

長崎市に早来到着候安父上より、連絡によ
り、乗船に出迎と受け、其の日は日本丸見物に
過し午後より長崎縣下島東半島小浜温泉
宿泊の豫定なり。爲に吾々一行十数名を案内
して小浜温泉行自動車、發着所に乗り候
日此に於ては其の既交通混雑し、自動車
乗車券買入には行列買とお半申候、
其の行列の中には土地馴れたる者は行列者
を尻目に、傍手に先買ある者もあり、順番を待
つものは高き聲をこゝろ存せられ候、其の中にあ
りて松平素久君は順きと番の廻り来るのを待ち
先廻りたる者人蔭に出る候、此の態を
先て吾々一行中にも案内役の向原の態を

を評して馬鹿山と云ふ者も出る程
相成申候。而して漸く順番来り乗車番
実未め候も其の時は既に時間経過して未
分は其の日の中に出来可成なる事も其の
日未便にて出掛かる事にならば一行は二
かたろの己むなきに立別り候。
斯く相成候事は其の役の白石の如くに
正義観念強きを証するものにして是れ
日君にこそ少く胡魔化し氣分有候はるか
土地は田地大夢を夢生る事に候間如何なる
事をも可有之被存候も吾々一行の二かたろとも
社会正義を運弄し通したる君の道義
観念強きを見て此の文にして此の子ありの威

を深くせしこと有之候
其の後日君大學を卒業し、中に軍洋に從ひ
軍醫として従軍せしことにおき、候次第に
て終戦後は母事復興し、再び大學にて研
究中、戦犯容疑者として召喚され、次第に
中在候ものには、君は戦争中なりと雖も自己
の職務たる醫術者として人道に良心的行動
に終始したると思考せざるも此を戦犯容疑
者として問はるは如何なる事あり、いは
い生等別り知り難き事なるも若し罪に
問はる、行為有之候は、當時日本軍の
軍規により上官の命令か上司の指示に依
り行ひし事と被存候、本人の内心は決て

非人道的非良心的行為にある男にせめて
こゝで學生中一の位置を奪ひ取つて謝言致す
ものに有る候

何卒閣下の特別なる市路議により充分なる
被害を賜り情状酌量被下無罪釋
放を蒙れ申上ると共に同様の社会正義
の觀念を醫術者として平和日本建設の爲に
充分の活動を爲し得る様採取計
被謝りな事あり及謝願候

昭和廿一年六月十五日

鹿児島縣知事 那珂山三三三番地

佐々木 達 氏 存 ね

聯合軍使司令官マッカーサー元帥閣下 侍史

青十三行

284 (8)

736

0695

元陸軍軍醫大尉松下兼久君
釋放方ニ関スル請願書

父島敬言備隊所屬元陸軍軍醫大尉松下兼久君(1)
今次戦争犯罪客疑者トシテ貴國軍ニ拘留中ナル
旨同君ノ父ヨリ之ヲ聴キ及ビ驚愕措ク能ハス處ナリ

君ノ戦争犯罪客疑ニ関スル一切ノ實狀ニ付テハ勿論
知悉ス術無之ト雖君ニシテ自ラ犯罪ノ意志ヲ有
シ之ヲ履行シ得ル人物ナリト推定スルハ早急ニ想定

ニシテ君ノ天性ヲ知ル友人等ユメユメ信ニ能ハサル處トス
君ハ幼ニシテ性温厚ニシテ仁愛聰明ノ人長ズニ隨ヒ

愈其ノ美德ヲ發揮シ人情殊ニ深ク人ニ交リテハ圓滿

興ニシテ學術秀逸克ク衆望ヲ集ム

君ノ天性ハ之ヲシテ自ラ醫師タルヲ宿望セシメ

仁ト愛トラシキ人類ニ貢獻スル決意ヲ鞏固ナラシメ(2)

タルハ勿論ニシテ蓋シ君ノ人生行路途次ニ於テ此ノ幸

ニ遭遇スルニ至リタルハ誠ニ同僚ノ至ニ堪ヘズ

事卑クモ人道上ニ関シテハ其ノ天性上之ヲ犯シ

能ハザルヲ信ズルノミ

只々君ノ無罪ニシテ再ビ

幸福ニ恵マル、ノ日來ルヲ祈念シテ過マス再ビ

君ヲ世ニ用ヒ其ノ素志ヲ貫徹セシム願フ誠ニ切

ナリ

君ノ身上ニ關シ格別ノ御詮議ヲ賜ラン事ヲ

願スル次第



ナリ

君ノ兩親日夜憂慮ニ疲レ居ル之ヲ見ルニ

亦忍ビ能ハズ

茲ニ謹ミテ微意ヲ述ベテ右請願ス

昭和貳拾壹年六月拾五日

鹿兒島縣始良郡福山町貳千九百五拾貳番地

友人

久留景三



日本占領聯合軍
マツクワ―サー總司令官殿

尊敬の的マツカーサー元師閣下

実態より様子は如何に成り上り、無類を閣下の
以て案に依り何事の許しをせ

實は私國民學校を字の折共に學びまゝ
元陸軍少將松下兼三様より、就いては、
風の傳に申すれば、先づ来るが如く、
は取調べられ、由聞き、
吃驚も、又、人ふ、人か、
(1)

はる考へよれぬにや
氏はええ束に我の念居く同時にふは、様を温
情の持まてぬにや、氏とあ一緒に席に於て
學び得るや、我共は心づき存に存してたる
ものでぬにや、
卿室我同じう路、長くて後も何れも諸族
下さ、いたぬにや、あるを考へよ、時、あ
人となりのふにや、は賢察我に加へよ、
何事にも同情あるはさばき、は願ひ申しよ、

次第にふたどり

末等なる参候不順の折を、以自責の程
切にふりし申上げ

え、右よりいそぎに候ひまで、まじく取計
いれまはせ

六月十七日

徳永とて

マッカーサー元師閣下

歎願書

昨下新緑此候愈御精勵此役奉賀候
陳者今次大戦に於けり戦犯容疑者として

松下兼久君指定せられ現在在る島とやら

(2)

にて收容せられ由承り驚愕候此候

君ハ生来真面目にして温情に富み小學校
以来幾度か級長に選舉せられ君と交る者
長幼を同じす量化せられ常々御堂此模範

とせらるる御座候

小生等

亦小學校を

中等學校に至る迄 下級生として不絶

其れ指導を受け其れ人とあり依り教化⁽²⁾

せらるる處断ありず常々君が人格の高潔あり

と品性情誼に富むとを敬慕致し居り候み

今茲犯容疑者として指定せられしと思へ

誠ニ断腸の思い有之禿筆を顧みず何卒

君が平生此高性徳操の高潔ありに
免し刑のより寛大あらん事を伏し懇願
仕候ものに御座候
此處の衷情を披し閣下此ら下り
強仕候

木山常次郎

新令本最乃司令官

マッカーサー元帥閣下

547

23x (4)

0706

歎願書

元父島部隊勤務軍醫大尉松下兼久は私の竹馬の友にして幼少の頃より今日まで深い友情を持ち續けた人であり、彼の性質の温厚なこと素行の方正なことは他の誰よりもよく知って居ります。殊に彼の心の何處にも默的殘虐性の微塵もないことを斷言し得るものであります。端的に云て彼は羊の如き、従順な性格の持ち主であります。

彼は小學校五年間首席を通じ、早教育生徒として五年より中學に入り、當時軍人志望の多かつた内、彼だけは醫學を專行して一人でも人間の生命を助けようと思ひ、第七高等學校を経て長崎醫科大學に學びました。私はその頃齒科醫專の學生として醫學的交流を以て彼との交りはより深く進んで行きました。

所が卒業と同時に呪ふべき事象なる軍國主義義者等
により大國アメリカとの戦争となり充分なる醫術的研究をな
し得ず止むなく徴召されたのです。その時私に「どうも兵隊は性に
合はぬ」と言つておりました。しかし彼の東ぬその神の如き慈悲心は
却つて増し身は軍服をまといても心は常に人類愛護の念に
燃えてゐたのであります。
来して彼はむづかしい非人道的なことをなすやうな人物では
ないと断言致します。
何卒松下兼久君に對する処置寛大ならんことを切に
懇願致します。

昭和二十一年六月十三日

鹿児島縣姶良郡福山町

竹之下喜一郎

聯合軍總司令官

マッカーサー元帥閣下

元海軍少將大尉松下兼久君之傳
釋談方嘆頭文

敗戦を現實ニ日本國民齊シク自失シ道義
ノ頓廢其ノ極ニ達シタル今日正義義人道ノ
模範トシテ哀敬ノ躬ヲシテ聯合軍總司令官
ニラフアサリ閣下ノ嘆願ス

同輩兼久君ハ愚輩等ト同窓ニシテ同郷
幼少ヨリ以温順志操堅實勇猛明折直言
吾等同輩等ヲ導索サレカリシガ長スル及ビ茲ニ
其ノ無價ノ發揮シ（特ニ徳皇ノ英武ヲ述リ）
吾等故郷福山ニ必要缺クベカラサル人物トナリヌ

235 (2)

得て受てば願うに
再意の上何分、御取計に謝願ふ次第に
又、微意を披瀝し兼、久君ノ釋談に
嘆願す

昭和廿一年六月十日

東京島根松久部福山ニヨリ

部長 川畑岩吉

同是 川畑岩夫

東京島根松久部

下

私の尊敬するマッカーサー元帥様
私の嘆願を御許しになる事を切に希望
致します

先般戦争犯罪人容疑者に指名されまし
た元父島海軍部隊勤務海軍口醫大尉
松下兼久は私の友人でありまして

郷里に於ても人格圓滿にして、一鄉譽げと
敬慕されてゐる程の人物であり、私の知る
範圍では絶対に戦争犯罪を犯す様な
人物では無く、實に模範的の青年であります
不承にして今回裁判に附せられる由候きまし
たので、元帥様の絶大なる同情と理解を
切に希望致します。而して全能の神が彼に

を授くものと深く
感謝しております

昭和二十一年六月二十二日

川井田多喜

川井田リキ

24a (2)

154

0713

松下兼久軍醫大尉ニ對スル數願書

松儀

今般松下兼久君、戰犯容疑者トシテ收容ノ報ニ切
シ全ク驚愕致シ、友人トシテ此所ニ數願致シ何卒
寛大ナル御慈悲賜度備ニ奉懇願マス。

松下兼久君、現地、行動何等存ジ居リマセヌモ、松下
兼久君ワ幼少ニシテ人情ニ厚キ學友同ニ於テモ最も
敬愛カレ特ニ博愛心ニ強ク自己ヲ爲ヨリ人ノ爲ト常
ニ言葉ニ致シ又実行致シテ来タ人格者デス。彼ノ心
情ニ奮起サレシ學友其ノ地、人々モ多ク敬アリマス。
彼ノ人類ノ爲、醫學ニ勉メ思想的ニモ人類愛ヲ護、爲
自由ト平和ヲ求メテ居リマシタ。

彼ノ日支事變ニ際シテモ、數々一日モ早ク世界ノ
平和ヲ呼シテ居リマシタ。

松儀

ワ松下兼久君ノ心情ヲ考ヘン時本當ニ同情ニ堪ヘマセン
故郷ノ而父君ノ而心痛ト如何バカカ全ク泣ニ絶スル物
ガアリマス。

何卒無罪放免ヲ賜度此段歎歎致シマス。

鹿児島縣知事 福山町

河野 聖

松下 昭

昭和廿二年六月十四日

聯合軍總司令官

マワクサー元師 殿

歎願書

今般松下兼久氏（海軍軍醫大尉）致知人（ソグム）に收
容せられ居る由誠（マコト）に御氣（マデ）を盡（マツ）さるる

事（コト）分（ワ）り願（ネ）より氏（ウチ）の指導（しど）に御（マ）せられたいと祈（いの）るのみ
うそ氏（ウチ）の性格（きやうかく）最も良（よ）く知（し）る一（ひと）であります。

氏は昨（きの）年（ねん）に濃厚（こうりゆう）に之（これ）を學（まな）ぶ者（もの）にたゞり放（はな）へる良（よ）く個性（こせい）

の導（みち）導（みち）する人（ひと）であります。亦（また）氏の微笑（みわう）が其（その）甘（あま）み、接（あは）すに兄弟（けいだい）

の如（ごと）く最も氏の格（きやく）が表（あらわ）す一（ひと）であります。曾（さ）て氏の復讐（ふしう）にそ

郷（きやう）折（しや）河（が）河（が）の如（ごと）く、御（マ）せられたい。随（したが）うとすべしと云（い）ふ

不（ふ）たふす人（ひと）氏（ウチ）思（おも）つて進（しん）進（しん）するべしと云（い）ふ親（おや）切（き）と云（い）ふ面（めん）面（めん）

氏（ウチ）見（み）るに、之（これ）を大（おほ）く助（たす）けられたいと云（い）ふ。然（しか）し、之（これ）を求（もと）められたいと云（い）ふ。之（これ）を

美（み）中（ちゆう）代（だい）の折（しや）河（が）河（が）の如（ごと）く思（おも）います。

155

240 (2)



萬一廿一號

No. 1

No.

私共の最も敬愛して止まほし	マツカサト尤師閣下	全く即多忙な日々をおくられし事と想像工	れます尤師閣下の下は一民間の者から直接に	手紙する夫禮を御許に下せけ	曾つて學生の頃友人として親しんで来た高	海軍軍医松下兼久氏が今の度戦犯容疑者として	て裁かれると聞きました。あゝあの怪情豊か	な彼がどういふことと矢張りおぼやけず閣下に御願	ひの御手紙する次第です。
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明治大衆文庫

私は學堂頃彼と殆ど毎日を云つてまい。彼文
 學を讀んで參つたやをあります。彼が如何
 な人格の所持者か。ありは何んな思想の
 持主なまか。位は知つてあります。彼は漫信に
 し、神士的な人物と言ふ事がすべて彼の信
 實を述べてゐるやあります。
 それは平常彼の交際してゐる男性かうも又
 女性かうも評断され、又學親を受けたりたのであ
 ります。羊々様なむしろ女性めは情格を持つ
 彼が、まさか……と思はれるやであらう。

No. 2

No.

又	反	面	正	い	事	以	外	は	眼	中	に	な	い	純	休	行	動
と	う	お	と	い	小	男	性	的	な	面	目	を	も	持	つ	て	ゐ
い	に																
私	共	と	致	し	ま	し	て		平	常	の	様	な	彼	が	法	律
の	裁	ま	を	受	け	る	様	な	事	件	を	彼	の	意	思	を	行
は	ど	う	い	て	信	ぜ	う	れ	な	い	の	を	あ	い	ま	す	
	も	し	そ	の	事	が	あ	る	と	す	れ	ば		ま	つ	と	誤
へ	う	れ	に	が		或	は	他	か	う	強	う	れ	た	う	を	な
か	と	懸	念	さ	れ	ま	す										
後	に	残	さ	れ	て	ゐ	る	彼	の	妻	や	父	母	兄	弟	は	信

明治大正論文目録

けうわなは、眞實を身にいて、たゞ悲観なく、
 田の仕事をもちかつけ、様ともいふなり、
 ます。曾つては、良き思ふがと、自慢にして、その
 成長を頼んで、おた、老父母の狂はん、許り、
 み歎きを見るとき、たゞこの善き人々を救ひ
 給へと、神に祈るやあります。
 元師閣下
 どうかこの事を、助理解ちて、いま、
 彼をお
 救ひ下つて、善き人の道を歩み、
 下さけ
 お願ひ申しに、
 げます。

No

明治大學論文目次

No.

王梅王多

莫實子一百姓

廣德良信

東漢 1501

248 (6)

564

0724

歎願書

温厚篤實なる松ト希久氏の
此の度、裁判あり衷心より実罪
判決を懇願す

240 (1)

765

0725

昭和七年三月十日

鹿児島縣民部局前

竹下重雄

聯合園總司令部

ツツカサ 元師殿

240 (2)

567

0726

元陸軍軍醫大尉松下兼久君

釋放方ニ関スル請願書

文島警備隊所屬元陸軍軍醫

大尉松下兼久君儀今次戦争犯罪客

疑者トシテ貴國軍ニ拘留中ナル旨 君

又之ヲ聴キ及ビ驚愕措ク能ハザル

處ナリ

君ノ犯罪客疑ニ関スル一切事實状ニ付

テハ勿論知悉スル術無之ト雖 君ニシテ

自ラノ犯罪意思ヲ有シ之ヲ復行シ得

ル人物ナリトスルハ余々ニ早急ナル想定ニシテ

エメエメ信々能ハザル處トス
君ハ幼ニシテ性温厚、仁愛聰明ノ
人長スルニ随ヒ愈其ノ美德ヲ發揮
シ人情殊ニ深ク人ニ交リテハ圓滿、
ビテハ學解秀逸、克ク衆望ヲ集ム
君ノ天性ハ之ヲ自ラ醫師タルヲ宿望
セシメ、仁ト愛ト、誠ヲ持テ人ヲ類ニ貢獻
スルノ決意ヲ喚起セシメタルハ勿論ニシテ、君ノ
人生行路途次ニ於テ此ノ心ニモ莫キ不遇
ニ遭遇シタルハ洵ニ同情ノ至ニ堪ヘズ
事畢クモ人道上ノ事ニ関シテハ其ノ天性上之ヲ

犯し能ハサルヲ信スルノミ
只々君ノ無罪
ニこそ再ビ幸福ニ恵ムル日ノ来ルヲ祈念
シテ過マス 再ビ君ヲ世ニ用ヒ其
ヲ貴人敬セシムル願ヤ誠ニ切ナリ
君ノ一身上ニ関シ格別な御診議ヲ以
テ無罪放免相賜ラント御願スル次
第ナリ
君ノ両親日夜憂慮ニ疲レ居ラル
之ヲ見ルニ亦忍ビム
茲ニ謹ミテ微意ヲ述ベテ右請願ス
昭和貳拾壹年八月拾力日

鹿兒島縣始良郡福山町貳九五貳
 番地 友人 久留景三
 日本占領聯合軍 中尾進士
 マツノサ 總司令官殿

248 (4)

571

0730

嘆強書

時下新緑此候愈々而精勵れ致

奉賀候

陳者今次大戦ニ於テ我記容疑者

松卜兼久君指定せられ現在

今一過とやりたて被害せりや由承り致

候付候

后に生来真面目で、性情に富み小學校
校以来幾度の級長に選舉せられ后と交
る者長幼と同一に量化せられ常に御堂此
模範とせらるゝに御座候 小生 写し下小學校 (2)
より中等學校に至る迄 下級生として不飽
其の指導を受けられ人となりにも教化せら
れ、其勤からず常に后が人格此高潔なりと名
性情實に富むとも敬慕致し候いし所今我記

客疑者も、猶定まらぬと云ふに誠と断腸

の思ひ有之を名も願ふが、何卒君が平生此

品性徳操が真際あるに多し初めより寛大なる

之をも、何れも懇願せし候も、たゞ此度候

に、哀情を被りて、同下此等下に嘆願

けん

24

2 (5)

FV

聯合貿易公司

丁力一廿一元

右小常

24(2) 4

578

0734

尊敬の的マッカード元帥閣下

突然やむにやまれぬ至情の致に拙筆致
るよげと失禮を何卒は海客より
實ハ曾て私小學校を学び折は一緒に
學びし元陸軍、醫松本兼人様
事に付きましてはたいした

承はよとろに依りてと現在がうをのめとれた
おいては取調べた受けでたれと由風のほ
うに聞きまして吃驚も致し又一体どうな

事でも不審にも考へてゐるのである。氏は生来正義感の強い一面、温情溢る、
 様子から人柄ではたいてい、私共も氏と共に
 席を並べて學ぶのを許ひに存じて
 居る。ゐ程では無いが、故郷を
 同じくする。氏は又、成人後、何かと
 振舞う津たみに下し、ゐの、と、
 考へる時、何卒、寛大に、人、
 思ふでは考慮に入れ、さ、

願ひ申上げられし事（す）も申上げ
次第ではなかり

右よりいそぎ當用のみ申上げませ、
局末筆より氣候不順の折に白ひた
すれば何れも自害あるに祈り上げ

六月十三日

徳永ふさ子

マッカーサー元師閣下

歎願書

貴司令部ヨリ戦争犯罪容疑者トシテ召喚中ノ元海軍
軍醫大尉松下兼久ハ、世々代々、禮節ヲ盡シ道義ヲ
重シジ眞ノ平和ヲ愛好スル郷土ノ名望家ナル松下一家ニ生育
シタル者デアリマシテ、本人、幼少ヨリ性行モ亦松下家ノ美風ヲ
ソマニ実践イタシ吾々知友ハ攀ツテ、本人ヲ以テトイタシ
タモデアリマスガ、本戦争ニ於テ彼ガ犯罪ヲ構成シタル疑ヲ以テ召
喚中ト承リマスル事ハ、知己一人トシマシテ耳ヲ疑サルヲ得ナイデアリマス
私ハ絶対ニ信ジタイト思ヒマス、決シテ彼ハ戦争犯罪人デナイト言フマトラ、
司令官閣下、何卒速カニ御詮議ノ上特別ノ御憐憫ヲ賜リ彼ノ再
生ヲ圖リ下サシマトラ母校ヲ同ウスル知己一人として茲に歎願申ス
次第デアリマス

[illegible]

青十二行

昭和廿一年六月十五日

鹿児島縣立福山中學校同窓會員

森園大 三

ワツカマサー司令官閣下

241 (2)

180

0740

No.

吾等の心としく敬愛する
マツカーサ元帥閣下へ
占領軍總司令長官閣下とて毎日御多忙の
日と異國の空に御送りおられぬマツカーサ元
帥閣下へ戦犯客疑者として戦犯の処に裁かれ
んとする親愛する吾等の友人 元陸軍少将松
下兼久氏の友として彼が助命及び無罪を歎願
すべく一級にかつての同窓として夫れとは存
じふからむここに御便りをして戴く次第で御
座居ます。

明治大學論文用紙

245 (1)

581

0741

数日前彼が某縣の人とありたるを聴き人
 等と共に驚愕したるなり
 何故彼は某縣の人とあり裁きの庭に立たふ
 くてはふふふふふふふふふふふふふふ
 彼が某縣の人とありしかども信じられ
 する人 彼はそれだけ吾等同志及後輩より敬
 慕されて来た人格の持主だつたのである
 の人がふせ某縣へ 吾等かゝる疑問をく
 りかへさざるをえふのである
 崇拝にあたりたる人物だつたのである

明治大學論叢刊紙

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尊敬愛するマツカーサ元帥閣下の御方をもつ

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人の友として彼が助命又無罪をマフカ―サス

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客
下

鹽屋園章



東京 1501

245 (Y)

584

0744

嘆願書

當所出身元海軍々醫大尉松下
 兼久君の戦争犯罪容疑者としての
 召喚に對し、少時代より特に
 親戚にして誰よりも同君性未
 だに現行はれつゝある御調査
 何れも御参考になることを信ず
 初等中等兩学校時代に於ける同君
 の資性温厚、品性方正にしてあら
 る方面に於ける研究的、旺盛な他
 類に類似を見ざる同君の理想は他
 教育と共に同君知、ひとしく
 将来を期待せるところでしたが予
 違はず其後優秀なる成績を
 入學官立高等学校、長崎醫學
 科大學を卒業の上、醫學部
 地獄を極める一方、才眼を利して
 材料診療、通案等と眞に醫學は
 教するのみで、その生業に唯、同君
 界大戦開始に際し、明もな、今世
 して、中なるも終、戦と共に
 せる同君の無事な終、戦と共に
 何程吾々は當所のため、人類

う爲喜んでたことが御想像以上あり
もつてありました。御父に不幸
何なる天の災が多きに戦犯を
義者として其方へ出頭を餘
吾々一同に遺恨は勿論
数々の戦時中に行なつて居ます。
に知り得ないとは云つても、具体的に
よ同君の行為は如く述べては格及還
境より推察して決して人道に取
敬もつたこととを信じ、又日本
辱服せる吾々を解放を願
する次第です。

昭和廿二年一月十一日

鹿児島県姪良郡福山町二四六一

松下 幸三

アッカーサー司令部 衛中

マツカザー 元師 (の歎願書)

平和自由 (の指導者) マツカザー 元師は歎願致す
抑て平和を求めんとす世界平和を乱るる日本の頭上は青らるる
あるものは混沌とよく秩序なき人類に執つて最も悲惨な
る事実であり歴史となつて仕舞ひおしある其れは丁度
物事に就て考へて見るならば事の善悪を良く悪視
せず將又自分勝手な振舞が禍あることと在り何事ぞ此の
事は表裏一体で在り且つるものか食は表面の
端水の動きと底流の動きとは全然反対の方向に流れて
行く事で有ります戦争中の勿論の事殊に戦争終了
の現今も國民の半には飢はゆる喧が澤山の人々には依
つて都市は占められ農村は捨てられ其處彼處は見

見受けきり 終戦に因るボウダ宣言の受託及び約束の
履行こそは我々日本國民に課せられた義務であり權利で
あると同時に唯一の平和、自由復帰の第一歩であり
其は生々其に傷々日本及び自由平等平和回復の夢中で
在ります、然る日本は善良にして高潔なる平和愛好者た
るものか、一先師の救ひの御身に因り咄咄と返るもの
で中絶焉、私の學友松下善久君は温厚にして
活氣旺盛、心の美しき又私共グループ中でも人好きのさ
れる人物で中絶焉、廿歳代になつてからは中絶とし
ての彼の人物者であると共に社交性及び道徳心に富ん
だ彼、松下善久君は彼の性質からして医學者として學問を
望み、今次の戦争もはる學徒として出征する彼の

胸中にあるもの(総て)少数の指導者達に個々戦争が如何に
我々を幸福な幸福を求めて約束するや其の平和・幸福
に背教しある事実は平和・人道に對する(行動)の結果
に於て不作為的效果を論ぜらるる結果になり我々に執り
希望を得られぬものとなり又戦争こそは人類がやま
に傷つき咽や事でなり非常は彼に此れを悲しみ心を痛
めたと聞いて居ります 小學校時代からの友として彼の性
質も充分知り盡く居ります私に彼につて語らうとしてか
(つて語り盡し切れぬ位なで困つて仕舞ひ方でや生々
する 而して彼は今次戦争の責任の罪に向ひし様な事
を犯しあると考へられませんか 元師殿、何卒
友人松田久君の爲に特別の申渡談を以て彼が若く

間違つて死する罪が中生居ますならば彼の勅命若くは
減刑(の中指置を耕せらるる様友達の人として
茲にマツカサリ元師の中前には中歎願由りて皆ます次第
で中生居ます 若く幸によつて彼の爲は善處致し下る
ますならば私も彼も彼の老いし市面親や友々達も何
も喜び嬉しむに咽び泣く事でせう 願ふばマツカサ
リ元師の中力よ彼松下君の如せし罪をならば何卒中赦下さ
い

鹿児島縣姶良郡福山町福山

立山平市

昭和五年六月

マツカサリ元師殿

24 (4)

590

數 願 書

謹んで裁判長閣下並に関係諸官に御願ひ申し上げます。

私は此度父島関係戦争犯罪裁判に於て元海軍軍醫大尉松下兼久が米軍飛行士虚刑事件に関聯し告發せられたと聞き事の意外に驚愕且悲しみに堪えざる者であります。彼の如き純情且内氣な人物が斯る行爲を行つたと言ふ事は私には到底信じ得られぬ處であります。若し之が事實とすれば彼は自らの意志からではなく上官の命令に依り己も無く行つたものと固く信じて疑ひません。日本海軍に於ては彼の如き若輩の軍醫科士官は上官の峻厳なる命令に對しては絶対服従を強いられるのが常でありましたから彼も必ずや悶々の情を胸に秘めつゝ述べて命令に服従したものに相違ないと思ひます。

彼と私との交友は父島に於て約一年四ヶ月間でありました。彼は温厚篤實なる新進青年軍醫家でありまして病者に接する態度は極めて親切丁寧。他部隊の患者をも煩を厭はず懇切に診療し就中研究心強に責任感の極めて旺盛なる事は熾烈なる空襲下不完全なる魚雷艇隊防空壕内に於ける虫歯尖手術施行の一例を以て充分首肯し得られると信じます。斯る故に彼は上下の信望を一身に集め將來の發展を大いに期待されてゐたのでありまして聞かぬ處にありませんと彼の同胞は兄三人妹一人であります。

長崎医科大学助教授なりし長兄は長崎市に對する
原子彈爆撃に依り瀕死の重傷を負ひ再起不能
を傳えられて居り陸軍を退任し次兄はニエギニアに於て
戦死を遂げられ妹は既に他家に嫁して居りますので
彼兼久は彼の家を背負つて立つ可き唯一の人物と
なつております。

若し彼が家郷に歸り得ば、様々事があり得るは
既に老境に入られぬ彼の両親の將來は如何なる中
であります。

度幾くは彼の特殊なる家庭事情御斟酌の上
將來平和日本建設に缺く可からざる新進有爲の
青年醫家松下兼久に對し何卒寛大なる御判決
を賜らんことを切に御願ひ申し上げます。

昭和二十一年九月八日

海軍軍醫少佐 酒井 正

父島開隊戦争犯罪裁判長閣下

繫 願 書

私ハ曾ツテ約ニ、年ノ間、父島魚雷艇隊ニ於テ最愛、
親友松下君ト起居ヲ共ニシテ來タ者デアリマス
此ニ度茲、島米軍々事裁判所ニ於キマシテ而モ尚
檢事側證人トシテ松下君ノ行爲ヲ事實トシテ陳述
セネバナラヌ立場トナシタ私ノ心中、松下君ノ日頃人爲
ヲ熟知シテ居ルダケニ如何ハカリ苦シイ事デアツタカ知
マセ、

松下君ハ性來天真爛漫極メテ純情シノモデアリマシ
誰彼ノ差別ナク凡テ人ニ對シテ温情慈悲深ク
患者ノ爲ニ晝夜ノ別ナク寢食ヲ忘レテ面倒ヲ見事
カ屢々デアリマシタ從ツテ私ノ隊ニ無論、事近隣、
隊ノ人達々々モ彼ヲ慕ハナイ者、誰一人アリマセシタ
一度彼ノ診察ヲ受ケタ者、彼ノ心カラ、誠意ニ感シ
次ニ是ヲ傳ヘル爲カ毎日所々方々カラ新患者訪
カアリマシタ。是ヲ以テシテモ彼ノ人爲ヲ充命ニ認
明出來ルモノト信ジマス

此、様々^ニ侵シイ松下君カ強制專斷、司令倉崎
安雄、嚴命^ニ依リ不本意作ラスル非人道的
行為ヲ強制セラレ茲ニ其ノ罪ヲ問ハレルニ至ツタ事、
運命ノ惡戯トハ云ヒ作ラ餘リニ彼ガ可哀想ヲ
ナリマセン

何卒裁判長閣下、御寛大ナル御裁キヲ切^ニ切^ニ
祈ツテ止マセシ

萬一叶ヘマセン時ハ私ニ其ノ半分ナリトモ御與ヘ下
サイマセ

最後ニ神ノ御恵ミ、アラニ事ヲ祈リマス

日本帝國海軍大尉
元海軍魚雷艇隊機關長
大久保 脩

裁判長閣下殿

July 8, 1946

To: His Excellency the Commander in Chief, Southwest Pacific Fleet.

