

SECRET

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
FAR EAST COMMAND  
Operations, CIS, G-2  
Compilation Branch

AFG 500  
1 Aug 1947

SUBJECT: FURUNO, Inosuke

DATE OF BIRTH: 13 November 1891

PERMANENT ADDRESS: Mie Prefecture

PRESENT ADDRESS: 882 Hatagaya, Hara-machi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo

1913 Studied at Waseda University but did not graduate

Oct 1914 Employed by the International News Agency (KOKUSAI) and the Japan Times.

May 1919 Employed by the Tokyo branch of United Press (American) and Reuters News Agency (British)

Jul 1920 Chief, Peiping Branch, International News Agency (KOKUSAI)

Jan 1925 Chief, London Branch, International News Agency (KOKUSAI); remained in London until about October 1926, returning to Japan via the United States

May 1926 Manager, Eastern Division, Associated Press (RENGO SHIMBUN SHA); KOKUSAI was reorganized to form the RENGO SHIMBUN SHA

Apr 1929 Director, Home and Foreign Press Bureaus, RENGO News Agency.

Dec 1929 General Manager, RENGO News Agency.

1935 Executive Director, DOMEI News Agency; RENGO News Agency was reorganized into the DOMEI News Agency (DOMEI TSUSHIN SHA)

Dec 1935 Managing Director, DOMEI

Jan 1936 Chief Editor, Chief of Foreign News Section, and Chief of Economic Bureau, DOMEI

Jul 1936 Concurrently Chief, Osaka Branch, DOMEI

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Subj: FURUNO Inosuke, dtd 1 Aug 47, contd

Sep 1937 Councillor, Cabinet Information Board  
1939-1942 President, Board of Directors, DOMEI; re-elected  
in 1941 and 1944  
Jul 1939 Secretary, Asia Promotion Committee  
Sep 1939 President, DOMEI  
1940 Went to China to establish agencies of DOMEI  
Nov 1942 Trip to East Indies, French Indo-China to inspect  
branch offices of the DOMEI  
1 Jan 1943 Councillor, Singapore Journalists' Association  
5 May 1943 Director, Japan Broadcasting Corporation  
23 Jun 1943 Councillor, Information Board  
Jun 1944 Member, Central Liaison Headquarters Committee of the  
National People's Movement (National Rally Movement)  
1945 Director, Radio Broadcasting Corporation (HOSO KYOKAI)  
24 Feb 1945- Member, House of Peers  
13 Dec 1945  
23 Jun 1945- Councillor, Information Board  
26 Nov 1945

REMARKS:

During the war, subject held such important posts as Councillor of the Cabinet Information Board, Executive Director of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association (TAISEI YOKUSAN KAI), Councillor of the Singapore Journalists' Association (SHONAN SHIMBUN KAI, a newspaper syndicate to report news in the Singapore area), and Director of the Japan Broadcasting Corporation. His DOMEI News Agency, with its network of correspondents throughout the Far East, was the most important single propaganda agency of the Japanese in Greater East Asia before and during the war.

In interrogations conducted by Civil Intelligence Section, subject reiterated that the majority of his wartime positions were nominal; e.g., that his attendance at meetings of the Cabinet Information Board and of the National Rally Movement was as an honorary member. He stated that his connection with the Japan Broadcasting Corporation was as an honorary

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Subj: FURUNO Inosuke, dtd 1 Aug 47, contd

director representing DOMEI; that his association with the IFAA, which he deemed a social service association and not a political society, was also as an honorary member representing DOMEI. During the course of one interrogation, FURUNO stated: "To have a great newspaper agency represented at the meetings (of various wartime committees and boards) was only natural in any country and is a source of news for the news agency."

Subject admitted that his news agency was virtually a military organ, disseminating news releases censored by the Japanese Government.

FURUNO was arrested on 12 December 1945 and placed in Sugamo Prison under the provisions of Paragraph 7-a, Joint Staff Basic Directive for Post-Surrender Military Government in Japan as of 3 November 1945. Subject was released from Sugamo on 31 August 1946.

In an article entitled "The Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and the International War of Thought" (from a collection of essays on "The Construction of Greater East Asia," dated 30 January 1943), subject expresses himself as follows:

"The reason why one billion of our people have risen to the cause of this war for Greater East Asia is for the future of our race. They have daringly sprung up to crush the power which is threatening the existence of our country and which cannot be controlled. Both England and the United States have more than enough territorial possessions. Moreover, for the past one hundred to one hundred and fifty years they have repeatedly carried out conquest and aggression by abusing science and misusing techniques. Maintaining that position, they have now attempted to conquer East Asia.

