

10-2550

I N T E R

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA et al

against

.R.KI Sadao et al

SWORN DEPOSITION (*Translation*)

Deponent: YOSHIKAWA Genzo

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 in MINAMIDANI, ASATSU-MURA TO HAKU-GUN, TOTTORI prefecture which is my permanent domicile on September 14, 1905 (39th year of Meiji), and at present I'm still residing at the same address.
2. As for my brief personal history, I graduated from the Military Officers Academy and from the Army War College. During the Hankow campaign, I was in charge of the rear staff members of the 6th Division, and at the termination of the war, I held the rank of lieutenant-colonel.
3. I went to the locality after Nanking was captured for the preparation of operations that followed. The 6th Division commenced its attack on Hankow around October 20, 1938 and closed in on the city after breaking through HUANGPO without

much difficulty. However, at TAICHLASHAN, in the northern direction of Hankow, because the Chinese destroyed the embankment of the river, the area was flooded and it became necessary to utilize boats to cross the flooded area. In addition since there were only a few boats available a considerable time was spent, and the troops that advanced to this point were compelled to stop in this area. Hankow was to be reached only by crossing this flooded area. Since a strict order on military discipline was previously issued by HATA, the Commander, it was printed on leaflets and distributed among the troops. This was written on the troops' attitude towards the Chinese residents, as well as on what precautions the troops should take within the city: It warned the troops to strictly observe military discipline and to prevent any disorders in the city.

Thus, we were to enter Hankow with every precautions. After crossing the flooded area no fighting had occurred in the outskirts of the city, and we entered Hankow in a peaceful manner. Since we decided that to give the honour of being the first to enter Hankow to advance unit alone was not such a good idea, we got in touch with Brigade Commander USHIJIMA and allowed SANO Regiment (23rd Regiment) as well as a part of the 45th Regiment to enter at the same time.

5. The above being the situation, it is inconceivable that the Japanese Army could have committed assaults, looting, rapes, and other brutal acts. I have never seen such acts, never heard of such rumors, and never received any reports of such atrocities.

Def. Doc. No. 1435

On this 21 day of Jan. 1947
at Ttori prefecture.

DEPONENT YOSHIKAWA Genza (seal)

I, IMAWARI Yosutaro 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 the same place.

Witness: (signed) IMAWARI Yasutaro (seal)

O..TH

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

YOSHIKAWA Genzo (seal)