

Exh. 1980

Dr 2514  
March 25

Interrogation of Hideki Tojo  
25 March 1946, Case File #20, Serial #146, pp. 4-5

- "Q Why was not a declaration of war given to the United States and Great Britain as provided in the Hague Convention?
- "A This was a defensive war for Japan. There are two ways of opening hostilities, one by a declaration of war, and the other by an ultimatum. Japan took the second step, that is, by giving an ultimatum, and the declaration of war followed immediately after the outbreak of hostilities.
- "Q I take it that you consider the last message which was delivered by Ambassadors NOMURA and KURUSU to Secretary of State HULL on 7 December 1941 was the ultimatum?
- "A Yes. This was a declaration of the termination of diplomatic relations.
- "Q Was there anything in that last message which indicated that Japan was going to make war on either the United States or Great Britain - any indication that there would be an immediate attack on either the United States or Great Britain?
- "A I think America should have realized that the breaking off of diplomatic relations meant that a war would follow.
- "Q Did you and the members of your cabinet feel that the delivery of this last note by Ambassadors NOMURA and KURUSU to Secretary of State HULL on 7 December 1941 was a compliance with the provisions of the Hague Convention with respect to having a declaration of war prior to an actual attack or actually making war on an enemy country?
- "A Yes."

Doc. 2514 Evid.

Folder 26

(33)

CHARGE OUT SLIP

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

EVIDENTIARY DOC. NO. 2514

TRIAL BRIEF \_\_\_\_\_

EXHIBIT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BACKGROUND DOC. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

PRESS TRANS. \_\_\_\_\_

U.S.S.D.S. \_\_\_\_\_

*Exempts used  
in court  
1980*

Signature *SFB*

Room # 378

Doc. No. 2514 - *Exhibit No. 1980*

Page 1

Extract from  
Interrogation of Hideki Tojo  
25 March 1946  
p. 1

Q As Minister of War, from 7 December 1941 on, were you not responsible for the treatment received by American and British prisoners of war?

A Yes. I was responsible for their treatment.

Extract from  
Interrogation of Hideki Tojo  
25 March 1946  
p. 2 - 4

Q When was the Prisoner of War Bureau set up?

A This was organized immediately after the outbreak of war.

Q Which war?

A The Greater East Asia War.

Q Why was it necessary to organize such a bureau?

A This is according to international law.

Q Why had not such a bureau existed during the China War or Incident?

A It was not necessary during the China Incident.

Q Was there any bureau at all set up in connection with the China Incident on the treatment of prisoners?

A There was no organization set up to deal with Chinese prisoners.

Q Who ordered this new bureau to be set up?

A The order for the formation of this bureau was issued by the War Minister.

Q This was during the time that you were War Minister and Premier?

A Yes.

Q Were you, from 7 December 1941 on, familiar with the provisions of the Hague and Geneva Conventions with respect to the treatment of prisoners of war?

A I knew of these at the time.

Q At that time did you, as Premier and War Minister, believe that the provisions of those conventions applied to Japan and should be followed by her in war?

A Naturally.

Q In addition to the provisions of those conventions, there are also other recognized rules and customs of war followed by civilized nations, are there not?

A As a civilized nation, we would follow the principles of humanism.

Q I suppose by humanism, you mean that prisoners would be treated humanely, as by civilized nations?

A Yes.

Q So that, in general, from 7 December 1941 on, you, as Premier and War Minister, felt that Japan was bound by the Hague and Geneva Conventions with respect to the treatment of prisoners of war and also bound by the rules and customs of civilized nations with respect to treating prisoners of war humanely, did you not?

A Yes.

\* \* \* \*

Extract from  
Interrogation of Hideki Tojo  
25 March 1946  
p. 5 - 6

- Q When did you first learn of the complaints concerning or facts indicating that there had been mistreatment of American and British prisoners of war?
- A The only complaints that ever came to my notice were in connection with food and so forth. Atrocities were not brought to my notice at all. I am astounded at the truth regarding atrocities that is now being revealed in the newspapers. If the Japanese had followed the Emperor's instructions, these atrocities would never have happened.
- Q But you, as Minister of War during the period when those atrocities were committed, are the responsible party for their commission, are you not?
- A Yes.
- Q What explanation can you give for the fact that you did not learn of them when they were so wide-spread and of such a serious nature?
- A I was always under the impression that army commanders in the field who were responsible for the treatment of prisoners understood what was required of them in this connection.
- Q During this entire period from 7 December 1941 on, you were aware of the fact, were you not, that the United States and Great Britain, through friendly nations, had warned the Japanese Government that Japanese officials and the Japanese Government would be held responsible for violations of the Hague and Geneva Conventions and for violations of the rules of war with respect to the treatment of prisoners of war?
- A Yes, and if these atrocities are true, treaties have been violated.
- Q During this same period, were you not aware that the United States and Great Britain, through friendly nations, had made numerous and repeated complaints, giving specific data and charging that there had been, in each instance, violations of the Hague and Geneva Conventions and of the rules of war in connection with the mistreatment of prisoners of war?

p. 5 - 6 cont'd

A I do not remember details, but I think these came through the Prisoner of War Information Bureau.

