

1915

INTERROGATION OF

Continuation of
HOSHINO, Naoki

HOSHINO, Naoki

A. No, I did not participate in the writing of that
Date and Time: 1 April 1946, 1530-1630 hours.

Place: Sugamo Prison, Tokyo, Japan

Present: HOSHINO, Naoki
Mr. Valentine C. Hammack, Interrogator
2nd Lt. Eric Fleisher, Interpreter
Miss Leona Coberley, Stenographer

Oath of Interpreter, administered by
Mr. Hammack:

Mr. Hammack: Do you solemnly swear, by Almighty God,
that you will truly and accurately in-
terpret and translate from English
into Japanese and from Japanese into
English, as may be required of you, in
this proceeding?

Lt. Fleisher: I do.

Questions by: Mr. Hammack.

Q. Mr. HOSHINO, when I interrogated you some time ago
you stated that you had written some part of the
declaration of war. That was correct, was it not?

A. I cannot say I wrote the whole thing but it was
compiled by me.

Q. When you speak of the declaration of war, Mr. HOSHINO,
do you mean the note that was submitted to the
United States or the declaration of war that was
signed by the Emperor?

A. It is the Imperial Rescript and not the note given
to the United States on December 7.

Q. Did you have any part, Mr. HOSHINO, in connection
with the preparation of the note that was submitted
to the United States on December 7, 1941?

Q. And were you present at the time this discussion
was had?

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Continuation of Interrogation of
HOSHINO, Naoki

- A. No, I did not participate in the writing of that note.
- Q. Did you, at any time, attend a liaison conference previous to the outbreak of war at which the terms of the note were discussed?
- A. I don't remember having ever discussed or heard discussed at a liaison conference the terms of the note. I don't remember any conference at which the terms of the note were discussed.
- Q. I am advised, Mr. HOSHINO, that at a liaison conference at which were present Premier TOJO, and TOGO the Foreign Minister and members of the Naval and Military Staffs and yourself, the terms of this note were discussed previous to its delivery to the United States. Is that not correct?
- A. I don't believe the terms of the note were ever discussed at a liaison conference. I don't remember that the terms of the note which you speak of were ever discussed. The terms of the note may have been discussed among the Foreign Minister, Minister of War, and the Minister of the Navy but I don't believe it was ever discussed at a liaison conference.
- Q. It is a fact, is it not, Mr. HOSHINO, that you know of your own knowledge that the terms of the note were discussed with the Foreign Minister TOGO and the Minister of War and Minister of the Navy as well as others?
- A. I don't know for a fact, but I believe it was discussed with the Premier and may have been discussed with the Army and Navy Ministers.
- Q. How long before the outbreak of war were the terms of the note discussed with the Premier, to your knowledge?
- A. I would say about the beginning of December.
- Q. And were you present at the time this discussion was had?

Continuation of Interrogation of
HOSHINO, Naoki

A. No, I was not present.

Q. And to your knowledge where did this conference take place?

A. I don't know but I think it may have occurred at the Prime Minister's residence.

Q. When was the first time, Mr. HOSHINO, you ever saw the note?

A. After December 8. I knew that the note would be transmitted on December 8 but I did not know what it contained.

Q. What did you know in connection with the time element relating to the delivery of the note to the United States, Mr. HOSHINO?

A. The way I remember, it was left up to the discretion of the Foreign Minister.

Q. What was your understanding, Mr. HOSHINO, as to how much time would be given the United States by the delivery of the note before the attack at Pearl Harbor?

A. I did not know when the note would be delivered or how much time the United States would be given but I understood that it would be delivered before the war began.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, E. E. DANLY, hereby certify:

1. That I am Chief of the Document Division of the International Prosecution Section, G.H.Q., S.C.A.P., and as such have possession, custody and control of original or copies of documents obtained by the said Section.

2. That Document 1915 contains seven interrogations of Hoshino, Naoki taken on the following dates:

28 January 1946
31 January 1946
4 February 1946
7 February 1946
11 February 1946
26 February 1946
1 April 1946

3. That the interrogations of Hoshino, Naoki above referred to on the 28 January 1946, 31 January 1946, 4 February 1946, 7 February 1946 and 11 February 1946 were delivered to me by Henry A. Hauxhurst, interrogator, duly certified, and that the interrogations on 26 February 1946 and 1 April 1946 were delivered to me by Valentine C. Hammack, interrogator, duly certified, and that the original or a copy thereof has at all times been in my possession as Chief of the Document Division of the International Prosecution Section, G.H.Q., S.C.A.P.

E. E. DANLY