

Dec. 1828 Evid

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(18)

INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

Doc. No. 1828

7 June 1946

ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT.

Title and Nature: Letter from OKAWA, Shumei, to
Gen. UGAKI, Kazushige.

Date: 6 Mar 31 Original Copy Language: Jap

Has it been translated? Yes No
Has it been photostated? Yes No

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL (also WITNESS if applicable)
Document Division

SOURCE OF ORIGINAL: Gen. UGAKI

PERSONS IMPLICATED: OKAWA, Shumei

CRIMES TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: Preparing Public
Opinion for War

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT POINTS (with page references):

OKAWA urges UGAKI to accept leadership in the
"SHOWA Renovation" movement, in essence, an invitation
to seize power in government from political parties.

Analyst: W. H. Wagner

Doc. No. 1828

Document 1828

Envelope:

(To) His Excellency UGAKI, Kazushige

(Note: Red-pencilled note on same side says:
"Proof regarding March Incident Left (Wing)."

Reverse: (From) OKAWA, Shumei

I beg to state that according to what the rumors report, by the 13th, Premier HAMACUCPI is intending to tender his resignation. Though this is not evident, yet that this will not happen cannot be guaranteed. And if it were so, the disturbance which would arise in the political world would be exceedingly great, and fearful muddy waves may swallow Your Excellency.

Now all hopes of the nation are concentrated on Your Excellency, and those who really feel anxiety over the nation earnestly desire Your Excellency to accomplish the great work of the SHOWA Renovation.

At the same time, the members of political parties too support Your Excellency, and intend to maintain their old influence. As the political situation is so acute, that conspiracy would undoubtedly be very vigorous.

During our unconsciousness, the progress of the nation has rapidly changed, with an increase in the many difficulties, and the nation's political path has now been followed to the very brink. Signs of disorder are already pressing upon us. Years of national vainglory fade in a moment, reckless and inactive industry is fast falling into decay, undeserved rewards are suddenly on the decrease and useless planning collapses of its own weight, as a sick man whose pains increase, but who has no place where he might appeal in his pain. The ready-made parties have entirely lost confidence under Heaven. Every mouth among the people has cursed parliamentary politics. Vital now is the need for a great man of ability to overcome disorder, and vindicate righteousness. Who else but you can we seek as one who can solemnly shoulder the burden of the Imperial soil! The whole nation is irresolute. Not that many are without wisdom and tact, but none of them has any courage to carry out his own belief according to righteousness.

Belief is always a power, and it is the greatest power today. The whole world has lost self-confidence. If you stand up with a belief that never hesitates, filled with patriotic lamentation, and warm yourself with dedicated blood, forgetting immediate trivial matters, thinking of great things only, and bravely stand and commit yourself to the great cause of your Emperor and Fatherland, men of the same mind would respond to you wherever they are, and a great thing would certainly be accomplished. The time is just ahead for a grand mission to descend on you. Please cherish self-respect, make up your mind to be the head of a group which will accomplish a great work, and don't be held by such common people as men of the political parties to become their leader. Oh, our comrades have been awaiting the approach of this day for thirteen years. Now, when I see that the life of the whole Empire is pending on your decision, I feel awe-inspired. Pray Your Excellency, do not let us fall into the abyss of despair. Further, under your leadership we comrades will devote all the best part of ourselves and each bearing his share of the great righteousness of our country completely charge over the Empire. Let the Imperial dignity be uplifted within and without the country and let the time come soon, even one minute quicker.

(Sign.) OKAWA, Shumei.

To General UGAKI, Kazushige

March 6, 1931

CHARGE OUT SLIP

DATE 15 June

EVIDENTIARY LOC. NO. 1928

TRIAL BRIEF _____

EXHIBIT NO. _____

BACKGROUND LOC. NO. _____

SIGNATURE G. R. Splane

ROOM NO. 384

*Original in court
as Exhibit 163
Part 2*

1828

Envelope:

(To) His Excellency UGAKI, Kazushige

This is x (Note: Red-pencilled note on same side says:
"Proof ~~regarding~~ March Incident ~~Left~~ (wing)."
I Had No Connection with
(Note is not signed, but Gen. TANAKA says
UGAKI wrote it.)

Reverse: (From) OKAWA, Shumei

(Translation # 1.)

I beg to state that according to what the rumors report, by the 13th, Premier HAMAGUCHI is intending to tender ~~your~~ his resignation. Though this is not evident, yet that this will not happen cannot be guaranteed. And if it were so, the disturbance which would arise in the political world would be exceedingly great, and fearful muddy waves may swallow Your Excellency.

Now all hopes of the nation are concentrated on Your Excellency, and those who really feel anxiety over the nation earnestly desire Your Excellency to accomplish the great work of the ~~SHOWA Restoration~~ Renovation. (ISHAN)

At the same time, the members of political parties too support Your Excellency, and intend to maintain their old influence. As the political situation is so acute, that conspiracy would undoubtedly be very vigorous.

