

AFFIDAVIT

KAMEKAWA, Tetsuya (Aged 46)

The afore-mentioned person made the following statements to me at the TOKYO MP Headquarters on 9 April 1936:

I visited Gen.MASAKI at his residence for the first time in December 1935. The purpose of my visit was to tell him in detail our opinions on the AIZAWA trial and to obtain his consent. The content of the interview was the same as that of the one I had with Gen.HAYASHI. Its substance was as follows:

- (1) It isn't good for rivalries to exist within the Army. Therefore, using this trial as an opportunity, the Army must be unified. For this purpose ISNIHARA, HASHIMOTO and MITSUI are working on the matter in close cooperation with each other.
- (2) The sentence for AIZAWA should be as light as possible.
- (3) The March Incident and the October Incident should not be brought out at the trial. Thereupon, Gen.MASAKI said to me, "I've heard you're a philosopher. If you could settle the matter from the standpoint of a scholar, it would be very splendid". But as regards the AIZAWA trial, he didn't express his opinion.

Again in the early part of February I visited the residence of MASAKI. But this time I went there for the purpose of reporting on the progress of the trial (explanation of the three propositions made by MITSUI and the wishes of the young officers concerning the Petition for summoning witnesses).

Although Gen.MASAKI approved of the plan for reducing the sentence for AIZAWA he was of the opinion that restraint should be exercised in regard to petitioning for witnesses in a too blunt manner. On the other hand, fully agreeing with the idea of unifying the Army by using this trial as an opportunity he said, "It must be so by all means."

I am reminded in this connection that I visited him at MISHIMA in January of this year. He talked of the unification of the Army with a tone of confidence, and at the same time, hinted that he had some understanding with the higher strata of the Army. So I feel that Col.HASHIMOTO and others may have been already conducting a movement for understanding among the higher strata of the Army.

On the occasion of my visit to Gen.MASAKI on the night of 22 February, the main points of my talk were as follows:-

- (1) The matter of the appearance of witnesses in court.
- (2) The matter of dropping the trial.
- (3) The matter of giving him a hint.

AFFIDAVIT of KAMEKAWA, Tetsuya (cont'd)

On the second point, that is the dropping of the trial, Gen. **MASAKI** was fully in favor; and he said "If that could be done, it would be very fine".

The visit on 24 February was made to ascertain whether or not **he** had received a notice requesting his appearance as witness, and also whether or not an Imperial sanction for it had been obtained. I did not repeat the hint which I had given him on the night of 22nd. One of my purposes in hinting that matter to him to find out what sort of man he was. And so when I dropped in to see **NISHIDA** on my way home that day, I told him that Gen. **MASAKI** was a man of good sense and discretion.

I did not make a telephone call before I went to the residence of **MASAKI** early on the morning of 26 February. And I recall that Gen. **MASAKI** appeared to be quite upset at the time of my visit.

Deponent: KAMEKAWA, Tetsuya

AFFIDAVIT (2)

KAMEKAWA, Tetsuya (aged 47)
Samurai class
Writer

Permanent Address: 317 Shirogane-sanko-cho, Shiba-ku, TOKYO
Present Address : 67 Ryūdo-cho, Azabu-ku, TOKYO

The afore-mentioned person made the following statements to me at the TOKYO Garrison penitentiary on 27 April 1936:

My name, age, permanent address and present address as stated above are true and correct.

- Q State in detail the situation at the time of your visit to Gen. MASAKI in the early morning of 26 February.
- A (1) I think the time of my visit to Gen. MASAKI was between 4:30 and 5:00 a.m.
- (2) The person who answered at the door was a maid. I think she appeared in her night-gown.
- (3) After retiring to the interior for about two or three minutes, the maid servant came back to the entrance, and ushered me into the drawing room.
- (4) Then about three or four minutes afterward His Excellency appeared. I think he wore HAORI over his night-gown.
- (5) The content of the conversation was as follows:-

KAMEKAWA: "I'm awfully sorry that I have come here so early in the morning, but I have something very important to tell you, Sir. In regard to the dropping of the AIZAWA trial, we have worked hard to make Gen. KAWASHIMA and Gen. HAYASHI understand, but have failed. As things have come to such a pass, I think there is no other way but to appeal to the "GENRO" [elder statesman]. So this morning Dr. UZAWA is going to visit the elder statesmen on this matter. I would like to ask your opinion about that."

Gen. MASAKI: "That's very good. I would like to have that done by all means."

KAMEKAWA: "Further I should like to tell you that I understand that 1st Regiment and the 3rd Regiment will rise up in arms early this morning and attack the Senior statesmen. In case of emergency I wish you would do your best to prevent any aggravation of this situation."

