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2265

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SWORN

DEPOSITION

Deponent: AKAMATSU, Sadao

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.

BRANCH WORKS:
DENK! BEITETBUBHO, TOYAMA & MIIDATA,
DEAKA KOKAMBEIZOBHO, DBAKA,
DBAKA BEIBAKUBHO, DBAKA,
AENKOGYO KENKYUBHO DBAKA,

OGIMACHI IRON WORKS: KAWASAKI STEEL WORKS

HAWASANI HAWASANI
TELEPHONE TELEPHONE
HAWASANI
3641 1 3541

TSURUMI IRON & STEEL WORKS

ASANO DOCKYARD

NIPPON KOKAN KABUSHIKI KAISHA

(THE NIPPON STEEL TUBE CO., LTD.)
MARUNOUCHI, TOKYO

CABLE ADDRESS:
"COCANCO TOKYO"
TELEPHONE:
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

ARAKI, Sadao, et al) AKAMATSU, Sadao

- I, AKAMATSU, Sadao, make oath and say as follows:
- 1. I, AKAMATSU, Sadao, was Secretary to the War Minister in 1937 when General TOJO, Hideki was Vice-Minister of War. I was appointed Secretary to the War Minister again in November, 1940. When War Minister TOJO formed a new Cabinet on October 18, 1941 following the resignation of the third KONOYE Cabinet en bloc, I was appointed Secretary to the Prime Minister. In July, 1944 after the TOJO Cabinet's resignation, I was appointed Chief of the Section of Military Affairs in the War Ministry. In February, 1945, I want over to China as a unit commander. Following the termination of the war, I returned home from China.
- 2. On October 17, 1941, shortly after General TOJO recieved a telephonic summons from the Imperial Court, I was advised by two of General TOJO's aides that he had received such a summons.

 After the telephone call, I saw General TOJO writing a memorandum about the Army's attitude toward the resignation of the third KONOYE Cabinet. Before he left his office to go to the Imperial Court, General TOJO and General SUGIYAMA held a conversation in my presence from which I learned that General TOJO had not been informed of the reason why he was being summoned but had jumped to the conclusion that it was with respect to the Army's attitude

BRANCH WORKS:
DENKI SEITETSUSHO, TOTANA & HINGATA,
OSAKA KONANSSIZOSHO, OSAKA,
OSAKA SEISANUSHO, OSAKA,
AENNOSTO RENYTUSHO OSAKA,

OGIMACHI IRON WORKS KAWASAKI STEEL WORKS

TELEPHONE HAWABANI SE41

TANAGAWAKEN TELEPHONE TSURUMI IRON & STEEL WORKS.
TSURUMI SHIPYARD:
TSURUMI TOKOHAMA
TELEPHONE
TSURUMI TOKOHAMA

ASANO DOCKYARD:

NIPPON KOKAN KABUSHIKI KAISHA

MARUNOUCHI, TOKYO

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

- 2 -

in connection with KONOYE's resignation.

when he proceeded to the Palace, at that time he was told by the chamberlain

Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal he would not be given a seat in (meaning there would not be a long conference)

the Imperial presence that day and learned Navy Minister OIKAWA also repaired to the Palace, following him, being summoned by the Emperor. General TOJO also told me that therefore he had assumed that he would certainly receive a caution from the Emperor with respect to the Army's attitude and proceeded to the Imperial presence with that in mind.

I accompanied him to the Imperial Palace. When he withdrew from the Imperial presence, General ToJo looked very serious and said nothing. He ordered his chauffeur to drive the car to the Meiji Shrine. A gendarme and I went with him. When the car reached the precincts of the Meiji Shrine, the General slighted from the car and offered a prolonged silent prayer to the Shrine, after which he worshipped before the ToGo and Yasukuni Shrines. When he had completed his round of visits to those shrines, General ToJo told me, for the first time that he was commanded by the Emperor to form a succeeding Cabinet.

When he returned to his official residence, General KIMURA,
Vice-Minister of War, General MUTO, Chief of the Military Affairs
Bureau in the War Ministry, and others gathered round him but
General TOJO did not seek their counsel. During the formation

BRANCH WORKS:
DENK! SEITETSUSHO, TOYAMA & HIBATA,
DEAKA KOHANSEIZOSHO, OSAKA,
OSAKA SEISAKUSHO, OSAKA,
AENKOGYO HENKYUSHO, OSAKA,

OGIMACHI IRON WORKS KAWASAKI STEEL WORKS

TAWASANI TANAGAWAKEN TELEPHONE TAWASANI 3641 TELEPHONE B. SAWASANI TSURUMI IRON & STEEL WORKS

ASANO DOCKYARD:

KANAGAWA, YOKOHAMA

CABLE ADDRESS

ASANODOCK YOKOHAMA

TELEPHONE

KANAGAWA (4) 1731

NIPPON KOKAN KABUSHIKI KAISHA

MARUNOUCHI, TOKYO

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

- 3 -

of his Cabinet by General TOJO, I stayed in the room next to that, used by the General, all the time and took charge of telephonic communications between his headquarters for the formation of his Cabinet and the outside world. General TOJO ignored the Army officials at that time and some of those close to him told me they were apprehensive of his atittude.

4. Prime Minister TOJO also told me to the following effect about two days later:

"The Tojo before his acceptance of the Imperial command to form a new Cabinet and the Tojo after his acceptance are entirely different in character. Now, Tojo, as Prime Minister, is firmly determined to assist His Majesty the Emperor."

Such was the domestic situation, prevailing at that time, 5. that many people advocated a vigorous policy toward America. Prime Minister TOJO told me shortly after war had commenced that he had concurrently assumed the portfolio of Home Affairs as he had been prompted by the desire to assume the responsibility for maintenance of peace and order at home, in case it was decided to admiral SHIMADA was recommended avert war with America. From this it was apparent to me the nows minister by the Navy. Prime Minister's concurrent assumption of the portfolio of Home Affuirs was a most patent manifestation of his firm determination to do his utmost to evert war in pursurance of Imperial wishes. I know Prime Minister TOJO did not named Admiral SHIMADA as Navy Minister in his Cabinet, but on the contrary, the Navy recommended him.

On this _	7	day	of	Feeb., 1947
At I.M.				

DEPONENT AKAMATSU, Jadao (seal)

I, HOZUM, Signature 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

Witness: (signed) HOZUM, Shigeloka (seal)

OATH

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

AKAMATSU, Sadao (seal)

DEF. DOC. # 2265

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ot al AFFIDAVIT

- AGAINST - Of

ARAKI, Sadao, et al AKAMATSU, Sadao

- I, AKAMATSU, Sadao, mako oath and say as follows:
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DEF. DOC. # 2265

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General Tojo personally told me several days latter that when he proceeded to the Palace, at that time he was told by the chamberlain he would not be given a seat in the Imperial presence the day (meaning there would not be a long conference) and learned Navy Minister OIKAWA also repaired to the Palace, following him, being summened by the Emperor. General Tojo also told me that therefore he had assumed that he would certainly receive a caution from the Emperor with respect to the Army's attitude and proceeded to the Imperial personce with that in mind.

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that is since.

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Def. Doc. #2265 Admiral SHIMADA was recommended Navy Minister by the Navy. On this Z day of Feb., 1947 At I.M. T.F.E. DEPONENT: AKAMATSU, Sadao (seal) I, HOZUMI Shigetaka hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Deponent, who effixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this witness. On the same date At same place Witness: (signed) HOZUMI, Shigetaka (seal) OATH In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing. (signed) AKAMATSU, Sadao (seal)