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Interrogation of Hideki Tojo  
15 February 1946  
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Q What relation was there between the war against America and the creation of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere?

A Before the war with America, Japan had friendly relations with Manchukuo, of course, and with the Wang Ching-wei Government of China. She also had friendly relations with Germany and Italy because of the Three-Power Pact. When France came into the sphere of German military authority, this became a four-power affair. Hence, French Indo-China, too, then became a part of it. It was natural for Japan to carry on diplomatic negotiations with Thailand which was, of course, an independent country. These countries then came within the idea of the new order in Asia. Such areas, however, as the Philippines, the Netherlands East Indies and Burma, were in the opposite camp and were not a part of the new order.