.....

"Unlike the European and American countries, Japan is not simply an aggressor or a conqueror, but a lover of peace. This is well defined in the Imperial Proclamation. The negotiations we have carried on in the past seem like a dream today, but we can say that we have done all we could in making concessions and expressing sincerity with regard to the future of our nation and prospects for our race. It is needless for me to repeat over and over that the cause of the present war is for the sake of the existence and the preservation of our empire, and that we are fighting a rightful war. We must always have faith that the Japanese race is the one that practices right.

.....

"... Japan is changing the history of the world, and stands in the



Subj: FURUNO Inosuke, dtd 1 Aug 47, contd

position of deciding the direction of mankind. In the Pacific area alone, which we have already occupied, our position has been established as being sure of ultimate victory. . . . From now on, the Japanese race must unite in strength and make these thousands and millions of different islands in the Pacific our defense line for East Asia and consider each island as. . . an indestructible battleship and aircraft carrier.

". . . . America is just now beginning to put itself wholeheartedly into the war. This is quite natural; just because they have been beaten to pieces within half a year does not mean that they, who are spoilt sons of the wealthy will awake from their lethargy. They will not wake up until they have so indulged in pleasure that they are in up to their necks and powerless. I think this is typical of America."



Personal History of FURUNO Inosuke

Name : FURUNO Inosuke

Date of Birth : November 13, 1891

Domicile : MIE-Ken

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- 1910 Graduated from the Higher Course at the KOKUMIN-EI-GAKKAI (National English Institute), KANDA-Ku, Tokyo.
- May, 1910 Served at the Tokyo Branch of the American United Press and the (English) Renter's, Ltd.
- 1913 Left without completing the whole course of the College Department of Politics and Economics in WASEDA University, Tokyo.
- October, 1914 Served at the Foreign Department of the International Press and the Editorial Staff of the "Japan Times".
- July, 1920 Appointed the head of the Peking Branch of the International Press.
- Nov, 1923 Appointed the head of the General Affairs Section, International Press.
- Jan, 1925 Appointed the head of the London Branch of the International Press.
- May, 1926 Appointed manager of the Eastern Section of the United Press Association.
- April, 1929 Appointed the heads of both Home and Foreign Departments of the United Press Association.
- Dec, 1931 Appointed the general manager (head of the Departments as hitherto) of the United Press Association.
- Dec, 1935 Appointed the managing director of the DOMEI (Allied) Press (Corporation).
- Jan, 1936 Appointed the head of the Editorial Staff, Foreign and Economic Departments of the DOMEI Press.
- July, 1936 Appointed the head of the Economic and Foreign Department as well as the head of the OSAKA Branch of the DOMEI Press.



June, 1937 Appointed the head of the Business Department of the DOMEI Press in addition to the above-mentioned positions held.

Sept. 1937 Appointed a councillor of the Intelligence Department of the Cabinet.

March, 1939 Commissioned a director of the Central League of the National Spirit Mobilization.

June, 1939 Commissioned a councillor of the Central League of the National Spirit Mobilization.

July, 1939 Appointed manager of the Asia Development Committee.

Sept, 1939 Appointed President of the DOMEI Press.

Nov. 28, 1940 Appointed a member of the National Language Council. ( The Cabinet.)

Dec. 12, 1941 Appointed a specialist member of the Insurance Board. ( The Cabinet.)

March 10, 1942 Appointed a member of the Central Committee for Prince Formation. This committee was abolished by Imperial ordinance, No. 114, March 10, 1945. ( The Cabinet.)

Feb. 19, 1943 Appointed a member of the Nomination Committee for selection of the president of the Association in accordance with the provision stipulated in Article 6, Press Industry Act. ( The Cabinet.)

June 23, 1943 Appointed a councillor of the Intelligence Board of the Cabinet.

Dec. 26, 1944 Appointed an extraordinary member of the Investigation Committee on the Political Treatment of residents in Korea and Formosa.

Feb. 24, 1945 Appointed a member of the House of Peers in accordance with No. 4 provision, Article I, House of Peers Ordinance. ( The Cabinet.)

May 9, 1945 Commissioned a member of the Consultation Council for National Volunteers. ( The Cabinet.)

June 23, 1945 Appointed a councillor of the Intelligence Board of the Cabinet.

Nov. 26, 1945 Relieved from the position of a Councillor of the Intelligence Board of the Cabinet. ( The Cabinet.)



