

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition

Deponent: ANDO, Kyoshiro

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached sheet and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country I hereby depose as follows.

I, ANDO, Kyoshiro, make oath and say as follows:

1. I, ANDO, Kyoshiro, served as Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau in the Home Ministry under Home Minister Marquis KIDO from January, 1939 to September, the same year. As Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau I was charged with the duty of maintaining peace and order throughout Japan. In carrying out this duty I had a network of officials throughout Japan who gave me information and I had authority to issue instructions to the Police throughout the country so that law and order would be maintained. As head of the Bureau, reports were sent to me on unrest or possible disturbances when they appeared in any part of Japan. From these reports I was informed that the development of the China Affair and the growing

tense situation of Europe was creating unrest among the people  
In addition in 1939, the public was paying increasingly close  
attention to the question of the conclusion of a tripartite military  
pact between Japan, Germany and Italy. I received reports that  
Rightist groups contended that it would be absolutely necessary to  
conclude the tripartite military pact, while those opposed to the  
pact counselled caution in handling the question. How to approach  
the question on the part of the Government had an important bear-  
ing on the maintenance of peace and order at home.

2. During the time Marquis KIDO was Home Minister, the Cabinet used  
to meet every Tuesday and Friday. Prior to the meeting of the  
Cabinet, the Vice Home Minister, the Chief of the Metropolitan  
Police in Tokyo and I exchanged reports on the question of law and  
order throughout Japan and after the exchange of our reports we  
would then meet with KIDO and make a full report to him so that  
he could be informed of conditions and report to the Cabinet if  
necessary. We advised Marquis KIDO to pay the most serious atten-  
tion to the maintenance of peace and order at home in connection  
with the question of the Tripartite Military Pact owing to the  
reports we had received of the possibility of unrest in the country.
3. The Five Minister Conference which was discussing the military pact  
between Japan, Germany and Italy met on more than seventy occasions

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between March and August, 1939. During this period of time Marquis KIDO expressed his feelings to us which can be summarized as follows: "The question of the Military Pact is now being cautiously studied by the Five Minister Conference. I hope that the conference will arrive at a most proper conclusion for the sake of the future of the state. Pending its decision I am more interested in seeing that law and order are maintained at home for the sake of settlement of the China Affair as well as maintenance of peace and order at home. It would be unfortunate to see the Five Minister Conference break down due to divergence of views between the Army and Navy. If the Army and Navy disagree I fear the militaristic rightists will cause incidents to occur throughout our land. The government should assume full responsibility for the disposition of the question one way or the other on the basis of its long range view of the future of the state. I am strongly opposed to any act which would hasten the conclusion of the Military Pact by stimulating the public opinion with a popular drive launched for that purpose on the part of the civilians."

In pursuance of Marquis KIDO's intentions, just referred to, I took charge of police control in connection with this question. Late in July, however, divergence of views developed between the Army and me on the control of the agitation for hastening up the conclusion of the military pact, which fact I reported to the

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Minister of Home Affairs. But this problem solved itself with the conclusion of a non-aggression pact between Germany and the Soviet Union.

4. In short, from my conversations with him, I learned about the concern Marquis KIDO had in the tripartite military pact as member of the HIRANUMA Cabinet was maintenance of peace and order at home, which his official duty dictated him to safeguard, but which a possible head-on clash between the Army and the Navy threatened to endanger.

On this 5 day of Feb., 1947

At I.M.T.F.E.

DEPONENT: ANDO, Kyoshiro (seal)

I, HOZUMI, Shigetaka hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date

At same place

Witness: /s/ HOZUMI, Shigetaka (seal)

OATH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

/s/ ANDO, Kyoshiro (seal)