

Doc. 3331 Evid.

Folder 11

(29)

INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

Doc. No. 3331

11 Dec 1947

ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

Title and Nature: Extract from Bound Volume of Periodicals entitled "Radio Lectures and Lessons" Nos 124-132 inclusive, Jan 1941-Sept 1941 compiled by Japan Broadcasting Association, Excerpt April Number pp 1-11 - Address by SHIRATORI

Date: 1 Mar 1941 Original (x) Copy () Language: Japanese

Has it been translated? Yes (x) No ()

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL

IPS Document Division

SOURCE OF ORIGINAL: Japan Broadcasting Association

PERSONS IMPLICATED: SHIRATORI, Teshie

CRIMES TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: Greater East Asia - War Preparations

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT POINTS

"Observations Upon the Current Situation at Home and Abroad"
(Broadcast by Teshie SHIRATORI)

We are now face to face with the most serious crisis in history both at home and abroad. Japan is beset with unprecedented difficulties, while the world at large is plunging headlong into an enormous commotion which promises to be protracted, for how long no one knows.....

.....In order to stabilize the situation, it is imperative that the difficulties be faced in terms of the world as a whole. The fact that Japan, Germany and Italy entered into an alliance last fall must ~~not~~ be viewed in such a perspective. It is true that the conclusion of the Tripartite Pact has resulted in an increased aggravation of relations between Japan on the one hand and Britain and the United States on the other. It must also be admitted that the inter-relationship between the wars in Asia and in Europe has thereby become more pronounced. But this is not necessarily to be considered an outcome of the Tripartite Pact. Since the time of the Manchurian Incident and throughout the China affair, the

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interests of Japan and those of the Anglo-Saxon Nations have clashed on more than one occasion, and their respective opinions and claims were found irreconcilable. It became plain that it is entirely hopeless for Japan to settle satisfactorily the China affair and to establish a new order in East Asia on the basis of compromise and co-operation with the Anglo-Saxon Powers. That is the reason why Japan at last grasped the hands of Germany and Italy, whose interests and views have been found in complete accord with those of Japan.

.....A war lasting for ten, twenty years, is not unthinkable, and Japan will inevitably become involved therein. That is clear enough if only from the letter of the Tripartite Pact.

.....There is need for an entirely new start. The cry for a new political and economic system, the movement for the "observance of the way of the Imperial subjects", and the demand for "high degree national defense", are they not measurements to meet the requirements, of the extraordinary world situation?

.....The construction of the so-called "defense-state" must in my opinion aim primarily at the adjustment of the internal structure in such a way as to enable us to cope with the world emergency. Its immediate purpose is the expansion of the country's productive power.

.....Once preparations for a long and total war are completed on the basis of a new national structure we can well expect the country to overcome all dangers, and its future to be full of promise.

INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

Doc. No. 3331

(Date) Dec 10, 1947

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PERSONS IMPLICATED: SHIRATORI, Yoshio

CRIMES TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: Greater East Asia, War Preparation

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT POINTS

~~April number p1-11 address by~~
"Observations Upon the Current Situation at Home and abroad" (Broadcast by Yoshio SHIRATORI)

[Bracketed material with dots of omission (... ..) between excerpts]

Analyst: JH

Doc. No. 3331

ラジオ講演。講座の抜萃

内外時局と語る

白鳥敏夫

今日の内も外も歴史ある以来の重大時期であります。日本は未曽有の困難に直面してゐると云はれおするにせ

日本に非常時の言を聞つてから、最早十年になりま
す。その中最近の三年半と云ふもの、我々は開戦以来の大
戦争を支那でやうな苦境にありおす。その間に国内
の状況も大変にかばうて来りました。十萬人が尊厳人柱
も出して居ります。親を失ひ、子を失ひ、方を失ひ、幾十萬の多きに
達するわけであります。国民の生活も大分窮乏になり、参
りかけた。色々と不便があり困難があります。国民として一日も違
かに平和安穩の時代を迎へたいと希望する。もくはありま
せん。しかし、この非常時は之は日本だけの原因で起つ
たものでない。支那戦争と東洋の理由、日本と支那
とだけの関係の衝突した戦争ではなから、であり、
実は世界共通の危機に陥つた深い原因と必然性と
に基き、ものであります。日本だけで、この非常時を解
消して、常時に戻すわけには参らなから、であり、

