

AFFIDAVIT

Place of registration: Kagawa-ken,  
Mitoyo-gun, Kii-mura,  
Oaza-Kinogo,  
670-1 banchi

Present address: Same as above

YOKOYAMA, Kyohisa  
Born on 20 November 1919

In this document I will tell about the case of the shooting of the Spanish missionaries and others.

1. I believe the incident happened in July or August 1944. It was carried out in the middle of a dense forest on Gasupan Hill.
2. That day in the evening I fell in according to orders at the place which was the unit provisions storehouse at that time. There we received orders from the unit commander (Lieutenant Colonel MIYAZAKI) for the shooting of the missionaries.
3. After receiving the orders I followed along with the rest who were going. We got into trucks and departed from the road in front of the billet.
4. We stopped first at the Afoku Bridge in Gasupan and as the Spanish missionaries came after we had waited a while, we had them climb aboard and ascended Gasupan Hill.

The trucks stopped at a place about 200 meters from the scene. At this place all personnel got off. At this time I thought I would like to get away from this somehow or other and I remained behind until the very last. However, as there was one woman (I thought she was a native of that island) left over, there was no way out of it and I accompanied her into the forest.

5. A hole had already been dug at the scene.

Following the example of those who arrived first I faced the woman toward the hole and had her squat down. Then I closed my eyes and waited for the next order.

The missionaries were chanting and presently the unit commander, I believe, gave the order to fire. Therefore I took out the model 14 pistol which I owned and fired from a place about two meters away from the woman. However, at that moment I was filled with emotion, my hand trembled and the bullet missed the woman.

At that time the woman was carrying a child on her back and, surprised at the rifle fire, that child suddenly began to cry. Hearing the crying I suddenly felt that it was very pitiful and withdrew two or three steps.

Then someone who was right alongside of me (someone who had a rifle) shot the child with a rifle. At that moment the woman fell backwards.

I was the first to leave the forest after that and I waited

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY  
J. H. KERRY Lt. USN

"Exhibit 6(a)(1)"

2

for everyone to come out.

I make my affidavit as above.

5 May 1947

Person making the affidavit - YOKOYAMA, Kyohisa.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and complete translation, to the best of my ability, of the original document in Japanese.

/s/ Frederick F. Tremayne  
Frederick F. Tremayne,  
Lieutenant (junior grade),  
United States Naval Reserve,  
Interpreter.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

J. P. Kerry Lt. USN

"Exhibit 6(a)(2)"

→ of Ezure, Shigeru  
Former Leading Private,  
JJA

STATEMENT

There were no orders, etc., relating to the incident of the murder of the missionaries about 1500 of that day but at 1600 there was an assembly of Kempeis only at the unit commander's room. We auxiliary Kempeis waited tensely in our quarters as we surmised the inception of the incident. However, about 1700 of the same day there was an assembly of everyone and we were instructed by the detachment commanding officer, NAKAMURA, as to the organization of the group and what to take in regard to the incident of the murder of the missionaries.

As to what to take: Five rounds for each person, One rope for each person.

Time and place of assembly: On the road of Misuzu Bridge at 2000 on that day.

The order was to the effect that details would be given at the time of departure. We were told at this time that I was to be the orderly for Second Lieutenant SANO and Leading Private IMAIZUMI orderly for the unit commander, MIYAZAKI. Each individual began his preparations according to orders and division of labor. Soon the time approached. At the time we assembled at the assembly point, when the group under detachment commanding officer, NAKAMURA, was organized, there was a total of fifteen or sixteen Kempeis and auxiliary Kempeis. The detachment commanding officer inspected our uniforms and what we had.

The unit commander, the adjutant and Second Lieutenant SANO approached on foot and started out. Leading Private IMAIZUMI and I followed. On the way from Misuzu Bridge to where the missionaries lived (about fifteen kilometers) we were warned by the conversation of the unit commander, the adjutant and Second Lieutenant SANO as we were going ahead to the missionaries not to let them know of what was to happen. In about twenty minutes when we arrived at the missionaries' quarters, it seemed that they were quite astounded at the sudden evening visit. The unit commander, the adjutant and Second Lieutenant SANO said in effect the following:

"Because the war conditions are bad, it is dangerous here. According to intelligence, about tomorrow morning it seems an enemy task force will land. As you will take shelter in the forest on Gasupan Daijo (hill) with the Kempeitai this evening, pack up only those necessary things around you immediately. Thirty or forty minutes later a Kempeitai truck will come."

The missionaries were greatly joyed and while they were packing, at about 2100, the trucks came. I helped and loaded the gear. The missionaries were put aboard with their gear. The unit commander and others inferior to him boarded the same trucks. I remember eight or nine Kempeis and auxiliary Kempeis. Then we left that place immediately. While we were on our way, at Gasupan Daijo, the truck broke down. After it was stopped for about an hour, it started. The truck which had started ahead was at the point about five hundred meters ahead of the point at which the other truck had broken down.

Then the two trucks went on all together. Soon they came to the point which was our objective. We got off at the order to get off. We also took off the gear, etc. When we advanced about twenty meters with the missionaries

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

J. P. KERRY Lt. USN

at the front and the Kempeis and auxiliary Kempeis to the left and right, the Kempei silently arrested the missionaries. At the same time the unit commander told them they would be executed. Having been given orders by Second Lieutenant SANO, I took a child on my back. The unit commander and Second Lieutenant SANO were at the very end. After seven or eight minutes when we came to the place of execution, the detachment commander caused them to be seated from the right facing the place of execution in order. He gave instructions as to the cautions and details just before the execution. By order of the unit commander the shooting followed. With the order of the detachment commander to shoot at the same time as several shots and sounds, they almost all fell into the grave. The third from the right remained seated as he was. Because the baby on the back of the mother at the far left end was crying the third one was shot by Sergeant TAMANOTO, and the baby by an auxiliary Kempei by orders. Two or three men of the Sumida Unit shot the missionary on the left end. I remember an officer of the Sumida Unit was talking with the unit commander asking that the shooting be done in order to test the courage of the young soldiers. Then the squad leader examined the corpses.

. Second Lieutenant SANO, Second Lieutenant TAMANOI, four or five men from the Sumida Unit and I were near the light at the right end. The point at the right end of the light and the place of execution were slightly high ground. The Kempei unit commander and adjutant were at the center rear. The detachment commander officer, First Lieutenant NAKAMURA was directly in command of the place of execution. In the work of burial by almost all the auxiliary Kempeis and by directions of the adjutant and First Lieutenant NAKAMURA the spot was thoroughly camouflaged. At the end all persons left the scene about one thirty and returned to their units. My memory at that time is as I have stated above. The sketch on another piece of paper is limited to my memory above.

What I have written above is the truth according to what I remember.

