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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON THE JAPANESE CABINET
APPOINTED IN AUGUST 1945

10 September 1945

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INTRODUCTION

The following study contains biographical information on the members of the Higashikuni Administration formed in August 1945 at the request of Emperor HIROHITO.

This report is a summary of such intelligence as was available at the time of preparation. Sources of information are listed at the end of each biographical sketch.

Any further information received will be included in future publications of this office.

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THE JAPANESE CABINET

August 1945

Premier: Naruhiko HIGASHIKUNI

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Minister without Portfolio and Vice Minister | : Prince Fuminaro KONOYE |
| Minister for Foreign Affairs | : Mamoru SHIGEMITSU |
| Minister for Home Affairs | : Iwao YAMAZAKI |
| Vice Minister for Home Affairs | : Kijitsu FURUI |
| Minister for Finance | : Juichi TSUSHIMA |
| Minister for Army | : General Sadamu SHIMOMURA |
| Minister for Navy | : Admiral Mitsumasa YONAI |
| Minister for Justice | : Chuzo IWATA |
| Minister for Transportation and Communication | : Naoto KOHIYAMA |
| Minister for Agriculture and Commerce | : Kotaro SENGOKU |
| Minister for Education | : Kenzo MATSUMURA |
| Minister for Welfare | : Kenzo MATSUMURA |
| Minister for Munitions | : Chikuhei NAKAJIMA |
| Minister without Portfolio and Chief Secretary of the Cabinet | : Taketora OGATA |
| President of Total Planning Board | : Naokai MURASE |
| President of the Board of Legislation | : Naokai MURASE |

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HIGASHIKUNI, Naruhiko (Naruhito) H.I.H. Prince General

Position: Premier of Japan. Formed a new Cabinet on 16 August 1945 by order of Emperor HIROHITO.

Career : 1920-1926: Lived in France. Studied military tactics.

1926-1943: Honorary President of Japan Newspaper Association (Nippon Shimbun Kyoka) (Nippon Press Association). Dissolved in November 1943.

Aug. 1930: Promoted to Major-General; appointed Commander of 5th Infantry Brigade.

Aug. 1933: Promoted to Lt General; appointed Commander, 2nd Army Division.

Aug. 1934: Appointed Commander of 4th Army Division.

1936-1938: Chief, Japanese Army Aviation Headquarters.

1938-1941: Commander, 2nd Imperial Army in China.

Dec. 1941: Appointed Commander in Chief of Home Defense Headquarters. Held this position until appointment as Supreme War Councilor.

Apr. 1945: Appointed Supreme War Councilor

Aug. 1945: Premier and concurrently War Minister as of this date.

Personal: Born 1887, Kyoto Prefecture; 9th son of the late Prince ASHIKO; married Princess TOSHIKO, youngest daughter of the late Emperor MEIJI. Has three sons. Studied at the Military Academy.

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Personal;
(Cont'd)

Nov. 1906: Ordered by late Emperor MEIJI to set up House of HIGASHIKUNI.

1915 : Captain of Infantry.

May 1915 : Married Princess TOSHIKO.

1916 : Birth of son, Prince MORIHIRO.

Some relationships of H.I.H. Prince General HIGASHIKUNI:

1. Brother of Prince Field Marshal NASHIMOTO, head of the House of NASHIMOTO and member of the Supreme War Council as of 1940.
2. Brother of Prince General ASAKA, head of the House of ASAKA, member of Supreme War Council since 1935.
3. Uncle of Prince Rear-Admiral KUNI, head of the House of KUNI, Commander of the Combined Air Force of the Navy as of April 1943.
4. Uncle of H.I.H. NAGAKO, The Empress. She is sister of Prince Rear Admiral KUNI; a daughter of the late Prince Field Marshal KUNI.
5. Cousin of H.I.H. HIROHITO, the Emperor. Prince KUNI, father of Prince HIGASHIKUNI was a first cousin of the late Emperor TAISHO, father of the present Emperor.
6. Father-in-law of Their Imperial Majesties since the marriage of Prince Major Morihiko HIGASHIKUNI to Princess TERU, eldest daughter of their Imperial Majesties.

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Personal
(Cont'd)

7. Brother-in-law Dowager Princess TUSAKO
to (consort of the late
Prince KITASHIRAKAWA), 7th
daughter of the late
Emperor MEIJI.
8. Uncle of Princess MASAKO, consort
of Prince Major-General
Gin RI of the Royal House
of Chosen (Korea)

Sources :

Personal Intelligence Collection No. 1,
25 July 1945. Published by OWI.

