OTA, Kozo

Request by: HIRANUMA, Kiichiro

Now in Sugamo Prison

Facts to be proved by witness will show the policies, utterances, actions and intent of HIRANUMA during time in which he is charged by the Indictment.

To establish that HIRANUMA took no part in any of the conspiracies charged to him; and was not in any way connected with the planning, initiating or waging of wars of aggression; and was furthermore in no way connected with the commission of any crimes against peace.

OTA, Nozo

Megnest by Akramima, Kindning

Mow in Sugamo Erison

Faits to be proven by withers well show the

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the Indictment

Any of the conspicuous charged to him; and was not in any way connected with the planning instating or waging of wars of aggresion; and was firsthismore in no way connected with the commission of any connected with the

OHTA, Koro

Request by: TOJO, Hideki

At present confined in <u>Sugamo</u> Prison

Was Education Minister in September 1945

Able to testify as a member of the Suzuki Cabinet and with regard to the understanding as to the terms of the surrender. The witness will also be able to testify regarding the fundamental principles of Japanese education and to the objects and purposes of military training in Japanese schools. Further he will be able to testify as to the nature and purposes of various organizations and associations.

OHTA, Kara

Request an Tojo, Hideli

at Present confined in sugamo prison

was Education minister in sept. 1945

as to the testify as a mancher of the Eugenicia Cobinet and with regard to the Understanding as to the terms of the surrender of the witness will also be able to testify regarding the fundamental principles of fore education and to the objects and purposes of Villary training in Jap schools, Justice by will be able to testify as to the rature and purposes of Various organizations and associations

OTA, Kozo

Request by: HASHIMOTO, Kingoro

Address: Sugamo Prison

He was at various times Chief Secretary of the Hiranuma Cabinet, Secretary-General of the I R A A, and Education Minister in the Suzuki Cabinet.

The facts expected to be proved by this witness are:

- (1) "KODO" or the "Imperial Way" was a principle which did not contemplate aggression.
- (2) The purpose of the Reform Movements, with which the defendant HASHIMOTO was connected, was to cleanse politics of corrupt influences.
- (3) The purpose and intent of the I R A A, with which the defendant HASHIMOTO was connected at one time, were not aggression, and other relevant matters.

The testimony of this witness is considered necessary in regard to Counts Nos. 1 and 2 and Appendices A (Section 6) and E of the Indictment.

Request by: HAZHIMOTO, Ringoro addres: Sugamo prison. It was at Various time, which secretary of the At polaries protection, secretary Several of the IRA P. and Education Munity in the sugues coling The facts expected to be proved by the witness are: (1) "KODO" on the "Imperial way" was a principle which did not contemplate aggression. (2) The purpose of the Reform mounts, with which the defendant Hashingto was connected, was to cleane politics of connex influences a (3) The purpose and I when of the IRAA, with which and no petremas sow atomisto H trabable put were not aggression, and extre, relevant Matters The testimony of this witness is considered becessory (costion 6) and E of the Indistingt

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

SUBJECT: OTA, Kozo

Radio Tokyo declared on 10 April 1945 that OTA is a close to Baron HIRANUMA, former Premier. Helped to organize KOKUHONSHA, patriotic organization with large membership headed by the Baron. Said by Domei News Agency in 1944 to be among Japan's most influential politicians, Member of Preparatory Committee charged with working out details of organizing IRAA in 1940.

SOURCE: Japanese Government Officials, 1937-1945, p. 110.

OTA, Kozo

Director of IRAPS and of IRAA: member of National Movement Liaison Headquarters, appointed 17 March 1944. Member of House of Peers. Born 1900. Chief Secretary HIRANUMA Cabinet, 1939.

SOURCE: Who's Who List
MOI, New Delhi, 15 May 1944

In September 1942, he accompanied HIRANUMA, Kiichiro, ARITA, Hachiro, NAGAI, Ryutaro along with about ten others to China representing the GEA Ministry Foreign Office, House of Peers and the House of Representatives. It was a good will trip in respect to receiving an ambassador from China. The length of stay was about one week.

SOURCE: Special Interrogation Report on OTA, Kozo, conducted by the Special Intelligence Div. of CIS, G-2, 13 Aug. 1946

PERSONAL HISTORY

Name : OHTA, Kōzo

Permanent Residence

and social status : Tokyo

Date of birth : 15 December 1889

Former status

Former name

- July 1921 Graduated from the Tokyo Imperial University, English Jurisprudence Branch, Jurisprudence College.
- 2 Jan 1921 Registered as an attorney attached to the Tokyo District Court.
 - Apr 1938 Became a professor in the Jurisprudence Department of Hosei University.
- 6 Jan 1939 Appointed Secretary to the Prime Minister, promoted to the 3rd Grade of the Higher Civil Service, and granted 1st Rank Salary.
- 16 Jan 1939 Promoted to Junior Grade of the 5th Court Rank.
- 7 Apr 1939 Appointed Secretary General of the Cabi- Cabinet net; promoted to the 2nd Grade of the Higher Civil Service.
- Appointed Councillor to the Planning
 Board; appointed as a member of the Central Statistics Committee; appointed as a member of the Committee for the Celebration of the 2600th Anniversary of the founding of the Empire; appointed as a member of the Education Investigation
 Committee; appointed as a member of the Plan Investigation Committee; appointed as a member of the Science Investigation

Committee; appointed as a member of the National General Mobilization Investigation Committee; appointed as a member of the Diet System Investigation Committee; appointed as a member of the Transportation Industry Adjustment Committee; appointed as a member of the Electrical Communications Committee; appointed as a member of the National General Spiritual Mobilization Committee.

17 Apr 1939 Appointed as a member to the Committee for the Preparation for the Building of Central Governmental Offices; appointed as a member of the Committee for the Encouragement of National Savings.

