

EXHIBIT No. 561

(5)

Berlin, 29 Nov. 1940

St. -S, No. 864

CONFIDENTIAL

The Japanese Ambassador looked me up today to repeat to me in outline what he had said at his last visit to the Foreign Minister of the Reich; /that is/ that, on account of the peace-feelers between Japan and China, it is necessary at first to wait /to see/ what instructions the Chinese Ambassador will now receive from CHIANG KAI-SHEK. KURUSU indicated that the simplest complete solution (which, however, had supposedly not been given to him by his Foreign Minister) for a settlement between Japan and Russia would be the conclusion of a Russo-Japanese neutrality pact with the simultaneous Japanese renunciation of her oil concessions in North Sakhalin, with, however, the guarantee of the exportation of 200,000 tons of Russian oil to Japan. Territorial questions should at that time be completely left out of the picture. The publication of the neutrality pact and the oil arrangements were to be arranged in such a manner in regard to time that the Japanese population would not take offense at it.

KURUSU described the conclusion of these two agreements (the Sino-Japanese and the Russo-Japanese) as the desired and at the same time required prerequisites for a Japanese advance through the regions south of China (including Siam), without the use of which Singapore could hardly be brought to fall. KURUSU portrayed the latter /idea/ also as his private strategy.

(Signed) WEIZSACKER

Henn R.A.M.
" U. St.-S. Pol.
" Dg. Pol.
" Ges. Stahmer

RUSSIA

AFFIDAVIT

I, W. P. Cumming, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say:

1. That I am an Attache of the United States Department of State on the Staff of the United States Political Adviser on German Affairs, and as such I am a representative of the Office of Military Government for Germany (U.S.). That in my capacity as above set forth, I have in my possession, custody, and control at the Berlin Documents Center, Berlin, Germany, the original captured German Foreign Office files and archives.

2. That said original Foreign Office files and archives were captured and obtained by military forces under the command of the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Forces, and upon their seizure and capture were first assembled by said military forces at a Military Document Center at Marburg, Germany, and were later moved by authorized personnel of said Allied forces to said central documents center, above referred to, and known as the Berlin Documents Center.

3. That I was assigned to said document center at Marburg, Germany, on August 15, 1945; and said captured German Foreign Office files and archives first came into my possession and control while I was stationed at Marburg, Germany, and that thereafter the same have continued in my possession and custody and under my control.

4. That the document to which this affidavit is attached is a true and correct photostatic copy of an original German Foreign Office document which was captured from said Germany Foreign Office files and archives, and which came into my possession and custody and under my control in the manner above set forth.

5. That said original document, of which the attached is a photostatic copy, is being held and retained by me in order that it may be examined and inspected by various interested agencies, and a photostatic copy of said original is hereby furnished and certified to because of the unavailability of said original for the reasons above set forth.

s/ W. P. Cumming
W. P. CUMMING

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of April 1946.

s/ G. H. Garde
G. H. GARDE
Lt. Colonel, AGD
Acting Adjutant General

OFFICE OF MILITARY
GOVERNMENT FOR GERMANY (U.S.)