

Date: 27 May 1948

Report of Investigation Division, Legal Section, GHQ, SCAP.

Inv. Div. No.
2691

CRD No.

Report by: Norman S. Tracy
Captain, Inf.

Title: Ryohey NOGI; Kyohito HOMMA; Hideshiro OKAZAKI
(Re: Mistreatment of IMPORTED CHINESE LABORERS).

Synopsis of facts:

This case being closed and information turned over to special prosecutors of former Class A war criminals.

- C -

Reference: Report of Maj Robert Patterson dated 12 Oct 47.

DETAILS:

At Tokyo:

The investigation in this case covers the mistreatment of imported Chinese laborers.

No prosecution is contemplated of subject Japanese listed in title, but information is being turned over to special prosecutors of former Class A war criminals.

C L O S E D

Distribution:

1 Pros (Mr. Lipscomb)
1 CRD
1 Chinese Div ✓
1 Inv Div (File 2691)

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Date: 11 October 1947

Report of Investigation Division, Legal Section, GHQ, SCAP.

Inv. Div. No.

~~2196~~ 2691

CRD No.

Report by: R. Patterson
Maj. Cav.

Title: Ryohey NOGI; Kyohito HOMMA; Hideshiro OKAZAKI
(Re Mistreatment of Imported Chinese Laborers)

Synopsis of facts:

Seiichiro KUBO, a witness in 'CHUSAN-RYO' case, former Labor boss at Hanaoka Mine in Akita Prefecture, was interrogated at Tokyo on 10 October, verified and added to the details pertinent to Ryohey NOGI, Kyohito HOMMA and Hideshiro OKAZAKI that he previously testified to in his Affidavit dated 12 July 1946.

A document consisting of a collection of orders from the Special Higher Police (HOME Office) authorities in Akita Prefecture, to KUBO as a labor manager, covering the period from 1 Feb 1944 to 7 Sept 1945, was handed over by KUBO and transmitted to for translation and return. The document implicates OKAZAKI indirectly or directly.

- P -

Reference: Inv. Div. File #2196, Report by Maj. R. Patterson dated 9 Oct 1947 and Incl thereto, Affidavit of Seiichiro KUBO dated 12 July 1946.

DETAILS:

At Tokyo:

Seiichiro KUBO, former Chief of Labor Division, at the Fugita-gumi company's mine at Hanaoka, Akita Prefecture, was interrogated at Tokyo on 9 October 1947. He verified and added to the statements contained in his affidavit dated 12 July 1946, as follows:

1. General:

The Japanese language title for the organization referred to in translation as the "ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION WORKS CONTROL ASSOCIATION" is "DOMOKU KENCHIKU KYOKAI" (commonly shortened to "DOKEN KYOKAI").

The Japanese title for the organization referred to in translation as the "SPECIAL CHINESE COUNTER-MEASURE COMMITTEE" is "YUNYU KAJIN ROMUSHA KINRO SHIDO" (roughly: 'Imported Chinese Personnel Labor Regulating

Distribution:

2 Prosecution
Mr. Faison
Mr. Smith
1 CRD
1 Chinese Liaison Div.
1 Inv. Div. (~~2196~~) 2691
1 Maj. Patterson

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Committee').

KUBO reemphasized his previous statements to the effect that the industrial corporations which nominally were the "Employers" of the Chinese and had immediate charge of them were in reality agents of, and working with and for and under the Government because: (1) these Companies operated on a contract, and under conditions, and on terms that were all imposed by the Government authorities, especially in these respects, namely: (2) that the National Mobilization and the sundry laws and restrictive regulations which then prevailed placed everything and everybody under the Government's thumb; (3) that the Companies had to rely wholly on Govt sources and on official aid in matters of supply, above all, rations, which the Government failed to provide; (4) that the daily lives of the IMPORTED CHINESE LABORERS were regulated in detail in the form of numerous written orders from the "Special Higher Police" (HOME Office) in Akita Prefecture, and that these and other local authorities incessantly supervised the Chinese Groups at the Hanaoka Mine.

