

Ex 1818

Evidentiary Document No. 5419.

In the International Military Tribunal for the Far East.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHERS

v

ARAKI, Sadao and OTHERS

AFFIDAVIT.

I, GEORGE DE VERDON WESTLEY of 284a Camberwell Road, Camberwell in the State of Victoria, formerly VX 44808 Major G. De V. Westley of 2/21 Battalion make oath and say:-

1. I was with 2/21 Battalion on Amboina Island in February 1942 when the Japanese landed. At that time Lt-Col Scott was commanding the Battalion, he was also Commanding Officer of Gull Force. This Force consisted of the battalion and attached troops. The troops from this Force were disposed in two main bodies, approximately 800 being on the Ambon side and about 300 on the Laha side of the island.
2. I became a prisoner in February, 1942, and remained a prisoner on the island until the Japanese surrender in 1945.
3. In September, 1945, I sent a reconnaissance party to Laha to endeavour to trace the men who had been at Laha and of whom I had not heard since the surrender. Lieutenant Russel was in charge of this reconnaissance party. A Japanese Medical Officer pointed out to him a cairn under which he said about 200 men were buried but he could not say whether they were Australians or Japanese. Lieutenant Russell was unable to find any other trace of the Australians who had been at Laha.

SWORN at Melbourne in)
the State of Victoria)
this seventh day of)
October, 1946.)
BEFORE ME

(Sgd) G. De V. WESTLEY

(sgd) W. A. Fax
Commissioner for taking affidavits
and declarations under the Evidence
Act, 1928.