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ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

Title and Nature: Extracts from "Report of War Crimes on Atrocities" (AG 000.51/3 Jul 45/ JA) Made by War Crimes Branch, Office of Theater Judge Advocate, GHQ, USAFPAC

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PERSONS IMPLICATED:

CRIMES TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: Atrocities, Philippines

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT POINTS

Report details mistreatment and murder of eight members of Chinese Consulate by Japanese at Chinese Cemetery, Santa Cruz, Manila, 17 April 1942

Analyst: W.H.WAGNER

Doc. No. 2901

S E C R E T

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC  
OFFICE OF THE THEATER JUDGE ADVOCATE  
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

AG 000.5 (3 Jul 45) JA

AFO 500  
3 July 1945

SUBJECT: Report of War Crimes on Atrocities.

TO : The Judge Advocate General  
Washington 25, D. C.

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II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

Briefly summarized, the evidence adduced by the Investigator-Examiners is to the effect that:

When the Imperial Japanese Forces entered Manila on 2 January 1942, the Consulate officials representing the Republic of China in Manila (En. A, B, C; R 1, 2) and consisting of Dr. Clarence Kuangson YOUNG, Kai Yien MOK, Siao Pin CHU (D. P. CHU), Yu Heng LOO (Ping-Se LU), Tsu Siu YAO, Tom Ming SIAO, Ching Siu YOUNG and James Kung Wei WANG, proceeded to hide in the Swiss Consulate in Manila with the exception of Dr. YOUNG who moved to the Manila Hotel. These officials remained at the Consulate for a few days, returning to their homes at No. 15 Brixton Hill, Santa Mesa, Manila, by 4 January.

About 8 January they were all taken into custody by the Japanese and interned at Villamor Hall, University of the Philippines, Manila, for examination and interrogation (R 2, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 28, 29, 33, 37, 67, 75, 78, 80). They were confined in the music practice room about six by twenty meters in size on the second floor (R 33), without any mattresses, cots, clothes or food except that which was brought to them by their respective families (R 3, 29, 33, 38). The treatment accorded them in the beginning was fair and they were permitted to walk in the university garden and around Villamor Hall under guard (R 3, 38) while their families were allowed to visit them because their captors were trying to obtain their cooperation (R 33, 38). The Japanese in charge of the Consulate Group were members of the Military Police Command whose headquarters was located at Fort Santiago, Intramuros, Manila (R 38)

From 8 January to 28 March they were questioned by the Japanese and it was reported that Dr. YOUNG was asked about 15 March by Lt. Col. OETA, Commander of the Military Police, how much the Chinese in the Philippines had contributed to the Chungking Government since 1937 to which Dr. YOUNG replied "about twelve million pesos." This officer then stated that if the Chinese could contribute that much to the Chungking Government, they could contribute more than that amount to the Japanese Army, and demanded that Dr. YOUNG inform the Chinese people in the Philippines to contribute twice that amount within three months, ordered him to denounce the Chungking Government under CHIANG Kai Shek and recognize the WANG Ching Wei (puppet) Government (R 24). Furthermore, the Japanese Commander gave Dr. YOUNG three days to make a decision but after discussing the matter with his colleagues he replied that he could not meet the demands (R 9, 24, 37).

The Consulate Group were transferred to Fort Santiago, Intramuros, on 28 March (R 10, 84) where they were placed in Cell 14 (R 40) located in a temporary building without windows and with meager ventilation facilities. They were rarely allowed to receive their families and

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the usual means of conversation with them was through a slit in the cell (R 40). They had nothing to sleep on except empty rice sacks (R 4), wore only their underwear and were allowed out of the cell once a week for the purpose of bathing and exercising (R 10, 41).

The treatment received at Fort Santiago was very poor, so on 5 April, Dr. YOUNG complained to Major NISHIMURA who was in charge, that there was not even a place to rest or sit down in the cell (R 63). On 16 April the Japanese informed the Consulate Group that they would be removed to Muntinglupa Interment Camp, Rizal Province (R 5, 17, 84).

Mrs. Kay Lo MOK last visited her husband on the morning of 17 April at ten o'clock when she was informed by the Commander of the Military Police at Fort Santiago that the wives could return and visit their husbands on the following day (R 5, 10). At 1700 hours on the afternoon of 17 April, Mr. Ang Tian SANG of the (Pro-Japanese) Chinese Association informed Mrs. MOK and Mrs. Yang Si Cheng YAO that there would be little use for the families of the Consulate Group to try and see their husbands again at Fort Santiago as they had been transferred (R 5, 17). In spite of this, Mrs. Clarence K. YOUNG, Mrs. MOK, Mrs. Felisa Cu Loo, Mrs. Shirley Shao WANG, Mrs. Ruby Wang SIAO and Mrs. YAO returned to Fort Santiago on 18 April and were told by the Commanding Officer that "They are not under our custody any more. They have been transferred to the Army" (R 6). Mrs. MOK then went to a Military Chief whose name is unknown and asked him where her husband was and she was told that he was far away and that his whereabouts was secret, but it was suggested that she return in ten or twelve days for an answer "after he had wired the Emperor." She waited for this period to elapse and returned to the office of this Military Chief who told her that he was sorry that he could not give her an answer because the Emperor said "No" and he added, "Don't come here any more" (R 6). The wearing apparel and personal property of the Group were thereafter returned to their families except articles which the husbands had carried on their persons (R 6, 10, 13, 17, 20).

