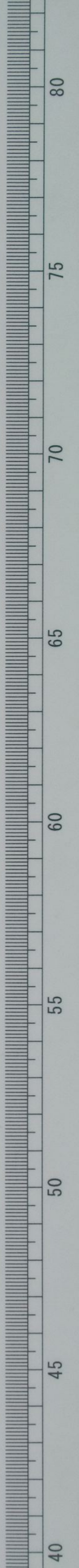


Handwritten Japanese calligraphy in cursive style (sōsho) on a vertical strip of aged paper. The text is arranged in two columns, reading from right to left. The right column contains the characters 五國 (Gokoku) and 公使 (Kōshi). The left column contains the characters 大臣 (Daijin) and 参府 (Sanbu). The characters are written in a fluid, connected manner characteristic of cursive calligraphy.



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