

WHAT IS BEHIND THE JAPANESE PERIL?

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[This article is written by an authority, who regards the Japanese Peril as great. THE FORUM does not necessarily agree with the views expressed; but the views expressed are held by a great many Army and Navy officers. THE FORUM will issue in a subsequent number, an answer to this article.]

THE CONTENTIONS OF THIS AUTHORITY ARE:

THERE IS A GREAT PERIL TO AMERICA IN JAPANESE AGGRESSION.

THE GREATEST DANGER IS TO AMERICAN OCCUPATION OF THE PHILIPPINES.

JAPAN HAS MENACED AMERICAN POSSESSIONS.

RESENTMENT TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES ARISES FROM MEMORIES OF THE PORTSMOUTH TREATY AND FROM FRICTION IN CALIFORNIA.

JAPAN IS BECOMING FRIENDLY TOWARDS GERMANY.

GUAM AND HAWAII ARE THREATENED.

JAPAN HAS GAINED BRITISH GOLD IN THE WAR BY SELLING MUNITIONS TO RUSSIA, WHO IS FINANCED BY ENGLAND.

THE Japanese are a greatly maligned people. They are our friends. They bear us no ill will. We do too much business together. Some of them love us. Noted Americans who have made the trip to Japan have told us so. Such a rare thinker as ex-President Eliot of Harvard has said so. Japanese noblemen who have visited this country have assured us of it. Americans who have been received at the Japanese Court credit only the highest motives to the Island Empire. Why should they quarrel with us?

"I am not suffering from any vision," declared Captain Hobson before the House Committee on Naval Affairs. "In May, 1913, and some weeks afterwards, our canoneers on Corregidor Island were busy by day and night with their guns. The harbors were blockaded with mines and our troops were sent out. The government itself was ready to go to the Pacific Coast. The Secretary of the Navy is present. I will ask him. In case it is not true, he can deny it."

No, that didn't happen when Roosevelt was President. It is not an old war scare being dug out of forgotten things. Captain Hobson said those words on December 15th, 1914, and our Secretary of the Navy did not deny them. Such facts never get into the newspapers.

It was on May 20th, 1913, that a United States officer's command in an outlying district received an order to report at once to Manila. The order was from General Bell. That night the same order was received in every outlying post of the Philippine Islands. The mobilization of our troops in Manila began. Speed was the command; forced marches were necessary. Day and night, from all parts of the Island the United States troops converged towards Manila. The command of one officer covered 50 miles in 48 hours. Arriving in Manila they found that a strict censorship had been put on the cables. They learned that only one regiment of cavalry and two mountain batteries had been left at Camp Stotsenberg. Filipino scouts had been left in the outlying regions.

They learned their orders. All the American forces were to be concentrated on Corregidor Island. They were to prepare to combat a Japanese landing, the object of which was Manila. They were to hold out until the fleet came. If the Japanese landed at any other place, it was a foregone conclusion that they would overrun the Islands until they reached Manila. In Manila, everything but guns, ammunition and food was abandoned. Infantry and light artillery were transported to Corregidor. The cavalry was too; but its horses were left behind. All the ammunition that could be gathered up around the Islands was brought to the fortress. It totaled 20,000 rounds—not enough for two days' hard fighting. We had more than the

million rations for our forces. Thirteen million pesos in gold were taken from the Manila banks and stored on Corregidor. Fort McKinley was abandoned. The Fort on Grandee Island was regarded as untenable and dismantled. All the machines on the dry dock Dewey were put out of business.

We were very strong on Corregidor to combat the Japanese. Supplementing the fortress' armament, we had 40 pieces of field artillery. Our forces were large, too. In the Corregidor Garrison were 10 companies of Coast Artillery, 4,200 infantry men and 16 light field pieces. Of course, however, when reinforcements were brought in from outlying parts of the island we were much stronger—the force an enemy could land would only outnumber us about four to one.

Across the bay from Corregidor is a mountain. It faces the sea and descends towards Manila in a gradual slope. It was on the other side of this mountain that the Japs were expected to land. By so doing they would be protected from the guns of the fort. Accordingly we decided to defend the crest of this mountain which is called Marivales.

