

Def. Doc. 2837  
(Tōgō)

3633

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI Sadao, et al

- Defendants -

A F F I D A V I T

TANABE Moritake

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

I was appointed Vice-Chief of the General Staff on 6 November 1941, and attended the Liaison Conferences held after the latter part of that month. Besides, I and Vice-Chief of the Naval General Staff Itō once called on Foreign Minister Tōgō and consulted about the time of the delivery of the notification to the United States of 8 December, about which my memory is as follows.

On 3 December, or thereabouts, 1941, it was decided at the Liaison Conference that the notification of the termination of the negotiations should be delivered to the Government of the United States of America at 12:30 PM on 7 December (Washington time) at Washington. Thereafter, however, the Navy found it necessary to postpone the time of notification to 1:00 PM on 7 December (Washington time), and the High Command of the Army agreed thereto. Thereupon, I and Vice-Chief of the Naval General Staff Itō called on Foreign Minister Tōgō on 5 December and requested him to agree to that alteration of the time.

As to this request, Foreign Minister Tōgō asked whether that time left some length of time prior to the opening of hostilities, and on receiving an affirmative reply from Vice-Chief of the Naval General Staff Itō, he acceded thereto. I learned in the evening of the 7th that the result of the consultation mentioned above was reported to the Liaison Conference held on the 6th, and obtained its approval.

In the interview, Admiral Itō did not inform Minister Tōgō where the acts of hostilities would be commenced.

O A T H

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

Tanabe Moritake (seal)

On this 17th day of February, 1947

At Medan

DEPONENT TANABE Moritake (seal)

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

On the same date

At Medan

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of February, 1947, at Medan, Sumatra, N.E.I.

David W. Parsons, Capt. Inf.  
Investigating Officer  
Defense Section  
International Military Tribunal for  
the Far East

John Donald Johns  
Interpreter, Netherlands War Crimes Court  
Medan, Sumatra, N.E.I.

TRANSLATION CERTIFICATE

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

Nishi Haruhiko

Tokyo  
5 November 1947