

INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

Doc. No. 3040

2 July 1947

ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

Title and Nature: Excerpt from "Minutes of the 76th Imperial Diet Lower House Budget Committee" (Speech by Admiral OIKAWA, Koshiro)

Date: 26 Jan 1941 Original Copy Language: Japanese

Has it been translated? Yes No

Has it been photostated? Yes No

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL

Document Division

SOURCE OF ORIGINAL: Cabinet Secretariat

PERSONS IMPLICATED: OIKAWA, Koshiro

CRIMES TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: Japanese-German Relations; Violations Neutrality; Preparations for War, Naval

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT POINTS

OIKAWA, in response to a question by Diet Member KUBOI denies British charges that Japan outfitted or supplied various German raiders operating in the Pacific, and affirms that Germany denies that the raiders were flying the Japanese flag.

Secondly OIKAWA assures that House that measures have been taken to "bring the Japanese Navy up to the limits of autonomous safety against the expansion of the U.S. Navy!!" OIKAWA also agreed that Japan as "defender of Greater East Asia" should have greater armaments than in the past.

Analyst: WH WAGNER

Doc. No. 3040

第七十六回帝國議會衆議院予算委員會議録(抄)

(昭和十六年一月二十六日)

○及川國務大臣 只今穴窪井氏ヨリ御質問ノゴザイマ

シタ「ドイツ」ノ通商破壊船が濠洲ノ近所デ「イギリス」ニ対シマシテ敵対行動ヲ致シマシタコトハ、新聞ニモ出テ居ルヤウニ事實ダト考ヘマス、唯其ノ船ガ「イギリス」側ノ一部デ考ヘテ居リマスヤウニ、日本ノ港灣デ艦装シテ出発致シマシタト云フコトハ全然「ゴザイマセヌ」、又日本ガ日本ノ船舶ヲ以テ之ニ補給致シテ居ルト云フヤウナユトモ全然「ゴザイマセヌ」、全ク無根ノ事實デアリマス、又其ノ通商破壊船ガ日本ノ旗ヲ掲ゲ又ハ日本ノ「マーク」ヲ付ケテ居リマシタト云フコトハ

「イギリス」側ハサウ申シマスガ、帝國カラ「ドイツ」
政府ニ致シマシタ抗議ニ対シマスル回答ニ依リマスト
「ドイツ」政府モ其ノユトラ否認シテ居ルノデアリマス。
大体事件ノ真相ハソレダケデアリマス

次ニ續ク

○及川國務大臣 只今穴澁井氏カラ御尋ネニナリマシタ
第一ハ、此ノ危急ナル時局ニ対シテ、海軍が如何ナル用意
ヲ持ツテ居ルカト云フ点、第二ハ「アメリカ」ノ海軍ハ大拡張
ヲシテ居ルト思ハレルガ、之ニ対シテ帝國海軍ヲ拡張スル用
意ガアルカト云フ御尋ネト考ヘマス、第一ノ時局ニ対シテ海
軍ハ如何ナル用意ヲ持ツテ居ルカト云フ点ニ付キマシテハ、
海軍ハ慎重ナル考慮ヲ拂ヒマシテ、最悪ノ場合ニ対スル
用意ニ付キマシテハ、手振りナク致シテ居ルト云フコトヲ以テ
御答ト致シタイト思ヒマス、其ノ細目ニ付テハ勿論申上ゲル
必要ハナイト考ヘマス

第二ノ「アメリカ」ノ海軍ノ拡張ニ対シテ、日本ノ海軍ハ

拡張計畫がアルカト云フ点デゴザイマスが、是モ今年既ニ
 提出致シテ居リマス予算案、或ハ是カラ更ニ提出致シマス
 ル予算案等ニ於キマシテ、其ノ考慮ヲ以テ、帝國海軍
 ハ米國ノ海軍ノ拡張ニ對シマシテ、自主的ニ安全ダト思ハ
 レマスル限度ニ於キマシテ、若干ノ考慮ヲ致シテ居リマス、
 其ノ点ハ御安心ヲ願ヒマス、ソレダケ御答へ申上げマス

○及川國務大臣　只今穴窪井サンノ御質問ノ三点ヲ一括シ
 テ御答へ致シマス、只今穴窪井サンノ仰シヤイマシタ御議論
 ノ中ニモゴザイマスヤウニ、「アメリカ」ノ建艦費ト日本ノ建艦
 費トノ比較ハ、正確ナコトマデハ申上げラレマセヌケレドモ、
 大体数倍ニナツテ居リマスコトハ確カテゴザイマス、隨ヒマシテ
 若シ假ニ「アメリカ」ノ大拡張費ヲ私ガ頂戴致シマシタナ

ラバ、[「]アメリカ[」]ノ備ヘントスル以上ノ軍備ヲ備ヘルコトガ
 出来ルコトモ、是モ亦確實デゴザイマス、左様ナ訣デハゴ
 ザイマスガ、軍備ト申シマスモノハ、御承知ノ通り量ノミテ
 ハゴザイマセヌ、負モ亦自ラ其ノ間ニアルノデアリマス、日本
 帝國海軍特有ノ工夫ヲ加ヘ、特有ノ兵種ヲ建造致シマシ
 タナラバ、必ズシモ米國ノ大費用ヲ費シマシタ艦隊ニ對抗致
 シマスル爲ニモ、[「]アメリカ[」]ト同じ金ヲ掛ケナケレバナラヌト云
 フコトハ言ヘナイノデアリマス、日本ト致シマシテハ自ラソコニ
 成算ガアルノデアリマス、軍艦何艘、飛行機何機ト云フ
 詳シイ御答ヘハ致シ兼ネマスルケレドモ、大体ニ於テ總テノ
 場合ニ對シテ帝國海軍ノ必要ト思ハレマスル成算アル確カ
 ナ軍備ヲ確立致シマシテ、其ノ一部ハ先程モ申シマシタヤ
 ウニ既ニ御協賛ヲ願ツテ居リマスルシ、又是カラモ累次

