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INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

Doc. No. 3321

29 October 1947

ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

Title and Nature: Loose shorthand record, "Secret Meeting on the term HAKKO ICHIU during the Budget Committee Meeting of the House of Representatives, 76th Diet Session."

Date: 22 March 1941 Original Copy Language: Jap.

Has it been translated? Yes No

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL: Document Division

SOURCE OF ORIGINAL: Diet

PERSONS IMPLICATED: KONOYE, Fumimaro; HASHIDA, Kunihiro;
ITAGAKI, Seishiro

CRIMES TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: Conspiracy for world domination.

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT POINTS:

This secret meeting shows that even though the Second KONOYE Cabinet announced that "the national policy of Japan will be founded upon the great spirit of HAKKO ICHIU," no one seems to know exactly what is meant by HAKKO ICHIU. Premier KONOYE made a written explanation, the substance of which was:

"The principle of making the world one harmonious body like one family and to enable each country to find its proper place and to exhibit its special characteristic." (No. 3, p. 6)

The above explanation by KONOYE was not clear so Member IKUTA asked what was meant by each of the phrases used. Education Minister HASHIDA, speaking in the absence of KONOYE, said that he didn't quite clearly understand it either from the technical standpoint and would make a study on it. (No. 4, p. 31)

Member IKUTA further stated that War Minister ITAGAKI only had a faint idea about its meaning even though he used that term often.

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IKUTA furthermore warned that if any mistaken interpretation about the term is held by the Cabinet and if such Cabinet managed the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, a serious result would be brought about in the future. (No. 6, p. 41)

Analyst:
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