

## International Criminal Court: Yang Shangkun

Hello delegates! My name is Daphne Moon and I will be your head chair for this years Mission Viejo High School conference. I am a sophomore and this is my second year in MUN. Outside of MUN I take all AP classes, participate in soccer and cross country and am in choir. In my free time I love spending time with friends, watching Netflix, going to the beach, skiing, and taking pictures. I can't wait to meet you all in committee!

Hi delegates! My name is Harman Gill and I am your vice chair for this years Mission Viejo High School conference. This is my second year in mun and i am planning to do mun the rest of high school. I am a sophomore. Outside of MUN i am in cross county. In my free time I enjoy spending time with friends, going to the beach, and going on different adventures.

### **I. Background**

**Note: This is not a REAL case of the ICC, treat this case as if it was REAL. When writing resolutions, you may consider the variety of possible rulings, but be sure to present your own ideas. We will be presenting you with new witnesses and the case may take a turn away from the expected. YOU have the power to decide how this case proceeds.**

Yang Shangkun was born on 3 August 1908. Shangkun served as the vice chairman of the central military commission of China for many years and eventually earned the title of President in the later years of his political involvement with the Chinese government. He became known when in the early 1920s Shangkun joined the Communist party and eventually moved up in the taking the title of Head of the Central Committee General Office wherein he oversaw many party affairs. However, Shangkun was thought to be going against the cultural reforms of the party so he was thrown in jail for 12 years with his affiliate Deng Xiaoping in 1966.

After serving jail time, Shangkun and Xiaoping were able to rise to power again with Shangkun in charge of the military as Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission, as mentioned previously, and Xiaoping in top authority. Having Xiaoping as Shangkun's superior made it easy for Shangkun to move up and was given the role as President in the government. Shangkun's most notable and main crime that is attached to him was the shooting of college students in Tiananmen Square. It was reported that the final command on the military to open-fire was said by Shangkun. Though he chose to follow through, this order was not chosen by Shangkun, but by Xiaoping, his superior, making it difficult to disobey. Despite the situation not being Shangkun's idea, he received most of the backlash from the public, thus making it hard for him to make changes to the Chinese government. Since this was a single isolated incident, Shangkun has stayed on the Chinese government up to the present.

## **II. Plaintiff**

His communist leadership and unforgivable actions towards his people indicate his guilt on all accounts. Yang Shangkun has been behind many notable horrendous acts. Perhaps the most notable is the Tiananmen bloodshed, in which thousands of citizens were killed for marching in remembrance for a dead pro-reform communist leader. Yang Shangkun has used his knowledge in advanced academics to practically enslave the Chinese people. His communist ideals, paired with his clear disregard for the life of his people is very apparent. As a leader, Yang Shangkun has a duty to his people-to look out for their full well being. This would include allowing his people to practice expression of political thought. He has failed on these accounts, even going as far as to slaughter his own people. Yang Shangkun is a communist murderer that deserves to be punished to the full extent of international law.

## **III. Defense**

Yang Shangkun was an honorable leader to the country of China. His military service served and his dedication to his people are undeniable. Everything Shangkun has done, he has done in what he feels is the best interest of his people. China held this man to one of the highest honors, he was an immortal. Immortal is a title that only eight people in China have ever possessed, Shangkun being one of those people. It is frankly offensive that such a great, respected leader is being tried in court.

## **IV. Guiding Questions and Points**

- Is the evidence enough to convict Yang Shangkun of all presented crimes?
- Are the convictions plausible and just?
- How does the overall success of the country weigh in on the crimes Yang Shangkun committed?

## **V. Possible Witnesses**

- Jiang Yanyong
- Zhao Ziyang
- A Student who Protested in Tiananmen Square on June 4th
- Xi Jinping

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