

Ref Doc # 230

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INFORMAL STATEMENT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER, ADMIRAL KICHISABURO
NOMURA MADE TO THE PRESS WHILE EN ROUTE TO KWANSAI.

October 21, 1939.

1. The settlement of the China Affair.

The settlement of the China Affair will, as has been made public by the Government, be achieved through extending assistance to the new central government of China which will shortly be formed and helping its healthy growth in accordance with the basic policy decided upon by the Government. I hope that nothing will be left undone for the purpose in the light of ^{the} actual situation in China and the general situation. The Japanese Government hope for the organization of the new central government as early as possible, but it is their strong expectation that ^{the} government should be powerful enough to enjoy confidence of the entire Chinese people.

It is true that Japan's efforts to settle the China Affair have been obstructed by some of the third Powers which directly or indirectly have extended assistance to the Chiang Kai-shek regime. However, some people seem to think that the settlement of the ^a China Affair is in sight now that it has become impossible for pro-Chiang Powers to extend their influence to the Far East as a result of the outbreak of the European War. The matter is not so simple as that since ^{the} real purpose of the settlement of the China Affair is to establish a new order in East Asia. This is the reason both the Japanese Government and the people are called upon to redouble their efforts.

In the first place, the new order which we want to realize is by no means so narrow and exclusive as suspected by ^{the} third Powers, but it is an order of such a form and content as will enable East Asia as such to contribute most effectively toward the peace and progress of the world. In the second place, the national determination of Japan in establishing such a new order is not so weak as to be

shake^N by an interference of third Powers; ours is an iron will. The key to the adjustment of our relations with third Powers lies in real understanding putting oneself in the other man's position. on their part of these two points. It is necessary for us, therefore, to form a broad standpoint and with an irrevocable determination we have endeavoured to make other Powers fully understand them. embarked, as I have said, upon the great task of constructing a new order in

2. Relations with Great Britain and France. East Asia. It is urgently hoped that America will correctly understand this aim of ours. The key to the adjustment of relations of Great Britain and France with

our country lies in their full understanding of the significance of the new order in East Asia and their co-operation for what Japan intends to realize. Although the Anglo-Japanese conversations on the questions of the Tientsin Panama Conference, in the prevention of the conflagration from spreading to the American continents. have already been thoroughly conveyed to the British. Accordingly any future developments depend upon the degree of understanding they may display toward us. prevent the war from spreading to East Asia. I suppose this position of Japan

As regards the Kulangsu issue, it was amicably settled, as announced in the press of the 18th instant, through the agreement reached between the concession authorities and the Japanese Consul General at Amoy. It is to be congratulated that, by virtue of this settlement, the general situation in

4. The Soviet Union. the Amoy district has become normal and that arrangements have been completed to prevent that district from becoming a hotbed of anti-Japanese terrorism. between Japan and the Soviet Union and to firmly establish normal relations

3. Relations with the United States. Ambassador Grew has returned--I want to hear from him personally regarding the attitudes of the American Government and private circles, and discuss frankly with him on the developments that have taken place in East Asia during his absence. I am glad that the Ambassador is to make it his life work for the promotion of Japanese-American friendship. But friendship must be based upon mutual understanding, and mutual understanding begins, I believe, with looking at the actual situation squarely in the face and judging things by

5. Relations with Germany and Italy.

Since the conclusion of the German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact there appears

putting oneself in the other man's position.

From a broad standpoint and with an irrevocable determination we have embarked, as I have said, upon the great task of constructing a new order in East Asia. It is urgently hoped that America will correctly understand this aim of ours.

Now being confronted by the unfortunate European War, America's chief concern seems to lie, as indicated by the resolution recently adopted at the Panama Conference, in the prevention of the conflagration from spreading to the American continents.

Japan in East Asia feels the same concern, and we are doing our best to prevent the war from spreading to East Asia. I suppose this position of Japan is well appreciated by America, and I believe Japan and America should join hands in safeguarding the peace of the Pacific, each country endeavouring to secure peace in its own sphere.

4. The Soviet Union.

My policy is to eliminate all vestiges of the tension that has once existed between Japan and the Soviet Union and to firmly establish normal relations between the two countries. For this purpose, it is imperative that the boundary question and all other pending questions should be settled in a satisfactory manner. As regards the situation following the Nomonhan Truce Agreement, hostilities have been stopped, and the exchange of prisoners and the bodies of the dead and other matters have all been carried out on the spot. I believe the commission for the delimitation of boundary regarding the Nomonhan area will soon be appointed.

