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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

U. S. War Department

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WAR CRIMES OFFICE

**Judge Advocate General's
Office**

File No. 48 - 37
Sub.

48-36

See also Nos.

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.....
.....
.....

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-42370-1

NAMES TAKEN.....

0096

FOYJA 000.5 (30 Aug 45)

1st Incl.

HTD:arc

HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY FORCES, MIDDLE PACIFIC, APO 950, 8 September 1945.

TO: War Crimes Office, Office of The Judge Advocate General,
War Department, Washington 25, D. C.

1. For your information.
2. A copy of the inclosed file has been forwarded to the
War Crimes Division, Office of The Staff Judge Advocate, Hq. United
States Army Forces, Pacific, APO 500.

4 Incls:
(1 cy ea.)

E. H. Snowlass

E. H. SNOWLASS
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Staff Judge Advocate





SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
WESTERN PACIFIC BASE COMMAND
APO 244

Initials: *ang* ANG
Date: AUG 30 1945



In Reply Refer To
(JA) 000.5

30 August 1945

SUBJECT: War Crimes.

THRU: Commanding General, United States Army Forces, Middle Pacific,
APO 248.

TO: The Judge Advocate General.

ATTENTION: Assistant Judge Advocate General in Charge of War Crimes Office).

1. There is inclosed a file concerning the investigation of an alleged atrocity committed on the Island of Saipan. This is the complete file of this headquarters and as far as it goes, is believed to explain itself.

2. Pursuant to a request of the War Crimes Branch of the Judge Advocate Section, this headquarters, an additional investigation was undertaken under the supervision of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Western Pacific Base Command, in an attempt to ascertain the whereabouts of Nitta, Kinashi, Yamashita, and Yokota, members of the civilian Japanese police force on Saipan prior to the American invasion, who were alleged to have committed, or were suspected of complicity in, this incident. None of those men is registered at the Japanese civilian internment camp, and interrogation of Vicente Guerrero, Chamorro, chief registration clerk, revealed that it is commonly believed all four died during the invasion. Questioning of the Chief of Village Number Two, Charan-Kanoo, and of two Kanakas, Erates and Giramu brought forth the information that Kinashi was seen to die at Banaderu in late June 1944 and nothing has been heard of the other three since June of 1944. The Mother Superior of the convent at Charan-Kanoo and Sister Angelica gave information that all four of the mentioned Japanese civilian policemen were last seen between 20 and 30 June 1944 in the Tapotchau area and were never heard from again. The convent maid, a Chamorro girl, stated that Yokota died at Kanaberra about 22 June 1944.

3. In the light of the foregoing information coupled with that set forth in the file, it is believed to be highly unlikely that further information can be obtained in this case or any of the suspects brought to justice.

000.5 (30 Aug 45)

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B/L: Hq WPAC APO 244, (JA) 30 Aug 45. Subj: War Crimes, Thru: CG,
USARPAC, APO 958, To: JAC, Attn: Ass't JAG in Ch. of War
Crimes Office.

4. There is also inclosed a report of autopsy made on an unidentified body on 17 July 1944. This body was reputedly that of an American Navy flier. However, the condition of his remains was such as to indicate his death might well have been the result of injuries sustained in an airplane crash. No evidence has been discovered indicating the use of violence or the commission of an atrocity on this individual.

5. Copies of this letter and all inclosures have been dispatched to the War Crimes Officer, CinCPAC-CinCPOA, for his information.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Charles H. Jackson
CHARLES H. JACKSON
CAPTAIN, A. G. D.
Asst. Adj. General

4 Incls

1. Ltr Hq ACP, APO 244
1 Aug 45. Subj: Inv or
Atrocities (In Quad).
2. Exhibit I, Statement of
Meratus (In Trip).
3. Rpt of Autopsy, Unknown
Aviators (In Trip.).
4. Rpt of Autopsy, Unknown
Aviator (In Dup).

cc
War Crimes Officer,
CinCPAC-CinCPOA,
w/4 Incls.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY GARRISON FORCE
APO 244
Office of the A C of S, G-2

1 August 1944

Subject: Investigation of Atrocities.

To : Commanding General, AGF, APO 244.

1. Upon receipt of file "Saipan Civil Police" from Northern Troops and Landing Force, an investigation was conducted with the following results:

a. After thorough interrogation of the persons named below, it was found they knew nothing of the reported atrocity, but their knowledge was purely hearsay.

Albert Kamacho	Jesus Salas
Vincente Babalta	Eurici Naputi
Jose Muna	Guilliam Torres
Manuel Sablan	Jose Tenorio Paglinin
Aken Bora Peredo	Joaquin T. Tenorio
Mariano Guerra	Antonio Cabrera

2. With information furnished by Tomas Saratur, 13 year old Chamorro boy, it was found that four Chamorros, Simeon Rabauleman, Vincente Moreham, Benjamin Limes, and Francisco Irisari, had buried an American Flyer on Feb. 23, 1944. These five knew of one Neratus who claimed to have seen an American flyer beheaded.

3. After interrogating Neratus, it was learned that he had seen an American Flyer beheaded by a Japanese Policeman NITTA, and cut across the back by another Japanese Policeman KINASHI. Neratus, on orders of NITTA, then burned the body of the flyer.

4. On July 16, 1944 Neratus led me to the Garapan jail and pointed out the place where he had burned the flyer and where he had placed a second flyer who had died in the cell house. There were two mounds of sand at these places. A Marine Med. Det. bivouacked in the jail had piled the sand on these two bodies.

5. On July 17, 1944 Col. Elliott G. Colby, M.C., Lt. Col. Richard C. Wadsworth, Neratus, Tomas Saratur, Simeon Rabauleman, Vincente Moreham, Benjamin Limes, Francisco Irisari, three other Chamorros, an interpreter, and myself proceeded to the cemetery about one mile south of Garapan.

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6. A grave was pointed out by Rabauleman, Moreham, Limes and Irisari. This grave was opened and found to contain the body identified by these men as an American flyer buried by them on Feb. 23, 1944, at about 1600 hours. These men claim the flyer had been hit in the face with the butt of a rifle. None of them had seen the incident. No evidence has been found indicating that this flyer was alive before falling into the hands of the Japanese.

7. The autopsy report on this flyer indicates he could have received all the injuries in a plane crash.

8. This case is not considered closed, and a search is being made for evidence that he was seen alive after his crash.

9. Col. Colby and party proceeded to the Garapan jail and removed the two bodies previously pointed out by Neratus. Autopsy reports on these two bodies are inclosed.

10. Neratus explained in detail how the one flyer had met his death. After preliminary examination on the spot, both Medical Officers disagreed with Neratus but agreed he was right after the autopsy.

11. Even though Neratus was a prisoner in the Garapan jail for theft, it is believed by this officer that he is telling the truth.

12. None of the above three flyers have been identified. Steps have been taken to secure identifications.

13. All evidence indicates that an atrocity has been committed in one case and possibly in another.

14. A leather flyer's jacket bearing the name 'J. J. Perry' was found in the cell occupied by the flyer who presumably died from strafing by our planes.

15. The signed statement of Neratus, a Kanaka from Palau, is attached as Exhibit I.

Owen R. Durham
OWEN R. DURHAM,
Major, GSC,
AC of S, G-2.

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Statement of NERATUS, a prisoner
from Palau, in the Garapan Jail
for theft during the time just
prior to American landing on
Saipan.

I first saw the two American flyers in the Garapan jail on June 3rd or 4th. One was tall, the other slightly shorter and had been wounded in the left arm. Each was placed in separate cells in the North end of the jail. The wounded flyer was treated by the doctor.

The first three days both were fed two or three times a day and during the time contracted diarrhea. After getting diarrhea, the flyers asked for soup or soft cooked rice. The Chief of Police (Kinashi, Keijiro) told them as Prisoners of War you eat what we give or else you don't eat at all. The Chief of Police was very angry at the request and

パラオ住土民、米軍サイパン上陸前盗罪ニ所セラレカラパン監獄
ニ監禁中、囚徒ニラテス、陳述
私が最始、二人、米國飛行士達ヲガラパン監獄デ見タノハ六月三日
か四日デ有ツタ。一人ハ脊ハ高ク、一人ハ稍低イ左腕ヲ傷ツイタ人デアツタ。二人共北側
別々ナ室ニ入ラレタ。傷ヲ受ケテ居タ人ハ醫者カラ治療ヲ受ケタ。
最初、三日ハ兩人共毎日二三度食ヲアタエラレタ。其ノ間ニ兩人共下痢
ヲ受ケタ。二人ハスーパカ、カイ御飯ヲ願ンダ。警察部長(木無敬次郎)ハ補當
トシテ若シ與ヘタ物ハ食ベラレナケレバ何モ與ヘナイト言ツタ。部長ハ此ノ要求ニ大變
立腹シ、其レ以來飛行士達ニ食ヲ與ヘ無カッタ。

9m/112.
Exhibit I.

- 1 -

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did not feed the flyers anymore. During the time the police would not feed the flyers, I sneaked hard-tack and sugar into them until the 13th of June. Water was always plentiful for the flyers.

On the 13th of June the air raids were so intense we fled to the hills (the police and jailors) and the flyers were left in the jail. And on the night of the 14th we returned to the jail for food. The flyers were still there but I believe the short one was already dead and had been killed by machine gun bullets from American planes. The small flyer had blood on his chest and his body was stiff. The tall flyer was still alive and was taken outside of the jail by the four police, 新田, 木無, MF, 磯田, (NITTA, KINASHI, YAMASHITA, YOKOTA).

The tall flyer was taken just outside the administration building of the jail and seated on the ground.

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敬言察官が飛行士達ニ食料ヲ與ヘナカタ間ハ私ガ六月及十三日迄敬言
察官ノ目ヲ偷シテ乾パント砂糖ヲ飛行士達ニ與ヘタ。飛行士達ノ木ハ
何時モ十分ニ有ツタ。

六月十三日ニハ空襲ガ一層烈シク成ッタデ我々(敬言察官ト看守達)
ハ飛行士達ヲ監獄ニ残シテ儘山ヘ逃ゲテ行ッタ十四日ノ夜食物ヲ取リニ
我々ハ監獄ニ歸ツタ。飛行士達ハマダ監獄ニ居タガ春ノ以リ飛行士ハ米國
飛行機ノ機關銃ノ爲ニ死ンデ居タ。其ノ飛行士ノ胸ハ血ヲ流シタ。其ノ
成ツテ居タ。春ノ高イ飛行士ハマダ生キテ居タ。彼ハ新田木無山下横田四
人、敬言察官ニ監獄カラ引出サレタ。

引出サレタ飛行士ハ管理所ノ真ガ外デモヲ後ニ結ハレタ儘地面ニ座シテ居タ。



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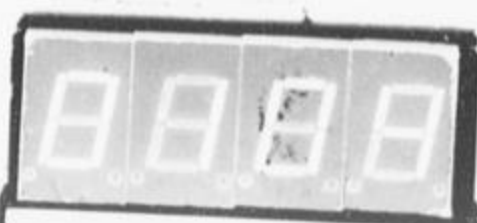
with his hands tied behind him. NITTA, (Chief of Shipping Engineer Police) pulled his saber out to kill the flyer. I was afraid and would not look. I heard a thud, turned around, and saw blood on the flyer's neck. Kinashi (Chief of Prison) also cut the flyer on the arms and back with his saber.