いふまでも、之は世界全体として問題が解決されなけ
れば到底治まらなから、であり、昨年秋、日本とドイツ

とが軍事同盟を結んだのも、この関係があるから

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であります。同盟の未だ結果は日本と英米との間が益々悪くなつて参つたことは予実であります。亜細亞の戦争とヨーロッパの戦争とが之によつて漸く相互の聯関性をほつかりさせて来たことも認めなければなりません。しかしながら、之は強ち三國同盟の結果であるとは申しせざりないのであります。滿洲予變以来新に支那戦争の期間を通じて、日本と英米とは、ことに毎に利害が衝突し、意見が一致しなかつたのであります。彼等との妥協により、彼等との協力に依つて支那予變を圓く治め、東亞新秩序を建設するといふことは到底その望むが及ぶことが分つたので、日本は遂にドイツと云ひイタリアと云ひ、我々と完全に利害が一致し考へが一致する國々と手を握つたのであります。であるから、イギリスやアメリカとの關係が悪くなつたと云ふことは三國同盟の結果ではなくして、むしろその原因であつたのであります。同盟など、餘計なものを作るから、外交の關係がむつかしくなつたと云ふよりも、かあるやうであります。が、之は本末顛倒の議論であることを特に申し上げて置き度いのであります。

かやうに致しまして、今日の世界は完全に二つの陣營に分れて参りました。政治的にも、経済的にもまた思想の上でも、全く相容れなす新旧の二つの勢力の対立抗争といふことが、目前の世界の大動乱であります。一方は英米佛蘭といふやうな過去に於てこの地球上の自ほいし地方を大部分独占して仕舞ひ、殊に我々の同胞であ

々所の、アジアの後進民族を虐げ之を搾取して今日の彼等の
 富と勢力とを築いたものとあります。他方は日独伊の如く民
 族は優秀であり勤奮にして正直、勇敢にして団結心に
 富んで居ります。只英米佛等は比へて立ち後れたため
 その領土が狭く物資は足らず、民の志計も立ち難い。如何に
 もしてこの天理人道を無視し正義と公平に反した今日の
 世界を去つて直しようといふ大勇猛心を奮ひ起したものとあり
 ます。かういふ全く立場の異つた物の考方の違つたものと
 間の衝突がありますから之は却り一朝一夕にして平和の回復を
 見ることが困難であります。

例へば支那事案に致し、この四年近くは互つて未だ解決
 しないのは本意の相手が支那ではなくて支那の四億五千万
 の民衆を利用し搾取し支那を何時までも半植民地状
 態に残して置くかういふ日本と全く老を違ひ行き方の違つ
 た英米の標を我が背後にあらからることは今日誰に
 知らぬものはない。是をば我々は独力で断つた勢力と戦つ
 て来た。彼等の標を物質主義、弱肉強食主義の國民には
 日本の天皇とは如何なる場存在であらせられぬか、八紘一宇の
 理想は如何なるものであるか、日支の共存共榮とは如何なる
 意味が、かういふことは分りませず又分らうとせせず只
 日本は支那といふ弱國をいじめ悪者である侵略者であ
 るといふこと、来たるべきは悪口ばかりでは、實際には如何
 にも事案中英米は随分支那を助け、日本の邪魔をして来た
 ことは我々日本國民の骨身に沁み、忘れぬことので
 きない所であり、彼等が背後にある限り日支事案

