

23 March 1946.

MEMORANDUM TO: Executive Committee.

FROM: G.C. Hardin.

SUBJECT: KAWADA, Isao, Case No.108, Serial #1.

The file discloses no interrogation of this subject, and the report as of January 15 states that his name hasn't appeared on any published list of prospective war criminals. It appears, therefore, that he is not in custody, unless he has been taken in custody since that date. He was Finance Minister in the second and third Konoye Cabinets. On September 20, 1944, he was appointed President of the Taiwan Development Company. He has been a member of the House of Peers since 1941. He went out of the Konoye Cabinet in July of 1941. The only expression of sentiment we find in the files on his part is that before retiring from his place as Finance Minister he gave caution to the administration on the expenditures, saying "the urgent necessity for execution of national policy" required such caution.

This man was born in 1883, and was graduated from the Tokyo Imperial University Law School. He joined the Civil Service after graduation and was Financial Commissioner to England and France. He was connected with the Finance Ministry in one way or another for a good many years.

We of course glean from this file nothing that would amount to evidence against him as a conspirator. It does seem that a man of his prominence in the government of Japan through those years ought to be interviewed, in the hope that such interview might reveal information helpful in the cases to be tried. It is not suggested that he be included as a war criminal unless further information not revealed in this file would warrant it.

G.C. HARDIN.