

No 1432

DOCUMENT 2866

DOMINADOR SANTOS

called as a witness on behalf of the Prosecution, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

Q (By Captain Pace) Give your name, please.

A Dominador Santos.

Q You will have to speak louder.

A Dominador Santos.

Q Where do you live?

A No. 5 Cuesta, Manila.

Q What is your occupation?

A I am the deputy chief of the Detective Bureau, Manila Police Department.

Q In the early part of February, 1945, what was your occupation?

A I was the executive officer of the North Sector, Manila Police Department.

Q Did you see anything unusual happen on the morning of February 4, 1945?

A Yes, sir.

Q Will you describe it?

A Between 9 and 10 A.M. on February 4th while I was going to the office and the police station I saw a truck on Reina Regente Street, near Soler, stop in front of a building. Six Japanese soldiers left the truck and entered the building. Being suspicious that something may happen, I stopped and make observation for about 20 minutes. There was a sudden explosion and a fire. I did not proceed to my office anymore and I returned home.

Q I show you Prosecution's Exhibit No. 193 for identification and ask you if you can tell what that is?

A This is the place (indicating).

Q What is the whole paper?

A This is a map, sir.

Q Are you familiar with the area which that represents?

A I am familiar with the area, sir.

Q Does that accurately represent that area?

A Yes, sir.

CAPTAIN PACE: I offer it in evidence.

GENERAL REYNOLDS: There being no objection, it is accepted in evidence.

(Prosecution Exhibit No. 193 for identification was received in evidence)

Q (By Captain Pace) Will you point out on there the Singer Building about which you are talking?

A Right there, sir (indicating).

CAPTAIN PACE: Let the record show that the witness is indicating the letter "A".

Q (By Captain Pace) How long after the Japanese went into the Singer Building did you see and hear the explosion?

A About 20 minutes, sir, I heard the explosion.

Q Had the Japs left?

A Before the explosion the Japanese left.

Q What happened after the explosion?

A There was a fire, sir.

Q Did you return to that building after that?

A I was already -- The following day, Monday, February 5th.

Q What was the condition of that building and the other buildings in that block?

A They were all burned.

Q I show you Prosecution's Exhibit No. 194 for identification and ask you to tell me what each of these four pages is.

A This is a picture of the building behind the Singer Building.

Q It is a rear view of the Singer Building?

A Yes, sir.

Q Is that the way it looked after the fire?

A After the fire this is the way it looked.

Q Look at the next picture. What is that?

A This shows the picture of the Co Poe Building.

Q Is that the way it looked after the fire?

A Yes, sir.

Q Look at page 3.

A This is the picture of the Singer Building as it appears after some remodeling.

Q What remodeling has been done that shows in that picture that was not present after the fire?

A The roof and these windows, sir. They were not in that position when the fire ruined the place.

Q Look at page 4.

A This is the remodeled picture, also.

CAPTAIN PACE: I offer Exhibit 194 in evidence, sir.

GENERAL REYNOLDS: There being no objection, this is accepted in evidence.

(Four photographs of Singer Building and block were received in evidence and marked Prosecution Exhibit No. 194).

Q (By Captain Pace) Was there any military fire that landed in that area at the time you saw the Japanese carrying something into the Singer Building?

A There was no artillery fire, sir.

CAPTAIN PACE: You may inquire.

CAPTAIN REEL: Could I have that last question read back, please?

(Question read)

CAPTAIN REEL: And the answer.

(Answer read)

CAPTAIN REEL: I will ask that that be stricken, sir. There was no testimony by this witness that he saw the Japanese carry anything into the building. It is a deliberately-framed question. We object to it and we ask that the question and answer be stricken.

CAPTAIN PACE: If Counsel were right I will agree with him. To make certain I will be sure to get something in the record at this time which I thought was already there.

GENERAL REYNOLDS: There seems to be agreement that the question and answer be stricken.

