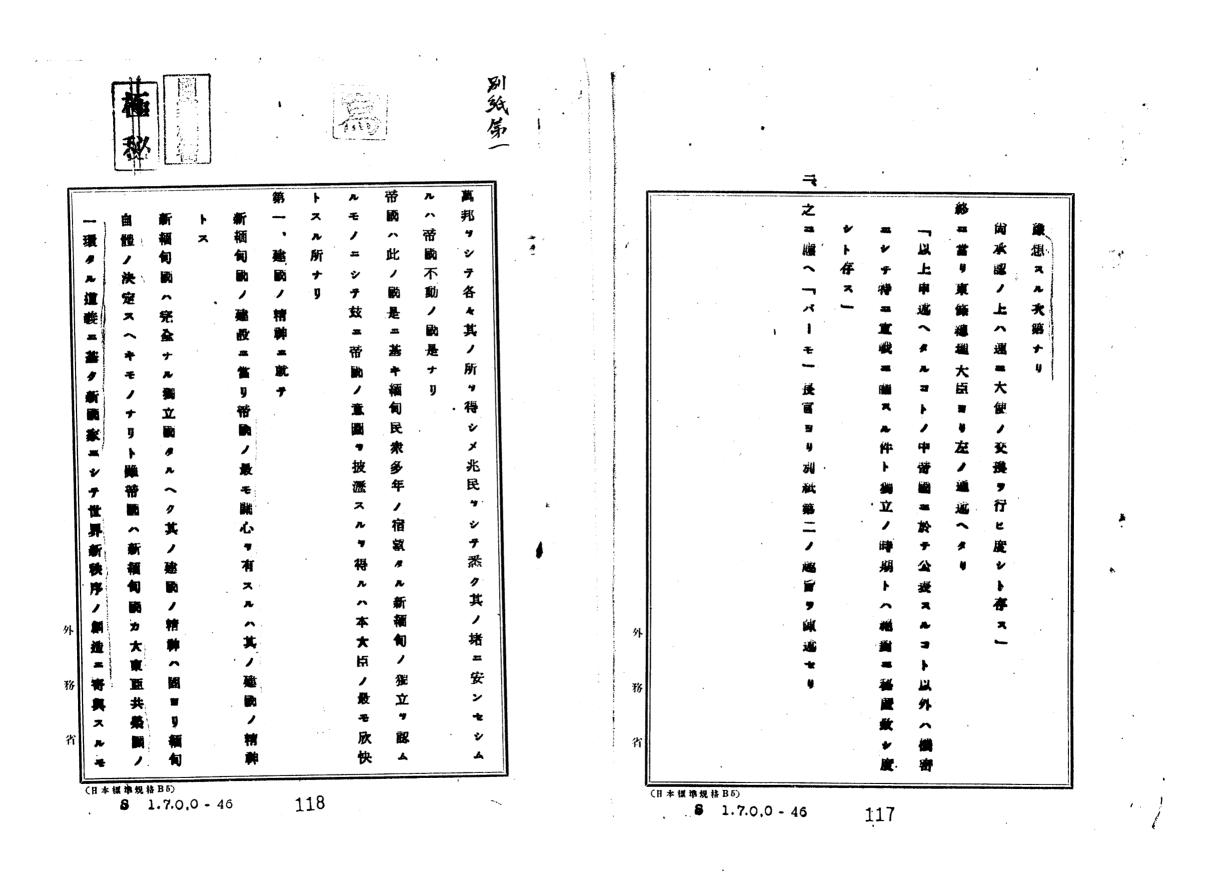


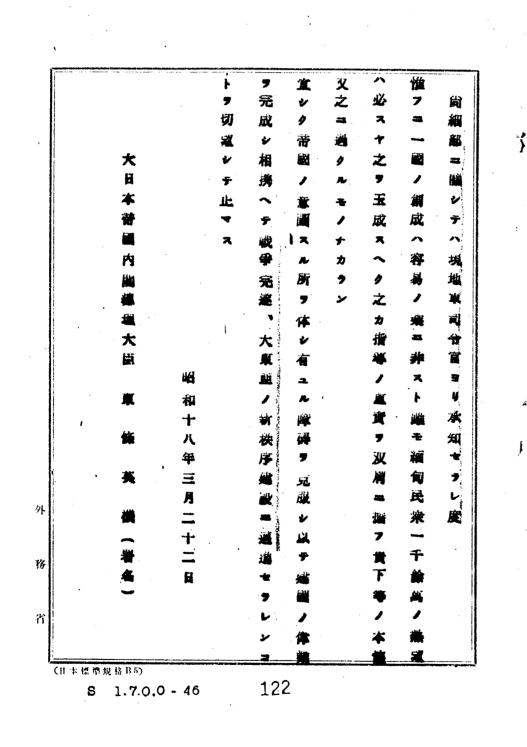
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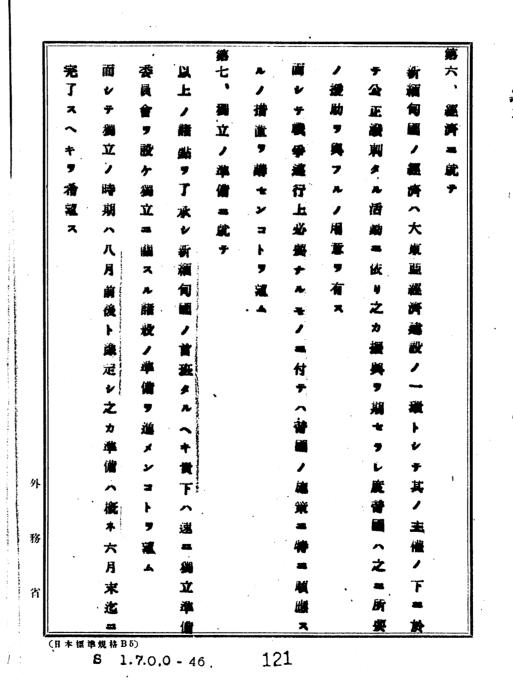


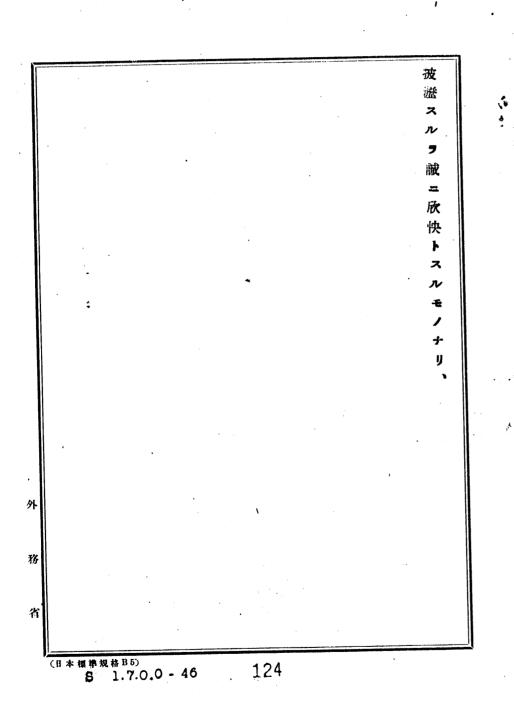
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with courage and determination with the successful prosecution of the war as well as with the construction of the new order in Greater East Asia.

The 22nd Day of the Third Month, the 18th Year of Syowa.

(Signed) Makeki Tojo

Prime minister of the Imperial

Government of Nippon.

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Document No. 2.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Your Excellency:

I have heard with deep gratitude the statement on Burma and her independence which you have just made. Since the time you gave us the promise of Burmase independence in the Imperial Diet, the joy and gratitude of the entire people of Burma have been unprecedented. It is not only joy and gratitude, but also trust — a great trust in Nippon that her leadership will bring about the salvation of East Asia. To gratitude and trust, I wish to add that the people of Burma take to their heart the realism which Nippon has shown in the great task of reconstructing East Asia.

Your Excellency has personally placed upon me heavy responsibilities. I take it as a great honour and I shall do the utmost of my ability to be worthy of it.

I will also do my best to understand this statement of Burma in the light of the gratitude and trust I have just mentioned.

