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A F F I D A V I T

Name: Mme Veuve BERTRAND
Profession: None
Address: 99 rue Pellerin

Complaint against Kempei-Tai Adjutant TOMONO.

On Saturday, 4 Aug 1945, 0830 hours, a Japanese military policeman went to the Hotel Catinet to ask me to report immediately at military police H.Q. with an automobile.

Not having an automobile I went there in a ricksha.

On arriving at the H.Q. an Annamese interpreter had me go up to the first floor (U.S. 2nd floor) into a large hall and told me to wait there till Captain TOMONO came, without giving me the reason for which I had been called.

In a short time Captain TOMONO arrived and made me sit facing him (at his desk). The Annamese Interpreter was seated at my right and at my left standing upright was the Japanese who went to bring me from the hotel.

After some moments of silence the Annamese interpreter said to me "Your (Fr. "ton") husband is dead". I exclaimed "What". Thereupon the Captain told him to shut up (Fr. "faire", should be "taire") and told the Japanese to say to me "Your (Fr. "Votre") husband is dead".

I asked him what my husband died of. He replied, "Your husband had fever in the night. The Commandant gave him an anti-malaria injection and he slept. This morning he did not wake". Then they led me to see the body of my husband. It was on the ground floor on a short stretcher covered with a covering in a repulsive condition. The body was covered with bruises, the upper lip swollen and contused, one eye quite shut, the other half open. They then loaded the corpse into a military truck and asked me where they had to take it. I told them the morgue of the Grall Hospital. I got into the same vehicle, accompanied by Capt. TOMONO and two Japanese interpreters. When we had reached Grall they asked Chief Medical Officer GUEDON to come and confirm the state of the body and to have it put in a coffin as soon as possible.

The Japanese busied themselves with the papers of the Civil Commission. Friends were forbidden to enter the morgue.

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When the blessing of the body and the bestowal of it in the casket were finished TOFONO made me sign a paper ordering me to say nothing on the subject of the death of my husband and a receipt for the sum of 100 piastres from the military police.

Next I went to the cemetery, always accompanied by Japanese Military Police.

(Signed) Mme. Veuve BERTRAND

Signed and attested under oath on 12 Sept. 1946 at Saigon, before me the undersigned Investigation Officer assigned by the French authorities to the inquiries of which the present affidavit is the object.

(Signed) Lieutenant BONNEI OY

Saigon, 14 Sept. 1946
Chief Commissioner of the Section of
Special Information.

(Signed) Henri LE CUIR
Commissioner of Police.

(STAMP) FEDERAL SURETE
Cochinchina
Special information Section
Police.