

22 Sep 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Sutton; ✓ Mr. Comyns-Carr
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

ARAKI

WITNESS

SASA, Hiroo

LIST OF MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Curriculum Vitae

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

Incl
(Described above)

EP M
EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: SASSA Hiroo (SASA)
Born: January 23, 1897
Birth Place: No. 433, Shinyashiki-Machi, Kumamoto-City, Kumamoto Prefec.
Present Address: No. 219, 1 Chome, Nozawa-machi, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo-to.
Permanent Domicile: No. 219, 1 Chome, " " "
Electoral District: The whole country
Party belong to: None (a member of Ryokufu-kai)
Profession: A member of the House of Counsellors, a lecturer at Kyushu Imperial University and the President of Kumamoto Nichinichi Shimbun-Sha / the president of the Newspaper office, "Kumamoto Nichinichi"/

* * * * *

School Career

1914 Mar 30 Graduated from the 4th Metropolitan Middle School.
1917 Jul 1 Graduated from the 5th Government Higher School.
1920 Jul 10 Finished the political course at the Law College of Tokyo Imperial University.

Profession Career

1920 Jul 17 Commissioned Helper at the Law College of Tokyo Imperial University . Tokyo Imperial University
1920 Nov 2 Appointed Assistant of Tokyo Imperial University Month Salary ¥60. Assigned to serve at the Law College.
1921 Apr 23 Given charge of the affairs of the Foreign Office. Foreign Office
Supplied ¥60 a month. Assigned to serve at the Second Section in the Bureau of European and American Affairs.
1921 Dec 23 Raised to the 7th pay grade.
1922 Apr 30 Relieved of current post at own request.
1922 Jun 23 Ordered to stay in England, France and Germany for 2 years in order to study political sciences and histories. The Department of Education

1922 Jul 18	Granted ¥780 a year as a family allowance.	
" " 21	Started.	
1924 Nov 22	Returned Home.	
" Dec 17	Appointed Professor of Kyushu Imperial University.	Cabinet
	Conferred the Sixth Rank of the Higher Civil Service.	
" " "	Entered the 9th pay grade.	The Department of Education
	Ordered to serve at the Law College and to take charge of a chair on the political science.	
1924 Dec 27	Conferred the Senior Grade of the 7th Court Rank.	The Department of Imperial Household
1925 Mar 27	Commissioned Examiner of candidates for admission to the Law College in 1925.	
" Oct 16	Appointed trustee for the library attached to Kyushu Imperial University.	
1926 Aug 30	Raised to the 8th pay grade.	The Dep. of Education
" Dec 20	Relieved of trustee for the library attached to Kyushu Imperial University.	Kyushu Imperial University
1927 Jan 1	Promoted to the 5th Rank of the Higher civil service.	Cabinet
1927 Jun 15	Promoted to the Junior Grade of the Sixth Court Rank.	"
1928 Apr 24	Raised to the 7th pay grade.	The Department of Education
	Relieved of current post at own request.	Cabinet
1934 Mar 1	Entered the Tokyo Asahi Newspaper Office and ordered to serve at the Editorial Department.	
1935 Jun 20	Appointed editorial committee of the Osaka Asahi Newspaper Office. (served in Tokyo)	
1936 Jun 1	Appointed editorial committee of the Tokyo Asahi Newspaper Office.	

- 1940 Oct 1 Concurrently appointed Manager of the Central Investigation Society.
- 1942 Jul 10 Appointed subeditor.
- 1943 Dec 12 Appointed chief editorial committee, the editor system having been abolished and reorganized.
- 1945 Mar 12 (By the reorganization and the change of name)
-Appointed chief-writer of the "Editorial Committee Room."
- " Nov 1 Appointed councillor of the Asahi Newspaper Office. (served in the Tokyo Main Office)
- 1946 Oct 15 Commissioned lecturer in the Law and Literature Colleges of Kyushu Imperial University.
- 1947 Mar 17 Confirmed as a person competent for public office.
- " 21 Certificated as a candidate for whole country member of House of Counsellors.
- 1947 Mar 24 Relieved of current post of the Asahi Newspaper Office at own request and became a friend of the office.
- " May 1 Certificated to be elected as a member of the House of Counsellors.
- " Jul 8 Installed president of the Kumamoto Nichinichi Newspaper Office.

