

Masayuki TANI: Former Minister of Foreign Affairs; Ambassador to Nanking puppet regime.

1889 Feb	Born Kumamoto Prefecture. Married Sumiko, sister of Baron Tadamaru Shimazu.
1913	Graduated Tokyo Imperial University, Political Science.
1914	Entered foreign service.
"	Served in Canton, Hamburg and Holland
1918	Third Secretary, Embassy in France
1920	Second Secretary, same
1923	Counselor, Foreign Office
1923	Secretary to Foreign Minister
1924	Chief, First Section of Asia Bureau in Foreign Office
1927	First Secretary, Embassy in United States.
1930-33	Chief, Asia Bureau of Foreign Office
1933 Aug	Counselor, Embassy in Manchukuo
1936	Minister to Austria and Hungary
1938	Minister at large in China
1939	Nomination as Ambassador to France refused by French Government.
1939-40 July	Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs in Abe and Yonai Cabinets under Foreign Ministers Nomura and Arita.
1941 Oct-1943 Apr	President, Board of Information.
1942 Sept-1943Apr	Foreign Minister in Tojo Cabinet
1943 Apr	Ambassador to Nanking puppet regime.

Married into the Shimazu family, one of the two chief feudal clans responsible for the Meiji Restoration in 1968, which connection has undoubtedly been an asset in his career. (65)

Has spent many years either in China or in positions directly concerned with Asiatic affairs. While Minister at large in 1938 made an extensive investigation trip throughout China, after which he advised strong economic development in North China by means of mixed Sino-Japanese companies. Nomination in 1939 as Ambassador to France was rejected by French Government because he declined to withdraw his accusation regarding the transshipment of munitions for Chungking through French Indo-China. (75)

Has proved his willingness and ability to work with military authorities in promoting Japanese development in China. Served as Counselor of Embassy in Nanking for three years, whereas his predecessor resigned after a short time due to difficulty with the army in Manchuria. (134) Was Foreign Minister in Tojo Cabinet when formation of Greater East Asia Affairs Ministry, an army-inspired move, stripped Foreign Office of many of its most important functions, particularly in occupied areas. (65) As Chief of Asiatic Bureau of Foreign Office was "very thick" with Toshio Shiratori, jingoistic spokesman of that Ministry, whose utterances conformed with the militarists' aims. (4)

Changed places with Mamoru Shigemitsu, Ambassador to Nanking, when the latter was appointed Foreign Minister in April 1943 to implement his policy toward China.

Name: Tani, Masayuki, Head,
Asiatic Bureau, 1931

Record
1935

Title:

Source: Had lunch with Kido and others;

Mr. Tani told them his opinion that defensive action might be unavoidable in China according to developments in future.

Name: TANI, Masayuki

Record
5105-5110

Man. Sum.
Pg. 79

Title: President of the Information Bureau

Source: Tokyo Gazette, November 1941

Was a member of the Information Bureau which issued a document known as "Ten Years of the New State", which showed that Manchoukuo was to supply Japan with certain materials and products which she was short of, and showing a general economic enmeshment with Japanese industry.

TANI, Masayuki

Request by: OSHIMI, Hiroshi

Address: He is now in custody in SUGAMO Prison

This witness was Vice-Foreign Minister 1939-1940.

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TANI, Masayuki

Request by: OSHIMI, Hiroshi

Address: He is now in custody in Sugamo Prison

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REPORT BY: JOHN A. CURTIS
20 Feb 47

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SUBJECT: TANI, Masayuki

Curriculum Vitae on the above named subject is contained in subject's personal file No. 091, serial 036.

COPIES 4 File
1 Mr. Newbill

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND
Operations, CIS, G-2
Compilation Branch

SUBJECT: TANI, Masayuki

Born 1889. Career diplomat. His important posts include the following: Chief, First Section of Asia Bureau in Foreign Office, 1924; Chief, Asia Bureau of Foreign Office, 1930-33; Councillor, Embassy in Manchukuo August 1933; Minister to Austria and Hungary, 1936; Minister at large in China, 1938; Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs in ABE and YONAI Cabinets under Foreign Ministers NUMURA and ARITA, 1939 -July 1940; President, Board of Information, October 1941-April 1943; Foreign Minister in TOJO Cabinet, Sept. 1942-April 1943; Ambassador to Nanking puppet regime, April 1943.

TANI has proved his willingness and ability to work with military authorities in promoting Japanese development in China. Served as Counselor of Embassy in Nanking for three years, whereas his predecessor resigned after a short time due to difficulty with the Army in Manchuria. Was Foreign Minister in TOJO cabinet when formation of Greater East Asia Affairs Ministry, an Army-inspired move, stripped Foreign Office of many of its most important functions, particularly in occupied areas. As Chief of Asiatic Bureau of Foreign Office he intimately cooperated with HIRATORI, Toshio, jingoistic spokesman of that Ministry, whose utterances conformed with the militarists' aims.

When Foreign Minister of the TOJO Cabinet (Sept. 1942) he summed up his three basic objectives as: (1) closer cooperation among the Axis powers, (2) defeat of the United States and Britain, (3) Establishment of a new order in East Asia.

On the first anniversary of Pearl Harbor, speaking over the radio, he said: "There can be no end to the war until Britain and the United States are brought to their knees. Without the annihilation of America there will be no true Greater East Asia sphere. Therefore, the enemy's destruction must be carried out in a most decisive manner."

SOURCE: CIS Interrogation.

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20 Feb 47

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COPIES 4 File
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TANI, Masayuki - now in Sugamo Prison

Request by OSHIMA, Hiroshi

- (a) The nationality of the witness is Japanese.
- (b) Witness was Vice-Foreign Minister 1939 - 1940.
- (c) Witness will testify as to the activities of OSHIMA during his retirement in 1939 - 1940.

9 June 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Cunningham; Mr. Sutton
FROM : EDWARD P. MONAGHAN, Chief,
Investigative Division, IPS
SUBJECT : Defense Witness

1. Please find attached hereto list of material available on the following witness and/or witnesses.

DEFENDANT OSHIMA

The attached information has been taken from the compiled report prepared by MIS. The report was previously classified secret however this classification has been cancelled and at the present time does not carry any classification. It will be noted that much of this information has been furnished in curriculum vitae obtained from the Cabinet Secretariat's office.

WITNESS

TANI, Masayuki

LIST OF MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Info from MID report

2. Please acknowledge receipt of this memorandum by initialling and returning attached carbon copy to this office, Room 300.

Incl
(Described above)

E P M
EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

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FROM : EDWARD P. MONAGHAN, Acting Chief
Investigative Division, IPS

SUBJECT : Defense Witness

1. Please find attached hereto list of material available on the following witness and/or witnesses.

DEFENDANT - Oshima

WITNESS

TANI, Masayuki

LIST OF MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Record

1935

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(Described above)

EPM
EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

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Source: Had lunch with Kido and others;

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24 April 1947

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Investigative Division, IPS

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DEFENDANT - Oshima

WITNESS

Tani, Masayuki

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