NITTA (Chief of Shipping Engineer Police) then told me to burn the flyers' bodies. I carried the half dead flyer about 25 yards from where he was struck by the sabers. The flyer was breathing hard so I waited until he died before stacking wood on his body and setting it afire. While waiting for the flyer to die, I took his cross and chain from around his neck and made a wooden cross, placed the chain and cross on it, and placed it at the head of the flyer. I waited 40 minutes before lighting the wood and starting the fire. I waited about 10 minutes after

新田(船舶工業利務署長)ハ飛行士ヲ切ル爲自分ノ刀ヲ抜イタ。私ハ恐シクテ見テ止ラレナカッタ。吾バシテ振り廻ツテ見ルト飛行士ノ首ノアタリニ血が付イテ居タ。木無(刑務部長)モ飛行士ノ腕ト脊中ヲ刀デ切ツタ。新田船舶工業利務署長ハ次ニ松ニ飛行士達ノ死体ヲ燃セト命シタ。私ハ半死半生ノ飛行士ヲ刀デ切ラレタ所カラ七十五尺(二十五ヤード)ノ所マテ運ンダ。飛行士ハマダ息ヲヒドクツイテ居タカラ死又迄待ツテ木ヲ体ノ廻リニ置キ火ヲ付ケタ。飛行士ノ死ヌノヲ待ツ間ニ首ノクサリト十字架ヲ取り、木デ本十子ヲ造リ飛行士ノ頭ノ所ニ十字架、クサリト所ニ置イタ。火ヲ付ケル前四十分待ツタ。

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Exhibit I.



SECRET

the fire started before leaving
because the police told me to burn
him thoroughly before leaving. I
then fled to the hills.

火がイテ十分ホド待ツテ去ッテ。
其ハ利官が好ク燃セト言ッテカラ
デアル。其カラ山ノチヘ逃ゲタ。
ギラテス

Witnessed 2 August, 1944
Russell L. Stevens, Enr., U. S. N. R.

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E. L. V. I.

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REPORT OF AUTOPSY
ON BODIES OF UNKNOWN AVIATORS

In accordance with Letter Orders No. 41, 17 July 1944, Headquarters, Army Garrison Force, APO 244, Forward Echelon, Colonel Elliott G. Colby, 0200451, MC, and Lt. Colonel Richard C. Wadsworth, 0234192, MC, on 17 July 1944 went to the jail in Garapan, Saipan, accompanied by Major Warren R. Durham, G-2, AGF, 8 Chamorro, and an interpreter. In the courtyard of the jail the bodies of two men, purported to be American flyers, were found.

The bodies were pointed out by a Marine who was living in the jail. He stated that he had found the bodies covered with the remains of a fire, and that he had placed the wire around the arm of one body and pulled it three or four feet. The two bodies were found covered with from six to eight inches of dirt. Upon removing the dirt, we found the partly decomposed, partly burned bodies of two men. These bodies were removed to the 369th Station Hospital, where an autopsy was performed. Tec 4 Lester P. Kane, stenographer, was present during the autopsy. The findings are as follows:

BODY NO. 1

Estimated height, 5 feet, 10 inches. There is a hole approximately 10 by 10 centimeters in size, burned and broken through the right temporo-parietal region. This appears to have been caused by fire rather than trauma.

The spine is separated between the fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae, except for ligamentous attachments on the right side of the vertebral bodies. The second, third, and fourth cervical vertebrae were dissected en masse from the spine, and the surrounding musculature cleared away. The second and third cervical vertebrae appear intact. The fourth cervical vertebra shows a fracture through the laminae. The fracture line extends from the postero-medial portion of the right superior articular process to the lateral part of the inferior surface of the left lamina just medial to the left inferior articular process. The fracture line passes through both laminae at the base of the spinous process. This fracture line appears to have been made by a sharp instrument. The vertebral arches and the body of the vertebra show no gross evidence of injury. The three vertebrae are preserved for exhibition (Exhibit No. 1).

A hard leathery skin, about four inches wide, extends down the center of the back of the neck and chest to the level of the tenth rib, and covers the dorso-lumbar and sacral regions out as far as the flank. There is a cut 3.5 centimeters long, 7 centimeters from the mid-line over the eleventh rib, and the lower border of the eleventh rib immediately under this cut has been cut away as by a sharp instrument. There is a wound 4 centimeters long in the

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Encl. # 3



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skin, across the spinous process of the vertebra of the eleventh dorsal vertebra, which did not entirely penetrate the skin. There is a puncture wound, $1\frac{1}{2}$ centimeters in diameter, 5 centimeters from the mid-line on the left of the eleventh dorsal vertebra, which apparently only penetrated the skin and subcutaneous tissue.

The right humerus is broken at approximately the middle, and appears to have been hacked off with some instrument. Just above the break, a section of the humerus, 2 by 2 centimeters, extending through the periosteum, appears to have been chopped out of the bone. The amputated portion of the arm was not found. The fingers of the left hand are contracted and covered with dry, hard skin. The hand was removed for examination, to be forwarded to a laboratory equipped for taking fingerprints from such specimens, since it is believed the tissue is well enough preserved to do this in this case. (Exhibit No. 2).

No opinion as to pathology or trauma in the contents of the chest or trunk can be expressed, due to the destruction of internal organs by decomposition.

Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 3).

Opinion as to Cause of Death

1. Partial amputation of head through body of fourth cervical vertebra.
 2. Puncture wounds, posterior dorsal and dorso-lumbar region.
 3. Amputation of right arm.
- - - - -

BODY NO. 2

This body has been burned, is badly decomposed, and little soft tissue remains, except for the large muscles along the spine. The right arm is missing, but no opinion can be formed as to how it was removed. The right femur is fractured at approximately the middle, and the left femur at the juncture of the middle and lower thirds. Both bones appear to have been burned off at this level. The remaining portions of both lower extremities are missing, except for the left foot and lower two-thirds of the right tibia and fibula, which appear to have been burned off.

The skull, along the mid-line, is covered with long, blonde, curly hair. No evidence of fracture was noted in the bones of the skull or face, and the skull contains no soft tissue.

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Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 1).

The left hand is covered with dry, hard skin. The ring finger of the left hand is missing, and appears to have been amputated at the metatarpo-phalangeal junction. The hand was removed for examination, to be forwarded to a laboratory equipped for taking fingerprints from such specimens, since it is believed the tissue is well enough preserved to do this in this case. (Exhibit No. 2).

A .50 caliber projectile was found lying against the psoas muscle, on the right side of the fifth lumbar vertebra.

Opinion as to Cause of Death

Unknown.

All exhibits relating to Bodies 1 and 2 were left in the custody of Lt. Colonel Wadsworth.

ELLIOTT G. COLBY
Colonel, MC

Richard C. Wadsworth
RICHARD C. WADSWORTH
Lt. Colonel, MC

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REPORT OF AUTOPSY
ON BODY OF UNKNOWN AVIATOR

In accordance with Letter Orders No. 41, 17 July 1944, Headquarters, Army Garrison Force, APO 244, Forward Echelon, Colonel Elliott G. Colby, 0200451, MC, and Lt. Colonel Richard C. Wadsworth, 0234192, MC, on 17 July 1944, went to the Catholic Cemetery at Garapan, Saipan, and disinterred and performed an autopsy upon an unknown body, purported to be an American Navy flyer, said to have been buried at this spot on or about February 23d or 24th, 1944. Colonel Colby and Lt. Colonel Wadsworth were accompanied by Major Warren R. Durham, G-2, AGF, 8 Chamorro, an interpreter, and Tec 4 Lester P. Kane, stenographer, was present during the autopsy.

The body was found buried under about one foot of earth, just outside the northeast corner of the cemetery. It was covered with matting, and lying on a mat. The skull was found with the face downward, a layer of matting separating it from the rest of the body. The remains were removed to the 369th Station Hospital, where the autopsy was done and the following findings made:

The body was clothed in a one-piece, greenish-khaki coverall type of uniform (Exhibit No. 1), the buttons on the uniform bearing the words "U.S. Navy" (Exhibit No. 2). A plain silver ring was found on the left hand (Exhibit No. 3). Nothing was found in the pockets. A pair of badly deteriorated undershorts, bearing the name "W. L. McVay" in two places, was worn (Exhibit No. 4). Shoes and socks were found on the bones of the feet (Exhibit No. 5 (shoes), Exhibit No. 6 (socks)). Decomposition had progressed to such an extent that practically no soft tissue remained.

The right arm has been broken at the juncture of the middle and lower thirds of the humerus. Both bones of both lower legs have been broken at approximately the juncture of the middle and lower thirds.

The skull is covered with the remains of medium brown hair. There appears to have been severe trauma in the region of the nose, maxilla, and ethmoids. The matting extends below both orbits and the ethmoid bones, back to a point 3.2 centimeters anterior to the foramen magnum. The maxilla is separated from the rest of the skull and is broken into two pieces. There is a fracture extending from the left occipital bone, forward to the base of the zygomatic arch, and then extending across the base of the skull to the petrous portion of the temporal bone into the ethmoid sinuses. A section of the temporal bone, measuring 5.4 by 2.2 centimeters, is completely surrounded by the fracture line, forming a loose, depressed, bony structure. The mandible is broken through between the central incisors. All soft structures inside the cranium are absent.

No fractures were noted in the bones of the trunk, and no pathology could be noted in the chest or abdomen due to loss of tissue. The greatest length of the right femur was 19 1/4 inches. Identification by fingerprints was impossible; all soft tissues were gone, and the bones of both hands found were without ligamentous attachments.

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Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 7).

Opinion as to Cause of Death

The cause of death in this case was trauma, multiple, extreme (fractured skull, fractured bones of face, fractured left humerus and both right and left tibia and fibula). All of the above fractures, due to their severity, were probably compound.

All exhibits were left in the custody of Lt. Colonel Wadsworth.