Translated by Seiichi OHTA

Curriculum Vitae

Name: SASSA Hiroo (SASA)

Born: January 23, 1897

Birth Place: No. 433, Shinyashiki-Machi, Kumamoto-City,

Kumamoto Prefecture

~~Permanent~~ ^{Present} Address: No. 219, 1 Chōme, Nozawa-Machi,

Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo-To

~~Permanent~~ ^{Permanent Domicile:} ~~Address:~~ No. 219, 1 Chōme, Nozawa-Machi,

Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo-To

Electoral District: The whole country

Party belongs to: None (a member of Ryōkufū-kai)

^{Re House of Councillors}Profession: A member of the ~~Upper House~~ ^{House}, a lecturer at

Kyūshū Imperial University and the President of Kumamoto

Nichinichi Shinbun-Sha / the president of the newspaper office, "Kumamoto Nichinichi"

SHANSHAIKWAN

Japanese aggression at 2870

SHANTUNG PROVINCE

Atrocities in 4630-8
 Burning matches on delicate parts of body 4638
 Burning of villages 4637
 Compulsory sexual intercourse 4638
 Forcing water into nostrils 4637
 Massacre of women and children by sword 4634
 Opium and narcotic policy of Japanese 4631-4
 Prisoners bitten to death by hungry dogs 4637
 Starvation of 1000 noncombatants 4635
 Torture by burning 4638
 Torture by electric current 4637

SHIDEHARA, Kijuro

Advised of PU-YI's movements 4400
 Cabinet action in Manchuria Incident 1388-95
 Comments on PU-YI's position in Manchukuo 4392-4
 Connection with MINAMI 1334-8
 Informed of DOIHARA's actions re PU-YI in
 Tientsin 4394
 Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1931 1318
 Privy Council and Cabinet lack of control
 of Army 1377
 SAGOYA, assassination of HAMAGUCHI by 1345-7
 SHIGEMITSU, no knowledge of Manchurian plans 1365-7
 SHIRATORI, service under SHIDEHARA 1356-7
 Statement of Japan's policy relative to USSR 7326-8
 Testimony 1318-98
 WAKATSUKI Cabinet, fall of 1342-5; 1362

SHIGEMITSU, Mamoru

Agreement for cessation of hostilities 7785
 Agreement with LITVINOV re Changkufeng 3685-96
 Comments on Anti-Comintern Pact 7877-8
 Conversation with Mr. CHURCHILL re Tri-Partite
 Pact and Japan's position as to Britain 9835-7
 Desire to establish a new world order 8066
 Motion to dismiss 16,557
 Offices held, Exh 123 775
 Part in Anti-Comintern Pact 7251-60
 Present at meeting of Greater East Asiatic
 Nations which declared policy of libera-
 tion from British-American domination 12,098-101
 Prosecution's answer to motion to dismiss 16,895
 Speech at Diet Session 21, Jan 45 asserting
 Japanese war aim as international justice 8068
 Speech on occasion of 3rd anniversary of
 Tri-Partite Pact 8061-2
 Talks with LITVINOV on border disputes
 between USSR and Manchuria 7759-66;
 7817-27

School Career

- 1914 Mar. 30 Graduated from ^{the Metropolitan} 4th City Middle School
- 1917 July 1 Graduated from ^{the Government} 5th Higher School
- 1920 July 10 Finished the political course at the Law College
of Tokyo Imperial University

Profession Career

- 1920 July 17 Commissioned ^{Helper} ~~assistant~~ employed as a helper at the Law College of Tokyo
Imperial University Tokyo
Imperial
University
- " Nov. 2 Appointed Assistant of Tokyo Imperial University
serve at
Month Salary ¥ 60 Assigned to the Law College.
- 1921 Apr. 23 Given charge of ^{affairs} ~~business~~ of the Foreign Office. Foreign
Office
Supplied ¥ 60 a month. Assigned to serve at
the Second Section in the Bureau of European and Ame-
rican Affairs

SHIGEMITSU, Mamoru (cont'd)

Telegram by MATSUMOTO concerning ultimatum
to Gov-Gen of Indo-China to seize
total control by Japanese Army 7169-72

