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C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of 3 pages and entitled "THE NOTICE OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT OF THE INTENTION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS, March 27, 1933." is an exact and true copy of "DOCUMENT RELATING TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF JAPAN FROM THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS" published by The League of Nations Association of Japan and in the custody of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,

on this 1st day of March, 1947.

K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness : H. Urabe

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EXCERPT FROM "The Withdrawal of Japan"
The Notice of the Japanese Government of the Intention
of Japan to Withdraw from the League of Nations.

March 27, 1933

The Minister for Foreign Affairs cabled to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, under date of March 27, 1933, the following notice of the intention of Japan to withdraw from the League of Nations in accordance with the provisions of Article 1, Paragraph 3 of the Covenant of the League of Nations:

The Japanese Government believe that the national policy of Japan, which has for its aim to insure the peace of the Orient and thereby to contribute to the cause of peace throughout the world, is identical in spirit with the mission of the League of Nations, which is to achieve international peace and security. It has always been with pleasure, therefore, that this country has for thirteen years past, as an original Member of the League, and a permanent Member of its Council, extended a full measure of co-operation with her fellow-Members towards the attainment of its high purpose. It is indeed a matter of historical fact that Japan has continuously participated in the various activities of the League with a zeal not inferior to that exhibited by any other nation. At the same time, it is and has always been the conviction of the Japanese Government that in order to render possible the maintenance of peace in various regions of the world, it is necessary in existing circumstances to allow the operation of the Covenant of the League to vary in accordance with the actual conditions prevailing in each of those regions. Only by acting on this just and equitable principle can the League fulfil its mission and increase its influence.

Acting on this conviction, the Japanese Government, ever since the Sino-Japanese dispute was, in September, 1931, submitted to the League, have,

at meetings of the League and on other occasions, continually set forward a consistent view. This was, that if the League was to settle the issue fairly and equitably, and to make a real contribution to the promotion of peace in the Orient, and thus enhance its prestige, it should acquire a complete grasp of the actual conditions in this quarter of the globe and apply the Covenant of the League in accordance with those conditions. They have repeatedly emphasized and insisted upon the absolute necessity of taking into consideration the fact that China is not an organized State,----that its internal conditions and external relations are characterized by extreme confusion and complexity, and by many abnormal and exceptional features,----and that, accordingly, the general principles and usages of International Law which govern the ordinary relations between nations are found to be considerably modified in their operation so far as China is concerned, resulting in the quite abnormal and unique international practices which actually prevail in that country.

However, the majority of the members of the League evinced in the course of its deliberations during the past seventeen months a failure either to grasp these realities or else to face them and take them into proper account. Moreover, it has frequently been made manifest in these deliberations that there exist serious differences of opinion between Japan and those Powers concerning the application and even the interpretation of various international engagements and obligations including the Covenant of the League and the principal principles of International Law. As a result, the Report adopted by the Assembly at the special session of 24 February last, entirely misapprehending the spirit of Japan, pervaded as it is by no other desire than the maintenance of peace in the Orient, contains gross errors both in the ascertainment of facts and in the conclusions deduced. In asserting that the action of the Japanese Army at the time of the Incident of 18 September and subsequently

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did not fall within the just limits of self-defence, the Report assigned no reasons and came to an arbitrary conclusion, and in ignoring alike the state of tension which preceded, and the various aggravations which succeeded, the Incident---for all of which the full responsibility is incumbent upon China---- the Report creates a source of fresh conflict in the political arena of the Orient. By refusing to acknowledge the actual circumstances that led to the foundation of Manchoukuo, and by attempting to challenge the position taken up by Japan in recognizing the new State, it cuts away the ground for the stabilization of the Far Eastern situation. Nor can the terms laid down in its recommendations----as was fully explained in the Statement issued by this Government on 25 February last----ever be of any possible service in securing enduring peace in these regions.

The conclusion must be that in seeking a solution of the question the majority of the League have attached greater importance to upholding inapplicable formulae than to the real task of assuring peace, and higher value to the vindication of academic theses than to the eradication of the sources of future conflict. For these reasons, and because of the profound differences of opinion existing between Japan and the majority of the League in their interpretation of the Covenant and of other treaties, the Japanese Government have been led to realize the existence of an irreconcilable divergence of views, dividing Japan and the League on policies of peace, and especially as regards the fundamental principles to be followed in the establishment of a durable peace in the Far East. The Japanese Government, believing that in these circumstances there remains no room for further co-operation, hereby give notice, in accordance with the provisions of Article 1, Paragraph 3, of the Covenant, of the intention of Japan to withdraw from the League of Nations.