I am the eldest brother of the incarcerated war criminal suspect Captain MATSUSHITA, Kanehisa, Doctor. I am deeply grateful for the legal efforts you have made for Japan: that is for the war criminal suspects, which I have heard from the Japanese lawyer TANIGUCHI on his return from Chichi Jima.

I cannot express by brush or by words how the people of Japan feel now that the war is lost.

I have first prepared a petition for KANEHISA to the Commander in Chief, in the Marianas for the American Pacific Fleet. Also, I've requested to call character witnesses; however, this permission hasn't been granted.

However, something unavoidable has occurred. I am one of the 14 or 15000 men wounded in the 1945 atomic bombing of Nagasaki. It's strange that I survived. Because of this I received various "atomic symptoms" and have become weakened, but happily was saved by medical treatment. Recently my health has improved and I made a trip from Nagasaki to Tokyo and presented the above-mentioned petition.

However, as a result of the heat in Tokyo, on the 2nd of July, while climbing a low mountain (Oyama) I became faint and fell. Soon I went to Tokyo Imperial University Medical College and was medically examined and found to be suffering from Aleucia hemorrhagica. That is, my blood pressure is very low. So I cannot travel by air nor go to a tropical zone, as it would be dangerous for me, and so I was forced to give up the trip to Guam. I am very sorry about this, but there was nothing else to do about it.

I wish to make a request to your excellency. From the bottom of our hearts we trust that you will find KANEHISA not guilty.

Nagasaki, 30 Una Machi
MATSUSHITA, Kanetomo
(Professor University Medical College)

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Matsushita, Kanetomo, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick, Jr.
EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.

PETITION

I place the following petition before Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission whom I most admire.

Please allow me to tell the following to you representing MATSUSHITA'S comrades of the Nagasaki Medical College.


MATSUSHITA was sincere and mild in nature, faithful and amiable among his friends and I have never met a man who loves right and peace stronger than he. Besides his sportsmanship and gentle attitude were really admirable. We who know his character well can not think that he would commit a crime. 52X

I expect your fair judgement and hope that you release him as soon as you can.

11 June 1946.

OGASAWARA NAGAAKI
Assistant of the
Nagasaki Medical College.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Ogasawara Nagaaki, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

Former Lieutenant (Surgeon) IJN, MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA, who is a native of our village, was called at the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War, served at Chichi Jima, and then was demobilized and came back. However, he was accused on account of the incident at Chichi Jima.

We jointly place this petition before you to release him. He was graduated from the Nagasaki Medical School, was mild and gentle, and was the model of the villagers. His father KENSEI is clean, gentle, and was appointed as the headman of the village. He served as the headman of our village for more than ten years and then as the head of the Agricultural Association for more than ten years. Though he is old now he is serving as the chief of the Supporter's Association of the National Schools. His elder brother was appointed the assistant professor of the Nagasaki Medical College, exerted himself in the medical education and was granted the degree of doctor of medicine. As we stated above his family is the model of the village both in name and reality. So we can not think that he could have committed the crime.

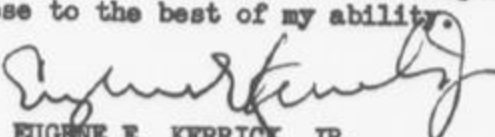
We beg that you will deal leniently with him.

17 June 1946.

Head of the Town
Assistant Clerk.

TOYOHIRA KINJI
TAKESHITA SHINZO
OGAWARA SHOJI
MINATO RINOSUKE
ARATA EIKICHI
HAMADA SUMITOMO
MATSUSHITA KANESUMI
MIYANOHARA MASAO
IMAMURA YOSUKE
MATSUSHITA MASANOBU
KUCHINOMACHI MATAZO
SHIGEHISA TOSHIO
KAWAIDA YASUHIKO
HAMADA TOKIKO
KOMISHI SUMIE
SEDOGAWA HIROKI.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of the above named men in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

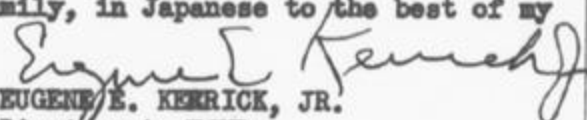
MATSUSHITA KANEHISA, former surgeon, IJN, is gentle and honest, conscious of his destiny to save mankind, and never behaves in such a way as to violate international law, I am sure.

I beg your kind considerations concerning what I have stated above and release him.

17 June 1946.

FUKUMORI MASAO and his family
1578 Fukuyama - Machi,
Aira-Gun, Kagoshima-Ken.
(Japan.)

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Fukumori, Masao, and his family, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

I humbly place this petition for clemency before you on hearing that former Naval Surgeon MATSUSHITA KANEHISA is accused.


I believe, that it was not his voluntary behavior but the order of his superior that caused this crime for which he is now being tried.

He was always amiable when he was with his friends. His father served as the head of the Industrial Association and was of good reputation among village men. I can not believe that the son of so noble a man should be a criminal. Although I don't know what he did exactly, I beg you to deal leniently with the man who is so mild and warm-hearted in nature.

17 June 1946.

FUKUSHIGE HISAO
3237 Fukuyama, Fukuyama-Machi.
Aira-Gun, Kagoshima-Ken, (Japan.)

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Fukushige Hisao in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

I humbly beg you to find MATSUSHITA KANEHISA, who is now being tried, "Not Guilty".

He was mild in nature. Besides, his father was the founder of the Industrial Association, instructed the villagers in democracy and was loved both as the head of the association and the father of the village. He resigned his position when the greater East Asia War began, and guided us in our farming. Since MATSUSHITA KANEHISA received his fathers education we loved him much, we believe that MATSUSHITA is not guilty.

18 June 1946.

HISADA KINOSUKE
899 Fukuyama, Fukuyama-Machi
Aira-gun, Kagoshima-Ken,
(Japan.)

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Hisada Kinesuke, In Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick, Jr.
EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.

PETITION FOR CLEMENCY IN THE CASE OF MATSUSHITA KENHEISA. SK

MATSUSHITA, one of my friends, was mild in nature, humane and benevolent both when he was a civilian and when he was in the navy. ZK

As he is an important person for the reconstruction of democratic Japan, I beg you to be so kind as to release him.

10 June 1946.

SHIGEFU SEIJI
Fukuyama, Fukuyama-Machi.
Aira-Gun, Kagoshima-Ken.
(Japan.)

To Your Honor, The President of the International War Tribunal at Guam.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Shigefu Seiji, in Japanese to the best of my ability.



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

PETITION

I humbly make my petition to you to find MATSUSHITA KANEHISA innocent. It is the feeling of our village men in general that he is not guilty. Therefore, I beg you to set him free as an innocent man as he is worth much to our future.

18 June 1946.

TAKEISHI TOMOHIKO
1173 Fukuyama, Fukuyama-hiachi,
Aira Gun, Kagoshima, Ken, (Japan.)

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Takeishi Tomohiko, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick, Jr.
EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.

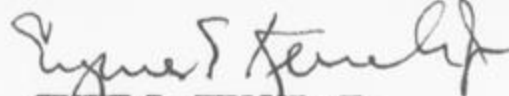
PETITION

I humbly beg you to find "not guilty" MATSUSHITA KANEHISA. He is a mild young man. I think he could not commit the crime of his own accord but that he was obliged to obey the orders of his superior. I beg you to find him "not guilty".

18 June 1946 .

MINATO KANSUKE
2923 Fukuyama, Fukuyama, (Japan.)

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Minato Kansuke, in Japanese to the best of my ability.



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

PETITION

I beg you to find MATSUSHITA KANEHISA not guilty in this trial. His father was the founder of the Fukuyama-machi Industrial Association, taught democracy to the village men and was loved by the village men as their father. He resigned his position after the outbreak of the greater East Asia War and instructed us in agriculture. Kanehisa received education from his father and was closely associated with us. We heartily believe that he is not guilty.

18 June 1946

HORIKIRI TAREYASU
1184 Fukuyama, Fukuyama-machi
Aira-gun, Kagoshima-Ken, Japan.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Horikiri Tareyasu, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick, Jr.
EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.

PETITION

I was much surprised to hear that MATSUSHITA KANEHISA is now being tried as a war criminal. He has been mild in nature since he was young, and a man with a model character in the village. His father is a great benefactor of Fukuyama-machi which owes everything it is today to him. He served for a long time as the headman of the village and his meritorious deeds as the head of the Industrial Association were very great. We beg that you deal leniently with him for the sake of his noble father person and for the village of Fukuyama.

18 June 1946.

YONESAWA SAHIRO
3173 Fukuyama, Fukuyama-machi.
Aira-gun, Kagoshima, Japan.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Yonesawa Sahiro, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick, Jr.
EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.

PETITION

Former Lieutenant (surgeon) MATSUSHITA KANEHISA who is a native of this village was called at the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War, served at Chichi Jima and was demobilized lately. However, he was accused because of an incident when he served at Chichi Jima.

Therefore, we jointly petition you to release him.

He graduated from the Nagasaki Medical College. He is mild and a gentle in nature and was the model of our village men. His father KENSEI is clever, gentle and honest. He served, by unanimous consent as the headman of the village more than ten years. Then he served as the mangger of the Agricultural Association for more than ten years. He is now holding the post of the Chief of the Supporter's Association of Primary Schools to the best of his ability. His elder brother was appointed assistant professor of the Nagasaki Medical School after his graduation, and was granted Doctor of Medicine.

Therefore, his family is very honorable both in name and in reality, and we can not believe that he committed the crime.

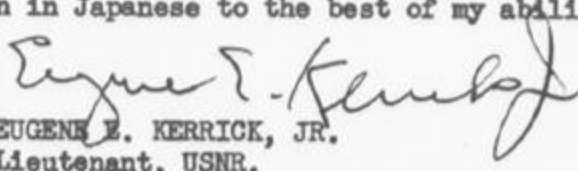
We hereby beg that you will deal leniently with him.

14 June 1946.

Head of FUKUYAMA-Machi,
Staff of the office.

TOYOHIRA KINJI
TAKESHITA SHUZO
MIYANOHARA MASAO
TAKESHITA KAICHIRO
KUCHINOMACHI KUNIKICHI
MINATO AINCSUKE
MATSUSHITA KANESUME
SHIGEHISA TOSHIO
HIGO SHIGEHEI

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of the above named men in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

I hear that MATSUSHITA KANEHISA is going to be tried as a war criminal.

I loved him and admired his personality. Therefore, I humbly place this petition being anxious about him and hope for your kind clemency.

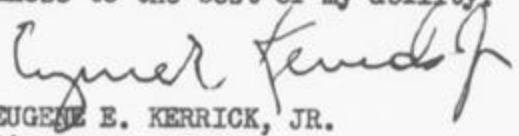
Since I was born in this village of FUKUYAMA and became intimately associated with him, I admired his mild character and noble personality, and feel sorry that he is accused as a war criminal. 281

He was so kind to us. I cannot imagine that he could have maltreated a prisoner of war and be accused on account of it. I can recall that he was very manly and also as kind as one's mother.

I beg your kind consideration concerning what I have just mentioned and that you deal leniently with him.

TANAKA YOSHIKASA
c/o FUKUYAMA Student's Association
TUKUYAMA, FUKUYAMA-Machi, AIRA-Gun,
KAGOSHIMA-Ken, JAPAN.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Tanaka, Yoshikasa, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

I am surprised to hear that MATSUSHITA KANEHISA was imprisoned as a war criminal and wish to submit this petition.

MATSUSHITA was a monitor one grade higher than us and was so patient and kind while giving us instruction that I shall never forget him.


MATSUSHITA's father was the mayor of FUKUYAMA-Machi and established the Industrial Association of the village. He instructed the men of the village as he was the first manager of the association and has a good reputation even now.

I think that a man like his father is really democratic. MATSUSHITA, the son of this kind of a man was not arrested because he was guilty, but because of the orders of militarists obliged him to do a foul deed. He understands well, like his elder brother, that "The Medical Art is the benevolent one". His elder brother was a person who was willing to give medicine without charge to those who were poor.

I do not know how he will be punished. But I beg that you will be so kind as to take into consideration what I have just mentioned and deal leniently with him.

SHIGEHISA HARUYUK

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Shigehisa Haruyuk in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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


PETITION

MATSUSHITA KANEHISA who is now in prison as a war criminal was brought up in a family of good lineage. His father served as the head of the village, the Manager of the Industrial Association and in other important offices, and his benevolent character was loved and admired by the village men. His son KANEHISA was mild in nature and was trusted by his friends. He could not have committed this crime of his own accord, but he was obliged to obey the order of his superior, because he was one of the military personnel. Since he is an indispensable young man, I beg, that you will deal leniently with him.

30 June 1946

TAKENOSHITA YOUCHI
FUKUYAMA-Machi, AIRA-Gun.
KAGOSHIMA-Ken, Japan.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Takenoshita, Youchi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

CLEMENCY PETITION FOR MATSUSHITA KANEHISA.

On behalf of MATSUSHITA KANEHISA, former naval surgeon, who is being tried as a war criminal, please allow me to state that we knew him as a senior in medical school who was truly mastering the benevolent art of medicine.

We firmly believe that he is not capable of an immoral crime.

If he has committed an act contrary to the rules of war, we cannot but think that he was forced to do it as a doctor under orders of his superior

We hereby fervently hope that you will be lenient with him at his trial and find him not guilty.

Classmate . TAKANO TOSHIMICHI
Kagoshima Prefecture, Aira County,
Fukuyama-cho. Tanaka Gi-ichi.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Takano Toshimichi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick, Jr.
EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.


PETITION

I am surprised to hear that former lieutenant (surgeon) MATSUSHITA KANEHISA is now being tried. His father is the headman of our village and the manager of the Industrial association. His service was so distinguished and his virtue was so great that he was loved and admired by the village men. KANEHISA, his fourth son, is kind to his friends, pure and upright, and has strong beliefs. I knew his character well when he was studying at his primary and middle school. He can not do wrong deeds, I am sure. I think he would be obliged to do wrong deeds only by the orders of his superior, if he did. He is not a man who does such a thing of his own accord, I am certain. I beg your kind consideration concerning what I have just mentioned and that you deal leniently with him.

1 June 1946.

ISHIHARADA ISAMO

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Ishiharada Isamo, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

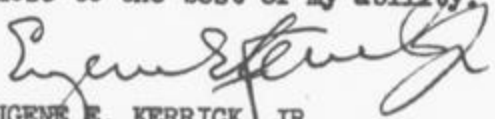
PETITION

I am surprised to hear that former lieutenant (surgeon) MATSUSHITA KANEHISA is now being tried. His father is the headman of our village and the manager of the Industrial association. His service was so distinguished and his virtue was so great that he was loved and admired by the village men. KANEHISA, his fourth son, is kind to his friends, pure and upright, and has strong beliefs. I knew his character well when he was studying at his primary and middle school. He can not do wrong deeds, I am sure. I think he would be obliged to do wrong deeds only by the orders of his superior, if he did. He is not a man who does such a thing of his own accord, I am certain. I beg your kind consideration concerning what I have just mentioned and that you deal leniently with him.

1 June 1946.

ISHIHARADA ISAMO

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Ishiharada Isamo, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

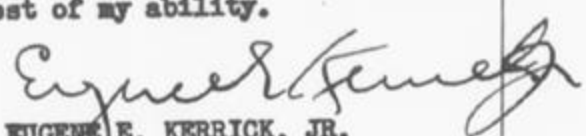
MATSUSHITA KANEHISA was a gentle, upright person and was admired as the model for the youth of our village. With all my heart I beg that you will deal leniently with him.

13 June 1946.

TOE KEIZO
1261 Fukuyama,
Aira-gun, Kagoshima-Ken, Japan.

To Your Honor, General McArthur, Supreme Commander for the Allied Forces.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Toe Keizo, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

To: The Presiding Judge and others of the GUAM court.


From: KOYANO, HOHEI, (M.D.), Dean of the NAGASAKI Medical College.

DATE 25 July 1946.

The former Lieutenant MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA of the Japanese Navy Medical Corps, who at present is being held as a suspect at the war Crimes trial regarding the CHICHI JIMA incident, completed the four year course here at this college prior to his induction into the navy in 1943. He then served for a while as an apprentice in the Department of Psychiatry at our NAGASAKI Medical College where his brother, MATSUSHITA, KANETOMO was engaged as an assistant instructor. He is not a professional military man.

As his group advisor during his school days, I had frequent associations with him, and I came to know him quite well. He was a gentle natured and compassionate youth. He was also a conscientious student, and graduated third highest in his class. In view of his character, I find it incongruous that he would be the type of person who would wantonly practice brutality and commit atrocities. Therefore, I beg your most liberal consideration in this matter.

I certify this to be a true and correct translation of the original petition in Japanese of Koyano, Hohei, to the best of my ability.


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

To: General of the Army, MacARTHUR, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces and to the Judges of American Forces on GUAM Island.

From: ATSUJI, Masanobu, and 46 others.
KAGOSHIMA-Ken, AIRA-Gun, FUKUYAMA-Machi, FUKUYAMA.

Letter of Appeal:

Naval Doctor, Lieutenant (sg) MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA, (27 years of age) went to Chichi Jima as a naval doctor attached to the garrison there and came home after the end of the war. Later he was called back by the Military Tribunal to stand trial as a war criminal suspect.

I, as a relative, know him very well, and firmly believe that he is not the type to do such a thing. I presume that if such a thing should actually have occurred it was due to the strain of battle conditions, or in compliance with orders from superiors, or the result of unavoidable external circumstances.

I hereby beg for fair judgment by the court and introduce the members of his family. His father has served many years as a public official, as mayor of the town, as the originator of the industrial guild; etc. He has also endeavored to promote orange growing in this locality. He brought his sons up well and sent them all, except the second son, to the NAGASAKI Medical College. The eldest and third sons are doctors of medicine, the eldest being a professor of Mental Science in NAGASAKI Medical College. He has lent his efforts to the reconstruction of schools and toward the rebirth of JAPAN as a democratic country. The third son died of malaria in NEW GUINEA during this war.

KANEHISA was not a professional soldier at all. If he should become a civilian as the result of your clemency, he will devote the rest of his life to the establishment of a democratic JAPAN with everlasting appreciation of your clemency from the bottom of his heart. It will be a great stimulus to the younger generation of FUKUYAMA as the dawn of a democratic New JAPAN. *SM*

Again I stress the point that he was not a professional soldier. While he was a student of NAGASAKI Medical College he associated with former British Consul T.J. WALNE and an American Mr. DESHIRE and many others. He had international culture and understanding in him. *SL*

We sincerely condemn the mistaken course that JAPAN took in the past causing so much trouble for the adjacent countries and to the world. But I now sincerely hope to become a happy citizen of peace loving JAPAN. I beg and pray for a broad-minded decision for the sake of Mahayanist Buddhism.

I thank you.

12 June 1946.

ATSUJI, MASANOBU. Appaler.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Atsugi, Masanobu, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick, Jr.
EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.

To: General of the Army MacARTHUR, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces.

From: DATE, Moriso (46 years of age), KAGOSHIMA-Ken, ATRA-Gun, FUKUYAMA-Machi, FUKUYAMA No. 2763.

Letter of Appeal.

I hereby respectfully appeal for the release of former naval doctor Lieutenant (sg) MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA. I know his father who served three times as mayor of the town and contributed greatly toward the welfare of the people of the town. He is the originator of the industrial guild in this town and the promoter of orange growing in this locality. He sent three of his sons to medical college and one to the college of Science and Literature. He is now the mayor of the city and the head of the boosters' association of the local school.

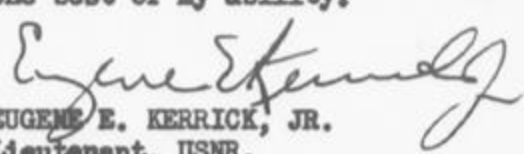
Because I have known his son for a long time, I know that he believes in righteous action.

I sincerely hope for a fair trial and that he will, as a medical expert, be allowed to work for the welfare of man in the peace loving New JAPAN.

I appeal again and again for fair treatment of his case.

15 June 1946.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Date, Moriso, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

To: General of the Army MacARTHUR, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces, in JAPAN.

From: KURU, Keizo, KAGOSHIMA-Ken, ATRA-Gun, FUKUYAMA-Machi 2952 Banchi.

Letter of appeal for the release of former naval doctor, Lieutenant (sg) MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA.

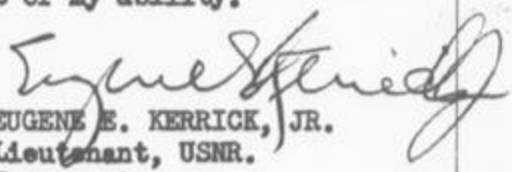
To my great surprise, former naval doctor, Lieutenant (sg) MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA attached to the garrison in CHICHI JIMA was arrested as a war criminal suspect.

I do not know the details, but I cannot believe that he could have done anything which would brand him as a war criminal. He was good natured, honest, and was very popular among his friends. Also he kept up a good school record. He hoped to become a doctor in order to contribute to mankind and I really sympathize with him that this unfortunate war occurred in his lifetime. I sincerely hope and pray that his innocence be proved so that he may again engage in his self-chosen profession fulfilling his original desire.

I sincerely hope and pray for special consideration concerning his personal affairs. Because I cannot stand by and watch his parents worry any longer, I have taken the liberty to respectfully submit this appeal.

15 June 1946.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Kuru, Keizo, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

To: General of the Army MacArthur.

From: TOKUNAGA, KUMIKO
17 June 1946.


I humbly apologize for sending in a rude letter to you in order to make the following appeal.

To my great surprise, I heard my classmate at the grade school, former naval doctor, lieutenant (jg) MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA, has been placed on trial at GUAM Island. He was a strong believer of righteousness and at the same time very kind. We all enjoyed studying with him at school.

I respectfully appeal to you to consider his good nature in which I firmly believe because I have known him since we were grade school classmates.

I sincerely wish that you will enjoy good fortune and good health.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Tokunaga, Kumiko, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

To: General of the Army MacArthur, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces.

From: KIYAMA, Tsunejiro, KAGOSHIMA-Ken, AIRA-Gun, FUKUYAMA-Machi.


Letter of Appeal.

I was surprised to hear that MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA has been arrested as a war criminal suspect and put into a prison camp on GUAM. I was his junior from grade school days, and I respected his good nature and high moral standards. He also was elected as president for his class throughout grade school days.

I hereby take the liberty of making an appeal in my poor handwriting hoping that his trial will be fair, taking his past deeds and record into consideration.

I hereby respectfully make this appeal to you.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Kiyama, Tsunejiro, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

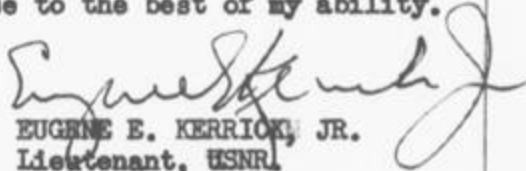
To: General of the Army MacARTHUR, Commander in Chief of Allied Forces.

From: TAKENOSHITA, KIKACHIRO, KAGOSHIMA-Ken, AIRA-Gun, FUKUYAMA-Machi.
13 June 1946 .

Former Naval Doctor Lieutenant (sg) MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA, who was attached to the garrison on CHICHI JIMA, has been my friend since childhood days. I believe that I understand his honest nature and goodness better than any other person in the world. He is a honest, quiet natured person. He headed his class at grade school for five years and entered high school skipping one year. Although many wanted to enter the military school, he chose the medical school at NAGASAKI. I was a student of dental school when I became his friend. Soon after graduation, without any chance for further study in his chosen career, he was drafted into the navy as a doctor. He told me that he never liked navy life. His spirit of charity for the protection of mankind has never changed although he wore the uniform. I don't hesitate to say that he was not a person who would do anything which is against humanity.

I sincerely hope for a broadminded, fair treatment concerning his past activity.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Takenoshita, Kikachiro, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION FOR CLEMENCY IN THE CASE OF FORMER LIEUTENANT (SURGEON) IJN,
MATSUSHITA KANEHISA.

I humbly place my petition before Your Honor, General MacARTHUR, Supreme Commander for the Allied Forces, who is admired as the reincarnation justice and humanity itself while the Japanese have become lax and their morals have fallen into a state of decay.

MATSUSHITA and I lived in the same village and went to the same school. He was mild, virtuous, clever, and was admired by all of us. His reputation became excellent as he grew older, and he was indispensable to the people at FUKUYAMA.

However, he is said to be accused as a suspected war criminal. Our village men were so sorry to hear it that they could not even work at all. "If he is a war criminal all the Japanese ought to be criminals", it is said.

Besides his father struggled for the rise of our native village at the risk of his life, and his distinguished service was admired by the village men. Besides, his brothers exerted themselves in educational and medical art for the village men so earnestly that his family was famous all over the village.

Therefore, I can not believe that he is a suspected war criminal, because he is so virtuous in character and was brought up in such a good family.

I beg your kind considerations concerning what I have just mentioned and that you deal leniently with him.

15 June 1946.


Head of the village KAWAHATA IWAKICHI

son KAWAHATA IWAO

2246 FUKUYAMA, FUKUYAMA-Machi,
AIRA - Gun, KAGOSHIMA-Ken. (Japan.)

To Your Honor, General MacARTHUR, Supreme Commander for the Allied Forces.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Kawahata, Iwakichi, and his son Kawahata, Iwao, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

To your honor, General McArthur whom I admire above all other men.

I humbly place my petition before you.

MATSUSHITA KANEHISA, former lieutenant (Surgeon) of the IJN at Chichi Jima, who was accused as a suspect war criminal is my friend. He was gentle at his village, and loved and admired by village men. As far as I know, he is not the man who commits crimes but the model of young men.

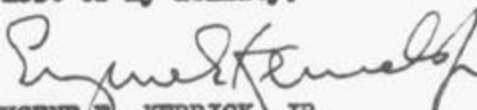
It is very lamentable to hear that he will be tried at the International War Tribunal.

I beg your kind sympathy and consideration for him. I am sure that God will save him.

12 June 1946.

KAWAIDA TAKI
KAWAIDA RIKIKO

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Kawaida Taki, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

Petition for clemency in the case of Surgeon MATSUSHITA KANEHISA.

I am very surprised to hear that MATSUSHITA, KANEHISA, was accused as a war criminal. Therefore, I humbly place this petition before you and beg you to deal leniently with him.

Though I don't know what he did at the front I know that he was kind to others and was loved and admired by his classmates. Besides, he was benevolent and always said that one must do much more for others than for himself, and carried this out to the letter. I know many classmates who were deeply influenced by his thought. He studied medical art for the happiness of mankind and always yearned for liberty and peace.

He lamented the break out of Sino-Japanese incident and desired the peace of the world.

I can not but feel sorrowful when I think how MATSUSHITA feels now. His parents in his native village are now in deep sorrow.


I hereby beg that you will kindly release him.

14 June 1946.

KONO TATSUMI
MATSUSHITA AKIRA
Fukuyama-machi, Aira-gun
Kagoshima-Ken, Japan.

To your honor, General McArthur
the Supreme Commander for the Allied Forces.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Kono Tatsumi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

I am very sorry that MATSUSHITA KANEHISA (former lieutenant, surgeon, IJN) is in prison as a war criminal at Guam.

Since I lived in his neighborhood and received his instruction, I know his character better than anyone else.

He was gentle, kind to the young people and esteemed the individuality of others. And it is also representative of his character to receive others as amiably as if he were their brother. When he was demobilized and came back, I visited him and said, "Many thanks for your trouble. I think you must have experienced many hardships". He answered, "the occupation forces were so kind to us. I feel so thankful for them". These few words explain well his noble character.

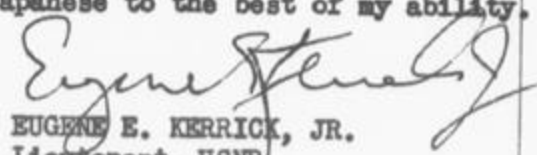
Though I know him well, what his parents think of him is far beyond my imagination. As they know him well so their grief is great. I was filled with deep emotion when I saw them making their effort for the reconstruction of Japan always anxious about their son.

I beg your kind consideration concerning what I have just mentioned and that you deal leniently with him.

13 June 1946.

MOMURA SHUNICHI to Your Honor,
General McArthur.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Momura, Shunichi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

To Your Honor, General MacArthur, whom I admire most.

Please forgive the rudeness that I, a mere civilian, dare to write to your Honor whom I suppose to be busy every day.

I hear that former Surgeon Matsushita Kanehisa, who was so intimate with me in our school days, has been accused as a war criminal. I am very surprised to hear it and humbly place this petition before you.

As we had friendly relations during my school days, I know his character well and his thoughts. The word "mild" and "gentle" explains well every detail of his character, I think.

This noble character of his was admired by those who associated with him. It seems impossible to me that he who is as mild as a lamb should commit such a crime. On the contrary, he has also a manly character, and never did anything but what was right.

As for us, we cannot believe that he should ^{do} of his own accord a deed like the one for which he was accused. Dkt

If it is a fact, I can imagine that it was either a mistake or against his will.

His honest family was grieved when they received the incredible information and can not even do their daily work. When I saw his aged parents in weeping, who used to boast of their good son, I can only pray to God to save these honest people.

Your Honor, General MacArthur, I beg you to understand what I have stated above and save this honest person. I beg you to save the aged parents who love their son with all their heart.