September 13, 1947

/s/ EZURE, Shigeru.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY  
J. P. Kerry Lt. USN



Child  
d      Nw N  
a o a  
t m t  
i a i m      Grave of execution.  
v n v a  
e e

Grave of execution.

light 0 0 0 / 0 0 0 0 0 / light

Standard

**Light**

U  
Y  
O  
K  
O  
Y  
A  
M  
A

O  
F  
U  
J  
I  
T  
A  
N  
I

O  
I  
S  
H  
I  
Y  
A  
M  
A

O I C H I M I Y A

О  
Т  
А  
М  
А  
М  
О  
Т  
О

00

a 2nd Lt.  
SANO

Sumida Unit Men

- o Suicide
- o Homicide

0 Mo

00 2nd Lt.

Sumida TAMA  
Unit Officers

1st Lt.

NAKAMURA

1  
 2  
 3  
 4  
 5  
 6  
 7  
 8  
 9  
 10  
 11  
 12  
 13  
 14  
 15  
 16  
 17  
 18  
 19  
 20  
 21  
 22  
 23  
 24  
 25  
 26  
 27  
 28  
 29  
 30  
 31  
 32  
 33  
 34  
 35  
 36  
 37  
 38  
 39  
 40  
 41  
 42  
 43  
 44  
 45  
 46  
 47  
 48  
 49  
 50  
 51  
 52  
 53  
 54  
 55  
 56  
 57  
 58  
 59  
 60  
 61  
 62  
 63  
 64  
 65  
 66  
 67  
 68  
 69  
 70  
 71  
 72  
 73  
 74  
 75  
 76  
 77  
 78  
 79  
 80  
 81  
 82  
 83  
 84  
 85  
 86  
 87  
 88  
 89  
 90  
 91  
 92  
 93  
 94  
 95  
 96  
 97  
 98  
 99  
 100  
 101  
 102  
 103  
 104  
 105  
 106  
 107  
 108  
 109  
 110  
 111  
 112  
 113  
 114  
 115  
 116  
 117  
 118  
 119  
 120  
 121  
 122  
 123  
 124  
 125  
 126  
 127  
 128  
 129  
 130  
 131  
 132  
 133  
 134  
 135  
 136  
 137  
 138  
 139  
 140  
 141  
 142  
 143  
 144  
 145  
 146  
 147  
 148  
 149  
 150  
 151  
 152  
 153  
 154  
 155  
 156  
 157  
 158  
 159  
 160  
 161  
 162  
 163  
 164  
 165  
 166  
 167  
 168  
 169  
 170  
 171  
 172  
 173  
 174  
 175  
 176  
 177  
 178  
 179  
 180  
 181  
 182  
 183  
 184  
 185  
 186  
 187  
 188  
 189  
 190  
 191  
 192  
 193  
 194  
 195  
 196  
 197  
 198  
 199  
 200  
 201  
 202  
 203  
 204  
 205  
 206  
 207  
 208  
 209  
 210  
 211  
 212  
 213  
 214  
 215  
 216  
 217  
 218  
 219  
 220  
 221  
 222  
 223  
 224  
 225  
 226  
 227  
 228  
 229  
 230  
 231  
 232  
 233  
 234  
 235  
 236  
 237  
 238  
 239  
 240  
 241  
 242  
 243  
 244  
 245  
 246  
 247  
 248  
 249  
 250  
 251  
 252  
 253  
 254  
 255  
 256  
 257  
 258  
 259  
 260  
 261  
 262  
 263  
 264  
 265  
 266  
 267  
 268  
 269  
 270  
 271  
 272  
 273  
 274  
 275  
 276  
 277  
 278  
 279  
 280  
 281  
 282  
 283  
 284  
 285  
 286  
 287  
 288  
 289  
 290  
 291  
 292  
 293  
 294  
 295  
 296  
 297  
 298  
 299  
 300  
 301  
 302  
 303  
 304  
 305  
 306  
 307  
 308  
 309  
 310  
 311  
 312  
 313  
 314  
 315  
 316  
 317  
 318  
 319  
 320  
 321  
 322  
 323  
 324  
 325  
 326  
 327  
 328  
 329  
 330  
 331  
 332  
 333  
 334  
 335  
 336  
 337  
 338  
 339  
 340  
 341  
 342  
 343  
 344  
 345  
 346  
 347  
 348  
 349  
 350  
 351  
 352  
 353  
 354  
 355  
 356  
 357  
 358  
 359  
 360  
 361  
 362  
 363  
 364  
 365  
 366  
 367  
 368  
 369  
 370  
 371  
 372  
 373  
 374  
 375  
 376  
 377  
 378  
 379  
 380  
 381  
 382  
 383  
 384  
 385  
 386  
 387  
 388  
 389  
 390  
 391  
 392  
 393  
 394  
 395  
 396  
 397  
 398  
 399  
 400  
 401  
 402  
 403  
 404  
 405  
 406  
 407  
 408  
 409  
 410  
 411  
 412  
 413  
 414  
 415  
 416  
 417  
 418  
 419  
 420  
 421  
 422  
 423  
 424  
 425  
 426  
 427  
 428  
 429  
 430  
 431  
 432  
 433  
 434  
 435  
 436  
 437  
 438  
 439  
 440  
 441  
 442  
 443  
 444  
 445  
 446  
 447  
 448  
 449  
 450  
 451  
 452  
 453  
 454  
 455  
 456  
 457  
 458  
 459  
 460  
 461  
 462  
 463  
 464  
 465  
 466  
 467  
 468  
 469  
 470  
 471  
 472  
 473  
 474  
 475  
 476  
 477  
 478  
 479  
 480  
 481  
 482  
 483  
 484  
 485  
 486  
 487  
 488  
 489  
 490  
 491  
 492  
 493  
 494  
 495  
 496  
 497  
 498  
 499  
 500  
 501  
 502  
 503  
 504  
 505  
 506  
 507  
 508  
 509  
 510  
 511  
 512  
 513  
 514  
 515  
 516  
 517  
 518  
 519  
 520  
 521  
 522  
 523  
 524  
 525

Kempai tai  
Commander

I hereby certify the foregoing three typewritten pages to be a true and complete translation of the original Japanese document, to the best of my ability.

EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.  
Lieutenant, U. S. N. R.  
Interpreter.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE CO

*J. P. Kenney Lt. USN*

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	NND 775611
By	TD NARA Date 3/0 99

Exhibit 4

APOSTOLIC DELEGATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

3339 Massachusetts Avenue  
Washington 8, D. C.

No. 272/45-G.

This No. should be prefixed to  
the answer

October 30, 1947.

