

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.

- - Against -

ARAKI, Sadao, et al.

SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponent: TAKEDA. Hisashi

I, TAKEDA, Hisashi, having been duly sworn in accordance with the procedure followed in our country, do hereby depose and say as follows:

1. I am a former lieutenant-general, residing at Inamachi, Kami-ina-gun, Nagano Prefecture.

2. From December, 1930, to April, 1932, I was a staff officer of the Kwantung Army and well acquainted with telegraphic correspondence of confidential nature between the Kwantung Army and the central army authorities at that time.

After the outbreak of the Manchurian Incident, a document entitled "The Manchurian Incident: The Relations of the Despatch and Withdrawal of the Army and Navy Forces (Summary and Particulars of Operations of the Kwantung Army)" was prepared by the Kwantung Army Headquarters on the basis of detailed reports on fightings, which were drafted by me from time to time. The document was distributed in March, 1932, for the information of persons interested. I can identify the so-called IPS doc. # 1641 (a copy consisting of 25 pages in Japanese) as an exact reproduction of a part of the

said document. I can also identify the so-called Def. Doc. # 1838 as an excerpt from IFS doc. # 1641 and consequently as an excerpt from the said document.

Further, I confirm that the contents of 4 telegrams quoted in Def. Doc. # 1838 are the same as the original text of the telegrams received by the Kwantung Army headquarters on September 18th and 19th, 1931, from the Mukden Special Service Organ and the central army authorities respectively.

3. From August, 1933, to April, 1937, I was attached to the General Staff, Tokyo. During this period, I was ordered to compile a history of the Manchurian Incident. For such purpose, I collected necessary materials from all available sources, and in particular made copies of original telegrams, then kept at the War Ministry and the General Staff, by using several assistants. All copies and manuscripts thus prepared were held together under my care as chief of compilers. My last manuscript was completed in April, 1937, and submitted to the superiors of the General Staff. I heard that it was printed after the transfer of my post to the Infantry School at Chiba in the said month, but have not received a copy. I believe that all the prints and manuscripts of the History of the Manchurian Incident were burnt at the General Staff at the time of the surrender.

4. In the course of the said work of compilation, the descriptive parts of manuscripts were frequently revised on account of various opinions of persons interested, while the text of telegrams remained constant. Hence, I used to cut out from an old draft the parts containing the quotations and stuck them on to a new draft. Even after the transfer of my post from the General Staff, I had in my possession a considerable number of such copies of telegrams, but all of them (so I thought until recently) were destroyed or lost during

the period of almost continuous removals of my living quarters since 1937 and in the turmoil of war. Upon receiving, however, requests from the Defense of IMTFE, I made a thorough search of my belongings^{and} and found copies of 16 telegrams.

5. I identify Def. Doc. # 2048 A-P as the said copies of 16 telegrams, the copies which were prepared by me in the manner aforesaid during the period between August, 1933, and April, 1937, in the course of my duty as chief-compiler of the History of the Manchurian Incident. The copies are, therefore, in sundry forms, such as mimeographed (see A, B, C, D, F, G, L, M, N, O and P), typewritten (see E and I), and pencil-written (see H, J and K), according to respective drafts or manuscripts, from which they were cut out.

Referring to the telegrams in question, I hear that the records of the War Ministry and the General Staff are not available. If that is the case, Def. Doc. # 2048 A-P are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the only existing authentic copies as regards some of the secret telegraphic correspondence in the early stage of the Manchurian Incident.

On this 14th day of October, 1947.

Deponent: /S/ TAKEDA, Hisashi

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

Witness: /S/ KONDO, Giichi

O A T H

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

/S/ TAKEDA, Hisashi