

Meeting of the Budget Committee on
17 Feb 40 in the House of Represent-
tives, 75th Session of the Imperial
Diet.

Minister of State KOISO:

Just now, we heard Mr. SHINOHARA's speech which was very rich in content and invaluable. In his conclusion, he presented two questions. I think that the first; the problem as to whether we should advance northward or southward is of considerable importance. To what I am now going to say, you might say that it is somewhat a departure from reality or tell me not to speak so fanatically. However, I cannot positively say that I will not make this departure. Therefore, I think that I should like to make my speech brief.

As the original recognized national policy of Japan, we have been firmly handed down from generation to generation. What is called HAKKO-ICHIU, TENGYO-KAIKO /TN: An interpretation of this is: the resumption of the mission handed down to the Emperors by the Goddess AMATERA/, or RIKIGO KENTO /TN: An interpretation of this is: making the universe the Emperor's Capitol/. Although this is expressed in various words, it means after all, world wide expansion with the truly magnificent spirit and culture of Japan which we firmly believe. Emperor MEIJI said in the first year of his succession, "I will govern this country myself, give all you subjects freedom from care and finally cross the seas and spread our national glory throughout the four corners of the world.." I believe that this great sentence expressed in such a manner, did after all, place its underlying note on this belief. In explaining what this means, it means that in our recognized national policy, advancement in any one direction was not considered in our advance to the north, south, east or west. In other words, Japan's destiny is advancement in all four directions. However, the question as to which direction should be emphasized in the successive generations is, I think, the problem in this generation. If that is the case, what is best in this present generation is as stated in Mr. SHINOHARA's speech. I might be somewhat dogmatic, but the Japanese race is surely a divine race. However, I think that there is a mixture of Eskimoo, Ainu, Indonesions and the MIAO of China. I think that the present YAMATO /Japanese/ race, which controlled and unified these many races, has the quality to advance in any direction and to grasp and assimilate any culture whether this fact is known or not. As to the larger portion of the lineage of the YAMATO race, if we say that it is undoubtedly a divine race, or that it is the TAKAMAGAHARA Race, it is within the province of scholars to say that it can endure the hot zone or the cold zone. Therefore, I think that we should hesitate to make a positive statement. I am one person who agrees entirely with Mr. SHINOHARA on that point. Fortunately, however, I believe that we must consider that because we possess Indonesian blood, we also have the capacity to progress towards the south. Therefore, I believe that at present, it is indeed a natural tendency for us to proceed towards the north and the continent because of the main feature of our racial composition. However, a nation cannot stand without defense, just as administration cannot stand without economy. It has clearly been proven

by ancient history of civilization, that if we are to quickly and readily obtain economic rights and interests, it would be more convenient to do so by sea transportation rather than by overland routes. Therefore, I again believe that just as Mr. SHINOHARA stated, we must proceed bravely towards economic development in the south where resources are thought to be in abundance. Therefore, at the present, we should follow the increased tendency of the race towards the continent and the north with more than ample economic development and at the same time, we shall extend our economic rights and interests towards the south with all our might. In this, I think that the necessary movement of the race is absolutely indispensable. In short, I believe that after all, since we should not emphasize any one direction in our northward or southward advancement, we should advance as indicated in Mr. SHINOHARA's talk.

The second question was: then what would you do with the cultural system of Japan which is rapidly advancing towards her world policy? Although I might sound very impertinent, I am one of those who become indignant just to think that there are so few fellow countrymen who completely understand the spirit and culture of Imperial Japan. Japan has been rapidly absorbing Western culture and products for seventy years since the early MEIJI Era, and at present, in the Imperial Universities which are called the highest seat of learning, what does Article I of the University Ordinance say? It says, "The university shall teach the theories in the arts and sciences and their application which are important to the state as well as to inquire into the most profound mysteries as its object". Up to this point, it is all right but it only says further that, "Simultaneously, it should consider the building up of the character of the people and cultivate national thought". The graduates of the said highest seat of learning are leading all the cultural systems in the Empire of Japan.

I think that we must stand more firmly on the spirit that dates back to the very beginning, reflect back to the days of the founding of Imperial Japan and then begin our investigation from the Three Great Oracles handed down by the Sun Goddess AMATERA. With the Emperor revered as the nucleus of the entire nation, and with the attitude of complete national unity, that is, with the moral principles of God as the main principle, and by adding to this oracle, which refers to rice, and important material, we must support the Emperor's destiny which is as everlasting as heaven and earth. I think that this is the underlying principle of the Japanese Spirit. In other words, I think it is the very source of the spirit and culture of Japan. I further think that this is the way of God and also the way of the Emperor. It is commonly said that there is unity between ancestral worship and government. I believe ancestral worship means that God and man enter the same mental frame of mind. And I think that administration is the deciding of all matters with this frame of mind. If the spirit and culture of Imperial Japan which has such an underlying thought, is carried forth, it will spread throughout the world and some day might naturally become the main current of thought in all parts of the world. Speaking from this

point of view, China's rule of righteousness such as Confucianism, Buddhism, or Christianity are all derogatorily speaking, inferior, and I believe that they must all be fostered in the Imperial Way, and the spirit and culture of Japan. Then as to the second question, where should the cultural system of Japan, necessary for world policy, be placed? I believe that this is a question which can be solved by seeking the very origin of Japanese spirit and culture, and judging all our actions, by standing on this source.

I am very sorry that I was so wordy.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SATOW, Tomoo, hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Secretary of the Cabinet, and that as such official I have custody of the document attached hereto consisting of 2 pages, dated 17 Feb 1940, and described as follows: Speech of the Minister of State KOISO at the Meeting of Budget Committee on 17 Feb. 1940 in the House of Representatives, 75th Session of the Imperial Diet. I further certify that the attached record and document is an official document of the Japanese Government and that it is part of the official archives and files of the following named ministry or department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or any other official designation of the regular location of the document in the archives or files): Cabinet Secretariat.

Signed at Tokyo on this
25 Day of September, 1947.

/sgd/ T. Satow
Signature of Official

Witness: /sgd/ K. Makimura

Secretary of the Cabinet
Official Capacity

Statement of Official Procurement

I, HENRY SHIMOJIMA, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above certification was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this
25th day of Sept., 1947

/sgd/ Henry Shimojima
NAME

Witness: /sgd/ Richard H. Larsh

Investigator, IPS
Official Capacity