

Def Doc No. 2643

Exh. No. 3533

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-VS-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition (Translation)

Deponent : HARA, Shiro

Having been duly sworn in accordance with the procedure followed in my country, I do hereby depose and say as follows:

Translated by
Defense Language Branch

1. I am former Lieutenant Colonel of the Army, HARA, Shiro.
From November 1940 to February 1942, as member of the 20th section of Army General Staff, I treated, in the Army General Staff, such matters relating to the Liaison Conference between the Government and the Imperial Headquarters and those relating to the Imperial Conference. Therefore I am familiar with the document entitled "A Draft regarding the fundamental reason of the opening of the war against U.S.A. and Great Britain" (Ex. 1175), presented by the Prosecution.

2. Under the title of this document (in the English text, it is mentioned to the right of the title) it is written as "Project to be decided at the Liaison Conference" Project to be decided does not mean the project already decided. It means a draft which awaits decision at some future date.

At that time, a deliberation was being carried out among the officials concerned of the Army General Staff, Navy General Staff, Army Ministry Navy Ministry and Foreign Office (or Cabinet) in order to regulate and unify the differences between the high command and the government in regard to the fundamental reasons relative to the opening of hostilities, in case the worse occurred and war became inevitable. The present document is nothing but one of these kinds of drafts for study.

3. This document was never presented to the Liaison Conference or put on the agenda for discussion. It is just a plan of study for the officials concerned. The plan proves that for itself. It is because, on the right top of the title (in English text, on the left), it is marked as No. 4 of 5 copies, which means that 5 copies were made. That prove that it was made for the use of five officials within sections of the Army General Staff, Navy General Staff, Army Ministry, Navy Ministry and Foreign Office (or Cabinet), each being distributed on copy.
- If it was prepared for the use of the Liaison Conference, then at least 13 copies were needed because the members usually present at these Conferences at that time were Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, War Minister (concurrently nominated), Navy Minister, Finance Minister, President of Planning Board, Chief and Vice Chief of Army Staff, Chief and Vice Chief of Navy Staff and the secretary, in all 13.
4. As it is clear from the above, the present document was drafted collectively by officials of the Army General Staff, Navy General Staff, Army Ministry, Navy Ministry and Foreign Office (or Cabinet). It was not written by the Chief of Military Affairs Section, SATO as testified by the prosecutors' witness, TANAKA, Ryukichi. It is neither drafted by Military Affairs Section of War Ministry. It is for this reason that the name of the draft Department is not mentioned following the customs of Japanese administration of that time. If the present document were drafted at the Army Affairs

Def. Doc. # 2643

Section, then it would have been mentioned as "Draft of Military Affairs Bureau, War Ministry" or "Draft of Military Affairs Section, Military Affairs Bureau".

Moreover, on the right top of this document it is written "No. 4 of 5 copies". But, according to the custom of the Army, it would have been written as "the 4th among 5 copies" (Army used rubber stamp of "the _____ among _____ copies" and the number inserted with ink) that proves definitively that the present document was not prepared by the Army or War Ministry.

Def Doc No. 2643

On this 22 day of Sept., 1947

At Tokyo.

DEPONENT HARA, Shiro (seal)

I, KUSANO, HYOICHIRO, 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 the same place.

Witness: (signed) KUSANO, HYOICHIRO (seal)

OATH

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

KUSANO, HYOICHIRO (seal)

Def. Doc. #2645

ERRATA SHEET

→ ATO

Affidavit of HARA, Shiro.

Delete following:

Line 6 from the bottom of page 1.

(or Cabinet)

Line 8-9 of page 2.

(or Cabinet)

Line 7 from the bottom of page 2.

(or Cabinet)

極東國際軍事裁判所

亞米利加合衆國其他

對

荒木貞夫 其他

宣誓供述書

原 四 郎

自分儀我國ニ行ハルル方式ニ從ヒ先ヅ別紙ノ通リ宣誓ヲ爲シタル上次ノ如ク供述致シマス

一、私ハ元陸軍中佐原四郎デアリマス

昭和十五年（一九四〇年）十一月ヨリ同十七年（一九四二年）二月ニ至ル間元參謀本部第二十班ノ班員トシテ大本營政府連絡會議及御前會議ニ關スル參謀本部ニ於ケル事務ニ從事致シマシタ 從ヒマシテ私ハ檢事側提出ノ對米英開戰名目骨子案（法廷證番號第一一七五號）ト云フ文書ニ記憶ガアリマス

二、本文書ノ表題ノ下（英文デハ右）ニ連絡會議決定案トアリマスガ決定案トハ決定セラレタモノト云フ意味デアリマセン 將來決定ノ運ビトナスベキ草案ト云フ意味デアリマス 當時參謀本部、軍令部、陸軍省、海軍省及外務省（或ハ内閣）ノ事務當事者ノ間ニ於テ萬一開戰ノ已ムナキ最悪事態ニ立チ到ツタ場合ニ於ケル開戰名目ノ骨子ニ關シ大本營政府間ノ思想ヲ調整統一スル爲研究ヲ進メテ居リマシタガ本文書ハ右研究ノ一草案ニ過ギナイノデアリマス

三、本文書ガ連絡會議ノ議題トシテ會議ニ提出サレタモノデハナク單ナル事務當事者ノ研究案デアルコトハ本文書自ラモ明カニ證明シテ居リマス
 即チ表題ノ右肩（英文デハ左肩）ニ「五部中四號」ト記載シ本文書ガ五部作成サレタコトヲ示シテ居リマスガ右ハ參謀本部、軍令部、陸軍省、海軍省及外務省（或ハ内閣）ノ各事務當事者計五名ニ對シ一部宛

配布スル爲作成サレタコトヲ裏書シテ居ルノデアリマス若シ連絡會議ニ提出スベク作成サレタモノトスレバ當時ノ連絡會議出席者ハ通常首相、外相、陸相（兼務）海相、藏相、企劃院總裁、參謀總長、同次長軍令部總長、同次長及幹事三名計十三名テスカラ少クモ十三部作成セラルベキモノデアリマス

四

以上テ明カナ如ク本文書ハ參謀本部、軍令部、陸軍省、海軍省及外務省（或ハ内閣）各事務當事者が合同シテ起案シタモノデアリマス
檢事側田中隆吉證言ノ如ク當時ノ佐藤軍務課長が起案シタモノデアリマセン
又陸軍省軍務課テ起案シタモノデアリマセン
本文書ニ日本ノ官廳ノ一般的慣習タル起案官廳名ガ記入サレテ居ラナイノハ右ノ理由ニ依ルカラデアリマス

若シ本文書ガ陸軍省軍務課テ起案シタモノナラバ陸軍省軍務局案又ハ同軍務課案ト記入スル管デアリマス
尙本文書表題ノ右肩（英文テハ左肩）ニ「五部中四號」ト記入シテアリマスガ陸軍ノ一般的慣習ニ依レバ「五部之内第四號」ト記入スルノデアリマシテ「〇部之内第〇號」ノ「ゴム」印ヲ捺シ數字ヲ記入ス之ハ本文書ガ陸軍テ作成サレタモノデアナイコトヲ明カニ裏書シテ居リマス

昭和二十二年（一九四七年）九月二十二日 於東京

供述者 原 四郎

右ハ當立會人ノ面前ニテ宣誓シ且ツ署名捺印シタルコトヲ證明シマス

同日 於

立會人 草野 豹一郎

良心ニ從ヒ眞實ヲ述ベ何事ヲモ黙秘セズ又何事ヲモ附加セザルコトヲ
誓フ

宣
誓
書

署名捺印

原

四

郎