Vice Admiral John L. McGrea, U.S.N.  
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations  
Navy Department  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Admiral McGrea:

With reference to your letter of September 19, 1947, I am enclosing information about the Missionary Fathers Elias Fernandez, Marine de la Ros, Emilio Villar, Luis Blanco y Suarez and Francisco Hernandez. This information was transmitted to me by the Apostolic Nuncio in Madrid, Spain. If further details are required, I shall be pleased to assist in attempting to secure them.

With sentiments of esteem and every best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours,

/s/ A. G. Cicognani

Archbishop of Immacula  
Apostolic Delegate

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

J. P. Henry Lt. USN

"EXHIBIT (4 (2))"

- C O P Y -

RELACION DE RELIGIOSOS MUERTOS POR LOS  
JAPONESES

FERNANDEZ GONZALEZ, Elias

Nació el año 1880, en Vegamian (León). Profeso el año 1908, en Carrión de los Condes (Palencia) Institución, en la Compañía de Jesús. Después de sus estudios fue destinado a Santiago de Cuba (Cuba). El año 1926 pasó a la Misión de Palaos (I. Carolinas) siendo asesinado en Korreer (Carolinas).

Se Mostro incansable en la evangelización de aquellas islas, visitando la de leproses mientras se lo permitieron. Fue preso por las autoridades Japoneses, y asesinado por los soldados.

Dió su vida llena de méritos y trabajos.

DE LA HOZ, Marine

Nació en 1886, en Jearilla de la Mata (León). Profeso el año 1903. Estudió en Carrión de los Condes (Palencia) Institución, en la Compañía de Jesús. Fue destinado a la Misión de Palaos el año 1921.

Asesinado por los Japoneses en Korreer (I. Carolinas).

Este misionero sufrió muchos naufragios en recorrer las islas del Archipiélago en pequeñas embarcaciones.

VILLAR, Emilio

Nació el año 1893, en Villarejo del Valle (Avila). Profeso el año 1911. Noviciado de Carrión de los Condes (Palencia) Institución, en la Compañía de Jesús.

Fue destinado a I. Carolinas el año 1921. Fue asesinado por los Japoneses el año 1944 en Korreer (I. Carolinas).

BLANCO Y SUAREZ, Inis

Nació el año 1896 en Las Palmas (I. Canarias). Profeso el año 1915. Estudió en Granada, Colg. Areneros Madrid y Sarriá Barcelona Institución Compañía de Jesús. Fue destinado a I. Carolinas el año 1932.

Asesinado por los Japoneses en Yap el año 1944.

HERNANDEZ Y ESGUDERO, Francisco

Nació el 28 de Octubre de 1887 en Zafra (Badajés). Profeso el año 1912 en Granada. Noviciado de Cartuja (Granada) Institución Compañía de Jesús. Condición Hermano.

Marchó a la Misión de I. Marshall y Truk el año 1921. Fue destinado a Yap (I. Carolinas) donde hizo votos. Le detuvieron y trasladaron a Palaos, donde después de muchos sufrimientos, murió decapitado por los Japoneses, el año 1944.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

P. Kenny H. WSN

"EXHIBIT 4(3)"

LIST OF MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS ORDERS KILLED BY THE JAPANESE

FERNANDEZ GONZALEZ, Elias

Born in 1880, at Vegamian (Leon). Entered the Order in 1908, at Carrion de los Condes (Palencia). Institution: Society of Jesus. After completing his studies he was sent to Santiago de Cuba (Cuba). In 1926 he was transferred to the Mission of Palao (Caroline Islands). Killed at Korroer (Caroline).

He was tireless in his missionary work and intensely devoted to the task of bringing the Gospel to the islands. He visited the lepers as long as he was permitted to do so. He was taken in custody by the Japanese authorities and was killed by the soldiers.

He gave his life full of devotion and work.

DE LA HOZ, Marine

Born in 1886, at Jorilla de la Mata (Leon). Entered the Order in 1903. Studied at Carrion de los Condes (Palencia). Institution: Society of Jesus. Was sent to the Mission of Palao in 1921.

Killed by the Japanese in Korroer (Caroline Islands).

This missionary suffered many shipwrecks while going about in small boats, visiting the various islands of the Archipelago.

VILLAR, Emilio

Born in 1893, at Villarego del Valle (Avila). Entered the Order in 1911. Novitiate at Carrion de los Condes (Palencia). Institution: Society of Jesus.

Was sent to the Caroline Islands in 1921. Was killed by the Japanese in 1944 at Korroer (Caroline Islands).

BLANCO Y SUAREZ, Luis

Born in 1896, at Las Palmas (Canary Islands). Entered the Order in 1915. Studied at Granada, Arenas College, Madrid, and Barria College, Barcelona. Institution: Society of Jesus. Was sent to the

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

*P. Henry* *L. KIN*

Caroline Island in 1932.

Killed by the Japanese on Yap in 1944.

HERNANDEZ Y ESCUDERO, Francisco

Born 28 October 1887, at Zafra (Badajoz). Entered the Order in 1912 at Granada. Novitiate of Cartuja (Granada.) Institution: Society of Jesus. Rank: Brother.

Went to the Marshall Islands and Truk Mission in 1921. Was sent to Yap (Caroline), where he was ordained. Was taken in custody and taken to Palao, where after enduring much suffering he was decapitated by the Japanese in 1944.

Op3204  
Original language: Spanish  
Translated by: J. Hensoldt  
Date: 5 November 1947

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

*V.P. Henry* 10/10/11

PONAPE II  
Caroline:

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND775011  
By TJ NARA Date 3/10/99

Exhibit 5

I, Hyginio Berganza, formerly Apostolic Administrator of the Roman Catholic Vicariate of the Caroline, Marianas and Marshall Islands, being duly sworn according to law, do depose and say:

That from March 31, 1939 to December 1942, I served as Apostolic Administrator of the Roman Catholic Vicariate of the Carolines, Marianas and Marshalls, in the Western Pacific, which included Koror Island, Yap Island, Saipan, Tinian, Rota (not Guam), Truk, Ponape, Nukuer, Kapingamarangi, and all the Marshall Islands. My duties as Apostolic Administrator included the Ecclesiastical Administration and direction of Catholic life and activities in the above named areas.

That from 1935 until January 1946, I served as Regular Superior of all Jesuit Priests and Brothers acting as missionaries in the same areas mentioned in above paragraph. My duties as Jesuit Superior included the immediate administration and supervision of the entire Catholic missionary personnel, male, in these above mentioned islands. All male missionaries therein were Jesuit Priests or Brothers.

