Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 775009

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PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION
ROUTING SLIP

	FROM: POL BR	DATE: 22 MAR
	Chief of Division	
	Executive Officer	
	Lt. Col. Spiegel	
	Capt. Graves	
	Capt. Russell	
	Administrative Officer	
	Chief Clerk	
/	Fire Branch	
	Liaison Branch	
	Maritime Branch	
	Police Branch	
	Prison Branch	
	Stat & Anal Branch	

FOR:

Information___ Comment_____
Action_____
Approval_____ File ✓

Remarks:

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 775009

THE OSAKA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

Osaka Municipal Fire Bureau

January 31, 1950

Mr. George W. Angell
The Public Safety Div.,
Civil Information Section,
G. H. Q.

Dear Sir:

The arson case which roused much sensations among peoples owing to its sinister angle and dramatic scenes involving the conflict between the Police and Fire authorities on their investigations and incriminatory processes was now brought to court to undergo the ultimate clarification under the light of Justice.

We take the liberty of presenting the accounts thereof to your office for your reference.

Yours truly,

T. Matsushima

Toshimi Matsushima
Director of the Osaka Municipal Fire Bureau

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THE OSAKA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

The Accounts of the Case

The date and hour of fire
July 22, 1949 at 7:02 P.M.

The location of fire
Kansai Steel Plant Inc.
No.35, Daikai-cho, 4-chome, Fukushima-ku, Osaka.
President Mr. Teruo Sakamoto (age 37)

The damage
Warehouse (zinc-roofed, wooden, one-story but partly two-story, 160 tsubo area, 2 buildings)
entirely burnt
Shop (zinc-roofed, wooden, one-story, one building, 143 tsubo area)
120 tsubo burnt
Warehouse (zinc-roofed, wooden, one-story, one building, 73 tsubo)
33 tsubo burnt
House building (tile-roofed, two-story, wooden, one building, 5 tsubo ground area)
second floor 5 tsubo burnt
Bath Shed (zinc-roofed, wooden, one-story, one building)
entirely burnt

Weather
Wind direction: southern west
Wind velocity : 4.4 metre
Temperature : 30c
Humidity : 60%
Condition : fine

Insured ammount:
25,400,000 yen (The Japan Movables and Marine Insurance Co., Osaka Branch Office)

Circumstances of fire
On the 22th of July, 1949, about 5 o'clock in the afternoon Mr. Sakamoto (President), having 4 workmen got home unusually a bit earlier, was talking in the second floor office room with Mr. Sugimoto (the executive director of the same plant) and Mr. Watanabe (President of the affiliated business firm) when Mr. Mihara (Driver of Mr. Sakamotos') came in asking for the delay of starting home due to the neccesitated repair of break which Mr. Sakamoto consented and those three (Mr. Sugimoto, Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Mihara) went out shortly after that.

Now Mr. Sakamoto was alone remaining in the room untill 7 o'clock in the evening when the fire started from the landing of stairs leading from the office room to the closet and the storage even though there was, it was claimed, no fire or no electric wires either.

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Investigations by the Police

In the investigations conducted by the Fukushima Police Station officials, the right for inquiry on the part of fire authorities based on the provisions of the Fire Defense Law was disregarded, without preliminary liaison they examined the fire relics the next morning though their methods in this examination lacked the adequacy and accuracy neglecting, for a instance, the check on motor switch piece.

The police officials not only lacked in their due care but accepted the statement of Mr. Sakamoto, the President as the truth and established that the fire was caused by overheated motor for lathe machine located in the workshop right beneath the office room and granted the accident fire certificate to Mr. Sakamoto who could easily claim the insured ammount against the said insurance office and received 3,000,000 yen on September 12, 8,208,999 yen on September 12 respectively.

Inquiries by the fire authorities

The fire officials were much handicaped in their examinations as they started in delay with the fire relics ravaged by the hand of police.

But by dint of honest work and diligent efforts of fire investigaters the truth came out ultimately rooting over the police theory and revealing the actual picture of arson by means of scientific methods and systematic process.

Here we came faced to the most embarassing fact that we have no judicial authorities over the investigation for criminal arson as such and also no judicial power to present the case as such to the court.

We requested the immediate investigation in compliance with the judicial procedure towards the Chief of Fukushima Police Station but he defied the request on the stand that the case was closed as an accident fire and even issued the certificate therefor.

