

日軍將兵諸君

軍人が一陣地を固守屍しかばねをそこ
 に横よこたへる事は財閥軍閥の巨頭
 ●が待合に會合四疊半で藝者と
 同衾する以上にあたりまへな
 事だしかかし士は死所を擇えらぶ今
 田の如く陣地固守が一日や二日
 のびた所で何等戦局に寄與す
 る所なく且退路を断たれて居
 ては生せい以もちて戦後の日本へのご
 ●奉公を期する以外に道はない。
 戦後の日本は一人でも多くの
 日本人を要する既に前例もあ
 ることであり当方には堂々佩
 刀をゆるす条件附降伏を議す
 るの用意がある速に軍使を送
 られたたい。

To the officers and men of the Japanese Army!

For soldiers to die defending a place is a normal thing. It is also normal for high officers and rich men in Tokyo to discuss matters of war production in houses of assignation and afterwards sleep in the four-and-a-half mat rooms with geishas. However, a quite different situation arises when troops are surrounded in a place which is of no strategic importance. There is no way out but by extermination or death from sickness or starvation.

In that situation initiative is required, and a right decision lies in living on to help in the restoration of Japan after the war. It is an old saying that a warrior has the right to choose where to die. In your case the line of retreat is finally cut off. For you there is no other course.

Let us repeat once more that you will not show true loyalty by continuing a useless fight ending in a vain death. The strength of a country is based on its people. Contemplate the position of Japan after the war, when every man will be needed. We are prepared to grant you capitulation under conditions which a soldier can honourably accept.

Intention:- To bring home to Japanese troops in isolated positions the hopelessness of their situation, and arouse in them the desire to surrender.