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Def. Doc. No. 1696

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST
UNITED STATES AMERICA, et al.

v.

RAKI, Sadao, et al.

SWORN DEPOSITION (Translation)

Deponent: YAMAZAKI, Shigeru.

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, YAMAZAKI, Shigeru, was born in NAGANO Prefecture on January 16 of the 24th year of MEIJI (1891), and am presently living in UWABORI, KAMIKAWA-MURA, CHIISAGATA-GUN, NAGANO Prefecture. After I was graduated from the Military Academy in the 2nd year of TAISHO (1913) I filled various posts successively and, then, was appointed Secretary of the War Prisoners' Intelligence Bureau in January, 1942 (the 17th year of SHOWA) and was commissioned to hold concurrently the additional post of a member in the War Prisoners Control Department in April of the same year, continuing in the above posts until February, 1943 (the 18th year of SHOWA).

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2. I will make a statement as follows on instructions, dated June 3 of the ¹⁷16th year of SHOWA (1941¹⁹⁴²), concerning labor-duty for officer and warrant officer prisoners of war.

(Exhibit No. 1961):

- A. These instructions were made with the desire of having the prisoners work voluntarily and were well-meaning taking the war prisoners' health into consideration, they absolutely did not have any meaning of compulsory labor.
- B. These instructions were issued from the Director of the War Prisoners Control Department to the units concerned, namely, the army commanders or garrison commanders who controlled the war prisoners' camps in accordance with Article III of the War Prisoners' Camp Regulation, but was not directed to the heads of the war prisoners' camps themselves. Accordingly, the phrase, "it is desired that proper guidance be rendered," at the end of the text refers to the camp heads as leaders and does not directly point to the prisoners.
- C. These instructions were issued personally by the Director of the War Prisoners Control Department as an authorized matter.

3. I will make a statement on the War Minister's instructions to the newly-appointed heads of the war prisoners' camps on June 25 of the 17th year of SHOWA (1942) (Exhibit No. 1962)

and on the War Minister's instructions to the newly-appointed heads of the war prisoners' camps on July 7 of the same year (Exhibit No. 1963):

- A. These two instructions were made out personally by Lieutenant General KAMIMURA, the then Director of the War Prisoners' Control Department, on his own initiative;
- B. These two instructions were read by the above Lieutenant General KAMIMURA as proxy at the conference of the heads of the war prisoners' camps at which both Minister TŌJŌ and Vice-Minister KIMURA were not present.

On this 23rd day of June (TN: probably May), 1947
at UWABORI, KAMIKAWA-MURA, CHIISAGATA-GUN, NAGANO Prefecture.

DEPONENT Shigeru Yamazaki (seal)

I, SHIOBARA, Tokisaburo, 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) Tokisaburo Shiobara (seal)

OATH

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

Shigeru Yamazaki (seal)

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辯護側文書一六九六號

山崎 茂 宣誓供述書正誤表

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