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Def. Doc. No. 1400-H-7

Excerpt from Foreign Relations of the United States  
Japan: 1931-1941 Vol. II

Page 778

Statement Handed by the First Secretary of the Japanese  
Embassy (Terasaki) to Mr. Joseph W. Ballantine on  
December 2, 1941

The so-called speech of Premier Hideki Tojo was originally drafted by members of the office staff of the East Asia Restoration League, a non-governmental organization of which Mr. Tojo happens to be President, as a congratulatory address to be delivered on November 30, on the occasion commemorating the first anniversary of the conclusion of the Treaty Concerning the Basic Relations between Japan and China, under the auspices of the said League.

However, November 30 happened to be Sunday; the League staff gave out the manuscript to the newspaper reporters upon their request on the night of November 29 (Saturday), before the said draft was examined by either the Premier himself or other Government officials, and this unapproved manuscript was printed in the metropolitan newspapers.

As a matter of fact, the Premier himself made no speech of any kind on the 30th. Moreover, neither the Premier nor other government authorities had any knowledge as to the content of the said speech.

It should further be noted that the reported statement "For the honor and pride of mankind we must purge this sort of practice from East Asia with a vengeance" is a mistranslation of the original text. There is, in the original text, no such expression as "purge" or "with a vengeance." The correct translation of the statement should be "For the honor and pride of mankind, this sort of practice must be removed."

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See 2978  
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 憲政側文書第千四百號Bノ7

アメリカ合衆国外國關係文書ヨリノ抜萃  
 一九卅一年乃至一九四一年——日本——  
 第二卷

第七七八頁

一九四一年十二月二日、日本大使館一等書記官  
 (寺崎氏)ガジョセフ・タグリユー・ペロンダ  
 イシ氏ニ手交シタル聲明書。

東條英機首相ノ例ノ預説ハ、元來ハ、東條氏ガ  
 側々ソノ組織タリシ民間団体タル東亞同盟ノ事務  
 職員ガ起算シタモノデ十一月廿日ニ上記同盟主催  
 ニカ、ル日華基本條約締結一周年記念祝賀會ノ席  
 上テ起ベタルベキ祝辭デアツタ。  
 'コロガ例ス、十一月廿日ハ日圓ニ當ツタノテ該  
 同盟幹部ハ、新聞記者達ノ請フマ、ニ、首相自身  
 又ハ他ノ政府ノ官吏ノ校園ヲ俟ツ十一月廿九日  
 (土曜日)夜、該草稿ヲ發表シヨノホス器ノ草稿  
 ガ帝都ノ新聞紙上ニ載ツタノデアル。  
 東條首相自身ハ、廿日ニハ如何ナル預説モシナカ

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ツタ。即ち首相モ他ノ政府當局者モ、上記演説ノ  
 内容ニ関シテハ何等知ル處ガ無カツタ。  
 眞ニ注目セズニテ、ナラズ、事ハ、ソノ報道サヘ、  
 類ノ名譽ト誇リニカケテ、吾人ハ其ノ爲ノ慣行ヲ  
 東京ヨリ徹底肉ニ一掃セズ、可ラズ「トイツ言明ハ  
 原文ノ誤解ナヤル。原文ニハ「一掃スル」トカ「  
 徹底肉ニ」トカ、イフ表現ハナインデ、アツテ、該言  
 明ラ正ニ誤スルト「人ハ、仁心ト誇リニカケテ  
 斯ノ爲ノ慣行ハ除ミテ、ラ、ナル可ラズ」トナルベ  
 ニキデアル。

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