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NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF THE RECORD  
(March 18, 1947)  
(DEFENSE - Division I, General - IWAMATSU, Cross)

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18,579

In KIDO's time, as head of the Document Division, his duties included issuing statements to the press. However, not all matters relating to the Ministry of Education are announced by the Document Section. Important matters are announced publicly by the Chief of the Section. Other matters are directly announced by other departments.

18,582

The witness stated he did not know that the Tokyo Gazette was an official publication in English, in which the various government departments published their official views. \* The witness stated that generally speaking no statement was issued without the knowledge of the Minister of Education. The witness stated that he did not remember the statement issued in the Tokyo Gazette in March and April 1938, entitled "The Japanese Spirit, its Significance with Reference to the China Affair, Department of Education," Exhibit 266.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION by Mr. McManus

18,583

The witness stated that on Exhibit 2379 signatures of cabinet members other than ARAKI appeared. The document is an Imperial Ordinance and emanated from the War Department.

DIRECT EXAMINATION of KIDO, Shiro  
by Mr. Hayashi

18,598

The witness stated that he lived in Tokyo \* and had graduated from the Law School of Tokyo Imperial. In 1922 he became the Director General of the Shochiku Cinematographic Company and in 1924 became concurrently chief of the studio. He resigned as chief in 1943. At present he is vice president of the company. He never did anything else. When he entered this company it produced about 35 per cent of the films produced in Japan, including moderns and classics, \* and continued to produce this percentage until the end of the war.

18,600

The company once produced dramas, cultural films, and newsreels. When the newspapers began to make newsreels, his company abandoned newsreels because they did not have their own distribution method. The company has suspended cultural films and today makes only dramas.

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18,602 His company was much infuriated that the successive governments did not attach importance to motion pictures. They looked at it as a means of amusement and not on the same standard as newspapers, magazines or radio. \* From 1931 to the present the fighting services, instead of attaching importance to pictures, did not recognize their importance. The law never forced or required anything of a motion picture. There was no forcing of the production of one by ordinance.

18,603 He had made no picture for militaristic propaganda between 1928 and 1941, and since they had stopped producing newsreels and cultural films they had nothing to do with propaganda. The ratio between feature films and militaristic films was very low, but he did not have exact figures. \* There was no propaganda film in favor of aggressive war between 1931 and the war. The reason for this is that the motion picture is a means of democracy and is founded on the masses. A theme for a motion picture is invariably taken from liberal ideas and the masses generally don't care for a film which exposes its purpose as propaganda for an ideology. They want to have amusement and comfort. These were the type of things the pictures aimed for.

18,605 There was censorship over the production of motion pictures. The parts eliminated were those contrary to public morals and order. Concerning the question of provoking feelings in foreign countries, the government was over-sensitive and before a film was made the script had to be submitted to the censors.

18,607 There was no case in his company where a picture likely to be regarded as militaristic was produced. Even if a picture with war as background is considered militaristic, the company produced only two out of 933 films made during the period. But these films were not militaristic. One was based upon maternal love, love between the sexes, and love for animals. The other was a biography written on the life of a captain to show him as a humanitarian person. The government gave no subsidy for the production of motion pictures in the period, and neither did the military.

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18,609  
18,610

The Shochiku Motion Picture Company had 70 cinemas in Japan, mostly in large cities, and it imported and presented many American and other foreign pictures. Most of the American pictures were amusement and cultural pictures. No restriction prior to 1941 was placed \* on the exhibition of a foreign motion picture. They did impose a slight restriction \* on the number of films to be presented. The military did not restrict the importation or exportation of foreign pictures.

18,611

He had no material to show the relationship between the total amount of motion pictures produced in Japan and military propaganda films from 1928 to 1941, but there were very few of such films manufactured, especially among the dramatic pictures. Among the dramatic pictures he would say it was something like 0.5 percent \* and of cultural and other pictures 2 or 3 percent.

18,613

The witness said he could not give an accurate percentage on military propaganda films as compared with others. \* The figures he was speaking about represented his own company.

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18,615

The witness stated that he lived in Tokyo and was chairman of the Preparatory Committee of Japanese Cooperative Society for the Establishment of a World State. He worked for the Osaka Mainchi Shimbun from May 1919 to October 1933. His work was generally cultural to publicize the newspaper. When he entered there was no organization \* for publicity. He was transferred from the editorial office to the general activities department in 1920 and was connected with all cultural enterprises, including motion pictures. In 1927 he became vice chief of the general enterprise department and chief of the motion picture section. In 1933 the motion picture section was enlarged into a department and he became chief.

18,619

While with the paper he produced a motion picture entitled "Japan in Emergency." The objective of this production can be divided into three parts. At that time they were studying the development of the motion picture film as a media of