SHIMADA, Shigetaro

Advocate of expansion and leadership in
Greater East Asia 16,183
Advocate of Greater East Asia under
dominance of Japan 16,183-86
Approved issue of military currency notes
for use in countries to be attacked 8446
Familiarity with conferences re war with US
and approval of decisions made 10,519
Influence in political matters 11,359
Knowledge of the Yamamoto Plan to attack
Pearl Harbor 10,194
Motion to dismiss 16,569
Movement of task force known by him 10,422
Offices held, Exh 124 778
Participation in preparation for Pearl
Harbor attack 10,194
Present at meeting of Greater East Asiatic
Nations which declared policy of libera-
tion from British-American domination 12,098-101
Prosecution's answer to motion to dismiss 16,900

SHIMIZU, Konosuke

HASHIMOTO's connection with March Incident 1403-8
KOISO's connection with March Incident 1403-8 et seq
March Incident 1402-4
Testimony 1399-1438

SHIPPING, ATTACKS ON See also Submarine Activities

Destruction of USSR vessels by bombing
or otherwise 8042-54
Detention of USSR vessels 8035-41
Efforts to hamper Soviet trade with US 8032-3
Interference by Japan with USSR shipping 8023
Japan's answer to protests 15,177
Measures taken by Japan to tie up USSR
navigation 8026-31
OSHIMA states that he opposed murder of
ships' crews 15,196
OSHIMA's testimony that Japan used German
methods in submarine warfare 15,185-95
Protests on attacks on shipping 15,153-75;
15,182-83

1921 Dec 23 Raised ^{to} the 7th pay grade

1922 Apr 30 Relieved of current post at own request

1922 Jun 23 Ordered to stay in England, France and Germany

The
Department of
Education

for 2 years in order to study political sciences and

histories

" July 18 granted ¥ 780 a year as a family allowance

" " 21 Started

1924 Nov 22 Returned home

" Dec 17 Appointed Professor of Kyushu Imperial Univer-

the
Cabinet

sity

Conferred the Sixth Rank of the higher civil

service

" " " Entered the 9th pay grade

Dep.
of
Education

SHIRATORI, Toshio

Agreement with German view on Pact	6115-24
Ambition to exercise far-reaching influence	6265
Analyzes strength of axis vs US and Britain, 1 Jun 42	16,012-26
Approves doctrine that Emperor's virtues must extend to entire universe	16,019
Ardent apostle of military collaboration with Axis, to further Japan's expan- sion in Asia	16,029-68
Ardent exponent of coalition with Axis Powers	16,002
Attack on Singapore planned by	6430-4
Collusion with OSHIMA to secure Tri-Partite Agreement	16,003-11
Comments on Japan's USSR policy	7884-7
Connection with STAEMER and OTT	6152-3
Diplomatic Councillor in Foreign Office 28 Aug 40	6270
Emperor is the incarnation of God	16,025
Greater East Asia is divine will of God	16,024
Holds Japanese superior to all foreigners	16,022
Leader in establishing Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere	16,002
Member of 24-man Commission for Foreign Political Matters	6439
Motion to dismiss	16,574
Negotiations for extension of Anti-Comintern Pact	6098-6102
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Part in conclusion of German Alliance	6082; 6092-3; 6093-7
Prosecution's answer to motion to dismiss	16,912
Return to Japan to work on forcing the Pact	6129-30; 6141
Served under SHIDEHARA	1356-7
Views on Greater East Asia	3778-9; 3827-31
Views on Tri-Partite Pact	6406-11

SINGAPORE

Atrocities at Alexandra Hospital, including bayoneting and shooting	12,904-6; 12,908
Atrocities at Havelock Road Camp	12,911
Atrocities at Military Gaol	12,912-13
Atrocities at Outram Road Gaol	12,915-27
Atrocities committed at Changi	12,932; 12,936-43; 12,894-902
German naval plans for Japan's seizure of Singapore	6474-6

Ordered to serve at the Law College and to take
charge of a chair on the political science

1924 Dec. 27

Conferred the Senior Grade of the 7th Court Ranks

the Depart-
ment of
Imperial
Household

(Paper 2)

1925 Mar. 27

Commissioned ^{Examiner of} ~~selection~~ Committee on the

Kyushu
Imperial
University

~~examination to the~~ candidates for admission to the

Law College in 1925

" Oct. 16

Appointed a trustee for the library attached

to Kyushu Imperial University

1926 Aug. 30

Raised to the 8th pay grade

the
Dep.
of
Education

" Dec. 20

Relieved of trustee for the library attached to

Kyushu
Imperial
University

Kyushu Imperial University

1927 Jan. 1

Promoted to the 5th Ranks of the higher civil service

the
Cabinet

1927 Jun. 15

Promoted to the Junior Grade of the Sixth Court Ranks "

