

5 19

Exhibit # 3898

Def. Doc. #2848

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al)
vs)
MURAI, Sadao, et al)

A F F I D A V I T

SUZUKI, Tadakatsu

I, SUZUKI, Tadakatsu, after having been duly sworn according to the Japanese formula, make the following statement of my own free will:

I am 52 years of age, and reside at No. 183, Notomachi, Honmoku, Nakagard, Yokohama City, Japan.

1. I was Japanese Minister to Egypt from 1940, and returned to Japan in August, 1942, by boat on the occasion of the exchange of British and Japanese diplomats, and until August, 1945, I was Chief of the Bureau in Charge of Japanese Nationals in Enemy Countries, which was established in December, 1942. I am at present Head of the Yokohama Branch of the Central Liaison Office.

2. I held the post of Chief of the Bureau in Charge of Japanese Nationals in Enemy Countries under Foreign Minister Shigemitsu, from April, 1943, to April, 1945, and under Foreign Minister Togo, from April, 1945, to August of the same year. The Bureau in Charge of Japanese Nationals in

Def. Doc. 2548

Enemy Countries was in charge of matters concerning the protection of Japanese residents in enemy countries, which matters were under the jurisdiction of the Foreign Minister, and formed part of his duties to protect Japanese residents in foreign countries. Matters pertaining to prisoners of war in Japanese hands belonged to the jurisdiction of the War Minister, while matters concerning enemy civilian internees who were located in Japan Proper belonged to the authority of the Home Minister. In view, however, of the collateral relations between the duties of my Bureau to protect Japanese residents in enemy countries and the matter of the treatment of prisoners of war and civilian internees in Japanese hands, Foreign Minister Tani, who first established the Bureau of which I was Chief, as well as Foreign Ministers Shigemitsu and Tōgō, his two successors, charged my Bureau, for convenience' sake, with the duties of transmitting requests for information and protests concerning prisoners of war and civilian internees, which came from enemy countries through neutral representatives of enemy interests, to the above-mentioned competent authorities.

3. Mr. Shigemitsu who became Foreign Minister in April, 1943, showed a special interest in the matter of prisoners of

Def.Doc. #2848

war and civilian internees. He often mentioned to me a maxim: "war is only temporary, but humanity permanent." I always endeavored to live up to what Mr. Shigemitsu meant.

A great difficulty, however, was felt in realizing Mr. Shigemitsu's idea owing to the complete lack of jurisdiction on the part of the Foreign Ministry over prisoners of war and civilian internees. When, for instance, the Foreign Ministry was requested by any foreign country to supply information regarding prisoners of war or civilian internees, or had received protests against their alleged ill-treatment, the Foreign Ministry had no means to make direct inspections, or directly to collect information concerning them. When the Foreign Ministry was approached by neutral representatives with requests for permission to visit camps or to send goods for relief to prisoners of war and civilian internees, the Foreign Ministry had no competence to permit the desired visits, nor had it the means to transport relief goods, the only thing which the Foreign Ministry was in a position to do being to transmit such requests to the competent authorities and await their action. In spite of all this, Mr. Shigemitsu ordered me to do my best on every occasion in order to contribute to the amelioration of the treatment of prisoners

Def.Doc. #2848

of war, and in compliance with this order I did my best.

4. Whenever a communication was made by an enemy country in regard to the matter of prisoners of war, my Bureau transmitted the matter to the competent authorities promptly and accurately, as soon as Japanese translation of such communication had been made, by official note, and sometimes also orally. In case replies were not received in due course, my Bureau endeavored to press for them.

The method of transmission by writing was described in my Affidavit, Exhibit No. 2782. In order to transmit or press orally, I often took advantage of the conferences of the officers and officials in charge of the Ministries concerned, regarding the protection of Japanese residents in enemy countries, held in my Bureau usually twice a month. These conferences were attended by officers or officials in charge of the War, Navy, Home Affairs, Transportation, Communications, Finance and other Ministries. From the War and Navy Ministries, officers in charge of the Prisoner-of-War Information Bureau, the Military Affairs Section of the Military Affairs Bureau of the War Ministry, and the 2nd Section of the Naval Affairs Bureau of the Navy Ministry joined these conferences.