In substantiation of the latter statement, KUBO handed over a collection of written orders covering the period from approximately 1 February 1944 to 7 September 1945. (See paragraph No. 5 below).

KUBO stated that he had seen HOME Office statistics to the effect that at one time there were approximately 43,000 IMPORTED CHINESE LABORERS in Japan. He gave no further particulars. (It is the belief of this Investigator that the number of "ICLs" in Japan was greater than 43,000). KUBO supplied the additional detail as relating to his former Company, FUGITA-GUMI Ltd, that the latter operated another "ICL" Camp of approximately 200 laborers, at KOSAKA, in addition to the "TOA-RYO" camp at Hanaoka. (The notorious 'CHUSAN-RYO' camp, also at Hanaoka, was managed by KASHIMA-GUMI Ltd).

2. Re Ryohey NOGI:

KUBO stated that he personally saw NOGI in China on or about 25 April 1944; that at that time NOGI was collecting Chinese laborers for KASHIMA-GUMI; but that NOGI himself was a Government agent, specifically, Chief of the Labor Division and/or an authorized Labor Agent for the DOMOKU KENCHIKU KYOKAI (Engineering & Construction Works Control Association).

3. Re Kyohito HOMMA:

KUBO stated that the Japanese written character for HOMMA's first name could be translated either "Kyohito" or, alternatively, "Fusakichi".

In substantiation of the statements contained in KUBO's affidavit dated 12 July 1946 KUBO supplied the following additional details:

In April 1944 HOMMA visited the Hanaoka Mine and at that time KUBO learned personally from HOMMA himself that the latter had lived for 20 years or more in China, including at Tsing-Tao and had been in the shipping or transportation business. (These details are important as a matter not only of identification but also, possibly, of incrimination, in connection with a document held as evidence by the Legal Section. This item will be reported upon in a forthcoming report - RMP).

On 13 July 1944 KUBO personally attended a conference at the Hanaoka Mining Club and at that time heard HOMMA's speech, in the latter's official capacity as Advisor to the HOME Ministry, in which HOMMA stated, as policy and/or instructions, that the Chinese laborers at Hanaoka were being pampered, in quarters and with food too good for coolies, that food should be reduced and work increased, as was already the cases at the mines in HOKKAIDO, and that HOMMA actually used a slogan which, in the Japanese tongue means, in effect, in English words: "Squeeze the last drop of blood out of the Chinese".

Early in September 1944, when HOMMA and other HOME Office officials inspected the 'CHUSAN-RYO' Chinese Labor Camp operated by KASHIMA-GUMI at Hanaoka, KUBO noted that HOMMA observed the actual conditions and physical condition of the Chinese, and the facts concerning their rations, etc., and that at that time KUBO heard HOMMA repeat the policies and instructions stated in HOMMA's previous speech on 13 July 1944, etc.; that at that time KUBO heard HOMMA instruct KONO, the local Labor manager for KASHIMA-GUMI, and that HOMMA repeated the policies and instructions previously laid down by HOMMA in his speech on 13 July 1944.

KUBO stated that he obtained directly from Asst. Police inspector NARITA (fnu) the information which HOMMA in his affidavit of 6 July 1946 quotes NARITA as saying: in effect that at the short course for Police men charged with controlling Chinese Laborers which NARITA attended at the Ofaru Higher Commercial School in HOKKAIDO at an unknown date in 1944, NARITA heard HOMMA expound the same views on Chinese Labor that HOMMA expressed on the other abovementioned occasions.

4. Re Hideshiro OKAZAKI:

KUBO was checked on his knowledge, if any, of OKAZAKI and stated that he was entirely uninformed on this Subject. However, he furnished the following:

5. Relevant Document:

KUBO handed over a collection of written orders and instructions covering the period from approximately 1 February 1944 to 7 September 1945, from the Police authorities in Akita Prefecture to KUBO as Labor Manager for FUGITA-GUMI at the Hanaoka Mine.