28 Apr 1939 Appointed as a member of the International Tourist Committee; appointed as a member of the Anti-Chinese Cultural Enterprise Investigation Committee.

			Central Governmental Offices; appointed as a member of the Committee for the Encouragement of National Savings.	
28	3 Apr	1939	Appointed as a member of the International Tourist Committee; appointed as a member of the Anti-Chinese Cultural Enterprise Investigation Committee.	Cabinet
1	5 Apr	1939	Promoted to the Senior Grade of the 5th Class of the Court Rank.	
10	May	1939	Promoted to the 1st Grade of the Higher Civil Service.	Cabinet
1	June	1939	Appointed as a member of the Civil Engineering Conference.	Cabinet
12	2 July	1939	Appointed as a member to the Major Rail- roads Investigation Committee.	Cabinet
22	2 July	1939	Appointed as a member of the Small Scale Industries Investigation Committee.	Cabinet
3	3 Aug	1939	Appointed as a member of the Temporary Committee Investigating Manchukuo Colonists.	Cabinet
28	3 Aug	1939	Appointed as a member of the House of	Cabinet

Cabinet 30 Aug 1939 His request for release from the office of Secretary General of the Cabinet granted. 28 Aug 1942 For the purpose of paying a return visit Cabinet to the Chinese National Government he was appointed as a member of the staff of the Special Ambassador. 14 Oct 1942 The above-mentioned appointment became defunct with the completion of the mission. 4 Dec 1943 Appointed as a member of the Committee Cabinet Investigating National General Mobilization. 29 Apr 1940 Decorated with the 2nd Order of Merit and the Order of the Sacred Treasure for his services in the China Incident. Cabinet 1945 Appointed Minister of Education. 16 Apr 1945 Promoted to the Junior Grade of the 3rd Court Rank. Appointed Chairman of the Committee 1945 9 May Investigating Textbooks. 16 June 1945 Dismissed from the Committee Investigating National General Mobilization. Cabinet Tender of resignation as Minister of 17 Aug 1945 Education accepted. Tender of resignation from the House of Cabinet 21 Dec 1945 Peers accepted. 24 Aug 1946 Under Article I of Imperial Ordinance No. 109 issued in 1946, he was designated as coming under the memorandum.

OTA, Kozo Request by: HASHIMOTO, Kingoro Address: Sugamo Prison He was at various times Chief Secretary of the Hiranuma Cabinet, Secretary-General of the I R A A, and Education Minister in the Suzuki Cabinet. The facts expected to be proved by this witness are: (1) "KODO" or the "Imperial Way" was a principle which did not contemplate aggression. (2) The purpose of the Reform Movements, with which the defendant HASHIMOTO was connected, was to cleanse politics of corrupt influences. The purpose and intent of the I R A A, with which the defendant HASHIMOTO was connected at one time, were not aggression, and other relevant matters. The testimony of this witness is considered necessary in regard to Counts Nos. 1 and 2 and Appendices A (Section 6) and E of the Indictment.

Carrion Cum 200700 Personal History date of Sec. 15, 1889 Name OHTA, Kaza To kyo for Residence and social status Hormes name Former social Graduated from the Takyo Imperial University, Jan 2 admitted to bar belonging to the Topyo District Enfloyed by Hosei University as professor of the furisperdence stept. 39 Jan. 6 appointed Secretary to the Prime minister, howed to the 3rd Grade of the Higher Civil Service and granted the let Frank Salary
Originated to General of the Salary Court Ronk
Oppointed Chief Scote Sary to the Cabinet in inster
promoted to the 2nd Grade of the Higher Civil Services Sprill appointed associate to the Contral Planning Board: and Committee of the Central Statistics Committees of the Contral Committee for member of the Contral Committee

Clucation Investigation Committee; appointed as a member of the Glan Investigation Committee, appointed as a member of the Science Investigation committee, appointed as a member of the National General Mobilization Investigation Committee; appointed as a member of the Diet System Investigation Committee; " Electrical Communications Committee; National General Spiritual Mobilization Committee. 1939 april 17 appointed as a member to the Committee for the Origination for The Building of Central Governmental Offices; as a member of the Committee for the Consuragement of Cabinet national Davings . 1939 april 28 appointed as a member of the International Fourist Cabinet Committee; appointed as a member of the anti-Calinet Calmet Chinese Cultural Entergrise Investigation. Calinet 1939 April 15 Promoted to the Denion grade of the 5th class of the Court Rank 1939 may 10 Promoted to the 1st Grade of the Higher Civil Scruice Cabinit 1939 June 15 Ceppointed as a member of the Civil Engineering Conference Calmit July 12 Appointed as a member to the Major Railroads Investigation

Los a member of the In Small and Scale appointed Committee of the Professioned manchonkeno Colonists, Investigation appointed, member of the House of Peerstee-The Peers Regulations from the office of Released of the above months of the office of Secretary general of the Cabinet granted. CABINET 42 ling 28 appointed as a member of the slaff of the CABIN national Governments Wasit The above - mentioned by the came defined out of the completion of the mession appointed Committee The mational 43 Doc. 4 General mobilization, Investigation

'40 years Decorated with the Ind Order of Merit and the Order of the Sacred Treasure for his services in the China Incident.

'45 year, T Cypointed Minister of Chication C CABINET 9.16 Promotest the Juneor Grade of The 3rd Court Rank may 9 appointed Chairman of The Committee Investigating June 16 Dismissed from the Committee Invistigating national General Medelystion CABINET '45 aug 17 Tender of Resignation as Minister of Education Cocyted CABINET '45 Dec 21 Tender of Resignation from the Houseby Geers accepted CABNET '46 aug 24 Under article I of Imperial Ordinance no. 109 issued in 1946, he was designated as coming under the memorandum,

1 May 1947

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Sutton; Col. Woolworth; Mr. English;

Mr. Dunigan

FROM : EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

Information in the form of a Staff Study compiled by G-2 has been included in the Investigative Case Files of the International Prosecution Section and is now available on the following witness.

