

3179

Def. Doc. # 2116

Exh. No.

Translated By
Defense Language Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al.

Sworn Deposition (Translation)

Deponent : - KUWAJIMA, Kazuo

I, KUWAJIMA, Kazuo, of lawful age, being first duly sworn in accordance with the customs of my country, depose as follows:

My name is KUWAJIMA, Kazuo, and I was graduated from the Waseda University in 1906. In 1911 I passed the diplomatic service examination, entering the diplomatic service in the same year, and was still in the service in 1931, at which time I was Consul General at Tien-Tsin. I held such posts prior to and at the time of the Manchurian Incident.

As Consul General I collected certain information concerning the accused DOHIMARA, Kenji, ~~who~~ considered to be in connection with his actions with reference to the Manchurian Incident, and wired such information to the then Foreign Minister SHIDEHARA, or to the Chief of the Asia Bureau of the Foreign Ministry. Some of these wires were introduced in evidence by the prosecution as Exhibits 287, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 295, 296, 300 and 304 etc. In connection with sending these wires, and similar wires, I have been asked concerning the method I employed in securing the information therein contained.

In order to fully understand the situation, it is necessary for me to explain that there was disagreement and friction between the Foreign Office and the Kwantung Army regarding Henry Pu-Yi's coming out of retirement. The Army was acting independently of the Foreign Ministry and we received no official information from the Kwantung Army as to the activities of any of its members; and had no means by which I could do so. It may be possible that the Foreign Ministry was receiving such information, but as to that, I cannot say.

I, as Consul General, was far too busy to conduct any personal investigation of the actions of DOHIMARA and had to depend upon my subordinates to collect what information they could. They secured information from whatever sources were available, such as newspaper articles, conversations held with various people, both Chinese and Japanese, rumor, in short, any information which might tend to throw any light whatever upon the activities, in this instance, of General DOHIMARA. All this information was reported to me and I then sifted the information, and then drew my own conclusions. The conclusions which I drew comprised the contents of the telegrams which were introduced in evidence by the prosecution as having been sent from me to the Foreign Minister, or the Bureau of Foreign Ministry.

This was the only source of information I had, and with the great mass of information, it was quite impossible to check the authenticity of its source. I had to do the best I could under the circumstances as I had no further personal information.

As for my personal contact with the accused DOHIMARA, I recall that I met him on two occasions, at which time we exchanged merely social conversation. I was most favorably impressed by his personality. General DOHIMARA impressed me as a typical military man.

On this 12 day of May, 1947.

At Tokyo

Deponent /S/ Kazue Kuwajima (seal)

I, Kinjiro Ohta, 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 Tokyo.

Witness : /S/ Kinjiro Ohta (seal)

OATH

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

/S/ Kazue Kuwajima (seal)