Pertinent facts in this connection are: The Chinese, as aliens, were the official concern of the HOME Office. The competent Bureau of that Office was the Police Bureau. The competent Sections of that Bureau were the Foreign Affairs Sections. During parts of the period of time pertinent to this investigation and Report, OKAZAKI headed up both of those Sections. Channels were, from the Home Office, Tokyo, via the "Special Higher Police" units elsewhere in Japan. On location these units were administratively tied-in with the Prefectural Police (actually, to a great extent, they bossed the show). Orders as to the control of Chinese Laborers were transmitted by the Special Higher Police to the Labor managers of the industries which immediately operated the work projects and camps and handled the Chinese Laborers. The local police, especially the local units of the "Special (HOME Office) Higher Police" incessantly and directly supervised and regulated the actual operations.

* * * * *

The above mentioned document has been transmitted to ATIS for translation and return to this Division. Its general bearing on OKAZAKI, for reasons indicated above, is obvious. Moreover, a brief scanning of it indicates

that it will be of definite value as general evidence linking up local crimes (effects) with higher policies (causes) and, it is hoped, thus directly implicating OKAZAKI and/or others higher up the line.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

The Tokyo Office will report upon the document, consisting of a collection of orders emanating allegedly from the HOME Office and immediately from the Police of Akita Prefecture which were transmitted to Seeichiro KUBO, former Director of Labor, Hanaoka Mine, and handed over by him to this Division.

P E N D I N G

VJ - to 1946 (Repats less 10 cleared) This is extra
1946 - 1947 - ~~250 YUAN~~
1947 - Dec ~~YEN~~
Dec 47 - WU Shen Tang 250

The unrelated + ~~disposition~~ impartial aspect was explained

The basic 250/300 offered publicly in Shanghai was Chinese rate - which at Japanese equiv rate would be 1⁷/₁₉

1945: Repatriation of Kakuda groups completed, less @ 10 who elected to stay in Japan

① who + when of the Co

② Check or Cash — 4 whens
whose \$ — ITO's? or Co's?

~~MPIS~~ — Part of Tokyo PM
Hq + Suce? Lt Pous + Montecorro
group

Thurs
Friday after 5
or Sunday 12 - 330

88
SAKATA, Romu, bucho

旭屋支部

HOKKAI TANKO-

YOSHIKAWA, Nobutsugu, Romu Kacho
talked to (Personnel)

Showa 22 December

paid in cash. December, Jan 20, 1903 times

2 Mr. Liu, also Mr. ^{Kuo} Go, Mr. Wong, one other
Sung

Clerk called ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ GOTO (後着)

中國代表團

Chugoku Daihyo Dan

ATAGO Police station

HASUNUMA Shihō Shunin

129/5892/621

MPIS

MP's GAIMUSHO

SNODERA

MPIS
N

265079

~~MPIS~~

KITA ICHIBAN CHD

HOKKAI TANKO KISEN
KABUSHIKI KAISHA
~~HOKKAI~~ TOKYO CITY
CHUOKU, NINONBASHI
MUROMACHI

RAMUSU
Lambeth

Co. 2nd

SEN BO
K 00 270,000

H. Col. RAFURAH MU
La



Handwritten Japanese characters, possibly 'H' and 'E'.

KANRI KYOKU CHO

P 3 Oct 48

Old # 1 (Cancelled)

1. Organization of Japan-China Labor Association.

As a corporation aggregate, its head office was located in Tokyo. I and NISHIMURA, Sueju became directors, and I, as chief director, stayed in TOKYO to keep liaison with the Greater East Asia Ministry while Director NISHIMURA served in SHANGHAI.

