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Copy of records of Commander in Chief HATA's Interview  
with newspaper correspondents appearing in the  
newspaper "ASAHI" on 11 March 1938

SHANGHAI Special telegram of the 10th

After the Army Day exercises were over, Commander-in-Chief HATA had a first interview with press men. It is noteworthy in this interview that Commander HATA expressed his first opinion. Concerning the birth of the Central China new regime which is being closely observed by the people, he self-confidently expressed that "there is no need for the Army to hurry, but I have heard that its air was heavy, and if it is an anti-Communist regime, it /we/ will not hesitate to cooperate to the end." In regards to the CHIANG regime, he stated that a thorough going policy of planning to annihilate it as per policy of the central regime is being maintained. Regarding military operations, he clearly expressed the grand policy of the new Commander-in-Chief that "This did not end a phase, and preparations are being made for a situation to enable military operation whenever necessity arises."

Special Correspondent OKA at SHANGHAI, the 10th

Commander-in-Chief HATA, showered with questions in rapid succession from correspondents while smoking a "Three Castle" leisurely, stated:

"The Army highly favors the birth of new regimes in North and Central China claiming anti-Communism and Japanese friendship; I have heard that the moment for the birth of a new regime in Central China is drawing near, but concerning the birth of this new regime I believe it should not be overbearing. We will not be reluctant to cooperate with anything that will be born by natural growth. Presently the military operations have taken shape as ending a phase, but hereafter, as for the Army, to anticipate the preservation of public peace satisfactorily in the occupation area, and also the stabilizing of popular sentiment and promotion of rehabilitation in the occupation area comes first. The Army must make this and the military operation of chastising the anti-Japanese National Government, go hand in hand. For this purpose, from our own accord, we have tightened the lace of our helmets and have made preparations so that we can act at any time. In regards to the progressing rehabilitation plan the problem of management of its operation and finance are concerned with the political and economical problems, so I have no knowledge to that effect, and it will also depend on the policy of the Central regime. Concerning the SHANGHAI settlement problem of attitude towards third powers, I think we should look forward with justice, hereafter as well. At any rate, we will, with firm resolution, do our utmost, regardless of whether it will take 10, 20 or even 100 years."

When the conversation became serious, the Commander-in-Chief closed his mouth tightly, and drifted a look of seriousness to his eyebrows. Then he would momentarily smile beamingly like a good father. At last he stood up suddenly and in the end gave these emphatic words to the correspondents: "You saw the expression of overflowing determination on the faces of troops in today's military review, didn't you? Whether it be to HANKOW, or some other place, we will keep on, wherever it is."



C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, OKA, Kenji, hereby certify that I am connected with the Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN as a member of the Editorial Staff, and during the period from February 1938 to April 1940, I was a member of the staff of the Shanghai Office of the same publication.

I certify that I was in Shanghai and that I attended the first Press Conference given by General HATA Shunroku, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in China on 10 March 1938 at which time he outlined the Japanese Military Policy in China.

I certify that the attached document is a certified true copy of a dispatch which I sent by telegram to the Tokyo Office of ASAHI SHIMBUN following the above-mentioned Press Conference. This article was carried by the ASAHI SHIMBUN on date of 11 March 1938.

I further certify that dispatch written by me, is a true and correct report of General HATA's Press Conference.

Signed at Tokyo on this

30th day of June, 1947

/s/ OKA Kenji  
Signature of Author

Member, Editorial Staff, Tokyo

Witness: Shozo, Ogiya

Asahi Shimbun



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No. 1

昭和十三年三月十一日附朝日新聞掲載畑最高指揮官の  
新聞記者會見録寫

上海特電十日發

陸軍記念日の式典を終つた後で畑最高指揮官は最初の記  
者團との會見を行つたが同會見に於て畑司令官の最初  
の意見が表されたものとして注目される。一般から注視されつ  
た中支新政権の誕生についてはさういふ必要は軍としてはな  
いから空気が濃厚であるといふ間、反共政権ならば飽迄協  
力するに躊躇はないと自信に満ちた態度を明かにして蔣  
政権については中央の方針通りこれを徹底を図る徹底的な  
針を持つて居ると言明軍事行動については、これと一段落  
したのでなく必要に応じて何時でも作戦行動を取り得る  
情態に整備するものと新銳軍司令官の堂々たる方針  
を明言した

上海にて國特派員十日發

畑最高指揮官は記者團からの矢継早な質問を答へ  
スリーヤワルを飲つくりくゆらしながら語つた

北支中支に新政権が反共親日を標榜して生れることは軍と  
しても大いに歓迎するところだ。中支にも新政権誕生の機運が濃  
厚になつて来たやうに聞えるが、さう新政権が生れたために無理  
をしてはならないと思ふ。自然発生的に生れて来るものに対し  
ては我々も協力するに當りてはなほ目下軍事行動も一  
段落の形が今後軍としては占領区域の治安確保に遺



滅びを期すると共に占領地域の人々を安定復興を促進せ  
 しめることか第一で抗日國民政府肩負の軍事行動とこれを  
 実行せしめて行かなければならぬ。我々が存には我々は勝つ魂の  
 緒を締めいつ何時でも飛び出せる準備をして居る。進行中の  
 復興計画は就きその工作より資金よりをどうするかといふ向  
 題についてはこれは政治経済問題に關聯することと自分はその  
 方面の知識もないし中央の方針にもよることだ上海租界向  
 題を初め亦三國に対する態度については今後とも正義を以  
 て臨むべきであらうと思ふ。兎も角吾々はシツカリ腰を落付  
 け二十年であらうか二十年であらうか又百年であらうか大いに  
 やるす

談話が真剣味を帯いて来ると又最良指揮官はクワトロを  
 ぐみ緊密張の色を眉宇に滲はせしは又瞬間如き郭の如き微  
 笑を湛へて見せる終にツイと立つ

今日の觀兵式のあのハチ切れさうな兵士の顔を見たらう漢口  
 であらうかどこであらうかどこ迄とやるよ  
 と最良は力強いこの一言を記者團に投げかけた



Doc. 3080

證明書

與據並ニ公正ニ関スル陳述

私岡健次音訳ハ編輯局員、一員トシテ  
東京朝日新聞社ニ関係シ居ルコト、並ニ一  
九三八年二月カラ一九四〇年四月マデノ期間同社  
上海支局員、一員デアツタコトヲ茲ニ證明シス。  
私カ上海ニ居ッタコト並ニ私ハ一九三八年三  
月首支那派遣軍總司令官畑俊六大將  
ノ行ツタ第一面新聞記者會談ニ出席シ  
タカ其ノ際彼ガ支那ニ於ケル日本ノ軍事政  
策ノ概要ヲ述ベタコトヲ私ハ證明シマス。  
添附ノ文書ハ前記記者會談後直ニ私  
朝日新聞東京本社ニ打電シテ報道ノ認證  
セラレタ真ノ寫ヲアルコトヲ私ハ證明シマス。  
此ノ記事ハ一九三八年三月十日附ノ朝日新聞ニ  
掲載サレタ。

私ノ書イタ此ノ報道ガ畑大將ノ記者會談ノ真  
實且ツ正確ヲ報告ナルコトヲ私ハ更ニ證明シス。  
一九四七年六月三十日

東京ニ於テ本書ニ署名ス

作者ノ署名 岡 健次

東京朝日新聞社編輯局員

證人 秋屋正造 音訳