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Def Doc No. 2262

U, SA IMTFE
ARACI
SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponent: YAMAZAKI, Iwao

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

MARUNOUCHI, TOKYO

CABLE ADDRESS:
"COCANCO TOKYO"
PHONE:
MARUNOUCHI (23)
3571

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al) A F F I D A V I T

- AGAINST -) of

ARZKI, Sadao, et al) YAMAZAKI, Iwao

- I, YAMAZAKI, Iwao make oath and say as follows:
- of Home Affairs from 1919 to 1939. From January, 1939 to July, 1939. I served as Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau in the Home Ministry. From December, 1939 to October, 1949, I served as Chief of Metropolitan Police. From October, 1949 to August, 1945 I held various positions such as Vice Minister of Home Affairs and in the Civil Administration of Occupied Territories. In August, 1945, I was appointed Minister of Home Affairs, but resigned as Home Minister in October the same year.
- As Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau in the nome Ministry, it was my responsibility to preserve law and order throughout Japan and it was part of any duties to try and prevent anticipated incidents from arising and in the event that they did occour to take necessary steps to subdue them. In order to accomplish this effectively, it was necessary that I keep myself well informed of various movements among the civilian populations and to certain the opinions and purposes of various group I constantly received reports from my subordinates in connection with these matters. While I was serving as Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau in the Home Ministry, the so-called July 5th

MARUNOUCHI, TOKYO

CABLE ADDRESS:
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PHONE:
MARUNOUCHI (23)
3871

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incident occurred in July, 1939. From reports I recieved I as-certained that the July 5th incident was plotted by more than 30 members of a rightist reformist group, led by MAYEDA, Torao and KAGEYAMA, Masaharu in attempts to assassinate those whom they regarded as pro-American and pro-British advocates of the status quo or liberalists. This group believed these proporsed victims were obstructing it projected national reform. The plot was timed for before daybreak, July 5, 1900, but due to advance information we had recleved, the assassinations were prevented and all of the plotters were rounded up just when they were leaving their base of operation, fully armed with handgrenades, revolvers, Japanese swords, and various other weapons. At this time Marquis KIDO was the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal. The Metolopolitan Police interogated these would be assassin& and found out that the target of their attempted assassinations included the following:

- (1) Prime Minister YONAI, as representative of the Government.
- (2) Mr. YUASA, Kurahei former Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal;
 Admiral OKADA, ex-Premier; Baron HARADA, Kumao; Count MAKINO,
 former Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal; Marquis KIDO, Lord
 Keeper of the Privy Seal and Mr. MATSUDAIRA, Tsuneo, Minister
 of the Imperial Household, as representatives of the Senior
 Statesmen.
- (3) Mr. IKEDA, Seihin and two others as representatives of private industries.

MARUNOUCHI, TOKYO

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MARUNOUCHI (23)
3571

- 3 -

(4) Mr. MACHIDA, leader of the minseito Party and four others as representatives of the political parties.

complete reports of the interogations of the plotters were submitted to me which verified the above. The would be assassing were duly tried, convicted and sentenced to prison terms. Additional police protection for the aforementioned proposed victions was provided for a period of time.

while I was serving as Chief of Metropolitan colice, I was 3. in charge of an investigation regarding a shooting affair which occurred against Baron HIRANUMA in August, 1941. It was perpetrated by a certain NISHIYAMA, Tadashi , a provincial member of the Makoto Musubi, one of the pro-German reformist groups, which advocated the urgent necessity for Japan to go to war promptly with America and Britain and to effect a southern advance as a sequel to the opening of hostilities between Germany and the Soviet Union in June, the same year. The would be assassins marked Baron HIRANUMA out as Senior Statesman opposed to war with America and Britain. He called on the Baron at his residence and fired upon the latter, who, however, fortunately, escaped with a slight injury. NISHIYAMA was apprehended, tried, convicted and sentenced to penal servitude. Inasmuch as Prime Minister KONOYE was generally regarded as endeavoring hard to avoid war with America, an ominous atmosphere prevailed in the pro-German reformist groups in this country. Reports I recieved in my official capacity completely substantiated this.

