people would not accept that doctrine, only admitting that the emperor's genius or guardian spirit was divine. Only orientals and those who held to oriental ideas accepted



the worship of the Roman emperors during their lifetime. The Chinese discarded the divinity of their emperors about 1100 B.C., when their regent declared that the greatest Chinese god, Heaven, had himself dethroned the preceding dynasty because of its ruler's wickedness. The Chinese have subsequently made moral judgments upon their rulers and have considered themselves to be religiously justified in rebelling against those rulers whom they condemned. In ancient Babylonia, Assyria, Egypt, and neighboring countries, rulers were however regularly made gods during their lifetime. These peoples had religions fundamentally like modern Shinto. The reason we do not understand Japanese ideology is that we are not accustomed to think back 2500 years. Japan has moreover a great advantage over all these western Asian empires -- the Japanese imperial line, through historical circumstances, has never been changed, whereas these other nations repeatedly changed their dynasties.

So Japan is today a modern civilized nation with an antique religion of great power that is ideally adapted to support aggression. Her leaders have used this religion to mobilize their nation spiritually as well as physically. With a religion fundamentally unlike ours, our leaders naturally misunderstand the nature of the Japanese nation, the Japanese emperor, and Japanese ideology. If we studied more about ancient Egyptian or Assyrian religion, we would understand Japan better.

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Today the Allies face two tasks: to defeat Japan and to make her harmless to the future of the world. The first task is being brilliantly performed by our military leaders. We need feel no misgivings here. But the remoulding of Japan will be much more difficult. That remoulding can moreover only be performed in the last resort by the Japanese themselves. All that we can do is to see that



the conditions are right and then trust to the good sense of the Japanese themselves. A nation that has shown such great abilities, both in war and in other respects, cannot be devoid of common sense. The trouble has been that this good sense has been biased by Japanese militaristic ideology.

The most serious warps in Japanese thinking have been produced by the historical invulnerability of Japan to military conquest, the sanctity and inviolability of the Mikado, and the religious sanctions given both of these by State Shinto. Each one of these three beliefs has supported the other two. Japan's invulnerability will be taken care of by Allied military forces. Since people easily neglect inconvenient facts (as, for example, the achievements of outstanding negroes), it is possible that the other two beliefs may persist even after Japan has been invaded by Allied forces. These two beliefs may later produce another Japanese militaristic debauch, even worse than the present one. If Americans, with their keen sense of fair play and democracy, are yet afflicted with racism, how much more will the Japanese racial heritage be clung to and cherished by that people, smarting under a great military defeat and the destruction of their cities and wealth! Japan must not only be defeated. It is also necessary that this people be brought to desire the elimination of the harmful items in their tradition.

The sacredness and divinity of the Mikado and the cultivation of State Shinto have and will undoubtedly bring great calamities upon Japan and its people. The sacredness of the Mikado has induced this people to obey their government blindly, since criticism of government orders constitutes disobedience to the divine Mikado. The cultivation of Shintoism, with its compliant gods, has immeasurably accentuated this tendency. It has prevented popular opposition, on the part of the Japanese people, to military aggrandizement and military crimes. As a result, Japan must suffer defeat and the destruction, by bombing and military



action, of its fairest cities, its largest factories, and the flower of its manhood. This nation has not only lost the respect of the civilized world. It will also be impoverished for a long time to come. But it is futile to expect the Japanese to recognize and admit openly that their own tradition has brought them into this terrible condition. The Allies must give them special reasons for rejecting the sanctity of their emperor and their belief in the Shinto gods.

For these reasons, it is essential to make plain the violability even of the Mikado. Hirohito must be dethroned. It makes no difference whether he has inclined towards peace or war, since he has been either negligent or powerless to prevent this war. It is the office, not the individual, that is important in Japanese eyes. The essential matter is to remove from the minds of the Japanese people their belief in the sanctity of their emperor. That cannot be done unless the Allies prove to them that they are able to uproot even their divine ruler. The present American practice of refraining from criticizing or blaming or touching in any way the Japanese emperor plays into the hands of nationalistic Japanese. They can declare to their people that even Americans respect and are awed by the inviolable Mikado.

Such a conclusion does not mean that we should drop bombs upon the Imperial Palace and Shinto shrines or injure Hirohito's person. It would be better for us to treat him well than to harm him. We are civilized people, and civilized people do not do such things. If we want the Japanese to apply moral criticism to their own government, we must ourselves give them a good example of civilized conduct, different from the barbarities practised by the Japanese armed forces. We must refrain from harshness and impoliteness as far as feasible, allowing Hirohito to save his face in unimportant matters, while yet remaining inexorably firm.



There is another important reason for requiring, as one of the conditions for peace, the dethronement of Hirohito. This is the fact that, whatever may be his personal opinions, he is yet legally responsible for this war. The declarations of war against us were issued in his name. The Japanese government has mobilized its forces in his name. The Japanese emperor legally is the government. Everything done legally by that government is theoretically the act of the emperor, since the whole bureaucracy is merely his executive arm. He has not interfered with government action, whether because of his negligence or otherwise, but he is yet responsible, for the whole Japanese government and people act for him. No prime minister or government official has the authority to interfere with the acts of the Mikado. If we punish those leaders who have brought on this war and yet do not touch the emperor, in whose name and with whose tacit consent they acted, we will not get to the root of the matter. Such a failure would be considered by the Japanese a piece of Yankee ignorance that would cause intelligent Japanese to believe they can continue to outsmart foreigners. Future emperors would consider that they could throw all responsibility for the acts of the government upon others and escape punishment. Hirohito is plainly guilty of a vast crime in bringing war upon us. He has failed to use his theoretically absolute power to halt his minions' acts. Whether he actually could or could not have stopped them makes no difference. The important fact is that he did not even make a resolute attempt. He has caused us to expend countless wealth and sacrifice thousands of our citizens in order to right the wrongs done by his government. Such a crime against us can be atoned only by his removal.

It is unlikely that the Japanese people will wish to set up a democracy. They will almost surely desire to continue under an imperial rule. If so, we



should probably permit them to have their way. For democracy is not only the highest form of government, but also the most difficult one to run successfully. Democracy requires a degree of good will, of civic righteousness, and of intelligence among the common people that is found in few countries today. We cannot assume that the Japanese people have developed these qualities to the degree requisite for making a democracy work successfully. Even in our own country, democracy creaks and groans. If American democracy produces injustice and inequalities, how can we expect democracy to be successful in every other country? We cannot control Japan forever. If we impose democracy upon Japan, and it turns out to be a failure, so that the Japanese eventually enthrone Hirohito or his descendants, the results will be quite as bad as if he were continued on the throne. The supernatural sanctions that have produced this war will reappear in a revulsion against the failure of democracy and a worse calamity than the present one may easily occur.

Then it is also important to prohibit from occupying the Japanese throne the descendants of Hirohito, together with anyone who could be adopted as his son. In Japan, ancestor worship is highly important. The continuation of a line's honors by its descendants is considered more important than even the life of an individual. In order to prevent the future exaltation of the Mikado who has been responsible for this war, it is important that Hirohito be prevented from being given imperial honors by a descendant who is himself an emperor. Otherwise it will be possible for Japanese publicists to allege that he voluntarily resigned, as indeed several other Japanese emperors have done, and was succeeded by his proper heir. Then the enormity of the calamity he has brought upon his people will not be made abundantly plain to his people.

