

A F F I D A V I T

Talbe Henri Gontran  
born at Marin (Martinique)  
on 28 March 1907  
Son of - Gaston Francois Talbe  
and of - Julia Lavilette  
address - 32, Capitaine Do-Hun-  
Vi Street, Hanoi

/stamp/  
Service of War  
Crimes at Saigon,  
Sep. 24, 1946

At Tong and Hanoi.

I was arrested at Tong by the Japanese Kempeitai on 6 April 1945 (in front of the Headquarters in the Tong Square) on the charge of having lied without being informed to what exactly the lie of which I was accused, referred.

Savagely and repeatedly beaten by fists and rifle butts, I was tied to a tree by means of a cord tied round and round my body. I was left in this state for six times twenty four hours, without drinking nor eating (from 6 April at 9 o'clock to 12 April about 8 o'clock in the morning). My Annamite wife's attempts to feed me remained all in vain, the Japanese driving her back at each of her attempts. In the above-described state, every evening towards nightfall I saw an Indo-chinese with fixed bayonet rifle put under my chin in such a manner that I could not take any rest during the night and that all attempts at sleep were impossible since they were at once interrupted by the plunging of the bayonet into the throat under the weight of the head falling forward. In the daytime, the rifle and its bayonet were taken away, but several Japanese officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers after having put on boxing gloves, practiced boxing for hours on my bruised body and face.

It is to be noted that even today my teeth are still loose.

During 6 times 24 hours, I was not even untied to satisfy the calls of nature and I had to relieve myself by soiling myself, without it being possible for me to wash myself before 12 April, the day when I was able to make a little toilet after having been untied and before riding in the truck which was to bring me to Hanoi.

Transferred on 12 April to SHELL where I arrived at about 11 o'clock I was thoroughly searched and relieved of everything I had on me, among which was the sum of \$4,675.60 which has never been returned to me.

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Transferred from SHELL to the Prison on 9 May 1945. Transferred from the Prison to the Citadel on 28 May 1945. I left the Citadel 15 October 1945.

During my detention I have been very seriously affected by cardiac troubles which have brought me to the mouth of death, to the point where the Japanese doctor gave me an injection of oil of camphor on 8 May. Loss of weight of 33 kilos /T.N. over 72 pounds/.

/signed:/ TALBA  
Henri TALBA

Witnessed: For legalization  
of the signature of Mr. TALBA  
opposite  
Hanoi 20 Sept. 1946  
Chief of the E.C. Service  
/Signature illegible/  
/Seal/

Signed and witnessed under oath, 16 September 1946 at Hanoi before me, the undersigned, investigating officer accredited by the French authorities for the researches of which the present affidavit is the object.

/signed/ Chomette  
Lieutenant CHOMETTE

Certificate:-

I, Yale Maxon, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the French and English languages, and as a result of the comparison between the French and the English texts, I have established that this is a true and correct translation of International Prosecution Document No. 2772 D-10.

/s/ Yale Maxon