

No. 3403



LRRATA SHEET

The following corrections should be made on the Affidavit of SHIMONAKA, Yasaburo:

Page 1 -- name of Deponent,

"Deponent: SHIMONAKA, Gensaburo"

should read

"Deponent: SHIMONAKA, Yasaburo"

Page 3 -- the date of Deposition,

"On this 27 day of June, 1947"

should read

"On this 27 day of January, 1947"

頁	
場所	一 供述者氏名
誤	下中源三郎
正	下中三郎

正誤表

辯護士文書二二三五



Translated by Defense Language  
Branch.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

-VS-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition (Translation)

Deponent: SHIMONAKA, Gensaburo

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached sheet and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country I hereby depose as follows.

1. I am now living at No. 229 1-chome Saginomiya, Nakano Ward, Tokyo Metropolis.
2. I established the Greater Asia Association with General Matsui in 1933, and I was a chief secretary of director of that association until the time of its dissolution in 1941.
3. General Matsui delivered an address at the conference of the establishment of the Greater Asia Association. In his speech there was the following account: When General Matsui went to Geneva as military delegate for the Disarmament Conference which was held there in 1931, Mr. Wellington Koo,



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Chinese delegate, frequently attacked Japan at the table of that conference, and Japanese delegates also made active replies. Notwithstanding the fact that China and Japan had been brother countries from olden times, they were quarrelling against each other before all the eyes of the Whites which were strongly fixed upon them. That was indeed so shameful sight that he could not keep his eyes open. He thought that this would not do at all, he wished for that reason to exert himself to the best of his power for bringing about a better feeling between China and Japan soon after returning to Japan.'

I had seperately organized a body of investigation called the Oriental Society for Researches and Investigations at that time, but when I listened to General Matsui's opinion, I agreed with him entirely. And this is the reason why I resolved to establish the Greater Asia Association in good co-operation with him.

4. General Matsui attempted to establish that association without resigning his present post. This was not welcomed by the military authorities, and some of them seemed to go so far as to propose him to check this establishment. But General Matsui did not discontinue the work of the already established Greater Asia Association, saying that as for things concerning China and Japan, he had been



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much interested and, in addition, he had made special studies since his young days, and that he had a firm belief for the resonciliation between China and Japan. Hereupon, the two War Ministers: Araki and Hayashi came to decide to approve his undertaking on the condition that the Greater Asia movement would act purely within the limit of an instruction movement for thought, namely, no political movement would be started. Thus the establishment of the Greater Asia Association was recognized. Such being the case, this association behaved to fulfil the condition of the above-mentioned approval and never took an action which bring about a political influence and remained faithful as a body where the genuine thought instructions concerning Sino-Japanese questions were investigated and studied among members themselves.

5. The contents of the work of the Greater Asia Association were the opening of the meeting for investigations and researches, and issuing organ magazines (on the Greater Asia Principle.) The concrete contents of the meeting was that when noted persons returned home from various places in the world, that meeting used to be held and various states of affairs of foreign countries would chiefly be listened to, and familiar talks would be given in connection with that matter, in other words, it was nothing but the



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meeting of listening to talks given. No special research organ, however, was established for conducting systematic and positive investigations. Therefore when suitable persons did not come, the meeting was not held even for a period of three or four months. The private school for developing Asia was also contemplated, but it was not realized owing to want of funds.

6. The expenditure for the establishment of the Greater Asia Association depended upon private funds, and never asked for the assistances of the Government or other public bodies. Namely, the expenditure for its establishment was chiefly depended upon ten thousand yen which was the remaining money saved by General Matsui personally from his travelling expenses to Geneva, and it was started with the contributions of all the interested members and persons as its basis fund.

7. The Greater Asia Association, in short, had the object of carrying out Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Greater Asia Principle as its guiding spirit, and was to instruct the peoples based upon the following articles:

- (1) Blood is thicker than water; China and Japan are brother countries.
- (2) Asia would be saved if China and Japan should co-operate with each other.
- (3) Asia is the mother of the world civilization.
- (4) Moral civilization of Asia will be able to save the world.