Def.Doc. #2848

It is true that these conferences were concerned, as stated above, with the duties of the Foreign Ministry to protect Japanese residents in enemy countries, and that on these occasions we were not at liberty to take up the matter of prisoners of war as such. But I referred indirectly to matters concerning prisoners of war in connection with the question of protecting Japanese residents in enemy countries, or after the conferences my subordinates or I myself talked tête-à-tête with the officers of the competent authorities in charge of these matters.

5. Whenever the Foreign Ministry had occasion to transmit request for information, or a note of protest, regarding prisoners of war, it made efforts to see that their treatment be improved. I may cite an instance. When the long protest of the United States Government, Exhibit No. 2024, was received in February, 1944, Foreign Minister Shigemitsu himself called the attention of the War Minister, and ordered me to avail myself of the occasion of this protest for home consumption in order to assure a better treatment of prisoners of war. He stated that I should on this occasion call the attention of the competent authorities to this matter with the object of (1) correcting the situation..

5

Def.Doc. #2848

if the facts contained in the protest should happen to be in any way true, and more than that, (2) of expediting the solution of the question of visits to camps, for which neutral representatives had frequently requested without obtaining satisfactory results, of pressing for replies to unanswered inquiries about information on various subjects, and of facilitating solution to other matters. I endeavored in compliance with this order. As the result of this, improvements were achieved, viz. relief goods were accepted from the Allied Powers in order to distribute them among prisoners of war, relief funds were delivered to prisoners of war and civilian internees, facility was given to them to dispatch telegrams, and steps were taken towards the solution of the question of permission to visit camps in occupied territories.

Further, in calling the attention of the competent authorities to matters concerning prisoners of war and civilian internees, Mr. Shigemitsu ordered us to use as materials information from enemy sources also, even if not based on official protests. One instance was the telegram from Minister Shichida in Afghanistan, being Defense Document

Def.Doc. #2848

#2849, which was then sent to the Chief of Prisoner-of-War Information Bureau.

6. As far as matters of prisoners of war were concerned, the Foreign Ministry had no competence over their treatment or to collect information regarding them. Mr. Shigemitsu, however, thought of a plan, about April or May, 1944, to set up in the Cabinet something like an international laws and customs committee to have it discuss the question of prisoners of war. Dr. Yamakawa, Tadao, ex-Director of the Treaty Bureau and an authority on international law, together with myself, worked on this plan under Mr. Shigemitsu. The substance of this plan was to organize a committee, under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister, consisting not only of members of the Army and Navy Ministries, but of Foreign Ministry officials, and authorities on international law, and to have them study questions concerning war-time international laws and customs, and matters concerning prisoners of war too. This plan, however, was not brought to a successful end, since the administration of matters relating to prisoners of war was under the jurisdiction of the Army.

7. In addition, Mr. Shigemitsu took up the matter of prisoners of war at the Supreme Council for Direction of War

Ref. No. 2345

in October, 1944. At this meeting Foreign Minister Shigemitsu pointed out to the members who were present that, according to recent information from enemy sources, it was reported that the Japanese treatment of prisoners of war left much to be desired. He further stated that the humanitarian treatment of prisoners of war had been from old times a virtue of our country, and that this was a matter of importance from the point of view of our international reputation and future relations. As it was a matter for profound regret if by any possible chance we should have committed the slightest possible fault in this matter, he desired that criticism should be issued to the responsible persons among competent authorities, so that the matters might be fully discussed. The Supreme Council for Direction of War was composed of the Prime Minister, the Army and Navy Ministers, the Chiefs of the General Staffs of the Army and Navy, and Foreign Minister. Soon after I had heard Mr. Shigemitsu repeat to me his statement as mentioned above, I was told by a liaison officer of the Prisoner-of-War Information Bureau that the same bureau had dispatched its members to prisoner-of-war camps, and had instructed responsible officers to be considerate in the treatment of prisoners of war.