SMYTHE, Lewis S.C.	
Mistreatment of Chinese in 1937 in Nanking	4457
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Sec of International Comm Nanking	
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Control of opium traffic threatened by	
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establish Opium Monopoly Bureau	15,858
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under DOIHARA	15,855-77;
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DOIHARA, Chief of, in Mukden 1934-35	15,929; 15,934
ISHIHARA, Kanji, Chief of in Mukden 18 Sep 31	15,857
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victim with water distending stomach	
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immediately after sentence	13,408-09
Lt R.G. WELL's statement as to atrocities	
committed at Camp Sandaken	13,404-09
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Sandaken, 8 mile camp, atrocities described	13,346; 13,367
Six survivors out of 2731 originally	
taken prisoner at Sandakan	13,383
Skulls of skeletons found were bashed	13,400
Striking head with hammer	13,407
Testimony	13,344-403
War Graves Unit recovered 280 bodies over	
100 miles on road taken on the march	13,385
STIMSON, Henry L.	
Affidavit of	10,068-83

- 1928 Apr. 24 Raised to the 7th pay grade th
Dep. of
Education
- " " " Relieved of current post at own request th
Cabinet
- 1934 Mar. 1 Entered the Tokyo Asahi Newspaper Office and
ordered to serve at the Editorial Department
- 1935 Jan 20 Appointed editorial committee of the Osaka
Asahi Newspaper Office (served in Tokyo)
- 1936 Jan. 1 Appointed editorial committee of the Tokyo
Asahi Newspaper Office
Concurrently
- 1940 Oct. 1 Appointed Manager of the Central Investi-
gation Society concurrently
- 1942 July 10 Appointed subeditor
- 1943 Dec. 12 The editor system ^{having been} abolished and reorganized Appointed chief
editorial committee, ~~by~~ new system.

STUBBS

Food at camp was deteriorated and wormy rice	12,747
Men were treated like criminals	12,752
No regular trials given before punishment	12,772
16% of Americans at Camp O'Donnell died in 5 to 6 weeks	12,746
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22% died during their stay at Cabanatuan Camp	12,746

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Atrocities committed by crews against survivors of torpedoed merchant ships	15,088
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Commercial arrangements with Indo-China to be secured under pretext of equivalent advantages to France	7141-5
Compel Britain to remove defense installa- tions on Singapore on pretext she is aiding CHIANG Kai-Shek	11,724
Economic negotiations with Netherlands, a move to take oil resources	11,755
Lawfulness of advance into China to be propagandized	2277-8
March Incident pretended to be suspended	15,586
Negotiations with US to be continued "for sake of strategy"	10,690
Occupation of bases in southern Indo-China needed for military advance into Netherlands	11,753
Outward control in Manchuria of Manchukuo, a pretense for substantial control by Japan	2903
Reopening of previous negotiations with NEI authorities for purpose of concealment of intentions	11,936

SUIYUAN PROVINCE

Atrocities in	4660
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SUMATRA

Airmen making forced landing were thrown back into flames and burned to death	13,601
Australian Trade Commissioner, Mr. Bowden, killed without trial	13,597

1945 Mar. 12 (by ^{the} reorganization and ^{the} change of name)

— Appointed chief-writer of the Editorial Committee Room

" Nov. 1 Appointed councillor of the Asahi Newspaper Office (served in the Tokyo

Japan Office)

1946 Oct. 15 Commissioned lecturer in the

Law and Literature College of Kyushu

Imperial University

1947 Mar. 17 Confirmed as a ~~person~~ ^{person} passed

competent ~~the inspection~~ for public office

" " 21 Certificated as a candidate for

~~councillor~~ ~~a selected member of the whole country~~ ^{councillor member} of

the (House) of Councillors.

