

EXHIBIT No. 3291

(6)

(Translation)

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.

- vs -

ARAKI, Sadao, et al.

S W O R N    D E P O S I T I O N

Deponent: YONAI, Mitsumasa  
Domicile: 1545 Fujimidai, Meguroku, Tokyo.

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

I was in the office of the Premier from January 16, 1940, to July 22 of the same year. Mr. HIROTA, Koki, was State-Councillor in my Cabinet while it lasted. One day during that period, we had a talk exclusively between ourselves, when I was informed of his opinions about the fundamental principles of Japan's foreign policy. At that time, an alliance with Germany and Italy was being advocated by some of the Japanese.

Mr. HIROTA stated, on that occasion, to the effect that the safer course for Japan's foreign policy was to keep contact with Britain and the United States, and that the Cabinet should make the conciliatory attitude clear as soon as possible. He pointed out the danger that Japan might be involved in the war if she concluded an alliance with Germany and Italy and professed that he was absolutely against the conclusion of the proposed Tri-Partite Pact.

The State-Councillors, however, had no competency to participate in the decision of the Government and, accordingly, were not responsible for it. I listened to the above opinions of Mr. HIROTA as an instructive information.

On this 11th day of September, 1947, at Tokyo.

(Signed) YONAI, Mitsumasa (Seal)

Sworn and subscribed before me on the above-mentioned date and place.

(Signed) MORISHIMA, Goro (Seal)

Witness

O A T H

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

(Signed) YONAI, Mitsumasa (Seal)