These are the forces that took positions on Marivales: the 13th and 24th Infantry, three companies of the 15th, three regiments of Field Artillery and one mountain battery. Gun emplacements were built, trenches were dug, barbed wire entanglements were strung up. Day by day messages from the War Department became more alarming; day by day, to prevent a panic, the people in Manila were told it was only a manœuvre; day by day for two months an enemy's fleet was expected—but it did not come. What happened?

Let us get into the diplomatic history of the month of May, 1913. The California legislature had passed the Bradford Bill, excluding the Japanese from holding land. The *San Francisco Chronicle* said “. . . the people of this State are overwhelmingly opposed to them (the Japanese) or any Orientals owning our land.” This created an uproar in Japan. Every outcry of the Pacific Coast newspapers was cabled back to Japan and fanned to war heat. Of course those charming Japanese whom Americans have met here and in Japan, did not do the fanning. Neither did the Japanese people.

The Mikado's Government sent a protest to our State Department. President Wilson requested Governor Johnson of California to relieve the situation. He quietly took up the matter with the Legislature which refused to make any concessions. The people of California are fanatics. The man sitting comfortably in the East could not see that the Californians were fighting for the homes of the small fruit farmers and the safeguarding of American community life against Orientalism. War demonstrations occurred in Tokio—Bryan left the Chautauqua Circuit flat and made a trip to California. He returned to Washington. The California Legislature refused to revoke the Bradford Bill. The diplomatic conversations in Washington became alarming. There came a cipher message to General Bell; there came our mobilization on Corregidor Island.

It was about this time that a beautiful word in diplomatic language was used. The word is "indisposed." The British Ambassador became "indisposed." To handle the post while this official was indisposed, there came to Washington a very charming English gentleman, Sir William Terrill. Sir William Terrill was well liked in France, Russia, Servia and Montenegro. Before the second Balkan War broke out, he was also well liked in Bulgaria. With Isolowsky, the Russian Ambassador to France, the brains of Sir William were responsible for the Balkan league against Turkey. European diplomats admire his rapier. They know him as the right hand man of Sir Edward Grey, the British Minister of Foreign Affairs. He is one of the most important diplomats on the British foreign office staff. Washington welcomed him with open arms.

Of course it was only a coincidence that Sir William Terrill came to Washington when an event of extreme importance to British diplomacy was in the air. It was the Panama Canal Tolls Controversy. Admirable moment, too—with the California Legislature running amuck against the Japanese. You see England and Japan were allies—they are still, but not such close allies—but more of that later.

One does not profess to know the conversation of Sir William Terrill. One merely knows the facts of the Washington situation and what happened. It is not difficult, however, to imagine

Sir William smiling in his friendly way and saying, "You ask us to use our influence with Japan and call her off. We appreciate fully that you are our blood cousins, we like you, but is it reasonable, dear friends, to expect us to injure our relations with Japan while you are opposing us on the Panama Canal question? We should like to know, really,—but,—"

It happened. We renounced our coastal rights in the Panama Canal. Our boys on Corregidor were finally sent back to their posts. Japan was called off.

If anything has been implied against the Japanese, I'm sorry. They love us. Many of our great Americans have told us so. It's pretty hard not to love anybody when you get \$20,000 for a single lecture. A club of Tokio paid that for a talk by a distinguished American.

Baron Shibusawa came to America. He is known as the Morgan of Japan. One might call him a Japanese Sir William Terrill. He made one mistake. He began his speeches in San Francisco. There is an American sentiment in San Francisco on Oriental immigration. It has no illusions about the English, the Germans, or the Japanese.