Japanese Personal Intelligence published by
OWI, 10 July 1945. (FCC monitored reports
1 July 1944)

Daily Pacifican of 17 August 1945 (Domei
News Broadcast of 16 August 1945)

Department of Information, Listening Post
Report, 17 August 1945, Shortwave Division,
375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.

The Manila Chronicle of 17 August 1945.
(AP dispatch from San Francisco, 16 August
1945)

KONOYE, Fuminaro Prince

Position: Minister without Portfolio (Minister of
State) as of 17 August 1945. Radio reports
from Tokyo state that he will act as a Vice-
Premier.

Career : 1918 : Entered Home Ministry as non-
regular staff.

1919-1920: Attended Peace Conference as
member of Prince SAIONJI suite.

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Career ;
(Cont'd)

- 1920's ; Member of House of Peers.
(Princes of the Blood, princes and marquis sit by hereditary right (although right is not exercised by Princes of the Blood). Persons of these ranks may enter the House of Peers upon attainment of majority.
- 1931-1933: Vice-President of the House of Peers.
- 1933 ; Member of Kokuhonsha (Society of the Foundations of the State). At this time Kokuhonsha established a number of new subsidiary political organizations, each of an exclusive character, the performance of definite task and of a mass nature. One of these was the "Greater East Asia Association" for the purpose of "propagandizing for Japanese culture and arousing the peoples of Asia". By 1933, the Kokuhonsha had become the center of the most powerful political camp of those in power politically, economically and even militarily. The society included Premier SAITO; Seihin IKEDA, financier; and General UGAKI. Baron HIRANO was President.
- 1933-1937: President of the House of Peers.
- 1934 ; Visited America to promote friendly relations.
- June 1937: Premier. (Known as 1st KONOYE Cabinet)
- Jan. 1939: During this period occurred the China Incident, 7 July 1937, and the signing of the Japan-Germany Cultural Pact of November 1938.

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Career ;
(Cont'd)

1937-1938: President of East Asia Institute established in 1938. Object of organization - general research for culture and nature in the Orient; established under supervision of Cabinet Planning Board and financed by the government and civil contributions.

1937-1938: President of La Société des Amis de l'Indochine. Object: "Promotion of economic and commercial relations between Indo-China and Japan and contribution toward furtherance of amity and culture between the two countries in the Far East, through the mutual cooperation of the peoples of France and Japan".

1937-1938: President of South Sea Association; established 1916; Object: "Promotion of mutual understanding through study of various matters pertaining to the South Sea, and furtherance of common welfare, thereby contributing toward peace and civilization".

1937-1938: President of Siam Society; "established in 1927 to promote friendly relations and culture between Siam and Japan".

1937-1938: President of Eastern Uni-Culture Society; "established in 1898 for promotion of culture of Japan and China, and furtherance of friendship and welfare of the peoples of the two countries".
NOTE: KONOYE seems to have concentrated on the "cultural amity groups of GEA."

Jan. 1939 -
Aug. 1939: Minister without Portfolio in HIRANUMA Cabinet.

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Career :
(Cont'd)

Jan. 1939 -

Jun. 1940: President of Privy Council.

1939 : President of Japan Broadcasting Co. in addition to organization listed under 1938.

22 Jul 40 -

16 Jul 41: Premier (2nd KONOYE Cabinet). This Cabinet concluded the Japanese Treaty with Wang Chingwei, November 1940 and the Soviet Neutrality Pact, 13 Apr 1941.

12 Oct 40:

KONOYE had formed the Tasei Yokusenkei (translation being Society for Assistance to Throne or Imperial Rule Assistance Association IRAA - or National Government Aid Association, N.G.A.A.) to rally the nation behind his government. The I.R.A.A. was to consist of two parts - a national movement "to enlist the whole nation and all its factions, and a Society to run the movement." Diet members were organized in a Diet "club comprising all factions. "KONOYE'S statement was that the IRAA was to transmit the will of those above to those below, and the wishes of those below to those above."

This was the beginning of what under TOJO and KOISO came to be known as the IRAA and IRAPS, the latter being the organization responsible for control of the Diet and the former responsible for organizations outside the Diet.