- April 29, 1940      Decorated with the 6th Order of the Sacred  
Treasure for services in the "China Incident".  
( The Cabinet.)
- Dec. 13, 1945      Relieved as member of the House of Peers at own  
request.
- Feb. 21, 1946      Relieved from the position as member of the National  
Language Council. ( The Cabinet.)
- August 24, 1946    Named as the person who came under the Memorandum,  
according to Article I, Imperial Ordinance, No. 109,  
1946.



Translated by YAMASAKI, M.  
Checked by Teikichi YAMANOOTO 16 July, 1947.

Name : FURUNO Inosuke ①

Date of Birth : November 13, 1891

Domicile : MIE-ken

Dates	Graduation, Positions held, etc.
1910	Graduated from the Higher
	Course at the KOKUMIN-EI-
	GAKKAI (National English Institute)
	KANDA-ku, Tokyo.
May, 1910	Served at the Tokyo Branch of
	the American United Press
	and the (English) Renter's, Ltd.
1913	Left without <sup>completely</sup> finishing the
	whole course of the College
	Department of Politics and



	Economics in WASIEDA ②
	University, Tokyo.
October, 1914	Served at the Foreign Department of the International Press and the Editorial Staff of the "Japan Times".
July, 1920	Appointed the head of the Peking Branch of the International Press.
Nov., 1923	Appointed the head of the General Affairs Section, International Press.
Jan., 1925	Appointed the head of the London Branch of the International Press.



- May, 1926 Appointed ~~the~~ manager of the Eastern Section of the United Press Association.
- April, 1929 Appointed the heads of both Home and Foreign Departments of the United Press Association.
- Dec, 1931 Appointed the general manager (heads of the departments as hitherto) of the United Press Association.
- Dec, 1935 Appointed ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> managing director of the DOMEI (Allied) Press (Corporation).



Jan., 1936

Appointed the head<sup>s</sup> of the Editorial Staff, Foreign and Economic Departments of the DOMEI Press.

July, 1936

Appointed the head<sup>s</sup> of the Economic and Foreign Departments as well as the head of the OSAKA Branch of the DOMEI Press.


June, 1937

Appointed the head of the <sup>business</sup> Industrial Department of the ~~same~~ <sup>DOMEI Press</sup> in addition to the above-mentioned positions held.



⑤

Sept, 1937	Appointed a councillor at the Intelligence Department of the Cabinet.
March, 1939	Commissioned a director of the Central League of the National Spirit Mobilization.
June, 1939	Commissioned a councillor of the Central League of the National Spirit Mobilization.
July, 1939	Appointed a manager of the Asiatic Development Committee.
Sept, 1939	Appointed <del>the</del> President of the DOMEI Press.





- Nov. 28, 1940 Appointed a member of the National Language Council. (The Cabinet.)
- Dec 12, 1941 Appointed a specialist member of the Insurance Board. (The Cabinet.)
- March 10, 1942 Appointed a member of the Central Committee for Price Formation. This ordinance was repealed by the Imperial Ordinance, No. 114, March 10, 1945. (The Cabinet.)
- Feb. 19, 1943 Appointed a member of





the Nomination Committee <sup>(7)</sup>  
for selection of the president  
of the Association in  
accordance with the provision  
stipulated in Article 6,  
Press Industry Act.

June 23, 1943 Appointed a councillor  
(The Cabinet.)  
of the Intelligence Board of  
the Cabinet.

Dec. 26, 1944 Appointed an extraordinary  
member of the Investigation  
Committee <sup>on the</sup> of Political treat-  
ment of ~~the~~ residents in



Korea and Formosa.

Feb. 24, 1945 Appointed a member of the House of Peers in accordance with No. 4 provision, Article I, House of Peers Ordinance. (The Cabinet.)

May 9, 1945 Commissioned a member of the Consultation Council for the National Volunteers. (The Cabinet.)

June 23, 1945 Appointed a councillor at the Intelligence Board of the Cabinet.

Nov. 26, 1945 ~~Dismissed~~ <sup>Relieved</sup> from the position of



⑨

a Councillor at the Intelligence  
Board of the Cabinet.

(3rd Cabinet.)

April 29, 1940 Decorated with the 6th grade  
of the Order of the Sacred Treasure  
for <sup>services</sup> ~~the merit~~ in the "China Incident"

(3rd Cabinet.)

Dec. 13, 1945 Relieved of ~~his~~ status of being  
as member of the House of Peers  
at his own request.

Feb. 21, 1946 <sup>Relieved</sup> ~~Dismissed~~ from the position  
of member of the National  
Language Council.

(The Cabinet.)



August 24, 1946

Named <sup>as</sup> the person who  
~~fell~~ <sup>came</sup> under the Memorandum,  
~~in accordance~~ <sup>to</sup> with  
Article I, Imperial  
Ordinance, No. 109,  
1946.



