

No. 3557

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition (Translation)

Deponent ; MORIOKA Takashi

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached sheet and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country I hereby depose as follows.

1. I was born in HIROSHIMA Prefecture on April 15, 1889.
My permanent residence and present address is No. 194,
Nakano-cho, Meguro-ku, Tokyo.
2. The outline of my personal history:
1910. Graduated from the Military Academy.
March, 1938. Appointed major-general.
Attached to the Headquarters of the
North China Expeditionary Army.
August, 1938. Attached to the Headquarters of the
Central China Expeditionary Army.
Commander of the Special Service Section.
at HANKOW.
August, 1937. Chief of the Liaison office of the China
Affairs Board at PEKING.

DEF. DOC. #1227

August, 1940. Appointed Lieutenant General.

I was attached to the Headquarters of the Central China Expeditionary Army in August, 1938. Military operations to capture HANKOW were in progress, and HANKOW was on the eve of fall at that time. I was residing in SHANGHAI at that time. Preceding my subordinates, I went by plane the Headquarters of the Army at KIUKIANG. Unaccompanied, I boarded a destroyer at KIUKIANG and arrived at HANKOW on the evening of the 28th. I landed at the eastern end of the Japanese settlement, a spot down the river about a mile from the Customs House. The Japanese settlement in HANKOW city was for the most part burnt down, and was very quiet, there being almost no one to be seen on the streets. I was not permitted to enter the French Settlement. After going around the French settlement, I came to the Custom House. Not a Japanese soldier was to be seen, except those of the headquarters unit of the Japanese Military Police stationed in the SSUMING Bank, because the Japanese soldiers were not permitted to enter the city; but were quartered on the outskirts of the city. I was looking for quarters of Japanese soldiers with the intention of lodging there. However, there were neither Japanese soldiers nor their quarters. As there was no alternative, I went to the wharf at the Custom House. A ship named "Midori Maru," belonging to the Shipping Transport Command, lay at anchor. I shouted to the crew of the ship from the wharf. Then, going to the ship I asked for

DEF. DOC. #1227

lodging there and obtained their approval. I went on board the "Midori-Maru" some time after 8:00 p.m. on October 28th and lodged there for six days, that is until November 3. I spent all of my time on the ship except when I went ashore on business in the daytime. At a distance of about thirty or forty from the "Midori-Maru," a foreign ship lay at anchor. In addition there was a considerable number of Chinese junks near-by. Down the river British and French gunboats lay at anchor close to the river bank, and in the offing there were Japanese destroyers. While I lodged in the "Midori-Maru", the city of HANKOW was truly quiet. Never once did I hear the report of a gun. Nor did I see a murder committed in the vicinity of the wharf. The Customs House nearby the wharf was used as the office of the Transport Headquarters, from the window of which we had an unobstructed view of the vicinity. Therefore, neither shot nor murder could have occurred. After its occupation by the Japanese Army, HANKOW was divided distinctly ^{into} two garrison areas, that is, that of the Army and that of the Navy. At the time when HANKOW was occupied, most of the Yangtze Valley was placed under the Navy's guard, and soldiers of the Army were not permitted to enter that area. These garrison areas were more or less altered later on.

On this 15 day of April, 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT MORIOKA Takashi (seal)

I, MURATA Tomio 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: (signed) MURATA Tomio (seal)

OATH

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

MORIOKA Takashi (seal)

Translation Certificate

I, Charlie S. Terry 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. Terry

Tokyo, Japan
Date April 25, 1947