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Translated by  
Defense Language Branch

THE TALK OF THE CHIEF OF INFORMATION BUREAU OF  
THE FOREIGN OFFICE CONCERNING THE ABANDONMENT  
OF COOPERATION WITH EVERY ORGAN OF THE LEAGUE  
OF NATIONS (November 2, 1938 (Showa 13))

Since the China Incident broke out last year and China took up matters concerning it with the League of Nations on September 12th, the Assembly and the Council, recognizing the Empire's actions towards China as a violation of the Nine-Power Treaty and the 'Anti-War Pact,' promised moral assistance to China and advised the Members of the League to support China individually. Several resolutions were adopted also denouncing the Empire saying that the Japanese forces bombed unfortified cities, or used poison gas. Because of this or otherwise the Council in this autumn session, complying with China's demand to apply Article 17 of the Covenant to the China Incident, came to adopt finally, according to Paragraph 3 of the same Article on September 30th, the report that each Member of the League might take up separately the sanction stipulated in Article 16 of the Covenant against the Empire.

Now, on taking a view of recent activities of the League, it is clear that it has gone astray from the ideals which it held in the days of its foundation, and has become a hot-bed for behind-the-scenes maneuverings of a few Powers. I cannot help recognizing it really as not only undue interference but also a malicious intrigue against the Empire that the League, blind to its

lack of power, has dared to apply the provisions, including the Sanction against a Non-Member of the League, of the Empire for the first time since the foundation of the League. In view of the substance of the League and its attitude toward Japan as mentioned above, the Government decided on a policy of terminating existing cooperative relations with every organ of the League and after having received Imperial assent, had Chief of the Japanese Secretariate at the International Conference AMOU communicate to that effect under the date of the 2nd, to the Secretary-General of the League.

On the occasion when the Empire notified the League of her secession, an Imperial Rescript was graciously issued to indicate whither the Empire should go. Since then, the Government, in obedience to Imperial wishes, has participated in every work of the League in connection with peace and humanity even after the Empire seceded from the League. Unfortunately, as a result of the recent decision of the League, however, the Empire has had to abandon such cooperation from now on. However, this does not mean more than the abandonment of our participation in international matters which are being carried on through the organs of the League. Therefore the sacred purport of ~~the~~ Rescript above referred to still remains shining and the Imperial Government, in obedience to it, will not change in further cooperation with all sorts of projects concerning peace and will endeavor as before to participate and to cooperate in international matters which aim at promoting peace and the welfare of mankind.

The Note Concerning the Abandonment of Cooperation with Every Organ of the League and the Results of the Abandonment of Cooperation.

"I have the honor to inform you under the instructions of the Imperial Government that the Empire of Japan after reflecting upon the circumstances, arising from the situation which has been recently brought about between the Empire and the League of Nations as the result of September 30th when the Council of the League adopted the report that the provision of Article 16 might be applied to the Empire according to Paragraph 3 of Article 17 of the Covenant, has decided to abandon her cooperation with the various organs of the League which had been continued even after the withdrawal from the League by the Empire."

Consequently, among the various commissions of the League, the representatives appointed by the Government who had been attending the Permanent Commission on the Administration of Mandates, the Opium Inquiry Commission and the Social Problems Inquiry Commission and our committeemen or associate committeemen who have cooperated in individual capacities with the Permanent Commission on the Administration of Mandates, the Art and Science Cooperation Commission, the Control Opium Commission, the Economic Commission, and the Health Commission will be dismissed in the case of the former and in the case of the <sup>latter</sup> resignations will be seen. And cooperation with the Oriental Epidemic Information Bureau, the labor organizations and the Permanent International Court of Justice will also probably be terminated. These measures of course, have nothing to do with the administration of

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the mandates and the present arrangements will be continued, but the Government will not be able to have our representatives participate in the work of the Permanent <sup>Commission</sup> in the Administration of Mandates.

CERTIFICATE OF SOURCE AND AUTHENTICITY

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, who occupy the post of the Chief of the Archives Section of the Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached, written in Japanese, consisting of 3 pages and entitled "The Talk of the Chief of Information Bureau of the Foreign Office Concerning the Abandonment of cooperation with Every Organ of the League of Nations." (November 2, 1938) is an exact and authorized excerpt from an official document in the custody of Japanese Government (the Foreign Office).

certified at Tokyo,

on this 8th day of April, 1947

(signed) HAYASHI, Kaoru (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

at the same place,

on this same date

Witness: (signed) URABE, Katsuma (seal)

TRANSLATION CERTIFICATE

I, Yukio, KAWAMOTO, 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/ Yukio, KAWAMOTO

Tokyo, Japan

Date 22 April, 1947

Rejected

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聯盟者等トノ勸力多止ニ付スル等該部長談

(昭和十三年十一月二日)

