

EXHIBIT No. 3210

(12)

Def. Doc. No. 2526

Exh. No.

Translated by
Defense Language Branch

T INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition. (Translation)

Deponent : MATSUKI, Tamotsu

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

I, MATSUKI, Tamotsu, live at No.1731 4 Chō-me, Fukasawa Chō, Setagays Ward, Tokyo.

I occupied the following positions in Manchukuo :

1. June, 1932 : the Councillor of the Legislative Council.
1. April, 1935: the Chief of the Secretariat in the General Affairs Board.
1. June, 1937 : the Chief of the Legislature in the General Affairs Board.
1. March, 1938: the Chief of the Secretariat in the State Council.
1. May, 1940 : the Vice-chief of the General Affairs Board.
1. June, 1943 : the Chief of the Audit Bureau.
1. October, 1944: the President of the "Daidō-gakuin (T.N. a kind of school)." College.

As shown in my public career described above, I, attended the business of the General Affairs Board as, alternately, the Chief of the Secretariat, the Chief of the Legislative and the Vice-chief of the General Affairs Board, directly under HOSHINO, Naoki, the Chief of the General Affairs Board.

(1) The Chief of the General Affairs Board in Manchukuo is the one who renders assistance to the premier and who exercises general control over the business of the General Affairs Board which comes under the premier's direct superintendance. He is, therefore, not competent to decide state affairs. Even the decision of routine matters of the General Affairs Board, with the exception of trifling ones entrusted in him only by the law such as the appointment and dismissal, reward and punishment of those below the clerical staff of the Board, was made by the premier himself and not at the discretion of the chief of the General Affairs Board.

(2) At the end of 1936 Chief of the General Affairs Board ŌDATE resigned his post and Mr. HOSHINO was appointed to the post as his successor. The reasons why he assumed that post were as follows:

Firstly, as about five years had passed since Manchukuo was founded, it was deemed suitable to appoint some one to the post of Chief of the General Affairs Board from those who were in actual service in Manchukuo rather than the usual out-of-date practice of selecting a person from Japanese officials from Japan.

Def. Doc. #2526

Secondly, Manchukuo had passed into the period of economic construction from that of "peace first" and became in need of an able financier and economist who should take the lead of the Board and render assistance to the premier. It was, therefore, in the light of the need mentioned above that Mr. HOSHINO who, of all the government officials in Manchukuo, had been connected with the state finance and economy, was newly appointed Chief of the General Affairs Board on the recommendation of his predecessor and the Premier.

(3) All the preceding chiefs of the General Affairs Board had duly observed the limits of their office, and Chief of the General Affairs Board HOSHINO especially attended to his business, in obedience to Premier Chao's direction and decision, rigidly within the limits^{of} his duty. It was a matter of course that, as far as I knew, he had never decided anything on behalf of the premier.

(4) Under Chief HOSHINO, two assistant chiefs, one Japanese and the other Manchurian, jointly took charge of the affairs. For important items of state affairs, however, Mr. HOSHINO used to call up two assistant chiefs, namely myself and Mr. KU Tzu-hsiang, the Manchurian Assistant Chief, and to deliberate on the matter for decision. There were no important matters that were decided without consultation with the Manchurian Assistant Chief.

(5) Chief HOSHINO had due regard for the opinions of Manchurians, especially those of youthful Manchurian officials, and he was ever mindful of the promotion of superior Manchurian officials. Accordingly.

Def. Doc. #2526

important posts at the General Affairs Board such as the Private Secretary of the Chief of the Board, the Assistant Chief of the Board, the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, the Chief of the General Affairs Section of the Secretariat, etc. which had hitherto been occupied by the Japanese officials were replaced by the Manchurian officials in rapid succession. He held Manchurians in such regard that the accusation that the Chief HOSHINO over-valued the intentions of Manchurians was voiced in some Japanese quarters.

(6) With regard to the salaries for officials of the Sennin and Inin Ranks (similar to the Japanese Sonin and Hannin Ranks, respectively), there had hitherto been some discrimination between the Japanese and the Manchurians. This was due to an allowance, the sum equivalent to between 40 to 80% of salaries, which had been additionally paid to the Japanese officials. This was because of the high cost of living of Japanese compared with Manchurians, as there was a difference between them in their ways of living. In 1938, Chief HOSHINO removed this discrimination and gave equal treatment to both Japanese and Manchurians.

(7) As a matter of course, there never was a case in which the Kwantung Army dictated to the General Affairs Board, although the wishes of the Army were laid before the Board sometimes. On such occasions Chief HOSHINO took the necessary measures under the direction of the respective authorities after consulting with the government organs concerned as well as the Prime Minister. Even the wishes of the Kwantung Army laid before the Board, if they were considered not to

Def. Doc. #2526.

be appropriate, were not followed. For instance, when the renovation of the administrative organization was effected in June, 1937, and the Department of Public Peace was formed amalgamating the Department of Military Affairs and the Bureau of Police Affairs in the Department of People's Welfare, a proposal was submitted by the Kwantung Army to have a man from the Military ranks appointed as Vice Minister of the new department. Against this, Chief HOSHINO first consulted us and recommended Mr. SUSUKIDA, Yoshitomo of the civil officials as the candidate, disregarding the desire of the Kwantung Army. Eventually he was appointed as the vice minister.

Notwithstanding the fact that Chief of General Affairs HOSHINO not only was all the time paying attention to the stabilization of the national life of the Manchurian people but also to elevating their economic life, he was always concerned about their afflictions and so assumed a cautious attitude, for commodities gradually became more scarce and consequently economic control stricter, by degrees, as a result of the European war and subsequent to the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese Incident, half a year after assuming his office. Such being the case, he was usually making efforts to negotiate with the Japanese government and others, so that Manchukuo might sell the food, as well as other goods that were exported from her, as clearly as possible on the one hand, while on the other she might as profitably and abundantly as possible purchase the necessaries of life and other commodities that were imported into the country. Furthermore, there

Def. Doc. #2526

were instance such as in the case of salt, the most necessary food ingredient for the populace, where the government ~~even~~ reduced prices and distributed it to the people, although other prices were going up step by step.

On this 3rd of September, 1947

At Tokyo

Deponet : /S/ MATSUKI, Tamotsu (seal)

I, hereby certify that above deposition was duly 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/ MIGITA, Masao (seal)

OATH

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

/S/ MATSUKI, Tamotsu (seal)