

Anyhow my job to report on New Zealand is that I should write the truth, I beleived [*sic*] that the truth is the best and strongest power. I hope it shall crash [*sic*] the will of Japanese Navy and Military to invade into New Zealand.

As the papers which he was asked to prepare correspond almost exactly with the contents of his book, apart from its 70-page section on his New Zealand tour, it seems odd that the material had to be prepared again so soon, but Dr Kawase describes at length the work which he did and the interrogations to which he was subjected by the Navy Department and later the Military Department, the latter being chiefly interested in road and rail facilities. If his memory as to the date of his first contact with the Navy Department is correct it throws an interesting light on the extent to which Japanese military intelligence at first refused to accept Midway as a decisive check. The Navy Department apparently based its plans at first quite seriously on gaining the support of the Maoris and agitating them against Great Britain. This was to be achieved by broadcasts in Maori (by Dr Kawase) from Tokyo and submarine or parachute landings in areas where Maoris were concentrated. Dr Kawase seems to have convinced the military that this held no chance of success. Early in 1943 Dr Kawase gave a talk on New Zealand at the Military Department to a group which included Prince Takeda; he had been preceded by the Minister of Hygiene and Public Health, Dr Tsurumi, on the subject of Australia and is convinced that he would have declared a plan for invading that country to be similarly unlikely to succeed.

Shortly after this Dr Kawase was again summoned to the Military Department where he was presented with an unbound book and asked to make any corrections necessary, but not to look at the map at the end of it. He explains that this work, the title of which is not exactly remembered, was presented as a "landing plan on New Zealand" with the number 33, and was a geographical guide book, a mixture of his book "New Zealand" and a navigational guide book. The map, at which he managed to glance, had many red arrows on it pointing towards the coastline. It is this map which seems to have brought home to Dr Kawase that his desire to tell the truth about New Zealand, believing that the facts would preclude any further plans for invasion, had culminated in his betraying a country which had educated him and even threatening the lives of his friends. It is with relief that he records that the changing fortune of the Japanese forces meant the end of any such invasion, and also his contact with the military.

Dr Kawase subsequently returned to his research institute—the Kawase Grassland Farming Research Institute which had been established in 1934 and which still operates—though he was mobilised by the Science