14 July 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Lopez; Capt. Robinson USN Att. Cmdr. Cole;  
Mr. Edwards; Mr. Sutton  
FROM : EDWARD P. MONAGHAN, Chief,  
Investigative Division, IPS  
SUBJECT : Defense Witness

1. Please find attached hereto list of material available on the following witness and/or witnesses.

DEFENDANT

ITAGAKI

WITNESS

FURUNO, Inosuke

LIST OF MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Memo for the file

2. Please acknowledge receipt of this memorandum by initialling and returning attached carbon copy to this office, Room 300.

*EP M*

EDWARD P. MONAGHAN

Incl  
(Described above)



J. G. Lambert  
Investigator

Memo for the file:

FURUNO, Inosuke

Requested by ITAGAKI

Is the subject of case file # 218

Is referred to in file #	185	Ser.	19
	217	Ser.	23
	386		2
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DIRECT EXAMINATION OF FURUNO, Inosuke,  
By Mr. Banno.

30085  
30087

\* The witness identified and verified exhibit 3299 as his affidavit. \* The affidavit stated that the witness was formerly president of the Domei News Agency. He first became acquainted with ITAGAKI shortly after World War I, at Peking, where ITAGAKI was assistant to the Military Attache.

30088

In April, 1938, the witness was preparing for a business trip to Peking, when KONOYE had a talk with him and told him that the Sino-Japanese Incident had become serious in spite of the government's localization policy. KONOYE said he thought it was urgent to change present policies to cope with the situation. To achieve this, \* the Cabinet must be reformed, and War Minister SUGIYAMA's successor must be one who could carry the localization policy out with enthusiasm. He thought ITAGAKI was well qualified, and he knew privately that the military also favored him. Since KONOYE knew the witness was well acquainted with ITAGAKI, he asked him to visit him in North China and hear ITAGAKI's opinion about settling the China Incident and as to his intention in case he was recommended as War Minister.

30089

The witness consented to this request and met ITAGAKI in Shantung. When the witness asked ITAGAKI's opinion as to settling the Incident, he said very earnestly that they must reach a peaceful conclusion, withdrawing the entire forces from China as soon as possible. \* He stated he was not qualified for the post of War Minister, as he was a junior in the army, and since he had long served in the line of supreme command he was uninformed as to administration matters.

The witness thought, however, that ITAGAKI's acceptance or refusal would depend chiefly on the army's attitude and KONOYE's enthusiasm. The witness reported the talk to KONOYE by telegram, and on reaching Tokyo gave a further account and suggested that ITAGAKI had a strong desire for the entire withdrawal of the military forces and a peaceful settlement of the Incident.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY JUDGE NYI.

30090

\* When asked if ITAGAKI had caused any troops to be withdrawn after he became War Minister, the witness stated that troop withdrawal would take effect after peace negotiations were successful, but military matters were beyond the province of the witness.



October 6, 1947  
DEFENSE - ITAGAKI  
FURUNO - Cross

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The witness knew that after ITAGAKI became War Minister, the war in China intensified and extended to middle and south China. Asked if he kept an interest in ITAGAKI's speeches and activities after he became War Minister, the witness stated he did not give particular attention to ITAGAKI after he became War Minister. He gave his attention to general conditions.

30091 The witness was in Japan the last part of June, 1938. Asked if he knew that ITAGAKI, in an interview with Domei News Agency on 26 June, 1938, stated that Japan \* should be prepared to fight for ten more years and he asked for popular support, the witness stated that he had no recollection of that, but it was possible ITAGAKI said it.

30092 When handed exhibit 2197, the witness stated it was an English news item in the Japan Advertiser. As English newspapers not only printed stories by Domei, but also translations of items appearing in vernacular newspapers of Tokyo, he could not say whether this was a Domei issue. \* Since military operations were then continuing, responsible military persons made public and official statements that the fight must be intensified, but at the same time there were uninterrupted efforts to bring about peace between Japan and China.

30094 \* Exhibit 3300-A, an excerpt from the KONOYE Memoirs, stated that as soon as KONOYE formed a Cabinet the Marco Polo Bridge Incident broke out. Despite the policy to localize the affair, hostilities spread to the entire North and to Central China. During that time the army attitude was unreliable, and the remarks of War Minister SUGIYAMA were inconsistent. Embarrassed by the state of things, it was necessary for KONOYE to get a War Minister who was able to follow the localization policy advocated by Lieutenant General ISHIHARA, Kanji, of General Staff Headquarters. KONOYE proposed to the army that ITAGAKI, whose ideas were generally similar to ISHIHARA's, enter the Cabinet as War Minister. UMEZU, however, demanded as a condition that TOJO be appointed Vice-Minister. With this condition, KONOYE succeeded in changing the Minister of War.

