

Ex 2994

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DEF. DOC. NO. 1517

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al	)	A F F I D A V I T
- AGAINST -	)	of
ARAKI, Sadao, et al	)	MURAWA, Nisaburo

1. My name is MURAWA, Nisaburo. I reside in Tokyo. I have been connected with the South Seas Islands for many years having gone to Truk Island in 1916 as an employee of the South Seas Trading Company. In 1926 I was transferred to Palau Island where I stayed until 1937. As vice-chief of the branch office I again returned to Truk where I remained until Spring of 1939 when I returned to Tokyo.

In September, 1941, I again went to Palau as chief of the branch office. In August, 1942, I became chief of the business office at Ambon where I remained until January, 1944, at which time I returned to Japan.

2. When I went to Truk in 1916, I found the headquarters of the South Sea Island Defenses with a certain number of armed personnel. Around 1918 or 1919 all of the forces were withdrawn and from that time up to 1926, when I left, and also from 1937 to 1939, during which time I resided again on the same island, there were no armed personnel, military installations or fortifications.

3. During my days on Palu from 1926 to 1938, a resident

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naval officer, was there and with this exception there were no military personnel or military installations of any kind. In 1941, when I returned to Palau, there were still no military installations. Air travel was limited to sea planes operated by the NIPPON Air Navigation Company. Even at the outbreak of war, the island appeared wholly defenseless, causing us great anxiety that disaster might lie in wake of this unpreparedness. After commencement of war some naval aircraft and naval personnel came to the island but no fixed military installations were constructed until August of 1942.

4. Counsel has shown me affidavits or statements taken from various natives on the South Sea Islands, which, I was told, were used in this Court to prove the construction of military installations. Because of my long association with these peoples I can truthfully say they, on the whole, were possessed of poor mental faculties. Most of them are unable to tell their age and even those educated in public schools under the South Sea Board could count only such simple numbers as were necessary for daily life. Further, I did not find them trust-worthy, they would lie on the slightest provocation or from mere expedience.

On this 20 day of May 1947

at I M T F E

DEPONENT MUKAWA, Misaburo (seal)

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I, \_\_\_\_\_ 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 I M T F E

Witness: (signed) ONO Seichiro (seal)

OATH

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

MUKAWA Misaburo (seal)