

POOR PRINT  
Epreuve illisible

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR THE PRESS

JUNE 24, 1943  
No. 264

C249212

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**FUTURE RELEASE**  
**NOTE DATE**

CONFIDENTIAL RELEASE FOR PUBLICATION AT 7:00 P.M., E.W.T.,  
FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1943. NOT TO BE PREVIOUSLY  
PUBLISHED, QUOTED FROM OR USED IN ANY WAY.

ADDRESS BY THE HONORABLE JOSEPH C. CREW, SPECIAL  
ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, IN BUFFALO,  
NEW YORK, ON JUNE 25, 1943, AT 7:00 P.M., E.W.T.,  
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE OGD

It is good to come to Buffalo, and to see such remarkable evidences of our American home front effort. Since returning from Japan last year, I have seen a great deal of our United States and have come to appreciate, as never before, the great power of the American people to work, to cooperate, and to sacrifice. Never geared for war in time of peace, we are making up our preparedness double-time, and we may take profound satisfaction in the unprecedented job of production and organization already accomplished throughout our nation.

Tonight, I propose to tell you something about the preparedness efforts of our enemies, so that you may see all the more clearly what kind of men we are up against. I shall talk about Japan simply because I happen to know that country best, but much of what I say will apply, because of historical parallels, to Germany as well.

The Japanese have prepared for aggression only intermittently through their long history, but they have always prepared for war. It is my firm belief that the men actually exercising highest civil authority in Japan during the 1920's were not deliberately scheming to attack the United States. That job was being done by the nationalist, super-patriotic secret societies, by the military planners, by scattered zealots here and there in the government, all of whom came to power with the rise of the military gangsters. But even though the civilian leaders of Japan did not prepare for aggression, they most certainly prepared for war. Even the most pacifistic Japanese leaders wanted their nation armed to the teeth, drilled so well that it could fight in its sleep, and ready to face and whip the world at a minute's notice. On the subject of aggression, there was, I believe, honest doubt among the leaders and the people of Japan. On the subject of preparedness, there was no doubt whatever: all Japanese favored readiness for war.

Indeed, it is one of the characteristics of the Japanese that they should attempt to guard against all contingencies. In the long history of Japan, we find a succession of extreme measures.