Q Such complaints would first come to the Foreign Ministry and then be routed to the Minister of War's office, would they not?

A Yes.

Q How many of these complaints were made, that you recall, of your personal knowledge?

A I cannot recall just now how many were received.

Q What, if anything, did you do with respect to those which were received?

A These were passed on to the various army commanders through the Prisoner of War Information Bureau.

Q Were reports then made back by those bureau heads or individuals to you, as Minister of War, relative to these complaints?

A No, no replies or reports were sent back. These complaints were sent to the various people concerned calling the matter to their attention.

\* \* \* \*

Extract from  
Interrogation of Hideki Tojo  
25 March 1946  
p. 7.

Q Were these complaints, which were made during this period by the United States and Great Britain through friendly nations with respect to the mistreatment of their prisoners by the Japanese Government, taken up at the weekly meetings of the Prisoner Bureau that you have referred to?

A Yes. These matters were taken up at the bi-weekly meetings.

\* \* \* \*

Extract from  
Interrogation of Hideki Tojo  
25 March 1946  
p. 8 - 12

- Q Did you or anyone for you go to the scene where the mistreatment of the prisoners was alleged to have taken place to make an investigation of any of these complaints?
- A Yes, there are many instances. There was a case of mistreatment of prisoners of war during the building of the Burma-Thai Railway and I ordered a court martial in this connection.
- Q Was there any other personal investigation made of complaints made by the United States and Great Britain after 7 December 1941 with respect to the mistreatment by the Japanese Government of their captured American and British prisoners other than the one that you have just mentioned?
- A I myself heard rumors of mistreatment of prisoners of war at Bataan and when I was in the Philippines, I inquired of the Chief of Staff who informed me that the "march" was due to the lack of transportation and there were no cases of atrocities.
- Q Who was the Chief of Staff at that time?
- A Lieutenant General WACHI.
- Q What was the approximate time that you were in the Philippines and made this inquiry of the Chief of Staff?
- A This was 5 May 1943.
- Q What was the approximate date that the "Bataan March" took place?
- A I do not remember the date, but it was in the early part of 1942.
- Q How long after the "March" was it that you heard of the mistreatment of American troops?
- A These rumors came to my notice late in 1942 or early in 1943.

p. 8 - 1<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> cont'd

Q Through what sources did you hear these rumors of the mistreatment of American troops at Bataan?

A It would be difficult to say from whom I heard these rumors.

Q Where did you hear these rumors?

A I heard these in Tokyo.

Q Regardless of what the sources of these rumors were, from how many sources did you hear them - how many occasions did you hear them?

A It would be difficult to say how many times I have heard these rumors.

Q What was the nature of the rumors that you heard in this connection?

A The rumors were to the effect that prisoners from Corregidor and Bataan had been mistreated.

Q In what respect had they been mistreated, according to the rumors?

A They had been made to walk long distances in the heat. Deaths due to mistreatment were usually referred to as death by sickness.

Q Did not the rumors also state and indicate that many of the troops who were forced to march in the heat were in no physical condition to march at all and should not have been forced to march because of their physical condition?

A No. The rumors mentioned nothing of this.

Q According to the rumors, what was the cause of the death of the American prisoners in this connection?

A All deaths were ascribed to sickness.

Q What kind of sickness caused the death of the men on that march?

A These details did not come to my notice.

p. 8 - 1~~4~~ cont'd

Q But it did come to your notice from the rumors that deaths occurred as a result of the march, did it not?

A Yes.

Q How many deaths had occurred, according to the rumors?

A This was not mentioned in the rumors.

Q Did not the rumors indicate that the deaths were caused by the physical condition of the troops who had been requested or forced to march?

A The rumors only stated that the prisoners were marched long distances in the heat.

Q How long before you discussed this matter while you were in the Philippines with the Chief of Staff was it that you had heard these rumors.

A Perhaps two or three months before this date, but I do not recall.

Q How much time did you spend discussing this march and this matter with the Chief of Staff while you were in the Philippines?

