

Ex 3144

Def. Doc. # 1936

Translated by
Defense Language Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition (Translation)

Deponent :- MATSUMOTO, Shunichi

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.

I, MATSUMOTO, Shunichi, state under oath as follows:

1. I was born in 1897. My present address is Yukigaya-machi, Ota-ku, Tokyo-to.

I entered the Foreign Office in 1921 after graduating from the Tokyo Imperial University, Faculty of Jurisprudence. I was Director of the Treaty Department of the Foreign Office from September 1940 until November 1942.

2. In September 1940 I was recalled from my post as the Councillor of the Japanese Embassy in China (Nanking) to Tokyo and appointed the Director of the Treaty Department of the Foreign Office. I was told by Foreign Minister Matsuoka about matters concerning the Japanese-German negotiations for the Tripartite Pact and was ordered by him to participate therein.

At that time a draft of the Pact had already been drawn up on the basis of

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the
conversations of Foreign Minister with Mr. Stahmer and Ambassador
Ott. I participated thereafter until the conclusion of the Pact
on 27 September 1940 in the technical redaction of the details etc.
As far as I know, the negotiations for the Tripartite Pact were conduct-
ed on the Japanese side almost by Foreign Minister Matsuoka alone, and
Mr. Saito, Ryooi, the Advisor to the Foreign Minister, and I advised
him on technical matters.

2. Defence Document No. 1656, which is entitled "Outline of the Process
of Drawing up of Various Drafts and of the Internal Procedure Pertaining
to the Tripartite Pact of Japan-Germany-Italy", was compiled by me immedi-
ately after the conclusion of the pact with the purpose of preventing
the scattering and loss of pertinent documents and of preserving them
as official records. A limited number thereof was printed in October
1940 as an official record of the Foreign Office.

The description at the top of "1) Outline of the Process of
Drawing up of Various Drafts of the Tripartite Pact of Japan-Germany-
Italy and Pertaining Documents" was written by myself with the purpose
of explaining the process of the drafting of various documents and their
relation to each others.

On this 28th day of July, 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT /s/ M. TSUCUMOTO, Shunichi (seal)

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I, UCHIDA, Fujio hereby certify that the above statement was 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/ UCHIDA, Fujio (seal)

OATH

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

/S/ MATSUOMOTO, Shunich (seal)