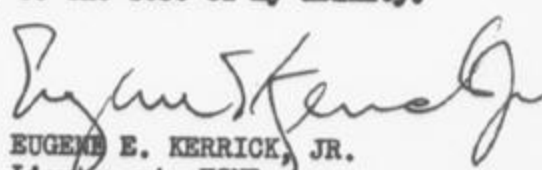
How great will be the joy and happiness of his parents and brothers if you approve it. They will never forget your kindness.

Please forgive me for placing this humble petition before you. And I beg you will grant my supplication.

An honest peasant

HIROSE Yoshinoba

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Hirose Yoshinoba, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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


PETITION

To Your Honor, General MacArthur, Supreme Commander of the Allied Power:

Concerning the case of Matsushita Kanehisa who is gentle and upright.
I beg that your verdict be "Not Guilty" with my whole heart.

TAKENOSHITA Masuo
Fukuyama-Machi, Aira-Gun.
Kagoshima-Ken, Japan.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original
petition of Takenoshita Masuo, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

65

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Petition for Clemency in the Case of Matsushita Kanehisa.

I was astonished to hear that Matsushita Kanehisa, former Lieutenant Surgeon, LJM, attached to the Chichi Jima Garrison, has been accused as a war criminal.

Though I don't know the real circumstances of his crime, I can not believe that he could have had any evil intentions and commit a crime.

He was mild, benevolent and clever in nature, sympathetic to others, and, therefore, had a good reputation among his village men.

It was his destiny to become a doctor. He did so and he offered his benevolence and love for the happiness of mankind. I feel so sorry for him that he had to be a victim of such a misfortune in his life.

I believe that he is too benevolent to commit such a crime, and hope that it will be decided that he is "not guilty" and that he will come back to his happy life. Everybody wishes that he will come back and be able to pursue his destiny.

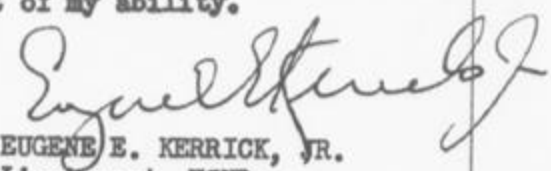
I hope that your Honor, the President of the Military Commission will see fit to deal leniently with him. Therefore, I place this petition before you.

15 June 1946.

KURU, Keizo
Nakao Naoshi
2952 Nakayama-machi
Aira-Jim, Kagoshima Japan

To Your Honor, general McArthur, Supreme Commander for the Allied Power.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Kuru Keizo, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

I have learned, to my great astonishment, that my friend, Mr. Kanehisa Matsushita is imprisoned at Guam as a war criminal suspect.

He is a serious minded and kind-hearted man. He was repeatedly elected monitor in the primary school and all the people, associating with him have been favorably influenced, regardless of their ages. I was one of his seniors in the primary school and the middle school and I am one of those who have been influenced by his sublime personality and who held him in high esteem and reverence, and who are extremely grieved to find that such a deplorable fate has befallen him.


We believe that his previous exemplary conduct holds him worthy of consideration of his case.

We hereby most humbly and earnestly plead for the mitigation of his punishment, if he is ever found guilty of the charge.

KIYAMA, Tsunejiho

To Your Honor, General MacArthur, Supreme Commander for the Allied Forces.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Kiyama Tsunejiho, in Japanese to the best of my ability.



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

PETITION

13 June 1946

To Your Honor General MacArthur.

I was surprised to hear that Matsushita Kanehisa was named as a suspected War Criminal and is now imprisoned at Guam.

He was earnest and kind to all and my conscience compels me to communicate with your excellency regarding the person of the ex-Navy surgeon, Mr. Kanehisa Matsushita with whom I went to the same primary school.

I am surprised to hear that he is being tried on Guam and I wonder what he is being accused for.

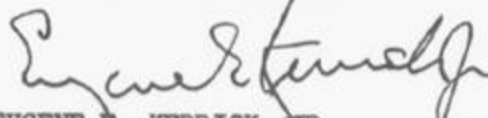
He was given to righteousness and humanity and we were very happy to study with him.

I beg your excellency to take this fact into consideration.

I hope your excellency will take good care yourself as it is heading toward an unfavorable season.

Kumiko Tokunaga.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Kumiko Tokunaga, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

Petition to General of the Army MacArthur.

Former Navy Surgeon Lt. Matsushita, Kanehisa, who has been recalled by your headquarters as a war crimes suspect, was born and brought up in a family which is known in this part of the country for promoting courtesy, placing high value on morals and sincerely loving peace.

The character and conduct of Matsushita from his childhood followed in the footsteps of the beautiful traditions of his family. We, his friends and acquaintances have tried to model ourselves after him. When I heard that he had been recalled on suspicion that he had committed a criminal offense in this war there was not one person among his acquaintances that could believe what he heard. I would like to believe absolutely that he is not a war criminal.

Your Honor, I am pleading as an acquaintance who graduated from the same school for speedy deliberation and for your mercy by which he may be granted a new life.

June 15, 1946.

Member graduates Club, Fukuyama, Middle School

Kagoshima Prefecture

MARISONO, Daizo.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Marisono, Daizo, in Japanese to the best of my ability.



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

I wish to plead in behalf of my dearest class-mate Mr. Kanehisa Matsushita, ex-Navy Surgeon-Lieutenant, who is now under trial as a war criminal suspect, although I fully realize the impropriety of intruding upon your honor when your honor is hard pressed with business under the foreign sky. 245

We, his friends, were dumb-founded to learn a few days ago that Mr. Matsushita is confined at Sugamo. We wonder what in the world has brought him to trial of justice. We can hardly believe it. He has been a person of such an honorable personality that it is very hard for us, who are his seniors, colleagues and juniors to take the information as true. We are haunted with doubts about the reason for his imprisonment. He used to be such a noble character.


Please, General MacArthur! Allow us to beg your honor to retrieve him who is our most honorable and beloved friend, and whose personality we can most safely answer for.

And again please, allow us to present our petition to your honor, General MacArthur, for Mr. Matsushita's life and acquittal and give him back to us as our beloved and respectable friend.

Our most honorable, General MacArthur.

Shionosono Akira.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Shionosono Akira, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

Address to: General MacArthur's General Headquarters.

I hope this petition will be of some use in the investigation of the accused ex-Navy Surgeon-Lieutenant, Mr. Kanehisa Matsushita's case because I have personally known the accused since his boyhood as my relative, who was born in this same town that I myself was born in.

The accused has been well-bred and is very promising and his reputation as a primary school pupil and a middle-school student is that of a well-behaved and most studious school-boy and every friend and acquaintance of the accused's looked forward to the accused's fruitful future.

The accused was graduated from the Seventh Government High School and the Nagasaki Medical College with excellent records and started a life which embodied the saying "medicine is a benevolent art"; practicing medicine free of charge in villages where there were no doctors.

Soon afterward the outbreak of the Pacific War immediately called the accused up to the colors. When the end of the war brought the accused back to us, raising the hopes of our town and of public welfare, the occasion made the whole town as happy as it could be. To our great alarm, however this happiness of ours proved only short-lived, as the accused was suddenly taken away from our welcoming hands and brought to trial as a war criminal suspect, leaving his family and friends in the depths of sorrow.


Although we were not informed of the incident, this character and record testify that the accused is above any inhuman conduct.

Allow us to most humbly and earnestly beg your excellency for the prompt acquittal of this respectable person, Mr. Kanehisa Matsushita, the accused.

Mrs. Yoshibumi-Matsushita, #2461, Fukuyama-sachi,
Shira-gun, Kagoshima-ken, Japan.

11 June 1946

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Mr. Yoshibumi Matsushita, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION TO GENERAL MACARTHUR

I submit this petition to General MacArthur, our guide to peace and freedom.

Japan, in her search for peace, completely disrupted world peace and proceeded to write one of the blackest pages of chaos and disorder in the history of mankind. If we examine this situation carefully, we find that Japan's short-sighted, irresponsible and selfish conduct resulted in a great disaster. Although world affairs ought to be nothing but harmonious, what appears to be happening on the surface and what is actually happening beneath the surface are two entirely different things.

Not only during the war, but even now, after the war is over, in the cities and rural districts throughout Japan the pangs of hunger are being felt.

Fulfillment of the acceptance and promises of the Potsdam Declaration, which was made at the end of the war, is not only the right and duty of the Japanese people, but also the first step in the return to peace and freedom. It is also the means by which the Japanese people, who live together and work together, can return to a peace of freedom and equality. Japan is a fine country, and with the help of General MacArthur, who is a noble and peace-loving man, it will be restored.

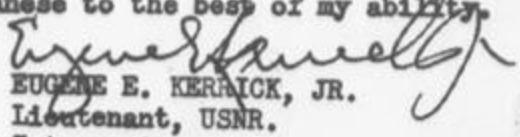
My school friend, Matsushita Kanehisa, is a gentle, energetic fellow and is well liked by his friends. After he became of age, I knew him to be a man with a good personality and with high moral and social standards. He was a good medical student by nature, and after he graduated from medical school he went to the front as an intern. While he was serving in the Navy, the fact that war is internecine and that nothing but destruction and bloodshed is the result was constantly in his mind. He has been extremely worried about this. I cannot believe that he has done anything for which he can be indicted.

As one of his best friends, I beg you to consider his case carefully and to be lenient with him. If you pardon him, his aged parents and all his friends will shed tears of joy.

If Matsushita has committed any crime, I pray that you will find it in your heart to forgive him.

Mr. Heichi Tateyama. Fukuyama, Fukuyamamachi, Shira-Gun, Kagoshima, Japan

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Mr. Heichi Tateyama, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

To Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission:

I hereby make my humble plea to Your Honor the President and the Members of the Commission.

I have heard that the former Lieutenant (Surgeon) Matsushita, Kanehisa has been indicted in the Chichi Jima War Crimes Trials and is involved in the execution of an American Prisoner of War. I cannot suppress my surprise and grief at learning of this unexpected occurrence.

I cannot believe that a shy and innocent person like Matsushita could have done such an act but I am confident that if the charges are true, it must have been because he executed a superior's orders, from which there was no escape, and that it was not one of his own free will.

It is usual in the Japanese Navy, for a young medical officer likeself to be forced to observe his superior's orders absolutely, and I am sure that he was torn with emotion when he had to obey orders.

I was associated with him for a period of a year and found months at Chichi Jima. He was a young and eager student of medicine, and his attitude towards his patients, though they may have been from other units was always sincere. Furthermore, he was conscientious in executing his duties and his strong sense of responsibility resulted in his carrying on appendicitis operations inside the Torpedo Boat Squadron's poorly equipped cave during a heavy bombing. us/k

For such deeds, he was deeply trusted by his superiors and a brilliant future was expected by all.

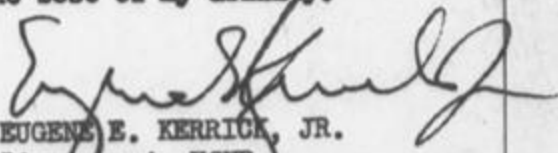
Though he previously had two elder brothers and a younger sister, his elder brother, who was an assistant professor at the Nagasaki Medical College was severely injured by the Atomic Bomb dropped there, and his other elder brother, who was a medical officer with the Army died in action in New Guinea. His sister has already married, leaving him the only person to support his family.

If it is made impossible for him to return to his native place, what will become of his aging parents?

I humbly beg your kind consideration of the unusual circumstances in the case of this young officer Matsushita, Kanehisa, whose activities are so required for the reconstruction of a peaceful Japan, and award him a lenient verdict.

Sakai Tadashi
Lt. Commr. (Surgeon)
8 September 1946

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Sakai Tadashi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

PETITION

To Your Honor, the President of the Military Commission:

I am one who has had the experience of living together with my bosom friend, Matsushita, Kanehisa, for two years at the Chichi Jima Motor Torpedo Boat Unit. I was filled with deep regret when I had to testify as a witness for the prosecution at this military tribunal about the acts of Matsushita, though they are facts, although I well knew his fine character very well. SK

Matsushita had unaffected character and an unblemished reputation, was affectionate and considerate towards all. He took care of his patients so conscientiously that he often forgot to eat and sleep. Because of this, all the personnel of my unit, and even those of others in the vicinity respected and revered him. Those who had been treated by him always felt that he was deeply sincere, and his reputation became widespread, and thus new patients came to him daily, I am convinced that this is enough to prove his benevolent character.

It may be called an irony of fate that gentle Matsushita is being charged with an inhumane act which he committed unwillingly by the stern order of the arbitrary and stubborn commanding officer, Kurasaki, Yasuao.


Your Honor, I fervently beg that you be lenient in deciding upon his case.

If this cannot be done, I ask that I be allowed to serve half the sentence.

I pray that God bless you all.

OKUBO OSAMU
Lieutenant, IJN
Chief Engineer, 2nd Motor
Torpedo Unit.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Okubo, Osamu, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

TACHIBANA, YOSHIO *et al.*

(154578)
PART 4 of 4

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An Obituary of Penitence.
to the Military Court W. J. F. J. J. J.
Today, with the termination of the greatest war in
history, millions of soldiers the world over are returning
to their native lands, to their homes, to their families
and loved ones, their duty to their country fulfilled.
There is no distinction between victors and vanquished,
for both have fought courageously for that ideal which
they believed to have been true, fought and sacrificed
for a cause believed to have been fundamental. It
was not theirs to reason why, it was theirs to do or
to die. Many gave their all, many, indeed too many
will not return again. "No greater sacrifice can a
man make than to lay down his life for his
country." But to those destined by the Grace of God to
return, to rebuild, to reconstruct, to lay the foundation
for a new and better nation, "We, here, highly resolve
that these dead shall not have died in vain, that
this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of

freedom...

But, as it is in every war duty to one's country means the execution of disagreeable, oftentimes unjustified tasks. When a man's character is severely tried, when duty to one's country, to one's superior may mean the violation of the very essence of mankind, it is then that the period of frustration and uncertainty, of doubt and inconstancy is climaxed. Human lives are determined and guided by the external forces of environment. But we are endowed with certain behavioristic patterns, inborn and inherent that react when subjected to negative action. That is what partially determines right and wrong, do and do-not.

Such, I believe to have been the case of Capt. Kanehisa Matsushita, age 27, a Medical Doctor of the Japanese Army, held on charges of brutality and subject for trial by a Military Court as a War Criminal.

Kanehisa Matsumoto, unmarried, graduate of the
Nagasaki Medical University, a doctor by profession, who
dedicated his life to the saving of human lives, is
today awaiting trial by an Allied Military Court
on the island of Guam. Kanehisa Matsumoto, a young
refined complacent man, destined for a brilliant future
in the medical profession, beloved by his family,
respected by the community, has incurably his
impeachment. To his family, his many friends, to his
acquaintances, the news of his apprehension has
been incredulous shock. To his mother and father to
whom he has bestowed all the love and kindness
that can only come from a strong gentle heart, to his
sisters and brothers to whom he has meant all that
a perfect brother should be, to his many friends from
childhood to college classmates, his acquaintances to
whom his joyous sincere nature his abiding personality
has commanded respect and courtesy always,

it is they who are confused and bewildered by the information of his trial. "Kanehisa? No-no, he would never commit such a dastardly act. Why, I knew him as a child when" Such was the natural reaction as the report rebounded off unbelieving ears. Then to his family poured many letters, addressed to the Supreme Commander of the Allied Pacific, General Douglas MacArthur, to the Allied Military Tribunal of the Southwest Pacific; letters of entreaty testifying as to the real true character of Kanehisa Matsushita. Simple messages, simply stated, emphasizing the whole-hearted feeling of the entire community. Kanehisa Matsushita was not a soldier. He was a doctor who saw the necessity of the alleviation of pain and suffering on the battlefield. He did not know what incited the war, nor the reason for the war. Man is often required to sacrifice a principle for a cause. Kanehisa Matsushita sacrificed a principle, became a soldier so that he would be able to contribute 624

260 4

for the cause of humanity. Always in his heart
was the longing to visit and to study in America,
where relatives ~~he~~ wrote glowing letters of conditions,
opportunities, and freedom, to be had and shared
alike, irregardless of race, creed or color.

From among the many letters of entreaty received,
the following have been selected as the most
representative of the many people who knew
Kanehisa Matsushita so well. From his brother,
a doctor, from his relative, classmates, school-teacher,
friends, Mayor of his home-town, and from the
town hall officials. Letters that speak from the
heart endeavouring to convey into words, to expose
to a stranger the true soul of an intimate and
courageous friend.

It is with sincere and fervent hope that
all possible consideration be given to Kanehisa
Matsushita. It is with faith and confidence that

I await a verdict knowing that he will receive
a fair and just trial according to American
tradition.

A new Japan is being reborn. A new era
of peace and understanding that will bless the
civilizations of the East and West. A new era
based on justice and freedom.

Respectfully yours,

George Nobutake Hattori

歎願書

佐々木光慶

極メテ温厚正性格ニテ度々、會合折ニ、御自令、
令日アルハ母親、由因ニ依ルモ、親、因ハ終生
之ニ事ヲ出スルヲ常ニシツテ居ル程、親孝行
アリ且スポーツニトシテ朗ラカト明ル性質ヲ持
テ上官ヨリ愛セラル部トシ、尊敬サレテ居ル
純情ト若人ト毎日、治療モ親切ヲ盡シ
患者、面倒ヲ細カテ處テ氣、ツ、非常ニ
責任感、強ム人デス。
以上、事情ヲ實數ニ推察、上宜敷ニ取計
下セ度願上マス

渡邊 中次郎

款 願 書

謹んで裁判長及判士各位殿に、お願ひがましい
 父島関係戦争犯罪人被告 元海軍軍医大尉
 佐々木光慶君と私との交際には、父島に於いて
 約一年、ではありましたが、常に唯一人の母親に
 対して孝養を尽し、その根には、全く感に
 させられました。酒を飲んで歌ふ歌、母親を
 思ふ歌、唱わうが、常でした。

スポーツはよくやり、従って明朗で、活動的で、若さに溢れて居ましたが、自己の責務には、真面目一途で、若き新進学術としては常に研究に旺盛で、共通の部門に關し、知識の交換をした事もありました。實に愛ふき紳士でありました。其の彼が昔より、金に執着を有りました。

金西福寺一建部下無十件、火葬部下無十件、
 火葬部下無十件、其部下無十件、
 其部下無十件、其部下無十件、

当時学校を出た僅りの若年士官が仮りにも
上官に対して意見を具申でもせんか、實にふさは
容易ならざる問題です。

此其面目にて而も内裏なる彼は、吉井司令の言を聞く余地
 なき、後嚴な命令に、彼の意志如何を問はず
 何はともあれ服従せざるを得なかつたのは、己むも
 得なかつたと思ふのであります。

ここに於て

裁判長閣下

最初に述べた如く、彼は父兄弟もなく
家度は母一人のみで、其母親は彼一人を
頼りに生きてゐる。彼女は一
人となり、独力で息子を一人前にしたと申さ
れます。此の事實を知るものは何人も
依々本意に對し寛大な判決を下す人とする
と信じます。

以上 裁判長閣下 及 判事各位 殿にお願ひ申し上げます。

海軍中尉 長谷川武年

數 願 書

謹に裁判長閣下並に判士諸官に對し父島關係戦争
犯罪裁判被告元海軍少尉大尉佐々木光慶に付て
御願申し上げます
父島方面特別根據地隊に於て佐々木と共に約一年
余勤務した事のある者であります。彼は極めて純真
素朴實直なる青年軍醫官でありまして同隊に於て
常に上下の信望と敬愛とを一身に擔つて居る一人
でありました
彼は若くして未七人と成りその後女年一つにて彼を令
進育成した唯一人の母がおります。今や母は彼一人を頼みとし
彼は又母の爲に衷心孝行の誠を盡し美しき人情の
極致に生きて居るのであります。彼等親子の生活は
平和なる人間社會の曲型的な小景であります。
裁判長閣下並に諸官何卒特別の御斟量の下
彼等親子の美しき生活の前途に光明を與えらる様
寛大なる御裁判を賜ふ事を御願申し上げます

昭和二十一年九月八日

海軍少佐

佐藤 田 一 郎

父島關係戦争犯罪裁判裁判長閣下

歎 願 書

謹んで裁判長閣下迄、國保諸官にお願申上げます
此の度父島國保戦軍犯罪裁判に於て海軍大尉 榎本 夏次郎
は米國飛行士の死体解剖の件に依り告発せられ居ると聞き及
居りますが 私は彼が自己の意志に依り斯かる行爲を一切はがし
固く信ずる者であります

日本海軍に於ては彼が如き弱年。軍医科士官は指揮官と
士官に対して殆ど発言権は認められ居ません。亦彼が如
き此情に於て眞面目な青年士官は上座。命令に於ては自己の感情
を度量せず、忠実に実行する風習であります

彼は實に此情であり誰にも極め難い思い、青年であります。因ら
ば俗に言ふところ。命令は文におまかせ、心も傳はれず、
確信する者であります

又彼は父も兄弟もなく唯一人の母を以て母であるのであります
此の母は若し時は来なくとも、非常な困難と戦ひ彼を育て上げ
今は至つたものであります。彼以外は何一つして喜ぶべき事がある
誠には、毒を婦人がたてあります

此のお母さんの愛は彼等に対するものと思ふから、この神に祈りは
居るべきです

裁判長閣下、何卒此の此情。若し士官に於て、寛大が示され
たれば彼の哀れ母は希望をあたへられ、人にも愛される。即願
申上げる次第であります

昭和三年九月八日

海軍大尉 榎本 夏次郎

父島國保戦軍犯罪裁判長閣下

元治軍大尉佐々木慶三郎の歎願書
に馬裁判長閣下

被告元海軍大尉佐々木慶氏以外に、
戦争犯罪人として取り扱はれたいが、私は
非難を一身に負いたくない。私は少佐佐々木
やういふ者もありました。関係上佐々木大尉
を良く知っています。
伏して泣きちらす者も、部下には何人も
来顔で話をされる方です。
家庭は子も妻人から聞かすに母一人子一人
二人暮らしです。戦争中郵便が来ると
なれば必ず佐々木大尉宛からの手紙が来ると、
又父島から便がある時には必ず母宛の手紙があ
る事を今覚えておきます。如何に母思ひであるか
又母が子を国に入れても痛くおいておくれの愛情が
親子の中に流れているのはあきまじい。
今後又戦争する利権の時には、何程御寛大なる
御慈悲優を以てされたいと存じます。
お願い致します。

元治軍二等機関兵士

270

松村作次

646

數 願 書

謹んで裁判長閣下並に関係諸官にお願申し上げます。

此の度、父島軍保戦争犯罪裁判に在る海軍少佐大尉佐々木光慶は米國飛行士の死体解剖の件に依り告発せられ居ると聞きますが、私は彼が自己の意志に依り斯る行爲をなしたとは信じたく信する者ではありません。

日本海軍に在りますと、彼の如き弱年の軍医科士官には指揮官や上官の士徳に對して殆ど發言權は認められて居ません。且、彼の如き純情にして眞面目な青年士官程上官の命令に對しては自己の感情や意志を殺し忠実に実行する風習であります。

彼は實に純情であり、誰にも極め親しみ良い青年であります。が内気な性格で、上官の命令に反対出来ずには居て得ず従事したこと確信するものであります。

又、彼は父も兄弟もなく唯一人の年寄りの母があるだけであります。

此の母は若し時に米之人と云ふ非常な困難と戦ひ彼を育て上げ今日に至つて居るものであります。彼以外には何一つとして喜びも希望もありません。母は婦人ぶつてあります。

此のお母さんの愛や彼に對する孝心を思ふと心から神に祈るに居られます。

裁判長閣下、何卒、此の純情の若し士官に對し寛大に裁きませ。彼と彼の父の母に希望を與へられんことを衷心よりお願い申し上げます。

昭和二十一年九月八日

海軍少佐 米原 安貞

父島軍保戦争犯罪裁判長閣下。

願書

裁判長閣下並ニ判士諸官ニ御願ニ申上ルコト
 今度佐々木軍醫大尉が捕虜處理問題
 一関連シモシテ戦争犯罪裁判ニ附セラルル事ヲ
 知リコシテ事、意外ニ驚フト昔、残念ニ思フは第
 デアリコト佐々木大尉ハ父島方面特別根據地隊附
 トシテ約テ年ニ恒リコト昔、勤務ラセテ来タ者デ
 アリコトが彼ハ極メテ純情明朗ナル青年士官アリ
 マシタ彼ハ診察振リ、懇切ヲ極メテ居リコト部下
 ナモ上官トモ愛セシ居リコト又聞ク処ニ依ル
 彼ハ母一人子一人、家庭デシテアリコト彼ハ母親思
 ヒ、隊内デモ誰知ラヌ者ハコト位デアリコト彼ハ母
 彼ヲ唯一ノ頼リトシテ郷里ニテ彼ハ歸ラテ待つ居
 ラル事ヲ思ヒコト時誠ニ同情セヌハ居ラシムデアリ
 裁判長閣下並ニ判士諸官ニ御願ニ申上ルコト
 見入ル處置ヲ採ラシム事ヲ御願ニ申上ルコト

海軍大尉 野田 現

歎 願 書

元海軍大尉佐々木武蔵君、相識する、昭和十
年、春彼が厚馬十尉當時文藝特報社に在りし時、
一時私室が隣同室となり、親しく交際し、現在
に至りては

彼、資性拙劣、素、易、感情、人、の、言、上、に
、年、の、春、の、戦、事、終、了、の、時、に、對、し、て、他、に、
、と、り、言、ふ、に、親、か、下、等、に、上、下、の、格、差、を、
、と、り、言、ふ、に、

又、學、術、的、研、究、心、に、強、く、な、り、て、金、病、が、不、金、
、降、雪、防、疫、對、策、に、精、力、を、盡、し、て、献、身、的、の、研、
、究、に、従、事、し、て、見、え、る、に、

又、彼、南、方、に、對、し、て、親、人、々、の、家、族、を、山、に、死、す、
、母、上、に、對、し、て、心、に、泣、く、に、程、で、あ、る、に、言、ふ、に、
、又、上、に、言、ふ、に、亦、海、軍、大、尉、と、し、て、平、和、日、を、
、迎、え、に、躍、々、と、期、待、す、る、人、と、信、じ、た、り、マ、ス

我、利、を、圖、下、

而、も、彼、の、性、格、に、哀、情、を、も、つ、や、憐、れ、の、情、同、情、の、
、中、に、快、く、特、に、頭、に、る、必、然、と、し、マ、ス

元文特報社

海軍大尉 高下常太郎

歎願書

謹ニテアリマス方面戦争犯罪裁判長並ニ判士諸官
ニテ願ヒ申シ上ルマス

私ハ今國ノ父島南條戦争犯罪被告佐々木克廣海軍
軍医大尉トハ一九四五年四月以降同ロウ特種附
トシテ親シク交際シソノ人柄思想ヲ熟知シテ居リマス
而テ彼ノ如ク金銀懸念ナキ彼ガ今國ノ如キ慘害ナ
ル事件ニ關係シテ居ル事ヲ意外トモ又残念トモ存ジマス
然レ純英ニシテヨク部下ヲ愛シ部下カラモ愛セシテ居リマ
ス仙台地方の方キヲ混ヘナカラ思召ヲ診察サセル
迄ナク屢々見ヨシタカソレハ湿氣ノ多イ洞窟内ノニカモ
結着長失調者ガノ多イ病院ノ室氣ヲ明朗ニシテ居リ

マシタ

彼ハ母親一人ノ手ニ係リ養ヒレ母親ハ今一人彼ノ
 歸リヲ待ミテ居リマス 彼ハ母ノ事ヲテ話シテ涙
 ヲ流シテ居リマシタ 母一人ノ子一人ノ彼ノ家庭ニ
 彼ハナラハナラ又存在テアリマス
 人ヲ憎ム事ヲ知ラズ彼ハ強キヤチテ吉井中佐ノ
 キ

裁判長閣下並ニ判士諸官 何卒彼ニ寛大
 ナル処道ヲ示ハラレニ事ヲ懇願致シマス

ケワム収住(父島関係)

海軍中尉 能美英彦

昭和 年 月 日

歎願書

公正米國軍事裁判ニテ被告タル元海軍大尉佐々木光慶ノ友人
トシテ彼ノ性格平素ノ行動ヲ述ベ 無罪ヲ歎願セントス

一 彼私ト數里離レモ治療所ニ勤務シ居リガ 患病ヲ私ノ居ル本部ニ

送ル時常附添フ來リ 主治醫トシテ当然ト云ハ 嵐ノ日流

瀉ノ通リ或ヒ又 唯ノ衛生者ニシテ充分輕症患る場合ニテモ彼

等共來リ以テ如何者觀念旺盛ニシテ人道的良心ノ醫師タリシガ令ル

ニ彼性格遇ヒモ温順柔和ナリ上官ノ命令ニ常々絶對的ト言フコト解

服從シ居リ 上ノ命令ダカラ任テガナリ トノ氣持ヲ洩ラシメエト

ガ日常勤務上問ヒアリ 軍人裁判ニ問ハレル 原因アリトセン

此ノ兵符ニ究明 セラシメトテ伏テ御願ヒスル 我儘ナル上官ガ

無理ノ軍法ヲ照シテ迫リテナラ 戦地トモナラ 状況下ニ於テ反抗シ得又組織

ノ日本軍隊故彼トシテ甚ダ苦イ立場ニ立リ時モエリヲ知ズ トコノ勤務上

No.

昭和 年 月 日

一切於テ上官ニ反故ヲ依リ見タストガナカシ。

三、昭和二十一年三月以降倉糧事情急迫シ、我々士官ト雖モ兵同様飢餓

感ガ深カシ、依リ小治政行方本部、私、所、來ニ厚持ツベシ

少量、辨當ヲ依リ常、自給ヲ裁減シ、情況ガヨリセウトテ我々ニ令ケヨク

トシ、又令ケテ異々(事實決シ依リ倉糧事情當リツキナリ、ムレハ我々本部

ノテガヨリセウトテアタガ) 依リ愛心、萌生シタリ

四、私モ學生時代野祇、選手ヲアリ依リ又蹴球、選手ヲアリ、スポーツニ生

キル者、常ニ公明正大ナルヲモットトス

依リ性強シ、常ニ快活明朗何等、暗キモ見出シ得タリ犯罪ト云フ

事實アリトモ、戦中戦後ニナリ、感ゼシツキナリ、向テ一様ニナリ

五、依リ親、対シテ孝、常ニ、身ヲ案ジ機会ニ毎ニ親ニ便リキナリ

アレ程親思ヒ、依リ如何シテ犯罪ヲ犯ス程大シキコトヲ為シ得タリ

六、依リ又忠義同ニ於テ同様、部下、莫クシテ居リ、決シ日本軍隊ヨリ

アタリ如キ恐ラシキ居タニト決シナカシ、ソレ部下、説レカレニ困バカシ

No.