Inspite of repeated claims on our part the police faild in taking up from a reason or another but we felt deep the neccesity to protect further occurrence of similar case and this negligence on the part of police should not be allowed to loosen the stringency of arson and we resorted to the last mean and presented the over all proofs and evidences to Mr. Oka, Chief Criminal prosecutor of the District Prosecution Board in Osaka.

Our honest work was rewarded in having the prosecution authorities taken up the case and the North Area Chief Investigater of Osaka Municipal Police Board rapidly looked into the affair bringing the whole aspects under light after 6 months and indicting Mr. Sakamoto as the prospective suspect.

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The Process of investigations

Investigation of accurate time of fire

The Asahibashi-fire-station was alarmed of breaking out of fire at 7:10 P.M. through the fire alarm telephone call and immediately dispatched its crews.

The first pumper got the fire scene approximately at 7:23 P.M. that is 20 minutes after the call and already the greater part of the office building (jointly used as storage) and warehouse were burnt up with fierce blaze in strong south-west wind which rendered the examination of fire origin utmost difficult.

But considering the too dense oil smoke generated from the burning materials and also the intensity of flame which devastated so large area within relatively short while as twenty minutes it could reasonably assumed that there may have been some particular substances there in the building.

At that time we were confined within the fire fighting and excepting the spot examination on people who found the fire, the plant guard-man, and the only one personnel of that plant Mr. Sakamoto (Director) we left the detailed investigations to later date for co-examination of police and fire authorities.

The subsequent investigations

The next day of the fire, that is July 23, we conducted the principal survey on the scene in which we took much cares and precautions composing special exploration squad of the jurisdictional fire station staffs and headquarters members including technicians of various kinds.

When the exploration squad arrived the scene the police investigaters have been evacuated already finishing their jobs alone inspite of our agreement and the hours were still early.

We found that the police theory of fire origin was failure as the switch for lathe motor was evidently off which was witnessed by the remained piece of metal part of switch (knife) and so inspite of the insistence on the part of police we could establish the proof that the motor was not the origin of the disasters.

After that we could proceed with conviction in our investigation on the origin and cause of fire.

The observation of first fire fighting crew

As it was stated previously when the first crew arrived the scene they were humpered their examination by severe blaze but still they could deduce from the wind direction and velocity and also from the construction of buildings that the fire inevitably started at adjacent to the office building top.

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The observation of people who found the fire

The fire was initially detected by the president of the adjacent factory and his families and workmen.

They talked in accord that when they were standing enjoying the cool evening air in front of their factory after supper (about 36 feet from the fire origin) they saw dense black smoke and blazing flame erupting out through the window located just above the stairs of next plant building (Kansai Steel Plant) which caused them upset and made them to cry fire.

One of them witnessed as follows:

(1) There were many window openings on the north side wall of the building both on its uper and lower floors but no flame and smoke was visible.
(2) The flame seemed to stretch most fast and severly toward the roof of that office building.
(3) Untill they realized the fire break out there was no smoke or anything that indicated fire and the entire plant compound looked deserted because no one came out when alarmed of fire.

The observation of Mr. Sakamoto, president

Mr. Sakamoto stated on examination that when he heard the cry he looked at the office building (jointly used as storage) through the glass window of the room (president's office) he saw thin smoke floating into the office room from outside.

He felt some curiosity at that and called the guard man from the window to let him examine the odds and next moment he turned he could see the blaze climb up the north wall of the office building.

There he was awakened of danger and rushed out with armful of documents to the landing where he met the guardman and transfered the documents to return to his room once more but already his room was inaccessibly flaming up.

He also stated that after two guests and his driver went out he stayed there alone waiting the repair of car finishes and taking a nap untill he heard the cry even though at first he took it as children's joke.

From his remark it could be induced that the fire started at near by the stair of upper floor of the office building and his vague statement inspite of his location of most adjacent to the same floor was enough to arouse suspicion against him.

The cause of fire

With the proof of fire origin established thus next came the question why and how the fire started in such place where it was most improbable of existing any kind of fire source.

All workmen evacuated the plant about 6:40 P.M. (it was pay day otherwise they went home still earlier) untill which time no one witnessed any irreguralities and disorders.

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Assuming the fire broken out at 7:02 only 20 minutes were passed before the fire deeply seated which indicated none other than celluloid, gasolin or the similar explosive or ignitable substances will fit the situation.

This is stressed further when considered the observation by on-lookers that from the start there were much more flame than smoke.

