

(1) October 7, 1947.

I gave the following order to Lt. (SG) Tachibana (at present a Lieutenant Commander) who was the Commanding Officer of the headquarters company as well as my acting Executive officer: "Using the men of the headquarters company appropriately and at a place which will not interfere with our positions, execute by firing squad all prisoners of war." I remember it was about one hour after sunset (not definite). Although my recollection of the hour of execution is not definite, I remember that there was a report made by Ensign Nakamura, command platoon leader under Lt. (SG) Ito, more than an hour and a half after my issuance of the order. Ninety-six (96) prisoners were executed and one escaped.

(2) (a) Around July 1943 an unknown person frequently broke into the headquarters company's food stores and this person was captured in the food stores. His name is Jack. Previously a warning was given that since the food meant life and death on the island any person stealing food will be severely punished. In order to maintain military discipline it was necessary that the man be executed, so Lt. (jg) Nonaka (transferred to Japan in October, 1943, at present a Lt. (SG) executed the said person on Hajima (Peale Island) by decapitation. Before the execution was carried out, I wrote a statement giving the reason for the execution and had this translated, and it was read to the person to be executed by Lt. (SG) Nomoto (injured on October 7 and later sent back to Japan).

(b) I believe it was about October 15, 1943.

The prisoner who escaped on October 7 when the executions were held was discovered and captured near the vicinity of the food stores, located near the shrine, where he obtained his food. At that time, we frequently received situation reports and orders from the fleet (6th based). One of them being that, "A new and powerful task force was organized and has departed from Hawaii, therefore the Marshalls Area will go into their 1st defensive positions. Wake Island will prepare for an attack force." Thus we were in the midst of an alerted condition. In order to suppress any danger arising from him, I was forced to execute the said person on Hajima (Peale Island) about thirty minutes after sunset on the same day. (Execution by decapitation). The officer in charge of prisoners, Ensign Nakamura, and several other enlisted men were also present at the scene.

(3) According to the news broadcast from San Francisco regarding the war criminal trials of Germans by the Allied nations, it was said that the issuer of the orders as well as the executors of the orders will be persecuted. In case the various actions which were carried out to my orders because the source of any trouble, it will mean that my subordinates too will be involved. There is no greater grief for the commanding officer whose subordinates had to suffer because they had to carry out his absolute orders. Therefore in all cases I would like to shoulder the responsibility for my subordinates.

(4) I voluntarily and without consulting any other officer called all company commanders involved and department heads to a meeting in the conference room, and ordered that a false story be made, saying, "I have an idea so just do as I say". I had made up this false story beforehand and then I issued the order. Note: at the second meeting I cannot recollect if Petty Officer Miyaki and the others were present.

(5) After the end of the war, it was impossible for me to obtain the contents of the Potsdam proclamation, and thereafter I began to realize that Japan was about to surrender unconditionally. I then realized that we had to obey United States orders. And in considering that in the Imperial rescript it said, "Not to lose faith in the allied nations", I reconsidered and decided to confess the truth without hesitation.

"CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY"

/s/ W. F. McHoney

"Exhibit 5-B(1)"

(6) I appreciate the good treatment I am receiving.

The above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and recollection. I have given it freely and voluntarily and without being threatened and forced to do so.

Sakibara, Shigematsu

Witnessed.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

/s/ W. P. Mahoney

"Exhibit 5-B (2)"

(1) October 7, 1947.

I gave the following order to Lt. (SG) Tachibana (at present a Lieutenant Commander) who was the Commanding Officer of the headquarters company as well as my acting Executive officer: "Using the men of the headquarters company appropriately and at a place which will not interfere with our positions, execute by firing squad all prisoners of war." I remember it was about one hour after sunset (not definite). Although my recollection of the hour of execution is not definite, I remember that there was a report made by Ensign Nakamura, command platoon leader under Lt. (SG) Ito, more than an hour and a half after my issuance of the order. Ninety-six (96) prisoners were executed and one escaped.

(2) (a) Around July 1943 an unknown person frequently broke into the headquarters company's food stores and this person was captured in the food stores. His name is Jack. Previously a warning was given that since the food meant life and death on the island any person stealing food will be severely punished. In order to maintain military discipline it was necessary that the man be executed, so Lt. (jg) Nonaka (transferred to Japan in October, 1943, at present a Lt. (SG) executed the said person on Hajima (Peale Island) by decapitation. Before the execution was carried out, I wrote a statement giving the reason for the execution and had this translated, and it was read to the person to be executed by Lt. (SG) Nomoto (injured on October 7 and later sent back to Japan).

(b) I believe it was about October 15, 1943.

The prisoner who escaped on October 7 when the executions were held was discovered and captured near the vicinity of the food stores, located near the shrine, where he obtained his food. At that time, we frequently received situation reports and orders from the fleet (6th based). One of them being that, "A new and powerful task force was organized and has departed from Hawaii, therefore the Marshalls Area will go into their 1st defensive positions. Wake Island will prepare for an attack force." Thus we were in the midst of an alerted condition. In order to suppress any danger arising from him, I was forced to execute the said person on Hajima (Peale Island) about thirty minutes after sunset on the same day. (Execution by decapitation). The officer in charge of prisoners, Ensign Nakamura, and several other enlisted men were also present at the scene.