Since March, 1945, these have been succeeded by the Peoples Volunteer Corps (or National Volunteer Corps or Civilian Volunteer Corps) Council set up within the Cabinet, and

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Career :
(Cont'd)

- 12 Oct 40; (Cont'd) headed by Home Minister Genki ABE, and the Dai Nippon Seijikai, with General (retired) Jiro MINAMI as president.
- 15 Mar 41: KONOYE became President of the newly established "Greater East Asia League" whose primary motive power came from the Army and Navy. The League was the amalgamation of 53 organizations working along the same line. Under KONOYE were 1,000 advisers, 1,000 directors, 1,000 group conference members, 1,000 officials and 1,000 councilors. Finally there was to emerge from the early beginnings of "Greater East Asia Association" under KOKIHOHSHA in 1933 to Greater East Asia League of 1941, the GEA Development Headquarters of the IRAA under TOJO and KOISO.
- 30 Apr 41: KONOYE'S World Peace Plan:
1. Demilitarization of British and American Naval Bases in the Pacific.
 2. U.S. shall not seek to establish hegemony over the American Continent.
 3. American influence shall not extend further west than Hawaii.
 4. All islands in Pacific including Australia and New Zealand shall become a part of Japanese co-prosperity sphere.
- 16 Jul 41: KONOYE Cabinet resigned. MATSU OKA, as Foreign Minister, had been responsible for concluding treaties with Germany and Russia and these countries were now at war. KONOYE called for MATSU OKA'S resignation and finally forced it.

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Career :
(Cont'd)

13 Jul 41: KONOYE asked to form new Cabinet. Admiral Teijiro TOYODA became Foreign Minister; the press emphasized that Japan's foreign policy remained unchanged.

16 Oct 41: 3rd KONOYE Cabinet resigned. Failure to succeed in the Washington negotiations up to that time and other factors caused the down-fall.

Since Oct. 1941: KONOYE'S role has been that of an "Elder Statesman," Advisor to IRAS, and member of House of Peers and President of the various "cultural amity" groups previously mentioned.

Notes :

MID says: Occupies the most exalted non-Imperial social rank in Japan. As head of Fujiwara family has access to the Throne at all times. KONOYE inherited his father's dream of Greater East Asia and, like him, believed it could be achieved by democratic and peaceful methods. As Japanese party system of politics deteriorated after 1931 Manchurian Incident, KONOYE and a group of close friends worked desperately to revive it and check the headlong course toward war. They promoted the "clean election" campaign which resulted on 22 February 1936 in a gain at the polls for the moderates and a loss for reactionaries. Four days later military extremists precipitated an army revolt in Tokyo in which KONOYE and the late Prince SAIONJI were both marked for death and an attempt against latter actually carried out. The Okada Government resigned as a result of the revolt and the Emperor asked KONOYE to form a cabinet in the emergency. He declined on the plea of ill health. (20)

The first KONOYE Government was formed on 4 June 1939. The harmony between the political parties and Cabinet which ensued was attributed to the prestige of the Premier's great name and belief in his fairness.

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Notes ;
(Cont'd)

in administration. The popularity of his Government was a great asset to the Army in its program of national defense and reform of political system. (90)
Shortly after KONOYE took office, the Japanese Army invaded North China on 7 July 1937.

The KONOYE Cabinet fell early January 1939, ostensibly because of the Premier's health, but actually because of sharp differences among the ministers themselves, centering on a "national reorganization" program through a single totalitarian party and other fascist provisions not palatable to the Premier and others. In early summer 1940, however, KONOYE gave support to the campaign for dissolution of the old political parties and creation of a new one. After he became Premier for the second time on 22 July 1940 he appointed preparatory committee which drew up a plan for the Imperial Rule Assistance Association "Taisei Yokusenkai) that became Japan's sole Political party. Premier KONOYE, ex officio, became first president of I.R.A.A. (91)

Second KONOYE Cabinet fell because of failure to foresee German attack on Russia, thus discrediting its foreign policy for which Foreign Minister Yosuke Matsuoka was chiefly responsible. Prince KONOYE immediately formed a third government which included three admirals and four generals and was shorn of all old party elements. This administration lasted until October 1941. (91)

Hallett Abend in his Pacific Charter relates that Premier KONOYE twice attempted to stop war with China--the first time shortly after the initial clash at Marco Polo Bridge in North China July 1937, and again in October 1938 when he sent a secret emissary to the author asking that he transmit to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek a request that he receive certain peace proposals. Abend states that he succeeded in conveying the request to the Generalissimo secretly and received latter's acceptance. However,

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Notes ;
(Cont'd)

before the plan could be effected the Japanese had captured Hankow and Chiang Kai-shek and his Government fled to Chungking.

Former Ambassador Grew in Ten Years in Japan relates that in August 1941 Premier KONOYE proposed that he (Konoye) meet with President Roosevelt at some point on American soil to be chosen by the latter for discussions leading to peaceful settlement of difference between the two countries. The premier's efforts along this line were ended by the fall of his Government on 16 October 1941. Mr. Grew also reveals that on 18 September 1941 four men armed with daggers and short swords jumped on the running board of Konoye's car as it was leaving his residence. A locked car door and nearby guards saved him.

