

To the Supreme Commander for the Allied Forces:-

Imagining in advance some questions which might be put upon me, and fearing that natural obstruction due to language differences might hinder mutual just understanding, I have prepared simple reply papers. I now present them to your Excellency's Court in order to supply references to your Judges.

The reason why I have imagined the questioning of me is because I have hitherto often heard rumours saying that I had already been arrested or on the point of being arrested by your Forces. I therefore have made this preparation against a possible occurrence, but should be happy if I feared for nothing.

Tadataka Ikezaki

忠孝

REPLY ITEMS

1. The meaning of a war criminal or a person responsible for war is not clear, but from what I understand I firmly believe that I am not to be blamed for as a war criminal. This is because during the present war, I have been nothing but a mere member of the House of Representatives having no authority on the starting, continuance and the closing of the war, and of course, I held no position whatsoever which could give or receive orders concerning the war. Therefore, during the war, I have done nothing which would be against the wartime International Law, or which deserts rebukes from the viewpoint of wartime moral principles. Neither have I had any capacity to let others do similar conducts.

2. From what I interpret I am neither a person responsible for war. The theory that my remarks as a military critic have had some direct or indirect influence upon the starting of the war, does not at all state the truth of the matter. If such might be the case, either the Government or the Army would surely have given me an important place or duty in starting the war, and have asked my cooperation as much as possible, but there was no such occurrence. I have all the time been just a member of the House of Representatives and repeated the routine actions of standing and sitting at the Diet seat and of clapping of my hands for the speaker on the floor during the Diet session.

3. During the present war I have not only been given no important position either by the Government or the Army, but such an institution as the Navy Information Bureau has apparently regarded my writings as harmful and has coerced my silence to the extreme, forbidding the appearance of them in newspapers and magazines. Therefore from the standpoint of a war critic, I have been compelled silence during war and has been unable to play a part played by Mr. Hanson Baldwin in the United States, for instance. In this point I was placed just as an on-looker of the war with folded arms.

4. If I am responsible for the war to some extent, that might be in connection with the point that my writings before the war were more or less anti-American. The motive that made my thoughts anti-American lay in the Japanese Immigration Law of 1924. The idea that we were branded as an inferior race has left me a deep impression. Moreover, considering the American policies concerning the Far East, I have concluded that the ultimate object of America was to obliterate the national existence of Japan, and, like Carthage in Ancient Rome, to exterminate her race. Therefore I believed that the war with America was truly that of unavoidable self-defence from the necessity of the survival of our race, and that its essence is in all respects the war of defence.

5. To speak frankly, I had not believed the statement of the Allied Forces in the Potsdam Declaration saying

that they would not exterminate Japan. However, since the occupation by the General MacArthur's Army of our country I have witnessed their doings and realized the trueness of the Potsdam Declaration. I am now completely relieved of my mind and ~~know~~^{ow} that my viewpoints in the past have been prejudiced. Defeat is of course to be lamented. But if we are able to know the true intention of America by this defeat, that would be a great blessing in misfortune.

6. I do not think that my theory of war before the present war had any responsibility for inspiring ~~at~~^{for the} first ^{time} the idea of the Pacific War. Putting aside other countries for a while, the first person that infused the idea in America was Mr. Homer Lea's book in 1909. In 1920, Dr. Thomas F. Millard plainly advocated the punishment of Japan and even among responsible politicians, one time Navy Secretary Wilbur^{le} spoke in plain terms in his open speech at San Francisco that it was necessary "to show coldness of steel" to Japan. The year in which my war theory appeared first was 1928 when it had already become to a certain degree a ~~stereotyped~~^e subject in the salon.

7. My war theory warned the utmost necessity of Japan's self-defence, and had no political meaning in background to ~~imply~~^{suggest} a certain policy or to support the achievement of war secretly. In fact, my theory was scientific and theoretical and by no means emotional nor sensational. Therefore I often said that I did not like war. I never said that Japan should attack America,

because my basic idea was that in order to maintain the existence of Japan it might be unavoidable to fight with America as a means to find a let-out in deathly situation, and believed we might not necessarily be defeated due to our excellent strategic position.