WILD, Cyril E.D. (cont'd)

Burma-Siam Railway (cont'd)

Deaths of prisoners tabulated	5568
Epidemics	5552
Journey to Burma. Mistreatment of men	5445-63
Medical supplies	5581-2
Preparation for invasion of India	5434
Prisoners of war worked on construction	5434
Sick forced to work	5472
Changi Prison conditions	5359-60; 5373
Atrocities	5384
Construction of military airdrome	5390
Mistreatment of sick	5385
Received prisoners who were dying	5430
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Reports from field officers	5671-81
River Valley Road accommodations	5374
Atrocities on prisoners	5381
Dysentery	5376
Overcrowded conditions	5376
Shooting of Chinese	5366-7; 5370
Singapore massacre in hospital	5398-5401
Singapore atrocities	5414
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Testimony	5351-5846

WILLIAMS, John M.

Conditions in Batevia Jail, Singapore, Rangoon described	12,997-13,007
Many deaths from cholera, other diseases, overwork and lack of medical care	13,006
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WILSON, Robert O.

Bayoneting	2538
Cause of wounds of patients	2553
Continuance of incidents for 6 or 7 weeks	2538
Cross-examination	2551-5
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Doctor in University Hospital, Nanking in 1937	2531-2
No resistance to Japanese entry	2533
Opium sales	2547; 2648-59; 2668-95
Rape	2536-7
Shooting of group of men at Yangtze River	2536
Testimony as to injured persons	2534-6

1947 Mar. 24 Relieved of current post of the Asahi Newspaper
Office at ~~his~~ own request and ~~turned to~~ ^{became} a friend
of the office.

" May 1 Certificated to be elected as a member of the
~~News Staff~~ Counsellors

" July 8 Installed president of the ^{Nichinichi} Kumamoto News-
paper Office

Japan, China and Manchukuo	5341-50
LOPEZ, Pedro	
Opening statement on Philippine Phase	12,348-77
LUKOUCHIAO (MARCO-POLO BRIDGE) (WAN PING) INCIDENT	
GOETTE, John, testimony	3722-3850
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WANG, Len-Ch'ai, testimony re	3315-51
LYTTON REPORT	See also Special Studies #19, "Index to Lytton Report"
soon to be issued	
Bombing of Chinchow	2248-51
CHANG Tso-Lin activities	1744-53
Condemns Japan's action	2855-64
Discussion of Report by Assembly	2868-87
Disposition of Japanese forces	2256
Evacuation of Manchuria by CHANG Hsueh-liang	2257
Government of Manchukuo	2847-55
Japanese aggression at Shanhaikwan	2870
Japan's claim to a special position	1764-70
Japan's interest in China	2434
Japan's interest in Jehol	2263-4
Lack of Central Govt authority in China	2425
Manchuria problems	1737-43
Manchurian aggression	2754-83
Manchuria's relations with China and Japan	1755-63
Mukden Incident	1693-1719
Nonni River Bridges	2249-50
Occupation of Harbin	2257-8
Recommendations of Assembly	2887-92
Tientsin disturbances	2251-53

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

Def. Doc.# 2578

EXHIBIT # _____

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al)

vs)

ARAKI, Sadac, et al)

AFFIDAVIT



1. My name is S.A.S.A., Hiroo. I am living now at No. 219, 1-chome, Nozawa-machi, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo.
1. At present I am a member of the House of Councillors and I belong to the RYOKUFUKAI Party.
1. My relation with Mr. ARAKI, Sadac is such that we have never met each other by this time, except only once when at the occasion of a wedding ceremony of the daughter of my friend Mr. SHIMA, Ichiro, we were among the same company.
However, I feel it my duty as a critic and a historian to lay bare the truth about Mr. ARAKI which I heard directly from Prince KONOYE, Fuminare and other people, and also the historical facts which were contained in the Political Chapter of the Annual Report of the Chuo Koron, and which were written by me from December, 1933 and published on the 1st of January, 1934.
Due to my publication entitled "Indigence of Politics" and scores of other historical, commentarily or critical books on politics and on matters concerning politics which I had written with an object of criticizing Fascism and thereby to restraint the military clique, I was regarded by the army circles to be an undersirous scholar and a critic. But I can say this that all the historical facts in those books were written as they were, and my argument and criticism was based on those historical facts.
Never had I once resorted to such despicable attitude of distorting the facts for the sake of using it as the means of attack.
Consequently, the Part I of my following statement contains the historical facts which I wrote on the aforementioned "Annual Report of the CHUO KORON", and Part II, the historical facts contained in my book "Tragic History of Political Affairs of SHOWA" and which had hitherto not been made public. In Part III, I shall relate some social facts which I had learned in connection with Education Minister ARAKI's attitude toward one or two incidents which took place in publishing world and academic circles.