In conclusion, it is my great pleasure to convey to Your Excellency the warm sense of respect and thust which the entire people of Burma hold for you.

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STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

(Translation)

To enable all nations each to find its proper place and all peoples to pursue their lives in peace is the immutable national policy of the Empire of Nippon.

On the basis of this national policy, Nippon is now prepared to enable the Burmese people to attain the independence of the new Burma which has so long been their cherished desire. It is, therefore, my very great pleasure to express to you the intentions of Nippon on this matter.

1. The Spirit of National Foundation

In connection with the establishment of the new Burma, it is her spirit of national foundation in which Nippon entertains the greatest interest. Since the new Burma is to become a fully independent state, it is needless to say that the spirit of her national foundation is a matter to be decided by Burma herself. It is the firm belief of Nippon, however, that the new Burma will be established upon the basis of ethical minciples as a member of the Greater fast Asian Sphere of Coprosperity in order to contribute to the creation of a new world order.

2. The Composition of the State

It was previously announced that the territory of the

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l. Announcing that he will convey the intentions of the Imperial Government regarding the independence of Burma, 'Prime Minister Tojo stated as recorded on attached document No. 1.

Regarding Item No. 3 in document No. 1 relative to "Basic Relations between Nippon and Burma," Prime Minister Tojo added as follows:

"I place important emphasis on the fact that Nippon-Burma relations are to be established principally on a spiritual link based upon ethical principles, but in reference to the recognition of independence to be given upon the establishment of the new Burma, I expect that a treaty stipulating the basic relations between the two countries will be concluded,

"Also, upon the recognition of independence, I should like to see the early exchange of ambassadors."

In conclusion, Prime Minister Tojo stated as follows:

"Other than what will be publicly announced by the Imperial Government, all matters which I have mentioned above are to be kept strictly confidential, especially the points relating to the declaration of war and the time of independence which I wish to have kept absolutely secret.

2. In response, Dr. Ba Maw, Chief of the Administrative Council of Burma, stated as recorded on attached document No. 24

new Burma would comprise the areas under the jurisdiction of the existing Administrative Council, but I hereby declare that it is further to include the whole territory of Burma with the exception of the Shan and Karenni areas.

It is desired that the composition of the new nation be determined in accordance with the aim of harmoniously embracing the various peoples within the territory with the Burmese people as its base.

It is also desired that the political organization be so formed as to render the administration of the state simple and forceful.

3. Basic Relations between Nippon and Burma

Nippon earnestly hopes that, through her own incentive and responsibility, the new Burma will speedily substantiate her status as an independent state and, in this regard, Nippon is ready to afford all possible assistance. She further hopes that the new Burma, as a member of the Greater East Asian Sphere of Co-prosperity, will, on her part, long maintain with Nippon the closest relations of co-operation in all such matters as politics, military affairs, diplomacy and economics.

4. Declaration of War Against the United States and
Britain and Firm Establishment of the Wartime
Structure

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<u>It</u>

It is sincerely desired that the new Burma will, following her independence, declare war against the United States and Britain and that she will speedily complete a national structure consonant with wartime requirements and, in inseparable union with Nippon, bend her fullest efforts for the successful prosecution of the war.

5. Military Affairs

In view of the requirements of military operations, it is desired that the new Burma will fully co-operate with Nippon in perfect unity and extend every facility to the Imperial Forces and that, at the same time, the Burmese Forces will, in regard to their wartime operations, serve under the command of the commanders-in-chief of the Imperial Army and the Imperial Navy.

6. Economic Affairs

The new Burma is expected to promote her economic development by just and unhampered activities under her own authority as a unit in the general economic construction of Greater Sast Asia; and in this regard Nippon is prepared to extend the necessary assistance.

