

C249195

May 21st, 1942.

MOST SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER:

We have received, from very secret and confidential United Kingdom sources, the following information which, I think, will be of interest to you.

Last week a conference in Berlin, attended by Japanese military attaches, indicated that,

- (a) Military operations of Japan in the far east and those of Germany in Europe remain unconnected and unco-ordinated.
- (b) Japan will shortly attack the U.S.S.R.
- (c) Japan has no Axis obligations in respect of U.S.S.R. questions.
- (d) The Japanese Government still remember Hitler's statement to the Japanese Ambassador in Berlin at the beginning of the Nazi-Soviet war, that Germany would herself defeat Russia and did not desire the participation of Japan in that war.

The source of the above information is "most delicate", and we have been particularly requested not to make any reference in any way to it.

*W.L.M.*