A This was not the main subject of my meeting with the Chief of Staff. I had many other important matters to discuss with him and this was one subject that was involved.

Q How much time was ~~xx~~ spent discussing this matter with the Chief of Staff?

A I cannot say definitely how long we discussed this as it was one of many subjects.

Q Have you no idea whatsoever as to the amount of time you spent discussing it with the Chief of Staff?

A I am unable to say definitely how long.

p. 8 - 17 cont'd

- Q Prior to this time that you discussed it with the Chief of Staff, had not the American Government made a written complaint through a friendly nation to the Japanese Government about this very matter, setting forth the details in connection with this march and in connection with the deaths of several hundreds of American troops?
- A I do not remember well but perhaps a complaint was received.
- Q Was that matter discussed at all at any of the bureau meetings that were held weekly or bi-weekly, that you recall?
- A I do not remember, but if a complaint was received, it would be discussed at the meeting of bureau chiefs.
- Q Had this matter of the "Bataan March" and the deaths of American prisoners as the result thereof been taken up with the Chief of Staff prior to the occasion when you discussed it with him in the Philippines, as you state?
- A It was the first time that I took it up with him, but if a complaint was received from the United States, I am sure it must have been sent to the Chief of Staff through the Prisoner of War Information Bureau.
- Q Do you know, of your personal knowledge, that this matter was taken up with the Chief of Staff on any other occasion than when you took it up with him during your visit to the Philippines?
- A I was acting as Prime Minister and War Minister and I was not able to attend to ~~such~~ details of this sort. These are left to the discretion of the chiefs of departments concerned.
- Q Do you know, of your personal knowledge, that the matter had ever been taken up with the Chief of Staff other than the time you took it up with him?
- A I have no recollection of this having been transmitted.
- Q Did the Chief of Staff indicate whether it had been taken up with him before when you discussed it with him?
- A No, as I asked him about this.
- Q But just what do you mean by that - it had been taken up with him?
- A The Chief of Staff said nothing about this matter ever being taken up with him before I mentioned it.

p. 8 - 17 cont'd

Q So that, as far as you knew personally or he indicated to you, this is the first time it had been taken up with him by any official of the Japanese Government?

A I am not able to state definitely if this is so or not.

Q Was there anything said by him to indicate to the contrary?

A I am not able to answer this definitely and I cannot speak for the Chief of Staff.

Q Just what did you say to the Chief of Staff in connection with this "Bataan March" and the mistreatment of American prisoners

A I mentioned that there were rumors of this description and wanted to have his explanation.

Q What explanation did the Chief of Staff give?

A The Chief of Staff explained that due to lack of transport facilities, the prisoners of war had to march long distances in the heat and that there was some suffering, and deaths resulted.

Q Did the Chief of Staff state during this conversation with you what distance the prisoner had been forced to march?

A General WACHI was not there at the time of the march and did not give me any details. He was not responsible for this march.

Q Who was responsible for the march?

A General HOMMA would naturally be responsible.

Q Did you see General HOMMA while you were in the Philippines?

A No. HOMMA had returned to Japan.

Q Had you seen General HOMMA in Japan at any time after the war started and before you went to the Philippines and ~~you~~ spoke to the Chief of Staff on this matter?

A No, I did not meet him when he returned to Japan.

p. 8 - 14 cont'd

Q How long prior to the time you discussed this matter with the Chief of Staff in the Philippines was it that HOMMA had returned to Japan?

A I do not remember when he returned to Japan.

Q Were you aware of the fact that HOMMA was in Japan during the period that he came to Japan and remained here?

A Yes.

Q Did HOMMA report to the War Department here in Tokyo during the time he was in Japan after the beginning of the war with the United States?

A Perhaps he did report at the War Office, but I did not meet him.

Q Did you or anyone else discuss with HOMMA while he was here or at any other time, the rumors of the deaths of the American soldiers in the "Bataan March"?

A I did not know of these rumors at the time he returned to Japan and I do not know of anyone else having discussed these matters with him. When he returned to Japan, it was merely said that he had returned after a very successful campaign.

Q Did you or any official of the Japanese Government ever discuss with General HOMMA the matter of the deaths of the American soldiers resulting from the "Bataan March"?

A I do not know if this matter was ever discussed.

\* \* \* \*

INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

Doc. Nos. 2500-2515, inclusive

25 July 1946

ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

Title and Nature: Records of Interrogations of General TOJO, Hideki

Date: Feb-Mar 46 Original  Copy  Language: English

Has it been translated? Yes  No   
 Has it been photostated? Yes  No

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL

Document Division

SOURCE OF ORIGINAL: Document Division

PERSONS IMPLICATED: TOJO, Hideki

CRIMES TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: Preparation for War, Military; Conspiracy for Aggressive Warfare; Relations with USA.

