

EX 267.2

Def. Doc. 1155

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

vs

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponent: Yano Masao

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:

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I am an ex-Lieutenant General of the Japanese Army, and now living at No. 55 2 Chome Negahamacho, Fukuoka.

Since November 1944 I served as the Chief of Staff of the Third District Army under General Ushiroku's command, and stayed in Titihr until March 1945. I subsequently became commander of the 57th Division and went to "Sanshinfu". Upon my arrival there I received an order from the Kwantung Army and was transferred along with my division from Manchuria to Fukuoka for joining in the Pacific War.

I was connected with the drawing up of the plan of operations of the Third District Army for the year 1945 while I was the Chief of Staff of that Army. The circumstances are stated as follows:

Although I am not well acquainted with the plan of operations before 1945, I knew that the outline of the plan was to defend against possible attacks of the USSR, the line of the right bank of the Amour River in the north, and the line of Hailai and Great Hsingan mountains in the west. However, when I arrived there, I received a new instruction regarding new operation plans from the headquarters of the Kwantung Army. According to this, the Third District Army was to make gradual retreat after offering a slight resistance in the area of Songo and H Hailai, and was to make the final resistance on the line of Peien, Nonko, Jarantong and Hsingan. Following this instruction, the Third District Army drew up a concrete plan and when the plan was about to be reported to the Commander-in-Chief of the Kwantung Army, I was transferred.

At that time the Third District Army was composed of three divisions and one brigade. The divisions were the 57th, 107th and 119th, and only the 57th division was well seasoned, the others being newly organized inferior divisions.

I became the commander of this well seasoned 57th Division. However, this division was also transferred to Japan proper for the Pacific War. A newly organized division was substituted for it, thus rendering all divisions of the Third District Army inferior in quality.

After I arrived in Japan proper, I was told that the headquarters of the Third District Army was transferred from Titihr to Mukuden.

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On this 27th day of Jan. 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT: Yano Masao (seal)

I, Ikeda Sumihisa, 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) Ikeda Sumihisa (seal)

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OATH

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

Yono Masao (see 1)

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極東國際軍事裁判所
亞米利加合衆國其他

對

荒木貞夫其他

宣誓供述書

供述者 矢野政雄

自分儀我國ニ行ヘルノ方式ニ從ヒ別紙ノ通宣誓シタル後左ノ如ク陳述シマス。

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極東國際軍事裁判所
亞米利加合衆國其他

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私ハ元陸軍中將テ現在福岡市長濱町二丁目五五番地ニ居住シテ居リマス。

私ハ昭和十九年（一九四四年）十一月ヨリ後宮大將ヲ長トスル第三方面軍ノ參謀長トナリ昭和二十年（一九四五年）三月迄齊齊哈爾ニ在リ其後第五十七師團長ニ轉任シ山神府ニ赴任シ直チニ關東軍ノ命令ヲ受ケ太平洋戦争参加ノ爲師團ヲ統率シ滿洲カラ福岡ニ移駐シマシタ。

私ハ第三方面軍參謀長ノトキ昭和二十年度（一九四五年度）第三方面軍作戰計畫ニ關與致シマシタノデ其ノ状況ヲ陳述致シマス。

昭和二十年度（一九四五年度）以前ノ作戰計畫ハ克ク知リマセンガ北ハ黑龍江右岸ノ線、西ハ海拉爾及大興安嶺ノ線ニ於テソ聯ノ進攻ニ對シ守勢ヲ採ルコトニ在リマシタ然ルニ私ガ着任シタトキ關東軍司令部ヨリ新ナ作戰ニ關スル訓令ヲ受取りマシタ。ソレニ依リマス第三方面軍ハ孫吾、海拉爾附近ニ於テ輕キ抵抗ノ後逐次退却シ北安、嫩江、札蘭屯、興安ノ線ニ於テ最後ノ抵抗ヲスル様ニナツテイマシタ。

此ノ訓令ニ基キ第三方面軍ハ具體的ナ計畫ヲ樹テ關東軍司令官ニ報告スル段取ニナツタトキ私ハ草任致シマシタ。

當時第三方面軍ニハ三個ノ師團ト一旅團トガアリマ

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シタ。師團ハ第五十七師團、第七師團、第一百十九師團デアリマス。第五十七師團ダケが精銳デアリマシテ他ハ新編劣等師團デアリマシタ。

私ハ其ノ精銳師團タル第五十七師團長ニナリマシタガ此ノ師團モ直チニ太平洋戦争ノ爲内地ニ轉用ニナリマシテ其ノ跡ニ新編師團ガ出来マシタ。從テ第三方面軍ノ各師團ハ全部素質劣等ナモノノミトナリマシタ。

私ガ内地ニ移駐後第三方面軍司令部ハ齊齊哈爾カラ奉天ニ移駐シタト云フコトヲ聞キマシタ。

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宣 誓 書

良心ニ従ヒ眞實ヲ述べ何事ヲモ厭秘セス又何事ヲモ
附加セザルコトヲ誓フ

矢 野 政 雄 印

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昭和二十二年（一九四七年）一月二十七日

於 東 京

供 述 者 矢 野 政 雄

右ハ當立會人ノ面前ニ於テ宣誓シ且署名捺印シタル
コトヲ證明シマス

月 日

於 東 京

立 會 人 池 田 純 久 印

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