But why should Japan go to war with us? They trade with us. They are tax-ridden; they can't afford war. Let us first understand the Japanese! Do you know what Bushido is? It is something worse than Bernhardism. Bushido is a code that has been handed down to the Japanese from the Middle Ages. Its slogan is "Dai Nippon!" It goes "Deutschland Ueber Alles" one better. It means the glorification of the Japanese; and God help anybody who stands in their way. It teaches that no sacrifice is too great for the Mikado. It is the code of the Empire. Its power is so great in these modern days that, when his Emperor died, Nogi, hero of the Russian war, committed *hari-kari*, so that he might accompany his Emperor and safeguard him on his way to the Fields of Paradise. That happened but a few years ago, when one of the biggest men in Japan yielded to the doctrines of Bushido. It conclusively showed the enormous primitive feeling that is beneath the Japanese race.

You remember the Treaty of Portsmouth. You remember how Roosevelt stopped Japan's war with Russia and brought

peace—a humane act, an act for which the Japanese people should be grateful. And secretly the Japanese Government was. But that wasn't their game. They didn't dare tell the Japanese people that they should be grateful for peace. Dai Nippon! What they told them was this—“*By treacherous diplomacy the United States Government robbed you out of an indemnity that Russia should have paid.*”

Ask any American who has been to Japan, except those who have been wined and dined and had their mentality chloroformed! Exempt those who have an axe to grind, those who are making money out of the Japanese! Include all those who have an ounce of brains and who care enough for their country to tell the truth. You'll get the same answer—the Japs hate us.

Why? Go back to Portsmouth. On the field of battle, Japan was the victor. Potentially she was defeated; financially she was at the end of her rope. Her delegates came into the Portsmouth Conference with a chip on their shoulders. Being good diplomats, they demanded impossible peace terms. Baron Witte of Russia demurred. In a flash, the Japanese took him up, renounced their terms and signed peace without an indemnity.

Japanese money had built their army and navy. Japanese blood had gone out in the war. Did the Mikado's officials dare to say to the people, “We couldn't get any indemnity; you've got to pay higher taxes”? Instead they played the game cleverly. They turned their people against the one country that had been sympathetic with them in the war. They told them that the United States had robbed them of that indemnity. They fanned a hatred against us. They did this so they could build a bigger navy and a bigger army. They've been building this for only one reason.

But the Japs got Manchuria from Russia; that's colony enough. Glorious prize! Wondrous field for Japanese expansion! “The Orient for the Orientals”—beautiful phrase. Let us examine Manchuria! Since the Japanese War against Russia, they have colonized Manchuria. Thomas F. Maillard, Editor of the *China Press*, a deep student of Oriental affairs who has lived in the Orient, says that the Japanese colonization of Manchuria has been a crass failure. He points out that the

Japanese Government made every concession to Japanese colonists; but it didn't work. And here is where you get to the kernel of the Japanese proposition; in day labor, a Japanese is no good against any other Oriental. His standard of living is higher. Chinamen or Koreans can undercut him any day. His paradise of competition is against Westerners. His paradise of competition is Mexico, the United States and Canada. There he undercuts, there he profits, there he multiplies. Korea and China are economically impossible for the Japanese outlet. They can trade but not create there. The logical resting place of this outlet is in Western civilization, and there the United States bars the way.

The majority of Americans are familiar with Hay and the policy of the Open Door in China. How many Americans know about the "Closed Door"? What do we care about China? A Republican Campaign Committee once coined a fundamental line. It was "Trade follows the Flag." It is rather difficult for the average man to see where he profits because somebody else does so many millions of dollars of untrammelled business in China. Which gets us back to the involved question of how much foreign trade means in the pockets of the average American. There is no place for that here. But there is a place for that idea that a certain mass of people living under a Government owe something to the welfare of their country. It is the idea of throwing everything in the last analysis into a common pool, all for one and one for all. This is conscious nationalism. Of course it is only an ideal. Every nation in the European war has shown it has ideals—Japan too. We have ideals also—latent ideals. We are apt not to think about them until war comes—which is costly. All of which turns on the "Closed Door of China."