度はいやでも非常な長期戦とならざるを得なかつたのであります。
 所がヨーロッパ戦争が始まると共に、局面は一変して参りました。
 なるほど英米は今迄みれば日本に敵意を表して参りなつたので
 あります。行掛り上依然支那を助けると言つては、日本に
 対しては経済上益を圧迫を加へて参ります。かゝる口では何と
 云ふとも、もはや實際上彼等は支那の事に多くかまつておられな
 くなつた。支那を有効に助けることが出来なくなつた。今や彼等か
 ら見て立戦場はヨーロッパに移つては無難なものであります。自然
 支那戦事は段々影が薄くなつて参りました。英米といふ立派に
 と申すの舞は監督と申すか、さういふ者共があちうで急がなくなつ
 たのであります。かう、二通りの無難がひまになるのは、当然であります。
 かういふ風に事者の張本人がなくなつて見れば、後は日本と支
 那と、もともとアジアの兄弟同志であるかう、話合ひはらくは
 望んであります。今の近衛介を始めまた、高橋が醒めたので、世界
 の様子が一番よくなったことも知らず、日支事者の価値が考へる事
 になつて分ります。依然として英米に頼り、日本に抵抗を続け
 て参りますか、今に彼等もほんとのことが分つて参ります。私は支
 那事者だけは、間もなく一応形づくであらうと考へ、又日本を
 一は早く形づけなければならぬと存するのであります。

一かゝるから、一時遠くに行つてゐる鬼は、ちきよれたアジアに帰
 つて参るのであらうと云ふことを忘れてはなりません。我々の「鬼の居
 め間」は、洗滌してもあつたのこりは出来なかつた。ドイツとヨーロッパ
 間で、負けたりとも、なかつた。それだけ引込んでしまふ鬼ではない。

英米の勢力がヨーロッパから締め出されたと、今度彼は彼等にとつてアフリカが、今までより一層大事なものになって来る。彼等はこれまでもトルコ、一段とアフリカに勢力を集中して来ました。日本が大東亜共栄圏を作るといふことは、これは直接彼等の領分が侵されることを考へてありますから、イギリス、アメリカは之に對しては支那の問題よりけしと強く日本に反對するのであります。さうであるならば彼等がヨーロッパで勝つて勿論のこと、まけてもしそれだけでは日本の立場は必しも樂にはならず、我々のアジア独占、アフリカ開放の聖業は、今後は愈々大なる力と犠牲とを必要とするものであることも覺悟しなければならず、

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又ドイツと致しましては、イギリス、フランスで敗れた英米上を占領したといつたわけは決して安心できません。戦争はそれでお終ひにならぬものと見なければならず、イギリスは必ずその海軍力をまよめてアフリカ方面の植民地やカナダ、濠洲に據つて抵抗を続けようと思はれます。又アメリカは今はまだ準備ができておなう上に、国論は一致しておなう標であるから、直ちに戦争はすまいが、彼の国の再軍備ができて上つたならば、公然戦争には入れると見なければならず、ルースヴェルト大統領等は昨今は丸で自分か戦争もやつておる標を口吻でありますから、アメリカの戦争は必然と云はなければならず、実は今日では名は何と叫ばうとアメリカは事實上戦争しておるのであります。

ヤウすると、この戦争は全世界に亘り恐ろしく長期の戦争になりませう。十年も二十年も続くことが考へられず、日本も無論その中に捲き込まれ、之は三国條約の明らかなに決つてゐるのであります。之は見えやうに依つては支那戦争が拡大して世界戦争になつたといふ云へませうし、又東西の戦争が一つに融け込んだといふ見のことができると思ひやうであります。何れにしても、日本がこの世界戦争を袖手傍観することから、さうなものは明らかなであります。

この情勢を見て取つて、昨今国内には少なからず、恐慌を来してゐる向しあるやうであります。又何うかしてこの勢を喰ひ止めやうと力力する人々もあるやうであります。しかしながらそれは畢竟無益であります。人類の思想が大轉換を遂げるためには、常に長期の戦乱時代を経過して參つてゐるのあります。人カを以て之を堰き止めることはできないものではあります。いはゞ、歴史の必然であります。

我々日本国民としては、この長期世界戦争に際して、徒らにあわてたり心配したり、又歴史に逆行する様を行す方を考へたりしないで、何より先づ国内を固め、長期戦を立派に戦ひ抜く覺悟を決めなければなりません。支那事變の三年半で随分困難が増して來てゐるのに、この上また十年も二十年も戦争されて堪るか、英談いよいよ加減にするがいつかお叱りを受けられるか、知れないう論、和し戦争が一息早く清むことを希望する段になれば、人後は落するものではない。しかしながらそれが今日の大執力であり、