Konoye has wide political experience and ability to command a large following from many factions. Much of his popularity may be attributed, however, to his custom of withdrawing whenever a controversial issue arose. He has thus been able to mean all things to all people. In Tokyo Record Tolischus has characterized him as "an effete aristocrat and voluptuary with wandering intellectual interests and no strong conviction, lazy, cynical, and confused, who took to his bed whenever he faced an embarrassing situation."

Although he has the reputation of being a liberal and pacifist, his record does not bear this out. It was during his Premiership that Japan attacked China, adopted the National Mobilization Law (Providing a legal basis for state control of capital, labor and industry), signed the Tripartite Pact with Germany and Italy, dispatched troops to French Indo-China, and abandoned the old system of political parties for the totalitarian Imperial Rule Assistance Association. His activities should be carefully scrutinized and his advice accepted with caution. Declined appointment October 1944 as President of House of Peers, although he was Premier Koiso's choice for position. (9)

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Notes :
(Cont'd)

Long an admirer of United States and American ways, Konoye sent his son Fumitake to Princeton to be educated, but Konoye was reportedly bitter about his play-boy son's failure to be graduated. Has visited United States at least twice, last time in 1934.
(20)

Sources :

Personal Intelligence Collation No. 1, 25 July 1945. Published by OWI.

Japanese Personal Intelligence published by OWI, 10 July 1945. (FCC monitored reports 1 July 1944)

Daily Pacifican of 17 August 1945 (Domei News Broadcast of 16 August 1945)

Department of Information, Listening Post Report, 17 August 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.

The Manila Chronicle of 17 August 1945. (AP dispatch from San Francisco, 16 August 1945)

SHIGEMITSU, Mamoru

Position :

Foreign Minister and concurrently GEA Minister as of 17 August 1945.

Career :

1911 : Entered Foreign Service, attached to Embassy in Berlin.
1914 : Third Secretary, Embassy, London
1918 : Consul at Portland, Oregon.
1918 : Consul at Warsaw, Poland.
1919 : Member Japanese Delegation to Paris Peace Conference.
1921 : Chief, First Section, Treaty Bureau, Foreign Office.

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Career
(Cont'd) :

1923 : Chief, Second Section, Treaty Bureau, Foreign Office.

1925 : First Secretary, Legation in China.

1927 : Counselor, Embassy in Germany.

1929 : Consul General and Embassy Counselor in China.

1930 : Charge d'Affaires, China.

1931 : Minister to China.

1933-1936: Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs.

1936-1938: Ambassador to Russia.

1938-1941: Ambassador to Great Britain.

Dec. 1941: Ambassador to Nanking.

Apr. 1943: Minister of Foreign Affairs in TOJO Cabinet.

Aug. 1944: Minister of Foreign Affairs and concurrently Minister for Greater East Asia in Koiso Cabinet.

Apr. 1945: Resigned with Koiso Cabinet.

Personal: Born 1887. Younger brother of Atsumu SHIGEMITSU. Married Kie, daughter of Ichizo HAYASHI. Graduate of law college of Tokyo Imperial University.

Notes : MIS report: Considered one of Japan's ablest diplomats. As Charge d'Affaires in China, successfully negotiated the Sino-Japanese Tariff Treaty of 1930. Years later as Ambassador urged a policy of friendship and prestige as a means to settlement of the China incident. Brought home to serve as Foreign Minister for purpose of implementing this program. Directed negotiations

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Notes ;
(Cont'd)

for abolition of Japanese extraterritorial rights in China in 1944, which move was soon followed by Axis and neutral countries. Author of Greater East Asia Declaration concluded by Japan and her Asiatic satellites at Greater East Asia Conference in Tokyo, November 1943. Despite his former reputation as a moderate, he worked apparently in complete harmony with the military expansionist clique in furthering Japan's hegemony in East Asia and in supporting Axis ties. As both Foreign Minister and GEA Minister he was probably the most powerful member of KOISO Cabinet.

SHIGEMITSU lost a leg in the 1932 bomb explosion incident instigated by Koreans against the Japanese at Shanghai.

Sources : MIS, War Department, Washington, D.C.

Department of Information; Listening Post Report, 17 August 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.

Prominent Persons in Japan or Japanese Dominated Territories, 15 May 1945. Published by DIO, 14th Naval District.

YAMAZAKI, Iwao

Position: Minister of Home Affairs as of 13 August 1945.

Career : Prior to 1944:

Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture.

Director of Civil Engineering Bureau of the Home Ministry.

Inspector-General of Metropolitan Police Board.

Vice-Minister of Home Affairs.
(Tojo Cabinet)

Aug. 1944: Vice Minister in Koiso Cabinet.

