

AFFIDAVIT

I, Joseph C. Grew, being first duly sworn, make oath and say that during my service of ten years as Ambassador of the United States to Japan from 1932 to 1941 I was from time to time in close official and personal contact with Mr. Koki HIROTA whose official service during that period was successively as follows:

Foreign Minister, September 14, 1933, until appointed
Prime Minister, March 19, 1936, until appointed
Foreign Minister, June 4, 1947, until approximately
May 26, 1938.

During my association with Mr. Hirota he said to me on several occasions that good relations with the United States were the "corner-stone" of his policy. In various ways, notably as follows, he implemented that policy in action.

1. My representations to the Japanese Foreign Office received far prompter and more considerate attention than had been the case before Mr. Hirota took office, and in many instances results favorable to American interests emerged.

2. One such result was the marked toning-down of aggressive anti-American comment in the Japanese press which was reflected in the press in the United States and tended to exacerbate international relations. I knew that this improvement was directly due to Mr. Hirota's efforts as a result of my representations to him.

3. On receiving news of the bombing and sinking of USS PANAY by Japanese military or naval planes and the subsequent machine-gunning of her officers, passengers and crew by Japanese army launches in December, 1937, Mr. Hirota, as Minister for Foreign Affairs, broke precedents by immediately calling in person on me at the American Chancery and by expressing "the profound apologies and regrets" of the Japanese Government. He said to me with obvious emotion: "I can't tell you how badly we feel about this." This immediate official apology, conveyed in person, went far to ameliorate the gravity of the

situation. Mr. Hirota subsequently took steps to make practical amends for that ruthless attack on our ship and its occupants, notably in conveying to us a written apology and in promptly meeting our demands for a suitable indemnity.

4. Although Mr. Hirota was a private citizen at the time of the signing of the Tri-Partite Pact with Germany and Italy on September 27, 1940, I know that he vigorously opposed the conclusion of that agreement and that he informed friends of mine, notably Mr. Romer, the then Polish Ambassador, that he, Mr. Hirota, judged with the utmost severity the policy of the then Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Matsuoka. Mr. Romer informed me that Mr. Hirota had said to him that the impetuous and thoughtless action of the Japanese Government in joining the Axis might well force Japan into war with the United States which would be "fatal to Japan."

The foregoing points are illustrative and symptomatic of Mr. Hirota's attitude and actions towards maintaining good relations and peace with the United States. While in Japan I maintained and still maintain the firm conviction that Mr. Hirota exerted his efforts to preserve peaceful relations with all foreign countries.

At no time during my ten years in Japan did I observe any attitude or action on the part of Mr. Hirota which would indicate that he was engaged in a common plan or conspiracy to dominate the world or East Asia. He was regarded by myself and by many of my diplomatic colleagues as a "moderate" during the period of intense chauvinism and extreme militarism in Japan, and during that period I observed the results of actions by him, such as those mentioned above, which were clearly aimed at arresting the aggressive tendencies of the Japanese military extremists.

I affirm that it was seldom possible for me to have first-hand information as to action taken by any Japanese official vis-a-vis his own government to oppose aggressive policies and actions, and that it is inconceivable that Mr. Hirota or any other high official while still in office

would have indicated to me or to any other foreigner that he was not in sympathy with his government's policies, whatever his own position might have been. In general, we could judge only by results, some of which are set forth above.

(Signed) Joseph C. Grew
Joseph C. Grew

Washington, D. C.

October 15, 1947

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, A NOTARY PUBLIC FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THIS 17th. DAY OF OCTOBER, 1947

(SEAL)

(Signed) Martha H. Wilhelm

My Commission Expires Sept. 1, 1951

憲法側文書二七九〇

宣誓供述書

自分ジョセフ、シー、グルー、僉先ツ宣誓ヲ爲シタル事ハ、
 シ述ベマス。昭和七年カラ昭和十六年迄自分ガ日本駐劄合衆國大使トシ
 テ在任中、自分ハ戸田弘毅氏ト時々公的ニモ私的ニモ交渉ガアリ
 マシタ。同氏ノ官公職ハ其ノ期間次ノ如ク相續イテ居リマ
 外務大臣就任ノ昭和八年九月十四日ヨリ總理大臣ニ任官マ
 任ノ昭和十一年三月十九日ヨリ外務大臣任官マデ、外務大臣就任ノ昭和
 十二年六月四日ヨリ大凡昭和十三年五月二十六日迄、
 自分ノ廣田氏トノ交際中氏ハ自分ニ屢々合衆國トノ善隣關係
 策ガ礎石デアルト語リマシタ。氏ハ色々ナ方法デ右政策ヲ
 アリマスガ次ノコトハ其ノ著シイモノデアリマス。場合ヨリ速カ
 一自分ノ日本外務省ニ對スル主張ハ廣田氏就任前ノ場合ヨリ速カ
 ニ且ツヨリ感ヒヤリアル感觸サヲ以テ受入レラレソシテ多クノ場合結
 果ハ亞米利加ニ有利トナツテ現ハレマシタ。

