

Exhibit 2708

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Def. Doc. No. 1704

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI Sadao, et al

- Defendants -

A F F I D A V I T

TAKAYAMA NOBUTAKE

Having first duly sworn an oath as on the attached sheet, in accordance with the procedure prevailing in my country, I hereby depose as follows:

I am a former colonel. My present residence is 240 Kamiyagira, Matsudo City, Chiba Prefecture. At present I am serving in the 1st Demobilization Bureau.

Concerning the troop strength of the Kwantung Army and the Korea Army, a document was prepared and submitted to the GHQ at their request. The document was prepared by a committee of men, formerly of the War Ministry and the General Staff Office, concerned with such matters, from their notes and memories. The following is an accurate excerpt from that document. I was formerly attached to the War Ministry and the General Staff Office and took part in that meeting.

CONCERNING THE TROOP STRENGTH OF THE KWANTUNG AND
THE KOREA ARMY IN 1945

With the growing intensity of the war in the Pacific, troops were gradually being transferred from the Kwantung Army to the southern areas, China, etc., and in the year 1945, with a decisive battle on the mainland of Japan in view, more troops were transferred from the Kwantung Army to Japan Proper and Korea, the outline being as follows:

January	1 division, 1 army headquarters and 1 aviation unit to Formosa and China.
February	Aerial unit to China.
March	3 divisions and 1 tank division to Japan Proper 3 divisions to Korea.
April	1 tank brigade to Japan Proper 1 transport unit to Korea
June	1 rear service unit.

On the other hand, the Kwantung Army was compelled to plan a defensive campaign, the general trend indicating the Soviet's entry into the war against Japan. That is to say that from about the end of 1944 unlawful frontier-violations on the part of Russia increased in frequency, and in February 1945 transfer of troops in great numbers from Europe to the Soviet Far East began. On 5 April the Soviet Union denounced the Neutrality Pact without consultation and the transfer of troops became active.

The Imperial Headquarters estimated that the U S S R, after determining the phases of the war in the Pacific, would declare war on Japan by winter. In July, with the proclamation of the Potsdam Declaration, the probability of Soviet participation in the war became greater, and our estimate was that by that autumn war would be declared.

With the above estimate emergency measures were taken in connection with the Kwantung Army as follows:

- February 8 divisions and 4 mixed brigades were newly installed in Manchuria.
- April With the denunciation of the Neutrality Pact orders were issued to prepare for the transfer of 4 divisions from China to Manchuria.
- May It was decided to readjust the front in China and collect forces in North and Central China, and on 30 May the order of battle of the Kwantung Army was issued, the transfer of 4 divisions from China to Manchuria ordered, the period of transfer being for between June and the end of July. Also a part of the Korea Army stationed in Northern Korea was placed under the command of the Kwantung Army.
- June 1 army headquarters and 1 division transferred to Korea from China and placed under the command of the Kwantung Army.
- July Total mobilization of sound men in Korea and Manchuria ordered, but the U S S R entered the war before the completion of the mobilization

At the close of the war total manpower according to the organizations was 780,000, but mobilization not being complete no accurate figures can be had. As to the quality of the army, it being newly formed, and the men uneducated and with feeble equipment, it was very poor.

In Korea and especially in Southern Korea, preparations were being made for the war against the United States, and at the close of the war there were 7 divisions, 2 mixed brigades and 2 mixed regiments, totaling about 260,000 men.

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OATH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth, withholding nothing and adding nothing.

Takayama Nobutake (seal)

On this 3rd day of June, 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT Takayama Nobutake (seal)

I, Ikeda Sumihisa, hereby certify that the above statement was sworn to by the deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date

At Tokyo

Witness: Ikeda Sumihisa (seal)

Translation Certificate

I, Abe Fumio, of the Defense, hereby certify that I am conversant with the English and Japanese languages, and that the foregoing is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation of the original document.

Abe Fumio

Tokyo
4 June 1947