

SPEECH BY MR. KISHI AT THE DINNER GIVEN BY
THE CHIEF MINISTER IN HIS HONOUR AT THE
CAPITOL RESTAURANT AT 8.30 P.M. ON MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 25, 1957.

I thank you most heartily, Mr. Chief Minister, for the cordial and warm address of welcome given to me.

It has been my earnest desire to visit Singapore and I am so happy to have been given the opportunity of visiting this beautiful city thanks to the kind invitation of your Government.

Needless to say, Singapore has played an important role as a centre of trade and transportation for the economic development of Asia, and it gives me great pleasure to know that the internal self-government of Singapore which has been a long-cherished desire of its people will be realised in a peaceful way some time next year.

The purpose of my present tour is to exchange views frankly with the leaders of the countries in Asia and Pacific Area on matters related to these countries and Japan. It is my firm belief that prosperity and economic stability in Asia is essential to the maintenance of peace and security of the world and that every nation, especially the nations of Asia, must work hand in hand for the realization of such purposes. Since many years ago, Singapore and Japan have been tied by the close trade and economic relations, and I sincerely hope that this close relations will be further promoted and, at the same time, mutual understanding between the peoples of Singapore and Japan will be developed in the future through cultural exchanges and other appropriate ways and means.

In concluding my address, I wish to express once again my sincere gratitude to the Honourable Chief Minister and the Government and people of Singapore for the warm and friendly hospitality given to me and to my party.

Now, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I ask you all to raise your glasses and join me in drinking to the health of His Excellency Chief Minister Lim Yew Hock and to the prosperity of Singapore.

NOVEMBER 25, 1957.

(Time issued 1920 hours).