ELLIOTT G. COLBY
Colonel, MC

Richard C. Wadsworth
RICHARD C. WADSWORTH
Lt. Colonel, MC

SECRET

- 2 -

SECRET



POINT 0000 (10-10-45)

1st Ind.

11:00 AM

MEMORANDUM, U. S. AIR FORCE, WHEELER FIELD, APO 950, 10 September 1945.

TO: War Crimes Office, Office of The Judge Advocate General,
War Department, Washington 25, D. C.

1. For your information.

2. A copy of the inclosed file has been forwarded to the
War Crimes Division, Office of The Staff Judge Advocate, U. S. United
States Army Forces, Pacific, HQ 500.

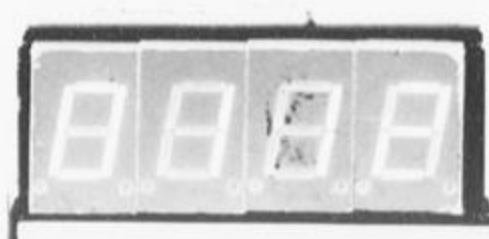
E. H. Lusk

W. H. Lusk
Colonel, U. S. A.
Staff Judge Advocate

1 Incls:
(1 of ea.)



MSV 10.17.12





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HEADQUARTERS
WESTERN PACIFIC BASE COMMAND
APO 244

SECRET
AUTH: CG, WPBC

Initials: *am* AAG
Date: AUG 30 1945



JA

In Reply Refer To
(JA) 000.5

30 August 1945

SUBJECT: War Crimes.

THRU: Commanding General, United States Army Forces, Middle Pacific,
APO 958.

TO: The Judge Advocate General.

ATTENTION: Assistant Judge Advocate General in Charge of War Crimes Office).

1. There is inclosed a file concerning the investigation of an alleged atrocity committed on the Island of Saipan. This is the complete file of this headquarters and as far as it goes, is believed to explain itself.

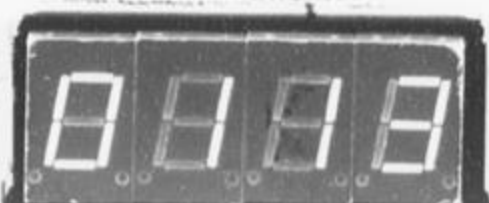
2. Pursuant to a request of the War Crimes Branch of the Judge Advocate Section, this headquarters, an additional investigation was undertaken under the supervision of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Western Pacific Base Command, in an attempt to ascertain the whereabouts of Nitta, Kinashi, Yamashita, and Yokota, members of the civilian Japanese police force on Saipan prior to the American invasion, who were alleged to have committed, or were suspected of complicity in, this incident. None of those men is registered at the Japanese civilian internment camp, and interrogation of Vicente Guerrero, Chamorro, chief registration clerk, revealed that it is commonly believed all four died during the invasion. Questioning of the Chief of Village Number Two, Charan-Kanca, and of two Kanakas, Erates and Giram, brought forth the information that Kinashi was seen to die at Banaderu in late June 1944 and nothing has been heard of the other three since June of 1944. The Mother Superior of the convent at Charan-Kanca and Sister Angelica gave information that all four of the mentioned Japanese civilian policemen were last seen between 20 and 30 June 1944 in the Tapochau area and were never heard from again. The convent maid, a Chamorro girl, stated that Yokota died at Kanaberra about 22 June 1944.

3. In the light of the foregoing information coupled with that set forth in the file, it is believed to be highly unlikely that further information can be obtained in this case or any of the suspects brought to justice.

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000.5
(30 Aug 45)
(57 June 45)





JAD/L CLASS.
No. 1418



0114

SECRET

B/L: Hq WPBC APO 244, (JA) 30 Aug 45. Subj: War Crimes, Thru: CG, USAFMIDPAC, APO 958, To: TJAG, Attn: Ass't JAG in Chg of War Crimes Office.

4. There is also inclosed a report of autopsy made on an unidentified body on 17 July 1944. This body was reputedly that of an American Navy flier. However, the condition of his remains was such as to indicate his death might well have been the result of injuries sustained in an airplane crash. No evidence has been discovered indicating the use of violence or the commission of an atrocity on this individual.

5. Copies of this letter and all inclosures have been dispatched to the War Crimes Officer, CinCPAC-CinCPOA, for his information.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Charles R. Jackson
CHARLES R. JACKSON
CAPTAIN, A. C. D.
Asst. Adj. General

4 Incls

1. Ltr Hq ASF, APO 244
1 Aug 45. Subj: Inv of
Atrocities (In Quad).
2. Exhibit I, Statement of
Neratus (In Trip).
3. Rpt of Autopsy, Unknown
Aviators (In Trip.).
4. Rpt of Autopsy, Unknown
Aviator (In Dup).

cc
War Crimes Officer,
CinCPAC-CinCPOA,
w/4 Incls.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY GARRISON FORCE
APO 244
Office of the A C of S, G-2

1 August 1944

Subject: Investigation of Atrocities.

To : Commanding General, AGF, APO 244.

1. Upon receipt of file "Saipan Civil Police" from Northern Troops and Landing Force, an investigation was conducted with the following results:

a. After thorough interrogation of the persons named below, it was found they knew nothing of the reported atrocity, but their knowledge was purely hearsay.

Albert Kamacho	Jesus Salas
Vincente Babalta	Eurici Naputi
Jose Muna	Guilliam Torres
Manuel Sablan	Jose Tenorio Paglinin
Aken Bora Peredo	Joaquin T. Tenorio
Mariano Guerra	Antonio Cabrera

2. With information furnished by Tomas Saratur, 13 year old Chamorro boy, it was found that four Chamorros, Simeon Rabauleman, Vincente Moreham, Benjamin Limes, and Francisco Irisari, had buried an American Flyer on Feb. 23, 1944. These five knew of one Neratus who claimed to have seen an American flyer beheaded.

3. After interrogating Neratus, it was learned that he had seen an American Flyer beheaded by a Japanese Policeman NITTA, and cut across the back by another Japanese Policeman KINASHI. Neratus, on orders of NITTA, then burned the body of the flyer.

4. On July 16, 1944 Neratus led me to the Garapan jail and pointed out the place where he had burned the flyer and where he had placed a second flyer who had died in the cell house. There were two mounds of sand at these places. A Marine Med. Det. bivouacked in the jail had piled the sand on these two bodies.

5. On July 17, 1944 Col. Elliott G. Colby, M.C., Lt. Col. Richard C. Wadsworth, Neratus, Tomas Saratur, Simeon Rabauleman, Vincente Moreham, Benjamin Limes, Francisco Irisari, three other Chamorros, an interpreter, and myself proceeded to the cemetery about one mile south of Garapan.

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- 1 -

01111

SECRET

6. A grave was pointed out by Rabauleman, Moreham, Limes and Irisari. This grave was opened and found to contain the body identified by these men as an American flyer buried by them on Feb. 23, 1944, at about 1600 hours. These men claim the flyer had been hit in the face with the butt of a rifle. None of them had seen the incident. No evidence has been found indicating that this flyer was alive before falling into the hands of the Japanese.

7. The autopsy report on this flyer indicates he could have received all the injuries in a plane crash.

8. This case is not considered closed, and a search is being made for evidence that he was seen alive after his crash.

9. Col. Colby and party proceeded to the Garapan jail and removed the two bodies previously pointed out by Neratus. Autopsy reports on these two bodies are inclosed.

10. Neratus explained in detail how the one flyer had met his death. After preliminary examination on the spot, both Medical Officers disagreed with Neratus but agreed he was right after the autopsy.

11. Even though Neratus was a prisoner in the Garapan jail for theft, it is believed by this Officer that he is telling the truth.

12. None of the above three flyers have been identified. Steps have been taken to secure identifications.

13. All evidence indicates that an atrocity has been committed in one case and possibly in another.

14. A leather flyer's jacket bearing the name 'J. J. Perry' was found in the cell occupied by the flyer who presumably died from strafing by our planes.

15. The signed statement of Neratus, a Kanaka from Palau, is attached as Exhibit I.

Owen R. Durham.
OWEN R. DURHAM,
Major, GSC,
AC of S, G-2.

SECRET

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SECRET

Statement of NERATUS, a prisoner from Palau, in the Garapan Jail for theft during the time just prior to American landing on Saipan.

I first saw the two American flyers in the Garapan jail on June 3rd or 4th. One was tall, the other slightly shorter and had been wounded in the left arm. Each was placed in separate cells in the North end of the jail. The wounded flyer was treated by the doctor.

The first three days both were fed two or three times a day and during the time contracted diarrhea. After getting diarrhea, the flyers asked for soup or soft cooked rice. The Chief of Police (Kinashi, Keijiro) told them as Prisoners of War you eat what we give or else you don't eat at all. The Chief of Police was very angry at the request and

Incl #12.
Exhibit I.

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パラオ住土民、米軍サイパン上陸前盗罪ニ所セラレカラパン監獄
ニ監禁中、囚徒ニラテスノ陳述
私が最娼ニ人、米國飛行士達ヲガラパン監獄デ見タノハ六月三日
か四日デ有ツタ。一人ハ脊カ高ク一人ハ稍低イ左腕ヲ傷ツイタ人デアツタ。二人共北側
別々ナ室ニ入レラレタ。傷ヲ受ケテ居タ人ハ敷置者カラ治療ヲ受ケタ。
最初ノ三日ハ兩人共毎日二三度食ヲアタエラレタ。其ノ間ニ兩人共下痢
ヲ受ケタ。二人ハスーパカ柔カイ御飯ヲ願ンダ。警察部長(水無敬次郎)ハ補償
トシテ若シ興ヘタ物カ食ベラレナケレバ何モ興ヘナイト言ツタ。部長ハ此ノ要求ニ大變
立腹シ、其レ以來飛行士達ニ食ヲ興ヘ無クツタ。

6

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did not feed the flyers anymore. During the time the police would not feed the flyers, I sneaked hard-tack and sugar into them until the 13th of June. Water was always plentiful for the flyers.

On the 13th of June the air raids were so intense we fled to the hills (the police and jailors) and the flyers were left in the jail. And on the night of the 14th we returned to the jail for food. The flyers were still there but I believe the short one was already dead and had been killed by machine gun bullets from American planes. The small flyer had blood on his chest and his body was stiff. The tall flyer was still alive and was taken outside of the jail by the four police, 新田, 木無, 山下, 横田, (NITTA, KINASHI, YAMASHITA, YOKOTA).

The tall flyer was taken just outside the administration building of the jail and seated on the ground.