OTA, Kozo

who has been requested by

HASHIMOTO HIRANUMA TOJO

E PM

EDWARD P. MCNAGHAN Chief, Investigative Section MENORANDUM FOR: Col. Woolworth; Mr. English; Mr. Dunigan;
Mr. Sutton
FROM : ELWARD 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 - HASHIMOTO HTRANUMA TOJO

The attached information has been taken from the compiled report prepared by

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

OTA, Kozo

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.

E PM

Incl (Described above)

EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

Kozo OTA: Minister of Education.

1889 Dec.	Born Fukushima Prefecture
1920	Graduated Tokyo Imperial University, law.
1933	Attorney defending participants in 15 May 1932 Incident in which Premier Inukai was assassinated.
1938	Professor of Law, Hosei University
1939	Chief Secretary, Hiranuma Cabinet
1940	Member House of Peers.
1942	Councilor Imperial Rule Assistance Association
*	Chief, General Affairs Bureau, IRAA
1942-45	Member Board of Directors, Imperial Rule
	Assistance Political Society (now dissolved)
1944 Mar.	Committee member for IRAA of National Movement Liaison Headquarters (a war-time organization).
1945 Apr.	Minister of Education, Suzuki Cabinet

Address: 57 Sekiguchi Dai machi, Koishikawa-ku, Tokyo

Radio Tokyo declared on 10 April 1945 that Ota is close to Baron Hiranuma, former Premier. Helped to organize Kokuhonisha, patriotic organization (now defunct) with large membership headed by the Baron. Said by Domei News Agency in 1944 to be among Japan's most influential politicians. Member of preparatory committee charged with working out details of organizing IRAA in 1940.

NAME OF WITNESS:

OTA, Kozo

REQUESTED BY : HASHIMOTO, Kingoro

DATE

2 April 1947

Completed as to Items 1 - 8.

Interrogated TANAKA, Ryukichi concerning this witness.

NAME OF WITHESS:

OTA, Koso

REQUESTED BY :

HASHIMOTO, Kingoro

DATE

2 April 1947

Completed as to Items 1 - 8.

Interrogated TANAKA, Ryukichi concerning this witness.

Document No. 2971

Page 77

OTA, Kozo

29-4-40

DATE CLASS OF DECORATION

Order of the Sacred Treasure, 2nd Class ACFIEVE ENT

RECOID ENDING
HINISTRY

Manchurian Cabinet Incident

1

Decorations

29 April 1940 - Order of the Sacred Treasure, Second Class.

Achievement

In connection with the Manchurian Incident. Recommended by the Cabinet.

OTA, Saburo

Additional information recieved from G-2

Present Address: 334 Hayashi Machi, Oi, Shinagawa-Ku, Tokyo.

Education:

1928 Graduated Law School, Tokyo Imperial University.

Career:

1940

3rd Secretary, Japanese Embassy to USSR.

President of the KORIYAMA Club of the TOHOKU District
Chamber of Commerce (FUKUSHIMA Prefecture).

Chief of the 5th Section of Political Bureau, Foreign
Ministry.

9 Dec 1943

Appointed Chief, 3rd Section, Research andInvestigation
Bureau, Foreign Ministry until Feb 1945.

Appointed Director of 3rd Department of CLO, dealing
with industries, currency, reparations, accounting,
supply, transport and communication.

Remarks:

On 23 Oct 1943 he made the following statement broadcast in Japanese to South America, concerning the establishment of the "Free Indian Government":
"It is most appropriate. It is the first government established by the hands of the Indians themselves... No compromise will be accepted until independence is achieved. Its objective is a march to Delhi. It will fight to the bitter end."

OTA is at present a member of the Russia Society.

-Document 1868-

Telegram from OTA to SATO. Check if this is the Witness. W

Document 1814

This refers to OTA, Kozo from the Japan Foreign Office. To Check decoration. Note his personnel record says he was not decorated for service in China.

OTA says on page 7 of the Interrogation of 23 January that there was another OTA in the IRAA and Kozo OTA, the Witness, was never Chief of the Genral Affairs Bureau.

Document 1814 refers to a parley in which some OTA was en- "J gaged which was held in China 17 to 19 January 1940 re establishment of a new Eentral Government in China. Find out if this OTA is the same as the Witness.

See Document 1814, page 2 of Knalysis Sheet reporting con- Norwestions between WANG KO-MIN and OTA and KITA 17-19 January William 1940 at Shanghai regarding establishment of new central government and Northern China Political Affairs Council. Meeting was held to give WANG KO-MIN preparatory understanding before his attendance at SHINTAO Conference to be held about 23 January 1940. The information revealed is set forth in the document.

Check if this is witness OTA.

2001868 - mit Kogo da

OTA (OHTA) Kogo

date	appointment	office attached to
b Jan 39	Sic, to P. M.	
7apr.39	Sec Len. of cabinet	cabinet
14apr 39	bouncillar, Planning Board. Member,	,,
	bouncillar, Planning Board. Member, Nat'l. Gen. Mobil. Invest. rom.	
289/239	member, anti-chinese cultural	
	Enterprise Tunist com.	
3 aug 39	Member, temporary com, investigating	
29 apr 40	Manchukuo colonists Decorated for services in China Frieden	1
28 aug 4/2	Member, staff of special ambassador to	
	pay return visit to shinese Mat I. Lo	rup.
4 Duc 43	Minter, com investigating NaVI. &	'n, '/.
	Mobilization	
7apr45	minister of education	
	minister of education see not page	

OTA, Kgo

1942, bouncillor and chief Gen Effairs

Buriau y I R F F but see file, says

This is not so 1942-45 member bocerd of directors IRAPS Mar 1944 committee member IRAH of Walif. Movement Liceison Hdg

OTH, Kogo diefnot testify for the prosecution. He has not testified for the defense thru 31 may 47.