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Personal: Born 1893. Younger brother of Tatsunetsuke YAMAZAKI.

Sources : Daily Pacifican, 18 August 1945. (UP Release Department of Information, Listening Post Report, 17 August 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.

FURUI, Kijitsu

Position: Vice-Minister of Home Affairs as of 19 August 1945.

Career : Was Governor of Aichi Prefecture at time of appointment to present position.

Sources : Department of Information, Listening Post Report, 19 August 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.

TSUSHIMA, Juichi

Position: Finance Minister in the Cabinet as of 18 August 1945.

Career : 1912 : Employed by the Department of Finance.

1914-1927: Sent to China and Europe.

Superintendent Yodebashi (Tokyo Revenue Office).

Secretary in the Finance Department.

Director of the Finance Bureau.

1927 : Finance Commissioner abroad; attache Embassies in England, France and America.

Delegate 8th League of Nations Conference, Geneva.

1928 : Delegate to International Conference for Abolition of Import and Export Restrictions.

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Career ;
(Cont'd)

- 1930 : Delegate to Naval Conference, London.
- 1932 : Delegate to Reparations Conference, Lausanne.
- 1934-1936: Vice-Minister of Finance.
- 1937-1940: Banker; Vice President of Bank of Japan.
- 1943 : President of the North China Development Company.

Vice President of the Peking Branch of the East Asia Development Headquarters of the National Government Aid Association. (IRAA)

Feb. 1945: Appointed Minister of Finance.

Apr. 1945: Resigned with Koiso Cabinet. Appointed to Cabinet Advisors Council in Suzuki Cabinet.

Personal:

Born 1886. Younger brother of Ken-ichi TSUSHIMA. Married Aye, daughter of Kakujiro HORIKOSHI. Graduate of Tokyo Imperial University in 1912, majoring in law.

Notes :

Says MID, Washington: "Authority on finance. As Financial Commissioner to London, was instrumental in obtaining credit abroad. As President of powerful North China Development Company, contributed great deal toward development of North China's resources for Japanese war purposes.

Sources:

Department of Information, Listening Post Report, 19 August 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.

Japanese Personal Intelligence--published by OWI, 10 July 1945.

MID, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Daily Pacifician of 13 August 1945. (UP Release)

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Sources : Prominent Persons in Japan or Japanese Dominated Territories, 15 May 1945.
Published by DIO, 14th Naval District.

SHIMOMURA, Sadamu

Position: Appointed War Minister on 25 August 1945, relieving Premier HIGASHIKUNI of the post he was holding concurrently with the premiership.

Career : Prior to November 1942:

Department Chief of the General Staff Office upon graduation from Army Academy.

Commanding Officer of Tokyo Bay Fortress.

Director of Army artillery and Engineering School.

Superintendent of Army Academy.

Commanding General of an Army Corps.

Mar. 1944: Lt General. Commander-in-Chief of Western Armies.

Nov. 1944: Appointed Commander-in-Chief of Japanese forces in North China.

May 1945 : Promoted to full General.

Personal: Born in Kochi Prefecture (date unknown). A graduate of the Army Academy, later studying in France.

Notes : Was member of committee attached to Yosuke MATSUOKA at time of Japanese withdrawal from League of Nations.

Japanese broadcast of March 1944: "One of the outstanding authorities on European conditions."

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Sources : Daily Pacifican of 26 August 1945.
(AP Dispatch).

Japanese Personal Intelligence--published
by OWI, 10 July 1945.

YONAI, Mitsumasa, Admiral

Position: Navy Minister as of 18 August 1945.

Career :

| | | |
|------------|---|--|
| 1901 | : | Graduate of Naval Academy. |
| 1912 | : | Lieutenant Commander. |
| 1913 | : | Graduated Naval Staff College. |
| 1916 | : | Commander; attached Japanese Embassy in Russia. |
| 1920-1922: | | In Europe on inspection duty and at Washington. |
| 1920 | : | Captain. Commanded battleships Kasuga, Iwate, Fuso, and Mitsu. Chief of Staff, Second Fleet. Staff member, Naval General Staff, Commander Chinkai Naval Port. |
| 1925 | : | Rear Admiral. |
| 1930 | : | Vice Admiral. |
| 1932-1933: | | Commander in Chief, Third Fleet. |
| 1935-1936: | | Commander in Chief, Sasebo Naval Base. |
| 1936-1937: | | Commander in Chief, Combined and First Fleet. |
| 1937 | : | Admiral. Navy Minister in Hayashi Cabinet Navy Minister in 1st Konoze Cabinet. |

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Career :
(Cont'd)

- 1939 : Navy Minister in Hiranuma Cabinet.
- Aug 1939 : Member Supreme Military Council.
- 1940 : Premier.
- 1944-1945: Deputy Premier and Navy Minister (Recalled from Retirement) in Koiso Cabinet.
- Apr. 1945: Navy Minister in Suzuki Cabinet.