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文書ノ出所竝ニ成立ニ關スル證明書

(三號)

自分、林 馨 ハ 外務省文書課長ノ職ニ居ル者ナル處、茲ニ添付セラレタル日本語ニ依ツテ書カレ 四 頁ヨリ成ル帝國政府通告書ト題スル書類ハ日本政府(外 務 省)ノ保管ニ係ル公文書ノ拔萃ノ正確ニシテ眞實ナル寫シナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年 三月 一日 於東京

林 馨 (Sei Riki) (Sei Riki)

右署名捺印ハ自分ノ面前ニ於テ爲サレタリ

同日於同所

立會人 浦 部 勝 馬 (Ura Be Katsu Uma)

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DIT LOC # 250-0

昭和八年三月二十七日

帝國政府通告書

帝國政府通告書

帝國は國際聯盟規約第一條第三項に基き國際聯盟を脱退する旨の左記通告を、昭和八年三月二十七日外務大臣より國際聯盟事務總長に對し宣報せり。

通告書

帝國政府は東洋の平和を確保し延いて世界の平和に貢獻せんとする帝國の國是が、各國間の平和安寧を企圖する國際聯盟の使命と其の精神を同じうすることを認め、過去十有三年に亘り原聯盟國として又常任理事國として此の崇高なる目的の達成に協力し來りたるを欣快とするものなり。而して其の間帝國が常に他の如何なる國にも劣らざる熱成を以て聯盟の事業に参畫せるは、嚴として動かすべからざる事跡なると同時に、帝國政府は現下國際社會の情勢に鑑み、世界諸地方に於ける平和の維持を計らんが爲には此等各地方の現實の事態に即して聯盟規約の運用を行ふを要し、且斯の如き公正なる方針に則り初て聯盟が其の使命を全うし

其の權威の増進を期し得べきを確信せり。昭和六年九月日支事件の聯盟付託を見るや、帝國政府は終始右確信に付託を見る
 基き聯盟の諸會議其の他の機會に於て聯盟が本事件を處理するに公正妥に於て
 當なる方法を以てし、眞に東洋平和の増進に寄與すると共に其の威信を
 顯揚せんが爲には、同方面に於ける現實の事態を的確に把握し該事態に
 適應して規約の運用を爲すの肝要なるを提唱し、就中支那が完全なる統
 一國家に非ずして其の國內事情及國際關係は複雑難澁を極め、例
 の特異性に富めること、從て一般國際關係の規準たる國際法の諸原則及
 慣例は支那に付ては之が適用に關し著しき變更を加へられ、其の結果現
 に特殊且異常なる國際慣行成立し居れることを考慮に入れるの絶對に必
 要なる旨力説強調し來れり。

然るに過去十七箇月間聯盟に於ける審議の經過に徴するに、多數聯盟
 國は東洋に於ける現實の事態を把握せざるか又は之に直面して正當なる
 考慮を拂はざるのみならず、聯盟規約其の他の諸條約及國際法の諸原則
 の適用殊に其の解釋に付、帝國と此等聯盟國との間に嚴重大なる意見の

相違あること明かとなれり。其の結果本年二月二十四日臨時總會の採擇せる報告書は、帝國が東洋の平和を確保せんとする外何等異圖なきの精神を願みざると同時に、事實の認定及之に基く論断に於て甚しき誤謬に陥り就中九月十八日事件當時及其の後に於ける日本軍の行動を以て自衛の爲に其の發動に非ずと憶断し、又同事件前の緊張状態及事件後に於ける事態の悪化が支那側の全責任に屬するを看過し、爲に東洋の政局に新なる紛糾の因を作れる一方、滿洲國成立の真相を無視し、且同國を承認せる帝國の立場を否認し、東洋に於ける事態安定の基礎を破壊せんとするものなり。殊に其の勸告中に掲げられたる條件が東洋の康寧確保に何等貢獻し得ざるは、本年二月二十五日帝國政府陳述書に詳述せる所なり。之を要するに多數聯盟國は日支事件の處理に當り、現實に平和を確保するよりは適用不能なる方式の尊重を以て一層重要なりとし、又將來に於ける紛争の禍根を免除するよりは架空的な理論の擁護を以て一段重なりとせるものと見るの外なく、他面此等聯盟國と帝國との間に規約その他の條約の解釋に付重大なる意見の相違あること前記の如くなるを

以て、茲に帝國政府は平和維持の方策殊に東洋平和確立の根本方針に付
聯盟と全然其の所信を異にすることを確認せり。仍て帝國政府は此の上
聯盟と協力するの餘地なきを信じ、聯盟規約第一條第三項に基き帝國が
國際聯盟より脱退することを通告するものなり。