

IN THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al)) AFFIDAVIT.
vs	
ARAKI, Sadao, et al,	
Defendants	

I, Eugen Ott, after being first duly sworn on oath, do hereby depose and say that I was ambassador from Germany to Japan at some of the times when Ambassador Oshima was the Japanese representative in Germany.

THE SINGAPORE QUESTION.

I made the survey on the possibilities of a Japanese attack on Singapore in early 1941 thru my own initiative and not in response to any instructions from my government. Oshima had no part in the discussions from the Japanese side.

THE TRIPARTITE PACT.

In all of the discussions leading up to the Tripartite Pact there never was one word said about aggressive or offensive action, that is by the contracting parties. The main purpose of the agreement was to prevent the entry of the United States into the war. Oshima took no part whatsoever in any of the discussions.

SUBMARINE TRANSFER.

The transfer of the two submarines was handled purely as a navy transaction. Never have I heard that the Ambassadors of either nation took any active part in the transaction. Their transfer was of no practical value to either country. The actual delivery took place after my tour of duty.

LACK OF COOPERATION.

Never at any time during my tour of duty in Japan, either as Military Attache or as ambassador was there any real cooperation between the fighting forces of the two countries, Japan and Germany. ~~General Marshal states facts when he says there was no collaboration, that they fought separate wars.~~

MATSUOKA'S VISIT TO HITLER

I was with Matsuoka on his tour of Europe and Russia in 1941. The feeling was very cool between the Japanese foreign minister and Ambassador Oshima. No conferences were attended by them together with the exception of the preliminary introductory meetings. After that Oshima attended only the social and informal occasions.

PEARL HARBOR ATTACK.

Since I was the ranking Germany official in Japan at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor, any advance news of the event would have been brought to my attention. It came as a complete surprise to me as well as to the other members of my staff. I was officially informed hours after the occurrence. We Germans were never advised of Japanese Military or Naval plans until after the events took place.

CHINESE JAPANESE WAR.

It was the settled foreign policy of Germany while I was Military Attache and ambassador to help settle the conflict between Kiang Kai Shek and Tokyo. At times success seemed close. I spent considerable effort personally to bring Peace to the Far East by attempting conciliation. My efforts in this direction all failed. Germany cherished her friendly relations with China and valued highly her commercial possibilities. Germany was never favored over other nations in her commercial dealings with Japan, except during the World War II.

This statement was made on the day before my repatriation to Germany. Signed in Shanghai, China, on this 30th day of August, 1947.

EUGEN OTT

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of August, 1947.

ARTHUR R. ROSEN
Vice Consul of the United
States at Shanghai, China