Do you know what happened when the German fortress in Tsing Tau fell? Tsing Tau, being a part of China, the Japanese declared war against Germany to get it. As Count Hayasi said at the outbreak of the present war, "She (Japan) will be able to reap advantage to herself." The Japanese got after Tsing Tau. The English did not like this. They insisted upon sending an Expeditionary Force to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Japanese. The Japs had ample military strength to capture

that isolated German garrison. They did. The English came in at the death. The German commander surrendered his sword to the Japanese, who accepted it in the name of the Mikado. The English commander stepped forward and said: "And I accept it in the name of King George." The Japanese turned to the Englishman and said: "Do not trouble yourself! Tsing Tau has been captured by the Japanese." This was told to me by an eye-witness of the surrender. Its significance in view of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance is enormous.

Of course, being thousands of miles away, few Americans paid any attention when the Japanese subsequently made certain diplomatic demands upon China. We disapproved and being unprepared, ceased to disapprove. The Japanese demands practically meant a Japanization of China.

The map tells stories. It tells the story of Russia—and of China. Hordes of people. Is it so hard to conceive of Japanese efficiency going into China, using the resources of that country, turning out swarms of Chinese soldiers trained by Japan to fight with machines instead of gongs and lurid colored flags. They did that with their own country when it was in just as sleepy a condition.

But they don't want to fight us. They love us. Baron Shibusawa said so. They love us so much that they are deeply interested in our country and its possessions. The Intelligence Department of Manila in 1913, employed a man named ——. He became violently interested in two Japanese traders who were not interested in trading. He learned that they had offered the United States Infantry Sergeant a big sum of money if he would hand over the plans of Corregidor Fortress. The Sergeant told ——. —— drew up a fake set of plans. He told the sergeant to meet the Japanese and ask for \$50,000. They met in a hotel in Manila. The sergeant delivered the fake set of plans and asked for \$50,000. —— was in an adjoining room. The Japanese were disposed to haggle over the price. They returned the plans and asked if they could give the decision the following evening. —— rushed into the room. He placed the Japanese under arrest. The Japs had the fake

plans but ultimately the Japs had to be released because no money had changed hands.

An American, whose name for obvious reasons must be withheld, did Secret Service work for us in Japan. He is personally known to the writer. He has a scar of a bullet on his forearm; he got it for going too close to the fortifications in the Harbor of Nagasaki, preferring the wound to a term in jail. He remained in Japan for an entire year. It was his business to mine for under strata of sentiment as well as to obtain military and naval knowledge. Time and time again he heard the subject of the Portsmouth Peace Conference brought up and always the Jap's attitude was that some day America would pay for it. He was informed that the defences of Nagasaki are impregnable. This condition of American spies in America leads to an inevitable conclusion. It is a certain forerunner of war.

The writer is personally acquainted with an officer formerly in charge of our Intelligence Department in the Philippines. He told me that the Japanese know everything about the Islands that is worth knowing. The Japanese have complete plans of the forts on Grandee Island; he knows that for a fact. The Japanese General Staff know every possible landing place in the Philippines; they have prepared maps and tactical reports so that when the day comes their officers will know which positions will be easier to hold and which position of ours could be attacked with success or with failure. The officer recognized many Japanese officers among "business men" who came to the Islands when he was in the Intelligence Department. He informed me particularly of cases of men who claimed to represent fish houses and who went to ports of the Philippines perfectly absurd from the point of view of their business. He said he always detailed some man in his department to follow them. He would always get a report that the Japanese "fish merchant" was using his camera at every opportunity. He said that the Japs were so clever in this work that it was extremely hard to catch them with anything incriminating. He said that their audacity was beyond belief. Once the Japanese Chief of Staff, a very well known man, sent his nephew to the Philippines armed with letters of introduction to the American authorities. The

Intelligence Department was at a loss how to handle the case. For diplomatic reasons, they could not offend so high a man as the Japanese General of Staff. His nephew was commended to their hospitality. To protect themselves, the American Secret Service offered the distinguished visitor an escort of two officers to accompany him all around the Island. But the Jap politely declined, saying he did not wish to give the Americans any trouble. So they followed him. They saw he was taking extensive information but was putting nothing down on paper. They were powerless. They did not dare arrest him for lack of evidence. It was a General on duty in the Philippines who told me that if the Japanese struck, then, they could overrun the Islands in two weeks.