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ニ其ノ一例、斯ル結果ノ一ハ合衆國ノ新聞ニ反響ヲ起シ且際關係ヲ險惡ナラシメントシタ日本ノ新聞ノ攻讐的、反米的言説ヲ著シク緩和シタコトデアリマス。

自分ハ此ノ改善ガ自分ガ廣田氏ニ抗議シタ結果行ハレタ氏ノ努力ニ直接ニスベキモノナルコトヲ知ツテ居リマス。

三昭和十二年十二月合衆國軍艦パナイ號ガ日本ノ領海ノ飛行機ニヨリ墜沈セラレ、機イテ同艦ノ士官、船客乗組員ガ日本領海ノ小汽汽艇ニヨリ被銃掃射ヲ受ケタトノ報道ヲ接手シマスルヤ、外務大臣タル廣田氏ハ先例ヲ破リ時ヲ移サズ自ら自分ヲ亞米利加大使館ニ訪問シ、日本政府ノ深甚ナル謝辭ト遺憾ノ意ヲ表ハシタノデアリマス。氏ハ目ニ見ヘテ感動シテ自分ニ申シマシタ「此ノ事件ニ就テ私共ガドンナニ恐縮シテ居ルカハ申上様モアリマセン」ト。此ノ即刻ノ公式陳謝而モ自ら足ヲ返ンテノ陳謝ハ事關ノ重大性ヲ改善スルニ非常ニ役立チマシタ。廣田氏ハ其後此ノ我が艦並ニ其ノ乗員ニ對スル不法攻撃ニ對シテ實際的ノ償ヒヲ爲スベキ方策、即チ取リワケ陳謝狀ヲ我々ニ送り又即座ニ相當ノ賠償ヲナスベキ我が要求ニ應ズル等方策ヲ提シタノデアリマス。

昭和十五年九月二十七日獨逸ト伊太利トノ三國協定ガ訂印チミマシタ、當時廣田氏ハ野ニ在リマシタガ、氏ガ同協約ノ締結ニ非常ニ反對シタコトハ氏ガ友ノ友人達、殊ニ當時ノ波蘭大使ロメル氏ニ對シ當時ノ日本外務大臣松岡氏ノ政策ヲ痛烈ニ批判シタコトナドヲ自分ハ知ツテ居リマス。ロメル氏ハ廣田氏ガ同氏ニ日本政府ガ樞軸側ニ加盟スルト云フ性急ナ無考ハナ行動ハ日本ヲシテ一日本ニトリ致命的一ナ對米戰爭ニ追ヒ込ムコトニナルト言ツタト自分ニ話シテ呉レマシタ。

以上ノ諸點ハ合衆國トノ間ニ善隣關係ヲ保持シ平和ヲ維持セントスル態度ト行動トヲ證明シ表徴スルモノデアリマス。自分ハ廣田氏ガアテラユル外國トノ平和的關係保持ニ努力ヲ拂ツタト固イ信念ヲ日本ニ居ル間持チ又今モナホ持ツテ居ルモノデアリマス。自分が日本ニ居リマシタ十年間ノ間如何ナル時ニモ自分ハ廣田氏ノ態度若クハ行動ニ氏ガ世界若シクハ東亞ヲ支配セントスル共同計畫若クハ協同謀議ニ參與シタ事ヲ示ス線ナ事實ヲ見タコトハアリマセン。氏ハ日本ノ苛激ナ盲目的愛國主義ト極端ナ軍國主義ノ時代ニ一種健派トシテ自分ノ外交官仲間ノ多數ニ目サレテ居リマシタソシテ其ノ時代自分ハ明ラカニ日本軍國主義極論者ノ攻撃的傾向ヲ抑ハル目的ヲ以テシタ、氏ノ行動、幾ニモ進ベマシタ幾ナ行動ノ結果ヲ目録シテ居リマス。

何タルヲ問ハズ日本人ノ役人ガ侵略政策及行動ニ反對スル爲ニ自國政府ニ對シテ執ツタ行動ニ就テノ直接ノ情報ヲ得ルコトハ私ニハ滅多ニ出來ナイトイフコトトソレカラ廣田氏ナリ其他何レノ高官タリトモ其ノ朝ニ在ル間私ナリ他ノ外國人ナリニ本營ノ立場ガドウデアツタトシテモ彼ハ自分ノ政府ノ政策ニ同感シナイト云フコトヲ示スナドト云フ事ハ考ハラレナイ事デアルト云フ事ヲ私ハ明言スルモノデアリマス。概シテ云ハバ自分達ハ義ニモ若干説明シマシタ様ニ結果ニ依ツテノミ判断出來マス。

(自署)

ジョセフ、シー、グルー

デイストリクト、オブ、コロンビア 華盛頓

昭和二十二年十月十五日

右ハ昭和二十二年十月十七日、デイストリクト、オブ、コロンビア公證人タル自分ノ面前ニテ宣誓シ且ツ記述セラレマシタ

(捺印)

(自署) マーサ、エイチ、ウヰルハルム

自分ノ任期ハ昭和二十六年九月一日満了