8. I had originally been a literary critic and had no intention of being a politician. The object of my becoming a war critic and a Diet member lay in the existence of our race. Therefore after becoming a member of the Diet I have joined one or two parties from necessity. (It is customary in our Diet that no party holding less than 25 members can have the floor). Excepting this I have never joined any political party, organization or society. Neither have I had anything to do with the Army and the Navy. I have always retained my single, isolated position and been outside any political power. This was entirely due to maintain the genuineness of myself as an individual.

9. Immediately after the issuance of the Imperial Rescript on the acceptance of the Potsdam Declaration on August 15th, I sent from Osaka where I was then, the notice of resignation to the House of Representatives both by telegram and letter. Moreover I have made up my mind to retire forever not only from political activities, but also from all public affairs and live in the country spending the rest of my life in reading. By doing so I believed that I could express my sincere regret on some mistakes I had committed in fulfilling my duty as a public personage.

At that time I also sent a personal letter to my friend Mr. Fumio Asakura, a well-known sculptor, expressing my state of mind at that time and confessed that I almost felt like becoming a priest entering into the Monastery in Koya-San.

10. Considering the process and the result of the war, the serious mistakes which I had in the pre-war time are as follows:

First, I have never imagined that aeroplanes have such a decisive role in the termination of war; Secondly, I have never thought that the productive capacity of the United States of America was so great;

Thirdly, I have overlooked the fact that both the Army and Navy leaders of military operations have degenerated since the Russo-Japanese war and they were all out of date having no ability to adapt themselves to the principles of modern war tactics which have radically progressed since the preceding World War. These leaders have degenerated rather than progressed still sticking to the Medieval elements.

There are many other reasons for our defeat in the war, but I shall not mention them here.

11. Finally, regarding the future of Japan, whether the Allied Forces coerce her or not, there will be no other way but to maintain a modest peace and become a democratic country based upon agricultural standard like Scandinavian countries. After she has been exhausted and ruined like this, Japan, with such a small

territorial space and such a huge population, will need many more centuries in order to regain the standard of the prewar time even though she is given a most favorable chance. If Japan talks of revenge carelessly and advocates war, she will place herself at the same fate as Carthage. Therefore the urgent need for Japan at present is to effect the measure of birth-control by tactful policy and guidance and provide against hunger and misery with which she is confronted acutely.

12. I should like to be permitted to add one more word at the end. That is I sincerely entreat the sympathy of America and the American people for my nation. I shall certainly not protest to your country even though you, having the victor's natural rights, treat us cruelly, but I wish from the bottom of my heart that you would never exterminate Japan and her race or lead her into a situation near^Vextermination. I firmly believe that the United States of America which has borne George Washington, A^{br}raham Lincoln, Emerson and Walt Whitman in the past will fulfill^Vher humanitarian mission to the full before the solemn world history in regard to avoid the utter ruin of Japan and the Japanese race.

J. Ikezaki

APO 500
5 January 1946

Ikezaki Tadataka
Kongo-Ku,
Nishikata-Machi 3-33

Dear Sir:

The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers has directed that I acknowledge receipt of your letter.

The contents have been noted and referred to appropriate agencies of this headquarters.

Yours very truly,

E. D. LAW, JR.
Major, A.G.D.
Asst Adjutant General.



Doc 5397

BMS/KI
JBC/HM

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION, GENERAL STAFF
ALLIED TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRETER SECTION

NOTE: Translation directed by the Commander-in-Chief.

DIGEST OF LETTER

TO: General MacARTHUR
Allied Headquarters

FROM: IKEZAKI, Tadataka (池崎忠孝), HONGO-Ku, NISHIKATA-Machi, 1-33.
10 December 1945.

The English translation is enclosed.



