

No 2145

Ex 2145

A F F I D A V I T

ROUAN, George Germain
Medical Captain of Colonial Troops
Born at la Fleche (Sarthe)
21 November 1908
Son of Armand Rouan and Marie Pelissou
Residence: Hotel Splendid, Hanoi

At Hanoi

In the afternoon of 12th March, I found the corpse of Doctor-Commandant Coste in his office, at the hospital of the First Tonkinese Sharpshooters Regiment /R.T.T./. His head lay toward the door and the feet toward the office desk, the lower part of the body was stripped completely naked, the face was composed, the corpse was still wearing a white shirt bearing the insignia of the Red Cross. The office was in disorder, there was blood everywhere and chiefly a big pool on a level with the head of the corpse.

When I lifted the body. I noted that one wound injured the lower part of the lobe of the right ear, laying bare the right jaw and gashing the neck. A second wound on the left side was deep and transversal, injuring the whole of the back of the neck on the left and the spinal column. The right hand was attached to the arm by a mere shred of flesh (it fell off in the course of handling).

It appears that the doctor-Commandant Coste was struck twice with a saber, once on the right, which he attempted to fend off with his right hand, the other on the left.

According to the reports of eye witnesses, at the moment of the fifth Japanese drive on the night of March 9/10, Commandant Coste presented himself in full light before the Japanese dressed in his shirt bearing the red cross. He was shoved toward the interior of his office, then killed.

The Indo-Chinese male nurse on duty who was with him was killed by a sabre blow which almost decapitated him; his body was on the veranda joining the office.

According to the subsequent declaration of Medical Lieutenant Kobayashi, this letter belonged to the unit which attacked the First R.T.T. /Regiment Des Tirailleurs Tonkinois/.

(Signature) Georges Rouan

(Stamp) Commission of the Republic
Tonkin and North Annam
States Civil - Hanoi

(written over
stamp)

For the purpose of legalization of the
signature of Mr. Rouan which appears
opposite.

Hanoi 12 Sept. the year 1946
Chief of the (illegible) Service.

Signed and witnessed under oath 10 September 1946 at Hanoi
before me, the undersigned, investigating officer accredited by the
French authorities for the investigations of which the present
affidavit is the object.

(signature)

Captain le Sourd