Between 16 and 19 April two internees at Fort Santiago, Joaquin Pardo de TAVERA and Jovito SALONGA, saw three or four Japanese officers with pistols and sabers line up the Consulate Group in front of their cell, tie their hands and march them away (R 41, 34). Actually, at about 1400 hours on 17 April a Japanese convoy including a Military Police automobile, one truck filled with Japanese soldiers and another with the consular officials with guards, entered the gate of the Chinese Cemetery, Santa Cruz, Manila, proceeded towards the Chinese chapel and turned off to the right on a road which passed beside the grave of Lai Yip SANG in Section 25. The motor caravan then turned to the left, drove across the open field about 100 yards from this latter grave and stopped (Ex. D; R 59). The entire Consulate Group was taken from the truck and caused to sit on the ground in a circle surrounded by the Japanese soldiers (R 54). An unknown priest, presumed to be Japanese, moved around the circle after which the Chinese were lined up in front of a prepared grave eight meters long, with their hands tied behind them, blindfolded, and caused to kneel while a Japanese soldier with a rifle stood behind each of the eight officials. After an officer made an inspection, each soldier shot his victim and those who did not die instantly were bayoneted, after which the soldiers threw some loose earth over the bodies in the grave in Section 9, and then departed (R 49, 59, 60).

Other laborers in the cemetery were directed to complete the filling of the grave and a wood marker bearing four Japanese characters meaning "community grave" was placed thereupon (R 49). Mr. Delagio REYES, Superintendent of Cemeteries, Department of Health, Manila, whose office was 200 meters away from the Chinese Cemetery, recorded in his book without the knowledge of the Japanese authorities the date of burial and number of bodies interred there during the Japanese occupation. Such records disclose that at 1500 hours on 17 April 1942 eight bodies were buried in a grave prepared upon the order of the Japanese. He marked his record of the burials "asst'd" (assorted) since he was not certain of their nationality at that time (Ex. D; R 44, 45b).

On 14 June 1945 the remains of the eight bodies were exhumed from the common grave in Section 9, Chinese Cemetery (R 49, 52, 57, 62), in the presence of Shirley Shao WANG, wife of James Kung Wei WANG, Alfonso YOUNG and Yu King HUN (Young King HUN), brothers, and Wy Chut YOUNG, mother of Ching Siu YOUNG; Ruby Wang SIAO, wife of Tom Ming SIAO; May Lo MCK, wife of Kai Yien MCK; Felisa Cu LOO, wife of Yu Heng LOO; Yang Si Cheng YAO, wife of Tsu Siu YAO. These relatives were able to positively identify the bodies as those of the eight Chinese Consulate officials from the shape of their respective skulls and personal property of the victims found in the grave (Ex. F, G, H, I, J, K; R 63, 65, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 75, 76, 78, 80, 81). Mrs. MCK recognized the horn-rimmed glasses found in the common grave as those worn by her husband, and many of the wives of the Consulate Group further identified Dr. YOUNG's white, gold-rimmed and sun eyeglasses (R 63, 68, 70, 72, 74). Mrs. WANG, Mrs. MCK and Mrs. SIAO believed that a pair of shoes discovered in the grave belonged to Mr. WANG since he had always had two holes in the toes (R 63, 70, 74). The red pencil found in the grave of Mr. LOO was the same one which Mr. Chang CHIN had given to Mr. LOO during the time he had acted as Deputy Consul in the Chinese Consulate from 1935 to 1940 (R 63, 67, 68). A brown leather belt taken from Mr. LOO's grave was the one which he had previously purchased before being taken prisoner and his wife was further able to point out that the Dr. West "Miracle Tuft" toothbrush taken from the grave was identical with the one she had taken to him when he was at Fort Santiago (R 65). The upper jaw of the skull of Mr. LOO was examined and a tooth with a silver filling was identified while a toothbrush and a pair of eyeglasses rimmed with silver and a flowery design were found and identified as those of Mr. YAO (R 66, 72). Mrs. SIAO identified her husband's silver tooth found in his skull; and the suspenders of Mr. CHU and Mr. C. S. YOUNG (R 70). There were also taken from the grave a cigarette holder and toothbrush which were recognized as belonging to Ching Siu YOUNG (R 66, 76, 78). His mother, Wy Chut YOUNG, and brothers, Alfonso YOUNG and Yu King HUN, further identified the shape of the skull and his four front upper teeth found in the grave (R 76, 78, 81).

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Alva C. Carpenter, Chief, Legal Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, do hereby certify that immediately after the liberation of the Philippines roving teams, comprised of military personnel from the Judge Advocate Service of the United States Army, were sent out to conduct investigations throughout the Philippines on reported and known cases of atrocities committed by the Japanese Army and Navy personnel; that many of those cases have been thoroughly investigated in the immediate vicinity of their occurrence; that witnesses who had first-hand knowledge of the atrocities were interrogated and their affidavits taken and ocular inspection of the place where the crimes were committed were invariably made; that reports have been submitted regarding those atrocities investigated and are now on file in our office; and that the attached document is the Summary of Evidence contained in Report No. 33, War Crimes Branch, Judge Advocate Section, General Headquarters, AFPAC, of the investigation of the murder of Dr. Clarence Kuangson Young, Kai Yien Mok, Siao Pin Chu, Yu Heng Loo, Tsu Siu Yao, Tom Ming Siao, Ching Siu Young and James Kung Wei Wang, all Chinese Consulate officials, at the Chinese Cemetery, Santa Cruz, Manila, P.I., on 17 April 1942, which is now on file in our office.

/s/ Alva C. Carpenter  
Alva C. Carpenter,  
Chief, Legal Section

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard

Sworn to before me this 3rd day  
of January, 1947, Tokyo, Japan.

/s. John R. Pritchard  
Captain, Infantry  
Summary Court.