1.00

都下赤坂區靈南坂
田米國大使館
聯合軍最高指揮官元帥閣下

書留速達

ATIS 5397

本欄 333

本欄 333

原本

卷辯要項

池崎忠孝

答辯要項

一、戦争犯罪人又ハ戦争責任者ノ誣義明白ヲ欲ケモ、小生
ノ解スル処ヲ以テセバ、小生ハ慥ニ戦争犯罪人ニ當ラザルモノト信ズ。
何トナレバ、戦争中、小生ハ戦争ノ開始、繼續及終結ニ對シテ何
等ノ権能ヲモ有セザル一何ノ衆議院議員タリシノミニシテ、
勿論何等カノ命令ヲ發シ、又命令ヲ受クベキ地位ニアラス。故
ニ戦争遂行中行ハレタル戰時國際公法ニ背反スル行為、又ハ一
般ノ戦争道德上ヨリ見テ批難ニ値スル行為ヲナシ、又ハ為サシ
ク得ル如何志欲資格ヲモ有タザリシガ故也。

二、小生ヲ解スル処ヲ以テセバ、小生ハ又所謂戦争責任者ニモ非ズ。
軍事評論家トシテ、小生ノ言説ガ、偶戦争開始ニ際シ、直

接写接、若干ノ影響有リ共（タリト云フ）が如キハ、毫モ事態ノ真
相ヲ識ルモノニ非ズ。若シ若干ノ影響有リ共（タリトセバ）戦争開始
後、政府又ハ軍ハ、小生ヲ重用シテ何等カノ地位又ハ任務ヲ共（タリト）能
フ限リハ生、恨カヲホメタルニ相違ナレ。然ルニ絶テ其事ナク戦争
中、小生ハ依然一何ノ衆議院議及トシテ終始シ、議會開會ニ當リ
也、同僚ト共ニ或ハ議席ヨリ起テ、或ハ議席ニ座シ、或ハ演壇
ニ柏手ヲ送ルが如キ、常套茶飯事ヲ繰返シタルニシテ。

三、戦争中、小生ハ政府又ハ軍ヨリ用ヒラレザリレノコトナラズ、海軍報道
部、如キハ、小生ノ言説ヲ以テ有言無言ナリト認メタルモノ如ク、極
度ニ小生ノ言説ヲ壓迫シ、ソレガ新聞雑誌上ニ現ルルコトヲ禁
止セリ。故ニ、小生ハ軍事評論家タル立場ニ於テモ、戦争中、殆
ンド沈黙シテ強ヒラレ、米國ニ於ケルハンソン・ボールド井ン氏ノ如キ

役目ヲスラ演ズル能ハカリシ也。此点ニ於テ、戦争中、小生ハ概ネ
年ヲ拱シテ戦争ヲ傍觀スル立場ニ置カレタルモ也。

四、今次ノ戦争ニ於テ、小生ニ何等カノ責任アリトセバ、小生ノ戦前ニ
於ケル言論ガ、或意味ニ於テ反米的ナリシコトナラム。小生ノ思想
ガ、反米的ナリシ動機ハ、千九百二十四年ノ日本移民排斥法ニアリ。
其當時、吾人ノ観上ニ劣等民族ナリトノ烙印ヲ捺サレタリトノ觀念
ハ、自後小生ノ頭腦ニ深刻ナル印象ヲ與ヘタリ。更ニ其後ニ於ケ
ル米國ノ極東政策ヲ見テ、小生ハ米國完植ノ目的ハ日本ノ國
家の存在ヲ抹殺シ、羅馬馬ニ於ケルカルタゴノ如ク、結局其民
族ヲ滅亡セシムルニアリト思惟セリ。従ツテ、対米戦争ハ徹頭徹
尾民族生存ノ必要上、真ニ止ムヲ得サル自衛戦ニシテ、其本
質ハ何處迄モ防衛戦ナリト信ジタリ。

五

卒直ニ言ハバ、今次、ボツダム宣言ニ於テ、聯合國ハ日本ヲ滅亡セシ
メズト云ヘルモ、小生ハ容易ニソレヲ信ズル能ハザリシ也。最近ニ至リ、
マ天帥ノ軍ガ進駐シテ以來、現實ニ其為ス知ラ見、小生ハ始メ
テボツダム宣言ノ真意ナリシヲ識リ、今、全ク苦心シタルト共ニ、
過去ニ於ケル小生ノ見解ハ正シク一種ノ偏見ナルコトヲ悟レリ。戰敗
ハ勿論悲ムベシ。然レドモ、ソレニ依ツテ始メテ米國ノ真意ヲ知リ得
タリトセバ、コレ不幸中ノ大幸ナリト云ハザルベカラズ。