5. Relations with Germany and Italy.

Since the conclusion of the German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact there appears

to have been^a misunderstanding in certain quarters that the Anti-Comintern Pact has been abrogated. It goes without saying that Japan will adhere unflinchingly to her Anti-Comintern policy which constitutes the basis of her national policy. The friendly relations between Japan and Germany as well as between Japan and Italy, based upon the Anti-Comintern agreement, have not been affected in any way.

6. Relations with The South Seas.

With the countries in the South Seas Japan desires common prosperity and wellbeing through economic co-operation. Our intention is, of course, ^{peace} ~~Pacific~~. However, since we are devoting all our energy to the execution of our campaign in China, we can not afford to tolerate any Pro-Chiang Kai-shek activities on the part of the South Seas countries. At the same time in view of our great need of ~~the~~ raw materials produced in that region, we have serious concern in seeing to it that channels of its supply are not obstructed.

7. The European War.

Owing to the advance of the Soviet Union to the Baltic and other events, the European situation is growing more complex than ever. It is extremely difficult to hazard an opinion. But despite Mr. Hitler's desire for peace, I am afraid it is going to be a long war.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section,
Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that
the document hereto attached in Japanese consisting
of 6 pages^s and entitled "Informal Statement of
the Foreign Minister, Admiral Kichisaburo
Nomura made to the Press while en route
to Kwansai. Oct. 21, 1939 "

is an exact and true copy of an official document of the
Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,

on this 13th day of January, 1946⁷.

K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness : T. Sato

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CERTIFICATE

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I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section,
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Political

Jap. Doc. No. 532

Subject. 野村外務大臣 柳中談要旨

昭和14年10月21日

Defence Counsel. 島内 Phase

Russia China

Certification is attached to this.
~~will be lately completed.~~

Priority

II

(A) Copy only *Stencil*
(The official translation is attached to this.)

(B) ~~Translate and copy.~~
(~~Translation for reference is not attached to this.~~)

Date *Jan 16th 1947*

Sign *J. D. C.*

E. Chikara

(41)

Note

Ref loc # 230

野村外務大臣車中談要旨

昭和十四年
十月二十一日

一、支那事変処理

支那事変処理ハ曩ニ廟議決定ヲ見タ根本方針ニ基キ近ク成立スル新支
 那中央政府ノ生誕ヲ援助シ之カ完遂ヲ図ルニアルコト政府発表ノ通りテア
 ル。右実施ニ當ソテハ支那ニ於ケル現実ノ事態竝ニ一般情勢ヲ十分照合シ
 遺憾ノアイヤウニシタイト思ツテ居ル。中央政府成立ノ時期ニ就イテハ帝
 國政府トシテハ固ヨリ其ノ一日モ早イ事ヲ希望シテ居ルカ、眞ニ支那民衆ノ
 輿望ヲ擔ソタ強カク政府トナルコトヲ一層強ク期待シテ居ルモノテアル。
 事変勃発以來第三國中蔣政権ヲ陰ニ陽ニ援助シテ来タモノカ、タ爲
 帝國ノ事変処理カ妨害ヲ受ケタコトハ事實テアルカ、歐洲戰事勃發後之
 等援蔣國カ極東ニ勢力ヲ伸ハス餘裕カナクナツタ爲直チニ事変解決ノ
 目途カ付クモノト考ヘル者カアルカ、事変処理ノ眞ノ目標ハ東亞新秩序ノ

外務

建設ニ在ルノテアツテ爾ク簡單ニ行クモノテハナイ。此ノ際帝國官民一層ノ努力
カ期待セラレル所以テアル。

吾人ノ希求シテ平ル東亞新秩序ハ第三國ノ疑フカ如キ小衆的ナ排他的ノ東
洋^理テハナク、東亞カ東亞トシテ世界ノ平和及進達ニ最モ有效的ニ寄與シ得ル
様ナ形態ト内容ヲ得ルコトテアル。而シテ斯ル新秩序ヲ建設セントスル日本
國民ノ國民的決意ハ第三國ノ干涉ニ依テ變形セラレルカ如キ脆弱ナルモノテハナ
ク、ソレハ實ニ不退轉ノ鉄石心テアル。第三國トノ國交調整ノ基調ハコノ二點カ
真ニ第三國側ニ依テ諒解サレルコトニ在ル。我々ノ努力スヘキハ列國ヲシテ心カラ
之ヲ認識サセルコトニ在ルト思フ。