Present Japanese laws concerning adoption are liberal, but, in common with those of other nations, they prohibit one circumstance -- the adoption of someone who is older than the person making the adoption. Anciently, the Taihō Code



allowed adoptions only of persons within the fourth degree of kinship. Then the successor of Hirohito must be some man older than he and preferably outside the fourth degree of kinship. That eliminates his children and his brothers. It also eliminates all male descendants of the Meiji Emperor, for the male line of this emperor is continued only in Hirohito and his younger brothers. In Japan, descent is reckoned only through natural or adopted sons. There are however some eleven other princely houses authorized by Japanese law to provide a successor to the imperial throne, in default of a more closely related heir. If, as seems likely, the Japanese people wish to continue their ancient imperial line, it should be possible to find among these dozen princes some suitable person. Suitability may be conditioned upon the willingness of the new emperor to proclaim a constitution that ends the control of the military over every possible cabinet, which circumstance is the principal defect in the present Japanese constitution.

The means for making a change in the throne are also available. Art. LIII of the Imperial House Law provides that any member of the Imperial Family who "acts in a way tending to the squandering of his property shall be pronounced incapable." By the time this war is over, Hirohito will be proved to have "squandered" large parts of the empire he inherited from his ancestors. Just as Japanese admirals and generals have been dying in unusual numbers because of Japanese military failures, so Hirohito may be induced to recognize his own fault and voluntarily abdicate<sup>for</sup> himself, his brothers, and his descendants. The acquiescence, in past times, of the Japanese Imperial House to domination by other clans indicates its probable willingness to yield under pressure. Such an act would save Hirohito's face and would probably be preferred by the proud Japanese people to more drastic action. It would moreover ease future relations between Japan and America. If however Hirohito remains recalcitrant, Art. IX of that Law provides that "when any



other weighty cause exists, the order of succession may be changed, with the advice of the Imperial Family Council and with that of the Privy Council." Action in accordance with Japanese forms would be preferable to us and probably preferred by the Japanese Imperial House itself to a dethronement by force majeure.

If it is objected that such action is intervention in the domestic affairs of another nation, it may be replied that war is itself interference in the domestic affairs of a nation and that the Mikado, by declaring war, has brought this situation upon himself. Japan dethroned the Korean royal house. As a result of a complete Japanese defeat, the Japanese Imperial House ought to expect little less. Even the continuance of the Japanese throne in another imperial line would be an act of kindness on the part of the Allies. Indeed, in ending the present Japanese line and setting up a collateral line, the Allies would be acting for the benefit of the Japanese people, in order to spare them another calamity such as the present war.

In addition to taking definite action against Hirohito, the Allies must also take definite steps against State Shinto, which has provided much of the motivation for this war. Fortunately, nature religions are not difficult to overthrow, for they are founded upon empirical considerations, especially upon the ability of their gods to protect and aid their worshippers. A major defeat in warfare, together with the successful invasion of the land they protect or the forced abdication of the divine emperor who is their earthly representative, with his possible heirs, is quite sufficient to cause the people to doubt such helpless gods. More than mere doubt is however needed. These gods must themselves be made to confess their defeat and powerlessness. Only by some overt act of submission on their part can their people be shown plainly how futile is their worship and any reliance upon them.



The ancient Babylonian, Assyrian, and Egyptian conquerors knew how to deal with such nature gods and to make them appear impotent in the eyes of their own people. Whenever such gods were important, these conquerors brought them, in the persons of their idols, to the temple of the conqueror's gods, setting these gods of other peoples in positions where they would be plainly subordinate to the gods of the conquerors. Once that had been done, there could be no doubt concerning the power of the conquered god. Such action was not merely superstition. It was high statecraft, the best means of preventing a rebellion by these conquered peoples relying upon their gods. Such conquered peoples often thereupon adopted the gods of the conquerors as their own gods, since these new gods had been proved to be the more powerful ones. The humiliation and subjection of defeated gods was in ancient times a regular practise, because of its proved effectiveness. It was the surest way to discredit these gods completely.

For a Christian people, professing an advanced religion, crudely to perform such an act, may however seem silly. It would be useless against an advanced religion. The Hebrew ark, which enshrined their God, and which had already disappeared before the destruction of the First Temple by Nebuchadnezzar, was probably carried off by Pharoah Necho after he defeated Josiah in 609 B.C. But its absence did not make the Hebrews cease worshipping their God, for they had already developed their religion into an advanced one. Against a purely nature religion, like State Shinto, no act could however be more effective than to remove its gods.

The Shinto gods are not enshrined in images. Idols, as the seats or shintai of gods, were first brought to Japan by Buddhism. Shinto preserved the earlier practise of locating its gods in aniconic objects. The Three Sacred Treasures of Japan, the transfer of which is the most essential feature of the imperial coronation, are a mirror, a sword, and a stone necklace. The mirror is the shintai



or habitation of Amaterasu Omikami, the Sun-goddess. She is supposed to dwell and be located therein. The other two Treasures also contain deities. These objects are kept wrapped up and have never been shown to any ordinary person.

State Shinto has been officially declared by the Japanese government to be non-religious. Consequently it will not theoretically be any interference with religion for the Allies to demand that these Three Sacred Treasures be loaned temporarily to the Allies, for the purpose of displaying these art treasures at the great museums of the Allies under proper safeguards, where they can be made accessible, photographed, and examined by experts. They should be shipped from Japan, not on a battleship, but on an ordinary freighter, to indicate that they are merely art objects. One of the places where they should be exhibited is at the national American temple, the shrine of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington and the similar shrine at London. These Japanese treasures should there be photographed unwrapped and in a position lower than the sarcophagus of the Unknown Soldier. This photograph should be published widely in Japan, for the common people to see. If an international center is established, these Three Sacred Treasures might also be exhibited in appropriate postures before that center, to indicate the subordination of these deities to international ideals. Thereafter these objects should be returned to Japan. We do not want to loot Japan of its indigenous art objects. We merely want to make them available to the civilized world.

The Japanese prize these objects so much that it is likely an attempt will be made to hide them and substitute others. Some Japanese will be sure to say that this has been done, whether or not a substitution is actually made. Unless we can be reasonably sure that we have the genuine objects, they should not be displayed at Arlington. A duplicate of the Ise mirror is kept at the shrine in the Imperial Palace, Tokyo, where the Sun-goddess is also worshipped. This latter



mirror too should be secured. If the Japanese government authoritatively declares that <sup>what</sup> we have are authentic, we should accept its word. For if that declaration is made and we return these objects to Japan, even though we have not actually possessed the genuine objects, yet the ones we return must be installed in the shrines and worshipped, while the genuine ones must disappear and cease to be worshipped officially, or else be later discovered and turned over to us. If we can compel the Japanese to act as if we have had the genuine objects, it makes little difference whether we actually had them or not.

In all this procedure, nothing need be said about religion, for, by Japanese admission, State Shinto is not a religion. Consequently there is nothing religious about these Three Sacred Treasures. Nothing derogatory need be said about or done to these objects. But the Japanese people will quickly see the point. Their greatest deity, Amaterasu Omikami, has gone to the capitals of the victorious Allies, and has there acknowledged her subordination to the power of these countries. In Japan, her divinity and power will be discredited and her cult, together with the influence of State Shinto, will cease to be important. The flamboyant chauvinism that has been characteristic of Japan will thereby be given a mortal blow. Indeed, no greater moral effect could be produced upon the Japanese masses than by these two measures, the abdication of Hirohito and his line, together with the temporary removal of the most important Shinto cult objects and their control by other countries. Japanese ultra-patriotism can only be dealt with by removing its support in the minds of the people. Fortunately, in Japan, that support is physically accessible. Ancient oriental monarchs knew how to treat such cults. We shall not do amiss by following their example, but in a civilized manner.



ACTION COPY

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
INCOMING TELEGRAM

ACTION: FE

INFO:

S RMS-S

U

C

A-B

SPA

SA

SA/N

DC/L-C

ITP

FC-14

SD-2

OIC

INI

OPI

PL

DC/R

2789

PLAIN

Moscow via War

Dated December 8, 1945

Rec'd 12:45 p.m.

Action	JA
Information	
FE	/
CA	
JA	/
SEA	
PI	/

Secretary of State

Washington

4098, December eighth.