MARUNOUCHI, TOKYO

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- 4 -

Marquis KIDO, then Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal as well as Prince KONOYE, Prime Minister was in danger of falling a victim to the rightist reformist groups' terroristic action as pro-American and pro-British Senior Statesmen close to the Throne.

Accordingly, as precautionary measure, the police authorities print of protected the Marquis from personal danger for a prolonged time from the time of the shooting affair against Baron HIRANUMA to after the opening of hostilities between Japan and America, by detailing an additional police escort for him. Additional police of 1942 to the total police escort for him. Additional police of police protection was also given Prime Minister KONOYE, Admiral OKADA, Count MAKINO and Mr. IKEDA.

On this 6 day of Feb, 1947
At 1.M.T.F.E

DEPONENT YAMAZAKI, /wao___ (seal)

I, <u>HOZVMI</u>, <u>Skigetake</u>hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Deponet, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date

At same place

Witness: (signed) HOZVMI, Shigetaka (seal)

OATH!

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

YAMAZAKI, Iwaa (seal)

Translation Certificate

I, Sagara Tassifus of the Defense, hereby certify that the attached translation of the affidavit of mazaki, wao is, to the best of my knowledge, and belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

Sagara, Takulu

Tokyo, Japan
Date June 23, 19.47

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST UNITED STATES AMERICA ot al,

-VS-

LRAKI Sadac ot al

SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponont: YAMAZAKI, Iwao

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

- of Homo Affairs from 1919 to 1939. From January, 1939 to July, 1939. I served as Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau in the Home Ministry. From December, 1939 to October, 1940, I served as Chief of Metropolitan Police. From October, 1940 to August, 1945 I held various positions such as Vice Minister of Home Affairs and in the Civil Administration of Occupied Territories. In August, 1945. I was appointed Minister of Home Affairs, but resigned as Home Minister in October the same year.
- 2. As Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau in the Home .
 Ministry, it was my responsibility to preserve law and order

throughout Japan and it was part of any duties to try and provent anticipated incidents "rem arising and in the event that they did occour to take nocessary staps to subdue them. In order to accomplish this effectovely, it was necessary that I keepmmyself well informed of various movements among the civilian propulations and to ascortain the opinions and purprisos of various group I constantly recieved reported from my subordinates in connection with these matters. While I was serving as Chief of the Pelice Affairs Bureau in the Home Ministry, the se-called July 5th incident recurred in July, 1940. From reports I reclived I as-cortained that the July 5th incident was platted by more than 30 members of a rightist refermist group, led by MAYEDA, Torac and MAGEYAMA, Masaharu in attempts to assassinate these whome they regarded as pro-Amorican and pre-British advecatos of the status que or liboralists. This group beli vod these propersed victims word obstructing it projected national reform. The plat was timed for before daybronk, July 5, 1940, but due to advance information we had recieved, the assassinations were prevented and all of the platters were rounded up just when they were loaving their base of charation, fully armed with hand groundes, rovelvers, Japanese swerds, and various other weapons. At this time Marquis FIDO was the Lord Keeper of the

DEF. DOC. #2262

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the police escort for him ffom 10 to 50, and it was gradually decreased after the beginning of 102itondbout 20. Additional police protection was also given Prime Minister WONOYE, Admiral OKADA, Count MAFINO and Mr. IFEDA.

On this 6 day of Fob., 1947
At I.M.T.F.E

DEPONENT YAMAZAKI, Iwac (soal)

I, HOZUMI, Shigetaka, hereby cortify that the above statement was sworn by the Doponet, who affixed his signature and soal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date

Witness: (signed) HOZUMI, Shigotaka (seal)

OTH

In accordance with my conscionce I swear to tell the whose truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

/s/ YAMAZAKI, Iwac (seal)