

- 6 -

intention of the British and the Americans to wipe out Germany and Italy now, and then only to attack Japan with combined strength, although the Dutch and the Australians had strongly urged a change in the Allied war plans - namely, for an immediate attack on Japan.

The RAM then informed Ambassador Oshima regarding the audiences given by the Fuehrer in the last few days to the Allied Statesmen and informed him that the Duce was here at a discussion lasting several days at which the military situation was exhaustively discussed. All reports which spoke of a weakening or of a wavering attitude on the part of Italy were absolutely false. The Duce, who had his people firmly in hand, had decided to march to victory with us without compromise. We extended to the Italians, wherever necessary, the support of our troops, of whom a large section were standing on native Italian soil. In any case there existed between the Fuehrer and the Duce unanimous agreement on all questions.

The same applied to Rumania whose Head of the State, Antonescu, likewise visited the Fuehrer and who confirmed our conviction that he was a good soldier and a distinguished leader^{of} his people. Prime Minister Mihai Antonescu was to be judged a little less favorably, being not so strong and firm a character.

Also our old friend, King Boris of Bulgaria, was on a visit to the Fuehrer. It was absolutely clear that Bulgaria would march with us through thick and thin.

Admiral Horthy was also here for quite a long discussion. All questions concerning Hungary were likewise unanimously settled.

So far as our brave allies, the Finns, were concerned, the Americans attempted some time ago to snatch them out of our ranks and persuade them to a separate peace. The Finnish Government gave the U.S.A. an unequivocal reply to this, which from the point of view of clearness left nothing to be desired and was frankly a diplomatic box on the ears. Up to now this reply was not made public, nor did we insist upon it out of consideration for the Finns.

- 7 -

The result of all these discussions was that each Ally was prepared to make the utmost effort for final victory and the common cause, not to agree to any kind of compromise and to fight until the enemy had been wiped out.

The RAM outlined our own situation as follows:

Our production programme was running properly this year for the first time. Our losses in dead, wounded and missing amounted to a total of 1,4 million, a comparatively small proportion. 7 million foreign workers have been incorporated in our production operations, 5 million Germans were also working in industry, who had had military training but had not yet been in action and who represented a considerable reserve. The Reich was provided with raw materials. It was important only that Japan deliver us rubber. The Ukraine assured our food. In the West, tremendous fortifications have been erected from the far North down to the South. Our Air Force construction programme has for some time been undergoing reorganisation. When this has been completed, a counter-offensive will follow which will represent a terrible revenge for the air terror by our enemies over the German Reich territory. Our defence is being ever further developed and strengthened. The result is that, on an average, out of 100 enemy machines only 20 returned undamaged. 80 of them were damaged or shot down. In the attack two days ago on Southern Germany, out of 300 machines, 50 were shot down by us, which the British themselves admitted. The loss in flying personnel, which represents an elite section of soldier youth, is therefore extremely high. The U-Boat Arm on its part is constantly making further progress and attaining ever greater success. A landing by the enemy on the European continent would for this reason alone become ever more difficult for them. The reports of success by our enemies, on the other hand, are so false that they can no longer be believed and only prove their desperate position. Thus the British recently reported having shot down 40 German machines in Tunis with the loss of only two of their own. Actually the fight turned out in our favor, with exactly contrary numbers. These are just typical Jewish propaganda tricks.

It is important in the interest of the unified conduct of the war for Japan also to destroy corresponding forces of the enemy. Then the time would

• 8 •

come when ever increasing unrest would extend within America, as the people would not understand the reason for the war. The ordinary U.S.A. soldier did not know for what he was fighting and did not understand the aims of his plutocratic, imperialistic leadership. The harder and the quicker we attacked them, the sooner such difficulties would arise in the home politics of the U.S.A.

Ambassador Oshima emphasised that his Government certainly contemplated taking the offensive again during the year, as he was sure that it was known in Tokyo that the establishment of the Great East Asiatic Reich could only be brought about by the greatest effort on their part.

The Ambassador then submitted to the RAM a travel report of two members of the Japanese Embassy in Kiubyschew who recently had the opportunity of carrying out quite a long journey in Russia. He emphasised that naturally the two Japanese were only shown definite things and that, therefore, little significance could be ascribed to the indications on account of their propagandistic character. He, however, wished to point to the propaganda theses as set out in the last paragraph, which show the necessity for counter-propaganda on the part of Germany. He was convinced that seditious work in Russia, which, as is of course known, consists of many different races, would have a great success and was absolutely necessary. The Ambassador took this opportunity to point out the success which the Japanese had in Burma through their declaration of its independence, which had a very strong influence on India and the other neighboring peoples.