Part 1. 1. In connection with the "Annual Report of the SHUO KORON."

In January, 1933, when the committee meeting of the League of Nations on the Manchurian Incident showed hopelessness of coming to an agreement of a

compromising negotiation based on the provisions of Paragraph 3, of Article 15 of the Regulation, revealing at the same time a marked tendency that Japan had to submit herself to moral accusation as the result of preparation by the said committee of a report with a recommendation, based upon the provisions of Article 4 of the same Regulation.

The views of War Minister ARAKI was as follows. I shall quote here an article on the January 31st issue of the Tokyo Asahi, which gave the following report.

"There is no need of immediate withdrawal"

-War Minister ARAKI talks Japan's attitude toward the League of Nations.-

(Former part omitted.) "Japan does not have to immediately withdraw from the League if a recommendation based on Paragraph 4 of the Regulation were to be decided. Japan has heaps of things that she has to talk to the League. If the League act in such a way that Japan could no longer stay with it, then she can walk out of openly and squarely. Until then, Japan must do everything in her power to enlighten the League. This is a policy of Japan which had been clearly determined since before the departure of Plenipotentiary MATSUOKA, to whom no instruction of tedious nature is needed at this stage. All Japan has to say to the League is that our policy is one and consistent from the beginning, and leave the rest to the skilled activity of the diplomatic people on the spot." (the rest omitted) Needless to say that this remarks drew attention of the people as being an expressed view of the War Minister in opposition to general the opinion that Japan should immediately withdraw from the League if the latter decided to apply the provisions of Paragraph 4 of the Regulation.

2. The Imperial Rescript after the withdrawal from the League was announced simultaneously with the dispatchment of the formal notification of withdrawal, a step which was not taken until our solicitation and other form of requests to the League were finally refused. My description in my book concerning this Imperial Rescript ran as follow:-

Japan even after the withdrawal clarified the principle of "being consistent in her efforts of cooperating henceforth with all the intentions toward peace," and further it is declared in the Rescript that "although Japan would tread along the predetermined path, she has no intention of ignoring from her bias toward the Far East, the good will of friendly nations." This Rescript is especially valuable in that it made clear the foundation on which to conduct the cooperative diplomacy of SHOWA. (The quotation in the above of the sentence of the Imperial Rescript was taken from the Extra Issue of the TOKYO NICHU NICHU dated March 27th, 1933.) This Rescript was granted after careful consultation with the Army and taking into consideration its intention. The Rescript was countersigned by War Minister ARAKI.

3. After the withdrawal from the League, an opinion that Japan should enhance the friendly relations among the neighboring nations was given rise among the diplomatic, business and military circles. The view of military and diplomatic

authorities that "Japan is ready to go into a military alliance with China if only China awakens to the situation," was reported. (OSAKA MAINICHI, June 24). Japan's policy of concluding an American Japanese Arbitration Treaty or a Mediation Treaty was reported. (YOMIURI, December 4). The Soviet-Japanese relation at that time was just as my description in my book, which was as follow:- "Diplomatic relation between the Soviet and Japan appeared as if approaching the ***, but on the other hand, a suggestion for an economic concert between the two countries is also-gaining ground throughout the diplomatic, business as well as the military circles. War Minister ARAKI in his advocacy for a Far Eastern Peace Conference referred to non-aggression between the Soviet and Japan. This could be taken as representing the attitude of the military authorities. (CHUO KORON Annual Report. Page 176) All of these reports underlay the diplomatic policy of Japan's so-called "Friendly Relations with the Good Neighborly Nations" (TOKYO ASAHI, September 17) at the earlier stage of HIROTA's Foreign Ministership. The diplomatic policy at that time was inclined to lay stress upon suppression of general commotion after the withdrawal and, thereby, upon mitigation of an anti-Japanese sentiment among powers. However, even if the policy contained in it such motive as this the expression of the principle of a peaceful diplomacy on the part of the army and diplomatic authorities gave a sense of relief to the general populace who welcomed it. Their sense of relief was further intensified when a formal announcement was made as to the result of the Five Minister Conference of the SAITO Cabinet, in which Ministers SAITO, TAKAHASHI, ARAKI, OSUMI and HIROTA decided to "base the diplomacy upon the spirit of international harmony, and to devise the means to promote the friendly relations among such neighborly countries as China, the U.S.A. and Russia in particular" (TOKYO ASAHI, October 21) The War Minister ARAKI's suggestion of a Far Eastern Peace Conference (as reported by all the leading newspapers) was made in FUKUI City and it was regarded an expression of War Minister's personal belief rather than a formal announcement of the army authorities. This suggestion purported to hold a conference among powers to debate upon Manchurian problems as the leading issue and upon other Far Eastern problems which had bearing upon international peace, and to settle all of those matters once for all. (Page 182 of the Annual Report). The Foreign Office declined to agree this suggestion on the ground that it was impracticable and that it was an act denouncing the Assia Monroe Doctrine. The reaction, of the foreign countries to this suggestion was almost imperceptible, and as a whole, the suggestion did not bring about any material result. Only I consider that it serves, to depict the views War Minister ARAKI.

