

Def. Doc. No. 2959  
(Umezu)

Ex. 3699

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

TAKEI SEITARŌ

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 served as an operations staff officer of the Kwantung Army from August 1940 to August 1943. I state here about the outbreak of the Pacific War and the relation of the Kwantung Army to it.

1. No formal information came from Tōkyō to the Kwantung Army about the progress of the Japanese-American negotiations which were under way from summer to autumn of 1941. However, I used to go up to Tōkyō on business, at which times I got fragmentary news of them, which I reported to the commander-in-chief and others on my return. Therefore, the Kwantung Army knew of the tense situation of the negotiations with the United States by news of this kind as well as by information in the newspapers.

2. Commander Umezu was very much worried by receipt of such information, and used to express to us staff officers his personal opinion that Japan should not begin a war with the United States even under the worst conditions.

3. When I went up to Tōkyō on business in November 1941, I happened to have a talk with Director of the Soldiers' Affairs Bureau Tanaka about current conditions. Then I told him that Commander Umezu was of the opinion that Japan should not engage in war with the United States in any circumstances, which Tanaka well understood.

4. The Kwantung Army received no intelligence reports concerning operations plans against the United States or the decision for war against the United States; much less were we consulted about those matters.

We received a notice from Tōkyō by telegram at the end of November, that Japan was making preparations for war with the United States. For the Kwantung Army no new duties were assigned, however; it was emphasized that the Kwantung Army should specially preserve tranquillity with the U S S R.

We first knew of the outbreak of the war on 8 December by public broadcast on that very morning; the formal order came after that.

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5. After the outbreak of the Pacific War, Commander Umezu frequently stated to me that it was most unfortunate that Japan had begun war with the United States.

OATH

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

Takei Seitarō (seal)

On this 2d day of April, 1947

At Tōkyō

Deponent: Takei Seitarō

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 Tōkyō

Witness: Ikeda Sumihisa

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

Tōkyō

5 April 1947

*Umiya*

Ex 3699

正 誤 表

辯護 詞 文 書 第 二 九 五 九 號

「武居清太郎」口供書

左ノ通り訂正願マス。

二頁終の行「米國ト戦争シタコトハ不幸ナコトデアツタ」を  
「米國ト戦争シタコトハ誠ニ不幸ナコトデアツタ」と改む

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極東國際軍事裁判所

亞米利加合衆國其他

對

荒木貞夫其他

宣審供述卷

供述者 武居清太郎

自今後我國ニ行ハルル方式ニ從ヒ先ツ別紙ノ通り宣審ヲ爲シタル上  
次ノ如ク供述致シマス

私ハ昭和十五年（一九四〇年）八月ヨリ昭和十八年（一九四三年）  
八月迄露東軍少隊トシテ主トシテ作戦ニ従スル業務ヲ擔當致シテ居  
リマシタ 以下太平洋戦争ノ發起ト露東軍トノ關係ニ付テ供述致シ  
マス

昭和十六年（一九四一年）夏ヨリ秋ニカケテ行ハレタ日本政府ノ  
對米交渉ノ經過ニ付テハ正式ニ中央部カラ露東軍ニハ通知ガアリ  
マセシタ然シ私ガ時々業務ノ爲上京シタ際断片的ニ此ニ對ス  
ル情報ヲ聞キ爾後露東軍司令官等ニ傳ヘテ居リマシタ故ニ對米  
交渉ガ如何メテ以惡デアツタコトハ當時ノ新聞報導ト併セテ露東軍

ハ感致シテオリマシタ

ニ右ノ如キ情報ヲ耳ニシ海津關東軍司令官ハ非常ニ憂慮シ如何ナル

憂慮ノ場合ニナツテモ日本ハ米國ト戦争シテハナラヌト我々幕僚

ニ對シ私的意見ヲ述ベテ后ラレマシタ

三 弘ハ昭和十六年（一九四一年）十一月用務ノ爲上京シタ際尙々田

中兵務局長ト時局ニ付懇談シタトキ私ハ海津關東軍司令官ハ如何

ナルニ合ニモ日本ハ米一ト戦争シテハナラヌト云フ意見ヲ持ツテ

イルト述ベマシタ田中局長ハ克ク諒解シマシタ

二 中央部ハ對米作戰計畫ヤ對米戦争決意ニツイテハ關東軍ニ對シテ

情報ノ通知モナク況ンヤ事前ノ協議ナドハ全クアリマセンデシタ

十一月末中央部ノ電報デ日本ハ對米作戰ノ準備ヲ爲ス旨ノ命令ガ

送リマシタソノトキ關東軍ニ對シテハ新タナル任務ハ與ヘラレマ

センデシタガ關東軍ハ特ニ對ソ平靜ヲ持スベキニトヲ強調シテア

リマシタ

十二月八日ノ開戦ハ同日朝開戦ニ關スル一級放送ニヨリマシテ知

リマシタ正式ノ通知ハ其後ニ受領致シマシタ

三 太平洋戦争開始後海津關東軍司令官ハ私ニ對シ「米國ト戦争シタ

コトハ不幸ナコトデアツタ」ト常ニ述ベテオリマシタ

昭和二十二年（一九四七年）四月二日 於東京

陳述者 武居清太郎 印

ス 右ハ當立會人ノ面前ニテ宣誓シ且ツ署名捺印シタルコトヲ證明シマ

同日於東京

立會人 池田純久 印