FOR ACHESON ACTING POLITICAL ADVISER.

Press December 8 carried Tass NY item picking up AP Tokyo

correspondent's story commenting negatively on Shidehara's statement

in Japanese Parliament that Emperor was not responsible for war.

Correspondent is cited to effect that Emperor was present before war

at at least two secret conferences regarding plans for war against

Britain and US. At conference of Sept 6 according to story, govt

persuaded militarists of necessity of beginning preparation for war

only in mid-October. At other conference Emperor did not protest

against military. Story cites General Mission regarding second

conference.

Reported Chungking 234, Frankfurt and Tokyo.

LMS

PLAIN



*SS*  
*12/10/45*  
*No dist*

MESSAGE SIGHT  
DEC 9 6 1945  
DEC 1 2 1945

894.001/12-845



FORM DS-516  
5-13-47

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
CHARGE SLIP

FILE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT	CHARGE TO-	DATE OF CHARGE
894.001/9-2745	FE - Memo by Vincent	L Lowe	11/16/57



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
CHARGE SLIP

FILE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT	CHARGE TO-	DATE OF CHARGE	CLERK'S INITIALS
01/9-2745	FE - Memo by Vincent	L Lowe	11/16/57	V m w







**TOP SECRET**

DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS CHARGED  
(Subject, file number or title, type of document, and date, security classification, number of items, etc.)

OFFICE AND PERSON  
TO WHOM CHARGED

DATE OF CHARGE AND  
BY WHOM CHARGED

782.5/1-2954

HD

Lambert

6-14-57

Tel. 784 fr. Ankara

record copy



*8/12 pa.*  
*London Bowles -*  
*Any action necessary by*  
*Mr. Benton?*

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA, ILLINOIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

AUG 12 3 09 PM '46 August 10, 1946

OFFICE OF  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
STATE DEPARTMENT

REC'D OCCUPIED AREAS DIVISION  
(ADD)  
AUG 14 1946  
Department of State

*ATC*  
*uraw*

Mr. William Benton  
Assistant Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bill:

On August 6 I received the following message:

"IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD HAS DECIDED ON VINING REPEAT  
VINING. MAKING NECESSARY PREPARATIONS THIS END.  
REQUEST INFORMATION SOONEST ON VINING ACCEPTANCE.  
LETTER FOLLOWS AIRMAIL."

Thereupon I got in touch with Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining,  
one of the two I had nominated for the position of tutor  
to the Crown Prince Akihito in accordance with the  
Emperor's request during the visit of the United States  
Mission to Japan, and received her oral acceptance in  
accordance with the arrangements which had been agreed  
upon previously. I spent several hours with Mrs. Vining  
in Albany and was impressed with her extraordinary  
qualities of mind and spirit. Dr. Rufus Jones of  
Haverford, Pennsylvania, could tell you about her, and  
you will find that leading Quakers regard her highly.  
Attached is a brief curriculum vitae concerning her.

On August 8 I received the following message  
from Nugent (Colonel D. R. Nugent, Chief, Civil Informa-  
tion and Education Section, CHQ, SCAP, APO 500, San  
Francisco, California):

"SIGNAL SENT WARCAD 11 JULY 2 07541 ADVISED  
DECISION ON VINING LETTER TO YOU FOLLOWED ANOTHER  
SIGNAL SENT WARCAD 6 AUGUST 2 12018 SAME MESSAGE  
SUGGEST YOU CONTACT WARCAD."

This message is not clear since I do not know the meaning  
of the code word warcad.

Mrs. Vining's address until August 26 is  
Box 251, New London, New Hampshire. Thereafter it is  
6347 Wayne Avenue, Philadelphia 44, Pennsylvania.

The second candidate I had recommended, with-  
out making any choice as between the two, was  
Miss Mildred A. Chaplin, a teacher of extraordinary  
ability at the University of Hawaii. At present she is

15  
HMK

894.001/8-1046

894.001/8-1046  
CS/H



Mr. William Benton - 2

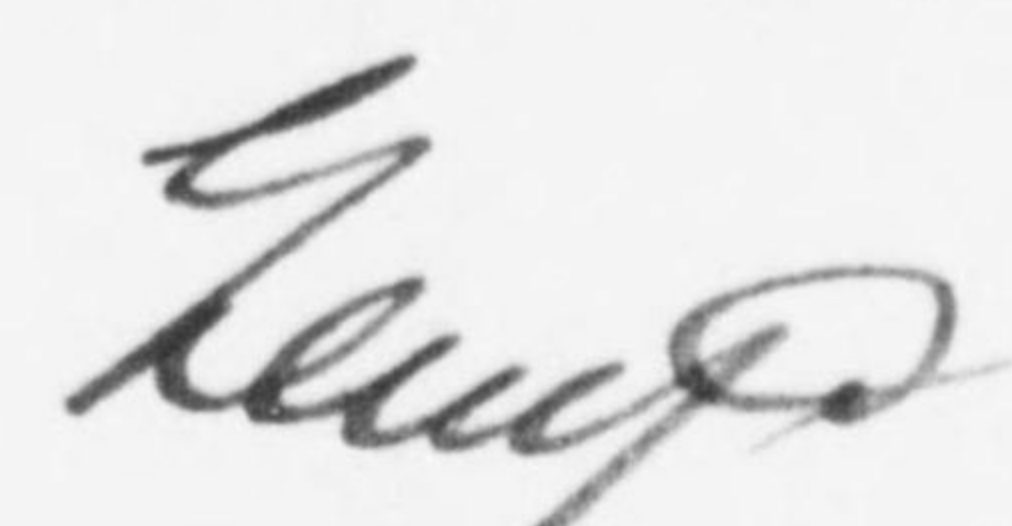
August 10, 1946

on a vacation leave visiting her parents in Waterloo, Iowa, and I am informing her by letter of the decision to take the other candidate.

There is no publicity from these sources, and I have informed Mrs. Vining that she should wait upon word from Tokyo or through channels.

With personal greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
George D. Stoddard  
President

Enclosures

Airmail Special Delivery



COPY

Charge to the account of

\$

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

# WESTERN UNION

1217

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

C46 GOVT DL PD WUX CHICAGO ILL 6 642A August 6, 1946

**WANT A REPLY?**  
"Answer by WESTERN UNION"  
or similar phrases may be  
included without charge.

DR. GEORGE STODDARD, PRESIDENT  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA, ILLINOIS

TO WARGA R R QYM GR EST 63CGR BO PAREN PASS TO DOCT GEORGE STODDARD  
CVW PRESIDENT CMA UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS CMA URBANA CMA ILLINOIS PD  
PAREN /B-12018/ OURAD ZEBRA NAUGHT EVEN FIVE FOUR ONE ONE ONE JULY  
STATED IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD HAS DECIDED ON VINING REPEAT VINING PD  
MAKING NECESSARY PREPARATIONS THIS END PD REQUEST INFO SOONEST ON  
VINING ACCEPTANCE ND EASY TARE DOG PD LETTER FOLLOWS AIRMAIL D=  
WAR 0610072 CINCAFPAC 060825.