Gen. MASAKI: "If that happens, all that we have worked for up to now would become naught." So saying, Gen. MASAKI was much startled and was at his wit's end, it seemed.

AFFIDAVIT (2) of KAMEKAWA, Tetsuya (cont'd)

KAMEKAWA: "Furthermore, the young officers seem to entertain the wish to have you save the situation. So please be prudent."

KAMEKAWA: (at the front-door when leaving): "If this matter turns out to be true, I'll come back to report it."

Gen.MASAKI: "I'm praying that such is not the case."

The conversation between Gen.MASAKI and me at his residence was as given above. We talked about ten or fifteen minutes, I think.

- Q. As to the time of your visit to Gen.MASAKI's home, have you anything concrete to prove its accuracy?
- A. At the time of retiring the previous night, I planned out my activities of that morning, including the interview with Gen.MASAKI, etc., on the basis of Dr.UZAWA's departure from SHINAGAWA at 6:50 a.m. And I remember setting the alarm-clock at 3:00 or 3:30 a.m., I was awakened by clock and hurried to get ready (without even taking breakfast). This was about four o'clock, I imagine. Considering this, I think it must have been between 4:30 and 5:00 when I visited Gen.MASAKI's residence. About the matter of time, the whole thing will be clear, if you examine the chauffeur, I'm sure.
- Q. What was the real purpose of your visit to Gen.MASAKI early in the morning of 26th? Did it refer to (1) the matter of Dr.UZAWA's visit to the "GENRO" [elder statesman] or to (2) the matter of the young officers' rising up to action?
- A. To obtain Gen.MASAKI's opinion about Dr.UZAWA's visit to the elder statesmen was the real purpose of my visit. The other, that is, the matter of the young officers' rising up to action more or less incidental talk; I mentioned it merely with the idea of asking him to save the situation.
- Q. At any rate, they are very important problems, are they not? Why is it that you didn't tell him about these important matters the previous night?
- A. Because I had so many things to do the previous night, I didn't have the chance to do so. On top of that, I thought it better to call on him early in the morning rather than very late at night so as not to put him to too much trouble.
- Q. And the time of your retiring the previous night?

AFFIDAVIT (2) of KAMEKAWA, Tetsuya (cont'd)

A About 11:00 p.m. I remember.

Q In the beginning of your conversation with Gen.MASAKI, you said "I'm awfully sorry that I have come here so early in the morning, but I have something very important to tell you, Sir." Precisely, what did you mean by "..... something very important to tel...?"

A I mean t Dr.UZAWA's visit to the elder statesmen and the young officers rising up to action.

Q When you were about to leave, you said at the front-door: "If this matter turns out to be true, I'll come back to report it" Did you go thereafter to Gen.MASAKI again to report?

A Yes, I did between 8:30 and 9:00 a.m. I went there from KUHARA's. I couldn't see him, because Gen.MASAKI was not in.

Q According to Gen.MASAKI's statement you visited his residence at 5:50 a.m. Describing the situation in which the young officers were rising to action, you begged him with a tearful voice: "Please help!" When Gen.MASAKI asked "Is that true?" you answered: "Yes, it is true, because I followed them up to ~~xxxx~~" Can you verify this statement?

A (1) So far as the time is concerned, I can't tell you this much; I went to Dr.UZAWA's right after I left Gen.MASAKI's residence in order to make arrangements for the visit to the "GENRO." From there I went back once to my home and made a telephone call to Dr.UZAWA's house. I was at SHINAGAWA Station by 6:50 a.m., at which time Dr.UZAWA was to catch the train, and I met him there. So the time remembered by me is more accurate, I think.

(2) Next, the contents of the conversation are quite different from the facts. You see, after I left Gen.MASAKI's on my way home I saw a group of soldiers with fixed bayonets right in front of the residence of Finance Minister TAKAHASHI, at Omote-cho, Akasaka-ku. I said to myself: "At last they have done it!" And that was when I first came to know that an incident had actually occurred. Later when I went to the residence of KUHARA I learned about the incident in detail. So I had no way of knowing about it at the time of my visit to Gen.MASAKI's residence.

At the time of our conversation, Gen.MASAKI was so upset that he acted like a man in a trance. So I think he must have been under an illusion.

Q Have you anything else to state in regard to the situation at the time of your visit to Gen.MASAKI's residence early on the morning of the 26th?

A I have nothing else, Sir.

AFFIDAVIT (2) of KAMEKAWA, Tetsuya (cont'd)

Deponent: KAMEKAWA, Tetsuya.

As the deponent declared the above statements as recorded herein to be true and correct, he was asked to sign his name and seal his thumb.

27 April 1936

HAYASHI Yae, Captain (MP)
Military judicial police officer
TOKYO MP Headquarters.

Checked by Mitoichi SADAYASU