Q (By Captain Pace) What did the Japs do when they drove up in front of the Singer Building in a truck?

A They were bringing dynamites.

Q Where did they bring the dynamite?

A They took the dynamites inside the building.

Q And did they come out then?

A They came out.

Q Did they bring the dynamite out with them?

A They did not bring anything when they went out.

Q Were any artillery projectiles landing in that vicinity at the time you saw the Japanese do this?

A There was not.

CAPTAIN PACE: You may cross-examine.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

Q (By Captain Reel) Had there been artillery fire during that day?

A I beg your pardon?

(Question read)

A There was no artillery fire, sir.

Q (By Captain Reel) No artillery fire in the area in the vicinity of the Singer Building shown as "A" on this plan, Exhibit 193, on the 4th day of February, 1945? Is that your answer?

A Yes, sir. That is no lie. There was no artillery fire.

Q Were there some airplanes flying above the area?

A I did not observe airplanes flying during that time.

Q I show you the second picture of Prosecution's set of pictures on Exhibit 194, and ask you if this is not the damaged fuselage of an airplane in the lower lefthand corner.

A That is not.

Q Answer loud so he can hear.

A It seems to me that that is not an airplane fuselage.

Q And what do you think it is?

A That might be some -- some military -- military objects that are being left by the Japanese.

GENERAL REYNOLDS: Will you point out to the Commission that which you refer to?

CAPTAIN REEL: This instrument here, sir, on the second picture in the lower lefthand corner.

Q (By Captain Reel) How far away from the Japanese were you standing when you saw them go in the building?

A I was approximately at a distance of about 50 meters.

Q 50 meters. And at a distance of 50 meters, you saw how many Japanese go in?

A Six Japanese.

Q And what did they carry? What was the shape of the article they carried?
A They were carrying somewhat round objects.

Q And from 50 meters away you identified that round object being carried by six Japanese as dynamite, is that correct?

A Yes, sir.

Q Do you know what the Japanese were using the Singer Building for?

A I don't know what they are using that for, but that is the time that -- Before that time there was a Japanese sentinel in front of the building.

Q There was a Japanese sentinel in front of the building. Do you know whether they had naval stores in that building?

THE WITNESS: I beg your pardon?

(Question read.)

A I don't know.

Q (By Captain Reel) What branch of the service were these Japanese in that went in there, if you know?

A They are infantry men.

Q And how did you know 50 meters away?

A Because they were wearing leggings and puttees.

Q And because they were wearing leggings, you assumed that they were infantry men; is that right?

A Yes, sir.

Q And that was the only way you identify them, because of the leggings?

A Because of the leggings and the uniform that they are wearing.

Q Leggings and the uniform. Did you see the "anchors" on the uniform?

THE WITNESS: What is that?

(Question read.)

A I see the uniform.

CAPTAIN REEL: Repeat the question.

(Question again read.)

A (Continuing) Anchors? I saw the uniform of the Japanese soldiers.

Q (By Captain Reel) Could you see any insignia of an "anchor" on that uniform?

A (No response.)

Q Do you know what an "anchor" is?

A Oh! I did not see any "anchor."

CAPTAIN REEL: No further questions.

CAPTAIN PACE: Thank you very much.

(Witness excused.)

DOCUMENT 2866

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, T. R. C. King, Major, Inf. (TD), Executive Officer, Legal Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, do hereby certify that Document 2866 is a true and correct copy of the transcript of the testimony offered by DOMINADOR SANTOS in the trial of the case against Tomoyuki YAMASHITA, General, Imperial Japanese Army, before a Military Commission in Manila; and that the whole record of the case, including the transcript of all testimonies taken, as well as the affidavits admitted in evidence, are now on file with this Section.

/s/ T. R. C. King
T. R. C. King,
Major, Inf. (TD)

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard

Sworn to before me this 15th day of
November 1946, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ John R. Pritchard
Capt. Inf.
Summary Court