DC/R  
Anal 15  
REV

FD 894.001/8-1046



**ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:**

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeated message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeated message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this Company as follows:

1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeated-message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, unless specially valued; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines.
2. In any event the Company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the actual loss, not exceeding in any event the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount the sender of each message represents that the message is valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one per cent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.
3. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.
4. Except as otherwise indicated in connection with the listing of individual places in the filed tariffs of the Company, the amount paid for the transmission of a domestic telegram or an incoming cable or radio message covers its delivery within the following limits: In cities or towns of 5,000 or more inhabitants where the Company has an office which, as shown by the filed tariffs of the Company, is not operated through the agency of a railroad company, within two miles of any open main or branch office of the Company; in cities or towns of 5,000 or more inhabitants where, as shown by the filed tariffs of the Company, the telegraph service is performed through the agency of a railroad company, within one mile of the telegraph office; in cities or towns of less than 5,000 inhabitants in which an office of the Company is located, within one-half mile of the telegraph office. Beyond the limits above specified the Company does not undertake to make delivery, but will endeavor to arrange for delivery as the agent of the sender, with the understanding that the sender authorizes the collection of any additional charge from the addressee and agrees to pay such additional charge if it is not collected from the addressee. There will be no additional charge for deliveries made by telephone within the corporate limits of any city or town in which an office of the Company is located.
5. No responsibility attaches to this Company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.
6. The Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in the case of any message except an intrastate message in Texas where the claim is not presented in writing to the Company within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission, and in the case of an intrastate message in Texas the Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties where the claim is not presented in writing to the Company within ninety-five days after the cause of action, if any, shall have accrued; provided, however, that neither of these conditions shall apply to claims for damages or overcharges within the purview of Section 415 of the Communications Act of 1934.
7. It is agreed that in any action by the Company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.
8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.
9. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

12-40

**CLASSES OF SERVICE**

**DOMESTIC SERVICES**

**TELEGRAMS**

A full-rate expedited service.

**DAY LETTERS**

A deferred service at lower than the standard telegram rates.

**SERIALS**

Messages sent in sections during the same day.

**OVERNIGHT TELEGRAMS**

Accepted up to 2 A.M. for delivery not earlier than the following morning at rates substantially lower than the standard telegram or day letter rates.

**SHIP RADIOGRAMS**

A service to ships at sea, in all parts of the world. Plain language or code language may be used.

**CABLE SERVICES**

**ORDINARIES**

The standard service, at full rates. Code messages, consisting of 5-letter groups only, at a lower rate.

**DEFERREDS**

Plain-language messages, subject to being deferred in favor of full-rate messages.

**NIGHT LETTERS**

Overnight plain-language messages.

**URGENTS**

Messages taking precedence over all other messages except government messages.

**THERE IS A SPECIAL LOW-RATE WESTERN UNION SERVICE FOR EVERY SOCIAL NEED**

Telegrams of the categories listed at the right, to any Western Union destination in the United States

TELEGRAMS OF PRESCRIBED FIXED TEXT	— — — — —	<b>25¢</b>
TELEGRAMS OF SENDER'S OWN COMPOSITION. First 15 words	— — — — —	<b>35¢</b>
LOCAL CITY TELEGRAMS	— — — — —	<b>20¢</b>
<b>TOURATE TELEGRAMS, for TRAVELERS. First 15 words</b>	<b>— — — — —</b>	<b>35¢</b>
<small>(Additional Words, 2 1/2¢ each)</small>		

- GREETINGS AT**
- Christmas
  - New Year
  - Easter
  - Valentine's Day
  - Mother's Day
  - Father's Day
  - Jewish New Year
  - Thanksgiving
- CONGRATULATIONS ON**
- Anniversaries
  - Weddings
  - Birthdays
  - Commencement
  - Birth of a Child
- MISCELLANEOUS**
- Bon Voyage telegrams
  - "Pep" telegrams
  - Kiddiegrams (No 35¢ rate)

**ASK AT ANY WESTERN UNION OFFICE OR AGENCY FOR FULL INFORMATION**



COPY

Charge to the account of

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

# WESTERN UNION

1217

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

C22 INTL=F TOKYO VIA PREWI 38 8 105P

August 8, 1946

**WANT A REPLY?**  
"Answer by WESTERN UNION"  
or similar phrases may be  
included without charge.

VLT DR. GEORGE STODDARD  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA, ILLINOIS

SIGNAL SENT WARCAD 11 JULY 2 07541 ADVISED DECISION ON VINING  
LETTER TO YOU FOLLOWED ANOTHER SIGNAL SENT WARCAD 6 AUGUST 2  
12018 SAME MESSAGE SUGGEST YOU CONTACT WARCAD = NUGENT.

WARCAD 11 2 07541 VINING WARCAD 6 2 12018 WARCAD.

FW 894.0011/8-1046



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12-40

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**NIGHT LETTERS**

Overnight plain-language messages.

**URGENTS**

Messages taking precedence over all other messages except government messages.

**CABLE SERVICES**



For your  
confidential information

Mr. William Benton

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA, ILLINOIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 10, 1946

Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining  
Box 251  
New London, New Hampshire

Dear Mrs. Vining:

I am glad to have your note of August 7.

The uncoded portion of the cable which I received from the Commander in Chief AFPAC reads:

"IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD HAS DECIDED ON VINING REPEAT VINING. MAKING NECESSARY PREPARATIONS THIS END. REQUEST INFORMATION SOONEST ON VINING ACCEPTANCE. LETTER FOLLOWS AIRMAIL."

The cable was received here August 6. After talking to you on the telephone, I cabled General Headquarters, Supreme Commander Allied Powers, Tokyo, as follows:

"ELIZABETH GRAY VINING ACCEPTS. HER ADDRESS NEW LONDON NEW HAMPSHIRE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1. AIRMAIL FOLLOWS."

I am now sending an airmail letter of confirmation with address and vital data. Also, I am informing the State Department although I expect they have the messages.

I feel that this is a happy culmination of the first phase of this dramatic assignment, and I have every confidence in your ability to carry through in a devoted and distinguished manner. As I said over the telephone there will be some publicity attached to all this, but I believe it will be sympathetic and restrained. In any case, the first break must come from Tokyo.

With greetings and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

George D. Stoddard  
President

15  
Airmail

FW 894 001 / 8-1046



Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining  
6347 Wayne Avenue  
Philadelphia 44, Pennsylvania

Born Germantown, Philadelphia, October 6, 1902

Germantown Friends School, 1919

A.B. Bryn Mawr College, cum laude, 1923

Did private tutoring. Taught English Composition at Ogontz School for Girls, Rydal, Pennsylvania.

B.S. In Library Science, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, 1926

Taught Library Science in Summer School, University of North Carolina, 1929, 1930

Married Morgan Vining, Associate Director Extension Division, University of North Carolina, 1929. He was killed in an automobile accident in 1933.

Under name Elizabeth Janet Gray author of eleven books for children and young people, including Adam of the Road, (Newberry Award, 1943), Sandy (Herald Tribune Spring Book Prize, 1945), Penn, Young Walter Scott, etc.

Associated with American Friends Service Committee, 1945-46.

Member of Germantown Monthly Meeting of Friends.



→ ADO - Bowles

August 20, 1946

Dear George:

It was good of you to have taken so much time to select the two candidates for the position as tutor to the crown prince. Both of the candidates appear to have been excellent choices and I gather from your letter of August 10 that the Imperial Household in deciding upon Mrs. Vining accepted your judgment as to their suitability without question.

As you know, I am keenly interested in this particular matter because undoubtedly the future Emperor will reflect the influence of his American tutor in the years to come.

*gent.* As to the meaning of WARCAD, this is a contraction of War Civil Affairs Division. I presume this Division has already been notified of the decision reached in Japan. As to publicity, it seems to me that the usual news channels will give adequate prominence to Mrs. Vining's appointment both here and in Japan.

Very sincerely yours,

William Benton

*Since the details of travel from the War Dept. will be the responsibility of the War Dept. I suggest that you write direct to the Civ. Aff. Bureau of the War Dept. regarding this matter.*

*I believe it is appropriate for me to see you for this release work. The tutor was through my office that the appointment of Mrs. Vining should also be made here.*

Dr. George D. Stoddard,  
President,  
University of Illinois,  
Urbana, Illinois.

ADO:GTBowles  
A-B:MKG

*By the way*  
I am enclosing a copy of the release in case you fail to see it in the press.

