

Def. Doc. #2512

Exh. No.

Translated by
Defense Language Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition

Deponent : -UESUGI, Motoyuki

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 am a former army major; I live at present, at No.68
MAYATANI in FUKUOKA City.

I was a staff-officer of the Seventh Area Army in charge
of supply and communications from March 1, 1945 up to
the end of the war. After the cessation of hostilities,
I served as Chief of the Liaison Section of the Japanese
Army in Singapore and acted in liaison with the British
forces up to July, 1946.

The Commander of the Seventh Area Army was General

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ITAGAKI, Seishiro, from April 22, 1945 up to the end of the war.

2. I have read I.P.S. evidence No.1514-A. When I was the chief of the liaison section in Singapore after the end of the war, I heard that the Third Japanese Air Force in Singapore had entrusted the "UTORAN" Prison with the care of the allied air force prisoners about June, 1945, without informing thereof to the HQs of the Seventh Area Army under whose jurisdiction the prison came under. Also that some junior officers of the Third Japanese Air Force had arbitrarily withdrawn and executed the prisoners later.

The above-mentioned allied airmen, when they had made an air raid upon Sumatra and Palomban, were taken prisoners by the 9th Japanese Air Division in Palembang, and sent to the above-mentioned Third Air Force.

The junior staff-officers of the Third Japanese Air Force who had arbitrarily executed the allied airmen committed suicide after the end of the war, and Colonel SATO, the then senior staff-officer, killed himself as well from his sense of responsibility for leading the junior officers.

3. The Third Air Force was under the direct control of the

Southern Army and on equal terms with the Seventh Area Army ^{and Seventh Army} had consequently no right of command over the Third Air Force, other than in commanding field operations in the event that land warfare broke out.

4. While General ITAGAKI held the post of Commander of the Seventh Area Army, there was not a case except the above air force one, where any prisoner and others were unlawfully executed in the UTOHAM Prison.
5. I have read I.P.S. evidence No. 1614-A. When I was the chief of the liaison section in Singapore after the end of the war, I was informed by the counsel concerned in the trial that the inhabitants of Boatblare (TN:phonetic) in the Andaman Islands, had been forced by the naval forces to evacuate to another small island in August, 1945 and that many of them had consequently died. This was a case which took place in the naval area of the Andaman Island. Eight naval officers and men, including Vice-Admiral HARA, the Commander of the 12th Base Unit of the Japanese Navy, were accused and executed as the responsible individuals at Singapore. The Andaman Island was one of the naval administrative areas and the Army could not participate in its administration at all.

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The only authority General ITAGAKI had over the naval

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... forces was to command them as well, in the event a land battle should have occurred.

On this 4th day of September, 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT /S/ UESUGI, Motoyuki (seal)

I, SASAKAWA, Tomoharu, 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: /S/ SASAKAWA, Tomoharu (seal)

OATH

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

/S/ UESUGI, Motoyuki (seal)