2. Objective.

The objective was to recruit from in and about the city of Shanghai, healthy men as volunteers who were jobless and had no food, clothing or shelter and to have them employed by the coal mining companies in Japan in order to promote the friendly relation between Japan and China.

3. The method of recruitment.

I let a Mr. NAGANUMA, Seizo, whose business was to recruit laborers in SHANGHAI and a Mr. YOSHIKAWA, Chief of Labor Section of HOKKAI TANKO KABUSHIKI KAISHA (Hokkaido Coal Mining Company, Ltd.) negotiate with the Embassy in SHANGHAI and had them freely recruit the laborers by using posters which stipulated the condition of the recruitment.

4. The treatment of laborers after recruitment.

(a) A house was hired in the city of SHANGHAI. The laborers who responded to the call for their service were immediately delivered to HOKKAI TANKO KAISHA (Hokkaido Coal Mining Company, Ltd.) and at the Company, after the Japanese physician made health examinations. Those who suffered disease were placed under medical care. To each laborer, new clothes and all other daily necessities were given free of charge, and 50 yuans was paid to ordinary laborers per day and 100 yuans to foremen. Foremen were selected from among the laborers and meals and all other matters were left in charge of these foremen. As

efforts were made to restore the health of the laborers during the period till their embarkation, all of them became fresh and lively beyond recognition and cheerfully went aboard the ships

(b) In the recruiting of the laborers, the Embassy directly supervised, and after the recruiting was completed, the laborers were delivered to TANKO KAISHA (Coal Mining Co.). Till the time of their embarkation, supply of food, payment of wages and other business regarding arrangement for ship and permission for import of the laborers were carried out by us, the directors of the Association.

/Document - Page 3/

(c) Director NISHIMURA of the Laborers' Association supervised locally on the spot, and TERAKAWA, Nobuyuki and MURAKAMI, Haruo of the same association were in charge of food distribution, while at the Embassy, I attended to the procedures

(See back page. He says there was an Embassy agent in Shanghai)

necessary for importation into Japan. Inspector WATANABE from the Greater East Asia Ministry came and supervised. From the Hokkaido Coal Mining and Steamship Company came five persons including the Labor Section Chief YOSHIKAWA, who took over the laborers on the spot and looked after them.

(5) Conditions after importation into Japan.

Because at the time of recruitment the posters stated Formosa or Japan, the Chinese laborers were surprised to find themselves transported to Hokkaido instead of Formosa. Before long, however, they were working with great satisfaction. ^① The lower prices and lower wages compared with that in China seemed to trouble them for a time, but they came to an understanding after the Company's explanation. ^②

① In Shanghai then an apple cost 70 ^{Chinese} Yuan while in Hokkaido it then cost 2 Japanese Sen. A pack of Cigs ^{70/150 Yuan} in China was 7.15 in Japan

② The says Co. explained the rate of exchange difference, & the commodity price difference, & satisfied the Chinese that they would be paid equivalent buying power to the posted Shanghai

Hokkai Tanko Kaisha
Kabushiki Kaisha
which operated the KARUDOF Mine

*He then was contractor for 11th Airbase
TTO's clients, including AIMI, Shiro, an attorney
+ can be located
with me & heard the conversation*

*NIHONBASHI KU
TOMISAWA CHO
#5 ARASHO BLDG*

(4) Conditions after the termination of the war.

Among the laborers of the HOKKAI Coal Mining Company, Ltd. about ten remained in Japan, who were sick or escaped from the train during their return to China. Others returned home safely.

(a) At the beginning of December 1947, Mr. WU Shen-fang who remained in Japan on account of illness acquired at the HOKKAI Coal Mine Company, called on me at my office and requested me to get the expense for the medical treatment from the company, in order that he may return home as soon as he recovers from an illness caused by coal dust, inhaled in the lungs. Therefore, I negotiated with the company and gave him about 270,000 yen in four installments. However, it seemed that he did not use this money for medical treatment but for pleasure instead.

