

1923 June 30	Raised to the 2nd pay grade.	Foreign Ministry
1924 June 30	Raised to the 5th rank of the higher civil service.	Cabinet
	Raised to the 1st pay grade.	
" Sep 15	Raised to the junior grade of the 6th Court rank.	
1925	The Regulations for commercial officials were abolished in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No.59.	
1925 Apr 1	Appointed Commercial Secretary of an Embassy. Raised to the 5th rank of the higher civil service.	Cabinet
	Raised to the 2nd pay grade. Ordered to serve in the U.S.A. Ordered to reside in New York.	Foreign Ministry
1926 Jan 8	Relieved of his residence in New York.	"
1925 Dec 26	Raised to the 1st pay grade.	"
1927 Dec 28	Raised to the 4th rank of the higher civil service.	Cabinet
	Conferred the 2nd pay grade.	Foreign Ministry
1928 Feb 2	Raised to the senior grade of the 6th Court rank.	
1929 Dec 28	Raised to the 1st pay grade.	"
1932 June 30	Raised to the 3rd rank of the higher civil service.	Cabinet
July 15	Raised to the junior grade of the 5th Court rank.	
1933 Nov 2	Decorated with the 6th Order of Merit with the Order of the Sacred Treasure.	
1937 Feb 3	Ordered to serve in Germany.	Foreign Ministry
" Aug 2	Raised to the senior grade of the 5th Court rank.	
" Sep 30	Granted an annual salary of 600 yen.	
" Nov 9	Decorated with the 5th Order of Merit with the Order of the Sacred Treasure.	
1938 Feb 16	Concurrently appointed Commercial Secretary of a Legation. Raised to the 3rd rank of the higher civil service.	Cabinet
	Ordered to serve in Sweden. Ordered to serve in Norway and Denmark.	Foreign Office

1938 Nov 14	Relieved of his concurrent post. Accorded the treatment of a Choku-nin rank official. Ordered to serve in England.	Cabinet Foreign Office
1938 Dec 14	Decorated with the 4th Order of Merit with the Order of the Sacred Treasure.	
1940 Sep 2	Relieved of his principal post at his own request.	Cabinet
1940 Sep 19	Raised to the junior grade of the 4th Court rank as an act of grace from the Throne.	
1940 Apr 29	Decorated with the Minor Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun, in recognition of his service in the China Incident.	

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI Sadao, et al

- Defendants -

A F F I D A V I T

SHUDŌ YASUTO

Having first duly sworn an oath as on the attached sheet, in accordance with the procedure prevailing in my country, I hereby depose as follows:

1. I entered the service of the Japanese Foreign Ministry in 1920. From February 1937 to December 1938 I served as commercial attaché in the Japanese Embassy in Germany. During the period (December 1937 to October 1938) that my service was under Ambassador Tōgō, there were two important problems of Japanese-German collaboration, on which I was officially informed of the Ambassador's views and actions, concerning which I am able to give testimony.

2. First of these was the question of strengthening the Anti-Comintern Pact or concluding a Japanese-German-Italian alliance. Ambassador Tōgō was consistently opposed to such measures, but the military attaché to the Embassy was working for them, ignoring the Ambassador, and the Embassy staff was well aware that General Oshima was negotiating directly with Foreign Minister Ribbentrop. Ambassador Tōgō's opinion on the question was often expressed by him to me, in the course of our almost daily conferences concerning my business of trade and commercial questions. My interest being in commercial and trade questions, the opinion which I expressed to Ambassador Tōgō was that Germany had become economically very strong and was closely connected by trade relations with the Eastern European countries as well as the Balkans, and that these relations were steadily becoming intensified and assuming a greater importance; and that if these relations developed in a section of Europe in which Great Britain traditionally had great interests, eventually the two would come into collision. Japan, if bound to Germany by a military alliance, would thus be drawn into a war with England--and of course the United States as well--which was none of her concern, nor to her interest. Ambassador Tōgō agreed with my opinion and expressed it as his view that Germany would eventually clash with Great Britain, Russia and other powers, and therefore deprecated the policy of aligning Japan with Germany as sure to involve Japan's ultimate embroilment in the quarrels of Europe.

