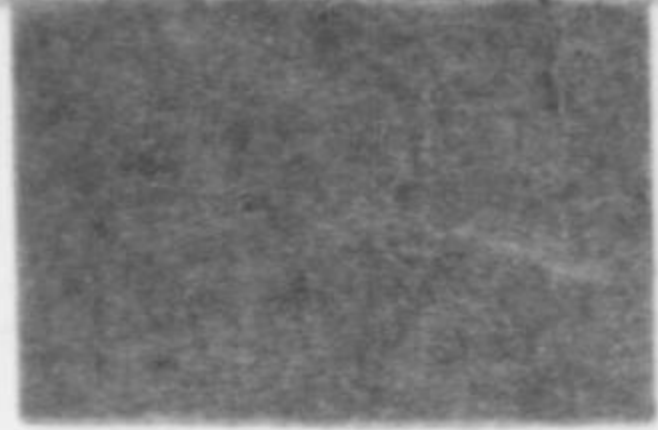


No. 2747



Ex 2747

DEF. DOC. #1691

Translated by
Defense Language Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

United States of America, et al

-vs-

RAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition (Translation)

Deponent: NAGAI, Yatsuji

In accordance with the procedure in my country having first sworn an oath as on attached sheet, I hereby depose as follows.

I, NAGAI, Yatsuji, state under oath as follows:

1. My present address is No. 776, Ichome, Kamiura-machi, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo.

I was serving since June 1938 in the Military Affairs Bureau of the War-Ministry. In February 1941, when Foreign Minister Matsuoka's visit to Europe was decided, I was ordered to accompany him. At that time I was a Colonel. On this occasion I received no special instruction from the Army, but was simply told that as I have never been to Europe, I should take this opportunity to go and see Europe by this chance.

As far as the army was concerned, the Chief of Staff made a request to Foreign Minister Matsuoka not to make any operational or strategical commitment to Germany, and I was specifically reminded by the Chief of Staff to assist Matsuoka concerning this point to the best of my ability and to see to it with utmost care that the operational activities of the army in the future would not be shackled in any respect.

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When General Sugiyama, then Chief of Staff, came to the Tokyo station on the night of 12 March, 1941 to see Foreign Minister Matsuoka off, he reminded me again of this point.

In connection with this matter I had an intimate talk with Foreign Minister Matsuoka on the boat between Shimonoseki and Fusan.

At that time Foreign Minister Matsuoka told me, "Concerning this point I am also well informed of the intention of the Army, and I will give no Commitment whatsoever, and this is quite natural considering the purpose of this trip to Europe. So you need not be worried at all."

We were met by Mr. Stahmer at a station on the border of the German and Russian spheres of influence.

Concerning the question of what Foreign Minister Matsuoka told Hitler, Ribbentrop, Goering and others after the arrival in Germany, I never personally attended the conferences between them and cannot say anything with responsibility. Matsuoka, however, told us from time to time of the conversations in an informal manner. I remember that Foreign Minister Matsuoka told me on those occasions that, although the question of Singapore had been raised by the German side, I could be well assured as he had made no commitment whatsoever.

Upon my return to Tokyo I reported this fact to War Minister Tojo and Chief of Staff Sugiyama.

2. As far as I remember, Ambassador Oshima attended only the first courtesy call of Mr. Matsuoka on Hitler and Ribbentrop. Whether Mr. Oshima was consulted beforehand or informed afterwards regarding the conversations of Mr. Matsuoka which he did not attend, I do not know. I know that relation

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between Matsuoka and Oshima in Berlin were rather cold.

I had in Berlin several conversations with Mr. Oshima. What I heard from Mr. Oshima was merely various information concerning Germany and the European War, and Mr. Oshima never expressed opinion with respect to political and military measures to be taken by Japan in connection therewith.

On this 29th day of May, 22nd Year of Showa (1947).

at the International Military Tribunal for the Far East, Tokyo.

Deponent: /S/ NAGAI, Yetsuji (seal)

I, SAIGO, Jugo, hereby certify that the above was signed and sealed in the presence of this Witness.

On the same date, at the same place.

Witness : /S/ SAIGO, Jugo (seal)

OATH

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

/S/ NAGAI, Yetsuji (seal)