

INTERNATIONAL PROSECUTION SECTION

Doc. Nos. 2782, 2783, 2784

88 Nov 1946

ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT

Title and Nature: Three Affidavits Relating to  
Prisoner of War Information and Handling of Notes Thereon

Date: 1946 Original ( ) Copy (x) Language: English

Has it been translated? Yes ( ) No (x)

Has it been photostated? Yes ( ) No (x)

LOCATION OF ORIGINAL

Document Division

SOURCE OF ORIGINAL: Japanese Foreign Ministry

PERSONS IMPLICATED: ARAKI, Sadao

CRIMES TO WHICH DOCUMENT APPLICABLE: POW Convention;  
Atrocities Philippines

SUMMARY OF RELEVANT POINTS

- Doc. No. 2782 - Affidavit of SUZUKI, Tadakatsu, on Handling  
of American Notes
- Doc. No. 2783 - Affidavit of ISHIKAWA, Tatsuze, on his book  
entitled "The Living Soldier" which was  
banned by the Home Minister
- Doc. No. 2784 - Affidavit of HODA, Haruo, re instructions  
issued by Chief of Staff to Commanders of  
POW Camps on treatment of white prisoners

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# 2783

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al., )  
- Against - ) AFFIDAVIT  
ARAKI, Sadao, et al. )

Q Please state your name and address.

A ISHIKAWA, Tatsuzo  
No. 118, Tamagawa-Okuzawa-Machi,  
Seitagaya-Ku, Tokyo

Q You are a writer by profession are you not?

A Yes.

Q How many books have you written during your career?

A About 25.

Q What percentage of your books were based on actual occurrences?

A About 40 per cent.

Q As a writer have you the reputation of an honest and reliable reporter of facts?

A Some critics have that opinion.

Q Is that opinion general among the critics, did you say?

A You could say so.

Q Did you write a book entitled "Ikiteiru Heitai" which in English means "The Living Soldier"?

A Yes.

Q What was your purpose in writing this book?

A I can best answer that by translating for you a part of the introduction to my book "The Living Soldier". (Translated and read by Mr. Yamasaki): "I only wanted to have the Japanese who are proud of victory reconsider by reporting them the real situations at the battlefield."

Q By "situation at the battlefield" did you mean the atrocities that were committed in China by the Japanese soldiers?

A Yes, it is included.

Q Did you try conscientiously to portray to the Japanese people a true picture of what you learned of China?

A Yes, I did.

Q In your book "The Living Soldier" you describe several cases of atrocities committed by Japanese soldiers. How did you learn of these atrocities?

A I learned either from the soldiers or from the reporters.

Q Were you an eye witness to any of the atrocities which you describe?

A No, there is none I witnessed.

Q Did you talk with people who were eye witnesses to these atrocities?

A Yes, I did.

Q Did you in each case satisfy yourself that the story you received and later published were the true facts?

A In many cases the location where an incident occurred and the date on which it occurred was fictionized in the story; however, insofar as the incident itself was concerned, in order to convey a true picture of the situation as it was in China I did satisfy myself that the facts surrounding these atrocities were true.

Q When did you return from China?

A I do not remember exactly but I think it was the 24th or 25th of January 1938.

Q When did you complete your work on "The Living Soldier"?

A February 11, 1938.

Q When was "The Living Soldier" published?

A It was first published in a magazine.

Q When was that?

A One week after it was completed in February 1938.

Q Did this magazine get into the hands of the Japanese People?

A Yes, a few copies leaked through before they were stopped.

- Q Was your book banned?
- A Yes, it was.
- Q By whom?
- A By the Home Minister -- actually, by a Special Branch of the Metropolitan Police Board, whose function it was to control publications insofar as politics, ideologies and information unfavorable to the security of the country.
- Q Were you arrested as a result of publishing this book?
- A I was summoned into court.
- Q Did you receive a sentence?
- A I was sentenced to 4 months' imprisonment and three years on probation.
- Q What was the formal charge placed against you, do you recall?
- A Violation of the Newspaper Control Law. The prosecution contended that my book could be translated into Chinese and be used for propaganda purposes.

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ISHIKAWA, Tatsuzo

Certificate of Interpreter

I, YAMASAKI, Seichi, Civilian, being sworn on oath, state that I truly translated the questions and answers given from English to Japanese and from Japanese to English respectively, and that the above transcription of such questions and answers, consisting of 3 pages, is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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YAMASAKI, Seichi

CHARGE OUT SLIP

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ 1947 .

EVIDENTIARY DOC. NO. 2783

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

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

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

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

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

U.S.S.B.S. \_\_\_\_\_

DEFENSE DOC. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

*Scott*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Room # \_\_\_\_\_