Translated by the Dofonso Language Branch DEF DOC No. 160 International Military Tribunal for the Far East. The United States of America, et al) - Against -ARAKI, Sudao, ot al Affidavit (translation) OHT., Kozo, Affiant. I, OHTL, Közö, having first duly sworn according to the customary formality in this country, dopose and state as follows; 15 DEC 1389 - Born at Fukushima City. 1920 - Graduated at the Imprial University (British Law 3. From APR 45 to AUG 45 - Served as Minister of Education in the SUZUKI Cabinet. When the SUZUKI Cabinet accepted the Potsdam Declaration, I understood that war criminals in the said Declaration mount conventional war criminals according to existing international including noither leaders of the people nor high officials in important positions of the State who had no relation with the said conventional war crimes. SUGIMO Prison, This 5th dr.y of December 1946 OHTA, Kozo, Affiant.

DE DOC No. 160

The written oath

I swear according to my conscience to state the whole truth, concern nothing and to add nothing

OHTA, Kozo (Signed and Schlad).

DEF DOC No. 160 Sworn to and subscribed before me at the above mentioned date and place. SHIOBARA, Tokisaburo Witness.

Def. Doc. #160 CERTIFICATE I certify that I am the duly assigned Investigating Officer for the Defense Section of the Major "ar Crimes Trial, and that I was present on 5th December 1946 at the interrogation of OHTA, KOZO in Sugamo Prison. I further certify that the foregoing affidavit was interpreted and translated to me by MATSUSFITA, Masatoshi. Sworn to and suscribed before me this 5th December 1946. David ". Fersons, Cart. Inf. Investigating Officer, Translation Certificate. 1, Charles D. Sheldon, Chief of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation of the affidavit of OHTA, Kozo 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/ Charles D. Sheldon. Tokyo, Japan Date 2 Dec. 1946

Background-

OTA, Kozo, Serial 1 and 3:-

Born 1889. Attorney. Defended HOMMA, Kenichiro in the 15 May 1932 Incident in which Premier INUKAI was assassinated. Professor of Law at HOSEI University 1938. Chief Secretary in HIRANUMA's Cabinet 1939. Member of House of Peers 1940. Councillor Imperial Rule Assistance Association 1942-1945. Minister of Education SUZUKI Cabinet April 1945 - August 1945.

Close friend of Baron HIRANUMA; helped organize

KOKUSHANSHA, patriotic organization with a large membership

headed by Baron HIRANUMA; was said by DOMEI in 1944 to be

among Japan's most influential politicians. President of the

DAI NIPPON, war time religious patriotic service association.

No relative of OTA, Ichiro (189-9) Had no connection with the Government until he was selected as Chief Secretary in HIRANUMA's Cabinet on 5 January 1939. HIRANUMA's Cabinet dissolved 29 August 1939. OTA then became a member of the House of Peers until December 23, 1945. Knew HIRANUMA for twenty years.

5.15.32 Incident

According to his interrogation, OTA defended HOMMA, not Kenichiro who was ## one of assassins but who aided the movement by giving money to the clique of young officers who actually committed the crime.

In his interrogation of February 14, 1946, he said he knew HOMMA personally but had no business or political connections with him. He defended him just because he was asked to defend him and because he was a lawyer. OTA said he defended him on the grounds that HOMMA gave money to a Navy man named KOKA without knowing for what reason and for what purpose the money was to be used.

In an Affidavit supplementary to his oral explanation annexed to the interrogation of 19 February 1946, OTA explains the 5.15 Incident. He said that INUKAI was assassinated by several young naval officers (I read some place that while the navy officers were involved, they had to leave because of the outbreak of hostilities some place and it was only the army officers involved in the assassination. This would appear to contradict his statements).

In a summary regarding HOMMA from confidential sources this information is found. A special informant said that HOMMA was one of the persons in power behind TOJO. He was born in 1890 in MITO. He was active in Manchuria, Mongolia and Siberia. In 1928 he joined the reform movement of the state

and was finally implicated in the 5.15 case. He was released on parole in August 1937. He established the YAMATO and the Japan Clubs in April 1938 with the support of TOYAMA, Mitsuro; SHIRATORI, Taishio; TATEKAWA, Yoshiji; OTA, Kozo; MATSUI, Iwane and YASUI, Eiji (checked information in case 260, ser. 22) Attempted to Assassinate the dignitary of the pro-British faction in June 1939 but the plot failed and HOMMA was condemned to fourteen months imprisonement on August 24, 1941.

(Q & A of Interrogation 21 Feb wary 46 beginning with the 3rd question on p.3 and ending with the 2nd answer on p.4; also beginning with 1st question on p.6-all questions and answers)

- During the years from 1931 to 1941, when the Japanese Army was operating in China, an approval by the cabinet of a report which mentioned an amount for funds to be used by the army, meant that the cabinet as a whole, and each member thereof who may have approved of the allotment of funds, should be held responsible for any actions of the Japanese Army which might involve a violation of international law or conduct contrary to the customs of conducting warfare?
- I cannot say whether or not the cabinet should bear responsibility for the actions of the army, for the reason that they approved funds for the army. During the eight months I was Chief Secretary of the HIRANUMA Cabinet, funds had to be approved for the military forces in China for its existence.
- It was necessary, therefore, to approve of such funds for the purpose of maintenance of the Japanese Army in China irrespective of any operations that the leaders of the Japanese Army contemplated, is that not true?
- A During Premier HIRANUMA'S tenure of office, the cabinet did not approve of any more funds than were necessary for the maintenance of the military forces in China. Consequently, the military forces there did not launch any major operations nor expand much in strength during that time. It was Premier HIRANUMA's hope that he would find some means of ending the Incident whenever the opportunity presented itself.
- It has been reported that having never held an elective position and exerting consistent political pressure through his rich experience in extensive personal domination of the Japanese bureaucracy, Baron HIRANUMA is the dean of reactionary bureaucrats in Japan. What do you have to say to that?
- A Mr. HIRANUMA is not an extreme nationalist or a bureaucrat in my opinion, even though he has been misjudged as such by many people. As far as I know, he is a very brilliant scholar in Japan. As for Prince (Genro) SAIONJI blocking HIRANUMA from the premiership, that too is a misjudgment. While other influential politicians in the government circles paid friendly visits to Prince SAIONJI, Mr. HIRANUMA did not. Consequently, Prince SAIONJI did not know Mr. HIRANUMA well and could not recommend him to any high government post.

