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that they should not operate unilaterally against the interest of Japan. For, if the proposed principles and desire of the American Government be applied exclusively to the Pacific areas, Japan will be subject to all kinds of restraint in the East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere where a new order is being established, while the United States will be left free from any such restraint in the adjacent areas.

(b) "any countries which are in a better condition and are more advanced geographically and from the viewpoint of natural resources as well as militarily, politically and economically, should adopt a fair attitude for the distribution ..." suggests (in connection with the proposed principles of equality of economic opportunity and treatment, that any countries which are in better condition should take fair measures for the distribution of essential raw materials, and that they should cooperate with other countries, making the most of their respective power of leadership) that it is only natural for Japan to take peaceful leadership in the economy of the East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere.

(c) "it is natural, proper and absolutely necessary for the establishment and promotion of peace that fundamental necessities for the existence of a certain country should be mutually satisfied ..." manifests that it is natural and is necessary for the establishment of the Co-prosperity Sphere that Japan is exerting itself to bring forth peace through the policy of good neighborliness, that is, with Manchuria and China as the nucleus. It also shows that the mutual respect for the individual characteristics of adjacent countries does not mean the acquisition of superiority which the United States cautions us against, denoting that such has a basis in common with the Monroe Doctrine of the United States. Further, with respect to "the satisfaction of the necessities for existence", we have taken in the idea of the defense against dangers advocated by the Government of the United States, and the joint defense of China has also been taken into consideration.

In short, all such statements quoted in (a) (b) and (c) are made by way of precaution lest Japan's hands should be tied in the future negotiations in her efforts for the establishment of the Co-prosperity Sphere, to which she is committed.

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