不可能であるならば、我々としては之に備へなければならぬ。
支那事変を戦つて来た通りの方法では、やゝ行けなことは
明らかである。この際我々は根本的に出直さなければならぬ。
新体制といふ、臣道実践といふ、国防国家といふものは、実は
この容易ならぬ世界の情勢に對応するにぬ、こそ、その必要
がある。でありませう。

由來日本は世にも有り難い国柄であります。現人神にましま
す、上御一人を太御親と仰ぎ奉る。國民は何れも血の繋がり
に依て結ばれたる兄弟家族であります。国難に遭遇すれば
る程愈々その結束を固くする。お世に倒を見ながら日本國
民の特質であり、大膽な強味であります。何人も機械的に集
つて、天賦人權たる自由平等を以て、人々に勝手を振舞
ひをする民主主義の國とは大に違つております。今後
如何に長期に亘り、試練にさらされしことも、日本では内訌が
ら破綻を来すか、如き懸念は絶對にならぬでありますから、先
づこれほど安心なことはないわけでありませう。

又我々は、利を得てをりますから、兵器の發達した今日
でも戦禍が日本本土に及ぶといふことは、先づ考へられな
いのであります。日本と境を接する國としては支那はあつたり
てあり、ロシアとは今後には段々關係は良くなるつて行しま
す。その方の心配はないと確信致します。して見れば日本
としては今日海面だけを見詰めてゐればよろしいのでせう。
太平洋は広いのであります。我々は我が無敵海軍に信

頼り余り取返苦煩かけせぬかよるもの。老人子供を都合から移すなといふのは誠に徒くを人強かせて自害まつて一利ないこととあります。

十年二十年といふ長期戦と申しますと、火花を散らしての武力戦よりむしろ経済戦思想戦が主になつて参ります。即戦即決の短距離競走に對して之はマラソン競走であります。我々の心構へは従つて来なければならぬ。ゆつたりと神経を太く構へなければならぬ。こりまへのやつに戦時だ、一時は何とかして一二年の十棒たて云々抑を氣持では長期戦はやりません。さうではなくして之が常態だ、いや戦争をやりながら、之が一段々国内は良くなるのだ、良ししなければならぬといふ抑り、餘裕のある態度を望ましく思ひます。それか又この度の戦争の性格であります。新秩序建設のための戦争でありますから、戦ひながら建設をやつて行くのであります。戦争が済まされたには内外とあらがた新秩序が出来るといふことあればこりは理想船であります。

国防国家の建設といふことと、この長期に臨むための國內整理のことと主眼であります。目前は生産力拡充を第一の急務と致しますが、之はやはり国民の心構へが大切であります。国民がよく今日の国際情勢を認識し、日本立場を了解し、總力戦の本質を把握して、之は一つ奮闘しなければならぬ、我儘は云つてゐられぬといふ心から目醒めるのでなければ、生産力拡充は困難であります。

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頼り余り取越さず知力任せぬがよるべし。老人は供と都会から移すなむの地を誠心徒くを人強かせて百歩うまつて一利ないこととてあります。

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政府が何とかし法律づく、権力づくで強制してやると決いて
 よう結果は得られない。何より人間の本能、人間の天性は
 いかに活かし守り出せばならない。たゞ戦時、戦時といふ不
 必要に国民の心を暗くさせ、何等前途に希望を持たせ
 ぬやうなやり方は力やて避けなければならぬが、マラソン競
 走であり、前途は遠いのであるから、あまりせかしくはいり
 ない。由來日本の国民性は明るくであり、陽性であるべき
 である。あります。大和民族の丁度、於いて且取大の困難は
 大神杯が天の岩戸にお隠れになり、天下が真暗になった
 時であり、その際八百萬の神々は何とをなされたか。あ
 りませぬ。決して唯泣いたり悲しくたりはしなかつた。岩戸
 の前に集つて、高天原も揺りどろくばかりに踊り興い
 笑ひやわめいたではありませぬか。之が困難に処する日本民
 族特有の態度であると思ひます。

抑々日本の非常時といふものは、初めに申した通り、人間の
 知智慧でははかり得ない。高天原の深い原因から起つたのでありま
 す。満洲事変も、支那戦争も、いはゞ天意であつて誰れの
 始めたことでも、誰れの責任でもない。我々の爲すべしとは
 その天意を正しく汲み取ることであります。今日日本
 國民は彼等に非常中の困苦を課して彼等を試すに似て
 神々の深い意圖を誤りなく擲んでゐると思ひます。誰れ
 云ふことなく、支那事變の解決は八紘一宇の皇謨に即して

