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INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

Doc. No. 3322

7 November 1947

ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

Title and Nature: Loose, shorthand records, "Secret Committee Meeting on Wartime Penal Cases, 81st Session of the Diet".
(GENJI KEIJI HIMITSU KAI)

Date: 19 Feb 1943 Original (X) Copy () Language: Japanese

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

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL: IPS Document Division

SOURCE OF ORIGINAL: Diet

PERSONS IMPLICATED: IWAMURA, Michiyo (Justice Minister); OMORI (Justice Vice-Minister)

CRIMES TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: Wartime Criminal Law

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT POINTS:

Government Committee Member OMORI (Justice Vice-Minister) gives the following explanation on the submission of the bill regarding a war-time criminal law.

He says, "Last year, the special war-time criminal law was approved and put into force. No crime as yet has been committed that corresponds to the 1st and 2nd items of the Article 7. (Murder or injury for changing the form of government) However, authorities are afraid that violation of items 3 and 4 of Article 7 might be frequent. It is very serious if anti-war or war-weary thoughts are spread among the people. We shall have no words with which to apologise to the soldiers". Then a number of letters and placards of this kind were read. However, he says no stipulation to the above effect can be made in a written law, because if the enemy knew that such war-weary documents are circulated in Japan, they would certainly make use of it. So, possible arguments as to the wording of items 3 and 4 of the Article must be withheld. OMORI then gives a few words on the enemy's propaganda and cautions that communism, too, must not be overlooked, the communists are carrying on subversive underground activities.

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The above reasons were given for drawing up the bill:

After the Vice-Minister's explanation, Governmental-Committee Member IKEDA explains the above-mentioned international communistic spy organization, the members of which were arrested in October, 1941.

Analyst:
E. T. Garden

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