



# 国际检察局讯问记录

Numerical Case Files Relating to  
Particular Incidents and Suspected War Criminals,  
International Prosecution Section (1945-1947)

国家图书馆 上海交通大学 编

54

國家圖書館出版社

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FILE NO.: 345

Report by L. H. Barnard

RE : Hachiro Arita

STATUS: Pending

DATE : 21 January 1946

The C1 list furnished by the War Department of Japanese who were possible war criminal suspects, carried among other names, the listing of Hachiro Arita, reputedly the head of the "Twenty-Year War Society". He was an advisor with Shinnin rank of the Cabinet Advisory Board since July, 1943. Among other duties he was Foreign Affairs Minister in 1939-40; a leading expansionist as Foreign Minister and an Ardent Nationalist. He was born in 1884 and the last known address was 1426 1-Chome, Shimo, Ochiai Yodobashi-Ku, Tokyo.

Due to the prominent position he carried in the "Twenty-Year War Society", copies of this report are being designated for File 250, Captioned Patriotic Societies.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS: Obtain full biographical background of subject in order that a thorough and intelligent interrogation may be conducted of this individual with specific analysis placed upon the aims and obligations of the "Twenty-Year War Society"; the names of the individuals who confirmed the idea of the Society and the location of any and all records of same.

PENDING.

COPIES: 3 File 345  
2 File 250

27 May 1946

**SUBJECT: PREPARING JAPANESE OPINION FOR WAR**

**Memorandum to: Mr. Hammack**

**From: Mr. Horwitz**

The brief of the file of ARITA, Hashiro,  
case #345, discloses information with respect to  
preparing Japanese opinion for War.

**FILE NO. 345**

**25 January 1946**

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Fihelly  
Colonel Hornaday**

A review of File No. 345 reflects that it contains information which may be of interest to the members of Groups C and E.

This information is forwarded for such action as may be deemed appropriate.

**LEROY M. BARNARD  
Major, Infantry  
Executive Officer  
Investigation Division**

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- 1 File 345
- 1 File 249
- 1 Mr. Fihelly
- 1 Col Hornaday
- 1 File C
- 1 File E

FILE NO. : 345

Report by: Benedict Fitzgerald  
Special Agent, CIO

RE : ARITA, Hachiro

DATE : 14 February 1946

STATUS: Pending

An examination of the CIS files discloses the following information regarding the Subject, which was obtained from a publication of the Military Intelligence Division, dated 10 August 1945:

ARITA, Hachiro—Member House of Peers; Former Foreign Minister

1884—Born Niigata Prefecture. Younger brother of Ichiro Yamamoto.

Adopted by Arita family; married Yosu, brother of Kajuro Sato.

1909—Graduated Law College, Tokyo Imperial University; entered foreign service, Elve Consul, Mukden.

1914—Consul (Mukden).

1918—Secretary in foreign office.

1919—Attended Paris Peace Conference.

1920—1st Legation Secretary and Consul at Bangkok.

1921—1st Secretary Embassy in Washington.

1922—Attended Washington Disarmament Conference.

1923—1st Secretary Legation in Peking.

1925—Consul General At Tientsin.

1927—Counselor Embassy in Berlin. *(not President of Berlin)*

1927 Sept—Director Asiatic Bureau, Foreign Office.

1930—Minister to Austria and Hungary.

1932—Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs.

1933 Nov—Ambassador to Belgium.

1936 Feb—Ambassador to China.

1936 Apr

1937 Feb—Foreign Minister in Hirota Cabinet.

1938—Advisor to Foreign Office.

1938 Oct

1939 Aug—Foreign Minister in 1st Konoye and Hiranuma Cabinets.

1940 Jan-July—Foreign Minister in Yonai Cabinet.

1942 Aug—Special envoy to Nanking regime along with Baron Hiramama and Ryutaro Nagai.

1943 May—Appointed President of Japan Diplomatic Administration Association. *(Japanese Institute of International Affairs)*

COPIES: 3 File 345  
1 File 285  
1 File 303  
1 File 361  
1 Col Morrow

1943 Nov--Member House of Peers; joined Kenkyukai, one of House Groups.

1944 July--Advisor to Foreign Minister, Tojo Cabinet.

1944 Oct--Appointed Advisor to Foreign Ministry, Kato Cabinet.

Officially reported to have chosen to go to Austria as Minister in preference to subscribing to Japan's policy in Manchuria. Later gained the Army's confidence and as a foreign minister supported a policy of expansionism in Asia, compared with which Manchuria was child's play. Reputed to have reached high position through shrewdness and common sense rather than because of brilliant diplomatic gifts. Apparently able to temper aggressiveness of militarists in dealing with foreign nations without antagonizing former.

