

Def. Doc. # 3017

EX 3876

Errata Sheet

SAIONJI -- HARADA Memoirs

Chapter 257 (6 Dec. 1937)

Page 1, line 1

6 Dec. 1937 should read as

7 Dec. 1937

EX 3876

SAIONJI-HARADA MEMOIRS

December 6, 1937

"We have got an understanding with the other side that the terms will vary with the change of the war situation, but the junior officers of the Army, entirely ignorant of such circumstances, said that the fault was with Hirota who has too early confided our real intention to the other side. We are annoyed to have the members of the General Staff, including Kagesa, threatening clamorously since yesterday that Hirota should be killed, or apprehended. Just at noon on December 8, the War Minister came and said that he would dine with the Prime Minister Konoye. When he told it to the War Minister, the latter said that he would tell the Chief of the Second Section beforehand to keep it secret, for it would be troublesome if the middle-class officers should hear about it. Already at that time, however, the junior officers, including Kagesa, of the General Staff and the War Ministry were exceedingly angry to learn it."

After that I went back home, and about half past four, I called again at the official residence of the Minister of the Navy. As I spoke of the above-mentioned matter in the presence of the Minister and the Vice-Minister of the Navy, they both answered to the following effect: The fault was rather with the Army. Both the Army and the Navy once wanted to cease war as soon as possible, when the General Staff was so intent on a peace move through the medium of Major-General Ott, the military attache to the German Embassy at Tokyo, that it pressed the Foreign Ministry for negotiation. Since then, the negotiation has been continued by the Foreign Minister. As I have repeatedly stated, the Army, Navy and Foreign Ministers have once a week dined together to talk about diplomacy and arrived at a mutual understanding. Accordingly, nothing should happen so long as the Army is well controlled. We will argue for the Foreign Minister that such a hitch has

taken place because the Army failed to inform the Foreign Ministry, even if through the medium of the Prime Minister, of the change of the operations plans according to the change of the war situation, in order to keep a close communication with the diplomatic authorities. So we ought not to reproach the Foreign Minister only.

At any rate, Foreign Minister Hirota has previously sought an understanding with the other side that we might present new terms, so there is no objection to submitting newly stronger terms. The fact is, those who wanted to attack and exclude Hirota took this opportunity to cause trouble, in spite of the fact that there was no question whatever because we have an understanding with the other side that the above-mentioned terms corresponded to the then situation and that the former would vary according to the change of the latter. The Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal was also angry at the embarrassing attitude of the Army toward the present problem on diplomacy.

Def. Doc. #3017

辯證例文書第三〇一七號

西園寺原田日記

左ノ通訂正願ひます
第一頁 一行目

正

誤

要

十二月六日を
十二月七日と訂正

西園寺原田日記 十二年十二月六日

戦況がらつと變化してくれば又其状態に依つて條件も違つて来るから其
 處は心得てくれと云ふことをよく先方に言つて居るんだけれども然し陸軍
 あたりの若い連中はさう云ふ條件付みたやうな事は全然無視して「兎に角
 廣田が此方の社を速く先方に言つてしまつた事が悪い」參謀本部の影佐と
 か云ふやうな連中は「廣田を殺す」とか「廣田を捉へて縛つてしまへ」と
 か言つて昨夜から喧しいんで困つて居る」と云ふ話であつて、恰度八日の
 晝にも陸軍大臣が来て「其話で總理と食事をする」と云ふ話であつてさう
 して近來總理の話に「陸軍大臣に此話をした處が陸軍大臣は「若し斯う云
 ふ事が又中層階級の連中に聞えろと五月頃から第二部長によくさう言つて
 秘して置かふ」と云ふ事を言つて居つたが既にさう其時には影佐始め參謀
 本部や陸軍省の若い連中はさう言ふ事を知つて非常に憤慨して居つた」と
 云ふ話であつた。

それから自分は一應歸つてその後四時半頃、又海軍大臣の官舎に行つて海
 軍次官と大臣の居る所で今の話をして見た處が山本次官は「寧ろこれは陸
 軍の方が悪いんで一時陸海軍は非常に「戦争を一時も遅くやめなくてはな
 らん」と云ふ時があつた。其時にドイツのオットと云ふ陸軍の少將で東京
 駐在の武官を通して參謀本部は頻りに其時分からいろいろやつて居つたの

で、さうして外務省にも頼りに交渉をせついで居つた。其時の話を外務大臣は續けて居つたので此前から言ふやうに陸軍海軍外務の三大臣が一週に一週づつ食事をして殊に外交なんか懸談し俵らやつて居るんであるから其處に陸軍の統制さへ付いて居るんならば何事も起る筈もないのにさうして三人の大臣達の間の話はよく分つて居るので若し更に外務大臣を辯護するならば陸軍は戦況の進むにつれて策戦がドシドシ變つて来る其様子さうして外務省なり外務大臣なりに或は總理を通じて計畫の變化其推移をよく話して外務省の當局者と嚴密な聯絡を執つて居なかつた爲に斯ういふヒツチが起つたのである。強ち外務大臣ばかりを責める事には行かない。と云ふ事を山本次官も米内海相も言つて居つた。さうして此問題は結局「新しい條件を又出さ」と云ふ事を前から廣田外務大臣も先方に言つてあるんだから新たに又もつと強い條件を出してちつとちかまはない。で此前の時は前から言つて居るやうに「此程までの時に此條件であつて又此程度が變つて来れば自然條件も變つて来る」と云ふことは言つてあるんだから好いじかないかしと云ふけれども所謂廣田を攻撃し排斥しようとする連中はこれをよいしほにまあゴタゴタやつて居つたと云ふ情況であつた。内大臣は矢張外交の件に就て「今起つて居る問題に就て陸軍の態度が非常によくはない」と言つて憤慨して居つた。