予算ニ現ハシマシテ御協賛ヲ願ヒタイト考ヘテ居ル次第デ
ゴザイマス、今マデノ日本ト、更ニ大東亞共榮圈ノ防備ヲ擔
任シマシタ日本トハ、更ニ又軍備ニ於テ考ヘガ違ヒハセヌカト
云フ御諾モゴザイマシタガ、是モ御尤モデゴザイマス、ソレ
等ノ点ハ吾々が只今持ツテ居リマスル軍備計畫ニ十分ニ
盛上ゲテ行キタイト思ヒマス、左様御承知ヲ願ヒマス

MINUTES OF THE 76TH IMPERIAL DIET LOWER HOUSE
BUDGET COMMITTEE (EXCERPT)
(JANUARY 26, 1941)

Minister of State OIKAWA:-

Referring to Mr. KUBOI's present interrogation in regard to the hostile action taken by GERMAN commerce raiders against BRITAIN near AUSTRALIA, which has appeared in the newspapers, I believe this to be a fact. However, the report that the said ships were fitted out in JAPANESE ports -- as is believed among a certain section of people in BRITAIN -- is totally untrue. Furthermore, there is also no truth whatsoever in the report that JAPAN is replenishing these raiders by means of JAPANESE ships. These reports are wholly groundless. Although the BRITISH claim also that the said commerce raiders were flying the JAPANESE flag and that they bore JAPANESE markings, according to the GERMAN Government's reply to the EMPIRE's /T.N. JAPAN's/ protest, the GERMAN Government too has denied the affair. This represents practically the actual facts about the matter.

.....

I believe that, in his present interrogation, Mr. KUBOI's questions are

Firstly, as regards what preparations the NAVY possesses against this critical situation, and

Secondly, at this juncture when the U. S. Navy is believed to be engaged in its gigantic expansion, have any preparations been made to expand the JAPANESE Navy?

As regards the first question as to what preparations the NAVY has for coping with the situation, my reply to this is that the NAVY has given this matter its careful consideration and has made thorough preparations for dealing with the worst possible situation. As for details thereof I of course do not think that there is any need of mentioning same.

As for the second question as to what expansion program the JAPANESE Navy possesses against the expansion of the U. S. Navy, care has been taken to show some consideration in the budget draft already submitted this year as well as the budget draft that will be submitted hereafter to bring the JAPANESE Navy up to the limits of autonomous safety against the expansion of the U.S. Navy. Please rest your mind at east on that point. That is all I say as my reply.

.....

I shall give a summarized reply to the three points contained in Mr. KUBOI's present interrogation. It is true that, as Mr. Kuboi has just argued, although I cannot give accurate figures in regard to the ratio between the warship construction expenditure of the U. S. and that of JAPAN, it is true that same has in general become several times more. Consequently, if I should perchance be able to receive the gigantic expansion expenditure of the U. S., it is certain that we would be able to equip ourselves with greater armaments than what the U. S. is about to furnish herself with. Although such is the case, what is known as armaments is, as you are aware, not only a question of quantity. The question of quality also comes into consideration. If devices characteristic of the JAPANESE Navy should be applied and characteristic new arms of service should be set up, it cannot necessarily be said that we must spend the same amount of money as the U. S. in order to also oppose the U. S. fleet built at a gigantic cost. As for JAPAN, she has a certain confidence of success on that point. Although I cannot give a detailed reply as to how many warships and how many planes, my idea is to establish reliable armaments considered as necessary by the JAPANESE Navy for making us confident of success against practically any kind of emergency, regarding a part of which I have, as already mentioned a little while ago, been favoured with your kind approval and intend to also receive your approval hereafter as well as they steadily come to appear in future budgets. As for the remark as to whether there should not be some difference between the armaments of JAPAN as in the past and that of JAPAN in charge of defending the GREATER EAST ASIA CO-PROSPERITY SPHERE, I am also in full accord. I hope that these points will be carefully interwoven with our present armaments program, which please note.

C E R T I F I C A T E

A.D.C. No. _____
I.P.S. No. 2194-X-9

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, SATO, Tomoo hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Secretary of the Cabinet, Japanese Government and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached consisting of Copy of speech of Admiral OIKAWA, Koshiro made before the Budget Committee, excerpted from original record of proceedings of the 76th Imperial Diet, dated 26 Jan., 1941, and described as follows: Extraction of Admiral OIKAWA, Koshiro's speech made before the Budget Committee of the 76th Diet Session.

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):
Japanese Cabinet.

Signed at Tokyo on this
11th day of June, 1947.

T. Sato

Signature of Official



SEAL

Witness: R. Kurigama

Secretary of the Cabinet
Official Capacity

Statement of Official Procurement

I, Henry A. Dolan Jr. 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
12th day of June, 1947

Witness: J. A. Carter

Henry A. Dolan Jr.

NAME

Investigator, IPS

Official Capacity,

Investigative Division

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