Part 11. 1. In my book "The Tragic History of Politics of Showa" I wrote as follow. (Page 13 and 14)
"At the earlier stage of the German-Soviet War, the German troops launched an incessant and irresistible attack and showed a distinguished valor in the field of battle which was worthy of a credit of being the most powerful army in West Europe. In fact it was enough to startle Japan and the whole world. An opinion was then overwhelmingly, prevailing among the army circles that Japan should rise in arms at that juncture. The opinion advocated that the Soviet Union will collapse within four or six weeks and that it presented a golden opportunity to Japan to seize Siberia. The opinion further insisted that it was possible that German influence might reach the Far East across Russia, that if such should realize, it would be a cause of great alarm to Japan and that Japan should obtain in hands what she could obtain before such contingency took place.

(1) What a meanness, and what a baseness! One really feels to turn his face from this wretchedness. If Japan should resort to such means, Japan would not be able to show her cause of justice to the Soviet with whom she had just concluded a neutrality pact, to say nothing of Japan's infidelity to Germany with whom she was in alliance. This opinion was mainly advocated by the people of Alliance Group and German Section of army who, while being familiar with Germany, did not know much about the Soviet Union, and it was not the opinion of the Alliance Criticizing Group or of the people who were thoroughly acquainted with the Soviet.

More particularly, the generals of so-called KODO Group (Imperial Way) were in such state of mind that a war should not be waged without the cause of justice. That a war should not be fought unless it had sufficient cause of justice, and that the war itself was of such nature that it could be waged by the strength of her own, much less a war for mercenariness. That why did they not realize the fact that the Soviet-Japan neutrality pact had only recently been ratified by His Majesty."

(2) This was very fair and just opinion. In fact I thanked Heaven and Earth that Japan was still sound because of this opinion.

The above (1) were the contents of the story of Premier KONOE when he explained to me at the end of June, 1931, of the detailed internal conditions of the army circles.

The next (2) was a correct description of what Lieutenant-General OBATA, Binshiro and Lieutenant-General YAMAGAWA, Heisuke told me when I, as a journalist had the pleasure of visiting them, General OBATA on July 1st, 1931 at his house in SHIMOKITAZAWA (Tokyo) and General YAMAGAWA on July 3rd, 1931 at his house in YOYOGI (Tokyo) As the opinions of the two Generals on that occasion were so perfectly identical that I surmised from it that the opinions might be the results of their previous talks with the so-called KODO (Imperial Way) Group Generals such as General ARAKI, General MASAKI and Lieutenant-

General YAMAOKA, I asked them whether they had recently met the above three generals. They said they had gathered every now and then, and then they said with forced smile that the army authorities getting annoyingly censorious over their gatherings.

It meant, then, that the above was an agreed opinion and conclusion of those several generals. I thought this opinion would give an effective support to the efforts of many of the admirers of those generals, both in the War Office and the General Staff, who, while remaining in obscurity or otherwise camouflaging themselves, were zealously engaged in settlement of the China Incident and subsequently in successful conclusion of the America-Japan peace negotiation. That is why it drove me into a mood of thanking to the Heaven and Earth.

2. On page 33 of my above-mentioned book wherein the army purification movement was closely studied, there is also a description to the following effects:

"General UGAKI and General HOMMA were the members of this group, and the movement of NAKANO, AMANO and HATOYAMA, aiming at the downfall of TOJO, seemed to have maintained certain contact with this group.