Ambassador Grew in "Ten Years in Japan" reveals ARITA as always friendly and at times even sympathetic, but habitually cautious. However, in December 1938, told Ambassador Grew he would rather call a spade a spade and not try to reconcile principles against realities as did his predecessor. In April 1940 flatly stated negotiations for new trade treaty (to replace one denounced by United States) were futile in view of wide divergence of Japanese and American views.

Japan and Germany concluded the Anti-Comintern Pact while ARITA was foreign Minister in Hirota Cabinet. Was spokesman for "New Order in East Asia" under premiers Konoye and Hiranuma. As foreign minister in Yonai cabinet, issued statement 29 June 1940 proposing division of world into spheres of influence in each of which one nation would exert supremacy, Japan to be "stabilizing force in East Asia". Stressed close ties of peoples of East Asia and South Seas, pointing out inevitability of all uniting in one sphere, their destiny being of grave concern to Japan.

Radio Tokyo on March 27, 1945, announced ARITA was heading a group of eight (8) prominent civilians in organizing the "20 Year War Society".

The following information regarding the Subject was obtained from the card files of CIS:

ARITA, Hachiro is associated with the national activities committee designed to study the ways and means of carrying on the present war against the Anglo-Americans for 20 years.



Is a cabinet advisor with a long record of high position in the foreign office. Former Minister under Hirota (April 1936 to February 1937), Konoye (October 1938 to January 1939), Hiranuma (January 1939 to August 1939) and Yonai (January 1940 to July 1940). He was a foreign minister when the following pacts were signed: Japan-Germany Anti-Comintern, November 25, 1936; Japan-Germany Cultural, November 1938; he holds positions in the FAA and NGAA.

SOURCE: Radio Monitoring

the following pertinent information regarding the Subject was obtained from "Prominent Persons in Japan and Japanese Dominated Territories", published by the DIO, 14th Naval District, 14 August 1945:

Cabinet Advisor in the Koiso Cabinet (Appointed 24 October 1944).

Former Foreign Minister in Hirota, 1st Konoye and Hiranuma Cabinets.

Member House of Peers.

Advisor to Dai Nippon Political Association (24 July 1945).

A member of the Imperial Rule Association Political Society, defunct as of 31 March 1945.

Chairman of Committee for Welfare of Japanese Residents in enemy countries.

One of the advisors of the General Secretariat, New Asia Movement Consultative Committee.

Member of the Association for the 20 Years War, inaugural meeting held 27 March 1945; appears to be for the purpose of publicizing the necessity of a long war.

SOURCE: Who's Who in Japan, 1941-42.

Education- Graduate Tokyo Imperial University Law, 1909.

Career- Entered foreign service, 1909; 1st Legation Secretary and Consul at Bangkok, 1930; 1st Secretary Embassy in Washington, 1921; same Legation, Peking, 1923; Counsel-General at Tientsin, 1925; Counselor Embassy in Berlin, 1927; Director Asiatic Bureau, foreign office, September

1927; Minister to Austria, 1930; Foreign Vice Minister, 1932; Ambassador to Belgium, 1933; same to China, 1936; Foreign Minister of Hirota Cabinet, 1936-37; Foreign Minister of 1st Konoye Cabinet, also Hiramama and Yonai Cabinets.

The following information regarding the Subject was obtained from the OWI publication, dated 25 July 1945:

February 1936--Ambassador to China for a brief period in succession to Ambassador Anyoshi. "This was the difficult period of negotiation with Chiang Kai Shek, which followed the outburst of a series of Anti-Japanese incidents in China." (Japan Advertiser, 30 October 1938).