二、對英佛關係

英佛等ノ諸國ハ右ニ述ヘタ様ナ東亞ノ新秩序ノ意義ヲ十分理解シ、帝國ノ
意圖ニ協カスルコトカ帝國トノ間ニ國交ヲ調整スル鍵テアル。

天津租界問題ニ関スル日英會談ハ中止ノママテアレカ、天津租界ノ問題ニ関スル

我方學生張公先般國會議談於十分英國側面徹底に居坐著てヤシカラス今後ノ
幾行改英國側ノ我方對動其理解ノ程度如何ニカモ譯テテアル。會議ノ決議ニ徵
鼓浪嶼租界問題ニ夫ルハ其ノ新開發表防通又租界側ト在厦門内田總領
東亞ノ胸ヲ取極ニ依テ圓滿ノ解決ノ様ヲ、合同解決方法ニ復シテ厦門方面ニ
於テ之般情勢極テ常態セシ且同地方ヲ抗日ヲテ口、殊因尋ノ策源地止場ヲイ
様ナク解決ニ急来多クハ結構ニト斯思テ、ソノ屬スル地域ノ平和確立ニ努
三、對米關係ニ太平洋ノ平和ヲ擁護スヘク協力スヘキヲト思ツテ居ル。
四、最近蘇州ノ使カ歸任サレタノテ、同大使ヨリ親シク、米國官邸其ノ他ノ動向
ヲ窺キ同大使不在中ノ東亞動向ヲ付テ至極秘密ニ其意見ヲ交換確立ニ
見言フト思フ。ハ同大使ノ百餘親善月畢生為任事同地ニ盡其地ニ於テ其
ハ蘇州ニ解コ米テアルハ、親善必相互理解ノ上ニ立テ、相互理解ニ其坦懷ニ
現漢文事是也。再提テ相親親善ヲテ、物死對面定信ト夫等ハ其ノ相思フ。吾人
等前此ヲ通行其果的見地尚云テ不返轉ノ決意勿論、東亞再建ノ大業ニ其不
出

シテキルノテアリ米國コノ目的トコノ決意トヲ正解センコトヲ要望スルモノテアル。尚
現在歐洲ニ於ケル不幸ナ動乱ニ際シ米國ノ関心ハ先般ノ「パナマ」會議ノ決議ニ徴
スルモ歐洲動乱カ米大陸ニ波及スルコトヲ防止スルニ在ルト思ハレルカ、日本カ
東亞ニ於テ考ヘテ居ルノモ亦右ト同様テ、歐洲動乱カ東亞ニ波及スルコトヲ
防止スル爲ニ種々苦慮シテ居ル次第テアツテ、米國モコノ日本ノ立場ハ
良ク理解出来ルヲラウシ、日米ハ斯クシテソノ屬スル地域ノ平和確立ニ努
カレツツ相互ニ太平洋ノ平和ヲ擁護スヘク協力スヘキタト思ツテ居ル。

四、對蘇關係

日蘇兩國間ノ險惡テアツタ空氣ヲ一掃シテ兩國間ニ平靜ナル關係ヲ確立
シヨウトスルノハ自分ノ方針テアルカ之カ爲ニハ國境問題其他從來ノ懸案
カ圓滿ニ解決セラレルコトカ必須ノ要件テアル。コノモンハン」停戦協定後
ノ狀況ヲ見ルト現地テハ戦闘停止、戦死者ノ屍体及大部分ノ捕虜ノ交換
等既ニ実行済テアル。尚「コノモンハン」附近紛争地域ニ関スル國境確定

委員會モ近ク成立スルコトト思フ。

五、對獨^伊關係

獨蘇不可侵條約カ締結サレテ以來、防共協定ハ廢棄セラレタトノ誤解ヲ生レテ居ル様テアルカ、帝國カ飽ク迄防共政策ヲ堅持シ、之ヲ國策ノ基準トシテ居ルコトハ勿論テアリ、而シテ日伊間ハ素ヨリ日獨兩國モ、防共協定ニ基ク友好關係ニ在ルコトニ何等影響ハナイ。

六、南洋トノ關係

我方ハ南方諸邦ニ對シテ、經濟的提携ニヨル、共存共榮ヲ希望シ、其ノ意圖ノ平和的ナルハ言フ迄モナイ。但シ我國トシテハ、支那事變遂行ニ全カラ傾注シテキル際テアルカラ、南方諸邦ニヨル援蔣行爲ハ、之ヲ容認シ得ナイ立場ニアルト共ニ、我國ハ南方諸地方ノ資源ヲ必要トスル所カ多イ關係上、之カ供給ノ阻碍サレナイコトニ付テ、多大ノ關心ヲ有スル次第ニアル。

七、歐洲戰爭ノ見透

111
歐洲ノ情勢ハ、其ノ後蘇聯ノ「バルチック」諸國ニ對スル進出、其ノ他種々ノ出来事
カアリ、益々複雑ナ様相ヲ具ヘテ来テ居ルノテ、之ニ對シテ的確ナ判断ヲ下スコト
ハ極メテ困難テアルカ、「ヒトラー」總統ノ和平希望ニモ拘ラス寧ろ長期戦ニ
進ンテ行クノテハナイカト思フ。