- 2 -

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敬言察官が飛行士達ニ食料ヲ與ヘナカタ間ハ私ガ六月及リ十三日迄敬言
察官ノ目ヲ偷ンデ乾パント砂糖ヲ飛行士達ニ與ヘタ。飛行士達ノ木ハ
何時モ十分ニ有ツタ。

六月十三日ニハ空襲ガ一層烈シク成ツタ。我々(敬言察官ト看守達)
ハ飛行士達ヲ監獄ニ殘シタ儘山ヘ逃ゲテ行ツタ。十四日ノ夜食物ヲ取リニ
我々ハ監獄ニ歸ツタ。飛行士達ハマダ監獄ニ居タ。脊ノ低リ飛行士ハ米國
飛行機ノ機關銃ノ爲ニ死ンデ居タ。其ノ飛行士ノ胸ハ血ヲラケテ体ハ堅ク
成ツテ居タ。脊ノ高リ飛行士ハマダ生キテ居タ。彼ハ新田木無山下横田四名
ノ敬言察官ニ監獄カラ引出サレタ。

引出サレタ飛行士ハ管理所ノ直グ外デ手ヲ後リテ結バレタ儘地面ニ座セラレタ。

00119

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with his hands tied behind him. NITTA, (Chief of Shipping Engineer Police) pulled his saber out to kill the flyer. I was afraid and would not look. I heard a thud, turned around, and saw blood on the flyer's neck. Kinashi (Chief of Prison) also cut the flyer on the arms and back with his saber.

NITTA (Chief of Shipping Engineer Police) then told me to burn the flyers' bodies. I carried the half dead flyer about 25 yards from where he was struck by the sabers. The flyer was breathing hard so I waited until he died before stacking wood on his body and setting it afire. While waiting for the flyer to die, I took his cross and chain from around his neck and made a wooden cross, placed the chain and cross on it, and placed it at the head of the flyer. I waited 40 minutes before lighting the wood and starting the fire. I waited about 10 minutes after

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新田(船舶工業利務署長)ハ飛行士ヲ切ル爲自分ノカヲ、抜イタ。私ハ恐シクテ見テ其ラレナカッタ。吾ガシテ振り廻ッテ見ルト飛行士ノ首ノアタリニ血が付イテ居タ。木無(刑務部長)モ飛行士ノ腕ト脊中ヲ刀ヲ切ッタ。新田(船舶工業利務署長)ハ次ニ私ニ飛行士達ノ死体ヲ燃セト命ジタ。私ハ半死半生ノ飛行士ヲ刀ヲ切ラレタ所カラ七十五尺(二十五ヤード)ノ所マテ運ニタ。飛行士ハマダ息ヲヒトクツイテ居タカラ死ヌ迄待ッテ木ヲ体ノ廻リニ置キ火ヲ付ケタ。飛行士ノ死ヌノヲ待フ間ニ首ノクサリト十字架ヲ取り、木ヲ本十字架ヨリ飛行士ノ頭ノ所ニ十字架、クサリト所ニ置イタ。火ヲ付ケル前四十分待ツタ。

B. H. I.

8

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the fire started before leaving
because the police told me to burn
him thoroughly before leaving. I
then fled to the hills.

火がイテ十分ホド待ツテ立去ツタ。
其ハ刑官が好ク燃セト言ツタカラ
デアル。其カラ山ノウヘ逃ゲタ。
ギラテス

Witnessed 2 August, 1944
Russell L. Stevens, Esq., U.S.D.R.

SECRET

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Exhibit I.

9

0128

SECRET

REPORT OF AUTOPSY

ON BODIES OF UNKNOWN AVIATORS

In accordance with Letter Orders No. 41, 17 July 1944, Headquarters, Army Garrison Force, APO 244, Forward Echelon, Colonel Elliott G. Colby, 0200451, MC, and Lt. Colonel Richard C. Wadsworth, 0234192, MC, on 17 July 1944 went to the jail in Garapan, Saipan, accompanied by Major Warren R. Durham, G-2, AGF, 8 Chamorros, and an interpreter. In the courtyard of the jail the bodies of two men, purported to be American flyers, were found.

The bodies were pointed out by a Marine who was living in the jail. He stated that he had found the bodies covered with the remains of a fire, and that he had placed the wire around the arm of one body and pulled it three or four feet. The two bodies were found covered with from six to eight inches of dirt. Upon removing the dirt, we found the partly decomposed, partly burned bodies of two men. These bodies were removed to the 369th Station Hospital, where an autopsy was performed. Tec 4 Lester P. Kane, stenographer, was present during the autopsy. The findings are as follows:

BODY NO. 1

Estimated height, 5 feet, 10 inches. There is a hole approximately 10 by 10 centimeters in size, burned and broken through the right temporo-parietal region. This appears to have been caused by fire rather than trauma.

The spine is separated between the fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae, except for ligamentous attachments on the right side of the vertebral bodies. The second, third, and fourth cervical vertebrae were dissected en masse from the spine, and the surrounding musculature cleared away. The second and third cervical vertebrae appear intact. The fourth cervical vertebra shows a fracture through the laminae. The fracture line extends from the postero-medial portion of the right superior articular process to the lateral part of the inferior surface of the left lamina just medial to the left inferior articular process. The fracture line passes through both laminae at the base of the spinous process. This fracture line appears to have been made by a sharp instrument. The vertebral arches and the body of the vertebra show no gross evidence of injury. The three vertebrae are preserved for exhibition (Exhibit No. 1).

A hard leathery skin, about four inches wide, extends down the center of the back of the neck and chest to the level of the tenth rib, and covers the dorso-lumbar and sacral regions out as far as the flank. There is a cut 3.5 centimeters long, 7 centimeters from the mid-line over the eleventh rib, and the lower border of the eleventh rib immediately under this cut has been cut away as by a sharp instrument. There is a wound 4 centimeters long in the

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skin, across the spinous process of the vertebra of the eleventh dorsal vertebra, which did not entirely penetrate the skin. There is a puncture wound, $1\frac{1}{2}$ centimeters in diameter, 5 centimeters from the mid-line on the left of the eleventh dorsal vertebra, which apparently only penetrated the skin and subcutaneous tissue.

The right humerus is broken at approximately the middle, and appears to have been hacked off with some instrument. Just above the break, a section of the humerus, 2 by 2 centimeters, extending through the periosteum, appears to have been chopped out of the bone. The amputated portion of the arm was not found. The fingers of the left hand are contracted and covered with dry, hard skin. The hand was removed for examination, to be forwarded to a laboratory equipped for taking fingerprints from such specimens, since it is believed the tissue is well enough preserved to do this in this case. (Exhibit No. 2).

No opinion as to pathology or trauma in the contents of the chest or trunk can be expressed, due to the destruction of internal organs by decomposition.

Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 3).

Opinion as to Cause of Death

1. Partial amputation of head through body of fourth cervical vertebra.
 2. Puncture wounds, posterior dorsal and dorso-lumbar region.
 3. Amputation of right arm.
- - - - -

BODY NO. 2

This body has been burned, is badly decomposed, and little soft tissue remains, except for the large muscles along the spine. The right arm is missing, but no opinion can be formed as to how it was removed. The right femur is fractured at approximately the middle, and the left femur at the juncture of the middle and lower thirds. Both bones appear to have been burned off at this level. The remaining portions of both lower extremities are missing, except for the left foot and lower two-thirds of the right tibia and fibula, which appear to have been burned off.

The skull, along the mid-line, is covered with long, blonde, curly hair. No evidence of fracture was noted in the bones of the skull or face, and the skull contains no soft tissue.

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00123

Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 1).

The left hand is covered with dry, hard skin. The ring finger of the left hand is missing, and appears to have been amputated at the metatarpo-phalangeal junction. The hand was removed for examination, to be forwarded to a laboratory equipped for taking fingerprints from such specimens, since it is believed the tissue is well enough preserved to do this in this case. (Exhibit No. 2).

A .50 caliber projectile was found lying against the psoas muscle, on the right side of the fifth lumbar vertebra.

Opinion as to Cause of Death

Unknown.

All exhibits relating to Bodies 1 and 2 were left in the custody of Lt. Colonel Wadsworth.

ELLIOTT G. COLEY
Colonel, MC

Richard C. Wadsworth
RICHARD C. WADSWORTH
Lt. Colonel, MC

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17

0124

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REPORT OF AUTOPSY
ON BODY OF UNKNOWN AVIATOR

In accordance with Letter Orders No. 41, 17 July 1944, Headquarters, Army Garrison Force, APO 244, Forward Echelon, Colonel Elliott G. Colby, 0200451, MC, and Lt. Colonel Richard C. Wadsworth, 0234192, MC, on 17 July 1944, went to the Catholic Cemetery at Garapan, Saipan, and disinterred and performed an autopsy upon an unknown body, purported to be an American Navy flyer, said to have been buried at this spot on or about February 23d or 24th, 1944. Colonel Colby and Lt. Colonel Wadsworth were accompanied by Major Warren R. Durham, G-2, AGF, 8 Chamorro, an interpreter, and Tec 4 Lester P. Kane, stenographer, was present during the autopsy.

The body was found buried under about one foot of earth, just outside the northeast corner of the cemetery. It was covered with matting, and lying on a mat. The skull was found with the face downward, a layer of matting separating it from the rest of the body. The remains were removed to the 369th Station Hospital, where the autopsy was done and the following findings made:

The body was clothed in a one-piece, greenish-khaki coverall type of uniform (Exhibit No. 1), the buttons on the uniform bearing the words "U.S. Navy" (Exhibit No. 2). A plain silver ring was found on the left hand (Exhibit No. 3). Nothing was found in the pockets. A pair of badly deteriorated undershorts, bearing the name "W. L. McVay" in two places, was worn (Exhibit No. 4). Shoes and socks were found on the bones of the feet (Exhibit No. 5 (shoes), Exhibit No. 6 (socks)). Decomposition had progressed to such an extent that practically no soft tissue remained.

The right arm has been broken at the juncture of the middle and lower thirds of the humerus. Both bones of both lower legs have been broken at approximately the juncture of the middle and lower thirds.

The skull is covered with the remains of medium brown hair. There appears to have been severe trauma in the region of the nose, maxilla, and ethmoids. The matting extends below both orbits and the ethmoid bones, back to a point 3.2 centimeters anterior to the foramen magnum. The maxilla is separated from the rest of the skull and is broken into two pieces. There is a fracture extending from the left occipital bone, forward to the base of the zygomatic arch, and then extending across the base of the skull to the petrous portion of the temporal bone into the ethmoid sinuses. A section of the temporal bone, measuring 5.4 by 2.2 centimeters, is completely surrounded by the fracture line, forming a loose, depressed, bony structure. The mandible is broken through between the central incisors. All soft structures inside the cranium are absent.

