

No. 2181

2600 Years of Japanese History  
By OKADA, Shumei

(Excerpts)

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"The Chang Hsueh-liang regime was swept completely away from Manchuria in one swoop through the quick and daring actions of the Japanese troops. The Manchurian people, who had long been suffering under the oppression and exaction of the Chang regime, took advantage of this occasion and started the independence movement, finally succeeding in declaring independence in February of the following year, 1932. Then, on the 15th of September 1932, our country recognized this newly established Manchukuo, concluded the Japan-Manchukuo Protocol, and thus laying the legal foundation for the co-existence and co-prosperity of both countries, started to establish the New Order in East Asia in close collaboration with Manchukuo. When Japan faced this sublime task, the spirit of patriotism which had been slumbering in her people's hearts was suddenly awakened. Democracy and Communism which had overwhelming influence on the minds of the people not long ago were finally swept away, and the nationalistic tendency reached an unprecedented climax. Moreover, when Japan daringly rebuffed the coercion of other powers at the time of the Manchurian Incident, by boldly withdrawing from the League of Nations and by abrogating the London Treaty, the self-realization of the people was much intensified, the excessive esteem for the West as in the past was overcome, and a vivid spirit of independence was reborn.

"However, the establishment of Manchukuo exceedingly incited China. China, who had already been carrying on antagonistic movements against Japan for a long period of time through her misunderstanding of Japan's true intentions, took the establishment of Manchukuo as an outcome of Japan's imperialistic ambition, and incited the hostilities of her people against Japan by advocating recovery of the lost territory. Due to this attitude of China, many unfortunate incidents took place between Japan and China, and this situation reached its explosive point on 7 July 1937 when a unit of the Japanese army that was engaged in night manoeuvres at Marco Polo Bridge near Peking was suddenly fired at by a group of Chinese soldiers. In spite of Japan's patient exertions to settle the affair peacefully on the spot, China persistently maintained a challenging attitude, placing too much confidence in her national power and underestimating our national strength. Therefore, Japan was impelled to resort to arms in order to urge China to thoroughly re-examine her attitude; this finally resulted in the utilizing on the Continent of the greatest number of troops ever known since the founding of the Empire /T.M. Japan/. Since the outbreak

of the Incident, already two years are about to elapse. During these years, the Japanese forces have, under the August virtue of His Majesty, scattered the Chinese troops away like leaves blown away by a hurricane. We have first of all succeeded in hoisting the flag of the rising sun over the whole of North China; then we have captured Shanghai which the enemy counted upon as being impregnable; taken Nanking, the capital, then Canton like a whirlwind, going farther up along the Yangtze River to realize the fall of the three cities of Lu-shan and Nanchang.

"The object of the Japanese military expedition to China was, as expressed in the Imperial Edict of 4th September 1937, simply "to urge grave self-reflection upon China and to establish peace in East Asia without delay". The Chinese Government, however, taking the last hold on Chungking in a corner of Ssuehuan Province, in spite of the fatal blow she had received, is still calling for a protracted war of resistance. This obstinate opposition to Japan is due to their expectation of assistance from England, France and the Soviet Union on the one hand, and on the other to their hope that Japan will utterly exhaust her strength. The respective interests and objects of these pro-Chiang Kai Shek Powers vary, but they all agree in not welcoming the revival of Asia under Japan's leadership. Accordingly they have restrained Japan by their foreign policy, and are trying to place her in a disadvantageous situation either by helping China financially or by supplying her with munitions of war. In these circumstances, Japan must, observing the Imperial wishes to cut down the root of the evils of long standing, wake up her mind to continue to exert her utmost efforts with irresistible force over a long period in order to realize the establishment of the New Order in East Asia. The establishment of the New Order in East Asia is the first step towards the eventual recovery of all Asia, and this in effect will mean the Pectoration of the World. Since her national foundation 2600 years ago, Japan has never before assumed such a truly grand and sublime role. We must accordingly overcome all trials and difficulties both internal and external in order to fulfill this divine mission."



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Makoto M. NIMURA, HEREBY CERTIFY That I am fully conversant with the Japanese and English languages, and that I, this day, read the foregoing affidavit to the above-named H. SUGAMA, Minokichi in Japanese, and in so doing, truly and correctly translated the contents thereof from English into Japanese; and that said H. SUGAMA, Minokichi stated to me that the contents of said affidavit were the truth, and that he was willing to sign said affidavit under oath; and that said H. SUGAMA, Minokichi was duly sworn in my presence and signed said affidavit under oath in my presence; and that all proceedings incidental to the administration of said oath and the signing of said affidavit were truly and correctly translated from Japanese into English and English into Japanese and fully understood and comprehended by said affiant.

Dated this 21st day of June, 1946, at Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ Makoto M. Nimura