

Ex 1549-A

Evidentiary document # 5348 A.

STATEMENT OF WITNESS.

Name: MG Than MG  
Occupation: Clerk.  
Address: Bhamo.

been duly sworn states:

I am 29 years of age, of Burmese nationality, born at Bhamo. My permanent home is at Naungkho.

Sometime in the middle of August '44 at SINKAN (together with YOSHIKAWA S/Maj. NAGATA Cpl., THAN PE, MAUNG MU and SAN AIK) I saw one Burmese BA KHIN killed by YOSHIKAWA and NAGATA.

On the said day at SINKAN, THAN PE, and KO YIN (later now dead killed by Kachins) brought in BA KHIN to YOSHIKAWA. BA KHIN was questioned by YOSHIKAWA regarding British troops and BA KHIN denied any knowledge of them. BA KHIN was beaten whilst being questioned by YOSHIKAWA, and was later taken outside the village. Here, YOSHIKAWA gave BA KHIN his last chance to tell the truth. "You will be released if you tell the truth, otherwise you will be killed". BA KHIN still denied knowledge of British troops. Then YOSHIKAWA ordered BA KHIN to be tied to a nearby tree, and told BA KHIN to say his prayers. After BA KHIN had finished YOSHIKAWA ordered NAGATA to kill BA KHIN with his sword. NAGATA thrust the sword at BA KHIN's neck but it did not penetrate, and YOSHIKAWA flying into a fury took the sword from NAGATA and fiercely attacked BA KHIN with the sword all over his body, killing the man.

He, (YOSHIKAWA) told all of us present that this is an example of the treatment anyone will receive for going against the Japanese.

The following were at the site:

1. MG MU. 2. THAN PE. 3. SAN AIK. 4. TIN MAUNG. 5. myself and the K.T. YOSHIKAWA and NAGATA.

I can identify the Japs.

(Signed) MG THAN MAUNG.

Sworn before me P.R. MADDOX, Lt.Col. No.16 War Crimes Investigation Team, at BHAMO on the 7th day of May 1946.

Detailed to examine the above by the Commander-in-Chief, Allied Land Force South East Asia. (Authority: ALFSEA War Crimes Instruction No.1 para 7.)

I recognise the photograph of Sgt. Maj. YOSHIKAWA SADAICHIRO which I have been shown as the man referred to above as YOSHIKAWA.

I certify that the above is a true copy of a statement taken in the course of War Crimes Investigations, the original of which is now in the custody of 16 War Crimes Investigation Team.

Dated the 3rd July 1946.

(Signed) B.T. HULTHREYS, Capt. RA.  
Investigator, 16 War Crimes Investigation Team.

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