(A)

*(See Note
(over) "A")*

*(A)
over*

(b) About January 1948 Mr. LI, who remained on account of his illness acquired at the HOKKAI Coal Mine Company, called on me. He told me that he had been publishing a newspaper in HOKKAIDO, but he came up to TOKYO for certain reasons and wanted to publish a newspaper in TOKYO. As Mr. LI and four other persons visited my office with the above mentioned desire, I offered them part of my office free of charge to enable them to publish the newspaper. They were gentlemen of character indeed, *and this was a fair & friendly mutual agreement at TTO's free will. No squeeze -*

(B) (fuu)

*Chinese
Kakuda
Swinson*

at TTO's free will. No squeeze -

(c) About 25 Feb., 1948 Mr. HO PING, now Chief of the NAGASAKI Branch of the Chinese National Party, and Mr. TSAI both of whom remained from the HOKKAI Coal Mine Company called at my office under the guidance of WU Shen-fang. I invited them to KōRAKU, Chinese Restaurant at GINZA to pay them my respects.

(D)

(C) (D) (over)

^{Ito says}
(A) The Co. wouldn't deal w/ WU, so
WU came to Ito + WU's attitude
was arrogant, claiming ailment being
TB from breathing coal dust
at the Rakuda Mine - wanted
a lump sum to start an
umbrella business - He ^(a) claimed
pay for doctor bills + (b) "asked"
for an outright donation to start
business. He negotiated w/ YOSHIRAGAWA
Nobutsugu, "Komin Kocho" (Labor
personnel section chief) of the Hokkai
TANKO Co in Dec 47, paid
WU cash money which Ito
borrowed from + still owes
the Co - ^{one} installment in Dec ⁴⁷
+ 2 or 3 in Jan 48.

This squeeze was of Ito because
WU couldn't get direct results
from the Co., also Ito had
financed a Chinese newspaper
in Tokyo in Dec 44 + WU
located him + held Ito resp
for importing him from
Shanghai originally.

Li + Big others
Kuo + 2 others
the news group
were present in
the office & witnessed
this incident

After that they called on me every day and demanded persistently that I pay 10,000 - 100,000 yen as my responsibility since the daily wages paid to them by the Coal Mine Company was only about 6 yen, when they were imported to Japan under promise that a daily wage for an ordinary laborer would be 250 yen and that for an ~~executive~~ ^{leader} 300 yen as stated in recruiting posters shown in SHANGHAI.

There was an argument loud voices, almost screams & threats, gestures, etc., I said I would pay them nothing & would call police, ordered Goto to go get cops, Goto started & was stopped at the door by TSAI who picked up a hammer that was in the office, put hammer in pocket kept hand on it. Goto was forcibly detained. A scuffle. No resistance. No injury.

I acted according to the order of the Japanese Government and I did not make a profit of it, not even one sen. I explained by comparing the prices of commodities and told them that if we compared the difference in the value of money in SHANGHAI and Japan, we would find that one packet of cigarettes which cost 200 yuan in SHANGHAI cost 7 sen in Japan. However, they were by no means satisfied. They demanded persistently that it was most unpardonable that I should not supply money when I had such a fine office, lived in a fine house and had so much money.

Furthermore they said that if I did not settle this question, they would announce, since I was running for a Diet member, my weak points to the ^{publicly} ~~newspapers~~ ^{press}. I repulsed them unyieldingly, saying that I did not care what they would write about me. ^{@ Early Mar. 1st or 2d.} When my clerk seeing that they were to harm me, tried to send an urgent message to the NIHONBASHI Police Station, Mr. TSAI and Mr. PING were surprised and turned upon me with a hammer.

7) As I feared that harm may be inflicted to our members, if I do not settle the matter amicably, I handed them ² checks with a promise that they would be cashable ^{later in} ~~on the 28th~~ March, in the amount of 500,000 yen to Mr. HO ^{Ping} and 70,000 yen to Mr. WU Shen-fang and came to a satisfactory settlement.

