PERSONAL FILES TAKEZAWA, TAKEO — TRIAL OF MAY-NOVEMBER 1947

BASIC: Ltr Hq Hiroshima Mil Gov't Team, APO 317, file IG 1910, lot October 1947, subj: Alleged Oppression by Japanese CMOR 015 lst Ind Headquarters Chugoku Military Government Region, APO 317, Kure, Honshu, 25 October 1947 THRU: Commanding General, Eighth Army, APO 343 Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers, APO 500 Forwarded for your information. RUSSELL C. SNYDER Colonel, FA 3 Incls: Commanding AG 000.5(MG-L) 2nd Ind Headquarters Eighth Army, APO 343 0 NUL 1947 TO: Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, APO 500 1. Additional report concerning individuals involved in the Shimizu family incident in Hiroshima prefecture is forwarded for your information. 2. Particular attention is invited to the next to last paragraph of the letter from the President of the Philippine Association, inclosure 1. FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL: 3 Incls: n/c

AG 000.5(MG-L)

2nd Ind

Headquarters Eighth Army, APO 343

6 NOV 194

To: Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, APO 500

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FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

A SCHAFFER Et Col. AGD



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HEADQUARTERS HIROSHIMA MILITARY GOVERNMENT TEAM APO 317

C/PS/lm

Serial No: LG 1910

Kure, Honshu 16 October 1947

Alleged Oppression by Japanese SUBJECT:

Commanding Officer THROUGH:

Chugoku Military Government Region

APO 317

Commander in Chief TO

General Headquarters

Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers

APO 500

(ATTN: Government Section)

1. The second trial of Takezawa Takeo was conducted on 30 September at the Hiroshima Court of Appeals. No representative from the Philippine Delegation was present, as promised by Mr. Abrera, chairman of the Philippine Association of Japan.

2. A representative of this headquarters attended the trial merely to observe proceedings; no action of any kind being taken by any member of this organization.

3. Asked by the presiding judge why he was not represented by council, the accused admitted that he had been advised by the Philippine Embassy that a defense council would be unnecessary. The judge admitted that he, the judge, had in his possession a letter from Mr. Rodriguez, President of the Philippine Association, but that it had no bearing on the case. This headquarters requested and received the original, which

is enclosed hereto. 4. The letter suggests some degree of intimidation and it is apparent that the writer is not too familiar with the accused, since he mentions the name Kitazawa which is presumed to mean Takezawa.

5. A copy of the minutes of the proceedings and decision of the case of Takezawa is enclosed herein.

6. A letter enclosed herein was also received by this headquarters from Mr. Abrera. In answer to this letter, this headquarters admits that policemen have been periodically dispatched to the home of the Shimizu family, merely to observe and render any assistance or ad-

-1- (SARING) .1-1:0

Subj: "Alleged Oppression by Japanese", dtd 16 Oct. 47, cont'd. vice the family was in need of, since the Shimizu's are listed as foreign 7. Friction still exists between the two factions of the Shimizu family; both side continue to debate with the local authorities as to the property rights. 8. Mr. Abrera's position in this case is appreciated, and this headquarters again recommends that he advise the Shimizu family that records as to the actual ownership of their property are filed in the Land Record Office in their area. 9. Relative to the case of Takezawa Takeo, this headquarters is in no position to influence the court since he was tried and sentenced by virtue of the facts and evidence presented. 7.M. Cloward. T. M. CLOWARD Lt. Col., AC 3 Incls: Commanding 1 . Letter, The Philippine Association, dtd 16 Aug. 47. Minutes of the appealed case of Takezawa Takeo. 3. Letter, Republic of the Philippine Commission on Reparations, dtd 6 Oct. 47.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES COMMISSION ON REPARATIONS MANILA PHILIPPINE DELEGATION ON REPARATIONS AND RESTITUTION TOKYO, JAPAN October 6, 1947 Ly dear Captain Somers: Maxima Shimizu-Labarda has again come to this Office requesting help from persecution and alleged usurpation of property by a certain Monoshi Atsushi, a Japanese subject, and has stated the following: 1. A policeman named Hanamoto of that locality charges her and her brother and sister with having stolen "mugi" or wheat from Shimijo, the husband of their late aunt, and on that pretext said policeman has entered complainant's house without necessary search warrant, poked around the house and lifting lids off receptacles where wheat grain are stored. According to Paxima this policeman has gone to search their house about ten times since July 7, 1947 when this Delegation began to take active interest in this case.

