

Exhibit 2715

||

Def. Doc. # 1685

Hostilities ceased on the signing of the agreement, and within two or three days the troops were withdrawn. Since I was of the opinion that, through Mr. Shigemitsu's skilful and expert handling of negotiations, this border incident had been prevented from enlarging into general war, and causing great harm to both nations, I sent him a telegram of commendation and appreciation.

This part of the frontier was in dispute, is not clearly marked and the incident took place in the disputed area.

In order to avoid recurrence of such incidents, Mr. Shigemitsu recommended the appointment of a joint Soviet-Japanese Commission to settle and mark the border. I concurred in his suggestion and instructed him accordingly. However, since I retired shortly after that and Mr. Shigemitsu was transferred to London as Ambassador, I do not know what became of the recommendation.

During the incident I met with War Minister Itagaki many times, at Cabinet meetings and five Minister meetings. From all I could observe the War Minister was loyal to the policy of the Government to localize the incident and assisted in the efforts to settle it by peaceful means as soon as possible.

The appointment of Mr. Shigemitsu to the post of Ambassador to Great Britain was made shortly prior to my resignation as Foreign Minister. At that time relations between that country and Japan were very delicate and required expert handling. It was a promotion and did not indicate any dissatisfaction with his work in Moscow. Furthermore, I had heard from no one in Russia nor anywhere else that the Soviet Union did not desire him as Ambassador nor that that country was dissatisfied with his work. I knew that he had done his best to carry out the policy of the Government to remain at peace with the Soviet Union, that he had been successful and therefore recommended his promotion. More important I knew from his skilful handling of this incident of his great ability, and I believed that if this ability was transferred to London it would be beneficial to both Japan and Great Britain.

I have no copies of any of the telegrams or instructions referred to in this affidavit. They were official documents and for the most part in cipher.

and

Def. Doc. #1685

and therefore I kept no copies for my private files. All originals, copies and drafts were filed in the section of the Foreign Office in charge of matters relating to the Soviet Union. From time to time during the incident Foreign Office communiques were issued based on the messages I received from Mr. Shigemitsu.

Tokyo, May 28th, 1947.

(Signed) Kazushige Ugaki

The above statement was sworn by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this Witness.

On the same date and at the same place

Witness:

(Signed) K. Miura (seal)

- - - - -

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, MIURA, Kazuichi, hereby certify that I can read, write and speak the Japanese and the English languages, and that I have done the English translation of the

AFFIDAVIT OF UGAKI, KAZUSHIGE

accurately and faithfully.

K. Miura

Tokyo, May 22, 1947.