行はれなければならぬと云ふのが今日輿論となっております。
 また国内の新体制は、一億国民の臣道実践を可能なら
 しめることを以つて、眼目とすべしといはれております。日
 本の内外非常時局のかくの如き方法を以つて解決せら
 るべきものであるといふことに期せずして、國論が一致した
 しましたのは、誠に素晴らしい事実であります。これは日本
 民族が有史以来の難局に当面して、よく国体の本義
 を想ひ、民族使命に目醒めたことを語るものであります。
 て、この自覺に基き、この精神を貫くならば、百の内憂
 も、千の外患も少くも恐れは必要は存じ存じ存じます。

以下次頁

今更には、河といつても支那相争の戦争であるといふ事、命令で
 國民もまだ眞剣には入り切つてゐなかつた。それと多量に英米流
 の考へ方に染まらざるを、個人主義物質主義の悪思想が板
 けがらつたから、戦時体制に色々と缺陷があり、國民は不満を
 唱へ、生産は減退し、有る物も出まらぬといふ有様でありま
 した。がいよいよ世界的長期大動乱の渦中に日本もいや
 應ずるに巻き込まれるとすれば、國民の覺悟も自ら違ふて
 ありまらうし、國體觀念も一段と徹底して来ることであらま
 せうから、我々は今後には大なる期待を持ち得ることを確信
 致すのであります。

日本はこの持久戦、總力戦の体制が出来てくれば、國難の突
 破は勿論、國家の前途は洋々たるものであると思ひます。
 今日、戦争は世界の舊体制の行き詰まりが、根本の
 原因でありますから、その行詰まりは舊体制が敗退する
 ことが自然であり、新舊の両勢力が大なる犠牲を拂
 ひ死力を盡して戦つた後に、再び舊体制が勝つて、一切の犠
 牲も苦勞も水泡に帰するといふことは、之は人類社會の進
 化の理法から申しても到底考へられないことであり、日
 本としては、舊体制に未練を残し、之と共に没落する
 といふ重大なる過を犯さない限り、決して將來に不安はな
 いと存じます。

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Translated by
Defense Language Branch

SHIRATORI Document No. 11

OBSERVATIONS UPON THE CURRENT SITUATION AT HOME AND ABROAD

(Broadcast by Toshio SHIRATORI, on March 1, 1941)

We are now face to face with the most serious crisis in history both at home and abroad. Japan is beset with unprecedented difficulties, while the world at large is plunging headlong into an enormous commotion which promises to be protracted, for how long no one knows.

Ten years have already elapsed since the cry of emergency was first heard in our country. Of this period, we have spent the last three and a half years in carrying on a war on the largest scale in the history of our country since its opening to the world. In the meantime, considerable changes have occurred in our internal situation. About one hundred thousand precious lives have been lost, leaving behind hundreds of thousands of men, women and children who have been deprived of their fathers, husbands, sons or brothers. Our daily livelihood is becoming more and more cramped and various inconveniences and hardships are experienced at every turn. There is no Japanese who is not desirous of the return as soon as possible of the days of peace and comfort. But the present emergency has not arisen on account of Japan alone. The China affair is not a conflict that broke out for reasons confined to the Orient alone, nor solely as a product of Sino-Japanese relations. Its origin must be traced to deeper causes rooted in the inevitability of world-wide developments. It is impossible, therefore, for Japan alone to solve the present extraordinary situation

and return to "normalcy."

