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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

C249211

I am attaching a pretty weighty memorandum on the development of Japanese policy, which has been prepared by E.H. Norman, who used to be in our Legation in Tokyo and is now in charge of the analysis and interpretation of Japanese diplomatic intercepts at the Examination Unit. This memorandum is largely based on intercepts of secret diplomatic messages from Japanese embassies in Europe to Tokyo. Some of the information contained in it is very important, e.g., the recent appreciations of the Russo-German military situation sent to Tokyo by the Japanese Ambassador at Kuibyshev. You will note that he suggests to his government that they should do everything they can to bring about a Russo-German armistice or at least a stalemate on the Eastern Front so that Germany can be encouraged to throw all her resources into the struggle against the British Commonwealth and the United States, in which Japan's total resources are engaged.

I had hoped to get this memorandum to you some time before you saw Mr. Eden as I think some of the questions it raises are among those which you will wish to discuss with him.

*Har*