EW 894.001 / 8-10-46

15



STANDARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A-B - Miss Curran

DATE: August 15, 1946

FROM : ADO - Mr. Bowles

AUG 16 9 51 AM '46

SUBJECT: Reply to Letter from Dr. George Stoddard

OFFICE OF  
STATE DEPARTMENT  
A-B

I would suggest a personal reply from Mr. Benton to Dr. Stoddard somewhat along the following lines:

"Dear George:

It was good of you to have taken so much time to select the two candidates for the position as tutor to the crown prince. Both of the candidates appear to have been excellent choices and I gather from your letter of August 10 that the Imperial Household in deciding upon Mrs. Vining accepted your judgment as to their suitability without question.

As you know, I am keenly interested in this particular matter because undoubtedly the future Emperor will reflect the influence of his American tutor in the years to come.

As to the meaning of WARCAD, this is a contraction of War Civil Affairs Division. I presume this Division has already been notified of the decision reached in Japan. As to publicity, it seems to me that the usual news channels will give adequate prominence to Mrs. Vining's appointment both here and in Japan."

If you think Mr. Benton will want to give this some publicity through Department channels, we could prepare a short press release.

*GC. Prepare  
as letter to WBC's  
A-B*

*FIU 894.001/8-1046*

DCR  
15

ADO:GTB<sup>BTB</sup>Bowles:mbv

8/15/46



STANDARD FORM NO. 64

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A-B - Miss Curran

DATE: August 22, 1946

FROM : ADO - Mr. Bowles

AUG 23 11 39 AM '46

SUBJECT: Reply to Letter from *Dr. George Stoddard*OFFICE OF  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
STATE DEPARTMENT  
A-B

In place of the previous, I would suggest:

"Dear George:

It was good of you to have taken so much time to select the two candidates for the position as tutor to the crown prince. Both of the candidates appear to have been excellent choices and I gather from your letter of August 10 that the Imperial Household in deciding upon Mrs. Vining accepted your judgment as to their suitability without question.

As you know, I am keenly interested in this particular matter because undoubtedly the future Emperor will reflect the influence of his American tutor in the years to come.

As to the meaning of WARCAD, this is a contraction of War Department, Civil Affairs Division. Since the financial arrangements and other details will have to be handled through the War Department, I suggest that you inform the Civil Affairs Division of Mrs. Vining's selection, in accordance with the proposal from Tokyo, and request the Division to take the necessary steps to see that she gets off. I believe this will be sufficient since we can brief the officers here on the background of the project.

Concerning publicity, I am having a statement issued immediately in accordance with your desires. It seems to be appropriate to do this, since the initial release about the tutor in this country was made while you were in Washington. I am asking that a copy be sent you in case you fail to see it in the press.

Sincerely yours,

William Benton"

ADO: <sup>mb</sup>GTBowles:mbv

8/22/46

FW 894.001/8-1046

DD/	
Anal	15
Rev	
Ex	



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
—  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

8/21  
P.A.

8/21/46

ADO - Mr. Bowles

As requested, I am returning the file  
on Mrs. Vining, for further changes.

AC

A. T. Curran  
A-B



8/20  
p.a.

AUGUST 20/46

URGENT

GORDON BOWLES:

I HAVE YOUR SUGGESTED LETTER TO  
STODDARD AND AM GETTING IT TYPED FOR WB'S SIGNATURE.

HOWEVER, NOTE THE ATTACHED. WB WILL WANT SOME  
INSTRUCTION FROM YOU ON WHETHER OR NOT YOU  
THINK THE RELEASE SHOULD GO OUT FROM HERE.  
IF NOT, WE'D BETTER ADD A LINE TO BETTER TO  
STODDARD, DONTCHA THINK?

ATCURRAN

DIR OCCUPIED AREAS DIVISION  
(ADD)  
AUG 20 1946  
Department of State

FW 794001/8-1646

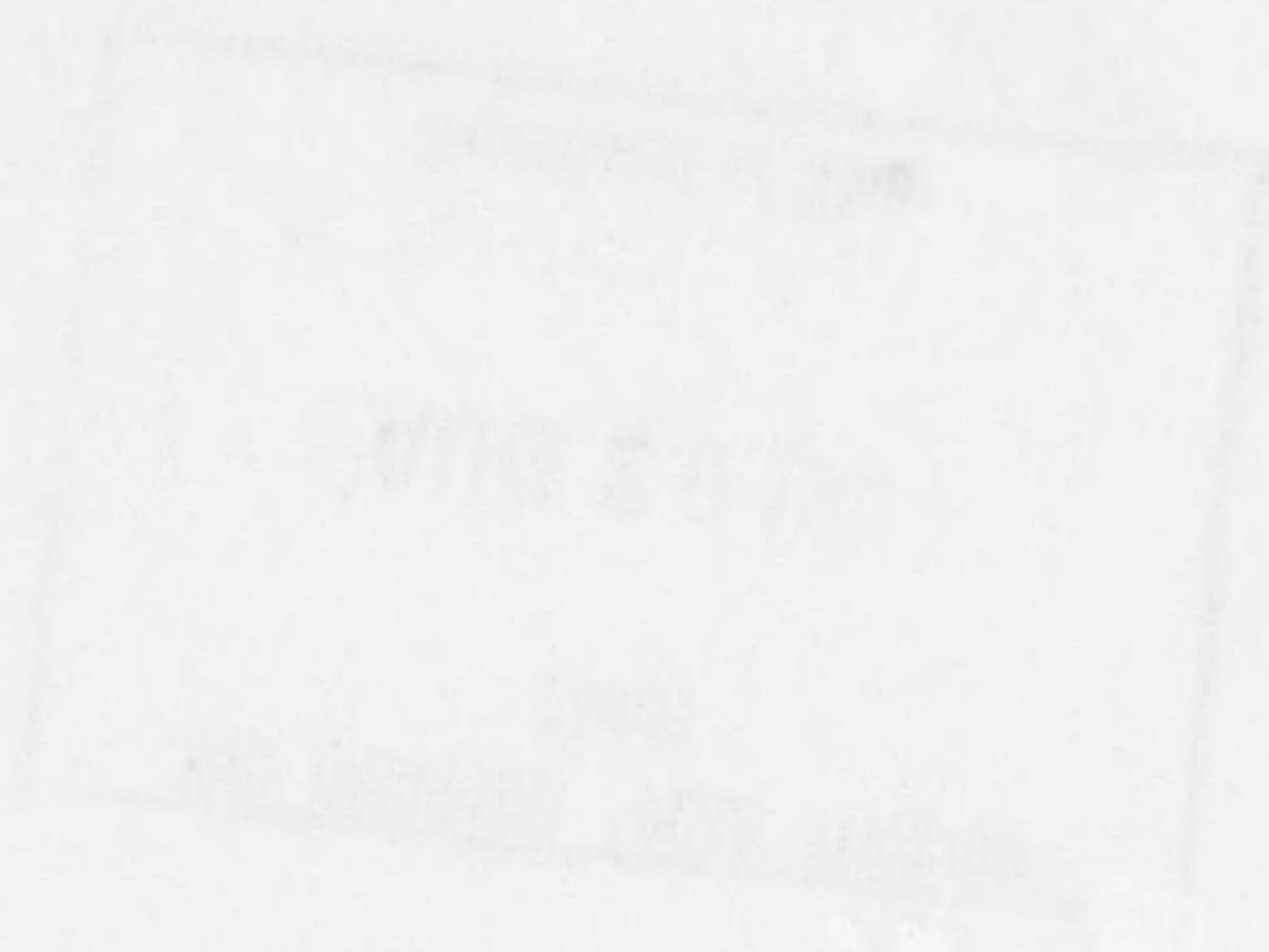
*Gordon*  
*Bowles*



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

AUG 20 10 18 AM '46

OFFICE OF  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
STATE DEPARTMENT



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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA, ILLINOIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

AUG 19 9 22 AM August 16, 1946

OFFICE OF  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
DEPARTMENT

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8/27*

DIS OCCUPIED AREAS DIVISION  
(ADD)  
AUG 20 1946  
Department of State

Mr. William Benton  
Assistant Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bill:

The attached copy of a letter from Colonel D. R. Nugent is self-explanatory. Also enclosed is my letter to Mrs. Vining. A short time ago I sent to you some vital statistics on Mrs. Vining which will be of interest in any press release.