(D) As I had no money, I arranged with the Coal Mining Company and ^{Yoshikawa of the} ~~the Foreign Ministry~~ ^{unknown official of} ~~which succeeded the GEA Min~~ to explain to the China Representatives ~~group~~ this situation of not being able to pay. I submitted a letter to the ~~group~~ (?).

Resume here

The "Chingokw Daihyo Dan" - Office Mgr KOBAYASHI (fnw) ^{present address unknown} sent the letter. I don't know the group address.

One of my clerks
phoned Nihonbashi Jap
Police, who contacted MP's.
(Probably Mr. HASUNUMA, a
"Shiho Shunin"
Detective)
(Judicial Police)

@ 11 Mar

pulled open desk
drawers, tore rug,
broke vases, etc.

(E) As the payment was not made on March ~~11th~~, the date
of checks, WU Shen-fang came to my office, ^{on the due date} ravaged my office
and behaved rudely, the chief of the ~~MP's~~ ^{American MP's} came and led him away.

We all went to the ~~MP's~~ and explained the circumstances of that
time in writing. — American MP's came from the MP post next
door to ATAGO Police station - the unit that handles petty crimes

My wife heard
rumors that

(F) Messrs. WU, HO-Ping, TSAI and others ^{were} threatening to
harm on me if I did not raise the money so I closed my Nihonbashi
office and did not return to my Meguro house but lodged in my
relation's house at MUKOJIMA with my wife and children.

(E)

(g) On the 10th of April, when I was at UENO Station at
7 a.m. to take the 9 a.m. express to go to Sendai, Messrs. HO-ping
and TSAI came and told me that they were going to take me to the Chinese
Representatives ^{Group} office. I told them that I would go to the ^{Military}
Police station near the ATAGO Jap Police station
but not to the Representative's office and that I will get
contact with the ^{MPIS} by telephoning at the UENO Station Police
Station. Then the two of them ^(Ho & Tsai) told the Japanese police ^{at the Police}
office at UENO station that they would
immediately go to the Representative Corps office to get an
automobile to get (ITO) and asked them to take charge of him until
10 o'clock when they will return. ^{Don't know names of}
UENO police, nor was any record taken by them

"ATAGO" MPIS

(H) I immediately made contact with ~~one~~ ^{one} ~~American~~ ^{Civilian & an interpreter} military personnel with four Japanese police as aides
came to UENO station, where they waited until 10:30. However, they
did not appear so the American military personnel, Japanese police-
men and I returned to MPIS for the time being.

(I) Later, I left my office in NIHONBASHI, Tokyo in charge of
one of my friends and, having moved to Sendai, I started the enter-
prise of civil engineering and construction.

What is MPIS

at MPIS office near
ATAGO I made out a
form, & stated thereon
the incident mentioning
HO PING + TSAI by name
& stating they were trying
to get money out of him.

Later I ~~quit~~ ^{quit} my Nishombashi office in
went to Sendai into construction work.
building barracks for 11th Airborne - a
Lt Col RUFURAMU (phonetic) who wore Inf. insignia

About the middle of July this year, Mr. WU Shen-fang
1948
came to Sendai without paying for a train ticket as he had no
money to do so. ^{so the RR auths took him to MP's to whom WU}
~~and he came to my office guarded by some MPs~~
^{explained he must see me so MP's sent WU to me under J. police}
of Sendai for reasons of his alleged necessity to see me. He
escort

asked me to take him to TOKYO and negotiate with the mining
company for him saying he had little money and was physically
ill. As I was then too busy to go to Tokyo, I told him to visit
the Foreign Ministry and get into contact with the Company.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ → "GAIMUSHO"

