

## 皇軍將兵に告ぐ

半年餘の沈黙を破り大本營も遂にバブア  
 およびガダルカナル放棄を言明かつ説明  
 して曰く戦略的前衛其任務を果し其本隊  
 後退配備を完了よりて撤退と又曰く聯合  
 國軍力の強大なる我軍徒に損害を蒙るの  
 みよつて撤退と言頗る巧なりと雖ども本格  
 的敗戦なるは掩ふべくも非ず日本參謀本  
 部作戰計画の杜撰この敗を招き陛下の  
 赤子をして密林中に病死餓死せしむる一歩  
 の敗退は又一歩の敗退を呼ぶ兵勢の理況  
 んや聯合國軍力日に加り爲に前記撤退を  
 餘儀なくされたるに於いておや聯合國海  
 空陸軍は此機に乗じ並び進み日本軍部の  
 軍をして回復の暇なからしめ以て之に敗  
 を喫せしむるを免れざらしむるものなり。

WITHDRAWAL OF JAPANESE TROOPS FROM PAPUA AND GUADALCANAL  
JAPANESE FAILURES DISCLOSED.

Officers and men of the Imperial Army!  
At last the Imperial H.Q. have broken their silence on the Japanese defeats in Papua and on Guadalcanal Island. In their communique of February 9th they claim that these operations, which cost them dearly in life and material, have succeeded. Although they assert that the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from these theatres of war only means their giving up advance bases, which have served to conceal the completion of the main base of operations, the communique admits the fact of the retreats and disastrous losses. It also admits the fact that superior Allied fighting power has forced the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from valuable advance bases of attacks. This amounts to a clear admission of failure on account of faulty strategic planning. Because of bad staff-work your soldiers suffered terribly from hunger and disease before they died. As a matter of fact your army has been forced from an offensive into a defensive position. The forces of the United Nations will not fail to make full use of the possibilities offered to them. Your first retreat will be followed by a second, and a third, and a fourth, and further retreats. It will prove to have been the first step towards the final defeat of your military government, a defeat from which it cannot escape.