30095 Exhibit 3300-B, an excerpt from the KONOYE Memoirs, stated \* that when Nanking fell toward the end of 1937, peace negotiations were started with the Nanking Government through the good offices of German Ambassador Trautman.



INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.

- vs -

ARAKI, Sadao, et al.

403799

no + 4cm



SWORN DEPOSITION (Translation)

Deponent: FURUNO, Inosuke

*Itagaki*

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, FURUNO, Inosuke, was formerly President of the Domei News Agency. As the corporation was dissolved after the close of the War, I left the aforesaid position and am now living at Tamagawara, Chofu-machi, Kita-Tama-gun, Tokyo.

2). It was shortly after the end of Great War I, 1921 or 1922 that I first became acquainted with Mr. ITAGAKI. At that time I was staying at Peking, serving as Chief of the Peking Bureau of the Kokusai News Agency, and Mr. ITAGAKI was also there serving as assistant officer to the military attache to the Japanese Embassy at Peking.

3). In April, 1938, -- I was then one of the Executive Directors of the Domei News Agency at Tokyo --, I was preparing for a business trip to Peking when Premier KONOYE asked me to have a talk with him and I met him at his official residence. The



Premier said to me, "The Sino-Japanese Incident has unexpectedly assumed serious proportions, as you know, in spite of the Government's localization policy, and there is no sign of its end. Now I think it is an urgent necessity to change our present policies so as to cope with the situation as soon as possible. To achieve it the cabinet must be reformed. The successor to SUGIYAMA, the present War Minister, must be such a man as can carry our localization policy with enthusiasm for the peaceful settlement of the Incident. Lt. Gen. ITAGAKI, I think, is well-qualified for the post. I know privately that the military also seem to be in favor of the appointment of ITAGAKI. As I know you (FURUNO) are well-acquainted with ITAGAKI, I ask that you visit him where he now is, at the front in North China, and hear his frank and full opinion about the settlement of the China Incident, sound him as to his intention in case of his being recommended for the post of War Minister." Perceiving that the premier was eager for the peaceful settlement of the Incident and had made up his mind to appoint ITAGAKI as successor to SUGIYAMA if possible, I consented to his request.

4). After that, I left Tokyo and went by way of Tsingtao to Ihsien, Shantung, the advance line in North China at the time. I met ITAGAKI who was then staying there.

I talked with him several times very confidentially. First when I asked his opinion as to the settlement of the Incident, he held very earnestly that we must reach a peaceful conclusion, withdrawing the entire forces from China as soon as possible.



Def. Doc. No. 2580

Next, as to his intention of taking the post of War Minister, he stated that he was not qualified for the post as he was a junior in the Army and there would be not a few persons fit for the position, and moreover, as he had long been serving in the line of supreme command, he was uninformed as to matters involved in military administration.

I thought however, that his acceptance or refusal would depend chiefly on the attitude of the Army and the Premier's enthusiasm.

5). Leaving Ihsien I reached Peking by way of Tsinan. and sent a telegram to Premier KONOYE from Peking, reporting the purport of my talk with ITAGAKI.

Having my business over at Peking, I returned to Tokyo at the end of May, spending two or three week's on the trip. On reaching Tokyo I met Premier KONOYE at the Tekigaisō, his private residence, and gave him a full account of my interview with ITAGAKI. I suggested that ITAGAKI had a strong desire for the entire withdrawal of the military forces from China and the peaceful settlement of the Incident.

On this 12th day of Sept., 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT FURUNO, Inosuke (seal)



Def. Doc. No. 2580

I, BANNO, Junkichi, 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: (signed) BANNO, Junkichi (seal)

OATH

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

FURUNO, Inosuke (seal)



18 July 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Lopez; Capt. Robinson USN Att: Cmdr. Cole;  
Mr. Edwards; Mr. Sutton  
FROM : EDWARD P. MONAGHAN, Chief,  
Investigative Division, IPS  
SUBJECT : Defense Witness

1. Please find attached hereto list of material available on the following witness and/or witnesses.

DEFENDANT

ITAGAKI

WITNESS

FURUNC, Inosuke

LIST OF MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Curriculum Vitae

2. Please acknowledge receipt of this memorandum by initialling and returning attached carbon copy to this office, Room 300.

Incl  
(Described above)

*EPM*  
EDWARD P. MONAGHAN