OTA, Kozo

From Interrogation of General DOIHARA, file 48, serial

9, page 29., 18 January 1946. General DOIHARA

THE HOUSE ME WOULD IN THE WOULD LIKE THE WOULD LIKE TO THE WOULD LIKE TO THE WOULD LIKE THE WOUL

That is all DOIHARA said.

Note that the name is spelled OHTA and the first name is not Kozo.

From Case file of SASAKAWA, Ryoichi, case file 185, serial 19, page 10.

He said OTA "was a subordinate of HIRANUMA. He received material aid from women. He was trusted by HIRANUMA. Also he was very closely connected with the Right Wing Group.

See Case 174, serial 48, file of YOKOYAMA, Yui for information on the IRAA. It is stated that OTA became a Member of the IRAA.

NATIONAL GENERAL MOBILIZATION LAW

In his interrogation OTA was asked why the National General Mobilization Law was passed during HIRANUMA's Cabinet, to which he replied:

- "A The national General Mobilization Law was passed for the purpose of preventing the degenerating spirit of the people. It had nothing to do with government administration or its policies.
- Q It is true, however, that such mobilization was necessary due to the increased Army and Navy expenses in carrying out the operations of the military in China, was it not?
- A This mobilization was strictly a spiritual one for the purpose of raising the morale of the people and had no connection, directly or indirectly, with the war in China."

(Citation p.5 of Interrogation of 21 February 1946.

I.R.R.A.

According to his interrogation of 23 January 1946, OTA said he was not a member of the Preparatory Committee which worked out the details of organization for the IRAA (TAISEI YOKUSAN KAI) in 1940. He said the first he knew about this organization was when he received an invitation by letter from Prince KONOYE. There were at the first meeting about fifty prominent business men and newspapermen and politicians, members of the House of Representatives and the House of Peers. This preliminary meeting was held about two months before September 1940. The speaker at the preliminary meeting was Prince KONOYE and upon being questioned as to the object of the organization KONOYE replied that it was "to promote a national spiritual monopoly" which KONOYE defined as follows: "The movement of this organization will be one of a moral uplift and unity in the national spirit and it will ## have no connections whatsoever with political parties or national policies." (Show that this was not true object. See interrogation of a witness during the early stages of the Prosecution's case for the distinction between IRAA and political societies as such). He further said that all members who attended the first meeting on invitation of KONOYE were called councillors to the organization. He also said that he had no other title except that of councillor.

IRAA (Contined p.2)

(Copied from OTA Interrogation February 19, 1946/p. 1 and 2)

"I. Regarding Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

"In the later part of the summer of 1940 I received a printed letter from late Prince KONOYE suggesting that he wanted to see me, together with many other people (about 50 in number) in his official residence. In our interview with the late Prince KONOYE, we understood that he intended to recommend us to the posts of Councillor of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association (Tai-sei yokusan kai)

As far as I understood about the nature of this association through the explanation of late Prince KONOYE, this Imperial Rule Assistance Association was not the monopolization of politics such as either Nazis in Germany or Fascist in Italy which identified the political organization of autocracy, but aimed at the establishment of the spirit of fulfillment of loyal duty of the imperial subject toward the Emperor, which had hitherto been the most outstanding moral philosophy of the nation ever since the foundation of this Empire.

This spirit of fulfillment of the loyal duty of the Imperial subject toward the emperor was interpreted in the way of mutual understanding between the public organization and the ration, so that the political highway in reciprocal comprehension should be opened to the both sides' opportunized opinion. In another word, this was purely substantial moral movement which emphasized the elevation of the national morality and the attainment of the ethical standard of the ration.

Nobody of the nation was dissatsified with the explanation of late Prince KONOYE, which was revealed thus before the nation and from this point of view, I, myself, as well as many other people, accepted his recommendation to the said post of councillor of this association in the full faith of the words of late Prince KONOYE as explained.

I was, then, seated on the membership of the Imperial House of Peers' and subsequently took this post of Councillor of the same association with those other people.

Among a large number of the councillors, there were many notable gentlemen such as the member of the Imperial House of Representativws and that of Peers or pressmen or scholars, or business men.

IRAA (Contd p.3)

These gentlemen had organized the councillors at the beginning of the establishment of this association.

The councillors assembly used to be held normally once or twice a month such as the first Thursday or the third Thursday, and this assembly was carried out generally for about two hours in the office of the IRAA and mostly the councillors reported the various kinds of the business affairs and they did not actually take part in the practice of the policy of this association.

Consequently, there were often some compalints among the councillors of their posts were only the nominal existence. I remember so now!

I did not even once make a public speech in regard to the policy of this association and was not paid even a penny from the association.

(Q & A of Interrogation 21 February 46 beginning with the 3rd question on p. 3 and ending with the 2nd answer on page 4; also beginning with 1st question on p.6 - all questions and answers.)

See case file 175, serial 48 for explanation by YOKOYAMA, Yui concerning the IRAA.

