

Exhibit 2683

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INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

- vs -

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

A F F I D A V I T

I, KŌZUKI Yoshio, served in Chientao, Manchoukuo, under General Umezu, Commander-in-Chief of the Kwantung Army, as Commander of the Second Army from July 1942 to May 1943. During my service there I made every effort to avoid any trouble with the U.S.S.R. and to maintain a state of tranquillity vis-a-vis that country.

(1) Upon my arrival in Hsinking, Commander Umezu gave me instructions that from the standpoint of Japan's general circumstances I was to take all possible and complete measures to avoid absolutely any trouble with the U.S.S.R. and thereby to avoid irritating them.

(2) Lieutenant-General Yoshimoto, Chief of Staff of the Kwantung Army, told me the same thing on the same occasion. He particularly emphasized that I must strictly abide by the Border Guard Regulations and that in going in or out of the restricted zone of operation, even if it be a patrol, the permission of the Commander-in-Chief must be obtained.

(3) After that, at Commanders Conferences or when he came to Chientao on a field inspection, Commander Umezu repeatedly reminded us to avoid anything that might irritate the U.S.S.R.

(4) In accordance with the policy of my senior officers, I instructed my subordinates and guided them so as not to irritate the U.S.S.R.

(5) In January 1942, there was a field fire which started in and spread in our direction from the Soviet Maritime Province and finally burned a part of our fortifications, as we were prohibited from going into the restricted zone of operation to extinguish the fire. To such an extent my subordinates strictly obeyed the Border Guard Regulations and avoided irritating the U.S.S.R.

(6) Some time in January 1943, I climbed a little mountain between Hunchun and Chunhwa, for the purpose of inspecting our fortifications there. Though the mountain was within our fortifications, Soviet soldiers came out of their fortifications and approached us. Realizing that I might have provoked them, and feeling that it was unfortunate if that were the case, I immediately stopped my inspection and came down from the mountain.

(7) As General Umezu is my senior and I having at times served under his direct command as his subordinate, I know his character very well. He is a serious-minded and impartial man. In performing his duties he always had his eyes on the general overall situation. Always warning against thoughtless action, he, by his very nature exercised care and circumspection in handling matters. I have always believed that he was the right man as a front line commander-in-chief to carry out Japan's national policy which was to maintain peace with the U.S.S.R.

OATH

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

Inoue Tadao (seal)

On this 31st day of March 1947

At Tokyo

Deponent KŌZUKI Yoshio (seal)

I, Inoue Tadao, hereby certify that 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

At Tokyo

Witness: (signed) Inoue Tadao (seal)