Def.Doc. #2848

8. Foreign Minister Shigemitsu sincerely and earnestly worked for the matter of the exchange of nationals resident abroad, as well as for the transportation and distribution of American and British relief goods by an exchange ship. He was at last successful in executing the second exchange of American and Japanese nationals resident respectively in the other party's territories, in October, 1943, at Port Marmagao (Goa). On that occasion, large quantities of Allied relief goods were transported by the exchange ship Teia Maru, and they were distributed among the prisoners of war and civilian internees who were located in places in Japanese hands. Further, when a request was made late in 1943 by the United States Government for the transportation of relief goods from Vladivostok, to which port the United States Government would forward such goods, and for their delivery to prisoners of war in various places, Mr. Shigemitsu immediately transmitted that request to the competent authorities, and eagerly urged us, his subordinates, to request such authorities to solve the matter. As the result the American request was granted by the competent authorities, the goods being transported first to Kobe, and then to China,

Def.Doc. # 2848

Hong Kong, French Indo-China, Singapore, and other ports.

9. As to permission for visits to prisoner-of-war camps in occupied territories, Mr. Shigemitsu made all possible efforts vis-à-vis the competent authorities. I endeavored long and earnestly, under instructions from Minister Shigemitsu orally as well as by note, to obtain permission from the competent authorities to visit such camps. The military authorities made it a policy not to permit visits to camps in occupied territories, and did not readily comply with our requests. In the meantime, neutral representatives several times eagerly requested for the permission, and the Foreign Ministry continued unceasingly to make such requests to the Army authorities. As a result, in December, 1944, they consented at last to permit representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit the camps in the southern areas, and Minister Shigemitsu was able to send a note, on December 8, conveying such decision respectively to the Swedish and Swiss Ministers (v. Def.Doc. #2850, #2850 A and B).

Def.Doc. #2848

10. Mr. Tōgō had, like his predecessor Mr. Shigenitsu, deep concern over the problem of prisoners of war, and instructed me to transact such affairs with utmost care, and to endeavor to take advantage of every opportunity for the improvement of the treatment of prisoners of war, from a humanitarian viewpoint. On my part, I exerted all my efforts in the transaction of this business in conformity with his instructions, in the same manner as at the time of Mr. Shigenitsu.

Ever since Mr. Tōgō became Foreign Minister for the second time, he had been very busily occupied with various important problems in connection with the situation of the war of those days. Nevertheless he did not fail to pay due attention to the treatment of prisoners of war. For instance, on June 3, 1945, the Swiss Minister handed to Mr. Tōgō a protest of the United States Government concerning atrocities to American prisoners of war at Puerto Princesa on Palawan Island (Exhibit No. 2107). Mr. Tōgō immediately took steps to have it transmitted to the competent authorities, and at the same time he personally called the special attention of War Minister Anami to the subject, and further urged him to accord fair and generous treatment to prisoners of war in general, to which he got the latter's consent. I was so told by Mr. Tōgō at that time.

Def.Doc. #2848

11. In spite of such attitude of Mr. Tōgō's, the war situation became very stringent during the second time of his tenure of office, rendering the management of the questions of prisoners of war increasingly difficult. Toward the spring and summer of 1945, the situation of the Japanese Army on the fronts in the Philippines, Burma and other southern areas deteriorated considerably. As the Allied forces advanced into these districts, the Japanese forces retreated, and fresh protests began to be lodged concerning the treatment accorded the Japanese Army to the prisoners of war and internees in these regions. The Foreign Ministry transmitted them to the competent authorities without failure. According to the explanations of officials of the War Ministry, however, as a result of the defeats of the Japanese Army, telegraphic communication between the central military authorities and the forces at the front became very difficult and often impossible, and even when such communication was possible, the confusion within the Japanese forces at the front rendered investigations into the matters of prisoners of war almost impossible, and accordingly, in spite of the frequent requests of the Foreign Ministry, the cases increased where we could not