(3) According to the news broadcast from San Francisco regarding the war criminal trials of Germans by the Allied nations, it was said that the issuer of the orders as well as the executors of the orders will be persecuted. In case the various actions which were carried out to my orders because the source of any trouble, it will mean that my subordinates too will be involved. There is no greater grief for the commanding officer whose subordinates had to suffer because they had to carry out his absolute orders. Therefore in all cases I would like to shoulder the responsibility for my subordinates.

(4) I voluntarily and without consulting any other officer called all company commanders involved and department heads to a meeting in the conference room, and ordered that a false story be made, saying, "I have an idea so just do as I say". I had made up this false story beforehand and then I issued the order. Note: at the second meeting I cannot recollect if Petty Officer Miyaki and the others were present.

(5) After the end of the war, it was impossible for me to obtain the contents of the Potsdam proclamation, and thereafter I began to realize that Japan was about to surrender unconditionally. I then realized that we had to obey United States orders. And in considering that in the Imperial rescript it said, "Not to lose faith in the allied nations", I reconsidered and decided to confess the truth without hesitation.

"CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY"

/s/ W. F. Mahoney

"Exhibit 5-B(1)"

(6) I appreciate the good treatment I am receiving.

The above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and recollection. I have given it freely and voluntarily and without being threatened and forced to do so.

Sakibara, Shigematsu

Witnessed.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

/s/ W. P. Mahoney

"Exhibit 5-B (2)"

Ex. 2036-A

答申

酒井原繁松

①

Evidentiary Document # 8439

No. /

(一) 昭和八年十月七日

本部中隊七兼副七代理タリシ橋本尉(現在少佐)本部
中隊ヲ適宜使用シ陣地ニ邪魔ヲラガルシニ於テ俘虜全員
ヲ銃殺スベシト令ス。日没後一時間後位ト記憶ス(確實
ナラス) 延令ニ要シタル時間記憶確實ナラザルモ發令後一時
間半以後ニ伊藤大尉ノ指キ中村少尉報告アリシト思ス。
処分人員九十六名他一名逃亡。

(二) 昭和八年七月頃再三本部糧食庫ヲ破リテ侵入シ竊盗スル者アリ
シラ庫内ニ捕ヘタリ。伊藤ト云ス。

カネテヨリ糧食本島、死命ヲ決スルモノニシテ之ガ竊盗ヲ行
フモノハ嚴罰^(延)スギコトヲ一般ニ達シテ軍紀維持ノタメニ野中
中尉昭和八年十月内地轉勤現在大尉ヲシテ羽島ニ於テ斬首セシム。

本職現場ニ立令ヘリ。(十月七日偏ハ地ニ送リ)
延刑前ニ本職作廢シテ英譯セシメ野元大尉ヲシテ死
刑宣告、理由書ヲ讀ミ聞カセタリ。

(三) 昭和八年十月十五日頃ト思フ。

十月七日俘虜^(延)処分際逃亡シタルモノ神社側、糧食
庫ヨリ糧食ヲ得附近ニ隠レ居ルヲ発見逮捕シタルガ時適
艦隊(六根)情況及命令^(延)新ニ編制セル更ニ有カナル機
働部隊布哇ヲ出港セリマシヤル方面第一警戒配備大島島
攻略部隊ニ備ヘヨリ警戒中ナリキ。危険惹起ヲ除ク
タメニ同日日没後三十分羽島ニ於テ本職^(延)処分
斬首捕虜係將校中村少尉ト兵数名同所ニ在リ。

No. 2

Doc. 8439.

(三) 联合国側、独逸戦争犯罪^(悪)ニ関スル サニフラスニスコ
 被送ニヨレバ、同法ハ命令者及ビ、命令ヲ実施シタル者ヲモ
 及分ストアリ。若シ、本職、行ハレタル諸行為ガ非難ヲ
 受テルコトアリ^(悪)場合ニ於テハ、部下ニ迷惑ヲカクルコトニナル。
 コル^(悪)絶対服従、命令ヲ發スル指揮官ニトリコシ程苦キ
 コトナシ。因テ、如何ナル場合ニ於テモ部下ノ責ヲ道レンレム
 トセシクメナリ。

(次頁ニ續ク)

Doc 8439

(四) 本職、独断ニテ他人ノ意見ヲ問ハズ。本職公室ニ科長及
関係中隊長ヲ集メ「オレニ若ガレカラオレニ云フ通リテシ
ト命テラ偽証ヲ作ラセ。偽証ニ従テ本職ガアラクシト考

ラモイテ發令シタ。

(註) 二面目ニハ官本兵^(長)他出席ニタカ氣憤明ララス。

(五) 停戦當時ホツラ公室言ノ内容ヲ知ラト出秉ス其後
以テ日本ノ無條件降服ナルヲ判リ米國ノ命ニ其
ニ從テ可キヲ判リ又詔書・電報ニ「國際ニ信ヲ
失フコトナリ」トナルヲ思ヒテ度ヲ當テ述ブルカヨイト思ヒ
改メタ。

(六) 待遇ヲ良クセリテ感謝ス。

右ハ本職ノ自奉的ニテ實ヲ認メルモノニテ裁判
ニ於テ證據トシテ使用然レ可キテノ一序登候 (終)

酒井原敏松
中村光男

昭和二十年十一月十五日

No. 3