During the period of my combined administrations, Fathers BLANCO Y SUAREZ, DE LA ESPRIELLA, DE LA HOZ, FERNANDEZ GONZALES, and Brothers HERNANDEZ Y ESCUDERO and VILLAR served under me in this area. The following information concerning them is true and correct:

Luis BLANCO Y SUAREZ, Catholic Priest, Jesuit, Spanish national, resident of Yap Island,

Bernardo DE LA ESPRIELLA, Catholic Priest, Jesuit, Colombian national, resident of Yap Island,

Marino DE LA HOZ, Catholic Priest, Jesuit, Spanish national, resident of Koror Island,

Elias FERNANDEZ GONZALES, Catholic Priest, Jesuit, Spanish national, resident of Koror Island,

Francisco HERNANDEZ Y ESCUDERO, Catholic Brother, Jesuit, Spanish national, resident of Yap Island,

Emilio VILLAR, Catholic Brother, Jesuit, Spanish national, resident of Koror Island.

(S E A L)

/s/ Hyginio Berganza  
t/ Hyginio Berganza  
Pastor, Catholic Church, Colony,  
Ponape, Caroline Islands

-----  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of February 1948 at  
The Civil Administration Unit, Ponape Island, Caroline Islands.

/s/ W. D. Mooney  
t/ W. D. MOONEY, LCDR, USNR



STATEMENT OF NAKAMURA, JIRO, FORMER SUPERIOR PRIVATE, IJA.

Original document in Japanese appended to the original record. Certified English translation appended herewith marked "Exhibit 15(a)(1)" and "Exhibit 15(a)(2)."

NAKAMURA, Jiro.

One day in September (I do not recall the date) after the evening meal the man on day duty (I do not recall his name) came to the barracks. We armed ourselves, assembled (I do not recall the place) and, led by the detachment commander (First Lieutenant NAKAMURA, Kazuo), went to the road. Two trucks had already arrived there. I believe it was in the neighborhood of the bridge. I definitely remember the Unit Commander (Lieutenant Colonel MIYAHARA), the adjutant (Second Lieutenant ICHIKAWA), the head of the special police (Second Lieutenant SANO), Warrant Officer NAKAMURA, Sergeant Major OZAKI, Leading Private ANDO, Private First Class KAWAHARA, Private First Class UCHIDA, Leading Private ITO and others. Besides these I do not recall anybody.

At the orders of the unit commander we got into the trucks and started off immediately. When we entered Gasupan Village we stopped and the detachment commander got off the truck. Taking three or four men, he went in the direction of the missionaries' home and a little while later brought the missionaries back.

At that time the missionaries had their baggage with them. I thought they were moving. The missionaries got into the two trucks (I don't remember whether the truck I was riding in was in front or in back) and at the verbal order of the unit commander the trucks started out. We passed the Yura Unit Hill and stopped at the place marked by the dot on the map which was this side of the ordnance duty unit and all personnel got off. The missionaries were lined up in a single file and made to face ahead. At that time one Kempei and one auxiliary Kempei took charge of one missionary each and the Kempois tied them with rope. After that the unit commander talked in Spanish. I did not understand it.

All the baggage had been left in the trucks at the time we got off. When I got off I noticed that the adjutant of the Sumida Unit was in the driver's seat.

When the Kempois tied them with rope after we got off (I thought to myself that they were probably going to be shot.) What I said in the parenthesis is a mistake. We all received orders about the execution at the general assembly from the commanding officer before we departed.

I do not remember the name of the Kempei who was my partner at that time.

Presently, at the orders of the unit commander, we advanced. I believe we proceeded for about two hundred meters. From there we entered a woods on the right and after getting into the middle of the woods we arrived on the scene.

A hole had been dug at the scene which was about two meters deep  
and 1/5 five meters two meters.

When we arrived at the scene the missionaries were lined up as in the drawing ----- and at the verbal orders of the detachment commander ----- the Kempois took off the ropes.

At that time the woman and the children were on the left side.

At that time the Kempeis (officers included) were lined up behind the missionaries and the auxiliary Kempeis behind the Kempeis.

I do not remember the men who were next to where I was standing.

I recall I was about the fourth from the right.

I also do not remember the Kempeis who were standing in front of me. On my right, there were persons whom I did not know (soldiers from Sumida Unit.)

At the order of the unit commander and at the verbal command of the detachment commander the Kempeis and a soldier (or soldiers) of the Sumida Unit fired, the Kempeis and pistols and the Sumida Unit soldier with a rifle. Then, when there were some whom the Kempeis had missed, the unit commander gave orders to have the auxiliary Kempeis shoot and the detachment commander gave orders to Private First Class KAWASHIMA who was nearby, "You shoot." KAWASHIMA put a bullet in his gun and shot. That night when we returned to the barracks I saw him cleaning his gun and heard him say that he felt terrible. I think he may have shot a child.

After it was over all personnel (except the officers) buried them, camouflaged the spot (grass, dead branches, leaves) so that they would not be discovered and returned in the trucks.

We returned to the unit and assembled (I think it was in front of the unit commander's barracks.)

We were given a warning by the unit commander concerning the secret and returned to our barracks. The next day I saw the detachment personnel (I forgot the names and the place) putting the belongings of the missionaries in order (I remember Warrant Officer NAKAMURA.)

One evening a few days later (I do not remember the day), when I went to the side of the road to get sticks for camouflage for the barracks, as a brass chain had fallen by a broken trunk which was in the grass, thinking that it was going to waste, I picked it up and brought it back. Later I put a watch on it and carried it. Then I was told by a superior officer in the detachment (I do not remember his name), "That is part of the missionaries' belongings. It will never do if that affair comes to light. Put it back." I got flustered and put it back in its former place.

GATE

I swear by my conscience that, when I wrote the above three pages, I told the truth.

13 November 1947

NAKAMURA, Jiro.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and complete translation, to the best of my ability of the original document in Japanese.

EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.  
Lieutenant, USNR.  
Interpreter.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

J. P. Kenny

LT-1 USN

- 2 -

"Exhibit 15(a)(2)"

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	<u>NN0775011</u>
By	<u>IJ</u> NARA Date <u>3/0 99</u>

STATEMENT OF OKAMURA, GINTARO FORMER SUPERIOR PRIVATE, IJA.