Personal:

Born 1880; Iwate; eldest son of Ukemasa YONAI; married Tomi, eldest daughter of Kintaro OKUMA.

Notes :

During latter days of Hiranuma Cabinet YONAI distinguished himself by holding out against military alliance with Germany. Characterized by Ambassador Grew in "Ten Years in Japan" was a strong and sensible man, likely neither to submit to manipulation nor to go off the deep end with any extreme policies of his own.

As Navy Minister supported efforts to alleviate friction with U.S., and as Premier reportedly expressed displeasure because his Foreign Minister Arite did not give Ambassador Grew more encouragement to this end. As Premier also continued to steer Japan away from Axis. Maintained lukewarm attitude toward dissolution of old parties in favor of single political organization. Favored expansionists aims but showed moderation upon occasion, particularly as regards application of National General Mobilization Law, a totalitarian measure regimenting Japan's people and resources. For these and other reasons Minister of War Hata brought about fall of Yonai Cabinet. (49,153)

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Notes :
(Cont'd)

Is said to have been satisfied with decision of London Naval Conference, holding that Japan did not need a big navy, but one "not inferior to the navy of the country which possibly would invade our own waters." In April 1939 told Ambassador Grew that there must be disarmament as navies are "dangerous toys" leading to bankruptcy or explosion. On 28 July 1944 War Minister Sagiya and Yonei presented to the Cabinet a four point proposal including "freer" speech, according to Radio Tokyo. Expert on Chinese and Russian affairs, particularly the former, due to his having had command of both Yangtze Patrol and Third Fleet. Also known for ability to get on with foreigners. Speaks fair English, some Chinese and Russian. (31)

Sources : Daily Pacifican of 13 August 1945. (UP Release)

MID, War Department, Washington, D. C.

IWATA, Chuzo

Position : Justice Minister as of 17 August 1945.

Career : 1931 : Received Imperial appointment to House of Peers. Served as Adviser to the Imperial Household Ministry and the Bank of Japan.

Apr. 1945: Appointed cabinet adviser to the Suzuki Cabinet. Also held position as Administrative Investigation Commissioner inquiring into the progress of administrations.

Personal : Born 1874. Graduated of Tokyo Imperial University, receiving law degree. One source indicates he also holds Doctor of Engineering degree.

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Sources : Daily Pacifican of 18 August 1945. (Radio Tokyo broadcast picked up by UP)

Department of Information, Listening Post Report, 25 April 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.

Same as above, but for 17 August 1945 publication.

Prominent Persons in Japan or Japanese Dominated Territories, 15 May 1945. Published by DIO, 14th Naval District.

FCC: Radio Report on the Far East, No. 71.

KOHIYAMA, Naoto

Position: Minister of Transportation and Communications as of 17 August 1945.

Career :

| | | |
|------|---|--|
| 1913 | : | Passed high civil service examination and joined South Manchurian Railway Co. |
| 1920 | : | Secretary to Chief of Fushun Colliery. |
| 1930 | : | Elected Director of S.M.R. Co. Director of KOKUSAI Transportation Co. (Monopoly Express Co. of Manchuria). President of North Manchuria Gold Mine Co. (Managed by Manchukuo Government S.M.R. Co. and Oriental Development Co., Placer Mining, Gold Mining and Miners' Loan Companies) |
| 1935 | : | Elected President of Manchuria Placer Co. |
| 1937 | : | Elected President of Showa Iron and Steel Works Co. (renamed Manchukuo Iron Mfg. Co. in merger of 3 March 1944) |

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Career :
(Cont'd)

- 1940 : Still President of above listed company; Director of Manchurian Industrial Development Co.; Advisor of South Manchurian Railway Co.
- 31 Mar 42: Chairman of Executive Committee (or Board of Directors) of Iron and Steel Control Co. (or Association or Society), established 20 November 1941.
- Dec. 1942: Resigned Chairmanship of above listed Control Co., succeeded by Yoshisuke WATANABE.
- 13 Jul 43: Appointed President of South Manchuria Railway Co.
- Dec. 1943: Made inspection tour of North China and Manchuria areas.
- 7 Apr 43 : President of S.M.R. Co. Called to Tokyo.
- 3 Apr 45 : Appointed Minister of Transportation and Communications in the SUZUKI Cabinet.
- 29 Apr 45: Appointed Advisor of the War Victims Protection Association by its President, Prince TAKAMATSU.