昭和 年 月 日

グアム島軍事裁判所
裁判長殿

ト思フ。部下ヲ愛スルモエリシテ部下ヲ敬レル者ニ決シテ犯罪ニ問ハレルコト
ヲスルワケガナ
以上如キ柔キ人道的良心ヲ持タル彼ニ犯罪・因エトハ断ジテ考ヘ得ナ
トコロデアル
私ハ昭和三年四月以降彼ト勤務ト生活ヲ共ニシタモテ其ガ此所ニ依
性ヲ行動ノ一端ヲ述ベ無罪ヲ嘆願ス次第デアル
昭和三年八月二十日

元父島方面新田和雄地隊勤務

海軍医大尉 宮田 和彦 (8)

二
歎願書

仙臺市角五郎下九

土井 みづ

マリアナ米軍司令官殿

元海軍大尉 佐々木光慶

私は右の人の母君と親友でありましては家庭の事情を詳しく知っており居るものですが其家族は母君とあやういふ二人で即ち佐々木大尉生後満二歳にもなぬうちに父君は病死せられそれから今日迄実に十有五年の永き間未亡人

たる母君お一人の手で育てられたるものであります
当人は本来正規の軍人ではなく日本東北帝國
大学附属病院桂外科に研究中比叡の
戦争により短期現役に従軍せられたるもので
性質温厚決して戦争罪を侵す様な人
ではないと信じます何卒斯の様な事情を
采重にも市同情の上唯一人心細く釋放を
待つて居る故郷の母親の許に速に帰る
おゆゑしとおふ下さるやう伏してお願い申上ります

昭和二十一年七月十四日

以上

⑪

謝 罪 書

被告佐々木光慶、敦頼人

東北帝國大學醫學部附屬醫院桂外科教員

長 濱 正 雄

一、被告ト、關係

昭和十七年四月東北帝國大學附屬醫學專門部入學後、初先の海軍ニ
トシテ従軍スル迄、及び初先が復員後桂外科ニ歸局シテ以來先輩
トシテ又教員トシテ交際シタル。

二、被告ノ性情

被告ハ母一人子一人ノ家庭ニ育ケル人格人ニ優シ、我々後輩ヲ指導ス
ルニ平素トリ定ツトテ指導スルノ親切ヤカ身ニ盡シテナル。

又人親愛ニ極メ且研究心ニ燃エテ醫學者ヲ遇フニ接スルニ下度
父母兄弟ニ對スル様ニ態度ニ充テ愛ヲ充テ盡シテナル。

又盛ニ研究心ノ獨創性ヲ思考トシテ私達ノ尊敬スル所ナリ。

三、敦 頼 ノ 理 由

(1) カル善度ニシテ其學ヲ獨創的ニ科學者トシテ被告ヲ失フコトハ私達
ノミナラズ全人類ノ福祉ニ影響スル所大ナリ。

(2) 又被告ノ母親ガ生命ノ擧ト頼ニ被告ガ釋放セシ事ハ被告ノ
母親ノ生命ヲ奪フ丁ト同シナリ。

私ハコノ様ニ不合理ニシテ此等ノ状態ガ發生スルヲ忍ビ得ズ

此處ニ親愛スルアリアナ米軍司令官閣下ニ被告ノ無罪釋放
ヲ敦頼スル所ナリ。

昭和二十二年七月十日

アリアナ米軍司令官閣下

27(L)

657

0019

佐々木光慶に関する人格證言書

謹んで被告佐々木光慶の人格に関し陳述致します。

私は父島に於て彼の上官として昭和十八年十月以来約二年間共に勤務致しまして関係上彼の性格を良く承知して居る者であります。彼は眞に純真無垢正直。多少肉氣は臭はありますが、友情厚く極めて親切な模範的好青年であります。彼は又明朗なスポーツマンで各種のスポーツに堪能でありましたが特に興々生時代フットボール及ボートの選手として名聲を馳せて居りました。そして海軍に入ら後もスポーツマンシップを常に堅持し彼の勤務振りは實に立派でありました。彼は未だ若輩の医学徒であります。頭脳明晰且研究心極めて旺盛でありまして常に医学の研鑽を怠らず其の業績も美事にありまして将来の發展を大いに囑望されて居りました。又彼の病者に對する態度は極めて親切丁寧で重病者に對し徹宵看護に努める事も再三ではよく上下の信望を一身に集めて居りました。彼は二才にして父を失ひ兄弟姉妹も無く母一人子一人の淋しい家庭に育ちました。若くして未亡人と呼ばれ彼の母は

彼の爲に再婚もせずあらゆる世の辛酸を嘗めつ、彼の成育に努められ彼も亦母の意を體して克く刻苦勉勵首尾良く優秀なる成績を以て東北正專を卒業したてあきすが折柄太平洋戦争中なりし爲に母の意を安んずる暇も無く父島に勤務する身となりしに既に老境に入ふに彼の母が亡つた一人の愛児の内地歸還を一日千秋の想ひで待ち侘びて居るに事はよく想像出来る处でありすが彼の母に對する孝心も眞に深きものがあり朝夕母を想ひ母を慕つて只官孝養に努めて居ました彼のアルムの一部に

一人息子を戦地に送り今日も戀る——系車

あ、幾つ巻いよう 歸るやら

といふ歌が記してあきすに之は恐らく彼の母の氣持を偲んで認められたものと推察され彼等親子の情の濃やかさに私は常に涙無きを得ませんでしに

此の様な純情肉氣孝心深い彼が自ら好んで母の歎きも招來する様な罪を犯すとは私は到底信じられません若し之が事實とすれば彼は自らの良心をいかになく上官の命令に依り己む無く行つたものとして考えられません

日本海軍に於ては彼の如き若輩の軍造科士官は上官の

峻厳なる命令に対しては絶対服従を強いるのが常でありましたら彼も中々や問々の情を胸に秘めて遂に命令に服従しにものに相違ないと信じます

傷心の彼の母は氣も狂は人ばかり彼の身を案じ日夜神佛に祈念して居ると聞きます。若くして夫を失ひあつる世の辛酸を嘗みながらおのゝ管彼光慶の爲のみ生き抜いて來られた彼の母を憐れと思召され。又平和日本の建設に缺く可いなる純情の青年軍家佐々木光慶の將來の爲何卒寛大なる御裁決を賜はうと切に御願ひ申し上げます。

昭和三十一年九月二十三日

海軍軍医少佐 酒井 正

文島関係戦争犯罪裁判長閣下

歎願書

東京帝國大學醫學部附屬醫院外科科長

橋本 信

一、被告ト、關係

昭和十二年三月、昭和十四年三月、近宮城縣之仙台市で、於て

同級生トシテ交際ス。

昭和十七年四月、同年七月迄東京帝國大學附屬医学部で、於て

下級生トシテ交際ス。

昭和二十年一月、報告後、被告、東京帝國大學附屬医学部で、於て、同級生

トシテ交際ス。

二、被告ノ性情

(1) 人柄圓滿、之ヲ常ニ同様、後輩、親愛敬慕、的ナリ。

友情ニ厚シ、博愛家ニ及ボス、常トナリ。

(2) 真、真面目ナル勉強家ニシテ、志ヲ、於テ、常ニ良心的

ニ研究態度ヲ持テ、積極的ナル医師ナリ。

(3) 幼クシテ父ヲ失ヒ、母又子一人、關係ニ力ヲ持テ、報告、

親孝行ナル衆人、認メテナリ。

三、歎願ノ理由

前述セシ如ク、被告ハ、人類救済、高潔ナル信念ヲ持テ、

生涯ヲ一貫シテ、医業ヲ行フ、後、今後、生涯ハ

幾多、人命ヲ物々且迄テ、進歩ニ貢獻スルヲ
事ハ、我等友人、等しく認む所ナリトス
亦、被害、只一人、最愛、母、爲ニ至一日ニ早ク
無罪釋放、處テ賜ハレ、被害、如キ至速ニ返答後、
ニテ文書、責務ヲ果サシムラシ、事ヲ歎歎スル
モ、和アリマス。

昭和三十一年七月十日

被告、元海軍造大尉佐々木文麿君、好ニ

アリアノ方面米軍司令官閣下へ

黄願書

元海軍軍醫大尉

佐々木光廣

式一六六

私儀右佐々木光廣トハ中々以來ノ學友ニシ
廿ニ、親友トシテ、吾等專ニ在學中兄弟同様にシテ
佐々木光廣ノ人ト成リテ知リト家人ニ優レトモ有ラマ
事ト信ジ茲ニ友ノ生涯並ニ人格ヲ陳述シ彼ノ前途ニ
榮光アルヲ祈ルト共ニ一日ニ早ク人類後ノ福祉ト民族
繁榮ノため主ニ日本ノ上ニ貢獻スル日ノ到来セシ
事ヲ切望スモナリ。

27 (2)

彼性溫厚ニシテ學術家ニ希ナキ善友ノ流模範ナリ
量腹心旺盛ニシテ博識多才、博愛衆ニ及ボシ匠ヲ
仁術ナルト心ニ銘記シ常ニ半光並ニ花鳥者ニ接ス事
葉母ノ如ク東北帝大醫學部教授並ニ學友並ニ
同ニ於テ宜ク彼ノ稱讃ノ言傳ヲ聞キ得タルハ吾等同志生

664

昭示
七年七月十日

米國軍可より面軍
量司令官閣下
侍り

方漢 願人
 同富生 日本宮城縣岩沼市町角八
 醫師 遠藤 昇五郎

謝 願 書

尊敬措く能はざる

閣下司令官高司

謹しめて申し上げます

私は只今閣下の下に於て戦争犯罪人
容疑者として裁判せられんとて居ります
元海軍少佐佐々木光慶君の通学仲間
の友人であります。此處に潜越ながら私の
長交友の間に於て感へて居ります。同君の
性情に就て申し上げまう閣下の公正なる
裁判の中参考にも得まうと望む外の
幸福と存し筆を取らうと次第で
居ります。

同君は母一人子一人の家庭に育ちまう
正めらる事なくすくすくと育つた人だ
うと其の性質の素直さと強順な事
には我々友人の皆感心致し羨しく思ひ
居る程でございます。

私などの受けかたは様々事にもよく

へが付け、友人の支際を円満にする事に
心掛けて居た様でございませう

同君は日本人としては背の高さ方々でござい
ますが日本語で申しますと「柄にも似合はず」
やさし心を持って居ります。或時やどはこんな
事がございませう。私は何時も同君と隣合せの
座席に居るものとして居るでござい
ます。藥物学の史書の為には蛇の脳髓を
切り取りませう。脊椎動物を作らねばならぬ。
時々は彼はそれを厭がってよく人には笑はれ
て居るものでございませう。

又同君はフグビの選手で現ウリスの為に
萬文の気も吐いて呉れたスポーツマンであり
ます。私に運動はあまり出来ません
が此の方面での彼の風貌を申し上げる事
の出来ぬを残念でございませう。

此の數願書を書いて居ります。同君の
思いは皆快くものばかりで懐くことも堪え得
るものであります。

此の様な彼が戦争犯罪人容疑者として
その罪を問はれて居ると聞きました時は実に
不思議に思われた程でございませう。勿論
戦場での彼の行動は衆議のよく知り得る事

信はございませうが 平素の性質より一
に「疑ひ」の事ではございませう

閣下にはございませう。一度彼を御覽に
なすれば私。申上げます事の眞実で
ある事はすぐ御諒解なまると信するもの
であります。と申します。は彼の凡貌は彼が
悪徳を行ふにはあまりに温順な事な事を
如実に現れて居るからでございます。

右私情に迄亘りまして極々申上げますが
何卒閣下。御同情を得て公正ならそして
御寛恕なる裁判を賜らん事を祈して
御願の致さなまてでございます。

敬具

昭和二十一年七月十日

閣下へは拜跪して

佐藤 庄吉

尊敬措く能はざる

アメリカ合衆国最高司令官閣下

數願書

東北帝國大學醫學部附屬醫院桂外科學教室員

山田陸夫

マシテ方面米軍司令部閣下

一リヤ方面軍事裁判被告元海軍軍醫大尉佐木光慶君二面シ數願書ヲ提出ス

被告ハ數願人山田ノ學窓先輩ニシテ同ジ陸軍ニ共ニ勉學ニ運動ニ勵ミ居リ。被告ハ溫順円満ナル人格卓越セル學才並ニ平和的ナル解カテ愛情ノ人ナリシ。我々後輩ノ被告ニ受ケテ感化少ナカラスナルヲアリ

且ツ被告ハ解カテ社郡仙台北一人子一人ノ淋辛中ニ愛情豊カテ生活ヲ送り内ニアリテハ母親ノ孝養ヲ盡クシ外ニ出デテハ友人後輩ヘノ親情的ナ指導ヲ志ス。殊ニ運動スホクマシツテ豐盛力ナ被告ハソノ優秀ナル技能ト共ニ友人後輩ヨリノ崇敬受慕ノ的タリシ。此度軍事裁判ニ付セラルト聞ク。被告ヲ熟知セル者トシテ意外且誠ニ惜シムヘキトナリ

犧牲的精神ニ富ミ、救養アル科學的ナ被告ハ、神ノ恵ミ給フ人類
ヲヨリ眞摯ニ愛スル人ニシテ、熱情的ナル被告ハ、神ヘ奉仕ハベズヤ
良心ニ愛ハ神ノ深キ恵アルモノト我輩モヒツカニ新リ居ルモノナリ。
凡ソ戰時中我ガ軍ニ於テ上官ノ命令ハ絶對的ニシテ、被告ハ内滿ナルガ
故ニ避ケ得ラザル障事ト相成リタルモノト思フス。
今被告ヲ我ガヨリ失ハントスルヤ、故郷ニ歸テ老イタル母ノ歎此阿ハカリ
我ハトシテモ痛惜オクアラフザルナリ。
戰ハ終リ民主ノ曉鐘日本ニ鳴リ、眞摯ニ時平和ヲ愛スル被告ハ、
人格ハ必ズ以前ノ罪業ヲワゲナフニ余リアル貢獻ヲモタラスモノト
期待スルモノナリ。
愛スル神ノ僕タル被告ハ、昔ニ明ク生キントスル平和日本ニトツテ曰フ
世界平和ノ爲メ人類ノ醫業救主、一員トシテ悔ノ道實大ナラン
コトヲ切望スルモノナリ。
被告ハ、帰還ヲ望ミ、樂ニ歸ツ母親ノ方ニ且、被告ヲ知り愛スル後輩
ノ所リニ、閣下ノ机下ニ被告ヲ證言シ、ソノ和道無罪釋放ヲ
敢テ數言スルモノナリ。

昭和三十一年七月十日

マリアナ方面米軍司令官閣下

親愛なるマリアナ司令官閣下

私が閣下は

斯く呼ぶ所は所以のものは今度私の友人である元日本海軍軍醫大尉佐々木光慶が閣下の前に於て軍事裁判に就せられらるゝ。私が東北帝國大學附屬醫局に在る要同部は於て彼と号して四年同互に勉強に運動に専らしやうと将来の希望を語り合つた仲だ。彼が今度の事件が私の予期出来得たる晴天に過ぎぬ。如く思はれようませう。

27x (1)

彼は無口にして精力的であり而も極めて勤勉であり而も極めて正直な男である事は組一同の認むる所でありました。

彼のラフコートは又滑艇とその巨大な次女を表現したは私名は彼の力量と練習と期待と有るに居る大に試合に對する一種の安慰の感と有るに居るものであります。

斯種な事実が亦勉強に於ても立派に根柢がけられぬ。これに對する努力は私共の皆敬服して居る所でありました。

670

今般計さふも彼の閣下の下に於て軍事裁判に附せらる

とき、まゝいふは私共一同原因が原因にあるのならうと思議
に思ふたの上述の如き理由に止むを得ざる譯す

然し絶対公平・無私を閣下の下に於て附せらるるときいたは不安
の中にも一種の安堵の感を受けたるものがあります

私に閣下と歎願せんとすは閣下の御慈愛の下に於て最正に

而も公平に彼の裁ゆかれ 再び彼の雄姿が私共の眼前に

表はれ亦果しく國家再建・平和的國家建設に自ら

語りぬこと実行せん事と想ひいつ 彼の如き忠人の敢て取と

とも思ふは閣下に歎願する次第なりとす

彼の如き体たえぬ者に有るまゝ青空の出現を現代日本

の平和的建設には絶対必要なりと云ふものと云ふより

思ふはものなりとす

No.

彼が軍事裁判に附せらるるときいたは彼と知つたもの

驚きおもしろき者は一人も居りません。之をいふ出来事大
一も彼の今迄に他人に話した性質の（却て現はさず）諍言は行
かざらん諍言す。

以上の確を次ぎに ~~す~~ 彼の性質の（亦とも如く）諍言は和の
望外のこゝろに信じてす。

何卒例下には厳正なり。公正なる裁きと成る小人等と日本
の東北地方よりお祈りする次ぎにありす。

東北帝國大學附屬醫院 眼科

松永 勝己

マリアナ方面司令官 殿

5

尊敬するマリアナ司令官閣下

私は近く閣下。裁きを委ねんとす。依然木克慶の生立ちを
知悉し、又彼が医学を學ぶ校に於て直接彼を指導した
者であります。私は閣下が彼を裁かばに當り正しい裁判を
為るを参考にす可き事項を次に申述べ同時に閣下の限
無き慈愛を垂れ賜はる事を伏して懇願申上げらる次第であ
ります。

依然木克慶は生後間もなく父を亡くした。其後今日に至る迄
彼は母一人に育てられて来たを、彼も母は彼一人を正しく
立派に育てる為にのみ今日迄世々荒波と戦へ来たを、彼の母
は彼を正しく育て、其の努力力を盡した。母が最も注意した
のは交友の選擇でした。友を見れば本人、人と其の判じを申し
ます。が實際彼の友達は何れも皆正しい立派な男達であります。
そして又彼の母も彼が正しい男に成人してある事を最大、喜びとして

居るを好みます。彼様の思ふが人道に反する様を行ふとす
と誰か信じますか。彼様を青年こそ將來の日本を正しく
平和にするるに是非必要であると思ひます。日本は彼様の正しい
青年を一人でも多く求めたいと思ひます。彼様を青年が此際
華々たる事はそれなり日本が民主化が遲滯する事を意味
するものであると云ふも過言ではあるまい。

尊敬する司令官閣下、何事ゆゑ木下生立ちを片理解下され
慈愛ある裁きを下されん事を片取の申しあげます。

佐々木克廣が東北帝大医学専攻の新に入學して四年間、彼は常
に蔭日向を極め、眞面目に勉學致しました。その間種々

の出来事や、彼、立派な *Spectator* は友達がいつも敬愛され

たを好みます。又友情に厚く、大切な試験の前後一時は友人

の病気の看護に夜を徹した事があります。又家庭の状況を

で困窮してゐる友人に援助して種々援助を惜しまなうたであ

ます。斯ういふ青年が人道に及ぶ行爲をするにせうか、夢にもし
信じられまへん。今後、正しい平和を日本は依然、不^な様を青年が
一人で多く在り、事を要木して居ります。

民主主義的の日本再建に市同情を寄せられ、司令官閣下よ、
平和日本再建に、彼を待つゝえ、正し、友人達、あるに、子供と
待ち焦れしや、彼、正し、強い老母あるに、それ、彼自身、平和
日本建設、あるに、努力し得るあるに、何卒、一日も早く、依然、不^な様を
解放され、様、高配賜ふ事を、市、願ひ、申上り、ます。

昭和廿一年七月九日

日本國仙臺市

東北帝國大學助教授

丸田公雄

マリアナ司令官閣下

東北帝國大學

274 (3)

675

0837

尊敬するマリナ司令官閣下

私は被告他々木志廣を彼の中学生時代から知り、彼が通子校に入塾してから彼の先生として又彼が卒業してから直接の指導者として私的生活上でも亦公的生活上於てよく知つて居る者であります。故に私は次に他々木の生立ち、性格等を申述べて閣下の慈愛深き御取計を依頼する次第であります。

他々木は生後二才に父に死別しました。其後母一人子一人として物質的にも精神的にも豊かき環境に育つて来たものであります。他々木は父が無う故に兄に代り又彼の母の子に対する慈愛は深かつたのであります。彼の母は他々木を人間として正しい道徳を教へしめようとして奮力をしました。そして彼が生長して世の中の人々の居る様に育つたからその職業として医者とせんが願ひであります。

彼はたゞ自分自身損をいと間違つた事などは決してしない男であります。常に世の人々の居る様な事への掛かりを男でありました。従つて凡そ友達から大変愛されて居ました。又謙に従順な性格で先輩や先生の命令には決して背かぬ性格であります。従つて先輩にと先生とも大変愛されて居りました。 276 (2)

II
彼の体格がよい様へ又彼は Sportman であります。彼は常
に fair play とする男であります。自ら自身を犠牲にして
世の人達の幸福を希む男であります。彼の様を男に
これからの日本に必要不可欠である、私は確信してい
ると思います。

彼、年老いた一人の母は母の思ひ通りに育つた依
々木が本当に自慢の種であった。

然るに今般戦争犯罪人容疑者として控延んだため
がらぬとは何と云ふ運命の皮肉でせうか。母は自分の子供が
人道に反する様な事をするとは許せん、友人と
信じません。先輩も信じません。況して私は彼がどうせ
に悪い事が出来た男とは承へられません。私は彼が自由
身となつた時は世の人達の為め、本当に善い事を為すに違
ない、と確信するつもりです。

マリアナ司令官閣下。 依々木が現地に於て何と云ふかは
私にはないませんが、彼の性格を知悉する私としては
は彼が悪い事、出来た人間であるとはどうして承へられ
るのでしょうか。何卒被害依々木の性格を法律閣
下さまに熟慮深く審判を賜ふ様伏して
276 (2)

III
御願申上げの次第であります。

東北帝國大学医学部外科教授

医学博士 丸田 今雄 (印)

Dr. K. Maruta

Prof. of Tohoku Imperial University,
Sendai

⑥

嘆願書

謹ニテ申上ルニ、今貴裁判ニ付サレテ居ル佐々不孝慶、
形、田口ノ親、事ニ為知レテ居リ、コトガ真ニ温良ナ好
成年ナ上長ヲ敬愛シ能ク、其ノ命令ニ服従スル性質ヲ備
座、イニ、如何ニモ犯罪ノ嫌疑ナク、知レ由モアリ、セヌ、其ノ人、文
明ニ及ビテ、行為ヲ為シ、ト、信シ、又、一、テ、アリ、ハ、不、日、人、早、
父ヲ喪失シ、テ、兄弟、姉妹、モ、無、一、為、甚、悲、ヲ、修、修、ト、モ、佛
教ノ信仰、深、イ、親ノ慈愛、ヲ、一、身、ニ、盡、ス、テ、有、キ、仁、術、ト、
モ、ハ、益、固、解、ト、シ、テ、ノ、期、ヲ、改、改、主、月、ヲ、受、テ、成、長、ニ、タ、テ、温
良ノ性質、ヲ、培、ヒ、タ、ル、ト、知、レ、コ、ト、斯、ク、有、キ、力、万、一、モ、刑、罰
ニ、値、ヒ、モ、犯罪、ヲ、為、シ、タ、リ、ト、モ、ハ、斯、ク、ト、モ、有、キ、事、ト、モ、
在、リ、モ、為、罪、ト、モ、高、ノ、結果、ヲ、識、ル、事、ト、モ、事、ト、モ、信、シ、外
アリ、コ、モ、又、然、レ、ハ、事、ノ、即、高、ノ、罪、ヲ、今、白、テ、謝、ス、又、看、後
悔、ノ、度、四、割、ノ、心、事、ヲ、無、一、程、良、心、ニ、盡、キ、解、フ、テ、居、ル、ト、信
シ、又、解、ヒ、コ、モ、又、斯、ク、言、ヒ、一、人、ヲ、テ、テ、一、ノ、三、月、ニ、上、テ、多、ク
モ、有、テ、又、財、主、性、モ、有、テ、見、ノ、教、養、ニ、盡、シ、果、シ、テ、今、後、ハ、可、信、
家、長、ノ、教、養、ヲ、修、シ、テ、居、ル、ト、モ、一、國、ニ、モ、有、テ、罪、ヲ、為、シ、
三、年、ニ、一、同、安、心、モ、無、ク、一、日、ノ、休、息、モ、得、テ、居、ル、ト、モ、事、
ヲ、教、力、無、事、解、脱、シ、テ、ハ、一、増、シ、ヤ、ト、思、フ、多、ク、モ、東、同、今
度、ハ、罪、犯、人、ト、シ、テ、御、裁、ヲ、受、テ、ハ、其、ノ、心、情、ヲ、思、フ、ト、思、
ハ、コ、ト、カ、出、テ、又、一、テ、アリ、コ、ト、ハ、一、人、ノ、教、養、ヲ、受、テ、事、
思、量、會、テ、心、痛、シ、テ、死、ス、ル、事、ハ、日、夜、ヲ、思、フ、テ、居、ル、ト、モ、
御、裁、ヲ、下、サ、シ、テ、何、卒、實、大、ニ、御、裁、ノ、方、ノ、程、伏、シ、テ、御、願
ヒ、致、ス、有、テ、事、ヲ、御、座、ノ、コ、ト、

昭和二十七年七月十日 佐々不孝慶ノ親

心證人 伊藤

伊藤 吉次郎

嘆願書

元海軍少将大尉

佐々木光慶

私儀佐々木光慶トハ中野子、醫學専門部以來
ノ無ニノ親友ニテ彼ノ性行ヲ熟知ス。

彼ノ人ト成リヤ温順ニシテ廉直ナリ。彼ハ母一人子一人
ニシテ常々母ノ身ヲ案ジ、ソノ孝心ノ石キコト。母子ノ情
ノ細ヤカナルコトハ他人目ニモ羨シキ限リナリ。彼ハ又

優レタルスポーツマンニシテソノスポーツマンシツプヲ重シスル
コト甚ダ嚴格ニシテ此カノ不正事ヲモ断固トシテ排斥スル
気概ヲ有ス。彼ハ醫業ニ携ル身トシテ常々人類

ノ平和ヲ念シ、此カナルモ仁術ニヨリテ世ノ人々ヲ救ハントノ
熱情ニヨリ學術ノ研究、患者ノ治療ニ献心的努力ヲ
致シ、我等學友ノ尊敬、稱讃ノ的ナリ。

過日長キニ互ル患患ヨリ解放セラレ、患深キ暖キ慈母ノ

懐ニ抱カレシモ東ノ間、貴國軍司令官閣下ヨリノ召喚
ヲ受ケ、母ノ悲嘆ノ之ニ過グルモノナシ、友トシテ母ノ
悲嘆ノ涙ニウレ、曰クニ憔悴シテクヲ見ルニ忍ビズ
茲ニ閣下ノ御寛大ナル御取圍ヒニヨリ一日モ早ク平和ナル
母子ノ生活ヲ再現シ得ル様切ナリ、念ズル次第ナリ
右嘆願ス

昭和二十一年七月十日

嘆願人

同窓生 日本宮城縣仙台市長町越路三

医師 西館 徹郎

米國軍マリヤナ方面軍

軍司令官閣下

御侍史

歎願書

謹ンデ軍事裁判長殿ニ御願ニ申上ゲマス 私共ハ元
海軍軍醫佐々木光慶ヲ教育致シマシタ彼ノ中學
生時代ノ教師デ御座イマスガ佐々木ハ戦争犯罪ノ嫌疑
ヲ蒙リマシテ被告人トシテ遠クガム島ニ押送サレ断罪サ
レルコトトナワタト云フコトヲ聞キマシテ驚キ且悲シム次第
デ御座イマス。佐々木ガ如何ニ罪ヲ犯シタカハ私共知ルニ
由ナラツレハ裁判長殿ガ充分綿密ナ御取調ノ上公正ナ
御判決ニ付コトデ御座イマシテソノ判決ハ極メテ神聖ナモ
ノデアワテ第三者ノ彼此申スコトハ嚴ニ戒メ慎マナケレバヤリ
マセンガ少年時代極メテ真面目デ善良ナ生徒デアリマシテ
教師達及ビ学友等カラ愛敬セラレ信用ノアリマシタ
佐々木ガ裁判ニ附セラレト云フコトハ私共ノ全ク意外ト

シテ且彼ノ爲ニ深ク悲シム次第デ御座イマス彼ハ
 幼クシテ父ヲセシ外ニ兄妹モナク母一人ノ子ニ育テラシ
 年老イタ母親ガ此ノ世ニ唯一人ノ子ヲシテ彼ヲ頼
 リトシテ生キ永ラヘテ居ル寂シイ不幸ナ者デ御座イ
 マス裁判長殿ニ此ノ哀ナ母子ニ御同情下サイマシテ何卒
 事情御斟酌ノ上特ニ寛大ナ御處分ヲ下シ賜ヒン
 ヤウ伏シテ歎願申上ゲン次第デ御座イマス
 裁判長殿ノ尊嚴ヲ冒瀆致シマシタ無禮ハ偏ニ
 御宥恕ヲ願ヒ上ゲマス

紀元千九百四十一年八月十二日

宮城県仙臺第二中學校元教諭氏江富雄

全 校教諭 野村房雄

元宮城県仙臺第二中學校教諭 江渡丈夫

宮城県仙臺第二中學校教諭 福永和利

公島軍事裁判長殿

歎 願 者

東北帝國大學附屬醫院整形外科教室

本 本 善 男

松 根 吉 佐、木 光 虔 君、學 志、於、後、輩、と、且、フ、既、知、
二十一年、月、以來、外科、科、教室、に、在、リ、觀、シ、ト、交、友、シ、リ、有、リ、
ス、