Def.Doc. #2848

receive sufficient answers which would be satisfactory to the Allied countries. In the meantime the so-called Awa Maru incident of April 1 occurred, exciting the military and adversely affecting the solution of the questions of prisoners of war. During the time of Foreign Minister Shigemitsu, I very often saw in Tokyo the Ministers of the neutral countries representing the interest of the enemy countries, for liaison business. But at the time of Foreign Minister Tōgō these Ministers had evacuated to Karuizawa, and in accordance with Mr. Togo's instructions, I often took measures of keeping speedy contact with these Ministers by exchanging letters through couriers, or by often proceeding to Karuizawa personally, thus exercising all possible efforts in order to meet the situation by taking recourse to expedient measures in time of emergency. Instances of our answers to the Ministers of the neutral countries by means of personal letters or oral communications, which I utilized for expediency in those days instead of official notes of the Foreign Ministry, may be seen in Exhibits 2016-A-71 and 2016-A-72.

In the meantime, the Foreign Ministry received from the military authorities no information whatever concerning the

Def.Doc. #2348

trials of the Allied fliers such as those which took place in the middle of July, 1945. (Exhibit 1994)

12. As for visits to the prisoner-of-war camps in the occupied areas by the representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross, as mentioned in Section 9 of this affidavit, Mr. Tōgō endeavoured to see to its realization without delay, and regardless of the fact that by the beginning of June, 1945, the acceptance of the conditions of reciprocity which had been imposed upon permission for such visits had not yet been officially notified to us by all the Governments of the Allied countries concerned, the permission for visits to the camps in Thailand was actually notified to the Swiss Minister on June 5. As for the visits to the camps in Singapore, there arose some questions regarding the status of the visitors and the selection of qualified persons, but I was informed by the military authorities that the visit was actually made on the spot. As far as concerns visits to the camps in Manila, the city had been recaptured by the spring of 1945, and American nationals there liberated (Exhibits 2016-A-64, 2016-A-68, 2016-A-69, 2016-A-72; 2016-A-73).

Def. Doc. #2348

On this 21st day of Nov., 1947

at Tokyo

DEPONENT SUZUKI, Tadakatsu (Seal)

I, YANAI, Hisao hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date

At the same place

Witness: (signed) Hisao Yanai (Seal)

OATH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

Tadakatsu Suzuki (Seal)

3898

Def. Doc. # 2848

頁	行	誤	正
三	一	抑留者	抑留者ニ関シ何等
四	二	軍事課	軍務課
五	四	未夕	來夕
〃	十四	實施	實現
七	一	重光氏ハ虜問題	重光氏ハ俘虜問題
八	一	配布シマ	配布シマシタ
〃	二	救恤品	救恤品ヲ引取ツテ
十二	一	資格	資格及ビ選定
〃	二	軍當局	軍當局カラ承知
十三	二	鈴木九萬	鈴木九萬 (印)
〃	五	柳井恒夫	柳井恒夫 (印)
〃	三	鈴木九萬	鈴木九萬 (印)

正誤表 (鈴木九萬宣誓供述書)

誤

正

板橋区際軍車裁判所

亞米利加合衆國 其他

對

荒木貞夫 其他

宣誓 供述者

供述者 鈴木 九 萬

自分僱我口ニ行ハルル方式ニ從ヒ先ヅ別紙ノ通り宣誓ヲ爲シタル上、次ノ如ク供述致シマス
私鈴木九萬ハ五十二歳デ、日本横濱市中區本牧元町一八三番地ニ居住シテ所リマス

三、ヲ便宜上私ノ事務室ヲシテ行ハシメラレタノデアリマス。
重光氏ハ一九四三年四月外務大臣ニ就任スルト共ニ伴虜及一般抑留者
ノ問題ニツイテハ特別ノ關心ヲ示サレ、私ニ對シ常ニ言ハレタ注意ハ
「戦争ハ一時的ノモノデアル。人道ハ永遠デアルトイフ言葉デアリ
マシタ。私ハ常ニ岡氏ノ此ノ氣持ヲ体シテ行動致シマシタ」