Thus the examination was directed to the conclusion that this fire was by no means accident but caused by man hand with sinister intent.

Suspicion of arson

Now we could stand on the solid base of assumption of arson our next steps were directed to the back scene of the case.

Considering the prevailing financial stringency of the Kansai Steel plant, the contents of fire insurance contract and the moves of Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Mihara, the guardman and Mr. Sakamoto himself close to the fire it was natural to put as much doubts as possible in those persons, especially in Mr. Sakamoto.

Mr. Sakamoto continued to deny stubbornly his wickedness at police examinations but the prosecution authorities started their action with confidence and regardless of Mr. Sakamoto's denial they proceeded to indict him on the proof produced by fire authorities and lateral evidences so far accumulated.

The fire insurance angles

The insured amount for the plant was initially (1940) 30,000 yen which was increased to 300,000 yen (1943), to 700,000 yen (1947), to 1,530,000 (June, 1948), to 6,200,000 yen (September, 1948) and shortly before the fire, inspite of the facts that they reduced their workmen to only 4 persons owing to the depressed condition of business and was almost on the brink of stopage of operation, the amount was raised as high as 25,400,000 yen.

After the fire the Japan Movables and Marine Insurance Co. indemnified Mr. Sakamoto based on the certificate issued by the Fukushima Police Station to the amount of 11,208,999 yen consisting of the payment of 3,000,000 yen on September 7,1949 and 8,208,999 yen on September 12 respectively.

Since Mr. Sakamoto was indicted on arson suspect case the insurance company stands in embarrassing position losing the claim against the Toa Fire and Marine Co. on their re-insurance contract and also unable to request Mr. Sakamoto for reimbursement under the situation, and they are now under much turmoil.

The bribe case involved

Involved in this notable arson case is Mr. Takahashi, the chief of contract Sect. of the Japan Movables and Marine Insurance Co. Osaka Branch office, who is the main figure in concluding the big insurance agreement and indemnity of the amounts.

Mr. Takahashi staying in Kure City, Hiroshima, added the sensational aspects to this case with his suicide immediate after the call from the Kure Police Station as the suspect of bribe.

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These incidentally happened and turned out to endorce the existense of unlawful agreement between him and Mr. Sakamoto which will still bring far-reaching effect on future surveillance on fire insurance practice and the great part played by fire authorities in clarifying the furtive dealings related to insurance business.

The subsequent effect on general public

As the newspapers published widely the facts and commented as the victory on the part of fire authorities over the police who neglected to live up to their utmost responsibility, the general public was alarmed enormously and realized the significant existence of fire services.

The effect on police

As it was already repeated the police authorities were careless in this case and even some police personnels were tsken in custody on bribe suspect which led to their downcast attitude towards us and showing relatively evaluated eyes on our fire investigation jobs.

The effect on fire service men

With the victory of fire authorities the personnels engaged in investigation jobs are gained much self-confidence in their work who were inclined to look upon themselves as side-worker and became much heated in persuing their proffesional courses.

The effect on Municipal and Prefectural Assemblies

In respective Assembly sessions the delegations voiced on this matters and commended the fire authorities for their honest works.

In short this case turned out to be much concerns on the part of these local bodies and political circles.

The comments by Mr. Matsushima, Director of the Osaka Municipal Fire Bureau

As one of the modern crimes the insurance money fraud arson case has farreaching effect on both economical and social justice.

In looking over the results of this steel plant arson case I am deeply impressed by the splendid works done by our investigation officers who carried out their weighty missions under the most handicaped conditions and under the focused eyes of general public.

Among the many difficulties they encountered was the lacking of judicial authorities in investigation and powers to proceed on incriminatory procedures.

Once the police rejected to take up the case the fire authorities had no vestedd right to establish the case in court inspite of their own proofs.

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If it were not for the most understanding prosecuter in this case they could not bring the affairs on the judicial course.

Considering the tendency of increasing the number of arson in future it is the utmost desire on our part that the urgency of granting the judicial powers to fire authorities will be fully realized promptly.

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PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION
ROUTING SLIP

FROM: FIRE BR. DATE: 14 APR '50

2	Chief of Division	REP
1	Executive Officer	
3	Lt. Col. Spiegel	
	Capt. Graves	
4	Capt. Russell	
5	Administrative Officer	—
	Chief Clerk	
6	Fire Branch	
	Liaison Branch	
	Maritime Branch	
	Police Branch	
	Prison Branch	
	Stat & Anal Branch	

FOR:

Information ✓ Comment ___
Action ___
Approval ___ File ___

Remarks:

Circulation. This is the second recent arson case in Osaka in which the Arson Investigators followed the methods taught at N.F.D.B.

