

NOMURA

26 Nov 50

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NOMURA Kichisaburo Former Admiral and Ambassador to the United States

Born December 1877 in Sakayama prefecture, NOMURA Kichisaburo was graduated from the Japanese Naval Academy in 1898, and was awarded the Imperial Prize for scholarship. Although he was invited to enter the Naval Staff College, it is reported that he refused.

His first diplomatic post was in Russia, and later he was assigned to Germany and Austria as naval attaché. During World War I he was on duty at the Japanese Embassy in Washington, and it was during this period that he gained the reputation of being pro-American. While in the United States he became well acquainted with many of the important officials in the Navy Department, including its Under Secretary, Franklin D. Roosevelt. In 1918, he returned home for sea duty and became captain of the cruiser "Iakumo."

At the conclusion of World War I, he was sent to Paris as a member of the Japanese delegation headed by Marquis SAIONJI and Admiral TAKEKISHITA. In 1922, he came to the United States to attend the Washington Disarmament Conference and is said to have played an important part as technical adviser to his delegation. He revisited the United States in 1929 as commander of the Japanese Naval Training Squadron.

In 1921, he was appointed Commander of the First Overseas Fleet which patrolled the Yangtze River and the waters around Shanghai. Here, he learned much about China and made many contacts with American and other representatives in those parts. He returned to that area during the first Shanghai Incident as Commander of the Third Fleet, and during that period his ability to maintain friendly relations with the representatives of all foreign powers in Shanghai was highly praised and recognized, both in Japan and abroad. At that time, Morgan Young described Admiral Nomura as "a man with a level head, popular among American and British naval men, with whom he could talk familiarly and easily." It was during the Shanghai Incident that NOMURA was wounded and lost an eye, when a Korean terrorist hurled a bomb into a big group of Japanese officers and officials assembled to observe the Imperial Birthday.

Returning to Japan in 1933, he was made a full admiral and appointed Supreme War Councilor in November of that year. In 1937 he retired from active service declaring that he was an old man and intended to enjoy private life at home. Shortly thereafter he was appointed principal of the Peer's School in Tokyo.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

Declassified and Approved for Release  
by the Central Intelligence Agency

Date: 2007

EMMA Establishes (continued)

In September 1939, EMMA was appointed Foreign Minister in the AM cabinet cabinet. His appointment to this post was suggested by Foreign Minister Carrington as a step toward reestablishing friendly relations with the United States, so he was considered one of the most presidential of Japanese leaders. The AM cabinet, however, lasted only four months.

In December 1940, MATSUOKA became Minister of Foreign Affairs in the EMMA cabinet, replacing his Ambassador to Washington. After his arrival in Washington, he told reporters that the anti-Japanese feeling in the United States was more than he had expected. Despite earlier talks with the late President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull, the relations between the two countries did not improve and in November 1941 the Japanese government sent special envoy, EMMA, to assist Ambassador EMMA. He also was very cordial with Dr. Hull in Washington on December 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

While the American diplomatic corps could be returned to the United States, EMMA was interned first in the Japanese Embassy in Washington and then at Fort Springs, Virginia. The Japanese diplomatic corps called for Japan in June 1943 about the exchange ship "Arishima". The formal exchange of diplomats took place in San Francisco territory in Manila, July 29, 1945, and the Japanese were transferred aboard the Japanese ship the "Asoha Maru", which arrived in Japan in August.

The only prominent appointment given to EMMA during the war was his appointment as Privy Councillor, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Admiral ABRA Hamada, on May 19, 1944. After the emperor's EMMA was purged from public office, falling under ban on senior military officers. Although newspaper reports that he would be tried as a war criminal, and often placed his name among the top war criminals suspects, he was never tried.

Although EMMA made a strong plea for an overall peace settlement in an article appearing in the November 1949 issue of the Japanese monthly magazine Shin Shun, he is primarily concerned with Japan's future security and economic well-being. He contends that the serious economic maladjustments which drove Japan to war are the cause of the country's post-war hardship, and suggests as an ideal, definitely unworkable, that land of the north be restricted solely among the countries "just as Japan divided her resources on the basis of the land reform law." In the September 1949 issue of Shin Shun, EMMA suggests that a "strongly administrative" EMMA writes, "Japan should not for the combined presence of American troops in Japan, even after the signing of a peace treaty, and in its early part and proper that Japan should offer to the country which understands to defend her real bases as are required."

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**KUMURA Kichisaburo (continued)**

KUMURA Kichisaburo is six feet in height and weighs about 150 pounds. He is described as taciturn, business-like and robust, and is said to be fair and open minded.

He was many friends while in America, prior to Pearl Harbor, and is reported to be anxious to visit the United States again.

November 4, 1950

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