In order to stabilize the situation, it is imperative that the difficulties be faced in terms of the world as a whole. The fact that Japan, Germany and Italy entered into an alliance last fall must likewise be viewed in such a perspective. It is true that the conclusion of the Tripartite Pact has resulted in an increased aggravation of relations between Japan on the one hand and Britain and the United States on the other. It must also be admitted that the inter-relationship between the wars in Asia and in Europe has thereby become more pronounced. But this is not necessarily to be considered an outcome of the Tripartite Pact. Since the time of the Manchurian Incident and throughout the China affair, the interests of Japan and those of the Anglo-Saxon Nations have clashed on more than one occasion, and their respective opinions and claims were found irreconcilable. It became plain that it is entirely hopeless for Japan to settle satisfactorily the China affair and to establish a new order in East Asia on the basis of compromise and co-operation with the Anglo Saxon Powers. That is the reason why Japan at last grasped the hands of Germany and Italy, whose interests and views have been found in complete accord with those of Japan. The aggravation of our relations

with Britain and the United States is, therefore, the cause and not the result of the Tripartite Pact. The argument is said to be advanced in some quarters that Japan's diplomatic dealings have become difficult because of the conclusion of such a superfluous connection. It must be pointed out here that such a suggestion puts the cart before the horse.

In this way, the world has been divided into two camps, of old and new forces, which are altogether incompatible with each other, politically.

economically and ideologically. This in brief is the picture of the great world commotion which we envisage today. Composing one camp are the countries of Britain, the United States, France and the Netherlands, which have founded their present wealth and influence by monopolizing the best part of the world and more especially by oppressing and exploiting the backward peoples of Asia who are kith and kin of our own race. On the other side are countries like Japan, Germany and Italy, whose people have all the superior qualities of industry, honesty, bravery and a spirit of unity, but whose lands and resources are limited due to their belated appearance on the international stage, with the consequence that they find it not a little difficult to maintain the livelihood of their teeming millions; nations who have gallantly resolved by some means or other to reconstruct a world order which is against reason and humanity. Since the clash is thus between two groups of countries whose ideas and positions are so diametrically opposed to each other, to restore peace is a task that cannot easily be accomplished.

Take for instance, the question of the China affair. Nigh upon four long years have elapsed and a solution is not yet in sight. It is simply because, as everyone is now aware, China is not the only nation to deal with but there are countries like Britain and the United States behind China which, unlike Japan, evidently consider it to their interest to prolong the semicolonial status of China in order to exploit the four hundred million Chinese. We have hitherto been fighting single handed against these influences. Believers in the materialistic doctrine of the survival of the fittest, these countries do not and will not understand what the national character and ideals of Japan are, or what "Sino-Japanese

co-existence and co-prosperity" really means to the peoples of Japan and China. They have simply been accusing Japan of oppressing the weak China and of being an aggressor. Not only have they abused Japan but have actually been aiding Chungking and obstructing Japan's efforts ever since the outset of the unfortunate affair. Their anti-Japanese activities have sunk deeply in the minds of the Japanese who cannot easily forget them.

The protraction of the Sino-Japanese conflict was inevitable so long as such Anglo-American activities continued. With the outbreak of the European war, however, the situation began to change. Having hitherto shown so much enmity toward this country Britain and the United States cannot but avow their intention of continuing to aid Chungking, and have actually been increasing their economic pressure on Japan. But whatever they may say, the actual developments of the world situation ^{are} such that they cannot afford to concern themselves too much with China. For them to help Chungking effectively is now impossible. The principal theater of war has been shifted to Europe and the China scene has gradually been relegated to the background. Since the star actors or the stage directors of the Sino-Japanese drama are kept busy in Europe, the Far Eastern theater has naturally to be neglected. In the absence of the promoters of the affair, Japan and China, being racially and culturally brother nations of Asia, ought to be able to come to an understanding. Chiang Kai-shek and his followers, however, are still under an illusion. Shutting their eyes both to the altered aspect of the world situation and to the change in character which the China affair has undergone, they continue their resistance against Japan in hopes of continued assistance from

Britain and America. It is hoped that sooner or later the truth will dawn upon them. I for one am persuaded that the China affair will before long be settled. We of Japan must surely do all we can to wind it up as soon as possible.

We must not forget, however, that these "headmen" who have gone away for the moment will come back to Asia soon enough. The mice cannot afford to play too merrily while the cat is away. Even if they be baffled in Europe, they are not the sort of ^{headmen} who will give up the game. If shut out from Europe, Asia would become more than ever important for them, and they would unquestionably concentrate their efforts on the affairs of this part of the world. Inasmuch as Japan's idea of establishing a sphere of common prosperity in greater East Asia must, in their eyes, be an encroachment on their own interests, the Anglo-Saxons would oppose it with even greater vigour than in the case of the China affair. If that be the case, we must bear in mind that our position will not be made easier through their defeat in Europe alone, not to speak of our plight in case they win. We must be prepared for more and more efforts and sacrifices for the lofty task of realising Asia's independence and emancipation.