J.W.G.

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THE OSAKA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

Osaka Municipal Fire Bureau

April 10, 1950

Mr. George W. Angell
Chief Fire Administrater,
the Public Safety Div.,
C. I. S., G. H. Q.

Dear Sir:

We want hereby submit you the report of another vicious arson case in which the fire service authorities again made hit against the police.

Considering the depressed economic situations in Japan we are afraid there may be increasing tendency for arson and it is our utmost desire to make as much exertions as possible to prevent such a vicious case.

Separate papers herewith attached please see as the detailes of the abovementioned case.

Yours truly,

T. Matsushima

Toshimi Matsushima

Director of the Osaka Municipal Fire Bureau

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THE OSAKA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

The accounts of arson investigation

1. Date and time of fire
   September 10th, 1949. at 3:24 P.M.

2. Origical fire location
   No.5, Shinkai-dori, one-chome, Nishinari-ku, Osaka
   book seller Mr. Seiichi Tomotoshi

3. Arson suspect
   The abovementioned person

4. Motive of crime
   To cheat the insurance money

5. Affected building
   A compartment building of 9 tsubo used as the recessed guest room and its set-in wardrobe of 5 tsubo (part of wooden, tile-roofed one story building of 36 tsubo)

6. Damage 98,830 yen

items		
	building	24,000 yen
	articles	74,830 yen

7. Fire insurance
   Insurance company
   The Fuji Marine and Fire Insurance Co. Ltd,
   Insured money
   for month installment base 200,000 yen
   for yearly installment base 300,000 yen

8. Sentence for the crime
   5 years(imprisonment
   (decision at the Osaka District Court, on March 27, 1950)

9. The precess of fire
   On September 10, 1949, about 3:24 P.M., a fire broke out in the house occupied by Mr. Seiichi Tomotoshi, the book seller while he and his wife with two children were out at their small book-store near-by.
   The fire originally started from somewhere near the set-in wardrobe of the recessed 6 mats guest room which was early detected by the neighbourer Mr. Yano who immediately alarmed people in vicinity and cooperated in fighting the fire so that to confine the blaze within the 5 tsubo of the total area of 9 tsubo of the room though at first when the fire men arrived it was threatening to spread to the next house roof.

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10. Situation of the building

The building was the northend part of 36 tsubo long one-story building to rent, facing east and on the north side there is a two-story building across a narrow lane with a one-story building on the back side across a lane.

The guest room where the fire started was located innermost the house with the set-in wardrobe on the north side wall and on the west side there was an unroofed narrow balcony, the further end of which was connected to the toilet room.

11. The cause of fire

The investigations were installed immediately after the fire broke out both by police and fire authorities.

During the investigation it was disclosed that on the previous day there was a minor fire case in the same house in which the ceiling of the 3 mats room in adjacent to the said guest room was chared and the occupant Mr. Tomotoshi explained the cause as the leakage of electricity.

His insistent claim of electric failure as the cause of the previous minor fire was cunningly utilized for the case of second fire inducing the police authorities to convince that theory.

Instead, we have had much doubts about this explanations and conducted independent survey which revealed that inspite of the suspect's strong opinion there was hardly any deficient point on the electric installations of the 3 mats room ceiling and led our reasonable conclusion that some one set fire purposely.

At the examinations the suspect held streaneously the electric leakage as the origin of the second fire which gave us no doubt about his intention and scheme to camouflage the case with that first minor fire case as its pretence.

The further physical investigations on and around the fire scene brought us proofs which indicated the probability of arson and our convictions were still affirmed when we knew the stringent financial condition of the suspect.

Mr. Tomotoshi operate a small book store but stands in very much unstabled condition with dificulties to support his wife and two children.

The critical financial condition of his livelihood has been more worsened due to the long illness of one child and of his wife being an expectant mother for another child.

On the other hand he had insured his properties for 200,000 yen and 300,000 yen a week before and this insurance money is visibly too high for his properties and besides he couldn't help relying on borrowed money for the payment of insurance premiums.

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From first Mr. Tomotoshi denied any suggestions of arson but the scientific and methodical investigations and the resulting undeniable presentation of proof made him accept the convicted arson case in the end.