Will you now take this over and make a suitable public announcement? I would suggest that everything be released except the paragraph describing the financial arrangements. What they really amount to is that Mrs. Vining will have \$2,000 net above all expenses of travel and living. I would not regard this as an item as appropriate for public discussion.

If for any reason you prefer not to have the press announcement come from your office, please let me know at once. I feel that we cannot hold this any longer.

With personal greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Stoddard*  
George D. Stoddard  
President

Enclosures

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

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*Wm Benton*

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CS/H



FOR YOUR  
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION  
G.D.S.

Mr. William Benton

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA, ILLINOIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 16, 1946

Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining  
Box 251  
New London, New Hampshire

Dear Mrs. Vining:

Attached is a copy of a letter just received from Colonel D. R. Nugent which is self-explanatory. I note that full arrangements are being made for your comfort while in Tokyo. Certainly these persons and facilities will do much to make your stay a pleasant one. Also, I should not worry about the particular assignment of \$1,000 for personal expenses and \$1,000 for annual salary. This is just a matter of bookkeeping since you will receive the sum of \$2,000 clear in accordance with the previous arrangement. Let us hope, however, that you have little better luck with a house than Anna had at Siam upon first arrival!

I am sending this confirmation to Mr. William Benton, Assistant Secretary of State, with a suggestion that he prepare a public announcement at this time. As you know, I have been pressed for it but have kept all this in confidence. It seems to me that it can scarcely be kept longer.

With personal greetings and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

George D. Stoddard  
President

Enclosure

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C O P Y

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
Civil Information and Education Section

5 August 1946

Dr. George D. Stoddard  
President, University of Illinois  
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Dr. Stoddard:

This letter is to confirm the recent cable to you from this office indicating the selection of Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining as tutor for the Crown Prince.

This Section has been informed by representatives of the Imperial Household department that Mrs. Vining will be a non-staff member of the Imperial Household Ministry and will be under the superintendence of the Minister of that department.

A residence which will provide suitable facilities for the personal comfort of Mrs. Vining is being prepared. The Imperial Household department will be responsible for the furnishing of servants, heat, gas, electricity, food, and an automobile. A personal secretary will also be provided. With respect to all such personal arrangements, the Imperial Household Minister himself will be responsible.

The financial arrangements are as follows:

\$500 for travel expense from the  
United States to Japan  
\$1,000 for personal expenses (entirely  
personal)  
\$1,000 for annual salary

This office is arranging with the proper SCAP authorities to make these sums available to Mrs. Vining in dollars.

Mrs. Vining's primary duty will be the education of the Crown Prince. However, it is also expected that she will serve as a lecturer at the Peers School which the Crown Prince attends as an ordinary student in the Middle School Department. Attendance of the several princesses as well as the Crown Prince at recreational periods at Mrs. Vining's home and occasional meals taken together

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EW 874 001 / 8-1646



will be part of the program. Exact details concerning these matters, however, will be decided after the arrival of Mrs. Vining and with consideration given to her ideas on these matters.

Mrs. Vining should be informed that a British educator, Mr. Blythe, and several Japanese tutors will participate in the education of the Crown Prince, and she may expect to coordinate her program with the activities of this group.

We appreciate your interest and your cooperation in this matter and we hope that you will not hesitate to ask for any additional information which might be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

(S) D. R. Nugent

D. R. NUGENT  
Lt. Col., USMC  
Chief, C I & E Section



STANDARD FORM NO. 64

*Office Memorandum* · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: August 23, 1946

TO : A-B - Miss Curran **AUG 26 11 55 AM '46**

FROM : ADO - <sup>GTB</sup>Mr. Bowles  
OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
STATE DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: Attached Letters  
A-B

In accordance with the letter to Dr. Stoddard about Mrs. Vining's appointment as tutor, I would suggest that it would not be inappropriate for A-B to send the attached letters to Major Simmons of the Civil Affairs Division, who will be responsible for a number of the details connected with Mrs. Vining's departure. This might save a few days in getting Mrs. Vining under way.

*FW 894.001/8-16-46*

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ADO:GTBowles:mbv

8/23/46



FOR YOUR  
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION  
G.D.S. *g*

Mr. Gordon Bowles

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA, ILLINOIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 16, 1946

Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining  
Box 251  
New London, New Hampshire

Dear Mrs. Vining:

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With personal greetings and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

George D. Stoddard  
President

Enclosure



C O P Y

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
Civil Information and Education Section

5 August 1946

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We appreciate your interest and your cooperation in this matter and we hope that you will not hesitate to ask for any additional information which might be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

(S) D. R. Nugent

D. R. NUGENT  
Lt. Col., USMC  
Chief, C I & E Section



FOR YOUR  
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Mr. Gordon Bowles

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA, ILLINOIS

August 10, 1946

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining  
Box 251  
New London, New Hampshire

Dear Mrs. Vining:

I am glad to have your note of August 7.

The uncoded portion of the cable which I received from the Commander in Chief AFPAC reads:

"IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD HAS DECIDED ON VINING REPEAT VINING. MAKING NECESSARY PREPARATIONS THIS END. REQUEST INFORMATION SOONEST ON VINING ACCEPTANCE. LETTER FOLLOWS AIRMAIL."

The cable was received here August 6. After talking to you on the telephone, I cabled General Headquarters, Supreme Commander Allied Powers, Tokyo, as follows:

"ELIZABETH GRAY VINING ACCEPTS. HER ADDRESS NEW LONDON NEW HAMPSHIRE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1. AIRMAIL FOLLOWS."

I am now sending an airmail letter of confirmation with address and vital data. Also, I am informing the State Department although I expect they have the messages.

I feel that this is a happy culmination of the first phase of this dramatic assignment, and I have every confidence in your ability to carry through in a devoted and distinguished manner. As I said over the telephone there will be some publicity attached to all this, but I believe it will be sympathetic and restrained. In any case, the first break must come from Tokyo.

With greetings and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

George D. Stoddard  
President

Airmail



## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

## ASSISTANT SECRETARY

April 7, 1947

Mr. Conger

Attached are several miscellaneous papers on my recent efforts to obtain transportation for Dr. Rhee and secretary back to Korea. Since he has left, it is requested that these be filed.

W. M. Cameron







THE NEW YORK TIMES  
April 3, 1947

## RHEE GETS PASSAGE FOR TRIP TO KOREA

State Department Acts After  
War Department Refuses  
Space on Army Planes

By **BERTRAM D. HULEN**

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, April 2—The State Department today, assisted Dr. Syngman Rhee, leader of the South Korean Democratic League, to obtain passage to return to Korea by way of China after the War Department had told him there was no space for him on Air Transport Command planes.

Dr. Rhee had planned to leave today with an assistant by Army plane. When this was not available he appealed to the State Department, which obtained passage for him and his assistant on a commercial plane. His return to Korea will follow closely upon that of Lieut. Gen. John R. Hodge, the American military commander in southern Korea, who has conducted consultations here on Korean policy in recent weeks.

Dr. Rhee has attacked the American administration in Korea, charged that General Hodge had favored Leftists, and demanded that both American and Russian troops withdraw so that an independent Korea could be established. Recently he predicted that an "Interim Independent Government" would be set up in Korea within thirty to sixty days and that a civilian high commissioner would replace our military governor.