Come West. We are building new fortifications in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. A Japanese aviator turned up there. He was just a barnstormer who wanted to make some money on exhibition flights. Very suddenly he took it into his head to fly over the Pearl Harbor fortifications. Now that trip would have interested a Japanese military aviator. The Japanese General Staff would have prized any photographs of the Pearl Harbor defences taken from an aeroplane. Our military authorities stopped his flight. The Jap then had the effrontery to report the incident to Tokio as a "discourtesy" of the United States.

It is a fact known to our General Staff that there are more trained reserved soldiers in Hawaii than there are soldiers of the United States. Where would they get their equipment from in the event of war? Don't forget that during the Japanese riots in Vancouver, a Japanese boarding house was raided. It was found to contain stores of ammunition and machine guns. But, of course, if the Japanese had stored these so far west as the Pacific Coast, they would not take the trouble to store munitions in Hawaii. It is known to our military authorities that there are more Japanese who have served in their army on the Pacific Coast to-day than there are in the mobile field army of our country. This statement is at odds with the statistics of Japanese immigration. It is an open secret though that Japanese land in Lower California, Mexican soil, and then cross the border into the United States. The last estimate our military

authorities had showed one quarter of a million Japs in Mexico. During the present trouble in Mexico, it has been established—although newspaper publication has been suppressed—that Japanese officers are with the Mexican trouble makers and that Japan has sold quantities of ammunition to Mexico. It must not be forgotten that Felix Diaz was sent on a special mission to Japan and that just recently Carranza sent one of his high officials on a similar visit. Of course we do not know what takes place at these conferences between Mexicans and Japs in Tokio, but one presumes that being military men they discuss the best ways of cultivating rice.

Come on further West! Never heard of Fonseca Bay? It is in Nicaragua. It is north of the Panama Canal. A number of Japanese were discovered there to be making soundings of the bay—an ideal landing place. The American Consul was informed. He lay in wait one day and discovered a Jap taking surveying and sounding instruments that were hidden under a bush on the edge of the harbor. He followed him. The Jap got into a boat that had been beached. The boat was manned by Japanese; they were seen to be surveying the harbor. Certain newspapers learned of the incident. Our State Department denied it. Of course for the Japs it was purely an innocent pastime.*

Come on North! You've heard of Turtle Bay. It is in Lower California. A Japanese warship went aground there. Too bad. The Japs needed four other warships to get it off. It took four weeks to get that single warship off. To get it off, the Japanese had to make landing parties and overrun the entire region thereabout. Of course, being in Turtle Bay and having sounding instruments aboard all these warships, the Japs did not use them.

Of this affair a high United States officer told me, "We know that the Japanese incident at Turtle Bay was not an accident, we have reason to believe that they deliberately ran a warship aground so as to give them an excuse to make observations and to prepare Turtle Bay as a landing place. We criticized the action of the Secretary of the Navy in permitting the Japanese to land there and to remain there for two weeks—time enough

*The incident is also well known in certain Central American circles.

to make a survey of the terrain to choose artillery emplacements and, for all we know, to build wireless stations—wherefore it was criminal to allow them to remain there for two weeks before even investigating what business they had there.”

Come further North! The Japanese have been caught with the plans of San Francisco forts in their possession. American officers there are no longer allowed to have Japanese servants. But that is, of course, because the Japs do not know how to cook. The Japanese have been caught taking the depths of the unfortified harbor of Monterey, where troops could easily be landed. But, of course, the Japanese were taking depths so as to know where to place fishing nets.

The Japs have been caught in California near the Mexican border and near the border of the State of Washington, where complete data on the terrain has been found in their possession. But of course, being an ambitious race, the Japs are desirous of improving themselves in surveying. They have been caught by army officers in the passes of our Western mountains. But of course they want to know these passes; for some day they may be tourist guides.