During our unconsciousness, the progress of the nation has rapidly changed, with an increase in the many difficulties, and the nation's political path has now been followed to the very brink. Signs of disorder are already pressing upon us. Years of national vainglory fade in a moment, reckless and inactive industry is fast falling into decay, undeserved rewards are suddenly on the decrease and useless planning collapses of its own weight, as a sick man whose pains increase, but who has no place where he might appeal in his pain. The ready-made parties have entirely lost confidence under Heaven. Every mouth among the people has cursed parliamentary politics. Vital now is the need for a great man of ability to overcome disorder, and vindicate righteousness. Who else but you can we seek as one who can solemnly shoulder the burden of the Imperial soil! The whole nation is irresolute. Not that many are without wisdom and tact, but none of them has any courage to carry out his own belief according to righteousness.

Belief is always a power, and it is the greatest power today. The whole world has lost self-confidence. If you stand up with a belief that never hesitates, filled with patriotic lamentation, and warm yourself with dedicated blood, forgetting immediate trivial matters, thinking of great things only, and bravely stand and commit yourself to the great cause of your Emperor and Fatherland, men of the same mind would respond to you wherever they are, and a great thing would certainly be accomplished. The time is just ahead for a grand mission to descend on you. Please cherish self-respect, make up your mind to be the head of a group which will accomplish a great work, and don't be held by such common people as men of the political parties to become their leader. Oh, our comrades have been awaiting the approach of this day for thirteen years. Now, when I see that the life of the whole Empire is pending on your decision, I feel awe-inspired. Pray Your Excellency, do not let us fall into the abyss of despair. Further, under your leadership we comrades will devote all the best part of ourselves and each bearing his share of the great righteousness of our country completely change over the Empire. Let the Imperial dignity be uplifted within and without the country and let the time come soon, even one minute quicker.

(Sign.) OKAWA, Shumei

To General UGAKI, Kazushige

March 6, 1931

(Translation # 3.)

1828

literal.

To His Excellency UGAKI, KAZUSHIGE,

Respectfully I start writing. According to what
~~is said~~ ^{is said} ~~by~~ ^{by} one ^{to} another in the streets, Premier

HAMAGUCHI will tender ^{his} resignation in the near
 future, on the 13th. Whether that is true or not, ~~true~~

can not be known of course, but it can ~~not~~ be

guaranteed that such a thing will not happen.

If it comes to be true, waves in the political

circle would come up one after the other, and I

am afraid ~~of~~ muddy waves would make

Your Excellency unclean with a great force.

I reverently contemplate and find that

trust of the whole nation ~~is~~ ^{is} together ~~and~~
 concentrated on Your Excellency. Those who love
 the Emperor ~~and~~ ^{the} Empire unexpectedly unite
 to follow you, and eagerly wish to accomplish
 the great work of the SHOWA Renovation.

However on the other hand ~~these~~ ^{politicians and} ~~of political~~
~~parties~~ ^{their} ~~and~~ ~~ilke~~)
~~party~~ ~~also~~ ~~are~~ ~~planning~~ ~~to~~ ~~take~~
 Your Excellency in their arms and maintain
 their existing influence. Together with the
 pressure in the political situation, their
 plotting will surely become more violent

Therefore I write a poor letter and express my
thought herein.

The times have ^{suddenly} changed while we were
unaware of it. ^{Day by day} Difficulties were added to
our country's ^{advancing} ~~retreating~~ ~~day by day~~ our Empire's
political path at last has almost come to an end, and
signs of disorder have already come in our sight.

Our country's many years vain glory has come
off all at once, careless and loose enterprizes
are fast falling, undeserving rewards are
decreasing suddenly, useless plannings ~~are~~

leading ~~them~~ to destruction, and the
common people sigh, ^{afflicted by} ~~to~~ increasing ~~of~~ sickness
and pains, but have no place to appeal. The
existing political parties have totally lost
the people's trust throughout the country, and
every mouth of the nation has come to curse
the parliamentary administration. Need for
a great genius who subdues disorder and
brings back ^{the} right state of the country has never
been stronger than today. At this time
who else but Your Excellency can solemnly

take the Empire on ~~the~~ both shoulders? Now

the whole nation ^{can only} looks everywhere.
~~glances at the left~~

~~and looks at the right.~~ Although men who are wise

in counsel and brave ⁱⁿ planning are not ~~scarcely~~ ^{rare,}

~~to be found,~~ ~~but~~ there is no one who, ~~standing~~ ^{standing}

righteousness, ^{can with decision} ~~decide to~~ put what he believes ~~in~~

into action.

Belief is always a power, and today it
is the greatest power. The reason is because

the whole world has lost self-confidence. If

Your Excellency stands ^{firm} with a belief that never hesitates,

~~being~~ ^{heart} your ~~intentions~~ filled with patriotic lament ~~and~~

and warm yourself with dedicated blood

of ^{the spirit of} service ~~and~~ forgetting trivial things

~~it~~ before your eyes, ^{and} ~~but~~ thinking in a grand

way, bravely rise and commit yourself to the

great cause of the Emperor and the Country,

men of the same mind would respond to

you wherever they may be and a great thing

would certainly be accomplished. The time

when a grand mission descends on Your Excellency

^{lies} ~~has come~~ just ahead of you. Please ^{heed yourself in high} esteem ~~your-~~

~~self highly~~ and respect, ~~yourself~~ and be firmly

resolved to sit at the head of a great
 work, and ~~do not~~ ^{do not} allow politicians ^{and the} party-type
~~men~~ to take you in their arms.

