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Translated by Defense
Language Branch

International Military Tribunal for the Far East
The United States of America, et al.

-- Against
ARAKI Sadao, et al.

Affidavit (translation)

By IKEJIRI Satoshi

I, being duly sworn according to the customary
formality in this country depose and state:

I) I was a major in the army. I arrived at my post as adjutant of the Army in the Burma Area on May 5th in the 19th year of Showa (1944). Since then until Aug. 15th in the 20th year of Showa (1945), I remained at the same post. Demobilized on July 21st of the 21st year of Showa (1946), I have since that time been working as a non-regular member of the Remaining Business Transaction Dept, of the southern Army.

II) In the middle of September in the 19th year of Showa (1944) General KIMURA Heitaro arrived at his post as Commander of the Army in the Burma Area and ever since then until the termination of the war, I took office as adjutant to him.

III) My main duties as adjutant in the Army of the Burma Area were: The handling of correspondence, books and confidential documents, affairs concerning awards, the handling of documents concerning prisoners of war and interness etc.

IV) Concerning the treatment of P.O.W.'s during the construction of the Siam-Burma railway, the Headquarters of the Burma Area Army had no connection at all, and more over it was a year after the railway construction had been completed that General KIMURA arrived at his post as Commander of the Army in the Burma Area.

v) The Pangoon P.W. Camp was one of the branches of the Malay P.W. Camp, and so came under the control of the Commander of the Combined Southern Army.

The chief of the Pangoon P.W. Camp was appointed and removable by the Chief of the Malay P.W. Camp. That is to say, although the chief of the Pangoon P.W. Camp and two non-commissioned

officer formed the staff of that camp, they were dispatched from the Malay P.W. Camp. The army surgeon and the requisite number of guards were dispatched from the 73rd Headquarters of Line of Communications of the Burma Area Army and were under the Command of the camp commander.

VI) In the Army internment Camp in Tavoy, civilians of hostile nations (except P.O.W.'s) were held, and they were under the control of the Commander of the 24th Mixed Brigade, which was under the Burma Area Army.

VII) General KIMURA Heitaro, Commander of the Burma Area Army always directed his subordinates to treat the P.O.W.'s and internees with benevolence and never to insult nor mistreat them but to treat them fairly, observing the articles.

VIII) The condition and the treatment of the P.O.W.'s in the Rangoon(POW) Camp, while General KIMURA occupied the post of Commander of the Army in Burma, were approximately as follows:

a) The camp, former Rangoon prison, was a permanent building, fully equipped for living and sanitation with dispensary, sick rooms, showers, kitchen, exercise yard etc. The equipment of the internment camp was also in good condition.

b) Of the P.O.W.'s the healthy men of the rank of non-Commissioned officers and below were sometimes ordered to work when necessary, but the patients were allowed to rest within. The type of labour they performed was mainly work at the wharf and odd jobs in the supply departments and at their camp.

c) POW's were allowed to rest not only on Sundays but also on the public holidays of their countries. Additional supplies were provided to them from time to time.

d) POW'S of the rank of warrant officer and above sometimes, of their own volition, in order to take exercise, came to the working places and gave directions and supervised the POW's engaged in their work.

e) The POW's were made to run a farm by utilizing the vacant land within the camp and they were also made to raise livestock by issuing to them cows, pigs, goats, ducks, etc, from official depōts for the purpose of obtaining fats. The surplus crops of their farm were sold on the Rangoon market and the receipts became their income, and were allowed to be appropriated for the purchase of luxuries at the market.

f) We occasionally sent the military band belonging to the Burma Area Army to that camp for the entertainment of the POW's.

g) As for amusements, we equipped the camp with a piano, books etc, making our utmost efforts to give what comfort we could within the limitations of the locality.

h) The prisoners were also allowed to obtain goods at the camp canteen to a reasonable extent and they bought a considerable amount of cigarettes, milk etc.

i) I never heard of any case of mistreatment of the POW's (prisoners) during General KIMURA's stay at that post.

I only remember that we reprimanded some of them on several occasions at the request of, Brig-Gen., HOBSON, their senior officer for their lack of obedience to his commands.

j) Both Brig-Gen. HOBSON and Maj. LORING, British officers representing the POW's on one^{or} two occasions presented letters of

thanks to the camp commander for the fair treatment of the POW's and twice to the Chief of the camp, regarding the fair treatment of the P.W.'s. At the end of April in the 20th year of Showa (1945), on the occasion of the withdrawal of the Japanese Army from Rangoon, we told them that they would be released, whereupon these two officers delivered a letter of thanks to the Chief of the camp. I have not heard of the two officers since then.

k) The treatment of the internees in the Army camp in Tavoy was also ~~in accordance with the provisions and I got no report any particular case of mistreatment.~~ Letters of thanks were presented to the chief of the camp as many as seven or eight times.

l) In brief, while General KIMURA was in office, we had but very scanty supplies from the rear and the materials were running short, nevertheless we made as much effort as possible for the good treatment of the POW's internees. ~~and a number of them were treated in a very fair manner.~~

The facts above mentioned are based upon the reports from the Headquarters of the 73rd Line of communications and the Headquarters of 24th Mixed Brigade, and upon my recollections of information from Captain SHIRAKAWA, the former adjutant of the 73rd Line of communications Headquarters.

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This 27 day of November, 21st year of Showa (1946)

At the office of Japanese Counsel
in the International Military Tribunal
for the Far East

by IKEJIRI Satoshi (seal)

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the above-mentioned
date.

Bernard A. Hargadon, 1st Lt. Inf.
Administrative Officer

OATH

I swear according to my conscience to tell the truth
with-holding and adding nothing

IKEJIRI Satoshi (seal)

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TRANSLATION CERTIFICATE

I, William F. Clarke, of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the attached affidavit 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/ William F. Clarke

Tokyo, Japan

Date 20 Jan 1947