The Japanese have not forgotten an incident that took place in California. When the squadron of Rear Admiral Yashiro was lying off the coast, a ball was given in their honor in a hotel in Pasadena. “We would just as soon dance with —— (a disparaging epithet),” remarked a young woman of Pasadena,—which remark was at once reported in the California newspapers. Rear Admiral Yashiro caused the ball to be postponed, and at once reported the incident to his government as an insult. A few days afterwards, according to previous plans, school children of North Beach were to visit the Japanese squadron. They were about to take the car for San Pedro, when a telegram from Rear Admiral Yashiro told them that they would not be received. The Japs do not forget.*

They have been caught around New York. Last summer in a certain boarding house, north of New York City, there stayed a young Japanese surveyor, well liked, by all the ladies in the

*It was, of course, an unfortunate and ill-timed remark, which only people who have lived close to coolie laborers from the Orient understand.

house, for his charming manners. The young Jap was a college student. He was supplementing his University course by surveying work in the field. He spent much of his time surveying that approach to New York from the North which is called "The line of the Harlem Valley." One day he made a trip to the ——— Inn. The Inn was a charming place. Two Germans, whose names have frequently appeared in our newspapers, stayed there. The Jap, when the surveying was finished, went to see them. But of course the Jap went to discuss the works of Goethe.

Which takes us back to the Orient. Since the beginning of the European War, Japan has been playing ducks and drakes with the British Far Eastern Policy. They have not sent a soldier to Europe; they have not sent a warship to Europe. What they have been doing is this: they have been getting fat on American money. American bankers have loaned the money to England and France. These nations have passed it on to Russia. Russia has passed it on to Japan. The Japanese in return have given guns and ammunition.

Outside of ourselves, they are the one important foreign nation that has been getting powerful on the war. Most of the ammunition factories in Japan are Government owned. The Government has been getting the money. The Government, seeing England with its hands tied up, has disregarded the spirit of its British Alliance. Against every diplomatic precedent of Great Britain, the Japanese have been gaining and gaining in Far Eastern power. The Islands of Java and Sumatra are owned by Holland. England never wanted Holland to fortify them. Under pressure Holland agreed not to do so if England would guarantee them. Alarmed at Japanese motives, Holland has asked Great Britain for a pledge of safeguarding her Far Eastern possessions in the event of Japanese aggression. England is unable to give it. Australia and New Zealand for the same reason are unofficially protesting against sending any more troops into the European conflict.

The time has come when the rise of Japan makes it impossible for the British Foreign Office to flirt with the Yellow Man at the expense of her Pacific Colonies and Canada. England

knows it. Japan knows it. Germany knows it. Canada knows it. The Japanese newspapers to-day are filled with praise for the German army. After getting what she wanted at Tsing Tau and the German islands in the Pacific, Japan has not been guilty of hostile act against Germany. Instead she has been friendly. Inside diplomacy knows the way the wind is blowing. Inside diplomacy knows Mexico, Japan and Germany. It knows a Russian agreement with Japan and it can see Germany added to this agreement regarding the Far East when the war is over. Inside diplomacy fears the Oriental question from an American viewpoint—more than it does any submarine issues. When our submarine controversy with Germany was acute in April of this year, it was Baron Chinda who called at the State Department, and using Japanese immigration as the excuse, chided us. And the wind blows where? Inside diplomacy can see a Japanese-American war with every other nation "Hands-Off,"—completely counterbalanced in power.

In the appropriations of the Japanese "Diet" a large sum of money is voted for which no public accounting has to be given. In a recent issue of our "Infantry Journal" there was tabulated the military strength of the nations of the world. Opposite Japan was the word "Unknown": hence the secret appropriations of the Diet. The Japanese people are tax-ridden. They are bearing these taxes. *They are building a larger and larger navy. Why? Why are large navies built?* So that the people of a country may be taken to see the world and be taught to drink grape juice? *Why are the Japanese people bearing an excessive burden of armament taxation without protest?*

