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BRIEF OF THE CONFESSION OF H. T. THOMPSON

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Authority	100883020
By	NARA, Date 2/23/00

In May 1934 I accepted an appointment with the Japanese Government, acting as special agent. My first assignment was in America in connection with the U. S. Navy. This assignment was to secure the "employment schedule", a report covering the location of every commissioned vessel in the American Navy. The above report I secured from the Naval Target Repair Depot at San Pedro, California and, since then, has been furnished by me from various ships and stations. The method I employed in obtaining information for the Japanese Government I will explain later. When it had become evident that I could secure reports of the above nature, I was given the task of obtaining the most secret information. Since then I have secured secret and confidential information of every description, turning the information over to my superior officer, Lieutenant Commander Tosio Miyazaki, attached to the Japanese Imperial Navy and at present stationed in Tokyo. Prior to Commander Miyazaki's departure last July, he was stationed in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

During the time I have been connected with the Japanese Government, I have secured information far too numerous to mention in this brief outline. The information in general pertained to "gunnery" and "gunnery tactics" but there were other reports of value such as the combined maneuvers of the Scouting and Battle Fleets conducted in the Pacific last spring and known as "the Hawaii-Alaska-Puget Sound Triangle". They were very interested in the new type heavy cruiser and I was given the task to secure a blueprint of the USS PENNSACOLA. This I did not furnish them.

They learned that the American Navy had constructed a new type of high speed target. It was my job to secure blueprint of same. I not only furnished them with the original blueprint but gave them a copy of

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Brief of the Confession of H. T. Thompson -- cont'd.

the letter from Admiral Reeves to the Commandant of the Target Repair Depot, authorizing the construction of such a target. I furnished them with secret and confidential gunnery reports and gunnery pamphlets. I also furnished gunnery practice reports complete in every detail with photographs of the targets showing exactly the location of each hit and from which gun the shot was fired. These gunnery reports were of more value than any report I could have secured. They contained every phase in detail relative to day and night firing.

It is needless to say that the information I furnished the Japanese Government was of the utmost importance to them. The method I employed in obtaining information from the Navy was one which did not arouse suspicion. Having served seven years in the Navy, I was thoroughly acquainted with all reports of the different departments, as well as with the filing system in use and where any desired report could be located. I was furnished with the uniform of a Chief Yeoman (yeomen are those that handle all clerical work aboard ship) and this served to get me aboard ships without arousing suspicion. I would strike up conversation with the man in charge of an office, telling him I was from a certain ship or station, and would finally ask to see a certain report or to look through a filing system. In looking through the filing system and locating the information I was after, I would usually make a copy of it so as not to get the yeoman in trouble. I always carried information from the ship in a regulation envelope addressed to some other naval point.

During my connection with the Japanese Government I have personally come in contact with the highest ranking officers in this country. All of the following named officers I have had connections with in the line of duty I was performing:

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Brief of the Confession of H. T. Thompson - cont'd.

Capt. Kobayashi
Lieutenant Commander Itimiyi
Acting Vice Consul Ozawa
Captain Yamaguchi
Consul T. Hori
Commander A. Yamaki
Lieutenant Commander E. Zyoo
Secretary to the Naval Attaché, Washington, D. C.
Secretary to the Consul General, San Francisco
H. Toyotomi
Genge Kato (believed to be an agent)
Dr. T. Furuzawa
Mrs. Furuzawa
Mr. Sawano
Mr. Watanabe

Last March I was planning resigning my position with the Japanese Government. In fact, I was leaving for Baltimore Maryland that very day when that morning I was apprehended by three U. S. Naval Intelligence officers.

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