シカシナガリ外務省ガ字及ビ一威抑留ニ
 ニコノ重光氏ノ考ヲ實ニスル上ニ非常ニ困難ヲ感ジマシム。例ヘバ外内側
 ヲリ伴身又ハ一威抑留者ニツキ情報ヲ求メ又ハ所謂定住者ニツキ抗議ガアツ
 タ場合ニモ外務省トツテハ自ラ之ヲ調査シ直等情報ヲ求ムル手段ヲ持ツテ
 言リマセン。又例ヘバ中立以代スル収容所訪問ノ申出トカ伴身及ビ一威抑
 留者ニ對スル救恤品輸送ノ申出ニ受スル場合ニモ外務省ハ収容所訪問許可
 ノ權能モナケレバ救恤品輸送ノ手ヲモ持タナイノテ。唯權限官廳ニ石申出
 シ良ク取次ギソノ旨直ヲ持ツノミテアリマシム。ツカシソレニモ拘ラズ重
 光氏ハ私ニ對シ伴身ノ問題ニツイテハソノ待遇改善ニ奇異スルタメ。アラ
 ヌル機曾ニ於テ全刀ヲ盡スヤウ命セラレ。自分トツテハ此ノ命令ニ從ヒ出
 來ルタケ努力シテ大ニテアリマス。
 且ツ確實ニ。此等ノ事ヨリ申出アリタル場合ニハ私ノ事務室ヨリ以
 テ。之ヲ權限官廳ニ取次グ。其ニ權限官廳ヨリノ回答カ達レル場合ニ
 ハ口頭又ハ公文ヲ以テ督促ニ努メマシム。
 公文ニヨル傳達ノ方法ハ私ノ口供書（法廷證二七八二號）ニ述ベタ通り
 アリマス。口頭ニヨル傳達又ハ督促ニ當ツテハ在歐日居留民保護ノ問題ニ
 關シ私ノ事務室ア月二回位僅シク關係省ノ主任者ノ會議ヲ屢々利用シマシ

々。此ノ會合ニハ陸・海・内務・逓信・遞信・大坂等各省ノ主任者カ出席
 シマシタ。海軍省カラハ子身情報局・海軍省魚務局並兼務、海軍省魚務
 局長第二課ノ鈴木カ参リマシタ。
 勿論此ノ會談ハ前巡ノ如ク威權内ニアル日本居留民ノ保護ト言フ外務省
 ノ仕舞ニ關スルモノデアリマス。存身問題ソノモノヲ深リ上ゲル事ハ
 出来ナカツタノデアリマス。在威日本居留民保護ノ問題ニ關連シテ存
 身ノ問題ニ簡接ニ言及シタリ。既ハ又敢て後私乃至私ノ部下カ權限官廳ノ
 主任者ト懇談シタリ。

兵外務省トシテハ俘虜ニ關スル情報ノ
 又ハ抗議等ノ傳達ノ機會ヲ捉
 へテ俘虜ノ待遇ノ改善ヲ見ル様ニ努
 力シマシタ。例ヘバ一九四四年二
 月米國政府ヨリ長文ノ抗議（法廷證
 二〇二四號）ガ來タ時ニハ重光大
 臣ハ自身陸軍大臣ニ注意ヲ具ヘ、私
 ニ對シ此ノ抗議ノ未タ機會ヲ國內
 的ニ利用シテ俘虜ノ待遇ノ改善ヲ
 見ルヤウニト命ゼラレマシタ。即チ
 此ノ抗議ヲ機會ニ視テ官廳ノ注意ヲ
 喚起シ、萬一抗議文所載ノ如キ事
 實ガアルナラバ之ヲ是正シテモラフ
 ノハ勿論、之ニ依リ從來中立國代
 表ヨリ屢々要請シテ來テ居リ、而モ
 満足ナ解決ヲ見ナカツタ收容所訪
 問問題トカ各種情報問合ニ對スル未
 同答事項ノ督促トカ諸般ノ問題ノ
 解決ニ便ズルヤウニセヨト言ハレ、
 デアリマシタ。私ハ勿論此ノ命令
 ニ從ツテ出來ルダケノ努力チシマシ
 タ。其ノ結果聯合國ノ救恤品ヲ受
 取り俘虜ニ配布スルトカ、俘虜及ビ
 抑留者ニ對スル救恤品ヲ交付スル
 トカ、俘虜及ビ抑留者ノ電報ニ付便
 宜ヲ與ハルトカ、占領地收容所訪
 問許可ノ問題解決ノ措置ヲ講ズル等
 ノ改善ヲ實施シマシタ。又重光氏ハ
 敵國側ヨリ正式ノ抗議ノミナラズ、
 正式抗議ニ基カナイ敵側ノ情報デ
 モ、俘虜及ビ抑留者ノ問題ニ付信
 限官廳ノ注意喚起ノ材料トスルヤウ
 命ゼラレマシタ。辯護團文書第二八
 四九號在、ア、フ、ガ、ニ、ス、
 タ、ン、一、七、田、公、使、發、電、報、ヲ、
 俘、虜、情、報、局、長、官、ニ、送、付、シ、
 タ、公、文、ノ、如、キ、ハ、其、ノ、
 一、例、デ、ア、リ、マ、ス。