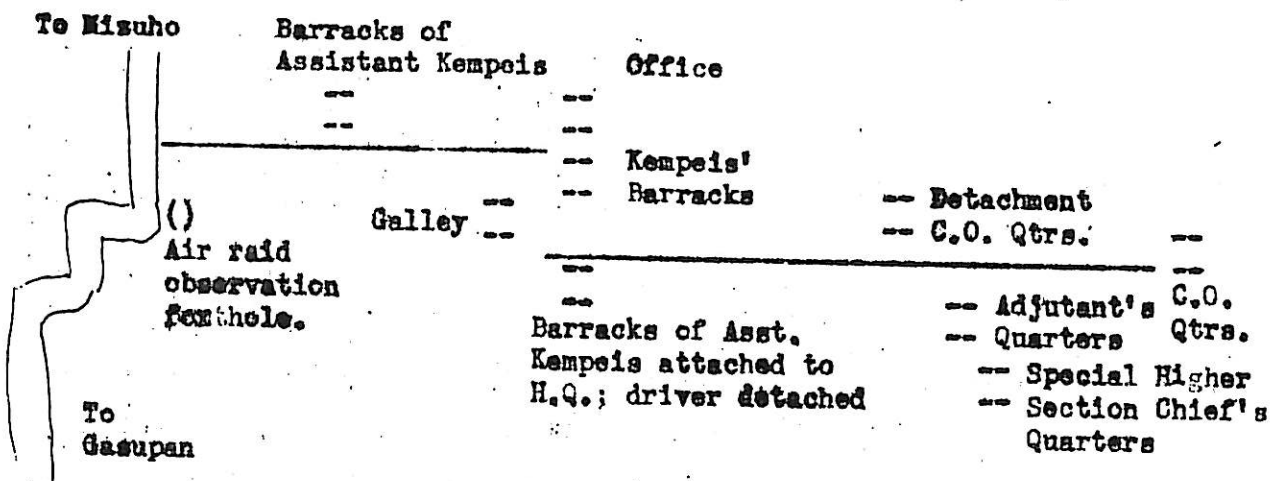
Original document in Japanese appended to the original record. Certified English translation appended herewith marked "Exhibit 14(a)(1)", "Exhibit 14(a)(2)" and "Exhibit 14(a)(3)".

STATEMENT

I think it was about ten days after I was released from the hospital. There was the execution incident of the missionaries living in the South Sea area.

As I had just come out of the hospital my only duty was as air raid observer, and did not participate in other work. On the day of the execution of the missionaries, I was on duty as an air raid observer. I have forgotten the date and time and can not recall it. The date which I wrote in the statement I submitted at Sugamo Prison was the date I was told by the investigator. I definitely recall the incident took place around the latter part of September.

First I will draw a sketch of our barracks at Kuzubashi.



On the day of the execution I was on duty as air raid observer. Around evening when the American planes stopped coming from Peleliu, the assistant Kempeis were ordered to assemble. Corporal (?) Ezure went to the office and received the orders and had them assembled. They were then led by a Kempei (I do not recall whether it was an officer or a warrant officer) and passing near the air raid observation point went out on the road. At this time a truck came. I thought it was a truck of the Sumida Unit.

About ten minutes after they left, as it was time for the air raid observer to quit, I reported to the office and went back to my barracks. There was no one left in the barracks. The dress of the Kempeis was armed dress with rifles. About ten minutes after I returned to my barracks, the commanding officer and other Kempeis came. They passed by the side of the barracks and came to the entrance and the commanding officer looked in and said, "Who's the one staying there?" so I answered, "Superior Private Okamura, Sir." Then he said, "Why didn't you go?" so I answered, "I just got out of the hospital and as my health is not very well yet I am at the air raid observation post." Then he ordered me, "There is no reason why you stay behind because of ill health when everyone has gone. Put on your arms and come along with us." As I was roughly ordered, I became frightened; so I hurriedly armed myself and followed. I recall that the persons who got on the truck together at this time were: Commanding Officer, Adjutant, Sergeant Yokoyama, Sergeant Tamamoto. We went along on the truck and stopped when we came to the house where the Detachment Commander and the adjutant formerly lived (probably it was a home of the South Sea Development Co.). I looked toward the home and saw missionaries getting on the truck which left first with the assistant Kempeis. Therefore our truck took the lead and went to the scene of the execution.

RECEIVED TO BE A TRUE COPY  
 J. P. KERRY Lt. USN

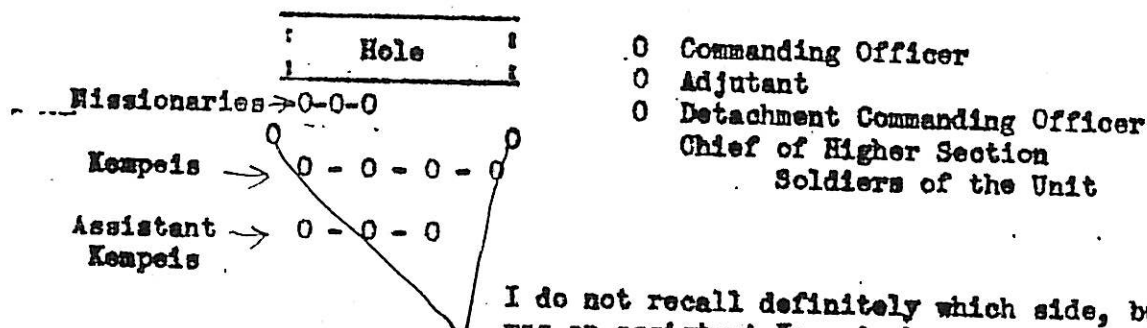


My recollection as to the assistant Kempeis at the entrance of the assistant Kempeis' barracks near the road is not clear, but I recall it, as follows: Corporal Esure, Leading Private Fujitani, Superior Private Ando, Superior Private Gomi, Superior Private Sagara, Superior Private Nakamura, Superior Private Iwanoto, Private First Class Kawashima, Superior Private Uchida. I forget the name of one more Superior Private (I remember his name so I will write it in Superior Private Ito (comes from the Second Regiment at Mito, Ibaragi-kan) and myself. I do not know whether the following persons came from the barracks near the office of the headquarters. They are: Corporal Imaizumi, Corporal Hidaka, Superior Private Hayashi.

Corporal Baba was dead at this time and was not present. Baba died with Sergeant Ikushima at Korer from the explosion of a mine laid by the army.

We took quite some time and reached the scene of the execution. When we arrived it was already dark. After we got off the truck, the missionaries got off. By orders of Kempeitai Commanding Officer (Lieutenant Colonel Miyasaki) one Kempei was placed to each missionary. Also, we assistant Kempeis were ordered to group in pairs with the Kempeis, one assistant Kempei took his place with each missionary. After everyone finished pairing off, the commanding officer spoke to the missionaries in English. (I was told by someone I do not remember whether it was at the scene or later that the English was the pronouncing of their death sentence). After this, by orders of the commanding officer, we went to the scene. The scene was in the woods a little distant from the trucks. We reached the scene and the missionaries sat by the hole and started to pray. The commanding officer said, "If the rifles are used, ricochet shots will result and it is dangerous; so let them fire with their pistols." He ordered thus and the Kempeis shot. Because I was timid, I felt sick to watch it; so I kept my eyes on the ground. I do not know clearly whether the Kempeis shot all at once or separately, but I think it was separately. As I did not hear any rifle shots, I presume and finally believe that the assistant Kempeis did not shoot. I did not shoot.

