

P. I - Atrocities

JUAN ETUIJERA

called as a witness on behalf of the Prosecution, being first duly sworn through Interpreter Rodas, was examined and testified through Interpreter Rodas as follows, with Interpreter Gojunco acting as "check" Interpreter:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

- Q. (By Captain Calyer) What is your name?
- A. Juan Etuijera.
- Q. Where do you live?
- A. Obando, Katangalan.
- Q. How old are you?
- A. 60 years.
- Q. On the 7th of February, 1945, did you see some Japanese at Panghulo?
- A. Yes, in the place where we were.
- Q. How many did you see?
- A. Eight.
- Q. Do you know what branch of service they were from?
- A. According to what I know, they are army men.
- Q. How do you know that?
- A. Because of the uniform that they wore, khaki shirt and khaki pants.
- Q. Did you see any marks on the uniform?
- A. I know there is an officer, because he brings with him a sword.
- Q. Did you see any stars on the uniform?
- where we kept our things.
- Q. Did they take the men, women and children from the town?
- A. No, we were there in that hut, 40 of us altogether.
- Q. Was that men, women and children?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now, what did the Japanese do to the people in that hut?
- A. They tied all of us, all men and the old women were tied together. The children and the young girls were not tied, and they were separated from our group.
- Q. Now, what happened to the men?
- A. After men and the old women were tied, one by one were taken downstairs and were killed, and bayoneted. I saw one who was bayoneted and was thrown into the ditch.

Q. Did you see more than one killed?

A. I did not see, because as soon as they were taken down the doors were closed, but afterwards I found all my companions in that ditch, because I was the last one that was killed -- that was supposed to be killed.

Q. Now, what did they do to you?

A. I was taken downstairs, my hands were tied at my back, and I was asked -- I was pushed to the fish pond.

Q. What happened there?

A. He held the gun, and with full strength he hit me right here on my neck.

Q. What part of the gun did he hit you with?

A. The handle, the point.

Q. Will you show the Commission the mark of that blow?

A. Yes, sir.

(The witness exhibited the back of his neck to the commission.)

Q. Now, what happened to you after that?

A. They threw me into the fish pond, face down.

Q. Were you struck again?

A. I cannot tell whether they hurt me again. All that I felt was they stepped on me to see whether I was dead or alive.

Q. Weren't you struck on the shoulder also?

A. Yes, I was struck once more on my shoulder with the butt of the gun. And I will show the Commission.

Q. Will you show it?

(The witness exhibited his shoulder to the Commission.)

Q. While you were lying in the fish pond did you see anyone else?

A. Yes.

Q. Who?

A. My niece, who is single, who happened to have fallen beside me on my right side.

Q. What was her condition when you saw her there?

A. She called to me. She did not have any -- she was not tied, and then I told her to untie me and that we are going to leave.

Q Had she been wounded?

A. Yes, she has a wound in her abdomen.

Q. Describe it.

A. Yes, she was bayoneted in the abdomen and her intestines came out.

Q. Did you and your niece get out of the fish pond and go to a hut?

A. Not in our hut, but into another place. We got away far from that place.

Q. And did you have a conversation with your niece at that time?

A. Yes. She was able to talk to me, and she was asking for water because she was already dying at that time.

Q. Did she say what had happened?

A. It is a sad story to tell, but she said that she was raped and then was bayoneted in the abdomen, and then thrown into the fish pond.

Q. Did she say anything about other people who were with her?

A. She told me that all -- she and all her companions there were raped.

Q. How many were there?

A. I know of nine, and two of them were married.

Q. Do you know how many people were killed in the group that you were in?

A. There were 29 killed.

Q. Did that include women and children?

A. Yes. One of them is a baby 19 days old.

THE WITNESS: 15 days.

CAPTAIN CALYER: You may examine.

CAPTAIN REEL: No questions.

CAPTAIN CALYER: Thank you, sir. That is all.

(Witness excused).

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, T. R. C. King, Major, Inf. (TD), Executive Officer, Legal Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, do hereby certify that Document 2876 is a true and correct copy of the transcript of the testimony offered by JUAN ETUIJERA in the trial of the case against Tomoyuki YAMASHITA, General, Imperial Japanese Army, before a Military Commission in Manila; and that the whole record of the case, including the transcript of all testimonies taken, as well as the affidavits admitted in evidence, are now on file with this Section.

/s/ T. R. C. King
T.R.C. King,
Major, Inf. (TD)

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard

Sworn to before me this 20th day
of November, 1946, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ John R. Pritchard

Capt. Inf.
Summary Court