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EXHIBIT # 3013

Def, Doc. No. 2013

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al.

AFFIDAVIT

I, MITARAI, Tatsuo, being duly sworn in accordance with the procedure followed in our country, do hereby depose and say as follows:

1. I was born in OITA prefecture in 1894. My present address is at Shiota, Tokai-mura, Isumi-Gun, Chiba prefecture. Since 1917, I have been connected with various newspapers, specializing as critic of Japanese political circles. As I came from the same prefecture as MINAMI, Jiro, I have known him intimately for 20 years. I was called into constant consultation with him in early March, 1945, when he was asked to assume the presidency of the Political Society of great Japan (usually called the Japan Political Society). After his appointment as president, I became his secretary and took part in important affairs of the Society.

2. The creation of the Japan Political Society was first of all promoted by a committee of influential citizens at that time, such as KANEMITSU, Tsuneo, YAMAZAKI, Tatsunosuke, OMA, Tadao, GODO, Taku

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and other, who pressed upon MINAMI and myself the urgent need of such creation to the following effect:

"Although the Imperial Rule Assistance Association (I.R.A.A.) made its appearance advocating a new political structure of national unity, its character had been so frequently changed that after all it became a mere auxiliary administrative organ of the government. The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association (I.R.A.P.A.), on the other hand, mainly consisting of members of both Houses, was crippled as a political party, because it ignored the means and method of being in touch with the general public. Such a situation, coupled with the unfavorable aspects of the war, brought forth severe discontent and grave misgivings among citizens as well as political circles. Hence, our immediate attention had to be given to the creation of a political party which would truly act for the people and be managed by the people".

As a matter of fact, this was the line of policy which governed the activities of the Japan Political Society after MINAMI accepted the presidency:

3. The distinct features of the Japan Political Society, as different from I.R.A.A. or I.R.A.P.A. may be summarized as follows:

(a) Either at the time of or after its creation, the Society had no connection whatever with the Government. As the Society did not enter to the wishes of bureaucrats and militarists, it

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encountered many obstacles and interferences from such quarters, especially in the case of forming chapters in prefectures.

(b) In accordance with policy above-mentioned, the Society put its main strength to the direct contact with the people. Within 3 months after its birth, chapters were established in 35 prefectures, members whereof amounting to at least more than 500,000, although definite figures cannot be given on account of the destruction of records by air-raids.

(c) The Society never received a cent of financial aid from the Government, all expenses being defrayed by contributions of members. Furthermore, contrary to the initial plan that the head office should subsidize chapters, not only every one of them dissented with such proposition, but many, e.g., Ishikawa and other prefectures, offered donations to the head office.

4. Under the circumstances above-mentioned, it may seem curious that a retired general should be installed as president. However, the members of the said committee who approached MINAMI with the offer of presidency, thought that the purpose of creating the Japan Political Society could be carried out only by a person whose popularity and ability would enable him to take an equal stand vis-a-vis the governmental and military authorities, and MINAMI because of his post record was thought to be the very man for such a post. On the other hand, I knew very well his pet theory that no military

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man should participate in politics and also the fact that he decline the recommendation to the presidency of I.R.A.P.A. in the previous year when General ABE, Nobuyuki, retired therefrom. In the case of the Japanese Political Society, however, the said committee took every possible means to persuade MINAMI, notwithstanding repeated refusals on his part and of those close to him, including myself, and finally succeeded in obtaining his agreement on the strength of the good offices of SUZUKI, Kantaro, who was then President of the Privy Council and his most intimate friend. Thus, he was nominated President of the Japan Political Society at its inauguration on March 30th, 1945.

Four months later, on August 9th, MINAMI met the aforesaid SUZUKI, then Premier, and advised him to accept the terms of the Potsdam Declaration. Henceforth, MINAMI and Society strived hard to unite public opinion and, upon the surrender of Japan, he resigned and the society dissolved itself.

Oath

I do hereby swear, in accordance with my conscience, to tell the whole truth, withholding nothing and adding nothing.

July 7, 1947, at Tokyo.

Deponent: MITARAI, Tatsuo.

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I do hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the said deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in my presence on the same day and at the same place as above written.

Witness: KONDO, Giichi.