3. In March or April 1938 the Naval Attaché of the Embassy sent a cable to the Navy Ministry strongly urging Ambassador Tōgō's removal on the ground that he was on bad terms with the German Foreign Minister and that his retention in the circumstances of the time, when it was necessary to promote Japanese-German cooperation, was not in the interest of the country. The cable stated also that the matter had been talked over with the Military Attaché. This became known to us when the content of the cable was transmitted from the Foreign Ministry to Ambassador Tōgō.

shall we try to hold Tōgō in charge of aggression

*Cross-examine
See to pt. Economic agreement with China*

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Do not object*

Cum gratia with 1 object 2 + examine

Upon learning of this the members of the staff were indignant, and, feeling that the conspiracy of Army and Navy to take over the Embassy could not be ignored, moved for the defence of the Ambassador and the Embassy. There was, however, little that we could do, and in the end the Ambassador was transferred from Berlin to Moscow, after only ten month's service in Germany. When he received the order for his transfer, he told me that he was being expelled from Berlin on account of his opposition in the matter of the German-Japanese-Italian alliance.

4. Soon afterward, I was ordered home. Leaving Berlin on 8 December 1938, I stopped enroute at Moscow, and talked with Ambassador Tōgō. He asked me about the subsequent development of the alliance problem, and I replied that it seemed that progress toward it was being made, though I was not familiar with the details. The Ambassador thereupon requested that when I should report to such responsible quarters as Premier, Foreign Minister and other ministers upon my return home, I should tell them that Tōgō was absolutely opposed to a German-Japanese-Italian alliance. Upon reaching Japan I did convey that message to several persons: I arrived in Tokyo on 22 December, and repeated Ambassador Tōgō's opinion to Foreign Minister Arita and Vice-Minister Sawada; to Welfare Minister Kido, on the 24th; to Premier Konoe on 31 December; and in early January to Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal Yuasa.

5. The second problem during my service under Ambassador Tōgō in Berlin was that of economic coöperation in China between Japan and Germany. Around February 1938 the so-called "Economic Mission", a Japanese Government mission which had no power to enter into agreements or negotiate directly, but only to assist the Embassy, visited Germany. It was at first the understanding of the German authorities that the mission was to conduct negotiations concerning a commercial agreement, but the fact was that the Embassy was to conduct the negotiations directly with the German Government, the mission having no official authority for that purpose. Meanwhile the situation in China had so developed that Japanese influence came to be dominant in North China; whereupon the military attaché to the Embassy, after consulting with the naval attaché and the economic mission but not with the Embassy, made to Foreign Minister Ribbentrop a proposal for settling the conditions of German trade in China. This proposal was that, since Japan had caused much difficulty to Germany in her China trade since the start of the China Affair, she would, now that she had occupied strategic points in North China, from that time give to the Germans equal treatment with the Japanese in that area.

6. Foreign Minister Ribbentrop, who had been put in a difficult position by the complaints of the Hamburg merchants concerning conditions in China, was very much pleased at this proposal. Thinking it necessary in view of the importance of the matter to make it into a formal agreement between the two Governments, he put it into the form of a memorandum, which he presented to Ambassador Tōgō around May, saying that it was desired to make the proposal of the Japanese in Berlin a formal agreement. Ambassador Tōgō replied that any proposal made by unauthorized persons could not be made the basis of formal negotiations; that he had received no instructions from the home Government about the matter, and therefore could not enter into negotiations on the basis of such a memorandum. Upon returning to the Embassy after the conversation on this subject with Foreign Minister Ribbentrop, Ambassador Tōgō called me in immediately and told me about it. I understood later from the Ambassador that Foreign Minister Ribbentrop was much dissatisfied with the Ambassador's attitude;

but after further conversations with the military and naval attachés, as well as the economic mission, Ribbentrop drafted and handed to Ambassador Tōgō another memorandum with the word "preferential" substituted for "equal", asking that it be transmitted to the Japanese Government. Immediately upon his return to the Embassy the Ambassador called me and told me about it. It being the second request, he could not refuse to transmit it to the Government; but we discussed the question and agreed that it was not possible in practice to give "preferential" treatment, and that therefore Japan could not make such an agreement, and this opinion of ours was transmitted with the memorandum to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo.

7. Owing to my being completely occupied for some time thereafter with the negotiations for conclusion of a commercial treaty to replace the then existing arrangements for trade between Germany and Japan, I had little acquaintance with subsequent developments in the matter of economic interests in China. I knew only in a general way that instructions were sent from Tokyo in the matter, and that negotiations continued; but it was my understanding that they showed little progress, and I know that no agreement had been reached regarding the problem of German trade in China up to the time that Ambassador Tōgō was transferred from Berlin.

O A T H

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

Shudō Yasuto

On this 4th day of March, 1947

At the Finance Ministry, Tokyo

DEPONENT: Shudō Yasuto

I, Katō Denjirō, hereby certify that the above statement was sworn to by the deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date

At Tokyo

Witness: Katō Denjirō (seal)

Translation Certificate

I, Nishi Haruhiko, of the Defense, hereby certify that I am conversant with the English and Japanese languages, and that the foregoing is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation of the original document.

Nishi Haruhiko

Tokyo
21 November 1947