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT POINTS

Interrogations on dates shown below given document numbers as follows:

<u>Doc. No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Doc. No.</u>	<u>Date</u>
2500	8 Feb 1946	2508	1 Mar 1946
2501	11 Feb 1946	2509	11 Mar 1946
2502	13 Feb 1946	2510	12 Mar 1946
2503	18 Feb 1946	2511	14 Mar 1946
2504	19 Feb 1946	2512	15 Mar 1946
2505	20 Feb 1946	2513	18 Mar 1946
2506	21 Feb 1946	2514	25 Mar 1946
2507	23 Feb 1946	2515	26 Mar 1946

Analyst: W.H. Wagner

Doc. Nos. 2500-2515, incl

989  
Q. 1980-A

Doc. No. 2514B

Page 1

Extract from  
Interrogation of Hideki Tojo  
25 March 1946  
p. 1

- Q. As Minister of War, from 7 December 1941 on, were you not responsible for the treatment received by American and British prisoners of war?
- A. Yes. I was responsible for their treatment.

FILE COPY  
RETURN TO ROOM 361

6-X. 1980-11

文書第二五一四 B 號

東條英機ノ訊問披露一九四六年三月二十五日

第一頁

問 一九四一年十二月七日以降陸軍大臣トシテ、ア  
ナタハ米英俘虜ノ受ケタ取扱ヒニ對シテ責任ガ  
有リマセンデシタカ。

答 ハイ、私ハ彼等ノ取扱ニ對シテ責任ガ有リマシ  
タ。

Doc 2014B

EXHIBIT NO. 1980B

文書第二五一四、〇號

東條英機ノ訊問抜萃

一九四六年三月二十五日

第二―四頁

問、俘虜局ハ何時設置サレマシタカ。

答、ソレハ戦争勃發直後組織サレマシタ。

問、ドノ戦争デスカ。

答、大東亞戦争デス。

問、何故、ソノヤウナ局ヲ組織スル必要ガアリ

マシタカ。

答、ソレハ國際法ニ依ルノデス。

問、何故ソノヤウナ局ハ、中國戦争又ハ支那事

變中ニハ存在シナカツタノデスカ。

答、ソレハ支那事變中ニハ必要ガナカツタノデ

ス。

問、支那事變ニ關聯シテ俘虜取扱ノタメニ設置

サレタ局ガ何カアリマシタカ。

答、中國人俘虜ヲ取扱フタメニ設置サレタ機關

ハ何等アリマセンデシタ。

問、コノ新シイ局ノ設置ハ誰ガ命ジタノデスカ。

答、該局設置ノ命令ハ陸軍大臣ニ依ツテ發セラ

レマシタ。

RETURN TO ROOM 361

COPY

1.

Doc 2514C

2.

コトデスカ。

答、サウデス。

問、一九四一年十二月七日以降、アナタハ俘虜取扱ニ關スル「ヘーグ」條約及ビ「デエノール」條約ノ規定ヲ熟知シテキマシタカ。

答、私ハ當時ソレヲ知ツテキマシタ。

問、當時アナタハ、首相兼陸相トシテ、之等ノ條約ノ規定ハ日本ニ適用サレ、戦争中日本ニ依ツテ遵守サルベキモノデアルト考ヘマシタカ。

答、勿論デス。

問、コレヲノ條約ノ規定ノ外ニモ、文明國民ニ依ツテ承認サレ遵守サレテキル他ノ戦争規定ヤ戦争慣習ガアリマスネ。

答、文明國民トシテ、我々ハ常ニ人道主義ノ原則ニ従フベキゾオカ。

問、人道主義トイフトアナタハ、文明諸國ニ於ケルヤワニ、俘虜ガ人間的ニ取扱ハレルコトヲ指シテキルノダト思ヒマスガ。

答、サウデス。

問、ト、スルト、大体カラ言ツテ、一九四一年十二月七日以降、アナタハ首相兼陸相トシテ、日本ハ俘虜取扱ニ就イテハ、「ヘーグ」

3.