No fractures were noted in the bones of the trunk, and no pathology could be noted in the chest or abdomen due to loss of tissue. The greatest length of the right femur was 19 1/2 inches. Identification by fingerprints was impossible; all soft tissues were gone, and the bones of both hands found were without ligamentous attachments.

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Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 7).

Opinion as to Cause of Death

The cause of death in this case was trauma, multiple, extreme (fractured skull, fractured bones of face, fractured left humerus and both right and left tibia and fibula). All of the above fractures, due to their severity, were probably compound.

All exhibits were left in the custody of Lt. Colonel Wadsworth.

ELLIOTT G. COLBY
Colonel, MC

Richard C. Wadsworth
RICHARD C. WADSWORTH
Lt. Colonel, MC

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- 2 -

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0126

POWJA 000.5 (30 Aug 45)

1st Incl.

INTD:arc

HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY FORCES, MIDDLE PACIFIC, APO 953, 18 September 1945.

TO: War Crimes Office, Office of The Judge Advocate General,
War Department, Washington 25, D. C.

1. For your information.
2. A copy of the inclosed file has been forwarded to the
War Crimes Division, Office of The Staff Judge Advocate, Ho. United
States Army Forces, Pacific, APO 500.

11 Incls:
(1 cy ea.)

E. H. Gross
E. H. GROSS
Colonel, J. A. G. O.
Staff Judge Advocate

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HEADQUARTERS
WESTERN PACIFIC BASE COMMAND
APO 244

SECRET
AUTH: CG, WPBC

Initials: *WAG* AAG
Date: AUG 30 1945



In Reply Refer To
(JA) 000.5

30 August 1945

SUBJECT: War Crimes.

THRU: Commanding General, United States Army Forces, Middle Pacific,
APO 98.

TO: The Judge Advocate General.

ATTENTION: Assistant Judge Advocate General in Charge of War Crimes Office).

1. There is inclosed a file concerning the investigation of an alleged atrocity committed on the Island of Saipan. This is the complete file of this headquarters and as far as it goes, is believed to explain itself.

2. Pursuant to a request of the War Crimes Branch of the Judge Advocate Section, this headquarters, an additional investigation was undertaken under the supervision of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Western Pacific Base Command, in an attempt to ascertain the whereabouts of Nitta, Kinashi, Yamasnita, and Yokota, members of the civilian Japanese police force on Saipan prior to the American invasion, who were alleged to have committed, or were suspected of complicity in, this incident. None of those men is registered at the Japanese civilian internment camp, and interrogation of Vicente Guerrero, Chamorro, chief registration clerk, revealed that it is commonly believed all four died during the invasion. Questioning of the Chief of Village Number Two, Charan-Kanoa, and of two Kanakas, Erates and Giramu brought forth the information that Kinashi was seen to die at Banaderu in late June 1944 and nothing has been heard of the other three since June of 1944. The Mother Superior of the convent at Charan-Kanoa and Sister Angelica gave information that all four of the mentioned Japanese civilian policemen were last seen between 20 and 30 June 1944 in the Tapochau area and were never heard from again. The convent maid, a Chamorro girl, stated that Yokota died at Kanaberra about 22 June 1944.

3. In the light of the foregoing information coupled with that set forth in the file, it is believed to be highly unlikely that further information can be obtained in this case or any of the suspects brought to justice.

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000.5
(30 Aug 45)



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B/L: Hq WPBC APO 244, (JA) 30 Aug 45. Subj: War Crimes, Thru: CG, USARPAC, APO 958, To: TJAG, Attn: Ass't JAG in Ch. of War Crimes Office.

4. There is also inclosed a report of autopsy made on an unidentified body on 17 July 1944. This body was reputedly that of an American Navy flier. However, the condition of his remains was such as to indicate his death might well have been the result of injuries sustained in an airplane crash. No evidence has been discovered indicating the use of violence or the commission of an atrocity on this individual.

5. Copies of this letter and all inclosures have been dispatched to the War Crimes Officer, CinCPAC-CinCPOA, for his information.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Charles R. Jackson
CHARLES R. JACKSON
CAPTAIN, A. G. D.
Asst. Adj. General

4 Incls

1. Ltr Hq WPBC, APO 244
1 Aug 45. Subj: Inv or
Atrocities (In Quad).
2. Exhibit I, Statement of
Neratus (In Trip).
3. Rpt of Autopsy, Unknown
Aviators (In Trip.).
4. Rpt of Autopsy, Unknown
Aviator (In Dup).

cc
War Crimes Officer,
CinCPAC-CinCPOA,
w/4 Incls.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY GARRISON FORCE
APO 244
Office of the A C of S, G-2

1 August 1944

Subject: Investigation of Atrocities.

To : Commanding General, AGF, APO 244.

1. Upon receipt of file "Saipan Civil Police" from Northern Troops and Landing Force, an investigation was conducted with the following results:

a. After thorough interrogation of the persons named below, it was found they knew nothing of the reported atrocity, but their knowledge was purely hearsay.

Albert Kamacho	Jesus Salas
Vincente Babalta	Eurici Naputi
Jose Muna	Guilliam Torres
Manuel Sablan	Jose Tenorio Paglinin
Aken Bora Peredo	Joaquin T. Tenorio
Mariano Guerro	Antonio Csbrera

2. With information furnished by Tomas Saratur, 13 year old Chamorro boy, it was found that four Chamorros, Simeon Rabauleman, Vincente Moreham, Benjamin Limes, and Francisco Irisari, had buried an American Flyer on Feb. 23, 1944. These five knew of one Neratus who claimed to have seen an American flyer beheaded.

3. After interrogating Neratus, it was learned that he had seen an American Flyer beheaded by a Japanese Policeman NITTA, and cut across the back by another Japanese Policeman KINASHI. Neratus, on orders of NITTA, then burned the body of the flyer.

4. On July 16, 1944 Neratus led me to the Garapan jail and pointed out the place where he had burned the flyer and where he had placed a second flyer who had died in the cell house. There were two mounds of sand at these places. A Marine Med. Det. bivouacked in the jail had piled the sand on these two bodies.

5. On July 17, 1944 Col. Elliott G. Colby, M.C., Lt. Col. Richard C. Wadsworth, Neratus, Tomas Saratur, Simeon Rabauleman, Vincente Moreham, Benjamin Limes, Francisco Irisari, three other Chamorros, an interpreter, and myself proceeded to the cemetery about one mile south of Garapan.

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- 1 -



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6. A grave was pointed out by Rabauleman, Moreham, Limes and Irisari. This grave was opened and found to contain the body identified by these men as an American flyer buried by them on Feb. 23, 1944, at about 1600 hours. These men claim the flyer had been hit in the face with the butt of a rifle. None of them had seen the incident. No evidence has been found indicating that this flyer was alive before falling into the hands of the Japanese.

7. The autopsy report on this flyer indicates he could have received all the injuries in a plane crash.

8. This case is not considered closed, and a search is being made for evidence that he was seen alive after his crash.

9. Col. Colby and party proceeded to the Garapan jail and removed the two bodies previously pointed out by Neratus. Autopsy reports on these two bodies are inclosed.

10. Neratus explained in detail how the one flyer had met his death. After preliminary examination on the spot, both Medical Officers disagreed with Neratus but agreed he was right after the autopsy.

11. Even though Neratus was a prisoner in the Garapan jail for theft, it is believed by this Officer that he is telling the truth.

12. None of the above three flyers have been identified. Steps have been taken to secure identifications.

13. All evidence indicates that an atrocity has been committed in one case and possibly in another.

14. A leather flyer's jacket bearing the name 'J. J. Perry' was found in the cell occupied by the flyer who presumably died from strafing by our planes.

15. The signed statement of Neratus, a Kanaka from Palau, is attached as Exhibit I.

Owen R. Durham
OWEN R. DURHAM,
Major, GSC,
AC of S, G-2.

SECRET

- 2 -



SECRET

Statement of NERATUS, a prisoner
from Palau, in the Garapan Jail
for theft during the time just
prior to American landing on
Saipan.

I first saw the two American flyers in the Garapan jail on June 3rd or 4th. One was tall, the other slightly shorter and had been wounded in the left arm. Each was placed in separate cells in the North end of the jail. The wounded flyer was treated by the doctor.

The first three days both were fed two or three times a day and during the time contracted diarrhea. After getting diarrhea, the flyers asked for soup or soft cooked rice. The Chief of Police (Kinashi, Keijiro) told them as Prisoners of War you eat what we give or else you don't eat at all. The Chief of Police was very angry at the request and

9/1/42 < - 1 -
Exhibit I.

SECRET

パラオ住土民、米軍サイパン上陸前盗罪ニ所セラレカラパン監獄
ニ監禁中、囚徒、ニラテス、陳述
私が最始、二人、米國飛行士達ヲガラパン監獄デ見タノハ六月三日
か四日デ有ツタ。一人ハ脊ハ高ク、一人ハ稍低イ左腕ヲ傷ツイタ人デアッタ。二人共北側
別々ナ室ニ入レラレタ。傷ヲ受ケテ居タ人ハ醫者カラ治療ヲ受ケタ。
最初、三日ハ兩人共毎日二三度食ヲアタエラレタ。其ノ間ニ兩人共下痢
ヲ受ケタ。二人ハスーパカ柔カイ御飯ヲ願ンダ。警官部長(木無敬次郎)ハ補償
トシテ若シ與ヘタ物ハ食ベラレナケレバ何モ與ヘナイト言ツタ。部長ハ此ノ要求ニ大變
立腹シ、其レ以來飛行士達ニ食ヲ與ヘ無カッタ。

SECRET

with his hands tied behind him. NITTA, (Chief of Shipping Engineer Police) pulled his saber out to kill the flyer. I was afraid and would not look. I heard a thud, turned around, and saw blood on the flyer's neck. Kinashi (Chief of Prison) also cut the flyer on the arms and back with his saber.

NITTA (Chief of Shipping Engineer Police) then told me to burn the flyers' bodies. I carried the half dead flyer about 25 yards from where he was struck by the sabers. The flyer was breathing hard so I waited until he died before stacking wood on his body and setting it afire. While waiting for the flyer to die, I took his cross and chain from around his neck and made a wooden cross, placed the chain and cross on it, and placed it at the head of the flyer. I waited 40 minutes before lighting the wood and starting the fire. I waited about 10 minutes after

新田(船舶工業利務署長)ハ飛行士ヲ切ル爲自分ノカヲ抜イタ。私ハ恐シクテ見テ止ラレナカッタ。音がシテ振り廻ッテ見ルト飛行士ノ首ノアタリニ血が付イテ居タ。木無、刑務署長モ飛行士ト腕ト脊中ヲリテ亡ッタ。新田(船舶工業利務署長)ハ次ニ松ニ飛行士達ノ死体ヲ燃セト命シタ。私ハ半死半生ノ飛行士ヲ刀デ切ラレタ所カラ七十五尺(二十五ヤード)ノ所ヲ運ンタ。飛行士ハマダ息ヲヒトクツイテ居タカラ死又迄待ツテ木ヲ体ノ廻リニ置キ火ヲ付ケタ。飛行士ノ死又ノヲ待ソ間ニ首ノクサリト十字架ヲ取り、木ト本十字架ヲ造リ飛行士ノ頭ノ所ニ十字架、クサリト一所ニ置イタ。火ヲ付ケル前四十分待ッタ。



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the fire started before leaving
because the police told me to burn
him thoroughly before leaving. I
then fled to the hills.