2. Thru Shimijo, Knoshi Atsushi has made known to complainant his intention to prevent her and her brother and sister from planting to wheat one-half of the land which they had cleared; so that intimidated they have not planted this land up to this time. A certain Kawakami who had been helping complianant in the cultivation of the land is being prevented by the neighbors from continuing to give them help, telling his that they would send him to jail if he continues to do so.

3. She further states that they are not being respected by their neighbors as they discount claimant's claim that there is a Philippine Delegation that could help them in their difficulties.

4. She also requests that, if possible, assistance be extended to Akiyo Takizawa, a Japanese national who is now in jail due to circumstances which arose from the fact that he helped complainant and her family.

In our conference here in Tokyo, you have assured and stated to me that the case of this Filipino family has already been settled and that they will not be bothered any more by their Japanese neighbors. Her coming to Tokyo again seems to indicate that she is still being pestered and threatened by these same Japanese who, you will remember

-2were also responsible for her maltreatment when this case was first brought to our attention. I shall appreciate it very much if you can give this Filipino family relief and rotection so that they will not be bothered by their Japanese neighbors. She has also again appealed to me regarding the case of Takizawa which we have discussed here in Tokyo. I stated in that conference that I shall send a representative of this office to be present at the retract of Takizawa, but due to difficulties in obtaining transportation for two of the Filipinos whom I have planned to send to Hiroshima to attend the retrial, they were not able to be present on that date. I I hope some arrangement could be made whereby Takizawa could be placed under conditional sentence, if he is really guilty, and that he be sent back to Sendai, his hometown. I wish I could go there personally to attend to this case of the Filipinos, but in view of the urgent work here in Tokyo for me as well as the other members of this Delegation, I am afraid we could not make the trip to Hiroshima. However, with your presence there and having met you during that conference, I feel that with your intervention, the rights of these Filipinos would be amply protected against any one who tries to persecute them and that perhaps in some way or other you may be able to settle the Takizawa case to the satisfaction of all concerned. With my kindest personal regards. Yours sincerely, Chairman Capt. Peter Somers Military Government Team Kure.

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES COMMISSION ON REPARATIONS MANILA PHILIPPINE DELEGATION ON REPARATIONS AND RESTITUTION TOKYO, JAPAN October 4, 1947 Brig. Gen. Courtney Whitney, Chief, Government Section, SCAP, Tokyo, Japan. My dear Gen. Whitney: About two weeks ago, I had occasion to discuss in a conference with Commander Hussey and Capt. Peter E. Somers of the Kure Military Government, the case of Mrs. Maxima Labarda, a Filipino citizen of Hiroshima, in connection with the alleged maltreatment and threat on her person by some Japanese in that area. The case of a certain Japanese national named Takizawa was also discussed. Takizawa, as I understood from the reports of the Filipinos who went to Hiroshima, was entangled in this case by accident when he met the Labarda family on the train on his way to southern Japan. I have not met Takizawa personally, but he went to my office a couple of times together with these Filipinos acting solely as an interpreter. In the papers which I have submitted to you, I also mentioned the fact that Takizawa was tried by the Japanese court for extortion and has been sen-

> Supported by reports from Hiroshima, there seems to be an indication that any Japanese who show sympathy to these Filipinos were looked down upon by the other Japanese nationals in that vicinity and were cautioned not to be sympathetic as they would probably have the same fate as Takizawa. In view thereof, I suggested to Commander Hussey that I be allowed to send an official representative of this Delegation to be present in the retrial of Takizawa which was supposed to be held on September 30, 1947. I had in mind in this particular case to send Ar. Tapia, a member of our Delegation, to Hiroshina on that day. Meanwhile, however, between the date of the conference and the retrial, the services of Mr. Tapia were necessary for other official work and in lieu thereof, I prepared a check sheet to G-4, copy attached, requesting travel orders for Messrs. Teodoro Rodriguez and Gavino Leuterio, President and Vice-President respectively of the Philippine Association in Japan. This paper was coursed through official channels and when it reached the hands of G-1, I called Major Wilderman of that office. I told Major Wilderman that Messrs. Rodriguez and Leuterio are not officially accredited to this Delegation, but in view of my promise to send a representative of this office in the retrial, I had delegated these two gentlemen to act for this Delegation.

tenced to two years imprisonment. In my conference with Com-

case only from its political phase.