Doc 2514C

答、

「デエノーブル」兩條約ニ依ツテ拘束サレ、  
且ツ又停戦ノ人間的ナ取扱ニ就イテノ文明  
諸國ノ規定ヤ慣習ニ依ツテモ拘束サレテキ  
ルト、考ヘテキタ譯デス不。

サワデス。

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EXHIBIT NO. 1980c

文書第二五一四・D 號

東條英機ノ訊問抜萃

一九四六年三月二十五日

第五一六頁

Doc 2514D

問、アナタガ、米英俘虜ニ對スル虐待ガ行ハレテキ  
タトイフコトニ就イテノ抗議ヤソレヲ指摘スル  
ヤウナ事實ヲ初ニ知ツタノハ何時デシタカ。

答、私ノ耳ニ入ツタ抗議ハ食糧等ニ關スルモノダケ  
デシタ。惨虐行為ノ事ハ私ノ耳ニハ全然入りマ  
センデシタ。私ハ今日新聞ニ發表サレテキル惨  
虐行為ノ真相ヲ知ツテ驚イテキル次第デス。

問、然シ、アナタハコノヤウナ惨虐行為ガ行ハレテ  
キタ當時ノ陸相トシテ、カ、ル行為ノ遂行ニ對  
スル責任者デスネ。

答、サウデス。

問、カ、ル行為ガ極メテ度ク行ハレ、且ツ容易ナラ

ハドクハ明デキス。カ、ル行為ガ行ハレ、且ツ容易ナラ

RETURN TO ROOM 381  
テキタ現地ノ軍

Doc 2514D

指揮官達ガコノ點ニ關シテ彼等ノ責務ヲ辨ヘテ  
キルモノト、私ハ常ニ思ツテキマシタ。

問、一九四一年十二月七日以降ノ全期間ヲ通ジテ、  
アナタハ、米英兩國ガ友好諸國ヲ通ジテ日本政  
府ニ對シ、日本官吏及ビ日本政府ハ「ヘーグ」  
「デエノーブ」兩條約ノ侵犯並ビニ俘虜取扱ニ  
關スル戰爭規定ノ侵犯ニ對シテ責任ヲ負フベキ  
モノダトイフ警告ヲ發シタ事實ヲ知ツテキタデ  
セウネ。

答、知ツテキマシタ。若シコレラノ慘虐行爲ガ事實  
ダトスレバ、條約ヲ犯シタコトニナリマス。

問、右期間ヲ通ジテアナタハ、米英兩國ガ、友好諸  
國ヲ通ジ、明確ナ資料ヲ以テ「ヘーグ」、「デ  
エノーブ」兩條約並ビニ俘虜虐待ニ關スル戰爭  
規定ノ侵犯が行ハレタトイフコトヲソノ都度  
實メテ數多クノ抗議ヲ繰返シ行ツタコトヲ知り  
マセンデシタカ。

答、私ハ詳シイコトハ記憶シテキマセンガ、俘虜情  
報局ヲ通ジテ、ソシテ抗議が入ツテ來タヤウニ  
思ヒマス。

問、カ、ル抗議ハ先ヅ外務省ニ來、然ル後陸軍省ニ  
送達サレテキタノデアリマセンカ。

Doc 2514D

答、サウデス。

問、アナタノ想ヒ出ストコロデハ、コレラノ抗議ノ  
ウチデ、アナタ自信知ツテキルノハ、何件位ア  
リマシタカ。

答、何件位受け取ツタカ、今スグハ想ヒ出セマセン。  
問、若シ何等カノ處置ヲシタトスレバアナタハコレ  
ヲ受領シタ抗議ニ就イテドウシマシタカ。

答、ソレラハ俘虜情報局ヲ通ジテ夫々ノ軍指揮官ニ  
移牒サレマシタ。

問、ソノ後コレラノ抗議ニ關シ、監相タルアナタニ  
其ノ局長又ハ個人カラ報告ガアリマシタカ。

答、イ、エ、何等ノ回答モ、報告モ戻ツテ來マセン  
デシタ。コレラノ抗議ハ夫々ノ關係者ニ彼等ノ  
注意ヲ喚起スルヤウニト送ラレタノデシタ。

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Doc 2514 E

Doc. 1980-D

文書第二五一四、B號

東條英機ノ訊問拔萃

一九四六年三月二十五日

第七頁

問、日本政府ニ依ル米英俘虜ノ虐待ニ關シコノ期間中米英兩國ヨリ、友好諸國ヲ通シテ爲サレタコレラノ抗議ハ、アナタガ言及サレタ俘虜局ノ週例会議ニ持チ出サレマシタカ。

答、ハイ。ソレラノ件ハ、一週二回會議ニ持チ出サレマシタ。

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RETURN TO ROOM 361

Extract from  
Interrogation of Hideki Tojo  
25 March 1946  
p. 7

Q Were these complaints, which were made during this period by the United States and Great Britain through friendly nations with respect to the mistreatment of their prisoners by the Japanese Government, taken up at the weekly meetings of the Prisoner Bureau that you have referred to?