根 吉、ハ、廣、く、徹、底、的、に、理、理、を、探、究、者、ナ、リ、又、同、時、最、モ、良、
心、的、な、科、學、者、ナ、リ、又、師、ナ、リ、又、一、方、於、テ、愛、シ、人、
ヲ、決、シ、他、人、ヲ、憐、ミ、感、ヲ、懷、カ、シ、念、ガ、如、ク、言、動、ヲ、為、サ、ス、
常、に、親、愛、敬、慕、情、ヲ、溢、ル、セ、シ、他、人、ノ、人、ナ、リ、又、モ、加、ヘ、根、吉、
母、親、孝、行、人、ト、知、處、ナ、リ、科、學、者、ト、同、時、孝、順、人、ト、
人、ナ、リ、又、モ、

前、述、に、如、ク、根、吉、ハ、言、ハ、シ、テ、人、格、者、ナ、リ、觀、見、シ、テ、
人、類、欲、有、高、シ、理、想、を、燃、テ、進、步、使、シ、テ、善、ヲ、為、シ、惡、
ヲ、ナ、ス、人、ト、申、サ、シ、我、等、友、人、ト、知、知、シ、處、ナ、リ、又、モ、

一人、良心を誠実たる最も忠実なる眞面目な学生
たる報告の存在。現下、日本、大正の世、平和期間、永
永遠平和確立の爲に必要と見做す。固く信ずるモ、アリス
尚報告の唯一人、母親あり報告、其唯一人、息子、ア
リス、唯一人、愛する息子、奪はれ、老ひたる哀れなる親、
安んずる時、私、断腸の感、禁じ得ず、モ、アリス、
私、報告、性情、述べ、敢て報告、無罪釋放、ア
リス、歎願、次第、アリス

昭和二十一年七月十日

マリーヤナ方面米軍司令官閣下

佐々木光磨君、此度米軍公判の報に接し驚き敢て、余
の知る彼を述べ以て宣戦を促すを頼むる次第なり
。彼は誠意ありあつた温れた學生なり。又上の者の命に絶
對服従する學生なり。今にこれ思へば彼の絶對服従感
が公判にまたしめた最大の要因と見えます。

彼が劇場に行くと聞き、余は彼獨自の立場で立派に彼
目を果して帰還すると期待して居ましたのに、どうして
そのやうな行爲を爲したのでせうか。余が考へるには、
それは日本軍隊の一大缺點である絶對服従の爲であると思
ひます。上官の命には自己の意思は全く無視されるので
す。これが今日尚日本の發展に妨礙を料せざる一大原因な
りです。もし彼をな一青年が彼の立場に置かれたら彼は

のやうに公判に立たねばならぬ。之が日本軍隊
の理想なの。彼の性根、意思を全然無視した軍隊に
入つたのが彼をして今日の不幸にまうしめたのである。
戦場にある彼は口ホットで彼の本心は常に故郷仙臺
母親の所にあつた。どうでなうか。
彼は日本兵の常の如く苦しい時に母親の名を呼んで事
をせう。温情なる婦人。彼と彼の母親を民主主義の名
の下に助けられ、軍を切に希望する次第であります。

東北帝國大學名譽教授

布施現三助

歎願書

歎願人

東北帝國大學附屬醫院

福地 攝男

尊敬するマリアナ司令官閣下

最も正しく裁かれるであらう報告え海軍軍

醫大尉佐々木光雄の裁判の爲めに拙い一筆

を添へることを御許し下さい。私佐々木

光雄と同級生として四年間最も親しく醫學

附屬（文部省特設）附

10²⁷ × 20²⁰ (1)

617

0850

校生活を共にした者の一人であります。
彼の性格、彼の人格に日夜切れて来た私は
彼が裁判せらるると聞き驚愕し、何うして
も信じられなものであります。彼は早くか
ら父に死別し、母一人子一人として、平和に
圓滿に慈愛に満ちた母の手で育成されてし
た。彼は全く明朗なものであり正直一
で、如何なる人にもいかに誠を盡し親切であ
りました。急に降雨があつた時をど自らは
ぬれても遠い學友に傘を貸してやつたり

下宿のない友をど自ら進んで自分の家に泊
めてやつたりしたものでした。人の困るの
を黙つて見て居られな性質なのです。それ
故人が頼まれた事は責任を以て必ず面倒
を見るといふふうでした。私達クラスメー
トの者から光ちゃんなる愛稱を以て呼ばれ
誰れにでも愛され尊敬されて居りました。
又彼はラグビーの選手でありました。彼は
常に規則を守り公平に正々堂々とやって居
りました。つゞけ相手からも信望されて居りま

した

彼の様を男が、あの彼が何うして裁判に附せ
られる様をいとをるし得たでせうか。私は信
じられません。戦後の平和建設に人類福祉の
爲めに彼の様を男が役立ち得る人間だと信
じます

閣下よ、どうか閣下の公平と寛大さをもつて
人類の幸福の爲めに、彼を正しく裁かれ、一日
早く平和建設に役立ち得る様御取計り下さる

様御願ひ致します

昭和二十年七月十日

マリアナ司今官閣下

福地 攝(文庫)
昭和二十年七月十日

10 x 20
275 (4)

689

0853

嘆願書 (親友佐々木光慶君に關する)

佐々木光慶君は同じ中學校の出身にて、醫
學校に於ては親しく机を並べて學んだ間柄で
、風に其の性質温順、誰にも好かれる人の良
さと天真爛漫な純情さを愛して怡も兄弟の如
く交際して参りました。特に醫學校時代はス
ポーツ至らざれば一通りて赤裸々な友情を展
開し、私と彼とは主将、副主将の重任を果し
、特に彼は其の人柄の自然の美徳により、良
く部員を統率し、就中該競技の野蠻性を嫌つ
て紳士道に叶ったスポーツマンシップを飽く
まで遵奉し、部員にも何時も強調してをりま
した。共に喜び、泣き、苦い人があの運動場
裡の感激を経てその耽溺は更に度を加へ、學
業に運動に互いに勵まし合つて輝かしい希望
を將來に夢みてとりぞいな。

彼は父を早く失ひ、慈愛深い母の手一つで
育てられ、全く母一人子一人の淋しい境遇で
いた。母にとっては實にかけ替へのない珠寶
であり、母は、世間よくある一人息子の我儘
は少くとも團體生活に於ては片鱗をさ之伺ふ

()
こゝか出来るせんでした。斯くの如く實に稀
に見る好人物の故に肝膽相照し、私と彼は生
死を共に誓つた仲となりました。
醫學校卒業後召されてお召されては、
彼の留守宅附近に在った私は殆んど毎日の如
く孤獨な母と慰問し、激勵して参りました。彼
の母は特に子煩悩で、好物を断つて息子の帰
還を神に祈つたのも無理からぬことと思はれ
ます。昨年末幸にも終戦となつて、二年振りに
で帰還した我が子を迎へ安堵の胸を撫で下し
、真に生甲斐ある生活が始まるやんといたのも
束の間、不幸にも貴國の裁きを受ける身とな
り彼は又いつか母の手から奪ひ去られたので
す。一寸行つて来ると交つて彼は出掛けまし
たが、三ヶ月に亘るといつか其の聲さへも
聴くこゝか出来ません。如何に氣丈な母なり
と雖も、心算日に加はり頭髮は白きを増し、
病の床に臥すること多くなりしました。只思
子の無事帰還を信する一點で辛じて支へられ
てゐる老の體は、之れ以上の不幸が訪れるは

()
らば、其の打撃は母の心身を此の甚^北に留めて
は置かないこととせう。私は現在でさえ餘
に悲惨な境遇に慰めの言葉も見當りません。
私には兄弟が多いので彼の身代りになるこ
とかも来るなら、吾が命に替之ても一刻も
早く母の懷に彼を戻して戴ける孫念願致して
をります。右事にも朋友に代つて獄に繋かれ
、一時釋放の問其の責を果した例もあります
が、私は更に数倍の苦闘を荷せられ、母とも彼
の爲なら如何なることにも引受けられると信
じます。

茲に彼の苦悩と母の忍苦を思ふて忍びず、
一文を草して一時も早く光慶君と母の膝下に仰
還し下さる様、貴國の寛大なる待遇を只管
希願し申上げます。

昭和二十一年七月十日

日本赤十字社仙臺病院

醫師 伊達忠直

米國アリヤナ方面

軍司令官閣下

PETITION FOR CLEMENCY

To the Honorable President of the Military Commission:

The accused Sasaki Mitsuyoshi was extremely gentle in nature, and on our frequent meetings, he always said that it was his mother who made him what he is today, and that he would not forget his mother's love for the rest of his life. He had a great deal of piety, and besides, as a sportsman, he had a cheerful personality and was loved by his superiors and respected by his subordinates. He was an unaffected person who was very sincere in treating his patients, even in the minutest details and had a very strong sense of responsibility.

I beg that in giving your verdict, you take the above circumstances into consideration.

WATANABE TAKEJIRO
Former Lieutenant (jg) I.J.N.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Watanabe Takejiro in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

PETITION

To Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission:

I humbly present my plea to Your Honor, The President and the Honorable Members of the Military Commission.

I have associated for one year with Lieutenant (Surgeon) IJN, Sasaki Mitsuyoshi one of the accused in the Chichi Jima War Crime Trials, at Guam. I was deeply impressed by his great affection towards his mother. When we drank together, he quite often sang songs which reminded him of his mother.

He was a fine sportsman, and a cheerful, active person. He was conscientious in executing his duties, and had a passion for research as a young and progressive medical student. We often exchanged our opinions on subjects of common knowledge. Sasaki was indeed a fine gentleman. And thus it was that I was shocked when I heard that he had been charged with a crime.

At that time, it was impossible for a young officer who had just been graduated to offer any opinion to his superior. Thus I believe that earnest and shy person that he was, he was forced to execute the stern orders of commanding officer Yoshii, regardless of his own will.

Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission, as I have stated before, he has a mother who is alone, he being her only child. The only hope in life this mother has is her son. She was widowed while quite young, and brought up her son by her own weak hand. I pray that you who know of such circumstances will be lenient with him.

I humbly beg that you take into your kind consideration what I have stated above.

Hasegawa Taketoshi
Lieutenant, (jg) IJN

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Hasegawa Taketoshi in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
Frederick F. Tremayne
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

PETITION

To Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission:

I humbly plead for former Lieutenant Surgeon, Sasaki Mitsuyoshi, who is the accused in the Chichi Jima War Crimes Trials, to Your Honor the President and the honorable Members of the Commission.

I served with him for a year at the Special Naval Base Area at Chichi Jima. Sasaki is an unaffected and straightforward young surgeon and was the center of respect and popularity of our unit.

He has a mother who was widowed soon after marriage, and who alone reared him to be what he is today. At present, he is his mother's only hope, and he has served his mother with extreme sincerity. His love for her is beautiful to behold. The life of this mother and son lead is a miniature pattern of a peaceful human society.

Your Excellency the President and the Honorable Members of the Commission I beg that you will give special consideration to this case, and award the accused a lenient verdict, thus bringing a ray of hope into the future of this beautiful family life.

Shinoda Ichiro
Lieutenant Commander, IJN

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Shinoda, Ichiro in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
Frederick F. Tremayne
Lieutenant (jg) USNR
Interpreter

PETITION

To Your Honor, The President and the Members of the Military Commission:

I humbly submit my petition to the Honorable President and the Members of the Commission:

I have heard that former Lieutenant (Surgeon) Sasaki Mitsuyoshi has been arraigned before the Chichi Jima War Crimes Court for the incident of the dissection of the corpse of an American flyer. I am one who is confident that this act did not spring from the accused's own will.

In the Japanese Navy, superior or commanding officers did often not recognize the right of young medical officers to speak up, and such an unsophisticated and earnest young officer as he was, habitually carried out faithfully their superior's orders, suppressing one's ^{own} will or emotion. JH

He was a truly innocent person, and was very sincere towards all. But as he had a shy disposition, I believe that it was quite impossible for him to oppose his superior, and he had no other alternative than to execute the order.

Furthermore, he does not have any father, nor any brothers or sisters. He only has his aged mother. His mother was widowed when young, and raised her only child, while struggling with the many difficulties of life, and she made him what he is today. His mother is a sympathetic person with no other hope or joy than this child of hers.

I cannot keep myself from praying when I think of this poor mother and her son.

Your Honor, The President of the Commission, I beg that you will be lenient in dealing with this unaffected young officer, and bring hope to this poor mother.

Enomoto Shirokichi
Lieutenant, IJN
September 8, 1946.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Enomoto, Shirokichi in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
Frederick F. Tremayne
Lieutenant (jg) USNR
Interpreter

PETITION FOR CLEMENCY IN THE CASE OF FORMER LIEUTENANT (SURGEON)
SASAKI MITSUYOSHI

To Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission:

I am very surprised that the former naval lieutenant (surgeon) SASAKI, Mitsuyoshi has been arraigned this summer as a war criminal. As I have had some experience as an orderly, I know Lieutenant Sasaki well.

He decidedly is not an arrogant officer, but always talked to his men in a cheerful manner.

I have heard that his family consists of only himself and his mother. I remember that during the war when letters came there always was one for Lieutenant Sasaki from his mother, and when letters were sent, without fail there was one to his mother from him.

The mother's affection for her only child and the son's love for his dear mother was unbounded.

I beg that you be merciful in trying the accused.

MATSUMURA, TAKEJI,
Former Stoker
Petty Officer 2nd Class, IJN

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Matsumura, Takeji in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
Frederick F. Tremayne
Lieutenant (jg) USNR
Interpreter

PETITION

To Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission:

I humbly make my plea to Your Honor.

I have heard that in this Chichi Jima War Crimes Trial, Navy Lieutenant (Surgeon) Sasaki Mitsuyoshi has been charged with the dissection of the body of an American prisoner. I am one who firmly believes that he did not commit such an act of his own free will.

In the Japanese Navy, for such young naval surgeons as he, the privilege of speaking for themselves was not recognized. And he, a gentle and earnest youth, habitually carried out his superior's orders to the letter suppressing whatever feelings he had and subordinating his own will to that of his superior officer.

He was indeed innocent, and was kind to all. But as he was an introvert, I am convinced that he executed his superior's orders being unable to oppose them.

Sasaki has no brothers or sister, but only his lone mother. This mother of his became a widow while young, and brought up her only child, struggling bravely against every obstacle in this merciless society of ours. She is a very sympathetic person, whose only hope and joy is her child. I cannot help but pray from the bottom of my heart when I think of his mother's love and his filial piety.

Your Honor, I humbly beg that you will be lenient in trying this young officer, and bring hope again into the miserable life of his mother.

Yonehara Minoru
Lieutenant Commander

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Yonehara Minoru in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
Frederick F. Tremayne
Lieutenant (jg) USNR
Interpreter

PETITION

To Your Excellency, The President of the Military Commission.

I humbly make my plea to Your Honor and the members of the Military Commission.

Learning that Lieutenant (surgeon) Sasaki was to be tried in a war crimes case concerning the execution of war prisoners, I was shocked at the unexpected nature of the event.

Attached to the Chiohi Jima Naval Base I served with him for two years and can say that he was an extremely unaffected and cheerful young officer. His attitude in treating his patients was one of the utmost sincerity, and he was loved by both his superiors and his subordinates. From what I hear, his family consists of only himself and his mother, and there was not one person in the unit that did not know of his affection for his dear mother. His mother is waiting for her son, who is truly her only hope, to return home. When I think of this, I cannot suppress my profound sympathy for him.

Your Honor, The President and Honorable members of the Military Commission, I beg that you will be lenient in his case.

Noda Manoru
Lieutenant, IJN.

I certify the above to be a true and correct copy of the original petition of Noda Manoru, in English.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter.

PETITION

To Your Honor The President of the Military Commission.

I became acquainted with former naval lieutenant (surgeon) Sasaki Mitsuyoshi for the first time in the spring of 1943 when he arrived at the Chichi Jima naval base to take up his duties there. His quarters were next to mine, and since then we have been close friends.

He was gentle and sincere by nature, and a rarely unsophisticated personality. Always obedient to orders from his superiors, he made every effort to carry out his duties faithfully. His attitude towards his subordinates and the way in which he addressed them was kind and courteous and he was extremely popular among his superiors and subordinates.

He worked hard while doing research, and I have seen him forget to eat and sleep in his efforts to find means of protection against dengue fever and typhus.

I have heard that he has a lone mother who is awaiting him in Sendai. I have also heard people praise his remarkable filial piety towards his mother. As I have mentioned above, he is a young man of very fine character and has a brilliant future ahead of him, working for the reestablishment of Japan.

Your Honor the President and the members of the Commission, I humbly beg that you will take these extenuating circumstances into consideration in dealing with him, and award a lenient verdict.

Miyashita Tsunegoro.
Formerly attached to the
Chichi Jima Naval Base.

I certify the above to be a true and correct copy of the original petition of Miyashita Tsunegoro, in English.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter.

PETITION

To Your Excellency, The President of the Commission.

I humbly submit my petition to Your Excellency, The President and the Honorable Members of the War Crimes Commission in the Marianas.

Since April, 1945, I have been intimately associated with Sasaki, Mitsuyoshi, one of the accused in the Chichi Jima War Crimes case, and know his ideas and character well. I am shocked and surprised to hear that a person with such a benevolent nature was involved in such an atrocious crime, and am filled with sorrow. He had no vices, and loved his subordinates, and in turn was respected by them.

I saw him treating patients, and talking to them in his northeastern dialect. This heart warming scene made the atmosphere of this damp cave hospital, which was filled with malnutrition patients, a cheerful one.

He was brought up by his mothers hand alone, and his mother is anxiously awaiting the return of her only child. Sometimes, when he spoke of his mother, he could not suppress tears of gratitude. Without him, the Sasaki family does not exist.

I humbly beg of Your Excellency and the Honorable Members of the Commission that you will be lenient in the case of the accused, Sasaki, Mitsuyoshi.

NOMI, Hidehiko,
Lieutenant (jg), IJN,
Chichi Jima

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of NOMI, Hidehiko, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter.

CLEMENCY PETITION FOR SASAKI MITSUYOSHI.

As a friend of the former Naval Surgeon, Lieutenant SASAKI MITSUYOSHI, now undergoing trial by the fair and just American Military Court, I would like to write about his everyday actions and his character, and plead that he be released a free man.

1. Although I worked at a hospital several miles away from where he worked, whenever he had patients transferred to my hospital he always came with them and although it can be said that it is only proper for a doctor to do so, in spite of storms or muddy roads he always came even with the less serious cases, with whom he could have sent an attendant. This fact proves that he had a strong sense of responsibility and was very conscientious doctor.

2. He was almost too humble by nature and he was absolutely obedient to orders from his superiors. There were many times in his daily life that he was forced to do things unwillingly and he told me that he had acted against his will because he could not help it, as it was his superior's will. I beg that you will investigate this fact very carefully when personnel of the Japanese forces are tried in your courts. He may have been placed in a very unfortunate position when he was on the battlefield and as a member of the Japanese armed forces, he was subject to the severe rule of absolute obedience to ~~orders~~ ^{superiors}, with an unreasonable, egotistic superior officer bearing down upon him. I have never seen SASAKI go against his superior's orders. JH

3. After March 1945, the food situation became critical, and we officers, just as the men were nearing starvation. Whenever he came from his little dispensary to my billet at headquarters, he opened his small lunch package, and saying that conditions were a little better at his place shared it with us. (To tell the truth, the conditions at his place were no better than ours, and at times our headquarters were better.) He had a heart full of love for other people.

4. I was a member of the baseball team in my schooldays, and he was a member of the rugby team. Those who devote themselves to sports, make fairness and justice their creed. His character, and his life was always cheerful and bright, and he was never melancholy. JH

5. He always thought of his beloved mother, and being anxious about her, wrote to her every time he had an opportunity to do so. How could such a loving son commit a black crime?

6. He was admired and respected by his men just as he was by his patients, and was not feared, which is rather the rule in the Japanese forces. I believe that this can be proved by asking anyone of these people about this. It cannot be that a person who so affectionately loves his subordinates and is loved by them can be guilty of a criminal offense.

I absolutely cannot believe that such a gentle person as the one I have described above could ever be the source of any evil.

I am one who, since April 1945, lived and worked with him and having related this part of his character and daily life, I beg that he be

found not guilty and released.

MIYAGI KAZUHIKO,
Lieutenant, Naval Surgeon
formerly attached to the
CHICHI JIMA NAVAL BASE.

I certify the above translation consisting of two pages of the original
petition of Miyagi Kazuhiko, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDRICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

PETITION

To Your Honor, The President of the Commission.

I am a bosom friend of the accused Navy Surgeon Lieutenant SASAKI MITSUYOSHI's mother, and know his family conditions well. His family consists of the accused and his mother - only two members. SASAKI's father died of a sickness when SASAKI was not even two years old, and he was brought up these long 25 years by his widowed mother's hand alone. The accused is not a professional soldier but was only drafted into the armed forces because of this war from the Katsura Surgery Room of the Hospital attached to the Tokai Imperial University. He was a warm hearted person whom I believe is incapable of committing war crimes. I beg that you will have sympathy in his case and allow him to return to his eagerly awaiting mother as soon as possible.

TOUCHII MITSU
Senai City
July 14, 1946.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Touchii Mitsu, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDRICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

PETITION

For Clemency in the case of SASAKI MITSUYOSHI.

1. My relations with the accused:

I was associated with him from the time I entered the Medical College of the Tohoku Imperial University in April 1942, until the accused went off to war as a navy surgeon, and after he was repatriated, as a senior fellow member of the Katsura Surgery Room.

2. The nature of the accused:

The accused was brought up by the sole efforts of his mother and his character was outstanding. His kindness and generosity are great and he has guided many of his juniors sincerely and ably. He was possessed with a great love for his fellow man and spent much time in research for the sake of their well being. He treated his patients as he would have treated his own family. His love of research resulted in original ideas, which are highly esteemed.

3. The reason for my submitting this petition:

- (a) To lose such an earnest and original scientist would be a great blow not only to us, but to the welfare of mankind.
- (b) The accused is the life and soul of his mother, and not to free him would be the death of her.

I could not watch such a miserable and unreasonable condition arise without doing my best to persuade, His Excellency, The Commander of the Marianas for the release of the accused.

NAGAHAMA MASAO,
Member, Kaisura Surgery Room,
Hospital attached to Medical College,
Tohoku Imperial University.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Nagahama Masao, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDRICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant, (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

AFFIDAVIT FOR THE CHARACTER OF SASAKI, Mitsuyoshi

I humbly state before you concerning the character of Sasaki, Mitsuyoshi, the accused.

I know well about his character, because I was his senior officer during our military life of two years and a half at Chichi Jima since November 1943. He was very pure-minded, honest, a little timid and kind to his friends. Besides, his sportsmanship was outstanding and he was a good hand at various sports, he had been especially known as a good football player as well as a good oarsman. He never forgot sportsmanship even after he entered the Navy, and his service was really admirable.

Though he was yet a young medical student, he was clever and full of the spirit of inquiry, and was always earnest in his study. His service was distinguished and had a promising future. He was very kind to the patients. He often spent sleepless nights caring for the more serious cases. Therefore, he was much relied on both by his superiors and by his subordinates.

When he was two years old, he lost his father. He had neither brothers nor sisters and was brought up in a lonely family consisting of himself and his mother. This young widow never married again for the happiness of her child and brought him up in the stern realities of life. He himself studied hard and was graduated from the Tohoku Medical College with a satisfactory record. He had to go to Chichi Jima for military service without setting his mother's mind at ease, for, at that time, there was a war between Japan and the United States. I can imagine well that his aged mother is looking forward to her son's return. His filial piety was really touching. He was always anxious about her and yearned for her. In his album the following ode was written:

I sent my only son to the front,
And spend lonely days in spinning;
Oh; how many times my reel
Will roll till he will return again

I suppose that this may have been written while he was thinking about his mother. I cannot but be moved to tears at the thought of their deep love.

I cannot believe that he who is such a pure minded, timid and filial man should commit a crime which would make his mother ashamed. If it is true, I cannot imagine that he was obliged to do so by the order of his superior.

In the Imperial Japanese Navy, young medical officers like him used to be forced to obey absolutely the strict orders of their superiors. I believe that he obeyed the order with great agony in his heart.

I hear that his mother prays for the happiness of her son every day and night before God in her deep sorrow.

I beg your kind consideration for his mother who lost her husband in her younger days and who has been working hard for her son amidst severe trials and tribulations and that you deal leniently with Sasaki that pure minded surgeon who is an indispensable person in the reconstruction of Japan.

23 September 1946
Surgeon Lieutenant Commander
Sakai, Tadashi

To your Honor the President of the Military Commission.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Sakai, Tadashi in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter

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CLEMENCY PETITION FOR SASAKI MITSUYOSHI.

1. My relations with the accused:

From 1937 to March 1939, I was his classmate in the Sendai High School of Miyagi Prefecture.

From April 1942 until July 1942, I was his junior at the Medical College attached to the Tohoku Imperial University.

2. The nature of the accused:

(a) He has an affable personality, was always highly respected by his classmates and juniors, and was loved by many others.

(b) He was an ardent student, always conscientious in his medical studies, and a hardworking doctor.

(c) Losing his father in infancy, and growing up alone with his mother, his unusual filial piety attracted the attention of others.

3. The reason for my petition:

As I have mentioned before, the accused held the lofty ideal of doing his part in the struggle for the salvation of mankind, which he was to carry throughout his life. He was a medical student whose future activities were sure to result in the saving of many lives and was devoted to the progress of medicine. There was no doubt about this among us, his fellow students. Also on behalf of his beloved mother, I plead that you will find him innocent, set him free as soon as possible, and let such a honest and upright medical student take up his duties again.

HASHIMOTO SHIN.

Member of Katsura Surgery room of
Hospital attached to Tohoku
Imperial University.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Hashimoto Shin, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDRICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

CLEMENCY PETITION FOR SASAKI MITSUYOSHI.


I have been the bosom friend of SASAKI MITSUYOSHI since his high school days. We were like blood brothers while we both attended the medical college, and I am confident that I know of SASAKI's character as well as his own family if not better. I hereby state a part of his daily life and character, and pray that he may have a bright future, and that the day will come soon when he will be able to work for the welfare of the people of this world and of his race, making many contributions to the new democratic Japanese nation.

He was gentle by nature, his ability in his lessons was above average, and he was a fine example for his classmates. He was eager to do research, was a person with broad knowledge, and was capable in many fields. His love was not confined to his immediate associates, and bearing in mind that the study of medicine is also the study of saving people, he was always an example for others, attending his patients as a mother would her children. We were always overjoyed to hear words of praise for him, uttered by his instructor, his fellow students, and his patients.

When we heard the other day that he had been called by orders from your forces, for investigation and interrogation, and had entered the SUGAMO Prison, we firmly believed that it was just a mistake. Later we heard that he had been sent down to the MARIANAS AREA, and I make my humble plea that, if possible, he be returned soon to his family, consisting of only himself and his aged mother, as a peaceful and cheerful free man. His mother lives only for her son, and it is unbearable to watch his mother's sorrow and suffering. We, his former classmates and friends, pray for the future of our beloved friend from far away, and ask Your Excellency's mercy, so that our friend may be able to work for world brotherhood as a member of the new peaceful Japan, and so hereby submit this humble petition.

ENDO SHOGORO
Classmate, Miyagi Prefecture,
IWANUMA-Machi, MINAMI 148.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Endo Shogoro, in Japanese, to the best of my ability.


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

CLEMENCY PETITION FOR SASAKI MITSUYOSHI

Your Excellency, the Commander of the Marianas.

I hereby respectfully submit this petition.

I am a friend from Medical School of the former Naval Surgeon, Sasaki Mitsuyoshi who is to be tried before you as a suspected war criminal. Though it be presumptuous for me to do this, I would like to state to Your Excellency the impressions I received of his character during our long association, and if what I have to say should be of any value in your just trial, I will be highly gratified.

Sasaki grew up in a family consisting only of himself and his mother, and his innocent and loving nature was the object of admiration and he was envied by many friends.

He took notice of some points that I could not, and strived to associate harmoniously with his friends.

Though he is quite tall for a Japanese, he is quiet and refined, contrary to his appearance. I remember the following incident. I know of this well because I used to sit next to him. In our experiments in the study of pharmaceuticals, we had to take out the brain of a frog and make up a vertebra. The jests of his classmates were centered upon him when he made it known that he did not like to do this.

He was also a member of the rugby team, and the best athlete in our class. But as I was not gifted as he was in this field, I regret that I cannot truthfully say anything concerning his attitude in this.

As I write this petition, I recall that the memories I have of him are all pleasant ones, and I cannot suppress a feeling of longing for him.

I felt very strange when I heard that such a fine character was to be tried as a war criminal. Of course, we have no means of knowing of his actions on the battlefield, but thinking of his daily life with which I am familiar, I believe that there is no doubt that he was a tender and kind Navy surgeon.

I believe that once Your Excellency sees him personally, you will understand that what I have written is true. By this, I mean that his features are too mild to commit a vile act.

Though I have expressed my own personal views, I humbly beg that Your Excellency will sympathize with him, and be lenient with him in your just trial.

Sato Shokichi.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Sato Shokichi in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter

CLEMENCY PETITION FOR SASAKI MITSUYOSHI.

Your Excellency, The President of the Commission:

I hereby submit a clemency petition for the defendant in the trials before the Military Court in the Marianas Area, former Naval Surgeon, Lieutenant SASAKI MITSUYOSHI.

The accused was a senior in my school, and we studied together and participated in the same sports. The defendant has a gentle and obedient nature, and unusual scholastic ability. He also was a peaceful, loving person, and we juniors were greatly influenced by his morals.

The accused have been living a lonely but affectionate life with his mother in the tranquil city of SENDAI. At home, he served his mother, diligently, and outside of his home he did not forget to assist his friends and juniors as much as possible, being highly respected and admired by his classmates and juniors.

Learning that he is to be tried before a Military Court, I, as a person who knows the accused thoroughly, am indeed, shocked.

The accused has a strong sense of self sacrifice, and also a wide scientific knowledge. He has a broad love which embraces his fellow men, and we believe his service to mankind will result in his being granted divine aid for which we are fervently praying.

During the war, absolute obedience to orders was required in our armed forces, and because the accused was of such fine character, he experienced an unavoidable disaster.

We, who have lost him, feel extreme sorrow, which we share with his aged and lonely mother.

Now that the war has ended and the chimes of peace are resounding in our country, we have high hopes that the accused's peace-loving nature will atone for his sin and that he will make many more contributions to humanity.

