

VII-I-4

Rejected
R. 28564

Def. Doc. No. 2493

Exh. # _____

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs -

ARAKI, Sadao, et al



SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponent: MATSUMOTO, Takizo

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.

AFFIDAVIT

Name : Takizo Matsumoto

Birthplace: Hiroshima, Japan
20 March 1901

Occupation: Professor at Meiji University;
Member of House of Representatives;
Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Education : Went to the United States at the age of three. Finished Fresno High School. Later returned to Japan to finish Koryo Middle School and Meiji University. Again went to the United States to finish graduate work at Harvard University.

I hereby wish to make the following testimony.

As I recall, it was in late October 1938, when I was on the Pacific Coast en route to Japan after finishing my graduate work at Harvard, that I ran across an article in English concerning the former General Araki. It was in the English section of a Japanese

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paper printed on the Pacific Coast. The article was a statement made by General Araki to the effect that all Niseis having American citizenship should be faithful to America even in case there should ever be an armed conflict between the two countries. The article was given prominence and I noticed that the Niseis who read it were very much impressed. I myself, having fought many years for the Nisei cause and later took over the post as chairman of the Nisei Federation in Japan, was also deeply moved by his statement.

Upon my return to Japan, on three different occasions; I learned that he had made a similar statement to all the Niseis who visited him while he held the post of Minister of Education. I made it a point to visit him shortly before the war. In a private interview, I learned for myself that he had a most generous understanding and sympathy of the Nisei position and their concern over the mounting tension between America and Japan.

Niseis in Japan at that time were under surveillance. We needed courageous and sympathetic friends to help them out. Hence, when we formed the Nisei Federation in Japan, the first man we chose as our advisor was the former General Araki who willingly accepted the position. He not only addressed the Nisei group time after time, but was a constant inspiration to the distressed Niseis. In the course of his address, I cannot recall a single incident in which he justified the war between America and Japan.

Respectfully Submitted,

TAKIZO MATSUMOTO

4 September 1947

On this 4 day of Sept., 1947

At the office of Parliamentary Vice-Minister
of Foreign Affairs.

DEPONENT MATSUMOTO, Takizo (seal)

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I, SUGAWARA, Kuniaki 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

(Office of Parliamentary Vice-Minister
of Foreign Affairs)

Witness: (signed) SUGAWARA, Kunitaka
(seal)

OATH

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

MATSUMOTO, Takizo (seal)

No. 46, 2 cho-me, Shimouma-
cho, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo City.

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Exh, NO

次ノ如ク供述致シマス

自分儀我國ニ行ハルル方式ニ從ヒ先ヅ川紙ノ通り宣誓ヲ爲シタル上

官 審 供 述 書
松 本 八 十 堀 藏

荒 木 貞 夫 其 他

亞 米 利 加 合 衆 國 其 他

亞 東 國 際 軍 事 裁 判 所

對

長ヲ勤メタ者デアリマスカラコノ聲明ニハ大イニ感歎シタモノデアリマ
ス。

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訪問シタ二世達ニ同様ノ言葉ヲ興ヘラレタコトヲ知リマシタ。

戦争直前ニハ私ハ大將ヲ訪問スルコトヲ決マツタコトノヤウニシテキマ
シタ。アル私的ナ會見ノ際ニ私ハ大將ガ二世ノ立場ニ對シテ最モ寛イ理
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懸念ニ對シテモ同様デアルコトヲ知リマシタ。

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同情ヲモツ友ヲ必妥トシテ居リマシタ。ソレ故吾々ガ在日二世聯合ヲツ
クツタ時第一ノ相談役トシテ送ンダノハ荒木元大將ガ彼ハ快クソノ位置
ヲ承引シテ呉レマシタ。彼ハ幾度モ二世ノ團體ニ呼ビカケタバカリデナ
ク齒メル二世達ヘノ偏ラザルインスピレーションノ源泉デアリマシタ。
彼ノ演說中一度デモ私ハ彼ガ對米戦争ヲ正シイトシタノヲ聞イタコトガ
アリマセン。

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松 本 瀧 藏 謹 白 (署名)

一九四七年九月四日

昭和二十二年（一九四七年）九月四日

於 外務省政務次官室

供 述 官 公 本 藏

右ハ當立會人ノ田圃ニテ官管シ且ツ有名捺印シタルコトヲ證明シマス

同日於二同 所 (外務省政務次官室)

立會人 菅原 隆

（Faint, mostly illegible text, likely a transcript or official record, possibly containing names and details of the meeting or investigation mentioned in the header.)

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良心ニ從ヒ眞實ヲ述ベ何事ヲモ
秘セズ又何事ヲモ附加セザル
コトヲ書フ

東京都世田谷區下馬町二丁目四六番地

(署名
捺印)

松
本
龍
城