In this connection, it is desired that, with respect to matters necessary for the prosecution of the war, measures be taken to secure full co-ordination with the steps to be

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TRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

RECORD OF THE INTERVIEW BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER HIDEKI TOJO AND DR. BA MAW, CHIEF OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF BURMA

Held at the Official Residence of the Prime Minister 22nd Day of the 3rd Month of the 18th Year of Syowa

Other Officials Present Were:

For the Imperial Government of Nippon:

Mr. Masayuki Tani,

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Kazuo Aoki,

Minister for Greater East Asiatic Affairs

Mr. Nacki Hoshino,

Chief Secretary of the Cabinet

Lieutenant-General Shozo Kawabe,

Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Forces in But

Major General Takesuke Isomura, '

Assistant Director-General of the Nippon Militar Administration in Burma and Assistant Chief of St

For the Administrative Council of Burma:

Mr. Meung Mya,

Secretary of Internal Affairs

Mr. Thein Maung,

Secretary of Financial Affairs

Major General Aung San,

Commander-in-Chief of the Burma Defense Army

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taken by Nippon.

7. Preparations for Independence

Nippon desires, Dr. Ba Maw, that you who are to stand at the helm of the new state of Burma will, with due understanding of the foregoing several points, soon set up a preparatory commission for independence and push forward all preparations necessary for independence.

The independence of the new Burma is expected to be effected around August and it is hoped that the necessary preparations will be completed by about the end of June.

You are requested to obtain the details thereof from the Commander-in-Chief of Nippon's Forces in Burma.

Although the creation of a state is no easy task, the ardent desire of the over ten million people of Burma will surely bring the efforts to a glorious consummation; and I presume that in carrying out this grand task there is no greater satisfaction to you, gentlemen, upon whose shoulders rest the heavy responsibilities.

It is my fervent hope, that you will bear in mind the intentions of Nippon and, by surmounting all difficulties, will successfully perform the great task of founding a new state, and that, in co-operation with Nippon, you will proceed

with

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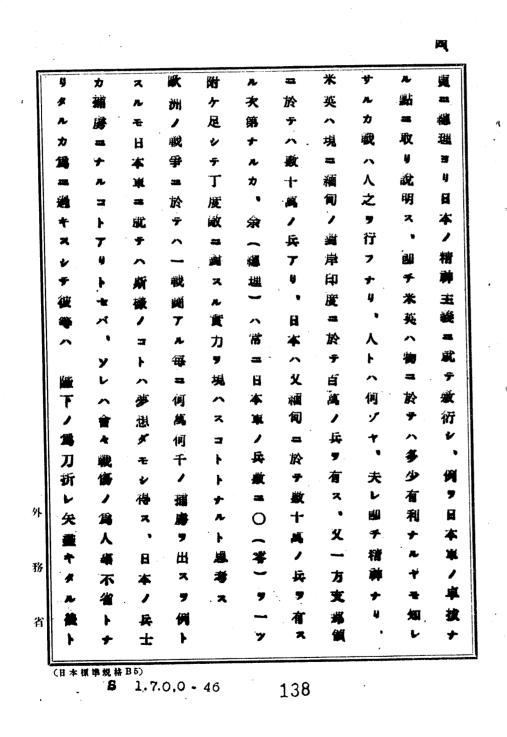
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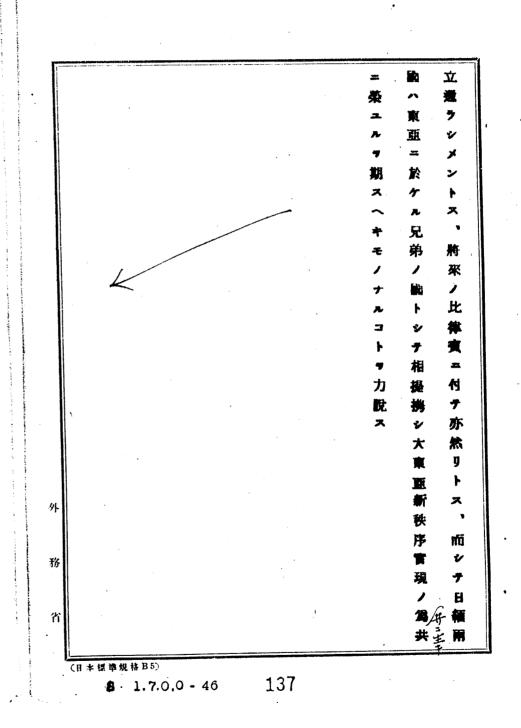
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