For the sake of his aged mother whose only hope in life is the return of her child, and to answer the prayers of his friends and juniors, I have dared to submit my humble statement to Your Excellency and plead for his release as an innocent man.

Member of the Katsura Surgery Room Hospital attached to Medical College, Imperial University.

YAMADA RIKUA.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Yamada Rikua, in Japanese, to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDRICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant, (JG), USNR.
Interpreter.

CLEMENCY PETITION FOR SASAKI MITSUYOSHI.

The reason that I have submitted my humble petition to your Excellency is that Lieutenant (surgeon) SASAKI MITSUYOSHI, who is to be tried before you, was a classmate of mine for four years at the Medical College attached to the Tohoku Imperial University, during which time we studied and participated in sports together. Many times we discussed our hopes of the future together. This incident was quite unexpected and indeed a stunning blow to me.

He was a man of few words, but very energetic and honest of which fact every member of his class was cognizant.

He was an excellent physical specimen and when he appeared on the field for a rugby match and when he rowed in the crew races we all felt a sense of security concerning the outcome of the game.

His prowess as an athlete was matched by his mental acumen and his accomplishments commanded the respect of us all.

Now, quite unexpectedly having heard that he is to be tried by a military commission we are all puzzled as to the reason for this, and are most anxious to submit the above statement on his behalf.

We humbly rely upon you for a fair and unbiased decision.

With hope that we shall soon be able to see the cheerful figure of SASAKI again working for the peaceful reconstruction of his country, I have humbly offered this petition to Your Honor.

For the peaceful restoration of present day Japan, such diligent youths are indispensable. Everyone was surprised when they heard that a man of such fine character was to be tried before a military commission. This proves how popular SASAKI was and how much he was loved by his friends. It would make me very happy if your Excellency would kindly understand what I have mentioned concerning his character.

From northeastern Japan I am fervently praying that Your Excellency will give the accused a just and fair trial.

MATSUNAGA KATSUMI
Tohoku Imperial University.
Hospital Ophthalmologist.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation of the original petition of Matsunaga Katsumi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE.
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

Clemency Petition for SASAKI Mitsuyoshi

To the Commander MARIANAS

I am one who knows thoroughly the life of Sasaki Mitsuyoshi, who is to be tried soon in your court. I also taught him personally in the school where he learned medicine. I would like to state some facts which may aid your Honor in giving him a fair trial, and at the same time, I humbly beg that you bestow upon him your unlimited mercy.

Sasaki Mitsuyoshi lost his father soon after he was born, and to this day his mother has taken care of him by herself. His mother suffered through the years many trials and tribulations that her only child might grow up to be a fine man. His mother made every sacrifice that this ambition might be realized. His mother was extremely careful in the selection of his friends. It is said "A man is judged by the company he keeps" and certainly his friends are all fine, straightforward men. His mother found her greatest joy in watching her son become of age, a person of sterling character. Who would believe that such a person would do anything immoral? I believe that it is such persons as he that are required to build the peaceful Japan of tomorrow. Japan is calling for such persons and to lose such an honest young man means nothing else than the delay of Japan's democratization.

I beg that Your Honor will understand his life history and deal with him leniently.

For four years after entering the Tohoku Imperial University's Medical College, he was devoted to his studies. He participated in many sports during this period, and his fine sportsmanship was admired by his friends. His friendship was sincere. Once he remained at the bedside of a sick friend all night in spite of the fact that it was just before an important examination. He was always giving help to those friends whose families were in distress.

It is hard to imagine that such a young man would be guilty of an immoral act. If in the future Japan is to become a cooperative and peace-loving nation it requires young people like Sasaki.

Your Honor, who desires the peaceful reconstruction of Japan, I plead that you will consider fully these facts and set Sasaki Mitsuyoshi free as soon as possible, for the sake of his fine friends who have awaited his return for so long, for the sake of his aged mother who is awaiting the return of her beloved son, and so that he himself can put forth his own efforts in the building of a peaceful Japan.

SENDAI, Tohoku Imperial University
Asst. Prof. Maruta Kimio

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Sendai, Tohoku, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter

Boc. 22463

HY/O

To: Commander, MARIANAS

I have know the defendant, SASAKI, Mitsuyoshi, since his middle school days and was his instructor when he entered medical school. Even after graduation, he was under my direct guidance, so I am familiar with both his personal and public life. For this reason, I wish to present a brief sketch of SASAKI'S upbringing and his character to you for your careful consideration.

SASAKI lost his father two years after he was born, thereafter, he grew up in an environment rich both spiritually and materially with just his mother. Since he did not have a father, his mother's love for him was very deep. His mother worked hard to make him a just, fine man. She selected the medical profession for him so that ^{when} he grew up he could serve the people.

He was one who would never commit a wrong even if he turned out the loser. He was a person who constantly tried to be of some use to his fellow men. Consequently, all of his friends loved him dearly. He is also very obedient and never disobeyed his elders or his instructors. For this reason he was loved very much by his elders and teachers.

As indicated by his physical makeup, he is a sportsman. He has always believed in fair play. Even at personal sacrifice, he sought the welfare of others. A man like SASAKI, I firmly believe to be indispensable to the future of JAPAN.

To his aged surviving mother, SASAKI, who has grown up as she had wanted him to, has always been her pride.

What irony of fate that he should stand trial as a war criminal suspect. His mother absolutely refuses to believe that her son has committed a crime against humanity. Neither his friends nor his elders can believe it. Moreover, I do not believe that he can commit even a small crime. I firmly believe that if he were to be freed, he would serve his fellow men.

Please sir, I do not know what local crime he committed, but I as one familiar with his character, do not believe he can do any wrong. Please study SASAKI'S character and give him a fair trial.

MARUTA, Kimio MD
TOHOKU Imperial
University Medical College,
External Medicine Classroom.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Maruta, Kimio, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter.

Petition for Sasaki Mitsuyoshi

Please allow me to make my humble plea. Sasaki Mitsuyoshi, who is being tried by your honorable courts, is a bosom friend of my fourth son, and I know him well. Sasaki is a most affable young man with a well rounded personality. He was respectful to his superiors and obedient to orders. Although I have no way of knowing what he has been accused, I cannot make myself believe that such a young man would have ever committed a crime against humanity. He lost his father while in infancy and has no brothers or sisters. He grew up with only the love of his mother, who is a fervent believer in Buddhism. The Buddhist creed is one of mercy and Sasaki knew it well. At school he learned medicine that he might help his people as best he could. If such a fine young man did actually commit a crime which justifies punishment he must have done so only under the intense strain of the unusual circumstances so prevalent in war time.

But now in a calm state of mind, I believe that he has reflected upon his act and repented to a point where no further punishment is necessary. His mother, who brought him up to be such a fine young man with her own weak hand, spent freely what little money they had on his education, and was awaiting the day when her beloved son would take good care of her. But alas, he was taken away from her to go to war, and for a long period, his mother lived in constant anxiety over his safety. Even before the joy of reunion was felt, he was again taken away from her, this time to be tried as a war criminal. When I think of his mother, I cannot remain silent, and I beg that you will consider her, whose health is declining because of her anxiety and be lenient in dealing with her son.

Date Ryoji
Sendai Local Court, Notary Judge.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Date Ryoji, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter.

Petition for Clemency in the Case of Sasaki Mitsuyoshi.

I have been Sasaki Mitsuyoshi's most intimate friend since his high school days and during his medical college years. I know his nature and habits thoroughly. He has an amiable personality and an upright character. He is the only child his mother has, and was always thinking about his mother. His filial piety and love for his mother were admired by all who knew them. He was also a skilled sportsman, and always stood strictly for good sportsmanship. He had the courage to reject any unfairness. As a student of medicine, he was always striving for world peace, and made it his goal in life to aid his people by his skill. Thus he devoted himself to research, and the treatment of patients, and was most highly respected by us, his fellow students.

Freed from the long nightmare, he returned home to his mother but for only a brief period. He was summoned by your Commander-in-Chief. His mother's grief knows no bounds. As a friend, I am moved to tears at the sight of his mother's anguish, and the fact that she is losing weight day by day.

I hereby submit this petition and fervently beg that by your lenient disposition, the peaceful life of this mother and child shall again become possible.

Doctor Nishidate Tetsuro

Miyagi Prefecture, Sendai, Nagamachi, Koejō 3.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Nishidate Tetsuro, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter.

PETITION

To Your Honor, the President of the Military Commission.

Petition for Clemency in the case of SASAKI MITSUYOSHI

We Humbly submit the following:

We are the teachers who taught Naval Surgeon Sasaki Mitsuyoshi during his school days. We were shocked and stricken with grief when we heard that Sasaki is suspected of a war crime and that he has been sent to the distant island of Guam for trial. We have no way of knowing with what offense SASAKI is charged and we fully realize that your Honor will investigate his case very carefully and make a just decision in his case.

Furthermore we realize that the verdict will be immutable and that we will be powerless to do anything about it. The accused was, in his younger days, an extremely good and earnest pupil, trusted and loved by his teachers and classmates. We were indeed surprised and sorry to hear that such a fine young man is to be tried for a war crime. Sasaki's father died soon after Sasaki was born, and he has no brothers or sisters. Being the only child, he was brought up by his mother's hand alone. His aged mother is an unfortunate and lonely person whose only hope is her son. We humbly beg that your Honor will sympathize with this unfortunate mother and son and be lenient in your decision.

Please accept my humble apologies for being so rude as to submit this petition.

Former Teacher at
Miyagi prefecture, Sendai City, Second High School, Ujie Tomie
Teacher at Prefecture, Sendai City, Second High School, Nomura Fusao
Former teacher at " " " " "
Principal of Wakuya Girl's High School ~ Swatari Takeo
Teacher at Sendai Second High School Fukunaga Kazutoshi

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of the above named persons in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter

Petition for Clemency in the Case of Sasaki Mitsuyoshi

I am a junior of Sasaki Mitsuyoshi and one who has had the pleasure of associating with him as a fellow member of the Katsura Surgery Room since January, 1946.

The accused indeed thoroughly sought after the truth, and was a most conscientious scientist. On the other hand, he had a deep love for his fellowmen and abhorred any conduct or talk that would be injurious to other people. He commanded the respect and admiration of those who came into contact with him. Furthermore the accused's filial piety was well known by others, and as well as being a scientist, he was a man of great virtue.

As I have just explained, the accused is an example of a very virtuous man and is always thinking of his mother. He also passionately desires to bring as much aid and comfort as he can to his fellowmen. Thus we who are his friend and know it is quite improbable that a man of such a fine character committed any sin. To have such a conscientious, sincere, faithful and eager student of medicine as the accused would be most fortunate for Japan, and for the establishment of everlasting peace among the nations of the world.

Moreover, the mother of the accused is his only living relation and he is this mother's only child. When I picture her immense suffering at being deprived of her beloved offspring I am moved to tears.

I have stated truthfully the nature of the accused and beg that you will set him free.

Motoki Kishio
Member, Katsura Surgery Room attached to Hospital,
Tohoku Imperial University.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Motoki Kishio, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter

Petition for Clemency in the Case of Sasaki Mitsuyoshi

When I learned for the first time that Sasaki Mitsuyoshi was to be tried before an American Military Commission, I was shocked and have taken the liberty of telling what I know about him and beg your most lenient disposal. Sasaki was a quiet and truthful student. As a student he was absolutely obedient to orders from superiors. Upon reflection, I think that it was sense of absolute obedience to orders that was the most important cause of his having to stand trial now.

When I heard that he was to go to the front I expected him to return having fulfilled his duties to the best of his ability. How can I believe him guilty of the charges made against him. I think that it was because of this "absolute obedience to orders", which was the major defect of the Japanese forces, that caused this. When confronted with an order from one's superiors, one's own will does not exist. This idea is one that is still obstructing the development of Japan. Any good youth who had been in his spot would be standing trial today. This is the rule of the Japanese forces. The reason he is such an unfortunate position today is that he entered an armed force which did not in the least allow him to exercise his own will or character.

Wasn't he a mere robot on the battlefield and his real soul at home with his mother at Sendai?

As all Japanese warriors, he must have uttered his mother's name when in deep suffering. I fervently plead that the sympathetic members of the commission save him and his mother in the name of democracy.

Honory^{ar} Professor, Tohoku Imperial University,
Fuse, Gennosuke.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Fuse, Gennosuke, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter.

PETITION

To Your Honor, The Commander Marianas:

Please accept my humble petition written for the sake of the accused SASAKI Mitsuyoshi, former Naval Surgeon (lt) IJN, who is being tried very fairly. Sasaki and I were classmates and were very closely associated while we were studying together at Medical School. I was able to observe closely his good qualities and fine character day and night. When I heard that he was standing trial I was very much surprised and could hardly believe it. He lost his father early in life and only he and his mother were left. He was brought up in a peaceful environment by the loving hand of his mother. He was very cheerful and honest and he was very kind to everybody. If a sudden shower arose, although he got wet himself, he would lend his umbrella to a classmate or friend. And when a friend had no lodging for the night Sasaki took him home with him and put him up for the night. His nature was such that when someone was in trouble he would not look on passively. For this reason, whenever anyone asked him to do something, taking full responsibility he would go out of his way to comply with the request. His classmates called him "Mitchan" and he was loved and respected by all. He was a champion Rugby player, and since he always played fairly and squarely according to the rules he was always very popular with his teammates.

How is it possible that such a person must stand trial? I cannot believe it! I truly believe that this kind of man can certainly be very useful to his fellow men in peaceful post-war reconstruction. I humbly beg that this man be tried fairly, with justice and mercy and that he be allowed to return to take up his duties in the peaceful post-war reconstruction as soon as possible.

Fukuji, Setsuo
Doctor at the hospital attached
to the Tohoku Imperial University.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Fukuji, Setsuo, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter.

PETITION

(IN THE CASE OF MY BOSOM FRIEND, SASAKI MITSUYOSHI)

Sasaki Mitsuyoshi is a graduate of the same middle school, which I attended, and in school we studied with our desks close together. He had a pleasant personality in the beginning, and ~~was~~ liked by everybody. I loved his good natured and innocent manner and we have been like brothers in our friendship. In our medical school days, when I was the captain, and he the co-captain of the rugby team, our friendship became more intimate. His natural virtue aided greatly in running the team. He hated the savage aspect of sports and always emphasized and believed in good clean, gentlemanly sport, which he made known from time to time to his teammates. The bonds of our friendship were strengthened as we suffered together on the playing field. We encouraged each other, and had visions of a bright future.

Sasaki lost his father early in life, and was brought up by his loving mother alone. His family was a lonely one, with only mother and child. He was the apple of his mother's eye. Although frequently in such a case, the child is pampered and spoiled, in our social life Sasaki showed no such traits. As he was of such fine character, I became his bosom friend, and we swore that we would share life and death together.

After he graduated from medical school, he was called to arms and sent to the front. Almost daily I went to see his lonely mother to comfort and encourage her. His mother was especially devoted to him. She no longer ate the delicacies she previously enjoyed and prayed for the safe return of her son.

Fortunately, the war ended late last year. She welcomed her son safely back from the wars, and was able to relax for the first time. Unfortunately, just when they were about to start a new life full of hope for the future, he was named as one who would be tried before your courts, and again was forced to leave his mother. He left saying "I'll be seeing you", but it has been three months since we have heard from him. Even the most courageous mother would not be able to stand such anguish. His mother's hair grows whiter day by day, and now she frequently finds herself unable to get up from her bed. She has been sustaining her aged body only on the hope that her son will come back to her and if she meets with further misfortune, the blow would be fatal.

I have many brothers, and am able to substitute for him, and am praying that I will be allowed to give my life so that he will be returned to his mother as soon as possible. There is an ancient anecdote about the person substituting for his friend in prison while the other was performing his duties. I am resolved that though I undergo many hardships, I will take on anything for his sake.

Being unable to watch his and his mother's suffering, I have written this letter to plead that Sasaki be returned to his mother as soon as possible, and humbly beg that you will be lenient in dealing with him.

Sendai Hospital, Japanese Red
Cross,
Doctor, Date Tadanao

I certify the above to be a true and correct copy of the original petition of Date Tadanao, in English.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR,
Interpreter.

Petition for Clemency in the
Case of Sasaki
Mitengoshi

I hereby submit a petition pleading
for clemency in the case of the accused
naval surgeon, Lieutenant Sasaki
Mitengoshi. Although I ~~did not know~~
was not ~~the surgeon~~ under his
command, I became acquainted with
him well as his dispensary was in the
adjacent cave, only a few yards away. He
often visited me in what little spare time he
had ~~at the cave~~ and I also frequented the
dispensary because of the many friends I
had among the prisoners.

~~The entrance to my~~
My cave was directly hit by an
American bomb, ~~as from which~~ ^{and} I narrowly
escaped being buried alive, ~~and after~~
thus my cave became too dangerous to stay in
during air raids, ~~when~~ ^{and} I took shelter
in the dispensary. It was then ^{that} when
I heard actually from the mouths of the
many patients and prisoners in the
crowded cave how sincere and considerate
Lt. Sasaki was to them, and of his
unusual kindness ^{to} ~~to each~~
individual. ~~The~~ My opinion is

I humbly ~~ask~~ ^{ask} the Commission
~~that~~ I humbly ~~ask~~ ^{ask} Your Honor
that you will take into your consideration
that as a young naval doctor, he could
not have possibly opposed or refused
~~to~~ ^{to execute} the commanding officer's orders,
~~and~~ and that you will be clement and
merciful in delivering sentence
upon this ~~much~~ ^{highly} respected person.

Tamamura, Fumio

To the Highest United States Army
Commander in the Marianas

29
July 22, 1946.

Dear Sir:

I have lived near Mitsuyoshi Sasaki for many years, and know him intimately since childhood. Losing his father when only a baby, he was brought up as a good doctor by his mother who sacrificed everything she had for his education. When he graduated from the Tohoku Medical College, it was in the midst of the Pacific war, and he was forced to the front as a naval medical officer. During his service with the Navy, his mother prayed every day for his safe return. How great was his mother's delight when he came home safely from the battle last year. But, how great was her shock and astonishment when he was ordered to present himself at the Sugamo Prison as a war-crime suspect. His mother firmly believes that he is straight and honest and that his charges are groundless, and is waiting for his early return.

Young Mitsuyoshi Sasaki was brought up by her mother's great sacrifice, and lives only for him. I believe that he asked my wife that he wanted a gentle European doll which she sent as a comfort kit which he always carried during the war. After the war he was attached to the hospital and I was astonished to learn that he spent a many long nights, attending sick patients all night which won him great respects. I do not believe in the least that he did wrong against humanity. I trust that every justice is given to him and that he be returned to his waiting mother.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Chikashi Suzuki

Dr. Chikashi Suzuki
No. 80 Kitasanbancho, Sendai City

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0007

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PETITION

To: Supreme Commander of Mariana Forces

Mitsugoshi Sasaki who is under the trial of Your Excellency is my son's friend. He lost his father when he was born and brought up in the hands of his mother. His mother, it is not too much to say, lived for his son. He came home much delight to his mother. But no sooner than he came back, he was charged with crimes which are almost unbelievable to those who know him well. All friends are calling on her mother in order to comfort her. However, the trial is to take place in distant land-- and, his mother is under unspeakable distress so much so that we would not bear looking at her. My family are praying that he may come home soon and I beg your sympathetic attitude in view of the above-mentioned circumstances.

Alko Date
Alko Date

0000

31

PETITION

To: Supreme Commander of Mariana Forces

Mr. Mitsuyoshi Sasaki was always a gentle and kind uncle. He gave me skate last New year for me to use it when I became older.

At home, his old mother is awaiting his return. He is not a kind of man who will commit any crime. I beg you that you will make him return to his mother as soon as possible.

Hiroshi Suzuki
Hiroshi Suzuki
4th Grade
Kimotodori Primary School

725

0889

32

PETITION

10 July. 1946

To: Supreme Commander for Mariana Forces

The reason why I write this letter to Your Excellency when I have no acquaintance, is about Mitsuyoshi Sasaki who is about to be tried by Your Excellency. He is my intimate classmate. I write as I presume that Your Excellency, like all good judges, wishes to know all about him before trying. Throughout four years of Medical School at Tohoku University, I studied with him as a good friend. He was tall and well-built. At first, he was hard to approach as he was a man of few words. So I got to know him, I soon realized that his temperament is conservative and gentlemanlike. He stood for justice and very critical to all evils. His physique and conservative character gives the impression of insolence at first sight. This is certainly at disadvantage in this respect.

It seems that he has been spending the life of gratitude. He grew in the everlasting love of mother (as a only son and he lost his father when he was born.) His gratitude for mother was great and hence everything on earth. I recall one time walking with him. I broke a tree-branch and he begged to stop it. This only illustrate his tenderness to everything on earth. He was very sensitive to using animals for medical experiment.

Thus, he was first to attend memorials held for animals killed for experimentation.

I am confident that Your Excellency will grasp his warm character -- that I shall not tax you with my poor sentence.

It is hard to believe that if he committed crime if he did and his motives. I wish that Your Excellency will fully realize that the development of this country as a peaceful nation will necessarily be delayed if the number of promising young people who were forced to war become less.

I beg Your Excellency that he will be tried fairly and I shall be more than pleased if my deposition of character testimony can be of help to you.

I pray for Your Excellency good-being and for the day when I can meet my dear friend again.

Respectfully Yours,

Kihachi Ura
Kihachi Ura,

Hayakawa Internal Disease Dept.
Tohoku University Medical
School Hospital

33

PETITION

July 12, 1946

To: Supreme Commander of Mariana Forces and Judges:--

I have known Mitsuyoshi Sasaki who is about to be tried in Your Court for seventeen years. While I was attending the Second Higher School at Sendai, his mother took very good care of me as a boarder. At that time, Sasaki was nine years' old.

When he came home from school, he usually found her mother teaching the art of flower arrangements -- surrounded by a group of young girls. He was brought up in this environment.

His mother looked after students like myself away from home. Many students gathered around to this house. Sasaki was loved by students and he grew up in this atmosphere.

Sasaki was brought up without any material setbacks unlike so many children who lost father in early age. The reason why his mother kept boarders was that she thought they may have good educational influence on her child. Her mother did not love him blindly. She made him a routine of house work everyday.

As he grew, he became a doctor. When he finds a patient who disobeys his order, all he would say is "You better go if you cannot obey my order". However, they, often than not, returned to have treated again.

While he was under military service, his sole concern was his mother. Whenever he sees us, after he went in service, the

first thing he would say was "please see to my mother for me". His mother gave half of her life to his son. His prime object of life is not to worry his aged mother. This must have been his mental attitude during his service.

He grew obedient and tender having been beloved by many people as a child, student and doctor. A person who beloved, as a rule, is in a position to love other people. Once he returned home from overseas during the war to find great shortage of materials in Japan. He left almost everything of his belongings that he had to other people. He sooner goes without them than to see the suffering of other people.

There are so many stories which illustrate his good character. However, I cannot recall anything which associate him with act of cruelty. Above all, his character is far away from even semblance of cruelty.

Supreme Commander and judges! I was not a eye-witness of his conduct during the war. However, knowing him as well as I do, I cannot believe that he should have any connection with any act of cruelty -- still more his act of cruelty.

In judge his action, I beg Your Excellency will take into consideration the above -- mentioned facts and make them a basis of your wise judgement.

Eljiro Takahashi

Eljiro Takahashi

Head of Materials Branch

Japan Timber Co.

30g (2)

729

0893

JOINT PETITION

17 July 1946 35

Commanding Officer, Marianna Area

Dear Sir:

We, the undersigned, are the childhood friends of Mitsuyoshi Sasaki, and knowing him as we do, as our sincere friend, one who is at all times true and reliable, we raise our voices and cry, "it is unbelievable that such a man with high moral standing and character can be tried as a war criminal".

Sasaki is not a person to come afoul any law, nor to be branded as a suspected war criminal. It is unjustified, and against his high honor and character. We know him too well. We are familiar with his face and character. We have associated with Sasaki, shared together our tears and joys in turn since were seven years old, the age at which we entered the same grammar school, and classes together, and since then, for nearly 20 years, we have been in constant touch with our old grammar school friend, and therefore, with absolute faith and sheer confidence, we vow that Sasaki cannot be guilty of an act for which he is soon to be tried by your High Command.

Our playmate of long years standing lost his father twenty some odd years ago, that is, when Sasaki was but two years of age. No brothers, nor sisters, Sasaki has but his mother.

We respect the highly cultured, economically substantial widow, Mrs. Sasaki, for she alone with her unmasculine strength reared young Sasaki to such a high standard that his good qualities and excellent character are envied by us all.

30h (1) JMD

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We nicknamed him "Otsuki san" (Honorable Moon) when ^{we} were still in grammar school. The same nickname is still used today when we refer to our bosom friend Mitsuyoshi Sasaki. It so happens that Sasaki took the part of Honorable Moon in a school play, the title of which is now forgotten, but the "moon" part played by Sasaki was so magnificent, we have, ever since, called him "Otsuki san" because, like the full moon, he casts his full rays everywhere and makes everyone happy.

Though he attended schools during the era of high power military regime when everything was sacrificed on the altar of the god of war, he, Sasaki, looked forward to the day when peace shall return. He was just another person to be pressed into the military service ² along with the rest of the numerous youths of that time.

Sasaki is not a selfish, egoistic person. He kindly shares with his associates whatever he possesses hoping for mutual happiness which comes from sharing with others.

He always had numerous friends, and little or no foe to speak of, and never have we found him overbearing, nor taking advantage of the weak, the strangers, friends, relatives, etc. His one motto was, "live, and let others live likewise", which shows that he holds ample consideration for the rights of others, and therefore will ~~be~~ your High Command kindly see that young Sasaki is a victim of gross misunderstanding, and is subjected to trial for which he is not guilty? -

We plea to your High Command's tender sympathy, and beg that

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your righteous judgement will find Sasaki not guilty of the charges which are laid against him, and that his widowed mother shall clasp in her arms once more her son whom she too believes innocent.

We, the humble signers of this joint petition, are Sasaki's life long friends, and hereby request that your High Command will be good enough to grant a favorable consideration to the above matter, we remain,

Yours respectfully,

Grammar school classmates
of Mitsuyoshi Sasaki

Sentarō Iukao

the undersigned joint petitioners

*Emoto Hiroshi.
Musha Hideko.
Saitō Yoshiho*

(15)

30h (3)

752

0896

JOINT PETITION

17 July 1946 36

SUBJECT: Request for release of Mitsuyoshi Sasaki, age 26,
a former 1st. Lt. (medical) Officer of the Japanese
Navy

TO : Commanding Officer, Marianna Area

Dear Sir:

We are the classmates of Mitsuyoshi, who, recently was ordered by your country to appear for trial as a suspected war criminal to be held at your High Command's court.

We do not believe that Sasaki is guilty of the charges brought against him. We know him too well to know that he is not the type of a fellow to abuse a fellowman, friend or foe. We respect and honor our true friend of long years standing, as he is a man of high character, of good moral standing, and kind and considerate to all.

He has no father. The father died when Mitsuyoshi was 2 years old. The mother took full responsibilities to rear Mitsuyoshi. The mother's much prided son was given all opportunities to associate only with the best of people, and is such a cultured atmosphere a person cannot but help absorb the best of life.

One Happy home and family is now broken as the son has been required to appear for questioning as a suspected war criminal.

Please consider the blow struck the mother when she heard that her son was taken to Guam, and the mental anguish which she must suffer until her son is released.

301 (1)

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- 2 -
We know, and the mother of Mitsuyoshi knows, that he, Mitsuyoshi has done no wrong, and trust that your justified court trial will disclose the truth that Mitsuyoshi is not guilty.

The mother prays day and night for the safe return of her only son, and we pray that your High Command too hears her prayers.

We, the classmates, sympathize with Mrs. Sasaki, and to comfort her, we take turns visiting at her home for what words of comfort we can give.

We, with absolute faith that Mitsuyoshi is innocent of every charge held against him, beg leave to present herewith a joint petition for his pardon and release. We humbly beg request that your High Command will be so good as to give Mitsuyoshi Sasaki his freedom.

Yours respectfully,

Nobuo Nanjo

Classmates of Mitsuyoshi Sasaki,
Sendai 2nd Middle School,
Sendai City.

Takeshi Kurohawa.
Hiroo Yura.
Ichiro Uemura.

301 (2)

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0898

JOINT PETITION

17 July 1946

37

Commanding Officer, Marianna Area

Dear Sir:

We are the classmates and under-classmates of Mitsuyoshi Sasaki during the latter's medical school days, and therefore we feel entitled to speak freely of his character as we found in him.

Sasaki, during his school days, was never at loss for wholesome friends. He was constantly surrounded by numerous admirers who always respected his high qualities and good character.

Not only did Sasaki excel us in classwork, as he also beat us in sports. Such was sportsman Sasaki during his school days. He was the pride of our rowing team; he undertook many odd responsibilities, and always looked well after the welfare of his mates and subordinates. He always lived a clean life as a student gentleman, and never did we find him taking advantage of others.

We graduated during the year 1942, during the midst of the war, and like chaff in a strong breeze, we, the medical students were scattered to the various military operational areas to serve as medical officers. Sasaki entered the Navy.

We who remained behind took our parts on the home front, and whenever opportunity was found available, we took turns visiting Sasaki's mother, who, constantly prayed and thought only for the safety of her son.

303 (1)

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-2-

Long dreary month of waiting for her son to come home from the war finally ended when Sasaki was demobilized last year, and the joy and pleasure the mother experienced in greeting her long lost son cannot be expressed in our words. This however was brought to an abrupt stop when Sasaki was ordered to appear for questioning as a war criminal for acts which a person as he can never commit against a fellowman.

It is unfortunate for us and to the forlorn mother that Sasaki is subjected to stand trial by your High Command, that Mrs. Sasaki must be separated from her dear son once again, that she must suffer mental pains such that her hair is turning grey from constant worrying about her son.

Mrs. Sasaki prays day and night for the safe return of her son, and we know that life for her will never be the same unless her son is pardoned and released by your High Command.

Sasaki is a peace loving man who plans to make medicine his lifetime career, and to aid alleviate the present medical situation of our wartorn postwar Japan.

We the classmates and under-classmates, hereby beg your High Command's pardon, and plea for the immediate release of our beloved comrade who is held as a suspected war criminal which we believe false and unjustified considering Sasaki's high moral standing and breeding.