When the Japanese took the Marshall Islands from Germany in this war, they promised this government that their occupation would not be permanent. What business was it of ours? The map tells that a Japanese fleet based on the fortified Marshall Islands would be a direct menace to our line of communication between Hawaii and the Philippines. If the Japanese navy controls the Pacific Ocean, she can do exactly what she likes with our trade in the event of trouble—just as England has crippled Germany's trade. She has already caused our cotton interests to lose \$20,000,000 in Manchuria. Admiral Dewey called the Philippines, "the key to the mastery of the Pacific." That key

is menaced by the present Japanese occupation of the Marshall Islands. Also, after promising this government that they would not retain the Marshall Islands, the Japs began to fortify them. We know that we would quickly lose the Philippines. Our rallying point would be the Island of Guam. Guam we have possessed for seventeen years. There is not sufficient water at the dock of the naval station to land a steam launch there. As a base in the event of a naval action, it is highly important and completely useless. Since the Spanish-American war we have talked about fortifying it but we have taken it out in talk. You see there are no votes in Guam and money spent there doesn't do any good—politically. Of it, Mahan, the great strategist of the history of the American Navy said: "Guam securely held with a fleet superior to Japan's threatens every Japanese interest, from Dalny and Korea to Nagasaki and Yokohama." Yet our naval activity there is almost zero. Japanese cruisers have made surveys of its base because nobody has been there to stop them. It is the most vulnerable point of the great American triangle quadrilateral which runs northeast to Dutch Harbor on the Alaskan Islands, which drops down to Hawaii, then southwestward to Tutuila, and then northwestward, linking with Guam. It is our naval layout in the event of a war in the Pacific; but the Marshall Islands in Japanese hands break it up and even if our fleet did get through to Guam after the Philippines had fallen, it would arrive there in the greatest state of exhaustion of supplies—and Guam is almost devoid of supplies. And it is only three days from the Japanese coast. None of the four points of this American Pacific Quadrilateral has been efficiently guarded. During the present war, by capturing the German Ladrões, Japan has reached a point within forty-five miles of Guam. Their acquisition of the Marshall Islands has completely menaced the southern section of the quadrilateral. Few Americans know that such a quadrilateral exists, or its importance. The Japanese have known it and are very much awake to it and to show just why it is a good proposition for them to go to war against the United States, just what chances they would have of success, consider the testimony of our Admiral Winslow in command of our fleet on the Pacific coast. *He has not a first-class fighting ship of any type.* There is one armored cruiser on the

coast and one in Asiatic waters, the old hulk *Brooklyn*—renovated relic of the Spanish-American war. Add to this five more armored cruisers, several protected cruisers, several not important vessels doing police work, some old destroyers and nineteen submarines—nine of which are worthless—and you have our naval strength in the Pacific. Suppose something should happen to Panama Canal, some explosion that would start the slides, some innocent merchant ship filled with explosives touched off in Gatun Lock. It would be two months before we ever could get from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. Japan has two new battle cruisers. Two more are building. The *Kongo* would wreck our only floating drydock in the Philippines. With their high speed they could rush at Guam to take on coal. They could raid on the entire coast, they could wreck the big drydock in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. This may sound exaggerated but the fact is that Japan has battle cruisers. Nothing can compete with a battle cruiser except a battle cruiser. Understand that a battle cruiser is a ship that has sacrificed the armor of a dreadnought for greater hitting power with its guns and that has sacrificed the weight of armor for terrific speed. Remember the lessons of the present war with the fast and heavily armored German cruisers *Gneisenau* and *Scharnhorst* which lay off out of range of Craddock's fleet and hammered it to pieces off South America. Remember that it was battle cruisers that won for the English the battle of the North Sea and that we have none and Japan will soon have four.

We are trying to balk the Japs' ambitions in the East. We've said they are not good enough to be in our country. We've imposed upon them—so their statesmen told them—their taxation inheritance from the Russian War. They love us. They receive our exalted visitors with open arms. We deign to visit their shores. Will the Honorable Americans be pleased to sully themselves by dining at their most ungracious tables? And when our backs are turned, their infernal Bushido spirit possesses them. And instead of their oily rubbing of hand over hand and submissive intaking of breath, they become as their heathen gods—creatures of wrath.

And we slumber on.