

Not used

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.)

- AGAINST -)

ARAKI, SADAQ, et al.)

A F F I D A V I T.

I, IWABUCHI, Tatsuo, do swear on my conscience that the following is true:

I have been a journalist since 1931, being engaged as a free lance journalist since 1931 until the present time. During this period strict censorship was exercised over journalism, being particularly severe after the Incident of February 26, 1936, such censorship being exercised through the Police Bureau of the Home Ministry. In addition to enforcing the laws relating to censorship through the Police Bureau of the Home Ministry, the Kempei Tai (Military Police) also censored journalistic writings and articles. Generally censorship relating to military matters was enforced through the Police Bureau of the Home Ministry, but on many occasions the Kempei Tai would enforce censorship or suppression of journalistic writings by calling upon individual writers with whose writings they were displeased and would advise said writer that such writings were unfavorable to the military policy and must be discontinued.

Shortly before the Incident of February 26, 1936, I wrote an article in which I criticized the Fascist methods being used by the Army, following which officers of the Kempei Tai called at my home at 8 o'clock in the morning. I was placed in jail by these officers, being detained in jail until 11 o'clock at night. While so detained, the officers said to me they were displeased with my article, that I should discontinue writing such articles in the future, and that if I did not discontinue doing so, I would find it dangerous. Upon my release I returned to my home where I learned that during the day officers of the Kempei Tai had searched my home, removing therefrom several articles written by myself, together with several books which were my personal property.

From the time of the Manchurian Incident up to the China Incident, the Army Censorship Bureau was under the Military Affairs Section. Following the China Incident, the Army Censorship Bureau was under the Imperial Staff. Prior to the First KONOYE Cabinet, propaganda was disseminated for the Cabinet through the secretary of the Cabinet. During the First KONOYE Cabinet the Information Bureau was established. The Foreign Office had an Information Bureau dating from 1923 until the formation of the Bureau of Information under the KONOYE Cabinet. The Bureau of Information was established to disseminate propaganda for all the ministries except the Navy and War Ministries who still retained their respective Information Bureaus.

Following the China Incident the Government successfully organized all information media, including journalists, publishers, newspapers, motion picture companies, etc., into respective class groups of associations under government control.

Following the formation of the TOJO Cabinet, a number of my friends in the publishing business informed me that they had received instructions not to accept my articles. This was true in the case of all writers of a liberalistic tendency as well as those who were anti-militaristic in their writings. Most writers were intimidated to the extent that they were afraid to criticize Japan's military aggression for fear of being arrested and mistreated by civil or military police. This was also true of persons in the broadcasting business, moving picture industry, those engaged in stage theatricals or public speaking.

During the period in which I have been a journalist I have read many pamphlets issued by the Military Affairs Section of the War Ministry, such pamphlets being obviously issued for the purpose of instilling a war-like spirit in the reader. An example of such a pamphlet is one known as "War is the Mother of Culture" published in 1936. I have read this and many other examples similar to it. Such pamphlets attempted to justify to the people Japanese military aggression in Manchuria, and to prepare them for the China Incident which was soon to follow. It is my opinion as a journalist that there was an organized movement in the Military Affairs Section to issue such propaganda as would prepare the Japanese people for specific incidents soon to follow.

IWABUCHI, Tatsuo

Sworn and subscribed to before the undersigned officer by the above-named IWABUCHI, Tatsuo, at the War Ministry Building, Tokyo, Japan, this _____ day of June, 1946.

C E R T I F I C A T E.

I, _____, HEREBY CERTIFY That I am fully conversant with the Japanese and English languages, and that I, this day, read the foregoing Affidavit to the above-named IWABUCHI, Tatsuo, in Japanese, and in so doing, truly and correctly translated the contents thereof from English into Japanese; and that said IWABUCHI, Tatsuo stated to me that the contents of said Affidavit were the truth, and that he was willing to sign said Affidavit under oath; and that said IWABUCHI, Tatsuo was duly sworn in my presence and signed said Affidavit under oath in my presence; and that all proceedings incidental to the administration of said oath and the signing of said Affidavit were truly and correctly translated from Japanese into English and English into Japanese and fully understood and comprehended by said Affiant.

Dated this _____ day of June, 1946, at Tokyo, Japan.
