

TESTIMONY TRANSCRIPTION

J. HARIONO

DHD 6 No. 056/IX/A/1945/1976

The history of incident of the tearing the Dutch (red-blue-and-white) flag at Yamato Hotel Surabaya

I, the undersigned below:

Name : J. Hariono Current address:
Age : 47 Year Manyaradi Gang I/3 Surabaya
Birthplace : Mojosari
Religion : Catholic
Education : Taman Siswa – SMP [Junior High School] not finished
Ex. members of the Japanese militia (Jibaku Tai) [Dare-to-Die Squad]
Current occupation: the state employee of Religious Affairs Office in Kediri Area for Catholic affairs (I have applied for early retirement, but still have not received the decree letter from the Ministry of Religion in Jakarta).

With the information I have written below, I do not add or subtract, willing to take an oath, regarding the historical event of the tearing of the Dutch (red-white-blue) flag in September 1945 at Yamato Hotel Surabaya as follows:

- I. In 1945, between the months of August-September, it was very busy months, because of the capitulation of the Dai Nippon government to the Allied government, as Japan lost the war due to the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan. At that time all the authority of the Dai Nippon administration has ceased, including all forms of people militia established by Dai Nippon, among others: Heiho, Peta, Keibodan, Seinendan, Jibaku Tai, etc. I was a member of Jibaku Tai force [death/suicide squads]. Although the Jibaku Tai force was dissolved at that time, but all of the members of Jibaku Tai were given information by our leaders that we must be prepared to take orders. Then we heard from our comrade in Peta force, that all former members of the force from Peta, Heiho, and other forces had to get together soon in Surabaya. Then we came to BKR Kaliasin to receive an instruction from the BKR leadership.
- II. At approximately 10.15 am we received an order from the BKR (Mr. Ranukusumo) to inspect the situation around Tunjungan Street. When we arrived around the Nam (or Tam) Shop, we were asked by the Dutch Indo-European. Before we could answer the question,

suddenly he ripped the red-and-white badges on my left shirt. Then we report back to the head of BKR, Mr Ronokusumo. Then we were ordered to come back again, inspecting out the actual circumstance around Tunjungan, accompanied by his question: “How is your attitude as former Jibaku Tai?”. Then I came back to the Nam Shop. I met the three of my comrades Budi Tjokrodjojo, Sidik, and myself. The three of us held talks on our next attitude, then broke up and we continued our journey to Tunjungan. There seemed very busy, accompanied by a tense atmosphere, due to a negotiation between Mr Dirman, as the Resident of Surabaya, with allied representatives. Whether the negotiations failed, we did not know. Then there was a fight outbreak between the youth and the Dutch occupants of the Yamato Hotel. With the occurrence of the fight, there was an opportunity for us to perform our plan to tear out the three-colour (red-white-and-blue) flag. With some friend, we climbed up the hotel by a ladder, where it came from and who brought the ladder, I did not know. I found out there were 4 or 5 youth at the top of the hotel, including me. Without much thought how the consequences, we continued to lower the flag. Then we bite the stitches of the flag, then tear the blue part, left the red and white colour flying. Without a word, we came down with the other comrades, but as we stepped on the second level from the above, we heard gunfire. Whether that was a carbine or a revolver, we did not know. But my head felt dizzy and it was seen that my clothes were full of blood, so I fainted. How I came down, I do not know. Suddenly I was in the CBZ Simpang Hospital. When my head was in surgery, a Dutchman named Ploegman was lying on the mattress next to me in a terrible condition (stabbed by sharpened bamboo spear). Then lying also Mulyono and Mulyadi next to my bed. About their wounds I did not know.

- III. After I felt a little bit strong in the CBZ hospital, then there was a girl coming to me, need to inquire about my family’s address in Surabaya, so she can tell my mother.
- IV. Then after I felt my body was strong again, and I always heard people scream out loud “siaap, siaap” [be ready] repeatedly, without thinking I joined my friends. Until finally I was summoned by Mr Susila, and continue to scolded by all the leader of BKR, because actually when I was supposed to get out of the CBZ Hospital would be photographed as a memory.
- V. Thus, until our leader Dr. Mustopo heard about that, then we were summoned by him and escorted by Mr Ronokusumo to Mr Mustopo, just to give him the necessary report, then we got a gift, an envelope containing five hundred rupiah (Rp. 500) at that time.

That’s the history of incident of the tearing the Dutch (red-blue-and-white) flag to became red and white Indonesian flag.

Surabaya, 13 January 1970

Best regards

The author

Signed

Witness:

I declare and swear that the description
from Hariono as mentioned above is
written according to reality and for the sake
of history and Indonesian nation.

31/1/70

Signed

Budi Tjokorodjojo