六 存 疑 問 題 ニ 付 外 務 省 ハ 之 カ 付 心 又 ハ 情 報 蒐 集 ニ ツ イ ア 何 等 ノ 權 限 ヲ 持 タ
 ナ カ ツ タ ノ テ ア リ マ ス カ 重 元 氏 ハ 一 九 四 四 年 四 月 五 月 頃 國 際 法 規 範 例 委
 員 會 ト 云 ツ タ 倭 ナ モ ノ ラ 內 閣 ニ 設 置 シ 之 ラ シ ヲ 倭 國 同 題 ヲ モ 審 議 サ セ ヤ ウ ト
 云 フ 案 ヲ 考 ヘ マ シ ヲ 前 條 約 同 長 テ 國 際 法 學 者 テ ア ル 山 川 端 夫 博 士 ヤ 私
 モ 重 光 氏 ニ 協 力 シ ア 案 ヲ 練 リ マ シ ヲ 此 ノ 案 ノ 官 子 ハ 陸 海 軍 ノ 者 以 外 ニ
 外 務 省 員 及 ビ 國 際 法 學 者 ヲ モ 川 ハ ヲ 委 員 會 ヲ 作 リ 之 ヲ 內 閣 總 理 大 臣 ニ 直
 屬 セ シ メ ア 政 府 國 際 法 及 ビ 慣 例 並 ビ ニ 存 疑 問 題 係 争 域 ノ 審 議 ニ 當 ラ セ ヤ ウ
 ト 言 フ ノ テ ア リ マ シ ヲ シ カ シ 此 ノ 案 ハ 成 功 シ マ セ ン テ シ ヲ ソ レ ハ 存
 疑 ニ 關 ス ル 事 項 ノ 管 理 ハ 尋 フ 陸 軍 ノ 管 轄 ニ 屬 シ タ カ ラ テ ア リ マ ス

七、尙一九四四年十月重光氏ハ勝問題ヲ最高戦争指導會議ニ持ち出シマシタ。同日ノ會議ニ於テ重光外務大臣ハ同會議列席ノ諸員ニ對シ最近敵國側ノ情報ニ依レバ日本ノ俘虜ニ對スル待遇ニハ遺憾ノ點少ナカラズトノ事ヲアルガ俘虜ヲ人道的ニ取扱フ事ハ我國古來ノ美風デアルノミナラズ我國ノ國際的信用及ビ將來ノ關係ノ上カラ言ツテ大切ナ事デアル。

萬一此ノ點ニ付落度ガアツテハ甚ダ遺憾デアルカラ極限官廳ノ主任者ニ對シ十分ノ協議ヲ盡ス様指令ヲ與ヘラレン事ヲ希望スル旨ノ發言ヲシマシタ。最高戦争指導會議ハ、總理、陸海軍大臣、參謀總長、軍令部長及ビ外務大臣ヲ以テ構成員トシテ居リマス。私方此ノ話ヲ重光氏ヨリ聞イテ後間モナク俘虜情報局ノ連絡員ガ私ニ語ツタ所ニヨリマスト、陸軍側ニ於テモ早速人ヲ各收容所ニ派シテ俘虜ノ待遇ニ注意万ヲ訓令シタサウデアリマス。

