

No. 2690

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DEF. DOC. #1132

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponent: SHIBAYAMA, Kaneshiro.

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached sheet and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country I hereby depose as follows.

From August, the 8th year of Showa (1933) to December, the 9th year of Showa (1934), I served in Peking as an assistant of the Military Attache to the Japanese Embassy in China. After the Manchurian Incident, the feeling between Japan and China was markedly threatening, but it was temporarily restored to tranquillity with the conclusion of the Tangku Agreement, and diplomatic relations between the two states began to proceed smoothly once again. This was indicated by the Dairen Conference relative to transportation and communication. The object of this Conference was the opening of transportation

and communication between Manchukuo and North China. In other words, it was nothing but to have diplomatic relations return to normalcy. The leader of the North China Regime at the time was Huang Fu, who was directly responsible for transportation and communication work. This, however, was so serious diplomatic problem that they could not successfully deal with it by disregarding the Nanking Government. Therefore, the North China Authorities received orders from the Nanking Government and in its behalf carried on negotiation. But the Nanking Government never did directly concern itself in it. That was because it tried to keep away from formally recognizing the independence of Manchukuo. In other words in these days the Nanking Government, as a matter of actuality, recognized her. I heard of this at the time from many Chinese leader. The diplomatic relations between the two states was in this manner gradually improved but the undercurrents of anti-Japanese feeling among the Chinese people never disappeared and remained vigorous as ever correlating with the secret activities of the Communists.

This was made manifest by the assassination of a pro-Japanese correspondent which took place in Tientsin in May, 1936 (Showa 11). Without eliminating such terroristic dark age administration or anti-Japanese current thought, North China

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could be made bright and peaceful and after all the rapprochement between Japan and China could not be expected. That is why Lt. General UMEZU made a proposal to General Ho Ying-chien in regard to the withdrawal of anti-Japanese forces from North China. Thus the so-called Umezu-Ho Ying-chien Agreement was signed. It aimed at nothing but getting North China to be a happy and peaceful place.

April 4,

22d year of Showa (1947)

at Tokyo

Deponent: SHIBAYAMA, Kaneshiro
(seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

at the same place,

on the same date

Witness: ONO, Kisaku
(seal)

OATH

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

SHIBAYAMA, Kaneshiro (soal)

Translation Certificate

I, William E. Clarke, of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the above certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

/s/ William E. Clarke

Tokyo, Japan

Date 14 April 1947