一、昨年支那事變發生シ九月十二日支那側力之ヲ聯盟ニ提訴シテ以來  
 會及理事會ハ帝國ノ對支行動ヲ九國條約及不平等條約違反ト認定シ支那  
 ニ付スル精神的援助ヲ約スルト共ニ聯盟國ニ對シ個別のニ對支援助ヲ  
 勸諭シ又我軍ノ無防備都市空襲ヤ毒瓦斯使用ヲ云々シ帝國ヲ非難スル  
 諸決議ヲ採擇シタカ今秋ノ理事會ハ更ニ支那側ノ要求ヲ容レ規約第十  
 七條ヲ支那事變ニ適用シ遂ニ九月三十日同條第三項ニ依リ各締約國ハ  
 帝國ニ對シ規約十六條所定ノ制裁措置ヲ個別のニ成リ得トノ報告ヲ採  
 擇スルニ至ツタ

即最近聯盟ノ活動ヲ見ルニ其ノ創立時代ノ理想ト離レ少放列國暗闘ノ  
 溢床トナツタコトハ明瞭テ且今尙自己ノ無力ニ目ヲ擊ヒ帝國ニ對シ聯  
 盟創立以來最初ノ非難聯盟ニ對スル前事等項ノ適用ヲ敢テスルニ至ツ  
 タコトハ正ニ帝國ニ對スル不當干渉タルノミナラス又惡意アル策謀ト

認メサルヲ得ナイ。新ノ如キ聯盟ノ實踐竝ニ對日態度ニ鑑ミ政府ハ茲ニ聯盟機關トノ現存協力關係ヲ終止スル方針ヲ決定シ今回御意可ヲ經テ二日附其ノ旨天羽國際會議帝國事務局長ヨリ聯盟事務局長へ通達セシメタ

一、昭和八年三月帝國カ聯盟脫退ノ通告ヲテセル際異クモ御認書ヲ發セラレ帝國ノ經テ所ヲ細指示アリ、爾來政府ハ聖旨ヲ奉讀シ聯盟脫退后モ聯盟ノ平和人道的諸事業ニ參加シテ來タノテアルカ、不幸今回ノ聯盟決議ノ結果帝國ハ向後之等ノ協力ヲ終止スルコトト爲ツタ。然シ之ハ聯盟ナル機關ヲ維持シ行ハルル國際事業ニ對スル參加力終止サレタコトヲ意味スルニ過キナイノデ前報御認書ノ趣旨ハ炳トシテ存シ帝國政府ハ之ヲ奉讀シテ平和各段ノ企圖ハ向後亦協力シテ渝ルナク尙依然トシテ人類ノ安寧福祉ヲ目的トスル國際事業ニ參與協力スルニ努ムルテアラウ

聯盟機關トノ協力終止ニ對スル通告文竝ニ協力終止ノ結  
果

本官ハ帝國政府ノ訓令ニ依リ、九月三十日國際聯盟理事會カ聯盟規約第十七條第三項ニ基キ第十六條ノ規定ハ帝國ニ適用セラレ得ヘシトスル報告ヲ採擇シタル結果斯クニ帝國ト聯盟トノ間ニ發生シタル事態ニ鑑ミ帝國ハ國際聯盟脫退後心算シ來レル帝國ノ聯盟諸機關ニ對スル協力ヲ停止スルコトニ決定シタル旨茲ニ貴下ニ報告スルノ光榮ヲ有ス

此ノ結果、聯盟各種委員會中常設委任統治委員會、阿片諮問委員會、社會問題諮問委員會ニハ政府カラ代表ヲ列席サセ常設委任統治委員會、學藝協力委員會、阿片中央委員會、經濟委員會、保健委員會ニハ個人的資力ヲ委員又ハ準委員カ協力シテキルカ、前者ニ付テハ代表ヲ免シ後者ニ付テハ土々委任ヲ見ルコトトナラウ。又官報傳染病情報局、勞働機關、常設國際司法裁判所トノ協力モ終止サレヨウ。今回ノ聯盟ハ勿論委任統治ニハ關係ナク現状カ維持サレテ行クノテアルカ只常設委任統治委員會ノ建議ニ貴方代表者ヲ參加セシムルコトハ出來ナクナル

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文書ノ出所竝ニ成立ニ關スル證明書

自分林馨ハ外務省文書課長ノ一ニ居ル者ナル處茲ニ添付セラレタル日本書ニ依ツテ書カレ三頁ヨリ成ル聯盟證機關トノ能力終止ニ關スル情報部長等ト對スル書類ハ日本政府（外務省）ノ長官ニ呈ル公文書ノ正當ニシテ真実ナル寫シナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十年四月八日 於東京

林

馨

by 1126

右署名捺印ハ自分ノ面前ニ於テ爲サレタリ  
同日於同所

立會人

海

部

長

官