

G. 2706

Def. Doc. No. 1627

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al (
-v.- (
ARAKI SADA0, et al., (
Defendants (

No. 1

A F F I D A V I T

JOHN R. DEANE, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and says:

1. As Major-General in the United States Army I was United States Secretary of the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington from September 1, 1943 to October 1943. Thereafter I served as chief of the United States Military Mission in Moscow from 18 October 1943 to October 1945, during which time my duties were responsibility for military liaison between the United States and the U.S. S.R. In my official capacity I attended the Moscow Conference of October 1943, the Cairo and Teheran Conferences in November 1943, the Yalta Conference in February 1945 and the Potsdam Conference of July 1945.

2. The question of Soviet participation in the war against Japan was raised as early as the Teheran Conference in November 1943. At the Teheran Conference Marshal Stalin stated his regret that the U.S.S.R. had been unable to help in the Pacific War, the requirements of the European War precluding Russian participation against Japan at that time, and he went on to say that while the Russian forces then in Siberia were sufficient for defensive operations they would have to be increased threefold before an offensive could be undertaken, which increase could not be accomplished until after the defeat of Germany. "Then," he said, "by our common front we shall win." I was present on this occasion.

On 2 February 1944, I was informed by Ambassador Harriman that Marshal Stalin had told him, in response to the request made by President Roosevelt at Teheran, that the United States air forces would be allowed to operate American aircraft from Siberia after the Soviet Union should have declared war on Japan, and at the same time stated that high-ranking officers would be summoned from the Far East to discuss with me plans for the establishment of an American strategic air force in Siberia. These conversations did not, however, take place. A meeting with representatives of the Soviet Far Eastern Air Forces did not materialize.

At a meeting in Moscow in October 1944, among Prime Minister Churchill, Marshal Stalin, Ambassador Harriman, and their staffs, at which I was present, Marshal Stalin stated that the U.S.S.R. would take the offensive against Japan three months after the defeat of Germany, provided that the United States would assist in building up the necessary reserve supplies and that agreement with China could be reached concerning Russian interests, at the same time he agreed that air bases in Maritime Province would be made available as a naval base. At a meeting on the following night at which Ambassador Harriman, Marshal Stalin, Mr. Molotov, and I were present the operations which the Red Army would undertake in the war against Japan were discussed. At this meeting Marshal Stalin personally illustrated on a map the strategy proposed, which was to exert pressure on the Japanese along the northern and eastern borders of Manchuria while making the main effort with a highly mobile force sweeping down from the area of

Lake Baikal through Outer and Inner Mongolia to Kalgan, Peiping and Tientsin.

At the Yalta Conference of February 1945, at which I was present, the question of Soviet participation in the Pacific War was discussed and it was agreed by Marshal Stalin and General A. E. Antonov, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Red Army, that bases for B-29s would be made available in the Komsomolsk-Nikolaevsk area and that the United States might be called upon to assist in the defense of Kamchatka, that the United States was authorized to undertake surveys of those areas; that the Red Army would take the southern half of Sakhalin as one of its first objectives in the war; and that joint American-Soviet planning would be pursued vigorously in Moscow. No such joint planning materialized, and the surveys were not made.

As a result of studies made under my direction in the Spring of 1945, it was determined that the slight increase in the bombing effort and the advantage of an added direction of approach for bomber formations were not commensurate with the logistical effort involved in establishing an American strategic air force in Siberia, and our plans therefor were abandoned.

At the Potsdam Conference, on 26 July 1945, General Antonov stated that the Red Army would begin offensive operations against Japan in the latter half of August, the exact date being dependent upon the conclusion of negotiations then being held with the Chinese. At the next military-staff meeting at Potsdam, a day or so later, General Antonov stated that Marshal Stalin had that day handed to President Truman the Soviet Union's agreement to installation of American weather stations at Khabarovsk and Petropavlovsk; to exchange of liaison detachments and immediate establishment of a communications system between Soviet and American headquarters in the Far East; and to setting boundaries between American and Soviet naval and air operations in the Far East. I was present at these meetings.

3. After June 1944 the outstanding American army expert on Japanese order of battle, Colonel Pettigrew, was stationed in Moscow for the express purpose of exchanging with the Red Army intelligence concerning Japanese forces. The Russians provided until the end of the war some information of Japanese troop movements and dispositions in Manchuria.

4. On 15 October 1944, at the conference in Moscow, Marshal Stalin stated that the Red Army at that time had thirty divisions in the Far East, and that it would require thirty more before it could take the offensive against Japan. I was present at that conference.

5. American fliers were from time to time interned, in accordance with the provisions of international law, in the Soviet Far East. In 1944 arrangements were made between me and Russian officials concerned, for the "escape" of these interned airmen from the U.S.S.R. into Iran. These "escapes" were carried out as arranged, with the result that by January 1945 about 200 interned American fliers who had participated in the war against Japan had been permitted to reach Iran for repatriation and for further service against the common enemy in the European Theater.

6. Further the affiant saith not.

John R. Deane

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned authority this 22 day of May, 1947.

Helen Cohn

My Commission Expires December 21, 1947 Notary Public in and for the City and Court of San Francisco, State of California