Personal:

- Born 24 April 1886. Eldest son of Yutaro KOHIYAMA. Married Nobuko, fourth daughter of Aizuro SATO, a former Ambassador.
- 1912: Graduate of Tokyo Imperial University majored in English law.
- 1913: Passed high civil service examination.

Sources :

Personal Intelligence Collection No. 1, 25 July 1945. Published by OWI.

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Sources : Department of Information, Listening Post Report, 17 August 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.

Far Eastern Weekly Intelligence Summary No. 116.

Japanese Personal Intelligence (Volume II)-- published by OWI, 10 July 1945. (Reproduced from British Political Warfare Mission Who's Who of Japan, January 1944)

SENGOKU, Kotaro

Position: Agriculture and Commerce Minister as of 18 August 1945.

Career : 1895-1939: Served with Agriculture Association of Shimane Prefecture for a period of 15 years.

Councillor, Central Bank of Cooperative Society.

President, Dai Nippon Silk Sales Federation.

Chairman, National Federation of Purchase Society.

Chairman, National Rice Sales and Purchase Federation.

Director, Manchurian Sulphate-Ammonia Fertilizer Company.

1939 : Managing Director, Central Union of Cooperative Societies.

1942 : Director, Imperial Rule Assistance Political Society.

1944 : Advisor to Central Agriculture Association.

Aug. 1944: Appointed advisor to IRAA Youth Corps.

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Career :
(Cont'd) Apr. 1945: Appointed member of Cabinet
Advisory Council in Suzuki
Cabinet.
Member of the House of Peers.

Personal: Born 1873. Graduate of Sepporo College,
predecessor of the present (Kokudai)
University.

Notes : Domei broadcast of March 1945 reported:
"---is associated with the National Ac-
tivities Committee designed to study the
ways and means of carrying on the present
war against the Anglo-Americans for 20
years."
Domei broadcast of 26 April 1945: "---Recog-
nized authority in the field of agriculture-
---."

Sources : Department of Information, Listening Post
Report, 17 August 1945, Shortwave Division,
375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I.
MID, War Department, Washington, D. C.
Prominent Persons in Japan or Japanese
Dominated Territories, 15 May 1945.
Published by DIO, 14th Naval District.
FEB Fortnightly Intelligence Report No. 6,
15-31 March 1945.
Federal Communication Commission Radio
Report on the Far East, No. 71. April 1945.

MATSUMURA, Kenzo

Position: Education and also Welfare Minister as of
17 August 1945.

RESTRICTED

Career : 1923-1944: Member of Editorial Staff of the Hochi Shimbun. Served six terms in House of Representatives.

Former Councillor to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and later its Parliamentary Vice-Minister.

President, Maruzen Petroleum Mfg. Co.

Aug. 1944: Director, Political Investigative Committee of the IRAPS.

Mar. 1945: Appointed Secretary-General of the Dai Nippon Political Association.

Sept 1944: Interpellator for 85th Diet.

Personal: Born 1882. Graduate of the Political Science Department of Waseda University.

Notes : Radio Tokyo said: "and he is being held as an expert on Agriculture and Commerce."

Listed in Who's Who of Japan for Japan 1940-1941.

Sources: Department of Information, Listening Post Report, 13 August 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I.

Prominent Persons in Japan or Japanese Dominated Territories, 15 May 1945. Published by DIO, 14th Naval District.

Foreign Economic Administration. Report EP-291, dtd January 1944.

Daily Pacificer of 13 August 1945 (UP Release)

RESTRICTED

Career : 1928-1944: Member of Editorial Staff of the Hochi Shimbun. Served six terms in House of Representatives.

Former Councillor to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and later its Parliamentary Vice-Minister.

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Foreign Economic Administration. Report EP-291, dtd January 1944.

Daily Pacificer of 13 August 1945 (UP Release)

RESTRICTED

NAKAJIMA, Chikuhei

Position: Munitions Minister as of 17 August 1945.

Career : 1917 : Resigned from Naval service with rank of Lieutenant and founded Nakajima Aircraft Company.

Elected to presidency of Nakajima Aircraft Company.

Appointed Vice-Minister of Commerce and Industry.

June 1937 -
Jan. 1939: Appointed Railways Minister in the first Konoye Cabinet.

1930-1940: President of the Seiyukai Party.

1940 : Appointed member of Cabinet Advisory Council in the second Konoye Cabinet.

1942 : Member Greater East Asia Sphere Establishment Administration in Cabinet.

Councillor for IRAPS.

Elected member of House of Representatives for several terms.

