

Def. Doc. # 1734

Ex. 277A-A

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Translated by
Defense Language Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.

..AG. INST-

ARAKI, SADA0, et al.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

I, Patrick J. Hurley, being first duly sworn, depose and say:

I was Secretary of War for the United States in 1931 and was in the Far East at the time of the Manchurian Incident.

I have read the statement made by General Minami commencing on page 19, 834 of the Proceedings for 14 April, 1947, starting with line 23 as follows:

" I think it was around the middle of October, 1931 when the United States Secretary of War, Mr. Patrick Hurley, suddenly made a call on me. Mr. Hurley was Secretary of War in the Hoover Cabinet. His mission was to survey and investigate conditions in the Philippines and it was on his return home to the United States that the Manchurian Incident broke out. On account of that incident he paid me this sudden call.

"At that time Mr. Hurley said that he was to return to the United States immediately after completing his investigation of conditions in the Philippines but that in the light of the new situation he was exceedingly desirous of meeting me, the War Minister, directly to ask me about the incident. At that time Mr. Hurley addressed me three simple and direct questions:

"First question: How did the Lukuoohiao Incident break out?

"The second question: How far were the hostilities going to continue?

"And the third point was : Is Japan going to occupy Manchuria? Is Manchuria going to be made a protectorate of Japan or is Manchuria going to become an independent state? That was the third question.

"With regard to the first question I replied that the Lukuoohiao Incident occurred as a result of the destructive action by regular troops of the Chinese Army, and that the Japanese had taken action in exercise of a legitimate right of self-defense for the protection of thier interests.

"In reply to the second question I said that hostilities had already begun, but that it was the policy of the Japanese Government to do whatever was in its power to bring about a local settlement of the incident, and that it was going to pursue a policy of nonextension and nonaggravation. However, that the Japanese Government was unable to predict how far the hostilities might be extended, it all depending on the actions that might be taken on the Chinese side.

"With regard to the third question I said that Japan had never at any time conceived of the idea of taking Manchuria as her territory or to make Manchuria a protectorate of Japan, nor even to assist in the independence of that country. And finally I said that this was the policy of the Government of Japan and that as a Cabinet Minister I supported this policy.

"And, therefore, with regard to the question that was asked of me awhile ago I must say that such a thing had never at any time occurred in my mind at

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that time. Mr. Hurley well understood my explanation of the situation and told me that it was worthwhile seeing me because he had carried out the purpose of his call on me and gave me his photograph as a souvenir.

"I feel that what I have just related to you will be of some assistance to you with regard to your questions because the remarks that I made to Mr. Hurley were straightforward remarks which were consistent with the situation as it then existed.

"Q. When did this conversation with Mr. Hurley take place?

"A. I do not remember the date, but I think it was in the middle of October."

I recall meeting General Minami around the middle of October, 1931 and addressing him on the points quoted above and receiving in reply substantially the aforesaid answers.

General Minami advised me that the policy of the Wakatsuki Cabinet was to remain within the principles of the Nine Power Pact, to limit the effect of the Mukden Incident and to maintain friendly relations with the League of Nations.

I also remember having presented General Minami with one of my photographs and receiving one from him.

/s/ Patrick J. Hurley

Subscribed and sworn to before
me at Washington, District of
Columbia, this 7th day of June, 1947.

/s/ Maurice Love
Notary Public, D. C.