A Yes. These matters were taken up at the bi-weekly meetings.

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EA 1980-12 Dec 25/4 F

文書第二五一四、五號

東條英機ノ訊問抜萃

一九四六年三月二十五日

*Handwritten signature*

第八十四頁

問、アナタ又ハアナタノ代理者ハ、コレヲノ抗議ノ何レカヲ調査スルタメ、俘虜虐待ノ場所ト申シ立テラレタ現場ヘ行キマシタカ。

答、ハイ。幾多ノ例ガアリマス。泰緬鐵道建設ノ際、俘虜虐待ノコトガアツタノデ、私ハソノ件ニ關シテ軍法會議ヲ命ジマシタ。

問、アナタガ今述べタ件以外ニ、日本政府ニ依リテ捕ヘラレタ米英俘虜ノ日本政府ニ依ル虐待ニ關シ一  
九四一年十二月七日以後米英兩國ニ依ツテ爲サレタ抗議ニ對スル個人的調査ガ行ハレタコトガアリマスカ。

答、私自身、「バタイン」ニ於ケル俘虜虐待ノ噂ヲ聞キマシタ。ソシテ「フィリッピン」ニ滞在中、參謀長ニ訊ホマシタ處、彼ハ「行進」ハ輸送力ノ不足ニ依ルモノデアリ、慘虐行爲ノ行ハレタ事ハナイト言ヒマシタ。

問、當時ノ參謀長ハ誰デシタカ。

答、「和知」中將デシタ。

問、アナタガ「フィリッピン」ニ行キ參謀長ニコノ質問ヲシタノハ、大体何時頃デシタカ。

答、一九四三年五月五日デシタ。

問、「バター」ン行進軍」ガ行ハレタ大体ノ月日ハ何時  
デシタカ。

答、月日ハ覺エテキマセング、ソレハ一九四二年ノ初  
期デシタ。

問、アナタガ「アメリカ」軍隊處待ノコトヲ聞イタノ  
ハ、「行進」後トノ位タツテカラデシタカ。

答、ソノ噂ハ、一九四二年ノ終期カ、一九四三年ノ初  
期ニ、私ノ耳ニ入りマシタ。

問、アナタハ如何ナル筋カラ、「バター」ニ於ケル  
「アメリカ」軍隊處待ニ就イテノコレラノ噂ヲ聞  
キマシタカ。

答、ソノ噂ヲ誰カラ聞イタカラ述ベルコトハ困難デス。  
問、アナタハ何處デ、ソノ噂ヲ聞キマシタカ。

答、東京デ聞キマシタ。

問、ソノ噂ノ出所ガ何處デアツタカハ別トシテ、幾ツ  
ノ出所カラアナタハソレヲ聞キマシタカ。何處位  
聞キマシタカ。

答、何處ソノ噂ヲ聞イタカラ述ベルコトハ困難デス。  
問、コレニ就シテアナタノ聞イタ噂ハ、ドンナ性質ノ  
モノデシタカ。

答、ソノ噂ハ、「コレヒドール」及ビ「バター」カ  
ラノ傳處ガ處待サレタ旨ノモノデシタ。

問、ソノ噂デハ、我等ハドウイフ點デ虐待サレタノデスカ。

答、彼等ハ暑熱ノ中ヲ長距離徒歩サセラレマシタ。虐待ニ因ル死亡ハ、普通、病死ト稱サレテキマシタ。問、噂ハ又、暑熱ノ中デ強制的ニ行進サセラレタ兵隊ノ多クハ全ク行進シ得ナイヤウナ肉体的状態ニアリ、ソノ彼等ノ肉体的状態カラスレバ行進ヲ強制スベキデハナカツタトイフコトヲ述べタリ、示シタリシテハキマセンデシタカ。

