

EC 2421

Def Doc No. 563

Translated by
Defense Language Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition

Deponent ; --KITAURA, Toyoo

No. 230, 3-Chome,

Harajuku, SHIBUYA

Ward, Tokyo.

Born : December 19,

1895

Sworn Deposition of KITAURA, Toyoo

1. I was formerly a Navy Captain, I took part in the first Shanghai Incident, as staff-officer, second in seniority, of First Overseas Fleet, The Commander of the Fleet was Rear-Admiral Shiozawa, Koichi,

2. Following the outbreak of the Manchurian Incident, the movements to exclude, resist, and insult the Japanese as well as to boycott Japanese goods in the areas south of the Yangtze River, especially around Shanghai were intensified to the extreme. As I remember, around October, 1931, I went to recover some bran (hulls of wheat normally fed to bowl and swine) from a band of anti-Japanese terrorists who had seized the said bran on the pretext of prohibiting transactions with the Japanese. The Japanese had bought the bran from the Chinese and had loaded it aboard a ship on the Huangpu-River. This is only a single instance, but cases of outrageous acts by the Chinese against the Japanese increased daily. Finally, since the lives and property of all Japanese in general were gravely endangered a strong protest was lodged with the Mayor of the City of Shanghai through our Consul General.

The Mayor of Shanghai, on the 27th of January, 1932, issued orders to the Chinese Public Peace Maintenance Bureau to disband all anti-Japanese associations to release seized Japanese goods, and to suspend anti-Japanese movements.

However, there were no indications that the Mayor's order was obser-

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ved. On the contrary, on the following day (23th) an "urgent" anti-Japanese grand rally was held and a mob of approximately 5000 Chinese surrounded the Municipal Government Building creating great confusion and disorder.

The members of the Chinese police force in the Chapei and Honkiang districts deserted their posts and Chinese evacuees kept pouring into the settlements.. When finally rumours of "an attack upon the concessions by Chinese troops" were heard the Municipality proclaimed martial law.

3. On the morning of the 27th of January, the commanding officers of the respective garrison forces of the Powers assembled and agreed that in an emergency, the respective forces of the Powers should jointly guard the settlements by taking up positions already allotted to them according to the plan for joint defense of the Shanghai Concessions.

Therefore, with the proclamation of martial law by the Municipality, the forces of Britain, U. S. France Japan, Italy, etc., were to indicated in this joint guard plan.

4. Disposition of forces was made for taking guard positions as of zero hours on the 29th of January. Then suddenly our forces were attacked by Chinese troops and our side suffered heavy casualties. Being numerically inferior our landing party was compelled to fight a desperate battle. At 0320 hours on the same day, therefore, orders were despatched to the warship Notors, which was attached to the First Expeditionary squadron, to co-operate with the marines by bombing the Chang Wu Shu Kuan and the Hu Chou hui Kuan buildings, where the enemy forces were based.

The warship Notors sent two type - 14 patrol-seaplanes loaded with light bombs. The planes arrived over the Chapei area at around 0420 hours and at dawn the previously stated military objectives were bombed.

According to reports submitted after the bombing, the targets were clearly visible and blackouts were ineffective. The planes dropped flare-bombs to confirm the targets, and direct hits were scored by low altitude bombing.

With the continuation of hostilities, enemy armored trains and railroad tracks were also bombed but in consideration of the fact that Shanghai was an international metropolis, strict orders were issued by Commander of the Fleet Admiral Shiozawa that utmost care must be taken not to bomb non-military objectives.

We had reports from units which went into action that every possible effort was made to execute accurate bombing.

I myself actually saw those planes flying at low altitudes, and entering the bombing course several times in order to effect precision bombing.

On this clash, no incendiary bombs were used.

5. On the 3rd of February, three Japanese destroyers the Kaki, Kuri and Nire of the 26th Destroyer Division were cruising down the Huangpu-River on their way to Sasebo, While they were passing Woosung at 1125 hours, they were suddenly fired upon from the Woosung Forteress batteries. The destroyers immediately returned fire.

On the same day, the Woosung Fortress battery also opened fire upon our Third Division consisting of three cruisers.

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I was informed of these facts immediately after they had taken place by Commander Nishimura Shoji, Commanding officer of the 26th Destroyer Division and Hori Teikichi, Commander of the Third Division Fighting Group.

On this 21st day of March, 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT : KITaura, Toyoo (seal)

I, SOMIYA, Shinji, 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 Tokyo

Witness: /S/ SOMIYA, Shinji (seal)

OATH

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

/S/ KITaura, Toyoo (seal)

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Translation Certificate

I, Charlie S. Teroy of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the above certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

/S/ Charlie S. Teroy

Tokyo, Japan
Date 2 April 1947