A vigorous leader in Korean politics and an anti-Communist, Dr. Rhee has been here for some time, expressing views often critical of the United States. However, the State Department decided to interpose no objection to his return to Korea. The indications were that the War Department felt differently. No one would comment specifically on the apparent divergence of views between the two departments.

Dr. Rhee said that he had assurances from the War Department when he came to this country that passage would be provided for his return to Korea at any time. However, he found early this week that ATC passage was not and would not be available. He then appealed to the State Department, where officials at a high level decided to facilitate his return.

This represented something of a change of position from last week when the War Department took up the matter at a medium level with the State Department and was told no objection would be interposed if the Army felt that Dr. Rhee should not be accommodated with passage space. However, the matter did not reach the top level of State Department officials at that time, it was said.



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After the State Department had obtained the commercial passage, Howard C. Petersen, Assistant Secretary of War, issued the following statement:

"Dr. Rhee is a prominent Korean citizen who has been here on a mission of his own undertaking. In the judgment of the War Department there was not sufficient urgency about his return to Korea to warrant the use of military transportation. Military transportation is afforded only rarely for non-United States Governmental use and only under urgent conditions. Moreover, when commercial facilities are available it is War Department policy not to supply military transportation.

"I understand that Dr. Rhee is not returning directly to Korea but is first going to China. I am not aware of the nature of his business in China nor do I have any knowledge of War Department interest in it. Commercial transportation either by boat or commercial airplane is available for this trip.

"I understand that it is Dr. Rhee's present intention to return by available commercial air transportation. The initial approval of military transportation for Dr. Rhee was erroneously given. Inasmuch as it was contrary to our policy in such matters, I revoked it when it came to my attention."



CONFIDENTIAL

FMSS/P&PGp/P&O Div  
Lt Colonel Dupuy/2283  
1 April 1947

*Mr. Gross*

*278*

*State Dept*

*Jansi - cap. 11795  
Senat. Atkins →*

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

SUBJECT: Return of Syngman Rhee to Korea by Government Transportation

1. During General Hodge's visit to the United States from Korea the question of the possible return of Syngman Rhee to the Far East by Government airplane was discussed. General Hodge stated on several occasions and quite emphatically that it would be extremely unfortunate if Syngman Rhee were to receive Government air transportation back to Korea and that it would contain political implications, and be a matter of face amongst Koreans, out of all proportion to the actual favor granted Rhee by giving him such transportation. General Hodge made this statement to me and to others in my presence. Amongst those to whom this statement was made were Mr. Williams of the State Department, and Colonel Munson, then of the Intelligence Division, now in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War. On the basis on these statements by General Hodge, I called Lt Colonel Muir of the Pacific Section and requested him to take such steps as he thought were required to assure that no air priority would be given to Doctor Rhee. I also called Colonel McCarthy of Mr. Petersen's office, who assured me that Mr. Petersen's office did not authorize air transportation for Doctor Rhee.

2. During the afternoon of March 31 it was brought to my attention that Doctor Rhee had received an air priority and was scheduled to leave Washington on an Air Transport Command plane on the morning of 1 April. Lt Colonel Muir was informed and steps were taken to see that Syngman Rhee's air priority was cancelled. I understand that Lt Colonel Bagstad of the Operations Group of P&O made arrangements with Lt Colonel Veath (or some similar name) of ATC to cancel the reservation. Colonel Veath assured Colonel Bagstad, and later assured me that he would see to it personally that Doctor Rhee did not leave by plane on the morning of 1 April.

THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE RETURNED TO THE FILE ROOM/RM/R CENTRAL FILES

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3. Investigation on the afternoon of March 31 indicated that Doctor Rhee had obtained his reservation and priority through Major Simmons of CAD. I called Major Simmons who said that he had authority for Doctor Rhee's transportation from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War. On close questioning Major Simmons admitted that he had nothing in writing from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War, and that he had not personally checked with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War but had operated on the basis of a note which his stenographer had left on his desk which he had construed as authority from Colonel McCarthy of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War to get in touch with a Doctor Oliver regarding air transportation for Syngman Rhee. Simmons said that he called Doctor Oliver and arranged for the transportation of Doctor Rhee and his secretary to Korea by ATC plane. It is understood that Doctor Rhee was even granted a 35 pound overweight allowance.

4. A call to Colonel Munson in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War revealed that no one in the Assistant Secretary of War's Office from Mr. Petersen on down had authorized air transportation for Syngman Rhee. Colonel Munson stated that he had discussed this with Major Schimkus, who is his Executive and formerly Colonel McCarthy's Executive in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War. It appears that Doctor Oliver called Mr. Petersen's office and in the absence of Colonel McCarthy, asked Major Schimkus to authorize air transportation for Syngman Rhee to Korea. It is understood that Major Schimkus informed Doctor Oliver that Mr. Petersen's office did not handle matters of this sort and referred him to the appropriate office in the Civil Affairs Division.

5. Later in the afternoon it was determined that ATC had not informed Doctor Rhee that his transportation had been cancelled, and claimed that they had no way of getting in touch with him. It then being approximately 1800, and most War Department offices being closed for the day, I decided that in order to prevent embarrassment at the air field on the morning of

CONFIDENTIAL  
- 2 -



CONFIDENTIAL

1 April, and in all fairness to Doctor Rhee, that he should be informed that his transportation had been cancelled. I called his room at the Carlton Hotel, and informed his secretary. I gave no reason for the cancellation, but on her request I gave her my name and office telephone number. At about 2000 I received a call at my home from former Lt Colonel Preston Goodfellow, who has had a very close, and somewhat questionable, relationship with Doctor Rhee. Colonel Goodfellow inquired why the transportation had been cancelled. I also gave him a non-committal answer and told him that Doctor Rhee would be informed of the details in the morning.

6. Telephone discussion with Colonel Chard, Executive of CAD, on the morning of 1 April indicated that CAD intended to tell Doctor Rhee that his transportation had been cancelled because of traffic difficulties. I informed Colonel Chard that it was my opinion that such an excuse could be easily refuted and that it should be based on policy considerations. Colonel Chard then stated that CAD would inform Doctor Rhee of any reason which P&O wanted but that CAD must have definite policy guidance on the record from P&O.

7. Colonel Combs, Deputy of P&P Group, agreed with me that Doctor Rhee should not be given the excuse of a traffic difficulty, but that it should be based on a policy basis. It was Colonel Combs' view that the policy which has been adhered to, and which should be referred to in this case, is that foreign politicians cannot be given War Department transportation without policy guidance from the State Department. In this connection I telephoned Mr. Penfield of the State Department who agreed that this was apparently the policy which the State and War Departments had adhered to in this regard in the past, and that it would be well to formalize this policy both with regard to the case of Doctor Rhee and similar future cases. Mr. Penfield and I agreed that the policy agencies of the War and State Departments had no desire to prevent Doctor Rhee from returning to Korea, but that in view of the fact that he has no official position, and

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that his case appeared to have no special urgency, that War Department transportation should not be tied up by granting him special favor of air transportation to Korea. This information was given to Colonel Chard.

8. At about this time I received a call from Colonel Schulyer, Executive to the Chief of Air Staff, who said he had received a call from Doctor Oliver regarding the cancellation of Doctor Rhee's transportation. I informed Colonel Schulyer of the facts in the case and suggested that he have Doctor Oliver call Colonel Chard. A subsequent call from Major Simmons indicated that Colonel Chard had referred Doctor Oliver to Major Simmons and that Major Simmons had informed Doctor Oliver of the policy requiring coordination with the State Department, that the State Department had not been coordinated with prior to the time the transportation had been approved, and that the State and War Departments now agree that Doctor Rhee's return to Korea was not a matter of sufficient importance to tie up Government air transportation. It is understood that Doctor Oliver will call the State Department on this matter.