八、重光外務大臣ハ居留民ノ交換及交換船ニ依ル米英佛救恤品輸送及配布實施ニ熱心デアリ遂ニ一九四三年十月印度「ポルトガル」國領「マシマゴン」港（「ゴア」）ニテ日米第二回居留民交換實施ニ成功シマシタカ此ノ機會ニ我交換船帝亞丸ヲ多量ノ聯合國救恤品ヲ積取り我艦

内各地ノ俘虜及抑留者ニ之ヲ配布シマシ。一九四三年米國政府ヨリ「ウラジオストク」ニ送付スル救恤品ヲ取ツテ各地ノ俘虜へ輸送スル事ニ關シ申出アツタノニ對シ重光氏ハ之ヲ各關係官廳ニ移牒シ我々部下ヲ督勵シテ熱心ニ交渉シタ結果之ガ實效ニ成功シ先ヅ之ヲ神戸ニ輸送シ次デ中國及香港、佛印、「シンガポール」等へ輸送スルコトガ出來マシタ。

九、中立國代表者ノ占領地俘虜收容所訪問許可万ノ件ニツイテハ重光氏ハ極限官廳ニ對シ出來ルダケノ努力ヲシマシタ。私ハ重光大臣ノ命ヲ受ケ極限官廳ニ對シ口頭及ビ公文ヲ以テ長イ間熱心ニ之ガ許可ヲ交渉シマシタガ、御テハ占領地内ニ於ケル收容所ハ之ガ訪問ヲ許サナイト言フノガ方針デアリマシテ容易ニ同意スルニ至ラズ此ノ間斷回ニ直リ中立國代表ヨリ強イ要望モアリ、外務省トシテハ陸軍御ニ對シ熱心ニ此ノ交渉ヲ續ケ、一九四四年十二月ニ至リ漸ク國際赤十字委員會ノ代表ニ對シ南万諸地域ニ在ル收容所ノ訪問ヲ許可スル事ニ話合ガツキ、同月八日重光大臣ヨリ「スウエーデン」及び「スウイス」各公使ニ對シ其ノ旨を轉送ノ運ビトナリマシタ。

十、東郷氏ハ其前任者重光氏同様俘虜問題ニ對シ多大ノ關心ヲ持チ、私ニ對シ常ニ同問題ノ取扱ニ付テハ手落ナキ様充分留意シテ之ヲ處理シ人道的見地カラ俘虜ノ待遇改善ニ付凡ユル機會ヲ捉ヘテ努力スベキ旨ヲ命ゼラレマシタ。自分トシテハ右ニ從ツテ重光外務大臣ノ下ニ於ケルト同様俘虜問題ノ爲ニ努力シマシタ。

東郷氏ハ第二次外務大臣トナツテ以來當時ノ戦局ニ關聯スル種々ノ重要問題ノ處理ニ忙殺サレテ居ラレタノデアリマスガ其間ニモ俘虜ノ取扱ニ注意ヲ怠リマセンデシタ、例ヘバ一九四五年六月三日瑞西公使ガ東郷氏ニ對シ「バラウケン」島「ブエルト」プリンセサルニ於ケル米人俘虜虐殺事件ニ關スル米國政府ノ抗議（法廷證第二一〇七號）ヲ手交シタ際、同氏ハ之ヲ直チニ當該官廳ニ移牒セシメルト共ニ同氏自身阿南陸軍大臣ニ本問題ニ付注意ヲ喚起シ、更ニ俘虜ノ一般的取扱ニ付公正寛大ニスヘキ旨ヲ申入レ、其同意ヲ得タ旨當時東郷氏ヨリ聞キマシタ。