In contrast to this, the group of generals such as MASAKI, ARAKI, YANAGAWA, and OBATA manifested a clear character of its own. They maintained an attitude of absolute opposition to both the incident and the great war. It was manifested in an attempt of General YANAGAWA prior to the fall of Nanking."

Above was a well known fact among those well-informed people who had made sincere efforts in the study of the undisclosed phase of the state of affairs, but personally, thanks to a relation that his father was a good friend of my father, I had an opportunity of obtaining the detailed informations from Prince KONOE, who had returned from the U.S.A. after attending the meeting of the Pacific Problems Research Council. My description was based on those informations.

After the withbreak of the Marco Polo Bridge Incident of July 7th, 1937, Prince KONOE made a determination of preventing the expansion of this incident. Then the Prince had several contacts with various generals, exchanged views with them, and in 1941, strived to accomplish the America-Japan peace negotiation, and had contacts and cooperated with the negotiation. All of these will offer a ground on which truth of the above statement can be verified.

It was Prince KONOE who, while being the Premier of his First Cabinet, ordered to release General MASAKI, who had been kept in custody on a suspicion of having been concerned in the February 26 Incident. It was also the same Prince KONOE who told me of his heartfelt sympathy to Education Minister ARAKI when the latter vehemently objected from the point of view of international law as well as humanity to the bombing of several cities of China, and had a hot discussion with some cabinet members at the cabinet meeting.

During the period of his First Cabinet, Prince KONOE opined that the settlement of the China Incident was hinged upon domestic problems and that the key point of the domestic problems was in purification of the army.

Because of this consideration, he attempted to remove War Minister SUGIYAMA, to be succeeded by ITAGAKI and to appoint YANAGAWA the Chief of General Staff. His attempt along this line partly succeeded and partly failed, and because of it he had to resign from the Premiership. In other words, those generals such as ARAKI, MASAKI, YANAGAWA and OBATA were politically the followers of KONOE, whereas they were intimate comrades in their opposition to the China Incident as well as in their attempt to avoid occurrence of a great war.

Such being the case, I had a good reason to believe that all those which Prince KONOE had told me about those generals, not only after his return from the U.S.A. but also since the time of his First Cabinet, were the truth, and so I collected them and put them in my description.

During the period of ARAKI Education Minister, the CHUO KORONSHA published GENJI MONOGATARI, translated from classical into present day Japanese. To this some members of the right wing blamed that the publication was an act of blasphemy since the book treated a love affair of the members of the Royal Families. They threatened the CHUO KORONSHA and made several suggestions to the Education Minister, but the Minister did not pay any attention to the suggestions. The movement of the right wing people on this problem was eagerly watched by the cultured people with a sense of much disgust. Personally I had some apprehensions over the attitude of the Education Minister, judging from his detestation of base ball, and worried for the sake of the president of the publishing company, Mr. SHIMAZU, Yuzo, who happened to be one of my personal friends.

I visited Lieutenant-General YANAGAWA who was an intimate friend of the Education Minister, and asked him what would be the attitude of the Minister toward the matter. Lieutenant-General YANAGAWA laughed and said,

"Even a Royal Member can have a love affair. It only shows that the reigning was successfully carried out, and it does not in any way spoil the dignity of the Royal Family. The matter concerns about literature, which is a production of the brilliant culture of the age, to be treasured by the people. The Education Minister has an opinion not to prohibit publication of such treasure, and so I do not think you need worry about it." Lieutenant-General YANAGAWA reiterated on this assertion.

On other occasion, there was a time when at the Department of Economics of the Tokyo Imperial University, a group of professors of Fascistic inclination launched an expulsion agitation against professors of socialistic tendency. The agitation so developed that several professors of left wing principle seemed to be on the point of being expelled from school. I had my friends among the group of professors, and partly because I was worried on their behalf, and partly because I thought the matter overshadowed the future of scholars, I again asked the opinion of Lieutenant-General YANAGAWA.

He said, "The Education Minister is of the opinion opinion that socialism is different in principle from communism in that the former makes it a principle of respecting democracy. The Minister prefers socialism rather than Fascism, which, like communism, purports to come into power and to set up its own dictatorial regime. Such being the case, the Minister has no intention of punishing those people. I think he is intending to settle the whole affair with the minimum sacrifice of punishing one person of each party, according to the principle of 'in a quarrel both parties are to blame'." By saying this the General hinted that he had already consulted the matter with the Education Minister and had reached a decision about it.