

TESTIMONY TRANSCRIPTION

BUDI TJOKRODJOJO

DHD 1 No. 004/IX/A/1945/1976

Curriculum Vitae

- 1 Name : BUDI TJOKRODJOJO
- 2 Rank : -
- 3 Occupation : Private
- 4 Place and date birth : Purwokerto (Banyumas), 27 May 1919
- 5 Current address : Jagir Sidomukti II/No.4 Surabaya
- 6 Occupation
 - a. Dutch Indies era : Teacher at private school
 - b. Japanese era : Employee of DKA (Rikuyu Jigosya) transport section
 - c. Independence era : In Japanese era as the member of ZIBAKU TAI. Since 1945 until the end of revolution
- 7 Education
 - a. General : 1. HIS [Hollandsch-Inlandsche School]; 2. Taman Dewasa Taman Siswa Pusat in Yogyakarta; 3. Taman Guru Taman Siswa Pusat
 - b. Military : In Japanese as the member of Zibaku Tai [Dare-to-Die Squad]
In the time of Revolution established BBMI (Barisan Berani Mati Indonesia) [Indonesian Dare-to-Die Squad] as Geni Pionir [Fire Pioneer]
- 8 Parent name : Tjokrodarmodjo
- 9 Involvement in battle of Surabaya,
 - a. Squad/ troop : BKR [People Security Force] Surabaya since October 1945 involved in the establishment of the first "Sekolah Opsir TNI".
 - b. Leader/commander : Ronokoesoemo (Major)
 - c. Place : Di Surabaya

Surabaya, 20 March 1975

Signed,

BUDI TJOKRODJOJO

The answer of the questions

Questions number 1-6

Not transcribed

Question number 7: "Regarding the flag incident at the Yamato Hotel, how was the process?"

Regarding the incident of tearing the Dutch flag occurs through two processes (A and B) as follows:

Preliminary explanations:

As consequences of hoisting the Dutch flag caused the anger of the people of Surabaya, among the government of the Republic of Indonesia considered it as a challenge to Indonesian nation that has just proclaimed its independence on August, 17, 1845. Among those who got angry were the former members of Zibaku Tai [Dare-to-Die Squad]. This anger became a mass invasion to the Dutch headquarters in the form a bloody incident accompanied by tear the Dutch flag occasion.

On this occasion, me as the filler of this form, felt involved in planning the invasion to the Dutch headquarters by inviting and giving instructions to my comrades in Zibaku Tai dormitory, Sidik and Hariyono, to lower the Dutch flag. Upon my invitation and instruction to my comrades that have caused the first physical clash accompanied by the tearing the Dutch flag, which subsequently occurred the following incidents:

The incident in the form of an attack on the Dutch representative, Mr Ploegman, was done by Sidik, by kicking Ploegman hand that aim a revolver to Mr Soedirman when debate on the instruction to lowered the Dutch flag.

Then followed by the incident of tearing the Dutch flag which was done by Hariyono, which was done together by other youth.

The course of the "A" process (the cause of physical clash).

Before the incident of tearing the Dutch flag, it was preceded by the physical clash between the Dutch representative and a former member of Zibaku Tai, brother Sidik.

These fights arose after negotiations or debates about the lowered the flag down was failed, because the Dutch refused to lower it.

At the time of negotiations, Sidik was there to witness the talks, to the right of Mr Soedirman. When the negotiations broke down, Mr Soedirman did not want to leave the place.

Suddenly Mr Ploegman left his place out. But quickly returned with a revolver in his hand heading to Mr Soedirman and pointing it out to him, before the debate started again (he got the revolver from Japanese guard post which is located next to the hotel building). Seeing this dangerous gunpoint, Sidik did not think long. Suddenly he kicked Ploegman's hand, so that the weapon was choked and exploded.

As a result of this conditions, the negotiations broke up. The people who watched the negotiations also disperse and ran out of the hotel. Only Sidik did not run away. Mr Ploegman became angry at Sidik and soon they fought one-on-one. Ploegman tried to hit, but Sidik dodged and tried to strangle his enemy. In this fight there was a victory on Sidik's side, Ploegman throat strangled by Sidik, so he suffocated, killed.