Personal: Born January 1888. Son of Kumekichi NAKAJIMA. Unmarried. A graduate of Naval Engineering School, appointed engineer Sub-Lieutenant upon graduation. Was later sent to Europe to study aeronautic industry.

Notes : MID Report: Industrialist, aircraft engineer and politician. Was head of larger of two factions in Seiyukai, his faction wholeheartedly supporting Konoye government in 1937.

RESTRICTED

- Sources :
- Japanese Government Officials 1937-1945. Published by MID, War Department.
 - Department of Information, Listening Post Report, 19 August 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.
 - Japanese Personal Intelligence--published by OWI, 10 July 1945.
 - Personal Intelligence Collation No. 1, 25 July 1945. Published by OWI.
 - Prominent Persons in Japan or Japanese Dominated Territories, 15 May 1945, DIO, 14th Naval District.
 - Daily Pacifican, 13 August 1945 (UP Release)

OGATA, Taketora

Position:

Minister without Portfolio (Minister of State) as of 17 August 1945. As of same date, was also holding position of President of the Board of Information and Chief Secretary of the Cabinet.

Career :

- 1923 : Appointed Junior Managing Director of Osaka Asahi Shimbun.
- 1933 : Listed as Chief Editor of Tokyo Asahi Shimbun and Managing Director of Osaka Asahi Shimbun.
Director of Domei News Agency.
- 1940 : Listed as Managing Director and Editor-in-Chief of Osaka and Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.
- 23 Jun 43: Appointed Councillor of Board of Information.
- 16 Jun 44: Appointed member of Central Liaison Headquarters Committee of National Rally Movement (or National Movement to Arouse People to Action).

RESTRICTED

Career ;
(Cont'd)

22 Jul 44:-

5 Apr 45: President of Board of Information and Minister without Portfolio (Minister of State) in Koiso Cabinet.

According to Radio Tokyo he resigned his position as Vice-President of Asahi Shimbun, but will remain as a "friend of the company."

Aug. 1944: Appointed Vice-President of IRAA (Imperial Rule Assistance Association or National Government Aid Association); succeeded GOTO Fumio who had resigned 27 July 1944.

23 Dec 44: Appointed as General Secretary of Central Cooperative Council of IRAA.

19 Apr 45: Appointed President of IRAA Youth Corps (Or Young Mens Corps) concurrently with post as Vice-President of IRAA.

5 Apr 45: Resigned with rest of KOISO Cabinet.

10 May 45: Appointed member of Cabinet Advisory Council in Suzuki Cabinet.

Aug. 1945: Imperial appointment of House of Peers.

Personal:

Born 1888. Second son of OGATA, Michihei; married Koto, third daughter of HARA, Makizo.

1911: Graduated from Waseda University, majoring in politics.

1911: Accepted position as Section Chief of Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.

1920: Studied in Europe and America.

RESTRICTED

Notes : Rated by the late Hugh Byas, New York Times Correspondent, as "the ablest editor of Japan." As president of Board of Information he was first man with actual experience in journalism to hold post.

Source : Department of Information, Listening Post Report 19 August 1945, Shortwave Division, 375 Collins Street, Melbourne, C. I.

Japanese Personal Intelligence--published by OWI, 10 July 1945.

Abstract, published by Interdepartmental Committee for the Acquisition of Foreign Publications, 11 April 1945.

MURASE, Naokai (Chckuyo or Chckkyo)

Position: President of the Board of Legislation and concurrently President of the Total Planning Board as of 13 August 1945.

Career : 1917-1935: Started Government career in Agriculture and Forestry Ministry.

Cabinet Secretary.

Councillor of Legislation Bureau of Cabinet.

Director of Resources Bureau of Commerce and Industry Ministry.

Director of Patent Bureau of Commerce and Industry Ministry.

Director of Commerce Bureau (or Commercial Affairs Bureau) of Commerce and Industry Ministry.

1936-1938: Vice Minister of Commerce and Industry Ministry in HIROTA, HAYASHI, and part of 1st KONOYE cabinet.

RESTRICTED

Career ;
(Cont'd)

May -

July 1938: Vice-President of Commodities
Regulation Board.

July 1940 -

Oct. 1941: Director of Bureau of Legislative
in 2nd KONOYE Cabinet.

Personal :

Born 1890. Eldest son of MURASE, Shichi-
saburo; married Fusako, eldest daughter of
AMAKO, Shiro. Graduated from Law College
of Tokyo Imperial University.

Sources :

Department of Information, Shortwave
Division, 17 August 1945, 375 Collins St.,
Melbourne, C. I.

Personal Intelligence Collation No. 1,
25 July 1945. Published by OWI.

Far Eastern Weekly Intelligence Summary
No. 116.