mander Hussey, I told him that I was interested in the Takizawa

-2-You will note in the check sheet that I mentioned the fact that these two Filipinos were willing to pay their train fair to and from Hiroshima if the use of the military cars were allowed them. Major Wilderman stated that in view of existing rules, it was not possible for these two Filipinos to use military cars for that purpose. Because of this decision, therefore, Messrs. Rodriguez and Leuterio were not able to go to Hiroshima. Early this week, I had a call from Commander Hussey for a conference, and in that meeting Commander Hussey mentioned the fact that the substitution of Mr. Tapia by Messrs. Rodriguez and Lauterio placed your office in a rather embarrassing position. I deeply regret that this happened, but the substitution was done with the best of intentions and this fact I also mentioned to Major Wilderman in my telephone conversations with him. The refusal of G-1 to extend the courtesies of allowing these two Filipino nationals, who I believe are in good standing in the Filipino community here in Tokyo, to board military cars, I thought ended the case right there and then. Permit me again, therefore, to reiterate my sincere apologies for whatever embarrassment this matter has caused your office and you may use this letter for whatever it may be worth to correct the situation. Respectfully yours, Chairman Incls. As stated above.

September 24, 1947. . C. ORANDUA TO: Railway Transportation Office, Tokyo, Japan. THROUGH: G-4, SCAP. SUBJECT: Request for Authority to Ride Military Cars from Tokyo to Hiroshima and Return. 1. Request that Messrs. Teodoro Rodriguez and Gavino Leuterio, Filipino citizens, be permitted to ride military cars from Tokyo to Hiroshima via Osaka on or about September 27, 1947, and return. 2. In a conference had with Commander Hussey, Government, Section, SCAP, it was agreed that Filipino representatives be sent to Hiroshima via Osaka to confer with Capt. Peter E. Somers, Military Government, Kure, in connection with a pending case of a certain "Takizawa", a Japanese national connected with a case involving Filipino residents in that area. This case will be heard in court September 29, 1947. It is, therefore, necessary that Messrs. Rodriguez and Luterio arrive in Hiroshima on or before September 27, 1947. They will pay train fare to and from Hiroshima if required. /s/ B. P. Abrera Chairman

September 30, 1947

Appealed Case of Takezawa Takeo

Place of Trial: Hiroshima High Court

Date of Trial: September 30, 1947

Crime charges: Intimidation, and Intimidation attempt

Previous Sentence: Two years penal servitude

Presiding Judge: Judge Kuwabara

Assistant Judge: Judge Yasuda

Public Procurator: Procurator Okatani

Defense Council: None (Did have attorney at the Fukuyama Trial)

1. Procedure of Trial:

- (1) The Offender takes the stand and is checked by the Judge of the following:
 - (a) Date of Birth (b) Permanent Domicile (c) Place of Birth (d) Address
 - (e) Occupation
- (2) The procurator reads up the Accusation Facts.
- (3) The Examination by the Judge on the Offender.
 - Q. Are there any (comments) mistakes on the facts the procurator has read?
 - A. Yes, there are.
 - Q. Have you ever threatened Konishi and other villagers?
 - A. No, I have not.
 - Q. Do you mean to say that there was no such facts?
 - * A. Yes, but when Valdez made his speech to the villagers I said that it couldn't be helped at the present situation even if the villagers were killed for what they had done.
 - * Q. Did Valdez say so in his speech?
 - * A. Yes, he did.
 - * Q. Did Valdez have a typed speech which was prepared?
 - * A. No, he had a written paper with which he made the speech.

. . . . * Q. What did he say in his speech? * A. He talked about the behaviour of the villagers against the Shimizu family, and the Embassy already informed of it, was quite angry. Then, if the above is the only statement Valdez made it means you were the one who threatened the people. No. I never threatened them, but said in a very calm and peaceful mood that it couldn't be helped at the present situation if they took such mean methods. * Remarks The speech made by Valdez from the above investigation is not clear. It is not known whether Valdez made such a statement and Takezawa is concealing it or Takezawa made this statement on his own. Q. You seem to remember the contents of the speech very well. Why is it that you know it so well? A. Valdez had informed me of what he was going to say. Q. When was the first time you went to see Valdez? A. It was in June, this year. Q. What was the purpose of going to see him? A. Ask him for a job. . How did you come to know Shimizu Kiku? I came to know her on the train to Osaka where I was going to look for a job. On the train I was offered a light from her to light my cigarette. I noticed then she could speak no Japanese, and I wondered then what her nationality was. Anyway I tried to help them out on the train as foreigners. Later he was requested from her to return to Joge with them. I could see from the only Japanese words she used such as, "help me, please", that she was in some difficult problem. I was then with my brevet wife Kyoko, so I told them maybe I'll see them about 10 days later. . Did you not tell her you was an Interpreter of the Philippine Embassy then. A. No, I did not. . What was the reason you decided to go see her? From her attitude I thought she was in great trouble, and her thin skinny body made me pity her. -2-

