Title of document: 'A correspondence to President Truman from Antonio Araneta, the President of the National Executive Council of the Philippine Lawyers' Guild' in "Materials on Japan's Occupation 1: the Emperor's System" (published by Otsuki Shoten 1990).

Author of document: Antonio Araneta, the President of the National Executive Council of the Philippine Lawyers' Guild

Dated: 17th November 1945

Character of document:

An official correspondence to the President Truman from President Truman from Antonio Araneta, the President of the National Executive Council of the Philippine Lawyers' Guild, requesting that all the leaders of Japan regarding the war of aggression, including the emperor, be properly prosecuted and punished as war criminals by an international tribunal, stating that it is against justice to leave the boss immune while punishing his inferiors.


Quote [see attached copy]:

I hereby swear on the year 2000 that the information contained above is accurate and the quotation genuine.

YOKOTA Yuuichi
however, the delegate cabled to Canberra that Evatt (who was in London at the time) wished an Australian list of major Japanese war criminals to be tendered to the UNWCC by Webb as a matter of the greatest urgency. As regards its composition:

in reply, Webb (whose commission had on September 3rd been renewed to enable him to collect evidence of war crimes from the many prisoners-of-war recovered after the surrender) on September 26th cabled to Evatt that if he were asked to say, on the basis of his own and American reports on Japanese atrocities in the field and in occupied territory, whether the Emperor and his Cabinet Ministers should be placed on the list of war criminals, he would reply in the affirmative on the following grounds:

(1) That as far as he is aware international law does not give immunity to sovereigns or their advisers who abet or connive at breaches of the laws of war by their soldiers and people, although this is controversial as stated by Dr Lauterpacht;

(2) That the breaches committed by the Japanese were so累累, commencing with the China Incident and continuing until February of this year and so widespread that the Emperor and his ministers must have learned of them, if not from Japanese sources then from neutral and enemy sources, through the press or broadcasts;

(3) That having learned of them they must be taken to have approved of them or connived at them or abetted them, if they did not take steps to prevent them, a matter of defence for them to establish;

(4) That in view of the great authority, whether spiritual or otherwise is immaterial, displayed by the Emperor in bringing about the unconditional surrender of Japan, it is clear that, if he ordered his forces or people to desist from atrocities and other violations of the laws of war, he would have been promptly obeyed; and

(5) That it would be a travesty of justice, seriously reflecting on the United Nations to hang or shoot the common Japanese soldier or Korean guard while granting immunity to his sovereign perhaps even more guilty than he.

The task of compiling the list was entrusted to the small Post-Hostilities Planning Section of the Department of External Affairs assisted by the head of the Department of Information's Listening Post (the organisation that disseminated to Ministers and
27. 81011.
28. 80728.
29. 80782.
30. 81030.
31. 81017.
32. 80982.
33. 81645.
34. 81010.
35. 81240.
36. 80745.
37. 81643.


39. Australain Archives, Victorian Regional Office, Melbourne, MP742/1 (Department of Army), 336/1/1444 [Investigation File] 'Akikaze Massacre'.

40. AA, A703 (Department of Air), 614/1/7 'Research for Missing RAAF Personnel New Britain and New Ireland -- Investigations and Reports'. Australian Archives, Victorian Regional Office, MP742/1 (Department of Army): [Investigation File] 336/1/1955 'War Crimes -- Rabaul Area'; 336/11/1965 '2 Australian War Crimes Section, Tokyo -- Weekly Reports of Interrogations'.

41. MP742/1 386/1/1981.

42. AA, A1838 T184 (Department of External Affairs), 3103/10/13/1 Part 1.

43. To Dominions' Office, Cable No 209, 1 August 1945 (AA, A5954, Box 453).

44. To Dominions' Secretary, Cable No 230 (AA, A5954, Box 453).

45. From Dominions' Secretary, Cable No 303 (ibid.).


47. From Australian External Affairs Officer, London, Cable No 279 (AA, A1066, H45/580/6/3).

48. To Minister for External Affairs, Cable No 261 (ibid.).

49. 'Discussion Held on 24th September, 1945' (ibid.).
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YOKOTA Yuuichi
図 1

図 1 中の成分の構造を詳細に示すと以下のようになります。

成分 A

成分 B

成分 C

成分 D

図 1 で示した成分の関係を図示すると以下のようになります。

(図の描画)