

Ref. Doc. # 2875.

STATEMENT

I, LOY W. HENDERSON, state that during the years 1936, 1937 and the first half of 1938 I served as First Secretary of the American Embassy at Moscow. At times during this period, in the absence of the American Ambassador, I was Charge d'Affaires ad interim at Moscow.

In my capacity as Charge d'Affaires, or as First Secretary of the Embassy, I had numerous conversations with Mr. SHIGEMITSU while the latter was Japanese Ambassador to the Soviet Union. As a result of these conversations, as well as of talks of a personal nature, I came to the firm belief that Mr. SHIGEMITSU was out of sympathy with the expansionist and aggressive policies of the Japanese militarists and was deeply concerned lest their growing influence might involve Japan in a world war; that he was endeavoring to prevail upon his Government not to follow an expansionist policy or to look upon war, or the threat of war as a legitimate means for attain political objectives; and that he was sincerely striving to bring about a

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liquidation by friendly negotiation of the differences existing at that time between the U.S.S.R. and Japan. Mr. SHIGEMITSU was frank during the course of our various conversations in condemning the aggressive policies of the Japanese militarists toward China and in deploring the tendencies of the Japanese Government to cooperate with the Axis powers rather than with the great democracies of the West.

During my association with Mr. SHIGEMITSU I came to have the highest regard for him because I believed him to be a man of personal integrity and idealism, a belief which was shared by most members of the American Embassy at Moscow.

  
Loy W. Henderson

Washington, D.C.  
December 23, 1946

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(Signed) Loy W. Henderson

Washington, D.C.  
December 23, 1946.

陳述書

余、ロイ、ダブリュー、ヘンダスン」ハ左ノ通り陳述スル。余ハ一九三六年、一九三七年及ヒ一九三八年ノ前半ニ於テ在「モスコ」米國大使館一等書記官トシテ在勤シタ。右ノ期間中時々余ハ米國大使不在ノ際在「モスコ」代理大使トナッタコトガアル。

余ハ代理大使トシテ又ハ大使館一等書記官トシテ重光氏駐ソ」日本大使デアッタ時代度々同氏ト會談シタ。此等會談ノ結果トシテ、余ハ、重光氏が日本軍國者流ノ膨脹的侵略的政策ニ同情ヲ有セズ且ツ此等ノ者ノ勢力が日本ヲ世界ノ

増大

戦争ニヒキ入レハシナイカト深ク心配シテ居タコト、及ビ本國政府が膨  
 脹政策ヲ採ルコトナク又戦争又ハ戦争ノ脅威ヲ政治的目的  
 達成ノ合法的手段ト見ルコトノナイヤウ本國政府ヲ説得シヤウ  
 ト努力シテ居タコト、茲ニ當時日ソ間ニアラタ係争問題ヲ友  
 好的交渉ニヨツテ解決シヤウト熱心ニ努力ヲ余ハ確信スルニ至リ。  
 (シテ居タコト)  
 我々累次ノ會談中重光氏ハ卒直ニ日本軍國者流ノ中國  
 ニ対スル侵略的政策ヲ非難シ、日本政府が欧米ノ民主主義  
 國ヨリモムシロ枢軸國ト協力スル傾向アルコトヲ悲シムニ居タ。

余ハ重光氏トノ交友ヨリ氏ニ最高ノ敬意ヲ拂フヤウニタツタソ  
 レハ氏が誠實ニシテ理想主義ノ人デアルト余ガ信ジテ居タカラ  
 デアリ、モスコ、米國大使館員ノ大部分ハ皆ユノ見解ヲ懷  
 イテ居タ。

一九四六年十二月二十三日

「ワシントン」ニ於テ

「ロイ、タブリユ、ヘンダースン」(署名)