Q. Were you then intending to make money by helping her out? No, I had ¥8,000 with me, and no such intentions overtook me. When did you go to her place? I went in the latter part of June with my wife. According to your former testimony you found that she wasn't at home when you visited her? A. Yes, that is true. She was attacked by the police, and had left for Tokyo the day before. I wanted to see her, and often visited the station, where she might return. Kenji Shimizu returned by himself saying that Kiku was at Valdez's place in Tokyo. What relation has Valdez with the Philippine Embassy? I do not know, but it is said that he is the nephew of the Ambassador. What did Kenji say when he returned? He said that the Philippine Embassy was very angry about the case, and they were coming down to arrest all the villagers and kill them. 4. Did you believe what he said? A. Yes, I did. . How old is Kenji? A. He is 13 years old. Did you believe everything that a 13 year old youngster says? Yes, I believed that they were coming down to take revenge. Whydid you go to meet Valdez in Tokyo? I was requested by the villagers to go as their representative, and settle the problem in peace, as the villagers were frightened by what Kenji admitted when he came back. Q. Did you go to the Philippine Embassy? No, I went to see Valdez living in Ikebukuro. I took Kenji with me. Later I went to the Embassy with Valdez. (Genza 4 chome, Tokyo to Hattori Watch Store). -3. . . 1 Q. What did they say at the Embassy? A. All members of the Embassy were to go down to Joge to clear the problem up. But they couldn't leave till after 4th of July. * Q. Is that why Valdez and you went representing the Philippine Embassy? No, I declined at first, but he insisted on my going with him. Also he told me to go myself once. Were you, at the time, promised a job at the Philippine Embassy? * A. Yes, if I succeeded in the settlement of this case. When was it that you were thrown into the cell? It was on the 1st of July. On the 7th they came from the Philippine Embassy to take Valdez out. Did you possess a written authority from the Philippine Embassy? * A. Yes, I did. * Q. Have you got it with you now? * A. No, I have not. It was taken up by an interpreter who came from the Hiroshima Military Government Team. Everything ran well until the interpreter came down from Kure. Q. You have received ¥3,000 from Konishi have you not? A. No, I have not. I haven't even heard of him talking of giving money to me. He once told me that if I settled this problem peacefully he would present me as a sign of gratitude a bale of rice. But this too I declined. Q. In the Fukuyama Court Trial, Konishi testified that he gave you ¥3,000 and it. was also written in his accountance book but do you still deny that you received it? A. Yes, I don't know a thing about it. In fact I am very disappointed on what they testified against me. Maybe I was in a situation to be hated, but it is too much. * Q. It is said that Valdez struck policeman Hayashi, Konishi and others. -4-

* A. Yes, but it was nothing to be called as strucking. He just tapped them on the jaw 2 or 3 times. I have actually witnessed the scene. His intention was that if he scared them they would change their future behaviour and treatment on the Shimizu family. He didn't mean to strike them for vengance. Q. Have you anything more to say? A. Yes, I would like to have Mr. Valdez as a witness on this trial. He is the only one who can testify on my benefit, and knows I'm not guilty. Q. That is quite a difficult problem to do, and cannot easily be done. Now will ask for the procurators prosecution. Will you not be satisfied with this trial? A. If only Mr. Valdez could be called to testify my case. Q. One more question. Why didn't you hire a lawyer ? You've money to hire one haven't you? A. Yes, but I was told by the Philippine Embassy not to hire one as the case was clear and I not guilty. Procurator I have the same opinion as the Judge. And claim that the same sentence be given to the offender. To be the cause of this case is in other words partly interupting the occupational purpose of the Allied Forces. His claim of having Mr. Valdez as witness is very difficult problem to realize. And from the above reasons I request the same sentence. Judge The sentence will be made on the 9th October (Thursday)