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We remain,

Yours respectfully,

Classmate Dr. Tadanoo Date

Classmates and under-classmates of
Mitsuyoshi Sasaki,
Semmonbu Medical Course, Medical
Department, Tohoku Imperial University
Hospital, Sendai City

~~We, the classmates and under-classmates of Mitsuyoshi Sasaki, hereby call attention~~

Classmate Dr. Shogoro Endo

Classmate Dr. Ryukio Yoshida

Classmate Dr. Setuo Hukutani

Classmate Dr. Katsumi Matsuura

Underclassmate Dr. Eigo Sakai

Underclassmate Dr. Shoji Yoshida

Underclassmate Tatuo

Underclassmate Dr. A. Nakano

Underclassmate Dr. Kenjiro Matsumoto

Underclassmate Dr. Zenichi Furuyama

Underclassmate Dr. Makoto Sato

Underclassmate Dr. Shigeo Sato

Underclassmate Dr. Koiti Takahashi

Underclassmate Dr. Mutsu Miyazawa

Classmate Dr. Tadaschi Iwamoto

Classmate Dr. Atsushi Sone

Classmate Dr. Akira Hayama

(16)

303 (3)

137

Casamio Dr. Jetero Mandate
Casamio Dr. Shin Hashimoto
Casamio Dr. Masao Mishima

September 1944

Received from the University of California
Library the following

303 (4)

12/8

0902

PETITION

17 July 1946

38

Commanding Officer, Marianna Area

Dear Sir:

I beg leave to introduce myself as Dr. K. Maruta of Katsura Surgical Clinic, Tohoku Imperial University Hospital. It was under my direct care and instructions that, Mistuyoshi Sasaki, a young man who is suspected by your country as a violator of the International Law, and is therefore suspected as an war criminal, learned his rudimentary knowledge of medical science. I have known very well the said Sasaki during his medical school years as a bright young fellow, cheerful and very considerate of others. Never have I heard of his deliberate wanton actions against fellowmen. His better qualities and characteristics have been brought over from his medical school days, and now I see in him a bright future as a doctor to participate in the rehabilitation of our devastated postwar Japan.

Sasaki graduated from the Semmonbu Medical Course, Medical Department, Tohoku Imperial University. He was my student-disciple considering the time he spent in my lecture hours and clinic, and therefore, from my personal contact with the young man, I feel that I am entitled to speak of him as following:

Sasaki was but two years of age when he lost his father, and since then he has had every opportunity to receive the best of life, a mother's love and care.

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0903

-2-

His dead father left considerable ~~wealth~~ wealth, and therefore ~~his~~ he and his mother ~~never knew the need of want~~ have always lived well.

His mother, Mrs. Sasaki, made every known sacrifice for the sake of her son, that he should become a man a mother ~~shall~~ shall want to be proud of, that he shall occupy a good station in life, and to carry on the good name of the long dead father.

His mother's wise wish that her son become a doctor, and his willingness to be one also, brought him into my lecture room and clinic, and my personal contact.

I have had ample opportunity to observe young Sasaki in his work and play, and also in his home life, to know that he associated with the best of companions. His leading a very clean life, which is responsible ~~for~~ for his present good character, is something rare of young people these days.

Sasaki participated in numerous sports, and was well known to his comrades as a sportsman with a very keen sense of fair play.

I earnestly beg your highest consideration for the cause of young Sasaki who is to be tried at your court and for what charges that are brought against him by your country stating that he has done wrong against ^{humanity} humanity, because, Sasaki, as I know him from my past experience, is not of low character to do wrong against mankind.

To you no doubt, Sasaki is merely just another Japanese youth, but to us, he is a young man with a future in the medical ^{field} field, and therefore I beg of you once again to kindly give him a chance

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-3-

to prove that he can be of good to the Japanese people, and for medical science.

I sincerely hope that your High Command will be so good as to grant a favorable consideration to the above Sasaki; that you will be kind enough to pardon and release him from what charges that are brought ~~against him~~ about. I remain,

Yours respectfully,

Dr. K. Maruta

Dr. K. Maruta

Katsura Surgical Clinic,
Tohoku Imperial University Hos-
pital, Sendai City

~~We endorse this petition~~

Prof. Dr. S. Katsuma

*Prof. Dr. M. Muto. Director of Muto Surgical Clinic
of Tohoku Imp. Univ. Hospital*

Prof. Dr. K. Sata.

*Director of Sata Surg. Clinic
of Medical College, Morioka.*

Prof. Dr. Maeda.

*Prof. Dr. Ch. Suzuki. Chief Surgeon of
Tobukuro Hospital
Sendai*

-30x (3)

74

0905

PETITION

July 10 1946

46

To the commander of the Marianna Quarters.

We are surprised to hear that Japanese surgeon, lieutenant, Mitsuyoshi Sasaki has been arrested on the suspicion of being the criminal of the war.

But we advocate that he is by ^{na} nature affable and upright, and also he showed us many kindnesses as a senior man at our college; having an affection for him, we desire very soon his appearance before ^{us} ~~us~~. In a view of this point, we beg fervently your tolerance.

Stated by

Yusuke Tsukahara

Y. Tsukahara

Zensuke Asano

Z. Asano

Genichiro Hasegawa

G. Hasegawa

Kenichi Aoki

K. Aoki

30(L)

742

0906

PETITION

17 July 1946

Commanding Officer, Marianna Area

Dear Sir:

I am the grandmother of Mitsuyoshi Sasaki against whom your country has brought charges of a suspected war criminal, and who is to be tried at your High Command's court in Guam.

My grandson, at the tender age of two, lost his father, and since then, my daughter En, who is Mitsuyoshi's mother, alone by herself, managed to struggle against mental odds to rear her only offspring.

My daughter never remarried following the death of Mitsuyoshi's father, though she had ample opportunity to do so. ^{faithful} To be true to her dear dead husband's wishes that she rear Mitsuyoshi to perfect manhood, so that he can carry on the family name, she made many sacrifices.

I assure you that Mitsuyoshi's mother spared no little effort for the welfare of her son. He was always a good son to his mother, kind and considerate to his friends, relatives and others, and his medical school ~~friends~~ friends all loved him.

My grandson entered the military service after ^{he} finished his medical school training, and served as a medical officer in the Japanese Navy. Before his departure, and after his return home, the relatives and I were always happy to know that En and her child, Mitsuyoshi, could be so contented, and happy with life.

However, all this has been broken. My grandson is again taken away from his home, from his mother's side, and this time by

30m (1)

7/3

0907

-2-

orders of your country, to be tried by your High Command's court as a suspected war criminal which I believe cannot be true.

My grandson is not of any character to harm his fellow mankind. He is too kind and considerate to all.

En, the mother, comes frequently to me and weeps the poor plight of her only child, and I cannot help but shed my tears also. I try to comfort her, that everything will be all right, but her mental blow has been too much. En has suffered fainting spells, and at one time she was in bed several days, and hardly ate anything.

Dear Commanding Officer, I pray that you kindly consider the unhappy mother who never remarried all these 25 years for sake of her only offspring, that he shall be a great man, and worthy of his dead father's good name. I beg of you to release the boy to his mother.

I beg of you to hear the plea of this grandmother who is 72 years old this year, for the welfare of her grandson, who is innocent, yet who is to be tried by your High Command's court as a suspected war criminal.

Yours respectfully,

Moto Takahashi

(Mrs.) Moto Takahashi

30a (2)

744

0908

PETITION

17 July 1946 42

SUBJECT: Request for pardon and release of my son, Mitsuyoshi Sasaki, age 26, a former 1st. Lt., Medical Officer of the Japanese Navy

TO : Commanding Officer, Marianna Area

Dear Sir:

I am En Sasaki, the mother of the above Mitsuyoshi Sasaki, who, during April this year, by an order of the Occupation Forces, was required to appear in Tokyo for questioning as a suspected war criminal, and accordingly he departed for Tokyo. That was the last I saw of him. I understand that he was confined within the dark walls of Sugamo Prison to await trial. I went to Tokyo recently hoping to meet my son before his trial, but upon arrival in Tokyo, I was informed that he was transferred to Guam to await trial there at your High Command's court.

It is unbelievable that my son can be suspected as a war criminal. I am of faith that there is something amiss. I know my boy too well, that he cannot do harm to fellowman.

As a mother to her only son, I put him through a medical school, gave the boy all the love a lonely boy needs especially when his father died when Mitsuyoshi was a mere babe of two years of age.

It is true that a mother's love towards her only child is a blind one, especially so if the offspring is her one and only one, but regardless, a mother knows best her child's traits better than anyone else, and Mitsuyoshi cannot have committed

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0909

-2-

a gross misdeed towards a fellowman, friend or foe, because it is not in his nature to do so.

My only hope and desire of Mitsuyoshi is that he grow to perfect manhood, be strong in mind and body, be worthy of his dead father's good name, and a man to stand on his own feet to serve God and mankind in the medical field.

No one knows the numerous tears a mother can shed at odd times when she thinks of her one and only son's welfare. I prayed that he be good, prayed for his safe return home from the war, and now I pray day and night for his immediate pardon and release, which, only your High Command can kindly grant. Please hear a mother's plea for the safe return of her boy, that he can return to his home.

God blessed me with such a quiet, yet a cheerful child that my relatives and friends all envy me. Yes, I am a proud mother.

Mitsuyoshi was always surrounded with amiable companions all through his school days, and never did I have to worry about his keeping company with evil companions.

Can you not know a mother's overflowing joy to have her son return safely from the war? I enjoyed such a happy experience last year when Mitsuyoshi was demobilized from the Navy, and hoped that never again shall he be torn away. But alas, fortune is against me this time. My son is to be tried by your High Command for charges which I know are wrongfully laid upon him.

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3-

I cannot believe in my heart that Mitsuyoshi on whom I have placed all my hopes can be suspected as a war criminal, and is to be tried in Guam far away from his home and dear ones.

All these long years since the poor boy lost his father, I never gave a single thought to remarrying, and only for my son's sake did I suffer a woman's grief for the loss of her only husband.

That I shall always be a good mother and a teacher to my son, I entered the realms of spiritual self-control, and ever since then, I have followed the Way of Life. I have made many sacrifices. I have deprived myself of many petty vanities and luxuries all for the sake of my Mitsuyoshi.

If by any opportunity I can take the place of my son, who is suspected as a war criminal, and stand in his place, I shall gladly do so. I want my son to make a good success in life, for he is young, his ~~one~~ life is much longer than mine. I want my son to make a success as a medical doctor.

I beg of you to hear the humble petition of a mother who loves her only child, that he, Mitsuyoshi, be given, by your High Command, a justified trial which I believe in my heart will show that he not a guilty one of the charges brought against him.

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0911

Hoping that Your High Command will be so good as to hear
the humble ~~pp~~ plea of Mitsuyoshi's mother, I remain,

Yours respectfully,

En Sasaki

(Mrs.) En Sasaki

30m (4)

748

09 12

PETITION

17 July 1946

Commanding Officer, Marianna Area

Dear Sir:

I, representing the relatives and kin of the Sasaki family, hereby humbly beg leave to present herewith a petition for pardon and release of Mitsuyoshi Sasaki, age 26, a former Japanese Navy Medical Officer of 1st. Lt. ranking.

The said Mitsuyoshi is now held by your country as a suspected war criminal and is to be questioned and tired at your High Command's court. We, with faith, believe that Mitsuyoshi is not a war criminal.

For your information the following are to be mentioned:

Mitsuyoshi lost his father when he, Mitsuyoshi, was but 2 years old. His loving mother looked after his worldly cares ever since.

Mitsuyoshi's dead father was a former official of the Immigration Bureau service, a man of good character, respected and loved by all, and who left considerable material wealth so that his wife and child shall never know cold nor hunger.

The father's will which he left at his death included: take good care of the child, and make a man of him worthy of his father's name. Mrs. Sasaki, the widow, has faithfully followed her dead husband's wishes to the extent that Mitsuyoshi was reared in the most suitable environment available.

Mitsuyoshi received strict moral and home training and associated with only the best of companions. He was always kind and

30e (1)

249

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-2-

considerate to his associates, and to his relatives and kin, he was perfect. To his mother, he was the most ideal son. No one ever lodged any complaint against him. No one ever made any bad gossip of the good name of Sasaki.

Mrs. Sasaki is terribly upset over the loss of her only son who is about to be tried as a suspected war criminal at your High Command's court. She prays at all times that you shall find her boy innocent, that he can soon return to her arms.

The relatives and kin of the Sasaki family join with me to state that young Sasaki is not a war criminal, that there must be a gross mistake, misunderstanding, that he has to stand trial as a suspected war criminal of violating the International Law.

I humbly beg and pray that you kindly find young Sasaki innocent, and permit him to be released to the care of his waiting mother.

Hoping that young Sasaki will receive your most favorable attention and consideration, I remain,

Yours respectfully,

Masao Masuzawa

^{E N}
Masao Masuzawa

Representing the relatives and
kin of the Sasaki family

~~The relatives and kin of the Sasaki family,
through the petition:~~

Takeshi Masuzawa

Masatoshi Masuzawa, 300 (2)

750

0914

Kakei, Takahashi The Master of Miyagi
Stonemasons' association.

Benno suke Atsumi

Ryōji Date Judge

Teruka Takahashi

Yosiko Takahashi

Yosimetu Takahashi

Tashit Sasaki

Tie Sasaki

シンゾー ササキ

一郎 佐々木

ギヨシ ササキ

Takeo Kohata

Master of Post Office,
Morioka

天佑ヲ保有シ萬世一系ノ帝祚ヲ踐メル
大日本帝國天皇ハ正五位勲三等森 國造
ニ明治勲章ノ旭日中綬章ヲ授與ス
即チ此位ニ屬スル禮遇及ヒ特權ヲ
有セシム

神武天皇即位紀元二千六百年
昭和十五年四月二十九日宮 城ニ於テ
璽ヲ鈐セシム



昭和十五年四月二十九日

賞勳局總裁從三位勲二等下條康磨



第二百三十六万四千三十七號ヲ以テ

勲等簿冊ニ記入ス



賞勳局書記官正六位勲等村田八千穂

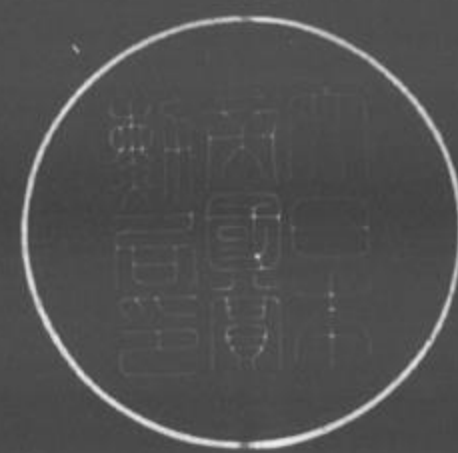


昭和六年乃至九年事變從軍記章之證

海軍中佐正六位勲三等 木村 國造

昭和六年乃至九年事變從軍記章令
旨ニ依リ從軍記章ヲ授與セラル

昭和九年四月二十九日



賞勲局總裁從二位勲等下條康厩



此證ヲ勘査第壹千五百八十八號ヲ以テ昭和九年

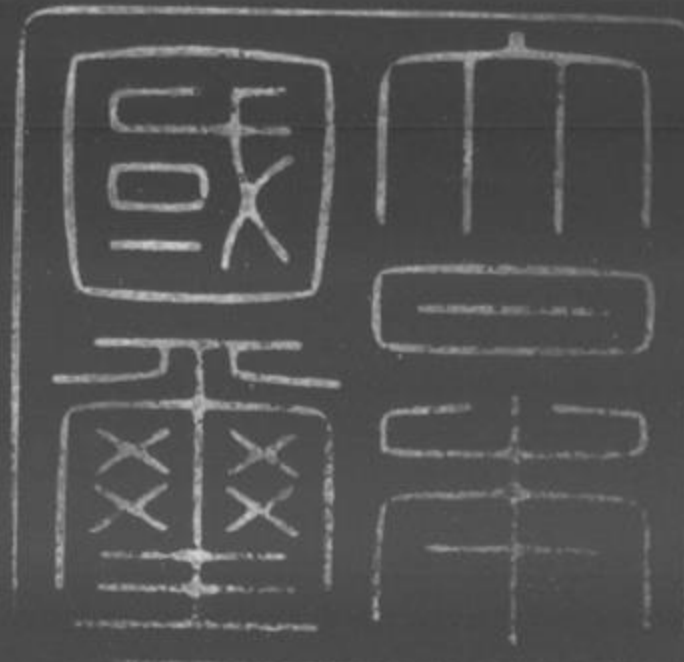
乃至九年事變從軍記章簿冊ニ記入ス

賞勲局書記官正五位勲等伊手衡



天佑ヲ保有シ萬世一系ノ帝祚ヲ踐タル
日本國皇帝ハ從六位勲五等森 國造
ヲ明治勲章ノ勲四等ニ敘シ瑞寶章ヲ
授與ス即チ此位ニ屬スル禮遇及ヒ特權
ヲ有セシム

神武天皇即位紀元二千五百八十六年
大正十五年一月二十七日東京帝宮ニ於テ
璽ヲ鈐セシム



大正十五年一月二十七日

賞勲局總裁從二位勲二等 宇佐美勝夫



此證ヲ勘査シ第本六分九十七

號ヲ以テ勲等簿冊ニ記入ハ



賞勲局書記官正五位勲四等 郡山智



賞勲局書記官正六位 伊手衡



大禮記念章之證

海軍少佐從六位勲四等森國造

昭和三年勅令第百八十八號ノ旨ニ依リ

大禮記念章ヲ授與セラル

昭和三年十月十六日



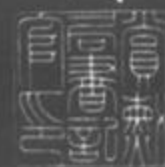
賞勲局總裁從二位勲一等天岡直嘉



此證ヲ勘査シ第貳万三千八百八十二號ヲ以テ

大禮記念章簿冊ニ記入ス

賞勲局書記官從五位伊手 衡



昭和六年乃至九年事變從軍記章之證

海軍中佐正六位勲三等 森 國造

昭和六年乃至九年事變從軍記章令

旨ニ依リ從軍記章ヲ授與セラル

昭和九年四月二十九日



賞勲局總裁從位勲等下條康磨



此證ヲ勘査第壹千五百八十八號以テ昭和九年

乃至九年事變從軍記章簿冊ニ記入ス

賞勲局書記官正五位勲四等 伊手衡



7

The Emperor of Japan, who has succeeded to the Imperial Throne handed down through the ages in an unbroken line, and who possesses the Grace of Heaven, confers the Sixth Order of Meiji and the Order of the Single Ray of the Rising Sun and all the rights and privileges accorded thereto, upon Mori Kunizo, Eighth Class of Senior Court Rank.

The Imperial Seal is hereby affixed in the Imperial Palace in Kyoto, November 7, 1914, 2,575 years after the ascension of the Emperor Jimmu to the Imperial Throne.

Ogimachi Sanemasa, Count,
Second Class of Junior Court Rank and
Third Order of Merit, Head of the Bureau
of Decorations.

This citation has been entered in the Register of Decorations as number 771,450.

Fujii Yoshikoto,
Fifth Senior Court Rank and
Fourth Order of Merit.
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation to the best of my ability of the original citation written in Japanese awarded to Vice Admiral Mori, Kunizo.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

The Emperor of Japan, who has succeeded to the Imperial Throne handed down through the ages in an unbroken line, and who possesses the Grace of Heaven, confers the Order of the Twin Rays of the Rising Sun of the Order of Meiji and all the rights and privileges accorded thereto, upon Mori, Kunizo, Seventh Class of Senior Court Rank and Fifth Order of Merit.

The Imperial Seal is hereby affixed in the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, November 1, 1920, 2,580 years after the ascension of the Emperor Jimmu to the Imperial Throne.

Kodama Hideo, Count,
Fourth Senior Court Rank and
Second Order of Merit,
Head of the Bureau of Decorations.

This citation has been entered in the Register of Decorations as number 893,271.

Yokota Gotsuke,
Fifth Senior Court Rank and
Fourth Order of Merit,
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

Akamine Tetsuo,
Seventh Senior Court Rank,
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation to the best of my ability of the original citation written in Japanese awarded to Vice Admiral Mori: Kunizo.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE.
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.

7

The Emperor of Japan, who has succeeded to the Imperial Throne handed down through the ages in an unbroken line, and who possesses the Grace of Heaven, confers the Fifth Order of Meiji and the Order of Sacred Treasure and all the rights and privileges accorded thereto, upon Mori, Kunizo, Seventh Class of Senior Court Rank and Sixth Order of Merit.

The Imperial Seal is hereby affixed at Hayama, April 23, 1934, 2,580 years after the ascension of the Emperor Jimmu to the Imperial Throne.

Kodama Hideo, Count,
Fourth Class of Senior Court Rank and
Second Order of Merit.
Head of the Bureau of Decorations.

This citation has been entered in the Register of Decorations as number 538,129.

Yokota Gotsuke,
Fifth Class of Senior Court Rank and
Fourth Order of Merit.
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

Akamine Tetsuo, Seventh Class of Senior Court
Rank.
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation to the best of my ability of the original citation written in Japanese awarded to Vice Admiral Mori, Kunizo.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE.
Lieutenant, (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

7

The Emperor of Japan, who has succeeded to the Imperial Throne handed down through the ages in an unbroken line, and who possesses the Grace of Heaven, confers the Fourth Order of Meiji and the Order of the Sacred Treasures and all the rights and privileges accorded thereto, upon Mori, Kunizo, Sixth Class of Junior Court Rank and Fifth Order of Merit.

The Imperial Seal is hereby affixed at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, January 27, 1926, 2,586 years after the ascension of the Emperor Jimmu to the Imperial Throne.

Usami Katsuo,
Third Class of Junior Court Rank and
Second Order of Merit.
Head of the Bureau of Decorations.

This citation has been entered in the Register of Decorations as number 669,007.

Koriyama Sato,
Fifth Class of Senior Court Rank and
Fourth Order of Merit.
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

Ide Ko,
Sixth Class of Senior Court Rank,
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation to the best of my ability of the original citation written in Japanese awarded to Vice Admiral Mori, Kunizo.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

Citation for a Commemorative Medal for the Coronation.

A commemorative medal for the coronation is conferred upon MORI, Kunizo, Lieutenant Commander, IJN, Sixth Class of Junior Court Rank and Fourth Order of Merit in accordance with the Imperial Proclamation No. 188 of 1928, on November 16, 1928.

Amaoka Naoyoshi,
Fourth Class of Senior Court Rank and
Second Order of Merit.
Head of the Bureau of Decorations.

This citation has been entered in the Register of Commemorative Medals for the Coronation as number 203,082.

Ide Ko,
Fifth Class of Junior Court Rank.
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation to the best of my ability of the original citation written in Japanese awarded to Vice Admiral Mori, Kunizo.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE.
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

The Emperor of Japan, who has succeeded to the Imperial Throne handed down throughout the ages in an unbroken line, and who possess the Grace of Heaven, confers the Third Order of Meiji and the Order of Sacred Treasure and all the rights and privileges accorded thereto, upon MORI, Kuniso, Sixth Class of Senior Court Rank and Fourth Order of Merit.

The Imperial Seal is hereby affixed in the Emperor's Palace in Tokyo, April 5, 1934, 2,594 years after the ascension of the Emperor Jimmu to the Imperial Throne.

Shimojo Yasumaro,
Third Class of Junior Court Rank and
First Order of Merit.
Head of the Bureau of Decorations.

This citation has been entered in the Register of Decorations as number 790,275.

Ide Ko,
Fifth Class of Senior Court Rank and
Fourth Order of Merit.
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation to the best of my ability of the original citation written in Japanese awarded to Vice Admiral Mori, Kuniso.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

Citation for a Campaign Medal in the Incident from 1931 to 1934.

Mori Kunizo, Commander, IJN, Sixth Class of Senior Court Rank and Third Order of Merit is given this campaign medal in accordance with the Order for Campaign Medals in the Incident from 1931 to 1934, on April 29, 1934.

Shimojo Yasumaro
Third Class of Junior Court Rank and
First Order of Merit.
Head of the Bureau of Decorations.

This citation has been entered in the Register of Campaign Medals in the Incident from 1931 to 1934, as number 145, 648.

Ide Ko
Fifth Class of Senior Court Rank and
Fourth Order of Merit.
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation to the best of my ability of the original citation written in Japanese awarded to Vice Admiral Mori, Kunizo.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE.
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

7

The Emperor of Japan, who has succeeded to the Imperial Throne handed down through the ages in an unbroken line, and who possesses the Grace of Heaven, confers the Cordon of the Rising Sun of the Order of Meiji and all the rights and privileges accorded thereto, upon Mori Kunizo, Fifth Class of Senior Court Rank and Third Order of Merit.

The Imperial Seal is hereby affixed in the Imperial Palace, April 29, 1940, 2,600 years after the ascension of the Emperor Jimmu to the Imperial Throne.

Shimojo Yasumaro,
Third Class of Junior Court Rank and
First Order of Merit,
Head of the Bureau of Decorations.

This citation has been entered in the Register of Decorations as number 2,364,037.

Murata Yachiho, Sixth Class of
Senior Court Rank and
Fifth Order of Merit.
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation to the best of my ability of the original citation written in Japanese awarded to Vice Admiral Mori, Kunizo.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

Citation of a Campaign Medal for the China Incident.

Mori Kunizo, Captain, IJN, Fifth Class of Senior Court Rank and Third Order of Merit, is given this campaign medal in accordance with the Order for Campaign Medals for the China Incident, on April 29, 1940.

Shimojo Yasumaro,
Third Class of Junior Court Rank and
First Order of Merit.
Head of the Bureau of Decorations.

This citation has been entered in the Register of Decorations as number 1,550,670.

Murata Yachiho,
Sixth Class of Senior Court Rank and
Fifth Order of Merit.
Recorder of the Bureau of Decorations.

I certify the above to be a true and complete translation to the best of my ability of the original citation written in Japanese awarded to Vice Admiral Mori, Kunizo.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

陸軍少佐 的場末男ニ宛スル

歎願書

小官不才、身ヲ以テ裁判長閣下並ニ各位ニ
一言申上ケルヲ得ルヲ光榮トス

的場少佐、幼少ヨリ頭腦明晰、企圖心旺盛、
体力氣力盛ニシテ陸軍ニ入ルヤ其卓抜ナル
戦術眼ヲ持テ加ヘニ強固ナル意志ト繩丈ナル
実行力トヲ遺憾ナク發揮シ、幾多ノ戦場ニ
於テ赫々タル戦果ヲ收メ、現ニ支那事変ニ於テ、
全戦無事ヲ授與セラレタリ。

中々財帛ヲ酒ヲ愛シ、逐次酒量ヲ増加シ、假
父島ニ勤務セル頃、新潟酒此ニ甚ク、乱暴
行爲アリタリ、元父ニ角李人ノ素實並ニ
戦績、善良ナリシモ、アリニ桌ヲ十令酌量セリ、
又酒此ノ内容ニ関スル亦固國を界権威、
在研究ヲ願ヒ、以テ此酒大ニ利決ヲ給ハリ、
トコト抑止ニ止メス

昭和二十二年九月六日

堀江芳孝

父島南信戦犯裁判長閣下

TO YOUR HONOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE MILITARY COMMISSION.

PETITION FOR CLEMENCY IN THE CASE OF MAJOR MATORA.

I humbly place my petition before your Honor, the President and the Members of the Commission.

Major MATORA was clever, had initiative, and was in good health and high spirits from his childhood. Since he entered the Army, he showed excellent tactical sense. Besides, he had a strong will and was able to execute any order. Therefore, he distinguished himself and the Order of Golden Kite was conferred upon him during the Sino-Japanese Incident. He liked liquor, gradually became addicted to drinking, and, at Chichi Jima, he behaved rudely due to his drunken frenzy, but, at any rate, he was honest in nature and in his service.

I beg the research of experts of the U. S. Medical Society concerning his violent alcoholism and also your kind consideration concerning what I have just mentioned, and that you deal leniently with him.

6 September 1946.

HORIE YOSHITAKA,
Major, IJA.

I certify this to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Horie, Yoshitaka, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick
EUGENE E. KERRICK,
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.

謹ニテ裁判先國下並國保諸官、方々
ニ對シ父島戰事犯罪裁判ニ於ケル
立花國下ニ就テ市價を改メス

昭和二十一年一月硫黄島ヲ戰任シ第一
旅團副官トナリシ事滿一年間立花國
下ニ奉テモテアリマス其間大變可
愛カラ頂キ良シ旅團長、下ニ奉テ
身ノ幸ヲ常ニ感謝シ居リマス
事務モ大抵私、申上ケル通リ市採
用ニナリ、テナレバ、軟ラカニ再考ラ促カ
サレタリマス

父島ニ赴任シ、硫黄島師團、當時
『參謀長堀大佐ニ申告、際
立花國下ハ旅團、統率上又戰局重
大ノ時父島守備、重イ責任ヲ自覺
セテ居ルカラ、時ニ強イ言葉ヲ使ニ
ストカアルカモ知レタ
グガ然、大變困難デ太ッ腹、方テアル
カラ何モ心配ニナリ、シカリヤレ
旅團長ニ市采當々、算數々々申上ゲ
ヲ以テ

ト申サレタニク 前中ニテ様、一年、間、
一、な、小言ヲ言ヒス、毎日本筋、畑作
リニ共ニ樂ミテ過シテ参リマシク
今度戦犯、関スル事件ニ最高指揮官
トシテ忠戦唯々任務遂行ノ為テアリ
マシク

只、酒カ御好キヲ酒、上テ枕サシニ
悪イ者ガアリ、ツレ、勢ニ乗ツテ
居ラシマシク

御止メニ能力モナク、取リ合第デシク
モ花園下ガ服罪トナシ、

戦敗ノ苦汁、上ニ、四十年陸軍ニ於テ
立テ苦ミ、水ノ泡トナリマス、勿論、エト
廣島市大砲廠所、市況字、居テ子彈
ヲ飛ビ、市中人始メ五人、娘サシ、未、男
ハ生活ノ道モ乏シク、四方ニ散ラテ路窮ミ
遠ニシラセウ

市況延、エトラ思ヘ、實ニ断腸、誠ニ

御同情ニ堪ヘタラアラス

御高徳ナレ、裁判先閣下、申シ足ラセ、ガ
以上中上ニシテ不束、言外ヲモ御察
察下サシマシク、立花園下、何年、
寛大、市況、未、モサシマス、エトラ

To Your Honor, the President of the Military Commission.

