

TESTIMONY TRANSCRIPTION

S. MULYADI

DHD 7 No. 064/IX/A/1945/1976

To his excellency:

The Commander of the Veteran Legion

East Java Sumatera Street,-

Surabaya,-

Subject: Report of the flag incident
The three colour at Yamato Hotel
Tunjungan Street, Surabaya,-

Full Report

The undersigned below:

Name : S. Muljadi
Age : 47
Occupation : Employee of the Semen Gresik
Address : Housing of the Semen Gresik in Gresik

I do not intend to accentuate the role of my struggle in 1945, I made this report based on the announcement of the Commander of Veteran Legion of East Java on December 20, 1969, through radio broadcast and daily newspaper published in Surabaya. So I am obliged to report earnestly on the basis of my oath, regarding the flag incident of the three-colour (red-white-blue) on 19 September 1945, I revealed the event clearly as follows.

On that date above, 1945, at 12 noon, I was with my friend, Agus Salim (a) Suharto, who is currently working at Penataran Angkatan Laut (P.A.L) and living in Prapanca Street Surabaya. At that time we were carrying a radio that would be repaired at Genteng Street, Surabaya. While passing through the Tunjungan Street, we saw a group of people flocking in the front of Witway Shop [White Away & Co], now called the Siola Shop. The attention of the people was addressed to a group of Dutch people who gathered in front of the Yamato Hotel, now named Tunjungan Hotel. Then we looked closely at the top of the hotel, there was a Dutch

flag waving. Then we left the radio in Genteng Street, and then would be back again, to witness the next events.

After finishing handed the radio to the repairman, then we sneaked into a group of Dutch, we will attack them. At that time we were not afraid, we saw the Dutchmen armed with crowbars, wood, Japanese carbine guns, and others. We both hid in a car that stopped in front of the hotel. We saw with our own eyes, the Dutch were wildly and brashly tore the red-and-white badge, which were widely used by the people of Surabaya. Without any hesitation, we both attacked them without any arms. With the full of persistent, we fought with them and be beaten by the Dutch. Then we felt there was a hard object sticking in our heads. Even though we drained a lot of blood from our heads, we both got angry [amok]. We did not realize that the reinforcements of Surabaya youth [*arek*] came from two directions, Genteng Street and Malang Street. The fight was getting heated up, many Dutchmen were killed by sharpened bamboo spears. Many Dutchmen fled to the “Gedung Setan” [the Demon Building], I do not know the condition of this building in the present time. Then we climbed up the hotel by using the top of the car parked in front of the hotel. Finally we managed to climb to the second floor of the hotel, but then we got dizzy and fainted after losing a lot of blood. We finally fell down and fortunately helped by many people. We were taken to Simpang Hospital and got treatment from Doctor Sugiri. In the hospital we were treated for two weeks. It turned out that the victims of the incident as many as four people, including ourselves. Now I never met another victims, except my friend Agus Salim (a) Suharto, who I have mentioned above. Two weeks later we were allowed to go home because we were cured. While in the hospital I cannot imagine how much appreciation and sympathy from the people of Surabaya to us at that time. This was natural, because we were the first victims in the history of the revolution of Indonesian independence.

Then we were taken home by the Mayor of Surabaya, Mr Dul Arnowo. When we arrived at home, there were many people waiting for us. They congratulated us, including the commander of People Security Army (BKR), I did not know his name. He gave short welcoming speech, then we were given an envelope as a token of appreciation, written in gold ink by the commander himself.

We need to mention here, that when we were hospitalised, has come a group of people that I did not recognize, congratulating us and showed a tear of blue part from the flag. They told me to keep it but I refused because it should be kept by the authorities. While the letter of appreciation that I received, I left it at home when Surabaya was occupied by the Allies forces. So the only living witnesses about my involvement is the former Mayor of Surabaya,

Dularnowo, who now lives in Malang City and an employee of Karang Menjangan Hospital named Darsono, may now be retired, and many other witnesses.

That is the short history of the flag incident at Yamato Hotel in Tunjungan Street Surabaya.

Thank you

Gresik, 16 March 1970

Informer

(Muljadi)