

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.

-vs-

RAKI Sadao, et al

- Defendants -

A F F I D A V I T

OBI, TETSUZŌ



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 occupied the post of Chief of the 4th Section as a staff officer of the Kwantung Army from March 1942 to August 1944.

1. According to the provision of the Organic Law of Manchoukuo (Exhibit No. 436), the right of the supreme command of the Manchoukuo National Army was in the hands of the Emperor and not in that of the Commander-in-Chief of the Kwantung Army. The defensive military treaty was in effect, and according to the provisions of the treaty, the right of command could be delegated to a Japanese commander, in cases when an enemy invaded the country or when Japanese and Manchoukuoan forces cooperated in an operation as national defense.

During my service in the headquarters of the Kwantung Army, a suppressing operation was made in Jehol Province in 1942-1943 against the Communistic banditti, and Manchoukuoan troops of the 5th military area of Jehol were commanded by the commander of the Kwantung Defence Army and a cooperative operation of both forces was carried out. Manchoukuo was calm and peaceful during my time there, and this was the only instance of such delegation of command. The command was in no instance delegated to the commander of the Kwantung Army.

2. During my service, the number of the Manchoukuoan Army was about 80,000 in total. And its duty was specifically the defense in the country and trainings were done accordingly. Its quality and armament were far inferior for being against the U S S R's army.

3. General Umezu, the Commander-in-Chief of the Kwantung Army, held various kinds of meetings which were accompanied by dinner usually. The reason was the necessity of liaison and cooperation between various people on their execution of duties; noon of every Wednesday he held meetings with the staffs of Army, Navy, Embassy and Kwantung Bureau; noon of every Saturday he held meetings with the Chief of General Affairs, Chief of the Central Headquarters of the Concordia Society and the staffs of his headquarters. I, myself, always attended both these meetings, and found them simply convivial meetings and not meetings whereupon the commander gave orders or instructions.

OATH

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

Obi Tetsuzō (seal)

On this 7th day of January, 1948  
At Tokyo

Deponent: Obi Tetsuzō

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, Nishi Haruhiko, 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.

Nishi Haruhiko (seal)

Tokyo  
8 January 1948