

Ex 575

Memorandum from WEIZSACKER to the Reich
Foreign Minister dated 24 March 1941.

Confidential

Regarding the memoranda concerning MATSUOKA's visit I note the following:

1. The most important topic is naturally the time of Japan's entry into the war against England.

In order to expedite this decision we still have valuable concessions in our hands.

- (a) Our renunciation of claims to the Netherland East Indies.
- (b) Our renunciation of claims to our former possessions in the South Sea, including those under British mandate.
- (c) Increased support of Japan's policy in China (either attempts at mediation, or the recognition of WANG-CHING-WEI).

But I have the impression that Japan's entry into war against England depends basically on our further successes against England, and that the above mentioned concessions would not play any great part in it.

2. MATSUOKA is still following the line of an understanding with Russia and claims German encouragement for this. A clear statement, which course our relations to Russia may take is unavoidable in order to protect him from surprises, and in order to control Japanese policy through him after his European journey. Private conversations with other Japanese sources should be deferred.

To the Reich Foreign Minister.

(Signed) WEIZSACKER

24 March 1941

/136700/

AFFIDAVIT

I, W. P. Cumming, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say:

1. That I am an Attache of the United States Department of State on the Staff of the United States Political Adviser on German Affairs, and as such I am a representative of the Office of Military Government for Germany (U.S.). That in my capacity as above set forth, I have in my possession, custody, and control at the Berlin Documents Center, Berlin, Germany, the original captured German Foreign Office files and archives.

2. That said original Foreign Office files and archives were captured and obtained by military forces under the command of the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Forces, and upon their seizure and capture were first assembled by said military forces at a Military Document Center at Marburg, Germany, and were later moved by authorized personnel of said Allied forces to said central documents center, above referred to, and known as the Berlin Documents Center.

3. That I was assigned to said document center at Marburg, Germany, on August 15, 1945; and said captured German Foreign Office files and archives first came into my possession and control while I was stationed at Marburg, Germany, and that thereafter the same have continued in my possession and custody and under my control.

4. That the document to which this affidavit is attached is a true and correct photostatic copy of an original German Foreign Office document which was captured from said Germany Foreign Office files and archives, and which came into my possession and custody and under my control in the manner above set forth.

5. That said original document, of which the attached is a photostatic copy, is being held and retained by me in order that it may be examined and inspected by various interested agencies, and a photostatic copy of said original is hereby furnished and certified to because of the unavailability of said original for the reasons above set forth.

s/ W. P. Cumming
W. P. CUMMING

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of April 1946.

s/ G. H. Garde
G. H. GARDE
Lt. Colonel, AGD
Acting Adjutant General

OFFICE OF MILITARY
GOVERNMENT FOR GERMANY (U.S.)