Oh, it has been thirteen ^{cycles} ~~of~~ ^{the} star
 [thirteen years]
 and ~~the~~ frost ~~season~~, that our comrades

have been waiting for this day. Now

when I see the life and pulse of our

Empire is pending on Your Excellency's

resigning or assuming ^{power} I feel awe-inspired.

Pray Your Excellency do not let us fall

into the abyss of despair. Further, I wish

that the time will come even a second or a
minute quicker for us, men of the same mind,
to get together under your Excellency's
leadership, and each one dedicate his own
strong point in humble spirit, thus bearing
his due proportion of the great duty for the
Empire and totally renew the appearance of
~~our Imperial country~~ The Empire, and enhance the
Imperial dignity both inside and outside
the country.

Most respectfully yours

March 6, 1931

OKAWA, SHUMEI

肅シミテ啓ス。巷間傳フルトコロニヨレバ濱口
首相近ク十三日ヲ期シテ骸骨ヲ閣下ニ乞ハントス
ト。眞偽モトヨリ詳ナラズト雖、必ズシモ其事ナ
キヲ保セズ。果シテ然ランニハ政界ノ波瀾頓ニ重
疊シ或ハ虞ル濁浪滔々閣下ヲ瀆スニ至ランコトヲ。
恭シク惟ルニ今ヤ天下ノ與望翕然トシテ閣下ニ
聚マレリ。君國ヲ憂フル者期セズシテ皆ナ閣下ヲ
奉ジテ昭和維新ノ大業ヲ遂ゲンコトヲ切願ス。
而モ他方政黨者流モマタ閣下ヲ擁シテ舊勢力ノ
維持ヲ圖ルアリ政局ノ切迫ト共ニ策謀必ズヤ激烈
一層ナルベシ。即チ燕簡ヲ奉呈シテ生ノ微忱ヲ布
ク。

ソレ機運不識ノ間ニ急轉シテ國歩 日ニ艱難ヲ
加ヘ、皇國ノ政道遂ニ末路ニ瀕シテ亂兆スデニ迫
レリ。國家多年ノ虛榮一朝ニ剝ゲ、疎慢ノ事業頓
ニ衰ヘ、分外ノ報酬俄ニ減ジ、無益ナル計畫自ラ
亡ビ、而シテ蒼生唯ダ疾苦ノ増加シ來レルヲ嗟嘆
スルモ以テ懇フルトコロナシ。既成政黨ハ徹底シ
テ信ヲ天下ニ失ヒ、國民口々ニ議會政治ヲ呪詛
ルニ至レリ。撥亂反正ノ大才ヲ要望スルコト、實
ニ今日ヨリ切ナルハナシ。此時ニ當リテ閣下ニ
テ皇國ヲ双肩ニ負ハン者、閣下ヲ措キテマタ誰人
ゾ。今ヤ國ヲ舉ゲテ左顧シ右視スルノ
智謀ア

COPI

リ策略アル者稀ナラズト雖、正義ニ據ツテ斷乎信
ズルトコロヲ行フ者ナシ。

信念ハ常ニ力ナリ、而モ今日ニ以テ最モ大ナル力
ナリ。蓋シ世ヲ擧ゲテ自信ヲ失ヘルガ故ナリ。
若シ夫レ閣下ニシテ不退轉ノ信念ニ立チ、慷慨ノ
氣ニ腸ヲ托シ、獻已奉公ノ血ニ温マリ、眼前ノ局
促ヲ忘レテ盛大ニ思慮シ、敢然起ツテ君國ノ大義
ニ拮据セラレンニハ、同志所在ニ呼應シテ大事必
ズ成ラン。洵ニ天命ノ閣下ニ降ランコト目撃ノ間
ニ迫レリ。希クハ自任自重大業ニ首座タルノ覺悟
ヲ堅確ニシ、濫リニ政黨者流ノタメニ擁セラレザ
ランコトヲ。嗚呼吾徒ノ今日アルヲ待テルモノ、
實ニ星霜十有三年ナリ、イマ吾國ノ命脈カ、リテ
閣下ノ去就ニアルヲ見ル時、一心轉々悽然タリ。
仰ギ願ハクハ生等ヲシテ絶望ノ深淵ニ墮セシメ給
ハザランコトヲ。更ニ希クハ閣下ノ指麾ノ下、同
志互ニ其長ヲ獻ジテ各自ニ鞠躬シ、以テ應分ニ君
國ノ大義ヲ負荷シテ皇國ノ面目ヲ一新シ
皇威ヲ内外ニ宣揚スルノ時 瞬刻モ速カナラン事
ヲ

恐惶頓首

昭和六年三月六日

大川 周 明

宇垣一成先生大人

侍者