The R/A then stated in conclusion as a motto for the conduct of the war by the allies: Early victory lies in the offensive.

The bonds of the triangle Berlin-Rome-Tokyo must be rigidly tightened and everyone must put his utmost into the effort, for which reason Japan on her part must also go over to a major offensive this year.

At the conclusion of the discussion the RAM, in the presence of Amba-

- 9 -

sador Oshima, received Admiral Nomura to take leave. Admiral Nomura thanked the RAM for his friendship and reliable co-operation during his presence in Germany, particularly also for the deep understanding and constant assistance which the RAM had shown to the Japanese in all naval questions.

The RAM also pointed out to Admiral Nomura the transport problem in this war, our experiences in Africa in this connection, the difficulties of the enemy in reinforcement and the possibilities given us as a result thereof.

Admiral Nomura stated that he had spoken often with Admiral Fricke and other gentlemen of the Naval Command as well as with General Jodl on the submarine question and the war against ^{Up to now,} tonnage. The idea of the strategic safeguarding of the East Asiatic waters was always predominant in the Japanese Navy. In this connection, a plan was completed in October of last year to undertake quite a large naval operation in the Indian Ocean. This plan was frustrated at the time by the American attack off the Solomon Islands. Very heavy fighting had taken place here and in particular in Guadalcanar, as the Americans had succeeded in establishing strong air bases in advance. The fighting had been going on there for five months, during which time the Japanese Fleet had had much success and had, on her part, also established air bases. With the beginning of this year, the situation on ^{front} this could to be considered as secure. In connection with this battle, the Japanese Navy had also observed that the greatest importance was to be attached to the cutting of enemy lines of communication and consequently opinion on the employment of the U-boat Arm had also changed. Practically at the same time, discussions were conducted between the Reich Foreign Minister and Ambassador Oshima on the necessity of Japan also conducting tonnage warfare, after which the Fuehrer offered to provide U-Boats as models for the Japanese Navy. This fortunate meeting resulted in the immediate embarking on a U-Boat construction programme in Japan.

The RAM likewise explained to the Admiral the views of the Fuehrer that the big battleship in its present form was far too vulnerable an object and had constantly to be surrounded by a convey of ships protecting it.

- 10 -

Moreover the American Fleet will quite definitely not enter into a big naval engagement. A big U-Boat Arm was the best protection for Japan and the surest means of winning the war quickly.

Nomura replied that it was just this change of policy which was needed by the Japanese Navy, which up to now had concentrated only on sinking as many enemy battleships as possible. Now the Japanese Navy will order all fighting forces, cruisers, torpedo-carrying aircraft and the U-Boat Arm to wipe out the enemy tonnage. They have already sunk over 100,000 tons in half a month. Recently a number of U-Boats again left for operations outside the Persian Gulf.

To a question by the RAM regarding how long construction would take, the Admiral stated: The Japanese Navy at present had about 50 U-Boats at her disposal. The German models for the new mass production were expected to arrive in Japan at the end of July. All the plans and preparations for construction were already being made, so that construction ^{already} can be commenced before the end of this year. The new U-Boats which will be produced in serial-manufacture will then be expected to be ready for use by the end of this year.

In this connection, the RAM pointed out the position of our enemies in the year 1917, about which the former British leader Lloyd George had told him on his visit to Germany in 1936. At that time the British need of tonnage was so great that they faced almost daily the necessity for making peace with Germany. If one reads the speeches by Lloyd George and the other British leaders of that time, there is absolutely no question but that they are just as boastful and audacious as to-day's speeches by Churchill.

Admiral Nomura again expressed his conviction that he also considered the tonnage war as the most important, that the Americans had first of all, to send their troops over all the seas of the world in order to be able to use them in battle. any where. This was Germany's and Japan's great advantage, and the cutting of lines of communication our great chance.

- 11 -

The RAM said goodbye to Admiral Nomura, with his best and sincerest wishes for a good journey back to Tokyo and with the hope for further satisfactory co-operation in the interest of the common cause.

(signed) Gottfried (illegible)

Fuschl. 19.4.1943.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 2929-PS

29 April 1946.

I, EVELYN WITT, 110560, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. 2929-PS.

EVELYN WITT
110560

Evelyn Witt

Miss Allen.

Please send me J.P.S. Doc. 520

which is Exhibit 839

Mr. Taverner has copy of
whole document in his
case in court. ka

W.D.



Miss Kathleen Allen

or

Miss Marguerite Allen