Page 2 of this explanation refers to OTA where YOKOYAMA said that OTA joined the IRAA.

IRAA (Cont'd p.4)

Information from War Politics in Japan, an article in the 19 May 1946 issues of "Stars and Stripes" describe the IRAA; IRAPS and the DAI NIPPON SEISHI KAI (Greater Japan Political Association) as three "secret terrorist societies which had previously voluntarily disbanded to avoid detection and as the "most victous of all undestrable organizations in this country." (From "Forward") However, "Forward" further states that "these societies were neither secret nor terroristic nor did they disband for the purpose of avoiding detection. They were basically political and patriotic organizations whose part in the wartime life of Japan was to gear the nation's politics and economy to the war effort. The TAISEI YOKUSAN KAI (IRAA) and the YOKUSAN SEIJI KAI (IRAPS) dissolved in June 1945 to give place to the newly formed DAI NIPPON SEYIHAI (Greater Japa, Political Association) which in turn dissolved at the end of the war when a new order in East Asia was established by the occupation. "Activity in one or more of these societies should not in itself be considered prime evidence of war responsibility but should be searched carefully as to the extent of that activity as well as in the light of the individual's actions in other fields."

"Moreover, it should be understood that according to the present interpretation of the purge directive as agreed upon by SCAP and the Japanese Government only certain key offices of the societies constituted a basis for purge."

In August 1940 KONOYE appointed a managerial council for preliminary discussion of the new structure movement. This group was later in August to form the so-called JOMIN KANJIKAI (Standing Secretariat). The formation of the Secretariat was immediately followed by the establishment of the SHIN TAISEI JUNEI IIN KAI (New structure preparatory committee) which consisted of representatives from various fields of government and national life. OTA, Kozo, a member of the House of Peers was on this committee.

Appendix B, of World Politics in Japan, page 32 contains the name of OTA, Kozo. Appendix B is the roster of Officials of the IRAA. According to the roster OTA served from April 1945 to June 1945. During this time OTA served as KOMON (Adviser). The registration also shows that OTA served under the heading SOMU (Member of the Board of Directors) during 1940, 1941, 1943, 1942 and 1944. Page 18 of the study "Special Report" said that those who were members of the KOMON (Advisers) or SOMO, (that is Members of the Board of Directors) were subject to being purged, that is, such positions constitute the basis for purging.

The Dai Nippon Wartime Religious Service Association

(From Interrogation of 19 February page 4 of Ex. A-1 all of V)

"I remember that, this association was established at the time of the TOJO Cabinet.

This was the organization for the liaison business between the department of education and the representatives of Christian group, Buddhist group, and the Shinto group, and it was regulated that every Minister of Education of each Cabinet should take the post of the President of this association.

Therefore, when I became the Minister of Education under Premier SUZUKI in April of 1945 I, subsequently, took the post of the president of the same association in the same month, and by regulation which urged the monthly assembly at the end of every month, I attended the same assembly of April at the end of the same month.

In this assembly, I made the brief inauguration address for the representatives by my admonitive attitude against such moral depreciation of the nation, and my encouragement of elevation of the moral philosophy with cooperation of these representatives of every religious group.

Ever since this April assembly I had no chance of attending the assembly.

I had such belief that the activity of relgious group should not be restricted by the authority of government and advised to the Vice-President of the Association, Mr. Masazumi ANDO, that he should encourage every religious group to make the best activity without refraining themselves from the governmental authority."

Mr. HIRANUMA had no concrete plans in regard to peaceful

settlement with China, but Mr. Hiranuma has expressed to

Did Premier HIRANUMA ever attempt to bring up before the

No, he did not. Mr. HIRANUMA expressed to me that since

because of the country's connection with Germany and Italy,

Why did the connection of Japan with Germany and Italy pre-

HIRANUMA said that before any steps could be taken to iron

out the China Incident there must be an understanding of

all the nations of Japan's true aims of forming a co-pro-

What was Premier Hiranuma's attitude towards the setting

Premier HIRANUMA regarded Manchoukuo as an independent

What was Premier Hiranuma's attitude regarding the state-

ment of the Japanese Government on Japan's future policy

-1-

it was impossible to solve the China Incident by itself

Cabinet plans or policies concerning China?

the whole problem must be solved together.

vent the settlement of the China affair?

up of the independent state of Manchoukou.

sperity sphere in East Asia.

me that even though he would have plans everything must be

brought up to the Cabinet members and approved by the Army.

A

A

Q

A

nation.

What he expects to testify to - Cont'd p.2

for the settlement of the China affair issued on November 3, 1938?

- When HIRANUMA became Premier he had no attitude or views of his own in regard to the China affair, but a policy that former Premier KONOYE had favored was followed through. I do not remember any statement of the Japanese Government on November 3, 1938. The statement of KONOYE which Premier HIRANUMA favored was published about December 22, 1938.
- Q Did you ever hear anyone in the HIRANUMA Cabinet speak at a Cabinet meeting or to you privately or officially as to whether or not they favored the operations of the Japanese army in China?
- Because the war had just started and Mr. HIRANUMA's policy was to continue those policies of Premier KONOYE there were no voices either opposing or in favor of the war in China. "

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In connection with the above questions and answers see Interrogation 14 February 1946, page 2, first paragraph and third paragraph. (Note that he brought Japan and Germany and the Tripartite Pact into the China settlement picture. Also note that apparently the interrogation of January 23 is an attempt to explain the dangerous remark made in the January 23 interrogation.

In the interrogation of 19 February 1946 OTA says that he thinks HIRANUMA had no desire to bring China and other Far East countries within the sphere of Japanese influence in connection with the development of Greater East Asia but, however, collaboration between nations of the Far East was desired. HIRANUMA did not believe that Japan should become the leader of the Far Eastern countries in co-prosperity sphere and believed that there should be prosperity for all countries." He also said that "during HIRANUMA's Cabinet's short term there was not enough time his for HIRANUMA to carry out the ideas in regard to having good

OTA-What he expects to testify to - cont'd p.3

relations with Japan, China and other Far Eastern countries."

