

Not used

Doc. No. 626 A-3

Extract from
Interrogation of Hideki TOJO
4 February 1946
p. 2-3

2. Would China not have been all right without any closer relations with Japan?

A. No. As I have previously explained, the problem viewed from the Oriental standpoint was that China was threatened with partition by European Powers and America. On such a basis, the Orient could never have been stabilized. That is one reason. A second reason is expressed by the phrase, "dobun-doshu", that is to say, "a common culture, a common race". Japan and China both had the same writing and were both oriental peoples, hence it was a natural idea that they should be on intimate terms with each other. Moreover, it is specifically stated in the text of the Washington Treaty that "It is the constant and earnest desire of the American Government to succeed in building mutual understanding as a basis for the development of perpetual friendly relations among all peoples". You will note that the first reason relates to the actual situation in China, the second to ties of blood, and third to treaty obligations. Thus, from the standpoint of actual situation in China; from the standpoint of common blood, and from the standpoint of treaty obligations, Japan was impelled toward closer ties with China.