

DEF. DOC. #2038

Exh. No.

3313

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

-vs-

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

SWORN DEPOSITION (Translation)

Deponent: SAITO, Seiei

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.

AFFIDAVIT OF SAITO, Seiei

1. I was born on the 6th October, 1891.  
My present address is 73, Chibadera-cho, Chiba-shi,  
Japan.

At the time of surrender I was Major General.

2. I held the post of Chief of Java War Prisoners Camp at  
Batavia from August 1942 until March, 1944, and served as the  
Chief of Malay War Prisoners Camp Singapore during the periods  
from March, 1944 till the end of war, August 1945. Concurrently  
I was the chief of Malay Military Detention Camp (detention  
of non-military civilians).

3. After the end of war I was detained at a prison in  
Singapore from 9th Sept., 1945. On 30 January 1947 I was  
released from Changi prison and returned to Japan in  
May 1947. As to the treatment of prisoners, both military

or civilian, I have not been questioned in any way.

One of my subordinate officers, Captain TAKAHASHI, Zompei, who worked at the P.W. camp from 1942 until a half year prior to the surrender, also was free from any accusation and returned to Japan in the fall of 1947. He had served especially as the man in charge of Changi detention camp when I was the camp chief.

4. When I was the chief of the Malay P.W. Camp, the Commander-in-Chief of the 7th Area Army was General DOHIHARA, Kenji. He was succeeded by General ITAGAKI, Seishiro, at the end of April 1945.

5. The Commander-in-Chief of the Area Army was in direct command of P.W. camps and the military detention camps, but orders covering the overall management of prisoners were issued by Commander-in-Chief of the Southern Army Marshal TERAUCHI and received through the Area Army.

Close liaison had been kept with the central authorities (War prisoners Information Bureau) and I attended the conference of the Chiefs of P.W. camps held in Tokyo in July 1942 and December 1943.

I can definitely state that I had never received an order or suggestion from any of these persons referred to above to maltreat prisoners or give them inhuman treatment.

6. The treatment, labor task and punishments of prisoners were executed according to the laws, regulations and orders of the central authorities and no special regulations or policy was put into practice. There had been no violation of the above laws, regulations and orders.

7. No labor task which had any direct relation with operation had ever been imposed upon prisoners. The PW's who did work were given 600 grams of staple food, the same amount as given to the army troops. I don't think the working hours were excessive in comparison with those of laborers in general.

8. The food situation in Malay area became extremely critical around the time when the Allied Forces intensified their attacks so that both soldiers and citizens confronted with great difficulties in obtaining provisions. The military rations were reduced from 600 grams to 400 grams and these subsidiary foods such as meat, vegetables, fish, etc. grew very scarce. The situation in Singapore was utterly miserable, since even before

the war the foods were entirely imported. Under the leadership of the military authorities every effort was exerted to be self-sufficient in order to overcome the shortage. But the decrease of food for PW's was indeed unavoidable. However, their rations were more or less equal to those of Japanese soldiers. During the worst days the daily ration became, as I remember, 300 grams per diem.

The condition grew worse near the end of the war.

9. Medical treatment was not refused and there had never been such an act as purposely refusing medical treatment or medicine for prisoners.

10. I heard that after the war a young officer was reported attempting to commit atrocities to the prisoners. General ITAGAKI, as I heard, went to the trouble of calling the said officer to his office and patiently persuaded him to refrain from such conduct and succeeded in preventing would-be violences. Whenever I, as the chief of P.W. camps and the detention camp made various requests in regard to my duties General ITAGAKI gave me a full assistance as long as the situation permitted and he had never brought about an adverse result in the administration of P.W.s.

On this 15 day of August, 1947

At Tokyo

DEPONENT: SAITO, Seiji (seal)

I, YAMADA, Hanzo 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 same place.

Witness: (signed) YAMADA, Hanzo (seal)

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OATH

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

/s/ SAITO, Soici (soal)

3313

DD# 2038

FILE COPY  
RETURN TO ROOM 361

頁行	二 七四
誤	<p>自分ノ部下デ高橋義平ト云フ大尉ハ昭和十七年以降終戦半年前マデ俘虜收容所ノ將校トシ特ニ私ノ所長時「チャンギー」收容所ノ主任者トシテ服務シテ居リマシタガ當人モ何等罪ヲ問ハレズ無事昭和二十一年ノ秋日本ニ歸ッテ來マシタ。</p>
訂正	<p>削除</p>
摘要	<p>一〇五 五〇 字削除</p>

辯護側書類第二〇三八號  
齊藤正銳供述書

訂正