

P.I - Atrocity

DOCUMENT 2861

ROSA CALALONG

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

DIRECT EXAMINATION

Q (By Captain Hill) Will you state your name, please?

A My name is Rosa Calalong.

Q Can you speak a little louder?

A Rosa Calalong.

Q Where do you reside?

A 2642 Tinaldo, Manila.

Q Where were you residing the first part of February of this year?

A In Intramuros.

Q Where in Intramuros?

A Anda Street.

Q Were you residing there with the other members of your family?

A Yes, sir.

Q What were their names?

A Jesus Carugtos, my husband; Victorina Alban, my mother; my children, who are Aurora Carugtos, Angelita Carugtos and Basilio Carugtos.

Q On the 5th of February of this year did you, together with the other members of your family, have occasion to leave your home and seek refuge?

A Yes, sir.

Q And where did you go at that time?

A In the Cathedral Church.

Q To the Manila Cathedral Church?

A Yes.

Q Where was the Manila Cathedral located?

A Located at Calbildo and Postiago.

Q Was that at Intramuros?

A Yes, that is inside of Intramuros.

Q At what time of the day or night did you and the other members of your family go to the Manila Cathedral?

A At about 5:30 in the afternoon of February 5th.

Q When you arrived there did you find any other people in the cathedral?

A There were plenty there.

Q Can you state to the Commission the approximate number of persons that you saw there in the cathedral?

A There was lots of people; it is a very big church, and it was very, very crowded.

Q Would you say that there were 500 or 1000 or 1500 people there?

A Maybe around 4000 or 5000; it is plenty. There are very many.

Q Did you and the members of your family remain there in the cathedral that night?

A Yes, sir.

Q All night?

A Yes.

Q Now, during the night did you see any Japanese come into the cathedral building?

A Yes, sir.

Q And for what purpose did they come into the building?  
A I don't know, sir, but they went inside the cathedral and they were going around, and then afterwards they have been pulling girls outside of the cathedral, and I saw two Japanese raping those women right there in the cathedral, and one by my side she is pregnant five months.

Q What part of the cathedral were you and your family located in that evening?

A We are in the middle of the cathedral. Suppose this is the church; we are there at that place (indicating), and this is the door.

Q Were you in the rear, to the rear of the cathedral?

A Yes, sir.

Q And how many Japanese did you see take women out of the cathedral during the night?

A There are many, but I have seen two, they are very, very near me, in front of me, in front of our place those Japanese are raping her, and I have seen plenty of girls that they are taking outside of the cathedral, those Matista girls, they are very young. They are telling, "No, don't; mama, don't let them take me." Those girls are shouting like that.

Q Did the Japanese take these girls by force?

A Yes, by force.

Q Did you see any girls killed by the Japanese in attempting to escape?

A No, I did not see them.

Q The next day did you see any girls killed by the Japanese when they attempted to escape?

A I have seen, yes, in front of that well. There were girls there that were shot by the Japanese.

Q When they attempted to escape?

A Yes.

Q How many did you see shot by the Japanese?

A I don't know; there are many there.

Q Several?

A Yes, several.

Q How long did you remain in the Manila Cathedral?

A We stayed there for two days.

Q Did all the members of your family stay there during that time?

A My mother and my niece were there in the St. Augustine Church. We were separated because the very afternoon they told us to leave the house, you see I told my mother I would be going to St. Augustine, and he told me, he said, "You can't go into St. Augustine, because there are already plenty there." He told me that I go to the Cathedral. So I and my two children and my husband were separated, and my mother and niece were separated.

They told me I couldn't go there. There was plenty there, that I better go to the Cathedral Church.

Q Were you and your husband separated after you got to the Cathedral?

A The next morning they took all our men; they took my husband.

Q You mean the Japanese took all the men?

A Yes, the next morning.

Q Do you know what they did with them?

A No, but I seen them.

Q Have you seen your husband or heard from him since he was taken from you at the Manila Cathedral?

A That is the last time I have seen my husband.

Q How many men did you see the Japanese take from the Manila Cathedral on that day?

A There are many; there are two very long lines.

Q Well, when you say "many" can you give the Commission a little more definite answer on that? Would it be 50 or 100 or more than that?

A It would be more than two or one thousand, something like that.

Q Do you know if any of those men ever returned or not?

A Yes.

Q Did they return?

A Mr. Sanchez Andriguez, he returned.

Q Did any of the others that you saw taken away from the Cathedral ever return?

A No, I have not seen them.

Q And you have never heard of them since that time?

A I have not heard of them, no.

Q Now, after you left the Cathedral, what did you see, if anything, relative to the destruction of the Manila Cathedral?

A I see the Cathedral; I see it burning.

Q You saw it burning?

A Yes.

Q Do you know what caused the fire that burned the Manila Cathedral?

A There is some explosion, plenty of explosion inside the Cathedral.

Q Are you sure those explosions were coming from the inside of the Cathedral?

A They are inside the Cathedral, yes. We are here and the Cathedral is only on the next street.

Q Were there any American bombings or shells hitting in that area at that time?

A There was no shelling yet.

Q And no bombing yet?

A No bombing yet.

Q When you were in the cathedral did you see any signs of explosives being placed around inside the building?

A I just see those drums there, and supposing this is the church here, the convent, there are plenty of gasoline drums there.

Q Around the church?

A Yes.

CAPTAIN HILL: You may have the witness.

CROSS EXAMINATION

Q (By Captain Reel) These Japanese soldiers you saw, were they army or navy or marines?

A They are wearing green suits.

Q Did you see any insignia on their green suit?

A No, I don't. I don't look at the Japanese.

Q You could not tell whether they had little anchors on their green suits or not?

A No, I don't pay any attention to that.

Q You did not pay any attention to that?

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Q You did not pay any attention to that?

A No, I don't pay attention to that.

CAPTAIN REEL: That is all.

CAPTAIN HILL: I will ask to have these two photographs marked for identification.

(Two photographs were marked Prosecution Exhibits No. 308 and 309 for Identification respectively.)

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

Q (By Captain Hill) I will hand you Prosecution's Exhibit No. 308, and ask you to state what it is, if you know.

A Yes, this place here, this is the Cathedral Church.

Q Is that the ruins of the church as it looks today?

A It is not like this today.

Q I will hand you Prosecution's Exhibit No. 309, and ask you to state what it is, if you know.

A Yes, this is the Cathedral Church.

Q And is that as the church looks today after it was destroyed?

A Yes.

CAPTAIN HILL: We will offer into evidence Prosecution's Exhibits 308 and 309, sir.

GENERAL REYNOLDS: There being no objection, they are accepted into evidence.

(Prosecution Exhibits No. 308 and 309 for identification were received in evidence.)

CAPTAIN HILL: That is all we have.

CAPTAIN REEL: No further questions.

(Witness excused.)

DOCUMENT 2861

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 2861 is a true and correct copy of the transcript of the testimony offered by ROSA CALALONG 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