able sympathy for his idea of negotiating a peace as soon as possible. At real risk to himself he formed a "peace faction" within the entourage of the palace and elder statesmen, but was unable to make serious headway against the army policy-makers until the spring of 1945 when Japan's defeat became plain for all to see.

4. In this period of court intrigue between peace and war factions, one of Mr. Yoshida's chief agents was a retired politician, Mr. Ueda Shunkichi. Although Mr. Yoshida himself was not arrested by the Kempei (gendarmerie) Mr. Ueda was imprisoned for some months during which time he lost his family and home in the great air raids over Tokyo. I mention Mr. Ueda in passing because in the fall of 1945 during my stay in Tokyo I made his acquaintance and profited greatly by a series of talks with him in which he gave me background history on personalities and affairs covering years both before and during the war. (These conversations are covered in memoranda which I left with the Department on my return to Ottawa).

5. Mr. Yoshida opened his conversation with me by saying that Mr. Ueda had spoken of me in a friendly fashion and wished to renew his acquaintance with me – an offer which I will gladly accept since it will give me an opportunity of becoming more directly acquainted with the policies and personalities of the present government. Mr. Ueda's position in the Yoshida Government is Minister of State without Portfolio, in charge of party discipline. What this means in effect is that he will hold much the same position as a party whip does in our parliament. He will probably act as the chief negotiator between the Yoshida Government and other parties in the Diet. Since the Liberals do not have a majority their position would be delicate, and a considerable amount of back-stage manipulation will be necessary to keep them in office even during the current session of the Diet.

6. Mr. Yoshida was affable and genial, so much so that he scarcely gave the appearance of a man who has just taken office at a rather trying time fol-