

CHAPITRE VII/CHAPTER VII
GUERRE CONTRE LE JAPON
WAR WITH JAPAN

1369.

King Papers, PAC

*Mémoire du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
au Premier ministre*

*Memorandum from Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Prime Minister*

[Ottawa,] October 17, 1941

Attached is a note by Dr. Keenleyside on the possible results of Prince Konoye's resignation from the Japanese premiership. Prince Konoye's failure to secure any visible diplomatic concessions from the United States undoubtedly weakened his position. I am inclined to think, however, that the turn of events in the last fortnight on the Russian front has had more to do with the recent hardening of Japanese policy than any development in the Washington negotiations.

N. A. R[OBERTSON]

[PIÈCE JOINTE/ENCLOSURE]

*Mémoire du sous-secrétaire d'État adjoint aux Affaires extérieures
au Premier ministre*

*Memorandum from Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Prime Minister*

[Ottawa,] October 17, 1941

CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT IN JAPAN

1. The Third Konoye administration fell on Thursday, October 16th, after a life of less than three months. The Emperor has now called on General Eiki Tojo, Minister of War in the late Cabinet, to form a Government.
2. The two main objectives of the Third Konoye Cabinet were:
 - (a) the settlement of the China Incident in accordance with "the immutable policy of Japan".
 - (b) the improvement of relations with the U.S.A.

Today the position of the Japanese forces in China is clearly less favourable than it was three months ago. And in spite of Prince Konoye's personal letter to President Roosevelt, and in spite of Ambassador (Admiral) Nomura's talks with Mr. Hull—and his friendship with the ranking officers of the United States Navy, a factor that he has used to the utmost—it has now apparently