As for Germany, she will not be able to rest content by merely defecting or ever occupying Britain in Europe. The German-British struggle will not come to an end with that. It is to be expected that Britain will move, with her sea power intact, to her Asiatic colonies, Canada or Australia, and try to continue her resistance. Besides, it must be presumed that the United States will participate openly in the war when her preparations are completed, though her immediate entry is problematical, as she is not at present prepared, and, moreover, there

seems to exist a division of opinion in that country regarding her involvement in the war. At any rate, with President Roosevelt striking an attitude as if his country were already in the war, American participation must be considered inevitable. In point of fact, the United States is now virtually a belligerent, whatever name one may choose to give to her present status.

Under these circumstances, the European war has every prospect of developing into an extremely protracted war all over the world. A war lasting for ten, twenty years, is not unthinkable, and Japan will inevitably become involved therein. That is clear enough if only from the letter of the Tripartite Pact. Such an eventuality may, from Japan's point of view, be considered an expansion of the China affair into a general world war, or a melting together of the wars in Asia and Europe. Be it what it may, it is clear that Japan will not be allowed to stand aloof from such a world-wide conflagration.

Such a prospect cannot but be a source of intense apprehension to many people in this country, nor are endeavours wanting, I understand, to curb the progress of events. I am afraid, however, that such efforts will after all prove fruitless. History is eloquent in testifying to the truth that all great changes in human thought have resulted from long periods of struggle. No human power can check the overwhelming tide of a historic inevitability.

When such a long-term world war does come, our nation should not be uselessly upset or worried, or vainly think of a course running counter to historic necessity. Before everything, we must put right our internal conditions so that we may successfully cope with the impending world

cataclysm. I know that I shall be taken to task by some people who would say, "Three and a half years of warfare in China is more than enough. How could we bear further ten or twenty years of armed struggle and tribulations? Stop your nonsense!" I yield to none in hoping for as quick a termination of the war as possible. Nevertheless, if the trend of the times is otherwise and cannot be avoided it is imperative that we should be prepared for the worst. That the way in which we have been carrying on the China affair will be utterly inadequate is clear enough.

There is need for an entirely new start. The cry for a new political and economic system, the movement for the "observance of the way of the Imperial subjects", and the demand for "high degree national defense", are they not measurements to meet the requirements, of the extraordinary world situation?

Japan is a country standing unique in the world for her national and state characteristics. Looking up to the Emperor, "the Son of Heaven", as their father, the people are conscious of their blood relationship one with another, the whole nation thus being formed into a large family and brotherhood. The greater the difficulties confronting them, the more firmly tightened are the ties that bind them together. That is the rare quality and strong point of this nation. That distinguishes them from some of the democracies where individuals are mechanically assembled together and in the name of the natural rights of man, liberty and equality, every one acts as he pleases. That there is in this country no possibility of an internal breakdown, however long and severe a test the people may be put to, ought more than anything else to contribute to our equanimity of mind.

Moreover, Japan's geographical position is such as to render her practically immune from war's ravages in spite of the great modern improvement in the instruments of war. As regards the countries adjacent to her, China is as every one knows, while our relations with the Soviet Union are expected progressively to improve, leaving no cause for anxiety from that quarter. It is only on the sea that we must keep watch. The Pacific, however, is a boundless ocean. It behoves us not to entertain too much apprehension, placing our trust in our unbeaten navy. The talk about removing the old and the young from the cities is to my mind worse than useless, causing as it does unwarranted misgivings among the general public.

In a long-term struggle, economic and ideological warfare will play a more important part than an actual clash in arms. It is so to speak a marathon race as compared to lightning stroke warfare which may be likened to a sprint race. In a struggle of this kind serenity of mind and strong nerves are essential. So far we have been told that "it is war time, that it is a temporary phenomenon, and that it is a matter of perseverance for only a year or two". That is not the proper attitude of mind in face of the trying difficulties ahead of us. On the contrary it is desirable that we should have enough composure of mind to tell ourselves that the war conditions have come to stay and that we must try to improve our internal conditions while fighting in China. That ought naturally to arise from the character of the war we are now engaged in, for is it not a war for the establishment of a new order? We must construct while fighting. It would be an ideal development if it could be shown that when the war is over the new order is there both at home and on the continent.