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(5) However, there are very few independent states in Asia. It is simply because China and Japan are at variance and struggling against each other.

8. The magazine was monthly issued as many as about two thousand copies, and these were distributed among the members of association only. Therefore, the people in general could not be instructed by them.

The ordinary expenditure of the association was from twenty thousand to twenty-five thousand yen per annum, which consisted of the salaries of clerks and the expenses for printing. And these were managed by means of the subscriptions of the members, the sales of the magazines, and the contributions of members or persons interested.

9. While and after General Matsui was the Commander of Formosan Army, the association was scarcely on the move, could not be so active as it had been hoped for, because of the shortage of fund and of the dislike of the military authorities. Even after General Matsui became a Councillor of the Cabinet, no positive acts could be taken even in the least.

10. The system for the Cabinet Councillors aimed at the solution of the China Incident. But according to General Matsui's impression, it was only the conference of listening to the reports, and it was quite nonsensical for him, as he



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was not demanded to suggest a plan, nor were his plans adopted even when some suggestions were given to them. I remember that he accordingly resigned his post before long.

11. General Matsui visited North China in 1936, and discussed the Greater Asia Principle with all the interested Chinese people there. With this conference as a turning point, the Chinese Greater Asia Association was established at Tientsin in December of the same year by the influential wise men in the political, business, and literary circles in North China. Generals: Sung Che-yuan, Hau Fu-chu, and others also became its supporters. The Chinese Greater Asia Association, however, was not a branch department of the Japanese Greater Asia Association, but an independent body, and it has been the one, the object of which was to realize the Asia for the Asiatics by China and Japan in complete co-operation between the two.

12. In his speech at the farewell meeting which was held in honor of him when he became the Commander of the Expeditionary Forces in Shanghai, General Matsui said, "I am going to the front in the state of mind that to pacify the brother rather than to fight the enemy. I had known China and had had many Chinese friends since my young days." At that time, the military authorities also had the non-aggravation policy, and the General Staff Office gave only



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two divisions to General Matsui. And I heard that General Matsui demanded five divisions to the General Staff Office in order to conclude the war as quickly as possible by means of the 'lightning war,' but this was not realized. The foreign magazines looked as if they had seen through Japan concerning her weakkneed policy, saying that General Matsui proceeded to Shanghai with two divisions of old soldiers.

13. In 1941 the Japanese Government completely annexed a great number of researches and investigation bodies for the cultures in general, such as Oriental religions, morals, and attainments, for politics and economies, etc., and bodies for suiding public opinion concerning Oriental questions; made up one body which was name the Japanese Asia Development League; and thus attempted to control the Asia Development movement by it. The Greater Asia Association was also amalgamated into this Japanese Asia Development League, the organic of the association was made to discontinue its publication, all the records were transferred from the association to the Asia Development League, and General Matsui was recommended for a staff of that League.

A great many members of the League and all sorts of undertakings were brought together at random by the Asia Development League. But as they were only a medley of the good and bad, their perfect control and arrangement were



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quite impossible. Therefore they did nothing but repeat the changes of system, and were not able to be engaged in any actions of great significance.

14. Not long after that, General Matsui resigned his post, and retired to Atami, where he was a keeper of the Kannon (merciful goddess) temple, and offered up prayers for the repose of all the Chinese and Japanese souls who were killed at various battle-fields in China. But sometimes he at the request of people there gave lectures on the Greater Asia Principle. I often accompanied him and listened to his lectures. He chiefly spoke to the effect that the key to the solution of the incident lay on the reflection of the Japanese.

General Matsui loved China and the Chinese, and he said that in order to save Asia, China and Japan should rise up hand in hand with each other.

On this 27 day of June, 1947

At Tokyo

Deponent: /S/ SHIMONAKA, ~~Corradino~~ (seal)

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

On the same date, at the same place

Witness: /S/ JODAI, Takayoshi (seal)



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OATH

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

/S/ Shimonaka, Genzaburo (seal)