I humbly place my petition before your Honor, the President and the Members of the Commission concerning clemency in the case of TACHIBANA.

I was transferred from Iwo Jima to the 1st Division in January 1945, and was appointed as the divisional adjutant and served TACHIBANA for a year. He was so kind to me, and I was thankful to be his subordinate. He was willing to accept my advice in routine affairs, and if he thought it improper, he kindly hinted that I should think it over again.

When I reported my departure for Chichi Jima to Colonel HORI, chief of the staff of the Iwo Jima Division, he said, "Since his Excellency TACHIBANA is conscious of his responsibility of defending Chichi Jima when the war is at such serious stage, he might be strict in enforcing orders in commanding the division. But, never mind, as he has a well rounded character and is broad-minded. Do your best, and please remember me to the divisional commander". As I stated before, he did not scold me even once, and I enjoyed a good time in the every day matters and in cultivating our farm.

The reason why he has been accused as a war criminal is that he had to discharge his duty as the supreme commander of the island.

His only fault was drinking. He over indulged unintentionally because of the temper of the party. I am so ashamed that I could not make him give it up.

If he will be punished, his hardships in his military life of forty years will come to naught. Besides, his family who was tortured by a bomb raid, his wife, his five daughters and his youngest son, will suffer from the difficulties of living. I am so sorry for him when I think of his family.

Your Honor, the President of the Military Commission, I beg your kind consideration in what I have just mentioned and deal leniently with him.

8 September 1946.

YOKOTA SANICHI
Former Major, IJA.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Yokoto, Sanichi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick, Jr.
EUGENE E. KERRICK, JR.
Lieutenant, USNR.
Interpreter.

[The page contains dense handwritten Japanese text, which appears to be bleed-through from the reverse side. The writing is cursive and fills most of the page.]

11/11/11 11/11/11

謝願書

吉井司令

私、別々、然、區別、高潔、人格、指揮官、
、優、平、腕、持、立、派、人、ア、リ、且、終、始、
通信隊、為、部下、為、超、人的、努力、を、
部下、二、名、戦、死、者、を、出、す、カ、ツ、ハ、司令、強、
責、任、部、下、何、^熱受、え、結果、外、に、
剛、氣、な、性格、一、面、又、非、常、人、情、厚、く、部、下、
者、自、分、父、親、對、し、他、親、見、思、
居、る、こ、う

部、下、に、生、活、自、各、反、貞、と、修、養、感、謝、希、望、
生、活、等、司令、部、下、對、し、教、育、極、く、親、切、
、^{ミ、テ、}自、身、存、在、先、實、行、シ、テ、オ、リ、マ、シ、タ、
信、仰、ス、者、心、常、幸、福、ア、リ、富、^豊ラ、^{ト、}云、フ、事、
司令、我、々、毎、日、説、く、教、育、芽、一、^{ミ、テ、}マ、シ、タ、
海、軍、基、地、徒、歩、時、勿、論、自、動、車、場、合、必、ず、車、
手、礼、拜、ス、モ、司令、務、カ、ト、思、ハ、ル、程、^{ミ、テ、}マ、シ、タ、
以、上、司令、性、格、一、端、^{ミ、テ、}マ、シ、タ、如、何、^{ミ、テ、}マ、シ、タ、人、物、想、像、
其、事、信、^{ミ、テ、}マ、シ、タ、同、事、充、分、事、情、内、料、酌、^{ミ、テ、}マ、シ、タ、上、
宜、敷、内、取、計、下、^{ミ、テ、}マ、シ、タ、様、願、上、マ、ス

渡邊 栄次郎

証言

私ハ被告吉井ト海軍兵學校同期出身ノ元海軍大佐アリマス

私ハ被告ト同一所轄、勤務シテ経験ハアリマセヌガ海軍兵學校在校中及其後、私的交際ニ依リ本人ノ性格、笑ミヲハ相當深ク承知シテ居リマス

被告ノ性格ハ之ヲ簡單ニ言ハバ温順質朴寡言

ニシテ淡泊、博愛心ニ富ミ且正義觀ニ強ク是ト信

スル所ニ違進スル性格ノ人物アリマス

被告ノ性格中特ニ目立ツ莫ハ博愛心ニ富ンテ居ルコトアリマス

被告ハ一九四一年父島通信隊司令當時全地勤務ノ内務部長師(天野氏)ノ息女ノ教育ニ莫ク極メテ

懇切ナル援助、與ヘテ居リマス

即チ被告ハ父島・中等學校教育施設無キ島、天野氏
ガ同氏ノ息女ノ教育ニ関シ困愁セルニ同情シ、被告内地
転動後、天野氏ニ對シ多額ノ學費ヲ贈與シテ居ル
事實ヲアリマス

尚被告ハ宗教ニ對シ相當ノ関心ヲ有シ、青年時代ニ
於テハ佛教ヲ研究シ、次チ結婚後ハ基督教ニ研究
ヲ進メテ居リマス

被告ノ妻女ハ一九二九年、東京都港野川教會ニ於テ
洗禮ヲ受ケテ熱心ナル「クリスチヤン」テアツテ、彼女ノ被告
ニ對スル宗教的影響ハ相當ニ大ナルモノガアツト信ぜラレ
被告ノ言動ガ一般ニ博愛心ニ立脚シアルモノハ之ヲ
立証スルモノト言ヘマス

7
以上被告ノ性格。鑑ミ 被告ヨリ今次事件ノ如キ殘虐
ナル行為アリタリトハ 信ゼラレヌ所チアラテ 何分緩大
ナル御處置アラントラ 希望シテ 已ミマセヌ
一千九百四十六年八月二十六日

自筆

芳根廣雄

第二復員省

370 (3)

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0944

PETITION FOR CLEMENCY IN THE CASE OF YOSHII SHIZUO.

To Your Honor, the President of the Military Commission.

I, notwithstanding my humble position, hereby take the liberty of submitting a petition to the Honorable President and the Members of the Commission.

The character of former Navy Captain YOSHII, Shizuo who is now undergoing trial before your court is as follows:

The commanding officer of the radio corps was a straightforward and warm-hearted person, and was a naval officer with a very fine spirit. The reason I think this is because Captain YOSHII was a person who made "action first" his motto, and the achievements of the captain at the radio station were exceptional. In constructing air-raid shelters, in clearing land and farming, he took the initiative and set an example for his men. So it was that although the radio station was subjected to the severest bombing, not one person died from this bombing. I believe that this is all due to the commanding officer's unusual efforts. He was also easily moved, and when one of the men of the radio station died by his own hand, the commanding officer visited his grave at every possible opportunity, and once I saw him crying before the grave and saying "why did you do such a thing? Japan needs every young man now."

He knew what happened in every part of his unit, and even to those men who were on duty taking care of the bath and latrine, he gave cigarettes, and spoke kind words of encouragement to them.

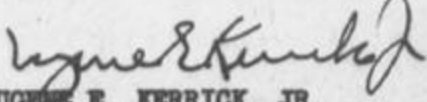
When our food situation became critical, he emphasized the importance of farming, and getting up at 4:00 a.m., he worked until late in the evening with the men. His mind was troubled about the nourishment his men were getting, and he made every effort to provide them with ample food so that they would be fit when the time for battle came.

I cannot believe that the offense the commanding officer committed was done only to fire his men with fighting spirit, but that he had thought what he was doing was truly for his country.

I beg that you take into consideration my humble petition and be lenient in your decision.

SUZUKI KAZUNORI,
Former Petty Officer Second Class.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Suzuki, Kazunori, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

To Your Honor, The President of the Commission.

Commanding Officer YOSHII was a person who never allowed personal affairs to interfere with public duty. He had fine character and unusual ability as a commanding officer. Captain YOSHII never stopped trying to better the radio station and the welfare of his men. Even beyond the call of duty. That the radio station did not suffer one mortal casualty is due to nothing else but the result of the captain's strong sense of responsibility and his affection for his subordinates. Though he was of a bold and daring character, he was also very considerate and his subordinates looked up to him as if he were their father.

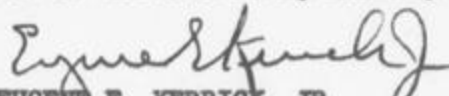
The commanding officer sincerely educated his men in the virtue of leading a regular daily life, on the need of reflection, spiritual cultivation gratitude and hope, and he was the first to put these into action.

The commanding officer told us in his everyday talks that those who have faith and believe are always happy and enriched. Everytime he passed by the naval cemetery, he stopped not only when he was walking, but when he was riding on a car, stepped out and prayed before it as if it were one of his duties.

I have just given a part of the commanding officer's character and I believe that it will suffice. I hope that you will gather the kind of a person he truly is, fully consider his case, and give a lenient verdict.

WATANABE TAKEJIRO.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Watanabe, Takejiro, in Japanese to the best of my ability.


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

TESTIMONIAL.

I was a class-mate of the defendant Yoshii at the Naval Academy. Although I have never served at the same post with Yoshii I am well acquainted with his character from our Academy days and from private association since then. He was of a mild and gentle disposition, very philanthropic and humanitarian with a strong sense of justice. Especially outstanding was his humanitarianism. To quote an instance. While on duty at Bonin Islands in 1941 he helped in the tuition of the girls of the Home ministry official there stationed of a certain Mr. Amano, which was greatly appreciated.

Moreover Yoshii is strongly religious, taking a deep interest in Buddhism and Christianity. His wife is an ardent Christian and it is believed her religious influence over him was quite considerable.

In face of the above character of Yoshii I cannot believe that he was capable of the atrocious conduct such as of the present incident.

I beg for your ⁴unanimous generosity.

HIROO YOSHINE.
Former Captain, IJN.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Hiroo Yoshine, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Eugene E. Kerrick, Jr.

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

散 願 書

此の度貴法廷に起訴され、海軍中將森岡造に關し不肖の身も有
り、裁判長閣下並に關係諸官に御願ひ申上げ度と思ひます
私は父島に於て昭和十九年八月、昭和二十一年一月末迄約二年半の間
同中將の幕僚として勤務し親身の御意陶を蒙りたものであります
同中將は人格高潔温情溢るばかり、人々より部下とは慈父の如く
慕われを嘗て居りました。此の度の件は部下一同非常な驚き、氣の毒の情に
堪えられ次第であります
同中將は嘗て「人は捕虜を斬る氣を揚げると言ふ、自分は其の若
へ方に反對だ、捕虜を斬ると却て士氣を落すと思ふ」と言はれたことも憶えて
居ります。父島に在るは捕虜は同中將の管轄外にありましたが同中將の
信念は常に不變であつたことも深く信じてゐたものであります
父島海軍部隊内で二、三件捕虜虐待事件おこつたやうに聞かれましたが
同中將は終戦後迄其の事實を御存じならつたは本意であります
同中將の今日の心中を察するに誠に氣の毒に堪えません。私はよく高潔
なる森海軍中將に幸ひあつたことも日夜神に祈つて居るものであります
右事情酌量の上何卒寛大なる裁決を賜ふこと伏し御願ひ申上
げます次第であります

昭和二十一年九月八日

海軍少佐 宮崎 健 次

父島關係戦犯裁判長閣下

勲 願 書

此、度實況延に起訴され海軍中将森國造に關し不肖の身主有
 ず裁判長閣下並に國保諸官に御願の申上げ度と思ひます
 私に父兄に在りし時和子を身育より今日に至る迄約三十年の間
 同中將の部下として勤務し親身、忠實國を愛したるものあり
 同中將は人格高潔温情溢るばり、人びとに部下たるは慈父如
 きはれと語りまた 此度の件は部下同僚等に驚き哀の至り情
 堪へず次第であります
 同中將は嘗て「人は捕虜を斬て士氣を揚げると言ふが自今其義
 方長たば捕虜を斬る却て士氣を落すと云ふ」と言ひ此を心に抱き
 居ます 父兄に在りしは捕虜同中將の管轄外にありしは同中將の
 信念は常に不変であつたと思ひます
 父兄海軍部隊内は三件捕虜虐待事件があつたが國に言ひ
 同中將は終戦後生真、平復を期せられたるは本當であります
 同中將の今日の心中を察するに誠に哀れ母に堪へません 私に在り
 高潔なる森海軍中将は卒して之を日夜拝し祈る言
 ちがひありません
 右事情酌量の上何卒寛大なる裁決を賜ふことを伏し
 御願ひ申上げる次第であります

昭和三十一年九月八日

海軍大尉 榎本田郎士

父島國保戦犯裁判長閣下

歎 願 書

今回貴法廷に起訴せられました海軍中將森國造に關し
謹んで 裁判長閣下並に關係諸官に御願申し上げます。

私は父島に於て昭和十九年二月より約二年二月間
森中將の下に勤務致した者であります。同中將は
溫厚慈愛に満ちた立派な人格者でありまして父島に
於ける海軍部隊のみならず陸軍軍人も市民も皆慈父
の如く敬慕致して居りました。何人にも深き慈愛を以て
親切を盡される 森中將が 米軍捕虜に關しても
常に最善の努力をされた事は私の固く信じて疑はらな
い處でありまして、同中將が再び自由の身とほられ私達と
共に日米間の友情の向上に又新日本の文化建設に
手腕を發揮し貴國の期待に副ひ得る日の一日も
速にほらんことを祈つて止まらぬ次第であります。
裁判長閣下 何卒私達の哀情を御推察下さいまして
森中將に對し寛大なる御裁決を賜はらんことを
切に御願ひ申し上げます。

昭和二十一年九月九日

海軍軍醫少佐 酒井 正

父島關係戦争犯罪裁判長閣下

謝 願 書

森司令官：典型的な海軍士人として、本人は性剛毅の
事であるが、海軍閣下、部下の愛護、私、非常感謝
致さるべきこと

例として、九月十五日、初回、後部部隊、空襲、引
いた九月、止、無爆、空襲、司令官、何、迄、散物、二、特、振
防、指揮、所、後、線、上、は、現、在、軍、力、校、て、教、育、
「安、教、育、」と、名、防、空、は、現、在、死、し、通、切、に、事、業、を、指
令、を、受、け、る、私、司令官、其、向、一、緒、に、な、る、こと、を、知、
る、こと

又、部下、愛、護、の、例、私、後、部、部隊、空襲、空襲、中、^{特、振}
前、方、面、各、派、連、隊、被、害、調、査、を、受、け、る、こと、を、知、る、こと、
「これ、は、空襲、中、一、通、切、に、教、育、被、害、者、を、知、る、こと、を、知、る、こと、
事、業、を、知、る、こと、を、知、る、こと、

空襲、被、害、者、の、海、軍、閣、下、に、な、る、こと、を、知、る、こと、
空襲、被、害、者、の、海、軍、閣、下、に、な、る、こと、を、知、る、こと、
空襲、被、害、者、の、海、軍、閣、下、に、な、る、こと、を、知、る、こと、
空襲、被、害、者、の、海、軍、閣、下、に、な、る、こと、を、知、る、こと、

裁判長閣下

今、私、最、大、の、謝、意、を、森、司令官、に、同、情、を、示、す、判決
を、受、け、る、こと、を、知、る、こと、

閣下、非常感謝

裁判長閣下
小林國造氏ニ関スル歎願書

私、

元海軍中將小林國造氏、部下トシテ元父島海軍特別根拠地隊ニ勤務シテ居リマシタ。

小林氏ノ部下ニ對スルハ恰モ慈父、愛子ニ於テアルヨウニ慈愛ハ汎ネク全島ニ行キ渡リ、私達海軍部隊ニ屬シテ居リマシタモノトシテ感謝ト尊敬、的ナク居リマシタ。

然レニ此一度、戦争犯罪人裁判ニ被告トシテ立ケルコトニナリマシタハ、全テノ者、驚キトスルコトアリマス。私達ハ唯、痛ヘ。

裁判長閣下、御心ニ計ヘ

私達ノ父ト慕フ小林國造氏ニ對シ、寛大ニ處置ヲトリ下サルヨウナカク願ヒ申シ上ゲマス

元海軍

飯島真之

元海軍中將森國造三國入款願書

7. 島 裁判長閣下

敬告元海軍中將 森 閣下は、とてお部下に
愛情を持っており、何事か非常な執心ある
お心があります。戦争中負傷者おなり
敬一ますと、お見舞い。お一人で行かれ、一兵士
に對一てお心ずく。お見舞いに行かれ者大
私など、お見舞いにも行かれろのを見て、感激
いなるや、お見舞い。
特根に居る將兵は、おに其の便を、一だて居る
者おつりや下。
何姓、居る利結う際には、竹實大なる事と
せつ。お願ひ致す者であります。

元海軍中將森國造

松 村 竹 次

數願人元父島海軍三子兵曹

朱玉成犯新刻長閣下

謝 願 書

裁判長 並 岡係官 殿

謹々 お願ひが致します。

父島岡係戦争犯罪人として起訴せられた

海軍中将 森國造 は 私の上長であり

父島海軍^{士官}兵の 父親とも言ふべき人です。

私は 森中將に接する事 二年余 其の人格

円満 恰も父、愛子に於ける様にして 海軍

部内にして 同中將を 悪く言ふ人はなく 感謝

尊敬の的 になつてゐました。 一兵に至るまで

情をかけられ ^{よく識つて} 居られ 遂に 肉をかけ

られたりして 中間の我々が 肉却する事も 屢々あり

人に 悪意^な 逆意を 抱かせる様な事は 全然なく

温情^満 満する程でありました。

司令官は まづ 犯罪人として起訴せられまいと

思つて 居ましたが、遂に 被告として 法廷に 立たれる

事になりました。

前記の如く 温厚な人で 犯罪を犯す様を 人には

なつと 信じます。

裁判長 閣下

私達一同 唯々 父と慕ふ 森中將に 對し 寛大なる 処置

を取り下されう様 お願ひ申上ります。

謝 願 書

裁判長閣下並ニ関係諸官、皆様ニ謹テ即願申上マス
私ハ昭和十九年父島特別根據地隊ニ在リ海軍中將
森國造司令官、下ニ約半年、間參謀トシ勤務致シマ
シ者デアリマス

森中將ハ温厚篤實ナル人デ極メタ円満親切ナ方デアリマス
當所父島ニ在リシタ海軍部隊、將兵ハ申迄モタク陸軍々人
モ一般市民モ皆森中將ヲ慈父、如ク敬愛致シテ居リマシ
私ハ同中將カ一日モ早ク自由、身ト成リ、同建日本、島ニ將ホ
日米親善、島ニ活躍スル日ノ来ルコトヲ切願致シテ居リマス
同中將、人格ト識見ヲ以テスレバ貴國ノ期待ニ充分、成果ヲ
挙ゲ得ルモト信ズルデアリマス

裁判長閣下並ニ関係諸官願ハバ我等、衷情ヲ西酌ニ取リ、
上森中將ニ対シ寛大ナル判決ヲ給ハランコトヲ切希致シテ已マデ
ルモデアリマス

不尊ノ願々致意ニモ即願申上マス

昭和二十年九月六日

米原

安

父島関係戦犯裁判長閣下

32

82

元海軍中將森岡造

人物：付

元海軍大將 米内光政

昭和七年、鎮海要港部に入、當時

先任参謀(當時海軍中佐トシテ約一年
間要港部ニ勤務ス)

本人、平和的人物ニシテ、人道ヲ重シ

性頗ル従順ニシテ、思慮周密、脱線的

行為ニ出テハ、又、俠氣、富ミ、進ソテ義

執、勇氣アリ、常識円満

兵學校所代、後、少佐、成績ヲ著ケルカ、後

病氣、為メ退却、影響シ、昇級比較的

後、少佐、成績ニシテ、昇級比較的

一、戦犯名疑者タル人物、アラサルコト、確

實ナリト信ス

昭和二十一年八月廿日自筆 (秋)

大塚、佐々木、七、大塚、國、通、三、大塚、

針、野、大塚、大塚、大塚、大塚、大塚、大塚、

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海軍 兩面書紙

PETITION

To Your Honor the President of the Commission

In spite of my humble position, I submit my petition to the Honorable President and Members of the Commission, concerning Vice Admiral Mori Kunizo, who has been arraigned before your court.

I served as a staff officer under the Vice Admiral from August 1944 to the end of January 1946, a period of a year and a half, and received his guidance. The Admiral has a lofty character, and his affection was unlimited and he was respected and loved by his subordinates as if he were their true father. We subordinates of the Admiral were shocked at hearing of this incident, and find ourselves unable to suppress our sympathy.

I remember the Admiral said once "People often say that they can raise morale by cutting down prisoners, but I am opposed to such ideas. To do such a thing would lower the morale." At Chichi Jima, prisoners were not under his jurisdiction but I am confident that the Admiral's idea never changed.

I have heard that there were two or three cases of atrocities committed against prisoners by the naval units at Chichi Jima, but it is true that the Admiral did not know of these happenings until the war ended.

When I think of the Admiral's kind heart now, I am moved with deep sympathy. I am one who is praying day and night that good fortune may again smile upon such a lofty person as Vice Admiral Mori.

I humbly beg that you will take the above into your most kind consideration, and award a lenient decision.

Miyazaki Kenji
Lieut. Commander, IJN

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Miyazaki Kenji, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

PETITION

To Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission:

In spite of my humble position, I hereby submit my petition for clemency in the case of Vice Admiral Mori, who is being presently tried before your court.

I served under Admiral Mori for two years after March 1944 and have received his exceptional guidance. The Admiral was a person of unusually great virtue, and was revered as if he were their true father by all of his subordinates. We were all shocked and struck with grief on hearing of his indictment.

I still remember that the Admiral once told us, "Some people say by beheading prisoners, the morale can be raised, but I am opposed to such thinking. To behead prisoners would only lower morale." Though the handling of prisoners on Chichi Jima was outside of the Admiral's jurisdiction, I am sure that the Admiral's strong belief did not change in the least.

Though there have been two or three incidents of atrocities committed against prisoners by the naval units, it is absolutely true that the Admiral was unaware of these happenings until the war ended.

I am one who has only the greatest sympathy for the Admiral when I think of his feelings today, and am praying for his good fortune.

I beg that you will take these circumstances into your kind consideration and be lenient in the case of Admiral Mori.

Enomoto Shirokichi
Lieutenant, IJN

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Enomoto Shirokichi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

PETITION

To Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission:

I humbly submit my plea to the Honorable President and the Members of the Military Commission in the case of Vice Admiral Mori Kuniso, who has been indicted for trial.

I am one who has served under Vice Admiral Mori for two years and two months since February 1944 at Chichi Jima. The Admiral is a gentle person and has a sterling character, with affection for everyone. He was looked up to as a father not only by the personnel of the naval units, but also by the army personnel and civilians on Chichi Jima as well. I firmly believe, and do not doubt that this merciful and sincere Admiral did his best concerning the prisoners. I am praying that the Admiral will soon become a free person again, and will be able to help establish bonds of a new friendship between your country and ours, and also devote himself to building of a new Japan which will live up to your expectations.

Your excellency, The President of the Commission, I beg that you will consider the sincerity of my humble petition and give a lenient verdict in the case of Vice Admiral Mori.

Sakai Tadashi
Lieutenant Commander, (surgeon)
September 9, 1946.

I certify that the above is a true and correct translation of the original petition of Sakai Tadashi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter.

PETITION FOR CLEMENCY

To the President and the Members of the Commission:

Admiral Mori is an ideal naval officer, with a firm nature, and was always meticulously careful in solving with which he was confronted any problem. He loved his subordinates, and I had the utmost respect for him.

For example, from June ¹⁵ 24, 1944, when the first carrier based planes attacked Chichi Jima until September, during which period mass attacks were made on Chichi Jima from the task force, the admiral would stand unflinchingly outside the air defense command post during a raid where there was absolutely no protection. Using his sword to support himself, the only thing that protected him at all was the steel helmet the Admiral was wearing. In this manly posture, he observed in detail the conditions of friend and foe, and issued pertinent and detailed orders. All this time I was with the Admiral and personally witnessed this encouraging scene.

This is an example which shows perfectly how he loved his subordinates. Once, I was ordered to go and check on the damage sustained by the Ogiura dispatched unit, while the naval base was still under heavy attack by planes of the task force. As the roads which I had to traverse were completely destroyed in several places, my return to headquarters was delayed.

I heard from the officer of the day upon my return, that as several air raids had occurred after I left headquarters, the Admiral fearing for my safety inquired several times of the officer of the day if I had not yet returned. I was deeply moved at hearing this.

Your Excellency, The President of the Commission -- I beg that you be lenient in the case of Admiral Mori, a person whom I regard very highly.

MIYASHITA TSUNEGORO

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Miyashita Tsunegoro, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

PETITION for Clemency for Mori Kunizo

To Your Honor, the President of the Military Commission.

I served at the Chichi Jima Special Naval Base as a subordinate of former Vice Admiral Mori Kunizo.

He treated us as if we were his sons. His benevolence was so great in the island that he was thanked and admired by us all.

However, he has been accused in this trial of being a war criminal. We are very surprised at this.

We beg you with all our heart, to be lenient in dealing with MORI Kunizo whom we loved as if he had been our father.

IIJIMA Masayuki
Former Naval Officer

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Iijima Masayuki, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

PETITION FOR CLEMENCY IN THE CASE OF FORMER VICE ADMIRAL MORI KUNITZO

To Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission:

The accused, former Vice Admiral Mori Kunitzo had an especial affection for his subordinates. During the war, when there were any wounded men, he would visit them and comfort them. Many times I saw the Admiral do these merciful errands, and I was always deeply moved.

The personnel of the Chichi Jima Naval Base was especially aware of the virtue of their beloved Admiral.

I fervently plead that you be lenient in your decision.

Matsumura Takeji,
Former Fireman 2/c, LjN.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Matsumura Takeji, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

CLEMENCY PETITION FOR MORI KUNIZO

The defendant, Vice Admiral Mori Kunizo, was most considerate in his relations with his subordinates.

After the war ended, the personnel of the Japanese Forces on Chichi Jima were repatriated gradually, and only those people scheduled to come to Guam remained. The admiral had tombstones erected for the war dead, and went to pay his respects at least once every week, placing flowers at each grave. I was deeply moved, and cannot forget the impression I received when I witnessed this.

The admiral was a tender and sympathetic person, and furthermore, he was very gentle and sincere.

All the personnel of the naval forces on Chichi Jima held in high esteem the virtuous character of the admiral.

I humbly beg that you will take into consideration the sterling character of Mori Kunizo and be lenient in your fair decision.

Naval petty officer second class
YOSHIDA HARUICHI.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Yoshida Haruichi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne

FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

PETITION FOR CLEMENCY IN THE CASE OF MORI KUNIZO.

To Your Honor, The President of the Military Commission.

I humbly submit my petition for clemency to Your Honor.

Vice Admiral MORI KUNIZO, who has been charged with war crimes in the Chichi Jima case, is my superior officer. He was like a father to the naval officers, petty officers and men. I served under him for two years and knew him to be an amiable person and a man of great character. He was like a father to his beloved subordinates. There was not one person in the naval forces under his command who ever said anything bad about him and he commanded the respect of all. The admiral was interested in each man, and the welfare of his family. He often questioned his junior officers about these things and usually put them to shame because he knew more about their men than they did. His personality was such that no one could possibly have any malice towards him. He was almost too considerate.

I never would have thought that the admiral would be charged with any war crimes, but he has been taken into custody to appear before you in court.

I am confident that he is not a person capable of committing a crime.

Your Honor, The President of the Commission, we beg you will award a lenient verdict to Vice Admiral MORI KUNIZO, whom everybody reveres as he would his own father.

HASEGAWA KAZUTOSHI,
Lieutenant (jg), IJN.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Hasegawa Kazutoshi, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR.
Interpreter.

PETITION

I humbly place this petition before your Honor, the President, and the members of the commission.

287

I served as a staff officer of vice-admiral Mori, Kunizo, the commanding officer at the Special Naval Base, Chichi Jima since 1944.

Admiral Mori was mild, sincere, amiable and honest. Not only the Naval Personnel at Chichi Jima but also the Military Personnel and the civilians in general loved and admired him as if he had been their father. I am looking for the day when the Admiral will be released and able to exert himself both for the reconstruction of Japan and the friendly relationship between Japan and the U. S. With his knowledge and personality, I believe he will live up to your expectations.

Your Honor, the President and the Members of the Commission, I beg your kind consideration concerning what I have just mentioned and that you deal leniently with him.

6 September 1946
YONEHARA, Minoru

To Your Honor, the President and the Members of the Commission.

I certify the above to be true and correct translation of the original petition of Yonehara, Minoru, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

Testimony regarding the character of ex-Vice Minister
Kuniso, Mori.

1. In 1932, when I was in command of the Chinkai Naval Port (Korea), Kuniso Mori served under me for approximately one year in the capacity of Senior Staff Officer (his rank at the time being Commander).

2. He was a peaceful man, placing high value on humanitarian principles, gentle in nature, considerate to a fault and never acting on impulse. He was, moreover, a man of chivalrous character who had the courage at all times to stand up for justice and fair play. His judgment was marked by sound common sense.

His record in the Naval Academy was outstanding. But owing to illness in his later career, his promotions were relatively slow.

2. It is my firm belief that he is not a man capable of any act which would warrant his being held as a war atrocity suspect.

Written in my own hand, 20th August, 1946.

(signed) Mitsumasa Yonai,
Former Admiral, I.J.N.

I certify the above to be a true and correct translation of the original petition of Mitsumasa Yonai, in Japanese to the best of my ability.

Frederick F. Tremayne
FREDERICK F. TREMAYNE,
Lieutenant (jg), USNR
Interpreter

Clemency Petition for Mori Kunizo

To: The Honorable Members of the Commission
From: Major Y. Horie, Witness of Chichi Jima

September 9, 1946

I had been at Chichi Jima from June, 1944 to April, 1946 and I had many occasions to see Vice Admiral Mori Kunizo who is now under trial.

He is a very gentle, quiet, honest, and merciful man and is respected from not only Naval but also Army officers and men and civilians.

His original policy concerning war prisoners was to give them good and kind treatment such as should be provided by a 1st rate nation.

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And after surrender, his attitude towards the American occupation force was very gentlemanly and he did his best to cooperate with them.

I hope from the bottom of my heart that you will understand his sincere character, his policy concerning war prisoner, and his attitude towards and cooperation with the American forces after surrender, and give him a merciful judgment.

陸軍少佐 堀江芳孝
Major Idorie Yoshitaka