OTA also said that he"thinks that the fundamental policy of the Cabinet during HIRANUMA's Premiership was the same as that anfiounced previously by Premier KONOYE in regard to affairs in China, but does not know whether HIRANUMA personally agreed or disagreed with such policy. OTA, himself, was opposed to the policy whereby the government of Janan took advantage of any benefits the Army may have obtained for Japan in China; further, HIRANUMA was also opposed to that sort of thing. The Cabinet did not receive intelligence reports and did not have full information as to what the Army was doing. If HIRANUMA had had full information he would have vigorously opposed the activities of the Army in China."

OTA also said in explanation of the Sino-Japanese War;

"This war broke out when late Prince KONOYE was the Premier of the Cabinet and the Cabinet under Baron HIRANUMA was subsequently organized.when I took the post of the Cabinet Chief Secretary.

Baron HIRANUMA felt it so regretful about the outbreak of the Sino- apanese war that he tried to exert his best effort to bring the perfect peace by wiping out the mutual misunderstanding. I think that he was trying to settle this serious problem in some opportunity by revealing the real feature of this war toward western counteies and the USA.

However, it hapmened to him that the Nippon-Germany alliance was brought into the actual problem of the Cabinet, for which government frequently held the five-minister-conference (Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, War Minister, Naval Minister, and Financial Minister).

As the result of this conference, the government issued the statement which proclaimed the suspension of the Ninpon-Germany alliance which was the focus of the discussion of the government.

This, consequently, induced the disorganization of the HIRANUMA Cabinet. Therefore, unfortunately, he lost a chance of negotiating the armistice with China.

So far as I remember the peace policy against China was often announced by this Cabinet in the Diet.

Mr. Zooman (?) who was the First Councillor of the American Embassy, should be well-informed about the foreign policy of Baron HIRANUMA."

What he expects to testify to (Cont'd p.4)

In the interrogation of 21 February 1946 OTA responded to the following questions:

- "Q In the book "Government by Assassination" HIRANUMA is characterized as a sincere unbeliever in political parties. What do you have to say to that?
- In a question to Premier HIRANUMA in the first Diet meeting in January 1939 as to HIRANUMA's thoughts concerning political parties, his answer was that he respected political parties. He had made many similar statements during his term of office. I believe that to be true even though Mr. HIRANUMA did not belong to any particular political party."

(Citation p.5 - 21 Feb 46 Interrogation)

(All of p.6 Interrogation of 21 February)

- "Q HIRANUMA said, according to his own words in a speech in th Diet, that he believed Japan should depend on morality and not on arms, and yet he has admitted that during 1939 Japan was increasing her armaments. What do you have to say to that?
- A I think what Mr. HIRANUMA meant by winning the war with morality rather than with arms is that the spiritshould be the basis of their strength. As for the increase in armaments in 1939 I believe that since such matters fall under the jurisdiction of the military, Mr. HIRANUMA considers it one of the prerogatives of military command. ("Tosui").
- How can your statement -- your previous statement -- that funds approved of during the HIRANUMA Cabinet were for the purpose of maintenance of the Japanese Army in China, be reconciled with your last previous statement in regard to the fact that the army may have wanted funds for and increase in armaments?
- A Because the prerogatives of military command are independent of government administration, I do not think that Mr. HIRANUMA could have meant to say about the increase of armaments.
- Did the cabinet, when it approved reports which included amounts for use by the army, know whether such amounts would be used for the maintenance of the army in Japan proper and China or for an increase in armaments?
- A The military leaders consider a detailed budget of the allotted funds to be secret, so only the total figure is mentioned in the report approved by the cabinet. When the report is approved by the cabinet members the general figures of the proposed allottment are presented to them so they have a general idea of how the money was to be used, but not much in detail."

SIGNIFICANT ENTRIES OF HIS PERSONNEL RECORD

January 5, 1939 appointed Chief Secretary of Cabinet.

April 14, 1939 Councillor of the Cabinet Planning Board.

August 3, 1939 appointed a member of the Provisional Council for settlers in Manchuria.

August 28, 1939 appointed Member of the House of Peers.

August 20, 1942 appointed as a Member of the suite of the Special Envoy to the R public of China to return the visit made by the KOUMINTANG Government of China.

November 3, 1943 appointed member of the General Mobilization Inquiry Commission.

April 7, 1945 aprointed Minister of Education in SUZUKI Cabinet.

KOKUHONSHA

(P. 2 of Ex A-1 February 19 Interrogation under heading II)

"II .- Explanation of the KOKUHONSHA

The KOKUHONSHA was established in July of 1924 and disorganized in March of 1936. This does not exist now any longer.
At the time of the establishment of this KOKUHONSHA, I was carrying
on the busines of attorney-at-law in Tokyo, and was in charge of
the compilation work of the monthly magazine "KOKUHON" which was
published from this KOKUHONSHA, but I did not occupy any post of
its directors or the leading member of this KOKUHONSHA.

Some of the people were apt to assume that the KOKUHONSHA was a kind of the organization which sloganized so-called Fascism in this country.

But this was quite a serious mistake and judging from the fact that Baron HIRANUMA was the most outstanding lawyer in Japan, who respected the maintenance of order of law, and he was personally a very moderate and humble gentlemen and he was also a conspicuous scholar of Confucianism— these were the well-known facts about him—it was not considered that he should agree with the Fascism autocracy which was supposed to destroy the order of the society and law and to ignore the moderation and to encourage the establishment of ultra-nationalism, inasmuch as he was the president of this Kukuhonsha, and as a matter of the fact, not even a sign of such disposition as autocracy was seen in the nature of the KOKUHONSHA.