At the scene as the missionaries lined up along the hole, I presume the hole was oblong in shape. As I was paired with Sergeant Yokoyama, we were at the end. Among Kempeis whom I recall pairing with the missionaries, Warrant Officer Nakamura was one of them. When the missionaries were praying, the warrant officer was with the commanding officer near the hole, and he took out a small private pistol and, saying, "Shoot with this pistol which I carry for suicide," handed it to him (T.N. the warrant officer). Other than him there were: Sergeant Tamamoto, Sergeant Major Sugimoto, Sergeant Major Ichimiya, and Sergeant Yokoyama. Other than this the persons whom I seem to recall are: Sergeant Ozaki, and Sergeant Takahashi. The person whom I do not recall being there is Sergeant Major Ishiyama. I do not know about the other Kempeis. I will try to recollect the scene and make a sketch.



I do not recall definitely which side, but there was an assistant Kempei who was not grouped with the missionaries.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

*J. P. Henry Lt. USA*

The layout was as I have shown in the above sketch. I do not recall who the assistant Kempeis were who paired with the Kempeis. I recall that Superior Private Kawashima (15th Infantry Regiment) was not paired, but I think there were others (I/N - who were also not paired). I do not recall how many missionaries there were. I feel that there were a woman and children (a child) among them. I think the soldiers who were spread out and guarding were probably the soldiers of the Sumida Unit. After the execution was over, by orders to cover up with dirt, the hole was covered, and we took quite some time on our way back; so we came back quite late.

After we got back, as usual, we cleaned our rifles which were wet with evening dew, and ate our supper.

It was the (common law) custom for us soldiers to clean our rifles morning and night from when we were still at the unit. We have been taught that the rifle was our (soldier's) spirit, our mirror, an article intrusted to us by the Emperor, and that it was the result of the hard work of our people. It is not unusual that the soldier cleans his rifle. It is a usual routine. The next day the assistant Kempeis were made to clean the pistols of the Kempeis. I do not know as to Umeko and others who were at the Kempeitai.

I will write that I swear by God that there is no mistake in what I wrote above and stop my pen.

20 December 1947.

/s/ Assistant Kempei,  
Former Superior Private, IJA.  
OKAMURA, Gintaro.

I hereby certify the foregoing, consisting of three typewritten pages, to be a true and complete translation of the original Japanese document, to the best of my ability.

EUGENE E. KERRICK, Jr.,  
Lieutenant, U.S. Naval Reserve,  
Interpreter.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

J. P. Kenny



STATEMENT - - ICHIMIYA, Masao

Matters relating to the Missionaries.

1. The unit moved to Gasupan because of the air raids on KOROR in July. The names of the personnel who were in the unit at that time follows:

Commander Lieutenant Colonel MIYAZAKI, Aritsune  
Adjutant Second Lieutenant ICHIKAWA, Yokichi  
Second Lieutenant SANO, Gichi  
Warrant Officer AJIOKA, Misao (Hospital)  
Sergeant Major SUGIMOTO, Takeji  
Sergeant TAMAMOTO, Tadashi  
Sergeant TAKAHASHI, Genji  
Sergeant YOKOYAMA, Kyohisa

Captain NAKAMURA, Kasuo  
Warrant Officer NAKAMURA, Yoshitaro  
Sergeant Major KOKUBO, Chihire  
Sergeant Major ISHIYAMA, Jemzo  
Sergeant YAMADA, Kiyoshi  
Sergeant NAKAGAWA, Takeo (Hospital)  
Sergeant NAGATOME, Yoshimori  
Sergeant ICHIMIYA, Masao  
Sergeant OZAKI, Katsutoshi

2. My duties at that time.

I was ordered to maintain liaison with the YURA Unit (approximately 2.5 miles across the mountain) which was stationed also in the GASUPAN area under command of Captain NAKAMURA.

Liaison meant the duty of coming to inquire as to the air raid conditions of that time. I went at noon and in the morning every day, but I had beri beri at that time. While I received treatment I went about my duty. Moreover, as I could not possibly let my superior officer know that I was sick, except for two or three days when I laid off, I went on liaison to the YURA Unit adjutant's place.

3. Conditions on the day (of the incident).

(1) I do not recall the month and day but on a certain day I went on liaison to the YURA Unit in the afternoon. After it became dark in the evening, when I returned to the unit, as all the personnel were lined up in front of the barracks, I lined up at the rear. I did not know why they were lined up so when I asked an enlisted man beside me, "What is it?" (I do not know who he was), I remember the unit commander scolded me, "Who is talking?" At that time it seemed to be after the orders had been given and just before our departure. The commander of the unit said that everyone was to go and I was included in the order.

At the time of our departure, I went with an enlisted man whose name I do not remember. He came to the road with me at the rear of the rank. Two trucks were there. Ten enlisted men of the SUMIDA Unit had rifles. I seem to remember that I rode in the second truck. I think that there were a fairly large number of non-commissioned officers and men riding in that truck,

but I do not remember whom. Soon the truck reached the place where the missionaries were. As I watched while I stayed on the truck, I think it was Warrant Officer NAKAMURA who led the way and all of them rode in the front truck. Then we proceeded toward the place for which we were headed. The road was bad on the way and it required some time (more than thirty minutes for about a thousand meters). The truck stopped at a place about thirty meters from where we were headed. We got off and the missionaries were made to get off from the front truck. When no one received them, the unit commander scolded everyone for lagging, so I hurriedly took a missionary too. I think it was around the third or fourth one. At that time I was in a trance. I don't know much about it, but I feel that Sergeant YOKOYAMA was behind me. I put the missionary's hands behind his back and held them there. We went toward the area. As I did not know the area, when I stood there a moment, I think it was Warrant Officer NAKAMURA and Captain NAKAMURA whom we saw walking a little ahead, five or six meters. I also walked in that direction, but as there was dense grass two feet high, no road, and the night was dark, I think each person walked individually in the direction of the light ahead, without walking in formation. Without seeing the actual spot, it appeared that Captain NAKAMURA and Warrant Officer NAKAMURA who were ahead were also having considerable difficulty in looking for it. I went forward toward the direction of their voices. Then when I came to a hole which had been dug, I think that the unit commander and the officers had already come there. At that time all the missionaries' hands were tied, but as I had not tied the hands of my missionary, I quickly tied them and had him sit in front of the hole as everyone was. At that time as I did things in the trance, I do not know who was to the right and left, but I think that there was a soldier standing to my right with a rifle. After all were prepared, I think it was the unit commander who gave some orders. I think the shots were not in one volley but were scattered. I had trouble with my pistol then. When I hesitated, the unit commander came and scolded me, "What are you doing?" and shook me. The unit commander himself did the shooting. Some of the bodies went into the hole and some did not. The men took hold and put them into the hole and put dirt into the hole.