The construction of the so-called "defence-state" must in my opinion aim primarily at the adjustment of the internal structure in such a way as to enable us to cope with the world emergency. Its immediate purpose is the expansion of the country's productive power. But this cannot be achieved unless we are one and all fully awake to the reality of the international situation and, realizing the essential requirements of a modern warfare, give up all selfishness. Without the conscious cooperation of the people, no amount of legislation or exercise of governmental authority will bring any good results. Above all, human instinct and human nature must be given free play. All methods should therefore be avoided which, in the name of war-time requirements, unnecessarily darken the hearts of the people and hold out no hope for the future. Although mental slackening must be guarded against, yet fidgeting and bustling will get us nowhere for it is a Marathon, and a long one at that which we have to run. Cheerfulness is the one incredible trait of the Japanese people. The greatest national calamity that befell the Yamato race in its long history, was when the Great God Ama-terasu hid behind the Heavenly Cave throwing utter darkness upon the whole world below. What did the eight hundred thousand gods do in face of the emergency? Were they helplessly given to weeping and sorrowing? Far from it, they assembled before the Heavenly Cave and sang and danced and laughed till the heavens shook and rang again. That, I take it, is the characteristic way of our race in meeting difficulties.

As I said at the outset the extraordinary situation with which Japan has been confronted in recent years has arisen from deep causes beyond

human comprehension. Both the Manchurian incident and the China affair must be attributed as it were to a Heavenly disposition: they were not of our own making, nor are any group of men to be held responsible for them. What we should do is to grasp the meaning of that Disposition. I venture to believe that today the Japanese people have rightly grasped the deep significance of the Divine will in putting them to the test of the emergency privations. It is not known who said it first, but it is now the consensus of opinion that the solution of the China problem must be along lines worthy of the Imperial idea of universal brotherhood or one world family. In regard also to the proposed new structure at home, it is pointed out that the one thing needful is how to enable the hundred million people to put in practice unhampered the way of the Imperial subjects. It is indeed noteworthy that such a method ^{should} spontaneously be proposed for the solution of our difficulties both at home and abroad. That would seem to prove beyond chance that the sons of Yamato, faced with the gravest situation in history, have awakened to the true meaning of our national structure and of the mission imposed upon them. So long as we maintain that consciousness and live up to that spirit, no amount of difficulties or calamities need cause us any misgiving or apprehension.

Frankly speaking, our people have made light of the China war and failed so far to put forth their efforts to the full. Moreover, since the dregs of individualism and materialism have not altogether been eliminated from their thought, there have been various defects in the country's wartime system, giving rise to complaints, decrease in production and failure of goods to appear on the market. But, once the country should be drawn into the world melstrom whether we like it or not, may it not

be expected that the attitude of the people will naturally undergo a fundamental change.

Once preparations for a long and total war are completed on the basis of a new national structure we can well expect the country to overcome all dangers, and its future to be full of promise. The present conflicts in the East and the West are at bottom due to the fact that the old order has reached its limits throughout the world. Its defeat seems therefore natural. That, after the life-and-death grapple between the new and old orders at enormous sacrifices, the old should emerge victorious, rendering fruitless the efforts and sacrifices of the new, is hard to imagine in the light of the theory of the evolution of human society. Unless, therefore, we commit the error of sticking to the old system at home and falling along with that system, we need perhaps not be too tragic about the future of this nation.

C E R T I F I C A T E

To hereby certify that the treatise in the accompanying paper, entitled "On the Current Situation at Home and Abroad" written by Mr. SHIRATORI Toshio is a true and exact copy of an article given on p. 9-11 of "Radio Lectures and Courses", edition No. 127, which is in the custody of this Association.

Sept. 16, 1946

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T R A N S L A T I O N C E R T I F I C A T E

I, William E. Clarke, of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the above certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

/S/ William E. Clarke

Tokyo, Japan

Date 23 Jan. 1947

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