CONFIDENTIAL



## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

April 1, 1947

The transportation for Dr. Rhee was set up without proper clearance or coordination with the appropriate sections within the War Department. It is War Department policy not to give clearance in cases of this nature without priority clearance with the State Department. The War and State Departments did not feel that an exception should be made in this case to normal policy, which is to authorize only Service transportation to Koreans who are not acting in an official capacity with U.S. Military Government in Korea.

*[Handwritten signature]*





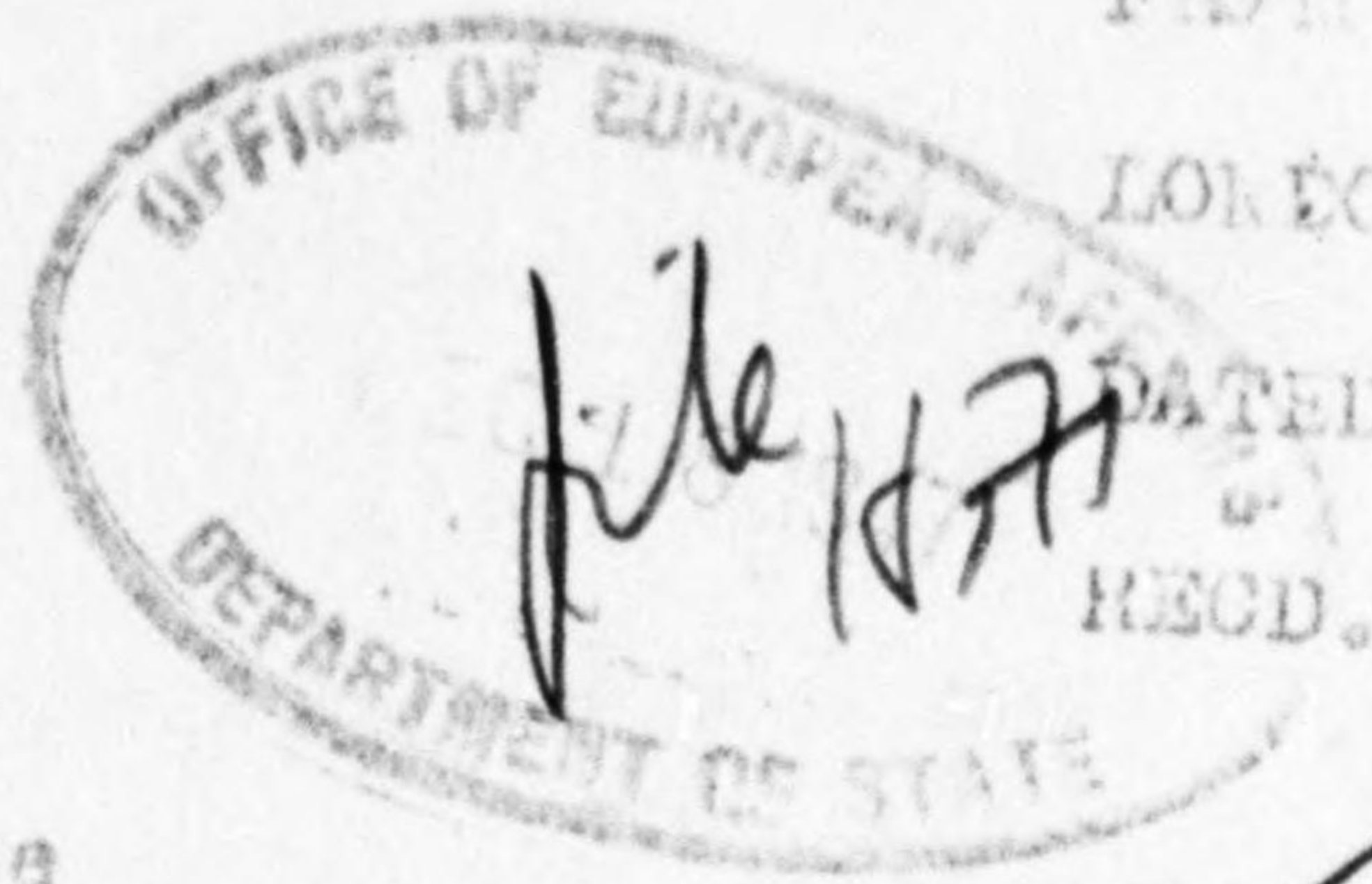


# INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

FROM 2944

LOREOI



RECEIVED December 11, 1947

Dec. 17, 1947  
10:02 AM

UNCLASSIFIED

Secretary of State

Washington

A-2531, December 11, 1947

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Following questions and answers in regard to Emperor worship in Japan exchanged in House of Commons on December 10, 1947:-

Mr. Skeffington-Lodge (Labor M.P. for Bedford) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he is aware that there is evidence in Japan of a movement to re-introduce Emperor worship; and whether he will instruct the British representative on the Far-Eastern Commission to press for immediate action to prohibit activities of this nature.

Mr. McNeil (Minister of State): "Since the answer to the first part of the question is, 'No, Sir,' the second part would not seem to arise."

Mr. Skeffington-Lodge: "Is not my right hon. Friend aware that when Hirohito went to Hiroshima recently he was received with wild acclamation by at least 50,000 Japanese citizens? Is not that a most undesirable development?"

Mr. McNeil: "I think there is a confusion of thought here. Neither we nor anyone else can prevent subjects paying what tribute they think fitting to their crowned head. It is, however, important that there should be no recurrence of Emperor worship in Japan, and there is an ordinance, a regulation, to take care of that."

Mr. Walter Fletcher (Conservative M.P. for Burnley): "Would not the right hon. Gentleman agree that this can only be handled by long-term education, and that it is no good trying to pass Bills or laws, or enforcing these things on a short-term basis?"

DOUGLAS

PERMANENT RECORD COPY.—This copy must be returned to DC/R central files with notation of action taken.

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UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER  
FOR JAPAN

Tokyo, October 29, 1948.

PERSONAL and TOP SECRET

Dear Bennie:

Further to my letter of October 26, 1948, I have now had an interesting conversation with General MacArthur on the subject of possible abdication by the Emperor. When I raised the subject, General MacArthur immediately stated that he was fully alive to the possibility that the Emperor might perhaps contemplate abdication, or under strong emotional strain arising out of the sentences in the major War Crimes Trial, perhaps even consider committing suicide. I agreed that these are possibilities, especially as the Emperor is both Oriental and Japanese.

The General said that in his opinion the judgment of the major War Crimes Trial is like blowing up a ton of dynamite--one cannot possibly foresee what might happen. He feels that the emotional effect of the sentences upon the Emperor might perhaps temporarily unbalance the latter's judgment, with the result that either of the two mentioned possibilities could happen. On the other hand, however, he said that he has never had even the slightest indication that the Emperor was contemplating abdication, and that comments which have appeared to this effect in the press and elsewhere are fabrications and have no substance whatsoever. The General feels that abdication by the Emperor would be politically disastrous and that he would therefore do what he can to stop it.

He said that the Emperor intends to call upon him immediately after the announcement of the major War Crimes judgment and at that time, should the subject be raised, he would tell him that any thought of abdication is not only ridiculous and preposterous, but that it would result in a major disservice to the Japanese people.

I told General MacArthur that I was very glad to have his views as they agree entirely with my own, and that I furthermore feel that they are also the views of the United States Government. The General said that there could be no other views, and agreed with me that abdication by the Emperor would play directly into the hands of communism and chaos in Japan.

In view of the source and extremely delicate nature of this letter, I hope that you will keep its contents within the smallest possible circle. I will, of course, keep you advised of any developments.

Sincerely yours,

*Bill*  
W. J. Sebald

H. Merrell Benninghoff, Esquire,  
Deputy Director, Office of Far Eastern Affairs,  
Department of State,  
Washington 25, D.C.

894.001 / 10-2948