I also put dirt into the hole but a soldier who was right beside me took my shovel away from me.

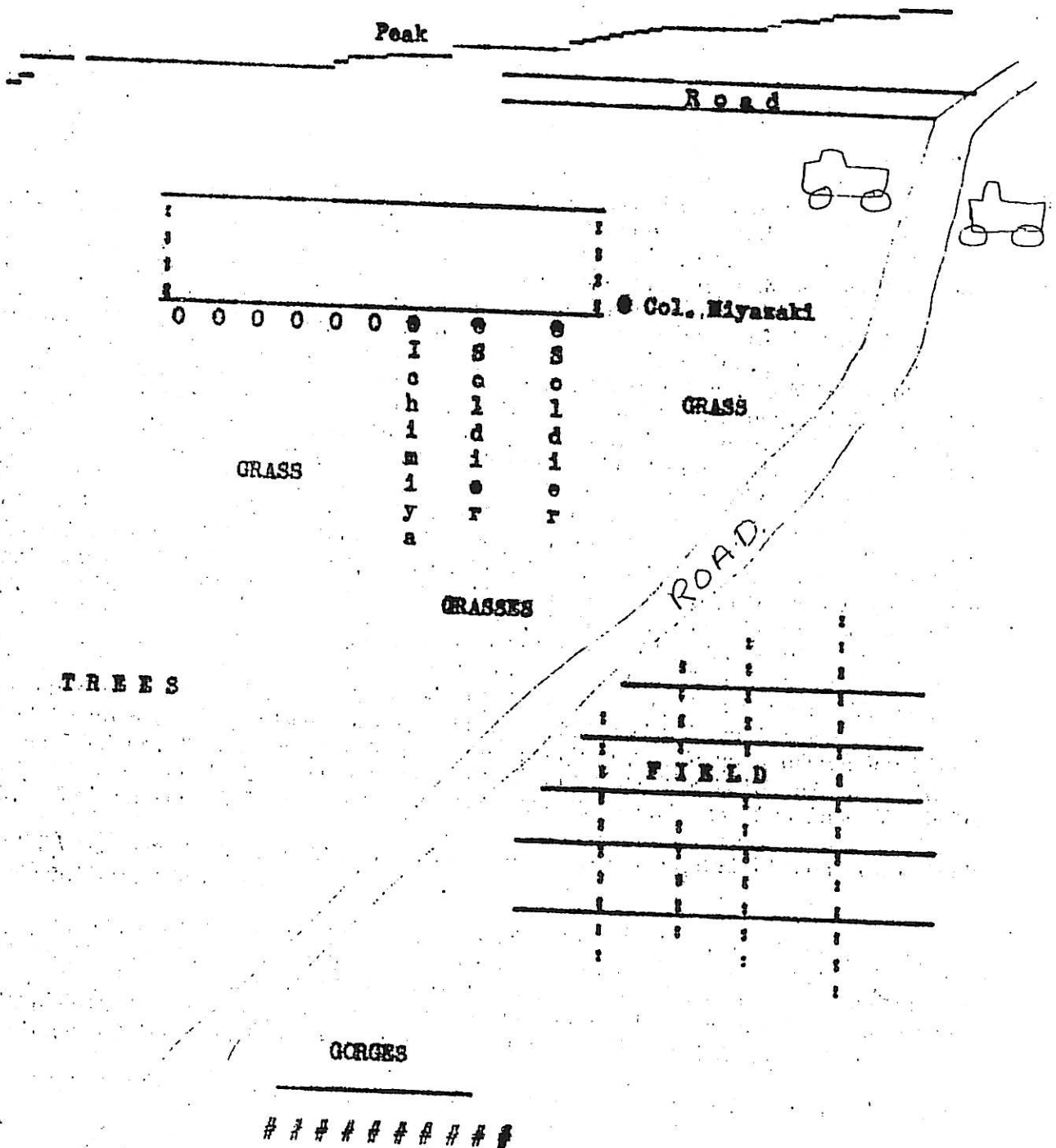
After the dirt was all put in, I returned to the road in front of the unit in the truck. After returning to my quarters, I said to no one in particular that I had had trouble with my pistol and had been scolded by the commander of the unit. I am sorry because I do not remember the names of the non-commissioned officers and men who went to the scene that day.

I shall draw a sketch of the scene on another piece of paper.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

J. P. Henry

L. V. S. N.



/s/ ICHIMIYA, Masao.

I hereby certify the foregoing, consisting of two typewritten pages and a diagram, to be a true and complete translation of the original Japanese document, to the best of my ability.

EUGENE E. KERRICK, Jr.,  
 Lieutenant, U.S.M.R.,  
 Interpreter.

DECLASSIFIED TO BE CONFIDENTIAL  
 J. P. Henry 7-1-50

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND775611  
By TD NARA Date 3/0 99

STATEMENT OF SUGIMOTO, Takeji, FORMER SERGEANT MAJOR, IJA.

<sup>0</sup>Original document in Japanese appended to the original record. Certified English translation appended herewith marked "Exhibit 11(a)(1)," "Exhibit 11(a)(2)," "Exhibit 11(a)(3)," "Exhibit 11(a)(4)" and "Exhibit 11(a)(5)."

"Exhibit 11"

In the following statement I will relate the details concerning the case under investigation.

1. Date and Time - One night in July or August, 1944 (battle of Peleliu Island was in progress at that time).
2. Place - Gasupan Hill, Palau Island.
3. Organization and Personnel

A) Members of the Kempeitai:

Unit Commander Lieutenant Colonel MIYAZAKI, Aritsume;  
Adjutant Second Lieutenant ICHIKAWA, Yekichi;  
Head of Special Police Second Lieutenant SANO, Gichi;  
Probationary Intendence Officer TAMANOI, Hiroshi;  
Intendence Warrant Officer HATAKEYAMA, Yoshito.

Members of Special Police:

Sergeant TAMAMOTO, Tadashi.

Member of General Affairs Department:

Sergeant YOKOYAMA, Kychisa.

No. 1 Kempeitai Detachment Commander First Lieutenant  
NAKAMURA, Kazuo;  
Warrant Officer NAKAMURA, Yoshitaro;  
Sergeant Major KOKUBO, Chihiro;  
Sergeant Major ISHIYAMA, Jinzō;  
Sergeant ICHIMIYA, Masao;  
Sergeant OZAKI, Katsutoshi;  
Corporal NAGATOME, Yoshimori.

Auxiliary Kempeis:

Leading Private IMAZUMI;  
Leading Private EZURE;  
Private First Class KAWASHIMA;  
Superior Private NAKAMURA;

Rest unknown.

