

Affidavit of WACHI, Takaji

TITLE _____

TRANSLATION BY Y. Kudo COMPLETED 8 May

CHECKED BY Kawano COMPLETED 17 May 77

TYPED BY _____ COMPLETED _____

Ref. Doc #1453.

ノ如ク供述致シマス
自分等我國ニ行ハルル方式ニ從ヒ先ツ別紙ノ通り宣誓ヲ爲シタル上次

宣誓供述書
供述者

和ヲ
和ヲ
鷹ヲ

荒木貞夫 其他

對

亞米利加合衆國其他

極東國際軍事裁判所

ニシ

Pacific

Check o.k.
G.T.

505

一 私は一九四三年三月より一九四五年二月までフィリピンに勤務して居りました。其の中一九四三年三月から一九四四年四月迄は第十四方面軍参謀長でありました。此の当時の軍司令官は本向、田中及黒田の三中将でありました。

次に一九四四年の五月から同年の十月迄は南方總軍の總参謀長^副でありました。当時南方軍總司令官寺内寿元、中将是マニラに在駐せられて居つたのであります。最後に一九四四年十一月より一九四五年二月迄はオーストラリア方面軍司令官山下の隷下にあるオーストラリア軍の参謀長を務め、軍司令官鈴木中將の下でレイテ島の戦に従軍致しました。

二 バタビに於ける俘虜の取扱に就いて陳述致します。

バタビ半島の攻撃は一九四二年春でありましたが同年の四月九日に米比軍は降参しました。米比軍の俘虜たるべきものは四万人位であらうと豫測

いて居りましたところ、実際は七万人も居りまして、その收容は非常に困難を感じました。又彼等は非常に勇敢に戦ったのでありますから健康状態は良いのであらうと思つて居りました處、大多数栄養失

調にかゝつて居りました。日本軍側もさうでありますが、此の地帯はジャングル地帯である爲かマラリヤ患者が多かつたのであります。俘虏力と自動車で運びたのであります。敵側より鹵獲した自動車及トラックは殆ど

壊れて居り運轉し得るものはほんの二三台位に過ぎません。我方の自動車

はコレドールの攻撃及各地の掃討作戦に必要な兵器^兵、弾薬^銃、其他の

軍需品の輸送に一杯でありました。それ故日本側の兵も全部徒步行軍

してあります。日本側にも患者殊にマラリヤ患者が多かつた爲、一時戦

力は三分の一に^低下し、本来四月廿日頃コレドール攻撃の豫定のとこ

ろ迄五月五日迄延期のやむなきに成りました。

右様の次第でやむなくバランガよりサンフェルナンド迄徒步行軍をしたのであり
 ます。尤も二病氣であると申し出たものは別に一部はバターにて療養させ一部
 は患者者自動車にて後送したのであります。毎日の行軍の距離は條約上許
 された距離以内であります。私はこの行軍を實見しました。私の見所ところでは
 殘虐行為は曾てありませぬ。俘虜はサンフェルナンドより汽車にてオードネルに
 送りこいて收容所に入れましたが、其の後七万人中二万人程は栄養養失
 調やマラリヤで死七致しました。俘虜に對する食糧は豫め準備せるもの
 の外原地物資及台湾等より追送せられたもので出来るだけ給與する
 に務めたのであります。藥品は略々充足する量がありましたが、必要量は
 乏を與へました。

三、俘虜の取扱及び軍政は一九四三年七月迄は參謀本部の管理下にあり
兵站司令官が之を取扱つて居りました。一九四三年七月中に始めて陸軍大
臣の管下に入り俘虜收容所長が任命せられました。此の時以後陸
軍大臣が俘虜の統轄官で軍司令官が其の管理官であります。私は
軍司令官を補佐する職務上よりしてこれに關係があるのであります。
を前記の通りです。

四、一九四三年の八月より十月迄の間に俘虜のうち比島人は全部釋放しま
した。而してフランシスコ少將を始め希望者は比島の警察隊等の職務に
就かす、其他は家庭に還したてあります。俘虜は米人俘虜一万人位と
なりました。オーストラリアの物資も豊富でカバツツアンや農園の多い
ミンダナオ島に移りました。一部日本に行つたものもあります。二病院は現地
にも設けましたがマニラに完備したものがあり、病人はこゝにて療養せしめられた。

一九四四年九月迄は米機よりの空爆もなく比島全体も閑静であり
 浮屠も平靜な生活を送ったのであります。

昭和二十二年（一九四七年）四月二十三日於拉東口陸軍司令部

裁判所構内

供述者

右ハ營立會人ノ面前ニテ宣誓シ且ツ署名捺印シタルコトヲ證

明シマス

同日

於在所

立會人

清原 市



Handwritten signature and a large flourish with the number '二' (2) below it.