六

戰前ニ於ケル小生ノ戰爭論ハ、最初ニ太平洋戰爭ノ觀念ヲ鼓
吹シタル責任アリトモ思ハズ。自餘ノ諸國ハ姑ク措ク。米國ニ於テ
是初ニソレヲ鼓吹シタルハ、千九百九年ノホーマー・リリー氏ノ著述也。
千九百二十年ニハ、ウォルター・ビー・ピトキン氏モ亦其は是ナルヲ言ヘリ。
加之、トーマス・エフ・ミラー博士ノ如キ、明カニ日本懲罰論ヲ唱ヘ、

海軍卿ウヰルバー氏ノ如キ責任アル政治家中ニモ、其ヲ米港ニ於ケル公用演説ニ於テ、日本ニ對シテ露骨ニ「鋼鐵ノ冷カサヲ示ス」要アルコトヲ言ヘリ。小生、戰爭論、現レシハ千九百廿八年ノコトニシテ、太平洋戰爭ガ、既ニ或程度迄客間ニ於テ陳腐ナル話題トナリテヨリ遙ニ後ノコトニ屬ス。

七、小生ハ、極力日本ノ自衛的防衛ノ必要ナルヲ認ス先セルモノニシテ、其ノ戰爭論ハ、背後ニ或種ノ政策ヲ寓シ、暗ニ其遂行ヲ支持セントスルガ如キ政治的意味ヲ有スモノニ非ズ。加之、其言説ハ、概ネ科學的、理論的ニシテ、感情的、煽動的ニ非ズ。從ツテ、小生屢々戰爭ハ好マズト云ヘリ。又米國ヲ進ンテ攻歟キスベシト云ヒタルコトモアラス。小生ノ根本觀念ハ、日本ノ生存ヲ維持スルタメニハ、死中活ヲ求ムル手ありトシテ、米國ト一戰モ止ムヲ得ズ、米國ト戰フモ、其戰

然的地位、卓越セルが為、ゆズレモ敗ルモノニ非ズト信ジタルノ也。
八、小生ハ、元来文藝の批評家ニシテ、政治ニ志シタルモノニ非ズ。小生が
軍事評論家トナリ、又衆議院議員トナリレ目的ハ、全ク民族独
立ノ一事ニ在リ。小生ハ議欠トナリレ後モ、必要上院内ニ於ケル一三ノ
交渉團體(我議會ノ慣例トシテ、廿五人以上ノ議員ヲ有スル團體ニ
限ズンバ及テ格ヲ專(ズ)ニ参加シタル以外、他ニ如何ナル政黨政治
如何ニ團體、然社ニモ所属セルコトナク、又陸海軍ニ出入シタルコト
モナシ、終始單獨孤立ノ地位ヲ保テ、常ニ總テノ政治的勢力ノ均
外ニ在リ。コレ全ク小生ガ個人トシテノ純粋性ヲ維持セシガ為也。
九、八月十五日、ボツダム宣言受納ノ詔下ヤ、當時大阪ニ在リレ小生ハ、
即時衆議院ニ對シ、電報及書面ヲ以テ辭表ヲ提出シ、若シ
自後ノ事情ニシテソレヲ許セバ、今後永久ニ政治ニ干與セザルコトナラ

ズ、總テノ公事ヨリ身ヲ退キ、深ク自國ニ踏晦シテ、残生ヲ讀者ニ送
ル、決意ヲ為シ、公人トシテハ生ガ、其任務ヲ果ス上ニ多ク、過誤ア
リシ事ニ對シ、衷心ヨリ謝罪ノ意ヲ表シタリ。尙時、ハ生ノ友人ニシテ
且ツ著名ノ彫刻家タル朝倉文夫氏ニ送リタル松信中ニモ、ハ生ハ
尙時ノ心境ニ言及シ、恰モ高野山ニ登ッテ坊主ニナルト同様ノ心境ナル
コトヲ告白セリ。