He insisted however, that he would not leave me until I go
to Tokyo, saying he would not be treated sincerely if he has no
one to accompany him. As I saw no other way, I reported to the
at the KITA ICHIBAN-CHO station. ^{They came to my office, + I}
went there personally, &
CID in Sendai about this, whereupon the CID agents came and
dealt with ONODERA, a ^{job at CID, orally, no writing}
ordered him to return to TOKYO immediately. I gave him ¥ 3,000
for his traveling expenses but he would not leave my place and
room. The CID agents became perplexed. Finally, he stayed at my
office ^{for a week or 10 days} until I went to Tokyo together with him. I wrote to the
(quarters) ^{previously} the
Foreign Ministry from SENDAI informing them of the above situation.
and had the Ministry send WU to the president of the HOKKAI
Mining Company and arrange for his medical treatment. I introduced
Mr. WU to the (KANRI KYOKU CHO
Chief of the Administration Board) of the Foreign
Ministry and then I returned to SENDAI.

I don't know what happened immediately after that, but at
present I hear that WU became an office-boy for the Chinese Repre-
sentative Corps ^{location unknown} and is living in Tokyo together with HO, address
unknown.
(page 11 original)

Mr. WU Shen-fang is still a child after all and is also troubled
with his illness. It will do him more harm than good to give him
a large amount of money on the presumption that he would return to
China satisfied if the mining company hospitalize him and give him

one of friends
Who was
CO of the
Company - also an Eng. Capt "RAMSEY" (phonetic)
+ also a Major Miller, Gungong, Gungong

being only about 18 or 19 now

(*)

I have located the office Section - Yoshikawa Nobuharu of the father (now) who has contacted 2 Company

medical treatment as the responsibility of the Japanese Government. WU Shen-fang ^{8-ny} He speaks very good Japanese and so gets considerably amount of money from the members of the Mining Company.

Mr. HO ping and Mr. TSAI are also running short of money so that they are demanding more payment ~~from~~ ^{from ITO} emphasizing

the difference of terms given in the advertisement as it appeared in SHANGHAI. ^{They come together, about 6 or 7 times, with "hammer" +} In regard to this matter, there is already a

VENO station was the last time

negotiation with the Japanese Government that they are to be given 250 yuan a day which sum is said to be covered if they work well for a Japanese mining company according to the established contract system. They can get 5 yen a day when on probation and about 15 yen when they become trained workers.

X

Those sums, if exchanged into currency of the Chinese Federated Bank, will reach the sum of 250 yuan. At that time Japan's one yen was equivalent to 18 yen in the Chinese Federated Bank note. I explained this situation to them, but they could not understand it. *(This refers to the orig Shanghai deal)*

X

As I ran for membership to the Diet in Tokyo, and my office and house are rather large, they think that I can get money as much as I desire. That is why, I think, they made such an unreasonable demand to me. But I did not comply to this demand.

~~They then, got into contact with various circles and often sent many people to me for contacts up to the present.~~

Furthermore, in my absence o/a June 48

They demanded money from my wife, who refused.

Mr. HO ping and Mr. TSAI visited my house in Meguro and made demands of ~~me~~. Then my wife told them that I could not comply with their request. Since that time I have not seen them.

~~for two months. Such being the case, please take a fair measures in dealing with the present matter.~~

altogether, I have paid

@ 270,000 to Kuo Sen Bo (Lille) + more to the others.

(*) Mine Co's Tokyo office is CHUO-KU, Nishinbashi, Muromachi - The HOKKAI TANKO ^{KISEN} KABUSHIKI KAISHA

ITO Kotaro

(Statement Re Chinese Individuals)

~~Statement re Chinese individuals
made at the request of
the Japanese government
in 1944. © 1944 ITO~~

In 1944, @ 1500 Chinese Labourers were imported
to Japan from Shanghai, by the "Japan
China Labor Association" of which ITO
Kotaro was Director

(Handwritten note in parentheses, possibly a reference or source)

ITO Kotaro