宣 審 書

良心ニ從ヒ眞實ヲ述ベ何事ヲモ試秘セズ又何事ヲモ附加セザルコト
ヲ審フ

(署名
捺印)

今
一
二

Dep No 1453

I M T F E

The United States of America, et al

vs

ABAKI, Sadao, et al

SWORN

DEPOSITION

Deponent : WACHI, Takaji

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.

5-25

~~T. Y. Kado~~

1. I ~~had been in service~~ ^{was on duty} in the Philippines during the time from March 1942 to February 1945. ~~From~~ ^{During this}

period from

March 1942 to April 1944 I ~~had been~~ ^{was} Chief of Staff of the 14th Area Army. ~~The~~ ^{Army} ~~commanding officers~~ ~~at~~ ~~that~~ ~~time~~ ~~were~~ ~~months~~ ~~had~~ ~~been~~ three Lieutenant Generals,

HOMMA, TANAKA and KURODA.

Following ^(occupied the post of) ~~Next to this,~~ I ~~had been~~ Vice-Chief of ~~the~~ ^{Staff of}

the Southern Army ~~General Headquarters~~ from May, 1944 to October of the same year.

~~In those days~~ ~~At the time~~ Commander-in-Chief of the Southern

^{of the time} Army, Marshal TERAUCHI, ~~was~~ ^{was} staying ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ Manila.

Finally ~~Lastly~~, during the months from November 1944 to

2 ~~Y. Kudo~~

February 1945, I ~~had been in the post of~~ ^{was}
Chief of Staff of the 35th Army ^{which was} ~~under the command~~
~~of~~ General YAMASHITA, the Commander of the 14th
Area Army and took part in the battles of
the Leyte under the ~~Commanding Officer,~~ ^{Army Commander,} Lieutenant
General SUZUKI.

2. I ~~am going to~~ ^{shall} give an account ~~of~~ ^{concerning}
our treatment of war prisoners ~~in~~ ^{on} Bataan.

Our attacks against the Bataan Peninsula
were carried on ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the spring of 1942
and it was on April 9 when the ~~American~~
American-Philippine Forces surrendered.

We ^{had} estimated beforehand that war prisoners of the American-Philippine Forces would amount to 40,000 at the most, but in reality ~~there~~ were 70,000 in all. This indeed caused ^{on our part} much difficulty [^] in accomodating the prisoners.

Judging from their bravery with which the Americans and Filipinos fought so intensely, we supposed that their physical conditions would be [^] certainly fine. But we found most of ^{the} soldiers of the American-Philippine Forces were ill from ^{under} unbalanced nourishment. As it was also the case with the Japanese, there were

4 ~~of~~

a lot of sufferers ~~from~~ malaria, perhaps,
because ^{the fact that} ~~in account of~~ ^{this was} ~~the place situated~~ a jungle zone.

Although we intended to carry the prisoners
by automobile, ^{almost all of the} automobiles and trucks

which were captured by us from the enemy

were ^{out of commission} ~~broken~~ and ^{only a} few were available.

As for our ^{side,} ~~automobiles~~ ^{vehicles} were ^{filled to} ~~entirely~~

capacity ⁱⁿ ~~occupied~~ with transportation of arms and ammunition

and other ^{military supplies} ~~munitions~~ necessary for us to carry

out the attack on ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{the} Corregidor and subjugation

campaigns in ^{the} various areas. As a result,

^{all} the Japanese soldiers, too, were obliged

to ~~go~~ marching on foot. As we had

5 ~~Y. Kudo~~

many ^{patients} ~~sufferers~~, especially ~~from~~ malarial, among
~~ourselves~~, ^{us} (for a time) fighting ^{strength} ~~power~~ of the
Japanese Forces ~~lowered~~ ^(nearly) ~~dropped~~ to one third of that
~~of~~ ^{normal} ~~ordinary~~ times. This ~~trouble~~ made it in-

evitable to postpone the ^{commencement} ~~opening~~ of attacks
on ^{the} ~~the~~ Corregidor, until May 5 which had been
scheduled for around April 20 of that year,

It was on account of these conditions that
we were compelled to march ^{on foot} from Balanga ^(TN: phonetic)
as far as San-Fernando. ? As to those prisoners of
~~or invalid~~ ^{allowed} ~~we ordered~~
war who claimed to be sick, ^{some} ~~a~~
~~then~~ ^{recuperate} to recruit ~~their~~ health at Bataan and

8 J. Kudo

sent the rest back to the rear ~~by~~^{on} ambulances.