十一、東郷氏ノ態度ハ右ノ様デアリマスガ、同氏ノ第二次外務大臣時代トナリテハ戦局ハ甚シク緊迫シ、俘虜問題ノ取扱ハ益々困難トナリマシタ、即チ一九四五年ノ春カラ夏ニカケテ比律賓、緬甸其ノ他ノ南方各地ニ於ケル日本軍ノ戦況ハ著シク悪化シ、聯合軍ガ此等諸地域ニ進攻スルニ伴ヒ、我軍ハ敗退シタノデアリマシテ之ニ伴ヒ右地域テ日本軍ガ俘虜及ビ抑留者ニ對シテ加ヘテ來タ取扱ニ付種々ノ抗議ガ出テ參

リマシタ。外務省トシテハ通滞ナク主管官廳ニ連絡シマシタガ、當時
陸軍省係官ノ言明ニ依レバ、各地日本軍敗退ノ結果、中央ノ軍當局カ
ラ倅騰問題ニ付現地軍ヘ電信連絡シヨウトシテモソレガ頗ル困難デ屢
屢不可能トナリ、又連絡ガツイテモ現地軍ガ混亂シテ居ツテ調査ガ至
難トナツタトノ事デ、外務省ヨリハ怠リナク催促致シタノデアリマス
ガ、自然聯合自ラ満足サセル様ニ充分ノ返事が出来ナイコトガ多クナ
リマシタ。

又此ノ間ニ四月一日ノ阿波丸事件ナルモノガ發生シテ軍部ヲ刺戟シ、之ガ俘虜問題ノ解決ニ影響ヲ及ボシマシタ。重光外務大臣時代ニハ私ハ利益代表デアアル中立國公使ト屢々東京テ會ツテ連絡シタノデアリマスガ、東郷外務大臣時代ニハ中立國諸公使ハ疎開ノ爲輕井澤ニ移轉シテ居ツタノテ私ハ東郷大臣ノ命ヲ体シテ屢々傳書使ニヨル書信ノ往復ヲ行ツテ中立國公使ト迅速ニ連絡シ、又屢々私自身輕井澤ニ赴キ中立國公使ト連絡スル等緊迫シタ事態ニ對應シテ臨機ノ措置ヲトリ、出來得ル限りノ努力ヲシタ次第デアリマス。

當時私ガ便宜ノタメ外務省ノ公文ノ代リニ利用シタ私信又ハ口頭ヲ以テ中立國公使ニ回答シタ例ハ法廷證第二〇一六、A、七一及二〇一六、A七二各號ニ示サレテアリマス。

此間一九四五年七月中旬聯合國ノ飛行士ニ對シ行ハレタ處刑（法廷證第一九九四號）ノ如キニ付テハ、外務省ハ軍側カラ何等情報ヲ受ケマセンデシタ。

十二、本供述書第九項ニ述ベタ赤十字國際委員會代表者ニ依ル占領地ノ俘虜收容所視察ニ付テハ、東郷氏ハ一日モ速カニ之ガ實現方ニ努力シ、右許可ノ條件デアツタ相互條件モ一九四五年六月上旬迄ニハ未ダ關係聯合國政府全部ノ正式受諾モ出揃ハナカッタケレドモ、不取敢泰國ニ於ケル收容所ニ付テハ六月五日訪問許可ヲ瑞西公使ニ通知シマシタ。一シンガ

「ガール」收容所訪問ニ付テハ視察者ノ資格アリ、且定ノ間也等ガ起リマシ
シガ、現場テ視察ガ行ハレタコトヲ申當局ノ知シマシタ。「マニラ」
收容所ノ視察ニ付テハ同市ハ一九四五年春迄ニ同セラレ、米國人ハ解
放サレマシタ。法廷證第二〇一六、A、六四、二〇一六、A、六八、二
〇一六、A、六九、二〇一六、A、七二、二〇一六、A、七三各號ニ

昭和二十二年（一九四七年）十一月廿一日 於東京

供述者

鈴木 九 萬

右ハ當立會人ノ面前ニテ宣誓シ且ツ署名捺印シタルコトヲ證明シマス

13

同日於同所

立會人

柳 井 垣 夫

宣

書

書

良心ニ從ヒ眞實ヲ述ベ何事ヲモ黙秘セズ又何事ヲモ附加セザルコトヲ誓フ

署名捺印

鈴

木

九

萬