B) Sumida Unit (Motor Transport Unit)

Two trucks  
Adjutant YAMAMOTO and five or six enlisted men (enlisted men carried rifles).

The above personnel are men whom I believe I saw wither on the way to the scene or in the trucks.

Since a number of years have passed there may be some errors in the personnel. Therefore, please make your decision after investigating the other men.

4. Sequence of Events.

In the afternoon of the date written above (hour unknown) Adjutant ICHIKAWA announced unexpectedly that those whose names were called would fall in and I fell in.

The unit commander came to that place, gave orders for the kempeis to line up in front and the auxiliary kempeis in the rear, gave us numbers counting from the right and after that formed us as follows: number ones would be Team Number One, number twos would be Team Number Two (threes fours and fives and so on in the same manner).

At that time I was either second or third.

As Private First Class KAWASHIMA was in the line behind me I paired up with Private First Class KAWASHIMA.

At that time the unit commander did not announce the purpose of this. The auxiliary kempeis were to prepare ropes. All these men who were formed at the time would fall in after the evening meal. The uniform for each man would include arms.

Then everybody fell out.

When we assembled for the second time (after the evening meal) we were notified by the unit commander to the following effect:

1. We were going to dispose of the missionaries.
2. Each team will take charge of a missionary in the order in which the missionaries get off the trucks and accompany him to the scene.
3. Not to tell anybody else of this affair.
4. We would be instructed at the spot concerning the measure to be used at the scene.

At the first assembly, Adjutant ICHIKAWA was told by the unit commander to have trucks ready and to have shovels, etc., prepared. He made these preparations in time for the second assembly.

Each man was provided with one candle (including one match).

It was evening when we all left the unit together (after sunset).

When our party came out on the main road Adjutant YAMAMOTO and five or six men from the Sumida Unit who were carrying rifles were already there waiting on the left hand side of the road (entrance to the Sumida Unit).

As two trucks had already come we got into these and went towards the missionaries barracks (Nantaku Barracks). The trucks stopped on the main road near the barracks and, as we were told to get out of the trucks and wait, we got out of the trucks and waited. The unit commander and Detachment Commander NAKAMURA (NAKAMURA, Kazuo) brought the party of missionaries to the trucks themselves.

Each man in the party of missionaries carried his baggage in his hand and got into a truck. After that we got into that truck and started for the scene.

About two or three hundred meters from the scene all personnel got off the truck.

At that time, as had been announced by the unit commander previously, Private First Class KAWASHIMA and myself took charge of the man who got out second or third.



Then Private First Class KAWASHIMA tied him up with the rope he had provided.

After that we waited behind the lead-off man (Warrant Officer NAKAMURA). We arrived at our destination after having had a great deal of difficulty finding the road on the way because it was dark.

When we arrived on the scene a hole had already been dug.

The missionaries were made to squat down in front of the hole and the unit commander said something in Spanish.

At that moment through Adjutant YAMAMOTO the unit commander said to have the soldiers of the Sumida Unit carry out the execution from team one through team three. Therefore, I immediately stepped back and looked on holding a candle.

At that time Adjutant ICHIKAWA was also holding a candle and was supervising the affair on my right.

At the scene, First Lieutenant NAKAMURA gave the signal to fire. The position of each man involved at the scene is roughly as drawn in the sketch.

With my own eyes I saw the soldiers of the Sumida Unit execute and lastly, the unit commander and Warrant Officer NAKAMURA execute.

That day the unit commander brought two pistols, a large type one and a small type one. Warrant Officer NAKAMURA experimentally executed with the unit commander's small type pistol.

When the execution was over the auxiliary kampeis covered (TN. the missionaries) over with dirt under the direction of First Lieutenant NAKAMURA.

It was rather late when we got back to the unit (time unknown).

At that time, when I reminisced with my buddies I said, "It was very fortunate that I did not shoot."

After that Sergeant YOKOYAMA felt absolutely terrible.

According to the stories, they were saying that Sergeant YOKOYAMA had charge of a native but his bullet had missed and therefore Warrant Officer NAKAMURA executed the remaining one. I heard that the next day Warrant Officer NAKAMURA, Sergeant Major KOKUBO, Sergeant OZAKI and others burned the remaining belongings of the missionaries.

In regard to the above facts, after the war was over we were given strict orders by the unit commander to say that they were sent back via the Philippines in case there was any investigation.

Some days later I heard that the plans for the carrying out of this execution were all made by the unit commander.

There are no errors in the above.

Formerly stationed at  
South Seas Kempeitai Headquarters,  
Kempei Sergeant Major, IJA  
SUGIMOTO, Takeji.  
19 April.

1. I do not remember the position of Probationary Intendence Officer TAMANOI.
2. I also do not remember the positions of Sergeant Major ISHIYAMA, Sergeant OZAKI, and Corporal NAGATOME.

(Position from which Lieutenant Colonel MIYAZAKI said something to the Missionaries in Spanish.)

- O<sub>x</sub>
- O-Lieutenant Colonel MIYAZAKI was in this vicinity and through the adjutant of the Sumida Unit (First Lieutenant YAMAMOTO) gave orders for the soldiers of the Sumida Unit to execute.
  - O-First Lieutenant NAKAMURA Kazuo
    - O First Lieutenant YAMAMOTO (adjutant of the Sumida Unit)
    - O Second Lieutenant ICHIKAWA (Kampeitai adjutant)
  - O 1. Warrant Officer NAKAMURA
  - O 2. 2.0 Position to which Sergeant Major SUGIMOTO withdrew and looked on. Sergeant Major was either Second or Third.
  - O 3.
  - O 4. On the left of Sergeant Major SUGIMOTO
    - Sergeant Major KOKUBO
    - Sergeant ICHIMIYA
  - O 5. I believe Sergeant TAMAMOTO came in this position
  - O 6.
  - O 7. OSecond Lieutenant SANO was in this vicinity
  - O 8. -----Sergeant YOKOYAMA was in this vicinity
  - O 9. (The auxiliary kempei member of each team possessed one candle each and lit them at the scene.)

1. In each team one kempei and one auxiliary kempei was in attendance.
2. As each officer was supervising his subordinates during the carrying out of the execution and more or less moved about to each place, their positions were not fixed; but in general, I believe they were as shown on the diagram.
3. The position of the member of each team who took part in carrying out the execution in general is also as shown on the diagram.
4. As far as the third position, soldiers of the Sumida Unit executed (from the right).

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	NND775611
By	TJ NARA Date 310 99

I hereby certify the foregoing, consisting of three (3) type-written pages and one (1) sketch map, to be a true and complete translation, to the best of my ability, of the original document in Japanese.

/s/ Frederick F. Tremayne  
Frederick F. Tremayne,  
Lieutenant (junior grade),  
United States Naval Reserve,  
Interpreter.