The distance of march ^(we covered) a day was

within the limits which ~~was~~ permitted by

treaties. I witnessed this march person-

ally and so far as I observed, there was ~~not~~^{no}

any atrocities ^{committed} ~~seen~~.

The prisoners were

sent ^{by train} from San-Fernando to ~~the~~^{O'Donnell}

where they were ^{placed in an internment} ~~housed into the Prisoner of War~~

Camp. ^{In the ~~course of time~~^{later} about} 20,000 out of 70,000 died from

~~un~~^{under}balanced nourishment and malaria. Pro-

visions for the prisoners ^(in addition to those) were prepared beforehand,

obtained ^{locally} ~~in the~~ areas or sent from ~~those~~ territories

7 ~~of Kudo~~

Thus, like Formosa etc. We did our best in providing the prisoners ^{much} with food. In the way of medicine, ~~also~~ there was ^{very} nearly sufficient quantity of ~~drugs~~, we gave ~~them~~ ^{out} as much ~~drugs~~ as ^{was required} they needed.

~~the business concerning~~

3. Until July, 1942, ^{the business concerning} treatment of prisoners of war and military administration ~~had been~~ ^{was} placed ^{under} the jurisdiction of the General Staff, and the Line of Communications Commander ~~had~~ ^{was been taking} ~~taking~~ direct care of the matter ^{charge of them}. In July, 1942 these affairs were ~~removed and~~ ^{transferred to} put under the jurisdiction of the Minister of War, and Chiefs of Prisoner of War Internment Camps ^{newly} ~~were~~ ^{became} appointed. From this time on, the Minister

8 ~~J. Kudo~~

of War had ~~been~~ ^{became} the controlling officer and
the Army Commander had ~~been~~ ^{became} the administrator
~~regarding treatment of prisoners of war.~~ I
know this fact ~~for I was taking the office~~ ^{from a standpoint of my duties}
which was ~~an assisting of~~ the Army Commander.

4. We ~~released~~ All the Filipinos among the
prisoners were released ^{over a period dating} from August to October
1942. Volunteers, among whom was Major-
General Francisco, were appointed to the posts
in the ~~police force~~ ^{constabulary} etc. The rest were
returned ~~to~~ to their homes. The American prisoners ~~at~~
~~numbering~~ ^{numbering} ~~counted~~ about 10,000 were removed

9 y. Kudo

to ^{Goceas} Cabanatuan where richer resources
were obtainable and to the Mindanao ^{island} where
there were more farms than in ~~the Philippines~~ O'Donnell.
Some prisoners ~~came~~ ^{were} sent to Japan.

Although we ~~established~~ ^{opened} hospitals in
~~these~~ ^{locally} places, the sick were sent to
Manila where ~~they underwent~~ ^{for} medical
treatment ~~as there were~~
~~fully~~ ^{fully} equipped hospitals there. Until
September 1944, there ~~had been~~ ^{were} ~~no~~ ^{made} air-raids ^{against}
~~the Islands~~ ^{air} ~~by~~ ^{aircraft} American ~~planes~~ ^{planes} so that
the prisoners spent their days in peace
as well as the inhabitants ^{throughout} ~~the~~ ^{over} whole
Philippines.