火がイテナホト待ツア立去ツタ。
其ハ刑官が好ク燃セト言ツタカラ
デアル。其カラ山ノうへ逃ゲタ。
ギラテス

Witnessed 2 August, 1944
Russell L. Stevens, Enr., U.S. M.K.

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Ed. H. I.

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REPORT OF AUTOPSY

ON BODIES OF UNKNOWN AVIATORS

In accordance with Letter Orders No. 41, 17 July 1944, Headquarters, Army Garrison Force, APO 244, Forward Echelon, Colonel Elliott G. Colby, 0200451, MC, and Lt. Colonel Richard C. Wadsworth, 0234192, MC, on 17 July 1944 went to the jail in Garapan, Saipan, accompanied by Major Warren R. Durham, G-2, AGF, 8 Chamorro, and an interpreter. In the courtyard of the jail the bodies of two men, purported to be American flyers, were found.

The bodies were pointed out by a Marine who was living in the jail. He stated that he had found the bodies covered with the remains of a fire, and that he had placed the wire around the arm of one body and pulled it three or four feet. The two bodies were found covered with from six to eight inches of dirt. Upon removing the dirt, we found the partly decomposed, partly burned bodies of two men. These bodies were removed to the 369th Station Hospital, where an autopsy was performed. Tec 4 Lester P. Kane, stenographer, was present during the autopsy. The findings are as follows:

BODY NO. 1

Estimated height, 5 feet, 10 inches. There is a hole approximately 10 by 10 centimeters in size, burned and broken through the right temporo-parietal region. This appears to have been caused by fire rather than trauma.

The spine is separated between the fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae, except for ligamentous attachments on the right side of the vertebral bodies. The second, third, and fourth cervical vertebrae were dissected en masse from the spine, and the surrounding musculature cleared away. The second and third cervical vertebrae appear intact. The fourth cervical vertebra shows a fracture through the laminae. The fracture line extends from the postero-medial portion of the right superior articular process to the lateral part of the inferior surface of the left lamina just medial to the left inferior articular process. The fracture line passes through both laminae at the base of the spinous process. This fracture line appears to have been made by a sharp instrument. The vertebral arches and the body of the vertebra show no gross evidence of injury. The three vertebrae are preserved for exhibition (Exhibit No. 1).

A hard leathery skin, about four inches wide, extends down the center of the back of the neck and chest to the level of the tenth rib, and covers the dorso-lumbar and sacral regions out as far as the flank. There is a cut 3.5 centimeters long, 7 centimeters from the mid-line over the eleventh rib, and the lower border of the eleventh rib immediately under this cut has been cut away as by a sharp instrument. There is a wound 4 centimeters long in the

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skin, across the spinous process of the vertebra of the eleventh dorsal vertebra, which did not entirely penetrate the skin. There is a puncture wound, $1\frac{1}{2}$ centimeters in diameter, 5 centimeters from the mid-line on the left of the eleventh dorsal vertebra, which apparently only penetrated the skin and subcutaneous tissue.

The right humerus is broken at approximately the middle, and appears to have been hacked off with some instrument. Just above the break, a section of the humerus, 2 by 2 centimeters, extending through the periosteum, appears to have been chopped out of the bone. The amputated portion of the arm was not found. The fingers of the left hand are contracted and covered with dry, hard skin. The hand was removed for examination, to be forwarded to a laboratory equipped for taking fingerprints from such specimens, since it is believed the tissue is well enough preserved to do this in this case. (Exhibit No. 2).

No opinion as to pathology or trauma in the contents of the chest or trunk can be expressed, due to the destruction of internal organs by decomposition.

Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 3).

Opinion as to Cause of Death

1. Partial amputation of head through body of fourth cervical vertebra.
 2. Puncture wounds, posterior dorsal and dorso-lumbar region.
 3. Amputation of right arm.
- - - - -

BODY NO. 2

This body has been burned, is badly decomposed, and little soft tissue remains, except for the large muscles along the spine. The right arm is missing, but no opinion can be formed as to how it was removed. The right femur is fractured at approximately the middle, and the left femur at the juncture of the middle and lower thirds. Both bones appear to have been burned off at this level. The remaining portions of both lower extremities are missing, except for the left foot and lower two-thirds of the right tibia and fibula, which appear to have been burned off.

The skull, along the mid-line, is covered with long, blonde, curly hair. No evidence of fracture was noted in the bones of the skull or face, and the skull contains no soft tissue.

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Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 1).

The left hand is covered with dry, hard skin. The ring finger of the left hand is missing, and appears to have been amputated at the metatarpo-phalangeal junction. The hand was removed for examination, to be forwarded to a laboratory equipped for taking fingerprints from such specimens, since it is believed the tissue is well enough preserved to do this in this case. (Exhibit No. 2).

A .50 caliber projectile was found lying against the psoas muscle, on the right side of the fifth lumbar vertebra.

Opinion as to Cause of Death

Unknown.

All exhibits relating to Bodies 1 and 2 were left in the custody of Lt. Colonel Wadsworth.

ELLIOTT G. COLBY
Colonel, MC

Richard C. Wadsworth

RICHARD C. WADSWORTH
Lt. Colonel, MC

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REPORT OF AUTOPSY
ON BODY OF UNKNOWN AVIATOR

In accordance with Letter Orders No. 41, 17 July 1944, Headquarters, Army Garrison Force, APO 244, Forward Echelon, Colonel Elliott G. Colby, 0200451, MC, and Lt. Colonel Richard C. Wadsworth, 0294192, MC, on 17 July 1944, went to the Catholic Cemetery at Garapan, Saipan, and disinterred and performed an autopsy upon an unknown body, purported to be an American Navy flyer, said to have been buried at this spot on or about February 23d or 24th, 1944. Colonel Colby and Lt. Colonel Wadsworth were accompanied by Major Warren R. Durham, G-2, AGF, 8 Chamorro, an interpreter, and Tec 4 Lester P. Kane, stenographer, was present during the autopsy.

The body was found buried under about one foot of earth, just outside the northeast corner of the cemetery. It was covered with matting, and lying on a mat. The skull was found with the face downward, a layer of matting separating it from the rest of the body. The remains were removed to the 369th Station Hospital, where the autopsy was done and the following findings made:

The body was clothed in a one-piece, greenish-khaki coverall type of uniform (Exhibit No. 1), the buttons on the uniform bearing the words "U.S. Navy" (Exhibit No. 2). A plain silver ring was found on the left hand (Exhibit No. 3). Nothing was found in the pockets. A pair of badly deteriorated undershorts, bearing the name "W. L. McVay" in two places, was worn (Exhibit No. 4). Shoes and socks were found on the bones of the feet (Exhibit No. 5 (shoes), Exhibit No. 6 (socks)). Decomposition had progressed to such an extent that practically no soft tissue remained.

The right arm has been broken at the juncture of the middle and lower thirds of the humerus. Both bones of both lower legs have been broken at approximately the juncture of the middle and lower thirds.

The skull is covered with the remains of medium brown hair. There appears to have been severe trauma in the region of the nose, maxilla, and ethmoids. The matting extends below both orbits and the ethmoid bones, back to a point 3.2 centimeters anterior to the foramen magnum. The maxilla is separated from the rest of the skull and is broken into two pieces. There is a fracture extending from the left occipital bone, forward to the base of the zygomatic arch, and then extending across the base of the skull to the petrous portion of the temporal bone into the ethmoid sinuses. A section of the temporal bone, measuring 5.4 by 2.2 centimeters, is completely surrounded by the fracture line, forming a loose, depressed, bony structure. The mandible is broken through between the central incisors. All soft structures inside the cranium are absent.

No fractures were noted in the bones of the trunk, and no pathology could be noted in the chest or abdomen due to loss of tissue. The greatest length of the right femur was 19½ inches. Identification by fingerprints was impossible; all soft tissues were gone, and the bones of both hands found were without ligamentous attachments.

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Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 7).

Opinion as to Cause of Death

The cause of death in this case was trauma, multiple, extreme (fractured skull, fractured bones of face, fractured left humerus and both right and left tibia and fibula). All of the above fractures, due to their severity, were probably compound.

All exhibits were left in the custody of Lt. Colonel Wadsworth.

ELLIOTT G. COLEY
Colonel, MC

Richard C. Wadsworth

RICHARD C. WADSWORTH
Lt. Colonel, MC

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FOYJA 000.5 (30 Aug 45)

1st Ind.

HTD:mrc

HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY FORCES, MIDDLE PACIFIC, APO 953, 8 September 1945.

TO: War Crimes Office, Office of The Judge Advocate General,
War Department, Washington 25, D. C.

1. For your information.
2. A copy of the inclosed file has been forwarded to the
War Crimes Division, Office of The Staff Judge Advocate, Ho. United
States Army Forces, Pacific, APO 500.

4 Incls:
(1 cy ea.)



E. H. SNODGRASS
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Staff Judge Advocate

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HEADQUARTERS
WESTERN PACIFIC BASE COMMAND
APO 244

SECRET
AUTH: CG, WPBC
Initials: *ang* ANG
Date: AUG 30 1945



In Reply Refer To
(JA) 000.5

30 August 1945

SUBJECT: War Crimes.

THRU: Commanding General, United States Army Forces, Middle Pacific,
APO 958.

TO: The Judge Advocate General.

ATTENTION: Assistant Judge Advocate General in Charge of War Crimes Office).

1. There is inclosed a file concerning the investigation of an alleged atrocity committed on the Island of Saipan. This is the complete file of this headquarters and as far as it goes, is believed to explain itself.