12. Comments on the case

As the characteristic of arson case the necessary physical proofs are destroyed or burnt up which render not only the investigation but court proccedings enomously difficult and even with prospective suspect presented the court can not proceed on its procedure so long as it lacks adequate and sufficient materials to back up their indictment.

Thus it becomes more and more important in the modern court procedure to establish physical proof rather than to put weight on the personal confessions.

Herein lies the truth of our proposition that only the skilled fire service officials can effectively perform the difficult role of arson investigation that is to say to endow the authorities of juridical treatment of arson on fire service organs.

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Pictures related to the arson investigation (Mr. Tomotoshi's case)

Taken by the Osaka Fire Bureau

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The front view of the house in which the fire broke out

(1) indicates the point where, Mr. Tomotoshi claims, the minor fire of previous day originated by the leakage of electricity.

(2) indicates the upper part of the set-in closet which is burnt through.

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The starting point of fire, inside of the set-in closet

The view presents the flamed up conditions of the closet.

The slight remnant of white stripes identifies the nailed partition board inside of the closet. With the pillars burnt up in the lower part while the upper part remains comparatively unaffected we could deduce the fire started underneath the partition board.

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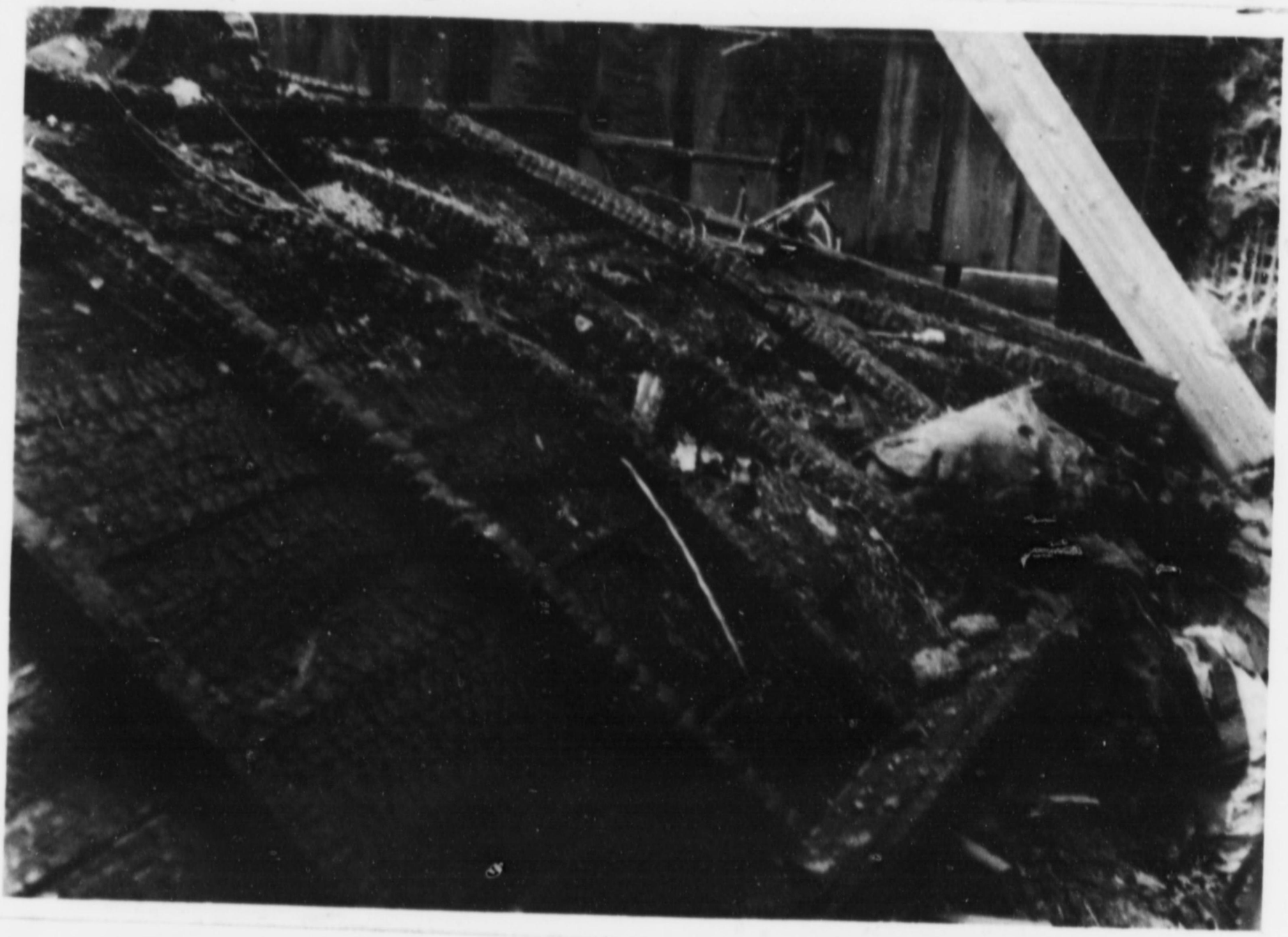
The partition board (shelf) inside of the closet.