答、イイエ。噂ハソナコトヲ言ツテハキマセンデシタ。

問、噂デハ、コレニ關シテ「アメリカ」俘虜ノ死因ハ何デアリマシタカ。

答、死亡ハ總テ疾病ニ因ルモノトサレテキマシタ。

問、ドウイフ病氣ガソノ行進ニ加ツタ者ノ死因トナリマシタカ。

答、ソノ詳シイコトハ、私ノ耳ニハ入りマセンデシタ。

問、然シ、噂カラ、「行進」ノ結果トシテ死亡者ガ出タトイフコトガ、アナタノ耳ニ入ツタノデハアリマセンカ。

答、サウデス。

問、噂デハ、ドノ位ノ死亡者ガ出タノデスカ。

答、噂ニハ、ソノ點ハ言ハシテキマセンデシタ。

問、噂ハ、コレヲ死ハ行進ヲ要求サレ又ハ強制サレ  
タ軍隊ノ肉体的状態ニ因ルモノデアルトイフコト  
ヲ示シテハキマセンデシタカ。

答、噂ハ單ニ、停房達ハ暑熱ノ中ヲ長距離行進サセラ  
レタト言ツテキルニ過ギマセンデシタ。

問、ソノ噂ヲ耳ニシタノハ、アナタガ「フイリツピン」  
ニ滞在中參謀長トコノ件ニ關シテ話合ツタ時カラ  
ドノ位前デシタカ。

答、多分ソノ時カラ二、三ヶ月前デシタ。然シ想ヒ出  
セマセン。

問、アナタハ、「フイリツピン」滞在中、參謀長トコ  
ノ行進及ビコノ件ニ就イテドノ位ノ時間ヲ掛ケテ  
話合ヒマシタカ。

答、ソレハ參謀長トノ會見ノ一番三ナ問題デハアリマ  
センデシタ。私ニハ、彼ト話合フベキ他ノ多クノ  
重要ナ事柄ガアリ、ソシテ本件ハソノ中ノ一ツデ  
アリマシタ。

問、參謀長トコノ件ニ就イテ話合フノニドノ位ノ時間  
ガ掛リマシタカ。

答、ソレハ多クノ事柄ノ中ノ一ツデシタカラ、ドノ位  
ソレニ就イテ話合ツタカ、ハツキリト述ベルコト  
ハ出来マセン。

問、アナタハ、參謀長トソレニ關シテ話合ヒスルノニ

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費シタ時間ニ就イテ、少シモ見當ガツカナイノデ  
スカ。

答、私ニハ、ドノ位ダツタカハツキリト述ベルコトハ  
デキマセン。

問、アナタガ参謀長トソレニ就イテ話合ヒスル前ニ、  
「アメリカ」政府ハ友好國ヲ通ジテ日本政府ニ對  
シ、コノ「行進」並ビニ數百名ノ「アメリカ」兵  
ノ死亡ニ關スル細目ヲ示シテ、本件ニ關スル文書  
ニ依ル抗議ヲ提出シマセンデシタカ。

答、ヨクハ覺エテキマセンガ、恐ラクソノ抗議ハ受ケ  
取ツタノデセウ。

問、アナタノ記憶デハ、コノ件ハ毎週一回又ハ毎週二  
回開カレテキタ局長會議ノ何レカデ少シデモ討議  
サレマシタカ。

答、私ハ記憶シテ居リマセンガ、若シ抗議ガ受領サレ  
タトスレバ、ソレハ局長會議デ討議サレルコトニ  
ナツテキマシタ。

問、「バタイン 行進」及ビソノ結果トシテノ「アメ  
リカ」俘虜ノ死亡トイフ本件ニツキ「フイリツピ  
ン」ニ於イテアナタガ参謀長ト話合ツタト言ハレ  
ル前ニモ、コノ事ヲ参謀長ニ持チ出シタコトガア  
リマスカ。

答、私ガ彼ニソノコトヲ持チ出シタノハ、ソレガ初メ

5.

テデシタガ若シ「アメリカ」カラノ抗議ガ受領サ  
レテキタトスレバソレハ必ズ停應情報局ヲ通ジテ  
参謀長ニ送達サレタニ違ヒアリマセン。

問、アナタガ「フイリツピン」訪問ノ際参謀長トコノ  
問題ニ就キ相談ヲシタ以外ノ場合ニモコノ問題ガ  
参謀長ニ持チ出サレタコトヲ貴方自身知ツテキマ  
スカ。

答、私ハ當時首相兼陸相デアツタノデソノヤウナ細イ  
事柄ニ注意シテキル譯ニハ行キマセンデシタ。サ  
ウイフコトハ、關係局長ノ自由ニ任セテアリマス。  
問、アナタハコノ件ガ、アナタガ参謀長ト相談シタ時  
以外ニモ参謀長ニ持チ出サレタコトガアルカドウ  
カアナタ自身デ知ツテキマスカ。

答、私ニハソレガ移膝サレタトイフ記憶ハアリマセン。  
問、参謀長ハ、アナタガ彼ト相談シタ時以前ニモ、本  
件ガ参謀長ニ持チ出サレタカドウカ、何カ言ヒマ  
シタカ。