2. Pursuant to a request of the War Crimes Branch of the Judge Advocate Section, this headquarters, an additional investigation was undertaken under the supervision of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Western Pacific Base Command, in an attempt to ascertain the whereabouts of Nitta, Kinasni, Yamashita, and Yokota, members of the civilian Japanese police force on Saipan prior to the American invasion, who were alleged to have committed, or were suspected of complicity in, this incident. None of those men is registered at the Japanese civilian internment camp, and interrogation of Vicente Guerrero, Chamorro, chief registration clerk, revealed that it is commonly believed all four died during the invasion. Questioning of the Chief of Village Number Two, Charan-Kanoa, and of two Kanakas, Erates and Giramau brought forth the information that Kinashi was seen to die at Banaderu in late June 1944 and nothing has been heard of the other three since June of 1944. The Mother Superior of the convent at Charan-Kanoa and Sister Angelica gave information that all four of the mentioned Japanese civilian policemen were last seen between 20 and 30 June 1944 in the Tapochau area and were never heard from again. The convent maid, a Chamorro girl, stated that Yokota died at Kanaberra about 22 June 1944.

3. In the light of the foregoing information coupled with that set forth in the file, it is believed to be highly unlikely that further information can be obtained in this case or any of the suspects brought to justice.

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000.5 (30 Aug 45)



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B/L: Hq WPBC APO 244. (JA) 30 Aug 45. Subj: War Crimes, Thru: CG,
COMFIDPAC, APO 958. To: TJAG, Attn: Ass't JAG in Ch. of War
Crimes Office.

4. There is also inclosed a report of autopsy made on an unidentified
body on 17 July 1944. This body was reputedly that of an American Navy
flier. However, the condition of his remains was such as to indicate his
death might well have been the result of injuries sustained in an airplane
crash. No evidence has been discovered indicating the use of violence or
the commission of an atrocity on this individual.

5. Copies of this letter and all inclosures have been dispatched to
the War Crimes Officer, CINCPAC-CINCPMA, for his information.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

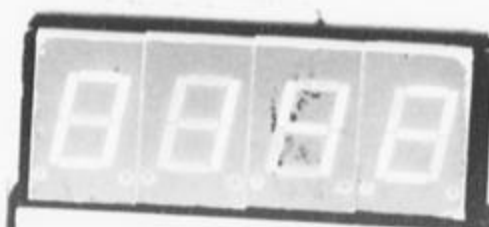
Charles H. Jackson
CHARLES H. JACKSON
CAPTAIN, A.C.D.
Asst. Adj. General

4 Incls

1. Ltr Hq ACP, APO 244
1 Aug 45. Subj: Inv. of
Atrocities (In Quad).
2. Exhibit I, Statement of
Neratus (In Trip).
3. Rpt of Autopsy, Unknown
Aviators (In Trip.).
4. Rpt of Autopsy, Unknown
Aviator (In Dup).

cc
War Crimes Officer,
CINCPAC-CINCPMA,
w/4 Incls.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY GARRISON FORCE
APO 244
Office of the A C of S, G-2

1 August 1944

Subject: Investigation of Atrocities.

To : Commanding General, AGF, APO 244.

1. Upon receipt of file "Saipan Civil Police" from Northern Troops and Landing Force, an investigation was conducted with the following results:

a. After thorough interrogation of the persons named below, it was found they knew nothing of the reported atrocity, but their knowledge was purely hearsay.

Albert Kamacho	Jesus Salas
Vincente Babalta	Eurici Naputi
Jose Muna	Guilliam Torres
Manuel Sablan	Jose Tenorio Paglinin
Aken Bora Peredo	Joaquin T. Tenorio
Mariano Guerro	Antonio Cabrera

2. With information furnished by Tomas Saratur, 13 year old Chamorro boy, it was found that four Chamorros, Simeon Rabauleman, Vincente Moreham, Benjamin Limes, and Francisco Irisari, had buried an American Flyer on Feb. 23, 1944. These five knew of one Neratus who claimed to have seen an American flyer beheaded.

3. After interrogating Neratus, it was learned that he had seen an American Flyer beheaded by a Japanese Policeman NITTA, and cut across the back by another Japanese Policeman KINASHI. Neratus, on orders of NITTA, then burned the body of the flyer.

4. On July 16, 1944 Neratus led me to the Garapan jail and pointed out the place where he had burned the flyer and where he had placed a second flyer who had died in the cell house. There were two mounds of sand at these places. A Marine Med. Det. bivouacked in the jail had piled the sand on these two bodies.

5. On July 17, 1944 Col. Elliott G. Colby, M.C., Lt. Col. Richard C. Wadsworth, Neratus, Tomas Saratur, Simeon Rabauleman, Vincente Moreham, Benjamin Limes, Francisco Irisari, three other Chamorros, an interpreter, and myself proceeded to the cemetery about one mile south of Garapan.

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6. A grave was pointed out by Rabauleman, Moreham, Limes and Irisari. This grave was opened and found to contain the body identified by these men as an American flyer buried by them on Feb. 23, 1944, at about 1600 hours. These men claim the flyer had been hit in the face with the butt of a rifle. None of them had seen the incident. No evidence has been found indicating that this flyer was alive before falling into the hands of the Japanese.

7. The autopsy report on this flyer indicates he could have received all the injuries in a plane crash.

8. This case is not considered closed, and a search is being made for evidence that he was seen alive after his crash.

9. Col. Colby and party proceeded to the Garapan jail and removed the two bodies previously pointed out by Neratus. Autopsy reports on these two bodies are inclosed.

10. Neratus explained in detail how the one flyer had met his death. After preliminary examination on the spot, both Medical Officers disagreed with Neratus but agreed he was right after the autopsy.

11. Even though Neratus was a prisoner in the Garapan jail for theft, it is believed by this officer that he is telling the truth.

12. None of the above three flyers have been identified. Steps have been taken to secure identifications.

13. All evidence indicates that an atrocity has been committed in one case and possibly in another.

14. A leather flyer's jacket bearing the name 'J. J. Perry' was found in the cell occupied by the flyer who presumably died from strafing by our planes.

15. The signed statement of Neratus, a Kanaka from Palau, is attached as Exhibit I.

Owen R. Durham
OWEN R. DURHAM,
Major, GSC,
AC of S, G-2.

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Statement of NERATUS, a prisoner
from Palau, in the Garapan Jail
for theft during the time just
prior to American landing on
Saipan.

I first saw the two American flyers in the Garapan jail on June 3rd or 4th. One was tall, the other slightly shorter and had been wounded in the left arm. Each was placed in separate cells in the North end of the jail. The wounded flyer was treated by the doctor.

The first three days both were fed two or three times a day and during the time contracted diarrhea. After getting diarrhea, the flyers asked for soup or soft cooked rice. The Chief of Police (Kinashi, Keijiro) told them as Prisoners of War you eat what we give or else you don't eat at all. The Chief of Police was very angry at the request and

パラオ住土民、米軍サイパン上陸前盗罪ニ所セラレカラパン監獄
ニ監禁中、囚徒ニラテスノ陳述
私が最始、二人、米國飛行士達ヲカラパン監獄デ見タノハ六月三日
か四日デ有ツタ。一人ハ脊ハ高ク一人ハ稍低イ左腕ヲ傷ツイタ人デアツタ。二人共北側
別々ナ室ニ入レラレタ。傷ヲ受ケテ居タ人ハ醫者カラ治療ヲ受ケタ。
最初、三日ハ兩人共毎日二三度食ヲアタエラレタ。其ノ間ニ兩人共下痢
ヲ受ケタ。二人ハスーパカ柔カイ御飯ヲ願シタ。警察部長(木無敬次郎)ハ補償
トシテ若シ與ヘタ物ハ食ベラレナケレバ何モ與ヘナイト言ツタ。部長ハ此ノ要求ニ大變
立腹シ、其レ以來飛行士達ニ食ヲ與ヘ無カッタ。

9-1-42
Exhibit I.

- 1 -

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did not feed the flyers anymore. During the time the police would not feed the flyers, I sneaked hard-tack and sugar into them until the 13th of June. Water was always plentiful for the flyers.

On the 13th of June the air raids were so intense we fled to the hills (the police and jailors) and the flyers were left in the jail. And on the night of the 14th we returned to the jail for food. The flyers were still there but I believe the short one was already dead and had been killed by machine gun bullets from American planes. The small flyer had blood on his chest and his body was stiff. The tall flyer was still alive and was taken outside of the jail by the four police, 新田, 本無, 山 F, 横田, (NITTA, KINASHI, YAMASHITA, YOKOTA).

The tall flyer was taken just outside the administration building of the jail and seated on the ground

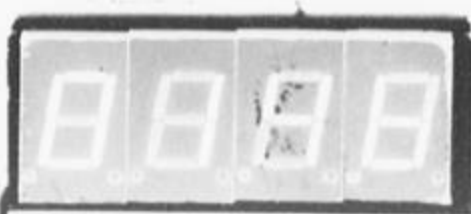
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敬言 警察官が飛行士達ニ食料ヲ與ヘナカッタ間ハ私ガ六月又ハ十三日迄敬言、
察官ノ目ヲ偷ンデ乾バート砂糖ヲ飛行士達ニ與ヘタ。飛行士達ノ木ハ
何時モ十分ニ有ツタ。

六月十三日ニハ空襲ガ一層烈シク成ッタデ我々(警察官ト看守達)ハ
飛行士達ヲ監獄ニ残シテ儘山ヘ逃ゲテ行ッタ。十四日ノ夜食物ヲ取リニ
我々ハ監獄ニ歸ッタ。飛行士達ハマダ監獄ニ居タガ春ノ以リ飛行士ハ米國
飛行機ノ機關銃ノ爲ニ死ンデ居タ。其ノ飛行士ノ胸ハ血ヲラケニ体ハ堅ク
成ッタ居タ。春ノ高イ飛行士ハマダ生キテ居タ。彼ハ新田 本無 山下 横田 四名
ノ警察官ニ監獄カラ引出サレタ。

引出サレタ飛行士ハ管理所ノ直グ外デ手ヲ後リテ結バレタ儘地面ニ座セラレタ。



SECRET

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The tall flyer was taken just outside the administration building of the jail and seated on the ground.

- 2 -

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警察官が飛行士達ニ食料ヲ與ヘナカッタ間ハ私が六月四、十三日迄、
警察官ノ目ヲ偷シテ乾パント砂糖ヲ飛行士達ニ與ヘタ。飛行士達ノ木ハ
何時モ十分ニ有ツタ。

六月十三日ニハ空襲ガ一層烈シク成ッタ。我々(警察官ト看守達)ハ
飛行士達ヲ監獄ニ残シテ儘山ヘ逃ゲテ行ッタ。十四日ノ夜、食物ヲ取リニ
我々ハ監獄ニ歸ッタ。飛行士達ハマダ監獄ニ居タ。春、以テ飛行士ハ米國
飛行機ノ機關銃ノ爲ニ死ンデ居タ。其ノ飛行士ノ胸ハ血ヲラセ、
成ツテ居タ。春、高イ飛行士ハマダ生キテ居タ。彼ハ新田、木無、山下、横田四名
ノ警察官ニ監獄カラ引出サレタ。

引出サレタ飛行士ハ管理所ノ直ガ外テ手ヲ後方ニ結バレタ儘地面ニ座レタ。



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with his hands tied behind him. NITTA, (Chief of Shipping Engineer Police) pulled his saber out to kill the flyer. I was afraid and would not look. I heard a thud, turned around, and saw blood on the flyer's neck. Kinashi (Chief of Prison) also cut the flyer on the arms and back with his saber.