The board was fixed in the closet deviding the space into the upper and lower parts.

The picture is the view of the bottom side of the board which is fully burnt up while the



other side is less affected proving the feasibility of fire originated underneath it.

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The starting point of fire.

The foregoing illustrations establish the reasoning for the fire started inside the closet and (1) is the most severly heated part of the floor and this is supposed to be the very origin of fire.

(2) indicates where the pocket fuels of U.S. army were located, contained in wooden box and the floor surface just under the box is not affected by fire as we can see in the picture.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
Civil Intelligence Section, G-2
PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

APO 500
21 October 1948

MEMO FOR RECORD

FROM: Chief of Fire Bureau, Kobe City

TO: Fire Investigator, General Headquarters

Regarding the submission of an investigation report concerning incendiary case.

Since the execution of the Fire Defense Law, the city has been making every effort in investigating and studying the causes of fire.

Here is an incendiary case which was handled by the Investigation Unit of this Bureau after the execution of the Law, so I am going to send a copy of my survey record for your reference.

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17 August 1948

FROM: Miyawaki, Toshio - Fire Marshal in service of the Fire Defense Section, Fire Defense Bureau, Kobe City

TO: Yagi, Kentaro, Fire Chief, Chief of the Fire Defense Bureau, Kobe City

Report of Investigation Work on Fire Cause

1. Place from where the fire started: The house of Yamamoto, Chiyomatsu.
(Age : 46
Occupation: Tinner
Address : 3-60, Kita-Nagasa-dori, Ikuta-Ku, Kobe City)

2. Date and time when fire started:
5:45 p.m., 16 August 1948
Date and time when fire was put under control:
6:15 p.m., the same day

3. Damage extent:
A wooden one story building consisting of three houses were totally burnt.

4. Amount of loss:
¥ 170,000

5. The job which had been dealt inside the building from where the fire took place:
Tinning and precious metals dealing

6. Details of investigation work.
(1) Informations from the interested persons.
(a) First man who discovered the fire:
Tominage, Kazukaru, aged 22
Whose address is 3-60, Kita-Nagasa-dori, Ikuta-Ku, Kobe City
(next house east to the place of fire)

When I was working at my kitchen room, I found that a

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8:15 p.m., the same day

3. Damage extent:
A wooden one story building consisting of three houses were totally burnt.

4. Amount of loss:
₩ 170,000

5. The job which had been dealt inside the building from where the fire took place:
Tinning and precious metals dealing

6. Details of investigation work.
(1) Informations from the interested persons.
(a) First man who discovered the fire:
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Whose address is 3-60, Kita-Nagasa-dori,
Ikuta-Ku, Kobe City
(next house east to the place of fire)

When I was working at my kitchen room, I found that a smoke was rising from the front gate of my house, so I looked inside through a crevice in the board fence and was much astonished to see the fire burning at the center between the houses of Mr. Matsumoto and Mr. Terada. I shouted loudly "fire, fire," and notified members of my family of fire and watered fire by way of relaying buckets full of water in co-operation with my family members.

(b) Sufferers: person who transacts business at one part of the damaged building.
Terada, Tane, aged 49, precious metals dealer
Her address 3-60, Kita-Nagasa-dori,
Ikuta-Ku, Kobe City

At about 10:30 p.m., I visited my shop with my husband (Terada, Toyotaro, aged 54) and returned back to my home at Rokko at about 2:30 p.m. that day. I took my lunch at the nearby Udonya (Macaroni shop). For such reason I did not use fire at noon. I was notified of fire by a certain merchant at Motomachi and then I hurried to the scene.