On this 23 day of April, 1947

at Tokyo

DEPONENT WACHI, Takaji (seal)

I, WACHI, Takaji 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) KIYOSE, Ichiro (seal)

OATH

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

WACHI, Takaji (seal)

Exhibits Sheet

Affidavit of WACHI, Takeji

p. 4 line 16

"I, WACHI, Takeji, hereby certify that -----" should be read

"I, KIYOSE, Iphiro, hereby certify that -----"

DEF. DOC. #7453

p. 4 line 16
"I, WACHI, Takeji, hereby certify that -----" should be read
"I, KIYOSE, Iphiro, hereby certify that -----"

DEF. DOC. #1453

Translated by
Defense Language Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

(Translation)

SWORN DEPOSITION

DEPONENT: WACEI, Takaji

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached
sheet and in accordance with the procedure followed in
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Translated by
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1. I was on duty in the Philippines during the time from March 1942 to February 1945. During this period from March 1942 to April 1944 I was Chief of Staff of the 14th Area Army. The army commanders at this time were three Lieutenant Generals, HOMMA, TANAKA and KURODA.

Following this, I occupied the post of Vice-Chief of Staff of the Southern Army from May, 1944 to October of the same Year. Commander-in-Chief of the Southern Army of the time, Marshall TERAUCHI, was staying in Manila. Finally, during the months from November 1944 to February 1945, I was Chief of Staff of the 35th Army which was under General YAMASHITA, the Commander of the 14th Area Army and took part in the battles of Leyte under the Army Commander, Lieutenant General SUZUKI.

2. I shall give an account concerning our treatment of war prisoners on Bataan:

Our attacks against the Bataan Peninsula were carried on in the spring of 1942 and it was on April 9 when the American-Philippine Forces surrendered.

We had estimated beforehand that war prisoners of the American-Philippine Forces would amount to 40,000 at the most, but in reality there were 70,000 in all. This indeed caused much difficulty on our part in accomodating the prisoners.

Judging from their bravery with which the Americans and Filipinos fought so intensely, we supposed that their physical conditions would be certainly fine. But we found most of the soldiers of the American-Philippine Forces were ill from undernourishment. As was also the case with the Japanese, there were a lot of sufferers of malaria, perhaps, because of the fact that this was a jungly zone. Although we intended and trucks which were captured by us from the enemy were out of commission and only a few were available. As for our side, vehicles were filled to capacity in transportation of arms and ammunition and other military supplies necessary for us to carry out the attack on Corregidor and subjugation campaigns in the various areas. As a result, all the Japanese soldiers, too, were obliged to march on foot. As we had many patients, especially malarial among us, fighting strength of the Japanese Forces dropped for a time to nearly one third of normal. This made it inevitable to postpone the commencement of attacks on Corregidor, which had been scheduled for around April 20 of that year, until May 5. It was on account of these conditions that we were compelled to march on foot from Balanga (TN:phonetic) as far as San-Fernando. As to those prisoners of war who claimed to be sick, we allowed some to recuperate on Bataan and sent the

rest back to the rear on ambulances. The distance of march we covered a day was within the limits permitted by treaties. I witnessed this march personally and so far as I observed, there was no atrocities committed. The prisoners were sent by train from San-Fernando to O'Donell where they were placed in an internment camp. Later, 20,000 out of 70,000 died from under-nourishment and malaria. Provisions for the prisoners were, in addition to those prepared beforehand, obtained locally or sent from territories like Formosa etc. Thus we did our best in providing the prisoners with food. In the way of medicine, as there was very nearly a sufficient quantity, we gave out as much as was required.

3. Until July, 1942, treatment of prisoners of war and military administration was under the jurisdiction of the General Staff, and the Line of Communications Commander was taking care of the matter. In July, 1942 these affairs were transferred to the jurisdiction of the Minister of War, and Chief of Prisoner of War Internment Camps became appointive. From this time on, the Minister of War became the controlling officer and the Army Commander became the administrator. I know this fact from a standpoint of my duties which was assisting the Army Commander.

4. All the Philippines among the prisoners were released over a period dating from August to October 1942. Volunteers,

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among whom was Major-General Francisco, were appointed to posts in the constabulary etc. The rest were returned to their homes. The American prisoners numbering about 10,000 were removed to places Cabanatuan where richer resources were obtainable and to Mindanao island where there were more farms than in O'Donell. Some prisoners even went to Japan. Although we opened hospitals locally, the sick were sent to Manila for medical treatment as there were fully equipped hospitals there. Until September 1944, there were no air-raids made against the islands ^{by} American aircraft, so the prisoners spent their days in peace as well as the inhabitants throughout the Philippines.

On this 23 day of April, 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT WACHI, Takaji (seal)

I, WACHI, Takaji 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) KIYOSE, Ichiro (seal)

DEF. DOC. #1413

OATH

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

WACHI, Takaji (seal)