NITTA (Chief of Shipping Engineer Police) then told me to burn the flyers' bodies. I carried the half dead flyer about 25 yards from where he was struck by the sabers. The flyer was breathing hard so I waited until he died before stacking wood on his body and setting it afire. While waiting for the flyer to die, I took his cross and chain from around his neck and made a wooden cross, placed the chain and cross on it, and placed it at the head of the flyer. I waited 40 minutes before lighting the wood and starting the fire. I waited about 10 minutes after

新田(船舶工業利務署長)ハ飛行士ヲ切ル爲自分ノ刀ヲ抜イタ。私ハ恐シクテ見テ止ラレサカツタ。立止ガシテ振り廻ツテ見ルト飛行士ノ首ノアタリニ血が付イテ居タ。木無(刑務署長)モ飛行士ノ腕ト脊中ヲ刀ヲ切ツタ。新田(船舶工業利務署長)ハ次ニ松ニ飛行士達ノ死体ヲ燃セト命ジタ。私ハ半死半生ノ飛行士ヲ刀ヲ切ラレタ所カラ七十五尺(二十五ヤード)ノ所マテ運ンタ。飛行士ハマダ息ヲヒトクツイテ居タカラ死ヌ迄待ツテ木ヲ体ノ廻リニ置キ火ヲ付ケタ。飛行士ノ死ヌノヲ待ツ間ニ首ノクサリト十字架ヲ取り、木ノ本ノ十字ヲ造リ飛行士ノ頭ノ所ニ十字架、クサリト一所ニ置イタ。火ヲ付ケル前四十分待ツタ。

SECRET



SECRET

the fire started before leaving
because the police told me to burn
him thoroughly before leaving. I
then fled to the hills.

火がイテナホト待ツテ立去ツタ。
其ハ刑官が好ク燃セト言ツタカラ
デアル。其カラ山ノうへ逃ゲタ。
ギラテス

Witnessed 2 August, 1944
Russell L. Stevens, Engr., U. S. N. R.

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8.4.44 I.

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REPORT OF AUTOPSY
ON BODIES OF UNKNOWN AVIATORS

In accordance with Letter Orders No. 41, 17 July 1944, Headquarters, Army Garrison Force, APO 244, Forward Echelon, Colonel Elliott G. Colby, 0200451, MC, and Lt. Colonel Richard C. Wadsworth, 0234192, MC, on 17 July 1944 went to the jail in Garapan, Saipan, accompanied by Major Warren R. Durham, G-2, AGF, 8 Chamorros, and an interpreter. In the courtyard of the jail the bodies of two men, purported to be American flyers, were found.

The bodies were pointed out by a Marine who was living in the jail. He stated that he had found the bodies covered with the remains of a fire, and that he had placed the wire around the arm of one body and pulled it three or four feet. The two bodies were found covered with from six to eight inches of dirt. Upon removing the dirt, we found the partly decomposed, partly burned bodies of two men. These bodies were removed to the 369th Station Hospital, where an autopsy was performed. Tec 4 Lester P. Kane, stenographer, was present during the autopsy. The findings are as follows:

BODY NO. 1

Estimated height, 5 feet, 10 inches. There is a hole approximately 10 by 10 centimeters in size, burned and broken through the right temporo-parietal region. This appears to have been caused by fire rather than trauma.

The spine is separated between the fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae, except for ligamentous attachments on the right side of the vertebral bodies. The second, third, and fourth cervical vertebrae were dissected en masse from the spine, and the surrounding musculature cleared away. The second and third cervical vertebrae appear intact. The fourth cervical vertebra shows a fracture through the laminae. The fracture line extends from the postero-medial portion of the right superior articular process to the lateral part of the inferior surface of the left lamina just medial to the left inferior articular process. The fracture line passes through both laminae at the base of the spinous process. This fracture line appears to have been made by a sharp instrument. The vertebral arches and the body of the vertebra show no gross evidence of injury. The three vertebrae are preserved for exhibition (Exhibit No. 1).

A hard leathery skin, about four inches wide, extends down the center of the back of the neck and chest to the level of the tenth rib, and covers the dorso-lumbar and sacral regions out as far as the flank. There is a cut 3.5 centimeters long, 7 centimeters from the mid-line over the eleventh rib, and the lower border of the eleventh rib immediately under this cut has been cut away as by a sharp instrument. There is a wound 4 centimeters long in the

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skin, across the spinous process of the vertebra of the eleventh dorsal vertebra, which did not entirely penetrate the skin. There is a puncture wound, 1½ centimeters in diameter, 5 centimeters from the mid-line on the left of the eleventh dorsal vertebra, which apparently only penetrated the skin and subcutaneous tissue.

The right humerus is broken at approximately the middle, and appears to have been hacked off with some instrument. Just above the break, a section of the humerus, 2 by 2 centimeters, extending through the periosteum, appears to have been chopped out of the bone. The amputated portion of the arm was not found. The fingers of the left hand are contracted and covered with dry, hard skin. The hand was removed for examination, to be forwarded to a laboratory equipped for taking fingerprints from such specimens, since it is believed the tissue is well enough preserved to do this in this case. (Exhibit No. 2).

No opinion as to pathology or trauma in the contents of the chest or trunk can be expressed, due to the destruction of internal organs by decomposition.

Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 3).

Opinion as to Cause of Death

1. Partial amputation of head through body of fourth cervical vertebra.
 2. Puncture wounds, posterior dorsal and dorso-lumbar region.
 3. Amputation of right arm.
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BODY NO. 2

This body has been burned, is badly decomposed, and little soft tissue remains, except for the large muscles along the spine. The right arm is missing, but no opinion can be formed as to how it was removed. The right femur is fractured at approximately the middle, and the left femur at the juncture of the middle and lower thirds. Both bones appear to have been burned off at this level. The remaining portions of both lower extremities are missing, except for the left foot and lower two-thirds of the right tibia and fibula, which appear to have been burned off.

The skull, along the mid-line, is covered with long, blonde, curly hair. No evidence of fracture was noted in the bones of the skull or face, and the skull contains no soft tissue.

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Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 1).

The left hand is covered with dry, hard skin. The ring finger of the left hand is missing, and appears to have been amputated at the metatarpo-phalangeal junction. The hand was removed for examination, to be forwarded to a laboratory equipped for taking fingerprints from such specimens, since it is believed the tissue is well enough preserved to do this in this case. (Exhibit No. 2).

A .50 caliber projectile was found lying against the psoas muscle, on the right side of the fifth lumbar vertebra.

Opinion as to Cause of Death

Unknown.

All exhibits relating to Bodies 1 and 2 were left in the custody of Lt. Colonel Wadsworth.

ELLIOTT G. COLBY
Colonel, MC

RICHARD C. WADSWORTH
Lt. Colonel, MC

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REPORT OF AUTOPSY

ON BODY OF UNKNOWN AVIATOR

In accordance with Letter Orders No. 41, 17 July 1944, Headquarters, Army Garrison Force, APO 244, Forward Echelon, Colonel Elliott G. Colby, 0200451, MC, and Lt. Colonel Richard C. Wadsworth, 0234192, MC, on 17 July 1944, went to the Catholic Cemetery at Garapan, Saipan, and disinterred and performed an autopsy upon an unknown body, purported to be an American Navy flyer, said to have been buried at this spot on or about February 23d or 24th, 1944. Colonel Colby and Lt. Colonel Wadsworth were accompanied by Major Warren R. Durham, G-2, AGF, 8 Chamorro, an interpreter, and Tec 4 Lester P. Kane, stenographer, was present during the autopsy.

The body was found buried under about one foot of earth, just outside the northeast corner of the cemetery. It was covered with matting, and lying on a mat. The skull was found with the face downward, a layer of matting separating it from the rest of the body. The remains were removed to the 369th Station Hospital, where the autopsy was done and the following findings made:

The body was clothed in a one-piece, greenish-khaki coverall type of uniform (Exhibit No. 1), the buttons on the uniform bearing the words "U.S. Navy" (Exhibit No. 2). A plain silver ring was found on the left hand (Exhibit No. 3). Nothing was found in the pockets. A pair of badly deteriorated undershorts, bearing the name "W. L. McVay" in two places, was worn (Exhibit No. 4). Shoes and socks were found on the bones of the feet (Exhibit No. 5 (shoes), Exhibit No. 6 (socks)). Decomposition had progressed to such an extent that practically no soft tissue remained.

The right arm has been broken at the juncture of the middle and lower thirds of the humerus. Both bones of both lower legs have been broken at approximately the juncture of the middle and lower thirds.

The skull is covered with the remains of medium brown hair. There appears to have been severe trauma in the region of the nose, maxilla, and ethmoids. The matting extends below both orbits and the ethmoid bones, back to a point 3.2 centimeters anterior to the foramen magnum. The maxilla is separated from the rest of the skull and is broken into two pieces. There is a fracture extending from the left occipital bone, forward to the base of the zygomatic arch, and then extending across the base of the skull to the petrous portion of the temporal bone into the ethmoid sinuses. A section of the temporal bone, measuring 5.4 by 2.2 centimeters, is completely surrounded by the fracture line, forming a loose, depressed, bony structure. The mandible is broken through between the central incisors. All soft structures inside the cranium are absent.

No fractures were noted in the bones of the trunk, and no pathology could be noted in the chest or abdomen due to loss of tissue. The greatest length of the right femur was 19 1/2 inches. Identification by fingerprints was impossible; all soft tissues were gone, and the bones of both hands found were without ligamentous attachments.

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Captain Glenn Ingram, DC, 369th Station Hospital, examined the skull and prepared the inclosed dental chart (Exhibit No. 7).

Opinion as to Cause of Death

The cause of death in this case was trauma, multiple, extreme (fractured skull, fractured bones of face, fractured left humerus and both right and left tibia and fibula). All of the above fractures, due to their severity, were probably compound.

All exhibits were left in the custody of Lt. Colonel Wadsworth.

ELLIOTT G. COLBY
Colonel, MC

Richard C. Wadsworth
RICHARD C. WADSWORTH
Lt. Colonel, MC

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