September 30, 1947 Appealed Case of Takezawa Takeo Place of Trial: Hiroshima High Court Date of Trial : September 30, 1947 Crime charges : Intimidation, and Intimidation attempt Previous Sentence: Two years penal servitude Presiding Judge : Judge Kuwabara Assistant Judge : Judge Yasuda Public Procurator: Procurator Okatani Defense Council : None (Dig have a attorney at the Fukuyama Trial) 1. Procedure of Trial: The Offender takes the stand and is checked by the Judge of the following: (b) Permanent Domicile (a) Date of Birth (c) Place of Birth (d) Address Occupation The procurator reads up the Accusation Facts. (2) The Examination by the Judge on the Offender. (3) Q. Are there any (comments) mistakes on the facts the procurator has read? Yes, there are. Have you ever threatened Konishi and other villagers? No, I have not. Q. Do you mean to say that there was no such facts? * A. Yes, but when Valdez made his speech to the villagers I said that it couldn't be helped at the present situation even if the villagers were killed for what they had done. * Q. Did Valdez say so in his speech? * A. Yes, he did. * Q. Did Valdez have a typed speech which was prepared? * A. No, he had a written paper with which he made the speech. -1-

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- Q. Did you not tell her you was an interpreter of the Philippine Embassy then.
- A. No, I did not.
- . What was the reason you decided to go see her?
- A. From her attitude I thought she was in great trouble, and her thin skinny body made me pity her.

Q. Were you then intending to make money by helping her out? No, I had ¥8,000 with me, and no such intentions overtook me. When did you go to her place? I went in the latter part of June with my wife. According to your former testimony you found that she wasn't at home when you visited her? A. Yes, that is true. She was attacked by the police, and had left for Tokyo the day before. I wanted to see her, and often visited the station, where she might return. Kenji Shimizu returned by himself saying that Kiku was at Valdez's place in Tokyo. What relation has Valdez with the Philippine Embassy? I do not know, but it is said that he is the nephew of the Ambassador. Q. What did Kenji say when he returned? A. He said that the Philippine Embassy was very angry about the case, and they were coming down to arrest all the villagers and kill them.

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The sentence will be made on the 9th October (Thursday)



Q. What did they say at the Embassy? A. All members of the Embassy were to go down to Joge to clear the problem up. But they couldn't leave till after 4th of July. * Q. Is that why Valdez and you went representing the Philippine Embassy? No. I declined at first, but he insisted on my going with him. Also he told me to go myself once. * Q. Were you, at the time, promised a job at the Philippine Embassy? * A. Yes, if I succeeded in the settlement of this case. * Q. When was it that you were thrown into the cell? * A. It was on the 1st of July. On the 7th they came from the Philippine Embassy to take Valdez out. * Q. Did you possess a written authority from the Philippine mbassy? * A. Yes, I did. * Q. Have you got it with you now? * A. No, I have not. It was taken up by an interpreter who came from the Hiroshima Military Government Team. Everything ran well until the interpreter came down from Kure. Q. You have received ¥3,000 from Konishi have you not? A. No, I have not. I haven't even heard of him talking of giving money to me. He once told me that if I settled this problem peacefully he would present me as a sign of gratitude a bale of rice. But this too I declined.

Q. In the Fukuyama Court Trial, Konishi testified that

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-4-

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The Philippine Association c/o The Philippine Delegation Tokyo, Japan, August 16, 1947 To the Attorney for Mr. Kitasawa Fukuyama, Hiroshima Dear sir, Our Association sends its greatings and sincerest gratitude to you who is so kind so kind enough to take the defense of our friend, Mr. Kitasawa. I am deeply sorry that I may not be able to attend which, I believe, is set to be on the 19th of this month, due to the fact that I don't have the chance to leave Tokyo anytime I wish to. However, I firmly believe that the case of Mr. Kitasawa is in very good hands and I don't doubt his insocence and with your help he will pull through. To review his case I would say that he is the victim of unreasonable prejudicism and his life is being prepardised by a few who are utterly ignorant of the principle of Democracy in Japan at present. The Japanese in that place should be aware that Japan today is defferent from Japn of yesterday. Those Japanese in Jogi or whatever that place is in which the Filipines are living, should their attitude toward us. After all, we Filipinos are trying change our best to help the Japanese and we have forgotten the animosity and atrocities that the Japanese have done in the Philippines. Let us be friends and cooperate with each other. Let us help one another and make this world a peaceful and happy one to live in. I do hope you will make them understand this point. I know that you will do your best to acquit Mr. Kitasawa from the preposterous charge they are putting him in. I may go there again, but, if Mr, Kitasawa is not acquitted because of those Japanese I will be forced to go there and show those Japanese their own conception of Democracy. When I go there again it will be to settle everything with them once and for all and by God those Japnese will know what kind of a Japan they are living in now. I do hope I will get good news from you. Sincerely yours, G. RODRIGUEZ The Philippine Association g1/816

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