

University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology

Program for Evolving Humanities and Sociology

Research Visit Report

16/08/2010

Japanese History, PhD Student

Yoshii Fumi

“The Anglo-Japanese relations over China -1931~37- “

<The Research in England>

1. The Places to visit

The National Archives (Surrey)

Modern Record Centre (University of Warwick, Coventry)

Cambridge University Library (Cambridge)

Guild Hall Library (London)

London Metropolitan Library (London)

2. The Researchers to meet

Dr Antony Best (Department of International History, LSE)

Dr Naoko Shimazu (Department of History, Classics and Archaeology, Birkbeck College, University of London)

Dr Hiroki Shin (Institute of Railway Studies & Transport History, Department of History, University of York)

Dr Barak Kushner (Department of East Asian Studies, University of Cambridge)

<The Period of the Research Visit>

From 31st March to 3rd June

Total: 63 days

<The Result of the Research Visit>

1. The Aim of the Research Visit

- Clarifying what kinds of Japanese documents on the Anglo-Japanese relations in the 1930s were burned out through comparing the catalogues of British Foreign Office with Japanese Department of Foreign Affairs.
- Approaching the influence on the Anglo-Japanese relations given by the Nationalist Government and Commonwealth of Nations through reading Foreign Office series about the Sino-British

relations and Dominion Office series.

- Positively making catalogues of each historical record for the future convenience.

2. The Result Achieved

At the National Archives, I mainly conducted three kinds of researches. First, I checked and photographed some original documents of FO371 (1933-37) which were quite unclearly shot in the microfilm version. Second, I read and photographed the original documents of FO405 (1927-37) and made the catalogues of them. Third, I read and photographed some telegraphs concerning East Asia which were intercepted by British secret agency, and made the catalogues of them. Through the first and second research, I obtained the photographs of the fundamental historical records to study the international relations of Japan, Britain and China. The third research made me realise the existence of the copies of the supposedly burned out telegraphs (sent to Embassy of Japan in Britain by Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but intercepted by Britain) in Japan. Moreover, at Modern Record Centre, I accessed the historical records of Federation of British Industries. Also at London Metropolitan Library and Guild Hall Library, I accessed the various historical materials of the British companies merchandised in China, which were quite useful for my study analysing the symbolic meaning of the British economic interests in Northern China. The visit to Cambridge University Library made me roughly understand what kinds of historical materials on Japan were kept there.

3. The Research From Now On

I am going to write the doctoral thesis titled “The International Relations over China before the Outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War –the Cooperation and Estrangement among Japan, China and Britain”. During my research visit to England, as to the Anglo-Japanese relations, which constitute one third of my doctoral thesis, I was able to discover so far unknown documents. Using them, I am going to write a paper on the Anglo-Japanese struggle over British economic interests in Northern China in the 1930s. As to the Sino-British relations, which also constitute one third of my doctoral thesis, I could get copies of fundamental documents to study the theme. Using them and complementing them with the research in Taiwan in the future, I am going to write a paper. The documents on Dominions Office will be accessed at the next time of my visit to London.