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(2) Circumstances of scene from where the fire started.
The scene is a shop-street facing to Anamon-Suji and the shops are hurriedly constructed barracks as shown in the annexed chart No 1. There stands Sanomiya Station of former Shosen Line at a spot about 30 meters south to the scene.

(3) Regarding the decision on the spot from where the fire started:
When we think of the statement made by the first finder of fire and the circumstances of the fire spread and of carbonization after examining embers, it is presumed that the wallpart which separates the houses of Yamanoto, Chiyomatsu and Terada, Toyotaro is the spot from where the fire started. However, nothing which is recognized to be the cause of fire is found at the neighborhood of the spot from where the fire started.

(4) Informations obtained by through ears (as it was suspected that the fire started by incendiary).
When we look through the circumstances of survey mentioned above, we can find that it is quite suspicious that the fire was started by Yamamoto, Chiyomatsu, tinner. (The fire took place from his house).

After investigation and private inquiries of his conducts and behaviors, the following facts have been made clear.

1. The fact that he tried to set fire to the same house about three month before.

2. The fact that he was boasted of his educated wife and of her having been working as a clerk of a Prefectural office. The fact that he was bent on satisfying her vanity.

3. That he professed to the neighbors that he was badly off on account of having had his money amounting ¥ 30,000 stolen on the previous day the fire broke out.

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1. The fact that he tried to set fire to the same house about three month before.

2. The fact that he was boasted of his educated wife and of her having been working as a clerk of a Prefectural office. The fact that he was bent on satisfying her vanity.

3. That he professed to the neighbors that he was badly off on account of having had his money amounting ¥ 30,000 stolen on the previous day the fire broke out.

4. That he left his house 15 minutes before the fire broke out.

5. That he was witnessed by his acquaintance that he had been at the Sannomiya Station when the fire broke out.

6. That he did not come to the spot despite his awaring of the fire.

7. That he took his personal effects away from the house on the previous day of the fire.

8. Though the building and land where the fire originated were owned by him, he had rented two rooms to unrelated persons (the interior fixtures were furnished by the tenants).

9. His room was insured at ¥ 70,000.

10. That his behavior had been comspicuously abnormal lately.

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7. Conclusion.
That there is no room for suspicious for the cause of this fire to be due to the negligence is quite apparent by the fact that there was nothing in the origin of fire to be considered as the cause of fire, as shown in the contents of investigation in the above. Accordingly the suspicion of arson grew strong. Hence the detection of the movement of the suspect and the result was as above.

Summing up the above items, we may ratiociate it as follows: As he was badly in need of money at that time, he was considered to have contemplated to sell the building owned by him as the first step in order to make his deficit square. However in view of the fact he was unable to do so as he expected, because he rented the house and further the money he may gain by selling his rooms will not be large, he intended to sell the land but no one desired to buy it since there are tenants in the land. It may be supposed that he ultimately intended to obtain an insurance money by committing arson and then to sell the land, thus aiming at two birds with one stone.

It is obvious that the arson was committed due to the above reason and we may conclude the cause of this fire to be the arson of YAMAMOTO, Chiyomatsu.

Reference:

1. As the suspect was taken to the Police, we were unable to prepare hearing of him. We may add that the evidencial materials were also confiscated by police at the time of investigation.

2. The amount he insured with the fire insurance company was as follows:

YAMAMOTO, Chiyomatsu	¥ 70,000
TERADA, Toyotaro	¥ 210,000
MASUDA, Masa	¥ 100,000

3. Sketch maps of the vicinities of the spot and of the interior of the building are to refer to the

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3. Sketch maps of the vicinities of the spot and of the interior of the building are to refer to the Annexed Charts No 1. and 2 tables.

4. Suspect YAMAMOTO, Chiyomatsu confessed at the police that he set nichrome wire on the electric service wire at the top of the entrance at the border of his rooms and TOMINAGA'S dealer in precious metals of the west neighbor and set fire to the nichrome wire.

5. Suspect YAMAMOTO, Chiyomatsu was taken to the Ikuta Police Station, the responsible police over the spot on August 18, 1948, and later all documents relative to the case were sent to the Kobe District Procurator's Office. Upon completion of trial on Aug 27, 1948, the Kobe District Court gave the verdict of guilty on October 11 as follows:

CRIME: Arson
TERM : 5 years penal servitude
UNDECIDED CUSTODY: 30 days.

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