This KOKUHONSHA was originally established for the purpose of getting rid of such materialistic ideology and corrupted thought that had been prevailed in the community at that time, for which Emperor issued the Imperial Rescript for the elevation of the national spirit under such chaos of the community. (Baron HIRANUMA, as the Minister of Justice, under Premier YAMAMOTO signed for this rescript in October of 1923.) This was, in another word, the revival movement of the moral philosophy of the community carried out by KOKUHONSHA.

Therefore, this KOKUHONSHA did not find any point to agree with the Fascism.

Kokuhonsha (Cont'd) p.2

(Type last question & answer on p.4 and question and answer on top of p.5 of Interrogation of 21 February 46)

- "Q It has also been reported that the KOKUHONSHA was ostensibly founded for the purpose of combattingdemocratic and leftist thought, chiefly amongst university professors and government officials. It soon passed beyond this rather elementary aspect and became a wide organization embracing the key members of bureaucracy, such as GOTO, Fumio, senior Army and Navy officers, and prominent business men such as IKEDA, Seihin. What do you have to say to that?
- A The purpose for which the KOKUHONSHA was established was purely to raise the morale of the people. In October 1923, right after the great earthquake, the Emperor issued a rescript for the purpose of raising the morale of the people. The KOKU*
 HONSHA was established to aid in the movement of raising the people's morale. The fact that men such as GOTO, Fumio, and IKEDA, Seihin, were in the organization does not have any significance as to the purpose for which the KOKUHONSHA was established, as there were many other prominent scholars and government officials in the organization also.
- It is also reported that through the wide interlocking connections of this reactionary society (KOKUHONSHA), the Japanese government leaders, certain sections of business leaders, and senior Army and Navy officers were able to fashion a peculiarly Japanese pattern of totalitarian control. What do you have to say to that?
- A That statement is absolutely false.

See case 250, ##### for an extract for Metropolitan Unit 80 files for confidential information on KOKUHONSHA.

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KOKUHONSHA (Society for national foundations) was established January 21. It is said to be the spiritualist organization in Japan. The majority of the members belong to military and judicial branches of the government.

In the 1936 Year Book of patriotic movements under purpose of organization, the following is stated:

(Case227, serial 1)

"Degenerate and superficial customs have taken the place of simplicity and strength, and a strange and radical thoughts have taken the place of quiet and respectful ones; morality is being destroyed, peoples' hearts become rough and their nature become imitative. The spirit of independence and innovation had been lost. Since the great fire of the past year, the national finances have become endangered, the national strength weakened. Unless we nurture the national spirit, make firm the basis of the nation, develop intelligence and virtue, and promote the essence of the national policy, there is no knowing what the future holds for the state or people. We humbly memorize the teachings of the former Emperor (Emperor MEIJI) and make obeisance to the words of the present Emperor (Emperor TAISHO)."

See Interrogation of YAHAGI 18 June 1946, an employee of KOKUHANSHA where he contradicts the statement of TAKEUCHI regarding the membership dues in the Society and other things.

MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. David N. Sutton

FROM : L. C. Dunigan

SUBJECT: OTA, Kozo -- witness

FOR : Central File

The above named person has been subpoensed to testify in behalf of HASHIMOTO, HIRANUMA and TOJO.

Mr. English, who is handling the accused HIRANUMA has agreed with me that he will prepare on OTA.

Copy to: Mr. English

1 May 1947

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Sutton; Col. Woolworth; Mr. English;

Mr. Dunigan

FROM : EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

Information in the form of a Staff Study compiled by G-2 has been included in the Investigative Case Files of the International Prosecution Section and is now available on the following witness.

OTA, Kozo

who has been requested by

HASHIMOTO HIRANUMA TOJO

E PM

EDWARD PL MONAGHAN Chief, Investigative Section

PROGRESS REPORT REGARDING WITNESSES

WITNESS: OTA, Kozo

DATE: 2 April 1947

	Partially completed	Completed
l. Information in the hands of the Investigation Division.		V
2. Statement in application for sub- poena as to subject of witness's testimony.		
3. Examination of case file, if any.		
4. Cross-reference file on case files in office of Investigation Division.		1
5. Cross-reference card file by subject matter of evidentiary documents in Document Division.		
 Reference in evidence to witness or to the subject matter of his testi- mony. 		
7. Preparation of summary of testimony already given by witness.		
8. Memorandum prepared by Mr. Lopez, dated March 11, 1947, relating to decorations awarded to defendants and their witnesses.		
9. Statement of any other investigation conducted by you.	n	

In. huylis

Cheek Subject Matter For enjoor to: Kokuhonsha 2270 J.R.A.P. 45100 358 25 Claning Board S.D. 376 national General Mobiles whon

HIRANUMA, Küchiro

Source-War Polities in Japan

SHIN THISE JUMBILIN KHI (Mew Structure Preparatory Committee) established in august 1940, ternong others from House of Peus was 0TH. It was dissolved on 17 September 1940, an 12 Oct 1940 THISE! YOKUSHN KHI (IRITH) was started, with members of dissolved which forming mucleus 17 the officers and among its dims were "to cooperate in the establishment of the Earl Asia eo-prosperity sphere" p. le, 7.

The dissolved committee ex was also known as New Political Arder Preparation committee and constitute a basis for purge p 11

OKA was an echisor (KOMON) in IRAA from april-fune 1945 p 32 and a general business manager, or executive (SOMU) from 1940-1944 ille, p 33 other references are on pp 45, 65, 74, 87 but they do not add to the above information Suggested cross-exam of OTA, Kozo

This determined that he was really a member of IRAFA and IRAPS, question him with reference to offices held in same by reason of their known activities and objectives. This will go to his credibility and also to the part HARAH HIRANUMA had in same.

Hind out about his activities and the general activities of the Planning Board