

No. 2554



Def. Doc. No. 920.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

vs

ARAKI Sadao, et al

SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponent: OGAWA Saburo

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 was born on August 17 1912 (Taisho 1), at my home, 452, Nakanojo-mura, Nakauonuma-gun, Niigata-ken. My present address is 32, Konodai, Ichikawa-shi, Chiba-ken.
2. I became an employee of the Tokyo Asahi Press in April, 1923, and have been in the service of the same company until the present time. At the time of the attack on Hankow I was with the Photograph Section of the same newspaper.
3. Under company orders, I, as a member of the Photography Section of the Tokyo Asahi Newspaper, sailed aboard a gunboat up the Yangtze River from Kiukiang to Motienchen, with the intention of joining the Takashina Unit for the purpose of photographing actual scenes of the attack on Hankow. However, when I happened to meet the Hirata Unit of the Formosan Army on the evening of October 24, 1938, I joined it

and proceeded with it to Wuchang, arriving on October 25. Passing through Hanyang, we reached Hankow on the 26th. At that time, the Hanshui River, a tributary of the Yangtze, was so crowded with vessels of all sizes that it was impossible for us to come directly alongside the bank. We, consequently, had to walk across a number of ships to go ashore.

Since I thought that the Japanese troops had already completely occupied Hankow, I entered the city immediately. However, since I found no Japanese soldiers and since the city was almost completely deserted, I immediately returned to Wuchang, again going by way of Hanyang.

On October 28, I again went from Wuchang to Hankow. At that time a great number of vessels were already at anchor on the river, so that upon landing I could not go directly ashore, but had to walk across thirty or forty vessels anchored side by side in order to reach the pier. The city had already been restored to its former prosperous condition, and I was able to go to a restaurant as soon as I went ashore. The streets were quite as tranquil as in peacetime.

I stayed in Hankow until November 1, and during that period conditions in the city completely returned to normalcy. On November 2, I left Hankow for Yochow with the Sixth Division.

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On this 10th day of February 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT OGAWA Saburo

I, IMANARI Yasutaro 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: (signed) IMANARI Yasutaro (seal)

O A T H

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

This 10th of February, 1947

OGAWA Saburo (seal)

Translation Certificate.

I, Charlie S. Terry, Chief of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the above certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, accorrect translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

/s/ Charlie S. Terry

Tokyo, Japan  
Date 8 April '47