

Ep 516

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To be kept in  
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Telegram

(Secret Cipher Process)

TOKYO 12 June 1940 2140 hours  
Arrival 12 June 1940 2000 hours

No. 560 of 12 June

Re Telegram No. 483 of the 9th BRAM/Bureau German Foreign Ministry/  
and 477 x) of 8 June.

x) Pw 955

By the known attitude of the YONAI-ARITA Cabinet and press chief Sumatra, who is fully orientated towards China and Japan, the Italian protest will doubtless have a contrary effect. Present Government clique had quietly hoped that as a consequence of the German action against Holland and Belgium, America would enter the war and thereby be forced to alleviate pressure on Japan. As variously reported, this line of thought has also found a place in the press closely connected with the government. The fact that America not only is remaining out of the European war, but has even increased pressure on Japan through maintenance of the fleet at Hawaii, continued financial aid to Chiang Kai Shek and above all through the embargo on material and machines vitally necessary to Japan, has greatly disturbed the government. (Compare telegram No. 548 of 8 June concerning action of KUHARA) and press campaign against America newly stimulated. Even attempts of certain American politicians to become friendly after the entry of Italy into the war, which was reported in full in the press here, could not, as various leading articles prove, change the suspicious attitude of the press here against American aims in East Asia.

Each German or Italian move which reveals the concern over American attitude in the near future would only be a cue to the government and the press which is close to it to make new courtship of America. The government would further try, as in the case of the Asama Maru, to impute to us the intention of using Japan as a tool of our policy, an argument which would not be ineffective with the known suspicion of the Japanese.

The embassy is still endeavoring to stir up Japanese ill feeling against America by influencing the press and leading political personalities in a way deemed proper. I myself have expressed the thought in many discussions with leading political personalities as for example



KONOYE, SUETSUGU, and KUHARA that the interests and activity of America-... (one group garbled) in the Pacific area and therefore a conflict between Japan and America is in the long run unavoidable.

A confidential cooperation with the embassy, ambassadors OSHAIR and SHIRATOUT/ OSHIMA and SHIRATORI / and circles closely connected with them are operating in the same direction.

Italian charge d'affair will inform his government of the above arguments.

OTT

/136337 - 136338/



AFFIDAVIT

I, W. P. Cumming, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say:

1. That I am an Attache of the United States Department of State on the Staff of the United States Political Adviser on German Affairs, and as such I am a representative of the Office of Military Government for Germany (U.S.). That in my capacity as above set forth, I have in my possession, custody, and control at the Berlin Documents Center, Berlin, Germany, the original captured German Foreign Office files and archives.

2. That said original Foreign Office files and archives were captured and obtained by military forces under the command of the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Forces, and upon their seizure and capture were first assembled by said military forces at a Military Document Center at Marburg, Germany, and were later moved by authorized personnel of said Allied forces to said central documents center, above referred to, and known as the Berlin Documents Center.

3. That I was assigned to said document center at Marburg, Germany, on August 15, 1945; and said captured German Foreign Office files and archives first came into my possession and control while I was stationed at Marburg, Germany, and that thereafter the same have continued in my possession and custody and under my control.

4. That the document to which this affidavit is attached is a true and correct photostatic copy of an original German Foreign Office document which was captured from said German Foreign Office files and archives, and which came into my possession and custody and under my control in the manner above set forth.

5. That said original document, of which the attached is a photostatic copy, is being held and retained by me in order that it may be examined and inspected by various interested agencies, and a photostatic copy of said original is hereby furnished and certified to because of the unavailability of said original for the reasons above set forth.

s/ W. P. Cumming  
\_\_\_\_\_  
W. P. CUMMING

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of April 1946.

s/ G. H. Garde  
\_\_\_\_\_  
G. H. GARDE  
Lt. Colonel, AGD  
Acting Adjutant General

OFFICE OF MILITARY  
GOVERNMENT FOR GERMANY (U.S.)