After this fight, came another Dutch armed with sword, headed straight for Sidik. Meanwhile Sidik were not armed with anything, but he saw a bicycle in front of the hotel. He took the bike and lifted up high for the shield. And the fight started. Shortly, the Dutch swing his sword came from the above to below direction, deflected by using bicycle, the bicycle was split. The Dutch sword also broke in two. The broken part of the sword was hit Sidik's head so that his head was bleeding. Under such circumstances, Sidik did not surrender, even raging to his enemy. By amok, he attacked his enemy using the broken bicycle by swinging it on the Dutch men, so the Dutch were killed (two Dutch killed by him).

Unfortunately for Sidik, the incident has not ended yet. Another Dutchman came with a large flower pot raised high to be dumped on Sidik body. Because his energy and breath was exhausted, and also his blood kept coming out, the he ran out of the hotel. The Dutchman followed him up until on a street in front of hotel. This situation seen by the people and started to help Sidik. The Dutchman had been ambushed by the people and killed. Sidik fainted. Then Sidik assisted by the people and transported to Simpang Hospital.

Concern:

Regarding the Sidik fights with the Dutch, he deeply regretted the people who witnessed with him during the negotiations. Why nobody helps when the fight occurred.

The course of the "B" process.

After the "A" process took place, people start moving through their respective group leaders, to the place of the flagpole. They raided en masse. But for Hariyono (which I have given advice and instructions) can succeed to be the first to reach the top of the hotel, where

the flag was flying, by climbing through the shoulders of the young men standing upwards over the shoulders.

He lowered the flag. Then he tore the blue part of the flag with his teeth bite to 10 cm.

In this second, the other youth arrived at the top, named Koesnowibowo. Apparently he saw and looked at how Hariyono way to rip the flag was not fast and too long. Then he grabs it and continue to tear the blue part by his hand. The blue part of flag being crumbled by Kusnowibowo and he throw it to below. Then the flag, which has become “red-and-white”, they hoist it back together upwards.

For Hariyono, the occurrence was still not finished yet. By the time he wanted to go down, he heard there was a shot from behind the hotel. Halfway down, he felt that his head become dizzy and blood came out of his head. It was only then he realized that the shots he had been heard, directed at him, hit about the top-left of his head. Then he fell unconscious. He was helped by the people and transported to the Simpang Hospital. He seemed to have made an appointment to meet Sidik, which was transported earlier, at the hospital.

On that very day, the incident was broadcast by RRI [Radio of the Republic of Indonesia], firstly by reporting the number of victims. They also mentioned the names of Sidik and Hariyono, in the state of serious injuries and hospitalized in Simpang Hospital. I heard this radio broadcasting by myself. The truth of my testimony can be examined by asking to the former broadcaster of RRI.

The position of “A” and “B” processes:

The position of “A” process and “B” process is a sequence of events. Like a tumbu [traditional pan made from bamboo] and its lid. Obviously, that the incident of tearing the flag would not happen, if the physical clash after negotiations between Dutch representative and Mr Soedirman did not happen.

Its position is equal to: because there was “proclamation of Indonesian independence in August 17, 1945” then there was “national revolution in 1945”

Complementary materials:

Please check the attached photocopy of the situation diagram map before the incident, including our meeting point with my comrades to plan the raid on the Dutch headquarters.

This information has also been published in daily newspaper, “Merdeka”, as a complementary information that I provide here.

Other things:

This incident has been researched by the section of “historical team” from DHD-45 of East Java through various processes and procedures in their meeting. And also has been reconstructed on how to rip the flag by the main actors of the incident, Hariyono and Kusnowibowo, and witnessed by the officials of the Republic of Indonesia.

I am disappointed with the history books by Ahcmad Soedibiono’s “Buku Menyongsong Pembangunan Musium Perjuangan” and other books, because their content deviates from the reconstruction. Those authors have neglected the research effort of the DHD-45 teams. Since they were dishonest in their writings, I protested to the authors not to make harm our National History, and have to be corrected to fit the course of reconstruction.

This incident has never been disclosed by either the government or non-government for 30 years, and there is only concern to examine it on the initiative of the Commander of Brawijaya, Mr Moh Jassin in 1969. So before that initiative, there has been a lot of unfair statements and claims about the incident. Therefore, I once pointed out in the daily “Merdeka”, a request to avoid these distorted confessions.

Questions number 8-39

Not transcribed

Appendix: Maps