答、イ、エ、私が彼ニコノ件ニ付イテ訊ネタ譯デスカ  
ラ。

問、ダガ、ソレハ一体ドウイフ意味ナノデスカ、ソレ  
ハ既ニ彼ニ持チ出サレテキタト云フコトデスカ。

答、参謀長ハ、私ガコノ件ヲ切り出ス前ニ、既ニソレ  
ガ彼ニ持チ出サレテキタコトニ就イテハ何モ言ヒ

マセンデシタ。

問、デハアナタ自身ノ知ル限リ又彼ガアナタニ言ツタ限リデハ、ソレガ日本政府ノ官吏又ハ將校ニ依ツテ、彼ニ持チ出サレタ最初ダツタトイフ譯デスネ。

答、實際ニサウカドウカ私ニハハツキリト述べルコトハデキマセン。

問、彼ハサウデナイト云フコトヲ示スヤウナコトヲ何カ言ヒマシタカ。

答、私ニハソレニ就イテ確答スルコトハデキマセン、又參謀長ニ代ツテ御答ヘルコトモデキマセン。

問、アナタハ參謀長ニ對シ、コノ「バタイン行進」及ビ「アメリカ」停虜ノ虐待ニ就イテ、ドンナコトヲ言ツタノデスカ。

答、私ハソノ種ノ噂ガアルトイフコトヲ述べて彼ノ説明ヲ求メマシタ。

問、參謀長ハドンナ説明ヲシマシタカ。

答、參謀長ハ、輸送機關ノ不足ノタメ停虜ハ暑熱ノ中ヲ遠路行進シナケレバナラナカツタ。ソシテ若干ノ苦難ガアリ、死者が出タト説明シマシタ。

問、參謀長ハアナタトノコノ會談ノ際、停虜達ハドノ位ノ困難ヲ無理ニ行進サセラレタノカ言ヒマシタカ。

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答、「和知」中將ハ「行進」ノ際、ソコニ居合ハセナ  
カツタノデ、私ニ詳シイコトハ話シマセンデシタ。  
彼ハコノ「行進」ニ對シテ責任者デハアリマセン  
デシタ。

問、誰ガコノ行進ニ對シテノ責任者デシタカ。

答、本間中將ガ當然責任ヲ負フベキデセウ。

問、アナタハ「フイリツピン」滞在の中本間中將ニ會ヒ  
マシタカ。

答、イイエ、本間ハ既ニ日本ニ歸ツテキマシタ。

問、アナタハ、戦争開始後、ソシテアナタガ「フイリ  
ツピン」ニ赴キコノ件ニ就イテ參謀長ト會議スル  
以前ニ何時カ日本テ本間中將ト會ツタコトガアリ  
マスカ。

答、イイエ、私ハ彼ガ日本ニ歸ツテ居ル間、會ヒマセ  
ンデシタ。

問、本間ガ日本へ歸ツタノハ、アナタガ「フイリツピ  
ン」テ參謀長トコノ事ニ就イテ話合ツタ時ヨリド  
ノ位前ノコトデシタカ。

答、何時彼ガ日本へ歸ツタカ、私ハ記憶シテキマセン。

問、アナタハ、本間ガ日本ニ歸ツテ來テ、ココニ滞在  
シテキタ期間中彼ガ日本ニキタ事實ヲ知ツテキマ  
シタカ。

答、知ツテキマシタ。

問、本間ハ、對米戰爭開始後、日本ニ居ツタ間、東京ノ陸軍省ニ出頭シマシタカ。

答、悉ラク陸軍省ニハ出頭シタテセウ。然シ私ハ會ヒマセンデシタ。

問、貴下又ハ他ノ誰カハ、本間ノ當地滯在中又ハ他ノ如何ナル時期ニカ、「バターン行進」ニ於ケル「アメリカ」兵ノ死ノ噂ニ就イテ彼ト話合ヒマシタカ。

答、彼ノ日本へ歸ツテキタ當時ハ、私ハコンナ噂ノアツタコトヲ知ラナカツタシ、他ノ誰カガ彼ト、コレラノ件ニ就イテ話シタトイフコトモ聞イテキマセン。彼ガ日本へ歸ツタ時ニハ、只彼ハ頗ル見事ナ戦果ヲ擧ゲテ歸國シタト言ハレタダケデシタ。

問、アナタ又ハ他ノ日本政府ノ官吏又ハ將校ノ誰カハ「バターン行進」ノ結果ニ因ル米兵死亡ノ件ニ就イテ本間中將ト何時デモ話合ツタコトガアリマスカ。答、私ハコノ件ニ就イテ話サレタコトガアツタカドウカ知リマセン。

X X X