February 1937--Foreign Minister in Hirota Cabinet. Japan-Germany Anti-Comintern Pact signed 25 November 1936. "Has been interested ever since in strengthening the Anti-Comintern Pact." (Japan Advertiser, 30 October 1938).

ARITA's name has not appeared on any published list of war criminal suspects, and he has not been interned.

Present address: 426 1-Chome, Shimo-Ochiai, Yodobashi-Ku, Tokyo.

PENDING



**JAPAN**  
**HACHIRO ARITA, B. 1884. FOREIGN MINISTER.**  
**PHOTO: PACIFIC NEWS AND PHOTO SERVICE, TOKYO**  
**OSS-P-12105**

File No. 345

Report by: G. R. Splane, Jr  
1st Lt, Sig C

Re: ARITA, Hachiro

21 February 1946

Status: Closed

The information on the attached sheets was obtained from the Liaison Commission for the Japanese Demobilization Ministries.

Pending requests for additional investigation, case will be considered administratively closed.

Copies:

2 / File #345

- 1 -



HACHIRO ARITA

Home Affairs:

Born: 21 Sept., 1884.

Permanent address: No.426 Shimo Ochiai-cho 1-chome,  
Yodobashi-ku, Tokyo.

**Present address: 426, 1-chome Shimo-Ochiai, Yodobashi-ku,  
Tokyo**

June 1909 Graduated from the German Law Faculty  
of the Tokyo Imperial University.

16 Oct. 1909 Passed Diplomatic and Consul Service  
Examination.

28 Dec. 1909 Appointed Elève Consul (Seventh Rank).

" " " Ordered to Mukden.

22 March 1910 Conferred Seventh Junior Court Rank.

2 Nov. 1910 Appointed Vice Consul (Seventh Rank).

" " " Ordered to Mukden.

16 March 1912 Appointed Elève Consul (Seventh Rank).

16 March 1912 Ordered to Chicago.

13 April 1912 " " Ottawa.

30 June 1912 Promoted to Six Rank of Higher Official.

30 Sept. 1912 Conferred Seventh Senior Court Rank.

20 Nov. 1913 Ordered to Honolulu.

26 June 1914 Appointed Consul (Sixth Rank)  
and ordered to Honolulu.

27 Dec. 1915 Promoted to Fifth Rank of Higher Official.

12 Feb. 1916 Conferred Sixth Junior Court Rank.

1 April 1916 Conferred the Fifth Order of Merits and  
decorated with the Order of the Sacred  
Treasure.

-5-

- 28 June 1918 Appointed Junior Secretary of Foreign Office (Fifth Rank), attached to First Section of Political Affairs Bureau.
- 21 Sept. 1918 Promoted to Fourth Rank of Higher Official.
- 30 Oct. 1918 Conferred Sixth Senior Court Rank.
- 11 June 1920 Appointed First Class Secretary of Legation and Consul concurrently (Fourth Rank).
- 7 Sept 1920 Conferred the Fourth Order of Merits and decorated with small cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun.
- 29 March 1921 Appointed First Class Secretary of Embassy (Fourth Rank) and ordered to the United States of America.
- 21 April 1921 Promoted to Third Rank of Higher Official.
- 20 May 1921 Conferred Fifth Junior Court Rank.
- 11 Jan. 1923 Appointed Second Class Secretary of Legation (Third Rank) and ordered to China.
- 31 May 1924 Conferred the Third Order of Merits and decorated with the Order of Sacred Treasure.
- 3 June 1925 Appointed Consul-General (Second Rank) and instructed to serve in Tientsin.
- 15 June 1925 Conferred Fifth Senior Court Rank.
- 10 Feb. 1926 Decorated with Medium Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun.
- 6 April 1927 Appointed Councillor of Embassy (Second Rank) and instructed to serve in Germany.
- 13 Sept. 1927 Appointed Director of the Asiatic Affairs Bureau of Foreign Office (Second Rank).
- 29 June 1929 Promoted to First Rank of Higher Official.
- 15 July 1929 Conferred Fourth Junior Court Rank.
- 31 Oct. 1930 Appointed Minister Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and sent to Austria.
- 24 Nov. 1930 Concurrently assumed the post of Minister to Hungary.
- 11 Dec. 1931 Conferred Second Order of Merits and decorated with the Order of the Sacred Treasure.

