

No. 2746

Doc. No. 4047

Ex 2746

Berlin, 28 August 1939

Note for State Secretary Von Weizsaecker

Ambassador OSHIMA informed me about the personality of the new Japanese Prime Minister as follows:

General ABE is 64 years of age and has had an excellent military career. He is an artillery man and served together with OSHIMA on the General Staff. Mr. ABE belonged, furthermore, for a long period of time, as a captain to a German Artillery Regiment in Thorn, and was acting as military attache in Berlin.

OSHIMA is a personal friend of General ABE and believes that he is considerably more favorable as Prime Minister than the present Prime Minister, Baron HIRANUMA. The Ambassador will get information about the other members of the cabinet which have been named up to now, War Minister ISOGAI and Navy Minister JOCHIDA, and will inform me then.

OSHIMA informed me further that in his opinion the Japanese Press is gradually returning to reason, and asked not to take the articles in the Press too tragically, /and that/ he is working as before, with all his powers, on the maintenance and improvement of German-Japanese relations.

/signed/ SEAMER

FILE COPY
RETURN TO ROOM 361