一〇、戦争ノ経過及結果ヨリ見テ、戦前ニ於ケルハ生ノ見解ノ著シク
誤レル点ハ、第一ニ航空機ガ戦争ノ勝敗ニ對シテ斯ノ如ク決定的
ト役割ヲ演ズベシト思ハザリシコト、第二ニ米國ノ戦時生産力ガ斯
ノ如ク偉大ナリト思ハザリシコト、第三ニ日本陸海軍ノ作戦指導者
等ガ日而於戦争ニ及ツテ退歩シ、未ダ多クニ中世的残滓ヲ有
スル時代進レノ軍人ノニ依ッテ成リ、彼等ガ何レモ**お大戦後急激ニ**

發達シタル現代戰、原理ニ適スル能力ヲ有タガリシコトヲ看過
 シタルニナドニ在リ。其他ニ吾教ノ敗因アレドモ、ソレニ敢テ言及セス。
 二、最後ニ日本ノ將來ニ就テ言ハバ、聯合國ノ強弱ニ因ルトモトク向ハズ、
 今後ノ日本ハ、スカンヂナピア諸國ノ如ク、徹底徹底民衆抑止平和維持
 シ、終ニ農業本位ノ民主的國家タル以外、他ニ執ルべき道ナシ。戰爭
 ニ依ツテ斯クノ如ク消耗シ、斯ク荒廢シタル後、猶額ノ向上ニ尠大
 ナ人口ヲ擁シタル日本ガ、戰前ノ水準迄其國カラ恢復スルガ爲ニハ、
 務惣外ナ事業運ニ惠ミテタリトスルモ、
 爲ラク數世紀ノ歲月ヲ要スベ
 シ。今後ノ日本ガ、輕卒ニ復舊スルコトニシ、戰爭ヲ云々スルガ如キハ、
 自ラカタルゴノ運命ヲ選ブニ等シ。故ニ、日本魚眉ノ急ハ、巧ミナ
 ル政策ト指導トニヨリ、適宜ニ産見利益ヲノ容メテ手ヲ引ケテ
 眼前ノ飢饉ト凶邪トニ付フルニアリ。

三、更ニ今一をテ教サレタシ。ハ生ハ特ニ切實ナル感情ヲ以テ米
國及米國人ニ憫歎シタシ。戰勝者タルモ當死ノ權利ヨリシテ、米
國ガ日本ヲ如何ニ對シタルモ、生ハ何等ノ抗議ヲナサントス
ルモノニ非ズ。然レモ、日本及日本民族ハ、新ジテ滅亡、又ハ滅亡ト
等シキ状態ニ達サカレベキモノニ非ズ。ワシントンヲ生シリン
カインヲ生シ、エマソンヲ生シ、且ツホヰトマンヲ生シタル
米國ハ、日本及日本民族ハ完全ナル滅亡ヲ避クル點ニ於テ、
嚴肅ナル世界史ノ上ニ、充分其道義的使命ヲ果サル
ルモノト信ズ

以上

池崎忠孝



聯合軍最高指揮官圖下

言語不通ニ其ク自然ノ障礙ニ由リ、審問及答辯が相互ニ正シキ理解ニ到達シ得ハル場合アラシトシテ危懼シ、小生ハ豫メ小生ニ對シテササルベキ若干ノ審問事項ヲ想定シ、ソレニ對スル簡單ナル答辯書日ヲ準備セリ。依ッテ之レヲ圖下ノ法廷ニ提出シ、以テ法官各位ノ參考ニ供スルコトトセリ。尚事前ニ小生ニ對スル審問ノアリ得ベキヲ豫想シタルハ、坊間時ニ小生が拘致サレタリトカ又ハ拘致サルル筈ナリトカ噂スルモノアリ。萬一ヲ患リテ之レヲ備ヘタルニ過ギズ。

池崎、忠孝