- 2 Nov. 1938 Decorated with large cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun.
- 30 Aug. 1939 Retired on his own request.
- 6 Sept 1939 Was especially rewarded for his service of his former post.
- 16 Jan. 1940 Appointed Foreign Minister.
- 1 June 1940 Conferred Third Senior Court Rank.
- 22 July 1940 Retired on ~~his~~ own request.  
Was especially rewarded for his service of his former post.
- 22 July 1943 Appointed Diplomatic Advisor of Foreign Office.
- 28 Oct. 1944 Appointed Cabinet Councillor.
- 23 May 1945 Released from the post of Diplomatic Advisor of Foreign Office on his own request.

C L O S E D

FILE NO. 345

REPORT BY: R. H. GILLILAND  
1st Lt., Inf.

RE: Hachiro ARITA

DATE: 21 February 1946

STATUS : Pending

On 9 January 1946 the records of the Personnel Section, Cabinet Secretariat were examined at the Diet Building, Tokyo.

Complete personnel records of the subject were micro-filmed. Photostatic copies, together with translation, are on file as Exhibit No. 107.

Following is a transcript of the translation:

DATE OF BIRTH : 21 September 1884

PERMANENT ADDRESS: No. 71 Daikochō, Aikawa-machi, Sado-gun, Niigata Prefecture

RANK : Commoner

FATHER : Born of YAMAMOTO, Katsura (deceased) of Niigata but was adopted as the son of ARITA, Shimpel, also of Niigata

MOTHER : Born of YAMAMOTO, Mimu, daughter of SHIMAKURA, Ibei also of Niigata Prefecture but was adopted son of LIN, daughter of ARITA, Taichi

1909 Jul 10 Graduated from the Law College of Tokyo Imperial University

1909 Oct 16 Passed the examination for diplomatic and consular service

1909 Dec 28 Commissioner Kieve-Consul and assigned for duty with the Mukden Consulate receiving the 7th Rank of the Higher Civil Service and the 5th Class Salary

1910 Mar 22 Conferred the Junior Grade of the 7th Court Rank

1910 Apr 1 Received the revised salary of the higher civil service

1910 Nov 2 Appointed Vice-Consul and conferred the 7th Rank of the Higher Civil Service with the 5th Class Salary and attached to the Mukden Consulate

1911 Jun 30 Granted the 4th Class Salary

COPIES: Original to Exhibit No. 107  
3 File No. 345



1912 Mar 16 Appointed Eleve-Consul to the Chicago Consulate receiving the 7th Rank of the Higher Civil Service and the 4th Class Salary

1912 Apr 15 Transferred to the Ottawa Consulate

1912 Jun 30 Elevated to the 6th Rank of the Higher Civil Service with the 3rd Class Salary

1912 Sep 30 Conferred the Senior Grade of the 7th Court Rank

1913 Nov 20 Assigned for duty with the Honolulu Consulate

1914 Jun 26 Appointed Consul and assigned for duty with the Honolulu Consulate receiving the 6th Rank of the higher civil service the the 3rd class salary

1915 Jun 30 Granted the 2nd Class Salary

1915 Dec 27 Elevated to the 5th Rank of the higher civil service with the 3rd Class Salary

1916 Feb 12 Conferred the Junior Grade of the 6th Court Rank

1916 Apr 1 Awarded the 5th Order of Merit with the Order of the Sacred Treasure and an Imperial Grant of ¥500 in recognition of his services during 1914-1915

1917 Jul 30 Granted the 2nd Class Salary

1917 Sep 27 Dispatched on a tour to China

1918 Jun 28 Appointed Commissioner of the Foreign Office and assigned for duty with the First Section of the Bureau of Political Affairs receiving the 5th Rank of the higher civil service and the 2nd Class Salary

1918 Sep 21 Elevated to the 4th Rank of the higher civil service and granted the 1st class salary

1918 Oct 30 Conferred the Senior Grade of the 6th Court Rank

1918 Dec 3 Dispatched on a tour to Europe

1919 Feb 5 Appointed member of the Plenipotentiary Suite to the Peace Conference

1920 Jun 11 Appointed First Secretary of the Legation and Consul receiving the 4th Rank of the Higher Civil Service